

# Agenda



## Cabinet

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Date: Wednesday, 16 June 2021

Time: 4.00 pm

Venue: Via Teams

To: Councillors Councillor J Mudd (Chair), J Hughes, Councillor R Jeavons, P Cockeram, D Harvey, D Mayer, Councillor R Truman, D Davies and M Rahman

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Item	Wards Affected
1	<u>Apologies for Absence</u>
2	<u>Declarations of Interest</u>
3	<u>Minutes of the Last Meeting</u> (Pages 3 - 8)
4	<u>School Reorganisation Proposal to Expand Bassaleg School</u> (Pages 9 - 120)
5	<u>Corporate Risk Register Update (Q4)</u> (Pages 121 - 172)
6	<u>Welsh Language Annual Report</u> (Pages 173 - 194)
7	<u>Community Renewals Fund</u> (Pages 195 - 200)
8	<u>Levelling Up Fund</u> (Pages 201 - 210)
9	<u>Covid-19 Recovery Update Report</u> (Pages 211 - 224)
10	<u>Brexit Update Report</u> (Pages 225 - 234)
11	<u>Work Programme</u> (Pages 235 - 242)
12	<u>Live Event</u> <a href="#">Join live event</a>

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Date of Issue: 10 June 2021

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# Minutes

## Cabinet

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Date: 5 May 2021

Time: 4.00 pm

Present: Councillors Councillor J Mudd (Chair), Councillor R Jeavons, P Cockeram, D Harvey, D Mayer, Councillor R Truman, D Davies and M Rahman

Apologies: Councillor G Giles

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### 1 Apologies for Absence

Councillor Gail Giles

### 2 Declarations of Interest

Nothing apparent.

### 3 Minutes of the Last Meeting

Minutes from 7 April – please move confirmation as a true record.

### 4 Policy Review; Compliments, Comments and Complaints and Unacceptable Actions by Complainants

The Leader to present the report to Cabinet.

The Council had a clear policy in place that explained how it managed feedback from residents for a number of years. There were a number of recent changes to key legislation that affected the council listened and learned from residents.

The primary driver for the amendments was to reflect the Public Services Ombudsman (Wales) Act 2019. In September 2020, the Ombudsman wrote to all Local Authorities and confirmed that the revised Statement of Principles, Model Complaint Handling Process, and Guidance were in full effect. The Ombudsman requested that public bodies reflected on how their practices and procedures complied with the updated guidance and how they would ensure that all complaints were captured appropriately.

The key changes to the policy included

- Changes to the reporting and monitoring arrangements.
  - Updated definitions of Roles and Responsibilities for the management of complaints.
  - Increased clarity on the arrangements for managing complaints regarding partners and service providers commissioned by the Council to provide services.
- And;
- Increased signposting to advocacy and support services.

The updated reporting and monitoring arrangements also reflected the requirements of the Local Governance and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 which came into effect on 1 April 2021.

The statutory function of the new Governance and Audit Committee's included reviewing and assessing the Council's ability to handle complaints effectively, and to report on and make recommendations in this respect.

In addition to the Ombudsman's requirements, there were other changes to legislation that concerned complaints handling which were reflected in the updated policy. These included:

- The Regulated Fostering Services (Services Providers and Responsible Individuals) (Wales) Regulations 2019
- RISCA (Regulation and Inspection of Social Care (Wales) Act 2016)
- Welsh Language Standards Regulations (No.7) 2018
- Challenging Bullying – Rights, respect, equality: Statutory guidance for local authorities (2019).

These changes to the policy were concerned with making it clear to residents how complaints in these specific areas were dealt with, including signposting to access further help and support.

There were also some minor changes to the policy regarding Unacceptable Actions by Complainants. Whilst the council was committed to dealing with all complaints equitably, comprehensively, and in a timely manner, the council did not expect staff to tolerate abusive, offensive or threatening behaviour. In some cases, unreasonable behaviour could also impede the investigation of the individual's complaint or could have significant resource issues for the council.

The policy confirmed the arrangements in place to address these issues in a confidential, fair and objective manner via a forum that met on a regular basis to review these cases and agree any appropriate action within the remit of the policy. The policy also reflected the fact that not all unacceptable behaviour was in relation to complaints.

Cabinet were asked to consider and endorse the revised Compliments, Comments and Complaints Policy, and the new Unacceptable Actions by Customers policy, to be introduced from 10 May 2021 in order to meet statutory and legislative requirements.

#### Comments of Cabinet Members:

Councillor Mayer mentioned that the Council were very good at handling any issues that arose and that it was very rare that complaints proceeded to the ombudsman. Councillor Mayer added that Councillor Cockeram and along with other Cabinet Member colleagues were concerned that in the past only complaints were processed but it was a positive step forward now that members of the public could pay the council compliments. Councillor Mayer encouraged everyone to record compliments as well as complaints in future.

Councillor Davies commended the on its openness and transparency and mentioned that there was clear signposting for members of the public to complain, particularly in relation to equalities assessment and the Future Wellbeing and Generations Act.

Councillor Cockeram endorsed the previous comments and was pleased to see that compliments had moved up the agenda and that guidance needed to be changed to reflect this. Staff should also be encouraged to record compliments from the Chief Executive to all staff members in a better manner.

Councillor Truman echoed comments of colleagues and welcomed the new compliments format.

Councillor Rahman added that the policy gave every citizen the right to be heard and respected. This Council was willing to listen to residents and were open and transparent.



Resources were in place now and going forward the council would learn from their mistakes and do better.

Decision:

Cabinet were asked to review and endorse the proposed amendments to policies.

## **5 Covid-19 Recovery Update**

The Leader to present the report to Cabinet.

This Cabinet Report was an update on the Council's and its partner's response to the Covid-19 crisis supporting the City (residents and businesses) to comply with the current restrictions and progress in the Council's Strategic Recovery Aims and Corporate Plan.

For Newport Council this was an unprecedented period of time where we had faced many difficult decisions, seeing residents and businesses impacted by Covid and the restrictions to protect the most vulnerable in our communities. There was not one person who had not been impacted by this pandemic.

We have seen Councillors across all political parties, officers and our strategic partners in health, Newport Live, Shared Resource Service, Newport Norse and other service providers coming together to solve emerging issues; finding innovative and new ways of delivering our services, and supporting those who need our help.

The Council also knew that there was more we could and would do to support people and businesses out of this crisis.

Council's Covid-19 Response and Progress to date:

Since the previous report in April, further restrictions were eased enabling residents and businesses to slowly return back to normal routines.

With outdoor hospitality and activities reopening (indoor hospitality reopening in May) and other businesses being open since April, it was important that we support our local businesses and economy across Newport to provide a sustainable and successful economy for the future.

The vaccination programme continued to progress across the age groups in Wales with over 1.7 million people that have now received their first vaccination. There was still some way to go and it was just as important for people between 18 and 39 to get vaccinated including our ethnic minority communities in Newport.

This however did not mean that the brakes were off and we could return back to how it was before Covid. As we have seen in countries such as Brazil and India who had significantly suffered it was important that we remained vigilant in keeping to social distancing that those who had symptoms, or their friends or family should get tested, self-isolate and follow the guidelines from Public Health Wales.

Despite the challenges we faced, officers and our partners continued to deliver services across communities in Newport in the last 12 months.

The Council had seen how resilient and resourceful officers were in working from home, looking after their children, family members and home schooling, as well as those officers, teachers, social service staff who had continued to be out across Newport collecting waste, cleaning our streets, visiting and looking after the most vulnerable in the city.

The Council was also looking forward, by shaping how our services were sustainably delivered in the future. This included looking at new ways of working, developing models that would enable staff and service users to use technology and our buildings differently.

In the last month the following key areas were delivered:

- All schools fully reopened in April.
- Libraries and Community Hubs reopened to enable people to access library and other community services.

#### Comments of Cabinet Members:

Councillor Truman commented that the report covered everything and observed how well communities came together during the pandemic. Businesses and partners had also come a long way. Vaccinations had gone really well but Newport needed to proceed with caution. Councillor Truman thanked all citizens and workers of Newport for their continued support.

Councillor Cockeram gave big thank you to foster carers looking after children under the care of Newport City Council during this period.

Councillor Jeavons expressed thanks to Waste Savers and thanked Newport citizens for their patience and understanding.

Councillor Rahman thanked partners, residents and business within Newport tackling the pandemic and Newport Live. Councillor Rahman was glad to see gyms reopening and from 17 May it was hoped to see opening of hospitality such as theatres. Councillor Rahman also thanked Rodney Parade for giving up their grounds for the testing centres and thanked council staff for their hard work and contribution. It was also important that there were restrictions still in place, such as social distancing and washing of hands. We needed to do our part to ensure we were heading in the right direction. Councillor Rahman thanked the Leader for supporting businesses with grants, adding that Newport City Council was one of the, it not the first authority to provide these grants.

Finally, the Leader thanked residents, partners, stakeholders for their support and thanked her Cabinet colleagues for acknowledging this.

#### Decision:

Cabinet considered the contents of the report and noted the progress being made to date and the risks that were still faced by the Council.

## **6 Brexit Update Report**

Leader to present the report to Cabinet.

This Cabinet Report was an update on the progress in the post Brexit / trade arrangements since 31 December 2020.

The United Kingdom left the European Union and the Single Market on 31 December 2020 businesses (importers / exporters) from the UK and EU were now having to comply with the new custom arrangements.

Since the last report in April, Newport Council launched its webpage on the Council's website for charities, local community groups, and education providers including colleges and universities to apply for UK Community Renewal Funding. The deadline to apply was Friday 21 May where they would be assessed and shortlisted for submission to the UK Government by 18 June 2021.

Newport Council is also exploring potential projects that could benefit from the Levelling Up Funding and bids will be submitted to the UK Government by 18 June 2021.

Newport Council and its partners were continuing to support residents living in Newport with the EU Settled Scheme before the 30 June deadline. Anyone who had not applied should do so and encourage their friends and family members to do so as well. Advice and guidance was offered by the Council to those that had concerns and/or required further assistance in applying.

The Council had seen an increase in the number of individuals / families with No Recourse to Public Funds requiring support and assistance. The Council was working with partners to support those presenting themselves to the Council to ensure they were able to access the services they need.

The table in Appendix 1 of the report provided full details across the areas covered by the Task & Finish Group.

Decision:

Cabinet considered the contents of the report and noted the Council's Brexit response.

**7 PSB Summary**

**8 Work Programme: New for June 2021 to May 2022**

Leader to present the report to Cabinet.

This is the regular monthly report on the work programme, which the Leader asked colleagues to move acceptance of the updated programme.

Decision:

Cabinet agreed the Cabinet Work Programme for June 2021 to June 2022.

**9 Live Event**

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# Report

## Cabinet

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### Part 1

Date: 16 June 2021

**Subject** **School Reorganisation Proposal – Expansion of Bassaleg School**

**Purpose** To seek final determination on the school reorganisation proposal “to increase the overall capacity of Bassaleg School from 1747 to 2050 with effect from September 2023”.

**Author** Assistant Head of Education - Resources

**Ward** Graig

**Summary** This school reorganisation proposal has been undertaken in accordance with the statutory School Organisation Code and included a period of formal consultation followed by the publication of a statutory notice for the required period of at least 28 days.

Two formal objections were received, and two other concerns raised, during the statutory notice stage, and therefore the final decision cannot be determined by the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills. Instead, Cabinet is required to act as the Local Determination Panel and take the final decision on implementation of this proposal.

**Proposal** **To approve the school reorganisation proposal “to increase the overall capacity of Bassaleg School from 1747 to 2050 with effect from September 2023”.**

**Action by** Chief Education Officer

**Timetable** Immediate

This report was prepared after consultation with:

- Corporate Management Team
- Education Senior Management Team
- Senior HR Business Partner
- Senior Finance Business Partner
- Headteacher and Chair of Governors of Bassaleg School

**Signed**

## **Background**

A school reorganisation proposal has been progressed to increase the overall capacity of Bassaleg School from 1747 to 2050 with effect from September 2023. This proposal included a period of formal consultation carried out between 1<sup>st</sup> October 2020 and 12<sup>th</sup> November 2020. Following its conclusion, a consultation report containing a summary of the issues raised and the Council's response was prepared and published on the Newport City Council website. The Cabinet Member for Education & Skills approved the decisions to launch formal consultation and subsequently publish a statutory proposal in accordance with the Council's agreed democratic processes and procedures.

## **Current Position**

The Council moved to the second stage in the school reorganisation process by publishing a statutory proposal between 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021 and 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021. This confirmed the intent to increase the overall capacity of Bassaleg School from 1747 to 2050 with effect from September 2023 and gave an opportunity for stakeholders to lodge formal objections.

The Council published the statutory proposal on its website, with copies also displayed at the main entrances to Bassaleg School, and information distributed by email and weblink to all stakeholders as outlined in the statutory School Organisation Code. Hard copies of the statutory proposal were available on request.

As two formal objections were received, and two other concerns raised, during the statutory notice stage, it is now necessary to refer the final determination to Cabinet acting as the Local Determination Panel.

## **Objections**

The formal objections and areas of concern covered a wide range of subjects as listed below:

1. Traffic impact in the local area
2. Size of the school catchment area
3. Potential school size and impact on attainment
4. Alternative options for secondary provision in the area
5. Opportunity for collaboration with a neighbouring LA
6. Potential opportunity for reorganisation of Post-16 provision
7. Concerns over impact of proposed 3G pitches
8. Inability of the Council to deliver the planned proposal
9. Exacerbation of anti-social behaviour issues
10. Insufficient and weak Options Analysis

These reasons for objection are outlined in detail in the Objection Report. The table included in the report sets out each of the objection points lodged by the proposal objectors. There are two columns of responses. The first column refers to how information was previously made available - either through the formal consultation pack or the subsequent consultation report. The second column is a supplementary response to further clarify the Council's current position in relation to the relevant objection point.

## **Financial Summary**

### Capital

The latest cost plan suggests that the project will require a capital investment of approximately £31m, although this will not be confirmed until the tender process is complete. At present, an amount of £28m has been allocated by the Council, £16m of which will be funded by Welsh Government through the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools programme with the balance of £12m provided by the Council through banked Section 106 developer contributions from the Jubilee Park and Tredegar Park Golf Club housing developments, and borrowing.

Currently, within the Capital Programme, the Band B programme stands at £75.3m, of which £5.3m is additional monies that Newport City Council have added through the use of S106 monies and further borrowing. This is currently not match funded by Welsh Government. Welsh Government has indicated the potential for Council's to amend and expand their Strategic Outline Programme later within in the

Band B timeframe and secure additional funding which will help fund this shortfall. This cannot be guaranteed at this point.

Cabinet is asked to be aware that, if additional funding is not available through Welsh Government, the Council's overall 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools Programme may need to be reviewed in the coming months when there is more certainty on the costs in relation to this and other existing Band B projects which officers think might also require more funding than currently allowed for in the overall programme plan. In order to keep the overall capital programme within affordable and sustainable limits, this will need to include removing/reducing in scope projects from Band B programme in order to ensure that the costs are within the available funding envelope. Therefore approving this increase in the capacity and resulting school extension will in effect, prioritise this individual project within the overall Band B programme at this point.

### Revenue

There is currently a pressure identified within the Local Authority's Medium Term Financial Plan linked to the growing demand for secondary school places within the Authority, which includes the increased provision proposed at Bassaleg School. The funding for the school will come from the Individual Schools Budget (ISB) and therefore is dependent on the level of funding that goes into the ISB to fund the increasing demand for school places.

### **Risks**

Risk	Impact of Risk if it occurs* (H/M/L)	Probability of risk occurring (H/M/L)	What is the Council doing or what has it done to avoid the risk or reduce its effect	Who is responsible for dealing with the risk?
Failure to finally determine the proposal	H	L	There has been mitigation by carrying out a full consultation process in accordance with the statutory School Organisation Code, and through the publication of a statutory notice. The objections received are detailed in the Objection Report to enable full transparency within the determination process.	Chief Education Officer
Delays in securing planning permission impact project delivery	H	M	Early engagement with City Services and Regeneration, Investment and Housing has identified the relevant issues prior to the submission of the planning application. Impact assessments and details of proposed necessary mitigation measures will form part of the application.	Chief Education Officer
Funding sufficiency to deliver the project	H	L	The proposed scope of the project and outline design has been commercially assessed and is considered affordable within the Newport City Council 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Schools Band B programme envelope. The affordability of the project is under constant review.	Chief Education Officer
Demand for pupil places decreases	M	L	Forecasts indicate growing demand across the city, and Bassaleg is an identified pressure area.	Chief Education Officer

Risk	Impact of Risk if it occurs* (H/M/L)	Probability of risk occurring (H/M/L)	What is the Council doing or what has it done to avoid the risk or reduce its effect	Who is responsible for dealing with the risk?
Demand for places increases beyond proposed capacity increase	M	L	It is possible that the school will continue to receive more applications than spaces available. However, the Council is confident that the proposed expansion will be sufficient to meet in-catchment demand for the near future.	Chief Education Officer

\* Taking account of proposed mitigation measures

## Links to Council Policies and Priorities

Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

Corporate Plan

Council Improvement Plan (*Aspirational People* theme)

Education Service Plan

## Options Available

Option 1: To determine to implement the proposal to increase the overall capacity of Bassaleg School from 1747 to 2050 with effect from September 2023

Option 2: To decide to withdraw the proposal and maintain the school within its existing capacity.

## Preferred Option and Why

The preferred option is Option 1. The Council considers the expansion of Bassaleg School to be an appropriate response to the local, in-catchment demand for secondary school places. This planned expansion, alongside the replacement of some current teaching accommodation and facilities, has been highlighted as a priority project within Band B of the Council's 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools Programme.

## Comments of Chief Financial Officer

### Capital

There is currently £28m on the capital programme for Bassaleg within 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools allocation but high level cost plans have indicated that a potential £31m will be required. As mentioned within the report Welsh Government have indicated that there may be an option for the Council to expand their programme envelope with additional funding to help fund this shortfall though this can't be guaranteed at this point. However, if this is not available and in order to keep the overall Council capital programme within affordable and sustainable levels, it will be necessary for the Band B programme to be reviewed and projects removed/reduced from the programme to bring it back within budget. Therefore, the decision here to proceed with this project will prioritise this individual project.

A number of projects within the overall Band B programme are overspending compared to planning budget assumptions used when constructing the programme and therefore, inevitably, will need to be reviewed to keep it within overall funding availability.

### Revenue

The proposal to increase capacity within Bassaleg School will create an additional pressure on the ISB, however, there is increasing demand for school places, as a result of the growing population within the LA requiring expansion of provision. The growth of pupil numbers within the secondary sector is contained within the Authority's Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP), which will be considered for future funding in 2022/23 financial year.



## **Comments of Monitoring Officer**

The proposed action is in accordance with the statutory school reorganisation procedures set out in the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and the School Organisation Code. Because the proposed permanent expansion of Bassaleg School would increase the capacity of the school from 1747 to 2050 pupils, then this is a regulated alteration under the Code and, therefore, has to be the subject of formal statutory consultation. In accordance with the statutory procedures, a detailed consultation document was prepared, setting out the educational reasons for the proposals, and meaningful consultation has been carried out with key stakeholders, including children and young people, who are likely to be affected by the changes. Because of the on-going Covid-19 restrictions, no face-to-face consultation meetings were possible but the consultation process has been conducted strictly in accordance with the requirements of the Code (as amended by the Coronavirus Regulations). Most of the consultation responses were supportive of the proposed expansion and the valid objections were not considered to be sufficient to override the proposed educational benefits of the school expansion. The response from Estyn confirmed that this proposal would result in current educational standards being at least maintained. Therefore, the Cabinet Member agreed to proceed with the statutory notices, in the light of those consultation responses. Accordingly, the proposal was published by way of formal statutory notice on the Council's website and by public notices, and a period of 28 days was allowed for statutory objections. Two formal objections were received and two other concerns were raised during the statutory notice stage. In accordance with the requirements of the legislation and the statutory Code, a summary of the statutory objections and the Education response to those objections is set out in the attached Objection Report. Because there are unresolved objections, then the Cabinet Member is unable to take this decision and the final decision has been referred to full Cabinet as the Local Determination Panel. The objections and responses set out in the Objection report must be given due consideration when the Cabinet takes the decision on the determination of this proposal. If Cabinet are satisfied with the responses to the objections and considers that there are still overriding educational benefits in proceeding with the expansion, then it can decide to proceed with the proposed school reorganisation

## **Comments of Head of People and Business Change**

The proposed expansion of Bassaleg School is intended to create capacity to meet the increased demand for pupils from within the catchment area thereby avoiding increased appeals, higher school transport costs and impacts on pupil wellbeing. In addition the proposal would result in an improvement in the quality of the existing accommodation and facilities.

This school reorganisation proposal has been undertaken in accordance with the Welsh Government's statutory School Organisation Code which involved a formal consultation programme, as outlined in this report, and a subsequent statutory proposal. A Fairness and Equalities Impact Assessment has been undertaken to inform Cabinet's decision making process.

## **Local issues**

Local ward members have been offered the opportunity to comment on this proposal as it has progressed.

## **Scrutiny Committees**

None

## **Equalities Impact Assessment**

The Equality Act 2010 contains a Public Sector Equality Duty, which came into force on 06 April 2011. The Act identifies a number of 'protected characteristics', namely age; disability; gender reassignment; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; sexual orientation; marriage and civil partnership. The single duty aims to integrate consideration of equality and good relations into the regular business of public authorities. Compliance with the duty is a legal obligation and intends to result in better-informed decision-making and policy development and services that are more effective for users. In exercising its functions, the Council must have due regard to the need to: eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct that is prohibited by the Act; advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a protected characteristic and those who do not; and foster good relations between persons who share a protected characteristic and those who do not. The Act is not overly

prescriptive about the approach a public authority should take to ensure due regard, although it does set out that due regard to advancing equality involves:

- Removing or minimising disadvantages suffered by people due to their protected characteristics;
- Taking steps to meet the needs of people from protected groups where these differ from the need of other people; and
- Encouraging people from protected groups to participate in public life or in other activities where their participation is disproportionately low.

The updated Fairness & Equality Impact Assessment (FEIA) is available for review.

## **Children and Families (Wales) Measure**

Pupil engagement sessions took place as part of the formal consultation process.

## **Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015**

Report writers need to indicate how they have considered the five things public bodies need to think about to show they have applied the sustainable development principle put into place by the Act. You will need to demonstrate you have considered the following:

- Long term: the importance of balancing short- term needs with the need to safeguard the ability to meet long-term needs. **Bassaleg School is consistently over-subscribed. This demand will increase as new housing developments in the area continue to mature. Increasing the capacity will ensure that the projected demand from in-catchment pupils can be supported, both in the short and longer term.**
- Prevention: How acting to prevent problems occurring or getting worse may help us meet our objectives. **Pupil projection models show that Bassaleg School will continue to be over-subscribed, however moving forward this over-subscription correlates to pupils within the designated catchment area. Failing to take action now could result in unsuccessful on-time in-catchment applications in the future on a regular basis. This will affect pupil wellbeing, as well as increasing the number of school admission appeals and having an impact on home to school transport costs and arrangements.**
- Integration: Consider how the proposals will affect our wellbeing objectives, our wellbeing goals, other objectives or those of other public bodies. **The Consultation Report describes the detail of the statutory formal consultation process with key stakeholders, and the publication of the statutory proposal enabled the opportunity for stakeholders to formally note any objections. The FEIA has been revised following conclusion of the statutory notice period. The proposal supports the “A prosperous Wales”, “A more equal Wales” and “A Wales of cohesive communities” Well-being Goals and the Well-being Objective “To improve skills, educational outcomes and employment opportunities”.**
- Collaboration: have you considered how acting in collaboration with any other person or any other part of our organisation could help meet our wellbeing objectives. **The Consultation Report describes the detail of the statutory formal consultation process with key stakeholders, and the publication of the statutory proposal enabled the opportunity for stakeholders to formally note any objections. The FEIA has been revised following conclusion of the statutory notice period. The proposal will be delivered through engagement with the Bassaleg School leadership team.**
- Involvement: The importance of involving people with an interest in achieving the wellbeing goals, and ensuring that those people reflect the diversity of the City we serve. **The Consultation Report describes the detail of the statutory formal consultation process with key stakeholders, and the publication of the statutory proposal enabled the opportunity for stakeholders to formally note any objections. The FEIA has been revised following conclusion of the statutory notice period. An Objection Report has also been prepared and will be published on the Newport City Council alongside the details of the final determination.**

## **Crime and Disorder Act 1998**

Section 17(1) of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 imposes a duty on the Local Authority to exercise its various functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent, crime and disorder in its area.

## **Consultation**

This proposal has been subject to a full programme of stakeholder engagement as required under the statutory School Organisation Code, and as outlined in detail in the consultation report.

## **Background Papers**

Consultation Document

Consultation Report

Statutory Notice

Objection Report

Objections

Updated FEIA

**Dated: 2 June 2021**

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# Formal Consultation to increase the capacity of Bassaleg School with effect from September 2023

**1 October 2020 –  
12 November 2020**



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Ysgolion yr 21ain Ganrif  
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21st Century Schools





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**English**

Os hoffech yr wybodaeth hon ar unrhyw ffurf arall er enghraifft braille neu brint bras, neu os hoffech help gan ddehonglydd iaith arall, cysylltwch â Chyngor Dinas Casnewydd ar 01633 656656 neu e-bostiwh [school.reorg@newport.gov.uk](mailto:school.reorg@newport.gov.uk)

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**Czech**

اگر شما این اطلاعات را در فرمت دیگر می خواهید مثلاً بریل (الفبا نابینایان) یا چاپ بزرگ یا کمک به تفسیر در زبان دیگر، لطفاً با شورای شهر  
Newport City Council نیوپورت [school.reorg@newport.gov.uk](mailto:school.reorg@newport.gov.uk) یا به این آدرس ایمیل کنید 01633 656656 تماس بگیرید

**Farsi**

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**Hungarian**

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**Lithuanian**

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府联系。电话：01633 656656 邮箱：[school.reorg@newport.gov.uk](mailto:school.reorg@newport.gov.uk)

**Mandarin**

Jeśli chcesz te informacje w innym formacie, np. Braille'em czy dużym drukiem, lub pomoc przy tłumaczeniu w innym języku, prosimy o kontakt z Urzędem Miasta Newport na 01633 656656 lub wysyłając maila na [school.reorg@newport.gov.uk](mailto:school.reorg@newport.gov.uk)

**Polish**

Se você quiser essa informação em qualquer outro formato, por exemplo braille ou impressão em letra grande, ou ajuda com a interpretação em um idioma diferente, entre em contato com a Câmara Municipal de Newport através do número 01633 656656 ou enviando um email para [school.reorg@newport.gov.uk](mailto:school.reorg@newport.gov.uk)

**Portuguese**

Dacă doriți această informație în alt format, de exemplu Braille sau în format mare, sau ajutor cu interpretarea în alta limbă, vă rugăm să contactați Newport City Council la numărul de telefon : 01633656656 sau prin e-mail-ul:[school.reorg@newport.gov.uk](mailto:school.reorg@newport.gov.uk)

**Romanian**

Если вы хотите получить вышеуказанную информацию в других форматах, таких как шрифт Брайля и большой шрифт, или если у вас есть необходимость в устном переводе, обратитесь в управление города Ньюпорт. Тел: 01633 656656 Электронная почта : [school.reorg@newport.gov.uk](mailto:school.reorg@newport.gov.uk)

**Russian**

V prípade, že potrebujete tieto informácie v inom formáte, ako napríklad Brajllove písmo alebo veľká tlač alebo potrebujete pomoc s prekladom alebo tlmočením do iného jazyka, prosím kontaktujte Newport City Council na telefónnom čísle 01633 656656 alebo mailom na [school.reorg@newport.gov.uk](mailto:school.reorg@newport.gov.uk)

**Slovak**

Si desea esta información en cualquier otro formato, por ejemplo braille o letra grande, o ayuda con la interpretación en otro idioma, por favor póngase en contacto con el Ayuntamiento de Newport al 01633 656656 o por correo electrónico a [school.reorg@newport.gov.uk](mailto:school.reorg@newport.gov.uk)

**Spanish**

اگر آپ یہ معلومات کسی دوسری شکل میں حاصل کرنا پسند کریں گے مثال کے طور پر بریل (نابینا اشخاص کے لئے) یا بڑے پرنٹ میں یا دوسری  
سے اس نمبر پر رابطہ کریں Newport City Council زبان میں ترجعے کے لئے تو برائے مہربانی نیوپورٹ سٹی کونسل  
01633 656656 یا اس پتہ پر ای میل کریں [school.reorg@newport.gov.uk](mailto:school.reorg@newport.gov.uk)

**Urdu**

Information can also be arranged in other community languages if needed. Please contact us on 01633 656656 to arrange.

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## Introduction

The purpose of the consultation is to seek views on the following proposal:

“To increase the overall capacity of Bassaleg School from 1,747 to 2,050 with effect from September 2023”

This is your chance to ask questions and make comments that will be considered when the Council decides how to proceed.

### **This formal consultation period:**

- **Begins on 1 October 2020**
- **Ends at midnight on 12 November 2020**

## Background

Bassaleg School is a community maintained school in Newport for pupils aged 11-18 years. The measured capacity of the school is 1,747 and the published admission number (PAN) for years 7-11 is 270. Following the opening in 2017 of Jubilee Park Primary School on the housing development of the same name, the current admission number of Bassaleg School is no longer sufficient to accommodate pupils progressing from Year 6 in the cluster primary schools to Year 7 at Bassaleg School. As a result, Newport City Council proposes to increase the admission number for years 7-11 to 330, and thereby ultimately increase the overall capacity of the school to 2,050, with effect from September 2023.

Bassaleg School is due to benefit from building replacement works under Band B of the Welsh Government 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools and Colleges Programme. Under this arrangement Welsh Government will provide 65% of the required funding, subject to business case approval. Newport City Council proposes to use this opportunity to provide the additional school capacity within the building replacement project.

## The Consultation Process

The consultation process represents an opportunity for people to learn about the proposal, ask questions and make comments that will be recorded and summarised in a consultation report. This report will be published on the Council's website and will be considered when the Council decides on the way forward.

Due to the current public health situation, and to help limit the spread of the Coronavirus, the Council is not proposing any public drop-in events during this consultation. Instead, questions can be submitted by e-mail to [school.reorg@newport.gov.uk](mailto:school.reorg@newport.gov.uk) and Council officers will generally provide a response within 7 days. This should enable stakeholders to submit informed responses to the consultation. A list of Frequently Asked Questions and answers will also be published on the Council's webpages at [www.newport.gov.uk/schoolreorganisation](http://www.newport.gov.uk/schoolreorganisation)

Consultation responses can be submitted using the online response pro-forma available at [www.newport.gov.uk/schoolreorganisation](http://www.newport.gov.uk/schoolreorganisation). Responses can also be returned by email to [school.reorg@newport.gov.uk](mailto:school.reorg@newport.gov.uk). Alternatively, the pro-forma enclosed can be returned to the Education Information and Development Officer, Room 425w, Newport City Council, Civic Centre, Newport NP20 4UR.

Social media platforms such as Twitter and Facebook will also share information on the proposed changes.

Please note that negative responses made to the proposal will not be counted as objections to the proposal, they will be recorded as adverse comments. Objections can only be registered following the publication of a statutory notice. **The deadline for all responses is midnight on 12 November 2020.**

Following consultation, Newport City Council's Cabinet Member for Education and Skills will consider the views expressed and then decide whether to proceed with the proposal. If the decision is taken to proceed, a statutory notice will be published on the Newport City Council website and notices posted on the school gates at all affected schools<sup>1</sup>. The statutory notice period will last for 28 days following the date of publication and enables people to express their views in the form of supporting or objecting to the proposals. If no objections are received following the publication of the statutory notice, the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills will make the final decision as to whether to proceed. If any objections are received and not subsequently withdrawn during this notice period, the Council's Cabinet will determine the final decision.

### **Arrangements for the participation of children and young people**

A Children and Young People's Everyday Summary Version of this consultation has been produced. Both this and the full version are available via the NCC website at [www.newport.gov.uk/schoolreorganisation](http://www.newport.gov.uk/schoolreorganisation), from the Civic Centre, and the Information Station. Copies can also be requested by emailing [school.reorg@newport.gov.uk](mailto:school.reorg@newport.gov.uk) or by telephoning 01633 656656.

### **Who will we consult with?**

- Parents, carers and guardians of pupils attending all schools affected by this proposal;
- Pupils attending all schools affected by this proposal;
- Members of staff currently employed at all schools affected by this proposal;
- The Church in Wales, Diocese of Monmouth;
- Roman Catholic Archdiocese;
- Neighbouring Local Authorities across the South East Wales Consortium area;
- The Headteacher and Governing Bodies of all Newport schools;
- All Newport City Council elected members;
- All Newport City Council Heads of Service;
- The local Community Councils;
- The Welsh Ministers;
- Assembly Members (AMs) and Members of Parliament (MPs) representing the area served by the schools subject to the proposals;
- Estyn;
- Teaching and staff trade unions representing teachers and staff employed at all schools affected by this proposal;
- The Education Achievement Service for South East Wales;
- The Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent;
- Newport's Welsh in Education Forum;
- The Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership;

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<sup>1</sup> The schools affected by this proposal are listed on page 7 of this document

- Newport Serennu Centre;
- SNAP Cymru;
- Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations;
- Preventative services

### **What do you have to consider?**

The remainder of this document sets out the rationale for the proposal. We would like you to consider the information contained within the document and to hear your views as to whether or not you support the proposal.

## **The Proposal**

The proposal is to increase the published admission number for Years 7 to 11 at Bassaleg School, Forge Lane, Newport NP10 8NF, from 270 to 330 and thereby increase the overall school capacity from 1,747 to 2,050 pupils, from September 2023.

The population of Newport grew by almost 3,500 people between 2011 and 2016, and the primary school population of Newport has grown by 1,565 between January 2014 and January 2020. As these pupils mature, the pressure on school places is transitioning into our secondary school estate, which is reflected in our pupil population forecasts. Detail of this forecast pressure is provided on pages 6 and 8, below.

Much of the city's population growth can be attributed to the scale of new housing developments, making use of former industrial sites and the regeneration of dilapidated and under-occupied residential buildings.

New housing developments will result in the creation of thousands of new homes across the city. A development of over 1000 new homes is underway at Jubilee Park, just one mile away and within the catchment area of Bassaleg School. This development can be reasonably expected to result in an increase of approximately 250 secondary school age pupils needing places in local schools. In September 2017, Jubilee Park Primary School opened under a growing school model, to provide primary school places for the children living on that development. On opening, the school became the sixth primary school of the Bassaleg School cluster. The school capacity has grown over three years, from admitting only 15 pupils per year group in 2017; 30 per year group in 2018; and 45 pupils per year group from 2019 onwards.

High birth rates and inward migration of families moving to the Bassaleg and Rogerstone areas had been noted prior to the commencement of new house building programmes. To support this population growth, a total of five additional temporary 'bubble' classes had been introduced in Reception year groups at High Cross, Mount Pleasant and Rogerstone primary schools for five consecutive years, between 2011 and 2016 to provide extra capacity. A further "bubble" class has also been created at Mount Pleasant Primary to support the 2020 Reception year group. The result of these population increases is that the admission number for Bassaleg School is no longer sufficient to admit all of the in-catchment pupils progressing to secondary school from the cluster primary schools. Without expansion, some in-catchment pupils applying from the Marshfield area, being the farthest located area within the school catchment, are unlikely to be receive an offer of a place at Bassaleg School. The pressure on school places is illustrated overleaf.

<b>Table 1: Cluster admission numbers</b>	
School	Published Admission Number (pupils per year)
High Cross Primary School	30
Marshfield Primary School	60
Mount Pleasant Primary School	30
Pentrepoeth Primary School	60
Rogerstone Primary School	60
Jubilee Park Primary School	45
<b>Primary Total:</b>	<b>285</b>
Bassaleg School	270

<b>Table 2: Actual and forecast Year 7 cohort numbers</b>					
Bassaleg School	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Year 7 PAN	300*	330*	300*	300*	270
Cluster cohort	302	314	303	310	274
Forecast Y7 population	315	330	317	319	280
Numbers in red indicate the cohort/forecast exceeds the published admission number *A temporary increase of 30; 60; 30 and 30 places has been implemented in Y7 for September 2019 to September 2022 to accommodate in-catchment pupils					

<b>Table 3: Cluster pupil numbers Jan 2018 (temporary capacity increases highlighted)</b>								
	PAN	R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
High Cross Primary School	30	30	30	29	58	30	30	31
Marshfield Primary School	60	58	60	60	60	63	63	59
Mount Pleasant Primary School	30	31	31	30	31	59	29	29
Pentrepoeth Primary School	60	60	59	60	61	61	60	57
Rogerstone Primary School*	60	61	62	95	61	65	94	90
Jubilee Park Primary School*	15**	23	16	14	9	15	18	9
Total	255	263	258	288	280	293	294	275
*Includes pupils in Learning Resource Base Classes (additional to mainstream PAN) ** In the first year, this school opened to just 15 pupils per year group								

The tables above show how, since September 2011, additional capacity has been required for five successive years, in order to meet demand for primary pupil places in the area. The opening of Jubilee Park Primary School in September 2017 also serves to add to the pressure for secondary school places. Under the council's school admissions policy, where a school is oversubscribed, the agreed oversubscription criteria are applied to determine which children should be admitted. Where there are more in-catchment applications than places available, priority is given to those with relevant siblings already attending the school, and those residing closest to the school. Pupils residing in the Marshfield area of the Bassaleg School catchment may therefore have been adversely affected by the establishment of the Jubilee Park development, as pupils living here would be closer to Bassaleg School. Although pupil population forecasts shown on the following pages indicate that the peak in demand experienced between 2011 and 2016 has largely passed, the need for another 'bubble class' at Mount Pleasant for September 2020 indicates that additional capacity will be

required in the future. For this reason, the council believes it necessary to increase the PAN of Bassaleg School beyond the combined cluster primary PAN of 285, to 330.

## Affected Schools

The school directly affected by this proposal is **Bassaleg School**. It is anticipated that pupils from Marshfield Primary School will benefit significantly from the proposal being the farthest cluster primary school to Bassaleg School. However, all pupils attending Bassaleg School will benefit from improved facilities. For completeness, this document provides information on all of the primary schools which make up the Bassaleg School cluster, namely:

- Marshfield Primary School
- Mount Pleasant Primary School
- Rogerstone Primary School
- High Cross Primary School
- Jubilee Park Primary School
- Pentrepoeth Primary School

**Bassaleg School** is a community maintained, English language secondary school for pupils aged 11-18 years, located in the west of Newport, at Forge Road, linking the A467 Risca bypass and junction 28 of the M4 at Tredegar Park. The school has a published admission number of 270 for years 7-11 and 199 for year 12.

Marshfield Primary School pupils will benefit from this proposal because the increase in the admission number improves the chances of these in-catchment pupils securing a place in the school, and reduces the likelihood of siblings having to attend different schools due to a shortage of places. The catchment area for Bassaleg School is made up of the catchment areas of the cluster primary schools. Therefore any pupils who are in-catchment for the cluster primary school are also in-catchment for Bassaleg School. There are no catchment area changes proposed as part of this proposal.

## Past and Projected Numbers – Bassaleg School

**Table 4: Recent pupil numbers – Bassaleg School (Y7-13)**

Jan 2016	Jan 2017	Jan 2018	Jan 2019	Jan 2020
1,673	1,626	1,679	1,673	1,677
Pupil numbers are January PLASC submissions				

It is worth noting that although pupil numbers across the school have remained fairly stable, the number of post-16 pupils has declined in recent years, with the whole-school population remaining stable due to larger cohorts joining the school in Year 7.

Table 5: Forecast pupil numbers – Bassaleg School (Y7-13)				
Jan 2021	Jan 2022	2023	2024	2025
1,766	1,846	1,893	1,890	1,890

### Current and Projected Numbers – Cluster Primary Schools

Table 6: Cluster pupil numbers (R-Y6) – January 2020								
	PAN	R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
High Cross Primary School	30	30	30	30	30	30	56	30
Jubilee Park Primary School*	45	48	47	39	38	41	34	42
Marshfield Primary School	60	54	59	61	57	61	58	60
Mount Pleasant Primary School	30	30	29	29	30	30	31	57
Pentrepoeth Primary School	60	60	56	60	59	59	62	61
Rogerstone Primary School*	60	61	61	62	60	89	62	64
<b>Total:</b>	285	283	282	281	274	310	303	314
*Includes pupils in Learning Resource Base Classes (additional to mainstream PAN) Highlighted cells identify temporary bubble class arrangements								

Table 7: Primary school pupil numbers (R – Y6) – Bassaleg Cluster						
	Capacity	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
High Cross Primary School	210 (240 to 2021)	243	244	238	234	236
Jubilee Park Primary School*	315	N/A	N/A	104	195	289
Marshfield Primary School	420	414	420	423	417	410
Mount Pleasant Primary School	210 (240 to 2020)	255	239	240	243	236
Pentrepoeth Primary School	420	418	416	418	420	417
Rogerstone Primary School*	420 (510 to 2020)	532	533	528	497	459
<b>Total</b>	<b>1995 (2145)</b>	<b>1862</b>	<b>1852</b>	<b>1951</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2047</b>
Pupil numbers are January PLASC submission for each listed year. *Numbers include pupils in LRB classes						

**Table 8: Primary school forecasts – Bassaleg Cluster**

	Capacity	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
High Cross Primary School	210 (240 to 2021)	227	194	185	176	173
Jubilee Park Primary School	315	274	278	275	279	284
Marshfield Primary School	420	416	415	414	413	414
Mount Pleasant Primary School	210 (240 to 2020)	212	213	203	193	193
Pentrepoeth Primary School	420	419	401	382	374	359
Rogerstone Primary School	420 (450 to 2022)	442	425	362	333	307
Total	1995 (2085)	1990	1926	1821	1768	1730

## Building Condition

The condition of the buildings on the affected school sites has been judged on a scale of A to D as follows:

**Table 9: Building condition**

Bassaleg School	C-
High Cross Primary School	C+
Jubilee Park Primary School	A
Marshfield Primary School	C+
Mount Pleasant Primary School	C+
Pentrepoeth Primary School	C+
Rogerstone Primary School	B

Current accommodation at Bassaleg School is spread across 15 sets of buildings of varying quality and suitability. The main building dates from the 1930s, with much of the school comprising buildings constructed in the 1960s. Two teaching blocks are much more recent, but there are also a considerable number of demountable classrooms of various ages which are in a particularly poor state of repair.

This has resulted in a logistical challenge to pupils and staff navigating the site. There is also inadequate sports provision, and the two main halls and dining areas are located at opposite ends of

the extensive site, neither of them sufficient to accommodate more than a single year group at any one time. Added to these issues is the over-arching problem of a lack of investment in the older buildings over a protracted period of time, which results in pupils being taught in dilapidated, inefficient, uninspiring classrooms.

Under this proposal, a new teaching block, dining and assembly facilities and sports pitches will be provided at Bassaleg School, and the majority of the poor quality accommodation currently on site will be demolished.

## Quality and Standards in education

Quality and standards in schools in Newport are monitored by Estyn and the Local Authority (LA). Estyn is the office of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education and Training in Wales. It is a Crown body, established under the Education Act 1992. Estyn is independent of the National Assembly for Wales but receives its funding from the Welsh Government under Section 104 of the Government of Wales Act 1998. Estyn inspects quality and standards in education and training providers in Wales. The most recent inspection results of each school directly affected by this proposal are outlined below:

Table 10: Estyn Inspections						
School	Inspection Date	Inspection Area				
		Standards	Wellbeing & attitudes to learning	Teaching & learning experiences	Care, support & guidance	Leadership & management
Bassaleg School	May 2019	Good	Good	Good	Excellent	Good

It is not anticipated that the proposal will have any effect on quality and standards in teaching at any of the cluster primary schools. Consideration is given to the potential impact of the proposal on quality and standards at Bassaleg School below, and is aligned with the Estyn Inspection framework:

### **Standards –**

Under this proposal there will be no change to the leadership team and structure at Bassaleg School. This team has been judged to deliver good standards of education at the school. The proposal will be made possible through a considerable investment in new teaching and learning facilities which can also be expected to improve pupil behaviour and concentration and allow teachers to focus fully on teaching. As such, the proposal is expected to have a positive effect on standards at the school.

Standards at the six cluster primary schools will not be affected by this proposal.

### **Wellbeing and attitudes to learning –**

Wellbeing and attitudes to learning have been judged to be good at Bassaleg School. The new teaching facilities are being designed with input from the school to ensure that they will have a positive impact on pupil wellbeing and attitudes to learning, in line with the school's vision for the delivery of the new curriculum and with the ethos of the school. Further, the rationalisation of teaching, dining and assembly accommodation – bringing more of it together in one place – is expected to have a significant positive impact on pupil and staff wellbeing and will improve attitudes to learning.



Wellbeing and attitudes to learning at the six cluster primary schools will not be adversely affected by this proposal but may be positively affected through the improved chance of securing a place at the cluster secondary school.

### ***Teaching and learning experiences –***

Teaching and learning experiences are judged to be good at Bassaleg School, despite the challenges currently presented by some dated and poor condition accommodation. Under this proposal, new and improved teaching facilities will be provided which will impact all areas of learning experience. As such, it is expected that the proposal will have a positive impact on teaching and learning experiences.

The new facilities at the school will be available to Key Stage 2 pupils attending the six cluster primary schools through cluster events and so will provide some benefit to pupils in these schools.

### ***Care support and guidance –***

Bassaleg School is a very inclusive school, with inclusion being a central part of the schools' value system. Care, support and guidance have been judged to be excellent at Bassaleg School, and efforts are focussed on ensuring that the new facilities enable a continuation of this excellent provision. This provision will be reinforced both through this proposal and through the introduction of the new curriculum.

Care support and guidance at the six cluster primary schools will not be affected by this proposal.

### ***Leadership and management –***

As noted above, there will be no changes to leadership and management at the school. The proposed works to facilitate the increase in overall capacity will enable the leadership team to shape the teaching and learning provision to support the delivery of the curriculum, strengthening links across subjects and departments, and bringing them together to effectively deliver all Areas of Learning Experience.

## **School Categorisation**

The National School Categorisation system gives us a clear and fair picture of how well a school is performing compared with other schools across Wales and helps us to identify the schools that need the most help, support and guidance to improve. The system has been developed collectively between regional education consortia and Welsh Government. Its primary function is to identify, across Wales, the schools that need the most support.

Bassaleg School is in the “green” support category with its improvement capacity judged as being group A. This indicates that the school is considered to have high standards with the capacity to drive improvement, and is able to support other schools.

## **What Will the Proposal Provide?**

The proposal will be facilitated by a significant build project for the school, delivered through the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools and Colleges Programme, which allows the Council to benefit from Welsh Government match funding, subject to business case approval.

The project will deliver a new teaching block which will accommodate up to 1,440 pupils, enabling the school capacity across years 7 to 11 to increase by 300 places, bringing the whole school capacity to a total of 2,050 places. The new build will therefore replace a significant amount of the existing buildings which are in poor condition. The exact detail of what the project will deliver is still being developed through the business case process, focussing on achieving both impact and value for money. The Strategic Outline Case for the project was approved by Welsh Government in February 2020. It is anticipated that the project will deliver the following facilities:

- Whole school catering facility and dining hall
- Assembly hall
- Standard teaching classrooms
- Specialist teaching classrooms (music, science & technology)
- Drama studio
- Recording studio
- Learning resource and wellbeing areas
- Improved sports pitches
- Better grouping and proximity of subject areas
- Removal of poor quality and demountable teaching accommodation
- Improved access and additional parking spaces

The new building will be constructed within the existing school site while pupils and staff continue to use the existing facilities. Once the new building is complete, pupils and staff will move into the new building and the old buildings will be demolished. The more disruptive works will be scheduled for times when the school is closed.

## New building indicative floor plans

Ground floor:



First floor:



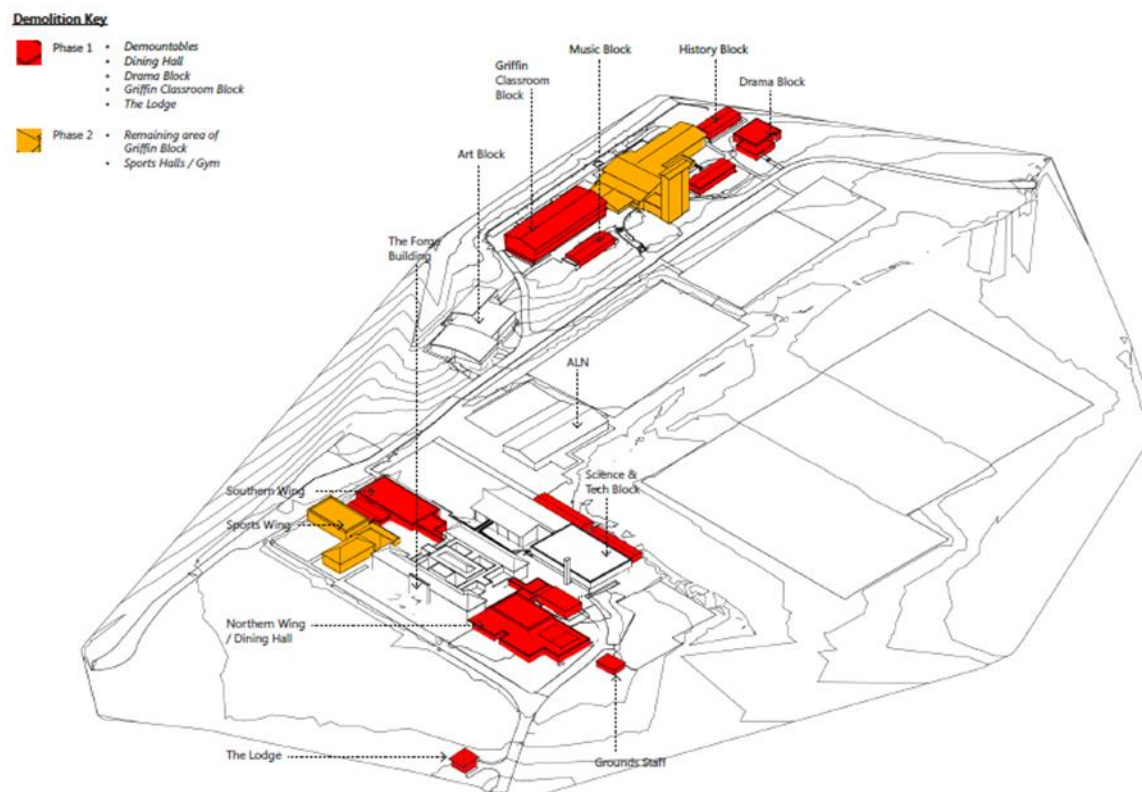
Second floor:



Front elevation and plaza:



Demolition plan:



## When Will This Be Effective?

The project is scheduled to be commence in the spring of 2021 and to complete in the spring of 2023. The school capacity will increase to 2,050 from September 2023. In order to meet the increased demand for Year 7 pupil places it is proposed to implement this proposal in phases, by admitting additional in-catchment pupils to Year 7, according to demand, as follows:

<b>Table 11: Capacity increase implementation</b>			
<b>Year</b>	<b>Additional capacity created</b>	<b>Maximum Y7 intake</b>	<b>Capacity</b>
2018-2019	0	270	1,747
2019-2020	30	300	1,777
2020-2021	60	330	1,837
2021-2022	30	300	1,867
2022-2023	30	300	1,897
2023-2024	60	330	1,957
2024-2025	60	330	2,017
2025-2026	33	330	2,050

The 2019 to 2022 Y7 admission increases will be made possible by the addition of 5 temporary classrooms. These will be replaced by the new build teaching facility and will be removed from site once the build project is complete.

## Cost of the Proposal

The project will require a capital investment of approximately £28m, made possible through Welsh Government's 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools and Colleges programme which will provide approximately £16m of the required investment. The balance of £12m will be invested by Newport City Council through banked developer contributions from the Jubilee Park (Alcan) and Tredegar Park Golf Club developments, and supported borrowing.

## Revenue Costs

There is currently a pressure identified within the Local Authority's Medium Term Financial Plan linked to the growing demand for secondary school places within the Authority, which includes the increased provision proposed at Bassaleg School.

## Alternative Options Considered

### 1) Do nothing

Under this option no additional or replacement facilities would be provided. Existing accommodation would be repaired under standard maintenance arrangements

Strengths:

- No investment required
- No disruption to school or neighbourhood

Weaknesses:

- Problems with condition of existing accommodation will not be addressed
- Issues with the site arrangement will not be addressed
- No additional capacity to meet in-catchment demand
- Local children will have to travel further to get to another school possibly on the other side of the city
- Ongoing transport cost liability to the Authority
- Significant maintenance liability to existing buildings, and potential Health and Safety concerns

**Conclusion:** The 'do nothing' option does not address the current and anticipated issues concerning building condition and the local pressure on school places. This is not therefore considered to be a preferred option.

### 2) Replace some existing accommodation; no expansion

Under this option the worst of the existing buildings would be replaced, but no additional capacity would be provided at the school.

Strengths:

- Addresses issues with poor condition accommodation
- Addresses issues with site arrangements
- Provides new and inspiring facilities for teaching and learning

Weaknesses:

- No additional capacity to meet in-catchment demand
- Local children will have to travel further to get to another school possibly on the other side of the city
- Ongoing transport cost liability to the Authority
- Disruption to school and neighbourhood during construction works

**Conclusion:** Although this option would address some of the worst health & safety concerns over the condition of buildings on the site, it would not address the local pressure for school places and presents a risk that the authority will be unable to discharge its duty to provide a sufficiency of

school places. As a result, pupils, mostly from the Marshfield area, will likely be offered places in schools that are not their catchment school and may be located some distance from their home address. There is also likely to be a transport cost associated with this option. This option is not preferred due to the necessary displacement of pupils from within the Bassaleg cluster and the risk of failure in terms of the statutory duty.

### **3) Provide new accommodation to enable a 300 place capacity increase only**

Strengths:

- Provides new and inspiring facilities for teaching and learning
- Provides additional pupil places to meet in-catchment demand
- Avoids transport costs and inconvenience

Weaknesses:

- Issues with the condition of existing accommodation will not be addressed
- Issues with the site arrangement will not be addressed
- Significant maintenance liability to existing buildings, and potential Health and Safety concerns

**Conclusion:** While this option would provide the additional capacity necessary to meet local demand, it would fail to maximise the opportunity to invest in the school and replace some of the poor condition buildings on the site. This option is not preferred as the significant building condition liability would remain.

### **4) Increase the capacity of another secondary school**

Strengths:

- Provides required pupil places in the city

Weaknesses:

- Would not provide school places in the locality in which they are needed
- Home to school transport implications
- Limited possibilities for expansion on other school sites in the west of the city

**Conclusion:** This option is not preferred due to the difficulty to expand another school site, and because it would fail to address the issues at Bassaleg School. It would also not provide the required capacity on the right location.

### **5) Change school catchment areas to divert pressure away from Bassaleg School**

Strengths:

- An alternative to expansion on the Bassaleg site

Weaknesses:

- Would not provide school places in the locality in which they are needed

- Home to school transport implications
- Likely to impact many or all secondary schools and their cluster primary schools
- Fails to provide any extra school capacity

**Conclusion:** This would be an unduly disruptive approach to resolving the anticipated pressure for school places in the Rogerstone and Marshfield areas. It would also not address the challenge of the overall availability of school places across the city, nor the issues with the condition of the current buildings at Bassaleg School. This option is not therefore preferred.

## **What will the preferred proposal achieve?**

If implemented, the proposal will provide sufficient capacity to meet the expected demand from in-catchment families for the foreseeable future. In addition, much of the existing poor quality accommodation will be replaced with a fully accessible, state of the art new build teaching block with dining and assembly facilities.

## **Impact on the Local Environment**

The proposal will impact the local environment and road network in two ways; from the proposed construction and site development, and from the increased pupil and staff population at the school site.

As outlined above, the proposed capacity increase for Bassaleg School is a direct response to the development of new housing in the immediate locality at Jubilee Park and Tredegar Park Golf Club, both of which are within easy walking distance of the school. As such, the traffic impact has largely already been accounted for in the planning applications for those two developments, in an area that has recently seen investment in road layout improvements implemented by Welsh Government. There is an existing safe walking route between the Jubilee Park development and the school site, and consideration will be given to improvements to this as part of the proposed scheme.

Improved access and parking is being included within the design proposals for the development, which will seek to reduce the impact of school related parking in the local streets outside of the school site.

Safe routes to school and active travel arrangements are being considered in partnership with colleagues in City Services. Developing a coherent travel strategy and school travel plan to promote ecologically friendly travel choices is seen as integral to the proposed scheme and will be presented as part of the planning application package.



## **School Organisation Arrangements**

### **Catchment Area**

There will be no changes to the current primary and secondary catchment areas under this proposal.

### **Admissions**

Newport City Council is the admissions authority for Bassaleg School, and applications for admission will continue to be assessed in accordance with the Council's School Admissions Policy.

In accordance with this policy, parents can express a preference for any school, but there is no guarantee of admission to the chosen school, even if it is the catchment school. Admission to the school will be made in accordance with parental preference, subject to availability. Where a school is oversubscribed, preference requests will still be considered, but the Council's over-subscription criteria will be applied to determine priority.

Further information on the School Admissions policy and process can be found on the Council website at [www.newport.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.newport.gov.uk/schooladmissions)

### **Home to School Transport**

Under the Council's policy, free home to school transport is provided to all secondary school aged pupils who live 3 miles or more from their catchment school, or alternatively the nearest available school. This proposal will not impact on this arrangement, and the availability of home to school walking routes will remain unchanged or will be improved.

### **Governance**

There will be no changes to the school governance arrangements under this proposal.

### **Staffing**

The proposed capacity increase at the school is likely to provide job opportunities as more teaching staff will be needed. The necessary staff will be recruited by the Headteacher and governing body of the school, with support from the local authority.

## Risks

The risks associated with this proposal, and mitigating factors are listed below:

<b>Table 12: Project Risks</b>	
<b>Risk</b>	<b>Mitigating factor</b>
Delays in securing planning permission impact project delivery	Early engagement with City Services and Regeneration, Investment and Housing has enabled the relevant issues to be identified prior to the submission of the planning application. Impact assessments and details of proposed necessary mitigation measures will form part of the application.
Funding sufficiency to deliver the project	The proposed scope of the project and outline design has been commercially assessed and is considered affordable within the Newport City Council 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Schools Band B programme envelope. The affordability of the project is under constant review.
Demand for pupil places decreases	Pupil forecasts indicate growing demand across the city, and Bassaleg School is an identified pressure area.
Demand for places increases beyond proposed capacity increase	It is possible that the school will continue to receive more applications than spaces available. However the council is confident that the proposed expansion will be sufficient to meet in-catchment demand for the foreseeable future.

## Impact Assessments

A fairness and equalities impact assessment has been conducted for this proposal and is available on the council website.

## Impact on Welsh language provision

The proposal has no bearing on the Council's plans to develop and promote Welsh language provision. It is therefore acknowledged that this proposal will make no contribution to the Council's targets in relation to Cymraeg 2050.

## Consultation Response Pro-forma

This response relates to the proposal to increase the capacity of Bassaleg School by 300 places for pupils aged between 11 and 16 years, with effect from September 2023.

Your views matter. Please tell us what you think about the proposal by completing this questionnaire and returning it to the Education Information and Development Officer, Newport City Council, Room 425W, Civic Centre, Newport NP20 4UR. Alternatively, you can complete this form online at [www.newport.gov.uk/schoolreorganisation](http://www.newport.gov.uk/schoolreorganisation) or email your response to [school.reorg@newport.gov.uk](mailto:school.reorg@newport.gov.uk). **The closing date for the submission of responses to this consultation is midnight on 12 November 2020.** Please note that negative responses made to this consultation will not be counted as objections to the proposal, they will be recorded as adverse comments. Objections can only be registered following the publication of a statutory notice.

### 1) Do you support the proposal to:

Increase the 11-16 capacity of Bassaleg School by 300 places with effect from September 2023.

Yes ☐ No ☐ In part ☐

Please use the box below to provide comments or explain which element of the proposal you do not support

### 2) Do you believe that the proposal will have a positive or negative effect on opportunities to use the Welsh language?

Positive ☐ Negative ☐ No effect ☐

### 3) If you think it will have a negative effect, what steps could we take to lessen or remove this and improve positive effects?

**4) Do you believe that the proposal will treat the Welsh and English languages equally?**

Yes ☐ No ☐

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Please select your Ethnic group			
White British		Asian-Bangladeshi	
White Irish		Asian-Indian	
Any other White background (please state): _____		Asian-Pakistani	
		Any other Asian background	
Gypsy or Irish Traveller		Black Caribbean	
White and Asian		Black African	
White and Black African		Any other Black background	
White and Black Caribbean		Arab	
Any other Mixed background (please state): _____		Chinese	
		Any other ethnic group (please state): _____	
Asian-Bangladeshi		Prefer not to say	
Asian-Indian			
Asian-Pakistani			

Welsh language			
<b>Do you consider yourself a Welsh speaker?</b>			
Yes		No	Prefer not to say

Caring Responsibilities			
<b>Do you care for children of school age?</b>			
Yes		No	Prefer not to say
<b>Do you care for children of pre-school age?</b>			
Yes		No	Prefer not to say
<b>Do you care for a dependent adult or child above school age?</b>			
Yes		No	Prefer not to say

If you wish to be notified of the publication of the consultation report, please supply your contact details:

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal address: \_\_\_\_\_

# **Newport City Council**

## **School Reorganisation Proposal**

### **Consultation Report**

**Proposal to increase the overall capacity of Bassaleg School from 1,747 to 2,050 with effect from September 2023**

**Formal Consultation Period:  
1<sup>st</sup> October – 12<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

#### **Purpose**

This report is published in line with the requirements of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and the School Organisation Code, November 2018.

This consultation report includes the following sections:

- The Proposal
- Stakeholder Engagement
- Learner Voice
- Consultation Responses
- Estyn's Response
- Post-consultation assessment of the proposal
- Recommendations
- Appendices

## The Proposal

This consultation report concerns a proposal to increase the overall capacity of Bassaleg School from 1,747 to 2,050 with effect from September 2023.

## Stakeholder Engagement

An invitation to take part in the statutory consultation was issued to the stakeholders outlined below, with a link to the consultation pack on the Council's website sent by e-mail:

- Parents, carers and guardians of pupils attending all schools affected by this proposal;
- Pupils attending all schools affected by this proposal;
- Members of staff currently employed at all schools affected by this proposal;
- The Church in Wales, Diocese of Monmouth;
- Roman Catholic Archdiocese;
- Neighbouring Local Authorities across the South East Wales Consortium area;
- The Headteacher and Governing Bodies of all Newport schools;
- All Newport City Council elected members;
- All Newport City Council Heads of Service;
- The local Community Councils;
- The Welsh Ministers;
- Assembly Members (AMs) and Members of Parliament (MPs) representing the area served by the schools subject to the proposals;
- Estyn;
- Teaching and staff trade unions representing teachers and staff employed at all schools affected by this proposal;
- The Education Achievement Service for South East Wales;
- The Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent;
- Newport's Welsh in Education Forum;
- The Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership;
- Newport Serennu Centre;
- SNAP Cymru;
- Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations;
- Preventative services

Hard copies of the full consultation document and the Everyday Summary Version for Children and Young People were made available to Bassaleg School and cluster primary schools and on request by emailing [school.reorg@newport.gov.uk](mailto:school.reorg@newport.gov.uk) and were provided bilingually in Welsh and English.

## **Affected Schools**

The school directly affected by this proposal is **Bassaleg School**. It is anticipated that pupils from Marshfield Primary School will benefit significantly from the proposal being the farthest cluster primary school to Bassaleg School. However, all pupils attending Bassaleg School will benefit from improved facilities and the expansion would provide improved prospects for pupils in the cluster primary schools to secure admission to the school. For completeness, the consultation was extended to all of the primary schools which make up the Bassaleg School cluster, namely:

- Marshfield Primary School
- Mount Pleasant Primary School
- Rogerstone Primary School
- High Cross Primary School
- Jubilee Park Primary School
- Pentrepoeth Primary School

### Distribution of Information

Hard copies of both the full consultation document and the Children and Young People's Everyday Summary Version were offered to Bassaleg School and the cluster primary schools to be available for staff, pupils and parents. Ten copies of each document were requested by and delivered to High Cross Primary School and Mount Pleasant Primary School. All other schools declined the offer, preferring to access the material online. Further copies of the document were available to be delivered to schools on request. Four requests for hard copy consultation documents were received and sent out accordingly by post.

### Drop-in Events

Due to the ongoing public health situation, and in keeping with Welsh Government guidance, there were no face-to-face consultation events arranged to support this consultation. Stakeholders were advised that any questions concerning the proposal could be submitted to [school.reorg@newport.gov.uk](mailto:school.reorg@newport.gov.uk) and Council officers would provide a timely reply to ensure that informed responses could be submitted during the consultation period. A number of questions were received and responded to in a timely manner and Frequently Asked Questions were published, with replies, on the Council's web pages. These are attached at Appendix A.

### Bassaleg School Parent Forum

A Microsoft Teams session was arranged for 6pm on the evening of Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2020. The session was arranged by a parent governor at the school and publicised locally in the same way as other Parent Forum meetings. Four officers from the Education Service and an Assistant Headteacher from Bassaleg School joined the call with the parent governor, but no other parents attended. In case there was a technical barrier preventing parents from joining this meeting, a second session was arranged for Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2020, this time set up as an Event via *Eventbrite* to track the number of parents planning to attend the session. On the afternoon of the session it was agreed the session would not go ahead as no parents had expressed an interest in attending.

## Learner Voice

The Council is committed to gaining the views of learners, and due to the current public health situation, this was facilitated through pupil Question and Answer sessions held via Microsoft Teams, rather than face-to-face workshops. Due to schools operating in year group 'bubbles' it was not possible to involve all members of all school councils. Also, because of the timing of the proposal, some school councils had not yet been established for the new academic year. Details of the sessions conducted are provided in the table below:

School	Attendees	Date
Bassaleg School	1x Teacher, 14x Pupils (Years 9-12)	14/10/2020
High Cross Primary School	2x Teachers, 2x Year 6 Classes	09/10/2020
Jubilee Park Primary School	1x Teacher, 4x Year 6 pupils (including Head Girl and Deputy Head Boy)	16/10/2020
Marshfield Primary School	2x Teachers, 2x Year 6 Classes (including student council Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary)	06/10/2020
	2x Teachers, 2x Year 6 Classes	13/10/2020
Mount Pleasant Primary School	1x Teacher, 1x Year 6 class	09/10/2020
Pentrepoeth Primary School	1x Teacher, 1x Year 6 class	05/11/2020
Rogerstone Primary School	1x Teacher, 4x Year 6 pupils	10/11/2020

A number of similar questions were asked by pupils over the sessions and these are summarised in the table below:

Question	Answer
When will the project be completed?	It is hoped the new building will be ready to use by September 2023.
What will the building look like?	An artist's impression of the new building is included within the consultation document. However, this could change as the designs are developed.
Why are you not expanding the current buildings?	Some buildings are around 50-60 years old and some are not in very good condition. We also want to bring all the buildings/classrooms on the school site closer together.
What will happen to the old buildings?	The old buildings will be demolished once the new building is ready.
How and where will pupils work whilst the construction is going on?	The new block will be built where the current all-weather pitch is located. There will be tall fencing around the building site while the work is ongoing. Where possible, most of the noisy works will be completed whilst pupils are not in school.
What classrooms will be in the new building?	The school has worked with the Council on the classroom plans. The new classrooms



	will mostly replace the subject area classrooms that are being demolished.
Will the new canteen be a whole school canteen?	Yes, the canteen will be able to cater for all pupils.
What will happen to the current gyms?	The two gyms in Forge and Griffin buildings will remain.
Will the toilets be unisex?	This will be a decision for the school. The design has to ensure that there are enough toilets provided in the right places.
Will the building be eco-friendly?	Yes, the new building will meet the standards for BREEAM 'Excellent' which is a sustainability award.
How much will the building cost and who is paying for it?	The project has a budget of £28m. This is a joint funded scheme between Welsh Government and Newport City Council.
Why will the expansion cost so much money?	The new building will be big – to accommodate more than half of the school population. Schools are expensive to build. They have to be safe, strong and hardwearing, so this means they cost a lot of money.
If Covid-19 is still around when the works start, will it still go ahead?	Yes, the construction works will still go ahead but the building work may take a little bit longer due to the need for workers to socially distance.

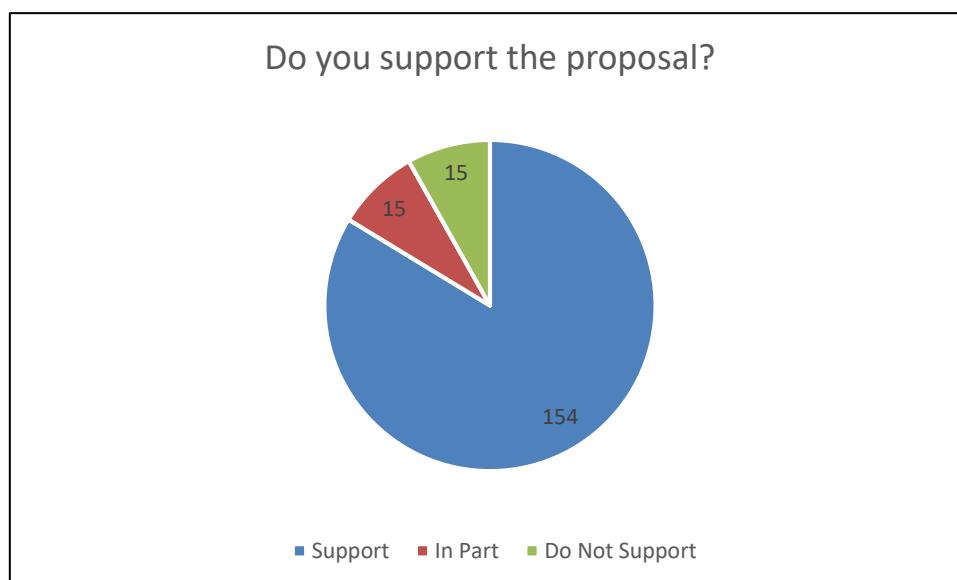
The Year 6 pupils at Jubilee Park Primary School created a slideshow to present to the rest of the class to feedback from the pupil voice session. They facilitated discussions with the class about their ideas and recorded their feedback on the final slide of the presentation (Appendix B).

In each session, all pupils supported the proposal.

The Council is very grateful to the staff and pupils who took part, and would like to thank them for their valuable contributions to this process.

## Consultation Responses

Overall, a total of 184 responses were received during the consultation period. 154 respondents (equivalent to 84%) supported the proposal. 15 respondents (8%) partly supported the proposal and 15 respondents (also 8%) did not support it.



176 responses were made via the standard response pro-forma (see Appendix C), from the following stakeholder groups:

- Current/past/prospective parents/carers of pupils
- Current/past/prospective pupils
- Local residents of the Bassaleg area
- Teachers and staff at Newport schools
- Governors at Newport schools
- Local Councillors

There were 8 consultation responses submitted by email, from the following stakeholder groups:

- Current/past/prospective parents/carers of pupils
- Local residents of the Bassaleg area
- Headteacher of Bassaleg School
- Parent Governor at a cluster primary school
- Secretary of a local sports club
- Estyn (Her Majesty's Inspectorate for Education and Training in Wales)

One of the eight emailed responses was received from the Residents Committee of Court Crescent & Forge Lane and included an attached written response to the consultation. The committee's submission was a ten-page document raising a series of complaints about the current situation, such as antisocial parking issues, traffic congestion, the noise from children playing at break times and pollution. The document also offered alternatives which the group felt were preferable to the proposed expansion of the school. These are included in the response table below. Please note that we have only reported on the negative responses or concerns received.

The table below shows the various comments submitted during the consultation period and the Council's response to these points. A significant number of supportive comments were received, which are not included here.

<b>Concern Raised</b>	<b>Number of Similar Comments</b>	<b>Council's Response</b>
Concerns were raised that the proposal would lead to an increase in traffic in the local surrounding area. Specific issues around school access points, parking, and parental drop off and pick up arrangements were also put forward.	16	The additional capacity is proposed to accommodate pupils living in the new housing developments at Jubilee Park and Tredegar Park Golf Club. Both developments are within easy walking distance of the school, and highways infrastructure for these developments has already been put in place. The Council's Highways Team has acknowledged issues relating to the traffic lights around the Bassaleg roundabout and the likely impact of the pupil and associated staff increase is being assessed and will be addressed within the planning application process for consideration as appropriate. The proposal includes increased parking provision at the front (Forge area) of the site and improved bus waiting and turning areas within the school grounds. Overall the proposal will provide 68 additional parking spaces, 57 of them near the main entrance.
The proposal should not entail any changes to the current catchment areas.	7	Currently there are no plans to change the Bassaleg School catchment area. The proposal would significantly improve the chances of pupils from Marshfield securing places to progress to Bassaleg School
The proposed school population is too big and will impact learner opportunities, behaviour and outcomes.	4	Bassaleg School is a successful and inclusive school. We are confident that the leadership team will be able to ensure the same opportunities and level of support are provided to all pupils. The consultation response received from Estyn supports this view.
The expansion is unnecessary as pupils from Marshfield could attend The John Frost School which is nearer	3	The John Frost School is no closer to Marshfield than Bassaleg School. The John Frost School is also fully subscribed with pupils from within its' own cluster of schools, and cannot be expanded further on its' current site.
The demand for additional places would be better met through the creation of a new secondary school	3	There is no available site for another secondary school, nor would this address the need to replace poor quality accommodation at Bassaleg

		School. Also, the establishment of a new school would have significant revenue funding implications which would adversely impact all secondary schools in Newport.
The proposed increase in capacity is unnecessary and not supported	2	The proposed expansion is required to meet local demand for places. The Council has a statutory duty to provide these places.
Increasing the capacity of the school during a pandemic will add strain to teachers and pupils and should therefore be delayed.	2	The proposal, if approved, would not come into effect until September 2023. Although the long term impact of the COVID-19 pandemic is unknown, if we do not act now there will not be enough places for the pupils progressing from primary to secondary education in the short to medium term.
The increased provision is not required as there is already available capacity in other secondary schools across the City,	2	The only school with any spare capacity is Llanwern High School, to the East of the City. The identified demand is in the Bassaleg cluster area, in the West of the City. It is not considered appropriate to bus hundreds of children across the city every day, causing unnecessary stress to learners and adding to pollution and congestion problems.
Changing the age range of the school from 11-18 to 11-16 would create additional places without the need for expansion of the school	1	Newport City Council has been clear in its commitment to a 3-18 model of education delivery. While changing the age range could create additional capacity in our secondary schools for children of statutory school age, alternative Post-16 provision would still have to be arranged and this process would take several years to agree and implement. Meanwhile there is a need to provide additional secondary school places in the Bassaleg area.
There is a risk that the school will need to be expanded again if the population continues to grow.	1	This proposal is to expand the school to 2,050 and there is no intention to go beyond this number. The main housing developments in the catchment area are mostly complete and occupied and the anticipated impact on pupil numbers has been fully considered.
Not enough consideration has been given to alternative options to this proposal.	1	The consultation document details five alternative options that have been considered. These include only replacing existing facilities, expanding another school site and amending current catchment areas. The Council

		does not own sufficient land, or hold sufficient capital reserves, to build a new secondary school. Other options were considered and discounted at the Strategic Outline Case stage, including the delivery of post-16 and sports provision off-site by a third party. The Strategic Outline Case has been considered and approved by Welsh Government.
There is a possibility that the planned construction work will interfere with learning and put pupils at risk.	3	There will inevitably be some disruption on site during the building works. However, these will be completed in phases to limit disruption to specific areas of the school site. Health and Safety of all on site is a priority for the Council and construction areas will be segregated with site hoardings. Where possible the most disruptive works, such as demolition, will be conducted during school holidays. The contractors who are invited to bid for the contract will all have considerable experience of delivering projects on live school sites and of working with schools to ensure pupils are able to learn effectively and safely whilst works are ongoing. Finally the construction environment provides an opportunity for students to witness first-hand the world of work and to see the variety of trades employed on a build project.
The heavy presence of construction vehicles will negatively impact on the local environment	2	Any appointed contractor will be required to submit a Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP) to the Council's Planning Committee to evidence that all construction related disruption can be effectively managed and the impact minimised. It is anticipated that contractor vehicles will be accommodated within the school site and will not park in the adjacent streets.
The proposed creation of an all-weather floodlit pitch will increase noise and light pollution.	1	Community use of these facilities would take place out of school hours when the school site is quiet. The impact of this use is not expected to be significant and the facility will be a benefit to the community.

The proposed increased pupil number will exacerbate littering issues.	1	Pupil behaviour issues, including any concerns over littering, is a matter for the school leadership team and therefore any concerns should be reported directly to the school.
The proposed new facilities will have a negative impact on the outlook from the neighbouring properties.	1	The proposal involves the construction of one new building and the removal of several others. The Council's Planning Committee will consider the impact on the environment and neighbourhood outlook in determining the planning application.
The provision of additional car parking facilities is unnecessary as staff and pupils should instead be encouraged to walk, cycle or use public transport to get to and from school.	1	The new car parking facility will be created through the demolition of buildings that are no longer considered suitable for use. The Council will be encouraging staff and pupils to walk, cycle and use public transport to get to the school, however it is acknowledged that there are circumstances where this is simply not possible.

## Estyn's Response

The full response from Estyn is included at Appendix D of this report. However, in summary, the response states:

- The proposer has made it clear that an increase in capacity is needed in response to the opening of a new primary school on a housing development within the school's catchment area.
- The proposal is likely to fulfil its aim of providing sufficient capacity to meet the expected demand from in-catchment families into the future.
- It will also replace much of the existing poor quality accommodation with a fully accessible, modern new-build teaching block with dining and assembly facilities.
- The proposer has consulted widely, including gathering the views of parents, staff and pupils within the school.

The response also notes that it is reasonable to assume that such a major project taking place on-site will inevitably cause disruption to learners, and that it should be made clear how the disruption will be minimised. In response, to this comment, the Council can confirm that Health and Safety of all on site is a priority for the Council and construction areas will be segregated with site hoardings. Where possible the most disruptive works, such as demolition, will be conducted during school holidays. The contractors who are invited to bid for the contract will all have considerable experience of delivering projects on live school sites and of working with schools to ensure pupils are able to learn effectively and safely whilst works are ongoing. Finally the construction environment provides an opportunity for students to witness first-hand the world of work and to see the variety of trades employed on a build project.

In addition, the response makes reference to the fact that the proposal does not specifically mention vulnerable groups, including children with Special Educational Needs. In response to this comment, the Council can confirm that although the consultation document does not directly reference vulnerable pupils and those with Special Educational Needs, these pupils are being considered and catered for within the proposal. The school does not have a formal Learning Resource Base or class for pupils with Special Educational Needs, but inclusion and wellbeing are integral to the ethos of the school. Wellbeing provision at the school is delivered through *Thrive*, *Ready to Learn* and *The Progress Centre* resources which are currently disparate across the school site. The proposal seeks to bring these resource areas together into a central space within the new building, supporting the notion of wellbeing and inclusion as being at the heart of the school community.

In conclusion, Estyn confirmed a view that the current proposal will at least maintain the education provision for pupils in the Bassaleg School catchment area.

## **Post-consultation assessment of the proposal**

The proposal to increase the capacity of Bassaleg School to 2,050 on the existing school site through the replacement of current teaching facilities with a new teaching block, has been re-assessed against alternative options, in light of the consultation responses received from stakeholders. The feedback received did not raise any significant issues that the Council had not already acknowledged. The principal concerns raised were regarding traffic, road safety and the local environment, and the ability of a large school to prioritise and protect pupil wellbeing and learner outcomes.

The consultation document outlined five alternative options:

- 1) Do nothing
- 2) Replace existing accommodation but do not increase capacity
- 3) Provide new accommodation to achieve the increased capacity only
- 4) Increase the capacity of another school
- 5) Change school catchment areas to divert pressure away from Bassaleg School

No information received during the consultation period changes the assessment of the alternative options above, as provided in the consultation document.

During the consultation process, two further alternatives were suggested:

- 6) Establish an additional new secondary school for the Rogerstone area

In response, the Council does not own sufficient land to accommodate a new secondary school, nor the capital resources required to create that new school and also replace poor quality buildings in the existing school estate. Bassaleg School is a successful school which delivers good learner outcomes. The Council believes that increasing the capacity of Bassaleg School offers best value for money and will deliver better learner outcomes than establishing a new school.

## 7) Change the age range of the school from 11-18 to 11-16

In response, Newport City Council has been clear in its commitment to a 3-18 model of education delivery. While changing the age range could create additional capacity in our secondary schools for children of statutory school age, alternative Post-16 provision would still have to be arranged and this process would take several years to agree and implement. Meanwhile there is a need to provide additional secondary school places in the Bassaleg area. Bassaleg School currently provides a successful Post-16 offer, helping pupils to achieve their potential and progress to higher education. It is not clear at this time that changing the age range of the school would not have a detrimental impact on pupil achievement. This option is not therefore considered preferable to the proposal to increase the capacity of the school.

## Conclusion

Having considered the views of stakeholders submitted during the consultation period and revisited the assessment of alternative options, including the two additional options suggested, the proposal as consulted on remains the preferred way forward. This view is supported by the consultation response provided by Estyn and by 84% of the 176 stakeholders who responded during the consultation period.

## Recommendations

It is recommended that permission be sought to move this proposal forward by publishing a statutory notice. This decision will be referred to the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills and taken through the Council's agreed democratic process.

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In accordance with the School Organisation Code (2018) this report is published electronically on Newport City Council's website at [www.newport.gov.uk/schoolreorganisation](http://www.newport.gov.uk/schoolreorganisation)

To request a hard (paper) copy of this document please contact Newport City Council's Education Information and Development Officer on 01633 656656 or email [school.reorg@newport.gov.uk](mailto:school.reorg@newport.gov.uk)



## Appendix A

### Proposal to increase the capacity of Bassaleg School – Frequently Asked Questions

**Q: This proposal will lead to an increase in traffic in surrounding areas. Roads are already congested, will access points to the school be altered, could staggered start/end times help?**

**A:** The additional capacity is proposed to accommodate pupils living in the new housing developments at Jubilee Park and Tredegar Park Golf Club. Both developments are within one-mile easy walking distance of the school, and highways infrastructure for these developments has already been put in place. The likely impact of the pupil and associated staff increase is being assessed and will be addressed within the planning application process for highways officers to comment as appropriate. Staggered start and finish times could be considered but this would be something for the governing body to propose and consult on.

**Q: There is available capacity in other secondary schools, e.g. Llanwern High. Is there not scope to direct pupils to these other schools?**

**A:** The only school with any spare capacity is Llanwern High School, to the east of the city. The identified demand is in the Bassaleg School catchment, in the west of the city. It is not appropriate to bus hundreds of children across the city every day, adding to pollution and congestion problems.

**Q: Why can't Marshfield pupils go to John Frost and travel less distance to school?**

**A:** The John Frost School is fully subscribed with pupils from within its own catchment area and is no closer to Marshfield than Bassaleg School.

**Q: I am concerned about the construction work interfering with learning and putting pupils at risk**

**A:** There will inevitably be some disruption on site during the building work period, work will be completed in phases to limit disruption to specific areas of the school site. The health and safety of everyone on site is the top priority and construction areas will be segregated from school areas with site hoardings. Where possible the most disruptive work such as demolition will be conducted during school holidays. The contractors invited to bid for the contract will all have considerable experience of delivering projects on live school sites and of working with schools to ensure pupils are able to continue to learn effectively and safely.

Finally the construction environment provides an opportunity for students to witness first-hand the world of work and to see the variety of trades employed on a build project.

# Live feedback from 6L:

- We really like the amount of space we will have both inside and outside
  - We think that the plans give lots of opportunities to develop all areas of learning and experience from the new curriculum
  - We like how much space and resources have been dedicated to creativity and expressive arts
  - We like how much space there will be for learning and socialising
  - We love the use of the outdoor areas!
  - There are a range of opportunities for different sports built into the plans
- 
- How will pupils be able to navigate their way around the school? Interactive maps? App to download with a map?
  - How much influence and involvement will Bassaleg pupils have? E.g. will they be allowed to pick design choices, colour schemes, furniture etc?
  - Is there only 1 lift? Does there need to be more?

## Appendix C

### Consultation Response Pro-forma

This response relates to the proposal to increase the capacity of Bassaleg School by 300 places for pupils aged between 11 and 16 years, with effect from September 2023.

Your views matter. Please tell us what you think about the proposal by completing this questionnaire. **The closing date for the submission of responses to this consultation is midnight on 12 November 2020.** Please note that negative responses made to this consultation will not be counted as objections to the proposal, they will be recorded as adverse comments. Objections can only be registered following the publication of a statutory notice.

**1) Do you support the proposal to:**

Increase the 11-16 capacity of Bassaleg School by 300 places with effect from September 2023.

Yes ☐ No ☐ In part ☐

**Please use the box below to provide comments or explain which element of the proposal you do not support**

**2) Do you believe that the proposal will have a positive or negative effect on opportunities to use the Welsh language?**

Positive ☐ Negative ☐ No effect ☐

**3) If you think it will have a negative effect, what steps could we take to lessen or remove this and improve positive effects?**

**4) Do you believe that the proposal will treat the Welsh and English languages equally?**

Yes ☐ No ☐

Please select your Ethnic group			
White British		Asian-Bangladeshi	
White Irish		Asian-Indian	
Any other White background (please state): _____		Asian-Pakistani	
		Any other Asian background	
Gypsy or Irish Traveller		Black Caribbean	
White and Asian		Black African	
White and Black African		Any other Black background	
White and Black Caribbean		Arab	
Any other Mixed background (please state): _____		Chinese	
Asian-Bangladeshi		Any other ethnic group (please state): _____	
Asian-Indian		Prefer not to say	
Asian-Pakistani			

Welsh language			
<b>Do you consider yourself a Welsh speaker?</b>			
Yes		No	
		Prefer not to say	

Caring Responsibilities			
<b>Do you care for children of school age?</b>			
Yes		No	
		Prefer not to say	
<b>Do you care for children of pre-school age?</b>			
Yes		No	
		Prefer not to say	
<b>Do you care for a dependent adult or child above school age?</b>			
Yes		No	
		Prefer not to say	

If you wish to be notified of the publication of the consultation report, please supply your contact details:

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal address: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Appendix D**

### **Estyn's full response to the proposal**

#### **Estyn's response to the proposal by Newport City Council to increase the overall capacity of Bassaleg School from 1,747 to 2,050.**

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.

#### **Summary/ Conclusion**

The proposal by Newport City Council is to increase the overall capacity of Bassaleg School from 1,747 to 2,050.

The proposer has made it clear that an increase in capacity is needed in response to the opening of a new primary school on a housing development within the school's catchment area. The proposal is likely to fulfil its aim of providing sufficient capacity to meet the expected demand from in-catchment families into the future. It will also replace much of the existing poor quality accommodation with a fully accessible, modern new-build teaching block with dining and assembly facilities. The proposer has consulted widely, including gathering the views of parents, staff and pupils within the school.

Estyn is of the opinion that the current proposal will at least maintain the education provision for pupils in the Bassaleg School catchment area.

#### **Description and benefits**

The proposal lays out a clear rationale for increasing the capacity of the school. This includes ensuring that all in-catchment primary school pupils have a place at the school, avoiding the need to travel further to an alternative site and possibly separating siblings between different schools. It will also replace older, dilapidated accommodation with a whole school catering facility, dining hall, assembly hall, wellbeing areas, improved sports pitches, better grouping and proximity of subject areas, improved access and additional parking spaces.

Newport City Council have considered four risks to the project and identified mitigating factors for all. The risks include delays in project delivery, sufficient funding, the demand for places decreasing and demand for places increasing beyond the proposed capacity. The Council have also considered 5 options including maintaining the status quo. They considered the strengths and weaknesses of each option and came to the reasonable conclusion that demolishing older parts of the school and building new facilities is the

preferred option. The Council have taken account of learner travel arrangements, and it is reasonable to assume that, as the new school will be built on the current site, the catchment area, admissions and travel policies will remain the same. It does not envisage that the school will affect pupil numbers in other cluster schools.

The proposal has no bearing on plans to develop and promote Welsh language provision. The Council acknowledges that the proposal makes no contribution to the Council's targets in relation to Cymraeg 2050.

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

The Council has taken appropriate account of the educational standing of the school, including its 'green' status within the National Schools Categorisation system. It concludes that as there will be no change to the leadership team and structure at Bassaleg School, the proposal should have a positive effect on standards at the school. The proposer asserts that the considerable investment in new teaching and learning facilities should contribute to improving pupil behaviour and concentration and allow teachers to focus fully on teaching.

The Council describes Bassaleg School as a very inclusive school, with inclusion being a central part of the school's value system. They state that care, support and guidance were judged to have been excellent during the last inspection, and that efforts are focussed on ensuring that the new facilities will enable a continuation of this provision. However, the proposer does not specifically mention vulnerable groups, including children with Special Educational Needs in the proposal.

The proposal explains that the new building will be constructed within the existing school site while pupils and staff continue to use the existing facilities. They will move into the new building upon completion, before the demolition of the old buildings. The proposal points out that the more disruptive works will be scheduled for times when the school is closed. However, it is reasonable to assume that such a major project taking place on-site will inevitably cause disruption to learners, and it should be made clear how the disruption will be minimised.



Sarah Morgan,  
Chief Education Officer  
Newport City Council,  
Civic Centre  
Newport,  
NP20 4UR

Notice is given in accordance with section 42 of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and the School Organisation Code that Newport City Council, having consulted such persons as required, proposes to increase the overall capacity of Bassaleg School from 1,747 to 2,050 with effect from September 2023.

The Council undertook a period of consultation before deciding to publish this proposal. A consultation report containing a summary of the opinions raised by consultees, the views of Estyn and the proposer's response, is available on the Newport City Council website at [www.newport.gov.uk/schoolreorganisation](http://www.newport.gov.uk/schoolreorganisation).

Bassaleg School is an English-medium, community school maintained by Newport City Council for pupils aged 11-18 years, located at Forge Lane, Newport, NP10 8NF. The measured capacity of the school is 1,747 and the published admission number (PAN) for years 7-11 is 270. Currently the number of pupils on roll at the school is 1,760 (Autumn 2020 Census). Newport City Council proposes to increase the admission number for years 7-11 to 330, and thereby ultimately increase the overall capacity of the school to 2,050, with effect from September 2023.

Newport City Council is the admissions authority for Bassaleg School, and applications for admission will continue to be assessed in accordance with the Council's School Admissions Policy.

The Council has a Home to School Transport policy and provides free transport to eligible pupils of statutory school age. This provision will not be affected by this proposal. Further information in relation to this policy is available on the Council website.

### Objection Period

Within a period of 28 days after the date of publication of the proposal, that is to say by 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 any person may object in writing or by email to the proposal.

Objections by email should be sent to [school.reorg@newport.gov.uk](mailto:school.reorg@newport.gov.uk). Objections in writing should be sent to Newport City Council, for the attention of the Education Information and Development Officer, Room 425w, Civic Centre, Newport, NP20 4UR.

The Council will publish a summary of any such objections made (and not withdrawn in writing) within the objection period, together with their observations thereon, at the time of notification to stakeholders of the determination of the proposal.

Signed:

Chief Education Officer  
For Newport City Council, Civic Centre, Newport, NP20 4UR  
Dated: 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021

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## Newport City Council

### Objection Report

**Proposal to increase the overall capacity of Bassaleg School from 1,747 to 2,050 with effect from September 2023**

## Purpose

This report is published in line with the requirements of Section 42 of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and the School Organisation Code, November 2018. This is a summary of the statutory objections and the Council's response to those objections. The objections and responses set out in this report must be given due consideration when the Council takes a decision on the determination of the proposal.

## Publication of the Statutory Notice

Following the Formal Consultation period and the publication of a consultation report, the Cabinet Member for Education & Skills took the decision to proceed to publish the proposal to increase the overall capacity of Bassaleg School from 1,747 to 2,050 with effect from September 2023, by way of a statutory notice for 28 days from the 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021 to the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021.

The 2013 Act requires that anyone wishing to make objections to a school organisation proposal has the opportunity to do so. Two formal objections have been received: one from a local resident and another from the Residents Committee of Court Crescent and Forge Lane. Concerns have also been raised by another local resident and by Graig Community Council. Although these concerns have not been submitted explicitly as formal objections to the proposal, they are included within this report for completeness and transparency.

The table that follows summarises each of the objection points lodged by each of the proposal objectors. There are two columns of responses: one column refers to how information was previously made available during the consultation within the initial consultation pack and the subsequent consultation report. The second column of responses is a supplementary response by Newport City Council to further clarify the position in order to answer each of the objection points.

Objection point No.	Number raising the issue	Objection Point	Response previously made available during the formal consultation or consultation report	Supplementary NCC Response following the formal objection
1	3	<p>Traffic impact on the environment</p> <p>The neighbourhood is at total gridlock during school times.</p> <p>Parents and school buses continually block access into Court Crescent and on occasions when buses are stationary on the A467, which is a major hazard to traffic.</p> <p>Pollution levels in the area at the front of the school and Caerphilly Road have been analysed and have far exceeded the levels considered safe. Pupils are affected by this on a daily basis and have been breathing in these levels for seven years of their education.</p>	<p>The additional capacity is proposed to accommodate pupils living in the new housing developments at Jubilee Park and Tredegar Park Golf Club. Both developments are within easy walking distance of the school, and highways infrastructure for these developments has already been put in place. The Council's Highways Team has acknowledged issues relating to the traffic lights around the Bassaleg roundabout and the likely impact of the pupil and associated staff increase is being assessed and will be addressed within the planning application process for consideration as appropriate. The proposal includes increased parking provision at the front (Forge area) of the site and improved bus waiting and turning areas within the school grounds. Overall the proposal will provide 68 additional parking spaces, 57 of them near the main entrance.</p>	<p>A second traffic survey and impact assessment has been commissioned and the results of this will be submitted with the planning application. Traffic and Environmental Officers will be consulted as statutory consultees as part of the planning process, and the Council will be required to comply with any conditions they see fit to impose upon the proposed development.</p> <p>The two main housing developments in the area are more than 98% complete with less than 20 houses still to be built. This indicates that the main traffic impact on the area has already occurred.</p>

2	2	<p>Catchment area</p> <p>The catchment area for Bassaleg School should be reduced and students from Marshfield should go to The John Frost School.</p> <p>It is not unreasonable to expand The John Frost School, the grounds have sufficient room to utilise three demountable buildings from Bassaleg School.</p>	<p>The John Frost School is no closer to Marshfield than Bassaleg School. The John Frost School is also fully subscribed with pupils from within its' own cluster of schools, and cannot be expanded further on its' current site.</p>	<p>The Local Planning Authority has made it clear that any further increase in pupils attending the The John Frost School / Ysgol Gyfun Gwent Is Coed sites will not be possible due to flood risk concerns.</p> <p>The Council considers expansion of Bassaleg School an appropriate response to the local, in-catchment demand for secondary school places.</p> <p>Changes to catchment areas can be disruptive and result in siblings having to attend different schools – something that the Council is keen to avoid wherever possible.</p>
3	2	<p>School size and attainment</p> <p>The school will become a super school and one of the largest schools in Wales. This is likely to have a detrimental impact on behaviour, pupil wellbeing and attainment.</p> <p>There is no certainty in the future that there will be new residential developments.</p>	<p>Bassaleg School is a successful and inclusive school. We are confident that the leadership team will be able to ensure the same opportunities and level of support are provided to all pupils. The consultation response received from Estyn supports this view.</p> <p>This proposal is to expand the school to 2,050 and there is no intention to go beyond this number. The main housing developments in the catchment area are mostly complete and occupied and the</p>	<p>It has been noted that in its response to the consultation, Estyn raised no such concerns over the proposed school capacity and concluded the proposal will at least maintain the education provision for pupils in the Bassaleg School catchment area. Estyn also concluded that the proposal was likely to fulfil its aim of providing sufficient capacity to meet demand into the future.</p> <p>Our assessment of the site suggests that the proposed capacity of 2,050 is the optimum number of</p>

			anticipated impact on pupil numbers has been fully considered.	<p>pupils to be accommodated. Our pupil population projections indicate a 11-18 school population of 1,890 in 2025 as outlined in the consultation material.</p> <p>It is not anticipated that any future proposal will be taken forward in the future to increase the pupil population of the school beyond 2,050.</p>
4	2	<p>Alternative Secondary Provision in Newport City Council</p> <p>The building of a new 1000 place school in Rogerstone would benefit all pupils in the areas of Jubilee Park, High Cross and Mount Pleasant without the need for the provision of a bus service and would negate the need for parents using their cars.</p> <p>The Council has stated that they don't have the funding to support a new school, however a document used by local Councils in England indicates that the cost of a new school would be under £20m, leaving £8m to refurbish Bassaleg School and also provide additional classrooms at The John Frost School.</p>	There is no available site for another secondary school, nor would this address the need to replace poor quality accommodation at Bassaleg School. Also, the establishment of a new school would have significant revenue funding implications which would adversely impact all secondary schools in Newport.	There is no available site in the area that would be suitable, and Bassaleg School has been judged to deliver good standards of secondary education and excellent care, support and guidance. The respondent quotes reasonable build costs but fails to consider land acquisition, which could be expected to push the cost up to around £30m. In addition, the suggested £8m is not sufficient to replace the poor quality accommodation at Bassaleg School. The latest cost estimates for replacement without expansion is c.£16m.

5	3	<p>Collaboration with Caerphilly County Borough Council</p> <p>Newport Council should consider collaboration with Caerphilly County Borough Council on cross border use of Risca Comprehensive School, which is undersubscribed and is closer than Bassaleg School for some pupils.</p>	<p>The consultation document details five alternative options that have been considered. These include only replacing existing facilities, expanding another school site and amending current catchment areas.</p>	<p>The Council considers expansion of Bassaleg School to be the appropriate response to the local, in-catchment demand for secondary school places.</p> <p>Any suggested collaboration with Risca Comprehensive would entail a change in governance and would require a proposal supported by both Local Authorities.</p> <p>A realignment or change to catchment areas would also require a proposal supported by both Local Authorities.</p> <p>It is not clear whether this option would maintain the high quality educational outcomes delivered by the current system, or that it would be in the best interests of pupils and families which could see siblings separated.</p> <p>By contrast, Estyn has concluded that the proposed expansion of Bassaleg School will <b>at least</b> maintain the current standards of education provision.</p>
6	3	<p>Reorganisation of Post-16 provision</p> <p>This would negate the need to increase the population of Bassaleg</p>	<p>Newport City Council has been clear in its commitment to a 3-18 model of education delivery. While changing the age range could create</p>	<p>The Post-16 students at Bassaleg School are valued members of the school community, representing the potential and success of the</p>

		<p>School, and the proposed provision in the centre of Newport could accommodate all Post-16 pupils.</p> <p>This raises the question as to the long-term future of the current approach for maintaining a viable Post-16 provision at Bassaleg School.</p> <p>The current proposal is not part of a long-term strategic plan for secondary and Post-16 education provision in Newport.</p>	<p>additional capacity in our secondary schools for children of statutory school age, alternative Post-16 provision would still have to be arranged and this process would take several years to agree and implement. Meanwhile there is a need to provide additional secondary school places in the Bassaleg area.</p>	<p>school's pupils and providing inspiration to the younger learners. The proposed city centre college is a Coleg Gwent development which is intended to re-provide vocational facilities currently offered at other locations in the area. Our understanding is that there is no intention to accommodate additional pupils who would normally progress to Post-16 provision in a Newport school setting, nor is there a focus on an A-level offer from Coleg Gwent at this site. Newport City Council's involvement in this scheme is the vacation of the Newport Centre to facilitate the new college development, and the building of a new Leisure and Wellbeing Centre on the Riverfront. The Council is not contributing to the funding of the city centre college facility.</p>
7	2	<p>Concerns over the proposed 3G pitches Light and noise pollution and environmental/health impact of use of rubber and plastics</p>	<p>Community use of these facilities would take place out of school hours when the school site is quiet. The impact of this use is not expected to be significant and the facility will be a benefit to the community.</p>	<p>The potential impact of light and noise pollution from the proposed pitches on local residences is being fully assessed with options considered to minimise this impact. There are regulations which set acceptable limits, and the acceptability of the proposal will be considered by Environmental Officers as statutory consultees to the planning application.</p>

				<p>The preference for 3G pitches relates to the fact that they do not become waterlogged or boggy, and so can be used all-year round. As such they are a far better facility for the school and contribute significantly to the sufficiency of sports facilities on site. The Council is advised that the Football Association of Wales have concluded that there is no evidence to support claims that 3G pitches pose any threat to the environment or to the health of people using them.</p>
8	1	<p>Inability to deliver the project by September 2023</p> <p>From a recent FOI, the project is currently running 4 months behind the original anticipated timescale.</p>	<p>This is a new point not addressed previously via the formal consultation or the consultation report.</p>	<p>The target delivery date is challenging, but our revised programme indicates that the new building can still be delivered for September 2023. However there are established mechanisms for implementing a proposal later than initially planned, if necessary, and this is not considered good reason not to proceed with the proposal.</p>
9	1	<p>Existing anti-social issues relating to the school will be exacerbated</p> <p>Noise from pupils, litter, out-of-hours activities for school trips and parking issues.</p>	<p>Pupil behaviour issues, including any concerns over littering, is a matter for the school leadership team and therefore any concerns should be reported directly to the school.</p>	<p>The Bassaleg School leadership team has assured the Council that they are committed to ensuring adequate break time supervision is provided throughout the school site. Littering and environmental</p>



				concerns are regularly considered by the School Council, Eco Committee and Senior Leadership Team. A recent audit undertaken by the school has confirmed that there is just one annual school trip that requires early/late bus pick-ups. The proposed site development will help alleviate some of the local parking concerns.
10	1	<p>Insufficient/Weak Options Analysis</p> <p>The Council has not considered a sufficiently wide scope of options. The Council has not adequately considered the alternative option of a merger with Risca Comprehensive School. The Council has not adequately considered the alternative option of a new secondary school for 1000-1200 pupils.</p>	<p>The consultation document details five alternative options that have been considered. These include only replacing existing facilities, expanding another school site and amending current catchment areas. The Council does not own sufficient land, or hold sufficient capital reserves, to build a new secondary school. Other options were considered and discounted at the Strategic Outline Case stage, including the delivery of post-16 and sports provision off-site by a third party. The Strategic Outline Case has been considered and approved by Welsh Government.</p>	<p>In addition to the five alternative options outlined in the consultation document, the council undertook a full longlist – to – shortlist options appraisal as part of the Strategic Outline Case business case submission to Welsh Government, using the preferred Welsh Government options framework. This process is summarised in the Strategic Outline Case for the project which is published on the Council's website and was approved by Welsh Government in February 2020.</p>

### Recommendations

It is recommended that this proposal be moved forward to the final determination stage. Since objections were received during the statutory proposal stage however, this decision will need to be taken by the Council's Cabinet acting as the Local Determination Panel. The internally agreed timetable of Cabinet meetings means that this will be referred for a decision in June 2021.

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In accordance with the School Organisation Code (2018) this report is published electronically on Newport City Council's website at [www.newport.gov.uk/schoolreorganisation](http://www.newport.gov.uk/schoolreorganisation)

To request a hard (paper) copy of this document please contact Newport City Council's Education Information and Development Officer on 01633 656656 or email [school.reorg@newport.gov.uk](mailto:school.reorg@newport.gov.uk)

# Bassaleg School Formal Objection

**Proposal to increase the capacity from September 2023 in accordance  
with section 42 of the School Standards and Organisations (Wales)  
Act 2013 and the School Organisations Code**

3-25-2021

I confirm I am a resident of [redacted] the 155 properties which immediately adjoins and faces Bassaleg School.

In preparing this formal objection I have reflected and drawn on my previous experience as a Parent Governor, Bassaleg School, Governor, Coleg Gwent and a Professional Advisor to WG on their 21C Schools Capital Approvals Panel.

I have 4no formal objections to the proposal to increase the capacity of the school which I set out below:

### **Objection 1**

#### **Optimum School Size**

The average size of Newport Secondary Schools is in the region of 1,200 pupils (source WG). The average size of an English Secondary School is in the region of 1,000 pupils (source Gov UK)

With a current enrolment of 1,747 pupils Bassaleg is therefore one of the largest secondary schools in Wales and with the addition of a further 303 pupils in UK terms it will effectively become a 'Super-Size' School.

It is said that Supersize Schools can provide quick building solutions, economies of scale, wider curriculums, and strong out of school clubs and activites. However, there are also well documented concerns about the overall wellbeing and educational attainment of pupils in 'Supersize' schools such as Bassaleg.

Some specific examples of these concerns are set out below:

- **Lifeline Projects**, <https://www.lifelineprojects.co.uk/about/> a charity providing mentoring and support for pupils have previously raised concerns about how in supersize schools' vulnerable pupils slip through the support network.
- **The Gates Foundation**, in America has identified that larger schools have some of the toughest discipline problems and that significantly improved behaviour and standards were more frequently observed in smaller schools where it is easier to foster respect.
- **The Calouste Foundation**, <https://gulbenkian.pt/uk-branch/> has sponsored a human scale project of 'schools' within school and helped remodel the 1,800 Brislington Enterprise College in Bristol into five separate learning communities of 300 pupils.

The consultation response suggests that there is no intention to expand numbers beyond the proposed target of 2050 pupils. However, the Council is not a master of its own destiny in this regard. The key driver behind the current proposal to expand pupil numbers is the impact of new speculative residential developments in the school's catchment area.

Whilst the Council have been prepared to resist new residential developments there is no certainty in the future that in the future WG will not overturn a Planning Refusal as they did with the recent 100+ new houses on the former Tredegar Park Golf Club.

In their consultation response the Council state that the '*main housing developments in the catchment area are mostly complete and occupied and the anticipated impact on pupil numbers has been considered*'.

This statement is incorrect because the proposal to expand Bassaleg School coincides with the Councils review of its Local Development Plan (LDP). This means that the Council has issued formal invitation to developers to submit 'candidate sites' for possible future residential development. This invitation cannot exclude the possibility of new housing sites in the Bassaleg School catchment area even though the Council might be minded to refuse planning permission.

In this context for over thirty years Bassaleg has been under pressure from developers to construct new houses in the School catchment area. So, whilst the Council might be prepared to resist future residential development triggered by the LDP Review there is no certainty that their stance might not be overturned by WG either on Appeal or by a Call in of the Plan.

The Council have effectively conceded in their consultation response that they have not considered how the possibility of future residential development review might impact on the continued growth in pupil numbers. In the circumstances how can they answer the following fundamental and strategic questions about overall future school size?

- a) What future growth in pupil numbers can reasonably be expected at Bassaleg School?
- b) When will it become necessary to place a cap on pupil numbers?
- c) Should it be necessary to cap future pupil numbers what alternative options for educational provision might be made to address the school catchment area?

As the Council are silent on these important questions its Business Case for the proposed expansion of Bassaleg School is fundamentally flawed as it merely addresses, the 'here and now' rather than taking a long-term Strategic Outlook on how potentially growing secondary pupil numbers will be met in the Bassaleg catchment area over the next 5, 10, 15 years?

Also, as Post 16 pupils are effectively 'foot loose' what is stopping the School rapidly expanding its sixth form once the proposed new buildings are completed?

If the brand-new school buildings and support facilities attract even more than the current cohort of 400+ sixth formers, how will this increased interest be capped in future years?

It is concerning that the Councils proposals for Bassaleg effectively ignores current and future pupil numbers associated with Post 16 Education and fails to make even a modest assessment about how future pupil numbers might increase due to the LDP review.

In this respect the current proposal to increase pupil numbers can best be described as an 'ostrich approach' as it 'reactive' rather than 'proactive' and if implemented will merely acting as a 'sticking plaster' to inevitable and long-term growth in pupil numbers.

## **Objection 2**

### **Post 16 Education and Training**

The Councils decision to support the construction of a £90M College in the City Centre to revitalise and support the delivery of Post 16 Education and Training in Newport clearly raises the question as to the long-term future of the current consortia approach for maintaining a viable sixth form at Bassaleg School.

The consequences of this decision in the context of the Councils decision to expand pupil numbers at Bassaleg should not be ignored as the schools sixth form / Post 16 education accounts for over 400 pupils comprising some 20% of the school's overall pupil numbers.

In its Consultation response the Council confirm that If Bassaleg School merely provided a 11-16 education model the existing capacity of the School would be sufficient for its future forecasts i.e., the removal of 400+ sixth formers would negate the need to expand current numbers.

Strangely the Council continue to ignore the impacts that the current 400+ sixth formers have on the functioning of Bassaleg School in terms of Classroom provision, staffing, revenue costs, overall pupil numbers and community impact (such as student car parking in residential streets adjoining the school).

Although the Council maintains its commitment to a school's based 3-18 education delivery model in the recent past, they have been willing to consider alternative models for the future delivery of Post 16 Education.

For example, in November 2010 the Council published a Business Case '**The Future Delivery of Post 16 Education and Training in Newport**' which considered alternative approaches and set the scene for the current East / West split for Post 16 Consortia curriculum delivery.

It is noted that this Business Case considered in detail two alternative options for Post 16 Education shown in the report as **Options D & E** broadly summarised below.

- **Option D: Local Authority Sixth Form Centre** *This option is possible; however, Newport does not currently have surplus capacity in its secondary schools to permit remodelling of accommodation, similarly, whilst meeting investment objectives it is not affordable or politically acceptable.*
- **Option E: Tertiary Learning Centre – New Build** *This option is possible; although it meets investment objectives generally it is not affordable or politically acceptable.*

This raises a question whether the Councils, decision to support the construction of a £90M College in the City Centre to revitalise and support the delivery of Post 16 Education and Training in Newport now in fact resurrects **Options D and E**?

If it does surely the decision to spend circa £28M at Bassaleg should be considered in the light of this new investment proposal and possible change in strategic direction for the delivery of Post 16 Education in Newport. This point is relevant as the Council has already in conceded in their consultation response that should Bassaleg change to a 11-16 education model the existing capacity of the School would be sufficient for its future forecasts and the removal of 400+ sixth formers would negate the need to expand current numbers.

It should be noted that **Options D and E** above would appear to accord with Welsh Government's favoured approach to the provision of Post 16 Education and Training at a centralised College rather than individual secondary schools such as Bassaleg. As this approach is already underway in SE Wales in the Counties of Torfaen and Blaenau Gwent there is now a track record of educational results and experiences for Newport to assess and compare should they choose to do so.

As the Council are seeking financial support from WG both for both the expansion of Bassaleg and the new College it is surely incumbent on both public bodies to ensure overall value for money and the optimum delivery of services.

In this respect the current East / West split for Post 16 Consortia curriculum delivery has meant that the Council has had to engineer and adopted an ad-hoc clustering of schools in the East and West of the City to provide a full curriculum of 'A' Level subjects. The driver for this approach is to ensure that 'A' levels can be provided as economically as possible at each Newport secondary school with viable class sizes etc.

Whilst Bassaleg has an extremely healthy sixth form and range of 'A' Level subjects many of the other Newport secondary schools do not. It is therefore questionable whether the bussing of pupils between the collaborating cluster schools is currently sustainable and acts in the best interest of pupils?

As this consultation document is very much about the wisdom of expanding pupil numbers and building new facilities to accommodate them it is questionable why the Council have chosen to continue to ignore both the current and future impact of Post 16 Education at Bassaleg.

Whilst this is undoubtedly a 'political hot potato' the current Consortia model of Post 16 Education and Training across the city in different schools is clearly unsustainable and does not meet the WG's preferred long term strategy.

Now the Council have decided to support the construction of a £90M College in the City Centre the issue of Post 16 Education can no longer be ducked otherwise the current proposals for Bassaleg will once again remain as effectively a 'sticking plaster' dealing with the here and now rather than a long-term sustainable strategic plan providing overall value for money.

### **Objection 3**

#### **Insufficient / Weak Options Analysis**

In the Post-consultation assessment, the Council states that *'no information received during the consultation period changes the assessment of the alternative options provided in the consultation document'*.

This is incorrect as my original consultation response contained the following suggested approach that was ignored in the Council's consultation response so to-date remains outstanding.

- A possible merger with Risca Comprehensive School. The 21C Schools Building programme requires Local Authorities to collaborate across borders if it provides enhanced value for money solutions and overall savings to the public purse. As Risca is undersubscribed with pupils could it not become a sixth form college? Or offer an upper or lower school for the 11-16 cohort?

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2020 I submitted a Freedom of Information Request to the Council which sought information on the following:

#### **Alternative Options Considered**

**Reference Page 16 of Council's Formal Consultation Document (1<sup>st</sup> October – 12<sup>th</sup> November 2020) to increase the capacity of Bassaleg School. You confirm that several alternative options have been considered for the project.**

I would be grateful if you would please send me the following:

- a) As required by the Welsh Government Capital Business Case process the dates when the Option Workshops were held to discuss and agree the list of options contained in the Consultation Document.
- b) The names of the attendees who attended these Workshops.
- c) Copies of any minutes or reports that were prepared following and in respect of the Option Workshops.

- d) If an Option Workshop or Workshops were not held details of the alternative process followed by the Council to review and select alternative options. Details of who was involved in this selection process? Copies of any minutes or reports that were prepared for the alternative process of selecting options.

In response to my FOI request the Council provided me with copies of the following documents:

- Project Scoping Workshop – September 2018
- Project Scoping Workshop – November 2018
- Client Stakeholder Meeting – May 2019

A perusal of the above documents confirms that whilst the Council considered five alternative Business Case options this review was at best cursory and the only project that received serious consideration by the workshop participants was the proposed on-site expansion of Bassaleg School.

A perusal of the above documents also confirms the Councils need to spend WG 21C Band B monies within precise annual capital allocations and ensure that the Sec 106 Developers Educational Contributions relating to Bassaleg School are drawn down promptly thereby ensuring legal obligations are met.

Perhaps it is this 'dash for cash' that explains why the Council are so adamant that what is being proposed is the best and only way forward?

However, no evidence has yet been provided by the Council which clearly demonstrates that the proposed Option to spend circa £28M and expand the school by 300+ pupils offer, offers overall best value for money either in terms of capital or revenue expenditure.

The Consultation process also provided the following suggestion:

- That the Council consider the construction of a new secondary school for 1,000 -1200 pupils in and around the Rogerstone area. This would potentially offer the opportunity for an all through 3-16 School incorporating the High Cross, Mount Pleasant, and Rogerstone Primary Schools. Such an approach would in time reduce overall pupil numbers at Bassaleg so that it could absorb future housing developments in the Graig and not suffer the recognised downsides that come with 'Super-Size' status.

The Councils broad response to this point is that *'it does not own sufficient land to accommodate a new secondary school, nor capital resources required to create that new school and replace poor quality buildings in the existing school estate'*.

This statement is incorrect as the Council owns the Bassaleg School Campus which is a considerable land holding and valuable property asset.

Any professional and wide-ranging review of long list options should have considered how a potential capital receipt from the sale of either the whole or part of the site could perhaps provide both a smaller updated Bassaleg School and a potential new school in an around the Rogerstone area of circa 1,000-1,200 pupils each.

Also, at Strategic Business Case, stage it is quite normal to undertake a search of sites not in Council ownership which could facilitate the provision of a new educational establishments. In fact, if minded the Council could do so under their current review of the LDP.



Unfortunately, the Councils response to my Freedom Information of Request relating to the Options Analysis carried out for the expansion of Bassaleg School and the above points can only suggest that scant attention has in fact been paid to the serious consideration of potential alternative and viable options.

This is concerning as Research by the National Audit Office has shown that one of the key reasons for Project Failure is *'The Evaluation of proposals linked to short term affordability rather than longer term value for money'* which appears to underline the Councils approach in this matter.

#### **Objection 4**

##### **Inability to Deliver Project by September 2023.**

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2020 I submitted a Freedom of Information Request which sought information regarding the Planning Application process and overall project delivery

In response to my FOI request you provided me with a copy of the following project delivery timetable:

Task Name	Duration	Start	Finish
LA Pre-App Consultation Meeting	1 day	Fri 18/09/20	Fri 18/09/20
Pre-App Response (LA) Period	25 days	Mon 21/09/20	Fri 23/10/20
Prepare PAC	10 days	Mon 21/09/20	Fri 02/10/20
Client review of Pac	5 days	Mon 05/10/20	Fri 09/10/20
PAC Consultation Process	30 days	Mon 12/10/20	Fri 20/11/20
Review PAC responses	5 days	Mon 23/11/20	Fri 27/11/20
Full App Submission	1 day	Mon 30/11/20	Mon 30/11/20
Full App Assessment (lpa)	68 days	Mon 30/11/20	Wed 03/03/21
Discharge of Conditions (by contractor once appointed)	10 days	Mon 03/05/21	Fri 14/05/21

Based on this Table is clear that that the projects Planning Application should have be submitted by 30<sup>th</sup> November 2020 with an assumed award of Planning Consent and discharge of conditions by 14<sup>th</sup> May 2021.

At the date of writing this objection a Planning Application has not yet been submitted so the project is already running some 4 months behind original anticipated timescale.

In my previous consultation response, I pointed out that the Councils Planning Consultant LRM had presented incomplete and rushed planning statements and studies, particularly in relation to Transport and Ecology studies.

This point has subsequently been confirmed by National Resources Wales who in submitting their PAC response to LRM have requested more detailed surveys on a range of ecology matters which is why the submission of the planning application has already been significantly delayed.

In my previous consultation response, I pointed out that based on its current approach the Council and its Consultant Team run a risk that the community might decide to mount a Judicial Review of the projects Planning and Consultation process particularly if any final Planning Consent is awarded using the current incomplete studies.

Building on this point due to the Councils apparent abuse of correct processes in this matter with other members of the community I have now obtained initial legal advice from solicitors Messrs Watkins and Gunn on how a Judicial Review might ensure that we receive fair treatment and are protected from an abuse of power by the Council.

It is my understanding that the Councils Outline Business Case (OBC) cannot be submitted or determined by WG until Full Planning Consent has been awarded for the project.

It is also my understanding that WG Funding guidelines should prevent the Council from seeking tenders for the construction works until Planning Consent has been awarded.

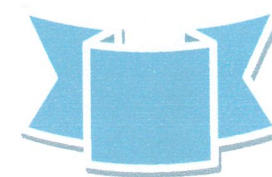
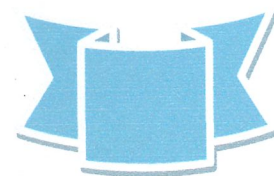
As the Council are both the applicant and developer of this scheme it also suggests that should they seek tenders before any the Planning Application is determined it would suggest that 'they are minded to grant consent' which of course would be 'Ultra vires'.

If the above points are correct, they raise serious questions as to whether in the face of determined and well-argued planning objections the project can in fact be delivered by September 2023?

In the circumstances the ability to deliver the project by September 2023 is not actually in the Councils gift and has a high degree of risk attached to the proposed outcome.

Given that the best date to enrol pupils is at the start of an academic year i.e., September this suggests there is a need to consider alternative / fall back options as there is no certainty that the preferred date of September 2023 can now be met.

**25<sup>th</sup> March 2021**



*Residents Committee of  
Court Crescent & Forge Lane*

**Statutory Notice-School Standards and Organization Wales Act 2013**

**Ref ;Bassaleg School Proposed Expansion**

**"NOTICE OF OBJECTION"**

**Dated : 25<sup>th</sup> March 2021**



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***1. CATCHMENT AREA***

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***3. NEW 1000 PUPIL SCHOOL***

***4. SCHOOL ATTAINMENT***

***5. 6TH FORM COLLEGE***

***6. ISSUES THAT HAVE PERPETUATED WITH BASSALEG SCHOOL***

***SUMMARY***

**ADDITIONAL SUPPORTING MATERIAL (ATTACHED)**

- National School Delivery Cost Benchmarking for Primary & Secondary Schools
- LSE: Secondary school size; A systematic review
- Strategic Outline Case The Future Delivery of Post 16 Education & Training in Newport



### Introduction

*Over the period from 2018 –to date The Council have continually focused on increasing the numbers at the School with no attempt to provide any meaningful infrastructure to accommodate the Traffic influx that this brings with each increase.*

*Newport Council announcement to create a “Super School” with provisionally 2050 Pupil places is totally mind blowing when School sizes are generally in the 1200 Pupil size. We have included in this document the analysis of School sizes and the results highlight that over 1500 Pupils results in the failure of a School in all departments except for Cost.*

*However because of The Councils preoccupation with Housing developments in the area this has produced numerous issues that we have failed to get addressed by the Council and neither with direct contact with the Management of Bassaleg School and the Chair of Governors.*

*Our Residents Committee was formed three years ago as a direct result of the issues with Traffic and School numbers. Of the 60 No. Residential Properties in Court Crescent and Forge Lane that we represent we undertook a poll of Residents to clarify what they required of the Committee to undertake and obtain some resolution on. The main feedback from 98% of Residents required a solution to the Traffic and parking issues generated by the School.*

*However our opinion is that Newport Council view this totally differently and in our minds judge it as a car park for the benefit of the School*

*Therefore we would comment on the failure of Newport City Council to engage and discuss the ramifications of your proposal as they have failed to do so in the past and to date have failed to accomplished any resolution with your Complaints Department on this subject.*



**ITEM 1. CATCHMENT AREA**

In our opinion the catchment area for Bassaleg School should be reduced. The 340 No. Marshfield students should go to John Frost School which would increase their numbers to 1,500 Pupils.

The Council stated that John Frost School was at Capacity and Pupils would have to Travel to Llanwern School. Yet They are prepared to provide extra numbers at Bassaleg School but not spend money elsewhere or move demountable buildings from Bassaleg to John Frost to cater for the expansion. It is not unreasonable to expand John Frost School, the grounds have sufficient room to utilise three demountable building from Bassaleg School to accommodate these Pupils.

This would alleviate a large proportion of the School buses, parents cars and 6<sup>th</sup> Form Pupils from Court Crescent.

In addition Bassaleg School has allowed 275 No. Pupils to attend the School who are out of the Catchment Area. We fail to understand how The Council have allowed this situation to occur as it adds to the Traffic situation to quite a large degree.

Reduction in school numbers could be achieved from either the redeployment of the Marshfield students or those outside the catchment area which would negate any expansion of the School.



## ITEM 2. IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT

The Neighbourhood is at total gridlock during the Monday to Friday period of the School days. The present levels of traffic are due to the last four years of the increase in Pupil numbers and Housing Developments in the area. Parents and School Buses continually block access into Court Crescent and with on occasions Buses stationary on the A467 Dual Carriageway, which is a major hazard to Traffic.

Pollution levels in the area of the front of the School and Caerphilly Road have been analysed and are as per the following;

Pm10, s –The EUs safe level of 40 micrograms per cubic metre was exceeded and a reading of 128. Micrograms per cubic metre was recorded. <sup>1</sup>

Similarly the Pm2.5 levels -with an unhealthy level above 25-was recorded at 116.

*Wales Online "The forgotten people left to grow-up, live and die in pollution caused by the M4"*

*...On four occasions WalesOnline measured the air quality along Caerphilly Road during morning rush hour.*

*To do this we used both a Flow pollution monitor from Plume Labs and a nitrogen dioxide monitor from Point Safety Ltd.*

*The readings were startling.*

*For context, a 24-hour concentration of PM2.5 (the more dangerous one) is considered unhealthy when it rises above 25 micrograms per cubic meter.*

*Our highest reading was 116.*

*For PM10 EU's safe particulate matter level, which stands at 40 micrograms per cubic metre.*

*Our highest reading was 128.*

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.walesonline.co.uk/news/wales-news/forgotten-people-left-grow-up-17920075>



Item 2 Impact on the Environment  
The health of the school is at total risk during the Monday to Friday period of the school day. The poor level of air quality is due to the last four years of the increase in traffic numbers and Housing Developments in the area. Parents and School Buses continually block access into Court Crescent and with an increase in bus numbers on the A405 dual carriageway, which is a major hazard to traffic.

Pollution levels in the area of the school and Carphilly Road have been analysed and are as per the following:  
PM10 - The 100m level of 40 micrograms per cubic metre was exceeded and a reading of 128. Nitrogen per cubic metre was recorded.  
Similarly the PM2.5 levels with an unhealthy level above 25 was recorded at 116.

Pupils are affected by these levels on a daily basis both mornings and afternoon, yet Newport Council have paid no regard to this appalling situation considering Pupils are having to breathe in these levels for the seven years of their School Education.

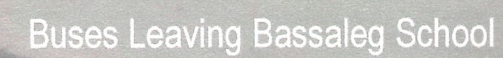
This alone should pinpoint the abject failure of this Planning Application and the negativity of the proposals.

In your Consultation document you stated that the Traffic impact has largely been accounted for due to the improvements carried out by the Welsh Office to Bassaleg Roundabout. We cannot accept that you think that there is no issue with Traffic. Addition of Jubilee Parks development brings with it conservatively another 2000 vehicles/day

See photographs below









The Traffic Enforcement Team was heralded as the solution to tackle inappropriate parking outside schools. However in reality they have totally failed to tackle this issue, using the five minute rule as the reason for inaction. Therefore it would be prudent to remove the Double Yellow lines and replace with a single Red line –No Stopping at any time. Then you new camera car could issue the appropriate fines.

In addition it is highly likely that we will face a further increase in vehicular traffic with the addition of another 1,000 properties being built at Jubilee Park and with the ongoing developments in the Caerphilly area at Bedwas and Machen of 600 properties this will also add to the present grid lock and increase in Pollution levels.



### ITEM 3. NEW 1000 PUPIL CAPACITY SCHOOL

The building of a new School in Rogerstone off Chartist Drive would benefit all pupils in the area of Jubilee Park, High Cross, Mount Pleasant etc without the need for the provision of Newport Transport Bus Services. It would negate the need for Parents using their cars to drop pupils off at School. This alone would assist in greatly reducing pollution levels and Traffic snarl ups.

You have stated that you don't have the funds for a new school, however the attached document <sup>2</sup> used by local councils in England for the Provision of such Schools verifies that the cost would be under £20 million pounds (£17401 x 1000 = \$17.401 million).

National School Delivery Cost Benchmarking | Primary, Secondary & SEN Schools

Part Three | Secondary Schools | New Development Refurbishment Summary

A small sample of New Development and Refurbishment projects has been obtained. It is not possible to draw any conclusions or provide further commentary, but this information is given to show the emergence of the sample.

Figure 8 | New Development Average Cost Summary

GIFA (m²)	Gross Cost per m²		Net Cost per m²		Cost Per Pupil Place		Sample Size
	Average	20th Percentile	Average	20th Percentile	Average	20th Percentile	
0 - 2,500	£2.129	£1.923	£2.029	£1.903	£11.107	£7.723	2
2,500 - 5,000	No Data						
5,000 - 7,500	£1.944	£1.770	£1.444	£1.309	£15.745	£15.454	2
7,500 - 10,000	£2.397	£2.194	£1.638	£1.549	£19.795	£15.905	5
10,000 - 12,500	£2.391	£2.006	£1.645	£1.485	£19.387	£16.386	3
12,500 - 15,000	£2.725	£2.725	£1.903	£1.903	£23.205	£23.205	1
Whole Sample All GIFA Bands	£2.294	£1.941	£1.695	£1.455	£17.401	£14.845	13
		£2.624		£1.915		£20.533	

Figure 9 | Refurbishment Average Cost Summary

GIFA (m²)	Gross Cost per m²		Net Cost per m²		Cost Per Pupil Place		Sample Size
	Average	20th Percentile	Average	20th Percentile	Average	20th Percentile	
2,500 - 5,000	£1.270	£1.229	No Data		£13.361	£13.250	2
Whole Sample All GIFA Bands	£1.278	£1.269	No Data		£13.361	£13.258	2
		£1.286				£13.467	

**Key Definitions**

**New Development & Refurbishment**  
Category definitions can be found on page 31.


**Location Factor**


All costs have been normalised to a common UK average price level using regional location factors published by BCIS to accord with the UK Mean 100. Index taken at November 2017.


**Inflation**


All costs have been updated to the latest Building Cost Information Service (BCIS) ALL-IN Tender Price of Index (TPI) of 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2017 of 298. Index taken from August 2017 data forecasts. This adjusts costs for inflation. VAT is excluded throughout.


Further definitions of key terms and footnotes outlining how the data has been treated can be found on page 31.


 Hampshire County Council





 EAST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

 Department for Education

 Infrastructure and Projects Authority

 Local Government



 EBDO

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February 2018

National School Delivery Cost Benchmarking for Primary & Secondary Schools,  
page 22

This would therefore release £8 million pound to refurbish Bassaleg School and to provide additional classrooms at John Frost School.

<sup>2</sup> National School Delivery Cost Benchmarking for Primary & Secondary Schools



With the difficulty of obtaining clarification of your long term plans on future Housing Developments in the area we feel Newport Council should note the existing collaboration of Caerphilly Council on cross border use of Risca Comprehensive School which is closer to for some pupils than Bassaleg School and Newport Council are not being honest that this school will not be in an expansion mode again.



#### ITEM 4. SCHOOL ATTAINMENT

It is interesting that your Proposal encompasses the building of a Super School with a Capacity to make it one of the largest Schools in Wales. Bassaleg School is totally in the wrong location, being hemmed in by two trunks roads with no means of Pupils arriving at the School except by crossing a Trunk Road. Pollution affects every pupil attending this School and your planning Statement on providing safe routes to School/Cycle Routes/walking will NOT address the Pollution impact on Pupils.

We have attached a copy of a Report carried out by Lancaster University for the Department of Education<sup>3</sup> Their summary is that schools over 1500 pupils in size fail in all attributes except in cost savings<sup>4</sup>.

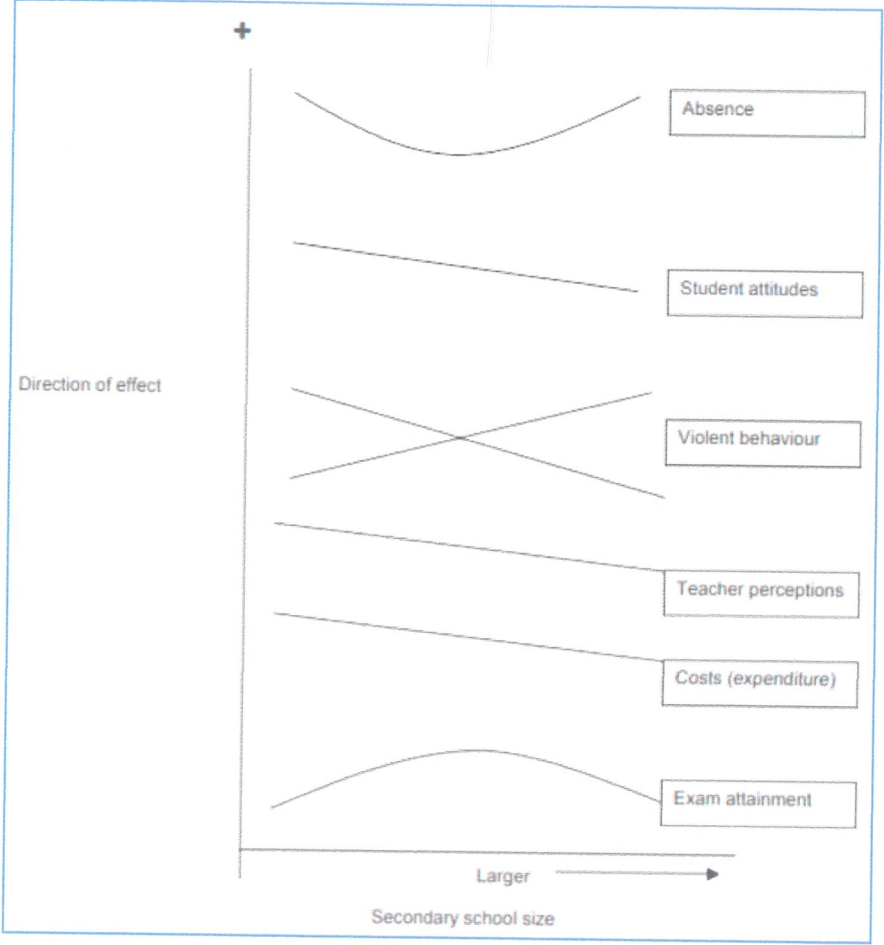
Yet Newport Council appear to have totally ignored this aspect and adopted the position that this document does not apply where Bassaleg School is concerned.

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<sup>3</sup> LSE: Secondary school size; A systematic review, page 2 "achievement increases as school size increases up to approximately 1,200 (for 11-16 schools) or 1,500 (for 11-18 schools) students (a quadratic relationship). After this point, achievement decreases as size increases"

<sup>4</sup> LSE: Secondary school size; A systematic review, page 75, figure 5.1





*LSE: Secondary school size; A systematic review, page 75, figure 5.1*



**ITEM 5. 6TH FORM COLLEGE**

*From your Freedom of Information we list the numbers of 6<sup>th</sup> Form pupils that attend the following Schools;-*

<i>Newport High</i>	<i>= 169</i>
<i>Liswerry</i>	<i>= 116</i>
<i>Llanwern</i>	<i>= 165</i>
<i>John Frost</i>	<i>= 122</i>
<i>Bassaleg</i>	<i>= 329</i>
<i>St Julians</i>	<i>= 214</i>
<i>Caerleon</i>	<i>= 293</i>
 <i><u>Total</u></i>	 <i><u>= 1691</u></i>

*In 2010 under a Strategic Outline Case for the future delivery of Post 16 Education and Training in Newport - Newport Council decide on Option C<sup>5</sup> and split the Secondary Schools in Newport on an East/West Basis which presently means 6<sup>th</sup> Form pupils at Bassaleg School are transported to three other Secondary Schools for their lessons –mini bus and driver utilised with appropriate cost implications.*

**Strategic Outline Case The Future Delivery of Post 16 Education & Training in Newport, page 6**

*C: Operate two local curricula based on either a north/south or east/west split, with common links to the college*

*This option also addresses some of the key issues raised by the option A. While it would not give quite the same spread of subjects as a single consortia or tertiary option, it would enable all schools to meet the measure and quickly exceed the minimum requirements. Each of the two consortia could maximise the use of their specialist staffing, buildings and resources for the benefit of all the learners in their partnership. A major benefit of this option is that it has the potential to reverse outflow of pupils to schools outside the authority by opening up curriculum choices to Year 11 learners who are not currently accommodated in sixth forms of their choice. By linking schools that are geographically close, it would minimise travelling*

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<sup>5</sup> Strategic Outline Case The Future Delivery of Post 16 Education & Training in Newport



*Caerleon / St Julian's / Hartridge. This would leave Lliswerry and Newport HS to be part of either consortium depending on whether the rationale was considered stronger for either a north/south or east/west split. This Strategic Outline Case is not destined to confirm which Option split will be taken forward, that decision however was made by the Learning Partnership in October and will be reflected in the Post 16 Project Implementation Executive meetings during November, 2010.*

***Therefore now that The Council propose to build a £90 million College <sup>6</sup> in the Centre of Newport that could accommodate all 6<sup>th</sup> form Pupils this circumnavigates you continuing with Option C as you stated at the time and can revert to Option E***

***Then we have the position that the Marshfield students could attend the John Frost School where they now could be accommodated , because Marshfields 6<sup>th</sup> Forms Pupils and John Frost 6<sup>th</sup> Form Pupils would no longer be in attendance at this School but at the new college.***



**Item 6. Issues that have perpetuated with Bassaleg School**

Irrespective of the outcome of your proposals it is important to raise the effects that the present school size impacts on our community.

Despite numerous requests directly to the School there is a total failure on the Schools behalf to address the Noise from the perimeter fence adjacent to Court Crescent.

Music/Screaming/Football/Foul Language and because of the close proximity to the boundary fence it has a detrimental effect on the adjacent Residential Properties in Court Crescent. In addition these issues show the total lack of supervision by Staff during break times. This noise twice a day prevents Residents from enjoying their benefits of their properties not having to have all windows and doors closed .

The incoming driveway from Court Crescent is used as a Canteen for pupils. Litter is an ongoing issue –the School has now installed litter bins down the drive . However this misses the Point as to where are the facilities to mitigate this .Do we have to continue with this appalling situation of litter all over Court Crescent. It is bad enough that The Council Grounds Maintenance Team blow all the grass cuttings and leaves from the School into Court Crescent and with no Road sweepers visiting the Crescent its an absolute disgusting situation. Residents are continually having to deal with the litter issue by collecting it and disposing of it in our recycle boxes (see picture below for inadequate litter provisions at the School)

Noise Readings during the Morning and Lunch Time Breaks have been measured and are as follows;-

- > No Pupils on the Front Field; Average 65db
- > During Break Times; 85.5-90.2 - These levels are equivalent to HGV vehicles/Power Tools and Motorcycles at a continual level during these breaks

School trips and out of hours activities using the entrance in Court Crescent is another issue which is unacceptable . The School has a main gate with adequate parking facilities which should be used and an example of the total



Lack of understanding by the School is when we have a School trip to Iceland starting at 4am -5.30am and the return at 12.30 am-1.30am with the associated noise, car horns, pupils shouting/doors slamming there is no consideration whatsoever given to the Residents.

Despite a Formal Complaint to the School in February 2019 on the subject of the trip to Iceland it was acknowledged that they would look at another venue to depart from. We have tried to obtain some resolution to this issue but have failed to get a response. Had we not gone into lockdown for COVID we were going to formally present this issue to the Head of Education.

Additionally we have three Teachers since last September parking in Court Crescent yet despite an email to your Education Department and to the Chair of Governors no response. Therefore do the Management of the School and Newport Council think that they are above reproach and we should not have the audacity to take them to task on issues like these





### SUMMARY

*The Consultation Document that you produced along with LRM, Planning Document has shown how inept this process has been with totally flawed statements.*

*At no stage have The Council been prepared to have a meeting with Residents of Bassaleg to let them express their views on this expansion.*

*Your results provided in your Consultation Documents so far are totally flawed with the Planning Statements made.*

*Any one of the included items in this Document i.e.:-*

*CATCHEMENT AREA,*

*NEW 1000 PUPIL SCHOOL,*

*6TH FORM COLLEGE*

*has a valid input to reduce the proposed numbers at Bassaleg School and the Cost of £28 million pounds being spent. Most of all they have in turn a positive impact to negate the Pollution effect on the Pupils and reduce the Traffic levels.*

*We therefore feel that Newport Council should take on board all the key facts listed in this document before proceeding with the application that could be possibly be subjected to a Judicial Review.*



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**From:** ?

**Sent:** 31 March 2021 20:40

Dear Sir/ Madam

I appreciate the deadline for objections is 1 April, and as I have not received a response to my concerns stated in my Pre- Application Consultation Response I sent to LRM on 1/11/20 (see below), unless I have missed it on the Council website, these issues have not been addressed, some 5 months later.

'As my garden backs onto the school playing field, I have concerns about noise, light pollution and security, especially if the 3G pitches are to be used by the community from 7-9 pm every weekday and 9-5 on weekends. Such use will have an adverse effect on my enjoyment of my garden and home. From research, noise is likely to be the worst issue: has consideration been given to the proximity of the pitches to residents on Caerphilly Road and The Griffin?

Are there regulations regarding the proximity of pitches to residential gardens and or houses? If so, what are they? Do the current plans comply with them?

The plan of the middle 3G pitch is very close to the boundary of my garden, where there are 2 trees, a large oak and a smaller holly. Is there some sort of tree root protection zone as there's a risk of damage during construction of the 4.5 metre fence and the pitch surface? If not, could the pitch be moved back towards the stream a small distance? It is important to me to retain these trees as some sort of partial screen.

From the plans it appears the three proposed rugby pitches are of three different sizes, if so why?

I note the middle of the pitches, which is the largest, is floodlit and is for both football and rugby. Does this mean it is envisaged it will be used the most? If so, would it be better sited as far away as possible from residences?

4.8 of the Planning Statement comments there are currently 2 floodlit playing pitches in use, one is the aging MUGA, where is the other?

Is it possible to see an image of similar 3G pitches the same size with 4.5 metres around its entire boundary and 15 metre columns for floodlights? Am I correct with these dimensions? (The detail on the plan is difficult to see clearly)

In addition I am concerned about the aspect from my house and garden. In particular, the close proximity of the artificial pitches with high fences all around and enormous columns for the floodlights will dominate my view. What colour is the fence around the pitches? I understand black is easier than green to see through, is this correct?

2.8 of the Planning Statement comments there could be vehicular access from Caerphilly Road. Is this for construction purposes or ongoing maintenance/ some other purpose?

In respect of community use, I am concerned that the cost of supervision and maintenance, and security issues will outweigh the benefit to the school. Research suggests that to run a 3G pitch on a sustainable financial basis, it should be sited at a major sports amenity such as a leisure centre to provide the required supervision and security in the evenings and weekends. Please comment.

If the plans go ahead, what would LRM envisage as the best boundary provision to preserve residents' privacy, security, and reduce noise and light pollution?

I also have concerns regarding sustainability and health, and one of the reports states the importance of a 'sustainable development'. At a time when there is increasing concern about the use of 'plastics', it seems contradictory to be digging up a large proportion of the grass playing fields and replacing them with manmade surfaces. These pitches are not environmentally sustainable, they last 8-10 years, and then placed in landfill or otherwise disposed of. There are also concerns about the toxic chemicals in 3G rubber crumb artificial sports fields with suggestions that microplastics are carcinogenic. Have these issues been considered? From the 'key comments' of staff 'environmental sustainability' was an issue, I assume this was in relation to all expansion plans including sports facilities? Were the sustainability and health issues stated above discussed and/ or brought to staff and schoolchildren's attention during 'consultations'? If so, what was the outcome?

I am concerned about the likely increase in traffic and parking issues in Bassaleg, during community use and on an everyday basis. Already there are times of the day traffic is at a standstill or moving very slowly.

Is it proposed the rest of the school to be used by the community?

Has a lux plot/ light spillage report been created? If so, could this be made public? If not, why not? What time would floodlights be turned off and the site vacated following community use on weeknights, 9pm or later?

Currently, there are a number of bright white lights at the school at night. Are these security lights? Will there be more with the new building? If night lights are necessary could they be changed to yellow lights so less light pollution and angled in such a way they don't project across the playing fields? This would minimise adverse effects for people and wildlife

I have concerns about wildlife especially bats and hope thorough checks are carried out as detailed. Will reports detailing such checks and their results be available for public viewing, such as those in 5.2.1-5.2.3 in the Ecology Report?

Given the size and complexity of some of the documentation and the extent of the development, it would have been helpful to have had a virtual tour/ video of the proposed changes online, in the absence of being able to see a model at the council offices, as would usually be available in non Covid times.

The old OS map used by Powell Dobson, although it shows the school boundaries, does not accurately reflect the number of private residences close to the school, and therefore affected by the proposed plans. Could any future plans be accurate in this regard?

The report of the hedge boundaries is not comprehensive/ accurate e.g., it states one hedge is patchy in places but does not comment on mine when it is in a similar condition.

Bassaleg school undoubtedly needs new facilities, but the proposal of 3G pitches for community use presents a range of issues: noise and light pollution, security issues and problems with traffic and parking.'

I would appreciate it if you could acknowledge receipt of this email and let me know how and when my concerns will be addressed.

Yours sincerely



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**From:** NCC - School Reorg  
**Sent:** 07 April 2021 12:45



Firstly, please accept my apology for this delayed confirmation of having received your email.

Secondly, I would like to advise that the statutory School Reorganisation consultation and proposal, and the Pre Application Consultation (PAC) process are separate and independent processes.

The School Reorganisation consultation process is one through which the council must consider and determine the proposal to, in this case, increase the capacity of the school. This process ensures that a public consultation is undertaken and that people are given the opportunity to object to the proposal. Any objections are summarised and duly considered before the proposal is determined by Cabinet.

The PAC process conducted by LRM Planning on behalf of the Council represents the initial part of the planning process. It is through the planning application process that the acceptability of *how* the proposal can be delivered is considered and determined, by the Council's planning committee.

Responses submitted to LRM Planning as part of the PAC process are taken into consideration and will be addressed in a report submitted with the planning application, to the Planning Authority. If you have raised these queries with LRM I would expect them to be addressed within the planning application submission.

I have very limited knowledge of the details concerning the planning matters, but offer the information below as far as my understanding allows.

- 1) The potential impact of light and noise pollution from the proposed pitches on local residences is being fully assessed with options considered to minimise this impact. There are regulations which set acceptable limits, and the acceptability of our proposal will be considered by Environmental Officers as statutory consultees to the planning application.
- 2) The trees to which you refer will be retained/protected. Again, details of any protection requirements will be provided during the planning application process.
- 3) The pitches of differing sizes are proposed to maximise the available sports pitch provision to pupils, within the constraints of the school site.
- 4) The Council is advised that the Football Association of Wales have concluded that there is no evidence to support claims that 3G pitches pose any threat to the environment or to the health of people using them.
- 5) We are aware of traffic and parking concerns and further traffic surveys were conducted in December. The proposals will be considered and commented on by Highways Officers as part of the planning process.
- 6) I understand that consideration is being given to making the hall, drama and music studios available for community use, although ultimately this will be a matter for the school.
- 7) Bat and other Ecology surveys will be conducted over the spring/summer period, prior to the submission of the full planning application.

I appreciate that I am not able to answer many of your queries, and that for you an understanding of some of the detail is key to your position on the proposal. These details will be considered as part of the planning application process and all relevant information will be made available on the Council's planning portal.

In the meantime, I will be grateful if you confirm whether you wish your points below to be registered as an objection to the school reorganisation proposal?

Best wishes,

Swyddog Trawsnewid Addysg / Education Transformation Officer

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Dear Richard

Thank you for your email

Although the statutory School Reorganisation Consultation and proposal and PAC process are separate and independent processes, as you have stated the detail is key, and as yet no detail received, so I am unable to comment on whether I object or not. You state you 'expect' my concerns



to be addressed and have given some general comments, which is helpful in a broad way but is insufficient in detail.

To date the process is, in my view, been inequitable to residents such as myself, I had a month to object, which was later increased to 6 weeks, whereas 5 months later still no PAC report published. It would have been helpful if the PAC report was made public at least a month before the deadline for objections, to allow residents to decide whether they needed to object or not.

Kind regards





# GRAIG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

16<sup>th</sup> March 2021

## **Graig Community Council response to the Statutory Notice for the proposed expansion of Bassaleg School**

Graig Community Council has in its ward the villages of Bassaleg, Rhiwderin, Lower Machen and part of Afon Village in Rogerstone, and represents some 7000 residents.

The Community Council has many concerns regarding the detail of the plan to expand Bassaleg School and has been contacted by numerous residents objecting to this proposed expansion.

The concerns mainly centre around the lack of transport infrastructure to cope with traffic congestion which at present, is stretched beyond capacity without taking account of the additional traffic such an expansion would create. This would affect not only the villages of Bassaleg and Rhiwderin, but also any traffic travelling on major highways in close proximity to the school; the A467 northbound from Junction 28 of the M4 and Southbound from Newbridge (due to hold-ups on Bassaleg Roundabout) and also Eastbound traffic on the A468 from Caerphilly.

Graig Community Council respectfully requests that this application be held back until such time as a proper public consultation meeting can be held for local residents to attend where their views can be aired and considered. To push through an application of this magnitude when proper consultation of those most affected cannot be arranged would be undemocratic and unfair. Council understands you have satisfied your statutory requirements, but in this case feels this is not sufficient.

Current traffic surveys submitted are not adequate, as none takes account of the traffic chaos which takes place at both The Griffin and Court Crescent, both of which have created longstanding problems for the residents of the Graig ward. An increase in pupils will not only affect the residents surrounding the perimeter of the proposed development you have contacted; but also the increase in traffic will have an impact on all residents in the village of Bassaleg and beyond.

To this end Graig Community Council offers you the use of Graig Hall on Caerphilly Road in Bassaleg which had extensive facilities to hold a Covid-safe meeting place to conduct a consultation either in small groups or individual appointments. If you would be willing to take up this offer, please contact the Clerk who will happily arrange for the Hall to be open for you.

Graig Community Council understands the school needs to be updated as it has been left behind most other schools in the Newport area, but little or no attention has been given to the impact on its surroundings such an expansion would bring.

Clerk to the Council: Sian Davies 6 Vale View, Gelli Park, Risca, Newport. NP11 6HS

Tel: 01633 614119, Mobile: 07971 094382 Email: [clerk@gragcc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@gragcc.co.uk)

Website: [www.gragcc.co.uk](http://www.gragcc.co.uk)



[www.facebook.com/GraigCommunityCouncil](https://www.facebook.com/GraigCommunityCouncil)



Graig Community Council supports Fairtrade



# GRAIG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Attention must be given to the following:

- Creating a sufficient on-site waiting area/pick-up/drop-off point for parents dropping pupils by car. This would eliminate many of the issues experienced by motorists travelling the roads at key times of the day and ease the current overwhelming issues being experienced by residents of Court Crescent, Viaduct Way, Churchmead and The Griffin which parents currently use for this purpose. Some arriving 30 minutes early for picking up students to 'secure a spot to wait', sometimes parking inconsiderately, inappropriately and even across dropped kerbs blocking resident's drives.
- Conduct an appropriate traffic survey. It is recognised this has not been possible to date due to Covid-19 restrictions greatly affecting normal traffic conditions but is necessary and should be used in conjunction with other available data taken pre-March 2020 to give truly realistic results.
- Creating dedicated sufficient on-site 6<sup>th</sup> former parking spaces to prevent issues with 6<sup>th</sup> formers having to take up resident's parking facilities.
- Explore the use of the Newport City Council owned field adjacent to the school site to provide for the above.
- Consider prevention of 6<sup>th</sup> form students from bringing their cars to school or seek permission for pupils to park at Whiteheads Sports Club in Park View a short distance away.
- Consider extending the pull in/create additional access/waiting area alongside Bassaleg Roundabout in front of the school.
- Extend double yellow lines on Forge Road and Court Crescent and increase enforcement patrols in and around the school.
- Explore the possibility of a direct access road off Bassaleg Roundabout to assist with reducing the impact of additional traffic in the villages of Bassaleg and Rhiwderin. Caerphilly Road air quality has been reported to DEFRA and is now the site of an AQMA. The air quality in this area exceeds acceptable rates already.
- Explore the possibility of a footbridge instead of a Pelican Crossing over Forge Road to eliminate the need for traffic to be halted. This is a major contributor to the tailbacks being experienced.

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Website: [www.graigcc.co.uk](http://www.graigcc.co.uk)



[www.facebook.com/GraigCommunityCouncil](https://www.facebook.com/GraigCommunityCouncil)



Graig Community Council supports Fairtrade



# GRAIG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

- To review the decision to change from open grassed playing fields to 3G pitches which are not only worse for the environment but will cause light and noise issues if they were to be open to the public use during the evenings.
- To eliminate/severely limit vehicles from use of the entrance off Penylan Road/The Griffin as this road is narrow, unsuitable and used as a rat-run to Cardiff so is always very busy at the same times of the day pupils are coming and going to and from school. It is part of the safe routes to school, but City Council Officers agree has inadequate footpaths, no safe crossing points and unacceptable amounts of traffic.
- Consider the impact a large development spanning an estimated two-year period will have on local residents such as noise level impact, issues with construction traffic and where materials are stored.
- Address the concern about traffic pollution and noise. Caerphilly Road is an AQMA site and being monitored regularly as a result. Air pollution would be exacerbated with more traffic generated by more pupils.

Questions need also to be answered as to why excess pupil numbers cannot be accommodated in other schools which are under-subscribed in the Newport and Caerphilly area (e.g. residents of Afon Village, Jubilee Park and Rogerstone to use Risca Comprehensive, residents of Castleton and Marshfield to use Duffryn School) and 6<sup>th</sup> Form students be accommodated at local Further Education Colleges as few schools now have 6<sup>th</sup> form spaces.

Arrangements with neighbouring Local Authorities have been successfully used to share facilities in other areas. Risca Comprehensive lies close to the border between Newport City Council and Caerphilly County Borough Council. School catchment areas can be straddled between authorities if necessary.

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[www.facebook.com/GraigCommunityCouncil](https://www.facebook.com/GraigCommunityCouncil)



Graig Community Council supports Fairtrade

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# Fairness and Equalities Impact Assessment (FEIA)

Version 3.6 May 2017

The purpose of this assessment is to provide balanced information to support decision making and to promote better ways of working in line with equalities (Equalities Act 2010), Welsh language promotion (The Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011), sustainable development (Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015), and the four parameters of debate about fairness identified by the Newport Fairness Commission (NFC Full Report to Council 2013).

**Completed by:** Sheree Davies

**Role:** Education Information and Development Officer

**Head of Service:** Sarah Morgan

**Date:** 22/04/2021

**I confirm that the above Head of Service has agreed the content of this assessment**

**Yes / No**

**When you complete this FEIA, it is your responsibility to submit it to**  
impact.assessments@newport.gov.uk

## **1. Name and description of the policy / proposal being assessed. Outline the policy's purpose.**

Newport City Council has consulted upon a school reorganisation proposal to increase the capacity of Bassaleg School to 2,050 with effect from September 2023. This consultation enabled Newport City Council to seek views on the proposal. The proposal was subsequently published by way of a statutory notice from 3<sup>rd</sup> March to 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021. As objections were received, an objection report has been written and the Council's Cabinet will take this into consideration when making the final decision as to whether to proceed.

Bassaleg School is a community maintained school in Newport for pupils aged 11-18 years. The measured capacity of the school is 1,747 and the published admission number (PAN) for years 7-11 is 270. Following the opening in 2017 of Jubilee Park Primary School on the housing development of the same name, the current admission number of Bassaleg School is no longer sufficient to meet in-catchment demand for pupil places. As a result, Newport City Council proposes to increase the admission number for years 7-11 to 330, and thereby ultimately increase the overall capacity of the school to 2,050, with effect from September 2023.

Bassaleg School is due to benefit from building replacement works under Band B of the Welsh Government 21st Century Schools and Colleges Programme. Under this arrangement, Welsh Government will provide 65% of the required funding, subject to business case approval. Newport City Council proposes to use this opportunity to provide the additional school capacity within the building replacement project.

**2. Outline how you have/will consult with stakeholders who will be affected by the policy/proposal.** *Please refer specifically to FEIA guidance in relation to relevant Welsh language duties.*

The proposal is being undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the statutory School Organisation Code.

The consultation process represented an opportunity for people to learn about the proposal, ask questions and make comments that have been recorded and summarised in a consultation report. This report has been published on the Council's website and was considered when the Council decided on the way forward.

Stakeholder emails were sent to Newport City Council education partners including parents, children and staff of the affected schools. The consultation pack was published on the Newport City Council website.

A Children and Young People's Everyday Summary Version of this consultation was produced. Both this and the full version were available via the NCC website [www.newport.gov.uk/schoolreorganisation](http://www.newport.gov.uk/schoolreorganisation), and hard copies were available on request from the Civic Centre by emailing [school.reorg@newport.gov.uk](mailto:school.reorg@newport.gov.uk) or by telephoning 01633 656656.

Due to the current public health situation in the UK, and to help limit the spread of the Coronavirus, the Council did not undertake any public drop-in events during this consultation. Instead, questions could be submitted by e-mail to [school.reorg@newport.gov.uk](mailto:school.reorg@newport.gov.uk) and Council officers provided a response within 7 days. This enabled stakeholders to submit informed responses to the consultation. A list of *Frequently Asked Questions and Answers* are also published on the Council's webpages at [www.newport.gov.uk/schoolreorganisation](http://www.newport.gov.uk/schoolreorganisation)

Consultation responses could be submitted by completing an online survey; submitting an e-mail or by using a paper consultation response pro-forma included in the consultation document. Social media platforms such as Twitter and Facebook also shared information on the proposed changes.

Overall, a total of 184 responses were received during the consultation period, with 154 respondents (equivalent to 84%) supporting the proposal. 176 responses were made via the standard response pro-forma and 8 responses submitted by email.

The Council is committed to gaining the views of learners, and due to the current public health situation, this was facilitated through pupil Question and Answer sessions held via Microsoft Teams, rather than face-to-face workshops. Pupil sessions took place at Bassaleg School and the 6 cluster primary schools.

Two sessions were also arranged for the Bassaleg School Parent Forum via Microsoft Teams, although the sessions did not go ahead as no parents registered.

Following consultation, Newport City Council's Cabinet Member for Education and Skills considered the views expressed and presented in the consultation report and then decided to proceed with the proposal. A statutory notice was published on the Newport City Council website and notices posted on the school gates of Bassaleg School. The statutory notice period lasted for 28 days from 3<sup>rd</sup> March to 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 and enabled people to express their views in the form of supporting or objecting to the proposal. During the objection period, two objections were received, along with concerns raised by two other parties, although these were not submitted explicitly as objections. As objections were received, an objection report has been written and the Council's Cabinet will take this into consideration when making the final decision as to whether to proceed.



**3. What information/evidence do you have on stakeholders? e.g. views, needs, service usage etc. Please include all the evidence you consider relevant.**

The Statutory Code outlines the key stakeholders who should be consulted with as part of this process which includes schools, parents, elected members, community councils and trade unions. The list is not exclusive however, and the Council has identified and added to this because of feedback received in relation to previous proposals.

The key stakeholders that the proposal concerns are children, families and carers who currently attend Bassaleg School and/or live in the catchment area. Residents who live in the area of Bassaleg School also have concerns regarding the proposal.

Bassaleg School is located in the Graig ward, although the school catchment area extends into the Marshfield and Rogerstone wards.

The Graig ward represents approximately 7.5% of the total area of Newport and is home to 4.07% of Newport's population. ONS population figures show approximately 15.08% of the wards population are aged 5 to 15, this being the fourth highest population of 5 to 15 year olds in Newport and higher than the Newport average which is 13.72%.

The Marshfield ward represents approximately 18.63% of the total area of Newport and is home to 4.21% of Newport's population. ONS population figures show approximately 14.30% of the wards population are aged 5 to 15, higher than the Newport average which is 13.72%.

The Rogerstone ward represents approximately 4.54% of the total area of Newport and is home to 6.97% of Newport's population. ONS population figures show approximately 13.77% of the wards population are aged 5 to 15, higher than the Newport average which is 13.72%.

The proposal has been developed in light of increasing numbers in Bassaleg School which has already seen an increase in its Published Admission Number (PAN) from 247 to 270 in September 2014 and this matured throughout the school in September 2018. New housing developments (Jubilee Park and Tredegar Park Golf Club) in the Bassaleg catchment area have seen the demand for places in Bassaleg School increase even further.

The information collected on stakeholders has been sourced from:

- Newport community well-being profiles – Graig, Marshfield and Rogerstone wards
- Stats Wales
- Pupil Census

The majority; eighty-four percent; of stakeholders who responded to the consultation support the proposal. However a small number of local residents made clear their concerns around three key issues:

- Traffic, congestion and road safety
- Parking and the local environment
- Pupil wellbeing and attainment

These concerns are addressed within the consultation report and traffic, safety and environment issues will be considered in detail as part of the planning application process.

The statutory notice period lasted for 28 days following the date of publication and enabled people to express their views in the form of supporting or objecting to the proposal. During the objection period, two objections were received, along with concerns raised by two other parties, although these were not submitted explicitly as objections. The formal objections and areas of concern covered a wide range of subjects as listed below:

1. Traffic impact in the local area
2. Size of the school catchment area
3. Potential school size and impact on attainment
4. Alternative options for secondary provision in the area
5. Opportunity for collaboration with a neighbouring LA
6. Potential opportunity for reorganisation of Post-16 provision
7. Concerns over impact of proposed 3G pitches
8. Inability of the Council to deliver the planned proposal
9. Exacerbation of anti-social behaviour issues
10. Insufficient and weak Options Analysis

The objections and Newport City Council's responses have been summarised in an objection report which will be published on the Council's website. The objection report will be considered when the Council's Cabinet make the final decision as to whether to proceed.



#### 4. Equalities and Welsh language impact


Protected characteristic	Impact:			Provide further details about the nature of the impact in the section below. Does it: 1. Promote equal opportunity 2. Promote community cohesion 3. Help eliminate unlawful discrimination/ harassment/ victimisation?
	Positive	Negative	Neither	
Age	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The proposal will see an increase in Secondary school places within the Bassaleg catchment area helping to accommodate for the extra demand from new housing developments. Increasing the school capacity from 1,747 to 2,050 increases the likelihood of in-catchment children securing places in their catchment secondary school which would otherwise be oversubscribed. The increase in places available will be open to everyone in Newport and outside of Newport to apply for, with the places allocated via the Council's oversubscription criteria if more applications are received than places available. The oversubscription criteria is outlined in the School Admissions Policy.
Disability	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The proposal will have a significant beneficial impact for people living with disabilities. All works that are completed for the proposed expansion will be fully compliant with the Equality Act 2010. This includes replacing the current facilities that are outdated and spread across the school site with brand new facilities that will be fully accessible, compliant and closer together.



Protected characteristic	Impact:			Provide further details about the nature of the impact in the section below. Does it: 1. Promote equal opportunity 2. Promote community cohesion 3. Help eliminate unlawful discrimination/ harassment/ victimisation?
	Positive	Negative	Neither	
<b>Gender reassignment/ transgender</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>There is no evidence that suggests the proposal will have a disproportionate impact on people that share this Protected Characteristic.</p> <p>Students benefitting from the proposal will experience all aspects of the new National Curriculum to be introduced in Primary and Year 7 from 2022, rolling out year by year until it includes Year 11 in 2026.</p>
<b>Marriage or civil partnership</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>There is no evidence that suggests the proposal will have a disproportionate impact on people that share this Protected Characteristic.</p>
<b>Pregnancy or maternity</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>There is no evidence that suggests the proposal will have a disproportionate impact on people that share this Protected Characteristic. For expectant parents, it is anticipated that additional school places at Bassaleg School will have a positive impact on the possibilities of students achieving a place in their local school.</p>
<b>Race</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>There is no evidence that suggests the proposal will have a disproportionate impact on people that share this Protected Characteristic.</p> <p>Students benefitting from the proposal will experience all aspects of the new National Curriculum to be introduced in Primary and Year 7 from 2022, rolling out year by year until it includes Year 11 in 2026.</p>
<b>Religion or Belief or non-belief</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>There is no evidence that suggests the proposal will have a disproportionate impact on people that share this Protected Characteristic.</p> <p>Students benefitting from the proposal will experience all aspects of the new National Curriculum to be introduced in Primary and Year 7 from 2022, rolling out year by year until it includes Year 11 in 2026.</p>
<b>Sex</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>There is no evidence that suggests the proposal will have a disproportionate impact on people that share this Protected Characteristic.</p> <p>Students benefitting from the proposal will experience all aspects of the new National Curriculum to be introduced in Primary and Year 7 from 2022, rolling out year by year until it includes Year 11 in 2026.</p>

Protected characteristic	Impact:			Provide further details about the nature of the impact in the section below. Does it: 1. Promote equal opportunity 2. Promote community cohesion 3. Help eliminate unlawful discrimination/ harassment/ victimisation?
	Positive	Negative	Neither	
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>There is no evidence that suggests the proposal will have a disproportionate impact on people that share this Protected Characteristic.</p> <p>Students benefitting from the proposal will experience all aspects of the new National Curriculum to be introduced in Primary and Year 7 from 2022, rolling out year by year until it includes Year 11 in 2026.</p>
<b>Welsh Language</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Bassaleg School is an English-medium school. However, children benefiting from the proposal will experience all aspects of the National Curriculum, including Cwricwlwm Cymraeg.</p> <p>The proposal has no bearing on the Council's plans to develop and promote Welsh-medium language provision across the City. It is therefore acknowledged that this proposal will not contribute to the Council's targets in relation to Cymraeg 2050.</p>

## 5 How has your proposal embedded and prioritised the sustainable development principle in its development?

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? Describe how.
 <p>Long Term</p> <p>Balancing short term need with long term needs</p>	<p>The population of Newport grew by almost 3,500 people between 2011 and 2016, and the primary school population of Newport has grown by 1,475 between January 2014 and January 2019. As these pupils mature, the pressure on school places is transitioning into our secondary school estate, which is reflected in our pupil population forecasts.</p> <p>Over 1000 new homes are being built at the Jubilee Park development just one mile away from and within the catchment area of Bassaleg School. Other smaller developments in the area include the Carnegie Court development that will deliver another 150 homes. Jubilee Park Primary opened in September 2017 to provide primary school places for children living on that development, the school became the sixth primary school of the Bassaleg School cluster.</p> <p>High birth rates and new families moving to the Bassaleg and Rogerstone areas have resulted in a population increase, meaning the admission number for Bassaleg School is no longer sufficient to admit all of the pupils progressing to secondary school from the cluster primary schools. The population increase meant the creation of additional temporary primary school classes being introduced at High Cross, Mount Pleasant and Rogerstone primary schools between 2011 and 2016 to provide extra capacity. A bubble class for the September 2020 cohort was introduced at Mount Pleasant Primary and another will be created at High Cross Primary to support the September 2021 cohort.</p> <p>The proposal will extend Bassaleg School's capacity replacing current and outdated facilities with new facilities that are fully compliant and closer together on the school site. The school forecasts show that the Bassaleg cohort is bigger than the PAN for at least the next four years, if all pupils in the cohort applied for Bassaleg School then some in-catchment students who apply on time for a place at the school will not be able to secure a place at the school.</p>
 <p>Collaboration</p> <p>Working together to deliver objectives</p>	<p>A formal statutory consultation has been carried out with the opportunity of engagement with all stakeholders and was supported at each stage by a FEIA to consider impact.</p> <p>The proposal will be delivered through full engagement of the Bassaleg School leadership team.</p>

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? Describe how.
 <p>Involving those with an interest and seeking their views</p>	<p>The following stakeholders were engaged with as part of the consultation process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parents, carers and guardians of pupils attending all affected schools;</li> <li>• Pupils attending all schools affected by this proposal;</li> <li>• Members of staff currently employed at all schools affected by this proposal;</li> <li>• The Church in Wales, Diocese of Monmouth;</li> <li>• Roman Catholic Archdiocese;</li> <li>• Neighbouring Local Authorities across the South East Wales Consortium area;</li> <li>• The Headteacher and Governing Bodies of all Newport schools;</li> <li>• All Newport City Council elected members;</li> <li>• All Newport City Council Heads of Service;</li> <li>• The local Community Council;</li> <li>• The Welsh Ministers;</li> <li>• Assembly Members (AMs) and Members of Parliament (MPs) representing the area served by the schools subject to the proposals;</li> <li>• Estyn;</li> <li>• Teaching and staff trade unions representing teachers and staff employed at all schools affected by this proposal;</li> <li>• The South East Wales Education Achievement Service;</li> <li>• The Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent;</li> <li>• Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations;</li> <li>• Preventative services</li> </ul> <p>Following formal consultation, a Consultation Report was prepared and has been published on the Council website. Newport City Council's Cabinet Member for Education &amp; Skills made the decision to proceed and a statutory notice was published.</p> <p>Following the publication of a statutory notice, as objections were received, an objection report has been written and the Council's Cabinet will take this into consideration when making the final decision as to whether to proceed.</p>

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? Describe how.
 <p>Prevention</p> <p>Putting resources into preventing problems occurring or getting worse</p>	<p>The Bassaleg and Rogerstone area is seeing housing developments being built; the biggest of these being the Jubilee Park development. There is a pressure on secondary school places in Newport with many secondary schools being full through on time applications, especially in the west of the city. Bassaleg School is a pressure point due to the increase in population within the catchment area, and as a result, additional capacity has already been created to support the September 2019 and September 2020 cohorts. Without this move, children living within the catchment area and submitting an on-time application would have been without an offer of a place. A permanent increase in the PAN will prevent this continuing in the future. Although the school places are needed, local residents have raised concerns over traffic problems in the area being exacerbated. The traffic impact and appropriate counter measures will be considered as part of the planning application process.</p>
 <p>Integration</p> <p>Considering impact on all wellbeing goals together and on other bodies</p>	<p>A formal statutory consultation has been carried out and was supported at each stage by a FEIA to consider impact. This proposal supports the “A prosperous Wales”, “A more equal Wales” and “A Wales of cohesive communities” Well-being Goals and has no adverse effect on any of the other Well-being Goals.</p> <p>In addition, this proposal supports the Newport City Council Well-being Objective “To improve skills, educational outcomes and employment opportunities”.</p>

## 6 Will the proposal/policy have a disproportionate impact on a specific geographical area of Newport?

Bassaleg School is already an established school accessible to pupils across the city. The proposal supports the replacement of currently poor quality facilities whilst also increasing the capacity of the school. The proposal will benefit the Bassaleg cluster as a whole, as more places will be made available in an area where housing developments are already underway, and where the capacity of the cluster primary schools exceeds the capacity of the secondary school.

## **7 How does the proposal/policy relate to the parameters of debate about Fairness identified by the Newport Fairness Commission**

### **Parameter 1 – Equal treatment while recognising difference**

The proposal supports a growing and diverse population where additional school places will be required, with pupil projections for Bassaleg School showing the school will be over capacity with a bigger cohort amongst the cluster schools than the secondary school can accommodate.

### **Parameter 2 – Mutual Obligations between citizens and government**

School places are available across of Newport for those who have parental responsibility for a child to apply for, with applications processed by the School Admissions team in accordance with the School Admissions Policy. The additional places created via this proposal will be allocated in this way. If the number of applications received exceeds the number of spaces available, the Council's oversubscription criteria will be applied to determine priority.

### **Parameter 3 – Interdependency and reciprocity within community relations**

The additional places being proposed will have benefits across the Bassaleg cluster where housing developments are being built in areas where the local secondary schools are close to capacity, or are over capacity.

### **Parameter 4 – Transparency and accountability in decision-making**

The consultation document outlined the decision making process and is transparent and accountable in the information provided. It allows the effective democratic participation of citizens.



## 8. Equality Impacts and Actions

Please complete the below action plan which sets out steps that will/will not be taken in order to mitigate any negative impacts that your assessment has identified.

Impact identified	Who does it affect?	What will you do to mitigate the impact? If you plan to take no action, please justify your rationale	Who is responsible?
Environment	Local residents	<p>The proposed capacity increase for Bassaleg School is a direct response to the development of new housing in the immediate locality at Jubilee Park and Tredegar Park Golf Club, both of which are within easy walking distance of the school. As such, the traffic impact has largely already been accounted for in the planning applications for those two developments, in an area that has recently seen investment in road layout improvements implemented by Welsh Government. Nevertheless, respondents to the consultation have made clear their concerns over the impact of increased pupil capacity on traffic, safety and congestion in the area. There is an existing safe walking route between the Jubilee Park development and the school site, and consideration will be given to improvements to this as part of the proposed scheme.</p> <p>Improved access and parking is being included within the design proposals for the development, which will also seek to reduce the number of sixth-form vehicles needing to be parked in the local streets outside of the school site.</p>	Newport City Council

		Safe routes to school and active travel arrangements are being considered in partnership with colleagues in City Services. Developing a coherent travel strategy and school travel plan to promote ecologically friendly travel choices is seen as integral to the proposed scheme and will be presented as part of the planning application package.	
Welsh-language	Pupils	Bassaleg School is an English-medium school. As a result, the proposal has no bearing on the Council's plans to develop and promote Welsh-medium language provision across the City. It is therefore acknowledged that this proposal will not contribute to the Council's targets in relation to Cymraeg 2050. However, children benefiting from the proposal will experience all aspects of the National Curriculum, including Cwricwlwm Cymraeg.	Newport City Council

## 9. Monitoring, evaluating and reviewing

Any questions or comments made throughout the consultation process were recorded and summarised in a consultation report. This report has been published on the Council's website and was considered when the Council decided on the way forward.

Following consultation, Newport City Council's Cabinet Member for Education & Skills considered the views expressed and decided to proceed with the publication of a statutory notice. The statutory notice period lasted for 28 days following the date of publication and was published on the Newport City Council's website and posted at the school gates of Bassaleg School. This enabled people to express their views in the form of supporting or objecting to the proposal. As objections were received, an Objection report has been written and the Council's Cabinet will take this into consideration when making the final decision as to whether to proceed.

## 10. Involvement

The consultation process represented an opportunity for people to learn about the proposal. The consultation document was available online in both English and Welsh, via the Newport City Council's website, email and social media, and as a hard copy. Questions could be submitted at any point during the consultation process and were responded to within 7 days – this replaced the usual drop-in session due to the current public health situation. Consultation with pupils, were undertaken via Microsoft Teams meetings and through questionnaires. Two sessions were also arranged for the Bassaleg School Parent Forum via Microsoft Teams, although the sessions did not go ahead as no parents had expressed an interest in attending. Any questions or comments made throughout the process were recorded and summarised in a consultation report which has been published on the Council's website. The majority; eighty-four percent; of stakeholders who responded to the consultation support the proposal. However a small number of local residents made clear their concerns around three key issues:

- Traffic, congestion and road safety
- Parking and the local environment
- Pupil wellbeing and attainment

These concerns are addressed within the consultation report and the traffic, safety and environment issues will be considered in detail as part of the planning application process.

The statutory notice period lasted for 28 days following the date of publication and enabled people to express their views in the form of supporting or objecting to the proposal. During the objection period, two objections were received, along with concerns raised by two other parties, although these were not submitted explicitly as objections. The formal objections and areas of concern covered a wide range of subjects as listed below:

1. Traffic impact in the local area
2. Size of the school catchment area
3. Potential school size and impact on attainment
4. Alternative options for secondary provision in the area
5. Opportunity for collaboration with a neighbouring LA
6. Potential opportunity for reorganisation of Post-16 provision
7. Concerns over impact of proposed 3G pitches
8. Inability of the Council to deliver the planned proposal
9. Exacerbation of anti-social behaviour issues
10. Insufficient and weak Options Analysis

The objections and Newport City Council's responses have been summarised in an objection report which will be published on the Council's website. The objection report will be considered when the Council's Cabinet make the final decision as to whether to proceed.



# Report

## Cabinet

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### Part 1

Date: 16 June 2021

**Subject** Quarter 4 2020/21 Corporate Risk Register Update

**Purpose** To present the Council's Corporate Risk Register for the end of quarter 4 (1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021).

**Author** Head of People and Business Change

**Ward** All

**Summary** The Council's Corporate Risk Register monitors those risks that may prevent the Council from achieving its Corporate Plan or delivering services to its communities and service users in Newport.

At the end of quarter four, there were 19 risks recorded in the Corporate Risk Register that are considered to have a significant impact on the achievement of the Council's objectives and legal obligations. At the end of quarter there was one escalated risk from service area risk registers and no risks were closed. Overall, there are 11 Severe risks (risk scores 15 to 25); 6 Major risks (risk scores 7 to 14); 1 Moderate risks (risk scores 4 to 6); and one low risk that are outlined in the report.

As set out in the Council's Risk Management Policy, Cabinet review the Corporate Risk Register on a quarterly basis ensuring procedures are in place to monitor the management of significant risks.

**Proposal** Cabinet is asked to consider the contents of the quarter three update of the Corporate Risk Register.

**Action by** Corporate Management Team and Heads of Service

**Timetable** Immediate

This report was prepared after consultation with:

- Corporate Management Team

**Signed**

## Background

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, requires Newport City Council to set Well-being Objectives in its Corporate Plan 2017-22. In the delivery of the Corporate Plan and Council services there will be risks that may prevent, disrupt or impact on the Council's objectives. The Council's Risk Management Policy and Corporate Risk Register enables the Council to identify, manage and monitor those risks to ensure effective mitigation action is taken to minimise or prevent the risk from impacting on services, communities and citizens. The current Risk Management Policy was approved in July 2020.

Following the Covid-19 outbreak, service areas were asked to review their service plans and consider any new and/or emerging risks that could impact on the delivery of their services. Additionally as part of the Council's quarterly monitoring process, service areas have reviewed their risks considering the impact of Covid-19.

In accordance with the Council's Risk Management Policy, any new, escalated / de-escalated and closed risks in the Corporate Risk Register are presented to the Council's Chief Executive and Corporate Management Team for decision.

### Summary of NCC risks for Quarter 4 2020/21 (subject to Change)

At the end of quarter four, across the Council's eight service areas there were 46 risks recorded in their risk registers. The table below provides a summary of all risks and changes to risk scores between quarter 3 (Reported to Cabinet in March 2021) and quarter 4.

Service Area	Q4 Risks	Risk Scores Increased since Q3	Risk Scores Decreased since Q3	No Change since Q3	New Risks (Since Q3)	Closed Risks (Since Q3)
Adult & Community Service	3	0	1	2	0	0
Children & Young People Service	3	0	0	3	0	1
City Services	6	1	0	5	0	1
Education	6	4	1	1	0	2
Finance	6	0	2	4	0	1
Law & Regulation	3	0	0	3	0	0
People & Business Change	12	1	5	6	0	0
Regeneration, Investment & Housing	7	0	3	4	0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>

At the end of quarter 4, the Council's Corporate Risk Register included 19 of the 46 risks that are considered to pose the most risk to the delivery of Council services and achievement of its Corporate Objectives. The 19 Corporate Risks consisted of:

- 11 Severe risks (15 to 25);
- 6 Major Risks (7 to 14);
- 1 Moderate Risk (4 to 6); and
- 1 Low Risk (1 to 3).

In comparison to the quarter three (2020/21) risk register, there were no new risks identified and no risks were closed. There was one corporate risk closed and no risks de-escalated back into service area registers for monitoring. At the end of quarter 4, there were two risk scores had increased, three had decreased, and 14 risks had remained the same as quarter three.

**Escalated Risk – Implementation of the Additional Learning Needs Act (TBC by Corporate Management Team)**

### Change in direction of risk score (Quarter Four)

<b>Risk</b>	<b>Service Area Cabinet Member</b>	<b>Q3 Risk Score</b>	<b>Q4 Risk Score</b>	<b>Commentary</b>
Brexit	Corporate (People & Business Change lead) Leader of the Council	12	8	Brexit related issues and mitigating actions are reported monthly to Cabinet currently.
Covid 19 Pandemic Outbreak	Corporate (People & Business Change lead) Leader of the Council	25	20	The risk score has decreased to 20 at the end of quarter 4 due to the successful roll out of the vaccination programme and easing of lock down restrictions. Front line Council services continue to operate normally. However, there remains small clusters across the community, which are being managed through the Test Trace and Protect teams. The Council's Covid Recovery Group (Gold) continues to regularly meet and monitor the situation. Monthly Cabinet reports are continue to be presented providing an overview of the Council's Covid response.
Demand for ALN and SEN support	Education Cabinet Member for Education and Skills	16	20	Pupils have returned to School with varying ALN needs due to lack of experiential learning, social experiences and also pupils with complex ALN who were highlighted through the Statutory Assessment processes last year. There is a pressure on Schools to develop inclusive classrooms to support a range of ALN needs. Currently the Inclusion Enrichment Team does not have the capacity to offer preventative, capacity building support to Schools. The expectation of the ALN Code 2021 is that all Schools will provide Additional Learning provision for pupils from September 2021. There is a need to review the ALN funding formula for Schools to ensure they are adequately resourced to provide the ALN support expected and to develop a comprehensive LA preventative team to ensure Schools have specialist advice and support needed and also Schools provisions are effectively monitored.
Educational Out of County Placements	Education Cabinet Member for Education and Skills	9	12	Through the commissioning of local providers such as Newport Live, Catch 22 and Sporting Chance we have been able to access local specialist provisions which has reduced the need for specialist out of County provisions. However our special Schools Maes Ebbw and Ysgol Bryn Derw are full which increases the risk of OOC placements for complex needs pupils in the future. Extension options are being considered to ensure there are more spaces available for pupils with complex needs. Mastodon C has also been commissioned to create data projections for future specialist provision needs.
In Year Financial Management	Finance Services Leader of the Council	6	3	Anticipated outturn suggest significant surplus position at the end of the financial year.

**Appendix 1 - Quarter 4 Corporate Risk Heat Map and Risk Profile****Appendix 2 – Newport Council's Corporate Risk Register for Quarter 4.****Financial Summary**

There are no direct costs associated with this report.

**Risks**

Risk	Impact of Risk if it occurs* (H/M/L)	Probability of risk occurring (H/M/L)	What is the Council doing or what has it done to avoid the risk or reduce its effect	Who is responsible for dealing with the risk?
The Council does not achieve its objectives as corporate level risks are not adequately managed and monitored.	M	L	Risk Management Strategy has been adopted and mechanisms are in place to identify, manage and escalate emerging and new risks / mitigation strategies.  Audit Committee oversight of risk management process.	Directors, Heads of Service and Performance Team

\* Taking account of proposed mitigation measures

**Links to Council Policies and Priorities**

Corporate Plan 2017-22

Service Plans 2020/21

**Options Available and considered**

1. To consider the contents of the Corporate Risk Register and to continue monitoring progress of actions taken to address the risks identified in the report.
2. To request further information or reject the contents of the risk register

**Preferred Option and Why**

To consider the contents of the Corporate Risk Register and monitor the progress of actions taken to address the risks identified in the report. This will give the Cabinet sufficient assurance and oversight of the main overarching risks that the council faces in delivering the objectives of the Corporate Plan.

**Comments of Chief Financial Officer**

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. The corporate risk register forms an important part of the governance and budget setting arrangements for the council and the risk register is used to guide the internal audit plan. Risks that result in financial pressures will be reflected in established ongoing monitoring arrangements.

**Comments of Monitoring Officer**

There are no specific legal issues arising from the report. As part of the Council's risk management strategy, the corporate risk register identifies those high-level risks that could impact upon the Council's ability to deliver its corporate plan objectives and essential public services. The identification of corporate risks within the risk register and monitoring the effectiveness of the mitigation measures are matters for Cabinet.

**Comments of Head of People and Business Change**

Risk Management in the Council is a key area to implementing Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015. Effective monitoring and reporting against the Council's Corporate Risk Register is essential in minimising and preventing the likelihood and impact of risks against our objectives.



The recent changes made to our risk management processes and system will ensure officers at all levels of the organisation have greater control and oversight of their risks taking the necessary action to mitigate their impact and escalate where necessary to senior management.

There are no specific HR issues arising from the report.

### **Comments of Cabinet Member**

The Chair of Cabinet is consulted on the corporate risk register and has agreed that this report goes forward to Cabinet for consideration.

### **Local issues**

None.

### **Scrutiny Committees – Audit Committee**

The Council's Audit Committee received an update on the Council's Quarter 2 Corporate Risk Register in January 2021. The Audit Committee welcomed the report and commented on the usefulness of the report and its supporting documents to provide an overview of the Council's risk management activity across the Council.

The Corporate Risk Register for quarter four will be presented to the Council's Audit Committee for information and comment at the next Committee meeting.

### **Equalities Impact Assessment**

Not applicable.

### **Children and Families (Wales) Measure**

Not applicable.

### **Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015**

Under the Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015 and its 5 ways of working principles this report supports:

Long Term – Having effective risk management arrangements will ensure that the opportunities and risks that will emerge consider the long term impact on service users and communities.

Preventative – Identifying opportunities and risks will ensure the Council is able to implement necessary mitigations to prevent or minimise their impact on Council services and service users.

Collaborative – The management of risk is undertaken throughout the Council and officers collaborate together within service areas, Corporate Management Team and the Council's Cabinet to ensure decisions are made in a timely manner and are evidence based.

Involvement – The Council's Risk Management process involves officers across the Council's service areas and Cabinet Members.

Integration – Risk Management is being integrated throughout the Council and supports the integrated Planning, Performance and Risk Management Framework. The Framework ensures that planning activities consider the opportunities and risks to their implementation and overall supports the delivery of the Council's Corporate Plan and legislative duties.

### **Crime and Disorder Act 1998**

Not applicable.

### **Consultation**

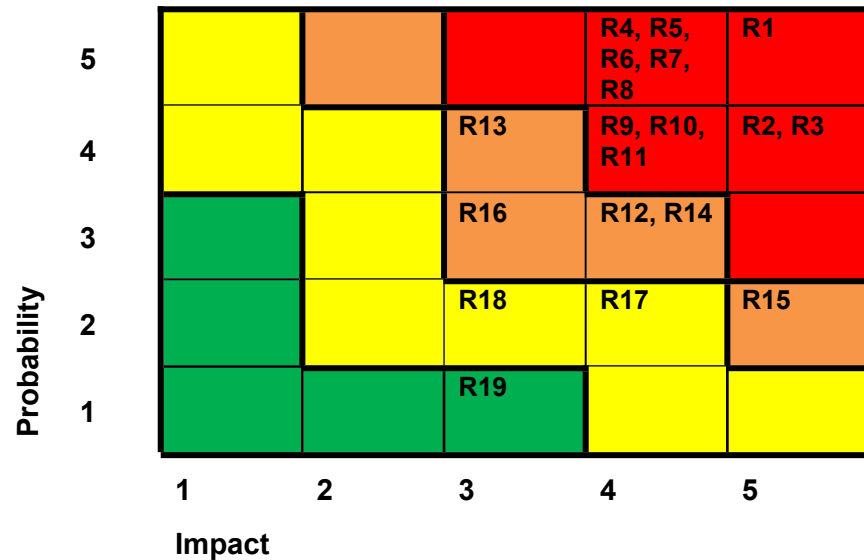
As above, the Risk Register is also considered by Audit Committee.

## **Background Papers**

[Q4 Corporate Risk Register, Cabinet 10th March 2021](#)  
[Risk Management Policy 2020-22](#)

**Dated: 10 June 2021**

## Appendix 1 - Quarter 4 Corporate Risk Heat Map



Corporate Risk Heat Map Key (Quarter 4 2020/21)	
R1 – Stability of Social Services Providers	R11 – Pressure on Housing & Homelessness Service
R2 – Covid-19 Outbreak	R12 – Schools Finance / Cost Pressures
R3 – Highways Network	R13 – Educational Out of County Placements
R4 – Pressure on Adult & Community Services	R14 – Newport Council's Property Estate
R5 – Ash Die Back Disease	R15 – City Centre Security and Safety
R6 – Pressure on the delivery of Children Services	R16 – Climate Change
R7 – Demand for ALN and SEN support	R17 – Brexit & Trade Agreement
R8 – Implementation of the Additional Learning Needs Act	R18 – Safeguarding
R9 – Balancing the Council's Medium Term Budget	R19 – In year financial management
R10 – Cyber Security	

### Risk Score Profile between Quarter 1 2020/21 and Quarter 4 2020/21

\* Information on Cabinet portfolios added to the report to improve alignment with portfolios.

\*\* Subject to CMT Review

Risk Reference	Risk	Lead Cabinet Member(s) *	Risk Score Quarter 1 2019/20	Risk Score Quarter 2 2020/21	Risk Score Quarter 3 2020/21	(Current) Quarter 4 2020/21	Target Risk Score
R1	Stability of Social Services Providers	Cabinet Member for Social Services	25	25	25	25	6
R2	COVID-19 Pandemic Outbreak	Leader of the Council /Cabinet	25	25	25	20	6
R3	Highways Network	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for City Services and Member Development	20	20	20	20	9
R4	Pressure on Adult & Community Services	Cabinet Member for Social Services	20	20	20	20	10
R5	Ash Die Back Disease	Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for City Services & Member Development	20	20	20	20	6
R6	Pressure on the delivery of Children Services	Cabinet Member for Social Services	20	20	20	20	6
R7	Demand for ALN and SEN support	Cabinet Member for Education and Skills	16	12	16	20	6
R8**	Implementation of the Additional Learning Needs Act	Cabinet Member for Education and Skills	9	9	12	20	8
R9	Balancing the Council's Medium Term budget	Leader of the Council / Cabinet	16	16	16	16	10
R10	Cyber Security	Cabinet Member for Community & Resources	16	16	16	16	10
R11	Pressure on Housing and Homelessness Service	Leader of the Council	16	16	16	16	6

Risk Reference	Risk	Lead Cabinet Member(s) *	Risk Score Quarter 1 2019/20	Risk Score Quarter 2 2020/21	Risk Score Quarter 3 2020/21	(Current) Quarter 4 2020/21	Target Risk Score
R12	<b>Schools Finance / Cost Pressures</b>	Leader of the Council /Cabinet Member for Education and Skills	16	16	12	12	6
R13	<b>Educational Out of County Placements</b>	Cabinet Member for Education and Skills	16	12	9	12	5
R14	<b>Newport Council's Property Estate</b>	Cabinet Member for Assets	8	8	12	12	9
R15	<b>City Centre Security and Safety</b>	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for City Services and Member Development	10	10	10	10	8
R16	<b>Climate Change</b>	Cabinet Member for Sustainable Development	9	9	9	9	10
R17	<b>Brexit &amp; Trade Agreement</b>	Leader of the Council / Cabinet	12	16	12	8	10
R18	<b>Safeguarding</b>	Cabinet Member for Social Services	6	6	6	6	4
R19	<b>In year financial management</b>	Leader of the Council / Cabinet	9	6	6	3	6

## **Glossary**

This document provides an explanation of terminology used in this report and supporting documents.

**Risk Appetite** – the amount of risk that Newport City Council is willing to seek or accept in the pursuit of the Council's long term objectives.

**Inherent Risk Score** – The level of risk in the absence of any existing controls and management action taken to alter the risk's impact or probability of occurring.

**Residual Risk Score** – The level of risk where risk responses i.e. existing controls or risk mitigation actions have been taken to manage the risk's impact and probability.

**Target Risk Score** – The level of risk (risk score) that Newport City Council is willing to accept / tolerate in managing the risk. This is set in line with the Council's overall risk appetite.

**Risk Mitigation Action** – Actions identified by the Risk Owner to respond to the risk and reduce the impact and probability of the risk of occurring.

**Risk Mitigation Action (Red Progress Score)** – Significant issue(s) have been identified with the action which could impact on the ability of the action meeting its completion date. Immediate action / response is required resolve its status.

**Risk Mitigation Action (Amber Progress Score)** – issue(s) have been identified that could have a negative impact on the action achieving its completion date. Appropriate line manager(s) should be informed and where necessary action taken.

**Risk Mitigation Action (Green Progress Score)** – The action is on course for delivering to the agreed completion date and within the agreed tolerances.

### **How the Council Assesses Risk**

An assessment of the likelihood and impact of risk is important to measure, compare and monitor risks to ensure efficient use of resources and effective decision making. This assessment is carried out using the risk matrix as described below.

### **Risk Assessment Matrix**

A Corporate Risk Register will contain the high level risks for the whole authority. In order to differentiate between these high level risks a 5x5 risk assessment matrix will be applied. The matrix is shown below and further detail is included in appendix 3.

Risks are scored using the scoring system for probability and impact and assigned a rating based on the tolerances set out in the matrix below

Score	Description	Impact Measures						
		Strategic / Policy	Operational / Business Continuity	Financial	Governance / Legal / Regulatory	Health & Safety	Reputational	Project Delivery / Savings / Benefits
5 Page 131	<b>Severe</b>	Failure of a key strategic objective	Serious organisational / service failure that has direct impact on stakeholders including vulnerable groups.  Service disruption over 5+ days.	<u><b>Corporate / Project</b></u>  Unplanned and/or additional expenditure disturbance.  Capital > £1M Revenue >£1M	Legislative / Regulatory breach resulting in multiple litigation / legal action taken on the Council (linked to Financial / Reputational Impacts).	Multiple major irreversible injuries or deaths of staff, students or members of public.  (Linked to Financial / Reputational Impacts)	Severe and persistent National media coverage. Adverse central government response, involving (threat of) removal of delegated powers. Officer(s) and / or Members forced to Resign.	Project status is over 12 months from anticipated implementation date.  Project(s) do not deliver the major benefits / savings identified in business case.  This is linked to Financial / Strategic / Reputational Impacts
	<b>Major</b>	Severe constraint on achievement of a key strategic objective	Loss of an important service(s) for a short period that could impact on stakeholders.  Service disruption between 3-5 days.	<u><b>Corporate / Project</b></u>  Unplanned and/or additional expenditure disturbance. Capital > £0.5M - £1.0M Revenue >£0.5M-£1M	Serious legislative breach resulting in intervention, sanctions and legal action. (Linked to Financial / Reputational Impacts)	Major irreversible injury or death of staff, student or member of public. (Linked to Financial / Reputational Impacts)	Adverse publicity in professional / municipal press, affecting perception / standing in professional /local government community  Adverse local and social media publicity of a significant and persistent nature.	Project status is 6 to 12 months over from anticipated implementation date.  Project(s) do not deliver major benefits / savings identified in business case.  This is linked to Financial / Strategic / Reputational Impacts
	<b>Moderate</b>	Noticeable constraint on achievement of a key strategic objective /	Loss and/or intermittent disruption of a service between 2-3 days.	<u><b>Corporate / Project</b></u>  Unplanned and/or additional	Significant legislative breach resulting in investigation. (Linked to Financial /	Major reversible injury to staff, student or member of	Adverse local publicity / local public opinion including social media.	Project status is 1 to 6 months over from anticipated implementation date.

Score	Description	Impact Measures						
		Strategic / Policy	Operational / Business Continuity	Financial	Governance / Legal / Regulatory	Health & Safety	Reputational	Project Delivery / Savings / Benefits
		Service Plan objective.		expenditure disturbance.  Capital = £0.25M - £0.5M Revenue = £0.25M to £0.5M Revenue = £0.25M to £0.5M	Reputational Impacts)	public. Not life threatening.  (Linked to Financial / Reputational Impacts)	Statutory prosecution of a non-serious nature.	There is significant reduction on delivery of benefits / savings identified in business case.  This is linked to Financial / Strategic / Reputational impacts.
Page 132 2	Low	Constraint on achievement of Service Plan objective that does not impact on Corporate Strategy	Brief disruption of service that has a minor impact on the delivery of a service.  Service disruption 1 day.	<u>Corporate / Project</u>  Unplanned and/or additional expenditure disturbance.  Capital = £0.1M - £0.25M Revenue = £0.1M – £0.25M	Moderate impact leading to warning and recommendations.	Some minor reversible injuries.  (Linked to Financial / Reputational Impacts)	Contained within Directorate Complaint from individual / small group, of arguable merit	Project status is 1 to 4 weeks over from anticipated implementation date.  There is minor reduction on delivery of benefits / savings identified in business case.  This is linked to Financial / Strategic / Reputational impacts.
1	Very Low	Constraint on achievement of Service / Team Plan objective	Minor disruption of a non-critical service.	<u>Corporate / Project</u>  Unplanned and/or additional expenditure disturbance.  Capital < £100k Revenue <£100k	No reprimand, sanction or legal action.	Some superficial injuries.  (Linked to Financial / Reputational Impacts)	Isolated complaint(s) that are managed through the corporate complaints process and service area.	Project status is 1 week over from anticipated implementation date.  There is insignificant / no impact on delivery of benefits / savings identified in business case.



Score	Description	Impact Measures						
		Strategic / Policy	Operational / Business Continuity	Financial	Governance / Legal / Regulatory	Health & Safety	Reputational	Project Delivery / Savings / Benefits
								This is linked to Financial / Strategic / Reputational impacts.

Score	Probability	Criteria
5	<b>Very likely</b> 75% +	<p><b>Systematic Risks</b> – Local evidence indicating <b>very high</b> probability of occurrence if no action / controls are in place. Risk is highly likely to occur daily, weekly, monthly, quarterly.</p> <p><b>Emerging Risks</b> – National and Global evidence indicating <b>very high</b> probability of occurrence on local communities if no action / controls are taken. Risks are highly likely to occur within the next 5 years.</p>
4	<b>Likely</b> 51-75%	<p><b>Systematic Risks</b> – Local evidence indicating <b>high</b> probability occur in most circumstances with near misses regularly encountered e.g. once or twice a year.</p> <p><b>Emerging Risks</b> – National and Global evidence indicating <b>high</b> probability of occurrence on local communities if no action / controls are taken. Risks are likely to occur within the next 5-10 years.</p>
3	<b>Possible</b> 26-50%	<p><b>Systematic Risks</b> – Local evidence indicating <b>distinct</b> possibility with circumstances regularly encountered and near misses experienced every 1-3 years.</p> <p><b>Emerging Risks</b> – National and Global evidence indicating <b>distinct</b> probability of occurrence on local communities if no action / controls are taken. Risks are likely to occur within the next 10-15 years.</p>
2	<b>Unlikely</b> 6-25%	<p><b>Systematic Risks</b> – Local evidence indicating <b>low</b> to infrequent near misses experienced every 3 + years.</p> <p><b>Emerging Risks</b> – National evidence indicating <b>low</b> probability of occurrence on local communities if no action / controls are taken. Risks are likely to occur within the next 16-25 years.</p>
1	<b>Very Unlikely</b>	<p><b>Systematic Risks</b> – Local evidence indicating risk has rarely / never happened or in exceptional circumstances.</p> <p><b>Emerging Risks</b> – National evidence indicating very low probability of occurrence on local communities if no action / controls are taken. Risks are likely to occur within the next 16-25 years.</p>

**Systematic Risks** – Risks that are known or are becoming part of social, cultural, economic and environmental systems that govern our lives.

**Emerging Risks** – Risks that are further away, less defined and early stage of being known about.

# Draft Corporate Risk Register

## 2020/21 Quarter 4 Update



# Ash Die Back Disease

Short Description	Ash Die back disease will affect tree population in Newport. The disease has already been identified in Newport and could kill the majority of Ash trees in the authority. The impact of no action will be significant numbers of tree failures that could see an increase in the number of people harmed by trees and property claims.
Risk Owner	Joanne Gossage
Overseeing Officer	Head of Streetscene and City Services
Lead Cabinet Member(s)	Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for City Services & Member Development
Linked Theme	Theme : Thriving City
Linked Corporate Objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WBO 2. Economic Growth &amp; Regeneration</li> <li>WBO 4. Cohesive &amp; Sustainable Communities</li> </ul>

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Ash Die Back Disease

31 MAR 21

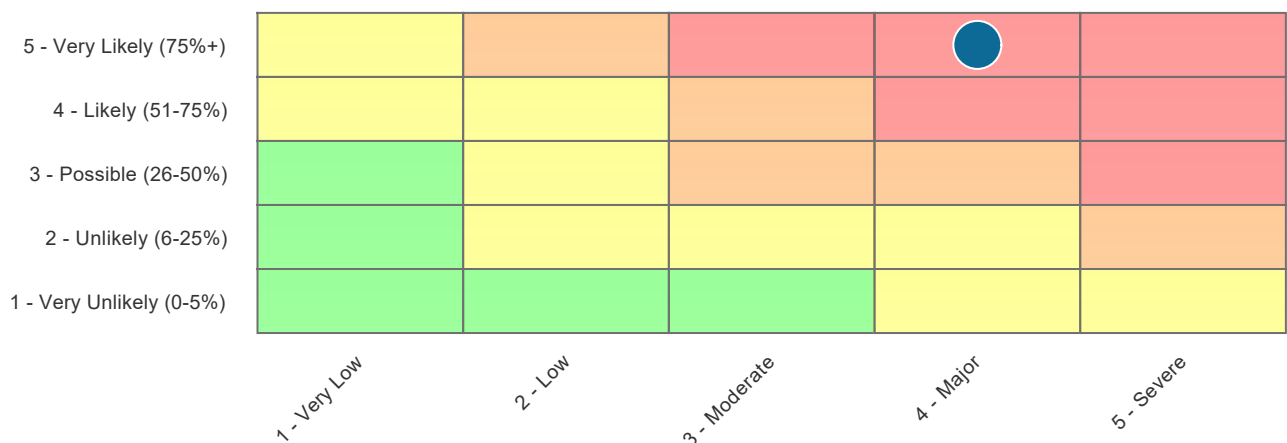
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6

Inherent Risk Score

Target Risk Score

RM03 Risk Probability



RM02 Risk Impact

## Direction of Risk

	DoR	Comment
Ash Die Back Disease	➡	Ongoing works both for surveying of disease tree stock and undertaking reactive tree removal works. Further works completed along A48 and SDR roads in Q4. Replacement tree planting began in Caerleon road.

Action Name	Action Description	% Complete	Mar 2021
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Improve Green & Open Spaces for Amenity & Leisure	Improvement to community green and open spaces for amenity and leisure.	100%	✔
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase & Improve Newport's Urban Tree Coverage	Increase and improve Newport's urban tree coverage.	60%	★
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Undertake works removing Ash trees owned by NCC	To undertake works removing diseased Ash trees that are owned by NCC.	60%	★

# Balancing the Council's Medium Term Budget

Short Description	To meet the Council's requirement of reducing the gap between Council spend and Budget allocation over the next 3-5 years
Risk Owner	Owen James
Overseeing Officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chief Executive</li> <li>Head of Finance</li> </ul>
Lead Cabinet Member(s)	Leader of the Council & Cabinet Member for Economic Growth & Investment
Linked Theme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theme : Aspirational People</li> <li>Theme : Modernised Council</li> <li>Theme : Thriving City</li> <li>Theme: Resilient Communities (Community)</li> <li>Theme: Resilient Communities (Social Care)</li> </ul>
Linked Corporate Objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WBO 1. Skills, Education &amp; Employment</li> <li>WBO 2. Economic Growth &amp; Regeneration</li> <li>WBO 3. Healthy, Independent &amp; Resilient</li> <li>WBO 4. Cohesive &amp; Sustainable Communities</li> </ul>

## 16

Balancing the Council's Medium Term Budget

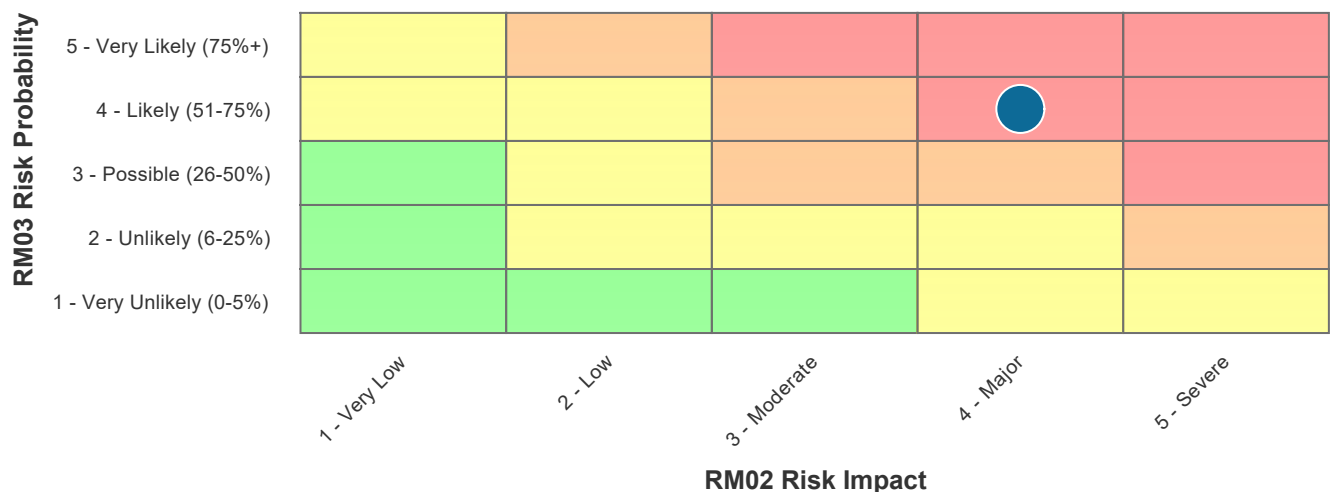
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## 16

## 10

Inherent Risk Score

Target Risk Score





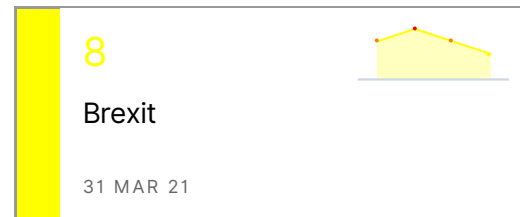
## Direction of Risk

	DoR	Comment
Balancing the Council's Medium Term Budget	➡	Risk will remain unless 4 year budget setting adopted.

Action Name	Action Description	% Complete	Mar 2021
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agree the Service Areas finance Response & Recovery to Covid-19 Impact	Meet with Heads of Service to agree the impact on the individual service areas on the impact of their response and recovery of the Covid-19 impact, alongside the "business as usual" forecasts to be including within monitoring.	100%	✓
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Balancing the 2021-22 budget gap	The Council are required to set a balanced budget in each year. Currently there is a budget gap for 2021-22 that needs to be balanced.	100%	✓
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SLT and CMT to identify savings to reduce the budget gap over the medium term	Senior Leadership Team and Corporate Management Team to identify savings to reduce the budget gap circa £30million over the medium term.	100%	★

# Brexit

Short Description	The UK Government (UKG) and EU have now entered into the transition phase to negotiate a trade agreement by 31st December 2020. Should the UKG fail to secure a deal, the UK will fall back onto World Trade Organisation (WTO) arrangements which could impact on the cost and supply of goods / services and could impact on the economy and business arrangements. Also concerns around EU citizens living in the UK.
Risk Owner	Rhys Cornwall
Overseeing Officer	Chief Executive
Lead Cabinet Member(s)	Leader of the Council & Cabinet Member for Economic Growth & Investment
Linked Theme	
Linked Corporate Objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ SRA 2. Supporting the Environment &amp; the Economy</li> <li>■ WBO 1. Skills, Education &amp; Employment</li> <li>■ WBO 2. Economic Growth &amp; Regeneration</li> <li>■ WBO 3. Healthy, Independent &amp; Resilient</li> <li>■ WBO 4. Cohesive &amp; Sustainable Communities</li> </ul>

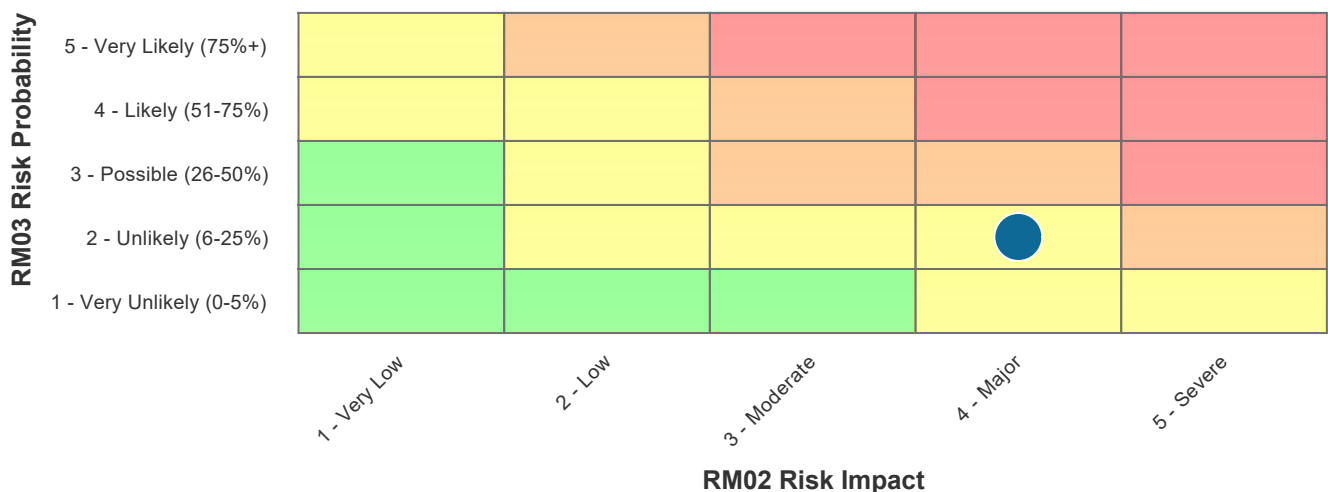


16


Inherent Risk Score







10

Target Risk Score



## Direction of Risk

	DoR	Comment
Brexit		Brexit issues and mitigating actions reported monthly to Cabinet currently.

Action Name	Action Description	% Complete	Mar 2021
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Civil Contingencies - Arrangements to escalate and report on Brexit	Civil Contingencies - To provide regular updates to the Council and Brexit Task & Finish Group on Regional and National wide Brexit preparations. Regular updates from the Gwent Local Resilience Forum which includes local authorities, Police, Fire, Health as well as Welsh Government, Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA) and other strategic group updates will be included as part of this process.	100%	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contribute towards Welsh Government's Nation of Sanctuary Plan.	To develop an Integration Strategy for Newport, focusing on our approach to asylum seekers, refugees and migrants and contributing to Welsh Government's Nation of Sanctuary Plan.	50%	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ensure Resources are Utilised for Increase in Import & Export Regulatory Duties Due to Brexit	Ensure that available resources are utilised to prepare the Service for increased export and import regulatory duties as a result of Brexit.	100%	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Finance - Forecasting and monitoring of finance impact on service areas 2020/21.	To monitor the Council's finances (revenue and capital) in relation to any impacts on service areas from the Brexit Trade arrangements in 2020/21.	100%	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Finance - Monitoring of impact on Finance and Supplies & Services	Finance - The Council will closely monitor its financial position as part of its annual budget setting process and Medium Term Financial Planning. For Council activities and services which are European Union (EU) funded there is ongoing discussions with the Welsh Government to put in arrangements after 2021. The Council will be liaising with its strategic partners (Newport Norse / Shared Resource Service (SRS) / Newport Live) to assess the impact on its supplies and services. Also across the Council, service areas are being asked to identify their high risk / key contracts and to obtain the necessary assurances of any Brexit impact which could affect the availability and cost of supplies or services. "	100%	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support the Council's Brexit Task and Finish Group	Support the Council's Brexit Task and Finish Group in making preparations for post European Union arrangements for the Council and Newport.	100%	

# City Centre Security & Safety

Short Description	Significant incidents of deliberate acts that pose hazards to people in surrounding areas; structural damage; business continuity; damage/disruption to infrastructure and utilities; and reputational and economic impact.
Risk Owner	Rhys Cornwall
Overseeing Officer	Strategic Director - Place
Lead Cabinet Member(s)	Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for City Services & Member Development
Linked Theme	Theme : Thriving City
Linked Corporate Objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WBO 2. Economic Growth &amp; Regeneration</li> <li>SRA 2. Supporting the Environment &amp; the Economy</li> </ul>

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City Centre Security & Safety

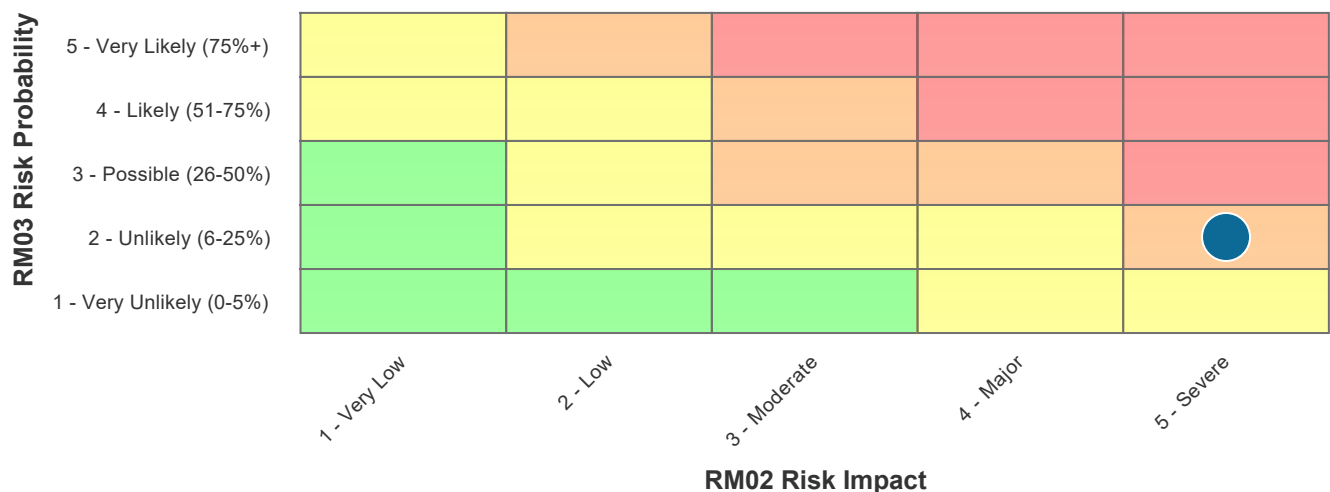
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Inherent Risk Score

Target Risk Score



## Direction of Risk

	DoR	Comment
City Centre Security & Safety	➡	The risk score remains the same as lockdown measures continue to be in place.

Action Name	Action Description	% Complete	Mar 2021
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City Centre Training to Businesses	Training for those businesses operating within the city centre that may be affected by significant incidents – Gwent Police will lead on the training with the use of NCC channels to promote and raise initial awareness of the scheme.	20%	●
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Co-ordinated evac arrangements	Co-ordinated evacuation arrangements for the city centre – NCC will be working with all partner organisations such as the emergency services and private business within the city centre to construct a co-ordinated evacuation system.	0%	●
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Identify Funding Source for Hostile Vehicle Mitigation	Identify funding source to deliver the required Hostile Vehicle Mitigation.	0%	●
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recommence Vehicle Mitigation Project	Recommence project following temporary cessation due to funding uncertainties and COVID 19 impact.	10%	●
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Secure Vehicle / Pedestrian Separation	Secure vehicle access and pedestrian separation. – City Services are currently working on a plan to identify what mitigation measures can be put in place around the city centre to protect densely populated areas.	100%	★



# Climate Change

Short Description	Scientific evidence indicates that the global climate is warming and is changing the environment that we live in Wales and in Newport. The cause of this change is through emissions produced by industry, vehicles, households and businesses. Newport has 11 Air Quality Management Areas which monitor air quality and since they were in place we have been in breach.
Risk Owner	Ross Cudlipp
Overseeing Officer	Chief Executive
Lead Cabinet Member(s)	Cabinet Member for Sustainable Development
Linked Theme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theme : Modernised Council</li> <li>Theme: Resilient Communities (Community)</li> <li>Theme : Thriving City</li> </ul>
Linked Corporate Objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WBO 2. Economic Growth &amp; Regeneration</li> <li>WBO 3. Healthy, Independent &amp; Resilient</li> </ul>

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Climate Change

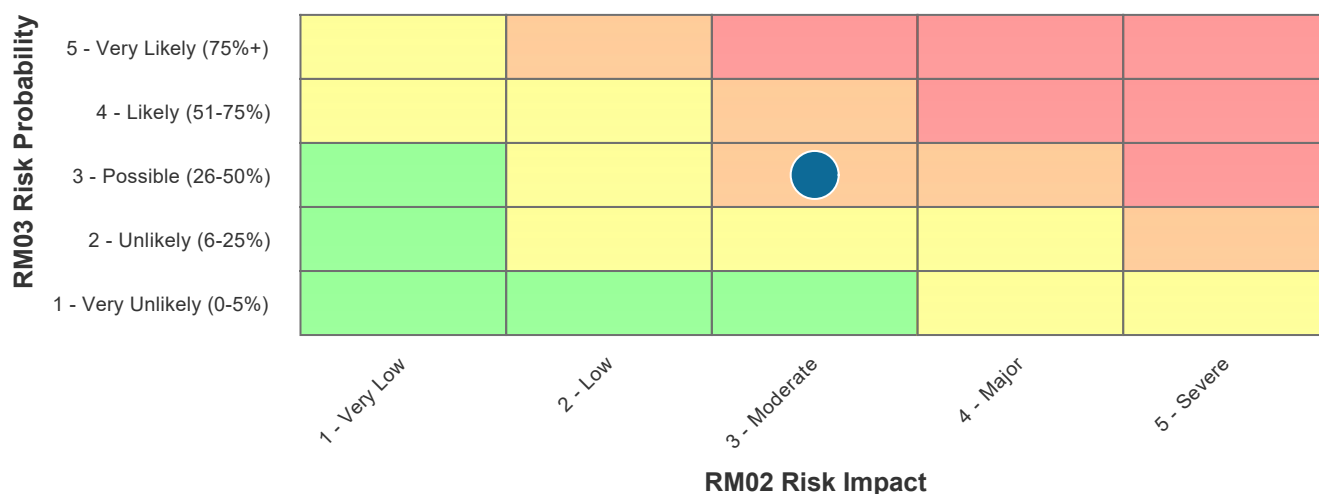
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Inherent Risk Score

Target Risk Score



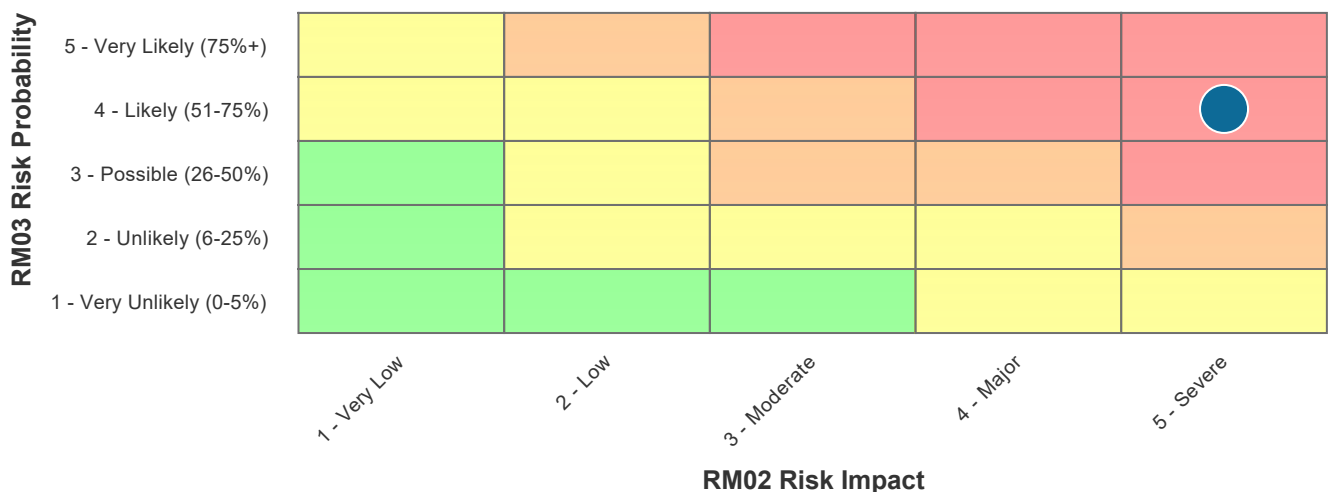
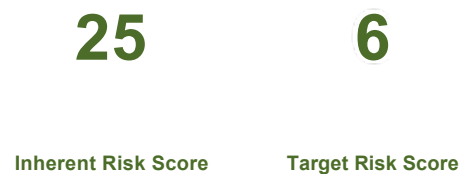
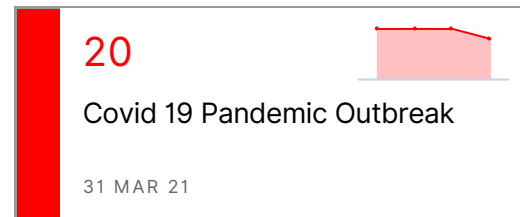
## Direction of Risk

	DoR	Comment
Climate Change	➡	Risk level has not changed since the last quarter. Changes in legislation and physical effects on the city will be monitored.


Action Name	Action Description	% Complete	Mar 2021
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Begin to use zero emission vehicles and active travel to deliver services	Begin to use zero emission vehicles and active travel to deliver services	15%	●
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Collaborate with Partners to Develop Carbon Reduction Opportunities	Collaborate with external partners to develop internal and external carbon reduction opportunities	14%	★
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Develop & Promote the Installation of Community Energy	Continue to develop and promote the installation of community energy in the city	100%	✔
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Develop a Climate Strategy	Develop a Climate Strategy for Newport City Council.	25%	★
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Develop a Long Term Fleet Strategy	Development of a long term Fleet Strategy that will support the Council's Carbon Management Plan to be net carbon neutral.	70%	★
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Develop Localised Air Quality Management Plans	Local Air Quality Management - develop localised plans under the Council's Sustainable Travel Strategy to meet statutory requirements for Action Plans. Actions to be generated by the Sustainable Travel Group.	20%	●
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Improve the Energy Efficiency of the Estate	Develop a programme to improve the energy efficiency of the estate.	100%	✔
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Investigate Opportunities to Improve Domestic Energy Efficiency and Relieve Fuel Poverty	Investigate opportunities to improve domestic energy efficiency and relieve fuel poverty in Newport.	100%	✔
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Review Carbon Management Plan	Undertake the first Carbon Management Plan review.	100%	✔
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Review Public Transport Access for Proposed Housing Developments	Review proposed housing developments for access to public transport.	100%	✔
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Undertake & Deliver Active Travel Projects	Undertake and deliver Active Travel projects across Newport agreed as part of the local transport fund allocation.	100%	✔
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Undertake actions to discharge duties under Active Travel Act	Undertake actions to discharge duties placed on local authorities under the Active Travel Act including publishing and promoting the integrated network map.	100%	✔





# Covid 19 Pandemic Outbreak

Short Description	The Corona Virus (COVID 19) pandemic has put at risk the operational ability of the Council to deliver its services, support vulnerable people across Newport and the economic impact to the local and wider economy. Potential mitigations carried out in line with the Chief Medical Officer's advice and Welsh/UK Government guidance.
Risk Owner	Rhys Cornwall
Overseeing Officer	Chief Executive
Lead Cabinet Member(s)	Leader of the Council & Cabinet Member for Economic Growth & Investment
Linked Theme	
Linked Corporate Objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WBO 1. Skills, Education &amp; Employment</li> <li>WBO 2. Economic Growth &amp; Regeneration</li> <li>WBO 3. Healthy, Independent &amp; Resilient</li> <li>WBO 4. Cohesive &amp; Sustainable Communities</li> <li>SRA 1. Supporting Education and Employment</li> <li>SRA 2. Supporting the Environment &amp; the Economy</li> <li>SRA 3. Supporting Health &amp; Well-being of Citizens</li> <li>SRA 4. Supporting Citizens post Covid-19</li> </ul>



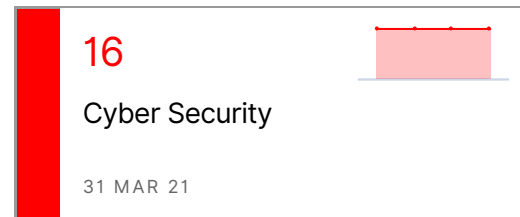
## Direction of Risk

	DoR	Comment
Covid 19 Pandemic Outbreak		The risk score has decreased to 20 at the end of quarter 4 due to the successful roll out of the vaccination programme and easing of lock down restrictions. Front line Council services continue to operate normally. However, there remains small clusters across the community which are being managed through the Test Trace and Protect teams. The Council's Covid Recovery Group (Gold) continues to regularly meet and monitor the situation. Monthly Cabinet reports are continue to be presented providing an overview of the Council's Covid response.

Action Name	Action Description	% Complete	Mar 2021
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Covid 19 Business Continuity Arrangements (Platinum and Gold)	Implementation and maintaining Business continuity (Platinum / Gold) arrangements for the Council.	100%	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Develop a Community Impact Assessment	Develop a community impact assessment to understand the impact that Covid 19 pandemic and resultant lockdown has had on Newport's Communities	100%	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Health & Safety Arrangements for front line staff	Health & Safety / protection activities are increased to prevent the spread of the virus across Council assets and buildings, staff and citizens.	100%	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Implementation of Covid 19 Human Resources procedures	Implementation of Human Resource procedures to support staff, agency / contractors and volunteers.	100%	

# Cyber Security

Short Description	Management and security of the Council's ICT systems to protect personal and sensitive data from theft and loss whilst also maintaining business continuity and integrity of our systems.
Risk Owner	Rhys Cornwall
Overseeing Officer	Chief Executive
Lead Cabinet Member(s)	Cabinet Member for Community and Resources
Linked Theme	Theme : Modernised Council
Linked Corporate Objective	

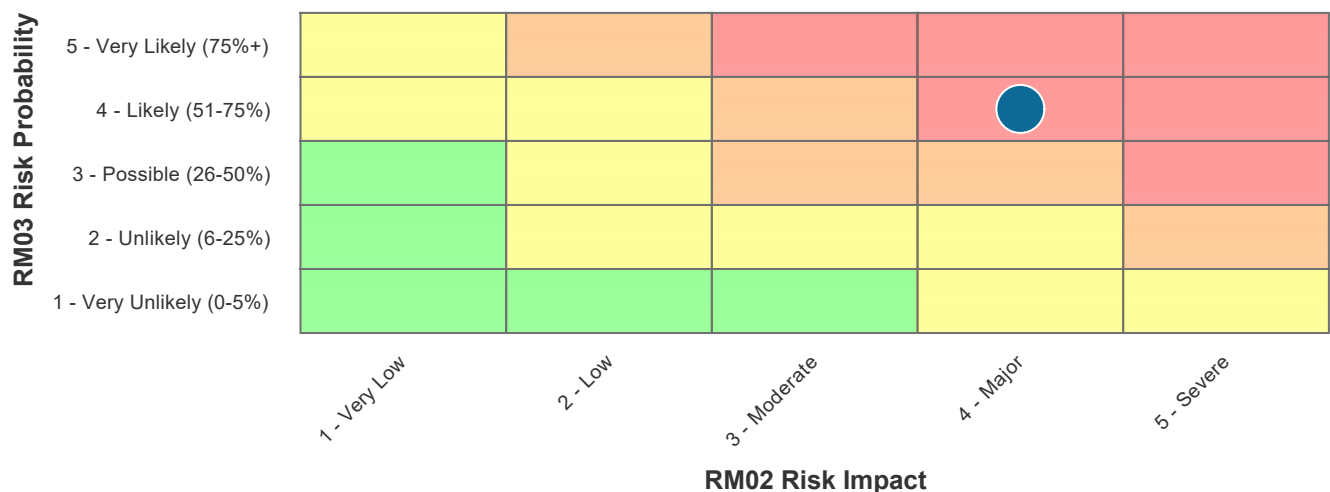


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**10**

Inherent Risk Score

Target Risk Score





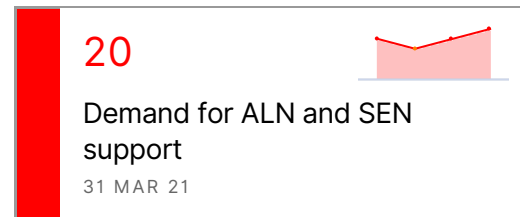
## Direction of Risk

	DoR	Comment
Cyber Security	➡	This remains a significant risk given the environment especially given the increased risk of home working. This has been reduced by the implementation of a ransomware containment solution.

Action Name	Action Description	% Complete	Mar 2021
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cyber Security awareness and communications	Deliver regular cyber security updates and communications to staff through the staff Intranet and fortnightly / monthly newsletters.	100%	★
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Implementation of a Policy Management System	To explore and purchase a Policy Management System that will ensure staff across the business undertake necessary training before being able to access IT systems.	40%	★
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Implementation of Ransomware software	To explore and purchase Ransomware software to mitigate against potential ransomware attacks by preventing mass encryption of IT systems.	100%	★
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SRS / NCC Business Continuity & Disaster Recovery	Disaster Recovery and business continuity processes between the Council and SRS will be reviewed and updated. These processes will be subject to regular testing with findings and recommendations fed back to the Council's Information Governance Group to ensure the necessary action(s) are completed.	50%	★

# Demand for ALN and SEN support

Short Description	Funding to cover Additional Learning Needs (ALN) and Special Education Needs (SEN) provision across the city is insufficient and does not meet the demand of increasing need.
Risk Owner	Katy Rees
Overseeing Officer	Chief Education Officer
Lead Cabinet Member(s)	Cabinet Member for Education and Skills
Linked Theme	Theme : Aspirational People
Linked Corporate Objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WBO 1. Skills, Education &amp; Employment</li> <li>WBO 3. Healthy, Independent &amp; Resilient</li> <li>SRA 1. Supporting Education and Employment</li> </ul>

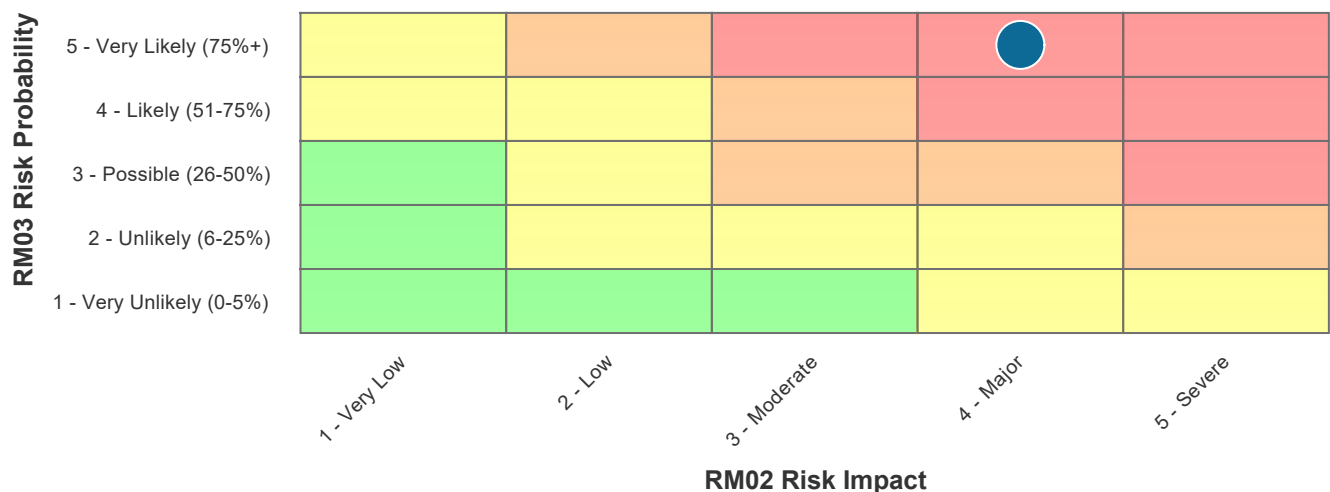


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Inherent Risk Score

Target Risk Score



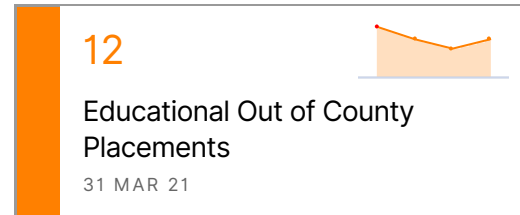
## Direction of Risk

	DoR	Comment
Demand for ALN and SEN support		Pupils have returned to School with varying ALN needs due to lack of experiential learning, social experiences and also pupils with complex ALN who were highlighted through the Statutory Assessment processes last year. There is a pressure on Schools to develop inclusive classrooms to support a range of ALN needs. Currently the Inclusion Enrichment Team does not have the capacity to offer preventative, capacity building support to Schools. The expectation of the ALN Code 2021 is that all Schools will provide Additional Learning provision for pupils from September 2021. There is a need to review the ALN funding formula for Schools to ensure they are adequately resourced to provide the ALN support expected and to develop a comprehensive LA preventative team to ensure Schools have specialist advice and support needed and also Schools provisions are effectively monitored.

Action Name	Action Description	% Complete	Mar 2021
 Create a sustainable model of delivery for children with ALN provided with timely intervention	In liaison with finance, partners and schools create a sustainable model of delivery to ensure children with ALN are provided with timely intervention within a prescribed budget without year on year fluctuation.	30%	
 Develop and implement a joint ALN and Admissions process	To develop and implement a joint ALN and Admissions process regarding allocation of school placements based on parental preference to safeguard and minimise appeals processes.	75%	
 Estyn Rec 5 - Ensure Appropriate Welsh Medium Provision is in Place for ALN Pupils	(Estyn Rec 5) Ensure that Welsh Medium (WM) provision is established to support pupils with Additional Learning Needs	75%	
 Implementation of the Additional Learning Needs (ALN) and Educational Tribunal Act 2018.	To further the implementation of the Additional Learning Needs (ALN) and Educational Tribunal Act 2018.	50%	
 Review availability of provision for all pupils with Additional Learning Needs.	Review with relevant regional partners what provision is available and required to ensure all pupils with ALN have the opportunities to return to study up to age 25.	50%	
 Review the staffing resources to implement the demands of ALN & Educational Tribunal Act.	To review the staffing resources needed to implement the demands of the Additional Learning Needs (ALN) and Educational Tribunal Act 2018.	50%	
 Work with partners to embed Learn Well Plan	(Estyn Rec 2) Work with partners to embed the priorities of the Learn Well Plan which focuses on improving the attainment of vulnerable groups.	50%	

# Educational Out of County Placements

Short Description	Limited access to Newport City Council (NCC) provision for pupils who require complex and specialist placements which results on a reliance on Out of County (OOC) placements both day and residential.
Risk Owner	Katy Rees
Overseeing Officer	Chief Education Officer
Lead Cabinet Member(s)	Cabinet Member for Education and Skills
Linked Theme	Theme : Aspirational People
Linked Corporate Objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WBO 1. Skills, Education &amp; Employment</li> <li>SRA 1. Supporting Education and Employment</li> </ul>

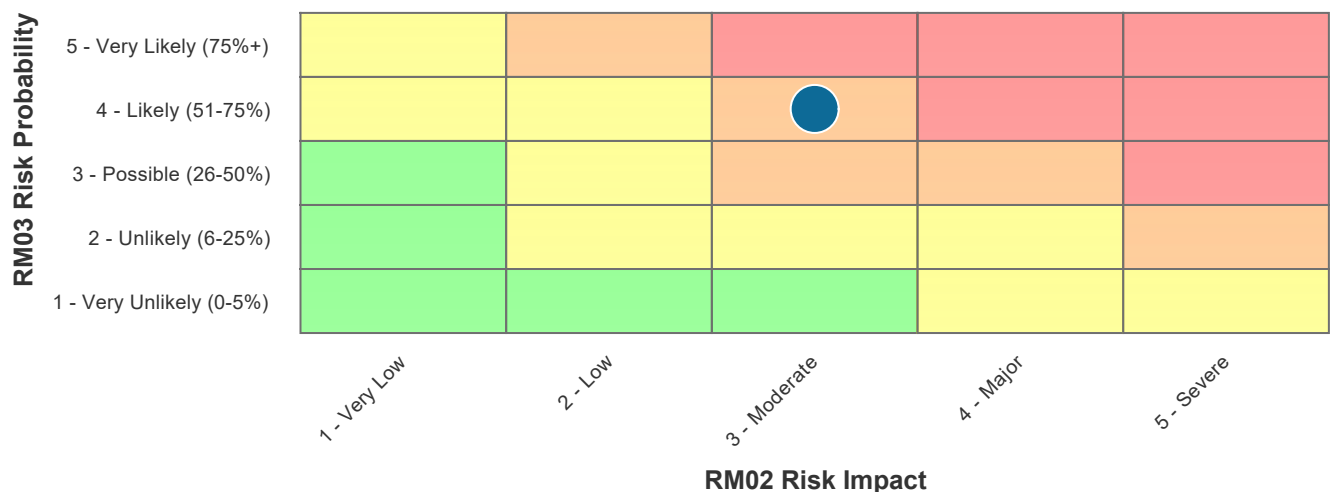


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Inherent Risk Score

Target Risk Score



## Direction of Risk

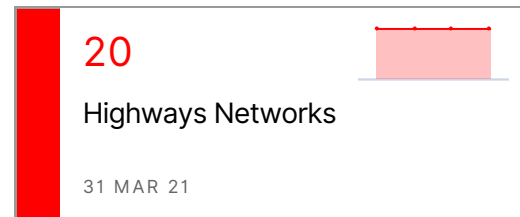
	DoR	Comment
Educational Out of County Placements		Through the commissioning of local providers such as Newport Live, Catch 22 and Sporting Chance we have been able to access local specialist provisions which has reduced the need for specialist out of County provisions. However our special Schools Maes Ebbw and Ysgol Bryn Derw are full which increases the risk of OOC placements for complex needs pupils in the future. Extension options are being considered to ensure there are more spaces available for pupils with complex needs. Mastodon C has also been commissioned to create data projections for future specialist provision needs.

Action Name	Action Description	% Complete	Mar 2021
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Create a sustainable model of delivery for children with ALN provided with timely intervention	In liaison with finance, partners and schools create a sustainable model of delivery to ensure children with ALN are provided with timely intervention within a prescribed budget without year on year fluctuation.	30%	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Redevelop and extend provision within the city to accommodate a greater range of needs	To continue to redevelop and extend provision within the city to accommodate a greater range of needs, ensuring that pupils are placed where their learning is best supported which will reduce the need for Out of County placements.	50%	



# Highways Networks

Short Description	Failure to recognise current levels of under investment in the whole life of the city's highway network assets in the medium to long term will continue to compound existing maintenance backlog figures.
Risk Owner	Paul Jones
Overseeing Officer	Chief Executive
Lead Cabinet Member(s)	Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for City Services & Member Development
Linked Theme	Theme : Thriving City
Linked Corporate Objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WBO 2. Economic Growth &amp; Regeneration</li> <li>WBO 3. Healthy, Independent &amp; Resilient</li> <li>SRA 2. Supporting the Environment &amp; the Economy</li> <li>SRA 3. Supporting Health &amp; Well-being of Citizens</li> </ul>

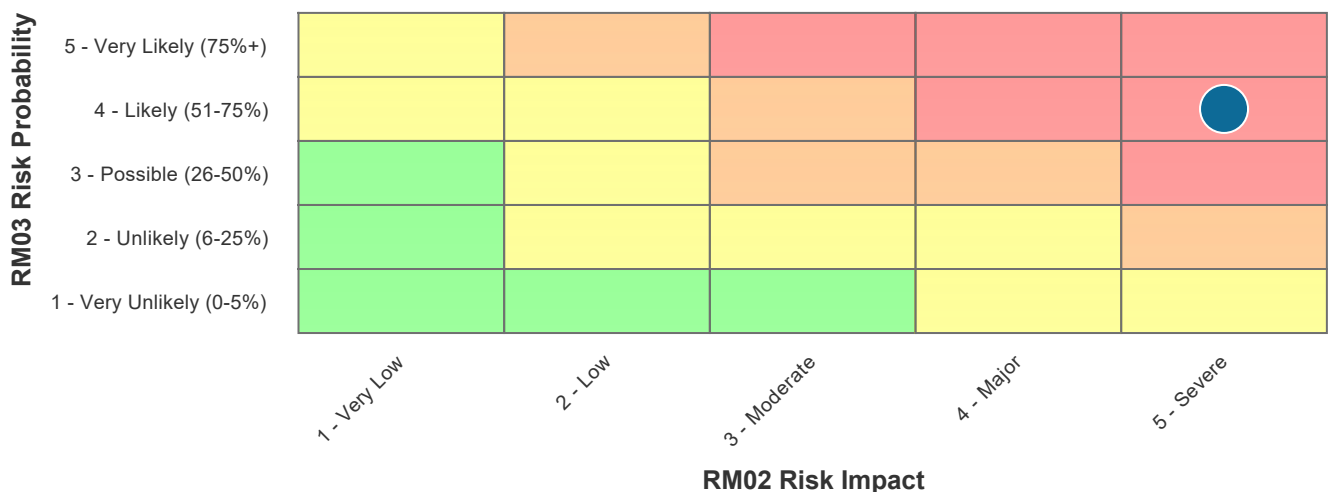


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Inherent Risk Score

Target Risk Score



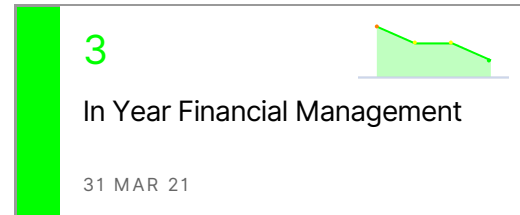
## Direction of Risk

	DoR	Comment
Highways Networks	➡	No change for the end of Quarter 3. The long term maintenance of the Highways infrastructure remains a high risk due to the backlog of work and the necessary funding (over £80 million) required.

Action Name	Action Description	% Complete	Mar 2021
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Develop and implement the Council's Highways Asset Management Strategy / Plan	The Council is developing the Highways Asset Management Strategy and Highways Asset Management Plan. This plan will be implemented in 2019/20 and will enable the Council to actively manage its highways infrastructure. Implementation of the plan will enable the Council to undertake: risk based assessment and management of its infrastructure; calculating future funding requirements to maintain agreed levels of service; risk based evidence to identify and deliver improvements to assets identified below required standards.	100%	✓

# In Year Financial Management

Short Description	This relates to the in year management of budgets and risk profiling of service areas / activities that are forecasting end of year overspends.
Risk Owner	Owen James
Overseeing Officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chief Executive</li> <li>Head of Finance</li> </ul>
Lead Cabinet Member(s)	Leader of the Council & Cabinet Member for Economic Growth & Investment
Linked Theme	
Linked Corporate Objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WBO 1. Skills, Education &amp; Employment</li> <li>WBO 2. Economic Growth &amp; Regeneration</li> <li>WBO 3. Healthy, Independent &amp; Resilient</li> <li>WBO 4. Cohesive &amp; Sustainable Communities</li> </ul>



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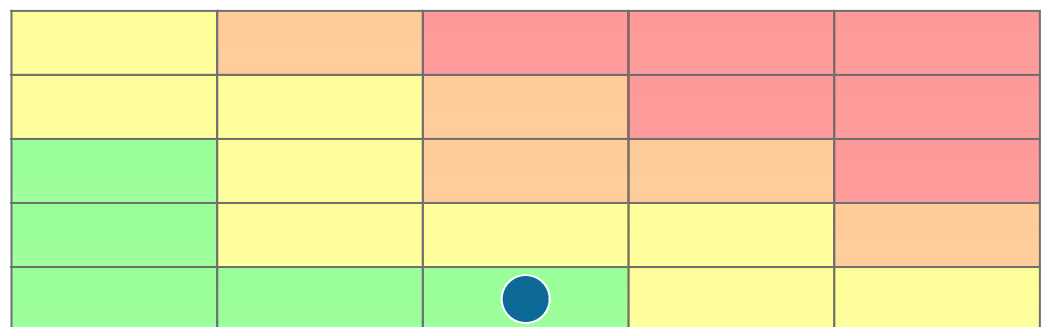
6

Inherent Risk Score

Target Risk Score

RM03 Risk Probability

5 - Very Likely (75%+)  
4 - Likely (51-75%)  
3 - Possible (26-50%)  
2 - Unlikely (6-25%)  
1 - Very Unlikely (0-5%)



1 - Very Low

2 - Low

3 - Moderate

4 - Major

5 - Severe

RM02 Risk Impact

## Direction of Risk

	DoR	Comment
In Year Financial Management	↓ ✓	Anticipated out turn suggest significant surplus position at the end of the financial year.

Action Name	Action Description	% Complete	Mar 2021
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agree the Service Areas finance Response & Recovery to Covid-19 Impact	Meet with Heads of Service to agree the impact on the individual service areas on the impact of their response and recovery of the Covid-19 impact, alongside the "business as usual" forecasts to be including within monitoring.	100%	✓
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All service areas to maintain robust financial management	All service areas to maintain robust financial management and understand the risks associated delivery of savings and achievability of the savings.	100%	✓
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cabinet Member and Senior Officers to manage / mitigate any projects not achieving savings	There are currently £1.2m of undelivered savings for the 2020/21 and prior financial years. These are largely delayed due to covid-19 pandemic, however until they are delivered they will have an impact on the financial outturn and if ongoing a concern for the future years. Therefore focus needs to remain on delivering the savings.	84%	●
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cabinet Member and Senior Officers to reduce overspending in Social Care	There continue to be overspends reported in Social Care in 2020/21, Cabinet Members and Senior Officers to address these.	50%	●
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carry Out Capital Budget Workshop with Senior Officers	Carry out a capital workshop with Senior Officers to re-profile capital budgets in light of previous year's slippage, and understand the demands on the capital programme and the long-term impact of these on the Capital Programme.	100%	✓

# Newport Council's Property Estate

Short Description	NCC has a significant property estate covering over 170 buildings (circa) such as the Civic Centre, Telford Depot, schools etc. The Council has to ensure the estate is maintained to required standards to enable access, safety, security and in the long term sustainable for staff and residents to use.
Risk Owner	Daniel Cooke
Overseeing Officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chief Executive</li> <li>Head of People &amp; Business Change</li> <li>Head of Regeneration, Investment and Housing</li> </ul>
Lead Cabinet Member(s)	Cabinet Member for Assets
Linked Theme	Theme : Modernised Council
Linked Corporate Objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SRA 2. Supporting the Environment &amp; the Economy</li> <li>SRA 3. Supporting Health &amp; Well-being of Citizens</li> <li>WBO 2. Economic Growth &amp; Regeneration</li> <li>WBO 3. Healthy, Independent &amp; Resilient</li> </ul>

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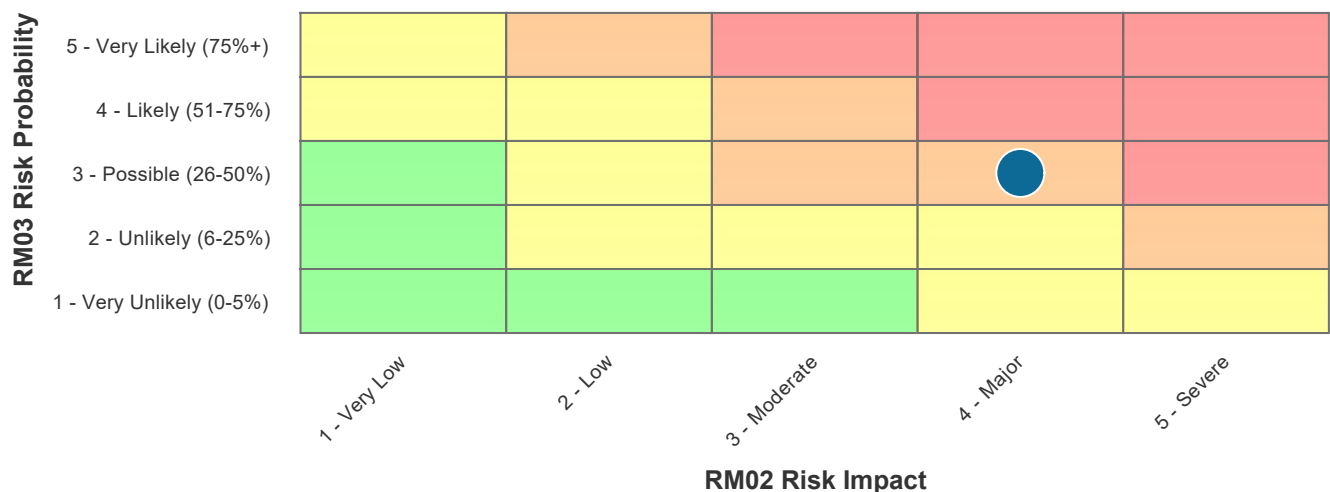
Newport Council's Property Estate  
31 MAR 21

16

9

Inherent Risk Score

Target Risk Score





## Direction of Risk

	DoR	Comment
Newport Council's Property Estate	➡	Increased probability of risk due to having undertaken the majority of condition surveys throughout NCCs operational estate.

Action Name	Action Description	% Complete	Mar 2021
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adhere to the Corporate Landlord Policy	Adherence to the Corporate Landlord Policy	100%	★
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Create and Develop the Civic Centre Operational Groups	Create and develop the Civic Centre Operational Groups	100%	★
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Delivery of the Annual Capital Maintenance Programme	The delivery of the Council's annual Capital maintenance programme to maintain and improve the Council's property estate.	100%	★
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Develop a balanced strategy for the future of the Civic Centre	In response to financial, environmental, legal sustainability and social pressures we need to develop a balanced strategy for the future preservation and transformation of the Civic Centre.	50%	★
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Develop The Civic Centre Maintenance Backlog Prioritisation Schedule	Develop and update a Civic Centre maintenance backlog prioritisation schedule.	100%	★
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ensure NCC Property & Assets Support the Corporate Plan	Ensure that the property and assets held by NCC sustain and support the corporate plan	100%	★
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ensure there are Accountable & Responsible Premise Managers in all NCC premises	Accountable and responsible Premise Managers in all NCC premises	75%	★

# Pressure on Adult & Community Services

Short Description	There is increased pressure on Adult Services to deliver services to adults with complex and long lasting needs. With an increase in demand / volume of referrals and care packages the Council has seen an increase in costs whilst in the context of tightening budgets. There are also additional statutory requirements to safeguard adults in our care and prevent risk of harm, injury or a loss of life.
Risk Owner	Jenny Jenkins
Overseeing Officer	Head of Adult and Community Services
Lead Cabinet Member(s)	Cabinet Member for Social Services
Linked Theme	Theme: Resilient Communities (Social Care)
Linked Corporate Objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WBO 3. Healthy, Independent &amp; Resilient</li> <li>SRA 3. Supporting Health &amp; Well-being of Citizens</li> </ul>

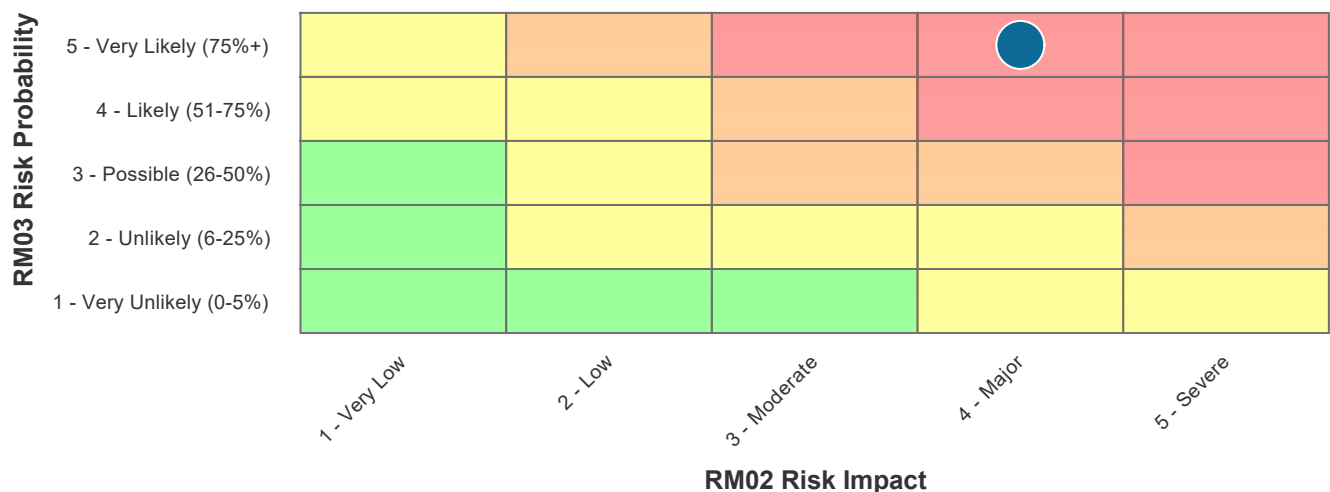
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Pressure on Adult & Community Services

31 MAR 21

20
10

Inherent Risk Score
 Target Risk Score



## Direction of Risk

	DoR	Comment
Pressure on Adult & Community Services	➡	The Pandemic has created new risks for providers and the delivery of services. The full impact is not yet known but will continue to be monitored.

Action Name	Action Description	% Complete	Mar 2021
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Continue to Develop First Contact as a Multi-Agency & Disciplinary Team	To continue to develop First Contact as a multi-agency, multi-disciplinary team effectively managing demand. This includes the integration of the Frailty service into the First Contact Team.	80%	★
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further implementation of the revised Telecare Service	Implementation of the revised Telecare Service - To further develop the availability of assistive technology as a means of preventing or supporting a care and support plan.	100%	✔
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Improve Support Available for Young People with Learning Disabilities	To improve the support available for young people with learning disabilities to transition from Children Services into Adults Services.	70%	★
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Integrate Regional Home First Initiative into Hospital Pathway	To develop and effectively integrate the Regional Home First initiative into the hospital pathway and to further align patient flow processes within hospital discharge.	50%	★
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Provide Integrated Health & Social Support to Newport Citizens	To provide integrated health and social care support to Newport citizens.	25%	?

# Pressure on Housing & Homelessness Services

Short Description	Increased pressures being faced by the Council's housing service during the Covid-19 pandemic to support people that are presenting at risk of becoming homeless, those persons sleeping rough and those experiencing difficulties in their accommodation.
Risk Owner	Natalie Thompson
Overseeing Officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chief Executive</li> <li>Head of Regeneration, Investment and Housing</li> </ul>
Lead Cabinet Member(s)	Leader of the Council & Cabinet Member for Economic Growth & Investment
Linked Theme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theme: Resilient Communities (Community)</li> <li>Theme : Thriving City</li> </ul>
Linked Corporate Objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WBO 4. Cohesive &amp; Sustainable Communities</li> <li>SRA 2. Supporting the Environment &amp; the Economy</li> <li>SRA 4. Supporting Citizens post Covid-19</li> <li>WBO 2. Economic Growth &amp; Regeneration</li> <li>WBO 3. Healthy, Independent &amp; Resilient</li> </ul>

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Pressure on Housing & Homelessness Services

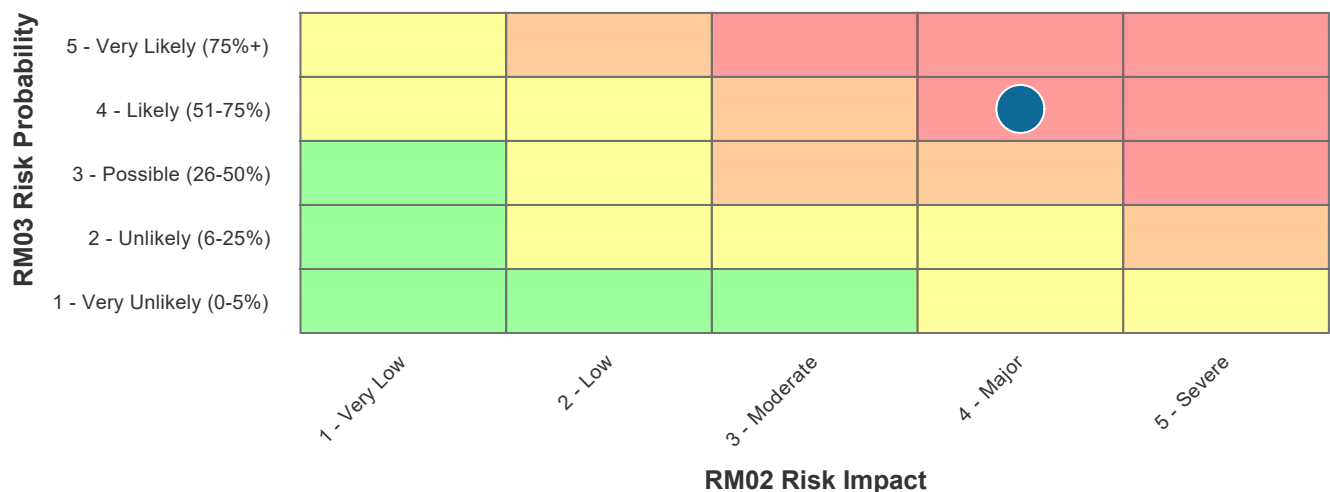
31 MAR 21

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Inherent Risk Score

Target Risk Score



## Direction of Risk

	DoR	Comment
Pressure on Housing & Homelessness Services	➡	No change since last reporting period

Action Name	Action Description	% Complete	Mar 2021
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deliver the 3-year Planned Development Programme with RSL's - 2020-21	Deliver the 3-year Planned Development Programme with RSL's	100%	✔
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Develop Strategy Framework for Private Sector Housing	Develop a strategy framework for private sector housing, bringing together the Adaptations Policy, Private Sector Leasing scheme, Housing Loans Policy	50%	★
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further Development of Strategic Housing Forum	Further development of the Strategic Housing Forum	100%	✔
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Manage common housing register and Newport Housing Options Service	Manage and maintain the Common Housing Register and Newport Housing Options service	100%	✔
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Produce a Housing Prospectus for Newport	Produce a housing prospectus for Newport in line with Welsh Government guidance.	0%	●
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Research Private Rented Sector Accommodation in Newport	Carry out research into the extent and nature of private rented sector accommodation in Newport.	100%	✔
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Undertake a review of the Housing Allocation Policy	Undertake a review of the Housing Allocation Policy.	25%	★



# Pressure on the Delivery of Children Services

Short Description	Increased pressure on Children Services to manage increase in volume of referrals / cases of children with complex needs. This is in the context of budgets not being able to meet increase in costs to provide the necessary care and front-line staff being able to manage high volume and complex caseloads.
Risk Owner	Sally Jenkins
Overseeing Officer	Chief Executive
Lead Cabinet Member(s)	Cabinet Member for Social Services
Linked Theme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theme : Aspirational People</li> <li>Theme: Resilient Communities (Social Care)</li> </ul>
Linked Corporate Objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WBO 3. Healthy, Independent &amp; Resilient</li> <li>SRA 3. Supporting Health &amp; Well-being of Citizens</li> </ul>

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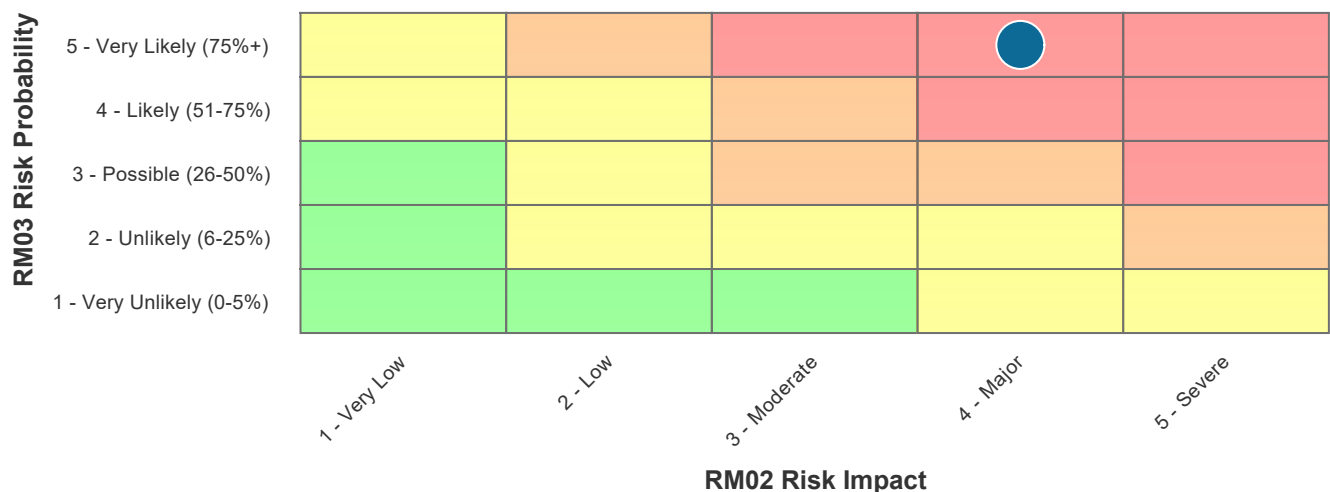
Pressure on the Delivery of Children Services  
31 MAR 21

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6

Inherent Risk Score

Target Risk Score



## Direction of Risk

	DoR	Comment
Pressure on the Delivery of Children Services	➡	No change at this time.

Action Name	Action Description	% Complete	Mar 2021
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Complete & Implement Welsh Government Recommendations for LAC Reduction	Completion and implementation of Welsh Government action plan to work towards reducing the numbers of looked after children	100%	★
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Continue Development of Residential Provision	Continue with the development of the residential provision (including Windmill Farm) across Newport in order to increase the number of children who can be cared for safely in Newport	60%	★
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Continue the Work Started with GDAS to Base Multi-agency Staff in Front line Teams	Continue the Work Started with GDAS to Base Multi-agency Staff in Front line Teams	50%	●
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Continuing to Increase Housing Options for Care Leavers	Increased housing options for care leavers. Currently Newport has a limited range of choices for housing for care leavers especially with a range of suitable support. This action will seek to address this gap. Work has already commenced and will continue.	40%	●
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Develop a Rapid Response Provision at the Front Door of Children's Services	Develop a rapid response provision at the front door of Children's Services utilising the skill set in existing provision.	100%	✔
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Number of Foster Carers Recruited to NCC Through Increased Marketing	To increase the number of foster carers recruited to NCC through increased marketing and scoping raising fostering fees and implementing council tax exemptions.	100%	✔
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Review our Existing Arrangements for Family Time to Improve the Offer for Children & Families	In light of the learning during lockdown we will review our existing arrangements for family time to improve the offer for children and families: i) To develop a comprehensive framework of all aspects of family time; ii) Continue to deliver family time virtually as a positive for families.	75%	●

# Safeguarding Risk

Short Description	To ensure the Council safeguards adults, children and carers as part of its statutory duty.
Risk Owner	Mary Ryan
Overseeing Officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chief Education Officer</li> <li>Chief Executive</li> <li>Head of Adult and Community Services</li> <li>Head of Children and Family Services</li> <li>Head of Regeneration, Investment and Housing</li> </ul>
Lead Cabinet Member(s)	Cabinet Member for Social Services
Linked Theme	Theme: Resilient Communities (Social Care)
Linked Corporate Objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WBO 3. Healthy, Independent &amp; Resilient</li> <li>SRA 3. Supporting Health &amp; Well-being of Citizens</li> </ul>

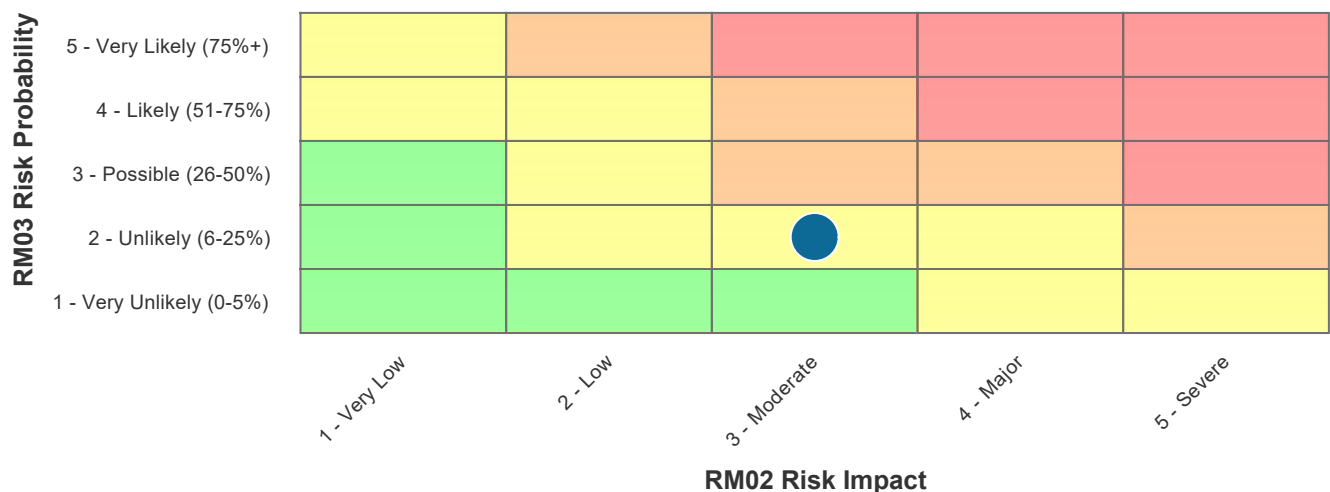
6	Safeguarding Risk
31 MAR 21	

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4

Inherent Risk Score

Target Risk Score



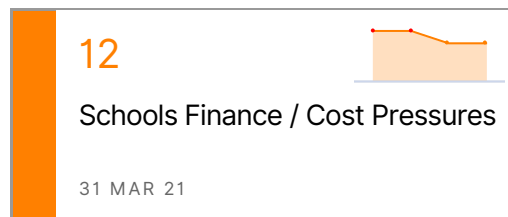
## Direction of Risk

	DoR	Comment
Safeguarding Risk	➡	no change to score as completing self assessment safeguarding audit from all council service areas.

Action Name	Action Description	% Complete	Mar 2021
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All education Services staff to have completed relevant safeguarding training	Central Education Services are up to date with their safeguarding training	98.5%	★
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Build on Contextual Safeguarding Research	Build on work on Contextual harm and exploitation, safeguarding research, and embed new approaches to understanding, and responding to young people's experiences of significance.	75%	●
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Complete & Deliver Actions Agreed in Post Safeguarding Joint Inspection Action Plan	Complete and deliver actions agreed in the post safeguarding joint inspection action plan	75%	●
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contribute towards the All Wales Adult Safeguarding Guidance	Contribute towards the All Wales Adult Safeguarding Guidance	100%	✔
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Delivery of Safeguarding Programmes 2020-21	Deliver safeguarding programmes and measures that protect citizens from victimisation and to measure the impact of regulatory interventions.	50%	●
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Embed the implementation of the new national 'safeguarding toolkit' for schools.	Embed the implementation of the new national 'safeguarding toolkit' for schools.	30%	★
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Empower Citizens Through the Adult Safeguarding Process	To continue to support and empower citizens through the adult safeguarding process.	97%	★
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Implement the Exploitation Strategy within Newport Children's Services	Exploitation will be considered under one overarching banner whether it is criminal or sexual and the response will be based on the needs and desired outcomes for the young person rather than the risks. A multi agency approach is in place and there is progress being made to evaluation this work through the contextual safeguarding and CASCADE schools.	67%	★
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Incorporate a Robust Preventative & Early Intervention Agenda in a Contextual Safeguarding Framework	Develop the breadth of support available from the service, incorporating a robust preventative and early intervention agenda within a contextual safeguarding framework.	100%	✔
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Provide Training & Practitioner Access to Welsh Government Safeguarding App	To provide training and Practitioner access to Welsh Government Safeguarding App through council mobile phones and computers.	100%	✔
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To implement new processes for Liberty Protection Safeguards.	Mental capacity Act requires the authority to implement the deprivation and liberty safeguards for citizens of Newport. We have an established regional and local process to delivery on DoLS. However, the legislation changes in October 2020 requiring the Council to have processes in place for the new LPS Liberty Protection Safeguards. This action is to implement the new process for the Council.	50%	★
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Website Development	Website Development	100%	✔

# Schools Finance / Cost Pressures

Short Description	In year cost pressures of schools are not met resulting in increased deficit budgets
Risk Owner	Sarah Morgan
Overseeing Officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chief Education Officer</li> <li>Chief Executive</li> </ul>
Lead Cabinet Member(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cabinet Member for Education and Skills</li> <li>Leader of the Council &amp; Cabinet Member for Economic Growth &amp; Investment</li> </ul>
Linked Theme	Theme : Aspirational People
Linked Corporate Objective	WBO 1. Skills, Education & Employment

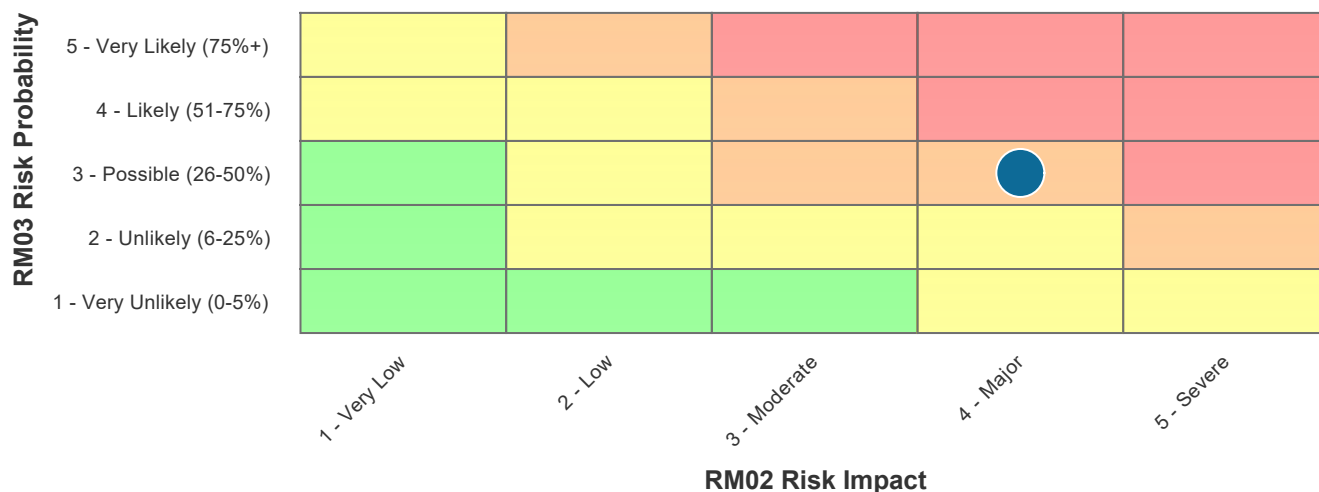


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6

Inherent Risk Score

Target Risk Score



## Direction of Risk

	DoR	Comment
Schools Finance / Cost Pressures	➡	No change in Direction of Risk score.

Action Name	Action Description	% Complete	Mar 2021
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Annual school funding formula review 20/21.	Review School Funding Formula.	50%	★
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Managing School Budget	The local authority will monitor school budgets to ensure that Headteachers and Governing Bodies are: a) Maintaining a balanced budget; b) Addressing in year overspends to reduce the risk of moving in to deficit positions; c) Where deficit budgets occur, deficits are licensed with full recovery plans. d) Where in year deficits are still arising following substantial review, further mitigation may be through the medium term financial plan.	60%	▲
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Monitor In-Year School Budgets to Ensure Budgets are Managed Effectively	Monitor In-year School budgets to ensure budgets are: • Managed effectively and taking necessary actions to prevent overspending. Effectively taking necessary actions to prevent overspending. Schools that have deficit budget recovery plans are implementing the necessary actions to reduce their overall budget deficits.	50%	●
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Monitoring of Primary, Secondary & Special Schools In-Year Budgets	Monitoring of primary, secondary and special schools in-year budgets: • To prevent overspending and take necessary mitigating action(s). Schools with deficit budget recovery plans are implementing the necessary actions to reduce their budget deficits	70%	▲



# Stability of Social Services Providers

Short Description	The Council requires support from external providers to deliver care packages for children and adults (residential / Non Residential). The current marketplace for external providers is volatile due to the increasing costs to provide care, maintain homes, staffing meeting legislative and regulatory requirements.
Risk Owner	Jenny Jenkins
Overseeing Officer	Head of Adult and Community Services
Lead Cabinet Member(s)	Cabinet Member for Social Services
Linked Theme	Theme: Resilient Communities (Social Care)
Linked Corporate Objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WBO 3. Healthy, Independent &amp; Resilient</li> <li>SRA 3. Supporting Health &amp; Well-being of Citizens</li> </ul>

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Stability of Social Services Providers

31 MAR 21

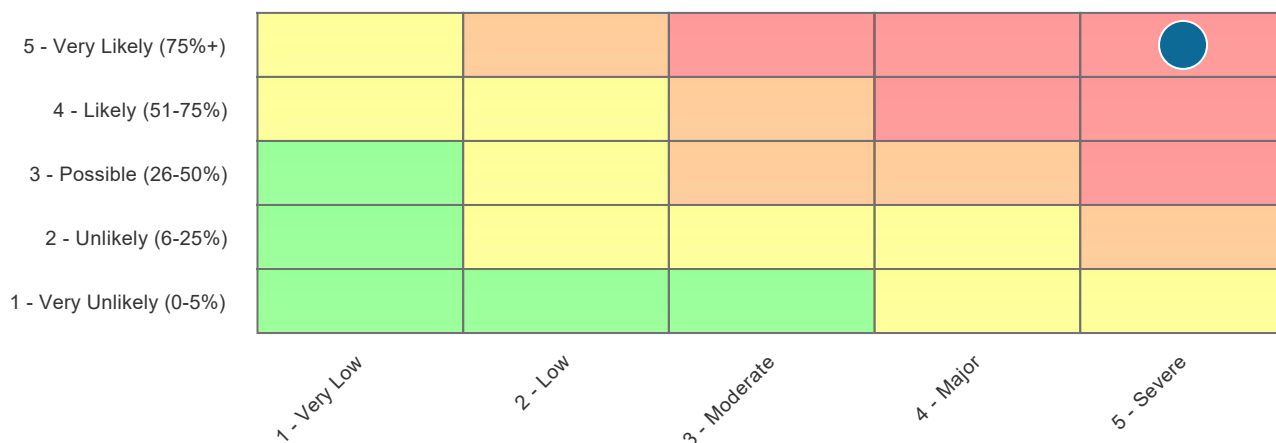
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6

Inherent Risk Score

Target Risk Score

RM03 Risk Probability



RM02 Risk Impact

## Direction of Risk

	DoR	Comment
Stability of Social Services Providers	➡	The Pandemic has created new risks for providers and the delivery of services. The full impact is not yet known but will continue to be monitored.

Action Name	Action Description	% Complete	Mar 2021
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ABUHB & Local Authority Partners to Develop Common Contracts & Monitoring Protocols	Work with Aneurin Bevan University Health Board and Local Authority partners to develop common contracts and monitoring protocols.	80%	★
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Assess Impact of Covid 19 on Long Term Sustainability of Service Providers	Assess the impact of Covid 19 on the long term future sustainability of service providers ensuring that the market is able to offer sufficient market capacity and diversity.	20%	●
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Continue to Provide & Develop in House Provision	Continue to provide and develop in house provision	100%	★
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Develop the People Commissioning Function to Oversee Commissioning & Contractual Activity	To further develop the People Commissioning function to oversee all commissioning and contractual activity within the Directorate. To monitor the People Commissioning Function to maximise opportunities to add value across the whole service area.	75%	★
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Monitor the Quality of Services Against Agreed Outcomes & Offer Value for Money	To monitor the quality of services to ensure they deliver against agreed outcomes and offer value for money.	70%	★

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# Report

## Cabinet

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### Part 1

Date: 16 June 2021

**Subject** Annual Welsh Language Monitoring Report 2020 - 21

**Purpose** This annual monitoring report sets out Newport City Council's progress against its Welsh language commitments during the financial year 2020-2021.

The attached monitoring report is required to be published on the council's website in accordance with statutory responsibilities under the Welsh Language Standards by 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021.

**Author** Connected Communities Manager

**Ward** All

**Summary** The council is required to report annually on its progress in complying with the Welsh Language Standards under the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011. This report covers the fifth year of implementation, following the imposition of the majority of the council's Welsh language standards in March 2016.

The report provides an overview of the Council's progress in meeting the Welsh Language Standards, includes information required by law to be published on an annual basis, a summary of key achievements during the year, and priority areas for future work.

**Proposal** To approve the attached final monitoring report and publish it on the Council's website, in accordance with statutory deadlines.

**Action by** Head of People and Business Change, Heads of Service

**Timetable** Immediate

This report was prepared after consultation with:

Cabinet Member for Community and Resources  
Welsh Language Elected Member Champion  
Welsh Language Implementation Group  
Heads of Service

**Signed** Head of People and Business Change

## **Background**

### **Legal context**

This annual report has been prepared in accordance with Welsh Language Standards 158, 164 and 170, and sets out how Newport City Council has complied with the Welsh Language Standards imposed on the authority by the Welsh Language Commissioner. This represents the council's fifth year of implementing the Welsh Language Standards which came into force on the 30<sup>th</sup> of March 2016.

### **Governance**

The implementation of, and compliance with, Welsh Language Standards is monitored through the council's officer Welsh Language Implementation Group, chaired by the Head of People and Business Change. The Cabinet Member for Communities and Resources has Welsh Language within their wider equalities portfolio and the council also has an Elected Member Welsh Language Champion.

### **Developments**

This annual report reflects the positive work undertaken by the council, in a challenging year which impacted on the delivery of our Welsh language priorities – particularly where they depended on community engagement and outreach. Highlights this year include:

- Positive work undertaken by the council's Welsh Language Promotion Officer, focussed on engagement with key community stakeholders and the provision of support to schools and partners during the pandemic
- Promotion of key dates throughout the year, both internally and across communities, and sponsorship of the virtual Gŵyl Newydd Festival
- Establishment of a Representative Workforce group and action plan which includes a focus on increasing the number of Welsh speakers across the organisation
- Establishment of a Welsh Language sub-group of the Right Skills Board, focussed on promoting a consistent approach to Welsh language skills development across the city and with key PSB partners
- Support provided to Careers Wales in creating a number of vlogs focussing on Welsh language as a skill within the workplace
- Review of the council's Welsh language performance management framework, to enable more effective monitoring of Welsh language compliance at service area and organisational level
- Commissioning the development of a number of animated Welsh language training videos to be mandated for all staff

The report also identifies priorities for the next reporting period, including:

- Working with our refugee, migrant and minority ethnic communities to better embed Welsh language as part of a shared sense of identity across the city, particularly in the context of the development of our fourth Welsh medium school
- Improving and developing our Welsh Language Skills Policy, inclusive of our recording and monitoring of Welsh language skills in the workplace, and better using this data to inform strategic planning
- Undertaking engagement and consultation with key stakeholders and communities to inform the development of our new 5 year Welsh Language Strategy
- Adopting a number of Clear Cymraeg principles to better encourage staff to use Welsh in the workplace

## Financial Summary

Newport City Council continues to invest in the Welsh language, with a Welsh Language and Equalities budget to support internal adoption of standards and facilitate partnership and community initiatives. The most significant expenditure is translation costs (around £30k per quarter) although this is currently under review, with a number of proposals being considered in order to increase efficiency. Additional funding for short-term projects is available through a Welsh Language Reserve. There is an expectation that service areas will factor in costs associated with Welsh language provision when developing new services in order to ensure sustainability.

## Risks

Risk	Impact of Risk if it occurs* (H/M/L)	Probability of risk occurring (H/M/L)	What is the Council doing or what has it done to avoid the risk or reduce its effect	Who is responsible for dealing with the risk?
That the Welsh Language (WL) Standards in their entirety are not implemented	M	M	Monitoring of compliance with WL Standards is through the WL Implementation Group.	Heads of Service  Head of People and Business Change
That the Standards are not understood by employees	M	L	The WL Implementation group includes membership from all service areas. Regular communications are issued to all staff. Training on Welsh language awareness is regularly delivered. Information is available to all staff on the Welsh language intranet pages.	Head of People and Business Change

\* Taking account of proposed mitigation measures

## Links to Council Policies and Priorities

The Council's responsibilities under the Welsh Language Standards are integrated within both the authority's Wellbeing and Corporate Plans. The council also has also published a 5 year [Welsh Language Strategy](#) (2017-22) which sets out how the authority is going to promote and facilitate the use of the Welsh language across Newport.

## Options Available

- a) To approve the attached report and publish on the council's website
- b) To not approve the attached report and redraft.

## Preferred Option and Why

Option a) is the preferred option, in order to ensure that the Council remains compliant with its statutory obligations.

## Comments of Chief Financial Officer

There are no direct financial consequences as a result of the proposal to approve the monitoring report and then publish on the Council's website. Cost of the implementation of the Welsh Language Standards



is met by service area budgets, and a central budget is also in place to develop a sustainable translation service, with a reserve available to draw on for additional projects or set up costs associated with compliance.

### **Comments of Monitoring Officer**

The Council has a statutory duty under the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 to comply with prescribed Welsh Language Standards. The Council is required to report annually on progress in meeting the Welsh Language Standards and publish the report in accordance with standard 158. This report sets out the actions taken and the progress made in meeting the Council's Welsh language commitments during 2020/21. It demonstrates that the Council has responded to the legislative requirements in a systematic way, however, further progress will be required in the next 12 months.

### **Comments of Head of People and Business Change**

There are no direct staffing implications arising from this report.

This annual report reflects the positive progress made and highlights some examples of good practice that we have delivered over the past 12 months. The report also identifies some areas in which we will need to make improvements in the year to come.

Continued work on the Welsh Language agenda, and the 5 Year Welsh Language Strategy contributes to the delivery of the Council's well-being objectives and the national well-being goals, in particular, working towards a Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language.

### **Comments of Cabinet Member**

The authority has made great progress over the past 12 months as outlined in this report. Our Welsh Language Standards are now recognised and understood by the majority of Council staff. Our governance arrangements ensure that we monitor ongoing implementation and progress against our standards. We continue to develop every opportunity to promote the Welsh language across the City in partnership with community-based Welsh language groups. As we move into a new year, we will continue to lead on this work. Our new Welsh Medium school in Pillgwenlly will provide further opportunity to build on the good work already undertaken.

### **Local issues**

Not applicable.

### **Scrutiny Committees**

Not applicable.

### **Equalities Impact Assessment and the Equalities Act 2010**

No Fairness & Equalities Impact Assessment (FEIA) is necessary for the annual report.

### **Children and Families (Wales) Measure**

No consultation was needed for this report.

### **Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015**

The Wellbeing of Future Generations Act 2015, which came into force in April 2016, places an obligation on Local Authorities to improve the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. The Welsh Language Annual Report represents much of the work that the authority undertakes to fulfil our Wellbeing objective to work towards 'a Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language'.

In support of the Act's sustainable development principle, our focus on developing a workforce which has a range of Welsh language abilities across service areas ensures an approach to meeting our Welsh language obligations which looks to the future, alongside continued efforts to promote increased use of Welsh within our local communities. This work is informed and delivered collaboratively with Welsh language community networks, and better integration of Welsh language considerations within our

Fairness and Equality Impact Assessment process has improved the way our Welsh language responsibilities and community views impact on our policy and decision making.

### **Crime and Disorder Act 1998**

Not applicable.

### **Background Papers**

Welsh Language Standards (Newport City Council Compliance Notice)

Welsh Language Annual Report 19/20

5 Year Welsh Language Strategy

Newport City Council Wellbeing Plan

Welsh in Education Strategic Plan

**Dated: 10 June 2021**

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# Welsh Language Annual Monitoring Report 2020-2021 **Newport City Council**



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- 5. Complaints**
- 6. Training**
- 7. Overview of work against Standards**
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## **Foreword by Cabinet Member for Communities and Resources**

## **Foreword by Chief Executive**

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## 1. Legislative Context

This annual report has been prepared in accordance with Welsh Language Standards 158, 164 and 170, and will highlight how Newport City Council has complied with the Welsh Language Standards which were imposed on the authority by the Welsh Language Commissioner, set out in [Newport City Council's Compliance Notice](#).

As well as outlining the authority's general compliance, this report also contains the specific information required by the Standards to be published annually. This includes data on the number of complaints we have received, the Welsh language levels of our staff, the training we offer through the medium of Welsh, and the level of Welsh we require on all vacant and new posts we have advertised during the financial year.

## 2. Introduction

This year has resulted in unprecedented challenges experienced by the council. The authority has continued to deliver services to the public whilst ensuring staff are safe, and navigating the shifting risks associated with a global pandemic. We have had to be flexible in order to respond to COVID-19, reassessing priorities and redeploying resources. These challenges have been recognised by the Welsh Language Commissioner who has worked with public authorities to ensure that the regulatory approach has been proportionate, whilst still recognising the need, and value of providing bilingual services.

One of the most significant challenges for the council this year has been the restrictions placed on face to face engagement, particularly at a time when we had been focussed on improving the promotion of Welsh language across our communities. The impact that this has had on our delivery of priorities should not be ignored, however, we have been able to engage with our partners in new ways, reflect on our internal processes, and adapt to new ways of working which look set to continue into the future.

The Welsh Language Standards continue to provide the council with a framework within which to work towards the Welsh Government's aspiration of delivering bilingual public services. Other strategies which inform policy, plans and work programmes across the council include the Welsh Government's Cymraeg 2050 Strategy, our Welsh in Education Strategic Plan and the Mwy na Geiriau Framework.

This annual report provides updates on positive progress this year, as well as identifying areas where we still have work to do. The council continues to invest in the Welsh language, both to support internal compliance with standards, and facilitate partnership and community initiatives. Our Welsh language work also continues to be supported by an Elected Member Champion.

### 3. Key Achievements

#### Welsh Language Promotion Officer

At the start of the year, the council welcomed our new Welsh Language Promotion Officer, whose remit included engagement with Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic communities in the Pillgwenlly area of Newport to promote Welsh medium education and supporting the development of a fourth Welsh medium junior school. Following the first lockdown in March and restrictions on public gatherings, the scope of the role changed to focus on working with a wider range of internal and external stakeholders, in particular, supporting the development of digital Welsh language resources. The Promotion Officer also engaged with our community partners and schools to better understand the impact of COVID-19 and associated restrictions on the Welsh language in Newport.

Our officer worked closely with schools and community stakeholders to support and develop material for parents delivering home learning, including pupil activities and parental resources. They also supported our community partners with planning of activities for Miri Meithrin, Diwrnod Shwmae and Gŵyl Newydd, and further developed our Community Partnership with Dragons Rugby.

Internally, they supported promotional activities for staff, including a bilingual St David's Day Newsletter, and rebranded our schools admissions content to focus on the academic and social benefits of bilingualism/multilingualism. This fixed term post has now come to an end, but will be revisited next year as restrictions continue to ease and opportunities to engage with communities increase.

#### Review and Update of our Fairness and Equality Impact Assessment (FEIA) Process

Our FEIA documentation has been reviewed and updated to fully reflect the compliance requirements of the Policy Making Welsh language standards. Our guidance and template have now been combined, making it simpler for staff to access advice as they work through the process, and the assessment of Welsh language impact (positive and negative), and associated actions, are now considered within a specific section of the document.

Our new process also includes a more robust focus on engagement with Welsh speakers who may be impacted by decisions that we make. The new document reflects a positive change to the way that we consider Welsh language in our decision making process. The need to consider the Welsh language and undertake FEIAs when taking decisions that impact on the public has also been included as part of our updated Welsh Language Awareness training.

#### Welsh Language Promotion

In addition to the work of our Promotion Officer, the council has also:

- Continued to promote key dates throughout the year to communities and staff, including St David's Day and Diwrnod Shwmae
- Sponsored and supported Gŵyl Newydd, the annual Welsh language festival, this year delivered over digital platforms

- Continued to provide representation on local forums including Mwy na Geiriau and the Fforwm Iaith
- Commissioned a series of short animated videos about the culture and history of Welsh language in Newport. These will be launched in the autumn of 2021

### **Our Contact Centre**

The COVID-19 pandemic greatly increased the demand on council services, including the volume of calls and enquiries received by our Contact Centre. Whilst our face to face provision remains closed to the public, we continue to offer a range of ways for people to contact us. We have successfully increased our number of fluent Welsh speakers working in our Contact Centre this year, which has enabled us to continue to offer a bilingual service to the public, despite additional pressures.

A number of our Contact Centre staff are also learning Welsh through the 'Say Something in Welsh' app, and this year we established our first Representative Workforce group. The group's remit includes increasing the number of Welsh speakers in frontline roles including our Contact Centre, better supporting staff to develop their Welsh language skills, and improving the way that we record Welsh language ability as a council.

### **Employment and Skills**

The Right Skills Board, which reports to One Newport, our Public Service Board (PSB), is a partnership forum which aims to ensure that people can access skills and education programmes that support a life well-lived and align with sustainable current and future local employment opportunities, enabling individuals and communities to achieve their potential. This year, we have established a Welsh language working group, including the Aneurin Bevan University Health Board, Gwent Police and Coleg Gwent, to more effectively consider how PSB members can work together to promote the Welsh language and support the development of Welsh language skills across the city. The group are currently developing a series of cross-cutting recommendations to be considered by the Board.

This year, the council has also worked with Careers Wales to support the creation of a number of vlogs promoting the benefit of using Welsh in the workplace. Aimed at pupils learning Welsh in schools, a number of Welsh speakers who work in our Contact Centre helped create a short video about how speaking Welsh has benefited them and helped them gain employment. Last year, we also commissioned research aimed at better understanding the gaps in Welsh language skills across childcare and early years education. Whilst this project has been delayed due to the pandemic, we have still managed to achieve good levels of engagement with schools and higher/further education providers and look forward to its findings.

## 4. Monitoring

### A. Welsh Competency requirements on new posts (all posts)

The Council's Human Resources (HR) team undertake a Welsh Language Assessment for all new positions advertised via our normal recruitment process using our HR system, iTrent. Recruitment for pre-existing positions or those created as part of restructuring are not subject to a Welsh language assessment as they fall outside of this standard process.

No. of new posts 2016/17	No. of new posts 2017/18	No. of new posts 2018/19	No. of new posts 2019/20	No. of new posts 2020/21
842	577	175	72	291

2017/18		
Welsh Competency Requirement	Number	Percentage of Total
Essential	26	4.5%
Desirable	51	8.8%
Not necessary	499	86.5%
To be learnt in post	1	0.2%
Total	577	
2018/19		
Welsh Competency Requirement	Number	Percentage of Total
Essential	5	2.9%
Desirable	18	10.3%
Not necessary	151	86.3%
To be learnt in post	1	0.1%
Total	175	
2019/20		
Welsh Competency Requirement	Number	Percentage of Total
Essential	4	5.56%
Desirable	6	8.33%
Not necessary	62	86.11%
To be learnt in post	0	
Total	72	
2020/21		
Welsh Competency Requirement	Number	Percentage of Total
Essential	6	2.06
Desirable	17	5.84
Not necessary	268	92.10
To be learnt in post	0	
Total	291	

## **B. Complaints**

Welsh language complaints received from the public are recorded by our Contact Centre via the Council's Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system, meaning that all Welsh language complaints are accurately recorded and shared with appropriate officers to action. Complaints are also a standing agenda item at the council's Welsh Language Implementation Group where restorative actions and learning are discussed. This includes complaints received from the public, or through the Welsh Language Commissioner's Office.

1 complaint was registered via the Contact Centre, in relation to errors in the Welsh language version of the January edition of Newport Matters, the council's residents' newsletter. The issues raised were investigated internally, rectified, and an updated version issued and published. The complainant was contacted, updated and issued with a revised edition directly.

Following a tweet from a member of the public regarding a new sign at a Pay and Display Car Park in Newport City Centre, we investigated the matter internally. Having established it was a council sign, a new, corrected sign was erected with relevant parties notified.

We did not receive any complaints, and were not subject to any investigations from the Welsh Language Commissioner's Office during 2020/2021. Further to the recent cyberattack and ransomware incident at the Welsh Language Commissioner's Office, we have responded and provided an update on last year's investigation into the budget consultation, as requested.

## **C. Training**

Under Standard 128, the authority is mandated to offer training programmes through the medium of Welsh on the following courses:

- Health and safety for managers
- Corporate induction
- Performance management
- Corporate management induction

Of the courses offered in Welsh, none were requested by members of staff, as such attendance was 0% for staff completing these courses through the medium of Welsh.

## **D. Welsh Language Training**

Prior to the pandemic, the council established a group to test the effectiveness of the Say Something in Welsh app. As the group consisted of front line staff and senior managers, operational requirements and additional work pressures created by COVID-19 meant that this was not progressed as expected. We will be revisiting this group when possible with a view to adding the app to our training provision should it prove effective.

The pandemic also had a significant impact on the delivery of classroom-based Welsh language training, in many cases these were cancelled due to restrictions. Internal Welsh language awareness training was also impacted, with significantly less staff registering to attend.

We hope to address this in 2021 with the rollout of our commissioned Welsh language videos, which will be mandatory for all staff and easily accessible whilst working remotely.

Course Title (2018/19)	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Improvers Course for Welsh Speakers	0	0	2
Welsh 2-day Introduction	8	0	0
Welsh at Work 90-minute Taster	16	10	7
Welsh Mynediad/Entry Level 30-week course (Year 1)	13	8	0
Welsh Mynediad/Entry Level 30-week course (Year 2)	6	11	0
Welsh Sylfaen/Foundation Level 30-week course (Year 1)	7	5	0
Improvers Course for Welsh Speakers	8	8	0
Say Something in Welsh App	N/A	N/A	30

Course Title	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021
Welsh Language Awareness	6	38	9

#### E. Welsh Language Skills of Employees (as of 31/03/21)

Headcount 2016/17	Headcount 2017/18	Headcount 2018/19	Headcount 2019/20	Headcount 2020/21
6,147	5,949	5842	5785	5865

	No. of Employees by Score 2016/17				
Welsh Competency	None	Beginner	Intermediate	Advanced	No Record *
Reading	2,782	1,135	210	158	1,833
Spoken	2,574	1,324	210	183	1,856
Understanding	2,606	1,272	224	193	1,852
Written	2,830	1,079	198	171	1,869
Percentage of headcount	43.9%	19.6%	3.4%	2.9%	30.1%
	No. of Employees by Score 2017/18				
Welsh Competency	None	Beginner	Intermediate	Advanced	No Record
Reading	2,710	1,154	220	193	1,672
Spoken	2,531	1,329	217	189	1,683
Understanding	2,546	1,290	233	198	1,682
Written	2,764	1,101	208	177	1,699
Percentage of headcount	44.3%	20.5%	3.7%	3.1%	28.4%
	No. of Employees by Score 2018/19				
Welsh Competency	None	Beginner	Intermediate	Advanced	No Record
Reading	2702	1156	208	211	1565
Spoken	2507	1342	211	206	1576
Understanding	2523	1305	226	215	1573
Written	2750	1,106	198	195	1593
Percentage of headcount	44.9%	21.0%	3.6%	3.5%	27.0%



	No. of Employees by Score 2019/20				
Welsh Competency	None	Beginner	Intermediate	Advanced	No Record
Reading	2694	1211	221	225	1434
Spoken	2500	1392	230	218	1445
Understanding	2513	1366	231	231	1444
Written	2763	1147	207	206	1452
Percentage of headcount	45.2%	22.1%	3.8%	3.8%	25%
	No. of Employees by Score 2020/21				
Welsh Competency	None	Beginner	Intermediate	Advanced	No Record
Reading	2692	1253	234	240	1446
Spoken	2489	1449	236	235	1456
Understanding	2506	1421	240	248	1450
Written	2752	1197	213	222	1481
Percentage of headcount	42.73%	24.23%	4.09%	4.23%	24.72%

	No. of Adult and Community Services Employees by Score 2020/21				
Welsh Competency	None	Beginner	Intermediate	Advanced	No Record
Reading	244	21	6	11	207
Spoken	239	37	8	10	195
Understanding	238	37	5	13	196
Written	251	23	5	11	199
	No. of Adult and Community Services Employees by Score 2019/20				
Welsh Competency	None	Beginner	Intermediate	Advanced	No Record
Reading	252	31	6	11	201
Spoken	244	39	7	10	201
Understanding	244	37	6	12	202
Written	258	23	5	11	204
	No. of Adult and Community Services Employees by Score 2018/19				
Welsh Competency	None	Beginner	Intermediate	Advanced	No Record
Reading	280	30	3	9	268
Spoken	270	39	5	8	268
Understanding	270	37	5	9	269
Written	285	23	2	9	271

	No. of Children and Young People Services Employees by Score 2020/21				
Welsh Competency	None	Beginner	Intermediate	Advanced	No Record
Reading	222	55	8	14	114
Spoken	209	67	12	13	112
Understanding	206	71	8	16	112
Written	228	43	12	13	117

	No. of Children and Young People Services Employees by Score 2019/20				
Welsh Competency	None	Beginner	Intermediate	Advanced	No Record
Reading	217	54	7	11	109
Spoken	206	64	11	9	108
Understanding	203	67	7	12	109
Written	224	42	10	10	112
	No. of Children and Young People Services Employees by Score 2018/19				
Welsh Competency	None	Beginner	Intermediate	Advanced	No Record
Reading	206	43	8	11	119
Spoken	202	47	11	9	117
Understanding	200	49	8	11	120
Written	211	32	11	10	122

	No. of People and Business Change Employees by Score 2020/21				
Welsh Competency	None	Beginner	Intermediate	Advanced	No Record
Reading	70	13	2	3	38
Spoken	65	17	2	3	39
Understanding	64	18	2	3	39
Written	70	11	3	2	40
	No. of People and Business Change Employees by Score 2019/20				
Welsh Competency	None	Beginner	Intermediate	Advanced	No Record
Reading	76	13	3	3	38
Spoken	71	18	3	3	38
Understanding	72	16	3	4	38
Written	76	12	4	2	39
	No. of People and Business Change Employees by Score 2018/19				
Welsh Competency	None	Beginner	Intermediate	Advanced	No Record
Reading	81	15	3	2	27
Spoken	73	23	3	2	27
Understanding	75	20	3	3	27
Written	81	14	3	2	28

	No. of Regeneration, Investment and Housing Employees by Score 2020/21				
Welsh Competency	None	Beginner	Intermediate	Advanced	No Record
Reading	283	116	15	9	119
Spoken	245	142	17	9	129
Understanding	254	138	15	9	126
Written	281	105	16	8	132
	No. of Regeneration, Investment and Housing Employees by Score 2019/20				
Welsh Competency	None	Beginner	Intermediate	Advanced	No Record
Reading	289	124	14	12	109

Spoken	252	147	19	11	119
Understanding	258	145	14	12	119
Written	289	111	15	11	122
	<b>No. of Regeneration, Investment and Housing Employees by Score 2018/19</b>				
Welsh Competency	<b>None</b>	<b>Beginner</b>	<b>Intermediate</b>	<b>Advanced</b>	<b>No Record</b>
Reading	308	116	12	15	85
Spoken	269	142	16	15	95
Understanding	278	139	15	15	94
Written	299	116	14	14	131

	<b>No. of Schools Employees by Score 2020/21</b>				
Welsh Competency	<b>None</b>	<b>Beginner</b>	<b>Intermediate</b>	<b>Advanced</b>	<b>No Record</b>
Reading	1297	916	187	173	706
Spoken	1166	1053	181	171	708
Understanding	1179	1028	196	176	700
Written	1331	905	162	161	720
	<b>No. of Schools Employees by Score 2019/20</b>				
Welsh Competency	<b>None</b>	<b>Beginner</b>	<b>Intermediate</b>	<b>Advanced</b>	<b>No Record</b>
Reading	1296	881	177	163	738
Spoken	1170	1008	178	160	739
Understanding	1182	987	189	165	732
Written	1335	862	159	151	748
	<b>No. of Schools Employees by Score 2018/19</b>				
Welsh Competency	<b>None</b>	<b>Beginner</b>	<b>Intermediate</b>	<b>Advanced</b>	<b>No Record</b>
Reading	1269	851	166	155	773
Spoken	1146	977	163	152	776
Understanding	1156	953	182	157	766
Written	1293	841	154	143	783

	<b>No. of Strategic Directors by Score 2020/21</b>				
Welsh Competency	<b>None</b>	<b>Beginner</b>	<b>Intermediate</b>	<b>Advanced</b>	<b>No Record</b>
Reading	1	0	1	1	0
Spoken	0	1	0	0	0
Understanding	0	0	0	0	0
Written	0	0	0	0	0
	<b>No. of Strategic Directors by Score 2019/20</b>				
Welsh Competency	<b>None</b>	<b>Beginner</b>	<b>Intermediate</b>	<b>Advanced</b>	<b>No Record</b>
Reading	1	1	0	0	1
Spoken	0	2	0	0	1
Understanding	1	1	0	0	1
Written	1	1	0	0	1
	<b>No. of Strategic Directors by Score 2018/19</b>				
Welsh Competency	<b>None</b>	<b>Beginner</b>	<b>Intermediate</b>	<b>Advanced</b>	<b>No Record</b>
Reading	1	1	0	0	1
Spoken	0	2	0	0	1
Understanding	1	1	0	0	1
Written	1	1	0	0	1

	No. of Law and Regulation Employees by Score 2020/21				
Welsh Competency	None	Beginner	Intermediate	Advanced	No Record
Reading	192	37	11	7	73
Spoken	188	41	9	9	73
Understanding	185	44	11	7	73
Written	193	34	10	8	75
	No. of Law and Regulation Employees by Score 2019/20				
Welsh Competency	None	Beginner	Intermediate	Advanced	No Record
Reading	151	27	5	9	28
Spoken	149	29	6	8	28
Understanding	146	31	5	9	29
Written	154	24	6	8	28
	No. of Law and Regulation Employees by Score 2018/19				
Welsh Competency	None	Beginner	Intermediate	Advanced	No Record
Reading	159	26	5	8	28
Spoken	157	28	5	8	28
Understanding	154	31	5	8	28
Written	162	23	6	7	28

	No. of Education Employees by Score 2020/21				
Welsh Competency	None	Beginner	Intermediate	Advanced	No Record
Reading	94	36	7	6	128
Spoken	86	46	7	4	128
Understanding	90	40	7	6	128
Written	101	31	7	4	128
	No. of Education Employees by Score 2019/20				
Welsh Competency	None	Beginner	Intermediate	Advanced	No Record
Reading	105	37	5	7	128
Spoken	98	46	3	7	128
Understanding	101	41	5	7	128
Written	113	31	4	6	128
	No. of Education Employees by Score 2018/19				
Welsh Competency	None	Beginner	Intermediate	Advanced	No Record
Reading	114	39	6	6	131
Spoken	106	50	4	6	130
Understanding	110	42	6	6	132
Written	123	32	5	5	131

	No. of Streetscene and City Services Employees by Score 2020/21				
Welsh Competency	None	Beginner	Intermediate	Advanced	No Record
Reading	263	32	14	4	101
Spoken	259	35	15	4	101
Understanding	259	36	15	2	102
Written	269	29	12	4	100
	No. of Streetscene and City Services Employees by Score 2019/20				
Welsh Competency	None	Beginner	Intermediate	Advanced	No Record
Reading	275	32	5	10	102
Spoken	274	32	5	11	102
Understanding	272	35	3	11	103
Written	280	30	3	8	101
	No. of Streetscene and City Services Employees by Score 2018/19				
Welsh Competency	None	Beginner	Intermediate	Advanced	No Record
Reading	263	28	6	6	107
Spoken	262	29	5	7	107
Understanding	261	30	4	7	108
Written	267	27	4	6	106

	No. of Finance Employees by Score 2020/21				
Welsh Competency	None	Beginner	Intermediate	Advanced	No Record
Reading	50	24	1	1	21
Spoken	51	23	1	1	21
Understanding	50	21	1	1	24
Written	62	22	1	1	11
	No. of Finance Employees by Score 2019/20				
Welsh Competency	None	Beginner	Intermediate	Advanced	No Record
Reading	50	23	1	1	22
Spoken	51	22	1	1	22
Understanding	50	20	1	1	25
Written	52	21	1	1	22
	No. of Finance Employees by Score 2018/19				
Welsh Competency	None	Beginner	Intermediate	Advanced	No Record
Reading	48	20	1	1	22
Spoken	49	19	1	1	22
Understanding	48	17	1	1	25
Written	50	18	1	1	22

\*No record refers to those staff that have not indicated their Welsh language ability

## **F. Overview of work against Standards**

### **Service Delivery Standards**

Our planned review of our compliance with Service Delivery Standards proved challenging last year due to the pandemic, but the authority continues to demonstrate positive progress, particularly through the positive attitude displayed towards the Welsh language by staff. Consistency of service delivery across the organisation still proves challenging, however, as Service Delivery Standards relate to frontline services for members of the public, these Standards will remain a priority for us, our Welsh Language Implementation Group, and within our corporate action plan. This year we have reviewed our approach to performance monitoring which includes further plans for mystery shopper style reviews of our compliance with these Standards.

### **Policy Making Standards**

Our updated Fairness and Equality Impact Assessment process, as set out in section 3, are published on our intranet site. The council also intends to provide staff training around effectively using an FEIA to improve decision making and has aligned Cabinet, Scrutiny and Council Report templates to ensure decision makers are aware of their responsibilities when considering proposals. Welsh Language continues to sit within the Council's Policy, Partnership and Involvement Team, a placement that fosters positive links between the creation of corporate policy and promotion of Welsh Language.

### **Operational Standards**

Our HR department continues to work to ensure compliance with Operational Standards across a number of business areas. This year, a subgroup of the Welsh Language Implementation Group has been established to make a series of recommendations around internal Welsh language skills. This includes a review of our recruitment processes, our internal Welsh language policy, and the way that we measure and monitor the Welsh language skills of our staff. Recommendations will be made to the Group, and our Corporate Management Team early in 2021. Our HR team has also introduced a Workforce Planning tool, currently being rolled out across Service Areas. This includes explicit consideration of the levels of Welsh speakers in each area, and requires consideration of the need to recruit staff with Welsh language skills.

### **Promotion Standards**

Our [5 year Promotion Strategy](#) is in the process of being reviewed ahead of drafting our new Strategy for 2022 – 2027. Currently, progress on the Strategy is reported to the Welsh in Education Forum and the Promotion of Welsh in Education Group, which are led by the council. The Council also continues to have a Welsh Language Elected Member Champion (Councillor Jason Hughes) who supports the promotion of Welsh language both across the city and council. The council is a member of the Fforwm Iaith, co-ordinated by Menter Iaith Casnewydd, and attended by key Welsh language stakeholders.

### **Record Keeping**

The council has a Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system, which has improved the way that we record complaints relating to Welsh language and customer information about language choice. The council use the HR system, iTrent, to monitor and keep records on the Welsh language skills of employees, attendance at relevant training courses and Welsh language assessment of vacant posts.



## Performance Monitoring

This year, the council has reviewed the way in which it monitors the implementation of Standards across the organisation. An Implementation Plan, Organisational Plan and Individual Service Plans for specific Welsh Language Standards owned by an identifiable service area have been developed. The delivery of these plans will be monitored by our Welsh Language Implementation Group and key performance indicators included in our corporate performance management system. This will allow for organisational and service area level data to be easily accessed and monitored. Welsh language performance measures are already included within the council's performance and risk management framework which is reported on quarterly and within our corporate annual report.

## G. Looking Forward to 2021/22

Following a year which necessitated a focus on the delivery of essential services to our communities, and limited some of our planned Welsh language work, we aim to carry over a number of priorities which were identified last year, including:

- Working with our refugee, migrant and minority ethnic communities to better embed Welsh language as part of a shared sense of identity across the city, particularly in the context of the development of our fourth Welsh medium school
- Improving and developing our Welsh Language Skills Policy, inclusive of our recording and monitoring of Welsh language skills in the workplace, and better using this data to inform strategic planning
- Developing creative partnership arrangements outside of the public and voluntary sector to better raise the profile of the Welsh language across Newport and local regions, for example, exploring opportunities to work with local sports teams
- Working with our neighbourhood hubs in each area of the city to promote better engagement with council services through the medium of Welsh

We have also identified a number of new priorities, including:

- Undertaking engagement and consultation with key stakeholders and communities to inform the development of our new 5 year Welsh Language Strategy
- Embedding our new performance management structure across the council
- Adopting a number of Clear Cymraeg principles to better encourage staff to use Welsh in the workplace
- Rolling out our newly developed Welsh language training videos to all staff
- Delivering a cohesive approach to Welsh language skills development across our PSB partners through the Right Skills Board

For further information about our Welsh language work, please contact [nccequality@newport.gov.uk](mailto:nccequality@newport.gov.uk)



# Report

## Cabinet

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### Part 1

Date: 14 June 2021

**Subject** UK Community Renewal Fund

**Purpose** To update Cabinet on progress and the process undertaken to shortlist applications for the UK Community Renewal Fund to be submitted to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government on 18<sup>th</sup> June 2021.

**Author** Chief Executive and Head of People and Business Change

**Ward** All

**Summary** The UK Government announced the UK Community Renewal Fund in March which is precursor to the UK Shared Prosperity Fund that will come into effect from 2022 and will replace the EU Structural Funding.

Local authorities across the UK have been invited to run an open competitive process to invite private, charity, not for profit and education organisations. Each local authority can submit £3m of applications to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government by noon 18<sup>th</sup> June 2021.

In April 2021, the Council launched an open invitation to organisations to submit applications. The Council has received 11 applications totalling £3.4million. A Panel Assessment of applications will take place week commencing 14<sup>th</sup> June to shortlist applications that will be submitted to the UK Government by the deadline.

**Proposal** Cabinet to note the progress of work undertaken by Newport Council in shortlisting applications to be submitted to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.

**Action by** Chief Executive and Head of People & Business Change

**Timetable**

**Signed**

## Background

In March 2021, the UK Government (Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government) launched the UK Community Renewals Fund (UK CRF) totalling £220 million for local authorities across the UK to access. The UK CRF acts as a precursor to the UK Shared Prosperity Fund that will replace the EU Structural Funds in 2022.

Outlined in the UK Government's [prospectus](#) the purpose of this Fund is to support local communities and economy through its 'Levelling Up' agenda focusing four themes:

1. Investment in skills
2. Investment for local business
3. Investment in communities and place
4. Supporting people into employment

There is also emphasis on applications to support UK Government's decarbonisation and climate change initiatives.

The UK Government has identified 100 priority places in the UK based upon their index of economic resilience and have been provided funding to set up their processes. Newport has not been identified as one of the top 100 places and have used existing resources to set up and manage the process in Newport. Each local authority can submit any number of applications to the UK Government up to the combined value of £3 million per local authority area.

The UK Government has made it a requirement for applications to be an open competitive process for private, public sectors including local authorities, charitable and education establishments to submit applications to the Council.

### Invitation to Submit Applications

[Newport Council launched](#) its invitation to organisations to submit their application by the 21<sup>st</sup> May through its website. The Public Services Board (PSB) and the Council advertised and promoted the invitation to using its social media and other media sources throughout.

Eleven applications were received in total ranging from charity, private, education and not for profit organisations from across the region, Wales and wider UK. The overall value of the projects submitted was over £3.4 million.

### UK CRF Assessment and shortlisting

The UK Government requires local authorities to undertake a due diligence exercise to ensure the organisations meet the criteria set in their guidance. Following this exercise, the Panel Assessment Group led by the Leader, as Chair of the Newport Public Service Board, the Chief Executive of Newport Council and partner representative from the Public Services Board assessed the applications and their scores based upon their criteria of meeting national and local strategic aims / priorities, their ability and deliverability of the project by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022, their social value and outcomes that will benefit the communities, economy, environment and culture of Newport, and ensuring that the projects are inclusive of groups identified across the protected characteristics.

Following the Panel Assessment scheduled for 14<sup>th</sup> June, a shortlist of applications will have been identified to be submitted to the UK Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government by noon 18<sup>th</sup> June.

### Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government Evaluation

The Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government will undertake a further evaluation and prioritisation of applications submitted by the Council. As Newport is not a priority area, it is not guaranteed that any of the applications will receive the funding. However, if any of the applications are successful, these will contribute towards the Council's priorities in supporting local communities and economy of Newport.

Newport Council will be responsible for allocating the funding to the organisations, monitoring and reporting on the delivery of the projects. The UK will require the Council to provide regular progress reports and provide support in the process. As part of this work, the Council can have 2% management fee from each project to support their delivery.

### Financial Summary

The delivery of the process undertaken by the Newport Council using existing resources. If any of the applications are successful, the Council will receive the funding from the UK Government and allocate this in accordance with the UK Government guidance. The Council will be responsible for ensuring the funding is spent within the terms and conditions of the grant through regular monitoring and reporting.

The Council will be required to have a formal legal agreement between Newport Council and the recipient of the grant.

### Risks

Risk	Impact of Risk if it occurs* (H/M/L)	Probability of risk occurring (H/M/L)	What is the Council doing or what has it done to avoid the risk or reduce its effect	Who is responsible for dealing with the risk?
Applications submitted by Newport Council are not successful in obtaining their funding.	M	M	Much of this risk is outside of the Council's control.  However, applications have undergone formal assessment process in line with the UK Government evaluation criteria.	Head of People & Business Change
Applications are not submitted before Noon 18 <sup>th</sup> June 2021	H	L	Following the Cabinet meeting on 16 <sup>th</sup> June, documents to be submitted by the Council will have been checked and will be submitted by the Chief Executive before the 18 <sup>th</sup> June.	Chief Executive  Head of People & Business Change

\* Taking account of proposed mitigation measures

### Links to Council Policies and Priorities

One Newport Public Services Board Wellbeing Plan 2018-23  
Corporate Plan 2017-22  
NCC Covid Strategic Recovery Aims

### Cabinet option considered

Cabinet to note the process undertaken by Newport Council to shortlist applications that will be submitted to the UK Government by the Council's Chief Executive.

### Comments of Chief Financial Officer

There are no direct financial impacts on the Council's capital resources in submitting/receiving these bids as they are 100% grant funded by UK Government. The report explains how the process to prioritise those down to the maximum allowed will need to be done and the oversight responsibility the Council will need to develop and resource will be if bids are successful.

The Council will need to ensure it can adequately resource the oversight required and will, as the report set's out, need to agree a formal funding and delivery agreement with bidders which sets out clear responsibilities and where any risk in delivering these projects lie.

## **Comments of Monitoring Officer**

There are no legal issues arising from the Report at the present time, as Cabinet are simply being asked to note the final shortlist of applications that will be submitted for UK Community Renewal funding for various community projects. The final decision on the award of Community Renewal Funding will be made by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government. The Council has followed an open competition and Panel assessment process, in accordance with the Government's requirements, and has undertaken the necessary due diligence in relation to the shortlisted organisations and projects. If funding was awarded, then any legal issues will be addressed at the appropriate time, in particular the need for any back-to-back agreement with the grant recipients, to ensure that the Council meets its obligations to the UK Government to secure the delivery of the projects and agreed outcomes.

## **Comments of Head of People and Business Change**

The UK CRF provides an opportunity for organisations to receive funding and deliver projects that will benefit some of the most disadvantaged residents in Newport and provide opportunities for new economic growth in the city. The Council alongside other local authorities in Wales and organisations have had limited time to prepare and deliver the assessment of applications to be submitted. Despite the limited chances for the shortlisted projects to successfully obtain the funding, the Council remains hopeful that the projects will obtain the funding. The management fees that the Council will receive for successful projects will contribute towards resources required to support the projects.

## **Local issues**

None.

## **Equalities Impact Assessment**

No equalities impact assessment has been completed for this work. However, in the evaluation of the applications submitted, the Council and Panel considered the equality impacts that the projects supported to ensure that they are inclusive of protected characteristic groups.

## **Children and Families (Wales) Measure**

Applications were considered for their impact on services delivered by the Council and its partners to support the safeguarding of children and young people in Newport. Where applicable, the Council involved Children and Young People Services and Community Services.

## **Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015**

Under the Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015 and its 5 ways of working principles this report supports:

Long Term – The projects submitted have had to demonstrate how they will support the short and long term impacts for communities, economy and environment in Newport.

Preventative – The projects will support individuals, groups and communities that are most disadvantaged and prevent further inequality.

Collaborative – Collaborating with private, public, not for profit and charity organisations to deliver projects that will support the Council in delivering its corporate and Public Services Board Wellbeing objectives and priorities.

Involvement – The assessment involved representatives from the Public Services Board and if successful projects will involve stakeholders and those identified in their project scope.

Integration – The project applications submitted had to demonstrate and align to the Council's Wellbeing objectives and corporate priorities as well as the priorities of the Public Services Board and Regional priorities.

**Consultation**

Not Applicable

**Background Papers**

UK Government [prospectus](#)

**Dated: 10 June 2021**



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# Report

## Cabinet

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### Part 1

Date: 16 June 2021

**Subject: Levelling Up Fund – Northern Gateway**

**Purpose** To seek approval to submit a bid to UK Government for Levelling Up funding for a regeneration scheme within an area identified as the Northern Gateway within the adopted Master Plan.

**Author** Acting Head of Regeneration, Housing & Investment

**Ward** Stow Hill

**Summary** The UK Government has launched a £4.8 billion Levelling Up Fund which is aimed at levelling up communities across the UK. This is a competitive bidding process and up to £20m of capital funding is available for regeneration and cultural investment schemes, and a maximum of £50m for transport investments. The deadline for the submission of bids in the current round is 18<sup>th</sup> June 2021. Subsequent bidding rounds will be available going forward and funding is available until 2024/25.

The City Centre Master Plan was adopted in January 2019 and identified three areas of focus in the City Centre. The Northern Gateway encompasses the area around the train station and extends to High Street, Bridge Street and parts of Upper Dock Street. A particular area of focus for regeneration has been the area around the entrance to the train station. As a mainline station this is a key gateway into the City Centre. However, the public realm in this area warrants further enhancement in order to both welcome and clearly direct people into the core of the City Centre.

It is therefore recommended that Newport City Council submit a bid to UK Government for up to £20m of funding to support placemaking and investment opportunities in the Northern Gateway area and the improvement of public realm in the Queensway, Cambrian Road, Bridge Street area. The gateway area into the City Centre from the train station should be fit for purpose and reflective of the quality of place we are trying to achieve for our visitors and residents.

**Proposal** Cabinet are requested to approve the submission of a Levelling Up Funding bid for the Northern Gateway area of the City Centre.

**Action by** Acting Head of Regeneration, Investment and Housing

**Timetable** Immediate

This report was prepared after consultation with:

- Chief Executive
- Head of Law and Regulation
- Head of Finance

- Head of People & Business Change
- Public Services Board

**Signed**

## Background

UK Government has announced that £4.8 billion of Levelling Up Funding (LUF) is available until 2024/25. This will be open to all areas of the UK and aims to invest in infrastructure that improves everyday life but has been prioritised for areas which have the most significant need. All areas of the UK have been given a priority category based on the following criteria:

- Need for economic recovery and growth;
- Need for improved transport connectivity; and,
- Need for regeneration.

Newport has been placed in Priority category 1 (highest need). Whilst all areas have been categorised, and preference will be given to Category 1 areas, this is a competitive bidding process and funding will be awarded on the strength of the bid and the ability to meet the funding timescales.

Funding bids can cover three distinct areas:

- **Transport investments** including (but not limited to) public transport, active travel, bridge repairs, bus priority lanes, local road improvements and major structural maintenance, and accessibility improvements. UK Government are requesting proposals for high-impact small, medium and, by exception, larger local transport schemes to reduce carbon emissions, improve air quality, cut congestion, support economic growth, and improve the experience of transport users.
- **Regeneration and town centre investment**, to upgrade eyesore buildings and dated infrastructure, acquire and regenerate brownfield sites, invest in secure community infrastructure and crime reduction, and bring public services and safe community spaces into town and city centres.
- **Cultural investment** maintaining, regenerating, or creatively repurposing museums, galleries, visitor attractions (and associated green spaces) and heritage assets as well as creating new community-owned spaces to support the arts and serve as cultural spaces.

Bids should be supported by the Member of Parliament for the area. MPs can support only one bid which they see as a priority (transport bids are excluded from this). The number of bids that a local authority can make will relate to the number of MPs in their area. For Newport we can submit three bids as follows:

- Newport West Constituency
- Newport East Constituency
- Transport

Each bid can total up to £20m Capital funding only and in exceptional circumstances a transport bid may range between £20m and £50m. A minimum contribution of 10% match funding must be included in the bid. This can come from a local authority or other third party (public or private sector).

## Timeline

Bids must be submitted to UK Government by noon on the 18th June 2021 and UK Government have given an indication that they will make an announcement on the successful bids by the end of Summer/ early Autumn this year. All funding provided by LUF must be spent by 31st March 2025.

Further bidding rounds are expected later this year for funding for 2022/23 onwards. Newport is therefore able to submit new proposals for other schemes going forward. However if we are successful with the Northern Gateway bid, we would be unable to submit another bid for sites in the same constituency area.

## Regeneration of the Northern Gateway area

The City Centre Master Plan adopted in 2019 kick started a significant period of regeneration and an aspiration to deliver a number of strategic regeneration projects across the City Centre. This included the development of new hotels and office space aimed at bringing economic resilience, creating opportunities and raising the profile of the city to those wishing to visit or invest. New mixed tenure housing has been created to enable more people to live in a city centre location. A number of

transformational schemes are underway or in the pipeline for the area identified as the Northern Gateway, including the refurbishment of the Newport Indoor Market and Market Arcade, the proposed creation of a co-working and incubator hub in the Information Station building and the provision of a new active travel footbridge between Devon Place and Queensway. The council has committed to ongoing growth and regeneration of the city centre as highlighted in the Corporate Plan and Well-being Plan and bold steps are being taken to deliver this.



UK Government have allocated a small amount of funding to local authorities to support the development of LUF bids. An area of regeneration has been identified in the environment around the Newport train station, within the Newport West Constituency area. As a mainline station this is a key gateway into the City Centre however this feels divorced from the City's leisure and retail offer. The public realm around the train station is dominated by roads and the main routes into the City Centre are mainly hard surfaced with sparse greenery. With investment in placemaking, the area will act as a focal point for investment that spreads opportunity throughout the City



The LUF bid for the Northern Gateway area will focus on improving the public realm area around the train station and extends to High Street, Bridge Street and parts of Upper Dock Street. It focusses on place making and opening up opportunities for further investment and development.



THE MASTERPLAN



Artist’s Impression of Bridge Street





## Artist's Impression of Cambrian Road



The Levelling Up fund enables Newport to complement and support the significant regeneration progress that is being made on key buildings within the Northern Gateway area. By improving public realm, investing in placemaking and encouraging new development in this gateway area of the City Centre, it will boost confidence in Newport as a place to live, work and visit.

### Financial Summary

The total funding available for regeneration schemes is £20m. The detailed costs of the proposals are being finalised but it is expected that the bid will request the full £20m. There is a requirement for a 10% match funding. This match funding can come from a local authority or other third party (public or private sector) but cannot be “time in kind.” It is intended to use existing and pipeline schemes in the Northern Gateway area as the match funding as these are directly linked to the public realm improvements for the area.

Acceptance of any grant will require clarity and certainty on match funding at that point. As well as the plan above, the Council has £4m of unallocated capital headroom and could be utilised if needed, as a further option.

## Risks

Risk	Impact of Risk if it occurs* (H/M/L)	Probability of risk occurring (H/M/L)	What is the Council doing or what has it done to avoid the risk or reduce its effect	Who is responsible for dealing with the risk?
UK Gov rejects the bid	L	M	The LUF is a competitive bidding process and whilst Newport is a priority one area, we are not the decision makers on this funding. In the event of an unsuccessful bid, whilst this would represent a set back in our plans to progress with regeneration of the Northern Gateway area, we are able to resubmit bids in future rounds.	Acting Head of RIH

## Links to Council Policies and Priorities

This development would be in keeping with the adopted Local Development Plan, Economic Growth Strategy, City Centre Master Plan, Corporate Plan and Local Well-being Plan.

## Council Commitments / Priorities

This proposal meets the following commitments and well-being objectives of the council as specified in the Corporate Plan 2017 – 2022

### Thriving City

- Real progress on transforming Newport city centre through placemaking and investment.

## Well-being Objectives

### 1. To improve skills, educational outcomes and employment opportunities

The opportunity to improve the gateway to the City Centre and stimulate investment will provide residents with greater access to employment.

### 2. To promote economic growth and regeneration whilst protecting the environment

Enhanced public realm and investment will present a more attractive environment for people living, working and visiting the city centre. This will increase footfall and grow confidence in potential investors that Newport city centre is an ideal location for their business.

### 3. To enable people to be healthy, independent and resilient

The public realm improvements will promote improved physical and mental health and wellbeing as it will give people an attractive environment to meet in which is in an accessible location with good transport links.

### 4. To build cohesive and sustainable communities

Cohesive communities are those which are able to meet and support each other. Improvements and development opportunities with the Northern Gateway area can act as a focal point for local groups and individuals to come together.

## **Options Available and considered**

- 1) Approve the submission of a Levelling Up Funding bid for the Northern Gateway area of the City Centre.
- 2) Do not agree to submit a bid for Levelling Up Funding for the Northern Gateway area.

## **Preferred Option and Why**

- (1) Approve the submission of a Levelling Up Funding bid for the Northern Gateway area of the City Centre. The funding will enable Newport to complement and support the significant regeneration progress that is being made on key buildings within the Northern Gateway area. By improving public realm, investing in place making and encouraging new development in this gateway area of the City Centre, it will boost confidence in Newport as a place to live, work and visit and will also meet our responsibility under the Well-being for Future Generations Act in terms of Prevention and Integration.

## **Comments of Chief Financial Officer**

Whilst there are no financial implications for submitting this bid, should the bid be accepted at the full £20m, the Council will be required to contribute a minimum of 10% match funding which would equate to £2m. It is expected that this will be able to come from existing or pipeline projects, although this is not yet confirmed and work is being undertaken to work this through. In the event this cannot be utilised, the Council also has £4m of currently unallocated capital funding headroom and could be allocated to this.

In submitting any bid for capital funding which requires match funding, the Council needs to be confident it has the resources to do that and the above shows that to be the case. Acceptance of the grant will require certainty at that point.

In submitting the bid, the Cabinet is essentially prioritising this bid/scheme and therefore is recommended to allocate £2m of the current headroom to this, until work on agreeing what could constitute match funding is finalised.

## **Comments of Monitoring Officer**

There are no specific legal issues at this stage as Cabinet is only being asked to endorse the bid to the UK Government for Levelling-Up grant in relation to the delivery of the Northern Gateway proposals. Any legal issues will be picked up later if the grant is awarded subject to any conditions and there are any other legal matters that need to be addressed as part of the implementation of individual elements of the Plan. The proposals set out in the bid for the regeneration of this Northern Gateway part of the City Centre are in accordance with the Council's general powers of economic and social well-being under section 2 of the Local Government Act 2000 and are also consistent with corporate plan and well-being objectives and the strategic planning objectives set out in the Council's Economic Growth Strategy and City Centre Master-Plan.

## **Comments of Head of People and Business Change**

This proposal has the potential to provide well-being benefits to communities by improving and regenerating the city centre.

The report writer has fully considered the council's well-being objectives and the sustainable development principle of the Well-being of Future Generations Act when developing this report.

From an HR perspective there are no staffing implications to this proposal.

## **Comments of Cabinet Members**

### **Cabinet Member for Economic Growth and Investment:**

The benefits associated with this opportunity cannot be underestimated. Our regeneration efforts in the City Centre have always focussed on the need to improve access to better quality buildings, homes and

spaces for our residents, workers and visitors. Funding from UK Government will enable us to advance our ambitions and create opportunities for further investment in the future.

## **Local issues**

Local Ward Members have been notified of this report.

## **Scrutiny Committees**

None

## **Equalities Impact Assessment and the Equalities Act 2010**

The Equality Act 2010 contains a Public Sector Equality Duty, which came into force on 06 April 2011. The Act identifies a number of 'protected characteristics', namely age; disability; gender reassignment; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; sexual orientation; marriage and civil partnership. The new single duty aims to integrate consideration of equality and good relations into the regular business of public authorities. Compliance with the duty is a legal obligation and is intended to result in better-informed decision-making and policy development and services that are more effective for users.

Providing an accessible environment which is accessible to all is considered a positive impact.

## **Children and Families (Wales) Measure**

Whilst no specific consultation with younger age groups is relevant, the general comments above regarding the improvement to the northern gateway area of the city also apply to children and young people. Improvements to the city and its public realm will directly benefit younger people as a result.

## **Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015**

The Well-being and Future Generations (Wales) Act seeks to improve the social, economic environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. Public bodies should ensure that decisions take into account the impact they could have on people living in Wales, in the future. The Council has always sought to engage with residents before taking any decision which may impact upon the delivery of any public service, in accordance with the principles of fairness and legitimate expectation.

The 5 main considerations in respect of the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 are set out below with an explanation of how this project meets these objectives:

- Long term: Improved access and spaces within the city centre and green infrastructure will help improve health, wellbeing and carbon reduction.
- Prevention: Enhancements being proposed will have wider health benefits longer term as more residents and visitors will have access to improved facilities and green infrastructure reducing carbon footprint and improving wellbeing.
- Integration: Improved access and public infrastructure will encourage sustainable travel and aligns with the ambitions set out in the Corporate Plan and city centre Master Plan.
- Collaboration: A partnership approach will be undertaken to ensure that acceptable proposals are developed. This is likely to be with a range of public and private sector partners including the business community.
- Involvement: Consultation with stakeholders will be undertaken ensure that the wellbeing gains are maximised.

## **Crime and Disorder Act 1998**

Section 17(1) of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 imposes a duty on the Local Authority to exercise its various functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent, crime and disorder in its area. It is considered that there would be no significant or unacceptable increase in crime and disorder as a result of the proposed consultation.

## **Consultation**

None

## **Background Papers**

None

**Dated: 10 June 2021**



# Report

## Cabinet

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### Part 1

Date: 16 June 2021

**Subject** Newport City Council Covid-19 Response and Recovery Update

**Purpose** To present to Cabinet an update on the Council's progress being made towards recovering services and supporting Newport's communities as part of its Strategic Recovery Aims.

**Author** Chief Executive  
Head of People and Business Change

**Ward** All

**Summary** The Covid-19 health emergency has been ongoing for over a year when Newport received its first reports in February 2020. This crisis has impacted all communities and businesses across Newport as the City has continued to adapt and respond to the necessary restrictions to minimise the spread of the virus. Newport Council's response has been to ensure continuity of services with our strategic partners, support vulnerable residents across communities, support businesses and ensure the safety of staff. This report provides an overview of what action the Council has taken to date and the progress against the Strategic Recovery Aims.

Since the last Cabinet Report in May, restrictions have been easing with the Council and its partners continuing to monitor the Covid-19 cases in the City through its role at the multi-agency role, the Council's Emergency Response Team (Covid Gold) and liaison with Welsh Government (WG) and Public Health Wales partners.

**Proposal** Cabinet is asked to consider the contents of the report and note the progress being made to date, the risks that are still faced by the Council.

**Action by** Corporate Management Team

**Timetable** Immediate

**Signed**



## Background

Since the last Cabinet Report on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021, Newport Council and its partners have continued to monitor the Covid-19 cases in the City through its role at the multi-agency Strategic Co-ordination Group (SCG), the Council's Recovery Group (Covid Gold) and liaison with Welsh Government (WG) and Public Health Wales partners.

## NCC Covid-19 Response

In May Wales had continued to see further reductions in the Covid-19 case rate falling below 20 per 100,000 across Wales and the continued success of the vaccine rollout across the priority groups in Wales. The latest figures relating to Covid-19 cases and vaccination rollout can be accessed through the [Public Health Wales Covid-19 Dashboards](#). Over 1.9 million people in Wales have received their first dose of the vaccine whilst over 800,000 will have received their second dose. The Council, alongside Newport Live have been supporting the NHS with volunteers and facilities to help with the rollout of the vaccine. It is important that everyone including the City's BAME communities receive their vaccine and to also continue to follow the restrictions in place. Further information about the vaccine programme can be obtained from [Public Health Wales](#) and also includes Accessible information [here](#).

In consideration of the scientific data and as part of WG three week review process, further restrictions have been eased enabling the economy, schools and other sectors to re-open in conjunction with WG guidance. Since the last report in April, Wales has been slowly opening up and easing restrictions taking a cautious approach. In April and May depending upon the Welsh Government guidance it is planned for:

- From 17<sup>th</sup> May indoor hospitality, cinemas, theatres and museums to reopen with up to six people from six households being able to meet.
- Organised activities such as wedding receptions allowed for up to 30 people.
- Hospitality businesses still affected by Covid restrictions will be able to claim up to £25,000 to support them through to the end of June.

In May the UK Government announced that an independent enquiry into the Covid outbreak will take place in 2022 across the devolved nations to examine the UK's response to the pandemic.

Newport Council's services have continued to operate adhering to the restrictions in place. Many areas of the Council's buildings remained closed but front line services have remained operational. Residents and businesses can access the necessary information from the Council's [website](#) or contact the Council's contact centre.

## Newport Council Activity and Progress in delivering Strategic Recovery Aims

Newport Council's Recovery Group (consisting of the Chief Executive and Heads of Service) are continuing to regularly meet to monitor and report on emerging Covid-19 issues; and to support the Welsh Government and Public Health Wales in implementing necessary legislative changes. In June 2020, this Cabinet agreed its Strategic Recovery Aims that have enabled the Council to recover its services and support the City's communities and economy to recover in addition to its commitment in delivering against its Wellbeing Objectives set in the Corporate Plan 2017-22. As part of the Council's Performance Framework, service areas aligned their Service Plans 2020/21 to the four Strategic Recovery Aims as well as providing monthly updates to Cabinet on their ongoing response to the Covid crisis.

The Council's Internal Audit team are undertaking a review of the Council's response to the Covid pandemic. Audit Wales, the Council's external regulator will also be undertaking a number of reviews (local and national) throughout the year to assess the Council's and wider public sector response and recovery to the pandemic.

At the end of every financial year, service areas provide their end of year review of its performance which are presented to the Council's Scrutiny Committees and Cabinet. Service area reviews also

support the Council's Annual Report which self-reflects back on its performance in the year, lesson learned and its plans moving forward. This year's Annual Report 2020/21 will include a reflection back on the Council's response to the Covid-19 pandemic and how we have delivered against our Strategic Recovery Aims, how we will move forward in the final year of delivering this Corporate Plan and developing the next iteration of the Corporate Plan from 2022. Remaining actions and work from the Strategic Recovery Aims will be incorporated into their service plans for 2021/22.

Summarised below and also in Appendix 1 of this report, is a summary (by exception) of Council work to 1<sup>st</sup> June 2021:

<b>Strategic Recovery Aim</b>	<b>Summary of Council's activities to 1<sup>st</sup> June 2021</b>
<b>Strategic Recovery Aim 1</b> – Supporting Education & Employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As of 7th May and since the start of the summer term, 8 primary schools have reported pupils testing positive for covid and 6 contact groups have been required to isolate. 6 secondary school have reported pupils testing positive for covid and 3 contact groups have been required to isolate. No pupils have been reported as testing positive within special schools or the pupil referral unit.</li> <li>As of 6th May 2021, out of the 6757 digital devices provided for schools from the WG Hwb EdTech funding, 6735 have been delivered to schools. This includes: 4887 chrome books, 967 laptops and 419 Apple devices.</li> <li>Digital equipment has been available to Flying Start, Families First and Health Visitors for families they have been working with. To date we have allocated 17 tablets and 5 wifi packs which has allowed families to engage in services to support them. These families would not have been able to access such services otherwise.</li> </ul>
<b>Strategic Recovery Aim 2</b> – Supporting the Environment and the Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Since the last update in May, Spring Restrictions Grants final total of £1.64m with 820 businesses/self-employed persons assisted.</li> <li>We are developing a Local Area Energy Plan for Newport which will be a significant opportunity for the public and private sector to work with communities to support the decarbonisation of Newport's power, heat and transport needs for the future</li> </ul>
<b>Strategic Recovery Aim 3</b> – Supporting the Health & Wellbeing of Citizens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One care home in Newport has confirmed that they are closing resulting in the loss of 30 beds. Multi-agency planning meetings are in place.</li> <li>Regulatory Services are continuing to will be supporting businesses reopening as restrictions are eased over the next few months.</li> <li>Newport Live have reopened their indoor facilities in line with UK Government guidance that will enable people to undertake exercise again.</li> <li>As lockdown restrictions ease, this has allowed the re-opening of the Museum and Gallery from 17th May. This will need to proceed in a covid safe manner with pre-booked appointments.</li> </ul>
<b>Strategic Recovery Aim 4</b> – Supporting Citizens post Covid-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policy, Partnership and Involvement team will be conducting a survey with the Citizens Panel and the wider public through the bus wifi on the impacts of the second lockdown measures, the Council's (including partners) response and communication with Newport's communities.</li> <li>Proposals are being developed for the safe return to offering face-to-face appointments in community facilities across various work streams such as Work and Skills.</li> <li>Continuation of outreach services for rough sleepers has been prioritised and funded via WG hardship funds and Housing Support Grant. WG 'phase 2' capital projects are progressing, which will provide up to 40 units of accommodation to facilitate move on from temporary accommodation.</li> </ul>

### Financial Summary

The Council's financial (revenue and capital) update is reported separately as part of the Council's budget management. The Covid-19 impact is reported to Cabinet and as highlighted in previous finance

reports, the Council's financial position continues to be closely monitored in light of significant reductions in income and increase in costs to deliver services during the crisis.

### **Risks**

Through the Council's Risk Management process, the Covid-19 risk is reported every quarter to the Council's Cabinet and Audit Committee. Below is the latest update taken from the Quarter 4 2020/21 risk report update.

Risk	Impact of Risk if it occurs* (1-5)	Probability of risk occurring (1-5)	What is the Council doing or what has it done to avoid the risk or reduce its effect	Who is responsible for dealing with the risk?
Covid 19 Pandemic Risk (Corporate Risk)	5	4	Mitigation measures outlined in the report.	Corporate Management Team

### **Links to Council Policies and Priorities**

Corporate Plan 2017-22  
Strategic Recovery Aims

### **Options Available and considered**

1. To consider and note the contents of the report and for Cabinet / Cabinet Members to receive updates from officers as part of their portfolio.
2. To request further information or reject the contents of the report

### **Preferred Option and Why**

1. To consider and note the contents of the report and for Cabinet / Cabinet Members to receive updates from officers as part of their portfolio briefings.

### **Comments of Chief Financial Officer**

Welsh Government have been supporting local authorities through the pandemic with a Hardship Fund intended to reimburse for all Covid related spend over and above existing budgets and within a set criteria. The fund also includes loss of income compensation; again, within a set criteria. The fund will run to the end of the current financial year. It is continually developing and evolving to support specific initiatives as and when required.

In essence, Covid related, eligible expenditure is predominantly funded by the WG. A revenue budget monitor to end of November was reported to January Cabinet and confirmed a positive overall position for the Council and included the impact of the financial assistance provided from the Hardship Fund as well as the normal and routine budget issues that affect the Council.

### **Comments of Monitoring Officer**

There are no specific legal issues arising from the Report, which provides an update on the actions taken to deliver the Council's Covid-19 Response and Strategic Recovery Aims and progress since the previous report. Any legal issues will be picked up at the appropriate time as part of the operational delivery of the individual actions, within service areas. Since the last report, the TTP team and Environmental Health officers have continued to deal with community and workplace clusters of cases and increased contact tracing and testing has been carried out to manage and contain these cases. The restrictions and the roll-out of increased testing and vaccinations have continued to have a positive impact on positivity rates nationally. With the move to alert level 3 and the phased relaxation of the

restrictions, enforcement staff have continued to provide advice and assistance to facilitate the re-opening of non-essential retail and hospitality.

Increased inspections have also been undertaken to ensure that businesses continue to comply with the revised Regulations and guidance and that proper safety measures are in place. In addition, the officer Safety Advisory Group is facilitating the delivery of a number of trial events in conjunction with Public Health and Welsh Government.

### **Comments of Head of People and Business Change**

Newport Council has continued to build on the strong collaborative work through 2020/21. The Strategic Recovery Aims alongside the Council's Corporate Plan has enabled the Council to focus on its core delivery requirements whilst ensuring we comply with the Welsh Government and Public Health Wales legislation. The role of Civil Contingencies, emergency planning, and the Council's Test, Trace and Protect has been vital to ensure the risk to the City's communities are minimised and that the Council continues to deliver its services to residents and businesses.

The Council's supporting services and our partners are building on the advancements made to ensure we are able to operate safely and maintain the necessary social distance guidelines. The progress detailed in this report highlights the continuous work that is being made and build up resilience in the long term.

The HR implications are as outlined in the report as we continue to support the workforce through provision of equipment and a range of wellbeing measures.

### **Comments of Cabinet Member**

The Leader of the Council is briefed on all aspects of the Council's strategic recovery.

### **Local issues**

Members to be aware of the impacts that Covid is having on our Local Communities and business.

### **Scrutiny Committees**

Not Applicable

### **Equalities Impact Assessment**

The findings outlined in the Council's Covid-19 Community Impact Assessment have informed the development of the Strategic Recovery Aims as well as future strategic and operational decision making.

### **Children and Families (Wales) Measure**

Not applicable.

### **Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015**

The areas covered in this report demonstrate the progress being made against the Strategic Recovery Aims which also support the Council's Corporate Plan 2017-22.

In consideration of the sustainable development principle, 5 ways of working:

**Long Term** – The progress reported against the Strategic Aims support the long term aims of the Council to improve people's lives.

**Preventative** – The preventative work outlined in the report support the Council's approach to minimising future Covid 19 outbreaks and as necessary provide targeted support to those that need it. Re-establishing services in line with necessary legislation and regulation enables the Council to operate in the new normal.

**Integration** – The Strategic Recovery Aims have been integrated with the Council's Wellbeing Objectives set in the Corporate Plan as well as Service Plans. Recommendations from the Community

Impact Assessment will also shape how the Council can improve the delivery of services across communities.

**Involvement** – Included in this report are actions to involve Newport's communities to provide assurance and shape the way in which services are being delivered by the Council. Their feedback and involvement in the process will enable the Council to consider how services are delivered in the long term.

**Collaboration** - The actions in the report are being undertaken in collaboration with partners from the Council's Public Services Board but also strategic partners within each service area. The collaborative work enables the Council to share resources and build expertise and knowledge.

## **Crime and Disorder Act 1998**

Not applicable.

## **Consultation**

Senior Leadership Team

Corporate Management Team

Officer leads across the Authority

## **Background Papers**

Cabinet Report (Strategic Recovery Aims) – July 2020

Corporate Plan 2017-22

Strategic Recovery Aims

[Responding to the 'New Normal' Report to Overview and Management Scrutiny Committee](#)

**Dated: 10 June 2021**

## Appendix 1 – Progress of Delivery against Strategic Recovery Aims (to 1<sup>st</sup> June 2021)

<b>Strategic Recovery Aim 1 – Supporting Education &amp; Employment.</b> Understand, and respond to, the additional challenges, which Covid19 has presented, including loss of employment, impact on business and on the progress, achievement and wellbeing of both mainstream and vulnerable learners.	
<b>Supports Wellbeing Objective 1</b> – To improve skills, education and employment opportunities.	
Strategic Aim Step	June'21 Update (By Exception)
Support schools and other educational establishments to safely reopen for staff and pupils.	<p>Schools opened for all learners at the start of the summer term. As of 7<sup>th</sup> May and since the start of the summer term, 8 primary schools have reported pupils testing positive for covid and 6 contact groups have been required to isolate. 6 secondary school have reported pupils testing positive for covid and 3 contact groups have been required to isolate. No pupils have been reported as testing positive within special schools or the pupil referral unit.</p> <p>The school meals service has now been reinstated across all schools. However the supermarket voucher scheme is still being used to support those pupils eligible for free school meals who are prevented from attending school on a short-term basis after being identified as part of a contact group. The scheme was also used to support the May Day Bank Holiday and the Summer Half-Term Holiday.</p> <p>Where appropriate, and supported by individual risk assessments, Breakfast Club provisions have been reinstated across 23 schools. This position will be regularly reviewed by individual Headteachers and Governing Bodies.</p> <p>Services which support the effective running of schools - Home to School Transport and Facilities Management through Newport Norse – are operating appropriately.</p> <p>As at 7<sup>th</sup> May 2021, there were no requests to the Education Service from schools for priority testing for symptomatic pupils.</p> <p>Also as at 7<sup>th</sup> May, 118 individuals who work in schools and settings have collected lateral flow tests from central education. These can be used twice a week on a voluntary basis.</p>
Work to prevent and reduce inequality of progress and outcomes in education for mainstream and vulnerable learners.	Education Welfare Officers continue to work closely with schools. In particular they have focused support on the 656 pupils with a rate of attendance that falls below 50% this academic year to date.
Support schools to enhance and develop digital skills; digital teaching and learning platforms;	As of 6 <sup>th</sup> May 2021, out of the 6757 digital devices provided for schools from the WG Hwb EdTech funding, 6735 have been delivered to schools. This includes: 4887 chrome books, 967 laptops and 419 Apple devices.



**Strategic Recovery Aim 1 – Supporting Education & Employment.**

Understand, and respond to, the additional challenges, which Covid19 has presented, including loss of employment, impact on business and on the progress, achievement and wellbeing of both mainstream and vulnerable learners.

**Supports Wellbeing Objective 1 – To improve skills, education and employment opportunities.**

<b>Strategic Aim Step</b>	<b>June'21 Update (By Exception)</b>
and enhanced support for digitally excluded learners	To support pupils who need access to connectivity and do not have a MiFi device, Welsh Government has negotiated mobile data uplifts with an increased number of mobile network operators (BT Mobile, EE, Lyca Mobile, SMARTY, Tesco Mobile, Three, Virgin Mobile and Vodafone). To date, 149 parents who have existing contracts with these providers have applied for mobile data uplifts via the school and local authority.
Support and enable people that are digitally excluded to access community IT programmes, Council services and other public services.	People and Business Change have commenced the development of the new Digital Strategy that will consider the impacts of Covid-19 on communities, staff and services provided.
Support people who have been affected by unemployment to access new opportunities through training and re-employment required for post Covid 19 businesses.	<p>The successful provider had been named as Serco and we are seeking to deliver 3% of the total Newport allocation. Itec and Maximus (Remploy) are delivering the remaining 3% between them. First referrals are expected to be received in July 2021</p> <p>A collaborative LA cluster bid has been submitted to the Community Renewal Fund with a view to recruiting staff to work in partnership with Health and Work &amp; Skills supporting families who have been affected by Furlough or any other Covid related employment support.</p>
Ensure our diverse communities are appropriately supported through tailored interventions specific to their needs, including consideration of language, culture and points of access.	<p>Support for families with No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF) continues through the provision of free school meals to eligible children post-COVID</p> <p>Food Poverty Funding has been awarded to a number of community-led projects providing support to residents in Newport, with a focus on those communities most impacted by the pandemic and other social impacts including EU exit (refugees and asylum seekers, ethnic minority communities and EU citizens)</p> <p>Community Partnership with Dragons Rugby has led on the delivery of health and wellbeing sessions for women from a minority ethnic background.</p> <p>In line with recent and future easing of restrictions, proposals are being developed to move to face-to-face appointments in outdoor spaces, where parents choose not to engage virtually. Also to resume face-to-face indoor appointments when possible.</p> <p>Digital equipment has been available to Flying Start, Families First and Health Visitors for families they have been working with. To date we have allocated 17 tablets and 5 wifi packs which has allowed families to engage in services to support them. These families would not have been able to access such services otherwise.</p>

**Strategic Recovery Aim 1 – Supporting Education & Employment.**

Understand, and respond to, the additional challenges, which Covid19 has presented, including loss of employment, impact on business and on the progress, achievement and wellbeing of both mainstream and vulnerable learners.

**Supports Wellbeing Objective 1 – To improve skills, education and employment opportunities.**

Strategic Aim Step	June'21 Update (By Exception)
	<p>Additional Child Development Funding is being sought, including additional Language and Play workers and Play Development Officers, to continue support for children and families which commenced in Q4 of 2020/21.</p> <p>In collaboration with Save the Children UK, Emergency Response Grants for Parents and Children at Home are being provided to ensure continuity of children's early learning and minimise inequalities in the home learning environment since the start of the Pandemic. This can provide families living in poverty with essential items they need and minimise further financial pressure on families who are already vulnerable. Eligible families will receive an Early Learning Pack and other resources up to the value of £340. This has enabled them to have essential household items (not white goods) delivered directly to their home or Supermarket E-Vouchers. Since 5th June 2020 Referral Partners from Newport City Council made up of Family Intervention workers in the hubs and schools have successfully applied for 179 Grants with STC to a value of £60,000 in total.</p>

**Strategic Recovery Aim 2 – Supporting the Environment and the Economy**

Understand and respond to the impact of Covid19 on the city's economic and environmental goals to enable Newport to thrive again.

**Supports Wellbeing Objective 2 – To promote economic growth and regeneration whilst protecting the environment.**

Strategic Aim Step	June'21 Update (By Exception)
Maintain our focus on regenerating Newport to deliver existing and new investment projects.	Since the last update in May, Spring Restrictions Grants final total of £1.64m with 820 businesses/self-employed persons assisted. The project to refurbish the Indoor Market proceeding well on site whilst Cardiff Capital Region have awarded Housing Investment Fund for projects at Old Town Dock and Ringland.
Enable and support the construction industry to re-establish the supply of new and affordable housing.	<p>The Social Housing Grant Group strategy meeting has been held and individual meetings will now take place with each of the Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) in order to discuss schemes in detail and draft a development programme for submission to Welsh Government.</p> <p>Council approved the submission of the Delivery Agreement and Review Report to Welsh Government which triggers the formal review of the Local Development Plan.</p>
Enable and support businesses to re-establish normal	Regulatory Services are continuing to will be supporting businesses reopening as restrictions are eased over the next few months.

<b>Strategic Recovery Aim 2 – Supporting the Environment and the Economy</b> Understand and respond to the impact of Covid19 on the city's economic and environmental goals to enable Newport to thrive again.	
<b>Supports Wellbeing Objective 2 – To promote economic growth and regeneration whilst protecting the environment.</b>	
Strategic Aim Step	June'21 Update (By Exception)
operations whilst maintaining the health and safety of their workers and customers.	
Enable and support businesses to prepare for future trade arrangements resulting from Brexit negotiations.	June Cabinet Report presented with an update on the Council's response to new trading and immigration rules. The Community Cohesion team will be increasing its work in the last month of the EUSS to promote and encourage as many people to apply before the deadline of 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2021.
Protect and improve the environment, including air quality and decarbonisation of the city for its residents, businesses and visitors.	<p>As part of our wider role as a council in shaping Newport and Wales' transition to a low-carbon society we are developing a Local Area Energy Plan for Newport which will be a significant opportunity for the public and private sector to work with communities to support the decarbonisation of Newport's power, heat and transport needs for the future. The first stakeholder workshop took place on the 5<sup>th</sup> May.</p> <p>The carbon reduction team has been scoping the potential for further solar PV to be installed across our estate. An implementation plan is to be developed.</p>
Continuing support and safe delivery of the Council's City services including waste, cleansing and highways.	Studies are ongoing to integrate further electric vehicle charging and renewable energy to support zero emission transportation.

<b>Strategic Recovery Aim 3 – Supporting the Health &amp; Wellbeing of Citizens</b> Promote and protect the health and wellbeing of people, safeguarding the most vulnerable, and building strong, resilient communities	
<b>Supports Wellbeing Objective 3 – To enable people to be healthy, independent and resilient</b>	
Strategic Aim Step	June'21 Update (By Exception)
Support people to remain living independently in their homes and communities.	<p>One care home in Newport has confirmed that they are closing resulting in the loss of 30 beds. The vacancy rate in Newport is sufficient to ensure all residents have appropriate alternative options but this is a challenging situation to be worked through with residents and their families. Multi-agency planning meetings are in place.</p> <p>We have good access to domiciliary care and agencies are coping well. The Reablement teams are able to support people with a discharge from hospital and Home First continues to operate from the hospital sites ensuring that people who don't need admission are able to return home.</p>

### Strategic Recovery Aim 3 – Supporting the Health & Wellbeing of Citizens

Promote and protect the health and wellbeing of people, safeguarding the most vulnerable, and building strong, resilient communities

#### Supports Wellbeing Objective 3 – To enable people to be healthy, independent and resilient

Strategic Aim Step	June'21 Update (By Exception)
Fully restore Children and Adult Services, supporting partners that have been impacted by Covid 19 and ensuring service users and staff are supported and protected.	<p>There is evidence that some citizens are more confident to resume day services now that the vaccinations have been widely rolled out and testing is available.</p> <p>Providers are considering how to modify service arrangements to accommodate demand in a Covid safe environment. Plans are being shared with NCC and discussions are ongoing.</p> <p>We continue to provide AMHP Mental Health service but the demand has increased significantly and we are also working with housing to continue to accommodate people who were previously homeless many of whom require specialist intervention from GDAS.</p>
Assess the impact and the long-term sustainability of the social care sector in Newport informing future service requirements.	<p>2021/22 fee negotiations are nearly concluded. The terms of the hardship fund are confirmed until the end of June when a change of criteria is expected to apply to the fund for the last 3 months.</p> <p>We are starting to step back up the accommodation options for people coming through transitions who will need specialist accommodation because of the nature of their disabilities.</p>
Safeguard and support children and young people to remain safely with their families.	<p>Welsh Government Integrated Care Fund has awarded capital funding for Project Perthyn which is aimed at bringing children back into the City where they can receive better standards of care and be closer to their families. The funding will be used towards the development of a third home in the City which can be used by other Councils in Gwent for children with complex needs.</p>
Improve opportunities for Active Travel and work towards improved air quality.	<p>In collaboration with Network Rail further development has been made with the installation of a new accessible walkway from Devon Place to Queensway. Network Rail have announced that this winter they will close the line that will enable the necessary works to take place. The new footbridge will provide a safer route for pedestrians and improve access for disabled people in the city.</p> <p>The Council also received fantastic news that it will have £9.4m to deliver Active Travel schemes in Newport in 2021/22.</p>
Regulate businesses and support consumers / residents to protect and improve their health.	<p>Regulatory Services are continuing to will be supporting businesses reopening as restrictions are eased over the next few months.</p>
Work with key partners to safely re-open cultural and leisure facilities including the promotion of the city's parks, open spaces and coastal paths.	<p>Newport Live have reopened their indoor facilities in line with UK Government guidance that will enable people to undertake exercise again.</p> <p>As lockdown restrictions ease, this has allowed the re-opening of the Museum and Gallery from 17th May. This will need to proceed in a covid safe manner with pre-booked appointments.</p>

**Strategic Recovery Aim 3 – Supporting the Health & Wellbeing of Citizens**

Promote and protect the health and wellbeing of people, safeguarding the most vulnerable, and building strong, resilient communities

**Supports Wellbeing Objective 3 – To enable people to be healthy, independent and resilient**

<b>Strategic Aim Step</b>	<b>June'21 Update (By Exception)</b>
Sustain a safe, healthy and productive workforce.	<p>Actions following the audit of the current risk assessment for the Civic Centre will be undertaken and completed by the end of the period.</p> <p>Our approach to managing attendance whilst supporting the workforce to be safe and healthy is under review with a new approach designed and being discussed with trade unions prior to any formal adoption. This is timely as coincides with a spike of referrals to the H&amp;S service for stress assessments related to Covid concerns.</p>

**Strategic Recovery Aim 4 – Supporting Citizens post Covid-19**

Provide people with the resources and support that they need to move out of the crisis, considering in particular the impact that Covid 19 has had on our minority and marginalised communities.

**Supports Wellbeing Objective 4 – To build cohesive and sustainable communities**

<b>Strategic Aim Step</b>	<b>June'21 Update (By Exception)</b>
Work together with our partners to reduce poverty, address homelessness and support our most vulnerable people as a priority.	<p>Temporary accommodation acquisition is continuing, to meet demands on statutory service provision. Continuation of outreach services for rough sleepers has been prioritised and funded via WG hardship funds and Housing Support Grant. WG 'phase 2' capital projects are progressing, which will provide up to 40 units of accommodation to facilitate move on from temporary accommodation. Social Housing Grant slippage has enabled a scheme to be brought forward that will provide another 9 units of accommodation by the end of 2021. Commuted sums are being utilised to bring RSL accommodation back into use. The Social Housing Grant programme is being developed which will prioritise accommodation to meet current need due to the pandemic. Accommodation based support proposals which require Housing Support Grant are being finalised.</p>
Assess and address the inequalities that Covid 19 has highlighted or contributed to within our communities.	<p>The Policy, Partnership and Involvement team will be conducting a survey with the Citizens Panel and the wider public through the bus wifi on the impacts of the second lockdown measures, the Council's (including partners) response and communication with Newport's communities.</p> <p>Inequalities highlighted by COVID-19 are included in the focus of work ongoing to embed the Socio-economic Duty in council decision-making processes. This will ensure longer term planning and policy aims to reduce inequalities that have arisen as a result of both socio-economic disadvantage and for minority/marginalised communities, and encourage more effective engagement with those groups who are affected by council decisions.</p>
Identify, develop and seek to sustain any positive developments emerging during the crisis.	<p>The Policy, Partnership and Involvement team will be conducting a survey with the Citizens Panel and the wider public through the bus wifi on the impacts of the second lockdown measures, the Council's (including partners) response and communication with Newport's communities.</p>

**Strategic Recovery Aim 4 – Supporting Citizens post Covid-19**

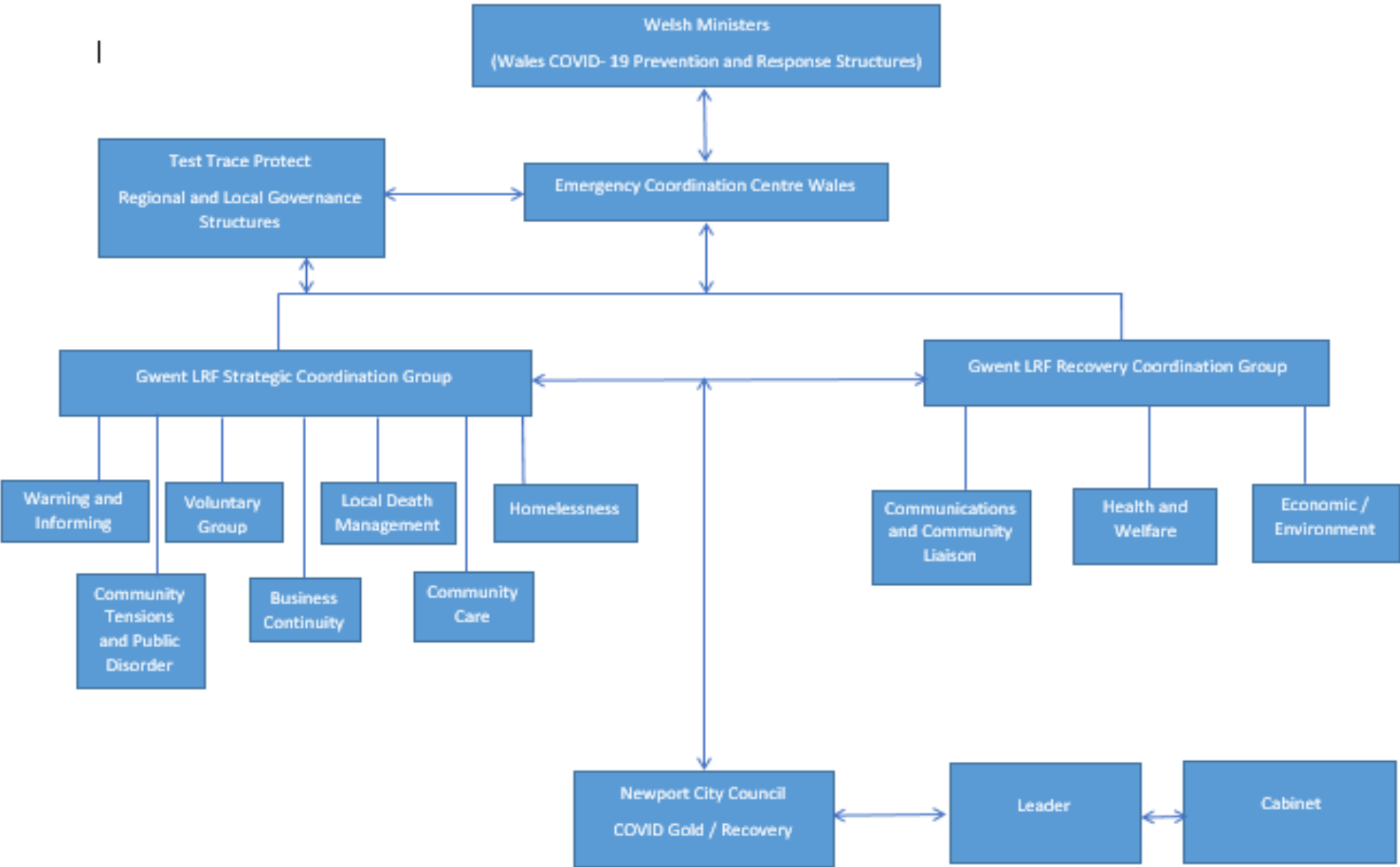
Provide people with the resources and support that they need to move out of the crisis, considering in particular the impact that Covid 19 has had on our minority and marginalised communities.

**Supports Wellbeing Objective 4 – To build cohesive and sustainable communities**

<b>Strategic Aim Step</b>	<b>June'21 Update (By Exception)</b>
Developing opportunities for people to access suitable and affordable housing	The Social Housing Grant Group strategy meeting has been held and individual meetings will now take place with each of the RSLs in order to discuss schemes in detail and draft a development programme for submission to Welsh Government.
Deliver a community cohesion programme that effectively responds to community tensions and creates a shared sense of identity across the city.	Welsh Government have confirmed funding for continuation of community cohesion work until March 31st 2022. Recent activity includes a virtual Ramadan learning project for schools and the development of the 'Faces of Welshness' project, focussed on celebrating difference and recognising commonality across diverse communities in Newport.
Prevent and address instances of antisocial behaviour (ASB) impacting upon the residents and the business community of Newport	<p>Referrals continue to be received for young people being involved with ASB, but the number of referrals continue to be low. Police officers are trying to identify young people involved but continues to prove challenging. The direct work with young people will hope to commence as soon as restrictions lift.</p> <p>A number of partners are making contact with young people offering remote support. The ASB group is due to meet and areas to be discussed include - Post Covid support, Data sharing, Planning for new financial year. Partners met to discuss how we could improve the voice of the community. Further work is needed to establish the best fit to managing this. The data sharing group has met and progress is being made.</p>
Re-establish Community Regeneration facilities and services where it is safe to do so for staff and its service users.	Proposals are being developed for the safe return to offering face-to-face appointments in community facilities across various work streams such as Work and Skills.
Develop opportunities for community involvement participation and engagement.	Newport Council launched an invitation for Community Groups, Education establishments and other private / not for profit organisations to submit applications for the UK Community Renewal Fund. This has generated significant interest from local and regional groups. The Council will be assessing the applications and submitting a shortlist of applicants to the UK Government to evaluate and hopefully award funding to those groups.



Appendix 2 – Covid 19 Prevention and Response Structure





# Report

## Cabinet

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### Part 1

Date: 16 June 2021

**Subject** Post Brexit / Trade Agreement – Newport City Council Update

**Purpose** To present an update to Cabinet on the UK and EU relationship including an update on Newport City Council's response and monitoring of the post UK/EU after 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020.

**Author** Chief Executive  
Head of People and Business Change

**Ward** All

**Summary** Since the last report to Cabinet on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021, the UK and EU arrangements have been in place for over five months and the UK and EU are still adapting to these new changes and there are many uncertainties on what the medium to long term impact(s) of these new arrangements will be for Newport and Wales.

The deadline for EU citizens to apply for EU Settled Status is imminent with the 30<sup>th</sup> June deadline. The Council and its partners have been promoting and supporting people through the process. However, it remains unknown how many people have not applied and what the outcomes could be for those who have not applied or unsuccessful after the deadline.

In March, the UK Government announced two subsidy schemes that will replace EU Structural Funding that many areas in South East Wales including Newport benefited from. These are outlined in the report and Newport Council will be submitting bids to access the funding.

**Proposal** Cabinet is asked to consider the contents of the report and note the Council's Brexit response.

**Action by** Corporate Management Team

**Timetable** Immediate

This report was prepared after consultation with:

- Heads of Service and officer Brexit 'Task and Finish' group

**Signed**

## Background

The UK officially left the European Union and the Single Market on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020. The UK and EU have agreed a trade arrangement that will prevent tariffs being imposed on EU and UK goods. But the new regulations now require businesses that trade with the EU to complete a number of forms and documents in order to continue to meet the new arrangements. As the economy reopens through the easing of Covid restrictions this may reveal some of the impacts that Brexit has had on the economy in Wales over the medium to long term.

Since the UK left the EU, there remains many legislative areas to be ratified across the UK. In March, the UK Government announced two subsidy schemes that will replace EU Structural Funding that many areas in South East Wales including Newport benefited from:

### 1. Levelling Up Fund

£800m has been allocated to the devolved nations (although the exact amount Welsh authorities will receive are unknown) to priority areas. Newport has been categorised as a Priority 1 area and will focus on three investment themes: transport investments; regeneration and town centre investment and cultural investment. Local authorities will be able to submit one bid for every MP that lies in their boundary which means Newport will be able to submit two bids. Bids can also be submitted in collaboration with neighbouring authorities on cross boundary schemes.

Newport Council is currently examining potential options for the City and over the next month will be pulling together bids for the fund.

### 2. UK Community Renewal Fund (precursor to the UK Shared Prosperity Fund)

The UK Community Renewal Fund is the precursor to the UK Shared Prosperity Fund that will be available for 2021/22. The UK Government announced £220 million of investment but it is not clear at the time of this report how much Wales will be able to access this fund. The UK Government has also identified 100 priority areas most in need based upon productivity, household income, unemployment, skills and population density. For Newport, we were not identified as a priority area under this criteria but we can still submit bids for funding albeit subject to tighter evaluation requirements in comparison to the Top 100 areas. The Council, local community groups, education establishments will be able to submit bids (Up to £3m) to the Lead Authority (Newport Council) which will have to be assessed and selected by panel before formally submitted to the UK Government.

Both of these funds will require Newport Council to submit bids to the UK Government which will be subject to an assessment and compete with other local authorities across the UK. Therefore it will not be guaranteed that Newport will be successful with this bids. Both funds must have bids submitted by 18<sup>th</sup> June 2021 and there will be further work which the Council and partners need to do to identify and submit robust proposals.

In April, Newport Council launched its webpage on the [Council's website](#) for groups to apply for the funding by 21<sup>st</sup> May. Newport Council received xx applications from local, regional and national organisations. The applications received have been assessed and shortlisted by a panel for submission to the UK Government by 18<sup>th</sup> June 2021.

This work will also support the Welsh Government (WG) position published in its '[End of Transition Action Plan](#)' which sets out the WG priority areas. In addition to this WG has also published its paper [The New relationship with the EU](#) which outlines what the new trade arrangements, security, travel and rights of UK / EU Citizens. New migration and travel rules have also come into place from the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021 including:

- New points based immigration system for all non UK residents (excluding Irish Citizens) looking to move and work in the UK.

- Travellers into and out of the UK will have to follow new rules including travel insurance with health cover. From 2022 UK nationals will have to pay for an electronic authorisation to travel to the EU.
- UK citizens looking to move to the EU will no longer have an automatic right to live or work and will require necessary resident permits or requirements of that country.

### **EU Settled Status / Post Brexit Rights**

The deadline for EU/EAA citizens to apply for EU Settled Status remains as 30<sup>th</sup> June. EU Citizens living and working in Newport significantly contribute towards the City's economy and its communities. December 2020 data from the Home Office shows Newport to have 8,800 applications. It is vital that we encourage all EU/EAA residents living in the City to apply before the deadline to ensure that they are not disadvantaged after this date. Since the scheme has been in operation, Newport Council, alongside our partners at Newport Mind, Newfields Law, Citizens Advice Bureau, Settled and TGP Cymru have been working closely with our communities to support them. This period, we delivered a well-attended event for professionals, focussed on ensuring service providers across Newport are aware of EU/EAA citizens' rights post-Brexit, and minimising the risk of unlawful discrimination. Welsh Government and the WLGA are aware of the uncertainty and challenges being faced by EU citizens and are seeking assurances from the Home Office over their rights after the deadline. To date, requests to extend the application deadline have been declined.

The Council has raised concerns relating to the impact on local EU /EAA communities with the WLGA Brexit Co-ordinators Group and Welsh Government, and will continue to work to provide necessary advice, guidance and support to businesses and residents. The Council's EU Citizens Forum is now a well-established group, bringing partners across public and third sector services together regularly in order to continue to address patterns of concern as they arise.

A summary of the Council's ongoing work is outlined below:

**Communication** – Newport Council has been promoting the UK Community Renewal Fund and will be promoting this fund through our various communication channels. Newport Council's Communication team will be releasing further multi-language social media to communities across Newport to encourage people to apply to EUSS before 30<sup>th</sup> June. We have been sharing communications from the Council and Welsh Government on EUSS, Business support and providing services to EU residents in the city. The Council's internal communications team has also been sharing further information on EUSS and post Brexit rights.

**Finance** –There are no specific reserves or contingencies currently that deal exclusively with Brexit but the Council's budget includes a 'general budget contingency' of £1.5m to deal with short term / in-year budget pressures and consideration will need to be given to any specific reserves/contingencies required as part of 2021/22 budget setting.

Newport Council has received an additional £46k for 2021/22 to support Brexit and Covid related work. This funding is being used to support a fixed term appointment in the Council's People & Business Change service area.

**Procurement** – Since the new trade arrangements came into place, no significant issues have been reported by service areas in relation to the supply chain as a result of the new trade arrangements. Some areas of the Council have noted price increases in the purchasing of goods and services but it is difficult to determine whether it is as a result of Covid or the new Brexit arrangements. Social Services residential homes, care providers and Education services have not reported any issues relating to food, medicine and other supplies. The Council's IT Provider (Shared Resource Service) have identified supply issues relating to IT equipment such as laptops. Major IT manufacturers have been struggling to keep up with demand due to the pandemic and there is a delay in the supply of key microchips.

**Regulatory Services and Environmental Health** – The Council's Regulatory Service completed work contacting businesses across Newport to provide advice and support with EU imports / exports compliance.

Environmental Health Food Safety team are now fully trained to undertake EU Health Certificate checks. Civil Contingencies and Regulatory Services have not identified any issues with Newport Port.

**Education** – Education Services have agreed to provide free school meals to children that have no recourse to public funds.

**Community Cohesion / EUSS** – Community Cohesion officers continue to engage with EU/EAA Citizens and communities to encourage application to the EU Settled Status scheme before 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021. The focus of work has now shifted to also consider support that people will need to access following the June deadline, raising awareness of the rights and entitlements of EU/EAA citizens amongst communities and professionals. Complex migration cases continue to present to the Council for support, and it is anticipated that this will continue. Food Poverty work continues and a number of small grants have been awarded to food projects across the city, with a focus on those community-led provisions who are supporting our most disadvantaged communities, including those affected by both COVID-19 and Brexit.

The Council will also be receiving additional funding in 2021/22 to support communities with Food Poverty with additional emphasis on providing Housing and debt advice / support.

The full list of areas being monitored by the Task & Finish group are included in Appendix 1 of this report. The areas covered above and in Appendix 1 are being undertaken within existing resources.

Appendix 2 – NCC Leaflet for EUSS scheme which will be distributed to households this month.

### **Financial Summary**

As part of the Council's financial monitoring, the Council's Finance team are monitoring any impacts on budgets due to Covid-19 and Brexit.

### **Risks**

The Council's Brexit risk is recorded on the Council's Corporate Risk Register which is presented to Cabinet and Audit Committee every quarter. The Quarter four risk score is detailed below:

Risk	Impact of Risk if it occurs* (1-5)	Probability of risk occurring (1-5)	What is the Council doing or what has it done to avoid the risk or reduce its effect	Who is responsible for dealing with the risk?
Brexit	4	2	See Report.	Corporate Management Team and Brexit Task & Finish Group

### **Links to Council Policies and Priorities**

Corporate Plan  
Strategic Recovery Aims  
Risk Management Strategy

### **Options Available and considered**

1. To consider and note the contents of the report and for Cabinet / Cabinet Members to receive updates from officers as part of their portfolio.
2. To request further information or reject the contents of the report

## **Preferred Option and Why**

1. To consider and note the contents of the report and for Cabinet / Cabinet Members to receive updates from officers as part of their portfolio.

## **Comments of Chief Financial Officer**

The financial impact of Brexit is still uncertain, however, there are indications that there could be an impact on prices and supply of goods that may further impact on both capital and revenue budgets. Budget / Service managers, with finance team colleagues, will continue to monitor these on a regular basis and any issues arising will be highlighted through the regular monitoring and budget setting processes.

Any negative financial impact arising from Brexit, whether it be through price increases or funding reductions could present a significant challenge to the Council. There are no specific reserves or contingencies currently that deal exclusively with Brexit but:

- £828k was allocated in the 2021/22 revenue budget for increased adult social care costs in relation to market stability, Covid recovery and Brexit;
- As part of the considerations of uses for the projected 2020/21 revenue budget underspend and further one-off funding that the 2021/22 new budget will also generate, the Head of Finance recommends that these, in part, are set aside for the Brexit / Covid residual risks in the short term. As the risk stabilises with time, any unused provision/reserve can then be re-allocated into other priorities. More details on this will be made in the 2020/21 revenue budget outturn and 2021/22 new budget reports to Cabinet.

Officers will continue to explore the possibilities of accessing the various grants that are being made available to public bodies in supporting the potential impact of the new arrangements.

## **Comments of Monitoring Officer**

There are no specific legal issues arising from the Report, which provides an update for Cabinet regarding the Council's Brexit preparations. The specific risks associated with the withdrawal have now been mitigated by the belated trade deal, subject to ratification by the member states. However, despite the agreement regarding no tariffs and quotas on imported and exported goods, there is still remaining uncertainty regarding the impact on other areas, such as services and data security. Any legal implications for existing contracts for supplies, services and care provision, data security matters and any regulatory enforcement issues, particularly in relation to port health, will be addressed once the details of the trade agreement are clarified and implemented in national legislation. Despite the non-imposition of tariffs and quotas, additional port health checks will be required in terms of certifying compliance with new Regulations. Environmental Health officers have now been trained to undertake import and export food health certificate checks, and this will have significant resource implications once the port activity increases. Local business advice and support is also being provided in relation to Brexit compliance. The UK Shared Prosperity Fund and the implementation of the Internal Markets legislation will have implications in terms of public sector contracts and procurement and also equivalent state-aid, fair competition requirements.

## **Comments of Head of People and Business Change**

The new trade arrangements with the EU will provide much certainty for businesses and the Council and has significantly reduced the risk for the Council and businesses in Newport. It is encouraging to see a large uptake in the number of residents applying for EUSS and the Council is making every effort alongside its partners to encourage those that have yet to apply, to do so by the deadline. The Council's Brexit Task and Finish officer group will continue to monitor and report on the progress being made by the Council and to raise any further risks and issues as they arise.

## **Comments of Cabinet Member**

The Leader of the Council is briefed on all aspects of risk management within the Council and related Brexit issues and work.



## **Local issues**

Members to be aware the impacts that Brexit can have on our Local Communities and business.

## **Scrutiny Committees**

The Council's Audit Committee receives regular risk register updates on the Council's Risk Register which includes the Brexit Risk.

## **Equalities Impact Assessment**

A paper is being prepared for consideration by the Brexit task and finish group which will assess the potential impact on communities post-December, as well as identifying risks associated with the changes to immigration rules.

## **Children and Families (Wales) Measure**

Not applicable.

## **Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015**

There are potential long term impacts of Brexit Trade Negotiations which could affect the future demand on our services to provide the necessary support, advice and guidance. There may also be opportunities that could arise and the Council will need to make preparations to accordingly. In preparation we have been working collaboratively across the Council and with our partners to make sure that our services to prevent any scenario where services are disrupted and to provide resilience across the City and to our local partners.

We have also been involving our stakeholders and where necessary providing the necessary advice and guidance to those that need our support. Going forward we will continue to monitor and report where necessary any impacts which Brexit could have on the delivery of our services.

## **Crime and Disorder Act 1998**

Not applicable.

## **Consultation**

Corporate Management Team  
Brexit Task & Finish Group

## **Background Papers**

Welsh Government website '[Preparing Wales to leave the EU](#)'  
Welsh Local Government Association '[Brexit Website](#)'  
Newport City Council's '[Brexit Webpage](#)'

**Dated: 10 June 2021**

## Appendix 1 – Summary actions taken through the Task & Finish Group

Theme	Progress of Activity completed by Newport Council to 1 <sup>st</sup> June 2021
<b>Your Organisation (Communications)</b>	<p>We have been sharing communications from the Council and Welsh Government on EUSS, Business support and providing services to EU residents in the city. The Council's internal communications team have also been sharing further information on EUSS and post Brexit rights.</p> <p>The team has also prepared the webpage for groups in Newport to apply for the UK Community Renewal Fund.</p>
<b>Your Organisation (Finance and Funding)</b>	<p>The Council's Finance team are monitoring the impact that the new arrangement will have on the delivery of Council services and major capital projects. There are no specific reserves or contingencies currently that deal exclusively with Brexit but the Council's budget includes a 'general budget contingency' of £1.5m to deal with short term / in-year budget pressures and consideration will need to be given to any specific reserves/contingencies required as part of 2021/22 budget setting.</p>
<b>Supplies and Services (including social services and ICT)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Since the new trade arrangements came into place, no significant issues have been reported by service areas in relation to the supply chain as a result of the new trade arrangements.</li> <li>• Some areas of the Council have noted price increases in the purchasing of goods and services but it is difficult to determine whether it is as a result of Covid or the new Brexit arrangements.</li> <li>• Social Services residential homes and care providers and Education services have not reported any issues relating to food, medicine and other supplies.</li> <li>• The Council's IT Provider (Shared Resource Service) have identified supply issues relating to IT equipment such as laptops. However, major IT manufacturers have been struggling to keep up with demand due to the pandemic and there is a delay in the supply of key microchips.</li> </ul>
<b>Security / Data Protection arrangements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Council's IT provider SRS have necessary virus protection and firewalls in place and continuously monitoring threats to its systems.</li> <li>• Information Commissioner's Office have confirmed EU Data Flow arrangements have been extended for 6 months.</li> </ul>
<b>Supplies and Services (Regulatory Services)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Council's Regulatory Service completed work on contacting businesses across Newport providing advice and guidance on imports / exports.</li> <li>• Environmental Health Food Safety team are now fully trained to undertake EU Health Certificate checks.</li> </ul>
<b>Local Community (Civil Contingencies)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Civil Contingencies and Regulatory Services have not identified any issues with Newport Port.</li> <li>• No issues have been identified since the transition impacting on Civil contingencies in Newport but the team will continue to monitor these.</li> </ul>
<b>Local Community (Community Cohesion)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>EU Settled Status / EU communities</b></li> <li>• <b>Food Poverty</b></li> <li>• <b>Homelessness (EU Citizens)</b></li> <li>• <b>Community cohesion</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Cohesion officers continue to engage with EU Citizens and communities to encourage EUSS applications before June 30th leaders encouraging the uptake of the EU Settled Status application before 30th June 2021.</li> <li>• Leaflet produced to be distributed this month.</li> <li>• Post Brexit rights webinar has been held in March and further engagement work will be undertaken to both encourage EU Citizens to apply to the scheme and raise awareness of their rights post-June.</li> <li>• Food Poverty work continues and are offering and a number of small grants have been awarded to community-led food projects to Newport</li> </ul>

Theme	Progress of Activity completed by Newport Council to 1 <sup>st</sup> June 2021
	<p>Food organisations to support households impacted by Covid and Brexit.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Newport Council will be receiving new funding from April 2021 to support more food poverty work and providing housing / debt advice.</li> <li>• The work of Community Cohesion officers is also focusing on post-Brexit rights and access to key services in the City.</li> <li>• Complex migration cases continue to present to the council for support, and this is expected to continue</li> <li>• The council are aware of a growing number of EU and non-EU nationals who are finding themselves with no recourse to public funds as a result of EUSS outcomes, and the hidden demand for support which is at present masked by extended COVID duties which require LAs to house people with no recourse to public funds (NRPF), as well as the current restrictions on private evictions.</li> <li>• Education have confirmed that children that are in NRPF families will have access to free school meals.</li> <li>• As we move into a period where people are more at risk of having an insecure migration status, or judged as living unlawfully in the UK, these risks will be compounded.</li> </ul>

## Czy jesteś obywatelem Unii Europejskiej, Europejskiego Obszaru Gospodarczego lub Szwajcarii i mieszkasz w Newport?



**Wielka Brytania (UK) opuściła Unię Europejską (UE) 31 stycznia 2020 r.** Jeśli mieszkasz w Wielkiej Brytanii, ale pochodzisz z kraju należącego do Unii Europejskiej, Europejskiego Obszaru Gospodarczego (EAA) lub Szwajcarii, musisz złożyć wniosek o status osiedleńczy (EUSS) do **30-go czerwca 2021 r.**, aby móc pozostać w UK.

### Czas ucieka



**Złóż wniosek do programu osiedleńczego UE, aby zachować swoje prawa w Wielkiej Brytanii.** Możesz złożyć wniosek przez internet na stronie gov.uk - wyszukaj **'apply EUSS'**.

Uzyskaj bezpłatne, niezależne wsparcie, aby złożyć wniosek - wyślij e-mail na adres **nccequality@newport.gov.uk** w dowolnym języku. Współpracujemy z siecią wyspecjalizowanych prawników i organizacji charytatywnych, aby zapewnić ludziom dostęp do pomocy i porad. Więcej informacji na temat oferowanego wsparcia można znaleźć, wyszukując **'EUSS Wales'**

**Upewnij się, że nikt z Twoich europejskich przyjaciół, rodziny, kolegów i sąsiadów nie przegapi terminu złożenia wniosku.**

## Ste občanom EÚ, EHP alebo Švajčiarska žijúcim v Newporte?



**Spojené kráľovstvo (UK) opustilo Európsku úniu (EÚ) 31. januára 2020.** Ak žijete v Spojenom kráľovstve, ale pôvodne pochádzate z krajiny EÚ, Európskeho hospodárskeho priestoru (EÚP) alebo Švajčiarska, musíte do **30. júna** požiadať o Pobytovú schému pre občanov EÚ (ďalej len "EUSS").

### Čas uteká



**Požiadajte o Pobytovú schému pre občanov EÚ, aby ste si mohli ponechať svoje práva v Spojenom kráľovstve.** Prihlásiť sa môžete online na webovej stránke – vyhládajte **'apply EUSS'**.

Získajte bezplatnú nezávislú podporu pre žiadosť – zašlite e-mail na **nccequality@newport.gov.uk** v akomkoľvek jazyku. Spolupracujeme so sieťou právnych špecialistov a charitatívnych organizácií, aby sme zabezpečili, že ľudia budú mať prístup k pomoci a radám. Viac informácií o ponúkanej podpore nájdete vyhľadaním **'EUSS Wales'**

**Uistite sa, že žiadny z vašich európskych priateľov, rodiny, kolegov a susedov nezmešká termín na podanie žiadosti.**

## Are you an EU, EAA or Swiss citizen living in Newport?



**The United Kingdom (UK) left the European Union (EU) on 31 January 2020.** If you are living in the UK but originally from a country in the EU, European Economic Area (EAA) or Switzerland, you must apply to the EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS) by the **30 June** to stay in the UK.

### Time is running out



**Apply to the EU Settlement Scheme so that you can keep your rights in the UK.** You can apply online on the gov.uk website – search **'apply EUSS'**.

Get free, independent support to apply – email **nccequality@newport.gov.uk** in any language. We are working with a network of legal specialists and charities to make sure people can access help and advice. You can find out more about the support on offer by searching **'EUSS Wales'**

**Make sure none of your European friends, family, colleagues and neighbours miss the deadline to apply.**

**Chcemy, żebyście zostali w Walii, gdzie zawsze będziecie mile widziani.**

**Chceme, aby ste zostali vo Walese, kde budete vždy vítaní.**

**We want you to stay in Wales, where you will always be welcome.**



## Vajon Ön EU, EGT illetve Svájci állampolgár aki Newportban lakik?



Az Egyesült Királyság (UK) kilépett az Európai Unióból (EU-ból) 2020 január 31-én. Ha Ön az UK-ban lakik de eredetileg egy EU illetve Európai Gazdasági Térség (EGT) országból vagy Svájból származik, Önnek jelentkeznie kell az EU polgárok letelepedési rendszerébe (EUSS-be) **június 30-ig** ahhoz hogy az UK-ban maradjon.

### Fogy az idő



Jelentkezzen az EU polgárok letelepedési rendszerébe ahhoz hogy megtartsa a jogait az UK-ban. Ön az Internet révén jelentkezhet a gov.uk web oldalon - a következőt kell keresni: **'apply EUSS'**.

Részsüljön ingyenes, független támogatásban a jelentkezéshez - email [nccequality@newport.gov.uk](mailto:nccequality@newport.gov.uk) bármilyen nyelvben. Mi egy jogi szakértőkből és jótékonsági szervezetekből álló hálózattal dolgozunk annak biztosítására hogy az emberek hozzáférhessenek segítséghez és tanácsadáshoz. Ön többet tudhat a rendelkezésre álló támogatásról ha a következőt keresi: **'EUSS Wales'**

**Biztosítsa azt hogy európai barátai, családtagjai, kollégái és szomszédjai közül senki ne mulassza el a jelentkezés határidejét.**

**Mi azt akarjuk hogy Ön Wales-ben maradjon, ahol mindig szívesen látjuk.**

## Sunteți cetățean UE, SEE sau elvețian care locuiește în Newport?



Regatul Unit (Marea Britanie) a părăsit Uniunea Europeană (UE) la 31 ianuarie 2020. Dacă locuiți în Marea Britanie, dar sunteți originar dintr-o țară din UE, Spațiul Economic European (EAA) sau Elveția, trebuie să aplicați la EU Settlement Scheme (Acordul UE Schema de sedere) (EUSS) până la **30 iunie** pentru a rămâne în Marea Britanie.

### Timpul se scurge



Aplicați la EU Settlement Scheme (Schema de sedere UE), astfel încât să vă puteți păstra drepturile în Marea Britanie. Puteți aplica online pe site-ul gov.uk - căutați **'aplicați EUSS'**.

Pentru a obține asistență gratuită și independentă aplica - trimiteți un e-mail la [nccequality@newport.gov.uk](mailto:nccequality@newport.gov.uk) în orice limbă. Colaborăm cu o rețea de specialiști juridici și organizații caritabile pentru a ne asigura că oamenii pot accesa ajutor și sfaturi. Puteți afla mai multe despre asistența oferită căutând în **'EUSS Wales'**

**Asigurați-vă că niciunul dintre prietenii, familia, colegii și vecinii dvs. europeni nu ratează data limită pentru a aplica.**

**Vrem să rămâi în Țara Galilor, unde vei fi întotdeauna binevenit.**

## Ydych chi'n ddinesydd o'r UE, AEE neu o'r Swistir sy'n byw yng Nghasnewydd?



Gadawodd y Deyrnas Unedig (DU) yr Undeb Ewropeaidd (UE) ar 31 Ionawr 2020. Os ydych yn byw yn y DU ond yn wreiddiol o wlad yn yr UE, yr Ardal Economaidd Ewropeaidd (EAA) neu'r Swistir, rhaid i chi wneud cais i'r Cynllun Preswyllo'n Sefydlog i Ddinasyddion yr UE (EUSS) erbyn **30 Mehefin** i gael aros yn y DU.

### Does dim llawer o amser ar ôl



Gwnewch gais i'r Cynllun Preswyllo'n Sefydlog i Ddinasyddion yr UE fel y gallwch gadw eich hawliau yn y DU. Gallwch wneud cais ar-lein ar wefan gov.uk - chwiliwch **'apply EUSS'**.

Er mwyn cael cymorth annibynnol am ddim i wneud cais - e-bostiwch [nccequality@newport.gov.uk](mailto:nccequality@newport.gov.uk) mewn unrhyw iaith. Rydym yn gweithio gyda rhwydwaith o arbenigwyr cyfreithiol ac elusennau i sicrhau bod pobl yn gallu cael gafael ar gymorth a chynghor. Gallwch gael rhagor o wybodaeth am y cymorth sydd ar gael drwy chwilio am **'EUSS Cymru'**

**Gwnewch yn siŵr nad oes yr un o'ch ffrindiau, aelodau o'ch teulu, cydweithwyr a chymdigion Ewropeaidd yn methu'r dyddiad cau i wneud cais.**

**Yr ydym am ichi aros yng Nghymru, lle bydd croeso ichi bob amser.**





# Report

## Cabinet

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### Part 1

Date: 16 June 2021

**Subject** Cabinet Work Programme

**Purpose** To report and agree the details of the Cabinet's Work Programme.

**Author** Governance Team Leader/Cabinet Office Manager

**Ward** All Wards

**Summary** The purpose of a work programme is to enable Cabinet to organise and prioritise the reports and decisions that are brought to each meeting. Effective forward planning by Cabinet also impacts positively upon the Council's other Committees, in particular Scrutiny, because work needs to be coordinated on certain reports to ensure proper consultation takes place before a decision is taken.

The current work programme runs to May 2022, but it is a working document. It is important that the work programme is owned and prioritised by Cabinet Members directly, so each month the Cabinet Office Manager brings a report updating Cabinet on any changes, so that the revised programme can be formally approved.

The updated work programme is attached at Appendix 1.

**Proposal** To agree the updated work programme.

**Action by** Cabinet Office Manager /Governance Team Leader

**Timetable** Immediate

This report was prepared after consultation with:

- Chief Officers
- Monitoring Officer
- Head of Finance
- Head of People and Business Change



## Background

The purpose of a work programme is to enable Cabinet to organise and prioritise the reports and decisions that are brought to each meeting. Effective forward planning by Cabinet also impacts positively upon the Council's other Committees, in particular Scrutiny, because work needs to be coordinated on certain reports to ensure proper consultation takes place before a decision is taken.

The Wales Audit Office's Corporate Assessment of Newport City Council, published in September 2013, highlighted the need to "strengthen committee work programming arrangements to ensure they are timely, meaningful, informative, transparent, balanced, monitored, and joined up". Since that report was published, these monthly reports have been introduced to provide Cabinet with regular updates on its work programme, and the opportunity to comment upon and shape its priorities as an executive group. The Democratic Services team have also been working to improve the links between this and other work programmes under its management (e.g. Council, Scrutiny, Audit) to ensure the various programmes are properly coordinated.

The current work programme runs to May 2022, but it is a working document. It is important that the work programme is owned and prioritised by Cabinet Members directly, so each month the Cabinet Office Manager brings a report updating Cabinet on any changes, so that the revised programme can be formally approved.

The updated work programme is attached at Appendix 1.

## Financial Summary

There is no direct cost to adopting a programme of work.

## Risks

Risk	Impact of Risk if it occurs* (H/M/L)	Probability of risk occurring (H/M/L)	What is the Council doing or what has it done to avoid the risk or reduce its effect	Who is responsible for dealing with the risk?
No action taken	M	L	Work programming arrangements are in place to ensure they are timely, meaningful, informative, and transparent, balanced, monitored, and joined up.	Head of Democratic Services
The process is not embraced by report authors and members	M	M	If there is proliferation of unplanned or late items, the opportunity to ensure work programming is timely, meaningful, informative, and transparent, balanced, monitored, and joined up will diminish	Head of Democratic Services

## Links to Council Policies and Priorities

These proposals will help the Council provide the best possible service to members and will provide information to the public and elected members.

### **Options Available and considered**

- To adopt the process and adopt or amend the work programme
- To consider any alternative proposals raised by Cabinet members
- To take no action

### **Preferred Option and Why**

To adopt the proposals which should help to ensure work programming arrangements are timely, meaningful, informative, and transparent, balanced, monitored, and joined up.

### **Comments of Chief Financial Officer**

There are no financial implications in adopting a programme of work.

### **Comments of Monitoring Officer**

There are no legal implications in adopting a programme of work.

### **Staffing Implications: Comments of Head of People and Business Change**

There are no specific staffing implications in adopting a programme of work.

### **Comments of Cabinet Member**

The Chair has approved the report for consideration by cabinet.

### **Local issues**

There are no local issues as this report relates to the Council's processes

### **Scrutiny Committees**

Monthly update reports allow the Scrutiny and Cabinet work programmes to be better coordinated. The Scrutiny team and Members are currently developing new ways of working through the new Committees, and continually reviewing the work programmes to focus more on risk, and ensure all scrutiny activity has a defined purpose and constructive outcome.

### **Equalities Impact Assessment and the Equalities Act 2010**

This does not apply to this procedural report.

### **Children and Families (Wales) Measure**

This procedural report does not impact on Children and Young People although certain reports contained in the programme may do and will need appropriate consultation and comment when they are presented to cabinet.

### **Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015**

This is a procedural report but reports contained within the programme will need to show how consideration has been given to the five things public bodies need to think about to show they have applied the sustainable development principle put into place by the Act.

### **Crime and Disorder Act 1998**

This does not apply to this procedural report

### **Consultation**

As set out above

### **Background Papers**

[Newport City Council Corporate Assessment](#), Wales Audit Office (September 2013)

[Newport City Council – Corporate Assessment Follow Up 2015](#), Wales Audit Office (May 2015)

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# Cabinet

## Work Programme: June 2021 to May 2022

Meeting	Agenda Items	Lead Officer
<b>Cabinet 02/06/21</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School Reorganisation Proposal to Expand Bassaleg School</li> <li>Corporate Risk Register Update (Q4)</li> <li>Welsh Language Annual Report</li> <li>Levelling Up Fund</li> <li>UK Community Renewals Fund</li> <li>Covid Update Report</li> <li>Brexit Update Report</li> <li>Work Programme</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CEdO</li> <li>HP&amp;BC</li> <li>HP&amp;BC</li> <li>HRIH</li> <li>HP&amp;BC</li> <li>CX/HP&amp;BC</li> <li>CX/HP&amp;BC</li> <li>GTL</li> </ul>
<b>Council 29/06/21</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council Appointments</li> <li>Management Restructure Report</li> <li>PSPO</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DSM</li> <li>CX</li> <li>HL&amp;R</li> </ul>
<b>Cabinet 07/07/21</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2020/21 Treasury Management Year End Report</li> <li>2020/21 Revenue Budget Outturn</li> <li>2020/21 Capital Outturn and Additions</li> <li>Responding to the New Normal Report</li> <li>Annual Safeguarding Report</li> <li>MIM Strategic Partnership Agreement</li> <li>Covid Update Report</li> <li>Brexit Update Report</li> <li>Work Programme</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>HoF</li> <li>HoF</li> <li>HoF</li> <li>HP&amp;BC</li> <li>SD People</li> <li>CEdO</li> <li>CX/HP&amp;BC</li> <li>CX/HP&amp;BC</li> <li>GTL</li> </ul>
<b>Council 20/07/21</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council Appointments</li> <li>2020/21 Treasury Management Year End Report</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DSM</li> <li>HoF</li> </ul>
<b>Cabinet 08/09/21</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Revenue Budget Monitor</li> <li>Capital Budget Monitor</li> <li>Risk Management Strategy</li> <li>WAO Annual Improvement Report</li> <li>Corporate Risk Register Update (Quarter 1)</li> <li>Covid Update Report</li> <li>Brexit Update Report</li> <li>PSB Summary of Business</li> <li>Work Programme</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>HoF</li> <li>HoF</li> <li>HP&amp;BC</li> <li>HP&amp;BC</li> <li>HP&amp;BC</li> <li>CX/HP&amp;BC</li> <li>CX/HP&amp;BC</li> <li>HP&amp;BC</li> <li>GTL</li> </ul>
<b>Council 28/09/21</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council Appointments</li> <li>Scrutiny Annual Report</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DSM</li> <li>HL&amp;R</li> </ul>

<b>Cabinet 13/10/21</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Corporate Plan Annual Report</li> <li>▪ WAO Certificate of Compliance 1</li> <li>▪ Replacement LDP Strategy for Growth Options and Feedback on Integrated Sustainability Appraisal.</li> <li>▪ Strategic Equality Plan Annual Report</li> <li>▪ Covid Update Report</li> <li>▪ Brexit Update Report</li> <li>▪ PSB Summary of Business</li> <li>▪ Work Programme</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ HP&amp;BC</li> <li>▪ HP&amp;BC</li> <li>▪ HRIH</li> <li>▪ HP&amp;BC</li> <li>▪ CX/HP&amp;BC</li> <li>▪ CX/HP&amp;BC</li> <li>▪ HP&amp;BC</li> <li>▪ GTL</li> </ul>
<b>Cabinet 10/11/21</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Revenue Budget Monitor</li> <li>▪ Capital Budget Monitor and Additions</li> <li>▪ Forecast Numbers of LAC</li> <li>▪ Annual Report on Compliments, Comments and Complaints Management 2020</li> <li>▪ Covid Update Report</li> <li>▪ Brexit Update Report</li> <li>▪ PSB Summary Document (for information/awareness)</li> <li>▪ Work Programme</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ HoF</li> <li>▪ HoF</li> <li>▪ SD – People</li> <li>▪ Customer Services Mgr</li> <li>▪ CX/HP&amp;BC</li> <li>▪ CX/HP&amp;BC</li> <li>▪ HP&amp;BC</li> <li>▪ GTL</li> </ul>
<b>Council 23/11/21</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Council Appointments</li> <li>▪ Democratic Services Annual Report</li> <li>▪ Standards Committee Annual Report</li> <li>▪ Strategic Equality Plan Annual Report</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ DSM</li> <li>▪ HL&amp;S</li> <li>▪ HL&amp;S</li> <li>▪ HP&amp;BC</li> </ul>
<b>Cabinet 15/12/21</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 2022/23 Revenue Budget and MTFP: Draft Proposals</li> <li>▪ 2021/22 Treasury Management 6 monthly Report</li> <li>▪ Corporate Risk Register Update (Quarter 2)</li> <li>▪ WAO Certificate of Compliance 2</li> <li>▪ Director of Social Services Annual Report</li> <li>▪ WESP – 2021/2025</li> <li>▪ Covid Update Report</li> <li>▪ Brexit Update Report</li> <li>▪ Work Programme</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ HoF</li> <li>▪ HoF</li> <li>▪ HP&amp;BC</li> <li>▪ HP&amp;BC</li> <li>▪ SD - People</li> <li>▪ SD – People</li> <li>▪ CX/HP&amp;BC</li> <li>▪ CX/HP&amp;BC</li> <li>▪ GTL</li> </ul>
<b>Cabinet 12/01/22</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Revenue Budget Monitor</li> <li>▪ Capital Budget Monitor</li> <li>▪ Mid-Year Performance Analysis 2020/21</li> <li>▪ Verified Key Stage 4 and 5 Pupil Outcomes</li> <li>▪ Welsh In Education Strategic Plan Approval</li> <li>▪ Brexit Update</li> <li>▪ Covid Recovery</li> <li>▪ PSB Summary Document (for information/awareness)</li> <li>▪ Work Programme</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ HoF</li> <li>▪ HoF</li> <li>▪ HP&amp;BC</li> <li>▪ CEdO</li> <li>▪ CEdO</li> <li>▪ CX/HP&amp;BC</li> <li>▪ CX/HP&amp;BC</li> <li>▪ For info</li> <li>▪ GTL</li> </ul>
<b>Council 25/01/22</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Council Appointments</li> <li>▪ 2021/22 Treasury Management 6 monthly report</li> <li>▪ Council Tax Reduction Scheme</li> <li>▪ Director of Social Services Annual Report</li> <li>▪ Schedule of Meetings 2022/23</li> <li>▪ Mayoral Nomination 2022/23</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ DSM</li> <li>▪ HoF</li> <li>▪ HCS</li> <li>▪ SD – People</li> <li>▪ GTL</li> </ul>

<b>Cabinet 09/02/22</b>	<u>Budget:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2022/23 Capital Strategy and Treasury Management Strategy</li> <li>2022/23 Revenue Budget and MTFP: Final Proposals</li> <li>Replacement LDP Feedback on Growth Options and Vision/Objectives</li> <li>Covid Recovery Update</li> <li>Brexit Update</li> <li>Work Programme</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>HoF</li> <li>HoF</li> <li>HRIH</li> <li>CX/HP&amp;BC</li> <li>CX/HP&amp;BC</li> <li>GTL</li> </ul>
<b>Council 22/02/22</b>	<u>Budget:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council Appointments</li> <li>2022/23 Council Tax and Budget</li> <li>2022/23 Capital Strategy and Treasury Management Strategy</li> <li>National Non-Domestic Rates: Discretionary Relief: High Street Relief Scheme 2022-23</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DSM</li> <li>HoF</li> <li>HoF</li> <li>HoF</li> </ul>
<b>Cabinet 09/03/22</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pay and Reward Statement 2022/23</li> <li>EAS Business Plan 2020/21</li> <li>Corporate Risk Register Update (Quarter 3)</li> <li>Covid Recovery Update</li> <li>Brexit Update</li> <li>Work Programme</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>HP&amp;BC</li> <li>CEdO</li> <li>HP&amp;BC</li> <li>CX/HP&amp;BC</li> <li>CX/HP&amp;BC</li> <li>GTL</li> </ul>
<b>Cabinet 06/04/22</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annual Corporate Safeguarding Report</li> <li>Covid Recovery Update</li> <li>Brexit Update</li> <li>PSB Summary Document (for information/awareness)</li> <li>Work Programme</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>HC&amp;YPS</li> <li>CX/HP&amp;BC</li> <li>CX/HP&amp;BC</li> <li>For info</li> <li>GTL</li> </ul>
<b>Council 26/04/22</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council Appointments</li> <li>IRP Annual Report</li> <li>Pay and Reward Statement 21/22</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DSM</li> <li>HoL&amp;R</li> <li>HP&amp;BC</li> </ul>
<b>Cabinet 04/05/22</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Covid Recovery Update</li> <li>Brexit Update</li> <li>Work Programme</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CX/HP&amp;BC</li> <li>CX/HP&amp;BC</li> <li>GTL</li> </ul>
<b>Council 10/05/22</b>	<u>AGM:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council Appointments</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DSM</li> </ul>



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