

**SCHOOL ORGANISATION PLANNING: SCHOOLS CATCHMENT
AREA CONSULTATION**

**REPORT OF DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION AND LIFELONG
LEARNING**

ITEM: 5

PORTFOLIO: EDUCATION (COUNCILLOR SARAH MERRY)

Reason for this Report

1. To inform the Cabinet of responses received following consultation on catchment area arrangements relating to English-medium and Welsh-medium primary and secondary school provision, to present an evaluation of the responses and to request that the Cabinet considers the recommendation to make changes to some catchment boundaries.

Background

2. The supply of and demand for school places, is under continual review within the context of school organisation planning to ensure a good match between the supply of and demand for places in each part of the Local Authority.
3. Catchment areas need to be of a size and geographical area that can sustain schools at their proposed pupil capacities and are sufficiently convenient for the majority of pupils and parents in the locality.
4. The Welsh Government School Admissions Code guidance includes the requirement to consult on school catchment areas where this is appropriate.

Catchment area consultations

5. As part of this review public consultation was undertaken between 02 February and 01 March on revising catchment area arrangements for the following schools:
6. English-medium Primary and Secondary Schools Catchment Area Consultation: Revised catchment area arrangements for:

Cantonian High School

Fitzalan High School

Kitchener Primary School
Radnor Primary School

Lansdowne Primary School
Severn Primary School

7. Welsh-medium Primary and Secondary Schools Catchment Area Consultation; Revised catchment area arrangements for:

Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf
Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr
Ysgol Pencae

Consultation

8. Public consultations on the proposed catchment area changes were held between 02 February and 01 March 2016. Headteachers, Governors, parents and others in the local community were invited to respond to the consultations.
9. The consultation process involved the distribution of a letter and proposed catchment area map. Documents have been distributed to all relevant stakeholders. The document offered consultees the opportunity to comment on the proposals by post or e-mail.
10. Views expressed on paper or electronically, through the appropriate channels, have been recorded.

English-medium Primary and Secondary Schools Catchment Areas

11. At present Kitchener, Lansdowne, Radnor and Severn primary schools serve catchment areas that include parts of Canton, Llandaff and Riverside. The catchment area of these four primary school currently fall within the secondary school catchment area of Fitzalan High School.
12. Projections indicate that the demand for English-medium places from within the existing catchment area of Fitzalan High School will exceed the number of places available at entry to the school, whilst demand from within the existing catchment area of Cantonian High School is less than the school is able to accommodate.
13. The proposed changes to catchment areas seek to achieve a balance between the revised catchment areas of these high schools, and also between the catchment areas of Kitchener, Lansdowne, Radnor and Severn primary schools.
14. The proposal was that the boundary between the catchment areas of Lansdowne, Kitchener and Severn primary schools be amended such that:
- part of the existing Lansdowne catchment transfers to the catchment of Kitchener Primary School.
 - part of the existing Kitchener catchment transfers to the catchment of Severn Primary School.

15. The remaining catchment areas of Lansdowne Primary School and Radnor Primary School would also transfer from the secondary school catchment area of Fitzalan High School to Cantonian High School.
16. A copy of the catchment area map details in the proposed catchment areas that would be implemented in September 2017 can be seen at Appendix 1.

Background

Demand for English-medium community secondary school places – existing catchment areas

17. The catchment areas of Cantonian High School and Fitzalan High School are, like other Community secondary schools in Cardiff, made up of a number of community primary school catchment areas.

Cantonian High School

18. The catchment area of Cantonian High School is made up of the primary school catchment areas of:
 - Fairwater Primary School
 - Pentrebane Primary School
 - Peter Lea Primary School
19. The total number of places available at entry to Cantonian High School (the Published Admission Number) is 181. The combined number of places available at entry to the three community primary schools within Cantonian High School (the Published Admission Number) total 119.
20. The most recent verified Pupil Level Annual School Census (PLASC) data collated in 2015 indicated that the pupil population of primary school age within the catchment area of Cantonian High School totalled 1,297 pupils of which 733 pupils (56.5%) were attending English-medium community primary schools.
21. Table 1 below details the number of pupils resident in each of the primary school catchment areas within the Cantonian High School catchment area that are enrolled in English-medium community primary education.

Table 1: Number of pupils resident in each of the primary school catchment areas within the Cantonian High School catchment area that are enrolled in English-medium community primary education (PLASC 2015)							
Year Group:	6	5	4	3	2	1	Reception
(Enters Sec Education)	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Catchment							
Fairwater	20	29	40	30	39	34	37
Pentrebane	26	32	23	38	48	34	44
Peter Lea	27	37	29	38	39	41	48
Total	73	98	92	106	126	109	129

22. Table 2 below sets out the projected demand for places at a community secondary school within each of the primary school catchment areas within the Cantonian High School catchment areas. These take account of the number of pupils enrolled in English-medium, Welsh-medium and faith education in each of the primary school catchment areas, and of the percentage of pupils transferring to community education in recent years.
23. For the purpose of clarity, the net loss of pupils to other sectors (e.g. to Faith schools, private education, schools in other Local Authorities) is also detailed.

Table 2: Number of pupils resident in each of the primary school catchment areas within the Cantonian High School catchment area projected to promote to an English-medium community school							
Enters Sec Ed	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Catchment:							
Fairwater	17	23	31	21	29	23	26
Pentrebane	23	28	20	33	43	28	36
Peter Lea	26	38	28	35	36	39	49
Total	66	89	79	89	108	90	111
Catchment surplus	115	92	102	92	73	91	70
Projected net loss – Faith, private etc	7	9	13	17	18	19	18
As % of primary cohort promoting	90%	91%	86%	84%	86%	83%	86%

Fitzalan High School

24. The catchment area of Fitzalan High School is made up of the primary school catchment areas of:
- Grangetown Primary School
 - Kitchener Primary School
 - Lansdowne Primary School
 - Mount Stuart Primary School
 - Ninian Park Primary School
 - Radnor Primary School
 - Severn Primary School
 - St Mary The Virgin Church in Wales Primary School
25. There is also an additional ‘shared area’ in Canton within which pupils are considered to live within the catchment areas of both Lansdowne and Radnor.
26. The total number of places available at entry to Fitzalan High School (the Published Admission Number) is currently 286. This will (subject to the approval of separate admission arrangements) increase to 300 places from September 2017 to reflect extension of the school.
27. The combined number of places available at entry to the seven community primary schools within Fitzalan High School (the Published Admission Number) currently total 405.

28. The most recent PLASC census data indicated that the pupil population of primary school age within the catchment area of Fitzalan High School totalled 4,745 pupils of which 2736 pupils (57.7%) were attending English-medium community primary schools
29. Table 3 below details the number of pupils resident in each of the primary school catchment areas within the Fitzalan High School catchment area that are enrolled in English-medium community primary education.

Table 3: Number of pupils resident in each of the primary school catchment areas within the Fitzalan High School catchment area that are enrolled in English-medium community primary education (PLASC 2015)								
Year Group:	6	5	4	3	2	1	Reception	
Enters Sec Ed	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	
Catchment:								
Grangetown	85	87	93	84	112	103	100	
Kitchener	80	86	74	69	103	87	77	
Lansdowne	37	42	36	43	35	33	40	
Mount Stuart	21	25	20	32	26	39	29	
Ninian Park	78	74	80	71	29	67	74	
Radnor	19	20	17	25	24	23	20	
Severn	32	47	28	38	45	44	47	
St Mary The Virgin*	9	11	10	12	10	17	4	
Shared area	0	5	4	5	2	5	2	
Total	361	397	362	379	396	418	393	

30. * Whilst St Mary The Virgin School has a discrete catchment area, pupils attending the school are enrolled in a Faith school and are therefore not included in the above data. The above data therefore reflects pupils resident within that geographical area but attending English-medium community schools e.g. Mount Stuart Primary, Grangetown Primary etc.
31. It is evident from the above table that the total number of pupils resident in each of the primary school catchment areas enrolled in English-medium community primary education exceeds the number of places available at entry to Fitzalan High School.
32. Table 4 overleaf sets out the projected demand for places at a community secondary school within each of the primary school catchment areas within the Fitzalan High School catchment area that are enrolled in English-medium community primary education. These take account of the number of pupils enrolled in English-medium, Welsh-medium and faith education in each of the primary school catchment areas and take account of the percentage of pupils transferring to community education in recent years.

Table 4: Number of pupils resident in each of the primary school catchment areas within the Fitzalan High School catchment area projected to promote to an English-medium community school							
Enters Sec Ed	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Catchment:							
Grangetown	71	74	79	77	108	107	110
Kitchener	65	72	62	57	81	72	65
Lansdowne	37	38	34	41	34	33	39
Mount Stuart	20	25	19	38	32	46	40
Ninian Park	63	61	66	59	58	54	64
Radnor	13	16	14	19	18	18	15
Severn	27	40	24	32	36	36	36
St Mary The Virgin*	19	21	19	20	14	26	6
Shared area	0	2	1	2	1	1	0
Total	315	349	318	345	382	393	375
Catchment deficit	-29	-63	-18	-45	-82	-93	-75
Projected Net loss	46	48	44	44	14	25	18
As % of primary cohort promoting	87%	88%	88%	91%	96%	94%	95%

33. It is evident when comparing PLASC pupil data that similar proportions of pupils in the Cantonian and Fitzalan catchment areas attend English-medium community primary schools (56.5% and 57.7% respectively) , and projections indicate that broadly similar proportions of pupils are expected to promote to English-medium community secondary schools.
34. However, the difference in size of the eligible population in the Cantonian and Fitzalan catchment areas (1,297 and 4,745 respectively), and in turn the numbers of pupils expected to promote to English-medium secondary schools is significant.
35. Taking into account the Published Admission Numbers (PANs) at each school, projections indicate:
- Approximately 3.4FE surplus capacity in September 2017, falling to 2.4FE surplus capacity in September 2019 at entry to Year 7 at Cantonian High School
 - Approximately 0.6FE excess demand in September 2017, rising to 2.7FE excess demand in September 2019 at entry to Year 7 at Fitzalan High School.
36. Projections take account of pupils enrolled in schools and changes to populations over recent years and use a cohort survival model. The above projections do not include the additional demand for English-medium places (of up to 3FE) from proposed housing developments within the Fitzalan High School catchment area
37. Recent consultation on proposals for the Four Wards noted the projected shortfall of primary school places in Grangetown and to meet the expected yield from planned housing developments in the Butetown, Grangetown, Canton and Riverside areas including:

- Prospect Place, Grangetown
 - International Sports Village, Grangetown
 - Ely Mill (former Arjo Wiggins site), Canton
 - West of Dumballs Road, Butetown
 - Bessemer Fruit Market, Grangetown
 - Gas Works site, Ferry Road, Grangetown
 - Porth Teigr (Roath Basin), Butetown
38. Building works have resumed on the Prospect Place site and works have commenced on the ISV site. The timing of the commencement, completion and composition/ size of the dwellings in other developments remains unclear at this stage; however, based on information currently available the combined projected yield of these developments when completed amounts to a further 111 pupils per year group of which up to 83 pupils may wish to attend English-medium schools.

Entry to Secondary Education - September 2016

39. For entry to Year 7 to Fitzalan High School in September 2015, the Council received a total of **381** preferences by the published closing date of Monday, 30 November 2015. Following consideration of all the preferences received approval was given for the admission of the following **286** pupils in accordance with the Council's published admission arrangements: -
- **1** pupil who is looked after/previously looked after by a Local Authority (as defined by section 22 of the Children Act 1989)
 - **5** pupils who are subject of a statement of Special Educational Needs
 - **280** pupils who are resident within the catchment area on grounds of closest proximity of home address Fitzalan High School.
40. The Council has a duty to admit those children who are looked after/previously looked after by a Local Authority and those who are the subject of a statement of SEN.
41. The Council was not able to admit all children from within the catchment area that requested a place. In the first round of admissions, **47** children resident in the catchment area of the school, who applied by the closing date for preferences, were refused admission to the school.

Summary

42. Implementation of the proposed change would provide a closer match of the supply of and demand for places from 2017/18.
43. It is clear that from the above that if the status quo is retained and the proposal is not implemented that the number of children in the Fitzalan catchment who will not be able to gain a place at their catchment school

will increase over the coming years with those pupils furthest from the catchment from the school being most likely to be adversely affected.

44. This will result in an increased number of children being required to access high school provision in neighbouring English-medium catchments with many children required to travel in excess of 3 miles to their nearest local high school and therefore eligible for free home to school transport. This will have associated transport costs over an extended period to be met by the Council until the children concerned have left statutory education which will increase year on year until catchment areas change.

Responses received during the consultation period

45. In total 451 responses were received. Of these 14 were in support and 437 were in opposition. In addition a petition with 460 signatories was also received in opposition to the proposal. Formal responses received can be seen at Appendix 5.
46. A summary of the main views expressed and the Council's response are set out below. Views expressed by respondents are in bold italicised font with the Council's response following.

Consultation process and length

47. ***The time allowed for the consultation is too short and does not allow adequate time for people to make their views known given the amount of information that requires consideration by stakeholders.***
48. The consultation was undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the School Admissions Code, the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 and the Education (Determination of Admission Arrangements) (Wales) Regulations 2006 as it is a proposed change to the admission arrangements (rather than an alteration to a School which would be under the School Organisation Code and the School Standards and Organisation Act 2013.)
49. The School Admissions Code is not as detailed as the School Organisation Code in relation to consultation and although the principles are similar, the timescales are different and there is no requirement within the School Admissions Code to publish proposals or to consult parents. In line with the requirement of the School Admissions Code, admission arrangements must be consulted upon between 1 September and 1 March (and set by 15 April each year) in relation to the school year two years later – in this case 2017/18. There is no minimum consultation period, which there is in the School Organisation Code (42 days which is to include 20 school days.)
50. Reference in the School Admissions Code is made under paragraph 2.6 to bodies that the Admission Authority should consult where a significant change is proposed; this includes the Admissions Forum and

parents of children likely to be affected. This is made in the context of consulting on admission arrangements prior to their determination.

51. Parents of Pupils attending primary schools subject to catchment boundary changes (namely Radnor, Lansdowne, Severn and Kitchener) and parents of pupils in Years 7-11 at Cantonian and Fitzalan have each received hard copies of the document (sent out through schools).
52. Parents of children of primary school age, who are resident in the primary school catchment areas of Radnor, Lansdowne, Severn and Kitchener but attending other schools in Cardiff, have also received hard copies of the document (sent via post).
53. Parents of children of pre-school age, who are resident in the affected primary school catchment areas of Radnor, Lansdowne, Severn and Kitchener have also received hard copies of the document (sent via post).
54. Admission arrangements for other schools are unaffected by the proposed changes, however the Headteacher and Chair of Governors all schools in Cardiff were also advised of the consultation and e-mailed the weblink to the consultation document.
55. ***The material for consultation was not supplied in minority languages and therefore not all families would be able to engage meaningfully as not all would be able to understand the proposal put forward.***
56. The principle of consultation involves publishing full, clear details of the proposals and inviting responses from interested parties. The consultation showing the proposed changes to catchment areas was published on the website on 2 February 2016 in compliance with the School Admissions Code. The headteachers of schools directly affected by the proposed changes were informed on 1 February.
57. Hard copies of the map and address for views to be sent to, were sent to all children at these schools the following week, as well as parents of children not yet of school age, and parents of families who were resident in the areas but whose children attend other English Community schools. The proposal was also publicised on the Council's social media forums as is standard on Council consultations of this type. It has therefore been publicised by the Council consistent with established publicity methods.
58. The School Admissions Code refers to the use of catchment areas and in particular, states that they should be designed so that the boundary is reasonable and clearly defined, and states that admission authorities must make maps of the specified areas available. The proposals were supported by a clear map with colour coded clear boundaries.
59. Written material for the purpose of consultation meets the statutory requirements of being provided bilingually. The issue of providing this

information has been discussed with schools. The standard community languages form used by the service to support school organisation proposals was sent out as requested by specific schools. This form has enabled parents to state whether they wished to receive the catchment consultation information in their home language and translated responses were issued accordingly.

Quality of Education

60. ***Concerns were raised regarding the standard of education offered at Cantonian High School which is banded as a 'Red' school by comparison with that offered at Fitzalan High School which is banded as a 'Green' school.***
61. ***Concerns were raised with regard to the facilities at Cantonian High School and that they are not on par with those available at Fitzalan High School which means the schools cannot make the same offer.***

Welsh Government School Categorisation

62. It is recognised that the National School Categorisation banding for Fitzalan High School are currently higher than for Cantonian High School. However, both provide comprehensive education for their pupils and appropriate measures are in place to support each in the areas identified for their improvement.
63. The main purpose of the WG School Categorisation is to identify which schools are in the most need of support. The system ensures that, in partnership with local authorities and consortia direct support and resources are directed to improve the school system and as a result raise standards and performance in Wales.
64. The system is about providing support and encouraging collaborative improvement by putting schools into a position that enables them to identify the factors that contribute to their progress and achievement, or what areas to focus on to achieve further development.
65. The categorisation colour shows the level of support a school needs – green, yellow, amber or red (with the schools in the green category needing the least support and those in the red category needing the most intensive support). Each school will receive a tailored programme of support, challenge and intervention based on their category to develop their strategies for leadership and teaching and learning.
66. Cantonian High School is receiving support from the Central South Consortium (CSC) and is making significant and continued progress under this support.
67. Additionally, Cantonian High School is part of the Welsh Government Challenge Cymru initiative under which the school is receiving additional resources and expertise over and above the CSC support to

undertake a programme of swift, sustainable improvement. The school is judged to be making good progress to date.

Estyn

68. Cantonian High School was last inspected in February 2015. The school's performance was judged to be adequate with prospects for improvement judged to be unsatisfactory.
69. Fitzalan High School was last inspected in September 2010. The school's performance was judged to be good with prospects for improvement judged to be good.
70. Following the Estyn inspection of Cantonian High School, the Local Authority took action to strengthen governance at the school and to secure improvement in the quality of education provided.
71. Cantonian High School has made improvements against all recommendations as set out in the Estyn inspection in February 2015. It is the view of the Local Authority and the CSC this progress made is expected to continue and this will be recognised in future inspections and bandings.
72. It is recognised that at this stage the view of the professional advisors involved with the school is yet to be endorsed by external inspectorate bodies. An Estyn revisit is expected to take place in coming months and the LA is confident the improvements made at the school in terms of standards of leadership, quality of teaching and the outcomes of children will be recognised.
73. The view with regard to the facilities at the respective schools is acknowledged. Both schools are being considered for reorganisation and investment as part of the Band B 21st Century Schools programme as it is recognised that in order to support the continued improvement at both schools they will need enhanced facilities. The prioritisation with regard to which schools the LA would invest in has been discussed with Welsh Government Officers. However the programme has not yet been confirmed with regard to value and borrowing mechanisms.
74. If a Band B submission were to be agreed in the future concerning Cantonian and Fitzalan High, facilities would be equitable between the two schools enabling enhanced provision for both their learners.

Community Cohesion

75. ***Concerns have been raised that changes to the catchment area would have an adverse impact on the community cohesion because the diversity of pupils attending Fitzalan High School would be reduced. It is argued that to date children have had the experience of a multi-cultural, multi-lingual, multi-faith and socially diverse education that is reflective of their community and that***

this proposal would be detrimental to the affected schools, the communities and the children if it were to be implemented.

76. Populations do not remain static and residential areas can change over time, often relatively quickly. In Cardiff there are high levels of in migration and established migration networks with people from a diverse range of different ethnicities, religions, faiths, social backgrounds and cultures coexisting in a relatively compact geographical area. Parts of the city have greater densities of particular minority ethnic and/or socio-economic groups than others. Each school is required to take account of these differences and educate their pupils effectively in line with their needs.
77. Fitzalan High School is one that benefits from a pupil intake which covers a range of different ethnic groups (57) (PLASC 2016) and has a spectrum of socio-economic areas within its local catchment area. It has demonstrated its ability to improve standards and provide a good standard of education and pastoral care for the wide range of pupils attending the school.
78. Cantonian High School has also demonstrated its ability to cater to a wide spectrum of learners and in recent years the school has seen a rapid increase in the number of minority ethnic learners including those with English as an additional language. Pupils access a diverse range of education experiences based on a multi faith multi-cultural and multi-language curriculum. In addition Cantonian caters effectively for a range of pupils with additional learning needs and provision for pupils with Special Educational Needs (SEN) is recognised as a strength of the school.
79. In its document 'Getting Along Together: A Community Cohesion Strategy for Wales' the term "community cohesion", is used by the Welsh Government to describe *'how everyone in a geographical area lives alongside each other with mutual understanding and respect, where every person has the equal chance to participate and has equal access to services. It is about integration, valuing difference and focusing on the shared values that join people together. It conveys a sense of acceptance and integration and of developing shared values. It is also concerned with supporting communities to be resilient when problems and tensions arise'*, (Welsh Assembly Government 2009 Getting Along Together: A Community Cohesion Strategy for Wales).
80. Potentially more important than the ethnic mix of pupils is the way the school provides for its pupils and supports their understanding of themselves and each other as part of wider society. Much research has been done in the area of 'community cohesion' and how schools foster positive relations amongst their different pupil populations with guidance produced in both Wales and other parts of the UK designed to support this. As set out in the aforementioned document *'Schools directly support local community cohesion by providing children and young people with strong and positive messages to encourage mutual understanding and respect...Schools can promote respect for local*

cultural history and work to build respect for cultural, ethnic, religious and linguistic diversity amongst the school community' (Ibid).

81. In Wales, the curriculum for all maintained schools promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, development of pupils at the school and of society, and prepares pupils at the school for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life. Furthermore all schools have a duty to eliminate all forms of discrimination and to promote equality of opportunity and good relations between people of different groups.
82. Taking all factors into account there would be a full expectation that both Cantonian and Fitzalan High Schools would provide effective and appropriate education to all children and young people attending.

Health and Safety, logistics and 'local schools for local children'

83. ***A range of stakeholders have raised concern regarding the safe routes to school for children travelling from Canton to Fairwater to attend Cantonian (particularly with regard to crossing the A48), along with the increased travel distance for some pupils to get to school.***
84. ***Furthermore some also suggested that the proposal would result in increased vehicular use and/or polluting modes of transport.***
85. ***Respondents have raised that as part of its 21st Century Schools Programme Cardiff Council has consistently committed to providing 'local schools for local children' with respondents stating that this proposed change to catchment areas is inconsistent with this aim.***
86. Should the proposal be implemented projections indicate that the number of pupils in the Lansdowne and Radnor catchments attending English-medium secondary schools amounts to c2FE (60 pupils per year group).
87. The majority of pupils affected by the change would remain within 1 mile of Cantonian High School, and a significant proportion would be resident within 0.5 miles of the school.
88. Over half of the secondary school pupils in this area presently commute to Welsh medium schools or faith schools, the majority of which attend Ysgol Plasmawr (Fairwater) or The Bishop of Llandaff CW High School (Llandaff). Ysgol Plasmawr is significantly further for any pupils in the affected area and The Bishop of Llandaff CW High School would also be further for all but a small proportion of addresses within the affected area. Many pupils attending these schools walk to school and it is expected that the number of pupils that are affected by the proposal and who are both further from their local secondary school and also opting to use more polluting forms of transport would be few.

89. Should the proposal be implemented, pupils in Llandaff, Grangetown and Butetown would likely continue using existing forms of travel. Should the proposal not be implemented, pupils in the Canton, North Grangetown and Llandaff would likely continue using existing forms of travel.
90. Projections indicate that many pupils in South Grangetown and Butetown (i.e. those resident within the Fitzalan High School catchment area, but furthest from the school) would be unable to gain admission to the school. Those pupils would reside more than 2 miles from the next nearest English-medium secondary school (Willows High School). Some pupils would reside in excess of 3 miles from a local English-medium secondary school and would therefore also qualify for free home to school transport.
91. Siblings of children already in Fitzalan would continue to get priority to attend the school and all parents and therefore families with more than one child on high school would not be in a position of transporting children to two separate schools as a direct result of this proposal.
92. Traffic and transport officers have been consulted as part of this process and confirmed that the road crossings are suitable for the increased number of children that would potential walk to school if this proposal were to be implemented. The School Transport Team are able to advise regarding safe routes to school for families from their residence to their school.

Summary

93. The LA is confident that standards of education at Cantonian High School have improved and will continue to do so. It is recognised this view is yet to be endorsed by external inspectorate bodies and because of this there remains a public perception that there is a difference in the quality of education between the two schools. This perception is expected to change once there is published information available publically regarding the improvements made and standards being realised at Cantonian High School.
94. Whilst both schools are being considered for reorganisation and investment as part of the Band B 21st Century Schools programme, the programme has not yet been confirmed and therefore it is recognised that a greater measure of certainty over future investment strategy for both schools is not currently available.
95. Were changes to catchment areas not to be made, there would remain significant concerns regarding the increasing numbers of children that will not be able to access their catchment school along with increased transport costs over a sustained period to enable them to access secondary education.

96. In the event of catchment area applications exceeding the number of places available, it is those children living furthest from the school that are least likely to secure a place. In the case of Fitzalan High School, the current secondary school catchment area arrangements disadvantage those families applying for secondary school places for their children in the parts of the catchment area furthest from the school (including South Grangetown and Butetown) where the distance to alternative English-medium high school provision would be greatest.
97. The next nearest secondary schools to pupils in these areas, namely Cathays High School and Willows High School are each more than 2.5 miles from addresses in Grangetown and Butetown. Demand for places from within the catchment area of each of these schools is also projected to rise in future, which is evidenced by the expansion of primary school provision serving these areas in recent years.
98. However, in view of the above factors, it is on balance deemed advisable to defer consideration of changes to catchment relating to Cantonian and Fitzalan High Schools until the impact of improvement at Cantonian is evidenced in annual performance results and there is greater certainty about the future investment strategy for both schools.

Welsh-medium Primary and Secondary Schools Catchment Areas

99. At present Ysgol Pencae serves a catchment area that includes parts of Canton, Fairwater, Llandaff and Riverside. The catchment area of Ysgol Pencae falls entirely within the secondary school catchment area of Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr.
100. At present Ysgol Pencae serves a catchment area that includes parts of Canton, Fairwater, Llandaff and Riverside. The catchment area of Ysgol Pencae falls entirely within the secondary school catchment area of Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr.
101. Projections indicate that the demand for Welsh-medium places from within the existing catchment area of Ysgol Gyfun Plasmawr will exceed the number of places available at entry to the school from September 2017, whilst demand from within the existing catchment area of Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf will be less than the school is able to accommodate.
102. It is therefore proposed that the catchment area of Ysgol Pencae transfers from the catchment area of Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr to the catchment area of Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf. The proposed changes seek to achieve a balance between the revised catchment areas of each of the schools.
103. A copy of the catchment area map detailing the proposed catchment areas that would be implemented in September 2017 can be seen at Appendix 2.

Background

Demand for Welsh-medium community secondary school places – existing catchment areas

104. The catchment areas of Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf and Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf are, like other Community secondary schools in Cardiff, made up of a number of community primary school catchment areas.

Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf

105. The catchment area of Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf is made up of the primary school catchment areas of:

- Ysgol Glan Ceubal
- Ysgol Glan Morfa
- Ysgol Melin Gruffydd
- Ysgol Mynydd Bychan
- Ysgol Gymraeg Pwll Coch
- Ysgol Y Wern

106. The total number of places available at entry to Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf (the Published Admission Number) is 240. The combined number of places available at entry to the six community primary schools within Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf (the Published Admission Number) total 283.

107. Table 5 below details the number of pupils resident in each of the primary school catchment areas within the Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf catchment area that are enrolled in Welsh-medium community primary education.

Year Group:	6	5	4	3	2	1	Reception
(Enters Sec Education)	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Catchment:							
Glan Ceubal	23	18	16	26	21	25	30
Glan Morfa	21	18	27	30	36	28	32
Melin Gruffydd	44	45	51	48	50	42	51
Mynydd Bychan	25	18	24	21	31	31	25
Pwll Coch	24	50	41	51	57	54	60
Y Wern	53	57	54	50	66	68	70
Total	190	206	213	226	261	249	268

108. Table 6 overleaf sets out the projected demand for places at a Welsh-medium community secondary school within each of the primary school catchment areas within the Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf catchment areas. These take account of the number of pupils enrolled in English-medium, Welsh-medium and faith education in each of the primary

school catchment areas, and of the percentage of pupils transferring to community education in recent years.

Table 6: Number of pupils resident in each of the primary school catchment areas within the Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf catchment area projected to promote to a Welsh-medium community school							
Enters Sec Ed	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Catchment:							
Glan Ceubal*	23	18	16	26	21	25	30
Glan Morfa	19	16	22	25	28	21	22
Melin Gruffydd	42	43	49	45	46	39	47
Mynydd Bychan*	25	18	24	21	31	31	25
Pwll Coch**	25	48	38	47	51	48	52
Y Wern	50	54	52	48	63	65	65
Total	184	197	201	212	240	229	241
Catchment surplus/ deficit	56	43	39	28	0	11	-1
As % of primary cohort promoting	97	96	94	94	92	92	90
Projected net loss – EM, Faith, private etc	6	9	12	14	21	20	27

*Catchment area changes prevent CSR being calculated; projection assumes 100% pupils retained

**2 Year Weighted Average Cohort Survival Model used, as recent catchment area changes prevent 3 Year CSR being calculated

109. For the purpose of clarity, the net loss of pupils to other sectors (e.g. to English-medium schools, Faith schools, private education, schools in other Local Authorities) is also detailed.

Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr

110. The catchment area of Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr is made up of the primary school catchment areas of:

- Ysgol Coed-y-Gof
- Ysgol Creigiau
- Ysgol Gwaelod Y Garth
- Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Caerau
- Ysgol Pencae
- Ysgol Gymraeg Treganna

111. The Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr catchment also includes an additional area including parts of Taffs Well and Nantgarw which was part of the Ysgol Gwaelod Y Garth catchment area until September 2015.

112. The total number of places available at entry to Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr (the Published Admission Number) is currently 180. The combined number of places available at entry to the six community

primary schools within Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr (the Published Admission Number) currently total 265.

113. Table 7 below table details the number of pupils resident in each of the primary school catchment areas within the Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr catchment area that are enrolled in Welsh-medium community primary education.

Year Group:	6	5	4	3	2	1	Reception
Enters Sec Ed	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Catchment:							
Coed Y Gof	58	53	61	62	74	80	67
Creigiau	19	18	20	18	19	15	17
Gwaelod Y Garth	17	9	11	10	14	21	17
Nant Caerau	17	18	40	30	36	42	36
Pencaer	29	26	24	25	29	25	35
Treganna	51	52	70	68	65	74	83
Total	191	176	226	213	237	257	255

114. Table 8 below sets out the projected demand for places at a Welsh-medium community secondary school within each of the primary school catchment areas within the Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr catchment area that are enrolled in Welsh-medium community primary education. These take account of the number of pupils enrolled in English-medium, Welsh-medium and faith education in each of the primary school catchment areas and take account of the percentage of pupils transferring to community education in recent years.

Enters Sec Ed	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Catchment:							
Coed Y Gof	54	47	53	50	58	61	49
Creigiau	19	18	20	18	19	15	17
Gwaelod Y Garth	17	9	11	10	14	21	17
Nant Caerau	16	16	37	26	31	34	30
Pencaer*	29	26	24	25	29	25	35
Treganna**	50	51	65	64	60	68	80
Total (in County only)	185	161	210	193	211	224	228
Catchment surplus/ deficit	-5	19	-30	-13	-31	-44	-48
Projected Net loss	6	15	16	20	26	33	37
As % of primary cohort promoting	97	91	93	91	89	87	89

*Catchment area changes prevent CSR being calculated; projection assumes 100% pupils retained

**2 Year Weighted Average Cohort Survival Model used, as recent catchment area changes prevent 3 Year CSR being calculated

Combined Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf and Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr demand

115. Table 9 below sets out the projected demand for places at a Welsh-medium community secondary school in the existing catchment areas of Ysgol Glantaf and Ysgol Plasmawr.

Enters Sec Ed	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Catchment:							
Glantaf	184	197	201	212	240	229	241
Plasmawr	185	161	210	193	211	224	228
Combined demand	369	358	411	405	451	453	469
Combined Catchment surplus/ deficit	51	62	9	15	-31	-33	-49

116. Table 10 overleaf sets out the projected demand for places at a Welsh-medium community secondary school in the existing catchment areas of Ysgol Glantaf and Ysgol Plasmawr.

Enters Sec Ed	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Catchment:							
Glantaf	184	197	225	237	269	254	276
Plasmawr	185	161	186	168	182	199	193
Combined demand	369	358	411	405	451	453	469
Combined Catchment surplus/ deficit	51	62	9	15	-31	-33	-49

Summary

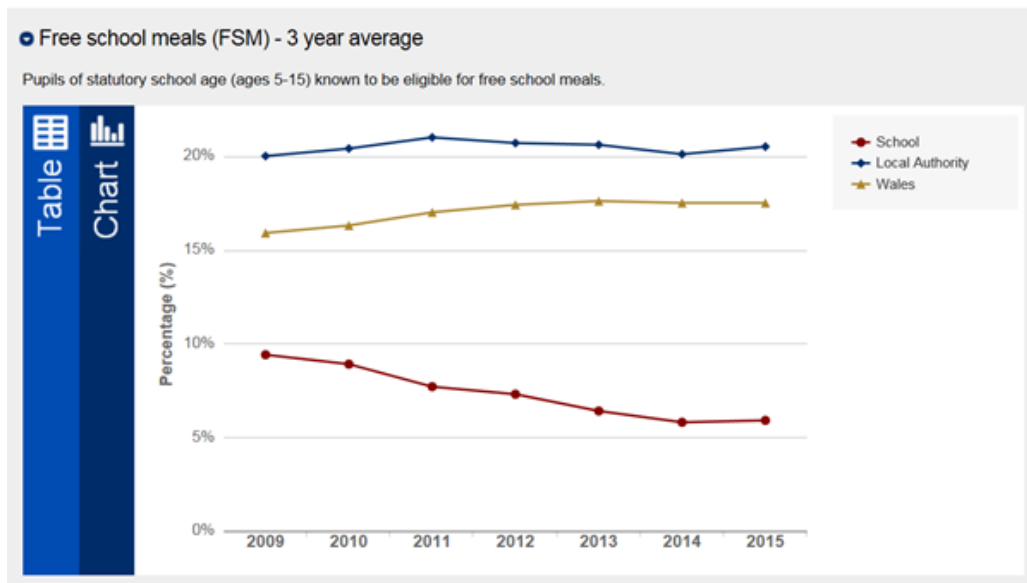
117. Implementation of the proposed change would provide an improved balance in the supply of and demand for places from 2017/18.
118. It is acknowledged that the combined projected demand for places from within the Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf and Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr catchment areas exceeds the combined number of places available at entry from September 2019; however, the admission arrangements that may be required beyond the 2017/18 intake can not be consulted on at this time.
119. Projections indicate that the city-wide demand for places at entry to Year 7 will in time exceed the overall supply between the three Welsh-medium secondary school Ysgol Glantaf, Ysgol Plasmawr and Ysgol Bro Eder and detailed proposals to meet this growing demand will be brought forward at the appropriate time. The timing of this will be determined in part by the progress of planning applications for housing sites including the strategic sites planned for North West Cardiff (each within the existing catchment area of Ysgol Plasmawr) and North East

Cardiff (partially within existing catchment area of Ysgol Glantaf, and largely within the catchment area of Ysgol Bro Edern).

Responses received during the consultation period

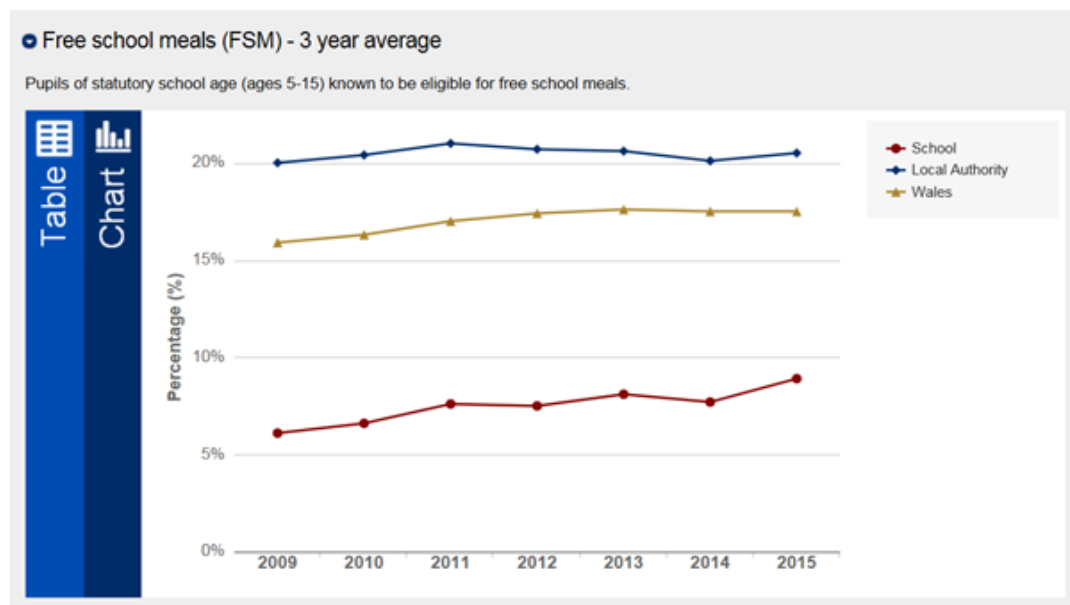
120. In total 368 responses were received. Of which 87 were in support and 281 were in opposition to the proposal, whilst in addition a pupil petition with 471 signatories was received objecting to the proposal. Formal responses received can be seen at Appendix 6.
121. A summary of the main views expressed and the Council's response are set out below. Views expressed by respondents are in bold italicised font with the Council's response following.
122. **Concern expressed as to whether projected growth of pupil numbers at Glantaf (particularly in relation to two of its feeder schools – Glan Ceubal and Pwll Coch) has been taken fully into account and that the authority is planning places in the secondary sector in a strategic way which looks beyond the short-term scenario forecast for 2017.**
123. The proposed change to the catchment areas of Ysgol Plasmawr and Ysgol Glantaf has been drawn up to provide each with a sufficient pupil population, whilst retaining sufficient space to allow for the projected pupil numbers within its catchment area that would be admitted to the school in future years.
124. **Concern expressed that moving Ysgol Pencae to the Glantaf catchment area would have an adverse effect on the socio-economic fabric of Plasmawr and would also have far-reaching implications for the wider demographic of Welsh-medium secondary provision in Cardiff. The proposal to move the high performing and affluent catchment of Ysgol Pencae out of Ysgol Plasmawr would run the risk of reinforcing the status of Ysgol Glantaf, as a centre of excellence for aspirational parents, to the detriment of both Ysgol Plasmawr and Ysgol Bro Edern.**
125. The commonly used benchmark dataset employed to compare the relative deprivation of the pupils enrolled at schools is that of pupil in receipt of Free School Meals (FSM).
126. There are 5 national benchmarking groups for secondary schools based on the proportion of pupils in receipt of FSM; <8%, 8-16%, 16-24%, 24-32% and >32%.
127. The Wales and Cardiff averages for proportion of pupils in receipt of free school meals in the secondary sector are 17.5% and 20.5% respectively.
128. The below table indicates that the proportion of pupils of statutory school age attending Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr who are in receipt of FSM has fallen in recent years to 6.9% (benchmark group 1).

Ysgol Plasmawr – pupils in receipt of FSM



129. The proportion of pupils of statutory school age attending Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf who are in receipt of FSM has increased in recent years to 9.8% (benchmark group 2).

Ysgol Glantaf – pupils in receipt of FSM:



130. The proportion of pupils who are currently in receipt of FSM is lower than that expected to promote to Ysgol Glantaf and Ysgol Plasmawr in the future.
131. Table 11 overleaf indicates the proportions of pupils in receipt of FSM attending each of the Welsh-medium or bilingual schools that are located within the secondary school catchment areas, which is considered by schools as indicative of the future 'feed' of pupils to each of the secondary schools.

Table 11: Number of pupils enrolled and percentage of pupils in receipt of free school meals in primary schools that fall within the catchments of Ysgol Glantaf and Ysgol Plasmawr

School attended	NOR	Percentage in receipt of FSM
Creigiau Primary School*	189	3.6%
Ysgol Gymraeg Coed-Y-Gof	351	25.4%
Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Caerau	160	26.9%
Ysgol Gymraeg Treganna	451	3.5%
Ysgol Gynradd Gwaelod Y Garth Primary School*	194	4.8%
Ysgol Pencae	207	3.4%
Existing Ysgol Plasmawr catchment schools	1552	11.0%
Ysgol Glan Ceubal	62	37.1%
Ysgol Glan Morfa	168	28.6%
Ysgol Gymraeg Melin Gruffydd	411	4.1%
Ysgol Gymraeg Pwll Coch	449	8.5%
Ysgol Mynydd Bychan	200	7.5%
Ysgol Y Wern	446	5.2%
Existing Ysgol Glantaf catchment schools	1736	9.4%
Ysgol Plasmawr catchment schools - removing Y.Pencae	1345	12.2%
Ysgol Glantaf catchment schools - adding Y.Pencae	1943	8.8%

*NOR reduced to reflect proportionate WM cohort in dual stream school; FSM % not adjusted (i.e. retained at % recorded in PLASC)

132. Table 11 above table indicates that, when considering the combined totals of pupils attending Welsh-medium primary school in receipt of FSM, the proportion of primary age pupils in receipt of FSM in the Plasmawr catchment would increase from 11.0% (existing configuration) to 12.2% (if Ysgol Pencae were removed). The proportion of primary age pupils in receipt of FSM in the Glantaf catchment would reduce from 9.4% (existing configuration) to 8.8% (if Ysgol Pencae were removed).

133. Table 12 below indicates the proportions of pupils in receipt of FSM attending any Welsh-medium or bilingual school residing within each of the primary and secondary school catchment areas.

Table 12: Number of pupils attending Welsh-medium or bilingual primary schools in each primary catchment area that fall within the catchments of Ysgol Glantaf and Ysgol Plasmawr, and percentage of pupils in receipt of free school meals

Catchment area – pupils attending any WM or bilingual school	NOR	Percentage
Creigiau Primary School	248	4.8%
Gwaelod Y Garth Primary School	99	6.1%
Ysgol Gymraeg Coed-Y-Gof	455	18.9%
Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Caerau	219	25.6%
Ysgol Gymraeg Treganna	463	2.6%

Ysgol Pencae	193	3.1%
Existing Ysgol Plasmawr catchment	1677	10.6%
Ysgol Glan Ceubal	159	20.1%
Ysgol Glan Morfa	192	29.7%
Ysgol Gymraeg Melin Gruffydd	331	2.1%
Ysgol Gymraeg Pwll Coch	337	11.0%
Ysgol Mynydd Bychan	175	5.7%
Ysgol Y Wern	418	5.0%
Existing Ysgol Glantaf catchment	1612	10.2%
Ysgol Plasmawr catchment - removing Y.Pencae	1484	11.6%
Ysgol Glantaf catchment - adding Y.Pencae	1805	9.4%

134. Table 12 indicates that, when considering the combined totals of pupils attending any Welsh-medium primary school who are in receipt of FSM, the proportion of primary age pupils in receipt of FSM in the Plasmawr catchment would increase from 10.6% (existing configuration) to 11.0% (if Ysgol Pencae were removed). The proportion of primary age pupils in receipt of FSM in the Glantaf catchment would reduce from 10.2% (existing configuration) to 9.4% (if Ysgol Pencae were removed).
135. The above data takes account of all pupils in the primary sector in 2015. It is possible to conclude that the proportion of pupils in receipt of free school meals is very similar under the existing configuration and the proposed configuration; each data set for Ysgol Glantaf and Ysgol Plasmawr falling at the lower end of the 8-16% FSM benchmark.
136. It is likely that each school will admit an increased proportion of pupils in receipt of FSM in future years whether or not the proposed change is implemented, and each data set would remain significantly below the Wales and Cardiff averages.
137. ***Catchment areas should take account of the medium to long term rather than seeking an easy short term, taking account of the growth in Welsh medium education and the Local Development Plan.***
138. ***The proposal is only a short term solution, as pupil numbers will grow with the implementation of the Local Development Plan (LDP).***
139. Please see paragraphs 117 and 121 above.
140. ***The socio-economic mix of the schools would be affected. Transferring Pencae from the Plasmawr catchment to the Glantaf catchment would be to the detriment of Plasmawr because Glantaf would have a much higher proportion of affluent catchment schools and Plasmawr would have more struggling catchment schools leading to polarised schools.***

141. ***The ability of Ysgol Plasmawr to market Welsh-medium education to parents will be reduced if the proposal goes ahead.***
142. Please see paras 123 – 134 above
143. ***Exam standards at Plasmawr will fall due to having pupils from more deprived areas. There could be a long term detrimental effect on Plasmawr which could have a negative effect on sixth form provision in the long term.***
144. Figures for the percentage of pupils who have reached the expected level in the Key Stage 2 Core Subject Indicator demonstrate the outcomes for Year 6 pupils in each primary school. Within the Ysgol Plasmawr catchment area, the school with the highest percentage of FSM pupils is Ysgol Nant Caerau, which has 100% of pupils attaining the expected level. Across the two Welsh-medium secondary catchment areas, the school with the lowest attainment in the Core Subject Indicator is Ysgol Glan Morfa, which has 78.9%. Ysgol Glan Morfa is within the Ysgol Glantaf catchment area.
145. ***Ysgol Plasmawr's budget will be affected and this could lead to redundancies.***
146. School budgets are primarily funded by formula funding mechanism which uses pupil numbers as its main driver. Any increase or decrease in pupil numbers at individual schools would need to be reflected in the revenue budget of the school.
147. The proposals will ensure a fairer and more equitable distribution of funding between mainstream schools within the Cardiff area. It is anticipated that the numbers of pupils at Plasmawr will remain at present levels therefore it is not expected that there will be any negative impact on the school's budget.
148. ***Ysgol Pencae parents have been committed to Ysgol Plasmawr over the years and have provided vital parental involvement, which would be lost were the school to transfer to the Ysgol Glantaf catchment area.***
149. The Council acknowledges and values the positive contribution that parents and families make to their children's schools. It is anticipated that the parents and families of children attending Ysgol Plasmawr and its catchment primary schools will continue to contribute toward the success of the school and support the ongoing development of Welsh-medium education as part of the wider school community.

Siblings

150. ***Pupils that currently have siblings in Ysgol Plasmawr may end up having to attend a different school to their siblings.***

151. ***Some pupils may have to make a decision about whether to attend high school with their siblings or with their friends.***
152. Pupils with older siblings at Ysgol Plasmawr will be able to state a preference for a place at the school in line with the Council's Admissions Policy. A parental preference will be complied with wherever possible. However, should a school be fully subscribed, the Council's oversubscription criteria takes account of older siblings being in attendance during the academic year to which the application relates.
153. Furthermore, the Council's school admissions policy includes the following criterion, which in fact gives priority over pupils who would remain resident in the reduced Ysgol Plasmawr catchment area:
154. "Where an older sibling was directed by the Council to an alternative school because the alternative school was previously the catchment area school, if the parent desires, the Council will admit younger siblings to the alternative school. This applies only where the older sibling is in attendance at the alternative school during the academic year to which the application relates. In addition the younger sibling must be residing in the same address (or an address within the catchment area that was the subject of the change before it was implemented) in the City of Cardiff that the older sibling was living at the time of the original application."
155. This criterion would assist such parents with siblings already in attendance at Ysgol Plasmawr.

Safe routes to schools

156. ***Some parents expressed concern about the safety of the route their child would have to take to school were they to attend Ysgol Glantaf rather than Ysgol Plasmawr.***
157. ***Travelling to Ysgol Glantaf would be more dangerous for children currently living close to Ysgol Plasmawr, as they would have to cross several busy roads.***
158. Consideration has been given to the routes that pupils would be required to use when travelling to and from school.
159. The most distant residential addresses within the Ysgol Pencae catchment area would 1.1 miles from Ysgol Glantaf. The proposed catchment area changes would, in the majority of cases, reduce the walking distances for the pupils to their catchment area school.
160. Children who are resident within the Ysgol Plasmawr catchment area but outside of the Ysgol Pencae catchment area and who currently attend Ysgol Pencae will remain residing within the Ysgol Plasmawr catchment area.

Consultation process/information

161. ***The consultation document did not provide enough information to make such an important decision.***
162. The principle of consultation involves publishing full, clear details of the proposals and inviting responses from interested parties. The consultation showing the proposed changes to catchment areas was published on the website on 2 February 2016 in compliance with the School Admissions Code. The schools who were directly affected by the proposed changes were informed on 1 February and they informed the children/parents at their schools.
163. Hard copies of the map and address for views to be sent to, were sent to all children at these schools the following week, as well as parents of children not yet of school age, and parents of families who were resident in the areas but whose children attend other Welsh-medium Community schools. The proposal was also publicised on social media, It has therefore been widely publicised.
164. The School Admissions Code refers to the use of catchment areas and in particular, states that they should be designed so that the boundary is reasonable and clearly defined, and states that admission authorities must make maps of the specified areas available. The proposals were supported by a clear map with colour coded clear boundaries.

Impact on Welsh Language

165. ***The proposed changes could significantly reduce the percentage of children from Welsh speaking families transferring to Ysgol Plasmawr. This could affect the school's 'language landscape' potentially creating a situation which will impact on the wider use of the language making it harder for the children who want to, to use Welsh in the yard and socially within the school and with co-pupils outside of school.***
166. The Council has considered the future development of Welsh medium education in its Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2014-2017. The continued growth in demand for Welsh-medium education will continue to impact positively on the development of the language in the wider community
167. It is not anticipated that the proposed changes will impact on pupils' ability to engage socially through the medium of Welsh.
168. The Welsh Government Welsh Medium Strategy 083/2010 sets out a strategic aim of ensuring that all learners develop their Welsh-language skills to their full potential and encourages sound linguistic progression from one phase of education and training to the next.

169. The majority of the pupils transferring to Ysgol Plasmawr from its partner primary schools have levels of Welsh language fluency that allow them to access both the full curriculum and social opportunities in and out of school.
170. The Strategy document notes that *“Analysis of the linguistic data following through cohorts of learners over the last ten years clearly indicates that there is a discontinuity in linguistic progression between Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3. Currently 15% of learners across Wales do not progress in their study of Welsh (first language) from Key Stage 2 to Key Stage 3.”*
171. Were the proposal not to be implemented some children currently resident within the catchment area of Ysgol Plasmawr, would be unable to attend their Welsh-medium secondary catchment school. A clear risk of not providing a balance in the supply of and demand for Welsh-medium places is that the proportion of pupils not progressing from KS2 to KS3 could potentially increase and were this to be the case potentially have a negative impact on the wider use of the language.

Reasons for Recommendations

172. To approve changes to English-medium and Welsh-medium primary and secondary school catchment areas in order to achieve a balance between the supply of and demand for school places.

Legal Implications

173. A catchment area is part of a school's admissions arrangements. Where a Local Education Authority (LEA) propose to revise the catchment areas for an existing school the LEA must publish and consult on those proposals in the same way as any other admission arrangements. The Local Education Authority must have regard to Section 89 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998, the Education (Determination of Admission Arrangements) (Wales) Regulations 2006, and the Education (Relevant Area for Consultation on Admission Arrangements) Regulations 1999 which requires Admission Authorities to consult and determine school admission arrangements annually. The regulations set a timescale for the consultation and determination of admission arrangements. Where a local authority plan to establish a catchment area for a new school they must also have regard to the New School (Admissions) (Wales) Regulations 2006.
174. Any proposals must be the subject of full and fair consultation and regard must be had by the Executive to the responses before a final decision is taken.
175. The Council has to satisfy its public sector duties under the Equalities Act 2010 (including specific Welsh public sector duties). Pursuant to these legal duties Councils must in making decisions have due regard to the need to (1) eliminate unlawful discrimination, (2) advance equality

of opportunity and (3) foster good relations on the basis of protected characteristics.

176. Protected characteristics are:
- Age
 - Gender reassignment
 - Sex
 - Race – including ethnic or national origin, colour or nationality
 - Disability
 - Pregnancy and maternity
 - Marriage and civil partnership
 - Sexual orientation
 - Religion or belief – including a lack of belief
177. As such the decision on whether to proceed to publish intention to implement the proposal has to be made in the context of the Council's equality act public sector duties.
178. The report identifies that an Equality Impact Assessment has been carried out and is included in the Statutory Screening Tool at Appendices 3 and 4. The purpose of the Equality Impact Assessment is to ensure that the Council has understood the potential impacts of the proposal in terms of equality so that it can ensure that it is making proportionate and rational decisions having due regard to its public sector equality duty. The decision maker must have due regard to the Equality Impact Assessment in making its decision.
179. The Council also has to comply with the relevant legislation in relation to the Welsh language. The Council was issued with a Compliance Notice on 30 September 2015 with the Welsh Language standards it must comply with under the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2015, the date for compliance with these standards is 30 March 2015. Until that date, the Council's Welsh Language Scheme 2014 (which was agreed under the Welsh Language Act 1993) and which states "The council is committed to mainstreaming Welsh into key policies and will assess the linguistic consequences of all new policies and initiatives, by using the Policy Integration Toolkit and/or Equality Impact Assessments (Appendix C), and will make sure that those new or updated policies and initiatives conform to the commitments given in this scheme." This report considers the Welsh language impact and complies with this requirement. The Council has also considered Welsh in Education and formed the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan for April 2014 to March 2017 which complies with the Welsh Government guidelines.

Financial Implications

180. School budgets are primarily funded by formula funding mechanism which uses as its main driver pupil numbers. Any increase/reduction in pupil numbers will increase/reduce the budget share of that individual school.

181. Any financial implications of changing transport provision would need to be identified and considered through the Medium Term Financial Plan, as appropriate.

Human Resources Implications

182. The changes to the catchment area of Ysgol Plasmawr should not impact greatly on staffing as pupil numbers are expected to remain at similar levels. However, the enlarged catchment area for Ysgol Glantaf along with the projected increased pupil numbers may require additional staff to be recruited to the school.
183. A requirement to recruit additional staff will create new employment opportunities and HR People Services will support the school and the Governing Body with this process. Where the school has adopted the Council's Redeployment and Redundancy Policy, new employment opportunities would need to be considered as redeployment opportunities for staff on the school redeployment register.
184. A Human Resources Framework is in place for school reorganisations which provides the basis for managing the human resources issues associated with School Organisation Planning. In line with this, HR People Services will encourage the leadership and Governing Bodies of both schools to consider their staffing requirement and structure in advance of any change being implemented.

Traffic and Transport

Proposed English-medium secondary school catchment area changes: Cantonian/Fitzalan

185. There is currently an existing 20mph speed limit on Fairwater Road, which includes speed cushions. It is recommended that these are replaced with full width speed tables, enhanced signage and a tabled zebra crossing as part of a School Safety Zone.
186. An initial assessment suggests that in order to improve the pedestrian access from the Canton area to Cantonian High school the following improvements will be required.
- New pedestrian school gates required on Doyle Avenue and on Kenilworth Court
 - New controlled pedestrian crossing facilities on St Fagans Road
 - Existing crossing facilities on Western Avenue to be reviewed and upgraded if necessary.
 - As part of the new development on the Ely Paper Mill site, a new controlled crossing will be provided on Cowbridge Road West.
187. All addresses within the catchment areas of Cantonian High School are within 3 miles of the site, and therefore no pupils resident in the catchment area of the school wishing to attend an English-medium community secondary school would qualify for free home to school

transport. This is only provided for secondary age pupils who live three or more miles from the nearest appropriate catchment area school.

188. In the event the proposals were to proceed, discussion would be held with the Commercial bus operators in the area to review current commercial services.
189. The reduction of the Fitzalan High School catchment area is expected to reduce the Council's overall liability towards providing school transport in the short to medium term. This would enable increased numbers of pupils in south Grangetown and Butetown to attend the school; this would not happen without implementing the proposed catchment change.
190. Cardiff Council School Transport section would be able to provide families with advice on safe walking routes to school based on individual home addresses.
191. In the event the proposed catchment area changes are not implemented there is an expectation that there will be increased eligibility for free home to school transport and therefore greater costs for the Council to provide this service. Projected costs associated with transporting pupils from Grangetown to the next nearest secondary school, assuming that all pupils are able to be admitted to one school. These are set out in the table below.

	Year of entry					
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Qualifying pupils	10	24	33	55	71	93
Transport required	1 x Minibus	1 x coach	1 x coach	1 x coach	1 x coach, + 1 x minibus	2 x coach
Cumulative cost (academic years)	£17,100	£45,600	£74,100	£102,600	£148,200	£205,200

Proposed English-medium primary school catchment area changes

192. The proposed catchment area changes to the Kitchener, Lansdowne and Severn Primary School catchment areas will increase the walking distances for some pupils, and decrease distance for some others; however, the increases or decreases would be minimal (less than 0.4 miles).
193. In summary, it is likely there would be no change to school transport costs should the proposed changes be implemented or not implemented.

**Proposed Welsh-medium secondary school catchment area changes:
Ysgol Plasmawr/ Glantaf**

194. The proposed catchment area changes to the Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr and Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf catchment areas would increase the walking distances for some pupils, and decrease distance for some others. The maximum increase in walking distance, for those pupils resident in closest proximity to Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr, would be approximately 1.1 miles. All pupils within the area proposed to transfer live within 1.1 miles of Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf.
195. Should the proposed catchment area changes not be implemented it is likely pupils in parts of Creigiau and Pentrych would be unable to attend Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr and would be expected to attend the next nearest secondary school, namely Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf.
196. These pupils currently qualify for free home to school transport to Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr and should the proposal be implemented would qualify for free home to school transport to Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr. In summary, it is likely there would little change to school transport costs should the proposed changes be implemented or not implemented.
197. Under this proposal there are no plans to change the Council's policy on the transport of children to and from schools. Any pupils affected by these proposals will be offered the same support with transport as is provided throughout Cardiff and in accordance with the same criteria that apply across Cardiff. The Council's transport policy for school children can be viewed on the Council's website (www.cardiff.gov.uk). In order to improve the pedestrian access and reduce vehicle speeds in the vicinity of Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf a School Safety Zone is required on Gabalfa Road, this will include signage, speed tables and a zebra crossing.
198. An initial assessment suggests that pedestrian crossing improvements may also be required from the Radyr Court Road area.
199. All addresses within the Ysgol Pencae catchment area, that would transfer to the Ysgol Glantaf catchment areas, are within 3 miles of the Ysgol Glantaf site, and therefore no pupils resident in the Ysgol Pencae catchment area wishing to attend an English-medium community secondary school would qualify for free home to school transport. This is only provided for secondary age pupils who live three or more miles from the nearest appropriate catchment area school.
200. No fee-paying school transport would be provided from the Ysgol Pencae catchment area to Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf as all pupils living within this area live within three miles walking distance of each school. Discussion will be held with the Commercial bus operators in the area to review commercial services although it is unlikely that any

changes would be made to the existing routes to divert via any of the school proposals above.

201. The reduction of the Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr catchment area is expected to reduce the Council's overall liability towards providing school transport in the short to medium term. This would enable increased numbers of pupils in catchment to attend the school; this would not happen without implementing the proposed catchment change.
202. Cardiff Council School Transport section would be able to provide families with advice on safe walking routes to school based on individual home addresses.
203. Under this proposal there are no plans to change the Council's policy on the transport of children to and from schools. Any pupils affected by these proposals will be offered the same support with transport as is provided throughout Cardiff and in accordance with the same criteria that apply across Cardiff. The Council's transport policy for school children can be viewed on the Council's website (www.cardiff.gov.uk).

Statutory Screening Tool/Equality Impact Assessment

204. The Statutory Screening Tool has been completed and includes the Equality Impact Assessment for the English medium School proposal as at Appendix 3. The Equality Impact Assessment for the Welsh Medium school proposals is included as at Appendix 4. It has been concluded that there would be no adverse impact on a particular group in society with either proposal.

RECOMMENDATION

The Cabinet is recommended to:

1. authorise Officers to carry out a review of options for secondary provision in the area concerned, in order to better match supply and demand and to secure consistently high standards of education provision.
2. not proceed currently with changes to the English-medium high school catchments of Fitzalan High School and Cantonian High School and associated English-medium primary school catchment areas.
3. approve the proposed changes to the Welsh-medium high school catchment areas of Ysgol Plasmawr and Ysgol Glan Taf through transfer of Ysgol Pencae catchment from Ysgol Plasmawr to Ysgol Glan Taf catchment to take effect from September 2017.

NICK BATCHELAR

Director

15 March 2016

The following appendices are attached

Appendix 1 – Catchment area map detailing the proposed catchment areas that would be implemented in September 2017 (English-medium).

Appendix 2 – Catchment area map detailing the proposed catchment areas that would be implemented in September 2017 (Welsh-medium)

Appendix 3 – Statutory Screening tool English-medium Catchment Changes

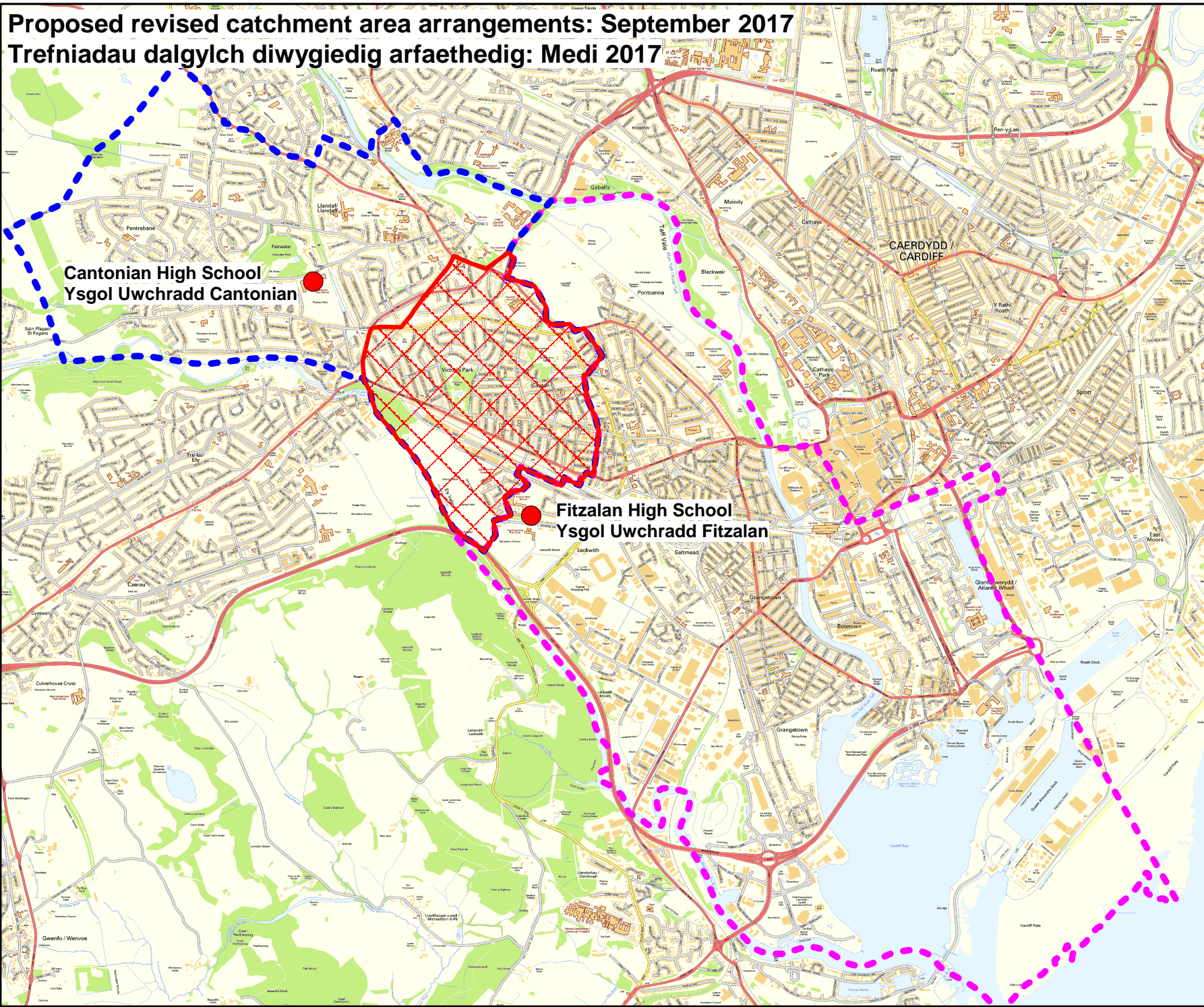
Appendix 4 - Statutory Screening tool Welsh-medium Catchment Changes

Appendix 5 – Formal responses English-medium Catchment Changes

Appendix 6 – Formal responses Welsh-medium Catchment Changes

Proposed revised catchment area arrangements: September 2017

Trefniadau dalgyrch diwygiedig arfaethedig: Medi 2017



**Cantonian High School
Ysgol Uwchradd Cantonian**

**Fitzalan High School
Ysgol Uwchradd Fitzalan**

Existing Cantonian High School catchment area

Dalgyrch presennol Ysgol Uwchradd Cantonian

Area proposed to transfer from the Fitzalan High School catchment area to the Cantonian High School catchment area

Yr ardal y cynigir ei throsglwyddo i ddalgyrch Ysgol Uwchradd Fitzalan o ddalgyrch presennol Ysgol Uwchradd Cantonian

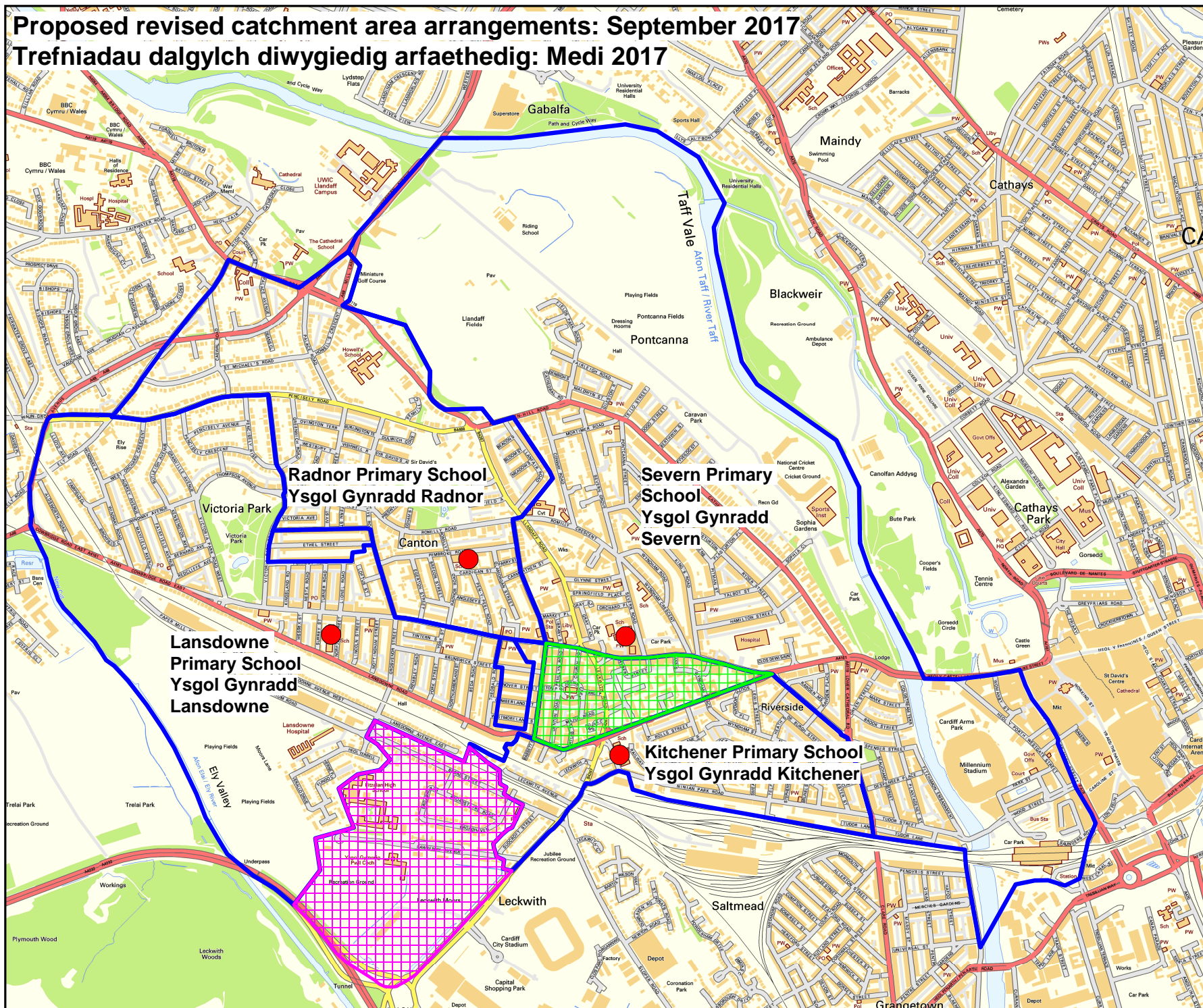
Proposed Fitzalan High School catchment area

Dalgyrch arfaethedig Ysgol Gyfun Fitzalan


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Proposed revised catchment area arrangements: September 2017


Trefniadau dalgylch diwygiedig arfaethedig: Medi 2017





Appendix 1


 Existing catchment area boundaries of Kitchener, Lansdowne, Radnor and Severn primary schools - proposed to be retained

 Ffiniau dalgylchoedd presennol Ysgolion Cynradd Kitchener, Lansdowne, Radnor a Severn – cynigir eu cadw

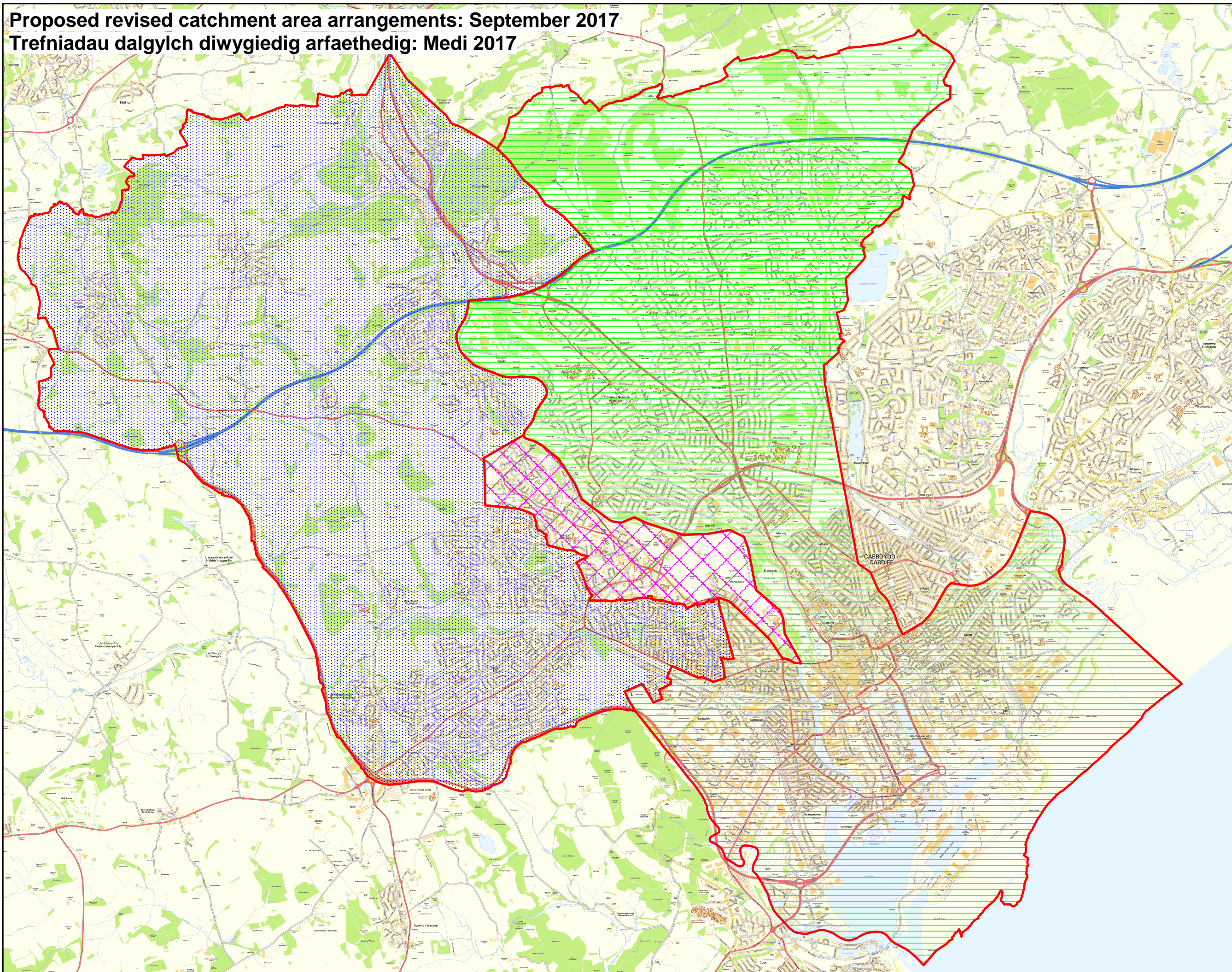
 Area proposed to transfer from the Lansdowne Primary school catchment area to the Kitchener Primary School catchment area

 Yr ardal y cynigir ei throsglwyddo i ddalgylch Ysgol Gynradd Lansdowne o ddalgylch presennol Ysgol Gynradd Kitchener









 Area proposed to transfer from the Kitchener Primary school catchment area to the Severn Primary School catchment area

 Yr ardal y cynigir ei throsglwyddo i ddalgylch Ysgol Gynradd Kitchener o ddalgylch presennol Ysgol Gynradd Severn

Proposed revised catchment area arrangements: September 2017
Trefniadau dalgyllch diwygiedig arfaethedig: Medi 2017



Appendix 2

-  Existing Welsh-medium secondary school catchment area boundaries
-  Ffiniau presennol dalgyllchoedd ysgolion uwchradd Cymraeg
-  Existing Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf catchment area
-  Dalgyllch presennol Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf
-  Existing Ysgol Pencae catchment area - proposed to transfer from the Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr catchment area to the Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf catchment area, from September 2017
-  Dalgyllch presennol Ysgol Pencae - cynigiwyd i'w drosglwyddo o ddalgyllch Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr i ddalgyllch Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf, o fis Medi 2017
-  Proposed Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr catchment area
-  Dalgyllch arfaethedig Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr

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Cardiff Council

Statutory Screening Tool Guidance

If you are developing a strategy, policy or activity that is likely to impact people, communities or land use in any way then there are a number of statutory requirements that apply. Failure to comply with these requirements, or demonstrate due regard, can expose the Council to legal challenge or other forms of reproach.

For instance, this will apply to strategies (i.e. Housing Strategy or Disabled Play Strategy), policies (i.e. Procurement Policy) or activity (i.e. developing new play area).

Completing the Statutory Screening Tool will ensure that all Cardiff Council strategies, policies and activities comply with relevant statutory obligations and responsibilities. Where a more detailed consideration of an issue is required, the Screening Tool will identify if there is a need for a full impact assessment, as relevant.

The main statutory requirements that strategies, policies or activities must reflect include:

- **Equality Act 2010 - [Equality Impact Assessment](#)**
- **Welsh Government's [Sustainable Development Bill](#)**
- **Welsh Government's Statutory Guidance - [Shared Purpose Shared Delivery](#)**
- **[United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child](#)**
- **[United Nations Principles for Older Persons](#)**
- **[Welsh Language Measure 2011](#)**
- **[Health Impact Assessment](#)**
- **[Habitats Regulations Assessment](#)**
- **[Strategic Environmental Assessment](#)**

This Statutory Screening Tool allows us to meet all the requirements of all these pieces of legislation as part of an integrated screening method that usually taken no longer than an hour.

The Screening Tool can be completed as a self assessment or as part of a facilitated session, should further support be needed. For further information or if you require a facilitated session please contact the Policy, Partnerships and Citizen Focus Team on 2078 8563 e-mail: siadavies@cardiff.gov.uk. Please note:

- **The completed Screening Tool must be submitted as an appendix with the Cabinet report.**
- **The completed screening tool will be published on the intranet.**



Statutory Screening Tool

Name of Strategy / Policy / Activity: English-medium Primary and Secondary Schools Catchment Area Consultation: - Cantonian High School -Fitzalan High School - Kitchener Primary School - Lansdowne Primary School - Radnor Primary School - Severn Primary School	Date of Screening: January 2016
Service Area/Section: Education	Lead Officer: Janine Nightingale
Attendees: Self assessment	

What are the objectives of the Policy/Strategy/Project/Procedure/ Service/Function	Please provide background information on the Policy/Strategy/Project/Procedure/Service/Function and any research done [e.g. service users data against demographic statistics, similar EIAs done etc.]
Proposal: Changes to catchment areas are proposed that seek to achieve a balance between the revised catchment areas of Fitzalan High School and Cantonian High School, and also between the catchment areas of Kitchener, Lansdowne, Radnor and Severn primary schools.	<p>At present Kitchener, Lansdowne, Radnor and Severn primary schools serve catchment areas that include part of Canton, Llandaff and Riverside. The catchment areas of these four primary schools currently fall within the secondary school catchment area of Fitzalan High School.</p> <p>Projections indicate that the demand for English-medium places from within the existing catchment area of Fitzalan High School will exceed the number of places available at entry to the school, whilst demand from within the existing catchment area of Cantonian High School is less that the school is able to accommodate.</p> <p>The impact of this as numbers continue to rise, and in the event no changes are made, would be that those children furthest from Fitzalan High School would be least likely to succeed in securing a place in their catchment school.</p> <p>Projections indicate that the demand for English-medium places from within the existing catchment area of Kitchener Primary School will exceed the number of places available at entry to the school, whilst demand from within the existing catchment area of Severn Primary School is less that the school is able to</p>

accommodate.

The impact of this as numbers continue to rise in the event, and no changes are made, would be that those children furthest from Kitchener Primary School would be least likely to succeed in securing a place in their catchment school

The Council wishes to reduce this uncertainty in the admission arrangements that has caused difficulties both for parents and schools in the area.

The changes proposed therefore seek to achieve a balance between the catchment areas of the named primary and secondary schools.

Part 1: Impact on outcomes and due regard to Sustainable Development

Please use the following scale when considering what contribution the activity makes:		
+	Positive	Positive contribution to the outcome
-	Negative	Negative contribution to the outcome
ntrl	Neutral	Neutral contribution to the outcome
Uncertain	Not Sure	Uncertain if any contribution is made to the outcome

	Has the Strategy/Policy/Activity considered how it will impact one or more of Cardiff's 7 Citizen focused Outcomes?	Please Tick				Evidence or suggestion for improvement/mitigation
		+	-	Ntrl	Un-Crtn	
1.1	<p>People in Cardiff are healthy; <i>Consider the potential impact on</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>the promotion of good health, prevention of damaging behaviour, promote healthy eating/active lifestyles etc,</i> <i>vulnerable citizens and areas of multiple deprivation</i> <i>Addressing instances of inequality in health</i> 			x		<p>Secondary catchments: Projections indicate that the number of pupils in the Lansdowne and Radnor catchments attending English-medium secondary schools amounts to c2FE (60 pupils per year group).</p>
1.2	<p>People in Cardiff have a clean, attractive and sustainable environment; <i>Consider the potential impact on</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>the causes and consequences of Climate Change and creating a carbon lite city</i> 				x	<p>Should the proposal be implemented the majority of pupils affected by the change would remain within 1 mile of Cantonian High School, and a significant proportion would be resident within 0.5 miles of the school. There may be a small increase in the number of pupils in the Canton area (those in close proximity to the Fitzalan site) choosing more polluting forms of travel.</p> <p>Over half of the total secondary school age pupil population in this area presently commute to Welsh medium schools or faith schools. The majority of these attend Ysgol Plasmawr (located in Fairwater) or The Bishop of Llandaff CW High School (located in Llandaff). Many pupils attending these schools walk to school and it is expected that the number of pupils that are affected by the proposal and who are both further from their local secondary school and also opting to use more polluting forms of transport will be few.</p> <p>Should the proposal be implemented pupils in Llandaff, Grangetown and Butetown would likely continue using existing forms of travel.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>encouraging walking, cycling, and use of public transport and improving access to countryside and open space</i> 			x		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>reducing environmental pollution (land, air, noise and water)</i> 	x				

	Has the Strategy/Policy/Activity considered how it will impact one or more of Cardiff's 7 Citizen focused Outcomes?	Please Tick				Evidence or suggestion for improvement/mitigation
		+	-	Ntrl	Un-Crtn	
						<p>Should the proposal not be implemented, pupils in the Canton, North Grangetown and Llandaff would likely continue using existing forms of travel.</p> <p>Projections indicate that, based on the current catchment area arrangements, many pupils in South Grangetown and Butetown (i.e. those resident within the Fizalan High School catchment area, but furthest from the school) are the least likely to gain admission to Fitzalan High School. Those pupils would reside more than 2 miles from the next nearest English-medium secondary school (Willows High School). Some pupils would reside in excess of 3 miles from a local English-medium secondary school and would therefore also qualify for free home to school transport.</p> <p>In summary, implementing the proposal would most likely have a positive effect as a result of a net reduction of pupils using polluting modes of travel, compared to not implementing the proposal.</p> <p>Primary catchments: The proposed revision of primary catchments to achieve a better match between supply and demand should minimise the outflow of pupils to schools in other catchment areas and therefore encourage walking and cycling to and from school.</p> <p>All pupils would still retain the right to express a preference for admission to any of the schools concerned.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> reducing consumption and encouraging waste reduction, reuse, recycling and recovery 					N/A
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> encouraging biodiversity 					N/A
1.3	<p>People in Cardiff are safe and feel safe; <i>Consider the potential impact on</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> reducing crime, fear of crime and increasing safety of 					N/A

	Has the Strategy/Policy/Activity considered how it will impact one or more of Cardiff's 7 Citizen focused Outcomes?	Please Tick				Evidence or suggestion for improvement/mitigation
		+	-	Ntrl	Un-Crtn	
	<i>individuals</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>addressing anti-social behaviour</i> • <i>protecting vulnerable adults and children in Cardiff from harm or abuse</i> 					
1.4	Cardiff has a thriving and prosperous economy; <i>Consider the potential impact on</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>economic competitiveness (enterprise activity, social enterprises, average earnings, improve productivity)</i> • <i>Assisting those Not in Education, Employment or Training</i> • <i>attracting and retaining workers (new employment and training opportunities, increase the value of employment,)</i> • <i>promoting local procurement opportunities or enhancing the capacity of local companies to compete</i> 					N/A
1.5	People in Cardiff achieve their full potential; <i>Consider the potential impact on</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>promoting and improving access to life-long learning in Cardiff</i> • <i>raising levels of skills and qualifications</i> • <i>giving children the best start</i> • <i>improving the understanding of sustainability</i> • <i>addressing child poverty (financial poverty, access poverty, participation poverty)</i> • <i>the United Nations Convention on the Rights of a Child and Principles for Older persons</i> 	x				Secondary catchments: The transfer of catchment areas (Radnor and Lansdowne Primary Schools) is not expected to have a detrimental impact on the numbers of children attending Fitzalan High School as there is significant demand in excess of supply from within catchment. As such the school will continue to benefit from the current levels of per pupil funding and therefore the range of subjects offered together with the specialisms of staff to offer a comprehensive range of subjects would not be affected. The transfer of catchment areas into the Cantonian catchment from Fitzalan will increase the number of children likely to attend Cantonian. An increased number of children will result in increased funding for Cantonian High School (based on the per pupil funding allocation) thereby allowing for a greater range of subjects and staff specialists which would improve the offer to existing and future pupils at the school. Both schools offer a full and comprehensive education to their pupils and work together with other schools as part of the 14-19 partnership offer across Cardiff.

	Has the Strategy/Policy/Activity considered how it will impact one or more of Cardiff's 7 Citizen focused Outcomes?	Please Tick				Evidence or suggestion for improvement/mitigation
		+	-	Ntrl	Un-Crtn	
						<p>Primary catchments: Each of the primary schools concerned is highly subscribed or fully subscribed. The proposed revision of primary catchments to achieve a better match between supply and demand should minimise the outflow of pupils to schools in other catchment areas, and allow more pupils in the Canton area to attend a local school.</p>
1.6	<p>Cardiff is a Great Place to Live, Work and Play Consider the potential impact on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • promoting the cultural diversity of Cardiff • encouraging participation and access for all to physical activity, leisure & culture • play opportunities for Children and Young People • protecting and enhancing the landscape and historic heritage of Cardiff • promoting the City's international links 			x		In the event the proposal were to proceed to implementation all schools concerned would continue to have a mixed intake of pupils. Whilst proportions may change students will continue to benefit from the full complement of cultural and education experiences they have received to date, the proposed change does not impact on the quality of education nor limit the offer specific to cultural diversity, physical activity, leisure or culture offered by each school.
1.7	<p>Cardiff is a fair, just and inclusive society. Consider the potential impact on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the elimination of discrimination, harassment or victimisation for equality groups 			x		All schools have appropriate policies in place to deal with any issues that present and have a duty to ensure discrimination of any of the equality groups is not tolerated.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • has the community or stakeholders been engaged in developing the strategy/policy/activity? • how will citizen participation be encouraged (encouraging actions that consider different forms of consultation, through more in depth engagement to full participation in service development and delivery)? 	x				The consultation process is compliant with the Welsh Government admissions code intended to engage stakeholders with the views put forward as part of this intended to inform the decision making specific to the proposed change.
<p>EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT Will this Policy/Strategy/Project have a differential impact on any of the following:</p>						Please give details/consequences of the differential impact (positive and negative), and what action(s) can you take to address any negative implications?

Has the Strategy/Policy/Activity considered how it will impact one or more of Cardiff's 7 Citizen focused Outcomes?	Please Tick				Evidence or suggestion for improvement/mitigation
	+	-	Ntrl	Un-Crtn	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Age (including children and young people aged 0-25 and older people over 65 in line with the United Nations Conventions) 	x				<p>See 1.1. and 1.2</p> <p>Children with siblings attending a school affected by catchment area change: There would not be an impact on younger siblings resident within Cardiff attending the same school as their older siblings if a school were to become part of another catchment area:</p> <p>Oversubscription criterion 1a: "Where an older sibling was directed by the Council to an alternative school because the alternative school was previously the catchment area school, if the parent desires, the Council will admit younger siblings to the alternative school. This applies only where the older sibling is in attendance at the alternative school during the academic year to which the application relates. In addition the younger sibling must be residing in the same address (or an address within the catchment area that was the subject of the change before it was implemented) in the City of Cardiff that the older sibling was living at the time of the original application."</p> <p>This would not apply to siblings living outside of Cardiff. However, pupils resident outside of Cardiff would retain the right to express a preference for admission to any school in Cardiff.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disability 			x		<p>Catchment changes could result in a child living closer or further away from their local school. Pupil transport needs are assessed on an individual basis.</p> <p>Catchment changes do not require a pupil to change schools if the school they currently attend becomes part of another catchment area.</p> <p>Reasonable adjustments to adapt school premises are made in order to meet the needs of applicants to schools. Otherwise,</p>

	Has the Strategy/Policy/Activity considered how it will impact one or more of Cardiff's 7 Citizen focused Outcomes?	Please Tick				Evidence or suggestion for improvement/mitigation
		+	-	Ntrl	Un-Crtn	
						children are directed to attend alternative provision.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gender Reassignment 					N/A
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marriage & Civil Partnership 					N/A
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pregnancy & Maternity 					N/A
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Race 			x		Catchment changes would not have a differential impact upon one particular ethnic group as educational provision is available to all irrespective of race.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Religion/Belief 			x		Community school catchment proposals do not affect the catchments of faith schools. All schools directly affected by the proposed changes are community schools and are taught in line with the relevant national curriculum for their age including personal, social health education and religious education.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sex 					N/A
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sexual Orientation 					N/A
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welsh Language 					N/A
1.8	<p>The Council delivers positive outcomes for the city and its citizens through strong partnerships</p> <p><i>Consider the potential impact on</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>strengthening partnerships with business and voluntary sectors</i> <i>the collaboration agenda and the potential for shared services, cross-boundary working and efficiency savings</i> 					N/A

SUMMARY OF APPRAISAL (highlight positive and negative effects of the policy / plan / project being assessed, demonstrating how it contributes to the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the city):

The proposed changes to the catchment areas are intended to have a positive impact by seeking to allow a greater proportion of children to attend their local catchment area school, and providing families applying for school places in each catchment area with a reasonable expectation of admission to their local catchment area school.

The current secondary school catchment area arrangements are disadvantaging those families applying for secondary school places for their children in the parts of the catchment area furthest from Fitzalan High School (including South Grangetown and Butetown) where the distance to alternative English-medium high school provision would be greatest and where there are high proportions of families on low incomes.

The proposed changes would mean a fairer distribution of secondary school places albeit it is acknowledged that for some children living in very close proximity to the Fitzalan High School site there could be increased travel distances to their catchment school. All pupils directly affected by changes would be under 2 miles from Cantonian High School and safe walking routes are available, many of which are already used by children accessing the faith and Welsh-medium schools serving the locality.

It is recognised that the school bandings for Fitzalan High School are currently higher than for Cantonian High School. However, both provide comprehensive education for their pupils and appropriate measures are in place to support each in the areas identified for their improvement. Whilst noted in the summary, the bandings are not a material factor in the equality impact assessment process as all children impacted by the proposal will have equal access to education appropriate to their age and stage of development regardless of all protected characteristics and take into account Cardiff's 7 citizen focussed outcomes and therefore are not set out in the Equality Impact Assessment appraisal above.

The current primary school catchment area arrangements are disadvantaging those families applying for primary school places for their children in the parts of the catchment area furthest from Kitchener Primary School.

The proposed changes would mean a fairer distribution of primary school places and provide better assurance for parents in being able to attend their local catchment area school.

WHAT ACTIONS HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED OR CHANGES BEEN MADE TO THE POLICY / PLAN / PROJECT AS A RESULT OF THIS APPRAISAL:

The proposed changes to catchment areas are at the point of consultation with stakeholders. Once the outcome of this process is known and in the event any negative impact being substantiated appropriate consideration of mitigation would be undertaken.

Part 2: Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening

		Yes	No
2.1	Does the plan or programme set the framework for future development consent?		x
2.2	Is the plan or programme likely to have significant, positive or negative, environmental effects?		x

<p>Is a Full Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening Needed?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ If yes has been ticked to both questions 2.1 and 2.2 then the answer is yes ▪ If a full SEA Screening is required then please contact the Sustainable Development Unit to arrange (details below) 	Yes	No X
---	-----	---------

If you have any doubt on your answers to the above questions regarding SEA then please consult with the Sustainable Development Unit on 2087 3228 sustainabledevelopment@cardiff.gov.uk

Part 3: Habitat Regulation Assessment (HRA)

		Yes	No	Unsure
3.1	Will the plan, project or programme results in an activity which is known to affect a European site, such as the Severn Estuary or the Cardiff Beech Woods?		x	
3.2	Will the plan, project or programme which steers development towards an area that includes a European site, such as the Severn Estuary or the Cardiff Beech Woods or may indirectly affect a European site?		x	
3.3	Is a full HRA needed?		x	

Details of the strategy will be sent to the County Ecologist on completion of the process to determine if a Habitat Regulation Assessment is needed. For further information please phone 2087 3215 or email biodiversity@cardiff.gov.uk

Appendix 1 – Statutory Requirements

It is possible that the Impact Screening Tool will identify the need to undertake specific statutory assessments:

- **Equality Impact Assessment:** *This assessment is required by the Equality Act 2010 and Welsh Government’s Equality Regulations 2011.*
- **Sustainable Development Bill:** *The Bill, when it comes into effect, will require sustainable development (SD) to be a central organising principle for the organisation. This means that there is a duty to consider SD in the strategic decision making processes.*
- **Shared Purpose Shared Delivery-** *The Welsh Government requires local authorities to produce a single integrated plan to meet statutory requirements under a range of legislation. Cardiff Council must therefore demonstrate its contribution towards Cardiff’s own integrated plan; “What Matters”.*
- **United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child:** *The Children Act 2004 guidance for Wales requires local authorities and their partners to have regard to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of a Child.*
- **United Nations Principles for Older Persons:** *The principles require a consideration of independence, participation, care, self-fulfillment and dignity.*
- **The Welsh Language Measure 2011:** *The measure sets out official status for the Welsh language, a Welsh language Commissioner, and the freedom to speak Welsh.*
- **Health Impact Assessment:** *(HIA) considers policies, programmes or projects for their potential effects on the health of a population*
- **Strategic Environmental Impact Assessment:** *A Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is an European Directive for plans, programmes and policies with land use implications and significant environmental effects.*
- **Habitats Regulations Assessment:** *The Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) (Amendment) Regulations 2007 provides a requirement to undertake Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) of land use plans.*

Cardiff Council

Statutory Screening Tool Guidance

If you are developing a strategy, policy or activity that is likely to impact people, communities or land use in any way then there are a number of statutory requirements that apply. Failure to comply with these requirements, or demonstrate due regard, can expose the Council to legal challenge or other forms of reproach.

For instance, this will apply to strategies (i.e. Housing Strategy or Disabled Play Strategy), policies (i.e. Procurement Policy) or activity (i.e. developing new play area).

Completing the Statutory Screening Tool will ensure that all Cardiff Council strategies, policies and activities comply with relevant statutory obligations and responsibilities. Where a more detailed consideration of an issue is required, the Screening Tool will identify if there is a need for a full impact assessment, as relevant.

The main

statutory requirements that strategies, policies or activities must reflect include:

- **Equality Act 2010 - Equality Impact Assessment**
- **Welsh Government's Sustainable Development Bill**
- **Welsh Government's Statutory Guidance - Shared Purpose Shared Delivery**
- **United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child**
- **United Nations Principles for Older Persons**
- **Welsh Language Measure 2011**
- **Health Impact Assessment**
- **Habitats Regulations Assessment**
- **Strategic Environmental Assessment**

This Statutory Screening Tool allows us to meet all the requirements of all these pieces of legislation as part of an integrated screening method that usually taken no longer than an hour.

The Screening Tool can be completed as a self assessment or as part of a facilitated session, should further support be needed. For further information or if you require a facilitated session please contact the Policy, Partnerships and Citizen Focus Team on 2078 8563 e-mail: siadavies@cardiff.gov.uk. Please note:

- **The completed Screening Tool must be submitted as an appendix with the Cabinet report.**
- **The completed screening tool will be published on the intranet.**



Statutory Screening Tool

<p>Name of Strategy / Policy / Activity: Welsh-medium Primary and Secondary Schools Catchment Area Consultation: - Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf - Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr - Ysgol Pencae</p>	<p>Date of Screening: January 2016</p>
<p>Service Area/Section: Education</p> <p>Attendees: Self assessment</p>	
<p>Lead Officer: Janine Nightingale</p>	

What are the objectives of the Policy/Strategy/Project/Procedure/Service/Function	Please provide background information on the Policy/Strategy/Project/Procedure/Service/Function and any research done [e.g. service users data against demographic statistics, similar EIAs done etc.]	
<p>Proposal: Changes to catchment areas are proposed that seek to achieve a balance between the revised catchment areas of Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf; Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr and Ysgol Pencae.</p>	<p>At present, Ysgol Pencae serves a catchment area that include parts of Canton, Fairwater, Llandaff and Riverside The catchment area of Ysgol Pencae falls entirely within the secondary school catchment area of Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr.</p> <p>Projections indicate that the demand for Welsh-medium places from within the existing catchment area of Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr will exceed the number of places available at entry to the school from September 2017, whilst demand from within the existing catchment area of Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf will be less than the school is able to accommodate.</p> <p>It is therefore proposed that the catchment area of Ysgol Pencae transfers from the catchment area of Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr to the catchment area of Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf. The proposed changes seek to achieve a balance between the revised catchment areas of each of the schools.</p>	

Part 1: Impact on outcomes and due regard to Sustainable Development

Please use the following scale when considering what contribution the activity makes:

	Positive contribution to the outcome
+	Positive contribution to the outcome
-	Negative contribution to the outcome
ntrl	Neutral contribution to the outcome
Uncertain	Uncertain if any contribution is made to the outcome

	Has the Strategy/Policy/Activity considered how it will impact one or more of Cardiff's 7 Citizen focused Outcomes?	Please Tick			Un-Crtn	Evidence or suggestion for improvement/mitigation
		+	-	Ntrl		
1.1	<p>People in Cardiff are healthy; <i>Consider the potential impact on</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>the promotion of good health, prevention of damaging behaviour, promote healthy eating/active lifestyles etc,</i> <i>vulnerable citizens and areas of multiple deprivation</i> <i>Addressing instances of inequality in health</i> 			X		<p>Should the proposal be implemented the majority of pupils affected by the change would remain within 1 mile of Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf, and a significant proportion would be resident within 0.5 miles of the school. There may be a small increase in the number of pupils in the Fairwater area (those in close proximity to the Plasmawr site) choosing more polluting forms of travel.</p>
1.2	<p>People in Cardiff have a clean, attractive and sustainable environment; <i>Consider the potential impact on</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>the causes and consequences of Climate Change and creating a carbon lite city</i> <i>encouraging walking, cycling, and use of public transport and improving access to countryside and open space</i> <i>reducing environmental pollution (land, air, noise and water)</i> 			X	X	<p>Less than half of the total secondary school age pupil population in this area presently commute to English medium schools or faith schools. The majority of these attend Cantonian High School (located in Fairwater); Fitzalan High School (located in Leckwith) or The Bishop of Llandaff CW High School (located in Llandaff). Many pupils attending these schools walk to school and it is expected that the number of pupils that are affected by the proposal and who are both further from their local secondary school and also opting to use more polluting forms of transport will be few.</p> <p>Should the proposal be implemented pupils in Cathays and Gabalfa and some parts of Canton; Fairwater; Llandaff North and Riverside would likely continue using existing forms of travel.</p>

Has the Strategy/Policy/Activity considered how it will impact one or more of Cardiff's 7 Citizen focused Outcomes?	Please Tick			Un-Crtn	Evidence or suggestion for improvement/mitigation
	+	-	Ntrl		
					<p>Should the proposal not be implemented, pupils in Llandaff and other parts of Canton; Fairwater and Riverside would likely continue using existing forms of travel.</p> <p>In summary, implementing the proposal would most likely have a positive effect as a result of a net reduction of pupils using polluting modes of travel, compared to not implementing the proposal.</p> <p>Primary catchment: The proposed revision of the primary catchment of Ysgol Pencae to achieve a balance between the revised catchment areas of Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf and Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr should stabilise the supply to cater for the demand for Welsh-medium school places in the affected areas and therefore encourage walking and cycling to and from school.</p> <p>All parents of pupils would still retain the right to express a preference for their child's admission to any of the schools concerned.</p>
					N/A
					N/A
					N/A
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> reducing consumption and encouraging waste reduction, reuse, recycling and recovery encouraging biodiversity 					
1.3 People in Cardiff are safe and feel safe; Consider the potential impact on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> reducing crime, fear of crime and increasing safety of individuals addressing anti-social behaviour protecting vulnerable adults and children in Cardiff from harm or abuse 					
1.4 Cardiff has a thriving and prosperous economy; Consider the potential impact on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> economic competitiveness (enterprise activity, social enterprises, average earnings, improve productivity) 					N/A

Has the Strategy/Policy/Activity considered how it will impact one or more of Cardiff's 7 Citizen focused Outcomes?		Please Tick			Evidence or suggestion for improvement/mitigation
		+	-	Un-Crtn Ntrl	
1.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assisting those Not in Education, Employment or Training attracting and retaining workers (new employment and training opportunities, increase the value of employment, promoting local procurement opportunities or enhancing the capacity of local companies to compete) <p>People in Cardiff achieve their full potential; Consider the potential impact on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> promoting and improving access to life-long learning in Cardiff raising levels of skills and qualifications giving children the best start improving the understanding of sustainability addressing child poverty (financial poverty, access poverty, participation poverty) the United Nations Convention on the Rights of a Child and Principles for Older persons 	x	-		<p>Secondary catchments: The transfer of catchment area (Ysgol Pencae) is not expected to have a detrimental impact on the numbers of children attending Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr as there is significant demand in excess of supply from within catchment. As such the school will continue to benefit from the current levels of per pupil funding and therefore the range of subjects offered together with the specialisms of staff to offer a comprehensive range of subjects would not be affected.</p> <p>The transfer of catchment area into the Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf catchment from Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr will increase the number of children likely to attend Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf. An increased number of children will result in increased funding for Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf (based on the per pupil funding allocation) thereby allowing for a greater range of subjects and staff specialists which would improve the offer to existing and future pupils at the school.</p> <p>Both schools offer a full and comprehensive education to their pupils and work together with other schools as part of the 14-19 partnership offer across Cardiff.</p> <p>Primary catchments: The proposed revision of the primary catchment of Ysgol Pencae to achieve a balance between the revised catchment areas of Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf and Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr should stabilise the supply to cater for the demand for Welsh-medium school places in the affected areas and therefore encourage walking and cycling to and from school.</p>

	Has the Strategy/Policy/Activity considered how it will impact one or more of Cardiff's 7 Citizen focused Outcomes?	Please Tick			Evidence or suggestion for improvement/mitigation
		+	-	Ntrl	
1.6	<p>Cardiff is a Great Place to Live, Work and Play <i>Consider the potential impact on</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>promoting the cultural diversity of Cardiff</i> <i>encouraging participation and access for all to physical activity, leisure & culture</i> <i>play opportunities for Children and Young People</i> <i>protecting and enhancing the landscape and historic heritage of Cardiff</i> <i>promoting the City's international links</i> 			X	In the event the proposal were to proceed to implementation all schools concerned would continue to have a mixed intake of pupils. Whilst proportions may change students will continue to benefit from the full complement of cultural and education experiences they have received to date, the proposed change does not impact on the quality of education nor limit the offer specific to cultural diversity, physical activity, leisure or culture offered by each school.
1.7	<p>Cardiff is a fair, just and inclusive society. Consider the potential impact on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>the elimination of discrimination, harassment or victimisation for equality groups</i> <i>has the community or stakeholders been engaged in developing the strategy/policy/activity?</i> <i>how will citizen participation be encouraged (encouraging actions that consider different forms of consultation, through more in depth engagement to full participation in service development and delivery)?</i> 	X		X	All schools have appropriate policies in place to deal with any issues that present and have a duty to ensure discrimination of any of the equality groups is not tolerated.
<p>EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT Will this Policy/Strategy/Project have a differential impact on any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Age (including children and young people aged 0-25 and older people over 65 in line with the United Nations Conventions) 					The consultation process is compliant with the Welsh Government admissions code intended to engage stakeholders with the views put forward as part of this intended to inform the decision making specific to the proposed change.
					Please give details/consequences of the differential impact (positive and negative), and what action(s) can you take to address any negative implications?
		X			See 1.1. and 1.2 Children with siblings attending a school affected by catchment area change: There would not be an impact on younger siblings resident within Cardiff attending the same school as their older siblings if a school were to become part of another catchment area:

Has the Strategy/Policy/Activity considered how it will impact one or more of Cardiff's 7 Citizen focused Outcomes?	Please Tick			Evidence or suggestion for improvement/mitigation
	+	-	Un-Crtn	
				<p>Oversubscription criterion 1a: "Where an older sibling was directed by the Council to an alternative school because the alternative school was previously the catchment area school, if the parent desires, the Council will admit younger siblings to the alternative school. This applies only where the older sibling is in attendance at the alternative school during the academic year to which the application relates. In addition the younger sibling must be residing in the same address (or an address within the catchment area that was the subject of the change before it was implemented) in the City of Cardiff that the older sibling was living at the time of the original application."</p> <p>This would not apply to siblings living outside of Cardiff. However, pupils resident outside of Cardiff would retain the right to express a preference for admission to any school in Cardiff.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disability 			x	<p>Catchment changes could result in a child living closer or further away from their local school. Pupil transport needs are assessed on an individual basis.</p> <p>Catchment changes do not require a pupil to change schools if the school they currently attend becomes part of another catchment area.</p> <p>Reasonable adjustments to adapt school premises are made in order to meet the needs of applicants to schools. Otherwise, children are directed to attend alternative provision.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gender Reassignment 				N/A
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marriage & Civil Partnership 				N/A
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pregnancy & Maternity 				N/A
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Race 			x	<p>Catchment changes would not have a differential impact upon one particular ethnic group as educational provision is available to all irrespective of race.</p>

Has the Strategy/Policy/Activity considered how it will impact one or more of Cardiff's 7 Citizen focused Outcomes?	Please Tick			Un-Cr:n	Evidence or suggestion for improvement/mitigation
	+	-	Ntrl		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Religion/Belief 			X		Community school catchment proposals do not affect the catchments of faith schools. All schools directly affected by the proposed changes are community schools and are taught in line with the relevant national curriculum for their age including personal, social health education and religious education.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sex 					N/A
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sexual Orientation 					N/A
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welsh Language 					The demand for Welsh Medium education has been conducted in accordance with regulations made under Section 86 of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and takes into consideration the Welsh-Medium Education Strategy incorporating a focus on the sustainability of Welsh medium provision in the local 14-19 network and wider area to promote access to availability of Welsh medium courses in post-16 education.
<p>1.8</p> <p>The Council delivers positive outcomes for the city and its citizens through strong partnerships</p> <p>Consider the potential impact on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> strengthening partnerships with business and voluntary sectors the collaboration agenda and the potential for shared services, cross-boundary working and efficiency savings 					N/A

SUMMARY OF APPRAISAL (highlight positive and negative effects of the policy / plan / project being assessed, demonstrating how it contributes to the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the city):

The proposed changes to the catchment areas are intended to have a positive impact by seeking to allow a greater proportion of children to attend their local catchment area school and providing families applying for school places in each catchment area with a reasonable expectation of admission to their local catchment area school.

The current secondary school catchment area arrangements are disadvantaging those families applying for secondary school places for their children in the parts of the Ysgol Penciae catchment area furthest from Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr (including parts of Fairwater; Llandaff and Riverside) where the distance to alternative Welsh-medium high school provision would be greatest and where there are high proportions of families on low incomes.

The proposed changes would mean a fairer distribution of secondary school places albeit it is acknowledged that for some children living in very close proximity to the Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr site there could be increased travel distances to their catchment school. All pupils directly affected by changes would be under 2 miles from Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf and safe walking routes are available, many of which are already used by children accessing the faith and English-medium schools serving the locality.

Both Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf and Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr provide comprehensive education for their pupils and appropriate measures are in place to support each in the areas identified for their improvement. All children impacted by the proposal will have equal access to education appropriate to their age and stage of development regardless of all protected characteristics and take into account Cardiff's 7 citizen focussed outcomes.

The proposed changes would mean a fairer distribution of secondary school places and provide better assurance for parents in being able to attend their local catchment area school.

WHAT ACTIONS HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED OR CHANGES BEEN MADE TO THE POLICY / PLAN / PROJECT AS A RESULT OF THIS APPRAISAL:

The proposed changes to catchment areas are at the point of consultation with stakeholders. Once the outcome of this process is known and in the event any negative impact being substantiated appropriate consideration of mitigation would be undertaken.

Part 2: Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening

		Yes	No
2.1	Does the plan or programme set the framework for future development consent?		x
2.2	Is the plan or programme likely to have significant, positive or negative, environmental effects?		x

Is a Full Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening Needed?	Yes	No
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ If yes has been ticked to both questions 2.1 and 2.2 then the answer is yes ▪ If a full SEA Screening is required then please contact the Sustainable Development Unit to arrange (details below) 		X

If you have any doubt on your answers to the above questions regarding SEA then please consult with the Sustainable Development Unit on 2087 3228 sustainabledevelopment@cardiff.gov.uk

Part 3: Habitat Regulation Assessment (HRA)

		Yes	No	Unsure
3.1	Will the plan, project or programme results in an activity which is known to affect a European site, such as the Severn Estuary or the Cardiff Beech Woods?		x	
3.2	Will the plan, project or programme which steers development towards an area that includes a European site, such as the Severn Estuary or the Cardiff Beech Woods or may indirectly affect a European site?		x	
3.3	Is a full HRA needed?		x	

Details of the strategy will be sent to the County Ecologist on completion of the process to determine if a Habitat Regulation Assessment is needed. For further information please phone 2087 3215 or email biodiversity@cardiff.gov.uk

Appendix 1 – Statutory Requirements

It is possible that the Impact Screening Tool will identify the need to undertake specific statutory assessments:

- **Equality Impact Assessment:** *This assessment is required by the Equality Act 2010 and Welsh Government's Equality Regulations 2011.*
- **Sustainable Development Bill:** *The Bill, when it comes into effect, will require sustainable development (SD) to be a central organising principle for the organisation. This means that there is a duty to consider SD in the strategic decision making processes.*
- **Shared Purpose Shared Delivery-** *The Welsh Government requires local authorities to produce a single integrated plan to meet statutory requirements under a range of legislation. Cardiff Council must therefore demonstrate its contribution towards Cardiff's own integrated plan; "What Matters".*
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Governing Body
Fitzalan High School
Lawrenny Avenue
Cardiff

25/2/16

Dear Nick Batchelor,

Response to Cardiff Council's proposal to change school catchment areas for Fitzalan High School

On behalf of the Governing Body of Fitzalan High School, we are writing to place on record our strong opposition to the proposed catchment changes impacting Fitzalan High School, and other schools within the Canton area. In considering our response to this consultation, we are mindful of the key aims of Cardiff Council's 21st Century School Programme, and our objections are outlined in detail below.

The 21st Century School programme says that the Council's strategy will be to:

1. Make sure schools are in the right place, are the right size, are funded appropriately and are 21st Century buildings with excellent and fit for purpose ICT facilities
2. Provide efficient and effective integrated services, join together Infant and Junior schools and establish secondary schools which deliver a comprehensive 14-19 curriculum
3. Focus on reducing known links between disadvantage and educational achievement
4. Meet the growing need for Welsh-medium provision across Cardiff for mainstream and Special Schools and deal with surplus places
5. Promote collaboration, networking and the development of 'Learning Communities'
6. Place schools at the heart of their communities with a shared responsibility for all children and young people in the area
7. Drive up standards in education through the use of new technology and innovative teaching methods

The key recommendations of the Programme will:

1. Reduce surplus places and generate savings which will be reinvested in education
2. Create additional Welsh medium places
3. create additional places in a small number of English-medium primary schools to meet the growth in population
4. Reduce backlog maintenance costs significantly
5. Create 3-11 primary provision for all schools in Cardiff
6. Upgrade secondary and primary schools to meet 21st century standards in teaching and learning
7. Provide efficient sustainable schools in line with Cardiff's Carbon Lite Strategy
8. Extend the opportunities for combining schools and where appropriate integrated services to strengthen the community focus of schools

Fitzalan High School understands and supports the rationale for this programme, but believes strongly that the current proposals for re-organisation of catchment areas run directly counter to the Council's own stated objectives, as outlined below:

Make sure schools are in the right place, are the right size, are funded appropriately and are 21st Century buildings with excellent and fit for purpose ICT facilities

Fitzalan High School is located within the community of Canton and has since it was established, served the 'Four Wards' of Canton, Riverside, Grangetown and Butetown. There is a clear geographical, community and cultural rationale for this established catchment area. In previous school re-organisation consultations the Council has itself explicitly and consistently referred to this area as the 'Four Wards' recognizing that they form a distinct network of closely connected communities in the West and South-

West of Cardiff, all commonly served by Fitzalan High School. In fact, when Cardiff Council previously consulted on significant proposals to primary schools within the 'four wards' area (in related to Ysgol Treganna most notably) the rationale for isolating the 'four wards' for consideration, separately from the wider schools of Cardiff was due to the distinct and closely connected nature of these communities.

Fitzalan High is proud to serve these communities, and we believe strongly that we are in the right place to continue doing so. Located within Canton, we are part of the natural community hub that residents of the 'four wards' would identify as their own- this includes the shopping area of Cowbridge Road East, the sports facilities at Leckwith, and the primary schools which feed into Fitzalan. For our students, and their families, these 'four wards' are closely connected, and for many Canton is a central hub, where they would see each other outside of school, shopping on a Saturday, attending various clubs, after school activities and social events- indeed many of these events are held in Fitzalan High itself- where primary school children from the local area access swimming lessons, drama clubs and other out of school activity.

To remove the primary schools of Canton from the catchment area of the only secondary school in Canton would create an artificial divide between the young people and their families who live in Canton, and those who do not, but who attend school in Canton.

Provide efficient and effective integrated services, join together Infant and Junior schools and establish secondary schools which deliver a comprehensive 14-19 curriculum

and

Promote collaboration, networking and the development of 'Learning Communities'

As outlined above, Fitzalan High School has a close relationship with the primary schools within the four wards it currently serves. In fact, parents don't just want to send their children to Fitzalan High because it is a good school with excellent outcomes for children- they want to do so because of the investment they have made as community members in Fitzalan over recent years. This local engagement and investment has contributed to making Fitzalan the excellent school it is today.

In addition the senior leaders and other staff at Fitzalan have made good connections with local primary schools, for example, the Headteacher from Fitzalan and the Headteachers from all the partner primary schools meet regularly to plan coordinated transition and teaching and learning strategies. Joint INSET days take place annually involving all staff from all of the schools. Subject teachers from modern foreign languages, art, music and technology teach in primary schools and primary schools are also involved in a joint literacy project where a Fitzalan member of staff models and team teaches with the Year 6 teachers so that there is a coordinated approach to the new WG requirements for literacy and written communication.

Focus on reducing known links between disadvantage and educational achievement

At a time when education professionals face considerable pressure and responsibility to ever-increase achievement levels, we believe that only by engaging with our local community will we succeed in doing so. At Fitzalan we have shown that communities working together with the school as educators can better address the challenge of education all our young people to the highest standards. Many of the communities and students Fitzalan serves face multiple disadvantages. It is a source of much pride that we have changed the culture of the school to the extent that our students are now proud to be Fitzalan High School students, and local parents are proud to send their children here.

Our recent categorization as a green school reflects the journey that we have been on, and the fact that we provide an excellent education to our students. We are the natural choice for a considerable number of parents whose children attend Lansdowne and Radnor primary schools, two of our closest schools geographically. If this proposal was agreed by the Council, these local residents of Canton would no longer be able to send their children to Fitzalan. This would have a detrimental effect not only on us as a community of schools within Canton, but on the community itself. Parents of children in Canton will lose the ability to send their children to a school which is excelling, in favour of one which is failing.

We believe, from our own experience, that there is also no guarantee that if these changes are agreed they

will result in the behavior change the Council desires. Before Fitzalan became the successful school it is today, in fact when it was identified itself as a failing or problematic school, many parents within the catchment area chose to send their children out of catchment, and out of County to St Cyres in Penarth. We believe, from listening to the views of parents, that parents of children in Canton primaries may unfortunately choose to send their children to other schools (than Cantonian) if this proposal goes ahead. These are likely to include schools that are also currently over subscribed such as Radyr Comprehensive, faith schools such as Bishop of Llandaff, but also Welsh Medium schools in the area. Indeed, these proposals do nothing to address the reasons why a large proportion of parents of children within Cantonian High's existing catchment schools choose to send their children out of catchment.

In aspiring to break the links between disadvantage and educational achievement, the Council is rightly trying to reduce the attainment gap between different groups of learners. We believe that as a school we are very successful at this, and our track record at getting the best out of learners of all abilities (their 'distance travelled') is excellent. We have particular experience, including recognized 'best practice' of working with and raising standards of, pupils with English as an additional language- as well as those with special needs. We believe these factors contribute to making us a school of choice for Canton parents.

If these proposals proceed, Fitzalan High will no longer take children from Canton schools, despite being located in Canton. Having demonstrated over recent years the improvements that can be made to attainment and a range of other outcomes, through communities working together with the school, we believe this would be a mistake. It would not serve the residents or pupils of Canton well, and it would run counter to the ethos and commitment to its community that Fitzalan has sought to develop.

Meet the growing need for Welsh-medium provision across Cardiff for mainstream and Special Schools and deal with surplus places

We believe that this proposal is driven by the desire to reduce surplus places at Cantonian, which have developed over many years as a result of poor management and leadership within that school community. We understand that the Council is working to raise the educational standards and provide a broader curriculum at Cantonian, but we do not as a school directly affected by these proposals, have any understanding of what such an action plan includes.

Furthermore, it seems to us that the management of surplus places by schools is used as an argument to support failing schools at the expense of schools who have worked hard to engage their local communities, and therefore reduce surplus places. Fitzalan High has grown its number of students on roll from 1418 in 2008 to 1695 in 2015 as a direct result of working hard with the local community to create a school which parents and young people would be proud of.

As we outlined in our response to the proposals from the Council to create a new school in Ely & Caerau, the Council have often made reference to school budget deficits being as a result of surplus places within schools. While this is certainly a factor, it should also be recognised, that schools such as Fitzalan have effectively moved from a position of budget deficit to breakeven/ surplus within recent years. We believe this is as a result of clear and effective leadership from the Head, a strong and united senior management team and Governing Body. This has not been an easy journey, but one which the school has been committed to.

The broader vision at Fitzalan which has sought to tackle poor attendance and behaviour, challenge and support better teaching standards, improve attainment levels, design a more fit for purpose curriculum and address estate issues have all led to a sea-change in the way the school is perceived and valued by its local communities, parents and pupils. All these factors have led to an increase in pupil numbers, and we believe are crucial in the journey of successful schools.

There have been significant changes to both primary and secondary schools in the West of Cardiff over the last decade, and Fitzalan has most recently responded to the proposal for a new combined school in the Ely & Caerau areas. However, we do not get a sense that there is a co-ordinated strategy for improvement of all the schools in the West of Cardiff, or indeed the city as a whole. This proposal therefore does not seem to fit within a wider strategic direction for school improvement in Cardiff- which we would be happy to engage with. As a school community, we feel we have much to offer in terms of how we have turned

around our school, and would welcome the opportunity to engage in a more meaningful exercise about improving outcomes for all our young people across Cardiff.

These proposals are overwhelmingly driven by the desire to reduce surplus places at a failing school, and are not in the best educational, social or cultural interests of the pupils affected or the communities within which they live. The proposals also do not promote or encourage an appropriate way of realizing school improvement for Cantonian.

Place schools at the heart of their communities with a shared responsibility for all children and young people in the area

As we have stated above Fitzalan plays a crucial role in the heart of the communities identified as the 'Four Wards' and particularly in Canton where we are situated. To simply re-draw boundaries so that these form new catchment areas to address issues of subscription; due to under and over subscribed schools in the wider area, is a gross simplification that does not take account of the range of complex factors at play. These include issues of equality and diversity, and community cohesion. We know from our discussions with the Governing Bodies, and senior leaders within the primary schools affected, that they share our concerns about these issues.

Fitzalan High is first and foremost a community school. Our approach to school improvement since our current Head took up post in 2009 has put community at the core. This approach has not only led to our attainment levels rising and standards improving markedly, but importantly that parents from our diverse communities have confidence in sending their children to us. Without this confidence, which has been hard earned over time, Fitzalan High may well have continued to be an under-performing school. Indeed, no re-drawing of boundaries would have facilitated the systemic cultural change we have sought to bring about.

Fitzalan High is a multi-cultural school, where children from a variety of cultures, nationalities, faiths and ethnicities are educated together in a supportive community. We believe it is what all schools should aspire to achieve. Importantly, our feeder primary schools, including those affected Radnor Road and Lansdowne Primary enjoy the experience of our multi-cultural, multi-lingual, multi-faith and socially diverse education. It reflects the communities we serve, and is the reason many people choose to live in Canton and the other areas that make up the 'four wards'.

There is much evidence from across Europe, and the United States into the educational benefits of community schools. To summarise why we believe that community schools are important (and why they work):

- Students learning and attainment: Community school students show significant and widely evident gains in academic achievement and in essential areas of non-academic development
- Family engagement: Families of community school students show increased stability, communication with teachers and school involvement. Parents demonstrate a greater sense of responsibility for their children's learning success
- School effectiveness: Community schools enjoy stronger parent teacher relationships, increased teacher satisfaction, a more positive school environment and greater community support.
- Community vitality: Community schools promote better use of school buildings, and their neighbourhoods enjoy increased security, heightened community pride and better report among students and residents.

In short, Fitzalan is already at the heart of this community, and these proposals would result in an incongruous situation where our school would sit at the very tip of the catchment area it served, and where the children who live in our community had to access secondary education in a distinctly different local community. This would serve neither the educational interests of the young people or the community interests of residents well.

In addition to the points outlined above, which relate directly to the Council's 21st Century Schools strategy, we wish to highlight a number of other concerns which we share with the primary schools affected.

Health & Safety and logistics

The majority of current Lansdowne and Radnor parents have already made plans to send their children to Fitzalan High School. After all, future planning for a child's education is usually carried out in advance and to a span of at least a decade. Other major family decisions also underpin educational planning, for example, where to live and work. To frame these proposals to begin in September 2017 provides very little time for decisions of this importance.

Many current Fitzalan pupils have younger siblings at both Lansdowne and Radnor Primary Schools. Therefore, if these proposals were successful, families may well experience having to facilitate children attending more than one high school, with all the attendant practical arrangements that this would entail.

Fitzalan is the local community high school: within walking distance for many children and well known already to them. Children from Canton attending Fitzalan will usually be walking familiar streets with well-known crossing points for the busier roads. This proposal expects children to travel to an area of Cardiff with which they may not be as familiar and which is further away.

Most of the parents whose children who go to Radnor plan for them to go to Fitzalan High School.

Logistically, the route to Cantonian High School for children from Canton would require them to cross Western Avenue, one of the busiest, fastest routes in Cardiff. Fatalities have occurred on this and surrounding routes. For many this journey will not be walkable, and is not currently accorded a safe cycling route.

We believe that these proposals run counter to the Safer Routes to School within the council's Local Transport Plan which states that:

Safer Routes to school in Cardiff is all about

- *Reducing child pedestrian casualties*
- *Creating a safer environment around the school gate*
- *Creating a better local community*
- *Providing safer cycling routes and storage facilities*
- *Creating safer walking routes*
- *Taking the bus or car sharing*
- *Dropping off further away from the school*

Fitzalan High School does not currently have any contract buses for its pupils, but instead we work with services buses (that pupils pay for). We believe that if these proposals were to proceed, the Council would have to provide serviced buses to take pupils safely from Canton to Fairwater if it were to meet the objectives outlined in Safer Routes to School.

Proposed residential developments in Cardiff

We do not believe that adequate consideration has been given to the wider developments within the West of Cardiff that would have an impact on all schools, including Fitzalan and Cantonian, notably:

- 5000 houses in north west Cardiff to the west of Radyr, Fairwater and Pentrebanne and north of St Fagans (potentially to include one new secondary school, currently these would form part of the catchment areas for secondary schools in Cantonian, Radyr and Bishop of Llandaff)
- 2000 new homes between Creigiau and junction 33 of the M4, plus a 650 home extension to Creigiau (no secondary school here, so would impact on Radyr, which is the current catchment school)
- 500 homes at the ferry works, Grangetown
- The development at the former Ely paper mill site which would impact on the new school in Ely and Fitzalan

In addition, we believe the Council need to take further consideration of the impact of students attending schools out of catchment- in particular the number of young people within the Cantonian catchment area attending Radyr, Bishop of Llandaff and even Fitzalan which could be impacting on the surplus places at Cantonian.

Consultation Process

We believe that the consultation process is flawed for the following reasons:

- The authority may already have a settled view in terms of implementation of the proposals as only one option is under consideration;
- The authority has neither provided validated assessments of any other options under consideration, nor provided validated assessments of the costs and benefits of the single option that is;
- The consultation is rushed and does not allow sufficient time for a well informed consultation, given the nature and potential impacts of the proposals:
 - the consultation opened on 2 February and closes on 1 March, a total of 28 days. This period includes half-term week, in effect reducing the meaningful consultation period to 3 weeks;
 - given the nature and impact of the proposed changes, this time period is insufficient to do justice to the matter under consideration. Parents were only able to receive letters one week later than the opening date of the consultation;
- The authority has not properly set up and facilitated a meaningful and targeted consultation;
 - head teachers were only informed about the consultation on Monday, 31 January: the day prior to the opening of the consultation;
 - parents will only receive consultation letters one week into the consultation period;
 - schools are being relied upon to publicise the consultation among parents;
 - The consultation is inaccessible to the many families for whom English is not their first language (this compares to previous consultations which have included information in 12 languages and have provided hard copy information to all parents);
 - The consultation is inaccessible on the Council website: it is not immediately visible on the home page of the Education section; anyone unfamiliar with the website would have great difficulty in finding the consultation.

Previous consultation on schools within the 'four ward' area referred to the need to give consideration to school places within Fitzalan's catchment: "*Separate proposal would be brought forward in good time to ensure there are sufficient places to meet demand for English medium and Welsh Medium secondary places within the Fitzalan and Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf catchment areas*".

In fact, the Council's original 21st Century Schools plan (published in 2010) identified Fitzalan and its feeder schools as requiring significant investment due to forecast increase in the number of students on roll. At that time £54million investment was identified for these schools. It is therefore surprising that these proposals appear so ill-thought through and rushed when the need to give consideration to the 'four wards' was identified over six years ago.

It seems to us that serious consideration has not been given to the wider contextual and cultural issues at play, despite knowing that proposals were due to be considered. In short, we believe that this consultation has been rushed and ill thought through.

In conclusion:

It seems to us that the proposal to change school catchment areas for Fitzalan High has been made to reduce the surplus places in Cantonian High School. While these proposals might make sense at first glance on a map, we believe strongly that they do not demonstrate any understanding of the communities affected. In addition they demonstrate little regard to the wider objectives and recommendations in the Council's 21st Century School Programme, the educational interests of young people in Canton, the impact on the community school of Fitzalan and the community of Canton itself (and the wider four wards).

There remain a number of unanswered questions that we invite the Council to respond to:

1. What considerations have been given to wider catchment area changes, which may include the following schools and their feeder primaries: Radyr Comprehensive School, Bishop of Llandaff, Willows High School, in addition to the new school in Ely and the potential new school in the West of Cardiff linked to proposed new housing
2. What consideration has been given to different catchment changes within Fitzalan High School's catchment area, including to the South- for example in relation to Mount Stuart Primary and its proximity to Willows High School
3. Why have these proposals been rushed through with inadequate consultation and consideration when the wider issues were identified as early as 2010?
4. What considerations have been given to a model of Federating Cantonian High School with a neighbouring school such as Radyr, as a way of realizing school improvement?
5. What is being done to address over-subscription in other schools in Cardiff, in particular Radyr Comprehensive and Cardiff High?
6. What considerations have the Council given to the multi-cultural, multi faith and multi-lingual nature of Fitzalan High School and its students, and the impact this proposal will have on particular groups of students
7. How many children currently within Cantonian High catchment area currently attend schools out of catchment, and what is being done to address this, other than re-drawing boundaries?
8. Has the Council considered the impact of the proposed housing developments identified in the LDP and listed earlier on school organization in the South, West and North West of the city, and what assessment has it made?
9. What assessment has the council made of the impact of these proposals on the community of Canton, including as part of the inter connected 'four wards'?
10. What assessment has the Council made of the impact of these proposals on children's safer routes to school?

Finally, we believe that Fitzalan High is on an exciting journey. We have made some of the greatest improvements in standards and attainment of any school in Cardiff, and indeed across Wales. We believe we have a lot to share about how our approach to school improvement works, and we would welcome the opportunity to engage with the Council on this as part of a strategic approach to improving education for all our children and young people in Cardiff. We urge you to reconsider these proposals, and look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely



Debbie Morgan
Interim Chair of Fitzalan High School
On behalf of Fitzalan High School Governors

cc. Cllr Sarah Merry

Mark Drakeford AM
Kevin Brennan MP

Cllrs for Canton
Cllrs for Grangetown
Cllr for Butetown
Cllrs for Riverside
Cllrs for Llandaff

Lansdowne Governing Body
Norfolk Street
Canton

Mr Nick Batchelar
Director of Education
Cardiff Council
County Hall
Atlantic Wharf
Cardiff CF10 4UW

26 February 2016

Dear Mr Batchelar

Re: Objections of Lansdowne Primary School Governing Body to the Proposals to redefine the English-medium Primary and Secondary Schools Catchment Areas in Canton

Lansdowne Primary School Governors wish to object to the proposal to

- redraw the secondary school catchments for Canton which would see Lansdowne and Radnor Primary Schools removed from the catchment for Fitzalan High School, Canton and included in the catchment for Cantonian High School, Fairwater;
- redraw primary catchments in Canton, in particular the transfer of Lansdowne's catchment to Kitchener Primary.

Firstly we wish to address the issue of what we consider to be an inadequate and flawed consultation. As Governors we have identified numerous concerns relating to how the consultation process has been undertaken which has disadvantaged many groups of parents and transferred the responsibility of conveying the Council's message onto the school and the school community. As a Governing Body we contacted the Director of Education setting out our concerns, as soon as the consultation was launched, and sought assurances that the consultation process would be meaningful to ensure informed responses and would be inclusive to make certain that our parents were not disadvantaged but unfortunately a response was never received.

Whilst the School Admissions Code, the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 and the Education (Determination of Admission Arrangements) (Wales) Regulations 2006 set out the requirement for consultation and may not be prescriptive on the level needed it does state that:

Admission arrangements must be consulted on for each maintained school between 1 September and 1 March, and set by 15 April, of the school year (the 'determination year') beginning two years before the school year in which the arrangements will apply.

Therefore we question why this consultation was rushed through, last minute and only undertaken in the final month when it could have started anytime from 1st September 2015 onwards. Earlier consultation would have

given more time to ensure appropriate engagement and made the process more meaningful.

The official consultation period only ran from 2nd February to 1st March which in itself is particularly short given the scale and implications of the proposal. This period also included a half term holiday and inset days. Governors and parents only received official notice and a copy of the consultation leaflet in the second week immediately prior to the school closing for the half term break.

Whilst the consultation was advertised on the Council website, for those with access, it was not easily accessible as it was not signposted from the homepage or subsequent pages and was located six subpages in from the homepage.

When the Council's consultation was so heavily reliant upon schools disseminating and distributing information we fail to see why the Council chose to consult over the half term break which is a significant proportion of the consultation period when parents are unable to access support from the school.

We consider that the problems of the limited time for consultation was further compounded by the distinct lack of information and the presentation of what was actually provided. The A4 leaflet and map supplied has proven to be inadequate and insufficient to enable informed decisions.

Para 2.55 of the Schools Admission Code States that:

"Where catchment areas are used, they should be designed so they are reasonable and clearly defined ...and must make maps of the specified areas available, for example on their websites or in public libraries or otherwise enable parents to easily identify their home in relation to school catchment areas."

We have been informed that the maps supplied have been confusing for many parents who have not been able to easily identify their homes on these small maps or understand clearly the significant direct implications of the proposals.

- No proper rationale is given as to why the changes have to be made and the benefits of this preferred option. No attempt has been made to ensure the consultation was meaningful as neither the community nor the key stakeholders were engaged in developing this proposal. Of particular concern at Lansdowne is the failure to consider the language and literacy needs of consultees to enable participation. All that was provided was a Language Preference Form enclosed with the consultation leaflet. Parents were expected to return the form requesting information in home languages with no indication of how long this process would take, mindful that the consultation period was inadequately short. At Lansdowne we have 33 home languages and only one was catered for. Additionally parents needed support to understand the request form to appreciate the nature and significant implications of what was being proposed and what they needed to do.

- Consultation undertaken appears to have ignored the Council's own Corporate Consultation Strategy which states that
 - They are "**committed to a consistent and sustainable approach to engagement**" and to be "**open, accessible and responsive**". Engagement should be a "**clear, simple and transparent activity...well planned and carefully delivered**"
 - **The diverse needs, cultures and experiences of those we wish to engage with must be appreciated when designing consultations. The language, timetables and rules of all cultures can subtly affect their ability to participate in discussions and must be sensitive to the needs of others when their input is sought.**
 - **It is vital that a combination of consultation methodologies are put in place that are commensurate with the scale of the consultation being undertaken.**

Therefore we consider that the level of consultation provided was not commensurate with the significant implications of the proposals and the sizeable population affected.

Turning to the specifics of the proposal; Cardiff Council's latest Draft Schools Admission Policy states that:

- **All pupils and prospective pupils are treated equitably, regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, culture, nationality, language, ability/disability or religious beliefs**

However we do not consider that all pupils and prospective pupils are being treated equitably by what is being proposed.

- Lansdowne is a multi ethnic school with 32 non English home languages. 62% of Lansdowne's pupils are registered as from minority ethnic backgrounds and 47.3% were recorded as having English as an additional language (MyLocalSchool figures 2015).

Despite this only an 'in house' self-assessment was undertaken using the Screening Impact Tool (dated January 2016), which concluded that

- *The proposed changes to the catchment areas are intended to have a positive impact by seeking to allow a greater proportion of children to attend their local catchment area school, and providing families applying for school places in each catchment area with a reasonable expectation of admission to their local catchment area school*
- *The current secondary school catchment area arrangements are disadvantaging those families applying for secondary school places for their children in the parts of the catchment area furthest from Fitzalan High School (including South Grangetown and Butetown) where the distance to alternative English medium high school provision would be greatest and where there are high proportions of families on low incomes.*

- *The proposed changes would mean a fairer distribution of secondary school places albeit it is acknowledged that for some children living in very close proximity to the Fitzalan High School site there could be increased travel distances to their catchment school. All pupils directly affected by changes would be under 2 miles from Cantonian High School and safe walking routes are available, many of which are already used by children accessing the faith and Welsh-medium schools serving the locality.*
- *The current primary school catchment area arrangements are disadvantaging those families applying for primary school places for their children in the parts of the catchment area furthest from Kitchener Primary School.*

We as governors consider this assessment to be inadequate as it does not provide a proper evidenced assessment of the short and long term social, cultural and environmental impacts on all pupils, schools and the Canton community who will be affected by this proposal. It appears to have been a desk top exercise which has taken little evidence into account and the needs of all pupils concerned.

The perceived benefits of the proposal could, when the new housing developments in the west of the city are built, result in parents in Canton also being disadvantaged by being furthest from their catchment school thereby recreating the current concerns in the not too distant future.

We believe that due regard has not been given to the needs of all pupils affected by this proposal which has led to the failure to undertake an informed fully evidenced screening assessment and which in turn has resulted in the ultimate failure to carry out a full impact assessment.

This we believe renders the proposal unsound and incapable of implementation, we also believe that the undesirable impacts of implementing the proposal cannot be mitigated against.

We consider that the proposal, if implemented, will have an adverse impact on:

- Equality and diversity and will actively undermine and jeopardize community cohesion. The impact of the proposal on Fitzalan appears to have been given inadequate consideration as one of its strengths is its multi-ethnic make-up. Fitzalan is a community focused school which promotes and maintains cultural and community cohesion. The removal of pupils from the Canton area will lead to a less diverse school population. Welsh Government guidance identifies schools as playing a key role in promoting positive cohesion yet this proposal serves to undermine the positive work undertaken by the Canton Schools.
- This proposal directly contradicts the Council's objective to provide 'Local Schools for Local Children'. In 2015 over 84% of Year 6 pupils at Lansdowne transferred to Fitzalan their local high school. Fitzalan is at the heart of the community in Canton and the local school of choice for Lansdowne families yet under the new proposals pupils at Lansdowne and Radnor will be sent to a school outside their community. Fitzalan is within

easy walking distance along established known and well used routes for pupils. Transfer to Cantonian will result in longer distances. The screening assessment provides no statistical data or evidence that any modelling or proper formal assessment of the transportation and environmental implications was undertaken to support the unsubstantiated statements. There should be certainty of the impacts rather than vague references for example

- *for **some** children living in very close proximity to the Fitzalan High School site there **could** be increased travel distances to their catchment school*
- *implementing the proposal would **most likely** have a positive effect as a result of a net reduction of pupils using polluting modes of travel, compared to not implementing the proposal.*
- Contrary to the impact assessment screening we believe the proposal would involve increased journey times by foot for pupils whether through choice or unable to access alternative modes of transport and would involve the crossing of a major strategic highway. Safety concerns and increased journey times are likely to result in an increase in the number of car journeys and will therefore have a substantial impact on already high traffic levels in Canton and have a detrimental effect on the Ely Bridge Air Quality Management Area. Additionally we question whether assessment has been undertaken to ascertain whether local bus operators would be able to meet such an increased demand in light of Welsh and faith school usage. Additionally these implications would see a year on year increase as more year groups are affected by the proposal. Longer journey times will also impact significantly on the ability of pupils to undertake extra-curricular activities.
- There is no educational benefit for pupils at Lansdowne or other children in Canton. Any proposal should seek to raise educational standards for all children concerned. At present children transferring to Fitzalan from Lansdowne can access a diverse curriculum and a wide range of extracurricular activities. This is testament to the Head teacher and staff at Fitzalan and the cluster schools who have been on a journey together and is the direct result of working tirelessly to improve standards. Fitzalan High School and its cluster primary schools have developed strong effective partnerships to ensure children experience a successful transition to high school and standards continue to improve. This proposal would serve to break up a thriving school community and destroy all the valuable hard work undertaken despite significant budgetary constraints and would force overburdened staff to start again. It is regrettable that Cantonian has suffered as a direct result of the lack of investment and threats of closure and deserves proper investment to make it a local school of choice for its own existing catchment but not to the detriment of children from Lansdowne and Canton.

As Governors at Lansdowne we have experienced first-hand the damaging direct and indirect consequences of the Council's previous proposals where due regard was not given to the impact of proposals on pupils at

Lansdowne. Such proposals were subsequently proved to be ill informed and misguided and would, had they been fully implemented, been devastating to the Canton community. It was however testament to the sheer commitment of staff and the support of parents and the wider school community in ensuring that such damaging impacts have been minimised.

Yet once again we are facing the consequences of not adopting a strategic fully evidenced approach to finding a solution to the issues regarding access to secondary education in South Grangetown /Butetown and undersubscription in Cantonian. Ill-conceived short term decisions can have long term impacts on the education of children, particularly those in the transitional years. There appears to be no long term plan to deal effectively and efficiently with the issues facing Cantonian High School. A more strategic long term sustainable solution is required. Positive change requires investment and change from within rather than simply shuffling pupil numbers through arbitrary changes to catchments. Change at Fitzalan has been achieved over time through strong leadership and ongoing community partnership and should serve as a model for Cantonian.

In terms of the proposed changes to the eastern boundary of Lansdowne's catchment it is difficult to see the logic or the necessity for this change. The consultation document identifies the issue of over subscription for places in Kitchener Primary which results in parents furthest from the school experiencing difficulties in accessing a place. Yet despite the stated issue of over subscription at Kitchener the Council's proposal includes the transfer of catchment from Lansdowne to Kitchener which although offset by an additional transfer from Kitchener to Severn still appears questionable and without justification. Our concern is that the only apparent reason for this proposed change is to ensure that no pupil falling within the revised Cantonian catchment would live beyond 2 miles of Cantonian, the claim suggested in the questionable Screening Assessment. In addition this also appears to ensure that Fitzalan High School is no longer geographically situated within Lansdowne's catchment with the area in question transferring to Kitchener which will continue to be a feeder to Fitzalan.

In conclusion, for the reasons outlined above, we strongly object to the proposed changes to Fitzalan and Lansdowne's catchments and urge the Council to reconsider and formulate a solution in partnership with the community which successfully resolves the issue of undersubscription in Cantonian and the potential difficulties for families accessing secondary education in the Grangetown/Butetown areas without detrimentally impacting on Lansdowne families and the wider Canton community.

I look forward to hearing from you on these important issues.

Yours sincerely

H Williams

Chair of Governors

Lansdowne Primary School Governors



Ysgol Gynradd Radnor Primary School,
Radnor Road, Canton, Cardiff. CF5 1RB

Tel/Ffon: 029 2038 7506

E mail/Ebost: radnorprm@cardiff.gov.uk

Headteacher/Prifathrawes: Mrs. A. James

February 24th 2016

Dear Ms Duddridge-Hossain

This letter is written on behalf of the Governing Body of Radnor Primary School.

We are writing to place on record our very strong opposition to the proposed catchment area changes that we firmly believe will have a detrimental impact, not only on Radnor Primary School, Fitzalan High School and Lansdowne Primary School but also on the community of Canton.

Our objections are detailed below:

Inadequate Consultation Process and Long Term Strategy/Vision

The consultation is inadequate as it does not present information or assessment (economic, social, cultural and environmental impacts on all school and pupils affected) of any other options e.g. further secondary provision in the south of the city to reduce demand on Fitzalan. This suggests to us that a decision has already been made. The proposal is presented in isolation appearing fragmented and short term, with an absence of any city wide strategic context. For instance, we would wish to know how the Council has taken into account the extensive new housing developments that are due to take place in the affected parts of the city. We lack confidence that further disruptions will not be proposed in the future due to an absence of a long term strategy in the proposals.

Cardiff Council's stated aim for 21st Century schools is "to create the right schools in the right places" (21st Century Schools Programme Cardiff Council publication). One famous phrase that has been quoted at us over a period of many years is 'local schools for local children'. We require an explanation of how this proposal meets this noble aim because as a governing body we fail to see how this will be achieved.

The consultation period is very short, straddling a school holiday, and so does not allow adequate time for people to make their views known on such a significant issue. The proposal came out of the blue, suggesting a lack of forward planning. Information was sent out to schools and governors a week after the consultation had started, so a quarter of period was lost. This is at odds with Cabinet Office guidelines on how to run a consultation.



Lack of Educational Benefits

Fitzalan High School has recently been categorised as a 'green' school which means the quality of education there is excellent and it is therefore the obvious school of choice for many Radnor parents and pupils living within the current Fitzalan catchment area. If this proposal goes through, our parents will no longer have the choice to send their children to Fitzalan and we can see no long or indeed short term educational benefits for our young citizens in this. All changes to education must raise educational standards for all pupils concerned, with immediate effect.

Added to this, Radnor could be disadvantaged because the proposal may well change future parental choices as regard to primary school – something we have first hand experience of as many of our pupils left Radnor long before year 6 when the reputation of Fitzalan was less strong.

Apart from Fitzalan's record for good results in core curriculum areas, it also has thriving drama and music departments, excellent sports facilities and is one of the best schools in Cardiff when it comes to giving the children extra-curricular opportunities. This is very important to many in our community as it continues and builds upon foundations laid in Radnor.

One of the educational priorities for Cardiff is to close the attainment gap between different groups of learners. Fitzalan and its current feeder primary schools are successful in this, with a track record of getting the best out of pupils of all abilities, including high performers. They also have well documented expertise working with and raising standards of pupils who do not have English as their first language, as well as those with special needs.

Such successes are testament to the staff at Fitzalan and the cluster schools who have worked tirelessly to improve standards, transition and communication over time. Fitzalan and its cluster primary schools have worked extremely hard to strengthen partnerships to ensure children experience a successful transition to high school and to raise standards. This proposal would destroy all of the valuable hard work and force over burdened staff to start again. This would mean that pupils at a vulnerable age/stage would be disadvantaged and this represents poor use of public money.

Negative Effect on Community Cohesion

The council's proposals seem to pay little heed to community cohesion, which we believe is one of the outstanding strengths of our school, Canton and Fitzalan. If this proposal was successful our community could be split along cultural and ethnic lines. We would be in danger of losing Fitzalan's successful multi-cultural ethos where there are children from a broad variety of cultures, nationalities and faiths. The children in Radnor have had the experience of a multi-cultural, multi-lingual, multi-faith and socially diverse education that is reflective of our community and Fitzalan – and we consider this to be an outstanding strength and fundamental to the development of children as they move through life. Our parents have told us that this is something that they value highly. This should be an aspiration for Cardiff as a whole, we have achieved it successfully and so it seems ludicrous for the Local Authority to play a part in its wanton destruction. Any proposal and associated consultation must be accompanied by a proper, transparent assessment and consideration of these issues.



Safety, Logistical and Sustainability Issues

Most of the parents whose children currently attend Radnor plan for them to go to Fitzalan High School and will have made plans to this end for perhaps many years. The proposals will undermine these plans and this entitlement to the education and friendships they had been led to believe they will get. Many who are currently at Fitzalan have younger siblings at Radnor. It could therefore be the case that families will have children at more than one secondary school should this proposal go through, causing significant practical difficulties.

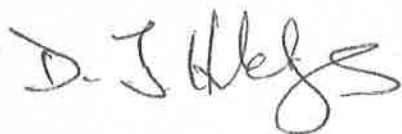
Fitzalan is our local community high school and within walking distance for many of our children and they know their locality well. Parents feel a sense of security knowing that their children will be walking familiar streets with well known crossing points for the busier roads. This proposal expects the children to travel to an area of Cardiff with which they are not familiar and is much further away than Fitzalan. Most importantly, the route to Cantonian for most of our children would involve crossing Western Avenue, one of the busiest, fastest routes in Cardiff where there are fatal accidents from time to time. For many this journey will not be walkable and is not currently accorded a safe cycling route. This will lead to an increase in the number of car journeys and will therefore have a significant impact on traffic levels. We believe that the proposals are therefore not practicable and also fail on safety and sustainability grounds. There is no evidence that any assessment of these impacts has been carried out.

Previous Experience of Poor Decisions

The governors, staff and pupils at Radnor have experienced firsthand, in the not too distant past, the damaging impacts of previous proposals. The effects of bad decisions have had a long term impact on our school and we have had to work hard to ensure that there has been not detrimental effect on pupils.

Standards have risen considerably in Radnor in recent years; this has been achieved through hard work with pupils, parents and governors. Effective transition into an already effective school has meant that these high standards are nurtured, developed and built upon in Fitzalan – do not destroy this for our children.

Yours sincerely,



Dominic Hutchings
Chair of Governors



Governing Body
Fitzalan High School
Lawrenny Avenue

Governing Body
Lansdowne Primary School
Norfolk Street

Governing Body
Radnor Primary School
Radnor Road

Dear Mr Batchelar

Re: Joint Response to the Proposal to Amend School Catchments in Canton

On behalf of the Governing Bodies of Fitzalan High School, Radnor Primary School and Lansdowne Primary School we are writing to place on record our strong opposition to the proposed catchment area changes as they impact on our schools and others within the wider community.

We consider that a joint response from the Governing Bodies of our three schools, who will be significantly affected by the proposal, is necessary to reflect the successful and effective relationship that has been developed and nurtured between Fitzalan and its cluster primary schools both in relation to education and its interaction with the wider community. A joint response further reflects our desire to ensure that as a cluster we continue building on the progress we have achieved to date.

We fully endorse the individual responses submitted by Fitzalan, Lansdowne and Radnor Governing Bodies and wish to further highlight that they contain views shared by our AM Mark Drakeford, MP Kevin Brennan and our three ward councillors, Cllrs Richard Cook, Susan Elsmore and Ramesh Patel.

However in addition we are particularly keen to emphasise that Fitzalan and its cluster primary schools have together developed a strong and successful 'Learning Community' which has and continues to provide considerable benefits to all our pupils and their wider community. This strong learning community has been achieved through the development of close collaboration and partnerships between all members of the cluster and is testament to the commitment of the leadership, governance, staff and the communities involved.

We wish to highlight the Director of Education and Lifelong Learning's January 2016 report to Cabinet which provided an update on the performance of schools in Cardiff for 2014/15, which provides an update on the progress being made by Cardiff to improve outcomes for our learners. However the report reflects the fact that only 11.1% of Cardiff secondary schools were categorized as "Green Schools". Therefore at a time of ongoing severe budgetary pressures and the need to continually improve standards we believe that where a school such as Fitzalan has been able to achieve "Green" status, a situation which can provide positive benefits to its cluster schools, then this should be recognised, allowing this successful learning community

to further develop and build on the foundations it has already established. This proposal would appear to only serve to undermine the achievements made so far.

We request that alternative options are considered that provide benefit to all learners in Cardiff and would welcome providing input into that process.

Yours sincerely

Debbie Morgan
Interim Chair of Governors
Fitzalan High School

Dominic Hutchings
Chair of Governors
Radnor Primary School

Helen Williams
Chair of Governors
Lansdowne Primary School



Severn Primary School
Severn Road, Canton
Cardiff. CF11 9DZ
Tel: (029) 2038 7507
Fax: (029) 2034 0569
email: headteacher@
severnprm.cardiff.sch.ul

Ysgol Gynradd a Meithri
Severn Road, Treganna
Caerdydd. CF11 9DZ
Ffôn: (029) 2038 7507
Ffacs: (029) 2034 0569
ebost: headteacher@
severnprm.cardiff.sch.ul

23.02.16

Dear Mrs. Duddridge-Hossain,

The Governing Body of Severn Primary School met to discuss the proposals to revise school's catchment areas in the Canton & Riverside areas of the city.

The Governors seek clarification on the following points:-

1. In the proposals the catchment area of Severn Primary would increase in size. Governors wish to know whether a demographic projection has been carried out to see whether there is sufficient space within our school to meet the demands from the enlarged catchment area. Our school is currently nearing capacity and we want to feel confident that we can accommodate the children who are in our school community.
2. Our Reception admissions are currently over-subscribed what would the impact of an extended catchment area have on this?
3. We are concerned not just about classroom space but about the lack of outdoor space including playground space within our school. We are an inner city school with very limited outdoor space. Extra children would also put greater pressure on our current facilities e.g. toilets.
4. Governors would like to know whether a city wide review of catchment areas has been undertaken.
5. Governors were very concerned about the short timescale of the consultation and want to know why the decision was taken to close consultation on 1st March.

Yours sincerely,

E.J. Morris

Julie Morris - Headteacher

(On behalf of the Governing Body of Severn Primary School).



Severn Primary School
Severn Road, Canton
Cardiff. CF11 9DZ
Tel: (029) 2038 7507
Fax: (029) 2034 0569
email: headteacher@
severnprm.cardiff.sch.ul

Ysgol Gynradd a Meithri
Severn Road, Treganna
Caerdydd. CF11 9DZ
Ffôn: (029) 2038 7507
Ffacs: (029) 2034 0569
ebost: headteacher@
severnprm.cardiff.sch.ul

From: Jackson, Ruth
Sent: 29 February 2016 10:55
To: School Responses
Subject: proposed change to catchment areas- Kitchener Primary School

The Governing Body of Kitchener Primary School object to the proposals on the following grounds:-

- The catchment area of Kitchener Primary School is very well established and there are very strong community links between the school and families living the area that would be lost to a neighbouring school.
- The school is uncertain of the impact of the proposed changes in its catchment area. No data has been supplied by Cardiff Council to enable the Governing Body to assess the impact on demand for places at Kitchener.
- The changes to the catchment of Fitzalan High School would mean that the careful balance of ethnic backgrounds and languages at the school would be lost and this could ultimately impact on community cohesion within the wider Riverside area.

K Ekstrom
Clerk to the Governing Body

English-medium Primary and Secondary Catchment Area Consultation

For the attention of : Ms. Duddridge Hossain, Schools Organisation Planning Manager.

I should like to make the following points in connection with the above consultation.

1. The original Cantonian High School was located in Canton and therefore, historically, the current High School feels a natural close affinity with these primary schools. Because of the size of the current Fitzalan High School catchment area, the proposed re-organisation would mean that many pupils would face less travelling time attending Cantonian than they do at present to attend Fitzalan.
2. The local authority is to be applauded for its decision to limit its secondary schools to a maximum of a ten form entry. To go beyond is to severely limit a school's ability to provide genuine individual learning experiences for pupils. Because of the current very small size of Cantonian, staff really do have an in-depth knowledge of every pupil and are therefore able to provide a truly individual learning experience. Even with the proposed changes which would move the school to six form entry it would still not be a large school and well able to continue with this individual learning approach.
3. It is natural that parents should be concerned that their children are being allocated to a red school instead of a green school. However, it is worth remembering that is only a short while ago that Fitzalan was not too far off the current Cantonian position. Fitzalan addressed its issues and has made very good progress. Equally, Cantonian has faced up to its issues and is addressing them. Because it is under the Challenge Cymru Programme it inevitably has a red categorisation. However, the strategies, partnerships and investment that have been put in place are already yielding positive progress. In the first six months there was an overall improvement in results and particularly at GCSE Level 2+. Since then the pace of improvement has been accelerating and there is every indication that there will be further significant improvements in results this year.
4. What this means for parents being asked to send their children to Cantonian is that they would be joining a school that has fully recognised its deficiencies and is totally committed to bringing about the required improvements at pace. The whole of the staff are totally committed and dedicated to achieving the required rapid progress and are undertaking the whole process with great enthusiasm. Staff are determined that Cantonian will never be in this position again. Pupils can therefore be guaranteed that staff will leave no stone unturned to ensure that they receive the highest quality learning experience to enable them to achieve their full potential.
5. The issues that resulted in the school being in the position it was are now in the past. Out of this has come Challenge Cymru money and this financial investment is enabling the school to progress more rapidly than might otherwise have been possible.

6. The nature of the school's current catchment area ensures a wide diversity both in terms of ethnic background and socio-economic groups. The proposed catchment changes would present no issues for Cantonian and the new pupils would be absorbed seamlessly.
7. Not all pupils are academically high achievers and for those who have additional needs or other issues, Cantonian has an enviable reputation for being able to meet those needs. For example, the school's Autistic Unit is so highly rated that it is not unusual for out-County admission requests. In another direction, the school is currently discussing the possibility of establishing a specialist behavioural unit. To be aware of the school's proven track record in this area should allay the fears of some parents who may require such facilities.
8. The school's current categorisation means that it is virtually impossible to allay parent fears. In trying to win them over I would argue not to judge the school on where it is officially at present but rather on what has happened since and our accelerating rate of progress. The staff are totally committed to turning Cantonian into an excellent school and from an individual pupil's viewpoint this can only result in the best possible learning experience.

Derek Mutlow
Chair of Governors,
Cantonian High School
28th February 2016

English-medium Primary and Secondary Catchment Area Consultation

For the attention of : Ms. Duddridge Hossain, Schools Organisation
Planning Manager

I have just had sight of the response from the Interim Chair of Governors at Fitzalan High School. In the light of its content I feel it is imperative that I respond so as to provide a more balanced view of Cantonian High School and its current and future progress.

Make sure schools are in the right place and are of the right size

I would be disappointed if Fitzalan was not able to state that it serves its catchment community area well. At Cantonian we would similarly argue that we serve our Fairwater community very well. However, I do not feel it can then be argued that communities would be broken up by transferring part of Fitzalan's catchment to that of Cantonian. Many of the affected areas would find little if any difference in distance from the two schools. The map would indicate that for some families it would be a shorter journey as Cantonian is closer to them. What is clear is that distance from the respective schools is irrelevant as neither necessitates a very long journey. Indeed the current very large Fitzalan catchment area means that many of their pupils already have longer journeys than any pupils would have under the proposed changes.

What cannot be ignored is that Fitzalan is full and if its catchment area is not changed it will be over-full and in breach of the local authority's stated policy of not exceeding a ten form entry. Fitzalan is currently a good school but Cantonian is now improving and at an accelerating pace. There is every indication that it will not be long before Cantonian will be an equally good school. When a school has had difficulties and is working very hard to improve, it tends to generate a really positive and exciting learning experience for pupils. It would be a real loss to the community if the opportunity was missed to use the surplus places at Cantonian to address the shortage of places at Fitzalan.

Focus on reducing known links between disadvantage and educational achievement

It is true that Fitzalan has a good record in addressing disadvantage and educational achievement but its record in this important area is no better than that of Cantonian. Even when the school was criticised in other areas its work here continued to be highly praised by the ESTYN inspectors. In other words, for pupils with these needs, the transition would be seamless.

Dealing with surplus places

The claim that Cantonian has accrued surplus places as a result of years of mismanagement and poor leadership is a sweeping claim and does not stand up to closer scrutiny. It is true that in the 2015 inspection the school's leadership was criticised but this was not the case in the previous inspection just a few years earlier.

Since last year's inspection there have been sweeping changes to Cantonian's leadership. The school is now very well and ably led, all the staff are enthusiastically on board and doing everything they possibly can to take the school forward. The result is a truly vibrant and exciting environment and one that the pupils are thoroughly enjoying despite all the new learning challenges.

The drive to improve academic attainment has not been made at the expense of tackling poor attendance and behaviour. In September new attendance and behaviour strategies were put in place and the improvements are already dramatic. In just a few short months Cantonian has moved from a red to a yellow category school for fixed term exclusions.

Place schools at the heart of their communities

The claims that Fitzalan are making in this area are frankly no different from those that would be made by Cantonian. I did not comment on this aspect of the school's work in the community as I did not think it necessary. I believe that there is a strong obligation on any community school to do its utmost to engage with its local community. Cantonian has a long and proud history of doing just that and will continue to do so in the future.

Health and safety and logistics

I do not accept the argument that there is not enough planning time for parents if the proposed changes commence in September 2017. This is still over 18 months away.

Inevitably in any re-organisation, some pupils will end up having to walk further and for others it will be shorter. However, what is clear from the map is that it is not going to be a dramatic change for any pupil.

Overriding Issue

The local authority has decided to limit secondary school entry to no more than 10 forms. To continue with its current catchment area Fitzalan would have to exceed this limit. Cantonian is close by it serves the same community area, has surplus places and is an improving school. The case for making the necessary catchment changes is compelling.

Derek Mutlow
Chair of Governors
Cantonian High School
29th February 2016

Ysgol Uwchradd
Cantonian
High School



Fairwater Road, Fairwater, Cardiff, CF5 3JR
Heol Y Tyllgoed, Y Tyllgoed, Caerdydd, CF5 3JR

Acting Headteacher: Mrs D. Gill NPQH, MA (ed), BA (Hons)

www.cantonianhighschool.net

Michele Duddridge Hossain
Schools Organisation Planning Manager
Room 219
County Hall
CARDIFF
CF10 4UW

29 February 2016

Dear Michele

I am writing in support of the consultation on changes in school catchment which impact on Cantonian High School and wish for you to consider the following points:

The proposed changes underpin the key aims of Cardiff Council's 21st Century Schools programme including making sure schools are in the right place and are the right size. Cantonian High School is geographically located near Canton and Victoria Park, and has historically taken the majority of pupils from Lansdowne and Radnor Primary Schools at a time when Fitzalan High School was perceived (until recently) to be a failing school. In recent years, Fitzalan has benefited from substantial local authority investment which has, in turn, improved its facilities, subsequently resulting in improved standards at the school; Cantonian has not. If the catchment area for Cantonian is revised this will provide an opportunity for financial re-investment in the school similar to that which Fitzalan has benefited from, and like Fitzalan, this will support Cantonian's improvement journey further.

Cantonian High School is a proud community school. We have well-embedded, effective transition arrangements with our primary schools, not just those within our catchment, but beyond. Cantonian currently admits pupils from a variety of primary schools across Cardiff. If the proposed changes to the catchment take place, Cantonian will be committed to working with Lansdowne and Radnor to establish a robust transition plan that ensures pupils make an effective and smooth transition between schools.

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Tel/Ffôn: 029 2041 5250

Fax/Ffacs: 029 2041 5273

Email/E-bost: cantonianhigh@cardiff.gov.uk

"Improving life chances through education." "Gwella cyfleoedd bywyd trwy addysg."

All letters are available on request in large print format or translated into Welsh or community language.



Cantonian High School is an improving school which is closing the gap between disadvantage and educational achievement. Over the past three years we have steadily closed the gap in the performance of pupils eligible for Free School Meals (FSM) with those not. This year, the performance of FSM pupils at the school in relation the L2+ measure was in the top 25% of similar schools. If the proposed change in catchment were to go ahead, the pupils at Lansdowne and Radnor would benefit from the valuable work undertaken at Cantonian to ensure that all pupils, despite disadvantage, succeed.

Cantonian is a true community school. In recent years we have seen a rapid increase in the number of English as an Additional Language and Minority Ethnic pupils, and as a result our pupils access a diverse range of educational experiences based on a multi-faith, multi-cultural and multi-language curriculum. In addition, Cantonian caters effectively for pupils with a range of additional needs. Our provision for pupils with Special Educational Needs (SEN) is recognised across the authority and beyond as being of excellent practice, and as a result we have a thriving ASC base which is over-subscribed. If the proposed changes to catchment go ahead, the pupils of Lansdowne and Radnor with special educational needs would benefit from a bespoke specialist provision that will ensure all pupils reach their potential.

Cantonian High School is changing. Under national categorisation it is a 'red' school and as a result has benefited from recent significant investment from both the Welsh Government and local authority. As a 'Challenge Cymru' school, Cantonian has benefited from additional investment and support to raise standards, particularly in English and maths. The recent support from the local authority has led to the school working in partnership with The Bishop of Llandaff Church in Wales High School, which has resulted in rapid improvements in learning and teaching across the school. Furthermore, the school is now benefiting from a change in leadership and governance which is having a rapid impact on attendance, behaviour and standards of teaching. This intervention, albeit recent, has resulted in the school achieving its best results ever in 2014/15 which we expect to improve on significantly again this year.

If the proposed changes to the catchment area affecting Cantonian High School do not go ahead, the implications are far-reaching and detrimental to not only Cantonian, but also to Fitzalan High School, and Lansdowne and Radnor Primary Schools.

The increase in pupil numbers forecast for Fitzalan High School will take the school from a ten-form entry in 2016 to approximately a fourteen-form entry in 2018. This will have a detrimental impact on standards within the school as vulnerable pupils will be significantly disadvantaged by being educated in such a large school.

For Cantonian, its pupils and community, the impact too will be significant. The year-on-year fall in pupil numbers that Cantonian has experienced has had a detrimental impact on the school community. If the proposed change in catchment does not go ahead and Cantonian's numbers do not increase, the school will lose its diversity. As a school with surplus places we are expected to take a high volume of 'managed moves' and 'casual admissions' compared to schools that do not have surplus places. If this continues, we will have a higher volume of pupils with significant behavioural concerns and low aspiration which will impact negatively on attainment outcomes.

Whilst as a school I am proud of the successful work we undertake with vulnerable pupils, those from disadvantaged backgrounds and pupils with additional needs, it is essential for the successful community cohesion of the school that our pupils provide a balanced cohort.

Furthermore, if the proposed change in catchment does not go ahead it will have a detrimental effect on the curriculum that we offer pupils. We currently meet the required 14-19 and post-16 local curriculum offer, but unless numbers improve this will be difficult to sustain. In addition, if our pupil numbers do not increase we will be reliant on our small number of teaching staff having to teach out of their specialism, including in core subjects.

Cantonian High School has had a year-on-year reduction in funding due to its falling roll which has had a significant impact on its budget. In turn, there has been very little local authority investment in the school in recent years as its future has undeniably been uncertain. Despite this, the school has used what financial resources it has to suitably maintain the learning environments in the school. As a result the school has an appropriate number of ICT suites, an excellent drama studio and a well-resourced learning centre. If the change to catchment area does not go ahead, Cantonian will be unable to continue the investment in its premises which will rapidly result in the school no longer being fit for purpose.

In summary, Cantonian High School is an improving school. We are on an exciting journey to rapidly improve outcomes for our pupils, but in order to secure the future of the school and the vital place it plays in the community, we need to increase our catchment area to one that will take us from being a three-form to six-form entry.

Yours sincerely



DIANE GILL
Acting Headteacher

MARK DRAKEFORD AM & KEVIN BRENNAN MP

Sarah Merry
Cabinet Member for Education
Cabinet Office
County Hall
Cardiff
CF10 4UW

18.02.2016

Dear Sarah,

Re: English-medium Primary and Secondary Schools Catchment Area Consultation

We write in response to the current consultation concerning catchment areas in Canton. We have a number of significant concerns about the consultation which we need to raise with you.

The first concerns the consultation process itself. Given the significant impact on a large number of families, it does not seem adequate to consult over a very short period of time, including a week of the half term holiday, from 2nd February to 1st March.

Moreover, in an area which contains the highest density of families from non-English speaking backgrounds, there is little evidence that the consultation has been carried out in a way which has taken into account their particular needs.

Our view is that, whatever the merits of the proposals themselves, the consultation exercise itself does not stand up to examination and ought to be withdrawn, re-examined, and if necessary re-conducted on a basis that would secure public confidence. Unfortunately, as is clear from our post bag and visits to our constituency office, the current exercise has had the opposite result.

As to the substantive proposals, you will be aware of a series of concerns which are well represented in correspondence from local Canton Councillors.

In some cases, families living very close to Fitzalan High School will now be out of catchment area, which will lead to resentment amongst parents and pupils who will face a 2 mile journey instead of a very short walk to school.

Cardiff West Constituency Office
395 Cowbridge Road East
Canton
CF5 1JG

MARK DRAKEFORD AM & KEVIN BRENNAN MP

Furthermore, there are real concerns in the community concerning the impact of the proposed changes on equality and diversity. Parents of different backgrounds have said that one of the strengths of Fitzalan is its multi-ethnic make-up. Excluding the areas of Canton in the proposal will lead to a less diverse school population, with potentially unwelcome implications for social and racial cohesion.

It would be helpful to us if you were able to supply information about the extent to which places in Year 7 at Fitzalan High School are taken by pupils from outside the current catchment area.

We appreciate, of course, the efforts of the local authority to support Cantonian High School. We remain very committed to the future of that school, which has a very important part to play, given the plans for the future of the city.

Yours sincerely,



Mark Drakeford AM
Cardiff West

Kevin Brennan MP
Cardiff West

Dear Nick Batchelar

We are writing to place on record our opposition to the proposed catchment changes impacting some Canton schools.

First, we wish to record and declare our various individual interests in this matter:

Cllr Susan Elsmore
Ward Member for Canton
Cabinet Member (Health, Housing & Wellbeing)
LA Governor of Radnor Primary School, Canton (& Ysgol Gymraeg Treganna)

Cllr Richard Cook
Ward Member for Canton
Chair of Children & Young People Scrutiny Committee
LA Governor of Lansdowne Primary and Radnor Primary Schools, Canton

Cllr Ramesh Patel
Ward Member for Canton
Cabinet Member (Transport, Planning & Sustainability)
LA Governor for Lansdowne Primary School, Canton

Second, the proposals to redraw the catchment areas would impact upon a number of Canton schools: in particular, Lansdowne Primary and Radnor Primary Schools, and Fitzalan High School.

In the circumstances, please see below our detailed objections to the proposals as impacting on these schools:

1) CONSULTATION PROCESS

We believe that the consultation process is flawed for the following reasons:

- a) the authority may already have a settled view in terms of implementation of the proposals as only one option is under consideration;
- b) the authority has neither provided validated assessments of any other options under consideration, nor provided validated assessments of the costs and benefits of the single option that is;
- c) the consultation is rushed and does not allow sufficient time for a well informed consultation, given the nature and potential impacts of the proposals:
 - (i) the consultation opened on 2 February and closes on 1 March, a total of 28 days. This period includes half-term week, in effect reducing the meaningful consultation period to 3 weeks;
 - (ii) given the nature and impact of the proposed changes, this time period is insufficient to do

justice to the matter under consideration. We gather that parents are due to receive letters outlining the consultation in the forthcoming week: one week later than the opening date of the consultation;

(iii) please confirm that legal advice was sought and received in relation to the length of the consultation period.

d) the authority has not properly set up and facilitated a meaningful and targeted consultation:

(i) head teachers were only informed about the consultation on Monday, 31 January: the day prior to the opening of the consultation;

(ii) parents will only receive consultation letters one week into the consultation period;

(iii) schools are being relied upon to publicise the consultation among parents;

(iv) the consultation is inaccessible on the Council website: it is not immediately visible on the home page of the Education section; anyone unfamiliar with the website would have great difficulty in finding the consultation.

This consultation, therefore, runs counter to recommendations within the Cabinet Office publication: Government Consultation Principles 2016. Quoting from the relevant principles, which state that:

i) B. Consultations should have a purpose

Consultations should take place when the development of the policies or implementation plans is at a formative stage. Importantly, it requires that questions are not posed on which a settled view is already held.

ii) C. Consultations should be informative

Consultations should give enough information to ensure those consulted understand the issues and can give informed responses. Importantly, they should include validated assessments of the costs and benefits of the options being considered when possible.

iii) E. Consultations should last for a proportionate amount of time

Length of consultations should be based on legal advice and taking into account the nature and impact of the consultation.

iv) F. Consultations should be targeted

This principle recommends that people should be made aware of the consultation and know how to access it.

v) H. Consultations should be agreed before consultation

This principle recommends seeking collective agreement before publishing written consultations, particularly on new policy proposals.

2) COMMUNITY COHESION

The approach taken by the Education & Lifelong Learning Directorate appears to be one of simply redrawing geographical boundaries so that these form new catchment areas to address issues of subscription: due to under- and over-subscribed schools. Taken initially, at face value, this might

appear to be a satisfactory approach to organisational planning for Cardiff schools.

However, given the complexities at play here locally in terms of equality, diversity and ethnicity, the key issue of community cohesion comes to the fore. Indeed, simply redrawing boundaries on maps takes absolutely no account of such issues. All impacted Head teachers (Fitzalan, Lansdowne and Radnor) have told us that if these proposals are enacted, our local community high school could be divided along cultural and ethnic lines. We are also aware that many parents have already framed, and will be framing, their objections to these proposals in similar terms.

As elected members, with many combined years as ward members, we are acutely aware of the leadership efforts made by Fitzalan to facilitate and ensure its success as a strongly cohesive community school. This approach has not only meant that educational attainment has flourished and standards have improved markedly, but also that parents from our diverse communities have confidence in sending their children there. Without the confidence of both parents and our communities, Fitzalan would have remained a failing school; however successful it was in enabling and retaining its multi-cultural ethos, where children from a variety of cultures, nationalities, and all faiths and none, are educated in a supportive and harmonious community.

Similarly for the impacted primary schools, children in Lansdowne and Radnor enjoy the experience of a multi-cultural, multi-lingual, multi-faith and socially diverse education that is reflective of our communities and Fitzalan. Changes to the catchment areas would have an adverse impact on this diversity. This would be detrimental to the affected schools, our communities and our children.

3) QUALITY OF EDUCATION

Fitzalan High School has recently been categorised as a 'green' school reflecting its status as a school providing an excellent education. It is the obvious school of choice for considerable numbers of Lansdowne and Radnor parents living locally and within the current Fitzalan catchment area.

If this proposal was enacted, most Lansdowne and Radnor parents would no longer be able to send their children to Fitzalan. This may impact future parental choice of primary schools and will have a detrimental effect not only on Fitzalan High School and Lansdowne and Radnor Primary Schools, but also on the communities of Canton.

Aside from Fitzalan's record for good to excellent results in core curriculum areas, it also has thriving drama and music departments, excellent sports facilities and is one of the best schools in Cardiff when it comes to the provision of extra-curricular opportunities. Importantly, in recent years it has sent two pupils to Oxbridge universities - another signifier of excellence in attainment and achievement.

One of the Council's educational priorities for Cardiff is to close the attainment gap between different groups of learners. Fitzalan is very successful in this, with a track record of getting the best out of pupils of all abilities, including high achievers. They also have well-evidenced expertise working with, and raising standards of, pupils with English as an additional language, as well as those with special needs.

4) HEALTH & SAFETY AND LOGISTICS

The majority of current Lansdowne and Radnor parents have already made plans to send their children to Fitzalan High School. After all, future planning for a child's education is usually carried out in advance and to a span of at least a decade. Other major family decisions also underpin educational planning, for example, where to live and work. To frame these proposals to begin in September 2017 provides very little time for decisions of this importance.

Many current Fitzalan pupils have younger siblings at both Lansdowne and Radnor Primary Schools. Therefore, if these proposals were successful, families may well experience having to facilitate children attending more than one high school, with all the attendant practical arrangements that this would entail.

Fitzalan is the local community high school: within walking distance for many children and well known already to them. Children from Canton attending Fitzalan will usually be walking familiar streets with well-known crossing points for the busier roads. This proposal expects children to travel to an area of Cardiff with which they may not be as familiar and which is further away.

Logistically, the route to Cantonian High School for children from Canton would require them to cross Western Avenue, one of the busiest, fastest routes in Cardiff. Fatalities have occurred on this and surrounding routes. For many this journey will not be walkable, and is not currently accorded a safe cycling route.

5) 21st CENTURY SCHOOLS PROGRAMME

As a collaborative programme between the Welsh Government and individual local authorities the 21st Century Schools seeks to create '*the right schools in the right places*'.

As outlined on the Council website, the main priorities of the investment programme are to:

- Match the supply of and demand for places
- Invest in new schools and refurbish existing schools
- Meet demand for education in both English and Welsh
- Create 'all-through' primary schools
- Create a nursery provision on primary school sites
- Improve ICT facilities

This will create:

- Better learning environments for children and young people aged from 3 to 19
- Better use of resources to improve the efficiency of schools
- A sustainable education system with all schools meeting national standards, reducing running costs and the current carbon footprint

The website page ends with the following statement:

"We will continue to raise school standards and improve the quality of the learning environment to create fit-for-purpose 21st century schools and give every child in Cardiff the best possible start in life."

On the basis of the scant information published as part of the consultation, we do not believe that these proposals are in line with this laudable aim. Indeed, we believe that these proposals run directly counter to it. Comparisons with other Cardiff schools are especially relevant here: Fitzalan High School is a school which is excelling (categorised as 'green'); Cantonian is a failing school (categorised as 'red').

6) CANTONIAN HIGH SCHOOL

We, of course, appreciate that the Council is working to raise the educational standards and the provision of a broad curriculum at Cantonian High school, but we have been given no detail whatsoever about the action plan itself. Indeed, as Local Councillors we would have expected to be told about the plans for Cantonian High school. What is the Council doing to raise standards? How is the Council supporting staff and the senior leadership team? What extra resources are being invested in Cantonian, which as is well known is a school with a significant financial deficit? If this proposal does not proceed, what is the Plan B? What is the strategy for the high schools in the west of Cardiff?

In summary, as ward members we believe that the consultation is fundamentally flawed for the reasons described above. However, crucially, the consultation is flawed because it is premised on the basis that parents of Canton children would lose the ability to send their children to a high school which is excelling, in favour of one which is failing.

Rather, than hold a consultation on a flawed and false premise (where the current ability to choose excellent is substituted for the ability to choose failing), we believe that the directorate should mobilise its efforts to ensure that Cantonian becomes an improving school as soon as possible, thus providing equality of choice for parents and equality of education for children.

Yours sincerely

CLLrs Richard Cook, Susan Elsmore & Ramesh Patel

Ward Members for Canton

Phillips, Joanna

From: Caro Wild <caro.wild@me.com>
Sent: 22 February 2016 16:11
To: School Responses
Cc: Merry, Sarah (Cllr)
Subject: Proposed School Catchment Changes

To whom it may concern

I have listened to the views of several local residents, as well as taking on board the case in support of the proposed changes.

I have the utmost respect for the staff who have been working on these proposals, it is not easy managing catchment areas, especially in a rapidly growing city with bi-lingual requirements. I can see why these changes are being considered, and I know we need to try and improve matters at Cantonians.

However, my most serious concern is that by making these changes we will de-stabilise the community cohesion we have managed to achieve (despite some setbacks) in Riverside and surrounding areas. It is well known that one of the key factors in achieving racial/religious community cohesion is for children to go to school together. That is what has been happening at Fitzalen. My understanding is that the proposed changes will mean a less diverse mix of pupils at Fitzalen.

Whilst I believe we have good community cohesion in Riverside, it is still extremely fragile. Let us not forget that over the last couple of years young men from the area have become so detached from their community that they travelled to Syria to join Isis.

In summary I believe the proposed changes could have an extremely detrimental medium/long-term effect on community relations, and undo much of what we are trying to achieve across Cardiff. As such I will be opposing the changes.

Yours Faithfully

Councillor Caro Wild (Riverside)

Phillips, Joanna

From: Merry, Sarah (Cllr)
Sent: 29 February 2016 13:30
To: School Responses
Subject: FW: Re School catchment area

From: Ahmed, Ali (Cllr)
Sent: 26 February 2016 15:41
To: Merry, Sarah (Cllr)
Subject: Re School catchment area

Dear Cllr Merry

With regards to our conversation I would like to point out my concern about Fitzalan High School and parents of Butetown, I understand the needs for reorganising and admission to Schools around Cardiff.

I had phone calls and number of Butetown residents approached my self concern about their Children's future admission to Fitzalan High School, as you know we don't have Secondary Schools in Butetown and Grangetown and almost all the pupils from my ward goes to Fitzalan High, as the Councillor for Butetown and Cardiff Bay I have similar concern about future admission to Fitzalan High all parents would like their Children's to go to Fitzalan one of the other reason is some of their children's already goes to Fitzalan and this is the nearest Secondary School.

Before you make any decision about the catchment area and School please consider my constituents and their Children's also please contact my if possible.

Kind Regards

Ali

*Cllr Ali Ahmed
Labour Councillor for Butetown and Bay
Email: ali.ahmed@cardiff.gov.uk
Website: WWW.aliahmedbutetown.com
Twitter ; @Cllr_AliAhmed
Facebook: Cllr Ali Ahmed
Mob 07968 165 138*

From: Thorne, Lynda (Cllr)
Sent: 29 February 2016 15:20
To: School Responses
Cc: Lomax, Chris (Cllr); Govier, Ashley (Cllr); Merry, Sarah (Cllr)
Subject: Catchment For Fitzallen and Cantonian

Please accept the following as my response to the above mentioned consultation.

I am concerned about the consultation in that I don't believe you will get a great response from Grangetown and Butetown because the majority of families will believe that the proposal is fine and that these areas won't be affected.

My concern is that if the realignment of the catchment area does not go ahead because of the high numbers of parent in the area which will fall out of the Fitzallen catchment area then in time there won't be sufficient places at Fitzallen for the children in both Grangetown and Butetown.

I understand that there has already been an increase of around 9/10% and this is likely to grow with the number of developments planned.

We already have children needing English medium primary places unable to attend local schools so no t changing the catchment area would exacerbate the schooling situation in my area.

I have already received a large number of families concerned about changing to the catchment area for Cantonian, it's much easier to get a negative campaign going than a positive one. So I hope the decision is not based on the number of responses.

Regards

Lynda Thorne

Sent with Good (www.good.com)

Phillips, Joanna

From: Govier, Ashley (Cllr)
Sent: 01 March 2016 19:45
To: Thorne, Lynda (Cllr); School Responses
Cc: Lomax, Chris (Cllr); Merry, Sarah (Cllr)
Subject: RE: Catchment For Fitzallen and Cantonian

IT problems have delayed my submission but I concur with Lynda below

Sent with Good (www.good.com)

-----Original Message-----

From: Thorne, Lynda (Cllr)
Sent: Monday, February 29, 2016 03:20 PM GMT Standard Time
To: School Responses
Cc: Lomax, Chris (Cllr); Govier, Ashley (Cllr); Merry, Sarah (Cllr)
Subject: Catchment For Fitzallen and Cantonian

Please accept the following as my response to the above mentioned consultation.

I am concerned about the consultation in that I don't believe you will get a great response from Grangetown and Butetown because the majority of families will believe that the proposal is fine and that these areas won't be affected.

My concern is that if the realignment of the catchment area does not go ahead because of the high numbers of parent in the area which will fall out of the Fitzallen catchment area then in time there won't be sufficient places at Fitzallen for the children in both Grangetown and Butetown.

I understand that there has already been an increase of around 9/10% and this is likely to grow with the number of developments planned.

We already have children needing English medium primary places unable to attend local schools so not changing the catchment area would exacerbate the schooling situation in my area.

I have already received a large number of families concerned about changing to the catchment area for Cantonian, it's much easier to get a negative campaign going than a positive one. So I hope the decision is not based on the number of responses.

Regards

Lynda Thorne

Sent with Good (www.good.com)

Phillips, Joanna

From: Williams, Darren (Cllr)
Sent: 01 March 2016 22:37
To: School Responses
Subject: School Catchment Area Consultation

I am responding, as a Councillor for the Riverside Ward, to the proposal to redraw some of the catchment areas for schools in the west of the city, impinging to some extent on pupils and their families in my ward.

First of all, I would acknowledge that the issue of uneven demand for the various schools presents real problems and I sympathise with the difficult situation facing officers in the Council's Education Department, who are trying to find sustainable ways to manage the situation. I would caution, however, against adopting what may appear to be satisfactory administrative solutions to these challenges without considering fully whether they may have undesirable consequences for the community in other respects.

It is therefore a matter of concern that the consultation has seemed to be conducted in a rather hasty fashion and that only one set of proposals is on offer, rather than a choice of alternative options, and that the pros and cons of these proposals are not properly evaluated in the published materials.

The proposal to transfer a significant part of the current catchment area of Fitzalan High School to that of Cantonian is, understandably, particularly contentious. The disparity in demand for places between the two schools clearly reflects their differing levels of academic achievement and many parents would clearly be highly resistant to sending their children to what is considered a 'failing' school. While this does not mean that the current situation can continue indefinitely, greater emphasis should perhaps be put, in the short-to-medium term, on securing improved attainment at Cantonian, in order to boost public and parental confidence, before large numbers of additional parents can be expected willingly to send their children to Cantonian, rather than Fitzalan.

The proposed change would also, if enacted, divide a 'natural' community along fairly arbitrary boundaries, entailing particularly lengthy journeys to school for some of the pupils affected. I know that the head teachers and governing bodies of most of the schools affected by the proposals are also concerned about the implications for change on this scale for community cohesion and for the delicate social, cultural and ethnic balance within the schools.

In this regard, I am particularly concerned about the effect of the proposals on Kitchener Primary School, which already has an overwhelmingly Black Minority Ethnic pupil population. The proposal to transfer the Canton component of Kitchener's current catchment area to Severn Road, and to bring in from Lansdowne School a significant contingent of pupils from the Leckwith area, would serve to reduce still further the white European element of the school, with potentially troubling consequences at a time when communities like South Riverside have witnessed signs of cultural alienation and the growing influence of divisive religious ideologies.

The comments that I have set out above broadly reflect the views of my two fellow ward councillors, as well as my own; I hope you will give them due consideration.

Cllr. Darren Williams
Riverside Ward

Sent with Good (www.good.com)

Phillips, Joanna

From: Duddridge-Hossain, Michele
Sent: 02 March 2016 11:11
To: Phillips, Rosalie; Phillips, Joanna; Willis, Rachel
Subject: FW: Consultation to catchment area

From: Neil McEvoy [<mailto:neilmcevoy2004@yahoo.co.uk>]
Sent: 01 March 2016 12:35
To: Rees, Carol
Cc: Nurton, Gill
Subject: Consultation to catchment area

English-medium Primary and Secondary Catchment Area Consultation

For the attention of : Ms. Duddridge Hossain, Schools Organisation Planning Manager.

I write with regard to the Fitzalan re-organisation.

I cannot support the proposal. I think that the whole thinking behind City wide catchment areas is muddled and needs a thorough re-examination, rather than a piece meal approach.

It is clear that Cantonian needs a fairer crack of the whip and support. A capital investment is needed in the school. The school previously had an opportunity to make the sixth form more attractive by putting football on the curriculum, but this proposal did not attract the support it deserved. To be perfectly frank, the school has suffered by being used as a political football, with the school for example featuring several times in Labour Party leaflets and being criticised prior to the 2012 election. The politicisation of Cantonian continues presently with the removal of Plaid Cymru governor Lisa Ford, with political shenanigans occurring to prevent Cllr Ford being re-appointed prior to the new process kicking in. I have no confidence whatsoever in the new system for appointing governors, so much so that I am considering my position on governing boards. The Party of Wales political group intends to address this after the May 2017 elections.

At the present time, the Council is even now planning a brand new English medium school within walking distance of Cantonian. How does this make sense whilst at the same time incorporating children within walking distance of Fitzalan? The provision of another English medium does nothing to cater for the increase in Welsh Medium demand, whilst Cantonian stands half empty.

The traffic impact on Fairwater needs to be taken into account also, with gridlock being the norm at peak times. The proposed £1.25 million bus exchange at Waungron will exacerbate the situation.

I cannot support the flawed proposals. Local schools should be for local pupils.

Yours sincerely,

Clr Neil McEvoy
Leader Cardiff Plaid Group

Phillips, Joanna

From: Duddridge-Hossain, Michele
Sent: 08 March 2016 10:32
To: Willis, Rachel; Phillips, Joanna
Subject: FW: Proposed consultations on school catchment areas

From: Mitchell, Paul (Cllr)
Sent: 02 February 2016 13:10
To: Duddridge-Hossain, Michele; Aubrey, Gareth (Cllr); Davies-Warner, Kirsty (Cllr); Cook, Richard (Cllr); Patel, Ramesh (Cllr); Elsmore, Susan (Cllr); Gordon, Iona (Cllr); Wild, Caro (Cllr); Williams, Darren (Cllr); Thorne, Lynda (Cllr); Govier, Ashley (Cllr); Lomax, Chris (Cllr)
Cc: Merry, Sarah (Cllr); Batchelar, Nick; Nightingale, Janine
Subject: RE: Proposed consultations on school catchment areas

Dear Michele

Despite the short notice, I do naturally, as a ward councillor and governor of Cantonian, welcome the catchment review - something I have argued for since 2011. My residents, somewhat theatrically, have told me that Ysgol Plasmawr looks a building site while Cantonian has looked like a bomb site for over ten years with little of the capital investment lavished upon Ysgol Plasmawr. It has struggled to maintain a broad curriculum as a result, amassing a deficit in that struggle and is now benefiting from the links with Bishop of Llandaff and a new governor body to provide the leadership required to strengthen the ongoing improvements.

I am keen to see that Fitzalan is not disadvantaged by any change but as ward councillor and governor I have to argue that Cantonian was crippled by the loss of Danescourt during previous administrations. A comprehensive school simply cannot function with three feeder primaries one of which does not currently have a nursery. The development along Llantrisant road includes a primary and that too needs to be English medium to ensure that this school succeeds. I look forward to the consultation and any outcome that benefits my school and will lobby vigorously to that effect.

Regards
Cllr Paul Mitchell

Phillips, Joanna

From: Duddridge-Hossain, Michele
Sent: 08 March 2016 10:32
To: Willis, Rachel; Phillips, Joanna
Subject: FW: Proposed consultations on school catchment areas

From: Gordon, Iona (Cllr)
Sent: 02 February 2016 13:24
To: Mitchell, Paul (Cllr); Duddridge-Hossain, Michele; Aubrey, Gareth (Cllr); Davies-Warner, Kirsty (Cllr); Cook, Richard (Cllr); Patel, Ramesh (Cllr); Elsmore, Susan (Cllr); Wild, Caro (Cllr); Williams, Darren (Cllr); Thorne, Lynda (Cllr); Govier, Ashley (Cllr); Lomax, Chris (Cllr)
Cc: Merry, Sarah (Cllr); Batchelar, Nick; Nightingale, Janine
Subject: RE: Proposed consultations on school catchment areas

Michele

I totally support the catchment area changes in these proposals. I am unable to attend the meeting tomorrow, v. short notice, and as a member of the planning committee I have commitments all day.

Iona

Councillor *Cynghorydd Iona Gordon* *@CllrlonaGordon* *029 2034 5213*
Riverside *Glan yr Afon* *iona.gordon@cardiff.gov.uk*
Cardiff Council *Cyngor Caerdydd* *www.cardiff.gov.uk* *www.caerdydd.gov.uk*

From: Mitchell, Paul (Cllr)
Sent: 02 February 2016 13:10
To: Duddridge-Hossain, Michele; Aubrey, Gareth (Cllr); Davies-Warner, Kirsty (Cllr); Cook, Richard (Cllr); Patel, Ramesh (Cllr); Elsmore, Susan (Cllr); Gordon, Iona (Cllr); Wild, Caro (Cllr); Williams, Darren (Cllr); Thorne, Lynda (Cllr); Govier, Ashley (Cllr); Lomax, Chris (Cllr)
Cc: Merry, Sarah (Cllr); Batchelar, Nick; Nightingale, Janine
Subject: RE: Proposed consultations on school catchment areas

Dear Michele

Despite the short notice, I do naturally, as a ward councillor and governor of Cantonian, welcome the catchment review - something I have argued for since 2011. My residents, somewhat theatrically, have told me that Ysgol Plasmawr looks a building site while Cantonian has looked like a bomb site for over ten years with little of the capital investment lavished upon Ysgol Plasmawr. It has struggled to maintain a broad curriculum as a result, amassing a deficit in that struggle and is now benefiting from the links with Bishop of Llandaff and a new governor body to provide the leadership required to strengthen the ongoing improvements.

I am keen to see that Fitzalan is not disadvantaged by any change but as ward councillor and governor I have to argue that Cantonian was crippled by the loss of Danescourt during previous administrations. A comprehensive school simply cannot function with three feeder primaries one of which does not currently have a nursery. The development along Llantrisant road includes a primary and that too needs to be English medium to ensure that this school succeeds. I look forward to the consultation and any outcome that benefits my school and will lobby vigorously to that effect.

Regards
Cllr Paul Mitchell

Phillips, Joanna

From: Uzo Iwobi <uzo@racecouncilcymru.org.uk>
Sent: 21 February 2016 17:00
To: School Responses; Batchelar, Nick
Subject: Concerns Regarding the Proposed Changes to Fitzalan School

Dear Sir/Madam,

Having heard of the changes proposed by Cardiff Council regarding Fitzalan school, ethnic communities are very concerned about the adverse impact which the proposed changes are likely to effect on good race relations and community cohesion in Cardiff.

We would be very interested in reading a copy of the equality impact assessment undertaken regarding the proposed changes and call on Cardiff Council to undertake a full community impact assessment in this regard - including translating documentation into the relevant language spoken by parents affected.

Cardiff Council must ensure that they have due regard to their duties under the Equality Act 2010.

If this matter is not properly resolved, it could lead to fragmentation of communities in Cardiff.

We are happy to assist in anyway possible to achieve good outcomes for the children and parents affected.

Kind regards,



Mrs Uzo Iwobi OBE

Chief Executive Officer

Prif Swyddog Gweithredol

Tel: 07838360979

uzo@racecouncilcymru.org.uk | <http://www.racecouncilcymru.org.uk>

Integration Justice Equality



Schools Organisation Planning Manager (Michelle Duddridge-Hossain)
Room 219
County Hall
Cardiff
CF10 4UW

cc Nick Batchelar, Councillor Sarah Merry
cc Councillor Ramesh Patel, Councillor Richard Cook & Councillor Susan Elsmore

RE: -Consultation: English-medium Primary and Secondary Schools Catchment Area

24th February 2016

We write to you on behalf of a number of community members who have contacted us with regards to the above named consultation.

As an anti-racism charity, we are disappointed to learn that the consultation has not fully taken into account the needs of a high proportion of consultees who will be excluded from such an important decision. The schools and areas involved, have parents that have barriers to English and they have not been informed fully of the consequences of the consultation and the impact this would have on them. We believe, not pre-consultation support has been provided such as open sessions, public meetings or materials provided in various languages from the outset.

We are also concerned that the short period provided to object is not adequate especially taken the above points into consideration. Last week was half-term and with parents having to ask the school for support, there has not been enough weeks provided for them to have a reasonable opportunity to have their opinions.

Finally, we would also like to point out the potential for having ethnically segregated schools in Cardiff which would go against Government and Local Council policies, schools should have a healthy balance in terms of diversity and potentially, this consultation would lead to issues around community cohesion. We wish the points mentioned are taken on board by the Council.

Yours faithfully



Jason Webber
Campaign Worker

**Muslim
Council of
Wales**



**Cyngor
Moslemaidd
Cymru**

Broadway House, Broadway, Cardiff CF24 1PU • Tel: 029 2048 7667 / 029 2034 4555 • Fax: 029 2049 2860
Website: muslimcouncilwales.org.uk • E-mail: info@muslimcouncilwales.org.uk

29th February 2016

Dear Mr. Batchelar,

Re: consultation on boundary changes for schools in Cardiff

My name is Abdul-Azim Ahmed, I'm Assistant Secretary General of the Muslim Council of Wales.

I'm writing to provide evidence on behalf of the Muslim Council of Wales regarding changes in catchment areas in Cardiff.

I'd like to thank you for opening up the decision to consultation, which we recognise as being an absolutely integral part of ensuring the right decisions are made with the interests of young schoolchildren in Cardiff at their heart.

Concerned parents of pupils in Fitzalan High School have reached out to us in the past fortnight about the changes. They are worried about the educational experience their children will have if the proposals go ahead, they are worried about ghettoization, and they're also worried about the implications of a school becoming predominantly BME and predominantly Muslim given the Trojan Horse saga.

We've directed these parents towards the consultation, but many spoke to us in the first place because they don't feel equipped to respond to the consultation. I'm not aware of any provisions made for parents whose first language is not English, and it would strike me as important that the consultation is extended and adapted to ensure their views are heard and taken into account.

On a personal note, I do find myself in agreement with the parents we have been in contact with. The educational experience of children extends beyond the curriculum, and includes the opportunity to meet and mix with as diverse a number of children as possible. This should not be lost. I am also concerned, reflecting on the well-established link between BME socio-economic disadvantage and poor educational attainment, whether a predominantly BME school will only amplify this disadvantage. Finally, I think parents are right to bring up the example of the Trojan Horse saga. These were not faith schools, but public schools with predominantly Muslim schoolchildren. The consequences of a majority Muslim school led to a scandal that brought the schools into disrepute, and ruined the education of hundreds of

children who are now tarred with the label of being from a "Trojan Horse" school. Every step should be taken that similar controversies do not take place again.

I hope you will also consider extending the consultation and making provisions for parents whose first languages are not English.

Many thanks,

Abdul-Azim Ahmed

Assistant Secretary General

Phillips, Joanna

From: Rocío Cifuentes <director@eyst.org.uk>
Sent: 29 February 2016 16:19
To: School Responses; Batchelar, Nick
Cc: sunil2803@yahoo.co.uk
Subject: Consultation: English-medium Primary and Secondary Schools Catchment Area

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing in response to the proposed catchment changes in Cardiff Schools which has been brought to my attention by Sunil Patel via the Welsh Government Race Forum. Ethnic Youth Support Team supports ethnic minority young people across Wales, including those attending Fitzalan school, which we understand is affected by the proposed changes.

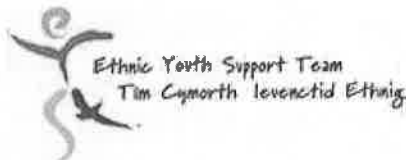
Our concerns are firstly that insufficient time has been allowed for consultation (only 11 school days), especially given the high number of parents who do not have English as their first language. Furthermore, as far as we understand, information has not been provided in community languages.

Secondly, we are concerned that if the suggested changes to through, pupils in Cardiff will end up highly segregated by ethnicity, which is clearly extremely damaging to community cohesion, and goes against equality of opportunity policies and strategies. We would hope that any equality impact assessment of the proposed changes would thoroughly assess these risks and implications.

Thank you for noting our concerns.

Your sincerely,

Rocio Cifuentes
Director
Ethnic Youth Support Team (EYST)
Units B & C, 11 St Helens Road
Swansea, SA1 4AB
01792 466980
07971 302829



www.eyst.org.uk

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Phillips, Rosalie

From: Davies-Warner, Kirsty (Cllr)
Sent: 11 February 2016 12:40
To: School Responses
Subject: Welsh-medium Primary and Secondary Schools Catchment Area Consultation: • Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf • Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr • Ysgol Pencae

consultation response:

These proposals seem entirely reasonable and I would support them with the proviso that families who already have one child in a Welsh Medium high school have the option to send siblings to the same school. Not only is it important not just for parents convenience but also for school and community cohesion. We know that the best performing schools often have strong PTA's but also good links with parents and the community. The more invested a family is in a school the more likely they are to participate in the life of the school, and their children's education. This becomes more problematic, in a family with 3 children (1 I primary and 2 in separate schools) where theoretically there could be three schools the parents have to engage with.

These proposals are more likely to be welcomed by pre to if this concession is made.

Best
Kirsty Davies-Warner

Councillor for Llandaff and Danescourt
E: kirsty.davies-warner@cardiff.gov.uk T: 07900692898

Subject: FW: Proposed consultations on school catchment areas

From: McEvoy, Neil (Cllr)
Sent: 01 February 2016 21:30
To: Duddridge-Hossain, Michele; Ford, Lisa (Cllr); Mitchell, Paul (Cllr); Aubrey, Gareth (Cllr); Davies-Warner, Kirsty (Cllr); Cook, Richard (Cllr); Elsmore, Susan (Cllr); Patel, Ramesh (Cllr); Wild, Caro (Cllr); Gordon, Iona (Cllr); Williams, Darren (Cllr)
Cc: Merry, Sarah (Cllr); Batchelar, Nick; Nightingale, Janine; Andrewartha, Brett
Subject: RE: Proposed consultations on school catchment areas

1 caveat : that the sibling link is protected.

Sent with Good (www.good.com)

-----Original Message-----

From: Duddridge-Hossain, Michele
Sent: Monday, February 01, 2016 03:05 PM GMT Standard Time
To: Ford, Lisa (Cllr); McEvoy, Neil (Cllr); Mitchell, Paul (Cllr); Aubrey, Gareth (Cllr); Davies-Warner, Kirsty (Cllr); Cook, Richard (Cllr); Elsmore, Susan (Cllr); Patel, Ramesh (Cllr); Wild, Caro (Cllr); Gordon, Iona (Cllr); Williams, Darren (Cllr)
Cc: Merry, Sarah (Cllr); Batchelar, Nick; Nightingale, Janine; Andrewartha, Brett
Subject: Proposed consultations on school catchment areas

Dear Councillor,

We are contacting you as a local member of a ward in which we are undertaking consultation regarding proposed changes to catchment areas which if agreed would take effect from September 2017.

The consultation is due to start **Tuesday 2nd February** and run for 4 weeks ending on the **Tuesday 1st March**. The consultation will be sent via email to the statutory stakeholders; displayed online on the Council's website and hard copies of the maps will be sent to the families of the areas affected through schools and via post to those in catchment in the 0-3 age group.

The schools within your ward that would be directly affected and the rationale for the proposed changes are as follows:

- Ysgol Plasmawr
- Ysgol Glan Taf
- Ysgol Pencae

The proposal is to realign the Ysgol Plasmawr/Ysgol Glan Taf catchment area boundary, by transferring the Ysgol Pencae catchment from Ysgol Plasmawr to Ysgol Glan Taf.

Wards affected: Fairwater
Llandaff

Ysgol Plasmawr is experiencing increased levels of in catchment demand which is now exceeding supply and this is set to grow over the coming years which will disadvantages those families living furthest from the school. In contrast Ysgol Glan Taf has insufficient catchment demand which is presenting issues with regard to offering a broad and balanced curriculum with the school now facing budgetary challenges.

The rationale for proposing these catchment area changes is therefore primarily to support an improved balance in the supply and demand of Welsh-medium high school places across the area and to provide greater transparency and parity at application for all families across this locality.

We would like to brief you more fully and to listen to your views of the proposed changes and therefore would like to offer the opportunity to attend a meeting to discuss these at , **Wednesday 3rd February at 11am-12pm, Committee Room 4**. Alternatively if this time is not convenient, an officer can contact you to brief you via telephone, if this option is better for you could you please indicate times that it would be appropriate for officers to contact.

Should you wish to attend could you please notify me via return email.

Regards,

Michele

MICHELE DUDDRIDGE HOSSAIN | School Organisation Planning Manager / Rheolwr Cynllunio Trefniadaeth Ysgolion | ☎ 029 2087 3943

♻️ Please consider the environment - do you really need to print this email? / ♻️ Ystyriwch yr amgylchedd - oes angen argraffu'r e-bost hwn mewn gwirionedd?

From: Davies, Alun (Ysgol Gyfun Glantaf)
Sent: 23 February 2016 12:03
To: School Responses
Subject: WM Primary and Secondary Catchment Area Consultation

Hoffwn gefnogi'r cynnig i adleoli dalgych Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Pencae o ddalgych Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr i ddalgych Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf. Teimlaf fod hyn yn gam synhwyrol gan gydnabod dyletswydd i sicrhau dosbarthiad rhesymol o ddisgyblion yn ol lleoedd gwag ac er mwyn sicrhau defnydd priodol ac effeithiol o adnoddau'r Cyngor sydd eisoes mewn bod. Nid yw cynlluniau blaenorol wedi cyflawni'r nod yma ond hyderaf y byddai'r cynnig hwn yn annerch y broblem ac yn galluogi'r ysgolion a enwir i ddatblygu a chwrdd a'r galw cynyddol am Addysg Gymraeg.

I would wish to express my support for the proposal that the catchment area of Ysgol Pencae transfers from the catchment area of Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr to the catchment area of Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf. I feel that this proposal is reasonable and also recognises the duty to ensure an appropriate distribution of pupils according to available spaces while also making appropriate and effective use of available Council resources. The previous School Organisation Plan failed, at the point of implementation, to achieve this aim. This current proposal, however, does address this issue and will, I believe, allow all of the named schools to develop and meet the ongoing growth in demand for Welsh medium education in Cardiff. Admissions will have full supporting evidence showing that our admission number has been well below capacity, and continues to be so, since the removal of feeder primaries from our catchment area in 2012 to establish Ysgol Gyfun Bro Edern. It was always integral to the council's SOP that this shortfall in student numbers created in Glantaf be relieved by the growth in the Plasmawr catchment numbers and reallocation of catchments. While I understand that a sister school will be reluctant to lose a 'high achieving' primary feeder, I fear that its retention would inevitably lead to students lost to the WM sector as a whole, avoidable capital expenditure and avoidable creation of surplus places at Glantaf. While I do not feel that either school can plead significant social deprivation I would point out that the FSM % at Glantaf is higher than that at Plasmawr and that the transfer of pupils from Pencae, far from creating, social imbalance between the schools, would actually help address this issue. I have consistently, stressed that W.M education is comprehensive and needs to cater for all learners. I can envisage a time when catchment areas for all three schools will need further consideration in order to cater for demand and view the required setting aside of purely personal interest as incumbent upon ourselves as Headteachers, in co-operation with the Council, in order to adequately plan for future placements and the development of WM education across the city. The current proposal, does, I believe, require the same vision for the long term sustainability of provision.

Yours faithfully

Alun G. Davies

Alun G. Davies

Pennaeth / Headteacher

Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf

Linell Uniongyrchol / Direct Line: 02920838804

Sent: 29 February 2016 13:50

To: School Responses <SchoolResponses@cardiff.gov.uk>

Subject: Ymgynghoriad ar gyfer Dalgylch Ysgolion Cynradd ac Uwchradd Cyfrwng Cymraeg / Welsh-medium Primary and Secondary Schools Catchment Area

Ymgynghoriad ar gyfer Dalgylch Ysgolion Cynradd ac Uwchradd Cyfrwng Cymraeg / Welsh-medium Primary and Secondary Schools Catchment Area

28 Chwefror / February 2016

Michele Duddridge Hossain

Schools Organisation Planning Manager

Room 219, County Hall

Cardiff CF10 4UW

Dear Michele

As the Chair of Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf Governing Body I wish to express the full support of the Body to the current proposals to transfer Ysgol Pencae's catchment area from that of Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr to Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf.

Fel Corff Llywodraethol Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf, hoffem gefnogi'r cynnig i adleoli dalgylch Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Pencae o ddalgylch Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr i ddalgylch Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf. Teimlwn bod hyn yn gam synhwyrol gan gydnabod dyletswydd i sicrhau dosbarthiad rhesymol o ddisgyblion yn ôl lleoedd gwag (gweler isod), ac er mwyn sicrhau defnydd priodol ac effeithiol o adnoddau cyfredol y Cyngor; adnoddau sydd, fel y gwyddoch, eisoes mewn bod.

As a Governing Body we feel that this proposal is reasonable and also recognises the duty to ensure an appropriate distribution of pupils according to available spaces (see below), while also making appropriate and effective use of available Council resources.

In my letter to the Director of Education on 17 July 2015 I outlined in some detail the concerns of the Glantaf Governing Body regarding pupil allocation and catchment areas. In summary, when established, Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Bro Edern took as its catchment the area to the east of the river formerly feeding Glantaf. This was, necessarily, at the expense of Glantaf's former catchment and was effectively achieved by removing two existing schools with 2FE each from the Glantaf catchment. To this re-arrangement Glantaf had, and has no objection. The effect of this reduction by 4FE from 2012 onwards did however leave Glantaf dependent on admissions from children in the primary catchment areas of Melin Gruffydd, Y Wern, Mynydd Bychan and Glan Morfa. This meant that in 2013 Glantaf anticipated receiving 5FE (i.e. approx 150 pupils) while having capacity for 8FE (approx. 240 pupils). Likely growth in the immediate future also meant that this figure would not exceed 6FE. Although Glantaf was to receive pupils from the new school at Glan

Ceubal, this was not opened until 2009 with the first children moving to secondary level in 2017 and even then in numbers below 10. In response to this situation, the Authority proposed that Glantaf's catchment should be extended to include the whole of the catchment of Pwll Coch that at that time fed Plasmawr. This was an eminently sensible suggestion but as you will be aware, and I will not go into details here (please see my earlier letter to the Director), incorrect letters being sent from the Council and failure to apply the admissions' policy strictly unfortunately resulted in much confusion and pupil allocation shortage.

In July 2015, the consequences of all of this became apparent. Again, the figures are well known to the Council's 'Admissions' Officers so I will not reiterate them; what they underline, and the reasoning for the current consultation, is that it was clearly necessary to revisit the assigned catchment areas of Glantaf and Plasmawr.

In my letter of 17 July 2015 I outlined two steps which we, as a Governing Body, thought appropriate to alleviate and correct the imbalance. Firstly, a strong indication to Pwll Coch parents that the majority of children leaving that school should, as specified in the revised catchment arrangements, transfer to Glantaf where there room is for them. Secondly, a transfer of the Pencae catchment from Plasmawr to Glantaf. By such means, the Glantaf catchment will be increased and restored to 8FE (1FE from Pwll Coch and 1FE from Pencae) and the numbers seeking entry to Plasmawr will be reduced to that approaching capacity at the school (i.e. reduced from 230 to approximately 170 by removing 2FE to enable Plasmawr to accept the extra 20 children to be expected from the growing numbers at Nant Caerau).

The current proposal addresses specifically this second suggestion and will, we believe, allow all of the named schools to develop and meet the ongoing growth in demand for Welsh medium education in Cardiff.

Yours sincerely

Hefin

Dr Hefin Jones

CA16 10m 57

Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr

Ffordd Pentrebaen
Y Tyllgoed
Caerdydd
CF5 3PZ



Pentrebane Road
Fairwater
Cardiff
CF5 3PZ

Ffôn : (029) 20 405499
Ffacs: (029) 20 405496

Tel: (029) 20 405499
Fax: (029) 20 405496

Pennaeth: Mr John D Hayes

Headteacher: Mr John D Hayes

Mr N. Batchelor
Director of Education
County Hall
Cardiff



February 23rd, 2016

Dear Nick

I am writing to you to oppose in the strongest possible terms the proposal to move the catchment area of Ysgol Pencae away from the catchment area of Ysgol Plasmawr and into the catchment area of Ysgol Glantaf.

As demand for Welsh medium education continues to grow and the Local Development Plans for Cardiff become a reality it is vital that the catchment areas for the three Welsh medium secondary schools are viewed in the medium to long term rather than seeking an easy short term and short-sighted fix to address the current small imbalance in pupil numbers which could be extremely detrimental to one school or another and which could have long lasting educational legacy issues for the whole of Cardiff.

Clear principles were agreed during the planning phase leading to the opening of Ysgol Plasmawr in 1998 which included ensuring that the catchment areas of both Plasmawr and Glantaf were as similar as possible in terms of socio-economic indicators i.e. it was deemed to be essential that both schools had an equitable social mix to ensure that they had an equal opportunity to flourish and succeed.

Currently both Plasmawr and Glantaf have relatively diverse socio-economic catchment areas as illustrated in table A below. Moving Ysgol Pencae into the Glantaf catchment would change the socio-economic balance of both schools and would be to the detriment of the Plasmawr school community.

Table A: %FSM per catchment Welsh medium primary school as an indicator of socio-economic backgrounds (2015).

Plasmawr catchment School	%FSM
Nant Caerau	28.80%
Pencae	2.70%
Coed Y Gof	24.20%
Gwaelod y Garth	5.40%
Creigiau	3.20%
Treganna	3.70%

Glantaf catchment School	%FSM
Melin Gruffydd	3.70%
Y Wern	4.90%
Pwll Coch	7.10%
Mynydd Bychan	9.80%
Glan Morfa	28.30%

Cyngor Sir Caerdydd
Cardiff County Council



Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr

Ffordd Pentrebaen
Y Tyllgoed
Caerdydd
CF5 3PZ

Ffôn : (029) 20 405499
Ffacs: (029) 20 405496



Pentrebaen Road
Fairwater
Cardiff
CF5 3PZ

Tel: (029) 20 405499
Fax: (029) 20 405496

Pennaeth: Mr John D Hayes

Headteacher: Mr John D Hayes

The consultation proposal is an easy, short term, practical solution based solely on the geographical proximity of the Pencae catchment area to the Glantaf catchment area. In purely theoretical terms it is a logical solution, however the proposal has shortcomings in terms of educational principles and would have a lasting effect on Welsh medium education across the city. Ysgol Pencae is a high performing primary school benefiting from a prosperous and affluent catchment area. If Pencae was to move into the Glantaf catchment area it would strengthen what is already an extremely successful and high performing secondary school and would be to the detriment of Ysgol Plasmawr. Plasmawr's attainment standards are likely to suffer and our sixth form retention rates would reduce as we would annually lose in the region of 30 pupils who normally attain well at KS4 and who historically have continued into the sixth form at Plasmawr. This knee-jerk proposal is setting Plasmawr up to fail.

I am extremely proud of Plasmawr's strong academic record (highest performing school in Cardiff at A level for the past three years) and our excellent wellbeing and inclusive ethos which has been built over the past 18 years. The strength of our school community is the fact that we are such a comprehensive secondary school serving the whole of the west of Cardiff including some of the most deprived and some of the most affluent wards in Cardiff. Moving Pencae one of our founder catchment primary schools from our catchment will polarise differences between Plasmawr and Glantaf, turning Glantaf into a far more attractive school for prospective parents.

This proposal if approved would in my opinion create a centrally located elite Welsh medium school serving some of the most affluent wards in Cardiff and would result in Plasmawr serving primarily the western fringe of Cardiff which includes some of the most socially deprived and challenging areas of Cardiff. This decision would challenge the founding principles of establishing Plasmawr as an equal to Glantaf in terms of nature of catchment areas. This decision if accepted would realistically result in aspirational parents actively seeking to move to live into the Glantaf catchment area exaggerating the difficult situation facing Plasmawr, creating in effect a Welsh medium equivalent of Cardiff High school in central Cardiff. Polarising Welsh medium schools should be avoided at all costs and actively seeking other far more positive short term solutions should be the priority.

Moving Ysgol Pencae into the Glantaf catchment will create its own capacity problems for Glantaf. The number of forms of entry feeding Glantaf indicate that within a brief period of time it will significantly exceed its own admission number of 8 forms of entry (Table B). I fail to comprehend how moving Pencae into Glantaf's catchment will solve any medium to long term capacity issues for Welsh medium education in the city and in fact it can only be seen as a short term measure which will create its own set of problems which will have to be addressed.

Cyngor Sir Caerdydd
Cardiff County Council



Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr

Ffordd Pentrebaen
Y Tyllgoed
Caerdydd
CF5 3PZ

Ffôn : (029) 20 405499
Ffacs: (029) 20 405496

Pennaeth: Mr John D Hayes



Pentrebane Road
Fairwater
Cardiff
CF5 3PZ

Tel: (029) 20 405499
Fax: (029) 20 405496

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Table B: September 2017 catchment areas if Pencae was to move into the Glantaf catchment including potential forms of entry.

	F/E	FSM
Plasmawr (6 f/e)		
Nant Caerau	1	28.80%
Coed Y Gof	1.5	24.20%
Gwaelod y Garth	0.7	5.40%
Creigiau	0.8	3.20%
Treganna	2	3.70%
	6.0	

	F/E	FSM
Glantaf (8 f/e)		
Melin Gruffydd	2	3.70%
Y Wern	2/3	4.90%
Pwll Coch	2	7.10%
Mynydd Bychan	1	9.80%
Glan Morfa	1	28.30%
Pencae	1	2.70%
Glan Ceubal	1	32.60%
	10/11	

My own proposal would be to maintain the current catchment area provision and temporarily change the Plasmawr admission number to 210 (7 forms of entry) and ensure that Glantaf are supported until their pupil numbers grow through the primary sector within their existing catchment. The issues arising from this proposal are summarised in the table below:

+ve	-ve
<p>No further short term disruption to catchment areas until a decision is taken on medium to long term catchment issues for the three WM high schools.</p> <p>Allows ample time to plan accurately for future growth in secondary Welsh medium education taking into account new housing development plans etc.</p> <p>No need for knee jerk reaction decisions which could have long term effect on Welsh medium education.</p> <p>Allows for creative capacity building solutions in terms of sharing facilities with local leisure centre and / or Waterhall Youth Centre.</p> <p>Maintains parental satisfaction throughout.</p>	<p>Capacity building solution required to cater for temporary growth in numbers which may have some cost implications e.g. develop Fairwater leisure centre / Waterhall Youth centre.</p>



Cyngor Sir Caerdydd
Cardiff County Council



Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr

Ffordd Pentrebaen
Y Tyllgoed
Caerdydd
CF5 3PZ

Ffôn : (029) 20 405499
Ffacs: (029) 20 405496

Pennaeth: Mr John D Hayes



Pentrebane Road
Fairwater
Cardiff
CF5 3PZ

Tel: (029) 20 405499
Fax: (029) 20 405496

Headteacher: Mr John D Hayes

In conclusion, I would urge you to think not only in terms of short term, quick wins which will bring with them massive repercussions, but rather to pause and take a measured medium to long term view on the growth of Welsh medium education in Cardiff.

Yours faithfully

John

Cyngor Sir Caerdydd
Cardiff County Council



CA16/WM/62

Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr

Ffordd Pentrebaen
Y Tyllgoed
Caerdydd
CF5 3PZ



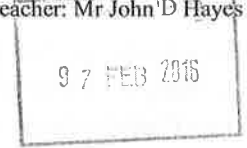
Pentrebaen Road
Fairwater
Cardiff
CF5 3PZ

Ffôn : (029) 20 405499
Ffacs: (029) 20 405496

Tel: (029) 20 405499
Fax: (029) 20 405496

Pennaeth: Mr John D Hayes

Headteacher: Mr John D Hayes



Mr N. Batchelor

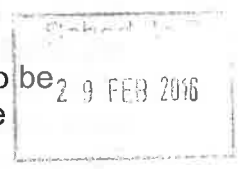
Director of Education and Lifelong Learning

Cardiff Local Authority

February 25th, 2016

Dear Mr Batchelor

We wish to express our strong objection to the proposal for Ysgol Pencae to be transferred from the Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr catchment area to the catchment area of Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf.



The consultation notes the following:

'Projections indicate that the demand for Welsh-medium places from within the existing catchment area of Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr will exceed the number of places available at the school from September 2017. However, demand from within the existing catchment area of Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf is predicted to be less than the number of places at the school.'

As data to support this statement is not provided as part of the consultation it is difficult to ascertain to what extent, and at what point, demand for places at Ysgol Glantaf may also begin to exceed capacity. On the basis of the number of forms of entry being admitted to Ysgol Glantaf, it may well exceed its standard admission number in 2017, and if not will probably do so in 2018.

Evidence suggests that the vast majority of pupils from Ysgol Pwll Coch will transfer to Ysgol Glantaf in September 2016, firmly establishing Pwll Coch as one of Glantaf's feeder primary schools. In the absence of supporting data, we feel it is reasonable to ask whether projected growth of pupil numbers at Glantaf (particularly in relation to two of its feeder schools – Glan Ceubal and Pwll Coch) has been taken fully into account.

In view of the growing demand for Welsh-medium provision across Cardiff, we wish to have an assurance that the authority is planning places in the secondary sector in a strategic way which looks beyond the short-term scenario forecast for 2017. We recognise that such planning presents a number of challenges – not least because of the significant demographic changes and projected population growth in parts of the city over the coming years. However, we have serious concerns about the risks associated with seeking a short-term – if seemingly tidy and straightforward – solution to one aspect of the challenge. We urge you to delay any decisions until a more strategic mid- to long-term assessment has been taken of projected demand

Cyngor Sir Caerdydd
Cardiff County Council



Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr

Ffordd Pentrebaen
Y Tyllgoed
Caerdydd
CF5 3PZ

Ffôn : (029) 20 405499
Ffacs: (029) 20 405496

Pennaeth: Mr John D Hayes



Pentrebaen Road
Fairwater
Cardiff
CF5 3PZ

Tel: (029) 20 405499
Fax: (029) 20 405496

Headteacher: Mr John D Hayes

and capacity. We would expect this assessment to take into account not only capacity in Ysgol Plasmawr and Glantaf but also in Ysgol Bro Edern. The consultation does not make any reference to the way in which projected capacity/demand across the city is likely to impact on wider considerations relating to the authority's vision for strategic delivery of Welsh-medium provision.

As Plasmawr has continued to grow over recent years we have been heartened by the school's ability to adhere to its fundamental goal of seeking excellence in all its endeavours. Its ability to deliver this aim is based on the principle of nurturing high expectations in an inclusive environment. This is achieved through providing a stimulating and caring environment for pupils from a variety of socio-economic backgrounds to learn alongside each other. We are concerned that moving Ysgol Pencae to the Glantaf catchment area would have an adverse effect on the socio-economic fabric of Plasmawr and would also have far-reaching implications for the wider demographic of Welsh-medium secondary provision in Cardiff. Ysgol Pencae is a high-performing primary school benefiting from a prosperous and affluent catchment area. The proposal under discussion would run the risk of reinforcing the status of Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf, an already successful and high-performing school, as a centre of excellence for aspirational parents, to the detriment of both Ysgol Plasmawr and Ysgol Bro Edern. The potential implications of such a development are, in our view, significant, spanning a range of considerations such as raising school standards, capacity to deliver effective and equitable post-16 provision, and promoting a sense of civic awareness and responsibility in our pupils.

Whilst it could be argued that some degree of socio-economic segmentation is almost inevitable in the secondary school sector across a city such as Cardiff, it is our view that the Welsh-medium sector presents the authority with an opportunity to plan comprehensive school provision in a way that will reduce the risk of socio-economic polarisation. Viewing the current challenge as an opportunity to refine this strategic approach would, we suggest, be entirely in keeping with the vision set out in Professor Donaldson's *Successful Futures*, where 'ambitious, capable learners' are also to be viewed as 'members of a diverse society'.

We therefore urge you to pause and to consider the mid- and long-term implications of the proposal to modify Ysgol Pencae's current catchment area. We are fully aware of the need to consider alternatives in the short term in order to ease the pressure on places in 2017, and we would be very happy to participate in discussions with you and other partners to consider interim solutions that would not require a modification to catchment areas.

The risks associated with pursuing the current proposal, we conclude, are significant. Furthermore, implementing the proposal would be a missed opportunity to plan strategically for a thriving Welsh-medium sector in the capital.

Cyngor Sir Caerdydd
Cardiff County Council



Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr

Ffordd Pentrebaen
Y Tyllgoed
Caerdydd
CF5 3PZ

Ffôn : (029) 20 405499
Ffacs: (029) 20 405496

Pennaeth: Mr John D Hayes



Pentrebaen Road
Fairwater
Cardiff
CF5 3PZ

Tel: (029) 20 405499
Fax: (029) 20 405496

Headteacher: Mr John D Hayes

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mair Jones".

Mair Parry-Jones

Chair of Governors

(on behalf of the Full Governing Body)



Cyngor Sir Caerdydd
Cardiff County Council



From: Thomas, Richard (Ysgol Pencae)
Sent: 29 February 2016 10:42
To: School Responses <SchoolResponses@cardiff.gov.uk>
Subject: Ysgol Pencae's Response

Good morning,

Regarding changing Ysgol Pencae's catchment

Here are my comments as the Head Teacher of Ysgol Pencae:

1. It was disappointing being informed that a change in catchments is underway – two days before the consultation went to parents/the public! Myself and the Governing Body should have been informed of this months in advance in order to seriously discuss it over a period of time. This has caused bad feelings in the school's community and it looks bad on me as a Head Teacher and on the school's Governing Body.
2. What is the County's LONG TERM plan regarding Ysgol Pencae's catchments as well as the capital city's other Welsh schools? I DO NOT want the catchments to change within the next two or three years. I would like the County's Officers to come and discuss this with members of Ysgol Pencae's Governing Body promptly.
3. I'm concerned that Ysgol Glantaf is going to be a Welsh elite school with Ysgol Plasmawr losing a cohort of pupils who are well supported by their parents. The social mixture is so important for the good and education of every pupil and I do not want Ysgol Plasmawr to develop to be a 'difficult' school which services less disadvantaged catchments and as a result become a disadvantaged school.
4. This consultation is very distressing to parents, especially parents of the current Years 3-5 because it means that the classes will be split i.e. friends in the class will be separated because parents decide to send their children to the secondary school which is more appropriate and more convenient for them. This transition period is a deeply emotional period for children and so this can have a harmful effect on the pupils.

Ysgol Plasmawr and Ysgol Glantaf are two very good schools and are an asset to Cardiff County's education system. I, as the Head Teacher of Ysgol Pencae, support the two schools and want to ensure that Ysgol Pencae pupils develop on the strong foundation which they have received in this school.

With thanks,

R Richard Thomas
Head

CA16/wm/369

Sent: 01 March 2016 09:26

To: School Responses <SchoolResponses@cardiff.gov.uk>

Subject: Consultation: Welsh-medium Primary and Secondary Schools Catchment Area

Consultation: Welsh-medium Primary and Secondary Schools Catchment Area

Dear Sir/Madam,

In order to draft a response to this consultation, members of the Governing Body of Ysgol Pencae have met with the parent representatives from each class, members of staff and have also taken into account the responses made directly by parents to the School.

The Governing Body is pleased to recognise that this proposed change in catchment area will not affect unduly the academic or extracurricular opportunities available to our pupils. Ysgol Pencae is very fortunate to be located in close proximity to two high-quality Welsh-medium secondary schools, both of which offer secondary education of the highest standard.

The Governing Body does however have some concerns regarding this proposed change that need to be addressed as a matter of urgency. We would therefore appreciate if the Council could respond to the questions we have noted below:

1. What are the Council's medium to long term plans to deal with growth in Welsh medium education?

It does not appear that the Council has a strategic approach to dealing with the growth in Welsh medium education in Cardiff. This decision to change catchment areas appears to be a reactive measure to deal with one school apparently being oversubscribed whilst the other has some capacity. A decision made purely on short term capacity will always be problematic. We would therefore like to know:

2. On what basis is this proposed change being made?

Since Ysgol Pencae opened in 1991, its pupils and their parents have always known that they will be attending Ysgol Plasmawr. Ysgol Pencae has therefore developed strong and longstanding relationships with the other feeder schools for Ysgol Plasmawr and also with the school itself. These relationships take time to develop and are crucial to ensuring a smooth transition for pupils from primary to secondary education. It is therefore extremely disappointing that this proposed change may come into effect with a little over one academic year to prepare for such a significant change.

With the expected increase in the number of homes in the areas surrounding Ysgol Pencae and those feeding Ysgol Plasmawr and Ysgol Glantaf, there is real concern that this proposed change will only be for a short period of time. We are concerned that if the Council does not have an appropriate strategy to manage this growth, there will be further issues with oversubscription in both secondary and primary schools and yet another short term solution will be found that could further disrupt pupils at Ysgol Pencae. We would therefore like to know:

3. If this change does occur, for how long will this new catchment be guaranteed?

The wellbeing of our pupils is the key concern for all at Ysgol Pencae and even though, as we have already noted, both secondary schools will be able to offer high quality experiences for our pupils, introducing this change from Ysgol Plasmawr to Ysgol Glantaf at such short notice will have a considerable effect on the oldest children at Ysgol Pencae. Many of them and their parents will either have to decide to leave their friends to be with older siblings at Ysgol Plasmawr or continue with their friends and attend a different school from their siblings with all the practical issues and challenges that this will bring to parents.

We would therefore appreciate if you could respond to the following:

4. Will children with siblings already at Ysgol Plasmawr be guaranteed places at Plasmawr if this change occurs? and
5. Will pupils in Years 4 and 5 be guaranteed places at Ysgol Glantaf even if they are outside the current catchment area?

There are some pupils that fall into this last category and there are concerns that if they are not allowed to progress with their classmates then this would have a negative effect on their development.

Concerns have also been raised regarding the safety of children travelling from the Highfields area to Ysgol Glantaf. The steps leading from the area down to Ysgol Glantaf are poorly lit and there is no appropriate crossing to reach Ysgol Glantaf.

Can you also therefore confirm:

6. If this change does come about, that it will ensure a safe route and appropriate road crossings for pupils to reach Ysgol Glantaf?

The Governing Body would be grateful if you could address the questions asked in this letter as soon as possible. We would also appreciate the opportunity to meet with representatives from the Council in person to discuss these proposed changes and the effect that they will have on Ysgol Pencae.

Yours sincerely

Daniel Rhys Tiplady

Chair of Governors

Ysgol Pencae

Sent: 29 February 2016 14:49

To: School Responses <SchoolResponses@cardiff.gov.uk>

Subject: Ysgol Pencae catchment area proposal

Hoffwn gefnogi'r cynnig i adleoli dalgych Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Pencae o ddalgylch Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr i ddalgych Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf. Teimlaf fod hyn yn gam synhwyrol gan gydnabod dyletswydd i sicrhau dosbarthiad rhesymol o ddisgyblion yn ol lleoedd gwag ac er mwyn sicrhau defnydd priodol ac effeithiol o adnoddau'r Cyngor sydd eisoes mewn bod. Nid yw cynlluniau blaenorol wedi cyflawni'r nod yma ond hyderaf y byddai'r cynnig hwn yn annerch y broblem ac yn galluogi'r ysgolion a enwir i ddatblygu a chwrdd a'r galw cynyddol am Addysg Gymraeg.

I would wish to express my support for the proposal that the catchment area of Ysgol Pencae transfers from the catchment area of Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr to the catchment area of Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf. I feel that this proposal is reasonable and also recognises the duty to ensure an appropriate distribution of pupils according to available spaces while also making appropriate and effective use of available Council resources. The previous School Organisation Plan failed, at the point of implementation, to achieve this aim. This current proposal, however, does address this issue and will, I believe, allow all of the named schools to develop and meet the ongoing growth in demand for Welsh medium education in Cardiff. The removal of schools from Glantaf catchment area to provide pupils for the newly formed Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Bro Eder on the eastern side of the city has had a dramatic impact on Glantaf intake, without proper realignment of schools on the western side of the city to redress the balance. It was always integral to the council's SOP that this shortfall in student numbers created in Glantaf be relieved by the growth in the Plasmawr catchment numbers and reallocation of catchments. I can envisage a time when catchment areas for all three schools will need further consideration in order to cater for demand and view the required setting aside of purely personal interest as incumbent upon ourselves as Headteachers, in co-operation with the Council, in order to adequately plan for future placements and the development of WM education across the city. The current proposal, does, I believe, require the same vision for the long term sustainability of provision.

Elinor Patchell

Chair/Cadeirydd Ysgol Gyfun Bro Eder.

Phillips, Rosalie

CA16/wm/36

From: Hayes, Mike (Schools)
Sent: 29 February 2016 09:23
To: School Responses
Subject: Response - Plasmawr Glantaf Pencae
Attachments: Plasmawr - Glantaf - Pencae Catchment Consultation.doc

Mike Hayes
Pennaeth / Headteacher
Ysgol Gymraeg Coed-Y-Gof
Beechley Drive
Pentrebaen
Caerdydd / Cardiff
CF5 3SG
029 20564585

I strongly oppose the proposal to transfer the catchment area of Ysgol Pencae from Plasmawr to Glantaf.

I do not believe the numbers have been properly calculated in the short to medium term.

If Pwll Coch pupils all transfer to Glantaf (as should be the case), then they will have their allocated 8 forms of entry: Melin Gruffydd, Y Wern, Pwll Coch all 2 form entry and Mynydd Bychan & Glan Morfa providing 1 form entry each. Glan Ceubal will be providing more pupils as the numbers there increase, and Y Wern will soon have a third stream coming through.


The transfer of Pencae can only be seen as a short-term solution which will have long term, serious consequences for Plasmawr. There will be a real change in the social mix in Plasmawr and the knock-on effect will be severe for the school.

I note with interest the proposal to change the catchment areas of Fitzalan and Cantonian. Ironically, taking out Pencae from Plasmawr will be creating a very similar situation that the Council is trying to address in Cantonian.

I urge you to re-think the transfer of Pencae from one catchment to the other as the only option for solving the current, temporary admissions dilemma.

Sincerely,

Mike Hayes


29 February 2016

Mr N Batchelar
Education Director
Cardiff Council

Dear Mr Batchelar

The Future of Welsh Secondary Education in Cardiff

The purpose of this letter is to add Ysgol Gyfun Gwaelod-y-Garth's voice to those who oppose the proposal to transfer Ysgol Pencae from Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr catchment to Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf catchment.

Our interest derives from our desire to ensure a bright future for Plasmawr, because that is the school which receives so many of our pupils, after they have left us.

The reasons for opposing are mentioned below, in a letter which I have also signed, and in a paper by John Hayes, Head teacher of Plasmawr.

I believe that the figures which suggest how big the pressure will be on Ysgol Glantaf, by 2017, clearly show that your current plan does not offer a long term solution to the problems we face.

Instead, it will disrupt Plasmawr's development – and discriminate against that school, its pupils and its parents, by greatly impairing on the school's ability to attract pupils from every ability and background – and thereby ensuring that the school still possesses an atmosphere that will enable it to develop educational and social potential of a wide and varied range of pupils (whilst also serving as an organization which reflects the varied communities which exist in West Cardiff).

At the same time, you will be transferring the problem in terms of a lack of capacity to Ysgol Glantaf which will be crowded by 2017.

Therefore with your plan you will have succeeded to create problems for both schools, impairing on their development and their ability to offer consummate education, whilst also creating confusion and uncertainty for staff, pupils and parents of Plasmawr and Glantaf.

Therefore Ysgol Gwaleod y Garth strongly supports Mr Hayes' proposal, namely the need to consider all of this in a long term context, and in the context of opening the fourth Welsh secondary school.

By following his ideas, a long term solution can be developed, whilst avoiding hurting Plasmawr and Glantaf.

I understand that he has consummate ideas in terms of creating extra space (temporarily) which will be needed in Plasmawr – and the education authority should consider them in detail, accepting that it will be a very valuable thing if there were a way to make them a reality, in order to protect the two schools.

I would like to remind you, also, that there's a statutory responsibility to impose on the education authority, in the near future, to consider the effect of your decisions and policies on people's ability to use Welsh (according to the Welsh Language Measure). Changing Plasmawr's catchment, in the way you have proposed, can significantly reduce the percentage of children from Welsh families who go there. Research shows that using Welsh at home makes you a lot more likely to use it socially. If you were to make this plan a reality, then, you would change the school's 'language landscape' and the pattern of the pupils language background. It will become harder, then, for the children who want to do this, to use Welsh in the yard and socially within the school – and with co-pupils outside of the school walls. You will be, therefore, in real danger of creating a situation which reduces the ability of people to use Welsh, contrary to the language standards.

Because of this, I'm copying this letter to the Welsh Commissioner. I know that she will respond to the situation.

With thanks – and with best wishes.

Huw Jones

Huw Onllwyn Jones
Chairman
Governing Board Ysgol Gwaelod-y-Garth

Mr N. Batchelor

Director of Education and Lifelong Learning

Cardiff Council

Schools catchment area consultation – Ysgol Pencae.

Dear Mr Batchelor

I strongly oppose the proposal to transfer the catchment area of Ysgol Pencae from the catchment area of Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr to the catchment area of Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf for the following reasons:

- I believe that the proposal is a short-term solution which will have far-reaching implications for Ysgol Plasmawr in terms of the nature of its catchment area and to Ysgol Glantaf in terms of exceeding its own admission number in the medium term.
- I do not believe that the information provided in the consultation document (2 February 2016) provides sufficient evidence to be able to make an informed decision on this important issue.
- Ysgol Pencae is a high performing primary school. If Pencae was to move into the Glantaf catchment area it would be to the detriment of Ysgol Plasmawr in terms of its academic and participation profile, sixth form retention rate and would have a lasting negative effect on Welsh medium education across the city.
- The proposal challenges the founding principle of establishing Ysgol Plasmawr in 1998 as an equal to Ysgol Glantaf in terms of the socio-economic nature of both catchment areas. I firmly believe that both schools should continue to be given an equal opportunity to flourish and prosper over the medium to long term. This proposal undermines the principle that both schools should have an equitable social mix of pupils.

I strongly believe that a longer term solution for the catchment areas of both Welsh medium secondary schools is required taking into account the additional projected growth in demand for Welsh medium education as large new residential developments are built in Cardiff.

Local short term solutions should be sought to ensure the viability of both Plasmawr and Glantaf and maintaining their mixed socio-economic foundations rather than addressing catchment area changes which are likely to have to change again as the new population growth in the west of Cardiff begin to have an impact on school admission figures.

I would urge the School Organisation Team to think not only in terms of short term, quick wins which will bring with them massive repercussions particularly for the Ysgol Plasmawr community but rather to take a far more measured medium to long term view on the growth of Welsh medium education in Cardiff.

Yours sincerely

Signature:

Name:

Mr N. Batchelar

Cyfarwyddwr Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes

Cyngor Caerdydd

Ymgynghoriad ar gyfer dalgylch Ysgol Pencae.

Annwyl Mr Batchelor

Rwyf yn anghytuno'n gryf â'r cynnig i drosglwyddo Ysgol Pencae o ddalgylch Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr i ddalgylch Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf am y rhesymau canlynol:

- Credaf fod y cynnig yn ddatrysiad tymor byr yn unig fyddai'n arwain at oblygiadau hir dymor i Ysgol Plasmawr yn nhermau natur ei dalgylch ac i Ysgol Glantaf yn nhermau creu problemau gorlenwi yn y tymor canolig.
- Nid yw'r wybodaeth a roddwyd yn y ddogfen ymgynghori (2 Chwefror 2016) yn ddigonol i fedru dod i benderfyniad mor bwysig ar natur dalgylch ysgolion.
- Mae Ysgol Pencae yn ysgol sydd yn perfformio'n dda iawn yn academiaidd. Pe bai Ysgol Pencae yn symud i ddalgylch Ysgol Glantaf fe fyddai Ysgol Plasmawr yn dioddef yn nhermau ei phroffil academiaidd a chyfranogiad, y nifer o fyfyrwyr fyddai'n aros i'r Chweched Dosbarth ac fe fyddai'n cael effaith hir dymor ar addysg Gymraeg ar draws y ddinas.
- Mae'r cynnig yn herio un o egwyddorion sylfaenol sefydlu Ysgol Plasmawr yn 1998 sef i sicrhau fod Plasmawr a Glantaf yn hafal yn nhermau natur dalgylchoedd y ddwy ysgol. Credaf ei fod yn bwysig bod y ddwy ysgol yn cael cyfle teg i barhau i lwyddo sy'n golygu cadw Ysgol Pencae o fewn dalgylch Plasmawr. Mae'r cynnig hwn yn tansilio'r egwyddor bod angen i'r ddwy ysgol gael dalgylchoedd sydd â chymysgedd cymdeithasol-economaidd debyg.

Credaf bod angen datrysiad hir dymor i'r twf cynyddol yn y niferoedd o ddisgyblion sydd am dderbyn addysg trwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg yn y Brifddinas, nid ymateb yn fyrbwyll fel bod angen ail-edrych ar dalgylchoedd yr ysgolion eto mewn rhai blynyddoedd.

Dylid ymchwilio i ddatrysiadau tymor byr i broblemau lleol y ddwy ysgol er mwyn sicrhau fod Ysgol Pencae yn aros o fewn dalgylch Plasmawr fyddai'n cadw natur y dalgylchoedd yn hafal.

Rwyf yn erfyn ar y Tîm Cynllunio Ysgolion i ystyried yr effaith negyddol fyddai colli Ysgol Pencae yn ei gael ar gymuned Ysgol Plasmawr ac i osgoi datrysiadau byr dymor fyddai'n cael effaith pell-gyrhaeddol ar addysg Gymraeg ar draws y Brifddinas.

Yr eiddoch yn gywir

Llofnod: Huw Jones

Enw: Huw Onllwyn Jones

The future of secondary Welsh medium education in Cardiff.

As pupil numbers continue to grow and the Local Development Plans for Cardiff become a reality it is vital that the catchment areas for the three existing Welsh Medium high schools are viewed in the medium to long term rather than seeking to find an easy short term and short-sighted fix to address a current imbalance in pupil numbers which could be extremely detrimental to one school or another and have long lasting educational legacy issues for the whole of Cardiff.

Careful consideration should be given to the future catchment areas of all three Welsh Medium secondary schools in Cardiff in order to ensure that all three schools are given equal opportunities to flourish and prosper over the medium to long term. Clear principles were agreed during the planning phase leading to the opening of Ysgol Plasmawr in 1998 and Ysgol Bro Edern in 2012 which included ensuring that the catchment areas of all three school were as similar as possible in terms of socio-economic indicators i.e. it was deemed to be essential that all schools had an equitable social mix.

Currently all three schools have a relatively diverse socio-economic catchment area as illustrated in table A below, although Bro Edern serving the eastern side of Cardiff may challenge the accuracy of this statement.

Table A: %FSM per catchment Welsh medium primary school as an indicator of socio-economic backgrounds (2015).

School	%FSM
Plasmawr	
Nant Caerau	28.80%
Pencae	2.70%
Coed Y Gof	24.20%
Gwaelod y Garth	5.40%
Creigiau	3.20%
Treganna	3.70%

School	%FSM
Glantaf	
Melin Gruffydd	3.70%
Y Wern	4.90%
Pwll Coch	7.10%
Mynydd Bychan	9.80%
Glan Morfa	28.30%

School	%FSM
Bro Edern	
Berllan Deg	7.60%
Bro Eirwg	19.0%
Pen y Pil	28.80%
Pen y Groes	15.30%

The argument for change:

Evidence suggests that the vast majority of pupils from Ysgol Pwll Coch will transfer to Ysgol Glantaf in September 2016 firmly establishing Pwll Coch as one of Glantaf's feeder primary schools. The numbers of Year 6 pupils currently living in the Plasmawr catchment area indicate that Plasmawr will be close to its admission number of 180 in September 2016. Current catchment area data for primary school pupils indicate that the numbers of pupils in the Plasmawr catchment area will exceed its standard admission number of 180 (6 f/e) in September 2017 (see table B below) which is the main argument for change.

Table B: Projected numbers of pupils in the Plasmawr catchment area 2016 – 2020.

Year	Treganna	Gwaelod	Creigiau	Nant Caerau	Pencae	Coed-Y-Gof	Total
2016/2017	55	23	25	7	29	45	184
2017/2018	60	22	27	31	31	47	218
2018/2019	60	31	21	27	30	46	215
2019/2020	90	27	29	29	30	54	259

The number of pupils transferring annually to Plasmawr from Pencae, Creigiau and Gwaelod y Garth are always less than the numbers indicated due to a range of different factors.

Ysgol Glantaf are likely to remain in the short term below their standard admission number of 240 (8 f/e) but this will change over the coming years as the increasing numbers of pupils in the primary phase work their way annually through the primary system. The data in table C strongly suggests that Glantaf will exceed its standard admission number in 2017.

The easy, short term, practical solution being consulted upon is to transfer Ysgol Pencae from Plasmawr's catchment into Glantaf's catchment on the basis of geographical proximity. In purely theoretical terms it is the most logical solution, however this suggestion is flawed in terms of educational principles and would have a lasting effect on Welsh medium education across the city. Ysgol Pencae is a high performing primary school benefiting from a prosperous and affluent catchment area. If Pencae was to move into the Glantaf catchment area it would strengthen what is already an extremely successful and high performing secondary school and would be to the detriment of Ysgol Plasmawr.

This decision if approved would result in Glantaf serving a large swathe of central Cardiff with a high proportion of affluent wards and would result in Plasmawr and Bro Edern serving primarily the western and eastern fringes of Cardiff which also include some of the most socially deprived and challenging areas of Cardiff. This decision would challenge the founding principles of establishing Plasmawr and Bro Edern as equals to Glantaf in terms of nature of catchment areas. This decision would in my opinion undermine Cardiff's vision for Welsh medium education and challenge one of its main principles as stated in Cardiff's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan:

"To support the wider vision for a Bi-lingual Cardiff through educational provision where:

Welsh medium education is inclusive, overcoming barriers and the ability of any young person to achieve a good education through the medium of Welsh".

Table C: September 2017 catchment areas if Pencae was to move into the Glantaf catchment including potential forms of entry.

	6 FoE	FSM
Plasmawr		
Nant Caerau	1	28.80%
Coed Y Gof	1.5	24.20%
Gwaelod y Garth	0.8	5.40%
Creigiau	1	3.20%
Treganna	2	3.70%
	6.3	

	8 FoE	FSM
Glantaf		
Melin Gruffydd	2	3.70%
Y Wern	2	4.90%
Pwll Coch	2	7.10%
Mynydd Bychan	1	9.80%
Glan Morfa	1	28.30%
Pencae	1	2.70%
Glan Ceubal	1	32.60%
	9/10	

	6 FoE	FSM
Bro Edern		
Berllan Deg	2	7.60%
Bro Eirwg	2	19%
Pen y Pil	1	28.80%
Pen y Groes	1	15.30%
	6	

It is worth noting that several primary schools may not yet have full class sizes and therefore the actual pupil numbers could be significantly less than suggested by the form of entry data in the table.

This current proposal to change the Plasmawr and Glantaf catchment areas can only be viewed as a short term solution which in itself will create further additional capacity issues for Ysgol Glantaf by 2017 as it is highly likely to exceed its admission number. I would argue that a longer term solution is required at this point taking into account the additional projected growth in demand for Welsh medium education as large new residential developments are built in Cardiff.

Local short term solutions should be sought to ensure the viability of both Plasmawr and Glantaf and maintaining their mixed socio-economic foundations rather than addressing catchment area changes which are likely to have to

change again as the new population growth in the West of Cardiff begin to have an impact on school admission figures and a fourth Welsh medium high school becomes a necessity.

Longer term solutions in light of Local Development Plans, Paper Mill development (Ely Bridge) and BBC residential project (Llandaf):

Possible long term catchment area solutions based on potential forms of entry for primary schools:

Glantaf	8 FE	Plasmawr	6 FE	Bro Edern	6 FE	4th WM school	7 FE
Melin Gruffydd	2	Creigiau	1	Berllan Deg	2	Pwll Coch	2
Y Wern	3	Gwaelod y Garth	1	Bro Eirwg	2	Treganna	3
Mynydd Bychan	1	Coed y Gof	2	Pen y Pil	1	New Grangetown	2
Glan Morfa	1/2	Pencae	1	Pen y Groes	1		
Glan Ceubal	1	Nant Caerau	1				
	8/9		6		6		7

It appears that the opening of a 4th Welsh medium secondary school is inevitable considering the current capacity for growth in the Welsh medium primary schools. The numbers of forms of entry in the table above does not take into account the opening of any new Welsh medium primary schools as part of the LDP which will only lead to further capacity issues in the existing 3 WM secondary schools. The planning for such a project must begin as soon as possible to ensure that all considerations are taken into account. With the building of a new 2 form Welsh medium, primary school in Grangetown it is abundantly clear that a secondary solution is required to serve the south west of Cardiff.

In conclusion:

I would urge the School Development Team to think not only in terms of short term, quick wins which will bring with them massive repercussions, but rather to take a far more measured medium to long term view on the growth of Welsh medium education in Cardiff. We have one opportunity to get this right for the current and future pupils and parents of Cardiff and we must thoroughly explore every avenue before firm decisions are made.

J.D. Hayes

Headteacher

Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr

February 2016

