

Appendix 7

Summary of the responses received an appraisal of views expressed

1. The points of view received as part of the consultation are set out in *italics* below and have been grouped according to the points raised where appropriate.
2. The Council's response to each point can be seen underneath, under the heading "Appraisal of views expressed."

Local Member responses

3. Councillors Lisa Ford, Keith Parry and Neil McEvoy (Fairwater ward) submitted a joint response. The response included the following points: (a copy of the full response can be seen at Appendix 6)
 - *Cantonian High School needs renewal. This is not up for argument. We support the expansion of Cantonian, with larger buildings re-built.*
 - *We support the specialist resource base with an autistic spectrum disorder*
 - *We would like to see the fields at Cantonian be used for the site of a 4g pitch facility.*
 - *We oppose the moving of Riverbank Special School and Woodlands High School to the Cantonian site.*
 - *We feel that it is in the best interests of the pupils of Riverbank and Woodlands that the facilities be renewed on their current sites.*
 - *Fairwater suffers from gridlock, air pollution and traffic chaos already. The surrounding Ward of Llandaff suffers from the same. The surrounding Ward of Radyr suffers from the same also. The local development green field building along Llantrisant Road already makes moving around the west of the City nigh on impossible at certain times. The increase in traffic around the Cantonian site makes the siting of 3 schools untenable.*
 - *There is a lack of detail in the proposals. Would there be 3 buildings or 1? Where will they be sited? What are the designated entrances? What safety measures will be taken to guard against accidents? This is a poor plan, driven by the pursuit of financial savings and not educational excellence.*
4. Councillor Sean Driscoll (Llandaff Ward) submitted a response which included the following points (a copy of the full response can be seen at Appendix 6)
 - *I am very pleased with the proposed redevelopment of Cantonian High School and that it finally being re-furbished and expanded.*
 - *I also very much welcome the relocation and expansion of Riverbank Special School and Woodlands High School. Hopefully this plan will help meet increased demand for secondary and special school places.*
 - *I agree with the expansion of six form entry, plus the expansion plans for SRB provision for pupils with Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC).*

- *However I would like to see plans in place to have provision for further expanding the ASC provision in the event places should be required in the future.*
- *However, I do have some concerns about the impact these plans will have on the local transport infrastructure, but I feel sure these can be overcome with a proper transport plan.*
- *With the expansion of Cantonian and the proposal to relocate Riverbank and Woodlands schools plus the inevitable proposals to take children from Plasdwr to Cantonian (as Secondary H S provision at Plasdwr will be some time away).*
- *I feel this will have a massive detrimental impact on AQ and the local road networks, on roads that are already gridlocked at peak hours during the school term. I also feel we need to be looking at a proper separate transport plan to open up new access points to the school for transport to the school that will lessen the impact on traffic around Fairwater Grove East and West and roads around Doyle Avenue.*
- *Bus and car journeys will increase and crisscross the area.*
- *I would like to see improved plans for pedestrian and cycle access to and from new Bus Hub and the Waungron train Station.*
- *I would also like to see plans put in place for separate cycle links through the school to pick up cycle traffic that crosses from Fairwater Dell, crossing over Fairwater Road cutting through the perimeter of the school grounds to pick up through Kenilworth Court onto the Waungron Bus Interchange.*
- *A High School at Plasdwr needs to be brought forward to come online sooner.*

Appraisal of views expressed

5. The Council welcomes the support for the expansion and redevelopment of Cantonian High School and the expansion of SRB provision at the school.
6. As outlined in the consultation document (pages 12, 13, 18 & 19) there is a need to increase ALN provision to demand increased demand for places at both Riverbank Special School and Woodlands High School. Woodlands and Riverbank Schools would not have space to expand if they stayed on their current sites.
7. The Cantonian High School site is one of the largest schools sites in Cardiff with space for two of the Western Learning Federation special schools as well as Cantonian High School; the site is close to the Ty Gwyn Special School site (1.1 miles to 1.5. miles); travel times between the two sites would be short (approximately 5 – 10 minutes by car or 10 – 20 minutes by bicycle); there is space for buses and pupil taxis on site; the site is relatively central, has good public transport links and is close to main arterial routes.
8. It is acknowledged that these proposals will increase educational activity on this site which will result in additional trips to the site which have the potential to add/alter existing pressures on the local highway network. A significant number

of pupils currently accessing Riverbank Special School and Woodlands High School would normally travel by car or minibus and the number of vehicles accessing the shared school site would be expected to increase.

9. The current target for journeys by sustainable modes of transport (contained in the adopted Local Development Plan) is to achieve a 'modal shift' to a 50:50 split between journeys by car and journeys made by other modes including by foot, cycle and/or use of public transport by 2026. This will be achieved by ensuring that new developments are fully integrated with transport infrastructure which will reduce any negative transport impacts and maximises opportunities for more people travelling by sustainable modes. It is important that this new school facility fully reflects the Council's transport policies and makes a positive contribution to the modal shift.
10. This can be achieved by ensuring that the design and layout of buildings and the site access arrangements prioritise travel by active and sustainable modes. Other critical elements will be the location of access points to the site. Careful positioning of entrances to the schools, which take account of the surrounding roads and pathways is important to minimise walking and cycling distances and avoid unnecessary detours for people travelling on foot and by bicycle. The provision of on-site facilities, such as secure cycle parking spaces will also be essential.
11. Access to the site by private car needs to be carefully managed, particularly given how close the site is to existing residential housing. On-site parking should be planned in accordance with the Council's Managing Transport Impacts Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) (2018). The parking requirements for schools within the SPG is one parking space per 30 pupils and this would apply to the mainstream school provision at the site.
12. The SPG does not specifically refer to provision for special schools. However, there is generally a higher ratio of staff to pupils within special education settings, together with the additional site access requirements (e.g. the quantity of minibus based pupil transport). It is recommended that parking requirements for the special education element of this development "be considered on a site specific basis and on its individual merits" (6.3, p.22).
13. Transport mitigation for the development will be identified through the Transport Assessment process, which will inform the proposals submitted for planning permission. The first stage of transport assessment was undertaken in October 2018. This provided an initial assessment of the traffic and transport implications of implementing the scheme.
14. The assessment identifies works associated with improving vehicular access and off-site highway measures including a school safety zone, traffic calming and pedestrian crossing facilities. Further transport assessment work will be required to support the detailed proposals for the new school site and to inform the future planning application for the development.

15. In addition to highways measures within the immediate vicinity of the school gates, this work will need to identify other off-site improvements which can help to increase opportunities for pupils to travel to school by walking and cycling.
16. The Council is committed to ensuring that every school in Cardiff has an Active Travel Plan by 2020. All schools developed under Band B will need to have such a plan in place from the outset of their operation and therefore, in the event the proposed development proceeds, it would need to be supported by an Active Travel Plan, which should be informed by the Transport Assessment.
17. As set out in the Welsh Government School Organisation Code consultation should be undertaken when proposals are still at the formative stage. Initial feasibility studies have been undertaken in order to establish that the Cantonian High School site is capable of accommodating what is being proposed.
18. Any final site layout/design taken forward would be developed in partnership with the Governing Bodies, staff and pupils and other stakeholders and subject to planning processes and requirements.

Estyn

19. A response from Estyn included the following points: (a copy of the full response can be seen at Appendix 6)
 - *The proposal focuses on meeting the projected increased demand in the number of pupils entering secondary school (Year 7) in Cardiff as well as a high demand for Autistic Spectrum Condition (ASC) Provision and Special School places. The proposer has outlined clearly, that the proposal should meet the forecast demand for these extra places in the school. In Estyn's opinion, the proposal is likely to maintain at least the current standards of education and provision in the area.*
 - *The proposer makes appropriate reference to the outcomes of the three schools' most recent Estyn inspections. It identifies correctly that current performance and prospects for improvement at all schools were judged adequate at the time of the core inspection. However, it also notes that all three schools have been removed from schools requiring Estyn monitoring. The proposer also refers briefly to the schools' categorisation within the National School Categorisation System. All three schools are currently in the 'yellow' support category.*
 - *It concludes reasonably that it does not anticipate any negative impacts on the quality of standards of education and wellbeing of pupils in the school. It states that the Cantonian High School site is one of the largest in Cardiff and offers opportunities for accommodating a greater number of pupils.*

Appraisal of views expressed

20. The Council acknowledges the conclusions of Estyn on the overall merits of the proposals.

Cantonian High School Governing Body

21. *A response from the Cantonian High School Governing Body included the following: (a copy of the full response can be seen at Appendix 6)*
22. *The Governing Body of Cantonian High unanimously support the proposal. The reconstruction of the school coincides with a point in time when standards will have reached an impressive level and the new school will therefore mark the beginning of a new chapter in the school's progress.*
23. *The governors believe that this is a great opportunity for Fairwater and the whole surrounding community. The new school will be a genuine local school which is prized by the residents and recognised as a strong school where high attainment is possible. The new school will also be seen as a long term investment for the expanding population in the Western part of the City.*
24. *The Governing Body want the following points to be noted:*
 - *The need to maintain educational standards during the demolition and construction of the new school buildings;*
 - *That the position around the use of any additional temporary accommodation is clarified*
 - *The Health & Safety and Wellbeing of pupils is an absolute critical priority;*
 - *The proposal to co-locate with Woodlands and Riverbank is supported fully by the Governing Body*
 - *Allowance will need to be made in the requirement for temporary classroom space during the construction phase to allow for the increasing number of pupils at the school*
 - *Tight budget controls will need to be maintained in order to ensure continued progress towards the eliminations of the school budget deficit;*
 - *The requirements of the new ALN legislation and the new curriculum changes will need to be considered as part of the design and build of the new schools*
 - *That any potential impacts on the local community during the construction phase are identified and planned for;*
 - *The school wants to build stronger links to the community and to encourage use of the school for evenings and other times when not in use and see the new school as a great opportunity to develop the school's role within the Fairwater community and surrounding areas*

Appraisal of views expressed

25. The Council welcomes the support of the Governing Body.
26. The Council has significant experience in the successful delivery of building projects on the sites of occupied schools resulting from the progression of a large and growing school organisation programme.

27. Any building work carried out on the Cantonian High School site would be managed effectively in consultation with the school to ensure that sufficient accommodation is available, the full curriculum continues to be delivered and that high education, safety and safeguarding standards are maintained.
28. Any building works would be kept separate from the parts of the site being used by the school, DBS checks would be undertaken and on site security measures implemented to ensure complete separation.
29. The Council will continue to work closely with the school to maintain progress towards the elimination of the school budget deficit.
30. Any final site layout/design taken forward would be developed in partnership with the Governing Bodies, staff and pupils and other stakeholders and take into account the requirements of the new ALN legislation and the new curriculum changes.
31. As part of the 21st Century Schools Band A Programme Band, the Council has progressed a number of new school build including two new high schools (Eastern High and Cardiff West Community High School). In the event of the proposals being progressed the Council will work with the construction company to ensure that the lessons learnt arising out of these build projects will be transferred to the new build on the Cantonian High School site in order to minimise any disruption to local residents.
32. The Council welcomes the Governing Body's commitment to building stronger links with the community and to encouraging us of the school.
33. With significant sports and wider leisure provision now established, or being developed, in many schools a key objective is to enable third party to access the sports facilities at schools, on a sustainable financial basis.
34. The Welsh Government's aim for shared facilities in community-focussed school are to:
 - Provide opportunities for the local community and sports organisations to participate in sport and physical activity for health improvement and development of their skills, particularly amongst low participant groups;
 - Operate in line with the national agenda for sport taking into account nationally adopted strategies;
 - Generate positive attitudes in sport and physical activity by young people and reducing the dropout rate in sports participation with age;
 - Increase the number of people of all ages and abilities participating in sport and physical activity including people with disabilities;
 - Use the facilities to encourage the range, quality and number of school sports club links and to stimulate competition that is inclusive of young people and adults;
 - Provide affordable access to the facilities and to be self-financing and cost neutral in the first instance, generating sustainable income for the school in the future.

35. The development of a viable model for all schools across the city to be accessed by the communities which they serve is needed.

Western Learning Federation Governing Body (Ty Gwyn, Riverbank and Woodlands)

36. A response from the Western Learning Federation Governing Body included the following points: (a copy of the full response can be seen at Appendix 6)

- *We fully support the proposal of the local authority under the 21st Century Band B Schools Programme that two new school be built to replace our existing ones*
- *There is an increasing need for ALN provision within Cardiff and that our schools within the Federation are already at full capacity*
- *Riverbank Special School and Woodlands High School were also identified as being in need of replacement.” Riverbank School has reached a point where it is not fit for purpose and that the education of the children attending the school is affected by the condition and equally importantly the layout*
- *Whilst Woodlands School is in a better structural condition, it remains a building constructed in the 1950’s 1960’s as a small secondary school and lacks many of the facilities that would be expected in a school for children with Special Education / ALN Need*
- *We are aware of the logistical, educational, administrative and governance changes that we will need to adapt to.*
- *We would want to be consulted at the earliest possibility regarding the considerations being discussed for the new school building or buildings.*
- *A programme of familiarisation through talks and visits will be arranged to allow all of the children to see the building of their new schools. This is an important aspect to be considered, the children must feel that “this is their school” and that they can understand that this is the reason why they are moving from a school that they have an attachment to a new building a distance away from “their school”*
- *ALN / Special Needs Schools have by their very nature a high reliance on taxi and minibus transport to bring the children to and from the schools. We already stagger the times of arrival and departure of the transportation at the three schools and we think that this may be a greater problem with two schools and a large High school on the same site. We would like to have discussions with the local authority Highways department to consider their plans to provide access to the new schools*
- *In summary, whilst we have some concerns about access and re-organisation of our current Federation working practices, we fully support the creation of two new schools for ALN education that will provide our pupils with the facilities and opportunities they deserve to have.*

Appraisal of views expressed

37. The Council welcomes the support of the Governing Body.

38. The Council welcomes the support of the Governing Body for the proposals.
39. The Council has prioritised the replacement of Riverbank Special School and Woodlands High School in the Band B 21st Century Schools Programme in recognition of the need to address not only the insufficiency of specialist places but also to address the poor suitability of the accommodation at these schools.
40. The layout/ design taken forward for the new facilities would be developed in partnership with the Governing Bodies, staff and pupils and other stakeholders and take into account the requirements of the new ALN legislation and the new curriculum changes.
41. The Council will work closely with the Governing Body and schools to make appropriate transition arrangements. Similar arrangements were necessary when implementing proposals for the transfer and expansion of Ty Gwyn School from its previous site to the current shared site, and are imperative in ensuring pupils have a positive and successful experience when transferring to a new school site.
42. Concerns around managing the access for taxi and minibus transport to bring the children to and from the schools on the shared site are addressed at paragraphs 8-16. Careful consideration must be given to the layout of the shared site to maximise opportunities for more people to travel to the site by sustainable modes.

Future Generations Commissioner for Wales

43. The Future Generations Commissioner for Wales responded to the consultation attaching some Future Generations Frameworks to support the proposal (a copy of the full response can be seen at Appendix 6).
44. *The frameworks set up prompts to guide public bodies in formulating policies and developing projects, but also to scrutinize such decisions or policies.*
45. *It is important that well-being objectives (of both public bodies and public services boards), the well-being assessments and plans, the statutory goals and the sustainable development principle (including the 5 ways of working) are considered throughout the process.*
46. *The Future Generations Commissioner for Wales is currently developing a new framework for public buildings in collaboration with 21st Century Schools, to ensure that the Act is properly applied and that public buildings are fit for purpose.*

Appraisal of views expressed

47. Cardiff Council welcomes the frameworks provided by The Future Generations Commissioner for Wales and will consider the well-being assessments throughout the project if the proposals are progressed.

The Bishop of Llandaff High School Headteacher

48. A response from the Headteacher of Bishop of Llandaff High School included the following points (a copy of the full response can be seen at Appendix 6)
- *I fully endorse the planned investment for Cantonian High School.*
 - *The school has made rapid progress under the leadership of Diane Gill and staff and has transformed from a position of in need of improvement to one where its outcomes in most indicators place in the school in the top 25% of similar schools.*
 - *Cantonian are helping to improve the life chances of many students and a new build will help establish a new culture of excellence which I know the school has been striving for since 2015.*
 - *The new school build will strengthen provision within the city and offer children within the catchment an environment suitable for the best learning.*

Appraisal of views expressed

49. The Council welcomes the support expressed.

Chair of Governors Cardiff West Community High School

50. A response from the Chair of Governors for Cardiff West Community High School including the following points
51. *It is appreciated that the Local Authority needs to expand its secondary school provision due to demographic trends within the CBC's boundaries.*
52. *There is potential for economies of scale and the transference of specialist expertise.*

Appraisal of views expressed

53. The Council notes the views expressed.

Fitzalan High School

54. A response from Fitzalan High School included the following points (a copy of the full response can be seen at Appendix 6).
- *As a neighbouring school, we are delighted to support the plans for Cantonian High School to be re-developed on the existing site.*
 - *We would ask for some clarity around any suggested catchment area changes or alterations as these could have significant implications for the young people in the local area.*

Appraisal of views expressed

55. The Council welcomes the support expressed.
56. Under the 21st Century School Band B Programme five secondary schools (Fitzalan High School, Cantonian High School, Cardiff High School, Cathays High School and Willows High School) are proposed for redevelopment. As these proposals are progressed, consideration will need to be given to how to better balance the demand for places across the combined area that the schools serve.
57. Any proposed changes to catchment areas arising out of this will be subject to consultation at the appropriate time.

Cardiff and Vale UHB – Child Health

58. A response from Cardiff and Vale UHB – Child Health included the following points (a copy of the full response can be seen at Appendix 6)
 - *The UHB welcomes the council planning to meet the needs of children specifically those who have specialist needs. It will be necessary to ensure that the health needs are included in future planning with Welsh Government and that the increasing demand is recognised as part of changing population needs.*
 - *The UHB will be unable to absorb the additional demand for health services without any additional funding being provided from Welsh Government as part of the NHS planning cycle.*

Appraisal of views expressed

59. The expansion of special school and SRB places will have implications for health provision. The Council will continue to work closely with Cardiff and the Vale Health Board. Specialist settings must have access to support, training and provision from health and other specialist colleagues in order to meet the needs of learners effectively.
60. Health and other specialist services work in partnership with schools to meet pupils' needs. The ALN Reform Act 2018 will bring new responsibilities. The Act will be implemented over three years from September 2020. Services for health, education and social care will need to work together cohesively to coordinate assessment and provision effectively.
61. The Council is carrying out a joint review with Cardiff & Vale University Health Board. The review looks at health and specialist provision in Cardiff special schools and the pupil referral unit. It is overseen by a project group of representatives from health, education, social services, schools, and parents. The findings will inform the design of the specialist provision at the site.

Other responses received

Concerns raised by residents

62. *There are concerns amongst residents around increased traffic congestion, issues with parking, noise levels, increased anti-social behaviour and littering, loss of privacy related to the siting of any new build accommodation and disruption during the construction phase.*

Appraisal of views expressed

63. The Council acknowledges the concerns expressed by residents.
64. Concerns around traffic congestion are addressed at paragraphs 8- 16.
65. All schools work actively with pupils to improve behaviours and to foster a sense of responsibility towards others and the local community. The Council will continue to work with the schools included in these proposals to ensure that they have appropriate policies and arrangements in place in order to continue to promote good relations between the school community and the wider local area.
66. See paragraph 18.
67. See paragraph 31.

Potential impact on the Western Learning Campus Federation

68. *Moving Riverbank Special School and Woodlands Special School to an alternative site will have a negative effect upon the Western Learning Campus Federation*

Appraisal of views expressed

69. The proposal is that the three schools (Cantonian High School, Riverbank Special School and Woodlands Special School) would continue to operate as three separate schools with their own governance and management arrangements.
70. Riverbank Special School and Woodlands Special School would continue to be governed as part of the Western Learning Campus Federation.
71. A joint committee, representing both Cantonian High School and the Federation, accountable to both governing bodies, would be established to facilitate joint management of the site

Site suitability/provision for ASC and other additional needs pupils

72. *The Doyle Avenue site is not big enough to accommodate the extra pupils and staff from Woodlands and Riverbank schools.*

73. *Pupils with social disabilities such as autism and special needs need a small nurturing environment. Putting these vulnerable children into a school with thousands of staff and pupils does not seem the most calming of environments and therefore not the most suitable to meet their educational needs and could indeed impair their education and experience on this site.*

Appraisal of views expressed

74. The Cantonian High School site is one of the largest school sites in Cardiff with sufficient space for two of the Western Learning Federation special schools as well as an enlarged Cantonian High School. The site is close to the Ty Gwyn Special School site (1.1 miles to 1.5 miles), travel times between the two sites would be short (approximately 5 – 10 minutes by car or 10 – 20 minutes by bicycle), there is space for buses and pupils taxis on site and the site is relatively central, has good public transport links and is close to main arterial routes.
75. In the event of the proposals progressing to implementation, there will continue to be three individual schools sharing one site. It is not proposed that the children from the individual schools would be integrated.
76. The design of each school will be developed in partnership with the relevant school governing bodies, specialist staff, pupils and healthcare professionals to reflect the needs of the pupils occupying the building and allow for the provision of high quality facilities for all pupils. This would ensure that the individual needs of the learners are appropriately met.
77. The design would meet the requirements of the relevant Building Bulletin Guidance (BB102 for special schools and BB98 for secondary schools).

Disruption to pupils and concerns around safeguarding during construction

78. *Concerns were expressed regarding potential disruption for those pupils who would be at Cantonian High School during the construction phase.*
79. *There were also concerns around safeguarding.*

Appraisal of views expressed

80. See paragraphs 26 - 28.

The public perception of Cantonian High School

81. *The transfer of two special schools on to the Cantonian High School site could result in a public perception that Cantonian High School is also a special school. This was thought to be likely if all three schools are accommodated in one building. There were concerns that this may impact on the number children wanting to take up places at the school.*

Appraisal of views expressed

82. See paragraphs 56 – 57
83. The proposal has been brought forward in response to demand for places in both mainstream and ALN provision and it is not expected that the number of children taking up places at the school will be impacted.

Mixing Primary and Secondary pupils on one site

84. *Primary and secondary school pupils should not be mixed. Fairwater Primary occupies a large site and would be more suitable for Riverbank.*

Appraisal of views expressed

85. See paragraphs 74 – 77.

Future expansion

86. *How would the building work if an extension was required?*

Appraisal of views expressed

87. The proposals have been brought forward as part of the Council's 21st Century Band B programme in response to demand for mainstream and ALN places. The programme includes a number of proposals and it is expected that the number of places being proposed will be sufficient.
88. Additionally the progression of the Council's 21st Century Schools Programme has seen the expansion of both Eastern High School and Cardiff West Community School which both allow for additional accommodation to be added if required.
89. The LDP Plasdwr development includes proposal to establish both primary and secondary provision to meet demand for places from the development on site.

Access to the site

90. *Would there be a new main entrance for Cantonian High School during the build?*

Appraisal of views expressed

91. This has not been determined. Implementation of the proposals is subject to statutory processes and determination by the Welsh Government.
92. Any site layout and building design taken forward will be developed in full with the three schools taking account of the available space, the existing road layout, pedestrian/cycling access, curriculum and planning requirements.

Riverbank Special School and Woodlands High School

93. *Would it be possible to redevelop Riverbank Special School and Woodlands High School on their existing sites?*

Appraisal of views expressed

94. Riverbank Special School and Woodlands High School would not have space to expand if they stayed on their current sites. Only moving one school to the new site would prevent integrated primary and secondary ALN provision. There is also no identified alternative site to build a new special school on.

Tuition for pupils not in school

95. *Can consideration be given to providing separate provision/building off site, somewhere in the community of Fairwater or Ely for Cantonian High School pupils who need to be educated offsite? This could include building a set of small classrooms, or renting office space somewhere, or even buying a small plot of land where an off shoot tuition provision could be located.*
96. *If this is not possible, can consideration be given to providing a separate small building or block on the existing Cantonian site, that is not attached to the main building but is somewhat secluded, with the options of its own entrance.*

Appraisal of views expressed

97. See paragraph 30.

Insufficient information

98. *There was insufficient information available regarding the site layout, access routes and how construction traffic would be managed during the consultation period.*

Appraisal of views expressed

99. See paragraph 30.
100. The management of any construction traffic will be dependent on the site layout and design taken forward and any stipulated planning requirements.