



Report of the Director of People

External Funding Panel – 4 July 2018

Increasing Welsh-medium Provision – Capital Grant Application

Purpose:	To inform the External Funding Panel of the Increasing Welsh-medium Provision – Capital Grant Application and the indicative profile of spend and timescales for delivery.
Policy Framework:	Capital Budget & Programme 2017/18- 2023/24 as reported to Cabinet on the 15 February 2018 and on 21 June 2018 - School Organisation linked to the Welsh Education Strategic Plan QEd Programme Corporate Priorities; <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Safeguarding people from harm• Improving education and skills• Tackling poverty• Transformation and Future Council development
Consultation:	Education, Finance, Legal Services, Corporate Building and Property Services
Recommendation(s):	It is recommended that: 1) External Funding Panel notes the content of the application and anticipated profile of spend and timescales for delivery.
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1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of this paper is to provide the External Funding Panel with an overview of the Increasing Welsh-medium Provision – Capital Grant Application to Welsh Government (WG) and the indicative profile of spend and timescales for delivery.
- 1.2 The WG have allocated £30 million capital funding nationally for which applications had to be submitted by the 1 June 2018.
- 1.3 WG advised that the funding will be allocated at a 100% rate, in recognition of the fact that local authorities will have already allocated all of their available funding towards their existing financial envelopes for Band B of the 21st Century Programme. WG advised that as it is keen to secure rapid and meaningful growth in the Welsh-medium sector, it is providing the investment to provide a boost for developments that may not otherwise have been possible.
- 1.4 The grant funding will support capital investments that facilitate growth in Welsh-medium education and use of the Welsh language. The grant funding is aimed specifically at capital projects that will demonstrably contribute to meeting the WG's aim of one million Welsh speakers by 2050. This might include projects which:
 - Provide additional Welsh-medium provision;
 - Move schools along the linguistic continuum;
 - Help to attract pupils to the Welsh-medium sector e.g. Welsh-medium childcare or nursery provision;
 - Improve transition rates within Welsh-medium sector e.g. Between pre-school facilities and Foundation Phase provision;
 - Support retention or sustainability of Welsh-medium provision e.g. Latecomer centres/Welsh language immersion;
 - Provide infrastructure support such as videoconferencing facilities or other technologies.
- 1.5 The funding will not be used to support projects already planned for Band B of the 21st Century Schools and Education programme. The proposals will therefore need to be new developments (or extensions/additions to existing proposals) which will be in addition to the local authority's SOP.
- 1.6 The WG key criterion for assessing, and if necessary, prioritising projects will be the contribution it will make to the 2050 target in terms of numbers of Welsh speakers. Within this WG will consider relevant factors such as:
 - Schools within a 10% capacity threshold or nearing their capacity;
 - Significant levels of unmet demand for Welsh-medium provision as demonstrated through the education assessment;
 - Significant gaps in Welsh-medium childcare as demonstrated through the CSA;
 - Potential for growing the Welsh-medium sector in the area affected;

- Rationale as to why the proposal was not included in the LAs Band B project list.

2.0 Investment priorities

2.1 Swansea Council's Band B SOP proposes to;

- Increase the number of places (by between 750 and 850) with the relocation of YGG Tan-y-lan (at 315 places plus nursery) to a permanent and larger site, the re-location of YGG Tirdeunaw (at 420 places plus nursery) in new build facilities on the YG Bryn Tawe site and enhanced places to serve the demands in the wider Gorseinon area
- Further increase the number of secondary places to ensure sufficient capacity for the numbers transferring from the primary sector
- Re-balance the availability and need for places across the County through a review of catchments
- Address unsuitable accommodation and facilities at existing Welsh-medium primary and secondary schools

2.2 The Band B proposals aim to meet existing and projected demand based on current trends and projections over the next 5 years.

2.3 The Welsh-medium Capital Grant application proposals aim to complement the above Band B priorities through;

- opportunities for 'seed' classes through pre-school provision to further attract pupils to the Welsh-medium sector and aide transition
- maximising on the opportunity to build capacity into the Welsh-medium primary sector at an earlier stage, to provide 'headroom' to facilitate further growth in demand for places, and efficiencies in the overall costs.
- bringing forward proposals to relocate **YGG Tirdeunaw and adding up to a further 105 places**
- **adding up to a further 105 places to YGG Tan-y-lan**
- in consideration of the proposed catchment area reviews, addressing the other short term pressures through the provision of additional capacity at;
 - **YGG Bryn-y-môr (up to 60 places)**
 - **YGG Y Login Fach (up to 60 places)**

2.4 The above proposals were not included in the Band B SOP as this was underpinned by Welsh Education Strategic Plan (WESP) targets arrived at in consideration of existing and projected pupil numbers. An overview of the Band B SOP submission can be found in the report to Cabinet of the 20 July 2017 at;

<https://democracy.swansea.gov.uk/documents/g7441/Public%20reports%20p ack%20Thursday%20-Jul-2017%2014.00%20Cabinet.pdf?T=10&LLL=0>

2.5 The report to Cabinet of the 21 June 2018 paper sets out the next steps required to progress the approved commitments within the Welsh Education Strategic Plan (WESP), as reflected in the approved 21st Century Schools Band B Programme, and where appropriate approve the commencement of formal statutory consultation.

2.6 This can be found at;
<https://democracy.swansea.gov.uk/documents/g7923/Public%20reports%20pack%20Thursday%2021-Jun-2018%2010.00%20Cabinet.pdf?T=10&LLL=0>

3.0 Progress and process

3.1 Each project within the Band B programme including YGG Tan-y-lan and YGG Tirdeunaw will be subject to further approvals by WG upon receipt of an Outline Business Case (OBC) and then Full Business Case (FBC) from the Council.

3.2 The relocation and enhancement of capacity at YGG Tan-y-lan (based on either 1.5FE or 2FE) and YGG Tirdeunaw (only if this bid is approved to take the school to 2.5FE) would require a statutory consultation, and both would be subject to catchment area reviews.

3.3 The potential investment at YGG Y Login Fach would allow an increase in the capacity of the school by up to 60 places but this would be phased as appropriate to reflect the actual growth in demand for places. As such it is not envisaged that this will require a statutory process. As with all cases, it is also proposed that in the short to medium term the additional space will support pre-school provision and in this instance wrap around care.

3.4 The potential investment at YGG Bryn-y-môr would not require a statutory consultation.

3.5 Subject to the outcome of the above processes further reports will be brought to Cabinet as appropriate seeking approval to commit each individual project to the Capital Programme before a contract is entered into with WG. These reports will include developed cost plans for each project following the further development of options appraisals and detailed design.

3.6 Subject to the outcome of the statutory consultation process, planning approval, and the approval by WG of the grant applications and business cases as appropriate the implementation timeline is as follows:

- Relocation and enlargement of YGG Tan-y-lan in January 2021
- Relocation and enlargement of YGG Tirdeunaw in January 2021
- Enlargement of YGG Bryn-y-môr and YGG Y Login Fach in September 2020.

4.0 Equality and Engagement Implications

- 4.1 An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) screening has been completed. Whilst there are no specific equality or engagement implications at this stage in the process, all projects that would be the result of this submission to Welsh Government would be subject to the EIA process (which incorporates the UNCRC) with the likelihood that a full EIA report would be required for each project.
- 4.2 The Council is subject to the Public Sector Equality Duty (Wales) and must, in the exercise of their functions, have due regard to the need to:
- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act.
 - Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
 - Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

Our Equality Impact Assessment process ensures that we have paid due regard to the above.

- 4.3 As part of this process we will also be considering the Well-being of Future Generations Act. The Act ensures that public bodies think more about the long term, work better with people and communities and each other, look to prevent problems and take a more joined-up approach.
- 4.4 All stakeholders will be fully engaged as each project is developed through the statutory consultations that will be required.
- 4.5 Community Impact Assessments have been prepared as per the School Organisation Code in preparation for Cabinet's decision to begin statutory consultation on the proposals for YGG Tan-y-lan and YGG Tirdeunaw.

5.0 Financial Implications

Capital

- 5.1 The total scheme cost of YGG Tan-y-lan is £8,262,000, of which £6,162,000 is part of the Band B proposals (as outlined in the programme for Band B report to EFP 4 July 2018) and £2,100,000 is part of the grant application which if approved would be 100% funded by WG.
- 5.2 The total scheme cost of YGG Tirdeunaw is £12,138,000, of which £10,938,000 is part of the Band B proposals (as outlined in the programme for Band B report to EFP 4 July 2018) and £2,100,000 is part of the grant application which if approved would be 100% funded by WG.
- 5.3 The total scheme cost of YGG Bryn-y-mor is £975,000, included in the grant application which if approved would be 100% funded by WG.

- 5.4 The total scheme cost of YGG Login Fach is £575,000, included in the grant application which if approved would be 100% funded by WG.
- 5.5 Cost estimates are on a current-cost basis, with no allowance for construction inflationary pressures, where there is uncertainty regarding the timing of projects. However, optimism bias has been applied to each project in accordance with the lessons learned from delivery of Band A, and based on assessment of outstanding programme risks / unknowns.
- 5.6 Pre-Construction phase costs have been approved for YGG Tan-y-lan. Authority is being sought shortly for the pre-construction phase costs for YGG Tirdeunaw, and also some early pre-construction phase costs for YGG Bryntawe, which is intrinsically linked with YGG Tirdeunaw project, if it is to be co-located on the YGG Bryntawe site.

Revenue

- 5.7 Schools are funded from an overall delegated budget – the Individual Schools Budget (ISB). There is a funding formula that allocates a budget share to each individual school from the ISB.

6.0 Legal Implications

- 6.1 The various proposals will necessitate the legal implications to be reviewed and updated on a regular basis. Education, Highways, planning property and contracts/procurement legal advice will need to be obtained as the proposals progress and more detail is given.
- 6.2 The establishment, alteration or discontinuance of maintained schools requires consultation and the publication of statutory notices in accordance with Chapter 2 and Schedule 2, of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 (“the Act”) and the Welsh Government’s School Organisation Code (Circular 006/2013) (the Code). The Code provides statutory guidance a local Council must follow when seeking to making school organisation proposals to education provision within a local Council area.
- 6.3 Catchment areas form part of the Local Authority’s (LA’s) admission arrangements. Where a Local Authority (LA) propose to revise the catchment areas for an existing school the LA must publish and consult on those proposals in the same way as any other admission arrangements. The Local 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 Welsh Government’s Admissions Code (Circular 005/2013). These require Admission Authorities to consult and determine school admission arrangements annually. The Regulations set a timescale for the consultation and determination of admission arrangements.

6.4 Any offer of grant funding from the Welsh Government will be subject to terms and conditions which will be binding upon the Local Council.

Background Papers:

School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013;
The Welsh Government's "School Organisation Code" Circular 006/201; School Standards and Framework Act 1998, the Education (Determination of Admission Arrangements) (Wales) Regulations 2006; Welsh Government's Admissions Code (Circular 005/2013)

Report of the Cabinet Member for Children, Education & Life Long Learning, Cabinet - 20 July 2017, Quality in Education (QEd) – Emerging proposals and investment priorities for the next band of the 21st Century Schools Programme

Appendices:

Appendix A - Indicative funding model for the Welsh-medium schemes included within this report:

Appendix B – Indicative spend profile for the Welsh-medium schemes (elements thereof) subject to the Welsh-medium grant application.

Appendix C – NGA1

Appendix D – EFP1

Appendix A - Indicative funding model for the Welsh-medium schemes

School Name	Total scheme cost	WM grant application 100% funding	Band B funding 50% WG and 50% LA
YGG Tan y lan	£8,262,000	£2,100,000	£6,162,000
YGG Tirdeunaw	£12,138,000	£1,200,000	£10,938,000
YGG Bryn-y-mor	£975,000	£975,000	
YGG Login Fach	£575,000	£575,000	
Totals	£21,950,000	£4,850,000	£17,100,000

Appendix B - Indicative spend profile for the Welsh-medium schemes (elements thereof) subject to the Welsh-medium grant application.

<u>CAPITAL COSTS</u>	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	TOTAL
<u>Expenditure</u>					
YGG Bryn-y-mor		963,000	12,000		975,000
YGG Login Fach		567,500	7,500		575,000
YGG Tan-y-lan		1,035,000	1,035,000	30,000	2,100,000
YGG Tirdeunaw		591,000	591,000	18,000	1,200,000
EXPENDITURE	0	3,156,500	1,645,500	48,000	4,850,000
<u>Financing</u>					
To be funded 100% funded by Welsh Government (subject to grant application approval)					
FINANCING	0	3,156,500	1,645,500	48,000	4,850,000