

Objection Report

To the proposal of building a Welsh-medium Primary School with co-located Childcare Provision on the preferred site of Chartist Way Sirhowy Tredegar

There was one objection/concern for this proposal

Questions and the Councils responses noted below

The beautiful view I have from my window, being one reason the property which is my home, was bought in the first place, being obscured from the view of my property.

Response:

By way of context, as per the Blaenau Gwent's Local Development Plan 2006-2021 ([Site Descriptions.pdf \(blaenau-gwent.gov.uk\)](http://blaenau-gwent.gov.uk) page 5, the land adjacent to Chartist Way, is not intended for green space. The land is a brownfield site which means it has been reclaimed to create a flat platform for development. It was formerly earmarked for industrial development

With regards to the view, should the proposal proceed, the Council will ensure that the design is sympathetic and does not negatively affect the vista for local residents. It is anticipated that, should the proposal proceed the school will be a single story building, located on the northern edge of the site.

The mess of construction works, noise and obstruction by construction vehicles to the access of my property.

Response:

Should the proposal proceed, when appointing a contractor, the Council will ensure that they are considerate of local residents, and that site management is effective with minimal disruption and maximum benefit for the local community. Community engagement would be of paramount importance and local residents would be regularly updated on the construction process by both the Council and the contractor.

When the school is constructed, parking and traffic on dropping off and picking up of school children causing parking restrictions, of access to my property.

Response:

It is proposed that school and co-located childcare provision would be occupied from September 2023 and that the school would develop via a growth model; therefore, the numbers of staff, pupils and parents accessing the site would be staggered and increased over a number of years.

As part of the design stage and project development process a full traffic and travel assessment will be undertaken. Car parking, pick up drop off will be considered as part of this process, to ensure that the provision is developed and designed in consideration of the health and safety of all parties. The Council monitors site access and safety in terms of traffic and travel for all of its schools, taking account also of the views of local residents. Civil Parking Enforcement requirements will be monitored to ensure safety and compliance at the start, and the end of the school day.

Double yellow lines of parking restrictions to myself of visitors to my property.

Response:

This can only be taken forward once the decision has been made to proceed.

The Environment Directorate within the Council, especially the Highways Division, will be part of the project team involved with the design development and features. The use of appropriate

parking restrictions and traffic calming measures, will be considered in preparation for the pre-planning and planning stages, upon which local residents will be consulted.

Noise of construction, and children disturbing the tranquillity that I now enjoy in the comfort of my home.

Response:

As detailed above, the construction process will consider the needs and views of local residents, with a view to minimising disruption - including noise.

The Council does not anticipate the school development and use, including outdoor play and learning, negatively affecting local residents.

Under the Covid-19 regulations. My neighbours and myself are not allowed to meet and discuss our concerns, to limit a time of one month under the new laws of Covid-19 regulations is inconsiderate.

Response:

The statutory processes associated with this proposal are fully compliant with the requirements set out in the Welsh Governments School Organisation Code (2018, version 2). The 42-day consultation process prior to the 28-day Statutory Notice period, offered the opportunity for residents to engage in virtual and/or telephone meetings and discussions with officers, in order to air their views. There was also an opportunity for consultees to contact the Council to request a meeting.

The proposal is within its infancy and yet to be approved. There will be further opportunities – should the proposal proceed, i.e. at pre-planning and planning stage for residents to engage with, shape, inform and/or air their views and objections. There will also be opportunities for community engagement throughout.

While in support of Welsh Education, I would have thought the old Ebbw Vale college site would have been a more appropriate choice for planning a new school.

Response:

This site is unavailable and planning granted for housing development.