

**COUNTY BOROUGH OF BLAENAU GWENT**

**REPORT TO: THE LEADER AND MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE**

**SUBJECT: SPECIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE –  
1<sup>st</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2021**

**REPORT OF: DEMOCRATIC & COMMITTEE SUPPORT OFFICER**

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**PRESENT: Leader of the Council/  
Executive Member Corporate Services  
Councillor N.J. Daniels (CHAIR)**

**Deputy Leader/Executive Member –  
Regeneration & Economic Development  
Councillor D. Davies**

**Executive Member – Education  
Councillor J. Collins**

**Executive Member – Environment  
Councillor J. Wilkins**

**Executive Member – Social Services  
Councillor J. Mason**

**WITH: Corporate Director Regeneration and Community Services  
Chief Accountant  
Chief Officer Commercial & Customer  
Head of School Improvement and Inclusion  
Head of Legal and Corporate Compliance**

**DECISIONS UNDER DELEGATED POWERS**

| <u>ITEM</u> | <u>SUBJECT</u>   | <u>ACTION</u> |
|-------------|--|---------------|
| No. 1       | <p><b><u>SIMULTANEOUS TRANSLATION</u></b></p> <p>It was noted that no requests had been received for the simultaneous translation service.</p>   |               |
| No. 2       | <p><b><u>APOLOGIES</u></b></p> <p>The following apologies for absence were received:-</p> <p>Managing Director<br/>Corporate Director Education<br/>Head of Organisational Development</p>   |               |
| No. 3       | <p><b><u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS</u></b></p> <p>There were no declarations of interest and dispensations raised.</p>  |               |
|             | <p><b><u>DECISION ITEM – EDUCATION MATTERS</u></b></p>   |               |
| No. 4       | <p><b><u>PROPOSAL TO CONSULT ON AN INCREASE IN CAPACITY AT PEN Y CWM SPECIAL SCHOOL</u></b></p> <p>Consideration was given to the report of the Corporate Director Education.</p> <p>The Head of School Improvement and Inclusion advised that the report provided the outcomes of the statutory notice/objection period in relation to the proposal to increase the capacity at Pen y Cwm Special School. The report also detailed the next steps as part of the statutory processes which was required in line with the School Organisation Code and the associated decision making processes. The Head of School Improvement and Inclusion further spoke to the report and provided an overview of the statutory notice period outcomes and the consultation process.</p> <p>The Executive Member welcomed the report which would benefit the children and young people of Blaenau Gwent who access Pen y Cwm Special School.</p> |               |

The Executive supported the report and it was felt that Pen y Cwm Special School was a much needed facility which benefited Blaenau Gwent and wider communities as well as ensuring that local children and young people were able to access such an excellent facility in Blaenau Gwent.

RESOLVED that the report be accepted and agreed the associated documents to proceed to Decision Notification stage (which was required within 7 days of the decision being made, as per the Welsh Government School Organisation Code (2018, version 2). (Option 1)

**DECISION ITEMS - CORPORATE SERVICES MATTERS**

**No. 5**

**REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL ANNUAL LEAVE DAY FOR WORKFORCE**

Consideration was given to the report of the Head of Organisational Development.

The Chief Officer Commercial & Customer advised that the report sought agreement from the Executive of a request made by the Joint Trade Unions (Unison, GMB and Unite) to grant an additional day's leave for the workforce (other than those staff employed by schools), as a one off, for 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2021. The Chief Officer added that the Joint Trade Unions had raised the proposal at the consultation meeting with the Corporate Leadership Team and the Executive on the 28<sup>th</sup> July, 2021. The Joint Trade Unions felt that an additional day's leave would acknowledge the excellent work carried out by staff in response to the Covid 19 pandemic.

The Leader welcomed the report and reiterated that the Joint Trade Unions had put this request forward to Executive and CLT which was readily agreed as it was an appropriate way for the Council to acknowledge the outstanding work which had been undertaken during the pandemic.

RESOLVED that the report be accepted and the Executive supported the Trade Union's request and granted the 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2021 (this year only) as an additional day's leave for the workforce (other than those staff employed by schools). (Option 1).