

Leighton Andrews AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau
Minister for Education and Skills



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-349
Ein cyf/Our ref LA/06616/11

William Powell AM
Chair Petition's committee
Ty Hywel
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

15 December 2011

Dear William,

Thank you for your letter dated 28 November, regarding the petition P-04-349 Welsh-medium Provision – Caerphilly.

As part of the 21st Century Schools Programme all Local Authorities (LAs) were asked to submit proposals in respect of their future plans for capital investment in schools within their local area. Details on any proposed options for change including new schools, providing options for new sites, developments to existing schools refurbishment and or extensions etc, were included as part of this process.

Any decision regarding investment in schools is a matter for individual local authorities based on need and circumstance.

The Welsh Government has seen a significant reduction in its capital budget (approximately 40% over the next three years). Against this background local authorities were asked to re-view and re-submit their forward outline programme of investment against a sharper prioritisation criteria namely condition of school buildings, inefficiencies in the school estate (to include surplus places) and to meet the Welsh Government's All Age Transformation agenda.

Local authorities submitted their revised proposals on 18 November 2011. These have been assessed and I attach my written statement and supporting information made on the 5th December 2011. The statement can also be found at the link below;

<http://wales.gov.uk/about/cabinet/cabinetstatements/2011/05december21centuryschoolsprog/?lang=en>

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Leighton Andrews', written in a cursive style.

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Y Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau
Minister for Education and Skills



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

WRITTEN STATEMENT BY THE WELSH GOVERNMENT

TITLE **21st Century Schools Programme**

DATE **5 December 2011**

BY **Leighton Andrews, Minister for Education and Skills**

I am pleased to announce a programme of capital investment in school buildings across Wales that will amount to £1.4 billion.

This represents the first wave of a long-term programme of investment.

Following the statement I made last July, local authorities have re-assessed their Strategic Outline Programmes and prioritised their investment proposals based on local needs and local circumstances. These priorities of investment seek to address not only the poor condition and surplus capacity in the schools estate, but also any investment requirement for additional learning needs, Welsh-medium education and faith based school provision.

The 21st Century Schools Programme is being developed as a partnership between Welsh Government, the Welsh Local Government Association, Diocesan Directors of the Voluntary Aided Sector and CollegesWales. It is through this partnership working that a programme has been agreed that will ensure that all 22 local authorities will receive Welsh Government capital support in total of £700 million over a seven year period.

This investment will build upon the £415 million of capital investment that is already being provided by the Welsh Government from the Transitional Funding programme. This programme, a precursor to 21st Century Schools, is nearing completion and will dovetail into this new programme which is currently planned to start in 2014-15. It is essential that local authorities start planning their projects now. The Welsh Government, with the support of the 21st Century Schools Programme Board, will seek to accelerate the programme and bring forward individual schools projects as and when additional capital funds become available.

Information on the allocations to local authorities is attached at Annex A. I must emphasise that these projects are at Outline Stage, which means the detail may be subject to further change as the proposals are further developed, go through the school statutory consultation process (where required) and assessed through further business case submissions. This is good practice.

I am encouraged that local authorities have signalled their commitment and intent to the development of this programme. However, I do have concerns that not all local authorities are clear in meeting the Welsh Government's policy of All Age Transformation, and some local authorities will be subject to further challenge on the cohesiveness of their programmes at the next stage of development.

By 2014-15, the Welsh Government's capital budget will be almost 50% lower in real terms than in 2009-10, so inevitably the Twenty First Century Schools Programme Board has had to prioritise within available resources.

I will continue to work with the Finance Minister on the issue of securing additional capital including the development of alternative sources of funding. Collaboration across the Welsh public sector is essential to ensure we deliver the strategic projects and programmes that will have the greatest impact on the Welsh economy both in terms of direct employment and educating our future workforce.

This announcement of nearly £1.4 billion is an important contribution to the Wales Infrastructure Investment Plan, identifying and prioritising our investment into the schools estate through the 21st Century Schools programme.

I would also like to signal my intent today to develop an investment plan for the Further Education sector that is aligned with the 21st Century Schools Programme. I have asked my officials to contact all Further Education Institutions to discuss their investment priorities.

Securing capital investment in these difficult economic times is essential, not only for better education outcomes, but also for improving the economy of our communities. My announcement today underlines the Welsh Government's absolute commitment to improving the lives of people in Wales.

**Written Statement - 21st Century Statement – Outline of Local Authority
Programme Proposals
Annex A**

Ynys Mon (Isle of Anglesey) County Council
Estimated Cost of Programme Envelope: £7,900,000
Summary of Programme: 1. Primary School Holyhead

Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council
Estimated Cost of Programme Envelope: £20,250,000
Summary of Programme: 1. Secondary Welsh Medium (South East Wales Consortia). 2. School - Abertillery area. 3. School - Tredegar area. 4. Coed y Garn, Ystruth and Roseheyworth.

Bridgend County Borough Council
Estimated Cost of Programme Envelope: £44,950,000
Summary of Programme: 1. Coety Primary. 2. Special Education Needs Provision. 3. Garw Valley South. 4. Pencoed Primary. 5. Gateway Primary. 6. Mynydd Cynffig Primary. 7. Heronsbridge Special School.

Caerphilly County Borough Council
Estimated Cost of Programme Envelope: £92,000,000
Summary of Programme: 1. Welsh Medium – St Ilan. 2. Rhymney School 3. Secondary Schools Rationalisation Programme.

Cardiff City Council
Estimated Cost of Programme Envelope £137,328,000
Summary of Programme 1. Eastern High School. 2. Grangetown Welsh-Medium Primary School. 3. Adamsdown Primary School. 4. Pontprennau English-Medium Primary School. 5. Mount Stuart Primary School phase 2. 6. Hywel Dda Primary School.

7. Baden Powell Primary School
8. Coed Glas Primary School Phase 2.
9. St Pauls CiW Primary School
10. St Patricks RC Primary School.
11. Herbert Thompson Primary School.
12. Christ the King RC Primary School.
13. Moorland Primary School.
14. Ysgol Glan Ceubal.
15. Gabalfa Primary School.
16. Michaelston Community College / Glyn Derw High School.
17. St Francis RC Primary School.
18. Ninian Park Primary School.
19. Oakfield Primary School.
20. Ysgol y Wern Phase 2.
21. Meadowlane Primary School.
22. Radnor Primary School
23. Fitzalan High School.
24. Willows High School.
25. Corpus Christ High School.

Carmarthenshire County Council

Estimated Cost of Programme Envelope £86,700,000

Summary of Programme:

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dyffryn Cothi (Formerly known as Cynwyl Gaeo) 2. Burry Port. 3. Llanelli Area Secondary – Llanelli Vocational Village. 4. Llanelli Area Secondary – Strade Phase 1. 5. Cwm Twyi East. 6. Carreg Hirfaen. 7. Trimsaran. 8. Seaside. 9. Llanelli Area Secondary – Coedcae Phase 1 10. Llanelli area St John Lloyd. 11. Ammanford. 12. Llandeilo. |
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Ceredigion County Council

Estimated Cost of Programme Envelope £32,000,000

Summary of Programme

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. School building Llandysul |
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Conwy County Borough Council

Estimated Cost of Programme Envelope £17,950,000

Summary of Programme

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Caerhun area. 2. Llandudno Junction area. 3. Colwyn Bay area 1. |
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4. Penmaenrhos area.

Denbighshire County Council

Estimated Cost of Programme Envelope £73,400,000

Summary of Programme

1. Secondary Provision – North Denbighshire Phase 1.
2. Implementation of Prestatyn Primary Area review - Bodnant Community School.
3. Edeyrnion Primary review – Area School at Cynwyd.
4. Faith Based Secondary Provision .

Flintshire County Council

Estimated Cost of Programme Envelope £64,200,000

Summary of Programme

1. Tertiary facility in Connah's Quay.
2. Community Learning Campus at Holywell.
3. High School in Connah's Quay.
4. Community Primary School in Deeside.

Gwynedd Council

Estimated Cost of Programme Envelope £36,220,000

Summary of Programme

1. Berwyn Catchment
2. Y Gader Catchment (Eastern area and Dolgellau primary).
3. Special Education Needs facility.
4. Groeslon.
5. Glan Cegin.

Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council

Estimated Cost of Programme Envelope £17,130,000

Summary of Programme

1. Afon Taf High School.
2. Amaglamation of Ysgol Y Graig Primary and Trefechan Nursery School.
3. Pen y Dre High School

Monmouthshire County Council

Estimated Cost of Programme Envelope £79,500,000

Summary of Programme

Secondary School Programme

1. Caldicot School.
2. Monmouth Comprehensive School.
3. Chepstow Comprehensive School.
4. King Henry VIII Comprehensive School.
5. Welsh Medium Secondary Schools (South East Wales Consortia)

Primary School Programme

6. Thornwell Primary School.

7. Ysgol Gymraeg Y Ffin.
8. Raglan Voluntary controlled Primary School.
9. Castle Park Primary School.
10. Llanfair Kilgeddin Voluntary aided Primary School.
11. Llanvihangel Crucorney Primary School.
12. Goytre Primary School.

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council

Estimated Cost of Programme Envelope £93,000,000

Summary of Programme

1. English-Medium School (Baglan area).
2. English-Medium School (Sandfields Area).
3. Welsh Medium School (Ystalyfera).
4. Faith Secondary School (Aberafan area).
5. English Medium School (Briton Ferry).
6. Welsh Medium secondary School (South of County Borough)
7. Primary School (Coed Darcy, Neath)

Newport City Council

Estimated Cost of Programme Envelope £15,000,000

Summary of Programme

1. Capacity building – Replacement of demountables at 7 Schools.
2. School Reorganisation Proposals – 4 Schools.
3. Nursery Education Provision – 12 Schools.
4. Welsh Medium Primary Provision.
5. Capacity building for pupils with Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD).

Pembrokeshire County Council

Estimated Cost of Programme Envelope £149,860,000

Summary of Programme

1. Pembrokeshire Learning Campus - Secondary School.
2. Pembrokeshire Learning Campus - post 16 vocational centre
3. Fenton CP School Primary Portfield special School.
4. Johnston CP School.
5. Broad Haven CP School.
6. St Aidens Voluntary Aided School
7. Hakin Community School & Hubberston VC School.
8. Tenby VC Infants School & Tenby Junior School.
9. Sir Thomas Picton School & Tasker Milward School

Powys County Council

Estimated Cost of Programme Envelope £78,180,000

Summary of Programme

1. Gwernyfed Primary Review.

2. Welsh Primary School (Severn Valley Welsh Medium).
3. John Beddoes Primary School Review.
- 4 Llanidloes / Machynlleth Primary Area Review.
5. Beacons Community Campus School.
- 6.Ysgol Bro Dyfi (Machynlleth-Pathfinder).

Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council

Estimated Cost of Programme Envelope £160,000,000

Summary of Programme

1. Secondary School Reorganisation Phase 1 – Aberdare.
2. Welsh Medium Primary Provision.
3. Y Pant Comprehensive School.
4. English Medium Primary School Modernisation 1.
5. Primary Modernisation 2.
6. Abernant Primary Provision
7. Secondary Schools modernisation 2.
8. Welsh Medium Provision (Tonyrefail).
9. Primary School Modernisation Phase 3.

City & County of Swansea

Estimated Cost of Programme Envelope £51,000,000

Summary of Programme

1. Manselton Primary & Cwmbwrla Primary School.
2. Tregwyr Infants & Junior Primary School (now Gowerton).
3. YGG Lon-Las-Welsh Medium.
4. Pentrehafod Comprehensive School.
5. Portmead Primary/Blaenymaes primary.
6. Secondary Review (South West).
7. Review of Post 16 provision.
8. YG Gwyr School.
9. Welsh Medium Primary – Tregwyr Junior Site.
10. Gorseinon Infant, Nursery and Primary Schools
11. St Josephs Junior / Infants Voluntary Aided Schools.
12. Pentrepoeth Infants / Junior Graig infants (now Pentre'r Graig Primary).
- 13 Glynollen Primary.
14. Newton Primary.

Torfaen County Borough Council

Estimated Cost of Programme Envelope £81,600,000

Summary of Programme

1. Llantarnam / Fairwater Secondary.
2. Abersychan Secondary School.
3. West Mon Secondary School.
4. Blenheim Road Primary School
5. Llantarnam Primary School.
6. Croesyceiliog Secondary School .
7. Ysgol Panteg Primary new School .
8. Garnteg/Victoria Primary School .
9. Penygarn/Pontnewynydd Primary .
10. Cwmffrwdroer Primary School .

Vale of Glamorgan Council

Estimated Cost of Programme Envelope £20,959,000

Summary of Programme

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Ysgol Nant Talwg2. Ysgol Dewi Sant.3. Lantwit Major Comprehensive School.4. School Reorganisation Barry Cluster. |
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Wrexham County Borough Council

Estimated Cost of Programme Envelope £22,300,000

Summary of Programme

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Hafod-y-Wern County Primary School2. Gwenfro County Primary School3. Penycae County Primary School.4. Flexible learning Zone (Town Centre Secondary).5. Gwersyllt County Primary School. |
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* Local Authorities to be contacted direct for specific details of projects and nature of works that are currently proposed at this stage.

*** Statutory Proposals**

The offer of funding is without prejudice to any decisions that Welsh Ministers might be under a duty to make in connection with any statutory proposals for school organisation, or decisions on other approvals that might be necessary in order for the project to proceed.

Where statutory proposals for school organisation are necessary and have not been completed, the offer of funding is conditional on the successful completion of such statutory procedures as are required.

* All Programme and Project Proposals will be subject to a further detailed assessment through HM Treasury's five Case Business Model, and subject to contract.