

Community Impact Assessment Report - Ysgol Felinwnda Catchment Area

1. Background Information

1.1 The Area

The catchment area of Felinwnda is located on the outskirts of Caernarfon, and serves the villages and area nearby. According to the 2021 Census 1,421 people live in the Llanwnda ward.

In September 2024 there were 52 learners aged between 3-11 living in the Ysgol Felinwnda catchment area, with 57% of those pupils attending Ysgol Bontnewydd and 25% attending Ysgol Llandwrog.

1.2 The Economy

According to the 2021 census, 60.1% of people aged 16 years and over within the Llanwnda ward are economically active, and 0.2% of these are unemployed. 38.3% of people in the same age group are economically inactive, with 2.5% of these being long-term ill or disabled. The type of industry in which the population is active varies in the area, with the highest rate (26%) working in professional occupations.

(Source: 2021 Census, Office for National Statistics)

According to the 'Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (2019)', the employment rate of the Llanwnda ward, compared to other wards in Wales, is ranked 1254 out of 1909 LSOAs (Lower Super Output Areas) in Wales, which places it in the least deprived 50%.

1.3 Deprivation

The Llanwnda Ward is rated within the 50% least deprived wards in Wales (ranked 1046 of 1909).

Several fields draw up these general indexes, including income, employment, health, education, access to services, community safety, physical environment and housing.

Nevertheless, it is noted that the Llanwnda Ward is within the 20-30% most deprived areas in Wales in the field of 'Housing'. The indicators of this field are the proportion of people who live in an overcrowded home (bedroom use), and the proportion of people living in homes that do not have central heating.

In addition, the Llanwnda ward is within the 10% most deprived areas in Wales in the 'access to services' field, i.e., deprivation, as people are unable to access the various services considered essential for daily living. The indicators include the average public transport and private travel times to a number of services such as supermarkets, surgeries, primary and secondary schools, post office, public library, pharmacy, leisure centre and private travel time to a petrol station.

There is a summary below of how the Llanwnda area is located in the context of other areas in Wales according to the Wales Index of Multiple Deprivation (2019):

Area	Rank in Wales, out of 1909 LSOA areas. (1 = most deprived and 1909 = least deprived)	Most deprived % in Wales
Employment	1254	
Income	1092	
Health	1435	
Education	1437	
Housing	388	Within the 20-30% most deprived
Physical environment	1020	
Access to services	116	Within the 10% most deprived
Community safety	1513	

1.4 The Community

A number of activities are held in the Llanwnda Ward, including;

- Sensori Sara
- Reading Club
- Ras Rhostryfan
- Coffee morning
- Cylch Meithrin
- Merched y Wawr
- Zumba
- Y Gymdeithas

In addition, there are several facilities in the catchment area, including a community centre, shops, garage, public transport, narrow gauge railway station and children's play area.

1.5 Summary of the various facilities in the community of Felinwnda (September 2024)

	Felinwnda
Community Centre / Village Hall	✓
Chapel/Church	✓
Public Transport	✓
Shop	✓
Café/Pub	
Post Office	
Pharmacy	
Library	
Children's Playing Field	✓
Bank	
Residential Home for the Elderly	
Leisure Centre	
Garage	✓
Tourism Attraction	✓

2. Schools in the nearby catchment areas

2.1 Context of the schools in the alternative catchment areas according to Estyn Inspection Reports

As part of Estyn reports, the schools are placed within their context, and their community connections are detailed. This is the context given to Ysgol Llandwrog and Ysgol Bontnewydd by Estyn inspectors.

Ysgol Llandwrog

"Ysgol Gynradd Llandwrog is situated in the village of Llandwrog, approximately six miles from the town of Caernarfon."

Source: Estyn Report, July 2019

Ysgol Bontnewydd

"Ysgol Gynradd Bontnewydd is situated in the village of Bontnewydd, approximately two miles from the town of Caernarfon in Gwynedd. It serves the village and the surrounding area, including the villages of Caethro and Llanfaglan."

Source: Estyn Report, February 2017

2.2 Schools' statistical information

School	Capacity		Numbers (September 2023)		Surplus Places R -Yr 6	Legal Category	Linguistic Category
	N	R-Yr 6	N	R-Yr 6			
Bontnewydd	26	182*	28	180	2 (1%)	Community	**3
Llandwrog	10	75	8	29	46 (61%)	Voluntary Controlled Status (VC) The Church in Wales	**3

*It is anticipated that the new Ysgol Bontnewydd building will have a capacity of 210 (Reception to Yr 6) and 30 nursery.

**The definition of Category 3 is a school with a strong Welsh ethos, supporting and enabling the learners to use the Welsh language in all social contexts in and outside the school.

2.3 Schools that children in the Felinwnda catchment area attend

According to the September 2024 census, there were 52 primary age learners living in the Felinwnda catchment area.

The table below indicates to which schools the learners who live in the Felinwnda catchment area have attended over the last 5 years.

School	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Felinwnda	18%	4%	7%	6%	CLOSED
Llandwrog	12%	10%	10%	13%	25%
Bontnewydd	62%	80%	64%	61%	57%
Maesincla	0	0	2%	0%	0%
Rhostryfan	2%	0	0	6%	6%
Y Gelli	0	0	0	0	0%
Yr Hendre	4%	2%	10%	6%	0%
Other	2%	4%	7%	8%	12%

Source: September 2020-2024 Census

3. Assessment of the probable impact on the community

Positive	Neutral	Negative
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OPTION 1: TRANSFER FELINWNTA CATCHMENT AREA IN ITS ENTIRETY TO THE YSGOL LLANDWROG CATCHMENT AREA

Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work
Impact on Health and Well-being	It is not anticipated that the transfer of the Felinwnda catchment area as a whole to the Ysgol Llandwrog catchment area would affect this criteria.	Neutral
Implications of the change on public transport provisions	Public bus (number G6) runs between the village of Saron and Llandwrog already, but there is no bus which offers transport between the villages of Dinas, Llanwnda and Llandwrog. It is not anticipated that the option would have an impact on the provision of public transport.	Neutral
The impact on broader community safety	It is not anticipated that transferring the Felinwnda catchment area as a whole to the Ysgol Llandwrog catchment area will affect broader community safety.	Neutral
Would the option encourage families and school-age children to leave the community, or would young families be less likely to move to the community	Ysgol Llandwrog is located approximately 2 miles from Ysgol Felinwnda catchment area, and a significant portion (25%) of children from the catchment area already attend Ysgol Llandwrog. As a result, it is not anticipated that families with young children would leave the community should the Felinwnda catchment area as a whole be transferred to the Ysgol Llandwrog catchment area.	Neutral
Impact on other services provided locally	A Cylch Meithrin is located at Canolfan Bro Llanwnda. No direct negative impact on the Dinas and Llanwnda Cylch Meithrin is anticipated as a result of modifying the boundaries of the primary school's catchment area. We welcome the successful collaboration that is already taking place between Cylch Meithrin Dinas a Llanwnda and Ysgol Llandwrog, and the Authority does not wish that modifying the boundaries of the primary school's catchment area to have an impact on this successful collaboration. A number of other events are also held at the Centre. It is not anticipated that this option would have a significant direct impact on other services provided locally, and the community use of the Llanwnda Community Centre.	Neutral
Detrimental effect on the community's broader economy	As some of the children from the Felinwnda catchment area already attend Ysgol Llandwrog, it is not anticipated that the transfer of the entire Felinwnda catchment area to the Ysgol Llandwrog catchment area would have an impact on the wider economy of the community.	Neutral
The general impact on the local community	As the learners of the Felinwnda catchment area already attend schools outside the catchment area, it is anticipated that the change of the catchment area will not affect the current situation.	Neutral

OPTION 2: TRANSFER THE ENITRE FELINWNTA CATCHMENT AREA TO THE YSGOL BONTNEWYDD CATCHMENT AREA

Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work
Impact on Health and Well-being	It is not anticipated that the transfer of the Felinwnda catchment area as a whole to the Ysgol Bontnewydd catchment area would affect this criteria.	Neutral
Implications of the change on public transport provisions	A number of public buses already run between the villages of Llanwnda, Dinas and Bontnewydd, but none of the buses offer transport between the villages of Saron and Bontnewydd. Public bus 12 serves between Llanwnda, Dinas and Bontnewydd, as well as a number of public buses serving between Dinas and Bontnewydd, including the T2, T22 and G4. It is not anticipated that transferring the Felinwnda catchment area as a whole to the Ysgol Bontnewydd catchment area will affect public transport provisions.	Neutral
The impact on broader community safety	It is not anticipated that transferring the Felinwnda catchment area as a whole to the Ysgol Bontnewydd catchment area will affect broader community safety.	Neutral
Would the option encourage families and school-age children to leave the community, or would young families be less likely to move to the community	Ysgol Bontnewydd is located approximately two miles from the Ysgol Felinwnda, and a high proportion (57%) of the children of the catchment area already attend Ysgol Bontnewydd. As a result, it is not anticipated that families with young children will leave the community should the Felinwnda catchment area as a whole be transferred to the Bontnewydd catchment area .	Neutral
Impact on other services provided locally	<p>A Cylch Meithrin is located at Canolfan Bro Llanwnda. No direct negative impact on the Dinas and Llanwnda Cylch Meithrin is anticipated as a result of modifying the boundaries of the primary school's catchment area. We welcome the successful collaboration that is already taking place between Cylch Meithrin Dinas a Llanwnda and Ysgol Llandwrog, and the Authority does not wish that modifying the boundaries of the primary school's catchment area to have an impact on this successful collaboration.</p> <p>A number of other events are also held at the Centre.</p> <p>It is not anticipated that this option would have a significant direct impact on other services provided locally, and the community use of the Llanwnda Community Centre.</p>	Neutral
Detrimental effect on the community's broader economy	As a number of the Felinwnda catchment area children already attend Ysgol Bontnewydd, it is not anticipated that transferring the Felinwnda catchment area as a whole to the Ysgol Bontnewydd catchment area will affect the broader economy of the community.	Neutral
The general impact on the local community	As learners of the Felinwnda catchment area already attend out-of-catchment area schools, it is not anticipated that changing the catchment area will affect the current situation.	Neutral

OPTION 3: DIVIDE THE FELINWNTA CATCHMENT AREA ACCORDING TO THE DWELLINGS THAT ARE GEOGRAPHICALLY CLOSEST TO YSGOL LLANDWROG AND YSGOL BONTNEWYDD

Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work
Impact on Health and Well-being	It is not anticipated that this option would affect this criteria.	Neutral
Implications of the change on public transport provisions	<p>For the learners who live geographically closest to Ysgol Llandwrog, public bus (number G6) already runs through the villages of Saron and Llandwrog, but no bus offers transport between the villages of Dinas, Llanwnda and Llandwrog.</p> <p>For learners who live geographically closest to Ysgol Bontnewydd, several public buses already run between the villages of Llanwnda, Dinas and Bontnewydd, but none of the buses offer transport between the villages of Saron and Bontnewydd. Public bus no.12 serves between Llanwnda, Dinas and Bontnewydd, as well as several public buses serving between Dinas and Bontnewydd, including the T2, T22 and G4.</p> <p>It is not anticipated that implementing this option would have an impact on the provision of public transport.</p> <p>Should the learners of the Felinwnda catchment area take advantage of this public transport provision, the number of those learners would be relatively low and therefore, it is not anticipated that this option would affect the public transport provisions.</p>	Neutral
The impact on broader community safety	It is not anticipated that this option would affect wider community safety.	Neutral
Would the option encourage families and school-age children to leave the community, or would young families be less likely to move to the community	Ysgol Llandwrog and Ysgol Bontnewydd are located approximately 2 miles from the Ysgol Felinwnda catchment area, and a high percentage of the children from the catchment area already attend Ysgol Llandwrog (25%) and Ysgol Bontnewydd (57%). As a result, it is not anticipated that families and young children would leave the community if this option were implemented.	Neutral
Impact on other services provided locally	<p>A Cylch Meithrin is located at Canolfan Bro Llanwnda. No direct negative impact on the Dinas and Llanwnda Cylch Meithrin is foreseen as a result of modifying the boundaries of the primary school's catchment area. We welcome the successful collaboration that is already taking place between Cylch Meithrin Dinas a Llanwnda and Ysgol Llandwrog, and the Authority does not wish that modifying the boundaries of the primary school's catchment area would have an impact on this successful collaboration.</p> <p>A number of other events are also held at the Centre. It is not anticipated that this option would have a significant direct impact on other services provided locally, and the community use of the Llanwnda Community Centre.</p>	Neutral
Detrimental effect on the community's broader economy	As the majority of the children from the catchment area already attend Ysgol Llandwrog and Ysgol Bontnewydd, it is not anticipated that this option would impact the broader economy of the community.	Neutral
The general impact on the local community	As learners of the Felinwnda catchment area already attend out-of-catchment area schools, it is not anticipated that changing the catchment area will affect the current situation.	Neutral

OPTION 4: PLACE THE WHOLE OF FELINWYNDYDD CATCHMENT AREA WITHIN THE CATCHMENT AREAS OF YSGOL LLANDWROG AND YSGOL BONTNEWYDD

Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work
Impact on Health and Well-being	It is not anticipated that this option would affect this criteria.	Neutral
Implications of the change on public transport provisions	<p>A number of public buses already run between the villages of Llanwnda, Dinas and Bontnewydd, but none run between the village of Saron and Bontnewydd. Public bus 12 serves between Llanwnda, Dinas and Bontnewydd as well as a number of public buses serving between Dinas and Bontnewydd, including the T2, T22 and the G4.</p> <p>A public bus (number G6) already runs between the village of Saron and Llandwrog, but there is no bus offering transport between the village of Dinas, Llanwnda and Llandwrog.</p> <p>It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on public transport provision.</p>	Neutral
The impact on broader community safety	It is not anticipated that this option would affect wider community safety.	Neutral
Would the option encourage families and school-age children to leave the community, or would young families be less likely to move to the community	Ysgol Llandwrog and Ysgol Bontnewydd are located approximately 2 miles from the Ysgol Felinwnda catchment area, and a high percentage of the children from the catchment area already attend Ysgol Llandwrog (25%) and Ysgol Bontnewydd (57%). As a result, it is not anticipated that families and young children would leave the community if this option were implemented.	Neutral
Impact on other services provided locally	<p>A Cylch Meithrin is located at Canolfan Bro Llanwnda. No direct negative impact on the Dinas and Llanwnda Cylch Meithrin is foreseen as a result of modifying the boundaries of the primary school's catchment area. We welcome the successful collaboration that is already taking place between Cylch Meithrin Dinas a Llanwnda and Ysgol Llandwrog, and the Authority does not wish that modifying the boundaries of the primary school's catchment area would have an impact on this successful collaboration.</p> <p>A number of other events are also held at the Centre.</p> <p>It is not anticipated that this option would have a significant direct impact on other services provided locally, and the community use of the Llanwnda Community Centre.</p>	Neutral
Detrimental effect on the community's broader economy	As the majority of the children from the catchment area already attend Ysgol Llandwrog and Ysgol Bontnewydd, it is not anticipated that this option would impact the broader economy of the community.	Neutral
The general impact on the local community	As learners of the Felinwnda catchment area already attend out-of-catchment area schools, it is not anticipated that changing the catchment area will affect the current situation.	Neutral

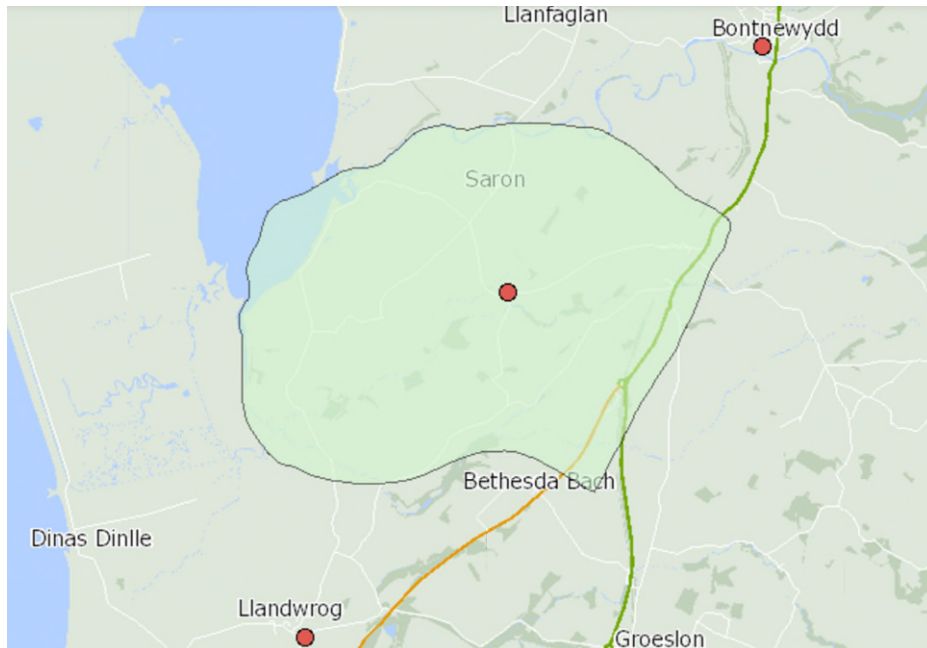
OPSIWN 5: USING SAFE ACCESS TO LÔN EIFION AS THE BOUNDARY OF THE BONTNEWYDD CATCHMENT AREA IS AN ALTERNATIVE WAY TO THINK ABOUT A MODERN CATCHMENT AREA TO MATCH THE OBJECTIVES OF THE NEW SCHOOL, BY USING THE NEW A487 ROAD AS A CLEAR WAY OF CLARIFYING THE CATCHMENT BOUNDARIES

Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work
Impact on Health and Well-being	It is not anticipated that this option would affect this criteria.	Neutral
Implications of the change on public transport provisions	<p>For the learners who live in houses that would be within the modified extended catchment area of Ysgol Llandwrog, a public bus (number G6) already runs between the village of Saron and Llandwrog, but there is no bus offering transport between the village of Dinas, Llanwnda and Llandwrog.</p> <p>For learners who live in houses within the modified extended catchment area of Ysgol Bontnewydd, a number of public buses already run between the villages of Llanwnda, Dinas and Bontnewydd, but none run between the village of Saron and Bontnewydd. Public bus 12 serves between Llanwnda, Dinas and Bontnewydd as well as a number of public buses serving between Dinas and Bontnewydd, including the T2, T22 and the G4.</p> <p>It is not anticipated that implementing this option would affect public transport provisions.</p>	Neutral
The impact on broader community safety	It is not anticipated that this option would affect wider community safety.	Neutral
Would the option encourage families and school-age children to leave the community, or would young families be less likely to move to the community	Ysgol Llandwrog and Ysgol Bontnewydd are located approximately 2 miles from the Ysgol Felinwnda catchment area, and a high percentage of the children from the catchment area already attend Ysgol Llandwrog (25%) and Ysgol Bontnewydd (57%). As a result, it is not anticipated that families and young children would leave the community if this option were implemented.	Neutral
Impact on other services provided locally	<p>A Cylch Meithrin is located at Canolfan Bro Llanwnda. No direct negative impact on the Dinas and Llanwnda Cylch Meithrin is foreseen as a result of modifying the boundaries of the primary school's catchment area. We welcome the successful collaboration that is already taking place between Cylch Meithrin Dinas a Llanwnda and Ysgol Llandwrog, and the Authority does not wish that modifying the boundaries of the primary school's catchment area would have an impact on this successful collaboration.</p> <p>A number of other events are also held at the Centre.</p> <p>It is not anticipated that this option would have a significant direct impact on other services provided locally, and the community use of the Llanwnda Community Centre.</p>	Neutral
Detrimental effect on the community's broader economy	As the majority of the children from the catchment area already attend Ysgol Llandwrog and Ysgol Bontnewydd, it is not anticipated that this option would impact the broader economy of the community.	Neutral
The general impact on the local community	As learners of the Felinwnda catchment area already attend out-of-catchment area schools, it is not anticipated that changing the catchment area will affect the current situation.	Neutral

4. Conclusion

The content of this assessment shows that it is not anticipated that the proposal to transfer Ysgol Felinwnda catchment area as a whole to Ysgol Bontnewydd catchment area would have a negative impact on the community.

It is not anticipated that any of the 5 options would encourage families of school age to leave the community, as the learners who live in Ysgol Felinwnda catchment area already attend other schools, including Ysgol Llandwrog and Ysgol Bontnewydd. Similarly, it is not predicted that young families would be less likely to move to the community if any of the 5 options were implemented.



Assessment Report on the Likely Impact on Travel Arrangements – Ysgol Felinwnda Catchment Area

1. Introduction

1.1 Cyngor Gwynedd Transport Policy

The 'Excellent Primary Education for the Children of Gwynedd' strategy aims to limit travel from home to school to a one-way journey that is no longer than 30 minutes.

Cyngor Gwynedd provides free transport to primary-aged learners who live two or more miles from the school in their catchment area, or the nearest school (this does not include nursery pupils). Learners who receive a primary education (except for learners with additional learning needs or disabilities), are expected to walk two miles to meet any transport that is provided by Cyngor Gwynedd along the shortest route. The shortest route available is the route that the Council does not deem to be particularly dangerous, after assessing the other routes available, and these routes would be assessed in line with Cyngor Gwynedd's transport policy. The transport policy can be viewed in the [parents' handbook](#).

1.2 The Context of Ysgol Felinwnda Catchment Area

On 7 November 2023, Cyngor Gwynedd's Cabinet decided to approve the proposal to close Ysgol Felinwnda on 31 December 2023, and the current learners to transfer to a nearby alternative school, namely Ysgol Llandwrog or Ysgol Bontnewydd, in accordance with parents' choice, from 1 January 2024. In addition, transport arrangements were approved for the transitional period only, which would offer free transport to those learners who were registered at Ysgol Felinwnda at the time, and living in Ysgol Felinwnda's catchment area, to Ysgol Llandwrog or Ysgol Bontnewydd, for the remainder of the learner's period in one of those schools, in accordance with Gwynedd Council's transport policy. Lastly, the Cabinet supported a recommendation to hold a consultation on the future of Ysgol Felinwnda's current catchment area in order to agree which school, or schools, will serve as a catchment area school for the children of Ysgol Felinwnda's current catchment area in the future.

Ysgol Felinwnda's catchment area is located between the catchment area of 2 neighbouring schools, namely Ysgol Llandwrog's catchment area and Ysgol Bontnewydd's catchment area, which like Felinwnda's catchment area, is part of Ysgol Syr Hugh Owen's secondary catchment area. In January 2025, there were 47 learners between the ages of 3-11 living in Ysgol Felinwnda's catchment area.

2. The options being considered:

This assessment assess the impact of 5 options, namely:

Option 1 - Transfer the entire Felinwnda catchment area to the catchment area of Ysgol Llandwrog

Option 2 - Transfer the entire Felinwnda catchment area to the catchment area of Ysgol Bontnewydd

Option 3 - Divide the Felinwnda catchment area according to the houses that are geographically closest to Ysgol Llandwrog and Ysgol Bontnewydd

Option 4 – Place the whole of the Felinwnda catchment area within the catchment areas of Ysgol Llandwrog and Ysgol Bontnewydd

Option 5 – Use the safe access to Lôn Eifion as the boundary of the Bontnewydd catchment area is an alternative way to think of a modern catchment area to match the objectives of the new school. Using the new A487 road as a boundary is a clear way to clarify catchment boundaries

3. Assessment of the impact on transport arrangements

3.1 Assessment of walking routes in the Felinwnda area

When learners receiving primary education live less than 2 miles away from a school (or school site) in the catchment area, and are therefore not entitled to free transport, but travel to school by road the Council considers it very dangerous, free transport is provided.

The definition of a dangerous road is where the nature of the road (which includes public footpaths) means that it is not reasonable to expect learners (considering their age and with an escort as necessary) to walk relatively safely. When assessing the relative safety of a road, the Council will assess the dangers a learner could face along the specified road (including, e.g. rivers, ditches, traffic speed along the adjacent road, accidents that have occurred in the past, trees overhanging or branches that could block pedestrians or drivers from seeing, etc). The assessment must be carried out at the time of day and days of the week that learners could be expected to use the road.

At present, the Authority is not of the opinion that the walking paths that connect Ysgol Felinwnda's catchment area with Ysgol Llandwrog, or Ysgol Bontnewydd are safe (considering the age of the learners involved). As a result, each of the 5 options in question would mean that all primary age learners in the catchment area become eligible for transport to their catchment area school, subject to parental choice.

3.2 Likely impact on transport costs

Section 3.1 shows that implementing any of the 5 options would result in all primary age learners in the Felinwnda catchment area becoming eligible for transport to their catchment area school or the nearest school, due to the lack of safe walking routes. As a result, it is anticipated that additional transport costs will result from implementing of each of the options. The estimated costs of the options are detailed below.

It is important to note that calculating the cost of transport is not a simple matter. This assessment identifies the anticipated costs if all the learners who would become eligible for transport as a result of the implementation of the option, submitted an application for transport.

Option 1 – Transfer the entire Felinwnda catchment area to Ysgol Llandwrog catchment area

In accordance with Cyngor Gwynedd's transport policy, if this option is implemented, the Authority would organize taxis and a bus to transport learners from the Felinwnda catchment area to the designated catchment area school (which is Ysgol Llandwrog in this option), and as stated in the this policy, learners receiving primary or secondary education (excluding learners with additional learning needs or disabilities) are expected to walk up to 2 miles to meet any transport provided by Cyngor Gwynedd along the shortest route. The shortest route available is the one that the Council does not consider to be particularly dangerous, after assessing the other routes that could be used, and these routes would be assessed in accordance with Cyngor Gwynedd's transport policy.

Based on primary age children currently living in the Felinwnda catchment area (January 2025), if the entire Felinwnda catchment area were to transfer to the Llandwrog catchment area, then it is anticipated that the Authority would need to offer transport to 47 children at a cost of approximately **£78,250** a year.

The estimated cost has been calculated on the basis of the following:

Who would be eligible for transport	Transport Provision	Cost estimate
Learners in the Felinwnda catchment area who live over 2 miles from Ysgol Llandwrog	Bus to Ysgol Llandwrog (50 seater)	£45,000 per year
Learners in the Felinwnda catchment who live within 2 miles of Ysgol Llandwrog, but no safe walking route.	Taxi to Ysgol Llandwrog (A taxi would be needed rather than a bus as the roads are narrow)	£10,450 per year
Learners in the Felinwnda catchment area who live closer to Ysgol Bontnewydd, and because they live over 2 miles from the school, or live within 2 miles, but do not have a safe walking route to Ysgol Bontnewydd	Minibus to Ysgol Bontnewydd (16 seater)	£22,800 per year
	Total	£78,250 per year

Option 2 – Transfer the entire Felinwnda catchment area to Ysgol Bontnewydd catchment area

In accordance with Cyngor Gwynedd’s transport policy, if this option were to be implemented, the Authority would organize taxis or minibuses to transport learners from the Felinwnda catchment area to the designated catchment area school (which is Ysgol Bontnewydd in this option), and as stated in this policy, learners receiving primary or secondary education (excluding learners with additional learning needs or disabilities) are expected to walk up to 2 miles to meet any transport provided by Cyngor Gwynedd on the length of the shortest path. The shortest route available is the one that the Council does not consider to be particularly dangerous, after assessing the other routes that could be used, and these routes would be assessed in accordance with Cyngor Gwynedd’s transport policy.

Based on primary age children currently living in the Felinwnda catchment area (January 2025), if the entire Felinwnda catchment area were to transfer to the Bontnewydd catchment area, then it is anticipated that the Authority would need to offer transport to 47 children at a cost of approximately **£55,450 a year**.

The estimated cost has been calculated on the basis of the following:

Who would be eligible for transport	Transport Provision	Cost estimate
Learners in the Felinwnda catchment area who live over 2 miles from Ysgol Bontnewydd	Bus to Ysgol Bontnewydd (50 seater)	£45,000 per year
Learners in the Felinwnda catchment area who live within 2 miles of Ysgol Bontnewydd, but no safe walking route.		
Learners in the Felinwnda catchment who live closer to Ysgol Llandwrog, and because they live over 2 miles from the school, or live within 2 miles, but do not have a safe walking route to Ysgol Llandwrog	Minibus to Ysgol Llandwrog (8 seater)	£10,450 per year
	Total	£55,450 per year

Option 3 – Divide the Felinwnda catchment area according to the dwellings that are geographically closest to Ysgol Llandwrog and Ysgol Bontnewydd.

In accordance with Cyngor Gwynedd’s transport policy, if this option were to be implemented, the Authority would organize taxis or a minibus to transport some of the learners from the Felinwnda catchment area to the designated catchment area schools (namely Ysgol Llandwrog and Ysgol Bontnewydd), and as set out in this policy, learners receiving primary or secondary education (excluding learners with additional learning needs or disabilities) are expected to walk up to 2 miles to meet any transport provided by the Cyngor Gwynedd on the length of the shortest path. The shortest route available is the one that the Council does not consider to be particularly dangerous, after assessing the other routes that could be used, and these routes would be assessed in accordance with Cyngor Gwynedd’s transport policy.

Based on primary age children who currently live in the Felinwnda catchment area (January 2025), if the Felinwnda catchment area were to be divided according to the houses that are geographically closest to Ysgol Llandwrog and Ysgol Bontnewydd, then it is anticipated that the Authority would need to offer transport to 47 children at a cost of approximately **£55,450 per year**.

The estimated cost has been calculated on the basis of the following:

Who would be eligible for transport	Transport Provision	Cost estimate
Learners in the Felinwnda catchment area (Bontnewydd division) who live over 2 miles from Ysgol Bontnewydd	Bus to Ysgol Bontnewydd (50 seater)	£45,000 per year
Learners in the Felinwnda catchment area (Bontnewydd division) who live within 2 miles of Ysgol Bontnewydd, but no safe walking route.		
Learners in the Felinwnda catchment (Llandwrog division) who live over 2 miles from Ysgol Llandwrog, or live within 2 miles, but have no safe walking route to Ysgol Llandwrog	Minibus to Ysgol Llandwrog (8 seater)	£10,450 per year
	Total	£55,450 per year

Option 4 - Place the whole of the Felinwnda catchment area within the catchment areas of Ysgol Llandwrog and Ysgol Bontnewydd

In accordance with Cyngor Gwynedd's transport policy, if this option were to be implemented, the Authority would organize taxis or a minibus to transport some of the learners from the Felinwnda catchment area to the designated catchment area schools (namely Ysgol Llandwrog and Ysgol Bontnewydd), and as set out in this policy, learners receiving primary or secondary education (excluding learners with additional learning needs or disabilities) are expected to walk up to 2 miles to meet any transport provided by the Cyngor Gwynedd on the length of the shortest path. The shortest route available is the one that the Council does not consider to be particularly dangerous, after assessing the other routes that could be used, and these routes would be assessed in accordance with Cyngor Gwynedd's transport policy.

Based on primary age children currently living in the Felinwnda catchment area, if the entire Felinwnda catchment area were to be placed within the catchment areas of Ysgol Llandwrog and Ysgol Bontnewydd, then it is anticipated that it would be necessary to offer transport to up to 47 children at a cost of up to **approximately £90,000**. Note that calculating a cost estimate in such a catchment area is not simple, as the learners may be eligible for transport to Ysgol Llandwrog and Ysgol Bontnewydd.

The estimated cost has been calculated on the basis of the following:

- Assuming that approximately half of the learners in the catchment area would choose to attend Ysgol Llandwrog, and that those learners would be eligible for transport, either because they live over 2 miles from Ysgol Llandwrog, or because there is no safe walking route to get to Llandwrog School. As a result, it is anticipated that a 50 seater bus would need to be provided, at an annual cost of £45,000.
- Assuming that approximately half of the learners in the catchment area would choose to attend Ysgol Bontnewydd, and that those learners would be eligible for transport, either because they live over 2 miles from Ysgol Bontnewydd, or because there is no safe walking route to get to Ysgol Bontnewydd. As a result, it is anticipated that a 50 seater bus would need to be provided, at an annual cost of £45,000.

Option 5 - Using safe access to a Lôn Eifion as the boundary of the Bontnewydd catchment area is an alternative way to think about a modern catchment area to match the objectives of the new school. Using the new A487 road as a boundary is a clear way to clarify catchment boundaries

In accordance with Cyngor Gwynedd's transport policy, if this option were to be implemented, the Authority would organize taxis or a minibus to transport some of the learners from the Felinwnda catchment area to the designated catchment area schools (namely Ysgol Llandwrog and Ysgol Bontnewydd), and as set out in this policy, learners receiving primary or secondary education (excluding learners with additional learning needs or disabilities) are expected to walk up to 2 miles to meet any transport provided by the Cyngor Gwynedd on the length of the shortest path. The shortest route available is the one that the Council does not consider to be particularly dangerous, after assessing the other routes that could be used, and these routes would be assessed in accordance with Cyngor Gwynedd's transport policy.

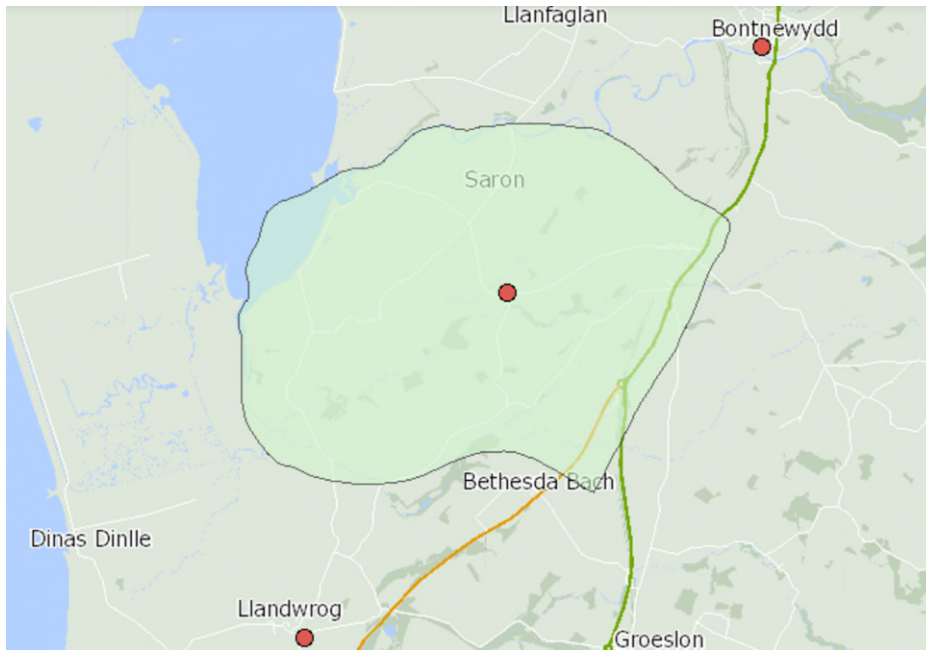
Based on primary aged children currently living in the Felinwnda catchment area (January 2025), if option 5 was implemented (see description above), then it is anticipated that the Authority would need to offer transport to 47 children at a cost of approximately **£78,250** per year.

Who would be eligible for transport	Transport Provision	Cost estimate
Learners in the Felinwnda catchment area (Llandwrog division) who live more than 2 miles from Ysgol Llandwrog	Minibus (16 seater) to Ysgol Llandwrog	£22,800 per year
Learners in the Felinwnda catchment area (Llandwrog division) who live within 2 miles of Ysgol Llandwrog, but no safe walking route.	Taxi	£10,450 per year
Learners in the Felinwnda catchment area (Bontnewydd division), who live over 2 miles from Ysgol Bontnewydd	-	-
Learners in the Felinwnda catchment (Bontnewydd division), who live within 2 miles of Ysgol Bontnewydd, but no safe walking route	Bus (50 seater)	£45,000 per year
Learners in the Felinwnda catchment area (Llandwrog division) would be eligible for transport to Ysgol Bontnewydd, as Ysgol Bontnewydd would be their nearest school.		
	Total	£78,250 per year

4. Conclusion

If any of the 5 options above were implemented, then there would be an impact on travel arrangements for the children and the Authority. Each of the options in question would mean that the Authority would need to organise taxis or a minibus to transport learners from the Felinwnda catchment area to the designated alternative catchment area school, in accordance with the county's transport policy.

As a result, each of the 5 options in question would lead to additional transport costs for the Authority at a cost of approximately £55,450 - £90,000 per year. It is anticipated that Option 4, namely 'Placing the whole of the Felinwnda catchment within the catchment areas of Ysgol Llandwrog and Ysgol Bontnewydd' would be the option that would lead to the highest additional costs (£90,000 per year). It is anticipated that Option 2, which is the option to transfer the catchment area to Ysgol Bontnewydd and Option 3 Divide the Felinwnda catchment area according to the houses that are geographically closest to Ysgol Llandwrog and Ysgol Bontnewydd, would be the options that would lead to the lowest transport costs, which is approximately £55,450 per year.



Language Impact Assessment Report - Ysgol Felinwnda Catchment Area

Language impact assessment

1. Background Information

1.1 The Situation in Gwynedd

According to the 2021 Census, **73,560 people** (aged 3 and over) were able to speak Welsh in Gwynedd, which equates to **64.4%**. In 2011, the number of speakers in Gwynedd was **77,000** and the corresponding percentage was **65.4%**. Therefore, the proportion of people who speak Welsh in Gwynedd between 2011 and 2021 has reduced by 1%. According to the 2021 Census, 66% of people (aged 3 and over) in Gwynedd are able to speak, read or write in Welsh.

In Gwynedd, there is a substantial difference in the percentage of Welsh speakers in different wards across the county, e.g. the percentage in the Aberdyfi, Tywyn and Bangor central wards varies from between 26% and 44% of the population speaking Welsh, whilst as many as 86% speak Welsh in the Hendre and Llanrug wards.

Nevertheless, 70.9% of the population of children aged 3-4 years in Gwynedd are able to speak Welsh, with this percentage increasing to 88.6% for the 5-15 years age group.

1.2 Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP)

The Welsh in Education Strategic Plan is a Local Authority statutory document and corresponds with the priorities of the Welsh Government to develop Welsh-medium education (in accordance with the targets of *Cymraeg 2050*). Local Authorities are expected to implement 7 outcomes, namely:

1. More nursery/3-year-old children receiving Welsh-medium education.
2. More reception class/5-year-old children receiving Welsh-medium education.
3. More children continuing to improve skills when transferring from one key stage to the next.
4. More learners studying Welsh as a subject and subjects through the medium of Welsh.
5. Increase opportunities to use the Welsh language in various contexts.
6. Improve Welsh-medium education provision for ALN pupils.
7. Increase the number of staff members who can teach through the medium of Welsh.

1.3 Language Policy

Primary

The aim of the Language Policy is the same across all the county's primary schools, which is to develop the ability of all pupils to be confident in both languages by the end of KS2. Welsh is the official assessment language in school at the end of the Foundation Phase. In KS2, the aim is to continue to develop the pupils' grasp of Welsh, giving attention to the development of their skills in both languages.

Secondary

In secondary schools, every pupil who has attained the necessary level, namely level 3+ at the end of KS2, is expected to pursue Welsh First Language in KS3 in order to ensure appropriate progression and continuation. It is hoped that these pupils can study Welsh and English as subjects until the end of year 11. Secondary schools build upon the foundations set in the primary by ensuring that each pupil continues to develop skills in Welsh and in English.

1.4 A million Welsh speakers by 2050

Cymraeg 2050 is the Welsh Government's latest strategy for the Welsh language and it spans the next three decades. In this document, specific targets are noted to increase the numbers who speak Welsh, along with the use of Welsh.

The aims of *Cymraeg 2050* include:

	Aim	Target
1.	Increase the number of Welsh speakers	A million Welsh speakers by 2050
2.	Increase the use of the Welsh language	Daily use of Welsh increasing from 10% to 20%

The strategic document, *Cymraeg 2050: A Million Welsh Speakers*, emphasises the importance of increasing the number that speak Welsh, but it is also emphasised that increasing the daily use of Welsh is as important.

Moving towards the position where we have a million speakers is one aspect of our vision for a thriving Welsh language. However, a thriving Welsh language is a language that is used. We want the use of Welsh to be a routine part of everyday life, so that speakers at all levels feel confident in its use in formal and informal situations... The Welsh Language Use Survey 2013–15 (Welsh Government and Welsh Language Commissioner 2015) shows that there is a clear link between fluency and frequency of Welsh language use – 84 per cent of fluent Welsh speakers speak Welsh daily.

Source:- Cymraeg 2050: A Million Welsh Speakers (2017)

1.5 Gwynedd Language Strategy 2023 - 2033

The Welsh Language Standards imposed on Cyngor Gwynedd by the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 places an expectation on the Council to draw up a 5-year strategy which shows how it is intended to proceed to promote the Welsh language and to facilitate the use of Welsh across the county. The Gwynedd Language Strategy 2023 - 2033 is Cyngor Gwynedd's latest strategy for the Welsh language. In this document, there are specific targets for increasing the numbers who speak the language:

	How will we increase the number of speakers?	How will we measure on a local level, and during the period of the strategy?
1.	Provide opportunities for children and young people who are not yet Welsh speakers (e.g. newcomers, children who do not receive mainstream education), to learn and become confident Welsh speakers.	Number of children receiving Welsh-medium education. Number of children receiving support through the immersion system of the Education Department.
2.	Provide opportunities for adults to become new speakers via the Council's learner support schemes and community provision of partners.	Number of Council employees receiving Learn Welsh lessons. Provision of community Welsh learning courses.

Also in the Strategy is a commitment to increase the use of Welsh in the following fields:

- *Language of the early years*
- *Language of Learning*
- *Language of Work and Service*
- *Language of the Community*

2. Linguistic profile of the catchment area of Felinwnda, Bontnewydd and Llandwrog.

2.1 According to the 2021 Census, **73,560 people** (aged 3 and over) were able to speak Welsh in Gwynedd, which equates to **64.4%**, which is substantially higher than the all-Wales figure of 17.8%. In Gwynedd, the Hendre ward has the highest proportion of Welsh speakers (86%), with the Bangor central ward having the lowest proportion (25.6%).

2.2 Wards

2.2.1 Llanwnda, Y Groeslon and Bontnewydd Wards

The catchment area of Ysgol Felinwnda is within the Llanwnda ward with the catchment area of Ysgol Llandwrog within the Groeslon ward and Ysgol Bontnewydd within the Bontnewydd ward (Office for National Statistics). The linguistic profile of the wards of these schools has been summarised in the following table:

	Llanwnda	Y Groeslon	Bontnewydd	Gwynedd	Wales
3+ years old population	1,370 (100%)	1,621 (100%)	1,233 (100%)	114,308 (100%)	3,018,172 (100%)
Welsh identity only	1,082 (76.1%)	1,200 (72.2%)	917 (73.5%)	69,560 (59.3%)	1,715,975 (55.2%)
No Welsh identity	19.9%	23.7%	19%	36.3%	36.7%
Able to speak Welsh	1,145 (83.5%)	1,247 (77%)	1,015 (82.5%)	73,560 (64.4%)	538,296 (17.8%)
Able to speak, read and write in Welsh	1,013 (73.9%)	1,128 (69.6%)	894 (72.5%)	63,256 (55.3%)	429,313 (14.2%)
Able to speak and read Welsh but unable to write in Welsh	44 (3.2%)	43 (2.7%)	42 (3.4%)	3,170 (2.8%)	33,971 (1.1%)
Able to speak Welsh but unable to read or write in Welsh	70 (5.1%)	58 (3.6%)	68 (5.5%)	6,142 (5.4%)	68,391 (2.3%)
Can understand Welsh verbally only	62 (4.5%)	98 (6.0%)	57 (4.6%)	8,166 (7.1%)	156,762 (5.2%)
Another combination of Welsh language skills	18 (1.3%)	18 (1.1%)	13 (1.1%)	993 (0.9%)	6,621 (0.2%)
No Welsh language skills	142 (10.4%)	237 (14.6%)	129 (10.5%)	29,977 (26.2%)	2,259,017 (74.8%)

Source:- 2021 Census, Office for National Statistics

2.3 The schools' linguistic background

The information in the table below outlined the linguistic background of the learners of Ysgol Llandwrog and Ysgol Bontnewydd.

School	Speak Welsh fluently at home	Speak Welsh at home but not fluently	Do not speak Welsh at home but are fluent in Welsh	Do not speak Welsh at home and not fluent in Welsh	Do not speak Welsh at all
Llandwrog	84%	2%	0%	7%	7%
Bontnewydd	85%	8%	3%	2%	2%

Source: Data from Headteachers PLASC January 2024

2.4 The Welsh language at the Schools

In accordance with the school categorisation procedure according to Welsh-medium provision, Ysgol Llandwrog and Ysgol Bontnewydd are Category 3 Welsh-medium schools. This means that Welsh is the main language for internal communication in both schools. The schools have a strong Welsh ethos, and support and enable the learners to use the Welsh language in all social contexts in and outside the school.

The categorisation procedure reiterates the county's Education Language Policy, which was to develop the ability of all pupils to be proficient in both languages by the end of KS2. At Ysgol Llandwrog and Ysgol Bontnewydd, the Welsh language is the official language of the assessment at the school at the end of the Foundation Phase. In KS2, the pupils' grasp of Welsh is continued to be developed, addressing to develop their skills in Welsh and English.

Ysgol Llandwrog and Ysgol Bontnewydd implement the objectives of the Gwynedd Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2022-2032. These include:

- That all pupils in the county possess appropriate linguistic skills in Welsh and English, and that this expectation is consistent across each school.
- That there is an appropriate provision to enable every pupil to develop bilingual proficiency. In this context, schools are expected to continue to foster the skills of those pupils who are Welsh first language, and introduce Welsh to those who are Welsh learners.
- That all of the county's education establishments are expected to reflect and reinforce the Language Policy in their administration, social life and pastoral arrangements, as well as in their curricular provision.

2.5 After-school Activities

After-school activities are held in the Ysgol Llandwrog and Ysgol Bontnewydd buildings.

Here is a summary of what is being offered after school for the children within the two catchment areas:

	Llandwrog		Bontnewydd	
	The School Building	Village Hall	The School Building	Village Hall
Play Groups (School holidays)				✓
Aelwyd yr Urdd	✓		✓	
Coffee Morning/Evening	✓		✓	
Club / After-school Club / Sports Activities	✓			✓

It can be seen in the table above that Ysgol Llandwrog and Ysgol Bontnewydd offer after-school Urdd activities. The learners in the area are able to continue to take advantage of these activities to use the Welsh language informally.

2.6 Additional Evidence

Ysgol Llandwrog

The Estyn report in 2019 states:

"Welsh is the main medium of the school's life and work. Around 90% of pupils come from Welsh-speaking homes."

[Ysgol Llandwrog's Estyn Inspection Report 2019](#)

Ysgol Bontnewydd

The Estyn report in 2017 states:

"Welsh is the school's everyday language and the main medium of learning and teaching. English is taught formally in key stage 2. Approximately 75% of pupils come from Welsh-speaking homes, and very few pupils are from ethnic minority backgrounds."

[Ysgol Bontnewydd's Estyn Inspection Report 2017](#)

3. Welsh Language Impact Assessment

Option 1 - Transfer the entire Felinwnda catchment area to the catchment area of Ysgol Llandwrog.

Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work	Have any measures been identified to mitigate any negative impact or to create more positive opportunities?	Final impact (following mitigation methods)
The language of the school (formal)	Since Ysgol Llandwrog is a Category 3 Welsh-medium school, it is concluded that this option would not affect the language of the children's education, since the expectation for each of the primary schools in the county (except one), is the same.	Neutral	Irrelevant	Irrelevant
The language of the school (informal)	Since Ysgol Llandwrog is a Category 3 Welsh-medium school, it is concluded that this option would not affect the language of the children's education, since the expectation for each of the primary schools in the county (except one), is the same. 86% of the learners of Ysgol Llandwrog speak Welsh at home. This means that there are good foundations for the informal use of Welsh by learners at the school.	Neutral	Irrelevant	Irrelevant
Access to Welsh medium education	Ysgol Llandwrog is a Welsh-medium Category 3 school. It is not anticipated that this option would affect this criterion.	Neutral	Irrelevant	Irrelevant
Activities before / after school	Ysgol Llandwrog already offers after-school Urdd activities. By implementing this option, learners could continue to take advantage of activities like these as an opportunity to use the Welsh language after school.	Neutral	Irrelevant	Irrelevant
Using Welsh in the community	According to the 2021 Census, 81.1% of the population of the Llanwnda ward are Welsh speakers, and 77% of the population of the Groeslon ward (Ysgol Llandwrog is located in the ward) are Welsh speakers. This sets a good foundation for the vibrancy of the Welsh language and opportunities to use the Welsh language in these communities.	Neutral	Irrelevant	Irrelevant

Option 2 - Transfer the entire Felinwnda catchment area to the Ysgol Bontnewydd catchment area.

Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work	Have any measures been identified to mitigate any negative impact or to create more positive opportunities?	Final impact (following mitigation methods)
The language of the school (formal)	Since Ysgol Bontnewydd is a Category 3 Welsh-medium school, it is concluded that this option would not affect the language of the children's education, since the expectation for each of the primary schools in the county (except one), is the same.	Neutral	Irrelevant	Irrelevant
The language of the school (informal)	Since Ysgol Bontnewydd is a Category 3 Welsh-medium school, it is concluded that this option would not affect the language of the children's education, since the expectation for each of the primary schools in the county (except one), is the same. 90% of the learners at Ysgol Bontnewydd speak Welsh at home. This means that there are good foundations for the informal use of Welsh by learners at the school.	Neutral	Irrelevant	Irrelevant
Access to Welsh medium education	Ysgol Bontnewydd is a Welsh-medium Category 3 school. Therefore, it is not anticipated that this option would affect this criterion.	Neutral	Irrelevant	Irrelevant
Activities before / after school	Ysgol Bontnewydd offers after-school Urdd activities. By implementing this option, learners could continue to take advantage of activities like these as an opportunity to use the Welsh language after school.	Neutral	Irrelevant	Irrelevant
Using Welsh in the community	According to the 2021 Census, 81.1% of the population of the Llanwnda ward are Welsh speakers, and 82.6% of the population of the Bontnewydd ward are Welsh speakers. This sets a good foundation for the vibrancy of the Welsh language and opportunities to use the Welsh language in these communities.	Neutral	Irrelevant	Irrelevant

Option 3 - Divide the Felinwnda catchment area according to the dwellings that are geographically closest to Ysgol Llandwrog and Ysgol Bontnewydd.

Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work	Have any measures been identified to mitigate any negative impact or to create more positive opportunities?	Final impact (following mitigation methods)
The language of the school (formal)	Since Ysgol Llandwrog and Ysgol Bontnewydd are Category 3 Welsh-medium schools, it is concluded that this option would not affect the language of the children's education, since the expectation for each of the primary schools in the county (except one), is the same.	Neutral	Irrelevant	Irrelevant
The language of the school (informal)	Since Ysgol Llandwrog and Ysgol Bontnewydd are Category 3 Welsh-medium schools, it is concluded that this option would not affect the language of the children's education, since the expectation for each of the primary schools in the county (except one), is the same. A high percentage of learners speak Welsh at home at Ysgol Bontnewydd (90%) and Ysgol Llandwrog (86%).	Neutral	Irrelevant	Irrelevant
Access to a Welsh-medium education	Ysgol Llandwrog and Ysgol Bontnewydd are Welsh-medium Category 3 schools. Therefore, it is not anticipated that this option would affect this criterion.	Neutral	Irrelevant	Irrelevant
Activities before / after school	Ysgol Llandwrog and Ysgol Bontnewydd offer after-school Urdd activities. By implementing this option, learners could continue to take advantage of activities like these as an opportunity to use the Welsh language after school.	Neutral	Irrelevant	Irrelevant
Use of Welsh in the community	According to the 2021 Census, 81.1% of the population of the Llanwnda ward are Welsh speakers, and 77% of the population of the Groeslon ward (Ysgol Llandwrog is located in the ward) are Welsh speakers and 82.5% of the population of the Bontnewydd ward are Welsh speakers. This sets a good foundation for the vibrancy of the Welsh language and opportunities to use the Welsh language in these communities.	Neutral	Irrelevant	Irrelevant

Option 4 - Place the whole of the Felinwnda catchment area within the catchment areas of Ysgol Llandwrog and Ysgol Bontnewydd.

Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work	Have any measures been identified to mitigate any negative impact or to create more positive opportunities?	Final impact (following mitigation methods)
The language of the school (formal)	Since Ysgol Llandwrog and Ysgol Bontnewydd are Category 3 Welsh-medium schools, it is concluded that this option would not affect the language of the children's education, since the expectation for each of the primary schools in the county (except one), is the same.	Neutral	Irrelevant	Irrelevant
The language of the school (informal)	Since Ysgol Llandwrog and Ysgol Bontnewydd are Category 3 Welsh-medium schools, it is concluded that this option would not affect the language of the children's education, since the expectation for each of the primary schools in the county (except one), is the same. A high percentage of learners speak Welsh at home at Ysgol Bontnewydd (90%) and Ysgol Llandwrog (86%).	Neutral	Irrelevant	Irrelevant
Access to a Welsh-medium education	Ysgol Llandwrog and Ysgol Bontnewydd are Welsh-medium Category 3 schools. Therefore, it is not anticipated that this option would affect this criterion.	Neutral	Irrelevant	Irrelevant
Activities before / after school	Ysgol Llandwrog and Ysgol Bontnewydd offer after-school Urdd activities. By implementing this option, learners could continue to take advantage of activities like these as an opportunity to use the Welsh language after school.	Neutral	Irrelevant	Irrelevant
Use of Welsh in the community	According to the 2021 Census, 81.1% of the population of the Llanwnda ward are Welsh speakers, and 77% of the population of the Groeslon ward (Ysgol Llandwrog is located in the ward) are Welsh speakers and 82.5% of the population of the Bontnewydd ward are Welsh speakers. This sets a good foundation for the vibrancy of the Welsh language and opportunities to use the Welsh language in these communities.	Neutral	Irrelevant	Irrelevant

Option 5 - Using the safe access to Lôn Eifion as the boundary of the Bontnewydd catchment area is an alternative way to think about a modern catchment area to match the objectives of the new school. Using the new A487 road as a boundary is a clear way to clarify catchment boundaries.

Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work	Have any measures been identified to mitigate any negative impact or to create more positive opportunities?	Final impact (following mitigation methods)
The language of the school (formal)	Since Ysgol Llandwrog and Ysgol Bontnewydd are Category 3 Welsh-medium schools, it is concluded that this option would not affect the language of the children's education, since the expectation for each of the primary schools in the county (except one), is the same.	Neutral	Irrelevant	Irrelevant
The language of the school (informal)	Since Ysgol Llandwrog and Ysgol Bontnewydd are Category 3 Welsh-medium schools, it is concluded that this option would not affect the language of the children's education, since the expectation for each of the primary schools in the county (except one), is the same. A high percentage of learners speak Welsh at home at Ysgol Bontnewydd (90%) and Ysgol Llandwrog (86%).	Neutral	Irrelevant	Irrelevant
Access to a Welsh-medium education	Ysgol Llandwrog and Ysgol Bontnewydd are Welsh-medium Category 3 schools. Therefore, it is not anticipated that this option would affect this criterion.	Neutral	Irrelevant	Irrelevant
Activities before / after school	Ysgol Llandwrog and Ysgol Bontnewydd offer after-school Urdd activities. By implementing this option, learners could continue to take advantage of activities like these as an opportunity to use the Welsh language after school.	Neutral	Irrelevant	Irrelevant
Use of Welsh in the community	According to the 2021 Census, 81.1% of the population of the Llanwnda ward are Welsh speakers, and 77% of the population of the Groeslon ward (Ysgol Llandwrog is located in the ward) are Welsh speakers and 82.5% of the population of the Bontnewydd ward are Welsh speakers. This sets a good foundation for the vibrancy of the Welsh language and opportunities to use the Welsh language in these communities.	Neutral	Irrelevant	Irrelevant

4. Conclusion

Our expectations are that all learners in the County have a balanced, age-relevant bilingualism so that they can be complete members of the bilingual society of which they are a part. The proposal for changing Ysgol Felinwda's catchment area will need to take full account of all the linguistic effects. Reinforcing the use of Welsh as a formal and informal language in the school will be a key consideration.

Having considered the information in this assessment, it was concluded that the proposal to transfer Ysgol Felinwda's catchment area as a whole to Ysgol Bontnewydd's catchment area would not have a negative impact on the Welsh language as Ysgol Bontnewydd is a Category 3 Welsh medium school. In addition, a high percentage of learners at Ysgol Bontnewydd (90%) speak Welsh at home. As a result, it is anticipated that the effect of the proposal on the language would be neutral.

Assessing the Impact on Equality Characteristics, the Welsh Language and the Socio-Economic Disadvantage

The Council is required (under the Equality Act 2010) to consider the impact that any changes in any policy or procedure (or the creation of a new policy or procedure), will have on people with protected equality characteristics. The Council also has additional general duties to ensure fairness and to foster good relationships. Therefore, a timely assessment must be made before a decision is taken on any relevant change (i.e., that affects people with protected equality characteristics).

The Council is also required, under the requirements of the Welsh Language Standards (Section 44 of the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011), to consider the impact that any change in policy or procedure (or creation of a new policy or procedure), will have on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and to ensure that the Welsh language is not treated less favourably than English. This document therefore ensures that these decisions safeguard and promote the use made of the Welsh language.

From 1 April 2021 onwards, the Council has a duty to give due attention to addressing the socio-economic disadvantage in strategic decisions.

1) Details

1.1 What is the name of the policy / service in question?

A proposal to transfer the entire Felinwnda catchment area to the catchment area of Ysgol Bontnewydd.

1.2 What is the purpose of the policy/service that is being created or amended? What changes are being considered?

At its meeting on 7 November 2023 Cyngor Gwynedd's Cabinet decided to confirm the proposal to close Ysgol Felinwnda on 31 December 2023, as well as carrying out a consultation on the future of Ysgol Felinwnda's current catchment area in order to agree which school, or schools, will serve as a catchment area school for the children of the current catchment area of the Felinwnda school for the future.

Following the implementation of the decision to close Ysgol Felinwnda on 31 December 2023, and following a consultation on possible options for the catchment area, a decision is needed on the future of Ysgol Felinwnda's current catchment area in order to agree which school/schools will serve as a school/ catchment area school for the children of Ysgol Felinwnda's current catchment area for the future.

Listed below are the options considered for the catchment area. Options 4 and 5 were proposed by stakeholders during the consultation.

- Option 1-** Transfer the entire Felinwnda catchment area to the catchment area of Ysgol Llandwrog
- Option 2-** Transfer the entire Felinwnda catchment area to the catchment area of Ysgol Bontnewydd
- Option 3-** Split the Felinwnda catchment area according to the houses that are geographically closest to Ysgol Llandwrog and Ysgol Bontnewydd
- Option 4-** *“Set the entire Felinwnda catchment area within Ysgol Llandwrog and Ysgol Bontnewydd catchment areas”.*
- Option 5-** *“Use a safe entrance to Lôn Las as the Bontnewydd catchment area boundary as an alternative way to think about the modern catchment area to comply with the objectives of the new school. Using the new A487 road as a boundary is a clear way to explain the catchment area boundaries.”*

Following consideration of the comments received for the consultation, together with the results of the impact assessments, an evaluation of the above options was completed in order to summarize the excellence of each option.

Following the evaluation of all options, the option recommended as the preferred option is:

“Option 2: Transfer the entire Felinwnda catchment area to the catchment area of Ysgol Bontnewydd”.

1.3 Who is responsible for this assessment?

Debbie Anne Jones (Assistant Head of Corporate Services, Education)

1.4 When did you commence the assessment? Which version is this?

Version 1: 26 January 2024
 Version 2: 22 April 2024
 Version 3: 19 September 2024
 Version 4: 21 January 2025

2) Action

2.1 Who are the stakeholders or partners with whom we will have to work to carry out this assessment?

Education Department and Officers from other Cyngor Gwynedd departments

2.2 What steps have you taken to engage with people with protected characteristics, regarding the Welsh language or with communities (either due to location or due to need), who are living with a socio-economic disadvantage?

The consultation on the future of Ysgol Felinwnda's current catchment area was held with the relevant consultees between 24 September and 22 October 2024.

The relevant consultees included:

- All residents of the current Ysgol Felinwnda catchment area,
- The Governing Bodies of Ysgol Llandwrog, Ysgol Bontnewydd, Ysgol Bro Llifon and Ysgol Rhostryfan
- Cylch Meithrin Dinas and Llanwnda
- Llanwnda Community Council
- Local Member for Llanwnda Ward

- Canolfan Bro Llanwnda and
- The Church in Wales

On 20 September 2024 a letter was sent to every dwelling/home in Ysgol Felinwnda's current catchment area in order to inform them about the consultation, and to explain how to participate. A notification was sent by email to the rest of the consultees listed above. The notice contained a link to a specific page on the Gwynedd Council website, where the consultation documentation was published together with the response form.

During the consultation period, Gwynedd Council officers held a "drop-in" session on 7 October 2024, at Canolfan Bro Llanwnda, in order to give participants the opportunity to ask questions and to receive clarity on any aspect that was relevant to the consultation on the future of Ysgol Felinwnda's catchment area. There was also an opportunity for those attending to receive a hard copy of any documentation relevant to the consultation. 6 people attended the drop-in session.

2.3 What was the outcome of the engagement?

11 responses to the consultation were received, including responses from Ysgol Felinwnda catchment area residents, Governing Bodies together with a response from representatives of local nursery care and education providers.

A summary of the comments received on the options proposed within the consultation document together with any alternative options will be presented in the report presented to the Cabinet on 11 February 2025. There is a full analysis of the responses received as an appendix to the report.

2.4 On the basis of what other evidence are you acting?

Every school has a specific catchment area, namely a defined geographical area that it serves, and following the decision to close Ysgol Felinwnda on 31 December 2023, there is a need to designate a catchment area for the Felinwnda catchment area.

2.5 Are there any gaps in the evidence that needs to be gathered?

The consultation on Reviewing the Felinwnda Catchment Area provided an opportunity to obtain stakeholders' opinions on the options and impact assessments and to identify any potential gaps in the evidence.

3) Identifying the Impact

3.1 The Council must duly address the impact that any changes will have on people with the following equality characteristics. What impact will the new policy/service or the proposed changes in the policy or service have on people with these characteristics?

It is also necessary to consider the impact on Socio-Economic disadvantage and on the Welsh Language.

	Option 2- Transfer the entire Felinwnda catchment area to the Bontnewydd catchment area	
Characteristics	What type of impact?*	In what way? What is the evidence?
Race (including nationality)	None	<p>All Gwynedd schools have relevant policies in place to protect individuals from any discrimination based on race, such as Equality, Inclusion and Anti-Bullying Policies. The Anti-bullying Policy provided by Cyngor Gwynedd states anti-bullying guidelines and procedures based on factors such as race in the school. Also, it is stated in the Equality policy that has been implemented by Gwynedd primary schools that schools</p> <p><i>"... are opposed to all types of prejudice and discrimination and acknowledge that pupils have different needs, requirements and objectives."</i></p> <p>Therefore, it is not anticipated that this proposal would have a negative impact on this characteristic as these policies apply to every school.</p>
Disability	Positive	<p>It is anticipated that this proposal would have a positive impact on this characteristic. The needs of any disabled child would be considered in accordance with the Education Department's Accessibility and Equality policies. When the Bontnewydd Community Campus opens in 2026-27, the entire site and buildings will be fully accessible.</p> <p>The old school in Bontnewydd which is the current Community Centre will be a temporary home for three classes and the school hall will be fully accessible internally and externally. There are no steps in the building and if it were necessary to adjust internally with railings or contrasting colours it would be possible to do so.</p> <p><i>Since 2021, new legislation has gradually come into force in Wales for learners with Additional Learning Needs in Wales. The Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal Act (2018) replaces the Special Educational Needs Act (2002) over a transitional period until 2025.</i></p> <p><i>Although it provides an opportunity to work in a much more person-centred manner, and to tailor the provision to the needs of the individual, the Act also places higher requirements on schools in terms of administering and delivering the requirements of the act. To summarise:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The required age for provision has been extended from 3-19 to 0-25 years old.</i> • <i>Every pupil who is identified with additional learning needs is required to have an Individual Development Plan (IDP), and legal and statutory rights correspond to the IDP. It is legal for schools and the authority to provide what has been agreed within the IDP for the learner.</i> • <i>The role of the Additional Learning Needs Co-ordinator within every school is a statutory role with legal requirements associated with the duty. The ALNCo needs to undertake strategic work and plan and review the provision</i>

		<p>on a continuous basis.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a requirement to maintain the provision map that responds to the needs of learners. • There is increasing demand for the provision of additional learning needs as learners' needs have intensified following the COVID period. <p>When planning staffing (e.g. the ALNCo's role) and the provision map, the demand on schools is challenging, and this is becoming more apparent when considering the demand on smaller schools. In larger schools, the conditions of the learning needs co-ordinator are better, and, as a result, meeting the statutory requirement is easier. In addition, responding to learners' needs is also easier in larger schools as they may be able to hold an intervention group to target specific needs. The provision map is broader in larger schools to respond to the need.</p>
Gender	None	<p>It is not anticipated that this proposal would affect this characteristic. Implementing this proposal would mean that everyone will continue to be treated according to their need, whatever their gender. All Gwynedd schools implement an Equality Policy which states that the school:</p> <p><i>"... is opposed to all types of prejudice and discrimination and acknowledge that pupils have different needs, requirements and objectives."</i></p>
Age	None	<p>Ysgol Bontnewydd provides education for children aged between 3 and 11 years, the same as Ysgol Felinwnda. Therefore, it is not anticipated that implementing this proposal would have a negative impact on the 'age' characteristic.</p>
Sexual orientation	None	<p>Relationships and sexuality education (RSE) is a statutory requirement in the Curriculum for Wales framework that was published under section 71 of the Curriculum and Assessment Act (Wales) 2021 and is mandatory for all learners aged between 3 and 16. RSE has a positive and empowering role to play in learners' education and it is essential to form and maintain a range of relationships, that are all based on respect and trust on both sides, which is core to relationships and sexuality education. These relationships are crucial to developing emotional well-being, resilience, and empathy. An understanding of sexuality with an emphasis on rights, health, equality, and fairness empowers the learners to understand themselves, to take responsibility for their own decisions and behaviours and to form relationships.</p> <p>It is stated in the Equality Policy that is implemented by all Gwynedd primary schools that schools</p> <p><i>"... are opposed to all types of prejudice and discrimination and acknowledge that pupils have different needs, requirements and objectives."</i></p> <p>Consequently, it is not anticipated that this proposal would have a negative impact on this characteristic.</p>
Religion or belief (or non-belief)	None	<p>Every school in Gwynedd has an Inclusion Policy that will deal with any discriminatory incident that may occur at the school, which is associated with a religion or belief.</p>
Gender reassignment	None	<p>It is stated in the Equality policy that is implemented by all Gwynedd primary schools that schools</p> <p><i>"... are opposed to all types of prejudice and discrimination and acknowledge that pupils have different needs, requirements and objectives."</i></p>
Pregnancy and maternity	None	Not applicable.
Marriage and civil partnership	None	Not applicable.
The Welsh language	None	<p>The Gwynedd Education Language Policy has the same aim for all of the county's primary schools, and every primary school (except one school) falls into category 3 in accordance with the school categorisation guidance according to the Welsh medium provision, Welsh Government.</p>

		It is important to ensure that the Welsh language is maintained and developed as an integral part of Felinwnda's community life. The community centre located in the Felinwnda community can play an important part in ensuring that the Welsh language remains alive and central to community life in the area. The centre is a community resource that will continue to offer opportunities for people of all ages to develop their Welsh by holding social events. The centre is also an educational resource that provides educational resources for children and young people, which promote the use of the Welsh language.
Socio-Economic Disadvantage	Positive	It is anticipated that this proposal would have a positive impact on the Socio-economic Disadvantage characteristic. Transferring the Felinwnda catchment area to be part of the Ysgol Bontnewydd catchment area would improve community regeneration by encouraging collaboration with local communities. The change would encourage collaboration with other communities, and this may create valuable connections between communities, enabling opportunities and social inclusion.

3.2 The Council has a duty under the Equality Act, 2010 to contribute positively to a fairer society through advancing equality and good relations in its activities in the fields of age, gender, sexual orientation, religion, race, transgender, disability, pregnancy, and maternity. The Council must duly address the way any change impacts on these duties.

General Duties of the Equality Act	Does it have an impact? *	In what way? What is the evidence?
Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, and victimisation	No	It is not anticipated that this proposal would affect the school's statutory duty to protect learners from any discrimination, harassment, or victimisation.
Promote equal opportunities	Yes	This option would ensure that the entire Felinwnda catchment area would receive equal opportunities as the learners would all be together in one catchment and would have equal opportunity to build the same connections with the school and the Bontnewydd community.
Building good relationships	Yes	As a number of learners who live in the Ysgol Felinwnda catchment area already attend Ysgol Bontnewydd, there is already an existing connection between the school and the Felinwnda community. Nevertheless, should this proposal be implemented, opportunities for Ysgol Bontnewydd to build on its existing links with the community of Felinwnda will be promoted.

3.3 How does your proposal ensure that you work in accordance with the Welsh Language Standards (Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011), to ensure that the Welsh language is not treated less favourably than English, and that every opportunity to promote the Welsh language is taken (beyond providing bilingual services) and increase opportunities to use and learn the language in the community?

The aim of the Gwynedd Language Policy is to ensure that all the pupils within the county have the appropriate linguistic skills in both Welsh and English. The proposal to change local arrangements takes full consideration of all linguistic impacts. Supporting and improving the use of the Welsh language as an educational and social language among learners was a key consideration when drawing up options.

The Gwynedd Education Language Policy has the same aim for all of the county's primary schools, and every primary school (except one school) falls into category 3 in accordance with the school categorisation guidance according to the Welsh medium provision, Welsh Government. This means that learners in the Felinwnda area will be able to continue to receive their education through the medium of Welsh in accordance with the Education Language Policy whether that be at Ysgol Bontnewydd.

In terms of the community, 1,145 (83%) Welsh speakers live in the Llanwnda ward while 1,015 (82%) Welsh speakers live in the Bontnewydd ward (Source: 2021 Census).

The table below shows a summary of the factual information for the ability of Ysgol Bontnewydd learners.

School	Speaks Welsh fluently at home	Does not speak Welsh at home but fluent in Welsh	Speaks Welsh at home but not fluently	Does not speak Welsh at home and not fluent in Welsh	Unable to speak Welsh at all
Bontnewydd	82%	3%	8%	2%	2%
	Fluent Welsh		A Little Welsh		No Welsh

Canolfan Bro Llanwnda is located in the Felinwnda area and holds a number of activities including the Cylch Meithrin. This community use will ensure that use of the Welsh language will continue in the community. The centre is a community resource that will continue to offer opportunities for people of all ages to use their Welsh by holding social activities.

It is anticipated that the implementation of the proposal to transfer the catchment area to Ysgol Bontnewydd's catchment area would offer to maintain the current educational opportunities, ensuring that learners have rich learning experiences using the Welsh language whether that is at Ysgol Bontnewydd, or any alternative school (out-of-catchment area) chosen by the parents.

3.4 What other measures or changes could you include to strengthen or change the policy / practice to have a positive impact on people's opportunities to use the Welsh language, and to reduce or prevent any detrimental impacts that the policy/practice could have on the Welsh language?

As stated above, it is anticipated that implementing the proposal to transfer the catchment area to Ysgol Bontnewydd's catchment area would not have a detrimental effect on educational opportunities and ensure that learners have rich learning experiences using the Welsh language whether at Ysgol Bontnewydd, or any alternative school (out-of-catchment area) chosen by the parents. As a result, it is not anticipated that the proposal in question would have a negative impact on the Welsh language.

3.5 How does the proposal show that you have given due regard to the need to address inequality due to socio-economic disadvantage? (Please note that this relates to closing the inequality gap, rather than just improving outcomes for everyone).

As indicated in the table in section 3.2, it is not anticipated that the proposal in question would create a Socio-Economic Disadvantage. Transferring the Felinwnda catchment area to be part of Ysgol Bontnewydd's catchment area would improve community regeneration by encouraging cooperation with

local communities. The change would encourage collaboration with wider communities, and this can create valuable links between communities, enabling opportunities and social inclusion.

3.6 What other measures or changes can you include to strengthen or change the policy / practice to demonstrate that you have given due regard to the need to reduce disproportionate outcomes as a result of socio-economic disadvantage, in accordance with the Socio-Economic Act?

Should the proposal be implemented, we will monitor the impact and endeavour to assist with any negative impact that may arise as a result of the change.

4) Analysing the results

4.1 Is the policy therefore likely to have a significant, positive impact on any of the above? What is the reason for this?

It is anticipated that the proposal in question would have a positive effect on the Socio-Economic Disadvantage feature. Transferring the Felinwnda catchment area to be part of Ysgol Bontnewydd's catchment area would improve community regeneration by encouraging collaboration with alternative communities. The change would encourage collaboration with other nearby communities, this can create valuable links between schools and communities, enabling opportunities and social inclusion.

From 2026-27 onwards, it is anticipated that the proposal would also have a positive impact on the Disability feature, as the Bontnewydd Community Campus will have been completed, with the site and buildings fully accessible.

4.2 Is the policy therefore likely to have a significant, negative impact on any of the above? What is the reason for this?

It is not anticipated that the proposal will have a negative impact on any of the above features.

All Gwynedd schools have equality and anti-bullying policies. Ysgol Bontnewydd serves an area of linguistic significance, therefore, if the proposal is implemented, the catchment area would join the catchment area of a Welsh language school. It is not anticipated that adjusting the boundaries of the catchment area would affect the community's ability to continue to carry out community activities, including Welsh-medium ones, in the area.

4.3 What should be done?

Select one of the following:

Continue with the policy / service as it is robust	✓
Revise the policy to remove any barriers	
Suspend and abolish the policy as the harmful impacts are too great	

Continue with the policy as any harmful impact can be justified	
No further steps at present, it is premature to decide, or there is insufficient evidence	

4.4 If you continue with the plan, what steps will you take to reduce or mitigate any negative impacts?

The Authority does not anticipate a direct negative impact on Cylch Meithrin Dinas a Llanwnda arising from the proposal to modify the boundaries of the catchment area of a primary school. We welcome the successful collaboration that is already taking place between Cylch Meithrin Dinas and Llanwnda and Ysgol Llandwrog, and we do not wish that modifying the boundaries of the primary school's catchment area would have an impact on this successful collaboration. As an authority we will monitor the situation and the Cylch and the community will be able to call on the services of Gwynedd Council to support if there is any negative impact that would result from the proposal, if the proposal were to be implemented.

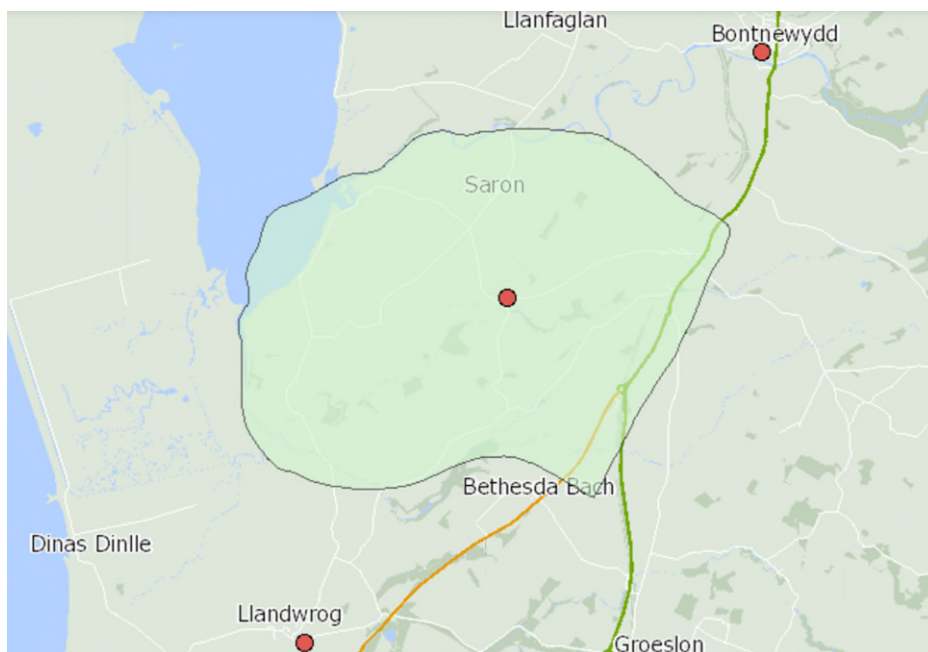
4.5 If you are not taking any further action to remove or reduce the negative impacts, please explain why here.

We will carefully assess the situation and consider the reasons for not taking any further action, ensuring that decisions are made based on robust information and considering the best interests for all stakeholders.

5) Monitoring

5.1 What steps will you take to monitor the impact and effectiveness of the policy or service (action plan)?

Should the proposal be implemented, we will monitor the impact and endeavour to assist with any negative impact that may arise as a result of the change.



Impact Assessment on the Well-being of Future Generations Act- Felinwnda Catchment Area

1. Introduction

As a Council, we are committed to the principles within the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 in order to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of communities in Gwynedd. The Council's vision:

Our vision as a Council is to support all the people of Gwynedd to thrive and live full lives in their community, in a county which is one of the best counties to live in.

The Council has adopted well-being objectives which reiterate the national well-being goals, ensuring that the residents of Gwynedd:

- Give our children and young people the best possible start in life
- Strengthening the economy and supporting the people of Gwynedd to earn a worthy wage
- Supporting the people of Gwynedd to live in suitable and affordable homes in their communities
- Supporting the residents of Gwynedd to live full and safe lives in our communities
- Ensuring that we give every possible opportunity for our residents to use the Welsh language in the community.
- Protecting the natural beauty of the county, and responding positively to the climate change crisis
- Putting the people of Gwynedd first and treating them fairly and ensuring that the Council performs effectively and efficiently.

The table below outlines the link between our well-being objectives and the national well-being goals.

	Llewyrchus	Cydnherth	Iachach	Cyfartal	Cymunedau Cydlynus	Diwylliant bywiog lle mae' r iaith Gymraeg yn ffynnu	Yn gyfrifol ar lefel fyd-eang
GWYNEDD YFORY Rhoi'r cychwyn gorau posib mewn bywyd i'n plant a'n pobl ifanc							
GWYNEDD LEWYRCHUS Cryfhau'r economi a chefnogi trigolion Gwynedd i ennill cyflogau teilwng							
GWYNEDD GLYD Cefnogi pobl Gwynedd i fyw mewn cartrefi addas a fforddiadwy yn eu cymunedau							
GWYNEDD OFALGAR Cefnogi trigolion Gwynedd i fyw bywydau llawn a diogel yn ein cymunedau							
GWYNEDD GYMRAEG Sicrhau ein bod yn rhoi pob cyfle posib i'n trigolion ddefnyddio'r Gymraeg yn y gymuned.							
GWYNEDD WERDD Gwarchod harddwch naturiol y sir, ac ymateb yn gadarnhaol i'r argyfwng newid hinsawdd							
GWYNEDD EFFEITHLON Rhoi trigolion Gwynedd yn gyntaf gan eu trin yn deg a sicrhau fod y Cyngor yn perfformio'n effeithiol ac effeithlon							

The Education Department has a role in promoting the well-being objectives of the Act amongst pupils in the county through its activities and projects. The Act places a duty on public bodies in Wales to improve economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being. As part of the duty, the Council has published well-being objectives that outline the way it will improve well-being in the "2023-2028 Gwynedd Plan".

2. Background

At its meeting on 7 November 2023 Cyngor Gwynedd's Cabinet decided to confirm the proposal to close Ysgol Felinwnda on 31 December 2023, as well as to hold a consultation on the future of Ysgol Felinwnda's current catchment area in order to agree which school, or schools, will serve as a catchment area school for the children of the current catchment area of the Felinwnda school for the future.

Following the implementation of the decision to close Ysgol Felinwnda on 31 December 2023, and following a consultation on possible options for the catchment area, a decision is needed on the future of Ysgol Felinwnda's current catchment area in order to agree which school/schools will serve as a school/ catchment area school for the children of Ysgol Felinwnda's current catchment area for the future.

Listed below are the options considered for the catchment area. Options 4 and 5 were proposed by stakeholders during the consultation.

Option 1- Transfer the entire Felinwnda catchment area to the catchment area of Ysgol Llandwrog

Option 2- Transfer the entire Felinwnda catchment area to the catchment area of Ysgol Bontnewydd

Option 3- Split the Felinwnda catchment area according to the houses that are geographically closest to Ysgol Llandwrog and Ysgol Bontnewydd

Option 4- *"Set the entire Felinwnda catchment area within Ysgol Llandwrog and Ysgol Bontnewydd catchment areas".*

Option 5- *"Use a safe entrance to Lôn Las as the Bontnewydd catchment area boundary as an alternative way to think about the modern catchment area to comply with the objectives of the new school. Using the new A487 road as a boundary is a clear way to explain the catchment area boundaries."*

Following consideration of the comments received in response to the consultation, together with the results of the impact assessments, an evaluation of the above options was completed in order to summarize the excellence of each option.

Following the evaluation of all options, the option recommended as the preferred option is:

"Option 2: Transfer the entire Felinwnda catchment area to the catchment area of Ysgol Bontnewydd".

3. How does the proposal meet Cyngor Gwynedd's well-being objectives?

Objectives	
Giving our children and young people the best possible start in life	This proposal would ensure that the children of the area foster experiences by socialising with a broad range of age-relevant peers and receive a quality education at a school that can offer a learning environment and experiences to a broad range of learners.
Strengthening the economy and supporting the people of Gwynedd to earn a worthy wage	No impact
Supporting the people of Gwynedd to live in suitable and affordable homes in their communities	No impact
Supporting the residents of Gwynedd to live full and safe lives in our communities	A number of the learners who live in the Ysgol Felinwnda catchment area already attend Ysgol Bontnewydd, a link already exists between the school and the community of Felinwnda. Nevertheless, should this proposal be implemented, opportunities for the school to build on its existing links with the community of Felinwnda will be promoted. It will ensure that the learners receiving an education of the highest quality will be integral to the proposal and ensure that they receive an education of the same quality.
Ensuring that we give every possible opportunity for our residents to use the Welsh language in the community.	The learners of the Felinwnda catchment area live in a naturally Welsh community and this proposal would ensure that the children of the area are educated in a category 3 Welsh-medium school (Ysgol Bontnewydd). It is likely that this proposal would have a positive impact on the Welsh language as learners from the Felinwnda catchment area benefit from more opportunities to use the Welsh language with a broader range of peers in the classroom and socially. Ysgol Bontnewydd serves an area which is a stronghold for the Welsh language, with a high number of the population able to speak Welsh.
Protecting the natural beauty of the county, and responding positively to the climate change crisis	Plans are in the pipeline to construct a new school for Ysgol Bontnewydd by 2026-2027. The building will be innovative with the aim of reducing carbon and maximising the re-use of materials from existing buildings while also prioritising the use of materials local to the area. As a result, it is anticipated that offering an education to the children of the area at Ysgol Bontnewydd will make a positive contribution to the climate change emergency.
Putting the people of Gwynedd first and treating them fairly and ensuring that the Council performs effectively and efficiently	We have sought the views of residents by holding a consultation on the Felinwnda catchment area. Consideration was given to the observations received as a part of the consultation when drawing up the recommendation to the Cabinet. As the consultation relates to catchment areas rather than schools specifically, children and young people were not consulted as part of this consultation. Nevertheless, the Authority held an engagement session with Ysgol Felinwnda learners in order to gather their views on the proposal to close the school back in 2023.

4. Does the proposal meet the well-being goals of the act?

Aim	Does the proposal contribute to this goal?	Negative impact mitigating measures for this goal:
<p><i>A prosperous Wales</i> An innovative society which uses resources proportionately, a well-educated population which generates wealth and provides employment opportunities.</p>	<p>Implementing this proposal would mean that the learners foster experiences by socialising with a broad range of age-relevant peers, and receiving a quality education at a school which can offer a learning environment and experiences to a broad range of learners.</p>	<p>No negative impact can be seen to this aim from implementing the proposal.</p>
<p><i>A resilient Wales</i> A nation which maintains and enhances a biodiverse environment with healthy ecosystems that support resilience and the capacity to adapt to change (for example climate change).</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that the proposal is likely to impact this aim.</p>	<p>No negative impact can be seen to this aim from implementing the proposal.</p>
<p><i>A healthier Wales</i> A society in which people's physical and mental well-being is maximised and in which choices and behaviours that benefit future health are understood.</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that the proposal is likely to impact this aim.</p>	<p>No negative impact can be seen to this aim from implementing the proposal.</p>
<p><i>A more equal Wales</i> A society that enables people to fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances (including their socio-economic background and circumstances).</p>	<p>The proposal will continue to support the Authority's ability to <i>"provide education of the best possible quality that will provide the county's children with the experiences, skills and confidence to develop into bilingual, successful and well-rounded citizens"</i> in accordance with the strategy 'Primary Education of the Best Quality for the Children of Gwynedd'.</p> <p>Every school has robust policies and procedures in place that will ensure that the proposal considers and corresponds with equal opportunities. It is noted that measures are already in place to ensure that there will be no illegal discrimination or harassment.</p>	<p>No negative impact can be seen to this aim from implementing the proposal.</p>
<p><i>A Wales of cohesive communities</i> Attractive, viable, safe and well-connected communities.</p>	<p>Canolfan Bro Llanwnda is located in the Felinwnda area and holds a number of activities including the Cylch Meithrin.</p> <p>As 57% of the learners who live in the Felinwnda catchment area already choose to attend Ysgol Bontnewydd, there is already a link between the community and Ysgol Bontnewydd.</p>	<p>No negative impact can be seen to this aim from implementing the proposal.</p>
<p><i>A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language</i> A society that promotes and protects culture, heritage and the Welsh language, and which encourages people to participate in the arts, and sports and recreation.</p>	<p>The learners of the Felinwnda catchment area live in a natural Welsh community. Ysgol Bontnewydd serves an area which is a stronghold for the Welsh language, with a high number of the population able to speak Welsh.</p> <p>Canolfan Bro Llanwnda is located in the Felinwnda area and holds a number of Welsh-medium activities including the Cylch Meithrin.</p>	<p>No negative impact can be seen to this aim from implementing the proposal.</p>

<p>A Globally Responsible Wales A nation which, when doing anything to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales, takes account of whether doing such a thing may make a positive contribution to global well-being.</p>	<p>All Gwynedd schools implement the requirements of the Curriculum for Wales, with emphasis on developing citizens of Wales and the World.</p>	<p>No negative impact can be seen to this aim from implementing the proposal.</p>
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5. Principles of Sustainable Development

Principles of Sustainable Development	Does the proposal consider the principle?
<p>Long Term Balance short term needs with long term ones and plan for the future</p>	<p>The Education Department is in the process of drawing up a new education strategy. The new strategy will consider this principle when planning future provision.</p>
<p>Prevention Allocate resources to prevent problems from occurring or getting worse. We will address problems by prevention and early intervention rather than being responsive.</p>	<p>The Education Department is in the process of drawing up a new education strategy. The new strategy will consider this principle when planning future provision.</p>
<p>Integration Have a positive effect on people, the economy, the environment and culture.</p>	<p>The learners of Felinwnda catchment area live in a natural Welsh community and this option would ensure that the children in the area are included in the catchment area of Ysgol Bontnewydd, which serves an area that is a stronghold of the Welsh language with a high number of the population able to speak Welsh.</p> <p>Plans are in the pipeline to construct a new school for Ysgol Bontnewydd by 2026-2027. The building will be innovative with the aim of reducing carbon and maximising the re-use of materials from existing buildings while also prioritising the use of materials local to the area. As a result, it is anticipated that offering an education to the children of the area at Ysgol Bontnewydd will make a positive contribution to the environment.</p>
<p>Collaboration Work with other partners to provide services.</p>	<p>Collaboration with other relevant departments, school to school collaboration, and with Canolfan Bro Llanwnda, will be a key part of this option for the benefit of the catchment area.</p>
<p>Involvement (Communication and Engagement) Involve the people of Gwynedd when seeking to realise our plan and ensure that those people reflect the diversity of the area.</p>	<p>The consultation was held between 24 September and 22 October 2024 giving the consultees an opportunity to comment on the possible options. Holding the consultation ensured that the people of the area were included and had the opportunity to voice an opinion that would contribute to the recommendation that would be presented to the Cabinet.</p>

6. Conclusion

Following consideration and assessment in accordance with the requirements of the well-being act, the 7 aims of the well-being act and the Council's well-being objectives were considered, and it is concluded that the proposal to transfer the entire Felinwnda catchment area to the catchment area of Ysgol Bontnewydd is in line with the requirements and the principles.

It is noted that the proposal in question would involve the integration of the Felinwnda catchment area into part of a wider catchment area. As a large number of the children who live within the Felinwnda catchment already attend Ysgol Bontnewydd, it is concluded that a link between Ysgol Bontnewydd and the Felinwnda community already exists.