



CABINET – 29TH MAY 2012

SUBJECT: DETERMINATION OF CATCHMENT AREA FOR WOODLAND TERRACE, NEW TREDEGAR

REPORT BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR EDUCATION, LIFELONG LEARNING & LEISURE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The report summarises the results of the consultative process recently completed in respect of the above proposal.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 The report summarises the issues raised as part of the formal consultative process.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- 3.1 The report links directly to Education for Life.

4. THE REPORT

- 4.1 In February 1997 the Authority undertook a process to confirm all catchment areas, both primary and secondary. A letter was sent to all schools, with a map attached, which asked schools to indicate what they considered to be their catchment area.
- 4.2 There were no responses from schools with regard to Woodland Terrace, New Tredegar to contradict the historical catchment area arrangements and subsequently, Cabinet, at its meeting of 6th September, 1999, agreed that Woodland Terrace, New Tredegar be included in the catchment area of Phillipstown Primary School and Rhymney Comprehensive School.
- 4.3 A formal request has been received from Councillor Gerald Jones and Councillor Les Rees that Woodland Terrace, New Tredegar, be moved into the catchment area of White Rose Primary School. Councillor Jones has stated that Woodland Terrace has no links with Phillipstown and is not and never has been part of the Phillipstown Community. He also stated that there was no logic to these properties being in the catchment of Phillipstown when they are clearly part of the New Tredegar community and should therefore come under the catchment area of White Rose Primary School.

4.4 An analysis of the Authority's admissions system has been undertaken and of the three children of Primary school age currently living in Woodland Terrace, New Tredegar two attend White Rose Primary School and the other was refused a Rising 3s place at White Rose Primary School and is currently in the Nursery at Ysgol Y Lawnt. A distance calculation has also been undertaken which concluded that White Rose Primary School is 1.1 miles from Woodland Terrace whereas Phillipstown Primary is 1.8 miles. In fact if walking to school from Woodland Terrace you would have to pass an entrance to White Rose Primary to get to Phillipstown Primary.

4.5 The implementation date, should Members decide a change of Catchment Area should be undertaken, will be 1st September 2013.

4.6 The Authority have consulted with the following concerning the request from Councillor Gerald Jones and Councillor Les Rees.

- Phillipstown Residents & Community Association
- New Tredegar Communities First Partnership
- New Tredegar Community Council
- Local Members of the New Tredegar Ward
- Headteacher and Governing Body of Phillipstown Primary School
- Headteacher and Governing Body of White Rose Primary School
- Headteacher and Governing Body of Rhymney Comprehensive School

4.7 A summary of the outcome of the consultation process is included in this report. Copies of correspondence received are included in a file, which is available for inspection with Members at Ty Penallta.

The comments received are identified below:

4.8 Phillipstown Residents & Community Association

A letter was received from Diane Jones, Vice Chairperson dated 23rd February 2012 stating that the Residents Association offered no objection to the change of catchment area as the Association only covers the geographical community of Phillipstown and had no contact and offer no services to the residents of Woodland Terrace.

4.9 Mr Robert P. Davies – Headteacher Rhymney Comprehensive School

An Email was received from Mr Davies on 9th February 2012 stating that he had no objections to the proposed change of catchment area.

4.10 Mr Graham Phillips – Headteacher of Phillipstown Primary & White Rose Primary Schools

An Email was received from Mr Phillips on 9th February 2012 stating that in view of the facts available to him he thinks that Woodland Terrace should be in the catchment area of White Rose Primary School.

4.11 Councillor Gerald Jones and Councillor Les Rees – New Tredegar Ward Members

A letter was received from Councillor Gerald Jones and Councillor Les Rees dated 29th February 2012 stating that as locally elected members of the New Tredegar Ward they believe that the correct catchment for Woodland Terrace is White Rose Primary School for the reasons outlined in their original request for a change of catchment area.

5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 An Equality Impact Assessment screening has been completed in accordance with the Council's Equalities Consultation and Monitoring Guidance and no potential for unlawful discrimination and/or low level or minor negative impact have been identified, therefore a full Equality Impact Assessment has not been carried out.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 None.

7. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 None.

8. CONSULTATIONS

- 8.1 As outlined above plus those listed in consultees below.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 In view of there being no objections to the proposal, Members are requested to recommend that Woodland Terrace, New Tredegar, be moved into the catchment area of White Rose Primary School with effect from 1st September 2013.

10. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 To determine catchment and admission arrangements for Woodland Terrace, New Tredegar residents for September 2013.

Author: Julian Williams, Senior Officer (Our Schools Our Future – 21st Century Schools)
Consultees: Directorate Senior Management Team
Local Ward Members: Councillors G. Jones and L. Rees.
Gareth Richards, Principal Solicitor
Sue Richards, Principal Finance Officer
Andrea West, Senior Admissions and Placement Officer
David A. Thomas, Senior Policy Officer (Equalities and Welsh Language)

Background Papers: Woodland Terrace, New Tredegar, NP24 6LL – change of catchment file.