

MEETING	SCHOOLS BUDGET FORUM
DATE	30 June 2015
TITLE	Schools Computer Network
PURPOSE	For information
RECOMMENDATION	For approval
REPORT BY	Huw Ynyr, Senior Manager IT
CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE	Cllr Peredur Jenkins

1. Background

1.1 A computer network for Gwynedd schools has been up-dated during the past two years.

1.2 The up-date has been carried out through a Welsh Government grant, with the funding allocated for:

- Providing comprehensive wi-fi in the learning areas
- Standardize at an Internet speed of 10mbps (primary and special schools) / / 100mbps (secondary schools and primary schools > 300 pupils)
- Provsion is via fibre for future expansion to 100mbps and 1000mbps
- Each contact is made part of the public sector's wider network (PSBA)

1.3 All links contracted until the end of March 2017

2. Up-date

2.1 Every secondary school have completed installing the mand provide a speed of 100mbps

2.2 A total of 5 primary schools are to receive further focus before they receive the new provision:

School	Additional Costs (met by Welsh Government)	Completion Date
Ysgol Brynaerau	£12,134.07	10/07/2015

Ysgol Cymerau	£16,516.25	26/06/2015
Ysgol Gynradd Abererch	£19,305.03	28/08/2015
Ysgol Gynradd Tudweiliog	£14,008.89	31/08/2015
Ysgol Pentreuchaf	£24,871.67	31/07/2015

2.3 Several slippages have occurred in the above programme and this may re-occur.

2.4 Two additional network resources will be added to the central network team to support the new provision in schools.

2.5 The PSBA network provider is undergoing change and transferring from Logicalis UK company to BT Global Services. This agreement provides a commitment to annual review of network costs.

2.6 Current links have a contractual agreement until March, 2017

3. Further Developments

3.1 A new telephone system will be installed in the Council Offices during Quarter 2. This system has been designed so that this Service can also be introduced to schools in the County, and savings can be made.

3.2 The wi-fi provision that has been introduced to the schools are being extended to other offices and centres in the Council, such as Libraries, Leisure Centres, Record Offices and Museums. Pupils and teachers will be able to continue the curriculum work in these places expanding the available learning resources.

4. Response to forum minute 26.02.2015

4.1 In the last forum it was minuted “**(b) Further discussion at the next Schools Budget Forum meeting regarding those schools who wish to opt out of the SLA.**”

4.2 It must be noted that there is a contractual agreement on the contacts with the PSBA/Welsh Government until March, 2017.

4.3 Terminating the agreement would involve paying the capital cost to transfer the provision back to the Welsh Government.

4.4 If a contact was established with a different provider to the PSBA, access to the wi-fi infrastructure in schools would be denied.

4.5 Without a PSBA link, schools would be denied access to the SIMS system

4.6 If they were not on the PSBA network, a school would be unable to use the new telephony provision.

5. Recommendation

5.1 Accept that the work done thus far is a significant improvement to the IT infrastructure that supports learning in schools.

5.2 Commit to use the new provision and review the provision before the end of the contractual period in March, 2017