

**FORMAL RESPONSE OF  
THE JOINT GOVERNING BODIES OF  
TASKER MILWARD V.C SECONDARY SCHOOL  
AND  
SIR THOMAS PICTON SECONDARY SCHOOL**



**TO THE  
PEMBROKESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL  
REVIEW  
INTO  
SECONDARY EDUCATION  
IN MID AND NORTH-WEST PEMBROKESHIRE**

Dated: 22 April 2015



## **JOINT GOVERNING BODIES**

**Tasker Milward VC Secondary School  
Portfield Avenue  
Haverfordwest  
SA61 1EQ**

**Sir Thomas Picton Secondary School  
Queensway  
Haverfordwest  
SA61 2NX**

**22 April 2015**

**Mrs Katharine Evan-Hughes  
Director for Children and Schools  
Pembrokeshire County Council  
County Hall  
Haverfordwest  
Pembrokeshire**

**Dear Mrs Evan-Hughes**

### **RE. REVIEW OF SECONDARY EDUCATION PROVISION IN THE MID AND NORTH-WEST OF PEMBROKESHIRE CONSULTATION RESPONSE AND PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL**

**We write to you in our capacity as the Joint Governing Bodies of both Secondary Schools in Haverfordwest in order to provide our response to the above consultation. At the outset of this response we would emphasise that the Governors, who volunteer considerable time and energy to the schools, at no cost to the public purse, are well aware of our duties to the schools and have kept the welfare of the young people of Pembrokeshire at the forefront of our considerations.**

**We would assure you that in order to satisfy statutory requirements both Governing Bodies met individually in order to consider their response and in view of the significant change in the proposals which has occurred since the initial consultation period commenced in 2014, we decided to meet jointly to discuss the newly introduced proposals. The Governing Bodies agreed that a robust response was required given that the revised proposals affect both Haverfordwest and the wider catchment area which covers much of North West Pembrokeshire.**

**Within our response we have taken note of the Welsh Government School Organisation code where specific factors should be considered for proposals to re-organise secondary schools or add or remove sixth forms. Our preferred alternative option is based upon the criteria submitted in this statement. This**

sixth forms. Our preferred alternative option is based upon the criteria submitted in this statement. This will enable the elected members of Pembrokeshire County Council to make a well informed and balanced decision in the best interests of current and future pupils.

As far as the statutory consultation response is concerned the Joint Governing Body strongly disagrees with the proposal that a new sixth form centre for Mid and North-West Pembrokeshire should be located at Pembrokeshire College as part of a formal collaboration between the County Council and Pembrokeshire College.

We believe that a sixth form, and in particular the sixth forms' of Tasker Milward (TM) and Sir Thomas Picton (STP) schools should remain within the organisational structure and proposed new site of a 21<sup>st</sup> Secondary School on the current STP site in Queensway, Haverfordwest.

We set out below the relevant Welsh Government requirements:

Relevant Bodies should take into account the following specific factors:

- a) Whether proposals will lead to an improvement in the educational or training achievements of persons who are above compulsory school age but below the age of 19.
- b) Whether proposals will contribute to an appropriate range of relevant courses and qualifications and high quality, employer informed, vocational learning routes targeted at pupils of all abilities, whilst maintaining GCSE AS/A Level and other established courses, as required under the Learning and Skills (Wales) Measure 2009 for 14 to 19 year old learners.
- c) Whether proposals are likely to lead to increased participation in learning by pupils beyond compulsory school age, taking into account transport issues and costs to the learners and others, the affordability of such costs, and the likelihood of learners being willing to travel.
- d) The extent to which proposals contribute to the 14 to 19 agenda taking account of the views of local 14 to 19 networks and learning partnerships.
- e) The effects of proposals on 11 to 16 provision in schools.
- f) How proposals would affect the viability of Institutions already providing good quality post 16 provision, including school 6<sup>th</sup> forms, further education Institutions and private training organisations.
- g) How proposals might affect the sustainability or enhancement of Welsh medium provision in the local 14 to 19 network and wider area and promote access to availability of Welsh medium courses in post 16 education.
- h) The extent to which the proposals will provide additional learner benefits compared with the status quo and other tenable options for post 16 organisation.
- i) How proposals might affect the discretionary transport provision a Local Authority may provide to learners above compulsory school age.

**Whether proposals will lead to an improvement in the educational or training achievements of persons who are above compulsory school age but below the age of 19.**

Statistics highlighted that the standards already delivered by the Haverfordwest schools at A level are higher than those delivered by Pembrokeshire College and consequently that the proposal for 6<sup>th</sup> form provision will not lead to an improvement. Further we believe the consultation document to be misleading:

- o The data included in the Consultation document generally refers to Pembrokeshire averages and not specifically to the Haverfordwest schools. Reviewing the A level pass data leads the reader to believe that the pass rates attained by Pembrokeshire College are better than schools in the Mid & North of the County. However the data below shows a direct comparison for 6<sup>th</sup> form subjects studied at a school (STP and/or TM) and Pembrokeshire College (PC) with the data expressed as percentages provided by the Pembrokeshire Federation. This clearly demonstrates that STP & TM have consistently outperformed Pembrokeshire College.

2014	Percentages				Numbers			
	STP/TM	PC	STP/TM	PC	STP/TM	PC	STP/TM	PC
	A*-B	A*-B	A*-C	A*-C	A*-E	A*-E		
Art	67	50	100	100	100	100	9	4
Biology	27	36	33	64	93	82	15	11
Bus St	43	50	79	88	93	100	14	8
Chem	77	64	92	71	100	100	13	14
En Lit	83	75	100	100	100	100	12	8
Fmaths	100	50	100	75	100	75	3	4
H&S	0	0	71	0	100	0	7	1
Maths	63	40	84	40	95	70	19	20
Physics	60	67	80	75	100	92	6	12
Psychology	17	13	50	27	100	48	12	48
Sociology	65	55	82	91	94	100	17	11
<b>Averages</b>	<b>54.73</b>	<b>45.45</b>	<b>79.18</b>	<b>66.45</b>	<b>97.73</b>	<b>78.82</b>	<b>11.55</b>	<b>12.82</b>

2013	Percentages				Numbers			
	STP/TM	PC	STP/TM	PC	STP/TM	PC	STP/TM	PC
	A*-B	A*-B	A*-C	A*-C	A*-E	A*-E		
Art	71	40	71	50	100	70	12	10
Biology	37	0	53	14	74	66	30	7
Bus St	56	20	67	40	89	80	9	10
Chem	71	27	88	36	94	64	17	11
En Lit	76	10	82	40	94	50	17	10
Maths	44	57	79	71	94	71	34	14
Physics	67	14	100	28	100	71	6	7
Sociology	83	33	100	67	100	100	6	3
Averages	63.13	25.13	80.00	43.25	93.13	74.00	16.38	9.00

- Page 15 of the consultation document infers that the proposals will lead to an improvement in the conversion rates under A levels provision by the College. The table on page 18 shows the “conversion rates” across Pembrokeshire but there is no comparative data for the College; so the argument that they will improve is unsubstantiated. Indeed as pupils often make their A level choices based upon the relationship they have with the teachers who taught them KS4, moving to the College may well result in a reduction in conversion rates. Additionally, the figures with regard to the percentage of pupils failing to complete their A level courses do not reflect the current situation at STP & TM.
- Pages 22 and 23 reference 2 studies supporting better outcomes at 6<sup>th</sup> form colleges. One of these studies was sponsored by the 6<sup>th</sup> Form College Association. This is a biased representation of data as there are many studies available showing 6<sup>th</sup> forms attached to schools outperform 6<sup>th</sup> form colleges.
- Page 25 suggests that the proposed 6<sup>th</sup> form centre at Pembrokeshire College will welcome all pupils on a level playing field. This suggests that pupils moving from one school to another with a 6<sup>th</sup> form to do their A levels are disadvantaged in some way.
- We would question why other options for 6<sup>th</sup> form provision are not reported on page 31 while options for other proposals in the consultation document are quoted. This is

particularly surprising given the comment made on page 3 that “consultation rarely throws up a single option”.

- The document references the TRIBAL report on page 59 as a driver for the need to rationalise 6th form provision in Pembrokeshire. In fact, the TRIBAL report’s major recommendation that a combined 6th form should be attached to a school has been ignored.
- The statement on page 62 as to why do students in the 6<sup>th</sup> form colleges outperform their peers in school 6th forms is misleading as contradictory evidence would suggest otherwise.
- Whilst we acknowledge that surplus places are forecast, the combined size of a joint 6th form attached to the new Haverfordwest secondary school would be viable, affordable and sustainable.
- The suggestion on page 14 that extra curricula activities will increase is misleading and illogical; fewer schools means fewer teams in sports such as rugby, soccer, hockey and netball and a reduction in opportunities for involvement in orchestras, school plays, etc.
- A-level subjects in schools currently enjoy 9 hours of contact time per fortnight. It is very likely that the College would cut this to the statutory minimum of 8 hours. We have very real worries about the detrimental impact on results of this loss of 20 hours delivery time during each school year, and 40 over a two year A-level course.

**Whether proposals will contribute to an appropriate range of relevant courses and qualifications and high quality, employer informed, vocational learning routes targeted at pupils of all abilities, whilst maintaining GCSE AS/A Level and other established courses, as required under the Learning and Skills (Wales) Measure 2009 for 14 to 19 year old learners.**

- The statement on page 25 claims there is added value in offering a mix of vocational and academic courses. This is misleading. The consultation proposal argues that greater student choice will be available for academic and vocational subjects even though the current federation already provides this. Timetabling constraints are such that to combine vocational courses with A levels simply would not be possible, given the teaching and practical requirements for vocational courses. This is particularly relevant in the case of vocational subjects as a means to university entry, on the basis that an extended diploma is a full time course in its own right. Although the current federation arrangement provides this option none of the existing A level students have chosen such a combination. This has been the case at STP & TM since the introduction of the federation. In addition, pupils wishing to opt for higher education will only receive enough UCAS points if they complete a full time vocational course or a full set of A levels. They will not receive enough points if they opt for part time vocational and A levels.

- The announced reduction in WG funding by the College, plus the potential loss of additional funding from other sources would suggest that the preferred option would actually place AS/A levels at greater risk, which is contrary to the requirement above to maintain GCSE, AS / A level and other established courses. This risk is further enhanced by the recent (and (recently announced) future) job losses at the College. It is difficult to understand the logic of placing the A level provision at such risk when the current federation agreement actually protects it.

**Whether proposals are likely to lead to increased participation in learning by pupils beyond compulsory school age, taking into account transport issues and costs to the learners and others, the affordability of such costs, and the likelihood of learners being willing to travel.**

- Page 15 of the consultation states that travel time to Preseli School is a deterrent to pupils attending the school. Surely this deterrent will still exist for the potential sixth formers, who will still be required to travel to Preseli for A level provision through the medium of Welsh?

**The extent to which proposals contribute to the 14 to 19 agenda taking account of the views of local 14 to 19 networks and learning partnerships.**

- The current structure, whereby A level provision is commissioned according to demand, and vocational provision is offered by the College already meets learner needs. The amalgamation of the 2 schools will strengthen this approach, given the positive impact on class sizes (there will be 2 providers as opposed to 3). In addition, choice and competition will serve to drive standards forward. These advantages will be lost under the preferred option for re-organisation.

**The effects of proposals on 11 to 16 provision in schools.**

- The theory that 11-16 schools outperform schools with 6th forms at GCSE level is incorrect. Indeed the balance of evidence from various academic sources suggests the contrary. Of 19 studies we have reviewed on the impact of 6th forms, 10 suggest 6th forms attached to schools improve attainment at GCSE (KS4) & A Level (KS5), 5 studies suggest no impact and only 4 studies state that they improve attainment. However 3 of these 4 are specialist academies in the Sciences or Arts. The statement on Page 13 that there is "Reason to expect standards to rise" is therefore not substantiated.
- A school without 6<sup>th</sup> form provision will find it much harder to attract student teachers wishing to complete their training, on the basis that 6<sup>th</sup> form teaching may be part of their course requirement. Any reduction in the number of student teachers will adversely impact on the number of newly qualified teachers applying for jobs. This will severely limit the flow of fresh talent and new ideas into the school.

- The suggestion on page 13 that “attendance will improve” as a result of the proposals is somewhat dubious as the identified procedures are already in place for those schools affected.
- If 6<sup>th</sup> form provision is to be solely delivered by the College then school teaching Staff will be required to move between sites, as stated by the Director of Schools. This is utterly impractical from a timetabling perspective, and will lead to loss of valuable teaching hours, and extra mileage both of which will have a considerable negative impact on the budget.
- On page 63 the document assesses the impact of the removal of the 6th form provision in relation to the rest of the school. We believe the responses given are subjective and that sufficient evidence exists to support the fact that the removal of the 6<sup>th</sup> form will have a detrimental impact on provision and standards. We would argue that 6<sup>th</sup> forms attached to schools:
  - provide role models for younger pupils.
  - develop the resource for school improvement, e.g. reader buddies for children with reading difficulties.
  - attract the highest calibre teachers and pupil of all ages.
  - allow extra curricula activities to be coordinated, organised and delivered by 6th formers.

**How proposals would affect the viability of Institutions already providing good quality post 16 provision, including school 6<sup>th</sup> forms, further education institutions and private training organisations.**

- The amalgamation of the 2 schools will improve the viability of sixth form provision, and as such, will meet this requirement. The retention of the sixth form at the proposed new school would also avoid the duplication of sporting facilities, given that excellent facilities already exist on the STP site - a first class running track, newly laid Astroturf and excellent tennis courts.
- We are led to believe that the proposed 6<sup>th</sup> form centre will be staffed by a mixture of College and Local Authority employees. This scenario is impractical and fraught with problems due to the significant differences in contracts of employment.

**How proposals might affect the sustainability or enhancement of Welsh medium provision in the local 14 to 19 network and wider area and promote access to availability of Welsh medium courses in post 16 education.**

- Whilst we would agree with the statement on Page 10 acknowledging the demand for Welsh medium 3 -16 provision we would question whether the numbers are sufficient to justify a specialist Welsh medium school in the area.



**The extent to which the proposals will provide additional learner benefits compared with the status quo and other tenable options for post 16 organisation.**

- None

**How proposals might affect the discretionary transport provision a Local Authority may provide to learners above compulsory school age.**

- There will be a net gain for the LA as the cost of post 16 discretionary transport will be borne by the College. The corresponding increase in costs for the College may well adversely affect the viability of provision.

Over and above the specific factors detailed above we believe consideration needs to be given to the following:

### **Views of Pupils & Staff**

We would like to reflect and emphasise the comments made by Staff and 6<sup>th</sup> form pupils:

- *"The school environment is one where they feel safe and cared for, and one in which they have built up relationships with staff, who help them deal with a variety of issues and concerns"*
- *"A-level choices partly based on the teaching as they have experienced it at KS3&4,( GCSE & A Level) and they attribute their post 16 success in large part to the supportive yet disciplined nature of the sixth form community"*
- *"teachers will be faced with having to choose between continuing their careers with KS3&4 or KS5; and if they want or need to work full-time, and thus are obliged to stay at a school, the KS5 will not benefit from their expertise and experience; and if they choose to teach KS5 then the same will be true of KS3&4".*
- *"Sixth Form is not only about studying for "A" levels it's about mentoring young people, setting an example, feeling responsibility and setting an example for younger students. Having to go to school every day whether you have lessons or not gets you into the right frame of mind for study and the daily commitment becomes similar to that required by the world of work. Young people should have the choice and there should be consistency of choice throughout the County of Pembrokeshire"*
- *"The removal of choice at A Level stage would be a travesty. The absence of a dedicated 6th form would undoubtedly deter pupils from selecting STP or Tasker Millward when entering the secondary school system (especially the brighter pupils with higher-level aspirations). Not only would this remove pupils' choice, it would also deprive the schools of older role models and sadly bring an end to a long tradition of senior team competitive sports - the importance of this and sense of pride it engenders should not be underestimated. Such a*

*move may also deter more able teachers from applying for teaching roles at the schools. Hospital closures, death of town centres, disgraceful Councillors and now this. What next for beautiful Pembrokeshire?"*

- "Although I went to STP, I'm sure I speak for both schools when I say - It's not just about the range of options available to the pupils at school for A-level or the richness of the curriculum itself.....it's about the consistency of heartfelt guidance, support and belief that students receive from the relationships they maintain with the incredible teaching staff....All the way through secondary school! I know for a fact that is what most of us valued from our journey through school, into SIXTH Form and beyond! Something of that importance should not be removed!"

### Governance

There is confusion in the proposal regarding governance of the proposed 6<sup>th</sup> Form Centre. The arrangement is that the new sixth form centre will come under the auspices of Pembrokeshire College, with a management board which will include the head teachers of YBG, YDS and the Haverfordwest school, and the Chairs of Governors of the same. The proposed body will be subject to the College's funding mechanisms if all post 16 funding is devolved to the College, as suggested in the proposal, thereby restricting the management board's influence. This is patently unworkable.

### Choice

The current format of the consultation – to include both the YDS and YBG proposals – removes all choice from those wanting to continue their education beyond GCSEs. The current federation agreement and provision ensures that all Pembrokeshire students are afforded the same degree of choice for A levels. Whilst the College undoubtedly has a command of vocational provision our statistics illustrate that schools produce better A level results.

The demand for choice is backed up by the overwhelming support from parents and pupils alike throughout Pembrokeshire.

The removal of the sixth form provision opportunities in the Haverfordwest catchment area and the imposition of a College environment on all A level students, will be detrimental to those who are not yet at the stage where they feel confident in moving to a larger, more autonomous environment.

### Site location

Whilst we accept that the STP site is better placed than the TM site to provide a new 21<sup>st</sup> century school (and its land area provides sufficient space for school buildings plus a sixth form centre) we believe that the Local Authority did not undertake consideration of alternative sites for one school within the Haverfordwest area with sufficient due diligence. We are advised that

the Local Authority land at Withybush received consideration as did the land to the rear of the town library in Dew Street (the former Haverfordwest Grammar School site) for the provision of a sixth form centre.

Records show that there is currently ample land available for purchase on the western boundary of the A40 at Withybush between the new Premier Inn and Vincent Davies store. Whilst this land would require purchase, the value of land utilised for education purposes is far below the value of such land for commercial development.

We understand that the Local Authority land on the eastern side of the Withybush road may well have been suitable for a school but for the fact that agreement has recently been reached to provide some form of Gas Depot on part of this land. We have been informed that this agreement was reached long after the initial consultation period began in 2014 and we cannot understand why the Local Authority site was not considered at an earlier stage in the process.

Development land - which could be for school purposes – is also available on the A 487 St David's trunk road adjacent to the Loo Choo roundabout.

Similarly the mart ground in Haverfordwest – behind Morrisons and adjacent to the Haverfordwest Football Club provides sufficient land area for education provision.

### Transport

During the latest consultation period, both Governing Bodies were informed that the STP site was insufficiently large to accommodate the population of an 11 – 19 school – with adjusted catchment area, without undertaking major highway works at an additional cost of £1 million which cannot be taken from the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools budget.

At the present time the transport network serving STP School is very poor with severe congestion during the early morning and late afternoon. There are currently approximately 1250 pupils at STP School. We are advised that a new 11 – 19 Secondary School on the site would extend to 1900 pupils whilst a new 11 – 16 Secondary School would provide 1500 pupils. Apparently the Highways Department will accept use of the existing transport system on the basis that there are no more 1500 pupils.

This suggestion does not allow for any potential future increase in the academic population of a new school which is a negative issue when we are considering the future of education in Pembrokeshire for the next 30 or 40 years.

In addition any increase in pupil population at STP will undoubtedly require major alteration to the transport network to cope. Therefore, if such alterations have to be undertaken to cover an additional pupil intake of 250, such alterations could easily be adapted to accommodate 1900.

### Pupil funding

We have no doubt that Pembrokeshire College is a well run institution. However, there are significant pupil funding differences between schools and FE colleges for post 16 learners. The

College relies on additional funding sources to maintain provision at current levels. Any reductions in the funding levels will inevitably impact on the viability of courses within the FE sector. It is widely known that Pembrokeshire College has had issues with an increasingly broad range of courses over a number of years, resulting in the discontinuation and corresponding reduction in provision. Whilst we are advised that the sixth form centre will be run separately from the College, it is on the College site and monies will be channelled through the College. We must emphasise the potential vulnerability of pupils in years 16 – 19. We ask the question – “Will the Local Authority guarantee that the College will protect the A level delivery and not simply see this additional income as a means by which they can shore up the more costly vocational courses at the expense of reduced A level provision?”

Analysis of the College’s 2014 Financial Statements shows:

A level provision accounts for only 1% of the College’s activity.

In 2014, the College received £15.1 million from core funding, which is perilously close to the £15 million threshold published by the Welsh Government when establishing the viability of FE colleges. Given that the College has already announced a reduction in WG funding of £800,000, this will effectively bring the core funding income to £14.3 million, which is below the WG’s viability threshold. This represents a significant risk to the A level provision, should it all be devolved to the College. Whilst there is £9.6 million included in the statements, the notes indicate that this sum is Work Based Learning Consortium income which is sub-contracted to other partners.

There is also £4 million shown from other sources, but this must be considered in the context of:

- a. The College has already announced a funding reduction for 2015 of £800,000
- b. There is a potential cut of £1 million from other income
- c. There are planned redundancies on the same scale as 2014 (the cost of restructuring in the 2014 accounts is shown as £0.5 million).
- d. The Convergence programme activity is almost at an end, and the 2014-2020 programme is not yet fully operational in terms of externally funded projects
- e. HE provision (which is declining for both full and part time enrolments) is subsidised
- f. International learner numbers have declined from 125 in 2010/2011 to 47 in 2013/2014
- g. The College’s reliance on funding council income increased to 84% in 2014 from 80% in 2013

### **Compassionate rigour**

Whilst the County Council has undoubtedly proved rigorous in its proposals, we suggest that compassion in the Council’s dealing with our pupils has been insufficiently addressed. The proposals in their present format would also affect the viability of institutions already providing good quality post 16 provision. We have quoted the figures for the Joint TM/STP Schools but the removal of a sixth form from YDS will make that successful school unviable. We also suggest that the proposal to relocate all sixth form provision to the College carries a high element of risk, in that the College’s financial situation indicates that it is vulnerable from a Welsh Government viability perspective. In the event that the Local Authority does not include provision for the sixth form at the planned new school, it is unlikely that there will be Welsh Government funding

in the future to extend the facilities to accommodate the sixth form, should the provision be under financial risk at the College. The Welsh Government Transformation Agenda recommends further education mergers to significantly improve the efficiency and effectiveness of such provision within a geographic area. Whilst Coleg Sir Gar in Carmarthenshire has formally merged with the University of Wales Trinity Saint David, there are no immediate plans for a merger by Pembrokeshire College, which could increase the risk to the proposed provision being based at the College.

### **21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools Funding**

The 21<sup>st</sup> Schools Funding definition states “The 21<sup>st</sup> Schools Programme is a funding mechanism, through which the Welsh Government provides money to local authorities for major capital improvements to existing schools and building of new schools”. It further states “the aim is to have the right provision, in the right place, at the right cost”. We do not believe the consultation will achieve these aims.

In addition the 21<sup>st</sup> Century funding programme states “It is essential that all local authority business cases include community benefits and a benefits realisation plan”. Given the very strong reaction to the current proposals we do not accept that they are providing any community benefits.

### **Welsh Medium Provision**

The Joint Governing Bodies support the provision of additional Welsh Medium Provision in Haverfordwest.

We believe that in general the Local Authority proposals for pupils aged 11 – 16 with ALN will sufficiently meet their needs within main stream secondary provision.

### **ALN**

We believe that in general the Local Authority proposals for pupils aged 11-16 with ALN will sufficiently meet their needs within the main stream secondary provision. The existing schools currently manage pupils' years 11-19.

### **Community Impact Assessment**

The proposals in their present format insufficiently consider the community impact of the loss of a 6<sup>th</sup> form to a secondary school. 16 - 19 pupils not only enhance the wellbeing of the school itself, providing support to the younger members but their school activities enhance the community in many competitive areas including sports, music, Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme, Welsh Baccaulaureate, Remembrance Day services – both in school and with the community, the Urdd Eisteddfod, Valero Competition, Rotary Music competition, Art Trips, etc.

### Recommendations

The Joint Governing Bodies recommend the retention of 6<sup>th</sup> form education within the remit of a new Haverfordwest secondary school on the Sir Thomas Picton site, and the development of stronger partnership with successful secondary schools.

### Advantages of 6<sup>th</sup> form retention

- i. Maintain the respect and support of the community by a reduction in the fierce opposition to the present proposals.
- ii. Retention of wellbeing in a new Haverfordwest school as already referred to in the Community Impact Assessment.
- iii. Consolidation of Tasker Milward & Sir Thomas Picton experience in improving standards.
- iv. Potential to adapt and link with other centres of excellence to form strong partnerships.
- v. Continuation of excellence in community activities.
- vi. Ensuring that the size of the school will be in a position to cope with the projected increase in primary school class sizes.
- vii. Retention of choice.
- viii. Establishing an A level academic centre of excellence at the new school.
- ix. Complementary to the Vocational Centre of Excellence at Pembrokeshire College

### Disadvantages

None

### Vision for the future

A quality and settled education environment in the state of the art school buildings for years 11-19, providing high standards and excellence in academic achievements, sharing experiences with other successful secondary educational enterprises throughout Wales and the UK.

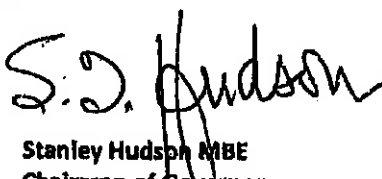
To share good practice and ensure quality assurance in all aspects of the curriculum.

To develop a programme in the 6<sup>th</sup> form which continues to expand and open up the minds and attitudes of our charges in readiness for further academic challenge. This will be achieved via the merger of STP and Tasker Milward, with the resulting new school having the benefit and advantage of such a wide knowledge and skill base, new facilities and a comprehensive range of provision from age 11 through to 19.

We trust that the contents of this document will be considered in detail.

Yours sincerely

  
Paul Lucas, JP  
Chairman of Governors  
Tasker Milward VC Secondary School

  
Stanley Hudson MBE  
Chairman of Governors  
Sir Thomas Picton  
Secondary School