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Annwyl Helen,

Children's Commissioner for Wales – Annual Report

Thank you for your recent communication relating to the Children's Commissioner for Wales' Annual Report whereby he highlights the need for major improvements in the provision of toilet facilities in schools in Wales.

The issue of modernising and improving facilities for pupils has been a core aim of Carmarthenshire County Council's School Modernisation programme which, to date, has seen some £ 100m invested in schools across Carmarthenshire.

This level of investment has been achieved in partnership with the Welsh Assembly Government who have funded almost 50% of the total investment. The Council is due to submit its plans to continue to modernise its facilities through the 21st Century Schools Programme and if successful it looks forward to continuing the programme of improving opportunities for pupils, staff and the community.


The Modernising Educational Programme includes a standard requirement that primary school facilities be designed to incorporating the provision of individual toilet facilities adjacent to each classroom. The arrangement has been found to be helpful in addressing concerns related to the possibility of bullying which can sometimes occur in unsupervised toilets which are remote to the classroom.

Continued ...

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The issue raised by the Commissioner is therefore one that is being progressed at a strategic level through the Council's School Modernisation Programme.

Yours sincerely,



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Director

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