

We asked Powys County Council what they planned to do with all the information they'd gathered from the recent Public Consultation on plans for Hay's new school that they'd conducted. They said:

- The consultation report will be compiled by the council's Communications Team and this should be available by the end of October. It will be reported to Cabinet on 12th November.
- The three main contractors on the council's schools framework are currently Willmott Dixon, Kier Western and Carillion.
- There will be opportunities for local contractors to be employed as part of the project under the project management and control of the main Contractor and Powys CC Procurement Section will arrange for 'meet the buyer' events nearer the time that the project is on site. 'Community benefits' will form part of the Employers Requirements document which means that the three tendering main contractors will be actively encouraged to engage with local contractors to become part of the project and they will be scored as part of the tender process and evaluation on their approach to this engagement.
- All of the funding for the project has not yet been secured. It is intended to fund the project 50:50 between the council and the Welsh Government's 21st Century Schools Programme. A report will be presented to Cabinet on 12th November which will outline the likely cost of the project and the proposed funding sources. In terms of 21st Century Schools Funding, the council must complete satisfactory business cases to Welsh Government - Strategic Outline Case, Outline Business Case and Full Business Case - and this process is underway. Clearly this will need to dovetail with the construction process for the new school which is currently planned for completion in 2016.

We still intend to keep Plan B For Hay in existence for as long as we believe there's a chance we might be needed. Until then, we're waiting to see what the Consultation Report says...