

DELEGATED REPORT

Application No:	P/26/0065
Site Address:	Pen Y Dre High School Goitre Lane Gurnos Merthyr Tydfil CF47 9BY
Development:	Installation of three fascia signs on the southern elevations of the school building.
Case Officer:	Gareth Davies
Site Visit:	8th April 2026
Application Expiry Date:	27th May 2026
Consultation reply date expired:	22nd April 2026

APPLICATION SITE

The application site is the Pen Y Dre Secondary School located to the north of and accessed from Goitre Lane. The school sits within its own grounds with the Gurnos Estate and a new primary school (under construction) located to the South. To the East of the site there is open ground, a solar farm currently under construction and then Galon Uchaf. To the West there is further residential development and the A465(T) lies north of the site.

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

The application seeks advertisement consent for the erection of signage on the school's south facing elevation as follows: -

- The school badge and the words "PEN Y DRE" located on the south facing wall of the southwestern corner of the school. The sign will have overall dimensions of 6m x 1.4m with the badge taking up 1.4m x 1.4m of that space. The lettering will be individual and 0.57m high. The signage would be in black and white and back lit by LED lighting.
- The second element of the signage proposal would be to place the school motto "ASPIRE ACHIEVE BELIEVE" and "DYHEU CYFLAWNI CREDU" at fascia level above the ground and first floor level on the curtain wall cladding of the three storey block on its south elevation. The English version will have overall dimensions of 9.65m x 0.65m and the Welsh version would have dimensions of 9.45m x 0.65m. the lettering would be formed in white solid vinyl and would not be illuminated.

PLANNING HISTORY

P/25/0164 – Discharge of condition 7 LEMP – Approved 08/08/2025.

P/25/0140 – Discharge of condition – 4 CEMP – Approved 22/07/2026.

P/25/0044 – Solar Farm and associated equipment and cabling – Approved 08/05/2025.

P/23/0225 – demolition of 2 wings of Pen y Dre Comprehensive School to provide a modern facility and associated works – Approved 28/11/2023.

P/23/0176 – Temporary classrooms and associated works – Approved 23/08/2023.

P/18/0227 – V of C 2 of P/02/0310 to extend use of floodlights to 9:30pm – Approved 12/09/2018.

P/15/0124 – new windows and entrance door- Approved 01/06/2015.

P/12/0047 – aluminium and uPVC awning on side elevation – Approved 02/05/2012.

P/08/0444 – C of U dwelling to flying start centre – Approved 18/12/2008.

P/02/0310 – Drainage improvements, provision of floodlit ATP changing pavilion and conversion of existing hard play area – Approved 11/09/2002.

P/01/0234 – Renewal of P/96/0284 retaining mobile classroom for 5 years Approved 31/07/2001.

P/96/0284 – 2 class – mobile classroom – Approved 16/08/1996.

CONSULTATION

Head of Engineering and Highways – No objections

PUBLICITY

In accordance with the Town & Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) Order 2012, site notices were placed in and around the site on 8th April 2026.

No objections or representations were received as a result of this publicity exercise.

POLICY CONTEXT

National Development Framework

Future Wales: The National Plan 2040 (February 2021) sets out the strategy for addressing key national priorities through the planning system, including sustaining, and developing a vibrant economy, achieving decarbonisation and climate-resilience, developing strong ecosystems, and improving the health and well-being of our communities.

National Planning Policies

Planning Policy Wales (Edition 12)

Technical Advice Note 7 Outdoor Advertisement Control (1996)

Section 6 – indicates that the display of outdoor advertisements can only be controlled in the interests of amenity and public safety.

Section 10 – notes that in assessing and advertisements impact on public safety, local planning authorities should have regard to its effect on the safe use and operation of any form of traffic or transport, including the likely behaviour of vehicle drivers who will see the advert and possible confusion with any other traffic signs or signals.

Local Planning Policies

There are no specific policies contained within the adopted Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council Replacement Local Development Plan 2016 – 2031 that relate directly to the issue of advertisement control. Consequently, this application needs to be assessed against the advice and requirements outlined in Technical Advice Note 7 as outlined above.

PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

The key considerations in the assessment of this application are whether the proposed advertisements are acceptable in terms of their impact on amenity and public safety.

The proposed signs are considered acceptable in terms of their impact on amenity. Both signs are substantial in terms of their size though only one would be illuminated. Neither would appear out of place given the wider context of large educational buildings being located within their own grounds. Neither sign would impact the amenity of nearby dwellings the nearest of which is some 70m distant with other elements of the school in-between where the illuminated sign is concerned. The non illuminated sign though larger would be further distant from any residential accommodation.

With regard to the impact of the signs on public safety, and particularly highway safety, there would be no adverse impacts the signs would be read in the context of the school where they are visible from the public highway. There is no conflict with the wider highway system around the school, and this is reflected in the fact that the Councils Highways department have raised no objections and have not requested any conditions being incorporated in to any permission that might be granted.

CONCLUSIONS

For the above reasons, the proposed advertisements are considered acceptable and accords with planning policy in terms of the requirement to satisfy amenity and public safety considerations. As such, a positive recommendation is made below offering support for the application for advertisement consent.

The duty to improve the economic, social, environmental, and cultural well-being of Wales, in accordance with the sustainable development principle, under section 3 of the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 (“the WBFG Act”) has been taken into consideration when determining this application. In reaching the following recommendation, the ways of working set out at section 5 of the WBFG Act have been

considered and thus the proposal is in accordance with the sustainable development principle through its contribution towards one or more of the Welsh Ministers well-being objectives set out as required by section 8 of the WBFG Act.

RECOMMENDATION: BE APPROVED

RECOMMENDATION ENDORSED



Director of Neighbourhood Services

DATE: 05.05.2026