The information contained within this document was developed for the Listening & Engagement Sessions and includes the potential strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and risks for the following sites;

* Site 1 – Vaynor & Penderyn High School
* Site 2 – Godre’r Coed Playing Fields

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| **Site 1: Vaynor & Penderyn High School** | | | | | | |
| **Strengths** | **Weaknesses** | | | **Opportunities** | **Risks** | |
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| Centrally located in the village.    No identified flood risk  Limited impact on biodiversity.  Utilities available.  The principle of developing a new school on this site is acceptable as it is located within the settlement boundary as identified in the Merthyr Tydfil Local Development Plan (LDP). | Pedestrian access will not comply with requirements of the Learner Travel Statutory Guidance (issued by WG in 2014) or Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013. No footways on many routes.  Vehicular access from the A4054 is constrained because road network is mainly narrow streets with no footways with a lack of space to provide them.  Existing site access would be difficult for the construction plant and delivery of materials because of the narrow streets and on road car parking.  Road widening would require the acquisition of land most likely via Compulsory Purchase.  Irregular shaped site limits design options.  Split site required. The site is too small to meet government guidance for external space requirements for primary education - only 49% of recommended area on site. (Source BB99) Additional offsite sports play area is required on the Godre’r Coed Site This site is protected by a Fields in Trust order which will require compensatory land offered to the community if this location is used.  Site is sloping and will incur more cost.  For Godre’r Coed usage the site is in the adopted Merthyr Tydfil Open Space Strategy (June 2016). Such public open space sites are protected in the Merthyr Tydfil Local Development Plan by Policy BW16. Also lies adjacent to the Cyfarthfa Conservation Area, therefore, its setting would have to be preserved or enhanced. | | | If not used for the school site can provide additional facilities for the residents such as parking or Multi-use Gaming Area (MUGA)/public park community play area.    If Godre’r Coed required Enhanced/alternative facilities would have to be provided to satisfy policy BW16. | Increase in levels of traffic and on-street parking is likely to increase risks to pupils, pedestrians and other road users.  Because of the narrow roads on-street parking could result in obstructions to the carriageway affecting all users particularly emergency services.  Road widening may require removal / relocation of graves. Removal / relocation of graves may have a legal challenge would could delay the project.  Compulsory Purchase Orders may cause delays and could prevent the programme being delivered in WG timescales.  Increase in on-street parking could result in conflict between residents and parents.  Additional costs may be needed to address identified barriers.  Installation of sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) likely to be challenging.  The school will need to take action to mitigate any risks which may arise from the use of additional offsite play area e.g. Health & Safety and safeguarding.  If the offsite area is the Godre’r Coed Playing Fields then consent required from Fields in Trust, which may be delayed or refused. | |
| **Site 2: Godre’r Coed Playing Fields** | | | | | | |
| **Strengths** | | **Weaknesses** | **Opportunities** | | | **Risks** |
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| Located in the village.  Site can provide safe vehicular and pedestrian access.  Site can provide adequate onsite parking facilities for drop off and pick up.  Safe routes compliant - does this apply to other sites?    Large level site which meets government guidance for external space for primary schools.  No identified flood risk  Utilities available.  Likely to be able to facilitate the installation of affordable SuDS.    The principle of developing the site for a new school is acceptable as it is located within the settlement boundary (as identified in the LDP). | | The site is protected by a Fields in Trust order which will require compensatory land offered to the community if this location is used.  Reduce size of current available amenity for community/sports use. By approximately 56%.    Identified as a site in the adopted Merthyr Tydfil Open Space Strategy (June 2016). Such public open space sites are protected in the Merthyr Tydfil Local Development Plan by Policy BW16. Also lies adjacent to the Cyfarthfa Conservation Area, therefore, its setting would have to be preserved or enhanced. | Provide new facilities for use not only by the school but also by other schools in the area and the community.    Provide safe parking / drop off facilities.    Enhance / improve community sports facilities.  Provide improved safe fenced playing area.    Enhanced/alternative facilities would have to be provided to satisfy policy BW16. | | | Increase in levels of traffic is likely to increase risks to pedestrians and other road users.  Additional costs may be needed to address identified barriers. |