

Dear Councillor _____

Re: Plas Dol-y-Moch - Coventry's Outdoor Education Centre

I am writing to you as a concerned teacher/TA/parent/ citizen of Coventry

I understand that there is a consultation taking place regarding the future of Plas Dol Y Moch, Coventry's Outdoor Education Centre in North Wales.

I do understand that under the current lockdown that the centre cannot be used by Coventry children. However, I think it's essential that the centre is available for Coventry children to help with their recovery as soon as the centre is safe and ready for use. Having the opportunity to experience the outdoors will help so much to improve children's mental health and wellbeing.

Plas Dol y Moch has always been run as an educational centre with activities led by teachers who have a clear understanding of the curriculum and of the needs of the students. They have particular skills in engaging SEND students and catering for their additional needs. Any move away from this ethos to a commercial model would adversely affect this.

A move to a commercial model of a valued Coventry City Council service must be stopped now before competent, qualified, and experienced leaders are lost.

If pursued, this direction of travel may well lead to the ultimate failure of Plas Dol-y-Moch, rather than enhance it, to the detriment of the children of Coventry.

As this proposal affects schools, children and their parents, I would urge you to hold a full and transparent citywide consultation on the future of Dol Y Moch before you look at the staffing structure. COVID should not lead to the end of this vital part of the future generation's childhood. It is needed more than ever.

