

## PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL

Lifelong Learning Committee – 14 August 2013

## STATUTORY CONSULTATION – RELOCATION OF CRIEFF PRIMARY SCHOOL

Report by Executive Director (Education and Children's Services)

**PURPOSE OF REPORT**

This Report informs the Committee of the outcome and findings of the statutory consultation exercise undertaken in respect of Crieff Primary School as detailed in the published Consultation Report (attached as Appendix A). This report also seeks approval from the Lifelong Learning Committee to implement the proposal to relocate the existing Crieff Primary School to a new school on site adjacent to Strathearn Community Campus from August 2015.

**1. BACKGROUND / MAIN ISSUES**

- 1.1 Education Authorities have a statutory duty in terms of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980 to make adequate and efficient provision of school education across their area. This duty applies in respect of both the current school population and future pattern of demand. In addition, Councils have a statutory duty to secure best value in terms of the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003.

Most importantly, the Education Authority would wish to optimise the educational experience for every pupil by providing:

- a range of social and emotional experiences.
- an enriched and broad learning experience.
- the best possible education which meets the needs of all learners.

- 1.2 On 30 June 2010, the Council approved the report Securing the Future – Towards 2015 and Beyond (Report 10/357 refers). This report set out its continuing strategy for securing the future, aiming to support the delivery of savings through revised service delivery models and ongoing improvement activities in the Council. Education and Children's Service's Service Review Programme within this report contains a re-design project to "review the school estate".
- 1.3 On 8 March 2012, the Lifelong Learning School Estate Sub-Committee approved the report Capital Programme 2012/13 – 2016/17 (Report 12/114 refers). Contained within this report was the recommendation to approve a statutory consultation takes place regarding the proposal to relocate the existing Crieff Primary School to a new school on a site adjacent to Strathearn Community Campus.

- 1.4 On 31 October 2012, the Lifelong Learning Committee approved the report Statutory Consultation - Relocation of Crieff Primary School (Report 12/486 refers). The Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) was instructed to formally consult the appropriate bodies and persons in relation to the proposal to relocate the existing Crieff Primary School to a new school on a new site. It also sought approval of the Proposal Paper (attached as Appendix B).
- 1.5 The Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) was instructed to report back to the Committee on the outcome of these consultations in due course.
- 1.6 The purpose of this report is to inform the Committee of the responses and comments which have been received from stakeholders during the public consultation exercise on the relocation of Crieff Primary School, and to recommend an appropriate course of action having had regard to relevant written and oral representations; HMI's Report; and relevant responses received in the period following publication of the Consultation Report.
- 1.7 The Lifelong Learning School Estate Sub-Committee was provided with an update report on the School Estate Capital Programme progress on 6 June 2013 (Report 13/281 refers). This report advised Elected Members on progress and proposals for delivering the current capital projects within Education and Children's Services school estate programme and recent procurement activity which had taken place to facilitate the construction element of the projects.
- 1.8 Elected Members were advised that it is anticipated that construction work on the new Crieff Primary School will be completed in the summer of 2015.
- 1.9 The Crieff Primary School project is being delivered through East Central Hub. This is one of the first contracts within Perth and Kinross to be undertaken by this process. The significant preparation for this partnership, which involves procuring, briefing and working with private sector consultants and architects on the design, along with the ambitious original timescale and complexity of the contract has resulted in the completion of the project now being advised as August 2015.

## **2 STATUTORY CONSULTATION EXERCISE**

- 2.1 The Proposal Paper (attached as Appendix B) was issued on 16 November 2012 to those individuals and bodies listed under Distribution within the document. The Proposal Paper was also published on the Council's website: [www.pkc.gov.uk](http://www.pkc.gov.uk). The Proposal Paper made clear to consultees that the consultation period would run until Friday 25 January 2013 – a period of 38 school days in total.
- 2.2 The number of letters issued with details of the Proposal Paper was 614.

- 2.3 Two public meetings were held; the first in Strathearn Community Campus on Tuesday 11 December 2012. Eleven members of the public attended. The second public meeting was held in Strathearn Community Campus on Thursday 10 January 2013. This meeting was better attended, with twenty one members of the public present.
- 2.4 In all, there were three enquiries submitted regarding the proposal and two written responses were received during the statutory consultation period.
- 2.5 Having considered the oral and written representations; and HMI's Report, the Consultation Report was prepared and issued, electronically, for public scrutiny on 8 July 2013 and also electronically released through the Council's website on 8 July 2013. This has allowed for more than the required full three week review of the document prior to a Committee decision on 14 August 2013 and complies with section 9 (3) and section 11 of the 2010 Act. The Consultation Report was published on 8 July 2013 for a period of five weeks.

### **3. PROPOSALS**

- 3.1 Following the outcome of the statutory consultation exercise detailed in the Consultation Report (attached as Appendix A), and having due regard to relevant written and oral representations and HMI's Report, it is therefore proposed to implement the proposal to relocate Crieff Primary School to a new school on a site adjacent to Strathearn Community Campus from August 2015.

### **4. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

A comprehensive Proposal Paper containing an Educational Benefits Statement was produced. This allowed for informed consideration to be given to the proposal to relocate Crieff Primary School to a new school through formal consultation with key stakeholders. The outcome and findings of the statutory consultation exercise have been widely published and it is now recommended to implement the proposal to relocate Crieff Primary School to a new school on a site adjacent to Strathearn Community Campus from August 2015. An updated full business case for the Crieff Primary School project will be presented to a future meeting of the School Estate Sub-Committee.

It is recommended that the Committee:

- (i) Notes the contents of the Consultation Report (attached as Appendix A);
- (ii) Approves the implementation of the following proposal:  
Education provision at the existing Crieff Primary School is relocated to a new school on a site adjacent to Strathearn Community Campus with effect from August 2015; and

- (iii) Instructs the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) to report back to the School Estate Sub-Committee with the updated full business case for the Crieff Primary School project in due course.

#### Author(s)

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#### Approved

Name	Designation	Date
John Fyffe	Executive Director	5 August 2013

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## 1. IMPLICATIONS, ASSESSMENTS, CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

<b>Strategic Implications</b>	
Community Plan / Single Outcome Agreement	No
Corporate Plan	Yes
<b>Resource Implications</b>	
Financial	Yes
Workforce	No
Asset Management (land, property, IST)	No
<b>Assessments</b>	
Equality Impact Assessment	No
Strategic Environmental Assessment	No
Sustainability (community, economic, environmental)	No
Legal and Governance	Yes
Risk	No
<b>Consultation</b>	
Internal	Yes
External	Yes
<b>Communication</b>	
Communications Plan	No

### 1. Strategic Implications

1.1 The Perth and Kinross Community Plan 2013-2023 and Perth and Kinross Council Corporate Plan 2013/2018 set out five strategic objectives:

- (i) Giving every child the best start in life;
- (ii) Developing educated, responsible and informed citizens;
- (iii) Promoting a prosperous, inclusive and sustainable economy;
- (iv) Supporting people to lead independent, healthy and active lives; and
- (v) Creating a safe and sustainable place for future generations.

This report relates to Objective No (ii) Developing educated, responsible and informed citizens.

1.2 The report also links to the Education & Children's Services Policy Framework in respect of the following key policy area: Change and Improvement.

### 2. Resource Implications

#### Financial

2.1 There are no financial implications relating to the statutory consultation exercise as this mainly related to staff time. Funding for a replacement Crieff Primary School was approved by Perth and Kinross Council in March 2012 to proceed with the capital building project.

### 3. Assessments

#### Equality Impact Assessment

- 3.1 Under the Equality Act 2010, the Council is required to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations between equality groups. Carrying out Equality Impact Assessments for plans and policies allows the Council to demonstrate that it is meeting these duties.

The procedure presented in this report was considered under the Corporate Equalities Impact Assessment process (Eq1A) with the following outcome:

- i) Assessed as **not relevant** for the purposes of Eq1A

#### Strategic Environmental Assessment

- 3.3 The Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 places a duty on the Council to identify and assess the environmental consequences of its proposals.

The matters presented in this report were considered under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 and no further action is required as it does not qualify as a PPS as defined by the Act and is therefore exempt.

#### Legal and Governance

- 3.4 This consultation exercise has been undertaken in accordance with the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 and with the full involvement of Legal Services throughout the process.

### 4. Consultation

#### Internal

- 4.1 The Head of Democratic Services and Head of Legal Services have been consulted in the preparation of this report. Consultation on this proposal was also undertaken with key stakeholders as part of the statutory consultation exercise.

#### External

- 4.2 This report contains full details of the Statutory Consultation exercise undertaken in respect of this proposal and this is fully detailed in Appendix A.

### 2. BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt

information) were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report.

### **3. APPENDICES**

Appendix A: Consultation Report

Appendix B: Proposal Paper





**PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL**

**EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES**

**CONSULTATION REPORT**

**REPORT ON THE OUTCOME OF THE CONSULTATION  
RELATING TO THE RELOCATION OF THE EXISTING CRIEFF  
PRIMARY SCHOOL TO A NEW SCHOOL ON A SITE  
ADJACENT TO STRATHEARN COMMUNITY CAMPUS**

**27 JUNE 2012**

This Consultation Report has been issued by Perth and Kinross Council in accordance with the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010.

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**PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL**  
**EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES**

This report has been prepared following consultation on the proposal that:

Education provision at the existing Crieff Primary School is relocated to a new school on a site adjacent to Strathearn Community Campus with effect from Tuesday 19 August 2014, or as soon as possible thereafter.

Having had regard (in particular) to:

- a) Relevant written representations received by the Council (from any person) during the consultation period;
- b) Oral representations made to it (by any person) at the public meetings held on 11 December 2012 and 10 January 2013; and
- c) HMI's report on the proposal.

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

This is a consultation report prepared in compliance with the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 on the above proposal.

1.1 The purpose of this report is to:

- Provide a record of the total number of written responses made during the Statutory Consultation period;
- Provide a summary of the written responses;
- Provide a summary of oral representations made at the public meetings held on 11 December 2012 and 10 January 2013;
- Provide a statement of the Council's response to those written and oral representations;
- Provide the full text of Her Majesty's Inspectorate report and a statement of the Council's response to this report;
- State how the Council reviewed the above proposal following the representations received during the Statutory Consultation period and the report from Her Majesty's Inspectorate;
- Provide details of any omission from, or inaccuracy in, the Proposal Paper and state how the Council acted upon it; and
- State how the Council has complied with Section 12 of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 when reviewing the above proposals.

## **2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 On 30 June 2010, the Council approved the report Securing the Future – Towards 2015 and Beyond (Report 10/357 refers). This report set out its continuing strategy for securing the future, aiming to support the delivery of savings through revised service delivery models and ongoing improvement activities in the Council. Education and Children’s Service’s Service Review Programme within this report contains a re-design project to “review the school estate”.
- 2.2 The buildings at Crieff Primary School have evolved over the past century with additional accommodation being added to the original building. The existing Crieff Primary School building rates as C in terms of condition and C in terms of suitability as outlined in the Core Facts returns that are submitted to the Scottish Government as part of Perth and Kinross Council’s School Estate Management Plan.
- 2.3 Funding for a replacement Crieff Primary School was approved by Perth and Kinross Council in March 2012 to proceed with the capital building project.
- 2.4 On 8 March 2012, the Lifelong Learning School Estate Sub-Committee approved the report Capital Programme 2012/13 – 2016/17 (Report 12/114 refers). Contained within this report was the recommendation to approve a statutory consultation takes place regarding the proposal to relocate the existing Crieff Primary School to a new school on a site adjacent to Strathearn Community Campus from Tuesday 19 August 2014.
- 2.5 On 31 October 2012, the Lifelong Learning Committee approved the report Statutory Consultation - Relocation of Crieff Primary School (Report 12/486 refers). The Executive Director (Education and Children’s Services) was instructed to formally consult the appropriate bodies and persons in relation to the proposal to relocate the existing Crieff Primary School to a new school on a new site.
- 2.6 Lifelong Learning Committee reports and Proposal Paper referred to above are available on the Council’s website [www.pkc.gov.uk](http://www.pkc.gov.uk).

## **3. CONSIDERATIONS**

The main considerations relating to the proposal that education provision at the existing Crieff Primary School is relocated to a new school on a site adjacent to Strathearn Community Campus are fully explained in the proposal paper and the main points are highlighted overleaf:

- 3.1 The roll at Crieff Primary School is predicted to rise in future years.
- 3.2 The new Crieff Primary School will be built with a capacity for 434 primary pupils initially, but with sufficient core areas that additional accommodation could be provided for future generations. A nursery with 40 places in the morning and 40 places in the afternoon will be provided. The nursery will be designed so it can provide an extended number of places in the future.
- 3.3 Perth and Kinross Council is committed to delivering entitlements to learners in the 21st century according to a Curriculum for Excellence.
- 3.4 A new Crieff Primary School will provide a high quality learning environment offering greater flexibility for all school activities. The suitability of the new school building will be at the heart of the design process. It should be an attractive place to learn that inspires pupils to engage with the curriculum.
- 3.5 The new building could adapt to future learning requirements, and the design process will ensure that all spaces support the learning and teaching styles of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.
- 3.6 The condition of the building will be a significant improvement on the current school, making the environment more attractive to learners.
- 3.7 The new school will provide more space per pupil; will be fully accessible and equipped with modern ICT solutions to ensure that the best learning opportunity is afforded to every pupil.
- 3.8 It is believed that this proposal will not have an adverse impact on pupils of any other schools in the authority's area. There are no changes being proposed to the catchment area serving the new school and, therefore, will not impact on admission arrangements for children living in adjacent catchment areas. It is recognised that there is the potential for parents of pupils living in other catchment areas to consider submitting placing requests for their child to attend the new school. However, parents currently already have the same right to make such requests at the moment for the existing Crieff Primary School.
- 3.9 Owing to the short distance between the existing school and the proposed site of the new school there should be no detrimental impact on existing users of Crieff Primary School. The improved quality of facilities and improved access for community use will not adversely impact on existing users of Crieff Primary School.

## 4. THE CONSULTATION PROCESS

- 4.1 A Proposal Paper was considered and approved by Perth and Kinross Council's Lifelong Learning Committee at its meeting on 31 October 2012. An electronic link to the Proposal Paper was issued by letter on 16 November 2012 to those individuals and bodies listed under Distribution within the document. The Proposal Paper was also published on the Council's website: [www.pkc.gov.uk](http://www.pkc.gov.uk).

The Proposal Paper made clear to consultees that the consultation period would run until Friday 25 January 2013 – a period of 38 school days in total which exceeds the required period of at least 30 school days.

- 4.2 The proposal on which consultation took place was that:

Education provision at the existing Crieff Primary School is relocated to a new school on a site adjacent to Strathearn Community Campus with effect from Tuesday 19 August 2014, or as soon as possible thereafter.

- 4.3 The requirements for consulting on a relevant proposal relating to schools are set out in the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010.
- A proposal paper was issued on 16 November 2012. A copy of this document was provided free of charge to the consultees listed within the document.
  - The proposal paper was published on the Perth and Kinross Council website [www.pkc.gov.uk](http://www.pkc.gov.uk).
  - Copies were also available at Pullar House, the Council Headquarters at 2 High Street, Crieff Primary School, Strathearn Community Library and local Council area offices in the vicinity.
  - An advertisement ran in the Courier and Advertiser, Perthshire Advertiser and Strathearn Herald newspapers on 16 and 20 November 2012.
  - Two public meetings were held to discuss the proposal. The first was held at Strathearn Community Campus on 11 December 2012. The second was held on 10 January 2013 at Strathearn Community Campus
  - The Consultation period ended on 25 January 2013.
  - Her Majesty's Inspectorate involvement consisted of: the proposal document being sent to them, attendance at the public meeting on 10 January 2013 and meeting with a sample of pupils, staff and parents on 19 February 2013. They also received a copy of all written representations. They then prepared a report on the educational aspects of the proposal. This is attached as Appendix 4.

- 4.4 The affected school was identified as Crieff Primary School. In accordance with statutory requirements, the following persons were consulted:
- The Parent Council of the affected school.
  - The parents of the pupils and children who may attend the affected school.
  - Parents of children expected to attend an affected school within two years of the date of publication of this proposal document.
  - The teaching and ancillary staff at the affected school.
  - The trade union representatives of the above staff.
  - The Community Council.
  - Relevant users of the affected school.
  - Elected Members of Perth and Kinross Council.
  - The Constituency MSP and List MSPs covering the Constituency.
  - The Constituency MP.
  - The Executive Director, The Environment Service, Perth and Kinross Council.
  - Tayside Contracts (providers of catering and cleaning services to schools).
  - HMI.
- 4.5 The number of letters issued with details of the proposal paper was 614.
- 4.6 During the consultation period representations were sought from interested parties, either in oral or written form or electronically. A specific email account was set up by the Council to receive enquiries on the proposal or representations.
- 4.7 This Consultation Report is the Council's response to the issues raised during the consultation period on the Proposal Paper.
- 4.8 This Consultation Report will be published for a period of five weeks before a final decision is taken by Perth and Kinross Council.

## **5. THE PUBLIC MEETINGS**

- 5.1 A public meeting was held in Strathearn Community Campus on Tuesday 11 December 2012. Eleven members of the public attended. A full note of the meeting is attached as Appendix 1 which details the questions and issues raised at the meeting.
- 5.2 A public meeting was held in Strathearn Community Campus on Thursday 10 January 2013. Twenty one members of the public attended. A full note of the meeting is attached as Appendix 2 which details the questions and issues raised at the meeting.

- 5.3 The attendees at the public meetings and the questions and issues raised, indicate that almost all the parents and community members from Crieff Primary School have no concerns with the Council's proposal to relocate the existing Crieff Primary School to a new school on a site adjacent to the Strathearn Community Campus.

## **6. RESPONSES TO THE CONSULTATION EXERCISE**

In all, two written responses were received during the consultation period. Both representations support the proposal and no representations were made opposing the proposal. The breakdown of the respondent groups is contained within the Summary of Consultation Responses, attached as Appendix 3.

In summary, the written and oral responses can be grouped broadly as follows:

- Concerns regarding the safety and lighting of Broich Road. Increased road traffic, traffic congestion and speed limit concerns in the area. Car parking and bus bay provision. Road infrastructure and improvements. Safe access for pedestrians and cyclists.
- Plans for wraparound care in the new school and continuation of breakfast club and reintroduction of out of school care clubs.
- Use of shared facilities with the campus and the requirement for green space at the new primary school.
- Queries regarding the chosen architects and use of HubCo to design and build the new school. Confidence in use of HubCo and best value for the Council. Timescale for the project to be completed.
- Query regarding St Dominic's RC Primary School moving to the new school/merging with Crieff Primary School. Possibility of a new sports pavilion between the campus and the new primary school. Concern regarding possible Police Station at campus.
- The role of the User Reference Group and representation on the group. The disposal and use of the current school building. Future capacity of the new school and pupil roll numbers.

## **7. EDUCATION AUTHORITY RESPONSE TO WRITTEN AND ORAL REPRESENTATIONS**

- 7.1 **Concerns regarding road safety, traffic congestion, road infrastructure, parking and safe access for pedestrians and cyclists**

The Council agrees these issues are a concern and the Council will be working with the architects on the design of the new school and road infrastructure. All comments made during the consultation period and feedback from the User Reference Group will be taken on board to ensure these are considered. There will be representation from Roads Services on the User Reference Group to ensure their full involvement in the design of the new primary school. This will allow the requirements for the new primary school and past issues which were not addressed at the time to be fully considered as part of this project.

**7.2 Plans for wraparound care in the new school and continuation of breakfast club and reintroduction of out of school care clubs**

This will be considered by the User Reference Group in taking forward the proposal. All current facilities provided by Crieff Primary School will continue in the new school. Any additional provision will require to be considered by the Head of Education and Early Years.

**7.3 Use of shared facilities with the campus and the requirement for green space at the new primary school**

The new primary school will have access to the facilities at the community campus. One of the main advantages of for the new site is the proximity to the community campus and the primary school being able to use the campus sports and leisure facilities, which the pupils will benefit highly from. The new primary school will have its own green space.

**7.4 Queries regarding the chosen architects and use of HubCo to design and build the new school**

The Council is working with HubCo (set up by the Scottish Government) which is a private sector partnership to develop and construct the new school in Crieff as well as Oakbank Primary School. There are currently sixty consultants and further information can be found on the HubCo website. Perth and Kinross is not the first or only Council to use HubCo and there are no concerns contracting them for the new school at Crieff. The Council is confident that that it will get best value for money using HubCo and prices will be confirmed when the designs for the new school are created. The indicative timescale for the project is very ambitious and will be confirmed when procurement to facilitate the construction element of the project is undertaken.

**7.5 Query regarding St Dominic's RC Primary School moving to the new school/merging with Crieff Primary School**

There are no plans for merging Crieff Primary School and St Dominic's RC Primary School together. St Dominic's RC Primary School will not be moving to the new Crieff Primary School. Discussions had taken place previously as part of the initial planning which had included both primary schools.

However, this was not agreed by St Dominic's RC Primary School or the Roman Catholic Church representatives when they were consulted

**7.6 Possibility of a new sports pavilion between the campus and the new primary school**

This suggestion should be referred to the User Reference Group in due course for consideration.

**7.7 Concern regarding possible Police Station at campus**

The Police Force is currently consulting on this matter. It is possible, but that decision would not be taken by the Council. The Police Scotland website can provide further information on the consultation.

**7.8 The role of the User Reference Group and representation on the group**

There will be a range of representation on the group from all local interest groups, including the Parent Council, and the representative of parents will usually be the Chairperson of the Parent Council. Once the designs are created, the User Reference Group will meet to discuss these. The school and the Parent Council will continue to work with parents to gather views and ensure feedback of all issues to the User Reference Group.

**7.9 The disposal and use of the current school building**

At this point in time it is unknown what will happen with the current school building. Education and Children's Services will liaise with other services in the Council to establish if the building is required for any new projects in accordance with the Council's Disposal Policy. If it is not required, it is likely the building will go on the property market.

**7.10 Future capacity of the new school and pupil roll numbers**

The current pupil roll at Crieff Primary School is 336 pupils and the highest anticipated roll is 436 pupils. The new school will be built with capacity for 434 pupils initially but with sufficient core areas that additional accommodation could be provided for future generations. A nursery with 40 places in the morning and 40 places in the afternoon will be provided. The nursery will be designed so it can provide an extended number of places in the future, if required. The school will be built in phases in accordance with the projected school roll. The current analysis shows that a double stream school and associated facilities will be required from the outset. This will then be developed up to a triple stream school, in line with any revised projected roll as more information relating to the housing output rate is known.

## **8. HER MAJESTY'S INSPECTORATE (HMI) REPORT**

8.1 In accordance with the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, a report was produced by HMI on the educational aspects of the proposal.

8.2 HMI visited Crieff Primary School to speak to pupils, parents and staff. HMI attended the public meeting on 10 January 2013 and had the opportunity to review in detail the proposal paper and a summary of the 2 written responses and oral responses.

8.3 The HMI report is reproduced in full (Appendix 4).

8.4 The report broadly supports the proposal and is summarised below:

- HMI indicate that there is general agreement amongst stakeholders that the current Crieff Primary School building is no longer an appropriate learning environment for children in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. There is agreement that this cannot be achieved by modification of the existing building (HMI para 4.1).
- HMI advise that the proposed site for the new school has clear educational benefits for children and these have been identified and agreed by school staff, parents and the children (HMI para 4.2).
- HMI noted that all stakeholders agree that having a new school will bring educational benefits for children. An improved learning environment will benefit children and enhance opportunities for learning and teaching. Transition will be enhanced by the adjacent locations and children with autism will benefit through having appropriately designed facilities (HMI para 4.3).
- HMI point out that the Council needs to ensure that concerns about vehicular access are addressed as the design for the school is developed (HMI para 4.4).
- HMI indicate that the Council needs to ensure that parents are kept aware of how these concerns are being addressed as the development proceeds (HMI para 4.4).

### **8.5 Perth and Kinross Council's Response to HMI's Report**

The Council welcomes the report from HMI and accepts its findings.

In response to the findings contained within the HMI report, Perth and Kinross response is as follows:

**The Council needs make sure that the concerns about vehicular access to the school are addressed as the design for the school and its surroundings are developed.**

The Council's Road Services department was represented at the public meetings to establish first hand the concerns of parents and wider stakeholders regarding concerns relating to road access, road safety issues, increased volume of traffic, congestion and parking. Road Services will be fully involved at all stages of the design and development process to ensure these concerns are appropriately dealt with.

Road Services will be represented on the User Reference Group which has been established by Education and Children's Services. The User Reference Group includes representatives of all stakeholder groups including parents, community council, elected members and school staff.

**The Council needs to ensure that parents are kept aware of how these concerns are being addressed as the development proceeds.**

A communications plan is developed with the User Reference Group to ensure that parents are kept informed at each key stage throughout the project. The Council will work with the headteacher to ensure parents are kept aware of how these concerns are being addressed. In addition to the usual communication channels, there will also be an opportunity for parents to attend a drop-in session which will allow the Council to share information directly with parents.

## **9. ALLEGED OMISSIONS OR INACCURACIES**

- 9.1 Section (10) (3) of the 2010 Act also places a requirement on the Council to provide details of any inaccuracy or omission within the proposal paper which has either been identified by the Council or raised by consultees. This section of the 2010 Act also requires the Council to provide a statement on the action taken in respect of the inaccuracy or omission, or, if no action was taken, to state that fact and why.
- 9.2 In the course of the consultation exercise, there were no areas identified by respondents as being inaccurate or omitted from the proposal paper during the consultation period.

## **10. COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 9(1) OF THE SCHOOLS (CONSULTATION) (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010**

10.1 Section 9(1) of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 states that:

*After the Education Authority has received HMI's report, the Authority is to review the relevant proposal having regard (in particular) to:*

- (i) written representations received by the Authority (from any person) during the consultation period,*
- (ii) oral representations made to it (by any person) at the public meeting,*
- (iii) HMI's report.*

10.2 Following receipt of two written representations and consideration of oral representations made at a public meeting held during the consultation period, officers reviewed the proposals.

10.3 The feedback from the consultation was considered by a range of officers. This ensured that the Council met the requirements of sections 9(1), 12 and 13(3) (b) of the 2010 Act.

10.4 Officers of the Education Authority have listened carefully to the points made at the public meetings and have considered equally carefully the written representations, including the HMI report. Having reviewed the feedback from consultees, officers conclude that the basis of the original proposal remained the best solution to provide appropriate and effective education provision to serve Crieff Primary School.

10.5 The Lifelong Learning School Estate Sub-Committee was provided with an update report on the School Estate Capital Programme progress on 6 June 2013 (Report 13/281 refers). This report advised on progress and proposals for delivering the current capital projects within Education and Children's Services school estate programme and recent procurement activity which had taken place to facilitate the construction element of the projects. Elected Members were advised that it is now anticipated that construction work on the new Crieff Primary School will be completed in the summer of 2015.

## **11. LEGAL ISSUES**

11.1 The Council has complied in full with the requirements of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 throughout this statutory consultation.

- 11.2 The Council is mindful of its duties in respect of equality and the Equality Impact Assessment did not identify that any parent, child or young person would be treated less favourably as a result of this proposal.
- 11.3 Under the terms of the Schools (Scotland) (Consultation) Act 2010, it is a legal requirement that the Council should not reach any formal decision without:
- having reviewed the relevant proposal having regard, in particular, to:
    - a) relevant written representations received from any person during the consultation period;
    - b) oral representation made to it by any person at the public meetings held on 11 December 2012 and 10 January 2013;
    - c) the HMI report;
  - preparing a Consultation Report; and
  - waiting until a period of three weeks starting on the day on which this Consultation Report is published in electronic and printed form has expired.
- 11.4 As it is the intention that this Consultation Report should be published, both electronically and in written form, on Monday 8 July 2013 until Friday 9 August 2013, this exceeds the statutory requirement to publish this report more than three weeks before consideration of the proposal by Lifelong Learning Committee.

## **12. PERSONNEL ISSUES**

There would be no compulsory redundancies of Education and Children's Services staff as a consequence of these proposals.

## **13. ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**

A detailed assessment of the environmental impact and sustainability of the proposal would be undertaken if approval is granted. It is unlikely there will be any increase in carbon level as a result of increased staff travel arrangements or increased use of school transport as pupils are currently travelling to Crieff Primary School.

## 14. CONCLUSION

- 14.1 The Council now has 3 broad options to consider, namely:
- a) adopt the proposal;
  - b) abandon the proposal and leave Crieff Primary School to remain unchanged; or
  - c) amend the proposal in some way and undertake a further consultation exercise on a new proposal.
- 14.2 In abandoning the proposal, the Council would be failing to recognise or respond to the considerable support from parents, staff and pupils for the proposal to be approved. HMI has identified that the proposal would lead to clear educational benefits for young people. This includes providing a high quality learning environment offering greater flexibility for all school activities, a greater amount of space provided for each pupil, greatly improved facilities for regular outdoor learning, an indoor environment which is much more conducive to modern teaching and learning and the new school will be better equipped with interactive technology. All children will benefit from better facilities within the school and ready access to the facilities of the community campus.
- 14.3 There are no obvious or sensible ways to amend the proposal which will provide the same educational benefits as the arrangements outlined in the original Proposal Paper. HMI identified that the existing Crieff Primary School building is no longer an appropriate learning environment for children in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Equally, there is agreement that this cannot be achieved by modification, however extensive or well-funded, of the existing building, which has limited available footprint with minimal access to safe outdoor play areas and no green space.
- 14.4 An options appraisal on a number of suitable sites was carried out at an earlier stage in the planning process for this school and the land has now been acquired.
- 14.5 If the Council adopts the proposal, it would be on the basis that the educational benefits set out in the Proposal Paper would materialise. There would also be a requirement that close joint planning with parents, staff and pupils is well managed in ways which are supportive to the pupils concerned, and in their long term interests.
- 14.6 The key issues that have been highlighted during the consultation period are as follows:
- All the respondents support the Council's proposal.
  - The Council's proposals have been generally supported by parents, staff and the wider community.

- The report from HMI acknowledges that the proposal would lead to clear educational benefits for young people attending Crieff Primary School.

14.7 On the basis of the feedback received and taking account of the educational and social benefits of the proposal, it is concluded that the proposal remains the most suitable option.

John Fyffe  
Executive Director (Education and Children's Services)

27 June 2013



Perth & Kinross Council  
Education and Children's Services  
Statutory Consultation Public Meeting

Minute of meeting held on Tuesday 11 December 2012

At 7 pm in Strathearn Community Campus

**Present**

Councillor Bob Band	Convener, Lifelong Learning Committee
Tina Yule	Head of Corporate Business Change and Information Technology
Karen Robertson	Service Manager - Business and Operations

**In Attendance**

Councillor Ann Cowan	Perth and Kinross Council
Councillor Ann Younger	Perth and Kinross Council
Councillor Rhona Brock	Perth and Kinross Council
Carol Taylor	Service Manager – Corporate Change
Chic Haggart	Roads Manager, The Environment Service
Annette Beaton	Headteacher, Crieff Primary School
Elizabeth Hunter	Headteacher, St Dominic's RC Primary School
Trevor Rae	Business Manager – Strathearn Community Campus
Carolyn Noble – Minutes	Perth and Kinross Council

11 members of the public

**WHO**

- Welcome and Introductions**  
Councillor Band opened the meeting and welcomed the members of public in attendance to the Statutory Consultation Public Meeting. Councillor Band introduced himself and the panel to the members of the public and thanked them for attending.
- Format of meeting**  
Councillor Band explained the format the meeting would follow.
- The proposal**  
Councillor Band explained the consultation proposal to the attendees:  
*“Education provision at the existing Crieff Primary School is relocated to a new school on a site adjacent to Strathearn Community Campus with effect from Tuesday 19 August 2014, or as soon as possible thereafter”.*

A period of formal consultation will be undertaken in line with the requirements of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act from **Friday 16 November 2012** until **Friday 25 January 2013**.

There were two presentations explaining the consultation in further detail.

#### 4. **Presentations**

##### **Background**

Tina Yule gave a presentation on the background to the proposal for the new school. The presentation outlined how the school estate is reviewed and how schools are assessed in terms of condition and suitability. Tina Yule outlined that the existing Crieff Primary School is currently assessed as condition C. This indicates that the school is in need of refurbishment. Tina Yule also advised of work undertaken in purchasing and investigating the site for the new school. Details were provided regarding what new accommodation and facilities will be included in the new school and what the next steps are in terms of the creation and purpose of a User Reference Group and timescales.

For further information on these areas please contact:

Crieff Primary School Consultation  
Education & Children's Services  
Pullar House  
35 Kinnoull Street  
Perth & Kinross Council PH1 5GD  
Telephone: 01738 476200  
Email: [ECSStatutoryconsultations@pkc.gov.uk](mailto:ECSStatutoryconsultations@pkc.gov.uk)

##### **Statutory Consultation Process**

Karen Robertson gave a presentation on the statutory consultation process including the legal framework, consideration by the Lifelong Learning Committee, the content of the proposal paper including the Educational Benefits statement, statutory consultation period, representation from interested parties as the first part of the consultation process. Karen Robertson then went on to explain the next stages which includes the involvement of HMI, the preparation and publication of a detailed consultation report and the decision made by the Lifelong Learning Committee.

Councillor Band then opened up the meeting to any questions or observations from the floor.

#### 5. **Questions**

**Q. A concern was raised regarding Broich Road situated outside Strathearn Community Campus (*this road will transfer pupils to the new primary school for those who walk*). There is no street lighting and it is dark at 5pm when after school activities finish. How will pupils access the new school safely?**

**A.** C Haggart agreed the road is a concern and that the Council will be working with the architects on the design of the new school and road. C Haggart will take on board these comments along with feedback from the User Reference Group for the primary school to ensure this is considered.

**Q. Why was this road not looked at when the community campus was being designed?**

**A.** C Haggart reiterated that the Roads Department are fully involved in the design of the new primary school and will be in a position to influence the work required for the new primary school in the future and ensure past issues which were not addressed at that time can be considered as part of this.

A suggestion was made that the school buses should be taken off this road completely and introduce a brand new pavement for pupils. There should be one bus route for the campus and a new bus route for the primary school to keep traffic congestion separate. Councillor Band confirmed these suggestions will be noted and forwarded onto the User Reference Group.

**Q. A point was raised regarding the current car parking facilities at the campus and how this is going to affect the new primary school car parking. A suggestion was made that there should be two entries to the new school to keep traffic moving with no delays.**

**A.** Councillor Bob Band confirmed these suggestions will be noted and forwarded onto the User Reference Group.

**Q. The road traffic will increase; will the whole area of traffic congestion be taken into account?**

**A.** C Haggart confirmed that it will be taken into account. The whole site will be looked at to ensure these concerns are dealt with.

**Q. Is there enough land between the campus and new primary school to build a new sports pavilion?**

**A.** Councillor Bob Band agreed this was an excellent idea and this suggestion will be taken forward to the User Reference Group. It was suggested that the Community Trust also joins the User Reference Group.

Councillor Ann Cowan agreed with all the issues raised concerning the Broich Road and parking concerns and noted that this is the best time to raise these to ensure these concerns are taken forward and dealt with.

**Q. Can a 30mph speed limit be placed on Broich Road?**

**A.** Councillor Band confirmed this is something that can be taken forward, however, he advised that it might take some time for this proposal to be legally approved before the new school is built.

**Q. Will the new primary school be run like the campus?**

**A.** T Yule confirmed this will not be the case. The new primary school will be owned and funded by the Council. Therefore the Council will have full responsibility of the school and how it operates.

**Q. Will the new primary school be able to use the campus facilities?**

**A.** Councillor Band confirmed that the new school will have access to the facilities at the campus.

**Q. Will St Dominic's Primary School be moving into the new Crieff Primary School?**

**A.** Councillor Band confirmed that there are no plans for merging the two primary schools together and confirmed that St Dominic's will not be moving to the new Crieff Primary School.

A discussion took place regarding the discussions which had taken place previously as part of the initial planning which had included both primary schools. Councillor Band advised that this was not agreed by St Dominic's or the Roman Catholic Church representatives when they were consulted.

**Q. Can a merge of the two primary schools happen in the future?**

**A.** Councillor Band confirmed that this would not happen.

**Q. A point was raised in relation to the overall parking at the campus and how this will be solved once the new primary school is built.**

**A.** Councillor Band confirmed the parking facilities will be looked into as part of the new design of the primary school.

Trevor Rae supported all the points raised regarding the existing parking facilities, Broich Road concerns and the bus bays at the campus.

A member of the public also suggested that the town bus drop off passengers at the front of the campus to support those passengers who are disabled. This was agreed to be noted as part of the minute and to be raised with the User Reference Group.

**Q. Another comment raised was regarding the parallel pavement on route to the campus is never used. Can this be looked into for the new design of parking/bus bay?**

**A.** This was agreed to be noted as part of the minute and to be raised with the User Reference Group.

**6. Close and Thanks**

Councillor Band reminded the attendees if they have any further questions they are most welcome to come along to the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting which will be held on 10 January 2013 at 7pm in Strathearn Community Campus.

Councillor Band thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.



**Perth & Kinross Council  
Education and Children's Services  
Statutory Consultation Public Meeting**

**Minute of meeting held on Thursday 10 January 2013**

**At 7 pm in Strathearn Community Campus**

**Present**

Councillor Bob Band	Convener, Lifelong Learning Committee
Tina Yule	Head of Corporate Business Change and Information Technology
Karen Robertson	Service Manager - Business and Operations

**In Attendance**

Councillor Ann Younger	Perth and Kinross Council
Carol Taylor	Service Manager – Corporate Change
Chic Haggart	Roads Manager, The Environment Service
Anne Dalziel	Quality Improvement Officer – Education Services
Ken McAra	HMI District Inspector
Annette Beaton	Headteacher, Crieff Primary School
Carolyn Noble – Minutes	Perth and Kinross Council

21 members of the public

**WHO**

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Councillor Band then opened up the meeting to any questions or observations from the floor.

#### 5. **Questions**

**Q. Have architects been appointed yet to develop the new school?**

**A.** Yes this is in process. The Council are working with Hubco (set up by the Scottish Government) which is a private sector partnership to develop and construct the new school in Crieff as well as Oakbank Primary School.

**Q. What is the shortlist for architects?**

**A.** There are currently sixty consultants. Further information can be found on the Hubco website.

**Q. Has the User Reference Group been set up yet?**

**A.** No. This will be established by the Spring.

**Q. How are you confident that the Council is getting best value for money when using Hubco?**

**A.** The prices are still to be confirmed as designs for the new school are yet to be created.

**Q. When does the User Reference Group become involved?**

**A.** Once the designs are created the User Reference Group will meet to discuss these.

**Q. Will a representative from the Parent Council be involved in the User Reference Group?**

**A.** Yes there will be a range of representation on the group from all local interest groups, including the Parent Council, and the representative will usually be the Chairperson of the Parent Council. However this is still to be confirmed.

*At this point of the meeting, Crieff Primary School Headteacher advised that that the next Parent Council meeting is due to take place on 14 January 2013 for anyone to come along and share their concerns and thoughts on the consultation.*

**Q. Is the purpose of the consultation to agree the move of the primary school?**

**A.** Yes, this is the time to raise concerns and share thoughts on the proposal for the proposed new school.

**Q. Regarding Broich Road, will all three schools continue to use this? Will the speed limits be reduced?**

**A.** All road concerns will be noted and considered. It is anticipated that there will be 20mph limit, however, this has still to be confirmed.

**Q. Is there provision to look at the road infrastructure?**

**A.** This is all part of the planning process.

A discussion took place regarding road concerns, pavements, traffic lights, volume of traffic and the overall safety of pupils.

**Q. Has the council got enough funding for road improvement?**

**A.** The Council may need to work in partnership with Tesco together for the funding of the road improvement.

**Q. What is happening with the old school?**

**A.** At this point in time it is unknown at the moment. Education and Children's Services will liaise with other services in the Council to establish if the building is required for any new projects. If not, it is likely the building will go on the property market.

**Q. Will there not be any dining hall or kitchen facilities in the new school?**

**A.** Yes, these will be included in the new school.

**Q. Will the new school have shared facilities i.e. sports facilities within the campus?**

**A.** Yes, one of the advantages for the new site is being able to use the campus sports and leisure facilities. The pupils will benefit highly from this.

**Q. Will the new school have its own green space for sports days etc?**

**A.** Yes, there will be space available for this.

**Q. Will the school have a capacity based on what is required now?**

**A.** The school will be built with the potential for expansion in the future depending on the local housing development plan.

**Q. What are the plans for wraparound care?**

**A.** This has not yet been agreed and will be considered by the User Reference Group.

**Q. Will be an agenda published in advance for User Reference Group meetings?**

**A.** Yes, this will be available through the Headteacher.

**Q. Will breakfast clubs continue?**

**A.** Yes, all current facilities will continue.

**Q. Will the out of school clubs start up again?**

**A.** Any additional provisions will require to be considered by the Head of Education and Early Years.

**Q. What is the current school pupil roll and what will the future roll be?**

**A.** The current roll is 336 pupils and the highest anticipated roll will be 436 pupils.

**Q. If nursery pupils are not included in the roll, how will the Council know if the facility will be big enough?**

**A.** The school is being built for a larger capacity which includes nursery pupils.

**Q. Will there be a police station on campus?**

**A.** The Police Force is currently consulting on this matter. It is possible, but that decision would not be taken by the Council. Tayside Police website can provide further information on the consultation.

**Q. Is there any reason to why the blue area on the map is not included in the site proposal?**

**A.** This will be confirmed and notified in the minute.

**Clarification** - in relation to the triangular area of land shown on the map, the following information has been provided:

*This was required to improve visibility splays for vehicular access. Given proposed development in this area there is a need to have clear lines of sight to separate pedestrian and vehicular access to ensure safe routes to school.*

**Q. What is a realistic date for the new school to be ready?**

It is possible to meet the timescale of August 2014, however, it is a tight timescale. The Council is not concerned about the current timescale.

**Q. Has HubCo been used by other Local Authorities?**

**A.** Yes it has. Perth and Kinross is not the first or only Council to use HubCo and there are no concerns regarding contracting them for the new school at Crieff.

**6. Close and Thanks**

Councillor Band thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.



**Perth & Kinross Council**  
**Education and Children's Services**  
**Crieff Primary School**  
**Summary of Consultation Responses**

The statutory consultation on the proposal regarding the proposed new school for Crieff Primary School commenced on 16 November 2012 and closed on 25 January 2013.

Details of the proposal document were issued to the list of consultees contained within the Proposal Paper. 614 letters were issued with a link to the proposal paper and details of where and how to obtain a paper copy. The Proposal Paper was also published on the Council website.

A specific email address was set up for representations and enquiries. This was in addition to the usual methods of submitting representations. There were two enquiries made requesting additional information. Two written submissions were received.

<b>RESPONDENT GROUP</b>	<b>NUMBER OF RESPONSES</b>
Parents	1
Community Member	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>

These 2 responses represent 2 separate individuals.

The Council held two public meetings to discuss the proposal. The first was in Strathearn Community Campus on Tuesday 11 December 2012. Eleven members of the public attended this meeting. The second was held in Strathearn Community Campus on Thursday 10 January 2013. Twenty one members of the public attended this meeting.

The following points summarise the verbal issues raised at the meeting and in the written response to the Proposal Paper:

- 8 Concerns regarding the safety and lighting of Broich Road.
- 9 Issues with car parking at the current campus and when the new school is built.
- 10 Increased road traffic and traffic congestion in the area.
- 11 Speed limit concerns on Broich Road.
- 12 Parking and bus bay provision.
- 13 Road infrastructure and improvements.
- 14 The use of the campus for the new primary school.
- 15 Query regarding St Dominic's RC Primary School moving to the new school/merging with Crieff Primary School.
- 16 Possibility of a new sports pavilion between the campus and the new primary school.
- 17 Queries regarding the chosen architects and use of HubCo to design and build the new school.
- 18 Confidence in use of HubCo and best value for the Council.
- 19 Timescale for the project to be completed.

- 20 The role of the User Reference Group and representation on the group.
- 21 The disposal and use of the current school building.
- 22 Use of shared facilities with the campus and the requirement for green space at the new primary school.
- 23 Future capacity of the new school and pupil roll numbers.
- 24 Plans for wraparound care in the new school.
- 25 Continuation of breakfast club and reintroduction of out of school care clubs.
- 26 Concern regarding possible Police Station at campus.

## Consultation proposal by Perth and Kinross Council

### Report by Education Scotland, addressing educational aspects of the proposal to relocate Crieff Primary School to a new school on a site adjacent to Strathearn Community Campus.

#### 1. Introduction

1.1 Perth and Kinross Council proposes to relocate education provision at the existing Crieff Primary School to a new school on a site adjacent to Strathearn Community Campus with effect from Tuesday 19 August 2014, or as soon as possible thereafter.

1.2 The report from Education Scotland is required under the terms of the *Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010*. It has been prepared by HM Inspectors in accordance with the terms of the Act.

1.3 HM Inspectors undertook the following activities in considering the educational aspects of the proposal:

- attendance at the public meeting held on 10 January 2013 in connection with the council's proposals;
- consideration of all relevant documentation provided by the council in relation to the proposal, specifically the educational benefits statement and related consultation documents, written and oral submissions from parents and others; and
- visit to the site of Crieff Primary School, including discussion with relevant consultees.

1.4 HM Inspectors considered:

- the likely effects of the proposal for children and young people of the school; any other users and children likely to become pupils within two years of the date of publication of the proposal paper;
- any other likely effects of the proposal;
- how the council intends to minimise or avoid any adverse effects that may arise from the proposal; and
- benefits which the council believes will result from implementation of the proposal, and the council's reasons for coming to these beliefs.

#### 2. Consultation process

2.1 Perth and Kinross Council undertook the initial consultation on its proposals with reference to the *Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010*.

2.2 Parents are in favour of the proposal and would like their children to be able to attend a school which has better facilities. They are very aware of the lack of space for children to play and would like them to have easy access to grass and garden areas for physical activity and outdoor learning. They see advantages in their children having ready access to facilities at the community campus such as the library. They also feel that transition arrangements will work better when nursery, primary and secondary schools are located nearer to each other. They have concerns about access routes to the proposed location of the new school building and feel that the main road is very narrow, particularly in relation to the increased volume of traffic which will travel along it at busy times. They have some concerns about the development of a supermarket on a neighbouring site, as well as the proposed relocation of a police station to this area. They also feel that it will be important to incorporate a bus bay and drop-off point into the plans. Parents have already been involved in initial consultation discussions about what should be included in the specification for the proposed new school building.

2.3 Children are excited at the prospect of a new, custom-built school. They find some of the current classrooms cramped and do not think that computer equipment always works well. Arrangements for school lunches do not work well in their current school as they need to use a small, separate building as well as the gym hall. They are looking forward to access to sports and music facilities in and around the community campus as well as space to play safely around the school. There are no appropriate changing facilities in their current school.

2.4 Staff are keen to work in a modern, purpose-built school with good facilities. Current classrooms make the use of interactive technology difficult and there is little space available to display children's work. Staff would welcome a building which can be used more flexibly to allow classes to work separately or together, sharing learning resources when appropriate. They are also keen to gain easier access to the wide range of facilities at the community campus, which currently involves significant planning and travel time for staff and children. Nursery staff would like to be able to offer better access to outdoor play for children as the current school only has a small tarmac area available for this.

2.5 Senior managers in the school enthusiastically support the proposal. They are keen to make sure that the proposed new school building is designed with the needs of all children in mind, including those who are on the autistic spectrum. They are aware that the current building is not best suited to their particular needs and that the number of children with autism in the school is projected to rise in future years. They feel that the new school design should allow flexibility for learning and teaching approaches and meeting spaces for visiting specialists such as health visitors. They also know that being closer to the community campus will also give the school

### **3. Educational aspects of the proposal**

3.1 A new Crieff Primary School will provide a high quality learning environment offering greater flexibility for all school activities. It will be built with sufficient capacity for its projected roll but with the possibility of later extension incorporated into the design, as well as the capacity to provide a greater number of nursery places. A greater amount of space will be provided for each pupil, and the new school will be better equipped with interactive technology.

3.2 Children who attend Crieff Primary School will undoubtedly benefit from a new, purpose-built school. The current main building is a listed mid 19th century gothic building which was a former Presbyterian church. It is currently rated as category C ('poor'). This building was extended in 1937 to provide additional classrooms. A later extension to the main building now houses the nursery which has access to a small safe play area immediately outside. The new school will be designed and built according to a brief which will be agreed with the representative User Reference Group, including custom-built provision for children who have autism. All children will benefit from better facilities within the school and ready access to the facilities of the community campus. Children who attend the nursery and the primary school will have greatly improved facilities for regular outdoor learning and an indoor environment which is much more conducive to modern teaching and learning approaches.

3.3 There will be a slight increase in travelling distance for some individuals attending the new school. However, the council believes that the improved quality of facilities and improved access for community use will outweigh most of this inconvenience. Children who currently attend Crieff Primary School agree that it will be further away for some but more convenient for others. They were also clear that this should not be a barrier to proceeding with the new school.

3.4 There is no anticipated impact of this proposal on other users. There has been no community use of the facilities for a number of years, which is a reflection of their limited nature.

3.5 The council believes that this proposal will not have an adverse impact on pupils of any other schools in the authority's area. There are no changes being proposed to the catchment area serving the new school and, therefore, it will not impact on admission arrangements for children living in adjacent catchment areas. Whilst there is the potential for parents of pupils living in other catchment areas to consider submitting placing requests for their child to attend the new school, they currently have this right for the existing Crieff Primary School.

3.6 A number of parents have concerns that the access roads to the proposed site for the new school are too narrow for the increased volume of traffic which is expected. They are also concerned about other initiatives which could make these roads busier still. The council's road services department will be fully involved at all points during the development process to ensure that the concerns relating to access to the new school are appropriately dealt with. They will also be represented on the User Reference Group, which will include representatives of different stakeholders including parents, community council, elected members and school staff. The school Parent Council has already carried out a consultation event to explore what parents think are the most important considerations.

#### **4. Summary**

4.1 There is general agreement amongst stakeholders that the current Crieff Primary School building is no longer an appropriate learning environment for children in the twenty-first century. Equally, there is agreement that this cannot be achieved by modification, however extensive and well-funded, of the existing building, which has a limited available 'footprint' with minimal access to safe outdoor play areas and no green space whatsoever. The council has therefore proposed that a new building is required on a different site.

4.2 The location of the proposed site for the new school has clear educational benefits for children and these have been identified and agreed by school staff, parents and the children themselves. However, a number of concerns have been raised by parents in relation to the road access to the school, its perceived limitations and the need for a safe drop-off and pick-up zone for parents to be included in the design along with dedicated access for buses. There are also concerns in relation to potential increase in traffic due to the development of a supermarket on a neighbouring site and the possible relocation of a police station to the community campus site.

4.3 All stakeholders agree that having a new school will bring educational benefits for the children. An improved learning environment within and outwith the school, along with integrated interactive technology and easy access to the facilities of the community campus will clearly benefit children and enhance opportunities for learning and teaching. Similarly, transition between pre-school and primary, as well as between primary and secondary, will be enhanced by their adjacent locations. Children with autism will particularly benefit through having appropriately designed facilities.

4.4 This proposal is timely for the school. The council has been careful to ensure that stakeholders will continue to be involved in the design and build process through their involvement in the User Reference Group. The council will, however, need to make sure that the concerns about vehicular access to the school are addressed as the design for the school and its

surroundings is developed. It also needs to ensure that parents are kept aware of how these concerns are being addressed as the development proceeds.

**HM Inspectors  
Education Scotland  
March 2013**



## PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL

### EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES

#### PROPOSAL PAPER

The following school is affected by this proposal document:

- **Crieff Primary School**

This document has been issued by Perth and Kinross Council for proposal in terms of The Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010.

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A copy of this document is available on the Perth and Kinross Council website: [www.pkc.gov.uk](http://www.pkc.gov.uk)

A link to an electronic version of this document will be provided by letter to:

- The Parent Council (if any) of the affected school
- The parents of the pupils and children who may attend the affected school
- Parents of children expected to attend an affected school within 2 years of the date of publication of this proposal document
- The teaching and ancillary staff at the affected school
- The trade union representatives of the above staff
- The Community Councils
- Relevant users of the affected school
- Elected Members of Perth and Kinross Council
- The Constituency MSP and List MSPs covering the Constituency
- The Constituency MP
- The Executive Director, The Environment Service, Perth and Kinross Council
- Tayside Contracts
- HMI

A copy of this document is also available from:

- Education and Children's Services, Pullar House, 35 Kinnoull Street, Perth, PH1 5GD
- Council Headquarters, 2 High Street, Perth
- Strathearn Community Library, Pittenzie Road, Crieff, PH7 3JN
- Local area offices in the vicinity of the schools affected
- Crieff Primary School, Commissioner Street, Crieff, PH7 3AY

This document is available in alternative formats or in translated form for readers whose first language is not English. Please apply to Education and Children's Services, Pullar House, 35 Kinnoull Street, Perth, PH1 5GD by telephone on 01738 476200; or by e-mail: [ECSTGeneralEnquiries@pkc.gov.uk](mailto:ECSTGeneralEnquiries@pkc.gov.uk)

## **SUMMARY OF PROCESS FOR THIS PROPOSAL DOCUMENT**

### **1. Consideration by the Lifelong Learning Committee**

This proposal document has been issued as a result of a decision on 31 October 2012 of the Lifelong Learning Committee of Perth and Kinross Council. This is to seek views on the proposal in this paper.

### **2. Proposal document issued to consultees and published on Council website**

A copy of this document will be made available free of charge to the consultees listed on the preceding page, and it will also be published on the Council website: [www.pkc.gov.uk](http://www.pkc.gov.uk)

### **3. Publication of advertisement in local newspapers**

An advertisement will be placed in the relevant local newspapers. In addition, there may be announcements related to the Proposal process on the local radio station, Radio Tay.

### **4. Length of consultation period**

An advertisement will be placed in local newspapers on 16 November 2012. The consultation will thereafter run until close of business on 25 January 2013, which includes a period of 38 school days.

### **5. Public meetings**

Two public meetings will be held, the details of which are given on page 5 of this document.

### **6. Involvement of HMI**

When the proposal document is published, a copy will also be sent to HMI by the Education Authority. HMI will also receive a copy of any relevant written representations received by the Authority from any person during the consultation period or, if HMI agree, a summary of them. HMI will further receive a summary of any oral representations made to the Authority at the public meeting which will be held and, as available (and so far as otherwise practicable), a copy of any other relevant documentation.

HMI will then prepare a report on the educational aspects of the proposal not later than 3 weeks after the Authority has sent them all representations and documents mentioned above. For the avoidance of doubt, the 3 week period will not start until after the consultation period has ended. In preparing their report, HMI may enter the affected schools and make such reasonable enquiries of such people there as they consider appropriate and may make such reasonable enquiries of such other people as they consider appropriate.

## **7. Preparation of consultation report**

The Education Authority will review the proposal having regard to the HMI Report, written representations that it has received and oral representations made to it by any person at the public meeting.

It will then prepare a consultation report. This report will be published in electronic and printed formats and will be advertised in local newspapers. It will be available on the Council website and from Council Headquarters buildings, both at 2 High Street and Pullar House, Perth, public libraries in the vicinity of the affected schools, local offices in the vicinity of the affected schools as well as Crieff Primary School, free of charge. Anyone who made written representations to the Authority during the consultation period will also be informed about the report.

The report will include a record of the total number of written representations made to the Authority during the consultation period, a summary of the written representations, a summary of the oral representations made at the public meeting, the Authority's response to the HMI Report as well as any written or oral representations it has received, together with a copy of the HMI Report and any other relevant information, including details of any alleged inaccuracies and how these have been handled. The report will also contain a statement explaining how the Authority complied with the requirement to review the proposal in light of the HMI Report and representations (both written and oral) that it received. The consultation report will be published and available for further consideration for a period of 6 weeks.

## **8. Decision**

This report together with any other relevant documentation will be considered by the Lifelong Learning Committee of Perth and Kinross Council, who will take forward the proposal.

## **9. Note on Corrections**

If any inaccuracy or omission is discovered in this proposal document, either by the Council or any person, the Council will determine if relevant information has been omitted or there has been an inaccuracy. It will then take appropriate action which may include the issue of a correction or the reissuing of the proposal paper or the revision of the timescale for the consultation period if appropriate. In that event, relevant consultees and HMI will be advised.

## **10. Note**

This consultation is being conducted having regard to the terms of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010.

## **PUBLIC MEETINGS**

Two public meetings will be held in Crieff to discuss these proposals. Anyone wishing to attend either or both of the public meetings is invited to do so. The meetings, which will be convened by the Education Authority, will be addressed by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services), or other senior officers of the Council.

The meetings will be an opportunity for interested parties to:

- Hear more about the proposal
- Ask questions about the proposal
- Have their views recorded so that they can be taken into account as part of the consultation process.

The meetings will be held on:

**Venue – Strathearn Community Campus**

**Date – Tuesday 11 December 2012**

**Time – 7.00 pm**

**Venue – Strathearn Community Campus**

**Date – Thursday 10 January 2013**

**Time – 7.00 pm**

A note will be taken at the meetings of questions and views. This note will be published on the Council website, and a printed copy will be made available upon request.

**PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL  
EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES**

**THIS IS A PROPOSAL DOCUMENT**

Proposal:

That subject to the outcome of this proposal exercise:

- Education provision at the existing Crieff Primary School is relocated to a new school on a site adjacent to Strathearn Community Campus with effect from Tuesday 19 August 2014, or as soon as possible thereafter.

**1. STATUTORY RESPONSIBILITIES**

- 1.1 Councils have a statutory duty in terms of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980 to make adequate and efficient provision of school education across their entire area for the current school population and future pattern of demand. The Council's School Estate Management Plan, approved by the Lifelong Learning Committee of Perth and Kinross Council in November 2007, provides information on the whole of the school estate and provides information about overall objectives and future priorities within Perth and Kinross Council.
- 1.2 Councils also have a statutory responsibility in terms of the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003 to achieve best value. In doing so, consideration must be given to occupancy as buildings are expensive resources. To achieve best value and optimum efficiency, the minimum number of buildings is required to deliver Council services to a particular locality. The organisation of the school estate is therefore kept under regular review, including the need for school provision and other factors, such as altering catchment areas and the implementation of shared headships.

**2. VISION**

- 2.1 Perth and Kinross Council works to enhance quality of life, make best use of public resources and ensure continuously improving services. Perth and Kinross Council's corporate strategy "Securing the Future" aims to ensure that individuals, families and communities experience the best possible outcomes from a range of services. Perth and Kinross Council has a strong identity and clear priorities which everyone works together to achieve, creating areas which are vibrant and successful; safe, secure, healthy and sustainable environments; educated, responsible and informed citizens; confident and active communities; and places where people are nurtured and supported.

2.2 This approach reflects the Single Outcome Agreement National Outcome 15 that “Our public services are high quality, continually improving, efficient and responsive to local people’s needs”, and the Local Outcome that “Our services will be responsive, of high quality and continually improving”. This report also links with the School Estate Management Plan, Education and Children’s Services Policy Framework Maximising Resources and with the Education and Children’s Services objective to develop the range and quality learning experiences for all.

### 3. BACKGROUND

3.1 The current roll of Crieff Primary School is 329 pupils and it is forecast to rise further in the coming years. The maximum capacity of Crieff Primary School is 434 pupils.

3.2 The impact of new housing in the Crieff Primary School catchment area has been examined by looking at planning applications lodged with Perth and Kinross Council.

3.3 The undernoted table provides the information used within the initial assessment:

School capacity	434 pupils
Current pupil roll (September 2010 census)	329 pupils
Current school occupancy level	76%
Highest projected school roll (to 2017/2018)	341 pupils
Projected occupancy using highest projected roll	79%
Potential roll including planning applications	595 pupils
Potential occupancy including planning applications	137%

3.4 The projected school roll is calculated using a recommended Scottish Government formula. This takes the known number of pupils within the school and adds in an average for the numbers of pupils expected over the next seven years based on previous pupil numbers, adjusted to take account of any specific circumstances. The calculation is based on the average of the previous 5 years’ Primary 1 intake numbers. The highest potential roll takes the projected school roll and adds the number of pupils reasonably expected to materialise from proposed housing developments in the catchment area. The occupancy level of a school is calculated using the current pupil numbers divided by the school pupil capacity expressed as a percentage.

3.5 Other schools within Crieff High School secondary catchment area are Braco, Comrie, Greenloaning, Madderty and Muthill Primary Schools. Applying the same analysis to these schools reveals that Comrie and Greenloaning Primary Schools will have some spare capacity in future (40 and 13 respectively). However, this is not sufficient to accommodate the numbers of pupils above school capacity (161 places) forecast in Crieff. It is also considered that relocating pupils from Crieff to villages outwith the main burgh would not be acceptable to parents.

- 3.6 The distance to the nearest school was calculated using Location Centre, a Geographic Information System (GIS) used within Perth and Kinross Council under licence from Ordnance Survey. Comrie is 7 miles from Crieff and Greenloaning is 11 miles.
- 3.7 All Perth and Kinross Primary schools have capacities which are adjusted from time to time to reflect any building works or alterations which have taken place within the school. The approved capacity of Crieff Primary School is 434 pupils.
- 3.8 The projected pupil roll for Crieff Primary School up to 2018/2019 is attached as Appendix 3.
- 3.9 The buildings at Crieff Primary School have evolved over the past century with additional accommodation being added to the original building.
- 3.10 The existing Crieff Primary School building rates as C in terms of condition and C in terms of suitability as outlined in the Core Facts returns that are submitted to the Scottish Government as part of Perth and Kinross Council's School Estate Management Plan.
- 3.11 Funding for a replacement Crieff Primary School was approved by Perth and Kinross Council in March 2012 to proceed with the capital building project.
- 3.12 The Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 requires that when a school is to be relocated then a statutory consultation must be undertaken with all relevant stakeholders.
- 3.13 The consultation process to be carried out in consequence of the Committee's decision, and involving Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education (HMI) and the general public, will be in terms of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010.

#### **4. DETAILS OF THE PROPOSAL**

- 4.1 It is therefore proposed that:

**Proposal:**

- Education provision at the existing Crieff Primary School is relocated to a new school on a site adjacent to Strathearn Community Campus with effect from Tuesday 19 August 2014, or as soon as possible thereafter.

- 4.2 The Council proposes that education provision at the current Crieff Primary School on Commissioner Street in Crieff is relocated with effect from 19 August 2014 to a new school on a site adjacent to Strathearn Community Campus.
- 4.3 The catchment area for Crieff Primary School will remain unchanged.

- 4.4 The travelling times to the new Crieff Primary School would not change significantly. Given the negligible distance between the sites, it is extremely unlikely that entitlement to school transport should change for families living in outlying areas.
- 4.5 All primary pupils living outwith 2 miles of the school would have an entitlement to free home to school transport.
- 4.6 The location of the replacement Crieff Primary School is shown in Appendix 2.

## **5. STRATHEARN AND THE LOCAL AREA**

- 5.1 The Strathearn Ward follows the broad valley of the River Earn. The main town in the ward is Crieff which is situated on a south-facing slope of the Grampians and is 17 miles from Perth and 23 miles from Stirling.
- 5.2 It was once the centre of the Pictish Kingdom of Fortren and is the location of the oldest Roman frontier in Europe. It was one of the settlements burnt by the Jacobites after the 1715 uprising. In 1731 James Drummond the 3<sup>rd</sup> Duke of Perth laid out the town's James Square and established a textile industry in the town.
- 5.3 Crieff was an ancient cattle market and where Highlanders would come for the great cattle trysts. During the October Tryst Crieff was the prototype "frontier" town. Tens of thousands of cattle were driven from all over the north of Scotland to be sold to lowland buyers.
- 5.4 It has been a popular holiday resort since Victorian times when the Crieff Hydro Hotel was established. The hotel remains one of the key reasons for people visiting the area and is also one of the main employers attracting both local and international staff.
- 5.5 Macrosty Park, Crieff was opened in 1902 and has a fine collection of mature specimen trees, activity areas for children and the Turret Burn flowing through the park. Lady Mary's Walk, a beautiful beech lined avenue, runs alongside the River Earn for about 1500m.
- 5.6 Innerpeffray Library (established c. 1680), Scotland's oldest lending library, is nearby. St. Mary's Chapel, adjacent to the library, dates from 1508.
- 5.7 The town has been immortalised in verse by William McGonagall "[Beautiful Crieff](#)" which promotes the attractions and sights of the town and recommends the health promoting quality of the climate of the area.
- 5.8 The main route through the ward is the A85 which passes through the main towns of Crieff and Comrie and largely follows the route of the River Earn.

- 5.9 The main settlements within the area are Crieff and Comrie which account for around 82% of the population of the Ward. Crieff is the larger of the settlements with around 7,500 inhabitants and there around 2,000 inhabitants in Comrie.
- 5.10 The largest employers based on staffing numbers in the Strathearn Ward are Crieff Hydro Ltd, Morrison's Academy and Perth & Kinross Council - Crieff High School.

## **6. CRIEFF PRIMARY SCHOOL**

6.1 Crieff Primary School provides non denominational primary education to pupils from the burgh of Crieff and surrounding local area. Appendix 1 shows the present school catchment area for Crieff Primary School. Crieff Primary School is a 14 teacher school.

6.2 The school structure has 14 classes made up as follows:

P1 x 3  
P2 x 2  
P3  
P3/4  
P4  
P4/5  
P5  
P6 x 2  
P7 x 2

6.3 Historical and projected pupil roll data for Crieff Primary School is attached at Appendix 3.

6.4 Crieff Primary School is not classed as rural school under Section 14 of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010. The classification of rural and remote rural is based on two main criteria, settlement size and accessibility based on drive time and Crieff does not fall into these categories.

6.5 Crieff Primary School has a roll of 328 primary pupils and 69 nursery pupils. 48 pupils within the Crieff Primary School catchment area attend 4 neighbouring Primary Schools as a result of placing requests. 19 pupils attend Crieff Primary School as a result of placing requests. All the figures in this paragraph are correct as at 20 September 2012.

6.6 Crieff Primary School site sits on a steeply sloping site amongst tarmac playgrounds and terraced games pitches surrounded by perimeter stone wall and cast-iron railings to front and high retaining wall structures to rear. Accommodation is spread across several buildings - main building, dining centre, equipment store and gas housing.

6.7 The main building is category C listed mid 19<sup>th</sup> century gothic building which was a former Presbyterian church. It is a two storey stone building under pitched slate roofs with a date stone at the entrance of 1874.

This building was extended in 1937 to provide additional classrooms. A later extension to the main building now houses the nursery which has access to a safe play area immediately outside. A single storey building with rear wall set into the boundary wall is used as an equipment store.

6.8 Within Crieff Primary School, the following facilities and accommodation are offered:

- classrooms for primary education
- toileting facilities
- hall
- storage
- staffroom
- library
- office accommodation
- nursery accommodation

6.9 Throughout Scotland, core facts are gathered and published on school buildings. The definition and assessment categorisations are set by the Scottish Government as follows:

Condition <sup>(1)</sup> -is an assessment of the physical condition of the school and its grounds. Categorisation is as follows:

- A: Good – Performing well and operating efficiently
- B: - Satisfactory – Performing adequately but showing minor deterioration
- C: Poor – Showing major defect and/or not operating adequately
- D: Bad – Life expired and/or serious risk of imminent failure

Suitability <sup>(2)</sup> -is an assessment of the school as a whole, its buildings and its grounds and of the impact these have on learning and teaching, leisure and social activities and the health and well-being of all users. Categorisation is as follows:

- A: Good – Performing well and operating efficiently
- B: Satisfactory – Performing well but with minor problems
- C: Poor – Showing major problems and/or not operating optimally
- D: Poor – Does not support the delivery of services to children and communities

Sufficiency <sup>(1)</sup> -states the occupancy – pupil roll divided by capacity expressed as a percentage.

Source: (1) *Core Facts Building Our Future: Scotland's School Estate 2003*  
(2) *The Suitability Core Fact: Scotland's School Estate 2008*

- 6.10 The condition surveys are undertaken on a three year rolling programme by a Perth and Kinross Council building surveyor team led by a chartered building surveyor. The suitability assessment is undertaken by the Headteacher and validated by senior managers within Education and Children's Services. These assessments were undertaken annually until 2010, but it has now been agreed that these will be undertaken every three years unless significant building or operational change has occurred within the school.
- 6.11 The core facts for Crieff Primary School categorise both the building's condition and suitability as C (Poor). The sufficiency (occupancy) of the school at the September 2010 school census was 76%.
- 6.12 Expenditure/investment within the buildings at Crieff Primary School over the past three financial years is given below:

	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
£'s	34,529	68,770	40,559

These figures reflect minor repairs, servicing and maintenance costs at Crieff Primary School.

Planned works identified for future years and subject to budget availability, include resurfacing works in 2015/16 of £20,000 and a requirement of approximately £170,000 to address identified maintenance issues.

## **7. THE NEW CRIEFF PRIMARY SCHOOL**

- 7.1 Proposals for a new primary school in Crieff have been in the Council's capital programme for a number of years. However, the development of the project was delayed for a number of years due to land acquisition issues.
- 7.2 A feasibility study undertaken at the existing Crieff Primary School identified that the site could not be developed further and, therefore, it is intended that the new school will complement and be adjacent to the Strathearn Community Campus.
- 7.3 With the acquisition of the land required concluding in December 2011 this project can now proceed. The funding profile for the project was confirmed at the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee in March 2012.
- 7.4 When determining the size of the new school consideration has been given to housing developments planned and proposed within the Crieff Primary School catchment area as shown in the table overleaf:

	Houses	Potential pupil Nos.
*Highest projected roll to 2018/2019		341
Full planning applications received to date	273	74
Outline planning applications received to date	15	5
Current Local Development Plan	59	16
Projected Sub Total		436
Windfall sites	60	17
Proposed Local Development Plan	410	111
Future Potential Total		564

7.5 It is likely that the new school will be built in phases in accordance with the projected school roll. The current analysis shows that a double stream school and associated flexible facilities will be required from the outset.

This will then be developed up to a triple stream school, in line with any revised projected roll, as more information relating to the housing output rate is known.

7.6 The new primary school will consist of:

- Classrooms for primary education
- Support accommodation including group rooms and music/drama space
- Cloak rooms and toileting facilities
- Nursery with supporting accommodation
- Hall with equipment store
- School library/resources
- General storage
- Staff room
- Office accommodation

## 8. EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS STATEMENT

8.1 The roll at Crieff Primary School is predicted to rise in future years.

8.2 The new Crieff Primary School will be built with a capacity for 434 primary pupils initially, but with sufficient core areas that additional accommodation could be provided for future generations. A nursery with 40 places in the morning and 40 places in the afternoon will be provided. The nursery will be designed so it can provide an extended number of places in the future.

8.3 Perth and Kinross Council is committed to delivering entitlements to learners in the 21st century according to a Curriculum for Excellence.

8.4 A new Crieff Primary School will provide a high quality learning environment offering greater flexibility for all school activities.

The suitability of the new school building will be at the heart of the design process. It should be an attractive place to learn that inspires pupils to engage with the curriculum.

- 8.5 The new building could adapt to future learning requirements, and the design process will ensure that all spaces support the learning and teaching styles of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.
- 8.6 The condition of the building will be a significant improvement on the current school, making the environment more attractive to learners.
- 8.7 The new school will provide more space per pupil; will be fully accessible and equipped with modern ICT solutions to ensure that the best learning opportunity is afforded to every pupil.
- 8.8 It is believed that this proposal will not have an adverse impact on pupils of any other schools in the authority's area. There are no changes being proposed to the catchment area serving the new school and, therefore, will not impact on admission arrangements for children living in adjacent catchment areas. It is recognised that there is the potential for parents of pupils living in other catchment areas to consider submitting placing requests for their child to attend the new school. However, parents currently already have the same right to make such requests at the moment for the existing Crieff Primary School.
- 8.9 Owing to the short distance between the existing school and the proposed site of the new school there should be no detrimental impact on existing users of Crieff Primary School. The improved quality of facilities and improved access for community use will not adversely impact on existing users of Crieff Primary School.

In summary:

The children and parents of Crieff Primary School will have access to an educational establishment which meets the needs of all children.

## **9. LIKELY EFFECT ON THE LOCAL COMMUNITY**

- 9.1 The new Crieff Primary School will have access to a range of purpose built sports and community facilities through its adjacency to Strathearn Community Campus.
- 9.2 There will be a slight increase in distance for some individuals attending the new school. However, it is believed that the improved quality of facilities and improved access for community use will outweigh most of the inconvenience caused by a slightly longer journey to some users.
- 9.3 It is believed that this proposal will not adversely impact on local, social or economic activities.

## **10. IMPLICATIONS FOR STAFF**

- 10.1 On completion of the new school it is anticipated that all staff based at the existing Crieff Primary School at that time will transfer to the new school, in line with their existing contract and HR policies and procedures.
- 10.2 Consultation will take place with individual members of staff themselves and with Trade Unions representing these staff at a time closer to the opening of the new school, should this proposal be accepted.

## **11. LIKELY EFFECT CAUSED BY DIFFERENT TRAVELLING ARRANGEMENTS**

- 11.1 Owing to the short distance between the existing school and the proposed site of the new school there should be no changes to school transport provision for eligible pupils or travel arrangements for staff.

## **12. ALTERNATIVES TO THE PROPOSAL**

- 12.1 A range of alternative possibilities have been considered as noted below:
- Continuing the status quo – this does not address the concerns regarding the future capacity of the current building and would not meet the Council's aims to provide the best possible education opportunities for the young people who are due to attend Crieff Primary School from 2014 onwards.
  - Placing the new school at a different site in Crieff – an options appraisal on a number of suitable sites was carried out at an earlier stage in the planning process for this school and the land has now been acquired.

## **13. SUSTAINABILITY**

- 13.1 Sustainability will be a key factor in the design of the new school and will be incorporated into every feasible aspect. This ranges from the materials used to the heating system and the lighting provided, and also to the landscaping of the external site to encourage biodiversity.

## **14. EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES**

- 14.1 An Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) is a statutory requirement on the Council to assess the policies and practices necessary to meet the requirements of anti-discrimination and equalities legislation.

It also affords an opportunity for the Council to consider the impact on the education service. In addition an EqIA can provide more information to develop and deliver services that meet the needs, in this case, of children and parents.

- 14.2 The aim of an EqIA is to examine policies and practice in a structured way to make sure that adverse effects on equality target groups are avoided. It is also a tool to enable the Council to assess what positive steps it can take to promote equality of opportunity and measure the results of the actions that have been taken.
- 14.3 Having regard to the replacement of the existing Crieff Primary School, it is not believed that this will have a negative impact on any of the equality target groups.
- 14.4 As part of the consultation process the Council will consult with a wide range of stakeholders, including staff, parents/carers and young people, and will address comments about equality during this consultation.
- 14.5 Under the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) as amended by the Special Educational Needs and Disability Act (2001) education providers must not treat disabled pupil less favourably and should take reasonable steps to avoid putting disabled pupils at a substantial disadvantage. The new Crieff Primary School will be DDA compliant and, therefore, would not have a negative impact on any child who has a disability.

## **15. OTHER ISSUES**

### **Management of Proposals**

- 15.1 It is intended that pupils from the existing Crieff Primary School will be transferred to the new Crieff Primary School from the start of the 2014/2015 academic session, which commences on Tuesday 19 August 2014, or as soon as possible thereafter. This will allow the Council to conduct the necessary consultation in accordance with the relevant statutory frameworks.
- 15.2 It is acknowledged that should the proposal be approved and implemented, forward planning will be required from Education and Children's Services and school senior staff, as a matter of good management practice. This planning is necessary in respect of curriculum delivery, staff management and associated issues.
- 15.3 It is envisaged that the existing Crieff Primary School will be considered in accordance with the Council's Disposal Policy. This should minimise security costs and also minimise the risks associated with vacant buildings.

## **16. CONCLUSION**

- 16.1 There are strong educational and financial arguments in favour of this proposal.
- 16.2 The Council believes that the measures proposed in this document will enhance the provision of primary education in this area.
- 16.3 In summary, it is proposed that a statutory consultation exercise takes place on a proposal for the education provision at the existing Crieff Primary School be relocated to a new school on a site adjacent to Strathearn Community Campus.
- 16.4 Future pupil projections have been considered and the new Crieff Primary School can accommodate all projected and potential pupils from the catchment area.
- 16.5 Environmental impacts have been summarised and detailed work will be done as part of the environmental assessment for this proposal.
- 16.6 The local community is well served by the Community campus and two primary schools which act as focal points for community events and it is anticipated that the relocation of the school would have no impact on this.

## **17. RESPONDING TO THE PROPOSAL**

- 17.1 Interested parties are invited to respond to the proposal by making written or electronic submissions on the proposal to Crieff Primary School Consultation, Education and Children's Services, Pullar House, 35 Kinnoull Street, Perth, PH1 5GD, and e-mail: [ECSStatutoryconsultations@pkc.gov.uk](mailto:ECSStatutoryconsultations@pkc.gov.uk)
- 17.2 A form is provided at Appendix 5 for the convenience of those wishing to respond. Its use is not compulsory.

However, those wishing to respond are invited to state their relationship with the school – for example, “pupil”, “parent”, “grandparent”, “former pupil”, “teacher in school”, “member of the Community” etc. Responses from the Parent Councils, staff, and Pupil Council are particularly welcome.

- 17.3 Those sending in a response, whether by letter or electronically, should know that their response will be open to public scrutiny and may have to be supplied to anyone making a reasonable request to see it.
- 17.4 If they do not wish their response to be publicly available, they should clearly write on the document: “I wish my response to be considered as confidential with access restricted to elected members and council officers of Perth and Kinross Council.” Otherwise, it will be assumed that the person making the response agrees to it being made publicly available.

## 18. RECOMMENDATIONS

18.1 The Lifelong Learning Committee of Perth and Kinross Council agrees to adopt, for the purpose of consultation, the proposal that:

- (i) Education provision at the existing Crieff Primary School is relocated to a new school on a site adjacent to Strathearn Community Campus with effect from Tuesday 19 August 2014, or as soon as possible thereafter.

18.2 It is also recommended that:

- i) interested parties be invited to make written submissions on the proposal to:

Crieff Primary School Consultation, Education and Children's Services, Pullar House, 35 Kinnoull Street, Perth, PH1 5GD

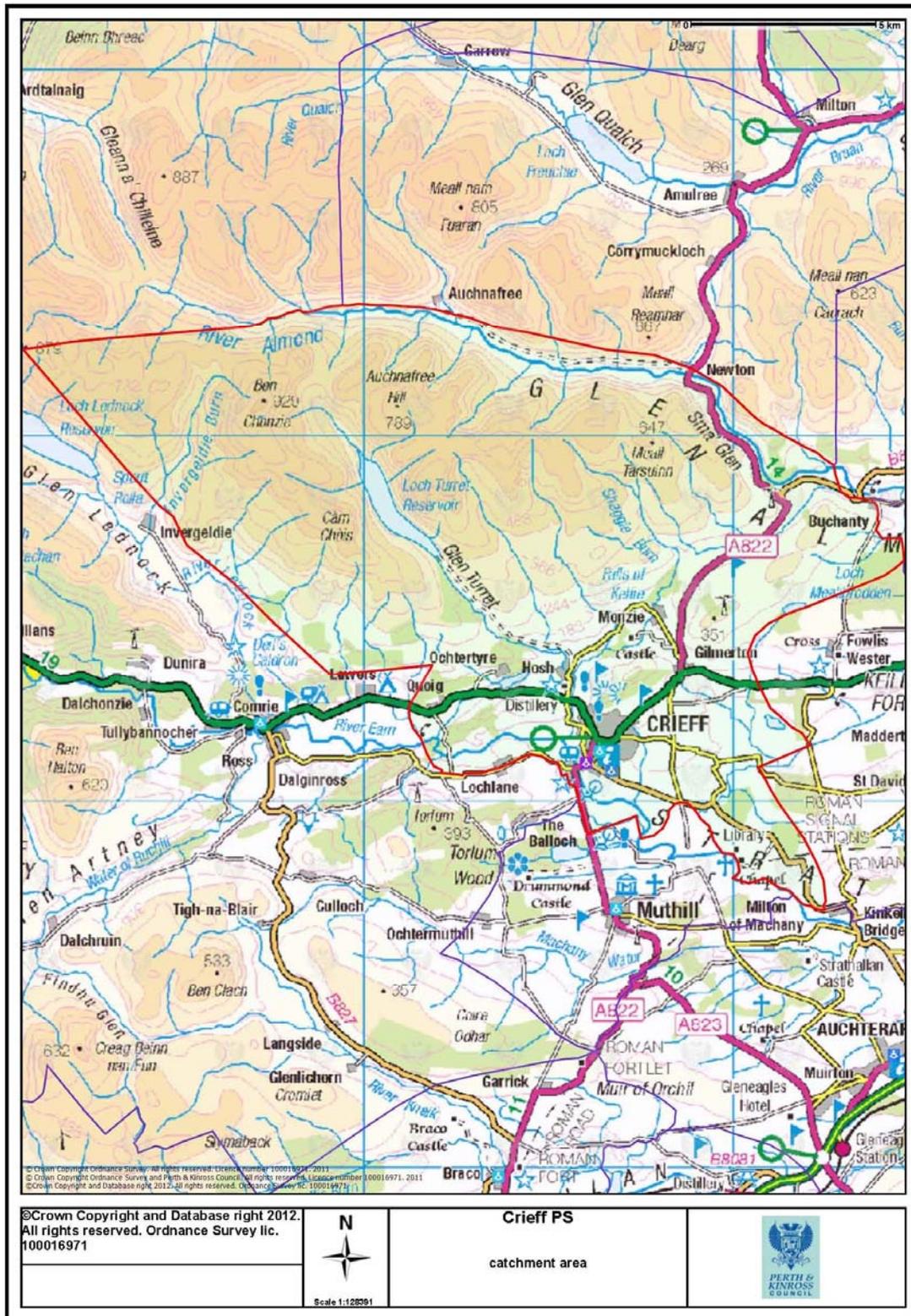
or by e-mail to: [ECStatutoryconsultations@pkc.gov.uk](mailto:ECStatutoryconsultations@pkc.gov.uk)

**no later than close of business on 25 January 2013.**

- ii) the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) prepares a report on the results of the proposal process for consideration at a future meeting of the Lifelong Learning Committee.

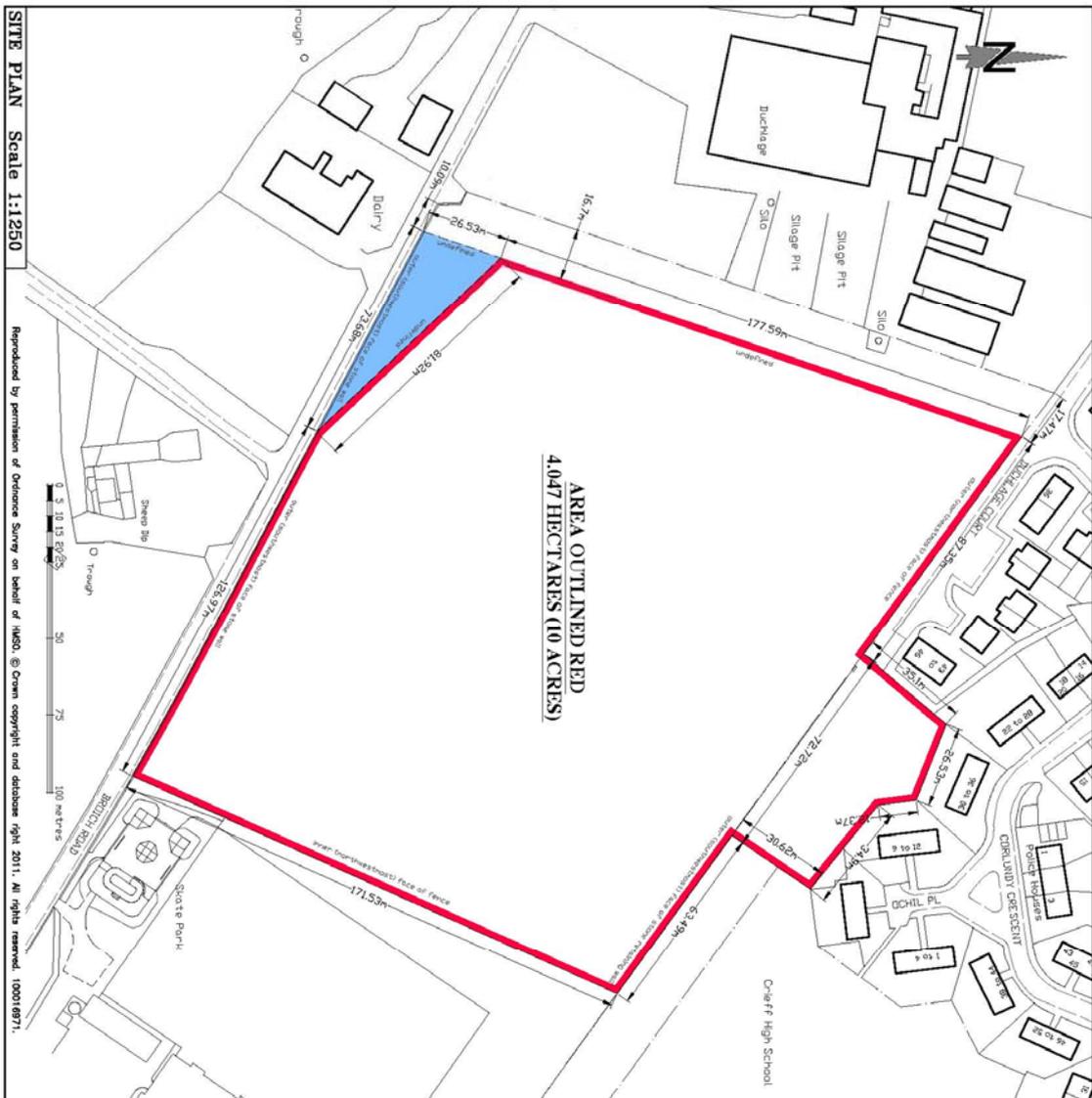
John Fyffe  
Executive Director (Education and Children's Services)

DELINEATED AREA OF CRIEFF PRIMARY SCHOOL



Created by Gillian Holden on 10 October 2012

SITE PLAN OF NEW CRIEFF PRIMARY SCHOOL BUILDING AND THE SCHOOL GROUNDS



NOTES

THIS IS THE PLAN REFERRED TO IN THE FOREGOING

AMENDMENTS

Indian Notation	By	Date
a	Services and proposed new roads layout removed.	MBP 19/10/2011
b	Remove visibility signs from site, add in additional ground & north-south Secondary School boundary generated from OS map data.	MBP 09/11/2011
c	Shrink visibility signs blue (losses right), correct boundary dimensions and descriptions.	MBP 10/11/2011

**PERTH & KINROSS COUNCIL**

**The Environment Service**

**Subject:** Proposed PS Site  
**Broich Road**  
**Crieff**

**Dwg Description:** DEED PLAN

**Drawn by:** MBP  
**Scale:** 1:1250

**Dwg No:** D/CRIEFF/87c  
**Date:** 19/05/2009

### HISTORICAL AND PROJECTED PUPIL ROLL DATA FOR CRIEFF PRIMARY SCHOOL

2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
427	418	404	413	391	378	370	324	329	330	328

Source: [Scottish Government – School Education - Datasets](#)

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
327	330	326	341	340	336

### ANALYSIS OF SCHOOL/PUPIL INFORMATION

School	Capacity	Roll (Census 2012)	Highest Projected Roll – 2018/2019	Condition Rating	Suitability Rating
Crieff PS	434	328	341	C	C

## Ward Profile Information

### Strathearn (Ward 6)

#### Population

The population of Scotland in mid 2011 reached 5,254,800. These figures, based on 2001 Census data, show a rise of 3.8% (190,600 people) over that period <sup>(1)</sup>. The estimated population of Perth and Kinross grew by 1.2% between 2008 (144,180<sup>1</sup>) and 2009 (145,910<sup>2</sup>). The population for the Strathearn ward was estimated at 11,619<sup>3</sup> in 2010.

**Table 1: 2010 Mid Year Population Estimates by Age<sup>4</sup>**

	Children		Working Age		Pensionable Age	
	No	%	No	%	No	%
<b>Strathearn</b>	1894	16.3	6565	56.5	3160	27.2
<b>Perth and Kinross</b>	24,827	16.8	88,668	60.0	34,285	23.2
<b>Scotland</b>	914,335	17.4	3,289,505	62.6	1,050,960	20.0

Table 1 shows that, based on the estimated population, within Strathearn there is a lower proportion of children<sup>5</sup> and a higher proportion of people of pensionable<sup>6</sup> age in comparison to both Perth and Kinross and Scotland. It also shows that, within Strathearn there is a significantly wider gap between the estimated population of people of a pensionable age than that of children in the ward when compared to Scotland and Perth and Kinross.

Births in the registration district of Crieff between 2007 and 2011 are given below. These figures indicate the number of births registered in the area and not necessarily births of people resident in the area.

#### Births Registered within Crieff Registration District 2008 2009 2010 2011

**Crieff**                                      93      94      83      80

Source: Perth and Kinross Council Registrars  
Other ward level statistics reveal that:

<sup>1</sup> [Scotland's Population 2011 – the Registrar General's Annual Review of Demographic Trends'](#)

<sup>2</sup> Mid Year Population Estimate 2011, [GROS from National Records of Scotland](#)

<sup>3</sup> Mid Year Population Estimate 2011, [GROS from National Records of Scotland](#)

<sup>4</sup> Mid Year Population Estimate 2011, [GROS from National Records of Scotland](#)

<sup>5</sup> GROS definition Aged 0 - 15

<sup>6</sup> GROS definition – males aged 65 and over, females aged 60 and over

- levels of both income and employment deprivation within Strathearn are lower than average for Perth and Kinross; and
- the percentage of the population seeking Job Seekers Allowance and guaranteed pension credits are lower than Perth and Kinross.

## Population Profile

<b>Population Estimates 2010</b>	<b>Ward 6</b>	<b>PKC</b>	<b>Scotland</b>
Total population	11,619	147,780	5,222,100
Population aged 16-19	572	7,125	263,478
% children 0-15	16.3%	16.8%	17.5%
% pensionable age 65+	27.2%	23.2%	20.0%
% working age 16-64	56.5%	60.0%	62.6%
Male working age	3,525	47,068	1,688,551
Female working age	3,039	41,545	1,579,372

Source: GROS 2010 Small area population estimates

Population information is also available from the 2001 Census for Ward 6.

The Strathearn Ward has a slightly lower percentage of working age population and a higher percentage of pensionable age population. The main settlements within the area are Crieff and Comrie which account for around 82% of the population of the Ward. Crieff is the larger of the settlements with around 7,500 inhabitants and there around 2,000 inhabitants in Comrie.

## Education Profile

### School Rolls

<b>Individual School Pupil Roll Numbers</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>
Comrie Primary School	118	116	126
Crieff Primary School	324	329	330
Crieff High School	656	647	652
St Dominic's Primary School	145	140	142

Source: PKC Annual School Census

### School Information

#### School

Comrie PS [Comrie Primary School Handbook 2012/13](#)  
[HMI Inspection Letter August 2012](#)

Crieff Primary [Crieff Primary School Handbook 2011/12](#)  
[HMI Follow Through Inspection Report 2010](#)

Crieff High School [Crieff High School Handbook 2012/13](#)  
[HMI Follow Through Inspection Report 2008](#)

St Dominic's  
Primary [St Dominic's RC Primary School Handbook 2012/13](#)  
[HMI Inspection Report 2008](#)

## CONSULTEE RESPONSE FORM



## Education and Children's Services

## Response Form

I wish my response to be considered as confidential with access restricted to Elected members and Council Officers of Perth and Kinross Council

## Proposal:

That subject to the outcome of this Proposal exercise:

- Education provision at the existing Crieff Primary School is relocated to a new school on a site adjacent to Strathearn Community Campus with effect from Tuesday 19 August 2014, or as soon as possible thereafter.

**This part of the form must be completed for a valid response:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

## Your Interest: (please tick)

Parent  Child / Young Person  Staff  Other \*

\*Other: (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Elected Member / MSP / MP  Member of Community Council

Please state your views on the proposal (continue overleaf if necessary)

Office Use: \_\_\_\_\_

