



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

**Minute of meeting held on Thursday 25 September 2014**

**At 7 pm in AK Bell Library, Perth**

**Present**

Councillor Bob Band  
Audrey May  
Karen Robertson  
Carol Taylor

Convener, Lifelong Learning Committee  
Strategic Lead – Change & Improvement  
Service Manager - Business Services  
Service Manager – Resources

**In Attendance**

Councillor Barbara Vaughan      Perth and Kinross Council  
Carolyn Noble – Minutes      Perth and Kinross Council

5 members of the public.

**WHO**

**1. 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.

**2. Format of meeting**

Councillor Band explained the format the meeting would follow.

**3. The proposal**

Councillor Band explained the consultation proposal to the attendees:

The Council proposes to:

- establish a new secondary school at Berth Park with effect from March 2018;
- vary the existing admission arrangements to alter the catchment areas for Perth Grammar school, Perth High School and Perth Academy to establish a catchment area for the proposed new secondary school, and establish temporary admission arrangements to accommodate the phased population of the new school; and
- vary the arrangements for the transfer of pupils from a primary school to a secondary school by altering the designated secondary school for the directly affected primary schools and establish temporary transfer arrangements to accommodate the phased population of the new secondary school.

#### **4. Presentations**

Audrey May and Karen Robertson gave presentations explaining the proposal in further detail.

Audrey May gave a presentation on the background to the proposal and the reasons a new secondary school is required. The presentation outlined the proposed site for the new secondary school and the proposed catchment area. Information was provided on the proposed first cohort of pupils expected to attend the new secondary school along with the transition arrangements, the educational benefits of the proposal and leadership and staffing arrangements for the new secondary school. Audrey also explained the project timeline to 2018.

Karen Robertson gave a presentation on the statutory consultation process including the legal framework, consideration by Lifelong Learning Committee, the content of the proposal including the Educational Benefits statement, statutory consultation period and representation from interested parties as the first part of the consultation process. Karen Robertson then went on to explain the next stages of the process which includes the involvement of Education Scotland, the preparation and publication of the 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. How will children get to school safely?**

**A.**

There will be a new junction at McDiarmid Park which will ensure that there will be no other bridges for the children to cross. A school travel plan will be developed as part of the planning process. Children's safety is a high priority at all times.

**Q. Will you move present S4 and S5 pupils from their current school into the new school?**

**A.**

No they will remain at their current school. This would disrupt pupils during the course of their exam periods.

**Q. Are you confident "borrowed" teachers won't affect the current schools?**

**A.**

Teachers will not be removed from current schools as the new school will be staffed appropriately in accordance with local and national staffing standards in accordance with the pupil roll.

**Q. Will you be "double hatting" teachers?**

**A.**

Definitely not.

- Q. As only S1 pupils will access the school is this not a bit of a waste?**  
**A.** No. S1 pupils will attend the new school from March 2018 - June 2018, taking into account of Easter Holidays, this will only be for an approximately 6 weeks. From August 2018, there will be S1 and S2 pupils as well senior students who will be part of the Perth City Campus initiative.
- Q. If someone attends Perth High School and dislike this school, can they attend the new school?**  
**A.** Existing procedures are in place to allow parents to submit a placing request for the school of their choice. However, placing requests will not be able to be made for any year groups which are not operational in the new secondary school.
- Q. Who received the letters informing of the consultation?**  
**A.** All parents of pupils in all directly affected schools and parents of all pupils in all indirectly affected schools were sent a letter. Most issues will affect the current P5 pupils in the directly affected primary schools. A total of 9,000 letters have been sent out advising of the consultation.

Councillor Band thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.