

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL
EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES
OPTIONS APPRAISAL REPORT
ABERNYTE PRIMARY SCHOOL



1. Introduction

The Council's Corporate Plan identifies the vision of *'a confident and ambitious Perth and Kinross with a strong identity and clear outcomes that everyone works together to achieve. Our area will be vibrant and successful; a safe secure and healthy environment; and a place where people and communities are nurtured and supported'*.

This strategic approach embraces the vision for our area, our communities and our people as outlined in the Corporate Plan. Our key service priorities support the delivery of our commitments in the Community Planning Partnership's Single Outcome Agreement and Corporate Plan, helping Education and Children's Services to focus on the local outcomes that will achieve meaningful improvements for the area, our local communities and our citizens.

Councils, as 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 entire area for the current school population and future pattern of demand.

Councils also have a statutory responsibility in terms of the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003 to achieve best value.

The school estate is a significant and valuable asset to the communities of Perth and Kinross. From 2017 to 2023, the Council will invest £141m in the school estate, including a number of new or replacement primary schools and a substantial upgrade programme for secondary schools. In addition a new £32.5m secondary school at Bertha Park will come into operation in August 2019.

The School Estate Strategy ([Report No. 12/370 refers](#)) sets out the Council's aspirations for our schools, and in particular the high value we place on learning, through our vision for well designed, maintained and managed schools. The [School Estate Management Plan](#) details how we plan to deliver the strategy.

It is important, in light of the significant investment and cost associated with the school estate, that it is managed in an efficient and effective manner, and that the priorities which are addressed meet the wider strategic objectives of the Council and the needs of our communities.

2. Background

2.1 Transformation

There are significant challenges for managing the school estate over the coming years. These include changing demographics including population growth, and house building in certain locations and reduction in population in other areas. This has led to an 'imbalance' in occupation of the school estate, with roll pressures in some urban schools and under-occupation in some rural schools.

There is also ongoing deterioration in building infrastructure, pressure on planned maintenance budgets, increasing revenue costs and the expansion of Early Learning

and Childcare which are challenging in terms of funding and maintenance of the school estate.

The Council's Transformation Strategy 2015-2020 'Building Ambition' and Organisational Development Framework were approved by Council on 1 July 2015 ([Report No 15/292](#) refers). Together they detail how Perth and Kinross Council will deliver transformation over the next five years. Accompanying the strategy is a programme of major reviews which are considered to be key drivers and enablers of transformation across the organisation.

As part of the Council's Transformation Programme 2015-2020, a review of the school estate was approved. On 24 August 2016, the Council approved the report "Transformation – School Estate Review" ([Report 16/347](#) refers). This report proposed principles to be used to prioritise investment and as a basis for a high level review of the school estate. The purpose of the transformation review is to support the delivery of better outcomes for all of our young people through more effective use and management of the school estate.

2.2 Basis of review

The principles approved as a basis for the review are:

- (i) Every school should be rated as A or B ie at least satisfactory for condition and suitability;
- (ii) Schools should have an occupancy rate where possible greater than 60% of the capacity and ideally should be operating at between 80% and 100% capacity; and
- (iii) Life expired buildings within the school estate should be prioritised for replacement.

2.3 Options Appraisal

This report is the options appraisal for Abernyte Primary School. This will be submitted to Lifelong Learning Committee of the Council which will determine whether any statutory consultation will proceed.

2.4 Inclusion of Abernyte Primary School

On 2 November 2016, the Council approved the report "Securing the Future of the School Estate – Next Steps" ([Report 16/485](#) refers). This report detailed the outcome of the high level review and proposed to proceed with further work on the schools which did not meet the suitability, condition or occupancy principles.

In this report, it was agreed that an options appraisal should be carried out on Abernyte Primary School due to under-occupancy.

At that time, the school had a pupil roll of 8 (School Census¹ 2015) and an approved capacity of 44 at the same time giving an occupancy level of 18%.

Abernyte Primary School has 5 pupils as at the School Census 2017.

¹ An annual pupil census in publicly funded schools in Scotland is carried out every year for publication by the Scottish Government. This usually takes place in September.

2.5 Legislation

The Schools Consultation (Scotland) Act 2010 provides a strong, accountable statutory consultation process that local authorities must apply to their handling of all proposals for school closures and other major changes to schools. These consultation processes are expected to be robust, open, transparent and fair, and seen to be so. They are also expected to be consistent across Scotland.

The 2010 Act makes special arrangements in relation to rural schools, establishing a presumption against closure of rural schools. The result of this is that education authorities must have special regard to a number of factors before formulating a proposal to close a rural school and in consulting on and reaching a decision as to whether to implement a rural school closure proposal. These factors are:

- Effect on the Community
- Effect on Travel Arrangements
- Educational Benefits

The duties are outlined in the [Schools \(Consultation\) \(Scotland\) Act 2010](#) and the accompanying [Statutory Guidance](#).

In order to ensure a robust approach to each option appraisal carried out under the School Estate Review the factors that require to be considered as part of a rural school closure will be adopted in all cases.

The Education (Scotland) Act 2016 amends the Standards in Scotland's Schools Act 2000 by adding in new duties to address inequality of outcome. These duties apply in different ways to both Scottish Ministers and education authorities.

Where the education authority is making or implementing strategic decisions about school education, it is required to have due regard to the need to carry out its functions in a way which is designed to reduce inequalities of outcome. This is particularly directed in the Act towards pupils who experience those inequalities through socio-economic disadvantage, but there is also a power to extend the range of pupils who are covered by this duty.

In addition, the [Community Empowerment \(Scotland\) Act 2015](#) sets out a new right for community organisations to request the transfer of local assets into local community ownership/management. Public bodies including Councils must consider such requests and respond within a reasonable timescale to them.

2.6 Community Engagement

The Statutory Guidance promotes informal consultation or “pre consultation” with communities regarding a proposal before a formal 2010 Act proposal paper is formulated. The Statutory Guidance recommends ‘early engagement with the local community’ with a view to:

- ‘establishing possible alternatives’;
- ‘information gathering and sharing in advance of a statutory consultation’;

- ‘engaging and empowering communities to understand and help shape the proposals that affect them’.

Details of the feedback from the community sessions are contained in Appendix 1. Relevant feedback is also referred to in the later sections of this document, to provide the community view of the impact of the options. The feedback which is detailed in the Appendix has been issued to the Parent Council, Headteacher and Community Council and published on the Council website.

The key themes in the feedback from Abernyte Primary School were:

- Doing nothing is not the answer
- A catchment review could increase the school roll and make the school sustainable;
- The school is important to the community;
- The school is a good school and benefits the pupils; and
- A nursery and/or after school club would encourage parents to enrol pupils in Abernyte.

3 Abernyte and the Local Area

3.1 Location of School

Abernyte Primary School is located within the village of Abernyte. Abernyte lies just off the B953, approximately 6 minutes driving time from the A90 between Perth and Dundee.

The school lies approximately 3.4 miles² from Inchtute Primary School and approximately 4.4 miles from Longforgan Primary School.

The Scottish Government’s Rural School List 2017 classifies Abernyte Primary School as “accessible rural” school under Section 14 of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010. The classification is based on two main criteria, settlement size and accessibility based on drive time. For Abernyte Primary School the classification criteria is “areas with a population of less than 3,000 people and within a 30 minute drive time of a settlement of 10,000 or more” (Source: Scottish Government Rural School List 2017).

3.2 Local Area and Community

Abernyte is within the Carse of Gowrie ward of Perth and Kinross Council. The Carse of Gowrie stretches for approximately 20 miles (32 km) along the north shore of the Firth of Tay between Perth and Dundee.

Abernyte has a church, which is located approximately a mile from the school. The church is linked with 3 other Carse Churches; Kinnaird, Inchtute and Longforgan. Abernyte Church is available for use by the community.

² All approximate distances sourced from Google Maps

Attractions in the area include the Scottish Antique & Arts Centre, a micro-brewery and local walks. Visitors to the area can be accommodated at Milton Farm Lodges as well as various holiday cottages in the area.

The Abernyte Community Interest Company (ACIC) was formed in 2006 to represent the community of Abernyte. They amalgamated in 2015 with the local Heritage Group. The ACIC organise and host events in and around Abernyte, for example: afternoon events at the Millennium Walk and the Abernyte Harvest Festival. Other events that occur in the area are the annual Parish Walk and the French exchange (through the Inchtute Area Twinning Association). The Abernyte community set up an 'Abernyte Heating Oil Collective' (AHOC) in 2010. Since the set-up the group has over 40 members ordering over 100,000 litres of their heating oil per year. The ACIC owns the large playing field that lies next to the school. This playing field is used for various activities by the community and school.

The community were asked to describe the community of Abernyte at the engagement session. A few of the comments are below:

- *Very strong and vibrant community. We all know each other. Many activities together at all levels. A sense of 'pride' exists in the area;*
- *The community revolves round the church and the school (the shop closed some years ago) we are a very active community and very supportive of the school – primarily for the children but also as a community building;*
- *Abernyte Primary is part of a very dynamic and creative village with many talented people. I am new to the village. I think this creative linkage could be developed massively to mutual advantage. It needs creative thinking and planning – and leading with expert council input, but the future to the whole area could be transformative, educationally, socially, culturally.*

3.3 Population

Data on pre-school children registered with GP practices living in the Abernyte catchment tends to support the comments made by the community in relation to the number of families living in the catchment area which has remained low over a number of years.

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
P1 aged pupils due to attend Abernyte Primary School	4	1	2	2	3	2	1	3	1

Table 1 – P1 aged pupils living in Abernyte Primary School catchment area

- *Very few new houses in area which mean not a lot of young families equals no children. Low school roll;*
- *Population of the village has aged & everybody moves here for life as it's a wonderful place to live. The young families left have now put children to other schools as the population is low – a change in the catchment area.*

3.4 Socio Economic Factors

The Council uses the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) and ACORN data to understand levels of deprivation across Perth and Kinross and also in individual schools. Both sets of data are based on address.

Appendix 2 explains SIMD and ACORN.

Abernyte Primary School does not receive Pupil Equity Funding (PEF). PEF is provided as part of the £750m Attainment Scotland Fund which will be invested over the current Parliamentary term to tackle the poverty related attainment gap.

There are no pupils attending Abernyte Primary School who are considered as coming from socio economically deprived households on the basis of SIMD and ACORN data.

3.5 Development, Housebuilding and Employment

The current Local Development Plan (LDP) was adopted in 2014 and the Council is required to keep it up to date and review it at a maximum of five year intervals.

The TAYplan sets out a hierarchical approach to directing new development to existing settlements and identifies Perth Core Area as the tier 1 settlement which should take the majority of new development.

There is no planned house building for the Abernyte area contained within the LDP or Housing Land Audit (HLA) 2016.

The Proposed Local Development Plan (LDP) 2 was approved for consultation by Council on 22 November 2017. The aspiration is to have a final LDP to adopt by Spring 2019. There are no changes proposed for Abernyte in LDP2.

Information received from Perth and Kinross Council Business Growth Team indicated the following in relation to business activities in the Abernyte area:

- The biggest local employer in Abernyte is the Scottish Antique & Arts Centre.
- The Taypack processing and manufacturing plant (47 employees) is based in nearby Inchtute.
- Abernyte micro-brewery started up around 2015 – it is of small scale.

There is no indication at this point of any significant changes to business growth or population as a result of business growth.

3.6 The School within the community

At the pre-consultation the community were asked to describe the community within Abernyte and their thoughts on Abernyte Primary School as part of the community, some of the comments are as follows:

- *The school is a vibrant and essential part of Abernyte. Its community centres around the children who are the future;*
- *Many activities take place in the school bringing all the parents, grandparents etc together. Strengthening the community;*

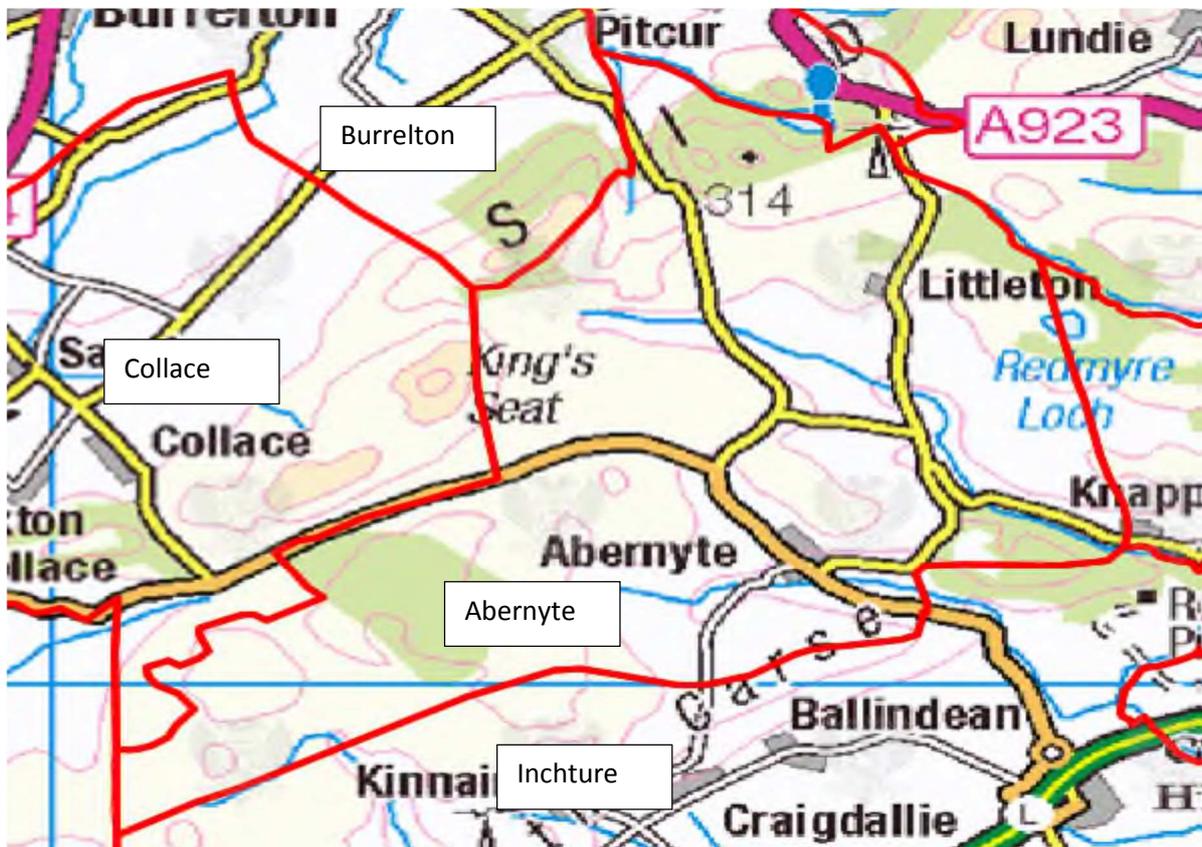
- *Friendly community – school has declined in importance within the community – high input by Headteacher necessary to revive interest.*
- *No village hall or other central meeting place. Inchtore village hall always booked. School bookings expensive*

The school invites local people into the school throughout the year for various events. The community have commented that there will be a negative impact on the community if the school was to close. The Wine Club and Heritage Group use the school out with school hours. The Wine Club meets monthly and the Heritage Group meets a number of times a year.

4. Abernyte Primary School

4.1 School Catchment

Abernyte Primary School serves all of Abernyte village and the surrounding area. The delineated catchment area is from within a boundary line from Outfield Farm, Balloleys Farm, Dundriven, Little Ballo, Lauriston Cottage Knapp and the Scottish Antiques and Arts Centre.



4.2 Pupil Numbers

The school roll at Abernyte Primary School has been decreasing since 2011. In 2011 there were no P1's registered at the school and in the last 3 years there have been no P1 intakes.

School Roll Pupil Numbers – Historic Data

(Based on Census)

Primary Classes	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Capacity	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44
Pupils in school	22	21	16	21	15	15	14	11	8	7	5

Table 2: Historic school roll pupil numbers

At Census 2017, there were 10 primary school aged pupils living in the catchment area attending Perth and Kinross schools. Five of these pupils attended other PKC schools. There were no P1 pupils registered in the school. There are also no boys registered at the school.

	Pupil Census 2014	Pupil Census 2015	Pupil Census 2016	Pupil Census 2017
Primary School Aged Pupils living in catchment attending PKC schools	13	11	10	10
Abernyte Primary School Catchment pupils attending other PKC schools	3	4	4	5
Abernyte Primary School Catchment pupils attending Abernyte Primary School	10	7	6	5
Pupils from other catchments attending Abernyte Primary School	1	1	1	0
Pupil Roll	11	8	7	5

Table 3: Attendance at Abernyte and other schools

Future Pupil Projections

The methodology used for pupil projections allows Education and Children's Services to project a detailed year by year analysis for each school catchment.

The methodology applied for projecting future P1 intakes uses aggregated GP registration data. This anonymised data, sourced from the NHS, reflects children registered with a GP, within specific school catchment areas based on addresses.

P1 pupils included within the data received from the NHS do not always decide to attend their catchment school. This is primarily because parents make placing requests to other schools or elect to send their child to a denominational school.

As a result of these movements the P1 data is adjusted taking into consideration the movement of pupils in previous years. The adjusted data is the primary source of information for forward planning

It should be noted that due to the fluid nature of pupil movements within the estate, for a number of different reasons, predicting future years' schools rolls will not be

exact. It is however accurate enough to provide valuable information on forward planning for the school estate.

School Roll – Future Pupil Numbers Projected

	2018/ 2019	2019/ 2020	2020/ 2021	2021/ 2022
Abernyte Capacity	44	44	44	44
Abernyte Roll	5	5	3	5

Table 4: Future pupil projections³

The table above assumes that some under 5's living in the area currently will not attend Abernyte Primary School on the basis of previous P1 intakes. There are 5 new pupils included in the table above.

P1 Pupil Numbers

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Abernyte Primary School P1 pupil numbers projected	2	2	3	2	1	3	1
Abernyte Primary School Actual P1 pupil numbers	0	2	2	1	0	0	0

Table 5: Projected and actual P1 pupil numbers

In the past 7 years the projected number of P1 pupils to attend the school was 14, however only 5 registered at Abernyte Primary School.

4.3 Building Information

Abernyte Primary School belongs to the Council and there are no restrictions on the title.

The school is on one level and is made up of 2 classrooms, a hall for dining and PE, toilets, resources room, school office/staff room and the kitchen. The classroom at the main entrance of the school can accommodate 20 pupils and the classroom at the rear of the school can accommodate 24 pupils.

A floor plan of the building can be found in Appendix 3.

Suitability is an assessment of the school as a whole, its buildings and its grounds and the impact they have on teaching and learning, leisure and social activities and

³ The projected school roll is based on actual P1 registrations as at 23 February 2018. 2 pupils living within the Abernyte Primary School catchment area due to attend the school in August 2018 have made placing requests to attend other schools.

the health and wellbeing of users. The overall suitability of the building is rated 'A' (performing well and operating efficiently).

A survey of the building was carried out in January 2017 to assess the current condition of the building. Condition is an assessment of the physical condition of the school and its grounds. The condition of the building is rated 'B' (Performing adequately but showing minor deterioration).

A further 'desktop' Mechanical and Electrical (M&E) survey was undertaken in November 2017. The condition has not been adjusted to take this M&E survey into account, as the Council along with other Scottish Councils is about to update the means of assessing condition. The works required as a result of the M&E survey have been included in the potential future spend, however. These works include ventilation, fire alarm systems, heating and hot water pipework, insulation and building fabric improvements.

Planned and unplanned maintenance on the school building in the last 3 financial years cost £14,144.

4.4 Financial Information (Staff, Buildings, Transport and Other)

The revenue cost for financial year 2017/2018 for operating Abernyte Primary School is £120,786. This includes staff and building costs such as energy and cleaning. The cost of upgrading the building as detailed in paragraph 4.3 "Building Information" is £333,090.

A financial overview is contained in Appendix 4.

5. Options for Consideration

A number of options are considered for the future of Abernyte Primary School as part of this options appraisal:

- Option 1 – School remains open with existing catchment area;
- Option 2 - Consider mothballing the school – pupils moved to Inchture Primary School;
- Option 3 - Consider closing the school – pupils moved to a neighbouring catchment school; and
- Option 4 - Catchment area is reviewed to determine whether this would increase the school roll sufficiently to ensure the future sustainability of the school.

In considering the options below, account was taken of the fact that there is a presumption against closure of a rural school. As part of the options appraisal, the "rural school factors" specified in the School Consultation (Scotland) Act 2010 have been given special regard. These are:

- Effect on Community
- Effect on Travel Arrangements
- Educational Benefit

5.1 Option 1 – School remains open with existing catchment area

Community Feedback

The community was not in agreement with this option. If this option progressed then the community felt that the school roll would continue to fall and this would eventually result in school closure.

- *To do nothing is not an option, unsustainable and not stimulating;*
- *Will not help with predicted continued decline in pupil numbers;*
- *The school will close if nothing is done.*

Community Impact

From the community engagement session, there was a view that the school was an important part of the village and many do not want to see it close. Comments suggested without the school in the village it would have a detrimental effect on the local community.

The local community use the school building to host their monthly Wine Club and the Heritage Group also host meetings in the school occasionally during the year.

Within Abernyte, the Church building is available to let for community events. In nearby villages there are schools and village halls available to host future community events if the school was unavailable.

Pupil Impact/Pupil Roll

If the school is to remain open without change, then pupils would not experience any change to their current schooling.

However, table 4 in section 4.2 shows that the school roll is not expected to increase in the next 4 years, so it is the case that pupil numbers will be likely to remain very low.

Financial Impact

The financial implications of retaining the 'status quo' for the school are a continuation of the current annual revenue costs of approximately £120,786 per annum. This figure includes home to school transport.

A capital cost of £333,090 will still be required to upgrade the building.

Assessment of Option 1

This option will not affect the community or travel arrangements. Current pupils would continue to attend the school.

The reason for taking forward an options appraisal for Abernyte Primary School was that pupil numbers had been consistently low over recent years and there was concern over the sustainability of the school. The pupil roll projections (table 4 section 4.2) reflect that there is no evidence to suggest that the roll will increase over the next 4 years.

It has not been possible to identify other steps which could increase the roll, whilst maintaining the status quo. Therefore, other options which may make the school more sustainable should be considered. This is therefore not considered a reasonable option.

5.2 Option 2 – Consider mothballing the school – pupils moved to Inchtute Primary School

The term 'mothballing' is used, according to Scottish Government guidance, to refer to a temporary decision to close a school where the roll has fallen to zero. It recognises the potential impact on a community of closing the school and seeks to avoid that final decision until there is sustained evidence of no demand. It can be an appropriate and positive step where there is some prospect of revival in a community. All parents must agree to a school being mothballed.

The Statutory Guidance for the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, in relation to mothballing, states “the maximum length of its duration is likely to depend on the location of the school and the desirability of maintaining capacity to re-open a school there, but it is unlikely that it should exceed 3 years in areas that are not very remote”.

Community Feedback

The feedback received from the engagement session was that this is not a preferred option. There were a few comments that if the school is mothballed then it will eventually close.

- *Mothballing would be the worst option as it would mean the school was not available for either the children or the wider community;*
- *Not in favour of this option – will inevitably lead to closure & the loss of a valuable community resource. Likely to lead to inevitable building deterioration & unfortunate vandalism. Also leads to increased pupil transport costs;*
- *Mothballing would lead to slow decline in the vibrancy of local community;*
- *Very poor option that is effectively closing the school.*

Pupil Impact/Travel Arrangements

If Abernyte Primary School was to be mothballed, pupils will be accommodated at Inchtute Primary School which is approximately 3.4 miles away and is the closest school to Abernyte Primary School. Current pupils would have to travel between approximately 3.3 miles and 5.8 miles to attend Inchtute Primary School.

Pupils would be entitled to transport as they live more than two miles away.

Two comments were received from the community engagement session and surveys on the effect of change on children relating to mothballing, both related to transport.

- *Less family time due to doubling journey at both ends of day. Carbon footprint doubled. Days lost due to snow will increase. Too far especially for young pupils. Inchtute is full;*

- *Transport to Inchtute = increased pollution.*

School Environment

Inchtute Primary School has a capacity of 264 pupils. The current roll at Inchtute Primary School is 220 pupils (Census 2017). The school is currently operating with 9 classes.

The school currently has classrooms for primary education, a nursery, toilets, staff and resources room, dining, general purpose room, offices, hall, storage and the multi-use games area (MUGA). A floorplan of the school can be found in Appendix 5.

In August 2014, an extensive refurbishment and extension was carried out at the school which added a library, hall for PE provision and a MUGA.

The MUGA benefits from an all-weather playing surface allowing the school and the community to use year round. The MUGA was part funded by the community.

Inchtute Primary School has a nursery provision which currently offers both morning and afternoon sessions. Each session provides for a maximum of 35 children from aged 2 until they attend school ie 70 children in all. There are 39 nursery children (Census 2017) registered at the school.

The class composition in recent years at Inchtute Primary School is as follows:

Class	2014/15	Class	2015/16	Class	2016/17	Class	2017/18
P1	21	P1	24	P1A	16	P1A	21
P2A	17	P1/2	22	P1B	19	P1B	18
P2B	17	P2/3	22	P2	25	P2	22
P3	27	P3	22	P2/3	25	P2/3	23
P4	27	P4	26	P3/4	24	P3	23
P5	22	P5	26	P4	22	P4	27
P6	19	P6	22	P5	27	P5	31
P7	16	P7	17	P6	27	P6	27
				P7	25	P7	28

Table 6 – class composition

The average class size in Perth and Kinross primary schools is 23 pupils (Census 2017). The maximum class size for composite classes is 25. The maximum class size for P1 is 25, P2 and P3 is 30 and P4-P7 is 33.

The overall suitability of Inchtute Primary School is rated 'B' (performing well but with minor problems).

A survey of Inchtute Primary School was carried out in April 2016 to assess the current condition of the building. The condition of the building is rated 'B' (performing adequately but showing minor deterioration).

Pupil Roll

If Abernyte Primary School was to be mothballed, current and new pupils would attend Inchtute Primary School. The projected roll at Inchtute Primary School would be as follows:

	2018/ 2019	2019/ 2020	2020/ 2021	2021/ 2022
Inchtute Primary School Capacity	264	264	264	264
Abernyte Primary School Pupils	5	5	3	5
Inchtute Primary School Pupils	218	233	235	240
Inchtute Primary School Roll with Abernyte Primary School Pupils	223	238	238	245
Total Capacity %	84	90	90	93

Table 7: Inchtute Primary School pupil roll (current and future)

It should be noted that nursery pupils are not included in school capacities or school rolls.

Financial Impact

The revenue savings generated from mothballing Abernyte Primary School amount to approximately £108,213 annually. This is made up of staff and building costs however it takes account of transport costs for current pupils to attend Inchtute Primary School.

Environmental Impact

There will be reduced energy consumption if the school is to be mothballed. Children from Abernyte would have to travel further to school in Inchtute, however pupil numbers are small, the distance is minimal and the effect is therefore limited.

Option 2 - Assessment

The basis of this option is whether there will be changes in the next 3 years which will lead to a sustainable roll at Abernyte Primary School and whether the school should be mothballed in anticipation of this.

The school roll at Abernyte Primary School has been falling since 2011 and it is not anticipated to rise in the next 4 years. There is no anticipated house building or business venture which would significantly impact on the population and as a result the school roll.

Taking account of the Statutory Guidance, mothballing of the school is only a reasonable option if there are likely to be changes within the catchment area in the next 3 years which would result in an increase in the roll. Within the next 3 years there are unlikely to be changes to the population within the catchment area to increase the roll at Abernyte Primary School. In addition, once pupils become settled

in a new school, they may not return to Abernyte Primary School and the mothballing becomes in effect a closure. This is therefore not considered a reasonable option.

Option 3 – Consider closing the school – pupils moved to a neighbouring catchment school

There are a number of primary school catchments adjoining Abernyte Primary School including Balbeggie Primary School, Burrelton Primary School, Collace Primary School, Inchtore Primary School, Kettins Primary School and Longforgan Primary School.

Balbeggie Primary School, Burrelton Primary School, Kettins Primary School and Longforgan Primary School have all been discounted as alternative schools as the pupils would have to travel through another school catchment area to reach their primary school.

Appendix 6 analyses neighbouring catchments. Inchtore Primary School is the preferred school for the pupils from Abernyte Primary School catchment to attend should this option progress, due to its proximity.

Community Feedback

There was a mix of responses to this option at the community engagement session and through the online survey. The community commented that the school closing would have a negative effect on the area. A few comments referenced the school being too small and that finances could be redirected towards other schools.

- *I think that the children would benefit moving to a more vibrant school – social skills, friends etc. It would be a great pity to see the school removed from Abernyte but surely we should be thinking of the children;*
- *The worst possible option for the community – loss of school & loss of a wider valuable community resource, especially given the building is in relatively good condition. This option should not be taken any further;*
- *I know that the education is very good at Abernyte, however the cost per pupil must be astronomical. As far as I can see there are more staff than pupils, whilst Inchtore has struggled to afford reading books for the kids.*
- *Closing the school would have a very adverse impact on the wider community of Abernyte as it is the focal point of the community. The wider community are very supportive of the school and attend many school activities.*

Community Impact

During the community engagement session, the community commented that they are invited to school activities during the school year. Comments were made regarding the school being part of the village's history and the impact it would have on the village and the community if the school were to close;

- *If the school closed there would be nowhere for the members of the community to meet;*
- *Closing the school would have a very adverse impact on the wider community of Abernyte as it is the focal point of the community. The wider*

community are very supportive of the school and attend many school activities.

During the community engagement session, the community were asked about the role that the school plays in the community. Some comments are as follows:

- *Many activities take place in the school bring all the parents, grandparents etc together. Strengthening the community;*
- *The school helps hold the community together. It's where people meet;*
- *Abernyte School is the centre of a very rural area and is the equivalent of the village hall as well. In the 40 years we have been here it has been the focal point of many activities.*

Within Abernyte itself, the church building is available for use by the community. If the school was to close, community events could continue there. Alternatively there are village halls and church buildings in nearby villages as well as the other Carse schools.

Closure of the school could provide opportunities for the building to be used for the benefit of the community if a suitable use was identified.

Pupil Impact/Travel Arrangements

To attend Inchtute Primary School, current Abernyte Primary School pupils would have to travel between approximately 3.3 and 5.8 miles each way. The journey times would be approximately between 8 and 13 minutes.

This is an increase of approximately 3 and 3.2 miles each way for pupils. Travel time is increased from a 1 minute journey to an 8 minute journey for some pupils and up to 7 minutes extra travel for pupils living further from the school.

The effect on pupils of travelling to Inchtute Primary School from the Abernyte Primary School catchment is limited due to the relatively short distances involved. Transport would be provided by the Council for those pupils who live beyond the statutory travel distance to school.

Staff in Perth and Kinross already travel throughout the area to work in schools. Many staff do not live within the catchment area of the school they work in. The distance of 3.4 miles is a relatively short distance to travel in rural Perth and Kinross. It is therefore considered that there is very limited impact on staff travelling arrangements.

Financial Impact

The revenue savings generated from closing Abernyte Primary School amount to approximately £108,213 including mothball costs annually. This is made up of staff and building costs. Transport costs for pupils to attend Inchtute Primary School have been factored into this saving.

The capital cost of upgrading the building of £333,090 would not be required.

A capital receipt would be forthcoming if the building was sold or income would be generated through a lease.

Refer to Appendix 4 for a detailed financial summary.

Environmental Impact

There will be a small environmental impact from the additional travel the pupils will have however pupil numbers are very low and this would be offset by the school not being operational.

Option 3 – Assessment

The school roll has been low for a number of years, this is due to lower numbers of young children living in the catchment area but also due to parents choosing to send their children to other schools. P1 intakes over the next 4 years continue to be low, with a maximum of 7 pre-school children living in the catchment area. At the moment, two of the pupils due to attend the school in August 2018 have made placing requests to attend other schools.

Community feedback was that the housing is expensive in the area, no young people with families are moving into the area and that the population is getting older. That view tends to be supported by the evidence which is that there are very low numbers of pre-school children living in the catchment area. There are currently 7 pre-school children living in the catchment area.

Closure of the school was not a preferred option of parents/carers and the wider community. There was a view that closure of the school would affect the wider community.

The community has easy access to amenities. The village of Abernyte is close to good road links to both Perth and Dundee and a number of relatively large villages including St Madoes, Errol, Inchtute and Longforgan. These villages have amenities including post offices, shops, GP surgeries, churches, hotels and schools. The closest village is Inchtute which is approximately 3.4 miles away.

The Abernyte community is described by members of the community as 'strong, vibrant, active and dynamic'. The ACIC provides support and continues to develop the community by hosting community events throughout the year as well as continuing their heating collective.

If the school was to close, there are churches and village halls available to let in the wider area for community events. Closure of the school would provide opportunities for the building to be used for the benefit of the community, either for business or residential use, or for community use if a suitable plan was identified.

It is considered that closure of the school may be a reasonable option due to the unsustainable school roll. There is no indication that the roll will increase in future years as pre-school children numbers are low and likely to remain so. However, given the assessment of option 4, it is considered that assessment of option 3 should not be concluded until the outcome of option 4 is known.

5.4 Option 4 - Catchment area is reviewed to determine whether this would increase the school roll sufficiently to ensure the future sustainability of the school

A catchment review can in principle be a reasonable option in some cases, to increase the potential roll, and therefore sustainability, of a school.

An in depth analysis is required in each case to ascertain if a sustainable increase in school roll could be achieved and a detrimental impact on neighbouring schools is not created as a result.

Community Feedback

Option 4 was the favoured option by the community and parents/carers from the community engagement session and online survey. Sixty four comments were received in support of this option.

- *This is the only option that may provide evidence for increasing the school roll at Abernyte;*
- *I feel that Abernyte Primary School has an important part to play in the life of their area. The numbers at the school would increase sustainably if the catchment area was enlarged and children living on this side of the dual carriageway came to Abernyte;*
- *Widening the catchment area to include rural communities to the north of the A90 would make sense due to close ties between those communities and Abernyte.*

Catchment Areas

A full analysis is detailed in Appendix 7, which shows a number of potential options on catchment changes for Abernyte Primary School. It provides an overview of the impact on pupil numbers which may occur if the existing catchment boundaries for Abernyte Primary School were to change. It also considers travel arrangements for these pupils.

These areas were chosen because they share a boundary with the Abernyte Primary School catchment area and could be within a reasonable travelling distance. The adjoining catchment areas are detailed in Appendices 7a-7f.

The outcome of the catchment analysis in Appendix 7 is summarised as follows:

Catchment Area Proposed	Other School Catchment Impacted	Summary
To the north west of Abernyte Primary School catchment	Burrelton Primary School	Moving this single boundary would not be sufficient to make Abernyte Primary School sustainable due to low numbers of primary-aged pupils and pre-school aged children.
To the north of Abernyte Primary School catchment	Kettins Primary School	Moving this single boundary would not be sufficient to make Abernyte Primary School sustainable due to

		low numbers of primary-aged pupils and no pre-school aged children. There would also be a detrimental impact on the roll of Kettins Primary School which is a small rural school.
To the west of Abernyte Primary School catchment	Collace Primary School	Moving this single boundary would not be sufficient to make Abernyte Primary School sustainable due to low numbers of primary-aged pupils and no pre-school aged children. There would also be a detrimental impact on Collace Primary School roll which is a small rural school.
To the south west of Abernyte Primary School catchment	Balbeggie Primary School	Moving this single boundary would not be sufficient to make Abernyte Primary School sustainable due to low numbers of primary-aged pupils and pre-school aged children.
To the south of Abernyte Primary School catchment – only pupils living to the north of the A90 in this area	Inchturre Primary School ⁴	Potentially suitable for a catchment review as a result of geographical proximity and sufficiency of pupil numbers.
To the east of Abernyte Primary School catchment – only pupils living to the north of the A90 in this area	Longforgan Primary School ⁶	Potentially suitable for a catchment review as a result of geographical proximity and sufficiency of pupil numbers.

Table 8: Catchment areas

Parts of Inchturre Primary School and Longforgan Primary School catchments to the north of the A90 were identified as being potentially suitable for inclusion in an enlarged Abernyte Primary School catchment as a result of geographical proximity and sufficiency of pupil numbers.

Pupil Numbers – P1 Information

The information regarding children under the age of 5 has been aggregated by the NHS for the purposes of this exercise because numbers are small ie < 5 children. Therefore the data relating to pre-school children as a whole is used, rather than pre-school children in individual year groups.

⁴ Pupils living to the south of the A90 have been discounted. The majority of these children live closer to Longforgan Primary School and Inchturre Primary School. In addition there is insufficient capacity at Abernyte Primary School to accommodate all pupils in these areas.

Pupil Numbers – Inchtore Area

There are 25 primary aged pupils and 10 children under the age of 5 living within the Inchtore Primary School catchment area North of the A90.

If all current primary school aged pupils and children age under 5 eligible to start P1 from the Inchtore Primary School catchment area (north of the A90) attended Abernyte Primary School in addition to existing Abernyte Primary School pupils for the school term 2019/2020 the school roll could be 29 with an occupancy of 66% (Appendix 8, table 1).

Projected pupil numbers in 4 years' time at Abernyte Primary School, if only projected P1's from Inchtore Primary School (north of the A90) catchment areas attended the roll could reach 15 pupils with an occupancy of 34% (Appendix 9, table 1).

Pupil Numbers – Longforgan Area

North of the A90 living within the Longforgan Primary School catchment area there are 15 primary aged pupils and 15 children under the age of 5.

If all current primary school aged pupils from Longforgan Primary School catchment area (north of the A90) and children age under 5 eligible to start P1 attended Abernyte Primary School in addition to existing Abernyte Primary School pupils for the school term 2019/2020 the school roll could be 24 with an occupancy of 55% (Appendix 8, table 2).

The roll in 4 years' time at Abernyte Primary School, if only projected P1's from Inchtore Primary School (north of the A90) catchment areas attended the school could reach 20 pupils with an occupancy of 45% (Appendix 9, table 2).

Pupil Numbers – Inchtore Area and Longforgan Area

The capacity of Abernyte Primary School is not large enough for all pupils from both Inchtore Primary School and Longforgan Primary School catchment areas, north of the A90, to attend the school together (Appendix 8, table 3). The capacity could accommodate pre-school children from both Inchtore and Longforgan only (Appendix 9, table 3).

Data Gathering - Survey

Further to the catchment analysis being carried out it was recognised, that should pupils living within the areas north of the A90 within Longforgan Primary School or Inchtore Primary School catchments attend Abernyte Primary School then a sustainable roll for Abernyte Primary School could be achieved.

As a result a survey was distributed to parents and carers of both pre-school and primary school aged children that live north of the A90 within the existing Inchtore Primary School catchment area and Longforgan Primary School catchment area.

The purpose of this survey was to establish if parents/carers would be in favour of reviewing the Abernyte Primary School catchment area and whether they would

consider sending their children to Abernyte Primary School if the catchment area was changed.

Contact with parents was made via information provided by Inchturre Primary School and Longforgan Primary School and through Crossroads Nursery. Crossroads Nursery is in Inchturre but has subsequently closed since the survey was issued.

A number of the children that attended Crossroads Nursery now attend the Red Squirrel Nursery in Glendoick. The Red Squirrel Nursery does not have children from Inchturre attending other than those who came from Crossroads Nursery.

The survey was issued on 7 December 2017. A link to the survey was issued by email, the link was available online for 10 days.

Inchturre Primary School Catchment – Survey

Eleven surveys were distributed to parents/carers via information provided by Inchturre Primary School. Other surveys were distributed via Crossroads nursery. It would appear that parents of all children under the age of 5 from the area responded to the survey based on current information.

Respondents	No. Parents	No. Primary School Children	No. Nursery School Children
Parents of Primary and Nursery Children	6	8	6
Parents of Primary School children only	5	7	n/a
Parents of nursery school children only	2	n/a	4
TOTALS	13	15	10

Question – Would you choose to send your child/children to Abernyte Primary School if it was your catchment school?

Response	No. parents	No. Primary School Children	No. Nursery School Children
Yes	8	7	8
No	5	8	2
TOTALS	13	15	10

Inchturre comments⁵

Answered yes to a catchment review and sending their child to Abernyte Primary School

- *I am aware that Inchturre primary is unlikely to be able to cope with the volume of children in catchment and am concerned about the impact on the quality of*

⁵ Some information has been redacted to prevent individuals from being identified

education including class sizes for my who would be due to start school in 20...

- I would consider moving my child to Abernyte and placing my pre schooler there but only if the roll increased. Inchture is too busy in my opinion.
- I would like my to go to school with friends so if it was catchment, then I said yes to the question. But there would be other factors to consider including after school care availability and transport. These would be key considerations as a family with both parents who work full time
- If it was my catchment school so the closest one to my house then yes I would. If it wasn't then no. I suppose the only thing that would potentially sway that opinion would be class numbers.

Longforgan Primary School Catchment - Survey

Twenty surveys were distributed to parents/carers via information provided by Longforgan Primary School. Eight responses were received and there was limited response from parents of pre-school children.

Respondents	No. Parents	No. Primary School Children	No. Nursery School Children
Parents of Primary and Nursery Children	6	8	1
Parents of Primary School children only	0	n/a	n/a
Parents of nursery school children only	0	n/a	n/a
TOTALS	6	8	1

Question – Would you choose to send your child/children to Abernyte Primary School if it was your catchment school?

Response	No. parents	No. Primary School Children	No. Nursery School Children
Yes	0		
No	6	8	1
TOTALS	6	8	1

Longforgan Comments⁶

- It's currently an all-girls school and as Mum to I don't feel that's healthy for them. I also feel they learn a lot more interacting with many children across all primary ages. Having a child in nursery attached to a school also would present a problem as I would have children to drop off at the same time in two different places.

⁶ Some information has been redacted to prevent individuals from being identified

- *Whilst the idea of an idyllic school career in a tiny primary school may seem nice I think when council budgets are so stretched keeping a school open just for 5 students is not financially viable. The fact that the students could still be sent to primary schools only a couple more miles away makes it seem ludicrous it's still open.*
- *We will not move our child to Abernyte. Longforgan is ...km away and our child has settled well there having started late in Primary 1. I will not entertain the idea of any more upheaval in their schooling.*
- *Whilst I can understand the wishes of some people in Abernyte to keep the school open it should not be to the detriment of other happily settled children.*
- *Would not send our child as is very settled at Longforgan. It is much closer. I like the teaching and learning environment and the staff. I like the community links. It has after school club. Friends are there. Abernyte is too small. Not enough pupils even at capacity to fully socialise our child.*
- *There is a selfishness to uprooting 33 other kids just to keep Abernyte school open. The finances involved in this consultation could be better spent. How do we learn about the results? Is there a campaign to keep the current catchment areas and how do I join it?*
- *Longforgan is much more convenient for us to get to from*
- *I'm a supporter of small village schools, but pulling children from locations where they could easily go to Longforgan or Inchtute makes no sense just to try and keep Abernyte open. It would only make sense if there are enough children located right in Abernyte in my opinion given the number of other good schools nearby. Getting to Abernyte from some nearby locations does not make sense and would actually be potentially treacherous in some weather conditions from where we are located in*
- *Abernyte School has been under capacity for many years and should be closed. Why should children be transported to a school miles away when they have a school minutes from their home.*
- *Seems financially unviable to keep this school open. Cannot understand why this was not reviewed years ago.*

Survey Conclusion

As a result of the survey, changing the Abernyte Primary School catchment area to include the area north of the A90 within the existing Longforgan Primary School catchment has been discounted.

This is due to the response received from parents/carers surveyed within the Longforgan area, in that 6 parents out of 6 who responded to the question said that they would not send their children to Abernyte Primary School if the catchment changed.

The response received from parents/carers living within the existing Inchtute Primary School catchment area north of the A90 is more positive with 8 out of 13 parents saying that they would send their children to Abernyte Primary School.

Although the majority of parents/carers surveyed have indicated they would be in favour of sending their children to Abernyte Primary School if it was their catchment school the comments received indicate there may be additional

considerations/caveats which need to be clarified before a full assessment of this option can be made.

Financial Impact

There would be increased travel costs for pupils attending Abernyte Primary School from the revised Inchtute catchment area. This would cost approximately £57,000 per annum to transport the pupils.

There would be a continued revenue costs of approximately £120,786 to continue running the school as a single teacher school. However, if the school roll increases then further teaching staff will be required.

A capital cost of £333,090 will still be required to upgrade the building.

Travel Arrangements/Environmental Impact

Potential new pupils to Abernyte Primary School, from the Inchtute catchment area North of the A90, would be travelling approximately 1.7 miles to 4.8 miles each way, with a travel time of between approximately 4 minutes and 13 minutes. In 2019/20, if the catchment area was changed, 6 of the pupils from Inchtute who could be affected would have a shorter distance to travel by attending Abernyte Primary School, however 15 pupils would have to travel further.

There is limited environmental impact as travel arrangements are not hugely different.

Option 4 – Assessment

It is considered, from the information gathered, that it is reasonable to carry out further assessment of this option to ascertain whether a sustainable pupil roll could be created for Abernyte Primary School. This assessment would include engagement with parents/carers of Inchtute Primary School pupils and pre-school children living north of the A90 and parents/carers of Abernyte Primary School pupils and pre-school children.

It is not considered necessary to engage further with the parents/carers of Longforgan pupils and pre-school children on the basis that there was a clear response from those parents who responded. In addition, it has been estimated that Longforgan Primary School pupils in the affected area would all have to travel further to Abernyte Primary School. Longforgan Primary School is also a small rural school and this change would reduce the roll.

It should also be noted that pupils from both areas could not be accommodated in Abernyte Primary School at the same time if current pupils and pre-school children chose to attend. It is possible that all pre-school children could be accommodated based on current information. It should be noted however that many pre-school children have older siblings attending primary school.

5.5 Overview of Options

The outcome of the options appraisal is summarised overleaf:

	Option Description	Outcome
Option 1	School remains open with existing catchment area	Rejected. Not a reasonable option due to not being able to maintain a sustainable school roll.
Option 2	Consider mothballing the school – pupils moved to Inchtute Primary School	Rejected. Not a reasonable option due to not being able to develop a sustainable school roll within 3 years.
Option 3	Consider closing the school – pupils moved to a neighbouring catchment School	Not a reasonable option until option 4 is explored fully.
Option 4	Catchment area is reviewed to determine whether this would increase the school roll sufficiently to ensure the future sustainability of the school	Accepted as a reasonable option at this time. Further assessment to take place to ascertain whether a change to the catchment area for Abernyte Primary School to incorporate the Inchtute Primary School catchment area north of the A90 would create a sustainable pupil roll for Abernyte Primary School.

It is therefore recommended that the most appropriate response to the issues identified in relation to the roll at Abernyte Primary School is that further assessment is carried out. This assessment will consider whether a change to the catchment area for Abernyte Primary School to include the area north of the A90 within the existing Inchtute Primary School catchment area, would provide an increased and sustainable roll for the school.

Community Engagement

Website and On-line Questionnaires

A 'School Estate Transformation' page was set up on the Perth and Kinross Council website which provided the wider community with an overview of information that the Council would be using in the options appraisal, including pupil projections and building information.

A questionnaire was also available for completion, for those people that could not attend the community engagement events. The questionnaire asked people to respond to a series of options and questions related to the options appraisal.

The questionnaire was available on the Council website from 20 September 2017 to 3 November 2017. Twenty three questionnaires were submitted with 17 detailing a preferred option.

Drop-In Session

A community drop-in session was held at Abernyte Primary School on Thursday 26 October 2017 from 3:15pm to 7pm to seek feedback from the community on the future of Abernyte Primary School. Forty nine people attended the session. 19% of the attendees identified themselves as members of the community, 27% as parents/parents of past pupils, 14% as family members, 8% as neighbours of the school, 6% as 'other', 4% as Local Members and 2% as Press.

The Council is grateful to Abernyte Parent Council and Inchtute Community Council for their assistance in the planning and publicity for the drop-in session.

Content of Sessions

Visitors to the events were given an overview of information that the Council would be using in this options appraisal, including pupil projections and building and financial information. They were asked to:

- give feedback on each of the options being considered in the options appraisal either through using post-it notes or through filling in a questionnaire
- respond to a couple of additional questions related to the reducing roll of the school and the reasons for choosing the school

Abernyte Primary School
Community Drop-In Session
26 October 2017

**Overview of comments received at Community
drop-in session and Online Questionnaires**

Online Questionnaire Feedback

23 questionnaires submitted online – 20 were completed, 3 partially completed

- 26% (5) of responses from parents, 5% (1) were from the other family members, 26% (5) of responses were from neighbour, 32% (6) were from the wider community and 11% (2) responses were from other.
- Four people gave no indication of their relationship to the school
- Six questionnaires were submitted without any comments
- 6% (1) of responses preferred option 2, 18% (3) of responses preferred option 3 and 76% (13) preferred option 4
- Six questionnaires submitted gave no indication to their preferred option
- Questionnaire closed on 10 November 2017

Online Questionnaire Feedback

Option 1 - Do nothing

Comments

- To do nothing is not an option, unsustainable and not stimulating.

Online Questionnaire Feedback

Option 2 – Consider mothballing the school – pupils moved to Inchtute Primary School

Comments

- The mothball option would be a possibility however a substantial cost would be required to maintain the mothballed school in the hope that more pupils moved to the village, which is a very remote chance.
- Social interaction with more children at a larger school. I see how behind my daughter is compared to children the same age.

Online Questionnaire Feedback

Option 3 – Consider closing the school – pupils moved to a neighbouring catchment school

Comments

- To invest the funds in a local sustainable, growing modern school, instead of falsely subsidising a school with such a small, and reducing headcount
- The school has become too small to attract further pupils. It has no nursery and no after school club, resulting in Parents having little choice but to request placing their children in other local schools which offer these facilities, or utilise private schooling. There is a distinct gender imbalance in the current school role. The immense cost to the public purse of continuing to operate the school is preventing investment of these funds into larger community schools, with better long term prospects. The modern approach to schooling is fewer "super" schools with adequate funding and modern facilities. This negates the other options.
- Lack of children wanting to attend the school. Looking at P1 pictures in the Courier I felt that with no P1 or P2 at the school, should the area be extended any children joining next year would be isolated from children their own age, as existing P3 would be in P4 and not a very good situation for younger children just starting school. It would be a pity to lose the school as it is used on occasions for adult social activities, but weighing up the costs and in my opinion lack of social interaction for the children, despite what appears to be

an excellent level of education; I feel that the children's needs should be at the forefront.

Online Questionnaire Feedback

Option 4 – Catchment area is reviewed to determine whether this would increase the school roll sufficiently to ensure the future sustainability of the school

Comments

- Educational benefits of the current school arrangement at Abernyte PS are worth keeping, i.e., Curriculum for excellence is about children developing the skills they need for their learning, life and work. The Abernyte children are developing these skills in a rural setting where they live and in time may need to work continuing family work life styles. If the school closes it sends a message that rural life is unimportant, rather than showing the importance of diversity. The school provides a nurturing environment which takes full account of the context the children are living and learning in. The school is enabling the children to become confident and effective contributors as they are very successfully involved in leading their learning and in decisions about the school. It is very effective because of the small school numbers which does not always happen as well in other schools. The children live in a rural location and benefit from learning enabling them to be responsible for the environment they live and currently learn in. Their community is rural and a very different context from children living in towns. Learning experiences at Abernyte are building children's resilience which is a must to successfully live in such a rural setting and be prepared for future life and work. Learning experiences are relevant and purposeful suiting and fully taking account of the unique aspect of rural living as well as widening the children's horizons through a wide range of well-planned learning experiences with peers in other schools and from across the authority. This rural context for life and learning cannot be replicated or fully understood in a bigger school out with their rural community. The children will lose more than they gain if moved out of their community to a larger school nearby. Reviewing the catchment area could enable other children living in this rural setting to attend Abernyte to develop relevant skills for learning, life and work preparing them to take their place in society either in a rural or any other setting. If the catchment is reviewed and more children travel to Abernyte savings on transport could be possible.
- Both Errol and Inchtute schools have been extended to accommodate the pupils coming from new housing areas in the Carse. With more building planned I believe it would be cost effective to change some catchment areas (also Kinnaird, Rait, Kilspindie etc.) to Abernyte. My children went to Abernyte from Kinnaird and received an excellent, child centred education. The school also serves as a much –needed village hall for the local community.
- Because the school is the heart of the community and it would be a shame to lose it.
- I went to Abernyte Primary and it was a fantastic school and the heart of our little community. Inchtute primary is full and it is shameful that children from

our community are allowed to go to Inchtute rather than support Abernyte. There are plenty local kids, extend the catchment area and save our school! Thanks.

- This is the only Community building in Abernyte and its loss will be keenly felt. This option retains the possibility of a viable school and community resource for the future. All the other options will ultimately result in the loss of this building to the community.
- Education of acceptable standard; Schools already overflowing. Maybe if you expanded the catchments earlier (while all the other schools were getting expanded/renewed) you wouldn't have had this problem.
- As an ex teacher at Abernyte, I believe in the value of a small school environment education, pupils from a school such as this leave with a huge sense of self-worth, reliance on their own abilities and confident, having had many opportunities to shine within a valued and supportive environment.
- We have to stop losing schools like AP to the failing institutions that are large schools. I am able to see first-hand what becoming a faceless, exam number does to a child and by closing this school you will be condemning these children to that fate. I am not able to offer this kind of education to my own child but I feel so happy that it's the life for some. Be different and do everything you can to keep this wonderful little school open.
- (1) It is efficient use of existing resources: the council should look at the mid-to-long term school capacity requirements for the entire Carse area and utilise Abernyte School to relieve the pressure on school places in the Inchtute/Errol areas. Abernyte School is a well maintained, high achieving school and is ideally placed to help manage the mid/long term capacity requirements of the growing Carse region. To further expand the Inchtute/Errol schools would require capex approval, which is in short supply. (2) It supports the Curriculum for Excellence: Abernyte is consistently rated highly by inspectors, offers an excellent standard of education, produces confident individuals, caring members of the community and is a shining example of how rural schooling should be delivered. Music, arts, caring for the environment, caring for the community, health & wellbeing, teamwork, charitable activities are all promoted as much as excellence in academic subjects. Individual pupil requirements are met to ensure all are successful learners. All pupils have the opportunity for personal achievement and independent thinking is encouraged. The ethos and life of the school is amazing and there are absolutely no educational grounds on which to choose the other options (all of which effectively mean the school closes). A decision to expand the catchment area needs to be taken as soon as possible to safeguard the future of this brilliant rural school located in the expanding Carse district.
- All other options mean that the school closes, which is a massively short-sighted decision in an area of P&K where population is growing and Inchtute & Errol schools are going to struggle for capacity (if this isn't already the case in P1 classes). Concerned parents contacted the council 5 years ago to ask for a catchment area review to keep the school at 2 classes. This request was ignored and we are now at a stage where action needs to be taken as soon as possible to attract and maintain the quality teaching staff that Abernyte is used to.
- A school is vital to the strong and vibrant community in Abernyte. This school creates more than well-educated and confident children, it also serves as a

hub for many village events that bring a wide population of Perthshire together for family fun and charity raising purposes. This strong community is essential to delivering the curriculum for excellence goals of confident and responsible contributors in years to come. Attending these events as families and having the community involved in the school sets this good example for the children. Expanding the catchment would bring the small rural communities together of Rait, Kinnaird, Knapp, Abernyte, Baledgarno, improving the future of these areas and maintaining the important age diversity in the rural areas. The well maintained school building could provide much needed spare capacity to remove pressure from Inchtute as this village continues to expand.

- The school is an integral part of the Abernyte community it would be so sad to lose it. We are in the catchment for Abernyte but chose to send our children to Kettins Primary simply because all of our wider family live that direction. If for any reason I needed them to collect them it would be much easier. It is a similar distance from our house to Kettins as Abernyte.
- Inchtute Primary School is overcrowded. Local children are not being sent to Abernyte Primary School because of the threat of closure. The school is at the heart of the community. It serves as the village hall as well as a school. Options 1, 2 & 3 would end in the same result; closure of the school.
- I assume that we would all like to live in a caring and socially responsible society. I am of the opinion that an education process beginning in a fully integral part of a community is a good way to achieving that. In the absence of any other community space within the village, the school provides an essential community resource. Removing children from their local environment, even if it is only to the next village, may have a short term financial cost saving benefit, but at what long term cost. To support my case I would offer a demonstration of such commitment to a local society. On the recent occasion of a non-teaching member of Abernyte School staff retiring, a leaving party was organised. What was unusual about this party was who organised it, and the large number of people who attended. It would be normal for it to be organised by the school staff, but in this case it was former pupils. These pupils, who had all attended the school in the past, progressed on through secondary and tertiary education, had all still maintained an association with the school. One pupil who could not attend emailed best wishes from as far away as Antarctica. In my judgment the case for enlarging the school catchment area is long overdue.

Online Questionnaire Feedback

Are there any other options that you would like to propose for the school?

Comments

- Arrangements such as a joint headship for Abernyte with another school, such as Inchtute PS or other local school would also achieve savings and could enable Abernyte PS to continue as a viable school for the community it serves.
- Impact on the children.
- None that I can see.

- It is possible that reviewing the catchment area, and making a large, significant investment in the school in order to provide the modern facilities required by the community (nursery / after school club) could attract more pupils, but at what cost to the other local schools, and should the council invest further public money in a school with such small current pupil numbers.
- What about an option of Inchtute and Abernyte being one school and based on two sites. My understanding is that Inchtute is very full. Maybe P1 and P2 could be based up at Abernyte?
- The school had been the heart of Abernyte for decades and is used by many other groups in the evenings etc. If we lost the school it would be a huge loss for many and annoyingly, I bet it would be converted to houses, increasing the need for a local school.
- No, just to ensure the building is kept for the community.
- Abernyte does not have a village hall; there would be a complete lack of services to this beautiful and historic village in the heart of Perthshire. This would also add resource pressure on Inchtute School where a number of further housing expansions are already planned.
- Please review the population of children in the local area in 12 months, there are currently many planning applications in place and many houses for sale that might improve the number of children wishing to attend in future years.
- Use Abernyte School as an annexe of Inchtute for specific activities such as exercise and other outdoor activities, music tuition, or special needs pupils.

Questionnaires were provided at the drop-in session, the feedback is as follows:

Option 1 - Do nothing

Comments

- It is the heart of the community.
- Do nothing is not viable with no likely increase in numbers of pupils from existing catchment.
- I believe that to do nothing will eventually result in closure. Many families surrounding the area chose to send their children elsewhere as the school is so small. This results in a 'catch 22' situation whereby – if everyone who felt this way sent their children to Abernyte – the school would be much bigger. I think the school/council/community needs to be more pro-active in attracting pupils and widening boundaries would help. Kinnaird is a really close neighbour and perhaps some children from Inchtute would enjoy a smaller school (for example). Closing the school and sending pupils elsewhere would remove the heart of the community and be detrimental to both the local children and the village as a whole.

Questionnaires were provided at the drop-in session, the feedback is as follows:

Option 2 – Consider mothballing the school – pupils moved to Inchtute Primary School

Comments

- Closing or mothballing the school would not help the community or pupil numbers but enlarging the catchment or attracting more pupils by providing additional facilities could save it. Parents may choose other schools because they have breakfast clubs & after school clubs.
- Mothballing by parents would be a preferred 2nd option.
- Mothballing would lead to slow decline in the vibrancy of local community.

Questionnaires were provided at the drop-in session, the feedback is as follows:

Option 3 – Consider closing the school – pupils moved to a neighbouring catchment school

Comments

- Closing the school would affect the village and children are better, happier in a local environment. It is also a waste of an excellent facility

Questionnaires were provided at the drop-in session, the feedback is as follows:

Option 4 – Catchment area is reviewed to determine whether this would increase the school roll sufficiently to ensure the future sustainability of the school

Comments

- Best chance to make a school a vibrant & busy place again.
- As long as (young) people can afford to live in Abernyte I feel there should be a local primary school they can walk to.
- Plan towards catchment change and then re build of school when this becomes necessary in some years to come.
- I feel that this option is the best and most direct way to help the school to grow and support other efforts.
- Widening the boundaries seems the best solution – but convincing families within the boundaries that it is a wonderful experience and privilege to come

to a smaller school would help. The school needs to be proactive in talking to and recruiting children in Abernyte who are of pre-school age.

- Lack of pupils in present catchment area, keeping the community together.
- Abernyte School is central to our community, life in Abernyte PS keeps the village alive and the building provides the only meeting place for community events.
- Village community needs a school. Small school education is an excellent foundation.
- Abernyte School is the centre of the community also our daughter had an excellent education here therefore everything should be done to try and ensure the viability of the school.
- This is the only option that may provide evidence for increasing the school roll at Abernyte.
- I was a pupil at this school and I would like other children of the community and surrounding areas to benefit from the same education as I did. It was an incredible start in life and in addition to an excellent education – I feel a strong connection in this community through having been a part of it. It would be a real tragedy if the school was to close. I couldn't have asked for a better primary education.

Questionnaires were provided at the drop-in session, the feedback is as follows:

Are there any other options that you would like to propose for the school?

Comments

- Have a nursery. Have a shared headship.
- Have P1-P3 here at Abernyte. Once the children are 8 they would go to Inchtute PS & continue their education & good sports facilities etc.
- Possibly making the school more useful to the community by providing after school clubs and facilities for community use in the evenings and weekends for events or meetings or community get-togethers.
- Raising funds by using a part of the building as an art centre/café or even an old people home.
- Overall this feels a disappointing and limited range of options. Clever educationalists can, I am sure, come up with bigger ideas.
- Nursery class, after school club and breakfast club.
- Consider using school for “specialist” needs – speech therapy, behavioural, psychologist, resource centre.
- Think the school should take a greater role in the encouragement of people in the catchment area to attend the appropriate school.

- Supplementary resource centre for Carse schools to Balbeggie etc. Providing venue for the many services, educational experiences & problems that can be met in Abernyte and short term contact time. Teachers resource – advisory teachers.
- 1. Educational resource centre for teachers. 2. School for pupils with special needs. 3. Village hall for Abernyte & Kinnaird (because only rural halls are in Rait & Inchtire).

Community Drop-In Session

Drop-in session ran from 3:15pm – 7pm on 26 October 2017.

- 49 attendees at the session
- 39% (19) were from the wider community
- 27% (13) were parents & parents of past pupils
- 14% (7) were other family members
- 8% (4) were neighbours of the school
- 6% (3) were classed as 'other'
- 4% (2) were PKC Councillors
- 2% (1) from the local press

Comments received at the drop-in session

Option 1 - Do nothing

Comments

- Investment has been made in school over years, it is in good condition – to do nothing to keep it in use is a waste of this investment.
- Does not appear to be a viable solution.
- Will not help with predicted continued decline in pupil numbers.
- Does not seem to be an option – even if possible to continue with 5 kids – this is not a complete educational experience for them.
- The school will close if nothing is done.
- Do nothing is not a viable option. The role is not too low to be sustainable – not a good use of a facility, not cost effective, not stimulating.
- Doing nothing is not realistic given the resource situation.
- Doing nothing is in my opinion not an option. Even with another 5 children (ie doubling role) it would not efficiently stimulate the children ref social skills etc.
- I do not consider 'do nothing' as viable – it merely pushes the problem down the line a few years & resulting uncertainty will lead to a drift away from the school.
- Do nothing in my opinion is not an option as the school is a very important part of the community.
- Doing nothing would be a waste of a fantastic asset that could benefit other children and families.
- No-one has a crystal ball. Who knows if the school roll will fall even more? A lot could happen in 5 years.
- While this option may allow the school situation to improve naturally with time, I feel the school roll could be helped to become more viable.
- This is happening now and for the last years. Suggestions about catchments etc have never been supported by the P&K Council. There must be more positive actions.
- I can understand this would not be an option – unless linked with say a year of very creative village + meetings with outside input/consultation, to help broaden the role of the school – breakfast + after school, music lesson, art learning. Support for the area or other specialist activities that might not be available in other local (ish) schools.

Comments received at the drop-in session

Option 2 – Consider mothballing the school – pupils moved to Inchtute Primary School

Comments

- Mothballing – at least this would buy some time for a possible future solution
- If needs must mothballing for a couple of years COULD be an option.
- Seems like a cop out we should decide something. Demography of the area unlikely to change soon.
- This buys time when given the past success of the school – may help find a way forward to increase number of pupils.
- How long could Abernyte School be mothballed before it deteriorates or gets vandalised? An active school is a sign of a vibrant community. If pupils moved to Inchtute Primary School, why not conduct some Inchtute classes at Abernyte?
- If mothballing the building, which is a beautiful building would deteriorate and effectively be closed as a poor building.
- Not in favour of this option – will inevitably lead to closure & the loss of a valuable community resource. Likely to lead to inevitable building deterioration & unfortunate vandalism. Also leads to increased pupil transport costs.
- Inchtute School is at capacity.
- Very poor option that is effectively closing the school.
- Less family time due to doubling journey at both ends of day. Carbon footprint doubled. Days lost due to snow will increase. Too far especially for young pupils. Inchtute is full.
- This option seems to me to be merely a delay in closing the school, and will affect parent's thoughts on school placement.
- Transport to Inchtute = increased pollution.
- Mothballing does not really seem appropriate given that it would likely end in closure if we only have 3 years to 'boost' child numbers ☺ would be fab to keep the school open.
- Please do not or we will be so sad.
- Not an option which would be beneficial to children.
- Not supported by me as a president and parent. There has been a school in Abernyte for 200 years, over 100 in the building. Children from here are successful in their lives. Perthshire is growing. P&K should think bigger and more positively and build upon the success they already have.
- It's important for our Rural kids to keep a sense of community so to have both schools is an important focus for both community.
- Would not be a positive move. No benefit to the community.
- I am new to the community (June 17) and live at the back of the school. I am very aware of the vibrant atmosphere in and around the school – children and

adults and sport/natural learning environment is excellent. It is a real community school and highly valued as such. Mothballing would be on the way to closure. Multiple community use would work. This is a very creative village.

- Mothballing would be the worst option as it would mean the school was not available for either the children or the wider community.

Comments received at the drop-in session

Option 3 – Consider closing the school – pupils moved to a neighbouring catchment school

Comments

- I think that the children would benefit moving to a more vibrant school – social skills, friends etc. It would be a great pity to see the school removed from Abernyte but surely we should be thinking of the children.
- Financially attractive – improve efficiency to boost Inchtute Primary.
- Closing the school would have a very adverse impact on the wider community of Abernyte as it is the focal point of the community. The wider community are very supportive of the school and attend many school activities.
- Damaging to a vibrant community. History is also important; there has been a school here for a very long time.
- Loss of heart of community.
- Would be a huge loss to Abernyte as a community – no place to meet.
- The worst possible option for the community – loss of school & loss of a wider valuable community resource, especially given the building is in relatively good condition. This option should not be taken any further.
- This option for the school denies parents and children in this area choice in their education. I feel it would have a detrimental effect on the local community and may further reduce the viability of the village.
- Abernyte PS has always been a ‘community’ school, which has provided many poised young people who have benefited from the ‘small is beautiful’ ethos. Could Abernyte & Kinnaird children start their education here & only move to Inchtute PS for 2-3 years before they start secondary school?
- I should hate to see the school close. Better idea – children in current catchment attend Abernyte.
- Silly idea. Perthshire is growing. There is building in Abernyte. Neighbouring schools despite some investment are bursting at the seams and further building is expected.
- Not in favour because Abernyte School is a focus for the local community, but if the decision is taken to close this school. Alternative uses for the building should be sought (see other options).

- Consider merger with Collace to preserve 'village' school benefits. Village schools have certain unique attributes which schools be preserved across P&K.
- The school is not just a school but the hub of the whole community and therefore should not be closed. Moving children to neighbouring catchment area would be detrimental to their education and could over populate another school.
- The school is the hub of the village. My husband and I only met other residents through my granddaughter attending the school. The school is used for the whole of the village.
- If the school closed there would be nowhere for the members of the community to meet.
- Would like Collace to be considered.
- I don't drive ☹️ no bus service and have a little one.
- Would be very regrettable but if it came to that would there be any future for Abernyte School as an alternative educational premises – special needs or similar.
- Terrible idea! More time on bus for kids. Days lost to snow/weather due to longer journey. Less family time. Loss of community/centre of village.
- No more bike to school days.
- No more walk to school days.
- Increased pollution from transport.
- Closure – no. creative specialist usage – learning support, dyslexic work etc for the whole area preferred.
- This would be very unpopular with Abernyte. Surrounding schools are full or close to full and Abernyte might be considered as overspill for there. Closing Abernyte PS would lead to a loss of identity for children currently attending Abernyte.

Comments received at the drop-in session

Option 4 – Catchment area is reviewed to determine whether this would increase the school roll sufficiently to ensure the future sustainability of the school

Comments

- I believe the only fair action is to make the Inchtute/Longforgan/Abernyte catchment areas shared. This would be beneficial to the large & smaller school & provide more choice to the parents/children. The schools are vital parts of the community & must be protected to ensure life into rural communities.
- I feel that Abernyte Primary School has an important part to play in the life of their area. The numbers at the school would increase sustainably if the catchment area was enlarged and children living on this side of the dual carriageway came to Abernyte.
- I also feel that the children in this area are 'country' children and could thrive and be happy in this environment and subsequently achieve better
- The current catchment areas are a real puzzle and have definitely contributed towards low numbers at Abernyte PS. A change would take some years to implement but would be of great benefit to Abernyte.
- Widening the catchment area to include rural communities to the north of the A90 would make sense due to close ties between those communities and Abernyte.
- Slight increase may trigger children within the community elsewhere to consider coming to Abernyte.
- This has always felt obvious in previous conversations however the response has included 'too difficult', 'we need new laws/agreement of Parliament'. Catchment should be reviewed and a long term view taken.
- Catchment area always was a view and could be bigger as one school is full and the other needs more but working together would help solve things.
- This is the best option and we have been lobbying for this for over 10 years. The current catchment is ridiculous. Unfortunately this is all too late!
- If the catchment area could be changed & parents in new area willing to use Abernyte School that would be a possible solution – what area would have to be included to make viable numbers?
- This must be considered along with dual catchment. Consultations should go ahead on this option.
- We love this! Please extend the catchment area! We moved to Abernyte just a year ago as we loved the small community, especially the school!!!! It is such a welcoming school, we have attended so many events here and the staff & pupils are wonderful!
- A great option to explore! Give folk a choice!

- Yes. I think this should be done – creatively.
- Increasing the catchment area would help keep the numbers up, include Kinnaird.
- This is my preferred option but I am unsure how quickly it could bring more pupils to Abernyte if pupils are already settled in other primary schools.
- Keep the school. Bus driver could take children to/from Abernyte – Inchturre for 8-9am slot and after school.
- My daughter has excelled since she has been at the school & I would like my son to go to Abernyte when he's old enough. If changing the catchment increases numbers that would be great.
- Catchment area reviewed. Abernyte & North of the Tay combined. Encourage the 'ten' pupils who go to Inchturre to come to Abernyte. Start a breakfast club & after school club (that's some peoples view).
- This is the best option. This school would provide an amazing education for a whole population of rural children & unite local communities into a tight knit village with a special quality.
- Add catchment area North of the A90 and make the 'added section' a dual catchment for 7 years before it becomes part of Abernyte permanently. This will allow a transition period where parents can choose to send to Abernyte in advance of a permanent change, while allowing those wishing to continue in Inchturre to do so.
- Review catchment. Also have a nursery class to enable good community bonds. Shared headship could bring savings. Living & schooling in rural community builds skills for working rurally later on in life.
- Needs to be a positive choice to come to Abernyte.
- With growth of Inchturre population, may be helpful to have an additional smaller unit – available to Abernyte and all the other catchment areas surrounding.
- Perthshire's population is growing. Schools close by are also full. A successful school and community should be a clear reason for encouraging the school to grow by a catchment change.
- Review catchment – the 'least bad' option & for definite consideration. Opens up several possibilities & would be done in conjunction with considering the school as a wider community resource which can be used for other activities.
- Keep in mind how the school can be used by the community – nursery, somewhere for teens to meet when reviewing catchment.
- Only reason community is behind 'dual' change is because we thought it would be easier for Inchturre parents, but our best option is full catchment changes.
- Perhaps a community enterprise set up to run breakfast/after school clubs for working parents. REVIEW CATCHMENT.
- Would like to see this option go forward. Abernyte needs the school and we should be doing everything to keep it.

- The option to review the catchment maybe a real positive to keeping the school and community alive.
- This would be my preferred option and as more people came and advertised that the school could give excellent one-on-one education.
- Why not include Collace too?
- Review catchment area. Community needs a school not just pupils. We have no village hall.
- Well worth reviewing. Evidence: not easy to gather, but must be possible to increase numbers significantly.
- 240 new houses at the airfield, more planned at Inchtute.
- Make use of everything invested in school so far.
- If you reviewed catchment what would happen to other schools eg. Catchment areas not the same for secondary schools, eg Perth High, Blairgowrie High and Perth Academy.
- Scottish Governments rural schooling!!

Comments received at the drop-in session

Are there any other options that you would like to propose for the school?

Comments

- Open a nursery. Shared head to save money (with another school). After school club to enable working parents to use this school.
- Is a new primary school (public/private partnership) completely out of the question? Again could provide a wider resources for the Carse of Gowrie and Braes of the Carse area.
- Pump in more money – after school club & nursery to avoid use of other schools – if not close school and re-invest funds to boost Inchtute.
- Utilise as a ‘special needs’ centre in some way to give a resource for wider needs in the Carse of Gowrie.
- Nursery. Use school for community events to raise money. Share school clubs in Inchtute. Affordable housing. Increase catchment.
- Better communications for catchment and after school club and a good head teacher driving force, and there is no community hall so we use the school.
- Catchment area as my daughters little girl lives in Ballindean and wouldn’t get transport to this school.
- The building is used regularly for a range of community events and its closure would lead to the death of the village.
- Combining Inchtute & Abernyte Schools & have P1/2 at Abernyte or P6/7. Provide school transport for this.

- If possible an after-school club and/or breakfast club would help parents who work in Dundee.
- There should be a bigger bolder strategic long term plan. This feels last minute. That plan should include the importance of supporting successful communities. Primary education is not in isolation.
- Introduce pre-school nursery provision as there is space within the school to do that.
- Please review village population in 12 months – 3 houses currently for sale & 4 new builds planned.
- Dual catchment to use facilities for reducing class size & improving education. Additional support in nursery, after school club would all help viability for working parents.
- Additional needs support centre – access to outdoor areas quiet/safe environment for children with additional needs.
- Maybe to share the school with another catchment like Inchtute and eg. P7 would come to Abernyte and P1-P6 in Inchtute.
- Potentially use the school for other educational uses given its excellent rural location and outdoor space.
- Scottish Education has not improved in the last few years. This could be a great opportunity here, working with schools like Inchtute, Longforgan and Errol. Giving children the choice (parent can decide)/possibility to come to Abernyte and smaller classes. This would then also reduce their class sizes (Inchtute, Longforgan, Errol) and help improve learning (through smaller class sizes).
- Potential option could be ‘partial’ mothballing – only utilise part of building so that money could be saved?
- Resource for children with ‘special needs’ – ie, psychologist, speech therapist, behavioural problems etc. sessions for ‘extra’ educational activities when Abernyte teacher finds difficulty in coping with. Resource area & meeting place for advisory teachers. Utilisation of the wonderful rural environment.
- I am new to the village – June 17. This is a very creative, dynamic village, through the younger families are spread out. The school would and indeed is a central part of the modern community. Could we develop facilities that are not available in other local schools eg a learning support centre – dyslexia, general learning support with materials/resources and advice available from teachers have who could go out to support/advise teachers in the other schools who have children attending part time for the specialist work. Adult poetry, literacy and numeric evening classes/groups/ with an organising committee pulling in specialist as needed. This could lead to performance activities and involve children from all of the schools.
- School exchange scheme? Students currently at different schools get to experience what it’s like to attend Abernyte Primary.

- I have made friends & now there family here & I have made hundreds of memories here.
- Promotion. Positive recruitment.
- Change the catchment area.
- A teacher at Morgan Academy – 1990's, early 2000. Said they always knew a pupil from Abernyte as they were confident + more mature than their peers from other schools.
- Maybe Perth council could consider other ways of saving money rather than closing schools. I'm sure small, rural communities are important to governments too – please extend the catchment area ☺
- One option I feel that could help the schools pupil numbers is the introduction of a nursery class. If children go to Inchtute for nursery they move very easily into infant classes.
- Smaller classes can be beneficial to education – promoting this
- Base for peripatetic staff and staff such as education psychology. Base for other PKC rural activities (it is a sound building with ample parking).
- Increase the catchment area pre and after school facilities. This school is the only public place to meet – no village hall.
- Adult education, centre for community rural education, rural resource centre.
- Special education unit where small classes essential. Community hub underwritten by PKC.
- Think of a better way to do this review. Even being on the list is negative for all the schools involved.
- I question number 44 as the no of pupil places there can be here, I suspect this needs reviewed and is in fact lower, as some point schools need a rebuild. The model of school beside/as part of sheltered housing has been successful in other countries.
- Start a nursery class to get children to come.
- Keep a community resource available – perhaps it can be used during the day for retired community members.
- It is essential for the community that the school building continues to be used. Ideas might include (if not a P.S) an educational resource centre, outdoors education centre, special needs hub. The school building is the only community building within the village.
- Consider options for children with special needs eg Asperger's where a small school would be beneficial

Comments received at the drop-in session

How would you describe the community and what are your thoughts on Abernyte Primary School as part of the community?

Comments

- The school is central to the community – friendships formed here have strong foundations and carry on into secondary school and later life.
- Our community is loving & kind. The school is fun & educational.
- The school is a vibrant and essential part of Abernyte. Its community centres around the children who are the future.
- All countries need robust communities. This suits here and should be nurtured by a Council. P&K cannot control Post Offices, shops, pubs, they can support schools.
- Children very much part of the community very caring towards elderly who are welcomed into school on special occasions.
- Lack of children – a. housing – too expensive. B. retired professionals move into area. C. many NHS workers who require after school clubs. D. extremely difficult to appoint staff who are prepared to incorporate all new teaching methods & materials. E. no boys – mean boys now go to Inchtute.
- The school is an important (the only) meeting place for other members of the community – AGMs & potluck suppers – Wine Club – Mary Young lectures – Garden club talks – Community Interest Company.
- Very strong and vibrant community. We all know each other. Many activities together at all levels. A sense of 'pride' exists in the area.
- Past pupils stay in the area and are successful. Even the ex-teachers stay in the area. The key annual events all happen at the school. It is the hub. Support to rural communities is an intermittent issue, definitely a Scottish issue. Keeping the school open and helping it to grow could demonstrate such a commitment.
- Many activities take place in the school bring all the parent, grandparents etc together. Strengthening the community.
- Great community to live in.
- Friendly community – school has declined in importance within the community – high input by Headteacher necessary to revive interest.
- Council houses: 3 social housing: 2 years ago 1 was vacant (3 bedroomed family house). Allotted to a couple & their 26 year old daughter – all in work – expensive cars!! No interest in the community. Definitely NOT homeless. Housing dept. very defensive.
- No village hall or other central meeting place. Inchtute village hall always booked. School bookings expensive.
- Very strong community and the school has always been at the heart of that community. The children who go through this school come out as confident,

able, motivated pupils when they move onto secondary school. They give back to the community. Families make the community what it is.

- I would consider Abernyte a viable, vibrant community, every community needs a central focus & loss of the school could have a significantly detrimental effect to the community in the long term.
- The children raised & educated in Abernyte always hold it dear. A fantastic personal education and a real community to instil values in our kids.
- The school helps hold the community together. It's where people meet.
- As an ex-pupil I will be forever grateful for my primary education here and would be desperately sad if the same experience were to be denied future children of the village.
- As a resident of the neighbouring village, Kinnaird, I have always been impressed by the dynamic & creative community that exists in Abernyte. For a small rural area, Abernyte supports a wide range of creative activities. I'm sure this starts with the school and its pupils. Over the years I have seen several of the children grow up to have outstanding educational achievements.
- Abernyte in the 40 years I have been part of it in my opinion always had the school at its heart.
- Abernyte is a small rural community. The school provides a centre and help children and adults have a sense of community. The children in the school are confident in a familiar environment.
- Abernyte School is the centre of a very rural area and is the equivalent of the village hall as well. In the 40 years we have been here it has been the focal point of many activities.
- Abernyte Primary is part of a very dynamic and creative village with many talented people. I am new to the village. I think this creative linkage could be developed massively to mutual advantage. It needs creative thinking and planning – and leading with expert council input, but the future to the whole area could be transformative, educationally, socially, culturally.
- Abernyte School is essential to this amazing community. The school & events held here are the heart of the village. The fantastic charity raising events that are put on often more than 200 people from around the area attend & support these events.
- The school is the only building in Abernyte open to the whole community. Without the school there would no community events as there would be no toilet facilities for events & the playing field. This would have an impact on the whole community and increase loneliness and social isolation.
- Lots of lovely people we would not now at all without school.
- A. the school is let for approx. 12 bookings throughout the year – residents tend to go to Perth/Dundee for entertainment. B. tenants of farm cottages tend to work in Dundee – children go to 'Granny's' after school.

- The community revolves round the church and the school (the shop closed some years ago) we are a very active community and very supportive of the school – primarily for the children but also as a community building.
- Abernyte community is a rare thing in our modern world. We remain a tight knit & close community looking out for each other. Despite the population aging we remain active & vibrant. The school is a central part of the community & the children involved in almost every community activity/group.
- Although I have no children at the school, the school is central to our lives in Abernyte. We are welcomed to school events which are enormously imaginative and stimulating. The school is central to a very friendly community
- If the school goes slowly the community will die!
- Easy interaction between the age groups begins at school and continues in communities.
- Core of the community.

Comments received at the drop-in session

What do you think are the reasons the school roll is so low?

Comments

- That improved numbers would see more locals bring their kids back to the school.
- There is a lack of affordable housing for young people with families.
- There is no formal advertising or encouragement for people in the catchment area to come to Abernyte. New people moving into the area are not encouraged to bring their children here.
- No boys in the school. School has become too small, no nursery, no after school club for working parents.
- The boundaries are perhaps too small. Catch 22 – parents feel it's too small – if everyone sent their children here that felt this way it would be bigger. Not enough done by the school/community to attract pupils. Aging population, expensive area to live. No new builds. No nursery or after school care.
- Pre-school provision is currently at Inchtute Primary School, which means that children and parents (from outside catchment area) are less likely to consider a move to a different primary school.
- No after school provision could be an issue for working parents.
- No nursery. Catchment is terrible – hardly anyone lives in it! No boys at the moment. Affordable housing is non-existent. After school – kids could get existing bus to Inchtute.
- Very few new houses in area which mean not a lot of young families equals no children. Low school roll.

- Population of the village has aged & everybody moves here for life as it's a wonderful place to live. The young families left have now put children to other schools as the population is low – a change in the catchment area.
- Change in pupil balance eg, no boys.
- Parents think school too small and doesn't have facilities.
- For the past ten years there have been rumours of closure – so parents don't start their children here.
- Lack of affordable housing.
- No after school club.
- Roll is low due to size of catchment, lack of affordable housing, transport issues, lack of child care, after school activities, breakfast clubs etc.
- Lack of social housing. House prices too high for young people. Agricultural practises. Villages turning into dormitories not communities.
- Small catchment area with no other villages included in the Abernyte catchment area. Council houses not prioritized for families to help increase school roll & provide rural life for children.
- Could be a blip. Perthshire is growing.
- School roll is low due to an odd catchment area. Some of the natural catchments for Abernyte are directed instead towards Errol or Inchtute Primaries.
- By chance the population is a little older than new build areas. This will change again in the future. There are new houses going up in Abernyte.
- Too many people use private schools that live in the area. Lack of affordable housing. Incredible lack of forward planning by the council, despite constant reminders from community about what was happening.
- When the council house was vacated by a school using family, it was not repopulated with a family. NONSENSE!!!
- Lack of action/help from council. Parents & community members have been suggesting ideas & options for years & no help at all has been given. Rural communities need to be supported.
- Abernyte itself has changed in demography. If catchment is just immediate area not enough affordable housing for young families.
- Lack of breakfast club and after school activities.
- The main reason I feel that the school roll is low is the small catchment area.
- Private schools for after school clubs as most people ask so if an after school was an option and better communication so people that live around the area.
- There are several families with young children below pre-school age who may want to attend in the future. The catchment area is very small.
- Previously children from outside the catchment area (Baledgarno and Ballindean) travelled to attend the school. If the catchment area were extended it would support families travel to the school?
- No plans for development in the area.

- Mainly because the Council has not supported catchment change in the past
- I think we need new ideas to support schools in rural communities. Schools are important to forge relationships and make communities – not just a collection of people. 1. Look at ways to help families – access breakfast and after school clubs. 2. Interaction between schools and wider community – volunteers to help eg sport, gardening, nature studies. 3. Families moving to area – welcomed and encouraged to visit school. 4. Schools reaching out to community and community receiving it. 5. Groups accessing school outside hours – find it invaluable to have a meeting space in community. What happens if it goes??
- General population not having large families any more not just Abernyte, also farms and estates now are high tech and employ fewer labourers and therefore families. Many people especially mothers travel to work and I suspect perhaps choose a school more convenient to work at start and end of the day. Not certain how relevant this is. I am new here.

Email received:

Hi,

I intend to be there on the 4th if I am able, however if not then I feel I should put my views to you.

We live near to the Village of Abernyte and have 2 sons and

We had hoped to send our children to Abernyte primary, however when we visited the school prior to our year old enrolling, and discovered that even at that stage there were only 8 in the school and they were all girls we felt we could not. He would have been the only new start that year in a junior class of 4 girls. He had been to nursery at Inchtute, and made many friends, and whilst we were more than prepared to take him away from his friends we could only do this if there was a potential to make new friends of both sexes and of his age. This was clearly not going to be possible at Abernyte. We therefore took the decision to place him at Inchtute. This resulted in preventing my wife being able to return to work in order that we could drive him to school and pick him up each day (not to mention the cost of doing so). Since then Abernyte primary has dropped to a single class of 5 girls.

I know that the education is very good at Abernyte; however the cost per student must be astronomical.

As far as I can see there are more staff than pupils, whilst Inchtute has struggled to afford reading books for kids.

This is an emotive subject I am sure, but surely it is time to close or mothball the School, and divert the funds to a successful modern school with great 'new' facilities.

The catchment area of this school was vastly reduced some years ago by the council and that is what triggered the demise in the school role.

There are MORE kids in the catchment area attending Dundee High (primary) due to the fact that their parents work in Dundee and the High School, unlike Abernyte provide an after school club.

With no nursery class and no after school class Abernyte Primary has become the typical Dinosaur.

Email received:

I was not able to make the Community liaison meeting last Thursday at Abernyte School, but understand that I can put forward my views to you direct. I am the Aunt to a P.... pupil at Abernyte. In addition my family will be moving to Abernyte in the next few months with our ..yr old, .. yr old & .. yr old children.

I fully support the option to review the catchment area with a view to expanding it and increasing the roll at the school.

Why chose the catchment area option?

(1) It is efficient use of existing resources: looking at the mid-to-long term school capacity requirements for the entire Carse area, it makes sense to utilise Abernyte School to relieve the pressure on school places in the Inchtute/Errol areas. Abernyte School is a well maintained, high achieving school and is ideally placed to help manage the mid/long term capacity requirements of the growing Carse region. To further expand again the Inchtute/Errol school buildings would require capex approval, which is in short supply. Improving the Abernyte catchment area to include rural villages that currently go to Inchtute or Errol would make efficient use of existing resources.

(2) It supports the Curriculum For Excellence: Abernyte is consistently highly rated, offers an excellent standard of education, produces confident individuals, caring members of the community and is a shining example of how rural schooling should be delivered. Music, arts, safeguarding the environment, caring for the community, health & wellbeing, teamwork and charitable activities are all promoted as much as excellence in traditional academic subjects. Individual pupil requirements are met to ensure all are successful learners. All pupils have the opportunity for personal achievement and independent thinking is encouraged. The ethos and life of the school is amazing and there are absolutely no educational grounds on which to choose the other options (all of which effectively mean the school closes).

A decision to expand the catchment area needs to be taken as soon as possible to safeguard the future of this brilliant rural school located in the expanding Carse district.

Any comments on other options:

All other options mean that the school closes, which is a massively short-sighted decision in an area of P&K where population is growing and Inchtute & Errol schools are going to struggle for capacity (if this isn't already the case in P1 classes). Concerned parents contacted the council 5 years ago to ask for a catchment area review to keep the school at 2 classes. This request was ignored and we are now at a stage where action needs to be taken as soon as possible to attract and maintain the quality teaching staff that Abernyte is used to.

Email Received:

I much enjoyed meeting you this evening and can I congratulate you and your colleagues for the way in which you are approaching your difficult task. Your materials were also very clear and helpful.

I am writing as an Abernyte resident but also as a member of the House of Lords Social Mobility Select Committee until April last year. The Select Committee was naturally immersed in the very issues on which you are advising the Perth & Kinross elected members.

What was clear to us was that action that results in improving life chances begins very early educationally and that the schooling environment in earlier years had a direct and verifiable impact on outcomes. Two aspects of that environment were the built environment of the school and the length of the journey to get to it. In terms of journey time we took very stark evidence that where journey times were longer the reduction in engagement led to poorer outcomes especially among the lower achievers of a cohort. Long journeys to school have a detrimental effect on life chances.

The school in Abernyte is a wonderful example of a built environment of great merit. The pupils in its current catchment area travel very short distances. These are the very ingredients that would promote life chances and good outcomes for pupils.

Accordingly it does seem to me that closing the school and asking the pupils to move elsewhere might have a positive economic result for the Scottish Government/PKC but that could come at a personal cost to those pupils concerned. Only the most hard hearted would not want to explore every avenue to prevent that and indeed take a reasonable alternative path.

The suggestion that the catchment area for Abernyte School is enlarged would seem to me to be that reasonable alternative path. Indeed local geography suggests to me that it is wholly likely that new pupils involved would have a shorter journey and would be able to benefit from the fine built environment of the school.

But the thrust of what I am saying is that the Social Mobility aspects of not only Abernyte School but the whole series of difficult decisions (and what a long list of

schools that was) are very much ones that Elected Members should consider alongside the economic ones.

In closing I realise that one of the main reasons that I have taken the time to write is the vibrant spirit and happy tone of the School.

Appendix 2

The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) identifies small area concentrations of multiple deprivation across all of Scotland in a consistent way. It allows effective targeting of policies and funding where the aim is to wholly or partly tackle or take account of area concentrations of multiple deprivation. SIMD provides information to help improve the understanding about the outcomes and circumstances of people living in the most deprived areas in Scotland.

SIMD ranks to quintiles, deciles and vigintiles. Quintiles split data zones into 5 groups, each containing 20% of data zones. The lower the quintile the more deprived the area.

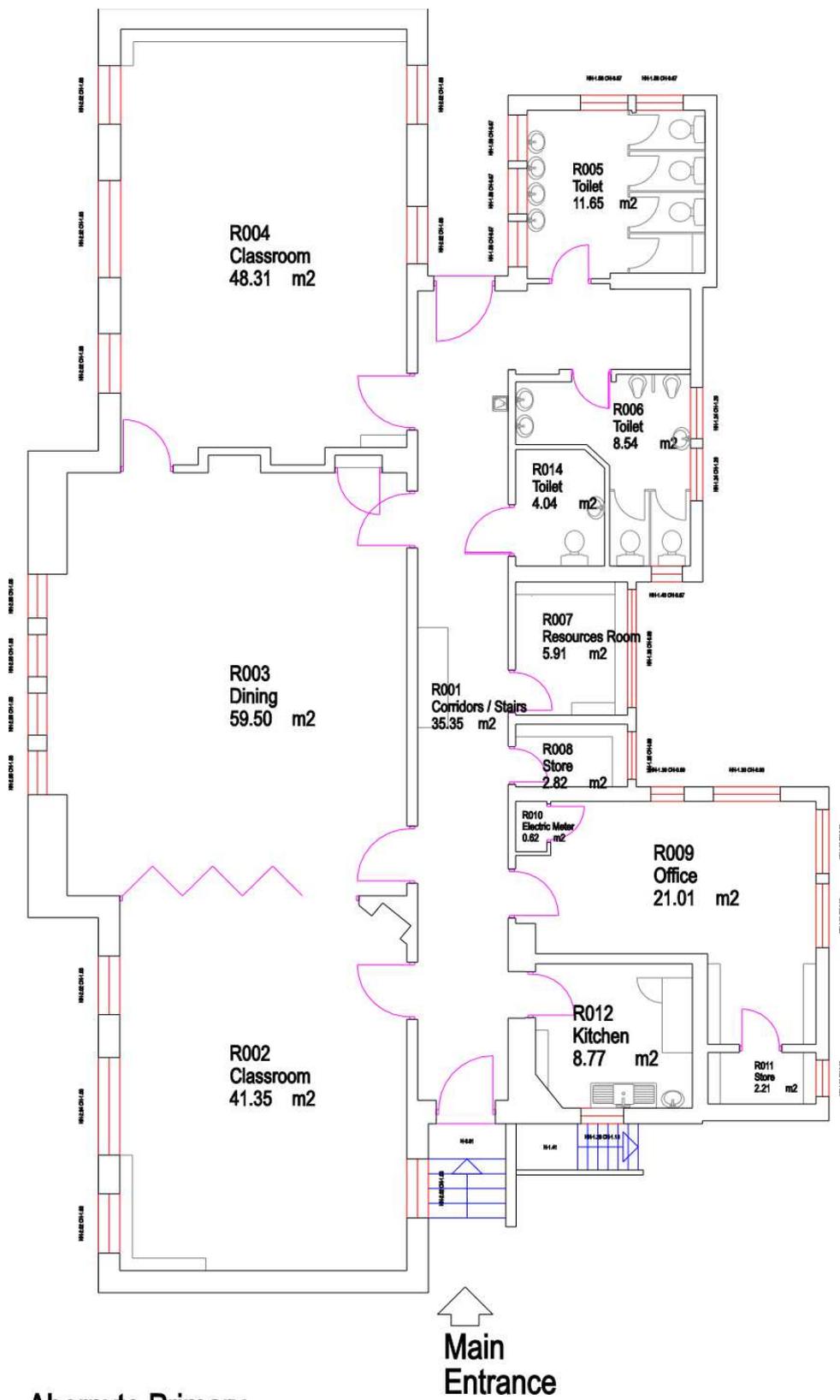
ACORN is a well-developed segmentation tool which categorises the UK's population into demographic types. Acorn segments households, postcodes and neighbourhoods into 6 categories, 18 groups and 62 types, based on a range of different data collected in many ways.

ACORN is used to understand life and living conditions, lifestyles, behaviours and attitudes and can therefore help inform the public service needs of neighbourhoods and households.

There are 5 categories ACORN reports on; Category 1 Affluent Achievers, Category 2 Rising Prosperity, Category 3 Comfortable Communities, Category 4 Financially Stretched and Category 5 Urban Adversity.

Category 5 indicates the level of deprivation within an area.

SIMD and ACORN are based on address.



Abernaye Primary
Main Building
Ground Floor

Appendix 4

Current revenue costs for school proposed for closure			
Name of School: Abernyte Primary School (Column 1)	Costs for full financial year (2017-18) (Column 2)	Additional financial impact on receiving school [Inchtire] (Column 3)	Annual recurring savings (column 2 minus column 3) (Column 4)
School costs			
Employee costs -			
teaching staff	£ 76,098.00	£ -	£ 76,098.00
support staff	£ 17,907.00	£ -	£ 17,907.00
teaching staff training (CPD etc)	£ 238.00	£ -	£ 238.00
support staff training	£ -	£ -	£ -
Supply costs	£ 1,335.00	£ -	£ 1,335.00
Slippage Target	-£ 2,495.00	£ -	-£ 2,495.00
Building costs:			
property insurance	£ -	£ -	£ -
non domestic rates	£ -	£ -	£ -
water & sewerage charges	£ 191.00	£ -	£ 191.00
energy costs	£ 3,698.00	£ -	£ 3,698.00
cleaning (contract or in- house)	£ 7,623.00	£ -	£ 7,623.00
building repair & maintenance	£ 5,589.00	£ -	£ 5,589.00
grounds maintenance	£ 437.00	£ -	£ 437.00
facilities management costs - note 6	£ -	£ -	£ -
revenue costs arising from capital	£ -	£ -	£ -
Other	£ 684.00	£ -	£ 684.00

School operational costs:			
learning materials	£ 552.00	£ 248.40	£ 303.60
catering (contract or in-house)	£ -	£ -	£ -
SQA costs	£ -	£ -	£ -
other school operational costs (e.g. licences)	£ -	£ -	£ -
Transport costs: note 3			
home to school	£ 8,458.80	£ 11,574.80	-£ 3,116.00
other pupil transport costs	£ -	£ -	£ -
staff travel	£ 470.00	£ -	£ 470.00
SCHOOL COSTS SUB-TOTAL	£ 120,785.80	£ 11,823.20	£ 108,962.60
Income:			
Sale of meals	£ -		£ -
Lets	£ -		£ -
External care provider	£ -		£ -
Other	£ -		£ -
SCHOOL INCOME SUB-TOTAL	£ -		£ -
TOTAL COSTS MINUS INCOME FOR SCHOOL	£ 120,785.80	£ 11,823.20	£ 108,962.60
UNIT COST PER PUPIL PER YEAR (5 pupils)	£ 24,157.16	£ 2,364.64	£ 21,792.52

Annual Property costs incurred (moth-balling) until disposal	
property insurance	£ -
non domestic rates	£ -
water & sewerage charges	£ 150.00
energy costs	£ 600.00
cleaning (contract or inhouse)	£ -
security costs	£ -
building repair & maintenance	£ -
grounds maintenance	£ -
Other	£ -
TOTAL ANNUAL COST UNTIL DISPOSAL	£ 750.00

Table 4

Non-recurring revenue costs	
	£ -
TOTAL NON-RECURRING REVENUE COSTS	£ -

Table 5

Impact on GAE	
based on pupils going to Inchtute PS	£ 18,840.00
GAE IMPACT	£ 18,840.00

Notes

1. The total costs incurred for teaching staff (row 5) and support staff (row 6) are required to be included. Column 2 should include the current costs for a full financial year for the school proposed for closure, and column 3 should include the *additional* cost to the receiving school as a result of staff transferring.

For teaching staff, this should include regular teachers, itinerant teachers, learning support teaching staff and special education (ASN) staff. Itinerant teaching staff includes central support services such as English as additional language support, hearing, visually impaired services, educational psychology services.

For support staff, this should include classroom assistants, administration staff and janitorial staff.

For all staff the costs entered should include salary, NI and pension costs.

If the school proposed for closure has less than 3 staff members, then the cumulative staff costs only should be given in row 5 (for both teaching and support staff), so as to avoid possible disclosure of individual salaries.

Training costs should be identified separately in rows 7 and 8.

2. Supply costs to cover teaching and support staff. This may be held in a central budget, be devolved or shared across the budgets.

3. 'Home to school' pupil transport costs should include those school transport costs incurred in accordance with Council policy. 'Other pupil transport costs' will cover costs incurred for the transport of pupils for activities such as swimming etc

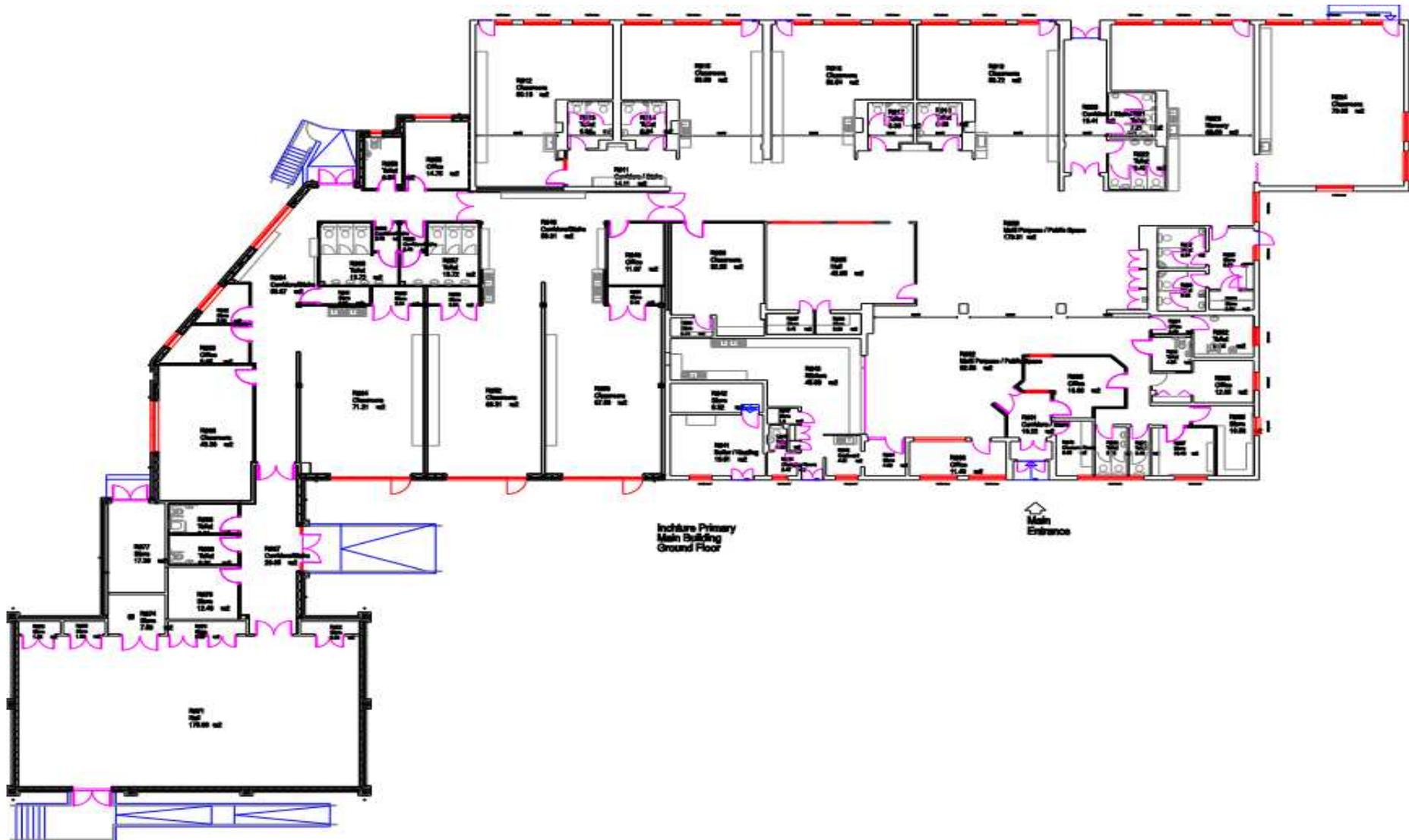
4. Row 30 of column 3 should include the additional transport costs related to the increased home to school transport arrangements that are put in place in accordance with Council policy. This figure is therefore likely to be considerably higher than current costs.

5. This table is to capture the impact on the revenue support grant as a result of changes to GAE

6. Facilities management costs will include costs related to caretaking, janitorial and security.

7. The capital costs for the receiving school should be taken across the life cycle of the school in line with the life expectancy of that school.

The capital costs for the school proposed for closure should be taken across the same life cycle period.



Appendix 6

A mapping analysis of current pupil addresses from within the Abernyte Primary School catchment area has been carried out.

There are a number of Primary School catchments adjoining Abernyte Primary School including Balbeggie Primary School, Burrelton Primary School, Collace Primary School, Inchturre Primary School, Kettins Primary School and Longforgan Primary School.

Abernyte Primary School pupils travel to:	Distance⁷	Journey Time⁸	Summary
Balbeggie Primary School	6.8 miles	13 minutes	Pupils travelling to Balbeggie Primary School from Abernyte Primary School catchment pass the road to Collace Primary School. This is further to travel than travelling to Collace Primary School. Therefore Balbeggie Primary School is discounted.
Burrelton Primary School	8.2 miles	15 minutes	Pupils travelling to Burrelton Primary School from Abernyte Primary School catchment would have to pass through Collace Primary School catchment area. Therefore Burrelton Primary School is discounted.
Collace Primary School	5.5 miles	11 minutes	Collace Primary School is the third closest school to Abernyte Primary School. Pupils from Collace Primary School attend Perth Academy. Therefore Collace Primary School is discounted.
Inchturre Primary School	3.4 miles	8 minutes	Inchturre Primary School is the closest school to Abernyte Primary School. Pupils from Inchturre Primary School attend Perth High School. This is the preferred choice due to distance.
Kettins Primary School	6.9 miles	14 minutes	Pupils travelling to Kettins Primary School from Abernyte Primary School catchment would have to pass through Burrelton Primary School catchment area for the quickest route to the school. Therefore Kettins Primary School is discounted.

⁷ Approximate distances taken from Google Maps

⁸ Approximate journey times taken from Google Maps

Longforgan Primary School	4.4 miles	9 minutes	Pupils travelling to Longforgan Primary School would have to pass by Inchturre Primary School catchment area for the quickest route to the school. Therefore Longforgan Primary School is discounted.
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From the analysis provided the schools that would not be considered would be Balbeggie Primary School, Burrelton Primary School, Kettins Primary School and Longforgan Primary School. This is due to pupils having to travel through a school catchment area to get to another primary school.

Inchturre Primary School is the preferred option as the current Abernyte Primary School pupils live geographically closer to Inchturre Primary School than Collace Primary School.

The number of school days lost for all these schools has also been considered as part of the analysis. No school has been closed more than 3.5 days (Abernyte Primary School and Collace Primary School) since 2011. The school closures are mainly due to high winds and loss of power.

Appendix 7

Note: The number of primary school pupils detailed in the table is the maximum number of pupils that could attend the school. These numbers may be less as current pupils are likely to remain in their current school. Parents of P1 pupils (currently pre-5) also have the right to choose a different school from their catchment

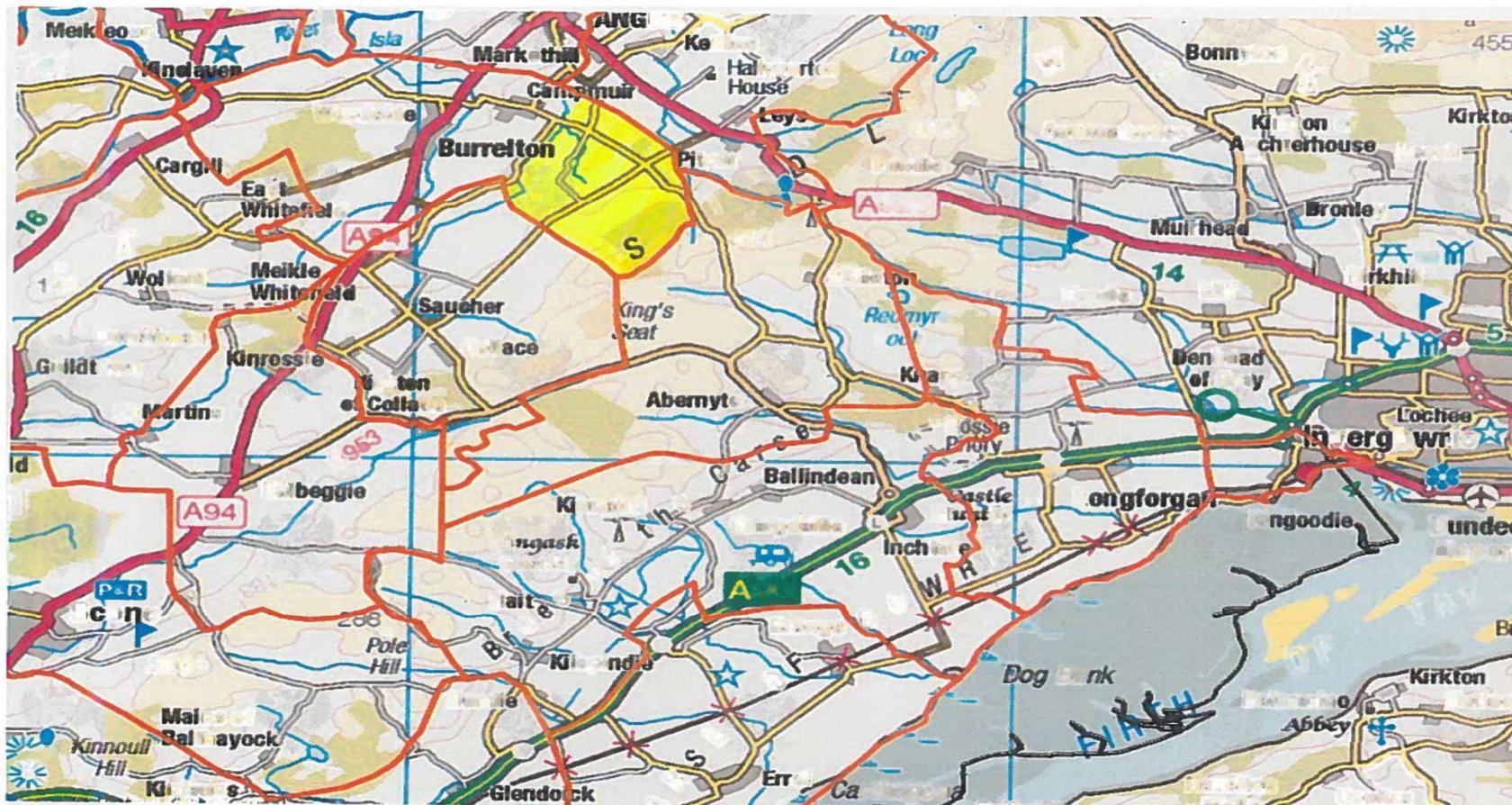
Data gathered from the NHS in relation to children under 5 has been used (as per paragraph 4.2). This information has been aggregated by the NHS for the purposes of this exercise because numbers are small i.e <5 children. Therefore the data relating to pre-school children as a whole is used, rather than pre-school children in individual year groups.

Catchment Area Proposed	Other School Catchment Impacted	Primary School pupils in area	Pre-5s in area	Analysis
Moving existing catchment boundary to the north west See Appendix 7a	Burrelton Primary School	3	<5	There are very few pupils living anywhere in the area highlighted and under 5 pre-school age children. Current furthest distance is approximately 2.5 miles with a travel time of approximately 7 minutes. This would increase to approximately 5.9 miles and 12 minutes travelling time by car.
Moving existing catchment boundary to the north See Appendix 7b	Kettins Primary School	1	0	There are very few pupils living anywhere in the area highlighted and no under 5 pre-school age children. There would be an increase of 7 minutes for this pupil to reach Abernyte Primary School.

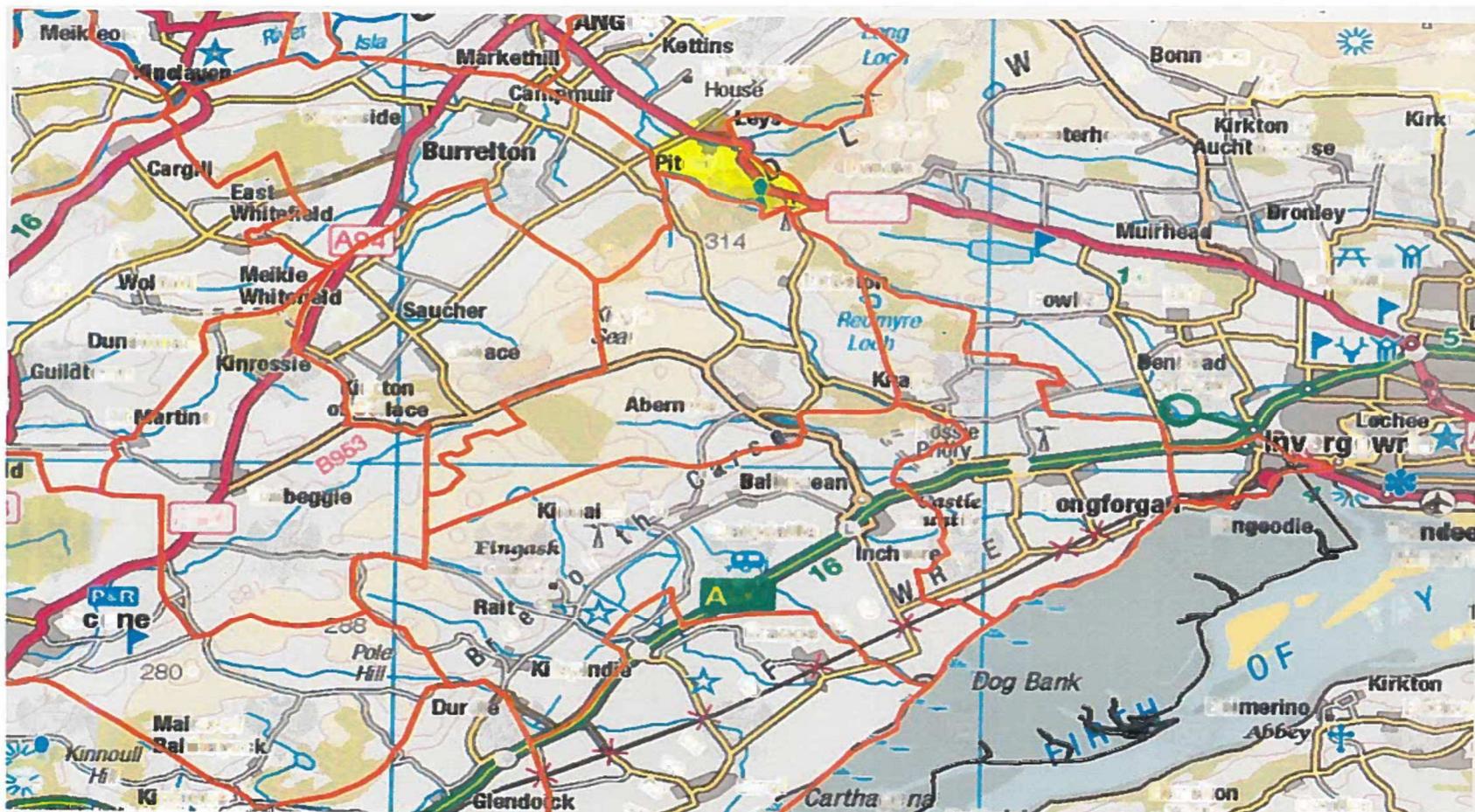
Catchment Area Proposed	Other School Catchment Impacted	Primary School pupils in area	Pre-5s in area	Analysis
Moving existing catchment boundary to the west See Appendix 7c	Collace Primary School	2	0	There are very few pupils living anywhere in the area highlighted and no under 5 pre-school age children. The travelling time for these pupils would increase by approximately 2 minutes each way.
Moving existing catchment boundary to the west See Appendix 7d	Balbeggie Primary School	8	<5	Not all pupils in this area attend their current catchment school, therefore they may not attend Abernyte Primary School either. There are not enough primary aged pupils in this revised area to make Abernyte Primary School sustainable. There are a low number of under 5's in the area. There would be an increase of travel distance and time for all pupils. If travelling by car travel time would increase by approximately 11 minutes for 6 of these pupils.
Moving existing catchment to the south using the A90 as a boundary line See Appendix 7e	Inchture Primary School	25	10	Not all pupils in this area attend their current catchment school, therefore they may not attend Abernyte Primary School either. An additional survey to be sent out to parents of the primary aged children attending Inchture Primary School and the pre-school aged children in this revised area. Pupils currently have a travel time of approximately 6 to 12 minutes each way to reach their catchment school and distance of approximately 2 and 4.9 miles. By moving the boundary line and

Catchment Area Proposed	Other School Catchment Impacted	Primary School pupils in area	Pre-5s in area	Analysis
				changing the catchment school, pupils would have an increased travel time of approximately 4 to 13 minutes each way. 7 pupils would have a decreased travel time and distance to Abernyte Primary School compared to travelling to their current catchment school.
Moving existing catchment to the east using the A90 as a boundary line See Appendix 7f	Longforgan Primary School	15	15	<p>An additional survey was issued to parents of the primary aged children attending Longforgan Primary School and the pre-school aged children in this revised area.</p> <p>Pupils currently have a travel time of approximately 3 to 9 minutes each way to reach their catchment school and distance of approximately 1.2 and 3.1 miles. By moving the boundary line and changing the catchment school, pupils would have an increased travel time of approximately 7 to 14 minutes each way.</p>

Moving existing catchment boundary to north west – into Burrelton Primary School catchment area.



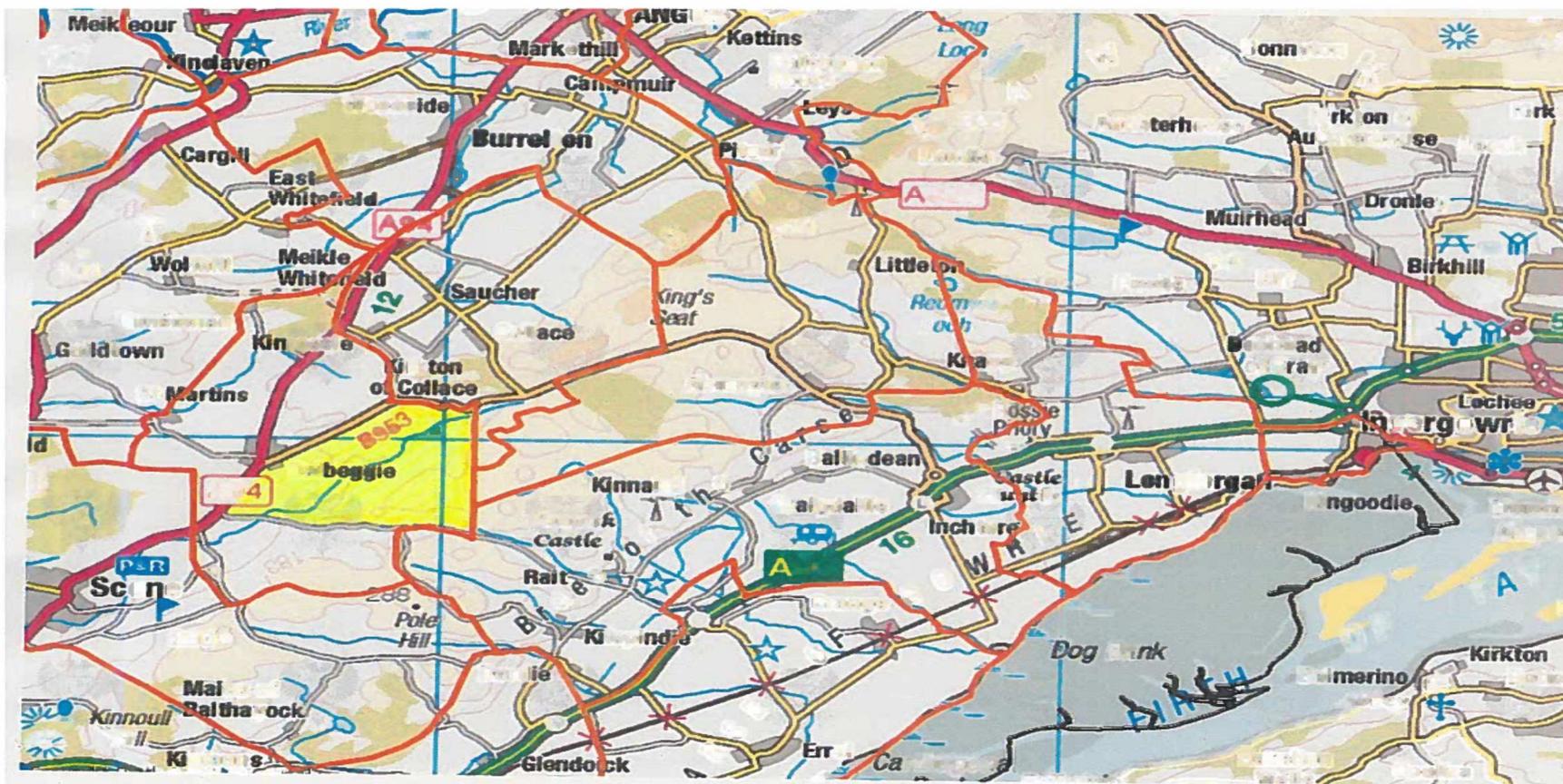
Moving existing catchment boundary to the north – into Kettins Primary School catchment area.



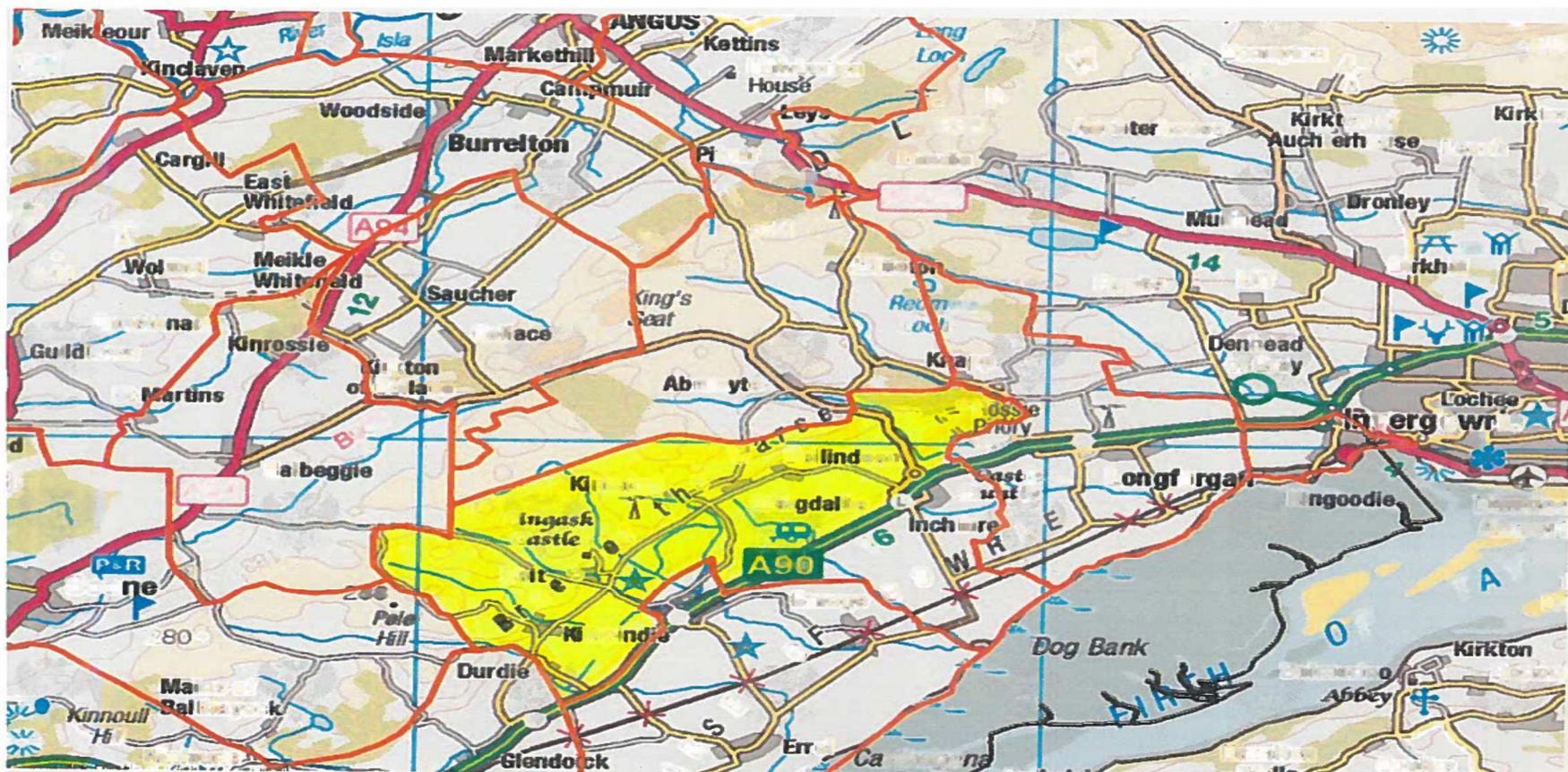
Moving existing catchment boundary to the west – into Collace Primary School catchment area.



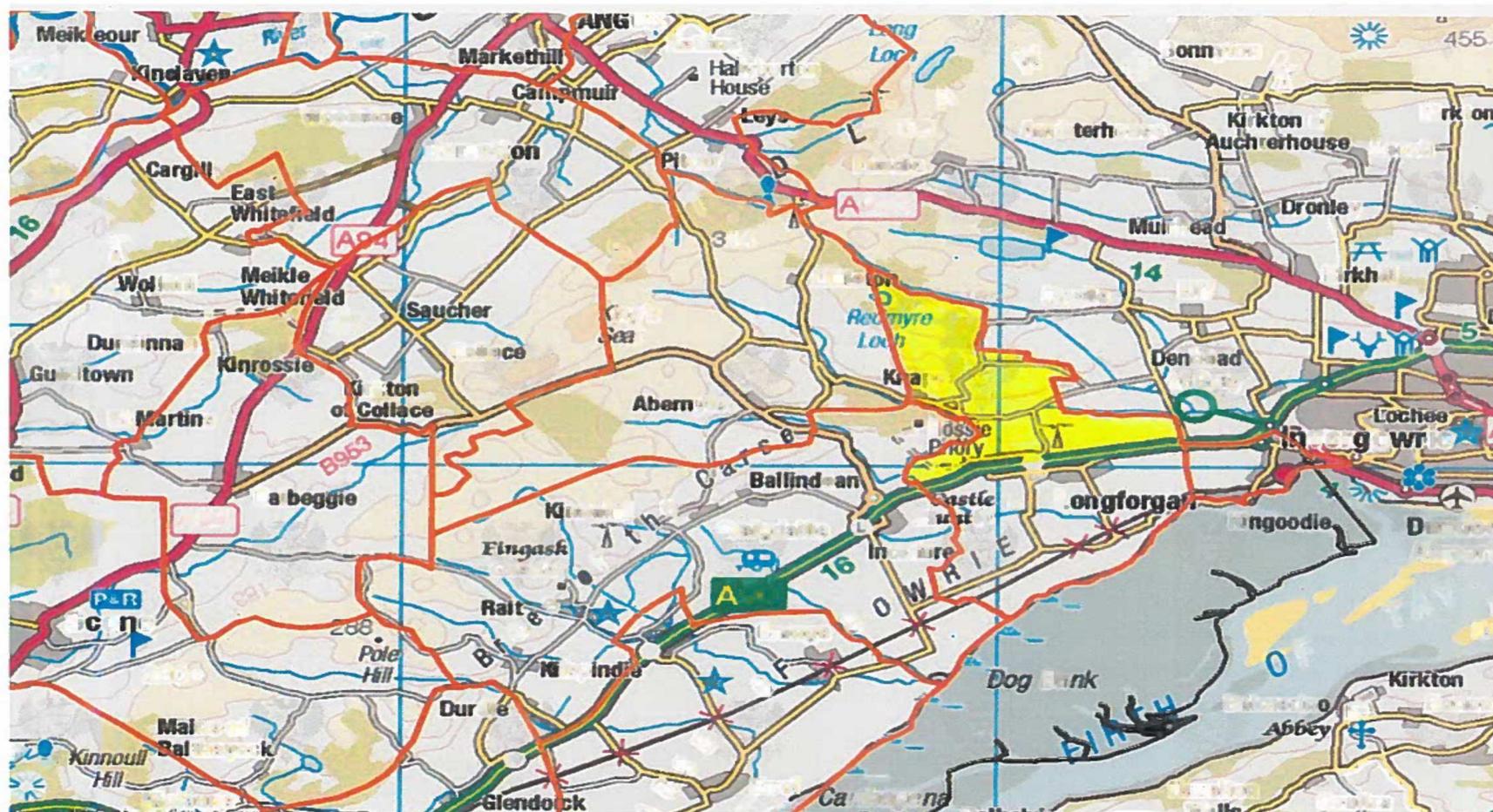
Moving existing catchment boundary to the west – into Balbeggie Primary School catchment area.



Moving existing catchment boundary to the south using A90 as a boundary line – into Inchturre Primary School catchment area.



Moving existing catchment boundary to the east using A90 as a boundary line – into Longforgan Primary School catchment area.



Projected School Roll – Revised Abernyte Primary School catchment area

Table 1 below shows all pupils living in the Inchtute Primary School catchment area (north of the A90), existing Abernyte Primary School pupils and eligible children under the age of 5 from Inchtute Primary School catchment area (north of the A90).

	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022
P1	5	2	5
P2	3	5	2
P3	2	3	5
P4	5	2	3
P5	5	5	2
P6	4	5	5
P7	5	4	5
Total			
Total	29	26	27
Capacity	44	44	44
Total Capacity	66%	59%	61%

Table 1

P1 assumption: Ten under 5's over a 4 year period from the Inchtute Primary School catchment area, this has been split as 3,3,2,2 over the 4 years. There is a possibility that all 10 could register in one year. Abernyte Primary School P1 data as per section 4.2.

Table 2 below shows the pupils living in the Longforgan Primary School catchment area (north of the A90), existing Abernyte Primary School pupils and eligible children under the age of 5 from Longforgan Primary School catchment area (north of the A90).

	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022
P1	6	4	6
P2	4	6	4
P3	2	4	6
P4	2	2	4
P5	3	2	2
P6	3	3	2
P7	4	3	3
Total			
Total	24	24	27
Capacity	44	44	44
Total Capacity	55%	55%	61%

Table 2

P1 assumption: Fifteen under 5's over a 4 year period from the Longforgan area, this has been split as 4,4,4,3 over the 4 years. There is a possibility that all 15 could register in one year. Abernyte P1 data as per section 4.2.

Longforgan, Inchtore & Abernyte Catchment joined

	2017 - current	2018	2019	2020	2021
P1		7	9	6	8
P2		4	7	9	6
P3		6	4	7	9
P4	1	6	6	4	7
P5	2	9	6	6	4
P6	2	7	9	6	6
P7		8	7	9	9
Total	5	47	48	47	49
Capacity	44	44	44	44	44
Total Capacity	11%	107%	109%	107%	111%

Table 3

The table above is assuming all pupils from the extended catchment area into Inchtore and Longforgan all attend Abernyte Primary School along with the current Abernyte Primary pupils.

P1 assumption – Ten under 5's over a 4 year period from the Inchtore area, this has been split as 3,3,2,2 for the 4 years. Fifteen under 5's over a 4 year period from the Longforgan area, this has been split as 4,4,4,3 for the 4 years.

Appendix 9

Table 1 below shows all projected P1 Abernyte Primary School catchment children, projected Inchtore Primary School P1 catchment children (living to the north of the A90 in the existing Inchtore Primary School catchment area) and existing Abernyte Primary School pupils.

Abernyte/Inchtore	2017 – current roll	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022
P1		3	5	2	5
P2			3	5	2
P3				3	5
P4	1				3
P5	2	1			
P6	2	2	1		
P7		2	2	1	
Total	5	8	11	11	15
Capacity	44	44	44	44	44
Total Capacity	11%	18%	25%	25%	34%

Table 1

P1 assumption: Ten under 5's over a 4 year period from the Inchtore area, this has been split as 3,3,2,2 over the 4 years. Abernyte P1 data as per section 4.2.

Table 2 below shows all projected P1 Abernyte Primary School catchment children, projected Longforgan Primary School P1 catchment children (living to the north of the A90 in existing Longforgan Primary School catchment area) and existing Abernyte Primary School pupils.

Abernyte/Longforgan	2017 - current	2018	2019	2020	2021
P1		4	6	4	6
P2			4	6	4
P3				4	6
P4	1				4
P5	2	1			
P6	2	2	1		
P7		2	2	1	
Total	5	9	13	15	20
Capacity	44	44	44	44	44
Total Capacity	11%	20%	30%	34%	45%

Table 2

P1 assumption: Fifteen under 5's over a 4 year period from the Longforgan area, this has been split as 4,4,4,3 over the 4 years. Abernyte P1 data as per section 4.2.

Current Abernyte pupils and Abernyte, Longforgan & Inchtire under 5's only

	2017 - current	2018	2019	2020	2021
P1		7	9	6	8
P2			7	9	6
P3				7	9
P4	1				7
P5	2	1			
P6	2	2	1		
P7		2	2	1	
Total	5	12	19	23	30
Capacity	44	44	44	44	44
Total Capacity	11%	27%	43%	52%	68%

Table 3

The table above shows all Inchtire and Longforgan pre 5's do attend Abernyte Primary School along with the current Abernyte Primary pupils.

P1 assumption – Ten under 5's over a 4 year period from the Inchtire area, this has been split as 3,3,2,2 for the 4 years. Fifteen under 5's over a 4 year period from the Longforgan area, this has been split as 4,4,4,3 for the 4 years.