

Report

Report to:	Executive Committee
Date of Meeting:	19 December 2018
Report by:	Executive Director (Education Resources)

Subject:	Outcome of the statutory consultation on the proposal to realign the catchment areas both Kirklandpark and Wester Overton Primary Schools to more appropriately link new housing developments to be the local non-denominational primary schools
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ advise the Committee on the outcome of the statutory consultation undertaken on the proposal to realign the catchment areas of both Kirklandpark and Wester Overton Primary Schools to more appropriately link new housing developments to the local non-denominational primary schools.
- ◆ advise the Committee that the final Consultation Report was published on 26 November 2018;
- ◆ request formal Committee approval for the implementation of the proposal.

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) that the outcome of the statutory consultation undertaken on the proposal to realign the catchment areas of both Kirklandpark and Wester Overton Primary Schools to more appropriately link new housing developments to the local non-denominational primary schools be noted;
- (2) that the publication of the final Consultation Report on 26 November 2018 be noted;
- (3) that the implementation of the proposal be approved.

3. Background

3.1. Approval was given on 16 May 2018 to undertake a statutory consultation on the proposal to realign the catchment areas of both Kirklandpark and Wester Overton Primary Schools to more appropriately link new housing developments to the local non-denominational primary schools. (see Plan 1). This consultation was undertaken in line with the Schools (Consultation)(Scotland) Act 2010 commencing 18 June 2018 and concluding on 14 September 2018. Education Scotland's response to the consultation was received on 5 October 2018.

4. Outcome of the Consultation – Stakeholder Feedback

4.1. Notification of this consultation was provided to parents of children attending both affected schools and their nurseries (approximately 610 families), the nursery

parents of St Patrick's Primary nursery class and the two private nursery providers in Strathaven, and an advert appeared in the East Kilbride News and Strathaven Echoes on 15 June 2018 giving the details of the consultation, the closing date, how to access necessary documentation and the details of the public meeting. All statutory consultees were also provided with a copy of the Consultation Proposal Document directly.

- 4.2 There were only 17 written responses to the consultation received and a Public Meeting was held where there was further discussion on the proposal.

5. Outcome of the Consultation – Education Scotland Report

- 5.1. Education Scotland was provided with the consultation proposal document at the start of the consultation period. In addition, a summary document including the note of the Public Meeting, all written responses to the consultation and Pupil Views was provided to consider in conjunction with the proposal.
- 5.2 A favourable report was received by the Council on 5 October 2018 in which Education Scotland acknowledged that there was a sound rationale for the proposal and that the education benefits for children have been appropriately considered and demonstrated.

It was identified by Education Scotland, from its own discussions with stakeholders, that one of the issues the Council needed to address was concerns expressed around specific areas of the realignment.

It was also highlighted that queries regarding travel and transport issues (safe routes to school and eligibility of free school transport) should be addressed by the Council in this report.

6. Summary of Consultation

- 6.1. Education Resources reviewed the proposal having regard to the representations made at the Public Meeting, those received in writing and Education Scotland's report.
- 6.2 Education Resources recognise there are concerns regarding specific areas of the realignment due to child care issues (6 returns). The number of those concerned about aspects of the new catchment boundary was a very small proportion of the overall parental stakeholders (1% of more than 600 consultees).
- 6.3 The safety and wellbeing of pupils is paramount and potential issues relating to the travel of pupils will be considered. The Council will ensure that both Kirklandpark Primary and Wester Overton Primary have a recently reviewed travel plan and continue to liaise with Roads colleagues as appropriate.
- 6.4 After review, the proposal to realign the catchment areas of both Kirklandpark and Wester Overton Primary Schools to more appropriately link new housing developments to the local non-denominational primary schools is recommended.
- 6.5 The intention, if approved, would be for the changes to come into effect for the January 2019 enrolment. Children who are currently attending either school will have the right to remain in that school. In addition, any younger siblings can also attend the same school as their older sibling without the need for a placing request until school session 2024.

7. Other Implications

- 7.1. In terms of employee resources, this will continue to be provided in each school by means of existing process e.g. annual class configuration protocols and agreed management allocations.

8. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 8.1. There is no requirement to carry out an impact assessment in terms of the proposals contained in this report. As referred to in 3.1 above, this consultation was undertaken in line with the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010.

Tony McDaid

Executive Director (Education Resources)

20 November 2018

Link(s) to Council Values/Objectives

- Raise educational achievement and attainment
- Achieve efficient and effective use of resources

Previous References

Bullet point list or None

List of Background Papers

https://www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/downloads/file/12273/kirklandpark_and_wester_overton_primaries_-_consultation_proposal

Consultation outcome report available from

<https://www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/directory/47/consultations>

Contact for Further Information

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

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Plan 1 – Proposed catchment realignment of Kirklandpark Primary School and Wester Overton Primary School

