

10am, Thursday, 4 February 2016

Outcome of the Statutory Consultation Process on Options to Address Primary School Capacity and Accommodation Pressures in South Edinburgh

[Affecting James Gillespie's Primary School, South Morningside Primary School, Bruntsfield Primary School, Tollcross Primary School, James Gillespie's High School and Boroughmuir High School]

Item number	8.4
Report number	Executive
Executive/routine	
Wards	8 (Colinton/Fairmilehead), 9 (Fountainbridge/Craiglockhart), 10 (Meadows/Morningside), 11 (City Centre) and 15 (Southside/Newington)

Executive Summary

On 19 May 2015 the Education, Children and Families Committee approved that a statutory consultation be undertaken regarding options to address primary school capacity and accommodation pressures in south Edinburgh this being defined as the area encompassing the three primary school catchments covered by Bruntsfield, James Gillespie's and South Morningside Primary Schools.

A statutory consultation was undertaken between 24 August 2015 and 6 October 2015 regarding three options; one of which - to establish a new primary school - had three sub-options. The purpose of this report is to advise on the outcome of the consultation and make recommendations regarding which option should be progressed.

Links

Coalition pledges	P4
Council outcomes	CO1 and CO2
Single Outcome Agreement	SO3

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1. Recommendations

- 1.1 Approve that Option 1(c) be progressed requiring the establishment of a new double stream primary school including nursery classes on the combined site of the existing South Morningside Primary School Deanbank temporary annexe and the Oaklands Care Home and necessitating closure of the existing nursery classes of South Morningside Primary School based at Fairmilehead Church Hall.
- 1.2 Approve that the catchment boundaries of South Morningside Primary School, Bruntsfield Primary School, James Gillespie's Primary School and Tollcross Primary School are amended in accordance with Option 1(c) as set out in the statutory consultation paper *Options to Address Primary School Capacity and Accommodation Pressures in South Edinburgh*.
- 1.3 Approve that the date from when the catchment changes and the closure of the existing nursery classes of South Morningside Primary School would be effective is the school year at the start of which the new primary school could be completed and opened and that the new primary school would become the non-denominational catchment school for all P1 pupils living in the new school's catchment area at the time of P1 registrations in the preceding November.
- 1.4 Note the statutory requirement to refer the Council's decision to Scottish Ministers.
- 1.5 Note the intention to complete the transfer of ownership of the combined Deanbank and Oaklands site from Health and Social Care to Communities and Families.
- 1.6 Agree that, as the new school is currently estimated to be required by August 2019 which would require the project to be initiated immediately to allow that delivery timescale to be met, consideration be given to identifying the capital and revenue funding required as part of the current budget process.

- 1.7 Note that should funding not be identified during the current budget process to allow the project to be initiated immediately, the delivery date for the new school would be delayed beyond August 2019 which may require temporary mitigation measures to be put into place (most likely to be at James Gillespie's Primary School) pending the opening of the new school.
- 1.8 Note that the position would be considered on an annual basis by the Education, Children and Families Committee as part of the overall Rising Rolls update process, allowing the latest data regarding future roll projections and housing development in the area to be taken into consideration to assess what temporary mitigation measures might be required pending the delivery of the new school.
- 1.9 Note that, in view of the potential for temporary mitigation measures to be put in place in the future, a feasibility study will be undertaken at James Gillespie's Primary School to identify means of temporarily extending the existing school to allow up to a full three stream intake of 21 classes should that ever be required.

2. Background

- 2.1 On [19 May 2015](#) the Education, Children and Families Committee approved that a statutory consultation be undertaken regarding options to address the long-term accommodation issues in the south Edinburgh area. This followed previous reports to Committee on [9 December 2014](#) and [4 March 2014](#) which set out the accommodation and capacity issues faced in this area and the requirement to identify solutions to these issues through discussions with each of the school communities affected.
- 2.2 For the purposes of this process the south Edinburgh area is defined as encompassing the three primary school catchment areas covered by Bruntsfield, James Gillespie's and South Morningside Primary Schools. This area has traditionally experienced pressure on primary school places with schools having had high occupancy levels during a period of declining rolls and a necessity for additional accommodation subsequently being required through the provision of temporary units and annexes, some of which still remain.
- 2.3 The Council's over-riding priority is to ensure that it can meet its commitment to ensuring that places are available for all pupils to attend their local catchment school should they wish to do so. The issue of rising primary school rolls in the city has been, and remains, a significant challenge but is one which the Council is committed to addressing and has been doing so successfully for several years through its primary school rising rolls programme.
- 2.4 Bruntsfield Primary School has experienced high P1 intakes in the past few years which necessitated the school's involvement in the rising rolls programme. However, rather than new build, the accommodation solution identified for Bruntsfield Primary School was internal reconfiguration of the existing building to create more classroom space. This reconfiguration has increased the capacity of the school while maintaining good supporting accommodation.

- 2.5 Previous reports to the Education, Children and Families Committee setting out the issues in the south Edinburgh area have included Bruntsfield Primary School as a key component of a long-term solution for the area. While projections suggest that the work undertaken at the school to date, and the further adaptations possible, would be sufficient to address projected growth in the catchment area there was, and remains, a strong rationale for including a small proportion of the existing Bruntsfield catchment area within the proposed catchment area changes for some of the options proposed.
- 2.6 Through the rising rolls process James Gillespie's Primary School was identified as a school that would struggle to accommodate catchment demand in August 2015. The school site is a reasonable size and a new classroom extension was constructed which opened for use from August 2015. However, while the new building provides the school with the accommodation necessary to provide sufficient places for its current catchment demand and that projected in the short term, the latest projections and the potential for significant residential development in the area in future years suggest that this will be insufficient in the long term and that there will remain an ongoing requirement to accommodate classes in the existing temporary unit. There also remain suitability issues associated with the size of some of the classrooms in the main school building.
- 2.7 The accommodation issues at South Morningside Primary School have been more acute and, in order to address capacity issues and the suitability issues associated with the temporary units on the school site and the annexe located at the Cluny Church Centre, the Rising Rolls Working Group at South Morningside Primary School identified a larger, off site annexe solution as its preferred option. Accordingly, on [9 December 2014](#) the Education, Children and Families Committee approved that the short-term solution for South Morningside Primary School was the creation of a temporary P1 and P2 annexe at the former Deanbank Resource Centre on Canaan Lane.
- 2.8 Whilst it is considered that accommodation pressures in the area can be addressed in the short term through the measures set out above which also improve the suitability of the accommodation available, these solutions create their own challenges and a longer-term, sustainable and permanent solution is required.
- 2.9 Several options for a longer-term solution have previously been investigated. A report to the Council's Estate Strategy and Rising Rolls Working Group on 8 May 2013 considered options to relieve pressure through catchment review. However, it was acknowledged that there were only minor opportunities for catchment change and that these were unlikely to be of sufficient size to address the issue. The Estate Strategy and Rising Rolls Working Group concluded it was likely that additional accommodation would be required if intake numbers were sustained at their (then) present level.

- 2.10 In 2011 a feasibility study was undertaken which considered options to locate all of South Morningside Primary School's pupils in permanent buildings on the main school site; the provision of a new gym and relocation of the nursery was also considered. This feasibility study was updated in 2014. However, due to the significant loss of playground space which would arise and advice received from Planning that the height of the proposed buildings and their proximity to the common boundary would make planning issues difficult to overcome, the option of a permanent expansion of accommodation on the existing school site was not considered to be a reasonable or deliverable solution.
- 2.11 The delivery of the first option identified for consideration in the statutory consultation paper, creating an entirely new primary school, would entail significant additional capital and revenue costs and require considerable restructuring of the catchment areas of the non-denominational primary schools in the south Edinburgh area. It is a long-term solution that would represent a significant change for the residents and wider communities of each school in the south Edinburgh area and would have significant budgetary implications. For these reasons, two further options were developed which sought to build upon the temporary solutions already delivered but with a more limited demographic and financial impact.
- 2.12 There are few options in the south Edinburgh area to provide the land necessary to deliver any of the proposals considered during this consultation and some of the options which are available could, in the absence of an appropriate site, carry with them a high degree of uncertainty in terms of the timescales within which they may be deliverable and the cost that would be attached.
- 2.13 Accordingly, successfully identifying a site for a new school or an annexe building has been a significant factor in the failure to deliver previous proposals. This was most notably the case in 1998 when a proposal for a new double stream primary school on an NHS site was consulted upon, approved and included within the Council's first Public Private Partnership (PPP) project but could not be delivered as the availability of the site slipped beyond project longstop dates resulting in its removal from the project.
- 2.14 In the report to Committee on [9 December 2014](#) a potential site constituted from the site of the former Deanbank Resource Centre (now the Deanbank temporary annexe of South Morningside Primary School) and the directly adjacent site on which the Oaklands residential care home is located was identified. This site is considered to be appropriate for an educational establishment and, as it is in Council ownership through Health and Social Care, offers a high level of certainty and control regarding both availability and the timescales to deliver whatever solution is approved by Council as the outcome of this consultation process. It is fully recognised that a new care home would have to be delivered before the Oaklands site could be vacated.

- 2.15 In order to implement interim accommodation solutions for South Morningside Primary School, Communities and Families has leased the Deanbank Resource Centre site from Health and Social Care and discussions regarding the value and timing of the purchase of the combined Deanbank and Oaklands site which would also allow Health and Social Care to progress the necessary business case for the provision of a new facility have been progressed.
- 2.16 The size of site for any new (or replacement) school is prescribed in the School Premises (General Requirements and Standards) (Scotland) Regulations 1967 and the 1973 and 1979 amendments to those regulations. For a new double stream primary school with capacity for a further 40 pupils in the nursery, the total site size should be 1.9 hectares comprising two elements for which the appropriate sizes are defined separately:
- (i) a main school site on which the actual school buildings are located of not less than 1.3 hectares (of which 0.1 hectares relates to the nursery); and
 - (ii) an area for playing fields of not less than 0.6 hectares.
- 2.17 The size of the combined Deanbank and Oaklands site is 0.96 hectares which is less than the minimum specified requirement for a main new school site but is considered sufficient to provide an appropriate environment for a new primary school and nursery of this size. In certain circumstances a smaller site area can be provided with the consent of the Scottish Government subject to it being agreed that it would be impractical or unreasonable to apply the standards within the legislation.
- 2.18 The establishment of the current Deanbank temporary annexe of South Morningside Primary School did not require that a statutory consultation be undertaken as it was established as a temporary measure. However, despite currently being the site of an educational facility, to establish a *permanent* annexe of South Morningside Primary School on the combined Deanbank and Oaklands site does require that a statutory consultation be undertaken. While the consent of the Scottish Government would be required to deliver a new primary school on this site as it is smaller than specified in the regulations, no such consent would be required to establish permanent annexe accommodation.
- 2.19 The purpose of this report is to advise on the outcome of the consultation and make recommendations regarding which option to address accommodation pressures in the south Edinburgh area should be progressed.

3. Main report

- 3.1 The statutory consultation was undertaken regarding options which were developed as a result of an informal consultation process undertaken as part of the Rising Rolls process which considered potential short-term and long-term solutions to the accommodation issues facing schools in the south Edinburgh area. Working groups consisting of Council officers, members of the school

management team and Parent Council representatives were formed at the three primary schools directly affected and worked collaboratively to define the objectives of the long-term statutory consultation process and consider how the issues identified may be addressed.

3.2 The three options identified for consideration and regarding which the statutory consultation was undertaken were as follows:

Option 1 – Establish a new primary school on the combined site of the existing South Morningside Primary School Deanbank temporary annexe and the Oaklands Care Home on Canaan Lane incorporating sections of the Bruntsfield, James Gillespie's and South Morningside Primary School catchment areas. This option would also require the northern tip of the James Gillespie's Primary School catchment area to be realigned with Tollcross Primary School and could be delivered with any of the following Early Years provision sub options:

- a. **not including a nursery** as part of the new school building due to the retention of the existing nursery classes of South Morningside Primary School currently based at Fairmilehead Church Hall;
- b. **including a nursery** as part of the new school building and retaining the capacity currently provided by the existing nursery classes of South Morningside Primary School based at Fairmilehead Church Hall; or
- c. **including a nursery** as part of the new school building to replace the capacity currently provided by the existing nursery classes of South Morningside Primary School based at Fairmilehead Church Hall and necessitating the closure of that facility.

Option 2 – Increase the capacity of South Morningside Primary School to four streams by establishing a permanent annexe of South Morningside Primary School accommodating the nursery to P3 stages on the combined site of the existing Deanbank temporary annexe and the Oaklands Care Home on Canaan Lane. This would require the existing South Morningside Primary School catchment to be extended to incorporate sections of the Bruntsfield and James Gillespie's Primary School catchment areas and would also require the northern tip of the James Gillespie's Primary School catchment area to be realigned with Tollcross Primary School.

Option 3 – Maintain and improve existing accommodation arrangements by permanently establishing South Morningside Primary School's Deanbank temporary annexe including the provision of a new gym, the relocation of the South Morningside Primary School nursery to the Deanbank site and a minor catchment change to incorporate the combined site of the existing temporary Deanbank temporary annexe and the Oaklands Care Home within the South Morningside Primary School catchment area.

3.3 The following table summarises the accommodation provided under each option.

Option	Accommodation at Deanbank/Oaklands site	Accommodation at South Morningside Primary School main school site	Impact on South Morningside nursery (Fairmilehead Church)	Accommodation at Bruntsfield Primary School	Accommodation at James Gillespie's Primary School
1a	14 primary classes No nursery	15 primary classes	Existing nursery retained	21 primary classes	15 primary classes
1b	14 primary classes New nursery	15 primary classes	Existing nursery retained	21 primary classes	15 primary classes
1c	14 primary classes New nursery	15 primary classes	Existing nursery proposed for closure	21 primary classes	15 primary classes
2	13 primary classes New nursery and Gym Hall	16 primary classes	Relocated to Deanbank/Oaklands site	21 primary classes	15 primary classes
3	6 primary classes New nursery and Gym Hall	15 primary classes	Relocated to Deanbank/Oaklands site	21 primary classes	19 primary classes

3.4 Each option would require that varying degrees of changes to primary school catchments be undertaken. Option 1, the creation of a new primary school, would also require the transfer of pupils from existing schools although this would be on a voluntary basis.

3.5 Options 1a, 1b, 1c and 2 would involve the transfer of parts of existing primary school catchment areas to different primary school catchments which introduces the potential issue of younger siblings of pupils currently in one primary school possibly being required to attend a different primary school from elder brother/sister in the future.

3.6 Whilst it is not considered feasible to provide a guarantee regarding siblings under Options 1a, 1b, 1c and 2 in certain circumstances priority would be applied to siblings. In future, after meeting catchment needs, younger siblings of pupils at any primary school (but not any associated nursery) which is subject to a change of catchment area who attended the school at the time of the decision on catchment change and were, at that time, resident in the parts of that primary school proposed for transfer would be given priority for placing requests into that primary school in future. This policy would apply for a full primary school cycle (i.e. seven years) but would only apply if, when the younger sibling was entering P1, he/she continued to be resident in the parts of the primary school catchment from which transfer had previously been approved and an elder sibling is still a pupil at that primary school.

3.7 Secondary school catchment areas would be largely unaffected; the only exception being in Option 3 as part of which a minor change to the catchment

boundary between South Morningside Primary School and James Gillespie's Primary School would also be made between Boroughmuir High School (the allocated secondary for South Morningside Primary School) and James Gillespie's High School (the allocated secondary for James Gillespie's Primary School). This change would not affect any residential properties.

- 3.8 The statutory consultation period ran from 24 August 2015 to 6 October 2015. A full statutory consultation paper was produced which set out the details of each of the three main options together with the associated educational benefits. Hard copies of the full consultation paper were provided to each school, nurseries in the area and the local libraries. An email was sent to all other statutory consultees, including the school Parent Councils and the local Community Councils, advising them of the consultation and providing the link to the full consultation paper. All parents/guardians at the affected schools were sent a letter notifying them of the statutory consultation and a copy of the summary paper.
- 3.9 The full consultation paper extends to 100 pages and therefore has not been included within this report however it is available online on the [Council website](#); the summary paper is provided in Appendix 1. A copy of the full statutory consultation paper is also available in the Elected Members lounge for reference.
- 3.10 Four public meetings were held between 3 September 2015 and 29 September 2015. At each public meeting, all of which were independently chaired, Council officers outlined the options and answered questions. Records of each meeting are included in Appendix 2.
- 3.11 Representations were invited by letter, email or through a specifically designed online consultation response questionnaire. A total of 240 responses were received during the statutory consultation period comprising 201 questionnaire returns (162 of which included specific comments) and 39 by either email or letter (31 of which included specific comments). In some instances multiple email/letter representations were made by the same respondent and in such cases these have been grouped together and treated as one response. The representations received are detailed in Appendix 3 together with a summary of the key issues raised in each response. Due to the volume involved the detailed representations have not been included within this report however the full submissions are available in the Elected Members lounge for reference.
- 3.12 The following table provides an analysis of the responses received during the consultation showing the category of respondent and the preferred option (if one was expressed).

Respondent Category	Option 1*	Option 1(a)	Option 1(b)	Option 1(c)	Option 2	Option 3	None	Not Given	Totals	Proportion
Parent/carer of school child	5	12	36	44	8	29	14	2	150	62%
Parent/carer of pre-school child	1	3	12	7	2	9	12	0	46	19%
Staff	0	0	1	7	1	0	0	0	9	4%
Pupil	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Local resident	0	1	1	0	1	6	6	6	21	9%
Local organisation	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	4	2%
Other or Not Given	3	0	0	1	2	1	0	3	10	4%
Totals	10	16	50	60	15	45	32	12	240	
Proportion of Total	4%	7%	21%	25%	6%	19%	13%	5%		

* No sub-option preference indicated.

- 3.13 Of the 240 responses received, a clear majority of 57% expressed a preference for Option 1. Among those expressing a preference for Option 1, 44% expressed a preference for sub-option 1(c) which represented 25% of the preferences expressed by all respondents. 13% of all respondents selected 'None' of the options available while a further 5% did not express a preference of any kind.
- 3.14 A consultation exercise with pupils at the schools directly affected by the proposals was also carried out by Quality Improvement Officers. The Quality Improvement Officers also discussed the proposals with staff and encouraged them to provide feedback through the online survey. A summary of the issues raised by pupils is provided in Appendix 5. 221 responses were received from pupils however, due to the complexity of the issues concerned, the sub-options under Option 1 were not considered by pupils. 44% of pupils expressed a preference for Option 3 with Options 1 and 2 drawing 39% and 17% respectively.
- 3.15 As required by the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 as amended by the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 all of the responses received during the public consultation were made available to Education Scotland for consideration. During October 2015 Education Scotland visited all of the schools affected by the proposals following which they submitted a report addressing the educational aspects of the proposals. This report is included in Appendix 6.
- 3.16 Responses to all of the major issues raised during the consultation process are considered in the following 'Key Themes and Issues and Council Responses' section. The Council's response to the Education Scotland report is then considered in the following section.

Key Themes and Issues and Council Responses

- 3.17 A number of issues and points were raised, often recurrently, during the public meetings, in the responses received during the consultation period and through the consultation undertaken with pupils. These have been drawn out and aggregated into a number of themes which are identified in the table below which shows the percentage of responses received (where a comment was made) which contained a point or issue relating to that theme. Appendix 4 provides details of the various issues and points raised under each theme together with the Council's response

Theme	% of Responses
Proposed Site: Traffic and Pedestrian Issues (inc. Canaan Lane)	13.0%
New School Site and Accommodation	9.3%
Retaining Deanbank	7.3%
The Field (in front of The Priory) and Falcon Park	2.6%
Projections and Demographics	13.5%
Residential Development	4.7%
Split Site Issues	17.6%
Existing Issues	17.1%
Early Years	16.1%
James Gillespie's Primary School Catchment Change Proposals	28.5%
South Morningside Primary School Catchment Change Proposals	3.6%
Sibling Guarantee	13.0%
Consultation Process	11.4%
New School Transition	5.7%
Option 1 Issues	3.1%
Option 2 Issues	10.4%
Secondary School Issues (inc. feeder status and future growth)	13.0%
Financial Issues and Concerns	6.2%
Timescales	0.5%
Education	2.6%
Other Issues/Points	11.9%

Education Scotland

Legislative Context

- 3.18 The Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 as amended by the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 requires that the Council refer the proposals to Education Scotland so that they may prepare a report on the educational aspects. In producing their report, which is included in full in Appendix 6, Education Scotland considered the options set out in the statutory consultation paper as well as all of the responses received during the public consultation period. Education Scotland also visited all the schools affected by the proposals and discussed the educational aspects with staff and pupils before producing their final report.
- 3.19 The conclusion of Education Scotland was that overall the option which provided the most educational benefit to the children of south Edinburgh is Option 1(c). It was noted in the report that among the parents, staff, children and young people who met with HM Inspectors, the majority clearly favoured Option 1.

Response to Education Scotland

The Act requires that the Council's consultation report includes 'a statement of the authority's response to Education Scotland's report'. The Education Scotland report identified several key issues for the Council to consider which are set out in the following table together with the Council's response.

Issue Raised	Stakeholders would like further information about the projected rolls for the schools in South Edinburgh.
Council Response	Further details on the roll projections and the methodology used in reaching these projections are contained in Appendix 7 of this report.
Issue Raised	Stakeholders would like further consideration given to the possibility of demolishing the Deanbank temporary annexe.
Council Response	The response to the issues raised regarding the possible demolition of the Deanbank temporary annexe are contained within the " Retaining Deanbank " theme under the Council responses in Appendix 4 of this report.
Issue Raised	More information is required on how the current proposal secures best value for the council.
Council Response	The value offered by each of the options, together with the reasons for recommending Option 1(c), is considered in the conclusions section of this report.
Issue Raised	In taking forward the proposal, the council needs to set out how it will address stakeholders' concerns.

Council Response	<p>Through this consultation process the Council has sought to respond to concerns raised by stakeholders about the options considered in the statutory consultation paper. However, in taking the recommendation to implement Option 1(c) forward the Council would establish a working group to oversee the delivery of the new school. The remit of this group will include engagement with all stakeholders to address concerns raised through the consultation process and in the work that follows. As explained elsewhere in this report, the Council has undertaken to provide local residents with a means of feeding into the planning process for the new school so that issues relating to traffic, increased volumes of pedestrians and public amenity can be addressed where possible. The processes and support put in place to facilitate the transfer of pupils and staff from other schools would be considered in detail by the working group in its early stages to ensure a smooth and effective transition processes and provide stakeholders with clarity about what a new school would mean for them.</p>
Issue Raised	<p>The Council needs to set out the actions it has taken to address the non-material inaccuracy and omission in the consultation paper which emerged during the public consultation period.</p>
Council Response	<p>During the consultation period a non-material inaccuracy in, and a non-material omission from, the statutory consultation paper were identified which, under the provisions of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 as amended by the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014, required that the Council issue a notice to the relevant consultees and HMIE.</p> <p>The first correction required was a non-material change identified by Council Officers immediately prior to the first of the four public consultation meetings. The Council issued a letter to all statutory consultees on 2 September 2015 and also highlighted this correction at each of the subsequent public consultation meetings. The correction letter was also posted on the Council's website. The letter issued which describes in detail the nature of the inaccuracy identified can be found in Appendix 8.</p> <p>The second correction required was an omission which was identified by a member of the public at the public consultation meeting at Bruntsfield Primary School on 22 September 2015. The omission was acknowledged at this meeting. The change required was considered to be non-material and affected three of the maps in the consultation paper. The Council issued a letter to all statutory consultees on 30 September 2015 and also highlighted this correction at each of the subsequent public consultation meetings. The correction letter and the revised maps were also posted on the Council's website. The letter issued which describes in detail the nature of the omission identified can be found in Appendix 8.</p>

Conclusions

- 3.20 The theme which elicited the highest degree of comment during the statutory consultation period was the proposal under Option 1 and Option 2 to realign the northern tip of James Gillespie's Primary School's catchment area with Tollcross Primary School. Of the 55 respondents commenting on this part of the Option 1 and Option 2 proposals, 48 expressed opposition to it.
- 3.21 It is evident from many of the comments made that this part of the Option 1 proposal resulted in people who would otherwise have supported the establishment of a new school in south Edinburgh either expressing a preference for Option 3 (which is the only option not containing a proposal to realign the northern tip of the James Gillespie's Primary School's catchment area), selecting "None" as a preference or not indicating a preference at all. Accordingly the level of support, at least in principle, for a new school in south Edinburgh might actually be higher than consultation response figures suggest.
- 3.22 While all of the options in the statutory consultation paper provide improved learning and teaching environments and therefore provide educational benefits, Communities and Families agrees with Education Scotland's findings that Option 1(c), establishing a new school in Edinburgh and closing South Morningside Primary School's nursery classes, would provide the greatest educational benefits for schools in the south Edinburgh area due to the reduced number of transition points and the increased opportunities for interaction between older and younger year groups.
- 3.23 The release of an additional year's birth data, confirmation of actual P1 intakes in August 2015 and an analysis of catchment pupil populations at the time of the annual schools census in September 2015 has allowed the projections for Bruntsfield, James Gillespie's and South Morningside Primary Schools which were published in the statutory consultation paper to be updated. Details of these updated projections are available in Appendix 7.
- 3.24 In summary the revised projections suggest that Bruntsfield Primary School will experience continued and steady growth requiring that a 21st classroom be created in the short term and that the requirement for this additional class is likely to be sustained in future years. This is the level of capacity that a feasibility study has identified may be achieved within the school's existing accommodation whilst continuing to meet the Scottish Government's recommended level of General Purpose space provision.
- 3.25 Roll projections for South Morningside Primary School continue to suggest that, in the long term, while the roll at South Morningside Primary School is likely to increase, this growth can be accommodated within the school's existing accommodation, albeit with a continued reliance on the formation of larger team teaching classes at P1 and P2. However, as set out in the statutory consultation paper, within projections for South Morningside Primary School in particular the

margins for error are small due to restricted scope to undertake either expansion of the existing accommodation or catchment change with neighbouring schools.

- 3.26 The projections produced for James Gillespie's Primary School at the time the statutory consultation paper was written indicated that 19 classes would be sufficient to address demand for places at James Gillespie's Primary School beyond 2019. However, updated projections now suggest that the capacity available at James Gillespie's would be sufficient only until 2019 when there would be a requirement to divide the large, double classroom General Purpose space in the recently completed Rising Rolls building to create a 20th classroom. This would then provide sufficient capacity at the school until August 2023. The significant change in projections for James Gillespie's Primary School is as a result of an additional year of birth data negating the impact of the low James Gillespie's Primary School catchment birth figure for 2011 in the base figures for projections beyond 2019.
- 3.27 In addition, as of December 2015, the number of catchment P1 pupils registered for James Gillespie's Primary School in August 2016 suggests that the projected P1 intake for August 2016, which is low due to the birth rate in 2011, may also be understated. If this is the case, then this would bring forward the requirement to sub-divide the large General Purpose space in the Rising Rolls building to August 2018. Following sub-division of this space the school would continue to meet the Scottish Government's recommended level of General Purpose space for a school with a 20 class capacity. However, the school would be required to operate 21 classes from August 2019. Accordingly the school would be short of one classroom space.
- 3.28 No feasibility work has yet been undertaken to identify if the existing school buildings could be extended to accommodate the requirement for this additional classroom. As one of the objectives of the statutory consultation was to reduce the school to two streams it is likely that any further expansion of the school would not be well received within that school community.
- 3.29 Additionally, the future of the Astley Ainsley site which is currently in the James Gillespie's Primary School catchment area represents a significant unknown risk to projections in the south Edinburgh area. In the current circumstances the development of this site could not be accommodated by either James Gillespie's Primary School or the neighbouring South Morningside Primary School in their present form. Accordingly, while it is too early to assess the potential pupil generation which might arise from development on that site, it is considered highly likely that this would necessitate the delivery of further additional school accommodation in the south Edinburgh area.

Recommendation

- 3.30 The statutory consultation process demonstrated a high degree of support for a new school in the south Edinburgh area and Communities and Families also considers that the educational benefits of Option 1 outweigh those of either

Option 2 or Option 3. In addition there are clear suitability issues with the existing accommodation at James Gillespie's Primary School and South Morningside Primary School which are only fully addressed under Option 1(c).

- 3.31 The suitability issues are particularly prevalent at South Morningside Primary School regarding which, despite the significant improvements made in the quality of the accommodation, remains the only school in the estate which is required to operate with an annexe accommodating primary classes on a separate site and, with its nursery classes also based in an additional annexe building 2.4km from the main school site, it is the only primary school in the estate with two satellite sites. This suitability issue represents a logistical challenge for many parents and, most significantly, represents a management challenge for school staff.
- 3.32 The removal of annexe accommodation was the single most important factor in identifying those primary schools to be included in the Council's second schools PPP project and was a significant factor in the redevelopment of Towerbank Primary School completed in August 2014. The removal of annexe accommodation and temporary units such as those at James Gillespie's Primary School remains a significant objective for Communities and Families as set out in the [Children and Families Asset Management Plan 2014](#) which was approved by the Education, Children and Families Committee on 9 December 2014.
- 3.33 The management and suitability issues associated with the current nursery classes of South Morningside Primary School are compounded by the facilities being accommodated in a church hall which is shared with other users and requires to be packed away at the end of the day. The distance of the nursery classes from the main school site means that parents from the Morningside area are required to travel through Buckstone Primary School's catchment area and into the catchment of Pentland Primary School to reach the nursery classes.
- 3.34 Updated projections and early P1 registration data for August 2016 suggest that James Gillespie's Primary School will not have sufficient capacity to support demand for places by August 2019 thus strengthening the argument for the delivery of Option 1(c). Equally, the updated projections mean that Option 3 may not, on its own, provide sufficient capacity in the south Edinburgh area. This means that there is an inherent risk in recommending Option 3 which would also not provide the flexibility to respond to unexpected growth, understated roll projections or, more significantly, the development of large sites such as the Astley Ainslie site for housing.
- 3.35 Accordingly, taking into consideration the key factors of both sufficiency and suitability, it is recommended that Council approves Option 1(c) and that, based on updated projections, this be delivered for August 2019 which would require the project to be initiated immediately. The Council is therefore requested to give consideration to identifying the capital and revenue funding required to deliver the new school as part of the current budget process. The transfer of

ownership of the combined Deanbank and Oaklands site from Health and Social Care to Communities and Families would be completed as the funding for this is already available.

- 3.36 However it is recognised that there is a significant gap in both the capital and revenue funding which would be required to deliver the project and that, in light of the significant financial challenges currently facing the Council, it may not be possible to prioritise the necessary funding immediately.
- 3.37 Should funding not be identified during the current budget process to allow the project to be initiated immediately, the delivery date for the new school would be delayed beyond August 2019 which may require temporary mitigation measures to be put into place (most likely to be at James Gillespie's Primary School) pending the opening of the new school. The requirement to relocate the Oakland's Care Home service to allow construction of the new school also remains a risk to its deliver by August 2019. Accordingly, the position would be considered on an annual basis by the Education, Children and Families Committee as part of the overall Rising Rolls update process, allowing the latest data regarding future roll projections and housing development in the area to be taken into consideration to assess what temporary mitigation measures might be required pending the delivery of the new school.
- 3.38 In view of the potential for temporary mitigation measures to be put in place in the future, a feasibility study will be undertaken at James Gillespie's Primary School to identify means of temporarily extending the existing school to allow up to a full three stream intake of 21 classes should that ever be required.
- 3.39 As the delivery of the new school and provision of a new nursery are intrinsically linked, any delay in the delivery date of a new school would also result in a delay in the closure of South Morningside Primary School's nursery classes.

Site Size Regulations

- 3.40 The size of site for any new (or replacement) school is prescribed in the School Premises (General Requirements and Standards) (Scotland) Regulations 1967 and the 1973 and 1979 amendments to those regulations. For a new double stream primary school with capacity for a further 40 pupils in the nursery, the total site size should be 1.9 hectares comprising two elements for which the appropriate sizes are defined separately:
- A main school site on which the actual school buildings are located of not less than 1.3 hectares (of which 0.1 hectares relates to the nursery); and
 - An area for playing fields of not less than 0.6 hectares.
- 3.41 The size of the combined Deanbank and Oaklands site is 0.96 hectares which, although considered sufficient to provide an appropriate environment for a new primary school and nursery of the intended size, is less than the minimum specified requirement for a main new school site therefore the consent of the

Scottish Ministers would be required to progress with this site for a new primary school.

- 3.42 In certain circumstances a smaller site area for either element can be provided with the consent of the Scottish Government subject to it being agreed that it would be impractical or unreasonable to apply the standards within the legislation. In accordance with the intent indicated in the statutory consultation paper, the Council wrote to Scottish Ministers to seek this consent in order to allow Council to have a clear position in advance of its decision on this matter.
- 3.43 Scottish Ministers have now formally confirmed that it would be impractical to apply the standards of the School Premises Regulations should the Council decide to progress with the option to build a new primary school (and nursery) on the combined Deanbank and Oaklands site. Accordingly they have given their approval to the 0.96 hectare site which would apply under Option 1(c).

Next Steps

- 3.44 Should the Council approve the recommendation to approve Option 1(c), as this would (ultimately once implemented) result in the closure of the nursery classes at South Morningside Primary School the decision would require to be referred to Scottish Ministers within six working days who would then have eight weeks from the date of the Council decision to decide whether to call in the proposals for determination.
- 3.45 The Council must notify the Scottish Ministers of a closure decision within six working days (starting on and including the day on which the decision was made) and supply the Scottish Ministers with a copy of the proposal paper and of the consultation report.
- 3.46 Scottish Ministers have a power to call in a closure decision, but only where it appears to Ministers that the Council has failed in a significant regard to comply with the requirements of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, as amended or, in coming to its decision, has failed to take proper account of a material consideration relevant to the proposal. Ministers have up to eight weeks from the date of the Council's decision to decide whether or not to issue a call-in notice.
- 3.47 In considering whether or not to call in the proposal, Scottish Ministers are to take account of representations made to them within the first three weeks of that eight week period. Any person wishing to make a representation that the decision should, or should not, be called in will have three weeks from the date of the Authority's decision to convey their representation to the Scottish Ministers.
- 3.48 The Council cannot proceed further with implementing the closure decision wholly or partly before the eight week period has expired, unless Scottish Ministers have given notice before the end of the period that they will not call the decision in.

- 3.49 Should Scottish Ministers decide not to call in the proposal, then the Council could then enact the decision. Based on a Council decision being taken on 4 February 2016 the eight week consideration period is likely to conclude on 1 April 2016.
- 3.50 Should Scottish Ministers decide to call in the proposal it would be referred to the Convenor of the School Closure Review Panels who must, within a period of seven days beginning with the day on which the call-in notice is issued, constitute a School Closure Review Panel to review the proposal.
- 3.51 The School Closure Review Panel would then be required to consider whether, in relation to the closure proposal, the Council had failed in a significant regard to comply with the requirements of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, as amended, or in coming to its decision, had failed to take proper account of a material consideration relevant to the proposal. The School Closure Review Panel must notify the Council of its decision within a period of eight weeks beginning with the day on which it was constituted however there are circumstances when this period can be extended to 16 weeks.
- 3.52 Following a review of the closure proposal the School Closure Review Panel may (a) refuse to consent to the proposal, (b) refuse to consent to the proposal and remit it to the education authority for a fresh decision as to implementation or (c) grant consent to the proposal either subject to conditions, or unconditionally. The Panel must give reasons for its decision.
- 3.53 An appeal may be made to the sheriff against a decision of a School Closure Review Panel by the education authority or a relevant consultee in relation to the closure proposal. An appeal may be made only on a point of law, must be made by way of summary application and must be made within the period of 14 days beginning with the day on which the Panel publishes notice of the decision. In the appeal the sheriff can either (a) confirm the decision or (b) quash the decision and refer the matter back to the Panel. The sheriff's determination of the appeal is final.

4. Measures of success

- 4.1 The provision of sufficient classroom accommodation to meet current and future demand for places at Bruntsfield, James Gillespie's and South Morningside Primary Schools.

5. Financial impact

Capital Costs

- 5.1 The total capital cost to deliver Option 1(c), based on an assumed opening date of August 2019, is estimated as being £18.339m including £6.0m for the acquisition of the combined Deanbank and Oaklands site from Health and Social

Care. There is currently no funding in the Council Capital Investment Programme for this project.

- 5.2 On 13 May 2015 the Finance and Resources Committee agreed that any additional funding received from the sale of the Boroughmuir High School site (beyond the sum already allocated to the provision of the new school) should be prioritised toward the acquisition of this site. It is anticipated that this will cover either part, or all, of the £6.0m cost of purchasing the combined Deanbank and Oaklands site which will leave a balance of capital funding required of £12.339m.
- 5.3 As the new school is currently estimated to be required by August 2019 which would require the project to be initiated immediately to allow that delivery timescale to be met, Council is asked to give consideration to identifying the capital funding required as part of the current budget process.
- 5.4 It should be noted that any delay to the delivery of the full scheme beyond the assumed delivery date of August 2019 will mean that the capital costs are likely to be higher taking into consideration the impact of further future construction cost inflation. If Council does not identify the capital funding required to deliver the project during the current budget process the level of such funding required to be considered in future budget processes will require to be reconsidered at the appropriate time.
- 5.5 In accordance with the new Planning Guidance on Developers Contributions and Affordable Housing approved by the Planning Committee on 3 December 2015, the provision of the new school would lie within the South Central cumulative assessment area. A financial model is now being prepared to support each cumulative assessment area and these models will determine the levels of education infrastructure contribution which would require to be funded by any future development in the city.
- 5.6 In the South Central area, based on the methodology that has been established future developments which secure planning permission will therefore be expected to make an appropriate contribution towards education infrastructure in the area based on the number of pupils generated by the development. If approved for delivery, the new school would therefore be added as an education infrastructure action with the Action Programme which supports the Local Development Plan and the extent of the new infrastructure which is expected to be funded by developers contributions rather than by the Council will be determined to ensure the level of contribution requested from developers is proportionate and reasonable in relation to the scale of potential future development in the area.
- 5.7 Any section 75 funding secured as a result would reduce the level of capital funding which required to be borne directly by the Council however the extent of the funding which could legitimately be sought from developers towards the cost of a new school requires further assessment.

Revenue Costs

- 5.8 The delivery of Option 1(c) would result in estimated additional revenue costs of £0.392m per annum. This estimate is based on 2014/15 actual costs and the costs which would apply from when the new school was opened will be higher taking into consideration the impact of future cost inflation and salary uplifts.
- 5.9 The necessity for additional funding to be identified to meet these costs was incorporated in the review of anticipated demographic pressures in Communities and Families services undertaken earlier this year as [reported](#) to the Finance and Resources Committee on 24 September 2015. However no provision has, as yet, been made for this additional annually recurring cost in Communities and Families budgets. It will be necessary for Council to consider identifying this funding as part of either the current, or future, Council budget processes.

Loans Charges

- 5.10 The estimated total capital cost of delivering Option 1(c) is £18.339m including £6m for the acquisition of the combined Deanbank and Oaklands site from Health and Social Care, none of which forms part of the current approved Council Capital Investment Programme. If this expenditure net of the land transfer were to be funded fully by borrowing, the overall loan charges associated with this expenditure over a 20 year period would be a principal amount of £12.339m and interest of £7.861m, resulting in a total cost of £20.200m based on a loans fund interest rate of 5.0%. The annual loan charges would be £1.010m.
- 5.11 It should be noted that the Council's Capital Investment Programme is funded through a combination of General Capital Grant from the Scottish Government, developers and third party contributions, capital receipts and borrowing. The borrowing required is carried out in line with the Council's approved Treasury Management Strategy and is provided for on an overall programme basis rather than for individual capital projects. Following instruction from Members, notional loan charge estimates have been provided above, which it should be noted are based on the assumption of borrowing in full for this capital project.

6. Risk, policy, compliance and governance impact

- 6.1 The implementation of Option 1(c) will address the Council's policy of ensuring sufficient accommodation for catchment pupils to secure a place at their catchment school. Option 1(c) would also address the Council objective of ensuring the suitability of the school estate by the withdrawal from both annexe and temporary accommodation in the area.
- 6.2 Discussions with Health and Social Care regarding the acquisition of the Deanbank and the adjacent Oaklands site are progressing. However, until a business case and the appropriate funding has been identified and approved for the provision of a new care home to replace the existing facility on the Oaklands

site, the disposal may not take place and this remains a significant risk to the delivery of Option 1(c).

- 6.3 There is currently no provision in the Council Capital Investment Programme for 2019/20 for the £12.339m remaining capital funding required to allow the delivery of the infrastructure proposed under Option 1(c) and it will be necessary for Council, as part of the Council budget processes to identify and approve the sources of this additional capital funding. The delivery of Option 1(c) will be contingent on this capital funding, and also the necessary additional annual revenue funding, being secured.

7. Equalities impact

- 7.1 There are no negative equality or human rights impacts arising from this report.
- 7.2 By ensuring the sustainability of capacity at local schools the Council is responding to parental choice and endeavouring to offer all catchment pupils from all equalities groups the opportunity to attend their catchment school. The Council will continue to ensure that the needs of pupils who have a disability are met by the new accommodation made available under the option progressed. The provision of facilities offered to school users with learning and behavioural support needs will be unaffected.
- 7.3 Accordingly, these proposals have no significant impact on any equalities groups but address the sustainability of capacity in the south Edinburgh area and improve the learning and teaching environment for younger pupils at South Morningside Primary School.

8. Sustainability impact

- 8.1 By progressing Option 1(c) the Council would reduce the number of sites from which it provides services and reduce the requirement for parents and staff to travel between sites. It would also reduce the distances that pupils are required to travel to their catchment school promoting the use of sustainable methods of transport. Accordingly, it is anticipated that the implementation of the recommended option will result in reductions in carbon emissions.
- 8.2 Whilst the recommended option would see the creation of new buildings, the purpose is to create fit for purpose accommodation to meet demand. Any new buildings would be designed to minimise the impact on carbon emissions and energy consumption. The proposal would also result in energy saving improvements to an existing building.

9. Consultation and engagement

- 9.1 The statutory consultation to which this paper refers has been undertaken according to the requirements set out in the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 as amended by the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014.

Background reading/external references

A report to the Education, Children and Families Committee on [4 March 2014](#) detailed the capacity and accommodation issues facing the three schools in the area and identified a range of potential options to address these in both the short and long term.

On [9 December 2014](#) Committee noted the intention to seek approval for a statutory consultation process to be undertaken regarding options to address the long term accommodation issues in this area. On [19 May 2015](#) the Education, Children and Families Committee approved that a statutory consultation be undertaken setting out options to address Primary School Capacity Pressures in South Edinburgh.

Alistair Gaw

Acting Executive Director of Communities and Families

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Links

Coalition pledges	P4 - Draw up a long-term strategic plan to tackle both over-crowding and under use in schools
Council outcomes	CO1 - Our children have the best start in life, are able to make and sustain relationships and are ready to succeed. CO2 - Our children and young people are successful learners, confident individuals and responsible citizens making a positive contribution to their communities.
Single Outcome Agreement	SO3 - Edinburgh's children and young people enjoy their childhood and fulfil their potential
Appendices	1 – Summary of the Statutory Consultation Paper 2 – Records of the Statutory Consultation Public Meetings 3 – Summary of Consultation Responses Received 4 – Key Themes and Issues and Council Responses 5 – Pupil Consultation 6 – Education Scotland Report 7 – Roll Projections for the South Edinburgh Area 8 – Corrections to the Statutory Consultation Paper

Appendix 1 – Summary of the Statutory Consultation Paper

Consultation on Options to Address Primary School Capacity and Accommodation Pressures in South Edinburgh

Summary Paper

www.edinburgh.gov.uk/southedinburghschools

Why is the consultation required?

The combined rolls of Bruntsfield Primary School, James Gillespie's Primary School and South Morningside Primary Schools are the highest they have been in more than 30 years. A new school was proposed in 2002 to address rising rolls in the area but no land was available at that time to allow its delivery. Since then other measures such as temporary units and annexe accommodation have been used to accommodate demand at the three schools. Accommodation issues have been most acute at South Morningside Primary School with the school currently split across three different sites.

What options are being considered?

The combined Deanbank House and Oaklands Care Home site (adjacent to St Peter's RC Primary School) has now emerged as a suitable site to allow delivery of a solution to the primary school capacity issues in the area. Therefore, this statutory consultation considers options to address the capacity and accommodation pressures facing the three schools in the south Edinburgh area by using this site to deliver one of the following options:

Option 1 – Establish a new primary school.

Option 2 – Increase the capacity of South Morningside Primary School.

Option 3 – Maintain and improve existing accommodation arrangements.

Under Options 2 and 3 South Morningside Primary School's existing nursery classes would be relocated to new accommodation on the Deanbank House/Oaklands site. However, under Option 1 there are three sub-options relating to nursery provision. These are:

- a. retain South Morningside Primary School's existing nursery classes at Fairmilehead Church Hall but do not build new nursery classes as part of the new primary school building;

- b. retain South Morningside Primary School's existing nursery classes at Fairmilehead Church Hall and build new nursery classes as part of the new primary school building; and
- c. close South Morningside Primary School's existing nursery classes at Fairmilehead Church Hall but build new nursery classes as part of the new primary school building.

How will the changes affect local schools?

Options 1 and 2 require that the catchment areas of Bruntsfield, James Gillespie's and South Morningside Primary Schools be changed. These options also affect the catchment area of Tollcross Primary School. These changes would only affect new P1 pupils in the areas of catchment proposed for transfer and would be implemented when the new accommodation required under either option was completed. A minor catchment change would be required under Option 3 but it affects no residential addresses.

Plans of the areas and lists of addresses proposed for catchment change under each option are attached at the end of this summary document. *[Note: the plans included in this summary paper for options 1 and 2 are the revised plans which were updated and reissued following identification of correction 2, further details of which are provided in Appendix 8.]*

Under every option the suitability of the accommodation at South Morningside Primary School would be improved and the suitability of accommodation at James Gillespie's Primary School would also be improved in Options 1 and 2. Further detail of the implications on the schools is provided in the statutory consultation paper.

When would the changes come into effect?

It is estimated that the earliest date either Option 1 or 2 could be delivered is August 2019, while Option 3 could potentially be delivered by August 2018.

However, these dates are only indicative as once a final decision on the preferred option has been made the necessary funding would require to be approved and the combined Deanbank House/Oaklands Care Home site secured well in advance of the proposed construction start date.

The consultation process

All comments made during the statutory consultation period will be recorded and represented in a final "*Outcomes of the Consultation report*" that we expect to be considered by Council on 4 February 2016. The report will be published three weeks in advance of the Council meeting.

Why are we consulting?

Each option put forward would have different impacts on families. We want to hear the views of anyone affected by the proposals. There is also a legal obligation to

carry out a statutory consultation under the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 as amended by the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014.

How can I find out more about the proposals or make my views heard?

This paper outlines the different options. If you want more information you can find the full consultation paper, along with background reports, maps, address lists and other supporting information at www.edinburgh.gov.uk/southedinburghschools.

We have also organised four public meetings, as below.

Venue	Date	Time
South Morningside Primary School	Thursday, 3 September 2015	6:30pm – 8:30pm
James Gillespie's Primary School	Tuesday, 8 September 2015	6:30pm – 8:30pm
Bruntsfield Primary School	Tuesday, 22 September 2015	6:30pm – 8:30pm
St Peter's RC Primary School	Tuesday, 29 September 2015	6:30pm – 8:30pm

Each meeting will open with a short presentation about the consultation and the options being looked at, followed by a question and answer session. We will take a note of the meeting and all of the points made will be captured in the final Outcomes of the Consultation report. You can attend any meeting that suits you. Please telephone (0131) 469 3161 by Friday 28 August 2015 if you need translation services or childcare at a meeting.

Tell us your views: public consultation period closes 6 October 2015

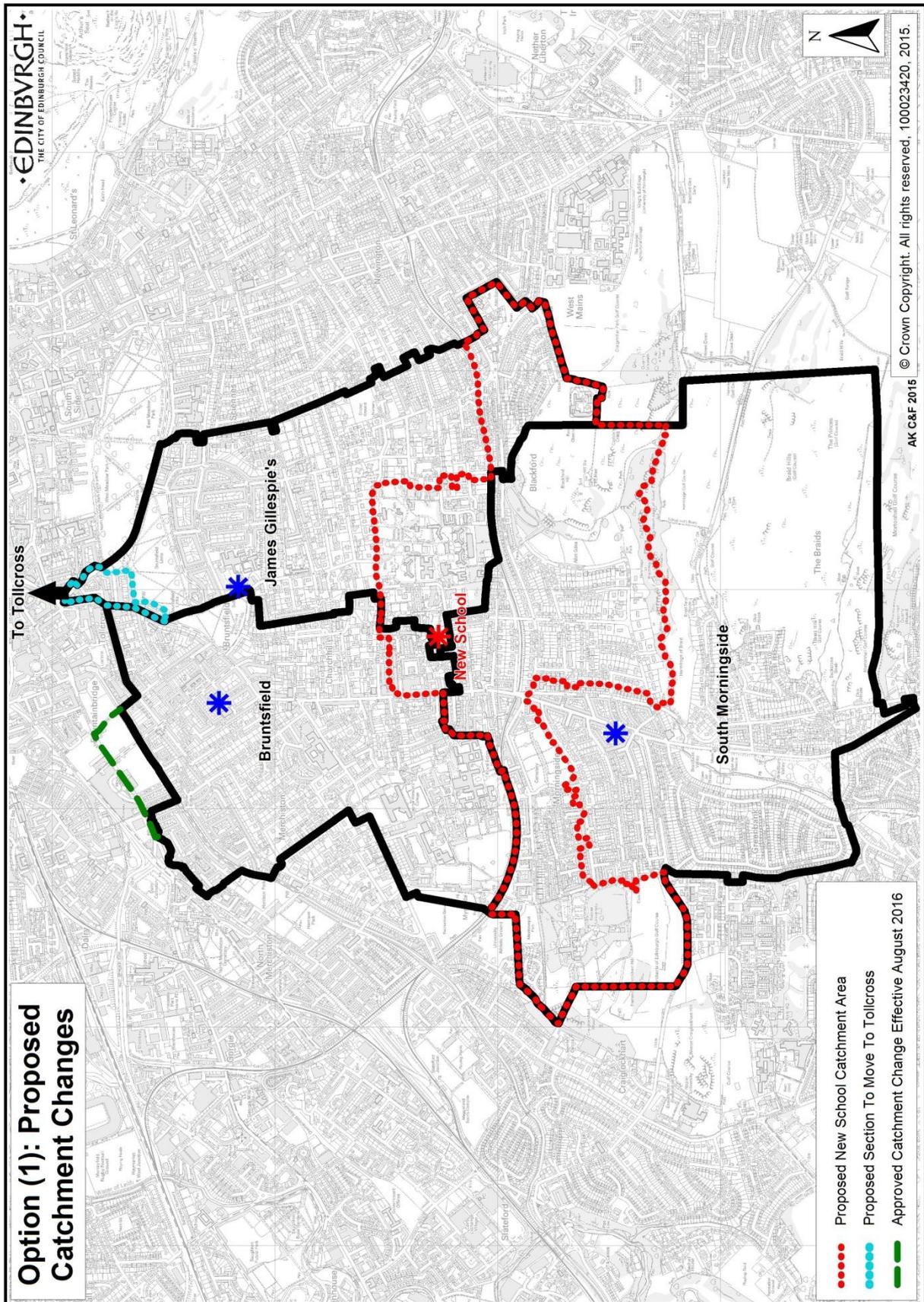
It would be helpful if you could take time to complete our short survey – you can find it easily online at www.edinburgh.gov.uk/southedinburghschools. If you don't have internet access then you can view the full consultation paper at one of the affected schools or at Morningside, Newington and Fountainbridge Libraries.

You can also email comments to us directly at cf.propertyreview@edinburgh.gov.uk or if you prefer they can be posted to:

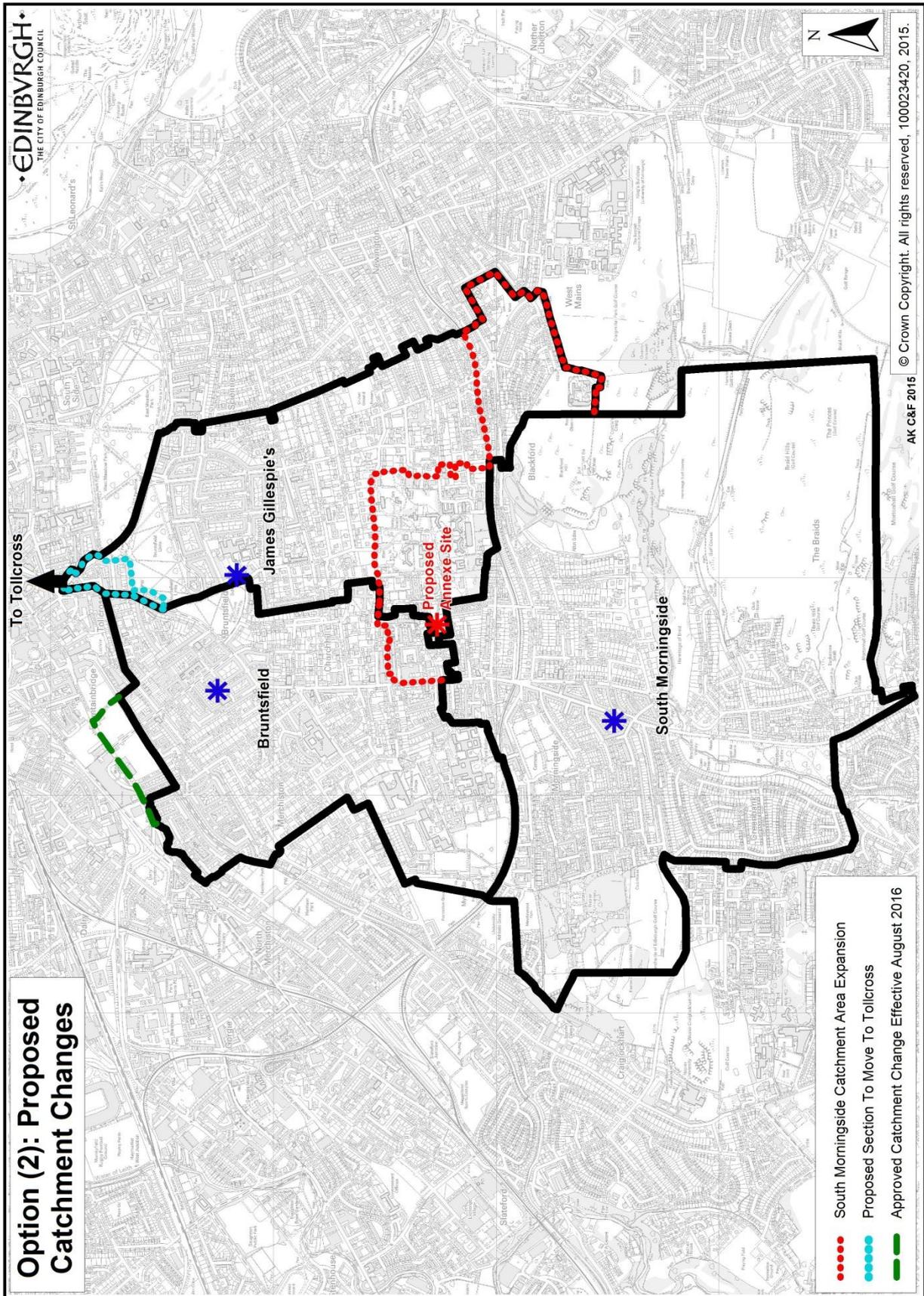
Gillian Tee
Executive Director of Communities and Families
The City of Edinburgh Council
Council Headquarters
Waverley Court (Level 1:2)
4 East Market Street
Edinburgh
EH8 8BG.

All comments should arrive by 6 October 2015.

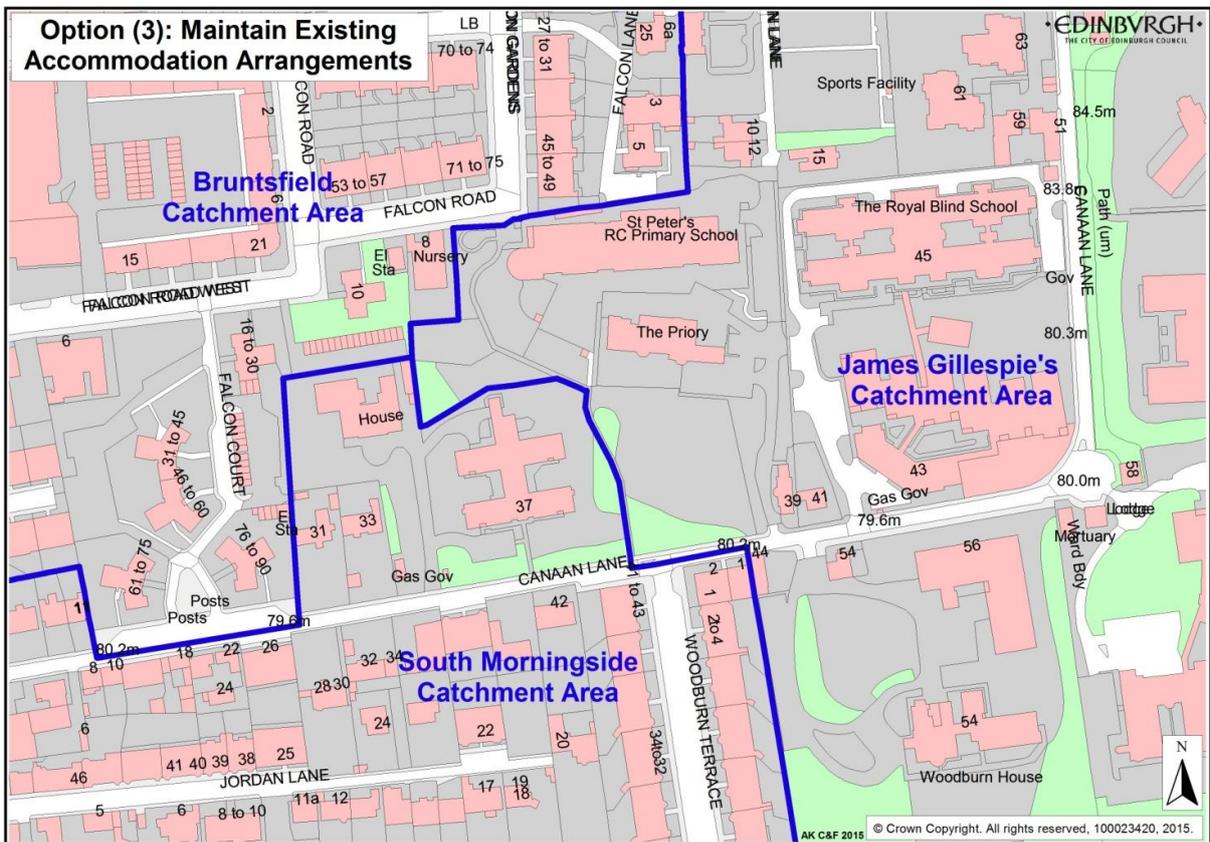
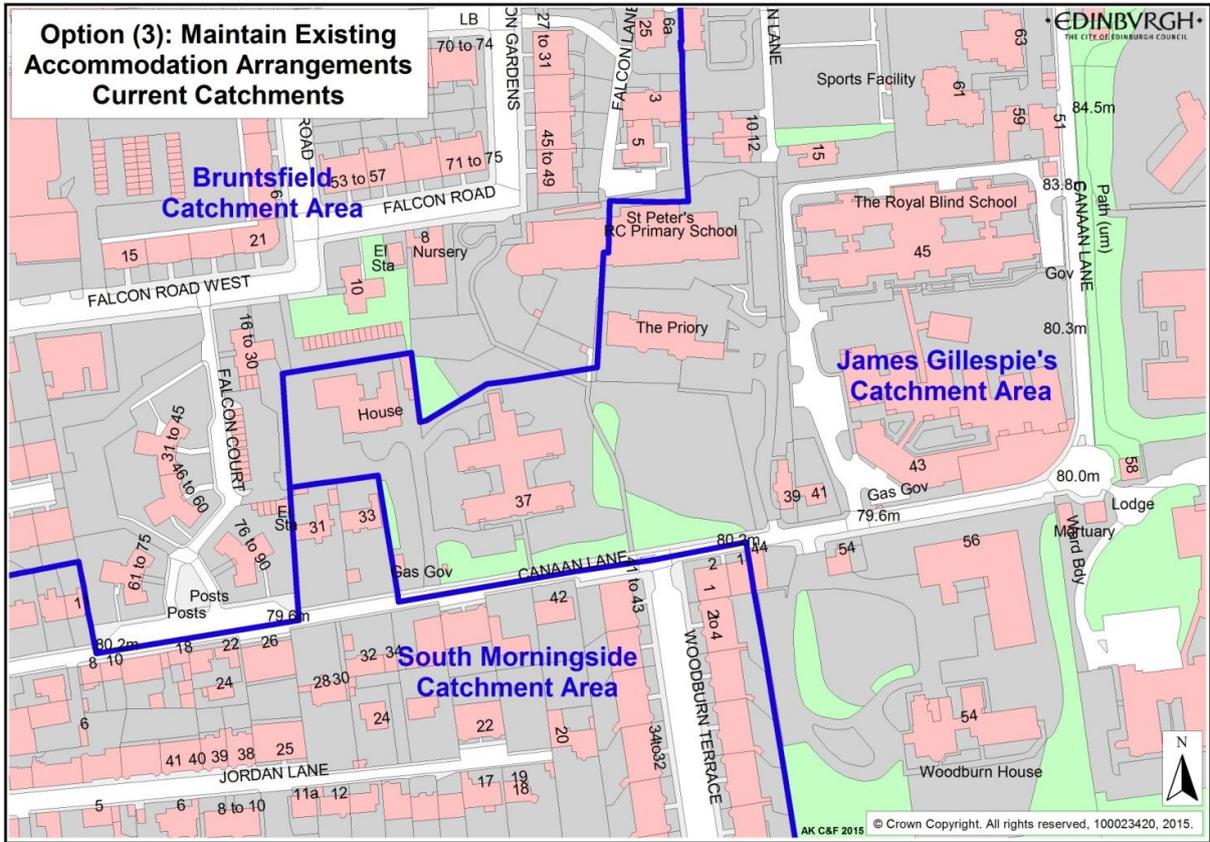
Option 1 – Proposed Catchment Changes



Option 2 – Proposed Catchment Changes



Option 3 – Proposed Catchment Changes



List of affected addresses

Option 1

James Gillespie's Primary School to Tollcross Primary School

Barclay Place	1 to 23	(odd)
Barclay Place	39 to 49	(odd)
Barclay Terrace	2 to 7	(odd / even)
Barclay Terrace	9 to 12	(odd / even)
Brougham Place	1 to 10	(odd / even)
Brougham Place	12 to 18	(odd / even)
Brougham Place	20 to 26	(odd / even)
Brougham Street	2 to 27	(odd / even)
Brougham Street	29 to 33	(odd)
Drumdryan Street	1 to 10	(odd / even)
Drumdryan Street	12 to 17	(odd / even)
Drumdryan Street	19 to 21	(odd)
Glen Street	28	
Glengyle Terrace	1 to 17	(odd / even)
Leven Street	2	
Leven Street	8 to 44	(even)
Leven Terrace	1 to 16	(odd / even)
Tarvit Street	1 to 13	(odd / even)
Tarvit Street	15	
Tarvit Street	21 to 25	(odd)
Tarvit Street	29 to 35	(odd)
Valleyfield Street	1 to 16	(odd / even)
Valleyfield Street	18 to 28	(even)
Wright's Houses	1, 28, 30, 31, 34	

James Gillespie's Primary School to New Primary School

Blackford Avenue	39	
Blackford Avenue	60 to 126	(even)
Blackford Avenue	127 to 137	(odd / even)

Blackford Avenue	144, 146	
Blackford Hill Grove	1 to 25	(odd / even)
Blackford Hill Grove	27, 29	
Blackford Hill Rise	1, 3, 5, 6	
Blackford Hill Rise	7 to 25	(odd)
Blackford Hill View	1 to 20	(odd / even)
Blackford Hill View	22	
Canaan Lane	35 to 51	(odd)
Canaan Lane	54, 56, 58, 60	
Canaan Lane	61, 63, 64, 70, 74	
Charterhall Grove	1 to 103	(odd)
Charterhall Grove	107	
Charterhall Road	2, 7, 9	
Charterhall Road	11 to 33	(odd / even)
Charterhall Road	35 to 43	(odd)
Charterhall Road	106 to 130	(even)
Cluny Place	2	
Eden Lane	2 to 12	(even)
Eden Lane	15	
Eden Terrace	1, 2, 3	
Eva Place	1 to 9	(odd)
Eva Place	10, 12, 14	
Grange Loan	137 to 157	(odd)
Ladysmith Road	1 to 21	(odd)
Ladysmith Road	22 to 53	(odd / even)
Ladysmith Road	55 to 69	(odd)
Maurice Place	2	
Maurice Place	1 to 13	(odd)
Mortonhall Road	22 to 28	(even)
Mortonhall Road	31, 33, 35	
Mortonhall Road	39 to 53	(odd)
Newbattle Terrace	76 to 84	(even)

Newbattle Terrace	92	
Observatory Green	1 to 4	(odd / even)
Observatory Road	1 to 22	(odd / even)
Oswald Road	37	
South Oswald Road	23 to 91	(odd)
South Oswald Road	42	
Watertoun Road	3 to 15	(odd / even)
Watertoun Road	17, 19	
Watertoun Road	23 to 31	(odd)
West Saville Terrace	93 to 119	(odd)
West Saville Terrace	158 to 188	(even)

Bruntsfield Primary School to New Primary School

Canaan Lane	1	
Falcon Avenue	5 to 13	(odd)
Falcon Avenue	14 to 21	(odd / even)
Falcon Avenue	23 to 51	(odd)
Falcon Avenue	52 to 75	(odd / even)
Falcon Avenue	77	
Falcon Court	16 to 90	(odd / even)
Falcon Gardens	1 to 49	(odd)
Falcon Lane	2 to 5	(odd / even)
Falcon Road	2 to 10	(even)
Falcon Road	53 to 75	(odd)
Falcon Road West	3, 4, 5, 7, 10	
Falcon Road West	15 to 21	(odd)
Morningside Road	145 to 235	(odd)
Steel's Place	1 to 10	(odd / even)
Steel's Place	12, 14, 16	

South Morningside Primary School to New Primary School

Balcarres Court	1 to 21	(odd / even)
Balcarres Street	1 to 8	(odd / even)
Balcarres Street	10	

Balcarres Street	15 to 19	(odd / even)
Balcarres Street	23 to 26	(odd / even)
Balcarres Street	28	
Balcarres Street	30 to 50	(odd / even)
Balcarres Street	52 to 58	(odd / even)
Balcarres Street	60 to 72	(even)
Balcarres Street	73 to 84	(odd / even)
Belhaven Place	1 to 4	(odd / even)
Belhaven Terrace	1 to 7	
Braid Avenue	2	
Braid Avenue	3 to 23	(odd / even)
Braid Avenue	25 to 35	(odd)
Braid Avenue	39 to 79	(odd)
Braid Road	69	
Bruce Street	1, 2, 3, 5	
Canaan Lane	4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14	
Canaan Lane	18 to 30	(even)
Canaan Lane	31 to 34	(odd / even)
Canaan Lane	36 to 42	(even)
Cluny Avenue	1 to 18	(odd / even)
Cluny Drive	2 to 11	(odd / even)
Cluny Drive	13, 15, 17	
Cluny Drive	18 to 45	(odd / even)
Cluny Drive	47, 49, 51	
Cluny Gardens	1	
Cluny Gardens	2 to 13	(odd / even)
Cluny Gardens	15, 17, 19	
Cluny Gardens	20 to 32	(odd / even)
Cluny Gardens	34 to 51	(odd / even)
Cluny Gardens	53, 55, 57	
Cluny Gardens	58 to 81	(odd / even)
Cluny Gardens	83 to 125	(odd)

Cluny Gardens	102, 104	
Cluny Gardens	129 to 149	(odd)
Cluny Place	1 to 18	(odd / even)
Cluny Terrace	1 to 19	(odd / even)
Cluny Terrace	21, 23	
Corrennie Drive	1 to 13	(odd / even)
Corrennie Drive	15 to 25	(odd)
Corrennie Gardens	1 to 18	(odd / even)
Corrennie Gardens	20, 22, 23, 24	
Craighouse Avenue	2 to 48	(even)
Craighouse Avenue	51	
Craighouse Avenue	54 to 64	(even)
Craighouse Gardens	1 to 9	(odd / even)
Craighouse Gardens	11, 13	
Craighouse Gardens	15 to 45	(odd / even)
Craighouse Gardens	47 to 55	(odd / even)
Craighouse Gardens	57 to 65	(odd)
Craighouse Gardens	66 to 73	(odd / even)
Craighouse Gardens	75 to 80	(odd / even)
Craighouse Gardens	82, 86, 88, 90, 92	
Craighouse Park	1 to 7	(odd / even)
Craighouse Park	9 to 27	(odd)
Craighouse Road	1 to 14	(odd / even)
Craighouse Terrace	1 to 25	(odd / even)
Craighouse Terrace	27 to 33	(odd)
Egypt Mews	1 to 12	(odd / even)
Egypt Mews	14, 15, 16	
Hermitage Drive	1 to 12	(odd / even)
Hermitage Drive	14 to 28	(even)
Hermitage Drive	15, 23, 31	
Hermitage Gardens	1 to 10	(odd / even)
Hermitage Gardens	12 to 26	(even)

Hermitage Gardens	27 to 37	(odd / even)
Hermitage Gardens	39, 41	
Hermitage Terrace	1 to 10	(odd / even)
Jordan Lane	1 to 6	(odd / even)
Jordan Lane	8 to 18	(odd / even)
Jordan Lane	20, 22, 23, 24, 25	
Jordan Lane	38 to 48	(odd / even)
Maxwell Street	1 to 15	(odd / even)
Maxwell Street	17, 19, 20, 21, 23	
Maxwell Street	26, 27, 29, 30, 34	
Meadowspot	2	
Meadowspot	101, 103	
Meadowspot	105 to 120	(odd / even)
Meadowspot	122	
Meadowspot	124 to 142	(odd / even)
Midmar Avenue	1 to 8	(odd / even)
Midmar Drive	4 to 34	(even)
Midmar Gardens	1 to 25	(odd / even)
Midmar Gardens	27	
Midmar Gardens	29 to 33	(odd / even)
Midmar Gardens	35	
Millar Crescent	1, 2, 3, 5, 7	
Millar Crescent	9 to 30	(odd / even)
Millar Crescent	32 to 48	(even)
Millar Crescent	33, 35	
Millar Place	1 to 7	(odd / even)
Millar Place Lane	1 to 6	(odd / even)
Morningside Gardens	1 to 12	(odd / even)
Morningside Gardens	15 to 23	(odd / even)
Morningside Park	3, 5	
Morningside Park	7 to 10	(odd / even)
Morningside Park	12 to 31	(odd / even)

Morningside Park	33, 35, 37	
Morningside Road	216	
Morningside Road	237 to 265	(odd)
Morningside Road	271	
Morningside Road	302 to 336	(even)
Morningside Road	340 to 358	(even)
Morningside Road	366 to 372	(even)
Morningside Road	376 to 426	(even)
Morningside Terrace	1 to 12	(odd / even)
Myreside Court	1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8	
Nile Grove	1 to 29	(odd / even)
Nile Grove	31	
Nile Grove	33 to 37	(odd / even)
Nile Grove	39 to 57	(odd)
Nile Grove	63 to 71	(odd)
Pewlands Avenue	1 to 21	(odd / even)
Pewlands Avenue	23 to 39	(odd)
Pewlands Garden	1 to 50	(odd / even)
Pewlands Garden	52 to 78	(even)
Pewlands Terrace	4 to 23	(odd / even)
Woodburn Place	1, 2	
Woodburn Terrace	1 to 43	(odd / even)

Option 2

James Gillespie's Primary School to Tollcross Primary School

Barclay Place	1 to 23	(odd)
Barclay Place	39 to 49	(odd)
Barclay Terrace	2 to 7	(odd / even)
Barclay Terrace	9 to 12	(odd / even)
Brougham Place	1 to 10	(odd / even)
Brougham Place	12 to 18	(odd / even)
Brougham Place	20 to 26	(odd / even)

Brougham Street	2 to 27	(odd / even)
Brougham Street	29 to 33	(odd)
Drumdryan Street	1 to 10	(odd / even)
Drumdryan Street	12 to 17	(odd / even)
Drumdryan Street	19 to 21	(odd)
Glen Street	28	
Glengyle Terrace	1 to 17	(odd / even)
Leven Street	2	
Leven Street	8 to 44	(even)
Leven Terrace	1 to 16	(odd / even)
Tarvit Street	1 to 13	(odd / even)
Tarvit Street	15	
Tarvit Street	21 to 25	(odd)
Tarvit Street	29 to 35	(odd)
Valleyfield Street	1 to 16	(odd / even)
Valleyfield Street	18 to 28	(even)
Wright's Houses	1, 28, 30, 31, 34	

James Gillespie's Primary School to South Morningside Primary School

Blackford Avenue	39	
Blackford Avenue	60 to 126	(even)
Blackford Avenue	127 to 137	(odd / even)
Blackford Avenue	144, 146	
Blackford Hill Grove	1 to 25	(odd / even)
Blackford Hill Grove	27, 29	
Blackford Hill Rise	1, 3, 5, 6	
Blackford Hill Rise	7 to 25	(odd)
Blackford Hill View	1 to 20	(odd / even)
Blackford Hill View	22	
Canaan Lane	35 to 51	(odd)
Canaan Lane	54, 56, 58, 60	
Canaan Lane	61, 63, 64, 70, 74	
Charterhall Grove	1 to 103	(odd)

Charterhall Grove	107	
Charterhall Road	2, 7, 9	
Charterhall Road	11 to 33	(odd / even)
Charterhall Road	35 to 43	(odd)
Charterhall Road	106 to 130	(even)
Cluny Place	2	
Eden Lane	2 to 12	(even)
Eden Lane	15	
Eden Terrace	1, 2, 3	
Eva Place	1 to 9	(odd)
Eva Place	10, 12, 14	
Grange Loan	137 to 157	(odd)
Ladysmith Road	1 to 21	(odd)
Ladysmith Road	22 to 53	(odd / even)
Ladysmith Road	55 to 69	(odd)
Maurice Place	2	
Maurice Place	1 to 13	(odd)
Mortonhall Road	22 to 28	(even)
Mortonhall Road	31, 33, 35	
Mortonhall Road	39 to 53	(odd)
Newbattle Terrace	76 to 84	(even)
Newbattle Terrace	92	
Observatory Green	1 to 4	(odd / even)
Observatory Road	1 to 22	(odd / even)
Oswald Road	37	
South Oswald Road	23 to 91	(odd)
South Oswald Road	42	
Watertoun Road	3 to 15	(odd / even)
Watertoun Road	17, 19	
Watertoun Road	23 to 31	(odd)
West Saville Terrace	93 to 119	(odd)
West Saville Terrace	158 to 188	(even)

Bruntsfield Primary School to South Morningside Primary School

Canaan Lane	1	
Falcon Avenue	5 to 13	(odd)
Falcon Avenue	14 to 21	(odd / even)
Falcon Avenue	23 to 51	(odd)
Falcon Avenue	52 to 75	(odd / even)
Falcon Avenue	77	
Falcon Court	16 to 90	(odd / even)
Falcon Gardens	1 to 49	(odd)
Falcon Lane	2 to 5	(odd / even)
Falcon Road	2 to 10	(even)
Falcon Road	53 to 75	(odd)
Falcon Road West	3, 4, 5, 7, 10	
Falcon Road West	15 to 21	(odd)
Morningside Road	145 to 235	(odd)
Steel's Place	1 to 10	(odd / even)
Steel's Place	12, 14, 16	

Appendix 2 – Records of the Statutory Consultation Public Meetings

Options to Address Primary School Capacity and Accommodation Pressures in South Edinburgh

Public Consultation Meeting held at 6.30 pm, Thursday, 3 September 2015, South Morningside Primary School, Edinburgh

Present: *Approximately 70 members of the public*

In Attendance: Tom Wood (Independent Chair), Councillor Paul Godzik (Convener of the Education, Children and Families Committee), Billy MacIntyre (Head of Resources, Children and Families), Crawford McGhie (Asset Planning Manager, Children and Families), Janice MacInnes (Quality Improvement Officer, Children and Families) Aileen McLean (Senior Education Manager (Early Stages, Children and Families) and Robbie Crockatt (Estate Development Officer, Children and Families) and Stuart McLean (Committee Services).

1. Introduction

Councillor Paul Godzik, Convenor of Education, Children and Families welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending. He acknowledged the long standing issues of accommodation pressures at the local primary schools and encouraged everyone to get involved in consultation process so that the views of all stakeholders could be given due consideration when it came to making a decision on which option should be progressed.

Tom Wood introduced himself and advised that he had been invited by the City of Edinburgh Council as an independent person to chair the public consultation meeting. The consultation was based on options to address primary school capacity and accommodation pressures in south Edinburgh.

The Schools (Consultation Scotland) Act 2010 requires the Council to conduct a full public consultation as part of the statutory consultation process. The public consultation would provide people with the opportunity to express their views in terms of which option they believe should be adopted to address the primary school capacity and accommodation pressures in south Edinburgh and feed directly into the consultation process. This ensures issues raised by stakeholders are fully addressed in the Outcome of the Consultation report which will be submitted to the City of Edinburgh Council for consideration in February 2016.

Tom Wood welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted that this was the first of four public meetings. Reassurance was given that no decision had been made in terms of proposed changes, and the consultation process would encompass the views of parents and the public to ensure that the final decision making process

would include consideration of these views. A decision would be taken by elected members at the meeting of the Full Council on 4 February 2016. Billy MacIntyre (Head of Resources) also provided reassurance that no decision had been made and, although officers were presenting various options, all views and suggestions were welcomed. All questions and statements would be listened to and included in the report to be considered by elected members when making the final decision about the proposed changes.

2. Presentation

Crawford McGhie (Asset Planning Manager) delivered a presentation that provided some background information on the reasons behind the requirement to address the accommodation pressures in south Edinburgh.

Requirement for Change

The combined rolls of Bruntsfield Primary School, James Gillespie's Primary School and South Morningside Primary Schools are the highest they have been in more than 30 years. A new school was proposed in 1998 to address rising rolls in the area but no land was available at that time to allow its delivery. Since then other measures such as temporary units and annexe accommodation have been used to accommodate demand at the three schools. Accommodation issues have been most acute at South Morningside Primary School with the school currently split across three different sites.

Consultation Process

Four public meetings would be held in response of the proposals at various venues. Respondents were also encouraged to use the questionnaire which can be accessed online.

Once the public consultation phase finishes, details of the representations received will be forwarded to Education Scotland for their consideration. Education Scotland will issue a report on their findings which will be included in the final report to Council on the outcome of the consultation.

All comments made during the statutory consultation period would be recorded and, where appropriate, responded to in a final report anticipated to be considered by Council on Thursday, 4 February 2016.

3. The Proposal

Crawford McGhie explained the three options identified by the Children and Families Department.

Option 1 – Establish a new primary school.

Option 2 – Increase the capacity at South Morningside Primary School

Option 3 – Maintain and improve existing accommodation arrangements.

Under Options 2 and 3 South Morningside Primary School's existing nursery classes would be relocated to new accommodation on the Deanbank House/Oaklands site. However, under Option 1 there were three sub-options relating to nursery provision.

These were:

- a. retain South Morningside Primary School's existing nursery classes at Fairmilehead Church Hall but do not build new nursery classes as part of the new primary school building;
- b. retain South Morningside Primary School's existing nursery classes at Fairmilehead Church Hall and build new nursery classes as part of the new primary school building; and
- c. close South Morningside Primary School's existing nursery classes at Fairmilehead Church Hall but build new nursery classes as part of the new primary school building.

Crawford McGhie explained that each of the options would require varying degrees of catchment change.

The audience was informed that the following correction to the statutory consultation paper had been circulated to all statutory consultees. In paragraph 1.5 it is stated that "Secondary school catchment areas will be unaffected by any of the options considered in this paper". In fact, in option 3 the minor changes which would be made to the catchment boundary between South Morningside Primary School and James Gillespie's Primary School as illustrated in appendix 13 of the statutory consultation paper would also be made between Boroughmuir High School (the allocated secondary for South Morningside Primary School) and James Gillespie's High School (the allocated secondary for James Gillespie's Primary School). The same inaccuracy is repeated in paragraph 6.1 (final bullet point) of the report.

4. Questions and Comments

Secondary School Catchment area

Question 1 - Should option 1 be progressed, has there been a decision which secondary school would be impacted upon by the resulting changes?

Answer 1 – (Billy MacIntyre) -The secondary school boundaries would remain exactly the same.

Question 2 – Can you please confirm that regardless of which option(s) is chosen that all children at South Morningside Primary School will remain within the catchment for Boroughmuir High School?

Answer 2 – (Billy MacIntyre) Yes.

Question 3 – I think the recent developments are positive news, but I am concerned that the Boroughmuir catchment is not having to change. I have concerns regarding option 1 as Boroughmuir is going to be swamped and something will have to give regarding the numbers. I also have concerns that South Morningside Primary School could be taken out of the Boroughmuir catchment area. I don't think you can consider the options without considering Boroughmuir High School.

Answer 3- (Councillor Paul Godzik) Boroughmuir is not part of this consultation and will play no part in it.

(Crawford McGhie) As part of this consultation we are not considering changing the Boroughmuir High School catchment area.

Question 4 – Can you confirm within option 2 that the secondary catchments do not change?

Answer 4 – (Crawford McGhie) Yes.

Catchment – General

Question 1 - Will those children living in the new Craighouse development be within the catchment for the proposed new school in option 1?

Answer 1 – (Crawford McGhie) – Yes.

Question 2 – I would like more details of placements and how these may change by August 2019. Where will my kids go?

Answer 2 – (Crawford McGhie) Under option 1 for any children above P1, the option would be with parents whether to move them to the new school or keep them at the South Morningside Primary school.

Question 3 – What about the intake at the new school and the cross over? If a lot of parents at South Morningside Primary were hesitant to switch, a situation may arise where there are a lot of spare spaces at the new school.

Answer 3 – (Crawford McGhie) – The transition proposals are outlined in detail in the statutory consultation paper. Following priority for transfer being offered to catchment children and those in the affected schools remaining spaces would be offered to children across the city.

Question 4 – What if those that have been held back then want to transfer and there is no space remaining?

Answer 4 – (Crawford McGhie) - They would go on the waiting list.

(Councillor Paul Godzik) I would encourage all parents to support the principle of a new school.

School capacity

Question 1 – I am not sure where the extra capacity from option 3 will come from; can you please expand upon this?

Answer 1 – (Billy MacIntyre) There wouldn't be a need to expand the capacity.

Question 2 - With extra catchment couldn't you extend accommodation at various sites? With the increase in projected rolls I don't believe you are providing extra space, you are only providing better facilities.

Answer 2 – (Robbie Crockatt) Projections in the area indicate that all schools have experienced an increase in rolls, but going forward there won't be any further significant rises in school rolls. The various options don't only look at rolls but also look to spread classes across the sites thereby increasing the flexibility of the school estate. Projecting future numbers can be difficult and they will never be 100 percent correct. Option 3 maintains existing capacity but it doesn't provide the same level of flexibility that the other options do.

Impact on teaching

Question 1 – Will there be a reduction in teaching staff?

Answer 1 – (Billy MacIntyre) All 3 schools will have the number of teachers they require. It is incumbent upon us as officers to identify all options that will help us address the challenges that we face. Options 1 and 2 would provide more flexibility than option 3. But option 3 is around £10 million cheaper. It is clear that there are pros and cons with each option.

Alternative sites

Question 1 – It is great that a site has been identified; can I ask why the plot of land beside Oakland was not considered as a potential site?

Answer 1 – (Crawford McGhie) This is designated open space, and is used by St Peter's Primary.

Question 2 – Would it not be cheaper to build here?

Answer 2 – (Billy MacIntyre) - No, we have spent significant sums of money on nearby facilities at Deanbank and that would be wasted should we develop at Oakland. We think it is right to maintain Deanbank.

Question 3 – What is the City of Edinburgh Council’s view regarding split sites? This is not seen elsewhere, what are the pros and cons?

Answer 3 – (Billy MacIntyre) - A split site is not ideal, but it is included in 3 of the 5 options. All options are considered viable and we will assess feedback on all options before making a recommendation.

(Janice MacInnes) Ideally from an educationalist’s point of view we would prefer all schools to be on one site. However it is appreciated this is not possible in all circumstances and where split sites are required support is provided to the school management team to ensure there is no impact on the quality of education provided to children.

Question 4 – I believe that Astley Ainslie is moving to the Royal Edinburgh, if school rolls are not projected to rise until this move would it not be worthwhile to wait until the Astley Ainslie facility is vacated and build there?

Answer 4 – (Councillor Paul Godzik) Back in 1998 we did talk about this with NHS Lothian, however we don’t own the Astley Ainslie site, and if we wait until such time that NHS Lothian make it available for us to buy it may be too late.

(Billy McIntyre) I joined the Council in 2008 and it was rumoured then that NHS Lothian were moving from the Astley Ainslie site. To give certainty to the community the only options are those that have been identified. Development could begin shortly but would not be delivered until 2019. To wait for the Astley Ainslie site to become available would be a major risk.

Question 5 – A previous council report suggested all pupils from the new school would attend Boroughmuir High School. Within the map for option 1, the catchment changes that will take effect, are you saying that primary school children will all go to Boroughmuir High School or will they be split up?

Answer 5 – (Billy MacIntyre) - Those at the new primary school would be split up. Those currently within catchment for Boroughmuir High School will go there and those currently in the catchment for James Gillespie’s High School will go to that school.

(Crawford McGhie) I am not sure what documents you are referring to but we will check back on previous reports.

(Councillor Paul Godzik) That could have been voiced during the informal consultation.

Question 6 – Is it impossible to have an entirely new school constructed on the proposed site?

Answer 6 – (Billy MacIntyre) - We have discounted that option. Planning perspective highlights a significant risk in securing the demolition of Deanbank House. Even if we were to consider demolition, where would we locate the children? It would take around 15 months to build a new school, we have experience of decants but it is very expensive and disruptive which is why we haven't included this option.

Comment – Currently at Deanbank I feel there is an accident is waiting to happen. A bus from South Morningside Primary School to Deanbank could help, but it really is dangerous at drop off and pick up time.

Question 7 –When will the Oaklands Care Home site be vacated?

Answer 7 – (Billy MacIntyre) - We are working with colleagues in Health and Social Care to ensure greater clarity on when a decision will be made. I would point out that all 5 options involve working collaboratively, and a big part of that will be securing funding for the new care home.

Question 8 – I would like to revisit demolishing Deanbank, did you consider the educational benefits or was it just a planning consideration?

Answer 8 – (Billy MacIntyre) – The discussions held were purely on planning grounds. The planning process sits separately; we believe there would be a significant risk in pursuing a new build option and where would the children go during the development phase? The recent investment in Deanbank would be lost, and significant additional construction demolition costs would be incurred.

Question 9 – If we compare Option 1 with Option 2 it is an identical area. What are the educational benefits of having 2 separate schools?

Answer 9 – (Councillor Paul Godzik) -That is a good point. If you look at the detailed consultation document you will see that the benefits of each option are set out.

(Crawford McGhie) The curriculum and learning is easier to integrate within a school located on a single site.

(Head Teacher, South Morningside Primary School) – One benefit for children will be vertical learning opportunities across all ages and the positive impact of pupil collaboration (e.g. buddy systems). Being able to deliver the Curriculum across a full school cohort should always be encouraged.

(Billy MacIntyre) Pages 30-47 of the consultation document outline the educational benefits of each option.

Play areas

Question 1 – Congestion around this area, around 200 kids, needs to be resolved. If a new school was developed would children not be injured due to construction work? Would the playground area be sufficient?

Answer 1 – (Billy MacIntyre) - We would have a contractor onsite at all times during the construction and would continually monitor deliveries, but these would be limited to specific quieter times of the day due to road layout in that area. The combined playground areas, at all schools, will increase significantly with all options.

(Councillor Paul Godzik) - If we had a huge amount of land playground size wouldn't be a concern, but we only have a limited amount of space available. It has taken over a decade to find a suitable site. If you compare it with others schools, the area being made available for outdoor play and the site in general is good.

(Billy MacIntyre) In terms of playground space, it is very generous relative to many other schools in the city.

Question 2 - There is a piece of green space owned by the City of Edinburgh Council but it is used by St Peter's, how do we ensure greater access to this area?

Answer 2 – (Crawford McGhie) - The head teachers would work together to ensure equitable access to this area.

(Councillor Paul Godzik) - I have spoken to the head teachers highlighting this very issue. I have asked that they speak to each other as it makes sense to have dual access to the facility.

Question 3 – The area of land used by St Peter's is not owned by them, should the Council not decide what it should be used for? Our head teacher should not have to negotiate access.

Answer 3 – (Councillor Paul Godzik) - I think that the conversation between head teachers still has to happen. St Peter's have used that piece of land for decades and have a sense of attachment to it.

Question 4 – Are there any proposals to develop the outside space once the huts are removed, similar to what is happening at Sciennes?

Answer 4 – (Billy MacIntyre) - There is nothing included within the proposal for development of this area.

(Liz Grierson, Head Teacher South Morningside) We have had our hands tied due to work, but losing the temporary huts will improve the outside space. We have an agreement with the various play groups to create space for cooperative play. Staff development regarding cooperative play will begin soon.

Question 5 – What are the proposals for access to the new school?

Answer 5 – (Crawford McGhie) There are currently 2 points of access to Deanbank House but as the wider site is developed other points could be opened up.

Question 6 – I have concerns regarding the access to green-space at the new school as this is in short supply in the area. Would you consider installing better drainage to encourage more sports or improve access?

Answer 6 – (Billy McIntyre) There is nothing in the proposals in terms of upgrading the green space adjacent to the site for any of the options.

Transition

Question 1 – What will the process of transition be for the new school as South Morningside Primary School will no longer be a three stream school?

Answer 1 – (Crawford McGhie) Once the new development is built, some of the infrastructure would have to be used during the transfer period. During this time 2 schools would need to operate out of the same site.

(Councillor Paul Godzik) We appreciate that this is not an easy process for staff or parents.

Impact on Education

Question 1 – An Education Scotland report is due in November, what will that report look like and what bearing does this have on decisions?

Answer 1 – (Billy MacIntyre) - At the end of the public consultation period we send all meeting minutes, letters and analysis and any other information that is relevant to Education Scotland. They visit all schools and ask questions as they see appropriate. They then provide a report that looks at the educational impact of the proposed changes. This is then passed to Council officers who will draft a response based on what Education Scotland has said within that report. The Council will take all this into consideration before they make a final decision.

Question 2 – The reason I am asking is that this decision will impact on children and families for the next 50 years; the key element for me is attainment levels over the next 50 years. How the changes effect education is a key factor for me.

Answer 2 – (Billy MacIntyre) - Yes, but a balance must be struck in terms of educational attainment and cost.

The detail in the consultation paper regarding educational impact is not too long and I would encourage everyone to read it.

Question 3 – Option 1 seems to be strongest option within the consultation document. I am interested to know when Option 1 would start, and with what cohort of children?

Answer 3 – (Crawford McGhie) - The process outlined highlights that those in higher years would not be forced to change schools but would be offered a place nonetheless. Those in the catchment would also be offered a place; should there be further availability we could consider opening it up city wide on a priority basis.

If the development is completed by August 2019, those entering school (primary 1) would go straight into the new school. Catchment P2-P7 children would also be offered a place but they would have to volunteer to go to the new school and would not be forced.

(Councillor Paul Godzik) - I don't anticipate that every parent will choose the new school, there will be a level of transfer but this will not be mandatory.

Nursery Provision

Question 1 – Please explain the current pressures. I don't know what the issues are? I never knew South Morningside was operating over 3 sites.

Answer 1 – (Liz Grierson) - The school roll has been continuing to rise over the last few years. The pressures are enormous and it's been a challenge to create a positive and inclusive ethos, coupled with ensuring access to general purpose areas and giving 2 hours of PE. We have a nursery at Fairmilehead several miles away, keeping them abreast of development has been an onerous daily challenge. I passionately feel that staff, children and their families have put up with a lot of frustration. We would like a new purpose built school for the 21st century. I personally would not retain Deanbank house. I see many draw backs with this option but we should aim for the highest standards for our children. I would like a nursery which fits with the ethos of 3-18 and integrated in the school.

(Councillor Paul Godzik) - We appreciate the pressure that the head teachers and children are under, but we have some workable options to resolve that.

(Billy MacIntyre) – The reason why none of the options include a nursery on the main South Morningside Primary School site is due to the pressure on playground space. The removal of the existing temporary units will create much needed additional

playground space and an even larger area which would then be used and lost if a new nursery was constructed.

Question 2 – In Option 1c would the new school and existing schools share a nursery?

Answer 2 – (Crawford McGhie) The nursery will be part of the new school, but nurseries don't have catchment areas so any family will be able to apply for a place.

Question 3 – Option 1 if adopted contains 3 sub options, do we have to make a decision on which sub option just now or will there be another process. Personally, I have concerns with each option; first if a nursery is included it will be even further away. Second if we retain both and build new then parents will have to choose, most will send to Deanbank as it is closer. Fairmilehead would then fade away.

Answer 3 – (Billy MacIntyre) - The decision on nursery provisions is intrinsic to this process and won't be separated.

(Aileen McLean) It is clear that people don't consider the current arrangements to be good. The options are here to be discussed. Ideally it would be better to have a nursery closer with more capacity than the existing one. The Scottish Government has expressed a desire for increased nursery hours by 2020 and we are looking at the implications of that possibility.

(Billy MacIntyre) I would encourage everyone to use any of the various feedback facilities to make a direct representation on this issue.

Funding

Question 1 – Has money been ring fenced for any of these proposals?

Answer 1 – (Councillor Paul Godzik) - Events such as this are part of the process of securing funding by showing the Council that demand exists.

Access

Question 1 - I have a question regarding split sites. My son recently started at Deanbank and I am happy with it, however the current set up involves travel to and from the main building. Once you drop off one child there is a cluster of parents and children going down narrow streets, it won't be long before somebody is hurt because it is overcrowded. Is there a date for the removal of the temporary huts?

Answer 1 – (Crawford McGhie) – We don't have a definite date as yet, but we will liaise with the school. Regarding travel to the annexe, when we proposed Deanbank as an option we highlighted this was a drawback, however the routes between the sites are considered safe.

Emotional well being

Question 1 – My son is at Deanbank, I feel that the bigger the primary school the more overwhelming it is for kids. I feel it is vital that schools are made smaller and that two P1 classes of 40 and one of 25 is too big, it must be difficult to teach. I have some experience of kids attending the school despite their being out of catchment and I want an assurance this won't happen.

Answer 1 – (Councillor Paul Godzik) -The Council has been very clear that all parents should choose their catchment school as this benefits the wider community. However, the education act allows parents to choose which school to send their child to and if there is a space available and no additional staffing requirements the Council cannot refuse that place. I am always of the opinion you should choose your local school.

Question 2 – We are new to the catchment area and are keen they move to a new school. The transition process and managing children's emotional health is critical. One of the things that can help is improved outdoor space. The size of the area is not great but being clever with the space would help. I also have some questions around staffing, how will the new school be staffed? Will some of South Morningside Primary School move to the new school, I would hate my child to be moved to a new school without some teacher he had known?

Answer 2 – (Billy McIntyre) – Regarding playgrounds, we employ specialist landscape designers to deliver them. When Boroughmuir High School is finished it will be a great example of what can be delivered by landscape designers. Many other Primary Schools have benefited from the use of landscape designers. We appreciate that the external environment is just as important as the internal.

(Aileen McLean) The staffing complement is worked out for each school, which includes teachers, the management team and assistants, etc. This would be developed 6 months before the school would open. Existing staff would work alongside new staff and the Head Teacher to support the transition. If South Morningside Primary School rolls fall then the numbers of staff would also fall, they could then be moved to the new school. I would expect some teachers would want to go to the new school, this would be managed very sensitively to ensure a smooth transition. It would hopefully be voluntary but as a last resort teachers could be required to move.

Future Housing Developments

Question 1 - Are changes in dwellings taken into consideration?

Answer 1 – (Crawford McGhie) - Any approved residential developments are taken into account in the projections.

Transportation

Question 1 – I am affected as my kids are at all three sites. Transportation of my children to and from school is difficult despite the school working with us to help. The area is very congested; I dread to think about the winter months. What are you going to do to help improve transportation? I am in favour of option 1, but why does it take 4 years to develop a new school, can it not be done quicker?

Answer 1 – (Billy MacIntyre) - Transportation logistics and transport are a drawback to some of the options. That is why we are committed to look at long term solutions within all options to help improve the situation. There are no plans to offer transport between the sites.

(Councillor Paul Godzik) - We are trying to manage it and have tried to look at start times and a breakfast club to make it as easy as possible but we recognise that there are challenges

(Billy MacIntyre) - It doesn't take 4 years but 3 and half to complete the build, page 53 of the consultation document sets out the timescales of a new build which are indicative. The Planning process, design, and procurement all takes time. Once the funding is available the Council will deliver the final option as soon as it can; it's in nobody's interest to delay the project.

Future of South Morningside Primary School

Question 1 – What worries me are that those left in South Morningside Primary School are going to be left with an old tatty building, has this been taken into consideration?

Answer 1 – (Councillor Paul Godzik) - The teachers and staff at South Morningside Primary School are fantastic, you will have a great standard of education in this school. I have no fear that the education received at this school will still be superb.

(Crawford McGhie) There will be extra space created at this school due to some children moving on, the facilities will be better for those who continue to attend.

Question 2 – I will have a child at South Morningside Primary School and potentially a younger child at the other site. Will my older child need to move?

Answer 2 – (Crawford McGhie) – Transfer to the new school will be voluntary for P2-P7. For the younger child to get a place in South Morningside Primary School normal placing procedures would apply.

Making a recommendation

Question 1 – What information provided by parents will you use to help make the final decision?

Answer 1 – (Crawford McGhie) - I would encourage you all to express your views; we will fully analyse that information which will help inform the recommendation to Council, the more people that express their views the better.

Miscellaneous

Question 1 – I have several questions:

- How big will the classes be under option 1?
- What level of disruption will be involved?
- What will happen to kids at Deanbank?
- What about safety, due to the construction?

I want reassurances that no kids will be used as guinea pigs.

Answer 1 – (Billy MacIntyre) – Those points are well made, we have not opened a new school in a long time but we can draw on experience from elsewhere in establishing new schools to see what works well. We have a considerable time to plan and engage to ensure we provide the best environment. During the construction of the new building Deanbank House will remain operational on the adjacent site. Once the new building is constructed children from Deanbank would vacate the property to allow Deanbank to be redeveloped. A similar process has recently been adopted at James Gillespie’s High School. We have also developed 10-15 classroom extensions within operational school sites and this has been done without incident. The construction will be undertaken to ensure the health and safety of children is paramount. There will be clear separation from construction and the children. Class sizes would be statutory, based on Scottish Government requirements.

5. Conclusion

Tom Wood thanked everyone for their contributions and summarised the evening discussions into the following main points:

- 1) Access to play areas / green space was important
- 2) The catchment areas regarding High School need to be clearly defined
- 3) Children’s emotional well being should be considered when determining the final outcome.

Billy MacIntyre thanked the audience for the questions and points made this evening. These would be recorded and addressed in the final report to be submitted to Council in February 2016 for a final decision.

Councillor Paul Godzik thanked everyone for attending and participating in the meeting. The views of all stakeholders were welcomed and appreciated and all the issues raised will be fully considered during the decision making process.

Options to Address Primary School Capacity and Accommodation Pressures in South Edinburgh

Public Consultation Meeting held at 6.30 pm, Tuesday, 8 September 2015, James Gillespie's Primary School, Edinburgh

Present: Approximately 50 members of the public

In Attendance: Tom Wood (Independent Chair), Councillor Paul Godzik (Convener of the Education, Children and Families Committee), Billy MacIntyre (Head of Resources, Children and Families), Crawford McGhie (Asset Planning Manager, Children and Families), Aileen McLean, Senior Education Manager, Janice MacInnes, Quality Improvement Officer, Children and Families), Daniel Hoyle (Depute Head Teacher, James Gillespie's Primary School), Robbie Crockatt (Asset Planning Officer, Children and Families), Caroline Burwell (Roads and Transport, Services for Communities) and Blair Ritchie (Committee Services).

1. Introduction

Councillor Paul Godzik, Convenor of Education, Children and Families welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending. He acknowledged the long standing issues of accommodation pressures at the local primary schools and encouraged everyone to get involved in consultation process so that the views of all stakeholders could be given due consideration when it came to making a decision on which option should be progressed.

Tom Wood introduced himself and advised that he had been invited by the City of Edinburgh Council as an independent person to chair the public consultation meeting. The consultation was based on options to address primary school capacity and accommodation pressures in south Edinburgh.

The Schools (Consultation Scotland) Act 2010 requires the Council to conduct a full public consultation as part of the statutory consultation process. The public consultation would provide people with the opportunity to express their views in terms of which option they believe should be adopted to address the primary school capacity and accommodation pressures in south Edinburgh and feed directly into the consultation process. This ensures issues raised by stakeholders are fully addressed in the Outcome of the Consultation report which will be submitted to the City of Edinburgh Council for consideration in February 2016.

Tom Wood welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted that this was the second of four public meetings. Reassurance was given that no decision had been made in terms of proposed changes, and the consultation process would encompass the views of parents and the public to ensure that the final decision making process would include consideration of these views. A decision would be taken by elected members at the meeting of the Full Council on 4 February 2016. Billy MacIntyre

(Head of Resources) also provided reassurance that no decision had been made and, although officers were presenting various options, all views and suggestions were welcomed. All questions and statements would be listened to and included in the report to be considered by elected members when making the final decision about the proposed changes.

2. Presentation

Crawford McGhie (Asset Planning Manager, Children and Families) delivered a presentation that provided background information on the reasons behind the requirement to address the accommodation pressures in South Edinburgh.

Requirement for Change

The combined school rolls of Bruntsfield Primary School, James Gillespie's Primary School and South Morningside Primary School were the highest they had been in more than 30 years. A new school had been proposed in 1998 to address rising rolls in the area but no land was available at that time to allow its delivery. Since then, other measures such as temporary units and annexe accommodation had been used to accommodate demand at the three schools. Accommodation pressures had been most acute at South Morningside Primary School with the school currently split across three different sites.

Consultation Process

Four public meetings were being held to give the community the opportunity to respond to the proposals at various venues. Respondents were also encouraged to use the questionnaire which could be accessed online.

Once the public consultation phase was completed, details of the representations received would be forwarded to Education Scotland for their consideration. Education Scotland would issue a report on their findings which would be included in the final report to Council on the outcomes of consultation.

All comments made during the statutory consultation period would be recorded and, where appropriate, responded to in a final report anticipated to be considered by Council on Thursday, 4 February 2016.

3. The Proposal

Crawford McGhie outlined the three options identified by the Children and Families Department:

- Option 1 – Establish a new primary school.
- Option 2 – Increase the capacity at South Morningside Primary School.

- Option 3 – Maintain and improve existing accommodation arrangements.

Under Options 2 and 3, South Morningside Primary School’s existing nursery classes would be relocated to new accommodation on the Deanbank House/Oaklands site. However, under Option 1, there were three sub-options relating to nursery provision.

These were:

- d. Retain South Morningside Primary School’s existing nursery classes at Fairmilehead Church Hall but do not build new nursery classes as part of the new primary school building;
- e. Retain South Morningside Primary School’s existing nursery classes at Fairmilehead Church Hall and build new nursery classes as part of the new primary school building; and
- f. Close South Morningside Primary School’s existing nursery classes at Fairmilehead Church Hall but build new nursery classes as part of the new primary school building.

Crawford McGhie explained that each of the options would require varying degrees of catchment change.

The audience was informed that the following correction to the statutory consultation paper had been circulated to all statutory consultees.

In paragraph 1.5 it is stated that “Secondary school catchment areas will be unaffected by any of the options considered in this paper”. In fact, in option 3 the minor changes which would be made to the catchment boundary between South Morningside Primary School and James Gillespie’s Primary School as illustrated in appendix 13 of the statutory consultation paper would also be made between Boroughmuir High School (the allocated secondary for South Morningside Primary School) and James Gillespie’s High School (the allocated secondary for James Gillespie’s Primary School). The same inaccuracy is repeated in paragraph 6.1 (final bullet point) of the report.

4. Questions and Comments

Catchment Area Changes

Question 1 –How do the long-term projections by the Authority relate to the proposals in the report?

Answer – (Robbie Crockatt) - The total number in school rolls had been moving “in waves” and was now rising to a peak. The main cause is births which have been increasing, but had reached a peak for schools and were beginning to level off. The

Authority had to ensure that there was sufficient accommodation to cater for the demand from the catchment area. Additionally, the population data from the National Register of Scotland (NRS) is considered in longer term projections. The suitability of accommodation at South Morningside Primary School and James Gillespie's Primary School was also one of the key drivers for the proposals.

Question 2 – There was a public consultation in 1998. How accurate were your projections of pupil numbers from this?

Answer – (Billy MacIntyre) - This would be checked and a full response provided in the Outcome of the Consultation report. Projections are only as good as the available data. The data for the next five years is reasonably reliable as it is based on known births and past catchment trends. To make projections beyond five years is contingent upon data provided by the NRS and other sources which is updated every two years and can vary significantly between updates.

Councillor Godzik indicated that, as a result of the data limitations, projections of pupil numbers was an imperfect science.

Question 3 – Should you not improve facilities for existing students rather than rely on statistics?

Answer – (Councillor Godzik) All of the options do improve facilities. However, it was prudent for the Council to use all the available data and information. In 1998, the proposals fell through because of land availability, however, the situation was different now as the Council had ownership of the land.

Question 4 – A parent referred to Options 1 and 2 and indicated that they were looking at the demand for places. The report by the Department focussed on South Morningside Primary School, however, what were the figures for James Gillespie's Primary School and how would demand for places affect this?

Answer – (Robbie Crockatt) – In options 1 and 2, the objective was to return James Gillespie's to becoming a double stream school. As the birth rate was no longer increasing, cutting back the catchment would sufficiently reduce the numbers to allow this to happen.

Supplementary Question – Had the new rising rolls building been factored in to the calculations?

Answer – (Robbie Crockatt) - Yes the new building had been factored in and in the longer term would be retained allowing the temporary units at the school to be removed and some of the smaller classrooms within the main building made bigger.

Question 5 – There would be a transfer of a small area of catchment to Tollcross Primary School. This is unfair for families living in this area who have bought properties in order to access the school, what is the reason for the inclusion of this change in options 1 and 2?

Answer – (Crawford McGhie) – In terms of the area in question, the reason for the proposed catchment change was to further reduce the pressure on James Gillespie's and ensure it could return to a double stream school in the longer term.

Question 6 –Were other factors considered beyond the numbers issue?

Answer – (Crawford McGhie) – It was also geographically suitable being in close proximity to Tollcross Primary School.

(Councillor Godzik) At a meeting of the parent council three years ago, there was considerable pressure on James Gillespie's and the Authority had then considered the catchment area. As a consequence of Gaelic Medium Primary Education moving to a new school in August 2013, the spare capacity available at Tollcross Primary School was increased. It was now possible to use this extra capacity therefore, the proposals by the Authority did make sense as this small part of the catchment area was close to Tollcross.

Safer Routes to School

Question 1 – If the proposed catchment changes to Tollcross were imposed, I would now have to cross two busy roads to get to school.

Answer – (Councillor Godzik) Catchment change is never taken lightly as it is a difficult process for all involved. However, the Council has to ensure that the proposed catchment for any school is viable and this included ensuring the routes to school are considered safe.

Comment – A parent indicated that they could not now walk their children to the local school.

Question 2 – How could it be fair to move small children to different schools? Although these were good schools, they dealt with different issues.

Supplementary Question – Would there not be a considerable number of affluent parents buying properties to gain access to schools?

Answer – (Janice MacInnes) - All four schools which were involved in the consultation process, were of high standard and there was a high level of satisfaction with the quality of the education. Tollcross provides a high level of education. All of the four schools dealt with a variety of issues and they all “got it right” for their children.

Answer – (Billy MacIntyre) – No children would be forced to move schools as a result of the proposed changes to catchment.

Question 3 – Siblings should be prioritised as long as there were siblings in school.

Answer – (Billy MacIntyre) - In James Gillespie's, if there were any spaces available after the catchment intake siblings from the catchment change area would be prioritised. Following that the allocation of any spare places would follow the normal rules for placing non-catchment children. It would be based on distance.

Question 5 – Was it not a lot for the Authority to ask parents to take two children to a school which was further away?

Answer – (Billy MacIntyre) - It was appreciated that catchment change can be a difficult process but as per the previous answer placement requests from siblings from the areas affected would be prioritised.

Question 6 – How many children would attend Tollcross Primary School?

Answer – (Billy MacIntyre) In 2014, there were 37 pupils within the area proposed for transfer to Tollcross Primary School and six of these were in primary one.

Year of Implementation

Question 1 – What was meant by the term “year of implementation”?

Answer – (Billy MacIntyre) - Changes would come into effect according to the following schedule. The earliest date that either Option 1 or 2 could be delivered would be August 2019, whilst Option 3 could potentially be delivered by August 2018. However, these were not necessarily the actual dates as once a final decision on the preferred option had been made, the funding would have to be approved and the combined Deanbank House/Oaklands Care Home site secured well in advance of the proposed construction start dates.

Question 2 – Was it the case that each of the options would require catchment change and this was not dependant on the construction on the combined Deanbank House/Oaklands Care Home?

Answer – (Billy MacIntyre) Yes this was the case. Each of the options would require a varying degree of catchment change. However, the changes in option 3 were minimal and did not affect any residential properties.

Secondary Schools

Question 1 – The consultation paper was silent in respect of capacity at the new primary school. What additional capacity had been factored in to the new buildings for James Gillespie's High School and Boroughmuir High School?

Answer – (Billy MacIntyre) There would be 1,150 places for James Gillespie's and 1,165 for Boroughmuir.

Question 2 – A parent said she would like to see the slide with the map of the new building, as proposed in Option 1, as she lived in a building near this site. Her son was now four and she would apply this year for her son to attend Bruntsfield. Her other child may have to attend school at the Deanbank House/Oaklands Care Home site, which would make it difficult for the school walk, therefore she would hope to get her second child into Bruntsfield.

Answer - (Billy MacIntyre) The current catchment for the parent was Bruntsfield. She could apply to a non-catchment school, such as South Morningside, however,

obtaining a place depended on the P1 intake limit and the number of non-catchment applications that were made.

(Crawford McGhie) – Regarding the question of younger siblings, the option existed for elder siblings to transfer to the new school, where they would have priority if sufficient spare places existed.

Question 3 – A parent indicated that they were in the catchment area for Sciennes Primary School, which was not affected by the proposed changes. Regarding the new high school at James Gillespie's, if there was a new primary school in the area, there was a chance of a high number of people moving into the area. In this case, would the new primary school get the priority of feeding into the new High School?

Answer - (Crawford McGhie) The proposal stated that the catchment for Sciennes stayed the same. Regarding the numbers for James Gillespie's High School they would be unchanged therefore Sciennes Primary School should not be unduly affected.

Question 4 – Would the new primary school feed into the new James Gillespie's High School?

Answer - (Councillor Godzik) - Discussions had taken place with the parent council who had indicated that they were keen to get their children to James Gillespie's High School. There was significant demand by families to get into good schools.

(Crawford McGhie) – There would be no changes to the High School catchments areas affecting residential properties. The proposed new school would feed into both James Gillespie's High School and Boroughmuir High School in line with current arrangements.

Proposed New School

Question 1 – For Option 1, what was the earliest completion date for the new school?

Answer – (Billy McIntyre) - The earliest date would be August 2019.

Question 2 – What was the earliest completion date for Option 3 - to maintain and improve existing accommodation arrangements?

Answer – (Billy McIntyre) - The earliest date for the completion of Option 3 would be August 2018.

Question 3 – A parent indicated that they had moved into the area to allow their children to go to James Gillespie's Primary School. The proposals created difficulties for them.

Answer – (Billy MacIntyre) - The three options all had implications for catchments. Council officers would make recommendations on the proposals and the elected members would then make the final decision. He invited members of the public to individually provide feedback to the Authority, which would be considered.

Question 4 – It seemed irrational for the northern tip of the James Gillespie’s School catchment area to be realigned with Tollcross Primary School, as there would be a new school.

Answer – (Billy MacIntyre) - It was necessary to look at all the options, and then make a decision, taking into account all the relevant factors.

(Councillor Godzik) Catchment change was not taken likely by the Authority even though all the schools in the area were under pressure. This type of change caused concern and should be avoided if possible. However, it was necessary to ensure that there would be capacity.

Question 5 – If the new school was to be built, could it be guaranteed that the corner allocated to Tollcross would not disappear?

Tom Wood – It was not possible to “second guess” the Council. Parents should write in to the Authority and express their concerns.

Comment – A parent referred to the estimated six P1 children who were going to Tollcross. This proposal to send them there did not make sense as at present, they walked through a pleasant area.

Question 6 – For the northern part of the catchment, the younger siblings should be allocated a place at James Gillespie’s Primary School, when the catchment changes took place.

Answer – (Billy MacIntyre) The Authority had not considered giving a sibling guarantee in the proposals. Six children at P1 was a significant number and to provide that amount of headroom, it would be necessary to remove another part of the catchment area. The consultation paper showed the extent of the proposed change.

Question 7 – If there was no change to the north part of the catchment area, would there not have to be change to the southern part?

Answer – (Billy MacIntyre) - Yes, there would have to be change to the catchment area somewhere else.

Options for Change

Question 1 – A parent indicated that they favoured Option 1 and a return to a two stream school. How would South Morningside Primary School benefit from Option 3?

Answer – (Councillor Godzik) According to Options 2 and 3, South Morningside’s existing nursery classes would be relocated to new accommodation on the Deanbank House/Oakland site. South Morningside was currently spread over three sites and the school was trying to minimise the use of the annexe building. This was not an ideal situation, as schools should be situated on a single site.

Question 2 – The Authority should guarantee that families would not be split up. Where would the children play in the proposed new school as it looked small and overcrowded? Was St Peter’s Primary School to expand?

Answer – (Billy MacIntyre) - There were no plans to expand St Peter’s and no reason why the open space adjacent to that school could not be used by other schools. Regarding the allocation of playground space, the site was one hectare, which was more than sufficient and was the same size as the site of James Gillespie’s. A new replacement for St John’s RC Primary School is currently being progressed. This site was 1.3 hectares, but this included a football pitch.

Question 3 – How was it possible to plan against James Gillespie’s being packed full of children over the next few years?

Answer – (Billy MacIntyre) There had been a lot of investment in James Gillespie’s in recent years and there were no plans for further extensions based on the numbers indicated by projections. In options 1 and 2 the roll of the school would reduce and the suitability of accommodation would be improved.

(Councillor Godzik) – It was accepted that more needed to be done in terms of investment for educational provision and commitment to this is demonstrated by the options put forward in the statutory consultation paper. The Council is facing considerable financial challenges and has not been able to increase funding through Council Tax rises for a number of years. However, there had to be sustainability in educational provision over the next 50 years and everything possible would be done to secure future funding.

Question 4 – A parent indicated that they did not have a preferred option and were not affected at present. When the catchment changes were being considered by the Council, would there be the possibility of variation of these options?

Answer – (Billy MacIntyre) - If there were compelling reasons for another option to be considered this would be taken into account and the implications reported. While the proposals were thought to be the best options, it was not possible to predict the future or the outcome of the responses from the public. The elected members would make the final decision.

(Billy MacIntyre) – The Council report would be published three weeks in advance of the Council meeting and members of the public would have the opportunity of making a deputation to the Council at its meeting.

Funding

Question 1 – How would the school be funded if Option 1 was chosen?

Answer – (Billy MacIntyre) - If Option 1 was delivered in August 2019, the estimated cost of delivery would be between £17.5m to £18.3m. £6m has been made available from the receipt of the old Boroughmuir Site. Beyond this there was no funding agreed. The top priority for the Authority was addressing the rising school

rolls and if the capital funding became available, Children and Families would determine how it should be allocated. All the necessary funding was not yet in place, but there was optimism that this would be found.

(Councillor Godzik) - Boroughmuir and Portobello High Schools were both underway and funding had been found for the Deanbank House/Oakland site.

Question 2 – A parent indicated that they had newly arrived in Edinburgh. As his son would be affected by the establishment of a new school, how would the Authority ensure that the level of provision in the new school would be the same as for the existing schools?

Answer – (Councillor Godzik) - If the parents in the community subscribed to the new school, then it would be a success.

(Aileen McLean) A new Head Teacher would be appointed well in advance of a new school opening and would be involved in the recruitment process for other teaching staff.

Question 3 – After the first assessment had been carried out of the new school, it would be interesting to see how successful the transition had been.

Answer – (Aileen McLean) - The Authority would carry out an assessment and would put monitoring arrangements in place.

Question 4 – A parent indicated they favoured Option 1. However, was there enough funding for teaching in the new school? What would happen if there was a increase in the birth rate? Would there be sufficient capacity?

Answer – (Billy MacIntyre) Revenue costs were set out in the statutory consultation paper and creating new schools meant more revenue costs. All schools in the City were treated equally and there was a formula to ensure each school received the required number of staff.

Question 5 – If it was not mandatory for pupils not to go to the school how would the Authority arrive at their decision?

Answer – (Billy MacIntyre) Disruption for pupils had to be considered. There would be no mandatory transfers other than for the first P1 intakes under the new option once it was implemented under any of the options.

Question 6 – Because of fact that there was no mandatory aspect could families apply for spaces at the new school?

Answer – (Billy MacIntyre) He confirmed that they could apply for spaces.

Acquisition of Land

Question 1 – The Authority had indicated that they were considering schooling in 50 years time. Why then had the possibility of using the Hospital site not been considered?

Answer – (Councillor Godzik) - In 1998, there had been extensive negotiations with the NHS and it was established that this site was not available. Although more discussions had taken place, there was no guarantee that this site could be acquired. However, a site was now available and should be utilised.

(Billy MacIntyre) – The Authority had looked at Astley Ainsley for Boroughmuir, but it had not been possible to use this site as it proved to be unavailable. It was not possible to base a decision on land that might be available.

(Councillor Godzik) – Available land was scarce, there was an increase in demand and a site had been found that could be delivered.

Question 2 – If there was no mandatory transfer, how could the Authority deliver double stream in three or four years?

Answer – (Crawford McGhie) - This process did not take place overnight. The Authority would offer places and some of these would be taken up. A portion of the buildings on the Deanbank House/ Oaklands Care Home site may still require to be utilised by South Morningside Primary School during transition. It was not possible to say how long the transition period would take, however, the proposed arrangements were necessary to ensure a smooth transition.

Question 3 – If there was to be transition, there would be a large number of children from South Morningside, some from James Gillespie's and none from Bruntsfield.

Answer – (Crawford McGhie) - Measures would be put in place to ensure a smooth transition and to support the integration of children coming from different schools.

(Janice MacInnes) – There would be an enhanced transition project to the new school.

Answer – (Billy MacIntyre) - Children and Families had experience in managing transition during the closure of some primary schools and the lessons learned in this process would be applied.

Question 4 – Would there be adequate classroom arrangements for Bruntsfield?

Answer – (Crawford McGhie) - Yes.

Question 5 – A member of public indicated that they stayed in the Blackford area and they were apprehensive of choosing Options 1 or 2 in case there were changes to the catchment of James Gillespie's High School. What was the guarantee that the catchment would not change?

Answer – (Billy MacIntyre) - There were no plans to change the catchment for Boroughmuir or James Gillespie's High School at present. If this was to happen, there would have to be a public consultation.

(Councillor Godzik) – He confirmed that catchment change was always the last resort.

Question 6 – Regarding the projections for spare capacity of the different options, if the Hospital site was converted to housing then this would take up spare capacity. Had this been factored into the different options?

Answer – (Crawford McGhie) - In Options 1 and 2, there would be additional overall capacity, but not so much for Option 3. The site at Astley Ainsley was within the catchment of the proposed new school. If there was to be a new school, then the extra capacity would help. If Option 3 was chosen, the need for additional capacity would have to be considered at the time of any planning application and it may be the case that new infrastructure would be required.

Answer – (Billy MacIntyre) - The issue of pupils generated from major housing developments is currently being dealt with across the City as the Local Development Plan proposed that there would be 9,000 new housing units to be built before 2024. Children and Families has considered the likely impact of this on education infrastructure and if this could be accommodated. There is an estimated cost of £150m which included the creation of several new primary schools and the intention is that funding for this would come from developers. The Planning Committee did take into account the views of Children and Families. If the new housing development could not be accommodated in terms of required infrastructure, it is possible that there would be a recommendation for it to be refused.

(Councillor Godzik) – The Planning Committee did not vote along party lines. Children and Families would always ensure that the Committee took its view into account. However, it was not possible to "future proof" proposals due to the possible cost.

Question 7 – Were some options more amenable to an increase in capacity?

Answer – (Crawford McGhie) Options 1 and 2 created more overall capacity in the south Edinburgh area.

Question 8 – There were new developments being proposed, including student accommodation. Would the new schools be big enough for this?

Answer – (Billy MacIntyre) Children and Families was a consultee for planning applications which had the potential to generate pupils and carries out an assessment of the required infrastructure for each application when the consultation request is received.

(Councillor Godzik) - Tracking demographic change is a major task however past trends are taken into account.

Question 9 – A member of the public indicated that her family would not be affected by the proposals, however she had sympathy with families affected. Her ideal solution would be for a new school with a guarantee for siblings. How could she demonstrate this view?

Answer – (Billy MacIntyre) - To suggest an alternative option, she could send an e-mail to the Department. Question 7 in the online questionnaire also provided an opportunity for people to give alternative options or feedback.

5. Conclusion

Tom Wood thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and for expressing their views. He concluded that there was real concern over the proposed catchment changes and for parents and children crossing roads on their route to school.

Councillor Paul Godzik thanked everyone for attending and participating in the meeting. The views of all stakeholders were welcomed and appreciated and all the issues raised will be fully considered during the decision making process.

Options to Address Primary School Capacity and Accommodation Pressures in South Edinburgh

Public Consultation Meeting held at 6.30 pm, Tuesday 22 September 2015, Bruntsfield Primary School, Edinburgh

Present: Approximately 25 members of the public

In Attendance: Tom Wood (Independent Chair), Councillor Paul Godzik (Convener of the Education, Children and Families Committee), Billy MacIntyre (Head of Resources, Children and Families), Robbie Crockatt (Estate Development Officer, Children and Families), Jane Rough (Early Years Manager, Children and Families), Crawford McGhie (Asset Planning Manager, Children and Families), Therese Laing (Quality Improvement Officer, Children and Families), Carol Kyle (Head Teacher, Bruntsfield Primary School) and Alison Clyne (Committee Services)

1. Introduction

Councillor Paul Godzik, Convenor of Education, Children and Families welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending. He acknowledged the long standing issues of accommodation pressures at the local primary schools and encouraged everyone to get involved in consultation process so that the views of all stakeholders could be given due consideration when it came to making a decision on which option should be progressed.

Tom Wood introduced himself and advised that he had been invited by the City of Edinburgh Council as an independent person to chair the public consultation meeting. The consultation was based on options to address primary school capacity and accommodation pressures in south Edinburgh.

The Schools (Consultation Scotland) Act 2010 requires the Council to conduct a full public consultation as part of the statutory consultation process. . The public consultation would provide people with the opportunity to express their views in terms of which option they believe should be adopted to address the primary school capacity and accommodation pressures in south Edinburgh and feed directly into the consultation process. This ensures issues raised by stakeholders are fully addressed in the Outcome of the Consultation report which will be submitted to the City of Edinburgh Council for consideration in February 2016.

Tom Wood welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted that this was the third of four public meetings. Reassurance was given that no decision had been made in terms of proposed changes, and the consultation process would encompass the views of parents and the public to ensure that the final decision making process would include consideration of these views. A decision would be taken by elected members at the meeting of the Full Council on 4 February 2016. Billy MacIntyre

(Head of Resources) also provided reassurance that no decision had been made and, although officers were presenting various options, all views and suggestions were welcomed. All questions and statements would be listened to and included in the report to be considered by elected members when making the final decision about the proposed changes.

2. Presentation

Robbie Crockatt (Estate Development Officer, Children and Families) delivered a presentation that provided some background information on the reasons behind the requirement to address the accommodation pressures in south Edinburgh.

Requirement for Change

The combined rolls of Bruntsfield Primary School, James Gillespie's Primary School and South Morningside Primary Schools were the highest they had been in more than 30 years. A new school had been proposed in 1998 to address rising rolls in the area but no land was available at that time to allow its delivery. Since then, other measures such as temporary units and annexe accommodation had been used to accommodate demand at the three schools. Accommodation pressures had been most acute at South Morningside Primary School with the school currently split across three different sites.

Consultation Process

Four public meetings were being held to give the community the opportunity to respond to the proposals at various venues. Respondents were also encouraged to use the questionnaire which could be accessed online.

Once the public consultation phase was completed, details of the representations received will be forwarded to Education Scotland for their consideration. Education Scotland would issue a report on their findings which would be included in the final report to Council on the outcomes of the consultation.

All comments made during the statutory consultation period would be recorded and, where appropriate, responded to in a final report anticipated to be considered by Council on Thursday, 4 February 2016.

3. The Proposal

Robbie Crockatt explained the three options identified by the Children and Families Department:

- Option 1 – Establish a new primary school.
- Option 2 – Increase the capacity at South Morningside Primary School.

- Option 3 – Maintain and improve existing accommodation arrangements.

Under Options 2 and 3, South Morningside Primary School's existing nursery classes would be relocated to new accommodation on the Deanbank House/Oaklands site. However, under Option 1, there were three sub-options relating to nursery provision.

These were:

- g. Retain South Morningside Primary School's existing nursery classes at Fairmilehead Church Hall but do not build new nursery classes as part of the new primary school building;
- h. Retain South Morningside Primary School's existing nursery classes at Fairmilehead Church Hall and build new nursery classes as part of the new primary school building; and
- i. Close South Morningside Primary School's existing nursery classes at Fairmilehead Church Hall but build new nursery classes as part of the new primary school building.

Robbie Crockatt explained that each of the options would require varying degrees of catchment change.

The audience was informed that the following correction to the statutory consultation paper had been circulated to all statutory consultees. In paragraph 1.5 it is stated that "Secondary school catchment areas will be unaffected by any of the options considered in this paper". In fact, in option 3 the minor changes which would be made to the catchment boundary between South Morningside Primary School and James Gillespie's Primary School as illustrated in appendix 13 of the statutory consultation paper would also be made between Boroughmuir High School (the allocated secondary for South Morningside Primary School) and James Gillespie's High School (the allocated secondary for James Gillespie's Primary School). The same inaccuracy is repeated in paragraph 6.1 (final bullet point) of the report.

4. Questions and Comments

Proposed New School

Question 1 – Will there be compulsory transfers for pupils above Primary 1?

Answer 1 – (Billy MacIntyre) – No, there would not be compulsory transfers under any of the options.

Question 2 – The current catchment schools are very good and I have some concern about the quality of the building and teachers at the new school.

Answer 2 – (Therese Laing) – We always ensure that staff are of the highest quality and would appoint the new Head Teacher well in advance of the school opening to give them enough time to get organised and ensure there is a smooth transition for the children.

(Billy MacIntyre) – Over time some staff may be transferred from existing schools as pupil numbers change in each school. The quality of teaching would continue into the new school and we would ensure we optimise the use of the new school building. The building would be built to the same high standards as other new schools being built in the city.

Question 3 – Would the new school become an overspill school for children across the city, particularly for older age groups?

Answer 3 – (Billy MacIntyre) – We don't see this as an overspill school and previous experience doesn't suggest this would happen. For pupils above Primary 1, we have looked at the options and could have enforced transfer to the new catchment school, but don't see this as appropriate. The other option is voluntary transfer to populate the school. The council does not provide free transport to school unless a child lives 3 miles or more from their catchment school so children coming from other areas of the city to the new school would have to make their own travel arrangements.

(Councillor Godzik) – We want to encourage parents to choose their catchment school and the same would apply here – we would encourage pupils to come to this school but would not force them to.

Question 4 – What would be the capacity of the new school, when would it open and would children be attending school on a building site?

Answer 4 – (Billy MacIntyre) – There would be a defined accommodation schedule and high quality of accommodation, similar to other schools being built across the city. 2019 would be the earliest opening date as set out in the Consultation Paper. The school would open when it is complete with two Primary 1 classes and hopefully other classes too. Previous experience shows that very local children might well choose to transfer to the new school.

Question 5 – If we chose to move to the new school, what would minimum numbers be to have classes above Primary 1?

Answer 5 – (Billy MacIntyre) – We have not prescribed minimum numbers so far – this is possible but it is unlikely that we would want to place restrictions on the school. We would prefer the new school to be as inclusive as possible.

Question 6 – The consequences of Council policy, such as building more student housing to accommodate growing demand, can mean more families living in tenements. Is there flexibility to meet this demand in the new school?

Answer 6 – (Billy MacIntyre) – The proposed size of the new school includes some room for future population growth. If a large number of additional pupils move into the area we might need to look at alternative means of provision but that would need to be considered in the future. The new building would be fully considered as part of the Design and Build phase of the project.

Question 7 – Is there funding to build the new school?

Answer 7 – (Billy MacIntyre) – It's our job to identify priorities for the Council from a Children and Families perspective and rising school rolls is our highest priority. Funding is a challenge but it's not the first time we've had a consultation without having funding in place – we need to know what the community thinks before we can fully cost an option. There would be a report to full Council which would seek approval for funding from Elected Members, who are ultimately responsible for the decision. There is a history of securing funding for schools and we are confident that funding could be found.

(Councillor Godzik) – A new school would be high on the list of priorities for capital funding. This is also a statutory function that the Council has to deliver so that is also influential in securing funding.

Siblings

Comment 1 – The proposals could mean I have children attending different schools and it wouldn't be feasible for me to get them to different schools on time.

Answer 1 – (Billy MacIntyre) – This could be an unfortunate consequence of changing catchment areas. Under options 1 and 2 we are proposing that there would be priority for siblings if you wished to make an out of catchment request and capacity exists in the school.

Safe Routes to School

Question 1 – My current route to James Gillespie's Primary is very safe and a transfer to Tollcross Primary would mean my children would need to cross busy roads. Has the safety of new routes to school been considered?

Answer 1 – (Robbie Crockatt) – Routes to school are considered as part of any proposed catchment change. This proposed change does require that pupils cross more and busier roads than they currently do. However, all city centre catchment

areas include busy roads which pupils are required to cross and many pupils from this area already make that journey.

(Councillor Godzik) – There were similar issues raised at the recent Towerbank catchment change consultation and we understand your concern. The Council has a duty to ensure routes to school are safe and will look at all options to minimise the risks.

Secondary Schools

Question 1 – Would pupils in the new school attend different secondary schools?

Answer 1 – (Billy MacIntyre) – Yes, that is the intention and this happens in some other schools in the city where a primary school has an area of its catchment which has dual feeder status.

(Carol Kyle - Head Teacher, Bruntsfield Primary School) – We could consider a joint working/cluster approach between the Head Teachers to ensure there is a smooth transition to secondary school.

(Councillor Godzik) – This is a bit of an anomaly but we would welcome your views.

Question 2 – What would be the impact on provision of teaching modern languages?

Answer 2 – (Therese Laing) – We would look at the options for this but joint cluster learning is certainly a possibility. We want to ensure the needs of children are met and this includes continuity of modern languages. Head Teachers would work together at Primary and Secondary school levels.

Question 3 – Is this not a good opportunity to reconsider secondary school catchment areas too, especially at Boroughmuir High School and James Gillespie's High School?

Answer 3 – (Billy MacIntyre) – The impact of rising school rolls throughout the city is working its way through to many secondary schools and we are looking at the projections for all schools. There are challenges across the school estate and we are looking at how we can best use our current estate.

(Councillor Godzik) – Catchment review is a last resort because of the anxiety it causes for pupils and parents. Where there is an option to extend a building or use buildings in a better way, we will do this first.

Question 4 – The new Boroughmuir High School looks to be limited and based on a small space – will this be adequate?

Answer 4 – (Billy MacIntyre) – The Council believes the capacity of 1,165 at the new school to be adequate and disagree that the space is small – it will provide more space than the current school and vastly improved space which provides more flexibility. We will also look at other options such as improved timetabling to ensure the space is used as efficiently as possible.

Question 5 – Can you explain how timetabling could be used to increase capacity?

Answer 5 – (Billy MacIntyre) – We had a former Head Teacher working with us who has advised that timetabling can be efficient or inefficient in terms of the use of space, so we would look to apply best practice and learn from the schools already successfully implementing best practice. It's about being able to, as far as possible, continuously use the rooms we have available.

Catchment Area Changes

Question 1 – A small catchment change is suggested for Bruntsfield Primary – Is this enough of a change?

Answer 1 – (Robbie Crockatt) – Yes, we believe that Bruntsfield Primary has the capacity to accommodate the projected growth. Although it is not a significant reduction in area under options 1 and 2, it is enough to ease the pressure on the school. A small change can have a fairly dramatic impact on numbers of pupils and classes. We also consider pupil numbers in projections where there are planning applications.

Question 2 – How does this fit in with Council policy – for example a reduction in numbers of Houses of Multiple Occupancy (HMOs), which will mean more families in the area?

Answer 2 – (Robbie Crockatt) – Our projections are based on a range of sources (such as National Register of Scotland projections, known births, etc) and go into as much detail as possible, so we are as confident as we can be that the changes proposed are adequate.

(Councillor Godzik) – It is incredibly difficult to accurately predict figures in this area given the popularity of the area for all demographic groups. We have taken a positive step in building the new Boroughmuir High School which will provide more capacity.

Question 3 – There was previously a suggestion of a more significant change to the Bruntsfield Primary catchment area – why has this changed?

Answer 3 – (Robbie Crockatt) – We don't take changing catchment areas lightly and taking out too large an area can also cause problems. Even small changes can

have a significant impact, such as fewer numbers of classes. Since previous reports, there has been detailed analysis of projected numbers of children in the area and we feel that Bruntsfield Primary can accommodate projected numbers following the proposed change.

Question 4 – Will the small change to the Bruntsfield Primary catchment area mean this school will lose general purpose space to create extra classrooms?

Answer 4 – (Robbie Crockatt) - Although it's impossible to be precise in the projections, we don't see this becoming an issue based on the data. We protect general purpose space as much as possible and will ensure that the school continues to meet the Scottish Government's recommendations for provision of general purpose space.

(Councillor Godzik) – We do recognise the changing demographic in this area and take this into account. If you have any ideas for other options for us to explore, please submit them as part of the consultation process. We don't take catchment change lightly so would welcome any other ideas.

Question 5 – Do you have a contingency plan if numbers do increase in the Bruntsfield Primary catchment area?

Answer 5 – (Billy MacIntyre) - We have noted the concern regarding the increasing numbers of children in the area and will ensure we address this in our report.

Question 6 – How much foresight has been applied to the future of the Bruntsfield catchment area? The population will become much bigger with development at the old brewery site and the old Boroughmuir High School building, as well as more families moving in to tenement flats – has this analysis been done?

Answer 6 – (Billy MacIntyre) – We use the information and figures we have available to us at the time. When planning applications are submitted, the impact on infrastructure including schools is considered by the Council when they make their decision. We have to base our projections on the intelligence we have available at the time.

Question 7 – How much of a change will there be to the James Gillespie Primary School catchment area?

Answer 7 – (Robbie Crockatt) – Under options 1 and 2 it is estimated that around one third of the catchment area (20-25 pupils at Primary 1) would transfer to either the new school, an expanded South Morningside Primary School or Tollcross Primary School.

Note: An attendee at the meeting noted that there were inconsistencies in how the Bruntsfield Primary catchment area was presented in the statutory consultation paper. It was agreed at the meeting that this issue would be further investigated and a statement of clarification was subsequently circulated to all statutory consultees highlighting the non-material omission.

5. Conclusion

Billy MacIntyre thanked everyone for their high quality contributions and questions. The Council was keen to hear the views of the community and all views/comments would be reflected in the report to Full Council, which would be considered in February 2016. Written submissions were also encouraged on the proposed options.

Councillor Paul Godzik thanked everyone for attending and participating in the meeting. The views of all stakeholders were welcomed and appreciated and all the issues raised will be fully considered during the decision making process.

Options to Address Primary School Capacity and Accommodation Pressures in South Edinburgh

Public Consultation Meeting held at 6.30 pm, Tuesday 29 September 2015, St Peter's RC Primary School, Edinburgh

Present: Approximately 25 members of the public

In Attendance: Tom Wood (Independent Chair), Councillor Paul Godzik (Convener of the Education, Children and Families Committee), Billy MacIntyre (Head of Resources, Children and Families), Robbie Crockatt (Estate Development Officer, Children and Families), Crawford McGhie (Asset Planning Manager, Children and Families), Therese Laing (Quality Improvement Officer, Children and Families), Kathleen Nazarian (Head Teacher, St Peter's RC Primary School), Caroline Burwell (Road Safety Manager, Services for Communities) and Laura Millar (Committee Services)

1. Introduction

Councillor Paul Godzik, Convenor of Education, Children and Families welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending. He acknowledged the long standing issues of accommodation pressures at the local primary schools and encouraged everyone to get involved in consultation process so that the views of all stakeholders could be given due consideration when it came to making a decision on which option should be progressed.

Tom Wood introduced himself and advised that he had been invited by the City of Edinburgh Council as an independent person to chair the public consultation meeting. The consultation was based on options to address primary school capacity and accommodation pressures in south Edinburgh.

The Schools (Consultation Scotland) Act 2010 requires the Council to conduct a full public consultation as part of the statutory consultation process. The public consultation would provide people with the opportunity to express their views in terms of which option they believe should be adopted to address the primary school capacity and accommodation pressures in south Edinburgh and feed directly into the consultation process. This ensures issues raised by stakeholders are fully addressed in the Outcome of the Consultation report which will be submitted to the City of Edinburgh Council for consideration in February 2016.

Tom Wood welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted that this was the last of four public meetings. Reassurance was given that no decision had been made in terms of proposed changes, and the consultation process would encompass the views of parents and the public to ensure that the final decision making process would include consideration of these views. A decision would be taken by elected

members at the meeting of the Full Council on 4 February 2016. Billy MacIntyre (Head of Resources) also provided reassurance that no decision had been made and, although officers were presenting various options, all views and suggestions were welcomed. All questions and statements would be listened to and included in the report to be considered by elected members when making the final decision about the proposed changes.

2. Presentation

Crawford McGhie (Asset Planning Manager, Children and Families) delivered a presentation that provided some background information on the reasons behind the requirement to address the accommodation pressures in south Edinburgh.

Requirement for Change

The combined rolls of Bruntsfield Primary School, James Gillespie's Primary School and South Morningside Primary Schools were the highest they had been in more than 30 years. A new school had been proposed in 1998 to address rising rolls in the area but no land was available at that time to allow its delivery. Since then, other measures such as temporary units and annexe accommodation had been used to accommodate demand at the three schools. Accommodation pressures had been most acute at South Morningside Primary School with the school currently split across three different sites.

Consultation Process

Four public meetings were being held to give the community the opportunity to respond to the proposals at various venues. Respondents were also encouraged to use the questionnaire which could be accessed online.

Once the public consultation phase was completed, details of the representations received would be forwarded to Education Scotland for their consideration. Education Scotland would issue a report on their findings which would be included in the final report to Council on the outcomes of the consultation.

All comments made during the statutory consultation period would be recorded and, where appropriate, responded to in a final report anticipated to be considered by Council on Thursday, 4 February 2016.

3. The Proposal

Crawford McGhie explained the three options identified by the Children and Families Department:

- Option 1 – Establish a new primary school.
- Option 2 – Increase the capacity at South Morningside Primary School.

- Option 3 – Maintain and improve existing accommodation arrangements.

Under Options 2 and 3, South Morningside Primary School's existing nursery classes would be relocated to new accommodation on the Deanbank House/Oaklands site. However, under Option 1, there were three sub-options relating to nursery provision.

These were:

- j. Retain South Morningside Primary School's existing nursery classes at Fairmilehead Church Hall but do not build new nursery classes as part of the new primary school building;
- k. Retain South Morningside Primary School's existing nursery classes at Fairmilehead Church Hall and build new nursery classes as part of the new primary school building; and
- l. Close South Morningside Primary School's existing nursery classes at Fairmilehead Church Hall but build new nursery classes as part of the new primary school building.

Crawford McGhie explained that each of the options would require varying degrees of catchment change.

The audience was informed that the following corrections to the statutory consultation paper had been circulated to all statutory consultees.

In paragraph 1.5 it is stated that "Secondary school catchment areas will be unaffected by any of the options considered in this paper". In fact, in option 3 the minor changes which would be made to the catchment boundary between South Morningside Primary School and James Gillespie's Primary School as illustrated in appendix 13 of the statutory consultation paper would also be made between Boroughmuir High School (the allocated secondary for South Morningside Primary School) and James Gillespie's High School (the allocated secondary for James Gillespie's Primary School). The same inaccuracy is repeated in paragraph 6.1 (final bullet point) of the report. The statutory consultation paper includes a number of maps in Appendices 2, 5 and 9 which show the existing Bruntsfield Primary School catchment. Whilst these maps are accurate and correctly show the *current* Bruntsfield Primary School catchment, the statutory consultation paper did not identify a future change which will be made to this catchment which the Council has already approved. On 28 June 2012, as part of the approval for the location for the new Boroughmuir High School, the Council approved minor revisions to the catchment areas of Boroughmuir and Tynecastle High Schools and Bruntsfield and Dalry Primary Schools. These changes, which will bring the site of the new Boroughmuir High School and the immediate surrounding area into the catchment

for both Boroughmuir High School and Bruntsfield Primary School, are to be implemented from the academic year within which the new Boroughmuir High School will open and will therefore apply from the start of the 2016/17 academic year in August 2016.

4. Questions and Comments

Proposed New School/Option 1

Question 1 – If Option 1 was adopted, would the new school building be double storey?

Answer 1 – (Billy MacIntyre) – The footprint for the design for the proposed new school building was contained within the report. The building would be double storey including a full height gym hall. We would be happy to talk through the designs at the conclusion of the meeting.

Question 2 – A gas station is located near the site of the proposed new school that leaks several times a year, was this investigated?

Answer 2 – (Billy MacIntyre) – This has been reported to the appropriate authorities and we will double check that there are no issues for the operation of the school.

Question 3 – Has the Astley Ainslie site been investigated as a possible location for a new school?

Answer 3 – (Billy MacIntyre) – The Astley Ainslie site has not been advertised on the market so the Council, although aware of the site, have been unable to consider it as a possible location.

Question 4 – Is Oaklands Care Home definitely closing? If so, where would the residents go?

Answer 4 – (Billy MacIntyre) – There is no current definite date of closure or plans as to where the residents would go. Officers are in talks with colleagues in Health and Social Care to establish this.

Question 5 – If option 1 was chosen, would there be any provision for more bins and people in the area to pick up litter?

Answer 5 – (Paul Godzik) – Head teachers were aware of litter issues surrounding their school and educate children to use bins.

(Kathleen Nazarian) – Children were not permitted to take snacks outside during break times at St Peters therefore there was decreased opportunity to drop litter.

Question 6 – What benefits were there for the residents if option 1 is adopted?

Answer 6 – (Billy MacIntyre) – The statutory consultation focuses on educational benefits. The Deanbank/Oaklands site was identified as a potential location for new accommodation in an area experiencing pressure from rising rolls. There are no other suitable sites available. It is appreciated there will be implications for residents. If development proceeds there will be an opportunity through the planning process for residents to make representations.

(Paul Godzik) Schools in the area were breaching capacity therefore more accommodation must be built to allow more provision.

Local Area Issues

Question 1 – What would the impact on local businesses be?

Answer 1 – (Billy MacIntyre) – The local schools and wider community have been made aware of the consultation but there was no direct communication with local businesses. Educational benefits are the main driver of all options, not local businesses. Sometimes businesses do complain if schools/catchment areas are changed due to the potential for moving trade further away. Businesses may respond to the consultation and can also make a representation as part of the subsequent planning process for any chosen option.

Question 2 – I would be happier with the entire school on a single campus. Would the housing proposed for the Napier site fall into the new school's catchment area?

Answer 2 – (Crawford McGhie) – Yes, the Craighouse Campus site falls into the proposed catchment area for the new school in option 1. In options 2 and 3 the site remains within the South Morningside Primary School catchment area.

Question 3 – How sustainable would the roll at South Morningside Primary School be with the new development?

Answer 3 – (Crawford McGhie) – The development is largely flats rather than housing therefore it is less likely to accommodate families. Developers have made a financial contribution to the local education infrastructure.

Question 4 – The shelter for parents outside the school gate attracts groups of youths and was a known spot for smoking and drug-dealing, what would be done about this?

Answer 4 – (Robbie Crockatt) – This was an ongoing issue for the area of which the police were aware. CCTV would pick up both parking and shelter issues.

Transport/Parking

Question 1 – If Option 1 was adopted, would there be many more cars in the area?

Answer 1 – (Caroline Burwell) – The new catchment area for the proposed new school would be fairly compact and well served by public transport within walking distance. As with all schools, walking and cycling would be promoted.

Question 2 – There were concerns with parents parking in permit holders spaces resulting in residents/disabled badge holders being unable to find a space nearby. Traffic Wardens were in place for peak times however they are ineffective.

Answer 2 – (Robbie Crockatt) – The School was aware of the problems and encouraged parents to use other means of transport through the school travel plan. CCTV coverage was also going to be extended which may assist in identifying parents who regularly flaunt parking restrictions.

Comment 1 – I have photographs of parents parking in permit holders spaces, double yellow lines etc.

Comment 2 – Children run wild in the area whilst walking to/from school often straying into private property. A new School in the area holds no benefits for residents with the increased traffic this would cause.

Question 3 – Could Canaan Lane be closed to traffic? There were already safety concerns in the area with the zebra crossing ignored and elderly/vulnerable pedestrians using the path.

Answer 3 – (Caroline Burwell) – The School Streets pilot scheme will be implemented for St Peters in March 2016. Residents-only access to Canaan Lane could be considered as an option however introduction of wide-scale parking controls would take time. Realistically cannot make major changes to Canaan Lane for pedestrians as space was restricted.

Question 4 - The broad catchment area of St Peters RC Primary School was forcing parents to drive to school. There were safety issues for children walking unsupervised and crossing busy roads. There was little free parking in the area. What was being done for the safety of children travelling to school?

Answer 4 – (Billy MacIntyre) –The school specifically does not have a drop-off point to discourage traffic in the area however this does not deter parents hence the reason for the School Streets pilot schemes being introduced at several schools across the city.

Comment 3 - As a local resident, no objections to a new small primary school however not a full double stream school.

Question 5 – There have been assurances from Edinburgh Council that parking attendants would be present during peak times, they are ineffective.

Answer 5 – (Caroline Burwell) – I will highlight this to colleagues in parking and let them know more attendants are required.

Question 6 – Some parents have to drive due to the long distance from home or use scooters/bikes to encourage younger children. Was there any possibility of parking restrictions on permit holder spaces being relaxed during pick-up/drop off periods?

Answer 6 – (Caroline Burwell) – Waitrose allows parents to use their car park during pick-up/drop-off periods. The Council do not encourage use of cars or make provision for it. There are also pay and display spaces in the area.

(Billy MacIntyre) – We can ask officers in Transport to investigate parents using permit spaces during peak periods.

Comment 4 – The Waitrose car park does not have spaces available in the afternoon.

Comment 5 – Scooters are not necessary and a danger on the pavements, children should walk.

Question 7 – I am concerned as a Canaan Lane resident about the safety of pedestrians. Paths are chaotic with the current P1/P2 traffic forcing people to walk on the road.

Answer 7 – (Caroline Burwell) – Officers can investigate the option of Canaan Lane being pedestrian/cycling only during peak times.

Question 8 – Could bus provision in the area be increased?

Answer 8 – (Caroline Burwell) – Bus provision in Morningside is already good with less going towards the Kings Building area. If Lothian Buses saw an economic benefit, they would provide more buses.

Question 9 – Will the road be resurfaced and pavement made wider?

Answer 9 – (Billy MacIntyre) – Regardless of which option was adopted, an assessment of the local area and surrounding infrastructure would be conducted as part of the planning application process. This information was not included in the proposal but would be considered further down the line, under the planning process

for any option chosen. There would be the further opportunity to make representations at that point.

Cost

Question 1 – If all the options solve the capacity/accommodation issues and with the Council's current financial situation, why would options 1 and 2 be considered when option 3 was significantly cheaper?

Answer 1 – (Paul Godzik) – Options 1 and 2 would provide better educational benefits however finances play a huge part which is why all 3 options were presented.

Question 2 – Page 79 of the consultation illustrates how the new nursery and gym buildings could be accommodated on an expanded Deanbank temporary annexe site. Would the remaining site be sold with planning permission?

Answer 2 – (Billy MacIntyre) – The surplus land would be sold but it would be unlikely that the Council would sell it with a defined scheme in mind. Developers would be given the opportunity to suggest options themselves.

Question 3 – Under any of the proposed options, was there any budget available to improve the existing South Morningside or Bruntsfield Primary School buildings?

Answer 3 – (Billy MacIntyre) – Yes, under all the options further improvements will be made to Deanbank House. Extension of existing buildings was explored thoroughly however there is no scope for expansion at either the main South Morningside site at the same time as meeting the long standing desire for more playground space and there is no scope at all for extension at Bruntsfield. This is why the focus of this consultation is the provision of improved and new accommodation on the Deanbank/Oaklands site.

(Paul Godzik) Any of the options would result in a reduction in demand on buildings allowing teachers to better utilise facilities.

Question 4 – What was the value of the land/property on the site?

Answer 4 – (Billy MacIntyre) – The land was already Council owned and valued at £6 million with the surplus land under option 3 being valued at £2.2 million.

Timeline

Question 1 – Was there a timeline available for the options?

Answer 1 – (Billy MacIntyre) – The timeline would be dependent on various things. If the Council decide to go ahead with options 1 or 2 in February, if the money was

available and if Oaklands Care Home was vacated, the new school would be ready by August 2019. On the same assumptions, option 3 could be ready by August 2018. Options 1 and 2 would take longer as pupils would be decanted from Deanbank to the new building to allow upgrade of Deanbank.

Question 2 – If option 1 was adopted, how precise is the timeline?

Answer 2 – (Billy MacIntyre) – The timeline cannot be certain due to the previously identified factors.

St Peters RC Primary School and Local Schools

Question 1 – Would the requirement to share resources with the proposed new school impact on St Peters?

Answer 1 – (Billy MacIntyre) – There would be no reduction in St Peters facilities. The Council encourages schools to work together therefore having the two buildings within a short distance would allow improved learning opportunities.

Question 2 – Could the field near St Peters be developed for better use? It was currently difficult to use for sports as it's on a slope.

Answer 2 – (Billy MacIntyre) – The field is considered to be a resource for the wider community and there are no proposals to alter it within this statutory consultation.

Question 3 – No changes are proposed to the catchment area for St Peter's but it is operating at capacity. Would there be the review of this?

Answer 3 – (Crawford McGhie) – While the school was close to full capacity projections suggest no additional accommodation will be required. Baptised RC pupils are prioritised for P1 places.

Question 4 – Rising rolls were impacting on Primary Schools, would this be the same for High School?

Answer 4 – (Billy MacIntyre) – We are at the early stages of investigating ways of addressing any implications of rising rolls in the secondary sector. Solutions being considered include more efficient use of existing space through improved timetabling, revising S1 intake levels on an annual basis and improved partnership working between schools for delivery of subjects at senior stages.

Question 5 – What was the view of the Quality Improvement Officer on the impact of moving schools on education?

Answer 5 – (Therese Laing) – It was challenging for Head teachers to have classes across 2 locations; this would be much easier in one campus.

Question 6 – If options 2 or 3 were adopted, how would this affect the children whilst construction work is being done?

Answers 6 – (Billy MacIntyre) – Officers have wide experience of decanting children. Health and Safety would be the number one priority with measures in place to ensure separation. Improvements to Deanbank House would be carried out during the holiday period when the children were not in the building.

Final Comments

Question 1 – Were there more consultation events planned as this one might not have been easy for parents to attend.

Answer 1 – (Billy MacIntyre) – No, there have been 4 public meetings over the past 3 weeks and the consultation period ends on 6 October. People are invited to submit comments online and officers will analyse and respond to all comments in detail. Councillors would also look at all options and responses before making a decision.

5. Conclusion

Billy MacIntyre thanked everyone for their high quality contributions and questions. The Council was keen to hear the views of the community and all views/comments would be reflected in the report to the full Council which would be considered in February 2016. Written submissions were also encouraged on the proposed options and all feedback would be considered.

Councillor Paul Godzik thanked everyone for attending and participating in the meeting. All the meetings have been well attended with tonight's being very useful due to the audience including a number of local residents. The views of all stakeholders were welcomed and appreciated and all the issues raised will be fully considered during the decision making process.

Appendix 3 - Summary of Consultation Responses Received

Other Issues/Points	Education	Timescales	Financial Issues and Concerns	Secondary School Issues (inc. feeder status and future growth)	Option 2 Issues	Option 1 Issues	New School Transition	Consultation Process	Sibling Guarantee	South Morningside Primary Catchment Change Proposals	James Gillespie's Primary Catchment Change Proposals	Early Years	Existing Issues	Split Site Issues	Residential Development	Projections and Demographics	The Field (in front of The Priory) and Falcon Park	Retaining Deanbank	New School Site and Accommodation	Proposed Site: Traffic and Pedestrian Issues (inc. Canna Lane)	Email, Letter or Online Questionnaire Reference Number		
							X						X									001	
																							002
																							003
																							004
			X	X	X	X	X	X				X	X	X	X	X	X	X					005
																							006
																				X			007
																							008
																							009
																X			X				010
																			X		X		011
																				X			012
			X					X												X			013

Other Issues/Points	Education	Timescales	Financial Issues and Concerns	Secondary School Issues (inc. feeder status and future growth)	Option 2 Issues	Option 1 Issues	New School Transition	Consultation Process	Sibling Guarantee	South Morningside Primary Catchment Change Proposals	James Gillespie's Primary Catchment Change Proposals	Early Years	Existing Issues	Split Site Issues	Residential Development	Projections and Demographics	The Field (in front of The Priory) and Falcon Park	Retaining Deanbank	New School Site and Accommodation	Proposed Site: Traffic and Pedestrian Issues (inc. Canaan Lane)	Email, Letter or Online Questionnaire Reference Number	
												X				X						014
									X		X											015
											X											016
																			X	X		017
											X											018
																						019
																						020
																						021
														X								022
																						023
																						024
									X													025
									X		X											026
														X	X							027

Other Issues/Points	Education	Timescales	Financial Issues and Concerns	Secondary School Issues (inc. feeder status and future growth)	Option 2 Issues	Option 1 Issues	New School Transition	Consultation Process	Sibling Guarantee	South Morningside Primary Catchment Change Proposals	James Gillespie's Primary Catchment Change Proposals	Early Years	Existing Issues	Split Site Issues	Residential Development	Projections and Demographics	The Field (in front of The Priory) and Falcon Park	Retaining Deanbank	New School Site and Accommodation	Proposed Site: Traffic and Pedestrian Issues (inc. Canaan Lane)	Email, Letter or Online Questionnaire Reference Number		
													X									028	
									X		X												029
																			X	X			030
											X												031
								X			X												032
				X																			033
				X								X	X	X					X				034
				X																			035
								X			X												036
												X											037
														X									038
				X					X						X	X							039
											X												ANON-6XUJ-ZQ11-T
																							ANON-6XUJ-ZQ13-V

Other Issues/Points	Education	Timescales	Financial Issues and Concerns	Secondary School Issues (inc. feeder status and future growth)	Option 2 Issues	Option 1 Issues	New School Transition	Consultation Process	Sibling Guarantee	South Morningside Primary Catchment Change Proposals	James Gillespie's Primary Catchment Change Proposals	Early Years	Existing Issues	Split Site Issues	Residential Development	Projections and Demographics	The Field (in front of The Priory) and Falcon Park	Retaining Deanbank	New School Site and Accommodation	Proposed Site: Traffic and Pedestrian Issues (inc. Canna Lane)	Email, Letter or Online Questionnaire Reference Number	
											X											ANON-6XUJ-ZQ14-W
											X	X										ANON-6XUJ-ZQ15-X
					X			X			X		X									ANON-6XUJ-ZQ16-Y
																				X		ANON-6XUJ-ZQ17-Z
												X		X								ANON-6XUJ-ZQ18-1
																				X		ANON-6XUJ-ZQ1A-A
														X				X			X	ANON-6XUJ-ZQ1B-B
								X	X		X											ANON-6XUJ-ZQ1C-C
											X											ANON-6XUJ-ZQ1D-D
							X															ANON-6XUJ-ZQ1F-F
											X											ANON-6XUJ-ZQ1G-G
					X							X										ANON-6XUJ-ZQ1H-H
											X											ANON-6XUJ-ZQ1J-K
																						ANON-6XUJ-ZQ1K-M

Other Issues/Points	Education	Timescales	Financial Issues and Concerns	Secondary School Issues (inc. feeder status and future growth)	Option 2 Issues	Option 1 Issues	New School Transition	Consultation Process	Sibling Guarantee	South Morningside Primary Catchment Change Proposals	James Gillespie's Primary Catchment Change Proposals	Early Years	Existing Issues	Split Site Issues	Residential Development	Projections and Demographics	The Field (in front of The Priory) and Falcon Park	Retaining Deanbank	New School Site and Accommodation	Proposed Site: Traffic and Pedestrian Issues (inc. Canna Lane)	Email, Letter or Online Questionnaire Reference Number	
																						ANON-6XUJ-ZQ1M-P
											X											ANON-6XUJ-ZQ1N-Q
											X											ANON-6XUJ-ZQ1P-S
													X								X	ANON-6XUJ-ZQ1R-U
											X	X										ANON-6XUJ-ZQ1S-V
																						ANON-6XUJ-ZQ1T-W
								X			X											ANON-6XUJ-ZQ1U-X
																						ANON-6XUJ-ZQ1V-Y
																						ANON-6XUJ-ZQ1W-Z
											X											ANON-6XUJ-ZQ1X-1
																						ANON-6XUJ-ZQ1Y-2
												X									X	ANON-6XUJ-ZQ1Z-3
				X		X							X									ANON-6XUJ-ZQ32-W
												X		X								ANON-6XUJ-ZQ34-Y

Other Issues/Points	Education	Timescales	Financial Issues and Concerns	Secondary School Issues (inc. feeder status and future growth)	Option 2 Issues	Option 1 Issues	New School Transition	Consultation Process	Sibling Guarantee	South Morningside Primary Catchment Change Proposals	James Gillespie's Primary Catchment Change Proposals	Early Years	Existing Issues	Split Site Issues	Residential Development	Projections and Demographics	The Field (in front of The Priory) and Falcon Park	Retaining Deanbank	New School Site and Accommodation	Proposed Site: Traffic and Pedestrian Issues (inc. Canaan Lane)	Email, Letter or Online Questionnaire Reference Number	
													X								ANON-6XUJ-ZQ36-1	
				X	X		X			X		X	X	X		X	X	X				ANON-6XUJ-ZQ37-2
											X		X									ANON-6XUJ-ZQ38-3
																						ANON-6XUJ-ZQ3A-C
							X							X								ANON-6XUJ-ZQ3C-E
																						ANON-6XUJ-ZQ3E-G
			X																			ANON-6XUJ-ZQ3F-H
												X										ANON-6XUJ-ZQ3H-K
																						ANON-6XUJ-ZQ3J-N
																						ANON-6XUJ-ZQ3K-P
			X																			ANON-6XUJ-ZQ3P-U
					X								X									ANON-6XUJ-ZQ3Q-V
												X										ANON-6XUJ-ZQ3R-W
														X								ANON-6XUJ-ZQ3T-Y

Other Issues/Points	Education	Timescales	Financial Issues and Concerns	Secondary School Issues (inc. feeder status and future growth)	Option 2 Issues	Option 1 Issues	New School Transition	Consultation Process	Sibling Guarantee	South Morningside Primary Catchment Change Proposals	James Gillespie's Primary Catchment Change Proposals	Early Years	Existing Issues	Split Site Issues	Residential Development	Projections and Demographics	The Field (in front of The Priory) and Falcon Park	Retaining Deanbank	New School Site and Accommodation	Proposed Site: Traffic and Pedestrian Issues (inc. Canna Lane)	Email, Letter or Online Questionnaire Reference Number
				X												X		X			ANON-6XUJ-ZQ3U-Z
																					ANON-6XUJ-ZQ3V-1
																			X		ANON-6XUJ-ZQ3X-3
																			X		ANON-6XUJ-ZQ61-Y
																					ANON-6XUJ-ZQ62-Z
				X																	ANON-6XUJ-ZQ65-3
					X									X							ANON-6XUJ-ZQ66-4
				X																	ANON-6XUJ-ZQ67-5
																					ANON-6XUJ-ZQ68-6
																					ANON-6XUJ-ZQ69-7
										X	X										ANON-6XUJ-ZQ6B-G
										X	X					X					ANON-6XUJ-ZQ6C-H
																					ANON-6XUJ-ZQ6D-J
																					ANON-6XUJ-ZQ6E-K

Other Issues/Points	Education	Timescales	Financial Issues and Concerns	Secondary School Issues (inc. feeder status and future growth)	Option 2 Issues	Option 1 Issues	New School Transition	Consultation Process	Sibling Guarantee	South Morningside Primary Catchment Change Proposals	James Gillespie's Primary Catchment Change Proposals	Early Years	Existing Issues	Split Site Issues	Residential Development	Projections and Demographics	The Field (in front of The Priory) and Falcon Park	Retaining Deanbank	New School Site and Accommodation	Proposed Site: Traffic and Pedestrian Issues (inc. Canaan Lane)	Email, Letter or Online Questionnaire Reference Number	
	X				X							X	X									ANON-6XUJ-ZQ6F-M
												X										ANON-6XUJ-ZQ6G-N
																						ANON-6XUJ-ZQ6J-R
																						ANON-6XUJ-ZQ6K-S
																						ANON-6XUJ-ZQ6R-Z
					X							X										ANON-6XUJ-ZQ6T-2
							X				X		X									ANON-6XUJ-ZQ6U-3
					X									X							X	ANON-6XUJ-ZQ6V-4
	X																					ANON-6XUJ-ZQ6W-5
													X			X			X			ANON-6XUJ-ZQ6Y-7
					X				X				X									ANON-6XUJ-ZQ81-1
													X							X		ANON-6XUJ-ZQ82-2
									X		X		X									ANON-6XUJ-ZQ83-3
													X									ANON-6XUJ-ZQ84-4

Other Issues/Points	Education	Timescales	Financial Issues and Concerns	Secondary School Issues (inc. feeder status and future growth)	Option 2 Issues	Option 1 Issues	New School Transition	Consultation Process	Sibling Guarantee	South Morningside Primary Catchment Change Proposals	James Gillespie's Primary Catchment Change Proposals	Early Years	Existing Issues	Split Site Issues	Residential Development	Projections and Demographics	The Field (in front of The Priory) and Falcon Park	Retaining Deanbank	New School Site and Accommodation	Proposed Site: Traffic and Pedestrian Issues (inc. Canaan Lane)	Email, Letter or Online Questionnaire Reference Number		
							X														X	ANON-6XUJ-ZQ85-5	
																							ANON-6XUJ-ZQ86-6
											X	X											ANON-6XUJ-ZQ88-8
																X							ANON-6XUJ-ZQ89-9
													X	X		X							ANON-6XUJ-ZQ8B-J
						X								X									ANON-6XUJ-ZQ8C-K
													X										ANON-6XUJ-ZQ8D-M
													X										ANON-6XUJ-ZQ8E-N
							X																ANON-6XUJ-ZQ8F-P
									X		X			X									ANON-6XUJ-ZQ8G-Q
													X					X					ANON-6XUJ-ZQ8H-R
											X												ANON-6XUJ-ZQ8K-U
																			X	X	X		ANON-6XUJ-ZQ8N-X
											X												ANON-6XUJ-ZQ8P-Z

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												X										ANON-6XUJ-ZQ8Q-1
					X									X				X				ANON-6XUJ-ZQ8R-2
																						ANON-6XUJ-ZQ8S-3
																						ANON-6XUJ-ZQ8T-4
													X									ANON-6XUJ-ZQ8X-8
												X				X						ANON-6XUJ-ZQ8Y-9
									X		X								X	X	X	ANON-6XUJ-ZQA2-B
																						ANON-6XUJ-ZQA3-C
																			X			ANON-6XUJ-ZQA4-D
											X											ANON-6XUJ-ZQA7-G
									X													ANON-6XUJ-ZQA8-H
																						ANON-6XUJ-ZQA9-J
										X			X					X	X	X		ANON-6XUJ-ZQAA-T
																						ANON-6XUJ-ZQAC-V

Other Issues/Points	Education	Timescales	Financial Issues and Concerns	Secondary School Issues (inc. feeder status and future growth)	Option 2 Issues	Option 1 Issues	New School Transition	Consultation Process	Sibling Guarantee	South Morningside Primary Catchment Change Proposals	James Gillespie's Primary Catchment Change Proposals	Early Years	Existing Issues	Split Site Issues	Residential Development	Projections and Demographics	The Field (in front of The Priory) and Falcon Park	Retaining Deanbank	New School Site and Accommodation	Proposed Site: Traffic and Pedestrian Issues (inc. Canna Lane)	Email, Letter or Online Questionnaire Reference Number
														X							ANON-6XUJ-ZQAD-W
			X													X	X				ANON-6XUJ-ZQAE-X
																X					ANON-6XUJ-ZQAF-Y
									X	X											ANON-6XUJ-ZQAG-Z
								X													ANON-6XUJ-ZQAH-1
								X	X		X										ANON-6XUJ-ZQAJ-3
														X				X			ANON-6XUJ-ZQAK-4
														X	X						ANON-6XUJ-ZQAM-6
											X										ANON-6XUJ-ZQAN-7
												X		X				X			ANON-6XUJ-ZQAP-9
																					ANON-6XUJ-ZQAQ-A
								X													ANON-6XUJ-ZQAR-B
											X					X					ANON-6XUJ-ZQAS-C
									X	X											ANON-6XUJ-ZQAU-E

Other Issues/Points	Education	Timescales	Financial Issues and Concerns	Secondary School Issues (inc. feeder status and future growth)	Option 2 Issues	Option 1 Issues	New School Transition	Consultation Process	Sibling Guarantee	South Morningside Primary Catchment Change Proposals	James Gillespie's Primary Catchment Change Proposals	Early Years	Existing Issues	Split Site Issues	Residential Development	Projections and Demographics	The Field (in front of The Priory) and Falcon Park	Retaining Deanbank	New School Site and Accommodation	Proposed Site: Traffic and Pedestrian Issues (inc. Canna Lane)	Email, Letter or Online Questionnaire Reference Number
		X	X																		ANON-6XUJ-ZQAV-F
																					ANON-6XUJ-ZQAW-G
																					ANON-6XUJ-ZQAX-H
													X								ANON-6XUJ-ZQAY-J
											X										ANON-6XUJ-ZQAZ-K
																					ANON-6XUJ-ZQC1-C
									X	X											ANON-6XUJ-ZQC2-D
			X											X			X				ANON-6XUJ-ZQC3-E
														X			X		X		ANON-6XUJ-ZQC4-F
									X												ANON-6XUJ-ZQC5-G
								X	X		X										ANON-6XUJ-ZQC6-H
														X			X	X			ANON-6XUJ-ZQC7-J
				X								X									ANON-6XUJ-ZQC8-K
											X										ANON-6XUJ-ZQCA-V

Other Issues/Points	Education	Timescales	Financial Issues and Concerns	Secondary School Issues (inc. feeder status and future growth)	Option 2 Issues	Option 1 Issues	New School Transition	Consultation Process	Sibling Guarantee	South Morningside Primary Catchment Change Proposals	James Gillespie's Primary Catchment Change Proposals	Early Years	Existing Issues	Split Site Issues	Residential Development	Projections and Demographics	The Field (in front of The Priory) and Falcon Park	Retaining Deanbank	New School Site and Accommodation	Proposed Site: Traffic and Pedestrian Issues (inc. Canna Lane)	Email, Letter or Online Questionnaire Reference Number	
																						ANON-6XUJ-ZQCB-W
											X		X	X								ANON-6XUJ-ZQCC-X
									X							X			X			ANON-6XUJ-ZQCD-Y
														X						X		ANON-6XUJ-ZQCE-Z
											X											ANON-6XUJ-ZQCF-1
													X								X	ANON-6XUJ-ZQCG-2
									X													ANON-6XUJ-ZQCH-3
											X											ANON-6XUJ-ZQCJ-5
																						ANON-6XUJ-ZQCK-6
																X						ANON-6XUJ-ZQCM-8
																X			X	X		ANON-6XUJ-ZQCP-B
						X																ANON-6XUJ-ZQCQ-C
											X											ANON-6XUJ-ZQCR-D
											X											ANON-6XUJ-ZQCS-E

Other Issues/Points	Education	Timescales	Financial Issues and Concerns	Secondary School Issues (inc. feeder status and future growth)	Option 2 Issues	Option 1 Issues	New School Transition	Consultation Process	Sibling Guarantee	South Morningside Primary Catchment Change Proposals	James Gillespie's Primary Catchment Change Proposals	Early Years	Existing Issues	Split Site Issues	Residential Development	Projections and Demographics	The Field (in front of The Priory) and Falcon Park	Retaining Deanbank	New School Site and Accommodation	Proposed Site: Traffic and Pedestrian Issues (inc. Canna Lane)	Email, Letter or Online Questionnaire Reference Number
				X			X		X				X								ANON-6XUJ-ZQCT-F
			X											X							ANON-6XUJ-ZQCU-G
													X								ANON-6XUJ-ZQCV-H
												X									ANON-6XUJ-ZQCX-K
																					ANON-6XUJ-ZQCY-M
																X					ANON-6XUJ-ZQCZ-N
																					ANON-6XUJ-ZQK1-M
																					ANON-6XUJ-ZQK2-N
								X			X										ANON-6XUJ-ZQK3-P
																					ANON-6XUJ-ZQK4-Q
																					ANON-6XUJ-ZQK5-R
																					ANON-6XUJ-ZQK6-S
														X	X	X					ANON-6XUJ-ZQK8-U
												X	X	X							ANON-6XUJ-ZQK9-V

Other Issues/Points	Education	Timescales	Financial Issues and Concerns	Secondary School Issues (inc. feeder status and future growth)	Option 2 Issues	Option 1 Issues	New School Transition	Consultation Process	Sibling Guarantee	South Morningside Primary Catchment Change Proposals	James Gillespie's Primary Catchment Change Proposals	Early Years	Existing Issues	Split Site Issues	Residential Development	Projections and Demographics	The Field (in front of The Priory) and Falcon Park	Retaining Deanbank	New School Site and Accommodation	Proposed Site: Traffic and Pedestrian Issues (inc. Canaan Lane)	Email, Letter or Online Questionnaire Reference Number	
																						ANON-6XUJ-ZQKA-4
																X						ANON-6XUJ-ZQKB-5
				X														X				ANON-6XUJ-ZQKC-6
										X												ANON-6XUJ-ZQKD-7
								X	X													ANON-6XUJ-ZQKE-8
						X						X					X		X		X	ANON-6XUJ-ZQKF-9
											X											ANON-6XUJ-ZQKG-A
																						ANON-6XUJ-ZQKH-B
																						ANON-6XUJ-ZQKJ-D
														X								ANON-6XUJ-ZQKK-E
													X									ANON-6XUJ-ZQKM-G
												X										ANON-6XUJ-ZQKN-H
																						ANON-6XUJ-ZQKP-K
											X											ANON-6XUJ-ZQKQ-M

Other Issues/Points	Education	Timescales	Financial Issues and Concerns	Secondary School Issues (inc. feeder status and future growth)	Option 2 Issues	Option 1 Issues	New School Transition	Consultation Process	Sibling Guarantee	South Morningside Primary Catchment Change Proposals	James Gillespie's Primary Catchment Change Proposals	Early Years	Existing Issues	Split Site Issues	Residential Development	Projections and Demographics	The Field (in front of The Priory) and Falcon Park	Retaining Deanbank	New School Site and Accommodation	Proposed Site: Traffic and Pedestrian Issues (inc. Canna Lane)	Email, Letter or Online Questionnaire Reference Number
											X										ANON-6XUJ-ZQKR-N
				X																	ANON-6XUJ-ZQKT-Q
																		X			ANON-6XUJ-ZQKU-R
																					ANON-6XUJ-ZQKV-S
											X										ANON-6XUJ-ZQKW-T
						X															ANON-6XUJ-ZQKY-V
																		X			ANON-6XUJ-ZQNA-7
										X											ANON-6XUJ-ZQP2-T
											X										ANON-6XUJ-ZQP3-U
												X						X			ANON-6XUJ-ZQP4-V
												X		X							ANON-6XUJ-ZQP5-W
													X								ANON-6XUJ-ZQP6-X
																			X	X	ANON-6XUJ-ZQP7-Y
																					ANON-6XUJ-ZQP9-1

Other Issues/Points	Education	Timescales	Financial Issues and Concerns	Secondary School Issues (inc. feeder status and future growth)	Option 2 Issues	Option 1 Issues	New School Transition	Consultation Process	Sibling Guarantee	South Morningside Primary Catchment Change Proposals	James Gillespie's Primary Catchment Change Proposals	Early Years	Existing Issues	Split Site Issues	Residential Development	Projections and Demographics	The Field (in front of The Priory) and Falcon Park	Retaining Deanbank	New School Site and Accommodation	Proposed Site: Traffic and Pedestrian Issues (inc. Canna Lane)	Email, Letter or Online Questionnaire Reference Number
			X									X			X						ANON-6XUJ-ZQPA-9
												X				X					ANON-6XUJ-ZQPB-A
											X										ANON-6XUJ-ZQPC-B
								X			X										ANON-6XUJ-ZQPD-C
											X										ANON-6XUJ-ZQPE-D
												X									ANON-6XUJ-ZQPG-F
								X			X										ANON-6XUJ-ZQPH-G
													X								ANON-6XUJ-ZQPM-N
												X									ANON-6XUJ-ZQPN-P
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Appendix 4 - Key Themes and Issues and Council Responses

Proposed Site: Traffic and Pedestrian Issues (inc. Canaan Lane)

Issue Raised	The Council have not properly considered the impact these options will have on Canaan Lane and surrounding streets. The detailed report mentioned in paragraph 7.12 of the consultation paper is a vital part of the decision making process as the work done thus far appears wholly inadequate, and shows a total disregard for local residents and the impact that this decision will necessarily have on them.
Council Response	<p>No detailed assessment of the traffic impact has been undertaken as no detailed design work has been completed for any of the options proposed. Only when the final design for the building work, landscaping and access arrangements has been completed for the chosen solution can a full and meaningful assessment of the traffic impact and the measures required to address any issues identified be undertaken. This assessment will be undertaken as required in advance of the Planning process. Residents and those affected by these proposals will be able to make representations in regard to any planning applications submitted.</p> <p>However, it is proposed that as the design for the chosen solution develops and prior to entering the Planning process, an informal consultation and community engagement process will be undertaken. This will allow consideration of all potential issues in an open forum for those affected by the proposals, including local residents.</p>
Issue Raised	Parents dropping off and picking up at Deanbank and St Peter's is already causing traffic problems in Canaan Lane which is too small to cope with the volume of traffic. It is unrealistic for the Council to assume that parents will not drop off their children on Canaan Lane by car at a new or extended school. The increased traffic on surrounding roads from Blackford and the new Craighouse Campus communities will also be significant as the distances are too great to regularly walk. The new traffic control measures on Falcon Road will also encourage more St Peter's RC Primary parents to drop off in Canaan Lane. This increased traffic will compromise children's safety and will be exacerbated by including a nursery on the new site.
Issue Raised	The width of the pavements on Canaan Lane are not sufficient to support the volume of pedestrian traffic generated by the existing annexe and St Peter's and is a safety concern which will only get worse under the options proposed. There is no consideration for residents or other people who may be using the street - including those needing extra assistance from The Royal Blind School and Astley Ainslie Hospital.

Issue Raised	The noise and excess traffic generated by these proposals would ruin the quiet, tranquil setting at Canaan Lane.
Issue Raised	As Canaan Lane is so poor for vehicular access it would make sense to encourage walking as much as possible.
Issue Raised	The Council should make Canaan lane a pedestrianised street, even just for the short periods of school drop off and pick up. The Council should also improve pedestrian safety by installing a zebra crossing at the end of Canaan Lane (near the Canny Mann's pub). Additional signage for the school and crossing wardens should be considered.
Council Response	<p>South Morningside Primary School will continue to promote its travel plan to all children and parents/guardians to ensure that, where possible and when practical, options other than the car are used for travel to and from the Deanbank annexe building. Regardless of the option progressed, South Morningside Primary School's travel plan will be updated as a result of this consultation. If Option 1 is progressed a new travel plan will be prepared for the new primary school.</p> <p>It is considered that all of the options in the consultation paper offer benefits in terms of promoting the use of transport options other than cars either by reducing the distance pupils are required to travel to their catchment school or by reducing the requirement for parents to drop off or pick up pupils from multiple sites.</p> <p>Regardless of the option progressed, as part of the community engagement process undertaken before submission of the planning application, a review of traffic and pedestrian issues in and around Canaan Lane will be undertaken including a review of the School Streets project on Falcon Road and its likely success, or otherwise, if extended to include Canaan Lane (and/or surrounding streets).</p>
Issue Raised	Residents and businesses on Canaan Lane and in Falcon Court are concerned by parents parking their cars while delivering their children to the existing Deanbank annexe. The Council has allocated only three parking places to sixteen householders/tenants that reside at 38 Canaan Lane which already causes chaos. This situation will worsen under these proposals.
Council Response	The Council's Parking Operations team have arranged for attendants to assess the issues reported through the consultation process and will take action, as required, against those failing to observe the waiting and loading restrictions currently in place. South Morningside Primary School are also continuing to work with their Parent Council to communicate to parents and guardians the need to observe the parking restrictions in place and consider the needs of the other residents and businesses on Canaan Lane.

Issue Raised	The route 41 bus journey suggested for pupils from Blackford area realigned with a new school or extended South Morningside Primary School has been withdrawn by Lothian Buses and there are no other reliable, or time appropriate, alternatives. The number 41 does, however, continue to provide a convenient service between Blackford area and James Gillespie's Primary School at times amenable to school hours.
Council Response	It is acknowledged that the 41 bus service was withdrawn entirely as of 4 October 2015. The number 38 bus service provides an alternative option but it is accepted that the timing and frequency of these buses is less convenient than the route from Blackford to Marchmont.
Issue Raised	Cluny Gardens should be included in the upcoming 20mph city limit as all children living in section B of the South Morningside catchment map in the consultation paper as well as children in Blackford who are currently in the James Gillespie's catchment would have to use and cross Cluny Gardens to reach the new or extended school.
Council Response	<p>When drafting the proposals for the 20mph programme, a robust set of criteria was developed to establish a network of 20mph streets in the city centre, main shopping streets, residential areas and areas with high levels of pedestrian or cyclist activity. Streets outwith these categories would generally have a speed limit of 30mph.</p> <p>In considering the revised network, it was important to apply a consistent approach and to achieve a balance by retaining a network of roads at 30 and 40mph. While Cluny Gardens is a residential street, it is also considered to be a local strategic route and therefore was not included in the 20mph network.</p>
Issue Raised	The path connecting Canaan Lane and Falcon Gardens should be preserved as it is very useful and connects the two communities.
Council Response	It is anticipated that the path connecting Canaan Lane and Falcon Gardens would remain in place regardless of the option progressed as this path provides opportunities to increase the number of access points to the new school or annexe site.
Issue Raised	Please improve the parking/drop off area outside Deanbank.
Council Response	Council policy is to promote sustainable forms of travel which means that the creation of drop-off areas specifically for parents is not something which would be considered as part of a new educational facility. Parking provision would be improved regardless of the option progressed, however this provision would be limited and would be put in

	place for the use of school staff and visitors only.
Issue Raised	Parents currently park at the Woodburn Terrace/Canaan Lane junction to drop children off at St Peter's and this will be exacerbated by the proposals in Option 1 and Option 2. Woodburn Terrace is a busy road and it can be very difficult to cross due to the lack of controlled crossing options (the only zebra crossing being at the junction of Woodburn Terrace/Canaan Lane).
Council Response	As part of the community engagement process undertaken before submission of any planning application required to progress an approved option, a review of traffic and pedestrian issues around Canaan Lane, and including Woodburn Terrace, will be undertaken. This will identify any actions, including the provision or relocation of crossing points, which may be required to address any issues raised.
Issue Raised	It has been suggested that there is a possibility of closing Canaan Lane during busy school times. How this can be an option as there is a hospital and blind school on this road? Residents would also be stuck not being able to get their car out at certain times of day.
Council Response	The School Streets project being piloted on Falcon Road outside St Peter's RC Primary School may be an option for Canaan Lane and surrounding streets, however a full review of the success (or otherwise) of this scheme will be required before consideration could be given to extending the areas to which it is applied. If at some point in the future it were to be implemented on Canaan Lane then it would not affect residents or businesses who would be able to continue to use the road as they currently do. The closure would apply to all other traffic – specifically parents dropping off children at the school or annexe – for short periods around school start and end times.

New School Site and Accommodation

Issue Raised	The Deanbank and Oaklands site does not provide sufficient space for a new school and locating two schools (St Peter's and the new school) in such a small area is not viable.
Issue Raised	A building of 3,422m ² which increases to 3,700m ² is wholly inappropriate for the proposed site and constitutes over development which will be challenged during the planning process and may even be taken to Judicial Review which will delay the delivery of a solution.
Issue Raised	While large enough for a school, the Deanbank and Oaklands site is not big enough to also accommodate nursery provision.
Council	The statutory consultation paper explains that the size of the combined

Response	<p>Deanbank and Oaklands site is already lower than the minimum site size requirements specified in the School Premises (General Requirements and Standards) (Scotland) Regulations 1967 and the 1973 and 1979 amendments to those regulations for a two stream school.</p> <p>However, the statutory consultation paper also explains that a smaller site may be acceptable with the consent of the Scottish Government subject to it being agreed that it would be impractical or unreasonable to apply the standards within the legislation.</p> <p>The Council considers that, despite not meeting the standards within the legislation the combined Deanbank and Oaklands site is sufficient to provide an appropriate environment for a new two stream school including a 40 place nursery. Accordingly, prior to the commencement of the consultation process, the Council sought the consent of the Scottish Government for the use of this site for a new primary school in the event that this was the option which the Council agreed should be progressed. The outcome of that request is covered later in this report.</p> <p>If the use of the field in front of the Priory is included, the combined area occupied by St Peter's RC Primary School, the Deanbank annexe and Oaklands Care Home exceeds the size of the combined sites of Gracemount Primary and the adjacent St Catherine's RC Primary which together accommodate four streams. Accordingly, it is viable to operate two schools in close proximity on a limited site and, in fact, the City of Edinburgh Council also operates four joint campus schools, two of which occupy sites comparable in size with the combined site including the field in front of the Priory, St Peter's RC Primary, Deanbank and Oaklands.</p> <p>Regardless of the option progressed, any new building on the Deanbank and Oaklands site will require to secure planning permission before it can proceed and it would be the right of any person to object to the development through the required statutory planning process.</p>
Issue Raised	<p>The NHS plans to make available ground at the Astley Ainslie site – why not wait until this far more appropriate site is available? A new school on the Astley Ainslie site would be significantly closer for pupils from the realigned Blackford area.</p>
Council Response	<p>The Astley Ainslie site has not been advertised on the market so the Council, although aware of the site, has been unable to consider it as a possible location for a new school or annexe of South Morningside Primary School. The Astley Ainslie site was considered as a potential site for the new Boroughmuir High School, however, it was clear at that time that timescales around its availability remained uncertain. It is not possible to base a decision on the future strategy for education in south Edinburgh on the basis of land that <i>might</i> become available and that the</p>

	<p>Council <i>might</i> be successful in procuring. A new school on the Astley Ainsley site would be geographically closer to the Blackford area but would be further from the majority of its catchment population in the Morningside area.</p> <p>The Deanbank and Oaklands sites are owned by the Council and therefore the Council is in control of the risks that would otherwise be associated with the timescales and costs of the site.</p>
Issue Raised	Has a new school site at Midmar Paddock been considered?
Council Response	<p>The land at Midmar Paddock is categorised as greenbelt and a Local Nature Conservation Site and as such any development would be contrary to the Council's Planning policy.</p> <p>Midmar Paddock is also an area with a very low pupil population. If this were to become the site for a school it would have very few pupils immediately around it requiring that larger and more distant areas of the South Morningside Primary School catchment be realigned with it. This would place the significant majority of realigned pupils physically closer to the existing South Morningside Primary School and would not be conducive to promoting sustainable forms of transportation.</p>
Issue Raised	It would make best sense to increase the capacity at South Morningside Primary to have everything on 1 site.
Council Response	<p>Only Option 1(c) in the statutory consultation paper would result in South Morningside Primary School's classes being combined on a single site. Under this option a new primary school with nursery classes would open on the combined Deanbank and Oaklands site and South Morningside Primary School's nursery classes at Fairmilehead would close. Accordingly, South Morningside Primary School would cease to offer nursery provision.</p> <p>The combined Deanbank and Oaklands site would be too small to accommodate the requirements of a four stream school. As the statutory consultation paper explains, the size of that site is already lower than the minimum site size requirement specified in the School Premises (General Requirements and Standards) (Scotland) Regulations 1967 and the 1973 and 1979 amendments to those regulations as being required for a two stream school. Increasing the school to be four stream and, in turn, doubling the number of pupils which required to be accommodated on that site to 840 primary pupils plus 40 nursery pupils would be unacceptable to the Council and would likely be rejected by Scottish Ministers whose approval would be required to progress any such proposal.</p> <p>While Scottish Ministers approval would not be required to expand</p>

	<p>South Morningside Primary School on its existing site, the Council would consider the extent of the building works required to accommodate the additional primary and nursery pupils on the site prohibitive due to the significant playground loss.</p> <p>The option of increasing the capacity of South Morningside Primary School on a single site has previously been considered and discounted. In 2011 a feasibility study was undertaken which considered options to locate all of South Morningside Primary School's pupils in permanent buildings on the main school site; the provision of a new gym and relocation of the nursery were also considered. This feasibility study was updated in 2014. However, due to the significant loss of playground space which would arise and advice received from Planning that the height of the proposed buildings and their proximity to the common boundary would make planning issues difficult to overcome, the option of a permanent expansion of accommodation on the existing school site was not considered to be a reasonable or deliverable solution.</p>
Issue Raised	There is a small park, playground and path through from Cannan Lane to Falcon Road that would be a devastating loss to everyone if engulfed in a new school site.
Council Response	If a new school were to be constructed on the combined Deanbank and Oakland site, the play park would not become part of the school grounds and current public access arrangements would be maintained.
Issue Raised	The noise generated by a very small site incorporating St Peter's, Deanbank House, Child's Play Nursery and the playground is already creating mass noise pollution for residents on all sides.
Council Response	<p>If noise levels generated from existing school or nursery premises are causing a disturbance then this should be reported to the head of the establishment who will identify if there is anything which can be done to reduce the noise levels. If this does not satisfactorily address the concerns raised then the noise can be reported to the Council on (0131) 529 3030 or email: asknoise@edinburgh.gov.uk.</p> <p>Each of the options proposed would require the submission of a planning application and the planning consultation process would allow the opportunity for representations to be made regarding any proposal.</p>
Issue Raised	The option of negotiating with the NHS and the Scottish Government over a site in the underutilised Royal Edinburgh Hospital site remains.
Council Response	The Deanbank and Oaklands sites are owned by the Council and therefore the Council is in control of the risks that would otherwise be associated with the timescales and costs of the site. This would not be the case if the Council opened negotiations with the NHS to procure

	land regarding which the availability and costs were uncertain.
Issue Raised	Demolition of Deanbank House would be best use of the site; however, there would be many objections to this which, at best, would lead to considerable delays when the need for increased provision is becoming urgent.
Council Response	The statutory consultation paper makes clear that Communities and Families view the location of Deanbank House within the Grange Conservation area to be a significant risk to the deliverability of an option which is dependent on the demolition of Deanbank House.
Issue Raised	Optimum use of the Deanbank and Oaklands site will not be possible as the site is already only half the size it should ideally be and is restricted by the necessity to retain Deanbank House and the mature trees in the grounds. This will limit space for children to run around impacting on physical well being and concentration in the classroom.
Council Response	<p>The combined Deanbank and Oaklands site is 0.96 hectares compared to a site size of 1.3 hectares prescribed by the School Premises (General Requirements and Standards) (Scotland) Regulations 1967 and the 1973 and 1979 amendments to those regulations. Several schools in the area, including Bruntsfield Primary School, South Morningside Primary School and St Peter's RC Primary School record among the highest attainment levels in the city yet have significantly smaller sites than that proposed for a new school and Communities and Families has not been made aware of any issues relating to an unusually high lack of concentration in the classrooms at these schools.</p> <p>The presence of mature trees within the grounds of Deanbank and Oaklands is something that the Council views as an important environmental asset to the site which will enhance rather than hinder children's play. The philosophy behind current playground development schemes emphasises the importance of connecting play and nature and demonstrates that the quality and diversity of the outdoor environment can make a small space more effective than a large one.</p>
Issue Raised	What after school care provisions will be in place?
Council Response	<p>After School provision is dependent on the availability of a service provider. However, it is assumed that under Options 2 and 3 the current After School Club would continue to operate from South Morningside Primary School's main site and from Deanbank. The construction of a gym hall at Deanbank under Option 3 would present opportunities to expand the range of Active Schools clubs offered by South Morningside Primary School.</p> <p>It is too early to identify what after school provision would be provided</p>

	under Option 1. This provision is something that would be developed with the new school community as the school is established.
Issue Raised	The options presented pay insufficient attention to the provision of general purpose space.
Council Response	All of the options presented in the statutory consultation paper would ensure that general purpose provision within all affected schools meets the Scottish Government's recommendations for general purpose provision as set out in the "Determining Primary School Capacity" guidance document for local authorities issued in October 2014.
Issue Raised	My concern about a new school sharing outside space with St Peter's RC Primary school is that St Peter's faces the same pressure from rising rolls and in the future may also need to expand.
Council Response	<p>It is proposed that, regardless of the option progressed, the school or annexe based at the combined Deanbank and Oaklands site would have access to the field in front of the Priory building at times agreed with St Peter's RC Primary School.</p> <p>Projections do not currently suggest that an expansion strategy will be required for St Peter's RC Primary School and, even if it did require to be expanded, the field in front of the Priory is part of the Council's Green Space strategy and is Common Good land.</p>
Issue Raised	Consideration should be given to the compulsory purchase of part of the old Craighouse Campus for a new South Morningside Primary School and nursery.
Council Response	<p>The old Craighouse campus is located to the north and west of the South Morningside Primary School catchment and, while this may be located conveniently for pupils in the Craighouse Gardens and Morningside Gardens area, it would position the new school on the edge of its catchment geographically isolated from the parts of the current pupil populations of James Gillespie's Primary School and Bruntsfield Primary School that the new school proposals would also be designed to serve.</p> <p>The old Craighouse campus site has also been subject to a number of environmental restrictions on the extent of the development which is permissible on the site. This may limit the likely success of an application to locate a school on these grounds. Furthermore, a compulsory purchase order process is likely to be a long undertaking with no guarantee that it will result in the Council acquiring the land. The Council would also be required to demonstrate a strong case for seeking the compulsory purchase of private property and this case would be undermined by the availability of the combined Deanbank and</p>

	Oaklands site which is geographically more appropriate and is already in Council ownership.
Issue Raised	The proposed site is ideally placed between Gillespies, Bruntsfield and South Morningside.
Council Response	The convenient location of the Deanbank and Oaklands site at the intersection of the catchment areas of Bruntsfield, James Gillespie's and South Morningside Primary School is a significant advantage over many of the other sites identified by respondees to this consultation.
Issue Raised	The Council seem able to justify the proposed sites major shortcoming by highlighting that they have already built insufficient schools elsewhere in the city. We are being asked to consider the next 50 years of children's education in the South of Edinburgh. Why build a school which is already too small right from the outset?
Council Response	<p>The availability of land in the city centre meeting the site sizes prescribed in the School Premises (General Requirements and Standards) (Scotland) Regulations 1967 and the 1973 and 1979 amendments to those regulations for a two stream school is extremely limited. There has been demand to identify a site for a new school in south Edinburgh for several decades and in that time no suitable site has come to market. With the exception of the Council owned combined Deanbank and Oaklands site the Council is not aware of another potential site being available.</p> <p>It is worth noting that none of the primary schools in the south Edinburgh area including Bruntsfield, James Gillespie's, South Morningside, Tollcross, Sciennes, Preston Street and St Peter's RC Primary School meet the standards prescribed in the School Premises Regulations and yet for the past 50 years and more these schools have demonstrated that they can deliver a high quality educational experience and high levels of educational attainment.</p>
Issue Raised	The Council outlines a caveat which suggests that minimum site size recommendations may be overruled in certain circumstances and it is disappointing that so little worth is given to provision of outdoor space. Lack of playground space at Bruntsfield Primary is highlighted as a reason for alleviating pressure at the school as part of the consultation paper and it is incomprehensible that what is deemed unsatisfactory for one group of children/community is acceptable for another.
Council Response	The Council does not believe that the playground space at a new school on the combined Deanbank and Oaklands site would be "unsatisfactory". The Council believes that the relatively small area by which the combined Deanbank and Oaklands site falls short of the School Premises (General Requirements and Standards) (Scotland)

	<p>Regulations 1967 and the 1973 and 1979 amendments to those regulations for a two stream school would be more than addressed by careful consideration in the design of the external space.</p> <p>Comparing the space available at the combined Deanbank and Oaklands site with the size of the Bruntsfield Primary school site is misleading as the Bruntsfield site is less than half the area of the combined Deanbank and Oaklands site and yet its pupil capacity is a third greater than that proposed for a new school on the combined Deanbank and Oaklands site.</p>
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Retaining Deanbank

Issue Raised	Deanbank House should be demolished to make way for brand new, state-of-the-art facilities on that site. It will be seen by most people as an absurdity that a building which is a) not rare in the area, b) not a particularly good example of a building of its period is being allowed to act as a block on the development of a 21st century teaching facility for children in the area. We have waited 50 years for a new school in south Edinburgh. This isn't the moment to cut corners.
Issue Raised	Demolishing Deanbank and building a single, purpose-built school will add to the overall cost of the project, but it is likely to be cheaper than this previous favourite option which was to build on the Astley Ainslie site.
Issue Raised	It was stated at the public meeting held at South Morningside Primary School that the demolition of Deanbank would allow for the building of a single school for the entire catchment area. The retention of Deanbank means that the site cannot be configured in such a way that allows a one-school solution.
Issue Raised	The options dismiss the idea of demolishing Deanbank and building a single purpose built building. The stated reason is due to "planning" objections however the real reason is cost.
Issue Raised	It is clear to me that the common-sense option is the one which remains unavailable - the demolition of Deanbank and the resultant one-school solution.
Council Response	<p>The statutory consultation paper identifies that a new school proposal incorporating the demolition of Deanbank House would carry with it a significant planning risk which may prevent or delay its delivery and would potentially be very costly if it were ultimately to be unsuccessful.</p> <p>The position of the Planning Department is clearly set out in the "Edinburgh Design Guidance" and the "Guidance for Listed Buildings and Conservations Areas" documents. These documents make clear</p>

	<p>that if it were proposed that Deanbank House be demolished, the Planning Department would be required to weigh up the contribution this building makes to the Conservation Area against the provision of new educational facilities (and the standard of the new building proposed). In these cases there is always a general presumption against the demolition of buildings in conservation areas (where they make a positive contribution) as per policy ENV5 of the Edinburgh City Local Plan.</p> <p>Notwithstanding the planning risk which rendered any option involving the demolition of Deanbank as being of too high a risk to consider, there are other reasons why this is not an approach which the Council would advocate.</p> <p>Firstly, the Deanbank building is already providing an excellent educational environment that would complement the new build accommodation to be provided under any of the options. Whilst the building may be relatively old, it is still perfectly possible to create an educational environment in an older building which can accommodate modern educational needs as has been very successfully evidenced in the new Gaelic Primary School – Bun-sgoil Taobh na Pàirce - which was created using the former Bonnington Primary School building which was originally built in the 1870's.</p> <p>Secondly, the cost of demolishing the Deanbank building and then replacing it with new build would add very considerably to the already significant cost associated with all of the options which have been identified. This would simply not represent good value for money when there is absolutely no necessity to do this in any event. In addition, the recent investment of £0.75m which has been made in upgrading and refurbishing the building would in effect be wasted.</p> <p>Finally, if it were proposed to construct an entirely new and fully integrated primary school on that site it is probable that the existing Deanbank building would require to be demolished before any construction work was progressed as it is unlikely that such a project could be undertaken in phases given the size of the site. Were that to happen a decant location would require to be identified for the duration of the build period and, assuming that a suitable location could actually be found, this would, most likely, come at considerable cost.</p>
<p>Issue Raised</p>	<p>Can you please make available the fully documented paper trail [including meeting minutes] detailing the Communities and Families department's unsuccessful negotiations with the planning department about the demolition of Deanbank?</p>
<p>Council Response</p>	<p>The advice provided to retain the Deanbank building was given at an informal meeting held with planning to discuss each of the options. No minute of this meeting was taken.</p>

Issue Raised	Can you please provide the assessment of the “relative public benefit” of creating a new school for south Edinburgh (which has, over the last couple of decades seen several other localities in the city be given a new school)? Surely provision of a fit for purpose school is a prime example of a public benefit?
Council Response	The detailed statutory consultation paper sets out the benefits associated with all options regarding which consultation was undertaken.
Issue Raised	Can you please provide the assessment of the “conservation deficit” of demolishing Deanbank, including confirmation of who makes this subjective judgement?
Council Response	The Communities and Families Department is following the advice provided by the Planning Department within the Council. It would be for the Planning Department to determine how the conservation deficit would be assessed.
Issue Raised	Can you please confirm that the building of the new Portobello High School only went ahead, eventually, as a result of the invoking of a public benefit / common good clause?
Council Response	No public benefit/common good clause was invoked. The construction of the new Portobello High School on Portobello Park was only possible once the Scottish Parliament passed the City of Edinburgh Council (Portobello Park) Private Bill which, following royal assent, became The City of Edinburgh Council (Portobello Park) Act 2014. The Council was only able to appropriate the land for the new school once this legislation had been passed.
Issue Raised	As part of your planning, you must have performed a financial analysis for the one-school option, including the following elements: i) the demolition of Deanbank ii) the building of a larger school on the site and iii) estimation of the proceeds of sale to developers of the existing South Morningside Primary School. Please disclose these detailed costings.
Council Response	The only options which were considered and costed are those set out in the statutory consultation paper. The suggested one-school option (involving the sale of the current main site of South Morningside Primary School and the construction of a new school on the Deanbank/Oaklands site) is not one which has been, or would be, contemplated as the site is too small to accommodate 840 pupils.
Issue Raised	Is it simply the case that the school accommodation at the new school site could be better configured if Deanbank were to be demolished?

Council Response	No detailed design work considering the configuration of a new school building has been considered. Accordingly, a comparison of the relative design merits of school designs incorporating and excluding the Deanbank building cannot meaningfully be made.
Issue Raised	A new school must have a multi-decade lifespan and therefore should be established to meet the educational and practical requirements as best possible.
Council Response	All of the options proposed build upon the high quality of education already offered by the schools in the south Edinburgh area and any new building, whether it is a new school or simply a gym hall, will be a high quality, adaptable and enduring building designed to meet the requirements of a modern curriculum.

The Field (in front of The Priory) and Falcon Park

Issue Raised	Access to the field next to St Peter's needs to be formalised to allow Deanbank or the new school use of this field every day.
Council Response	The field in front of the Priory building is registered within the Council to Communities and Families and is available for school use during school hours. No single school has ownership of this space and it is anticipated that St Peter's RC Primary School and the school occupying the Deanbank and Oaklands site would jointly manage timetabling and access to this resource.
Issue Raised	Morningside Community Council's suggestion to use Falcon Park to enlarge Deanbank's (or the new school's) playground makes sense and there should be a reassessment of such an option. It might also offer the opportunity to create another access point to the site, maybe a footpath.
Issue Raised	The toddlers' playground beside St Peter's must be preserved. There are no similar facilities anywhere within walking distance for young families.
Council Response	No response to the statutory consultation was received from Morningside Community Council. Accordingly, it is not possible to comment fully on suggestions they may have made. However, Falcon Park is part of the Council's Open Space strategy which seeks to protect these spaces. The Council considers this park to be a valuable public amenity in the area which is conveniently located for use by any of the three educational establishments bordering it.

	The landscape design required of any of the options progressed as a result of this statutory consultation will seek to maintain a connection between Falcon Road, Falcon Park and the Deanbank and Oaklands site.
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Projections and Demographics

Issue Raised	Under option 1, what is the anticipated roll (after full transition) of the following primary schools, in totality <i>and</i> broken down by year group: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buckstone Primary School • South Morningside Primary School • 'New' Primary School • Bruntsfield Primary School
Council Response	As Option 1 may not be implemented until 2019 and the transition process may not be fully complete for a full school cycle, the information requested is roll and individual stage projections for the year 2026. The Council has not produced roll projections for Option 1 up to this date.
Issue Raised	Under option 1, what is the expected number of pupils per annum who will go from the new primary school to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • James Gillespie's High • Boroughmuir High
Council Response	As secondary school catchment areas are unaffected by these proposals they do not materially affect future projections for either James Gillespie's High School or Boroughmuir High School. Accordingly, no detailed analysis of the number of secondary pupils generated in the new school catchment has been undertaken.
Issue Raised	Option 1 addresses both current pressure on places and potential future pressure. Options 2 and 3 will not fully address the problems of capacity in each of the three schools affected – they are a temporary fix – and will only exacerbate the problems experienced by South Morningside in particular.
Issue Raised	Option 3 still offers opportunities to deal with 'baby boom' years and offers flexibility for future expansion when necessary.
Issue Raised	Under Option 3 the number of classes in James Gillespie's Primary School would increase significantly. No indication is given as to whether this would mean larger classes, smaller classes, nor what allocations of teachers and resources would be made to support the changes.

<p>Council Response</p>	<p>The statutory consultation paper sets out in full what the Council considers to be the benefits associated with Options 2 and 3 which includes a reduction in the number of sites over which South Morningside Primary School is currently split by relocating the nursery classes from Fairmilehead to the annexe on the combined Deanbank and Oaklands site. For this reason the Council believes that both Options 2 and 3 would be a progressive step in addressing the accommodation issues currently experienced by South Morningside Primary School.</p> <p>The statutory consultation document also makes clear that under Option 2 the number of classrooms provided would be the same as under Option 1. Accordingly, in terms of their capacity to address current and future pressure for primary places there is little difference between Option 1 and Option 2.</p> <p>Option 3 was included as an option in the statutory consultation paper as projections at the time suggested that Option 3 would offer sufficient capacity to accommodate demand in the foreseeable future. This remains the case for Bruntsfield and South Morningside Primary Schools.</p> <p>Updated projections now suggest that the capacity available at James Gillespie's would be sufficient until approximately August 2023. However, early P1 registration data suggests that the P1 intake at James Gillespie's Primary School in August 2016 will exceed that projected. If this is the case then under Option 3 James Gillespie's would require to organise 21 classes in August 2019 requiring either an additional classroom or that the size of the catchment area be reduced in the preceding years.</p> <p>Accordingly, the implementation of Option 3 without putting in place additional measures carries a significant risk in the short term and, in the long term, even with additional measures in place, new housing developments coming forward may create future issues.</p> <p>Identifying the exact pupil numbers within individual classes is not something that may accurately be determined. However it is assumed that the implementation of Option 3 would require that larger team teaching classes at P1 at the three south Edinburgh schools would be required to continue.</p> <p>Staffing allocations are assessed on an annual basis to take account of the requirements of the school at that time. It is not possible to forecast staffing allocations.</p>
<p>Issue Raised</p>	<p>The current pressure is not a problem that we see will go away in the near future, as families re-locate to the area to attend one of James Gillespie's, Bruntsfield and South Morningside.</p>

Council Response	<p>The Council believes that school rolls in the area will continue to experience growth as a result of larger intakes at P1 and smaller classes leaving at P7.</p> <p>However, what is not clear is the extent to which growth at P1 level can be sustained. The popularity of the schools in the area – including at secondary level – may mean that people do not just relocate to the area but also stay in the area eventually leading to a more mature and established population.</p>
Issue Raised	<p>Surely the Boroughmuir annexe, adjacent to Bruntsfield Primary, could be used as an extension to the primary school?</p>
Council Response	<p>The statutory consultation paper makes clear that regardless of the option progressed, the Council does not anticipate a requirement to extend Bruntsfield Primary School beyond the accommodation it already occupies.</p>
Issue Raised	<p>The longer term (five years and beyond) sustainability of the current catchment arrangements and the extent to which these have been factored into the proposals are a concern given the projected rise in Edinburgh's overall population over the next two decades.</p>
Council Response	<p>The National Records of Scotland 2012 based population projections show the total population of Edinburgh rising from 492,000 in 2014 to over 600,000 by 2034 which is an increase of over 22%. However, the allocation of new large scale housing sites in the Edinburgh Local Development Plan is expected to provide much of the housing and infrastructure (including schools) required to cater for the projected rising population.</p> <p>Accordingly, the Council believes that the current catchment arrangements are sustainable. However, there is significant scope for change between now and 2034 and, in future years, should current catchment arrangements prove to be unsustainable then catchment changes will be considered. Any proposals for catchment change would be subject to a full statutory consultation process.</p>
Issue Raised	<p>Bruntsfield Primary School has absorbed larger and larger numbers of pupils over recent years - partly through subdivision of existing classrooms and partly through the tactical use of composite classes across two school years and larger classes with two teachers. It seems likely that Bruntsfield Primary School will soon be operating as a three-stream, 21 class school. This begs the question as to what will happen if rolls continue to rise as seems likely given the demographic pressures. Bruntsfield Primary School operates in an old building on a relatively constrained site. We would be concerned if the proposed new school was viewed as the end-solution to the rising rolls issue in south</p>

	Edinburgh.
Council Response	If school rolls at Bruntsfield Primary School were to continue to rise beyond those projected then the Council would review its projections and engage with the school management and Parent Council representatives through the Rising Rolls Working Group and all the options available to address this issue would be explored. If a new school were to be operational in the south Edinburgh area at that time then the potential it would provide to address the identified issue would be considered as part of this process.
Issue Raised	If additional classroom space is required at Bruntsfield Primary School, that could impact on general purpose space within the building. This would not only affect the school's operation but also on the school's ability to operate such a diverse range of after-school clubs.
Council Response	The Council's priority is to ensure that there are sufficient classrooms available to support demand from catchment pupils. The number of classrooms available within a school will be determined in accordance with the Scottish Government's "Determining Primary School Capacity" guidance for local authorities which was issued in October 2014. This guidance includes a recommendation for general purpose space provision which the Council is committed to meeting.
Issue Raised	New developments, an increase in birth rate and people moving to desirable catchments means that Option 3 is a short term and not a long term option.
Council Response	<p>The birth rate in the south Edinburgh area has experienced only minor growth since 2010. This mirrors the position for the city as a whole. In the first half of 2015 the birth rate in the city has been the lowest it has been for more than eight years. It is too early to determine if this is the start of a fall in birth rates, however it confirms that growth is again unlikely.</p> <p>The popularity of the schools in the area – including at secondary level – is more than likely a considerable factor in families moving into the area. However, it is not clear to what extent people moving into the area is a pattern that can be sustained. It is likely that growth will eventually drop as people do not just relocate to the area but also stay in the area leading to a more mature and established population with fewer young children.</p> <p>Option 3 was included as an option in the statutory consultation paper as projections at the time suggested that Option 3 would offer sufficient capacity to accommodate demand in the foreseeable future. This remains the case for Bruntsfield and South Morningside Primary School's.</p>

	<p>Updated projections now suggest that the capacity available at James Gillespie's would be sufficient until approximately August 2023. However, early P1 registration data suggests that the P1 intake at James Gillespie's Primary School in August 2016 will exceed that projected. If this is the case then under Option 3 James Gillespie's would require to organise 21 classes in August 2019 requiring either an additional classroom or that the size of the catchment area be reduced in the preceding years.</p> <p>Accordingly, the implementation of Option 3 without putting in place additional measures carries a significant risk in the short term and, in the long term, even with additional measures in place, new housing developments coming forward may create future issues.</p>
Issue Raised	<p>Moving to a two stream school system for the South Morningside and the new school would be a wonderful thought, however, I don't believe the figures given at the meeting on Thursday, 3 September at South Morningside Primary could be correct due to new builds and the desirability of schooling in the area.</p>
Council Response	<p>All of the figures presented at the consultation meetings and contained within the statutory consultation paper include pupil generation figures for approved developments. This means that any development where a planning application had been submitted and approved was taken into account in the pupil projections.</p>
Issue Raised	<p>The population is predicted to increase over the next years, hence for long term planning, the more nursery spaces available, the better.</p>
Council Response	<p>Under all options considered in the statutory consultation paper, with the exception of option 1(a), the number of nursery places made available by the Council would increase. However, the statutory consultation paper makes clear that current demand for places is manageable within existing capacity.</p> <p>The need to increase the number of places available in the nursery sector is likely to be driven by further changes in The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act which would increase the number of hours of early learning and childcare that the Council is required to provide. This may result in significant reductions in the availability of spaces if additional accommodation was not provided.</p>
Issue Raised	<p>When giving planning permission to housing developers and student flat developers is consideration given to ensuring that there are strategies in place to deal with the increased demand on infrastructure in the area? A gradual change of demographic due to tenement use moving from student housing to family housing and the construction of numerous small residential developments seem to have gone under the</p>

	<p>Planning radar in this catchment. This begs the question, "Are the two new high schools, which are currently under construction going to be big enough?"</p>
Issue Raised	<p>It remains unclear whether the future demand for high school places at both Boroughmuir and James Gillespies can be accommodated in those schools and whether this future demand has been considered in sufficient detail at this point.</p>
Council Response	<p>All known planning applications are assessed on the basis of the likely pupil generation from the development and the impact this may have on the educational infrastructure in the area. Where necessary a contribution to educational infrastructure may be sought from the developer as a condition of planning approval.</p> <p>As there are no material changes to the Boroughmuir or James Gillespie's catchment areas, consideration of this issue was beyond the scope of this consultation process. To include consideration of this issue would have required a detailed assessment which had not been undertaken.</p> <p>The Asset Planning team within Communities and Families have started to consider the potential impact of rising school rolls on all secondary schools and this will continue throughout 2016; this will include Boroughmuir High School and James Gillespie's High School. For each secondary school where a specific potential rising rolls issue is identified it is proposed to set up a working group involving officers from Asset Planning and representatives from the school management team to begin the process of determining the most suitable solution.</p> <p>At the time the new schools were planned an increased capacity was provided to cater for the projected rolls.</p>
Issue Raised	<p>Given that Bruntsfield is currently at 104 per cent capacity according to the latest figures, while South Morningside is at 95 per cent and James Gillespie's 91 per cent, it seems odd that South Morningside and James Gillespie's are having the largest reductions in their catchment, while Bruntsfield is being asked to increase its size. This will result in a reduction of the space available in classrooms and shared spaces, when reductions have already been made in the school.</p>
Council Response	<p>The census return to the Scottish Government in September 2015 shows that Bruntsfield Primary School is at 99% occupancy. However, occupancy figures are not absolute but provide a strategic indicator which allows the Council to identify where a school may be facing accommodation pressures. The occupancy rates for South Morningside and James Gillespie's Primary Schools in the same census return are 102% and 91% respectively. These figures will be subject to change as the Council is in the process of adopting the</p>

	<p>capacity methodology recommended by the Scottish Government in its “Determining Primary School Capacity” guidance released in October 2014.</p> <p>In order to provide the capacity to support demand for places at South Morningside Primary School and at James Gillespie’s Primary School it has been necessary to expand the capacity of these schools through provision of temporary units, new classroom buildings and annexe accommodation. This was necessary as the assessment of the accommodation available within each school’s existing buildings suggested that no further classroom space could be formed.</p> <p>The Rising Rolls Working Group formed at Bruntsfield Primary School consisting of Council officers, school management and Parent Council representatives considered a range of options to address the current and forecast accommodation pressures at the school. This included consideration of the options delivered at James Gillespie’s Primary School and South Morningside Primary School. However, with some of the largest classrooms in the school estate, the Rising Rolls Working Group identified that it would be possible to increase the number of classrooms available to meet the projected demand without having to consider more disruptive, costly or risky alternative strategies. This expansion will be achieved without any significant loss of general purpose space; provision of which will continue to meet the recommendations set out in the Scottish Government in its “Determining Primary School Capacity” guidance.</p>
Issue Raised	<p>It is not clear whether the small reduction in the south of Bruntsfield’s catchment area balances the increases in the catchment at the Fountainbridge end, other expected residential developments including at the old Boroughmuir site and changes in property use from student accommodation to family homes. Would it be possible to assign more of the Bruntsfield catchment to the new school and/or make use of other spaces such as the adjacent St Oswald’s building to reduce pressure on Bruntsfield?</p>
Issue Raised	<p>Option 1 will not do enough to alleviate Bruntsfield’s accommodation issues – the catchment is only being reduced by a very small amount.</p>
Council Response	<p>The Council believes that Bruntsfield Primary School can accommodate all necessary demand for places within its existing accommodation. Accordingly, it is not considered that the use of St Oswald’s Hall will be necessary and no catchment changes beyond those proposed are being considered at this time.</p> <p>Projections for future P1 intakes at Bruntsfield Primary School include the expected pupil generation from the Fountainbridge development.</p>
Issue	<p>Given the error made in how the agreed future changes to the</p>

Raised	Bruntsfield catchment were presented in the Consultation documents, what confidence can we have that consideration has actually been given to the likely future demand for places in Bruntsfield (e.g. as more families move into the area, with increased purpose built student accommodation allowing larger properties become available)?
Council Response	<p>While an error was made by omitting the illustration showing the minor catchment change already approved for August 2016, the expected pupil generation from this area had already been included in the projections.</p> <p>Future demand for places at primary schools is projected on the basis of births, approved housing developments and historic patterns of attendance. These are all data sources which provide confirmed numbers. Pupil projections are updated annually and it is through this annual review process that demographic changes are reflected.</p>
Issue Raised	The figures indicated for the extension to the Bruntsfield catchment to incorporate part of the former brewery site at Fountainbridge (28 pupils identified in the Committee report for the Fountainbridge development) far exceed the expected reduction associated with the amendment to the catchment proposed under Option 1 (6 pupils).
Council Response	The Planning Application report for the Fountainbridge development considered by the Development Management Sub Committee on 17 December 2014 identified that the predicted future pupil generation from the proposal was 28 pupils in total (i.e. from P1 to P7). The expected reduction of 6 pupils following the catchment changes proposed under Option 1 referred to in the statutory consultation paper is for P1 only. The total reduction (P1-P7) is estimated to be 37 pupils (see Table 2: 'Total Catchment Population 2012-2014; Actual and Adjusted for New School').
Issue Raised	Build the new school with the capacity to add another floor, with growth in mind for the future.
Council Response	The new school building would be constructed over two storeys and it is unlikely that an additional floor would be acceptable due to the sites' location in a conservation area. The construction of an additional floor at a later date would also be highly disruptive requiring the decant of all pupils from the site. Additionally, while the Council believes that the size of the combined Deanbank and Oaklands site is sufficient for a double stream school's roll, to significantly exceed this may not be appropriate.

Residential Development

Issue Raised	<p>Please state (or estimate if unknown) the number of dwellings and the projected number of children in each year group of the following housing developments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fairmilehead/Scottish Water 2. Craighouse 3. Astley Ainslie 4. Current Boroughmuir High 									
Council Response	<p>Fairmilehead/Scottish Water</p> <p>In total this development is estimated to generate the number of non-denominational pupils shown in the table below. These numbers have been included in the latest projections and are based on a development of 182 houses and 98 flats.</p> <p>Craighouse</p> <p>In total this development is expected to generate the number of non denominational pupils shown in the table below. These numbers have been included in the latest projections and are based on a development of 41 houses and 104 flats.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="472 1077 1098 1245"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Primary</th> <th>Secondary</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Craighouse Campus</td> <td>17</td> <td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fairmilehead</td> <td>53</td> <td>33</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Astley Ainslie</p> <p>Unknown, it would be inappropriate to speculate in advance of any definitive proposals being identified for consideration.</p> <p>Current Boroughmuir High</p> <p>Unknown, it would be inappropriate to speculate in advance of any definitive proposals being identified for consideration.</p>		Primary	Secondary	Craighouse Campus	17	10	Fairmilehead	53	33
	Primary	Secondary								
Craighouse Campus	17	10								
Fairmilehead	53	33								
Issue Raised	<p>With the recent decision to turn the old Boroughmuir building into flats, there will be even greater pressure on Bruntsfield Primary School in the future.</p>									
Issue Raised	<p>While it is recognised that it is not possible to determine precisely what impact reduced numbers of Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO), planned housing development on the former Boroughmuir High School site and the former brewery site at Fountainbridge or future developments (for example, the Astley Ainslie site) might have on primary school rolls in the longer term, we have not seen evidence that</p>									

	wider scenario planning about what might happen to primary school rolls in south Edinburgh in the medium to long-term has been undertaken.
Issue Raised	The Council needs to suspend any new residential development in the catchment areas until a substantial number of new school places have been built. The continued approval of residential development for which there is no school capacity is farcical.
Council Response	<p>If school rolls at Bruntsfield Primary School were to continue to rise beyond those projected then the Council would review its projections and engage with the school management and Parent Council representatives through the Rising Rolls Working Group and all the options available to address this issue would be explored.</p> <p>Future demand for places at primary schools is projected on the basis of births, approved housing developments and historic patterns of attendance. These are all data sources which provide confirmed numbers. It would be inappropriate to plan the education strategy for the city on the basis of speculation and in advance of any definitive evidence of population change.</p> <p>Communities and Families are a consultee in the planning process and assess all significant planning applications on the basis of the likely pupil generation from the development and the impact this may have on the educational infrastructure in the area. Where necessary a contribution to educational infrastructure may be sought from the developer as a condition of planning approval. Ultimately Communities and Families may recommend the refusal of the planning permission if the existing education infrastructure in the area could not support it, even with a contribution from the developer. Accordingly, a planning application will not be granted without considering the capacity of catchment schools to support it.</p> <p>Pupil projections are updated annually and it is through this annual review process that demographic changes and information about new approved developments are reflected</p>

Split Site Issues

Issue Raised	Much is made of the supposed education benefits, and the coherence with Curriculum for Excellence, of having P1-7 together on the same campus. Many P1s and P2s have been at Cluny for a number of years, and this appears to have had no discernible effect on their performance, with South Morningside Primary School better and more sought-after than ever.
Council	The success of South Morningside Primary School is a credit to the

Response	staff at the school who, over many years, have developed and managed processes that limit the impact that a school split across two or more sites has on pupils. However, the Council acknowledges that the development and implementation of these processes are an additional challenge for staff and that ultimately having primary classes split over two sites is not desirable.
Issue Raised	While the Deanbank annexe represents an improvement on the position in previous years, the disadvantages of the building mean it should be a temporary solution and it is not in the best interests of South Morningside pupils to be split across two or three different sites.
Council Response	In its current form, Deanbank is a temporary solution to the accommodation issues at South Morningside Primary School. Even Option 3 which would maintain P1 and P2 pupils in the Deanbank building would result in significant investment in the Deanbank site and a reduction in the number of sites over which South Morningside Primary School operates. However, the Council acknowledges that having primary classes split over two sites presents significant challenges for staff and is not a desirable arrangement.
Issue Raised	Removing the time spent travelling between sites with small children in tow would be consistent with Scottish Government and Edinburgh Council policies around helping women into work (as it is predominantly women who are doing a 45 min drop off).
Council Response	The Council does not maintain statistics relating to the gender of people undertaking drop off and pick up of children from its schools. However it is acknowledged that a single point of drop off is more convenient for most parents. With over 800 private nursery places available in the south Edinburgh area it is likely that drop off at multiple locations is a requirement for many parents with children attending Bruntsfield Primary School, James Gillespie's Primary School and South Morningside Primary School. The availability of After School Clubs and Breakfast Clubs at these schools make managing drop-off and pick-up times easier for many parents.
Issue Raised	Removing the requirement for parents and staff to travel between sites would reduce congestion and pollution as it would encourage more walking to school. This would also have health benefits for pupils and parents.
Council Response	The Council acknowledges that there are advantages in a school being on a single site which includes the potential for reductions in the travel time required by parents and staff between sites. This is why all options considered in the statutory consultation paper reduce the number of sites over which South Morningside Primary School operates.

Issue Raised	Removing the requirement for pupils to travel between sites would allow more learning and teaching time.
Council Response	Pupils at South Morningside Primary School do not routinely travel between sites. The Deanbank annexe is self contained with dining, gym and general purpose space in addition to the classrooms. However, the school has arranged ad-hoc trips to Deanbank for P6 and P7 pupils in class, house and other group sizes to take advantage of the resources available at the Deanbank site and to promote the buddy system. The school is also planning implementation of a weekly trip for one P6 or P7 class to Deanbank for buddy activities. In addition, the school aims to have all infant classes on the main site once or twice a term. The school allows 25 minutes for travel between the two sites with groups of pupils which, if it were to be undertaken by the same pupils on a daily or even weekly basis this may impact on learning and teaching time. However, as the journey is only undertaken by individual pupils once or twice a term this impact is very limited.
Issue Raised	A split site inevitably reduces continuity for the children as they progress through the school, and reduces the opportunities for interaction between different age groups.
Issue Raised	Split sites mean upheaval and transition for children who have become established at a first site (e.g. Deanbank for P1-2) and then must move to an entirely new premises where there has been little to no interaction.
Council Response	The Council acknowledges that transition between the annexe and the main school and maintaining interaction between different year groups is a challenge for South Morningside Primary School. However, the Council has confidence that the measures put in place by school management to limit the impact that a split site could have are effective in maintaining high standards in learning and teaching outcomes and the quality of the pupils experience. Furthermore, under all of the options proposed in the statutory consultation paper the number of sites over which South Morningside Primary School is split is reduced.
Issue Raised	It would be difficult for the children to truly feel part of one larger school (under Option 2) when they are so physically separated.
Council Response	The educational benefits associated with Option 2 are set out in section 5.3 of the statutory consultation paper. Under Option 2 the Deanbank site would accommodate South Morningside Primary School's nursery classes and an increased number of P1, P2 and P3 classes. This would provide a significantly larger cohort than is currently based at Deanbank and would remove many of the issues associated with having nursery separated from primary classes. Accordingly, while the Council acknowledges that there are disadvantages in a school being

	split between two sites, with fewer sites and a more even split of the pupil roll and school staff across the remaining two sites, Option 2 may make instilling a whole school ethos easier to achieve than is presently the case.
Issue Raised	Because the school is split over three sites P1 and P2 pupils living close to the main South Morningside Primary building have to make their way along busy roads. The route from SMPS to Deanbank is dangerous for young children due to the busy roads, multiple crossings, narrow streets and congestion.
Council Response	In city centre schools it is difficult to establish catchment areas or locate school buildings in a manner that avoids a requirement for some pupils to cross busy roads. Presently a smaller number of P1 and P2 pupils based in the north of the South Morningside Primary School catchment benefit from not having to cross many of the roads which pupils travelling from the south of the catchment have to.
Issue Raised	Split sites have considerable impact on whole school identity and cohesion and therefore Options 2 and 3 are substandard in terms of the provision of teaching quality (buddy system/house team activities) and giving sense of whole school belonging.
Council Response	Regardless of the option progressed, the Council is confident that the standard of teaching provided by staff at South Morningside Primary School will continue to remain very high. While the Council acknowledges that there are advantages in a school being on a single site, the Council considers that Options 2 and 3 offer benefits over the existing arrangements. These benefits are set out in the statutory consultation paper in sections 5.30 - 5.37 and sections 6.11 - 6.18 for Options 2 and 3 respectively.
Issue Raised	Parents with children on multiple sites have to incur significant impact to the working day and to family life as children return home later following collections from multiple sites.
Council Response	The Council acknowledges that split site arrangements may be inconvenient for some parents and guardians of pupils at the schools.
Issue Raised	Split sites means that resources, management and support staff are spread too thinly – especially in a larger school as proposed under Option 2.
Council Response	The number of staff in a school, including management and support staff, is directly related to the size of the school roll. As Option 2 would result in South Morningside Primary School becoming a four stream school, the number of management and support staff would also increase. Under Option 2 the availability of new gym, office and dining

	space would mean that the annexe of South Morningside Primary School would have full access to its own resources.
Issue Raised	A split site with P3 together with P1 and P2 (as proposed by Option 2) will create problems for parents who have a child in P3 and another one in P4-P7 if the present school day remains the same.
Council Response	Regardless of the option progressed, the substantial changes likely for South Morningside Primary School would require that a review of how the school day is structured be undertaken.
Issue Raised	The Education Scotland website has details of consultations that also offered options of moving from split to single sites primary schools, including Broomhill Primary School in Glasgow and Madras College in Fife. In these documents the same common themes arise that positively support a move to a single site.
Council Response	The Council also acknowledges that there are a number of advantages in a school being on a single site.
Issue Raised	The current split site arrangement at South Morningside Primary school has led to siblings not being available to support or have shared experiences together.
Council Response	The Council acknowledges that one of the disbenefits of a school being accommodated across a split site is that it will provide the potential for extended periods when siblings are not located on the same site.

Existing Issues

Issue Raised	Greater controls are required to identify people fraudulently claiming catchment places at south Edinburgh schools. People choose to move out of the catchment but don't move their kids schools. Something really needs to be done about rechecking kids eligibility before a new school is built - perhaps starting in November with stricter checks such as home visits.
Issue Raised	A large number of parents are renting properties, using relative's addresses etc. in these areas until their children are accepted into Primary 1 and then they give up their rental. The only check being made is the production of a Council Tax document at school intake registration then nothing. Perhaps this procedure should be addressed as this practice will still continue under the 'solutions' you raise.
Council Response	When registering for a school place for the first time, parents need to provide a council tax demand notice and recent utility bill. If someone is moving house they need to provide proof of purchase and their tenancy

	<p>agreement. If they are moving to a different Edinburgh address they will also need to provide proof of sale or termination of lease.</p> <p>The Corporate Fraud Team can carry out credit checks, check council tax records and carry out unannounced home visits to establish whether or not someone is actually living at the address they claim to be at. If nobody is at home when they visit, they will speak to neighbours to try and find out if they know who was living in the house.</p> <p>Anyone who believes a parent has given false information to register for a school place can contact the school placing team on 0131 469 3033 or email school.placements@edinburgh.gov.uk. All cases would be treated confidentially and those contacting would remain anonymous.</p>
Issue Raised	Please provide your projected capital expenditure for the South Morningside Primary School building including: (a) classroom upgrades to ensure an adequate Curriculum for Excellence teaching environment; (b) upgrades to the outdoor area including the provision of a turfed area somewhere in the existing area; (c) other necessary upgrades expected for a building of that age.
Issue Raised	With a reduced roll on the site, there is an opportunity to make South Morningside as impressive a facility as the new school. There should be allocation of funds to improve the dilapidated South Morningside Primary accommodation (including the playground). The school requires better sports facilities, an ICT suite, space to allow super-healthy meals to be cooked onsite (rather than the current 'reheated dinners' situation).
Issue Raised	School staff are constantly having to make do with in-adequate facilities. Options 2 and 3 will just be a continuation of this.
Issue Raised	The existing provision is overcrowded and unfit for purpose and this is detrimental to pupils and staff.
Issue Raised	The consultation paper states that <i>“affected pupils, staff and the wider school community would benefit from access to a modern learning and teaching environment, with facilities designed specifically for a modern curriculum.”</i> However, option 1 leaves the remaining South Morningside Primary catchment area in the very building that we've been told is not suitable whilst their peers enjoy a modern facility. Option 2, at least, would enable the younger children throughout the whole area to have access to modern facilities for half of their primary schooling.
Council Response	South Morningside Primary School is one of the 14 primary schools across the estate which currently has an identified suitability rating of 'C'. However, South Morningside Primary School's suitability assessment included the use of the Cluny annexe, two temporary units

	<p>and 19 classes on the main school site. The Cluny annexe is no longer used; the temporary units have been demolished to increase the size of the play area and the number of classes on the main site has reduced to 15. Accordingly, significant factors in the allocation of a 'C' rating have been addressed by the Council since that assessment was conducted.</p> <p>The remaining significant suitability issues at South Morningside Primary School are the requirement for an annexe to accommodate demand for places and the location of the school's nursery classes in the church hall at Fairmilehead. While Option 2 would provide the opportunity to address the latter, it does not address the more significant split primary classes issue. However, Option 1 would provide the potential to address both issues.</p> <p>Accordingly, the Council do not consider that the existing South Morningside Primary School site is "unsuitable" and that its suitability rating will be comparable with any of the many school buildings across the school estate of its age.</p> <p>The three schools affected by the statutory consultation are all operating within their classroom capacities. The areas identified in these comments as requiring investment all relate to the suitability of the South Morningside Primary School building for which there is currently no available capital funding. There are significant financial challenges due to the continued requirement to upgrade the Communities and Families estate and hence many currently unfunded investment priorities exist. The priority for any capital funding which does become available is to address issues of sufficiency and condition and, as a consequence, there is currently no funding available to address any suitability issues.</p> <p>Further details of the position across the entire Communities and Families estate are provided in the Children and Families Asset Management Plan 2014 while the benefits and disbenefits of each option, including the changes to each school's facilities are considered in detail in the statutory consultation paper.</p>
Issue Raised	The current fragmented situation is not good for the children for various reasons including lack of school lunches and other facilities at annexes.
Council Response	South Morningside Primary School's infant classes are based at Deanbank House which has its own dining hall and activity space; its own library and other general purpose spaces as well as support spaces and access to a large play area. Under Options 2 and 3 which would both result in the retention of annexe accommodation for South Morningside Primary School, these facilities would be extended and improved. Accordingly, the Council considers that any annexe option progressed as a result of this process would have adequate facilities to

	meet the needs of the pupils and staff it accommodates.
Issue Raised	Option 3 does not allow inadequate pupil accommodation issues at JGPS to be addressed.
Council Response	<p>Option 3 was included as an option in the statutory consultation paper as projections at the time suggested that Option 3 would offer sufficient capacity to accommodate demand in the foreseeable future. This remains the case for Bruntsfield and South Morningside Primary Schools.</p> <p>Updated projections now suggest that the capacity available at James Gillespie's would be sufficient until approximately August 2023. However, early P1 registration data suggests that the P1 intake at James Gillespie's Primary School in August 2016 will exceed that projected. If this is the case then under Option 3 James Gillespie's would require to organise 21 classes in August 2019 requiring either an additional classroom or that the size of the catchment area be reduced in the preceding years.</p> <p>Accordingly, the implementation of Option 3 without putting in place additional measures carries a significant risk in the short term and, in the long term, even with additional measures in place, new housing developments coming forward may create future issues.</p>
Issue Raised	The relocation of the two infants classes is already causing considerably more disruption to neighbours than had been anticipated. There is inconsiderate parking and stopping by parents near the school entrance; some parents are parking in Pay and Display bays without paying in both Canaan Lane and Jordan Lane. The combination of children scooting along the narrow pavements and inconsiderate parents with buggies means that locals are being forced to walk in the road, not good for people in wheel chairs and the partially sighted.
Council Response	The Council's Parking Operations team have arranged for attendants to assess the issues reported through the consultation process and will take action, as required, against those failing to observe the waiting and loading restrictions currently in place. South Morningside Primary School is also continuing to work with their Parent Council to communicate to parents and guardians the need to observe the parking restrictions in place and consider the needs of the residents and businesses on Canaan Lane.
Issue Raised	A reduction in the number of Team Teaching arrangements is extremely important. Having a larger group with two teachers is not a good start for P1 pupils.
Council	Team teaching at P1 is now a common approach across the city. While it is anticipated that Options 1 and 2 would provide additional capacity

Response	to reduce class sizes at P1, this would not remove the requirement for team teaching which would remain an option when considering the most efficient class organisations in relation to demand for places and the capacity available.
Issue Raised	Why are no numbers published on how many kids are domiciled outside the catchment areas?
Council Response	As of September 2015 Bruntsfield Primary School had 94 non-catchment pupils in a total roll of 554 pupils; James Gillespie's Primary School had 59 non-catchment pupils in a total roll of 495 pupils; South Morningside Primary School had 82 non-catchment pupils in a total roll of 645 pupils.
Issue Raised	In option 3, could space not be arranged to split the existing 6 classes into 10?
Council Response	No. The accommodation available within the Deanbank building is not sufficient to allow the formation of 10 classes.
Issue Raised	The main building at James Gillespie's Primary is not fit for purpose [lacking general purpose space and being extraordinarily noisy] and there is barely enough space [even after recent additions] to run a two stream school.
Council Response	The level of general purpose space provision at James Gillespie's Primary School is in accordance with recommendations in the Scottish Government's " Determining Primary School Capacity " guidance. James Gillespie's Primary School is semi-open plan which is common among schools of its age and does result in more noise transfer between spaces. However, this has not been reported as an issue by school staff who rated the school as a 'B' in terms of its suitability prior to the construction of a new gym hall, nursery, the refurbishment of two classrooms and the construction of a new classroom extension. Inspectors from Education Scotland also did not raise issues with the amount of space available in the school or raise concerns about excessive noise, finding that the school "provides high-quality learning experiences... where children achieve high standards" (Education Scotland Inspection Report, 24 June 2014).
Issue Raised	Having a nursery at a church [Fairmilehead] which requires to be packed up every night is not a long-term tenable option and is totally inappropriate.
Council Response	Options to relocate South Morningside Primary School's nursery classes closer to South Morningside or to make alternative provision in the area have, until recently, been limited due to the lack of an

	<p>appropriate or affordable site. The relocation of nursery classes also requires full statutory consultation as set out by the The Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, as amended by the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014.</p> <p>Having identified the combined Deanbank and Oaklands site as providing the potential for delivery of Early Years services as part of either an annexe of South Morningside Primary School or as part of a new primary school, the Council proposed three options as part of the statutory consultation which would result in the relocation or closure of South Morningside Primary School's nursery classes at Fairmilehead.</p> <p>However, while the Council acknowledges that the accommodation provided at the Fairmilehead Church for nursery classes presents several management issues, the last Inspection Report by the Care Inspectorate (14 March 2013) rated the "Quality of Environment" as "Very Good". Accordingly, should the nursery classes at Fairmilhead continue to be required in their present form, parents can be confident that the service provided will continue to be of the highest standard.</p>
Issue Raised	The current situation in the existing schools need immediate attention - more space needs to be allocated - potentially with further extension to the schools grounds particularly at James Gillespie's Primary School where the open plan classrooms are too small for 25 pupils.
Council Response	Roll projections suggest that James Gillespie's Primary School will be able to support demand for places within its existing capacity until at least 2019. While the small size of six classrooms on the ground floor is recognised as a suitability issue, these rooms are capable of accommodating more than 25 pupils whilst remaining within the minimum floor areas recommended by the Scottish Government.
Issue Raised	I would hope that any new school development would also include a plan to finally do something about getting rid of the portacabins at South Morningside and doing something about the terrible playground.
Council Response	The temporary units at South Morningside were demolished on 13 October 2015. The Parent Council and staff at South Morningside Primary School are in the process of investigating options for a playground improvement scheme. More information can be obtained from the school office.
Issue Raised	The infant school option is a good introduction to school for young children.
Council Response	Regardless of the option progressed, South Morningside Primary School will continue to provide a programme of transition for pupils arriving at P1.

Early Years

Issue Raised	In the event of the South Morningside Primary School nursery provision being removed from Fairmilehead under Option 1c, how does the Council intend to ensure that parents in the SMPS catchment area continue to receive nursery provision?
Council Response	The implementation of Option 1(c) would include the creation of a new nursery as part of a new primary school building. Nursery classes do not have catchment areas and this new nursery provision would be available for any child in the south Edinburgh area including those living in the South Morningside Primary School catchment area.
Issue Raised	Having nursery classes at both South Morningside and the new school will be necessary otherwise there will be future issues with over-subscription at nursery level.
Issue Raised	Retaining South Morningside's existing nursery should also help improve/maintain available capacity at the new school's nursery.
Issue Raised	While it is appreciated that there are concerns around the number of hours of nursery provision being extended by the government, there is currently more than enough provision in Morningside.
Issue Raised	With the population predicted to increase over the next years and increased hours entitlement there is a need for long term planning, accordingly, the more nursery spaces available, the better.
Council Response	<p>Due to the presence of a high number of partner provider nurseries in the south Edinburgh area the Council does not anticipate that demand for nursery places will exceed the availability of places.</p> <p>However, the Council does anticipate that changes in the number of hours of early learning and childcare that the authority is required to deliver will increase as a result of changes in The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act. This may result in significant reductions in the availability of spaces if additional accommodation is not provided. However, until the details of any proposal to (further) increase the number of hours available are forthcoming and the source of any capital funding required to facilitate the necessary changes is identified, an assessment of the likely impact on the Council's Early Years service cannot be undertaken.</p>
Issue Raised	If new nursery provision were included on the site of a new school, as well as retaining provision at Fairmilehead, then so few parents would choose Fairmilehead that it would become untenable.
Council	Option 1(b) would result in the retention of South Morningside Primary

Response	School's nursery classes at Fairmilhead and the creation of new nursery classes with the new primary school. However, due to the presence of a high number of partner provider nurseries in the south Edinburgh area the Council believes that this would result in over provision of capacity until such time as changes to the number of hours of early learning and childcare that the Council is required to deliver were brought forward.
Issue Raised	There should be more state nursery provision in central Morningside as Fairmilehead is not an option for most parents due to the excessive time and cost to get there – especially if you do not have access to a car.
Council Response	Fully-funded places in the south Edinburgh area are available from a significant number of partner provider nurseries. Accordingly, the Council does not believe that additional places in Council operated facilities are currently required.
Issue Raised	Combining nursery and school helps with transition for pre-school children to school and is considerably easier for parents who have children in both nursery and school. It increases the likelihood of children walking to school and eases congestion in the area. There are also better cost efficiencies in maintaining one site rather than two.
Issue Raised	With many children beginning P1 coming from private nurseries not on the school site there is less need for the school nursery to have to be on the main P1-7 site.
Issue Raised	Existing nursery arrangements at South Morningside nursery are impractical and because children should have the chance to go to the pre school nursery attached to the school they will attend, the Council should consider finding an alternative site for South Morningside nursery closer to the school.
Council Response	<p>While the Council recognises that there are advantages of having nursery classes on the same site as primary classes, in practice a high number of P1 pupils attending James Gillespie's Primary School and South Morningside Primary School come from independently run nurseries and, in fact, Bruntsfield Primary School does not operate its own nursery classes. Accordingly, all schools develop a transition programme for new P1 pupils which allows a more gradual immersion into school life.</p> <p>It is also worth noting that nursery classes do not have catchment areas. Accordingly, a child's attendance at a nursery class on the same site as a primary school is not a guarantee that a place will be available for that child at that primary school.</p> <p>However the Council acknowledges that there are advantages to locating</p>

	nursery classes and primary classes on the same site.
Issue Raised	South Morningside Primary School should take over or share Greenbank Pre-School as this is a superb local facility.
Council Response	Greenbank Pre-School is based in a church hall and there would be a revenue cost associated with the lease of property not owned by the Council. South Morningside Primary School's nursery classes were previously based in this church but were required to move when the lease was terminated and a private provider took over the running of the facility. Accordingly, aside from the additional cost of leasing the property the Council would not own the building and, as with any tenancy arrangement, could run the risk of losing the lease of the facility again. This is a risk to the continuity of the service provided and was one of the reasons why the Council were keen for South Morningside Primary School's primary classes to move from The Cluny Centre and is a strong argument for the relocation of South Morningside Primary School's nursery classes at Fairmilehead.
Issue Raised	At the moment there are less than a quarter of the available spaces required for pre-schoolers that will go on to P1 classes the following year.
Council Response	Most pre-school children are already at nursery, be that a nursery run by the Council or by a partner provider. Pre-school children receive priority in the allocation of places where they are not already attending a nursery. Currently there are pre-school places available at South Morningside Primary School, Lochrin Nursery School and Holy Corner Playgroup should a family moving into the area require a place for a pre-school child.
Issue Raised	South Morningside Nursery should be relocated to be alongside other school classes and strengthen links with the other early years classes in P1 and P2.
Council Response	Relocation of South Morningside Primary School's nursery classes is offered under Options 2 and 3 in the statutory consultation paper.
Issue Raised	Under Option 1 how much of the playground space will be lost for the primary children if the nursery is located on the new school site?
Council Response	The size of the nursery and its outdoor play area is approximately 640m ² . However the drawings in the statutory consultation paper are illustrative only and the presence of a nursery in the final design would most likely change the approach taken by both the architect and the landscape architects to the arrangement of the new buildings on the site. All outdoor space would not be play space and it is difficult to say how two designs – one incorporating a nursery and one without – would

	differ in terms of their use of the available space.
Issue Raised	The main South Morningside Primary School site has restricted playground space and limited GP space and should not be the location for a new nursery.
Council Response	Relocating South Morningside Primary School's nursery classes to the main school site is not considered as part of any of the options set out in the statutory consultation paper.
Issue Raised	Could a new nursery be built on Falcon Park to avoid taking playground space from the new school or South Morningside Primary School?
Council Response	No. Falcon Park is part of the Council's Open Space strategy which seeks to protect these spaces. The Council considers this park to be a valuable public amenity in the area which is conveniently located for use by any of the three educational establishments bordering it.
Issue Raised	Can a nursery share playground space with primary pupils in circumstances where land is restricted?
Council Response	Yes; however a reduction in the size of the nursery play area would require Care Inspectorate approval. The nursery would always have a dedicated outdoor space and other areas that were designated as shared space would be supervised by nursery and primary staff.
Issue Raised	Having a nursery at the new school site would increase traffic in an already busy area.
Council Response	South Morningside Primary School's existing nursery classes are located at Fairmilehead Church. Many parents have made the point that dropping off their children at nursery and at Deanbank and/or the main school site necessitates the use of a car due to the distances involved. However, under Options 1(b) and 1(c) which would result in new nursery classes being created at the Deanbank site, parents from the Morningside area would have significantly less distance to travel to access Early Years provision. Accordingly, it is considered that Options 1(b) and 1(b) could make alternative forms of travel easier to promote and provide the potential to reduce the number of cars travelling to the Deanbank site.

James Gillespie's Primary School Catchment Change Proposals

Issue Raised	While the distances between the northern tip of the James Gillespie's Primary School catchment area and Tollcross or James Gillespie's primary schools are comparable, the road safety is very different. Getting to Tollcross involves passing a complicated and very busy
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	<p>crossroad in an area of the city that would not be a safe option for primary school children, even in higher grades. On the other hand, the route to James Gillespie's carries very little risk from traffic and is a far more pleasant journey. Therefore the proposed change in catchment areas seems to be completely at odds with the commitment of the City of Edinburgh Council to "encourage more children to walk by making the routes safer on the way to and from school", as stated in the Safer Routes to School part of the Streets Ahead campaign of the Council.</p>
Issue Raised	<p>It makes sense to rationalise catchments so children live closer to their school. However, safer routes to schools would need to be looked at e.g. safer crossings and cycle lanes.</p>
Council Response	<p>Under Options 1 and 2 if the catchment area was reduced as proposed, there would be an opportunity to address several suitability issues at James Gillespie's Primary School including the requirement to accommodate classes in a temporary unit and six classrooms which are smaller than the Council would expect as standard.</p> <p>The Parent Council of James Gillespie's Primary School and parent representatives on the Rising Rolls Working Group which considers the issue of rising rolls at James Gillespie's Primary School have also communicated to the Council their desire to see a reduction in the number of classes at James Gillespie's Primary School – specifically to return the school to double stream and, in doing so, address the suitability issues identified. This may only be achieved by reducing demand for places at P1 which necessitates a reduction in the size of the catchment area.</p> <p>The principle driver behind the establishment of catchment boundaries is ensuring that the resulting pupil populations in both the affected schools are appropriate for their available capacity. This ensures that the Council makes the most effective use of the capacity in its school estate. Where possible, priority is given to transfer of areas which already have an established relationship with a 'target' school – be that geographic or an established flow of pupils from the area to be realigned.</p> <p>Where it is possible to do so, geographic features such as trainlines, parks or main roads will be used to form catchment boundaries. However, while undesirable, a catchment change may sometimes result in pupils being located further from their catchment school or, as is common in city centre schools, with a route to school which requires that more roads or busier routes are crossed than was previously the case.</p> <p>The Council acknowledges that the route between the northern tip of James Gillespie's Primary School's catchment area and Tollcross Primary School is not comparable with the route to James Gillespie's</p>

	<p>Primary which involves crossing fewer roads. However, in order to reduce the catchment area sufficiently to allow James Gillespie's Primary School to return to a two stream primary school all areas of the existing catchment which provide an opportunity for realignment with another school have to be considered and, while there would be a requirement for pupils from this area to cross more roads, there are several reasons why this area in particular forms part of the catchment change proposals.</p> <p>Firstly, in terms of pupil numbers, while projections need to be treated with particular caution because of the timescales over which they are made and the potential for change; the Council believes that the transfer of the Blackford and Astley Ainslie areas in the south of the James Gillespie's Primary School catchment may not be sufficient in itself to allow the catchment population of James Gillespie's Primary School to reduce to a level at which a double stream intake could be sustained.</p> <p>For example, in 2015/16 84 catchment P1 pupils attend James Gillespie's Primary School, 16 of whom come from the Blackford and Astley Ainslie area. Accordingly, removing the Blackford and Astley Ainslie area only from the James Gillespie's catchment area would result in 68 P1 pupils attending James Gillespie's Primary School. This would require that a P1 intake limit of 75 pupils (a three stream intake) be established as to only allow 68 P1 pupils would not be defensible in an appeals process. Given the popularity of the school it is likely that the additional seven places would have been filled by non-catchment pupils. However, if the eight P1 pupils from the northern tip of the James Gillespie's Primary School catchment area attending the school are also not included, the P1 intake in 2015/16 would have been 60 pupils – establishing a double stream intake. Analysis of the 2014/15 school roll and catchment data shows the same findings: realigning the Blackford and Astley Ainslie areas alone is insufficient to allow James Gillespie's Primary School to return to a two stream P1 intake.</p> <p>The second reason for the inclusion of the northern tip of the James Gillespie's is that it has an established relationship with Tollcross Primary School. In 2015/16, 10 of the 44 primary age pupils in the area attend Tollcross Primary School. Accordingly, there is an existing flow of pupils from the area to Tollcross showing that it is already a viable option for many parents. In fact, only 59% of the primary age pupils in this area in 2015/16 attended James Gillespie's Primary School. In addition there are 10 pupils from the James Gillespie's Primary school catchment area (four of whom live in the northern tip) who attend either Grassmarket or Lochrin nurseries directly adjacent to Tollcross Primary School.</p> <p>Thirdly, Tollcross Primary School and James Gillespie's Primary School both feed to James Gillespie's High School. Accordingly there would be</p>
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	<p>no requirement for a change in secondary school catchment areas.</p> <p>Finally, the northern tip of James Gillespie's Primary School is a distinct and geographically separated area from the rest of the James Gillespie's Primary School catchment area. Accordingly, it avoids the need to establish catchment boundaries which divide individual streets or neighbouring properties, as is often the case in densely populated areas.</p> <p>Should the option progressed require the realignment of the northern section of James Gillespie's catchment area with Tollcross Primary School, the Council's Road Safety team would work with Tollcross Primary School to identify any issues arising from potentially larger numbers of pupils travelling to school from this area.</p>
Issue Raised	Residents in the northern tip of the James Gillespie's Primary School catchment have closer links with Bruntsfield and Marchmont than with Tollcross (in terms for example of nurseries, medical practices, services, shops, recreational activities).
Issue Raised	The demographics in Tollcross and James Gillespie's Primary School are very different.
Issue Raised	For the majority of residents in the northern tip of the James Gillespie's catchment area the travel distances to Tollcross would be higher than to James Gillespie's.
Issue Raised	Moving some of the borderline addresses at the northern tip of James Gillespie's catchment area to that of Tollcross Primary seems reasonable as all those addresses are indeed closer to Tollcross Primary, and are technically at Tollcross themselves.
Council Response	<p>In an area as socially and culturally diverse as Edinburgh's city centre defining the links between a small area and its neighbours is not something the Council has the capacity to easily assess. All schools have diversity in their demographics.</p> <p>In terms of the distances travelled, approximately three quarters of all properties and three quarters of the pupil population in the northern tip of the James Gillespie's Primary School catchment area are closer to the Tollcross Primary School gates than they are to the James Gillespie's Primary School gates.</p>
Issue Raised	Aside from realignment of the northern tip of James Gillespie's Primary School what other options were considered? Can data such as the numbers of pupils concerned be released?
Issue Raised	With Tollcross primary school currently under capacity, it is logical to make a slight change in the catchment area to give it more pupils and

	<p>maximise the usage of Edinburgh's school capacity. Why not put some of the James Gillespie's and Bruntsfield catchment areas there?</p>
Issue Raised	<p>Tollcross Primary School is currently under-subscribed with only eight classes operating in a 12 class capacity school. As quoted in the consultation 'there is capacity within Tollcross Primary School to support an increase in its catchment population'. An underpopulated school and a budget deficit of millions would suggest that redrawing the Gillespie's and Bruntsfield catchments to feed to Tollcross should be investigated further, thus alleviating pressure at the aforementioned schools and negating the need to build a new school in the south of the city.</p>
Council Response	<p>To increase the number of pupils from James Gillespie's Primary School realigned either with a new school or with an expanded South Morningside Primary School would require a corresponding decrease in the number of South Morningside and/or Bruntsfield pupils. Under Option 2 this would simply place additional pressure on the expanded South Morningside Primary School and under Option 1 would place additional pressure on the existing South Morningside Primary School. Neither of these were considered attractive alternatives when compared with an option to realign the north of the James Gillespie's catchment area with Tollcross Primary School which would make the most effective use of existing spare capacity.</p> <p>Tollcross Primary School does not have the capacity to accommodate the number of pupils that require to be realigned to address the accommodation issues identified at James Gillespie's Primary School and South Morningside Primary School.</p> <p>It is also not possible to increase the area of the James Gillespie's Primary School catchment to be realigned with Tollcross Primary School as this would require identifying homes around Warrender Park Terrace or Warrender Park Crescent for transfer which, given their proximity to James Gillespie's Primary School and neighbouring properties aligned with James Gillespie's Primary School, would make little sense to transfer. Additionally, the population in this area is dense and it would be difficult to realign the catchment boundaries so that only the smaller number required by Tollcross Primary School would be transferred.</p> <p>Relocating some of Bruntsfield Primary School's catchment area to Tollcross Primary School was not considered in detail as the Council considers that Bruntsfield Primary School has the capacity required to meet demand for places without making substantial changes. It is worth noting that Bruntsfield Primary School and Tollcross Primary School feed to different secondary schools; accordingly, a change of secondary school catchment would also have been required. In addition, Bruntsfield Primary School's location in the north of its</p>

	catchment area would make realignment of any significant area of its catchment area difficult to achieve.
Issue Raised	Tollcross Primary catchment should be widened as its a great school and does not have the same capacity issues.
Council Response	Under Options 1 and 2 the catchment area of Tollcross Primary School would be increased to incorporate a section of the James Gillespie's Primary School catchment.
Issue Raised	Taking children to two primary schools in opposite directions from each other, with identical start times is not achievable.
Council Response	<p>The catchment changes associated with Options 1 and 2 would not be implemented until the new primary school opened. Based on an indicative opening date of August 2019, this would mean that P1 pupils currently in James Gillespie's Primary School would be going into P5 at the time of the catchment change. Accordingly, the number of families affected is likely to be very small.</p> <p>However, if Council approves either Option 1 or Option 2, signalling a catchment change on completion of the new school, parents in the northern tip of the James Gillespie's catchment area with pre-school children will have two choices – either to register their child at their current catchment school (James Gillespie's Primary School) but risk younger siblings not receiving a place in future years or make a placing request to Tollcross Primary School with the certainty that any young siblings of school age after the year in which the new school opened will be at the same school as their older sibling.</p>
Issue Raised	The benefits of realignment of the northern tip of James Gillespie's Primary School have not been explained to justify the considerable disadvantages for families living in this area.
Council Response	<p>The benefits of the catchment realignment were explained fully in the statutory consultation paper and are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More effective use of the Council's primary school estate capacity and resources; • Provides the potential for suitability issues at James Gillespie's Primary School to be addressed; • Reduced pressure on accommodation at James Gillespie's Primary School; • Less distance to catchment school for the majority of affected pupils.
Issue	It is unclear why the option of creating a new school <u>without</u> changing the catchment area of the northern tip of James Gillespie's Primary

Raised	School was not put on the table for discussion? Why is there no option to endorse the new school and reject the northern tip?
Issue Raised	If there was going to be a new school, then there seems less need to move these families out of catchment.
Council Response	The option of creating a new school without changing the catchment area of the northern tip of James Gillespie's Primary School was not identified as the Council believes that to do so would reduce the likelihood of achieving the objective of reducing James Gillespie's Primary School to a double stream school. This will not be an issue in terms of capacity as the school will continue to have its existing classroom accommodation available until such time as the rolls fall following any catchment changes progressed. It will however increase the likelihood that the suitability issues at James Gillespie's Primary School which are identified in the statutory consultation paper cannot be addressed or may only be addressed in part. This would considerably erode the arguments for building a new school in the first place.
Issue Raised	A decision to realign the northern tip of James Gillespie's Primary School catchment area with Tollcross Primary will have a negative impact on property prices.
Council Response	The Council's priority is to ensure the sufficiency of the school estate. This may mean that school catchment areas are altered to reflect changing demand and populations. The Council do not consider property prices to be relevant in meeting this objective.
Issue Raised	Residents have bought property in the northern tip of James Gillespie's catchment area because of the school catchment area and would not have done so if they knew of this proposed catchment change.
Council Response	All catchment areas in the city may be subject to change. Proposals for change are brought forward as soon as they can be following their development and are subject to statutory consultation.
Issue Raised	Taking southern sections of James Gillespie's catchment area and including them in the new school's catchment area seems appropriate because it would alleviate pressure on James Gillespie's Primary School in terms of numbers and would reduce traffic around the school by reducing the number of people travelling to/from further away.
Council Response	The Council agrees that a reduction in traffic around James Gillespie's Primary School may be a potential benefit of realigning the southern areas of the James Gillespie's Primary School catchment with either a new school (Option 1) or an expanded South Morningside Primary School (Option 2).

Issue Raised	It would be physically impossible to get one child to James Gillespie's Primary School and one to the Deanbank site on time in the mornings - even with the use of a car (which is not desirable) which would contribute to the congestion in and around the Deanbank site which is on a one way street with very limited parking. Forcing parents to choose between moving a settled child at James Gillespies to Deanbank or applying for a non-catchment place at James Gillespies is unfair.
Council Response	Under Options 1 and 2 priority would be given to siblings making an out of catchment request assuming that capacity exists in the school.
Issue Raised	Parents attending the consultation meeting at Bruntsfield primary school were shocked when one of the "solutions" to the logistical problem of even getting both children to school on time was a staggered start to the day.
Council Response	Staggered start times are currently used at South Morningside Primary School to allow for travel time between the main building, Deanbank and the South Morningside Primary Schools nursery classes at Fairmilehead. These times have been agreed between school management and the Parent Council. Furthermore, the start times at Deanbank and St Peter's RC Primary School are also staggered to limit the impact of drop-off in the streets surrounding both schools.
Issue Raised	Tollcross Primary School runs at very low capacity, so why is there no wider review of the entire catchment for Tollcross? The future of Tollcross seems in doubt, because the school roll is so low. The school building seems very neglected as if the Council is unsure whether it's worth investing any money in it. What are the long-term plan for Tollcross Primary?
Council Response	There is no doubt about the future of Tollcross Primary School and it will continue to provide a high quality educational experience in the centre of the city. Tollcross Primary School's roll is low in relation to its capacity following the relocation of the Gaelic Medium Unit to the new Gaelic school, Bun-sgoil Taobh na Pàirce. Tollcross Primary School attracts pupils from across the city and has an attainment record comparable with any of the schools in the south Edinburgh area. The process by which investment in the school building at Tollcross Primary is identified and allocated is no different to that for any other school in the city.

South Morningside Primary School Catchment Change Proposals

Issue Raised	Difficult catchment change but hope for some staffing continuity to new school.
Council Response	Sections 4.50 and 4.51 of the statutory consultation paper set out the Council's approach to staffing at a new school.
Issue Raised	The change of catchment is so small as to have little impact - the social make-up of the schools will hardly vary.
Council Response	Social diversity is either present in an area or it is not. The Council does not establish catchment areas with the creation of social diversity in mind.
Issue Raised	If options 1 or 2 were put into place it would mean our catchment school would change so that my older and younger children would attend different schools. I would very much like both my children to attend South Morningside Primary as we have lived within the catchment area for a number of years.
Council Response	<p>Assuming that the respondent is residing in the South Morningside Primary School catchment area at the time any catchment changes are implemented, under Option 2 both of their children would attend an expanded South Morningside Primary School.</p> <p>Under Option 1, if the respondent was residing in the catchment area of the new school at the time of implementation then they would be able to make an out of catchment placing request for their younger child to South Morningside Primary School. Assuming spaces were available, this request would be treated with priority due to a sibling already attending the school. Alternatively, they would also have the option of transferring their elder child to the new school.</p>
Issue Raised	We would be in catchment for the new primary school but already have a child at South Morningside Primary School. We are happy with the members of staff at South morningside primary and would rather stay in the same school with the same friends for consistency for our children.
Council Response	If the option progressed is a new school then it is likely that the respondent will experience significant changes at South Morningside Primary School as it is anticipated that some of the school's staff and pupils would transfer to the new school. Their child who is already attending South Morningside Primary School would also have the option of transferring to the new school. Accordingly, before deciding on a course of action it would be prudent to wait and see how plans for the new school develop and which (if any) of their child's current friends

	and school staff decide to transfer.
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Sibling Guarantee

Issue Raised	The proposed change to the northern tip of James Gillespie's Primary School catchment area could put many families in the situation of having primary school children in two different schools. To avoid this, a sibling guarantee should be put in place (as it was in the recent Towerbank catchment change) for families affected by this change, rather than a generic 'priority' for siblings of children already attending the school.
Issue Raised	The size of the area of catchment transferred to Tollcross Primary should be increased to allow a sibling guarantee to be put in place for pupils from the northern tip of the James Gillespie's catchment area.
Council Response	<p>Should either Option 1 or 2 be progressed no sibling guarantee would be offered. It was possible to offer a sibling guarantee during the Towerbank consultation as larger areas of catchment could be realigned to neighbouring schools to compensate for the additional pressure which would be generated by a sibling guarantee. However, it is not possible to increase the area of catchment to be realigned with Tollcross Primary School as this would require identifying some homes around Warrender Park Terrace or Warrender Park Crescent for transfer which, given their proximity to James Gillespie's Primary School and neighbouring properties aligned with James Gillespie's Primary School, would make far less sense to transfer.</p> <p>Transferring larger areas of James Gillespie's Primary School catchment area to a new school or to an expanded South Morningside Primary School would require a corresponding decrease in the number of South Morningside and/or Bruntsfield pupils transferring in order to keep the catchment population the same size.</p>
Issue Raised	I think it should be a priority to ensure that families who wish to can send all their children to the same primary school and not be affected by catchment changes.
Issue Raised	What steps would be put in place to ensure that any younger siblings of existing Bruntsfield Primary School who would be entering P1 of the new school could be accommodated with Bruntsfield Primary School, if that was what parents wanted?
Council Response	Under Options 1 and 2, assuming that there is capacity available in the school in question and an older sibling is already attending that school priority would be given to siblings making an out of catchment placing request.

Consultation Process

Issue Raised	The consultation meeting at South Morningside Primary School had a clear undertone amongst the top table and other senior stakeholders in favour of Option 1. The most obvious and transparent presentation of this was the support from the Head Teacher of South Morningside Primary School for Option 1 which appeared to be pre-arranged. It is prejudicial and inappropriate for her to state a preference in this way.
Council Response	<p>It is the responsibility of Council Officers to make recommendations to Elected Members regarding the most appropriate approach to take in circumstances such as are the subject of this consultation process. In the public consultation meetings it was clearly stated by Council Officers that Communities and Families does not have a preferred option; if officers did have a preferred option this would have been reported to Committee and would have been stated as such in the Consultation paper (as, for example, was the case in the consultation regarding the location for a new Boroughmuir High School).</p> <p>Under the provisions of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 as amended by the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 the Head Teacher of South Morningside Primary School is actually one of the prescribed statutory consultees for this consultation which include 'the staff (teaching and other) at any affected school'. The Head Teacher was therefore entirely within her rights to express her opinion at the meeting and her intervention was not pre-arranged. It is normal practice for the Head Teacher to express his/her opinion on such matters at consultation meetings of this nature. Any member of staff of either South Morningside Primary School or any other affected school was free to express an opinion at any of the public consultation meetings.</p>
Issue Raised	There is a political attraction of being able to lay claim to the building of a new school, which will be in process during the 2017 local authority elections. An election leaflet with the headline "We've extended South Morningside" doesn't quite have the emotiveness of "We've built you a new school".
Issue Raised	It is understood that members of the panel present at the consultation meetings have privately made clear that they favour Option 1, as the building of an entirely new school is a better 'story', and has been promised to residents here for some time. Accordingly, the odds are firmly stacked in favour of this option, despite protestations to the contrary.
Council Response	Following the conclusion of the statutory consultation process it is the responsibility of Council Officers in this statutory consultation outcomes

	<p>paper to make recommendations to Elected Members regarding the options consulted upon based on an analysis of the responses received and the facts available. It is for Elected Members to decide whether this is a recommendation they wish to accept.</p>
Issue Raised	<p>Consultation with residents of the northern tip of the James Gillespie's catchment area has been grossly inadequate. Why was a letter not sent to residents informing them of this consultation and the proposals? The consultation process has only been advertised through the local nurseries and schools, which automatically leaves out the majority of residents - including those whose children will enter school after 2019 (when the proposed change would likely take place). These are the families who would be most affected and, paradoxically, whose opinion has been least sought.</p>
Issue Raised	<p>Residents of Canaan Lane were alerted to the consultation and the consultation meetings following a letter received from the local MP. Please can the Council advise what efforts were made to inform residents of Canaan Lane of the consultation (what was sent and when) and what communication the Council is required to make on such occasions?</p>
Issue Raised	<p>The Council writes to every resident when parking charges are to be increased: it should do the same to every resident in the area affected by these proposed changes in order to give them adequate time to consider them and respond.</p>
Issue Raised	<p>Very poor consultation. Directly affects residents etc, but main focus of this has been parents and no one else. Only found out via a letter through my door from concerned other residents.</p>
Council Response	<p>The regulations for who has to be consulted as part of a statutory consultation are outlined in the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 as amended by the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 and have been fully applied regarding this consultation. No communications were sent directly to residents of Canaan Lane or any other address as it would be an inefficient use of Council resources to notify all individual households within the affected areas.</p>
Issue Raised	<p>Residents of Canaan Lane received no communications from the Council concerning setting up of Deanbank House as an Annex of South Morningside this year. Please can the Council advise what efforts were made to inform residents of Canaan Lane of the consultation (what was sent and when) and what communication the council is required to make on such occasions?</p>
Council	<p>The Deanbank House annexe of South Morningside Primary School</p>

Response	has been established on a temporary basis and was therefore not subject to any requirement for statutory consultation. No communications concerning the conversion of Deanbank House to an educational facility were sent to residents of Canaan Lane or to any other address. Two residential properties directly bordering the Deanbank site were sent letters in the summer notifying them of the works being undertaken.
Issue Raised	It is unclear why the option of creating a new school without changing the catchment area of the northern tip has not been put on the table for discussion. In other words, Option 1 was proposed as an 'all or nothing' scenario, to be accepted or rejected as such – rather than giving people the possibility of supporting the new school while objecting to the catchment area change from Gillespie's Primary to Tollcross. The absence of this hybrid option is particularly surprising considering that, during the consultation meeting at James Gillespie's Primary, the Council Officers in attendance stated that this hybrid solution could very well be a viable option.
Council Response	It is the responsibility of Council Officers to carefully consider all representations received, together with all comments made at any of the four public consultation meetings which have been held during the consultation period. The option of excluding the northern tip of the James Gillespie's Primary School catchment area from Option 1 or Option 2 was not identified for consultation as Council Officers believe that it would not allow the objectives of Option 1 to be met and would potentially undermine the requirement to establish a new school or an expanded South Morningside Primary School.
Issue Raised	The decision to include the change in catchment from James Gillespie's Primary to Tollcross came late in the process. In the report "Primary School Capacity Pressure in South Edinburgh" (4 March 2014), the map outlining the creation of the new school (p. 17) does not include any change in catchment area for the Northern tip. The realignment between Gillespie's and Tollcross is discussed as one of many possible options (p. 39-40) and the report itself identifies a number of disadvantages including "resistance from school communities". If resistance from school communities was indeed expected, the absence of proper consultation and the lack of a 'hybrid option' appear even more difficult to justify. The report Primary School Capacity Pressure in South Edinburgh (9 December 2014) also includes no mention of Tollcross Primary as part of Options 1 or 2.
Council Response	The 'Primary School Capacity Pressure in South Edinburgh' report of 4 March 2014 makes it clear that the catchment boundaries it suggested were preliminary as a further assessment of the numbers involved was required: "Creating a new double stream, 14 class school from three

	<p>existing catchment areas is a complex exercise as it requires appropriate areas to be identified to ensure that the numbers of pupils for future P1 intakes; class organisations at each year stage and secondary catchments are aligned with how a double stream school should operate. How this would be achieved will be the subject of further detailed analysis however, based on the preliminary assessment which has been undertaken, the indicative catchment changes which would be required are shown in the map below.”</p> <p>Section 3.29 of the “Primary School Capacity Pressure in South Edinburgh” report to Education, Children and Families Committee on 9 December 2014 also makes it clear that the proposals required further development: “For each option an initial analysis has been undertaken to consider the scale and area of the catchment changes which would be required. Further detailed analysis now requires to be undertaken to allow the exact implications of all options to be determined.”</p> <p>It should also be noted that in the intervening period between the above report of 4 March 2014 being written and the consultation paper being issued in May 2015 significant additional data regarding the P1 intakes in August 2014 and August 2015 and additional birth and catchment population data became available to assist in shaping the proposals.</p> <p>The report indicates for all options where catchment review is proposed that “resistance from school communities” is a likely disadvantage. This is because it is recognised that, regardless of the schools affected or the circumstances under which catchment change is made, changing catchment areas will be unacceptable for some affected groups. However, this understanding does not change the consultation requirements which are clearly set out in the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 as amended by the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 and which were fully applied in this consultation.</p>
Issue Raised	It is good that there is an online survey, but there should be a means of questioning the framing of the question.
Council Response	The Council survey was designed to be as simple as possible whilst providing respondees with the greatest opportunity to have their say on any of the issues raised through the consultation – including on the format of the survey itself. It was also possible and widely advertised that written responses by email or letter were welcome.

New School Transition

Issue Raised	Parents would be angry if they were asked to move their children to a new school when there were so many out of catchment children in their existing school.
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Issue Raised	Parents are concerned that if a new school is built then the children currently enrolled in the existing primary schools will be asked to move to the new school. This is particularly concerning for older, more established year groups. Pupils should be able to continue in the school that they are currently enrolled in.
Council Response	Section 4.44 of the consultation paper makes it clear that, should the option for a new school be progressed there would be no mandatory transfer of pupils from any existing schools. Parents living in the catchment area for the new school would be offered a place at the new school for their child but it would be their decision whether to refuse or accept this place.
Issue Raised	The process of new school transition would be emotional and traumatic for parents and children. Inevitably, friendship groups would be separated in a way that children would find difficult to understand. Under option 2, none of this emotional turmoil would take place.
Issue Raised	It was stated at the consultation meetings that there would be no compulsory transfer of staff or pupils. While the transfer may not be compulsory in order to populate a new school there will necessarily be a breaking of friendship groups and relationships.
Issue Raised	The issue of pupil transition is a short term problem - the long term problem needs to be addressed more importantly.
Issue Raised	The biggest challenge for the new school will be the first few years as pupils transfer over, and it's very important that every care is taken to ensure that as soon as the school opens it is ready to offer the best educational environment and learning experience for all pupils. It would not be fair for the first children in the new school to have their education affected by the teething problems of a new school.
Issue Raised	Stability is important and the longer a pupil stays in one place the better – especially at early years. Option 1 does not offer stability.
Council Response	<p>Under Option 1 parents of pupils at existing schools would be offered the opportunity to transfer their child to the new school. Parents may choose whether to accept or refuse this offer and in reaching this decision consider how this might affect their child in light of the other pupils and staff who may be transferring.</p> <p>The processes and support which would be put in place to facilitate the transfer of pupils from other schools would most likely be considered in greater detail by a working group established in the early stages following Council approval to proceed with the project which would oversee the educational and health and wellbeing aspects of the establishment of a new school. This group would ensure that in</p>

	<p>advance of the opening of the new school, the Council had put in place measures to effectively support pupils and parents transferring to the new school or pupils affected by the transfer of friends and peers to the new school. Other transitional measures would include the appointment of the new school's Head Teacher at least six months before the opening of the new school to allow them time to familiarise themselves with pupils and staff at affected schools. It is likely that in the early stages of establishment of a new school, strong links and cooperation between the new school and neighbouring schools would be formed to ease transition.</p> <p>The Council has experience of establishing new schools from two existing catchment areas following several school amalgamations in the past two decades. However, the transfer process and the means by which a new school is populated are a clear disadvantage of Option 1 when compared to Option 2 as, by its very nature, the reduction in roll necessary at South Morningside and James Gillespie's Primary Schools is likely to result in the separation of some friendship groups.</p>
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Option 1 Issues

Issue Raised	Irrespective of the venue, the ethos of South Morningside Primary School has extended throughout the campus and contributed to its excellent reputation. The unknown quantity of the new school's ethos and expected performance would be a live issue under option 1, but a non-issue under option 2.
Issue Raised	Uncertainty and risk are prevalent under option 1. Would teachers transfer and, if so, which ones and how many? Would the Head Teacher transfer? Would all the teachers transfer, effectively turning the legacy SMPS into an old school with no teachers and no ethos? What effect would this have on staff morale? Under option 2, none of this uncertainty exists.
Council Response	<p>Under both Option 1 and Option 2 there are significant changes proposed for South Morningside Primary School not only in terms of the "venue" but also in terms of the numbers of pupils. It is not possible to identify with any high degree of certainty how these changes might impact on the ethos or performance of the school. However, the Council believes that both options offer educational benefits which are set out in full in the statutory consultation paper.</p> <p>While the ethos and performance of a new school is perhaps more uncertain than that of an expanded South Morningside Primary School, it is anticipated that, with a catchment area formed from areas of the existing South Morningside, James Gillespie's and Bruntsfield Primary Schools and with a staff complement which is expected would be</p>

	largely made up of former staff from these schools; the new school would provide a similar ethos and offer the same levels of performance as the schools around it.
Issue Raised	Option 1(c) would involve the closure of SMPS nursery. So, not only would children in the SMPS catchment area not be given a new school, they would also have their nursery removed. This would surely be an exceptionally iniquitous outcome?
Council Response	Many primary schools do not accommodate nursery classes – Bruntsfield Primary School and Sciennes Primary School are two examples in the south Edinburgh area. In addition, within the south Edinburgh area a large number of the available nursery places are at private nurseries not associated with any primary school.
Issue Raised	It appears from the consultation paper that option 2 allows for the provision of a gym at the new site, which would not be the case under option 1. With a continued focus on healthy living and a need to address our childhood obesity academic the provision of gym facilities should be an important factor in decision-making.
Council Response	Under all of the options considered in the statutory consultation paper a new gym hall would be provided on the combined Deanbank and Oaklands site.
Issue Raised	Where would the P1 and P2 pupils at Deanbank be throughout the construction of a new school building? Parents have concerns about the effect on their children's education if a new school was built due to the disruption to pupils attending the deanbank annexe.
Council Response	Throughout the construction of a new school building, the P1 and P2 pupils of South Morningside Primary School would continue to be accommodated on the neighbouring Deanbank House site. The Deanbank and Oaklands sites would be clearly separated so that the Deanbank annexe could continue to operate as it currently does. The Council has significant experience of constructing new school buildings whilst maintaining the safe and effective operation of an adjacent school building such as during the construction of the new James Gillespie's High School.

Option 2 Issues

Issue Raised	Option 2 would have a negative effect on P4 to P7 pupils from the areas of James Gillespie's Primary School realigned with South Morningside Primary School due to the increased travel distance to the existing South Morningside school building.
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Council Response	The Council acknowledges that this is a disadvantage of Option 2. Appendix 10 of the statutory consultation report illustrates the increased distance that pupils from the Blackford area would be required to travel at P4 to P7 to reach the main South Morningside Primary School site.
Issue Raised	Simply adding capacity to the existing schools will maintain and magnify the existing split site issues whilst further increasing the number of families that have to travel between the main school sites and the existing/proposed nursery sites.
Issue Raised	Creating a “monster” school is not conducive to a good educational output or pupil happiness. A school of this size would be impersonal and make pupils feel over-whelmed. The number of pupils would be too great to build an effective school community.
Council Response	The retention of a split site arrangement under Option 2 is an acknowledged disbenefit of this option. The co-location of the nursery with P1 to P3 classes under Option 2 would reduce the number of journeys that some parents would be required to make. However the impact of traffic, particularly at the combined Deanbank and Oaklands site, is likely to be more significant than at present due to the increased roll and the size of the catchment area and therefore the distances that people are required to travel to the site. The Council has provided full details of the educational benefits it believes would be applicable to the implementation of Option 2 in the statutory consultation paper.
Issue Raised	There is no reason why under option 2 a new building at Deanbank/Oaklands cannot have new facilities, acting as a Junior Primary, with the old Main School having updated facilities (including the creation of green space in the playground) for senior pupils.
Issue Raised	Option 2 would mean that all children in the South Morningside Primary School catchment area would enjoy modern facilities at junior level before moving to the old building at senior level.
Council Response	This is essentially what would be delivered under Option 2 and, to a lesser extent, Option 3. South Morningside Primary School’s management team and Parent Council are in the process of considering how to make best use of the additional playground space which is now available following the demolition of the huts on the main school site.
Issue Raised	Option 2 delivers no improvement to P1 and P2 facilities at Deanbank.
Council Response	Under Option 2 the facilities at Deanbank would be improved significantly. A new school building would be constructed on the

	<p>Oaklands site which would contain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New classrooms; • New gym and dining facilities; • General purpose space; • Office and support space; • South Morningside Primary School's nursery classes. <p>In addition, £1.2m would be invested in upgrading the existing Deanbank House building and the school grounds would be landscaped to provide a new play area and improved staff parking. Further details of the improvements which would be made under Option 2 are provided in the statutory consultation paper.</p>
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Secondary School Issues (inc. feeder status and future growth)

Issue Raised	Please can the Council provide details of other primary schools in the City which feed into two separate secondary school catchment areas?
Issue Raised	The new primary school will be split between the clusters of Boroughmuir and James Gillespie's. This could cause problems for example around what modern languages to teach in the primaries, which are generally determined by the availability of staff at the cluster secondary.
Council Response	<p>There are no other instances in Edinburgh of a primary school catchment which feeds to two separate secondary schools. However, Gilmerton Primary School has a section of its catchment which has dual-feeder status to Liberton High School and Gracemount High School; in other words pupils from that area of the catchment can choose to attend either secondary school. Similarly, the Prestonfield Primary School catchment has dual-feeder status and feeds into both Liberton High School and Castlebrae Community High School.</p> <p>Accordingly, the Council already has experience of ensuring that the necessary resources are available at primary schools to allow association with two separate secondary schools.</p>
Issue Raised	What is the capacity of the new Boroughmuir High School and what is the expected total number of pupils attending the new Boroughmuir High in its first year after opening?
Council Response	The capacity of Boroughmuir High School is 1,165 and the latest projection for Boroughmuir in 2016 is 1,145 and for 2017 is 1,147. The 'Strategic Management Report' considered by the Education, Children and Families Committee in March 2015 included information on the expected S1 intakes.

<p>Issue Raised</p>	<p>It is concerning that there is no suggestion of increasing capacity at secondary level, and that these increased pupil numbers are to be accommodated within the existing high schools (James Gillespie’s High and Boroughmuir High). JGHS is already full, and the new Boroughmuir can accommodate 1,165 pupils and upon opening 1,145 pupils are expected to attend. Additionally, there are also rising rolls within Taobh na Pàirce, which is another JGHS cluster primary. Accommodating these increased numbers with no extra provision is not sustainable, and will be detrimental to the education of all. How would these schools physically incorporate numbers significantly in excess of their capacity?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendees at the consultation meetings were told that capacity at Boroughmuir could be increased with efficient timetabling. While it would make sense to share some, say, advanced higher classes with nearby James Gillespie’s it would not be ideal if pupils had to travel across the city for classes or if courses were only offered if they would result in full classes. • Have any discussions taken place, at any level of the Council, regarding a potential change in the secondary school to which Buckstone Primary School feeds? • Does the new Boroughmuir have any scope for extension? • Could Darroch be retained in the long-term as an annexe of James Gillespie’s High School? • Has consideration been given to reducing pressure on Boroughmuir and James Gillespie’s by assigning existing feeder primaries to neighbouring secondary schools?
<p>Council Response</p>	<p>The “Rising School Rolls” report considered by Education, Children and Families on 8 December 2015 set out the process by which the Asset Planning team within Communities and Families are considering the potential impact of rising school rolls on all secondary schools and the actions which will be progressed during 2016 to address these.</p> <p>The Asset Planning team has commenced a process of engagement with management teams in several schools to consider a range of potential solutions to any future rising rolls which may arise. The outcomes of this process will be reported to the Education, Children and Families Committee at a future date. Accordingly, it is too early to speculate on where issues may arise and what the solutions to those issues might be.</p> <p>No discussions have taken place regarding a potential change in the secondary school to which Buckstone Primary School feeds.</p>
<p>Issue Raised</p>	<p>The primary concern for most local parents would be that pupils at the new and old schools should continue to be in the Boroughmuir</p>

	catchment.
Issue Raised	The new school feeding into two High Schools is a practical solution as it is already the norm for friends to find themselves going off to different high schools, due to the relatively high number of pupils who change to the private sector for secondary education.
Council Response	Under none of the proposals in the statutory consultation would secondary school catchment areas be changed. Accordingly, pupils resident in the area of the new school's catchment formerly aligned with South Morningside Primary School or Bruntsfield Primary School would feed to Boroughmuir High School while pupils resident in the area of the new school's catchment formerly aligned with James Gillespie's Primary School would feed to James Gillespie's High School.
Issue Raised	Pupils from the Blackford area would be in the minority transferring to James Gillespie's High School and would be separated from their friends. Alternative secondary options need to be explored in more detail.
Issue Raised	It is very important to ensure that pupils from the south of the James Gillespie's Primary School catchment, regardless of a new primary school, can continue to chose to attend James Gillespie's High School. It was previously mentioned that new school catchment boundaries would require a child from the Blackford Hill area to have to attend Bouroughmuir High School at Fountainpark however, we were assured that a further consultation process would be required to alter high school catchments.
Issue Raised	To help make transition as smooth as possible, allow choices for secondary schools, until one naturally becomes the feeder secondary.
Council Response	<p>Feedback from parents through the Rising Rolls Working Group and the informal consultation process with parents suggested that parents currently in the James Gillespie's High School catchment area would not wish that feeder status to change. To change this arrangement would require a further statutory consultation.</p> <p>A review of the impact of rising rolls on secondary schools is underway and the future development of Gaelic Medium Education at secondary level is also under review. Until these assessments have been concluded it would be inappropriate to consider alternative secondary feeder arrangements which might fundamentally change the capacities of the affected schools.</p>

Financial Issues and Concerns

Issue Raised	The ongoing revenue costs of running 2 schools with 2 sets of administration and 2 sets of senior staff is significantly in excess of running one school over 2 sites.
Council Response	The revenue implications of each option are set out in full in Appendix 14 of the statutory consultation paper.
Issue Raised	Council budgets are under significant pressure and therefore Option 3, which does provide the volumes of classes needed, would seem the only sensible answer. Spending an additional £10m of Council Tax Payers money would be difficult to justify in the current environment.
Issue Raised	In terms of revenue cost Option 3 is roughly cost neutral, Options 1 and 2 increase annual costs by between £300k and £550k which seems impossible to justify at the current time of budget deficits.
Issue Raised	The cost of the annexe proposal is only a little less and does not resolve the problems of the number of children crammed onto sites, nor does it help Gillespies or Bruntsfield cope.
Council Response	<p>Option 3 was included as an option in the statutory consultation paper as projections at the time suggested that Option 3 would offer sufficient capacity to accommodate demand in the foreseeable future. This remains the case for Bruntsfield and South Morningside Primary Schools.</p> <p>Updated projections now suggest that the capacity available at James Gillespie's would be sufficient until approximately August 2023. However, early P1 registration data suggests that the P1 intake at James Gillespie's Primary School in August 2016 will exceed that projected. If this is the case then under Option 3 James Gillespie's would require to organise 21 classes in August 2019 requiring that an additional classroom be created, assuming that was possible. This may represent an additional, as yet unidentified cost.</p> <p>Accordingly, while it is a significantly cheaper option than the alternatives, the implementation of Option 3 without putting in place additional measures carries a significant risk in the short term and, in the long term, even with additional measures in place, new housing developments coming forward may create future issues.</p>
Issue Raised	City of Glasgow secured funding for a new school by creating a second Gaelic school on a shared site.
Council Response	In 2013 the City of Edinburgh Council opened its first dedicated Gaelic Medium Primary School – Bun Sgoil Taobh na Pairce. Current demand

	for places at this school is consistent with its available capacity. Accordingly, the Council has no plans or requirement to provide a further GME primary school.
Issue Raised	Please can the council start making decisions for our children and schools based on what is best for their welfare and education and not on what fits within arbitrary budgets.
Council Response	The Council places services for children at the heart of its priorities but must allocate the limited resources it has available to it in a way which is equitable for all children in the city.
Issue Raised	Reduce running costs by having all the nursery children in one location and close other buildings
Council Response	This approach is contained within Option 1(c), Option 2 and Option 3, all of which would result in the removal of the requirement for the church hall at Fairmilehead which currently accommodates South Morningside Primary School's nursery classes.

Timescales

Issue Raised	Option 3 is likely to prove the most straightforward to implement in terms of timescale. It would be difficult to implement Option 1 within the timescales proposed - partly due to budget and partly due to likely issues arising from the amendments required to school catchment areas.
Council Response	<p>The indicative timescales under which the options proposed would be delivered are contained within section 9 of the statutory consultation paper. All of the timescales carry similar risks associated with the availability of the Oaklands site and the approval of funding for the project.</p> <p>Council approval for an option which includes catchment change would be sufficient to allow those catchment changes to be implemented as per the timescales set out in the statutory consultation paper. No amendments could be made to the existing catchment proposals without further statutory consultation. Accordingly, if required, the catchment changes proposed should not delay the implementation of the approved option.</p>

Education

Issue Raised	There is significant international evidence from other countries that the best way to improve educational performance for a wider group of children is to allow good schools to expand rather than to create entirely
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	new schools with no educational foundation. Have the Council analysed any evidence from outwith Scotland on the benefits of extending good schools as opposed to creating entirely new institutions?
Council Response	<p>No evidence from outside Scotland has been considered. However the benefits of extending schools, as opposed to providing entirely new facilities, is an approach we have already taken extensively throughout the city. Over 70 new classroom spaces have been created over the last three years as part of our rising roll programme, this includes space at James Gillespie's, Bruntsfield, and the South Morningside annexe at Deanbank. Indeed, given the funding requirements for creating a new facility this would only be considered where all other options have been explored and where a significant educational benefit can be shown.</p> <p>The options in the statutory consultation paper allowed stakeholders to consider the relative benefits of both a new school and expansion of existing provision. Both would achieve the objective of addressing the long-term accommodation pressures in south Edinburgh.</p>
Issue Raised	It would be better for the children and teachers to be able to have smaller classes in separate rooms rather than the current team teaching arrangements. Children struggling but performing reasonably well can be lost in a large class as attention is naturally given to children not performing so well or the disruptive child - this is human nature.
Council Response	Team teaching classes have been operating successfully in our schools for a number of years and it is an approach that has the support of the Scottish Government. Team teachers discuss forthcoming plans and ensure the most effective approaches for all children in their class. As with all classes, regardless of size, the key requirement is for teachers to meet the needs of individuals and groups of pupils within a generally approved curricular framework.

Other Issues/Points

Issue Raised	Why is Sciennes primary school not part of the consultation? Could a new school take pupils from Sciennes?
Issue Raised	Option 3 might offer the possibility to explore whether Sciennes Primary could be enlarged (through one of the buildings used by the Sick Kids' Hospital) to solve Gillespies' problems, thus avoiding a primary school feeding into two different secondary schools.
Council Response	<p>Sciennes Primary School does not currently have a rising rolls issue as it is able to comfortably accommodate demand for catchment places.</p> <p>Expanding Sciennes to address accommodation issues at James</p>

	Gillespie's Primary School would require that the Council incurs the considerable costs required to purchase a section of the Sick Kids Hospital site and redevelop the building for school use. This would not address the issues at South Morningside Primary School. It would also require a separate statutory consultation to realign Sciennes catchment area.
Issue Raised	Why not build one single new South Morningside Primary School on the Deanbank/Oaklands site? From a financial perspective, the ability to sell the current SMPS main school to a developer would surely make this the best long-term financial and educational option. Furthermore, the opportunity to create a shared campus between a new South Morningside 'super-school' and St Peter's would be in line with current policy at denominational/non-denominational campuses.
Council Response	The option of increasing the capacity of South Morningside Primary School on a single site has not specifically been considered. However the combined Deanbank and Oaklands site would be too small to accommodate the requirements of a four stream school. As the statutory consultation paper explains, the size of that site is already lower than the minimum site size requirement specified in the School Premises (General Requirements and Standards) (Scotland) Regulations 1967 and the 1973 and 1979 amendments to those regulations as being required for a two stream school. Increasing the school to be four stream and, in turn, doubling the number of pupils which require to be accommodated on that site to 840 primary pupils plus 40 nursery pupils would be unacceptable to the Council and would be subject to approval by Scottish Ministers with an increased risk of this approval not being forthcoming compared to a request for a new school.
Issue Raised	Have the Council studied, or analysed other studies on, the effect on children of changing schools and breaking friendship groups? If yes, has this been compared to the supposed benefits of having P1-7 pupils on one campus? If yes, please outline how the negatives of the former and the positives of the latter compared.
Council Response	As has been clearly stated in the detailed consultation paper none of the five options would involve the mandatory transfer of any pupil from one school to another.
Issue Raised	In the long term there should be a bigger primary school built at Fairmilehead along with a new secondary school to accommodate the children moving into the new houses etc. in Fairmilehead.
Council Response	Work has been undertaken at Buckstone Primary School to ensure that it has sufficient capacity to support current and future demand for

	<p>catchment places. Accordingly no additional primary school provision is required in that area.</p> <p>The "Rising School Rolls" report considered by Education, Children and Families on 8 December 2015 sets out the process by which the Asset Planning team within Communities and Families are considering the potential impact of rising school rolls on all secondary schools and the actions which will be progressed during 2016 to address these.</p> <p>The Asset Planning team has commenced a process of engagement with management teams in several schools to consider a range of potential solutions to any future rising rolls which may arise. The outcomes of this process will be reported to the Education, Children and Families Committee at a future date. Accordingly, it is too early to speculate on where issues may arise and what the solutions to those issues might be.</p>
Issue Raised	Oaklands care home should not be closed. There are no other local authority care homes in the Morningside area. Older people need to be part of the community and have the same access to shops and transport in Morningside as others.
Council Response	Since 2008 the Council has had a plan to replace older care homes with good quality new accommodation, either in housing or in care homes. The Council has been gradually opening new care homes and has opened five to date: Marionville; Castlegreen; North Merchiston; Inch View and Drumbrae. The Council has agreed to a further home being built in the north of the city which will replace other homes including Oaklands.
Issue Raised	There is a gas container at the bottom of Deanbank School and they have had to evacuate the children several times due to small leaks. This hardly seems like a safe place to locate a large group of children.
Council Response	Scottish Gas were made aware of a fault with this facility and have since attended. The Council has not been made aware of any issues which would put into doubt the health and safety of pupils on the Deanbank site.
Issue Raised	The proposals for the Deanbank/Oaklands site may include a partial sell off for other uses (probably residential). This will compound the loss of local amenity space.
Council Response	If the Council approves the sale of part of the Deanbank and Oaklands site (which only arises in Option 3) any resulting development would be subject to a statutory planning process which would consider the impact of the proposed development on the local environment.
Issue	The potential of each option in the consultation paper to provide a

Raised	development solution to GME expansion should be one of the factors considered.
Council Response	A separate review of Gaelic Medium Education provision at both primary and secondary level in the city is currently under way.
Issue Raised	Under Option 2 will the option of a shuttle bus be offered from the P1-3 site to the main school so that older siblings can get easily to school from the infants' site? Similarly, in the afternoons could they be brought back again?
Council Response	No. The current annexe does not require a shuttle bus and neither would an expanded annexe.
Issue Raised	Please consider raising money that can be ear-marked for schools/education by revising the Council Tax system. It is ridiculous that tenants rather than property owners should pay the property tax portion. Also make the system fair by having the tax as a direct proportion of the value of the property.
Council Response	A review of the Council Tax system is beyond the scope of the proposals set out in the statutory consultation paper.
Issue Raised	Residents of Falcon Court and the surrounding streets live only a minute or two from the Deanbank annexe and have few roads to cross but have Bruntsfield as their catchment school which is at least a 20 minute walk. Where should they apply to school?
Council Response	Residents should register at their catchment school, Bruntsfield Primary School, and may make an out of catchment placing request to South Morningside Primary School if they wish their child to attend that school.
Issue Raised	The only viable solution for annexing would be to create an intermediary school to prepare children for secondary school.
Council Response	The provision of annexe accommodation is to allow a school to meet demand for catchment places where the main building alone is insufficient. The Council's primary and secondary schools already offer a programme of curricular activities and events to ease the transition from primary to secondary school.

Appendix 5 - Pupil Consultation Outcomes

Consultation Method

- 1.1 Some pupils from Bruntsfield Primary School, James Gillespie's Primary School, South Morningside Primary School and Tollcross Primary School were given a presentation by Quality Improvement Officers which broadly outlined the reasons for undertaking the consultation and the proposed solutions. Pupils were then given a return slip by which they could 'vote' for their preferred option and write down their thoughts or concerns about the options. The presentation did not consider the early years sub options contained within Option 1 as it was considered that this would add an additional level of complexity which would cause confusion.
- 1.2 The pupils initially selected to take part in the consultation were from P3 and P4 stages as the P4 pupils would be in P7 by August 2018 (the indicative delivery timescales for Option 3) and the P3 pupils would be in P7 by August 2019 (the indicative delivery timescales for Options 1 and 2). It was considered that the issues being consulted on would be too advanced for younger pupils. Responses from the P3 and P4 pupils at Bruntsfield, Tollcross and South Morningside suggested some misunderstanding about the options. Accordingly, a P6 class from James Gillespie's Primary School was selected for the presentation.

Results

- 1.3 The following table provides an analysis of the 221 responses received.

Table 1: Number of Responses and Option Selection

	Responses	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Not Indicated
Bruntsfield Primary	82	19	4	59	0
James Gillespie's Primary	28	21	2	5	0
South Morningside Primary	59	18	20	21	0
Tollcross Primary	46	27	10	9	0
Unknown	6	2	0	4	0
TOTAL	221	87	36	98	0
		39.4%	16.3%	44.3%	0.0%

- 1.4 Table 1 suggests that pupils at Bruntsfield Primary School overwhelmingly support option 3 which would result in no changes to the Bruntsfield Primary School catchment area. Additionally the comments received from several

pupils from Bruntsfield Primary School who chose Option 1 indicate that they may have meant to select Option 3. Many of the comments received from Bruntsfield Primary School pupils indicated particular concerns about separation from friends under Option 1 and Option 2 or about Bruntsfield getting smaller.

- 1.5 Table 1 suggests almost equal support for each option from pupils at South Morningside Primary School. However within the year groups there is a noticeable difference with only one vote for Option 2 and 15 votes for Option 3 from the P3 classes compared to 19 votes for Option 2 and only five votes for Option 3 in the P4 classes. Comments received from both year groups gave little rationale for support for Option 3 while support for Option 2 focused on the idea that it would provide greater room in the school.
- 1.6 Option 1 attracted 65% of the vote from pupils at James Gillespie's Primary School and Tollcross Primary School. The comments reveal no common theme for making this choice or for the selections of Options 2 and 3. In fact, the pupils at James Gillespie's provided only two comments. It is worth noting however, that while it is a small cohort the results from the older year group consulted at James Gillespie's are most comparable with the results of the overall consultation.

Comments - Summary

- 1.7 As previously stated, the comments received often did not correlate with the option selected. In some cases it is also possible to identify where voting choices and ideas or suggestions for comments have perhaps been shared. However, the comments provide a window into some of the issues that the options proposed raise for children at the affected schools. The following section uses samples of the comments received to highlight some of the themes:

Comments identifying existing issues

Comments:

- "I want to have more space." (*South Morningside pupil*)
- "it would be good if we were all in the same place." (*South Morningside pupil*)

Financial and resource concerns

Comments:

- "if we make our school bigger we will need more teachers." (*Bruntsfield Primary pupil*)
- "If we make a new school it will waste money." (*South Morningside pupil*)

- “I think we shode make small changes because it will cost less. And its simple.” *(Bruntsfield Primary pupil)*
- “We can make other schools chearper.” *(South Morningside pupil on Option 1)*
- “you can get ipads?” *(Tollcross pupil on Option 1)*

Separation concerns

Comments:

- “the problem for the 1st idea is that some in south morningside will have to move to be in cachment.” *(South Morningside pupil on Option 1)*
- “if it comes in as the number 2, how many people will be sent out of Bruntsfyld?” *(Bruntsfield Primary pupil)*
- “Some of my friends don't live in the catchment so they mite go away and I'de be sad”

New school concerns

Comments:

- “I think we shoud chisit [Option 3] becose if we cos new school ther wil be harley eny people.” *(Bruntsfield Primary pupil)*
- “If you go to a new school you won't know anyone there and they might bully you” *(Bruntsfield Primary pupil)*
- “I think that it wont be fair because Bruntsfield wid be smoler. If they bild a new school” *(Bruntsfield Primary pupil)*
- “I think we should go with the third option because the first and second idea dosen't help the other schools reputation but with small changes it helps all schools!” *(Bruntsfield Primary pupil)*

New school positives and ideas

- “I think it Will be better because they will let people Join from nearby.” *(Tollcross Primary pupil)*
- “I picked option 1 because I would like new pupils.” *(Tollcross Primary pupil)*
- “if we make a new school make it fun like this school”. *(South Morningside pupil)*
- “we can macke a model of lego to help beeld a new school” and “We can we can make a new primary school made out of lego” *(Tollcross Primary pupils)*

No or little change required

- “I think there should be small changes because there will be equal pupils in each school” *(Bruntsfield Primary pupil)*

- “It will be better to have little change because shools are what they are” (*Bruntsfield Primary pupil*)
- “No comments because everything is awesome” and “no because evry thing is perthect” and “beces I laych how it is :)” (*Bruntsfield, Bruntsfield and Tollcross primary pupil*)

Option 2 positive

- “I finck it weod be beter for the school.” (*Tollcross Primary pupil*)
- “I think it is a better chose more than making it more small.” (*Tollcross Primary pupil*)
- “I think South morningside should be biger because the children will be happy. Yey!” (*Tollcross Primary pupil*)

Other ideas

- “The P7 and P6 P5 go to the new school.” (*Bruntsfield Primary pupil*)
- “You could build a really big school and have it's catchment cover all of the struggling schools, it might be a long walk, but you could have a school-bus” (*James Gillespie's Primary pupil*)

Appendix 6 - Education Scotland Report

Report by Education Scotland addressing educational aspects of the proposal by The City of Edinburgh Council to address primary school capacity and accommodation pressures in South Edinburgh.

1. Introduction

1.1 This report from Education Scotland has been prepared by HM Inspectors in accordance with the terms of the *Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010* and the amendments contained in the *Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014*. The purpose of the report is to provide an independent and impartial consideration of The City of Edinburgh Council's proposal to address primary school capacity and accommodation pressures in South Edinburgh. The council consulted on a number of options:

Option 1 – Establish a new primary school on the combined site of the existing South Morningside Primary School Deanbank temporary annexe and the Oaklands Care Home on Canaan Lane incorporating sections of the Bruntsfield, James Gillespie's and South Morningside Primary Schools catchment areas. This option includes the northern tip of the James Gillespie's Primary School catchment area being realigned with Tollcross Primary School and could be delivered with any of the following Early Years provision sub options:

- a. not including a nursery as part of the new school building and retaining the existing nursery classes of South Morningside Primary School which are currently based at Fairmilehead Church Hall;
- b. including a nursery as part of the new school building and retaining the capacity currently provided by the existing nursery classes of South Morningside Primary School at Fairmilehead Church Hall; or
- c. including a nursery as part of the new school building to replace the capacity currently provided by the existing nursery classes of South Morningside Primary School at Fairmilehead Church Hall resulting in the closure of that facility.

Option 2 – Increase the capacity of South Morningside Primary School to four streams by establishing a permanent annexe of South Morningside Primary School accommodating the nursery to P3 stages on the combined site of the existing Deanbank temporary annexe and the Oaklands Care Home on Canaan Lane. This would require the existing South Morningside Primary School catchment to be extended to incorporate sections of the Bruntsfield and James Gillespie's Primary School catchment areas and would also

require the northern tip of the James Gillespie's Primary School catchment area to be realigned with Tollcross Primary School.

Option 3 – Maintain and improve existing accommodation arrangements by permanently establishing South Morningside Primary School's Deanbank temporary annexe, including the provision of a new gym, the relocation of the South Morningside Primary School Nursery to the Deanbank site and a minor catchment change to incorporate the combined site of the existing temporary Deanbank temporary annexe and the Oaklands Care Home within the South Morningside Primary School catchment area.

Section 2 of the report sets out brief details of the consultation process. Section 3 of the report sets out HM Inspectors' consideration of the educational aspects of the proposal, including significant views expressed by consultees. Section 4 summarises HM Inspectors' overall view of the proposal. Upon receipt of this report, the Act requires the council to consider it and then prepare its final consultation report. The council's final consultation report should include a copy of this report and must contain an explanation of how, in finalising the proposal, it has reviewed the initial proposal, including a summary of points raised during the consultation process and the council's response to them. The council has to publish its final consultation report three weeks before it takes its final decision. Where a council is proposing to close a school, it needs to follow all legislative obligations set out in the 2010 Act, including notifying Ministers within six working days of making its final decision and explaining to consultees the opportunity they have to make representations to Ministers.

1.2 HM Inspectors considered:

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

1.3 In preparing this report, HM Inspectors undertook the following activities:

- attendance at the public meetings held on 3 September 2015 and 8 September 2015 in connection with the council's proposal;

- consideration of all relevant documentation provided by the council in relation to the proposal, specifically the educational benefits statement and related consultation documents, written and oral submissions from parents and others;
- visits to the site of Tollcross Primary School, Bruntsfield Primary School, James Gillespie's Primary School, South Morningside Primary School and South Morningside Nursery Class; and
- telephone conversations to gather the general views of pupils, parents and staff in Boroughmuir and James Gillespie's High Schools.

2. Consultation Process

- 2.1 The City of Edinburgh Council undertook the consultation on its proposal with reference to the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 and the amendments in the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014.
- 2.2 The consultation process ran from 24 August 2015 to 6 October 2015. During this period the council held four public meetings at four different schools in the South of Edinburgh. In total, approximately 170 people attended the public meetings. Statutory consultees were informed of the consultation in writing and officers of the council sought the views of children from all the schools involved in the proposal. Consultation documentation was published on The City of Edinburgh Council website. The council received 201 responses to the online consultation and a further 39 emails and written responses. In the online survey, all 201 respondents answered a question asking their preferred option. 15 preferred Option 1(a); 49 preferred Option 1(b); 59 preferred Option 1(c); 12 preferred Option 2; 43 preferred Option 3 and 23 did not want any of the options.

3. Educational Aspects of the Proposal

- 3.1 The council provided an appropriate set of educational benefits for each proposal. Overall, the option which provides the most educational benefit to the children of South Edinburgh is Option 1(c). This option would provide much needed increased pupil capacity in the area and may offer opportunities for existing schools to provide more flexible learning environments for children. The new purpose-built school would provide modern, flexible learning spaces in which a 21st Century curriculum could be more easily delivered. Option 1(c) would mean that children in the area would not need to attend a school with a split site, although some parents would continue to drop off children at a nursery which is located away from South Morningside Primary School. However, Option 1(c) would maximise learning time for all children in school by removing the need to travel between buildings. Safety would also be improved as school children and parents would not need to travel between sites during the school day. The younger children would have

the advantage of having older pupils as role models in and around the school. There would also be fewer major transition points as children progress through the school. This option would also provide increased opportunities to bring the whole school together to develop the school ethos and easier opportunities for all staff to learn and develop from each other. Of most educational benefit would be a school with a nursery on site. This would provide the best opportunity for children to make smooth progress in their learning. However, the size of the proposed site for the new school does not meet the requirements laid down in the *School Premises (General Requirements and Standards) (Scotland) Regulations 1967* and the amendments. If consent to build a school on the site is approved, the council needs to work closely with pupils, parents and staff to design facilities suitable for the size of the site.

- 3.2 Option 2 provides younger children in South Morningside Primary School with an improved learning environment and the possibility of a wider range of out of school hours activities. It would also provide increased opportunities for staff to learn from each other. Option 2 would also help to alleviate some of the pressure on capacity in Bruntsfield and James Gillespie's Primary Schools. However, the concerns regarding a split site in South Morningside Primary School would remain and the large roll would make it more difficult for staff to develop strong learning partnerships with children.
- 3.3 Option 3 would provide some educational benefits to the youngest pupils in South Morningside Primary School and Nursery Class. The improved learning environment and opportunities for better transitions between nursery and primary would help younger children to progress in their learning. However, the concerns regarding a split site would remain and this option would do little to alleviate the pressures associated with increasing rolls in Bruntsfield and James Gillespie's Primary Schools.
- 3.4 In Tollcross Primary School almost all pupils, parents and staff who met with HM Inspectors were very positive about the proposal and welcomed the opportunities an increase in the school roll could bring. Parents and staff in the school discussed the possibility of further increasing the catchment area of the school. They thought this might be a cost-effective way to decrease the rolls in nearby schools. The council needs to continue to discuss with stakeholders how it can achieve best value from its school estate in South Edinburgh.
- 3.5 In Bruntsfield Primary School, almost all pupils, parents and staff who met with HM Inspectors welcomed the proposal and favoured Option 1. They recognised the need to alleviate the pressure on their own school building and felt that a new school in the area would provide an opportunity to do this.

- 3.6 In James Gillespie's Primary School, there were a number of concerns but almost all pupils, parents and staff agreed that, within the current proposal, Option 1 was the best. Parents who met with HM Inspectors shared their concerns at the length of time the effects of the proposal would take to work through. The proposal would not help the children currently in James Gillespie's Primary School and they feared that the roll would continue to rise, with subsequent increased pressures on the school. Parents were very concerned that the figures regarding the projected rolls were not accurate. The council needs to continue to work closely with parents to address these concerns.
- 3.7 In South Morningside Primary School, the parents, pupils and staff who met with HM Inspectors had mixed views on the proposal. Almost all pupils favoured Option 3; all staff and most parents favoured Option 1; a few parents favoured Option 2. Pupils wanted South Morningside to remain as it is with better facilities for younger children. Staff saw advantages to having a new school in the area and felt that it was the best option to alleviate the pressures on South Morningside. While parents saw the advantages of having a single site school, a few thought that Option 2 would ensure continued high quality education while providing increased capacity for the South Edinburgh area. A few staff thought that closing the current nursery at Fairmilehead might mean a poorer transition from nursery to primary for future pupils attending South Morningside Primary School. Some parents were keen to look at the possibility of demolishing the Deanbank temporary annexe. They felt that this had not been investigated well enough and that the council had not provided them with sufficient information as to whether attempting to get permission to demolish Deanbank House was at all feasible. In taking forward the proposal, the council needs to work with parents to address these concerns.
- 3.8 Pupils, parents and staff of Boroughmuir and James Gillespie's High Schools were content with the slight changes to the schools' catchment areas.
- 3.9 During the consultation period the council notified stakeholders of one non-material inaccuracy in the proposal and was made aware of one non-material omission as a result of a question asked at one of the public consultation meetings. The council took the necessary steps to notify stakeholders of this issue during the public consultation period and will need to ensure the full implications are highlighted in its final consultation report.

4. Summary

- 4.1 The City of Edinburgh Council's proposal to address primary school capacity and accommodation pressures in South Edinburgh has a number of strong educational benefits which will help to improve learning and teaching across the area. If a new school is built, there is the potential for improved transition between nursery and primary, and between primary stages, for pupils in the

new school and for improved transitions between some stages for those in South Morningside Primary School. Learning environments in all the schools in the area could improve as rooms became available, providing increased opportunities for innovative teaching. A new purpose-built school would provide the flexible spaces which help to deliver a modern curriculum. Staff in South Morningside Primary School would find it easier to meet for professional learning. Finally, Option 1 would ensure there would be no school in the area with a split site, which would increase the safety for school children, parents and staff who currently travel between two school buildings.

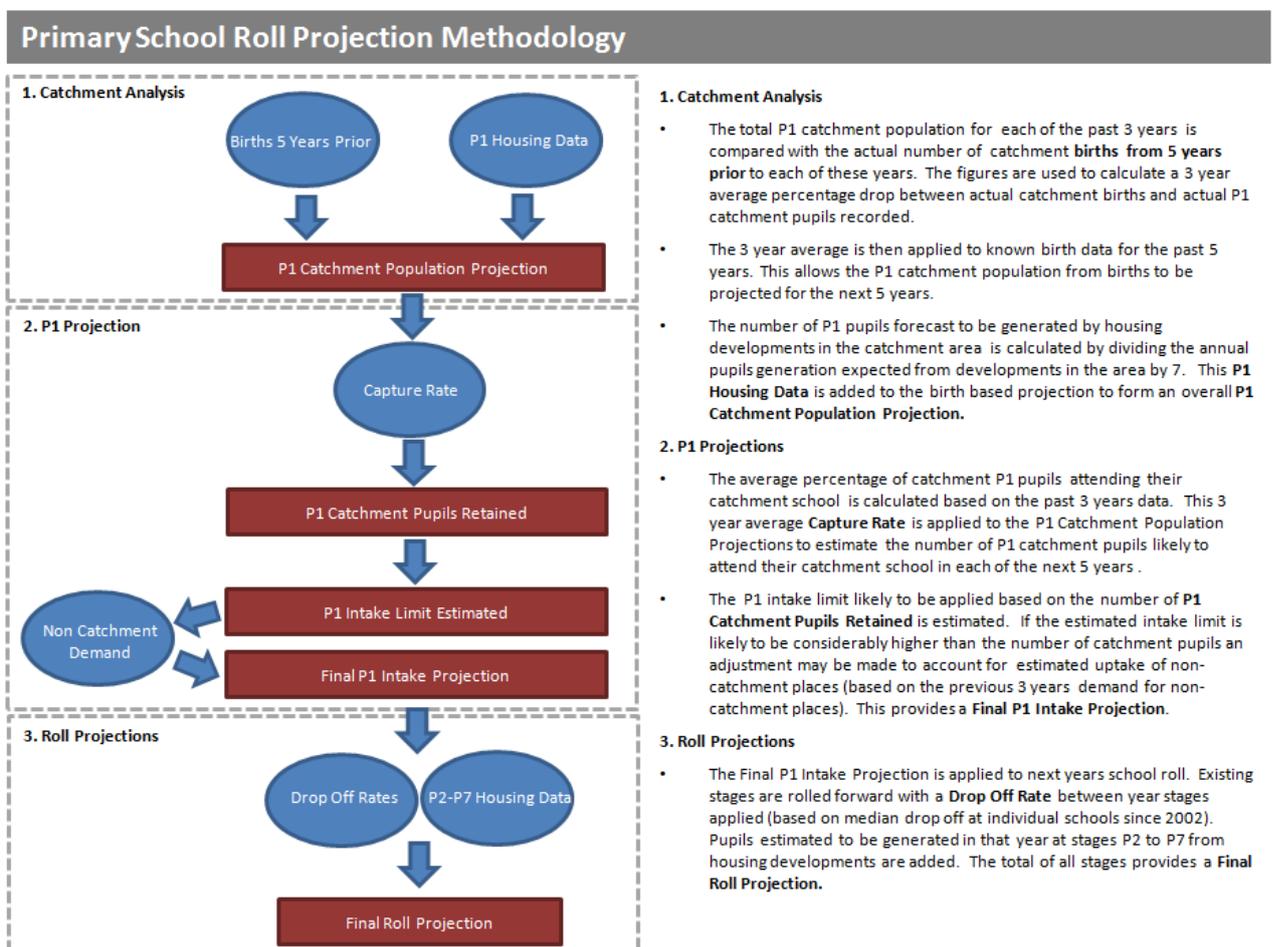
- 4.2 Stakeholders have a number of reasonable concerns. In particular, they would like further information about the projected rolls for the schools in South Edinburgh. Stakeholders would like further consideration given to the possibility of demolishing Deanbank temporary annexe. Some parents in Tollcross Primary School would like more information on how the current proposal secures best value for the council. These are all fair and reasonable requests. The size of the proposed site for the new school does not meet current legislative requirements and, should the proposal go ahead, the council needs to engage with stakeholders to discuss the design of the building. In taking forward the proposal, the council needs to set out how it will address stakeholders' concerns. In its final consultation report, the council also needs to set out the actions it has taken to address the non-material inaccuracy and omission in the consultation paper which emerged during the public consultation period.

**HM Inspectors
Education Scotland
October 2015**

Appendix 7 – Roll Projections for the South Edinburgh Area

Methodology

1.1 The Council roll projections for primary schools are produced in two parts. The first part is a short-term projection which is based on the actual number of births recorded in a school’s catchment area. For those years regarding which this data is available, it allows the Council to project the P1 intake for a school based on the relationship between catchment births and the number of catchment P1 pupils which is then adjusted to reflect any known housing developments within the catchment area. The process for producing these short term projections is set out below and is applied consistently across the school estate.



1.2 The second part of the Council’s projection methodology for later years is similar to the first but as births have not yet taken place it is not possible to use birth data. Accordingly, the National Records for Scotland citywide population projections for five year olds replace the ‘Births from 5 Years Prior’ figure and are used as the base data for predicting P1 catchment populations.

- 1.3 Updated future roll projections for each of the three south Edinburgh schools are detailed later in this report.
- 1.4 These projections include the estimated generation of pupils from the following residential developments:
 - Telereal Trillium - Pitsligo Road
 - EDI - Fountainbridge (South) (including the existing Boroughmuir High School site)
 - Napier University and Craighouse Ltd - Craighouse Road

Other Influencing Factors

- 1.5 The projections produced by the Council are based, where possible, on known quantities such as actual birth data and approved planning applications.
- 1.6 Throughout the statutory consultation process stakeholders in the James Gillespie's and Bruntsfield Primary School catchment areas in particular have suggested that the increased availability of new student accommodation in Edinburgh has reduced the number of Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO) properties in the area allowing higher numbers of families to relocate to the area. However, the "[Houses in Multiple Occupancy \(HMO\) Market Review](#)" paper considered by the Regulatory Committee on 17 November 2014 noted that "despite increasing provision of purpose built student accommodation, the number of HMOs has remained reasonably static over the past three years". More detailed analysis of properties in the Meadows/Morningside Ward supports this finding showing that the number of applications received for HMO properties in this area has remained largely static. Accordingly, there is no evidence currently available to suggest that the availability of student accommodation in Edinburgh is driving a demographic change in the south Edinburgh area.
- 1.7 This may suggest that the growth being experienced in the catchment areas of these schools is due to properties vacated by older families and residents becoming homes for young couples and families. This would be consistent with the wave pattern the city has experienced in its primary age population over the past several decades.
- 1.8 However, what is not clear is the extent to which growth at P1 level will be sustained in these areas. The popularity of the schools in the area – including at secondary level – may mean that people do not just relocate to the area but also stay in the area eventually leading to a more mature and established population. This would be consistent with the wave pattern the city has experienced in its primary age population over the past few decades.

Bruntsfield Primary School

Figure 1: Actual Catchment Births (from 5yrs prior) and P1 ND Catchment Population (Actual and Projected), 2010-2019

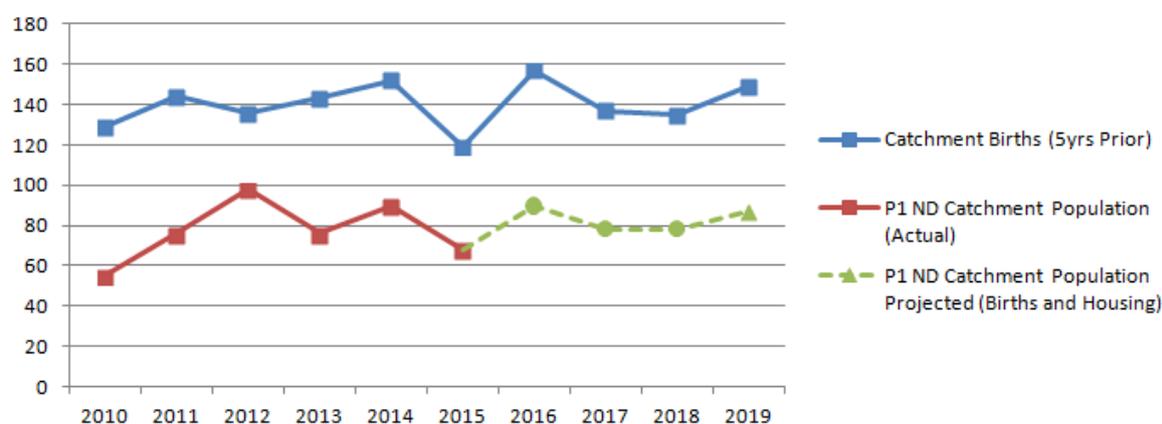


Table 1: Projected Roll by Stage (incorporating Projected P1, Drop-Off Rates and Housing Development), 2016-2026

	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	P7	Total	Estimated Classes Required
2016	83	72	82	78	95	99	67	576	20
2017	75	84	72	86	80	97	99	593	21
2018	75	77	84	77	88	82	99	582	21
2019	81	78	78	89	78	89	83	576	21
2020	75	84	78	82	90	80	91	580	21
2021	75	79	84	83	84	91	81	577	21
2022	83	80	80	89	85	86	93	596	21
2023	82	88	80	84	90	86	87	597	21
2024	83	88	88	84	85	91	87	606	21
2025	83	89	87	91	85	86	92	613	21
2026	83	89	88	90	92	86	87	615	21

Comment:

Figure 1 illustrates that in the past six years births have been a reasonably reliable indicator of the number of P1 ND catchment pupils and this has resulted in accurate projections for Bruntsfield Primary School. As of December 2015 Bruntsfield has 81 P1 registrations for August 2016 and allowing for drop-off due to movement to the independent sector, deferrals and the success of placing requests to other schools

this may suggest that a projected P1 intake of 90 pupils is too high. However it is too early in the registration process to confirm this.

Regular P1 intakes of 90 pupils are consistent with a 21 class capacity based on three classes at each stage with two classes of 25 pupils and a team teaching class of 40 pupils at P1.

It is worth noting that in 2015/16 Bruntsfield Primary School's total catchment population fell in number having experienced growth in each of the past six years.

James Gillespie's Primary School

Figure 2: Actual Catchment Births (from 5yrs prior) and P1 ND Catchment Population (Actual and Projected), 2010-2019

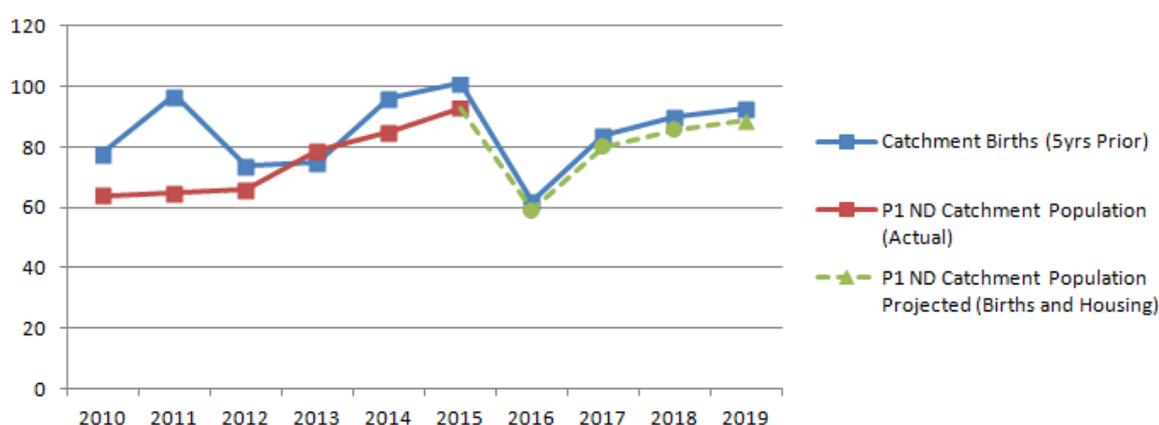


Table 2: Projected Roll by Stage (incorporating Projected P1, Drop-Off Rates and Housing Development), 2016-2026

	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	P7	Total	Estimated Classes Required
2016	60	88	86	87	59	60	56	496	17
2017	75	60	89	86	86	59	59	514	18
2018	82	75	60	89	85	86	58	535	19
2019	84	82	76	60	88	85	84	559	20
2020	83	84	83	76	60	88	83	557	20
2021	84	83	85	83	75	60	86	556	20
2022	86	84	84	85	82	75	59	555	20
2023	86	86	85	84	84	82	74	581	21
2024	86	86	87	85	83	84	81	592	21
2025	87	86	87	87	84	83	83	597	21
2026	87	87	87	87	86	84	82	600	21

Comment:

Figure 2 illustrates that the birth rate in the James Gillespie’s Primary School catchment area fell significantly in 2011 before returning to levels more commonly experienced in recent years. Between 2012 and 2015 births from five years prior have been a reasonable indicator of the number of P1 ND catchment pupils. However, early P1 registration figures indicate that the drop in the number of P1 ND catchment pupils forecast for 2016 as a result of the drop in the birth rate in 2011 is unlikely to occur.

The low P1 intake projected for August 2016 caused the projections from 2019 onward used in the statutory consultation paper to be understated.

Ignoring the projection for August 2016 and instead assuming a P1 intake of 90 pupils would result in a requirement for 18 classes in 2016, 19 classes in 2017, 20 classes in 2018 and 21 classes in 2019. Intakes projected after this are three stream, sustaining a requirement for 21 classes.

South Morningside Primary School

Figure 3: Actual Catchment Births (from 5yrs prior) and P1 ND Catchment Population (Actual and Projected), 2010-2019

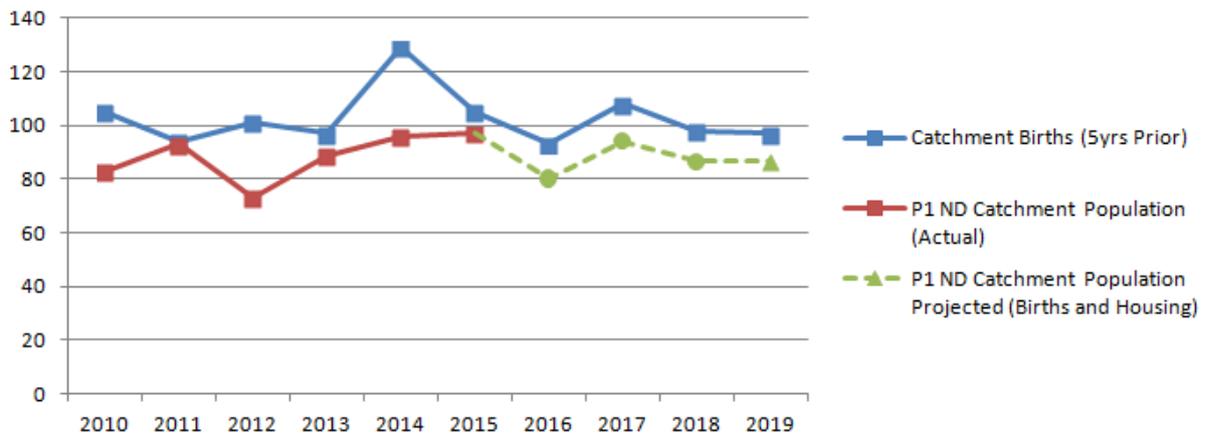


Table 3: Projected Roll by Stage (incorporating Projected P1, Drop-Off Rates and Housing Development), 2016-2026

	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	P7	Total	Estimated Classes Required
2016	90	93	99	90	89	98	82	641	21
2017	99	90	93	99	89	89	91	650	21
2018	90	99	90	95	99	89	82	644	21
2019	90	90	99	92	94	99	83	647	21

	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	P7	Total	Estimated Classes Required
2020	90	90	90	99	92	95	94	650	21
2021	90	90	90	93	99	92	88	642	21
2022	90	90	90	93	92	99	85	639	21
2023	90	90	90	93	92	92	94	641	21
2024	90	90	90	93	92	92	85	632	21
2025	90	90	90	93	92	92	85	632	21
2026	90	90	90	93	92	92	85	632	21

Comment:

Figure 3 illustrates that the P1 ND catchment population in August 2014 did not achieve the heights that the births from five years prior suggested it might. However, the number of catchment pupils in the P1 intake in August 2014 was the highest in recent years. The birth rate suggests no growth in P1 ND catchment numbers in the next four years and the P1 intake in August 2015 and P1 registrations for August 2016 (as of December 2015) would support this forecast.

Higher P1 intakes in 2024 and beyond are suggested based on growth in the citywide projections, however, this growth may not materialise in a relatively stable catchment area such as South Morningside.

Appendix 8 – Corrections to the Statutory Consultation Paper

During the consultation period a non-material inaccuracy and an omission from the statutory consultation paper were identified which, under the provisions of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 as amended by the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014, required that the Council issue a notice to the relevant consultees and HMIE. The following sections contain the text of the email or letter issued to all stakeholders.

Correction 1 – Issued 2 September 2015

“In accordance with section 5(5)b(i) of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 as amended by the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 I am writing to advise you of a non material inaccuracy which we have identified in the statutory consultation paper “Options to Address Primary School Capacity and Accommodation Pressures in South Edinburgh” which was published on 24 August 2015.

In paragraph 1.5 it is stated that “Secondary school catchment areas will be unaffected by any of the options considered in this paper”. In fact, in option 3 the minor changes which would be made to the catchment boundary between South Morningside Primary School and James Gillespie’s Primary School as illustrated in appendix 13 of the statutory consultation paper would also be made between Boroughmuir High School (the allocated secondary for South Morningside Primary School) and James Gillespie’s High School (the allocated secondary for James Gillespie’s Primary School). The same inaccuracy is repeated in paragraph 6.1 (final bullet point) of the report.

However, the correct information is provided in paragraph 6.3 of the report which states “**The minor change to the primary school catchment boundaries would also be made to secondary school catchment boundaries**”.

This inaccuracy is considered to be non material due to the minor nature of the catchment change proposed, the fact that it does not affect any residential properties and because as outlined above the proposal does feature correctly in part of the statutory consultation paper at paragraph 6.3. It is therefore not considered necessary to issue a revised statutory consultation paper or extend the consultation period. As required by legislation this notice is being sent to all relevant consultees and Education Scotland and details of the inaccuracy and actions taken in respect of correcting the inaccuracy will be included in the final consultation report submitted to Council for consideration. The inaccuracy will also be noted on the consultation website and reported at each of the four public consultation meetings listed in the table below.

Venue	Date	Time
South Morningside Primary School	Thursday, 3 September 2015	6:30pm – 8:30pm
James Gillespie's Primary School	Tuesday, 8 September, 2015	6:30pm – 8:30pm
Bruntsfield Primary School	Tuesday, 22 September 2015	6:30pm – 8:30pm
St Peter's RC Primary School	Tuesday, 29 September 2015	6:30pm – 8:30pm

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you require any further information.

Correction 2 – Issued 23 September 2015

“In accordance with the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 as amended by the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 I am writing to advise you of a non material omission which we have identified in the statutory consultation paper ‘Options to Address Primary School Capacity and Accommodation Pressures in South Edinburgh’ which was published on 24 August 2015.

Following the public meeting at Bruntsfield Primary School on Tuesday, 22 September 2015 which was held as part of the statutory consultation, the Council has determined that some relevant information had not been included in the statutory consultation paper. The statutory consultation paper includes a number of maps in Appendices 2, 5 and 9 which show the existing Bruntsfield Primary School catchment. Whilst these maps are accurate and correctly show the *current* Bruntsfield Primary School catchment, the statutory consultation paper did not identify a future change which will be made to this catchment which the Council has already approved.

On 28 June 2012, as part of the approval for the location for the new Boroughmuir High School, the Council approved minor revisions to the catchment areas of Boroughmuir and Tynecastle High Schools and Bruntsfield and Dalry Primary Schools. These changes, which will bring the site of the new Boroughmuir High School and the immediate surrounding area into the catchment for both Boroughmuir High School and Bruntsfield Primary School, are to be implemented from the academic year within which the new Boroughmuir High School will open and will therefore apply from the start of the 2016/17 academic year in August 2016. A copy of the report to Council on 28 June 2012 can be found on the [Council website](#). The details of this previously approved catchment change should have been reflected in the maps in Appendices 2, 5 and 9 of the ‘Options to Address Primary School Capacity in South Edinburgh’ statutory consultation paper. Updated maps are now available on the statutory consultation website www.edinburgh.gov.uk/southedinburghschools. Part of the area which will transfer into the catchment for both Boroughmuir High School and Bruntsfield Primary School known as Fountainbridge South, has been granted planning permission in principle for a mixed use development. The estimated future pupil generation from this

development has been taken into account in the roll projections included in the statutory consultation paper.

This omission is considered to be non material due to the minor nature of the future catchment change which will occur and the fact that this area is not affected by any of the options which are set out in the statutory consultation paper for consideration. It is therefore not considered necessary to issue a revised statutory consultation paper or extend the consultation period. As required by legislation this notice is being sent to all relevant consultees and Education Scotland and details of the omission and actions taken in respect of the correcting the omission will be included in the final consultation report submitted to Council for consideration. The omission will also be noted on the consultation website.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you require any further information.

As a reminder the consultation period will be coming to a close fairly soon. Respondents are encouraged to use the response questionnaire which has been produced which can be completed online at www.edinburgh.gov.uk/southedinburghschools. Responses can also be made by e-mail to the following address cf.propertyreview@edinburgh.gov.uk. All responses, whether by letter, e-mail or using the online questionnaire should be received by no later than close of business on Tuesday, 6 October 2015.”