

## Special Schools: Proposals for the Future Development of Panmure St Ann's

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### Education Children and Families Committee

9 October 2012

#### 1 Purpose of report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise on the key proposed future developments in Panmure St Ann's, including the provision of additional stages of learning and change to the status of Panmure St Ann's.
- 1.2 Council is requested to give its authority for a statutory consultation to take place on establishing Panmure St Ann's as a school and for the provision of additional stages at Panmure St Ann's, with the consultation commencing 26 November 2012.

#### 2 Main report

##### Background

- 2.1 Panmure St Ann's provides educational and social work services for up to 92 young people of secondary school age who are experiencing significant social, behavioural and educational difficulties and who cannot maintain a full-time place in mainstream education. The service moved into its premises on the Cowgate in April 2008. Many young people referred to the service are vulnerable, socially excluded and have had damaging care and educational experiences. The leavers' group works with young people in the final term of school to help with transition to the world of work or further education.
- 2.2 Panmure St Ann's provides education provision for young people at stages S3 - S5 who attend the service for up to 20 hours a week. The provision was originally set up in the 1970s with the young people remaining on the roll of their mainstream school to enable the young people to return to the mainstream school for the remainder of the week. However, in reality, in the last few years no young people have sustained a place at both Panmure St Ann's and their mainstream school.
- 2.3 Panmure St Ann's has in the past been considered a complementary resource rather than a separate school by the City of Edinburgh Council. It has no young people on the roll as they remain on the roll of a mainstream school and it is not part of the national school inspection framework. One effect of this is

that funding is allocated to two establishments for the education of the same young people.

- 2.4 Legally, however, as Panmure St Ann's is the main provider of secondary education to young people, then in terms of section 135 of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980 (as amended) it may already be considered a school in terms of the Act.
- 2.5 To support the development of services and school education for children and young people with social and emotional behavioural needs across the City of Edinburgh Council, the Council considers it important to extend provision at Panmure St Ann's to other secondary year groups, in particular to S1 and S2 aged young people. It is also proposed to change Panmure St Ann's status to establish it as a school with its own pupils, rather than pupils remaining on the roll of other schools.
- 2.6 In terms of the Schools (Consultation) Act 2010, a statutory consultation is required for a proposal to establish a new school or a new stage of education within a school.
- 2.7 It is recommended, in the spirit of openness, that a statutory consultation should take place on this proposal to formally establish Panmure St Ann's as a school. As it is intended to extend provision of Panmure St Ann's to include S1 and S2, it is recommended that the statutory consultation should include consulting to establish new stages of education within Panmure St Ann's.
- 2.8 The proposals in respect of 'new school' and 'new stages' can be included in the same statutory consultation procedure. The statutory consultees are identical for both proposals.
- 2.9 It is proposed that consultation on the options set out in this report should commence on 26 November 2012. The consultation procedures are detailed in Appendix 1.

### **Educational Benefits**

- 2.10 Panmure St Ann's will establish itself as a school with its own pupils and enable the presentation of National Qualifications. It will be allocated a devolved school management budget (DSM) to enable greater flexibility in the use of funding to meet the needs of specific learners.
- 2.11 The increase in the availability of additional stages in Panmure St Ann's will support in the development of a continuum of provision within mainstream schools and specialist schools and services. It will enable increased flexibility in meeting the needs of young people with significant social and emotional behavioural needs across the City of Edinburgh.
- 2.12 School status will support Panmure St Ann's to deliver the *Curriculum for Excellence* which will lead to improved quality of learning and teaching and increased attainment and achievement for young people who need additional support in their learning. Furthermore, the young people who attend Panmure St Ann's will benefit from a more coherent programme of education, equipping

them with increased accreditation and developing the skills required for learning, life and work.

### **3 Financial Implications**

- 3.1 The 92 pupils attending Panmure St Ann's are currently included on the rolls of 23 mainstream secondary schools. On average, each secondary school would have 4 pupils removed from their roll and transferred to the roll of Panmure St Ann's. Mainstream schools are funded principally by the number of classes being operated. It is not anticipated that an average reduction of 4 pupils per mainstream school would lead to a reduction in the number of classes provided and therefore it is not expected to result in a saving to the mainstream schools' budgets. However, removing 92 pupils from the mainstream roll would increase the number of mainstream places which can be provided to other pupils at no additional cost.
- 3.2 The financial implication in providing additional stages and the provision of a DSM budget will be further explored as the development of services for children and young people with social and emotional behavioural needs across the City of Edinburgh Council is taken forward.

### **4 Equalities Impact**

- 4.1 There are considered to be no infringements of the rights of the child. The impact of the measures outlined in this report will be to promote equality and enhance quality in meeting the needs of young people with significant social, emotional and behavioural additional support needs.

### **5 Environmental Impact**

- 5.1 There are no adverse environmental impacts arising from this report.

### **6 Recommendations**

- 6.1 Council is recommended to:
- a) Approve that statutory consultation is carried out proposing the confirmation of Panmure St Ann's as a school and increased provision of additional stages in Panmure St Ann's;
  - b) Note that through the consultation process the status of Panmure St Ann's will be established as a school;
  - c) Delegate authority to the Director to develop detailed consultation on the option of confirming Panmure St Anne's as a school and the provision of additional stages in Panmure St Ann's;
  - d) Note that it is the intention to return to the May 2013 meeting of the Council for a decision on the proposals;
  - e) Approve the steps in the consultation process as set out in Appendix 1.

**Gillian Tee**  
Director of Children and Families

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Appendices	1 Consultation Procedures
Contact/tel/Email	Rosie Wilson, Service Manager: Special Schools and Specialist Provision 0131 469 3960, <a href="mailto:rosie.wilson@edinburgh.gov.uk">rosie.wilson@edinburgh.gov.uk</a>
Wards affected	All
Single Outcome Agreement	National Outcome 3 - We are better educated, more skilled, more successful, renowned for our research and innovation National Outcome 4 - Our young people are successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens National Outcome 8 - We have improved life chances for children, young people and families at risk
Background Papers	

## **Appendix 1: Consultation Procedures on the provision of additional stages and a 'new school' in Panmure St Ann's**

- i. The Council is required to carry out formal consultation procedures for the establishment of a new school or new stages of education within a school. A separate Consultation Paper will be prepared (assuming that on the 9 October 2012 Council delegates authority to the Director of Children and Families), setting out the case for establishing Panmure St Ann's status as a school and introducing additional stages and the implications of the proposals.
- ii. The statutory consultees for the proposals include:
  1. The Parent Council (PC) or a group of parents from the Service where no PC exists.
  2. The parents of the young people at Panmure St Ann's.
  3. The staff at Panmure St Ann's and trade union representatives; and
  4. Affected community councils.
  5. Any other users of any affected school that the education authority considers relevant.
- iii. The legislation requires a minimum six week term-time consultation period during which representations on the proposals can be made. It is proposed that consultation takes place from 26 November 2012 to 28 January 2013. It will not be possible to consult with the parents of any young people expected to attend Panmure St Ann's in the future as the referral and allocation process will take place after the consultation period. A public meeting will be held in respect of the increase in provision proposal at a suitable venue near to Panmure St Ann's.
- iv. At the end of the consultation period, the Council will submit to Education Scotland a copy of the proposal paper, written representations received by the authority during the consultation period or a summary of representations, if agreed, and a record of the public meeting.
- v. Education Scotland are required to prepare a report on the educational aspects of the relevant proposals. The Council will then take account of this report in preparing the Consultation Report on the outcomes of the consultation.
- vi. This Consultation Report will be publicly available at least three weeks prior to its consideration by Council and notification will be given to those individuals or groups that have made representations during the consultation period. The report will include a summary of written representations received during the consultation period and representations made at the public meeting, along with the Council response to representations made.
- vii. It is proposed to present the consultation reports on the outcome of the consultations to the Council for a final decision in May 2013.