

Education, Children and Families Committee

10am, Tuesday, 10th December 2013

Consultation on Proposal for the Establishment of a Nursery Class at Fox Covert Primary Schools

Item number	7.11
Report number	
Wards	Ward 3. Drumbrae/Gyle

Links

Coalition pledges	P4, P5
Council outcomes	CO1, CO2
Single Outcome Agreement	SO3

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Executive summary

Summary

The purpose of this report is to seek authority from Committee to consult on a proposal to establish a nursery class in the grounds of Fox Covert ND (Non Denominational) and Fox Covert RC (Roman Catholic) Primary Schools. For the purpose of this report both schools are referred to as 'Fox Covert Primary Schools'. The report explains the rationale for, and the implications arising from, the proposal and sets out the consultation process and the means and timescales for making representations.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Education, Children and Families Committee:

1. Approves that statutory consultation is carried out on the proposed establishment of a new nursery class at Fox Covert Primary Schools based on the rationale set out in this report;
2. Approves that the statutory consultation process should commence start on 16 December 2013;
3. Approves the revised cost of delivering the new nursery of £1,074,000 and the associated sources of funding set out in this report; and
4. Notes that the outcome of the consultation will be reported to full Council on 1 May 2014.

Measures of success

The establishment of a new nursery class at Fox Covert Primary Schools will result in:

- more nursery places to meet the increased demand for provision across the City of Edinburgh Council area;
- more availability of free nursery provision from 475 hours to 600 hours a year in August 2014 for all three and four-year-olds set out in the Children and Young People (Scotland) Bill;
- additional choice for parents in an area where council nursery provision is currently limited but where demand is high; and
increased opportunities for improved learning experiences for children in line with Curriculum for Excellence across the early level.

Financial impact

The capital funding of an estimated £774,000 required to deliver a new nursery was approved by the Education, Children and Families Committee on 21 May 2013. This was based on the delivery of a 40/40 nursery however, in the intervening period, the necessity to expand the proposed building to accommodate additional accommodation for two to three year olds' was identified. The cost of providing this additional accommodation is estimated at £300,000 resulting in a revised estimated total cost of

£1,074,000. The proposed sources of funding for the revised cost are detailed in the main report.

The staffing cost of the new nursery class will be funded from the additional allocation to the General Revenue budget from the Scottish Government for the implementation of the increased entitlement of early learning and childcare.

Equalities impact

There are no negative equality or human rights impacts arising from this report. The location of additional resources within Fox Covert Primary Schools will provide additional choice and improved access to nursery provision for children and their parents.

Sustainability impact

There are no impacts on carbon, adaptation to climate change or sustainable development arising directly from this report. Whilst the proposal would see the addition of a new nursery building, the purpose is to create additional accommodation to meet demand. The new building would be designed to minimise the impact on carbon emissions and energy consumption.

Consultation and engagement

The Council is required to carry out formal statutory consultation regarding the proposed opening of an education service under the terms of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010. A detailed Consultation Paper has been prepared which is attached at Appendix 1.

Background reading / external references

Edinburgh's Early Years Strategy and Action Plan

[Early Years Strategy Progress Report – 21 May 2013](#)

Consultation on Proposal for the Establishment of a Nursery Class at Fox Covert Primary Schools

1. Background

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek authority from Committee to consult proposal to establish a nursery class at Fox Covert Primary Schools. The report explains the rationale for, and the implications arising from, the proposal and sets out the consultation process and the means and timescales for making representations. The proposed detailed Consultation Paper is included at Appendix 1.
- 1.2 The proposals in the Children and Young People (Scotland) Bill set out a requirement to expand free nursery provision from 475 hours to 600 hours a year in August 2014 for all three and four year olds and for two year olds who are, or have been at any time since turning two, looked after or subject to a kinship care order. This is likely to increase the demand for the provision of nursery places in the city.
- 1.3 The City of Edinburgh Council Early Years Strategy that was launched in January 2010 sets out a vision and long term commitment to improve the life chances for children, supporting the coalition agreement to ensure every child has the best start in life.
- 1.4 Under the term of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, the Council is required to consult on proposals for the establishment of a new stage of education in a school such as a nursery class.

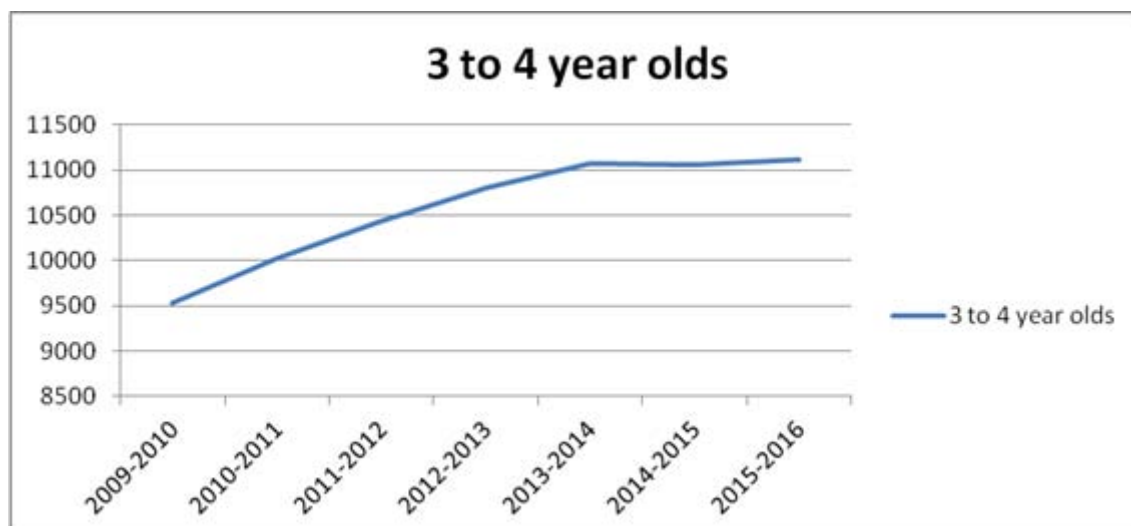
2. Main report

- 2.1. The Consultation Paper in Appendix 1 details the number of places that are currently available in the area and the number of places that are required.

Demographic Trends

- 2.2 The proposed new nursery would help address an increase demand in nursery provision in the City of Edinburgh Council area where births have averaged over 5,500 per annum in the five years from 2008 - 2012. In the five years prior to this, the average was approximately 4,700. This means a predicted rise in the number of children from 2013/14 onwards. Figure 1 shows the existing and predicted number of three and four year olds from 9,400 in 2009/10 to 11,000 from 2013/14 onwards (a 17% increase).

Figure 1 – Number of three and four year olds in the city



- 2.3 This increase is stretching capacity across the city and extra provision is needed to cater for demand. Wherever possible, the number of local authority nursery places has been increased to meet this demand. However, there are restrictions in the capacity of some nursery buildings, limiting the option of increasing nursery places. Overall, the number of places has increased by approximately 10% over 2012/13.
- 2.4 One of the aims of the strategy is to develop integrated, flexible services to provide effective learning and childcare for all children and families. To help deliver this aim the Council's stated ambition is to ensure that each neighbourhood, community or cluster has access to integrated, flexible early years services.

Fox Covert/Clermiston/East Craigs Area

- 2.5 In order to realise this vision, resources have been re-aligned and includes the proposal to provide a new nursery in this area where the demand for additional provision is particularly high. The proposed nursery will provide improved access to early years provision for parents and the children living across this area of the city.
- 2.6 There are three schools with nursery class provision within a mile radius of Fox Covert Primary schools. Clermiston, East Craigs and Corstorphine primary schools have a combined capacity for 130 morning and 130 afternoon nursery placements but demand for places is high and all are full to capacity with waiting lists.
- 2.7 Two other primary schools further to the south at Gylemuir and Carrick Knowe also offer a total capacity of 120 morning and 120 afternoon nursery placements but again demand is high and they are operating at full capacity.
- 2.8 The nearest partner provider nursery is Fox Covert Nursery, which is located within the grounds of Fox Covert schools. The nursery is a registered charity and is run by a management committee. It caters for pre-school children aged

three to five years and is registered for 60 children (30 morning and 30 afternoon). The nursery is currently full and will continue to operate and provide families in the area with a choice of services.

Financial Considerations

- 2.9 The capital funding of an estimated £774,000 required to deliver a new nursery was approved by the Education, Children and Families Committee on 21 May 2013. This was based on the delivery of a 40/40 nursery however, in the intervening period, the necessity to expand the proposed building to accommodate additional accommodation for 0-3 year olds' and their families was identified. The cost of providing this additional accommodation is estimated at £300,000 (based on applying an assumed all-in rate of £3,000/m² to the additional internal space requirement of 100m²)
- 2.10 An analysis of the proposed sources of funding for the revised total cost of £1,074,000 is shown below, together with a comparison with the original proposal as reported to Committee on 21 May 2013.

	Original £	Revised £
Early Years Contingency Funding in existing approved Capital Investment Programme (this represents the level of ring-fenced receipts which have been received but not yet utilised)	243,000	450,000
Early Years Change Fund	200,000	200,000
Capital receipts generated from the closure of nursery schools which were ring-fenced for reinvestment in the early years estate	331,000	424,000
Total cost	£774,000	£1,074,000

- 2.11 The staffing cost of the new nursery class will be funded from the additional allocation to the General Revenue budget from the Scottish Government for the implementation of the increased entitlement of early learning and childcare.

Consultation Process

- 2.12 The legislation requires a minimum six week term-time consultation period during which representations on the proposal can be made. It is proposed that the consultation period will take place over a period of eight weeks from Monday, 16 December 2013 to Wednesday, 12 February 2014 and the paper will be made available electronically and in paper format.
- 2.13 The consultation process is set out in detail in Section 8 of the detailed Consultation Paper included at Appendix 1.

3. Recommendations

It is recommended that the Education, Children and Families Committee:

- 3.1 Approves that statutory consultation is carried out on the proposed establishment of a new nursery class at Fox Covert Primary Schools based on the rationale set out in this report;
- 3.2 Approves that the statutory consultation process should commence start on 16 December 2013;
- 3.3 Approves the revised cost of delivering the new nursery of £1,074,000 and the associated sources of funding set out in this report; and
- 3.4 Notes that the outcome of the consultation will be reported to full Council on 1 May 2014.

Gillian Tee

Director of Children and Families

Links

Coalition pledges	P4. Draw up a long-term strategic plan to tackle both over-crowding and under use in schools P5. Seek to ensure the smooth introduction of the Curriculum for Excellence and that management structures within our schools support the new curriculum
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. Consultation Paper: Proposal for the Establishment of a Nursery Class at Fox Covert Primary Schools

Consultation Paper: Proposal for the Establishment of a Nursery Class at Fox Covert Primary Schools.

1. Introduction, Context and Rationale

- 1.1 This consultation paper sets out the rationale and the implications from the proposal to establish a nursery class at Fox Covert Primary Schools. The paper also sets out the consultation process and the means and timescales for making representations.
- 1.2 A report has already been taken to Education Children and Families Committee on the 21 May 2013 agreeing funding for the proposal and the commissioning of a feasibility study on how best to deliver the proposal.
- 1.3 Fox Covert ND (Non Denominational) and Fox Covert RC (Roman Catholic) Primary Schools share a joint campus on the west side of the city off Clermiston Road. For the purpose of this report we will refer to both schools as Fox Covert Primary Schools. Currently both schools provide primary school education for children primary 1-7, but neither school has a local authority run nursery class. There is however a partner provider nursery operating from a standalone building along the northern site boundary.
- 1.4 Under the terms of the Schools (Consultation)(Scotland) Act 2010, the Council is required to consult on proposals for the establishment of a new, local authority run, stage of education in a school such as a nursery class.

Format of Consultation Paper

- 1.5 The consultation paper is divided into the following sections:

- 1 Introduction, Context and Rationale
- 2 The Proposal
- 3 Fox Covert Nursery Class – Case for new provision
- 4 Education Benefits Statement
- 5 Accommodation Considerations
- 6 Financial Considerations
- 7 Rationale for the Establishment of a Nursery Class at Fox Covert Primary Schools
- 8 Public Consultation Process

- Appendix 1** Map 1: Location of Primary Schools, Nursery Classes and Partner Providers
Map 2: Map of Fox Covert Primary School

Rationale

- 1.6 Following the proposals of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Bill the early learning and childcare provision will increase to 600 hours per year which will increase demand on existing early years facilities.
- 1.7 Higher birth rates are resulting in greater demand for early years services. There is particular pressure for provision of extra nursery places on the west side of city where local authority and partner provider nurseries are full
- 1.8 It is considered that extra demand in the West area would be best delivered through the establishment of a new nursery class at Fox Covert primary school campus.

Nursery Capacity

- 1.9 In the consultation paper reference is made to the building capacity of the nursery, the number of nursery places that are made available through staffing allocations and the number of children (the roll) that attend the nursery.
- 1.10 Reference is made to the composition of nursery places. Part-time places may be morning (am) and afternoon (pm). For comparative purposes, nursery places are also counted as full-time equivalents (FTE). A nursery can apply flexibility in the provision of part-time to reflect demand and to utilise the staffing levels that have been made.

Making Representations

- 1.11 Comments on this paper should be submitted at the latest by close of business on **Wednesday, 12 February 2014** to the address set out in Section 8 of this paper. A public meeting detailed in Section 8, will be held as follows:

Venue	Date	Time
Fox Covert Primary School	30th January 2014	6pm – 7.30pm

2. The Proposal

2.1 The proposal is that:

- A nursery class will be established within the grounds of Fox Covert Primary Schools for the start of the 2015-16 school year;
- The nursery class will be provided via a stand-alone new build within the grounds of both schools;

- The nursery class will provide a maximum of 40 FTE places (or 40 morning places and 40 afternoon places);
- The nursery class will provide an exciting learning environment for children 3-5 years as well as a separate outdoor learning and play area;
- The building will also have two additional rooms to support work with children aged 0-3 years their families;
- The nursery class will be managed by one of the Headteacher's from the Fox Covert schools. The nursery will also be staffed in line with Care Inspectorate requirements and current or future local authority staffing models;
- The proposed nursery class is additional to existing nursery provision in the Fox Covert, Clermiston and East Craigs areas to cater for increased demand and there are no proposals to reduce pre-school provision locally;
- A feasibility study has been undertaken to cost the proposal and identify the most suitable location for the nursery class; and
- Planning permission and other necessary consents will be sought in 2014 to facilitate the opening of the nursery for August 2015.

2.2 Funding provision will be made for the nursery to operate as a 40/40 facility but actual numbers will depend on demand for places. The demand will be monitored and adjusted as necessary to best serve the needs of children and families.

2.3 There are no catchment boundaries associated with nursery provision and any parent can apply for a place at the nursery class subject to availability. It is expected that application for places will start being taken from November 2014. Parents also have the choice of applying to any other nursery school or nursery class or partner provider nursery in the City.

3. Case for Establishment of a Nursery Class at Fox Covert Primary Schools

Location

3.1 Fox Covert Primary Schools share a campus site on the west side of the city and between the neighbourhoods of Clermiston and Corstorphine. Map 1 in Appendix 1 shows the location of the school and other schools, nursery classes and partner provider nurseries in the surrounding area.

Council Nursery Provision in Fox Covert/Clermiston/East-Craigs Area

- 3.2 The council run nurseries that are located within primary schools around Fox Covert are consistently oversubscribed.
- 3.3 There are three schools with nurseries within a mile radius of Fox Covert to the north, south and west (Clermiston, Corstorphine and East Craigs) that relate to the area.
- 3.4 East Craigs, Clermiston and Corstorphine have a combined capacity for 130AM/130PM nursery placements, but demand for places is high and current teaching provision is made for the nurseries to operate at full capacity.
- 3.5 Two other primary schools further to the south are Gylemuir and Carrick Knowe. These schools can also offer a total capacity of 120AM/120PM nursery placements but demand for places is high and current teaching provision is made for the nurseries to operate at full capacity.
- 3.6 Table 2 illustrates the current capacities within the area and demand for places within the Council run establishments.

Table 2: Current Position in Council Nursery Classes

Nursery Class	Building Capacity	Staffing Capacity	Numbers of Children Currently Attending	Forecast Demand for the full academic session 2013/2014	Shortfall
East Craigs PS	40 FTE (40AM/40PM children)	40 FTE (80 children)	80	108	28
Clermiston PS	40 FTE	40 FTE	77	87	7
Gylemuir PS	60 FTE	60 FTE	120	156	36
Corstorphine PS	50 FTE	50 FTE	100	108	8
Carrick Knowe PS	60 FTE	60 FTE	112	125	5
Total	250 FTE		489	584	84

- 3.7 The total number of FTE places made available with the allocation of staffing resources across the five nurseries is 250 FTE. This will allow capacity for 500 children in total. While currently there are a small number of places still available, the forecast demand for the full nursery year is 584 places, leaving a shortfall of 84 places. There are no other plans to increase nursery capacity in the area.
- 3.8 In addition to the local authority run nurseries there are four partner provider nurseries within a mile radius of Fox Covert Primary schools. One of these is Fox Covert Nursery which is located in the grounds of Fox Covert schools. The nursery is a registered charity run by a management committee. They can

accommodate 30AM/30PM nursery placements and are also operating at full capacity with a waiting list.

Proposed Nursery Capacity and Proposed Staffing Allocation

- 3.9 The proposed capacity of Fox Covert Nursery Class is 40 full time places (or 80 part-time places). The proposed staffing allocation made for 2015/16 will be in line with Care Inspectorate regulations and current or future local authority staffing models (see Table 1).

Table 1: Proposed Capacity, Staffing Allocation at Fox Covert Nursery Class

Nursery Class	Building Capacity	Staffing Allocation 2015/16	
		AM	PM
Fox Covert	40	4	4

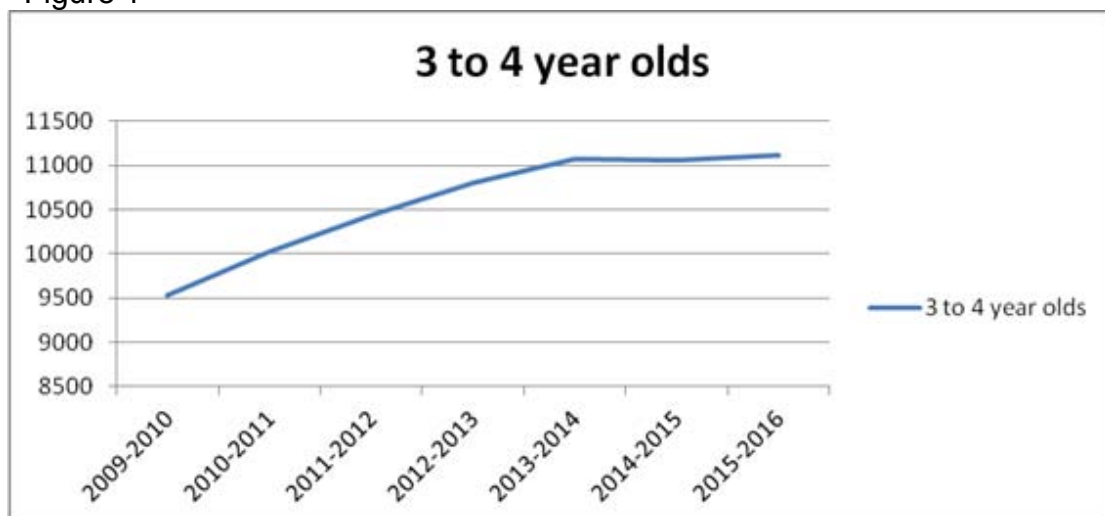
4 Educational Benefits Statement

- 4.1 This section considers the implications of the establishment of a nursery class at Fox Covert Primary schools and the educational benefits that would flow from the proposal.

Demographic Trends

- 4.2 The proposed nursery will help address the increase in demand for nursery provision across the city. In the City of Edinburgh Council area, births have averaged over 5,500 per annum in the five years from 2008-2012. In the five years previous to this, the average figure was approximately 4,700. This means a predicted rise in the number of children from 2013-14 onwards from 9,400 in 2009/10 to 11,000 from 2013/14 onwards (a 17% increase). Figure 1 shows the existing and predicted number of 3 and 4 year olds.

Figure 1



- 4.3 This increase is stretching capacity across the city and extra provision is needed to cater for demand. Wherever possible, the number of local authority nursery places has been increased to meet this demand. There are however

restrictions in the capacity of some nursery buildings, limiting the option of increasing nursery places. Overall, the number of places has increased by approximately 10% over 2012-13.

Scottish Government Strategy for Early Years Provision

- 4.4 The proposals in the Children and Young People (Scotland) Bill sets out an intention to expand free nursery provision from 475 hours to 600 hours a year from August 2014 for all three and four-year-olds. The Bill also requires Local Authority's to make provision for some two year olds which will add pressure on the nursery provision in the city.

The City of Edinburgh Council Early Years Strategy

- 4.5 The City of Edinburgh Council Early Years Strategy that was launched in January 2010 sets out a vision and long term commitment to improve the life chances for children, supporting the coalition agreement to ensure every child has the best start in life.
- 4.6 One of the aims of the strategy is to develop integrated, flexible services to provide effective learning and childcare for all children and families. To help deliver this aim the Council stated ambition is to ensure that each neighbourhood, community or cluster has access to integrated flexible early years services.

West Edinburgh

- 4.7 In order to realise this vision resources have been re-aligned and this includes the proposal to provide a new nursery in west Edinburgh where demand for additional provision is particularly high. In addition to rising births, some 600 new dwellings have been built over the last 5-7 years in the East Craigs and Fox Covert catchment and this has generated extra children.
- 4.8 The proposed nursery will provide improved access to early years provision for parents and children living in the vicinity of Fox Covert including those that have moved into new housing in the area.

Education Scotland Inspections

- 4.9 Education Scotland reported on Fox Covert RC Primary School in June 2012. Their inspection found the following key strengths.
- An inclusive, welcoming and supportive ethos, provided by committed, caring staff;
 - Happy, confident and well-behaved children;
 - Strong provision to meet children's entitlement to personal support; and
 - Positive impact of the headteacher on building partnerships to support children's learning.
- 4.10 Areas agreed for improvement were:
- Increase the pace of improvement of the curriculum, to meet children's entitlement in full;
 - Further develop tracking and target setting, based on more effective approaches to assessing children's progress and achievement; and
 - Implement more effective approaches to ensure continuing improvement in the school's performance.

- 4.11 Following the inspection it was thought that the school needed more time to make necessary improvements and Education Scotland advised that they would return to evaluate aspects of provision and the progress in improving provision within a year.
- 4.12 The resultant report in June 2013 concluded that the school has made strong overall progress. Confidence was expressed that the school now has a strong capacity for continuing improvements in its performance and a report was invited from the council in 18 months on the impact of the changes which the school is introducing.
- 4.13 Education Scotland reported on Fox Covert in April 2013. Their inspection found the following key strengths.
- Polite and well-behaved children who are keen to learn
 - High-quality support for children who need additional help with their learning
 - The school's success in fostering productive partnerships with other agencies
 - Commitment of all staff to providing a culture of continuous improvement
- 4.14 Areas identified for improvement were:
- Help children have a clearer understanding of their strengths and needs as learners
 - Continue to improve the curriculum, including approaches to assessment and monitoring of progress
 - Further engage parents in supporting their children's learning
- 4.15 Overall, Education Scotland stated that they were satisfied with the overall quality of provision and expressed confidence that the school's self-evaluation processes are leading to improvements.
- 4.16 Taking account of the latest inspections at both schools, it is considered that nursery class provision would be well served by being located in the Fox Covert Campus.

Community Considerations

- 4.17 Fox Covert Primary school buildings have After School provision, 2pm-6pm, Monday – Friday in the Dining/Gym Hall. This is also used one night a week by the 224th Guide Group. Soccer Sevens have the use of two external football pitches every Saturday from 9am-12 noon. The proposed nursery class will not affect the provision within the primary schools however there may be some minimal disruption to the football pitches during the construction phase. Ongoing communication with the council sports unit will take place to minimise any disruption should this be required.

How the Council intends to minimise or avoid any adverse effects

- 4.18 Should the proposal be taken forward there may be some disruption during site preparation and construction. It is proposed that the nursery will be located in a standalone building rather than extend the school and this should help reduce the impact during construction. It is also proposed that, subject to timing, that part of the construction works are undertaken during the school holidays.
- 4.19 The proposed site for the nursery as identified in the feasibility study encroaches on the school playing field. It is proposed that the existing football pitches will be reconfigured to accommodate the nursery.
- 4.20 The proposed nursery provision is additional to what is already being provided by the Council and it is intended to cater for increased or unmet local demand. It is recognised that provision of a nursery class at Fox Covert may have some impact on the existing local partner provider at Fox Covert Nursery but the aim is for both to work together to serve the needs of families and young children across the area.
- 4.21 Education Scotland reported on Fox Covert Nursery in May 2009 and the nursery was evaluated as being very good (see Table X).

Table X: Evaluation of Fox Covert Nursery by Education Scotland

Area being Evaluated	Evaluation
Improvements in performance	very good
Childrens's experiences	very good
Meeting learning needs	very good
The curriculum	Very good
Improvement through self-evaluation	very good

5 Accommodation Considerations

- 5.1 The Fox Covert Primary School Campus occupies a large site of 2.3 hectares. The two schools are joined together and share use of the gym hall and dining facilities. A playing field lies to the west of the site. Road access to both schools is from the south. Map 2 shows the boundary of the school campus.
- 5.2 Fox Covert ND Primary School is a 7 class organisation with a capacity of 210. The school is operating at capacity following a P1 intake of 39 pupils for the 2013-14 school year (see Table Y). The high P1 intake for 2013-14 is in part due to the impact of higher births and pupil generation from the ongoing redevelopment of the St Margaret's College site in the school catchment.
- 5.3 It is proposed that an extra class will be provided at Fox Covert for the start of the 2014-15 school year through internal reconfiguration of existing classroom space.
- 5.4 Fox Covert RC is an 8 class organisation with a capacity of 217 pupils. The current school roll is 174 giving an occupancy rate of 80%.

Table Y: Primary School Rolls at the Fox Covert Campus for 2013-14

School	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	P7	Total
Fox Covert ND	39	26	30	28	29	33	25	210
Fox Covert RC	29	29	29	17	22	21	27	174

- 5.5 Fox Covert RC is an 8 class organisation with a capacity of 217 pupils. The current school roll is 174 giving an occupancy rate of 80%.
- 5.6 Condition surveys carried out at both primary schools in January 2013 rated them as performing adequately but showing minor deterioration consistent with their construction date and use (B condition). In terms of suitability assessment both schools have been rated 'good' (B rated).
- 5.7 Based on the findings of the feasibility study, the proposed location of the nursery is on the the playing field to the south-west of the main school buildings as shown on Map 2.
- 5.8 An existing partner provider nursery is located within a separate single storey building within the school grounds and provides 30 morning and 30 afternoon places. The proposals for the new nursery class are based on the assumption that this will facility will remain and that both nurseries will cater for children in the area.

6 Financial Considerations

Cost of Proposed Works

- 6.1 A brief was produced by Children and Families for a 40/40 nursery at Fox Covert with associated outdoor area to comply with all necessary requirements, including the School Premises Regulations and the Care Commission. The brief also includes additional accommodation to support work with young children and their families.
- 6.2 A feasibility study has been undertaken to inform the location, design, costs and timescales for the project and its proposals have been mentioned elsewhere in the consultation paper.
- 6.3 The capital funding of an estimated £774,000 required to deliver a new nursery was approved by the Education, Children and Families Committee on 21 May 2013. This was based on the delivery of a 40/40 nursery however, in the intervening period, the necessity to expand the proposed building to accommodate additional accommodation for 0–3 to three year olds' and their families was identified. The cost of providing this additional accommodation is estimated at £300,000 (based on applying an assumed all-in rate of £3,000/m² to the additional internal space requirement of 100m²)
- 6.4 An analysis of the proposed sources of funding for the revised total cost of £1,074,000 is shown below, together with a comparison with the original proposal as reported to Committee on 21 May 2013.

	Original £	Revised £
Early Years Contingency Funding in existing approved Capital Investment Programme (this represents the level of ring-fenced receipts which have been received but not yet utilised)	243,000	450,000
Early Years Change Fund	200,000	200,000
Capital receipts generated from the closure of nursery schools which were ring-fenced for reinvestment in the early years estate	331,000	424,000
Total cost	£774,000	£1,074,000

- 6.5 The staffing cost of the new nursery class will be funded from the additional allocation to the General Revenue budget from the Scottish Government for the implementation of the increased entitlement of early learning and childcare.
- 6.6 The nursery class will be managed by one of the Headteachers from Fox Covert Primary Schools.

7 Rationale for the Establishment of a Nursery Class at Fox Covert Primary School

- **The proposal is in line with the approved City of Edinburgh Early Years Strategy and with the Scottish Government proposals to expand free nursery education;**
- **Higher births across the city is generating greater demand for uptake of nursery places;**
- **The surrounding local authority nurseries and partner provider nurseries are operating at capacity;**
- **New housing developments in the East Craigs/ Fox Covert area is generating extra demand for places;**
- **A nursery with 80 places within the Fox Covert area will provide additional choice in an area where council nursery provision is currently limited but where demand is high;**
- **A nursery class at Fox Covert will provide opportunities for additional learning experiences for children across the Curriculum for Excellence Early level and access to additional space for work with children and their families;**
- **Both schools at Fox Covert are in B rated building condition**

- Education Scotland have recently expressed confidence in the performance of both Fox Covert schools
- A Headteacher will manage the proposed nursery class which will help deliver best value and make efficient use of existing staff resources; and
- Parents will still retain the option of applying for preschool education anywhere in the city;

8 Public Consultation Process

- 8.1 It is proposed that the new nursery at Fox Covert will be operational from the start of the 2015-16 school year term in August 2015
- 8.2 The Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 sets out the statutory consultation requirements for the establishment of nursery at Fox Covert Primary Schools and the statutory consultees include the following:
1. Education Scotland
 2. the Parent Council or combined Parent Council of any affected primary school;
 3. the parents of the pupils at any affected nursery school or class;
 4. the parents of any children expected to attend any of the affected nurseries;
 5. the staff at any affected school and trade union representatives; and
 6. affected community councils.
- 8.3 The affected primary school's are Fox Covert ND and Fox Covert RC and there may also be some reduction in pressure on East Craigs and Clermiston Primary Schools through making additional local provision.
- 8.4 The consultation period for the proposals paper will run for over eight weeks from Monday 16 December 2013 to Wednesday 12th February 2014 and the paper will be made available electronically and in paper format.
- 8.5 A public meeting will be held in respect of the proposals at the venue listed below. Free childcare and/or translation services can be provided at the public meeting if requests for these services are made to (0131) 529 2103 no later than 13th January 2014.

Venue	Date	Time
Fox Covert Primary School	30th January 2014	6pm – 7.30pm

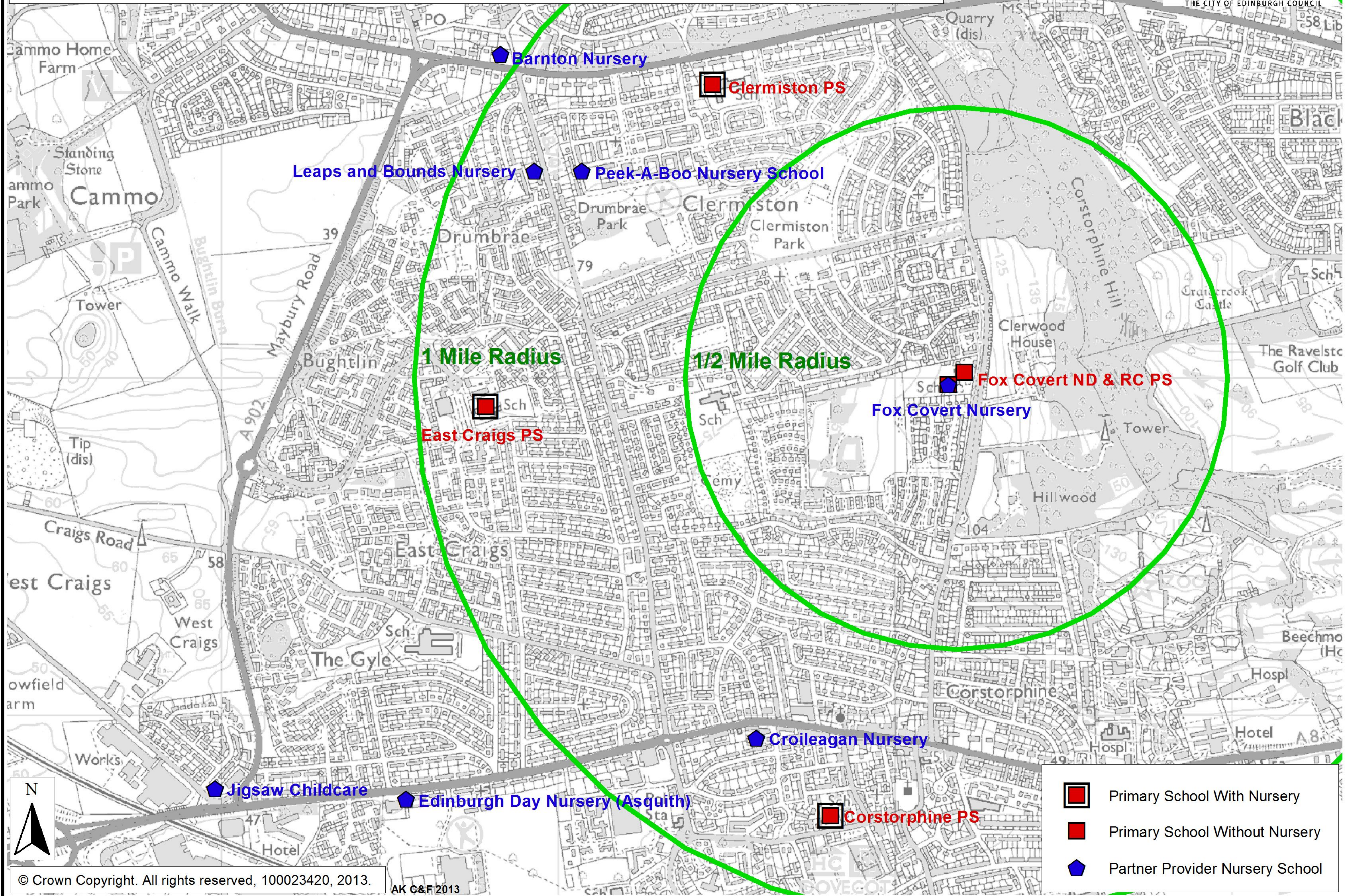
- 8.6 Copies of the consultation paper will be issued directly to parents and others involved. Copies of the consultation paper are also available for inspection at both Fox Covert Primary Schools, Clermiston Primary School, East Craigs

Primary School, partner provider nursery at Fox Covert Nursery, Drumbrae Library Hub and at the Council offices at Waverley Court, 4 East Market Street.

- 8.7 At the end of the consultation period, the Council will send Education Scotland (formerly Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education) relevant documentation on the consultation process. Thereafter Education Scotland will prepare a report on the educational aspects of the proposal which the Council must take into account in preparing the final consultation report.
- 8.8 The consultation report will be made publicly available 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.
- 8.9 The Council must wait three weeks from date of publication of the consultation report before making a decision on whether to approve the proposals. It is anticipated that the consultation report will be presented to the Full Council meeting on 1 May 2014 setting out recommendations and seeking approval for the proposals.
- 8.10 The Council website, **www.edinburgh.gov.uk/educationconsultations** will contain information on the consultation. During the consultation period, any views on this proposal should be sent in writing to the address given below. Responses can also be made by e-mail to **earlyyears@edinburgh.gov.uk**. All responses to the consultation paper should be received by Wednesday 12 March 2014 and addressed to the Director of Children and Families at the address below.

**Gillian Tee
Director of Children and Families
City of Edinburgh Council
Council Headquarters
Waverley Court,
Level 1:1
(Wardie Consultation)
4 East Market Street
Edinburgh EH8 8BG**

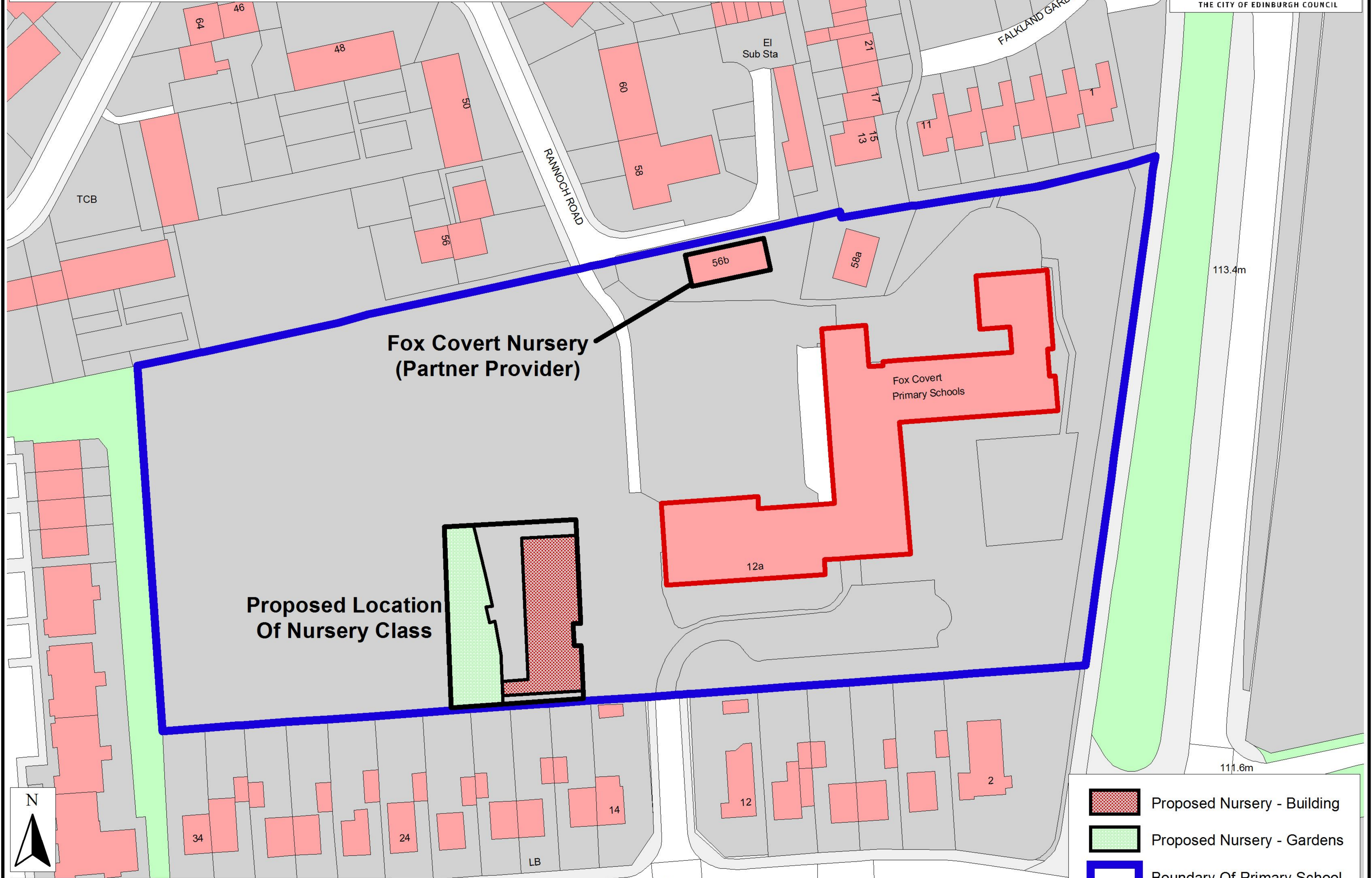
Location Of Primary Schools, CEC Nursery Provision & Partner Provider Nurseries



- Primary School With Nursery
- Primary School Without Nursery
- Partner Provider Nursery School




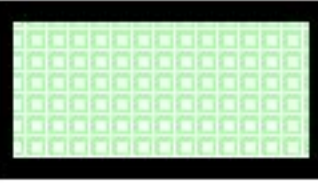

Fox Covert Primary School/Fox Covert RC Primary School Campus



Fox Covert Nursery
(Partner Provider)

Proposed Location
Of Nursery Class

Fox Covert
Primary Schools

-  Proposed Nursery - Building
-  Proposed Nursery - Gardens
-  Boundary Of Primary School