

# Education, Children and Families Committee

10am, Tuesday, 13 December 2016

## Local Development Plan Education Infrastructure Update

Item number	7.2
Report number	
Executive/routine	Executive
Wards	All

### Executive summary

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Over the next decade and beyond there is expected to be significant housing development across Edinburgh, with the main development areas being identified in the adopted Edinburgh Local Development Plan (LDP).

The purpose of this report is to update Committee regarding the anticipated education infrastructure implications of the LDP, including the requirement to deliver seven new primary schools and a new secondary school, together with extensions to many existing schools.

In relation to the first of these projects which requires to be delivered, this report recommends that a statutory consultation process is progressed for the delivery of a new primary school in south east Edinburgh, with associated changes to the catchment areas of existing primary and secondary schools.

### Links

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Coalition pledges	<a href="#">P4</a>
Council outcomes	<a href="#">CP1, CP12</a>
Single Outcome Agreement	<a href="#">SO3</a>

## Local Development Plan Education Infrastructure Update

### Recommendations

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- 1.1 Note the content of this report which provides an update on the new education infrastructure that is anticipated to be required as a result of the additional pupils that will be generated by new housing development proposed by the Council's Local Development Plan.
- 1.2 Approve that a statutory consultation be undertaken, as detailed in the attached draft statutory consultation paper, regarding the establishment of a new non denominational primary school within south east Edinburgh, as well as catchment boundary changes for existing primary and secondary schools.
- 1.3 Note that a report on the outcomes of the consultation will be presented to Council for consideration in June 2017.
- 1.4 Note that the funding implications of the proposal will be reported to the Finance and Resources Committee as part of the Local Development Plan Action Programme update in January 2017.

### Background

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- 2.1 In June 2014 an [Education Appraisal](#) was published as a supporting document for the [Second Proposed Local Development Plan](#) (LDP). This appraisal provided details of the new primary and secondary education infrastructure that would be required to accommodate the additional pupils expected to be generated by new housing development proposed by the LDP. These infrastructure requirements were included in the LDP Action Programme, a document which sets out how the Council proposes to implement the LDP by explaining how the infrastructure required to support the growth of the city will be delivered.
- 2.2 The Education Appraisal was updated to reflect new guidance on [Developer Contributions and Affordable Housing](#) which was approved by the Planning Committee on 3 December 2015. The Appraisal was based on assessment areas aligned to the catchment areas of secondary schools. The revised requirements for new education infrastructure to support the LDP were reported to Committee on [24 May 2016](#).

- 2.3 Committee was advised that a further update of the required education infrastructure actions would be carried out once the recommendations of the Scottish Government's planning reporter in relation to the LDP were received. The Reporter's findings were received in June 2016 and the Council formally adopted a modified LDP on [24 November 2016](#).
- 2.4 The Education Appraisal has now been updated to take account of the modified LDP, and revised education infrastructure actions have been included in the latest version of the Council's LDP Action Programme which was reported to Planning Committee on [8 December 2016](#).
- 2.5 A model has been developed to determine the financial contribution required from a developer towards the estimated capital costs of delivering the updated education infrastructure actions. This is set out in the consultation draft of the supplementary planning guidance on 'Developer Contributions and Infrastructure Delivery' which was submitted to the Planning Committee on [8 December 2016](#) for consideration. Twelve 'Education Contribution Zones' have been established.
- 2.6 In order that the delivery of some of the education infrastructure actions could be progressed, on 24 May 2016 Committee gave approval for informal consultations to be undertaken in south east Edinburgh (the area covered by the catchment areas of Gracemount and Liberton High), south west Edinburgh (the area covered by the catchments of Currie High School and Balerno High School), west Edinburgh (the area covered by the catchment areas of The Royal High, Craigmount and Forrester High School), and Craigmillar. These consultations would be carried out prior to bringing forward draft statutory consultation papers to Committee setting out how anticipated capacity issues will be addressed.

## Main report

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### Education Infrastructure Requirements

- 3.1 The updated set of education infrastructure actions which have been assessed as being necessary to support the housing growth proposed by the LDP is detailed in Appendix 1 (grouped according to the Education Appraisal Assessment Area which they relate to). The assessment has taken account of revised assumptions about the delivery of new housing, as well as up-to-date school roll projections.
- 3.2 In summary, there is a potential requirement for seven new primary schools (in addition to the proposed new school in south Edinburgh), a new secondary school in West Edinburgh, and extensions to many existing primary and secondary schools (both denominational and non-denominational).
- 3.3 A requirement for significant additional capacity within secondary schools has been identified to accommodate additional pupils from new housing

development. Future pressures in the secondary sector will be considered through the Rising Rolls process or Local Development Plan Action Programme. Where it is identified that new accommodation will be necessary, feasibility work will be required to determine an appropriate way of delivering the additional capacity.

- 3.4 Plans for the delivery of required new education infrastructure will be reported to Committee at a time that is appropriate to make sure that all the schools can meet the level of demand from their catchment population.
- 3.5 The establishment of any new school catchment area requires a statutory consultation to be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 as amended by the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014. In due course the necessary statutory consultations will require to be progressed in line with the build out of the associated housing developments. Statutory consultations will also be required to change existing catchment areas to align development areas to alternative existing primary, and sometimes secondary, catchments.
- 3.6 Further education infrastructure actions may be required as new housing proposals come forward, or different solutions may emerge. The details of any change to the identified actions will be included in future update reports to Committee.

#### **New Education Infrastructure in South East Edinburgh**

- 3.7 As school roll projections show that new housing development will lead to school accommodation pressures in south east Edinburgh by 2020, it is necessary to progress a statutory consultation in early 2017 in order that a new non denominational primary school in the area can be delivered within this timescale, and to enable an efficient use of existing education infrastructure.
- 3.8 A draft statutory consultation paper proposing the delivery of a new primary school in the south east of the city is included in Appendix 2. Three existing primary schools (Gracemount, Gilmerton and Liberton) and two secondary schools (Gracemount High and Liberton High) will be affected by the proposals.
- 3.9 In summary, the draft statutory consultation paper proposes the following:

##### *Primary schools*

- Establish a new non denominational primary school and nursery within the 'Broomhills' housing site, incorporating sections of the Gracemount and Gilmerton Primary School catchment areas.
- Realign the catchment boundary so that The Murrays estate and parts of Gilmerton Dykes are within the catchment area of Gracemount Primary rather than that of Gilmerton Primary School.

- Realign the catchment boundary so that the northern part of the Alnwickhill development site is within the catchment area of Gracemount Primary rather than that of Liberton Primary School.
- Monitor pupil growth within the Gilmerton Primary School catchment area and bring forward proposals for a second new primary school at Gilmerton Station Road at an appropriate time, if required, to accommodate pupils generated by new housing development.

#### *Secondary schools*

- Align the new primary school within the 'Broomhills' housing site to Gracemount High School.
  - Reduce the catchment area of Liberton High School (which includes the current dual catchment area) so that it no longer covers The Murrays, Burdiehouse or the parts of Gilmerton Dykes which it is proposed will be within the catchment area of Gracemount Primary School.
  - Reduce the catchment area Gracemount High School (which includes the current dual catchment area) so that it no longer covers the area to the west of Lasswade Road which will remain within the Gilmerton Primary School catchment area.
  - Realign the catchment boundary so that northern part of the Alnwickhill development site is within the catchment area of Gracemount High rather than that of Liberton High School.
- 3.10 Roman Catholic School catchment areas are unaffected by the proposal set out in the statutory consultation paper.
- 3.11 Prior to bringing forward the proposals, informal consultation was carried out with School Management Teams, representatives from school parent councils and local elected members. The findings from meetings in June 2016 and November 2016, conducted as part of the informal consultation process, are described in the draft statutory consultation paper included in Appendix 2.
- 3.12 If approved by Committee it is proposed that the statutory consultation would commence in January 2017 with a report on the outcome of the consultation process being submitted to a Council meeting in June 2017 for consideration.

#### **New Education Infrastructure in Leith and Trinity**

- 3.13 As school roll projections show that rising rolls and new housing development within Leith and Trinity is leading to primary school accommodation pressures, it is necessary to progress a statutory consultation in early 2017 in order that additional primary school capacity can be delivered in the area.
- 3.14 A draft statutory consultation paper proposing to relocate and expand Victoria Primary School on a site at Western Harbour in Leith is being reported to this Committee in a separate report on Rising School Rolls.

### **New Education Infrastructure in South Queensferry and Kirkliston**

- 3.15 The additional secondary school capacity required to accommodate pupils from new housing development within South Queensferry and Kirkliston will be delivered through the replacement Queensferry High School, which is expected to be delivered in 2020, and potentially the new Secondary School proposed for West Edinburgh.
- 3.16 An update on the Queensferry High School project was reported to Council on [24 November 2016](#).

### **Update on Other Informal Consultations**

- 3.17 In addition to the informal consultations carried out for the projects outlined above, and in advance of bringing forward draft statutory consultation papers to a future Committee, meetings have been held with Head Teachers and school representatives in south west Edinburgh, west Edinburgh and Craigmillar to discuss the new education infrastructure requirements, or catchment changes, that are likely to be required in each area.

#### *South West Edinburgh*

- 3.18 A meeting of Head Teachers and school representatives was held in June 2016 to discuss the new education infrastructure required to accommodate additional pupils from new development within the area.
- 3.19 The Council's updated LDP Action Programme identifies a need for three additional classrooms at Currie Primary School and two additional classrooms at Dean Park Primary School to accommodate additional pupils from new housing development. However, there was general agreement at the meeting that primary school catchment changes should be considered before extending the existing schools.
- 3.20 Potential catchment boundary changes between Currie Primary school, Dean Park Primary School and Nether Currie Primary School will be considered in more detail, and if appropriate, it is expected that delegated authority to undertake a statutory consultation paper will be sought from Committee in March 2017 so that any changes could take effect by August 2018.

#### *West Edinburgh*

- 3.21 A meeting of Head Teachers and school representatives was held in June 2016 to discuss the new education infrastructure required to accommodate additional pupils from new development within the area. There was general agreement that the amount of new housing currently proposed for west Edinburgh is likely to require a new secondary school and at least one new primary school, and this is reflected in the Council's updated LDP Action Programme.
- 3.22 It is expected that a draft statutory consultation paper regarding the establishment of a new primary school within the 'Maybury' housing development site, as well as an associated catchment area, will be reported to a

future Committee. This would enable the new primary school to be delivered by August 2021.

*Craigmillar*

- 3.23 A meeting was held at Castlebrae High School in June 2016 to discuss proposals to extend the catchment area of Castlevue Primary School and Castlebrae High School to cover new housing development that is not currently aligned to the catchment of a non-denominational primary or secondary school. A minor catchment realignment between Castlevue Primary School and Niddrie Mains Primary school was also discussed.
- 3.24 Although only representatives of Castlebrae High attended the meeting, no concerns about the proposal were expressed. It is therefore expected that a draft statutory consultation paper setting out the proposed catchment changes will be reported to a future Committee.

## Measures of success

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- 4.1 The delivery of fit for purpose accommodation solutions, including a new non denominational primary school in south east Edinburgh, to make sure that each school is appropriate to meet the level of demand from its catchment population.

## Financial impact

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- 5.1 A report to the Finance and Resources Committee on [29 October 2015](#) estimated the capital costs associated with the delivery of LDP education infrastructure actions (which prevailed at that time) to be £243.843m which included provision for future construction cost inflation.
- 5.2 The financial implications on future capital and revenue budgets of the education infrastructure actions now required will be reported to the Finance and Resources Committee in January 2017. This report will also provide an update on the details of the potential funding sources available to the Council to support this infrastructure and the alternative supplementary income streams to be investigated.
- 5.3 Members should note that no allowance for the education infrastructure actions set out in Appendix 1 is provided for within the current Capital Investment Programme 2015-2020 or indicative five year plan 2019/20 – 2023/24. This includes the capital and revenue cost implications for the new primary school at 'Broomhills' which are set out in the draft statutory consultation paper included in Appendix 2. Therefore, there remains a real risk to the Council that required infrastructure cannot be delivered as required within the Local Development Plan proposals without identification of additional resources required to fund this.
- 5.4 Update reports regarding the financial implications of the LDP Action Programme will continue to be submitted to the Finance and Resources

Committee. As any required education infrastructure projects progress to the delivery stage, the necessary approvals for any capital and revenue costs arising will require to be sought through the Council's budget process.

- 5.5 The estimated cost of running a statutory consultation is in the region of £4000 to £5000. These costs are met from existing revenue budgets.

## **Risk, policy, compliance and governance impact**

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- 6.1 All Communities and Families capital projects are delivered in line with the Council's Risk Management Policy and Framework. Ensuring sufficient accommodation for catchment pupils to secure a place at their catchment school is a key objective for the School Estate Planning Team and there would be a significant reputational risk to the Council if this is not achieved.
- 6.2 The delivery of any education infrastructure projects would be overseen by an Investment Steering Group which would operate based on the project management principles of Prince 2 following the same governance structure as all other Council major projects. The consideration and management of risk would be undertaken through this group.
- 6.3 The procurement of the necessary infrastructure would be in line with Council standing orders and the contractors delivering any accommodation solutions will operate in accordance with all relevant legislative and health and safety requirements and have community engagement policies. The school communities will be kept informed of any issues that arise during the construction process which will mitigate against the risk of criticism of the Council in relation to these high profile and visible projects.

## **Equalities impact**

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- 7.1 There are no negative equality or human rights impacts arising from this report.
- 7.2 By providing additional capacity across the school estate to accommodate pupils generated by new development the Council is responding to parental choice and endeavouring to offer all pupils from all equalities groups the opportunity to attend a suitable catchment school.
- 7.3 The Council will continue to ensure that the needs of pupils who have a disability are met by any new accommodation to be provided. The provision of facilities offered to school users with learning and behavioural support needs will be unaffected. Accordingly, these proposals have no significant impact on any equalities groups and provide greater opportunities for catchment pupils to attend their catchment school.

## **Sustainability impact**

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- 8.1 Any new education infrastructure required to be provided to accommodate pupils generated from new development will ensure that children can access an



appropriate local catchment school. Accordingly it should ensure that any negative impacts arising from travel to school patterns are minimised and that social cohesion within the new developments is given an opportunity to be established.

- 8.2 All new education infrastructure will, as a minimum, meet the latest energy efficiency requirements required through the statutory building warrant process.
- 8.3 The provision of new schools is necessary to support the economic growth of the city by ensuring that the families who come to live and work in our communities have the access to quality learning and teaching environments for their children.

## Consultation and engagement

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- 9.1 The statutory consultation process will be undertaken according to the procedures set out in the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 as amended by the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014.
- 9.2 Prior to bringing forward the proposals set out in the draft statutory consultation paper attached to this report, informal consultation was carried out with School Management Teams, representatives from school parent councils and local elected members.

## Background reading/external references

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The previous update report to the Education, Children and Families Committee was on [24 May 2016](#).

Two reports to the Planning Committee on 8 December 2016 cover the adoption of the [LDP Action Programme](#) and the consultation on the proposed [supplementary planning guidance on 'Developer Contributions and Infrastructure Delivery'](#)

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## Links

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<b>Coalition pledges</b>	P04 - Draw up a long-term strategic plan to tackle both over-crowding and under use in schools
<b>Council outcomes</b>	CP1 – Children and young people fulfil their potential CP12 – A built environment to match our ambition
<b>Single Outcome Agreement</b>	S03 - Edinburgh’s children and young people enjoy their childhood and fulfil their potential
<b>Appendices</b>	1 – Contribution Zones - Education Infrastructure Actions 2 – Draft Statutory Consultation Paper

## Appendix 1

### Education Infrastructure Requirements within each Education Appraisal Assessment Area

#### Boroughmuir James Gillespie's Assessment Area

##### Primary School actions

- Four additional classrooms within Zone (potential to be delivered as part of the new South Edinburgh Primary School).

##### Secondary School actions

- Boroughmuir High, James Gillespie's High, St Augustine's RC High School – additional secondary school capacity to accommodate 66 extra pupils.

#### Castlebrae Assessment Area

##### Primary School actions

- Brunstane LDP Development site - new 11 class primary school and 40/40 nursery;
- Castleview Primary school – three additional classrooms and dining hall extension.

##### Secondary School actions

- Castlebrae Community High School – additional secondary school capacity to accommodate 261 extra pupils.

#### Craigroyston Broughton Assessment Area

##### Primary School actions

- Granton Waterfront - New 14 class primary school and 40/40 nursery;
- St David's RC Primary School – two additional classrooms.

##### Secondary School actions

- Craigroyston Community High, Broughton High, St Augustine's RC High School – additional secondary school capacity to accommodate 273 extra pupils.

#### Drummond Assessment Area

##### Primary School actions

- Two additional classes at a school where the additional capacity will mitigate the impact of development within the zone (with associated catchment review if required).

## **Firrhill Assessment Area**

### **Secondary School actions**

- Firrhill High, St Augustine's RC High School – additional secondary school capacity to accommodate 7 extra pupils.

## **Leith Trinity Assessment Area**

### **Primary School actions**

- Leith Waterfront - New 14 class primary school and 40/40 nursery;
- Holy Cross RC Primary School – two additional classrooms.

### **Secondary School actions**

- Leith Academy, Trinity Academy – additional secondary school capacity to accommodate 251 extra pupils.

## **Liberton Gracemount Assessment Area**

### **Primary School actions**

- Broomhills LDP development site - New 14 class primary school and 40/40 nursery;
- Gilmerton Station Road LDP development site - New seven class primary school and 30/30 nursery;
- Craighour Park Primary School – two additional classrooms;
- St John Vianney and/or St Catherine's RC Primary School - four additional classrooms (with associated catchment review if required).

### **Secondary School actions**

- Gracemount High, Liberton High School – additional secondary school capacity to accommodate 522 extra pupils.

## **Portobello Assessment Area**

### **Primary School actions**

- 2 Primary School classes (to mitigate the impact of development within the catchment of The Royal High Primary School).

## Queensferry Assessment Area

### Primary School actions

- Builyeon Road LDP development site - New 14 class primary school and 40/40 nursery;
- Kirkliston Primary School – one additional classroom;
- St Margaret's RC Primary School - two additional classrooms.

### Secondary School actions

- Queensferry Community High, St Augustine's RC High School – additional secondary school capacity to accommodate 275 extra pupils.

## South West Assessment Area (Balerno Community High, Currie High and WHEC)

### Primary School actions

- Currie Primary School – three additional classrooms;
- Dean Park Primary School – two additional classrooms;

## Tynecastle Assessment Area

### Primary School actions

- Balgreen Primary School – two additional classrooms.

### Secondary School actions

- St Augustine's RC High School – additional secondary school capacity to accommodate 5 extra pupils.

## West Edinburgh Assessment Area (The Royal High, Craigmount High and Forrester High)

### Primary School actions

- Maybury LDP development site - New 21 class primary school and 60/60 nursery;
- Hillwood Primary School – three additional classrooms;
- Gylemuir Primary School – three additional classrooms;
- Fox Covert RC, St Joseph's RC Primary School – five additional classrooms.

### Secondary School actions

- New Secondary School;
- St Augustine's RC High School – additional secondary school capacity to accommodate 89 extra pupils.

## **Proposal to Establish a New Non-Denominational Primary School and Implement Catchment Changes to Address School Capacity and Accommodation Pressures in South East Edinburgh**

Affecting Gracemount Primary School, Gilmerton Primary School, Liberton Primary School, Gracemount High School, and Liberton High School

### **1 Introduction**

1.1 This consultation paper sets out the rationale for, and implications of, the proposal to establish a new non-denominational primary school and implement catchment changes to address primary school capacity and accommodation pressures in the south east Edinburgh area. The paper also sets out the consultation process and the means and timescales for making representations.

1.2 The consultation paper is divided into the following sections:

1. Introduction
2. Background and Context
3. Roll Projections, Catchment Data and Capacity Analysis
4. Details of Proposal
5. Educational Benefits
6. Financial Considerations
7. Indicative Construction Timescales
8. Consultation Process

#### **Appendices**

1. Response Questionnaire
2. 'Broomhills' LDP Site Brief and Proposed Site Layout
3. Indicative Site Layout of New Primary School
4. Current Catchments Areas – Primary and Secondary
5. Proposed Catchment Areas – Primary and Secondary
6. Number of Pupils within Areas Affected
7. Travel Routes and Distances
8. Attainment and Achievement information for Primary Schools

- 1.3 In summary, the proposal is to establish a new primary school and nursery in south east Edinburgh on a site within the 'Broomhills' housing development. The new school will be aligned to Gracemount High School. The paper also proposes changes to the catchment areas of Gracemount Primary School, Gilmerton Primary School, Gracemount High School and Liberton High School. The northern part of the former Alnwickhill Water Treatment Works housing site which is currently within the Liberton Primary School and Liberton High School catchment areas will be transferred to the catchment areas of Gracemount Primary and Gracemount High School. The date from when the proposed catchment changes would be effective is anticipated to be November 2019, in time for the P1 registration process and ahead of the expected new school opening in August 2020.
- 1.4 Comments on the proposal should be submitted by no later than close of business on Friday 3 March 2017 by email or post to the addresses set out in Section 8 of this paper. A response questionnaire is provided for this purpose which respondents are encouraged to use, details are included in Appendix 1. The questionnaire can also be completed online via the Council website [www.edinburgh.gov.uk/\[insert correct web address\]](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/[insert correct web address]).
- 1.5 Two public meetings will be held as follows, further details of which are provided in section 11:

Venue	Date	Time
Gracemount Primary School		6.30pm - 8.30pm
Gilmerton Primary School		6.30pm – 8.30pm

## 2 Background and Context

- 2.1 On 24 May 2016 the Education, Children and Families Committee approved that an informal consultation be undertaken regarding options to address future accommodation issues in south east Edinburgh (Liberton / Gilmerton ward) arising as a result of the significant amount of new housing that is proposed for within the area.
- 2.2 For the purposes of this paper the south east Edinburgh area is defined as the area currently covered by the two primary school catchment areas of Gracemount Primary School and Gilmerton Primary School.
- 2.3 The Council's Local Development Plan proposes new housing development that is expected to generate an estimated 598 additional non-denominational primary school pupils within the catchment areas of Gracemount Primary School and Gilmerton Primary School up to 2030. In addition, housing developments currently under construction at Burdiehouse and Alnwickhill Water Treatment Works are expected to generate an estimated 80 non-denominational primary school pupils. The estimated number of pupils that will be generated by each housing site is set out in Table 1.

**Table 1: Estimated Number of Additional Pupils from Housing Development**

Site	Units	Primary (ND)	Secondary
<i>Gracemount Primary School catchment area (December 2016)</i>			
Broomhills	633	150	114
Alnwickhill Water Treatment Works	297	54	34
Ellen's Glen Road	240	43	32
Liberton Hospital	173	31	23
Rae's Court	24	5	4
<i>Gilmerton Primary School catchment area (December 2016)</i>			
Gilmerton Station Road	625	138	104
East of Lasswade Road	310	68	52
North of Lang Loan	220	48	36
Burdiehouse Phase 2	211	42	31
The Drum	150	33	25
Burdiehouse Phase 1	122	26	19
East of Burdiehouse Road	110	24	19
Gilmerton Dykes Road	61	13	10
Gilmerton Dykes Road	30	2	0
Gilmerton Dykes Street	22	1	0
Overall Total		678	503



- 2.4 Both schools are expected to face increasing accommodation pressures as the proposed housing is built and demand for places rises. The number of catchment pupils is expected to rise beyond what can be accommodated within the current school organisations and additional primary school capacity is therefore required.
- 2.5 The Local Development Plan Revised Education Appraisal (June 2014) proposed that additional primary school capacity should be provided by delivering two new primary schools in the local area: a nine class school and 40/40 nursery within the 'Broomhills' housing development site and a seven class school with 30/30 nursery within the 'Gilmerton Station Road' housing development site.
- 2.6 Since 2014 additional new housing sites in the area have come forward. To accommodate the additional pupils, the Council's latest Education Appraisal and Action Programme (December 2016) identify a need for a 14 class school with 40/40 nursery within the 'Broomhills' housing development site and a seven class school with 30/30 nursery within the 'Gilmerton Station Road' housing development site.
- 2.7 It is expected to take more than 10 years to complete all the new housing that is proposed for the area and therefore it may not be necessary to deliver all new infrastructure at the same time. Phasing the delivery of additional school capacity would minimise the *operational risk* (of providing too much capacity) and *financial risk* (of unnecessary capital and revenue expenditure).
- 2.8 This statutory consultation process also provides an opportunity to bring all new housing that is currently under construction at the Alnwickhill Water Treatment Works housing site within the same catchment area. The majority of the site is within the catchment area of Gracemount Primary School (which feeds into Gracemount High School). However, the northern part of the site is currently within the Liberton Primary School catchment (which feeds into Liberton High School). The catchment boundary does not reflect the proposed street pattern and cuts through individual properties. It is therefore proposed to align the whole development site with Gracemount Primary School.
- 2.9 A dual feeder secondary school catchment area for Gracemount High School and Liberton High School which operates in the area has also been reviewed as part of this process. This has been in place since 2010 when Burdiehouse Primary School closed and its catchment area was split between Gracemount and Gilmerton Primary Schools. The area which became aligned to Gilmerton Primary School became a dual catchment area for Gracemount High and Liberton High. This allowed the catchment area for Gracemount High School to be retained. The Council does not generally support dual catchment areas as the management of transition arrangements can be more complex and it is more difficult to predict intake numbers.

*Informal Consultation*

2.10 Informal discussions with Head Teachers, school representatives and local elected members were carried out in June 2016 and November 2016. The group supported the proposal to build a new primary school to accommodate pupil growth as a result of new housing development. The group agreed that new catchment areas should contain a mix of housing types and be based around safe routes to school. The proposal which is outlined in this statutory consultation paper reflects the outcome of these discussions.

#### *Site Considerations*

2.11 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.

2.12 Sites for a new primary school at 'Broomhills' and at 'Gilmerton Station Road' have been identified within the Local Development Plan. Both are undeveloped agricultural land, but form part of wider proposals for new residential development. Appendix 2 includes the Local Development Plan Site Brief for the 'Broomhills' housing site, indicating the proposed location for a new primary school.

2.13 The Council is minded to grant planning permission for residential development on the wider 'Broomhills' site. As part of the planning application submission, land for a new primary school has been identified in the north-east corner of the development site, adjacent to existing properties fronting onto Burdiehouse Road. The proposed Site Layout, which forms part of the planning application, is included in Appendix 2. The legal agreement attached to the planning permission will make provisions for the Council to take ownership of the school site once development on the wider site has begun.

2.14 The site is two hectares and can accommodate a primary school with up to 21 classes, nursery and a 60m x 40m all weather pitch. Detailed planning permission will be required for the school building and grounds once a design has been established. An indicative site plan has been included in Appendix 3 to show the type of building that could be delivered on the site.

### 3 Roll Projections, Catchment Data and Capacity Analysis

- 3.1 This section considers the historic, current and projected roll and catchment population data and the accommodation issues and other factors that have resulted in this consultation being undertaken and that have shaped the options set out in this paper.
- 3.2 The proposal within this paper will directly affect Gracemount, Gilmerton and Liberton Primary schools, and Gracemount and Liberton High School. The existing catchment areas of these schools are included within Appendix 4.
- 3.3 Table 2 shows that the total capacity of the three existing primary schools was 1540 pupils in August 2016. The combined roll of the three schools was 1348 pupils, which means that there was an overall occupancy rate of 88%. However, it should be noted that generic capacity figures do not take account of a school's capacity for team teaching arrangements; a practice which is increasingly commonplace across the Council's primary school estate.

**Table 2: School Capacity and Estimated Class and Roll Data for August 2016**

School	Capacity (as at Aug 2016)	Roll (as of Sept 2016 census)	Estimated Occupancy Rate
Gracemount Primary School	20 Classes (560 pupils)	472	84%
Gilmerton Primary School	19 Classes (546 pupils)	437	80%
Liberton Primary School	15 Classes (434 pupils)	439	101%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>54 Classes (1540 pupils)</b>	<b>1348</b>	<b>88%</b>

- 3.4 There is insufficient capacity within the existing school buildings to accommodate the significant number of additional pupils which will be generated by new housing development in the area over the next 10 years.

#### **Gracemount Primary School**

##### *Capacity and Growth*

- 3.5 The roll at Gracemount Primary School has increased from 419 primary pupils to 472 pupils between 2012 and 2016. The P1 intake in 2016 was 73 pupils.
- 3.6 The school is currently operating as a 17 class organisation, although there may be capacity for 20 classes within the existing building. This would give the school a working capacity for 560 pupils. Options for increasing capacity at Gracemount Primary School beyond 20 classes are currently constrained by the small school grounds.

- 3.7 The total primary age population of the Gracemount catchment area (excluding pupils attending independent schools) in 2016 was 729. The percentage of the total catchment pupil population attending Gracemount Primary School was 55% in 2016. In 2012 it was 51%.
- 3.8 Loss to the Roman Catholic (RC) sector is relatively high, accounting for 26% of the pupils in 2016 (188 out of 729 attended a Roman Catholic school). Most of these pupils attended St Catherine's RC Primary school which is on an adjacent site to Gracemount.
- 3.9 There is a broad range of schools attended by those choosing a non-denominational primary school other than Gracemount, with the most popular alternative options being Liberton Primary School, Buckstone Primary School, Gilmerton Primary School, and Pentland Primary School.

#### *Roll Projections*

- 3.10 Projections, based on births from five years prior and data for known housing development, indicate that there will be an intake of 72 P1 pupils in 2020. The existing school could accommodate this level of intake.
- 3.11 Longer term projections based on the National Records of Scotland (NRS) population projections for the City of Edinburgh Council area suggest that regular P1 intakes of at least 90 pupils could become commonplace beyond 2020 and at least 105 beyond 2026, due to the amount of new housing development expected in the area. If this were to be the case, it would suggest that growth to 21 classes would be required by 2022, with further expansion required in the longer term. There is limited opportunity to extend Gracemount Primary School and therefore an alternative solution to delivering the additional primary school capacity is required.

### **Gilmerton Primary School**

#### *Capacity and Growth*

- 3.12 The roll at Gilmerton Primary School has increased from 367 primary pupils to 437 pupils between 2012 and 2016. The P1 intake in 2016 was 62 pupils.
- 3.13 The school is on a large site with 19 classes and two gym halls. The growth in pupil numbers necessitated the delivery of four new classes as part of the Rising Rolls programme in August 2015. There are also two classrooms within a temporary unit on the site.
- 3.14 The total primary age population of the Gilmerton catchment area (excluding pupils attending independent schools) in 2016 was 580 pupils. The percentage of the total catchment pupil population attending Gilmerton Primary School was 63% in 2016. In 2012 it was 53%.
- 3.15 Loss to the RC sector accounted for 13% of the pupils in 2016 (76 out of 580 attended a Roman Catholic school).

- 3.16 There is a broad range of schools attended by those choosing a non-denominational primary school other than Gilmerton, with the most popular alternative options being Gracemount Primary School, Craigour Park Primary School and Liberton Primary School.

*Roll Projections*

- 3.17 Projections, based on births from five years prior and data for known housing development, indicate that the non-denominational P1 catchment population for Gilmerton Primary School will grow significantly. An intake of 105 P1 pupils is projected for 2020.
- 3.18 Longer term roll projections based on National Records of Scotland (NRS) population projections for the City of Edinburgh Council area suggest that regular P1 intakes of 130 pupils could become commonplace beyond 2025 due to the amount of new housing development expected in the area.
- 3.19 The projected levels of intake could not be accommodated within the existing building and the school is expected to face capacity pressures from 2019.

**Liberton Primary School**

*Capacity and Growth*

- 3.20 The roll at Liberton Primary School has increased from 392 primary pupils to 439 pupils between 2012 and 2016. The P1 intake in 2016 was 72.
- 3.21 The school is currently operating as a 15 class organisation, giving the school a working capacity for 434 pupils. There are plans under the Rising Rolls programme to expand the capacity of the school through a two class extension for August 2017 to give a capacity of 476 pupils.
- 3.22 The total primary age population of the Liberton catchment area (excluding pupils attending independent schools) in 2016 was 577. The percentage of the total catchment pupil population attending Liberton Primary School was 64% in 2016. In 2012 it was 57%.
- 3.23 Loss to the RC sector accounted for 23% of the pupils in 2016 (131 out of 577 attended a Roman Catholic school). Most of these pupils attended St John Vianney's RC Primary School.
- 3.24 There is a broad range of schools attended by those choosing a non-denominational primary school other than Liberton, with the most popular alternative option being Sciennes Primary School.

*Roll Projections*

- 3.25 Projections, based on births from five years prior and data for known housing development, indicate that there will be an intake of 72 P1 pupils in 2020.
- 3.26 The northern section of the Alnwickhill Water Treatment works site is the only significant area of new housing expected to be delivered within the catchment. Development is currently underway on the site, with 23 out of the 298 new homes within the Liberton Primary School catchment area (with the rest within

the Gracemount Primary School catchment area). The homes are expected to generate 6 new primary school pupils within the Liberton catchment.

- 3.27 Longer term projections based on the National Records of Scotland (NRS) population projections for the City of Edinburgh Council area suggest that regular p1 intakes of 75 pupils could become commonplace. This could lead to further accommodation pressures on the expanded school beyond 2025.

### **Gracemount High School**

#### *Capacity and Growth*

- 3.28 The roll at Gracemount High School has dropped from 630 pupils in 2012 to 604 in 2016. The S1 intake in 2016 was 100 pupils.
- 3.29 The capacity of the school is currently 650 pupils, with a S1 intake limit of 120 pupils.
- 3.30 The total secondary age population of the Gracemount High School catchment area (excluding pupils attending independent schools) in 2016 was 640 pupils.
- 3.31 Loss to the RC sector accounted for 17% of the pupils in 2016 (111 out of 640 attended a Roman Catholic school). Most of these pupils attended Holyrood RC High School.
- 3.32 In relation to those who attended a non-denominational secondary school, 74% attended Gracemount High School in 2016. The percentage of S1 non-denominational catchment pupils who attended Gracemount High School was 85% in 2016.
- 3.33 In 2016 107 of the total secondary age population were within the dual catchment area with Liberton High. The dual catchment area has been in place since 2010. 70 (65%) pupils chose to attend Gracemount High School, and only 3 pupils (3%) chose to attend Liberton High School.

#### *Roll Projections*

- 3.34 Projections indicate that the S1 roll for Gracemount High School will be 140 pupils in 2020 and 160 pupils from 2025, taking account of the pupil growth from new housing development. Intakes of 140 pupils or more would lead to accommodation pressures at the school.

### **Liberton High School**

#### *Capacity and Growth*

- 3.35 The roll at Liberton High School has dropped from 636 pupils in 2012 to 520 in 2016. The S1 intake in 2016 was 90 pupils.
- 3.36 The capacity of the school is currently 850 pupils, with an intake limit of 160 pupils.
- 3.37 The total secondary age population of the Liberton catchment area (excluding pupils attending independent schools) in 2016 was 1145 pupils.

- 3.38 Loss to the RC sector accounted for 25% of the pupils in 2016 (281 out of 1145 attended a Roman Catholic school). Most of these pupils attended Holyrood RC High School.
- 3.39 In relation to those who attended a non-denominational secondary school, 51% attended Liberton High in 2016. The percentage of S1 non-denominational catchment pupils who attended Liberton High was 64%.
- 3.40 In 2016 107 of the total secondary age population were within the dual catchment area with Gracemount High. The dual catchment area has been in place since 2010. 70 (65%) pupils chose to attend Gracemount High School, and only 3 pupils (3%) chose to attend Liberton High School.

*Roll Projections*

- 3.41 Projections indicate that the S1 roll for Liberton High School will be 160 pupils in 2020, rising to 228 pupils in 2026, taking account of the pupil growth from new housing development. Intakes of more than 160 pupils would lead to accommodation pressures at the school.

## 4 Details of Proposal

### Overview

4.1 The proposal is as follows:

#### *Primary schools*

- Establish a new non-denominational primary school and nursery within the 'Broomhills' housing site, incorporating areas from Gracemount and Gilmerton Primary School within its catchment boundary.
- Realign the catchment boundary so that The Murrays estate and parts of Gilmerton Dykes are within the catchment area of Gracemount Primary School rather than that of Gilmerton Primary School.
- Realign the catchment boundary so that the northern part of the Alnwickhill development site is within the catchment area of Gracemount Primary School rather than that of Liberton Primary School.
- Monitor pupil growth within the Gilmerton Primary School catchment area and bring forward proposals to further increase primary school capacity in the area through a new school on the 'Gilmerton Station Road' housing site at an appropriate time.

#### *Secondary schools*

- Align the new primary school within the 'Broomhills' housing site to Gracemount High School.
  - Reduce the catchment area of Liberton High School (which includes the current dual catchment area) so that it no longer covers Burdiehouse, The Murrays, or parts of Gilmerton Dykes which will be within the catchment area of Gracemount Primary School.
  - Reduce the catchment area Gracemount High School (which includes the current dual catchment area) so that it no longer covers the area to the west of Lasswade Road which will remain within the Gilmerton Primary School catchment area.
  - Realign the catchment boundary so that northern part of the Alnwickhill development site is within the catchment area of Gracemount High rather than that of Liberton High School.
- 4.2 The proposed non-denominational primary and secondary school catchment areas are set out in Appendix 5. The number of non-denomination primary school pupils in September 2016 who were in each of the areas directly affected by the proposed changes is shown in Appendix 6.
- 4.3 The date from when the proposed catchment changes would be effective is anticipated to be November 2019, in time for the P1 registration process and ahead of the expected new school opening in August 2020. However, this is dependant on development progressing as expected. In particular the site of



the proposed new primary school is on land owned by a housing developer. The delivery of a new school will therefore be dependant on development on this site progressing.

- 4.4 This paper does not propose any changes to the Roman Catholic Primary or Roman Catholic Secondary school catchment areas.

### **Description of Proposal**

- 4.5 This section explains the proposal in more detail and considers the implications and practicalities of its implementation.

#### *Establishing a New Non-Denominational Primary School*

- 4.6 A new primary school and nursery would be established on land at the north east corner of the 'Broomhills' housing site.
- 4.7 Parts of the catchment areas for Gracemount and Gilmerton Primary school would become the catchment area of the new school. The new catchment would cover the existing housing areas of Howden Hall, Mortanhall, Old Burdiehouse Road and Southhouse, as well as new housing sites at Broomhills and Burdiehouse.
- 4.8 The school would be built with 14 classrooms so that it can accommodate two full streams of P1-P7 pupils. It will have a flexible design that will allow it to be expanded up to three streams (21 classes) if this was necessary.

#### *Implications for Gracemount and Gilmerton Primary School*

- 4.9 The proposed catchment for the new school at 'Broomhills' will take the areas of Howden Hall, Mortanhall, Old Burdiehouse Road and Southhouse from the catchment area of Gracemount Primary School. This will free up significant capacity within Gracemount Primary School to allow it to accommodate additional pupils from new development and enable its catchment boundary to be extended to the south and east to take in The Murrays and parts of Gilmerton Dykes, which are currently aligned to Gilmerton Primary (in September 2016 there were 161 non-denominational primary school pupils residing in these areas).
- 4.10 The parts of Gilmerton Dykes that will transfer to the catchment of Gracemount Primary School were previously part of its catchment prior to the closure of Burdiehouse Primary School in 2010. It moved to the catchment of Gilmerton Primary school in 2010 to ensure that the catchment of Gracemount Primary school was not too large.
- 4.11 The catchment proposals will free up space at Gilmerton Primary School to accommodate additional pupils from initial phases of new housing development within its catchment area. However, in the medium to long term additional primary school capacity will still be required in the area, as explained in 4.25 – 4.28.

#### *Implications for Gracemount and Liberton High School*

- 4.12 The new primary school will be a feeder school aligned to Gracemount High School, along with Gracemount Primary School.
- 4.13 Consequential changes to the catchment areas of Gracemount High School and Liberton High School are proposed as there will no longer be a requirement to operate a dual secondary school catchment.
- 4.14 Since 2010 pupils from the areas of Burdiehouse, The Murrays and parts of Gilmerton Dykes have been within the catchment area of Gilmerton Primary School but able to choose between Gracemount High and Liberton High. Gracemount High School is the secondary school that is closest to the affected homes and the majority of pupils choose to attend this school. As the proposal is for these areas to now be within the catchment area of a primary school which is aligned to Gracemount High, there is no need to offer the choice of secondary school. The catchment boundary of Liberton High will therefore be reduced so that it does not cover these areas.
- 4.15 Land to the west of Lasswade Road and south of The Murrays will remain within the catchment of Gilmerton Primary School and it is proposed to realign the Gracemount High catchment area so that it no longer covers this area. Liberton High will therefore be the only catchment secondary school for the five residential properties which are currently in the area, as well as the new homes that are expected to be built between The Murrays and Lang Loan. Although Liberton High is further to travel than Gracemount High, the distance will be similar to that from other areas within the Gilmerton Primary school catchment.
- 4.16 Future pressures in the secondary sector will be considered through the Rising Rolls process or Local Development Plan Action Programme. Where it is identified that new accommodation will be necessary, feasibility work will be required to determine an appropriate way of delivering the additional capacity.

#### *Alnwickhill Water Treatment Works*

- 4.17 In order that all homes within the new estate at the Alnwickhill Water Treatment Works will be aligned to the same schools, the new homes which are currently within the Liberton Primary School and Liberton High School catchment areas will be transferred to the catchment areas of Gracemount Primary and Gracemount High School. These are closer to the site than the Liberton schools. 23 of the 297 homes that are proposed on the development site will be affected. The homes are currently being built and are expected to be occupied before the catchment change has taken place.

#### **Catchment Change Analysis**

- 4.18 The catchment changes proposed are shown in Appendix 5. More detailed maps and lists of the addresses affected may be viewed on the Council website [www.edinburgh.gov.uk/\[insert correct address\]](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/[insert correct address]).
- 4.19 The date from when the proposed catchment changes would be effective is anticipated to be November 2019, in time for the P1 registration process and ahead of the expected new school opening in August 2020.

4.20 The location of the school buildings, existing pupil flows, obvious geographical boundaries, public transport links and distances to and from a school are all factors taken into account when establishing new catchment boundaries.

However, the principal driver is to ensure that the catchment populations for each of the schools affected are appropriate to their proposed capacity.

4.21 Tables 3 and 4 show what impact the proposed catchment changes set out above would have had on the total catchment population and P1 catchment population of Gracemount, Gilmerton and Liberton Primary Schools had they been applied in each of the last three years.

**Table 3: Total Catchment Population 2014-2016; Actual and Adjusted for New School**

		2014			2015			2016		
		ND	RC	Total	ND	RC	Total	ND	RC	Total
<b>Gracemount</b>	Actual	517	199	716	510	206	716	541	188	729
	Proposed	451	117	568	438	115	553	455	116	571
<b>Gilmerton</b>	Actual	515	78	593	504	73	577	504	76	580
	Proposed	360	47	407	345	46	391	336	42	378
<b>Liberton</b>	Actual	401	132	533	431	134	565	446	131	577
	Proposed	401	132	533	431	134	565	446	131	577
<b>New Primary School</b>		221	109	330	231	118	349	254	106	360

**Table 4: P1 Catchment Population 2014-2016; Actual and Adjusted for New School**

		2014			2015			2016		
		ND	RC	Total	ND	RC	Total	ND	RC	Total
<b>Gracemount</b>	Actual	84	25	<b>109</b>	65	28	<b>93</b>	84	21	<b>105</b>
	Proposed	71	13	<b>84</b>	66	14	<b>80</b>	64	20	<b>84</b>
<b>Gilmerton</b>	Actual	94	10	<b>104</b>	88	8	<b>96</b>	64	12	<b>76</b>
	Proposed	69	7	<b>76</b>	55	4	<b>59</b>	40	3	<b>43</b>
<b>Liberton</b>	Actual	65	16	<b>81</b>	87	10	<b>98</b>	74	14	<b>88</b>
	Proposed	65	16	<b>81</b>	87	10	<b>98</b>	74	14	<b>88</b>
<b>New Primary School</b>		38	15	<b>53</b>	32	18	<b>50</b>	44	10	<b>54</b>

#### *New Primary School*

4.22 Table 3 illustrates that in 2016, had the catchment changes under the new school been in place, the non-denominational catchment population for the new school would have been 254. Assuming an overall retention rate of 85% would

have resulted in a roll of 216 at the new school. This would have required the school to have operated eight classes.

- 4.23 However, significant new housing development is expected to come forward within the catchment area that will generate 242 new non-denominational catchment primary school pupils (35 at P1). Projections based on known births within the proposed catchment area and development expectations indicate that the school will ultimately have a P1 intake of 60. This level of intake is appropriate for a double stream school.

#### *Gracemount Primary School*

- 4.24 Table 3 illustrates that in 2016, had the catchment changes under the new school been in place, the non-denominational catchment population would have been 455 – reducing the actual population by 86 pupils. With an overall retention rate of 84% in 2016 this would have resulted in a catchment roll of 382 at Gracemount Primary School, significantly lower than the optimum 546 pupil capacity for a 19 class school.
- 4.25 Although the proposal means that Gracemount Primary School's catchment area will be reduced, significant new housing development is expected that could generate 133 new non-denominational catchment primary school pupils (20 at P1). Projections based on known births and development expectations indicate that the school roll would rise to similar levels to that in 2016.

#### *Gilmerton Primary School*

- 4.26 Table 3 illustrates that in 2016, had the catchment changes under the new school been in place, the non-denominational catchment population would have been 336 – reducing the actual population by 168 pupils. With an overall retention rate of 87% in 2015 this would have resulted in a roll from catchment pupils of 292 at Gilmerton Primary School, significantly lower than the optimum 546 pupil capacity for a 19 class school.
- 4.27 Although the proposal means that Gilmerton Primary School's catchment area will be reduced, significant new housing development is expected to come forward that will generate 303 new non-denominational catchment primary school pupils (44 at P1). The existing school at Gilmerton would not be able to accommodate this number of additional pupils and additional capacity is expected to be required.
- 4.28 The additional capacity that would be required in the Gilmerton area could be provided by delivering a second new primary school on the safeguarded site at Gilmerton Station Road. However, the requirement for a new school would be dependant on the delivery of new housing or whether further catchment changes or expanding existing schools can provide an alternative solution to alleviate the expected capacity pressures.
- 4.29 The Council will monitor the number of pupils expected in the area before bringing forward proposals. If a second new primary school was required, projections indicate that it would not be needed until 2022 and therefore a statutory consultation would not be required until 2019.

### *Liberton Primary School*

- 4.30 Table 3 shows that had the proposed catchment changes been in place in 2016, the catchment population for Liberton Primary school would have been the same as it was. This is because the catchment change that impacts on Liberton Primary will only affect new housing currently being built at the northern part of the Alnwickhill development site.

### *Secondary Schools*

- 4.31 As the majority of secondary school pupils within the dual catchment area already choose to attend Gracemount High (70 pupils in September 2016) rather than Liberton High (3 pupils in September 2016) the proposed catchment change will not have a significant impact on the roll at either school.

### **Transport**

- 4.32 Access to the new primary school from the wider area will be from Frogston Road East and Burdiehouse Road. The proposed changes are not expected to lead to an increase in the need for pupils to travel by car. Although the new school design is expected to provide for staff and visitor parking on the school site, it is not Council policy to specifically provide drop-off zones for parents and carers.
- 4.33 Pupils from Southhouse and Burdiehouse who are walking to the new school will have to cross Burdiehouse Road (A701). This road has a 40 mph speed limit. There is an existing light controlled junction at the junction with Captain's Road and a crossing further south at the Burdiehouse Burn. In addition, as part of the 'Broomhills' housing development a light controlled crossing will be installed between the two existing crossings, close to the western end of Southhouse Broadway. The proposal does not present significant road safety issues, however Safer Routes will be regularly assessed.
- 4.34 Appendix 7 shows how the route which a pupil may walk to get to their catchment primary school could change as a result of the proposal. The distance to a catchment primary school will be increased for some properties (in particular those pupils from Gilmerton Dykes who will walk to Gracemount Primary School rather than Gilmerton Primary School), however all routes are reasonable and deemed to be 'safer routes to school'. This means routes which are on a good surface, are lit and means of crossing main roads are by traffic controlled crossings.
- 4.35 In identifying the potential walking routes, it is on the basis that the responsibility for ensuring the safety of children on the journey between home and school and, where appropriate, supervising the journey, rests with parents or guardians.

### **Populating the New School**

4.36 Research on practices adopted in other authorities leading up to the opening of an entirely new school has highlighted the value of appointing the Head Teacher at least six months before the new school opens. This would allow the Head Teacher to take time to appoint staff, oversee the completion and occupation of the building and take a leading role in establishing relationships within the new school community including with the potential parent body and promoting the school to its potential users and community. This could play a significant part in increasing the number of parents willing to transfer their child from existing schools to the new school.

*Populating P1 in a new school*

4.37 On the assumption that the proposal for a new school could be progressed, funded, constructed and opened by 2020 the catchment changes set out above would apply from the start of the P1 registration process in November 2019 prior to the opening of the new school in August 2020. A later date of opening would result in a deferral of this and other key dates from when the change in catchment areas would be effective.

4.38 Pupils eligible to start school in August 2020 and living within the catchment area of the new school when registrations opened in November 2019 would be expected to make a non-catchment placing request if they wished to attend a school other than their new catchment school. Accordingly, it is anticipated that a double stream (two class) intake of P1 pupils would be formed in August 2020 through catchment realignment alone.

*Populating P2 to P7 in a new school*

4.39 The overarching aim will be to achieve the required transfer of pupils from the new school's catchment area. In Autumn 2019 the Council would write to the parents and guardians of all P1 to P6 pupils living in the catchment area of the new school, including those attending Gracemount and Gilmerton Primary Schools, and all other non-denominational or denominational City of Edinburgh Council primary schools offering them the opportunity to apply for a place at the new school for the start of the school year in August 2020.

4.40 Parents or carers may choose to refuse this offer of a place. There would be no mandatory transfer for pupils already attending another primary school.

4.41 In January 2020 a special meeting of the Communities and Families Working Group that meets in January each year as part of the annual P1 and S1 intake process would meet with the Head Teacher of the new school, and other schools directly affected by the proposal to establish class organisations for August 2020 based on the number of P1 registrations for each school and the number of pupils from upper stages accepting the offer of a place at the new school.

4.42 Standard processes for the placement of non-catchment pupils making a placing request to the new school for August 2020 would apply, however, places for catchment pupils would be reserved at each stage through the school

year. The number of places to be reserved would be determined by the Working Group.

- 4.43 The experience of other local authorities who have opened an entirely new school would suggest that transfer on a voluntary basis is likely to result in an uneven distribution of pupils between year groups with a risk that some stages, especially from P4 to P7, are very small or altogether empty. Accordingly, it should be anticipated that the new school will not operate at its class capacity in the short to medium term and composite classes at upper stages may be necessary.

#### **Staffing for the New School**

- 4.44 In addition to additional teaching and support staff, there would be a requirement to create and fill all the management and non-teaching staff positions associated with running a separate primary school. These positions would include a Head Teacher, a Business Manager, admin/clerical staff, dining room staff and janitorial staff.

- 4.45 Details of the recruitment requirement and process for the new school will be subject of a separate report to the Education, Children and Families Committee in Spring 2019.

#### **Early Years Provision**

- 4.46 A nursery is proposed to be provided on the same site as the new primary school to make sure that there is additional capacity for early years provision in the area.
- 4.47 The area is currently served by four Council operated early learning centres, two within existing primary schools: Gracemount Primary School and St Catherine's RC Primary School, and two standalone centres: Gilmerton Early Years Centre and The Spinney Lane Nursery School. The schools currently provide 600 hours of early learning and childcare for 3-5 year olds, eligible 2's also attend Gilmerton Early Years Centre. This is the equivalent to 16 hours per week during term time.
- 4.48 The Scottish Government is committed to increasing the early learning and childcare entitlement to 1140 hours per year by 2020 and the Council is now reviewing its Early Years Estate to identify what measures may be required to meet current and projected demand. It is expected that some of this demand can be met by increasing hours of the existing facilities however it is likely that additional provision, such as the nursery proposed as part of the proposed new school, will be required.

## **5 Educational Benefits**

- 5.1 The principal educational advantage of the proposal is that it addresses growing sufficiency issues at Gracemount Primary School and Gilmerton Primary School and will enable the Council to continue to provide catchment school places for catchment children.
- 5.2 Although there may be a need for more primary school accommodation in the area in the future, the proposal will mean that the existing primary schools will have less pupils once the new school is operational than they otherwise would have had, reducing pressure on school facilities and allowing more flexible lesson timetabling.
- 5.3 Despite the catchment areas of the existing primary schools being reduced, the proposal will ensure that all schools in the area have a viable and sustainable school roll with flexibility to support a variety of learning and teaching approaches aligned to the Curriculum of Excellence. The proposed catchments will allow teacher staffing levels and year group classifications to be effective, and children will be able to learn within a variety of peer group opportunities.
- 5.4 The educational benefit to pupils attending the proposed new school will be that they will experience a modern, state-of-the-art learning environment designed to be accessible to all, creating a sense of pride in the learners and staff alike and helping to build a positive ethos in the new school. The new environment will promote creative and engaging teaching approaches and offer facilities that will encourage participation in sport and physical activity. The provision of nursery accommodation on the site allows for a programme of transition to the primary school to be put in place.
- 5.5 The benefit of not operating a dual secondary catchment area is that there will no longer be a requirement for two secondary schools to form transition relationships with the same primary school, allowing transition planning to be more effectively focused.
- 5.6 The principal educational disadvantage of the proposal is that it includes significant catchment changes to schools which have received positive assessments when they have been evaluated against Quality Indicators.

### **Education Scotland Primary School Inspection Reports**

- 5.7 The realignment of The Murrays and parts of Gilmerton Dykes from within the catchment of Gilmerton Primary School to the catchment of Gracemount Primary School will only impact new P1 pupils. Once these pupils have progressed to P7, it is estimated that the changes would have affected approximately 161 pupils (this is based on the number of non-denominational primary school pupils within the area in September 2016).



- 5.8 Gracemount Primary School was last inspected by HM Inspectors of Education (HMIE) in October 2006. Under the criterion being evaluated at that time the school received six good, seven adequate and one weak. An internal follow through report undertaken by a Quality Improvement Officer from the Children and Families Department in April 2008 concluded that *“With support from the education authority, Gracemount Primary School provided a very good standard of education for its pupils. The school had responded well to the recommendations of HMIE and improved other aspects of provision. The current improvement plan had strong support from staff, pupils and parents. The developing teamwork and distributive leadership in the school provided a very good basis for continued improvement”*.
- 5.9 In 2016, under self evaluation, Gracemount Primary School scored eight good assessments against current evaluation criteria. Table 5 shows how this compares with the evaluation of quality indicators by Education Scotland for Gilmerton Primary School (May 2013) and Liberton Primary School (October 2013).

**Table 5: Evaluation of Quality Indicators**

Evaluation Criteria	Gracemount (Self Evaluation)	Gilmerton	Liberton
Date of Evaluation Report	June 2016	May 2013	Oct 2013
<b>Primary School</b>			
Learners’ experiences	Good	Good	Good
Improvements in performance	Good	Satisfactory	Good
Meeting Learning needs	Good	Satisfactory	Good
<b>Nursery Class</b>			
Children’s Experiences	Good	N/A	Good
Improvements in performance	Good	N/A	Good
Meeting Learning Needs	Good	N/A	Good
<b>Work of the school and the nursery class</b>			
The Curriculum	Good	Satisfactory	Satisfactory
Improvement through self-evaluation	Good	Satisfactory	Satisfactory

**Educational Attainment – Primary School Standardised Assessments**

- 5.10 Additional attainment data has been produced for the existing primary schools directly affected by the proposal. Appendix 8 shows the mean standard assessment scores for the schools along with the city average for comparative purposes and supporting text on attainment and achievement information for primary schools.
- 5.11 The data is derived from standardised assessments of pupils at each school at P1, P4 and P7 using nationally applied criterion over the last three years (2013/14; 2014/15 and 2015/16). This allows for a comparison to be made between schools over time, using mean standard scores.
- 5.12 The P1 data provides an evaluation of the baseline literacy and numeracy skills of pupils that have started schools aged 4 and 5. Assessment tests in reading

and mathematics at both P4 and P7 help to monitor the change in attainment as pupils progress through primary school.

### **Monitoring**

- 5.13 The Quality Improvement Officer for the primary schools affected by the statutory consultation will continue to monitor and evaluate attainment and achievement and the overall impact of any catchment changes implemented ensuring any necessary actions are included in school Improvement Plans on an ongoing basis.

**INFORMATION ABOUT ATTAINMENT AT GRACEMOUNT HIGH AND LIBERTON HIGH REQUIRED**

DRAFT

## 6 Financial Considerations

### Capital Works Required

- 6.1 A construction cost estimate, based on the Scottish Future Trust metric for new primary schools, shows an indicative capital cost of £18,844,689 for a 14 class school and 40/40 nursery on the identified site. This includes an estimated cost of site acquisition, servicing and remediation, but does not take account of future cost inflation beyond Q1 2015.

**Table 5: Cost Summary**

Capital Construction (based on Q1 2015 prices)	£11,328,524
Site Acquisition	£3,000,000
Site Servicing and Remediation	£4,516,165
<b>Estimated Total Capital Costs</b>	<b>£18,844,689</b>

### Additional Revenue Costs

- 6.2 A new school would lead to an increase in revenue costs for Communities and Families. This is because, in addition to the additional teaching and support staff, there would be a requirement to create and fill all the management and non-teaching staff positions associated with running a separate primary school. These positions would include a Head Teacher, a Business Manager, admin/clerical staff, dining room staff and janitorial staff.
- 6.3 The creation of a new school building would also result in additional building running, maintenance and repair costs for the school estate.
- 6.4 The additional revenue costs are set out in Table 6 below. These figures include an estimated average annual repairs spend based on previous experience of new school buildings. The maintenance burden for the new building is likely to be low in the short to medium term but would increase over time.

**Table 6: Revenue Cost Summary**

Estimated Additional Staffing Costs (based on 2016 salary levels)	Management	£246,000
	Teaching	£729,000
	Other (business and support staff)	£233,000
	<b>Staffing Total</b>	<b>£1,208,000</b>
Estimated Additional Premises Costs (based on 2014/15 expenditure)	<b>Rates &amp; Services</b>	
	<b>Utilities</b>	
	<b>Repairs &amp; Maintenance</b>	
	<b>Premises Cost Total</b>	
<b>Estimated Additional Revenue Costs</b>		

## **Funding**

- 6.5 The financial implications on future capital and revenue budgets of the adopted LDP Action Programme, which includes the proposed new school, were reported to the Finance and Resources Committee in January 2017. This report identified the risks associated with securing developer's contributions for LDP education infrastructure and requested that the initial budgets required to progress this new school project are established in the Capital Investment Programme through the Council's budget setting process in 2017.
- 6.6 If, on completion of the consultation, it is agreed by Council that the new school should progress, the identification and approval of the required additional capital and revenue funding would require to be established by Council as part of budget processes in order for the school to be delivered by August 2020.

## 7 Indicative Construction Timescales

- 7.1 The timescales for the delivery of the new facilities are dependent the necessary funding being approved and provided to deliver the project.
- 7.2 Table 7 sets out the indicative construction timescale which would apply based on an assumed date of initiation of Council approval on June 2017 to the completion of all works required. This timescale is subject to the site being available prior to the start of construction.

**Table 7: Indicative Construction Timescales**

Conclusion of consultation and approval of solution to be progressed	June 2017
Appoint Design Team	+3 months
Design Development to RIBA Stage 2	+3 months
Design Development to RIBA Stage 3 (submit for Planning)	+3 months
Design Development to RIBA Stage 4 and completion of planning	+4 months
Complete construction contract tender process and award contract	+5 months
Construction Completion of New Build	+15 months
<b>Estimated Opening Date</b>	<b>August 2020</b>

## 8 Consultation Process

- 8.1 The Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, as amended by the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014, sets out the statutory consultation requirements for:
- The establishment of a new school;
  - The relocation of a stage of education;
  - Changes to existing admission arrangements (such as catchment change); and
  - The closure of a stage of education.
- 8.2 The prescribed consultees vary for each of the above, however, the requirements for a closure encompass all the necessary consultees and it is this process that will be followed to ensure full compliance with all the requirements of the Act. Accordingly, consultees will be as follows (where relevant):
- the Parent Council of any affected school;
  - the parents of the pupils at any affected school;
  - the parents of any children expected to attend any affected school within two years of the date of publication of the proposal paper;
  - the pupils at any affected school (in so far as the education authority considers them to be of a suitable age and maturity);
  - the staff (teaching and other) at any affected school;
  - any trade union which appears to the education authority to be representative of the staff (teaching and other) at any affected school;
  - the community councils (if any);
  - the Roman Catholic Church;
  - any other education authority that the education authority considers relevant;
  - any other users of any affected school that the education authority considers relevant.
- 8.3 The extent of the consultation with pupils at the affected schools and the appropriate means of engaging with those pupils will be discussed in detail with each school's management team.
- 8.4 The consultation period will run for a 6 week period from Monday 16 January 2017 to Friday 3 March 2017 and the paper will be made available electronically and in paper format and copies will be available for inspection at the Council Offices at Waverley Court, at [Insert name] Library and at the schools affected by the proposals.

8.5 Two public meetings will be held in respect of the proposals at the venues listed below which will give interested parties a more formal opportunity to express their views. Representatives of the Council will be present at the meetings to outline the proposals, assist discussions and answer questions. Free childcare and/or translation services can be provided at each public meeting if requests for these services are made to (0131) 469 3161 no later than [Insert Date]. A record of each public meeting will be taken by the Council.

Venue	Date	Time
Gracemount Primary School		
Gilmerton Primary School		

8.6 All comments received will be recorded and represented in the final report regarding the outcomes of the consultation, along with the Council’s response to those comments. Individual responses will not be provided to submissions made during the consultation. However, if common themes emerge from submissions, the Council will prepare a Frequently Asked Questions paper and publish it on the Council website during the consultation.

8.7 The Council website will contain information on the consultation and this will be updated as necessary [www.edinburgh.gov.uk/\[Insert Correct Address\]](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/[Insert Correct Address])

8.8 During the consultation period, any views on this proposal should be sent to in writing to the following address:

Alistair Gaw  
 Acting Executive Director of Communities and Families  
 City of Edinburgh Council  
 Council Headquarters  
 Waverley Court  
 Level 1:2  
 4 East Market Street  
 Edinburgh EH8 8BG

8.9 Respondents are encouraged to use the response questionnaire which has been produced and is provided in Appendix 1. The response questionnaire can also be completed online at [www.edinburgh.gov.uk/\[Insert Correct Address\]](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/[Insert Correct Address])

Responses can also be made by e-mail to the following address [cf.propertyreview@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:cf.propertyreview@edinburgh.gov.uk) [check email] All responses, whether by letter, e-mail or using the online questionnaire should be received by no later than close of business on Friday 3 March 2017.

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

- 8.11 Following the conclusion of the consultation period and after consideration of the representations received and the views of Education Scotland on the educational benefits of the proposal, a report on the Outcomes of the Consultation will be presented to the Council for consideration. The 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 and also to any issues raised by Education Scotland.
- 8.12 It is anticipated that the consultation report, setting out recommendations, will be presented to a Meeting of the Council on [Insert Date]. It is expected that the report will be published no later than [Insert Date] being the required three weeks in advance of it being considered by the Council.

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## APPENDIX 1 – Response Questionnaire

### Statutory Consultation on new primary school in south east Edinburgh, to be located within the 'Broomhills' housing site.

#### Introduction

Significant new housing development is proposed within south east Edinburgh. As school roll projections show that pupils from the new housing will lead to school accommodation pressures by 2020, it is necessary to progress a statutory consultation in order that a new primary school in the area can be delivered, and to enable an efficient use of existing education infrastructure. A site within the 'Broomhills' housing site to the west of Burdiehouse Road has been identified.

You can read the background to the consultation in the report to the Council's Education, Children and Families Committee to on 13 December 2017.

The full details of all the proposals are available in the statutory consultation paper which you should read before completing this questionnaire. The statutory consultation paper is available online at [www.edinburgh.gov.uk/\[Insert correct address\]](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/[Insert correct address]) and copies are available in the affected schools and local libraries.

#### Why we are consulting?

The Council has 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. The proposals put forward will have implications for families and we want to hear the views of anyone affected by the proposals. All comments made during the statutory consultation period will be recorded and represented in a final report anticipated to be considered by Council on **[Insert Date]**.

This questionnaire should be completed and returned by no later than 5pm on Friday 3 March 2017. All personal information in the questionnaire is for internal use only and will not be made public however the responses to questions 6 may be reflected either in whole, or in part, in the report to Council but on an anonymised basis. The questionnaire can be completed online at the following link [www.edinburgh.gov.uk/\[Insert correct address\]](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/[Insert correct address]) or can be completed in the following pages and returned to the following address:

Alastair Gaw  
Acting Executive Director of Communities and Families  
City of Edinburgh Council  
Council Headquarters  
Waverley Court  
Level 1:2, 4 East Market Street  
Edinburgh EH8 8BG

Responses can also be made in writing to the address above or by e-mail to the following address [cf.propertyreview@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:cf.propertyreview@edinburgh.gov.uk). **[check]**

## Questionnaire

### **Question 1**

What is your name?

Name

### **Question 2**

What is your email address? (Optional)

Email

### **Question 3**

What is your postcode?

Postcode

### **Question 4**

What is your main interest in the consultation?

*Please select (tick) all items that apply:*

- Parent/Carer of school child
- Parent/Carer of school child with younger sibling/s
- Parent/Carer of pre-school child
- School Staff
- Pupil
- Local resident
- Local organisation
- Other

If you are answering on behalf of an organisation, or for other reasons, please explain below.

**Question 5**

Do you have a child or children in a primary school or nursery classes at the moment?

*Please select (tick) only one item.*

No

Yes

If yes please tell us the name(s) of their school or nursery classes.

Gracemount Primary School

Gracemount Primary School Nursery Classes

Gilmerton Primary School

Gilmerton Primary School Nursery Classes

Liberton Primary School

Liberton Primary School Nursery Classes

Gracemount High School

Other (please specify below)

Liberton High School

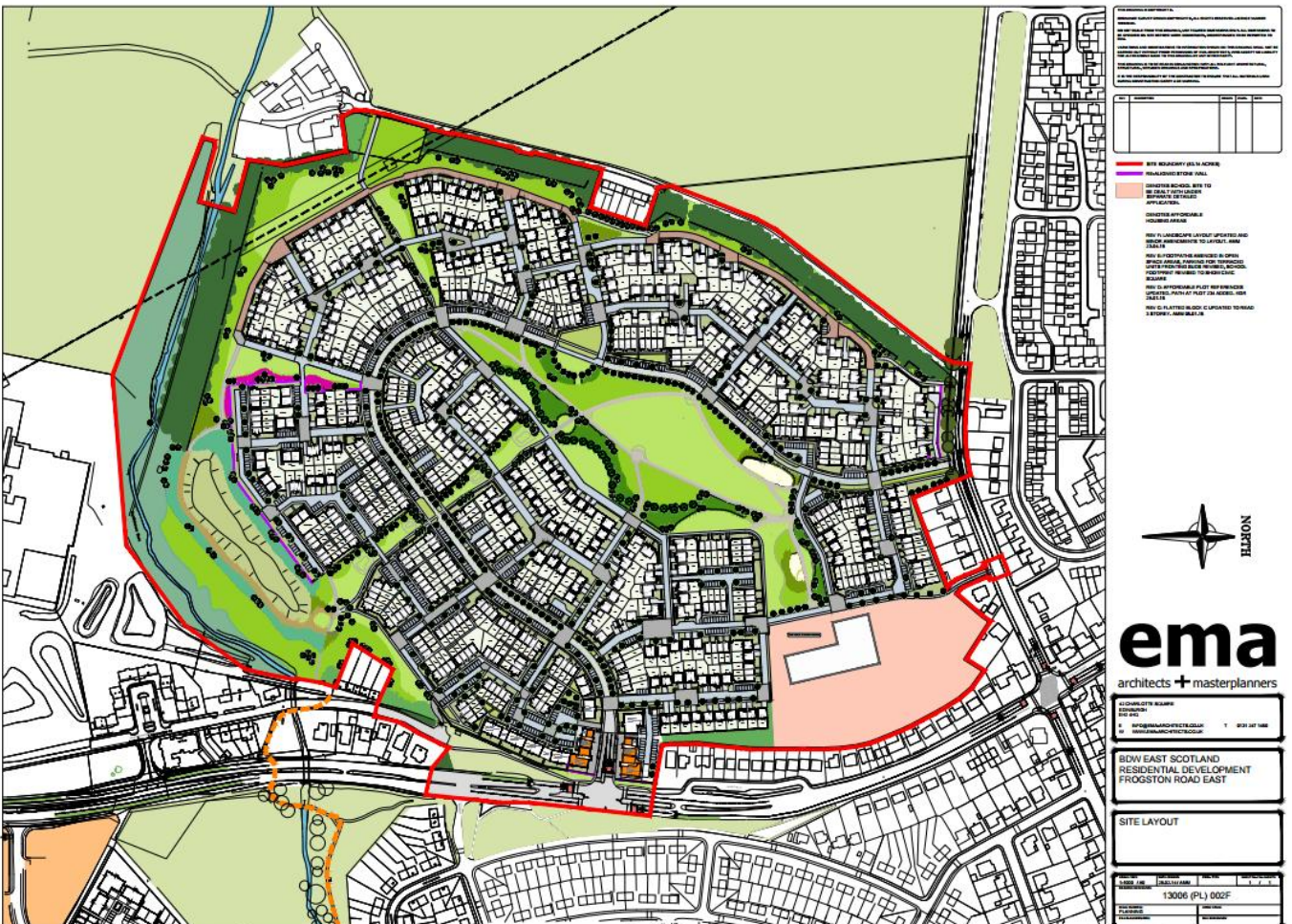
**Question 6**

Having considered the proposal as detailed in the statutory consultation paper, do you have any comments or suggestions?

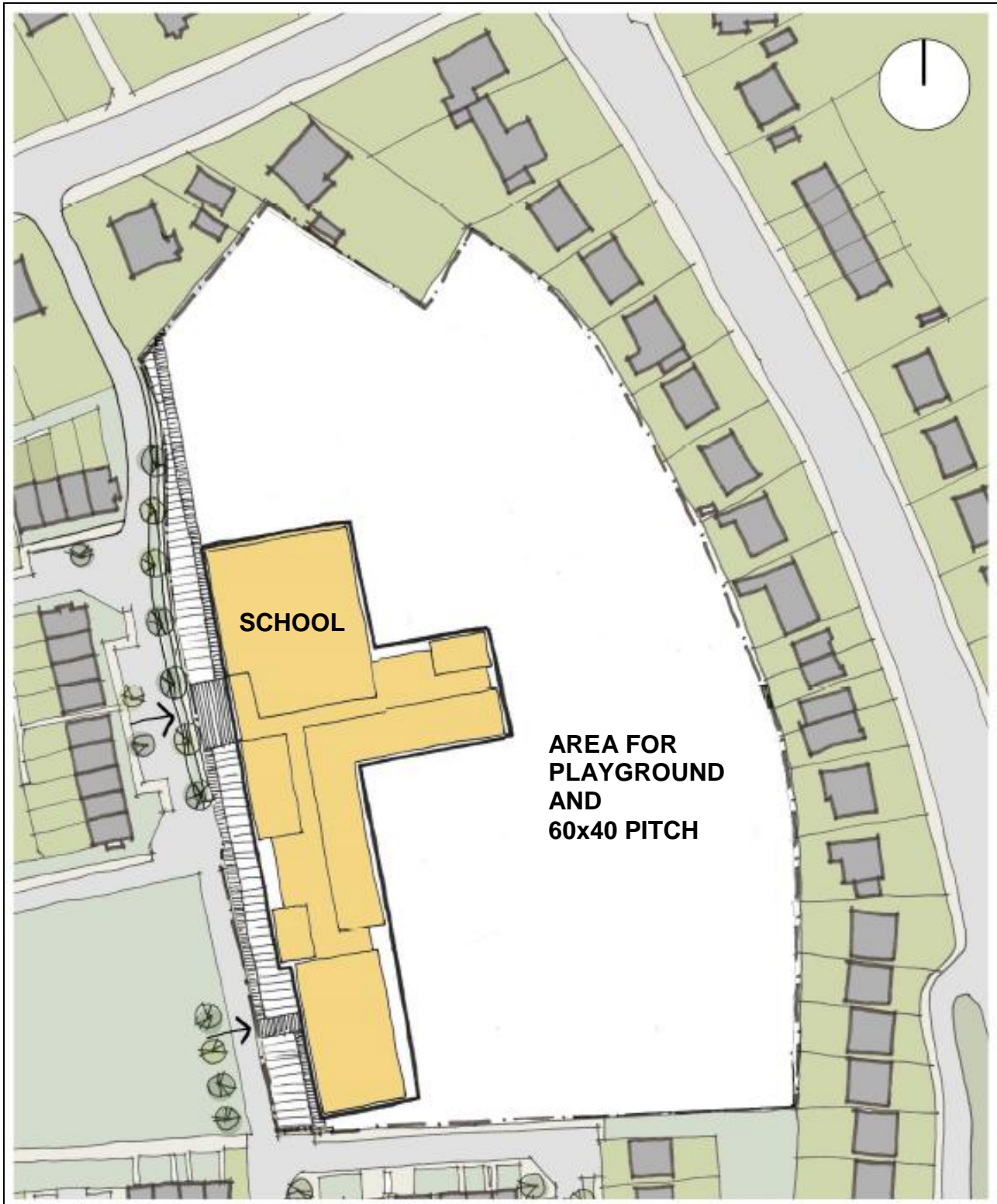
*Comments or suggestions can also be emailed to.....*  
List of affected addresses

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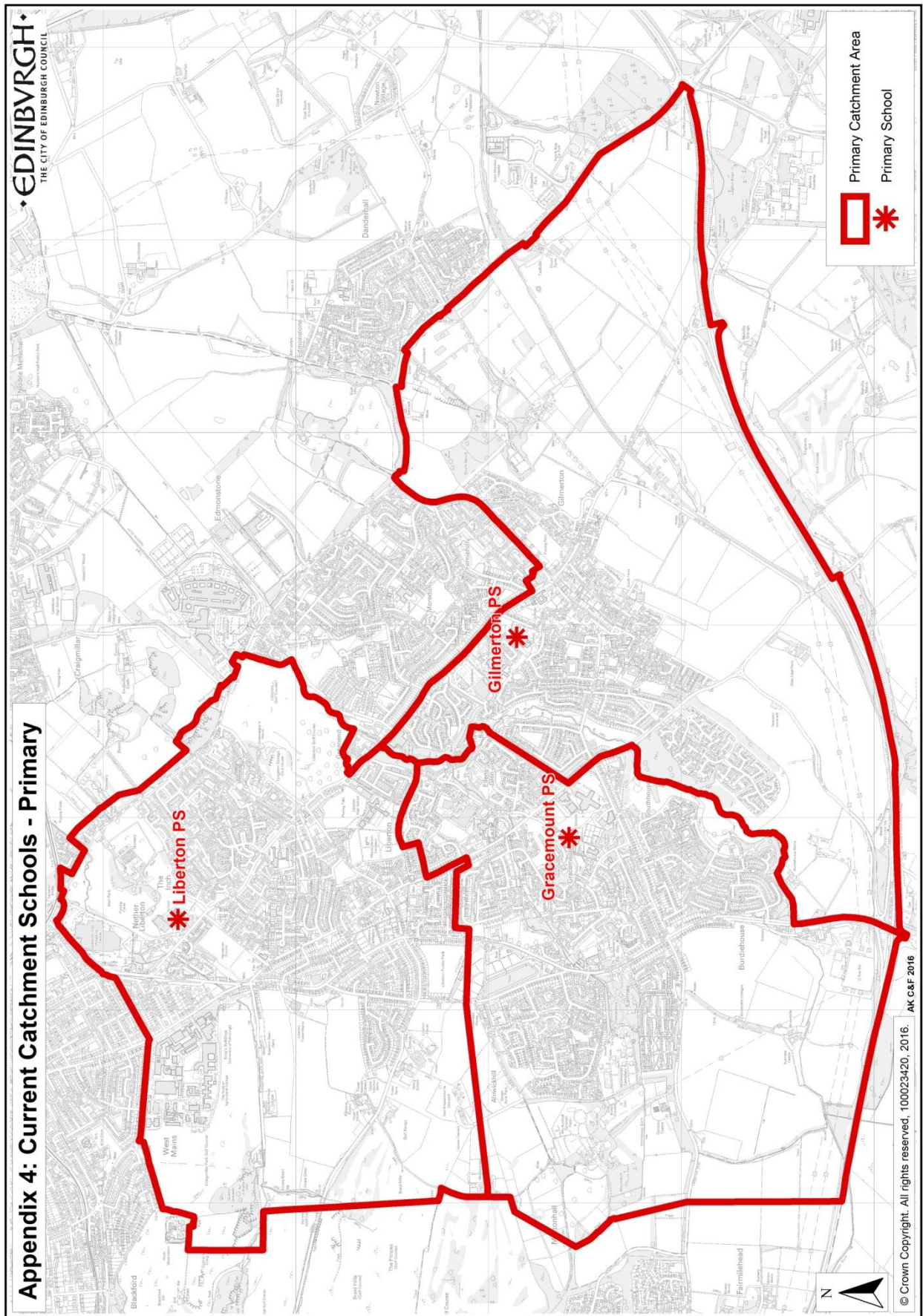
# APPENDIX 2 – ‘Broomhills’ LDP Site Brief and Proposed Site Layout



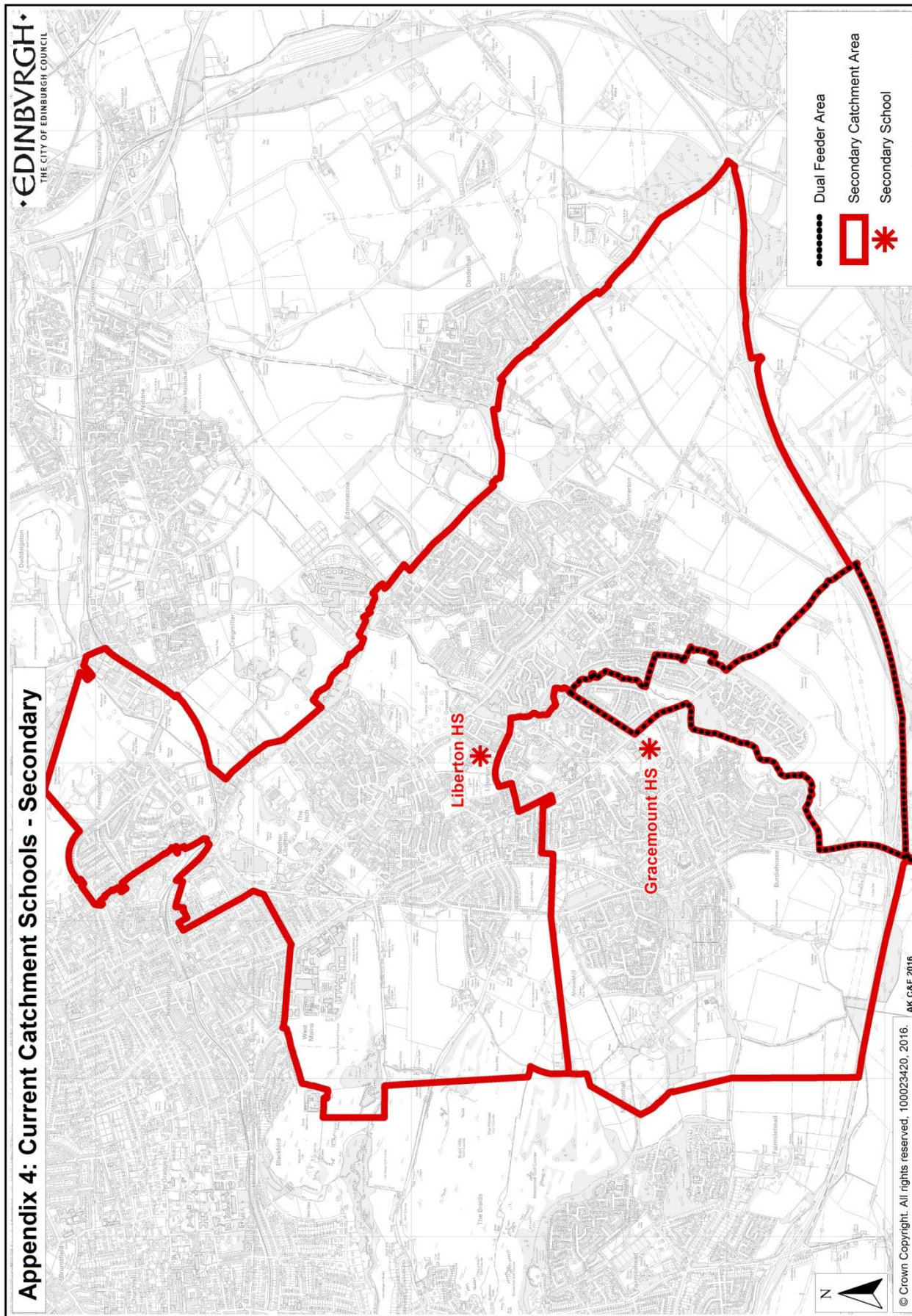
**APPENDIX 3 – Indicative Site Layout of New Primary School**



# APPENDIX 4 - Current Catchment Areas: Primary Schools

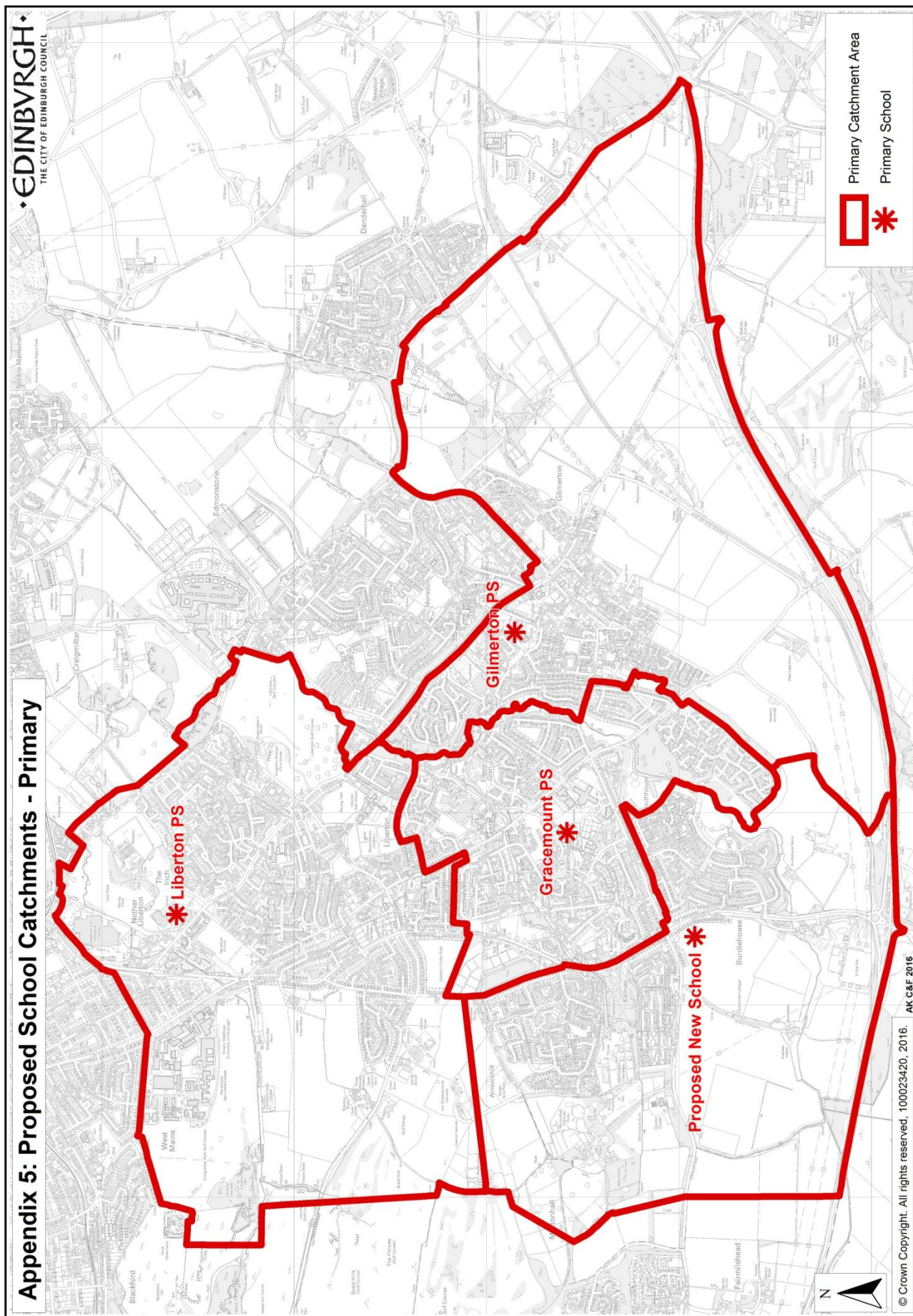


# APPENDIX 4 - Current Catchment Areas: Secondary Schools

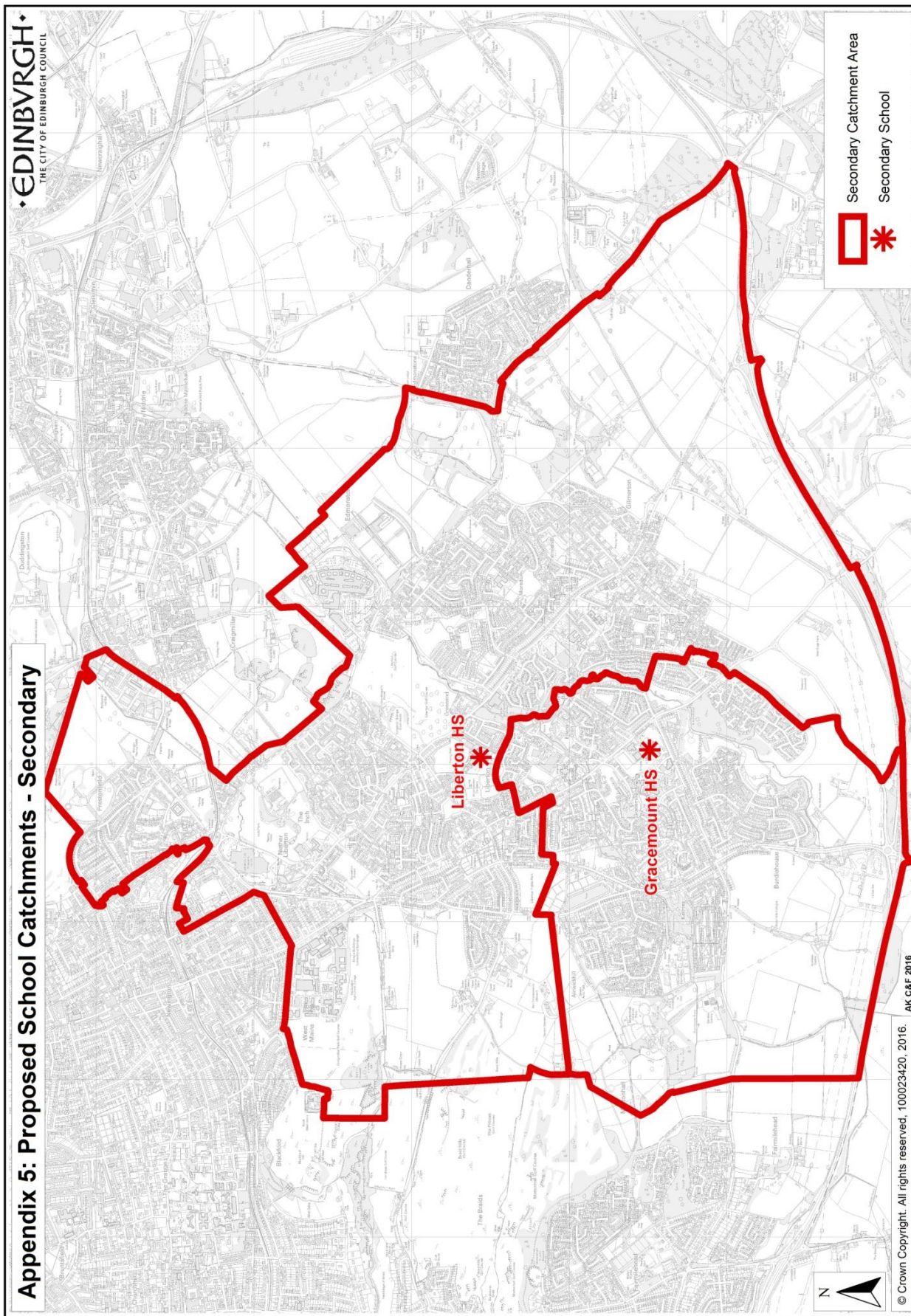




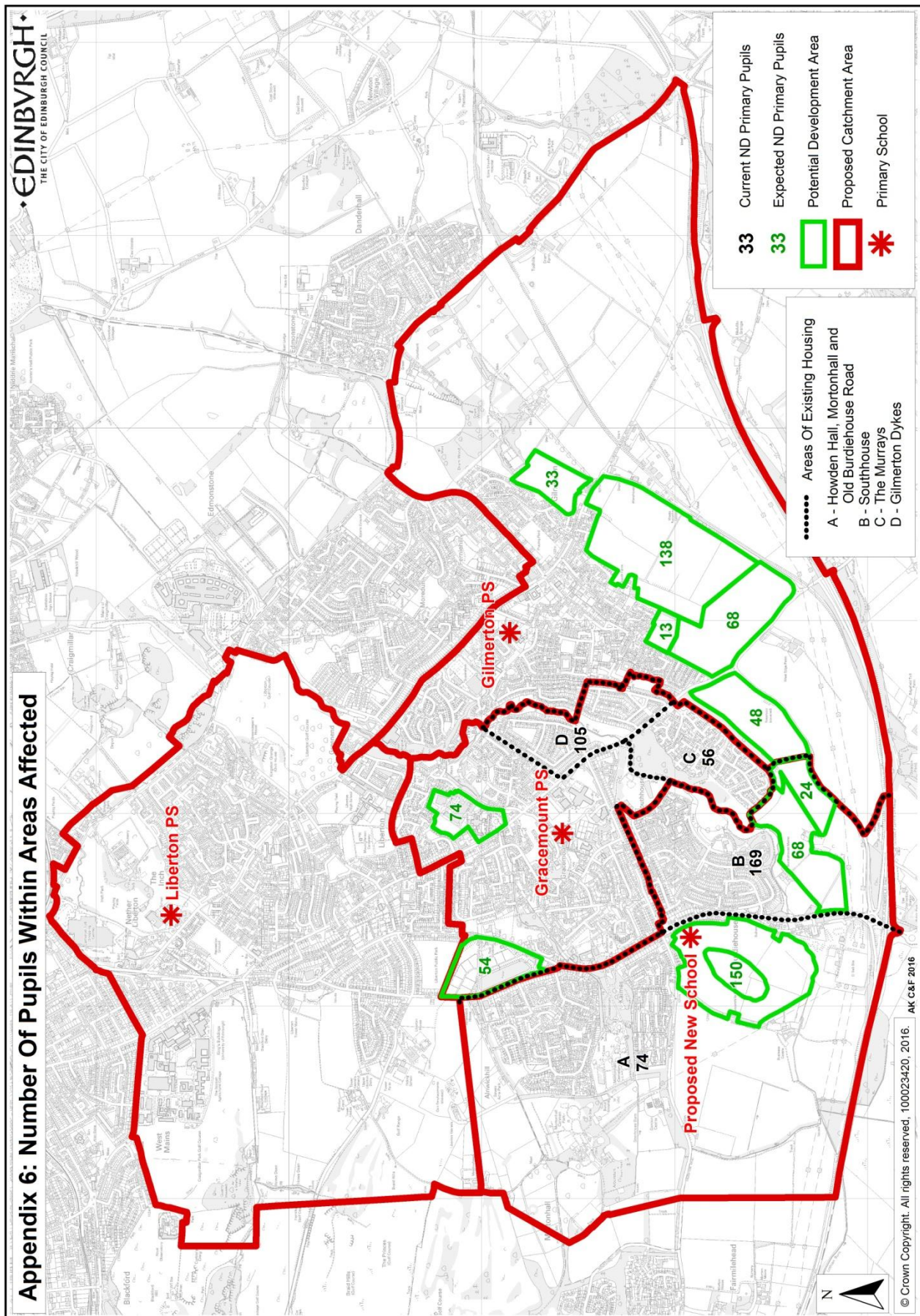
# APPENDIX 5 - Proposed Catchment Areas: Primary Schools



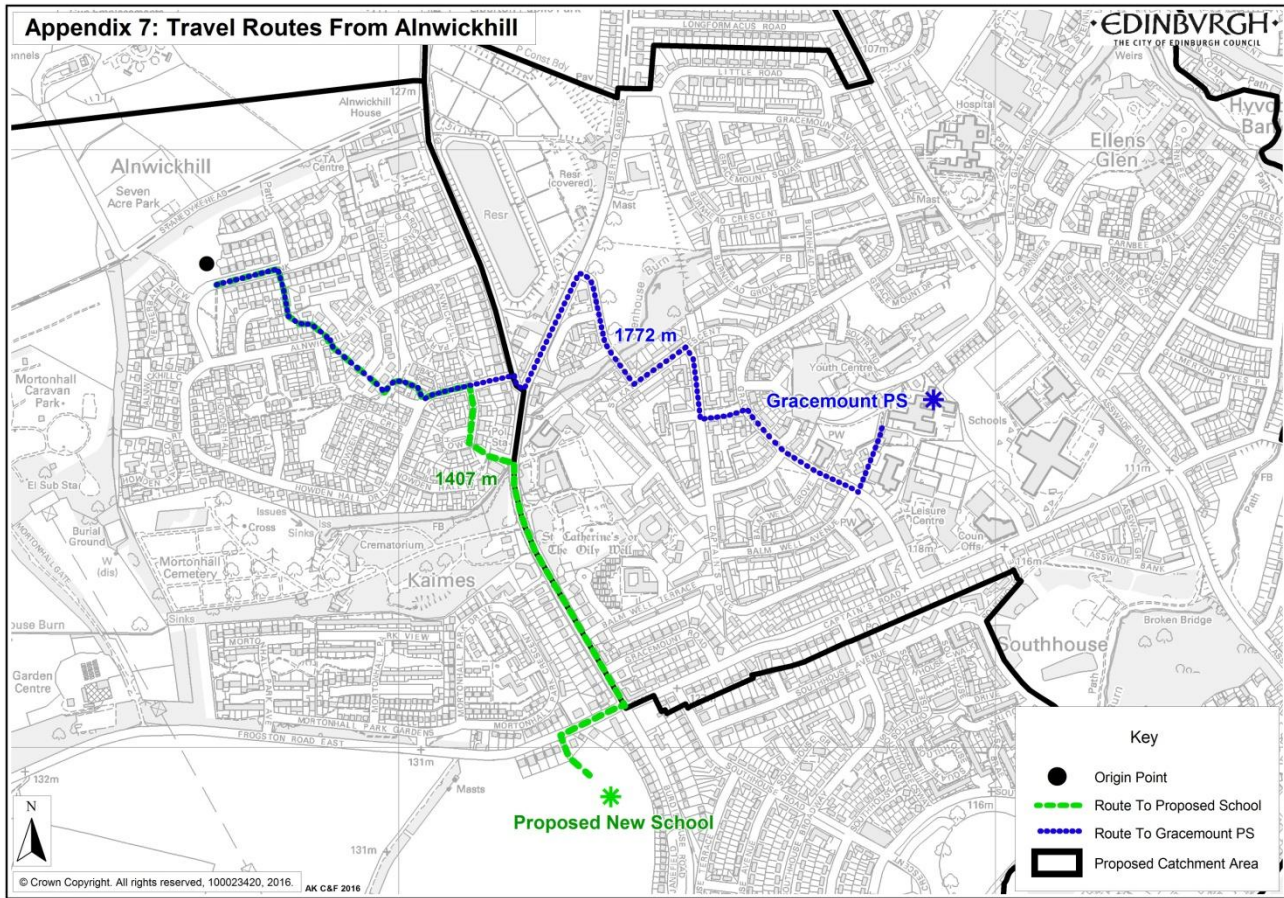
# APPENDIX 5 - Proposed Catchment Areas: Secondary Schools

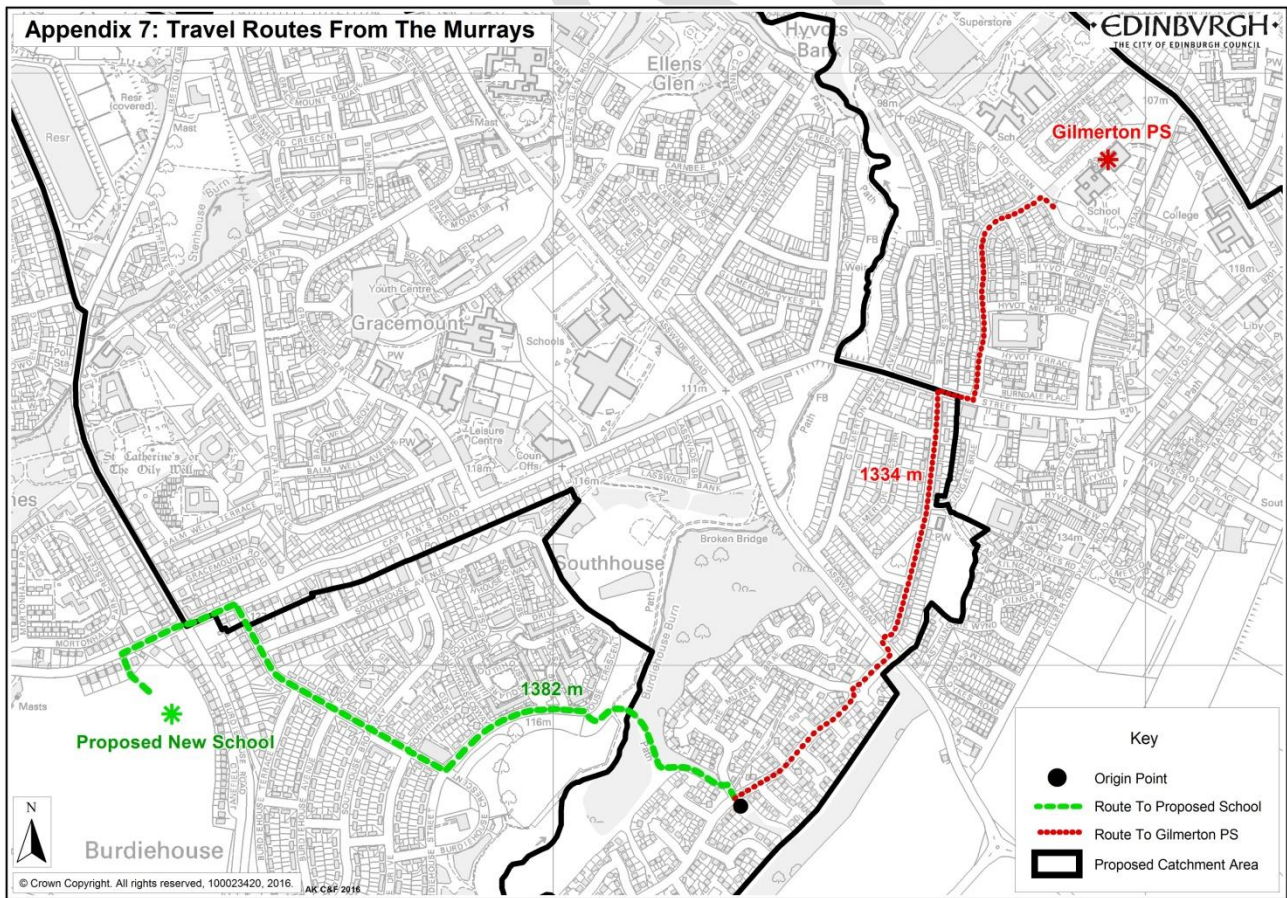
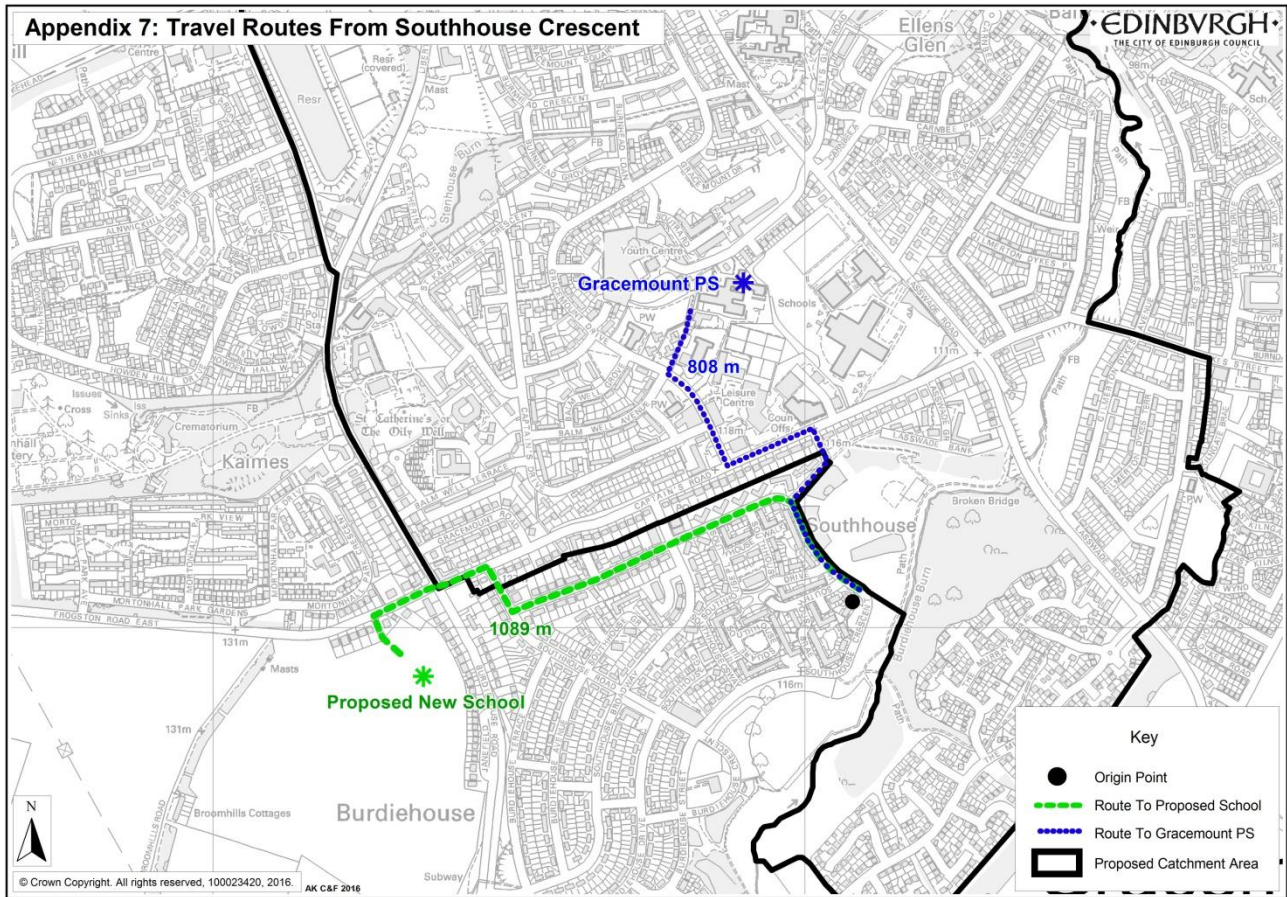


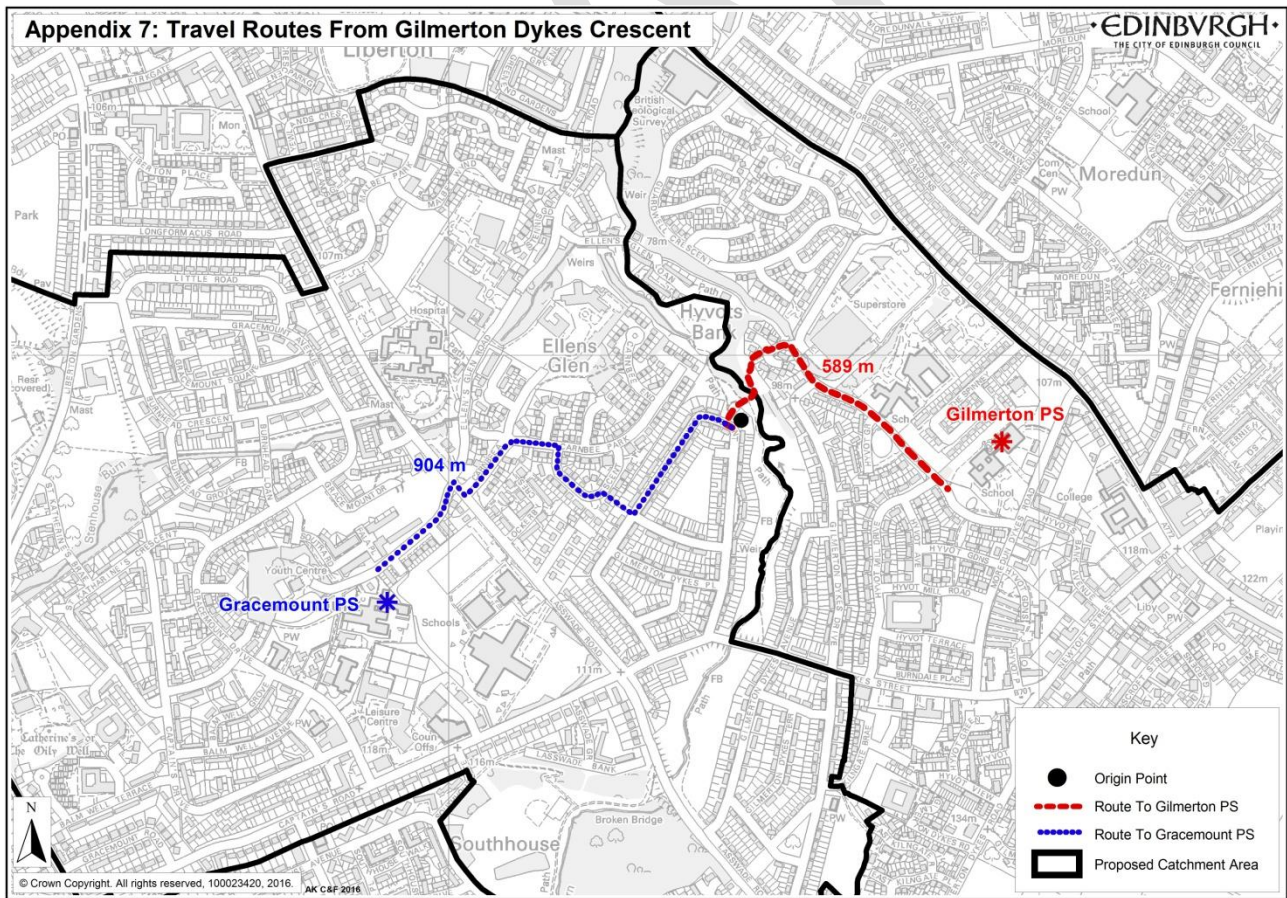
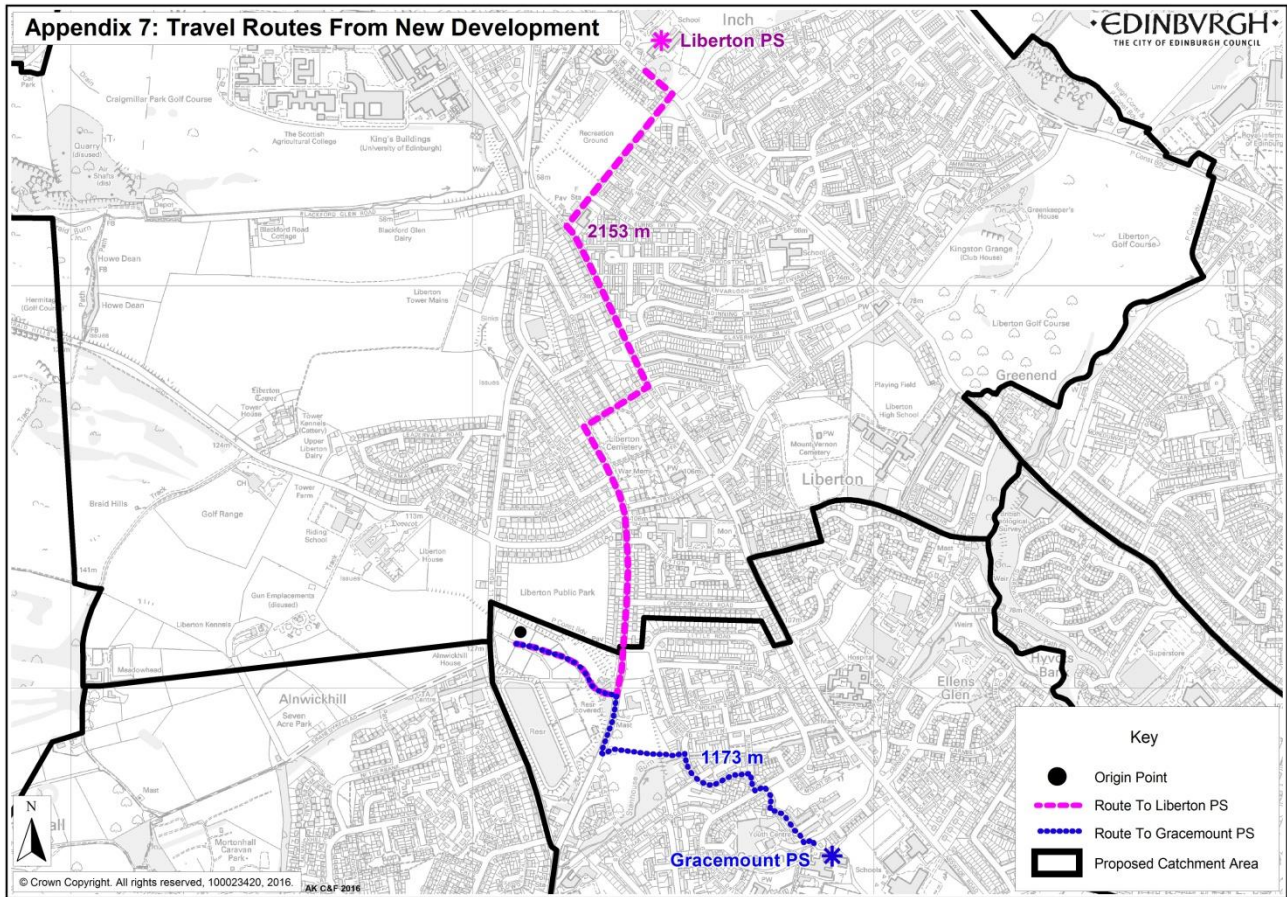
# APPENDIX 6 - Number of Pupils within Areas Affected (September 2016)



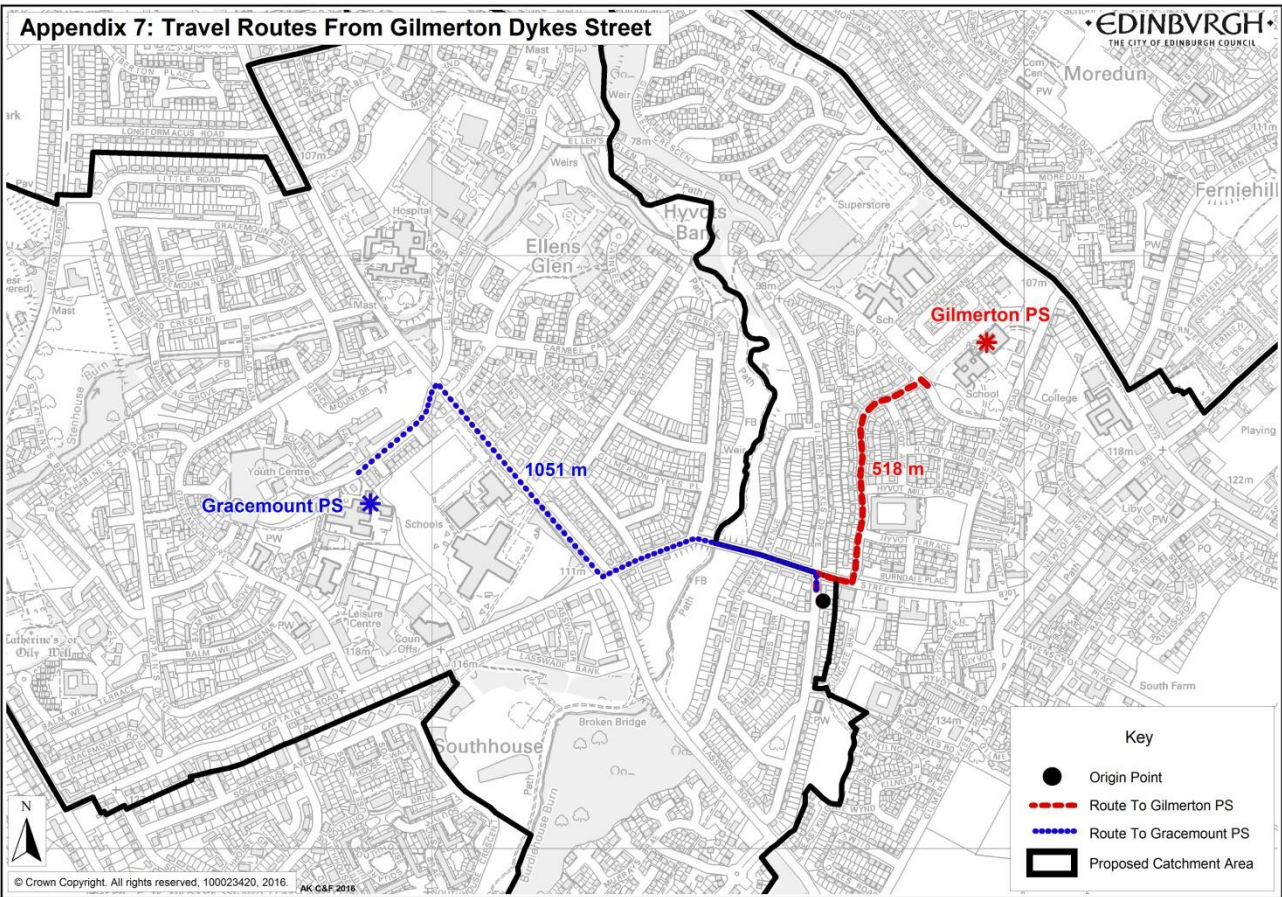
# APPENDIX 7 - Travel Routes and Distances







# Appendix 7: Travel Routes From Gilmerton Dykes Street



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## APPENDIX 8 - Attainment and Achievement Information for Primary Schools

With the introduction of the Curriculum of Excellence (CfE), there is no one national measure of attainment for primary schools. However, The City of Edinburgh Council uses standardised assessments to report on attainment/improvements in performance for its primary schools and pupils.

Standardised assessments are age-based, professional educational tools that have been used for many years as part of the overall assessment picture in schools. They produce a standard score for each pupil and a mean standardised score for each year group.

In Edinburgh, for each school, data has been collected at the end of each level: i.e. Early (end of P1); First (end of P4) and; Second (end of P7) in Languages and Mathematics. The information is used by schools as part of the wider assessment picture to make evaluations about improvements in performance. The latest standardised assessment data (mean standard scores) for the primary schools involved in this statutory consultation is provided in the following tables.

**P1 Baseline Literacy**

Primary School	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Gracemount	98	96	91
Gilmerton	97	97	99
Liberton	107	104	100
<i>CEC Average</i>	<i>103</i>	<i>103</i>	<i>103</i>

**P1 Baseline Numeracy**

2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
102	102	101
98	99	103
109	105	103
<i>106</i>	<i>105</i>	<i>106</i>

**P4 Reading**

Primary School	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Gracemount	98	87	89
Gilmerton	91	88	92
Liberton	99	99	95
<i>CEC Average</i>	<i>102</i>	<i>99</i>	<i>100</i>

**P4 Mathematics**

2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
87	81	84
82	82	85
92	89	89
<i>95</i>	<i>94</i>	<i>95</i>

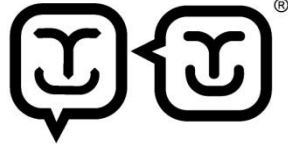
**P7 Reading**

Primary School	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Gracemount	93	95	100
Gilmerton	98	95	93
Liberton	95	100	107
<i>CEC Average</i>	<i>101</i>	<i>104</i>	<i>106</i>

**P7 Mathematics**

2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
83	84	86
86	85	79
86	90	97
<i>94</i>	<i>95</i>	<i>96</i>





## HAPPY TO TRANSLATE

ترجمے کے لئے حاضر آماندےر سے آنوباد کررر

بسعءنا ءوفیر ءرءمة MOŻEMY PRZETŁUMACZYĆ 很樂意翻譯

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