

# Education, Children and Families Committee

10:00, Tuesday, 13 October 2020

## Outcome of the consultation process for the naming of the new Castlebrae Community High School building

Executive/routine  
Wards  
Council Commitments

### 1. Recommendations

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1.1 The Education, Children and Families Committee is asked to:

- 1.1.1 Note the outcomes of the consultation process undertaken and approve that Castlebrae Community High School be named simply “Castlebrae” following the completion of the new school building.



**Alistair Gaw**

Executive Director of Communities and Families

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## Outcome of the consultation process for the naming of the new Castlebrae Community High School building

### 2. Executive Summary

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- 2.1 A replacement building for the existing Castlebrae Community High School is under construction. The original scheduled completion date was August 2021 although this has now been delayed by approximately six months due to the Covid-19 pandemic.
- 2.2 As part of the design process, consultation took place with the school and wider community and key partners, to establish the preferred option for the name of the new building. The outcome of this consultation was majority support for retaining the name “Castlebrae”.

### 3. Background

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- 3.1 The project to replace Castlebrae Community High School’s building has been in development since Council approved the allocation of funding for design work in its capital programme in February 2013. The replacement school building has been a priority in the Council’s WAVE4 programme and has subsequently secured funding and progressed to construction.
- 3.2 Castlebrae Community High School holds a significant and important place in the Craigmillar Community and has faced a variety of difficult circumstances, including the threat of closure, over its more recent history. Negative perceptions and associations have hindered the school, as it struggled to tackle low attendance and attainment figures within an area often unfortunately defined deprivation data.
- 3.3 Since August 2014, under the current leadership and in the context of the ongoing regeneration of Craigmillar, Castlebrae’s roll has trebled and the positive destinations, attendance and attainment of the young people have improved significantly.

### 4. Main report

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- 4.1 The Background section above sets the context and touches on the sensitivities within which the possibility of renaming the school was considered. It was decided, with the approval of key stakeholders and Ward Councillors to survey the community based around two statements which essentially requested those

responding to indicate whether they wished to retain the name of Castlebrae or change to a new name. These two statements are set out in Appendix 1.

- 4.2 A variety of methods were used to collate data from January 2020, including an electronic survey promoted through social media and engagement with cluster Primary schools. The data was then collated at the survey's closing date of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020 into a Spreadsheet (see Appendix 2) which detailed the findings.
- 4.3 In summary, 59% of the 468 pupils, staff, parents and local residents who responded to the consultation voted to keep the name "Castlebrae".

## **5. Next Steps**

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- 5.1 The Design Team for the new build have indicated that it would be preferable to confirm the outcome of this consultation as soon as possible, so that the pricing of relevant signage can be determined.
- 5.2 In keeping with the strategy for new school buildings to fully realise their potential as community assets for Lifelong Learning, the proposal would be for the building to be simply referred to as 'Castlebrae' (in much the same way as 'The Waid' in Fife is named, without any other defining context to ensure the building is viewed as a more 'open' Community resource).

## **6. Financial impact**

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- 6.1 There are no significant financial impacts identified, although retaining the current name would clearly have a beneficial financial impact for the school as some resources showing the Castlebrae name would be transferrable.

## **7. Stakeholder/Community Impact**

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- 7.1 Given the wide-ranging engagement with key stakeholders and the community and the clear result of surveys in favour of retaining the name of "Castlebrae", there will be a positive impact if the recommendations of this report are upheld.

## **8. Background Reading**

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N/A

## **9. Appendices**

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- 9.1 Appendix 1 Survey Question for the future name of the new Castlebrae
- 9.2 Appendix 2 Collated data from Community Surveys

APPENDIX 1: Survey Question for the future name of the new Castlebrae

# CASTLEBRAE



FOCUS · RESPECT · INTEGRITY · PERSEVERANCE

## A New Castlebrae... A New Name?

### STATEMENT A

I think the new school building **should have a new name** as it will be a new school in a different location. It will provide the opportunity for a fresh start and for the Community to rename their brand new facility.

### STATEMENT B

I think the new school building **should keep the name of Castlebrae**. The name has a strong place in the community and there is pride in how much the school has improved and grown over recent years.

Which statement do you most agree with?

**A**

**B**



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**APPENDIX 2: Collated data from Community Surveys**

	<b>Keep Castlebrae</b>	<b>New Name</b>
<b>Twitter Poll</b>	19	9
<b>Parents' Evening Returns</b>	24	20
<b>Primary Pupils</b>	160	106
<b>S Monkey</b>	73	57
<b>Total</b>	276	192
		468
<b>Keep Castlebrae</b>	<b>New Name</b>	
59%	41%	

