

## ITEM No ...5.....

**REPORT TO:** CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SERVICES COMMITTEE – 23 JANUARY 2023

**REPORT ON:** PROPOSED WESTERN GATEWAY PRIMARY SCHOOL WITH NURSERY CLASS AND ARDLER PRIMARY SCHOOL CATCHMENT CHANGE - OUTCOME OF THE FORMAL CONSULTATION PROCESS

**REPORT BY:** EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SERVICE

**REPORT NO:** 21-2023

### **1 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

This report contains the formal Consultation Report, in terms of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, on the following proposal: Establishment of a new Primary School with Nursery Class within the Western Gateway of Dundee and proposal to vary admission arrangements through the revision of Ardler Primary School catchment area to establish a catchment area for the new school.

### **2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that Children and Families Services Committee:

- a notes the contents of this report;
- b notes the accompanying Consultation Report, including the report by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education (HMIE)/Education Scotland on the proposal;
- c approve the establishment of a new primary school with nursery class within the Western Gateway;
- d approve a revision to the catchment area of Ardler Primary School to create a catchment area for the new school;
- e instructs the Executive Director to ensure a Project Board is established consulting with stakeholders on the building, vision, values and aims, improvement planning, pupil transition and the identity of the new campus;
- f instructs the Executive Director to ensure a clear travel plan is collaboratively developed for the new school and also agree any action that will be required to upgrade current routes to school;
- g instructs the Executive Director to consider the creation of the new cohort of children in advance of the school building being completed and where relevant develop an agreed strategy to support the transition and establishment of the new school in conjunction with and accommodated by an existing school within the locality; and
- h instructs the Executive Director to proceed with the proposals.

### **3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 3.1 The estimated capital cost of a new building is £21.8m and this is reflected within the Capital Plan 2023-28. It is expected that the Scottish Government provide funding through their Learning Estate Strategy that will contribute towards the 50% of the overall cost and the balance will be met from borrowing and developer contributions. The revenue costs associated with the running of the new school have yet to be determined but will be reflected in the Council's Revenue Budget in later years.

### **4 BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 Dundee's Council Plan (2017-22) outlines a strong commitment to establishing strong and safe communities and extending community access to a range of cultural, learning, leisure and sport services. The creation of a new primary within the West of Dundee will provide rich opportunities for children to engage in a range of cultural, learning, leisure and sporting activities within their immediate locality, adding to the strength and vibrancy of the community.

- 4.2 The plan for the establishment of the primary school with nursery class sits within the wider Dundee City Council Capital Investment Strategy, which makes recommendations regarding future work-streams and policies required to deliver the overall Learning Estate Strategic Plan.
- 4.3 Investment in the Learning Estate improves educational benefits for children and young people and increases opportunities for the wider communities. In terms of the School Estate, recent approvals have enabled us to embark upon wider consultation on the development and delivery of community assets, an approach which will see learning estate playing a more integral part within its community.
- 4.4 Accommodation will endorse and extend established educational experiences. It would be our intention to learn from current engagements and expand opportunities enabling wider access to facilities and supporting the flexibility of service delivery.
- 4.5 Promotion of active travel by reducing the pupil journey to school by providing education facilities closer to home could positively impact on the health and wellbeing of families as well as decreasing our carbon footprint.
- 4.6 The opportunity exists to expand our integrated community approach whilst also increasing learning opportunities and partnership working to support families and young people with complex additional support needs.
- 4.7 At its meeting held on Monday 27 June 2022 the Children and Families Services Committee (Article IV of the minute refers), instructed the Executive Director to formally consult on the establishment of a new Primary School with Nursery Class within the Western Gateway of Dundee and proposal to vary admission arrangements through the revision of Ardler Primary School catchment area to establish a catchment area for the new school, in terms of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 and report back the outcome of the consultations to committee in due course.
- 4.8 The formal consultation on the proposal ran from 22 August to 30 September 2022. Details of the consultation were notified in writing to stakeholders and on the council's website, responses were invited in either written or electronic format. As part of its arrangements for consulting on the proposal, the council held public meetings on 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> September 2022.
- 4.9 During the consultation period, the council received three written responses from four consultees to the proposal. Their views are captured within the consultation report.
- 4.10 A copy of the consultation report is attached as Appendix 1, within that is a copy of the report by Education Scotland and copies of the notes of the meetings held during the consultation period.

## **5 SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT LEARNING ESTATE INVESTMENT PROGRAMME (LEIP) PHASE THREE**

- 5.1 It is anticipated that the Scottish Government will announce the projects which would be included within phase three of the LEIP towards the end of January 2023, a funding bid related to the Western Gateway Primary School with Nursery class was submitted to the LEIP in October 2022.
- 5.2 The funding model of the LEIP is based on up front Local Authority capital borrowing. Successful submissions to the LEIP receive ongoing revenue support to maintain the condition of buildings from Scottish Government. The premise of the funding is on a 50:50 'like for like' basis and dependent on achieving certain conditions and outcomes over a 25- year period.
- 5.3 Consistent with the Scottish Government's learning estate strategy, the Learning Estate Investment Programme (LEIP) is designed to deliver high quality, suitable, sustainable, low carbon, digitally enabled learning environments. The primary school will be designed to comply with the area and cost guidance metrics published by Scottish Futures Trust (SFT).

## **6 APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSAL**

- 6.1 All stakeholders who met with HM Inspectors agreed with both aspects of the proposal. Stakeholders recognise the range of advantages a new purpose-built school would bring for learners in terms of digital learning, specialist ASN provision, flexible learning spaces and accommodation accessible by the community. Stakeholders did not raise any concerns regarding the catchment change for Ardler Primary School and could see the benefits of more active travel opportunities arising as a result of the proposals, particularly for families living within the Western Gateway. Consultees acknowledged the community benefits arising from access to facilities within their locality during the day and beyond school opening hours. Should the proposals be approved work and engagement with Stakeholders will assist in providing an appropriate design and layout to facilitate this. A few stakeholders expressed concern about traffic and transport infrastructure within the newly proposed catchment area, work will be required to understand the implications of this through a transport assessment should the proposals go ahead.

## **7 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 This report has been subject to the Pre-IIA Screening Tool and does not make any recommendations for change to strategy, policy, procedures, services or funding and so has not been subject to an Integrated Impact Assessment. An appropriate senior manager has reviewed and agreed with this assessment.

## **8 CONSULTATIONS**

- 8.1 The Council Leadership Team were consulted in the preparation of this report.

## **9 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 9.1 None.

Audrey May  
Executive Director of Children and Families Service

Gordon Laidlaw  
Education Officer

January 2023

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## DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL

## CONSULTATION REPORT

**Establishment of a new Primary School with Nursery Class within the Western Gateway of Dundee and proposal to vary admission arrangements through the revision of Ardler Primary School catchment area to establish a catchment area for the new school.**

This Consultation Report is available on the Dundee City Council website – <https://www.dundee.gov.uk/school-learning-estate-formal-consultation> - and also in printed form from affected schools or at a public library or some other suitable place within the vicinity of the school.

**1 BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 Minute of the Meeting of the Children and Families Services Committee held on Monday 27 June 2022, instructed the Executive Director to formally consult on the above proposal in terms of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 and report back the outcome of the consultations to committee in due course.
- 1.2 The proposal is to establish a new primary school with nursery class within the Western Gateway of Dundee. Currently the area which the primary school will be located is within the catchment area of Ardler Primary School. It is proposed that this catchment area will be changed to create a separate catchment area for the new school, whilst retaining a reduced catchment area for Ardler Primary School.
- 1.3 A number of educational benefits were identified as part of this proposal:
  - 1.3.1 Dundee's Council Plan (2017-22) outlines a strong commitment to establishing strong and safe communities and extending community access to a range of cultural, learning, leisure and sport services. The creation of a new primary within the West of Dundee will provide rich opportunities for children to engage in a range of cultural, learning, leisure and sporting activities within their immediate locality, adding to the strength and vibrancy of the community.
  - 1.3.2 The new school will accommodate up to approximately 520 primary and nursery aged children.
  - 1.3.3 The delivery model will reflect the Local Authority commitment to offer the 1140-hour flexible, high quality early learning and childcare provision.
  - 1.3.4 The new nursery provision will be designed to meet the unique early learning and childcare entitlements of children aged 2-5. The design will include a range of flexible spaces for children.
  - 1.3.5 It will provide an attractive, high quality and stimulating environment that offers a variety of contexts for learning both indoors and outdoors.
  - 1.3.6 Carefully designed spaces for families and professionals to meet together will enhance early learning experiences for children and help children and families reach their full potential, welcoming and fully involving families in the life of the school.
  - 1.3.7 Consistent with the new learning estate, the creation of a digital learning environment with improved technology will support learning and promote children's engagement in learning experiences, consequently the environment in its entirety will positively impact on the motivation, behaviour, health and wellbeing, aspirations and potential outcomes of the children.
  - 1.3.8 Thoughtfully designed spaces will better support children with additional support needs, keeping them with their peer group and supporting these children and families within their catchment and community. Where relevant, the school will promote opportunities for effective

integrated working with other services and partner agencies to provide support to children and families.

- 1.3.9 The benefits arising from these proposals are those associated with efficient management of the school estate.
- 1.3.10 We seek to ensure that Ardler Primary School and the New Western Gateway Primary School have a viable and sustainable pupil roll and that effective teacher staffing levels are allocated and maintained, led by a range of promoted teaching staff and where appropriate, children will be able to learn within a variety of peer group opportunities.
- 1.3.11 Promotion of active travel by reducing the pupil journey to school by providing education provision closer to home could positively impact on the environment and health and wellbeing of families due to the geographical location of the proposed provision.
- 1.3.12 The proposal provides those purchasing homes within the current and future developments in the area greater certainty and accessibility of early years and primary provision within the locality.
- 1.3.13 The existing and proposed catchment areas of the Dundee City Council schools in this proposal paper form part of the catchment area of Baldragon Academy. The Headteachers of the current associated feeder primaries work closely together and meet on a regular basis to plan shared developments and to carry forward joint shared improvement priorities along with the Headteacher from Baldragon Academy. This is good practice and would continue in the future.
- 1.3.14 The proposal will mean that Ardler Primary School roll will over time potentially plateau once the new school is operational, this could allow for more flexibility within the schools use of accommodation.
- 1.3.15 Should accommodation within the school become available, this opportunity may allow the possibility of provision such as:
  - a A community room and an area suitable to accommodate an out of hours club;
  - b Space to enable engagement in activities related to family support;
  - c Accommodation to support effective integrated working with other services and partner agencies; and
  - d More learning spaces for children and young people could provide opportunities to widen or vary classroom experiences.
- 1.4 As a result of the committee decision, the Executive Director carried out the consultation procedures in terms of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 in respect of the proposal. The consultation programme is detailed in paragraph 2.1 below, and a summary of the main points raised is set out in section 3.
- 1.5 A report from Education Scotland is required under the terms of the Act to address the educational aspects of the proposal. The report is attached as Appendix 1.
  - 1.5.1 The report states that, "*the proposal has the potential to bring clear educational benefits for the children and wider community in the area. Should the proposal go ahead, the council should continue to work with all stakeholders to agree the specification and design of the new school. The council also needs to ensure that all safety issues relating to travel are fully considered as it develops its final report. Finally, it needs to agree with stakeholders how and when the new school will be opened to local children.*"
  - 1.5.2 All stakeholders who met with HM Inspectors agreed with both aspects of the proposal. Stakeholders recognise the range of advantages a new purpose-built school would bring for learners in terms of digital learning, specialist ASN provision, flexible learning spaces and accommodation accessible by the community. Stakeholders did not raise any concerns regarding the catchment change for Ardler Primary school and could see the benefits of more active travel opportunities arising as a result of the proposals, particularly for families living

within the Western Gateway. Consultees acknowledged the community benefits arising from access to facilities within their locality during the day as well as opportunities of evening and weekend access beyond school opening hours. Should the proposals be approved work and engagement with Stakeholders will assist in providing an appropriate design and layout to facilitate this. A few stakeholders expressed concern about traffic and transport infrastructure within the newly proposed catchment area, work will be required to understand the implications of this through a transport assessment, should the proposals go ahead.

- 1.5.3 The Executive Director has carefully considered the implications arising from stakeholders from the consultation process and the Education Scotland report - in particular, where the report highlights specific issues raised during the consultation period. It should be noted that the report and the general response to the proposal was positive. Having reviewed the proposal in light of the representations and the Education Scotland report, it is clear that any highlighted issues were either identified in the proposal or are referred to directly in this consultation report. The establishment of a Project Board to oversee the development of the new campus model will ensure their direct contribution from the concept design stage through to the project completion. This will reflect and address issues raised in relation to the nature of the accommodation and the design brief; parking and traffic arrangements; the management of shared facilities and the need to create the unique identity of the new establishment.

## **2 CONSULTATION**

- 2.1 Consultation was undertaken between 22 August to 30 September 2022.

The formal consultation procedure included:

- a giving notice of the proposals to the Parent Council of the affected schools (19 August 2022);
  - b giving notice of the proposals to the parents of pupils at the affected schools, and the parents of pupils expected to attend the affected schools within two years of the date of publication of the proposal paper (19 August 2022);
  - c giving notice of the proposals to the pupils at the affected schools (19 August 2022);
  - d giving notice of the proposals to the staff at the affected schools (19 August 2022);
  - e giving notice of the proposals to Trades Unions representing staff at the affected schools (19 August 2022);
  - f giving notice of the proposals to relevant Community (19 August 2022);
  - g giving notice of the proposal to Local Community Planning Partnerships (19 August 2022);
  - h publication of the proposal on the Dundee City Council website (22 August 2022);
  - i an announcement of the proposal in the local press and relevant social media, inviting any person to make written representation to the Executive Director (22 August 2022); and
  - j public meetings in the local area (13 & 20 September 2022).
- 2.2 A summary note of all meetings held during the consultation period outlining questions asked is attached as Appendix 2 and the Children and Families Service responses have been added.
- 2.3 Visual and written descriptions of the proposed new boundaries are outlined in Appendix 3.
- 2.4 Three representations were received on the proposal during the consultation period. Two responses were mainly positive and approved of the proposals, however, one respondent raised concern about increased traffic, infrastructure and wildlife. A thematic summary of written submissions received is attached as Appendix 4.
- 2.5 In accordance with the Schools Consultation (Scotland) Act 2010, copies of all written representations and 'Frequently Asked Questions/Comments' were required to be submitted to Education Scotland for their consideration in the preparation of their report.

### **3 MAIN ISSUES ARISING FROM THE CONSULTATION, WITH RESPONSES**

3.1 The main issues of note arising from the consultation were:

- *Traffic and transport infrastructure including footpath upgrades, safe routes and active travel;*
- *Impact upon existing wildlife;*
- *Funding;*
- *Accessible facilities promoting community, healthy living and fitness;*
- *Transition support for children from Western Gateway who decide to move to the new school;*
- *The school Identity, name and uniform;*

#### **3.1.1 Traffic and transport infrastructure including footpath upgrades, safe routes/active travel**

A number of responses received raised concerns around travel to school and the infrastructure related to a new school. This included the potential problems created by increased traffic creating congestion on local roads and what measures will be taken to mitigate these issues.

*Transport infrastructure in new developments is planned in accordance with design principles which aim to prioritise active and sustainable transport journeys over private car use.*

*This includes road layouts designed to reduce vehicle speeds while accommodating all forms of transport. The proposal will include active travel routes to the school which will form part of the school's travel plan, and will be designed to provide the most accessible means of travelling to school for the community.*

*The requirements of transport provision at the new school will be determined by way of a Transport Assessment which forms part of the planning process. The Transport Assessment will model journey numbers related to the development and determine the optimum provision to achieve a balance of accessibility for all, and incentivisation of sustainable transport.*

#### **3.1.2 Impact upon existing wildlife**

Concern was expressed regarding the impact upon the wildlife in the area as a result of the redevelopment within the area and school site.

*Contractors are sensitive to the wildlife around a building area, prior to construction, appropriate assessments are undertaken to manage any adverse impact. There are also limitations upon what work can be undertaken during certain wildlife seasons. During design and construction, improvements to greenspace will be considered.*

#### **3.1.3 Funding**

Clarity was requested regarding the council's position in relation to the funding of the new school.

*The Council has applied for funding support from the Scottish Futures Trust and Scottish Government within Phase 3 of the Learning Estate Investment programme. It is hoped that confirmation regarding funding support will be announced prior to papers being taken to committee in January 2023. We believe the proposal for a new school meets all of their criteria, and appropriate due diligence has been undertaken to demonstrate how that criteria would be met within the councils funding application.*

*Funding from the Scottish Government would support 50% of the total budget for a new school. The remaining funding will be provided from the developer contributions from homeowners and by Dundee City Council.*

#### **3.1.4 Accessible facilities promoting community, healthy living and fitness**

A number of consultees express a desire for the school to have community facilities and access to leisure and recreation facilities.

*Community campus provisions have demonstrated that they are more than just a school and are a focal point within the heart of the community. If the proposal is accepted, development work will be undertaken to provide a new school based upon Children and Families Services 365 school's strategy. All schools already provide facilities which support health and wellbeing of children, our strategy widens access to this resource to parents/carers and the wider, community. Council staff and partners will engage with young people in the creation of a unique community asset delivering relevant education and services provision.*

*It is essential that the community are involved in the design and development of the building accommodation and its function to maximise the opportunities to deliver existing and evolving support networks throughout the day.*

#### **3.1.5 Transition support for children from Western Gateway who decide to move to the new school**

Consultees raised concerns regarding the transition of pupils to the new school and what support will be put in place by Children and Families service to facilitate this. What measures would be put in place to reduce anxieties around this. This is covered within the consultation proposal paper within section 1.7.16 to 1.7.19

A few issues were also raised regarding what planning would be put in place prior to the school opening and if any there has been any consideration to bringing together cohorts in advance of the school opening.

*We will need to look at transition arrangements for every child and circumstance. Children and Families Service will work with families to see what will work best for them. Should the proposal go ahead, we could look at building a community prior to the new school being opened. There are models which have been tried and tested within other Local Authorities and we will use such approaches to inform any strategy which may be developed.*

*The council still needs to agree how and when the school will be opened to local children. Should the proposal be agreed an appropriate timeline in relation to this will be developed and information in relation to relevant milestones and engagements will be communicated to stakeholders.*

#### **3.1.6 The school identity, name and uniform**

A number of questions were asked around what work would be undertaken to ensure all relevant stakeholders have the opportunity to contribute to the development of the new school identity, name and uniform.

*The project team and officers across the city would utilise their previous experience gained from successfully bringing together new primary and secondary school communities and supporting the development of new visions, values and aims.*

*Children from the Western Gateway community attending local schools expressed a genuine interest in contributing to the layout of the school. During the consultation they provided helpful insight in regarding to adjacencies of areas and mentioned the good and bad points of their existing accommodation. We would of course involve them in the design development discussions. There would be regular scheduled opportunities with all involved and decisions on key features would be taken within a spirit of transparency and openness.*

*Throughout the project, regular consultation would take place regarding any emerging issues and where appropriate, the community and children would be involved in contributing to the evolving identity of the school design, name, uniform and any relevant policies. Creative approaches would be used to support this, such as local artists who could contribute to the development of a new badge with the children. It would be intended that the new HT would be appointed a number of months prior to the opening of the school to lead on aspects of the above proposed development and would be involved in appointing the senior leadership team and other school staff. It would be Children and Families Services intention to work closely with the staff, pupils and parents to ensure their voices are included in the process.*

#### **4 THE SCHOOL PREMISES (GENERAL REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 1967**

- 4.1 The proposal meets the requirements of the above Act and, accordingly, the Executive Director is not required to apply to Scottish Ministers for dispensation from the standards.

#### **5 CONCLUSION AND NEXT STEPS**

- 5.1 Having reviewed the Education Scotland Report and looked at the consultation responses in detail including those issues raised at the public meetings, it is recommended that the proposal should go forward.
- 5.2 Further detail in relation to how and when the school will open to children will be developed over the coming months, should the proposal be agreed. Within this work, consideration will be given to the creation of the new cohort of children in advance of the school building being completed. This will be dependent upon the agreed strategy to support the transition and establishment of the new school and if this can be developed in conjunction with and accommodated by an existing school within the locality.
- 5.3 Work will be undertaken with stakeholders to help inform the brief and design of the school.
- 5.4 Should the project go ahead, a full transport assessment will identify travel and traffic issues associated with the new site and will focus on improving walking and cycling routes to the school. Suitable infrastructure will be proposed and stakeholders will be consulted on designs, a travel plan will also be developed for the new school.

**Audrey May**  
**Executive Director of Children and Families Service**

**December 2022**



# **Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010**

**Report by Education Scotland addressing educational aspects of the proposal by Dundee City Council to establish a new primary school with nursery class within the Western Gateway of Dundee and revise the Ardler Primary School catchment area to establish a catchment area for the new school.**

October 2022

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## **1 Introduction**

- 1.1 This report from Education Scotland has been prepared by His Majesty's Inspectors of Education (HM Inspectors) in accordance with the terms of the [Schools \(Consultation\) \(Scotland\) Act 2010](#) ("the 2010 Act"). The purpose of the report is to provide an independent and impartial consideration of Dundee City Council's proposal to establish a new primary school with nursery class within the Western Gateway of Dundee and revise the Ardler Primary School catchment area to establish a catchment area for the new school. Section 2 of the report sets out brief details of the consultation process. Section 3 of the report sets out HM Inspectors' consideration of the educational aspects of the proposal, including significant views expressed by consultees.

Section 4 summarises HM Inspectors' overall view of the proposal. Upon receipt of this report, the Act requires the council to consider it and then prepare its final consultation report. The council's final consultation report should include this report and must contain an explanation of how, in finalising the proposal, it has reviewed the initial proposal, including a summary of points raised during the consultation process and the council's response to them. The council has to publish its final consultation report three weeks before it takes its final decision.

- 1.2 HM Inspectors considered:

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

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

- a attendance at the public meetings held on 13 and 20 September 2022 in connection with the council's proposals;
- b consideration of all relevant documentation provided by the council in relation to the proposal, specifically the educational benefits statement and related consultation documents, written and oral submissions from parents and others; and
- c visits to the site of Liff Primary School, Invergowrie Primary School and Ardler Primary School, including discussion with relevant consultees.

## **2 Consultation Process**

- 2.1 Dundee City Council undertook the consultation on its proposal(s) with reference to the [Schools \(Consultation\) \(Scotland\) Act 2010](#).

- 2.2 The consultation period ran from 22 August 2022 to 30 September 2022. Public meetings were held on 13 September 2022 in Ardler Primary School and on 20 September 2022 at the Landmark Hotel, Dundee. There were no members of the public in attendance at the first meeting and approximately 45 members of the public at the second meeting. The council also held meetings for children in Ardler, Invergowrie and Liff Primary Schools, for staff and parents in Ardler Primary School and for communities in Lochee, Strathmartine and the Western Gateway. Members of the public were encouraged to respond to the consultation by email, either to the address given on the council website or directly to the Director of Education. Three written responses were received. There is general support for the proposal across all groups of stakeholders.

### **3 Educational Aspects of Proposal**

- 3.1 The council believes that the creation of a new primary within the West of Dundee will provide rich opportunities for children to engage in a range of cultural, learning, leisure and sporting activities within their immediate locality, adding to the strength and vibrancy of the community. HM Inspectors agree that there is a significant potential benefit to the Western Gateway community of having a local school for children to attend. Currently, children from this area attend schools across three different local authorities. The council still needs to agree how and when the school will be opened to local children.
- 3.2 The council sees further educational benefit in the promotion of active travel by reducing the pupil journey to school. It thinks that providing education provision closer to home could positively impact on the environment and health and wellbeing of families due to the geographical location of the proposed provision. HM Inspectors agree that there is potential educational benefit in reducing the journey distance and time to school. At present many children are taken to school by car and taxi. Having a local school will encourage children walking, cycling and scooting to get there. However, the council needs to ensure that all safety issues relating to travel are fully considered as it develops its final report.
- 3.3 The council also feels that there is educational benefit in the new school providing an attractive, high quality and stimulating environment . The new building should offer a variety of contexts for learning both indoors and outdoors, supported by improved technology. It should further enhance early learning experiences for children, welcoming and fully involving families in the life of the school. The council believes that such an environment will better support children with additional support needs. The council also thinks it will promote opportunities for effective integrated working with other services and partner agencies to provide support to children and families. The new nursery provision will be designed to meet the unique early learning and childcare entitlements of children aged two to five. It will offer flexible, high quality early learning and childcare provision, including a range of flexible spaces for children. HM Inspectors agree that there is potential educational benefit in providing a modern educational establishment with all of these facilities, whilst noting that much of the specification is yet to be agreed with stakeholders.
- 3.4 All stakeholders who spoke to HM Inspectors are in agreement with the proposal. They have no particular concerns about the proposal but are keen to be involved in discussions as the specifications for the new school are drawn up. Children who spoke to HM Inspectors have clear ideas about the facilities which the new school should have and are mindful of issues relating to traffic and safe routes to school. Staff who spoke to HM Inspectors acknowledged that school rolls are unlikely to be significantly negatively impacted by the building of a new school in the Western Gateway.

### **4 Summary**

- 4.1 HM Inspectors agree that the proposal has the potential to bring clear educational benefits for the children and wider community in the area. Should the proposal go ahead, the council should continue to work with all stakeholders to agree the specification and design of the new school.
- 4.2 The council also needs to ensure that all safety issues relating to travel are fully considered as it develops its final report. Finally, it needs to agree with stakeholders how and when the new school will be opened to local children.

**HM Inspectors  
October 2022**

## APPENDIX 2



### School Estate Proposals

#### FORMAL CONSULTATION ACTIVITY

**Engagement Session with Ardler Primary School staff Venue : Ardler Primary school**

**22<sup>nd</sup> September 3:30pm**

**Officers: Gordon Laidlaw, Education Officer (GL).**

**Other Attendees:** 2 individuals attended the session, those represented were school staff

All conversations during the session took place in relation to Children and Families Service school estate proposal, the formal consultation undertaken between 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2022 to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

#### **Key observations/questions raised:**

Question: Will the school include a nursery or will it be separate?

Answer: Yes the school is proposed to have a nursery for approx. 70 places, this will be integral to the school accommodation and not a separate part or building.

Question: how will the school be staffed?

Answer: Should the proposal be approved, a staffing exercise will be undertaken and steps undertaken to recruit relevant staff at the appropriate time.

Question: Will this be a Dundee school, is this part of the Tri-Council school which was discussed a few years ago.

Answer: Yes this will be a Dundee City Council School, it is not part of the previous Tri-Council proposal. It was agreed as an outcome of the Tri-Council informal consultation that Dundee would consider a primary school for the area, should the Tri-Council school not go ahead.

Question: How long will it take.

Answer: If approval is granted in January 2023, the project should take approximately 3.5 years, with the intended opening in August 2026.

Question: Will the nursery include 2-year olds or just children aged 3-5?

Answer: If there was a need to place a 2 year old at the nursery and the family met the criteria to do so, then a place would be provided.

Observation: We think this is a good idea and see the benefit for these families, it's a shame that the children have to travel so far and don't necessarily live in the same area as their school friends.

Meeting closed at 4:05pm

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## School Estate Proposals

### FORMAL CONSULTATION ACTIVITY

**Engagement Session with Ardler Primary School pupil voice Venue : Ardler Primary school**

**16<sup>th</sup> September 9am**

**Officers: Gordon Laidlaw, Education Officer (GL).**

**Other Attendees:** 5 individuals attended the session, those represented were pupils living in the immediate locality of Ardler primary school and within the Western Gateway.

All conversations during the session took place in relation to Children and Families Service school estate proposal, the formal consultation undertaken between 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2022 to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

#### **Key observations/questions raised:**

GL discussed proposal with HT, she acknowledged that all relevant information had been shared with families and staff, she could see benefits for the proposals.

GL discussed the proposal for the school and what the consultation process involved. He presented two maps, one showing the current catchment area and a second showing the proposed new boundaries. He also showed a drawing of where the school is proposed to be built within the Western Gateway development and a table of projected pupil numbers.

The children noted that independence in travel to school was important to them. They liked having the choice of either biking, walking or getting the car to school, the weather sometimes influenced this. They acknowledged getting to school on time was important to them.

A child from the Western Gateway mentioned they did not have this choice and had to get a taxi every day. This wasn't always reliable and sometimes made them late for school. Taxi takes at least 15 minutes and walking (*from the Western Gateway*) would probably take over an hour compared to friends who just need a couple of minutes.

Children from the Western Gateway would like to be able to walk, bike or scoot to school.

The children highlighted the social benefits of living close to their school and how much they enjoyed playing with the same friends at evenings and weekends in the local area. Children from the Western Gateway highlighted that this was not as easy for them, their friendship groups were limited and they were reliant on parents/carers transporting them to friend houses in order to play. A child observed that children in the Western Gateway go to so many different schools

The Children felt that it would be good to try something new and attend a school in the place they lived with your friend in the area.

All Children felt that the catchment change and new school was a good idea as it was close to where you live, one child mentioned the environmental benefits as you would not need to use buses and cars as much.

Question: Will it be a religious school

Answer: No it will be what's called a non-denominational school, should a family wish their child to attend a denominational school, they can still attend St Fergus, it's their catchment denominational school and that catchment will not change.

Question: Will it have a nursery, the same as here, I went to this nursery.

Answer: Yes, we are proposing a nursery class for the school.

Question: How long will it take

Answer: Approximately 3.5 years

Question: Will it be bigger or smaller than Ardler.

Answer: We are looking to build a two-stream school so each primary stage would have 2 classes, Ardler has 1 class in each stage, so the school will be bigger.

What would you like within a new school

Water fountains.

Lots of different classes and classrooms.

A library with lots of books, we have a library here.

Big windows.

Snacks for people that don't have play piece.

Friendly staff like Ardler.

A lunch hall and learning zones.

A room for clubs.

A big gym.

## School Estate Proposals

### FORMAL CONSULTATION ACTIVITY

**Engagement Session with Ardler Primary School Parent Council Venue : Ardler Primary school**

**21<sup>st</sup> September 6pm**

**Officers: Gordon Laidlaw, Education Officer (GL).**

**Other Attendees: 1, parent council representative**

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the parent council meeting was postponed and re-arranged out with the consultation period. The chair of the parent council agreed to a discussion with Gordon Laidlaw on 29<sup>th</sup> September to provide a view on the proposals.

All conversations during the session took place in relation to Children and Families Service school estate proposal, the formal consultation undertaken between 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2022 to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

#### **Key observations/questions raised:**

There has been no representation made by parents or carers to the parent council in relation to the proposals.

The proposal makes sense for the Western Gateway local community to get a primary school close to where they stay, families currently living in Ardler village see the benefits living close to Ardler primary school. In comparison, Ardler Primary School's location is less accessible for families living in the Western Gateway so they don't get the same benefit of walking to school or accessing the building without traveling 5 or more to it. Liff primary school is close by but of course it is not a Dundee school.

From a western gateway parents' perspective, I imagine it would be great getting a local school and have an opportunity to build a closer community.

We can see how isolating it could be for some children, especially if they don't have the same chance to build up friendship and relationships with other children because their friend lives a few miles away and walking there is a challenge.

The link between Ardler and Baldrigon is very positive, kids get a great experience at both schools.

Question: Does the feeder Secondary remain Baldrigon Academy.

Answer: Yes

Question: It will be a 3<sup>rd</sup> primary school within a small area when you consider Invergowrie and Liff, is this best use of public funds?

Answer: The hope is that the school will be funded through a combination of support from a Scottish Futures Trust bid and the developer contributions paid by residents when they purchased their home,

any further costs will be considered by Dundee City Council. Invergowrie and Liff Primary School are not Dundee schools and we have no say in the enrolment of Dundee children within them.

Question: Will there be other catchment reviews, like Craigowl given it has so many pupils.

Answer: Any further change of Craigowl or any other school catchment area would require a separate proposal. Catchments across the city are regularly looked at to make sure we manage school rolls and capacities appropriately.

## School Estate Proposals

### FORMAL CONSULTATION ACTIVITY

Engagement Session Public Meeting Venue : Ardler Primary school

13<sup>th</sup> September 6pm

**Officers:** Audrey May Executive Director (AM), Paul Fleming Chief Education Office (PF), Gordon Laidlaw Education Officer(GL), Louise Reid HT Ardler Primary School (LR), David Bald HT St Fergus Primary School (DB).

**Other Attendees:** K McAra Education Scotland.

Meeting was closed at 7:25pm, there were no attendees to either the informal session at 6pm or the public meeting at 7pm.

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## School Estate Proposals

### FORMAL CONSULTATION ACTIVITY

**Engagement Session Invergowrie Primary School pupil voice** Venue : Invergowrie Primary School

**16<sup>th</sup> September 11am**

**Officers: Gordon Laidlaw, Education Officer (GL), Linda Rew HT Invergowrie Primary School (LR)**

**Other Attendees:** 6 individuals attended the session, those represented were pupils living in the Invergowrie primary school catchment area or pupils living within the Western Gateway area.

All conversations during the session took place in relation to Children and Families Service school estate proposal, the formal consultation undertaken between 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2022 to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

#### **Key observations/questions raised:**

GL discussed proposal with HT, she acknowledged that all relevant information had been shared and no staff had approached her regarding the proposals.

GL discussed the proposal for the school with the children and what the consultation process involved. He presented two maps, one showing the current catchment area and a second showing the proposed new boundaries. He also showed a drawing of where the school is proposed to be built within the Western Gateway development and a table of projected pupil numbers.

Children mentioned that they liked having the choice of either biking, walking or getting the car to school, the average journey for most was 3-5 minutes. It's nice just to walk and not rely on a parent/carer or someone else driving you to school. They saw the benefits of attending a local primary as they could get regular exercise going to/from school as well as fresh air.

They mentioned the importance of a safe route to school and that going to Invergowrie was a choice because they could not walk to Ardler.

The children saw the proposal as a good idea because everyone in the area could go to the same school and live and play with friends.

They felt that the name and identity for the school was important because it would be their school in their area.

They felt that a local school was important as it helps your learning when you move to the same high school.

The children in attendance saw the proposal as a good idea.

Question: Will you build it soon?

Answer: Hopefully yes, but this all depends on decisions which people make on this consultation. We should know by the end of January, if it's a Yes then we will begin designing it.

Question: Does it have a nursery,

Answer: Yes, we are proposing a nursery class for the school.

Question: Could you go to the same school and nursery.

Answer: Yes, if you live in the Western Gateway catchment area which I showed you in the proposal, you could attend the school. Nurseries don't have catchments; sometimes children attend different nurseries for various reasons.

Question: Will it have different playgrounds.

Answer: We will have an agreed area for playgrounds, we aren't yet at a point of considering what it may look like and it would be the school to decide if they have different areas for children to play.

What would you like within a new school

Computer area.

Gym.

Lots of reading rooms, make sure it's not next to noisy areas so you don't get disturbed.

Music room/space.

Nice teachers.

Lots of help.

A calm space.

Golden time.

Wet playtime area.

## School Estate Proposals

### FORMAL CONSULTATION ACTIVITY

**Engagement Session Liff Primary School pupil voice Venue : Liff Primary School**

**16<sup>th</sup> September 11am**

**Officers: Gordon Laidlaw, Education officer (GL), Katie Milne HT Liff Primary School (KM)**

**Other Attendees:** 6 individuals attended the session, those represented were pupils living in the Liff primary school catchment area or pupils living within the Western Gateway area.

All conversations during the session took place in relation to Children and Families Service school estate proposal, the formal consultation undertaken between 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2022 to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

#### **Key observations/questions raised:**

GL discussed proposal with HT, she acknowledged that all relevant information had been shared and no staff had approached her regarding the proposals, she also acknowledge that a number of Dundee children currently attend her school.

GL discussed the proposal for the school with the children and what the consultation process involved. He presented two maps, one showing the current catchment area and a second showing the proposed new boundaries. He also showed a drawing of where the school is proposed to be built within the Western Gateway development and a table of projected pupil numbers.

The children saw the proposal as positive, they mentioned that they currently benefited from attending a local school and enjoyed learning with their friends. They like the idea of lots of space to play and were keen to know what they school might look like inside and out.

They suggested it would be better to have the new school as it would be closer for the children living in the Western Gateway area and they would have less of a walk to school.

It would also mean that there would be less cars and buses so safer for the children and create less gas which pollutes the atmosphere.

They all enjoy having the opportunity to skate, rollerblade, cycle, walk or scoot to school either by themselves or with friends.

All children mentioned as they get older they like the independence and responsibility of getting themselves to school as well as going out to play with friends.

They said they would feel sad if they couldn't play with their friends and see them when they wanted outside of schools, friends that go to the same school makes this easier as they live next door.

The children asked if it would be a similar school to Liff, to which I replied similar in some ways but it would be a new building with a lot more pupils.

The pupils said they were looking forward to a new school being built and would be keen to have discussion about it might be like.

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## School Estate Proposals

### FORMAL CONSULTATION ACTIVITY

**Engagement Session Public Meeting Venue : Landmark Hotel, Dundee  
20<sup>th</sup> September 6pm**

**Officers: Audrey May Executive Director (AM), Paul Fleming Chief Education Office (PF), Pam Nesbitt Education Manager (PM) (minute taker), Gordon Laidlaw Education Officer (GL).**

**Other Attendees: K McAra Education Scotland, Andrea McMillan Education Scotland. Approx. 45 individuals attended the session, those represented were parents/ carers/residents within Denhead of Gray/Western Gateway and members of general public.**

All conversations during the session took place in relation to Children and Families Service school estate proposal, the formal consultation undertaken between 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2022 to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

#### **Key observations/questions raised:**

GL gave a presentation to provide information in relation to the proposals and the floor was opened to questions.

Feedback during the informal session and from the floor during the public meeting suggested support for the proposals.

#### **Question: What is the proposal for the new school – flexibility in capacity?**

Answer: GL -School is being built working on the basis a percentage of capacity. School is being built for growth – this is a key part of the proposal and bid to Scottish Futures Trust. Growth in the city for projected population growth. Two streamed school with Nursery class proposed catering for between 450-500 young people.

#### **Question: School on site with parking but road network is already busy and how will people get there?**

Answer: GL - If proposal is successful then a transport plan has to be in place to support the proposal – a transport assessment will be required – may include traffic calming. Not part of consultation exercise, need to know proposal is approved and then transport will be part of design, consultation and planning applications and process.

AM -Children & Families Service work closely with City Development re transport issues and there is a parallel piece of work going on alongside the plans for the development of a new school. Doesn't sit with our service.

#### **Question: Will there be drop off points provided?**

Answer: GL -Not able to determine if drop off points will be provided as part of the 5.2 acre footprint.

There was a query re whether this will eat into the planning for the 5-acre build.

#### **Question: If agreed, when will planning department determine the timeline for the build and transport assessment?**

Answer: GL - Normally provide a lead in time of 3 and a half years to deliver school, which allows for work such as transport/road infrastructure and proposals for any developments required for transport.

AM - Can't give guarantees re timescales for another department but we work in tandem with other departments. Discussions are happening now and it is part of our proposed timescale for delivery as we work together to deliver the school. We have made a commitment.

**Question: Will there be community use for the school – rooms and space?**

Answer: GL - This has formed part of the consultation and this can be considered. There can be options for community use – we would welcome your views in relation to this.

**Question: Does this depend on letting policies?**

Answer: Yes, this will be no different from any other school with current community use.

It was noted that at the other end of the city we are building the East End Community Campus – purpose-built school with community use. Facilities will be available for community use and we are looking at letting policy to facilitate this.

AM welcomed views of what consultees would like to see incorporated into the community use of the new building.

**Community group have a survey open – seeking ideas for the new school so please access this.**

Not all members of the community receive this or can access this but it can be made more widely available.

**Question: Is there a school all children could go to first before moving into the new school?**

Answer: GL -It is not beyond possibility as it has happened elsewhere.

AM - We will need to look at transition arrangements for every child and circumstance. Will be in line with parental choice of school. We will work with you to see what will work best for you. We could look at building a community prior to the new school being opened. Was tested in another Local Authority with a new build but with Secondary pupils, Models can be looked at – Fife model mentioned.

**Query re 2 year old places?**

Answer: AM - Led by national policy – 2 year old places are through targeted assessment. Universal provision is for 3-5 year olds.

**Question: How realistic is the 2026/27 date?**

Answer: We are now at statutory consultation for the new build, previous consultation was informal and this is now built into a committee report and a project plan to go ahead if agreed in January 2023. Plan and process in place and now at formal stage of consultation – acknowledge it has been disappointing due to the length of time in past but now moving through a formal process.

**Question: Is there any reason why the proposal may not go through?**

Answer: AM - Don't foresee any reason – this should be a formality.

**Question: How will the school build be funded?**

Answer: GL - Regular ongoing discussions with Scottish Futures Trust related to. funding and DCC committed to this school being built in the timeline proposed.

AM - It is part of the Capital Plan to build the school and there is confidence that 50% of the costs will be met by Scottish Futures Trust.

**Question: If you don't get the money, will the size of the school shrink?**

Answer: AM - The capacity of the school is based on the projections of the numbers of children who will be in the catchment area.

**Question: Do we have drawings in place?**

Answer: GL - No, not yet, this is the first stage – there will be more opportunities to share plans and designs if the proposal is approved at Committee.

**Question: Proposed Secondary school and plans for transition?**

Answer: AM - Secondary schools will be Baldrigon and St Paul's – good work re transition has already been undertaken with the Western Gateway families and those two schools.

**Question: Concerns re distance to feeder Secondary schools and the fact that Invergowrie PS (PKC school) get to attend Harris but not those in the Western Gateway area?**

Answer: AM - Acknowledge and hear what is being said. There are currently a number of parents with positive views of Baldrigon from this area. Transport will be provided and commitment will continue. Parents have a choice and can make a placing request to non-catchment schools.

**Question: Does Harris have capacity just now for Placing Requests?**

Answer: AM - Not at present – there has been a recent consultation regarding Harris catchment. Need to note that there will always be somebody on the edge of a catchment area. We need to follow appropriate legislation regarding placing requests. Heads of Service in Perth & Kinross and Dundee will pick this up to see if anything can be done.

**Question: Concerns re two different schools for families?**

Answer: AM - Important to note that this is a brand-new school – not a merger and is part of the growth agenda – we want it to be spectacular for all. There will be a new HT in post a full year before the school opens.

**Question: Is the Tri-Council school totally dead in the water – new Administration in Angus – unfortunate it fell by the wayside?**

Answer: AM - Not likely to go ahead in the foreseen future.

**Question: Jacob's report – applied for funding to take forward transport arrangements – links with Sustrans – widening of paths etc.**

Answer: AM - Can also explore links with Sport Scotland and Active Travel and routes around schools – build on the relationship with Sport Scotland being developed around other projects.

**Question: What is the timeline for building work?**

Answer: GL - Date for building work starting – can't confirm this but if building started approximately January 2025, it could open for August 2026.

Further comment from attendee: Good luck – it's good to see it happening at last.

Closing remarks – keep responding and giving ideas. There are two ways to continue responding to the consultation – DCC website/Children & Families Service e-mail or write to Executive Director.

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## School Estate Proposals

### FORMAL CONSULTATION ACTIVITY

Engagement Session Western Gateway Community Venue : Landmark Hotel, Dundee

28<sup>th</sup> September 7pm

**Officers:** Gordon Laidlaw Education Officer (GL), Bill Batchelor (Chair) Western Gateway Community.

**Other Attendees:** Cllr Smith, Cllr Malone, **11 other** individuals attended the session, those represented were members of the **residents association within Denhead of Gray/Western Gateway and 2 guest members of community.**

All conversations during the session took place in relation to Children and Families Service school estate proposal, the formal consultation undertaken between 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2022 to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

#### **Key observations/questions raised:**

As part of the statutory consultation process for the school, GL attended the meeting and gave a presentation on the proposal. There followed a question and answer session where we discussed; nursery places, the design process, conditions for community facility use, the time line, possible items that could delay progress like community facilities, effect on Liff primary, flexibility in design, walk and wheel routes and funding details pertaining to the roof tax.

GL confirmed that other meetings had now taken place having already met within Ardler, Western Gateway and the four primary schools that could be affected. There was an overall sense of support for the proposal.

Public consultation will close on 30 September and discussions with Education Scotland is scheduled for October. Application for LEIP funding through Futures Scotland will then follow and it is hoped the final decision will be made in January 2023 at the Children's and Families committee meeting.

Question: How big will the nursery be, is there enough capacity for the area.

Answer: We intend to deliver a nursery capacity of 70 places, unlike schools nurseries don't have a catchment area, there is enough projected capacity across Dundee City which includes partner providers to meet the city's needs.

Question: The delivery of a school will potentially have an effect on with increase traffic and drop off. Will you consider this as it will increase risk to pedestrians particularly if the school is on the other side of the road to the current houses.

Answer: Like any other similar project, a full transport assessment is required and undertaken to consider appropriate measures to address any concerns such as increase traffic, pedestrian access, drop of/pick up and parking, amongst other elements such as safe routes to school and active travel.

Question: Has the council any guarantees that this will be built and financed.

Answer: The residents roof tax will pay a portion of the costs, as will funding from Scottish Futures Trust, should a funding bid be successful. Dundee City Council have made a commitment within the council plan to delivery this by August 2026.

Question: Is there a time scale, how long will this take.

Answer: Approx. 3.5 years, so if work started on the project in January 2023 this could be completed by August 2026. It was agreed at the meeting that an indicative timeline will be provided and will be included in the consultation report. Western Gateway Community agreed to post an update once we have received this info.

Please see below potential timeline. This is very high level and only an indication of stages which are yet to be confirmed between now and August 2026.

<b>January 2023</b>	<b>Primary Project Initiation - 3.5 years (following committee approval)</b>
<b>Autumn 2023</b>	<b>Concept Design Finalised</b>
<b>Spring 2024</b>	<b>Planning Approval</b>
<b>Summer 2024</b>	<b>Design Finalised</b>
<b>Spring 2025</b>	<b>Onsite construction Starts</b>
<b>Spring 2026</b>	<b>Onsite construction Ends</b>
<b>Autumn 2026</b>	<b>Schools opens</b>

Question: Will there be community access similar to other schools.

Answer: Yes, regardless of the design of the building, community access will be part of our approach due to its relevance to accessing appropriate funding and it is part of the Children and Families Service strategy. It was agreed that GL will look to facilitate a visit to either Mill of Mains Primary or Coldside Primary to allow the committee to see recently built community facilities which are linked to schools.

Question: Will planning application of other element affect or delay this i.e. Swallow roundabout.

Answer: That is a matter for planning and City Development, it is not part of our proposal however we work closely with City Development in order to deliver projects such as the school and they are aware of our timescales for delivery.

Question: Concerns regarding traffic during construction of the school and some other aspects on the design.

Answer: The construction contractors actively seek opportunities to work with the communities in which projects are being undertaken to address in advance any issues or concerns prior to and during the period of building works. Should the school be approved there will be opportunities prior to a planning application for public to view and comment on the design and plans. We have undertaken the same approach with other new school projects. This is happening with the new East End Community Campus, Ideas and concerns raised through various public, pupil and staff meetings were adopted and changes, where appropriate, were made.

## School Estate Proposals

### FORMAL CONSULTATION ACTIVITY

**Engagement Sessions Lochee LCPP Venue : Lochee High St Hub**

**30<sup>th</sup> August 6pm**

**Officers: Gordon Laidlaw , Education Officer (GL), Mike Welsh Communities Officer (MW), Michael Mclaughlin Senior Manager Capital Projects (Chair) (ML)**

**Other Attendees: Councillor Smith, Councillor Toland, 8 attended the session, those represented were communities representatives and councillors.**

All conversations during the session took place in relation to Children and Families Service school estate proposal, the formal consultation undertaken between 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2022 to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

#### **Key observations/questions raised:**

GL was welcomed to the meeting and he provided the background to consultations on the plans to revise the catchment area of Ardler Primary School as a result of the development of a new two stream primary school in the Western Gateway Community.

GL reported on the proposals and invited all interested parties to a statutory consultation which will be held on 30<sup>th</sup> September at the Landmark Hotel. He added that an informal session will be held between 6pm and 7pm, followed by a formal recorded meeting between 7pm and 8pm. These meetings will be attended by Education Scotland service.

Conversation was held on this and the following points were shared;

- The creation of a school was welcomed by the partnership particularly from Bill who is the representative of the Western Gateway Community.
- There was a view that there is a high demand for school places in this area. Bill mentioned that his committee had received feedback from residents that there will be 260 children of school age who will live in the area by an anticipated opening date of August 2026.
- There is still an aspiration (from the western gateway community) to have a secondary school built as the tri-council secondary school didn't progress, although local people are happy with Baldragon Academy and St Pauls as the present catchment area secondaries.
- Transport options to the existing primary and secondary schools should be continued
- There will be no change to catchment areas for St Fergus Primary School.
- The position of the proposed school appears sensible in the western gateway area.
- There was an interest in identifying the facilities in and around the school GL was thanked for attending and an invitation was extended to him to attend the next LCPP meeting to provide information on the outcome of the formal consultation process.

Comments from those in attendance indicated they could see the rationale behind the proposal and acknowledged support. They commented on seeing benefits of children within the Western Gateway attending a Dundee school close to where they lived. A few attendee's commented on the distance being quite far (5 miles) that children had to currently travel to their catchment primary and shared the view that a change in catchment would be a positive step for both communities.

Question: How will this be funded

Answer: We are making a bid to Scottish Futures trust to provide some of the funding, the rest will come from Dundee City Council and the residents roof tax.

Question: Will there be a denominational element to the school?

Answer: No this is proposed to be non-denominational, the option for children to attend St Fergus as their Denominational school remains and the provision of a new school and catchment change doesn't change the existing arrangements for St Fergus.

## School Estate Proposals

### FORMAL CONSULTATION ACTIVITY

**Engagement Sessions Strathmartine LCPP Venue : Ardler Community Centre**

**31<sup>st</sup> August 6pm**

**Officers: Gordon Laidlaw , Education Officer (GL), Mark Macdonald Communities Officer (MD),**

**Other Attendees:** 9 attended the session, those represented were **communities' representatives and councillors.**

All conversations during the session took place in relation to Children and Families Service school estate proposal, the formal consultation undertaken between 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2022 to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

#### **Key observations/questions raised:**

GL Spoke about the proposal for Ardler Primary School catchment and proposed school in Western Gateway– Consultation will remain open until 30 September.

In terms of Ardler there will be some changes to Ardler catchment area. Info available on DCC website. GL shared a map with new proposals to changes to catchment boundaries to show the members. He then shared a second map with proposed site for the new Western Gateway Primary School. Public meeting to be held on 13 September at Ardler PS from 6pm-7pm for informal discussion then formal Public Meeting will follow 7pm-8pm. This will include part of the committee report information. A May, P Fleming & G Laidlaw to represent Children & Families. 20 May – second Public Meeting at Landmark Hotel for western gateway residents to attend.

GL asked that the members of the Strathmartine LCPP consider the proposals and that they consider a response prior to the end of the consultation period.

#### Questions & Answers

Question: Will there be any impact for families to move from current schools?

Answer: Current pupils will be able to stay in schools if they wish.

Question: A query regarding exact site of the new Western Gateway primary school?

Answer: GL pointed this out to the LCPP members using the map.

Question: What High School will both Primaries feed into?

Answer: GL replied this will be Baldragon –families from the Western Gateway have a positive relationship with the secondary. Those families will continue to be offered transport for pupils to travel to Baldragon.

Question: Is the new school non-denominational?

Answer: GL – Yes, pupils can still choose to attend St Fergus as their catchment primary or other denominational such as St Andrews, non-catchment would require a placing request as normal. Pupils will be transported by bus from Western Gateway to St Fergus.

Question: Will house builder commit to funding going to the new school?

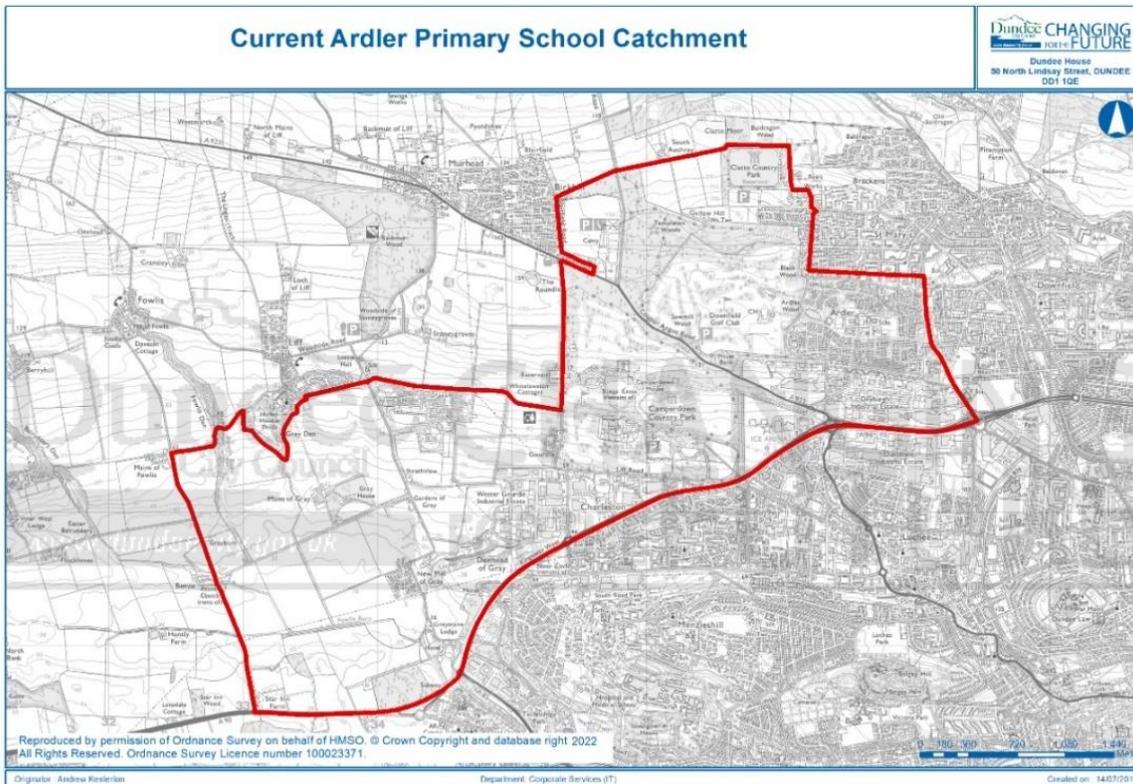
Answer: GL – Western Gateway residents paid roof tax with the intention the funds go towards building a new school. Approx. £5,000 per sale will go towards new school.

Question: When would new school be built?

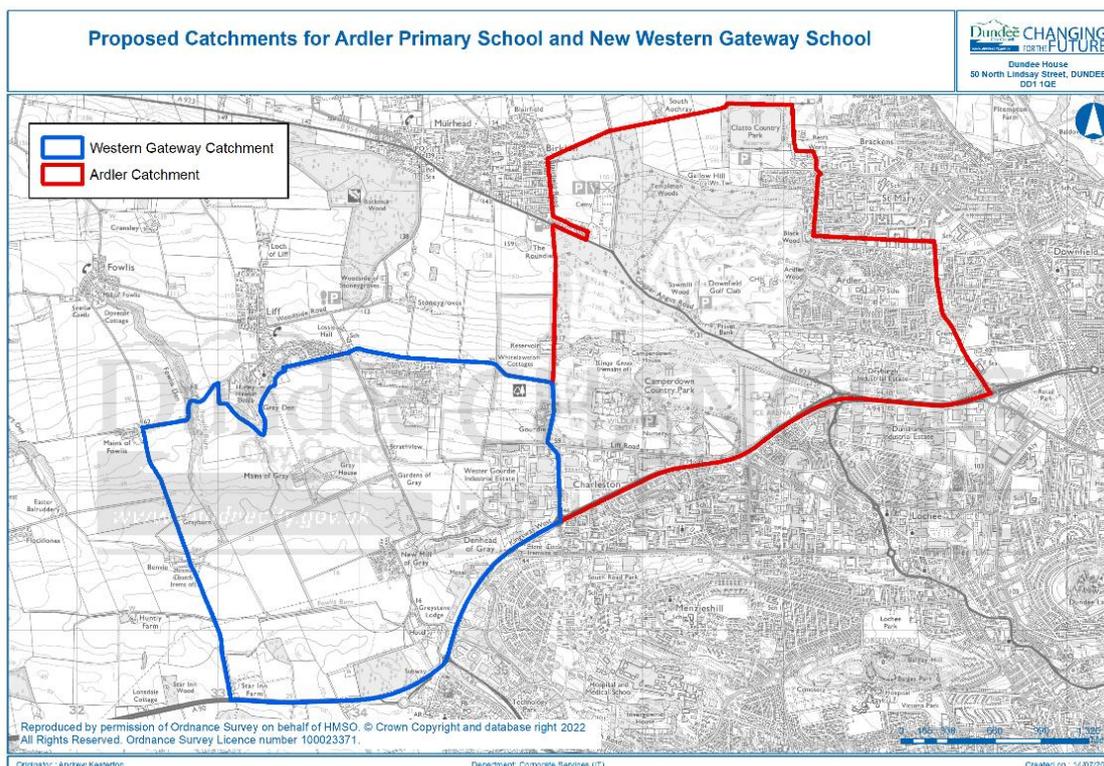
Answer: GL – if construction started around January 2025 then the building could be completed by August 2026.

**Proposed Catchment Boundaries**

The map below shows the existing catchment area.



The proposal to change the catchment areas for Ardler Primary would create a catchment area for the Western Gateway provision, currently many families residing within this area choose to make placing request for their children to schools in Liff and Birkhill within Angus Council due to their close proximity to where they stay, rather than undertaking a journey to their catchment primary schools, Ardler and St Fergus R.C. Primary School. The catchment area for St Fergus Primary school will remain unchanged within this proposal. The map below shows the Amended catchment area to provide catchment areas for Ardler Primary and the Western Gateway Primary School.



***Proposed catchment for a new Primary School with Nursery Class serving the Western Gateway area.***

From the roundabout at the junction of Kingsway West (A90) and Riverside Avenue (A85) the proposed school catchment boundary will follow Dundee City Council’s boundary east, north and then west to the junction on Gourdie Brae at grid reference NO 353 327. Then south down Gourdie Brae, continuing east along Liff Road to the junction with Myrekirk Road. Then south along Myrekirk Road to the roundabout junction with Kingsway West (A90). Then southwest along Kingsway West (A90) to the roundabout at the junction of Kingsway West (A90) and Riverside Avenue (A85). Unless stated otherwise the boundary follows the centreline of any roads named.

***Proposed catchment for Ardlar Primary School following opening of a new Primary School with Nursery Class serving the Western Gateway area.***

From the roundabout at the junction of Kingsway West (A90) and Myrekirk Road the proposed school catchment will run north along Myrekirk Road to the junction with Liff Road. Then west along Liff Road, continuing north up Gourdie Brae until it meets Dundee City Council’s boundary at grid reference NO 353 327. It will then follow Dundee City Council’s boundary north and east to near the northwest corner of Clatto reservoir at grid reference NO 366 347. It will then follow the unnamed track west for 460m, then south along an unnamed track for 330m, east for 120m then south for 130m to join Clatto Gardens. Then southeast along Clatto Gardens to the junction with Dalmahoy Drive. Then south along Dalmahoy Drive until opposite 2 Grimond Lane. Then east along the property boundary dividing 99 St Ninian Terrace and 224 St Fillans Road to an unnamed path. East long the unnamed path to St Fillans Road. Then east along St Fillans Road to the junction with Macalpine Road. Then south along Macalpine Road to the roundabout junction with Kingsway West (A90). Then west along Kingsway West (A90) to the roundabout at the junction of Kingsway West (A90) and Myrekirk Road. Unless stated otherwise the boundary follows the centreline of any roads named.

## **APPENDIX 4**

### **Thematic Summary of Submissions Received in relation to the proposal from Parents/Carers and Residents**

3 submissions were received from 4 respondents, all residents within the area of the proposed school. 2 submissions have expressed satisfaction/approval of the proposal. Two responses were mainly positive and approved of the proposals, however, one raised concern about increased traffic, infrastructure and wildlife.

#### **Themes - Emergent themes and issues from the submissions included:**

- *Support for proposals;*
- *New school buildings with community facilities including sports and leisure;*
- *Transition support for children;*
- *Safe routes/active travel;*
- *Traffic and transport infrastructure including environmental issues affecting the area;*
- *Impact upon existing wildlife.*

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