Report on the responses to the public consultation on the proposed changes to catchment areas of

ANNANHILL PRIMARY SCHOOL, GARGIESTON PRIMARY SCHOOL and CROSSHOUSE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Alex McPhee
Depute Chief Executive & Chief Financial Officer
Economy and Skills

This document has been issued by East Ayrshire Council in terms of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010.

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CONSULTATION REPORT ON THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE CATCHMENT AREAS OF ANNANHILL PRIMARY SCHOOL, GARGIESTON PRIMARY SCHOOL and CROSSHOUSE PRIMARY SCHOOL

This proposal arises from a review of the current catchment areas and entitlement to school transport in the Western Central area of Kilmarnock, taking into account the existing and planned housing development areas and the historic nature of the existing school catchment boundaries.

PROPOSAL

That subject to the outcome of this consultation exercise:

- The delineated area of Annanhill Primary School is amended to a location on the A759 at the entrance to Mount House, Kilmarnock, following the western perimeter of Annanhill Golf Course, continuing westwards along the southern edge of Annandale estate to the B7081 to meet the delineated area of Crosshouse Primary School. This proposal will re-zone the affected ground to the south and west of this new boundary at Moorfield housing estate from the delineated area of Annanhill Primary School to that of Gargieston Primary School.

- The delineated area of Crosshouse Primary School is amended at a location on the north-west corner of Fardalehill, on which development is planned. This proposal will re-zone the affected area from the delineated area of Crosshouse Primary School to that of Annanhill Primary School.

- Changes to the delineated areas of the respective educational establishments are made from the start of academic session 2017/2018, subject to the outcome of this consultation process.
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APPENDIX 2: MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETINGS
SECTION 1
INTRODUCTION

1. The purpose of this report is to collate all information in relation to the formal consultation process undertaken by East Ayrshire Council in relation to the proposal set out on page 2 of this report.

2. The report reflects the requirements of the Schools Consultation (Scotland) Act 2010 as amended and is intended to;

- Set out a summary of the oral representations made to the Council at the public meetings held on:
  
  Date: 8 November 2016 Venue: Annanhill Primary School
  Date: 9 November 2016 Venue: Gargieston Primary School
  Date: 10 November 2016 Venue: Crosshouse Primary School

- Set out a record of the total number of written representations made to the Council by any person during the period of the public consultation exercise;

- Set out a summary of those written representations;

- Provide a copy of Education Scotland’s report;

- Set out a statement of the Council’s response to:
  
  - Those written and oral representations; and
  - Education Scotland’s report.

- Set out a statement explaining how the Council reviewed the above proposal having had regard (in particular) to :-
  
  - The relevant written representations received by the Council during the public consultation period;
  - Oral representations made to it at the public meetings detailed above; and
  - Education Scotland’s report

- Provide details of any alleged omission from, or inaccuracy in, the Proposal Paper (including a statement of the Council’s opinion on it);

- Provide a statement of the action taken in respect of the omission or inaccuracy, or if no action has been taken of that fact why this is the case; and

- Provide an explanation of whether there is an opportunity for making representations to the Scottish Ministers in terms of Section 15(4) of The Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010.

3. This report is published on the Council’s website 3 weeks prior to the Council taking a decision on the recommendations within the report, scheduled for the Cabinet meeting of 8 March 2017.
SECTION 2
THE CONSULTATION PROCESS

4. East Ayrshire Council’s Cabinet approved the recommendation to issue a Proposal Document (attached as Appendix 1 of this report) on the primary school catchment areas in the Western Central area of Kilmarnock for public consultation at its meeting of 19th October 2016. The formal consultation period ran from 2nd November 2016 to 13th December 2016 and written representations on the Cabinet’s proposals were sought from interested parties in terms of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 (as amended) (hereinafter referred to as “the 2010 Act”).

5. In accordance with statutory requirements, the following individuals and groups were consulted:

Consultees

- The Parent Councils of the affected establishments
- The parents of the pupils at the affected schools
- Parents of children expected to attend the affected primary schools within 2 years of the date of publication of this Proposal Document
- The pupils at the affected schools
- The teaching and ancillary staff, at the affected schools
- Depute Chief Executive and Chief Financial Officer
- Depute Chief Executive Safer Communities
- The trade unions representatives of the above staff
- The related Community Councils
- Relevant users of the affected schools
- Relevant Community Associations
- The constituency MSP
- List MSPs for the area
- The Constituency MP
- Ayrshire College
- Sub-Divisional Commander, Police Scotland
- Chief Executive, NHS Ayrshire and Arran
- Chief Executive Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT)
- Area Commander, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
- South Ayrshire Council
- North Ayrshire Council
- Community Planning Partnership Board

6. The Proposal Document was also advertised in the press and copies were made widely available locally and to local interest groups. Additional copies of the document were obtainable from the Department of Economy and Skills, Council Headquarters, London Road, Kilmarnock, from the schools involved and through the Council Website at www.east-ayrshire.gov.uk. Copies were also available at public libraries and Council offices in the areas affected. A copy was also sent to Education Scotland, who under the 2010 Act are statutory consultees and a notice of the proposal was sent to all parents of pupils attending the schools directly affected and in associated establishments.

7. There were more than 4000 consultation notifications issued to the young people, their parents and school staff within the establishments affected, local residents and other stakeholders who may be affected by the proposal.
Public Meetings

8. Formal public meetings were arranged by the Council and advertised in the local press and on the Council website at:

Annanhill Primary School on 8 November 2016
14 attendees, including parents, chair of the Parent Council, elected members, Cabinet’s parent representative and a representative from Education Scotland.

Gargieston Primary School on 9 November 2016
6 attendees, including parents, chair of the Parent Council, elected member and Cabinet’s parent representative.

Crosshouse Primary School on 10 November 2016
2 parent attendees.

9. The meetings offered an opportunity for discussion and clarification of the proposals as well as a forum for people to express their views on the consultation proposals. It included a presentation on the proposals and the consultative process by officers. A written record of the meetings was kept, published on the Council’s website and is included as part of the final consultative responses (Appendix 2).

Written responses

10. There were 25 written submissions received. The table below provides a breakdown of these submissions by group and provides some perspective on the scale of response to the consultation process.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interest group definition as determined by responder</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annanhill Parents</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crosshouse Parents</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crosshouse Staff</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gargieston Parents</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gargieston Parent Council Member</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gargieston Staff</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Ayrshire Planning Partnership</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Education Scotland

11. Following the close of the consultation on 13th December 2016 all information in relation to the responses was sent to Education Scotland, who on reviewing the information and undertaking their own discussions with Stakeholders, have provided a response that is included in this report.
SECTION 3
FEEDBACK FROM THE PUBLIC MEETINGS

12. The following paragraphs summarise the issues raised at the meetings in response to the Proposal Document. Every effort has been made to summarise views as accurately as possible. The minutes of the meetings were published on the Council’s website during the consultation and are attached to this report as Appendix 2.

Public Meetings structure

13. The three public meetings were chaired by the Head of Education (Alan Ward) who was accompanied by 3 members of the Education Programme Team.

14. A number of Elected Members also attended the meetings.

15. At each meeting, information on the consultation proposal (including current and proposed catchment maps) and the process which would be followed was presented to those attending.

16. Following the presentation members of the public were provided with an opportunity to raise issues or seek further information on the consultation. The paragraphs below summarise the main issues raised and statements made by those attending the various meetings.

Public Meeting – 8 November – Annanhill Primary School
(minutes attached as Appendix 2)

17. The main issue raised at the meeting was from a small number of families who currently have children attending Annanhill Primary School who have siblings due to attend school in the near future. If the proposal was to be approved, placing requests would have to be submitted to Annanhill Primary for these siblings and although they would be in the priority category for placing requests, there would not be a guaranteed place at Annanhill Primary thus raising the possibility of having children attending 2 different schools.

18. There was concern from a future parent who had purchased a house in Moorfield to ensure a place at the catchment school (Annanhill Primary) from August 2017. If the proposal is approved, prior to the primary 1 enrolment period, a placing request would have to be submitted to Annanhill.

Public Meeting – 9 November – Gargieston Primary School
(minutes attached as Appendix 2)

19. Car parking facilities and traffic management at Gargieston was raised as a concern if the roll was to increase.

Public Meeting – 10 November – Crosshouse Primary School
(minutes attached as Appendix 2)

20. There were no concerns in relation to the rezoning raised at this meeting.
SECTION 4
RESPONSES FROM STAKEHOLDERS TO THE CONSULTATION EXERCISE
INCLUDING THE REPORT BY EDUCATION SCOTLAND

21. The Proposal Document outlined the proposal to amend the catchment areas directly affecting three primary schools. Annanhill Primary, Crosshouse Primary and Gargieston Primary. The consultation documentation provided the opportunity to respond to each of the proposals.

**Review of the catchment area for Annanhill, Crosshouse & Gargieston Primary Schools**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In favour of the catchment change</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not in favour of the catchment change</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Comment</td>
<td>NIL</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>25</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

22. The significant majority of the respondents were in favour of the proposals.

23. There were 25 formal responses to the consultation and the following paragraphs summarise the responses by respondent type.

**Annanhill Primary School Parents**

24. There were 7 responses from Annanhill Primary School parents (6 families) – 4 families have siblings due to attend Annanhill Primary in the future and do not wish to have to submit a placing request. 1 family has a child due to start school in 2017 and 1 family has a child due to start in 2019. Both have stated that they purchased houses in the Moorfield area in order to guarantee a place at Annanhill Primary. All disagreed with the proposals.

**Crosshouse Primary School Parents**

25. There was 1 response from a Crosshouse Primary School parent agreeing with the proposals.

**Crosshouse Primary School Staff**

26. There was 1 response from a Crosshouse Primary School member of staff agreeing with the proposals.

**Gargieston Primary School Parents**

27. There were 13 responses from Gargieston Primary School parents. All were in agreement with the proposals.

**Gargieston Primary School Parent Council**

28. There was 1 response from Gargieston Primary School Parent Council agreeing with the proposals.
Gargieston Primary School Staff

29. There was 1 response from a Gargieston Primary School member of staff agreeing with the proposals.

Community Planning Partners

30. There was a response from East Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership. The group welcomed the positive benefits which are anticipated from the proposals and the more efficient use of the Education assets. It is noted that the group was also reassured that there was a safe walking route to Gargieston Primary School from the Moorfield Estate.

EDUCATION SCOTLAND REPORT

Report by Education Scotland addressing educational aspects of the proposal by East Ayrshire Council to rezone Annanhill Primary School, Gargieston Primary School and Crosshouse Primary School.

1. Introduction

1.1 This report from Education Scotland has been prepared by HM Inspectors in accordance with the terms of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 and the amendments contained in the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014. The purpose of the report is to provide an independent and impartial consideration of East Ayrshire Council’s proposal to rezone Annanhill Primary School, Gargieston Primary School and Crosshouse Primary 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 a copy of 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. Where a council is proposing to close a school, it needs to follow all legislative obligations set out in the 2010 Act, including notifying Ministers within six working days of making its final decision and explaining to consultees the opportunity they have to make representations to Ministers.

1.2 HM Inspectors considered:

- the likely effects of the proposal for children and young people of the schools; 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;

- any other likely effects of the proposal;

- how the council intends to minimise or avoid any adverse effects that may arise from the proposal; and
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:

- attendance at the public meeting held on 8 November 2016 in connection with the council’s proposals;
- consideration of all relevant documentation provided by the council in relation to the proposal, specifically the educational benefits statement and related consultation documents, written submissions from parents and others; and
- visits to the sites of Annanhill Primary School, Gargieston Primary School and Crosshouse Primary School, including discussion with relevant consultees.

2. **Consultation Process**

2.1 East Ayrshire Council undertook the consultation on its proposal(s) with reference to the *Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010* and the amendments in the *Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014*.

2.2 The council placed an advert in the local newspaper prior to the start of the consultation period. The consultation ran from 2 November 2016 until close of business on 13 December 2016, which included a period of 30 school days. Public meetings were held in Annanhill Primary School (8 November 2016), Gargieston Primary School (9 November 2016) and Crosshouse Primary School (10 November 2016). At the first meeting there were 14 attendees, including community representatives, elected members and parents. At the second meeting there were six attendees, including community representatives, elected members and parents. At the third meeting there were two parent attendees. Interested parties were invited to make written or electronic submissions on the proposal to the Head of Education. There were 25 written submissions received, of which 18 were in favour of the proposal and seven were against.

3. **Educational Aspects of Proposal**

3.1 The council has three main aims for the proposal: to address over-occupancy issues within Annanhill Primary School; to drive space usage efficiency within the school estate; and to provide equity of provision for children in the central/western area of the town in terms of learning experiences and learning environment.

3.2 There are a number of educational benefits which the council believes will result from the implementation of the proposal. These are dependent upon the re-balancing of pupil numbers in the central/western area of the town. Annanhill Primary School is part of the Grange Campus in Kilmarnock along with Grange Academy. There are too many classes for the primary school to accommodate in its own area of the campus and two P7 classes are currently located in classrooms within the Art Department of Grange Academy.

3.3 The proposal involves a re-zoning which would allocate part of the current catchment area of Annanhill Primary School to Gargieston Primary School. This is designed to ensure that Annanhill will have the capacity to include children from new and developing housing estates which are close to the school. Many families in the area which will be re-zoned to Gargieston Primary School already have children attending that school through placing requests, as it is geographically closer to them. Whilst there would be an educational
benefit in re-balancing pupil numbers, it is unclear from figures provided in the proposal document whether the re-zoning will have the desired impact or not. For example, roll projections are not given for Annanhill Primary School comparing the impact of implementing the proposal with the status quo. In preparing its final consultation report, the council should provide roll projections for all three schools which are within the scope of the proposal, including information and data about the impact of re-zoning on the roll of Annanhill Primary School.

3.4 There are clear educational benefits to improving the learning environment for children attending Annanhill Primary School by alleviating current pressures on teaching spaces and reallocating accommodation in Grange Academy, although these are dependent in the first instance upon the reduction of the Annanhill roll. Whilst there would be educational benefits to children having opportunities to interact, both educationally and socially, with a wider group of peers, it is not clear how this would occur as a result of the proposal being implemented. The council should clarify how this would be achieved.

3.5 Staff, parents and pupils at Annanhill Primary School who spoke to HM Inspectors have a number of concerns about the proposal. They have justifiable concerns that the implementation of the proposal could lead to brothers and sisters attending different primary schools. Some families currently have one or more children at Annanhill Primary School but would be moved out of the school catchment area if the proposal is implemented, and would then need to rely on the success of placing requests to allow younger brothers or sisters to join them. Whilst these placing requests will be prioritised, there is no guarantee that they will be successful. The council should consider offering a ‘sibling guarantee’ to allow younger brothers and sisters of current pupils to attend if they are re-zoned to a different school catchment area as a result of implementing the proposal. Some parents who spoke to HM Inspectors, or responded to the consultation in writing, noted that this guarantee was made in a previous review of catchment areas by East Ayrshire Council in the north of Kilmarnock in February 2015, with particular reference to Kilmarnocks Primary School.

3.6 Some parents at Annanhill Primary School who spoke to HM Inspectors also have justifiable concerns about the timing of the council decision on the proposal. The proposal paper indicates that the council will prepare a Consultation Report subsequent to receiving the Education Scotland report. This report will be published and available for further consideration for a period of three weeks prior to being considered by the council’s Cabinet. No date is given in the proposal for the Cabinet meeting which will consider the Consultation Report. In previous years, parents were required to register their child for starting primary school by the middle of January and to make any placing requests by February. Some parents who spoke to HM Inspectors are concerned that they will register their child in January whilst living in the current Annanhill catchment area and, depending on the Cabinet’s decision, require to lodge a placing request shortly afterwards because they have been moved out of it. The council should discuss this issue with parents who are directly affected by it and consider whether or not there is sufficient time to make any changes to current arrangements in time for the beginning of the new school session.

3.7 Staff, parents and pupils at Gargieston Primary School who spoke to HM Inspectors are generally content with the proposal. They think that it formalises the current situation where most families living in the area being re-zoned from Annanhill already make placing requests for children to attend Gargieston. Parents would like reassurance that the school roll will not increase dramatically if the proposal is implemented. In preparing its final consultation report, the council should provide roll projections for all three schools which are within the scope of the proposal.
3.8 Staff, parents and pupils at Crosshouse Primary School who spoke to HM Inspectors are generally content with the proposal, which has very little direct effect on them.

4. Summary

- There is overall educational benefit to this proposal as long as it meets the council’s own aims of addressing over-occupancy issues within Annanhill Primary School, of using the school estate more efficiently and of providing equity of provision for children in the central/western area of the town in terms of learning experiences and learning environment. However, it is unclear from figures provided in the proposal document whether or not the proposed re-zoning will have the desired impact. In preparing its final consultation report, the council should provide roll projections for all three schools which are within the scope of the proposal, including information and data about the impact of re-zoning on the roll of Annanhill Primary School.

- Whilst there would be educational benefits to children having opportunities to interact, both educationally and socially, with a wider group of peers, it is not clear how this would occur as a result of the proposal being implemented. The council should clarify how this educational benefit would be achieved in its final consultation report.

- Staff, parents and pupils at Annanhill Primary School have justifiable concerns that the implementation of the proposal could lead to brothers and sisters attending different primary schools. In the preparation of its final consultation report, the council should consider offering a ‘sibling guarantee’ to allow younger brothers and sisters of current pupils to attend if they are re-zoned to a different school catchment area as a result of implementing the proposal. Such a guarantee was made by East Ayrshire Council in relation to a catchment review affecting Kilmaurs Primary School in 2015.

- Some parents at Annanhill Primary School who spoke to HM Inspectors have justifiable concerns that they will register their child in January to attend the school whilst living in the current catchment area and, depending on the Cabinet’s decision, require to lodge a placing request shortly afterwards because they have been moved out of it. The council should discuss this issue with parents who are directly affected by it and consider whether or not there is sufficient time to make any changes to current arrangements in time for the beginning of the new school session.
SECTION 5
RESPONSE TO THE EDUCATION SCOTLAND REPORT

31. Education Scotland has confirmed that it believes that the proposal is of educational benefit so long as it meets the council’s own aims of addressing over-occupancy issues within Annanhill Primary School, of using the school estate more efficiently and of providing equity of provision for children in the central/western area of the town in terms of learning experiences and learning environment. The projected rolls noted below outline:

- the projected roll for Annanhill Primary School if there was no change to the catchment area;
- the projected roll for Annanhill Primary School if Moorfield children are rezoned to Gargieston Primary School using a figure equivalent to the average number of children from the Moorfield area over the past seven years and including potential children from proposed housing developments in the area;
- the projected roll for Gargieston Primary School if there was no change to the catchment area;
- the projected roll for Gargieston Primary School if Moorfield children are rezoned to Gargieston Primary School using a figure equivalent to the average number of children from the Moorfield area over the past seven years and including potential children from proposed housing developments in the area; and
- the projected roll for Crosshouse Primary School - there is no impact on the school roll for Crosshouse as the small area to be rezoned is to address a future housing development where the current catchment area is split over two schools.

32. The capacity figures for Annanhill Primary School include the three additional rooms currently being used as teaching spaces.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current capacities (estimated rolls from 2017/18)</th>
<th>Effect on capacities if proposal approved</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Annanhill (including Moorfield pupils)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Annanhill (excluding Moorfield pupils)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roll</td>
<td>484</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capacity</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gargieston (excluding Moorfield pupils)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Gargieston (including Moorfield pupils)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roll</td>
<td>324</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capacity</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Crosshouse</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>2016/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roll</td>
<td>172</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capacity</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

33. Education Scotland has confirmed that it believes there would be benefits to children having opportunities to interact both educationally and socially with a wider group of peers. Educationally, in relation to Annanhill Primary, this will be achieved in the first instance by the proposed re-zoning, which will result in a drop in the overall roll as can
be seen from the above tables. This will reduce the requirement to identify further accommodation which can be used as classrooms. Socially, the proposal would facilitate smoother transitions from early years’ education as a significant number of children from families living in the Moorfield area attend Gargieston Early Childhood Centre. The proposal would also mean that children from the Moorfield area would be in closer proximity to their peers as Gargieston Primary School is geographically closer to this area than Annanhill Primary School. There is no safe walking route between Moorfield and Annanhill Primary School. Having a safe walking route between Gargieston Primary School and Moorfield means easier access to extra-curricular school activities and social interaction in the evenings and weekends.

34. Education Scotland has noted that a small number of families have justifiable concerns that the implementation of the proposal could lead to brothers and sisters attending different primary schools and that the Council should consider offering a ‘sibling guarantee’ to allow younger brothers and sisters of current pupils to attend the same school if they are rezoned as a result of implementing the proposal. Education Scotland has suggested, in error, that such a guarantee was made by the Council in relation to a catchment review affecting Kilmours Primary School. It should be noted that circumstances in relation to the rezoning at Kilmours Primary School are very different in that the proposal would have had an impact on transport and also an impact on the secondary school such children would have attended: neither of these issues are relevant in this proposal. Further, a “sibling guarantee” was not given as part of implementing the re-zoning proposal for Kilmours Primary School. The option to offer a ‘sibling guarantee’ as part of this current proposal was considered in consultation with Legal Services but it was concluded that it would not be legally competent having regard to the terms of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 and Standard Circular 9. “School Admissions and Placing Requests”. During the consultation process four responses were received from families who already had children at Annanhill Primary School who were concerned about what would happen to their siblings. As existing pupils make their way through the school the number of affected children will diminish. The arrangements for admission to school are set out in Standard Circular 9. The criteria for consideration of placing requests set out a number of criteria which will be applied in the following order when allocating places:-

- A child/young person who has a medical condition who requires facilities or support available only in the requested school.
- If the child/young person has a sibling already in the chosen school and a brother or sister will be attending the same school for the session the application is being made
- The child is from an adult household, where one or more of the parents are a serving or former member of the Armed Forces.
- The suitability in the parents’/carers’ choice of school of particular teaching methods to meet the child’s young person’s needs or the availability of subjects which he/she was previously studying.

Any application for a placing request relating to a child who has a sibling in one of the affected primary schools would be treated as a high priority in terms of Standard Circular 9. Whilst it is not legally possible to guarantee a sibling placing request, it should be noted that records indicate that since 2013/14 all placing requests for siblings to Annanhill Primary School have been granted. The proposed rezoning should result in an increased ability to accommodate placing requests at Annanhill Primary School. Given the small number of children with siblings at the school who will be affected by this proposal, and the level of priority afforded by their sibling status, it is highly likely
that any sibling will be granted a place in the event that a placing request were to be made.

35. Education Scotland has noted that a small number of families have justifiable concerns that they will register their child in January to attend school whilst living in the current catchment area and, depending on the Cabinet’s decision require to lodge a placing request shortly afterwards because they have been moved out of it. As the consultation process has yet to be concluded, parents of children from the Moorfield area were advised to enrol at Annanhill Primary School as normal and to submit a placing request for Gargieston Primary School if this was their preference. Accordingly, the status quo will remain in place meantime, with the re-zoning proposal only being implemented at the start of the 2017/18 academic year once enrolment applications and placing requests for children proposing to start primary school in August 2017 have been dealt with.

SECTION 6
THE COUNCIL RESPONSE TO ISSUES RAISED IN THE CONSULTATION

During the consultation period there were a number of comments submitted, either verbally at the public meetings or within the written submissions. The Council has reviewed the written responses, comments at the public meetings and the Education Scotland response, and has set out below its considerations in the following paragraphs of the issues raised. The Education and Planning Services will continue to review the position in relation to catchment boundaries, school occupancy and housing developments on an annual basis to ensure any future changes are managed timeously.

Mitigation for children affected by the proposal

Issue
36. If the proposals are agreed this would mean that younger siblings of children currently living in the Moorfield area and attending Annanhill Primary School would not be in the catchment area for the same school.

Position
37. A placing request would therefore be required. Siblings are currently in a priority group for consideration of placing requests. However, the number of available places will be determined by the number of catchment children enrolling into primary 1 on an annual basis. Current school roll data shows that the number of children from the Moorfield area attending Gargieston Primary School is increasing as parents recognise the positive benefits of children being geographically closer, and having a safe walking route to school; the proposal therefore reflects and formalises this current trend. Also, the number of homes currently occupied at Fardalehill and the subsequent number of children from the development to date is lower than anticipated. It is considered likely, therefore, that there may be spaces within Annanhill Primary School for the small number of families who wish to continue their association with the school.

Action
38. As stated in paragraph 34 above, it should be noted that records indicate that since 2013/14 all placing requests for siblings to Annanhill Primary School have been granted. The proposed rezoning should result in the capacity to accommodate placing requests at Annanhill Primary School being increased. Given the small number of children with siblings at the school who will be affected by this proposal, and the level of priority
afforded by their sibling status, it is highly likely that any sibling will be granted a place in the event that a placing request were to be made.

**Issue**

39. If the proposals are agreed this would mean families who have stated that they specifically bought their homes in the Moorfield area in order that their children attend Annanhill Primary School would no longer be in that catchment area.

**Position**

40. The number of available places will be determined by the number of catchment children enrolling into primary 1 on an annual basis. If the proposal is agreed and the majority of children from Moorfield attend Gargieston Primary School and consideration is given to the fact that the number of homes currently occupied at Fardalehill and the subsequent number of children from the development to date being lower than anticipated, it is considered likely, therefore, that there may be spaces within Annanhill Primary School for families who wish to continue their association with the school.

**Action**

41. In line with the detail set out in Standard Circular 9, a placing request would be required.

**Issue**

42. Volume of traffic and car parking can be an issue in the area around Gargieston Primary, there are concerns that this could increase.

**Position**

43. Traffic management for Gargieston Primary has been designed to accommodate 100% occupancy of the building.

**Action**

44. Safety of the children and young people in relation to traffic in the area of the school will continue to be highlighted by the Head Teacher and parents encouraged to adopt a ‘park and stride’ approach. Traffic management issues and concerns will also continue to be a standing item on every Parent Council meeting.

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**SECTION 7**

**ALLEGED OMISSIONS OF RELEVANT INFORMATION AND ALLEGED INACCURACIES CONTAINED WITHIN THE PROPOSAL DOCUMENT**

Whilst a number of consultation responses sought clarification on certain matters, no response formally raised an issue regarding alleged omissions or inaccuracies within the Proposal Paper, and the Council did not require to make any correction to that document either.

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**SECTION 8**

**COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 9(1) OF THE SCHOOLS (CONSULTATION) (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010**

Having received Education Scotland’s report on 9 January 2017, Section 9(1) of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, as amended, requires the Council to review the relevant proposal having had regard (in particular) to the written representations that have been received by it during the consultation period; oral representations made to it at the public
meetings held on 8 November, 9 November and 10 November and Education Scotland’s report. Accordingly, in terms of Section 10(2) (e) of the said Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, (as amended) the Council’s Extended Management Team met on Monday 6 February 2017 to review the relevant proposal.

SECTION 9
PROCEDURES FOR MINISTERIAL CALL-IN

Since this proposal is a change to catchment areas only, Section 10(4) of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 as amended, does not apply. At this stage, it is anticipated that Cabinet will be asked to make a decision on the proposal on 8 March 2017. If Cabinet agree to the said proposal, the proposal will be remitted to the Council’s Governance and Scrutiny Committee on 9 March 2017 for further consideration. In the event that the Governance and Scrutiny Committee agree that further consideration requires to be given to the proposal, it will be remitted back to Cabinet to consider the issues raised by the Governance and Scrutiny Committee. If Cabinet agree to the proposal at that stage, Scottish Ministers are not required to be notified of this decision. However, in the event that the Governance and Scrutiny Committee agree with the initial decision of Cabinet, there will be no requirement for a subsequent Cabinet to consider the proposal. In that event, the original Cabinet decision will stand. At that stage, Scottish Ministers are not required to be notified of this decision.

SECTION 10
THE COUNCIL’S APPROACH TO CONSULTATION

Sections 5, 6 and 7 (above) detail the Council’s considerations of all issues as originally defined in the Proposal Document and importantly, all of those, both educational and non-educational, raised through the detailed consultation responses and the public meetings. The Council allocated the statutory period of response to include a minimum of 30 school days consultation period for response.

Of the 25 responses received, all issues raised have been addressed in sections 5 and 6 of this report. Cabinet will therefore have before it, in this paper, full and detailed consideration of the proposal by officers.

SECTION 11
EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT TEAM ROLE IN THE CONSULTATION PROCESS

The proposal has been discussed fully and regularly at the highest level of Officer Management of the Council. This included reviews of the Proposal Document prior to its consideration by Cabinet on 19 October 2016 and consideration of the Consultation Report prior to its publication. The outcome of this involvement, in part, is a set of recommendations by the Depute Chief Executive Economy and Skills.

SECTION 12
IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

This Consultation Report will be presented at the Cabinet and Governance and Scrutiny meetings where elected members will consider recommendations outlined in this report.
The following paragraphs detail the arrangements that will be made, should the Council decide to implement the changes to the catchment area:

Notification will be issued to those families directly affected by the proposal and information will be communicated via the relevant schools to provide details of the outcome of the consultation to pupils and parents.

If the proposal is accepted, the relevant schools, Education Resources for placing requests, the Transport Service for school transport, and the Planning Service for the Council’s mapping system will be notified and provided with updated maps and a record of the change.

Through the Schools and Early Childhood Centres the identification, review and consideration of individual young people’s additional support needs will be assessed in relation to the impact of this consultation and the changes linked to the transition between nursery and primary and from primary to secondary taking into account the issues raised in this consultation.

SECTION 13
RISK MANAGEMENT

There are no risk issues associated with the implementation of this report.

SECTION 14
LEGAL ISSUES

By virtue of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, as amended, which consultation forms the subject matter of this report, it is a legal requirement that the Council shall not reach any formal decision without:

- reviewing the proposal having regard in particular to:
  - Relevant written representations received from any person during the consultation period;
  - Oral representation made to it by any person at the public meetings and
  - The Education Scotland report;
- Preparing a Consultation Report; and
- Waiting until a period of 3 weeks starting on the day on which this Consultation Report is published in electronic and printed form has expired.

As provided for in section 1 of the 1980 Act, it is the duty of the Council to ensure adequate and efficient provision of school education within East Ayrshire. Such education should be directed towards the development of the personality, talents and mental and physical abilities of children or young persons to their fullest potential (Standards in Scotland’s Schools Etc. Act 2000 section 2). That said, as with all Council duties, the Council has a duty to make arrangements to secure best value and in securing best value the Council is required to maintain an appropriate balance between, inter alia, the quality of its performance of its functions and the cost to the authority of that performance (Local Government in Scotland Act 2003 section 1). In coming to any decision, members should balance the foregoing duties.
Article 2 of the first protocol to the European Convention on Human Rights, incorporated into domestic law by the Human Rights Act 1998 provides that:

“No person shall be denied the right to education. In the exercise of any functions which it assumes in relation to education and to teaching, the State shall respect the right of parents to ensure such education and teaching in conformity with their own religious and philosophical convictions”

The principle in the second sentence is accepted into UK law only so far as it is compatible with the provisions of efficient instruction and training, and the avoidance of unreasonable public expenditure. The right to education is a general right and the relevant provisions of the 1980 Act and the Standards in Scotland’s Schools etc (Scotland) Act 2000 go beyond what is required by the provision in the first protocol. Accordingly, provided the Council complies with the duties incumbent upon it, a successful Human Rights challenge to a properly considered decision will be minimised.

SECTION 15
CONCLUSION

Having carefully reviewed the proposal to change the catchment boundaries of primary schools in the central/western area of Kilmarnock and having had regard to the responses to the Consultation as detailed in this report, the conclusion of officers is that it does provide educational benefit, a position supported by Education Scotland. Furthermore the Council's position and actions outlined in section 6 of this report provide sufficient assurance that the issues raised can be successfully mitigated to ensure the education benefits are realised.

It is therefore concluded that the decision to proceed with the consultation on the catchment changes remains valid.

SECTION 16
RECOMMENDATIONS

It is therefore recommended that Cabinet agrees that:

(i) the delineated area of Annanhill Primary School is amended to a location on the A759 at the entrance to Mount House, Kilmarnock, following the western perimeter of Annanhill Golf Course, continuing westwards along the southern edge of Annandale estate to the B7081 to meet the delineated area of Crosshouse Primary School. This proposal will re-zone the affected ground to the south and west of this new boundary at Moorfield housing estate from the delineated area of Annanhill Primary School to that of Gargieston Primary School;

(ii) the delineated area of Crosshouse Primary School is amended at a location on the north-west corner of Fardalehill, on which development is planned. This proposal will re-zone the affected area from the delineated area of Crosshouse Primary School to that of Annanhill Primary School;

(iii) changes to the delineated areas of the respective educational establishments are made from the start of academic session 2017/2018, subject to the outcome of this consultation process; and
(iv) Otherwise to note the contents of this report.

Alex McPhee  
Depute Chief Executive & Chief Finance Officer  
Economy and Skills

LIST OF APPENDICES

1  Proposal Document (including catchment maps, current and proposed)

2  Minutes of Public meetings
EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

ECONOMY AND SKILLS: EDUCATION

A PROPOSAL DOCUMENT

RE-ZONING OF EDUCATION IN THE WEST OF KILMARNOCK

The following schools are affected by this Proposal Document:

ANNAHILL PRIMARY SCHOOL
GARGIESTON PRIMARY SCHOOL
CROSSHOUSE PRIMARY SCHOOL

This document has been issued by East Ayrshire Council for Proposal in terms of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 as amended.

Any Ordnance Survey map data included within this document is provided by East Ayrshire Council under licence from Ordnance Survey in order to fulfil its public function in relation to this public Proposal. Persons viewing this mapping should contact Ordnance Survey Copyright for advice where they wish to licence Ordnance Survey mapping data for their own use.

DISTRIBUTION
A copy of this document, and its summary version, are available on the East Ayrshire Council web-site:

www.east-ayrshire.gov.uk

A summary copy of this document will be provided to:

- The Parent Councils of the affected schools
- The parents of the pupils at the affected schools
- Parents of children expected to attend the affected schools within 2 years of the date of publication of this Proposal Document
- The pupils at the affected schools
- The teaching and ancillary staff, at the affected schools
- The trade union representatives of the above staff
- Depute Chief Executive and Chief Financial Officer
- Depute Chief Executive Safer Communities
- Head of Facilities and Property Management
- The related Community Councils
- Relevant users of the affected schools
- Relevant Community Associations
- All residents in the affected catchment area
- The constituency MSP
- List MSPs for the area
- The Constituency MP
- Ayrshire College
- Sub-Divisional Commander, Police Scotland
- Chief Executive, NHS Ayrshire and Arran
- Chief Executive Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT)
- Area Commander, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
- South Ayrshire Council
- North Ayrshire Council
- Community Planning Partnership Board

A copy of this document is also available from:

- Council Headquarters, London Road, Kilmarnock, KA3 7BU
- Public libraries in the vicinity of the schools affected
- Local area offices in the vicinity of the schools affected
- The schools affected by the proposal

This document is also available in alternative formats or in translated form for readers whose first language is not English. Please apply in writing to the Economy and Skills: Education, Council Headquarters, London Road, Kilmarnock, KA3 7BU, by telephone on 01563-576000; or by e-mail:

education.consultation@east-ayrshire.gov.uk
SUMMARY OF THE PROCESS FOR THIS PROPOSAL DOCUMENT

1. Consideration by the Cabinet (Education)

This Proposal Document has been issued as a result of a decision by the Cabinet (Education) of East Ayrshire Council. This is to seek views on the proposals in this paper.

2. Proposal Document issued to consultees and published on Council Web-site

A summary copy of this document will be issued free of charge to the consultees listed on the preceding page. Advice on where the complete Proposal Document can be obtained will be included and both the full version and summarised version will be published on the Council website: www.east-ayrshire.gov.uk. If requested, copies of both the full and summary versions will also be made available in alternative formats or in translated form for readers whose first language is not English.

3. Publication of advertisement in local newspapers and other media

An advertisement will be placed in the relevant local newspaper and on the East Ayrshire Council web-site, Facebook and Twitter page.

4. Length of Consultation period

An advertisement will be placed in the local newspaper prior to the start of the consultation period. The consultation will thereafter run from 2 November 2016 until close of business on 13 December 2016, which includes a period of 30 school days.

5. Public meetings

A formal public meeting will be held in each affected school to discuss these proposals. Anyone wishing to attend the public meeting is invited to do so. The meeting will be convened by East Ayrshire Council in consultation with the Parent Councils of the affected schools and will be addressed by the Head of Education and other senior officers of the Council.

The meeting will be an opportunity to:

- Hear more about the proposal.
- Ask questions about the proposal.
- Have your views recorded so that they can be taken into account as part of the proposal process.

The public meetings will be held on:

Date: 8 November 2016   Venue: Annanhill Primary School   Time: 7:00pm
Date: 9 November 2016   Venue: Gargieston Primary School   Time: 7:00pm
Date: 10 November 2016   Venue: Crosshouse Primary School   Time: 7:00pm

A note will be taken of comments, questions and officer responses. These notes will be published on the Council website, and a copy will be made available on request.
These notes will also be forwarded to Education Scotland along with all other submissions and comments that are received by the Council during the consultation process.

6. Responding to the Proposal

Interested parties are invited to respond to this Proposal document by making written or electronic submissions on the proposal to:

- Head of Education, East Ayrshire Council, Council Headquarters, London Road, Kilmarnock KA3 7BU; or
- education.consultation@east-ayrshire.gov.uk

For the convenience of those wishing to respond, a form is provided at Appendix 7, and is also available on the council’s website at:

- www.east-ayrshire.gov.uk

Those wishing to respond are invited to state their relationship with the school – for example, “Pupil of XXX Primary School”, “Parent of a child at XXX Primary School”, “Grandparent of a child at XXX Primary School”, “Former pupil of XXX Primary School”, “Teacher of XXX Primary School”, “Member of the Community” etc. Responses from the Parent Councils, staff, and Pupil Councils are particularly welcome.

Those sending in a response, whether by letter or electronically, should know that their response will be open to public scrutiny and may have to be supplied to anyone making a reasonable request to see it. If they do not wish their response to be publicly available, they should clearly write on the document: “I wish my response to be considered as confidential with access restricted to elected members and council officers of East Ayrshire Council.” Otherwise, it will be assumed that the person making the response agrees to it being made publicly available.

7. Involvement of Education Scotland

The published Proposal Document will be sent to Education Scotland by East Ayrshire Council. Education Scotland will also receive a copy of any relevant written representations that are received by the Council from any person during the consultation period or, if Education Scotland agree, a summary of them. Education Scotland will further receive a summary of any oral representations made to the Council at the public meeting that will be held and, as available (and so far as otherwise practicable), a copy of any other relevant documentation. Education Scotland will then prepare a report on the educational aspects of the proposal not later than 3 weeks after the Council has sent them all representations and documents mentioned above. However, for the avoidance of doubt, the 3 week period will not start until after the consultation period has ended. In preparing their report, Education Scotland may visit the affected school and make such reasonable enquiries of such people there as they consider appropriate and may make such reasonable enquiries of such other people as they consider appropriate.
8. Preparation of the Consultation Report

The Council will review the proposal having regard to the Education Scotland Report, written representations that it has received and oral representations made to it by any person at the public meeting. It will then prepare a Consultation Report. This report will be published in electronic and printed formats and will be advertised in the local newspaper. It will be available on the Council web-site and from Council Headquarters, public libraries in the vicinity of the affected schools, local offices in the vicinity of the affected schools as well as the affected schools, free of charge. Anyone who made written representations during the consultation period will also be informed about the report. The report will include a record of the total number of written representations made during the consultation period, a summary of the written representations, a summary of the oral representations made at the public meeting, the Authority's response to the Education Scotland Report as well as any written or oral representations it has received, together with a copy of the Education Scotland Report and any other relevant information, including details of any alleged inaccuracies and how these have been handled. The Report will also contain a statement explaining how it complied with the requirement to review the proposal in light of the Education Scotland Report and representations (both written and oral) that it received. The Consultation Report will be published and available for further consideration for a period of 3 weeks.

9. Note on Corrections

If any inaccuracy or omission is discovered in this Proposal Document either by the Council or any person, the Council will determine if relevant information has been omitted or, there has been an inaccuracy. It may then take appropriate action which may include the issue of a correction or the reissuing of the Proposal paper or the revision of the timescale for the consultation period if appropriate. In that event, relevant consultees and Education Scotland will be advised. The person, or persons, who have raised concerns will receive an individual response to their submission.

10. Decision

This report, together with any other relevant documentation, will be considered by the Council’s Cabinet who will come to a decision. This decision may be the subject of further scrutiny in terms of the Council’s call-in procedures.

11. Commission for the Delivery of Rural Education

From 1 August 2014 there is a presumption against the closure of rural schools. This proposal does not relate to a closure of a rural school.

12. Scottish Ministers Call-in

The Schools Consultation (Scotland) Act 2010, as amended, does not make provisions for referral to Scottish Ministers in cases other than closures, therefore the proposal is not subject to Ministerial call in.

This proposal arises from a review of the current catchment areas to the west of Kilmarnock centre, taking into account the existing and planned housing development areas and the historic nature of the existing school catchment boundaries.
PROPOSAL

That subject to the outcome of this consultation exercise:

- the delineated area of Annanhill Primary School is amended to a location on the A759 at the entrance to Mount House, Kilmarnock, following the western perimeter of Annanhill Golf Course, continuing westwards along the southern edge of Annandale estate to the B7081 to meet the delineated area of Crosshouse Primary School. This proposal will re-zone the affected ground to the south and west of this new boundary at Moorfield housing estate from the delineated area of Annanhill Primary School to that of Gargieston Primary School.

- the delineated area of Crosshouse Primary School is amended at a location on the north-west corner of Fardalehill, on which development is planned. This proposal will re-zone the affected area from the delineated area of Crosshouse Primary School to that of Annanhill Primary School.

- changes to the delineated areas of the respective educational establishments are made from the start of academic session 2017/2018, subject to the outcome of this consultation process.
1. BACKGROUND

East Ayrshire Council monitors and reviews its school estate on an ongoing basis, to ensure that it is flexible and responsive to both changes in demand for school places and to learners’ and teachers’ needs in relation to the provision of the curriculum. The drivers for the future school estate in East Ayrshire are:

- East Ayrshire Community Plan;
- The Local Development Plan;
- The School Estate Management Plan;
- Delivery of the Curriculum for Excellence;
- East Ayrshire Council’s Transformation Strategy; and

1.1 East Ayrshire Community Plan

Community Planning is about a range of partners in the public and voluntary sectors working together to better plan, resource and deliver quality services that meet the needs of people who live and work in East Ayrshire. The Community Plan is recognised by all partners as the sovereign strategic planning document for the delivery of public services in East Ayrshire over the 15 years from 2015 to 2030 and sets out the overall vision for the local area.

“East Ayrshire is a place with strong, safe and vibrant communities where everyone has a good quality of life and access to opportunities, choices and high quality services which are sustainable, accessible and meet people’s needs.”

1.2 The Local Development Plan

The Local Development Plan aims to actively promote and enhance the economic, social and physical environment of East Ayrshire as a means of improving the quality of life of all residents of the area. The plan has been designed, in particular, to help achieve the aims and aspirations of the Council’s Community Plan, especially with regard to the improvement of opportunities and the environment. In addition, the plan identifies a range of development sites for housing, industry and other uses to meet future anticipated demands and provides the Council’s policy and physical framework for future development throughout the authority area.

Developing Strong and Vibrant Communities. The Council is committed to ensuring that local communities are of the highest quality and with access to a full range of services and facilities to support local populations and to cater for the needs of all residents and visitors to the area. To achieve these objectives, the local plan aims:

- to provide an adequate supply of effective housing land and associated leisure, recreational, community and other facilities and services to meet anticipated demand; and
- to strengthen and improve the viability and vitality of the retail and economic base of East Ayrshire.

1.3 The School Estate Management Plan

The School Estate Management Plan (SEMP) provides details of the school estate and highlights issues such as the projected over occupancy of schools. In summary the plan sets out to:
• re-state the Council’s vision for the school estate and the policy context;
• provide an update on the current status of the school estate;
• identify current investment and progress made; and
• set out the principles for the Council to achieve its desired standards.

Occupancy levels at Annanhill Primary School have been reported on a number of occasions through the SEMP. The SEMP, in 2013/2014, indicated a proposal to cap Annanhill primary 1 intake to 60 pupils which was approved at the Cabinet of 14 January, 2015.

1.4 Promoting Life Long Learning
Recognising the importance of education to the young people and adult learners, promotion of Lifelong Learning has been one of the four Community Plan themes and raising educational attainment is a key priority for the Council. Key strategic objectives for the Education Service of East Ayrshire Council are:

• Improved literacy and numeracy skills for children, young people and adults;
• Positive and sustained destinations for learners; and
• Improved community capacity, spirit and cohesion.

East Ayrshire Council strives to ensure that all its citizens are equipped with the appropriate skills for life and the work place and to achieve these objectives the Council has identified raising educational attainment as one of its strategic priorities.

1.5 Delivery of Curriculum for Excellence
Curriculum for Excellence is well embedded within all East Ayrshire schools and seeks to achieve a transformation in education by providing a coherent, flexible and rich curriculum from 0 - 18. The curriculum includes the totality of experiences that are planned for children and young people through their education, wherever they are being educated.

Curriculum for Excellence aims to ensure that all young people develop knowledge, skills and attributes for learning, life and work, which are encapsulated in the four capacities:

• successful learners;
• confident individuals;
• responsible citizens; and
• effective contributors.

At its meeting of 4 May 2011, the Council’s Cabinet agreed the priorities for the development of Curriculum for Excellence in East Ayrshire. This sits within the existing Education Performance Framework. In summary, these are:

• Learning and Teaching
• Assessment and Moderation, Recording and Reporting
• Experiences and Outcomes
• Literacy, Numeracy and Health and Wellbeing
• Curriculum Structure
• Senior Phase
1.6 East Ayrshire Transformation Strategy

East Ayrshire Council agreed the Transformation Strategy at its meeting of 28 June 2012. This set out the key strategic imperatives and included:

Asset Management – A significant element of the cost of council services relates to the use of physical assets. These need to be employed to maximum effect and surplus and underperforming assets disposed of. The Asset Management Strategy needs to be reviewed to ensure that it is appropriately re-aligned to reflect changes to strategic priorities. Target occupancy, usage, accessibility levels and unit costs should be established for each category of building and the Transformation Strategy should thereafter include actions to achieve these targets.

The Schools Estate Management Plan has already set a total school occupancy target of 85%. The Scottish Futures Trust is working on an initial target reduction of 25% of the national estate. These targets should be adopted by the Council and pursued relentlessly with regular reports to Cabinet on their achievement. New capital projects should be expected to demonstrate net revenue savings over the lifetime of the asset.”

1.7 Building Better Schools: Investing in Scotland's Future

The Scottish Government commitment and vision for national school estate was expressed jointly with COSLA, and resulted in the development of a new school estate strategy that was published in 2009.

The document, Building Better Schools: Investing in Scotland's Future, sets out national and local government’s shared vision, aspirations and principles for the efficient and effective management of the school estate. The key aspirations for the school estate are:

- A school estate that is efficiently run and that delivers maximum value for money;
- A school estate which is flexible and responsive - both to changes in demand for school places and to learners' and teachers' requirements and wishes, and where the beneficial impact of change is maximised by thorough engagement with users and stakeholders;
- Schools are integral parts of the communities they serve, with pupils making use of community facilities and communities accessing school facilities;
- Schools accommodate and provide a range of services, activities and facilities that make a difference to people's health and wellbeing, to sustaining economic growth and to the strength and vibrancy of communities;
- All children and young people will be educated in, and community users will use, schools that are ‘fit for purpose’ in terms of condition, suitability and sufficiency; and
- Schools are well-designed, accessible, inclusive learning environments that inspire and drive new thinking and change and which support the delivery of high quality educational experiences through Curriculum for Excellence.

2. CONTEXT

East Ayrshire Council monitors and reviews its school estate on an ongoing basis to ensure that it is flexible and responsive to both changes in demand for school places and to the needs of learners and teachers in relation to the provision of the curriculum. In 2012, the Council revised its approach to calculating school roll projections based on best current practice in Scotland and to take account of the most recent available information. For primary schools a figure of 0.3 per house is used to calculate potential children from a new housing development: a survey of other councils shows a range of factors from 0.15 to 0.4 being used with 0.3 being at the upper end. The projected pupil rolls and occupancy levels outlined in this document, and the potential impact of
future housing developments on the capacity of each school, are included in this consultation paper.

Annanhill Primary School is situated within the Grange Learning Campus. The school roll has increased considerably since it opened in 2008. This has been, in part, due to significant house building to the west of Kilmarnock at Moorfield, as well as the current development at Fardalehill. It is anticipated that 527 new houses will be built in the current Annanhill Primary School catchment area over the next 5 years. This includes potential developments at Irvine Road, Annandale and a further small development at Moorfield, the Potteries and other minor developments.

2.1 Annanhill Primary School

Table (i) outlines the increasing roll since the school was opened:

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<th>Year</th>
<th>P1</th>
<th>P2</th>
<th>P3</th>
<th>P4</th>
<th>P5</th>
<th>P6</th>
<th>P7</th>
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<td>406</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010/2011</td>
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<td>68</td>
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<td>56</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>418</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011/2012</td>
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<td>63</td>
<td>74</td>
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<td>65</td>
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<td>2014/2015</td>
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<td>2015/2016</td>
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<td>66</td>
<td>84</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016/2017</td>
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<td>61</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>485</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Significant points to note regarding the 2016/2017 primary 1 intake:

- 47 enrolments from the catchment area.
- 32 placing requests submitted with 27 places granted.
- Of the 27 placing requests allocated only 15 were in the priority categories i.e. had siblings already in the school; ASN requirements; children of service personnel.
- The current position is that there is only 1 reserved place available for a catchment enrolment.

In order to address the increasing roll, it has been necessary for the school to find three additional teaching classrooms. This has increased the planned capacity of the school from 495 to 594. However, it has meant the loss of a supplementary room in the school itself and also the utilisation of two teaching classrooms in the Grange Campus.

The loss of a supplementary room means that the school has reduced flexibility in terms of utilisation of spaces for the wider curriculum out with the classroom environment. The utilisation of accommodation in Grange Academy may not be sustainable as its own roll continues to increase towards maximum occupancy.

2.2 Roll Projections

The Council takes a number of factors into account when projecting pupil rolls, gathering information from Community Planning Partners such as NHS Ayrshire and Arran, the Planning Service, Ayrshire Joint Planning Unit, General Registers of Scotland and information held on the Education Service Management Information System. The main factors included in pupil roll projections include:
- The birth rate for the East Ayrshire area;
- The number of children living in a school catchment area aged 0-1, 1-2, 2-3, 3-4 and 4-5;
- The number of houses planned to be built in a school’s catchment area; and
- The number of placing requests into and out of a school.

Annanhill Primary School’s projected rolls indicate that it will continue to increase over the next few years taking into account enrolments, potential placing requests and new build housing within the existing catchment area. The most recent housing development in the Annanhill Primary School catchment area at Fardalehill and other potential housing developments have been included in the projected rolls for the next five years, calculated at 0.3 primary-aged children per new house, which could mean a potential roll of over 700 children by 2020.

The roll for session 2016/2017 of 485 is below projected figures. This can be partly explained by the unusually large class of primary 7 pupils moving on to Grange Academy (84 pupils). It is likely that phasing of house building at Fardalehill and no progress, to date, on the development of other potential housing sites has also had an impact on a lower projected roll.

However, even with a school roll and occupancy level slightly lower than projected for academic session 2016/2017, it is likely the school roll will continue to rise towards a position where it is at a level beyond the working capacity by 2018/2019 (121%) and with that a need to identify further accommodation that can be utilised as classrooms.

2.3 Pupils residing outwith school catchment area

Since Annanhill Primary School opened in 2008 there has been a demand for places from parents of children living outwith the school’s catchment area. This equates to approximately 44% of the school roll which is a significant figure and impacts on many areas of the school and learning experiences for the children. This figure includes ‘request to remain’ requests from pupils moving out of the catchment area after enrolment and placing requests.

An analysis of the information shows that the highest percentage of pupils residing outwith the school catchment area come from the catchment areas of:

- Hillhead Primary School approximately 17.53% of the total school roll.
- Onthank Primary School approximately 6.19% of the total school roll.
- Loanhead Primary School approximately 3.30% of the total school roll
- Gargieston Primary School approximately 3.19% of the total school roll.

2.4 Capping intake to 60 places in primary 1

The SEMP of 2013/2014 recommended that Annanhill primary 1 intake be capped to 60 and this was agreed by Cabinet in January 2015. However, 3 classes are required in order to accommodate 60 primary 1 pupils as there should be no more than 25 pupils in a class at this stage. This means that for planning capacity purposes there are, technically, 75 places available. Since the Cabinet decision was made, the primary 1 intake has fluctuated as follows:

- 2014/2015 - 74 pupils
- 2015/2016 - 50 pupils
• 2016/2017 – Planned - 69 pupils (plus 6 reserved places)
• 2016/2017 – Actual - 74 pupils (plus 1 reserved place)

As mentioned earlier, a larger than usual primary 7 class (84 pupils) moving to Grange Academy in this current session will result in a drop in the overall roll as can be seen in table (i). However, with the exception of pupils leaving Annanhill at the end of session 2017/18 the number of pupils exiting from the school at primary 7 level will not have a significant impact on the overall school roll.

3. PROPOSAL

Under the Education (Scotland) Act 1980, the Education Authority has the facility to cap the school roll, allocate reserved places or refuse placing requests to ensure the number of children entering the school at P1 is managed to allow class structures and room sizes to accommodate the current roll as they move through later stages of their education.

The current delineation/catchment area for Annanhill Primary School has been in place since the time of Ayr County Council and as such does not take account of housing developments in the intervening years or those proposed in the East Ayrshire Local Plan 2010-2017 and beyond for that area.

In order to address the potential over-occupancy issues at Annanhill Primary School, a re-zoning of the catchment area of the school is proposed. This would have an impact on Gargieston Primary School.

3.1 Gargieston Primary School

Gargieston Primary School is the closest non-denominational school to Annanhill Primary School. It has a current occupancy of 78.05% which is below East Ayrshire’s average figure of 85%. Since Gargieston Primary School opened in August 2012 there have been fluctuations in the school roll but always keeping it well below the occupancy capacity of the school (see table (ii) below).

For session 2016/17, the roll for Gargieston Primary School is 320 which is 90 pupils under the school’s working capacity of 410.

Table (ii)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>P1</th>
<th>P2</th>
<th>P3</th>
<th>P4</th>
<th>P5</th>
<th>P6</th>
<th>P7</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010/2011</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011/2012</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>274</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012/2013</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>262</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013/2014</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>278</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014/2015</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015/2016</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>301</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016/2017</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>320</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
It is anticipated that there will be small developments in the area of approximately 97 new houses (Barbadoes Road and Holmes Road). Projected rolls include potential enrolments from this house building. Roll projections indicate that the roll will increase slightly over the next few years taking into account enrolments, potential placing requests and new build housing within the existing catchment area.

The local plan highlights a small site where there is the potential for future housing development in the area at Moorfield. For consistency, the proposed delineated area for Gargieston would also encompass this area to ensure the entire development at Moorfield is in the same catchment area. There is the potential for up to 75 houses in this area. However, advice from planning colleagues suggests that although minor infrastructure works have been completed there has been no recent interest in this site.

At present there are 62 children who attend Annanhill Primary School living in the Moorfield area proposed for re-zoning. For illustrative purposes only, if all these children had transferred from Annanhill Primary School to Gargieston Primary School in August 2016, it would have taken the occupancy of Annanhill Primary School down to 76.91% with the use of the three additional rooms. If the school’s supplementary room was returned to its original purpose and the other two rooms returned to Grange campus, the occupancy for Annanhill would increase to 93.79%.

This would offer a number of benefits for Annanhill:

- there would be extra capacity for the additional children likely to attend the school from the planned Fardalehill development.
- the school could deliver a more flexible curriculum with the return of the supplementary space currently used as a classroom.
- Grange Academy would be in an improved position regarding their additional accommodation to cope with their increasing roll numbers.

Again for illustrative purposes only, if the 62 children living in the Moorfield area had transferred from Annanhill Primary School to Gargieston Primary School in August 2016 it would have taken the occupancy of Gargieston Primary School up to 93.17%.

Like Annanhill Primary School, the school roll for Gargieston Primary School also has a high number of pupils residing outwith the catchment area. This equates to approximately 45% of the total school roll. This figure includes ‘request to remain’ requests from pupils moving outwith the catchment area after enrolment and placing requests.

An analysis of the information shows that the highest percentage of pupils residing outwith the school catchment area come from the catchment areas of:

- Annanhill Primary School approximately 28.75% of the total school roll.
- Hillhead Primary School approximately 4.69% of the total school roll.
- Onthank Primary School approximately 3.44% of the total school roll.

### 3.2 Housing development at Fardalehill

The housing development at Fardalehill is in the catchment area of Annanhill Primary School. However, an area of land to the northwest corner of the housing development at Fardalehill is in the catchment area for Crosshouse Primary School.
In order to address potential difficulties arising from having children from housing, potentially in the same street, being zoned for different primary schools, the proposal includes re-zoning this small pocket of land from Crosshouse Primary School to Annanhill Primary School. This change has no additional impact on Annanhill Primary School as roll projections for the school currently include potential children from the entire housing development at Fardalehill.

Copies of the catchment area maps for the affected establishments are attached in the appendices:

Appendix 1: Current Annanhill Primary School - Delineated area  
Appendix 2: Current Gargieston Primary School - Delineated area  
Appendix 3: Current Crosshouse Primary School - Delineated Area

The following section details the implications of the proposed changes to the catchment area boundaries, details of which are also presented in map format within the following appendices.

Appendix 4: Revised Annanhill Primary School – Delineated Area  
Appendix 5: Revised Gargieston Primary – Delineated Area  
Appendix 6 Revised Crosshouse Primary School - Delineated area

### 4. EDUCATION BENEFITS STATEMENT

East Ayrshire Council is committed to raising educational attainment and ensuring that all young people have the best opportunities in life. This proposal will assist East Ayrshire Council make more efficient and effective use of its resources.

In addressing capacity issues, the proposal has the potential to have a positive impact on the balance of pupil numbers across the establishments in the central/western area of the town. The educational benefits include:

- improved learning environment for those children currently attending Annanhill Primary School;
- the potential to alleviate current pressures in terms of teaching spaces, dining spaces and social spaces in Annanhill Primary School;
- increased opportunities for children to access more flexible spaces;
- reducing fragmentation of stages within Annanhill Primary School;
- a re-balancing of pupil numbers in the central/western area of the town;
- school occupancy levels more in line with the average across the East Ayrshire school estate;
- more efficient use of Education assets;
- opportunities for children to interact, both educationally and socially, with a wider group of peers; and
- re-allocation of accommodation in Grange Academy at a time when its roll is increasing and greater demand being placed on its spaces;

Both Annanhill Primary School and Gargieston Primary School provide curricula which conform to national and authority guidelines in terms of depth, breadth, coherence, relevance, challenge and enjoyment.
Similarly, both schools operate under the Authority policy of a presumption of provision for children with additional support needs and so will be equally able to meet these requirements.

5. AIMS OF THE PROPOSED CATCHMENT AREA CHANGE

The primary aims for the proposal:

- to address over-occupancy issues within Annanhill Primary School;
- to drive efficiency within the school estate in terms of space usage; and
- to provide equity of provision for children in the central/western area of the town in terms of learning experiences and learning environment.

6. IMPACT ON CHILDREN DIRECTLY AFFECTED BY THIS PROPOSAL

The area to the immediate west of Annanhill Primary School’s catchment area covers the significant housing development at Moorfield. There is a safe walking route from Moorfield to Gargieston Primary School through Mount House estate.

Any school aged child currently living in the areas affected by these proposals will continue to be entitled to attend their current school, with an entitlement to free school transport if this is currently in place, so long as they continue to reside at their present address. However, any siblings of children living in the areas affected by these proposals will not have an automatic right to a place at the same school.

It is expected that any future siblings, whose homes fall into the proposed new delineated area for Gargieston Primary School will attend that school, subject to the outcome of the consultation process. These proposals do not diminish the parental right to apply for a placing request and to have that request assessed in relation to the statutory criteria. There are 3 priority categories that are considered when granting placing requests. One of these priorities is for pupils who have siblings already attending the school.

7. EQUALITY STATEMENT

An assessment for relevance has been completed. It has been deemed that there is no relevance in relation to the impact on individuals on the basis of:

- AGE
- DISABILITY
- GENDER REASSIGNMENT
- RACE RELIGION OR BELIEF
- MARRIAGE AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP
- PREGNANCY AND MATERNITY
- SEX
- SEXUAL ORIENTATION

The council will take account of, and address, any equality issues raised in writing or oral representation made as part of the consultation process.

8. PROPOSED DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION

It is intended that the proposals, if approved, would be implemented immediately which in effect will impact on the intake to each school from August 2017.
9. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that

On 19 October 2016, the Cabinet of East Ayrshire Council agree to adopt, for the purpose of consultation, that:

(i) the delineated area of Annanhill Primary School is amended to a location on the A759 at the entrance to Mount House, Kilmarnock, following the western perimeter of Annanhill Golf Course, continuing westwards along the southern edge of Annandale estate to the B7081 to meet the delineated area of Crosshouse Primary School.

(ii) The delineated area to the south and west of the proposed amended area at (i) be transferred to Gargieston Primary School;

(iii) The delineated area of Crosshouse Primary School at the north-west corner of Fardalehill is amended.

(iv) The delineated area of at the north-west corner of Fardalehill at (iii) be transferred to Annanhill Primary School.

It is also recommended that:

(i) Interested parties be invited to make written or electronic submissions on the proposal to:

- The Head of Education, East Ayrshire Council, Council Headquarters, London Road, Kilmarnock KA3 7BU; or

- education.consultation@east-ayrshire.gov.uk

no later than close of business on 13 December 2016

Alan Ward
Head of Education
Appendix 1: Current Annanhill Primary School - Delineated area
Appendix 2: Current Gargieston Primary School - Delineated area
Appendix 3: Current Crosshouse Primary School - Delineated Area
Appendix 4: Revised Annanhill Primary School – Delineated Area
Appendix 5: Revised Gargieston Primary – Delineated Area
Appendix 6: Revised Crosshouse Primary School - Delineated area
APPENDIX 7
ECONOMY AND SKILLS DEPARTMENT CONSULTATION PROPOSAL RESPONSE FORM

PROPOSAL
That subject to the outcome of this consultation exercise: The delineated area of Annanhill Primary School be amended to exclude the area to the west of the boundary of Annanhill Golf Course which would transfer to Gargieston Primary School and the delineated area of Annanhill Primary School be amended to include the north-west corner of Fardalehill, on which housing development has been agreed, from Crosshouse Primary School. The consultation and response form is available online at www.east-ayrshire.gov.uk/consultations

**MUST BE COMPLETED FOR A VALID RESPONSE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name (Please Print)</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Postcode</th>
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</table>

**CONFIDENTIALITY OF RESPONSE**
I wish my response to be considered as confidential with access restricted to elected members and council officers of East Ayrshire Council □

**PLEASE CONFIRM THAT YOU HAVE READ THE STATUTORY CONSULTATION DOCUMENT (FULL DOCUMENT) BY TICKING THIS BOX □**

**YOUR INTEREST:** Please tick the most relevant box below

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>18. Resident East Ayrshire □</td>
<td>19. Other (please specify) □</td>
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</table>

**SUMMARY OF REPORT** – Please refer to the statutory consultation document for the full details of the proposal

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. Do you agree with the review of the catchment area for Annanhill, Gargieston and Crosshouse Primary Schools</th>
<th>AGREE □</th>
<th>DISAGREE □</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

List the two main reasons for your view agree / disagree

**Reason 1**

**Reason 2**

(Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary)
**Office use**
NOTE OF PUBLIC CONSULTATION MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY 08 NOVEMBER 2016 AT ANNANHILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

In Attendance

Alan Ward, Head of Education
Donald McLeod, HMIE Link Inspector Education Scotland
Emma Johnstone, Head Teacher Annanhill Primary School
Aileen Hollywood, Education Programme Manager
Anne Richardson, Education Programme Co-Ordinator
Councillor Tom Cook
Councillor Maureen McKay
Jane Frost, Annanhill Primary Parent Council Chair
Jackie Livingstone, Parent Council Representative for Cabinet.
8 Annanhill Primary parents in attendance

Alan Ward welcomed everyone to the meeting and delivered a PowerPoint presentation which provided an overview of the consultation process. Alan Ward then invited questions from those in attendance and explained that elected members will have the opportunity to view questions asked this evening and the responses given. A note of this meeting will also be posted on the Consultation section of East Ayrshire Council’s website. Maps of the current and proposed catchment areas were available for the group to view.

The following points were raised:

Point raised – When will the decision be made or is it already decided?
Response – Decision has not already been made and will be decided at Cabinet following publication of the Consultation Report.

Point raised – Parent has a child in P3 and another pre-school aged child. He explained logistical implications of potentially having children at 2 different primary schools. His child in P3 is very happy at Annanhill and he does not want to disrupt his education by moving school. Siblings should be given access to the same school.
Response – East Ayrshire Council’s placing request policy prioritises siblings.

Point raised – Parent also has a child in P3. As placing requests cannot be guaranteed, she feels she will have to choose which child’s education is disrupted.
Response – Point noted as above.

Point raised – Parents purchased house in Moorfield to guarantee their children places at Annanhill Primary. Currently their child attends Gargieston ECC and their preference would be to
send their child to Annanhill Primary. Parents commented that having viewed Gargieston Primary when operational, they don’t like the open plan layout and are concerned that at 90% occupancy there will be no space for learning through play.

**Response** – Gargieston Primary will continue to deliver the same high quality of education at 90% capacity as it currently does. Supplementary dining will not be affected.

**Point raised** – Parent of a P2 child and a pre-school child of 21 months. Discussed lack of equality as she carried out research before purchasing a house in Moorfield so that her children could attend Annanhill Primary.

**Response** – Point noted.

**Point raised** – When will these changes come into effect?

**Response** – It is anticipated that changes will be effective for session 2017/2018.

**Point raised** – Parent of child attending Annanhill Primary commented that she is aware that other parents have elected for their children to attend Gargieston Primary. Not a huge number of parents from Moorfield actually want their child to attend Annanhill Primary. Is it possible to have a 5 year grace period for those families who have already purchased houses in Moorfield?

**Response** – Alan Ward advised that he is not in a position to offer any guarantees. Parents should return their comments on the response form for noting to ensure that concerns are recognised.

**Point raised** – Will 2017/2018 P1 enrolment places be limited to 60?

**Response** – Yes as per Cabinet decision in January 2015.

**Point raised** – Parent of 2 children attending Annanhill from Craigie Village enquired if her children would now be zoned for the new Whatriggs Primary?

**Response** – Parent was advised that a decision was made not include Craigie Village from the consultation as numbers were so small, only 4 children. The proposal doesn’t affect children from Craigie Village.

**Point raised** – Previous re-zoning of Kilmaurs Primary, Hillhead Primary and Onthank Primary allowed younger siblings to attend same school as their older siblings. The same should apply in this case as it is upsetting for children to be uprooted from their current schools.

**Response** – Previous response was reiterated and parents were advised to respond in writing for elected members to consider.

**Point raised** – Parent looking for figures of those who have younger siblings in the Moorfield area. How many children are due to start P1 based on projections?

**Response** – There are no catchment areas for Early Childhood Centres so P1 intake cannot be accurately predicted.

**Point raised** – It is unfair that younger child cannot attend Annanhill Primary as the family has lived in Moorfield since the houses were built. Would like condition written into proposal document that within a set timescale, younger siblings can still enrol at Annanhill Primary.

**Response** – The proposal document cannot be changed. However, feedback from parents will be taken into account with the final report is written. Alan Ward advised he will look into the legislation on placing requests. Aileen Hollywood added that 3 criteria are applied when granting placing requests:
- A child/young person who has a medical condition who requires facilities or support available only in the requested school.
- If the child/young person has a sibling already in the chosen school and a brother or sister will be attending the same school for the session the application is being made.
- The child is from an adult household, where one or more of the parents are a serving or former member of the Armed Forces.

Point raised – Is it only Moorfield that is affected? Why Moorfield?
Response – There is an existing trend for children from Moorfield going to Gargieston Primary.
Point raised – Parent discussed the two P7 classes currently using space in Grange Academy and how this is beneficial for their transition to secondary. He feels that the authority use this as an example of good practice when it suits and an example of bad practice when it doesn’t suit e.g. in this case when the authority wants to free up space. Another parent commented that HMIE inspectors noted that this was an example of good practice for transition.
Response – The campus would continue to be an example of good practice. The issue is management of space and the roll of all schools. The transition arrangements will not be affected by this.

Point raised – Does Grange Academy have the capacity to cope?
Response – School roll is increasing and there have been a number of placing requests. If Annanhill Primary only utilises space originally assigned to them, this would free up space for Grange Academy. Fardalehill development has been included in the projected roll numbers until 2020. A standard formula is used for projecting school rolls which rely on figures received from NHS Scotland and local development planners.

Point raised – How long have plans been available for the Fardalehill development? They may not build all the houses planned.
Response – A planning application can remain valid for a number of years. The Authority can only manage the capacity of schools based on the most up-to-date information at the time.

Point raised – What is the predicted P1 intake for 2017/2018?
Response – Without exact enrolment figures it is only possible to estimate. Predictions are based on the birth rate for the area and a formula of 0.3 children per new house built.

Point raised – If predictions are correct and re-zoning is approved, 37 children will automatically go to Annanhill Primary, leaving 23 placing requests for siblings?
Response – We have no exact figures as yet.

Point raised – Can the full Fardalehill development be zoned for Crosshouse Primary?
Response – Top corner of Fardalehill was originally zoned for Crosshouse Primary but the majority of the development was zoned for Annanhill Primary. The entire Fardalehill development should be zoned for Annanhill Primary to ensure all children from the estate go to the same school. Following the meeting the occupancy at Crosshouse Primary was checked and the school could not accommodate the projected numbers from Fardalehill development.
Point raised – Once enrolment takes place in January does that mean P1 children will remain at Annanhill Primary?
Response – Yes if Cabinet has not approved the proposal by the enrolment date.

Point raised – Annanhill Primary can’t have been capped at 60 in 2015 as 74 children were enrolled in 2016/2017?
Response – Places were capped at 60, 14 additional children came from placing requests granted by appeal.

Point raised – Can so many placing requests be granted every year after the capped figure of 60 is reached?
Response – Every case is assessed individually.

Point raised – Is your advice to put responses in writing for Education Scotland and Elected Members’ consideration?
Response – Yes. All correspondence is monitored daily. Elected Members have access to copies of all responses which are located in a folder available to view at any time. Comments from response forms submitted will be included in the final report for Cabinet.

Point raised – After consultation period has ended can anything be amended before Cabinet?
Response – Once the consultation closes, the report will be completed and will be available to view on the website for a period of 3 weeks before any decision is made. Education Scotland will ensure that the correct process has been followed.

Point raised – Can Elected Members amend the report?
Response – No the report cannot be amended. Elected Members will look closely at the report and can make the decision not to progress with the proposal.

Point raised – So the proposal is all or nothing? Pass or fail? What is the point in having the consultation?
Response – The Proposal Document cannot be changed. Throughout the consultation period, feedback will be collated and this will be used to inform the final report. Therefore, all contributions are welcome and will be considered.

Point raised – When will I hear if my child gets a guaranteed place for the catchment area?
Response – No guarantees for a place can be given until the end of the enrolment process.

Point raised – No way will the proposal be approved by Cabinet before the end of January so the changes to the catchment area can’t be implemented for the 2017/2018 intake. As a Moorfield resident, with a child due to start P1 in 2017/2018, will he be guaranteed a place if the proposal hasn’t been approved?
Response – No guarantees for a place can be given until the end of the enrolment process.

Point raised – What is the enrolment date for 2017/2018 intake?
Response – This has yet to be confirmed.
Point raised – Will there be a ballot for places if numbers are more than can be accommodated?  
Response – Yes.

Point raised – Parent advised that he is disappointed that no changes can be made to the proposal.  
Response – The process is set out in the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 as amended.

Point raised – As numbers cannot be accurately predicted, the numbers from Moorfield could be as small as two children per year. All this upset, worry and upheaval could be for such a small number of children. Financial costs and childcare also have to be considered.  
Response – Cabinet will consider all of the feedback from the consultation process and make a decision once the final report is produced.

Alan Ward advised those in attendance to encourage other parents to complete the response form.

NOTE OF PUBLIC CONSULTATION MEETING HELD ON  
WEDNESDAY 09 NOVEMBER 2016 AT GARGIESTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

In Attendance

Alan Ward, Head of Education  
Aileen Hollywood, Education Programme Manager  
Anne Richardson, Education Programme Co-Ordinator  
Alison Wright, Head Teacher Gargieston Primary  
Councillor Lillian Jones  
Jackie Livingstone, Parent Council Representative for Cabinet  
3 parents from Gargieston Primary in attendance

Alan Ward welcomed everyone to the meeting and delivered a PowerPoint presentation which provided an overview of the consultation process. Alan Ward then invited questions from those in attendance and explained that elected members will have the opportunity to view questions asked this evening and the responses given. A note of this meeting will also be posted on the Consultation section of East Ayrshire Council’s website. Maps of the current and proposed catchment areas were available for the group to view.

The following points were raised:

Point raised – Parent of ECC child asked what the current occupancy of Gargieston Primary is. Although she is not directly affected she has concerns around associated facilities, especially car parking as she feels it is currently inadequate and unsafe. An increase in capacity will cause increased traffic which she feels will be very dangerous.  
Response – Current occupancy at Gargieston Primary is 78%, however, the transport arrangements for the school have been designed to accommodate 100% occupancy. It was acknowledged that there may be a situation with traffic management which could be addressed
with Elected Members. Alison Wright added that traffic is a standing item on their parent council meeting agenda.

**Point raised** – Same parent commented that her personal feeling why Annanhill Primary’s roll is so high is the perception that it is a better school. She believes this is not the case due to the quality of leadership at Gargieston. She raised a concern that with an increased school roll and a short-term change in leadership that the school will continue to provide the same high quality teaching and learning.

**Response** – Alison Wright commented that the success of a good school depends on parents, children and staff. Alan Ward does not foresee a change in the quality of teaching and learning provided at Gargieston Primary. He stated that he would expect a better quality experience for children as the population of the school rises as teacher numbers will also rise.

**Point raised** – Parent of a child attending Gargieston ECC asked if it is expected that there will be an upturn in placing requests?

**Response** – Alan Ward advised that the placing request situation will be closely monitored.

**Point raised** – Parent of a child attending Gargieston ECC also has a 2 year old, lives in Moorfield and wants both her children to attend Gargieston Primary. She is concerned that with current zoning, her oldest child will be zoned for Annanhill Primary and if the proposal is agreed, her youngest child will be zoned for Gargieston Primary. Logistically she feels it would be impossible to have her children in different schools.

**Response** – Alan Ward commented that a placing request could be submitted for her oldest child to attend Gargieston Primary at the January enrolment.

**Point raised** – Parent of Gargieston ECC child asked if there are any plans to have ECCs zoned.

**Response** – Not at the present time.

Alan Ward advised that all correspondence is monitored daily and Elected Members have access to copies of all responses which are located in a folder available for them to view at any time. Comments from this meeting and from all response forms submitted will be included in the final report for Cabinet and a final decision will then be made by Elected Members.

Alan Ward advised those in attendance to encourage other parents to complete the response form. He invited parents to contact him at his office if they wish to discuss any further issues. The full consultation document can be downloaded from East Ayrshire Council’s website.

**NOTE OF PUBLIC CONSULTATION MEETING HELD ON**

**THURSDAY 10 NOVEMBER 2016 AT CROSSHOUSE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**In Attendance**

Alan Ward, Head of Education
Anne Richardson, Education Programme Co-Ordinator
2 parents from Crosshouse Primary in attendance
Alan Ward welcomed the parents to the meeting and provided an overview of the consultation process and the impact that the proposal would have if it was to be approved. Alan Ward then invited questions from those in attendance and explained that elected members will have the opportunity to view questions asked this evening and responses given. A note of this meeting will also be posted on the Consultation section of East Ayrshire Council’s website. Copies of the catchment maps were made available to view and the proposed changes to each school was explained to the group. The following points were raised:

**Point raised** – Parents have a child in Primary 1 at Crosshouse Primary and are supportive of the changes to the catchment areas. They were concerned that there may be a decision to close Crosshouse Primary School as it was an old establishment.

**Response** – Alan Ward responded that the change to Crosshouse catchment area had no impact on any current housing and would only affect a small area of proposed housing at Fardalehill to ensure the whole of the Fardalehill housing area was zoned to the same school (Annanhill) He advised that the council had no plans to close Crosshouse Primary School.

Alan Ward advised that all correspondence is monitored daily and Elected Members have access to copies of all responses which are located in a folder available for them to view at any time. Comments from this meeting and from all response forms submitted will be included in the final report for Cabinet and a final decision will then be made by Elected Members.

Alan Ward advised those in attendance to encourage other parents to complete the response form.