

# LOCHARDIL & DRUMMOND COMMUNITY COUNCIL



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Brian Porter  
Head of Resources, Care and learning Service  
Highland Council HQ  
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1<sup>st</sup> December 2017

Dear Mr Porter

## **Proposal Paper to establish a new primary school to serve the Ness Castle and Ness-Side housing developments**

I am writing as Chair of Lochardil and Drummond Community Council concerning the above proposal. Although the proposed school falls within the adjacent Community Council we have a strong interest in seeing the Ness Castle Primary School built due to the pressure that existing local schools are under. Both Lochardil and Holm Schools have had to be expanded in the last two years, and Lochardil is having further accommodation installed.

As we understand this consultation concerns the catchment for the new school, since this will determine the size of the new school. In our view the size of the new school needs has to take into account the overall growth of the area over the next decade or more, therefore it needs to be based on the bigger catchment option ie Option A. Future residents of Ness-side may want to have some choice on the catchment (ie based on proximity/travel) but it is important to future proof the capacity of the new school in terms of having a bigger capacity. It is also important that new school provision does not reduce the resources available for existing primary schools in the area. Further there is a need to start looking into the additional secondary school requirement for this side of Inverness.

Yours Sincerely,



Maria de la Torre  
Lochardil and Drummond Community Council Chair