



Nairn Academy

Stakeholder Group Meeting No. 1

Project Update


15th June 2021

Robert Campbell, Estate Strategy Manager






Background/Current Position

- A new school was included in Phase 2 of the Scottish Government's Learning Estate Investment Programme announced in December 2020.
 - The completion date for all Phase 2 projects is December 2025; we are aiming an opening in August 2025, demolition/external works to follow.
 - The budget was included in the reprofiled capital programme approved by Council in January 2021.
 - The scope of the project is for a complete replacement, although the changing pavilion and synthetic playing field will be retained. The synthetic surface will be replaced this year (contractor appointed).
 - There has been ongoing engagement with school staff over the last few months to arrive at a draft accommodation schedule and discuss opportunities for community and other initiatives.
 - School staff have visited Alness Academy and visits to other new schools will be arranged from August onwards.
 - Kenny Murray has recently been appointed as Education Advisor.
 - Balfour Beatty will be appointed as the design and build contractor; formal appointment is in progress.
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Learning Estate Strategy – Slide 1

- The LEIP is based on the Scottish Government's Learning Estate Strategy, in particular the following 10 Principles.
 1. Learning environments should support and facilitate excellent joined up learning and teaching to meet the needs of all learners;
 2. Learning environments should support the wellbeing of all learners, meet varying needs to support inclusion and support transitions for all learners;
 3. The learning estate should be well-managed and maintained, making the best of existing resources, maximising occupancy and representing and delivering best value;
 4. The condition and suitability of learning environments should support and enhance their function;
 5. Learning environments should serve the wider community and where appropriate be integrated with the delivery of other public services in line with the place principle;
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Learning Estate Strategy – Slide 2

6. Learning environments should be greener, more sustainable, allow safe and accessible routes for walking, cycling and wheeling and be digitally enabled;
 7. Outdoor learning and the use of outdoor learning environments should be maximised;
 8. Good consultation about learning environments, direct engagement with learners and communities about their needs and experiences, and an involvement in decision making processes should lead to better outcomes for all;
 9. Collaboration across the learning estate, and collaboration with partners in localities, should support maximising its full potential; and finally,
 10. Investment in Scotland's learning estate should contribute towards improving learning outcomes and support sustainable and inclusive economic growth.
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LEIP Funding Outcomes

- Scottish Government funding will be available through an outcomes based funding model, and will be released on evidence of the achievement of the following agreed outcomes.
 1. New learning environments are built to a high quality and are well maintained over the long term.
 2. Ambitious energy efficiency targets are achieved over the long term and contribute to net-zero commitments.
 3. The investment supports digitally enabled learning and advancements in technology.
 4. The investment creates new jobs and enables inclusive economic growth.
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Look Ahead/Next Steps

- Replacement of synthetic surface to start in July.
- Further engagement with Balfour Beatty; design team to be appointed; site investigations to be carried out; initial layouts and outline programme to be produced.
- Visits to new schools to be arranged.
- Consideration of possible inclusion of Public Library – user survey?

