

I fully understand the Budgetary constraints on the Highland Council and the Education Department but I think the potential Closure of a Village School with such a strong aluminae is a devastating Social blow to a Highland Community;

I have lived in Appin for over 50 years and was a GP with a strong presence in the Duror/Kentallen Community watching generations of Children grow up and thrive in the School catchment area.

Attending a Community School gives young people a strong sense of belonging and confidence which they take forward in life enriching their Community; This is supported by the Stability that having dedicated Teachers in the Community bring as well as the Parents and Grandparents supporting the core of the Community. Duror has lost the Village Shop and Post Office in recent years and to lose the School would devastate the Area; I remember the School being threatened in the 70s and then an extension had to be built to accommodate the rising numbers of Pupils; This is the nature of Rural Communities; Denying that probability will mortally affect this proud, historic Community.

Sincerely

Dr.Iain McNicol, MBE
Dunvegan, Port Appin , Argyll