

Agenda Item	12.
Report No	PEO 13/17

HIGHLAND COUNCIL

Committee: People Committee

Date: 23 August 2017

Report Title: Review of Statutory Consultation Exercise into Changing the Catchment Boundary between Inverloch Primary School and Lundavra Primary School

Report By: Director of Care and Learning

1. Purpose/Executive Summary

- 1.1 Following conclusion of the statutory consultation process, this report and accompanying information sets out a recommendation to change the catchment boundary between Inverloch Primary School and Lundavra Primary School
- 1.2 The proposal is being advanced because a new housing development has been constructed across the historic boundary between the two schools. It is proposed to move the boundary to ensure all the properties within the development are within a single school catchment. The Council also proposes to take the opportunity to make other marginal adjustments to the catchment boundary, so that it follows a line that more closely matches local developments and landmarks.
- 1.3 It is proposed to alter the current catchment on the basis set out in **Annex 1**. The map at **Appendix A** of the Proposal Paper shows the current catchment boundary as a pink line and the proposed new boundary as a dotted blue line. The new housing development consists of 13 units within the area marked "Site 15/02350/FUL". The proposal, if implemented, will move all the housing units in the new development into the catchment area for Inverloch Primary School. The reasons for moving the boundary in favour of Inverloch Primary are set out in paragraph 5.3 of **Annex 1**.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 Members are asked to:

Consider the proposal set out within the Consultation Report and associated appendices and, having given consideration to the representations received, and the Report from Education Scotland, agree to recommend:

- i. To change the catchment boundary between Lundavra Primary School and Inverloch Primary School, as set out in **Annex 1**

3. Public Consultation

- 3.1 The proposal for decision, the original proposal issued for consultation, and relevant appendices for consideration by the Committee are attached in **Appendix 1**. They provide details of all consultation comments received, the note of the public meeting, the report from Education Scotland, and the Council's response to comments arising from the consultation.
- 3.2 Although the proposal was widely circulated to parents and others, no written responses were received, and no members of the public attended the public meeting. The Head Teachers of the two schools consulted their Pupil Councils. The majority of comments from pupils were in favour of the proposal.
- 3.3 The legislation requires that any proposal for decision must be published at least 3 weeks in advance of the meeting at which any decision may be made, to allow time for further representations. The proposal was published on 27 July 2017.

4. Report from Education Scotland

- 4.1 In their report, Education Scotland concludes that the proposal is of clear educational benefit. The proposal addresses an anomaly created by new housing developments. All properties within the new development will be within a single catchment area. The safety of children walking to school would be improved.

5. Procedure

- 5.1 As this report relates to a statutory consultation, any decision taken by this Committee will be considered by the full Highland Council before being implemented.

6. Implications

- 6.1 **Resource** – None.
- 6.2 **Legal** - The statutory consultation has been taken forward as per the requirements of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010.
- 6.3 **Community (Equality, Poverty and Rural)** – None.
- 6.4 **Climate Change / Carbon Clever** – None.
- 6.5 **Risk** – None.
- 6.6 **Gaelic** – None.

Designation	Director of Care and Learning
Date	14 August 2017
Author	Ian Jackson, Education Officer



HIGHLAND COUNCIL

CARE AND LEARNING SERVICE

REVIEW OF THE PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE CATCHMENT BOUNDARY BETWEEN LUNDAVRA PRIMARY SCHOOL AND INVERLOCHY PRIMARY SCHOOL

This report has been prepared following a review of the proposal:

To alter the catchment boundary between Lundavra Primary and Inverloch Primary, to take account of a new housing development built across the existing boundary.

Having had regard (in particular) to:

- Relevant written representations received by the Council (from any person) during the consultation period.
- Oral representations made to it (by any persons) at the public meeting held in Lochaber House, Fort William on 8 March 2017.
- The report from Education Scotland.

This document has been issued by the Highland Council under the requirements of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010.

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Appendices:

- Appendix 1** - The proposal document and appendices
- Appendix 2** - Written and other submissions received.
- Appendix 3** - Minute of public meeting held in Lochaber House, Fort William on 8 March 2017
- Appendix 4** - Report from Education Scotland

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Highland Council's Education, Children and Adult Services Committee (ECAS), at its meeting on 26 January 2017, agreed that a statutory consultation be undertaken on the proposal to make a minor change to the catchment boundary between Lundavra Primary School and Inverloch Primary School. The proposal was made because of a new housing development being built across the line of the existing boundary.
- 1.2 **Appendix 1** is the original consultative paper and provides full details of the above proposal. **Appendices A - C** are the appendices to the original proposal.

2.0 Consultation process

- 2.1 The formal consultation period ran from Monday 6 February 2017 to Thursday 23 March 2017. Written representations on the proposal were sought from interested parties as defined within the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, as amended.
- 2.2 In accordance with statutory requirements, the following were consulted:
 - (i) Parents of pupils attending Inverloch Primary School and Lundavra Primary School; including parents of pre-school pupils;
 - (ii) Members of Parliament and Members of Scottish Parliament for the area affected by the proposal;
 - (iii) The Parent Councils of both schools.
 - (iv) Staff of both schools.
 - (v) Trade union representatives;
 - (vi) Inverloch and Torlundy Community Council;

- (vii) Education Scotland;
- (viii) Highland Youth Convenor

- 2.3 The proposal document was advertised on the Highland Council website, the websites of both schools, and the Facebook pages of both schools.
- 2.4 A public meeting was held in Fort William on 8 March 2017. The meeting was advertised in advance on the Highland Council website and Facebook page, and in the *Oban Times*. No members of the public attended.
- 2.5 Following receipt of written representations received by Highland Council and consideration of oral representations made at the public meeting, officials reviewed the proposals.
- 2.6 The outcome of this review process is reflected in the response, conclusion and recommendations outlined below.

3.0 Responses received

- 3.1 A list of those who responded in writing during the public consultation is at **Appendix 2**. There were no written responses to the public consultation, except for 7 documents summarising the discussions held by the Pupil Council at each year stage at Inverloch Primary School. These are attached as **Appendices 2a-2h**.
- 3.2 Almost all the pupil responses recorded at Inverloch supported the proposed change. Many agreed that it made no sense to have a line running through the new development, which would lead to next door neighbours having to go to different schools. Others welcomed the prospect of more children at Inverloch. A few children commented there should not be a boundary and people should be able to choose which school to go to. One pupil at Inverloch thought any children in the new development should go to Lundavra, as it has a newer and bigger building.
- 3.3 The Head Teacher of Lundavra Primary consulted his whole school Pupil Council, and advises they were in agreement with the proposal to change the boundary so any children in the new houses would go to Inverloch as:
- It would be more likely they could walk to school
 - They wouldn't have to cross over the busy A82
 - More likely that their friends nearby would go to Inverloch.
- 3.4 The formal note of the public meeting is at **Appendix 3**. It records that the meeting was opened but that no members of the public attended.

4.0 Issues raised during the consultation period

- 4.1 The lack of written responses indicates a very low level of public interest in the Proposal.

- 4.2 Most of the pupil comments were in favour of the Proposal. A few responses suggested that there should not be catchment boundary and children should be free to attend whichever school they wanted.
- 4.3 In common with other local authorities in Scotland, Highland Council places all its communities within designated school catchments. Pupils enrol into the designated school for their home address, at both primary and secondary level. This system is necessary for the efficient planning of educational provision. If parents choose another school, then this must be by means of what we term a placing request. These are normally granted but can be refused where acceptance of the request would result in additional expenditure.
- 4.4 One pupil response suggested the area in question should be allocated to Lundavra Primary rather than Inverlochry Primary, as Lundavra has a newer and bigger building. Whilst that statement is true in itself, the proposed increase to the Inverlochry catchment is not expected to cause any accommodation issues for Inverlochry Primary. The Council has also taken into account that the new development is closer to Inverlochry Primary than to Lundavra Primary; that the bulk of the houses in the development currently fall within the Inverlochry catchment.

5.0 Summary of the issues raised by Education Scotland

- 5.1 In line with legislative requirements, Education Scotland was invited to submit comments on the Council's proposals. A copy of the report from Education Scotland is appended – **Appendix 4**.
- 5.2 In their report, Education Scotland conclude that the proposal is of clear educational benefit. The proposal addresses an anomaly created by new housing developments. All properties within the new development will be within a single catchment area. The safety of children walking to school would be improved.

6.0 Effects on the Community

- 6.1 The Proposal will not have any impact on the wider community.

7.0 Alleged omissions or inaccuracies

- 7.1 No alleged omissions or inaccuracies were identified during consultation.

8.0 Overall Review of Consultation Exercise

- 8.1 The results of the consultation exercise suggest the Proposal generated very little interest. The only responses were from the Pupil Councils of both schools, and were overwhelmingly supportive.

9.0 Legal issues

- 9.1 Throughout this statutory consultation Highland Council has complied in full with the requirements of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010.
- 9.2 As provided for in section 1 of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980, it is the duty of the Council to ensure adequate and efficient provision of school education within Highland. The above, and all other legislative requirements, have been taken into account in the preparation of this Report.

10.0 Conclusion

- 10.1 The consultation process has complied fully with legislative requirements and has provided an opportunity for all parties to identify key issues of concern. These issues have been fully considered and the Council's response detailed in section 3 above.
- 10.2 Education Scotland staff visited the two schools to speak to parents, pupils and staff. They also had the opportunity to review in detail the proposal document, all written responses, and the note of the public meeting.
- 10.3 The Director of Care and Learning, on reviewing all of the submissions, the note of the meeting, and the Education Scotland report; concludes that the Proposal and should be implemented. The reasons for this conclusion are set out above.

11.0 Recommendation

- 11.1 It is therefore recommended that Highland Council proceeds with the course of action set out at Paragraph 10.3 above.

Bill Alexander
Director of Care and Learning
27 July 2017

THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL

EDUCATION, CHILDREN AND ADULT SERVICES COMMITTEE

CATCHMENT BOUNDARY BETWEEN INVERLOCHY PRIMARY SCHOOL AND LUNDAVRA PRIMARY SCHOOL

The proposal is to make a minor change to the catchment boundary between Lundavra Primary School and Inverloch Primary School, as a result of a new housing development straddling the existing boundary.

EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS STATEMENT

THIS IS A PROPOSAL PAPER PREPARED IN TERMS OF THE EDUCATION AUTHORITY'S AGREED PROCEDURE TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE SCHOOLS (CONSULTATION) (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010

The Highland Council is proposing, subject to the outcome of the statutory consultation process, to make a minor change to the catchment boundary between Lundavra Primary School and Inverloch Primary School. The change is required because a new housing development being built across the line of the existing boundary.

Legislative Background

- 1.1 The proposal is advanced within the context of all applicable legislation. Amongst other duties, education authorities are required to secure adequate and efficient provision of school education (S.1 of the Education Act 1980).

Reason for the Proposal

- 2.1 This proposal is being advanced because a new housing development is being constructed across the historic boundary between the two schools. It would be reasonable to move the boundary to ensure all the properties within the development are within a single school catchment. The Council also proposes to make other marginal adjustments to the catchment boundary, so that it follows a line that more closely matches local developments and landmarks.
- 2.2 The current boundary is shown as a pink line on the drawing at **Appendix A**. The proposed new boundary is shown as a dotted blue line. The new housing development is within the area marked "Site 15/02350/FUL". There are 13 Housing units within the site.
- 2.3 The consultation process for this Proposal is set out at **Appendix B**.

Current Details – Inverloch Primary School

- 3.1 Inverloch Primary School is situated within the Fort William urban area. Inverloch was once a self-contained village and still retains something of a separate identity within the wider community of Fort William. The 2016-17 roll is 175 pupils in P1-7 and 27 in nursery. A rising roll is projected. The proposal is expected to have a negligible effect on the future school roll.
- 3.2 The Highland Council assesses all of its schools for Suitability and Condition, in line with the Scottish Government's School Estate Management guidelines. Schools are assessed on a scale with the ratings "A" (good) "B" (satisfactory), "C" (poor) and "D" (bad). Inverloch Primary School is currently rated as "B" for educational suitability of the building and "B" for building condition.
- 3.3 The last Education Scotland Inspection Report for Inverloch Primary was published in November 2013 and a copy is at **Appendix C**.
- 3.4 The houses affected by the proposal are located approximately 0.5 miles from Inverloch Primary, within the statutory walking distance.

Current Details – Lundavra Primary

- 4.1 Lundavra Primary is a new school, created from a merger of Upper Achintore Primary and Fort William Primary. For the 2016-17 school session, there are 228 children in the P1-7 roll and 40 in the nursery. A rising roll is projected. The proposed change is expected to have a negligible effect on the future school roll.
- 4.2 Lundavra Primary is currently assessed as "A" for building Suitability and "A" for building Condition.
- 4.3 Education Scotland has not yet carried out an inspection of the new school.
- 4.4 The houses affected by the proposal are located approximately 1.3 miles from Lundavra Primary, within the statutory walking distance.

Educational Benefits

- 5.1 In educational terms, Highland Council does not have a preference between Inverloch Primary School and Lundavra Primary School.
- 5.2 However, recent housing developments have created an anomalous position with the current catchment boundary. It would be sensible to amend the boundary to take account of those developments.
- 5.3 Although Lundavra Primary has higher ratings for Suitability and Condition, the bulk of the site in question is already within the Inverloch Primary catchment. The site is also closer to Inverloch Primary than it is to Lundavra Primary. The Craigs Burial Ground, immediately adjacent to the site, provides a gap in housing and an obvious location for the catchment boundary to be drawn.

- 5.4 For the above reasons, Highland Council recommends that the current boundary is shifted slightly in favour of the Inverlochry Primary School catchment, ensuring that the whole of the new housing development is included within that school's catchment.
- 5.5 The Council will however take account of any views expressed during consultation, contrary to the recommendation in this Paper.

Effects on School Transport

- 6.1 As already indicated, both schools are within the statutory walking distance of the catchment boundary. School transport is not a relevant consideration for the proposal.

Effects on Staff and School Management Arrangements

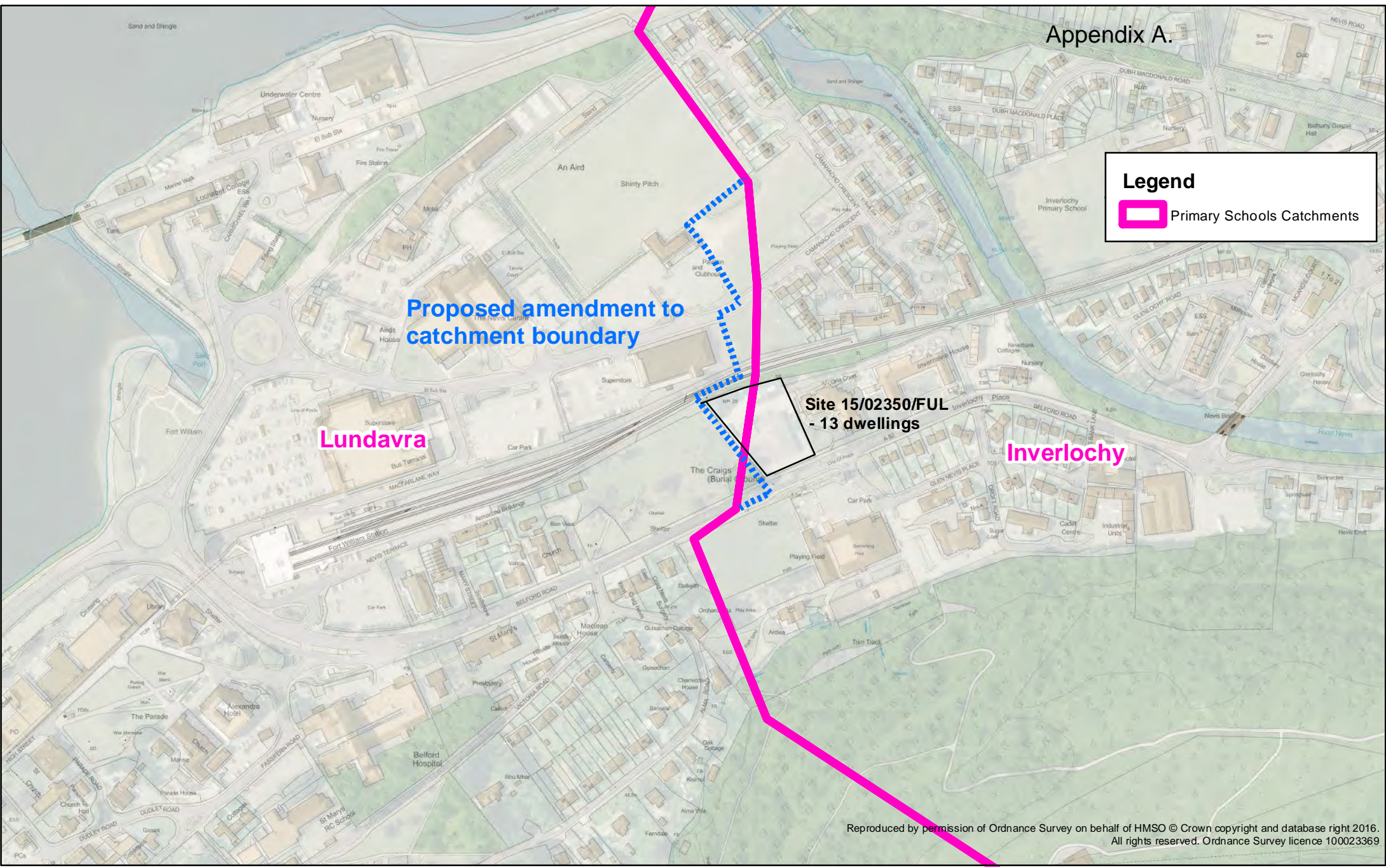
- 7.1 The proposal is not expected to have any impact on staff and school management arrangements.

Effect on the Local Community


- 8.1 The proposal is not expected to have any impact on the wider local community.

Recommendation

- 9.1 Highland Council recommends that the catchment boundary between Inverlochry Primary and Lundavra Primary is redrawn along the blue dotted line shown at Appendix A.
- 9.2 This consultation paper is issued in terms of the authority's procedures to meet the relevant statutory requirements. Following the consultation period, a report and submissions received will be presented to the Education, Children and Adult Services Committee of the Highland Council.



Legend

 Primary Schools Catchments

Proposed amendment to catchment boundary

Lundavra

Site 15/02350/FUL - 13 dwellings

Inverlochy

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Lundavra and Inverlochy Catchment Boundaries Appendix A

0 12.5 25 50 75 100 Meters

1:3,761

Ref: Sch_Lun_Invl
Date: 27/09/2016



CONSULTATIVE PROCESS

SUMMARY OF PROCESS FOR THIS PROPOSAL DOCUMENT

CATCHMENT BOUNDARY BETWEEN INVERLOCHY PRIMARY SCHOOL AND LUNDAVRA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Consideration by the Education, Children and Adult Services Committee

The Proposal paper has been issued as a result of a decision approved by the above Committee.

Prior to submission to Committee, pre-consultation discussions took place between Highland Council officials and local elected members, and the Chairs of the Parent Councils for both schools.

Proposal Document issued to consultees and published on Highland Council Website

Notification of the Proposal paper will be issued to the following consultees:

- (i) Parents of pupils attending Inverloch Primary School and Lundavra Primary School; including parents of pre-school pupils;
- (ii) Members of Parliament and Members of Scottish Parliament for the area affected by the proposal;
- (iv) The Parent Councils of both schools.
- (v) Staff of both schools.
- (vi) Trade union representatives;
- (vii) Inverloch and Torlundy Community Council;
- (viii) Education Scotland;
- (ix) Highland Youth Convenor

and will be published on the Council website.

Publication in local newspapers

A notice announcing the public meeting will be placed in the *Oban Times* and on the Highland Council's Facebook page.

Length of Consultation period

The consultation period will begin on 6 February 2017. The consultation will thereafter run until close of business on 23 March 2016 which includes a period of 31 school days.

Public meeting

A public meeting will be held at 7.00pm on 8 March 2017 in Lochaber House, Fort William. Anyone wishing to attend the public meeting is invited to do so. The meeting will be convened by the Council, will be chaired by a senior elected councillor, and will be addressed by officers of the Care and Learning Service.

The meeting will be an opportunity for the public to hear more about the proposal; to ask questions about the proposal; and to have the views of all stakeholders recorded so that they can be taken into account. A note will be taken at the meeting of questions asked and views expressed. This note will be published on the Council website. The meeting will also be recorded.

Involvement of HMI/Education Scotland

When the Proposal Document is published, a copy will also be sent to Education Scotland by the Council. Education Scotland will also be sent, by 24 April 2017, a copy of any relevant written representations that are received by the Council from any person during the consultation period. Education Scotland will also receive the summary note of the public meeting that will be held and so far as is 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 5 May 2017. In preparing their report, Education Scotland may visit the affected schools and make such enquiries of people there as they consider appropriate.

Preparation of Consultation Report

Highland Council will review the proposal having regard to the Education Scotland Report, written representations that it has received, and oral representations made at the public meeting. It will then prepare a Consultation Report. This Report will be published in electronic and printed formats and will be sent to anyone who submitted a written representation during consultation. It will be available on the Council website as well as at the affected school and local library, free of charge. The Report will include a summary of the written and oral representations made during consultation and a copy of the Education Scotland Report, together with the Council's considered response to the issues raised. The Report will include details of details of any alleged inaccuracies and/or omissions and how these have been handled. The Consultation Report will be published at least 3 weeks prior to being submitted to the Education, Children and Adult Services (ECAS) Committee, who will make a recommendation to the full Highland Council.

In publishing the report the Council will invite any person or party to make further representations to the Committee prior to its meeting. A notice to this effect will also be published on the Highland Council website.

At the present time the Council intends to publish its Report in July 2017, prior to submission to the ECAS Committee in August 2017. However, this timescale may change depending on the nature of issues raised during consultation, and the need to give full consideration to those issues. In the latter event, the Report may not be submitted until a later Committee meeting.

Note on Corrections

If any inaccuracy or omission is discovered in this Proposal paper, either by the Council or any other person, the Council will determine if relevant information has been omitted or, if the paper contains an inaccuracy. The Council will then take appropriate action, which may include the issue of a correction or the reissuing of the Proposal or the revision of the timescale for the consultation period, if appropriate. In that event, relevant consultees and HMI will be advised.

5 November 2013

Dear Parent/Carer

**Inverlochry Primary School and Nursery Class
The Highland Council**

Recently, as you may know, my colleagues and I inspected your child's school. During our visit, we talked to parents and children and worked closely with the headteacher and staff. We wanted to find out how well children are learning and achieving and how well the school supports children to do their best. The headteacher shared with us the school's successes and priorities for improvement. We looked at some particular aspects of the school's recent work, including how well children know their strengths and needs as learners. As a result, we were able to find out how good the school is at improving children's education.

How well do children learn and achieve?

In the nursery class, children learn and achieve well and are making good progress, including in their early literacy and numeracy. They play well together and talk to adults and each other with increasing confidence. We have asked staff to give children further support and encouragement to talk about what they are learning during different activities and to make decisions about what they learn next. Children enjoy listening to stories, practising early writing and joining in counting games during their play. They now need help to develop these skills more thoroughly at different activities around the playroom and outdoors. At the primary stages, almost all children feel safe in school and appreciate the ways in which the school is helping them to become more confident. Children have many worthwhile opportunities to enrich their learning by visiting places of interest and by taking part in clubs such as shinty, art, dancing and choir during lunchtimes or after school. Children's learning could be enhanced further by providing opportunities for them to use computers and other technology independently and more routinely in their work. Through the use of Learning Journeys, and by providing useful feedback, teachers are helping children to understand what they do well and how to set goals for improvement. This is helping children to be active in their learning and children are responding positively to this increased responsibility. In classes where the teacher provides challenging and well-paced lessons, children remain engaged in learning and behave well. The school now needs to ensure that children's learning experiences are of a consistently high standard in all classes. Overall, children's reading skills develop progressively as they move through the school. In all classes, children write regularly for a wide range of purposes. Teachers encourage children to make their writing more interesting and accurate but this is more effective in some classes than in others. Children are learning to develop and apply their literacy skills in other subjects, for example by

taking notes and writing reports in science. In mathematics, children often learn through games and practical activities. In the best lessons, these activities encourage the use of problem solving strategies and deepen children's thinking but this is not yet consistent enough in all classes. The school has correctly identified a need to improve children's skills in mental calculations. Most children make satisfactory progress in English and mathematics. Children's health and wellbeing is being developed through various school initiatives such as buddying and health weeks and staff are currently examining how this can be done more effectively. Teachers now need to build their own confidence in using a range of assessments to provide them with a clearer picture of how individual children are achieving in all subjects. This will help them to provide more challenging learning for a significant minority of children who could be making better progress.

How well does the school support children to develop and learn?

In the nursery and primary classes, staff support children well, particularly those who require additional help to make progress. Support for learning teachers and assistants provide very high-quality support for those children who need additional help with their learning and development. Staff have developed highly productive partnerships with colleagues from other organisations to help deliver the curriculum and to provide effective support for those children who face particular challenges. Staff are working hard together to set meaningful targets and plan effective learning for those children who have individualised education plans. Class teachers prepare well for lessons and adapt resources so that tasks and activities are at the correct level of difficulty for most children. Teachers need to raise their expectations of what some children can achieve particularly in the nursery and early years. They need to ensure all lessons provide well-paced activities at the right level for all children. Children in the nursery and school receive a broad and relevant curriculum, which helps them to learn skills such as working together and taking responsibility. Teachers are working increasingly confidently with Curriculum for Excellence, helping children to make choices and to see meaningful links in their learning. In science and health and wellbeing, teachers are developing programmes to ensure children's learning builds on what they already know and can do. We have asked staff to refresh other programmes in a similar way so that all learning has enough depth and is progressive and challenging.

How well does the school improve the quality of its work?

The school has developed a wide range of very effective ways to measure the quality of education it provides. Commendably, the pupil council helps the headteacher and depute headteacher to monitor teaching and learning by carrying out surveys and analysing the results. The Parent Council supports the school well by fundraising, and commenting on the school's plans for improvement. It provides an additional forum through which parents can communicate with the school. The views of staff, parents and children collectively provide the headteacher with robust information about what the school does well and what it needs to improve. This information helps the school prioritise improvements for the year ahead. Some of the school's developments have brought about clear improvements, for example the way teachers involve children actively in their learning and changes to the arrangements for children with additional support needs. Many members of staff willingly lead curricular improvements, take part in working groups and improve their own practice by undertaking additional

qualifications. The headteacher understands the need to continue to provide staff with clear direction and support so that all initiatives have a strong and sustained impact across the school and nursery. The school has begun to track children's progress but needs to gather evidence linked more closely to Curriculum for Excellence. This will help the school to monitor children's attainment and achievement more effectively and know if it is raising standards.

This inspection found the following key strengths.

- Children's active involvement in reflecting on their learning and helping to set themselves goals for improvement.
- High-quality support for children who require additional help with their learning.
- Systematic approaches to self-evaluation which include staff, parents and children.

We discussed with staff and the Highland Council how they might continue to improve the school and nursery class. This is what we agreed with them.

- Develop consistently high-quality teaching and learning across the school to improve attainment and achievement.
- Further develop the curriculum.
- Improve arrangements to assess and track children's progress in learning, ensuring all children are appropriately challenged.

What happens at the end of the inspection?

We are satisfied with the overall quality of provision. We are confident that most of the school's self-evaluation processes are leading to improvements. As a result we will make no further visits in connection with this inspection. As part of its arrangements for reporting to parents on the quality of education, the Highland Council will inform parents about the school's progress.

Elaine Merrilees
HM Inspector

Additional inspection evidence, such as details of the quality indicator evaluations, for your school can be found on the Education Scotland website at <http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/inspectionandreview/reports/school/primsec/InverlochyPrimarySchoolHighland.asp>

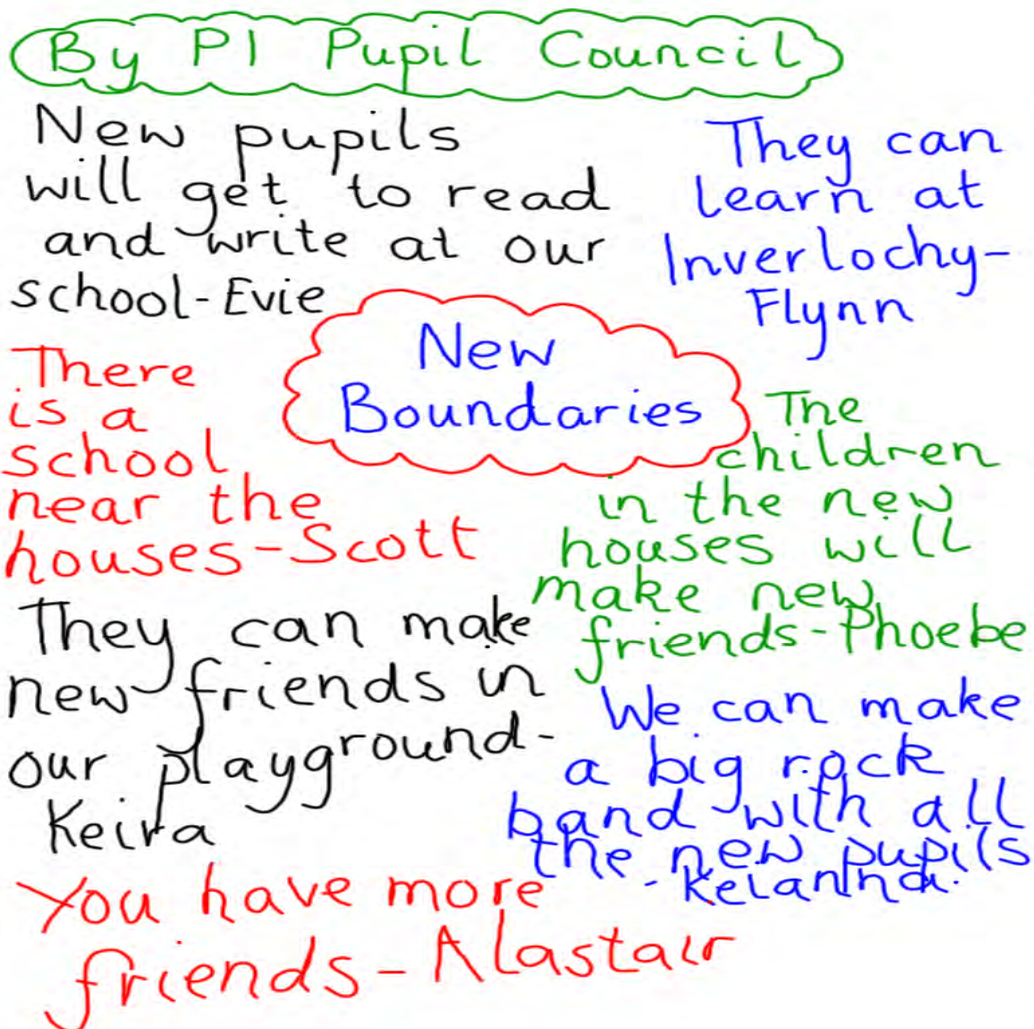
If you would like to receive this letter in a different format, for example, in a translation please contact the administration team on the above telephone number.

If you want to give us feedback or make a complaint about our work, please contact us by telephone on 0141 282 5000, or e-mail: complaints@educationscotland.gsi.gov.uk or write to us addressing your letter to the Complaints Manager, Denholm House, Almondvale Business Park, Livingston EH54 6GA.

Pupil Council (P1)

Minutes for 10th February 2017

- Our first job was to look at the changes to the boundaries for Inverlochy and Lundavra School. We thought this was a great change! We made this mind map to record why we thought it was a good idea:





Be the Best Version of You!



Primary 2
February 2017
Boundary Changes

Pupils were asked for their comments on the proposed boundary change between Inverlochey and Lundavra.

Primary 2 are all in favour of the proposed boundary change. Some comments made include...

'I like it because they can play with us.' Filip, P2

'We can make friends.' Daria, P2

'I moved to a new house and I can still come to Inverlochey School.' Kuba, P2

'The new students can come and visit us at our homes.' Amira, P2

'They could play football with us.' Marc, P2

'We could help them write.' Matthew, P2

'We could learn about their hobbies.' Theo, P2

'We could have more friends than we have now.' Ryan, P2

'More people to talk, play with us and come to our homes.' Harvey, P2



Head Teacher: Mrs Kirsty Clark
Inverlochey Primary School,
Earl of Inverness Road, Inverlochey, Fort William PH33 6LS
Tel: (01397) 702620 E-mail: inverlochey.primary@highland.gov.uk





Be the Best Version of You!



Primary 3
February 2017
Boundary Changes

Pupils were asked for their comments on the proposed boundary change between Inverlochy and Lundavra.

Primary 3 are all in favour of the proposed boundary change. Some comments made include...

'I think it's a good idea because we have a very big school.'

Klaudie P3

'I think it's good as we have lots of space at our school and would be excited about all the new friends I would have.'

Alex P3

'I think the new boundary line is a good idea as it means more people can come to our school.'

Caitlin P3

'I think it's a good idea as I wouldn't want to make friends with a neighbour and they go to Lundavra and I go to Inverlochy just because of the old boundary line.'

Anna P3

'I think we have the biggest and best playground in Fort William so the more children the better.'

Milana P3

'I would be excited as could end up with a lot of new friends. We have lots of space in the school.'

Premo P3



Head Teacher: Mrs Kirsty Clark
Inverlochy Primary School,
Earl of Inverness Road, Inverlochy, Fort William PH33 6LS
Tel: (01397) 702620 E-mail: inverlochy.primary@highland.gov.uk



'I think there is lots of space in the school. We would have lots of new friends. More friends means more people to play with.'

Kris P3

'If I became best friends with my new neighbours they would get to come to this school.'

Maddison P3

'I think it's really good as the new people would get to play with us.'

Ryan P3

'I think it's really good as we have lots of space in the school so we could make more friends.'

Mia P3



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Be the Best Version of You!



Primary 4
February 2017
Boundary Changes

Pupils were asked for their comments on the proposed boundary change between Inverlochy and Lundavra.

Most Primary 4 pupils are all in favour of the proposed boundary change. Some comments made include...

'I think there shouldn't be a boundary and people should choose which school they wish to go to.'

Olivia P4

'I think the blue boundary line is better as I'd like to make more new friends if more children come to Inverlochy.'

Ellie P4

'I think the blue boundary is better so more children could come to our school.'

Jack P4

'I think the blue boundary is better so neighbours could all go to the same school.'

Karolina P4



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Primary 5
February 2017
Boundary Changes

Pupils were asked for their comments on the proposed boundary change between Inverlochey and Lundavra.

Most Primary 5 pupils are in favour of the proposed boundary change. Some comments made include...

'I think the blue boundary is fair as all the houses will be in the Inverlochey catchment area.'

Logan P5

'I think the blue boundary is better as Lundavra already has a large area.'

Fraser P5

'I think the red boundary line is better as Lundavra has a new, bigger school for more children.'

Arthur P5

'I think the blue boundary line is better as children may get into fights if they are in different schools.'

Ben P5

'I think the blue line is better if you have friends next door and they go to the same school.'

Angus P5

'It's unfair if neighbours are friends and can't go to the same school.'

Kyler P5

'I like the blue boundary as we could make new friends in our school.'

Rosie P5



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Be the Best Version of You!



Pupil Council (P6)

Minutes for 10th February 2017

Boundary Changes

Pupils were asked for their comments on the proposed boundary change between Inverlochy and Lundavra.

Pupil Council are all in favour of the proposed boundary change. Some comments made include...

'I think that the new boundary line is good because we will get new people and it wouldn't be fair to keep the original line as it could mean that children in one house go to our school and children next door would go to Ludavra which doesn't make sense as neighbours should go to the same school and get to play together.'

Daniel P6 & Pupil Council

'It's not fair if you are next door neighbours but don't get to go to the same school so I like the new boundary change. Our school has lots of space to take more children.'

Kirsty P6 & Pupil Council

'I think the blue line is good. I think it'll help our school get better. I'm supposed to go to Lundavra and glad I go to Inverlochy.'

Cayden P6 & Pupil Council

'I think the extra houses in our catchment is good but I think we should have an even bigger catchment as one of my friends lives in the Plantation and they want to come to our school and they are fairly close to us.'

Asha P6 & Pupil Council

'I think the blue line is good as neighbours would prefer to go to the same school and we have space for lots of children and they'll get a nice welcome here.'

Shannon P6 & Pupil Council



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'It's a shame that children can't just choose which school they go to but I also think that it's not fair that Lundavra gets a catchment with so many flats and houses in it and we don't.'

Alex P6 & Pupil Council

'Our sports teams could really benefit from having extra sporty kids coming to our school.'

Jack P6 & Pupil Council

'It could lead to a bullying situation if you had neighbours that didn't get to go to the same school. Inverlochy should get the extra land in their area so we can get new people at our school and most is in our catchment anyway.'

Ryan P6 & Pupil Council

'It's fair that we get that extra land because most of it was ours anyway.'

Ben P6 & Pupil Council

'It is fair because Lundavra already have loads of houses and most of the new houses would be in our bit anyway.'

Travis P6 & Pupil Council



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Be the Best Version of You!



Primary 7
February 2017
Boundary Changes

Pupils were asked for their comments on the proposed boundary change between Inverlochey and Lundavra.

Primary 7 are all in favour of the proposed boundary change. Some comments made include...

'The proposed boundary change would be good as it wouldn't split the development into pupils going to Lundavra and Inverlochey. They would all go to Inverlochey Primary school.'

'It would mean more pupils for Inverlochey Primary School which is great.'

'It wouldn't make sense to keep the original boundary as it is as it would split the site.'

'Inverlochey Primary school would have to make room for more pupils.'



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From: Nick Thomson - Lundavra Primary

Sent: 23 February 2017 11:17

To: Ian Jackson

Subject: RE: Consultation

Hi Ian,

Pupil Council views were in agreement with the proposal to change the boundary so any children in those houses would go to Inverlochy as:

- It would be more likely they could walk to school
- They wouldn't have to cross over the busy A82
- More likely that their friends nearby would go to Inverlochy.

Nick

Nick Thomson

Head Teacher

Lundavra Primary School

01397 702059

Highland Council, Care and Learning Service

**Public Consultation Meeting Minute - Inverlochy/Lundavra Catchment
Wednesday 8th March, 7pm, Council Chambers Fort William**

Chairperson: Cllr Drew Millar, Education Children and Adult Services Chair

Highland Council: Brian Porter (Head of Resources, Care and Learning), Norma Young (Area Care and Learning Manager-West), Ian Jackson (Education Officer, Care and Learning), Fiona Livingstone (Business Support)

Attendees: No members of the public

Press: Katie Carabine, Oban Times

Cllr Millar opened the meeting and advised the purpose of the meeting was to consult on the proposal to make a minor change to the catchment boundary between Lundavra Primary School and Inverlochy Primary School, as a result of a new housing development straddling the existing boundary.

As no members of the public were present, Cllr Millar closed the meeting at 7.10pm.

Press were advised that information relating to the consultation was available online and for further information or questions to please contact Ian Jackson, Education Officer.

Report by Education Scotland addressing educational aspects of the proposal by The Highland Council to change the catchment boundary between Inverloch Primary School and Lundavra 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 The Highland Council's proposal to change the catchment boundary between Inverloch Primary School and Lundavra 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 of Inverloch Primary School and Lundavra Primary School; any other users; children likely to become pupils within two years of the date of publication of the proposal paper; and other children and young people in the council area;
- 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:

- consideration of all relevant documentation provided by the council in relation to the proposal, specifically the educational benefits statement and related consultation documents, written and oral submissions from parents and others; and
- visits to the site of Inverloch Primary School and Lundavra Primary School, including discussion with relevant consultees.

2. Consultation Process

2.1 The Highland 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 formal consultation ran from 6 February 2017 until 23 March 2017. The proposal paper was published on the council website and made available at Inverloch Primary School, Lundavra Primary School, Fort William Library, and the Area Care and Learning Office at Camaghael Hostel. A public meeting was held on 8 March 2017. No members of the public attended. The council received eight written responses to its proposal. All of these responses were from pupil council members from Inverloch Primary School and Lundavra Primary School. Each of the responses indicated support for the proposal. The key reasons given for supporting the proposal were that, as a result of the proposal, children would be able to walk safely to school without crossing the busy A82 and that friendship groups of children living in the same housing development would not be split.

3. Educational Aspects of Proposal

3.1 The council has set out a reasonable case for the proposal to change the catchment boundary between Inverloch Primary School and Lundavra Primary School. In arriving at its proposal it gave good consideration to pupil safety. As a result of the proposal, children would be able to walk safely to Inverloch Primary School without the need to cross a busy road. The proposal also addresses an anomaly created by new housing developments. All properties within the new development would now be within a single catchment area. The revised boundary is more in line with local developments and landmarks. School transport is not a relevant consideration as both schools are within the statutory walking distance of the catchment boundary.

3.2 All parents, staff and children from Inverloch Primary School and Lundavra Primary School who met with HM Inspectors were supportive of the proposal. In terms of space and teaching staff, Inverloch Primary School has the capacity to accommodate increased numbers. Inverloch Primary School is close to the new housing development thereby encouraging children to walk to school. As a result, parents would incur less expense in terms of fuel costs or bus fares. Children in both schools strongly supported the proposal on the basis that the journey to school would be shorter, avoiding busy roads which would make it safer for walking to school. In addition, opportunities to mix with and socialise with friends from the same housing development and access to after-school activities would be improved.

4. Summary

The council's proposal is of clear educational benefit. The proposal addresses an anomaly created by new housing developments. All properties within the new development will be within a single catchment area. The safety of children walking to school would be improved.

**HM Inspectors
Education Scotland
April 2017**