

## **Public Question (i) Ms J Alexander**

**“In relation to the £7.5m extension that is due at Culloden Academy, this was approved in March 2018 in a 5-year Capital Programme as per the School Estate Management page on your website.**

**The school was built for 900 and the role is now 1110 and growing to 1243 pupils in 2022, with houses still going up.**

**I am a parent of 2 pupils in Culloden and 1 pupil in Balloch Primary. I would like to know where is the £7.5m for the refurbishment for my children’s school?**

**When do you intend to start the extension? At the last parent council meeting of Culloden Academy, which I am a member of, it was suggested that some sort of temporary units could be put in place to fill the gap before the extension work. Would this come out of the £7.5m budget and would this slow down the extension? Where would they be built? Culloden is a great place to live however I honestly believe we are letting the young people, teachers and the community of Culloden down due to the poor school building and lack of facilities. I am not looking to blame anyone or for excuses, we just want to move forward and get some transparency.**

**I look forward to your response.”**

- **Timescales – The revised programme for each of the elements of the project is currently being finalised. However, construction work on the initial phases of work will commence on site in 2021 with the opening of the new extension planned for August 2023.**
- **Budget/Modular Units – The budget for the project remains in the capital programme but the annual expenditure has had to be re-profiled. The appendix to the capital report identifies that the additional modular units will be funded from a separate budget heading in the capital programme. The number of units required, along with the timing and location, is currently under discussion with the Head Teacher, along with possible short-term improvements to the existing facilities to help deal with the ongoing impact of the Covid-19 pandemic.**
- **Communication – More detailed information on the sequencing of work and the overall programme timescales will be provided to the Parent Council in January, along with a proposal to set up a Stakeholder Group to ensure effective communication going forward.**