

The Highland Council

Agenda Item	14.
Report No	EDU/34/24

Committee: Education

Date: 21 November 2024

Report Title: Statutory Consultation - Request to proceed to statutory consultation on the proposed closure of Kinlochewe Primary School

Report By: Assistant Chief Executive - People

1. Purpose/Executive Summary

1.1 This report seeks Members' agreement to proceed to a statutory consultation, under the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, on the formal closure of Kinlochewe Primary School.

2. Recommendations

2.1 Members are asked to agree to proceed to statutory consultation, on the basis of the Proposal attached to this Report.

3. Implications

3.1 Resource - The financial implications of the proposal are set out at Appendix G of the attached papers.

3.2 Legal - The proposed closure has been taken forward under the provisions of The Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010.

3.3 Risk – This will be assessed during the public consultation process.

3.4 Health and Safety (risks arising from changes to plant, equipment, process, or people) – None.

3.5 Gaelic – None

4. Impacts

4.1 In Highland, all policies, strategies, or service changes are subject to an integrated screening for impact for Equalities, Poverty and Human Rights, Children's Rights and Wellbeing, Climate Change, Islands and Mainland Rural Communities, and Data Protection. Where identified as required, a full impact assessment will be undertaken.

4.2 Considering impacts is a core part of the decision-making process and needs to inform the decision-making process. When taking any decision, Members must give due regard to the findings of any assessment.

4.3 **Integrated Impact Assessment - Summary**

4.3.1 An Integrated Impact Assessment screening has been undertaken on 19 September 2024. The conclusions have been subject to the relevant Manager Review and Approval.

4.3.2 The Screening process has concluded that there are no significant impacts arising. Members are asked to consider the summary in **Appendix 1** to support the decision-making process.

4.3.3 **Impact Assessment Area Conclusion of Screening/Full Assessment**

Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Children and Young People – <i>No impact</i>• Children affected by disability – <i>No impact</i>• Older Adults - <i>No impact</i>
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Socio-economic	<i>No impact</i>
Human Rights	<i>No impact</i>
Children’s Rights and Well-being	<i>Positive impact</i>

Island and Mainland Rural	<i>No impact</i>
Climate Change	<i>No impact</i>
Data Rights	<i>No significant impact</i>

5. **Overview**

5.1 Kinlochewe Primary School has been mothballed since July 2022, when the pupil roll fell to zero.

5.2 This proposal is being brought forward following informal consultation with local stakeholders and Elected Members, and having examined viable alternatives that could be considered. The results of informal consultation suggest that there are no parents within the Kinlochewe catchment who actively advocate for Kinlochewe Primary School to be re-opened.

For the current school session, it is believed there are 6 children of primary school age living within the Kinlochewe Primary catchment, plus two of nursery/pre-school age. Most of the children attend Gairloch Primary School, but a smaller number attend Shieldaig Primary.

5.3 In advancing the current proposal, officials took account of the fact the school has been mothballed since July 2022. It is undesirable that schools should continue as “mothballed” for several years, and there appears to be little parental demand to re-open the school. In addition, a statutory consultation exercise would provide a fuller opportunity for everyone in the community to comment on the proposal, compared with informal discussions.

Further details are provided in the paper at Appendix A, which sets out the basis of the proposal, and related information, including the educational, community and transport implications associated with the proposal.

6. Next Steps

- 6.1 Subject to a Committee decision to proceed to statutory consultation, a public meeting will be held in Kinlochewe to discuss the Council's proposal. There will be considerable opportunity for stakeholders to submit views to the Council in advance of any final decision being made. At this stage, it is expected the statutory consultation timeline would see a final recommendation being considered by this Committee in either September or November 2025, though this may be subject to change to ensure the Council has sufficient time to consider and respond to matters arising from the consultation.

Designation: Assistant Chief Executive - People

Date: 8 November 2024

Author: Ian Jackson (Education Officer – Resources)

Appendices: Appendix 1 – Integrated Impact Assessment
Appendix A – Proposal Paper
Appendix B – School Roll Forecasts – Gairloch School Group
Appendix C – School Roll Forecasts – Methodology
Appendix D – Kinlochewe Primary existing catchment
Appendix E – Kinlochewe catchment merged with Gairloch.
Appendix F – Kinlochewe catchment merged with Shieldaig.
Appendix G – Financial Analysis

Integrated Impact Assessment Screening

This Impact Assessment is marked as confidential or sensitive. If you intend to share this document please check with the Responsible Manager who this can be shared with.

About proposal

What does this proposal relate to? Redesign or change to existing service

Proposal name: Statutory Consultation on the Proposed Closure of Kinlochewe Primary School

High level summary of the proposal: Conduct a statutory consultation proposing the permanent closure of Kinlochewe PSm, which is currently temporarily closed (known as "mothballed").

Who may be affected by the proposal? Parents and children living in the school's catchment area.

Start date of proposal:

End date of proposal:

Does this proposal result in a change or impact to one or more Council service? Yes

Which Council services will be impacted by this proposal? People

Does this relate to an existing proposal? No

Author details

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Service: People

Responsible officer details

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Sign off date: 2024-09-19

Equalities, poverty, and human rights

Protected characteristics

Select what impact the proposal will have on the following protected characteristics:

Sex: No impact

Age: No impact

Disability: No impact

Religion or belief: No impact

Race: No impact

Sexual orientation: No impact

Gender reassignment: No impact

Pregnancy and maternity: No impact

Marriage and civil partnership: No impact

Protected characteristics impact details: The proposal is to formalise the closure of a school that is already mothballed. Age is not a protected characteristic in relation to school provision.

Poverty and socio-economic

What impact is the proposal likely to have on the following?

Prospects and opportunities: No impact

Places: No impact

Financial: No impact

Poverty and socio-economic impact details: Since the school is already subject to a temporary closure, there will not be any impact on the existing provision.

Human rights

Which of the below human rights will be affected by this proposal?

What impact do you consider this proposal to have on the human rights of people? No impact

Human rights impact details: The proposal will confirm the existing situation on the ground and thus will not affect human rights.

Equalities, poverty and human rights screening assessment

What impact do you think there will be to equalities, poverty and human rights? No impact

Is a Full Impact Assessment required? No

Children's rights and wellbeing

What likely impact will the proposal have on children and young people?As the school is already mothballed, there will be no effect on current educational arrangements for local children.

Which of the below children's rights will be affected by the proposal?You are working in the best interests of the child (Article 3)

Explain how the children's rights selected above will be affected:The numbers of children in the Kinlochewe PS catchment are such that the school is no longer viable, and there would be educational benefits to children attending an alternative school where there are larger numbers of children.

Children's rights and wellbeing screening assessment

What impact do you think there will be to children's rights and wellbeing?Positive impact

Is a Full Impact Assessment required? No

Data protection

Will your proposal involve processing personal data? Yes

Is any of this data already processed by the Highland Council?No

What purpose will the data be used for? Parents and residents will be invited to submit views in response to the consultation document. Responses will be published on the HC website together with the respondent's name and address (though not personal email addresses or phone numbers, or signatures). All respondents will be offered to opportunity to request that their response is not published.

Data protection screening assessment

What change will there be to the way personal data is processed?No significant change to current processing

Is a Full Impact Assessment required? No

Island and mainland rural communities

Does your proposal impact island and mainland rural communities?Yes

Could people in island and mainland rural communities be affected differently?No

Have any negative impacts been identified?Yes

Provide details of negative impacts, mitigating actions and the service that is responsible for them: If implemented, the proposal would mean that, in the future, children in the Kinlochewe area would have further to travel to school than would be the case if Kinlochewe PS re-opened. The Council provides free school transport for children in the P1-7 age group. Transport is not provided for pre-school children, and the Early Years Team would discuss alternative arrangements for such children.

Island and mainland rural communities screening assessment

What impact do you think there will be to island and mainland rural communities? Minor differences

Is a Full Impact Assessment required? No

Climate change

Does the proposal involve activities that could impact on greenhouse gas emissions (CO₂e)? Yes

Does the proposal have the potential to affect the environment, wildlife or biodiversity? No

Does the proposal have the potential to influence resilience to extreme weather or changing climate? No

Provide information regarding your selection above: If implemented, the proposal would mean that, in the future, children in the Kinlochewe area would have further to travel to school than would be the case if Kinlochewe PS re-opened. The Council provides free school transport for children in the P1-7 age group, and it is likely that this will be by utilising existing transport travelling to Gairloch High School. It is possible in the future that some additional transport will be required, over and above the transport already provided, but the effects on CO₂e emissions will be negligible.

Climate change screening assessment

Have you identified potential impact for any of the areas above or marked any as not known? No

Is a Full Impact Assessment required? No

THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The proposal is to discontinue education provision at Kinlochewe Primary School, re-assigning its catchment area to that of Gairloch Primary School.

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 discontinue education provision at Kinlochewe Primary School, re-assigning its catchment area to that of Gairloch Primary School.
- For the avoidance of doubt, it should be assumed that the related Pre-School provision is included within any reference below to a Primary School. In particular, any reference to Kinlochewe Primary School should be taken as a reference to both the primary and nursery classes.
- The proposed change, if approved, will take place immediately after the conclusion of the statutory process relating to school closures.

SUMMARY OF THE CONSULTATION PROCESS

PUBLICATION INFORMATION

Proposal Paper Published

The proposal paper will be available for inspection, free of charge, at:

Gairloch Primary School, Gairloch, IV21 2BP
Shieldaig Primary School, Shieldaig, IV54 8XN

and published on the Highland Council website:

www.highland.gov.uk/schoolconsultations

Copies of this Proposal Paper are also available on request from:

Education Business Support Team,
Highland Council,
Charles Kennedy Building,
Fort William
PH33 6RQ
Email: Education.Consultations@highland.gov.uk

To request this information in an alternative format, e.g. large print, Braille, audio formats, or suitable language, please contact the Education Business Support Team, Highland Council,
Charles Kennedy Building, Fort William PH33 6RQ
Email: Education.Consultations@highland.gov.uk

Formal notice of the Proposal and relevant information will be given and be made available, free of charge, to the consultees listed as follows:

- (i) Parents/carers of pupils attending Gairloch Primary School; including parents/carers of pre-school pupils.
- (ii) Parents/carers of pupils attending Shieldaig Primary School; including parents/carers of pre-school pupils.
- (iii) The Parent Council of Gairloch Primary School.
- (iv) The Parent Council of Shieldaig Primary School
- (v) Members of Parliament and Members of Scottish Parliament for the area affected by the proposal.
- (vi) Staff of Gairloch Primary School.
- (vii) Staff of Shieldaig Primary School
- (viii) Torridon and Kinlochewe Community Council
- (ix) Gairloch Community Council
- (x) Shieldaig Community Council
- (xi) Garve and District Community Council
- (xii) Trade Union representatives.

Advertisement in Local Media

A notice announcing the public meeting will be placed in the local press and on the Highland Council's Facebook page.

Consultation Period

The consultation for this Proposal will run from 13 January 2025 and will end on 28 February 2025. This period allows for the statutory minimum of six weeks, including at least thirty school days.

Public Meeting

A public meeting will be held at 6.30pm on 28 January 2025 at Kinlochewe Village Hall. 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 Education 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.

The note will be forwarded to Education Scotland, along with other submissions and comments received by the Council during the consultation process.

Meetings with Pupils and Staff

School staff will arrange to discuss the proposal with pupils (who are considered to be of a suitable age and maturity) in the affected schools. Questions, responses and views will be taken down and the results published in the Consultation Report.

Responses to the Proposals

Interested parties are invited to respond to the Proposals by making written or electronic submissions on the Proposals to:

Education Business Support Team,
Highland Council,
Charles Kennedy Building,
Fort William
PH33 6RQ

Email: Education.Consultations@highland.gov.uk

Or via an online form, to be found at:

<https://www.highland.gov.uk/schoolconsultations>

When responding, you are invited to state your relationship with the school – for example, “pupil”, “parent”, “carer”, “relative”, “former pupil”, “teacher in school”, “member of the community” etc. However it is not compulsory to do so.

Appendix A

Those sending in a response, whether by letter or electronically, should know that their response will be open to public scrutiny and may have to be supplied to anyone making a reasonable request to see it. If they do not wish their response to be made publicly available, they should clearly write on the document: "I wish my response to be considered as confidential with access restricted to Councillors and Council Officers of Highland Council". Otherwise, it will be assumed that the person making the response agrees to it being made publicly available. All written responses must be received by the last day of the consultation period, 28 February 2025 at 5.00pm.

Involvement of Education Scotland

When the Proposal Document is published, a copy will be sent to Education Scotland by the Council. Education Scotland will also be sent, by 10 March 2025, a copy of any 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 28 March 2025. In preparing their report, Education Scotland may visit the affected schools and make such enquiries of people there as they consider appropriate.

Review of Consultation Exercise

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 and 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 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 Committee of Highland Council, 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 August 2025, prior to submission to the Education Committee in September 2025. 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.

Any proposal approved at the Education Committee would require to be confirmed by a subsequent meeting of the full Highland Council.

As the proposal involves the closure of a school, Highland Council would be required

Appendix A

to notify Scottish Ministers of its decision and provide them with a copy of the Proposal Paper and Consultation Report. The Scottish Ministers would have an eight-week period from the date of that final decision to decide if they will call-in the proposal. Within the first three weeks of that eight-week period, the Scottish Ministers will take account of any relevant representations made to them by any person.

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 Education Scotland will be advised.

DETAILS OF THE PROPOSAL

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); and to endeavour to secure improvement in the quality of school education in schools that are managed by them (S.3 of The Standards in Scotland's Schools Act 2000).
- 1.2 Kinlochewe Primary School is a rural school within the terms of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 (the school is classed as "very remote rural") and the Council has had regard to the provisions of that Act, in particular the special regard required for rural school closures. The Council has considered the school roll projections for Kinlochewe PS, taking into account the current pattern of enrolments, has given detailed consideration to the viable alternatives to closure (Sections 6-10 below); to the effect of closure on the community (Section 15 below) and to the impact of travel arrangements on children who are not yet of school age but who live in the Kinlochewe catchment (Section 13 below).

Reasons for the Proposal

- 2.1 This proposal is being advanced for the following reasons:
 - Kinlochewe PS has been mothballed since the summer of 2022, after the school roll fell to zero. There are currently no children within the catchment who are within the P1-7 age group, excepting a small number who attend other schools voluntarily, either on placing requests or to attend Gaelic Medium Education. (Kinlochewe Primary School has never offered GME).
 - Consequently, no children have attended the school since the end of June 2022.
 - The Council has explored alternatives in arriving at this proposal, explained further below.
- 2.2 In December 2023 the Highland Council contacted local parents and the local community council to gather views about the future of the school. These were informal views gathered as part of pre-consultation. The only views received in response suggested that it would be appropriate to move to a full closure consultation to gain the views of the wider community.
- 2.3 The Community Council expressed the view that a school is a vital part of a community and without a school it is very difficult to attract young people to live there. However, they also acknowledged that over the last few years parents have taken their children out of the school and sent them to school elsewhere. For the school to have a viable future would depend, in part, on parents bringing their children back to the school, which they may not want to do. The community council recognized that the condition of the buildings at Kinlochewe Primary is poor and that they are unlikely to last long in their mothballed state.

Appendix A

While some members suggested that no decision should be taken on the future of the school for some time, a delay would likely to lead to a significant deterioration in the state of the buildings. On balance, the community council considered that Highland Council should come to a decision sooner than later, always allowing for proper consultation. If the decision is to re-open the school, this will limit the extent of remedial work needed. If the decision is to move towards closure and disposal of the site, it will maintain the value of the buildings.

- 2.4 Only one parent responded to the pre-consultation contacts, suggesting that the beginning of any formal consultation should be put on hold for six months and then reviewed. The reason was that there are a number of houses in the village that were either on the market or will shortly be on the market. This delay was agreed, but since there has been no evidence of any new demand to re-open Kinlochewe Primary School

Current Details – Kinlochewe Primary School

- 3.1 Kinlochewe Primary School is located in the village of the same name, which has a resident population of about 60. The school's catchment covers a wide but very rural area, which also encompasses the village of Achnasheen, (resident population about 30).

When last in operation Kinlochewe PS was managed by a Head Teacher who oversaw both Kinlochewe and Shieldaig Primary Schools. The cluster arrangements have since been revised and would require to be reviewed again in the event that Kinlochewe Primary were to re-open.

- 3.2 The school has been mothballed since the end of June 2022 after placing requests reduced the school roll to zero. Most of the children from the catchment area now attend Gairloch Primary School, though a small number attend Shieldaig Primary.
- 3.3 There were no nursery children at Kinlochewe PS prior to mothballing, but the school did operate a nursery class when there were children to attend it. As mentioned above, this closure proposal encompasses both the primary school and nursery class stages.
- 3.4 The school has a registered permanent capacity of 25, based on the availability of one classroom.
- 3.5 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). Prior to mothballing, Kinlochewe Primary School was rated as "C" for the educational suitability of the building and "C" for building condition.

Current Details – Gairloch Primary School

- 4.1 Gairloch Primary School is located in the village of the same name, and is co-located with Gairloch High School. It is classed as a "very remote" rural

Appendix A

school. It provides education in both English (EM) and Gàidhlig (GM). Its English Medium catchment encompasses a wide area of Wester Ross, including communities along the coast from Redpoint to Melvaig. The Gàidhlig Medium catchment covers a still wider area, including the EM catchments of Poolewe Primary, Bualnaluib Primary and Kinlochewe Primary.

- 4.2 The school has a school hall, a library, a garden with vegetable beds, playgrounds with soft surfaces and tarmac, as well as access to the Gairloch High School playing field. There is no kitchen, but children eat lunch in the High School canteen.
- 4.3 The 2024-25 roll is 49 pupils within P1-7. There are 36 pupils in English Medium education, in two classes, and 13 in Gàidhlig Medium education, in a single class. There are a further 13 children across the two nursery classes.
- 4.4 The school (excluding the nursery) has a registered capacity of 124. The 2022-23 roll of 49 therefore represents 40% use of capacity.
- 4.5 The Council publishes roll projections for each of its currently operational schools. The latest forecast for Gairloch PS is contained within the document attached at **Appendix B**, whilst a copy of the Council's methodology for calculating the forecasts can be found at **Appendix C**.
- 4.6 It can be seen from Appendix B that the roll at Gairloch Primary School is forecast to remain at roughly the current figure for the next decade.
- 4.7 The present Gairloch Primary School building is rated as "B" for educational suitability and "B" for Condition.
- 4.8 In the last 3 school sessions, there were 8 placing requests to join Gairloch Primary School, and 0 requests to leave.

Current Details – Shieldaig Primary School

- 5.1 Shieldaig Primary School is also a "very remote" rural school. It has a large catchment which now extends across both sides of Loch Torridon.
- 5.2 The school building dates from well over one hundred years ago, but in 2022 the conversion of the School House into a purpose built Nursery accommodation was completed. There are two classrooms, a Nursery room, a school kitchen, an office and several toilets. Within the classrooms and nursery there are interactive whiteboards. Adjacent to the school, there is an enclosed grassy playground, plus the Community Association football pitch and multi-use games area, which are located directly behind the school. These areas are all used by the children during outdoor breaks and P.E. The local church hall is also used for P.E. and as a performance venue.
- 5.3 The 2024-25 roll is 26 pupils within P1-7. There are a further 6 children in the nursery class.
- 5.4 The school (excluding the nursery) has a registered capacity of 46. The 2024-25 roll of 26 therefore represents 57% use of capacity.

Appendix A

- 5.5 The Council publishes roll projections for each of its currently operational schools. The latest forecast for Shieldaig PS is contained within the document attached at **Appendix B**.
- 5.6 In recent years Shieldaig Primary has experienced a markedly rising roll. This is expected to decline to 13 pupils in 2030 and thereafter to rise slightly to 17.
- 5.7 The Shieldaig Primary School building is rated as “B” for educational suitability and “B” for Condition.
- 5.8 In the last three school sessions, there were 2 placing requests to join Shieldaig Primary School, and none to leave.

Examination of Alternatives

- 6.1 In bringing forward this proposal for closure, the Council must give due consideration of alternative courses of action that could be considered. The following reasonable alternatives to closure have been considered:
- i. To continue with the current “mothballing” arrangement.
 - ii. To re-open Kinlochewe PS with its current catchment area.
 - iii. To re-open Kinlochewe PS with an expanded catchment area.
 - iv. To re-open Kinlochewe PS as a school offering Gaelic Medium Education.
- 6.2 There are no forecast housing deliveries in the Council’s current Housing Land Audit (which contains sites of 4 or more either with planning permission or housing land allocations). In the last 5 years, planning permissions for 4 individual houses have been permitted.
- 6.3 The detail of the Council’s consideration of the reasonable alternatives is set out throughout this proposal paper and its appendices.

Option 1 – Continued Mothballing

- 7.1 Although it would be possible to continue with the current “mothballing” arrangement, Highland Council does not consider that would represent the best option for the taxpayer or the community. The low number of children in the Kinlochewe PS catchment, combined with the low level of parental demand for a school in the community, indicates strongly that the school is no longer viable. “Mothballing” would mean the continuation of the current lack of clarity regarding the future status of the school, would lead to a deterioration in the building, and would prevent the community from developing options for the future use of the accommodation. The Council would also be burdened with the costs of maintaining a “mothballed” building.
- 7.2 Scottish Government guidance relating to the mothballing of schools makes it clear that mothballing is a temporary measure and should not be used to undermine the requirements to undertake a statutory school closure consultation. The status of mothballed schools should be regularly reviewed. Having undertaken such a review, Highland Council does not see mothballing

Appendix A
as a realistic alternative to closure.

- 7.3 Current school transport arrangements would not be affected by a continuation of mothballing.

Option 2 - Re-Opening of Kinlochewe Primary School with its Current Catchment Area

- 8.1 For the 2024-25 school session, the Council is not aware of any children of P1-7 age living within the catchment area of the school, whose parents would wish them to attend a re-opened Kinlochewe Primary. The issue of GME is considered at Option 4 below.
- 8.2 Taking all of the above into account, the Council's review suggests there is no possibility of re-opening the school at the present time. Longer-term projections suggest there is no prospect of the roll recovering to a level that would justify re-opening the school.

Option 3 - Re-Opening of Kinlochewe Primary School with an Expanded Catchment Area

- 9.1 The Kinlochewe PS catchment covers a wide area, just over 161 square miles in total. To the east, its nearest neighbour is Strathgarve Primary (part of the Dingwall ASG), but Strathgarve is itself a tiny rural school with a total roll in single figures. To the west the nearest schools are Gairloch Primary and Shieldaig Primary, but although both schools have wide catchment areas, there is no significant population in either catchment beyond the two central communities. Widening the Kinlochewe PS catchment would not solve the issues around low roll that led to the school being mothballed.

Option 4 – Re-opening Kinlochewe PS as a School offering Gaelic Medium Education

- 10.1 As mentioned above, Kinlochewe Primary School has never offered Gaelic Medium education. Children from the area may attend Gairloch PS in order to access GME. However, the number of children concerned does not meet the criteria of five that would require a GMPE assessment under the terms of the Statutory Guidance on Gaelic Education, and no such request has ever been received.
- 10.2 There is a well-known national shortage of Gaelic Medium teachers at the present time. A recent attempt by Highland to introduce GME at Applecross Primary in Wester Ross foundered due to a lack of applicants for the post, and in general Highland Council struggles to staff its already extensive provision of GME. In terms of expanding GME, Highland Council intends to prioritize schools where parents have actively requested a GMPE assessment.
- 10.3 Lack of pupil numbers would however be a significant barrier to re-opening Kinlochewe Primary as a school offering GME.

Educational Benefits

- 11.1 Highland Council is of the view that the school environment should be of a quality that sustains and improves education provision, pupil performance and outcomes for the young people of Highland.
- 11.2 Highland Council has adopted the following indicators in reviewing its' school estate:
- Pupils should be educated in facilities which are rated at least category B for each of Condition and Suitability.
 - Pupils should be members of an age-appropriate peer group.
 - Pupils should have the opportunity to engage in the widest possible range of activities beyond the core curriculum, including music, sports, drama and art.
 - Pupils with Additional Support Needs should be educated in the most appropriate local setting.
 - Pupils should not ordinarily be required to travel for longer than 30 minutes from the nearest classified road pick-up point to school (primary) although it is recognised that this may not always be possible in a rural council area such as Highland.
 - School facilities should be of a size appropriate to the delineated area that they serve, paying due regard to demographic trends.
 - School delineated areas should reflect geography, travel routes and population distribution.
 - Safe school transport should be provided and safe traffic management in and around school sites should be implemented.
 - Teachers should be members of a professional learning community comprising at least 3 members located in the same facility.
 - The implications of school location to local communities should be considered.
 - Schools, wherever possible, should be located where there is a recognised village or other built-up community.
- 11.3 As mentioned above, evidence gathered by Highland Council to date suggests that there is no realistic prospect of a viable roll at Kinlochewe PS. Currently there are no pupils in the P1-7 age group within the Kinlochewe catchment, excepting those who attend other schools voluntarily. Any individual pupils who might be in the area would suffer educational detriment from attending a school by themselves or perhaps with one other pupil.
- 11.4 Children at both Gairloch PS and Shieldaig PS regularly work in co-operative learning groups of various sizes. The very small roll of a re-opened Kinlochewe PS would mean that the groups would not only be limited in size but also static, since there would be no possibility of changing the membership of learning groups. A very small roll would also limit the variety of skills that pupils could bring to the groups, and there would be a smaller range of work to use in terms of sharing standards.
- 11.5 A larger school roll makes it easier for the school to attract visiting speakers, tutors and other external partners to work with the children. In many cases external partners look for a certain threshold in the number of children they will be working with.

Appendix A

- 11.6 Working with others across a wide range of settings is one of the core elements of the school curriculum. This includes planning and carrying out projects in small groups, sharing tasks and responsibilities, and being ready and willing to learn from and with others. Working with others also plays a part in the development of leadership skills, which become increasingly important to pupils as they move through their school years and beyond school education into adulthood.
- 11.7 The existence of pre-school classes at Gairloch PS and Shialdaig PS enables a strong transition process for children moving into P1.
- 11.8 The language programmes at Gairloch PS and Shialdaig PS aim to develop listening, talking, reading and writing skills. Listening is developed by games, stories, radio & television programmes, music, and use of ICT. The school aims to develop fluency and clarity of expression and to extend vocabulary. Talking is developed by role playing, mime, reporting, interviewing etc.
- 11.9 It is self-evident that an overall school roll in single figures restricts opportunities for team sports and other active recreational activities. It further applies to the health and wellbeing element of the curriculum which involves discussion between pupils about health lifestyle choices. Whilst these problems can be overcome by taking the pupils to participate in activities in neighbouring schools, that in itself involves time out of school in travelling.
- 11.9 As with sports, the larger rolls at Gairloch and Shialdaig provide a greater likelihood of pupils benefitting from a wider range of group musical and artistic opportunities, events that are more difficult to deliver with restricted numbers.
- 11.10 The level to which pupils are able to become skilled in social interaction will depend to an extent on the opportunities afforded to them. The forging of close friendships and the development of self-esteem is enhanced by each pupil being enabled to be part of an age-appropriate peer group of a sufficient size to allow a range of interactions and relationships to form and reform.
- 11.11 In summary, there are positive educational benefits to be derived from the closure of Kinlochewe Primary School, due to the significantly increased opportunities that can be provided at Gairloch and Shialdaig. Collaborative working within the classroom, language learning, and artistic and sports activities, and socialisation, can all benefit from the greater numbers that are available. Conversely, the roll of a re-opened Kinlochewe Primary School would be insufficient to keep the school viable.

Re-allocation of Kinlochewe PS Catchment

- 12.1 A map of the current Kinlochewe PS catchment is attached as Appendix D.
- 12.2 In the event that Kinlochewe Primary School closes, there are 2 options for re-allocating school catchment:
- i. Transfer the catchment wholly to that of Gairloch Primary School
 - ii. Transfer the catchment wholly to that of Shialdaig Primary School

Appendix A

- 12.3 The distances and travel times between the schools is:
- Kinlochewe PS – Gairloch Primary School – 20.3 miles, 31 minutes
Kinlochewe PS – Shieldaig Primary School – 17.5 miles, 36 minutes
- 12.4 It can be seen from the above that the travel times are not dissimilar, with Shieldaig being slightly nearer in distance terms but slightly further in travel time, due to the nature of the route.
- 12.5 Pupils from Kinlochewe already travel to Gairloch High School when they transfer to secondary education, and the High School is co-located with Gairloch Primary. Merging the Kinlochewe PS catchment with that of Gairloch Primary would therefore be more efficient in transport terms, and would involve less cost to the taxpayer. Pupils might also have the opportunity to travel on the same transport as older siblings.
- 12.6 For Gaelic Medium purposes, the Kinlochewe PS catchment is included with the Gaelic Medium catchment of Gairloch Primary School. There would be merit in aligning the GM and EM catchments.
- 12.7 During informal consultation, the local community council argued it may be more appropriate for the Kinlochewe PS catchment to be merged with that of Shieldaig, should the school close. The village is in the historic parish of Gairloch and children of secondary school age attend Gairloch High School. On the other hand, medical cover is provided by Torridon Medical Practice which also covers Shieldaig and the surrounding area and TKCC's own boundaries reflect the connections between the village and the communities to the west of it. Since the closure of Torridon Primary, the catchment of Shieldaig Primary now extends from Diabaig round Loch Torridon to north Applecross. Whilst it has a good number of pupils at present, the community council argue that may not always be the case and it would be disastrous for many communities if Shieldaig Primary were to close. To include Kinlochewe in its catchment may help secure the position of Shieldaig, this would make a significant difference for Shieldaig Primary and avoid the risk that pupils from outlying areas would have to travel even further than they do at present. Gairloch Primary is unlikely to face such risks.
- 12.7 At present some children from Kinlochewe attending Gairloch Primary School where others attend Shieldaig. Parents seem to have different preferences on which school would be more appropriate for Kinlochewe children to attend.
- 12.8 Taking the above into account, Highland Council proposes that the Kinlochewe PS catchment should be transferred to that of Gairloch Primary School, upon the closure of Kinlochewe. The Council would however welcome views on this aspect of the proposal.
- 12.9 A map of the proposed merged catchment is at **Appendix E**, whilst **Appendix F** shows a map of the new catchment, should the Kinlochewe catchment be merged with that of Shieldaig rather than Gairloch.

Effect of Differing Transport Arrangements

- 13.1 Currently, all of the pupils within the Kinlochewe PS catchment attend other schools. Therefore, no differing transport arrangements would need to be applied in the event Kinlochewe PS is formally closed.
- 13.2 The travel times between Kinlochewe Primary and its neighbouring schools are set out at paragraph 12.3 above.
- 13.3 The closure of the school would not at present result in any additional CO₂e emissions arising from transport. Any that arise in the future would be negligible and would in any case be set against the annual emissions of over that could be expected from the Kinlochewe Primary School building itself were it operational.

Effects on Staff and School Management Arrangements

- 14.1 As the school is already “mothballed” there will be no impact on school management arrangements at Gairloch PS or Shieldaig PS from a formal closure of Kinlochewe Primary School.
- 14.2 A continuation of the current mothballing arrangement will have no effect on current staffing arrangements.

Effect on the Local Community

- 15.1 Kinlochewe has an existing village hall, and so will retain a public space even if the school were to close.
- 15.2 Subject to the Council not having any operational need for the building, Highland Council would be keen to work with the local community over the future use of the building and site. Any such proposal would however have to be progressed within the terms of the Council’s current asset management arrangements.
- 15.3 It is often argued that a school closure has a detrimental impact on the community in terms of attracting new families. This issue was considered by the Commission on the Delivery of Rural Education, set up by the Scottish Government, and which reported in 2014, The Commission noted that a school alone cannot sustain a rural community. Other issues are likely to be as critical to maintaining a working age population. The two most important were jobs and housing. As the Commission noted, without employment opportunities and affordable housing, families can neither move to an areanor remain there. While local schools are strongly desirable in a similar way to local healthcare and a local post office, it seems likely that rural communities generally manage to tolerate travelling a further distance to school. The Commission’s review of the scientific and other literature on school closures “found there was a lack of robust evidence on how pre-school, childcare and school proximity (and freedom from threat of closure) links to the sustainability of communities.”

Financial Consequences

- 16.1 The Table at **Appendix G** sets out the Highland Council's assessment of the Financial Implications of the proposed merger. As the school is currently mothballed, the savings identified are already being made and no additional saving would arise to the Council from closure.
- 16.2 The table does not include property costs that would arise if Kinlochewe PS were to become operational once more. At the present time this figure can only be a very rough estimate.

Impact Assessments

- 17.1 An Integrated Impact Assessment has been carried out and is attached at **Appendix H**.

Mitigation of Adverse Effects

- 18.1 As there are currently no pupils within the Kinlochewe Primary School catchment not already attending other schools on either placing requests or to attend GME, no adverse effects arise.

Recommendation

- 19.1 Taking the above into account Highland Council recommends that Kinlochewe Primary School, currently "mothballed," is closed and the catchment area re-assigned to that of Gairloch Primary School.
- 19.2 This proposal 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 Committee of the Highland Council.

END OF PROPOSAL PAPER

5139120	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	2031/32	2032/33	2033/34	2034/35	2035/36	2036/37	2037/38	2038/39
S 1	13	22	19	13	20	22	12	12	13	11	10	6	9	14	15	15
S 2	17	13	22	19	13	20	22	12	12	13	11	10	6	9	15	15
S 3	20	17	13	22	19	13	20	22	12	12	13	11	10	6	9	15
S 4	16	20	17	13	22	19	13	20	22	12	12	13	11	10	6	9
S 5	11	14	17	15	11	19	17	11	17	19	11	11	12	10	9	5
S 6	12	7	9	12	10	8	13	11	8	12	13	7	7	8	6	6
Total Roll	89	93	97	94	95	101	97	88	84	79	70	58	55	57	60	65
Total Capacity	340															
Tot Roll - Tot Cap	-251	-247	-243	-246	-245	-239	-243	-252	-256	-261	-270	-282	-285	-283	-280	-275
Tot Roll/Tot Cap %	26%	27%	29%	28%	28%	30%	29%	26%	25%	23%	21%	17%	16%	17%	18%	19%

School Roll Forecast
 Gairloch High School
 Bualnaluib Primary

5113725	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	2031/32	2032/33	2033/34	2034/35	2035/36	2036/37	2037/38	2038/39
P 1	2	3	2	0	0	1	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3
P 2	3	2	3	2	0	0	1	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2
P 3	5	3	2	3	2	0	0	1	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3
P 4	4	5	3	2	3	2	0	0	1	2	3	2	3	2	3	3
P 5	3	4	5	3	2	3	2	0	0	1	2	3	2	3	3	2
P 6	3	3	4	5	3	2	3	2	0	0	1	2	3	2	3	3
P 7	9	3	3	4	5	3	2	3	2	0	0	1	2	3	3	2
Total Roll	29	23	22	19	15	11	10	11	10	11	13	16	17	18	19	18
Total Capacity	50															
Tot Roll - Tot Cap	-21	-27	-28	-31	-35	-39	-40	-39	-40	-39	-37	-34	-33	-32	-31	-32
Tot Roll/Tot Cap %	58%	46%	44%	38%	30%	22%	20%	22%	20%	22%	26%	32%	34%	36%	38%	36%

School Roll Forecast
 Gairloch High School
 Gairloch Primary

5153425	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	2031/32	2032/33	2033/34	2034/35	2035/36	2036/37	2037/38	2038/39
P 1	9	6	5	8	4	6	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
P 2	2	9	6	5	8	4	6	7	7	7	7	7	7	8	7	7
P 3	9	2	9	6	5	8	4	6	7	7	7	7	7	8	7	7
P 4	8	9	2	9	6	5	8	4	5	8	7	7	8	7	7	7
P 5	7	8	9	2	9	6	5	8	4	5	8	7	7	8	7	7
P 6	9	7	8	9	2	9	6	5	8	4	5	8	7	7	8	7
P 7	12	9	7	8	9	2	9	6	5	8	4	5	8	7	8	7
Total Roll	56	50	46	47	43	40	45	43	43	46	45	48	51	52	51	49
Total Capacity	124															
Tot Roll - Tot Cap	-68	-74	-78	-77	-81	-84	-79	-81	-81	-78	-79	-76	-73	-72	-73	-75
Tot Roll/Tot Cap %	45%	40%	37%	38%	35%	32%	36%	35%	35%	37%	36%	39%	41%	42%	41%	40%

School Roll Forecast
 Gairloch High School
 Poolewe Primary

5117429	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	2031/32	2032/33	2033/34	2034/35	2035/36	2036/37	2037/38	2038/39
P 1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	2	2	1	2	1	2	1
P 2	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	2	2	1	2	1	2
P 3	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	2	2	1	2	1
P 4	3	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	2	2	1	2
P 5	2	3	1	1	0	0	1	0	2	1	1	2	1	2	2	1
P 6	2	2	3	1	1	0	0	1	0	2	1	1	2	1	2	2
P 7	0	2	2	3	1	1	0	0	1	0	2	1	1	2	1	2
Total Roll	9	9	8	7	5	5	5	6	8	9	11	10	11	11	11	11
Total Capacity	50															
Tot Roll - Tot Cap	-41	-41	-42	-43	-45	-45	-45	-44	-42	-41	-39	-40	-39	-39	-39	-39
Tot Roll/Tot Cap %	18%	18%	16%	14%	10%	10%	10%	12%	16%	18%	22%	20%	22%	22%	22%	22%

School Roll Forecast
 Gairloch High School
 Shildaig Primary

5117828	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	2031/32	2032/33	2033/34	2034/35	2035/36	2036/37	2037/38	2038/39
P 1	1	4	2	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	2
P 2	6	1	4	2	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	2
P 3	7	6	1	4	2	1	1	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	3
P 4	4	7	6	1	4	2	1	1	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	3
P 5	0	4	7	6	1	4	2	1	2	1	3	2	2	2	3	2
P 6	5	0	4	7	6	1	4	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	3	2
P 7	1	5	0	4	7	6	2	3	3	1	1	2	2	2	2	3
Total Roll	24	27	24	25	22	17	14	13	15	11	14	16	15	15	16	17
Total Capacity	46															
Tot Roll - Tot Cap	-22	-19	-22	-21	-24	-29	-32	-33	-31	-35	-32	-30	-31	-31	-30	-29
Tot Roll/Tot Cap %	52%	59%	52%	54%	48%	37%	30%	28%	33%	24%	30%	35%	33%	33%	35%	37%

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This background paper describes the high level approach taken in preparing school roll forecasts for primary and secondary schools in Highland. It describes the basic methodology used and changes introduced to the processes to improve transparency and ease of use of the forecasts.
- 1.2 The existing school roll forecasting methodology has been iteratively developed over several decades with improvements and adjustments to account for circumstances in Highland. Given the school capacity pressures experienced in recent years, Highland Council's Development and Infrastructure - Information and Research department, together with Care and Learning, took the opportunity to look afresh at the forecasting process. This research has informed the 2017/18 School Roll Forecasts and the preparation of the draft Developer Contributions Supplementary guidance (consultation 2018).
- 1.3 It has been recognised that there is a need for a simplified approach to determining the effect of residential development on the school estate. In preparing the forecasts, a key consideration was the usability of these forecasts to easily identify all anticipated residential developments which feed into the forecasts and undertake development scenario modelling. This information is critical for effective planning of the school estate and assessing Local Development Plan site allocations as well as individual development proposals.
- 1.4 An integrated primary and secondary school Excel spreadsheet based approach has been developed to give confidence in school roll forecasting. A baseline forecast is updated and published annually, which also acts as a template that can now be used for modelling future school rolls based on testing various potential development and school estate management scenarios.

2 Input Datasets and Factors

- 2.1 A key factor in school roll forecasting is a detailed and accurate assessment of the likely residential build-out timescales for new developments. The annual Housing Land Audit (HLA) provides this base information. Since 2016, the HLA has been prepared in parallel with the creation of the annual School Roll Forecasts. In addition to programmed build out rates for Local Development Plan site allocations, allowance for smaller scale 'windfall' development sites is also applied to the forecasts. This windfall rate is based on the prevailing average for the primary school catchment in the previous two years. The build out and delivery of multiple residential developments, which often take place within a similar timeframe, contribute to cumulative pressures on the school estate.

- 2.2 The ratio of additional pupils expected to derive from newly constructed housing (the Pupil Product Ratio or PPR) is the major influence on increasing school rolls. The rates used in Highland are 0.3 primary pupils and 0.13 secondary per new home. These figures are comparable with those used across many Scottish Local Authorities and have been found to be accurate and reliable as recently assessed and reported in the School Pupil Product Ratio Review, prepared by The Highland Council - Information and Research, September 2017.
- 2.3 Forecasts are informed by an annual school pupil census, combined with information on current school capacities to provide the baseline and start point for forecasting and roll pressure analysis. These are provided by Care and Learning and are updated regularly to comply with the latest legislation and regulatory requirements.
- 2.4 Pre-school year group values are populated using GP registration figures supplied by the NHS, to identify children which are not yet of school age. These will be included in the calculation of future P1 intakes for Primary Schools.
- 2.5 A significant exercise was undertaken in 2017 to increase the accuracy of pupil flow modelling. We analyse the current flow of pupils attending schools outwith their catchment area school to determine future roll adjustments from Placing Request applications, as well as calculate intake numbers for Gaelic and Denominational schools.

3 Methodology

- 3.1 Once the input datasets have been refreshed with the latest values, the spreadsheet can be used to forecast school rolls for the next 15 years. As a baseline, each projection sheet shows the number of pupils in each year group for the current school year.
- 3.2 For every additional year to be forecast, the number of pupils expected in each year group will be updated to take account of the influences from the various input datasets, including additional pupils from new housing development completions.
- 3.3 Using the residential development information, estimated build out rates are aggregated by primary catchment and an updated windfall contribution is added to give a year by year additional housing count for each. These values are combined with the Pupil Product Ratios to predict the number of additional pupils expected per school for each year forecast.

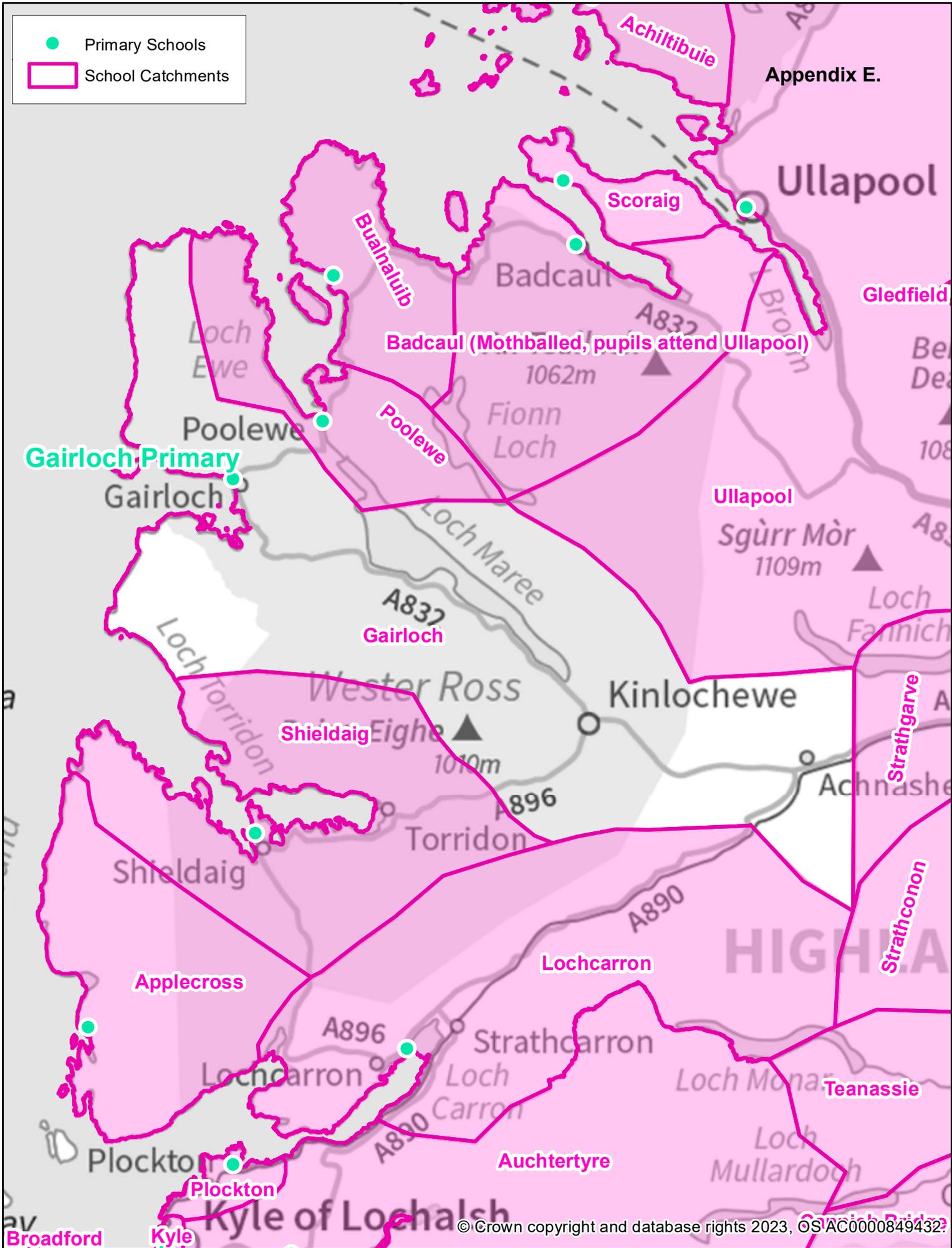
- 3.4 These anticipated new housing yields are combined with expected Placing Request numbers and are used to adjust the pupil numbers moving through the education system. Primary School P1 rolls are based on the Pre-school figures collected from the NHS and Secondary School S1 rolls use the product of last years Primary P7 pupils. All other Primary and Secondary year groups are based on the number of pupils expected to progress through from the previous school year. Adjusted year group figures for each projected year are displayed alongside baseline roll figures.
- 3.5 Total school rolls forecasted are reported against school capacities to highlight current and future school's capacity constraints or where schools have excess capacity.

4 Outputs

- 4.1 Forecasts are aggregated into a single summary sheet for each Associated School Group (ASG) and published annually via the Highland Council's Website. From 2018, we will also be publishing mid-year update sheets to reflect any significant changes to the school estate.
- 4.2 The published School Roll Forecast is used internally as a baseline to enable effective management of the school estate and forms an essential part of the Council's evidence base for informing planning decision making.

END

The Highland Council - Information and Research
Development and Infrastructure
September 2017



Kinlochewe Merged with Gairloch Primary School Catchment

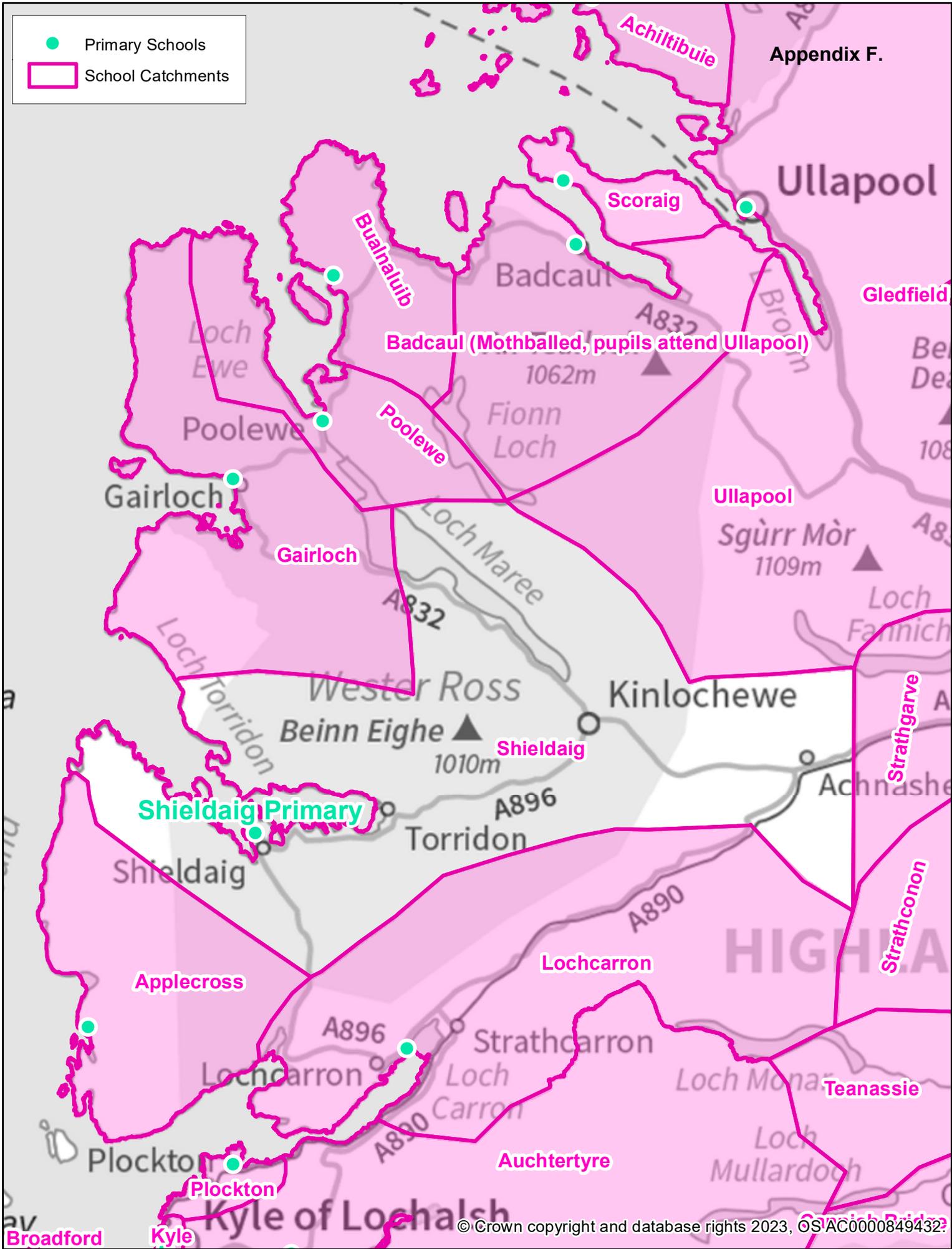
Ref: gis2850
Date: Dec2023

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● Primary Schools
 School Catchments

Appendix F.



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Kinlochewe Merged with Shieldaig Primary School Catchment

Ref: gis2850
Date: Dec2023

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 1:300,000



Appendix G.

Financial Template

Table 1	Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Row 1	Current revenue costs for school proposed for closure			
	Name of School Kinlochewe Primary School	Costs for full financial year (projected annual costs)	Costs (during the period of Mothball)	Annual recurring savings (column 2 minus column 3)
Row 2	School costs			
Row 3	<i>Employee costs</i>			
Row 4	teaching staff	£73,493	£0	£73,493
Row 5	support staff	£12,621	£0	£12,621
Row 6	teaching staff training (CPD etc)	£256	£0	£256
Row 7	support staff training	£0	£0	£0
Row 8	Supply costs	£1,035	£0	£1,035
Row 9				
Row 10				
Row 11	<i>Building costs:</i>			
Row 12	property insurance	£88	£88	£0
Row 13	non domestic rates	£0	£0	£0
Row 14	water & sewerage charges	£295	£295	£0
Row 15	energy costs	£14,242	£14,242	£0
Row 16	cleaning (contract or inhouse)	£0	£0	£0
Row 17	building repair & maintenance	£151	£151	£0
Row 18	grounds maintenance	£0	£0	£0
Row 19	facilities management costs - note 6	£0	£0	£0
Row 20	revenue costs arising from capital	£0	£0	£0
Row 21	other	£0	£0	£0
Row 22				
Row 23	<i>School operational costs:</i>			
Row 24	learning materials	£1,274	£0	£1,274
Row 25	catering (contract or inhouse)**see additio	£0	£0	£0
Row 26	SQA costs	£0	£0	£0
Row 27	other school operational costs (e.g. licences)	£0	£0	£0
Row 28				
Row 29	<i>Transport costs: note 3</i>			
Row 30	home to school	£0	£0	£0
Row 31	other pupil transport costs	£0	£0	£0
Row 32	staff travel	£174	£0	£174
Row 33	SCHOOL COSTS SUB-TOTAL	£103,629	£14,776	£88,853
Row 34				
Row 35	<i>Income:</i>			
Row 36	Sale of meals	£0	£0	£0
Row 37	Lets	£0	£0	£0
Row 38	External care provider	£0	£0	£0
Row 39	Other	£0	£0	£0
Row 40	SCHOOL INCOME SUB-TOTAL	0	0	£0
Row 41				
Row 42	TOTAL COSTS MINUS INCOME FOR SCHOOL	£103,629	£14,776	£88,853
Row 43				
Row 44	UNIT COST PER PUPIL PER YEAR	34,543	4,925	29,618

Table 2	Column 5	Column 6	Column 7
Capital costs		School proposed for closure	Receiving school
Capital Life Cycle cost - note 7			
Third party contributions to capital costs			

Table 3	Column 5	Column 6	Column 7
Annual Property costs incurred (moth-balling) until disposal			
property insurance			£88
non domestic rates			£0
water & sewerage charges			£295
energy costs			£14,242
cleaning (contract or inhouse)			£0
security costs			£151
building repair & maintenance			£151
grounds maintenance			£0
facilities management costs			£0
other			£0
TOTAL ANNUAL COST UNTIL DISPOSAL			£14,776

Table 4	Column 5	Column 6	Column 7
Non-recurring revenue costs			
Catering Equipment			0
TOTAL NON-RECURRING REVENUE COSTS			-

Table 5	Column 5	Column 6	Column 7
Impact on GAE - note 5			
GAE IMPACT			

Notes

1. The total costs incurred for teaching staff (row 5) and support staff (row 6) are required to be included. Column 2 should include the current costs for a full financial year for the school proposed for closure, and column 3 should include the *additional* cost to the receiving school as a result of staff transferring.

For teaching staff, this should include regular teachers, itinerant teachers, learning support teaching staff and special education (ASN) staff.

Itinerant teaching staff includes central support services such as English as additional language support, hearing, visually impaired services, educational psychology services.

For support staff, this should include classroom assistants, administration staff and janitorial staff.

For all staff the costs entered should include salary, NI and pension costs.

If the school proposed for closure has less than 3 staff members, then the cumulative staff costs only should be given in row 5 (for both teaching and support staff), so as to avoid possible disclosure of individual salaries.

Training costs should be identified separately in rows 7 and 8.

2. Supply costs to cover teaching and support staff. This may be held in a central budget, be devolved or shared across the budgets.

3. 'Home to school' pupil transport costs should include those school transport costs incurred in accordance with Council policy. 'Other pupil transport costs' will cover costs incurred for the transport of pupils for activities such as swimming etc

4. Row 30 of column 3 should include the additional transport costs related to the increased home to school transport arrangements that are put in place in accordance with Council policy. This figure is therefore likely to be considerably higher than current costs.

5. This table is to capture the impact on the revenue support grant as a result of changes to GAE. Impact on GAE should consider the issues covered in the GAE section of the guidance document that accompany this template.

6. Facilities management costs will include costs related to caretaking, janitorial and security.

7. The capital costs for the receiving school should be taken across the life cycle of the school in line with the life expectancy of that school. The capital costs for the school proposed for closure should be taken across the same life cycle period.

Note: As Kinlochewe PS is currently mothballed the costs in column 2 of table 1 above reflect the estimated costs of running the school if it were to reopen, as the school is currently mothballed these savings are already being realised.

Note: