

From: School consultation [mailto:donotreply@highland.gov.uk]
Sent: 11 June 2019 11:08
To: Education Consultations
Subject: Uig consultation comments

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Name of consultation: Uig

Your comments: Uig school was mothballed in a period when the numbers were low and after a period where Highland Council employees had been unofficially persuading prospective parents that the school was about to be closed. I know this as I was going to place my own 3 children there but was persuaded not to by the teacher in Uig at the time. The reality is Highland Council's own figures at the time of mothballing had Uig School roll increase to be the highest of the three rural North End schools (Uig, Kilmuir and Staffin) by 2017. It should not have been mothballed and should absolutely not be closed.

Uig is the main centre of economic activity in the area. It needs a school. Removal of the school will undoubtedly affect future viability of the village. The amount of children that currently are bussed to Kilmuir school on a daily basis shows the potential roll of the reopened school. The closure of the school will represent a drastic failure of planning in the area. Uig will become the only major village on the Island without a school. This cannot be allowed to happen. There are major plans for the pier area and an increased ferry capacity will see the economic activity in the area increase significantly. There are also plans for more housing as well as food and retail units at the pier.

The village is in the difficult position that many of the young people are quite used to getting bussed 6 miles to attend another school so the parents are unwilling to commit to them attending the reopened school. This should NOT be used as an excuse for not reopening the school. It is incumbent on Highland Council to make the transition from their current school to Uig school as easy as possible. To fail to do this would be represent negligence on the part of HC.

Upload documents or letters :

I am commenting as: Local resident

I am commenting on behalf of: myself

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