



## **THE MORAY COUNCIL EDUCATION AND SOCIAL CARE DEPARTMENT**

### **Proposal Paper**

**To vary the catchment areas of Bishopmill, East End, Greenwards, New Elgin, Seafield and West End primary schools in Elgin, including establishing zones for two new primary schools.**

### **Statutory Consultation Period:**

**Monday 13 April – Friday 29 May 2015 inclusive (32 school days)**

**All submissions expressing views on the proposals detailed in this document must be submitted by 5.00pm on 29<sup>th</sup> May 2015 for them to be taken into account as part of the consultation.**

**It is intended to respond to issues raised from correspondence within a consultation report that will be published before the Children and Young Peoples Services Committee on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2015.**

**This document has been issued by the Moray Council for consultation in terms of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010.**

## **1. THE PROPOSALS**

- 1.1 It is proposed to make the following changes to primary school catchment areas (zones) in Elgin.
- (i) To vary the catchment areas of Bishopmil, East End, Greenwards, New Elgin, Seafield and West End primary schools in Elgin based on geographical areas which are delineated on plans contained within this document and described below.
  - (ii) To establish a catchment area for a new primary school, including nursery, to serve a delineated geographical area in south east Elgin.
  - (iii) To establish a catchment area for a new primary school, including nursery, to serve a delineated geographical area in north Elgin.
- 1.2 It is proposed that the implementation dates for these proposals will be:
- (i) January 2016 (revised catchment areas for existing Elgin primary schools).
  - (ii) No earlier than August 2018 for a new school to serve south east Elgin.
  - (iii) No earlier than August 2020 for a new school to serve north Elgin.

## **2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 Not all of the Elgin primary schools are included in the proposals; however reference is made to all the Elgin High School and Elgin Academy Associated Schools Groups (ASGs) primary schools in this document for the sake of completeness.
- 2.2 As a result of various factors including demographics, new housing developments and transport issues, certain primary schools in Elgin are nearing, and will exceed, their capacities.
- 2.3 At its meeting on 25 March 2015 the Children and Young Peoples Services Committee agreed to formally consult on the above proposals in terms of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010.
- 2.4 It is the legal duty of the education authority to place a child in the school of his/her parent's choice, provided that the request is for a school managed by the council. This is called a 'Placing Request'. The obligation to meet this request however does not apply in certain circumstances. These exceptions are laid out in the legislation and detailed in the Moray Council's policy and procedures for admission to schools. The number of out of zone pupils for each of the Elgin ASG schools is given in the following table:

| <b>School</b> | <b>Current Roll*</b> | <b>Number of out of zone pupils*</b> | <b>% out of zone pupils</b> |
|---------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Bishopmill    | 359                  | 183                                  | 50.9%                       |
| East End      | 203                  | 52                                   | 25.6%                       |
| Greenwards    | 331                  | 236                                  | 71.3%                       |
| Mosstowie     | 49                   | 21                                   | 42.9%                       |
| New Elgin     | 511                  | 126                                  | 24.7%                       |
| Seafield      | 278                  | 69                                   | 24.8%                       |
| St Sylvesters | 205                  | 73                                   | 35.6%                       |
| West End      | 234                  | 120                                  | 51.3%                       |

\* data from September 2014 census.

2.5 Based on the approximately 50% of out of zone placing request applicants who stated a reason analysis of placing requests across Moray, over the last six years, has identified the following as the main reasons behind the requests:

1. Change of address (moving house and wishing to remain at current school).
2. Siblings already attend the school.
3. Child attended playgroup or nursery at that school.
4. Childminder lives close by the school.

2.6 Due to increasing demand for in-zone places in certain primary schools, the Moray Council has agreed to cap the rolls of all of the Elgin primary schools to ensure that sufficient classroom space remains available. This will be achieved by limiting the intake to these schools to ensure that the optimum number of classes, within the schools, is not exceeded. The maximum number of classes, in each school, is currently:

| <b>School</b> | <b>Maximum number of classes</b> |
|---------------|----------------------------------|
| Bishopmill    | 14                               |
| East End      | 10                               |
| Greenwards    | 14                               |
| Mosstowie     | 3                                |
| New Elgin     | 19                               |
| Seafield      | 13                               |
| St Sylvesters | 8                                |
| West End      | 9                                |

2.7 The Education (Scotland) Act 1980 empowers local authorities to reserve places, not exceeding such number or percentage of places at the school or relating to a particular stage of education, as are, in the opinion of the education authority, reasonably required to accommodate pupils likely to become resident in the catchment area of the school during the academic year. Placing requests in respect of children who live outwith the school zone can be refused in order to allow this to happen. Power to decide on reserved

places is delegated to the Corporate Director (Education and Social Care) in consultation with local Elected Members.

2.8 In spite of roll capping and the authority reserving places for in-zone pupils, roll projections indicate that there is soon likely to be insufficient places in Elgin to accommodate all of the primary school age children.

2.9 If primary zones remain unaltered the following table provides roll projections.

| School        | Functional Capacity** | Current Roll* | Projected Rolls (May 2014) |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|---------------|-----------------------|---------------|----------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
|               |                       |               | 2014                       | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 |
| Bishopmill    | 390                   | 359           | 363                        | 376  | 398  | 407  | 423  | 431  | 450  | 471  |
| East End      | 233                   | 203           | 196                        | 223  | 263  | 302  | 340  | 353  | 382  | 409  |
| Greenwards    | 390                   | 331           | 333                        | 323  | 322  | 315  | 328  | 315  | 329  | 341  |
| Mosstowie     | 75                    | 49            | 53                         | 55   | 53   | 55   | 54   | 54   | 58   | 50   |
| New Elgin     | 531                   | 511           | 504                        | 552  | 594  | 625  | 665  | 689  | 721  | 750  |
| Seafield      | 353                   | 278           | 263                        | 278  | 306  | 336  | 364  | 395  | 439  | 467  |
| St Sylvesters | 232                   | 205           | 207                        | 208  | 202  | 201  | 206  | 203  | 202  | 204  |
| West End      | 249                   | 234           | 236                        | 239  | 231  | 226  | 234  | 230  | 222  | 223  |

\*Census Data September 2014 – based on current national guidelines and current Moray Council practice.

\*\* Functional Capacity 2014/15 (Functional capacities are reviewed and revised annually)

2.10 A map showing the current Elgin primary school zones is shown in Appendix 1.

2.11 Mosstowie Primary. The roll is projected to remain stable and at approximately 67% of capacity by 2021. Mosstowie Primary could only accommodate a maximum of 25 additional pupils, based on projections. It is not proposed to make any changes to the Mosstowie Primary zone at this time.

2.12 St Sylvester's Primary. The roll is projected to remain stable and at approximately 88% of capacity by 2021. It is not proposed making any changes.

## THE PROPOSALS

2.13 A map showing the proposed revisions to school zones is shown in Appendix 2. A summary of the post code areas within each new proposed school zones is contained in Appendix 3.

Proposals for individual primary schools in the Elgin Associated Schools Groups are given below.

- 2.13.1 Bishopmill Primary. The roll is projected to rise to 120% of current capacity by 2021. It is anticipated that the impact of roll capping and a refurbished Seafield Primary will alleviate immediate pressures on the roll. Nevertheless the planned construction of approximately 1500 houses in the Findrassie area means that Bishopmill Primary will face further pressures on the roll in the longer term. It is proposed that the Bishopmill Primary zone be divided in order to identify a zone for a new school in the north of Elgin (as shown on the map in Appendix 2) to be constructed at a later date. Part of this new zone should include a section of the current Seafield catchment area.
- 2.13.2 East End Primary. The roll is forecast to rise to 175% of current capacity by 2021. The impact of new nursery provision in East End Primary has contributed to an increased roll in early years. There were initially 20 nursery places but this has increased to 40 in the first year. The Pinefield area of Elgin is zoned to East End Primary but traditionally has attracted a number of out of zone placing requests into New Elgin Primary as a result of parents' safety concerns over pupils walking along the side of the A96. It is therefore proposed that the Pinefield area to the east of Reiket Lane is zoned to a new school serving the south east of Elgin. It is further proposed that post codes IV30 1BS; IV30 1LU and IV30 1LT are included in the East End Primary zone (as shown on the map in Appendix 2). This would ensure all the houses in Moss Street are zoned to East End Primary.
- 2.13.3 Greenwards Primary. The roll is forecast to be around 87% of current capacity by 2021. There has traditionally been a high level of placing requests made for this school from the areas of New Elgin within the Edgar Road, Glen Moray Drive, Springfield Road and New Elgin Road area and the area south of Birnie Road and west of the A941. Reasons for this vary but proximity/ease of access to Greenwards Primary has been given. There is therefore scope to realign much of the current New Elgin Primary catchment area to Greenwards Primary. It is proposed that all of the area to the west of the A941 in New Elgin is zoned to Greenwards Primary except post codes IV30 6BE, IV30 6BQ, IV30 6BH and IV30 6BG which would be zoned to New Elgin Primary (as shown on the map in Appendix 2). This would ensure that all houses on New Elgin Road and Main Street are zoned to New Elgin Primary.
- 2.13.4 New Elgin Primary. The roll is forecast to rise to approximately 140% of current capacity by 2021 should current catchment areas remain in place. The impact of childcare provision in south Elgin, and its proximity to New Elgin Primary, has increased the number of out of zone placing requests to New Elgin Primary. Extending New Elgin Primary is not considered a realistic option for a number of reasons including loss of recreational space for pupils and increased traffic problems around the school. Realigning the Greenwards Primary catchment area (as described in 2.8.3) will not in itself resolve the problems for New Elgin Primary. It is therefore proposed that a new school

will be required to serve south east Elgin. This would include the Linkwood area to the east of Reiket Lane and any new developments to the south east of the current developments in the Thornhill area, and to the east of the A941. Proposed catchment area for New Elgin Primary and a new school are shown on the map in Appendix 2.

2.13.5 Seafield Primary. Seafield Primary is projected to have an increased roll as a result of the planned construction of approximately 1500 houses in the Findrassie area. The roll is forecast to rise to 132% of current capacity by 2021. The planned refurbishment and extension to Seafield Primary means that more pupils should be able to be accommodated within the school and, in addition, it is anticipated that the refurbished building is likely to be more attractive to in-zone families. Proposed catchment areas for Seafield Primary and a new school are shown on the map in Appendix 2. Currently the Kingsmills area is zoned to Seafield Primary. There is no obvious advantage for this, in terms of routes to school, and it is proposed that this area is zoned to East End Primary.

2.13.6 West End Primary. The roll is projected to remain stable at approximately 78% of capacity by 2021. There is potential to extend the West End Primary zone in the future to include the Mosstowie Primary catchment area. This would entail a new build, or an extension to the existing building. Such a plan would have to be the subject of a more detailed analysis and be the subject of a future proposal and consultation. The south western boundary of the West End Primary (with Mosstowie Primary) zone has been clarified, for this consultation, as including all of post code IV30 1YF zoned to West end Primary.

2.14 Based on these proposed changes to school zones as detailed, the roll forecasts are as follows:

| School                | Functional Capacity** | Current Roll* | Projected Rolls |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------|-----------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
|                       |                       |               | 2015            | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 |
| Bishopmill            | 390                   | 359           | 374             | 393  | 405  | 418  | 390  | 390  | 390  |
| New Zone (North)      |                       |               |                 |      |      |      | 103  | 191  | 278  |
| East End              | 233                   | 203           | 169             | 214  | 257  | 300  | 264  | 264  | 264  |
| Greenwards            | 390                   | 331           | 348             | 348  | 338  | 350  | 338  | 353  | 360  |
| Mosstowie             | 75                    | 49            | 55              | 53   | 55   | 54   | 54   | 58   | 50   |
| New Elgin             | 531                   | 511           | 297             | 320  | 339  | 370  | 396  | 425  | 460  |
| New Zone (South East) |                       |               | 303             | 328  | 333  | 348  | 338  | 345  | 334  |
| Seafield              | 353                   | 278           | 267             | 290  | 318  | 335  | 353  | 353  | 353  |
| St Sylvesters         | 232                   | 205           | 208             | 202  | 201  | 206  | 203  | 202  | 204  |
| West End              | 249                   | 234           | 231             | 222  | 222  | 232  | 232  | 222  | 223  |

2.15 In arriving at the above projections the following assumptions have been made:

- A new south east school would be available from August 2015 (this date was picked, for illustrative purposes, to make best use of roll projection methodologies which predict 7 years in advance)
- All pupils in the area identified as being in the new south east zone would attend a new school in that zone
- Pupils re-zoned from New Elgin Primary to Greenwards Primary would move to Greenwards Primary
- Pupils attending Bishopmill, East End, Seafield and West End Primaries, through out of zone placing requests, would remain at their current school.

It is very difficult to accurately forecast the roll for a proposed new school in the north of Elgin until timescales and anticipated numbers of new houses are known.

2.16 There is scope to expand current accommodation to provide additional classrooms at Bishopmill, Greenwards and Seafield primaries, however in each case it would take the schools beyond an ideal number of 14 classes. This number of classes has previously been identified as providing benefits in terms of school dynamics where there is the opportunity for teachers to work with 'stage partners' to plan for greater coherence in pupils' learning. Pupil numbers associated with greater than 14 classes would place significantly increased pressures on school management.

2.17 Once revised school zones are approved, there will need to be a further statutory consultation exercise to establish new schools within these zones. At that stage details of school locations, school designs and capacities, travel plans and relevant safety issues will need to be clear.

2.18 It should be noted that certain proposals, if accepted, will have knock-on effects for secondary school zones in Moray. Any proposals to change secondary school zones would have to be the subject of a future consultation.

### **3. TRANSITION ARRANGEMENTS**

3.1 Pupils living in the affected areas detailed in Section 2 who have already commenced their primary education at the time of the new school zones become applicable can remain in their chosen primary school. No existing primary school pupils will be required to move school when new zones are established unless that is by parental choice.

3.2 Existing placing arrangements will remain for enrolments of new pupils residing in a proposed catchment area for one of the new schools until such a time as placing arrangements for the new schools come into effect.

- 3.3 Children enrolled in an already established school who are resident in the proposed revised catchment areas will have the option to transfer to their new designated primary school once the new zones become effective.
- 3.4 After new zones for north and south east Elgin are agreed, and until new schools are constructed to serve these zones, children will continue to attend their existing schools. Once new schools are established in these areas children will have the option to transfer to their new designated primary school.

#### **4. TRANSPORT ARRANGEMENTS**

- 4.1 While zoning is important in addressing capacity issues in Elgin, pupil safety is also of paramount importance. These proposals are designed to make travel to school as safe as possible.
- 4.2 Moray Council currently provides free school transport for primary school pupils who reside more than 2 miles from their designated zoned school, determined following any decision on zoning taken by the Moray Council.
- 4.3 Parents who make successful placing requests for their children to attend schools, other than their catchment area school, have to make their own transport arrangements and meet the costs thereof.
- 4.4 School travel plans are an essential part of the Moray Council's strategy to address issues related to transport to school. School travel plans also include promotion of initiatives to increase the number of children who walk or cycle to school. School travel plans can help reduce congestion, increase road safety, make routes to school safer, help protect the environment and encourage children to adopt healthy lifestyles.
- 4.5 If these proposals are adopted there should be no significant changes to school transport arrangements for eligible pupils. However, it is recognised that there may be changes to methods of travel for some pupils who will, in the future, be within closer walking or cycling distance to their zoned school. Establishing new schools is likely to ensure that traffic problems around existing schools do not increase. Travel plans will require to be revisited once school catchment areas are confirmed and travel plans will be developed when establishing any new schools. These will be available prior to the effective dates of new school zones.

## **5. EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS STATEMENT**

- 5.1.1 Pupils who are resident within the delineated zone for a school will be able to attend their zoned school and be taught with peers from their community.
- 5.1.2 Families who live in the affected areas will have clear information on their zoned primary school, thereby providing a degree of certainty which may be lacking at the present time. This will have the benefit of removing the anxieties which children and parents have experienced in recent years over the availability of places in their zoned school.
- 5.1.3 The proposals will ensure that all Elgin primary schools will have clear and distinct associations with their local communities.
- 5.1.4 The establishment of new primary schools in Elgin will have a positive impact on the balance between the numbers of pupils in the Elgin primary school communities. It will alleviate projected pupil roll pressures across Elgin from potential housing developments identified in the adopted Local Development Plan.
- 5.1.5 Pupils, whose parents make placing requests to have them enrolled in schools outwith their zoned school, will be more likely to gain admission. This will have the benefit of removing the anxieties which children and parents have experienced in recent years over the availability of places in their chosen school.

## **5.2 Likely effects for children currently attending Elgin primary schools**

- 5.2.1 By alleviating current and future capacity pressures on the existing school estate, the ability to create flexible learning spaces in all schools will improve the range of learning environments across existing schools and any new schools. This will allow aspirations, attainment and achievement to continue to improve across Moray primary schools.
- 5.2.2 The proposals will bring a better balance between the numbers of pupils in the Elgin primary school communities and the capacities of these schools, ensuring the schools will have sustainable rolls which will deliver the full breadth of Curriculum for Excellence.
- 5.2.3 The alleviated roll pressures will enhance the opportunity to create more adaptable environments for learning, in which to facilitate co-operative and interdisciplinary learning, reduce pressure on technology and practical teaching spaces, and improve the social environment.
- 5.2.4 The curriculum in all schools will provide the opportunity for learners to achieve across all curricular areas and develop skills, attributes and capabilities through courses aligned with the design principles of Curriculum

for Excellence: challenge and enjoyment, breadth, progression, depth, personalisation and choice, coherence and relevance.

- 5.2.5 Children and young people will be provided with a broad range of opportunities for personal achievement and interdisciplinary learning across all curriculum areas and subjects by building on best practice in curriculum design in Moray schools.
- 5.2.6 Any new school will benefit from design practices which support the varied range of teaching environments that best deliver learning. Spaces for learning will be designed in such a way as to allow a range of teaching styles and approaches including: active learning, interdisciplinary learning and outdoor learning.
- 5.2.7 Experience in other new school buildings has demonstrated that a new and flexible learning environment has inspired pupils and has a positive impact on the general health and wellbeing of learners and increases aspirations, attainment and achievement.
- 5.2.8 In any new school, the provision of high quality technology for learning will provide the potential to transform ways of learning and teaching by giving young people and staff flexible access to a digital learning environment.
- 5.2.9 Any proposed new school will provide excellent facilities for children, families and other users' outwith core school hours. New schools will provide accessible facilities that could be used to meet the learning, leisure and social needs of the community.

### **5.3 Likely effects for children who become pupils of Elgin primary schools in the next two years.**

- 5.3.1 There would be no detriment to future users of the provision.
- 5.3.2 Where new zones for Greenwards, East End, New Elgin, Seafield and West End primaries become applicable, children will enrol in these schools from the effective date following the decision of the Moray Council Children and Young People's Services Committee to change the catchment areas.
- 5.3.3 In situations where children are resident in an area designated as a zone for a new school and this zone is not yet applicable as the effective date has not been reached, they will continue to enrol in the school in their existing zone until such time as a new school is established. When a new school is established, children in these circumstances will have the option to remain in their existing school or attend the new school they are zoned to.

### **5.4 Likely effects on other users of the schools' facilities**

- 5.4.1 There would be no detriment to other users of the schools' facilities.

Any new school will build on current, and facilitate new, opportunities for effective integrated working with other services and partner agencies and will provide necessary support to children and families in the new school catchment area.

## **5.5 Likely effects on children and young people in other Moray Council schools**

- 5.5.1 This proposal will have no significant adverse impact on children attending other schools in Moray. This proposal has the potential to bring financial benefits to the Moray Council and therefore allow for a more equitable distribution of resources.
- 5.5.2 If approval is granted to change the primary school catchment areas, then there will be knock-on effects for secondary school zones in Moray. Any proposals to change secondary school zones would have to be the subject of a future consultation.

## **5.6 Other likely effects of the proposal**

- 5.6.1 The additional learning and teaching community at any new school will provide increased opportunities for collegiate working to share good practice, to improve curriculum development, to share thinking and materials across Elgin schools and to secure ongoing improvements in achievement. This will also result in greater scope for delivery of continued lifelong professional learning for all staff.
- 5.6.2 Any new schools will have nursery provision to meet the increasing demand for nursery places in north and south Elgin.
- 5.6.3 Any new school will be designed in such a way as to promote accessible, inclusive learning which will meet the needs of all learners including those with Additional Support Needs. New schools will provide additional specialist provision to enhance the local authority's capacity to meet the needs of young people with Additional Support Needs to remain in mainstream education.

## **5.7 How the Council intends to minimise or avoid potential adverse effects**

- 5.7.1 Teaching and support staff will work closely with all affected primary schools to ensure that the learning, pastoral and social needs of children are fully supported during any transition process, including enhanced arrangements for children and young people with Additional Support Needs.

5.7.2 An equality impact assessment has been carried out on this proposal and consultation process. This concludes that introducing this proposal will not have an adverse impact on any of the groups considered. From the impact assessment, it is concluded that this proposal would have potential positive benefits for young people. The equality impact assessment is attached as Appendix 4.

## **5.8 Summary of benefits resulting from implementation of this proposal**

5.8.1 The benefits are all highlighted in the preceding paragraphs, but they can be summarised as follows:

- i. By far the most important driver of the proposal is the prospect that rezoning should ensure, first and foremost, that children who are living within an area zoned for a particular school are able to attend that school.
- ii. Where new schools are built or existing schools are refurbished there will be greatly improved accommodation for the nursery children and school pupils, including those with Additional Support Needs, and staff.
- iii. There is an opportunity here for the Council to make best use of the finances available, and make the most effective use of resources at a time when the need for these is acute.

5.8.2 The Council has arrived at these conclusions, primarily, from a comprehensive analysis of historical placing requests within Elgin and a detailed study of future housing developments. There has also been consultation with head teachers on the potential impacts of roll projections on schools' ability to continue to deliver good quality learning and teaching in suitable learning environments. There has also been a range of informal discussions with parent councils and authority officers within Education and Social Care, Planning and Transportation which have supported these proposals.

5.8.3 In delivering these broad benefits, the authority is confident that it is discharging its duty to secure best value by continuous improvement in the performance of its functions, as required in the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003.

## **6. THE CONSULTATION PROCESS**

6.1 Formal consultation will run from Monday 13 April – Friday 29 May 2015 inclusive (32 school days)

6.2 As required by the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, formal consultation includes:

- the preparation of this proposal paper;
- a letter to the parents/carers of children at all Elgin primary schools

- a letter to the parents/carers of children at all Elgin pre-school centres (those children expected to attend the affected schools within two years of the publication of these proposals);
- information, including the proposal paper, placed on the Council's website;
- information on the proposals communicated through social media;
- an announcement of the proposal in the local press, inviting any person to make written representation to the Corporate Director (Education and Social Care);
- four public meetings in Elgin as shown below;
- meetings with the parent councils of all affected Elgin primary schools;
- meetings with the staff of the establishments;
- meetings with the pupil councils of all affected Elgin primary schools;
- consultation with pupils of all affected Elgin primary schools;
- consultation with Community Councils in all affected areas;
- consultation with representatives of the teacher and support staff trade unions, and
- meetings with other interested bodies.

6.3 Formal Consultation Meetings are arranged as follows:

| <b>Date</b>                          | <b>Venue</b>              | <b>Time</b> |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------|
| Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> April 2015   | Bishopmill Primary School | 7.00pm      |
| Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> April 2015 | New Elgin & Ashgrove Hall | 7.00pm      |
| Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> April 2015   | Elgin Town Hall           | 2.00pm      |
| Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> April 2015   | Elgin Town Hall           | 7.00pm      |

6.4 It is hoped that the Children and Young Peoples Services Committee will be able to take a final decision on the proposals at its meeting on 9th December 2015.

## **7. INVOLVEMENT OF EDUCATION SCOTLAND**

7.1 A copy of this proposal document has been sent to Education Scotland. Education Scotland will also receive a copy of any written representations that are received by Moray Council from any person during the consultation period. Education Scotland will also receive a summary of any oral representation made to the Moray Council at the public meetings and a copy of any other relevant documentation.

7.2 After the Moray Council has sent Education Scotland all representations and documents mentioned above, Education Scotland will prepare a report on the educational aspects of the proposal. This will take place during the period 21st August 2015 to 11th September 2015. In preparing their report, Education Scotland may visit the affected establishments and make such reasonable enquiries of such people there, or such other people as they consider appropriate.

7.3 On receipt of the Education Scotland report, it will be necessary to review the proposal, and thereafter, the Corporate Director (Education and Social Care), on behalf of the education authority, will prepare and publish a consultation report, containing the views of Education Scotland and including an explanation of how the Moray Council proposes to deal with any issues raised. After a period of no less than three weeks, the Children and Young Peoples Services Committee will consider the consultation report and decide whether or not to approve the proposals.

## **8. NOTE ON CORRECTIONS**

8.1 If any apparent inaccuracy or omission is discovered in this proposal document either by the Moray Council or any person, the Moray Council will determine if relevant information has been omitted or if there has been an inaccuracy. If it is determined that there has been an inaccuracy or omission the Moray Council will then take appropriate action which may include the issue of a correction or the reissuing of the proposal paper or the revision of the timescale for the consultation period as appropriate. In that event, any person highlighting the inaccuracy to the Moray Council, relevant consultees and Education Scotland will be advised.

## **9. EQUALITY STATEMENT**

9.1 An equality impact assessment has been carried out on this proposal and consultation process to assess the proposal's relevance to the public sector equality duties on the basis of:

- Sex
- Religion
- Racial group
- Disability
- Sexual orientation
- Gender reassignment
- Pregnancy and maternity

9.2 The equality impact assessment concluded that introducing this proposal will not have an adverse impact on any of the groups listed. From the impact assessment, it is further concluded that the proposals would have potential positive benefits for young people. Any impacts identified through the consultation process will be investigated prior to the final consultation report being issued and a decision being made. The equality impact assessment is attached as Appendix 4.

## **10. SUBMISSION OF VIEWS**

- 10.1 Responses to the consultation should be made by writing to:  
Elgin Primary School Rezoning Consultation  
The Moray Council  
Community Support Unit  
High Street  
Elgin  
IV30 1BX

or by e-mail to: [futureschools@moray.gov.uk](mailto:futureschools@moray.gov.uk)  
or by completing the attached consultation response form  
or by completing the on-line consultation form by following the links at  
[www.moray.gov.uk](http://www.moray.gov.uk)

**All responses must be submitted by 5.00pm on 29<sup>th</sup> May 2015 for them to be taken into account as part of the consultation.**

## **11. OUTCOME OF CONSULTATION**

- 11.1 It is intended that a consultation report including a summary of the submissions will be published on the council website. This will be available by following the links at: [www.moray.gov.uk](http://www.moray.gov.uk)
- 11.2 It is intended that a report on the consultation will be presented to the Children and Young People's Services Committee on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2015. This will provide information for Elected Members to make a final decision on the proposal.

