

10am, Thursday, 29 June 2017

## Outcome of the Statutory Consultation Process on the Proposal to Establish a New Non-Denominational Primary School and Implement Catchment Changes to Address School Capacity and Accommodation Pressures in South East Edinburgh

Item number

Report number

Executive/routine

Wards

15 (Southside / Newington), 16 (Liberton / Gilmerton)

### Executive summary

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On [13 December 2016](#) the Education, Children and Families Committee approved that a statutory consultation should be undertaken on the proposal to establish a new primary school and nursery in south east Edinburgh, with associated changes to the catchment areas of existing primary and secondary schools.

A [statutory consultation](#) was undertaken between 16 January 2017 and 3 March 2017. The purpose of this report is to advise on the outcome of the consultation.

It is recommended that the proposal to establish a new primary school and nursery in south east Edinburgh is progressed and the school catchment changes outlined in the statutory consultation paper are implemented in the November prior to the new school opening.

### Links

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Council outcomes

[CO1](#) and [CO2](#)

Single Outcome Agreement

[SO3](#)

## **Outcome of the Statutory Consultation Process on the Proposal to Establish a New Non-Denominational Primary School and Implement Catchment Changes to Address School Capacity and Accommodation Pressures in South East Edinburgh**

### **Recommendations**

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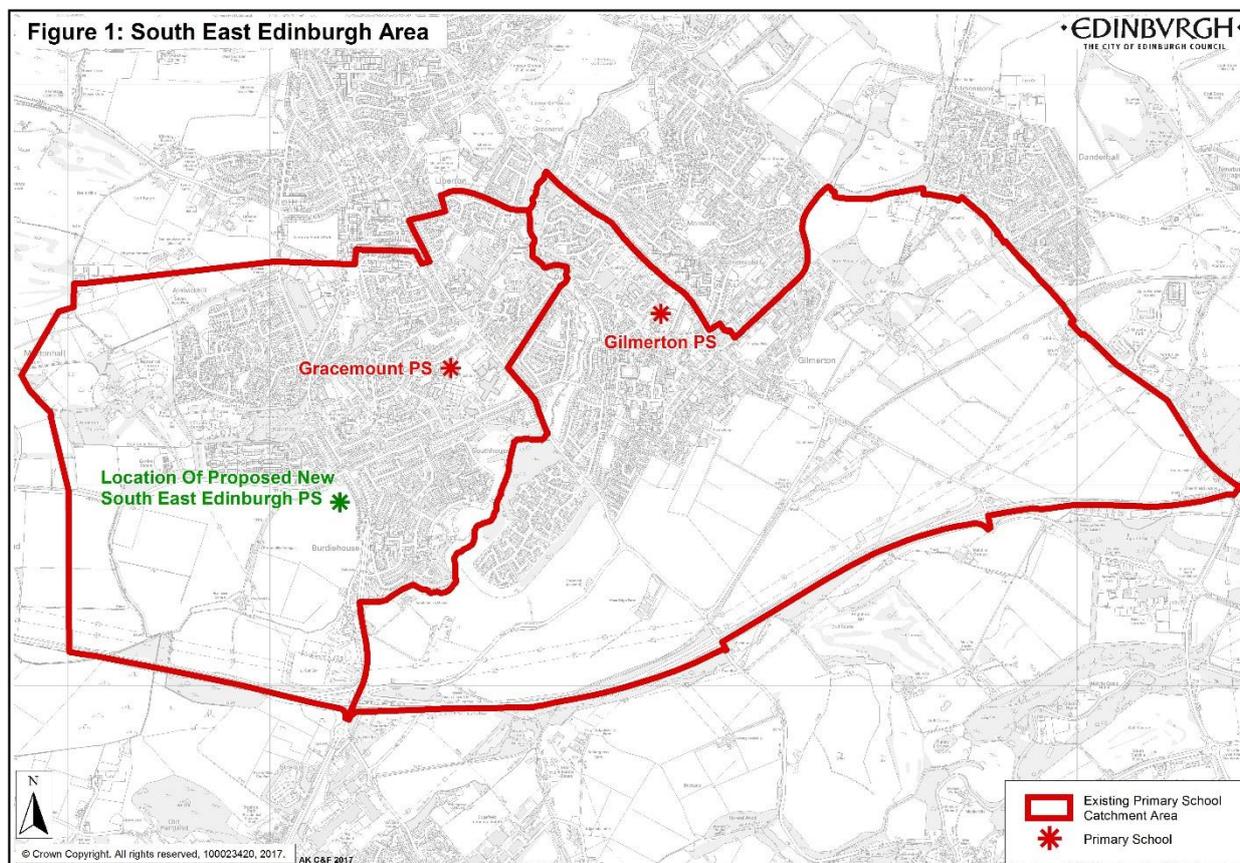
- 1.1 Approve that the proposal to establish a new non-denominational primary school and nursery in south east Edinburgh is progressed and the school catchment changes outlined in the statutory consultation paper are implemented in the November prior to the new school opening.
- 1.2 To refer the budget requirements for delivery of the new school to full council for consideration as part of the council's capital budget setting process in February 2018.
- 1.3 Note that a working group will be established to oversee the educational and health and wellbeing aspects of the proposal, including transition arrangements for pupils who will attend the new primary school.
- 1.4 Note that the Council is liaising with Edinburgh Leisure with the intention of securing additional outdoor space for Gracemount Primary School.

### **Background**

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- 2.1 On [13 December 2016](#) the Education, Children and Families Committee approved that a statutory consultation should be undertaken for the delivery of a new primary school in south east Edinburgh, with associated changes to the catchment areas of existing primary and secondary schools.
- 2.2 For the purposes of this report, the south east Edinburgh area is defined as the area currently covered by the two primary school catchment areas of Gracemount Primary School and Gilmerton Primary School (Figure 1).
- 2.3 School roll projections show that new housing development will lead to school accommodation pressures in south east Edinburgh by 2020. It was therefore necessary to progress a statutory consultation in order that a new non-denominational primary school in the area can be delivered within this timescale, and to enable an efficient use of existing education infrastructure.

2.4 Three existing primary schools (Gracemount, Gilmerton and Liberton) and two secondary schools (Gracemount High and Liberton High) will be directly affected by the proposals.



2.5 In summary, the statutory consultation paper proposed the following:

- Establish a new non-denominational primary school and nursery within the 'Broomhills' housing site, incorporating parts of the existing catchment areas for Gracemount and Gilmerton Primary Schools within the catchment area for the new school.
- Realign the existing catchment boundaries so that The Murrays estate and parts of Gilmerton Dykes and Lasswade Road are within the catchment area of Gracemount Primary rather than that of Gilmerton Primary School.
- Realign existing catchment boundaries so that the northern part of the Alnwickhill Water Treatment Works development site is within the catchment area of Gracemount Primary rather than that of Liberton Primary School.
- Align the new primary school to Gracemount High School.
- Reduce the catchment area of Liberton High School (which includes the current dual catchment area) so that it no longer covers Burdiehouse, The Murrays, or the parts of Gilmerton Dykes and Lasswade Road which will be within the catchment area of Gracemount Primary School and Gracemount High School.

- Reduce the catchment area of Gracemount High School (which includes the current dual catchment area) so that it no longer covers the area on the west side of Lasswade Road which will remain within the Gilmerton Primary School and Liberton High School catchment areas.
  - Realign the catchment boundary so that the northern part of the Alnwickhill development site is within the catchment area of Gracemount High School rather than that of Liberton High School.
- 2.6 The statutory consultation paper proposed that the catchment changes would be effective from the November prior to the new primary school opening, in time for the P1 and S1 registration process. It is currently expected that the new school would open in August 2020, although this is dependent on how the 'Broomhills' housing development progresses.
- 2.7 The proposed catchment changes would only apply to new P1 and S1 pupils. There would be no mandatory transfer for pupils already attending another school; however pupils in P2-P7 who are within the catchment of the new primary school would be given the opportunity to make an application to attend the new school should they wish to do so.
- 2.8 Roman Catholic School catchment areas are unaffected by the proposal set out in the statutory consultation paper.

## Main report

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- 3.1 The statutory consultation period ran from 16 January 2017 to 3 March 2017. The full [statutory consultation paper](#) is available online and a summary paper is provided in Appendix 1. A copy of the full statutory consultation paper is also available in the Elected Members lounge for reference.
- 3.2 Two public meetings were held during the consultation period: one at Gilmerton Primary School on 31 January 2017 and one at Gracemount Primary School on 9 February 2017. Each public meeting was independently chaired. Council officials answered questions following a short presentation. Minutes of each meeting are included in Appendix 2.
- 3.3 Representations on the proposal were invited by letter, email or through a specifically designed online response questionnaire. Twenty representations were received. The number of completed online questionnaires was 18, with two comments received by email. The tables in Appendix 3 and Appendix 4 list all the representations received and a summary of the issues that were raised. The full submissions are available in the Elected Members lounge for reference.
- 3.4 The majority of the online submissions were from parents or local residents. Two members of school staff, the Gilmerton Primary School Parent Council and SPOKES also completed the online questionnaire. During the consultation period a number of issues relating to their school were also raised by Gracemount Primary School Parent Council.

- 3.5 Those who responded using the online questionnaire were asked whether they support the proposal. Thirteen (72%) responded that they did and five (28%) responded that they did not.
- 3.6 A consultation exercise with P4 pupils was also carried out by Quality Improvement Officers at Gilmerton Primary School and Gracemount Primary School. The exercise was focused on what the pupils thought the new primary should be like. All comments that were submitted by pupils are available in the Elected Members lounge for reference.

### **Key Themes and Issues and Council Responses**

- 3.7 This section draws out the main themes and issues that were raised during the consultation period and sets out the Council's response.

#### *New Primary School Issues*

- 3.8 Issues about the school site location, the delivery timescale and the design of the school were raised. The Council's response to these issues is set out in detail in Appendix 4. No change to the proposal set out in the statutory consultation paper is proposed.
- 3.9 The new school will provide a modern learning environment which will promote creative and engaging teaching approaches and offer facilities that will encourage health and wellbeing, participation in sport and outdoor learning. The design of the new primary school will be subject to a detailed planning application following engagement with existing schools and the local community and be influenced by outcomes from the [Future Schools Project](#). The consultation exercise that was carried out with P4 pupils will feed into this process.

#### *Access and Travel Routes*

- 3.10 Issues about active travel, safer routes, traffic and congestion were raised. The Council's response to these issues is set out in detail in Appendix 4. No change to the proposal set out in the statutory consultation paper is proposed.
- 3.11 Prior to the submission of a planning application for the new primary school, a review of traffic and pedestrian issues will be undertaken. The new school will have a Travel Plan to encourage pupils to walk to school. The Travel Plans at existing schools will be updated to reflect the proposed changes in the catchment boundaries.

#### *Catchment Areas and Placement Guarantees*

- 3.12 There was general support for the proposed catchment boundaries; however there were concerns that siblings may have to attend different schools. Concern was also raised that the ending of the dual secondary school catchment arrangement could mean that pupils currently at Gilmerton Primary School may have to attend a different secondary school to their friends.
- 3.13 The Council's response to these issues is set out in detail in Appendix 4. No change to the proposal set out in the statutory consultation paper is proposed. It

is recommended that a sibling guarantee is not offered, and standard process for the placement of non-catchment pupils should apply.

#### *Gracemount Primary School Issues*

- 3.14 Issues about short term accommodation pressures, the need for investment in the school and playground, and the need to maintain access to adjacent pitches were raised.
- 3.15 The Council's response to these issues is set out in detail in Appendix 4. No change to the proposal set out in the statutory consultation is proposed, although the Council is currently liaising with Edinburgh Leisure with the intention of securing additional outdoor space for Gracemount Primary School.

#### *Gilmerton Primary School Issues*

- 3.16 Issues about potential changes to the school roll and the impact this would have on the school and funding were raised. The Council's response to these issues is set out in detail in Appendix 4. No change to the proposal set out in the statutory consultation paper is proposed.

#### *Other Issues*

- 3.17 Other issues relating to investment in Liberton High School, wider school catchment changes, nursery and healthcare provision were also raised. The Council's response to these issues is set out in detail in Appendix 4. No change to the proposal set out in the statutory consultation paper is proposed.

### **Education Scotland**

- 3.18 As required by the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 as amended by the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014, all of the responses received during the public consultation were made available to Education Scotland for their consideration. Education Scotland visited all of the schools directly affected by the statutory consultation and discussed the educational aspects with staff, parents and pupils before producing their final report. A report from Education Scotland providing their response to the proposal was submitted in March 2017. This report is attached in Appendix 5.
- 3.19 The conclusion of Education Scotland is that the proposal has clear educational benefits. The report states that '*the proposal has the potential to provide children who will reside in the newly formed catchment areas with modern, purpose built accommodation designed to meet the needs of its learners. Once the new school is built, it should reduce the possibility of overcrowding at both Gracemount and Gilmerton Primary Schools*'. Education Scotland noted that almost all stakeholders who met with HM Inspectors support the proposal.
- 3.20 Education Scotland did comment that in taking the proposal forward, the Council should continue to engage with stakeholders over its planned transition arrangements for children who will attend the new school and those children who attend Gracemount and Gilmerton Primary Schools. Education Scotland also suggest that a close watching brief is also required on the implications of

the new housing developments in South East Edinburgh on associated secondary provision.

*Response to Education Scotland*

- 3.21 The Act requires that the Council's Outcome of Consultation report include 'a statement of the authority's response to Education Scotland's report'. The Council's response to the four key issues is provided in the following table.

<p><b>Issue Raised</b></p>	<p>The Council should ensure that effective and well communicated interim transition measures relating to class arrangements and use of existing classroom space are put in place. It will be particularly important to ensure that the first groups of children from the new 'Broomhills' catchment are well supported to attend established local schools while their school is being built, while ensuring there is no detriment to current pupils attending these schools.</p>
<p><b>Council Response</b></p>	<p>The P1 intake at the existing schools will be monitored and measures put in place to make sure that the facilities and educational support available are appropriate.</p> <p>Projections indicate that Gracemount Primary School may have to operate 19 classes in order to accommodate the growth in pupil numbers up to 2020. The current school building could accommodate this number of classes.</p> <p>Projections indicate that the roll at Gilmerton Primary School will continue to rise until 2020 and a 21 class organisation may be required. The school currently has 19 classes and therefore temporary arrangements may need to be put in place to accommodate the short to medium term growth. The statutory consultation paper identifies that continuing capacity pressures at the school after 2020 will have to be addressed by either delivering a second new primary school in the area, progressing further catchment changes or providing additional accommodation at the existing school.</p> <p>The Quality Improvement Officer for the schools affected by the proposal will monitor and evaluate attainment and achievements and ensure that any necessary actions are included in school Improvement Plans on an ongoing basis.</p>
<p><b>Issue Raised</b></p>	<p>The Council should continue to engage with stakeholders over its planned transition arrangements for children who will attend the new school and those children who attend Gracemount and Gilmerton Primary Schools.</p>

<b>Council Response</b>	<p>Pupils in P2-P7 that are within the catchment area of the new primary school would be given the opportunity to apply to attend the new school should they wish to do so.</p> <p>A working group will be established to oversee the educational and health and wellbeing aspects of the proposal and consider the processes and support that are required to facilitate the transfer of pupils.</p> <p>The group would ensure that in advance of the opening of the new school, the Council had put in place measures to effectively support pupils and parents transferring to the new school or pupils affected by the transfer of friends and peers to the new school.</p> <p>Other transitional measures would include the appointment of the new school's Head Teacher at least six months prior to its opening to allow time to become familiar with pupils, parents and staff at affected schools, appoint staff, oversee the completion and occupation of the building and take a leading role in establishing relationships within the new school community.</p> <p>The Quality Improvement Officer for the schools affected by the proposal will monitor and evaluate attainment and achievements and ensure that any necessary actions are included in school Improvement Plans on an ongoing basis.</p>
<b>Issue Raised</b>	<p>Parents, children and staff wish to continue to be consulted about staffing, safe routes to school, and access to popular and well attended after-school and school holiday programmes.</p>
<b>Council Response</b>	<p>Prior to the submission of a planning application for the new primary school, there will be engagement with existing schools and the local community in relation to its design and facilities.</p> <p>A review of traffic and pedestrian issues will also be undertaken. A Travel Plan to encourage pupils to walk to school will be put in place once the new school is operational. Travel Plans for the existing schools which are directly affected by the proposal will be updated to reflect the new catchment boundaries.</p>
<b>Issue Raised</b>	<p>A close watching brief is also required on the implications of the new housing developments in South East Edinburgh on secondary provision.</p>
<b>Council Response</b>	<p>The Council's Action Programme identifies a need for additional secondary school capacity to accommodate 522 pupils estimated to be generated by new housing within the catchment of Gracemount High School and Liberton High School. Feasibility work is required to determine an appropriate way of delivering additional capacity.</p> <p>A feasibility study considering the delivery of additional capacity at Liberton High School is currently being progressed through the Wave 4 investment programme.</p>

## Conclusions

- 3.22 It is concluded that there is support within the wider community to proceed with the proposal set out in the statutory consultation paper and it is recommended that it should be progressed.
- 3.23 The date from when the proposed catchment changes would be effective is the November prior to the new primary school opening. It is currently expected that the new school would open in August 2020.
- 3.24 A working group will be established to oversee the educational and health and wellbeing aspects of the proposal, including transition arrangements for pupils who will attend the new primary school.
- 3.25 The Council will continue to liaise with Edinburgh Leisure with the intention of securing additional outdoor space for Gracemount Primary School.

## Measures of success

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- 4.1 The provision of sufficient classroom accommodation to meet current and future demand for primary school places within south east Edinburgh.

## Financial impact

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- 5.1 The financial implications on future capital and revenue budgets of the adopted LDP Action Programme, which includes the proposed new school, were reported to the Finance and Resources Committee on [19 January 2017](#). This report identifies the risks associated with securing developer's contributions for LDP education infrastructure and requested that the initial budgets required to progress this new school project are established in the Capital Investment Programme through the Council's budget setting process in 2017. This was undertaken and an LDP capital budget is now available to cover the costs of progressing delivery of the school during 2017-18.
- 5.2 If it is agreed by Council that the new school should progress, the identification and approval of the required additional capital and revenue funding would require to be established by Council as part of future budget processes in order for the school to be delivered by August 2020.

## Risk, policy, compliance and governance impact

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- 6.1 The most significant risk to the recommendations made in this paper is that the new school cannot be delivered at an appropriate time and the measure of success is not achieved.

## Equalities impact

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- 7.1 There are no negative equality or human rights impacts arising from this report.

- 7.2 The Council will continue to ensure that the needs of pupils who have a disability are met by the accommodation available at the schools affected by these proposals. The provision of facilities offered to school users with learning and behavioural support needs will be unaffected.
- 7.3 Accordingly, these proposals have no significant impact on any equalities groups and provide greater opportunities for catchment pupils to attend their catchment school. For these reasons, the overall equalities relevance score is 1 (out of a possible 9) and a full Equalities Impact Assessment is not required.

## Sustainability impact

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- 8.1 The primary purpose of the consultation is to ensure that school accommodation is sufficient to support the sustainable economic growth of the city. The proposed new primary school would be designed to minimise its impact on carbon emissions and energy consumption. The proposal is not expected to lead to an increase in the need for pupils to travel to school by car as reduced catchment sizes will help to promote walking and cycling.

## Consultation and engagement

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- 9.1 The statutory consultation process ran from 16 January 2017 to 3 March 2017 and has been undertaken according to the procedures set out in the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 as amended by the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014.

## Background reading/external references

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Report to the Education, Children and Families Committee on [13 December 2016](#) which proposed that a statutory consultation should be undertaken for the delivery of a new primary school in south east Edinburgh, with associated changes to the catchment areas of existing primary and secondary schools.

### **Alistair Gaw**

### **Executive Director of Communities and Families**

Contact: Crawford McGhie, Acting Head of Operational Support, Communities and Families

E-mail: [crawford.mcghie@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:crawford.mcghie@edinburgh.gov.uk) | Tel: 0131 469 3149

## Links

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**Council outcomes** [CO1](#) and [CO2](#)

**Single Outcome Agreement** [SO3](#)

**Appendices**

Appendix 1 – Summary of the Statutory Consultation Paper

Appendix 2 – Minutes of the Statutory Consultation Public Meetings

Appendix 3 – Summary of Representations

Appendix 4 – Issues Raised and Council Response

Appendix 5 – Education Scotland Report

# **Consultation on Proposal to Establish a New Non-Denominational Primary School and Implement Catchment Changes to Address School Capacity and Accommodation Pressures in South East Edinburgh**

## **Summary Paper**

**[www.edinburgh.gov.uk/newsoutheastschool](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/newsoutheastschool)**

### **What is being proposed?**

#### *Primary schools*

- Establish a new non-denominational primary school and nursery for south east Edinburgh, incorporating parts of the existing catchment areas for Gracemount and Gilmerton Primary Schools within the catchment area for the new school.
- Realign existing catchment boundaries so that The Murrays estate and parts of Gilmerton Dykes and Lasswade Road are within the catchment area of Gracemount Primary School rather than that of Gilmerton Primary School.
- Realign existing catchment boundaries so that the northern part of the Alnwickhill Water Treatment Works development site is within the catchment area of Gracemount Primary School rather than that of Liberton Primary School.

#### *Secondary schools*

- Align the new non-denominational primary school to Gracemount High School.
- Reduce the catchment area of Liberton High School (which includes the current dual catchment area) so that it no longer covers Burdiehouse, The Murrays, or the parts of Gilmerton Dykes and Lasswade Road which it is proposed will be within the catchment area of Gracemount Primary School.
- Reduce the catchment area of Gracemount High School (which includes the current dual catchment area) so that it no longer covers the area on the west side of Lasswade Road which will remain within the Gilmerton Primary School catchment area.
- Realign the catchment boundary so that the northern part of the Alnwickhill Water Treatment Works development site is within the catchment area of Gracemount High School rather than that of Liberton High School.

Maps showing the existing and proposed catchment areas have been included within this summary paper.

### **Where will the new south east Edinburgh primary school and nursery be located?**

It is proposed that the new school will be built on a two hectare site at the north east corner of the area of land known as the 'Broomhills' housing development site. This housing site is to the south of Frogston Road East and between Burdiehouse Road and Broomhills Road.

### **Why do we need a new primary school in South East Edinburgh?**

A large amount of new housing development is expected in the area. The existing primary schools in the area will not have sufficient spare capacity to accommodate the additional pupils.

### **Why does the proposal include changes to the catchment areas of existing primary schools?**

The catchment changes will free up capacity in the existing primary schools so that they can accommodate an increase in the number of catchment pupils from development sites. The changes will enable the Council to continue to provide catchment school places for catchment children.

It is proposed that all pupils from new housing which is being built on the site of the former Alnwickhill Water Treatment Works facility will be within the catchment area of Gracemount Primary School, which is their closest primary school.

### **Why does the proposal include changes to the catchment areas of existing secondary schools?**

Secondary school catchment areas will be aligned with the catchment boundaries of their feeder primary schools. There will be no need to operate a dual catchment area for Gracemount High and Liberton High School. This will allow the transition planning from individual primary schools to be more effectively focused.

### **Who will the changes affect?**

The addresses of the properties which will be directly affected by the proposal are listed at the back of this summary paper.

The catchment changes will only apply to new P1 and S1 pupils. There would be no mandatory transfer for pupils already attending another school; however pupils in P2-P7 within the catchment of the new primary school will have the opportunity to apply to the new school should they wish to do so.

### **When would the changes come into effect?**

If the proposal is approved by the Council, the date from when the proposed catchment changes would be effective is the November prior to the new primary school opening, in time for the P1 and S1 registration process. The new school is currently expected to be open in August 2020, although this is dependent on the 'Broomhills' housing development progressing as expected.

### **Why are we consulting?**

We want to hear the views of anyone affected by the proposals. There is also a legal obligation to carry out a statutory consultation under the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 as amended by the Children and Young people (Scotland) Act 2014.

### **How will I know if my views have been considered?**

All comments made during the statutory consultation period will be recorded and represented in a final 'Outcomes of the Consultation Report' that we expect to be considered by Council in June 2017. The report will be published three weeks in advance of the Council meeting and parents of pupils attending affected schools and anyone who has responded to the consultation will be notified of its publication.

## How can I find out more about the proposals or make my views heard?

If you want more information you can find the full consultation paper and other supporting information at [www.edinburgh.gov.uk/newsoutheastsschool](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/newsoutheastsschool).

We have also organised two public meetings, as below:

Venue	Date	Time
Gilmerton Primary School	Tuesday 31 January 2017	6.30pm – 8.30pm
Gracemount Primary School	Thursday 9 February 2017	6.30pm – 8.30pm

Each meeting will open with a short presentation about the consultation and what is proposed, followed by a question and answer session. We will take a note of the meeting and all of the points made will be captured in the final 'Outcomes of the Consultation Report'. You can attend any meeting which suits you.

Please telephone (0131) 469 3161 by Monday 23 January 2017 if you need translation services or childcare at the meeting.

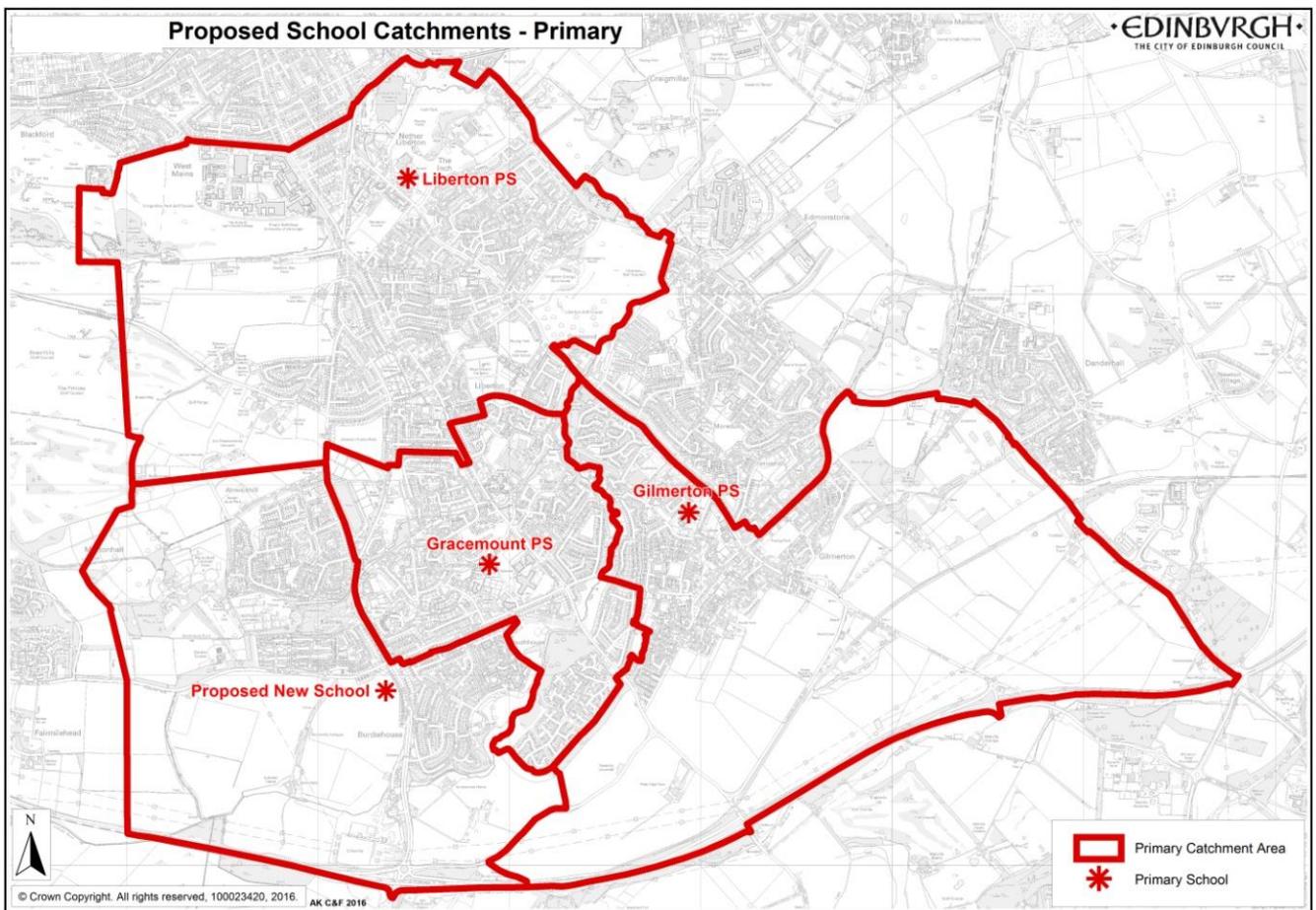
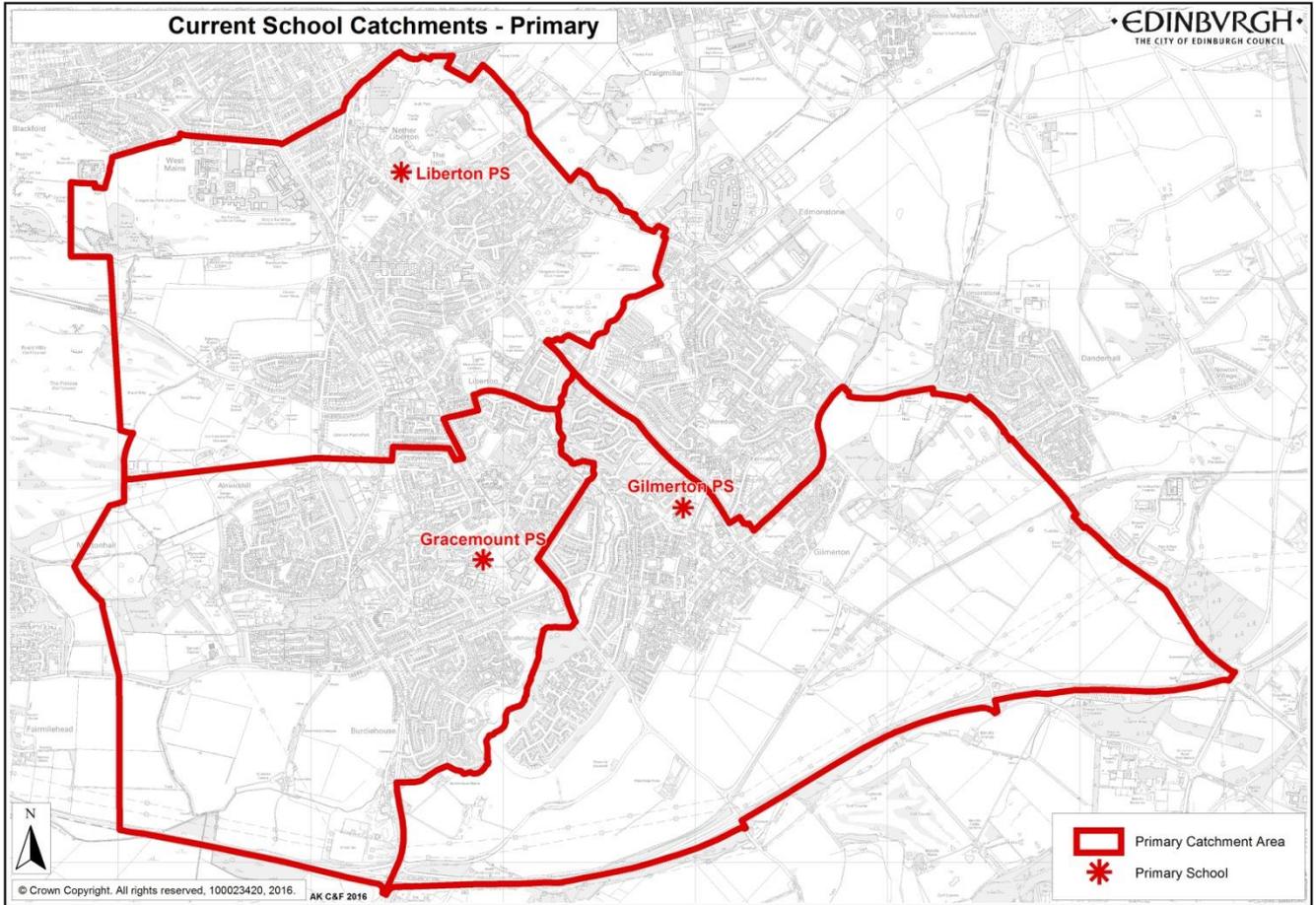
### **Tell us your views: public consultation period closes Friday 3 March 2017**

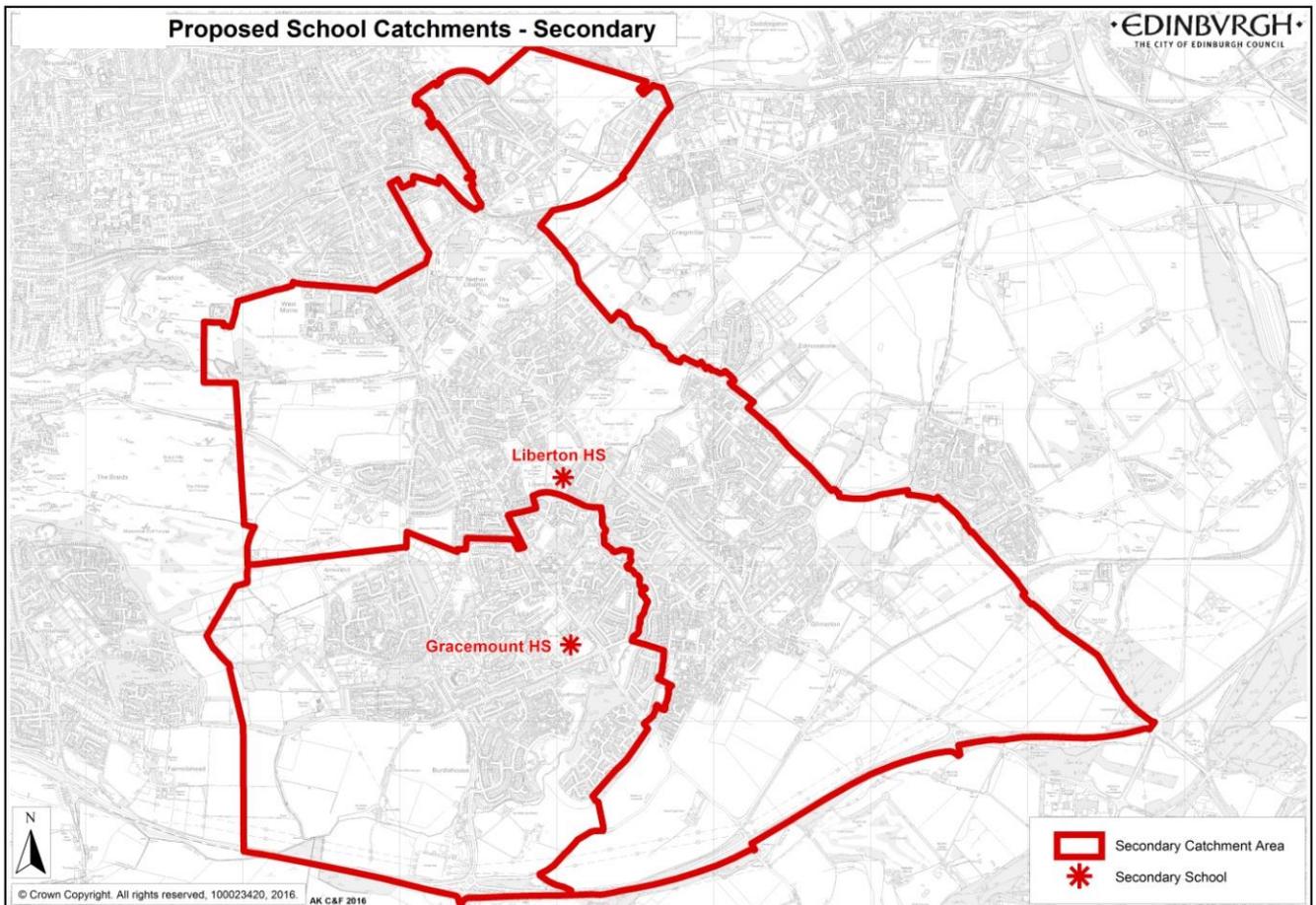
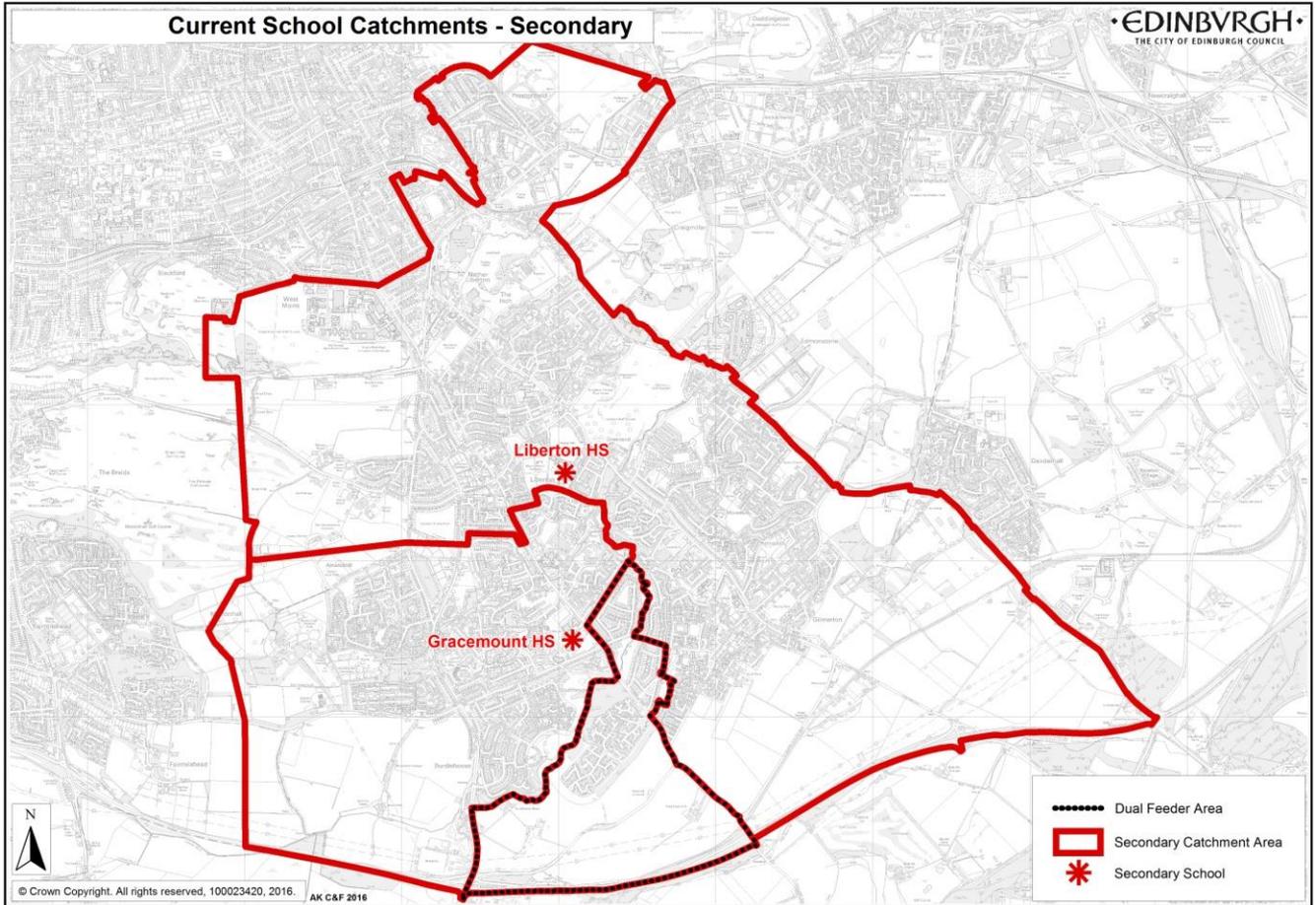
It would be helpful if you could take time to complete our short survey – you can find it easily online at [www.edinburgh.gov.uk/newsoutheastsschool](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/newsoutheastsschool). If you don't have internet access then you can view the full consultation paper at one of the affected schools or at Gilmerton Library.

You can also email comments to us directly at [new.southeastsschool@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:new.southeastsschool@edinburgh.gov.uk) or if you prefer they can be posted to:

Alistair Gaw  
Acting Executive Director of Communities and Families  
City of Edinburgh Council  
Waverley Court  
Level 1:2  
4 East Market Street  
Edinburgh  
EH8 8BG

All comments should arrive by Friday 3 March 2017.





## List of Affected Addresses

The addresses listed below are properties which were registered with the Council as at November 2016 and will be directly affected by the proposals. For confirmation of which catchment area will apply to properties not listed below please refer to the proposed catchment area maps on pages 4 and 5 or email [new.southeastsschool@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:new.southeastsschool@edinburgh.gov.uk) or call 0131 469 3161.

The addresses are grouped according to the school catchment change that will directly affect them:

- 1) Gracemount Primary School to New South East Edinburgh Primary School;
- 2) Gilmerton Primary School to New South East Edinburgh Primary School;
- 3) Gilmerton Primary School to Gracemount Primary School;
- 4) Liberton Primary School to Gracemount Primary School;
- 5) 'Gracemount High School / Liberton High School Dual Catchment' to Gracemount High School Only
- 6) 'Gracemount High School / Liberton High School Dual Catchment' to Liberton High School Only
- 7) Liberton High School to Gracemount High School

### 1) Gracemount Primary School to New South East Edinburgh Primary School

Street	Properties
Alnwickhill Court	All numbers 1 to 34
Alnwickhill Crescent	All numbers 1 to 21
Alnwickhill Drive	All numbers 1 to 49, 51, 53, 55
Alnwickhill Gardens	All numbers 1 to 36
Alnwickhill Grove	All numbers 1 to 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28
Alnwickhill Loan	All numbers 1 to 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 23, 24
Alnwickhill Park	All numbers 1 to 40
Alnwickhill Road	Even numbers 124 to 174
Alnwickhill Terrace	All numbers 1 to 28
Alnwickhill View	All numbers 1 to 19
Backlee	All numbers 1 to 21
Burdiehouse Avenue	All numbers 1 to 52, 54, 56, 58, 60
Burdiehouse Crescent	2, 3
Burdiehouse Crossway	All numbers 1 to 8
Burdiehouse Drive	All numbers 1 to 89, 91
Burdiehouse Loan	All numbers 1 to 8
Burdiehouse Medway	All numbers 1 to 8
Burdiehouse Place	All numbers 1 to 8
Burdiehouse Road	All numbers 1 to 26
Burdiehouse Square	All numbers 1 to 18
Burdiehouse Street	Even numbers 2 to 24, 25, 26, 28, 30, 32, all numbers 33 to 57, 59, 61
Burdiehouse Terrace	All numbers 1 to 25, odd numbers 27 to 67
Frogston Road East	1 Broomhill Farm Cottages, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 39, 41, 43, 45, 47, 49, 51
Howden Hall Court	All numbers 1 to 27, 29, all numbers 31 to 53
Howden Hall Crescent	All numbers 1 to 34, even numbers 36 to 52

Howden Hall Drive	All numbers 1 to 129, 131 to 142, 144 to 151, odd numbers 153 to 167
Howden Hall Gardens	All numbers 1 to 32
Howden Hall Loan	All numbers 1 to 45
Howden Hall Park	All numbers 1 to 36
Howden Hall Road	2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 30B, 30C, 32, 34, even numbers 42 to 84
Howden Hall Way	All numbers 1 to 35
Janefield	All numbers 2 to 14
Liberton Drive	95, 99, 101
Mortonhall Gate	7, 38, 44, 47, 49, 50, 52, 54, 57, 59, 76
Mortonhall Park Avenue	All numbers 1 to 32, 34
Mortonhall Park Bank	All numbers 1 to 12
Mortonhall Park Crescent	Odd numbers 1 to 17, all numbers 18 to 60, even numbers 62 to 76
Mortonhall Park Drive	Odd numbers 1 to 27
Mortonhall Park Gardens	All numbers 1 to 25
Mortonhall Park Green	All numbers 1 to 25, odd numbers 27 to 33
Mortonhall Park Grove	Odd numbers 1 to 13
Mortonhall Park Loan	All numbers 1 to 18
Mortonhall Park Place	1, 2
Mortonhall Park Terrace	All numbers 1 to 13, 15
Mortonhall Park View	All numbers 1 to 57, 59, 61
Mortonhall Park Way	All numbers 1 to 16
Netherbank	All numbers 1 to 68
Netherbank View	All numbers 1 to 17
Old Burdiehouse Road	35, 39, 39A, 39B, 39C, 39D, 39E, 41, all numbers 43 to 53, even numbers 56 to 66, 66B
Southhouse Avenue	2, all numbers 4 to 16, 18, 18A, 20, 22, 24, all numbers 25 to 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 51, 53, 55, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64
Southhouse Brae	All numbers 1 to 18, 20
Southhouse Broadway	3, 5, all numbers 7 to 42, 44, all numbers 46 to 107, 109, 111, 113, 115, 117, 119, 121, 123, 125
Southhouse Close	All numbers 1 to 12
Southhouse Crescent	1, 3, 5, 7, 11, 21, 22, odd numbers 23 to 51
Southhouse Crossway	Even numbers 2 to 18
Southhouse Drive	Odd numbers 1 to 19, 20, odd numbers 21 to 33
Southhouse Gardens	2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, 21
Southhouse Grove	All numbers 1 to 22, even numbers 24 to 40
Southhouse Loan	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11
Southhouse Place	1, even numbers 2 to 26, 27, even numbers 28 to 38
Southhouse Road	All numbers 1 to 37, 40, 42, 44A, 54, 56, 58, 60
Southhouse Square	All numbers 1 to 13
Southhouse Terrace	2, 4, 6, 8, 10
Southhouse Walk	1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16
Stanedykehead	1, 1A, 2, 3, 3B, 4, 4B, 5, 7, 47

## 2) Gilmerton Primary School to New South East Edinburgh Primary School

Street	Properties
Burdiehouse Road	49, 49A, 51, 53
Clippens Drive	All numbers 20 to 50
Dunnet Grove	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22
Durie Loan	All numbers 1 to 33
Lime Kilns View	All numbers 1 to 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30

### 3) Gilmerton Primary School to Gracemount Primary School

Street	Properties
Gilmerton Dykes Avenue	All numbers 1 to 49, odd numbers 51 to 87
Gilmerton Dykes Crescent	All numbers 1 to 180, even numbers 182 to 224
Gilmerton Dykes Drive	All numbers 1 to 74, even numbers 76 to 92
Gilmerton Dykes Gardens	All numbers 1 to 25, 27, 29, 31
Gilmerton Dykes Grove	All numbers 1 to 16, 18, 20
Gilmerton Dykes Loan	All numbers 1 to 20, 22, 24
Gilmerton Dykes Place	All numbers 1 to 32, 34, 36, 38, 40
Gilmerton Dykes Street	All numbers 1 to 27, 29, 31, 33, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50, 51, 52, 54, 56, 58
Gilmerton Dykes Terrace	All numbers 1 to 44
Gilmerton Dykes View	All numbers 1 to 8
Lasswade Road	Odd numbers 217 to 277, 278, 278A, 279, 281, 282, 283, 285, 285A, 287, 289, 291, 293, 295, 297
The Murrays	All numbers 1 to 237, odd numbers 239 to 273
The Murrays Brae	All numbers 1 to 114, even numbers 116 to 286

### 4) Liberton Primary School to Gracemount Primary School

Street	Properties
Coulter Crescent	Odd numbers 17 to 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 40
Talla Street	26, 28, 32, 34

### 5) 'Gracemount High School / Liberton High School Dual Catchment' to Gracemount High School Only

Street	Properties
Burdiehouse Road	49, 49A, 51, 53
Clippens Drive	All numbers 20 to 50
Dunnet Grove	All numbers 1 to 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22
Durie Loan	All numbers 1 to 33
Gilmerton Dykes Avenue	All numbers 1 to 49, odd numbers 51 to 87
Gilmerton Dykes Crescent	All numbers 1 to 180, even numbers 182 to 224
Gilmerton Dykes Drive	All numbers 1 to 74, even numbers 76 to 92
Gilmerton Dykes Gardens	All numbers 1 to 25, 27, 29, 31
Gilmerton Dykes Grove	All numbers 1 to 16, 18, 20

Gilmerton Dykes Loan	All numbers 1 to 20, 22, 24
Gilmerton Dykes Place	All numbers 1 to 32, 34, 36, 38, 40
Gilmerton Dykes Street	All numbers 1 to 27, 29, 31, 33, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50, 51, 52, 54, 56, 58
Gilmerton Dykes Terrace	All numbers 1 to 44
Gilmerton Dykes View	All numbers 1 to 8
Lasswade Road	Odd numbers 217 to 277, 278, 278A, 279, 281, 282, 283, 285, 285A, 287, 289, 291, 293, 295, 297
Lime Kilns View	All numbers 1 to 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30
The Murrays	All numbers 1 to 237, odd numbers 239 to 273
The Murrays Brae	All numbers 1 to 114, even numbers 116 to 286

**6) 'Gracemount High School / Liberton High School Dual Catchment' to Liberton High School Only**

Street	Properties
Lasswade Road	300, 322, 324, 326, 328

**7) Liberton High School to Gracemount High School**

Street	Properties
Coulter Crescent	Odd numbers 17 to 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 40
Talla Street	26, 28, 32, 34

# **Proposal to Address School Capacity and Accommodation Pressures in South East Edinburgh**

**Public Consultation Meeting held at 6.30 pm, Tuesday 31 January 2017, Gilmerton Primary School, Edinburgh**

**Present: Approximately 17 members of the public**

**In Attendance:** Tom Wood (Independent Chair), Councillor Cammy Day (Convener of the Education, Children and Families Committee), Robbie Crockatt (Acting School Estate Planning Manager, Communities and Families), Crawford McGhie (Acting Head of Operational Support, Communities and Families), Ian Tame (School Estate Planning Officer, Communities and Families), Therese Laing (Quality Improvement Officer, Communities and Families), Ben Wilson (Local Planning Policy Team Manager), Rebecca Annand (Head Teacher, Gilmerton Primary School), and Veronica MacMillan (Committee Services).

## **1. Introduction**

Councillor Cammy Day, Convener of the Education, Children and Families Committee welcomed everyone to the consultation meeting. Councillor Day advised that he understood the need for new housing and education provision in the South East of Edinburgh, and recognised that this need brought challenges with it. Councillor Day hoped that the proposals presented would go some way towards meeting the needs of pupils and parents in the local community. The officers present would be able to answer questions that arose, and Councillor Day assured parents that if officers were unable to give answers they would seek a response as quickly as possible. Councillor Day then handed over to Tom Wood, the appointed independent chair of the meeting.

Tom Wood introduced himself and advised that he had been invited by the City of Edinburgh Council as an independent person to chair the public consultation meeting. The consultation was based on a proposal to address primary school capacity and accommodation pressures in South East Edinburgh.

The Schools (Consultation Scotland) Act 2010 required the Council to conduct a public consultation ahead of a report on the proposal going to the City of Edinburgh Council for consideration in June 2017. The public consultation would provide people with the opportunity to express their views and feed directly into the consultation process.

Members of the audience were advised that this was the first of two public consultation meetings. The second meeting would be held on Thursday 9 February 2017 from 6.30pm until 8.30pm at Gracemount Primary School. Reassurance was given that no decision had been made in terms of proposed changes, and the consultation process would encompass the views of parents and the public to ensure that the final decision would reflect these views. A decision would be taken by elected members at the meeting of the Full Council in June 2017. The decision would be based on a report that incorporated all the views expressed by parents and members of the public.

Officers that represented the Council were introduced and a presentation was given, as described below.

## **2. Presentation/Proposal**

Ian Tame (School Estate Planning Officer, Communities and Families) delivered a presentation that provided some background information on the reasons behind the requirement to address the accommodation pressures in south Edinburgh.

### **Requirement for Change**

There was a requirement for a new primary school in south east Edinburgh because of the number of new housing developments that were expected to be built over the next 10 years and the number of children that would be moving into the area. Gilmerton and Gracemount Primary Schools would not have sufficient capacity to accommodate the number of children moving into the area.

In December 2016 the Education Children and Families Committee approved a statutory consultation on the proposal to establish a new Non-Denominational Primary School and implement catchment area changes to address school capacity and accommodation pressures in south east Edinburgh.

### **Proposal**

The proposal was to establish a new non-denominational primary school and nursery within the 'Broomhills' housing development site, incorporating parts of the existing catchment areas for Gracemount and Gilmerton Primary Schools within the catchment area for the new school.

Catchment boundaries were proposed to be realigned so that The Murrays estate and parts of Gilmerton Dykes and Lasswade Road were within the catchment area of Gracemount Primary School rather than that of Gilmerton Primary School, and the northern part of Alnwickhill Water Treatment Works development site was within the catchment area of Gracemount Primary School rather than that of Liberton Primary School.

The new non-denominational primary school was proposed to be aligned to Gracemount High School. The catchment area of Liberton High School would be reduced so that it would no longer cover Burdiehouse, The Murrays or the parts of

Gilmerton Dykes and Lasswade Road, which would be within the catchment area of Gracemount Primary School.

Gracemount High School's catchment boundary would also be realigned so that it no longer covered the area on the west side of Lasswade Road which would remain within Gilmerton Primary School's catchment area. The catchment boundary for the northern part of the Alnwickhill Water Treatment Works development site would be realigned so that the whole development would be within the catchment area of Gracemount High School rather than that of Liberton High School.

The date from when the proposed catchment changes would be effective was the November prior to the new primary school opening, in time for the P1 and S1 registration process. The school was currently expected to be open in August 2020, although this was dependent on the 'Broomhills' housing development progressing as expected. The catchment changes would only apply to new P1 and S1 pupils. There would be no mandatory transfer for pupils that were already attending another school, but pupils in P2-P7 within the catchment of the new primary school would have the opportunity to apply to the new school should they wish to do so.

### **Next Steps**

The consultation would end on Friday 3 March 2017. All comments and the minutes of the consultation meetings would be sent to Education Scotland for consideration of the educational effects of the proposal. Education Scotland would issue a report on their findings which would be included in the final Council report on the consultation which would be considered in June 2017.

## **3. Questions/Comments**

**Question 1** – Was there a possibility that parents could have two children that attend two different schools after the implementation of the new catchment areas?

**Answer 1** – (Crawford McGhie) – There was nothing in the paper about sibling guarantee, but this was something that we would look at closely and would take a report to the Education, Children and Families Committee for their consideration closer to the time of the new school opening.

**Question 2** – Is this the final proposal in terms of the streets that are listed in the report that would be affected by the new catchment areas, or would the addresses change every couple of months?

**Answer 2** – (Crawford McGhie) – The proposal was based on geography and numbers in terms of the future infrastructure. Any comments that are made on the proposed catchment areas or changes to the proposed catchment areas would be included in the report that would go to Full Council for a decision in June 2017. We are not planning to make any changes but people might suggest changes.

**Question 3** – Would children that had started school nursery have to change school, or would they have to change to attend a school nursery that was in their catchment area/in the new school?

**Answer 3** – (Robbie Crockatt) – If a child was already in nursery, they would not have to change to a nursery that was in the new school. Staff would work with parents to ensure their children had a smooth transition from nursery to school. Transition work between nursery and schools is common and well established.

**Question 4** – If a new nursery was provided when the new school was built, how would this affect the nursery at Gilmerton Primary School?

**Answer 4** – (Robbie Crockatt) – There is an ongoing review of nursery provision across the city as a result of a requirement for authorities to deliver increased numbers of free nursery hours.

**Question 5** – I have to apply for a place at nursery at the moment, and Gilmerton would be in my catchment area but was quite far away from where we live. Would I be able to apply for a transfer to Gracemount?

**Answer 5** – (Robbie Crockatt) – A non-catchment placing request to Gracemount Primary School would be possible but the success of that request will depend on demand for places at the school in that year. The transfer of pupils from Gracemount to a new school could create additional space at Gracemount for non-catchment places but it is not possible to say with any degree of certainty whether this will happen.

(Crawford McGhie) - The new school might not open on time, but the Council would keep parents informed about this and would keep communities up to date.

**Question 6** – How much would the new school cost and where would the funding come from?

**Answer 6** – (Ian Tame) – £11.3 million in capital costs. As each planning application for housing comes forward we would ask the developers to make a contribution towards the costs of building the new school.

**Question 7** – Do the housing developers have the money to do this?

**Answer 7** – (Ian Tame) – This would be a condition of the planning application being approved.

**Question 8** – Would any children have to transfer?

**Answer 8** – (Crawford McGhie) – There will be no mandatory transfer for pupils already attending another school.

**Question 9** – There had been a number of schools closed across Edinburgh recently due to structural issues. Who will be building the new school? Would it be the same builders used for the schools that had issues?

**Answer 9** – (Crawford McGhie) – We don't know who would be building the new school as a tender process has to take place to choose a builder.

**Question 10** – Was the Section 75 contribution money earmarked? Has the legal agreement been signed yet with Barratts? The consultation was not about whether the school would be built or not, it was a statutory requirement. There were concerns about traffic control around the Broomhills site. Alterations to the traffic flow on a narrow road had raised safety concerns. There would be a busy road and it is not possible to widen the narrow road. How would children get to the new school safely?

**Answer 10** – (Crawford McGhie) – The Section 75 contribution would include inflation costs. The Council could only ask for contributions from developers for the number of houses built and the pupils that would be generated.

The legal agreements had not been signed yet. A working group would be set up with the developers regarding access to the Broomhills site, and a travel plan would be created to ensure the safety of pupils going to and from school.

The Council has a statutory requirement to deliver education, and if the Council was not able to adopt the proposal that has been put forward to the community for consultation, the Council would have to find an alternative means of meeting its statutory obligations.

(Ben Wilson) – The local development plan shows where the development sites are. The additional housing sites that received planning permission through appeal in December 2016 have been the subject of an educational appraisal that has looked at the educational needs of the additional sites.

An impact assessment has been carried out in terms of the potential transport impact of the site at Frogston Road. There are walking and cycling action plans that can be put into place to improve road safety. The Council can consider the installation of infrastructure that can help mitigate the impact of traffic. There was a requirement to make sure that there is access to bus, walking and cycling routes.

**Question 11** – There are proposals to increase the speed limit on Burdiehouse Road from 30 to 40 mph and there are concerns about children walking to school. Would there be a new crossing at the site?

**Answer 11** – (Ben Wilson) - An Action Programme was published last month with proposals for Burdiehouse. The actions don't specify what the changes will be yet. The key thing is that people of all ages can walk or cycle to school.

**Comment 12** - As part of the consultation, one thing that had been requested was a walkway across the road.

**Answer 12** - (Ben Wilson) - Old Burdiehouse Road needs street improvements, which would not involve an underpass or a bridge.

**Question 13** – The bus route that has been proposed, where will it run? Will it go through the Murrays? There could be concerns about road safety if there was a bus route through the Murrays.

**Answer 13** – (Ben Wilson) – The street running through the Murrays was designed to be wide enough to allow a bus to travel along the street, to future proof the option to have a bus running through the entire area. Some people will chose to walk and some will chose to take the bus.

**Question 14** – I am new to the area and only just heard about the proposed new school. As a resident of Frogston Road I am concerned about the increase in traffic, especially at the junction between Frogston Road and Burdiehouse Road.

**Answer 14** – (Ben Wilson) – The negotiations over the legal agreement are still ongoing. The access points to the school were demonstrated on the map. The Council carried out a consultation on the Local Development Plan in 2012/13 and community councils were involved in this process.

Comment – The Council is only required to consult with 10 per cent of local households. In 2012/13 Gilmerton did not have a Community Council and only a petition led to the Community Council being formed. There has not been any real consultation, the process is poor and applies right across the City. Community Councils are not listed too. There is a lesson here in terms of the planning process.

**Question 15** – I am really concerned about the traffic increase on Frogston Road. How are children expected to cross the road safely? There has been no process to allow residents to contribute to the consultation.

**Answer 15** - (Crawford McGhie) – Within the planning application the routes to school have to have a health check. Safe routes to school are a top priority of the Council. People also have the opportunity to comment on this as part of the consultation.

**Question 16** – I currently stay at the Murrays and my daughter will no longer be in the catchment of Liberton High School because of the proposed changes. I am concerned that my daughter won't get into the same school as her friends.

**Answer 16** – (Crawford McGhie) - You would be able to submit an out of catchment request, but we will consider this issue and address it as part of the report to Council.

**Question 17** – The ESPC states which properties are part of school catchment areas. Do ESPC keep this information updated and will catchment areas be made clear to prospective buyers?

**Answer 17** – Yes, ESPC keep this information updated.

**Question 18** – How would I find out which streets are affected and what street my catchment area is in?

**Answer 18** – (Robbie Crockatt) – For confirmation of which catchment area your street is in you can email to find out using the email address listed in Appendix 1 of the consultation paper.

Tom Wood (Independent Chair) – Let's summarise the main areas that we have covered so far – planning, funding, sibling guarantee, out of catchment, safety routes, increased traffic and consultation issues. Are there are other topics people would like to raise?

**Question 19** – Why was Burdiehouse Primary School knocked down?

**Answer 19** – (Ian Tame) – At the time there was not a need for 3 primary schools in the area and we were unaware of the amount of development that would come to the area.

(Ben Wilson) – We make estimates for all new sites, which are updated constantly. We start with the number of houses built on site each year.

**Question 20** – Gilmerton and Gracemount nurseries are currently at full capacity, where will local children receive their nursery education?

**Answer 20** – (Head Teacher) – Yes, they are at full capacity at the moment, but there may a possibility that there will be increase in the number of hours available at Gilmerton.

(Crawford McGhie/Robbie Crockatt) – The whole Early Years estate is being looked at and capacity will expand to deal with increasing demand. Nurseries are non-catchment based so numbers are unpredictable. As part of the review of the Early Years estate we will be looking at where people are choosing to send their children to nursery. A seamless transition for children from nursery to school is a priority.

#### **4. Conclusion**

Cllr Cammy Day thanked everyone for attending and for their high quality contributions and questions. The Council was keen to hear the views of the community and all views/comments would be reflected in the report to the full Council which would be considered in June 2017. Written submissions were also encouraged on the proposed options and all feedback would be considered.

# **Proposal to Address School Capacity and Accommodation Pressures in South East Edinburgh**

**Public Consultation Meeting held at 6.30 pm, Thursday, 9 February 2017, Gracemount Primary School, Edinburgh**

**Present:** Approximately 35 members of the public

**In Attendance:** Tom Wood (Independent Chair), Councillor Cammy Day (Convener of the Education, Children and Families Committee), Robbie Crockatt (Acting School Estate Planning Manager, Communities and Families), Crawford McGhie (Acting Head of Operational Support, Communities and Families), Ian Tame (School Estate Planning Officer), Therese Laing (Quality Improvement Officer, Communities and Families), Greg Dimeck (Head teacher, Gracemount Primary School), Kate Hopper (Senior Planning Officer) and Blair Ritchie (Committee Services).

## **1. Introduction**

Councillor Day introduced himself and explained his role as Convener of the Education Committee. He wanted to hear the views of parents on the proposed school and housing development. There were changes coming as a result of the Local Development Plan. By 2020, there would be the need for one new primary school in the area. All questions would be responded to on the concerns and the impact on your community. There would be a full report to the Council in June 2017. He then introduced Mr Tom Wood as the independent chair.

Mr Tom Wood welcomed everyone to Gracemount Primary School and introduced himself. He would ensure that those in attendance could ask questions and receive full answers. This was the second public meeting regarding the proposal to establish a new primary school within the proposed housing development at Broomhills. At the previous meeting at Gilmerton Primary School on 31 January 2017, there had been a good range of questions. The meeting would be minuted and would be considered as part of the Consultation Outcomes report considered by Council in June 2017. The consultation is being conducted according to the requirements set out in The Schools (Consultation Scotland) Act 2010. The public consultation would provide people with the opportunity to express their views and feed directly into the consultation process.

Officers that represented the Council were introduced and a presentation was given as described below.

## **2. Presentation/ Proposal**

Ian Tame (School Estate Planning Officer, Communities and Families) delivered a presentation that provided some background information on the reasons behind the requirement to address the accommodation pressures in south east Edinburgh.

### **Requirement for Change**

There was a requirement for a new primary school in south east Edinburgh because of the number of new housing developments that were expected to be built over the next 10 years and the number of children that would be moving into the area. Gilmerton and Gracemount Primary Schools would not have sufficient capacity to accommodate the number of children moving into the area.

In December 2016 the Education Children and Families Committee approved a statutory consultation on the proposal to establish a new Non-Denominational Primary School and implement catchment area changes to address school capacity and accommodation pressures in south east Edinburgh.

### **Proposal**

The proposal was to establish a new non-denominational primary school and nursery within the 'Broomhills' housing development site, incorporating parts of the existing catchment areas for Gracemount and Gilmerton Primary Schools within the catchment area for the new school.

Catchment boundaries were proposed to be realigned so that The Murrays estate and parts of Gilmerton Dykes and Lasswade Road were within the catchment area of Gracemount Primary School rather than that of Gilmerton Primary School, and the northern part of Alnwickhill Water Treatment Works development site was within the catchment area of Gracemount Primary School rather than that of Liberton Primary School.

The new non-denominational primary school was proposed to be aligned to Gracemount High School. The catchment area of Liberton High School would be reduced so that it would no longer cover Burdiehouse, The Murrays or the parts of Gilmerton Dykes and Lasswade Road, which would be within the catchment area of Gracemount Primary School.

Gracemount High School catchment area would also be reduced so that it no longer covered the area on the west side of Lasswade Road which would remain within the Gilmerton Primary School catchment area. The catchment boundary for the northern part of the Alnwickhill Water Treatment Works development site would be realigned so that it would be within the catchment area of Gracemount High School rather than that of Liberton High School.

The date from when the proposed catchment changes would be effective was the November prior to the new primary school opening, in time for the P1 and S1 registration process. The school was currently expected to be open in August 2020, although this was dependent on the 'Broomhills' housing development progressing as

expected. The catchment changes would only apply to new P1 and S1 pupils. There would be no mandatory transfer for pupils that were already attending another school, but pupils in P2-P7 within the catchment of the new primary school would have the opportunity to apply to the new school should they wish to do so.

### **3. Questions and Comments**

**Question 1** – What percentage of the proposed housing would be built before the start of construction of the new school?

**Answer 1** – (Ian Tame) - Construction of the new school would take place as soon as possible. The Authority was now in discussions with the developers to secure a legal agreement to take control of the land for the proposals.

**Question 2** – As Burdiehouse Road was very busy, would there be a new pedestrian crossing to address this and would parents be able to drop off their children at the new school?

**Answer 2** – (Ian Tame) - There would be a new light controlled crossing at the Burdiehouse Burn. Regarding access and drop off points, it was not Council policy to provide drop off zones, but there should be visitor parking facilities on the site. However, he hoped that people would walk to school.

**Comment 3** - There would be a backlog of cars at drop off points and this was a real concern.

Supplementary Comment - Burdiehouse Road was already very busy in the morning.

**Answer 3** - (Crawford McGhie) - A planning application would be submitted, which would include a transport assessment.

**Question 4** – When would the additional pupils occupy the new building and how would the existing school cope with the additional numbers, before the new school was built?

**Answer 4** – (Robbie Crockatt) – It is anticipated that the new school would be operational in August 2020. The Authority would monitor the numbers of pupils at Gracemount Primary School in advance of the new school opening and address any accommodation issues.

**Comment 5** – Gracemount Primary School was adversely affected in 2009, with additional children and a new nursery which reduced playground space. However, an area of “no man’s land” had been identified, which could be used to expand the playground.

**Answer 5** – (Robbie Crockett) – As school rolls increase, there is greater pressure on facilities and options to reduce this would be considered. This suggestion was valid, would be investigated and would be given a response through the Outcomes report in June 2017.

(Head Teacher) – There were two areas of land for potential expansion of the playground. Firstly, the possible use of “no-man’s land” would be a cheap addition of

space. Secondly, the possible use of pitches at Gracemount Leisure Centre, which was in doubt. The long-term use of the pitches was more problematic

Supplementary Comment – This was not a separate issue, but a practical solution to a long-term problem.

**Question 6** – Gracemount Primary School formally held the land which was now Edinburgh Leisure Pitches. It had been agreed that when the leisure centre was built, Gracemount could use the pitches. However, with the reduction of the size of the playground, would there not be further pressure on play space with the possible closure of the pitches and the arrival of new pupils?

**Answer 6** – (Councillor Day) – If this land was owned by the Council, then it could be a straightforward process, but PPP land presented a more challenging option. He would discuss this with the Director of Communities and Families who would give a response to the Head Teacher.

(Councillor Austin Hart) – She agreed with the parent's comments and had often raised this issue with the Department. Could land at the end of Gracemount House Drive which was council-owned not be used to compensate for the loss of playground space?

Tom Wood confirmed that this would be checked out.

**Question 7** – Might it not be the case that parents moving into this area would have children of both primary and secondary age and had the Authority thought of this?

**Answer 7** – (Robbie Crockatt) – The new housing had been considered in both primary and secondary school projections. There would be pupils at various stages, but parents moving within the City often had children in a secondary school already and unlike the younger ones, were less likely to move to the new catchment school.

**Question 8** – What would be the likely impact of the proposals on St Catherine's Primary School?

**Answer 8** – (Ian Tame) - This consultation was concerned with the non-denominational sector, but he understood that there would be a need for more capacity at St Catherine's and St John's Vianney's Primary Schools. Proposals will be brought forward at an appropriate time.

**Question 9** – Would there be increased funding and staffing resources before increasing learning support, as additional support required additional funding?

**Answer 9** – (Crawford McGhie) - As the school roll increased, there would be an increase in funding. In relation to funding for staff, the Head Teacher was more qualified to answer this question.

(Head Teacher) - With regard to funding, the budget would have to be considered. An assessment would be carried out on the basis of the number of pupils, and as this increased, there would be an increased allocation for support for children with special needs.

**Question 10** – What about the additional facilities required to accommodate the extra children, such as toilets, filing space and dining areas?

**Answer 10** – (Robbie Crockatt) – Considering the school capacity and roll projections, the support space was considered to be adequate. There was a specific ratio of toilets for the number of pupils, but the officers would check this out.

**Question 11** – Pupils at the current school did not have to move to the new school, if they did not want to. If this was the case, how would this affect the process?

**Answer 11**– (Robbie Crockatt) – There were many unknown factors to consider. There was no mandatory transfer of pupils to populate the new school. The possible uptake of spaces was an unknown quantity; however, the Authority would monitor this. Additionally, “out of catchment pupils” might apply to the new school. The transfer on a voluntary basis would probably result in an uneven distribution of pupils between year groups, with the later stages being very small. The Authority intended to promote the school and wanted the Head Teacher in place as soon as possible to take a leading role in establishing relationships within the new school community.

**Comment 12** – A parent living on Old Burdiehouse Road had seen a huge increase in traffic and they were concerned about safety. Also, the dip in the road encouraged speeding and there was a tendency for “logjams” to form.

**Answer 12** – (Kate Hopper) - As part of the preparation of the Local Development Plan, Planning has prepared a Transport Appraisal which has assessed the impact of new development within South East Edinburgh. Additional transport requirements are set out in the LDP Action Programme. This includes traffic management changes as part of the transition from Edge of City to Suburban roads. This would include speed limit changes, traffic lights and pedestrian crossings.

(Crawford McGhie) – It was necessary to ensure Safe Routes to School. At a previous consultation with proposed catchment changes, the Authority had installed infrastructure as a result of parent’s questions.

Supplementary Comment – In a previous meeting, the parents managed to have the proposed school catchment amended, therefore, these meetings were useful.

**Question 13** – As the new school would have to be populated, could you clarify when it would be open to enrolment for P1’s to P7, or would this be staggered?

**Answer 13** – (Robbie Crockatt) - The new school would be open to all the year groups. Although it is anticipated that the initial school roll might be small, staff allocation would allow the organisation to grow. The registration process for P1 pupils would start in November 2019 for the new term in August 2020 and the transfer process should correlate to this. After January 2020, the probable number of pupils wishing to transfer to the new school would be evident.

**Question 14** – In the new school, had thought been given for specialist provision for children with additional needs, such as a language unit?

**Answer 14** – (Crawford McGhie) - This had not yet been considered, as the Authority had to wait for the decision of the Council in June 2017 to give thought to the detailed design of the new school. However, if necessary, then attention would be given to this.

**Question 15** – The new school was based on 30 pupils to a class and how was this evaluation made? There would also be a reduction in places in special schools.

**Answer 15** – (Crawford McGhie) – A capacity of 420 for a 14 class primary school is in line with national guidance. The new school would have both teaching space and break out spaces. There was also the possible mainstreaming of children with special needs.

**Question 16** – Parents might find it attractive to send their children to the new school. How could Gracemount be brought up to standard to ensure that parents would still want to send their children there?

**Answer 16** – (Crawford McGhie) - The report stated that the new school would be partly funded from contributions from developers. However, funding for the current school estate was limited. It was acknowledged that there is a need to invest in existing infrastructure.

**Question 17** – The number of toilets in a school was apparently based on the number of pupils. Was this calculation still valid as it was made 40 years ago and had the issue of children with special needs been considered?

**Answer 17** - (Robbie Crockatt) - Although the regulation stating the number of pupils per toilet was decades old, it was still nationally recognised and Gracemount complied with this. In respect of the provision of facilities for children with special needs, this was based on an assessment of the children in a school. If a child needed a particular care facility, then it should be made available to them.

(Head Teacher) – According to the national guidelines, the school had sufficient toilets and there was a toilet refurbishment programme in place. With regard to special needs, there were enough toilets, but changes would be made when required.

**Supplementary Question** - If more children were to arrive was there sufficient capacity to make changes?

**Answer** (Head Teacher) - There was sufficient capacity in the school for three additional classes. With regard to the possible loss of nurturing space, according to national regulations, there was sufficient space.

**Question 18** – When would you know when the new school would be functional?

**Answer 18** - (Ian Tame) - The Council had agreed in principle and was minded to grant the application, but a legal agreement was required. The key aspect was the transfer of the land to the Authority and the trigger point was when the developers started work. The school was expected to be open in August 2020, but this was dependent upon the new housing development progressing as expected.

Supplementary Question – Was this a certainty?

**Answer** - (Ian Tame) - There was no certainty until the developer started building, but it was hoped that it would take place this year.

**Comment 19** – Many people in the community would be affected by the proposals. There was a large amount of Council land and sports facilities that could be used for both the existing school and the new school. A small amount of investment would make parents content and attract pupils to Gracemount.

(Councillor Austin-Hart) - It would make sense to look at Mansion House and the stables at the top of the drive, as part of the wider consideration and to make a decision

on this.

**Answer 19** - (Councillor Day) - If the land could be used for schools, the Authority should consider this proposal and it would be checked out by officers.

(Robbie Crockatt) – As the Council moved to localities provision, it was necessary to look at improvement plans and at assets within localities, including school infrastructure. The Communities and Families Service was working with the Council's Strategic Asset Management Team to see how schools could be opened up more widely.

**Question 20** – It would be November 2019 when the catchment changes would apply, therefore, what impact would there be on the budget if people moved to Gracemount?

**Answer 20** – (Robbie Crockatt) - The budget allocation to the school would be based on the school roll. When the number of staff was established, then the Head Teacher would be informed about the budget allocation. This would be the same with the new school. The staff allocation was specific to that school and its pupil roll.

Pupils outside of the catchment area could apply. If the new school reached its capacity, regarding catchment numbers, then the movement would cease. The budget allocation was related to the school rolls and this should not have an effect on Gracemount.

(Head Teacher) - He had recently received the figures on the allocation of resources.

**Supplementary Question** - When the budget was set, would this not impact on the schools?

**Answer** - (Crawford McGhie) -. It was necessary to liaise with colleagues in devolved school management to establish how changes in budgetary arrangements would be addressed, in terms of the transfer of pupils from one school to another.

**Question 21** – What would happen if the deadline for August 2020 was not met?

**Answer 21** – (Crawford McGhie) – In those circumstances it would be a full year before the school opened, because the P1 intake was the main driver for the opening date.

(Therese Laing) - The transition to the new school needed to be as smooth as possible. A great deal of work will be put into this and an action plan prepared.

**Comment 22** – Parents did not trust the Council as after the closure of Burdiehouse, the allocated funding did not reach Gracemount or was used for purposes that were already in the pipeline, prior to the Burdiehouse closure. Any additional funding should reach the school and be used for its intended purpose.

There were additional concerns about the house in the grounds of Gracemount, as anyone could purchase it. However, if the Council purchased the house this could be part of the solution.

**Answer 22** – (Crawford McGhie) - The issue of the house had been raised by the Parent Council and was being considered.

**Comment 23** – The parents were frustrated as they were getting unsatisfactory answers at the Parent Council meeting. The house was privately owned and could be

sold to anyone for any purpose, which might include anti-social behaviour near a school environment. The proposed fence for security was flimsy. Any problems with the house might lead to expensive court proceedings and, therefore, the Council might want to consider purchasing the house.

**Answer 23** – (Crawford McGhie) - This issue needed input from Estates and Facilities Management.

**Supplementary Question** - This had been raised?

**Answer** – (Crawford McGhie) - The education service was happy to deal with this issue even if this was out with their remit and would contact the relevant people.

(Councillor Austin Hart) - This had been going on for a considerable length of time and she shared the frustration of the Parent Council. She had corresponded with several members of staff and the response had not been satisfactory.

**Question 24** – Were there plans to extend the high schools in the area to accommodate the extra children?

**Answer 24** – (Crawford McGhie) - This was proposed in the Local Development Plan Action Programme. Both schools, Gracemount and Liberton High School would be extended when required.

**Comment 25** – There were concerns about the drains at Gracemount which were emitting excrement, when children were having their lunch outside. Facilities Management had been contacted, but there had been no progress.

**Answer 25** – (Head Teacher) - There had been problems with the drains and with flooding in the Dining Hall, which he had tried to address. The school had received support from Environmental Health and the Parent Council was right to raise this issue.

**Question 26** – How would members of the public be kept informed about the process?

**Answer 26** – (Crawford McGhie) - After the consultation period, the Authority would collate all comments and forward them to Education Scotland, who would produce a report providing their response to the consultation. The School Estate Planning Team would then prepare an 'Outcomes of the Consultation' report which would be submitted to the Full Council in June 2017 for approval. If the outcome of the consultation is a recommendation to proceed with the proposal and this is approved by Council, the legal process to transfer the land to the Council's ownership would be concluded and the detailed design of the school would be developed through a consultation with the school community. The various steps of the process were available on the Council Website.

**Comment** – It would be advantageous if feedback on the process was provided as not everyone owned a computer.

**Question 27** – Would there still be a facility for an Open Day if the new school was not completed?

**Answer 27** – (Crawford McGhie) - At the point of registration at the other catchment schools, the Authority would illustrate to parents what the new school would look like, if it was not yet completed.

**Question 28** – At Lasswade Road from the Murrays, the speed limit was still 40 mph. Were there any plans to change this, taking into account the Safer Routes to Schools policy? There had been an accident some years ago and if it had then been a 40 mph limit then, the accident would have been worse.

**Answer 28** – (Kate Hopper) - There is a city-wide 20 mph limit strategy, but some main roads were still 40 mph. However, the officers would respond to the parent regarding the proposal for that section of road.

**Supplementary Question** – A parent stated that they had already raised the speed issue with the Community Council, but nothing had changed. Additionally, the change to the catchment area presented additional hazards.

**Answer** – (Kate Hopper) - The Authority could change the road to a suburban road and implement speed reduction measures such as crossing points and a new junction. She outlined the actions, where the roads needed to be changed from Major Roads to Suburban Roads.

**Question 29** – Considering the influx of children at Gracemount Primary, would the funds be available to provide all the required teaching resources, such as an ICT unit?

**Answer 29** – (Crawford McGhie) - The school was currently operating a 17 class operation and if it needed to change spaces to fully functioning teaching spaces, then funds would be provided.

Tom Wood (Independent Chair) – To summarise there had been discussions about the timing and implementation of the proposals, safety and speed limits, the issue of transition and how it would be possible to operate between the existing school and the new school. There had appeared to be some difficulty in receiving the correct responses from the council officers about various issues of concern. These points had been well made and would receive a response from the officers as part of the final outcomes report. The Parent Council had expressed strong feeling and great loyalty towards Gracemount Primary School.

Comment – The Community Council saw this as an opportunity to make small changes to the proposals.

Tom Wood (Independent Chair) – He agreed. This meeting gave an opportunity for parents to express their views. There had been a large amount of positive input tonight, which would be recorded in the minutes and this would be reflected in the report and taken to the Council. All the officers/members at the table would hopefully resolve the issues raised, as required.

**Question 30** - There would be an influx of children and this could mean more children coming to Gracemount. With regard to break out areas, Gracemount had a significant number of pupils with special needs and these spaces were used. If the school was to use this space where would the children go?

**Answer 30** (Crawford McGhie) - As the school roll rose, the Authority would ensure that the Head Teacher would have all the different types of space he required, such as teaching space and break out space.

**Question 31** - How could the parents get a copy of the minutes when they were completed?

**Answer 31** - Tom Wood (Independent Chair) - The minutes would be completed and forwarded to himself as the independent chair. They would be made available on the Council website. These minutes were an important part of the report to the Council meeting in June 2017. The result of the discussions at these meetings was of consequence and could make a difference. He then thanked everyone for their questions.

#### **4. Conclusion**

Councillor Day thanked everyone for attending the meeting and for their comments, explaining that the consultation could potentially make changes to the proposals and all comments were welcomed by the Authority. The panel would provide a response to the questions, which had not been answered. He explained that the consultation would be open to 3 March 2017 and he explained the process for inputting comments.

### **Appendix 3 – Summary of Representations**

The table below identifies which of the submitted representations supported the proposal and identifies (with an 'x') the theme of any issue raised. The Council's response to the issues raised are set out in Appendix 4.

Online Questionnaire Reference Number	Do you support the proposal? (Y = Yes, N = No)	New Primary School Issues (App. 4 Issue 1 to 6)	Access and Travel Routes (App. 4 Issue 7 to 12)	Catchment Areas, Pupil Transition, Placement Guarantees (App. 4 Issue 13 to 18)	Gracemount Primary School Issues (App. 4 Issue 19 to 24)	Gilmerton Primary School Issues (App. 4 Issue 25 to 26)	Other Issues (App. 4 Issue 27 to 30)
ANON-9E1W-PGCE-5	N			X			
ANON-9E1W-PGCP-G	Y			X			
ANON-9E1W-PGCC-3	Y						X
ANON-9E1W-PGCG-7	Y	X					
ANON-9E1W-PGCX-R	N	X	X				
ANON-9E1W-PGCF-6	N						X
ANON-9E1W-PGCJ-A	Y						
ANON-9E1W-PGCN-E	N				X		
ANON-9E1W-PGCW-Q	Y						
ANON-9E1W-PGCZ-T	N	X			X		
ANON-9E1W-PGCS-K	Y	X					
ANON-9E1W-PGCA-1	Y	X					
ANON-9E1W-PGB8-Q	Y	X	X				
ANON-9E1W-PGBP-F	Y		X		X		
ANON-9E1W-PGBD-3	Y				X		X
ANON-9E1W-PGB9-R	Y		X	X		X	
ANON-9E1W-PGBG-6	Y	X					
ANON-9E1W-PGBQ-G	Y						
Emailed Comment 1				X			
Emailed Comment 2					X	X	

## Appendix 4 – Issues Raised and Council response

### New Primary School Issues

1	<b>Issue</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The new school should be in the centre of the Broomhills residential area, easily accessible by active travel, and with minimal access for vehicles. It could become part of the centre of the community, with a shop and other amenities.</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The proposed location is too close to busy main roads. There will be noise and air quality issues.</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Air quality will suffer from increased traffic in the area. There appears to be no plan to monitor air quality in the area now, during construction or in the future. This could put children in harm's way.</li> </ul>
	<b>Response</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The school site has been secured through the planning application for the wider 'Broomhills' development site and reflects the proposed school location which is set out in the Council's adopted Local Development Plan (LDP). Shops and other amenities are proposed to be delivered at the entrance to the development site.</li> <li>The location was originally identified in the LDP as it is well placed to serve the new housing sites and has good access to public transport services.</li> <li>The new school will be in the centre of its proposed catchment area, which extends wider than the 'Broomhills' development area. Pedestrian and cycle connections to the wider area will be provided.</li> <li>It is likely that a noise impact assessment and air quality impact assessment will be required as part of a detailed planning application for the new school.</li> </ul>
2	<b>Issue</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The school should be built with the future in mind and not just to meet requirements of today.</li> </ul>
	<b>Response</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The new school will initially be built with 14 classrooms, but it will be designed in a way that it could be expanded if this was required.</li> <li>The new school will provide a modern state of the art learning environment which will promote creative and engaging teaching approaches and offer facilities that will encourage health and wellbeing, participation in sport and outdoor learning.</li> </ul>
3	<b>Issue</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Electric car charging points should be provided.</li> </ul>
	<b>Response</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This comment has been noted and will be considered as part of the submission of a detailed planning application for the new school.</li> </ul>

4	<b>Issue</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The new school should be built before the new housing is delivered otherwise the existing schools would face accommodation pressures.</li> </ul>
	<b>Response</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The estimated opening date for the new school is August 2020 which is before the new housing is expected to be complete. This is the earliest possible delivery date.</li> </ul>
5	<b>Issue</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It seems that primary schools in the area are at saturation point and that teaching/quality is being seriously affected. I welcome this proposal and the efforts that the local authority are going to, to address this issue, particularly in light of many new housing developments and the further pressure that this will put on local primary schools in this area.</li> </ul>
	<b>Response</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The proposal is being progressed to address school capacity and accommodation pressures in south east Edinburgh.</li> </ul>
6	<b>Issue</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A map has not been provided and therefore it is not clear where the proposed site is. It would be useful to be clear about the design and the building and where it is going to be situated.</li> </ul>
	<b>Response</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The proposed site layout and indicative site plan was included in Appendix 3 of the full <a href="#">statutory consultation paper</a>. The summary paper also included a map that indicated the proposed location of the new school.</li> <li>The school design will be subject to a detailed planning process.</li> </ul>

## Access and Travel Routes

7	Issue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The traffic along Burdiehouse Road and Frogston Road East is heavily congested, this proposal and the other new developments will add to further congestion.</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The upgrade of Kaimes crossroads should be carried out following consultation with the whole community.</li> </ul>
	Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Council's <a href="#">Action Programme</a> identifies the transport infrastructure actions, including junction reconfigurations and upgrades, that are required to mitigate the impact of new development in south east Edinburgh. This has been subject to public consultation as part of the preparation of the Council's <a href="#">Local Development Plan</a>.</li> <li>A transport assessment for the wider 'Broomhills' development site was submitted to support the planning application and found to be acceptable. The proposal includes a new junction and access to the site from Burdiehouse Road.</li> </ul>
8	Issue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There will always be children who are driven to school and on the current plans there is no provision for a drop off zone either on Frogston Road East or at the school itself.</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is concern about the limited drop off points and traffic management. It is simply not practical for all parents to walk children to school.</li> </ul>
	Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council policy is to promote sustainable forms of travel which means that the creation of drop-off areas specifically for parents is not something which would be considered as part of a new educational facility.</li> <li>The travel distance for catchment pupils to the new primary school will generally be less than under current arrangements. This may reduce the number of people who will drop off pupils in cars.</li> </ul>
9	Issue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The new school should be easily accessible by active travel.</li> </ul>
	Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Access to the school was considered as part of the planning application for the wider 'Broomhills' housing site and deemed to be acceptable by Planning.</li> <li>Prior to the submission of a planning application for the new primary school, a review of traffic and pedestrian issues will be undertaken.</li> <li>The new school will have a Travel Plan to encourage pupils to walk to school by identifying ways that routes could be made safer and promoting initiatives such as 'walking buses'.</li> </ul>

10	<b>Issue</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A new crossing would be required at Janefield to allow safe crossing from the Southhouse side.</li> </ul>
	<b>Issue</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is concern about the safe route to school proposals. Burdiehouse Road is a dual carriage way 40mph and not deemed safe to cross at. Could a solution, such as a bridge going over the dual carriage way be looked into rather than having the children cross at the proposed additional pedestrian crossing?</li> </ul>
	<b>Issue</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An upgrade to the junction at Southhouse Broadway onto Burdiehouse Road may need to be considered.</li> </ul>
	<b>Response</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A 'Safer Route to School' is a route that is on a good surface, lit and the means of crossing main roads are by traffic controlled crossings. Appendix 7 of the full statutory consultation paper sets out some which are currently in place for areas affected. The continued provision of appropriate 'Safe Routes to School' will be regularly assessed.</li> <li>• Prior to the submission of a planning application for the new primary school, a review of traffic and pedestrian issues will be undertaken. This will identify any actions, including the provision or relocation of crossing points, which may be required.</li> <li>• As part of the wider 'Broomhills' development, it is proposed that a new street level pedestrian crossing will be installed across Burdiehouse Road to the south of Janefield. This can be used by pupils coming from the eastern side of Burdiehouse Road.</li> <li>• There are no current proposals to upgrade the Southhouse Broadway junction which leads onto Burdiehouse Road.</li> </ul>
11	<b>Issue</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Burdiehouse Road and Lasswade Road have a speed restriction of 40 Mph. Could this be reduced to 20/30 mph (especially at school times)?</li> </ul>
	<b>Response</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Council's Planning service has indicated that the 30mph restriction along Burdiehouse Road is likely to be extended to the south of the proposed new pedestrian crossing once the new junction which will serve the 'Broomhills' development site has been put in place.</li> <li>• There are no current proposals to alter the speed limit on Lasswade Road, although street and junction improvements to support new housing are proposed in the Council's Local Development Plan.</li> </ul>
12	<b>Issue</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A lollipop person is required at crossing points, or school staff should be proactively involved in ensuring safe crossings.</li> </ul>
	<b>Response</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The requirement for crossing patrols is assessed by the Council's Road Safety Team. Communities and Families will request that assessments are carried out for any new routes required as a result of the Council's final decision in relation to this statutory consultation.</li> </ul>

## Catchment Areas, Pupil Transition and Placement Guarantees

13	<b>Issue</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If there is a delay in opening the new school, it would not open until August 2021 which would impact on the P1 intake at the existing schools. There would be a bit of unrest for the parents of the 2020 P1 intake. Would children have to spend P1 in one school and then change?</li> </ul>
	<b>Response</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There will be no mandatory transfer of pupils already attending a school once the new school is operational. If the new school was not operational until August 2021 the existing catchment arrangements would apply for August 2020.</li> <li>The Council will keep the affected schools and local community informed of any changes to the expected delivery date of the new primary school.</li> </ul>
14	<b>Issue</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will the new school proposals affect the policy for applying to an out of catchment school?</li> </ul>
	<b>Response</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Council's <a href="#">policy</a> for pupils who wish to apply for a school place which is outside of their catchment area will not be affected by the proposal.</li> </ul>
15	<b>Issue</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is no proposal to ensure that siblings get a place in the same school as their older brother/sister when the catchments are reviewed. Can there be a sibling guarantee?</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is it possible that parents will have children that will have to attend different schools after the implementation of the new catchment areas?</li> </ul>
	<b>Response</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is recommended that no 'sibling guarantees' are offered.</li> <li>As the catchment changes will not be implemented until November 2019 (at the earliest) and the full impact will not be known for seven years after, it is not certain that there would be sufficient capacity in the existing primary schools to accommodate an increased P1 intake as a result of a 'sibling guarantee'. A 'sibling guarantee' is therefore not recommended.</li> <li>In the absence of a 'sibling guarantee', it is possible that parents will have a child that will have to attend a different school to an older sibling. However, the Council's <a href="#">Placing in School Procedures</a> prioritise siblings of older children at a school if an out of catchment place request is made to that school. The areas which are proposed to move to a different primary school catchment area are close to their existing catchment school. Children from these areas will be placed above those living further away in the order of priority.</li> <li>If a placing request is refused a parent has the right to appeal in the first instance to an independent committee and if that is unsuccessful to the Sheriff Court.</li> </ul>

16	<b>Issue</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is concern that primary school children, who will no longer be in the catchment area of Liberton HS, will not be able to attend the same secondary school as their friends.</li> </ul>
	<b>Response</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A guarantee that all primary school pupils who attended Gilmerton PS and were in the dual secondary catchment area at the time of the proposed catchment changes would be able to take up a place at Liberton High School would have to last for seven years (if it was to include those going into P1 prior to the catchment changes). This would result in significant delay in realising the educational benefits of not operating a dual secondary catchment area (see response to Issue 18).</li> <li>• In September 2016, only 3 pupils within the dual secondary school catchment area had chosen to attend Liberton HS compared with 70 who had chosen to attend Gracemount HS. Therefore the change is not expected to negatively affect a large number of pupils.</li> <li>• Any pupils that would have chosen to attend Liberton HS but will no longer live within the catchment area will be entitled to make an out of catchment placement request. In the 2016/2017 school year, there were 91 out of catchment pupils in total across all year groups attending Liberton High School.</li> <li>• With regards to placing requests, the Council's <a href="#">Placing in School Procedures</a> states that children living closer to the school in each category are placed above those living further away. It is likely that pupils directly affected by the removal of the dual secondary catchment area would have high priority as they will be closer to the school than others (a significant number of current out of catchment pupils at Liberton HS are from properties within the catchment areas of neighbouring schools or out with the Council boundary).</li> <li>• If a placing request is refused a parent has the right to appeal in the first instance to an independent committee and if that is unsuccessful to the Sheriff Court.</li> </ul>
17	<b>Issue</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The new houses at the former Alnwickhill Water Treatment Works site should be included in the new school's catchment. There are a lot of families living there which would make the new school more appealing if they were to be included.</li> </ul>
	<b>Response</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Each of the proposed catchment areas includes a mix of house types. However, the principal driver of the proposed catchment boundaries is to ensure that the catchment populations for each of the schools affected are appropriate to their proposed capacities.</li> <li>• If the Alnwickhill Water Treatment Works site was included in the catchment area of the new primary school, it would have to have more than 14 classes which would make it a less efficient organisation.</li> </ul>

<b>18</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Properties will be in the catchment area of Liberton High School despite Gracemount High School being much closer.</li> </ul>
	<b>Response</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The catchment area of Liberton High School covers a large part of south east Edinburgh. There are many properties which are closer to Gracemount High School but solely within the Liberton High catchment area. The proposed catchment changes do not affect these properties.</li> <li>• There are five existing properties which are currently in the dual secondary school catchment area for Gracemount High School and Liberton High School which will be solely in the catchment area for Liberton High School once the changes have been implemented. Although this school is further away, the distance is not deemed to be unreasonable and there is a frequent bus service along Lasswade Road.</li> <li>• There are benefits to not continuing with the dual catchment arrangements in the area as the management of transition arrangements can be more complex and it is more difficult to predict intake numbers. Education Scotland has commented that <i>'the proposed changes to the catchment areas of Gracemount and Liberton High Schools will mean that there will no longer be a requirement to operate a dual secondary school catchment allowing more contextualised curriculum and pastoral support planning at transition'</i>.</li> </ul>

## Gracemount Primary School Issues

	<b>Issue</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There will be accommodation pressures at the existing primary schools prior to the new school opening which will have to be addressed. This will put pressure on specialist classroom space e.g. ICT suite, the gym and dining hall, and the playground.</li> </ul>																				
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will more composite classes be required and what measures will be put in place to ensure attainment and behaviour is not negatively impacted?</li> </ul>																				
<b>19</b>	<b>Response</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased requirement for learning support and Pupil Support Assistants.</li> </ul>																				
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The school roll projection below is for Gracemount Primary School, showing the anticipated impact of the proposed catchment area changes if they took affect for the August 2020 P1 intake:</li> </ul> <table border="1" data-bbox="711 757 1102 1234"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>School Roll</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2017</td> <td>496</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2018</td> <td>507</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2019</td> <td>527</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>2020</b></td> <td><b>497</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>2021</b></td> <td><b>486</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>2022</b></td> <td><b>485</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>2023</b></td> <td><b>479</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>2024</b></td> <td><b>460</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>2025</b></td> <td><b>445</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>2026</b></td> <td><b>431</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The proposal will reduce accommodation pressures at Gracemount PS, although the school roll is expected to increase in the short term prior to the new school opening. This would temporarily increase pressure on the school facilities, although the number of classrooms which could be provided within the existing school is likely to be sufficient to accommodate such rolls. The gym and dining hall are considered to be sufficient to accommodate the projected rolls. Issue 20 covers the sufficiency of outdoor space at the school.</li> <li>Normal procedures for determining if composite classes are required will apply. It is not known at this stage whether more will be required. The Quality Improvement Officer for the schools affected by the statutory consultation will continue to monitor and evaluate attainment and achievement, ensuring any necessary actions are included in school Improvement Plans on an ongoing basis.</li> <li>The provision of learning support and Pupil Support Assistants will be appropriate to the school roll.</li> </ul>		School Roll	2017	496	2018	507	2019	527	<b>2020</b>	<b>497</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>485</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>479</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>460</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>445</b>
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20	<b>Issue</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Council should look to increase the size of the school playground, particularly when considering the closure of the pitches at the leisure centre. The area of “no man’s land” at the edge of the school grounds could be used to expand the playground.</li> </ul>
	<b>Issue</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Edinburgh Leisure has withdrawn maintenance of the Gracemount Leisure Centre pitches which have been used by the school during breaks and at lunch to ease congestion in the playground.</li> </ul>
	<b>Response</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Council is currently liaising with Edinburgh Leisure with the intention of securing additional outdoor space for Gracemount Primary School.</li> </ul>
21	<b>Issue</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Mansion House and the stables at the top of the drive should form part of the wider consideration.</li> </ul>
	<b>Response</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gracemount Primary School has sufficient space within its existing buildings for its current and projected school roll without the need for these properties.</li> </ul>
22	<b>Issue</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Significant additional resources, as well as consultation with parents, are needed to improve the facilities at Gracemount Primary School and address parental concerns around the lack of investment following the closure of Burdiehouse Primary School.</li> </ul>
	<b>Issue</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Security should be improved (e.g. doors) to help with the management of pupils in the school day. Lights and security cameras around the school and the nursery should be improved to allow for the safe operation of school lets. School flooring should be updated and drainage and flooding issues should be resolved.</li> </ul>
	<b>Response</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Council has met with the Gracemount Primary School Parent Council to discuss the parental concerns. The issues have been raised with Facilities Management.</li> <li>There is currently no further funding available beyond what has already been spent on the school (for example to create new teaching and break out spaces and provide new blinds) or the Health and Safety/Wind and Watertight budgets held by Facilities Management.</li> </ul>
23	<b>Issue</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There are concerns that anyone could purchase the former janitor’s house in the grounds of Gracemount PS, which could have implications for the health and safety of pupils. If the Council purchased the house this could be part of the solution for additional accommodation at the school.</li> </ul>
	<b>Response</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Council cannot interfere in the private sale of the property and there is no current need for additional accommodation at the school.</li> <li>The Council is liaising with the current occupants of the property with the intention of erecting a fence to separate the house from the school.</li> </ul>

<b>24</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Once the new school is open, the number of pupils at Gracemount will decrease. Will the Council provide additional funds to re-model classrooms that are no longer required back to specialist spaces?</li> </ul>
	<b>Response</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If required to address sufficiency issues at the school, the Council will provide funding to convert spaces into classrooms. However, there is no Council funding available to provide specialist spaces which are over and above what is necessary (the number of general purpose spaces that should be provided within a school are set out within <a href="#">Scottish Government guidance</a>).</li> </ul>

## Gilmerton Primary School Issues

25	<b>Issue</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Until the completion of the Gilmerton Station Road housing development, it seems likely that there will be a reduction in the intake at Gilmerton PS when the new school is operational. What impact will this have on the staff team and budget in August 2020?</li> </ul>																					
	<b>Response</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The school roll projection below is for Gilmerton Primary School, showing the impact of the proposed catchment area changes if they took affect for the August 2020 P1 intake: <table border="1" data-bbox="711 510 1104 981"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>School Roll</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2017</td> <td>457</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2018</td> <td>508</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2019</td> <td>562</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>2020</b></td> <td><b>574</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>2021</b></td> <td><b>593</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>2022</b></td> <td><b>629</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>2023</b></td> <td><b>666</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>2024</b></td> <td><b>666</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>2025</b></td> <td><b>651</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>2026</b></td> <td><b>632</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> </li> <li>As the proposed catchment changes will only apply to new P1 pupils and there will be no mandatory transfer for pupils already attending another school, the overall school roll is not expected to drop - it will take seven years for the full impact of a reduced catchment area to take effect by which time it is highly likely that proposed new housing will have started to generate additional pupils.</li> </ul>		School Roll	2017	457	2018	508	2019	562	<b>2020</b>	<b>574</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>629</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>666</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>666</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>651</b>	<b>2026</b>
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26	<b>Issue</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Once families start to inhabit the new homes at Gilmerton Station Road it has been projected that Gilmerton PS's roll will dramatically increase, meaning the school would require another extension. Would this new extension mean the school would have to function across 5 (6 if you include Spinney Lane nursery) separate buildings or is there scope to attach it to the existing extension?</li> </ul>																					
	<b>Response</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The statutory consultation paper identifies that Gilmerton PS will not be able to accommodate the number of additional pupils expected to be generated by new housing development within its proposed catchment area and additional capacity is expected to be required.</li> <li>The additional capacity could be delivered by a second new primary school within the Gilmerton Station Road housing site or through further catchment change or expansion of the existing school. Informal consultation with the school and local community will be carried out prior to bringing forward proposals.</li> </ul>																					

## Other issues

27	<b>Issue</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Additional funding should be sought to upgrade Liberton High School.</li> </ul>
	<b>Response</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A feasibility study considering the delivery of additional capacity at Liberton High School is currently being progressed through the Wave 4 investment programme.</li> </ul>
28	<b>Issue</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This is an opportunity to review the secondary catchment arrangements in the wider south east Edinburgh area. Children from Prestonfield PS scatter to secondary schools across Edinburgh. It is unclear where children are going rather than Liberton High School.</li> </ul>
	<b>Response</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A strategic review of the Council's Lifelong Learning Estate will be undertaken. The outputs of this review will include a list of school statutory consultations required for any new policy or catchment proposals thought necessary to support the creation of a more effective and efficient schools and lifelong learning estate.</li> </ul>
29	<b>Issue</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is no provision for additional GP (family doctor) space to accommodate the new housing.</li> </ul>
	<b>Response</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NHS Lothian, in partnership with the Council, has appraised the cumulative impact of new housing development on healthcare infrastructure. Actions to mitigate this impact are set out in the Council's <a href="#">Action Programme</a>.</li> <li>During the design process for the new primary school, consideration will be given to the services which may be beneficial to collocate with the school. This may include provision of GP accommodation. Discussions with the NHS will be progressed at the appropriate time to identify any opportunities.</li> </ul>
30	<b>Issue</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There will be an increased demand for nursery provision.</li> </ul>
	<b>Response</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Council is currently reviewing its Early Years Estate to identify what measures may be required to meet current and projected demand. It is expected that some of this demand can be met by increasing hours of the existing facilities however it is likely that additional provision will be required. A nursery is proposed to be delivered as part of the new primary school.</li> </ul>

## **Appendix 5 – Education Scotland Report**

### **Report by Education Scotland addressing educational aspects of the proposal by The City of Edinburgh Council to establish a new non-denominational primary school and implement catchment changes to address school capacity and accommodation pressures in South East Edinburgh.**

#### **1. Introduction**

1.1 This report from Education Scotland has been prepared by HM Inspectors in accordance with the terms of the *Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010* and the amendments contained in the *Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014*. The purpose of the report is to provide an independent and impartial consideration of The City of Edinburgh Council's proposal to establish a new non-denominational primary school and implement catchment changes to address school capacity and accommodation pressures in South East Edinburgh. Section 2 of the report sets out brief details of the consultation process. Section 3 of the report sets out HM Inspectors' consideration of the educational aspects of the proposal, including significant views expressed by consultees. Section 4 summarises HM Inspectors' overall view of the proposal. Upon receipt of this report, the Act requires the council to consider it and then prepare its final consultation report. The council's final consultation report should include a copy of this report and must contain an explanation of how, in finalising the proposal, it has reviewed the initial proposal, including a summary of points raised during the consultation process and the council's response to them. The council has to publish its final consultation report three weeks before it takes its final decision. Where a council is proposing to close a school, it needs to follow all legislative obligations set out in the 2010 Act, including notifying Ministers within six working days of making its final decision and explaining to consultees the opportunity they have to make representations to Ministers.

#### 1.2 HM Inspectors considered:

- the likely impact of the proposal for children and young people of the effected primary and secondary schools; any other users; children likely to become pupils within two years of the date of publication of the proposal paper; and other children and young people in the council area;
- any other likely effects of the proposal;
- how the council intends to minimise or avoid any adverse effects that may arise from the proposal; and
- the educational benefits the council believes will result from implementation of the proposal, and the council's reasons for coming to these beliefs.

#### 1.3 In preparing this report, HM Inspectors undertook the following activities:

- attendance at the public meeting held on 9 February 2017 in connection with the council's proposals;

- consideration of all relevant documentation provided by the council in relation to the proposal, specifically the educational benefits statement and related consultation documents, written and oral submissions from parents and others; and
- visits to the site of the new school, as well as to other named schools in the consultation including, Gracemount, Gilmerton and Liberton Primary Schools, and Gracemount and Liberton High Schools. Discussions were also held with relevant consultees.

## **2. Consultation Process**

2.1 The City of Edinburgh Council undertook the consultation on its proposal with reference to the *Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010* and the amendments in the *Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014*.

2.2 The consultation process ran from 16 January to 3 March 2017. During this period the council held public meetings at Gracemount and Gilmerton Primary Schools which were attended by 35 and 17 stakeholders respectively, including members of the public and statutory consultees. Consultation documentation was published on The City of Edinburgh Council website and copies were available for public consultation at several venues during the consultation period, including the schools concerned. A proforma questionnaire and an email address were made available for responses. The council received 20 responses overall, with 13 responses in support of the proposal. Nearly all stakeholders who met with HM Inspectors felt that the council had provided good opportunities for being consulted and for giving their views. The council put in place helpful child-friendly procedures to engage children from Gracemount and Gilmerton Primary Schools directly in the consultation process.

## **3. Educational Aspects of Proposal**

3.1 The proposal involves:

- the establishment of a new non-denominational primary school and nursery within the 'Broomhills' housing development site, incorporating parts of the existing catchment areas for Gracemount and Gilmerton Primary Schools within the catchment for the new school;
- the realignment of catchment boundaries so that The Murrays estate and parts of Gilmerton Dykes and Lasswade Road are within the catchment area of Gracemount Primary School rather than that of Gilmerton Primary School;
- the realignment of catchment boundaries so that the northern part of the Alnwickhill Water Treatment Works development site is within the catchment area of Gracemount Primary School rather than that of Liberton Primary School;
- the alignment of the new non-denominational primary school to Gracemount High School;
- a reduction in the catchment area of Liberton High School (which includes the current dual catchment area) so that it no longer covers Burdiehouse, The

Murrays or the parts of Gilmerton Dykes and Lasswade Road which will be within the catchment area of Gracemount Primary School;

- a reduction in the catchment area of Gracemount High School (which includes the current dual catchment area) so that it no longer covers the area on the west side of Lasswade Road which will remain within the Gilmerton Primary School catchment area; and
- the realignment of the catchment boundary so that the northern part of the Alnwickhill Water Treatment Works development site is within the catchment area of Gracemount High School rather than that of Liberton High School.

3.2 The proposal, in principle, offers clear educational benefits to children in each of the three schools. The planned new 'Broomhills' primary school will accommodate the projected school roll arising from the above proposal. When completed, it will provide children with a purpose-built learning environment well-suited to their learning needs and accessible to all. The new learning environment has been designed to promote health and wellbeing and encourage outdoor learning. At the same time, the proposal will reduce the potential overcrowding at both Gracemount and Gilmerton Primary Schools as a result of the new housing development. The proposed changes to the catchment areas of Gracemount and Liberton High Schools will mean that there will no longer be a requirement to operate a dual secondary school catchment allowing more contextualised curriculum and pastoral support planning at transition. The associated nursery provision planned as part of the new school will support The City of Edinburgh Council to better deliver the Scottish Government's commitment to increasing the early years and childcare entitlement to 1140 hours per year by 2020.

3.3 All parents, pupils and staff who met with HM Inspectors in local community primary and secondary establishments support the building of a new school. There is a clear understanding that the rolls of both Gracemount and Gilmerton Primary Schools would outstrip capacity as a result of the significant housing developments in the area. However, given that the new housing development is at the early stages, there were a number of areas relating to the practicalities of the proposal that were unclear at this time. This includes the transition arrangements to allow Gilmerton and Gracemount Primary Schools to accommodate additional pupils from the initial phases of new housing development.

3.4 In taking forward its proposal, the council should continue to work closely with stakeholders and the headteachers of schools involved in the proposal. The council should ensure that effective and well communicated interim transition measures relating to class arrangements and use of existing classroom space are put in place. It will be particularly important to ensure that the first groups of children from the new 'Broomhills' catchment are well supported to attend established local schools while their school is being built, while ensuring there is no detriment to current pupils attending these schools. Parents, children and staff also wished to continue to be consulted about staffing, safe routes to school, and access to popular and well attended after-school and school holiday programmes. These issues should be clearly addressed. The council should ensure that all transition arrangements are well planned and clearly communicated to all stakeholders to meet the needs of all children who attend Gracemount and Gilmerton Primary Schools and the new 'Broomhills' catchment school. Going forward, future pressures in the secondary sector will need to be considered and associated feasibility work may be required to determine an appropriate way of delivering additional capacity.

#### **4. Summary**

The City of Edinburgh Council's proposal to establish a new primary and nursery school to meet growing local need in South East Edinburgh, adjusting appropriately established local school catchment areas, has clear educational benefits. The proposal has the potential to provide children who will reside in the newly formed catchment areas with modern, purpose-built accommodation designed to meet the needs of its learners. Once the new school is built, it should reduce the possibility of overcrowding at both Gracemount and Gilmerton Primary Schools. Almost all stakeholders who met with HM Inspectors support the proposal. In taking this proposal forward, the council should continue to engage with stakeholders over its planned transition arrangements for children who will attend the new school and those children who attend Gracemount and Gilmerton Primary Schools. A close watching brief is also required on the implications of the new housing developments in South East Edinburgh on associated secondary provision.

**HM Inspectors  
Education Scotland  
March 2017**