

# Proposal to build a new Non-Denominational Secondary School to replace Castlebrae High School and Implement Minor Catchment Change to Formalise and Align Catchment Boundaries.

Affecting: Castlebrae High School, Castleview Primary School, Niddrie Mill Primary School, Newcraighall and Prestonfield Primary School

#### 1 Introduction

- 1.1 This consultation paper sets out the rationale for, and implications of, the proposal to build a new non-denominational secondary school to replace Castlebrae High School on a new "town centre" site in Craigmillar. The proposal includes the implementation of minor catchment change to formalise and align catchment boundaries. The paper also sets out the consultation process and the means and timescales for making representations.
- 1.2 The consultation paper is divided into the following sections:
  - 1. Introduction
  - 2. Background and Context
    - proposed new school site
    - the existing school
    - capacity of new school
  - 3. Castlebrae catchment data
    - Catchment realignment
  - 4. Educational Benefits
  - 5. Financial Considerations
  - 6. Indicative Construction timescales
  - 7. Consultation Process

### **Appendices**

• Appendix 1 Site plan

Appendix 2 and 3 Existing catchment areas, school locations

Appendix 4 and 5 Proposed catchment changes

Appendix 6 Affected addresses

Appendix 7 Response questionnaire

Appendix 8 Roll projection data

1.3 Comments on the proposals should be submitted by no later than close of business on 22 December 2017 by email or post to the addresses set out in Section 7.9 of this paper. A response questionnaire is provided for this purpose which respondents are encouraged to use, details are included in Appendix 7. The questionnaire can also be completed online via the Council website:

www.edinburgh.gov.uk/replacementcastlebrae

1.4 A public meeting will be held as follows, further details of which are provided in section 7:

Venue	Date	Time				
Castlebrae High School	Tuesday 28 November 2017	18:30 – 20:30				

### 2 Background and Context

- 2.1 The Education, Children and Families Committee agreed on 10 October 2017 that a statutory consultation should proceed on the proposal to provide a new secondary school to replace Castlebrae High School on the site identified in Craigmillar Town Centre.
- 2.2 The original masterplan for the regeneration of the Craigmillar area showed the site for a new secondary school and community library in a town centre location. The rationale for relocating the school is: a) to give it a more prominent location in Craigmillar; b) to endeavour to make it a more popular choice for its catchment population and; c) to be a significant contributor to the regeneration of the town centre.
- 2.3 A statutory consultation exercise under the Education (Scotland) Act 1980 was conducted in 2002 which supported the decision to relocate the school to a town centre site for educational reasons. Although the original masterplan has been superseded since 2002 and the community library has now been provided as part of the new East Neighbourhood Centre, a revised town centre masterplan, which was consulted-on and presented in 2014, continues to allocate a town centre site for the new secondary school.

2.4 The purpose of this statutory consultation exercise is to seek approval as required by the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, as amended by the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014, that a replacement school for Castlebrae High School should be provided on the proposed town centre site.

### The existing school

- 2.5 The existing school buildings were constructed in 1976 and 1984. There are significant issues with their suitability which constrain effective learning and teaching. In particular, poor circulation leads to problems with management and security. Poor acoustic and environmental conditions in many parts of the building lead to communication and comfort issues which are also a barrier to effective learning. The lack of daylight in many areas creates a dull and depressing overall ambience. Although the school has done as much as it can to make cosmetic improvements to many spaces in the building, significant improvements to the physical environment can only be achieved through the design of a new building.
- 2.6 The current Condition Survey report identifies the existing school building as being in "poor" condition achieving a rating of C under current Core Facts Guidelines. Expenditure of £3,337,212 is required to maintain the school over the next five years. The survey only identifies costs of repairs on a like for like basis. This does not consider improvements such as insulation or material performance upgrades nor is account taken of suitability, accessibility or security.
- 2.7 Once the new school is constructed and becomes operational, the existing Castlebrae High school building will close and the majority of the site will be available for redevelopment. The existing all weather pitch at the Castlebrae site is likely to be retained for community use.

### Proposed new school site

- 2.8 The proposed site for the new school is located close to the town centre as required by the Local Plan. The new school is a key part of the town centre so is located close to the existing Community Library with an entrance at Niddrie Mains Road. A site plan is included in Appendix 1.
- 2.9 The size of site identified is approximately 4.2 hectares, which can accommodate a possible future school roll of up to 1200 pupils. This is based on a core site size of 2.6 hectares and an area of 1.6 hectares to accommodate 2 all-weather pitches.
- 2.10 The site layout indicates the proposed location of both pitches to be bordering the school site, although access to the second pitch may involve crossing a public footpath and/or cycle way. This arrangement would not adversely affect the curricular opportunity or safety of the school students. The configuration of the site will allow for an expansion strategy to be developed.
- 2.11 The location and design of the new school site supports the Council's transport policies with good public transport links as well as safe and convenient cycle and pedestrian accessibility. The furthest address to the old and new Castlebrae High School sites is located in the Gilberstoun estate. It comes in at 2.55 miles to the existing school site and 2.48 miles to the proposed site. For the primary schools, the furthest Wisp cottage

is 1.11 miles to Niddrie Mill Primary School (its current school) and 1.39miles to Castleview Primary school (its proposed school).

#### Capacity of new School

- 2.12 In terms of planning for the anticipated rise in future years it is currently estimated that initially building a school for a core roll of 600 would cater for both current needs and those that could emerge though rising rolls and current, anticipated new development. However, there is also the intention to develop a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) centre of excellence at the school in partnership with further education establishments such as the University of Edinburgh. Further details of the school's current science partnership with the University are included in education benefits section below. The requirement for this centre of excellence means the initial school will be built to a capacity of 700.
- 2.13 In terms of future school roll planning it is considered essential that sufficient land is retained within the town centre that could expand its capacity from an initial 700 to 1200. This will allow for the increase in pupils expected to be generated from new housing development, including that in the Local Development Plan, and for variations in the school roll that occur over time.
- 2.14 It is therefore intended that although the school will be built for 700 pupils initially, the core accommodation (e.g. halls, sports pitches etc.) may be built at the outset for the future roll of 1200 pupils. Any expansion strategy for the school building is likely to take the form of a large extension project rather than a series of incremental additions. It is therefore necessary to plan in outline terms how and where the extended accommodation could be constructed with minimum disruption to the operation of the school. A separate vehicular access to the expansion site for contractors would be highly desirable.
- 2.15 The initial construction requirements for the school and the associated expansion strategy will now be given detailed consideration by the design team which is currently being engaged for this project. The first tasks for the design team will be to prepare a strategic education brief and based on this complete a feasibility design exercise.

### 3. Castlebrae High School - Catchment Data and Roll Projections

3.1 There are three determining factors in assessing the required initial capacity for the new school: (i) the availability of spare places in nearby non-denominational secondary schools to which local catchment pupils continue to make placing requests; (ii) the availability of spare places at catchment RC secondary schools (Holy Rood and St Thomas of Aquin's) and (iii) the extent and timing of new housing development in the area, including that which may arise as a result of the most recent proposals in the proposed second Local Development Plan.

3.2 The following tables show the schools currently attended by children who are residents in the Castlebrae catchment area.

SECONDARY SCHOOL ATTENDED	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6	Total
Boroughmuir HS	1					2	3
Broughton HS		1		3	2	1	7
Castlebrae Community HS	31	22	22	10	18	6	109
Drummond Community HS	1	1			5	3	10
Firrhill HS		2		1		1	4
Gracemount HS			1	2	1	1	5
James Gillespie's HS	2	1	5	8	6	7	29
Leith Academy	3	2		1	3	2	11
Liberton HS	5	2	3	7	1	5	23
Portobello HS	22	32	39	22	23	23	161
Trinity Academy	1	1			2	2	6
Tynecastle HS	1		1	1	1		4
WHEC					1		1
ND Total	67	64	71	55	63	53	373

#### RC SCHOOLS:-

Holy Rood RC HS	77	60	64	66	46	34	347
St Augustine's RC HS	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
St Thomas of Aquin's RC HS	17	10	16	7	13	8	71
RC Total	94	71	80	73	59	42	419

Source: Sept 2016 Seemis data

- 3.3 In September 2016 there were 794 catchment pupils. The tables show the very high percentage of these pupils choosing to attend the Roman Catholic secondary catchment school or other out of catchment non-denominational secondary school. Looking ahead, with the rising population in Edinburgh and the high level of new build housing in and around the Craigmillar catchment, and the secondary schools nearby (Portobello and Holy Rood) nearing capacity, the roll at Castlebrae will rise.
- 3.4 Appendix 8 shows the projected roll for Castlebrae High School until 2030, along with the two High Schools closest by, which take the majority of placement pupils from the Castlebrae High School catchment Portobello High School and Holy Rood RC High School. These projections show that Portobello High School and Holy Rood RC High School will both exceed their theoretical capacities in the coming years. The projections do not take into account the fact that in reality, placement requests to these schools will not be as successful in future years. In the case of Holy Rood RC High School, this will be managed through limiting admissions to pupils who are baptised Roman Catholic in line with the Council's policy for managing places in denominational schools.
- 3.5 This will have the impact of increasing the Castlebrae roll beyond the levels shown in the projections, hence the reason for planning an initial school to accommodate a core catchment roll of 600.

#### **Catchment Realignment**

- 3.6 It is proposed to formalise and align catchment boundaries in the Castlebrae catchment area with minor changes to the non-denominational primary and secondary catchment areas. The details of the proposed realignments are provided in appendices 2-5.
- 3.7 A list of affected addresses is shown at Appendix 6. There will be no affect on pupils currently attending schools in the area. There are only a handful of children affected and they can be accommodated in their current schools for the duration of their primary or secondary education.

#### 4 Educational Benefits

- 4.1 The plan for a replacement High School in Craigmillar would see significant and vast improvements to the learning environment currently experienced at Castlebrae Community High School.
- 4.2 With the site for the new build already established, we are now in the very exciting position of being able to plan and design a school that will embrace the vision and values of Castlebrae, enabling the learning community to continue on its current positive journey of improvement. E.g. attendance has improved from 81.06% in 2010 to 94.7 % in 2017.
- 4.3 The site proposed is part of the new Craigmillar Town Centre and adjacent to the East Neighbourhood Centre and Library. Unlike the location of the current school, this would provide a prominent message that learning and improvement lies in the foundations and at the heart of any successful community.
- 4.4 The proposed site would also mean that there would be no detrimental effect on learning as it is obviously away from the existing site, enabling an easier decant.
- 4.5 The building would be designed to enhance the opportunities for the community to continue to raise attainment and aspirations for achievement and success. At the same time, it would plan for the future in the provision of a centre for excellence, within a community undergoing significant regeneration with an ever increasing population.
- 4.6 Furthermore, it will be designed to encourage and maximise use by all the local community at all times of the day and week. As such it will create real opportunities for intergenerational learning, ranging from early years to services for the elderly. This will be achieved by focusing on opportunities for integration with the existing East Neighbourhood Centre and library and other public sector investment opportunities.
- 4.7 The building design will have a significantly positive impact on the improvements in delivering a Curriculum for Excellence. With the community fully involved in the planning stages, they will have the ability to reflect on how the environment, learning and social spaces can enhance learners' experiences. Faculty areas will be able to

- collaboratively inform planning on how spaces can most effectively be created to support learning and development of skills in different curricular contexts.
- 4.8 The vital partnerships that Castlebrae has established since 2014 will also be central to informing and realising the final design. Within Curriculum for Excellence, partnerships are recognised as being an essential factor in improving outcomes for learners and a new build will enable the design of collaboration and learning spaces to fully develop partnership working.
- 4.9 All stakeholders will be integral to decisions made on the type of building they want to see to provide the high quality experiences that they will ultimately benefit from. Parental engagement and family learning will be a key factor in this.
- 4.10 The educational advantage of realigning the catchment boundaries of Castleview Primary School, Niddrie Mill Primary School, Newcraighall Primary School and Castlebrae High School is that it will provide parents and siblings with certainty about their catchment status and confirm their treatment through the placement process as catchment pupils.
- 4.11 The Castlebrae Science Development Project is seeking to enrich science education and engagement within Castlebrae Community High School and its cluster primary schools (Castleview, Newcraighall & Niddrie Mill) through a partnership with the University of Edinburgh Medical Research Council's Centre for Regenerative Medicine (CRM).
- 4.12 The Project has obtained funding from the Scottish Attainment Challenge which supports equity in educational outcomes, with a particular focus on closing the poverty-related attainment gap. The community of Niddrie, where the schools are located, is within the top 2% on the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation. A new school would allow the development of Science facilities tailored to meet the needs of the Science development project, thereby enhancing Learning, Teaching and Attainment.

### 5 Financial Considerations

### **Funding**

5.1 A capital budget of £618,000 has been allocated in the Communities and Families Capital Programme for a replacement Castlebrae High School. This will allow the initial design stages to proceed and a design team is currently being assembled through hub South East Scotland Ltd which would be the preferred delivery route for the project. If the full capital budget can be established as part of the Council's budget setting process then it would be possible to deliver the new school by August 2021. The financial implications on future capital and revenue budgets associated with this infrastructure project will therefore be considered in detail with colleagues in finance and the necessary information fed into the Council's next budget setting process which concludes in February 2018.

- 5.2 As part of this process a business case will be developed through the Communities and Families Asset Investment Group and presented to the Corporate Property Board for consideration. Part of the business case for the capital funding will include the availability of existing and future developers contributions and the potential for land receipts. Other funding opportunities, for example if another round of the Scottish Government's Schools for the Future (or equivalent) Programme is forthcoming, will also be pursued for this project.
- 5.3 The business case will also estimate all the revenue costs associated with the whole life of the building such as staffing, cleaning and ongoing maintenance requirements. It is important that these costs are factored into the project from the outset so that the new school building can be properly maintained to ensure the ongoing provision of a quality learning environment.

### 6 Indicative Construction Timescales

- 6.1 The timescales for the delivery of the new facilities are dependent on the necessary funding being approved and provided to deliver the project.
- 6.2 The table below sets out the indicative design and construction timescale which would apply based on an assumed date of initiation following conclusion of the consultation and Council approval to progress being granted at the full Council meeting in May 2018. These timescales assume, and are subject to, funding for the project being identified following consultation.

#### **Indicative Construction Timescales**

Conclusion of consultation and approval of Option to be progressed	May 2018
Design Development to RIBA Stage 2	+3 months
Design Development to RIBA Stage 3 (submit for Planning)	+3 months
Design Development to RIBA Stage 4 and completion of planning	+4 months
Complete construction contract tender process and award contract	+5 months
Construction Completion	+24 months
Estimated Opening Date	August 2021

### 7 Consultation Process

- 7.1 This section expands upon the public consultation process relating to the proposal.
- 7.2 The Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, as amended by the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014, sets out the statutory consultation requirements for:
  - The establishment of a new school;
  - The relocation of a stage of education;
  - Changes to existing admission arrangements (such as catchment change); and
  - The closure of a stage of education.
- 7.3 The prescribed consultees vary for each of the above. Although a closure is not proposed, the requirements for a closure encompass all the necessary consultees and it is this process that will be followed to ensure full compliance with all the requirements of the Act. Accordingly, consultees will be as follows (where relevant):
  - the Parent Council of any affected school;
  - the parents of the pupils at any affected school;
  - the parents of any children expected to attend any affected school within two years of the date of publication of the proposal paper;
  - the pupils at any affected school (in so far as the education authority considers them to be of a suitable age and maturity);
  - the staff (teaching and other) at any affected school;
  - any trade union which appears to the education authority to be representative of the staff (teaching and other) at any affected school;
  - the community councils (if any);
  - the Roman Catholic Church;
  - any other education authority that the education authority considers relevant;
  - any other users of any affected school that the education authority considers relevant.
- 7.4 The extent of the consultation with pupils at the affected schools and the appropriate means of engaging with those pupils will be discussed in detail with each school's management team.
- 7.5 The consultation period will run for a 6 week period from Monday 13 November 2017 to Friday 22 December 2017 and the paper will be made available electronically and in paper format. Copies will also be available for inspection at the Council Offices at Waverley Court, at Craigmillar Library and at the schools affected by the proposals.
- 7.6 One public meeting will be held in respect of the proposals at the venue listed below which will give interested parties a more formal opportunity to express their views. Representatives of the Council will be present at the meetings to outline the proposals, assist discussions and answer questions. Free childcare and/or translation services

can be provided at each public meeting if requests for these services are made to (0131) 469 3969 no later than 21 November 2017. A record of each public meeting will be taken by the Council.

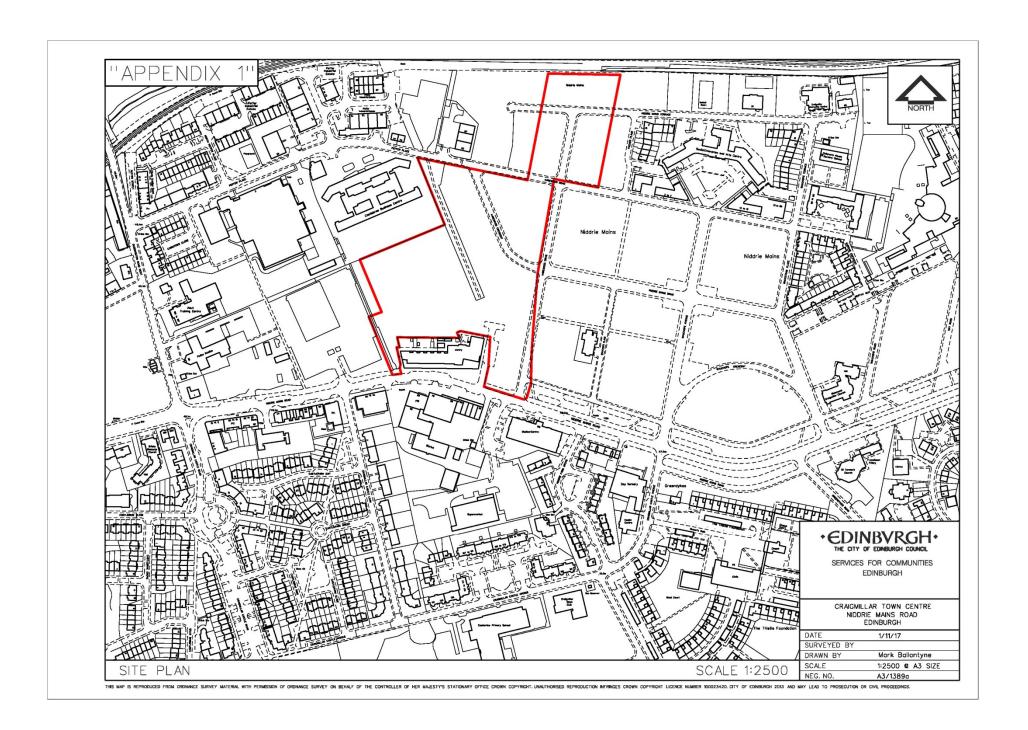
Venue	Date	Time		
Castlebrae High School	Tuesday 28 November 2017	18:30 – 20:30		

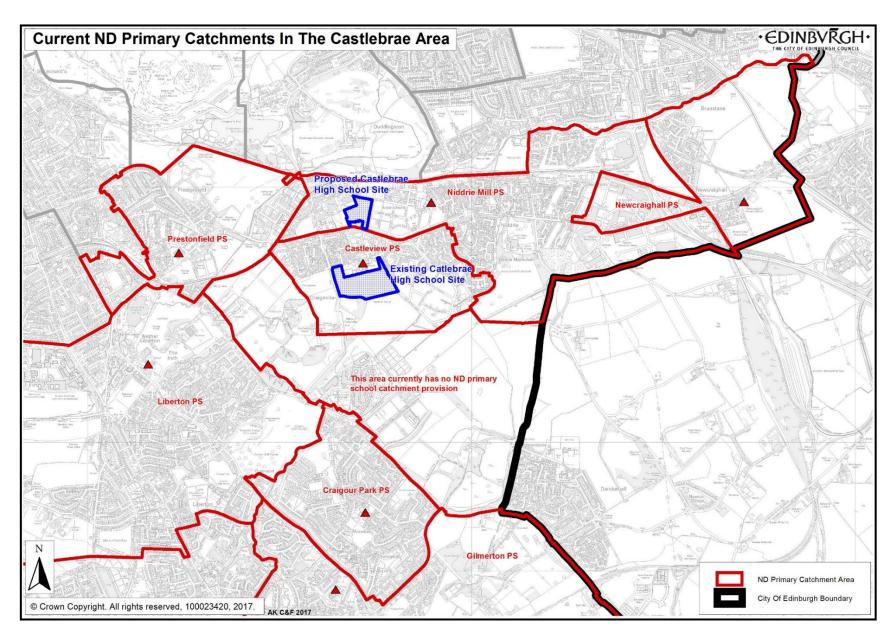
- 7.7 All comments received will be recorded and represented in the final report regarding the outcomes of the consultation, along with the Council's response to those comments. Individual responses will not be provided to submissions made during the consultation. However, if common themes emerge from submissions, the Council will prepare a Frequently Asked Questions paper and publish it on the Council website during the consultation.
- 7.8 The Council website will contain information on the consultation and this will be updated as necessary www.edinburgh.gov.uk/replacementcastlebrae
- 7.9 During the consultation period, any views on this proposal should be sent to in writing to the following address:

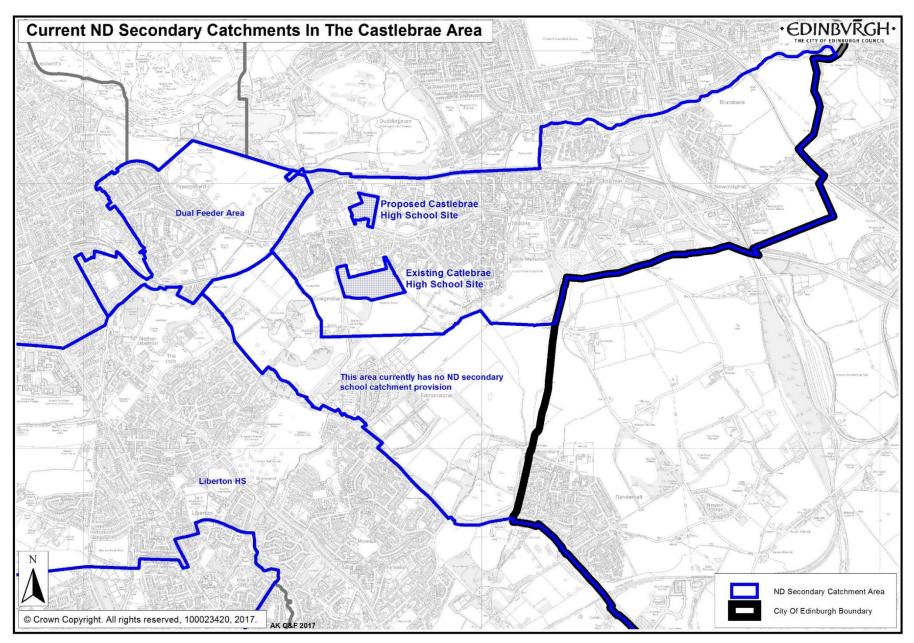
Alistair Gaw
Executive Director of Communities and Families
City of Edinburgh Council
Council Headquarters
Waverley Court
Level 1:2
4 East Market Street
Edinburgh EH8 8BG

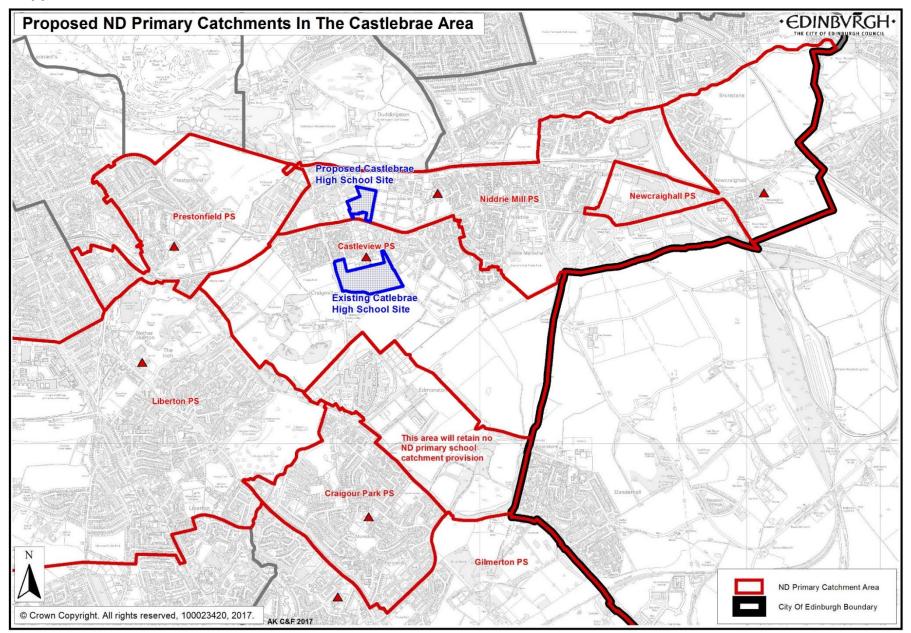
- 7.10 Respondents are encouraged to use the response questionnaire which has been produced and is provided in Appendix 8. The response questionnaire can also be completed online at <a href="https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/replacementcastlebrae">www.edinburgh.gov.uk/replacementcastlebrae</a>. Responses can also be made by e-mail to the following address
  - replacementcastlebrae@edinburgh.gov.uk All responses, whether by letter, e-mail or using the online questionnaire should be received by no later than close of business on 22 December 2017.
- 7.11 Once the public consultation phase finishes, details of the representations received will be issued to Education Scotland for their consideration of the educational effects of the proposals. Education Scotland will issue a report on their findings which will be included in the final Council report on the consultation.
- 7.12 Following the conclusion of the consultation period and after consideration of the representations received and the views of Education Scotland on the educational benefits of the proposal, a report on the Outcomes of the Consultation will be presented to the Council for consideration. The report will be made publicly available and notification will be given to those individuals or groups that have made representations during the consultation period. The report will include a summary of written representations received during the consultation period and representations made at

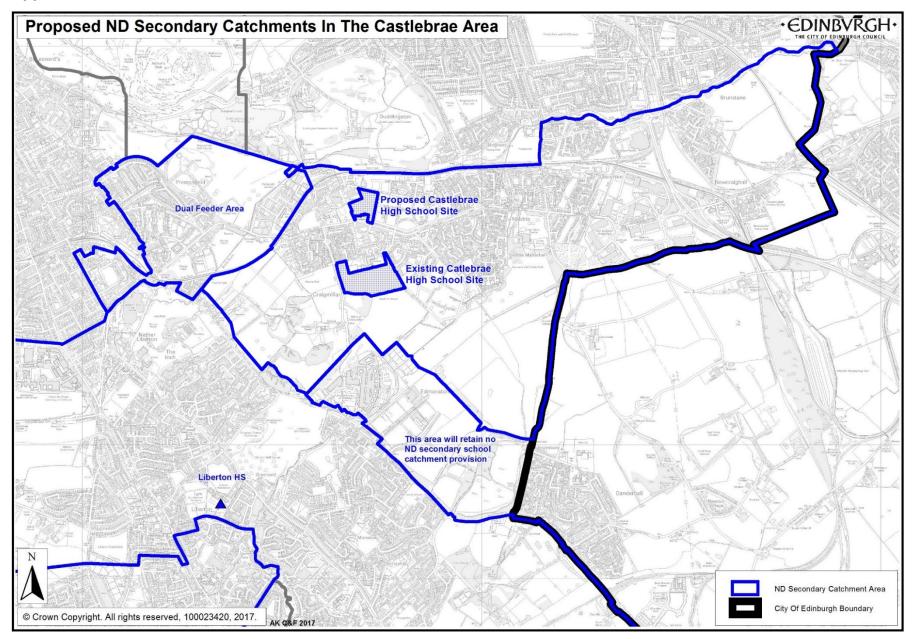
- the public meeting along with the Council response to representations made and also to any issues raised by Education Scotland.
- 7.13 It is anticipated that the consultation report, setting out recommendations, will be presented to a Meeting of the Council on 3 May 2018. It is expected that the report will be published no later than 12 April 2018 being the required three weeks in advance of it being considered by the Council.











### <u>List of affected addresses</u>

Street	Properties
The Wisp	1 to 6 Cloverfoot Cottages, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 20, 22, 24, 26

#### **APPENDIX 7 – Response Questionnaire**

Statutory Consultation on a new Non-Denominational Secondary School to replace Castlebrae High School and Implement minor Catchment Review to address School Capacity and formalise and align Catchment boundaries as a result of new build housing

#### Introduction

It is proposed to relocate Castlebrae High School to a new school site in the town centre of Craigmillar on a site next to the East Edinburgh Council office and library. This forms part of the regeneration of Craigmillar town centre.

It is also proposed that the catchment boundaries for Castlebrae High School, Castleview Primary School and Niddrie Mill Primary School are realigned to accommodate areas of land which currently are not within the catchment area of any school. Houses at the Wisp/Cloverfoot Cottages will be realigned from the Niddrie Mill Primary School catchment area to the Castelview Primary School catchment area.

You can read the background to the consultation in the report to the Council's Education, Children and Families Committee on 10 October 2017.

The full details of all the proposals are available in the statutory consultation paper which you should read before completing this questionnaire. The statutory consultation paper is available online at <a href="https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/replacementcastlebrae">www.edinburgh.gov.uk/replacementcastlebrae</a> and copies are available in the affected schools and local library.

#### Why are we consulting?

The Council has 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. The proposals put forward will have implications for families and we want to hear the views of anyone affected by the proposals. All comments made during the statutory consultation period will be recorded and represented in a final report anticipated to be considered by Council in May 2018.

This questionnaire should be completed and returned by no later than 5pm on 22 December. All personal information in the questionnaire is for internal use only and will not be made public however the responses to questions 6 and 7 may be reflected, either in whole or in part, in the report to Council but on an anonymised basis. The questionnaire can be completed online at the following link <a href="https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/replacementcastlebrae">www.edinburgh.gov.uk/replacementcastlebrae</a> or can be completed in the following pages and returned to the following address:

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

Responses can also be made in writing to the address above or by e-mail to the following address replacementcastlebrae@edinburgh.gov.uk

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Question	<u>nnaire</u>
Questio	n 1
What is	your name?
Name	
Questio	n 2
What is	your email address? (Optional)
Email	
Questio	n 3
What is	your postcode?
Postcod	е
Questio	n 4
What is	your main interest in the consultation?
Please s	elect (tick) all items that apply:
$\bigcirc$	Parent/Carer of school child
$\bigcirc$	Parent/Carer of school child with younger sibling/s
$\bigcirc$	Parent/Carer of pre-school child
$\bigcirc$	School Staff
$\bigcirc$	Pupil
$\bigcirc$	Local resident
$\bigcirc$	Local organisation
$\bigcirc$	Other

Question 5	
Do you have a child or children in a prima	ary school or nursery classes at the moment?
Please select (tick) only one item.	
No O	$\circ$
If yes please tell us the name(s) of their s	chool or nursery classes.
Castlebrae High School	Newcraighall Primary School Nursery
Holy Rood RC High School	Moffat Early Years Campus
Niddrie Mill Primary School	Craigmillar Early Years Centre
Castleview Primary School	Greendykes Early Years Centre
O Newcraighall Primary School	Greengables Nursery School
O Prestonfield Primary School	Castleview Primary School Nursery Class
Other School (please specify below)	Other nursery (please specify below)
Please specify any other schools or nu	rsery below

## Question 6

Having considered the o Please select (tick) only o	ption as detailed in the statutory consultation pap one item.	er, do you support it?
Yes	○ No	
Please give reasons for y	our preferred option.	
Question 7		
Any other comments or	suggestions?	

# CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL - Secondary School S1 Intake and Roll Projections 2017-2030 (From December 2016)

School	S1 Intake Limit	Notional Capacity		2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Castlebrae Community	120	600	S1 Intake	30	38	51	56	60	65	56	51	55	53	57	59	61	63
High School	120	600	Total Roll	134	150	180	209	239	271	289	292	291	285	280	282	289	299
Holy Rood RC High	220	1,200	S1 Intake	220	220	240	240	233	240	220	252	251	240	240	253	257	260
School	220		Total Roll	1061	1098	1145	1193	1240	1270	1267	1292	1304	1305	1313	1328	1353	1363
Portobello High School	360 4.46	1 100	S1 Intake	260	260	280	260	260	280	260	260	280	260	260	260	260	260
	260	1,400	Total Roll	1362	1402	1440	1460	1475	1496	1494	1490	1496	1494	1490	1476	1474	1470

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MOŻEMY PRZETŁUMACZYĊ 很樂意翻譯

You can get this document on tape, in Braille, large print and various computer formats if you ask us. Please contact ITS on 0131 242 8181 and quote reference number 17-2417. ITS can also give information on community language translations. You can get more copies of this document by calling 0131 469 3969.