

Options for Proposed Changes to the Catchment Area of Towerbank Primary School

Affecting Towerbank Primary School, Craigentinny Primary School, The Royal High Primary School, Duddingston Primary School, Brunstane Primary School, Portobello High School and Leith Academy

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This consultation paper sets out the rationale for, and implications of, four options for proposed changes to the catchment area of Towerbank Primary School with the aim of reducing the catchment area population by assigning parts of the existing school catchment area to those of adjacent non-denominational primary schools. 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
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Appendices

- 1 Issues Raised During Informal Consultation Period
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- 10 Walking Routes to Schools Option 1
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- 12 Attainment and Achievement Information for Primary Schools
- 13 Response Questionnaire
- 1.3 Appendix 2 shows the site plan for Towerbank Primary School and Appendix 2 shows the existing primary school catchment boundaries. For all of the options pupils already at Towerbank Primary School, including those living in those areas affected by the proposed catchment changes, would remain at Towerbank Primary School. The proposed catchment changes, would apply to future P1 intakes from the 2016/17 school year onwards and to pupils moving into the catchment from the date of the Council decision.
- 1.4 There are four options for catchment change proposed, each of which would involve transferring parts of the existing Towerbank Primary School catchment to different primary school catchments. The options are summarised as follows with the detail of the areas it is proposed would transfer being shown in the relevant appendix.

Option	Map Shown in Appendix	Transfer part to Craigentinny Primary School	Transfer part to The Royal High Primary School	Transfer part to Duddingston Primary School	Transfer part to Brunstane Primary School
1	Appendix 4	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark
2	Appendix 5	\checkmark	\checkmark		\checkmark
3	Appendix 6	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark
4	Appendix 7	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark

- 1.5 The proposed approach to siblings which would apply in the future following implementation of the catchment changes differs for each option:
 - Under options 1, 2 and 3 in certain circumstances priority would be applied to siblings. In future, if in any year after meeting catchment needs there remained additional P1 places available, younger siblings of pupils at Towerbank Primary School (not including Towerbank Primary School nursery) who attended the school at the time of the decision on catchment change and were, at that time, resident in the parts of the Towerbank

Primary School catchment proposed for transfer would be given priority for placing requests into Towerbank Primary School. This policy would apply for a full primary school cycle (i.e. seven years) but would only apply if, when the younger sibling was entering P1, he/she continued to be resident in the parts of the Towerbank Primary School catchment from which transfer had previously been approved and an elder sibling is still a pupil at Towerbank Primary School.

- Under option 4 in certain circumstances a sibling guarantee would apply. In future, younger siblings of pupils at Towerbank Primary School (not including Towerbank Primary School nursery) who attended the school at the time of the decision on catchment change and were, at that time, resident in the parts of the Towerbank Primary School catchment proposed for transfer would be guaranteed a place at Towerbank Primary School. This policy would only apply if, when the younger sibling was entering P1, he/she continued to be resident in the parts of the Towerbank Primary School catchment from which transfer had previously been approved and an elder sibling is still a pupil at Towerbank Primary School. This guarantee would only apply to younger siblings who were born before the date of the Council decision regarding catchment change.
- For all options after any sibling priority or guarantee for catchment change areas has been applied, sibling priority in line with current Council policy would still apply for any other out of catchment placement requests.
- 1.6 Option 4 has been introduced in response to the issue of siblings and, in particular the desire for a future guarantee of places to be provided, being a significant feature of the representations received during the informal consultation period. A summary of the sibling analysis undertaken during the informal consultation period is contained in Appendix 1. The consequence of this is that, to provide the scope for the extra pupils to be retained in the Towerbank catchment due to the sibling guarantee, a larger area of the existing Towerbank catchment requires to be transferred to create a higher level of expected pupil generation in the future which would be transferred to the receiving schools.
- 1.7 For each option the numbers within each area proposed for transfer on the maps in the relevant appendices represent the number of existing catchment pupils which, over time, would be the number of pupils expected to be generated from these areas for the receiving schools. These numbers do not include pupils which would be generated from any new housing development. These assumptions are explained in greater detail in section 4 of this paper.
- 1.8 Apart from Craigentinny Primary School the surrounding schools are all feeders for Portobello High School. The area proposed for change to the Craigentinny catchment would also require to be changed from the Portobello High School catchment to the Leith Academy catchment but no pupils would be affected as

the change is to simply rationalise the boundaries. The map in Appendix 8 shows the proposed secondary school catchment changes.

- 1.9 Each of the affected schools has an associated nursery class but nurseries do not have defined catchment areas and none of the proposed catchment changes in any of the four options directly affect existing capacity or current proposals to increase capacity.
- 1.10 Comments on the proposals should be submitted by no later than close of business on Monday, 22 June 2015 by email or post to the addresses set out in section 9 of this paper. A response questionnaire is provided for this purpose, details of which are provided in Appendix 13 which can also be completed online via the following link: www.edinburgh.gov.uk/towerbankconsultation.
- 1.11 Four public meetings will be held as follows, further details of which are provided in section 9 of this paper:

Venue	Date	Time
Towerbank Primary School	Thursday, 21 May 2015	6:30pm – 8:30pm
Brunstane Primary School	Monday, 25 May 2015	6pm – 8pm
Duddingston Primary School	Monday, 1 June 2015	6:30pm – 8:30pm
The Royal High Primary School	Wednesday, 3 June 2015	6:30pm – 8:30pm

2 Background and Context

- 2.1 Towerbank Primary School had recently been extended to create a 21 class organisation with an associated nursery class. Appendix 2 shows the school site and the various buildings and uses. With rising catchment numbers the school is continuing to face capacity pressures and is running 22 classes in the 2014/15 school year, with the expectation of running 23 classes for 2015/16. It is considered that further development on a small site of less than 0.8 hectares would be detrimental to the school and to the education of its pupils.
- 2.2 It is therefore considered the school has reached its optimum size and that the issue of high catchment numbers would be best addressed by making catchment area changes to reduce the number of catchment pupils registering to attend Towerbank Primary School in future years.
- 2.3 A report on *Primary School Rising Rolls* was taken to the Education, Children and Families Committee on <u>3 March 2015</u>. This report set out the justification for a review of the Towerbank Primary School catchment and identified proposed catchment area changes which are those included as **Option 1** in this paper as shown in Appendix 4.
- 2.4 Committee delegated authority to the Director of Children and Families to develop a detailed statutory consultation paper on the proposed changes to

primary and secondary school catchment boundaries. Committee also approved that, prior to starting the statutory consultation process, initial informal consultation would be undertaken with the affected primary schools to establish if there were any other feasible and more preferable alternative options regarding alterations to catchment boundaries which would still achieve the required outcome.

- 2.5 The report to Committee acknowledged that one such feasible option would be to expand the area to the south of the current Towerbank Primary School catchment area that is proposed for transfer to Brunstane Primary School and to reduce the area proposed for transfer to Duddingston Primary School.
- 2.6 Initial feedback identified this was an alternative option which was worthy of detailed consideration during the informal consultation therefore it was fully developed as a second option and a short paper, with maps to illustrate potential catchment changes and potential waking routes, was produced to outline how this could potentially be achieved. Affected parent and guardians, Parent Councils and local community groups were notified of this additional option which is included as **Option 2** in this paper as shown in Appendix 5.
- 2.7 As part of the informal consultation, workshops were held at each of the four directly affected primary schools (Towerbank, Duddingston, Brunstane and The Royal High) between 18 March 2015 and 31 March 2015. At each workshop the Parent Council and a cross section of parents (selected by the school) were invited to discuss Options 1 and 2 and identify any possible alternative options.
- 2.8 In addition to views expressed at the workshops, 48 representations were received mainly from parents/guardians/residents. A summary of the issues raised in the informal consultation process is included in Appendix 1.
- 2.9 As a result of the informal consultation process two further catchment area change options were identified for consideration which are included as **Options**3 and 4 in this paper as shown in Appendices 6 and 7.

3 Towerbank Primary School

School Catchment Area and School Building

- 3.1 The Towerbank Primary School catchment area takes in Portobello and Joppa and extends from Craigentinny in the north, to the boundary with East Lothian in the south. The western boundary is defined by the A199 and the main east coast railway line.
- 3.2 Towerbank Primary School sits at the north-east end of its catchment and lies between Portobello High Street and the beachside promenade. The original school is a three storey, stone building dating from 1883 which was extended to the north in 1999 to provide a gym/assembly hall. The After School Club and a

General Purpose (GP) class are located in a temporary unit (TU) on the north side of the school site.

- 3.3 The most recent works, completed for August 2013, resulted in a three storey extension to the main building and a single storey nursery with play area. This extension provided eight new classrooms and a replacement nursery.
- 3.4 The extension of the entitlement to a Free School Meal to all P1 to P3 pupils from January 2015 has resulted in a significant increase in the uptake of school meals. It was recognised that additional physical dining capacity would have to be provided at Towerbank Primary School to respond to this increase. On <u>9</u> <u>December 2014</u> the Education Children & Families Committee approved that additional dining accommodation be provided at Towerbank Primary School using additional capital funding provided for that purpose by the Scottish Government. It is proposed to extend the existing dining area by 121 square metres with completion of the works planned for the start of the 2016/17 school year. The location of the proposed extension is shown in Appendix 2.
- 3.5 All classrooms in the new extension to Towerbank are a standard size with breakout areas but classrooms within the original building are generally small. In terms of condition, this is assessed on a scale of A to D with A being the best condition and D being the worst. The original school building is rated as being condition category B with the new provision rated as category A. Suitability is also assessed on a scale of A to D. When last assessed, suitability was rated as being category B but this was prior to the most recent works.
- 3.6 As part of the overall works to the school, a new link road was constructed in 2011 that allowed the school and its playground area to be joined whereas previously they had been separated by a road. The combined site area of the school is still less than 0.8 hectares.

School Capacity, School Rolls and Future Projections

- 3.7 After taking account of GP requirements, the loss of a classroom to link the extension to the main building and loss of the school annexe at Bath Street; the planned school capacity changed from an 18 class organisation to a 21 class organisation that can accommodate up to 630 pupils. The associated nursery class has capacity to take 40 children in the morning and 40 in the afternoon (a 40/40 nursery).
- 3.8 The Scottish Government published guidance on <u>Determining Primary School</u> <u>Capacity</u> in October 2014 and the Council is in the process of assessing and, where appropriate, revising the capacity of each primary school in the Council estate in accordance with this guidance. The primary schools affected by the proposed catchment changes have now been re-assessed according to the required classrooms and GP spaces specified in this guidance. For Towerbank the application of this guidance reduces the number of required GP spaces from five to four, thereby increasing the capacity of the school to 22 classes which is the level at which the school is currently operating.

3.9 The growth in primary school rolls across the city is being driven by higher births. This is linked to migrational movement within the city and areas such as Portobello are attracting families. Between 2005 and 2014 the school roll at Towerbank has steadily increased from 410 to 606, an increase of 48% as shown in Figure 1.



Figure 1: School Rolls at Towerbank Primary School 2005-2014

3.10 The number of pupils in the Towerbank catchment area mirrors the increase in rolls as illustrated in Figure 2 which shows the changing Towerbank catchment population and the number of catchment pupils retained at Towerbank Primary School. Between 2005 and 2014, numbers have risen from 390 to 575, a 47% increase. During that period the catchment retention rate has increased from 86% in 2005/06 to 94% in 2014/15. This combination of increasing catchment numbers and high catchment retention rates means that, even with provision of extra capacity, the school is still struggling to meet catchment demand.



Figure 2: Catchment Population and Pupils Retained in Towerbank 2005-2014

3.11 Figure 3 shows the changing P1 intake at Towerbank from 2005 and the number of pupils drawn from the local catchment. Before 2009 catchment intakes were under 80 but from 2010 onwards catchment numbers of around 90 and over have been common place.



Figure 3: P1 intakes and Catchment P1 Intakes at Towerbank (2005-2014)

- 3.12 The P1 intake in August 2014 was 108 pupils. School management has spread this intake across five P1 classes; although this could be reduced to four classes if the school opted to team teach at P1. As at 27 April 2015 the P1 catchment registrations at Towerbank Primary School stood at 98 pupils and an intake of 99 P1 pupils for 2015/16 has been proposed. Based on such an intake it is currently proposed to run 23 classes for 2015/16.
- 3.13 Future projections suggest that Towerbank Primary School will experience a spike in its intake for August 2016 with a P1 intake of 114 pupils being projected. With two year stages exceeding 99 pupils working their way through the school and three stream intakes forecast for future years, it is likely that the school would be required to maintain a 23 class organisation in the long-term. If the existing catchment area were to be retained, the increase in roll would be further exacerbated by an estimated additional 20 pupils generated from the proposed housing in the Baileyfield development which is located towards the northern end of the Towerbank catchment area and has been granted planning permission, subject to conclusion of a Section 75 Agreement.
- 3.14 Using this data, known birth rates in the catchment area and the latest citywide future population estimates, the roll projections for Towerbank Primary School indicate that, with the current trends in the existing catchment area, the school roll could be expected to rise to over 660 by 2019 and increase to 700 by 2026 based on a regular P1 catchment intake exceeding 100 pupils. In creating school class organisations to cater for catchment intakes of over 100 pupils, any extra catchment places created beyond catchment requirements would expect to be taken up by out of catchment placing requests further adding to pressure on the school.
- 3.15 Catering for over 700 pupils at Towerbank Primary School would require an additional three classes to be provided through a further extension to the school which, if this were to be undertaken, would make it the largest primary school in the City.

Towerbank School Site

3.16 The size of site for any new (or replacement) school is prescribed in the School Premises (General Requirements and Standards) (Scotland) Regulations 1967

and the 1973 and 1979 amendments to those regulations. For a new school with a primary school capacity of 451 or more and capacity for a further 40 pupils in the nursery the total site the total site size should be 1.9 hectares comprising:

- 1. A main school site of not less than 1.3 hectares; and
- 2. An area for playing fields of not less than 0.6 hectares.
- 3.17 The regulations do not actually require that playing fields (or pitches) are adjacent to the actual school building but that they are available to the school i.e. could be elsewhere and off-site. In Edinburgh there are many schools where the maximum areas for playing fields are not met but where the Council complies with the regulations by virtue of the extensive alternative pitch provision throughout the city.
- 3.18 In considering what would be an appropriate site area for any new or replacement double-stream primary school with a 40/40 nursery, an overall site area of 1.3 hectares has been identified as being capable of providing an appropriate environment for a primary school and nursery of this size and also incorporate provision for a small pitch adjacent to the school buildings.
- 3.19 At just under 0.8 hectares, the site area of Towerbank Primary School site is already well below this optimum size and, when the school is already larger at three stream, any further increase in capacity would further exacerbate the issue.
- 3.20 It is considered that providing additional capacity by further extending the school would reduce the available play area to an unacceptable level. The school playground is also overlooked by houses and tenements and there may be difficulties in securing planning consent for any further development on the site even if it were to be proposed.
- 3.21 Taking all of these issues into consideration the only reasonable solution to the future accommodation pressure is considered to be a change to the existing catchment area for Towerbank Primary School to reduce the number of pupils in the catchment and, in turn, reduce potential future intakes to be in line with the available capacity at the school.

Catchment Change Options

3.22 When assessing the extent of catchment change required it has been assumed that the overall catchment population of Towerbank Primary School has to be reduced by approximately 100 pupils. Such a reduction would average around 14 pupils at each year stage from P1 to P7. In respect of P1 intakes, with current catchment numbers being over 100, a reduction of 14 would bring the school back towards a catchment P1 intake to 90 pupils, consistent with a three stream primary school. In assessing this change it is further assumed that the proposed housing development at Baileyfield would be assigned to The Royal High Primary School catchment.

- 3.23 The current Towerbank Primary School catchment area adjoins four other school catchment areas. These are Craigentinny Primary School to the north, The Royal High Primary School to the north east, Duddingston Primary School to the west and Brunstane Primary School to the south.
- 3.24 With Towerbank Primary School having a 95% catchment retention rate and the school facing regular capacity pressure, there have been few placements out and limited successful placements into the catchment area. Of the 68 non-catchment pupils currently at Towerbank Primary School, the four surrounding schools account for 45 of the placements with most (18) coming from the Brunstane catchment. Twelve pupils attend Duddingston Primary School from the Towerbank Primary School catchment area but no other school draws more than three pupils. The non-catchment pupils are spread throughout the year groups and take up any spare places left at P1 which cannot generally be refused if capacity is available.
- 3.25 When considering the proposed catchment area changes included in the original option which was reported to Committee (option 1), detailed analysis was undertaken to determine the optimum way of amending existing catchment boundaries to achieve the necessary level of reduction in the Towerbank Primary School catchment population. This analysis considered factors such as geography, home to school travel, catchment demand and the level of spare capacity available at the other schools. The same level of analysis has been undertaken for options 2, 3 and 4 which emerged as a result of the informal consultation period. All four options set out in this paper are considered to be feasible ways of achieving the necessary future reduction in the catchment population of Towerbank Primary School.
- 3.26 It is considered that the necessary level of reduction would be best achieved by transferring parts of the Towerbank Primary School catchment to the catchment areas of Craigentinny, Royal High, Brunstane and/or Duddingston Primary Schools. While the extent of transfer to each school varies depending on the option considered, all are estimated to achieve the necessary level of reduction in catchment pupils in the future. The proposed catchment change to Craigentinny Primary School which features in all options does not affect any pupils, but the change would rationalise geographical boundaries.
- 3.27 For all of the options, pupils already at Towerbank Primary School and living in those areas affected by the proposed catchment changes would remain at Towerbank Primary School. The proposed catchment changes would apply to future P1 intakes from the 2016/17 school year onwards and to pupils moving into the catchment from the date of the Council decision.
- 3.28 The proposed approach to siblings which would apply in the future following implementation of the catchment changes differs for each option:
 - Under options 1, 2 and 3 in certain circumstances priority would be applied to siblings. In future, if in any year after meeting catchment needs there

remained additional P1 places available, younger siblings of pupils at Towerbank Primary School (not including Towerbank Primary School nursery) who attended the school at the time of the decision on catchment change and were, at that time, resident in the parts of the Towerbank Primary School catchment proposed for transfer would be given priority for placing requests into Towerbank Primary School. This policy would apply for a full primary school cycle (i.e. seven years) but would only apply if, when the younger sibling was entering P1, he/she continued to be resident in the parts of the Towerbank Primary School catchment from which transfer had previously been approved and an elder sibling is still a pupil at Towerbank Primary School.

- Under option 4 in certain circumstances a sibling guarantee would apply. In future younger siblings of pupils at Towerbank Primary School (not including Towerbank Primary School nursery) who attended the school at the time of the decision on catchment change and were, at that time, resident in the parts of the Towerbank Primary School catchment proposed for transfer would be guaranteed a place at Towerbank Primary School. This policy would only apply if, when the younger sibling was entering P1, he/she continued to be resident in the parts of the Towerbank Primary School catchment from which transfer had previously been approved and an elder sibling is still a pupil at Towerbank Primary School. This guarantee would only apply to younger siblings who were born before the date of the Council decision regarding catchment change.
- For all options after any sibling priority or guarantee for catchment change areas has been applied, sibling priority in line with current Council policy would still apply for any other out of catchment placement requests.
- 3.29 Option 4 has been introduced in response to the issue of siblings and, in particular the desire for a future guarantee of places to be provided, being a significant feature of the representations received during the informal consultation period. Detail of the sibling analysis undertaken during the informal consultation period is contained in Appendix 1.
- 3.30 The consequence of this is that, to provide the scope for the extra pupils to be retained in the Towerbank catchment due to the sibling guarantee, a larger area of the existing Towerbank catchment requires to be transferred to create a higher level of expected pupil generation in the future which would be transferred to the receiving schools.
- 3.31 Apart from Craigentinny Primary School the surrounding schools are all feeders for Portobello High School. The area proposed for change to the Craigentinny catchment would also require to be changed from the Portobello High School catchment to the Leith Academy catchment but no pupils would be affected as the change is to simply rationalise the boundaries. The map in Appendix 8 shows the proposed secondary school catchment changes.

3.32 Each of the affected schools has an associated nursery class but nurseries do not have defined catchment areas and none of the proposed catchment changes in any of the four options directly affect existing capacity or current proposals to increase capacity.

4 Proposed Receiving Schools

- 4.1 This section considers the impact on each of the proposed receiving nondenominational primary schools that would be affected by the proposed catchment changes.
- 4.2 For each option the numbers within each area proposed for transfer on the maps in the relevant appendices represent the number of existing catchment pupils which, over time, would be the number of pupils expected to be generated from these areas for the receiving schools. These numbers do not include pupils which would be generated from any new housing development. These assumptions are explained in greater detail in the following sections.

Primary Schools around Towerbank Primary School

- 4.3 The Towerbank Primary School catchment area adjoins four other primary school catchment areas. These are Craigentinny to the north, The Royal High to the north east, Duddingston to the west and Brunstane to the south. This is illustrated in Appendix 3 as is the location of St John's RC Primary School, the denominational primary school serving the area. Appendix 9 shows the current pupils flows to adjacent schools affected by the catchment proposals.
- 4.4 Twelve pupils currently attend Duddingston Primary School from the Towerbank catchment area, but no other school draws more than three pupils. The Royal High Primary School draws 86 pupils from the Craigentinny catchment and Duddingston Primary School attracts 47 pupils from the Brunstane catchment. The Royal High Primary School also draws 18 pupils from the Duddingston catchment but this is more than offset by 31 pupils from The Royal High who attend Duddingston. Brunstane Primary School draws few pupils from the Towerbank and Duddingston catchment areas but attracts 40 pupils from the Niddrie Mill catchment.

Proposed Catchment Change with The Royal High Primary School

- 4.5 The Royal High Primary School catchment takes in an area south of Portobello Road and includes the neighbourhoods of Piershill and Willowbrae. The school lies to the north-west side of its catchment, approximately 200 metres south of Portobello Road.
- 4.6 The B listed school opened in 1931 and formerly served as a secondary school. The building is a mix of single and two stories set around a quadrangle. The nursery (30/30 capacity) is located in a temporary unit to the north of the main building. A tarmac play area lies on the north of the school. Council owned

playing fields lie immediately to the south of the school but they are shared leisure facilities rather than falling within the school grounds. When required the school can book a playing field e.g. for a sports day.

- 4.7 The condition of the school building has been rated category B and the suitability of the school has also been assessed as category B. The school has a separate gym hall and dining hall.
- 4.8 Following a reassessment of the school capacity under the Scottish Government guidance, the school is classed as a double stream 14 class organisation with a capacity of 420 pupils.
- 4.9 As illustrated in Table 1 the 2014/15 start of session school roll was 340 pupils however actual catchment numbers are lower. In 2014/15 there are 245 pupils in The Royal High Primary School catchment area of which 183 attend their local school giving a catchment retention rate of 75%. Approximately 45% of the roll at The Royal High Primary School is non-catchment with pupils from Craigentinny comprising 25% of the school roll. There are 62 placements out of the Royal High Primary School catchment, mainly to Duddingston and Parsons Green.

School	P1	P2	Р3	P4	P5	P6	P7	Roll	Capacity
The Royal High	47	52	38	47	56	49	51	340	420

Table 1: School Roll 2014/15 and Capacity at The Royal High Primary School

- 4.10 The school roll/catchment projections indicate that future P1 catchment numbers are expected to be between 30 and 33, whereas the P1 intake limit for a 14 class capacity organisation is 60.
- 4.11 Under all four options (illustrated in Appendices 4, 5, 6 and 7) it is proposed that the area around Baileyfield Industrial Estate would transfer to The Royal High School Primary catchment. This includes a mixed use industrial/ commercial area and housing along Baileyfield Road. There are currently 13 pupils living in this area, all attending Towerbank Primary School. The proposed catchment change includes land that has been granted permission in principle for a potential development of around 200 dwellings which is estimated to generate an additional 20 primary school pupils.
- 4.12 Should the proposed catchment change be approved under any of the four options, future catchment pupils from this area could be accommodated within current capacity at The Royal High Primary School.

Catchment Change with Duddingston Primary School

4.13 The Duddingston Primary School catchment lies west of Portobello Park and north of Milton Road West. The catchment area is compact and square in shape and is predominantly residential. The school lies toward the north-west of its catchment with access from Duddingston Road. Portobello High School and St John's RC Primary School lie on the same road further to the east.

- 4.14 The school occupies a large 2.3 hectare site with playing field provision. The school was completed circa 1959 and is set out as a main building over three levels with adjoining single storey buildings. A temporary unit provides two further spaces. The nursery class (40/40 places) is currently located in a separate temporary unit. A replacement 60/60 nursery building and outdoor play area will be provided for the start of the 2015/16 school year to the east of main building.
- 4.15 Both the condition and suitability of the school have been rated as category B. The school has a separate gym hall and dining hall.
- 4.16 Applying the Scottish Government's guidance on primary school capacity results in this school being defined as a 15 class organisation with a capacity of 427. There are 14 classes and two GP spaces in the main building with scope to provide another class should the support for learning room be relocated to a smaller room through internal reconfiguration.
- 4.17 As illustrated in Table 2 the 2014/15 start of session school roll was 384 pupils and 14 classes are in use. In 2014/15 there are 283 pupils in the Duddingston catchment of which 226 attend their local school, a retention rate of 80%. The school draws over 40% of its roll through out of catchment placing requests.

School	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	P7	Roll	Capacity
Duddingston	48	53	59	48	64	56	56	384	427

Table 2: School Roll 2014/15 and Capacity at Duddingston Primary School

- 4.18 Actual catchment P1 intakes have averaged 51 pupils over the last five years and, in the period to 2020, they are projected to stay below 55. The P1 intake limit for a 14/15 class organisation is 60.
- 4.19 Options 1 and 4 (illustrated in Appendices 4 and 7) both include a proposed catchment change which would transfer a residential area that lies between Portobello High Street and the A199/East Coast railway line from the Towerbank to the Duddingston catchment. Duddingston Primary School is readily accessible from this area via a road underpass at Broughton Place/Southfield Place.
- 4.20 There are 48 non-denominational primary pupils currently living in this area, of which 43 attend Towerbank Primary School with the other five pupils attending Duddingston Primary School. Over time, the proposed catchment change could expect to add an estimated 48 additional pupils to the Duddingston catchment. It is projected that Duddingston could accommodate the extra pupils arising from the proposed catchment change. There are currently 47 placing requests from Brunstane and 31 from The Royal High so the extra catchment pupils may result in the school taking fewer placements.

Catchment Change with Brunstane Primary School

- 4.21 Brunstane Primary School catchment takes in the Brunstane/Lismore area that lies predominantly south of Milton Road. The school lies toward the middle of its catchment, towards its southern side. Following the closure of Lismore Primary in December 2008, the entire catchment area was transferred to Brunstane Primary School. At the time of the closure, the catchment change added a further 110 pupils to the Brunstane Primary School catchment.
- 4.22 The main, three-storey school building opened in 1960 and classbases and general purpose rooms are generally considered to be adequate. A 40/40 nursery class occupies two rooms in a single storey building south of the main school. There is a tarmac area to the north and west of the school building and a playing field to the south. The Council run Magdalene Community Centre operates from a building west of the school, but within the school grounds. The full site area of the school, including a playing field and the community centre, is 2.4 hectares.
- 4.23 Both the condition and suitability of the school have been rated as category B. There is a school gym hall however there is no separate dining hall with a large circulation space beside the kitchen being used for dining.
- 4.24 Brunstane Primary School is deemed to be a 14 class organisation with a capacity of 420 pupils in line with the Scottish Government's new guidance on determining the capacity of a primary school. This assumes that the art class which occupies a classroom space in the nursery building could provide an extra classroom if required, or alternatively that internal reconfiguration of space within the main Brunstane building could provide an extra class.
- 4.25 As illustrated in Table 3 the 2014/15 start of session school roll was 177 pupils and currently only eight classes are in use. There are 231 pupils in the catchment of which 119 attend Brunstane Primary School so the level of catchment loss is close to 50%. Offsetting this are 58 out of catchment pupils including 40 pupils from the Niddrie Mill catchment area to the south.

School	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	P7	Roll	Capacity
Brunstane	31	33	33	23	16	22	19	177	420

 Table 3: School Roll 2014/15 and Capacity at Brunstane Primary School

4.26 The projections for Brunstane indicate that P1 catchment numbers are expected to be around 33 and rising towards 38 in later years. Each of the four options proposes a transfer of catchment area from Towerbank to Brunstane and the current number of pupils in each option area is shown in Table 4.

Table 4: Number of Pupils living in Option Areas proposed to transfer to Brunstane

Option	No of Catchment Pupils
Option 1	38
Option 2	83
Option 3	34
Option 4	83

- 4.27 As illustrated in Appendix 4, the proposed catchment change under Option 1 would transfer a triangular area of land positioned between Milton Road and the main East Coast railway line to Brunstane Primary School catchment area. The proposed change would also include an industrial area to the north of the railway line.
- 4.28 The proposed catchment changes under both Option 2 (illustrated in Appendix 5) and Option 4 (illustrated in Appendix 7) include the area identified in option 1 together with additional housing in the Joppa/Eastfield area.
- 4.29 The proposed catchment change under Option 3 (illustrated in Appendix 6) is an alternative to Option 1 which would transfer an area along East Milton Road and Eastfield to Brunstane.
- 4.30 With a potential capacity of 420 pupils and only 230 catchment pupils, Brunstane Primary School can absorb the extra pupils under each option.

Catchment Change with Craigentinny Primary School

- 4.31 The Towerbank Primary School catchment includes an area of land that extends northwards along the coast taking in an industrial area which geographically better relates with the Craigentinny Primary School catchment area to the west. This area is proposed for transfer in every option but does not have any housing so no pupils are affected.
- 4.32 Craigentinny Primary School is a feeder school for Leith Academy. To keep catchments boundaries aligned, this would require a secondary school catchment change therefore it is proposed that this part of the Portobello High School catchment would transfer to the Leith Academy catchment area.
- 4.33 The Royal High Primary School currently draws 25% of its roll from Craigentinny Primary School catchment area through placements and it is not expected that the proposed catchment changes would significantly affect this relationship.

St John's RC Primary School

4.34 While the proposed catchment changes relate to the non-denominational sector, the proximity of St John's RC Primary School to Duddingston Primary School means that parents whose children are affected by the proposed catchment change may consider this as an alternative option. St John's RC

Primary School is adjacent to Portobello High School so pupils from the area that is proposed to transfer to Duddingston Primary School would walk past St John's RC Primary School.

- 4.35 St John's RC Primary School currently draws heavily from the Brunstane area which accounts for over 25% of the school roll. Following the closure of Lismore Primary School and the transfer of the catchment area to Brunstane, many parents opted to send their children to St John's RC Primary School and this legacy still prevails. It could therefore be expected that further catchment changes to Brunstane could affect demand for places at St John's RC Primary School.
- 4.36 As illustrated in Table 5 St John's RC Primary School is a 14 class organisation with a capacity of 420 and a current roll of 376 pupils. For the 2015/16 school year it is proposed that the school will operate with an intake limit of 50 pupils which includes 19 pupils who are recorded as being baptised Roman Catholics.

Table 5: 2014/15 Start of Session School Roll at St John's RC Primary School

School	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	P7	Total Roll	Capacity
St John's RC	50	48	57	60	56	57	48	376	420

- 4.37 The existing St John's RC Primary School is rated poorly in term of building condition (C rated) and suitability (D rated) and the school, which dates from 1924, occupies a small 0.7 hectare site. However the school is due to be replaced on an enlarged 1.3 hectare site which is currently part of the Portobello High School site.
- 4.38 The construction of the new St John's RC Primary School is due to commence once the new Portobello High School opens (projected August 2016) and the vacated existing high school buildings are demolished.

5 Walking Routes to Proposed Receiving Schools

- 5.1 This section assesses, for each option, the implications which the proposed catchment changes would have on pupils affected by the change having a different walking routes to their proposed new catchment school in the future compared with that which would have applied were they to have attended Towerbank Primary School.
- 5.2 An assessment has been undertaken of the various walking routes which would apply and they are shown on the maps in Appendices 10 and 11. The identified routes are deemed to be 'safer routes to schools' whereby the routes are on a good surface, are lit and means of crossing main roads are by traffic controlled crossings or pedestrian over/underpasses.
- 5.3 In identifying the potential walking routes, it is on the basis that the responsibility for ensuring the safety of children on the journey between home

and school and, where appropriate, supervising the journey, rests with parents or guardians.

- 5.4 Appendix 10 shows, for option 1, the walking route that pupils could expect to take to reach Towerbank and the potential walking routes to their proposed new catchment schools.
- 5.5 Appendix 11 shows, for the additional proposed catchment change areas which are included in options 2 and 3, the potential walking routes that pupils would take to get to their proposed new catchment school. Regarding option 4, the potential walking routes which pupils would take to their proposed new catchment schools for the various areas are illustrated in either Appendix 10 or 11.
- 5.6 Table 6 shows the walking distance to both Towerbank and the proposed receiving catchment primary schools from points identified in the maps in Appendices 10 and 11. The legislation governing the provision of free home to school transport identifies a maximum acceptable walking distance from home to school of 2 miles which is 3,217m.

Affected Option	Location	to Towerbank	to The Royal High
All Options	Baileyfield Road	Baileyfield Road 908m	
Affected Option	Location	to Towerbank	to Duddingston
Option 1, 3 & 4	Brighton Place	564m	1,127m
Affected Option	ected Option Location		to Brunstane
Option 1 & 4	Brunstane Road	1,540m	599m
Option 2, 3 & 4	East Milton Road 1	1,959m	1,105m
Option 2, 3 & 4	East Milton Road 2	2,368m	1,780m

 Table 6: Walking Distances (metres) to Towerbank and Proposed Receiving Schools

- 5.7 The proposed catchment changes, with future P1 pupils having to travel to different schools, would have a variable impact if implemented. For pupils that would attend The Royal High and Duddingston Primary Schools if the changes were approved the walking distances would be greater, whereas the walking distance to Brunstane Primary School would be less.
- 5.8 The Royal High Primary School lies off Portobello Road, accessed via Northfield Broadway. There is a road/footpath/lane link from Baileyfield that runs to the north of the railway line and which then leads onto Portobello Road. A traffic controlled crossing point on the A199 at Baileyfield provides a connection to this footpath. The walking distance from Baileyfield Road to The Royal High is over 1,500 metres compared to approximately 900 metres to Towerbank.

- 5.9 In respect of the proposed catchment change with Duddingston Primary School, pupils would follow Brighton Place through the underpass and onto Duddingston Road and then follow this road to the primary school. The walking distance to Towerbank Primary School from Brighton Place is short at less than 600 metres. The comparable walking distance to Duddingston Primary School is over 1,100 metres.
- 5.10 In terms of walking distance, under the various catchment change options Brunstane Primary School is closer than Towerbank Primary School. From various parts of the Towerbank catchment the walking distance to the school ranges from over 1,500 metres to over 2,300 metres at the junction with East Milton Road and Musselburgh Road. The distances to Brunstane Primary School are much lower from those parts of Towerbank catchment that are closest to Brunstane Primary School with walking distances varying from around 600 metres to 1,110 metres, but increasing towards 1,800 metres at the eastern end under Options 2, 3 and 4.
- 5.11 Offsetting the greater walking distance to Towerbank is the ambience of the route as pupils having the option of following a promenade walkway to the school for much of the way. The identified walking route to Brunstane Primary School is along Milton Road East, which is a busy A class road with a 40 mph speed limit on most of the road and which involves crossing several road junctions and then crossing the A1/A199 junction by underpass or traffic controlled crossings.
- 5.12 A more detailed assessment of the identified walking routes can be found on the Council website: <u>www.edinburgh.gov.uk/towerbankconsultation</u>.

6 Financial Considerations

6.1 This consultation focuses on changes to catchment areas with no overall change to the number of pupils to be accommodated within the school estate. As a result there are no significant financial implications associated with any of the options identified for consideration.

7 Educational Benefits Statement

- 7.1 If no action is taken to amend catchment areas then it will not be possible for Towerbank Primary School to accommodate all children residing within its catchment area over the coming years, providing great uncertainty for children and their families regarding their primary school education.
- 7.2 In each of the four options proposed for consideration, the changes to existing catchment areas would ensure a more equitable distribution of pupils across the schools that would ensure viable, sustainable pupil rolls for all, whilst

retaining sufficient flexibility to support a variety of learning and teaching approaches aligned to the Curriculum for Excellence.

- 7.3 By ensuring that all schools have a viable and sustainable pupil roll this would ensure that effective teacher staffing levels are maintained, led by a range of promoted teaching staff. Effective year group classification would be maintained and children would be able to learn within a variety of peer group opportunities.
- 7.4 As there are no changes proposed or planned to the general use of the buildings or facilities at any of the potentially affected schools there would be no detriment to other users of the schools either current or future.

Education Scotland School Inspection Reports

7.5 School inspection reports were undertaken by Education Scotland in 2012 at Towerbank, The Royal High and Duddingston Primary Schools and the quality indicators for each school were assessed as shown in Table 7.

Evaluation Criteria	Towerbank	The Royal High	Duddingston					
Date of Evaluation Report	Feb-12	Aug-12	May-12					
Primary School								
Learners' experiences	very good	good	good					
Improvements in performance	good	very good	satisfactory					
Meeting Learning needs	very good	good	satisfactory					
Nursery Class								
Children's experiences	very good	very good	good					
Improvements in performance	good	very good	very good					
Meeting Learning needs	good	very good	good					
Work of the school and nursery class								
The curriculum	good	good	weak					
Improvement through self-evaluation	very good	good	weak					

Table 7: Education Scotland Evaluation of Quality Indicators

- 7.6 The evaluation of quality indicators by Education Scotland shows that Towerbank and The Royal High both received positive evaluations but Duddingston evaluations identified two areas as satisfactory and two as weak. This resulted in the school, with the support from the Council, taking forward a school improvement plan to enhance performance in these two areas.
- 7.7 Internal follow-through reports undertaken by Quality Improvement Officers from Children and Families concluded that Towerbank, Duddingston and The

Royal High Primary Schools now provide a very good/good standard of education and that the necessary improvements have been made following the Education Scotland's evaluation. In particular the evaluations of Duddingston Primary School for the curriculum and self evaluation are now judged to be good (previously having been assessed as being weak).

- 7.8 Brunstane Primary School was last inspected by HM Inspectors of Education (HMIE) in October 2007. Under the criteria being evaluated at that time the school received three very good, nine good and three adequate but given the time since the previous inspection, it now has limited value.
- 7.9 An internal follow through report in 2009 concluded that "With support from the education authority, Brunstane Primary School provided a good standard of education for its pupils. The school had progressed very well since the inspection and had made the necessary improvements in light of the inspection findings. The current improvement plan had had a positive impact on the work of the school. The teamwork in the school provided a very good basis for continued improvement. The education authority will not publish further reports in connection with the 2007 HMIE report".
- 7.10 Although not identified as a receiving school, St John's RC Primary School could be indirectly affected by the proposed catchment changes. The last inspection report of the school by Education Scotland dates back to December 2008, where the school was rated good or very good in all areas.

Educational Attainment and Achievement

- 7.11 With the introduction of the Curriculum for Excellence, there is no one national measure of attainment and achievement for primary schools. The City of Edinburgh uses a range of information to report on attainment and improvements in performance for its primary schools and pupils. These measurements used include evaluations using Quality Indicators, standardised assessments, Curriculum for Excellence levels and wider achievement
- 7.12 For the purposes of this report in order to provided a comparitve assessment, additional attainment data has been produced for Towerbank Primary School and the three proposed receiving schools - The Royal High, Duddingston and Brunstane.
- 7.13 The data is derived from standardised assessments of pupils at each school at P1, P4 and P7 using nationally applied criterion over the last three years (2011/12; 2012/13 and 2013/14). This allows for a comparison to be made between schools over time, using mean standard scores. Appendix 12 shows the mean standard assessment scores for the schools along with the city average for comparative purposes.
- 7.14 The P1 data provides an evaluation of the baseline literacy and numeracy skills of pupils that have started schools aged 4 and 5. Assessment tests in reading and mathematics at both P4 and P7 help to monitor the change in attainment as pupils progress through primary school.

P1 Baseline Literacy and Numeracy

7.15 Towerbank and The Royal High generally have pupils entering school with attainment levels in both literacy and numeracy well above the city average, whereas Duddingston is around average and Brunstane is below average.

P4 Reading and Mathematics assessment tests

7.16 These tests indicate that Towerbank pupils at P4 are generally performing above the city average. The Royal High and Duddingston have generally sat below the city wide average, but for 2013/14 the Royal High exceeded the average in both reading and maths. Brunstane has generally sat below the city average.

P7 Reading and Mathematics assessment tests

- 7.17 Towerbank sits above the city wide average in reading but is normally below the average in maths. Duddingston and The Royal High are quite similar staying around the city average in reading but dropping from above to below the city average in maths. Brunstane has sat well below the city average with a drop in both reading and maths for 2013/14.
- 7.18 Information has also been provided in Appendix 12 for St John's RC Primary School; in general terms the assessments are broadly consistent with Duddingston. Overall, of the schools assessed, attainment is generally highest at Towerbank. But at P4 and P7 the level of attainment at The Royal High and Duddingston is generally around the city wide average and not too dissimilar to Towerbank. Attainment is generally lowest at Brunstane and at P4 and P7 the assessment tests are normally well below the other schools and the city average.

Brunstane Primary School

- 7.19 Brunstane Primary School is identified by the Council as a Positive Action School where more than 40% of the pupils are entitled to free school meals or a clothing grant so there are socio economic considerations that do not apply to the other schools. The proposed catchment changes under the various options should help the school catchment draw its pupils from a broader socio economic profile
- 7.20 Under its Positive Action status extra budgetary provision of approximately £70,000 will be made in August 2015. This extra funding will allow the school to employ additional management or teaching and support staff to support raising attainment.
- 7.21 Over the past two years the school has experienced major changes in their management structure and the post of permanent Head teacher has recently been advertised. The school now has a strong acting Head teacher who has already made significant positive changes and is one of the Council's key figures in the Government's new Raising Attainment for All (RAFA) programme for session 2015/16.

- 7.22 The acting Head teacher has identified four key areas for focused attention to help improve the attainment and achievement; curriculum development, engaging learners in the learning process, engaging parents in their children's learning and creating a positive behavior and learning culture.
- 7.23 Staff in the school have been trained in a wide range of reading and maths intervention strategies to support the attainment of children at risk of missing out including 'Read, Write Inc (P3-5) Fresh Start (P6-P7) and SEAL (Stages of Arithmetical Learning). It is anticipated that all these interventions will have a positive impact on raising attainment.

Monitoring

7.24 The Quality Improvement Officer for the primary schools affected by this statutory consultation will continue to monitor and evaluate attainment and achievement and the overall impact of any catchment changes implemented ensuring any necessary actions are included in school Improvement Plans on an ongoing basis. In addition the Quality Improvement Officer will also undertake a focused review during session 2017-2018 at each school to assess in detail the implications of any catchment change made and ensure the educational benefits at each school are sustained in the longer term.

8 Conclusions and Benefits Summary

- 8.1 This consultation sets out the rationale for, and implications of, four options for proposed changes to the catchment area of Towerbank Primary School with the aim of reducing the catchment area population by assigning parts of the existing school catchment area to those of adjacent non-denominational primary schools. The Council has not identified a preferred option.
- 8.2 There are four options for catchment change proposed, each of which would involve transferring parts of the existing Towerbank Primary School catchment to different primary school catchments. The proposed catchment changes which would affect Craigentinny and the Royal High Primary School are included in each option.
- 8.3 For all of the options pupils already at Towerbank Primary School and living in those areas affected by the proposed catchment changes would remain at Towerbank Primary School. The proposed catchment changes, would apply to future P1 intakes from the 2016/17 school year onwards and to pupils moving into the catchment from the date of the Council decision.
- 8.4 The proposed approach to siblings which would apply in the future following implementation of the catchment changes differs for each option:
 - Under options 1, 2 and 3 in certain circumstances priority would be applied to siblings. In future, if in any year after meeting catchment needs there remained additional P1 places available, younger siblings of pupils at

Towerbank Primary School (not including Towerbank Primary School nursery) who attended the school at the time of the decision on catchment change and were, at that time, resident in the parts of the Towerbank Primary School catchment proposed for transfer would be given priority for placing requests into Towerbank Primary School. This policy would apply for a full primary school cycle (i.e. seven years) but would only apply if, when the younger sibling was entering P1, he/she continued to be resident in the parts of the Towerbank Primary School catchment from which transfer had previously been approved and an elder sibling is still a pupil at Towerbank Primary School.

- Under option 4 in certain circumstances a sibling guarantee would apply. In future younger siblings of pupils at Towerbank Primary School (not including Towerbank Primary School nursery) who attended the school at the time of the decision on catchment change and were at that time, and remain in the future, resident in the parts of the Towerbank Primary School catchment proposed for transfer would be guaranteed a place at Towerbank Primary School. This policy would only apply if, when the younger sibling was entering P1, he/she continued to be resident in the parts of the Towerbank Primary School catchment from which transfer had previously been approved and an elder sibling is still a pupil at Towerbank Primary School. This guarantee would only apply to younger siblings who were born before the date of the Council decision regarding catchment change.
- For all options after any sibling priority or guarantee for catchment change areas has been applied, sibling priority in line with current Council policy would still apply for any other out of catchment placement requests.
- 8.5 Apart from Craigentinny Primary School the surrounding schools are all feeders for Portobello High School. The area proposed for change to the Craigentinny catchment would also require to be changed from the Portobello High School catchment to the Leith Academy catchment but no pupils would be affected as the change is to simply rationalise the boundaries. The map in Appendix 8 shows the proposed secondary school catchment changes.
- 8.6 Although four different options for catchment change are presented for consideration, the key issues are relevant to all proposals. In summary, the benefits of the proposal to make changes to the existing Towerbank Primary School catchment area are:

Towerbank Primary School

The overall learning and teaching environment and pupil outcomes of the school will improve through reducing the number of pupils attending the school because:

• The school does not have the capacity to accommodate all children residing within its catchment area over the coming years, providing great uncertainty

for children and their families regarding their primary school education accommodate.

- The school occupies a site of less than 0.8 hectares which is below the standards sought in the Scottish Government Regulations. The school has a capacity of 630 pupils and is one of the three largest primary schools in the city.
- The new nursery class has been restricted to a 40/40 capacity to reflect the constrained site.
- It is not considered feasible to expand Towerbank Primary School.
- Under option 4, in the long term as the impact of the sibling guarantee on Towerbank Primary School diminishes there may be an opportunity, if catchment population projections are favourable, to consider the removal of the temporary units at the school.

Affected Catchment Schools

- The proposed receiving primary schools that would take extra pupils are all feeder primaries for Portobello High School and already work in partnership to deliver the Curriculum for Excellence across the area. The leadership teams for each of the primary schools affected by this proposal will continue to work collaboratively through the Portobello cluster meetings to ensure effective liaison and partnership activity in the wider school communities with a particular focus on the transition between nursery and primary education.
- There is capacity in the surrounding schools to cater for the proposed catchment changes.
- The proposed receiving schools have large grounds with playing fields or with direct access to parkland/playing fields.
- Building condition and suitability of the proposed receiving schools are all rated as being category B.
- All the affected schools have associated nursery classes with new and increased nursery provision being provided at Duddingston Primary School.
- The school inspections by Education Scotland show that The Royal High was performing well and, at Duddingston, the Council's evaluations for the Curriculum and Self Evaluation are now judged to be good.
- The educational attainment data (means standard scores for P1, P4 and P7) suggest that Towerbank, the Royal High and Duddingston are all performing at a reasonable and broadly similar level.
- Plans are in place to raise attainment and achievement at Brunstane and there are further opportunities in this regard presented by the catchment change options. The proposed catchment changes would help Brunstane

Primary School to broaden its socio economic base, retain its catchment population and increase opportunities for meeting children and young people's personal, social, health and emotional needs.

- 8.7 The dis-benefits arising from the proposals are summarised as follows:
 - Parents and pupils affected by the proposed catchment change may feel more connected with Towerbank than the proposed receiving schools.
 - For options 1, 2 and 3 which involve the prioritisation of siblings in future, not a guarantee, the issue of siblings potentially attending different schools could present logistical difficulties for parents.
 - Walking distances to the proposed receiving schools at the Royal High and Duddingston are greater than the walking distances to Towerbank.
 - Although shorter, walking distances to Brunstane are along a busy A class road.
 - Educational attainment at Brunstane Primary School is lower than that recorded at Towerbank Primary School.
 - Under Option 4, in the long term as the impact of the sibling guarantee on Towerbank Primary School diminishes there may be increased opportunity for out of catchment placement requests to be granted at the school.

9 Consultation Process

- 9.1 On 3 March 2015 the Education, Children and Families Committee approved that a statutory consultation be undertaken regarding proposals to alter catchment boundaries between Towerbank Primary School and the neighbouring primary schools together with any associated changes required to secondary school catchment boundaries.
- 9.2 The Committee delegated authority to the Director of Children and Families to develop a detailed consultation paper on proposed changes to primary and secondary school catchment boundaries taking into consideration any alterations to the proposed changes which were set out in the report to Committee which might arise as a result of the informal consultation which it was proposed was, and subsequently has been, undertaken with the affected schools. The period of informal consultation has helped to inform the final options and proposals that have been taken forward and reflected in this statutory consultation paper.
- 9.3 The statutory consultation requirements for any proposal to establish, terminate or otherwise alter the catchment area of a school are set out in the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 as amended by the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014.

- 9.4 This requires the Council to undertake statutory consultations with individuals or group affected by the proposals; the statutory consultees are prescribed as being as follows:
 - 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); and
 - any other users of any affected school that the Council considers relevant.
- 9.5 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.
- 9.6 The public consultation period will run for over six weeks from 8 May 2015 to 22 June 2015. The consultation paper will be made available electronically and in paper format and copies will be available for inspection at the Council Offices at Waverley Court, at Portobello Library and at the schools affected by the proposals.
- 9.7 Four public meetings will be held in respect of the proposals at the venues listed below. These meetings will give interested parties a more formal opportunity to express their views. Representatives of the Council will be present at the public meetings to outline the proposals, assist discussions and answer questions. Free childcare and/or translation services can be provided at public meetings if requests for these services are made to (0131) 469 3161 no later than Friday 15 May 2015. A record of each public meeting will be taken by the Council.

Venue	Date	Time
Towerbank Primary School	Thursday, 21 May 2015	6:30pm – 8:30pm
Brunstane Primary School	Monday, 25 May 2015	6pm – 8pm
Duddingston Primary School	Monday, 1 June 2015	6:30pm – 8:30pm
The Royal High Primary School	Wednesday, 3 June 2015	6:30pm – 8:30pm

- 9.8 All comments received will be recorded and represented in the final report 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.
- 9.9 The Council website <u>www.edinburgh.gov.uk/towerbankconsultation</u> will contain information on the consultation and this will be updated as necessary.
- 9.10 During the consultation period, any views on this proposal should be sent to in writing to the following address:

Gillian Tee Director of Children and Families City of Edinburgh Council Council Headquarters Waverley Court Level 1:2 4 East Market Street Edinburgh EH8 8BG

- 9.11 Respondents are encouraged to use the response questionnaire which has been produced and is provided in Appendix 13. The response questionnaire also be completed online via the following can link: www.edinburgh.gov.uk/towerbankconsultation. Responses can also be made by e-mail to the following address cf.propertyreview@edinburgh.gov.uk. All responses, whether by letter, e-mail or using the online questionnaire should be received by no later than Monday, 22 June 2015.
- 9.12 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 Council report on the consultation.
- 9.13 Following the conclusion of 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. 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.
- 9.14 It is anticipated that a consultation report, setting out recommendations, will be presented to a meeting of the Council on Thursday, 22 October 2015. It is

expected that the report will be published by 1 October 2015 being the required three weeks in advance of it being considered by the Council.

9.15 If catchment changes are approved by the Council it is proposed that the changes would take immediate effect and the placing procedures for Primary 1 pupils for the start of the 2016/17 school session would be conducted on the basis of the revised catchment areas.

Appendix 1

Issues raised during Informal Consultation Process

1. <u>Issues raised</u>

- 1.1. Informal consultation sessions were held at each of the four directly affected primary schools (Towerbank, Duddingston, Brunstane and The Royal High) between 18 March 2015 and 31 March 2015. In addition to the views expressed at these sessions, 48 representations were received mainly from parents/guardians/residents. The main issues raised were:
 - Concerns about safe routes to schools particularly for those areas which were proposed for transfer to Brunstane Primary School.
 - Suggestions for alternative catchment review options.
 - Requests for a sibling guarantee at Towerbank Primary School.

2. <u>Safe Routes to Schools</u>

2.1. In relation to the concerns raised about safe routes to schools, all of the suggested routes identified as part of the options within the statutory consultation paper have been assessed by the Council's Road Safety team and meet all the criteria required to be considered a safe route to school. Further information on the safe route assessments is available on the Council website www.edinburgh.gov.uk/towerbankconsultation.

3. <u>Alternative Catchment Review Options</u>

- 3.1. A number of suggestions were put forward for additional areas for catchment change. These were considered against the factors used for determining the feasibility of Options 1 and 2 such as geography, home to school travel, catchment demand and the level of spare capacity at the other schools. As a result of this process, **Option 3** was developed and has been included in the statutory consultation in response to the direct concern expressed about the nature of the crossing to the north of the junction between Milton Road East/Milton Road and Sir Harry Lauder Road.
- 4. <u>Siblings</u>
- 4.1. There was widespread comment on the desire for younger siblings of pupils already attending Towerbank Primary School and who lived in areas of the Towerbank catchment which were proposed for change to another primary school, to be guaranteed a place at Towerbank Primary School in the future rather than being given priority status.
- 4.2. The option of providing, in certain circumstances, a guaranteed place for younger siblings has been explored and has resulted in the inclusion of

Option 4 in the statutory consultation paper. To develop this option, information was supplied by Towerbank Primary School on pupils with siblings and this was cross checked with the Council's own data (e.g. NHS birth records). On this basis 27 pupils (including pupils currently attending the school nursery) were recorded as having siblings in the areas of the existing Towerbank catchment identified for potential catchment change. For data protection reasons it is not possible to provide any details about these pupils including exact addresses.

- 4.3. It is recognised this data is unlikely to be complete as there may be families which have children who currently attend Towerbank Primary School who may have younger siblings who currently either attend a private nursery, or do not attend a nursery, but plan to attend Towerbank from August 2015. If any of these families have recently moved into the area then they would not have been identified from the cross check with birth data.
- 4.4. As detailed in the main paper, under option 4 in certain circumstances a sibling guarantee would apply. In future younger siblings of pupils at Towerbank Primary School (not Towerbank Primary School nursery) who attended the school at the time of the decision on catchment change and were, at that time, resident in the parts of the Towerbank Primary School catchment proposed for transfer would be guaranteed a place at Towerbank Primary School. This policy would only apply if, when the younger sibling was entering P1, he/she continued to be resident in the parts of the Towerbank Primary School catchment from which transfer had previously been approved and an elder sibling is still a pupil at Towerbank Primary School. This guarantee would only apply to younger siblings who were born before the date of the Council decision regarding catchment change.
- 4.5. To provide the scope for the extra pupils to be retained in the Towerbank catchment due to the sibling guarantee, a larger area of the existing Towerbank catchment requires to be transferred to create a higher level of expected pupil generation in the future which would be transferred to the receiving schools. The increased area for Option 4 is shown in Appendix 7.



Appendix 2 Site Plan of Towerbank Primary School



Appendix 3 School Catchments Around Towerbank Primary School



Appendix 4 Proposed School Catchments – Option 1



Appendix 5 Proposed School Catchments – Option 2



Appendix 6 Proposed School Catchments – Option 3


Appendix 7 Proposed School Catchments – Option 4



Appendix 8 - Existing and Proposed Secondary School Catchment Areas



Appendix 9 - Pupils Flows between Primary Schools



Appendix 10 - Walking Routes to Schools – Option 1



Appendix 11 - Walking Routes to Schools – Option 2 and 3

Appendix 12 - Attainment and Achievement Information for Primary Schools

With the introduction of the Curriculum for Excellence (CfE), there is no one national measure of attainment for primary schools. However, The City of Edinburgh Council uses standardised assessments to report on attainment/improvements in performance for its primary schools and pupils.

Standardised assessments are age-based, professional educational tools that have been used for many years as part of the overall assessment picture in schools. They produce a standard score for each pupil and a mean standardised score for each year group.

In Edinburgh, for each school, data has been collected at the end of each level: i.e. Early (end of P1); First (end of P4) and; Second (end of P7) in Languages and Mathematics. The information is used by schools as part of the wider assessment picture to make evaluations about improvements in performance. The latest standardised assessment data (mean standard scores) for the primary schools involved in this statutory consultation is provided in the following tables:

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95

P1 Baseline Literacy		
2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
108	109	109
106	107	109
101	105	104
95	103	102
103	103	103
	2011-12 108 106 101 95	2011-122012-1310810910610710110595103

101

100

100

96

St John's RC

St John's RC

P1 Baseline Numeracy			
2011-12	-12 2012-13 2013-14		
108	112	113	
115	112	115	
104	106	107	
100	109	105	
106	106	106	

107

P4 Mathematics

2012-13

95

93

106

2013-14

91

101

105

2011-12

95

92

92

	P4 Reading		
Primary School	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Towerbank	105	106	104
The Royal High	96	100	101
Duddingston	99	99	100
Brunstane	86	88	86
City Average	101	102	99

91	90	94
83	82	90
93	95	94
91	93	0/

	P7 Reading		
Primary School	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Towerbank	104	106	107
The Royal High	100	101	103
Duddingston	104	99	104
Brunstane	94	95	89
City Average	101	101	104
St John's RC	102	103	103

P7 Mathematics			
2011-12	2012-13 2013-14		
92	94	93	
98	96	94	
98	96	92	
87	92	79	
93	94	95	

99

94

Appendix 13 - Response Questionnaire

Also available online at www.edinburgh.gov.uk/towerbankconsultation

Introduction

The number of school age children living in Portobello and Joppa has increased significantly over the last ten years. As a result, in the longer term it is expected the local primary school, Towerbank, will not be able to accommodate all the pupils in its catchment area. Therefore, this statutory consultation considers options to make the Towerbank Primary School catchment area smaller so that fewer children live within its catchment boundaries. You can read the background to the consultation in a report to the Council's Education, Children and Families Committee from <u>3 March 2015</u>.

There are four different options being considered and we would like your views on these options through this questionnaire. In all of the options pupils who are currently attending Towerbank will remain at the school. However, where the options are different is in terms of the areas proposed to transfer to other schools and the approach to offering places at the school to the younger brothers and sisters of those already attending the school from the proposed areas of transfer. The full details of all the options are available in the statutory consultation paper which you should read before completing this questionnaire. The statutory consultation paper is available online at www.edinburgh.gov.uk/towerbankconsultation or copies are available in the affected schools and local libraries.

Approach to Siblings

Options 1, 2 and 3 offer families within the proposed transfer areas priority places for younger brothers and sisters if in any year P1 places remain available after meeting catchment needs. The priority arrangements would be available for a period of seven years and apply if a family remain residents in a transfer area and an elder sibling remains a pupil at Towerbank Primary School when a younger sibling enters P1. In Option 4, younger brothers and sisters from families within the proposed transfer areas will be offered a guaranteed place at Towerbank Primary School as long as they are already born at the time of any final Council decision and an elder sibling remains at the school when they enter P1.

Why we are 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 different options put forward will have different impacts on 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 on Thursday 22 October 2015. This questionnaire should be completed and returned by no later than Monday 22 June 2015. All of the information in the questionnaire is for internal use only and will not be made public. The questionnaire can be completed online at the following link: www.edinburgh.gov.uk/towerbankconsultation

It can also be completed in the following pages and returned to the following address:

Gillian Tee Director of Children 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 <u>cf.propertyreview@edinburgh.gov.uk</u>.

<u>Questionnaire</u>

Question 1

What is your name?

Name

Question 2

What is your email address? (Optional)

Email

Question 3

What is your postcode?

Postcode

Question 4

What is your address?

Address

Question 5

 \sim

What is your main interest in the consultation? *Please select (tick) only one item*

	Parent/Carer of school pupil/s
	O Parent/Carer of school pupil/s with younger sibling/s
	O Parent/Carer of pre-school child or children
	◯ Staff
	O Pupil
	O Local resident
	O Local organisation
	Other
If	f you are answering on behalf of an organisation, or for other reasons, please explain below.

Question 6

Do you have a child or children in a local primary school at the moment?

This refers to children in Primary 1 to Primary 7 only. Do not include children who are in a nursery class associated with a school. Please select (tick) only one item.

◯ No	
If yes please tell us the name of their scho	pol.
O Towerbank Primary School	O Brunstane Primary School
Ouddingston Primary School	O The Royal High Primary School
Craigentinny Primary School	St John's RC Primary School
Other (please specify below)	

Options

Please refer to the statutory consultation paper for detail on the proposed catchment area changes for each option. Lists of addresses affected by each option are provided at the end of this questionnaire.

In all four options Area A (Seafield) is proposed to transfer to Craigentinny Primary School and Leith Academy. There are currently no residents in this area and no pupils are affected by this proposal.

Question 7

Do you agree that Area A (Seafield) should move to the Craigentinny Primary School and Leith Academy catchment areas?

Please select (tick) only one item.



In all four options Area B (Baileyfield) is proposed to transfer to The Royal High Primary School however the High School will remain as Portobello High School.

Question 8

Do you agree that Area B (Baileyfield) should move to The Royal High Primary School catchment area?

Please select (tick) only one item.



◯ Yes

○ No opinion

Further to the transfer of Areas A and B considered in questions 7 and 8 above the remaining areas proposed for transfer – Areas C, D and E – vary for each of the four options. Specific details for each option are outlined in the statutory consultation paper.

Question 9

Having considered the options as detailed in the statutory consultation paper, which option do you prefer?

Please select (tick) only one item.

Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4
O None of the	e above		

Please give reasons for your preferred option.

Question 10

Any other comments or suggestions?

Comments or suggestions can also be emailed to <u>cf.propertyreview@edinburgh.gov.uk</u>

List of affected addresses (including all flats and subdivisions)

ol	
1 to 12	(odd / even)
2 to 25	(odd / even)
3 to 17	(odd)
1 to 21	(odd)
31 to 57	(odd)
36 to 70	(even)
3 to 37	(odd)
6 to 52	(even)
1 to 14	(odd /even)
1 to 29	(odd /even)
7 to 19	(odd)
18 to 30	(even)
1 to 10	(odd / even)
1 to 21	(odd)
2 to 16	(even)
1 to 16	(odd / even)
3 to 9	(odd / even)
1 to 19	(odd)
2 to 12	(even)
200-248	(even)
1 to 2	
45 to 83	(odd)
28 to 88	(even)
1 to 15	(odd)
2 to 20	(even)
	1 to 12 2 to 25 3 to 17 1 to 21 31 to 57 36 to 70 3 to 37 6 to 52 1 to 14 1 to 29 7 to 19 18 to 30 1 to 10 1 to 21 2 to 16 1 to 16 3 to 9 1 to 19 2 to 12 200-248 1 to 2 45 to 83 28 to 88 1 to 15

	1 2	
Brunstane Garden Mews	1 to 2 59	
Duddingston Cresecent Milton Road East	59 1 to 99	(odd)
Queens Bay Cresecent	1 to 99	(odd) (odd)
Queens Bay Cresecent	2 to 12	(odd) (odd)
South Morton Street	2 to 12 3 to 5	(odd) (odd)
South Morton Street	2 to 18	(even)
South Monton Street	2 (0 10	(even)
Option 2		
Area B: To The Royal High Primary Scho	ol	
Baileyfield Crescent	1 to 12	(odd / even)
Baileyfield Road	2 to 25	(odd / even)
Fishwifes Causeway	3 to 17	(odd)
Portobello High Street	1 to 21	(odd)
Area D: To Brunstane Primary School		
A1 Industrial Pk, Sir Harry Lauder Rd	200-248	(even)
Ashton Villas, Brunstane Road	1 to 2	<i>,</i> , , ,
Brunstane Road	45 to 83	(odd)
Brunstane Road	28 to 88	(even)
Brunstane Gardens	1 to 15	(odd)
Brunstane Gardens	2 to 20	(even)
Brunstane Garden Mews	1 to 2	
Duddingston Cresecent	59	())
Milton Road East	1 to 99	(odd)
Queens Bay Cresecent	1 to 21	(odd)
Queens Bay Cresecent	2 to 12	(odd)
South Morton Street South Morton Street	3 to 5 2 to 18	(odd)
South Morton Street	2 10 18	(even)
Area E: To Brunstane Primary School		
Brunstane Mill Road	1 to 17	(odd / even)
Coillesdene Avenue	67 to 127	(odd)
Coillesdene Avenue	38 to 104	(odd)
Coillesdene Crescent	1 to 43	(odd)
Coillesdene Crescent	2 to 48	(even)
Coillesdene Terrace	1 to 9	(odd)
Coillesdene Terrace	2 to 10	(even)
Coillesdene Gardens	1 to 15	(odd)
Coillesdene Gardens	2 to 14	(even)
Coillesdene Loan	1 to 14	(odd / even)
Eastfield Place	1 to 13	(odd)
Eastfield Place	4 to 10	(even)
Eastfield Gardens	1 to 5	(odd)
Eastfield Gardens	2 to 12	(even)
Eastfield (Musselburgh Road)	1 to 55	(odd / even)
Milton Drive	1 to 17	(odd)
Milton Drive	12 to 24	(even)
Milton Grove	1 to 19	(odd)
Milton Grove	2 to 8	(even)
Milton Road East	101 to 307	(odd)
Milton Road East	200 to 318	(even)
Milton Terrace	1 to 15	(odd)

Milton Terrace	2 to 10	(even)
Sea View Crescent	38 to 72	(even)
Seaview Terrace (Musselburgh Rd)	99 to 127	(odd / even)
	55 (0 12)	(ouu / even)
Option 3		
Area B: To The Royal High Primary Scho	ol	
Baileyfield Crescent	1 to 12	(odd / even)
Baileyfield Road	2 to 25	(odd / even)
Fishwifes Causeway	3 to 17	(odd)
Portobello High Street	1 to 21	(odd)
Area C: To Duddingston Primary School		
Adelphi Place	31 to 57	(odd)
Adelphi Place	36 to 70	(even)
Brighton Place	3 to 37	(odd)
Brighton Place	6 to 52	(even)
East Brighton Crescent	1 to 14	(odd /even)
Lee Crescent	1 to 29	(odd /even)
Rosefield Avenue	7 to 19	(odd)
Rosefield Avenue	18 to 30	(even)
Rosefield Avenue Lane	1 to 10	(odd / even)
Rosefield Place	1 to 21	(odd)
Rosefield Place	2 to 16	(even)
Rosefield Street	1 to 16	(odd / even)
Sandford Gardens	3 to 9	(odd / even)
West Brighton Crescent	1 to 19	(odd)
West Brighton Crescent	2 to 12	(even)
Area D (Part) and Area E (Part): to Brun	stano Primary	School
A1 Industrial Pk, Sir Harry Lauder Rd	200-248	(even)
Brunstane Mill Road	1 to 17	(odd / even)
Coillesdene Avenue	67 to 127	(odd)
Coillesdene Avenue	56 to 104	(even)
Coillesdene Loan	1 to 14	(odd / even)
Eastfield (Musselburgh Road)	1 to 55	(odd / even)
Eastfield Gardens	1 to 5	(odd)
Eastfield Gardens	2 to 12	(even)
Eastfield Place	1 to 13	(odd)
Eastfield Place	4 to 10	(even)
Milton Drive	1 to 17	(odd)
Milton Grove	1 to 19	(odd)
Milton Grove	2 to 8	(even)
Milton Road East	231 to 307	(odd)
Milton Road East	200 to 318	(even)
Milton Terrace	1 to 15	(odd)
Milton Terrace	2 to 10	(even)
Sea View Crescent	38 to 72	(even)
Seaview Terrace (Musselburgh Rd)	99 to 127	(odd / even)
		. ,,

Option 4

Area B: To The Royal High Primary School

Baileyfield Crescent	1 to 12	(odd / even)
Baileyfield Road	2 to 25	(odd / even)

Fishwifes Causeway	3 to 17	(odd)		
Portobello High Street	1 to 21	(odd)		
Area C: To Duddingston Primary School				
Adelphi Place	31 to 57	(odd)		
Adelphi Place	36 to 70	(even)		
Brighton Place	3 to 37	(odd)		
Brighton Place	6 to 52	(even)		
East Brighton Crescent	1 to 14	(odd /even)		
Lee Crescent	1 to 29	(odd /even)		
Rosefield Avenue	7 to 19	(odd)		
Rosefield Avenue	18 to 30	(even)		
Rosefield Avenue Lane	1 to 10	(odd / even)		
Rosefield Place	1 to 21	(odd)		
Rosefield Place	2 to 16	(even)		
Rosefield Street	1 to 16	(odd / even)		
West Brighton Crescent	1 to 19	(odd)		
West Brighton Crescent	2 to 12	(even)		
Sandford Gardens	3 to 9	(odd / even)		
Area D and Area E: To Brunstane Primary School				
A1 Industrial Pk, Sir Harry Lauder Rd	200-248	(even)		
Ashton Villas, Brunstane Road	1 to 2			
Brunstane Road	45 to 83	(odd)		
Brunstane Road	28 to 88	(even)		
Brunstane Gardens	1 to 15	(odd)		
Brunstane Gardens	2 to 20	(even)		
Brunstane Garden Mews	1 to 2			
Brunstane Mill Road	1 to 17	(odd / even)		
Coillesdene Avenue	67 to 127	(odd)		
Coillesdene Avenue	38 to 104	(odd)		
Coillesdene Crescent	1 to 43	(odd)		
Coillesdene Crescent	2 to 48	(even)		
Coillesdene Gardens	1 to 15	(odd)		
Coillesdene Gardens	2 to 14	(even)		
Coillesdene Terrace	1 to 9	(odd)		
Coillesdene Terrace	2 to 10	(even)		
Coillesdene Loan	1 to 14	(odd / even)		
Duddingston Cresecent	59			
Eastfield Place	1 to 13	(odd)		
Eastfield Place	4 to 10	(even)		
Eastfield Gardens	1 to 5	(odd)		
Eastfield Gardens	2 to 12	(even)		
Eastfield (Musselburgh Road)	1 to 55	(odd / even)		
Milton Drive	1 to 17	(odd)		
Milton Drive	12 to 24	(even)		
Milton Grove	1 to 19	(odd)		
Milton Grove	2 to 8	(even)		
Milton Road East	1 to 307	(odd)		
Milton Road East	200 to 318	(even)		
Milton Terrace	1 to 15	(odd)		
Milton Terrace	2 to 10	(even)		
Queens Bay Cresecent	1 to 21	(odd)		

Queens Bay Cresecent	2 to 12	(odd)
Sea View Crescent	38 to 72	(even)
Seaview Terrace (Musselburgh Rd)	99 to 127	(odd / even)
South Morton Street	3 to 5	(odd)
South Morton Street	2 to 18	(even)



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