

The City of Edinburgh Council

10.00am, Thursday, 19 December 2024

Outcome of the Statutory Consultation Process on the Proposal to establish a new Non-denominational Primary School and Nursery Classes at Granton Waterfront and Implement Catchment Changes

Executive/routine
Wards

1 - Almond, 4 - Forth,

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 Approve the proposal to establish a new non-denominational Primary School and nursery classes at Granton Waterfront;
- 1.2 Approve the implementation of catchment changes to allow the establishment of a catchment for the new proposed primary school, with adjustments to the catchment areas of Craigmoynton, Granton and Pirniehall Primary Schools and Broughton and Craigmoynton Community High Schools; and
- 1.3 Approve that a sibling guarantee be applied to the terms set out in this paper.

Gareth Barwell

Interim Executive Director Place

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Outcome of the Statutory Consultation Process on the Proposal to establish a new Non-denominational Primary School and Nursery Classes at Granton Waterfront and Implement catchment changes

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 Following a statutory consultation, this report recommends that a new primary school and nursery is established in the Granton Waterfront development area in the north of Edinburgh to accommodate the additional children expected from new homes and to relieve accommodation pressures on existing primary schools.
- 2.2 The report recommends changes to existing school catchment areas to create a catchment area for the new primary school and address minor issues with some existing catchment boundaries.
- 2.3 This report also recommends that a 'sibling guarantee' is offered to families who live within existing areas of catchment that are realigned with a different school.

3. Background

- 3.1 On 11 June 2024, the Education, Children and Families Committee approved that a statutory consultation be undertaken proposing the establishment of a new non-denominational Primary School and nursery classes at Granton Waterfront and the implementation of catchment changes.
- 3.2 In summary, the statutory consultation paper proposed that:
 - 3.2.1 A new 15 class non-denominational primary school and 128 places nursery be established on the allocated site within the Granton Waterfront development;
 - 3.2.2 The new school would be built with a planning capacity for 420 pupils (two stream) but will be extendable up to 630 pupils (three stream) should that be necessary in future years;

The catchment area for the new school should be formed from sections of Pirniehall and Granton Primary Schools existing catchments and include the following:

- 3.2.2.1 All areas north from Forthquarter Park, including a section of Upper Granton and the totality of West Shore;
 - 3.2.2.2 All areas north from the section of West Granton Road between Waterfront Broadway and Granton Park Avenue, including properties at Granton Park Avenue; and
 - 3.2.2.3 Granton Harbour area West from Chestnut Street / Hesperus Broadway, and the northwest section of the west side of Granton Harbour.
- 3.2.3 The new primary school should feed into Craigroyston Community High School which will be extended to accommodate up to 1,200 pupils at the appropriate time;
- 3.2.4 The catchment areas of Craigroyston Primary School and Pirniehall Primary School will be realigned so that:
- 3.2.4.1 Existing dual feeder area shared by Craigroyston and Pirniehall Primary Schools feeds solely to Pirniehall Primary School; and
 - 3.2.4.2 All areas north from Pennywell Gardens, south from Muirhouse Parkway, and east from Muirhouse View (section between Pennywell Gardens and Muirhouse Parkway) feed to Pirniehall Primary School;
- 3.2.5 The catchment areas of Broughton High School and Craigroyston Community High School are realigned so that the new primary school's catchment area is included entirely within Craigroyston Community High School's catchment.

4. Main report

- 4.1 The statutory consultation to which this paper refers has been undertaken according to the requirements set out in the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 as amended by the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014.
- 4.2 The statutory consultation period ran from Thursday 22 August 2024 to Thursday 3 October 2024. The full statutory consultation paper is available online at the following link: [Granton Waterfront Primary School Consultation Paper](#) and a summary paper is provided in 1.
- 4.3 The consultation included an online questionnaire, a public meeting, four drop-in information and feedback events and a pupil survey of P6-S6 pupils at the affected schools.

- 4.4 The consultation and related events were advertised through the following methods:
- 4.4.1 Letters to parents or carers of pupils at affected schools;
 - 4.4.2 Posters and postcards available at affected schools, council offices at Waverley Court, City Chambers and North West Locality Office, Granton and Muirhouse libraries, West Pilton Neighbourhood Centre, and Royston Wardieburn Community Centre and five lamppost wraps in key locations affected by the proposal;
 - 4.4.3 Various posts on the Council's social media, and a press release which was relayed by various digital news websites;
 - 4.4.4 Advert in print media (Edinburgh Evening News), which was also relayed on the online Public Notice Portal;
 - 4.4.5 Through direct email to Ward Councillors, Members of Scottish Parliament (constituency and regional), Member of Parliament (Edinburgh North and Leith), Community Councils, local childcare providers and other local relevant community groups.
- 4.5 Consultees were encouraged to use a response questionnaire which was available online using the Council's consultation hub. Responses to the consultation could also be submitted by email or letter, with the possibility of using the copy of the questionnaire which was part of the proposal document. 55 representations were received, 54 of which were submitted via the online consultation hub survey and one submitted via email. The tables in **Error! Reference source not found.** provide a summary of the issues that were raised and the Council's response. The full submissions are available to elected members on request.
- 4.6 Although the majority of submissions were from local residents and parents/carers, there was also a significant response from school staff.
- 4.7 Those who responded using the online questionnaire on the consultation hub were asked: To what extent do you support or object to the proposal as detailed in the statutory consultation paper. Of the 54 respondents, 29 strongly supported, 14 supported, 4 neither supported nor opposed, one opposed, and six strongly opposed.
- 4.8 The single email response was in opposition to the proposal.

Key Issues Raised

- 4.9 The main themes or issues raised in support of the proposal included:
- 4.9.1 Lack of spaces for pupils and/or need to reduce accommodation pressures in existing local schools;
 - 4.9.2 Need to provide a local school and/or community facilities for the new housing developments in the area; and

- 4.9.3 Inherent benefits of delivering a new primary school such as: increased access to education, improved educational outcomes, reduction of inequalities, long-term community stability.
- 4.10 The main themes or issues raised in opposition to the proposal included:
- 4.10.1 Implications for existing properties following changes of high school catchment areas;
- 4.10.2 Proposed catchment boundaries; and
- 4.10.3 Location of the proposed school site and loss of amenity and greenspace.
- 4.11 Other main themes or issues raised related to the proposals include:
- 4.11.1 Need to consider investment in other local schools;
- 4.11.2 Need to consider Additional Support Needs provision at the new school; and
- 4.11.3 Need for other local amenities (GP, community centre) and active travel links to the schools.

Public Meeting

- 4.12 A public meeting was held on Tuesday 10 September 2024 at Craigroyston High School. Despite being widely advertised, no members of the public attended. Council officials did a short presentation to those present, including Council colleagues from departments with an interest in the proposals and a representative from Education Scotland. A minute of the meeting has been published in the consultation website and is provided in Appendix 3.

Drop-in Information and Feedback Events

- 4.13 Four drop-in information and feedback events were organised at the affected schools except for Craigroyston High School where the main public meeting took place.
- 4.13.1 The first drop-in event took place at Broughton High School with less than five members of the public attending; and
- 4.13.2 A further three drop-in events took place at Granton, Craigroyston and Pirniehall / St David's RC primary schools. These events took place whilst parents and carers were collecting children, and all events had several parents or carers and pupils showing interest in the proposals. The main questions asked related to timescales, and how the proposal would impact specific addresses.

Pupil Consultation

- 4.14 An online survey with information and questions regarding the proposals was completed by pupils of the schools most affected by the proposal. This included pupils from affected primary schools in P6 and P7 and pupils from

S1-S6 in secondary. The survey questions and results are provided in Appendix 4.

- 4.15 Pupils were asked two main questions: one regarding their awareness of the proposal before the survey and a second one regarding their level of agreement with four different statements.
- 4.16 Of the 93 respondents, 15% of the pupils had some previous knowledge about the proposals.
- 4.17 The pupils' responses received to the statements showed that:
 - 4.17.1 Pupils were divided when asked if their school had space for the pupils from the new homes being built in the area;
 - 4.17.2 A large majority of pupils agreed that a new primary school is needed in the area;
 - 4.17.3 A small majority of pupils agreed that it would be appropriate for the new catchment to be aligned with Craigmoynton High School if more space is added to the school; and
 - 4.17.4 A large majority of pupils agreed that it is important for them to be able to bus, walk, wheel or cycle to school.
- 4.18 Two comments were received by pupils, one assumed to be regarding a proposed name for the school – “Waterfront Primary School,” and a second one raising concerns about the impact of development on nature.
- 4.19 The Council will consider how to keep involving pupils from nearby schools in developing the design for the new primary school.

Education Scotland

- 4.20 As required by the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 as amended by the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014, all the responses received during the public consultation and young people engagement were made available to Education Scotland for their consideration. Education Scotland visited the schools directly affected by the statutory consultation and discussed the educational aspects with staff, parents and pupils before producing their final report. The purpose of the report is to provide an independent and impartial consideration of the proposal.
- 4.21 Education Scotland’s report is attached as Appendix 6.
- 4.22 The conclusion of Education Scotland’s findings is that the Council has provided strong evidence to support the proposed establishment of the new school and the changes to catchment areas. Education Scotland also point out the potential for several benefits related to the establishment of the new school in the area.

- 4.23 Education Scotland also highlight some concerns and issues raised by their consultees, including:
- 4.23.1 The need for the Council to consider a more diverse workforce for the proposed school, to ensure it reflects to socio-demographics of the area;
 - 4.23.2 The need to clarify the availability of a sibling placement guarantee; and
 - 4.23.3 The need to review safe routes to school, including concerns over the proximity of busy roads to the school and unsecured access to the water.
- 4.24 The report also directs the Council to continue engaging with stakeholders to ensure relevant parties have a say in the development of the new school project and of the expansion of the high school.
- 4.25 Finally, Education Scotland's report points out an inconsistency between the pupil capacity number for Broughton High School published in the consultation paper and capacity figures published in the past for this school.
- 4.26 **Error! Reference source not found.** of this document addresses in more detail the issues raised during this consultation and the Council responses to each of these. However, in response to Education Scotland's findings the following will be actioned:
- 4.26.1 The Council will continue working with partners and relevant stakeholders to ensure concerns raised are addressed in an appropriate manner and that people continue to be engaged in the development of the new school, should it progress;
 - 4.26.2 A sibling guarantee is proposed, and this is set out in more detail in the sections that follow;
 - 4.26.3 The Council will consider safe routes to school as part of the design development of the new school which will include a Transport assessment at the appropriate time; and
 - 4.26.4 The inconsistency in the capacity figures relates to the revision of all secondary school capacity figures as part of a citywide Secondary School capacity review.

Sibling Guarantee

- 4.27 Under these proposals there will be no mandatory transfer of existing pupils to a different school. To mitigate the risk of siblings being required to attend different schools as a result of catchment changes, a 'sibling guarantee' is proposed. This would be offered to families who live within the section of Granton and Pirniehall Primary Schools catchment areas realigned with the new primary school catchment, and to families who live within the section of

Craigroyston Primary School catchment area realigned to Perniehall Primary School catchment.

- 4.28 The 'sibling guarantee' would apply to siblings of pupils attending Craigroyston, Granton and Pirniehall Primary Schools and Broughton High School. It would mean that younger siblings of pupils living in one of the areas transferring to a new catchment area, would be guaranteed a place when applying to their older sibling school.
- 4.29 Appendix 5 details the exact conditions under which this guarantee would apply.
- 4.30 The Council has considered the impact of a 'sibling guarantee' on the relevant schools and recommends that it is offered for the following reasons:
- 4.30.1 It is not expected to have a detrimental impact or create accommodation pressures as the number of homes that could benefit from a 'sibling guarantee' will be limited; and
- 4.30.2 Some of the affected properties are a reasonable distance from their current catchment school and so would have lower priority for an out of catchment place than other properties (as set out in the Council's Placing in School Procedures).

Conclusions

- 4.31 It is recommended that the Council proceeds with the establishment of the proposed new primary school and changes school catchment areas as set out in the statutory consultation paper.

5. Next Steps

- 5.1 If the recommendations set out in this paper are approved, a business case will be produced to seek approval for the project funding to be made available to progress with the delivery of the project.
- 5.2 Catchment boundary changes will be implemented in time for the P1 registration process in the November prior to the new school opening. The new school could open in August 2028 at the earliest, which would mean the catchment changes would be in place in November 2027.
- 5.3 The provision of the sibling guarantee will be administered through the regular P1 and S1 intakes process.

6. Financial impact

- 6.1 The estimated cost for a new Primary School at Granton Waterfront is currently an unfunded pressure in the Council's Capital Investment

Programme. Subject to approval of this outcomes report the capital funding for construction will require to be considered as part of the budget setting process culminating in February 2025.

- 6.2 A new school would lead to an increase in revenue costs. In addition to the additional teaching and support staff, there would be a requirement to create and fill all the management and non-teaching staff positions associated with running a separate primary school. The creation of a new school building would also result in additional building running, maintenance and repair costs for the school estate.
- 6.3 The additional revenue costs will be considered as part of the appropriate budget setting process before the school becomes operational.

7. Equality and Poverty Impact

- 7.1 The recommendations in this report have been made following a statutory consultation undertaken according to the requirements of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 as amended by the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014. This Act is designed “to provide strong, accountable statutory consultation practices and procedures that local authorities must apply to their handling of all proposals for school closures and other major changes to schools. These consultation processes are expected to be robust, open, transparent and fair, and seen to be so.” (Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010: guidance).
- 7.2 Accordingly, by following the established process set out in the Act, the Council has provided those stakeholders most affected by these proposals with an opportunity to have their say and raise any concerns or issues. This Outcomes Report sets out the Council’s response to the relevant matters raised during the consultation and suggests any mitigating measures that may be required.
- 7.3 Equality Duty covers the protected characteristic of age, which refers to a person having a particular age or being within an age group. The age group most directly impacted by the proposal to establish a new school is young people and children. The Educational Benefits statement in the statutory consultation paper sets out the ways in which the Council believes that children and young people could benefit or be disadvantaged by these proposals. In addition, letters providing information and inviting responses to the statutory consultation were made available to the parents and carers of all pupils in the affected area. Separate pupil survey was also undertaken to understand the views of young people and children.
- 7.4 This statutory consultation has been undertaken at a formative stage of the project to provide early confirmation of its deliverability. No detailed design

work has taken place, and the full scope of the project is yet to be confirmed. Approval of the proposals outlined in the statutory consultation will provide the Council with the right to establish a school on the proposed site and implement catchment changes when that new school opens; however, the delivery of the new school and related catchment changes will only be progressed subject to committee approval of a full Business Case and planning permissions.

- 7.5 Approval of the location of the new school will allow the development of a design through engagement with relevant stakeholders, partners and the wider community. The Council's Corporate Property Strategy requires that a school facility should accommodate other functions, becoming a focus for community activity and wider service delivery. The Council will work with partners and other relevant stakeholders to optimise the use of this new asset during and beyond the school day.
- 7.6 An Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) will be undertaken to address the specific changes proposed by the project as part of the formal planning process.

8. Climate and Nature Emergency Implications

- 8.1 If the proposal is approved, the new school will continue to be designed to meet the environmental standards required at the time of its design and with cognisance of the Council's Net Zero targets.
- 8.2 The design and location will promote Active Travel opportunities to minimise the impact on carbon emission and energy consumption.
- 8.3 The building will be designed to ensure compliance with strict energy efficiency standards (Passivhaus) and connection to the planned district heating system from renewable energy source.
- 8.4 Playgrounds will be designed to maximise natural spaces and to ensure surface water runoff is dealt with within the school grounds using sustainable drainage systems.
- 8.5 Outdoor play, learning and exploration are at the heart of Edinburgh's Primary and Early Years settings. New schools and nurseries are designed with high-quality outdoor settings. Internal spaces are designed with easy access between indoor and outdoor spaces promoting exploration of external environments.
- 8.6 The heavy focus on the design of outdoor spaces and natural environments is to embed within children's learning and experiences an appreciation and understanding of nature and the outdoors. It is recognised that one of the single most effective ways of addressing climate and nature emergencies is through education.

9. Risk, policy, compliance, governance and community impact

- 9.1 The statutory consultation to which this paper refers has been undertaken according to the requirements set out in the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 as amended by the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014.
- 9.2 If the proposal is approved there is a risk that continuing changes to market conditions may escalate costs beyond the approved budget. Initial feasibility work followed by cost analysis at each RIBA stage of the design will keep informing the project development to ensure financial risks are mitigated and the design of the building meets expectations.
- 9.3 If the proposals in this paper are rejected the existing schools are unlikely to provide sufficient accommodation for the projected demand.
- 9.4 The recommendations in the report do not impact on any of the Council existing policies.

10. Background reading/external references

- 10.1 Education, Children and Families Committee, 11 June 2024, [Statutory Consultations proposing new primary schools at Granton Waterfront and Gilmerton Station Road](#)

11. Appendices

- Appendix 1. Summary of the Statutory Consultation Paper
- Appendix 2. Issues Raised and Council Response
- Appendix 3. Minute of the Statutory Consultation Meeting
- Appendix 4. Surveys and summary of Responses
- Appendix 5. Sibling Guarantee
- Appendix 6. Education Scotland Report

Appendix 1. Summary of the Statutory Consultation Paper Proposal to establish a new non-denominational Primary School and Nursery Classes at Granton Waterfront and implement Catchment Changes

Summary Paper

GIVE US YOUR VIEWS:

www.edinburgh.gov.uk/grantonwaterfrontps

What is being proposed?

The establishment of a new non-denominational primary school and nursery in the Granton Waterfront Development area in the north of Edinburgh. The new primary school would be aligned with Craigroyston Community High School.

The catchment changes proposed are:

- A catchment area for the new primary school formed from sections of Pirniehall and Granton Primary Schools existing catchment areas.
- A realignment of the catchment areas of Broughton High School and Craigroyston Community High School so that the new primary school's catchment area is included entirely within Craigroyston Community High School's catchment area.
- A realignment of catchments between Craigroyston Primary School and Pirniehall Primary School, including removing the current dual feeder primary school catchment area.

Where will the new primary school and nursery be located?

It is proposed that the new school will be built on a site within Forth Quarter section of the Granton Waterfront development. The site is located north from Forthquarter Park, north of the Edinburgh College (Granton Campus) car park.

The map at the end of this paper shows the proposed school location.

Why do we need a new primary school?

Granton Primary School and Pirniehall Primary School do not have capacity to accommodate the estimated 654 new non-denominational primary school age pupils expected to be generated by the new homes being built in the area.

Why do we need catchment changes?

The new school requires a new catchment associated with it, which also needs to be aligned with a high school. Further housing developments taking place is Craigroyston Primary School's

catchment area also represent an added pressure to the school, and proposed catchment changes make more efficient use of school capacity.

What are the implications for existing secondary schools?

It is projected that the new Granton Waterfront housing development and other development in the area could generate 484 new non-denominational secondary school pupils in the Broughton High School and Craigoyston Community High School catchment areas. Neither school is projected to have spare capacity to meet this demand for places.

Work is under way to review accommodation at Craigoyston Community High School and plan how the school can be expanded to meet demand from the new housing.

Who will the changes affect?

The catchment changes will affect pupils entering P1 or S1 in August 2028 and all pupils moving to the area after August 2028.

When would the changes come into effect?

If the proposal is approved by the Council, the new school could open in August 2028 at the earliest. Catchment changes would be effective from the November prior to the new school opening.

Why are we consulting?

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

How will I know if my views have been considered?

All comments made during the statutory consultation period will be recorded and represented in a final 'Outcomes of the Consultation Report' that we expect to be considered by Council in December 2024. The report will be published three weeks in advance of the Council meeting and parents of pupils attending affected schools and anyone who has responded to the consultation will be notified of its publication.

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

If you want more information, you can find the full consultation paper and other supporting information at www.edinburgh.gov.uk/grantonwaterfrontps

We have organised a public meeting which anyone can attend:

Date	Time	Venue
Tuesday, 10 September 2024	18:30 – 20:30	Craigoyston Community High School

The meeting will open with a short presentation about the consultation and what is proposed, followed by a question-and-answer session. We will take a note of the meeting, and all of the points made will be captured in the final 'Outcomes of the Consultation Report'.

Please email grantonwaterfrontPS@edinburgh.gov.uk by Wednesday 4 September 2024 if you need translation services at the meeting.

We have also organised public drop-in information events at each of the affected schools:

Date	Time	Venue
Wednesday, 4 September 2024	17:00 – 19:30	Broughton High School
Monday, 9 September 2024	14:30 – 17:00	Granton Primary School
Tuesday, 10 September 2024	14:30 – 17:00	Craigroyston Primary School
Thursday, 19 September 2024	14:30 – 17:00	Pirniehall Primary School

Give us your views: public consultation period closes Thursday 3 October 2024

It would be helpful if you could take time to complete our short survey – you can find it easily online at www.edinburgh.gov.uk/grantonwaterfrontps. If you don't have internet access then you can view the full consultation paper at City Chambers, Waverley Court, Granton library or any of the affected schools.

You can also email comments to us directly at

grantonwaterfrontPS@edinburgh.gov.uk

or if you prefer, they can be posted to:

Granton Waterfront Primary School Consultation

City of Edinburgh Council

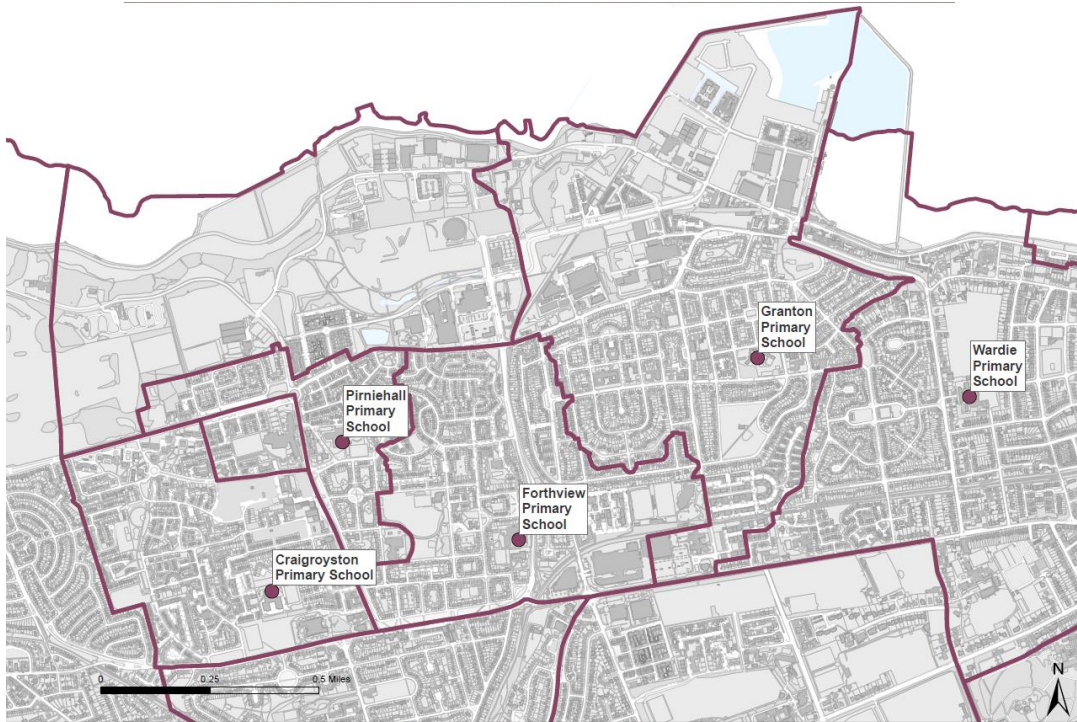
Waverley Court, 1.6

4 East Market Street

Edinburgh EH8 8BG

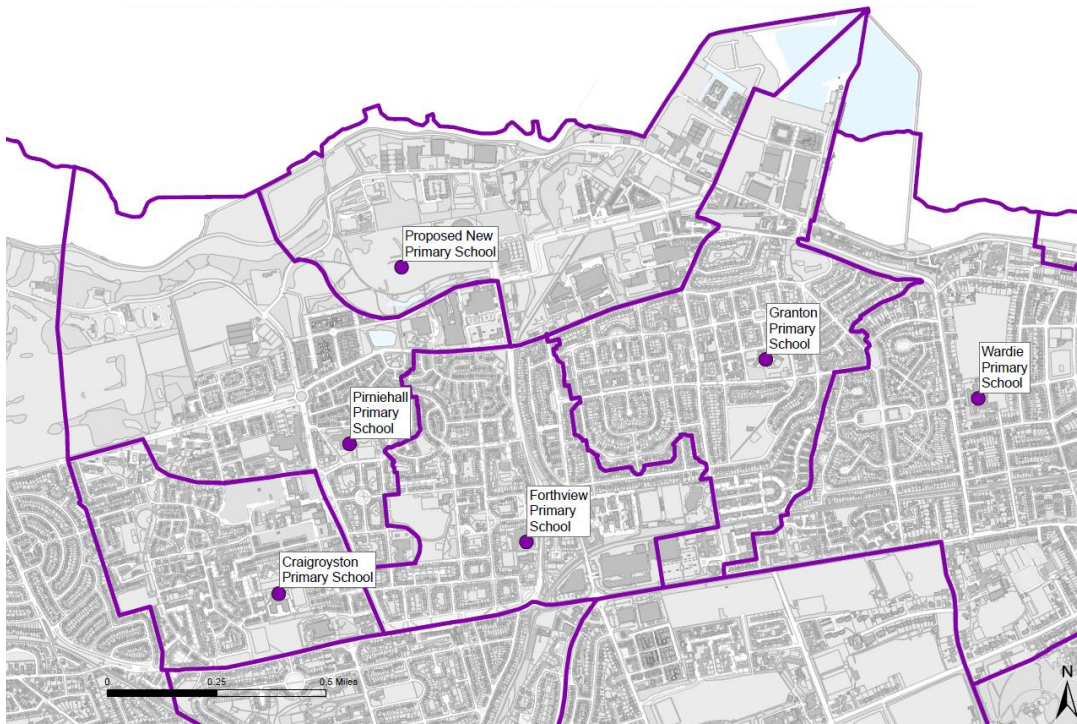
All comments should arrive **no later than end of Thursday 3 October 2024.**

Existing Primary School Catchment Boundaries



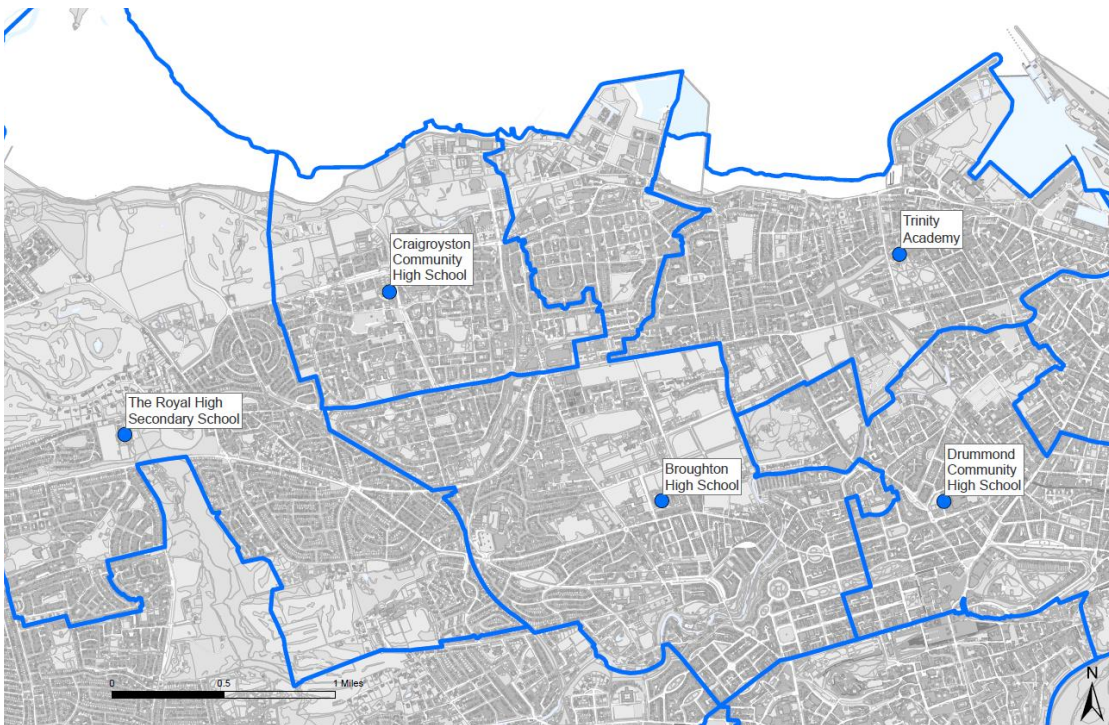
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Proposed Primary School Catchment Boundaries



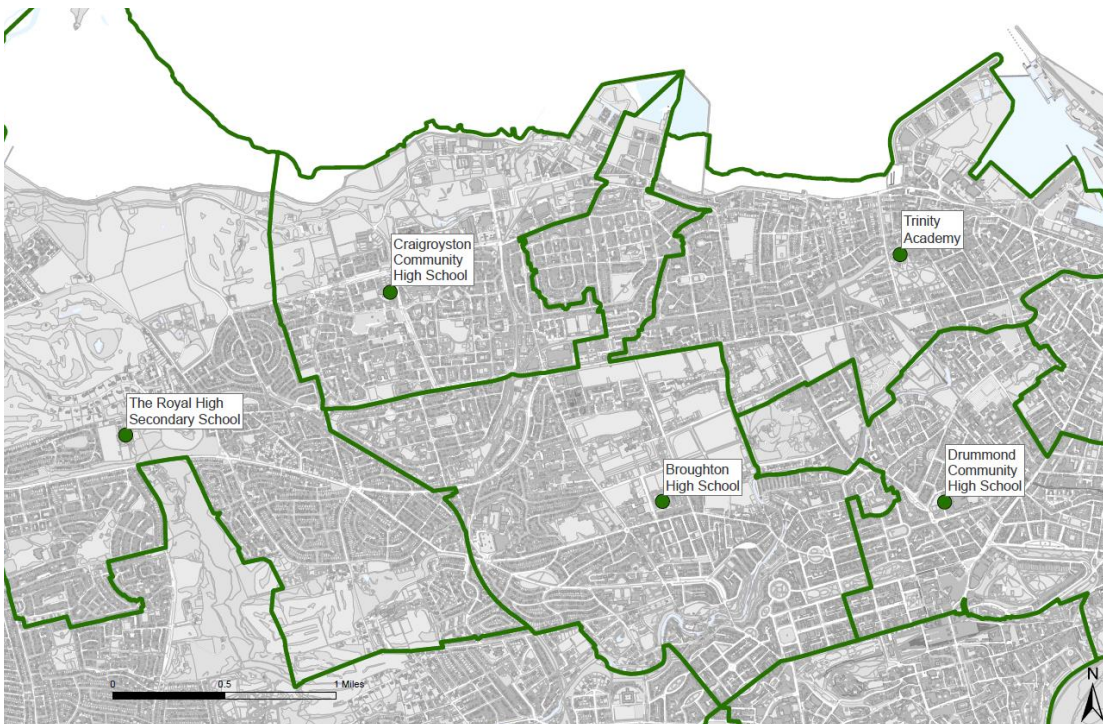
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Existing Secondary School Catchment Boundaries



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Proposed Secondary School Catchment Boundaries



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Proposed New Primary School Site



HAPPY TO TRANSLATE

This is a summary paper of the Granton Waterfront PS Consultation Paper. If you would like the full document in another format such as Braille, large print or translation, please contact the Interpretation and Translation Service email its@edinburgh.gov.uk quoting the unique reference **24-1128**



You can get more copies of this document by contacting grantonwaterfrontPS@edinburgh.gov.uk

Appendix 2. Issues Raised and Council Response

1	Issue: Pressure on existing Broughton High School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The capacity for Broughton High School that was published in the report is inaccurate. • The proposal does not remove enough pressure for pupil spaces from Broughton High School
	Council Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Broughton High School 1,449 pupils capacity figure published in the consultation paper was a provisional planning capacity figure first reported to the Education, Children and Families Committee in the "Learning Estate Update: 2023 based School Roll Projections" paper on 16 April 2024. This differs from the previous "notional" capacity of 1,200. • A revised planning capacity of 1,393 pupils has now been agreed with the school management team and was subsequently reported to Education, Children and Families Committee on 21 November 2024. This remains under review. • The establishment of the proposed new primary school aligned with Craigroyston Community High School would eventually reduce the pressure on Broughton High School by removing from its catchment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The existing housing with 51 secondary school age pupils ○ The additional projected 131 secondary school age pupils which are expected to be generated by the new housing being developed in areas currently within the Broughton High School catchment. • The proposed change could reduce the pressure on Broughton High School by a forecasted 182 pupils. This proposal would eventually leave the catchment with an approximate population of 1329 secondary school age pupils.
2	Issue: Broughton High School vs Craigroyston High School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preference for aligning new school to Broughton High School due to perceived lack of success with attainment and achievement at Craigroyston Community High School. • Review of proposed catchment areas to exclude certain addresses from changing high school.
	Council Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school roll at Craigroyston CHS has grown significantly over recent years and the continuing growth will enable the school community to further expand its Curriculum offer and continue the upward trend in its attainment and achievement data. • Craigroyston CHS has improved attainment in key areas identified by Scottish Government and continues to ensure all young people move onto positive destinations when leaving school.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For pupils not wishing to attend Craigryston CHS an out-of-catchment placing request can be made.
3	Issue: Location	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Destruction of amenity and greenspace on proposed site. Lack of existing infrastructure and active travel Proximity of school site with unsecured access to water
	Council Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proposed location is integrated as part of the wider Granton Waterfront regeneration and the proposed school building would be integrated with the housing planned to be built in neighbouring areas. The new development at Granton Waterfront, includes new housing, commercial spaces, parks and leisure facilities, and transport infrastructure including active travel and public transport. The school playground will aim to maximise the creation of new high amenity greenspace areas.
4	Issue: Impact of catchment changes to pupils attending existing schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sibling guarantee Separation of pupils from friends.
	Council Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A new sibling guarantee is being proposed as part of this report with details in point 4.27 and Appendix 5 of this report.
5	Issue: Staffing of new school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The need for the Council to consider a more diverse workforce for the proposed school, to ensure it reflects to socio-demographics of the area
	Council Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council is currently working with Third Sector BME organisations who are promoting a volunteering opportunity to the people they work with. This will, offer people experience of working in a school, with a view to going on to become Teachers, Early Years Professionals, Pupil Support Assistants, or other support roles. The Council is also looking at assessing the promotional materials which The Council uses to promote working for us. The Council will continue asking Schools to use their website and social media/emails to parents to promote opportunities.

Record of Meeting

Proposal to establish a new non-denominational Primary School and Nursery Classes at Granton Waterfront and implement Catchment Changes

Public Consultation Meeting held at 6.30 pm, Tuesday 10 September 2024, Craigroyston High School, Edinburgh

Present: 0 members of the public

In Attendance:

Tom Wood (Independent Chair);

Councillor Joan Griffiths (Convener of the Education, Children and Families Committee);

City of Edinburgh Council Officers: Robbie Crockatt (Strategic Asset Planning Manager), Guilherme Martins (Learning Estate Planning Officer), Donna Murray (Head of Education – Early Years, Parents & Operations), Michelle Fraser (Programme Manager – Edinburgh Waterfront) and Daniel Baigrie (Committee Officer).

• **1. Introduction**

Tom Wood introduced himself and advised that he had been invited by the City of Edinburgh Council as an independent person to chair the public consultation meeting. Mr Wood thanked everyone for coming along and explained his role as well as introducing the key officers in attendance. It was explained that the consultation would continue until the 3 October 2024 and the public had the opportunity to feed in comments until then.

The Schools (Consultation Scotland) Act 2010 required the Council to conduct a public consultation. The public consultation would provide people with the opportunity to express their views and feed directly into the consultation process.

• 2. Presentation/Proposal

The Programme Manager for the broader Edinburgh Waterfront presented an overview of the development in the Granton Waterfront area from 2018 onwards detailing the housing, amenity and future plans for the site. The involvement of local architects, artists, the focus on heritage and inspiration drawn from other European developments were noted. The purchase of the gas works site which included the Gas Holder, redevelopment of Granton Station and ongoing work to deliver new homes and commercial units were highlighted alongside sustainable transport.

The Learning Estate Planning Officer then presented specifically on the Proposal to establish a new non-denominational Primary School and Nursery Classes at Granton Waterfront and implement Catchment Changes. The existing primary school catchment areas serving this area of north Edinburgh were presented; specifically, the feeder primary schools to Craigoyston High School and Granton Primary School. It was noted that 90% of children who live in this area attend one of the schools in this area, although not necessarily their catchment school. [After the meeting it was established that 90% of children attending a local school are from the area, the share of non-denomination primary school pupils living in the area and attending a school in the area is 73%]

It was noted that increased capacity within the primary school estate would be required for the predicted number of pupils that would live within the new housing development at Granton Waterfront and at other nearby developments.

The current catchment areas and school rolls for Pirniehall, Craigoyston, Forthview, and Granton Primary Schools were presented. School roll information for Broughton and Craigoyston High Schools were presented. Catchment area changes to existing schools, and the proposed catchment for a primary school at Granton Waterfront were presented alongside anticipated future school rolls.

It was anticipated, that if approved, the new school would enrol pupils from November 2027 to start at the school from August 2028.

It was noted that Active Travel as well as Public Transport would be part of the plan for the school, working alongside colleagues from the broader Granton Waterfront projects. Lothian Buses already operate a number of routes in the area.

It was noted that the final decision on the proposal to develop a new school would be considered by the City of Edinburgh Council at their meeting in December 2024.

- **3. Questions/Comments**

Question 1: Is there any potential for land reclamation in the Granton Waterfront area?

Answer: There are no proposals to reclaimed land in the Granton Waterfront regeneration area.

Question 2: Will there be any impact on Roman Catholic School catchments because of this proposal?

Answer: No, however there is broader work to look at St Augustine's RC High School for example as new homes are developed in the west of the city, in line with the City Plan.

Question 3: What impact will catchment changes have on siblings of children already in existing schools?

Answer: There is an understanding that some families may want their younger children to attend the same school as their older children. There will be a proposal in the final report regarding this proposal, which will address the matter of a sibling guarantee across the changes proposed to catchments areas.

Question 4: Where do children who lived in the north of the city currently that do not attend their catchment school go?

Answer: A variety of schools across the area, including Davidsons Mains Primary School.

- **5. Conclusion**

Mr Wood brought questions to a close and thanked everyone for all their contributions which were extremely valuable. Mr Wood reminded everyone that they had until the 3 October 2024 to make any further contributions on the website or in writing.

Cllr Joan Griffiths thanked everyone for coming and for their contributions.

Appendix 4. Surveys and summary of Responses

A pupil survey was made available for S1 – S6 pupils attending Craigroyston High School, and P6 and P7 pupils attending Craigroyston, Granton and Pirniehall Primary Schools to give an opportunity for pupils to indicate how they felt about aspects of the consultation.

A total of 93 answers was received from pupils from P6 and P7, including 55 answers from Craigroyston Primary School, 37 from Pirniehall Primary School and 1 from Granton Primary School. No answers were received from any High School pupil.

Of the 93 respondents, 57 Pupils advised that this was the first time they have heard about the proposal, 22 pupils knew about the proposal but did not know any details about it, and 14 pupils had some prior knowledge relating to the proposal and some of its details

Pupils were asked how much they agreed or disagreed with these statements:

- **My school has space for pupils from the new homes being built in the area**

30% of pupils agreed (1 strongly agreed, 27 agreed), 31% of pupils disagreed (1 strongly disagreed, 28 disagreed), and 39% of pupils neither agreed nor disagreed.

- **A new primary school is needed in the area**

80% of pupils agreed (22 strongly agreed, 52 agreed), 7% of pupils disagreed (1 strongly disagreed, 11 disagreed), and 13% of pupils neither agreed nor disagreed.

- **If more space is added to Craigroyston Community High School, pupils from the new primary school should go there**

59% of pupils agreed (4 strongly agreed, 51 agreed), 12% of pupils disagreed (2 strongly disagreed, 9 disagreed), and 29% of pupils neither agreed nor disagreed.

- **It is important to me to be able to walk, wheel, cycle, or bus to school**

84% of pupils agreed (41 strongly agreed, 37 agreed), 3% of pupils disagreed (3 disagreed), and 13% of pupils neither agreed nor disagreed.

Appendix 5. Sibling Guarantee

A sibling guarantee is a guarantee that a pupil living in an area of catchment that has been realigned with a different primary school or secondary school; but who wishes to attend their original catchment school because they have a sibling already attending that school; will be afforded the same rights as a pupil living in the catchment area of their original schools if:

- they can demonstrate that they were resident in the realigned catchment area at the time the catchment changes were implemented; and
- that they continue to reside in the area of realigned catchment area; and
- that they have an older sibling who will be attending the school they wish to attend at the time they would start in P1 or S1 at that school; and
- the older sibling was placed in the school as a catchment pupil; or received a place due to an older sibling attending that school.

Additionally, it should be noted that:

- a sibling guarantee only applies to pupils entering school at P1 or S1 stages;
- any requests for places at stages other than P1 or S1 will be subject to standard placing processes and will be dependent on the requested stage being offered at that school;
- all other requests for places not covered by the criteria above will be subject to standard placing processes.

Appendix 6. Education Scotland Report



Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010

Report by Education Scotland addressing educational aspects of the proposal by The City of Edinburgh Council to establish a new non-denominational primary school and nursery classes at Granton Waterfront and implement catchment changes.

October 2024

1. Introduction

1.1 This report from Education Scotland has been prepared by His Majesty's Inspectors of Education (HM Inspectors) in accordance with the terms of the [Schools \(Consultation\) \(Scotland\) Act 2010](#) ("the 2010 Act"). The purpose of the report is to provide an independent and impartial consideration of a proposal by The City of Edinburgh Council to establish a new non-denominational primary school and nursery classes at Granton Waterfront and implement catchment changes. Section 2 of the report sets out brief details of the consultation process. Section 3 of the report sets out HM Inspectors' consideration of the educational aspects of the proposal, including significant views expressed by consultees. Section 4 summarises HM Inspectors' view. Upon receipt of this report, the Act requires the council to consider it alongside any relevant considerations the council received and then prepare its consultation report. The council's consultation report should include this report and must contain an explanation of how, in finalising the proposal, it has reviewed the initial proposal, including a summary of points raised during the consultation process and the council's response to them. The council has to publish its consultation report at least three weeks before it takes its final decision. With all proposals the council needs to follow all statutory obligations set out in the 2010 Act.

1.2 HM Inspectors considered:

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

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

- attendance at the public meeting held on 10 September 2024 in connection with the council's proposals;
- consideration of all relevant documentation provided by the council in relation to the proposal, specifically the educational benefits statement and related consultation documents, written and oral submissions from parents and others; and
- visits to the site of Pirniehall Primary School, Granton Primary School, Craigroyston Primary School, Craigroyston High School and Broughton High School, including discussion with relevant consultees.

2. Consultation process

2.1 The City of Edinburgh Council undertook the consultation on its proposal(s) with reference to the [Schools \(Consultation\) \(Scotland\) Act 2010](#).

2.2 The council undertook the consultation between 22 August to 3 October 2024. The council published the proposal on its website. Paper and electronic copies of the proposal paper were made available. The council held a public meeting at Craigroyston High School, which no members of the community attended. Completion of online questionnaires and written responses on the proposal were also accepted by letter or email. The council also engaged with children at a drop-in event that took place at school pick-up times. The council received 54 responses from

stakeholders who took part in the online survey. Most respondents were in favour of the proposal. A few were not in favour and a few neither agreed or disagreed with the proposal. The council also received 93 responses from children who took part in the online survey. A majority of children agreed that there is a need for a new school. A few disagreed and a few neither agreed or disagreed. The majority of respondents agreed that if more space is added to Craigroyston Community High School, pupils from the new primary school should go there. A few disagreed and a minority neither agreed or disagreed. Most respondents agreed that it is important to them to be able to bus, walk, wheel or cycle to school.

3. Educational aspects of proposal

3.1 The council's proposal is to establish a new non-denominational primary school and nursery classes at Granton Waterfront and implement catchment changes. The proposed new school will have 14 classrooms and 128 nursery places. The proposed timeline for the new school is August 2028. The catchment area for the new school will be formed from sections of Pirniehall and Granton Primary Schools. The existing dual catchment areas of Pirniehall and Craigroyston Primary Schools will be realigned to Pirniehall Primary School. A further catchment area, which is currently aligned to Craigroyston Primary School will also be realigned to Pirniehall Primary School. Broughton and Craigroyston High School catchment areas will be realigned so that the new school will be associated with Craigroyston High School. Craigroyston High School will be extended to accommodate up to 1,200 pupils.

3.2 HM Inspectors agree with the proposal to build a new school has potential educational benefits. These include access to a modern, inclusive and accessible learning environment. A new building should support creative and engaging learning aligned with Curriculum for Excellence. It will offer facilities to encourage health and wellbeing and support outdoor learning. Nursery accommodation on site will allow for children to progress in learning from nursery to P1 within a familiar setting. Proposed catchment changes may lead to more socio-economic diversity in schools. It may also help to more evenly distribute any pressures on sustainable school rolls that may arise as a result of new housing developments. Increased staffing in the area can expand cluster working and the sharing of approaches to learning and teaching.

3.3 Almost all children, young people, parents and wider stakeholders who met with HM Inspectors were supportive of the proposal. They recognise the potential education benefits of increasing school capacity in the area, with further opportunities to expand in the future. They also recognise that a new school may offer opportunities for increased after school activities and better outdoor facilities for learning and play. Children also recognised opportunities to make new friends. However, a few parents suggested there is a need for more diversity in the staffing of the proposed new school, to better reflect the socio-demographics of the area. A few parents were also concerned about the sibling guarantee and would like more clarity on what will be offered. A minority of parents and young people had concerns about safe routes to school, as the proposed location for the new school is near to a very busy road and unsecured access to water. A few staff noted the importance of building a strong ethos and identity of the new school. Almost all stakeholders would like to be involved in aspects of design and development of the proposed new school. A few staff at Craigroyston High School would also like to be informed of plans for the proposed extension to help inform the best use of space within the school for the delivery of all aspects of the school curriculum.

3.4 During the consultation period consultees identified alleged inaccuracies in the proposal relating to school capacity numbers of young people at Broughton High School. The council will need to ensure that it takes the necessary steps to investigate these alleged inaccuracies. In its final consultation report, the council will need to set out the actions it has taken to address these.

4. Summary

The council's proposal provides strong evidence to support the establishment of a new non-denominational primary school and nursery classes at Granton Waterfront and implement catchment changes. HM Inspectors agree that there are potential educational benefits to this proposal. If implemented, the proposal could see an increased number of children in the area accessing a modern and accessible learning environment, which will support the delivery of Curriculum for Excellence. If approved, the council should work with children, young people, parents and staff to ensure concerns around safe routes to school are addressed and other concerns and suggestions are considered. In its consultation report, the council will need to set out the actions it has taken to address any alleged inaccuracies and omissions notified to it.

HM Inspectors
October 2024