

**REPORT TO: EDUCATION COMMITTEE – 22 JUNE 2015**

**REPORT ON: NORTH EAST CAMPUS - OUTCOME OF THE FORMAL CONSULTATION PROCESS**

**REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION**

**REPORT NO: 174-2015**

## **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 This report contains the formal Consultation Report, in terms of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, on the proposals to close St Luke's and St Mathews RC Primary and St Vincent's RC Primary Schools and to establish a new Roman Catholic primary school located on a new school campus setting with the relocation of Longhaugh Primary School and Longhaugh Nursery School to that campus and recommends that the Council proceeds with the proposal.

## **2.0 RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Education Committee

- i. notes the contents of this Committee report;
- ii. notes the accompanying Consultation Report, including the report by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education (HMIE) / Education Scotland on the proposal;
- iii. agrees that St Luke's and St Matthew's RC Primary and St Vincent's RC Primary Schools be closed and a new Roman Catholic primary school is established and located on a new school campus setting, with the relocation of Longhaugh Primary School and Longhaugh Nursery School to that campus, which will be located on the ground adjacent to the existing Longhaugh PS site.
- iv. instructs the Director of Education to ensure clear travel plans are created for families attending the new school, and also agree any action that will be required to upgrade current footpaths.
- v. instructs the Director of Education to proceed with the proposal.

## **3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 3.1 The estimated capital cost of the new school campus is £16m. This figure is included in the Capital Plan 2015 - 2018.
- 3.2 The additional loan charges will be partially offset by operational revenue savings of £304,000 per annum following the opening of the new campus.

## **4.0 BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 At its meeting on 24 November 2014, the Education Committee approved that a consultation proposal on this change be brought to the December committee and that the Director should begin an informal consultation process. (Committee Report 466-2014 refers). At the Education Committee held on 8 December the Committee instructed the Director of Education to formally consult on the proposals in terms of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 and report back to Committee in due course on the outcome of the consultations.
- 4.2 The formal consultation on the proposal ran from 9 January 2015 to 27 February 2015. Details of the consultation were notified directly to parents and on the council's website and responses in either written or electronic format were invited. As part of its arrangements for

consulting on the proposal, the council held public meetings on 27, 28 and 29 January 2015. The council received four written responses to the proposal.

- 4.3 A copy of the consultation report is attached as Appendix 1, a copy of the report by Education Scotland is attached as Appendix 2 and copies of the notes of the meetings held during the consultation period are attached as Appendix 3.
- 4.4 The shared campus accommodation will offer flexibility of use for all schools as individual school rolls change over the years. The shared campus will also allow the Council to provide purpose built learning environments from the existing capital resources. The site start date is proposed for February 2017 with construction completed by May 2018.

## **5.0 APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSAL**

- 5.1 Education Scotland indicated in their report that the proposal had clear educational benefits. The Diocese of Dunkeld also responded to the consultation and broadly welcomed the proposal. Education Scotland in their report summarised a number of issues arising from stakeholders, including the Diocese of Dunkeld, that should be addressed as part of the final consultation report.

## **6.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 This Report has been screened for any policy implications in respect of Sustainability, Strategic Environmental Assessment, Anti-Poverty, Equality Impact Assessment and Risk Management. An Equality Impact Assessment has been carried out and is attached to this report as Appendix 4.

## **7.0 CONSULTATIONS**

- 7.1 The Chief Executive, Director of Corporate Services, Head of Democratic and Legal Services have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

## **8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 8.1 None.

MICHAEL WOOD  
Director of Education

8 June 2015

## DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL

### CONSULTATION REPORT

#### **The closure of St Luke's and St Matthew's RC Primary and St Vincent's RC Primary Schools and the establishment of a new Roman Catholic primary school to be located on a new school campus setting and the relocation of Longhaugh Primary School and Longhaugh Nursery School to that campus.**

This Consultation Report is available on the Dundee City Council website - [www.dundee.gov.uk/education](http://www.dundee.gov.uk/education) - and also in printed form from the following locations: Customer Services Reception Area, Dundee House; St Vincent's RC Primary School, St Luke's and St Matthew's RC Primary School, Longhaugh Primary School and Longhaugh Nursery School.

#### **1.0 BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 At the meeting of the Education Committee on 24 November 2014 an updated school estate report was agreed (Report No 436-2014 refers) and the Director of Education was instructed to bring details of the consultation process to committee and in line with the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010. On 8 December 2014 the Education Committee agreed the proposal (Report No 466-2014 refers) in principle and instructed the Director of Education to formally consult on the proposal.
- 1.2 The proposal was to close of St Luke's and St Matthew's RC Primary and St Vincent's RC Primary Schools and to establish a new Roman Catholic primary school to be located on a new school campus setting and the relocation of Longhaugh Primary School and Longhaugh Nursery School to that campus, which would be located on the ground adjacent to the existing Longhaugh Primary School site. The shared campus accommodation would offer flexibility of use for all schools as individual school rolls change over the years. The shared campus would also allow the Council to provide purpose built learning environments from the existing capital resources. The site start date was proposed for February 2017 with construction completed by May 2018.
- 1.3 A number of educational benefits were identified as part of this proposal:
- Pupils attending the new schools will benefit from a modern, state of the art shared campus with purpose built learning environments designed to support a range of teaching and learning approaches. In outlining the proposal, the Education Department believes that pupils will benefit from an improved range of high quality, challenging and enjoyable learning experiences across all curricular areas and learning contexts. Pupils will develop knowledge, skills, attributes and capabilities through experiences aligned with Curriculum for Excellence design principles.
  - Classrooms will be well planned with good layout and use of space facilitating learning, including display and storage facilities. Modern lighting, ventilation, heating and acoustics will improve comfort and wellbeing.
  - Consistent with new school buildings, the school environment in its entirety will have a positive impact on the motivation, behaviour, health and wellbeing, aspirations and ultimately outcomes for young people. This includes designed outdoor spaces to facilitate outdoor learning.
  - The creation of a rich digital learning environment with improved technology will support learning and promote greater pupil engagement and motivation in their learning experiences, ultimately leading to improved outcomes.

- All pupils will benefit from a range of purpose built facilities including music and drama areas for the delivery of the expressive arts curriculum. Such environments will be instrumental in both bringing life to learning and learning for life.
- Supported by the adaptability and functionality of such learning environments, pupils will have increased opportunities to work individually, in pairs, groups and teams leading to improved learning experiences and greater pupil motivation and engagement in their learning.
- A fully equipped PE facility will benefit pupils' health and wellbeing and increase opportunities for extra curricular activities. The facility will also allow for further engagement for community use.
- There will be improved dining facilities to meet the increase in free school meals entitlement and enhanced storage and display facilities.
- The provision of community facilities for both schools will provide parents and carers with a dedicated meeting space and allow for greater engagement in activities.
- Continued opportunities will exist for parents and carers to be involved in their child's education through a range of home and school engagement activities aimed at supporting their child's learning. As at present, parents will have opportunities to participate within the schools' Parent Councils.
- Working in a shared campus, staff from all schools will have increased opportunities to work collaboratively and to share expertise.
- The school campus will be designed to ensure improved vehicular access and road safety around the site, including drop off areas.
- The new nursery provision will be designed to better meet the early learning and care needs of a range of age groups from 0-5. The design will include a range of different spaces. This reflects the Government plans to extend early learning and childcare provision.
- Attractive, well maintained, stimulating environment that offers a variety of contexts for learning, large playroom, small group rooms, outdoor areas.
- Potential through thoughtfully designed spaces to better support children with additional support needs and support these children in their catchment area keeping them with their peer group and supporting the parents of these children in their own community.
- Enhanced opportunities for high quality outdoor learning which enables skills development and improves the health and wellbeing of the child.
- Children, parents, the community and other stakeholders feel valued and respected.
- The increased area will provide purpose built spaces to effectively support parents with parenting skills and will enhance early learning experiences for their children in order to raise attainment and help children and families reach their full potential. This will seek to ensure parents/carers are welcomed and fully involved in the life of the nursery.
- The new nursery would be able to cater for more full-time children and children who wish to stay for extended hours with facilities and resources that better meet the children's learning needs and care requirements.
- This would also benefit working parents and parents who wish to train for employment by providing high quality affordable early learning and childcare

1.4 A number of additional considerations led to the proposal for relocation:

- The creation of a new schools campus in the Longhaugh area will greatly improve the quality of the School Estate.
- The proposal is to build a new campus setting to replace the following schools:
  - Longhaugh Primary School
  - Longhaugh Nursery School
  - St Luke's and St Matthew's RC Primary School
  - St Vincent's RC Primary School

Each of the establishments would benefit from the building of a new setting since they are all classified as being in a satisfactory or poor condition. In addition, this would result in lower operational costs by having all the establishments on one site

- The overall project design will provide an opportunity to ensure improved vehicular access and road safety around the new site including drop off areas.

1.5 As a result of the Committee decision, the Director of Education was remitted to carry out the consultation procedures in terms of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 in respect of the proposal. The consultation programme is detailed in paragraph 2.1 below, and a summary of the main points raised is set out in section 3.

1.6 A report from Education Scotland is required under the terms of the Act to address the educational aspects of the proposal. The report is attached as Appendix 1. The report states that:

“Dundee City Council's proposal to close St Luke's and St Matthew's Primary School and St Vincent's Primary School, establish a new Roman Catholic Primary School on a new campus and to relocate Longhaugh Primary School and Longhaugh Nursery School to that campus has a number of potential educational benefits for children who may attend the campus in future. It will also assist the council to make efficient and effective use of its resources by addressing significant under-occupancy issues in each of the three primary schools concerned. The council has set out a clear statement of the educational benefits should the proposal goes ahead. The proposal takes good account of the entitlements of Curriculum for Excellence and rightly cites the provision of a high-quality digital learning environment and appropriate space for outdoor learning as aspects of the proposed campus which will widen the range of opportunities to help children develop the skills to succeed in learning, life and work. The statement specifies separately the anticipated benefits for different groups of children, including those who attend the Longhaugh Support Group, and gives a broad outline of the council's intended approach to managing the transition to the new campus.”

The report concludes that:

“The proposal has a number of potential educational benefits for children who may attend the campus in future. These include the delivery of Curriculum for Excellence within modern, purpose-built accommodation and a rich digital learning environment with appropriate outdoor learning spaces. It will also assist the council to make efficient and effective use of its resources by addressing significant under-occupancy issues in each of the three primary schools concerned. In its final consultation report, the council should clarify its reasons for focusing on the three options cited in the proposal paper and why it believes the current proposal is the most viable and reasonable option. Early clarification of arrangements for the leadership of the new Roman Catholic Primary School will eliminate uncertainty and facilitate a smooth transition to the new campus. Should the proposal go ahead, the council should demonstrate to families whose routes to the new campus will be more challenging than at present how it has fulfilled its commitment to review road crossings in the area and to ensure that footpaths are suitably maintained and lit.”

- 1.7 The Diocese of Dunkeld in their written response to the proposal stated that it was in broad agreement with the proposal and welcomed the Council's continuing commitment to the improvement of the denominational school estate. The Diocese sought clarification on the effects of the size of the campus on supporting pupils and how the Council intends to mitigate the impact of the proposal on the community served by St Vincent's RC PS.
- 1.8 The Director of Education has considered carefully the HMle report and its implications, in particular where the report highlights specific issues raised during the consultation period. It is to be noted that the report recognises the potential benefits that will accrue from the proposed move and the positive nature of the overall responses. Having reviewed the proposal in the light of the representations and the Education Scotland (HMle) report, it is clear that many of the highlighted issues were identified in the proposal or are referred to directly in this consultation report. An important vehicle in providing the necessary reassurance and ongoing consultation that would be required to make this proposal successful will be the establishment of a Project Board to oversee the development of the new campus. The Project Board would include representation from staff, pupils, the Roman Catholic Church and parents and would ensure their direct contribution from the concept design stage through to the project completion. This important action would reflect and address issues raised in relation to the nature and sizing of the accommodation and the design brief; the provision of quality outdoor play areas; parking and travel arrangements; the management of shared facilities and the need to preserve and maintain the unique identity of the individual schools involved in the campus.

## **2.0 CONSULTATION**

- 2.1 The formal consultation procedure included:
- giving notice of the proposals to the parents of pupils at the affected schools, and the parents of pupils expected to attend the affected schools within two years of the date of publication of the proposal paper (12 January 2015)
  - giving notice of the proposals to the pupils at the affected schools (12 January 2015)
  - giving notice of the proposals to the staff at the affected schools (12 January 2015)
  - giving notice of the proposals to Trades Unions representing staff at the affected schools (12 January 2015)
  - formal consultation with the Scottish Hierarchy of the Roman Catholic Church (12 January 2015)
  - giving notice of the proposals to relevant Community Councils (12 January 2015)
  - giving notice of the proposal to Local Community Planning Partnerships (12 January 2015)
  - publication of the proposal on the Education Department's website (9 January 2015)
  - an announcement of the proposal in the local press, inviting any person to make written representation to the Director of Education (9 January 2015)
  - public meetings in the local area (27, 28 and 29 January 2015)
- 2.2 Four written representations were received on the proposal during the consultation period.
- 2.3 A summary of oral representations received, collated as a list of 'Frequently Asked Questions/Comments', is attached as Appendix 2, and the Department's responses have been added.
- 2.4 In accordance with the Schools Consultation (Scotland) Act 2010 copies of all written representations and 'Frequently Asked Questions/Comments' were required to be submitted to HMle for their consideration in the preparation of their report.
- 2.5 No substantive errors in the Consultation Proposal document were identified as a result of the consultation process

### 3.0 MAIN ISSUES ARISING FROM THE CONSULTATION, WITH RESPONSES

- 3.1 Parents, staff and the Diocese of Dunkeld raised concerns over the size of the proposed campus and how the strong caring ethos established in each of the schools could be continued in a larger merged denominational primary school. There were also some concerns raised concerning the ability of a larger school to be able to cater appropriately for pupils with additional support needs.

*In relation to the size of the school, both the current St Vincent's RC Primary School and St Luke's and St Matthew's RC Primary School were built to accommodate 434 pupils. It is anticipated that when both schools come together the pupil population will be around 440. Although this is a larger pupil population than the schools currently experience, there are other Dundee schools that operate comfortably at this level and even at higher levels. Larger schools have greater numbers of staff and larger management ratios to allow for the smooth running of the school. All schools are supported to ensure a community approach and ethos within the school and being part of a campus will allow for closer partnership working across the local community. In addition, previous experience of campus provisions has demonstrated that the individual schools can and will keep their own identity and sense of school community. A new school allows for the involvement of all pupils, parents and staff to create a unique community and ethos. In relation to supporting pupils with ASN due to the increase in the size of the school a greater number of staff will be provided to support ASN, and due to the increased staff pool it will be easier to share expertise and provide greater resilience for providing the support all young people require. The brand new facility will also greatly enhance support for all young people, including those with ASN and this is clearly set out in the Educational Benefits Statement in the proposal paper as well as in section 3.1 of this report.*

- 3.2 Concerns were raised in particular from parents at St Vincent's RC Primary School concerning transport and travel arrangements to the new school and in particular the current pavements and lighting.

*The Council was very aware of this problem already and acknowledged this and the action that would be taken in the original proposal paper. Education acknowledged this in their own report:*

*"The council rightly acknowledges that its proposal will impact on transport and travel arrangements for families of children currently attending St Vincent's Primary School. Accordingly, it has committed to a review of controlled crossings and school crossing patrols in the area. It has also given a commitment to ensuring that footpaths are suitably maintained and lit. This will help to promote the wellbeing of children and families whose route to school will become more challenging as a result of the location of the proposed new campus."*

The proposal outlines that the campus would not be complete until May 2018. This important aspect of the consultation findings will be built in as a core task to the Project Board where parents, staff and the wider community will be able to work directly with DCC Transport and Planning officers to look at how any future issues will be resolved. These issues will include a clear travel plan for families attending the school with appropriate action to upgrade footpaths as necessary.

- 3.3 The Diocese of Dunkeld along with parents from both the denominational schools involved in the proposal sought for clarity on the arrangements for the leadership of the merged school at as early a stage as possible.

*If the proposal goes ahead it would be the intention of the council to move towards the appointment of the Head Teacher of the new school as soon as is practicable and certainly in plenty of time to allow for all transition arrangements to be put in place for the new school commencing on site in August 2018. Both parent councils will be fully involved in the discussions and arrangements for the appointment of the new Head Teacher in the merged school.*

3.4 The school communities of St Vincent's RC Primary School and St Luke's and St Matthew's RC Primary School through Education Scotland sought assurances on the transitional programme and arrangements that would be in place for bringing the merged school together. *Successful transition is important for any merger and Dundee City Council particularly in the primary sector have significant experience in managing these transitions. As stated in the original proposal paper in terms of pupils' perceived shared ownership of the 'new' denominational school, both current St Luke's and St Matthew's and St Vincent's pupils will move 'as one' to the new school building on its opening in August 2018. School staff will support the fusion and transition of existing and new pupils to the new school through a range of means including joint preparatory visits to the new building, careful composition of classes and carefully planned transition events. Both additional time and resources will be required to manage the transition and in the event of the proposal going ahead the Education Department will have regular discussions with both schools as to the requirements here as well as providing officer time to support the transition. The Education Department has significant experience in ensuring a smooth transition for the leadership of new schools and will ensure a plan is in place for this to take place at the most practicable and appropriate time for the schools concerned. Parent Councils would require to work collaboratively at an early stage and this will be facilitated through our Parent Council Officer as well as the schools Education Officer.*

3.5 The Diocese of Dunkeld along with parents at St Vincent's RC Primary School raised questions as to why only 3 options were explored and why the particular option put forward in the proposal paper was the most viable option for the school. Education Scotland also suggests that in taking forward the proposal continued work would be necessary with St Vincent's RC Primary School parents to provide greater clarity.

*The proposal paper sets out in detail the pupil populations and the significant under occupancy of the schools. The paper also sets out that the proposal maximises benefit for the quality of the school estate as 4 schools will benefit from brand new accommodation. This is achieved importantly by providing a campus facility where although it is accepted that a greater distance of travel is involved for pupils in the St Vincent's catchment (the new facility is approximately 1km away from the current St Vincent's building) the facility would be in close proximity to the existing school. In addition to this the new denominational school on the shared campus site will remain the closest denominational primary school for the majority of residential properties currently contained within St Vincent's RC Primary School's catchment.*

*The configuration that the proposed campus model has put forward is the best model not only to maximise the improvements in the overall school estate but it also provides the most sensible geographical arrangement for denominational education in the east end area.*

3.6 Concerns were raised regarding the impact on the local community and social aspects of Mid Craigie and Linlathen.

*This proposal ensures that in each of the Local Community Wards there is a denominational and a non-denominational Primary school for parental choice. The Local Community Planning Partnerships will continue to work together to build and develop the local community and the services provided. There will continue to be a Priest in every Ward who will be linked to each of the schools. The new Roman Catholic school on the shared campus will have a designated Priest.*

#### **4.0 THE SCHOOL PREMISES (GENERAL REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 1967**

4.1 The proposal meets the requirements of the above Act, and accordingly the Director of Education is not required to apply to Scottish Ministers for dispensation from the standards.



## **5.0 CONCLUSION AND NEXT STEPS**

- 5.1 Having reviewed the Education Scotland Report and looked at the consultation responses in detail including those issues raised at the public meeting it is recommended that the proposal should go forward in its present form.
- 5.2 As this proposal relates to the closure of a school, the council must notify Scottish Ministers within six working days after taking its decision of any decision to close a school. Dundee City Council must also publish on its website the fact it has notified Scottish Ministers of this decision and the period in which consultees have the opportunity to make representations to Ministers asking for the proposal to be called in. Ministers have the power to call in a proposal, but only where it appears to Ministers that the council has failed in significant regard to comply with the Act's requirements, or in coming to its decision has failed to take account of material consideration relevant to the proposal. Ministers have up to 8 weeks from the date of the council's decision to decide whether or not to issue a call-in notice.

MICHAEL WOOD  
DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

21 May 2015

**Report by Education Scotland addressing educational aspects of the proposal by Dundee City Council to close St Luke's and St Matthew's Primary School and St Vincent's Primary School, establish a new Roman Catholic Primary School on a new campus and relocate Longhaugh Primary School (including Longhaugh Support Group) and Longhaugh Nursery School to that campus.**

## **1. Introduction**

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

1.2 HM Inspectors considered:

- the likely 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:

- 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;
- consideration of further representations made directly to Education Scotland on relevant educational aspects of the proposal;
- visits to the sites of St Luke's and St Matthew's Primary School, St Vincent's Primary School, Longhaugh Primary School, Longhaugh Nursery School, including discussion with relevant consultees;

- visit to Rowantree Primary School and discussion with members of its community; and
- discussion with the Roman Catholic Diocese of Dunkeld.

## **2. Consultation Process**

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

2.2 The formal consultation on the proposal ran from 9 January 2015 to 27 February 2015. Details of the consultation were notified directly to parents and on the council's website and responses in either written or electronic format were invited. As part of its arrangements for consulting on the proposal, the council held public meetings on 27, 28 and 29 January 2015. The council received four written responses to the proposal. Records of public meetings and written responses indicate that, whilst there is overall support for the proposal, there are concerns about the potential challenges it will pose for families who are currently zoned for St Vincent's Primary School and for the community currently served by the school. There are also concerns about the logistics of managing and meeting the needs of the large number of children who will be brought together on the campus and about the challenges of road safety.

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

3.1 Dundee City Council's proposal to close St Luke's and St Matthew's Primary School and St Vincent's Primary School, establish a new Roman Catholic Primary School on a new campus and to relocate Longhaugh Primary School and Longhaugh Nursery School to that campus has a number of potential educational benefits for children who may attend the campus in future. It will also assist the council to make efficient and effective use of its resources by addressing significant under-occupancy issues in each of the three primary schools concerned.

3.2 The council has set out a clear statement of the educational benefits should the proposal go ahead. It is HM Inspectors' view that the proposal takes good account of the entitlements of Curriculum for Excellence and rightly cites the provision of a high-quality digital learning environment and appropriate space for outdoor learning as aspects of the proposed campus which will widen the range of opportunities to help children develop the skills to succeed in learning, life and work. The statement specifies separately the anticipated benefits for different groups of children, including those who attend the Longhaugh Support Group, and gives a broad outline of the council's intended approach to managing the transition to the new campus.

3.3 The proposal paper states that before proceeding to formal consultation, the council appraised a total of three options. St Vincent's Primary School community believes that further options, which they regard as more suitable, have not been given due consideration. In taking forward its proposal, the council will need to work with St Vincent's Primary School community to clarify its reasons for believing the current proposal is the most reasonable and viable option open to it.

3.4 The council rightly acknowledges that its proposal will impact on transport and travel arrangements for families of children currently attending St Vincent's Primary School. Accordingly, it has committed to a review of controlled crossings and school crossing patrols in the area. It has also given a commitment to ensuring that footpaths are suitably maintained and lit. This will help to promote the wellbeing of children and families whose route to school will become more challenging as a result of the location of the proposed new campus.

3.5 HM Inspectors met with school staff, representative groups of pupils and parents from all establishments affected by the proposal and a number of residents of the local community. Most of those who met with HM Inspectors were positive about the proposal and were optimistic that the council would take into account their concerns about the need for very effective traffic management arrangements to be put in place should the proposal go ahead. The communities of St Luke's and St Matthew's Primary School and St Vincent's Primary School expressed a number of reasonable

concerns about the challenges of re-creating the strong caring ethos of the existing schools and of ensuring that children's needs will continue to be met as well as at present within a much larger school population. The council will need to clarify for members of the schools' communities how it will ensure that the size of the proposed campus will not be detrimental to children's experiences and how their learning needs will continue to be met. The communities of St Luke's and St Matthew's Primary School and St Vincent's Primary School were justifiably keen to eliminate uncertainty about the leadership of the new Roman Catholic Primary School which will be formed if the proposal goes ahead. The council will need to ensure that it puts arrangements in place for very effective management of the transition of four existing establishments to a single campus. In doing so, it will be particularly important to clarify arrangements for the leadership of the new Roman Catholic primary school.

3.6 The Diocese of Dunkeld has submitted a response to the council stating that it is broadly supportive of the proposal. The Diocese also welcomes the continuing commitment of Dundee City Council to the improvement of the city's Roman Catholic School Estate. However, in its response to the council, the Diocese is seeking clarification on a number of issues of concern. These include the council's reasons for focusing on this particular option to address under-occupancy of the Roman Catholic School Estate in the north east of the city, the impact of the size of the proposed campus on meeting children's needs and the actions that the council will take to mitigate the impact of its proposal on the community served by St Vincent's Primary School. In taking forward its proposal, the council will need to engage with the Diocese to address these concerns.

#### **4. Summary**

The proposal has a number of potential educational benefits for children who may attend the campus in future. These include the delivery of Curriculum for Excellence within modern, purpose-built accommodation and a rich digital learning environment with appropriate outdoor learning spaces. It will also assist the council to make efficient and effective use of its resources by addressing significant under-occupancy issues in each of the three primary schools concerned. In its final consultation report, the council should clarify its reasons for focusing on the three options cited in the proposal paper and why it believes the current proposal is the most viable and reasonable option. Early clarification of arrangements for the leadership of the new Roman Catholic Primary School will eliminate uncertainty and facilitate a smooth transition to the new campus. Should the proposal go ahead, the council should demonstrate to families whose routes to the new campus will be more challenging than at present how it has fulfilled its commitment to review road crossings in the area and to ensure that footpaths are suitably maintained and lit.

**HM Inspectors  
Education Scotland  
March 2015**

**DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT**

**SCHOOLS CONSULTATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010**

**SUBJECT TO FUNDING FROM THE SCOTTISH FUTURES TRUST, THE CLOSURE OF ST LUKE'S AND ST MATTHEW'S RC PRIMARY AND ST VINCENT'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOLS AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL TO BE LOCATED ON A NEW SCHOOL CAMPUS SETTING AND THE RELOCATION OF LONGHAUGH PRIMARY SCHOOL AND LONGHAUGH NURSERY SCHOOL TO THAT CAMPUS.**

**RECORD OF MEETING WITH LONGHAUGH PRIMARY SCHOOL STAFF HELD ON  
TUESDAY 27 JANUARY 2015 AT 3.30PM**

There was no meeting with school staff as they did not feel the need to have one.

**DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT**

**SCHOOLS CONSULTATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010**

**SUBJECT TO FUNDING FROM THE SCOTTISH FUTURES TRUST, THE CLOSURE OF ST LUKE'S AND ST MATTHEW'S RC PRIMARY AND ST VINCENT'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOLS AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL TO BE LOCATED ON A NEW SCHOOL CAMPUS SETTING AND THE RELOCATION OF LONGHAUGH PRIMARY SCHOOL AND LONGHAUGH NURSERY SCHOOL TO THAT CAMPUS.**

**RECORD OF MEETING WITH LONGHAUGH PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 27 JANUARY 2015 AT 6.00PM**

There was no meeting with Parent Council representative.

A representative attended the public meeting at 7.00pm.

**DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT**

**SCHOOLS CONSULTATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010**

**SUBJECT TO FUNDING FROM THE SCOTTISH FUTURES TRUST, THE CLOSURE OF ST LUKE'S AND ST MATTHEW'S RC PRIMARY AND ST VINCENT'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOLS AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL TO BE LOCATED ON A NEW SCHOOL CAMPUS SETTING AND THE RELOCATION OF LONGHAUGH PRIMARY SCHOOL AND LONGHAUGH NURSERY SCHOOL TO THAT CAMPUS.**

**RECORD OF MEETING WITH LONGHAUGH PRIMARY SCHOOL PUBLIC HELD ON TUESDAY 27 JANUARY 2015 AT 7.00 PM**

**Present:** Lina Waghorn, Head of Education (Early Years, Primary, Communication & Culture), Morag Cooney, Education Officer (Recorder), Joyce Gaechter, Gerry Munro, Head Teacher, Nicola Jenkins, Depute Head Teacher, Councillor Gregor Murray, Councillor Brian Gordon, 10 parents and 1 pupil.

**Will out of school clubs be included?**

Yes they will have improved custom built provision.

**Will the uniform/tie change? (from pupil)**

This is not planned as Longhaugh Primary will be retaining its identity.

**Will St Luke's & St Matthew's and St Vincent's be separate?**

No they will be merged into one school on the new campus with a new name. This will encourage best use of resources.

**Will staffing levels be affected?**

As in any other situation staffing levels will reflect the needs of the school. As there is to be a merged denominational school, there will be one Head Teacher redeployed.

**Will there be adequate parking? The new school at Ballumbie has problems.**

Parking is a very high priority in the planning. Entrances, dropping off places, safer walking routes are all taken into consideration. However, there are always people who disregard pupil safety in their need to park as close to the schools as possible. Consideration of the path up from Linlathen has been given as to clearing undergrowth and renewing lighting. Bike and scooter racks can be considered. There will be an implementation group which can discuss various options.

**What will be the catchment area?**

This will remain the same. Pupils from St Vincent's, who feel that the change of school locale is a problem, can transfer to Rowantree, which is immediately adjacent to St Vincent's.

Lina asked if there were any further questions and told the parents that they could contact her direct if there were further queries. Parents were happy with the proposals.

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**RECORD OF MEETING WITH ST VINCENT'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL STAFF HELD ON WEDNESDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2015 AT 3.30PM**

**Present:** Michal Wood, Director of Education, Lina Waghorn, Head of Education (Early Years, Primary, Communication & Culture), Olivia Menzies, Education Officer (Recorder), 8 Class Teachers, 4 Support Staff, Alison Dempsey, Enhanced Provision Principal Teacher, Tony Murray, Principal Teacher and John Neeson, Head Teacher.

Michael Wood gave an introduction re the proposed changes to the school estate. Formal consultation is part of the process required. Background information given about the project.

School is to open in August 2018 if approved but may open later than that date.

Issues Raised

**Live in the area and many walk to school and there are concerns re walking up the hill to the new school.**

There would be a need to look at Travel Plans. Schools are never equidistant for everybody. Michael outlined benefits of new school.

**How many children are there on the Balgarthno and Balgay Campus?**

Space of the proposed new build is much greater than West End sites and will accommodate large numbers of children.

**Ballumbie is in that area – 2 schools close together plus Fintry nearby.**

Campus schools works and gives value for money.

**Concerns re size of school**

The proposed new build will accommodate children comfortably.

**Concerns re the sharing of the playground and the numbers of children across the campus.**

There are large schools in Dundee already and the numbers/provision works.

**Is the Nursery to be a stand alone or in one of the schools?**

Nursery is to have its own identity and a provision for 2 year olds also. Nursery to be 100 – 120 children.

**Staff shared the concerns which parents have. Concerns re the size in one big building with 3 educational establishments and thought that the numbers affect the nurture aspects.**



The design for the school will be a campus building but Early Years will have a separate building. Schools to be combined like Balgarthno and Balgay. A Project Board is set up with representation to look at needs. The final building plan unknown but stakeholders will be involved.

### **Concern re numbers 400+ and shared facilities**

These have to be thought through to suit needs of schools and school population. Gym Hall used by Community etc. There will be consultation re provision/facilities in the proposed new school.

### **Gym Hall – is it for both schools?**

Might be able to have 2 gyms. Dance Studios etc. provided in schools. Calculations to be made to provide 2 hours PE/week Gym provision part of conversations at Project Board. Outdoor play facilities will be provided.

### **Jobs of staff?**

Reassurance was given that there is a clear process for transfer of staff based on length of service. Admin support – more PEYSA staff possibility but schools staffed to meet needs. 1:1 discussion with HR re where staff go. There is a shortage of church approval staff so there will be a mixture of staff in RC schools.

### **Effect on community – lost the church and now losing the school. Feeling that new school provides for those in another area.**

It is everybody's responsibility to talk up the new school.

### **Would ground at Mid Craigie be considered?**

3 schools then would be displaced.

### **Ballumbie to provide for those children 'up there'**

### **RC school and Longhaugh – will they have separate Dining Rooms?**

This is part of the design consultation. Existing schools have 2 serveries.

### **There is sense of community in this area – staff know the families and parents depend on school. Concern expressed re losing that.**

Building relationships is part of the new school. Common values and principles shared with SSLM.

### **2 Head Teachers – what is the position re this?**

New build is 3½ years away but could be longer possibly April/August 2019 before opening.. Things change over period of time with regard to staffing.

### **Heart and head conflict – community feel Linlathen and St Saviour's closed now St Vincent's will be closing. If the proposal had been to build in this community then there would have been less resistance.**

Difficult decisions have to be made and Michael Wood explained the rationale.

School to kept actively informed and the process for this described to staff.

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**RECORD OF MEETING WITH ST VINCENT'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2015 AT 6.00 PM**

**Present:** Michael Wood, Director of Education, Lina Waghorn, Head of Education (Early Years, Primary, Communication & Culture), Olivia Menzies, Education Officer (Recorder), Taletta Jamieson, Parental Involvement Officer, 9 Parent Council, 1 Clerk, John Neeson, Head Teacher and Tony Murray, Principal Teacher.

Michael Wood explained consultation process and advantages of Campus schools, timescale etc.

Issues Raised

**Consultees asked by Education Scotland re proposal but thought that it was a given that Education Scotland would attend.**

Education Scotland don't come to all meetings or consult all people/stakeholders.

**Cost of proposal?**

This was explained by Michael Wood.

**What are educational benefits of new building/premises etc? x**

Facilities are an educational benefit in a new school.

**Teachers teach children not a building**

New school is purpose built eg gym, IT etc. The environment impacts on children.

**Strong feeling that building doesn't have an impact – children don't care about the building.**

**New buildings have had problems, are these going to be fixed? Tiny classrooms and cramped Nursery**

Any new buildings have initial snagging problems. Staff/stakeholders are consulted re the design of the building. A Project Board is established. Michael Wood explained the process.

**If things need to be fixed is money taken out of school to fix faults? How much money is put aside and used to refurbish the schools involved?**

Brand new building is proposed with 4 communities coming together. This is a much better way to spend money £16m than on individual buildings

**Distance from the new build and school will be taken out of the community. Parents have an expectation that children walk to school independently but the children won't be able to. Expectation that parents/children will walk in the dark, with double buggy and 2 year olds with 6/7 children 'up that hill'. The loss to the community is the main concern and travel to the new school. There is a feeling that there isn't a safe route to school up and down the hill. The bus**

takes 27 minutes and a buggy on a bus is not feasible. Travel routes etc. has to be part of consultation and concern for the children's safety.

There are other schools are nearer to the new build.

Travel arrangements/plans will be looked at.

**What happens to teaching staff?**

Staff are likely to move to the new school.

**Staff aware of children's needs but feeling that children with needs will get lost in a bigger school.**

**Strong caring school etc. a quote given from Extended Review feedback. There is a strong Christian ethos in the school.**

**Why choose SSLM and St Vincent's and not St Pius? 3 new schools Ballumbie, Fintry and Longhaugh in the same area. Only Rowantree left in this area and not a RC school. There is no longer a RC provision in this area/community.**

**Will the new school campus ensure vehicle access and drop off areas? The schools are bigger than a secondary school.**

**Met Stewart Hunter and there are problems with traffic (St Andrew's, Fintry) Environment Impact Assessment for previous schools. Has the above been done for this?**

**Issue re Traffic Controller recruitment and lack of staff for travel to new build.**

**Parental responsibility to get children to school disputed but children can walk to St Vincent's now but won't be allowed to walk.**

**Distance, hill, dark route to school. Has this been costed to put lights etc. There is a need to have this in place before new build consultation.**

**Still dealing with issues re St Paul's infrastructure, transport problem has not been solved.**

**We're not fighting for us but for the community. Thought St Vincent's would close due to Rowantree being built but it didn't happen – roll of St Vincent's has increased. Why are children still coming here to an old building etc. There is more to the school than a building.**

**2 separate communities not a faith community. What improvement is there by joining the 2 schools together.**

**Thought that saving money was the main driver not educational provision.**

**It is very important – child at the centre but what does the child gain from the new build?**

**Parents consider St Vincent's as a quality provision – issues re St Paul's raised and its accommodation.**

**Query re is the new build a Robertson's school?**

**Children have space because the school is half full – no overcrowding. Regard 40% capacity as 'brilliant'.**

**Claim money saving is the most important driver for new build. Education Department not caring about children's education.**

**2 non denominational schools – Mossgiel and Mid Craigie, secondary - Linlathen, RC Church, St Saviour's already have been lost from the community. New build not in Linlathen but in Longhaugh and Fintry.**

**Acknowledged roll did drop due to Rowantree opening but children are now coming back**

**Concerns re merging of classes and friendship groups.**

**Parents are not interested in other schools.**

**What are we getting for £16m?**

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**RECORD OF PUBLIC MEETING WITH ST VINCENT'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2015 AT 7.00 PM**

**Present:** Michael Wood, Director of Education, Lina Waghorn, Head of Education (Early Years, Primary, Communication & Culture), Monsignor Ken McCaffery, Councillors S Hunter and L Brennan, Olivia Menzies, Education Officer (Recorder), John Neeson, Head Teacher, Tony Murray, Principal Teacher, Father James Walls, Neil Lowden, Head Teacher, St Luke's & St Matthew's Primary, Taletta Jamieson, Parental Involvement Officer, 20 attendees. 30 in total

Michael Wood explained process, timescales etc. Michael raised issues already discussed.

Issues Raised

Travel distance, road safety, travel Path safety, safety guarantees, who is responsible for that etc.

New school planned → Project Board etc. explained.

New school – educational benefits? Parent community happy with existing school.

Educational benefits – organise a visit to new building eg Balgarthno or West End.

Why the location? List of loss to the community of closures of establishments.

How do we reassure people?

Education Scotland make the decision re whether proposal viable?

New school name to be considered

Is it just about money? No its not but can't divide pot up to build 2/3 new schools. Campus schools work well.

**Richard Whyte agreed those were the points raised.**

**After consultation what would make St Vincent's stay open?**

Michael explained process with Education Scotland and Education Committee. If it fails can't be looked at for 5 years. This is not a done deal.

**Concern re the truth of the process that it is not a done deal. Are their voices going to be heard? Only St Vincent's against proposal so feel would be outvoted re the proposal. RC element important – do not want to send children to Rowantree.**

Stewart Hunter – explained vote – Education Committee not voted yet. Cannot be forced through administration as not got a majority in Education Committee so it is not a done decision. Reassurance that Stewart Hunter can't push it through the Education Committee. Genuine consultation. Non elected members have a vote also.

**Finance element huge part of proposal.**

**Rips the heart out of the community.**

Stewart Hunter reassured that voice will be heard and won't be outvoted.

**What is the financial impact if proposal doesn't go ahead?**

Stewart Hunter confirmed that the decision was made solely by Education Committee not Policy and Resources Committee.

Monsignor Ken McCaffery – acknowledged difficulties re other campus schools but they are now resolved. Submission is made to the Diocese Group and parents are listened to. Diocesan Strategy Group make submission after seeking views and listening to parents.

**Parent – School Board Chair, attended here. Aghast at plans but queried Church listening. Can't see the benefit of a new school. St Vincent's is on a hit list of other establishments closed already. Emphasised deprivation of the area and the removal of part of the community. Financial implications felt and at all Local Government levels. Suggested proposal to save an element of St Vincent's in this community – no previous mention of closure of St Vincent's and RC element must stay in this area.**

**Concern re children walking 'up there'. Financial implications of cost of getting children to Longhaugh site due to deprivation of the area. Class sizes a concern.**

Michael reassured re class sizes, maximum class sizes etc.

**Can't guarantee staff who know children will teach the same children in the new build.**

**Parents at Barnhill and Forthill long for smaller schools because it gives greater opportunities for children.**

**Separate entry of Nursery there will be a transition link with both schools. Nursery staff do have to work with different children and get to know them.**

**Concern re the number of children in the Nursery 90/90 and the operation of it.**

Design of nursery accommodates for this.

**Query re 2 year olds included in 90/90 provision.**

Ratio of Nursery staffing explained.

**Accusation of ethnic cleansing in the area of RC. If you want to send a child to RC school parents will have to move to another area.**

**There is a feeling that RC children being forced to go to the new build.**

**Housing schemes do not work putting them together**

**Friendships won't be formed between children at far ends of the catchment areas**

**Consideration that children are pulled out of this school to go to Rowantree as parents work at other end of the town so going to new build would be in a different direction**

**Query re the design – will there be separate buildings? Why encourage religious segregation of separate schools if in the same building? Have already visited West End Campus but concern re segregation – shared areas eg dining room, different uniforms etc.**

Stewart Hunter – daughter in Camperdown – segregation not raised and not experienced it in a Campus school and daughter plays with St Clement's children.

**Catholic schools got to church for Mass. Are the Education Department funding children to go to Catholic Church?**

**Would the hall be big enough to hold all children in the hall?**

**Parents already pay for children to go to St Paul's – now they would have to pay to go to the new build**

**Why was the site chosen? Was the neighbourhood centre site considered?**

Michael would recount the views expressed tonight at St Luke's & St Matthew's on 29<sup>th</sup> January.

Stewart Hunter – public can put in a written submission and encouraged to do so. E-mail further questions to the Education Department.

Pupil Council will be asked their views and feelings.

**Concern re value and ability of asking very young children.**

Presentation to children to be delivered in a non biased way.

### St Vincent's Pupil Council Report Feb 2015

#### Proposal - Our Views....

We can see benefits to the proposal, for example,

- socialising with different people from different areas
- newer facilities and resources.
- We also see disadvantages, for example,
- our families will struggle because of lack of transport,
- the whole house will have to get up earlier in the mornings and as a result go to bed earlier,
- its not our catchment area/community and Fintry has enough schools,
- there is a huge hill for us to go up which is very dangerous walking and going in cars especially in Winter,
- it might be crowded and lots of boys and girls might not mix well or be a bit frightened by the size of the new school.



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**RECORD OF MEETING WITH STAFF ST LUKE'S AND ST MATTHEW'S PRIMARY SCHOOL  
HELD ON  
THURSDAY 29<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2015 AT 3.30PM**

**Present:** Lina Waghorn, Head of Education (Early Years, Primary, Communication & Culture), Olivia Menzies, Education Officer (Recorder), 11 staff (including Neil Lowden, Head Teacher and Yvonne Donnelly, Depute Head Teacher)

Lina outlined the proposal for St Luke's & St Matthew's, St Vincent's and Longhaugh. Campus new build subject to funding. The proposal cannot be separated to build parts of the proposal. It is all or nothing.

**Will Longhaugh Nursery keep its name or change its name because St Vincent's nursery will be part of it? Change of name would encourage children to go into either denominational or non denominational schools.**

It was accepted that this was a good point and would be looked at. Staff and children would be mixed in the St Vincent's and St Luke's & St Matthew's joint school with a new name, uniform etc. It would possibly be 2019 before the new build would open. The consultation period ends at the end of February and the notes collated will then be sent to Education Scotland and they would decide if more clarification was required. A written report would be submitted to the Education Department. The report then goes to the Education Committee and it decides whether the new build goes ahead.

**For a 21<sup>st</sup> Century curriculum to be delivered, will the classrooms be as big as the ones we have now? Particularly in the infant rooms?**

**Communal areas will require additional staff for supervision, will staff be provided?**

The most recent new build was in the West End. It was suggested that staff visit the new builds to look at classrooms and areas. There are partition doors in classrooms with shared activity areas. It can't be guaranteed that extra staff would be provided to man the 'outside' areas.

**Will the staff be consulted on planning teaching areas?**

Staff will be consulted re the design of classrooms, colour etc. The Project Board is formed for consultation.

**In recent school mergers staff storage space has not been sufficient. Discuss**

This will be discussed as part of consultation with Project Board.

**Are our jobs safe in this (new school) school?**

It was asked if everybody would still be here? All are guaranteed a job – there is a no redundancy policy. The new school would be staffed to the numbers required.

**What issues have been raised by previous school mergers and how were they addressed? ie what have you learned?**

**Eg      Transition  
         Staffing  
         Sharing resources  
         Gym Hall timetable**

Communication - the first year will be quiet then discussions with the other school re resources, etc. will begin followed by joint staff meetings etc. The Inservice days and social events begin then discussions re priorities, the direction of the school merger, when new school opens etc. The appointment of the HT will be sooner to manage both schools. Consultation would take place but the plan is to come together on one site when school opens. There will be a shared playground, gym, dining hall and is the same in other Campus schools and it works. It is good for children to play together/mix etc.

**Will Dundee City Council own the school outright after the build?**

The Council will own school outright. There is £16m to pay for the new build. No one will be made redundant. The money can't be divided up to refurbish etc. St Vincent's issue is the travel to the site and that their community is being deprived of a RC school.

HT appointment will be for one RC school. No HT loses their job. By the time the new school opens the present HTs may not still be here as other opportunities arise. Lina Waghorn described how similar situations were resolved previously.

**The admin staff will both go to new school?**

Both may go depending on numbers but opening is a few years away. HR speak to all staff to determine where they want to go, what they want to do. There will be no decision re the proposal until May/June.

**Would St Vincent's parents' objections affect the decision on the proposal?**

The consultation process listens to what parents have to say but it would look at the objections and see what can be done to resolve St Vincent's parents' objections. The number is taken in the round and is proportionate

The staff were advised to e-mail Lina if any further questions. (4.20 pm)

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**RECORD OF MEETING WITH PARENT COUNCIL ST LUKE'S AND ST MATTHEW'S PRIMARY SCHOOL HELD ON THURSDAY 29<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2015 AT 6.00 PM**

**Present:** Michael Wood, Director of Education, Lina Waghorn, Head of Education (Early Years, Primary, Communication & Culture), Olivia Menzies, Education Officer (Recorder), Taletta Jamieson, Parental Engagement Officer, 1 Church Representative, 4 members of staff and Neil Lowden, Head Teacher

Michael Wood outlined the consultation process and the proposal and feedback from St Vincent's meeting the previous evening. He used existing plans as examples of how schools are designed to meet needs. Each school is slightly different. He invited Parent Council members to visit a new build as an example.

There was a query re why this site had been chosen. This is the best site and the new schools can be built whilst the existing schools still running and therefore there would be no decant. The bringing of the 2 schools together would be planned.

Michael Wood outlined the facilities that there would be in the new school. There would be a potential roll of 400+. He recognised that larger schools can cause concerns but it does work if it is managed well.

Longhaugh parents etc. are pleased with the proposal. St Vincent's parents are not so pleased due to the distance from the proposed site and the travel distance and route to the new build. They are happy with the existing school and wanted to know if 2 separate schools could be built. They were concerned re the motive for the proposal and felt that it was being driven by money saving motives. All this will be feedback into the consultation process. The plus side of a new build was outlined and it was a fantastic opportunity. Michael wood acknowledged that staffing and class sizes were raised as a concern at St Vincent's. He said that most of the teachers would transfer to the new school and the PEYSAs formula would be used for support staff.

**Will the dining room be big enough?** It would be designed to accommodate the numbers.

**How will children go to Church (concern from St Vincent's) but St Luke's & St Matthew's walk to Church to Our Lady's of the Sorrows and is a natural link. St Vincent's go to St Pius and is paid for by Father James Walls.** The time of Mass dictates attendance at church. **Because of the distance to the new build some children will go to Rowantree but then they will miss out on Sacraments etc. It is very upsetting when part of community is lost. This is an important issue for parents. Parents will make the choice to attend RC schools.**

The children would be encouraged to be a part of principles of Catholicism. The church is not directly connected to the school and vice versa. The schools share the same priest.

**Important that problems etc. learnt form previous new builds feed into this proposal to make it a seamless transition and managed wisely.**

The authority has experience from other mergers/moves so can use its experience.

**Michael Wood had acknowledged that there maybe slippage so may not open in August 2018. Was this likely?**

Michael confirmed that this is likely.

There would be a link up with community planners for the new build. St Luke's & St Matthew's is a community hub. Activities will continue with the school as a focal point.

**Will all activities be accommodated?**

Michael outlined facilities existing in new build in West End and how it accommodates for activities. There would be an analysis of activities to ensure provision.

**Will After School and Breakfast Club provision continue with increased numbers?**

A reassurance was given that they will have a dedicated provision in the new build.

**Drop off/pick up, parking appalling just now. How will this be managed?**

The Authority has learned from previous new builds re parking drop off/pick up points but inconsiderate parking is part of the problem.

**There is a need for secure drop off/pick up points for the new build. There will be more cars due to St Vincent's parents/children travelling to the school. The roads are very busy and children should be encouraged to walk. Will there be a Transport Assessment?**

There was a general discussion agreeing with the problems and how this will be managed. Transport Assessment will be undertaken.

**Would there be a delineation of catchment areas?**

No the catchments will remain the same.

**What happens to old buildings?**

They will be knocked down quickly and St Luke's & St Matthew's will become the playground area. It is done very quickly. The footprint of school has not been decided as yet as it is still a proposal. St Vincent's suggested another site but it is not suitable.

Parent Council felt very positive re the proposal and meeting has relieved their worries.

**Who chooses new name? New uniform?**

The children decide the new name through a consultation process. Yes there will be a new uniform.

**DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT**

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**RECORD OF PUBLIC MEETING WITH AT ST LUKE'S AND ST MATTHEW'S PRIMARY SCHOOL HELD ON THURSDAY 29<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2015 AT 7.00 PM**

**Present:** Michael Wood, Director of Education, Lina Waghorn, Head of Education (Early Years, Primary, Communication & Culture), Olivia Menzies, Education Officer (Recorder), Neil Lowden, Head Teacher, Taletta Jamieson, Parental Involvement Officer, Brian Gordon, Monsignor Ken McCaffery, John Neeson, Head Teacher, 2 members of staff, Bishop Robson, Father James Walls, Stewart Hunter and 14 parents

Michael Wood outlined process of proposal and timescales and invitation to view the existing new schools. Taletta Jamieson to arrange this soon.

**Who is consulted in the proposal?**

The proposal has not been approved as yet and is a genuine proposal. Michael Wood outlined the facilities of the new schools and staffing/class sizes guaranteed of 25 P1 – P3 would remain. If the proposal is rejected it can't be looked at again for 5 years. After the proposal is accepted then a Project Board is set up with parents, staff, pupils looking at design, dynamics and logistics. The combined roll will be 430 approximately.

St Luke's & St Matthew's will have less change than St Vincent's due to the proposed location. Their issues are re safe travel, routes to school and transport. This was discussed last night at the St Vincent's meeting. Staff will be provided for the numbers in the schools and there are maximum class sizes to be adhered to. There is no blueprint as yet as it is still a proposal. Other sites are not feasible. The proposed site is an ideal one. The feelings parents have of the loss of community around St Vincent's is a sensitivity. They are looking at travel distance to St Vincent's compared with the proposed site. The timeline was outlined of accepted proposal.

**Religious question – children think this will be one school when it will have Longhaugh as well.**

Reassured that shared campus work and children have their own identity and own uniforms etc.

**Perception that it is one school on a single site and separated for religious reasons.**

Monsignor Ken McCaffery encouraged parents to visit the West End Campus. The church makes a response re proposal also. The guidelines re RC and Campus schools have been adhered to by DCC and it works on the West End site.

Bishop Stephen said it works very well if the planning is right. The Campus schools work and gave an example of Campus working.

**Are children going to be allowed to merge with Longhaugh? What will the total roll of the Campus be?**

There will be about 600 children on the campus. School to be built bigger to accommodate growth.

**Building site – will there be any disruptions?**

No. The scale of the site is such that it won't disrupt the existing schools. It will be well supervised and safe. Children will see the school getting built and will work with the contractors to be involved.

**What is the reason for the proposal?**

The Council's ambition is to have a high quality school estate. In reality the schools are not great in terms of buildings. The facilities for learning will be superior. Gregor Murray supports new school.

**Travelling is a real concern for St Vincent's pupils/parents.**

Schools cannot be equidistant for all. That is why travel etc. has to be looked at.

**Will there be buses?**

No. As it is still a proposal no decision made. If the proposal is accepted then it will be looked at.

**The funding is subject to what?**

Scottish Futures Trust give funding if they approve the project  
Councillor Brian Gordon thinks it is a great opportunity to have a new school in this area.

**Parking? It is already busy area.**

The new school will be designed to have safe drop off/pick up access etc.

**Is it a voting process?**

The Elected Members vote on the proposal. Ken McCaffery outlined the process including the RC submission and then the decision will be made at Education Committee and will not be reversed.

**Query re Nursery provision**

Nursery provision is being reviewed across the city. Longhaugh Nursery will be part of the Campus. There will be a new name for the nursery because of the inclusion of St Vincent's Nursery. There will be a new name for the combined St Luke's and St Matthew's and St Vincent's.

**St Luke's & St Matthew's and St Vincent's - will they provide a Breakfast Club**

Yes and dedicated After School Club in a dedicated provision.

**Ballumbie children come to Longhaugh for After School provision. Will they have their own provision?**

As Ballumbie expands in numbers they might have their own provision.

**Why didn't they merge Longhaugh and Ballumbie**

Councillor Brian Gordon - there was not the money not at the time and Ballumbie is already 3 merged schools.

**Play areas? The Fintry Nursery play area is minute.**

We can only work with the footprint available. This is a blank canvas. Menzieshill new campus will have grass areas to support outdoor learning.

Close 7:40 pm



**Longhaugh Nursery School**



**Pupil Consultation Process  
Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2015**

In relation to the proposed new build campus comprising of Longhaugh N.S., Longhaugh P.S. and St Luke's and St Matthew's RC P.S., we asked the children the following questions:

How would you feel if we were to have a new nursery built for us?

Responses	
<p>Happy x 24 Fine Brilliant Super, Super Happy Excited "Happy, proper excited." "Make me feel really good." "I've got a good idea we could join the two nurseries together." "Happy, I am excited about going to school." "Happy because we will have new toys." "Happy, cause I would like to play with the new toys." "I want all my friends from my old nursery to be at the new nursery." "Happy because there would be new toys outside."</p>	<p>"Sad." X 8 "We like this nursery." "I'd cry." "Angry." "Sad, I like this nursery." "I would be sad, I like this nursery." "I don't want nursery to move." "Sad because we wouldn't have our chute." "Very sad if they took our nursery apart."</p>

How would you feel if our nursery was in the same place as the primary schools and you would be closer to older friends and family member?

Responses	
<p>"I would like it to be near the big school. I would be super happy." "I would see Brooke and Si." "I would see my big sister at school." "I'll see all my friends." "Put it beside my sister's school and we can go and visit them." "My big brother Jay is at school, I would see him." "I would be happy, because my big brother is at big school." " I would like to see my big sister when I'm in the garden." "Happy because you would all see my big brother and my sisters." "I would be excited because I could play with my big brothers and sisters."</p>	<p>"It might be noisy"</p>

What would you like to have in a new nursery?

Responses	
Seesaw	Dressing up costumes
Bikes	Robots
Scooters	Instruments
Buggies	Kitchen
Bouncy Castle	A Train
Trampoline	Bob the Builder
Blocks for outside	Lego
Big cars outside	Puzzles
A slide	"Like it to be sparkly."
A castle	"A painting of bears on the roof."
A swimming pool	Shop area
Upstairs for all the coats	New sand tray with more sand
Climbing stuff like Camperdown	Books
A real train in the playground	Bricks
A football pitch	Crayons
Princess Castle	Pirate Stuff
Swings and a Roundabout	



**DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL**Equality and Diversity Rapid Impact Assessment ToolPart 1

<b>Date of assessment</b> May 2015	Title of document being assessed <b>North East Campus - Outcome of the Formal Consultation Process</b>
1) This is a new policy, procedure, strategy or practice being assessed (If yes please tick box) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	This is an existing policy, procedure, strategy or practice being assessed? (If yes please tick box) <input type="checkbox"/>
2) Please give a brief description of the policy, procedure, strategy or practice being assessed.	This report details the representations made during the formal publication and consultation exercise on the above proposal and recommends that the Council proceeds with the proposal.
3) What is the intended outcome of this policy, procedure, strategy or practice?	The outcome of this procedure is to recommend that the Council proceeds with the proposal to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• close St Vincent's RC Primary School and St Luke's and St Matthew's RC Primary School</li> <li>• open a new denominational school on a new shared Campus with Longhaugh Primary School and Longhaugh Nursery school, providing purpose built educational provision for young people in the community.</li> </ul>
4) Please list any existing documents which have been used to inform this Equality and Diversity Impact Assessment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education Committee Report No 466-2014, School Estate Consultation Proposals</li> <li>• Education Department Proposal Paper – 'Subject to funding from the Scottish Futures Trust, the closure of St Luke's and St Matthew's RC Primary and St Vincent's RC Primary Schools and the establishment of a new Roman Catholic primary school to be located on a new school campus setting and the relocation of Longhaugh Primary School and Longhaugh Nursery School to that campus.</li> <li>• Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 as amended</li> <li>• Equality Act (2010)</li> <li>• Education ( Additional Support for Learning) (Scotland) Act 2004 as amended 2009</li> <li>• All written submissions in response to the consultation proposal as part of the mandatory consultation process</li> <li>• Minutes of all public consultation meetings and meetings with Parent Councils, school staff and pupils</li> <li>• Report by Education Scotland addressing educational aspects of the proposal by Dundee City Council to close St Luke's and St Matthew's Primary School and St Vincent's Primary School, establish a new Roman Catholic Primary School on a new campus and relocate Longhaugh Primary School (including Longhaugh Support Group) and Longhaugh Nursery School to that campus.</li> </ul>

<p>5) Has any consultation, involvement or research with protected characteristic communities informed this assessment? If yes please give details.</p>	<p>The mandatory consultation process has necessitated consultation with all parents/cares, pupils and staff and a wide range of stakeholders of the involved school communities as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 27/1/15 – Longhaugh Primary School consultation meetings with staff, Parent Council and the public</li> <li>• 28/1/15 – St Vincent's RC Primary School consultation meetings with staff, Parent Council and the public</li> <li>• 29/1/15 – St Luke's and St Matthew's RC Primary School consultation meetings with staff, Parent Council and the public</li> <li>• 27/1/15 – Longhaugh Nursery consultation with pupils</li> </ul>
<p>6) Please give details of council officer involvement in this assessment. (E.g. names of officers consulted, dates of meetings etc)</p>	<p>Michael Wood, Director of Education  Lina Waghorn, Head of Education  Pamela Nesbitt, Education Manager  Morag Cooney, Education Officer  Olivia Menzies, Education Officer  Joyce Gaechter, Education Officer  Taletta Jamieson, Parental Involvement Officer</p>
<p>7) Is there a need to collect further evidence or to involve or consult protected characteristics communities on the impact of the proposed policy?</p> <p>(Example: if the impact on a community is not known what will you do to gather the information needed and when will you do this?)</p>	<p>In adopting a comprehensive and inclusive approach to consultation procedures there is no need to consult further with protected characteristic individuals, groups or communities in association with this proposal as all were included in the full consultation process.</p>

Part 2

Which protected characteristics communities will be positively or negatively affected by this policy, procedure or strategy?

**NB Please place an X in the box which best describes the "overall" impact. It is possible for an assessment to identify that a positive policy can have some negative impacts and visa versa. When this is the case please identify both positive and negative impacts in Part 3 of this form.**

**If the impact on a protected characteristic communities are not known please state how you will gather evidence of any potential negative impacts in box Part 1 section 7 above.**

	Positively	Negatively	No Impact	Not Known
<b>Ethnic Minority Communities including Gypsies and Travellers</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Gender</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Religion or Belief</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>People with a disability</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Age</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Socio-economic</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Pregnancy &amp; Maternity</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Other (please state)</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Part 3

<p><b>1) Have any positive impacts been identified? (We must ensure at this stage that we are not achieving equality for one strand of equality at the expense of another)</b></p>	<p>The proposal, as highlighted by the Education Scotland report, is of overall educational benefit for pupils. Education Scotland noted that the proposal - <i>“takes good account of the entitlements of Curriculum for Excellence and rightly cites the provision of a high quality digital learning environment and appropriate space for outdoor learning as aspects of the proposed campus which will widen the range of opportunities to help children develop the skills to succeed in learning, life and work. The statement specifies separately the anticipated benefits for different groups of children, including those who attend the Longhaugh Support Group, and gives a broad outline of the council’s intended approach to managing the transition to the new campus.”</i></p> <p>The modern learning environment of the new school is fully Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) compliant and is fully accessible for users with a disability.</p>
<p><b>2) Have any negative impacts been identified? (Based on direct knowledge, published research, community involvement, customer feedback etc. If unsure seek advice from your departmental Equality Champion.)</b></p>	<p>Whilst no negative impacts have been identified the following issues have been aired as an inherent part of the consultation meetings and written submissions:</p> <p><u>Religion or Belief</u> – concern regarding access to denominational school provision in the community. This proposal ensures the Local Community Wards affected maintain a denominational school within that Ward.</p>
<p><b>3) What action is proposed to overcome any negative impacts? E.g. involving community groups in the development or delivery of the policy or practice, providing information in community languages etc. see Good Practice on DCC equalities web page</b></p>	<p><b>Not applicable</b></p>
<p><b>4) Is there a justification for continuing with this policy even if it cannot be amended or changed to end or reduce inequality without compromising its intended outcome? (If the policy that shows actual or potential unlawful discrimination you must stop and seek legal advice)</b></p>	<p><b>Not applicable</b></p>
<p><b>5) Has a 'Full' Equality Impact Assessment been recommended? (If the policy is a major one or is likely to have a major impact on protected characteristics communities a Full Equality Impact Assessment may be required) Seek advice from your departmental Equality Champion.</b></p>	<p><b>This is the full equality impact assessment</b></p>

<p><b>6) How will the policy be monitored? (How will you know it is doing what it is intended to do? e.g. data collection, customer survey etc.</b></p>	<p><b>A range of measures have been outlined to monitor the realisation of the intended educational benefits outlined within the proposal paper. Such measures include:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In preparation for the transition to the new denominational school in session 2018/2019, school leadership teams from both schools will engage in a joint process of curricular and school improvement planning from session 2016/17 onwards.</li> <li>• The involvement of central officers with school leaders, pupils, staff parents/carers and community partners in supporting the move to the new Campus model including support for leadership of the new school and the development of the community and ethos of the schools involved.</li> <li>• Establishment of a Project Board to oversee the development of the new campus to include representation from staff, pupils, the Roma Catholic church and parents.</li> <li>• In support of any resulting staff redeployments, school leaders, supported by central officers, will deploy a range of strategies to support the smooth transition of staff to their new schools. Such measures will include, where required, pastoral support visits by link Education Officers to ensure staff wellbeing.</li> <li>• School managers, supported by central officers, will complete a series of monitoring and evaluation activities in relation to the educational benefits for pupils previously outlined once the new campus is in operation. Such activity will include the analysis of pupil attainment and achievement data and the views of pupils, parents and staff in relation to pupil wellbeing.</li> </ul>
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Part 4

Name of Department or Partnership: Department of Education and Department of Leisure and Communities

**Type of Document**

<b>Human Resource Policy</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>General Policy</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Strategy/Service</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Change Papers/Local Procedure</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Guidelines and Protocols</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Other</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Contact Information**

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**Signature of author of the policy:****Date** 8 June 2015**Signature of Director / Head of Service area:****Date** 8 June 2015**Name of Director / Head of Service:****Michael Wood**