

REPORT TO: EDUCATION COMMITTEE – 20 MARCH 2006

REPORT ON: REVIEW OF SCHOOL CATCHMENT AREAS IN EAST OF DUNDEE REPORT ON FORMAL CONSULTATION PROCESS

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

REPORT NO: 185 - 2006

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 This report details the representations made during the formal publication and consultation exercise on the review of school catchment areas in east of Dundee, (Report 41-2006 approved by the Education Committee of 16 January 2006 refers) and seeks approval to implement the proposals set out below.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

2.1 The Education Committee is recommended to:

- i) note the representations made during the formal consultation exercise on the review of school catchment areas in east of Dundee, copies of which are available in the Members Lounge and with Group Secretaries, and
- ii) that from session 2006-2007 alterations to the catchment areas are as set out in Appendix A of the report.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The costs of implementing the proposals can be met from the Education Revenue Budget

4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Nil

5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The proposals are intended to improve the equality of access of all pupils.

6.0 BACKGROUND

6.1 At its meeting on 16 January 2006 the Committee agreed to prepare and carry out the statutory consultation procedures in terms of the Education (Publication and Consultation Etc.) (Scotland) Regulations 1981.

6.2 The formal consultation procedures were carried out during the period 18 January to 17 February 2006.

7.0 PRESENT POSITION

- 7.1 All School Boards received copies of relevant consultation documents by post.
- 7.2 Copies of the consultation documents were made available to Head Teachers including all school staff, to staff representatives of the appropriate trades unions and to other interested parties including parents.
- 7.3 Public meetings were held in Barnhill, Eastern and Forthill Primary Schools.
- 7.4 The existence of the consultation documents was publicised in the press and copies were made available at the reception desk on Floor 8, Tayside House and in all schools.

8.0 OUTCOME OF CONSULTATION

- 8.1 Three written responses were received. These and the small number of parents of pupils currently attending Eastern Primary School that attended the consultation evenings and whose address would move from the catchment area of Eastern Primary School to the catchment area of Forthill Primary School, expressed concern that they might be disadvantaged by the proposal.

In altering the catchment areas they felt that future siblings may not be able to obtain a place in Eastern Primary school where their children currently attend.

9.0 CONCLUSION

- 9.1 The proposed changes to catchment areas are designed to ensure that all pupils have a place at an identified school which has adequate capacity for the pupils in its catchment area.
- 9.2 The Director of Education has given careful consideration to the representations made and considers that it would be appropriate for the Council to implement the proposals as set out in Appendix A.

10.0 CONSULTATION

- 10.1 This report has been the subject of consultation with the Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Finance) and the Depute Chief Executive (Support Services).

11.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 11.1 None.

ANNE WILSON
Director of Education

14 March 2006

THE ALTERATIONS TO CATCHMENT AREAS ARE:

1. that the catchment area of Forthill Primary School should be varied to include (2-10) & (1-5) Arbuthnott Loan, (1-19) Carnbane Drive, (12-24) Wemyss Gardens and land north of the Arbroath Road to the City boundary presently in the catchment area of Barnhill Primary School with effect from session 2006/2007
2. that the catchment area of Forthill Primary School should be varied to include Bennan Gardens, Broadford Terrace and Portree Avenue presently in the catchment area of Eastern Primary School with effect from session 2006/2007 and
3. that the combined catchment areas of Barnhill, Eastern and Forthill Primary Schools continue to be designated as associated primary schools for Grove Academy.