

REPORT TO: DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL EDUCATION COMMITTEE – 30 JUNE 2003

REPORT ON: DUNDEE SCHOOLS PPP PROJECT – OUTCOME OF THE FORMAL CONSULTATION PROCESS IN RESPECT OF THE REVISED PROJECT PROPOSAL WITH ASSOCIATED CATCHMENT AREA CHANGES RELATING TO DOWNFIELD, MACALPINE AND BRACKENS PRIMARY SCHOOLS.

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

REPORT NO: 285-2003

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 This report details the representations made during the formal publication and consultation exercise on the above Project proposal and makes recommendations for taking it forward.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended that the Committee:

- i) approve the inclusion of a new two stream Downfield Primary School and Kirkton Nursery in the PPP Project, on the site of the current St. Columba's Primary School at Kirkton Road.
- ii) agree to the formation of the new catchment area combining the existing Downfield catchment area with part of the Macalpine catchment area as proposed.
- iii) instruct the Director of Education to seek the consent of Scottish Ministers to the new school as described at i) above in accordance with the statutory procedures
- iv) approve the inclusion of a new two stream primary school to replace Macalpine Primary School and Brackens Primary School on the Brackens site.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The financial implications of recommendations i) – iv) remain as reported to Committee on 24 March 2003 (report no 260-2003 refers).

4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

4.1 None

5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 None

6.0 BACKGROUND

6.1 At its meeting of 20 January 2003, the Committee remitted the Director of Education to carry out the statutory consultation procedures in terms of the Education (Publication and Consultation etc) (Scotland) Regulations 1981 in respect of the proposal to change the catchment area for Downfield Primary School to include part of the Macalpine Primary School catchment and for the remainder of the Macalpine catchment to be added to that for

Brackens and to build a new school to replace Macalpine Primary School and Brackens Primary School on either the Macalpine Primary School or Brackens Primary School site. (Report No. 69-2003 refers).

- 6.2 This proposal was advertised in the "Courier" on 24 January and all statutory consultees received a copy of the consultation document on that date.
- 6.3 During the period 27 February – 4 March, evening public consultation meetings were held at each location. Meetings were also held for all staff at each school at the end of the school day. In addition, a ballot was held as part of the overall consultation process.
- 6.4 An executive summary of issues raised at the formal public consultation and staff meetings is attached as Appendix I and copies of the full notes of these meetings are available in the Members' Lounge along with copies of letters and emails received during the consultation period.

7.0 RESOLUTION OF THE REVISED PROJECT PROPOSAL

- 7.1 The proposal to build a new two stream Downfield Primary School and Kirkton Nursery on the current site of St Columba's Primary School at Kirkton Road was generally supported and is recommended to proceed.
- 7.2 In addition to the formal public consultation meetings associated with the Macalpine/Brackens proposal, a number of additional meetings between the Macalpine School Board, a representative group of parent's from Brackens Primary School (which has no School Board) and Officers of the Council took place. As a result, a view emerged that the new school should be built on the Brackens site.

8.0 CONSULTATION

- 8.1 The Chief Executive, the Director of Support Services and the Director of Finance have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

9.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 9.1 No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information), were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report.

ANNE WILSON
Director of Education

18 June 2003

AW/GRP/EAG

