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To: Councillor Laing, Convener; Councillor Thomson, Vice-Convener; Councillors Boulton, Cameron, Carle, Cooney, Crockett, Lesley Dunbar, Greig, Malik, May, McCaig, Noble, Samarai, Jennifer Stewart, Stuart, Taylor, Townson and Young ; and Mr S Duncan (Teacher Representative (Primary Schools)), Mr M Maclean (Parent Representative (Secondary Schools)), Reverend E McKenna (Church of Scotland Religious Representative), Mr A Nicoll (Parent Representative (Primary Schools and ASN)), Mr M Paul (Teacher Representative (Secondary Schools)), Mrs I Wischik (Roman Catholic Religious Representative) and Mrs A Tree (Third Religious Representative).

Town House,
ABERDEEN, 20 March 2013

EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SPORT COMMITTEE

The Members of the **EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SPORT COMMITTEE** are requested to meet in the Council Chamber - Town House on **THURSDAY, 28 MARCH 2013 at 2.30 pm.**

JANE G. MACEACHRAN
HEAD OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

B U S I N E S S

DETERMINATION OF EXEMPT BUSINESS

- 1.1 Members are requested to determine that the exempt business is considered with the press and public excluded.

REQUESTS FOR DEPUTATION

- 2.1 None received to date.

MINUTES AND COMMITTEE BUSINESS STATEMENT

- 3.1 Minute of Previous Meeting of 31 January 2013 - for approval (Pages 1 - 6)

- 3.2 Minute of Additional Meeting of 7 February 2013 - for approval (Pages 7 - 18)
- 3.3 Minute of Culture and Sport Sub Committee of 10 January 2013 - for noting (Pages 19 - 22)
- 3.4 Committee Business Statement (Pages 23 - 30)

REFERRAL

- 4.1 Neighbourhood Community Business Pilot - to be referred from the meeting of the Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure Committee of 19 March 2013 (Pages 31 - 36)

SERVICE WIDE REPORTS

- 5.1 Revenue Budget Monitoring (Pages 37 - 50)
- 5.2 Capital Budget Monitoring (Pages 51 - 56)

EDUCATION

- 6.1 Preferred Site for Proposed Replacement School for Kincorth and Torry Academies (Pages 57 - 150)
- 6.2 Capacity at St Peter's School (Pages 151 - 162)
- 6.3 Roll Capping in Aberdeen City Schools (Pages 163 - 170)

CULTURE

- 7.1 Cultural Awards (Pages 171 - 180)
- 7.2 Mary Garden Fund (Pages 181 - 184)
- 7.3 Service Provision in Museums and Galleries during closure of Provost Skene's House (Pages 185 - 188)
- 7.4 Sistema Scotland and Aberdeen (Pages 189 - 204)
- 7.5 Museums Collection Centre - to follow

SPORT

- 8.1 Sports Grants (Pages 205 - 212)
- 8.2 Adventure Aberdeen - The Fairley Road Field (Pages 213 - 216)

ITEM THE COMMITTEE MAY WISH TO CONSIDER IN PRIVATE

EDUCATION

- 9.1 Provision for Children With Additional Support Needs - verbal update

Please note that reports marked with an * have implications for agreed Priority Based Budget (PBB) options.

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Should you require any further information about this agenda, please contact Rebecka Coull, tel. (52)2869 or e-mail rcoull@aberdeencity.gov.uk

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EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SPORT COMMITTEE

ABERDEEN, 31 January 2013 – minute of meeting of the EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SPORT COMMITTEE. Present: Councillor Laing (Convener); Councillor Thomson (Vice Convener); and Councillors Allan (as substitute for Councillor Crockett), Boulton, Cameron, Carle, Cooney, Jackie Dunbar (as substitute for Councillor Stuart), Lesley Dunbar, Greig, McCaig, Malik, May, Noble, Samarai, Stewart (for articles 1 – 11), Taylor, Townson and Young; and Mr S Duncan (Teacher representative - primary schools), Mr M Maclean (Parent representative – secondary schools), Mr A Nicoll (Parent representative – primary schools and ASN), Mr M Paul (Teacher representative – secondary schools), and Mrs I Wischik (Roman Catholic religious representative).

The agenda and reports associated with this minute can be located at the following link:

<http://committees.aberdeencity.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=143&MId=2519&Ver=4>

WELCOME

1. The Convener warmly welcomed the newly appointed Director of Education, Culture and Sport, Gayle Gorman to her first meeting of the Committee.

GOOD NEWS

2. The Convener advised the Committee as to a number of good news stories as follows –

- Jasmine Duncan (P7 Kittybrewster School) had a novel published over the Christmas break, “The Unicorn Legacy” which was available as an ebook; hardback and paperback versions would be available later in the month.
- Adele Barber, Riverbank Primary, had won the Keith Bishop Award as Primary Science Teacher of the Year for teaching under difficult circumstances and is the first Scottish teacher since 2009 to win such an award.

REQUEST FOR DEPUTATION

3. The Committee had before it a request for deputation in relation to item 5.3 of the agenda (Rubislaw Field Agreement) from Mr Jim Rae, Aberdeen Grammar Rugby Club.

The Committee resolved:

to agree to hear Mr Rae, and to consider item 5.3 of the agenda (Rubislaw Field Agreement) as the first item of business on this day.

RUBISLAW FIELD AGREEMENT (ECS/13/010)

4. With reference to the minute of meeting of the Rubislaw Field Committee of 4 December 2012, the Committee had before it a report by the Director of Education, Culture and Sport which advised members of ongoing discussions between the parties involved in the Rubislaw Field Agreement. The report stated that it was the view of officers that the current Agreement required to be replaced in order that it would be fit for purpose and reflected the current use of the grounds.

The Committee heard from Mr Jim Rae, Honorary President of Aberdeen Grammar Rugby who stated that he did not feel that the report before members offered a constructive way forward or best value for the Council or people of Aberdeen. He continued that the report did not, in his opinion, adequately reflect the significant expenditure over an extended period of time made by the Former Pupils' Club. Mr Rae continued that although he accepted that the Agreement had to be updated, that the Former Pupils' Club rights in perpetuity should be retained in the new Agreement.

Members asked a number of questions of Mr Rae and officers, and the Convener thanked Mr Rae for his contribution.

The report recommended – that the Committee –

- (a) notes the current position, that the Rubislaw Field Committee has been unable to reach agreement on replacing the existing 1923 Agreement for the reasons outlined in the report and the appended minute;
- (b) instructs officers to make a final effort to obtain the agreement of the Rubislaw Field Committee to implement a revised Agreement in the terms set out in the report at paragraph 5.8 and that, if this is successful, to receive a recommendation from the Rubislaw Field Committee that these terms be implemented; and
- (c) agrees that, if such agreement cannot be reached, officers be instructed to issue Conditions of Let restricted to the terms of the existing 1923 Agreement with effect from 31 March 2013, thereby preventing any additional, unauthorised usage from that date.

The Committee resolved:

- (i) to approve recommendation (a) above;
- (ii) to instruct officers to make an effort to obtain the agreement of the Rubislaw Field Committee to implement a revised Agreement in the terms set out in the report at paragraph 5.8 by 31 March 2013 and to report back on the outcome of these discussions to the meeting of 30 May 2013;
- (iii) to not agree recommendation (c) above; and
- (iv) to request officers to (1) seek details of the finances and sports development contributions of the various sections of the Aberdeen Grammar Former Pupils' Club, and (2) to advise on the financial implications to the Council, in order to present a balanced view of the overall financial contributions/implications.

MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

5. The Committee had before it the minute of its previous meeting of 22 November 2012.

The Committee resolved:

to approve the minute as a correct record.

MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE CULTURE AND SPORT SUB COMMITTEE

6. The Committee had before it the minute of meeting of the Culture and Sport Sub Committee of 7 November 2012.

The Committee resolved:

to note the minute.

COMMITTEE BUSINESS STATEMENT

7. The Committee had before it a statement of pending and outstanding committee business which had been prepared by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services.

The Committee resolved:

- (i) to note the verbal updates in relation to item 2 (Strategic Music Partnership – Big Noise – Sistema Scotland) and 11 (Community Centres);
- (ii) to note that a further update in relation to item 11 (Community Centres) would be provided at the next meeting and to instruct that local members be kept informed of any developments in relation to Cumming Park and Henry Rae community centres, and consulted on for any future committee reports on these matters;
- (iii) to otherwise note the updates as contained within the statement.

REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING (ECS/13/013)

8. With reference to article 7 of the minute of its previous meeting of 22 November 2012, the Committee had before it a report by the Head of Finance which advised members of the current year revenue budget performance to date for the Service, and outlined any areas of risk and management action being taken in this regard.

The Committee resolved:

- (i) to note the forecast outturn on the revenue budget and the information on areas of risk and management action being taken;
- (ii) to instruct officers to continue to review budget performance, and report on Service strategies;
- (iii) to request that officers advise members as to the number of out of authority placements for this year, and how this compares with previous years; and
- (iv) to request that officers circulate further details in relation to the “staff costs” budget line referred to on page 33 of the report.

CAPITAL MONITORING (EPI/12/293)

9. With reference to article 8 of the minute of its meeting of 22 November 2012, the Committee had before it a report by the Director of Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure which detailed the capital spend to date for Service projects included within the non housing capital programme.

The Committee resolved:

- (i) to note the current position; and
- (ii) to request that the “forecast outturn” column be reinstated in future reports.

CITY CAMPUS – TRAVEL AFTERNOONS (ECS/13/005)

10. With reference to article 15 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 23 February 2012, the Committee had before it a report by the Director of Education, Culture and Sport which provided an update following implementation of the travel afternoon initiative, which enhanced learning opportunities for pupils through the City Campus.

The Committee resolved:

- (i) to note the content of the report;
- (ii) to instruct officers to continue to develop the City Campus project which would open up learning opportunities for pupils, particularly in the upper stages of secondary schools;
- (iii) to instruct officers to complete a further evaluation of travel provision following the completion of the courses in 2013;
- (iv) to request that officers provide details of (1) how many pupils signed up to courses, how many pupils completed the courses, and how many pupils passed the courses; and (2) the schools that pupils travelled from to attend the courses, in the report back to this Committee; and
- (v) to request that elected members be provided with a briefing on the City Campus project.

NURSERY / PRIMARY SCHOOL ESTATE REVIEW – FEEDBACK FROM ENGAGEMENT EXERCISE (ECS/13/004)

11. With reference to article 9 of the minute of meeting of 7 June 2012 the Committee had before it a report by the Director of Education, Culture and Sport which advised members as to the extent and content of feedback received during informal engagement on the nursery and primary school estate, undertaken between 24 September 2012 and 7 December 2012.

The Committee resolved:

- (i) to note the content of the report;
- (ii) to note that a summary of the points raised in the facilitated discussion groups at the engagement events had been placed on the Council website and that copies of all submissions are placed in the Members’ Library;
- (iii) to instruct officers to consider the major issues raised when formulating proposals on the development of the school estate which would be included

- in the report to the meeting of Education, Culture and Sport Committee on 7 February 2013; and
- (iv) to request that Head Teachers and parent councils be offered hard copies of the responses to consultation.

EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SPORT SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATHEMATICS (STEM) POLICY (ECS/13/007)

12. The Committee had before it a report by the Director of Education, Culture and Sport which presented the new Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Development Policy for all staff within the Directorate. By way of background the report advised that officers had identified a need to increase the uptake of science in primary schools, and to improve the confidence in teachers in the delivery of STEM subjects, and it was hoped that by increasing and improving the teaching of the STEM subjects in city schools, this would improve the attainment of pupils in the STEM subjects and increase the movement into STEM careers, particularly the oil and gas industry.

The Committee resolved:

to approve the new policy, and to instruct officers to carry out the necessary work to ensure its successful implementation.

ACCREDITATION APPLICATION – REVISION OF ABERDEEN ART GALLERY AND MUSEUMS COLLECTIONS DEVELOPMENT POLICY (ECS/13/001)

13. The Committee had before it a report by the Director of Education, Culture and Sport which presented information on the accreditation scheme for museums and art galleries in the UK (2011 Standard), and appended, for approval, a Collections Development Policy for Aberdeen Art Gallery and museums.

The Committee resolved:

to adopt the Collections Development Policy.

TULLOS POOL – VERBAL UPDATE

14. With reference to article 11 of the minute of its meeting of 24 November 2011 the Committee heard from the Service Manager (Assets and Finance) who provided an update on the current position in relation to Tullos Pool. Members were advised that a contract for the works had been awarded in January 2013 and that it was expected that the end date would be in autumn of this year.

The Committee resolved:

to note the update.

SPORTS GRANT (ECS/13/002)

15. With reference to article 14 of the minute of its previous meeting of 22 November 2012, the Committee had before it a report by the Director of Education,

Culture and Sport which presented an application for financial assistance from Aberdeen Schools Rowing Association.

The Committee resolved

- (i) to award Aberdeen Schools Rowing Association £12,000; and
- (ii) to note the recent successes of Aberdeen Schools Rowing Association being named as Local Club of the Year in the Sunday Mail Scottish Sports Awards which took place on 6 December 2012 in Glasgow.

PERFORMANCE REPORT (ECS/13/003)

16. With reference to article 15 of the minute of its previous meeting of 22 November 2012, the Committee had before it a report by the Director of Education, Culture and Sport which provided members with a summary of performance of the Service up to December 2012.

The Committee resolved

- (i) to approve the performance report for the period up to December 2012; and
- (ii) to request officers to circulate comparator data (between this Directorate and other local authorities comparable Directorates) in relation to absence management.

- JENNIFER LAING, Convener

EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SPORT COMMITTEE

ABERDEEN, 7 February 2013 – minute of meeting of the EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SPORT COMMITTEE. Present: Councillor Laing (Convener); Councillor Thomson (Vice Convener); and Councillors Boulton, Cameron, Carle, Cooney, Crockett (up until and including Kincorth ASG and then from St Machar ASG), Jackie Dunbar (as substitute for Councillor McCaig), Lesley Dunbar, Malik, May, Jean Morrison (as substitute for Councillor Crockett from Northfield ASG up until and including Oldmachar ASG) Noble, Samarai, Stewart, Stuart, Taylor, Townson, Young and Yuill (as substitute for Councillor Greig); and Mr S Duncan (Teacher representative - primary schools), Mr M Maclean (Parent representative – secondary schools), Reverend E McKenna (Church of Scotland representative), Mr A Nicoll (Parent representative – primary schools and ASN), Mr M Paul (Teacher representative – secondary schools), and Mrs I Wischik (Roman Catholic religious representative).

The agenda and reports associated with this minute can be located at the following link:

<http://committees.aberdeencity.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=143&MId=2782&Ver=4>

WELCOME

1. The Convener welcomed members of the public to the meeting, and advised that six students were also in attendance as part of their course in Public Administration at the University of Aberdeen. They were all studying towards a Diploma in Legal Practice. The Convener wished them well in their course.

REQUESTS FOR DEPUTATION

2. The Committee had before it two requests for deputation in relation to the report to be considered on this day, as follows –

- Middleton Park Parent Council
- St Peter's RC Primary Friends' Association (Parents' Council).

The Convener proposed that the deputations be considered at the appropriate point in the meeting (ie the Middleton Park Parent Council deputation would be heard immediately prior to consideration of the Oldmachar Associated School Group (ASG), and the St Peter's RC Primary Friends' Association (Parents' Council) deputation would be heard immediately prior to consideration of the denominational (Roman Catholic) ASG).

The Committee resolved:

to concur with the Convener's proposals.

NURSERY/ PRIMARY SCHOOL ESTATE REVIEW

3. With reference to article 11 of the minute of its previous meeting of 31 January 2013, the Committee had before it a report by the Director of Education, Culture and Sport which presented a series of recommendations on the future provision of nursery and primary school education across Aberdeen. The report advised that this was intended to provide clear direction and vision for educational provision for the next twenty to twenty five years by taking account of significant educational change, demographics and the recently adopted Local Development Plan. Members noted that the report had been reissued in order to provide clarity in relation to two of the maps included in the papers, and some of the associated text.

The Convener took the opportunity to thank officers for the extensive engagement exercise they had undertaken, and continued that she felt that this had enriched the paper. She thanked officers involved in the process for all of their work on the review over the past months.

The report recommended – that the Committee –

- (a) notes the comments contained in the submissions from stakeholders during the recent informal engagement process on the nursery/primary school estate, and technical information on various aspects of the existing nursery and primary school estate;
- (b) accepts recommendations 1 to 58 as set out in the report, which include indicative cost implications and proposed timescales for implementation;
- (c) agrees the principles for future management of nursery and primary educational provision in recommendations 59 to 64 as set out in the report; and
- (d) instructs officers to facilitate the next steps in progressing accepted recommendations, including where necessary, statutory consultation.

The Convener proposed that the report before members be considered in sections (set out in Associated School Groups (ASGs)), rather than as one set of recommendations. Members concurred with the Convener in this regard, and so considered recommendation (a) above at this point, then continued to consider each ASG in turn, and finally considering recommendations (c) and (d) above as the final items of business.

In relation to recommendation (a) above, the Committee resolved:
to approve the recommendation.

Aberdeen Grammar ASG

The Convener, seconded by the Vice Convener, moved:
that the Committee accept the recommendations for Aberdeen Grammar ASG as detailed in the report, as follows –

| | |
|--------------|--|
| Ashley Road | (1) Include in Victorian schools programme. |
| | (2) No change to secondary zoning arrangements. |
| Gilcomstoun | (3) Include in Victorian schools programme. |
| | (4) Retain Gaelic provision. |
| Mile End | (5) Rezone Foresterhill Hospital complex area from Mile End to Cornhill PS, as per map R5. |
| Skene Square | (6) Include in Victorian schools programme. |

Councillor Townson, seconded by Councillor Cameron, moved as an amendment – that in relation to recommendations (1) – (6), that further to the information already presented and prior to any formal consultation process, the Committee instructs that a report including detailed information on current rolls and projected rolls for the next three years, capacity and occupancy rates, the out of zone admission policy, percentages of out of zone pupils showing relative percentages from Aberdeen city and Aberdeenshire, education attainment levels, locations of proposed schools, traffic implications, condition of buildings, projected costs and full financial modelling, be brought to the meeting of this Committee of 28 March 2013.

On a division, the votes cast were as follows: for the motion (18) – the Convener, the Vice Convener, and Councillors Boulton, Carle, Cooney, Crockett, Lesley Dunbar, Malik, Jennifer Stewart, Taylor, Young and Yuill, and Mr Duncan, Mr Maclean, Reverend McKenna, Mr Nicoll, Mr Paul and Mrs Wischik; for the amendment (7) – Councillors Cameron, Jackie Dunbar, May, Noble, Samarai, Stuart and Townson.

The Committee resolved:

- (i) to adopt the successful motion; and
- (ii) to note that the Head of Schools and Educational Establishments would be reporting to a future meeting of this Committee on Gaelic provision in the city.

Bridge of Don ASG

The Committee resolved:

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|-----------|---|
| Braehead | to accept recommendation (7), to rezone Grandholm Village from Braehead to Danestone and from Bridge of Don Academy to Oldmachar Academy as per map R7. |
| Scotstown | to accept recommendation (8) to rezone northern area of zone from Scotstown to Greenbrae and from Bridge of Don Academy to Oldmachar Academy as per map R8 below. |

Bucksburn ASG

The Committee resolved:

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| Bucksburn | to accept recommendation (9) to rezone part of current Bucksburn zone between trunk road north to River Don and current Newhills zone north of trunk road to new provision - see Stoneywood recommendation (9) below. |
| | to accept recommendation(10) to create new zone by rezoning part of current Bucksburn zone to north of River Don to new zone(s) in Grandhome Estate, as per map R10 below. |
| | to accept recommendation (11) for the creation of new school (with Newhills primary school) and to note that this project underway. |
| Kingswells | to accept recommendation (12) to establish new secondary zone in Countesswells area as per Map R12. |
| Newhills | to accept the recommendation (11) for the creation of new school (with Bucksburn primary school) and to note that this project underway. |
| Stoneywood | to accept the recommendation (9) to establish new school to include Stoneywood (possibly on former Bankhead Academy site), as per map R9. |
| | to accept recommendation (13) to rezone part of existing Stoneywood catchment including former BP HQ to Dyce, as per map R13. |

Cults ASG

The Committee resolved:

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| Culter | to accept recommendation (14) to include in Victorian schools programme. |
| Cults | to accept recommendation (15) that all pupils from Countesswells development to be initially educated at Braeside School and Hazlehead Academy whilst new Primary and Secondary Schools are built; to rezone remote part of zone to create new zone in Countesswells development and build new school as per map R15. |
| | to accept recommendation (16) to create new delineated area within Countesswells development to include part of existing Cults primary school zone (in addition to the separated zone of Airyhall, see below) to accommodate all pupils from Countesswells development; this will require two new build primary schools and one academy. See map R16. |
| Milltimber | to accept recommendation (17) for a new build school on Oldfold site, to accommodate all existing pupils and those from new development. |
| | to accept recommendation (18) - disposal of existing school site. |
| | to instruct officers to advise Aberdeenshire Council that the new Blairs Development of 280 houses plus a potential further 44 will not be zoned to Cults Academy. |

Dyce ASG

The Committee resolved:

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| Dyce | to accept recommendation (13) to rezone new housing on former BP HQ from Stoneywood to Dyce, as per map R13. |
| | to accept recommendation (19) to investigate use of excess space at Dyce primary school by other services. |

Harlaw ASG

The Committee resolved:

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| Broomhill | to accept recommendation (20) to include in the Victorian schools programme. |
| | to accept recommendation (21) to rezone dual zoned area between Broomhill and Airyhall to Airyhall only, as per map R21. |
| | to accept recommendation (22) to rezone dual zoned area between Broomhill and Ferryhill to Broomhill only , as per map R22. |
| | to accept recommendation (23) to create additional nursery class. |
| Ferryhill | to accept recommendation (24) to include in Victorian schools programme. |
| | to accept recommendation (22) to rezone dual zoned area between Broomhill and Ferryhill to Broomhill only, as per map R22. |
| Kaimhill | to accept recommendation (25) that no change be made to provision. |
| | to instruct officers to carry out statutory consultation regarding the rezoning of Hanover Street Primary School from St Machar Academy to Harlaw Academy. |

Hazlehead ASG

The Convener, seconded by the Vice Convener, moved:

that the Committee accept recommendations for Hazlehead ASG as detailed in the report, as follows –

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| Airyhall | (15) Rezone remote part of zone to create new zone in Countesswells development and build new school – as per map R15; all pupils from Countesswells development to be initially educated at Braeside School and Hazlehead Academy whilst new primary and secondary schools are built. |
| | (16) Create new delineated area within Countesswells development to include the separated zone of Airyhall and part of existing Cults primary school zone to accommodate all pupils from Countesswells development; this will require two new build primary schools and one academy (as per map R16). |
| | (21) Rezone dual zoned area between Broomhill and Airyhall to Airyhall only, and rezone Macaulay Estate housing from Hazlehead to Airyhall as per map R21. |
| Fernielea | (26) rezone dual zoned area between Fernielea and Hazlehead PS to Hazlehead only, as per map R26. |

| | |
|-----------|--|
| | (27) Extend and enhance provision to accommodate development at Maidenraig South. |
| Hazlehead | (21) Rezone Macaulay Estate housing from Hazlehead to Airyhall. (26) Rezone dual zoned area between Hazlehead and Fernielea to Hazlehead only as per map R26. |
| Kingsford | (28) Extend and enhance provision to accommodate development at Maidenraig North. |

Councillor Yuill, seconded by Councillor Stewart, moved as an amendment – that the Committee approve the recommendations for the Hazlehead ASG (as above) and instruct officers to investigate the feasibility of providing a new primary school in the Maidenraig area, and to report back on that, and what a suitable catchment area for such a school would be.

On a division, the votes cast were as follows: for the motion (23) – the Convener, the Vice Convener, and Councillors Boulton, Cameron, Carle, Cooney, Crockett, Jackie Dunbar, Lesley Dunbar, Malik, May, Noble, Samarai, Stuart, Taylor, Townson and Young, and Mr Duncan, Mr Maclean, Reverend McKenna, Mr Nicoll, Mr Paul and Mrs Wischik; for the amendment (2) – Councillors Jennifer Stewart and Yuill.

The Committee resolved:
to adopt the successful motion.

Kincorth ASG

The Convener, seconded by the Vice Convener, moved:
that the Committee accept the recommendations for Kincorth ASG as detailed in the report, as follows –

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| Abbotswell | (29) Amalgamate Abbotswell and Kirkhill Schools to create new school on site to be identified. |
| Charleston | (30) Create new zone by amending Charleston zone to create accommodate pupils from new developments at Cove in new build school as per map R30. |
| Kirkhill | (31) Amalgamate Kirkhill and Abbotswell Schools to create new school on site to be identified. (32) Amend Kirkhill zone to contribute to zone for new school in Loirston/Cove development as per map R30. (33) Rezone area of Kirkhill zone east of trunk road to Loirston as per map R30. |
| Loirston | (34) Amend Loirston zone to contribute to zone for new school in Loirston/Cove development as per map R30. (33) Rezone area of Kirkhill zone east of trunk road to Loirston as per map R30. |

Councillor Townson, seconded by Councillor Cameron, moved as an amendment – that in relation to the recommendations for Kincorth ASG, that further to the information already presented and prior to any formal consultation process, the Committee instructs that a report including detailed information on current rolls and projected rolls for the next three years, capacity and occupancy rates, the out of zone admission policy, percentages of out of

zone pupils showing relative percentages from Aberdeen city and Aberdeenshire, education attainment levels, locations of proposed schools, traffic implications, condition of buildings, projected costs and full financial modelling, be brought to the meeting of this Committee of 28 March 2013.

On a division, the votes cast were as follows: for the motion (18) – the Convener, the Vice Convener, and Councillors Boulton, Carle, Cooney, Crockett, Lesley Dunbar, Malik, Jennifer Stewart, Taylor, Young and Yuill, and Mr Duncan, Mr Maclean, Reverend McKenna, Mr Nicoll, Mr Paul and Mrs Wischik; for the amendment (7) – Councillors Cameron, Jackie Dunbar, May, Noble, Samarai, Stuart and Townson.

The Committee resolved:

to adopt the successful motion.

Northfield ASG

The Convener, seconded by the Vice Convener, moved:

that the Committee accept the recommendations for Northfield ASG as detailed in the report, as follows –

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|--------------|--|
| Bramble Brae | (35) Amalgamate Bramble Brae and Quarryhill to create new school on Quarryhill site. |
| | (36) Remove secondary dual zoning with St Machar and zone only to Northfield Academy as per map R36. |
| Heathryburn | (37) No change to provision. |
| Manor Park | (38) Remove secondary dual zoning with St Machar and zone only to Northfield Academy as per map R36. |
| Muirfield | (39) No change to provision. |
| Quarryhill | (35) Amalgamate Quarryhill and Bramble Brae to create new school on Quarryhill site. |
| Westpark | (40) No change to provision. |

Councillor Townson, seconded by Councillor Jackie Dunbar, moved as an amendment –

that in relation to the recommendations for Northfield ASG, that further to the information already presented and prior to any formal consultation process, the Committee instructs that a report including detailed information on current rolls and projected rolls for the next three years, capacity and occupancy rates, the out of zone admission policy, percentages of out of zone pupils showing relative percentages from Aberdeen city and Aberdeenshire, education attainment levels, locations of proposed schools, traffic implications, condition of buildings, projected costs and full financial modelling, be brought to the meeting of this Committee of 28 March 2013.

On a division, the votes cast were as follows: for the motion (18) – the Convener, the Vice Convener, and Councillors Boulton, Carle, Cooney, Lesley Dunbar, Malik, Jean Morrison, Jennifer Stewart, Taylor, Young and Yuill, and Mr Duncan, Mr Maclean, Reverend McKenna, Mr Nicoll, Mr Paul and Mrs Wischik; for the amendment (7) – Councillors Cameron, Jackie Dunbar, May, Noble, Samarai, Stuart and Townson.

The Committee resolved:
to adopt the successful motion.

Oldmachar ASG

With reference to the decision taken at article 2 of this minute, the Committee heard Victoria Moore (Chair – Middleton Park Parent Council), Ewan Paterson and John Thomson (both of Middleton Park Parent Council), who expressed a number of concerns in relation to the proposal to merge Middleton Park and Glashieburn primary schools.

Members asked a number of questions of the deputation and of officers, and the Convener thanked Ms Moore, Mr Paterson and Mr Thomson for their contribution.

The Convener, seconded by the Vice Convener, moved:
that the Committee accept the recommendations for Oldmachar ASG as detailed in the report, as follows –

| | |
|----------------|--|
| Danestone | (7) Rezone Grandholm Village from Braehead to Danestone and from Bridge of Don Academy to Oldmachar Academy as per map R7. |
| | (41) Prepare for pupils from first phase of Grandhome Estate development, using spare capacity until first new school is built at Grandhome Estate. |
| Forehill | (42) No proposals. |
| Glashieburn | (43) Create new school by amalgamation with Middleton Park on Glashieburn site. |
| Greenbrae | (8) Rezone northern area of zone from Scotstown to Greenbrae and from Bridge of Don Academy to Oldmachar Academy as per map R8. |
| | (44) Extend to increase capacity to accommodate rezoned pupils from Scotstown zone (including from new Dubford development) and improve suitability. |
| Middleton Park | (43) Create new school by amalgamation with Middleton Park on Glashieburn site. |
| | (45) Rezone part of current Middleton Park zone to new zone(s) in Grandhome Estate as per map R45. |

Councillor Townson, seconded by Councillor Cameron, moved as an amendment – that in relation to the recommendations for Oldmachar ASG, that further to the information already presented and prior to any formal consultation process, the Committee instructs that a report including detailed information on current rolls and projected rolls for the next three years, capacity and occupancy rates, the out of zone admission policy, percentages of out of zone pupils showing relative percentages from Aberdeen city and Aberdeenshire, education attainment levels, locations of proposed schools, traffic implications, condition of buildings, projected costs and full financial modelling, be brought to the meeting of this Committee of 28 March 2013.

On a division, the votes cast were as follows: for the motion (15) – the Convener, the Vice Convener, and Councillors Boulton, Carle, Cooney, Lesley Dunbar, Malik, Jean Morrison, Taylor and Young, and Mr Duncan, Mr Maclean, Reverend

McKenna, Mr Nicoll and Mr Paul; for the amendment (10) – Councillors Cameron, Jackie Dunbar, May, Noble, Samarai, Jennifer Stewart, Stuart, Townson and Yuill and Mrs Wischik.

The Committee resolved:

to adopt the successful motion.

St Machar ASG

The Committee resolved:

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| Bramble Brae | to accept recommendation (35) to amalgamate Bramble Brae and Quarryhill to create new school on Quarryhill site. |
| | to accept recommendation (36) to remove secondary dual zoning with St Machar and zone only to Northfield Academy as per map R36. |
| Cornhill | to accept recommendation (5) to rezone Foresterhill Hospital complex area from Mile End to Cornhill PS, as per map R5 below. |
| Hanover St | to accept the recommendation (46) to remove dual zoning between Hanover St and Sunnybank to Sunnybank only as per Map 46. |
| Kittybrewster | to accept recommendation (47) to include in Victorian schools programme. |
| Manor Park | to accept recommendation (38) to remove secondary dual zoning with St Machar and zone only to Northfield Academy as per map R38. |
| Riverbank | to accept recommendation (48) to note the approved extension (phase one of site redevelopment). |
| | to accept recommendation (49) to continue to redevelop remainder of site as funding becomes available. |
| Seaton | to accept recommendation (50) to extend educational provision within existing accommodation to provide additional class(es). |
| Sunnybank | to accept recommendation (51) to include in Victorian schools programme. |
| | to accept recommendation (46) to remove dual zoning between Hanover St and Sunnybank to Sunnybank only as per map 46. |
| Woodside | to accept recommendation (52) to include in Victorian Schools programme. |
| | to instruct officers to carry out statutory consultation regarding the rezoning of Hanover Street Primary School from St Machar Academy to Harlaw Academy. |

Torry ASG

The Committee resolved:

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| Tullos | (53) to accept the recommendation to include in Suitability and Condition Improvement Programme. | to accept the recommendation |
| | (54) to accept the recommendation to rezone former Victoria Road Zone between Tullos and Walker Road, as per map R54. | to accept the recommendation |

| | | |
|-------------|---|------------------------------|
| Walker Road | (55) to accept the recommendation to include in Victorian schools programme. | to accept the recommendation |
| | (54) to accept the recommendation to zone former Victoria Road zone between Tullos and Walker Road, as per map R54. | to accept the recommendation |

Denominational (Roman Catholic) ASG

With reference to the decision taken at article 2 of this minute, the Committee heard Louise McGettigan and Dr Janet Stewart of St Peter's Roman Catholic (RC) Primary Friends' Association (Parents' Council) who expressed concern that the report did not appear to address adequately the ongoing acute challenges that St Peter's faced due to the school being both over capacity and oversubscribed. They were particularly concerned that the time frame for the additional consultation proposed for denominational schools (September to December 2013) would do nothing to alleviate the problems that St Peter's would face with the August 2013 intake. In particular, they requested that the Committee (1) begin consultation immediately; (2) request officers to include all suggestions for the future of St Peter's RC Primary that had been put forward by parents and the school; and (3) demand a response in relation to capacity for 2013 at the earliest possible date.

Members asked a number of questions of the deputation and of officers; in particular the Head of Educational Development, Policy and Performance addressed the issues raised in the deputation.

The Convener thanked Ms McGettigan and Dr Stewart for their contribution.

The Committee resolved:

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| Holy Family | to accept recommendation (56) to review of provision as a separate exercise and report back to future Committee. |
| St Josephs | |
| St Peters | |

Remaining recommendations (no ASG)

The Committee resolved:

- (i) to accept recommendation (57), to retain French School on Aberdeen Grammar School Campus, under current lease arrangements; and to retain provision when lease is renewed; and
- (ii) to accept recommendation (58), to carry out a review of provision at Cordyce School and develop a fully costed evaluation of replacement provision, once findings of review of inclusion has reported.

In relation to recommendations (c) and (d) in the report, the Committee resolved:

- (i) to agree the principles presented below:

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| (59) new or replacement school would be designed to accommodate fewer than two or more than three streams of pupils (i.e. classes at each stage - P1, P2 etc). |
|--|

(60) Nursery provision should be incorporated into all primary schools, where appropriate and requirements of Scottish Government legislation under Children's Services Bill, if enacted, are implemented as soon as practicable.

(61) A re-evaluation of primary school capacities should be implemented to take account of changes in local and national government policies on maximum class sizes; in particular, where a maximum class size of 18 in primary 1 and 25 in composite classes reduces the functional capacity on a year by year basis determined by class configurations, an annual working capacity will be formulated; this will result in an overall theoretical capacity for each school, as well as a capacity figure which reflects the school's class configuration; this may vary year on year, depending on the number of children in each year group and hence, the number of classes at each stage, including composite classes.

(62) Where appropriate, roll capping in primary schools should be considered; this may have implications for out of zone placing requests.

(63) Instigation of a programme to improve external play and learning opportunities in all schools.

(64) Ongoing engagement with Learning and Leisure of Aberdeenshire Council should be enhanced so that mutual understanding of likely policy decisions is developed at an early stage.

- (ii) to approve the principle of recommendation (60) with a slight amendment as follows (amendment in bold) "Nursery provision should be incorporated into all primary schools, where **possible** and requirements of Scottish Government legislation under Children's Services Bill, if enacted, are implemented as soon as practicable"; and
- (iii) to instruct officers to facilitate the next steps in progressing accepted recommendations, including where necessary, statutory consultation.

Councillor Stewart took the opportunity at the close of the meeting to thank officers for their assistance, and stated that she felt that her Group had been listened to throughout the engagement exercise.

- **JENNIFER LAING; Convener**

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CULTURE AND SPORT SUB COMMITTEE

ABERDEEN, 10 January, 2013 - minute of meeting of the CULTURE AND SPORT SUB COMMITTEE. Present: Councillor Laing (Convener); and Councillors Boulton, Cameron, Lesley Dunbar, Greig (as substitute for Councillor Jennifer Stewart), Thomson and Townson.

The agenda and reports associated with this minute can be accessed at the following link:

<http://committees.aberdeencity.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=470&MId=2781&Ver=4>

DETERMINATION OF EXEMPT ITEM OF BUSINESS

1. The Convener proposed that the Sub Committee consider the report identified on the agenda as being for determination in private, with the press and public excluded.

The Sub Committee resolved:

in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, to exclude the press and public from the meeting for item 7 of the agenda (article 7 of this minute) so as to avoid disclosure of information of the class described in paragraphs 4, 6, 8 and 9 of Schedule 7(A) to the Act.

MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

2. The Sub Committee had before it the minute of its previous meeting of 7 November, 2012.

The Sub Committee resolved:

to approve the minute as a correct record.

SPORTS GRANTS

3. With reference to article 6 of the minute of its previous meeting, the Sub Committee had before it a report by the Head of Communities, Culture and Sport which presented applications for financial assistance from three sports organisations.

The Sub Committee resolved:

to approve funding to organisations as follows –

| Organisation | Funding Awarded |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| Aberdeen Amateur Athletics Club | £4,950 |
| Aberdeen Dolphins Swimming Club | £2,500 |
| Adventure Aberdeen | £4,000 |

ACCESS TO ARTS AND CULTURE – INFORMATION BULLETIN

4. The Sub Committee had before it an information bulletin by the Cultural Policy and Partnership Officer which presented information on the challenges facing officers in improving the Council's approach to self evaluation, and an exemplar project "Examining the Face of Political Heritage".

The Sub Committee resolved:

to note the content of the information bulletin.

WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN – INFORMATION BULLETIN

5. The Sub Committee had before it an information bulletin by the Sports Policy and Partnership Officer which brought members up to date on the water management plan for the city.

The Sub Committee resolved:

to note the content of the information bulletin.

REVIEW OF EXTERNAL INVESTMENT IN CULTURE AND SPORT – GENERAL FINDINGS

6. The Sub Committee had before it a report by the Director of Education, Culture and Sport which presented the general findings from the review of external investment in culture and sport which had been recently concluded.

Members noted the tremendous work undertaken by officers in preparing this report, particularly in relation to the collaboration which had taken place with the different organisations.

The Sub Committee resolved:

- (i) to note the general findings of the review of external investment in culture and sport as outlined within the report;
- (ii) to note the key requirements for reforming the Council's approach to its external investment in culture and sport, as detailed within the report;
- (iii) to note the ongoing changes in the managerial and administrative practices associated with external investment in culture and sport;
- (iv) to instruct officers to revise the agreements with each Arms Length External Organisation in receipt of "core funding" to incorporate a formal review clause which allows for consideration of the relevance of level and use of the Council's investment;
- (v) to instruct officers to provide external organisations which are recommended for "development funding" with a fixed term in principle agreement which supports forward planning and development;
- (vi) to instruct officers to undertake a review, in collaboration with partners, to determine whether the current arrangements for the appointment to the Board of Arms Length External Organisations remains best practice; and
- (vii) to instruct officers to report back on progress in due course.

In accordance with the decision taken at item 1 of this minute, the following item of business was considered with the press and public excluded.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

As the findings of each organisation were presented as separate reports, the Sub Committee agreed to consider each item in turn, in order to allow for members who may have to declare interests and withdraw due to their involvement with certain organisations, to participate in as much of the discussion as possible.

Councillors Boulton, Thomson and Townson declared interests in the subject matter of the report on Aberdeen International Youth Festival due to their positions as Board members. Councillors Boulton, Thomson and Townson withdrew from the meeting prior to discussion of this report.

Councillor Boulton declared an interest in the subject matter of the report on Aberdeen Performing Arts to her position as Board member but chose to remain in the as Aberdeen Performing Arts had a specific exclusion in terms of the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

Councillor Cameron declared an interest in the subject matter of the report on Aberdeen Sports Village due to his position as Board member, and withdrew from the meeting prior to discussion of this report.

Councillor Cameron declared an interest in the subject matter of the report on Peacock Visual Arts due to his position as Board member, and withdrew from the meeting prior to discussion of this report.

REVIEW OF EXTERNAL INVESTMENT IN CULTURE AND SPORT – ORGANISATIONAL FINDINGS

7. The Sub Committee had before it a report by the Director of Education, Culture and Sport which presented the findings in relation to each external organisation further to the review of external investment in culture and sport which had been recently concluded.

The Sub Committee considered reports on the findings of the review in relation to the following organisations:

- Aberdeen International Youth Festival**
- Aberdeen Performing Arts**
- Aberdeen Sports Village**
- Garthdee Alpine Sports**
- Sport Aberdeen**
- Aberdeen Football Club**
- Aberdeen Youth Rugby Association**
- Castlegate Arts**

- City Screen
- Jazz Scotland
- Peacock Visual Arts
- Scottish Culture and Traditions
- Scottish Hockey
- Sound
- Station House Media Unit

During discussion of the findings on Garthdee Alpine Sports, members intimated that it may be useful for officers to liaise with their colleagues in the Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure Directorate in relation to the Bridge of Dee survey, in order that they have all relevant information available to them and are kept up to date on this issue going forward.

The Sub Committee resolved:

- (i) to note the reports on organisational findings of the review of external investment in culture and sport as presented in appendix 1 to the report; and
- (ii) to note the financial recommendations (appendix 2 of the report) to be incorporated within the General Fund Revenue Budget report to be considered at the budget meeting of Council

- COUNCILLOR JENNIFER LAING, Convener

EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SPORT

COMMITTEE BUSINESS

MARCH 2013

Please note that this statement contains a note of every report which has been instructed for submission to this Committee. All other actions which have been instructed by the Committee are not included, as they are deemed to be operational matters after the point of committee decision.

| <u>Minute Reference</u> | <u>Committee Decision</u> | <u>Update</u> | <u>Lead Officer(s)</u> | <u>Report Due</u> (items in bold are overdue) | <u>Report Expected</u> (if known) |
|--|---|---|---|--|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Education, Culture and Sport Committee 07/06/12 article 9 | <p><u>School Estates Review</u></p> <p>(1) Officers were instructed to bring back a further report, summarising the feedback from the engagement exercise, and setting out detailed options and recommendations for a long-term School Estate Plan to the November 2012 Education, Culture and Sport Committee meeting.</p> <p>(2) to request that officers would report back to this Committee on Gaelic provision in the city.</p> | Action (1) has been undertaken and is recommended for removal. | Head of Educational Development, Policy and Performance | | |
| 07/02/13 article 3 (resolution (ii)) | (2) to request that officers would report back to this Committee on Gaelic provision in the city. | | Head of Schools and Educational Establishments | 30/05//13 | |
| 2. Education, Culture and Sport 02/06/11 article 12 | <p><u>Strategic Music Partnership – Big Noise: Sistema Scotland</u></p> <p>The Committee resolved: to instruct officers to report to a future meeting of the Committee on the proposed business model, criteria for identifying an appropriate community, and possible funding sources.</p> | A report is on the agenda – recommended for removal. | Head of Communities, Culture and Sport | 22/11/12 | |
| 3. Education, Culture and Sport 24/03/11 | <p><u>Reduced Communities Team / Leased Community Centres –</u></p> <p>to instruct the Director of Education,</p> | <p>Update: This is included as part of the review of provision of community learning and library and information services</p> | Head of Communities, Culture and Sport | autumn 2013 | |

Agenda Item 3.4

| <u>Minute Reference</u> | <u>Committee Decision</u> | <u>Update</u> | <u>Lead Officer(s)</u> | <u>Report Due</u> (items in bold are overdue) | <u>Report Expected</u> (if known) |
|---|--|--|--|--|--------------------------------------|
| article 19 & 15/09/11 article 13 | Culture and Sport to review the number of community facilities within Aberdeen City, as part of the wider service asset management plan for Education, Culture and Sport. | as agreed at the meeting of 22/11/12 and forms part of item 9 on this statement. An update on the consultation will be reported to the committee in May 2013 and full report on autumn 2013. | | | |
| 4. Education, Culture and Sport Committee 24/03/11 article 10 & 07/06/12 article 18 | <u>Provision for Children With Additional Support Needs – Raeden</u> At its meeting of the 7/06/12, the Committee resolved: (i) to instruct officers to undertake further detailed investigations, including ground, environmental and ecological surveys, and to enter into discussion with planning officials on the development opportunities for the two preferred sites – Granitehill Road and former Smithfield School; and (ii) to instruct the General Manager, Asset Management to provide Members with costs and timescales for undertaking these surveys. | Update: A report on the land negotiations is being submitted to the next meeting of the Finance and Resources Committee and an update will be provided to Committee thereafter. A verbal update will be provided on this item in the exempt section of today's agenda. | Head of Educational Development Policy and Performance | 22/11/12 | |
| 5. Education, Culture and Sport 27/05/10 article 14 & 18/11/10 article 21 & 07/06/12 article 19 | <u>Progress report on proposals to redevelop Aberdeen Art Gallery and report on improving access to the Museums and Galleries collections</u> The Committee instructed officers to prepare a capital business case for further consideration and report to the Education, Culture and Sport Committee on 16/09/10, and Finance and Resources Committee on | Update: Approval was granted to submit a funding application to the Heritage Lottery Fund at the Urgent Business Committee of 29 November 2012. An application has been submitted and the outcome is expected in Spring 2013 . | Head of Communities, Culture and Sport | | 28/03/13 |

| <u>Minute Reference</u> | <u>Committee Decision</u> | <u>Update</u> | <u>Lead Officer(s)</u> | <u>Report Due</u> (items in bold are overdue) | <u>Report Expected</u> (if known) |
|---|---|---|--|--|--------------------------------------|
| | 28/09/10, to include recommendations on the most appropriate option to redevelop the Art Gallery, and on the commitment the Council is being requested to make at that stage. At its meeting of 07/16/12, the Committee resolved: to report to Committee in advance of the deadline to make an application to the Heritage Lottery Fund, to determine the Council's financial and wider commitment to the overall development. | | | | |
| 6. Education, Culture and Sport Committee 24/03/11 article 15 & 07/06/12 article 13 | <u>Move to a Cultural Trust</u> To instruct the Director of Education, Culture and Sport to progress, by way of an officers' working group, an options appraisal on the transfer of services to a cultural trust, and that the options appraisal (1) include consideration of which services could transfer, including the Beach Ballroom, (2) examine a preferred governance model, including the option of community ownership of assets, and (3) to request that the options appraisal include SWOT analysis and options for governance arrangements; and to report the findings of the options appraisal to Committee by 24/11/11. At its meeting of 07/06/12, the Committee agreed: to instruct officers to report to a future meeting of the Committee on the outcome of the discussions and appraisal. | Update: Discussions are continuing with key partners. A report will be submitted to the next committee. A verbal update will be provided at the meeting. | Head of Communities, Culture and Sport | 22/11/12 | 28/03/13 |

| <u>Minute Reference</u> | <u>Committee Decision</u> | <u>Update</u> | <u>Lead Officer(s)</u> | <u>Report Due</u> (items in bold are overdue) | <u>Report Expected</u> (if known) |
|--|---|---|--|--|--------------------------------------|
| 7. Education, Culture and Sport 15/03/11 article 15 & 23/02/12 article 12 | <p><u>Newhills Primary School</u></p> <p>(1) The Committee agreed to ask the Finance and Resources Committee to earmark the land at Newhills School for future educational use, subject to the Scottish Government agreeing to transfer the site from the HRA to the General Services Account, and to receive a report on the long term use, date of transfer and transfer value of the site, once a business case and funding was approved for a new school at Newhills.</p> <p>(2) At its meeting of 23/02/12, the Committee resolved: to instruct officers to continue to progress the matter in discussion with Scottish Futures Trust, and report back on progress and timelines to a future meeting.</p> | <p>Action (1) has been completed and is recommended for removal.</p> <p>(2) A verbal update will be provided at the meeting.</p> | Head of Educational Development Policy and Performance/ Head of Asset Management and Operations | 22/11/12 | |
| 8. Council 06/10/11 article 8 | <p><u>Pupil Representation</u></p> <p>Council resolved: to instruct officers to prepare a full report into the membership of the Committee including how best to achieve pupil involvement.</p> | <p>Update: A Pupil Voice Group was established in September 2012. All secondary schools are represented and the pupils are engaging on strategic issues as well as pupil led city-wide projects.</p> <p>A progress and evaluation paper will be presented to ECS committee after the end of this academic session.</p> <p>An update is included on the information bulletin.</p> | Head of Schools and Educational Establishments | 22/11/12 | |

| <u>Minute Reference</u> | <u>Committee Decision</u> | <u>Update</u> | <u>Lead Officer(s)</u> | <u>Report Due</u> (items in bold are overdue) | <u>Report Expected</u> (if known) |
|--|--|--|--|--|--------------------------------------|
| 9. Education, Culture and Sport 22/11/12 article 11 | <u>Audit of Community Learning and Development, and Library Provision</u> To note the progress of this project, and to request an update on the outcomes of the consultation and other related streams of work in April/May 2013. | | Head of Communities, Culture and Sport | 30/05/13 | |
| 10. Education, Culture and Sport 22/11/12 article 12 | <u>Review of Inclusion – Pupil Support Assistants</u> To instruct officers (1) to take account of the findings of the review within the overarching Review of Inclusion, and (2) to report back to a future meeting. | An update is included in the information bulletin. | Head of Schools and Educational Establishments | September 2013 | |
| 11. Education, Culture and Sport 22/11/12 article 17 | <u>Community Centres – Current Issues</u> To instruct officers to consult with the management committees for Cummings Park community centre and Henry Rae community centre on a proposal to merge these two community centres, and report back to this committee on the outcome of the consultation. | Update: Since the last Committee, Cummings Park Management Committee have been advised of the end date for their current lease (15 May 2013). It is intended to offer the Management Committee a six month licence to occupy to cover the decision making period relating to this proposal. A financial audit has now been carried out at Henry Rae Community Centre, and work is underway to ensure the implementation of the audit recommendations. Consultation with the Management Committees and the local community in relation to the proposal to merge these two community centres is ongoing and a report will be brought to the May Committee with the outcome of this consultation and recommendations. | Head of Communities, Culture and Sport | 28/03/13 | 30/05/13 |

| <u>Minute Reference</u> | <u>Committee Decision</u> | <u>Update</u> | <u>Lead Officer(s)</u> | <u>Report Due</u> (items in bold are overdue) | <u>Report Expected</u> (if known) |
|-------------------------|--|---|--|--|--------------------------------------|
| | | <p><u>Froghall Community Centre</u> - since this Community Centre was handed back to the Council at the end of January arrangements have been made for all groups to be relocated (note that one group currently continues within the centre with keyholder access.) Community Groups with an interest in running Froghall as a leased community centre have been asked to send in Expressions of Interest. These will be evaluated and recommendations brought to Committee in May 2013.</p> <p><u>Ruthrieston CC</u> - the expiry date for their current lease is 3 April 2013. The Management Committee is currently in the process of forming a SCIO (Scottish Charitable Incorporated Association.) While this process is ongoing, it is intended to offer the Management Committee a month by month Licence to Occupy. The lease will then be entered into by the new SCIO.</p> | | | |
| 12 | <p><u>Provost Skene's House</u></p> <p>To instruct officers to identify and cost extended opening hours at other museums and the Art Gallery, and to undertake a survey to gauge public demand for extended open hours at these locations, thereafter, to report to Education, Culture and Sport, and Finance and Resources Committees, with recommendations.</p> | <p>Update: Report went to the Finance and resources Committee of 15 January. An update will come to the next committee meeting.</p> <p>A report is on the agenda, recommended for removal.</p> | Head of Communities, Culture and Sport | 28/03/13 | |

| <u>Minute Reference</u> | <u>Committee Decision</u> | <u>Update</u> | <u>Lead Officer(s)</u> | <u>Report Due</u> (items in bold are overdue) | <u>Report Expected</u> (if known) |
|--|--|---|---|--|--------------------------------------|
| 13 Education, Culture and Sport 31/01/13 article 4 | <u>Rubislaw Field Committee</u> to instruct officers to make an effort to obtain the agreement of the Rubislaw Field Committee to implement a revised Agreement in the terms set out in the report at paragraph 5.8 by 31 March 2013 and to report back on the outcome of these discussions to the meeting of 30 May 2013. | | Head of Communities, Culture and Sport | 30/05/13 | |
| 14 Education, Culture and Sport 31/01/13 article 10 | <u>City Campus</u> (iii) to instruct officers to complete a further evaluation of travel provision following the completion of the courses in 2013; (iv) to request that officers provide details of (1) how many pupils signed up to courses, how many pupils completed the courses, and how many pupils passed the courses; and (2) the schools that pupils travelled from to attend the courses, in the report back to this Committee. | | Head of Schools and Educational Establishments | September 2013 | |
| 15 Audit and Risk Committee 27/11/12 article 6(ii) | <u>Internal Audit Report – Tesco Gift Cards</u> in relation to the review of the policy which would be undertaken as detailed at 3.01 of the detailed report on the review of Control Surrounding the purchase of Gift Cards, to instruct that this review be reported to the appropriate committee, and for this review to take on board the issues and suggestions raised at this meeting. | Update: A new process for the purchase of Tesco gift cards was issued in December to all those responsible for the requisitioning and authorising of orders in Pecos. This communication reiterated the policy that the cards should only be purchased and used for small purchases of items such as nursery snacks. The purchase and use of | Head of Educational Development, Policy and Performance | | 30/05/13 |

| <u>Minute Reference</u> | <u>Committee Decision</u> | <u>Update</u> | <u>Lead Officer(s)</u> | <u>Report Due</u> (items in bold are overdue) | <u>Report Expected</u> (if known) |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|--|------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| | | <p>gift cards was independently reviewed by Officers within the Education, Culture and Sport Directorate, in conjunction with colleagues from Finance and Central Procurement. The introduction of Purchase Cards is being explored as a more appropriate payment method for current operating circumstances. The use of Purchase Cards would address many, if not all of the concerns raised in the report from Internal Audit. Documentation has been signed off to commence the roll out of Purchase Cards, initially trialling their use in four schools. Management will ensure that the same controls being recommended for the use of the gift cards will be applied to the use of Purchase Cards.</p> <p>Recommended for removal.</p> | | | |

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| COMMITTEE | Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure |
| DATE | 19 March |
| DIRECTOR | Gordon McIntosh |
| TITLE OF REPORT | Neighbourhood Community Business Pilot |
| REPORT NUMBER: | EPI/13/028 |

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to advise members of proposals to utilise any identified spare capacity in City educational establishments to host small business start ups. These start ups would be closely associated with the host educational establishment and which could potentially deliver enhanced educational and vocational experiences. The report seeks the Committee's approval to develop more detailed proposals.

2 RECOMMENDATION(S)

The Committee are recommended to:

- a. give approval for officers in EP&I continue to work with colleagues in Education, Culture & Sport (ECS) to develop a detailed proposal for consideration by the relevant committees.
- b. Give approval that current under spend within the Business Gateway contract be used to part finance this initiative.
- c. That the committee refer this report to the Education, Culture and Sport Committee for approval to develop a detailed proposal.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There will be a cost associated with property modifications to ensure that premises are suitable for business use, in terms of access, Health & Safety, and legislative requirements. Until a more detailed proposal is completed, we are not in a position to give an accurate costing for this. However, should approval be given for this proposal, it is expected that

building works, project marketing and management and initial business start up costs will be covered by existing finance within the Employability, Skills and Community Enterprise (ESCE) budget, and identified under spend within the Business Gateway budget. As this project could potentially deliver a significant community benefit, we are confident that established local businesses and other partners will support this initiative by giving cash and in kind donations.

After the 12 month support period participating establishments could potentially generate income through rental revenue.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

Staffing

As community enterprise is part of the current portfolio of work, for the ESCE team, delivering this initiative should have no negative implications for current staffing resources.

General

Use of educational establishments as business premises will require officers involved in this activity to be mindful of restrictions in relation to security, access, H&S, PVG checks etc. Selection of 'competition winners' will fully involve representatives from the nominated educational establishments. This will ensure that the business type is suitable and complementary to the facilities available and the school curriculum. e.g. Catering business, IT repairs, Electronics workshop etc.

5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

It has been identified that there is spare capacity within some educational establishments. Officers in EP&I and Education, Culture & Sport (ECS) have met to discuss the feasibility and desirability of using this capacity to provide premises for small business start ups.

It is proposed that spare capacity could be utilised to host community based start up businesses. Increased community based businesses would benefit the local area by increasing services, reducing the need for travel to access services and in the longer term create local employment opportunities.

Officers would use the template from the Retail Rocks Project, which utilised Council owned premises in Torry to help business start ups. The basis of this proposal is to run a competition to encourage community based business start ups, which would operate from within educational establishments. Business support would be provided in the form of training workshops, delivered by Enterprise North East Trust

(ENET) and a small grant to help the business purchase start up stock in the first year. It is anticipated that bespoke business start up workshops would be held in the community as part of the promotion of the competition to stimulate early interest.

As part of the conditions any new business that was created from the competition process would be expected to work closely with their host educational establishment to identify opportunities for engagement with pupils and the community. It is expected that businesses would be able to offer vocational training across their area of expertise, and in the longer term be able to offer vocational qualifications which will support and enhance the future employability of pupils and members of the local community.

There are a number potential benefits to this proposal.

- Appropriate utilisation of spare capacity
- New Business start ups
- Potential rental income for schools
- Increased work experience placement options
- Increased attainment of relevant vocational qualifications
- Reduction in need to travel to city centre to access vocational qualifications
- Increased engagement with community
- Potential linkages with school entrepreneurial studies
- Increased recognition of importance of school within the community.
- Promotion of 'can-do' attitude
- Create equality of access to business ownership for those without substantial funds.
- Support the development of business plans for future entrepreneurs
- Improved accessibility, safety and attractiveness of the area
- Increased consumer spend in neighbourhood
- Increase footfall with neighbourhood
- Creating an opportunity for skills and expertise to be shared
- Drive local economy
- Provide local community with improved facilities
- Encourage increased commercial activity within the area

Proposed Pilot Northfield Academy

Preliminary discussions with Education, Culture and Sport have been positive and Northfield Academy has been identified as a possible pilot. A meeting was held at Northfield and the school is supportive of the concept and is keen to see a more detailed proposal.

Initial discussions with Northfield Academy has highlighted that accommodation could be provided if further research supports the development of this proposal and suitable business ventures were identified.

These initial discussions supported further investigation into the feasibility of the following business types, (child-care, catering, electronic repair workshop, graphic design, community café etc). If an appropriate application was received to deliver a catering or community café type business, this would have the additional benefits of potentially offering 'confidence to cook', healthy eating and basic cookery skills within the community.

The proposal also supports the personalised learning aspect of the CfE providing a different context for learning and encouraging partners to become involved in learning that takes place out with a traditional classroom environment.

In terms of the Wider Achievement Agenda, the initiative would further encourage young people to access work based skills which could be accredited via SQA It could also could support the virtual campus in the provision of specialised options for pupils and work experience

6. IMPACT

The project contributes significantly and directly to the achievement of

Single Outcome agreement (SOA) National Outcomes:

1. We realise our full economic potential with more and better employment opportunities for our people
2. We are better educated, more skilled and more successful

Aberdeen the smarter City

1. We will enhance the physical and emotional wellbeing of all our citizens by offering support and activities which promote independence, resilience, confidence and self-esteem
2. Working with our third, public and private sector partners, we will provide opportunities for lifelong learning which will develop knowledge, skills and attributes of our citizens to enable them to meet the changing demands of the 21st century.
3. Again, working with partners, we will create a City of Learning which will empower individuals to fulfill their potential and contribute to the economic, social and cultural wellbeing of our communities.
4. We will aim to have a workforce across the city which has the skills and knowledge to sustain, grow and diversify the city economy.

Equality and Human Rights implications

A full equality and human rights impact assessment was not required, as this paper only seeks approval to investigate and further consult. A full EHRI will be undertaken once potential solutions are in place.

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

8. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE: **Education, Culture and Sport**

DATE: **28 March 2013**

DIRECTOR: **Gayle Gorman**

TITLE OF REPORT: **Budget Monitoring 2012/13**

REPORT NUMBER: **ECS/13/024**

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to
- i) bring to Committee members notice the current year revenue budget performance to date for the services which relate to this Committee; and
 - ii) advise on any areas of risk and management action.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Committee:
- i) Note this report on the forecast out-turn on the revenue budget and the information on areas of risk and management action that is contained herein;
 - ii) Instruct that officers continue to review budget performance and report on service strategies.
 - iii) Approve the earmarking of sums of £200K at year end in respect of Tullos Pool and CLD Building works.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1. The total Education, Culture & Sport revenue budget, amounts to £174m net expenditure. This is made up of £187m of gross expenditure, offset by £13m of Income and recharges.
- 3.2. Based upon present forecasts it is anticipated that the financial performance of the service will result in a favorable budget underspend of £1,135K. This is in line with the underspend of £1,292K reported to committee in February. This position will be reflected in the overall financial monitoring for the Council when it is reported to Finance and Resources Committee at the end of this Committee cycle.
- 3.3. Further details of the financial implications are set out in section 5 and the appendices attached to this report.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Every organisation has to manage the risks inherent in the operation of large and complex budgets. These risks are minimised by the regular review of financial information by services and corporately by Members. This report is part of that framework and has been produced to provide an overview of the current operating position.

5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

- 5.1 This report informs members of the current year revenue budget performance to date, for the service budget and provides high level summary for the consideration of Members, to period 10 (end to January 2013).
- 5.2 The service report and associated notes on progress towards achievement of the 2012-13 savings targets are attached at Appendices A and B.

2012-13 Approved Savings

There are 17 approved savings, for 2012-2013 totaling £2.7M. These are listed at Appendix A. Against each of the savings is a narrative detailing the progress to date on each of these.

The monitoring of the Budgeted Savings is being carried out by the Programme Management Office. At this stage, all of the savings are forecast to be delivered, or alternative funding has been identified

5.3 **Financial Position and Risks Assessment**

The current forecast revenue out-turn is an underspend of £1,135K. The following areas of operation are highlighted together with any management action being taken where appropriate.

a) DEM Scheme – Schools

The approved scheme of devolvement for schools in Aberdeen City Council permits schools to carry forward into the next financial year up to 2.5% savings from its devolved budgets. Any overspend is automatically carried forward. These cumulative carry forward sums are included within the EC&S budget.

Although schools have been accruing savings over and above their 2.5% limit, it is only near the year end when head teachers are fully confident on their final year end position that they commit the bulk of their expenditure.

The summary position in respect of these budgets at the end of period 10 is shown below

b) Tullos Pool

There is budget provision of £200K including capital financing costs within the 2012/13 budget. The opening date for the pool is expected to be August 2013.

Equipment costs are expected to be approximately £100K. These are not in the Capital Plan and committee is requested to approve the ring fencing of these sums from the current years revenue budget at year end to enable these costs to be met.

c) Out of Authority Placements

This is an aligned budget with Social Care and Wellbeing which funds those costs associated with educating and accommodating children in specialist schools not run by Aberdeen City Council. The total aligned budget is £5.5M. The Education Culture and Sport part of this budget totals £2.4M.

The latest estimate as at 31 January 2013 is that the Education, Culture and Sport element has an over-commitment of £290K. This is an increase of £90K since last reported to committee.

Officers from Education, Culture and Sport and Social Care and Wellbeing are continuing to work on short and long term strategies to reduce the number and duration of out of authority placements. This includes a series of rigorous case reviews and a review of current processes and alternative provision. It should be noted that this budget is subject to external factors out of our direct control: the council is required to fund placements instructed by the Children's Panel and needs to respond to the needs of children and young people in crisis which will on occasion require services outwith the authority. Officers advise that children currently being reviewed may require additional resources before the year end.

d) Property Costs – CLD Building Works

Committee previously approved £100K of additional works to Rosemount CLD. It is now unlikely that the bulk of these works will be completed prior to year end. It is anticipated that as part of the year end process, on-going commitments such as instructed works will be treated appropriately in the council's statement of accounts. This will enable the works to be completed in the next financial year.

(e) Letting Income

Letting income is expected to be £80K greater than budget. This is in line with trends over the past year.

(f) Property Rental Income

It is estimated income of approximately £100K is due from Grampian Police and NHS Grampian in respect of those portions of the 3R's schools which they currently occupy. Officers across a range of services including ECS, and EP&I are progressing this with NHS and Grampian Police with a view to finalising lease agreements and charges for the shared accommodation.

(g) Teachers Long Term Absence Budget

Expenditure is forecast to be £550K greater than the available budget. The way in which staff cover is currently charged is being reviewed to ensure staffing underspends arising from reduced salary costs associated with staff going on Maternity Leave are appropriately allocated. This will take place from 1 April 2013.

6. IMPACT

- 6.1 Corporate – as a recognised top priority, the Council must take the necessary measures to balance its budget. Therefore committees and Services are required to work within a financial constraint. Every effort is being focused on delivering services more efficiently and effectively.
- 6.2 Public – this report is likely to be of public interest due to the size of the budgets involved and the nature of the services provided by Education, Culture & Sport, a number of which are front line services delivered directly to citizens within the city.

7. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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Additional contributions to analysis of risks and management action by
Director & Heads of Service – Education, Culture & Sport

| YEAR 1 (2012/13) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|------------------------------|------------------|---|--|----------------------|--------|-------|---------|---------------------|---|--|
| Items Accepted At February 2012 Committee | | | | Responsible Officer | Outline of Original Proposal for Achieving Savings | Monitored/ Delivered | Status | Cost | Benefit | Net Service Benefit | Predicted Savings - Full Year | Position Statement |
| PBB Ref | Project Name | Value of 2011/12 Net Savings | £'000 | | | | | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | | |
| ECS1_C26 | Reduce the number of specialist care placements by redesign and small addition to existing local services | (470) | Patricia Cassidy | Reduce the demand for out-of-authority residential placements by 18 over the next 5 years by developing a local service; retain Kincoth Childrens unit; use one satellite unit and develop an intensive support and monitoring service | Monitored | Amber | 0 | (240) | (240) | (240) | | This is a demand driven budget. Officers are continuing to monitor this, however the reduction in cost continues to be at risk. Officers continue to strive to reduce the number of Out of Authority Placements though decisions can be taken which are outwith Officer control. These decisions have an impact on the costs. |
| ECS1-C3 | Future Delivery of Cultural Services | 0 | Neil Bruce | Transfer the operation of Art Gallery and Museums from the Council to a charitable trust. | Monitored | Green | 0 | (85) | (85) | (85) | | Change control done to bring together C3 and C22. The University of Aberdeen and Aberdeen City Council are currently exploring closer working. The Chief Executive and Principal of the University to meet to agree a framework for progressing. |
| ECS_E11 | City Campus Senior Phase | 0 | David Leng | In year one (2011/12) introduce 4 travel afternoons each week for S5and S6 pupils, when pupils would attend another establishment to study a course. In year 2(2012/13) consortia arrangements will be formalised for all secondary schools. A consortium will comprise 2 or 3 secondary schools in a given geographic area. The schools in the consortia will jointly plan the snr curriculum to ensure a breadth of choice and pupils will travel between schools to access provision. From year 1 onwards planning will begin for the introduction of a "blended learning" approach for the new Curriculum for Excellence S5 and S6 courses. This approach includes the development of e-learning options for approx | Monitored | Green | 550 | 0 | 550 | 320 | It has been agreed that £320k is utilised by ICT, Corporate Governance, to facilitate the refresh of ICT infrastructure in schools. | |
| ECS1_C25 | RISK Potential shared services with other local authorities (EC&S) | 0 | Charlie Penman | Bring together services across local authorities in Education, Culture and Sport. Now combined with ECS1-C17 | Monitored | Amber | | | | 0 | | EC&S Services continue to work with other local authorities to consider how to deliver joint/shared services. This service option was developed at a time when both Aberdeenshire and Moray Councils had vacancies in the post of Director of Education. Since that time Aberdeenshire, Moray and Aberdeen City Councils have appointed new Directors of Education. Any proposed savings were in relation to these posts. In addition, recent discussions with Aberdeenshire Council have been clear that there is no appetite to share Educational Psychology Services. ECS1-C17 Review of Educational Psychology Service was included in this option. The Directorate will be unable to make these savings from these sources. Despite best efforts of Officers there is no willingness from other authorities to collaborate in this way. |
| ECS1-C10 | Root and branch review of commissioned arts and sports services | (64) | Lesley Thomson | Review of all current arts and sports commissioning arrangements with external organisations in order to stimulate improvements in outcomes and to engage the public more widely in the commissioning process. | Delivered | Green | 20 | (239) | (219) | (219) | | This saving is on target. |

| YEAR 1 (2012/13) | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|------------------------------|---------------------|--|----------------------|--------|---------------|------------------|------------------------------|--|---|
| Items Accepted At February 2012 Committee | | | Responsible Officer | Outline of Original Proposal for Achieving Savings | Monitored/ Delivered | Status | Cost £'000 | Benefit £'000 | Net Service Benefit £'000 | Predicted Savings - Full Year £'000 | Position Statement |
| PBB Ref | Project Name | Value of 2011/12 Net Savings | | | | | | | | | |
| ECS_E19 | Rationalise School Administration | (385) | Lesley Kirk | Centralise school administration along a model similar to that currently being introduced within finance section whereby (1) all administrative roles were located at 1-2 key centres; (2) current School Support Services Managers (SSSM) would take on team leader roles co-ordinating work of current primary Administrators, and (3) most administrative IT investment would be focused at these 1-2 locations. | Delivered | Green | 0 | (193) | (193) | (193) | Saving delivered |
| ECS_E4 | Provide one nursery teacher for each school - Option Removed, saving deducted from grant | (177) | David Leng | Teacher Protection Grant received if Authority retains, as far as possible, teacher numbers. Grant reduced by the level of this saving to allow for protection of teacher numbers. | Delivered | Green | 0 | (88) | (88) | (88) | Saving delivered |
| ECS_E30/E31 | Changes to terms of engagement of casual teachers | (166) | David Leng | This proposal is based on the premise that casual teachers are not employed under a contract of employment, and therefore national terms and conditions of employment do not apply. The proposal is to place all registered casual teachers on Scale Point 1; to cease awarding incremental drift to casual teachers; to uplift the hourly rate by an amount which recognises holiday accrual at the statutory minimum (28 days per annum). This would bring casual teachers in line with other casual workers in the Authority. | Delivered | Green | 0 | (140) | (140) | (140) | Saving delivered |
| ECS_E5 | Nursery nurses to provide non class contact cover for nursery teachers | (53) | Liz Gillies | In each school nursery setting, use nursery nurses to provide the 2.5 hours per week non class contact cover to which every nursery teacher is currently entitled. This cover is currently provided by a teacher. | Delivered | Green | 0 | (27) | (27) | (27) | Saving delivered |
| ECS_E22 | Reduce Pupil Support Assistants Provision by 50% in Primary Schools | (1,245) | Helen Milne | Reduce Pupil Support Assistants by 33% in Primary Schools | Delivered | Green | 0 | (622) | (622) | (622) | Saving delivered |
| ECS_E17a | Additional Support Needs: Increase teacher/pupil ratios to 1:10 - Secondary | (400) | Grahame Whyte | Adjust teacher staffing down from current level. This would mean increasing numbers of pupils per teacher in ASN bases in secondary schools from existing provision of 1:7 to e.g. 1:10. This would mean a reduction in staffing numbers of 13.6 fte. | Delivered | Green | 0 | (200) | (200) | (200) | Saving delivered |
| ECS_E18a | Additional Support Needs: Increase teacher/pupil ratios to 1:10 - Primary | (333) | Helen Milne | Adjust teacher staffing down from current level. This would mean increasing numbers of pupils per teacher in ASN bases in primary schools from existing provision of 1:7 to e.g. 1:10. This would result in a decrease in teacher numbers of 13.2 fte. | Delivered | Green | 0 | (167) | (167) | (167) | Saving delivered |
| ECS_E24 | Reduce Pupil Support Assistants Provision by 50% in Secondary Schools | (437) | Derek Samson | Reduce Pupil Support Assistants by 33% in Secondary Schools | Delivered | Green | 0 | (218) | (218) | (218) | Saving delivered |
| ECS1-C1 | Integrated Communities Service | (1,600) | Gail Woodcock | Develop a streamlined management structure and move centres to leased centre status. | Delivered | Green | 0 | (800) | (800) | (800) | Saving delivered |
| ECS_E37 | Change the delivery model of music tuition | (350) | Neil McLennan | Restructure lesson plan; redesign fee policy | Delivered | Green | 0 | (170) | (170) | (170) | Redesign of the fee policy was not undertaken following benchmarking exercise against other local authorities and private providers. Reorganisation of staffing resource is in progress. The Music Co-ordinator post has been redefined and work on the next tier (Senior Music Instructors) is in progress. These savings have been delivered. |

| YEAR 1 (2012/13) | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|------------------------------|---------------------|--|----------------------|--------|-------|---------|---------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Items Accepted At February 2012 Committee | | | Responsible Officer | Outline of Original Proposal for Achieving Savings | Monitored/ Delivered | Status | Cost | Benefit | Net Service Benefit | Predicted Savings - Full Year | Position Statement |
| PBB Ref | Project Name | Value of 2011/12 Net Savings | | | | | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | |
| ECS_E9B | Redesign of secondary school estate | 0 | Charlie Penman | Redesign of school estate to reflect current demographics and population centres. | Monitored | Green | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 2012 is the low point in pupil numbers aged 0-15. The profile of pupil numbers 2013 onwards is increasing and the locations of families is also changing. The current public consultation on nursery and primary schools will be required to take account of these changing factors. This review will contribute to the overall review of our schools estate. Delivery of this option is dependent on Council decisions. |
| ECS_C27 | Library & Information Services:new ways of working | 0 | Patricia Cassidy | To undertake a detailed options appraisal on new ways of working for the provision of library and information services within the City in the context of delivering efficiencies and budget savings using technology and increasing 24/7 on-line services. There will be initial savings of £13k from the withdrawal of the mobile library and additional savings to be calculated through reconfigured opening hours, staff restructuring and review of the library estate. This was a former national initiative to train primary teachers for which funding ceased. Given the continuing emphasis on foreign languages in the curriculum, it was subsequently agreed to continue funding at a local level but on a reduced basis. The funding for this training would therefore cease. | Monitored | Green | 0 | (13) | (13) | (13) | Saving delivered. Work is in hand to review library provision across the city. Further to agreement at EC&S Committee on 22 November 2012 a review is being carried out within the wider review of Community Learning. |
| ECS_E34 | Stop curriculum for Excellence training in Modern Foreign Languages in Primary | 0 | David Leng | | Delivered | Green | 0 | (100) | (100) | (100) | Saving delivered |
| Total Agreed By Committee | | | | | | | 570 | (3,302) | (2,732) | (2,962) | |

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ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL
REVENUE MONITORING 2013/2013

DIRECTORATE : Education, Culture & Sport

| As At 31 January 2013 | | Year to Date | | | Forecast to Year End | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| ACCOUNTING PERIOD 10 | Full Year Revised Budget £'000 | Revised Budget £'000 | Actual Expenditure £'000 | Variance Amount £'000 | Forecast Actual £'000 | Variance Amount £'000 | Variance Percent % |
| Head of Service - Communities, Culture & Sport | 33,178 | 22,918 | 19,646 | (3,272) | 32,841 | (338) | -1.0% |
| Head of Service - Schools and Educational Services | 135,208 | 108,642 | 104,599 | (4,043) | 134,667 | (541) | -0.4% |
| Head of Service - Policy & Performance | 4,899 | 3,127 | 2,622 | (505) | 4,643 | (256) | -5.2% |
| TOTAL BUDGET | 173,285 | 134,687 | 126,867 | (7,820) | 172,151 | (1,135) | -0.7% |

DIRECTORATE : Education Culture & Sport
HEAD OF SERVICE : P Cassidy

| BUDGET TO DATE | | PROJECTION TO YEAR END | | | CHANGE FROM LAST REPORT | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|----------|-------------------------|---------|--------|-------|
| REVISED BUDGET | ACTUAL EXPENDITURE | VARIANCE | FORECAST ACTUAL | VARIANCE | | | | |
| As At 31 January 2013 | FULL YEAR REVISED BUDGET | | | | | | | |
| ACCOUNTING PERIOD 10 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | % | £'000 |
| STAFF COSTS | 13,119 | 10,969 | 9,835 | (1,134) | 12,137 | (982) | -7.5% | (428) |
| PROPERTY COSTS | 2,109 | 1,840 | 1,809 | (31) | 2,211 | 102 | 4.8% | (26) |
| ADMINISTRATION COSTS | 470 | 287 | 295 | 8 | 391 | (79) | -16.8% | (70) |
| TRANSPORT COSTS | 181 | 151 | 78 | (73) | 127 | (54) | -29.8% | (20) |
| SUPPLIES & SERVICES | 6,768 | 5,603 | 2,958 | (2,645) | 6,647 | (121) | -1.8% | (29) |
| COMMISSIONING SERVICES | 3,092 | 2,576 | 2,705 | 129 | 3,337 | 245 | 7.9% | 72 |
| TRANSFER PAYMENTS TOTAL | 9,426 | 7,855 | 7,597 | (258) | 8,994 | (432) | -4.6% | (188) |
| CAPITAL FINANCING COSTS | 5,650 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5,650 | 0 | 0.0% | 0 |
| GROSS EXPENDITURE | 40,814 | 29,281 | 25,277 | (4,004) | 39,494 | (1,321) | -3.2% | (689) |
| LESS: INCOME | | | | | | | | |
| GOVERNMENT GRANTS | (979) | (816) | (691) | 125 | (922) | 57 | -5.8% | 0 |
| OTHER GRANTS | (774) | (647) | (531) | 116 | (803) | (29) | 3.7% | (66) |
| FEES & CHARGES | (2,281) | (1,900) | (1,605) | 295 | (1,809) | 472 | -20.7% | 155 |
| RECHARGES | (360) | (300) | (250) | 50 | (330) | 30 | -8.3% | 0 |
| OTHER INCOME | (3,242) | (2,700) | (2,554) | 146 | (2,789) | 453 | -14.0% | 444 |
| TOTAL INCOME | (7,636) | (6,363) | (5,631) | 732 | (6,653) | 983 | -12.9% | 533 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| NET EXPENDITURE | 33,178 | 22,918 | 19,646 | (3,272) | 32,841 | (338) | -1.0% | (156) |

BUDGET TO DATE MONITORING VARIANCE NOTES

| | YR TO DATE VARIANCE £'000 | PROJECTED VARIANCE £'000 | CHANGE £'000 |
|--|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| <u>Staff Costs</u> The year to date and annual forecast take into account timing issues in relation to the operation of Creches. This is offset by reduced income in respect of fees and charges for these creches. | (1,134) | (982) | (428) |
| <u>Property Costs</u> The year to date underspend reflects property repairs which will not be charged until later in the year. Forecast expenditure includes £160K of property works at Rosemount and Loirston CLD as previously approved by committee. | (31) | 102 | (26) |
| <u>Administration costs</u> The year to date underspend reflects a range of savings following a review of this area of the budget. | 8 | (79) | (70) |
| <u>Transport costs</u> A small underspend is projected in relation to travel and subsistence budgets. | (73) | (54) | (20) |
| <u>Supplies & Services</u> The year to date underspend mainly represents Management Committee funds held by the authority on their behalf. The unused element of these funds will be carried forward into the new financial year. Included within this forecast is | (2,645) | (121) | (29) |
| <u>Commissioning Services</u> Both the year to date spend and the annual forecast reflect the estimated final position in respect of Out Of Authority Placements at the end of January. This indicates an expected overspend of £290K. | 129 | 245 | 72 |
| <u>Transfer payments</u> A review of commitments in respect of payments to external bodies has confirmed there will be an underspend of approximately £290K offset by final expenditure of £30K in respect of the Bon Accord Bowling site. | (258) | (432) | (188) |
| <u>Income - Government Grants</u> The favourable year to date position reflects grants already received which will be utilised during the remainder of the financial year. | 125 | 57 | 0 |
| <u>Income - Other Grants</u> The estimated variance reflects a reduction in grants in relation to creches. This is offset by reduced staffing costs. | 116 | (29) | (66) |
| <u>Income - Fees & Charges</u> The reduction in expected income relates to creches. This is offset by reduced staffing costs. | 295 | 472 | 155 |
| <u>Income - Recharges</u> The annual forecast includes a small under recovery of costs associated with the common good fund. | 50 | 30 | 0 |
| <u>Income - Other Income</u> The favourable year to date position reflects unbudgeted grants received which will be utilised during the remainder of the financial year. | 146 | 453 | 444 |

| | | |
|---------|-------|-------|
| (3,272) | (338) | (156) |
|---------|-------|-------|

**ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL
REVENUE MONITORING 2012/2013**

**DIRECTORATE : Education Culture & Sport
HEAD OF SERVICE : D Leng**

| | | BUDGET TO DATE | | | PROJECTION TO YEAR END | | | CHANGE FROM LAST REPORT |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|----------|------------------------|----------|-------|----------------------------------|
| As At 31 January 2013 | FULL YEAR REVISED BUDGET | REVISED BUDGET | ACTUAL EXPENDITURE | VARIANCE | FORECAST ACTUAL | VARIANCE | | |
| ACCOUNTING PERIOD 10 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | % | £'000 |
| STAFF COSTS | 100,443 | 83,669 | 81,027 | (2,642) | 100,732 | 289 | 0.3% | 252 |
| PROPERTY COSTS | 23,137 | 20,124 | 20,263 | 139 | 22,912 | (225) | -1.0% | 2 |
| ADMINISTRATION COSTS | 306 | 255 | 170 | (85) | 292 | (14) | -4.6% | (6) |
| TRANSPORT COSTS | 217 | 181 | 184 | 3 | 237 | 20 | 9.2% | 44 |
| SUPPLIES & SERVICES | 6,452 | 5,322 | 3,720 | (1,602) | 6,417 | (35) | -0.5% | (20) |
| COMMISSIONING SERVICES | 2,715 | 2,262 | 2,425 | 163 | 2,516 | (199) | -7.3% | (35) |
| TRANSFER PAYMENTS TOTAL | 1,249 | 1,041 | 994 | (47) | 1,178 | (71) | -5.7% | 2 |
| CAPITAL FINANCING COSTS | 6,099 | | 0 | 0 | 6,099 | 0 | 0.0% | 0 |
| GROSS EXPENDITURE | 140,618 | 112,854 | 108,783 | (4,071) | 140,383 | (235) | -0.2% | 239 |
| LESS: INCOME | | | | | | | | |
| GOVERNMENT GRANTS | (347) | (289) | (295) | (6) | (347) | 0 | 0.0% | 0 |
| OTHER GRANTS | (230) | (109) | (100) | 9 | (260) | (30) | 13.0% | 0 |
| FEES & CHARGES | (927) | (772) | (843) | (71) | (973) | (46) | 5.0% | 8 |
| RECHARGES | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0% | 0 |
| OTHER INCOME | (3,906) | (3,042) | (2,946) | 96 | (4,136) | (230) | 5.9% | 34 |
| TOTAL INCOME | (5,410) | (4,212) | (4,184) | 28 | (5,716) | (306) | 5.7% | 42 |
| NET EXPENDITURE | 135,208 | 108,642 | 104,599 | (4,043) | 134,667 | (541) | -0.4% | 281 |

BUDGET TO DATE MONITORING VARIANCE NOTES

Staff Costs

The year to date position reflects a cumulative staffing underspend in respect of the schools DEM budgets of £3.3M (see note), plus a year to date underspend of £400K in respect of probationers teaching costs, offset by a year to date overspend of £320K in respect of Teachers Long term absence, regrading costs of £130K, plus £190K of exit costs.

The forecast position assumes that schools within the DEM scheme will carry forward any staffing underspend and that the above costs and savings will remain constant with the exception of Long term Teachers absence where the final overspend is expected to be £550K.

(2,642) 289 252

Property Costs

The forecast final position reflects expected savings in Vandalism costs at the 3Rs schools (£48k), plus expected rebates totalling £200K in respect of unused letting hours and lower than expected malicious damage costs at 3R's schools. Included within the year to date position is a £70K overspend in respect of Devolved Tenant repairs budgets which will be offset against underspend devolved budgets at year end.

139 (225) 2

Administration costs

(85) (14) (6)

Transport costs

A small overspend is projected in relation to travel and subsistence budgets.

3 20 44

Supplies & Services

The year to date underspend is in relation to Schools devolved teaching materials budgets is £500K, this is expected to be fully utilised by year end. In addition, there are year to date underspends of £220K in relation to Surestart, £250K for the ICT refresh programme £250K in respect of Determined To Succeed, £100K in relation to equipment repairs & maintenance contracts. In all of these cases, the variance is caused by timing issues, and charges are expected prior to year end.

(1,602) (35) (20)

Commissioning Services

Both the year to date underspend and final outturn estimate relate to the closure of the Raeden Nursery which has released the property rental costs.

163 (199) (35)

Transfer payments

An underspend is projected in Pupil Clothing budgets. This is in line with previous years expenditure figures.

(47) (71) 2

Income - Government Grants

(6) 0 0

Other Grants

9 (30) 0

Income - Fees & Charges

The full year income forecast mainly represents greater than budgeted letting income offset by a small under recovery in respect of Music Fees.

(71) (46) 8

Income - Other Income

Forecast Income includes greater than budgeted parental contributions at the School Of Music, £40K, increased premises recoveries income in relation to Swimming Pools. £90K, plus unbudgeted recharges of £100K in respect of Police and NHS offices in 3 R's schools.

96 (230) 34

| | | |
|---------|-------|-----|
| (4,043) | (541) | 281 |
|---------|-------|-----|

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL
REVENUE MONITORING 2012/ 2013

DIRECTORATE :Education Culture & Sport
HEAD OF SERVICE : C Penman

| | | BUDGET TO DATE | | | PROJECTION TO YEAR END | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|----------|------------------------|----------|-------|----------------------------------|
| As At 31 January 2013 | FULL YEAR REVISED BUDGET | REVISED BUDGET | ACTUAL EXPENDITURE | VARIANCE | FORECAST ACTUAL | VARIANCE | | CHANGE FROM LAST REPORT |
| | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | % | £'000 |
| ACCOUNTING PERIOD 10 | | | | | | | | |
| STAFF COSTS | 2,525 | 2,104 | 1,858 | (246) | 2,278 | (247) | -9.8% | (25) |
| PROPERTY COSTS | 147 | 124 | 121 | (3) | 174 | 27 | 0.0% | 26 |
| ADMINISTRATION COSTS | 444 | 370 | 279 | (91) | 404 | (40) | -9.0% | (28) |
| TRANSPORT COSTS | 49 | 41 | 44 | 3 | 51 | 2 | 4.1% | (2) |
| SUPPLIES & SERVICES | 664 | 553 | 454 | (99) | 778 | 114 | 17.2% | 125 |
| COMMISSIONING SERVICES | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | (0) | 0.0% | (0) |
| TRANSFER PAYMENTS | 325 | 271 | 242 | (29) | 325 | 0 | 0.0% | 0 |
| CAPITAL FINANCING COSTS | 1,147 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,147 | 0 | 0.0% | 0 |
| GROSS EXPENDITURE | 5,301 | 3,463 | 2,998 | (465) | 5,157 | (144) | -2.7% | 96 |
| LESS: INCOME | | | | | | | | |
| GOVERNMENT GRANTS | (366) | (305) | (241) | 64 | (366) | 0 | 0.0% | 0 |
| OTHER GRANTS | 0 | 0 | (30) | (30) | (30) | (30) | 0.0% | (30) |
| FEES & CHARGES | (11) | (10) | (18) | (8) | (18) | (7) | 63.6% | (13) |
| RECHARGES | 0 | 0 | (52) | (52) | (67) | (67) | 0.0% | (15) |
| OTHER INCOME | (25) | (21) | (35) | (14) | (33) | (8) | 32.0% | (8) |
| TOTAL INCOME | (402) | (336) | (376) | (40) | (514) | (112) | 27.9% | (66) |
| NET EXPENDITURE | 4,899 | 3,127 | 2,622 | (505) | 4,643 | (256) | -5.2% | 30 |

| BUDGET TO DATE MONITORING VARIANCE NOTES | YEAR TO DATE PROJECTED | | CHANGE £'000 |
|--|------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| | VARIANCE £'000 | VARIANCE £'000 | |
| Staff Costs The year to date underspend expenditure reflects the management of vacancies to meet annual vacancy factor savings of £120K. | (246) | (247) | (25) |
| Property Costs The final estimate mainly reflects the costs of securing the former Bankhead Academy site after the fire (£17K) plus greater than expected costs associated with School Security system maintenance. (£15k). | (3) | 27 | 26 |
| Administration costs The year to date position reflects expected savings in conference costs, plus a number of charges expected for Protecting Vulnerable Groups (PVG Checks) The forecast outturn reflects expected savings in respect of PVG Checks (£10K) plus savings in respect of conferences (£35K), offset by higher than budgeted postage costs (£5K) | (91) | (40) | (28) |
| Transport costs | 3 | 2 | (2) |
| Supplies & Services The year to date position reflects underspends in the Learning Technologies budget of £35K plus a year to date underspend of £110K in relation to the budget held for property related works. This has been partially offset by unbudgeted MIS costs of £50K linked to the MIS Capital Plan plus greater than expected costs linked with Disability Adjustments (£35K) The forecast position reflects expected overspends in relation to disability adjustments, the MIS System plus ASN related equipment costs. | (99) | 114 | 125 |
| Transfer Payments This represents Education Maintenance Payments made to eligible individuals. These monies are fully recoverable via a grant. | (29) | 0 | 0 |
| Government Grants This is the grant in respect of Education Maintenance Payments which is claimed in arrears. Final grant will reflect those payments made to students plus an associated admin fee which covers the salary of the staff member who administers the scheme. | 64 | 0 | 0 |
| Other Grants This is the grant in respect of Education Maintenance Payments which is claimed in arrears. Final grant will reflect those payments made to students plus an associated admin fee which covers the salary of the staff member who administers the payments. | (30) | (30) | (30) |
| Income - Fees & Charges | (8) | (7) | (13) |
| Recharges The projected variance reflects expected income from the Non Housing Capital Plan in respect of staff time associated with the MIS Capital programme implementation. | (52) | (67) | (15) |
| Other Income | (14) | (8) | (8) |
| | (505) | (256) | 30 |

Glossary

The following glossary refers to terms used within the body of the report and its appendices

Staff Costs

This cost category includes all direct staff costs such as salaries and wages as well as indirect staff costs such as pension and lump sum payments.

Property Costs

This heading includes all costs associated with the upkeep of buildings and grounds. This includes such expenditure as rates, energy, property repairs, and the 3 R's unitary charge.

Administration Costs

This heading relates to the administrative functions associated with the service. This includes such expenditure as courses, printing & stationery, telephones, disclosure checks and advertising.

Transport Costs

This heading includes the costs of day to day travel for all staff, car parking passes, and any relocation travel expenses.

Supplies & Services Costs

This heading relates to a number of types of expenditure, and includes purchase, hire, repair and maintenance of equipment, exam fees, Community Centre management funds purchases, schools per capita budgets.

Commissioning Services

This heading includes payment for services carried out by external agencies. This includes payments in respect of External Placements, swimming pools, Grampian Health Board.

Transfer Payments

This mainly reflects payments to third parties such as clothing grants, free school meal costs and education maintenance allowance payments, grants and contributions to external bodies.

Capital Financing Costs

This is the repayment costs associated with projects previously approved within the Non Housing Capital Programme. The budget reflects the planned repayment of both capital and interest elements.

Income - Fees & Charges

This is income generated from the sale of services. This includes admission charges, premises hire, music and coaching fees catering sales and the sale of season tickets.

Income - Other Income

This tends to encompass expenditure recoveries and includes education maintenance allowance reclaims from the Scottish Government, DEM Target Savings, funding carried forward from previous years and miscellaneous income categories.

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| COMMITTEE | Education, Culture & Sport |
| DATE | 28 March 2013 |
| DIRECTOR | Gordon McIntosh |
| TITLE OF REPORT | Capital Monitoring – Education, Culture & Sport Projects |
| REPORT NUMBER: | EPI/12/294 |

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To advise the Committee of the capital spend to date for the Education, Culture & Sport projects included within the Non-Housing Capital Programme.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

The Committee note the current position.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The monies required to fund these projects are achieved through external borrowing, capital receipts and grant income. These projects are all accommodated within the Non-Housing Capital Programme. Any underspend, carry forward or overspend will have implications for the programme. There are no issues at present that would result in such implications.

As part of the Council's five year business plan, capital expenditure is now monitored within a five year timescale where appropriate. This has given budget holders the ability to profile across the full five years. In year monitoring will continue, alongside monitoring the complete capital programme.

Some projects are now profiled for little or indeed no expenditure in the current financial year. In these instances, budget holders have profiled the intended expenditure in the appropriate financial year. Budget holders who are profiling slippage on a legally committed project into the next financial year(s) are also profiling this expenditure into the appropriate year.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

There are no other implications at this time but as projects progress or indeed fail to progress then other implications may arise and will be reported at an appropriate Committee.

5. BACKGROUND / MAIN ISSUES

As reported at the Finance & Resources Committee in December 2011 the overall responsibility for the monitoring / management of the Capital Programme lies with the Head of Asset Management & Operations. The Planning & Monitoring Officer within Asset Management & Operations is in regular contact with the Service Representative and the Capital Accountant, reporting in the first instance to the Corporate Asset Group. This ensures that the spend figures are always up to date and accurate.

Education, Culture & Sport has a total of 7 projects, totaling £2,715,000 allocated to it from the Non-Housing Capital Programme in 2012/13. Woodside Replacement Pitch has been added to the programme following approval at the 21 April 2011 Finance & Resources Committee to sell the land and provide a replacement pitch from the gross capital receipt. On 8 February, Officers concluded the sale of the ground to NHS Grampian The gross receipt from the NHS for the sale of the pitch is £300,000. A contract has now been let to proceed with the replacement pitch at a cost of £91,000, leaving a net capital receipt of £209,000. From this, £104,500 has been allocated to the Capital Fund and £104,500 to the Housing Revenue Account. The new pitch will provide a variety of activities, including football, basketball and hockey.

The projects and total budget committed to each project included in the programme are:-

- 1) Information Communication Technology Connectivity
£34,000
- 2) Replacement of Education Management Information System
£167,000
- 3) School Estate Strategy - Bucksburn / Newhills
£522,000
- 4) School Estate Strategy – Riverbank
£172,000
- 5) Provision for Children with Complex Needs
£771,000
- 6) Tullos Pool Refurbishment
£871,000 (Head of Asset Management & Operations has authorised overspend up to £1,149,000 by way of delegated authority.)

7) Woodside Replacement Pitch
£91,000

Spend for all projects to end of February is £269,000. Variances in monthly spend compared to predicted spend have been identified in some cases, which has resulted in spend profiles being amended.

Appendix A provides a breakdown of this spend to date and relevant supporting information as necessary.

An update on the capital position will be reported to this Committee on 30 May 2013. This report will include projects included as part of the Council's new five year business plan, commencing next financial year, 2013/14.

The new capital projects for Education, Culture & Sport projects and total budget committed to each project included in the future year's programme are:-

- 1) New Academy to the South of the City
£32,000,000
- 2) New Milltimber Primary
£11,750,000
- 3) Art Gallery Redevelopment - Museums Collection Centre
£3,000,000
- 4) Art Gallery Redevelopment – Main Contract
£29,000,000 (Heritage Lottery funding will account for £10,000,000 of funding for this project.)

Work is currently ongoing with officers to allocate budget holders and obtain spend profiles for these projects.

6. IMPACT



Corporate - The capital programme encompasses projects which link to the Community Plan, Single Outcome Agreement, Corporate and Individual Service Plans.

Public - This report will be of interest to the public as it outlines the Council's capital spending to date on Education, Culture & Sport projects.

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Non-Housing Capital Programme 2012/13 – Capital Monitoring Report approved at Finance & Resources Committee on 19 June 2012

8. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

David Marshall
Planning & Monitoring Officer
 damarshall@aberdeencity.gov.uk
 01224 523191

Appendix A: Spend to date

Education, Culture & Sport: 2012/13 monitor

| Project Description | 2012/13 revised budget | Spend to end Feb. | 2012/13 Anticipated spend |
|---|------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|
| | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 |
| Information Communication Technology Connectivity | 34 | 34 | 34 |
| Replacement Education Management Information System | 167 | 52 | 166 |
| School Estate Strategy - Bucksburn / Newhills | 522 | 0 | 240 |
| School Estate Strategy - Riverbank | 172 | 8 | 8 |
| Provision for Children with Complex Needs | 771 | 71 | 71 |
| Tullos Pool Refurbishment | 1,049 | 103 | 344 |
| Woodside Replacement Pitch | 91 | 0 | 0 |
| | 2,806 | 269 | 864 |

Education, Culture & Sport: 2013-18 monitor

| Project Description | Budget 2012/13- 2014/15 | Legally committed | Total anticipated spend |
|---|-------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 |
| Information Communication Technology Connectivity | 34 | 0 | 34 |
| Replacement Education Management Information System | 167 | 114 | 166 |
| School Estate Strategy - Bucksburn / Newhills | 9,375 | 0 | 9,375 |
| School Estate Strategy - Riverbank | 1,750 | 1,742 | 1,586 |
| Provision for Children with Complex Needs | 14,007 | 0 | 14,007 |
| Tullos Pool Refurbishment | 1,049 | 946 | 1,049 |
| Woodside Replacement Pitch | 91 | 91 | 91 |
| | 26,382 | 2,802 | 26,217 |

- The Replacement Education Management Information System budget holder has now legally committed £110,000 of the remaining budget. This will be used to provide a number of mobile devices for use in schools.
- HubCo North continues to develop a new expenditure profile for the remainder of the School Estate Strategy – Bucksburn / Newhills project.
- A contract has been let through the framework agreement with Ultima to carry out the extension of Riverbank School.
- Due to unforeseen circumstances, the contract has had to absorb additional costs relating to the diversion of service utilities. Officers are presently investigating how to fund necessary additional expenditure to

complete the project. This will be reported to the next appropriate Finance & Resources Committee.

- Works are now programmed to commence in late March, lasting six months.
- A site is still to be selected for the Provision for Children with Complex Needs project.
- A contract has been accepted for the refurbishment of Tullos Pool, totaling £1,049,000, 8% over the original budget. This was approved by the Head of Asset Management & Operations delegated authority.
- It has been necessary to accept the contract over budget as the approved sum was based on a three year old probable cost. Mitigating measures to minimise overspend have been employed: Provisional sums have been omitted or reduced; contingencies have been reduced and a Bill of Reduction has been agreed.
- Works have now begun and are scheduled to conclude in late July. A contract to refurbish the toilets at Tullos School has also been accepted to run alongside the pool refurbishment. This is funded through the Condition & Suitability budget.
- The replacement Woodside pitch is programmed to begin on April 8, with a completion date of 10 May.

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| COMMITTEE | Education, Culture and Sport |
| DATE | 28 March 2013 |
| DIRECTOR | Gayle Gorman |
| TITLE OF REPORT | Preferred Site for Proposed Replacement School for Kincorth and Torry Academies |
| REPORT NUMBER: | ECS/13/019 |

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report advises Committee of the alternative sites available for the building of the proposed replacement school for Kincorth and Torry Academies and provides a recommended site.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

It is recommended that Committee instructs officers to carry out statutory consultation on the following formal proposal:

To close Kincorth Academy and Torry Academy and to amalgamate the two schools on a new, purpose-built Secondary School on the Bobby Calder Park Site.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Council has been allocated approximately £22 million as a contribution towards the cost of construction of a new secondary school from the Scottish Futures Trust.

As part of the budget setting process a further £10 million was allocated as part of the Non Housing Capital Programme being the Council's contribution to the overall project cost.

As part of the overall project funding and cash flow discussions will take place to ensure that the most optimum financial package is in place to deliver the new school and this will be reported to Committee in due course.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

Legal – If a preferred site is approved, it will be necessary to carry out Statutory Consultation on the formal proposal above. This places various responsibilities on Aberdeen City Council under legislation - The Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010. The Scottish Government provides statutory guidance to Local Authorities on the Act (Advice to Local Authorities Appendix 1).

Resources – Officer time and minor expenditure on production of materials, hosting engagement events etc. which can be met from existing Service budgets.

Personnel – Should Committee decide upon implementation of the proposal once Statutory Consultation is completed and reported back to Committee, there will be a rationalisation of staffing. This will be carried out under existing HR Policies of Aberdeen City Council.

Property - Should Committee decide upon implementation of the proposal once Statutory Consultation is completed and reported back to Committee, there may be a requirement to declare the two existing schools as surplus to Education Service requirements. This will be progressed under existing policies of Aberdeen City Council.

Equipment – There are no equipment implications or risks associated with this report in itself.

Sustainability and environmental – Should Committee decide upon implementation of the proposal once Statutory Consultation is completed and reported back to Committee, Depending on the decision of committee, there may be sustainability and environmental implications, depending upon the site chosen.

Health and safety – There are no implications or risks related to this report in itself.

Policy – there are no implications or risks related to this report in itself.

5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

5.1 School Reorganisation Proposals

In Scotland, local authorities have a statutory duty to ensure the adequate and efficient provision of school education in their area. In that context, they may undertake reorganisation of their school estate at any time and the need for school closures (sometimes referred to as rationalisation), amalgamations or altering catchment areas can be prompted by changing population patterns and the need to provide suitable school buildings for pupils and teachers.

Aberdeen City Council has been reviewing its Education, Culture and Sport Estate over a number of years, and has established clear priorities for its School Estate, in line with Scottish Government guidance. The Council's approach to its School Estate dovetails with the Council's Asset Management Strategy, which complies with national good practice.

The most recent review of education properties was split into two phases, commencing in 2009 with a review of the Secondary school provision in the City, followed by a subsequent review of the Primary school provision commencing in 2012. The review outcomes are reported to the Council's Education, Culture and Sport Committee to ensure sound political governance.

A Special Meeting, Education, Culture and Sport Committee on 28th October, 2010 resolved, *inter alia*, to instruct officers to fully develop proposals as soon as practicable

- *To replace Torry Academy and Kincorth Academy with one single larger school on an appropriate site to accommodate all existing secondary pupils and any pupils generated by the development proposed at Loirston.*

This decision was made after consideration of feedback from informal engagement with local communities as well as the following measurable elements.

1. Sufficiency – ensuring the correct sizes of schools are in the right places, and planning to address any under- or over-occupancy.
2. Condition – ensuring all schools are in as good condition as possible, addressing elements of the school which are categorised as C or D, and any other issues, as resources allow.
3. Suitability – ensuring all schools and their surroundings are fit for purpose and can accommodate the delivery of an evolving modern curriculum (Curriculum for Excellence) and meet statutory requirements such as compliance with Equality Act 2010 which replaces the Disability Discrimination Act 1995.
4. Flexibility – preparing for and responding to changes over time, such as new housing developments, changes in national policies in education, demographic changes etc.
5. Budgets – spending limited budgets on Learning and Teaching rather than on maintaining buildings which are expensive to run or repair and maintain.

Reviews take account of the developing, and recently adopted Local Development Plan which identifies a potential growth of approximately 30,000 new houses across the City over the next 20–30 years. This

represents a considerable amount of pressure on existing infrastructure, including schools and community facilities.

Although the Secondary School Estates review in 2010 recommended that a replacement school of up to 1,300 capacity would be adequate, a number of factors now indicate that a school of 1450 capacity would be required.

These include:

- The impact of the new housing development within the approved Local Development Plan.
- The inward migration to the Torry and Kincorth areas.
- There are currently a significant number of pupils who are zoned to the schools who choose to attend a different school, (i.e. 72 from Torry Academy and 130 from Kincorth Academy) in the City.
- Recent experience within Aberdeen suggests that new schools tend to attract pupils back from other schools, as well as resulting in additional placing requests under placing request legislation.

5.2 Educational Rationale

This will be fully described within an Educational Benefits Statement within the Statutory Consultation Document, should a decision to progress be taken.

However, there are distinct advantages which will benefit pupils in a larger school - Curricular, Learning and Teaching, Extra-Curricular Experiences, Pastoral Care and Pupil Well-Being.

5.2.1 Curricular

A larger school can provide a broader range of curricular opportunities for pupils. This is a crucial factor and one of the most significant in reaching the decision to make the proposal to bring the two schools together. There are clear inequalities in curricular opportunities for pupils attending different schools due, to a large extent, to the restricted range of subjects and levels which can be made available in a small school.

Kincorth and Torry Academies do provide as wide a range of opportunities as their resources allow and there is no doubt they meet the needs of many pupils.

It is clearly possible, however, to offer a wider range of subjects, at more levels and with less recourse to multi-level classes in larger schools.

Small schools have made arrangements to compensate for the restricted curricular choice available to their pupils, including:

- Common timetabling between schools which allows a broader range of subjects to be offered than would be the case for individual schools, but not as broad a range for as many pupils as would be the case if the rolls were combined. Pupils then travel between schools to access their preferred courses.
- Consortium arrangements and Travel Afternoons which provide further opportunities to increase curricular choice for pupils. These opportunities are not taken up by all pupils and there are significant costs and logistical implications involved.

Liaison with FE colleges is beneficial and is easier to organise with larger numbers of pupils.

5.2.2 Learning and Teaching

Larger schools provide greater opportunities for improving learning and teaching by staff having greater interaction with a broader range of colleagues. This can lead to more opportunities for team teaching, with staff able to learn from each other;

Staff are more likely to can gain more experience by teaching a wider range of ages and levels, enhancing their practice and their ability to deliver coordinated and coherent programmes of learning in a larger school. This is to the benefit of all pupils and staff.

Wider range of staff can share their wider life skills and experiences in the classroom, making learning and teaching more interesting and relevant.

5.2.3 Extra-Curricular Experiences

A larger school can provide access to a broader range of extra-curricular activities, including providing for sustainable school teams.

5.2.4 Pastoral Care and Pupil Well-Being

The sense of 'closeness' within a school community is a consequence of historic links rather than size, although it is recognised that in a smaller school individual parents and pupils may feel that they are better known by administrative staff.

Excellent pastoral care can happen in any school, but that each of smaller and larger schools have some advantages in this regard.

Pupils with Additional Support Needs can receive an excellent education in a school of any size, if it is well designed.

5.3 Proposed Site Requirements

5.3.1 Current and Projected Pupil Numbers

| School | Actual at February 2013 | Projected roll (2012 based) | | | | | | | | |
|------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-----------|
| | | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | Post 2020 |
| Kincorth Academy | 618 | 603 | 612 | 615 | 606 | 611 | 621 | 633 | 650 | tbc |
| Torry Academy | 456 | 435 | 430 | 405 | 369 | 379 | 409 | 436 | 462 | tbc |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 1074 | 1038 | 1042 | 1020 | 975 | 980 | 1030 | 1069 | 1112 | tbc |

It is likely that some of the current pupils who attend other city schools under placing request legislation will be attracted to the new school increasing school roll. In many of the recently completed 3Rs Schools, in particular Bucksburn Academy, significant numbers of pupils, previously choosing not to attend their zoned schools, now do so. This may be due, at least in part, to the attraction of the improved facilities.

The projected size of the new school is 1450 pupils. This will allow for accommodation of all existing pupils, an increase in the number of in-zone pupils from Kincorth and Torry attending their zoned school and new pupils who will result from the significant housing developments within the two existing school zones.

5.3.2 Area Required for a New School

The School Premises (General Requirements and Standards) (Scotland) Regulations 1967 stipulate minimum areas required for new schools, in terms of the size of the building, and associated playing fields.

Site (Secondary) (excluding Playing Fields)

Minimum site area for 1000 pupils = 2.4 hectares

Each additional 100 (over 1000) = 0.1 hectares

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|
| A school of 1450 pupils would require | 2.4 hectares |
| plus | |
| 0.45 x 0.1 = | 0.45 hectares |
| Total = | 2.85 hectares |

Playing Fields (Secondary)

Minimum area for 1000 pupils = 3.2 hectares
Each additional 200 (over 1000) = 0.4 hectares

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| A school of 1450 pupils would require | 3.2 hectares |
| plus | |
| $2.25 \times 0.4 =$ | 0.9 hectares |

Total = 4.1 hectares

In total, a minimum of $2.85 + 4.1 = \mathbf{6.95 \text{ hectares}}$ will be required.

This is the minimum under regulations and a larger site would allow for the potential of sharing the site with other appropriate services such as other services of the Council and the local Health Authority.

5.3.3 Other Considerations

- (i) Location: The site of the new school should be within the existing catchment areas of Kincorth and Torry Academies. This in practice means it should lie within the area bounded by the coast to the west, the River Dee to the north and the City/Shire boundary to the south and west. In practice, the western boundary would be limited by the A90, trunk road.
- (ii) Access to the site: the site must be accessible to pupils and to staff. There must be consideration of Safe Routes to Schools and the practical nature and any costs associated with transport to and from the site.
- (iii) Planning: Consideration of planning issues are referred to in the Planning Risk Register within the Site Appraisals Document and supplement – Appendix 2

The Site Appraisal Document describes how the identified sites were evaluated in terms of their appropriateness to accommodate the proposed new school.

5.4 Informal Engagement

5.4.1 Arrangements

A period of informal engagement into the preferred site ran from January, 2013 to 8 March 2013.

The document 'Proposal For A New Secondary School To Replace Torry and Kincorth Academies - Site Appraisals' (Updated as Appendix 2) was made widely available.

Discussions were undertaken between education service officers and neighbourhood planning officers on issues likely to arise within local

communities due to the proposal. Schools involved their staff, pupils and parent councils in discussions on the possible sites.

Drop –in information events were run in each community area:

- Monday 21 January 2013 at Kincorth Academy
- Tuesday 22 January 2013 at Charleston Primary School
- Wednesday 23 January at Torry Academy

At these events, information on the site options were made available and planning officers, technical officers and representatives of the Education, Culture and Sport Service were present to discuss the options.

Participants were encouraged to leave completed comment cards, copies of which are available in the Members' Library, along with copies of all other types of submission.

Officers of the Council met with representatives of the Parent Councils from all schools in the affected areas.

5.4.2 Attendance

A total of **142** people participated in the three informal engagement events.

| | Participants |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| Kincorth Academy (21 January 2013) | 28 |
| Charleston School (22 January 2013) | 63 |
| Torry Academy (23 January) | 51 |

5.4.3 Submissions

There were 16 email responses to the dedicated email address and 6 written submissions. 51 completed Comment Cards were handed in at the engagement events. All views received by the closing date of Friday 8 March 2013 were accepted.

(i) Summary of Submissions

Of those who indicated a preferred site, the totals were:

| Format of Submission | Total | Preference | | | | |
|----------------------------|-----------|----------------|--------------|----------|----------|----------|
| | | Tullos | Bobby Calder | Kincorth | Torry | None |
| Emails | 16 | 4 [*] | 11 | | 1 | |
| Written | 6 | 1 | 1 | | 3 | 1 |
| Comment Card ^{**} | 51 | 1 | 36 | 4 | 5 | 7 |
| Total | 73 | 2 | 48 | 4 | 9 | 8 |

^{*} 3 out of the 4 emails are from the same recipient supporting preference to Tullos

^{**} 2 comment cards indicated more than one preference

(ii) Submissions by Representative Groups

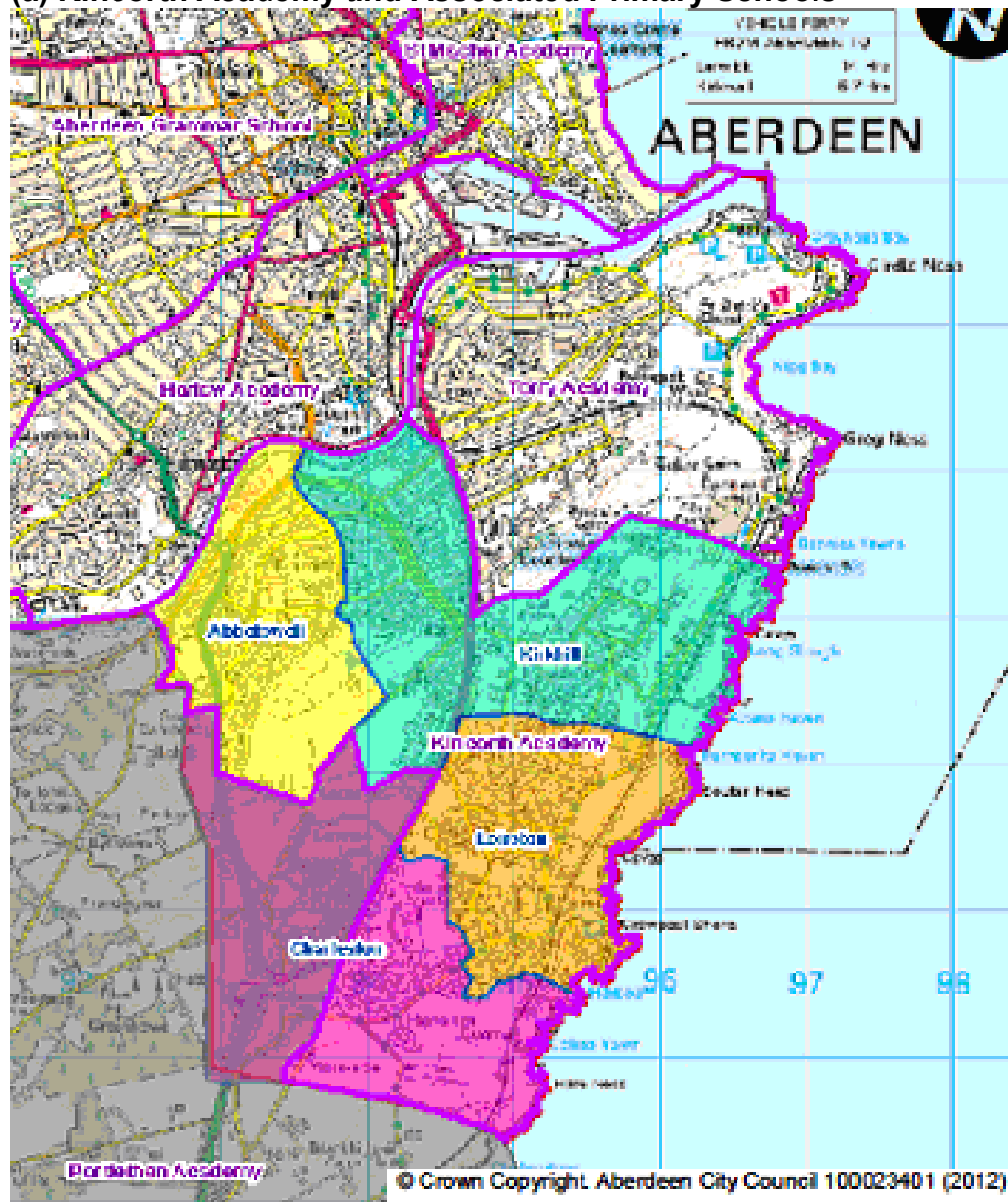
There were three significant submissions from Torry Academy Parent Council (supported by Torry Community Council), Walker Road Parent Council and the staff of Torry Academy.

All other submissions were made by individuals or pairs of parents/carers.

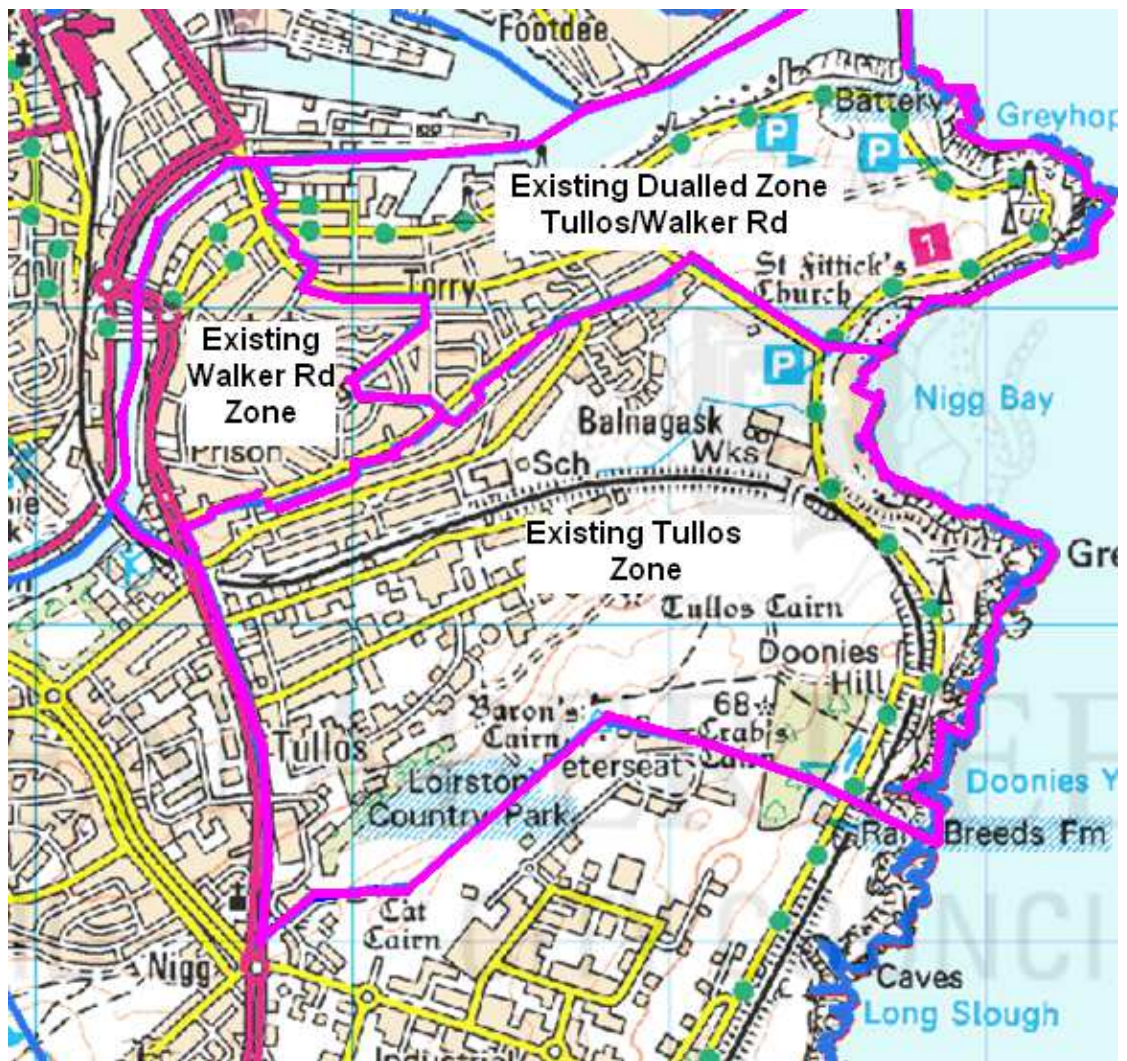
5.4 Catchment Areas/Zones

5.4.1 The Existing Catchment Areas

(a) Kincorth Academy and Associated Primary Schools



(b) Torry Academy and Associated Primary Schools



A detailed map of Aberdeen, Scotland, showing its coastal location and surrounding areas like Girdle Ness and Grog Ness.

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5.5 Available Sites

5.5.1 Background

A study was carried out into various sites located to the South of the City to assess their suitability to accommodate a new Secondary School to replace both Torry and Kincorth Academies. Following the assessment of each site it is aimed to identify a preferred option which best meets the needs identified by the Education, Culture and Sport Service.

There is general acceptance that should funds be used to purchase land, this would detract from the resources available to progress the project and therefore should not be considered. Only land in Council ownership was considered.

The site options appraisal has been conducted in accordance with the requirements stipulated by the Education, Culture and Sport Service. The initial stage of the process was undertaken in conjunction with Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure to define the objectives of the report in terms of site options appraisal and site selection.

The first stage of this process consisted of clearly defining the criteria against which all of the potential sites would be assessed. The selected criteria were agreed with Education, Culture and Sport to ensure that their requirements were met and that the sites responded adequately to their requirements. The resulting selection criteria were:

- Site Area
- Site Characteristics (Topography)
- Site Characteristics (Ground Conditions)
- Site Location/Neighbourhood
- Site Access: - Roads
- Accessibility (Communications, bus routes etc.)
- Development Potential (Planning Constraints, Ecological Issues)
- Redevelopment Opportunities/Regeneration/Shared Use
- Site Services/Sustainability Issues
- Site Availability/Existing Use
- Site Value/Acquisition Costs/Displacement Costs
- Fit with Service Delivery Model

5.5.2 Site Appraisal Methodology

Under the headings of the main criteria a series of specific points against which sites would be measured were developed.

Following this exercise the process of identifying appropriate sites commenced. Initial work was undertaken by the Asset Management Team using available data bases to identify Council owned sites that were either vacant or were likely to become available within a timescale that suited the programmes for the proposed development. This list was supplemented by additional sites that are partly owned by the Council. This supplementary list comprised of the two sites at Loriston. This

exercise identified seven Aberdeen City Council owned sites and a further two sites that are in the joint ownership of the Council and a Private Developer.

The nine sites were subject to further information gathering so that an initial assessment of the options could be undertaken by the Asset Management Team. This initial assessment was then subject to review by the project team which included an analysis of the options with Officers from Education, Culture and Sport providing the scoring under the criterion 12, 'Fit with Service Delivery Model'.

The aim of the evaluation matrix was to provide a shortlist of suitable sites forming the preferred options.

5.5.3 Updated Information

As a result of questions raised during the informal engagement process, further information has been provided in the updated Site Appraisals and Planning Risk Register Document (Appendix 2). The main changes include enhanced information on **Accessibility and Transportation**. There has also been addition of further detail to the **Risk Register** and a new assessment criterion entitled '**Environmental Factors**'.

5.5.4 Preferred Site

None of the sites were entirely without positive as well as negative aspects.

Overall, the Bobby Calder Park Site received most support from those who submitted a view (mainly from Cove residents) and achieved the highest evaluation in terms of the Site Appraisals, including fewest concerns from Planning. It is also a large site and geographically relatively central to the three existing communities of Kincorth, Torry and Cove as well as the proposed housing developments identified within the Aberdeen Local Development Plan.

The Bobby Calder Park Site was, therefore, identified as the preferred site. It is acknowledged that all issues raised within the informal engagement will have to be addressed in the statutory consultation document on the formal proposal to amalgamate the two schools and create a new school on the Bobby Calder Park Site.

6. IMPACT

6.1 Corporate

Aberdeen the smarter City

1. We will enhance the physical and emotional wellbeing of all our citizens by offering support and activities which promote independence, resilience, confidence and self-esteem

2. Working with our third, public and private sector partners, we will provide opportunities for lifelong learning which will develop knowledge, skills and attributes of our citizens to enable them to meet the changing demands of the 21st century.
3. Again, working with partners, we will create a City of Learning which will empower individuals to fulfil their potential and contribute to the economic, social and cultural wellbeing of our communities.
4. We will aim to have a workforce across the city which has the skills and knowledge to sustain, grow and diversify the city economy.

6.2 Equality and Human Rights implications

A full equality and human rights impact assessment was not required, as this paper only seeks approval to investigate and further consult.

A full EHRI will be undertaken once potential solutions are in place.

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Appendix 1

Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 - Statutory Guidance

Appendix 2

Proposal for a New Secondary School to Replace Torry and Kincorth Academies Site Appraisals Document (including Planning Risk Register) (Updated)

8. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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Appendix 1

**SCHOOLS (CONSULTATION) (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010
STATUTORY GUIDANCE**

Introduction

This statutory guidance is issued under Section 19 of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 (hereinafter referred to as ‘the Act’), which came into force on 6 January 2010, the day after Royal Assent was given. The guidance should be read in conjunction with the Act.

Purpose of the Act

The Act’s principal purpose is to update and strengthen the statutory consultation practices and procedures that local authorities apply to their handling of all proposals for school closures and other major changes to schools. It aims to establish a new consultation process that is robust, open, transparent and fair, and seen to be so. In doing so it aims to ensure consistency of consultation arrangements across Scotland. The Act also introduces a presumption against the closure of rural schools by ensuring that a decision to consult on a rural school closure proposal is not made until the local authority has had regard to all viable alternatives and assessed the likely implications of closure. The Act also replaces the previous system for referring certain local authority decisions for Scottish Ministers’ consent with a new system of call-in, but in school closure cases only.

To whom is this guidance addressed - who should read it?

Section 19 of the Act states that “...an education authority must have regard to any guidance issued by the Scottish Ministers for the purposes of or in connection with this Act”. This guidance is therefore issued to local authorities and is intended to assist those who are involved in overseeing the consultation and decision making processes around proposed changes to their schools, as set out in the Act. It is intended to help ensure that full, fair and rigorous consultations are undertaken and does so by providing guidance and illustrative examples of the good practice which is expected to be the norm. It will also be helpful to read the Explanatory Notes that accompany the Act which are designed to help understanding of its detail –

www.oqps.gov.uk/legislation/acts/s-acts2010a

This guidance will also be of interest to parents and carers; school pupils and staff; members of the local community; and anyone else with an interest in how authorities undertake consultations on proposed changes to schools. It is important that they are reassured that the consultation and decision making process and procedures are fairly, fully and rigorously carried out by the local authority.

The structure of this guidance follows the order of the provisions in the Act. The specific areas covered and the level of detail offered on those areas reflect the

discussions and debate during the course of the passage of the Bill through the Scottish Parliament. The Scottish Government has been keen to respond to issues and areas of concern and interest as they have arisen during the consultations and the various stages of Parliamentary scrutiny. In preparing this guidance, we have taken into account the engagement and contribution of MSPs and other stakeholders.

The Educational Benefits Statement – Section 3 of the Act

The Act reflects the Scottish Government's view that the educational benefits should be at the heart of any proposal to make a significant change to schools. Consequently, the Act specifies that the local authority must, for all consultations, prepare an educational benefits statement (EBS) and publish it within the proposal paper¹. The Act requires authorities to consider both current and future pupils of the school, current and future users of its facilities and also to explain how the authority intends to minimise or avoid any adverse effects of the proposal. It must also include its reasons for reaching the views which it sets out regarding the educational benefits. Reasons should be supported by evidence to assist consultees in their understanding of the envisaged educational benefits.

Effect on different school users

The Act specifies that the authority must set out within the EBS its assessment of the effect of the proposal on a range of school users. The first such group is the pupils at the affected school or schools. It applies to all pupils, not just some. It will often be important for an authority to distinguish between different groups – for example those with additional support needs – and how a proposal may benefit/impact on them differently. An affected school would include a school proposed for closure either in its entirety, or in part (where for instance a stage of education or where all nursery provision was proposed to be discontinued). Where the proposal was to establish a new school, those schools whose rolls would be consequently reduced or changed as a direct result of the new school should be counted as affected schools. Proposals to change catchment areas normally also affect more than one school – and in some cases schools from across neighbouring authorities. In such cases authorities will want to consider carefully how any proposal might have a consequential effect on other schools.

The EBS must also set out the assessed impact on other users of the school's facilities, both currently and in the future. That may include for instance adult or community users, perhaps who attend school-based classes, or users of a school's theatre or hall or sport and recreation facilities. The authority must also consider and set out the impact of its proposals on children or young people who would have been likely (but for the proposal) to have become pupils of the school. In the case of a primary school that would generally affect children who would within two years be expected to attend, or in the case of a secondary school it would include children in associated primaries. However, authorities

¹ The proposal paper is covered in more detail in pages 4 and 5 of this guidance

should consider the interests of any and all children or young people they know may come into this category.

Finally, the authority is required to set out its assessment of the likely effects of the proposal – its potential implications and consequences – on some or all of the pupils in other schools across the authority's area.

In assessing the likely benefits and effects on users, authorities will want to take into consideration a range of factors which will vary from case to case and in scale, depending on the particular circumstances and the type of proposal being consulted on. In many circumstances, the affected groups will not necessarily share a common benefit from what is proposed. In these cases, it will be important that the EBS demonstrates clearly how the authority has identified and intends to balance these diverse interests. In order to make the EBS as clear and easily understood as possible, authorities will wish to emphasise and highlight the main beneficiaries of what is proposed and how they will benefit.

Factors which may be candidates for consideration

Neither the Act nor this guidance are framed in a way that either lists or limits the range of factors that may be relevant in the case of a particular proposal, that an authority might take into consideration and/or articulate in the EBS. The Government, however, expects that, as a matter of course, the rationale and arguments offered in the EBS, indeed in the whole of the proposal paper, will be set within the context of an authority's range of statutory duties – which is addressed in more detail in the section below.

Also of relevance will be the way a proposal sits within the context of a range of national and local policies. *Curriculum for Excellence* sits at the heart of what both national and local government are looking to achieve in terms of raising levels of achievement and improving educational outcomes for all children and young people. It is intended to nurture successful, effective, confident and responsible young people, able to learn and utilise learning in a way that helps them reach their full potential and to respond to the increased variety and pace of change in today's and tomorrow's world.

In preparing the EBS, authorities will want to set out how a proposal will improve the quality of the curriculum and create positive environments for more effective learning and teaching better matched to the needs of learners. The EBS should focus on how the proposals will improve the depth, breadth, coherence, relevance, challenge and enjoyment provided by the curriculum. It should also demonstrate how opportunities for greater personalisation and choice in learning and improved progression will enhance children's experiences. This will include the use of information and communications technology (ICT) and arrangements for assessing and planning learners' progress. It will also be important to highlight the impact of the proposals on the overall ethos of the school, including the care and welfare of pupils and their personal and social development. A key aspect will be to ensure that the proposal improves equality of opportunity for all within an inclusive educational

experience, in the widest sense, for pupils and achievement, and for interdisciplinary learning and beyond.

Other potentially relevant issues in connection with educational benefit in some cases may include the condition and suitability of the school buildings and facilities (and where a proposal would involve pupils moving from one school to another, the relative condition of both), changing patterns of demand for school places if there is a growing mismatch between supply and demand, and the travel and transport context and implications of a proposal if for instance they would impact differently on pupils' broader social experiences and opportunities to participate in and benefit from out-of-hours learning. Financial and budgetary considerations may also be relevant in situations where disparities in the costs of the delivery of education may have grown, to the detriment of the greater good, at least to the point where an authority considers that they require to be reviewed.

Other statutory obligations pertaining to education

Local authorities have other education-related statutory duties which they require to fulfil and therefore need to consider when contemplating proposals to change the way in which education is delivered. The EBS is the place for the authority to set out the relationship between a proposed change and these other education-related statutory duties – and how what is proposed fits with the continued fulfilment of these other obligations. The following list of statutory duties is illustrative rather than exhaustive:

Education (Scotland) Act 1980, section 1 of which requires authorities to secure for their area adequate and efficient provision of school education; and section 17 which deals with sufficient school accommodation.

Standards in Scotland's Schools etc Act 2000, section 3 of which requires authorities to endeavour to raise standards and secure improvement in the quality of school education provided in their schools.

Section 2 of this Act states that it is the duty of the education authority to ensure that the education it provides is directed to the development of the personality, talents and the mental and physical abilities of the children or young people to their fullest potential.

Education (Additional Support for Learning) (Scotland) Act 2004. This requires authorities to identify and provide support for any children with additional support needs and prepare co-ordinated support plans for those with the most extensive needs. This is a critically important group of pupils whose particular needs require special consideration.

'Personal' or 'attributable' information

In the EBS, sensitive or personal information that could be linked to or attributed to individuals – for instance individual pupils – should be avoided, although it is recognised that this may be more difficult where very small numbers are

involved. The objective should be to couch the text of the EBS in such a way as to avoid the identification of individuals and focus on the generic or on groups or categories of persons affected.

The Proposal Paper – Section 4 of the Act

Whereas the EBS provides the local authority with the opportunity to set out the educational case for their proposal, the proposal paper itself is where the authority can and should set out all the other contextual and relevant evidence and information around and in support of the proposal. The EBS will be included within the published proposal paper, so that consultees can consider the whole case together.

Authorities are required to prepare a proposal paper to set out the detail of the relevant proposal or proposals. In order to minimise confusion, authorities should only consider grouping together more than one proposal in the paper where they are in some way inter-connected. In considering what material to include in the proposal paper (in addition to the educational case set out in the EBS) an authority may wish to explain what has given rise to consideration of the matter being consulted on and why it has decided upon the particular proposal set out for consultees. If appropriate, it should also give details of other options considered but rejected (in the case of rural school closures this will have to be done as part of the process – see page 8 for more detail).

There may also be legislation - other than that directly relating to matters educational - that is relevant to the proposal and its context. These include:

Local Government in Scotland Act 2003, section 1 of which sets out what a local authority is expected to demonstrate in fulfilment of a series of obligations placed upon it. One such is the duty to secure best value by continuous improvement in performance of the authority's functions, while maintaining an appropriate balance between quality and cost and having regard to economy, efficiency, effectiveness, equal opportunities and the achievement of sustainable development.

An authority may wish to demonstrate how a proposal helps to fulfil this duty and achieve best value by setting out clearly cost benefit analyses of the financial and budgetary factors and implications of the proposal. Aspects of this may already have been covered in the EBS but if there are cost issues which go beyond the purely educational, the proposal paper is where these should be set out, again, with full financial details and supporting evidence where these are significant factors in relation to the proposal.

Equal opportunity legislation – it will also be important in the proposal paper to set out how the proposal squares with and assists the authority in fulfilling its obligations under various statutes such as the Sex Discrimination Act 1975, the Race Relations Act 1976 and the Disability Discrimination Act 1995. Preparing and publishing an Equality Impact Assessment in the proposal paper would be one way of fulfilling this.

Other factors

As well as best value, financial costs and equality issues, and matters already covered in the EBS, the proposal paper is the place to focus on wider community and other issues, beyond the purely educational – both where they have relevance to the context, timing and detail of the particular proposal and also where community and other implications of what is proposed may have been identified and how the authority plans to address or handle those.

Many local authorities undertake Asset Management Plans on a corporate basis to ensure the most effective use of assets and control of both revenue and capital costs – the school estate is a major aspect of this planning process. Where such plans do exist the proposal paper would be an appropriate place to make reference to how the proposal under consideration fits into this wider authority planning.

Proposal Paper inaccuracies and omissions – Section 5 of the Act

As the proposal paper must include the EBS, any such omission from or inaccuracy in that statement is also covered by this section of the Act. Omissions of relevant information or inaccuracies may be discovered by the authority itself or may be brought to its attention. In either case it is for the authority to consider whether or not relevant information has been omitted or the paper is inaccurate and if so, decide what appropriate and proportionate action to take.

Where the implications of the omission or inaccuracy are minor, with little or no impact on the ability of consultees to understand the proposal paper, an authority may decide to do nothing beyond fulfilling the requirement to inform whoever brought the matter to its attention of that decision. Where an authority judges the omission or inaccuracy to be more significant it may, as it considers appropriate, do one or more of the following. It may issue an erratum or corrected proposal paper and issue consultees (and HMIE) with a notice with the correct or omitted information. This issue of a corrected paper or erratum note may include extending the consultation period if this is considered warranted. It will also be good practice to publicise the corrected or additional information as widely as possible, for instance on the council's website.

Notice and Consultation Period – Section 6 of the Act

An authority must notify the relevant consultees of the proposals and the consultation period cannot commence until this has been done. The authority must also set a consultation period of at least 6 weeks, to include 30 days of term time at any affected school, not including school holidays or any other days when the school is not open to pupils. For example, a consultation period commencing say a week before the Easter holidays would run for 30 school days up until sometime in May. The 30 day period would be calculated as not including any Easter holidays, the early May bank holiday, if that is also a school holiday, and any intervening in-service days.

The Public Meeting – Section 7 of the Act

A public meeting must be held (at which the authority is represented) during the consultation period and advance notice given of its date, time and location to the relevant consultees and to HMIE (if that information has not already been given in the notice issued just prior to the start of the consultation period advising consultees of the proposal).

Maximum advance notice of the details of the public meeting is desirable. If the details can be included in the initial notice of the proposal then there will be no need for the authority to have to issue a second notice at a later stage.

The Act leaves the details of the public meeting to authorities. As to timing, authorities will wish to balance the need to give interested parties enough time to read and digest the proposal paper, in order to inform discussion and questions at the meeting, with the need to allow sufficient time after the meeting to reflect and consider what representations and response to make to the consultation. Unless there are good reasons to do otherwise it would be appropriate to avoid holding the public meeting during the first week or so of the consultation period, but ensuring that it has taken place by around the halfway stage.

For the convenience of consultees and other interested parties the public meeting should take place outwith normal/office working hours and at a convenient location.

If an authority considers it appropriate to hold more than one public meeting, for example in response to a request for a subsequent meeting during normal/office working hours, the provisions of the Act and this guidance should apply to each one.

Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education's involvement – Section 8 of the Act

The Act provides for Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education's (HMIE) involvement in the consultation process. This involvement will culminate in HMIE preparing and submitting to the authority a professional and independent report on the educational aspects of the proposal being consulted on. As this guidance is addressed to local authorities rather than to HMIE, it focuses on authorities' responsibilities in relation to this section of the Act.

An authority will wish to engage with HMIE before a consultation on a proposal is taken forward to ensure that practical arrangements are in place. For example, to ensure that papers and representations are sent to the appropriate person at HMIE. There will also need to be discussion as to how this shall be handled at the end of the consultation period. The 3 week period within which HMIE must prepare and submit their report (unless the authority and HMIE agree a longer period) does not commence until the representations have all been forwarded to HMIE.

The Parliament's Education, Lifelong Learning and Culture Committee discussed the question of HMIE's attendance at public meetings at some length. They assumed that HMIE would in most cases send a representative to the public meeting and the Scottish Government is of a similar view. However, the absence of an HMIE representative would not 'invalidate' the public meeting and the authority in any event must send HMIE a summary of the oral representations made. Where an HMIE representative does attend a public meeting it is important to emphasise to those present that he/she is doing so exclusively as an observer and cannot be asked to participate or offer any comment.

The Consultation Report – Sections 9 & 10 of the Act

The Act requires the authority to review the proposal consulted on in light of the written and oral representations it has received and HMIE's report, and then prepare and publish a consultation report. Section 10 sets out what the consultation report must contain. It should provide the number of written representations received, a summary of the written and oral representations made and the authority's response to those representations, the full text of the HMIE report and finally a statement explaining how the authority has reviewed the proposal in light of the representations and HMIE report.

In addition, if omissions were identified from, or there were inaccuracies in the proposal paper, the consultation report must set out their details and the action taken and, if no action was taken, why.

In the case of closure proposals the consultation report must also explain the opportunity which people would have for making representations to the Scottish Ministers in the event that the Council decided to close a school. The report should make clear that they would have a period of 3 weeks after the Council decision was taken to bring to Ministers' attention any matter which they considered would justify the decision being called in under section 15(4) of the Act. This is explained more fully below under the section entitled 'Possible Call-in'.

Further Consideration – Section 11 of the Act

The purpose of this provision within the Act is to ensure that a period of 3 weeks elapses between the authority's publication of the consultation report and the Council actually taking the decision on whether to implement the proposal(s). The intention is that interested parties should have time to see and digest the contents of the consultation report and also have time if they so wish to voice concerns and approach and lobby the councillors who will shortly be deciding on the proposal(s).

Special Provision for Rural Schools – Sections 12-14 of the Act

These sections of the Act set out special safeguards for rural schools (rural schools will be defined in terms of a list which Ministers will issue and maintain, in accordance with section 14 of the Act). The Act requires authorities to have special regard to three factors before deciding to propose and consult on a rural school closure. These factors acknowledge and reflect the special importance of a school to the more fragile and vulnerable rural and remote communities of Scotland. Closure of a school in these communities almost inevitably means that pupils will have to travel elsewhere to be educated and there will be a significant loss of service provided locally.

The first factor which an authority must have special regard to is any viable alternative to the closure proposal. The intention here is to ensure that when an option to close is proposed, the decision to consult on that option is a last resort, only proposed after all the other viable alternatives have been considered. For example, consideration could focus on how the school roll might be increased; how recruitment to the teaching posts might be improved; whether other management options might be a possibility; and how the buildings might be more intensively used. These are just some illustrative examples of a wide range of alternatives to closure than an authority may have considered and even tried to implement.

The second factor focuses on the likely effect of the school's closure on the local community - whether that will affect the local community's viability and whether the asset of the school's buildings, facilities and grounds would still be accessible, or lost, to the community. Many considerations are likely to be relevant in terms of community viability: whether closure would encourage families with school-age children to leave the community or discourage similar incomers; what impact closure might have on other services provided locally, for instance if the school is the only remaining public building in a community and a real hub of community life, used for other purposes such as public meetings, local events, fetes, surgeries, and other get-togethers.

The third factor focuses on the likely consequences of the closure on travel and transport arrangements of the school's pupils, staff and other users, and the effect on them (perhaps in terms of pupil health and wellbeing if they are less able to walk or cycle to school) as well as the overall environmental impact (for instance as a result of increased car usage). In some instances longer journeys to school may increase the likelihood of bad weather impacting on home to school travel.

Section 13 of the Act requires the authority, in consultations on rural closure proposals, explicitly to set out in the proposal paper how it gave special regard to these three factors, and in the consultation report how it again had regard to these factors in reviewing the proposal at the end of the consultation period, and any changes of attitude to the three factors which it had in that context.

Possible ‘Call-In’ of closure decisions by Ministers – Sections 15-17 of the Act

Section 15 of the Act requires an authority to notify Scottish Ministers and send them copies of the proposal paper and consultation report (within 6 working days of taking the decision) if, following a consultation, it decides to implement a closure proposal. The requirement to notify Ministers does not apply to any other category of decision.

There is a three week period (commencing on the day the decision is made) during which anyone can make representations to Ministers requesting that they call in the Council’s decision. Ministers have up to six weeks from the date of the decision to decide whether or not to call in a closure decision. If they do decide to call it in, they effectively remit the authority’s decision to themselves i.e. Ministers will then decide whether or not to allow the closure to go ahead and if so, if there should be any conditions attached to their consent. This means that an authority may not proceed further with the implementation of a closure decision until that six-week period has elapsed, unless Ministers have earlier informed the authority that they do not intend to call in the decision.

The grounds on which Ministers may call in a decision are set out in section 17 of the Act. These are - where it appears to Ministers that the authority may have failed in a significant regard to comply with the requirements imposed on it under this Act or to take proper account of a material consideration relevant to the decision to implement the proposal. The Act does not further define what might or would constitute a ‘material consideration’ – any particular case will be considered on a case by case basis, if representations are received. This Ministerial power is intended as a safeguard, in closure cases, to help to ensure that the consultation and decision-making processes and procedures are fairly, fully, openly and transparently carried out. The following examples are however included by way of illustration of the sort of issues and scenarios that would constitute a material consideration relevant to an authority’s decision to implement a proposal (these are by no means exclusive or exhaustive):

- a school closure proposal is consulted on so far in advance – for example 3 years – of its implementation date that it would not be possible to identify all of the pupils that would be affected.
- a consultation on a proposal to close a school that contains a special unit, which includes details of where pupils in the mainstream section of the school would move to if the proposal is implemented, but contains no information about the pupils at the special unit.
- a consultation on a proposal to close a school, which contains details of one alternative school but no details on another school which could reasonably be considered as a suitable alternative, where evidence would suggest that it is a popular school that parents are already choosing to send their children to (instead of the school proposed for closure or the school formally proposed as the alternative).

- a consultation that fails to take account of the number of times when the road between the school proposed for closure and the alternative school would be shut due to bad weather (in an area where this was a known occurrence) – meaning that the pupils could not get to the new school.

Since the grounds for call-in focus entirely on the activities of the authority, much will depend on how the authority signals its response to material considerations raised in the proposal paper and commented on by consultees, or raised by consultees or by HMIE, how it reviews the proposal in light of all of the above and how it reaches and explains its overall conclusion and final decision on the proposal.

If Scottish Ministers do call in a closure decision the authority cannot proceed to implement the decision - either in full or in part - until Ministers have informed the authority of their own decision in the case. Ministers may refuse to consent to the decision's implementation or grant their consent to it, either unconditionally or subject to conditions. During the six week period when Ministers are deciding to call in a closure decision, and subsequently if they do call it in, authorities are required to provide Ministers with such information as they may reasonably require in relation to their consideration either of the call-in or consent decision.

Definitions – Section 21 of the Act

This section of the Act also came into force on 6 January 2010, the day after Royal Assent. It provides appropriate definitions of terms in the Act.

In particular, the schools to which this Act refers are public schools as defined in section 135(1) of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980. This means any school under the management of an education authority and includes nursery schools which are under authority management i.e. are run by them.

The Act does not cover independent schools or nursery schools or nurseries which are managed and run independently ie by other than local authorities.

Relevant Proposals – Schedule 1

This Schedule sets out all the categories of proposal to which this Act applies.

The provisions of sections 15-17 of the Act, relating to closure proposals, relate to all the categories of closure covered by paragraph 1 of the Schedule, not just to proposals for the closure of a whole school.

Authorities sometimes 'mothball' a school whose roll has either naturally fallen to zero or has done so as a result of placing requests made in respect of alternative schools. Authorities may take the view that mothballing the school is appropriate if there is a possibility of the school roll increasing again in the

future, warranting the school's reopening. Mothballing, as temporary rather than permanent discontinuance, does not require consultation in terms of the Act. If the authority, at a later date, decided to permanently close a mothballed school, such as to preclude its reopening if local demand for school places should rise again, the provisions of this Act would require to be complied with, before such a decision could be taken.

The reference in paragraph 10 of this Schedule to further education centres is only to such centres which are managed by local authorities. At the present time such centres exist only in Orkney and Shetland.

Relevant Consultees – Schedule 2

This schedule identifies a core set of relevant consultees who should be consulted in connection with every type of proposal set out in Schedule 1. These are the Parent Council, parents of pupils attending an affected school as well as the pupils themselves, parents of pupils likely to attend an affected school, staff at an affected school, any trade union which appears to the education authority to be representative of those staff, and any other users whom the authority considers relevant. The Schedule also specifies other relevant consultees in relation to specific categories of proposal - for instance the community council is included where the impact is likely to affect the wider community. Additionally, paragraph 11 specifies that Bòrd na Gàidhlig is to be consulted when a proposal affects the provision of Gaelic medium education (GME) such as where a GME class is to be established or discontinued or a GME school's catchment is to be changed. Paragraph 12 makes clear that where a change is being proposed which affects a denominational school, the relevant church or denominational body must be consulted.

Consulting children and young people

One way of seeking to ensure that Scotland's children and young people become responsible citizens, one of the cornerstones of Curriculum for Excellence, is by helping them to understand the decisions that are made about them and for them by adults, and by involving them and ensuring that they have an opportunity to have their say. The Act requires pupils to be consulted in so far as the authority considers them to be of suitable age and maturity. The presumptions should be "no lower age limit" and a focus on the pupils' capacity rather than incapacity – yet recognising that some proposals will be technical or incomprehensible or of little or no interest to certain categories or age of pupils. However, Article 12 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child gives a child the right to express a view on matters that affect his or her life and to have that view taken into account.

The Act therefore provides for pupils' views to be sought and taken into account on an equal basis to other statutory consultees and there is a clear expectation that authorities will make all reasonable efforts to ensure that the greatest number of pupils are meaningfully consulted, in ways that are appropriate to their age and maturity. They should also consider how best to provide feedback to pupils on how their views have been taken into account in the Council's

coming to a decision. This should be done in an accessible and age-appropriate way that will help them understand the process and how and why the decision has been taken.

Pupil councils are relatively commonplace throughout Scottish schools and in many cases will provide an ideal platform for proposals to be shared and views to be expressed and captured. The authority should though consider a range of means for communicating and consulting with children and young people of varying age groups and levels of maturity.

The office of the Commissioner for Children and Young People, and Children in Scotland, produced, in light of this Act, guidance aimed at assisting local authorities in undertaking their duty to consult children and young people. It is designed to ensure best practice across Scotland and can be viewed at either of the following links:

www.sccyp.org.uk/admin/04policy/files/spo_142146Participants,%20not%20pawns%20guidance%2020100315.pdf
www.childreninscotland.org.uk/docs/Participantsnotpawnsguidance20100315.pdf

Transitional provisions – Schedule 3

Paragraph 3 onwards of this Schedule sets out the transitional provisions for moving from the current system of statutory consultations under the Education (Publication and Consultation Etc.) (Scotland) Regulations 1981 (“the 1981 Regulations”) to the new set of procedures in the Act.

There are essentially 2 transitional options, which were included in the Bill from the outset so that authorities would be able to plan ahead, well in advance. Indications have consistently been given that the Act (beyond sections 19-22 which are already in force) will be brought into force at or around Easter 2010. The 2 options between them cover all circumstances where authorities launch consultation processes prior to 5 April 2010.

The first option is where an authority has commenced or commences statutory consultations regarding a proposed change to a school in accordance with the 1981 Regulations and has taken, or will take, a post-consultation decision on implementing the proposal prior to the 5 April 2010 commencement of this Act. If that decision is not referable to Ministers – under the distance, % occupancy or denominational criteria – then the authority may proceed to implement it. If it is referable, implementation will need to await a Ministerial decision on consent (and only proceed if Ministerial consent is given). In some of these cases it may take until some time after 5 April 2010 for Ministers to reach and deliver their decision regarding consent.

The second option is where an authority wishes to start a consultation before commencement of the Act (5 April 2010) but will not be at the stage of taking a post-consultation decision until after the Act is wholly commenced. In these

cases the authority may only ‘continue’ with the consultation and decision making processes through and beyond the date of commencement (5 April 2010) if the consultation processes have ‘anticipated’ the provisions of the Act – i.e. have consisted of or included what is set out in Sections 1 to 10 of the Act. Paragraph 3(4) of the Schedule sets out specific requirements relating to the proposal paper and consultation report if the consultation thus underway involves a proposal to close a rural school; and when the post-consultation decision is taken by the Council, sometime after 5 April 2010, sections 12 and 15 to 17 of the Act will apply – in other words there will be no further referrals to Ministers after 5 April 2010; their only consideration will be potential call-ins of closure decisions.

For the avoidance of any doubt, any consultations which are commenced *after* the coming into force of the Act on 5 April 2010 are not in any sense ‘transitional’ and must of course comply with all of the Act’s provisions.

A further issue to consider relating to answering questions or requests for additional information

In considering questions put or requests for additional information or advice on the proposal, from parents or Parent Councils, authorities will be mindful of their obligations under the Scottish Schools (Parental Involvement) Act 2006. That Act places two specific duties on authorities - to give advice and information when a Parent Council reasonably requests it from them on any matter (section 11(1)) and to give advice and information to a parent of a school pupil when reasonably requested, on any matter relating to the education provided to that pupil (section 12(1)).

Beyond those statutory obligations it is also important that authorities – as a matter of good practice and courtesy - attempt to answer all relevant questions and requests for additional information timeously and, as far as is reasonably practicable, before the end of the consultation period. This particularly applies where the question or request is raised by a relevant consultee. Doing so will enable people to digest and consider the answer and/or additional information provided, prior to finalising their response to the consultations.

In some cases the questions posed or requests for information will be personal, sensitive or relate to individuals, in which case it will be appropriate for the authority to keep its response entirely confidential. In other cases though, authorities are encouraged to consider whether the matters raised and answers provided or additional information supplied would be of wider interest to other consultees. In that case the authority should consider how best to share and publicise the material – perhaps via its website (the FAQ section or some other prominent part) or some other means.

**Scottish Government
Learning Directorate
February 2010**

Appendix 2

Proposal for a New Secondary School to Replace Torry and Kincorth Academies Revised Site Appraisals Document (including Planning Risk Register) (Revised)

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Appendix A - Evaluation Matrix

Appendix B - Site Assessment Criteria

Appendix C - Methodology for Calculation of Site Area

1. BACKGROUND

The purpose of this study is to carry out appraisals of various sites located to the South of the City to assess their suitability to accommodate a new Secondary School to replace both Torry and Kincorth Academies. Following the assessment of each site it is aimed to identify a preferred option which best meets the needs identified by the Education, Culture and Sport Service.

Aberdeen City Council has been reviewing its Education, Culture and Sport Estate over a number of years, and has established clear priorities for its School Estate, in line with Scottish Government guidance. The Council's approach to its School Estate dovetails with the Council's Asset Management Strategy, which complies with national good practice.

The Education, Culture and Sport Service undertakes periodic detailed reviews of different elements of its asset portfolio, involving intensive consultation and engagement with key stakeholders. The review of education properties was split into two phases, commencing in 2009 with a review of the Secondary school provision in the City, followed by a subsequent review of the Primary school provision commencing in 2012. The review outcomes are reported to the Council's Education, Culture and Sport Committee to ensure sound political governance.

Both reviews are taking account of the developing, and recently adopted [Local Development Plan](#) which identifies a potential growth of approximately 30,000 new houses across the City over the next 20–30 years. This represents a considerable amount of pressure on existing infrastructure, including schools and community facilities.

The outcome of the [Secondary School Estates Review](#) was approved by Education, Culture and Sport Committee on October 2010. One of three specific short/medium term actions that was identified relative to the existing school estate was to instruct officers to fully develop the following proposal as soon as practicable: -:

- *to replace Torry Academy and Kincorth Academy with one single larger school on an appropriate site to accommodate all existing secondary pupils and any pupils generated by the development proposed at Loirston.*

Although the Secondary School Estates review in 2010 recommended that a replacement school of up to 1,300 capacity would be adequate, a number of factors now indicate that a larger school of 1,450 – 1,500 capacity would be required.

These include:

- The impact of the new housing development within the approved Local Development Plan.
- The inward migration to the Torry and Kincorth areas.
- There are currently a significant number of pupils who are zoned to the schools who choose to attend a different school, (i.e. 72 from Torry Academy and 130 from Kincorth Academy) in the City.

- Recent experience within Aberdeen suggests that new schools tend to attract pupils back from other schools, as well as resulting in additional placing requests under Placing Request legislation.

2. METHODOLOGY

The site options appraisal has been conducted in accordance with the requirements stipulated by the Education, Culture and Sport Service. The initial stage of the process was undertaken in conjunction with Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure to define the objectives of the report in terms of site options appraisal and site selection.

The first stage of this process consisted of clearly defining the criteria against which all of the potential sites would be assessed. The selected criteria were agreed with Education, Culture and Sport to ensure that their requirements were met and that the sites responded adequately to their requirements. The resulting selection criteria were:

- Site Area
- Site Characteristics (Topography)
- Site Characteristics (Ground Conditions)
- Site Location/Neighbourhood
- Site Access: - Roads
- Accessibility (Communications, bus routes etc.)
- Development Potential (Planning Constraints, Ecological Issues)
- Redevelopment Opportunities/Regeneration/Shared Use
- Site Services/Sustainability Issues
- Site Availability/Existing Use
- Site Value/Acquisition Costs/Displacement Costs
- Fit with Service Delivery Model

Under the headings of the main criteria a series of specific points against which sites would be measured were developed (Appendix A).

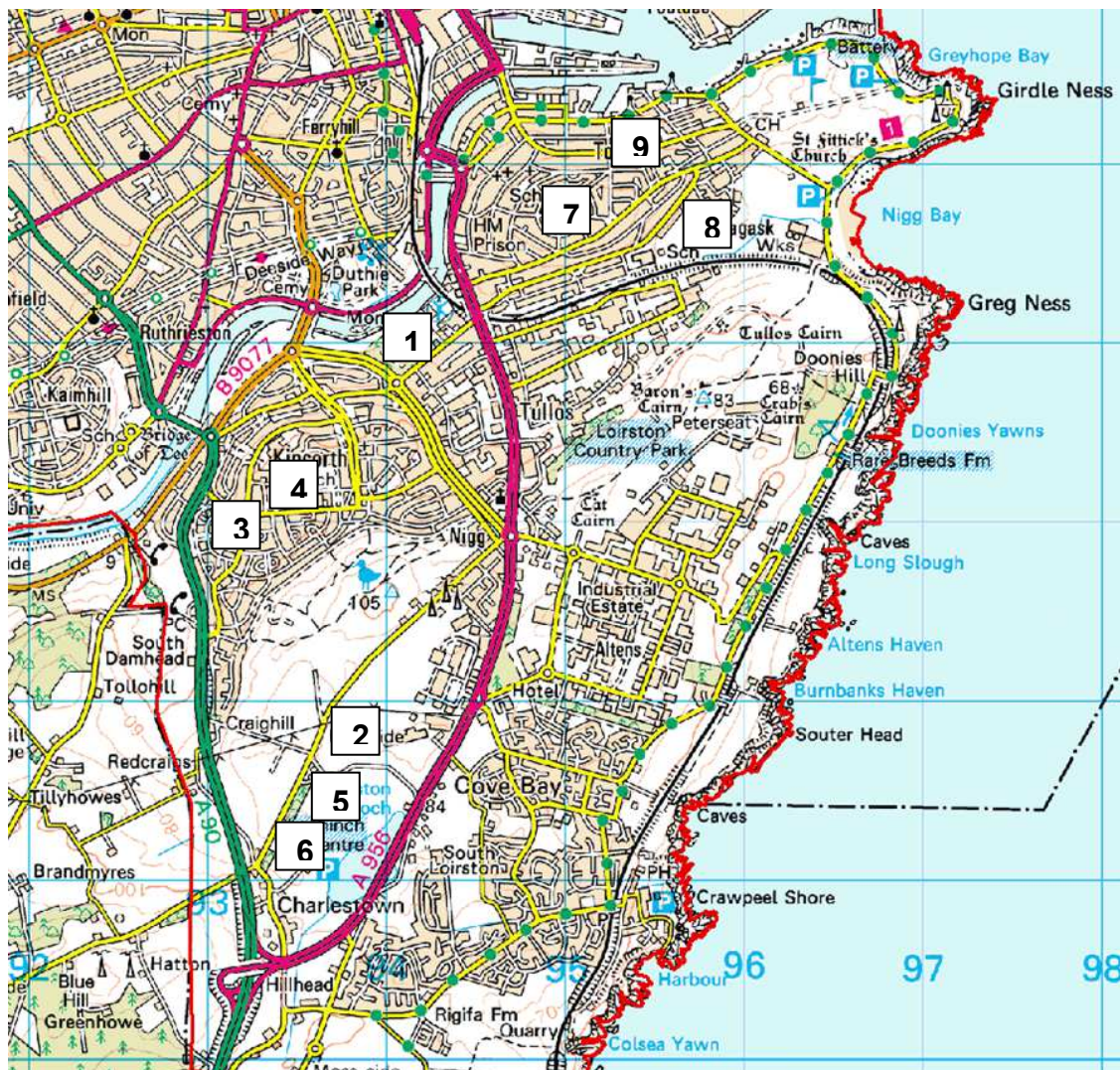
Following this exercise the process of identifying appropriate sites commenced. Initial work was undertaken by the Asset Management Team using available data bases to identify Council owned sites that were either vacant or were likely to become available within a timescale that suited the programmes for the proposed development. This list was supplemented by additional sites that are partly owned by the Council. This supplementary list comprised of the two sites at Loriston. This exercise identified 8 No. Aberdeen City Council owned sites and a further 1 No. site that is in the joint ownership of the Council and a Private Developer.

The 9 No. sites were subject to further information gathering so that an initial assessment of the options could be undertaken by the Asset Management Team. This initial assessment was then subject to review by the project team which included an analysis of the options with Officers from Education, Culture and Sport providing the scoring under the criterion 12, 'Fit with Service Delivery Model'.

The aim of the evaluation matrix was to provide a shortlist of suitable sites forming the preferred options.

3. SITE LOCATIONS

- 1 Abbotswell Road Site, Abbotswell Road, Tullos, Aberdeen, AB12 3AB.
- 2 Bobby Calder Park Site, Redmoss Road, Aberdeen, AB12 3LJ.
- 3 Craighill Primary School, Heatherwick Road, Kincorth, AB12 5ST
- 4 Kincorth Academy Site, Kincorth Circle, Aberdeen, AB12 5NL.
- 5 Loirston Site A
- 6 Loirston Site B
- 7 Torry Academy Site, Tullos Circle, Torry, Aberdeen, AB11 8HD
- 8 Tullos Primary School Site, Girdleness Road, Tullos, Aberdeen, AB11 8FJ
- 9 Victoria Road Primary School, Victoria Road, Torry, AB11 9N



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3.1 Abbotswell Road Site

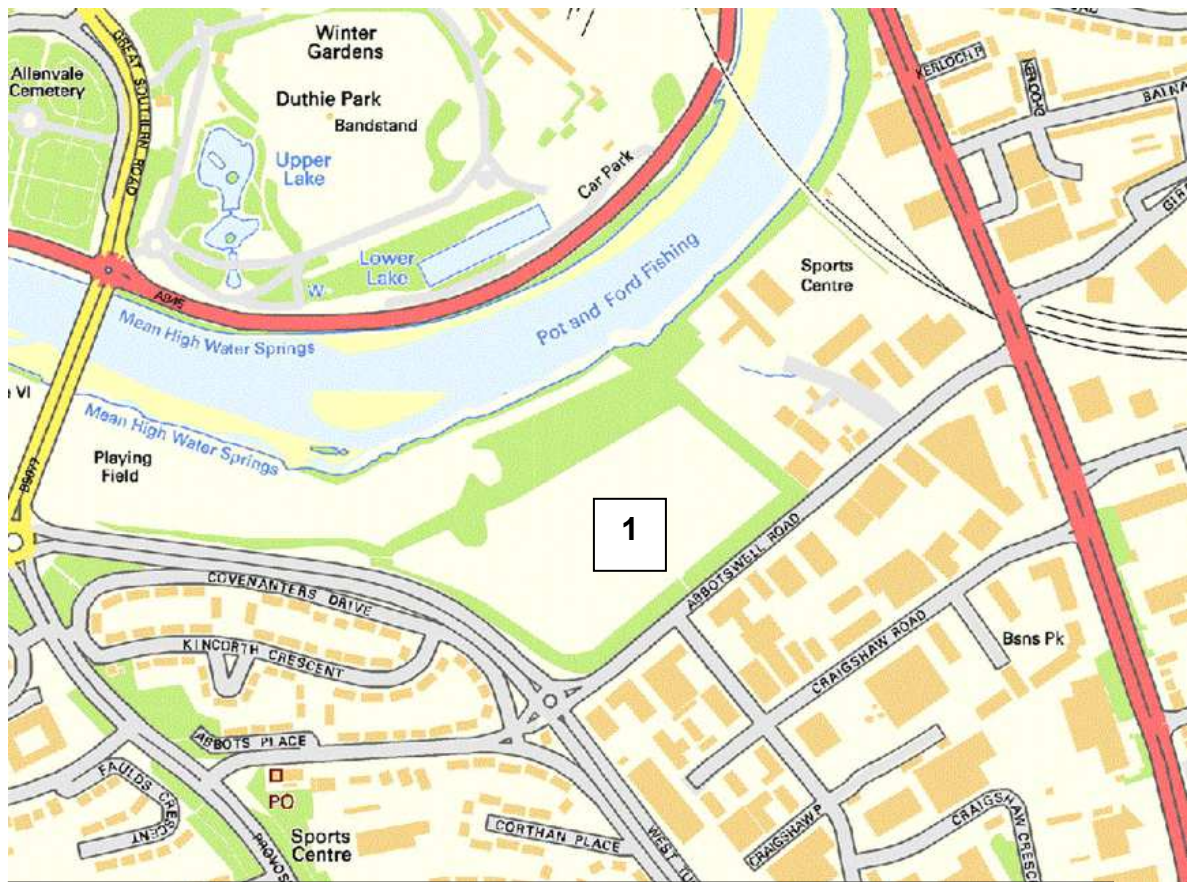
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| Address | Abbotswell, Road, Aberdeen |
| Description | The site comprises of an area of public open space between Abbotswell Road and the River Dee. |
| Site Area | The overall usable area of the site is approximately 6.5 hectares. (This is less than minimum required and would require some of the nearby Inverdee pitches to be utilised for the school sports pitches). |
| Site Characteristics (Topography) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The site slopes down from south (Abbotswell Road) to north towards the River Dee. • The main area of the site is relatively regular in shape. It does however taper to the west. • Noise is not considered to be an issue in the area |
| Site Characteristics (Ground Conditions) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historical maps show that the site was previously open farmland. • There are existing sewers crossing the site which will limit how any new buildings are laid out or will involve additional costs in diverting them. • It is considered unlikely that there will be any significant contamination on the site although the neighbouring site on the east boundary is potentially contaminated so there is a potential that there may be some contamination along this boundary. • Ground conditions are not known without more detailed investigations. The proximity of the northern section of the site, which is also at the lowest level, to the River Dee could adversely affect the ground conditions in this area. • The northern part of the site encroaches on an area indicated on the SEPA Flood Map as an area at risk of flooding. The site is bounded to the east by industrial premises and to the south, across Abbotswell Road by Commercial properties. The west boundary is public open space and the north boundary is defined by the River Dee. The Duthie Park is located across the River Dee. |
| Location/Neighbourhood | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The site is situated between Kincorth and Torry to the North of the West Tullos Industrial Estate and is within 3 miles walking distance of the majority residences within the catchment area. • There are retail premises within easy walking distance (0.4 miles) of the site. |
| Site Access - Roads | The existing main vehicular access to the site is from Abbotswell Road. This road links West Tullos Road to the A956 Wellington Road. These roads give good vehicular access to the other parts of the catchment |

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| | <p>area. Both West Tullos Road and Wellington Road are main routes into the city centre from the south.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Footways/paths in the area are relatively wide. • Pedestrian routes for all pupils within the catchment area will require them to cross a dual carriageway although there are crossing points controlled by lights. Other than these crossing points, pedestrian routes from Kincorth and Torry are good. Pedestrian routes from Cove are however poorer as much of the route is through industrial/commercial areas along heavily trafficked routes although controlled crossings are provided. • Abbotswell Road is a no waiting zone for its' entire length. <p>Roads in the immediate vicinity can suffer severe congestion. Strong concerns that inconsiderate/ illegal waiting and parking by parents could cause severe issues on sensitive routes bounding site.</p> <p>Dual carriageway present major barriers to access by sustainable modes to on all approaches to the site</p> |
| Accessibility (Communications, bus routes etc) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site is situated between Kincorth and Torry and is relatively central to both of these communities. Lying to the north edge of the catchment area increases the travel distance for pupils from Cove. • Public Transport links are reasonable with the FirstAberdeen No. 3 Bus Service stopping on Wellington Road (0.3 miles away). This service gives access to parts of Cove, Tullos and Torry as well as the city centre. The Service No. 18 stops within walking distance (0.5 miles) of the site which gives access to parts of Kincorth, Redmoss and the city centre. <p>School Transport's measurements indicate that the furthest (current) Cove residences are borderline for this distance, while Kincorth and Torry come under the 3 mile threshold.</p> <p>The above means that only pupils who reside in Cove would come over/just on the 3 miles distance to School and would therefore be entitled to School Transport. It is expected that these pupils will be no more than a handful and they would like require to be issued with bus passes to use local bus services, including the supported 21b service.</p> |
| Development Potential (Planning Constraints, Ecological Issues) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The site is allocated as Urban Green Space meaning there is a presumption against development which is not related to recreation or sport. It is also within the Green Space Network, which again states a presumption against development. • There is a bank of mature trees on the east and |

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| | <p>south boundaries as well as mature trees to the north. There are also groupings of mature trees within the site. This could restrict how any new development was laid out.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Archaeological factors are unlikely to impact on the development of the site. • There are no listed buildings within the immediate vicinity although Duthie Park on the opposite bank of the river is on the Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes. • There is a possibility, because of the mature trees on the site, that there may be a presence of protected species such as bats. <p>Any Planning application would be contrary to the Local Development Plan. There is therefore a high risk that Planning Consent would not be granted for the proposed development.</p> <p>There are no footway concerns. By footway, we assume the existence of pavements with lighting.</p> |
| Redevelopment Opportunities/Regeneration/Shared Use | <p>The site is wholly owned by ACC. As the site is less than the required minimum area there would be no room for future expansion. There are no adjacent sites owned by publicly funded bodies therefore the opportunity for shared facilities would be limited.</p> <p>Some of the sports pitches at Inverdee would be required for school use as the site is not large enough to accommodate these.</p> |
| Site Services/Sustainability Issues | <p>The existing area is currently utilised as Public Open Space. Re-zoning is likely to be an issue which could delay or prevent any development taking place.</p> |
| Availability/Existing Use | <p>Existing infrastructure is likely to be available to support the proposed development as there are developments immediately to the east and south of the site. There are foul sewers in Abbotswell Road as well as two lines which cross the site itself. Some upgrades may be necessary to the existing infrastructure as a result of the scale of the proposed new development.</p> <p>The open nature of the site offers the opportunity to incorporate on-site renewable energy generation.</p> |
| Site Value/Acquisition Costs/Displacement Costs | <p>Further investigation is required to determine the title under which the land is held. It is assumed that the land is held by the Council (not Common Good Account).</p> <p>Given the planning designation the value of the site (opportunity cost) will be low.</p> <p>No displacement costs are envisaged.</p> <p>The site comprises of an area of public open space between Abbotswell Road and the River Dee.</p> |
| Fit with Service Delivery Model | <p>Very good location which will provide a wide range of opportunities for inclusion and shared opportunities with</p> |

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| | <p>local primary and secondary schools and external partners.</p> <p>Site exceeds requirements of statutory legislation.</p> <p>Site meets all local agreements and policies of Education, Culture and Sport service, including maximum three miles travelling distance from all parts of the zone.</p> <p>Distances to furthest points of the existing zone are: south east - 2.8 miles, east point - 2.1 miles, west point - 1.24 miles and south west - 2.74 miles.</p> <p>Consideration should be made regarding discussions with local bus operators regarding provision of service at start and end of school day.</p> <p>Requirements Safe Routes to Schools met for all zoned pupils. This will involve a detailed evaluation of the routes children and young people take from their homes to the site.</p> <p>The site provides all opportunities for requirements of curricular and extra-curricular learning opportunities and activities, both internally and externally.</p> <p>Site provides extensive opportunities for internal and external accommodation which could be used to provide community, cultural and sporting facilities.</p> |
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Site Plan



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3.2 Bobby Calder Park

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| Address | Bobby Calder Park, Redmoss Road, Aberdeen, AB12 3JL. |
| Description | The site comprises of the existing Bobby Calder Park. |
| Site Area | The overall area of the site is approximately 15.15 hectares. |
| Site Characteristics (Topography) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The site is relatively flat. • The site is regular in shape. • Noise is not considered to be an issue in the area |
| Site Characteristics (Ground Conditions) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historical maps show that the site was previously farmland. • There is an existing surface water drain crossing the site which will limit how any new buildings are laid out or will involve additional costs in diverting it. • It is considered unlikely that there will be any significant contamination on the site. • Ground conditions are not known without more detailed investigations. As there are however buildings on the adjacent site it is not anticipated that there will be significant issues that affect the foundation design of any new development. |
| Location/Neighbourhood | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The site is bounded to the south and east by commercial/industrial properties in the Balmoral Business Park and to the north and west by farmland/scrub and Kincorth Hill. • The site is on the extreme south west edge of the currently developed area of the city and lies within the Loirston development site. The masterplan for the development site identifies the potential for 1500 new homes as well as employment and recreational land. • The site is within 3 miles walking distance of the majority of residences within the catchment area. • With the exception of the businesses located in the Balmoral Business Park there are no shops or community facilities in the immediate vicinity. The nearest local shops and community facilities are on Loirston Avenue approximately 1 mile away. |
| Site Access - Roads | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The existing main vehicular access to the site is through the Balmoral Business Park via Wellington Circle which adjoins the A956 Wellington Road at a roundabout. This access is on the east side of the site. A more suitable route could be established in the future as part of the overall Loirston development. • Wellington Road provides good vehicular access to |

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| | <p>the other areas within the catchment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An alternative vehicular access route is on the west of the site via Redmoss Road. Redmoss Road maybe upgraded and regulated to Bus Only following Loirston development. This is a narrow road which passes through a residential area and which is unsuitable for a large volume of traffic. • Footways on the Wellington Road are relatively wide. • Pedestrian route for a large number of pupils requires the crossing of Wellington Road. The main pedestrian route is also through a Business Park with related commercial and HGV traffic. There are no footways on Redmoss Road which would not currently be suitable as a high volume pedestrian route. • Wellington Circle has no waiting restrictions in place. |
| Accessibility (Communications, bus routes etc) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site is on the south west edge of the existing catchment area which increases the travel distance for the majority of pupils. • Public transport links are poor with only the FirstAberdeen Service No. 3 available on Wellington Road (0.3 miles) giving access to parts of Cove, Tullos, Torry and the City Centre. The Service No. 18 service from the Gateway Business centre and Redmoss through Kincorth to the City Centre also stops on Wellington Road. <p>Existing bus passes for Cove pupils would cease as they would no longer be eligible. The furthest away Torry residences from these locations are borderline. In terms of the 3 mile threshold and it is likely the numbers becoming eligible for transport would not be dissimilar to what is currently on record.</p> |
| Development Potential (Planning Constraints, Ecological Issues) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The site is noted as OP80 within the Local Development Plan – possible new stadium and sports facilities. Any alternative use would be a departure from the local plan. • There is a possibility, because of the semi-rural nature of the site that there may be constraints from environmental or ecological factors. The loss of public open space may impact on Planning Consent. Existing sports pitches on the site would be replaced by School facilities. • Archaeological factors are unlikely to impact on the development of the site. • There are no listed buildings within the vicinity. • The site is free from environmental designations e.g. SSSI although Kincorth Hill is a nature reserve. |

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| Redevelopment Opportunities/Regeneration/ Shared Use | The site is wholly owned by ACC. The site is more than double the area that is required for the proposed school which would allow for other additional uses that facilitate opportunities for other services to co-locate. There is also sufficient space to accommodate the future expansion of the school if required. The Council have been in discussions with a local football club to create facilities on the site for some time. The land take for their current proposal could be accommodated alongside the school proposals. |
| Site Services/Sustainability Issues | Existing infrastructure may be available to support the proposed development as there are developments immediately to the east of the site. There are surface water and foul sewers on the site boundary although SUDS would be created for the surface water drainage. Some upgrades may be necessary to the existing infrastructure as a result of the scale of the proposed new development. An existing surface water drain crosses the site. Overhead electricity cables cross part of the site which would impact on how any new development was laid out. Alternatively these could be buried although this would have a cost implication The open nature of the site offers the opportunity to incorporate on-site renewable energy generation. |
| Availability/Existing Use | The existing park is currently utilised, although there are no formal arrangements/lets in place for the use of the pitches. There are no existing changing facilities serving the pitches. |
| Site Value/Acquisition Costs/Displacement Costs | The site is owned by the Council. The opportunity cost would be based on the planning consent and accordingly the value would be low. There are no displacement costs. |
| Fit with Service Delivery Model | Good location which will provide a reasonable range of opportunities for inclusion and shared opportunities with local primary and secondary schools and external partners. Relatively close proximity to Aberdeen College Altens Campus. Site comfortably meets requirements of statutory legislation. Site meets local agreements and policies of Education, Culture and Sport service, including maximum three miles travelling distance from the majority of the zone. Maximum travelling distances are to south east - 2.64 miles, to west - 2.49 miles and to north east - 2.91 miles Some children and young people will require to travel a significant distance to reach the site. Consideration should be given to working with local bus operators to provide bus services at the beginning and end of the school day. All requirements Safe Routes to Schools met for the majority of zoned pupils. This will involve a detailed evaluation of the routes children and young people take |

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| | <p>from their homes to the site.</p> <p>Site provides many opportunities which could meet many of the requirements for curricular and extra-curricular learning opportunities and activities.</p> <p>Site provides opportunities for internal and external accommodation which could be used to provide community, cultural and sporting facilities.</p> |
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Site Plan



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3.3 Craighill Primary School

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| Address | Craighill Primary School, Heatherwick Road, Kincorth AB12 5ST |
| Description | The site comprises of the former Craighill Primary School and associated playground areas. The existing school building, which still occupies a large part of the site is currently vacant and is awaiting demolition. |
| Site Area | The overall area of the site is 1.54 hectares. (Less than minimum required) |
| Site Characteristics (Topography) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The site is relatively flat • The site is regular in shape • Noise is not considered to be an issue in the area. |
| Site Characteristics (Ground Conditions) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historical maps show that part of the playground area previously had a dam and sluice which may affect ground conditions. • As there are existing buildings on the site it is likely that ground conditions are suitable for the erection of a new structure. • There may be some contamination on the site from the demolition spoil from the existing building - this is considered to be a minor risk. |
| Location/Neighbourhood | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The site is in a wholly residential area in Kincorth on the south side of the city. The surrounding properties are a mix of low density terraced housing and flatted developments. • The site is easily accessed from the existing primary schools in Kincorth but is remote from the schools in Altness, Cove and Torry being located on the south site of Kincorth. • There are no parking controls in the area. • The site is within 3 miles walking distance of the majority of residences within the catchment area. • There are no shops or community facilities within the immediate area. There are local shops, library and community centre approximately 0.7 miles away on Provost Watt Drive. Abbotswell Primary is close by. |
| Site Access - Roads | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site has good roads infrastructure with Gardner Drive forming part of the local distributor road for the area. • Gardner Drive is a bus route which also gives good access for emergency vehicles. • Heatherwick Road on the North boundary of the site has traffic calming and there are also 20 mph speed limits on other roads within the area. |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Footways in the area are generally wide. • Pedestrian route for a large number of pupils requires the crossing of major distributor roads. |
| Accessibility (Communications, bus routes) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site is to the south/west edge of the catchment area which increases the travel distance for the majority of pupils. • Public transport links are good with the FirstAberdeen No. 17 and 17A services, which gives access to the City Centre and other parts of Kincorth passing adjacent to the site. The Service number 18 also passes close to the site and gives access to the City Centre and parts of Altens/Cove. <p>This location increases the mileage for the furthest current Cove residences to over 3 miles distance to School, making more pupils eligible for transport than what is currently on record. We would therefore be looking at about 50 in total becoming eligible for a bus pass to use local bus services, including the supported 21b service. Total increase in costs is expected in the region of £100 per day / £19,000 per annum. There are no footway concerns. By footway, we assume the existence of pavements with lighting.</p> |
| Development Potential (Planning Constraints, Ecological Issues) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are unlikely to be constraints from environmental or ecological factors • Archaeological factors are unlikely to impact on the development of the site. • The existing buildings are not listed therefore their demolition should not be a Planning issue. • The existing buildings are unsuitable for conversion to accommodate the proposed new school. • Part of the site currently accommodates a sports field, which may have to be replaced. • The site is free from environmental designations e.g. SSSI. |
| Redevelopment Opportunities/Regeneration/ Shared Use | <p>The site is wholly owned by ACC. There may be the opportunity for limited shared use of the site which would require further investigation. There are no adjacent sites owned by other publicly funded bodies that offer the opportunity for a joint development or extension of the area available to develop.</p> |
| Site Services/Sustainability Issues | <p>External infrastructure is available to support the proposed development although some upgrades may be necessary as a result of the scale of the proposed new development.</p> |
| Availability/Existing Use | <p>The existing school building is vacant and awaiting demolition which is programmed to take place during the current financial year. The existing Janitor's Lodge is currently occupied by a tenant, which restricts the way in which the site can be developed.</p> |

3.4 Kincorth Academy & Playing Fields

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| Address | Kincorth Academy, Kincorth Circle, Kincorth, Aberdeen, AB12 5NL. |
| Description | The site comprises of the existing Kincorth Academy and associated playing fields together with an area of open green space to the north of the existing school across Kincorth Circle. The existing school building, currently occupies a major part of the site. |
| Site Area | The overall area of the site, including the adjacent sports pitches and open space is 7.142 hectares. |
| Site Characteristics (Topography) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The site is relatively flat with only slight changes in level and a gentle slope from north to south. • The site is reasonably regular in shape. • Noise is not considered to be an issue in the area. |
| Site Characteristics (Ground Conditions) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As there are existing buildings on the site it is likely that ground conditions are suitable for the erection of a new structure on that part of the site. • Historic maps show that the site was previously farmland prior to the construction of the school and surrounding housing developments. • There is a possibility of some contamination on site as a result of the demolitions of the existing buildings. It is not anticipated that there will be contamination on the area of the site that is currently open green space. |
| Location/Neighbourhood | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The majority of the premises on all boundaries of the site are low rise residential. The north boundary adjoins the existing recreational area which is included as part of the proposed overall developable site. • The site is easily accessed by the existing primary schools in Kincorth but is remote from the schools in Altens, Cove and most of Torry. • The site is not within a parking control area. • There are local shops, library and community centre approximately 0.3 miles from the site. • The site is within 3 miles walking distance of the majority of residences in the catchment area. |
| Site Access - Roads | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site has good roads infrastructure - Cairngorm Drive, onto which the site adjoins links to other main roads and via these to West Tullos Road and Provost Watt Drive which gives good access to the other parts of the catchment area. • Cairngorm Drive is a bus route which together with Kincorth Circle gives good access for emergency vehicles. |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are traffic calming measures on most of the streets surrounding the site. • Footways in the area are generally wide. • Pedestrian routes for pupils within the Kincorth area are generally good. The available routes for pupils from other parts of the catchment area requires crossing Wellington Road and/or West Tullos Road. |
| Accessibility (Communications, bus routes etc) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site is to the west of the catchment area which increases the travel distance for the majority of pupils from outwith the Kincorth area. • Public transport links are reasonable with the FirstAberdeen No.17A Bus Service passing the site. This service gives direct access to the city centre and to some other parts of Kincorth. There are no bus services from the site serving other parts of the catchment area. The Service No.18 is however within walking distance (0.2 miles) of the site. This service gives access to the Gateway Business Park and Altens as well as the city centre. <p>Eligibility for School Transport is determined on a walking distance of 3 or more miles from a pupil's address to their zoned School, for a provision to be made. Our measurements indicate that the furthest (current) Cove residences are borderline for this distance, while Kincorth and Torry come under the 3 mile threshold.</p> <p>The above means that only pupils who reside in Cove would come over/just on the 3 miles distance to School and would therefore be entitled to School Transport. It is expected that these pupils will be no more than a handful and they would like require to be issued with bus passes to use local bus services, including the supported 21b service.</p> <p>There are no footway concerns. By footway, we assume the existence of pavements with lighting.</p> |
| Development Potential (Planning Constraints, Ecological Issues) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are unlikely to be constraints from environmental or ecological factors • Archaeological factors are unlikely to impact on the development of the site. • The existing buildings are not listed therefore their demolition should not be a Planning issue. • The existing buildings are may be suitable for conversion to accommodate the proposed new school but would require to be significantly extended. The existing buildings would require major works to improve their condition and suitability. • The site is free from environmental designations e.g. SSSI. |

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| Redevelopment Opportunities/Regeneration/ Shared Use | The site is wholly owned by ACC. There may be the opportunity for limited shared use of the site which would require further investigation. There are no adjacent sites owned by other publicly funded bodies that offer the opportunity for a joint development or extension of the area available to develop. |
| Site Services/Sustainability Issues | External infrastructure is available to support the proposed development although some upgrades may be necessary as a result of the scale of the proposed new development. |
| Availability/Existing Use | The existing school building is currently still in use but will be closed after the new Academy is built. If this site is selected there would be a need to either phase the development by constructing a new school on the existing sports pitches as phase 1 with the demolition of the existing school and creation of new pitches as phase 2. Consideration would have to be given as to whether the existing road that divides the school and pitches was stopped up. This would however come with an additional legal process which could impact on the timescale for delivery. An alternative to phasing would be decanting the pupils during the works. |
| Site Value/Acquisition Costs/Displacement Costs | The site is owned by the Council and on the EC and S account. In valuation terms there is an opportunity cost in using the site, although this is low based on alternative use and in relation to the overall project costs. |
| Fit with Service Delivery Model | <p>Very good location which will provide a good range of opportunities for inclusion and shared opportunities with local primary and secondary schools and external partners.</p> <p>Site meets requirements of statutory legislation.</p> <p>Site meets local agreements and policies of Education, Culture and Sport service, including maximum three miles travelling distance from almost all parts of the zone, with the furthest distance pupils would have to travel being of the order of 2.94 miles (to south east) and 2.81 miles to north east. Consideration should be made of having discussions with local bus operators regarding providing services at beginning and end of school day.</p> <p>Requirements Safe Routes to Schools met for almost all zoned pupils. This will involve a detailed evaluation of the routes children and young people take from their homes to the site.</p> <p>Site provides many requirements for curricular and extra-curricular learning opportunities and activities.</p> <p>Site provides good opportunities for internal and external accommodation which could be used to provide community, cultural and sporting facilities.</p> |

Site Plan



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3.5 Loirston Site A

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| Address | Loirston Site A - within Opportunity Site OP77 (Local Development Plan (2012)). Identified as Development Block E7 in the Loirston Development Framework document. |
| Description | The site comprises of an area of ground within the Loirston masterplan area. |
| Site Area | The overall area of the site is approximately 11.75 hectares. |
| Site Characteristics (Topography) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The site slopes gently from the north east to the south west. • The site is regular in shape. • Noise is not considered to be an issue in the area. |
| Site Characteristics (Ground Conditions) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historical maps show that the site was previously farmland/undeveloped scrub. • It is considered unlikely that there will be any significant contamination on the site. • Ground conditions are not known without more detailed investigations. Suggestions from preliminary research are that some additional ground works may be required. • There is no evidence of any existing services on the site. High-Voltage overhead power lines are located close-by. |
| Location/Neighbourhood | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The site lies to the extreme south of the city on the border between Aberdeen City Council and Aberdeenshire. • The site is bounded to the north by industrial/ commercial properties in the Balmoral Business Park and to the east by the A956 Wellington Road. Undeveloped land lies to the south, north-west and west of the site. • The site is located within the area covered by the Loirston Development Framework document. The overall masterplan identifies the potential for 1500 new homes as well as employment and recreational land. • The site is within 3 miles walking distance of the majority of residences within the catchment area. • With the exception of the businesses located in the Balmoral Business Park there are no shops or community facilities in the immediate vicinity. The nearest local shops and community facilities are on Loirston Avenue over 1 mile away. |
| Site Access - Roads | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are currently no vehicular access routes onto the site. A new access would require to be |

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| | <p>required to be formed from the A956 Wellington Road as part of the development. Wellington Road is a dual carriageway at the point where an access would be required.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wellington Road provides good vehicular access to the other areas within the catchment. An alternative vehicular access route could be formed on the west of the site via Redmoss Road. Redmoss Road maybe upgraded and regulated to Bus Only following Loirston development. This is however a narrow road which passes through a residential area and which is unsuitable for a large volume of traffic. This route would therefore only be suitable for a secondary/emergency access point. Pedestrian route for a large number of pupils requires the crossing of Wellington Road. There are no established pedestrian routes to the site. The main pedestrian route would be along the A956 which is currently unsuitable for a large volume of pedestrians. |
| Accessibility (Communications, bus routes etc) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site is on the extreme south west edge of the existing catchment area which increases the travel distance for the majority of pupils. Public transport links are poor with the FirstAberdeen No. 3 Bus Services available on Wellington Road giving access to parts of Cove, Tullos and Torry and the City Centre. Service No. 18 is an infrequent service from the Gateway Business centre and Redmoss through Kincorth to the City Centre. <p>Existing bus passes for Cove pupils would cease as they would no longer be eligible. The furthest away Torry residences from these locations are borderline, in terms of the 3 mile threshold and it is likely the numbers becoming eligible for transport would not be dissimilar to what is currently on record.</p> |
| Development Potential (Planning Constraints, Ecological Issues) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a possibility, because of the semi-rural nature of the site that there may be constraints from environmental or ecological factors. There is the possibility of protected species (bats) being on the site and the site is close to the loch side. Part of the site already has previously been earmarked for a proposed stadium for Aberdeen Football Club. This has been approved by Committee on a minded to grant basis. Archaeological factors are unlikely to impact on the development of the site. There are no listed buildings within the vicinity. The site is free from environmental designations e.g. SSSI although Kincorth Hill is a nature reserve. |

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| Redevelopment Opportunities/Regeneration/ Shared Use | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The site forms part of a development agreement between the Council and a private landowner for the delivery of the overall Loirston Development. • The site lies within Opportunity Site OP77 - mixed use allocation. It is therefore recognised as suitable for development and is currently identified within the Framework Document as a site for a new football stadium or employment land. A site for a secondary school is identified in the Framework Document but is currently shown on the adjacent Loirston Site B. • A number of opportunities exist to integrate the proposed school with the wider new community (and community facilities) around it. |
| Site Services/Sustainability Issues | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is currently no existing infrastructure or services to support the proposed development. This will have a significant impact on the cost of the development and will also impact on the timescale to deliver it. • The open nature of the site offers the opportunity to incorporate on-site renewable energy generation. |
| Availability/Existing Use | On conclusion of the joint venture agreement the site will be available for development. As there is currently no infrastructure or roads network, initial design work will be required on the overall development to ensure that the school integrates with the remainder of the development. |
| Site Value/Acquisition Costs/Displacement Costs | The alternative uses for the site include a stadium development and the potential for residential use. As such the opportunity cost/ value will be higher than other sites. |
| Fit with Service Delivery Model | <p>Good location which will provide a reasonable range of opportunities for inclusion and shared opportunities with local primary and secondary schools and external partners. Relatively close proximity to Aberdeen College Altens Campus.</p> <p>Site comfortably meets requirements of statutory legislation.</p> <p>Site meets local agreements and policies of Education, Culture and Sport service. Site meets some local agreements and policies of Education, Culture and Sport service. Maximum three miles travelling distance for the majority of pupils in the zone. Some areas of Torry lie slightly beyond the three mile distance. Discussions with local bus operators regarding provision of services at beginning and end of school day should be considered.</p> <p>All requirements Safe Routes to Schools met for the majority of zoned pupils. This will involve a detailed evaluation of the routes children and young people take from their homes to the site.</p> <p>Site provides many requirements for curricular and extra-</p> |

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| | <p>curricular learning opportunities and activities.</p> <p>Site provides opportunities for internal and external accommodation which could be used to provide community, cultural and sporting facilities.</p> |
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Site Plan



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3.6 Loirston Site B

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| Address | Loirston Site B - within Opportunity Site OP77 (Local Development Plan (2012)). Identified as Development Block E7 in the Loirston Development Framework document. |
| Description | The site comprises of an area of ground within the Loirston masterplan area. |
| Site Area | The overall area of the site is approximately 8.0 hectares. |
| Site Characteristics (Topography) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The site slopes gently from the north east to the south west. • The site is irregular in shape which will impact on the design of the proposed development. • Noise is not considered to be an issue in the area. |
| Site Characteristics (Ground Conditions) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historical maps show that the site was previously farmland/undeveloped scrub. • It is considered unlikely that there will be any significant contamination on the site. • Ground conditions are not known without more detailed investigations. As there are however buildings on the adjacent site it is not anticipated that there will be significant issues that affect the foundation design of any new development. • There is no evidence of any existing services on the site. |
| Location/Neighbourhood | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The site lies to the extreme south of the city on the border between Aberdeen City Council and Aberdeenshire. • The site is bounded to the east by industrial/commercial properties in the Balmoral Business Park and to the north by Calder Park. Undeveloped land lies to the south and west of the site. • The site is located within the area covered by the Loirston Development Framework document. The overall masterplan identifies the potential for 1500 new homes as well as employment and recreational land. • The site is within 3 miles walking distance of the majority of residences within the catchment area. • With the exception of the businesses located in the Balmoral Business Park there are no shops or community facilities in the immediate vicinity. The nearest local shops and community facilities is over 1 mile away on Loirston Avenue. |
| Site Access - Roads | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are currently no vehicular access routes onto the site. A new access would require to be required to be formed from the A956 Wellington |

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| | <p>Road as part of the development. Redmoss Road maybe upgraded and regulated to Bus Only following Loirston development. A new road would also require access across neighbouring areas of the Loirston Development site.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wellington Road provides good vehicular access to the other areas within the catchment. An alternative vehicular access route could be formed by extending through a residential area and which is unsuitable for a large volume of traffic. This route would therefore only be suitable for a secondary/emergency access point. An alternative vehicular access route to the site could be formed through the Balmoral Business Park via Wellington Circle which adjoins the A956 Wellington Road at a roundabout. This access is on the east side of the site and would require the new road to cross the south east corner of Calder Park. Pedestrian route for a large number of pupils requires the crossing of Wellington Road. There are no established pedestrian routes to the site. The main pedestrian route would be along the A956 which is currently unsuitable for a large volume of pedestrians. The main pedestrian route also passes through a Business Park which generates a high volume of vehicular traffic. There are no footways on Redmoss Road which would not currently be suitable as a pedestrian route. <p>Existing bus passes for Cove pupils would cease as they would no longer be eligible. The furthest away Torry residences from these locations are borderline, in terms of the 3 mile threshold and it is likely the numbers becoming eligible for transport would not be dissimilar to what is currently on record.</p> |
| Accessibility (Communications, bus routes etc) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site is on the extreme south west edge of the existing catchment area which increases the travel distance for the majority of pupils. Public transport links are very poor with the FirstAberdeen Service No. 3 Bus available on Wellington Road giving access to parts of Cove, Tullos and Torry and the City Centre. The No. 18 Service is an infrequent service from the Gateway Business centre and Redmoss through Kincorth to the City Centre. |
| Development Potential (Planning Constraints, Ecological Issues) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a possibility, because of the semi-rural nature of the site that there may be constraints from environmental or ecological factors. There is the possibility of protected species (bats) being on the site. Archaeological factors are unlikely to impact on |

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| | <p>the development of the site.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are no listed buildings within the vicinity. • The site is free from environmental designations e.g. SSSI although Kincorth Hill is a nature reserve. |
| Redevelopment Opportunities/Regeneration/ Shared Use | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The site is not owned by ACC but will forms part of a development agreement between ACC and a private developer for the delivery of the overall Loirston Development. • The site lies within Opportunity Site OP77 - mixed use allocation. It is therefore recognised as suitable for development and is currently identified within the Framework Document as a site for a new football stadium or employment land. A site for a secondary school is identified in the Framework Document but is currently shown on the adjacent Loirston Site B. • Development of the site for a new school would not preclude the development of the new football stadium or the Cove Rangers proposals which are identified as possibilities in the Loirston Framework document. There may be the opportunity to share sports pitches with adjacent sports proposals. |
| Site Services/Sustainability Issues | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is currently no existing infrastructure or services to support the proposed development. This will have a significant impact on the cost of the development and will also impact on the timescale to deliver it. There is an existing sewer on the east boundary and the proximity of the existing Balmoral Business Park would suggest that services could be extended through to the site although upgrading may be required which would impact on costs. • High Voltage overhead power cables cross the site. • The open nature of the site offers the opportunity to incorporate on-site renewable energy generation. |
| Availability/Existing Use | <p>The site is available for development although significant shared infrastructure works including the creation of a roads network are required. Initial design work will be required on the overall development to ensure that the school integrates with the remainder of the development.</p> |
| Site Value/Acquisition Costs/Displacement Costs | <p>The alternative uses for the site include the potential for residential use. As such the opportunity cost/ value will be higher than other sites.</p> |
| Fit with Service Delivery Model | <p>Good location which will provide a reasonable range of opportunities for inclusion and shared opportunities with local primary and secondary schools and external partners. Relatively close proximity to Aberdeen College Altens Campus.</p> <p>Site comfortably meets requirements of statutory</p> |

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| | <p>legislation.</p> <p>Site meets some local agreements and policies of Education, Culture and Sport service. Maximum three miles travelling distance for the majority of pupils in the zone. Some areas of Torry lie slightly beyond the three mile distance.</p> <p>Discussions with local bus operators regarding provision of services at beginning and end of school day should be considered.</p> <p>All requirements Safe Routes to Schools met for the majority of zoned pupils. This will involve a detailed evaluation of the routes children and young people take from their homes to the site.</p> <p>Site provides many requirements for curricular and extra-curricular learning opportunities and activities.</p> <p>Site provides opportunities for internal and external accommodation which could be used to provide community, cultural and sporting facilities.</p> |
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Site Plan



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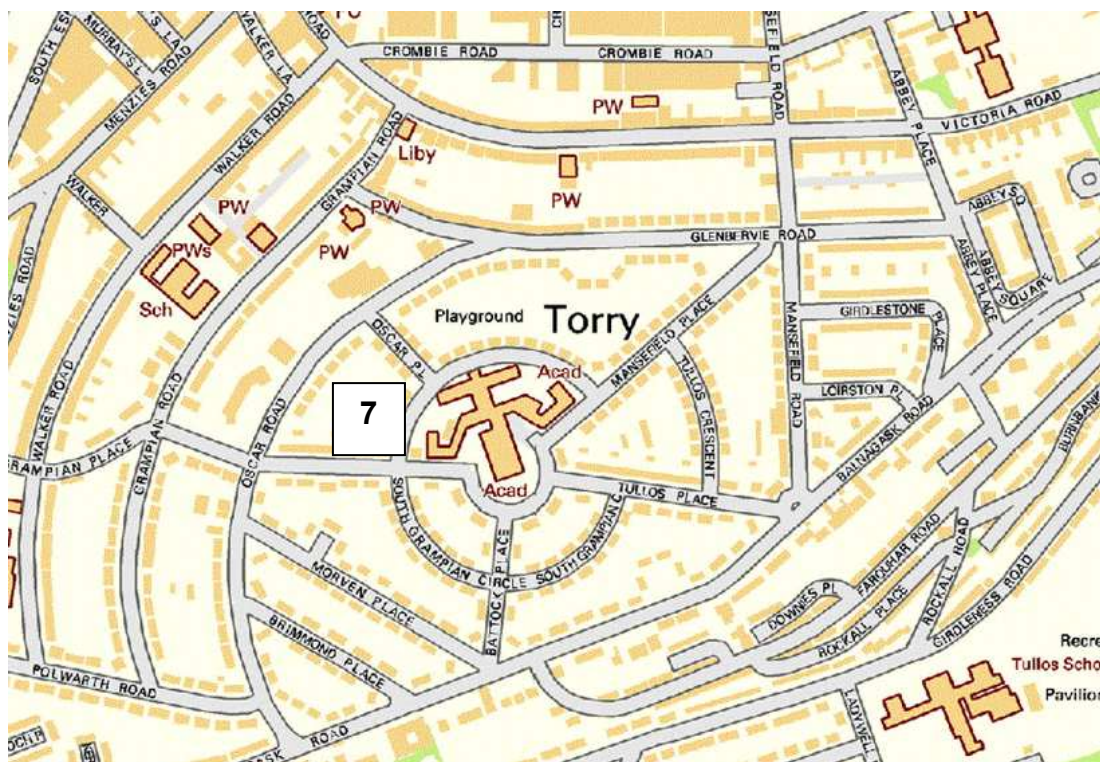
3.7 Torry Academy

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| Address | Torry Academy, Tullos Circle, Torry, Aberdeen, AB11 8HD. |
| Description | The site comprises of the existing Torry Academy. The existing school building, is still occupied and in use as a school. |
| Site Area | The overall area of the site is 1.70 hectares. (Less than minimum required) |
| Site Characteristics (Topography) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The site is relatively flat • The site is circular in shape and is surrounded on all sides by roads. • Noise is not considered an issue in the area as there is already a school on the site. |
| Site Characteristics (Ground Conditions) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As there are existing buildings on the site it is likely that ground conditions are suitable for the erection of a new structure. • There may be some contamination on the site from the demolition spoil from the existing building - this is considered to be a minor risk. • Historical maps show that the area was farmland prior to the construction of the existing school. |
| Location/Neighbourhood | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The site is in a wholly residential area in Torry. The surrounding properties are mainly 2 to 3 storey high flatted properties. • The site is relatively easily accessed from the existing primary schools in Torry but is remote from the schools in Altens, Cove and Kincorth. • There are no parking controls in the area. • The site is within 3 miles walking distance of the majority of residences within the catchment area but is over 3 miles from a number of residences in the Cove area. • Shops, Library and Sports Facilities are within easy walking distance (less than 0.5 miles) of the site. |
| Site Access - Roads | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All roads giving access to the site are relatively narrow as they serve mostly residential properties. • Access to other parts of the catchment area by road is poor. • The roads around the site have 20 mph speed limits. • Footways in the area are generally wide enough although some are quite narrow for large volumes of pedestrian traffic. • Pedestrian route for a large number of pupils requires the crossing of major distributor roads. |

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| Accessibility (Communications, bus routes) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public transport links are reasonable with the FirstAberdeen Service No. 12 service close to the site. This service gives access to the city Centre and some other parts of Torry. The site is positioned centrally within the existing Torry catchment area and is reasonably accessible from Torry and most parts of Kincorth although not from Altens/Cove. <p>This site is measured at more than 3 miles against the furthest current Cove residences. This means that more than 50 new pupils will be eligible for transport. For these locations we would also be looking into providing bus passes. School Transport is concerned on possible capacity issues with the local bus service no 3 should plans for any of these locations go forward. It will need to be investigated whether First would be willing to put in place additional commercial services, or whether the Council would be required to support First on the additional demand for travel. For the latter option, costs are unknown at the moment. Kincorth and Torry come under the 3 mile threshold.</p> <p>There are no footway concerns. By footway, we assume the existence of pavements with lighting.</p> |
| Development Potential (Planning Constraints, Ecological Issues) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are unlikely to be constraints from environmental or ecological factors Archaeological factors are unlikely to impact on the development of the site. The existing buildings are not listed therefore their demolition should not be a Planning issue. The existing buildings are unsuitable for conversion to accommodate the proposed new school. <p>The site is free from environmental designations e.g. SSSI.</p> |
| Redevelopment Opportunities/Regeneration/Shared Use | <p>The site is wholly owned by ACC. There may be the opportunity for limited shared use of the site which would require further investigation. There are no adjacent sites owned by other publicly funded bodies that offer the opportunity for a joint development or extension of the area available to develop.</p> |
| Site Services/Sustainability Issues | <p>External infrastructure is available to support the proposed development although some upgrades may be necessary as a result of the scale of the proposed new development.</p> |
| Availability/Existing Use | <p>The existing school building is currently still in use but will be closed after the new Academy is built. If this site was selected there would be a need to decant the pupils until the completion of the new building.</p> |
| Site Value/Acquisition Costs/Displacement Costs | <p>The site owned by the Council, on the EC and S account. Alternative uses are limited to social housing, as such the</p> |

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| | opportunity cost/ value will be low. |
| Fit with Service Delivery Model | <p>Location will provide some opportunities for inclusion and shared opportunities with local primary and secondary schools and external partners.</p> <p>Site does not meet minimum requirements of statutory legislation.</p> <p>Site meets many local agreements and policies of Education, Culture and Sport service. Maximum three miles travelling distance for some pupils is exceeded and in the case of pupils in Cove area, significantly so.</p> <p>All requirements Safe Routes to Schools met for some of the zoned pupils. This will involve a detailed evaluation of the routes children and young people take from their homes to the site.</p> <p>Site provides some opportunities for curricular and extra-curricular learning opportunities and activities.</p> <p>Site provides limited opportunities for internal and external accommodation which could be used to provide community, cultural and sporting facilities.</p> |

Site Plan



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3.8 Tullos Primary

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| Address | Tullos Primary, Girdleness Road, Tullos, Aberdeen, AB11 8JF. |
| Description | The site comprises of the sports pitches and public open space to the east of the existing Tullos Primary School and to the south of Girdleness Road. |
| Site Area | The overall area of the site, comprising of the sports pitches and some of the public open space is 7.47 hectares. |
| Site Characteristics (Topography) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The site is relatively flat. • The site is regular in shape. • The site is low lying compared to the adjacent Girdleness Road and is relatively exposed to the east where a sewer treatment works is located. • Noise is not considered to be an issue in the area |
| Site Characteristics (Ground Conditions) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historical maps show that the site was previously farmland. • There are a number of existing sewers and surface water drains crossing the site which will limit how any new buildings are laid out or will involve additional costs in diverting them. • It is considered unlikely that there will be any significant contamination on the site. • The low lying nature of the site may result in issues with the water table - mitigating measures may be required in this instance. • As there is a school building on the adjacent site it suggests that the ground conditions should be suitable for the erection of a new structure on the site. |
| Location/Neighbourhood | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The site is bounded to the north by residential properties which are a mix of low and high rise. These properties are at a higher level than the site. • The main railway line to the south defines the south boundary. The railway line also separates the site from a large industrial area. As the line is elevated it also forms a visual barrier to the East Tullos industrial estate. • The existing Category B Listed Tullos Primary School is located on the east boundary. The school is at the same level as the site. |
| Site Access - Roads | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site has good roads infrastructure, with Girdleness Road, which is a wide bus route linking to other main roads in the area. Girdleness Road also gives good access for emergency vehicles. |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The main vehicular access to the site would be from Girdleness Road via Kirkhill Place and Ladywick Road. Direct access from Girdleness Road would not be difficult because of the significant change in level between the road and the site. • The T junction between Girdleness Road and Ladywick Road is uncontrolled and would probably require to be upgraded to cope with additional traffic. • Kirkhill Place, which is a cul-se-sac serving Tullos Primary and the sports pitches is narrow. As this would be the primary route into the school site, the road may require to be widened. • Footways in the area are generally wide. • Pedestrian route for a large number of pupils requires the crossing of major distributor roads such as Wellington Road and West Tullos Road. • There are currently no parking restrictions in the immediate vicinity. |
| Accessibility (Communications, bus routes etc) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site is to the east of the catchment area which increases the travel distance for a significant number of pupils. • Public transport links are reasonable with the FirstAberdeen Service No. 5 available on Girdleness Road. This service gives access to the City Centre and other parts of Torry but does not link to any other parts of the catchment area. <p>This site is measured at more than 3 miles against the furthest current Cove residences. This means that more than 50 new pupils will be eligible for transport. For these locations we would also be looking into providing bus passes. School Transport is concerned on possible capacity issues with the local bus service no 3 should plans for any of these locations go forward. It will need to be investigated whether First would be willing to put in place additional commercial services, or whether the Council would be required to support First on the additional demand for travel. For the latter option, costs are unknown at the moment. Kincorth and Torry come under the 3 mile threshold.</p> <p>There are no footway concerns. By footway, we assume the existence of pavements with lighting.</p> |
| Development Potential (Planning Constraints, Ecological Issues) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are unlikely to be constraints from environmental or ecological factors although there is the possibility that any development could impact on the habitat of protected species (bats). The loss of public open space may impact on Planning Consent. • Archaeological factors are unlikely to impact on the development of the site. • The existing adjacent Tullos Primary is listed |

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| | <p>Category B which could impact on the design of the new facility.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The site is free from environmental designations e.g. SSSI. |
| Redevelopment Opportunities/Regeneration/Shared Use | <p>The site is wholly owned by ACC. There may be the opportunity for limited shared use of the site which would require further investigation. There are no adjacent sites owned by other publicly funded bodies that offer the opportunity for a joint development or extension of the area available to develop. The opportunity exists to utilise the existing swimming pool at Tullos Primary for the new facility. Existing sports pitches would require to be replaced and these could be shared between the new facility and the existing primary.</p> |
| Site Services/Sustainability Issues | <p>External infrastructure is available to support the proposed development although some upgrades may be necessary as a result of the scale of the proposed new development. A number of foul sewers and surface water drains cross the site.</p> |
| Availability/Existing Use | <p>The existing sports pitches are currently utilised. Arrangements would have to be made to provide temporary pitches during the construction period.</p> |
| Site Value/Acquisition Costs/Displacement Costs | <p>The site is owned by the Council, on the EC and S account. Alternative uses are limited to social housing/ greenbelt/ sports uses; as such the opportunity cost/ value will be low.</p> |
| Fit with Service Delivery Model | <p>Location will provide some opportunities for inclusion and shared opportunities with local primary and secondary schools and external partners.</p> <p>Site meets minimum requirements of statutory legislation. Site meets many local agreements and policies of Education, Culture and Sport service. Maximum three miles travelling distance for some pupils is exceeded and in the case of pupils in Cove area, significantly so. Discussions with local bus operators regarding provision of services at beginning and end of school day should be considered.</p> <p>All requirements Safe Routes to Schools met for some of the zoned pupils. This will involve a detailed evaluation of the routes children and young people take from their homes to the site.</p> <p>Site provides some opportunities for curricular and extra-curricular learning opportunities and activities.</p> <p>Site provides limited opportunities for internal and external accommodation which could be used to provide community, cultural and sporting facilities.</p> |

Site Plan



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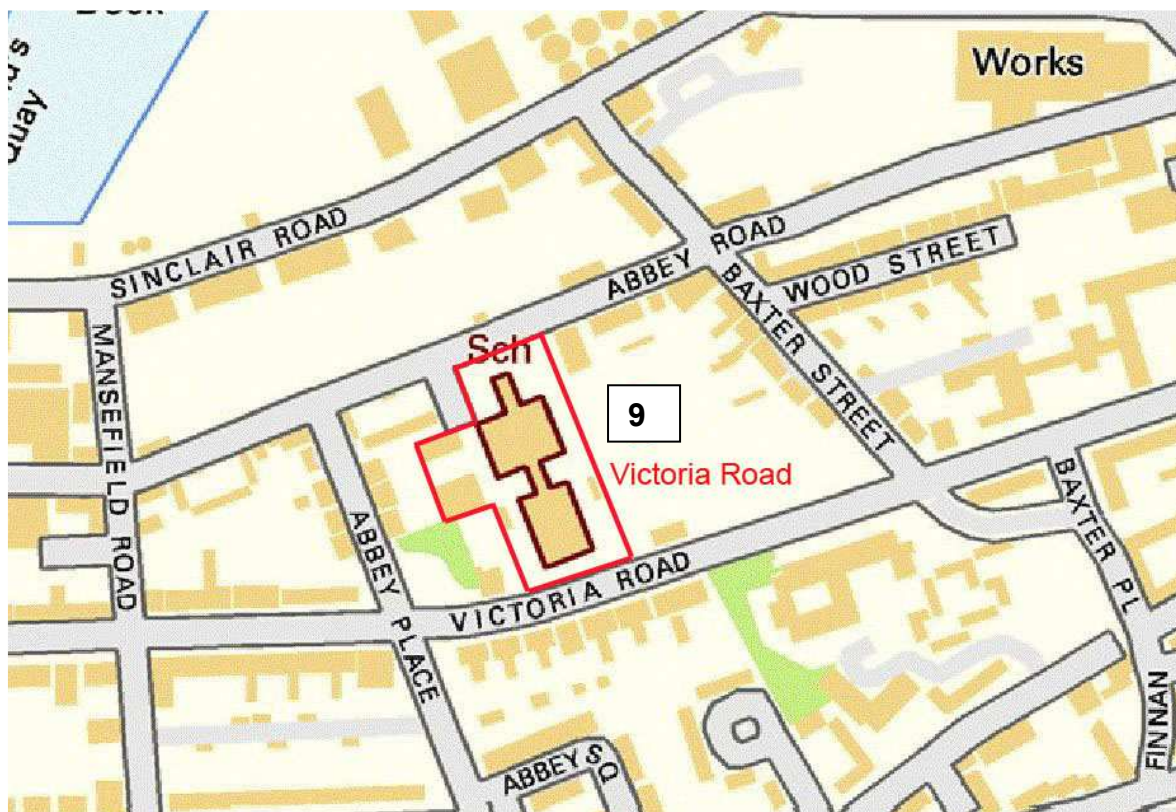
3.9 Victoria Road

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| Address | Victoria Road Primary School, Victoria Road, Torry, AB11 9N |
| Description | The site comprises of the former Victoria Road Primary School and associated playground areas. The existing granite school building, which still occupies a large part of the site has been empty for several years and is in poor condition internally. |
| Site Area | The overall area of the site is 0.66 hectares. (Less than minimum required) 0.77 hectares if adjacent Council owned commercial site is added. |
| Site Characteristics (Topography) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The site slopes down significantly from south to north • The site is regular in shape • Proximity to Victoria Road which is a relatively busy route will result in some traffic noise. The commercial premises around the site may also generate noise. |
| Site Characteristics (Ground Conditions) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Little information is available from historical maps on the previous use of the site prior to the erection of the school building. It is not therefore possible to assess whether ground contamination will be an issue. • As there are existing buildings on the site it is likely that ground conditions are suitable for the erection of a new structure. • There is a possibility of some contamination on site as a result of the demolitions of the existing buildings. |
| Location/Neighbourhood | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The majority of the premises to the south on Victoria Road are residential. The east boundary adjoins a recreational area which has an all weather pitch, bowling greens and a putting green. The properties to the south across Abbey Road are a mix of commercial and industrial and the properties to the west are a mix of commercial and residential. A playpark also sits to the west of the site. • The site is easily accessed by the two existing primary schools in Torry but is remote from the schools in Altens, Cove and Kincorth. • There are no parking controls in the area. • There are local shops approximately 225 metres from the site. Apart from the neighbouring bowling greens and tennis courts to the east of the site and the playpark to the west, there are no other community facilities in the immediate area. The |

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| | <p>Torry Sports Centre is within easy walking distance (0.5 miles) from the site.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The site is within 3 miles walking distance of the majority of residences in Kincorth and Altens but the majority of Cove is greater than 3 miles. |
| Site Access - Roads | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site has good roads infrastructure - Victoria Road, onto which the site adjoins links to other main roads giving access to other parts of the catchment area. • Area currently suffers from on street parking pressure, concerns that inconsiderate/ illegal waiting and parking by parents could cause issues on routes bounding site. • Victoria Road is a bus route which also gives good access for emergency vehicles. • There are 20 mph speed limits on some of the roads within the area. • Footways in the area are generally wide. • Pedestrian route for a large number of pupils requires the crossing of major distributor roads such as Wellington Road and West Tullos Road. |
| Accessibility (Communications, bus routes.) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site is to the north/east of the catchment area which increases the travel distance for the majority of pupils. • Public transport links are reasonable with the FirstAberdeen Service No. 12 passing the site. This service gives direct access to the city centre and to some other parts of Torry. There are no bus services from the site serving other parts of the catchment area. <p>The site is measured at more than 3 miles against the furthest current Cove residences. This means that more than 50 new pupils will be eligible for transport. For these locations we would also be looking into providing bus passes. School Transport is concerned on possible capacity issues with the local bus service no 3 should plans for any of these locations go forward. It will need to be investigated whether First would be willing to put in place additional commercial services, or whether the Council would be required to support First on the additional demand for travel. For the latter option, costs are unknown at the moment. Kincorth and Torry come under the 3 mile threshold.</p> <p>There are no footway concerns. By footway, we assume the existence of pavements with lighting.</p> |
| Development Potential (Planning Constraints, Ecological Issues) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are unlikely to be constraints from environmental or ecological factors • Archaeological factors are unlikely to impact on the development of the site. • Discussions will be required with Planning to obtain their detailed views on the demolition of the |

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| | <p>existing building which is not listed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The existing buildings are unsuitable for conversion to accommodate the proposed new school. • The site is not within a controlled parking zone. • The site is free from environmental designations e.g. SSSI. |
| Redevelopment Opportunities/Regeneration/Shared Use | <p>The site is wholly owned by ACC. Retaining the existing building would offer the opportunity of bringing an existing granite building back into use. There are no adjacent sites owned by other publicly funded bodies that offer the opportunity for a joint development. The site is not large enough to offer the opportunity for shared services. The adjacent Commercial premises, Tennis Courts and Bowling Green are owned by the Council. Even with all of these incorporated; the site would still not be large enough for the development.</p> |
| Site Services/Sustainability Issues | <p>External infrastructure is available to support the propose development.</p> |
| Availability/Existing Use | <p>The existing buildings on the site are currently empty. The existing buildings would require to be demolished and the site cleared for the new development.</p> |
| Site Value/Acquisition Costs/Displacement Costs | <p>The site is owned by the Council and has been declared surplus. The site has been on the market for some time without any substantive interest. The opportunity cost/ value of the site is low in relation to the total project costs.</p> |
| Fit with Service Delivery Model | <p>Relatively poor location will provide only a few opportunities for inclusion and shared opportunities with local primary and secondary schools and external partners.</p> <p>Site fails to meet requirements of statutory legislation.</p> <p>Site fails to meet some local agreements and policies of Education, Culture and Sport service. Maximum three miles travelling distance for some pupils is exceeded and in the case of pupils in Cove area, significantly so.</p> <p>Discussions with local bus operators regarding provision of services at beginning and end of school day should be considered.</p> <p>All requirements Safe Routes to Schools met for some of the zoned pupils. This will involve a detailed evaluation of the routes children and young people take from their homes to the site.</p> <p>Site provides some opportunity for curricular and extra-curricular learning opportunities and activities.</p> <p>Site provides very limited opportunities for internal and external accommodation which could be used to provide community, cultural and sporting facilities.</p> |

Site Plan



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Review of Potential Sites for South of the River Academy: Planning Risk Register

Introduction

This Assessment accompanies studies undertaken by other Aberdeen City Council Departments in order to consider potential options for the location of a new secondary school to serve the south of Aberdeen City. This Assessment should only therefore be read in the context of those other studies and assessments which make up the full site appraisal exercise

Sites Considered by Assessment

The sites considered by this Assessment are as follows:

1. Abbotswell Road Site, Abotswell Road, Tullos, Aberdeen
2. Bobby Calder Park Site, Redmoss Road, Aberdeen
3. Craighill Primary School, Heatherwick Road, Kincorth
4. Kincorth Academy Site, Kincorth Circle, Aberdeen.
5. Loriston Site A
6. Loriston Site B
7. Torry Academy Site, Tullos Circle, Torry, Aberdeen
8. Tullos Primary School Site, Girdleness Road, Tullos, Aberdeen
9. Victoria Road Primary School, Victoria Road, Torry



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Location of Sites Considered by Assessment

Criteria Considered by Assessment

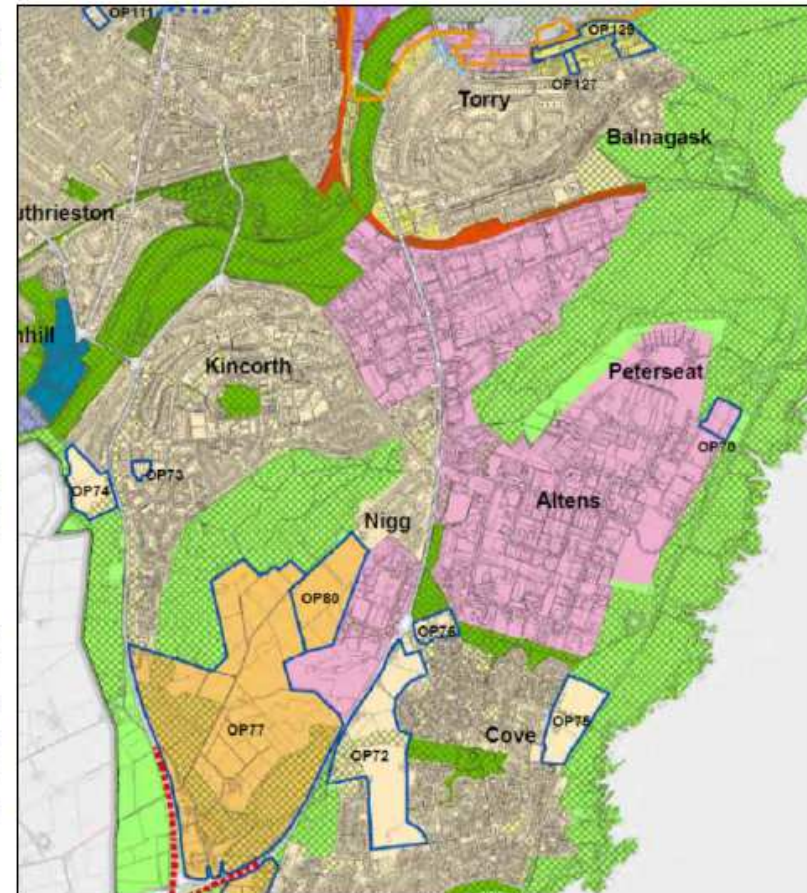
This Assessment has been prepared using desk based survey information, which has not included a visit to the site. The Assessment considers the following criteria:

- Local Development Plan Allocation
- Environmental Factors
- Topography
- Flood Risk
- Built / Cultural Heritage
- Landscape
- Relationship to Wider Area / Surrounding Land Uses

This list is by no means exhaustive, and a number of other criteria would be taken into account should any application for planning permission be submitted. Community consultation and consultation with the key agencies and other groups would also be undertaken.

It is recommended that a detailed planning assessment for any shortlisted sites be undertaken following this initial site appraisal exercise. As detailed proposals for the site are developed, it is also recommended that pre-application discussions are held with the Council's Planning, Transportation and Roads Services in order to discuss site strategy and clarify the level of information to accompany any subsequent application for planning permission.

If there are any queries on this initial assessment then these should be directed to the Local Development Plan Team (LDP@aberdeencity.gov.uk / 01224 523317).



*Extract from Aberdeen Local Development Plan
Proposals Map (2012)*

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1. Abbotswell Road, Abotswell Road, Tullos

| Assessment Criteria | Comments | Risk Rating |
|---|--|-------------|
| Local Development Plan Allocation (Aberdeen Local Development Plan (2012)) | <p>The site is allocated as Urban Green Space, meaning there is a presumption against development which is not related to recreation or sport. Where development is proposed then Policy NE3 requires an equivalent and equally convenient and accessible area for public access to be laid out and made available in the locality by the applicant for urban green space purposes. A number of other criteria relating to landscape, wildlife, etc must also be met.</p> <p>The site is also within the Green Space Network which again states a presumption against development. Policy NE1 states that the City Council will protect, promote and enhance the wildlife, recreational, landscape and access value of the Green Space Network, and proposals which are likely to destroy or erode the character or function of the GSN will not be supported.</p> <p>Any proposal for new development on this site would be considered a Development Plan Departure, i.e. inconsistent with the adopted Plan.</p> | High |
| Environmental Factors | The whole area is part of the River Dee Corridor Local Nature Conservation Site (LNCS). | High |

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| | <p>The site is adjacent to the River Dee Special Area of Conservation (SAC). This site will be subject to a Habitats Regulations Appraisal and an Appropriate Assessment will be likely.</p> <p>A Core Path crosses the site and would need to be diverted.</p> <p>The site falls within an area with suitable habitat for bats, so a bat survey would be likely if any trees are to be lopped or felled.</p> | |
| Topography | The site slopes (south to north) towards the River Dee. Significant levels of cut and fill would be expected. | High |
| Flood Risk | The site encroaches onto an area at risk of flooding from the River Dee (SEPA Flood Map). The flood map is recognised to be indicative, however the close proximity of the site to the River would mean a Flood Risk Assessment would be required. Development would not be permitted if it would increase the risk of flooding, or it would be at risk itself from flooding. | High |
| Built / Cultural Heritage | The site lies opposite to Duthie Park which is on the Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes. This indicates the National importance of the Park. Duthie Park is the only site within Aberdeen City which lies on the Inventory, and is afforded special protection from development which would have an adverse effect on its | Medium |

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| | character or setting. The Park also contains a number of Listed Buildings. | |
| Landscape | <p>About 70% of the site was planted as a new woodland as a part of the Aberdeen City Council Tree for Every Citizen project in 2010. Some of the planting was done by pupils from local schools. This project was delivered with Scottish Rural Development Programme funding through Forestry Commission Scotland which requires the site to be managed as a woodland. If the site was required for development then an alternative site of the same size would need to be planted with the same mix of tree species to act as a suitable replacement. There would not be grant funding to do this. The trees are now 1.5m - 2m tall so are becoming an increasing visual and wildlife habitat feature</p> <p>In addition, the setting the site gives to the river is also relevant to consider.</p> | Medium / High |
| Relationship to Wider Area / Surrounding Land Uses | The site is broadly surrounded by existing development. This existing development includes both residential and industrial / commercial properties. | Medium |

2. Bobby Calder Park, Redmoss Road

| Assessment Criteria | Comments | Risk Rating |
|---|---|--------------|
| Local Development Plan Allocation (Aberdeen Local Development Plan (2012)) | The site is identified as Opportunity Site OP80 - land suitable for a new stadium and sports facilities for Cove Rangers. The site is therefore recognised as suitable for development, albeit not for the type of development proposed. Existing recreational facilities on the site would need to be reprovided / upgraded through discussions with Sports Scotland if development on this part of the site was proposed. | Medium |
| Environmental Factors | Existing trees on the site are suitable habitat for bats. A bat survey will be likely if there are plans to lop or fell them. | Low / Medium |
| Topography | The site is generally flat and appropriate for development. | Low |
| Flood Risk | The site does not appear to be at risk from flooding from either a river or the sea (SEPA Flood Map). | Low |
| Built / Cultural Heritage | There are no designated sites or buildings on the site or within the surrounding area. | Low |
| Landscape | There is a 10m-20m wide woodland planting zone along Redmoss Road, along the boundary with the radio mast | Medium |

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| | <p>site and the boundary with the industrial units in Wellington Circle. These were planted in 2006 by the local community and the City Council Rangers. This planting was grant funded and, if the site was required for development, an alternative site of the same size would need to be planted with the same mix of tree species to ask as a suitable replacement. There would not be grant funding to do this.</p> | |
| Relationship to Wider Area / Surrounding Land Uses | <p>The site is bordered by industrial units to the south and east and by currently undeveloped land to the west and north. Communications equipment exists to the north.</p> <p>Undeveloped land to the west and south is identified as part of the Loirston development for which a Development Framework has been prepared.</p> | <p>Medium / Low</p> |

3. Craighill Primary School, Heatherwick Road

| Assessment Criteria | Comments | Risk Rating |
|---|--|-------------|
| Local Development Plan Allocation (Aberdeen Local Development Plan (2012)) | The site is identified as Opportunity Site OP73 - a brownfield site potentially suitable for residential redevelopment. The site is therefore recognised as suitable for development. The previous educational use of the site is noted. Existing recreational facilities on the site would need to be reprovided / upgraded through discussions with Sports Scotland. | Low |
| Environmental Factors | No comment | Low |
| Topography | The site is generally flat and appropriate for development. | Low |
| Flood Risk | The site does not appear to be at risk from flooding from either a river or the sea (SEPA Flood Map) | Low |
| Built / Cultural Heritage | There are no designated sites or buildings on the site or within the surrounding area. | Low |
| Landscape | A small group of trees are evident on the southern boundary. | Low |
| Relationship to Wider Area / Surrounding Land Uses | The site is surrounded by residential development. | Low |

4. Kincorth Academy, Kincorth Circle

| Assessment Criteria | Comments | Risk Rating |
|---|---|-------------|
| Local Development Plan Allocation (Aberdeen Local Development Plan (2012)) | <p>The site as existing is split into two allocations in the adopted Local Development Plan. The existing school buildings are within the urban residential area. The associated playing fields to the north are allocated as Urban Green Space and are also within the Green Space Network. There is therefore a presumption against development which is not related to recreation or sport on this part of the site. Where development is proposed then Policy NE3 requires an equivalent and equally convenient and accessible area for public access to be laid out and made available in the locality by the applicant for urban green space purposes. A number of other criteria relating to landscape, wildlife, etc must also be met.</p> <p>Policy NE1 states that the City Council will protect, promote and enhance the wildlife, recreational, landscape and access value of the Green Space Network, and proposals which are likely to destroy or erode the character or function of the GSN will not be supported.</p> <p>The previous educational use of the site is noted.</p> | Medium |

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| | Existing recreational facilities on the site would need to be reprovided / upgraded through discussions with Sports Scotland. | |
| Environmental Factors | The site falls within an area with suitable habitat for bats. A bat survey would be likely if any buildings are to be altered/demolished and if any trees are to be lopped or felled. | Low / Medium |
| Topography | The site is generally flat and appropriate for development. | Low |
| Flood Risk | The site does not appear to be at risk from flooding from either a river or the sea (SEPA Flood Map) | Low |
| Built / Cultural Heritage | There are no designated sites or buildings on the site or within the surrounding area. | Low |
| Landscape | Some trees are evident around the boundaries of the site. The existing playing fields are noted. | Medium / Low |
| Relationship to Wider Area / Surrounding Land Uses | The site is surrounded by residential development. | Low |

5. Loirston Site A

| Assessment Criteria | Comments | Risk Rating |
|---|---|--------------|
| Local Development Plan Allocation (Aberdeen Local Development Plan (2012)) | The site lies within Opportunity Site OP77 – a mixed use allocation including 1500 new homes and 11 hectares of employment land. The site is therefore recognised as suitable for development. A Development Framework for the site (Loirston) identifies this site as the location for a new stadium for Aberdeen Football Club, however other options could be considered. Provision for a new secondary school is included within the Loirston allocation. | Low |
| Environmental Factors | The Loirston Loch is a Local Nature Conservation Site (LNCS). The trees to the south of this site fall within an area of habitat suitable for bats. Bats have also been recorded nearby. A bat survey would be likely if any trees are to be lopped or felled. | Medium |
| Topography | The Loirston site generally slopes from north east – south west. The site is appropriate for development. | Low |
| Flood Risk | The site does not appear to be at risk from flooding from either a river or the sea (SEPA Flood Map). The proximity of the site to Loirston Loch should however be noted. | Low / Medium |

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| Built / Cultural Heritage | There are no designated sites or buildings on the site or within the surrounding area. | Low |
| Landscape | Some trees are evident to the south of the site. The site is reasonably visible from the surrounding environs. Proximity to Loirston Loch noted. | Medium / Low |
| Relationship to Wider Area / Surrounding Land Uses | The site is bordered by Industrial units to the north and by currently undeveloped land to the west and south. Undeveloped land to the west and south is identified as part of the Loirston development. | Medium / Low |

6. Loirston Site B

| Assessment Criteria | Comments | Risk Rating |
|---|--|--------------|
| Local Development Plan Allocation (Aberdeen Local Development Plan (2012)) | The site lies within Opportunity Site OP77 – a mixed use allocation including 1500 new homes and 11 hectares of employment land. The site is therefore recognised as suitable for development. A Development Framework for the site (Loirston) identifies this site as part of the main development area. Provision for a new secondary school is included within the Loirston allocation. | Low |
| Environmental Factors | The Loirston Loch is a Local Nature Conservation Site (LNCS). The trees to the south of this site fall within an area of habitat suitable for bats. Bats have also been recorded nearby. A bat survey would be likely if any trees are to be lopped or felled. | Medium |
| Topography | The Loirston site generally slopes from north east – south west. The site is appropriate for development. | Low |
| Flood Risk | The site does not appear to be at risk from flooding from either a river or the sea (SEPA Flood Map). The proximity of the site to Loirston Loch should however be noted. | Low / Medium |

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| Built / Cultural Heritage | There are no designated sites or buildings on the site or within the surrounding area. | Low |
| Landscape | Some trees are evident to the north and west of the site. The site is reasonably visible from the surrounding environs. Proximity to Loirston Loch noted. | Medium / Low |
| Relationship to Wider Area / Surrounding Land Uses | The site is bordered by currently undeveloped land identified for mixed use development as part of the Loirston Development Framework. | Medium / Low |

7. Torry Academy, Tullos Circle

| Assessment Criteria | Comments | Risk Rating |
|---|--|--------------|
| Local Development Plan Allocation (Aberdeen Local Development Plan (2012)) | The site lies within the existing urban residential area. The site is therefore recognised as suitable for development. The previous educational use of the site is noted. Existing recreational facilities on the site would need to be reprovided / upgraded through discussions with Sports Scotland. | Low |
| Environmental Factors | The trees are part of an area highlighted as suitable habitat for bats. A bat survey would be likely if any buildings are to be altered/demolished and if any trees are to be lopped or felled. | Low / Medium |
| Topography | The site is generally flat and appropriate for development. | Low |
| Flood Risk | The site does not appear to be at risk from flooding from either a river or the sea (SEPA Flood Map) | Low |
| Built / Cultural Heritage | There are no designated sites or buildings on the site or within the surrounding area. There would be a presumption however to retain the existing granite buildings on site (Local Development Plan Policy D3). | Medium |
| Landscape | Some trees are evident within the existing site. | Low |

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| Relationship to Wider Area / Surrounding Land Uses | The site is surrounded by residential development. | Low |
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8. Tullos Primary School, Girdleness Road

| Assessment Criteria | Comments | Risk Rating |
|---|---|---------------|
| Local Development Plan Allocation (Aberdeen Local Development Plan (2012)) | <p>The site of Tullos Primary School lies within the existing urban residential area. The previous educational use of the site is noted.</p> <p>The Green Space Network covers the existing playing fields and this area is also classed as Urban Green Space (although not expressly identified as such on the Proposals Map). On Urban Green Space areas there is a presumption against development which is not related to recreation or sport. Where development is proposed then Policy NE3 requires an equivalent and equally convenient and accessible area for public access to be laid out and made available in the locality by the applicant for urban green space purposes. A number of other criteria relating to landscape, wildlife, etc must also be met.</p> <p>To the east of the primary school area lies an area of public open space (St Fitticks Park) which is identified as within the Green Belt and the Green Space Network.</p> <p>There is a presumption against development on sites within the Green Belt for purposes other than those essential for agriculture, woodland and forestry.</p> | Medium / High |

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| | <p>recreational uses compatible with an agricultural or natural setting, mineral extraction or restoration or landscape renewal. Policy NE2 discusses exceptions to this policy, however it is not thought that any would be applicable here.</p> <p>On areas covered by the Green Space Network, Policy NE1 states that the City Council will protect, promote and enhance the wildlife, recreational, landscape and access value of the Green Space Network, and proposals which are likely to destroy or erode the character or function of the GSN will not be supported.</p> <p>Existing recreational facilities on the site would need to be reprovided / upgraded through discussions with Sports Scotland.</p> | |
| Environmental Factors | The trees to the south of the site are part of an area highlighted as suitable habitat for bats. A bat survey would be likely if any buildings are to be altered/demolished and if any trees are to be lopped or felled. | Low / Medium |
| Topography | The site is generally flat and appropriate for development. | Low |
| Flood Risk | The site does not appear to be at risk from flooding from either a river or the sea (SEPA Flood Map) | Low |

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| Built / Cultural Heritage | The existing school building is a Category B listed building, and recognised as a good, little altered, example of 1930s modernist architecture. There is a national policy presumption against demolition or other works that will adversely affect a listed building or its setting. At a more local level, there is a presumption to retain existing granite buildings (Local Development Plan Policy D3). | High |
| Landscape | <p>The site has landscape value and is relatively visible (especially from the railway).</p> <p>If the development site extends east of the current Tullos School boundary into the St Fitticks Park then it could impact on the new woodland planting from 2005, 2010 and 2012 all of which was delivered with funding from the Forestry Commission Woodland Grant Scheme or Scottish Rural Development Programme. Much of the planting was done by the local school children and other community groups.</p> <p>If this part of the site was required for development then an alternative site of the same size would need to be planted with the same mix of tree species to act as a suitable replacement. There would not be grant funding to do this.</p> | Medium / High |
| Relationship to Wider Area / Surrounding Land Uses | The site is broadly bounded to the north and west by residential development. To the south lies a railway line | Low / Medium |

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| | with industrial / commercial development beyond. Green Belt land lies to the east. | |
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9. Victoria Road Primary School, Victoria Road

| Assessment Criteria | Comments | Risk Rating |
|---|---|--------------|
| Local Development Plan Allocation (Aberdeen Local Development Plan (2012)) | <p>The site is identified as within Opportunity Site OP127 which is a residential / mixed use site. The site is therefore recognised as suitable for development.</p> <p>The northern edge of the site is located within the Major Hazard Sites – HSE Consultation Outer Zone given the proximity of the site to Aberdeen Harbour. Advice should therefore be taken from the Health and Safety Executive and development must not risk public safety.</p> <p>The previous educational use of the site is noted.</p> | Low |
| Environmental Factors | The trees to the south of the site are part of an area highlighted as suitable habitat for bats. A bat survey would be likely if any buildings are to be altered/demolished and if any trees are to be lopped or felled. | Low / Medium |
| Topography | The site slopes from south to north. | Low / Medium |
| Flood Risk | The site does not appear to be at risk from flooding from either a river or the sea (SEPA Flood Map) | Low |
| Built / Cultural Heritage | There are no designated sites or buildings on the site or | Medium |

| | | |
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| | within the surrounding area (PASTMAP). There would be a presumption however to retain the existing granite buildings on site (Local Development Plan Policy D3). | |
| Landscape | A small group of trees are evident on the southern boundary. | Low |
| Relationship to Wider Area / Surrounding Land Uses | The surrounding area is mixed use in character, with some residential, commercial and industrial. | Low / Medium |

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

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| COMMITTEE | Education, Culture and Sport |
| DATE | 28 March 2013 |
| DIRECTOR | Gayle Gorman |
| TITLE OF REPORT: | Capacity at St Peter's School |
| REPORT NUMBER: | ECS/13/20 |

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To raise the Committee's awareness of immediate concerns in relation to St Peter's School which is currently over capacity and forecast to remain over capacity for the foreseeable future and provide options to address over occupancy in session 2013 and beyond.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Committee:

1. considers the options for providing additional accommodation at St Peter's School.
2. instructs officers to implement Option 2 (b) to provide additional accommodation on the St Peter's School site in temporary units and reconfigure the school boundary to maximize the amount of external play space available to the school.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The cost of implementing the preferred option will be met from existing Education Culture and Sport budgets. The costs that will be incurred will include:

- minor external works to improve the existing play area;
- relocating the fence and bike sheds;
- leasing or purchase and installation of the temporary accommodation; and
- additional janitorial and cleaning costs.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

There are no significant implications in relation to the proposal contained within this report. The proposal is supported by parents and staff as well as by the local diocese.

5. BACKGROUND/ MAIN ISSUES

At the special meeting of the Education, Culture and Sport Committee on 7th February 2013, officers were instructed to undertake a review of denominational educational provision in the city.

This review will identify a long term sustainable strategy for denominational education provision in the city. However there are specific issues at St Peter's School which need to be resolved by the start of the new school session in August 2013.

School Capacity

The methodology for calculating the current 'functional/working capacities' for primary schools was agreed by Committee in January 2010 and is based on the number of classroom spaces in the school with an average of 30 pupils per class. However, the true capacity of a school could be significantly lower than this.

St Peter's School is:

- operating a number of composite classes. The overall capacity of the school is therefore reduced as composite classes have a maximum of 25 pupils compared to 30 or 33.
- one of the ten schools in regeneration areas where the City Council's policy of capping primary 1 (P1) and primary one/two composite (P1/2) classes at 18 which further reduces the overall capacity of the school.

In 2012, the capacity of the school to accommodate the number of in zone pupils in the August intake came under pressure. This was highlighted in the report to Education, Culture & Sport Committee on 7th June 2012. The preferred option at the time was to remove the cap of 18 in P1 and P1/2 classes.

The current arrangement will not, however, provide sufficient capacity to accommodate the anticipated intake of 38 in zone P1 pupils before any out of zone placing requests, including 7 sibling requests, are considered.

Existing Accommodation at St Peter's School

The school is currently operating in two buildings which are both located on the same site: the main school building and part of the first floor of Old Aberdeen House.

The school accommodation consists of:

- 7 x Classrooms, 4 in the main building and 3 in Old Aberdeen House
- 2 x General Purpose (GP) rooms
- 1 x Gym / Assembly Hall

The entire ground floor of Old Aberdeen House is being used by the City Archivist and the Aberdeen Scientific Services (ASSL).

There are nine rooms on the first floor which are being used as follows:

- 3 x Classrooms of St Peter's

2 x rooms ASSL
4 x Archive rooms

The school is currently operating 8 classes using the 7 classrooms and one of the GP rooms. The other GP room is the Library. It is 40 square metres (sqm) in size which is insufficient to accommodate a full class.

The school roll at each stage for August 2013 is forecast to be 226, as follows:

P1 45
P2 35
P3 38
P4 28
P5 26
P6 24
P7 30

Roll forecasts indicate that St Peter's School will require a total of 10 classrooms over the next three years as shown in the table below.

| Year | School Roll | No of classes with P1 and P1/2 classes of 18 | No of classes with P1 and P1/2 classes of 25 |
|------|-------------|--|--|
| 2013 | 226 | 10 | 9 |
| 2014 | 216 | 10 | 9 |
| 2015 | 219 | 10 | 10 |

Importantly, providing the school with a two classroom, temporary unit will enable the school to reinstate the cap of P1 and P1/2 classes at 18.

Options for increasing the capacity of the school are:

Option 1 Provide additional accommodation on site by increasing the number of rooms in Old Aberdeen House used by the school

There are currently six rooms on the first floor of the building other than the three used as classrooms. Two of these rooms are used by the Aberdeen Scientific Services and four are used to house the City Archives. Taking forward this option would involve relocating one or both of these services.

It may be possible, in the longer term, to find alternative accommodation for the Aberdeen Scientific Services and/or the City Archivist, however in both instances, identifying suitable alternative accommodation would not be a straight forward matter.

Archives require specialised storage and handling in line with "The British Standard for the Exhibition and Storage of Archival Documents". The accommodation in Old Aberdeen House is equipped with specialised shelving and a dedicated, gas fire-suppressant system.

Aberdeenshire Council jointly funds the Archive service and would need to be included in any future discussions as would the Keeper of the Records of Scotland

who oversees the Public Records (Scotland) Act which imposes a duty on public authorities to make proper provision for the storage of, and access to, their archive records.

As with the City Archives, Aberdeen Scientific Services (ASSL) has very specialised requirements, including laboratories, large pieces of expensive equipment and secure storage.

There would also be considerable costs involved in taking forward this option which would involve:

- identifying suitable accommodation and equipping it to meet service requirements;
- undertaking the work that would be required to relocate the service; and
- undertaking the work that would be required to make the vacated accommodation suitable for school use in time for the beginning of August, 2013.

Whilst this would be a solution that would be acceptable to staff and parents of the school, it would not be possible to deliver this option for August 2013.

Option 2 Provide additional accommodation on site in temporary units

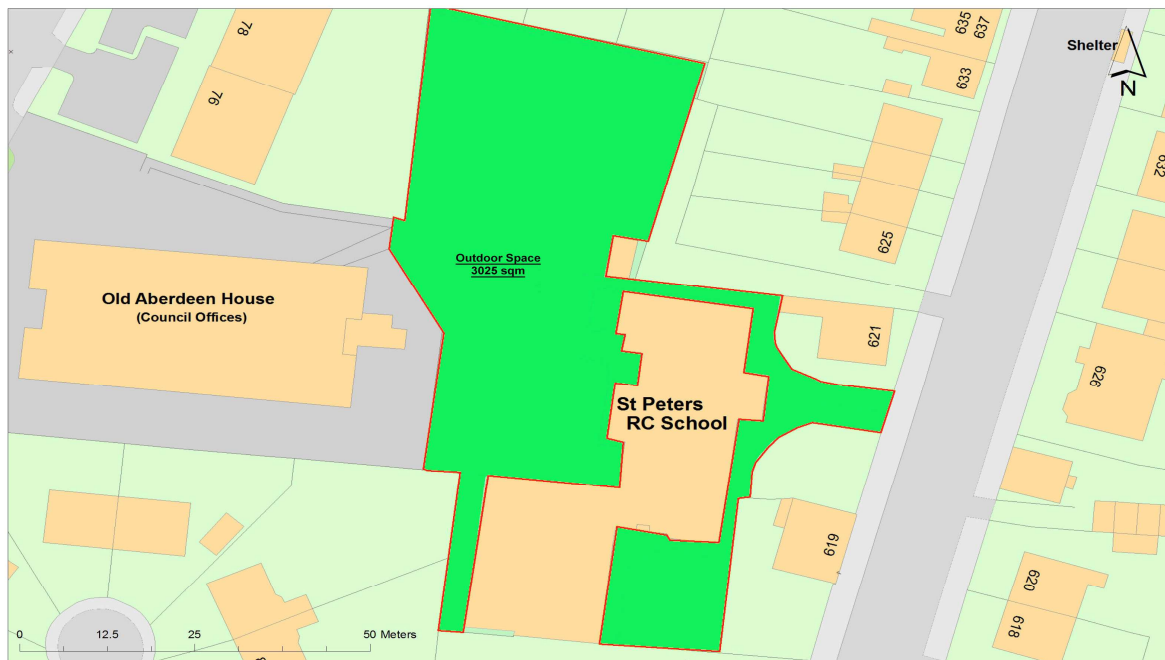
The option to provide a double classroom, re-locatable unit on site was not taken forward in 2012 due to the restricted nature of the site and providing temporary accommodation on site would have reduced the amount of outdoor play space available to the school. The preferred option at that time was to lift the cap of 18 pupils in P1 and P1/2 classes and maintain the maximum outdoor space available. In August, however, this measure will not be sufficient to accommodate the projected P1 intake of in-zone pupils.

The whole site, including entrance paths, school building and playgrounds is 3,930 sqm. Outside play space available to the school is 2,150 sqm of which the hard standing is 1,340 sqm.

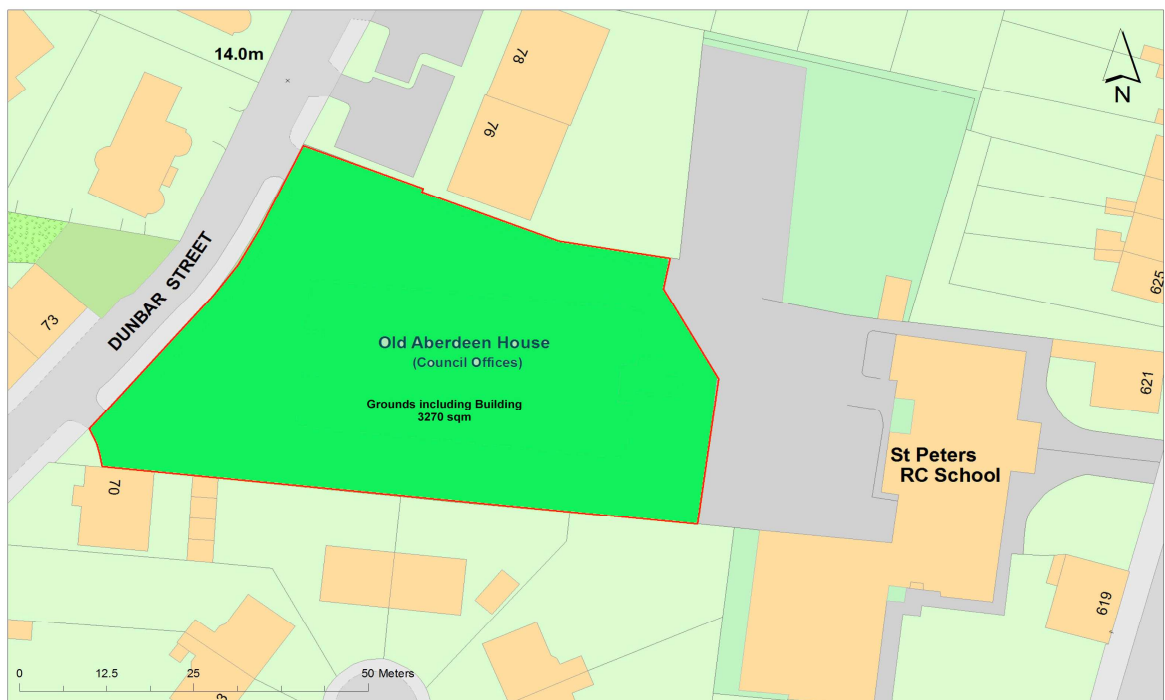
The Schools Premises (General Requirements and Standards) (Scotland) Regulations 1967 (and updated) specifies that a school with 141 - 315 pupils should have a site no smaller than (6070 sqm).

Providing additional accommodation on the existing site would reduce the amount of already limited outdoor play space available to an increased school population.

St Peters School site



Old Aberdeen House site



Providing additional accommodation on the school site is only viable if the outside play space available to the school can be increased. Increasing the outside play space could be achieved by redefining the boundary of the site whilst maintaining vehicular access to Old Aberdeen House for service users.

The whole site (Old Aberdeen House and St Peter's School) is 7,470 sqm.

| | |
|---------------------|-------|
| | Sqm |
| Aberdeen House site | 3,349 |
| Outside space | 2,190 |
| Existing school | 4,200 |
| Outside space | 3,025 |
| Hard standing | 1,340 |

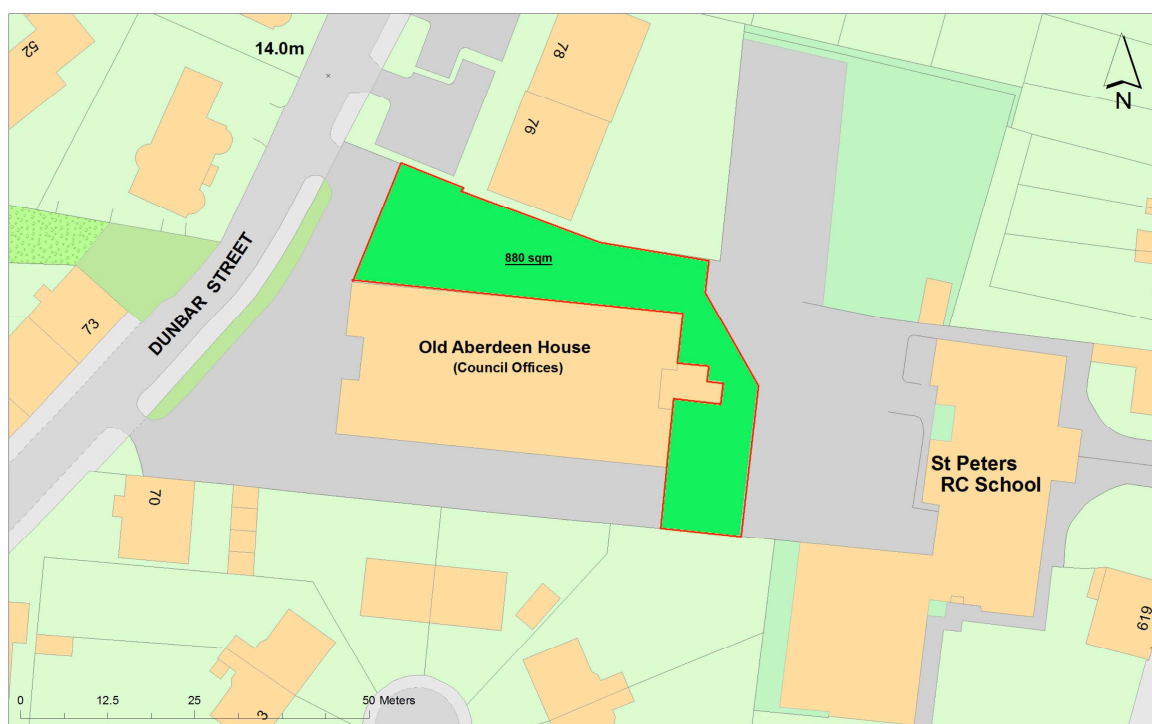
Redefining the boundary of the site will have an impact on users of both buildings and it will need to be done so as to maintain access to Old Aberdeen House for staff and service users.

Costs would be incurred in taking forward this option. These would include:

- leasing and installing temporary accommodation;
- relocating the fence to create a new boundary to the front of the site;
- relocating existing bike sheds; and
- making good the play ground affected.

There are two alternatives to consider

Alternative (a) Increase the outside play space by 880 sqm to 3,905 sqm.



This alternative would align the boundary of the school to the front of Old Aberdeen House. The boundary of the school between the School and Old Aberdeen House would be repositioned as shown in alternative (a) above. The exact positioning of the fence between the School and Old Aberdeen House would have to be agreed with users of Old Aberdeen House.

Alternative (b) Increase the outside play space by 1,040 sqm to 4,065 sqm.



The pedestrian access to the school is currently by way of a fenced off footpath that crosses the car park. This alternative would align the boundary of the school along the route of the pedestrian crossing. This alternative would mean that the current exit gate would be within the boundary of the school and entrance to and exit from the site would be through one gate rather than two.

As with option (a) the exact positioning of the fence between the School and Old Aberdeen House would have to be agreed with users of Old Aberdeen House.

In implementing either of these proposals it will be necessary to ensure that access to Old Aberdeen House is maintained for staff and service users.

There are also two fire exits from the Archive on the North side of Old Aberdeen House which need to be taken into account.

Both alternative (a) and (b) are acceptable to staff and parents of the school and can be delivered in time for the new school session in August 2013.

The preference is alternative (b) as this will provide a greater play space than alternative (a) and will also improve the safety of pedestrian access to the site.

Option 3 Provide accommodation off site in another Primary School in the ASG

The nearest Primary Schools in the ASG are:

- Seaton
- Riverbank
- Sunnybank
- Kittybrewster

Woodside

There is not enough space available at any of the above schools to be able to create two classrooms to accommodate St Peter's School pupils.

There is space at Kittybrewster School in rooms that are currently used by the Family Learning Service and the Pupils Support Service however, the roll at Kittybrewster is rising and these rooms will be needed by the school in 2014.

Taking forward this option would involve identifying suitable alternative accommodation for the existing services, located in Kittybrewster School.

Costs would be incurred in taking forward this option and it would only be tenable for one year.

Option 4 Provide accommodation off-site in another denominational Primary School

Legal Services advise that it would be possible to enroll children in St Peter's and then transport them to accommodation at another denominational school. There is currently capacity in Holy Family School to accommodate one class. It would not be appropriate to move the P1 intake to another school therefore the P7 and some or all of the P6 pupils could be relocated. This would mean two transitions for the pupils involved, firstly to the new site and secondly to their zoned secondary school.

From an educational, social and practical perspective it would be preferable for pupils across the entire age range to remain on a single site and this is highly likely to be the parental preference.

Pupils benefit from learning and playing alongside children across the age range, older children gain from the experience of caring, supporting and mentoring younger pupils and younger pupils benefit from learning from older positive role models. Pupils in the upper stages look forward to the time when they are the senior pupils within their school, when they are given opportunities to take on additional leadership opportunities. This would be seriously compromised if they were situated on another site.

Taking forward this option would require the provision of transport to pupils who would be accommodated in another school from St Peter's. There would be significant costs incurred in providing transport. Costs would depend on the number of children being transported.

It would be possible to deliver this option for August 2013.

Option 5 Provide additional accommodation off site at St Machar Academy

St Machar Academy currently has accommodation in two units located outwith the main school building that could be made over to St Peter's. St Machar Academy is in close proximity to St Peter's School and is within walking distance of the majority of children that would be affected.

As with option 4, from an educational, social and practical perspective it would be preferable for pupils across the entire age range to remain on a single site and this is highly likely to be the parental preference. Pupils benefit from learning and playing alongside children across the age range, older children gain from the experience of caring, supporting and mentoring younger pupils and younger pupils benefit from learning from older positive role models. Pupils in the upper stages look forward to the time when they are the senior pupils within their school, when they are given opportunities to take on additional leadership opportunities. This would be seriously compromised if they were situated on another site.

St Peter's School is within the catchment zone of St Machar Academy although pupils are zoned to the secondary school nearest their home address.

The majority of pupils leaving St Peter's in the past two years and in the coming two years all live in the St Machar Academy catchment zone. However, in August 2012, only 3 of the 23 pupils who left St Peter's and who were zoned to St Machar Academy actually went on to St Machar Academy.

Taking forward this option would incur modest costs to create a separate playground area at St Machar Academy.

It would be possible to deliver this option for August 2013.

Option 6 Provide additional accommodation on another site

Provide additional accommodation on another site locally. This could either be by identifying accommodation in other buildings nearby or by locating temporary units on a nearby site

Discussions with the University are ongoing regarding possible assistance which they may be able to provide to help alleviate accommodation issues.

Option 7 Relocate the entire school into another building.

The only accommodation currently available that would be large enough to accommodate primary school pupils is the former Braeside Infant School. This accommodation was enhanced to create a decant facility for Airyhall and Kaimhill Schools as part of the 3Rs project. However, this building is the other side of the city from the existing St Peter's and would have significant transport implications and costs.

It is proposed to use the accommodation at Braeside in part or in full to accommodate the pupils that are anticipated from the Countesswells development until such time as a new school is built as part of that development.

Taking forward this option could therefore only be a short term solution.

Considerable costs would be incurred in transporting children across the city and in bringing the accommodation, particularly externally, up to a suitable standard for use again as a school.

The school could not be accommodated in the Braeside building on a permanent basis and another solution would have to be developed before 2016.

This option is not viable.

Summary

- Option 1 Provide additional accommodation on site by increasing the number of rooms in Old Aberdeen House used by the school
It would not be possible to deliver this option for August 2013.
- Option 2 Provide additional accommodation on site in leased temporary units
Alternative (a), increasing the outside play space by 880 sqm
Alternative (b), increasing the outside play space by 1,040 sqm
It is possible to deliver either alternative of this option for August 2013.
- Option 3 Provide accommodation off site in another Primary School in the ASG
It would be possible to deliver this option but only on a temporary basis.
- Option 4 Provide accommodation off site in another denominational primary school. It would be possible to deliver this option for August 2013.
- Option 5 Provide additional accommodation off site at St Machar Academy
It would be possible to deliver this option for August 2013.
- Option 6 Provide additional accommodation on another site.
Discussions with the University are ongoing regarding possible assistance which they may be able to provide to help alleviate accommodation issues.
- Option 7 Relocate the entire school into another building.
This option is not viable.

Preferred Option

The preferred option is alternative (b) within option 2.

This will provide accommodation on the St Peter's School site in temporary units and keep the whole school community together on one site. The reconfigured school boundary will maximize the external play space available to the school. This option can be delivered by August 2013.

6. IMPACT

This report relates to 'Aberdeen – the Smarter City – Programme for Aberdeen City Council 2012-17', particularly in relation to the following priorities:

Smarter People (Social and Human Capital)

- We will provide a high quality education service within our schools and communities which will improve attainment and life chances of our children and young people to achieve their full potential in education, employment or training.
- Working with our third, public and private sector partners, we will provide opportunities for lifelong learning which will develop knowledge, skills and attributes of our citizens to enable them to meet the changing demands of the 21st century.
- Again, working with partners, we will create a City of Learning which will empower individuals to fulfil their potential and contribute to the economic, social and cultural wellbeing of our communities.
- We will aim to have a workforce across the city which has the skills and knowledge to sustain, grow and diversify the city economy.

Equal Opportunities

Equal opportunities issues are addressed within the arrangements in place for admitting pupils to schools including those arrangements which pertain to pupils who cannot be immediately due to the school being at capacity at a given time

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- Report & minutes of the Education, Culture and Sport Special Committee on 7 February 2013, which considered the report on the Review of the Nursery and Primary School Estate.
- Report & minutes of the Education, Culture and Sport Special Committee on 28 October 2010, which considered the report on 21st Century Secondary School Provision, ECS/10/096.
- Report & minutes of Education, Culture and Sport Committee, 24 March 2011, ECS/11/018
- Property Asset Management Plan 2009 (Non-Housing)
- Education, Culture and Sport Service Asset Management Plan 2011
- A Study of Implications for Educational Provision arising from Development in North West Aberdeen, October 2011

8. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

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| COMMITTEE | Education, Culture and Sport |
| DATE | 28th March 2013 |
| DIRECTOR | Gayle Gorman |
| TITLE OF REPORT | Roll Capping in Aberdeen City Schools (2013/14) |
| REPORT NUMBER: | ECS/13/021 |

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report seeks approval from the Education, Culture and Sport Committee to:

- agree limits to the S1 intakes of the named secondary schools in Aberdeen City for the 2013/2014 school session
- agree that the S2 and S3 intakes in the named secondary schools in Aberdeen City for the 2013/2014 session should be set at the levels previously agreed by committees.
- agree to limit intakes to named primary schools in Aberdeen City for the 2013/2014 school session;
- agree to reserve places in named secondary schools for children likely to become resident in the zone of those schools during the school year.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

It is recommended that the Committee:

a) Agrees the following limits upon the S1 intakes of the following secondary schools and agree the reservation of spaces for children likely to become resident in the zone of those schools during the school year:

Aberdeen Grammar School 180 (with 10 reserved spaces);
Bucksburn Academy 120 (with 4 reserved spaces);
Cults Academy 180 (with 10 reserved spaces);
Harlaw Academy 180 (with 4 reserved spaces).

b) Agrees that the S2 intake and reserved spaces for session 2013/2014 will be set at the level previously agreed for their entry into S1 and that the S3 intake and reserved spaces for session 2013/2014 will be set at the level previously agreed for their entry into S1.

c) Agrees to limit the P1 intakes of the named primary schools for August 2013 to ensure that the number of classes within each school does not exceed the following:-

| | |
|--------------------|------------|
| Hanover Street | 8 classes |
| Heathryburn School | 10 classes |
| Kaimhill School | 8 classes |
| Kingswells School | 15 classes |
| Manor Park School | 9 classes |
| Mile End School | 14 classes |
| Seaton School | 9 classes |

d) Agree to apply the class size maximum of 18 for Primary 1 and Primary 1/2 composite classes in Muirfield School as recommended in paragraph 5.4.7.

e) Require the Schools Service Managers to closely monitor the number of pupils transferring to the identified capped schools in August 2013 relative to the roll limits being recommended.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Depending upon the size of the primary 1 intake to the school, the inclusion of Muirfield School in those schools where primary 1 and primary 1/2 composite classes are set at a maximum of 18 may require an additional 1 full-time equivalent teacher. The part-year cost for 2013/2014 would be 28K and the full year cost for 2014/2015 would be 41K. If necessary this will be resourced from within the existing primary teaching staffing budget.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

This report supports the Council's commitment to the principles of equality in relation to pupil access to schools, best value when considering the distribution of resources and the provision of the highest quality of service delivery. Aberdeen City Council is committed to providing the best possible education for all our children, which is essential if we are to ensure that Aberdeen and its citizens have a prosperous future.

We must therefore:

- Ensure expenditure on education delivers maximum benefit to pupils.
- Continue to involve parents and pupils in their schools.
- Continue to improve attainment across city schools.
- Ensure education is appropriate to pupils' needs and ensure pupils leave school with skills essential for living.
- Review best teaching practice and trial projects in Aberdeen and beyond to identify the best ways of delivering an even higher quality education to all pupils.
- Allocate resources to support learning, targeted to areas of greatest need.
- Continue work to raise the achievement of vulnerable children and close the attainment gap across the city.

5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

5.1 Roll Capping - Secondary Schools

The current position is that certain secondary schools are roll capped, i.e. a decision is taken annually to limit pupil numbers which, experience has shown, could otherwise exceed capacity. This decision is informed by the working capacity of a school which takes into account the availability of both non-practical and specialist practical teaching areas within the building.

A limit is fixed for the number of pupils entering S1 and this is guided by the number of P7 children known to be ordinarily resident in the area zoned by address to a secondary school, regardless of which primary school they attended. These children will, under normal circumstances, transfer to their zoned secondary schools, although their parents/guardians may choose another school under the Parents' Charter Legislation.

The secondary schools that are currently roll capped are Aberdeen Grammar School, Bucksburn Academy, Cults Academy, and Harlaw Academy. It is proposed that the same schools are roll capped in session 2013-14 with the following limits to S1 intakes:

Aberdeen Grammar School - 180
Bucksburn Academy - 120
Cults Academy - 180
Harlaw Academy – 180

For session 2013/2014, S2 capping levels for these schools will remain as previously agreed for this year groups entry into S1 and S3 capping levels for these schools will remain as previously agreed for this year groups entry into S1.

These numbers will be reviewed on an annual basis and this mechanism will allow the Education Authority to fulfil, as far as is practically possible, its commitment to providing local schooling for local children.

5.2 Roll Capping - Primary Schools

The decision to cap a primary school is based on the number of primary classes the school can accommodate rather than the number of pupils. Due to the increasing demand for in zone places in certain primary schools there are a number of schools where roll capping is now required to ensure that sufficient classroom space remains available. It is proposed that P1 intakes to these schools are limited so that the optimum number of classes within the schools are not exceeded. This will allow Aberdeen City to maintain its policy of local schools for local children.

For August 2013 schools in this category are:

| | |
|--------------------|------------|
| Hanover Street | 8 classes |
| Heathryburn School | 10 classes |

| | |
|-------------------|------------|
| Kaimhill School | 8 classes |
| Kingswells School | 15 classes |
| Manor Park School | 9 classes |
| Mile End School | 14 classes |
| Seaton School | 9 classes |

5.2.1 St Peter's School.

Given the projected extreme pressure on space at St Peters in August 2012 the ECS Committee took the decision in June 2012 to break the 1:18 teacher/pupil ratio in P1 in St Peter's School. The options for the school for August 2013 are addressed in the paper on Capacities at St Peter's school also being considered by the Education Culture and Sport Committee on 28th March 2013

5.3 Reserved Places in Roll Capped Schools for Incoming Families

The report on Policy and Procedures for Dealing with Admissions to Schools and Parental Placing Requests approved by the Education and Leisure Committee on 29th August 2000 was predicated on the fundamental principle that local schooling will be provided for local children.

The Education (Scotland) Act 1980 empowers Local Authorities to reserve places, not exceeding such number or percentage of places at the school or relating to a particular stage of education, as are in the opinion of the Education Authority reasonably required to accommodate pupils likely to become resident in the catchment area of the school during the academic year. Placing requests in respect of children who live outwith the school zone are refused in order to allow this to happen. Parents will be informed of the result of their request no later than 30th April 2013, as per our legal requirements.

5.3.1 In secondary schools in session 2013-14, the following reserved spaces are proposed: (See appendix 1)

Aberdeen Grammar School - 10 reserved spaces;
 Bucksburn Academy - 4 reserved spaces;
 Cults Academy - 10 reserved spaces;
 Harlaw Academy - 4 reserved spaces.

5.3.2 The reserved places for S2 and S3 in these schools will remain as previously agreed for entry to sessions 2012/2013 and 2011/2012

5.4 Schools in areas of deprivation.

5.4.1 As a commitment to reducing primary class sizes to 18, Aberdeen City Council currently limits P1 and composite P1 and P2 class sizes to 18 in 10 schools in areas of deprivation. The restricted size of the pupil intake and the consequent increase in the number of classes can put pressure on available space and increase the possibility of capping. Since the original allocation of resources was cash limited funding is only available to invest in the necessary additional teachers in 10 schools. The schools are

Bramble Brae School
Heathryburn School
Kittybrewster School
Manor Park School
Riverbank School
St Peter's RC School
Seaton School
Tullos School
Walker Road School
Woodside School

5.4.2. Historically these 10 schools have shown the highest levels of deprivation as defined by the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD). However the revised SIMD for 2013 has shown that Muirfield school now has a higher level of deprivation than Heathryburn school.

5.4.3 Heathryburn School is now the 11th highest with 34% of the pupils in the most deprived 20% of the population.

5.4.4 Muirfield is now 8th highest with 47% of the pupils in the most deprived 20% of the population

5.4.5 The options are therefore

- 1) To replace Heathryburn with Muirfield as one of the 10 schools
- 2) To include Muirfield in the rankings and apply the 18 class size limits to 11 and not 10 schools

5.4.6 Implications

Option 1 would require Heathryburn to lose a class in August 2013 and Muirfield to gain a class.

Option 2, depending on the size of the P1 intake to Muirfield school would require an additional class in August 2013 and would require additional budget to be identified for the additional teacher.

5.4.7 Option 2 is recommended

6. IMPACT

Corporate:

This report fits within the second of the six key priorities of the five year business plan:

- Help to ensure that all school children reach their potential.

People:

- Since a school's basic staffing complement is allocated according to a very sensitive roll related formula, the decision to raise or lower a roll cap will have a consequential impact upon the staffing level of a particular school.

Systems and Technology:

There are no systems and technology implications

Property:

There are no property implications if the recommendations of this report are agreed and implemented. If a schools intake were not capped there is the possibility that additional accommodation would be required.

Risk Management:

It is important to reach agreement on the appropriate number of pupils to be admitted to a school for the forthcoming session to ensure that the school is capable of making all necessary arrangements within an appropriate timescale.

Failure to do so might incur the risk of the school not being able to make decisions regarding the admission of pupils within the statutory requirement and in compliance with the Council's Policy of Local Schooling for Local Children.

Equal Opportunities:

Equal opportunities issues are addressed within the arrangements in place for admitting pupils to schools including those arrangements which pertain to pupils who cannot be immediately admitted due to the school being at capacity at a given time.

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Policy and procedures for dealing with admissions which were previously approved by the Education and Leisure Committee on 29th August 2000.

8. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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Appendix 1

Roll capping for Secondary Schools 2013-2014

| School Name | Nov 2011 – P7 to S1 for Aug 2012 | Roll Cap Aug 2012 Term 2012-2013 | Reserved Places Aug 2012 | Moved in zone 15/3/12 - 31/12/12 | Nov 2012 – P7 to S1 for Aug 2013 | Roll Cap Aug 2013 Term 2013-2014 | Reserved Places Aug 2013 |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Aberdeen Grammar | 160 | 180 | 6 | 10 | 145 | 180 | 10 |
| Bridge of Don Academy | 84 | | | 3 | 88 | | |
| Bucksburn Academy | 105 | 120 | 4 | 3 | 98 | 120 | 4 |
| Cults Academy | 156 | 180 | 10 | 6 | 161 | 180 | 10 |
| Dyce Academy | 91 | | | 2 | 103 | | |
| Harlaw Academy | 102 | 180 | 4 | 4 | 104 | 180 | 4 |
| Hazlehead Academy | 124 | | | 15 | 147 | | |
| Kincorth Academy | 144 | | | 2 | 133 | | |
| Northfield Academy | 220 | | | 4 | 213 | | |
| Oldmachar Academy | 152 | | | 1 | 131 | | |
| St Machar Academy | 271 | | | 5 | 242 | | |
| Torry Academy | 92 | | | 1 | 83 | | |

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ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

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| COMMITTEE | Education, Culture & Sport |
| DATE | 28th March 2013 |
| DIRECTOR | Gayle Gorman |
| TITLE OF REPORT | Cultural Awards 2013/14: Over £5,000 and up to £10,000 |
| REPORT NUMBER | ECS/13/022 |

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report presents to the Committee, recommendations for the Cultural Awards 2013-14 in the 'Aspire' category from over £5,000 and up to £10,000.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

It is recommended that Committee:

- (i) Agree the allocation of Cultural Awards to the total value of £60,610 as presented in Appendix 1 of this report.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

A total of £315,000 is available from the 2013/14 budget to support the Cultural Awards Programme. Applicants were invited to be considered for support of up to 50% of the total costs towards a cultural project or initiative, showing 25% match funding and 25% in kind contribution.

All applications were reviewed by a selection panel consisting of city residents and two independent cultural sector professionals. This panel was overseen by a Council officer, providing context and clarification to the panel. The selection panel's recommendations will be put forward to the following Council committees for a final decision:

- Culture & Sport Sub Committee, 8th March 2013: Awards £5,000 and under
- Education, Culture & Sport Committee, 28th March 2013: Awards over £5,000 and up to £10,000
- Education, Culture & Sport Committee, 30th May 2013: Awards over £10,000

Ten different applications requesting funding over £5,000 and up to £10,000 were received, requesting funds of £81,900.08. At this time it is recommended to allocate cultural grants to the value of £60,610. £53,932 of funding has been recently approved by the Culture & Sport Sub Committee on 8th March 2013. This leaves a total of £200,458 remaining for awards over £10,000 and a potential second application round for this financial year.

In order to avoid any potential duplication of funding, applications were considered in the context of cultural provision across Aberdeen and, where possible, against other relevant funding opportunities provided by Aberdeen City Council. By providing up to a maximum of 50% of the project funding, the Council's proportionate level of exposure is reduced. The grant scheme is designed to encourage partners to carefully examine the opportunities for a range of alternative funding streams, consider the further development of self sustainability within their projects and encourage partnership working and innovative approaches to the delivery of cultural opportunities for the community.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

Officers considered a number of factors when presenting recommendations:

- Reducing the level of dependency on Council grants which could result in organisations not being able to continue to operate should Council funding not be granted.
- Where external funds will not be brought to the City if matching funds are not made available by the City Council.
- Funds not being used by organisations for the purposes for which they were granted.

These risks have and will continue to be managed through a robust assessment of each application and through systems to monitor and review funded activities throughout the year.

There are no additional legal, resource, personnel, property, equipment, environmental or health and safety implications arising from this report at this time.

5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

5.1 New Cultural Awards Applications Framework

On the 7th June 2012, the Education Culture & Sport Committee approved Officers recommendations to restructure the current Cultural Grants process and design an application process which attracts new applicants and

addresses clear gaps in the city's cultural provision. The new format was piloted for the second round of cultural funding in 2012/13. A follow up survey with applicants was conducted to ascertain the perceived benefits of the new format and any recommendations for amendments. The survey feedback indicated that changes to the application format made the process easier for applicants and clarified the expectations and priorities of Aberdeen City Council's cultural investment. The categories have been maintained for 2013/14 but the application and guidance has been made more concise and some criteria changes introduced to improve the quality of applications.

5.2 Criteria for Award

The categories for the Awards Programme are as following:

- **Access** – to support organisations and projects that will breakdown barriers to participation in cultural activity. In particular, this scheme seeks to attract hard to reach groups, including those from disadvantaged communities.
- **Aspire** – supporting innovative and high quality work which raises the profile of Aberdeen as an attractive and vibrant place to live and work. The programme seeks to support collaboration and partnership proposals, international and national opportunities, and the production of new work whilst enhancing the quality work already being made in the city.
- **Support** – many of the applications received evidenced a need for additional support and training to support the city's cultural sector. This includes a need to improve fundraising initiatives, organisational structures, audience development, and community engagement, marketing and volunteering. The 'support' theme aims to help organisations to become more robust and independent, leading to a decrease in the level of dependence on the Council.

The criteria for which the Selection Panel made the attached recommendations for the dispersal of funds included:

- Evidence of impacts on the objectives in Aberdeen's Single Outcome Agreement
- Evidence of links to 'Vibrant Aberdeen' – the Cultural Strategy for Aberdeen
- Evidence of activity happening within Aberdeen City and being for the benefit of residents
- 50% match funding (25% in kind and 25% financial contribution)
- Evidence of beneficial partnership working
- Evidence of Best Value
- Where relevant, a report back on the use of last year's funding

With Aberdeen City Council committing to bidding for the UK City of Culture 2017 title, 2013 will see culture very much at the heart and focus of life in the city. The bidding process is an opportunity to showcase the very best that Aberdeen cultural sector has to offer, as well as increasing participation opportunities to all Aberdeen citizens. In this respect, the panel was seeking Cultural Award proposals that reflect the levels of engagement, collaboration, opportunity and aspiration that this period could offer towards a more vibrant cultural life for Aberdeen and its citizens.

From 2012 it was decided that the Cultural Awards selection panel membership will be made up of external creative sector leaders and community member representatives supported by council officers. This has enhanced the depth of expertise and experience within the panel, resulting in a more informed selection process that understand the needs of the people of Aberdeen as well as the local cultural sector.

5.3 Awards to Cultural Organisations

The following is a summary of the projects which are recommended for award.

5.3.1 Aspire: Over £5,000 and up to £10,000

- **University of Aberdeen: Directors Cut 7**, Recommended award - £6,000

The programme of events will showcase innovative and international film makers, broadcasters and musicians talking about their work and tying it to a concert/music session. The series will include screenings and masterclasses at the Belmont Cinema where audiences have the opportunity to hear first-hand about the film and music industry from leading professionals. A Junior Director's Cut working with Aberdeen City Schools will also be coordinated.

- **Scottish Sculpture Workshop: Granite Slow Prototype**, Recommended award - £7,750

The project focuses on the commissioning of an artist working in granite and stone masonry during the Granite Festival and Aberdeen Tartan Day. The artist will create site-specific works of contemporary sculpture, lead public workshops in the sculptural processes and methods of stone carving.

- **Aberdeen Art Gallery: Lunchtime Concert Series**, Recommended award - £8,400

Aberdeen Art Gallery, working in partnership with Aberdeen University, will deliver a mixed repertoire ranging from medieval plainchant through baroque, classical and romantic music to contemporary music, in association with the Sound festival. Performers comprise a mix of international, national and local musicians, with some to be broadcast by BBC Radio 3. Opportunities for local schools and students to perform at two events will also form part of the series.

- **Scottish Ballet: Woodland Performance Project**, Recommended award - £9,960

In conjunction with Forestry Commission Scotland and City Moves, Scottish Ballet will facilitate week-long creative workshops in which a community dance group of up to 35 participants in Aberdeen will explore selected themes from the *Hansel & Gretel* story leading to a site specific participatory dance performance.

- **Aberdeen Sinfonietta: Music Hall Concert Series**, Recommended award - £10,000

The grant is recommended for a series of concert performances at Aberdeen Music Hall, including the first Scottish performance of a recent work by the acclaimed Aberdeen-based composer Paul Mealor. The series will also include master classes and workshop programmes.

- **Scottish Ensemble: Aberdeen Concert Series, Year 6**, Recommended award £10,000

Activity will include three evening concerts, bringing world-class soloists and new commissions to Aberdeen audiences, as well as a 4 day residency. Partnerships and performances will include University of Aberdeen, numerous local schools, youth and amateur ensembles, care homes and community centres.

- **Aberdeen Art Gallery: WALK ON/ Soul Lines**, Recommended award £8,500

Tying in with the major exhibition “WALK ON: From Richard Long to Janet Cardiff - 40 years of Art Walking”, a collaboration with Deveron Arts in hosting the artist residency, plan B’s Soul Lines project. This mobile/ online project will look at man’s relationship with technology and explore its meaning through performance, participation and exhibition.

All awards will be conditional based on applicants meeting Council officers to clarify a series of specific requirements to ensure the proposed projects maximise their potential and ensure a lasting legacy.

5.4 Unsuccessful Applications

Three applications received did not meet the stated criteria, terms and conditions and have been deemed unsuccessful. This includes applications which have no match funding pending or secured, inappropriate legal status or requesting funding for the promotion of activity which would not have been available to all. To assist the panel in the decision process for making

recommendations the following classification was used to clarify specific reasons for rejection.

1. Not enough information supplied
2. Does not meet match funding requirements
3. Proposal does not evidence quality or value
4. Project does not meet category criteria
5. No evidence of additional support requirement
6. Ineligible costs
7. Activity primarily outside of Aberdeen city
8. Significant unrestricted financial reserves
9. Support or promote religious or political activity
10. Unrealistic or unachievable aspiration (timescales, costs or track record of delivery)

All unsuccessful applicants will be supported to re-submit their application and/or source alternative funding sources.

6. IMPACT

This report relates to 'Aberdeen – the Smarter City':

- We will improve access to and increase participation in arts and culture by providing opportunities for citizens and visitors to experience a broad range of high quality arts and cultural activities.
- We aspire to be recognised as a City of Culture, a place of excellence for culture and arts by promoting Aberdeen as a cultural centre hosting high quality and diverse cultural events for the whole community and beyond.
- We will encourage and support citizens to participate in the development, design and decision making of services to promote civic pride, active citizenship and resilience.

All successful applicants must illustrate how their projects meet the key objectives of 'Vibrant Aberdeen' the City's Cultural Strategy through the three main themes 'Access', 'Aspire' and 'Support'.

'Vibrant Aberdeen' has five objectives:

- Establish a cohesive cultural sector.
- Increase community engagement in cultural activity.
- Improve the city's cultural profile.
- Increase investment in culture.
- Effectively monitor and evaluate the impact of culture.

Successful applicants must evidence a connection to one or more of the local outcomes in the Single Outcome Agreement. The projects proposed directly relate to strands of the following Local Outcomes:

Outcome 2, 'Aberdeen will have high quality employment opportunities for its citizens',

Outcome 3, 'People of all ages take an active part in their own learning to achieve their full potential' and 'Learning and training is appropriate and accessible to learner's needs.

Local outcomes for National Outcome 4, 'Our young people are successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens'.

Outcome 7. 'Improve the quality of life in our most deprived areas.'

Outcome 12, 'Aberdeen is widely recognised as a City with high quality natural assets, biodiversity, architecture and heritage which instill civic pride in its citizens.'

Outcome 13 'We take pride in a strong and inclusive national identity'.

Outcome 15, 'Our public services are consistently high quality, continually improving, efficient and responsive to local people's needs.' Guidance for Community Planning partnerships, from the Scottish Government entitled 'Culture Delivers' states: 'Cultural provision and infrastructure is part of the drive for best value. High quality should be promoted, continually seeking to improve its impact on communities and taking account of local aspirations and needs. Cultural activity can also help other sectors and services deliver in ways more closely matched to peoples wishes, and can assist in engaging citizens with civic life'.

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Root and Branch Review of Commissioned Arts and Sports Services
Education, Culture & Sport Committee March 2011
Cultural Grants 2012/13 EC&S Committee June 2012
Second Round of Cultural Grants applications 2012-13 lodged in Members Library.

Appendix 1: Awards table

8. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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Appendix: 1

Cultural Awards Recommendations table: Over £5,000 through to £10,000

| Applicant | Project | Amount Requested | Project Total Value | Awarded | Award Recommended | Award Terms |
|----------------------------------|--|------------------|---------------------|---------|-------------------|-------------|
| University of Aberdeen | Director's Cut Series 7 | £6,000 | £12,305 | Y | £6,000 | Conditional |
| Aberdeen Arts Coalition | Inclusive Arts Festival | £6,000 | £27,000 | N | £0 | |
| Trendypr & Media | Trendy Africa | £7,190 | £15,000 | N | £0 | |
| SSW | Granite Slow Prototype | £7,750 | £15,860 | Y | £7,750 | Conditional |
| Scottish Opera | Bringing opera to the children of Aberdeen | £8,100 | £16,100 | N | £0 | |
| AAG | Lunchtime concert series | £8,400 | £21,400 | Y | £8,400 | Conditional |
| Aberdeen Art Gallery and Museums | WALK ON/Soul Lines | £8,500 | £17,000 | Y | £8,500 | Conditional |
| Scottish Ballet | Woodlands Performance Project | £9,960 | £17,335 | Y | £9,960 | Conditional |
| Aberdeen Sinfonietta | Music Hall Concert Series | £10,000 | £33,775 | Y | £10,000 | Conditional |
| Scottish Ensemble | Concert Series 2014 | £10,000 | £35,000 | Y | £10,000 | Conditional |
| | | | Total Recommend | | £60,610 | |

| | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| Total Allocated funds for Cultural Investment 2013/14 | £315,000 |
| Recommend for Cultural Awards under £5,000 | £53,932 |
| Recommended for Cultural Awards £5,000 - £10,000 | £60,610 |
| Recommended for Cultural Awards Over £10,000 | TBC 30th May 2013 |
| Cultural Awards: Second Round | TBC 30 th May 2013 |
| Identified Cultural Services and Support Requirements | TBC 30 th May 2013 |

Cultural Award – Please see below for frequent reasons for resubmissions, deferral or rejection of funding applications.

- No match funding
- Applications not fully completed or illegible
- Projects with no or limited cultural component
- Projects do not have clear outputs or outcomes
- The group is not constituted as required by the grants criteria
- Projects which were of limited value to the residents of the City, or primarily benefited those out with the City
- The organisation has outstanding debt with Aberdeen City Council
- The group cannot meet FPPP (Following the Public Pound) guidance and/or has not submitted the required reports against previous grant applications
- No clear evidence of need and/or duplication of existing initiatives
- Projects which included unrealistic costs or which were either over ambitious or unachievable
- Projects with recurring costs which were not sustainable (i.e., staffing)
- Funding requested to cover a shortfall in previous revenue without demonstrating any benefits.
- Evidence that the projects can be delivered without requiring additional financial support from Aberdeen City Council.
- Inadequate or no monitoring or evaluation plans.

Council officers from a variety of backgrounds and knowledge work together to assess the wider value to the cultural sector of each application. All organisations who have been rejected for funding are contacted with individual feedback and supported, where necessary, to resubmit.

Feedback and additional support

Where time allows, Aberdeen City Council officers will contact organisations on receipt of their applications to seek further clarification or further information when appropriate. This is not always possible when applications are received close to the deadline for Committee reports. Applicants are offered a telephone call or face to face meetings to help improve their applications. In addition, officers provide advice and support to arts organisations with applications to Awards for All, Creative Scotland and other small grant funding streams.

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

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|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| COMMITTEE | Education, Culture and Sport |
| DATE | 28th March 2013 |
| DIRECTOR | Gayle Gorman |
| TITLE OF REPORT | Mary Garden Fund 2013/14 |
| REPORT NUMBER: | ECS/13/023 |

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report brings to the attention of the Committee a proposal from the Aberdeen International Youth Festival (AIYF) in relation to the Mary Garden Fund, which is already agreed within the Common Good Fund budget. Up to five fully funded placements will be funded from the Mary Garden fund to local young singers, subject to application and audition.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

It is recommended that the Committee agrees the AIYF proposal to use the Mary Garden Fund to support up to five young promising singers from Aberdeen to attend an opera residency.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The allocation towards the Mary Garden Fund within the Common Good fund is £1,500. There are no other financial implications.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

There are no additional legal, resource, personnel, property, equipment, environmental or health and safety implications arising from this report at this time.

5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

Within the Common Good fund, £1,500 is allocated to the 'Mary Garden Opera Fund'. In 2009, following Resources Management approval, the fund was utilised by AIYF for the first time in a number of years. Previously, and more traditionally, it was used as a cash award and for a

silver medallion which was presented to outstanding opera singers at AIYF.

5.1 The AIYF and Mary Garden Opera Fund partnership aims to:

- Provide the young students with a range of artistically challenging and creatively rewarding opportunities.
- Explore ways of making opera more accessible and to produce high quality performance opportunities for a range of audiences.
- Provide vocal and technical workshops for both student participants, the general public and local young singers.

5.2 Report back on 2012 Activity

In 2012, with the support of the Mary Garden fund, AIYF were able to accommodate 5 full placements to local students. This included expert tuition from senior Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama (RSAMD) musicians and directors and with local and internationally acclaimed opera singer Lisa Milne, including bespoke sessions for this particular group. Participants took part in a lunchtime concert as part of the “Up Close and Musical” programme at the Cowdray Hall, an Opera and Song evening event at the University of Aberdeen and a family and young children concert at the Lemon Tree. All the singers received a certification of award for their participation.

The placement student element has now become an important part of the project for a number of reasons that go beyond just enabling young singers to experience the opportunity of working in this intense way.

- It challenges the young singers from RSAMD
- It keeps the project fresh and outward looking and more than a change of scenery for the RSAMD performers and staff
- It allows more variety in the programming and broader audience experience.
- It offers more contact for AIYF to the local education and music sectors

It builds another key relationship with the University of Aberdeen Music department through the Opera society

5.3 2013 Proposal

For 2013 AIYF propose to continue the work they have developed to date and the Mary Garden fund will support

- 5 Subsidised placements to local singers, subject to application and audition.
- Expert tuition for the placement singers from the senior Royal Conservatoire of Scotland.
- Opportunities to be part of productions, including the AIYF community opera project as part of the residency programme.

- A certificate and award memento in recognition of their participation
- Masterclass with Lisa Milne (awaiting final confirmation)
- Opportunities to see other festival shows
- Subsistence for the period of the residency

5.4 Promotion of the residencies

The Opera and Song residency will be promoted through a number of formal and informal sectors including:

- The University of Aberdeen Music department including the Opera Society
- North East Scotland Music School
- Aberdeen City Music School
- The Instrumental Music service manager, and through the school music service
- Private schools and singing teachers
- Creative cultures and Aberdeen City websites
- AIYF website
- General press release.

6. IMPACT

This report relates to 'Aberdeen – the Smarter City':

- We will improve access to and increase participation in arts and culture by providing opportunities for citizens and visitors to experience a broad range of high quality arts and cultural activities.
- We aspire to be recognized as a City of Culture, a place of excellence for culture and arts by promoting Aberdeen as a cultural centre hosting high quality and diverse cultural events for the whole community and beyond.
- We will encourage and support citizens to participate in the development, design and decision making of services to promote civic pride, active citizenship and resilience.

The Mary Garden Opera Fund partnership meet the key objectives of 'Vibrant Aberdeen' the City's Cultural Strategy through the three main themes 'Access', 'Aspire' and 'Support'.

'Vibrant Aberdeen' has five objectives:

- Establish a cohesive cultural sector.
- Increase community engagement in cultural activity.

- Improve the city's cultural profile.
- Increase investment in culture.
- Effectively monitor and evaluate the impact of culture.

The programme proposed directly relate to strands of the following Local Outcomes:

Local outcomes for National Outcome 4, 'Our young people are successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens'.

Outcome 7. 'Improve the quality of life in our most deprived areas.'

Outcome 12, 'Aberdeen is widely recognised as a City with high quality natural assets, biodiversity, architecture and heritage which instill civic pride in its citizens.'

Outcome 13 'We take pride in a strong and inclusive national identity'.

Outcome 15, 'Our public services are consistently high quality, continually improving, efficient and responsive to local people's needs.' Guidance for Community Planning partnerships, from the Scottish Government entitled 'Culture Delivers' states: 'Cultural provision and infrastructure is part of the drive for best value. High quality should be promoted, continually seeking to improve its impact on communities and taking account of local aspirations and needs. Cultural activity can also help other sectors and services deliver in ways more closely matched to peoples wishes, and can assist in engaging citizens with civic life'.

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Mary Garden Opera Fund: Resources Management Committee 5 May 2009

Mary Garden Opera Fund: Finance and Resources Committee 6 May 2010

Mary Garden Opera Fund: Education, Culture and Sport Committee 24 March 2011

Mary Garden Opera Fund: Education, Culture and Sport Committee 7 June 2012

8. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| COMMITTEE | Education Culture and Sport |
| DATE | 28 March 2013 |
| DIRECTOR | Gayle Gorman |
| TITLE OF REPORT | Service Provision in Museums & Galleries during closure of Provost Skene's House |
| REPORT NUMBER: | ECS/13/016 |

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report provides members with an update on proposals for the alternative delivery of museum provision during the temporary closure of Provost Skene's House as a measure to facilitate the demolition process of the neighbouring St Nicholas House.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the Tolbooth Museum opening hours are increased during 2013/14 from seasonal summer hours only to the entire year.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no additional costs. The cost of extending the opening period of the Tolbooth Museum can be met from the Museums and Galleries revenue budget by transferring existing salary costs and activity expenditure from Provost Skene's House.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

The staff who normally work at Provost Skene's House have been accommodated within the Museums and Galleries section's other venues. Museum Assistants will be part of the rota covering security and visitor engagement duties at the Tolbooth Museum.

Provost Skene's House currently holds Full Accreditation status. Accreditation is a set of national standards for UK museums administered by Arts Council England (ACE) for the entire United Kingdom, in partnership with Museums Galleries Scotland, Northern

Ireland Museums Council and CyMAL. To achieve Full Accreditation status museums must meet published requirements in how they care for and document their collections, how they are governed and managed, and on the information and services they offer to their users. As Provost Skene's House will be closed to the public for a temporary period its status will be changed to Provisional during this time. This is standard practice for any museum or gallery which is closed for a temporary period for redevelopment or other appropriate reasons.

The Tolbooth Museum does not hold Accreditation status currently. The Museums and Galleries service applied for Full Accreditation Status for the building in January 2013 and is awaiting the outcome of the application. If this is known by the time of the committee meeting it will be reported to members.

Both Aberdeen Art Gallery and Aberdeen Maritime Museum hold Full Accreditation status, therefore the service will not be precluded from applying for grants and awards which are only available to accredited museum services.

5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

Provost Skene's House closed to the public on 25 February 2013 to facilitate minimal disruption to the safe demolition of the neighbouring St Nicholas House. This is a 48 week contract, which started on 5 March 2013. The public displays are now protected for the demolition period and the collections packed and protected. Lenders of exhibits were contacted in advance and individual agreement reached on how best to protect their loans on site during the work period. A programme of weekly checks on the building and contents is underway and will continue throughout the demolition project.

Museums and Galleries staff who normally work at the site have been allocated duties at alternative sites.

A film tour of the venue is now hosted on the Museums and Galleries website (<http://www.aagm.co.uk/Venues/ProvostSkenesHouse/psh-history.aspx>) helping to maintain the profile of the building and collections.

Museums and Galleries wishes to extend the opening hours of the Tolbooth Museum to retain a choice of museums for visitors throughout the year. The usual Provost Skene's House opening hours (Mon-Sat 10:00am – 5:00pm) will be transferred to the venue, thus enhancing the Tolbooth's previous opening hours.

The programme will include four temporary exhibitions on topics of local and social history interest, including food and nutrition and costume, which might previously have been programmed for Provost Skene's House. There will also be a series of regular lunchtime talks, special events for Tartan Day and Doors Open Day, increased

opportunities for school and community groups to tour the building and a re-enactment of the 1813 investigation into the Wreck of the Oscar in May to co-incide with the 200th anniversary.

During the Easter School holidays the focus of Museums and Galleries activity will be on the newly refurbished Oil and Gas galleries at Aberdeen Maritime Museum. It is therefore proposed that the Tolbooth Museum re-opens on Friday 12 April for the final weekend of the holidays. The opening exhibition will be a History of Duthie Park which will coincide with the official re-opening of the park on 30 June 2013.

Activity at the Tolbooth is programmed until 31 March 2014 and plans for the year 2014/15 will be developed taking into account the proposals for the St Nicholas House site and their impact on the safe re-opening of Provost Skene's House to the public.



6. IMPACT

By extending the opening hours of the Tolbooth Museum to all year round the Museums and Galleries service will continue to offer a range of visitor engagement opportunities and will continue to programme social and local history themed topics during the temporary closure of Provost Skene's House to the public.

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Finance and Resources Committee 15 January 2013

8. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

| | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| COMMITTEE | Education, Culture and Sport |
| DATE | 28 th March 2013 |
| DIRECTOR | Gayle Gorman |
| TITLE OF REPORT | Sistema Scotland and Aberdeen |
| REPORT NUMBER: | ECS/13/012 |

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The report provides an update on work to investigate the delivery of a first phase project working with Sistema Scotland.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

1. Instruct officers to develop the operational model and wider Business Plan with Sistema and potential funding partners.
2. Instruct officers to progress the development of *Big Noise* Torry with the local community.
3. Instruct officers to report back to Committee in due course.
4. Refer the report to Finance and Resources Committee to consider the funding requested to progress the financial and funding model.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The previous report used information to reflect that investing early in an individual's life was a very cost effective way to positively influence their life choices. This initiative, in common with the other *Big Noise* projects, looks to positively invest as early as possible, rather than respond to problems when they present themselves.

To support the development, funding of around £50,000 would enable the necessary preparation work to be undertaken in collaboration with Sistema Scotland. Sistema would work with officers of the City Council to develop more detailed proposals for the delivery and a proposed financial and funding model. This model would then fully inform the timing of development of a *Big Noise* Torry programme.

The costs of implementing *Big Noise* are estimated to be as follows, on full financial year costs, based on the initial project in Stirling and the more recent estimated costs for the programme in Glasgow:

Set-up costs

Year nil - £150,000 (set-up only)

Year one - £350,000

Year two - £450,000

Year three - £575,000

Year four - £615,000

Year five - £620,000

These figures will be subject to revision and may be amended dependent on the level of uptake and future developments. The Council will also provide access to facilities and in-kind support, and will need to assess the implications of loss of letting income. Accommodation for the project will also be required. These will be included in the next report to Committee, prior to the project progressing.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

4.1 These include commitment from the Council to ensure that the children, young people and wider community can be fully involved. Also, that there is senior officer time and commitment to support, facilitate and be advocates for the initiative; there will be legal implications to be resolved, suitable designated property as above, including storage, group and individual teaching spaces, performance spaces to suit, and a appropriately-resourced space to base Sistema staff.

4.2 There is currently existing instrumental music tuition provided in the Torry Associated School Group and there will need to be consideration of what changes might result. These will relate to the current range of musical opportunities, implications for musical tuition in other schools in the city and related matters, which may benefit from a separate report to Council.

5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

5.1 Previous reports have endorsed the concept and recognised the benefits of Sistema; they have also recognised the potential of a *Big Noise* phase one project being developed in the City. Below is a resumé of the main points from the previous report to the Committee:

5.2 Sistema Scotland is the official Scottish partner of 'El Sistema', founded thirty years ago in Venezuela and has adapted the model to meet the needs and conditions of the Scottish environment. This model is based on evidence which shows that skills learned through orchestral education have the potential to bring the following benefits: - developing

self-esteem; discipline; and achievement; and so improving the outcomes for children who face inequality and disadvantage.

5.3 Big Noise is an early intervention programme that uses music and engagement in an orchestra from an early age with the aim of fostering confidence, teamwork, pride and aspiration in the children taking part. It aims to engage the whole family and wider community and so extend achievement of these outcomes across the wider community.

5.4 An evaluation was undertaken of *Big Noise* Stirling for the Scottish Government which reported in March 2011. The Evaluation had a number of main findings:

- There are 344 children who attend nursery and school at the Raploch Campus. *Big Noise* has successfully engaged with 80% of the children. Primary 2 to Primary 7 children are eligible to attend after school and during school holidays. There are 219 children who can attend; 65% took up this voluntary opportunity.
- Children involved were found to gain benefits in personal and social development, including improving confidence, self esteem, social skills and the ability to concentrate.
- The families of children involved reflected on improved relationships at home, wider social networks and more shared activities between parents and children. Parents could also recognise a “more positive, aspirational future for their children”, and that *Big Noise* has given them pride and widened their future potential achievements.
- Parent and professionals interviewed identified changing perceptions of the wider community in the Raploch area. There was evidence of more positive relationships between parents and officials and organisations and skills being shared between partner organisations.
- *Big Noise* is contributing to eight National Outcomes.

5.5 The project is generational; it is about the whole community being involved or engaged, improving the community, social justice and wellbeing. By investing in children, it seeks to make a difference to the next generation and into the future. The initial project is five years long, with Stirling Council committing to mainstream the work thereafter.

5.6 Observation by the elected members who visited *Big Noise* Stirling included clear recognition that it is a project which needs time to be able to make and demonstrate a lasting difference. It could already show it was:

- encouraging ambition and giving life chances
- building on the resilience of the young
- giving new life skills
- offering a taste of success
- broadening horizons
- bringing the discipline of playing together as a team

5.7 Overall, the impression was of an initiative which had enthusiasm, strong commitment and belief from those involved in its delivery, Sistema Scotland's Board, officers and musicians; and, equally strong belief and commitment from the local authority, both senior and local elected members and officials. The enthusiasm appeared to be matched by participants, from pre-school to the seven month-old adult "Noise" group; while there was seriousness and concentration in performance, there was also enjoyment, confidence and a sense of achievement.

5.8 Since then, the *Big Noise* orchestra has been involved in opening the UK's Cultural Olympiad, with Gustavo Dudamel and the Simón Bolívar Symphony Orchestra on Midsummer's Day 2012. A second *Big Noise* project has been agreed since then, to be in Govanhill, Glasgow.

5.9 The three issues identified as requiring resolution from the last report to Committee are:

1. A business model to deliver a project with Sistema Scotland;
2. The criteria for identifying an appropriate community; and
3. Possible funding sources.

5.10 The Business Model

There are two aspects to the Business model – the first relates to the operation of a phase one *Big Noise* in Aberdeen; our discussions with Sistema Scotland indicate that they have given considerable thought as to how they would operate another project distant from their main office. Many of the issues they have considered will be tested through their operation in Glasgow.

5.11 The intention is that a *Big Noise* Team Leader and *Big Noise* Operations manager would be recruited, based within the community in which the initiative is to operate.

5.12 A draft scoping document from Sistema Scotland is attached as an appendix which explains the proposed operating model in more detail.

5.13 It will also be the intention that *Big Noise* musicians coming to the city be invited to participate in other musical instruction and performance, which will both contribute to the wider learning and cultural life of Aberdeen. It is hoped that this invitation will both sustain Sistema and encourage musicians of the highest quality here. The Council also operates the City Music School, based at Dyce Academy, as well as the Instrumental Music Service; consideration will be given with Sistema as to how the tutors involved in both the School and Music Service might be able to be involved.

5. 14 Criteria for identifying an appropriate community

The rationale for delivering the *Big Noise* in both Stirling and Glasgow has been to focus the work in a community of most need. The proven belief of Sistema is that children and communities can be transformed and empowered by music.

5.15 In Aberdeen, there are 22 data zones in the most deprived 15% of Scottish data zones. The majority of the 22 data zones are in areas of priority. The most deprived data zones in Aberdeen are concentrated in the Council's priority neighbourhoods – Tillydrone (4), Middlefield (3), Torry (4), Woodside (3), Seaton (3), Cummings Park (2), Northfield (1), Mastrick (2) and Stockethill (1).¹

5.16 Evidence shows that giving young children the best start in life ensuring their best health, care, learning and play experiences improves the outcomes for them as adults, and makes a significant contribution to society. The economic return on investment in early years is significantly higher than at other stages by improving their personal and societal outcomes². The quality of a child's relationships with its parent or carer and the experiences they have in their home is also critical to physical and mental health, and educational attainment.³

5.17 The Early Years Framework and the related national social policies *Equally Well*, the health inequalities framework, and *Achieving our Potential*, the anti-poverty framework, are seen as the key tools for promoting transformational change necessary to reduce inequalities, improve outcomes for children and ultimately contribute to improving the economic prosperity of families, communities and Scotland. Ministers have made it clear that the early years agenda has to be taken forward in a cross-sectoral, multi-agency way, using the *Getting it Right for Every Child* methodology. Local government and community planning partners have signed up to deliver these key outcomes for children and their families' through the Single Outcome Agreement.

5.18 The Council has agreed to implement the above policy locally, including through The Aberdeen Integrated Children's Service Plan 2008 incorporates the principles of the framework and sets out the joint vision for children and young people in the city.

'We believe that all children and young people in Aberdeen should enjoy being young. Aberdeen will be a city where children and young people are safe, nurtured, healthy and active; are included, respected and responsible; achieve their full potential; and are supported to participate in decisions that affect them.'

¹ Deprivation in Aberdeen: Analysis of the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) 2012.

² OECD Starting Well or Losing the Way? 2006

³ Health in Scotland: Annual Report by the Chief Medical Officer, 2006

5.19 There is a range of information which provides evidence to support why any of the above communities would be seen to be an appropriate location to set up and develop a phase one *Big Noise* project in Aberdeen. It is not intended to provide comparative information, as each in its own way has already been assessed as being an area of priority. There are “Total Place” initiatives in both Northfield and Torry, the former being led through educational attainment and the latter through community safety. These initiatives have brought Council Services and partners together to achieve improvements by working closer together.

5.20 The focus has been to consider Torry, as the present Torry Academy associated schools group (ASG) is the smallest in the city, having only two primary schools, Tullos and Walker Road. Torry has a strong sense of community spirit and wellbeing; there have been significant changes in the community in recent years, though, with considerable change in the community’s demographic and ethnic profile.

5.21 The provision of a new secondary school in the south of the city has the potential to have an affect on the community simply due to it being in a different location. The introduction of *Big Noise* could be beneficial in assisting to support the community during and following this particular change. The phase one project could be extended to include the revised wider ASG when the new secondary school is built.

5.22 Through “Total Place” and related work, led by Grampian Police locally, there is to be a “Torry Lighthouse Festival” on 29th June this year, celebrating creative arts in the community. This initiative, to encourage music and related activity will encourage and complement the investment in youngsters through *Big Noise*”, as well as the potential for community participation.

5.23 It is for these reasons that a phase one *Big Noise* initiative in Torry has been proposed. The scale of the phase one project would be able to be sustained and it would enable the concept to be proved locally, with a view to future development.

5.24 While officers can suggest that Torry might benefit from a Big Noise project, it is recommended that the decision is one which needs the community to fully embrace for it to build from good foundations. This is in line with the National Early Years Framework, which suggests there is a need for transformational change to ensure successful early intervention in children’s lives and that the ten elements of the change are:

- developing a coherent approach to planning and service delivery;
- ***helping children, families and communities to secure outcomes for themselves;***
- ***focusing on engagement and empowerment of children, families and communities;***

- addressing and breaking cycles of poverty, inequality and poor outcomes in and through early years;
- using the strength of universal services to deliver prevention and early intervention;
- putting quality at the heart of service delivery;
- ensuring services meet the needs of children and families;
- improving the outcomes and children's quality of life through play; simplifying and streamlining service delivery.

5.25 An exploratory meeting was held on 16th January, which attracted a wide range of community and school representatives, as well as local elected members. The Communications Manager from Sistema Scotland, George Anderson explained the background, theory and practice developed in Stirling and their aspirations nationally. There was strong support for the proposal to be explored further and dates are currently being identified for visits to the *Big Noise* in Stirling, to meet representatives of the respective communities and to see the benefits, as well as identify any other matters they might need to consider, that *Big Noise* brings. The visits will be arranged at as early a time as possible and include the local elected members.

5.26 It is then proposed that an open meeting be held in Torry, with presentations by Sistema Scotland and reports back from those who have visited. Thereafter, a report will be made to a subsequent meeting of the Committee with an assessment of the willingness and appropriateness of the community to become the phase one *Big Noise* Aberdeen.

5.27 An initial response from the Community Council has welcomed the potential to introduce a music-focused regeneration initiative for young people in Torry. Investing in people it sees as a key aspect of regeneration. It would be prepared to offer support to help reach all the community organisations in Torry. It has welcomed the approach as it would be locally-based and locally-managed, inviting a range of community representatives to assist and offer community oversight and advice.

5.28 It may also be helpful to the Committee to note that the Council has received approaches from individuals in the city who are interested in supporting a Sistema project here, once more details are available.

5.29 Possible Funding Sources

The second part of the Business model, above, is securing funding; at this point, initial investigations have been made, however these would be dependent on the final location of the phase one project. Equally, Sistema has benefited from a range of funding streams for its developments, which we may be able to jointly investigate, including a number of national agencies. Sistema itself will commit to securing ongoing funding of 25% for *Big Noise* Aberdeen.

5.30 The City Council's funding contribution will increase year on year for the first five years at agreed levels. It is proposed that before the end of year five the City Council will review the programme and consider the level of its future financial commitment. In Stirling, the council is considering how to broaden the Sistema opportunity to all its school children and it is intended that we learn from this experience and build in to future planning.

5.31 If the Committee agree to the proposal progressing as outlined above, officers will begin to assess the likelihood of local financial support around Torry.

5.32 Interest in Sistema

Sistema Scotland is in discussions regarding a number of communities around Scotland about establishing a *Big Noise* programme and plans to take a view in the next few months on which areas to prioritise to the next stage. Sistema Scotland is keen to reach all the communities in discussion, but plans to grow one centre at a time, rather than see an immediate roll-out of the programme across the country. Sistema Scotland is committed to delivering high quality programmes that are long-term and sustainable

5.33 Discussions between Sistema Scotland and Aberdeen are regarded as amongst the most advanced with proposals amongst the most fully developed, however the Committee is asked to note that other areas are currently also being considered for *Big Noise* Centre 3. Sistema Scotland has asked that it be clear that it is in discussions with a number of communities around Scotland about establishing a *Big Noise* programme and plans to take a view in the next few months on which areas to prioritise to the next stage. If Aberdeen is not selected for the launch of Centre 3, Sistema Scotland will continue its commitment to work with Aberdeen City Council in order to launch in Aberdeen at a later date.

6. IMPACT

Corporate - This report relates to 'Aberdeen – the Smarter City'

- We will work with our partners to seek to reduce the levels of inequality in the city. We will challenge inequalities wherever they exist and bring our communities closer together.
- We will enhance the physical and emotional wellbeing of all our citizens by offering support and activities which promote independence, resilience, confidence and self-esteem.
- We will provide a high quality education service within our schools and communities which will improve attainment and life chances of our children and young people to achieve their full potential in education, employment or training.

- We will improve access to and increase participation in arts and culture by providing opportunities for citizens and visitors to experience a broad range of high quality arts and cultural activities.
- Working with our third, public and private sector partners, we will provide opportunities for lifelong learning which will develop knowledge, skills and attributes of our citizens to enable them to meet the changing demands of the 21st century.
- We will aim to have a workforce across the city which has the skills and knowledge to sustain, grow and diversify the city economy.
- We aspire to be recognised as a City of Culture, a place of excellence for culture and arts by promoting Aberdeen as a cultural centre hosting high quality and diverse cultural events for the whole community and beyond.
- We will embrace the distinctive pride the people of Aberdeen take in their city and work with them to enhance the sense of well-being here, building strong communities which look out for, and look after one another.
- We aim to leave a legacy which will make compelling reading in a new chapter in the history of Aberdeen and we aim to do this with one voice.

It also relates to the Single Outcome Agreement and in particular, Outcome 3, “We are better educated, more skilled and more successful, renowned for our research and innovation” and Outcome 13, ‘We will take pride in a strong, fair and inclusive national identity’.

There are also clear links with the delivery of the city’s Cultural Strategy, “Vibrant Aberdeen” and the bid development to become UK City of Culture. It also has direct links to the city’s Learning Strategy, supporting the experiences and outcomes of the Curriculum for Excellence and contributing to the outcomes of the city’s Anti-poverty strategy.

There is likely to be public interest in this report, as previous reports and reports elsewhere on Sistema has engendered support and wish to know how the Council’s investigations are progressing.

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Report to the Education, Culture and Sport Committee, 2nd June 2011, “Big Noise”: Sistema Scotland in Stirling, ECS/11/034.

Report to the Education, Culture and Sport Committee, 8th October, 2009, Strategic Music Partnership and potential links with Sistema Scotland, ECS/09/31.

Aberdeen City Council, Early Years Framework Implementation Plan, June 2010.

The Scottish Government, The Financial Impact of Early Years Interventions in Scotland, 2010.

The Scottish Government, The evaluation of the process and outcomes achieved to date by Big Noise Children's Orchestra in the Raploch Estate in Stirling, 2011.

8. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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Development of Big Noise Centre 2

Sistema Scotland is ready to establish its second Big Noise centre in Scotland.

The development of a Big Noise centre requires exemplary partnership working between Sistema Scotland and the Local Authority.

Building on the experience of establishing the pilot model in Stirling the following paper sets out the recommended requirements which would be a pre-requisite to establishing centre two.

This paper sets out to identify for discussion:

- The areas of responsibility and conditions required for the development of such a centre.
- The suggested management structure
- The suggested timescale for development of a centre
- The suggested funding structure for the delivery of the programme and review mechanisms

Partnership Working – Agreeing Areas of Responsibility:

Specific Responsibilities and Agreements: Local Authority

It is recommended that the local authority will be responsible for the following:

Providing access to the children, within curriculum time, as outlined by the programme model.

Providing space for the delivery of the work with the children and community members, for the programmes immediate and projected long-term needs.

Allowing Sistema Scotland to design and implement the model and to challenge existing local authority structures where necessary (if it is believed to be in the best interests of the children and community)

Strategic Support at Chief Executive and Senior Management Level within the Local Authority (including advocacy and championing the programme within the authority)

Identifying personnel with lead and delegated responsibility for the programme at middle management and local level

Provision of adequate office space, for the original and projected future Big Noise team

Refurbishment of office space to specifications provided by Sistema Scotland

Provide adequate storage space for the programmes immediate and projected long-term needs

Provide access to internal Local Authority training opportunities for the Big Noise centre staff team

Agree to financial responsibility for the programme (exact amounts and percentages to be agreed)

Pay Sistema Scotland directly the agreed funding contribution to the programme

Specific Responsibilities and Agreements: Sistema Scotland

It is recommended that Sistema Scotland will be responsible for the management of the Big Noise Centre. This will include lead responsibility for:

Recruitment, employment of the Big Noise centre staff, ensuring all staff are appropriately skilled and trained for the roles

Designing the programme model

Holding and overseeing the centre budget and finances

Delivery of all Big Noise activities; core programme, holiday programmes, support for children and families

Implementing a robust self-evaluation framework for the Big Noise centre

An ongoing commitment to secure 25% funding for the Big Noise Aberdeen Centre

Shared Responsibilities (Sistema Scotland and Local Authority):

To identify an appropriate community within the local authority, to give the model best opportunity for success

Agreeing a working structure for discussing and actioning strategic, developmental and operational needs of the programme

Agreeing short, medium and long-term expected outcomes, and review periods

Agreeing a shared communications and pr protocol for the programme

Agree an open sharing of information, access to internal and external networks and information for the benefit of the programme

Local communication, to local partners, community members, children

To secure the programme long-term allowing for the full generational model to be implemented

Commissioning any external evaluation or research

Suggested Management Structure

Sistema Scotland and Big Noise Centre

Sistema Scotland is a registered charity, overseen by a Board and Directors and Managed by the following:

Sistema Scotland Board

Chairman: Richard Holloway

Board Members: Maggie Cunningham, Donald Lamont, Peter Stevenson, Irene Tweedie, Nicola Benedetti, Fergus McWilliam, Kathryn Jourdan, Paul Jourdan

Sistema Scotland Core Team:

CEO: Nicola Killean

Director of Music: Francis Cummings

Development Officer: Alan Govan

Administrator and PA: Lilian Matheson

Marketing and Communications Officer: George Anderson

Fundraising Manager: Nicky Pritchett Brown

Each **Big Noise Centre** has its own distinct team.

The following structure is in operation at Big Noise Raploch:

Big Noise Manager:

Big Noise Administrator and Community Liaison Officer

Big Noise Musicians (number based on the population of the community)

Behavior Support Workers (number based on children and needs)

In addition to this the programme is supported by a team of volunteers, from within and outwith the community (built during the course of the programme – introduced in Year 2 Raploch)

Local Authority and Sistema Scotland – Big Noise Centre

The following is suggested as an internal management and communication structure, which is based on what is working well (and lessons learned!) within the Stirling programme

LA and Sistema Scotland Strategic Liaison Group – Involving Chair and Director SS, CEO and Head of Education and Head of Communities (or equivalent for the LA)

Local Liaison Group – To discuss and action operational issues (include headteachers, representatives from social work, Big Noise Centre Manager BUT must be chaired by someone senior from Local Authority)

Key Local Authority Officer – sitting on the strategic and local group to ensure progress

Please Note: This is the recommended structure for the communication and management of the programme once in place. We would anticipate a much more detailed consultation and meeting process for the initial 6-9 months of the programme, involving all local partners and community members. We anticipate this being lead by the Big Noise Centre Manager and Admin / Community Liaison officer – being supported by some key local authority representatives, the Sistema Scotland Director, and the Coms and PR Officer. This work would enable the model to be refined to fit the community.

Big Noise Centre 2 – Suggested Timescale for Development

September – Dec 2011

Visits to Raploch for identified councilors / lead stakeholders
 Initial Partnership Agreement Discussed
 Identification of Community
 Research regarding community and more detailed budget outlined
 Establish Strategic Liaison Group
 Outline Funding Structure and financial mechanisms
 Outline Timescale for Development
 Research possible funding sources

Jan - April 2012

Agree Partnership Plan and commitment from LA (to allow for further progression)
 Agree initial LA funding input
 Identify additional funding sources and appropriate approaches
 Begin more detailed work with local stakeholders
 Agree initial PR outline and timescale for announcements
 Visits to Raploch for key local stakeholders

April – June 2012

Approaches to sponsors / funders (funding targets met to allow for progress)
 Series of presentations and discussions for EA employees (delivered by SS in partnership with lead EA reps)
 Identify community office space and begin refurb
 Involvement of local stakeholders and community members in key Big Noise Raploch celebration events

June – September 2012

Recruitment for Big Noise Centre Manager and Admin/ Community Liaison Officer

Sep – Dec 2012

Big Noise Centre Manager and Admin/Community Liaison Officer in post and begin detailed work within the community
 Identify key delivery days for programme and spaces to work with the children outlined
 Local liaison group to begin refining model and planning community engagement programme

January 2013

Open recruitment for Big Noise musicians

March 2011

Finalise community engagement programme

April 2011

Big Noise team begin
 Undertake Induction programme (In Raploch)
 Begin delivery of community engagement programme (in schools and communities)

June 2011

Official launch concert in community

June / July 2011

Officially open as Summer school
Agree structures for moving forwards (local liaison group / links with social services /
identification and ongoing support for children)

August 2011

Rest of Big Noise core programme begins

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ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE: **Education, Culture and Sport**

DATE: **28th March 2013**

DIRECTOR: **Gayle Gorman**

TITLE OF REPORT: **Sports Grants**

REPORT NUMBER: **ECS/13/013**

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report brings before the Committee an application for financial assistance from RGU:Sport and makes recommendations accordingly.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the committee:

- (a) considers the following application from RGU:SPORT and approves the following recommendation:

| Organisation | Amount Granted |
|---|----------------|
| RGU: SPORT- Volunteer for Sport Programme | £10,000 |

- (b) Instruct officers to redefine the sports grant criteria and put together a range of promotional material and events to publicise the sports grants currently available more widely throughout the city. This will also include identifying capacity to support community sports clubs and organisations through the application process.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Sports Grants budget for the 2012/13 financial year is £98,181. If the recommendation is approved, there will be £12,311.62 remaining in this budget and this under spend will be returned as a saving. Appendix 1 outlines the previous Sport Grant awards in the current financial year.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

Local sports groups and organisations adopt a variety of methods to attract funding, however some groups would be unable to host an event or develop further without the financial assistance available from the City Council.

There is a recognition, however, given the under spend in the current budget that there is a requirement to redefine the current sports grants criteria to ensure that the funding contributes to the delivery of Fit for the Future, Aberdeen City's sport and physical activity strategy. It is expected that by redefining the grants we will be better equipped as a local authority to support the development of clubs, coaches and volunteers, talented athletes and sports event which help put Aberdeen on the map as a sporting city.

It is likely that the grants will be relaunched in the summer and a range of promotional material and events will be arranged in order to publicise these more widely across the city.

5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

Aberdeen City Council's Sports Grants is a funding programme which is open to any voluntary or not-for-profit organisation or club who deliver sport or physical activity within the city. Grants of up to £10,000 are available and applications can be submitted throughout the year. In exceptional circumstances, we may consider applications above this level. The Sports Grants budget for 2012/13 has been set by the Council at £98,181.

The grant criteria is aligned to the key objectives of "Fit for the Future" the Sport and Physical Activity Strategy for Aberdeen (2009-2015). Each application is assessed against the criteria, with recommendations developed and put forward to the relevant Committee for a decision.

All applicants are provided with support from officers before and after applications have been considered. This includes the offer of individual support sessions, resulting in detailed feedback on how to improve the quality of their application. For more information about common reasons for resubmission, deferral or rejection please see Appendix 2.

5.1 RGU: SPORT

RGU Sport is seeking to further develop a volunteering programme first established in 2010. Volunteer for Sport (VFS) is open to all Robert Gordon University students in first and second year and aims to increase the number of trained coaches and volunteers locally.

The VFS students receive training in first aid, child protection and positive coaching scotland courses and gain a United Kingdom Coaching Certificate (UKCC) Level 1 or 2 qualification in rugby, hockey, basketball, climbing or rowing. On completion of this training the students are placed in school and community settings across the city to deliver quality coaching to children and young people. This programme is expected to provide over 700 hours of

coaching between April and December 2013 and will in turn help to inspire a whole new generation of children and young people to take part in sport and physical activity.

The overall cost of this project is £29,500. The recommendation is to provide £10,000 of funding towards this project which will be matched by £19,500 from RGU Sport. This covers a range of incurred costs including equipment, marketing and promotion, uniform and coaching course costs.

The council will be recognised as a key partner in this programme and monitoring of this project and its outcomes will be carried out on a quarterly basis by officers in line with the following the public pound guidelines.

| Funding Requested | Funding Recommended |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| £10,000 | £10,000 |

6. IMPACT

This report relates to ‘Aberdeen – the Smarter City’:

- We will promote and improve opportunities for physical activity and sport to enable Aberdeen’s citizens to lead more active, healthier lives.

The report relates to the Arts, Heritage and Sport strand of the Community Plan, specifically in relation to the Sports, Leisure and Recreation vision of developing Aberdeen as an “Active City”.

The report relates closely to the objectives of “Fit for the Future, the sport and physical activity strategy for Aberdeen City (2009-2015)”. These objectives are:

- Promote and increase opportunities for participation in sport and physical activity for everyone in Aberdeen.
- Provide a comprehensive and high quality range of sports facilities in Aberdeen.
- Maximise social, educational, health and economic benefits of sport and physical activity in Aberdeen.
- Develop and sustain pathways which nurture local, regional and national sporting people to reach their potential.
- Raise the profile of sport in Aberdeen.

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

The RGU: Sport grant application – available in the Members Lounge and distributed by email to external members of committee.

8. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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Appendix 1

Summary Table of Financial Assistance Sports Awards 2012/13

| Sports Organisation | Funding Awarded | Committee Approval |
|--|------------------------|---|
| Aberdeen Rugby League Club | £640 | Education, Culture & Sport 07/06/12 |
| Aberdeen Youth Rugby Association | £13,000 | Education, Culture & Sport 07/06/12 |
| Active Aberdeen – Festival of Sport, Physical Activity and Dance | £5,000 | Education, Culture & Sport 20/09/12 |
| City of Aberdeen Gymnastics | £2,260 | Education, Culture & Sport 20/09/12 |
| Aberdeen Secondary Schools Football Association | £1,000 | Culture & Sport Sub Committee 07/11/12 |
| Hazlehead Netball Club | £317.50 | Culture & Sport Sub Committee 07/11/12 |
| Silver City Blues Swimming Club | £1,700 | Culture & Sport Sub Committee 07/11/12 |
| Special Olympics Grampian Area – Ski Group | £4,900 | Culture & Sport Sub Committee 07/11/12 |
| Coach and Volunteer Workforce Development Grants | £4,500 | Education, Culture & Sport 22/11/12 |
| Aberdeen Amateur Athletics Club | £4,950 | Culture & Sport Sub Committee 10/01/13 |
| | | |

| | | |
|--|-------------------|---|
| Aberdeen Dolphins Swimming Club | £2,500 | Culture & Sport Sub Committee 10/01/13 |
| Adventure Aberdeen | £4,000 | Culture & Sport Sub Committee 10/01/13 |
| Aberdeen Schools Rowing Association | £12,000 | Education, Culture & Sport 31/01/13 |
| Garthdee Alpine Sports | £2450.88 | Culture & Sport Sub Committee 08/03/13 |
| Glentanar Community Football Club | £1170.00 | Culture & Sport Sub Committee 08/03/13 |
| Netball Scotland | £3,500 | Culture & Sport Sub Committee 08/03/13 |
| North Region Girls Football League | £3,396 | Culture & Sport Sub Committee 08/03/13 |
| Stoneywood Dyce Cricket Club | £1,585 | Culture & Sport Sub Committee 08/03/13 |
| The Robert Gordon University | £10,000 | Education, Culture & Sport 28/03/13 |
| Total Grant Funding Awarded if recommendations approved | £85,869.38 | |
| Grant Funding Remaining | £12,311.62 | |

Appendix 2

Sports Grants – Please find below frequent reasons for resubmission, deferral or rejection of funding applications

- Application forms not fully completed or illegible
- The benefits of the initiative do not clearly show the primary benefit is to residents of the City, but to a wider demographic
- Projects do not have clear outputs or outcomes
- Match funding is either not confirmed (in which case an application is deferred) or indicated.
- There is no evidence of need ascertained, of wider benefit, and/or there is evidence of duplication of services already supported by Aberdeen City Council
- The organisation or Club has outstanding debt with Aberdeen City Council
- The club cannot meet FTTP (Following the Public Pound) guidance and/or has not submitted reports against previous grant allocations
- The group or club is not constituted as required by the grants criteria
- The group or club does not have a bank account with two authorised signatories
- Applications for transport represent a significant proportion of the grant with no evidence of participants subsidising travel
- Requests to visit or train at facilities out with the City may be rejected if similar facilities are available locally
- Projects or requests for staffing do not evidence any forward planning recognising future stability
- Standards of coaching or volunteering do not meet acceptable standards
- There are inadequate or no monitoring and evaluation plans

Feedback and additional support

Council Officers from a variety of backgrounds and knowledge work together to assess the wider value to the sports sector of each application.

Where time permits, Aberdeen City Council staff will contact organisations on receipt of their applications to seek clarification or further information. This is not always possible when applications are received very close to the deadline for Committee reports. Organisations are offered a telephone call or a face to face meeting to help improve their applications.

Where applications are recommended for deferral or rejection, organisations are contacted and offered verbal or written feedback to support a resubmission.

In addition, Officers provide advice and support to sports organisations with application to Awards for All, and other small sports grants funding streams.

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ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| COMMITTEE | Education, Culture and Sport |
| DATE | 28 March 2013 |
| DIRECTOR | Gayle Gorman |
| TITLE OF REPORT | Adventure Aberdeen – The Fairley Road Field |
| REPORT NUMBER: | ECS/13/017 |

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report provides an update on proposals to renovate and create a adventure park on the field on Fairley Rd adjacent to Adventure Aberdeen.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

It is recommended that the Committee:

- a. Note the progress of this project.
- b. Instruct officers to develop a detailed costed proposal and report back to a future committee.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

At the current time there are no financial implications in relation to this report. It is anticipated that if the proposal progresses, the costs of development will be sourced from outwith the council. A future business case would consider how the costs of maintenance, upkeep and insurance could be met from additional income generated from the field

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Legal Implications

There are no legal implications known at this time. It is anticipated this development will significantly contribute to the council's obligation to provide play and recreation space within the community contributing to healthy life styles.

5. BACKGROUND / MAIN ISSUES

Background and Context:

The Fairly Road Field is an informal playing pitch area, adjoining the Adventure Aberdeen base in Kingswells. The field has been out of use for many years mostly due to increasing drainage problems. The field for the most part is waterlogged to the point of being unusable. In recent years members of the community council have tried to bring the field back into use but plans have failed to materialise due to a variety of reasons.

Adventure Aberdeen, the Council's Service that leads on outdoor learning and outdoor education moved to the Fairley Road site in April 2010. The Service has recently successfully turned the small area immediately adjoining the building into an "Adventure Zone" for use by visiting groups of service users. This development used donated and reclaimed materials to create the Adventure Zone, incorporating a bike track, team challenge course, early years area, climbing wall and two small ponds. Ten different activities can take place within the Adventure Zone, each with a different set experiences and outcomes.

Adventure Aberdeen has identified potential for the use of the field, expanding the opportunities provided through the Adventure Zone, for the local community and Adventure Aberdeen client groups. Adventure Aberdeen has commenced discussions with the local community about potentially renovating the field into an adventure park that would be used by the community and Adventure Aberdeen.

It is intended to use a similar approach, and build on the Adventure Zone experience when planning for the development of the Fairley Road Field site.

Consultation

Consultation to date has been via a visioning group consisting of local elected members, the community council, the local voluntary youth organisations, representatives from the schools including students from Bucksburn Academy and local residents / interested bodies and the local village hall committee. This group has been facilitated by the Adventure Aberdeen Team Leader. Ideas and possible uses for the field were gathered from this group at an open meeting to the community, on 7 November 2012.

In addition to this piece of consultation the Adventure Aberdeen Team Leader visited Kingswells Primary School on 10 January 2013 and spoke to all the pupils in two assembly groups asking them to take part in a design competition for the field. 30 "winning" designs were selected from this process, and the successful pupils will come to Adventure Aberdeen on 27 March to develop their ideas further.

A senior/secondary age consultation event is being planned by two senior Bucksburn Academy pupils. This is to take place on 26 March 2013 at Adventure Aberdeen to canvas views, and supplement the other engagement exercises.

A key part of any project associated with the use of the field would be to continue meaningful engagement with representatives of the local community

Proposed Usage of Space

The aim is to create a space with a wide variety of facilities for a wide range of users including play equipment, activity facilities, open play space, trees, landscaping, trails and themed area for different age groups. The space will have costs allocated to upkeep and maintenance. There is no plan to restrict use at any time to any community members. Adventure Aberdeen are interested to explore ways to use part of the field's new facilities to attract the use of corporate development and leadership courses combining the indoor Adventure Aberdeen briefing rooms and facilities. It is envisaged that this will cover the costs associated with upkeep. A full business case will be created in due course.

It is also Adventure Aberdeen's intention to use the field during the school day with visiting school groups of all ages to expand its outdoor learning and outdoor education and early years play programmes.

6 Key Milestones in Project Plan

The following milestones indicate possible timescale.

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Finalise consultation programme and draw up draft plans / costs | By end May 2013 |
| Fundraising project team identified | End June 2013 |
| Funds secured and contractor bids invited | Dec 2013 |
| The project may happen in phased developments | |
| Project start on the ground | Spring 2014 |
| Project complete | Summer 2014 |

7. IMPACT

Kingswells is presently undergoing a number of residential and industrial developments that are significantly changing the shape and nature of the community. Specifically the area local to Fairley Rd and Adventure Aberdeen is influenced by a development on the Old Main Road, a development at West 1, and an imminent development at Huxterstone East, directly East of Fairley Rd. The Prime Four development will have other significant impacts on the local area.

In view of these developments it is crucial that areas are reserved for play and activity. This project will provide such a space for a wide variety of groups and individuals. Play, and specifically adventurous free play, is increasingly being encouraged to develop young peoples' understanding of the benefits of energetic outdoor activity and how this can be used to develop creativity, risk awareness and avoidance and many other benefits associated to health and adventurous play and activity.

Play and activity spaces of this type are currently undergoing revolutionary thinking in terms of materials, design, innovation and opportunity. A showcase design is envisaged to demonstrate Aberdeen's commitment to create play and activity spaces that reflect modern trends and innovations.

Adventure Aberdeen would intend to use the area to further develop its activity programmes for Aberdeen City schools. One of the service's current growth areas is the visiting primary class for a day of multi activity. This work provides real opportunities and outcomes as required by the Curriculum for Excellence. A development of this nature would not only provide a first class resource for working with young people but it would also showcase how schools could develop their own area or use local woods and parks to enrich the curriculum

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

There are no specific background papers relevant to this report

9. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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