

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Education Operational Delivery Committee
DATE	17 September 2020
EXEMPT	No
CONFIDENTIAL	No
REPORT TITLE	Statutory Consultation Report: Proposed changes to school zones for Bucksburn Academy and Oldmachar Academy
REPORT NUMBER	RES/20/127
DIRECTOR	Steve Whyte
CHIEF OFFICER	Stephen Booth
REPORT AUTHOR	Andrew Jones
TERMS OF REFERENCE	1.1.1, 1.1.2

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To report to Committee on the outcomes of a statutory consultation, on the proposal to adjust the school zone boundaries for Bucksburn Academy and Oldmachar Academy, in order to accommodate the new Grandhome housing development.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 That the Committee agrees to implement the proposal to rezone an area of ground to the west of Whitestripes Avenue in Aberdeen, from Bucksburn Academy to Oldmachar Academy, with effect from 5 January 2021.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 At its meeting of 16 January 2020, the Education Operational Delivery Committee instructed the Chief Officer, Integrated Children's and Family Services to undertake a statutory public consultation on proposals to make changes to the Bucksburn Academy and Oldmachar Academy school catchment zones, so that the new housing development at Grandhome is included entirely within the Oldmachar Academy catchment zone with effect from 1 August 2020, and to report back to the Committee on the outcomes of this consultation at its meeting in May 2020.
- 3.2 A public consultation on the above proposal was undertaken from 27 January 2020 to 15 March 2020. When carrying out the consultation, all requirements of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 as amended were met in full.
- 3.3 A full summary of the responses received during the consultation, along with officers' responses to the issues raised, are contained within the Consultation Report at Appendix 1. This also contains a copy of Education Scotland's report on the proposal.

- 3.4 With relation to Section 9(1) of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, and having considered all of the information received during the consultation process, officers are satisfied that no comments have been received which would have caused them to review the merits of the proposal to make changes to the school zones for Bucksburn Academy and Oldmachar Academy.
- 3.5 As a result of the outbreak of the coronavirus pandemic, the scheduled meeting of the Education Operational Delivery Committee in May 2020 was cancelled, and therefore the committee was not able to consider the proposals and the consultation report, in line with the original timescales as intended.
- 3.6 It is therefore recommended that the proposed changes to the school zones for Bucksburn Academy and Oldmachar Academy are implemented with effect from 5 January 2021. Given that the changes will not affect any existing pupils or families, this change in implementation date is not expected to have any negative impact.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from the recommendations of this report.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The public consultation has complied with the requirements of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 as amended. As the proposal does not refer to the proposed closure of any school, any decision to implement it by this Committee cannot be called in by Scottish Ministers.

6. MANAGEMENT OF RISK

Category	Risk	Low (L) Medium (M) High (H)	Mitigation
Strategic Risk	No significant risks identified		
Compliance	Risk that the Council is seen to make significant changes to schools without considering the views of stakeholders	L	All aspects of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 have been complied with.
Operational	Risk of negative impact on pupils if the recommendations are not implemented and pupils do not have access to safe	H	Implementing the recommendations will ensure that all pupils in the Grandhome development have a safe walking route to school

	walking routes to school		
Financial	No significant risks identified		
Reputational	Risk of damage to Council reputation if the recommendations are not implemented and pupils do not have access to safe walking routes to school	M	Implementing the recommendations will ensure that all pupils in the Grandhome development have a safe walking route to school
Environment / Climate	Risk of negative impact on the environment if the recommendations are not implemented and pupils do not have access to safe walking routes to school		Implementing the recommendations will ensure that all pupils in the Grandhome development have a safe walking route to school, therefore helping to reduce reliance on vehicles for travelling to school

7. OUTCOMES

<u>COUNCIL DELIVERY PLAN</u>	
	Impact of Report
Aberdeen City Council Policy Statement	The proposal within this report supports the delivery of Place Policy Statement 3 – <i>Refresh the local transport strategy, ensuring it includes the results of a city centre parking review; promotes cycle and pedestrian routes; and considers support for public transport.</i> The proposed changes to the school zones will ensure that all pupils in the Grandhome development have a safe walking route to school, therefore helping to reduce reliance on vehicles for travelling to school.
Aberdeen City Local Outcome Improvement Plan	
Prosperous Place Stretch Outcomes	The proposals within this report support the delivery of LOIP Stretch Outcome 14 (reducing Aberdeen’s carbon emissions) and Stretch Outcome 15 (increasing the numbers of people walking or cycling as main mode of travel). The proposed changes to the school zones will ensure that all pupils in the Grandhome development have a safe walking route to school, therefore helping to reduce reliance on vehicles for travelling to school.

UK and Scottish Legislative and Policy Programmes	The report sets out the outcomes of a public consultation on the proposed changes to school zones, which fulfils the requirements of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 as amended.
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8. IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

Assessment	Outcome
Impact Assessment	A full EHRIA has been completed.
Data Protection Impact Assessment	Not required

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Education Operational Delivery Committee, 16 January 2020: *Proposed Consultation on changes to school zoning for Grandhome* – RES/20/003

10. APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Consultation Report : Bucksburn Academy and Oldmachar Academy Rezoning

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