

Moray Council

**Establishing a new primary
school for south-east Elgin**

**Comments / Enquiries
Received**

**14th December 2015
4th February 2016**

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Please note that content within is unedited (except for the removal of personal data)

Emails

Date: 17 December 2015 12:41:16 GMT

Subject: New school!

As a East End parent, I have extreme concern for the current proposal! Surely it would make more sense to allow the annexe to go back to East end and the children attend as East end pupils. This also allows parents who currently have children in new Elgin primary to possible move them all to one school where as your proposal means they have to be at two different!

As a parent who has seen East End making huge improvements I feel this proposal is another huge blow and trying to tarnish the school! This will obviously put any new parents at huge un ease!

Children having to share playgrounds and canteen etc from different school is never going to work and quiet frankly a disgrace that you think it's acceptable to do that to our children!

The annexe needs renovating granted but should it be renovated it would only need to be done for classes but for your proposal you need entrance, reception etc, huge added extra to the bill that's before you have the head teachers bill too!
I feel all this has been done to protect new Elgin and dump on East End!

An extremely unhappy and concerned parent!

Sent: 22 December 2015 17:02

Subject: Which school is my catchmeant area?

Hello can you please tell me what school is our catchmeant area with this postcode iv30 6DJ

Establishing a new primary school for south-east Elgin 2015/16

Sent: 05 January 2016 16:06

Subject: Traffic flow for East End School

This is an excellent opportunity for the safety of children to be paramount and for the current traffic congestion on Abbey Street, Institution Rd and Queen Street to be addressed.

I have not seen the detail of the proposed traffic plan, several attempts to access the publicised web page informed me that it was unavailable.

Unfortunately I cannot make the consultation events so may I suggest:-

1. A one –way route begins at the roundabout on Alexandra Road, turning left into Queen Street, right along Institution Road and right into Abbey Street. Stop or Give Way signs are erected as appropriate on Queen Street and Institution Rd to meet junction regulations.

2. All of Queen Street and Abbey Road and the section of Institution Road affected are made 'residents only' parking Mon 8am – Frid 4pm which should free up enough space to establish bus stops and drop off zones.

3. Current traffic congestion on these roads is caused by Moray Council employees and/or visitors to Moray Council not having access to sufficient parking spaces at either HQ or the Annex.

Staff based at these offices could be issued with parking permits for Lossie Green, thus freeing up more visitor parking at the Annex. The resultant bonus of improved health and well being due to the additional daily walk could be celebrated.

Establishing a new primary school for south-east Elgin 2015/16

Sent: 06 January 2016 13:33

Subject: URGENT! PARKING CONCERNS RE NEW SCHOOL PROJECT - Effect on Abeeey Street Residents on top of those already created by Moray Council decisions

Attachment: Poster

Dear Sir/Madam,

Our tenants in Abbey Street, Elgin received the attached document through their door yesterday.

The project proposed causes grave concern relating to even great pressure on the residents of Abbey Street and surrounding streets, due to increased traffic/parking strains in that area.

Previously we wrote to Moray Council to request that a Resident's Parking system is adopted in Abbey Street and surrounding streets, due to the significant increase in parking strains as a direct result of centralisation of Moray Council staff into the Annexe and Headquarters buildings from (previous) satellite offices around Moray.

That the project at East End Primary will undoubtedly cause even more restrictions/strains for parking of Abbey Street residents, which have already been significantly affected by M/C staff centralisation, surely it is time now for the residents of Abbey Street to finally be provided with some kind form of protection/rights related to their parking their own vehicles in their own streets.

Apart from the unnecessary strains and inconveniences on Abbey Street residents parking caused by centralisation (and now by the new school project) the lack of parking will reduce property prices/chances of sales even further.

Indeed, our own tenants may well move out due to increased lack of parking availability and we may find it tricky to obtain other tenants for that very reason. This significantly affects us financially in rent loss, property devaluation, advertising costs etc etc.

Please therefore consider what Moray Council can do to finally protect Abbey Streets resident's parking rights in their own street (the challenges meeting them all due to Moray Council decisions). I would suggest one parking permit per annum per property.

I look forward to hearing back from you and hope that this concern can be expressed at today's meeting.

COMING SOON TO A STREET NEAR YOU



**MORE BUSES .. AND...
MORE PEOPLE LOOKING FOR
PARKING SPACES**

**MORE TRAFFIC
CHAOS!!**



DID YOU KNOW?

As part of a Public Consultation for a "New School" (from 14.12.2015 to 04.02.2016), the Council propose to have a "temporary new" school within the Old East End School building. As part of this "temporary new" school proposal, the Council plan to:

- Close the end of Institution Road with access ONLY to residents, Andersons Care Home and East End School staff. Parents will no longer be able to use the "stop and drop" area or parking places within the East End School grounds.
- Bus children from the new south-east school zone to a NEW bus stop in Queen Street. This will be for up to 150 children over the following 3 years (or until a new school is built at Linkwood - which could be many years) and will involve a number of large buses.

The outcome of these proposals will inevitably be a lot more parents in cars desperately trying to find parking places in the streets around East End and St. Sylvester's Primary and Nursery Schools.

How do you feel about the inevitable chaos this will cause in your street?

If you are unhappy and would like to voice your concerns, there will be two Public Meetings at Elgin Town Hall on Wednesday 6th January from 2.00-3.30pm and again at 6.30-8.00 pm.

Alternatively write to: South-east Elgin Primary School Consultation,
The Moray Council, Community Support Unit, High Street, Elgin, IV30 1BX

Or email to: futureschools@moray.gov.uk

Further info. is available at: http://www.moray.gov.uk/moray_standard/page_98109.html

OR CONTACT US via OUR FACEBOOK PAGE - "EAST END SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL"
or email to: eastendschoolpc@outlook.com

Establishing a new primary school for south-east Elgin 2015/16

Sent: 11 January 2016 15:24

Subject: New Elgin rezoning

Hello,

I am writing to object to the proposed rezoning for New Elgin Primary.

Part of education and school life (and of the curriculum for excellence as well) is the importance of community, and I honestly don't see how splitting families between schools is in any way a positive move.

We moved here at the beginning of the new year as enrolled our primary one pupil with you, and were not told about the possibility that our address would be rezoned for a new school meaning that our youngest would have to go to a different school. Not only that, but she will have to go to an interim makeshift school for her very important first year, and will be without the support of her older sibling. We would not even have the option of moving her older sister to be in the same school during this time, and I feel this will be detrimental to both girls. Also, moving her older sister would be very disruptive as she has now made friends at New Elgin, and is happy there. She is showing signs of Asperger's syndrome, and consistency and routine are very important to her. We live rurally, and will be in the position of putting the girls on a bus to be dropped off at different schools which will be upsetting for them. Other parents will have to be at two schools at once to drop their children off, and having read the literature there has been no solution offered for this.

While I do understand that the school is at capacity, I am disappointed that no one seems to be considering the impact this rezoning will have on family lives. It is not the fault of parents currently living in zone that school has admitted those out with the zone previously, nor is it their fault that new homes are being thrown up in the catchment area.

There are surely options to extend the school, or to allow children who already to have family enrolled to attend.

I will be contacting the First Minister with my concerns as well, as I know at question and answer sessions these concerns have been raised by other parents and dismissed by councillors. I think you have to remember that at the heart of Scottish education is the GIRFEC policy, and you are absolutely not getting it right for any child who is separated from family and sent to makeshift school as a result of poor planning by the council.

Establishing a new primary school for south-east Elgin 2015/16

Sent: 12 January 2016 18:11

Subject: New school consultation

I was at the consultation in the town hall on wed the 6th of Jan about the new school I have a few concerns that I'd like to put to you before the end of the consultation 1 , as a working parent I'm concerned about the staggered start and finish times you propose for the new school as this would have an affect on my childcare arrangements , I use the moray leisure centre at moment and intend to continue to use their breakfast club and after school club , if moray council stagger the start and finish times there is going to be some point through the day where my daughter would have no one caring for her as breakfast club finishes at 9am and doesn't re open until 2.30 pm , this is very concerning for me as a parent as I need to know my child is cared for at all times whilst I'm at work and I'm not willing to have her sitting about waiting either for school to start or for after school club to open , I'd like to know what the councils intentions are to resolve this issue as I'm sure I'm not the only parent that will have this issue

2, another concern is my child will be taxed 3-4 mornings a week to school from breakfast club to school , I know at other schools the taxi drivers take the children into reception especially the younger ones , where they are then taken to their classes by an auxiliary , is there going to be auxiliaries working in new school as I'm not comfortable with my 4 yr old being left in playground and having to make her own way to her line ,

3 , I feel that the council have came up with this decision on a whim and I'm quite unsure what do for the best for my child whom I have to register next week for school in August , I do like the idea of a new school and understand the councils thinking of keeping all the catchment children together until new building ready , but some of the important details to us parents can't seem to be answered , these are our children's education and is extremely important to us as parents , I found the meeting was more based on the traffic congestion the use of east ends facility's more than the education of these 4-5 yr olds x

4 , it wasn't answered when questioned on when the teaching posts would be posted when their employment would start , would our children get the same chance as other p1s to meet their teachers see their school and have intake days like other schools do around May June time , these are all questions that need answering , I do intend to register my child for the new school , but I can't like many other parents can't wait til may June time for all these issues to be answered , if no decision is made soon then I'll have to re think where to send my little girl as I'd like her to meet her classmates teachers etc before August ,

5 , one of the councillors had the idea of making east end a no drive zone at school times , I actually think this is a good idea , then the children can all go in together no traffic congestion and less cars parking in residents spaces drives etc , our children will be bused to queen st and I'd say that 90%of east end live in catchment which makes the school within walking distant to most parents , we also have two lollipop men at the school (one of which is my father) so getting across main road not an issue ,

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6, I do understand some of east ends parents views but a lot of their views are selfish to their own needs ie their parking spaces etc their playground their canteen , as I said earlier the education of the children is most important issue here and I'm sure they wouldn't have these issues if it concerned their child , I really hope the moray councillors come up with solutions to some of the issues I've raised here and by other parents , we really need to start hearing this is what going to be happening not if buts and maybes , time unfortunately is not on our side and I hope a decision is made soon and some more positive answers start to become more clear.

Sent: 14 January 2016 09:24

Subject: New Elgin catchment rezoning.

Hello,

I emailed you previously regarding this issue, and was disappointed not to have received a reply.

Just to add to my comments further, I would very much like to know how you plan to staff a new school? It has been well publicised that there is a teaching shortage in Moray, and at New Elgin Primary they have so far been unable to recruit a permanent replacement for staff who left in November, and are relying instead on long term supply. There will not magically be a bank of teaching staff to recruit from for the proposed new school.

It is bad enough that you plan to cause massive upheaval in young children's lives by moving them to a makeshift school away from their siblings, but to do so with no guarantees of committed teachers is wholly irresponsible.

Sent: 14 January 2016 14:58

Subject: Re: New Elgin catchment rezoning.

Hello,

Many thanks for your reply. I currently teach in Aberdeenshire and everyone working in education in the area is aware of how difficult Moray, Aberdeenshire and the Highlands are finding it to recruit teachers. As I mentioned, there is at least one vacancy at New Elgin Primary that has not been filled despite being advertised twice. To move teachers from their existing posts to new schools will not solve any problems at all, as there will still be a deficit of teaching staff.

I would like to know what solution you can offer to the problem of taking children to school. To drop two children off at two different schools at the same time and collect them from two different schools at the same is just not possible, and I know this has been asked time and again with no answer given.

Establishing a new primary school for south-east Elgin 2015/16

Sent: 17 January 2016 21:43

Subject: New SE Elgin school consultation

Dear Sir/Madam,

After the recent public meetings in the Town hall, I would like to put forward my thoughts, as the parent of one of the children who will be starting in the “new” school in August. Overall I am happy with the proposal put forward, with the new intake of pupils being housed in the Annex at East End primary school, but there are a number of points I would like considered and clarified.

1. Induction/transition days. Will there be anything put in place for the new pupils starting in August? I imagine it is highly unlikely the refurbishment of the annex will be complete by the end of the school year in June, nor will the new teachers and headteacher be in place.

2. Will there be any pre/after school provision on site. The issues surrounding the current traffic congestion problems around East End primary have already been highlighted. Having onsite pre and after school provision, or clubs, would help alleviate these problems slightly as it would mean children arriving and leaving over a more protracted period.

3. When will parents be informed about start and end times of the school day. Many parents, myself included, will need to rely on some form of childcare before and after school. We cannot arrange this until we know the start and finish time for the new school.

4. What happens if a new head teacher is not appointed by the start of the new term. The problems recruiting teachers to the many positions vacant in Moray over the last while has been well documented. It is not enough to say we will advertise for a new headteacher. What happens if no-one suitable applies?

I look forward to hearing the councils comments on these points.

Establishing a new primary school for south-east Elgin 2015/16

Sent: 21 January 2016 11:24

Subject: Rezoning and the new school

I am currently zoned for the new school which is propped in the annexe at east end. I am familiar with east end as I attended there when I was a child but I feel to lack of information about this temp school, the fact it is not fit for purpose yet and had no teachers etc and the major fact that I have to make a decision on this this week I feel I have been given no choice but to try to get my daughter into a school that is all ready up and running. I have asked on various occasions what time this school will be starting to be told that they are considering staggering times.

As a single working parent that relies on childcare this is unacceptable as I have to make my childcare arrangements well in advance which is now or we may lose our place. This has also impacted on after school clubs swimming and every other activity.

I feel I have been given no other choice by moray council but to apply for east end so that I do not impact on my child's future or my work. Bearing this in mind I also do not drive so would like a reassurance that transport will also be provided for the children that have been zoned out of new Elgin school that have no choice because of lack of concrete decisions to make east end there choice of school. We can not wait until April when everyone else can make plans for there childcare etc now

Sent: 21 January 2016 15:25

Subject: Re: Rezoning and the new school

Thank you for your reply but I do not feel that this is an adequate answer at all. I am not placing an out of zone request through choice but am being forced to by the lack of concrete information that the moray council can provide. As I already stated I have to make child care arrangement etc now. You state that you can not make a decision on the start finish times until you know the people that it will affect but I am one of those people and I do not drive and live out of zone for any school that I can apply for due to the fact that moray council has zoned me this way. I think the least you can do is offer transport to the same out of zone area school that I can apply for. As this is a unique circumstance which moray council has created I suggest that moray council should re consider their transport provision with regard to out of zone schools as I have no school in zone I can walk to all my options are out of zone.

Moray councils lack of foresight and planning is forcing me to try to make a decision based on no facts whatsoever.

Establishing a new primary school for south-east Elgin 2015/16

Sent: 21 January 2016 22:29

Subject: RE: New school consultation

Good evening

Ive just had an interesting call from an eastend parent who doesnt want tje new school to go ahead and id like you to please clarify some points she has made to me that was said by the councillors at tonights meeting at eastend

1 her child is going to be taught in a "corridor" if the temp school goes ahead because eastend is over capacity this year and that the annex was promised to east end due to this

2 she also said that due to us "linkwood catchment" her child will have to loose out on library and music facilitys to accomadate there growing capacity . I was led to believe that with the new zoning east end would have plenty space in main building for all tje children expected to register at east end this year and for the next 3 years .im not wanting to made to feel guilty about using annex if it is going to affect the children of another school

3 im extremely upset at this as i want whats best for my own child in her most important year of full time education and i feel bullied and made to feel guilty by eastend parents .

4 i get that not all decisions are made and wont be until after the consultation period but im starting to worry about my child starting school in august . I have enrolled her for "linkwood " but have also put in a placement request for seafield as until all tje ifs buts and maybes become definants i cant make a decison on my childs education .

5 .i read an article today on the importance of registration week which ends friday . I do wish the councillors would understand the same importance on decsions on the temp school especially as this is us as parents trying to do the best start for our children . Im really upset and confused and dont want to feel guilty or bullied for wanting the best for my child . I do feel the council should have a meeting with ONLY parents from south east catchment as i feel all meetings so far all based on eastends parents views .

6 i do intend to come to new elgin primarys meeting on monday but again eastend parent council and parents will be there having their say again and bullying us innocent parents .

7 as my local authority id like to see a bit more support for us parents thathis actually affects .i do understand that we have to share some of their facilities by why does that give them the right to bulldose every meeting with parking traffic teaching in corridors etc etc . Surely the education of the 51 children in south east is the important part .

Im sorry if this feels like im bulldosing you but im extremely upset to the point where i really wish i didnt live where i do

Establishing a new primary school for south-east Elgin 2015/16

Im asking for the councils help to help us parents im sure im not the only one that feels like this

Thanku i await your reply

Establishing a new primary school for south-east Elgin 2015/16



South-East Elgin Primary School Consultation
The Moray Council
Community Support Unit
High Street
Elgin
IV30 1BX

21st January 2016

Dear Sir/Madam,

New Primary School for South East Elgin – Statutory Consultation

We welcome the opportunity of being able to comment on the statutory consultation for the proposed new school for South East Elgin and support the delivery of the potential site shown in the consultation.

The plans issued with the consultation show the site of the school in the Eastern part of an area designated for the expansion of Elgin as site “Elgin LONG 2 South” in the Moray Local Development Plan 2015.

We have been working with Council officers and other stakeholders to prepare a masterplan for the designation and the inclusion of the proposed school site has been an integral and crucial part of the proposals from the outset. We are also aware of the proposed timescale for the delivery of the new school referred to in the consultation. This is a key driver of the programme for the preparation of the masterplan and related detailed proposals for phase 1 of the masterplan area which will include the school site along with a regional sports centre and supporting plans for new homes.

It is intended to have the draft masterplan considered at a Special Committee Meeting on 29th March 2016 with the planning application for phase 1 submitted shortly after that.

We look forward to working with the Council to deliver the new school within the timescales set out in the consultation.

Yours Faithfully,

Innes Smith
Managing Director

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Establishing a new primary school for south-east Elgin 2015/16

Sent: 24 January 2016 14:08

Subject: East End Annex - New School

To Whom It May Concern

As a parent of a pupil at East end School, I do not think the view of some parents were put across correctly at meetings or in the press. I feel it is a good idea to use the annex building for the new school, as long as East End does not suffer and the needs of their children are met as well.

A few points I would make however:

Due to the increased number of children attending both schools - the only cars that should be in the school grounds are staff cars and taxis for breakfast clubs/after school clubs. then use only one entrance (current exit) therefore no cars near the area where children are walking in. I would also limit the number of cars outside school - no waiting/double yellow lines.

I think it is a good idea to bus school children for new school but could the council put a lollipop person at Burger King junction as that junction is dangerous and would be another pair of eyes for the East End children walking along the A96.

Make the communal areas at East End more appealing to children:

Brighten up the dining area - bright paint. (Dark walls and low ceilings are not inviting for children).

Help improve the playground. (East End has been fundraising for this).

Then once the new school is open East End has had something to show for the upheaval it has gone through and does not feel like the second hand citizen.

Ensure there is enough class rooms for East End School before more are created for housing new children.

The council need to come out with definitive answers on these questions:

School Times for East End and New School.

Lunch times/play times - how will they all be accommodated?

What will happen in rainy weather at lunch times?

Staffing - Will there be office staff for new school in annex?

Will there be more canteen staff/playground staff?

5. Create a title for temporary School.

There is too much speculation on these items which is not helping the situation.

Can the new school and East End have a close link once it is built - i.e Inter School Competition or Joint Ventures - so the link between the pupils doesn't go.

Elgin has changed a lot over the years, it is completely understandable that the schools will change but due to the amount of speculation this proposal has caused, it has allowed certain individuals to paint the wrong picture. As a parent I welcome the changes but provide East End parents with the necessary information to know their children will be safe and happy. It is coming across as the council are only looking at it from the New School point of view and their children.

East End hasn't always had the best image/reputation in Elgin, which is unfair. Gail McIntosh has done an outstanding job over the last year trying to improve and put East End on the map for the right reasons, do not let hard work go to waste.

Establishing a new primary school for south-east Elgin 2015/16

Everyone needs to be working together to show Elgin's School systems are one of the best and appealing for future teachers and parents.

Sent: 25 January 2016 11:00

Subject: New school

Dear Sir/ Madam

I attended the meeting at New Elgin Primary this morning after listening to what was said the main concerns seem to be around existing New Elgin Primary Nursery children and siblings. Mr Watson who was holding the meeting encouraged people to put forward suggestions etc, while i know my idea has more than likely been suggested or considered already but i wondered about the neon building attached to new elgin primary, i am aware that a vast area of it is being used already but i thought even if they could create one classroom in there that could accommodate both siblings and existing nursery children that would be really beneficial. The children that are attending nursery there already are really part of the school, they wear uniform, follow school procedures, are familiar with the surroundings and have all been fully expecting to be attending primary there. Yours sincerely,

Establishing a new primary school for south-east Elgin 2015/16

Sent: 25 January 2016 14:32

Subject: Establishing a new school for South-East Elgin 2015/2016

Sir/Ma'am,

In relation to the proposals for establishing a new school for South-East Elgin, I would like to show a sign of support on behalf of New Elgin Primary School Parent Council.

Plans that have been drawn up for the ongoing consultation show that although despite shortfalls by previous administrations, the current Education Department are doing there utmost to address the situation they are now faced with.

Due to the number of rooms and space at East End Primary School Annexe, this seems like an obvious choice that would lead to minimum disruption to pupils.

In conjunction with the arrangement of transport for the children, we feel that this would cause little if not no harm to children who are just entering the Primary School Stage due to the excitement and sense of adventure that could be emphasised by the chaperones on the bus.

Overall we feel that the sense of excitement involved with starting a new school, naming the school and designing the uniform, would make all pupils feel important and valued.

Establishing a new primary school for south-east Elgin 2015/16

Sent: 04 February 2016 07:21

Subject: Pitgaveny Response to New School Consultation

Attachments: 160204 ConsulResponseNewSchoolEELginIssue.Pdf; 150529 Findrassie Submission to Moray Elgin Schools Rezoning Consultation As Submitted.Pdf; 150717 ElginProposedSchoolCatchmentMap Issue.Pdf

Dear Sir/Madam,

Please find attached a response on behalf of our client, Pitgaveny, to the current Moray Council consultation regarding the proposed new primary school for Elgin. I have also attached our previous consultation response which is referred to in our paper and a map which is also referred to.

I would be grateful if you could acknowledge receipt of this response.

Kind Regards



New School for South East Elgin

Consultation Response

Savills on Behalf of Pitgaveny

Introduction and Summary

The Moray Council is consulting on their proposal to establish a new primary school, with nursery, for south-east Elgin, initially in temporary accommodation at East End Primary School.

Savills are responding to this consultation on behalf of their Client, Pitgaveny, a local business which is working with the Council to develop the Findrassie area to the north of Elgin as a new neighbourhood for Elgin, including 1500 homes, 12 hectares of employment land, extensive landscaped areas for recreation, a community hub and a new primary school. Pitgaveny's specific concerns are that:

- The forecasts and assertions justifying the new school at south east Elgin are flawed
- The Council is committing itself and its taxpayers to a significant financial burden to pay for a new school which is not needed
- The location of the proposed new school involves premature use of LONG land and could place pressure on the Council to release housing land in the LONG 2 area. This will undermine the newly adopted Local Development plan 2015

It is also of concern to our clients that the consultation papers made no reference to the school to be built at Findrassie nor showed its potential catchment in the map attaching to the consultation. This gave a seriously misleading impression of Elgin's future school provision for those who were being consulted.

Savills responded to the consultation on 'Elgin primary schools re-zoning' in May 2015. A copy of that response is enclosed, as is the map of suggested revised catchments submitted as supplementary to our response in June 2015. These both form part of this response.

Specific Concerns

1) The new School at Linkwood is being justified by inaccurate forecasts

Savills and Pitgaveny contend that the forecast for Elgin's primary school population up to 2021 is too high, being three times higher than the previous seven year period, 2008-2015.

The birth rate is not increasing to any significant degree. Grampian Health Board's official projections for 2012 - 2025 for all of Moray show only a marginal upward trend, year on year, from 913 births in 2012/13, to 936 births in 2024/25, but after that, a decline. By 2036/37, these projections show a decline of 13% in the age group 0 - 14.

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And, according to the Council's School Roll Forecasts (2015), the total of school rolls in all of Elgin's primary schools has increased by 254 in the last seven years. This averages at 36 additional pupils per annum throughout the town. The consultation paper suggests 92 more pupils per annum in the three south schools alone.

Therefore, the school roll forecasts in the consultation must be based on a level of housebuilding far in excess of completion rates in the past 10 years. According to p.24 of Moray Council's 2015 Local Development Plan, an average of 155 new houses were completed in the whole of Elgin each year from 2005-2012, and this figure forms the basis for future housing supply calculations. It would need more like 450 houses per annum to justify the given forecast rolls.

2) East End School has potential to increase its capacity

Moray Council's unfeasibly high forecasts are creating the urgency for the new school at Linkwood. The Table for projected rolls in this round of consultations actually increases the roll numbers for 2018 compared with the figures last May, so that there are now projected to be 275 more pupils in the three schools in the south of the town alone than there are at present – an increase of 25% in only three years. That does not seem credible.

East End Primary School is stated to have an existing capacity of 294. Last year's School Roll Forecasts noted that East End's capacity would increase to 394 in 2017, presumably after completion of the refurbishment of the former Heritage Centre rooms. It can be inferred therefore that these refurbished rooms will be returned to East End use once the new Linkwood School is opened, increasing the school's permanent capacity to 394.

The school roll at present is given as 203, which implies significant spare capacity, especially if the planned refurbishment of its annexe/former Heritage Centre is to a standard to create permanent modern classrooms.

If, as predicted in the consultation Table, the new south Elgin school was, by 2018, to take 143 pupils from the number that would have been accommodated in East End and New Elgin, it is difficult to understand how East End's roll would continue to rise if the new school were to open. It would lose about 400 houses from its catchment in the Reynold Crescent/Barlink Road area, and has no new housing sites in its redrawn catchment. Yet the Table indicates an increase of 124 pupils – a 60% increase on its 2015 roll. Surely East End's roll would decline if the new school were to open?

This scenario rather implies a declining future for East End School, which, by all reports, is successfully recovering from some lean years. Would it not be better to invest in the schools confidence, and in its buildings, and aim for a permanent single-school at its full potential capacity?

3) There is a more reasonable and cost-effective alternative option to the construction of a new school in the south of Elgin

We propose that an easier transition could be achieved by:

- Bringing back into permanent school use the Heritage Centre rooms at East End Primary School and increasing the school's capacity;
- Reducing East End's catchment by transferring future pupils from Kingsmills and South Lesmurdie to Seafeld Primary School, which has the capacity;
- Increasing East End's catchment to take in all housing on the north side of Linkwood Road (including the new Linkwood Farm Steading site) and thereby substantially relieving pressure on New Elgin Primary School;

Establishing a new primary school for south-east Elgin 2015/16

- Reducing New Elgin catchment by transferring all future pupils west of the Rothes Road to Greenwards;
- And that if Greenwards Primary School needed extra capacity, to add two classrooms. [The Council owns the adjoining land at the High School and at CF2 if reorganisation of playing fields or parking were needed].

We have attached a plan of our proposed primary school catchment areas for Elgin which shows these points graphically.

The three schools on the south side have, by judicious use of their properties and sites, accommodated some 1500 new households over the last 20 years, and although a site was reserved for a new school at CF3 on Thornhill Road, it was as recently as 2013 that a judgement was made that the local primary schools could cope, and the site could be given over to housing.

Even in 2016, according to the consultation paper, the rolls of East End, Greenwards and New Elgin, are still 218 under-capacity (20%) and that figure will increase with East End's refurbishment. Most of the new housing remaining to be built on the south side of Elgin is in the revised Greenwards' catchment. It may be more effective to examine the ability of Greenwards' capacity to expand, than to build an entirely new school.

3) Any new school should evolve as part of a neighbourhood, planned carefully as part of the Local Development Plan process.

New schools are best built in association with neighbourhoods of new housing – the principle being followed at Findrassie, and encompassed in its Master Plan. The proposed school site to the south of Elgin is located on land designated as LONG, but with the amount of land added to LONG designation status in Elgin in the new Local Development Plan only last year, it is hard to see how the Linkwood LONG fields could be justified for release for many years. This is as it should be, so that developers, builders and landowners have the confidence to invest in sites appropriately designated in the Local Development Plan, and need not fear that their investment is undermined through the Planning Authority inexpediently releasing over-supplies of land.

If, as Education's statistics for future school rolls on the south side imply, large scale housing is to be built on the Linkwood Road LONG fields adjoining the school, this would infer that the new school is being justified by a false premise. The facts are that these fields are not designated, they have not been master-planned, they have not been consulted on with the public and, crucially, they will not be needed for Elgin's housing land supply for many years to come.

Integral to the whole concept of master-planning at Findrassie has been the notion that families will set up home there in the knowledge that a new school will be within their neighbourhood, and will grow organically as housing numbers increase.

We feel strongly that the same planning principles, and quality of masterplan design should apply to the whole of Elgin and that a proposed school, wherever it may be, should only be in the context of proper master-planning and public consultation, but only after the case has been made that these LONG fields are needed for Elgin's housing land supply.

Conclusion

We urge the Council:

Establishing a new primary school for south-east Elgin 2015/16

- To postpone its plan to provide a new school at Linkwood.
- instead to examine the alternative proposals submitted here for accommodating school roll increases throughout Elgin, but particularly at East End and Greenwards.
- To reconsider the roll forecasts throughout Elgin in light of (a) more realistic housebuilding rates which specifically exclude the distorting effects of bringing forward LONG land and (b) NHS predictions regarding birth rates.

As previously, we are more than willing to discuss the assertions made in this submission, and the proposals put forward as an alternative and less costly solution.



**Submission to The Moray Council
Elgin Primary Schools Rezoning Consultation**

**On Behalf of:
Findrassie, North Elgin
Pitgaveny**

May 2015

smithsgore.co.uk



Introduction

Smiths Gore (on behalf of their client, Pitgaveny) welcomes the opportunity to respond to the consultation on draft proposals for Elgin Primary school zones.

Summary

In summary, Smiths Gore is proposing:

- That only one new school be provided in Elgin
- That the new school be located within the Findrassie designation at R11
- That school capacities be increased at Seafield and East End (as proposed in the consultation document)
- That catchment zones be amended for Greenwards, New Elgin and East End primary schools in order to address the immediate capacity pressures at New Elgin, and avoid the need for a new school in the south side
- That catchment zones for Seafield and Bishopmill be realigned in anticipation of the opening of a new school at Findrassie around 2019/20
- That developer obligations from all new housing consents in the whole Elgin be directed towards the provision of one new school
- That a comprehensive reassessment of placing requests be included in the rezoning calculations
- That primary school catchment areas be reviewed on a regular seven-year cycle
- And that school catchments, including that of the new school, be primarily determined on the basis of safe walking routes to the school



1. Background : The Findrassie Master Plan

1.1 Pitgaveny owns the 112 hectare site known as Findrassie in the emerging Local Development Plan (LDP) comprising 100ha designated for housing (R11), and 12ha for employment land (I8).

1.2 A Master Plan is in preparation for the whole area and for the past 3 years, a Design group coordinated by Smiths Gore and comprising Traffic engineering, Utilities and Drainage, Master Planning and Landscape Architecture, has been in regular consultation with a Council Stakeholder team (which includes Education) in progressing the stages towards the imminent submission of the Master Plan, to the Council.

1.3 The inclusion of a new primary school, within the Findrassie R11 area has been an integral part of the Master Plan, for at least the past two years. Reservation of Land for a primary school is referred to in the Local Development Plan, now at pre-Adoption stage. There is no reference in the Local Development Plan to provision of a new Primary School in the south of Elgin. Planning for the scale, and potential catchment, of a new Findrassie school, has proceeded on the basis that one new school is to be provided to meet Elgin's needs.

1.4 The consultation document is by contrast quite clear in its "recommended revisions to school zones" (the Appendix 2 map) that two new schools are proposed, and moreover, that priority is accorded to a new school in the south side.

1.5 Notwithstanding the extent of 'out-of-catchment' placing requests currently in place which greatly complicates the overall picture, the case for requiring two schools appears to be predicated on (a) the impending over-capacity situation at New Elgin Primary School and (b) the extent of new housebuilding throughout Elgin bringing new pupils into the town.

1.6 The proposed new school at Findrassie had been envisaged by the Master Planning team not solely as a requirement for that development but as a provision to facilitate the growth of Elgin as a whole, adding a ninth school to the existing eight, and easing the already identified issues of redefining existing catchments.

2. Funding : the Role of Developer Obligations

2.1 It is accepted by our clients, at Pitgaveny, that 'Developer Obligation' contributions will be required from successive new housing developments. If two schools are to be funded, then the Authority's share of funding will, presumably, be substantially greater. At present (Smiths Gore understands) there is no contribution fund for primary schools which has been secured from past and present planning consents anywhere in Elgin.



2.2 The new Local Development Plan has identified land for some 2000 more houses (1500 at Findrassie, 500 in six smaller sites across the south side) over and above the approximate 700 houses which already have consent but are not yet built. Those 2000 houses are eligible for obligation payments, but clearly a greater proportion of the estimated £7 – 8 million funding for a single school can be achieved by combining the Obligations due from all of these sites.

2.3 It is possible that our clients could transfer land to the Authority for a new primary school at Findrassie, as part of the assessment of developer obligations.

3. The Existing and Planned School Capacities

3.1 Smiths Gore / Savills contends that the land shown as LONG (either in the north east, where our clients are the landowner, or in the south) should form no part of this review of primary school zoning. The LONG areas are likely to be significantly beyond the forecast period for this review.

3.2 It is also contended that the issue of “placing requests” be addressed as part of the solution to the problem of impending over capacities at certain schools. A substantial part of this may be resolved by rezoning (eg New Elgin to Greenwards; Bishopmill to Seafield; New Elgin to East End). The current level of 40% of pupils being “out of zone” is distorting the actual capacities of individual schools.

3.3 It is further suggested that reviews of catchment areas be carried out on a regular (for example, a seven-year – basis), in order to anticipate future capacity issues.

3.4 We would wish to challenge some of the assumptions and calculations in the consultation document which have led to the “two school” conclusion.

3.5 The tables in the report indicate that across the 8 schools there is currently spare capacity for 298 pupils (current capacities 2453; current rolls 2155). It may be more realistic to exclude St Sylvester and Mosstowie schools from these calculations: the remaining six schools have spare capacity for 253.

3.6 In addition, though not clear from the report, 60 new spaces are to be created with the refurbishment of Seafield; and 60 spaces are to be brought back into use at East End. There is also reference in para 3.9 to scope for new classrooms at Bishopmill and Greenwards but these are not quantified. There is therefore at least 373 existing and planned spaces available within the immediate future.

3.7 By adjusting catchment boundaries, a much more efficient use could surely be made of these spaces, particularly in easing New Elgin’s roll. This response therefore makes the following suggestions.



3.8 The first step might be to transfer into **Seafield** all of East End's current catchment which lies to the north of the A96. This has the obvious advantage of a safer route to school for children from Kingsmill and Lesmurdie. While Seafield should, according to the figures given, have capacity to accommodate this, it is likely that a considerable number of pupils from this area are already enrolled in Seafield by placement request.

3.9 **East End's** catchment might then be adjusted to take in large areas of what is currently assigned to New Elgin, including the housing built and being built at Linkwood East, and the new designation at Linkwood Farm. East End's increased capacity will take much of the pressure off New Elgin, which can then be held at its present capacity, or even reduced.

3.10 **Greenwards**, as is proposed in the consultation document, might expand its catchment eastwards to the A941 Rothes Road. It is understood that a substantial number of the pupils in this area are already "placed" at Greenwards, on account of the capacity issues at New Elgin. This change may not therefore greatly impact on Greenwards current roll; however Greenwards should include the future new housing areas at Glassgreen, Bilbohall, Mayne etc, designated in the new plan, as clearly within walking distance of this school, rather than across the A941 to New Elgin. Greenwards, it is also understood, has the capability to expand by one or two classrooms – an option far less costly than a new school in the south side.

3.11 **New Elgin** could, in this scenario, be kept to under 500 in its roll (for which it has capacity) or even reduced to 450.

3.12 On the north side, **Seafield** school is to be refurbished and expanded by two classrooms. This should enable the substantial number of out of zone placements to Bishopmill to be reduced (as well as taking part of East Ends current zone).

3.13 **Bishopmill** is currently zoned to take all of the Robertson/Scotia Hamilton Gardens 430 house development (of which some 100 are built) as well as the western part of Findrassie. It is proposed that these two housing developments feed into Bishopmill as the most natural walking distance school, until such time as the new school is brought into operation. This is anticipated to be by 2019/20.

3.14 The new **Findrassie** school is calculated to be required when the two housing developments of Spynie and Findrassie cumulatively reach about 500 completions. Its catchment should include both developments, and probably a substantial number of houses around Myreside Circle, down to Duffus Road/Morrison Road. All these areas will be within safe walking distance – and the Findrassie Master Plan is being designed very much with footpaths and cycle tracks to the fore.



4. The Forecast rate of Housebuilding

4.1 Smiths Gore would wish to query the forecast rate of housebuilding (and hence pupil generation) put forward in the report.

4.2 The tables predict a primary roll total by 2021, of 2914 (a 35% increase in 7 years) and a rise in absolute numbers, of 762 pupils. This appears to be predicated on a rate of house completions over these 7 years which is considerably greater than the past 7 years. In fact, the Council's Housing Land Audit in 2014 gave figures for house completions in Elgin in the individual 9 years from 2005 to 2013 as 1309, an annual average of 145.

4.3 762 more pupils in 2021 implies an annual average over the next 7 years of 360 house completions per annum. There is no clear reason given as to why Elgin's building rate would increase so dramatically, and we believe the forecast rolls towards 2021, given in the report, are likely to be significantly over-estimated. If the forecasts were based on a continuum of 140 p.a., that would generate 42 extra primary pupils per annum (based on the 0.3 per house formula) which (taking spare capacity as at 2014 and planned increased capacity into account) could be accommodated in the existing schools for several years ahead.

4.4 It is accepted however that building rates are likely to increase after the downturn of the housing market, but would be unlikely to ever achieve more than 200 annual house completions sustained over several years.

4.5 Therefore, we think it is practicable to plan for a single new school for Elgin coming on stream around 2019/20, and that the location of that school should, as planned for in the Master Planning process, be in the north, where the bulk of post - 2021 housebuilding in Elgin will take place.

5. Site readiness

5.1 The development at Findrassie is likely to commence 2016/17. A substantial amount of preparatory work has been carried out into serviceability of the site, and, crucially, it is under one ownership. The Master Plan will identify a school site this year, which means that, in terms of site searching, a Findrassie school site is several steps ahead of any suggested second school in the south. Planning its design, scale, functions, community integration etc., can commence immediately.

5.2 Extensive analysis of the site has already been completed, and technical reports can be furnished to the council as supplementary to this submission.

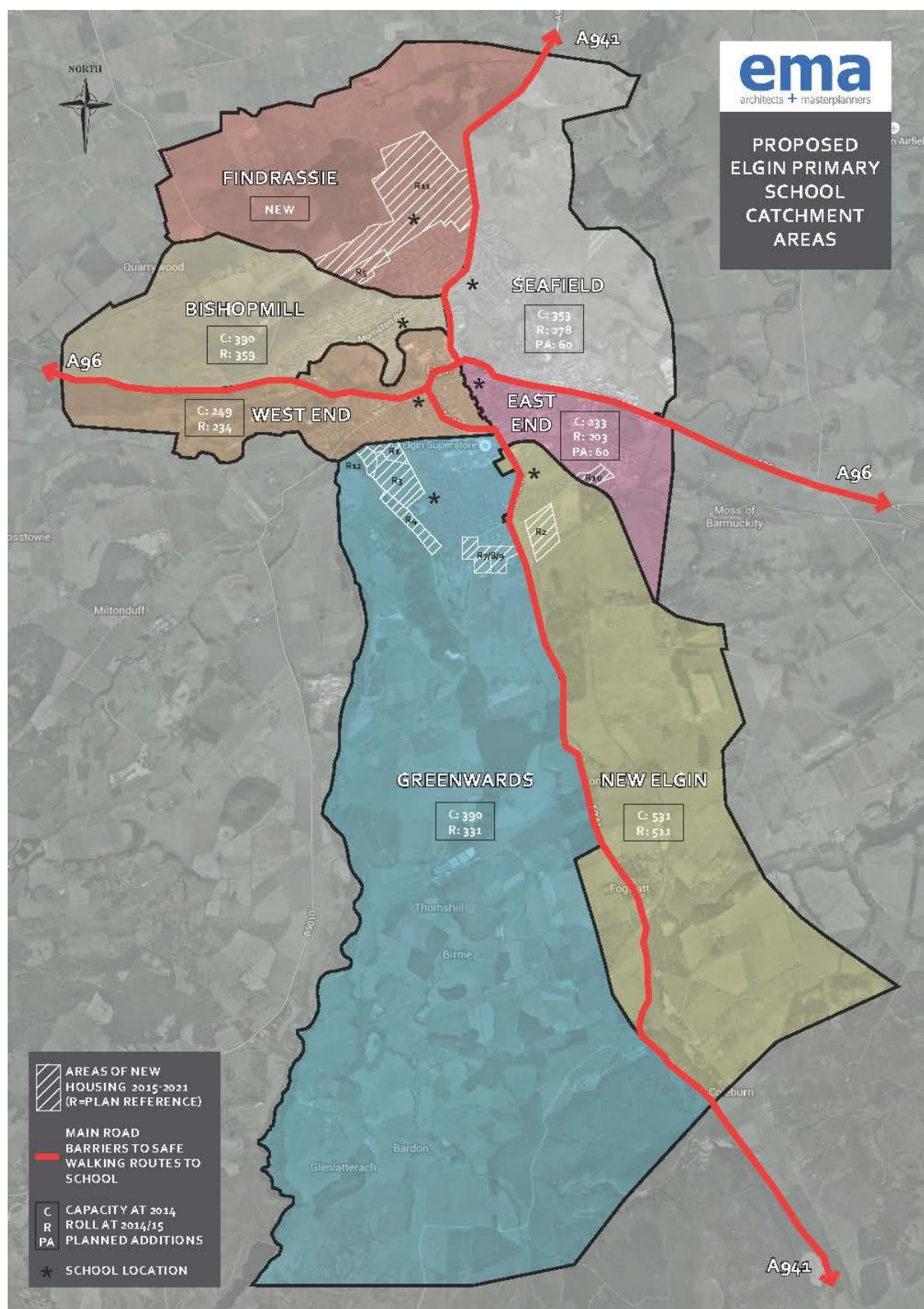


5.3 The actual location of the school within Findrassie is still under discussion between the Master Plan team and the Council Stakeholder Group (which includes Education), but it is likely to be central, near Covesea Road, and some distance from the electricity substation. Various landscaping scenarios to screen and separate the substation off from walking routes are being tested.

5.4 In addition, cycle and footpath routes through to the existing and under-construction housing are being pursued, specifically in order to make the new school as safely accessible as possible to as wide a range of existing and future residential areas as possible.

5.5 It is possible that the school site could be offered to Moray Council as part of the developer obligations pertaining to the Master Plan development of Findrassie.

Establishing a new primary school for south-east Elgin 2015/16



Establishing a new primary school for south-east Elgin 2015/16

Sent: 04 February 2016 09:06

Subject: Statutory consultation for establishing a new primary school for south-east Elgin

Attachment: Establishing a New Primary School for South-East Elgin_ Response

Dear Sir/Madam

On behalf of the City and Royal Burgh of Elgin Community Council, I attach our response to this consultation.

Regards.

Establishing a New Primary School for South-East Elgin Response from the City and Royal Burgh of Elgin Community Council

Background

The Moray Council has conducted a statutory consultation exercise on its proposals to:

- 1) Establish a new primary school with nursery provision to serve the catchment area for the south-east of Elgin;
- 2) Establish the new school temporarily at the former Heritage Centre at East End Primary School until the new school building is complete, accommodating initially P1, and thereafter P1 to P3 in subsequent years;
- 3) Implement this from 15th August 2015;
- 4) Relocate the school to its new building when the building is complete, with a target date of August 2018.

Various public meetings were held by the Council to explain its proposals. The Community Council was represented at the meeting in Elgin Town Hall on the evening of 6th January, and at the evening meeting on 25th January in New Elgin Primary School. In addition the approaches to East End Primary School were inspected one morning prior to the opening of the school to gain a better understanding of existing and possible future traffic problems at the school.

No member of the Community Council is the parent or guardian of any child directly affected by these proposals. The Community Council, while taking into account the views expressed publicly by individual parents and their representative bodies, has tried to look at the overall picture as it affects Elgin, and to look at the greatest overall benefit, while recognising that some parents and their children may well be adversely affected by the proposals.

The Consultation Process

The Community Council recognises that the consultation process, its timing and content, is driven by statute. It further recognises that the timing of the consultation,

Establishing a new primary school for south-east Elgin 2015/16

taking place over late December 2015 and January 2016, was not ideal. However the Community Council recognises the time factors and the pressures on the primary schools in this part of Elgin which made this necessary. The Community Council however commends the openness and honesty of the Council officers, namely Graham Jarvis and Paul Watson, supported by the Corporate Director Laurence Findlay, in conducting the consultation meetings, and attempting to answer the many questions and points made by members of the public.

The Community Council believes (albeit with the benefit of hindsight) that having a transport engineer present at the initial meetings at Elgin Town Hall (as happened later in the process) would have been beneficial in answering questions on perceived transport problems.

The Community Council wishes to express its concern that a member of the Children and Young People's Services Committee expressed an opinion in public (indeed sent out it appears through the Council's PR office) during the consultation process attacking the views expressed by some of the parents from East End Primary School. While the Community Council may have some sympathy with the contents of what the councillor said, and the wish to correct misinformation then being circulated, the Community Council believes that:

- 1) any such correction should have been issued by a Council officer;
- 2) as a result of these comments, the perception may have been given that the consultation was not a genuine consultation;
- 3) the councillor concerned should recuse himself from participating in any decision on this matter when it comes to the Children and Young People's Services Committee for decision, as he has expressed a declared position during a statutory consultation prior to having had sight of all the relevant documents and reports generated from that consultation, in order to allow him to make, and be seen to make, a fully informed decision.

Merits of the Proposal

The Community Council recognises the pressures currently being placed on the primary schools in south east Elgin, especially New Elgin Primary School. It further recognises the issues which were raised in the report by Education Scotland arising from the rezoning of Elgin primary schools late in 2015, where in particular the issue was raised of children with siblings already at New Elgin Primary School possibly being denied a place due to there being a lack of available space.

The Community Council recognises the work undertaken in the options appraisal carried out by the Council, and believes that none of the alternatives analysed offer an acceptable solution, whether it be on value to the public purse, or on the educational benefit to the children concerned.

The Community Council therefore supports in principle the Council's proposal.

Establishing a new primary school for south-east Elgin 2015/16

Traffic Issues

One of the issues which occupied much of the time of the initial public meetings was the question of traffic congestion at East End Primary School. The Community Council take the view that:

- 1) parents should be discouraged from driving their children to school, and the Council's efforts to develop and promote safe walking to school routes should be supported. The Community Council cannot support the expansion of the East End Primary School site whether it be through natural projected growth or the transplantation of a new school in part of the site for a temporary period, if that expansion is predicated on parents automatically driving their own children to school. Some parents do not have access to cars for this purpose, and for most children there is no real requirement for parents to drive them to school;
- 2) it is essential that the offer made by the Council of bus transport for the children from within the catchment area attending the new school be followed through, and that negotiations with the parents concerned be carried out sympathetically to ensure that :
 - (a) sufficient and suitable pick-up and drop-off points are identified and agreed upon;
 - (b) the buses used for this transport are suitable for P1 children;
 - (c) sufficient and properly trained escorts are engaged to escort the children on the bus(es), and that satisfactory contingency plans are in place to cover illness or other absence;
- 3) the Community Council recognises that there may well be situations where children going to the new school when located at East End Primary are being collected by bus while a child who is a near neighbour is not being collected because that child attends East End Primary School itself. The Community Council would request that the Council responds sympathetically to any requests for East End Primary School children to be permitted to use the bus as well, if that can be accommodated without disrupting the service;
- 4) the Council's transportation engineers in liaison with the East End Primary Parent Council, local residents, Police Scotland and the Education service be tasked to devise solutions which ameliorate the existing transport problems and prevent increased problems arising, where at all possible.

Integration with East End Primary School

The suggestion was made during the consultation process by some East End Primary School parents that rather than having a separate school located on the site of East End Primary School, that the south east school children be integrated into

Establishing a new primary school for south-east Elgin 2015/16

their school, either by way of complete integration in to the school, or by way of creating separate classes at P1, P2 and P3 as each year passes, into which the south east school children would be placed.

The Community Council does not support this suggestion. There are real benefits to allowing the head teacher, staff, parents and children to develop the ethos and identity of the school from an early stage and to be involved in both its development and the design and development of the new school building. In addition, we believe that the target date of August 2018 for the handover of the new school building may not be achieved, so there is real and substantial merit in having achieved a situation where midway through a school year, the new school could relocate en masse to the new building, rather than have the affected children removed from integrated classes midway though the year. We are of the view that if classes were integrated, then such a move could take place only in August each year – to do otherwise would be too disruptive to the education of the affected children.

The Community Council would fully expect there to be mixing and joint activities between the two pupils of the two schools on the site, whether that be in the playground, at sports day, or in sports teams, or other activities. Indeed the possibility of having the new school pupils forming a new 'house' of East End Primary School may be worth exploring further. We are aware of school campuses, including one secondary school campus elsewhere in Scotland, where denominational and non-denominational pupils go to different schools but share the same campus, with minimum conflict in the shared space. As the children concerned will be in P1 to P3, we think it unlikely that there will other than minimal difficulties of this sort.

Placing Requests

The Community Council would ask that the Council implement the following:

- 1) if a pupil from outwith the south east Elgin catchment area attends the new school while located at East End Primary School, that that child be automatically entitled to continue at the new school without any further placing request when it moves to the new building;
- 2) the Council tries to ensure that in individual cases siblings are not separated between the new school and New Elgin Primary School, or between any other combination of affected schools, unless that is the clear wish of the concerned parents;
- 3) that in considering any proposal to stagger school starting times that proper consideration be given to the needs of parents with children at different schools within Elgin, especially where the Council has been unable to fulfil a placing request which would have resulted in the siblings attending the same school.

Establishing a new primary school for south-east Elgin 2015/16

Development of the New School Building

The Community Council has a major concern about the achievability of the proposed timetable for delivery of the new school building. As we understand it, there is only one identified site which is suitable within the south east of Elgin. We further understand that both it and all the rest of the surrounding sites which might provide alternatives are in the control of one developer. We further understand that the Council has not as yet reached any formal agreement with the owner of the proposed site regarding the construction of a school there.

The Community Council notes that:

- 1) the land in question is included in an area of land zoned as LONG 2 within the local development plan adopted by Council in 2015;
- 2) the local development plan does not contemplate the release of this land during the timescale pertaining to the local development plan, unless certain triggers are activated, as set out in a technical note to the local development plan, and which note is considered to be a material planning consideration. One of the triggers is where the release of the land for housing is “required to deliver key objectives of the Council and its Community Planning partners”. The opening of a school in this part of Elgin is believed to be such a key objective;
- 3) it is unlikely that the developer in question would choose to transfer the ownership of the site for the school to the Council as part of the required developer obligation pertaining to the development of LONG 2 or part of it, or indeed make payment to the Council of the required financial contribution towards building the school, unless planning consent has been granted for the development of at least Phase 1 of the land within LONG 2, around 850 housing units, and implementation of that consent is underway i.e. there are no conditions imposed on the planning consent delaying the implementation of the consent beyond the lifespan of the local development plan;
- 4) Pitgaveny Estate as the developers of Findrassie has submitted and had approved by the Council a masterplan for the development of around 1500 houses at Findrassie. It is likely to have a legitimate commercial expectation that the terms of the local development plan are adhered to by the Council. If it is believed that it has not been, then there is the very real prospect that Pitgaveny Estate may choose to take legal action to protect its commercial interests. Any such legal action could delay for several years the granting or implementation of any planning consent pertaining to the developer of LONG 2 or the consequent transfer of the land for the school and the related financial contribution towards its construction;
- 5) it may well be that the appropriate triggers to release part of the land in LONG 2 are achieved within the necessary timescale, and we understand that the Council will shortly commence work on its annual Housing Land Audit as part of that work. However the Community Council’s concern is that this process,

Establishing a new primary school for south-east Elgin 2015/16

in order to minimise the risk of legal challenge, may well take longer than the time which the education requirement allows.

The fallback position is that the building would be opened by August 2019, and which would mean that three intakes of children would start at the school. If a new school is operated within East End Primary School as a stand-alone operation and not integrated with the existing East End Primary School, then that would allow the new school to move to the new building at any point prior to August 2019. At that date we understand that additional accommodation would be required both for the new school and for East End Primary, and contingency planning should take place as early as required to facilitate this possibility.

City and Royal Burgh of Elgin Community Council
4th February 2016

Establishing a new primary school for south-east Elgin 2015/16

South-East Elgin Primary School Consultation
The Moray Council
Community Support Unit
High Street
Elgin
IV30 1BX

Dear Sirs,

OBJECTION

Statutory Consultation Proposal

Establishing a new primary school for south-east Elgin

Consultation period - 14th December 2015 to 4th February 2016

I write as a parent and member of the East End School Parent Forum in order to note my **objection to Proposal 1.2 of the Proposal Paper** which is set out below for ease of reference.

"1.2 *It is further proposed that the new school be established initially at a temporary site at East End Primary School Annexe until the new school building is complete. (The temporary accommodation will initially accommodate P1 children and will accommodate P1-3 in future years).*"

I **object to Proposal 1.2** on the following grounds:

1. OVERALL DETRIMENTAL EFFECT UPON EAST END SCHOOL

The proposal to house a temporary school with its own separate Head Teacher, staff and resources within the East End School Annexe (the old East End School building partly occupied until recently by the Heritage Centre) would have an overall detrimental effect upon East End School which is already experiencing various difficulties mainly due to:

- (a) severe staff shortages and difficulties in recruiting a Head Teacher over a number of years;
- (b) the poor HMIE Inspection published in February 2015;
- (c) poor traffic management in and around the school estate; and
- (d) the dangers of children travelling to East End School along the A96 from the Pinefield area of town.

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The proposal to house another temporary school within the East End School estate will only result in making East End School more unattractive to prospective parents. I fully expect enrolment figures for P1's this year to be reduced and note from listening to other parents in the playground, that many existing parents (including myself and others on the East End School Parent Council) are considering moving their children to other schools in and around Elgin as a direct result of this proposal.

I find this whole situation extremely frustrating and feel the parents at East End have already had to endure a great deal of difficulties over the previous years and, at a time when we can see that improvements are being made, we are hit with this Proposal which has had a huge detrimental effect upon the mood of the school and upon the work of the Parent Council.

2. **PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT OF CHILDREN ATTENDING TEMPORARY NEW SCHOOL**

The proposal has already caused a great deal of bad feeling amongst parents and the overall impression that children from the south-east catchment will receive preferential treatment while East End pupils are given very little consideration.

For example, the situation will arise where children who live in close proximity will fall into two different catchment areas but will both be attending schools within the East End school grounds. Whilst children who fall into the East End School catchment will continue to have to walk to school, the children who fall into the new catchment of the "temporary new school" will be entitled to free transport provided by the Council.

3. **TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT AROUND SCHOOL ESTATE**

Traffic management problems around the East End School estate are already acknowledged by the Council as being severe. Congestion around the school has in fact escalated in the last few years and the causes are easily identified:

- (a) the centralisation of Moray Council offices has resulted in increased numbers of Moray Council staff parking their cars in the streets around the school;
- (b) withdrawal of traffic wardens;
- (c) the new East End nursery school with an additional 40-50 children travelling to the area each day; and
- (d) the increased school roll at East End School.

At the Public Meeting held on 6th January 2016, a local resident challenged the Council about the traffic and parking issues in the area. The Council admitted that the problems "MAY BE INSURMOUNTABLE". The Council also confirmed that no assessments or surveys have been carried out to measure the impact of additional traffic and school buses that will arise from this Proposal.

A Report by the Economic Development and Infrastructure Services Committee dated 20th October 2015, demonstrates a complete lack of co-ordination and discussion between departments. Furthermore, the Report has clearly been written without any knowledge of this Proposal – which will inevitably **increase** traffic in the area!

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Establishing a new primary school for south-east Elgin 2015/16

Clause 4.1 of the Report states the following:

*"The school is situated at the cul-de-sac end of Institution Road, a narrow road with narrow footways. The school is sited close to council offices and St Sylvester's Primary; **the relative proximity of these two schools mean that one school cannot easily be considered without also considering the other.**"*

It is important to note that both schools and the residents in the surrounding streets were **NOT** consulted prior to this Proposal.

A copy of the Report is available at:

<http://www.moray.gov.uk/minutes/data/DC20151020/Item%2010-Safety%20Around%20Schools-R.pdf>

There are THREE main issues with regard to traffic management around the East End School estate:

3.1 **Close Proximity of another Primary School – St Sylvester's Primary**

East End School is closely situated to another Primary School, which is only about 100 metres away. There are therefore two Primary Schools and two Nurseries situated in a small area in an old part of town that has old and narrow roads and pavements. Altogether there are around 500 children attending these schools and nurseries who travel to the area each day.

There are significant problems around the area which have existed for many years. Various assessments and surveys have been carried out and NOTHING has been done. Both schools and nurseries have campaigned for years to have improvements made to traffic management – again nothing has been done.

3.2 **Crossing at Andersons Care Home**

The crossing is used by 2 schools and 2 nurseries as well as by local residents. There are significant dangers at this crossing with traffic consistently failing to slow down or stop. East End School has campaigned for a signal controlled crossing for many years without any success.

3.3 **Severe dangers to pedestrians (parents and children) who travel from Pinefield area along A96 to school**

The dangers of children having to travel along the A96 from Pinefield are well acknowledged and are recorded in the Rezoning Consultation Report dated 1st October 2015, as a reason why parents choose to send children to other schools – see clause 2.13.2 in particular.

A school bus has been provided for children attending East End School from the Pinefield area in the past and the Council should consider reintroducing a bus service.

4. **FLAWED CONSULTATION PROPOSAL PAPER AND PROCESS**

The Consultation Proposal Paper is flawed and fails to provide relevant and important information. Information given during the Public Meeting process has differed from information provided in the Proposal Paper and the overall impression

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Establishing a new primary school for south-east Elgin 2015/16

is that Council Officers have cobbled together this Proposal Paper in a short period of time and are basically making it up as they go along.

4.1 **The Consultation Proposal Paper is confusing and unclear**

There are three different issues covered by the Proposal Paper and these are not adequately defined or dealt with. The Proposal Paper should have dealt with each issue separately and in different sections to provide clarity and avoid confusion e.g.:

- (a) Proposal for a new school at Linkwood;
- (b) Proposal for a temporary new school within the East End School estate; and
- (c) The impact of a temporary new school within the East End School estate upon East End School.

Throughout the Paper it is often difficult to determine whether it is the new school, the temporary new school or East End School that is being discussed.

4.2 **Lack of detail and timescales for the construction of the proposed new school including unclear and uncertain detail with regard to the proposed site.**

- (a) There are currently no definite plans or timescale for the construction of a new school at Linkwood. A site to accommodate pupils for the newly created south east catchment zone has not even been identified. It is unfair and unreasonable to proceed with a Proposal with such an uncertain future. The lack of detail and clarity within the Proposal Paper has caused great anxiety for all parties involved – for parents within the newly created south-east zone and for parents of children who attend East End School.
- (b) It is unfair and unreasonable to proceed with a temporary new school within the East End School estate when there are no definite plans or timescales for a new school. The consequent pressures and negative impact caused by this uncertainty upon East End School has not been addressed and is unacceptable.

4.3 **Savills Smith Gore Letter dated 8th December 2015**

Continuing the point made at 1.2 above, the uncertainty of the future of a new school at Linkwood is highlighted in the Savills Smith Gore Letter (the “SSG letter”) dated 8th December 2015 (Appendix 1).

The receipt of the SSG letter was mentioned and raised by Cllr Tuke during the Children and Young People Service's Committee meeting held on 9th December 2015, when the decision was taken to proceed with this Proposal. Cllr Skene stated that as some members of the Committee had not yet received a copy of the SSG letter, it should be discussed during the consultation period.

At the first Public Meeting held at the Elgin Town Hall on Wednesday 6th January 2016, I requested a copy of the SSG letter. Mr Graham Jarvis (Moray Council Officer and Head of Lifelong Learning) stated that the SSG letter was not relevant to the proposal for a temporary new school at East End School. Mr Jarvis' statement was misleading as the points raised within the SSG letter relate directly to the proposal for a new school in the south-east of Elgin (the new Linkwood School) and raises a number of serious objections. It should be noted that any delays in the construction of a new school would have a serious negative impact upon East End School.

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Establishing a new primary school for south-east Elgin 2015/16

Following the meeting, I again made a request to the Council for a copy of the SSG letter which was subsequently treated as a "Freedom of Information" request and is now available on the Moray Council website at:

http://www.moray.gov.uk/moray_standard/page_102620.html

and attached as (Appendix 1).

During the Public Meeting process, Council Officials have stated that the likely time for completion of a new school would involve a planning and design period of around 18 months with a further 18 months being required for the construction. This would be a period of three years at the very least.

I feel the SSG letter makes some very valid points and with the uncertainty that is highlighted, the length of time for construction of a new school will be significantly longer than indicated in the Proposal Paper and by Council Officers.

The Consultation should not have gone ahead until firm and definite plans were in place for a new school. The timescales stated in the Proposal Paper for a new build school by August 2018 are completely misleading.

4.4 Failure to consider impact of proposal upon East End School

The Proposal Paper fails to address the impact of a temporary new school within the East End School estate upon East End School or the children who attend East End School who will ultimately be the most directly affected by the Proposal.

4.5 Failure to consult with East End School in advance of the Proposal

On 1st October 2015, the Education and Social Care Department published the "Primary School Rezoning Consultation Report". This gave the first indication that East End School was to be considered as a site for a possible temporary new school. No attempt was made by the Council to bring the content of this Report to the attention of the staff and parents of East End School. The content of the Report was "discovered" during the school holiday period in mid-October.

The content of the Report, when it became known, came as a shock to the staff and parents of East End School who had been led to believe that the rooms temporarily used by the Heritage Centre in the East End School Annexe (the original old East End School building) were to be refurbished and returned for use by East End School pupils.

At the Children and Young People Service's Committee meeting held on 9th December 2015, Cllr Mike Shand very kindly made an attempt to redress the Council's failure to consult with East End by offering a Public Admission as follows:

"East End was not even considered when this [Proposal] was put forward. In other words it was simply a case of we'll slot the Heritage Centre out to the Library and we can slot that in there"

"... there was no thought given to any problems or any considerations or anything at all about the parents or kids at East End."

... they were ignored in this whole consideration until the very last part in the last couple of weeks ..."

Establishing a new primary school for south-east Elgin 2015/16

While I was grateful to hear Cllr Shand's admission, the fact remains that East End School was not consulted or considered in the months prior to the publication of the Proposal Paper.

As noted previously, the Council also failed to consult with St. Sylvester's Primary School and with local residents.

4.6 Equality Impact Assessment fails to address issues at East End School

The Equality Impact Assessment does not address issues at the temporary school within the East End School estate, or, at East End School.

The Equality Impact Assessment lacks clarity and is confusing and only appears to address issues at the new Linkwood School when it is eventually built. For example, it does not consider or make clear whether there will be facilities for children with disabilities or additional needs at the temporary school.

4.7 Transport Arrangements - no clear travel plans or travel arrangements

There are no clear travel plans or travel arrangements for the south-east children to be taken by bus to the temporary new school included in the Proposal Paper. There is no indication as to when the travel plan will be finalised. This again has caused a great deal of uncertainty and anxiety for parents.

4.8 Future use of the Old East End School Building

There are no clear plans or timescales for the future use and return of use of the Old East End School Building to East End School.

Furthermore, it should be noted that as the building has been used and occupied by East End pupils since 1833 and will eventually be returned for use by East End School, any decisions with regard to the refurbishment of the building should ultimately be made by East End School.

4.9 Inconsistent and unclear figure work: school roll projections and capacities

School roll projections and capacity figures have varied significantly between various documents, in various news reports and in the presentations given at the Public Meetings. No explanation has been given for these differences.

5. NO EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS FOR EAST END SCHOOL

There are no educational benefits for East End School arising from the Proposal. Officers were questioned with regard to this at the Public Meetings. They answered simply that were "no deficits" and that East End School will benefit from the refurbishment of the Old School Building.

It should be noted that:

- (a) The rooms in the Old School Building were due to be refurbished anyway for use by East End pupils – parents and staff have been led to believe this by the Council.
- (b) It will be many years before the refurbished rooms in the Old School Building are returned for use by East End School pupils.

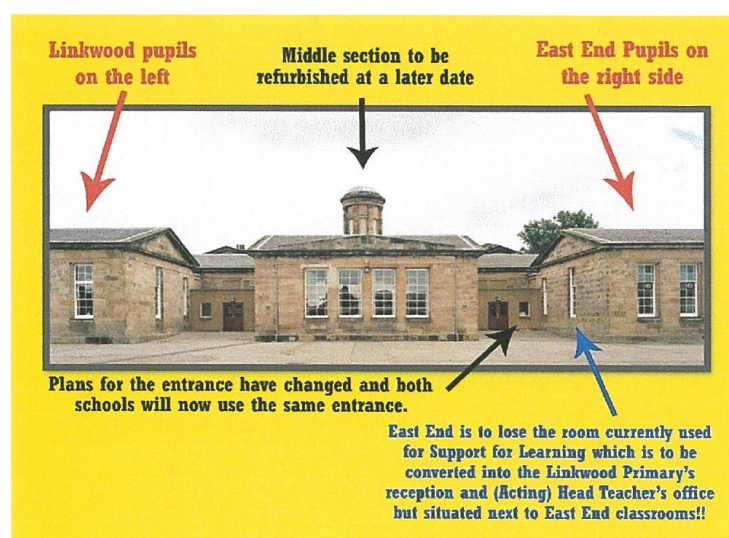
Establishing a new primary school for south-east Elgin 2015/16

- (c) East End School will in fact lose rooms currently available for use by the school and availability of other spaces such as the assembly hall and gym will be reduced. These are clear deficits.

Furthermore, at the Public Meetings held at East End School it was confirmed that a room currently used by East End for Support for Learning is to be converted into the Head Teacher's office and reception for use by August 2016. The loss of this room is a deficit and is unacceptable.

Additionally, the Head Teacher's office will be situated alongside two East End School classrooms while the newly refurbished rooms for the new temporary school will be situated at the opposite side of the building. The location of the Head Teacher's office and reception raises various security issues and will also be distracting to East End pupils.

The following picture demonstrates my interpretation of information that has been provided and I believe this is an accurate interpretation.



It was also confirmed by Council Officers (in an email) that modular classrooms will only be provided once all general purpose spaces within the 1970's building are exhausted. Again this will have a serious detrimental effect upon East End School and is unacceptable.

7. **ALTERNATIVE SOLUTION**

I believe the only alternative is for the children from the south-east zone to be zoned to attend East End School as East End school pupils until a new school is built – which could be many, many years. This would avoid the need for another Head Teacher and also avoid the loss of space for an extra Head Teacher's office and reception. East End School should remain as one school working together and occupying both the old and new school buildings just as it has in the past.

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Establishing a new primary school for south-east Elgin 2015/16

There should also be a cap on the amount of children who attend the East End School and this should be in the region of 400-450 pupils. This would help to reduce the pressure on the school estate and surrounding streets in the area.

A school bus service should be provided for the south-east children and for the children attending East End School from the Pinefield area.

Finally, I wish to note for the record, that I did already make the suggestion to the Council that it should look to create a temporary school within empty units owned by Springfield Properties at Glassgreen. This would seem like an ideal location as it is situated within the catchment and there is a new football field and pavilion situated within a few minutes walking distance.

Yours faithfully,

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APPENDIX 1

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8 December 2015

Councillor Skene
Chair of Children and Young People's Services Committee
The Moray Council
Council Offices
High Street
Elgin IV30 1BX

Our Ref
Your Ref

Dear Councillor Skene,

Findrassie Masterplan – Primary School Provision for Elgin

Thank you for meeting Donald Lunan, Planning Consultant with Savills Smiths Gore (agents for Pitgaveny) last Wednesday, 2nd December to discuss the concerns of our client Pitgaveny regarding the Children and Young People's Committee's consideration of the proposed new school for the south side of Elgin and its impact on the allocated new neighbourhood at Findrassie. You will be aware that the Council adopted the Findrassie Masterplan as Supplementary Guidance to the Local Development Plan (LDP) just last week on 1 December 2015.

We have now had the opportunity to read the report regarding the proposed new school to the Committee, which was only made available on the Moray Council website on Thursday, 3rd December. Our comments below are therefore written under considerable time constraints. We are available to discuss any of these points in more detail.

At the outset we would state that Pitgaveny is fully in support of the proposed temporary accommodation to overcome the current and potential capacity issues at New Elgin Primary School.

However, Pitgaveny asks that The Moray Council reconsiders its decision to build a new school on the south side of Elgin, and re-examines the options for dealing with the overall picture of primary school capacity across Elgin and not just on the south side. It is our view that a new school in this location is not the correct solution for Elgin as a whole. We also have an alternative solution which we consider should be presented to Councillors in full to make sure that any such significant decision as a new school is taken with all the options having been carefully considered and highlighted to Members.

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We would reiterate five fundamental points of concern:

1. The forecast and premise justifying the south school.

We continue to question the premise behind the drive for a new school in the South of Elgin and have presented a clear case for an alternative approach for the whole of Elgin which is much less costly to the Council tax payer and adheres strictly and correctly to Moray Council's policies as set out in the newly adopted LDP. We also question the process which has been followed to arrive at the current decision, because fundamentally the prediction that Elgin's primary school rolls will increase at 3 times the rate of the 7 previous years, as asserted in Education's consultation paper, is not credible and that for the following reasons;

- Council figures show that in the 7 years from 2008 to 2015, the total Elgin primary rolls have actually increased by 250.
- The Education consultation forecasts are that, in the 7 years from 2014 to 2021, the primary rolls will rise by 750; 3 times the amount they have risen in the previous equivalent period.
- In the same 7 years up to 2015, the average number of new houses built in Elgin was 145 per annum (circa 1000 houses)
- For the primary school rolls to triple in the next seven years, housebuilding would also have to triple. There is no obvious evidence that Moray will be subject to such a significant demand for or increase in housebuilding.
- The main housing land allocations for Elgin are located in the north including 1500 units at Findrassie as well as 70 units at Lesmurdie Fields and 60 units at Hatton. On the south side, sites for only 390 more houses were allocated in the recently adopted LDP.

The forecasts used to justify a brand new school on the south side have to be based on the area known as LONG2 in the LDP. This LONG site is one of two such sites in Elgin, the other being LONG1 to the North East. The issues of use of LONG sites is dealt with below. The reasons for including the LONG2 area in any calculations for new school on the south side are premature, unclear and are inconsistent with the treatment of the allocated sites and the LONG1 area in the north of Elgin.

Indeed the recent announcement of additional personnel being placed at Lossiemouth point to the main demand for housing and consequently new education provision being to the north of Elgin on the Council's allocated site for 1500 houses and a primary school at Findrassie.

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2. Premature use of LONG land.

As was stated at last Wednesday's meeting, the report makes it clear that the new 'Linkwood school' (as already referred to by your officers) will draw from housing areas east of Reiket Lane currently within the catchments of New Elgin, and East End. However it will apparently primarily rely on Springfield Properties' declared intention to build housing in the extensive areas of LONG2, in which the school is to be sited (paragraphs 3.3 and 3.4 of the report). It even goes so far as to suggest 'contributions from the developer' (i.e. Springfield Properties) to help pay for the school.

The release of housing land in LONG2 at this stage in the life of the new Local Development Plan is in our view, not only a serious breach of planning policy but is also a serious breach of faith with Pitgaveny's co-operative working with the Council on the Findrassie Master Plan (Adopted just last week) to provide a clear planned solution for Elgin as a whole and not just the south or north sides.

The Council's award-winning LONG policy has clear triggers set out in the Development Plan which states that release of LONG land must not "compromise delivery of a master planned approach". The use of LONG2 at such an early stage in the life of the LDP compromises the Council's commitment to a masterplanned approach to development on sites across Elgin and undermines their own Findrassie masterplan adopted just last week.

The trigger quoted in the Education report comes, not from the LDP but from the Housing Land Audit 2015 and its applicability in this instance is highly questionable.

3. The lack of a South Side Master Plan.

Neither we nor the general public have seen or been consulted on any Springfield Master Plan for the LONG2 area, yet its approval is a pre-requisite (in the LDP) for any development to occur within it. We expect The Moray Council to impose (on any other masterplan process in Moray) the same rigour of process, consultation and design that was undertaken to develop the Findrassie Masterplan, a process insisted on by The Moray Council and welcomed by Pitgaveny. In any case, the development of a masterplan for the LONG2 area is vastly premature given the existing effective housing land supply in Elgin.

4. The potential prejudice to other developers and other allocated sites

The Education report recommendations rest on an ambiguous and selective interpretation of the 'trigger' referred to in your officers' report to bring forward land for a school. And yet none of the triggers have been met for bringing forward housing on LONG2.

There is no case to designate more housing land in Elgin at this moment in time over and above the current allocations in the new LDP. A 1500 house Master Plan has just been

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approved at Findrassie which includes education provision, and if our interpretation of the Committee Report is correct and new housing land is being allowed to be brought forward at Springfield Properties' behest on LONG2, simply in order to fund a school, this potentially has to be subject to legal challenge by all other builders and land owners with commitments on already designated housing sites around all of Elgin.

5. The lack of acknowledgement in the report to a new school at Findrassie.

After many months – indeed years – of joint working, public consultation, and scrutiny by the Council's own appointed third party panel, Architecture and Design Scotland, the Master Plan for Findrassie was finally approved by the Council only last week (1st December 2015). It contains a site for a new primary school, and significantly, as Supplementary Guidance to the Local Development Plan, this Master Plan constitutes as much a commitment to a school by the Education Authority as by the Master Plan developers.

The principle and the location of this new school to the north has been discussed and agreed with the Education representatives on the Council's Working Group for Findrassie. These were the same people who wrote the current report and are therefore fully aware of the Findrassie school. However, there is no reference in the Director of Education's Committee Report (9 December 2015) to the school at Findrassie and no explanation why it has not been referred to. We trust that this omission of a school in the north will be remedied before going to consultation.

Conclusion

In summary, we cannot state strongly enough, that is a very real danger of the Council:

- Being committed to circa £10 million capital investment in a school which is in the wrong place
- Undermining its newly adopted Local Development Plan including its award winning Policy H2 LONG and its Primary Place making policy PP3
- Undermining its own newly adopted Findrassie Masterplan
- As a result of the above, being vulnerable to legal challenge

We respectfully request that as Chair of the Children and Young People's Services Committee, you give due consideration to these matters in your decision making. We are available to discuss these crucial matters with members.

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Yours Sincerely

Debbie Mackay

Director

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Establishing a new primary school for south-east Elgin 2015/16

Sent: 04 February 2016 14:23

Subject: Establishing a new primary school for south-east Elgin

Dear Sirs,

Further to your public meetings re the above, I write to ask for details of your plans for the significant increase in vehicular traffic in the whole area surrounding the proposed new school at the temporary site at East End school annexe for a period of potentially three years or more.

The current volume of traffic in the Queen Street area and in Abbey Street around St Sylvester's primary and nursery schools already causes severe congestion and bottle necks. Given the proximity of the A96 carrying all the vehicle traffic on the major Aberdeen to Inverness route, surely it cannot be considered adding to these problems with the volume of proposed buses and cars required to deliver and collect initially primary 1, then primary 2 and 3 children to this site. Any increase in this traffic at peak times would without question further reduce the flow of traffic along the road nominally referred to as the Elgin Relief Road, but known as A96. This route is used by emergency vehicles, for example to and from Dr Grays Hospital and any further congestion is unacceptable.

I should be grateful to receive written confirmation from you that:

1. the end of Institution Road will NOT be closed and
2. advice of your proposed route for buses to deliver and collect children from south east Elgin to the site of East End school without incurring danger to pedestrians trying to cross already busy roads and without bringing traffic in the larger area to a total standstill.

Has consideration been given to the possibility of making Queen Street and Abbey Street a one-way loop?

Yours faithfully

Social Media

From: Facebook [
Sent: 20 January 2016 13:31
Subject: [Moray Council] New message from xxx

Conversation between Moray Council and xxx

xxxx 20 January 13:01

The south east parents were told that they would
Be informed about the meetings, I haven't seen this one
advertised?

Survey Monkey Comments

Establishing a New Primary School for South-East Elgin

Response from Head Teacher – East End Primary School



I agree that there is a need to accommodate the children and looking at the current proposals East End Primary School Annexe is the only viable option. Having looked at the possible alternatives given, I can find no solution to the relocation of the pupils for the new school other than at East End. However, there are a number of logistical issues which I feel are not fully answered or exemplified either in the paper work or through discussions at public meetings and at the school staff event.

- Long-term impact on the learning and teaching experience for the pupils within East End Primary School by using the annexe to accommodate P1 initially with a view that it may run to P1-P3 if the build is delayed (and possibly further!)

This may impact in a variety of ways, particularly in relation to pupil emotional and social wellbeing, relationships and access to the full curriculum due to reduction in capacity of the GP spaces available. Most importantly, as a result of losing GP space, the planned development of the school in relation to an area dedicated to Nurture provision (similar to that very effectively run at New Elgin Primary School) will have to be put on hold.

- The reduction in the capacity of East End as it currently operates to access areas within the annexe building due to the new children and staff being accommodated within that building. This impacts immediately on the current Additional Support Needs (ASN) provision which we are able to deliver to our children in order to support their specific learning needs.
- The proposal is that the children should be accommodated in the Heritage Centre and be taught as a school (new) in order to create their own identity. Yet it is suggested that they would share a playground and a dining room at similar times as the East End children to create a school community. This begs the question as to why the children are not being accommodated within East End School (using the current buildings and then expanding into the refurbished annexe when it is completely ready) and when the new school is finished the children would then be moved into their new school at that point together.

In order to allow the children in the school (new) to build their own community and therefore facilitate an easier and more effective transition, playtime and lunchtime arrangements should be separate and staggered to facilitate both schools to operate individually so that they can retain their own friendships and identity. This exemplifies the need for the two school staff compliments to work with their own individual core pupils.

- The provision of support staff including Lunchtime and Auxiliary staff should be budgeted for using the linear formulae appropriate to each individual school size. This will ensure that both schools are separately funded and operating costs are managed by the appropriate Head Teacher.
- The Head Teacher of East End Primary, in collaboration with the appointed Acting Head Teacher of the new provision would agree the timetables and access to areas such as

Establishing a new primary school for south-east Elgin 2015/16

playground, grass, PE hall and dining room. This must be done with minimal disruption to the existing timetabling of spaces (incl GP space) within East End school and community.

- Transportation to and from school for pupils needs to be clearly defined and the supervision of the pupils once in the playground area at the start of the day and whilst waiting for the bus at the end of the day needs to be included in costing and budget.
- Building works completed in the annexe should deliver facilities that will enhance the provision of East End Primary Schools education in the future. Therefore, it is essential that the current holder of the Head Teacher post within East End School be included in consultation regarding the provision being provided in the annexe. This would reduce any further costs to the Council when the pupils from the school (new) vacate the premises and East End Pupils access in the future.
- Whilst I accept that the option put forward for consultation regarding use of the annexe building is manageable within the current roll/space of East End, this would need to be reviewed in an on-going manner and careful consideration would need to be made to the future needs of the East End school population as it develops and grows in the next two years to allow the inzone pupils access to the full entitlement of provision and to planned provision.
- Care must be taken to ensure that **NO** pupil from East End is denied access to any facility that they currently have or which is planned for whilst the school (new) is located within the campus, e.g. Additional Support Needs facility (particularly for the children with greatest need); library area; active play area; and the planned Nurture Area.

Gail McIntosh

Head Teacher

Establishing a new primary school for south-east Elgin 2015/16

1.	<p>As a member of staff with a child at East End primary, I am against the proposal to create a separate school in the East End Annexe. I believe a far better alternative would be to have the new catchment children enrol as East End pupils as part of our school. This way they would share everything equally and fit in better with all the other pupils in our school. They would share assembly times, library, look the same, mix with children of all ages which I think is important and play together in the same playground. From a staff point of view, I believe that two different schools sharing the same facilities would cause so much confusion and disruption for both pupils and teachers. As I am often working out in the playground, I am constantly faced with issues which need to be reported to either the teacher of the pupil involved or the Head Teacher. Having to go into another school as well as our own to try and resolve these issues could be very time consuming. In the proposal paper 2.4 it states that the original proposal was for the new catchment children to attend their current zoned school until the new school was opened but concerns were that there would be too much pressure on existing accommodation. This can't be true for East End as we still have room to expend so therefore there shouldn't be a problem for new catchment pupils being East End pupils until the new school is built. My other concern is for East End losing valuable space. In the proposal paper 3.2.2 it states that alleviated roll pressures will enhance opportunity to create more adaptable environments for learning. It seems not for East End though as, if this statement was true, we wouldn't be losing out on our SFL room to make way for two offices which in my opinion shouldn't be needed. Losing our SLF classroom would have such a negative impact on so many pupils. It is room they can go into to learn, away from an environment where they have found it very difficult to focus. As an education auxiliary I worry that these pupils will be set back because they will be forced to be taught by ourselves either in classrooms or open areas where they will feel embarrassed / self conscious and unable to focus because of distractions. The less these children are made to feel different the better. Hopefully the best decision will be made for all so that we can all work / learn and play in harmony at East End primary.</p>
2.	<p>During the discussions with the Council representatives it was stated that the proposal to locate a new school in the Annexe would not in any way be detrimental to the pupils at East End. However as we are losing our SFL room, I find it hard to see how the pupils we work with will not be disadvantaged. Since starting in August myself and my colleague have worked hard to plan, implement work programmes with progressions as well as strategies for all children with additional support needs; whatever these needs are. We strongly feel that taking away the quiet, uncluttered, calm learning space we have created will impact on the pupils as well as the ethos of the school. While it was also stated that SFL do not need a separate room and that we should be in the classroom, this unfortunately is not always the case and sometimes children who have severe social, emotional and behavioural issues cannot always be accommodated in the classroom. We also work with groups of children made up from different classes, but based on ability; how do we do this within one classroom, or the teacher is teaching another curricular area? While we are not opposed</p>

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	to working in a different environment it is disheartening to be told that there is no money to help relocate us within the existing school building, just because the school has 5 open areas. Surely if there is money to renovate the room we are in for the new school, help should be given to allow us to relocate with all our resources. How can we possibly 'get it right for every child' if we have to teach them in an open area which can be noisy and have many distractions. This has already been tried and did not work. I would propose to integrate the new P1 class(es) as part of East End. This would allow the new P1s to enjoy a whole school experience without any distinction between two schools sharing one building. The Annexe could continue to be renovated to accommodate our growing school and when the new school is built the children within the catchment area could move there if their parents wished.
3.	In the HMI inspection report Dec 2014 it was stated that East End primary schools provision for children with Additional Support Needs was 'weak'. Since taking up the role of support for learning teacher in April 2015, I alongside my colleague have strived to change this by identifying children in need of support, planning progressions of work and providing a learning environment which will enable these children to achieve. We are very concerned that the phased plans to house the new school in the East End Annexe will prevent the SFL department from having a suitable learning space/room. We have a large number of children who receive SFL sometimes this is classroom based. However for some of these pupils the classroom environment is not working. We have a number of pupils who have substantial academic, social, emotional and behavioural needs and our next step is to set up a nurture room - a quiet enclosed area more suited to their needs. With the planned proposals we worry that East End will not have the correct type of area/space for nurture/small group learning and therefore will not be 'getting it right for every child' in a particular for some of our most vulnerable children. Yes we have 5 GP areas as identified by the Council spokesperson who addressed our staff, however none of these would be suitable unless substantial alterations were carried out to create a quiet learning environment. My suggestion is to make the new primary one class(es) part of East End school. This would give them a whole school experience, mixing with children of all ages, having a P7 buddy, paired reading sessions, whole school assembly etc. This would give the Council time to renovate one side of the annexe building at a time and allow our children with additional support needs to keep a suitable learning environment.
4.	No one knows when this school is going to be built, if its going to be built. Children should come as East End pupils to join my school and all it has to offer. I am worried I will not have my classroom in East End when they new school comes and have to use space between classrooms. This is going to be very destructive for me with people coming and going out and in classes. I also don't want to lose my library or active play areas.
5.	New Elgin has too many people and so people should go to the new school
6.	I think that they should stay at their schools because I don't think that they should not have to go to the Annexe and then 5 months later move to another school
7.	I think it is a bit silly making a temporary school when there is a new school

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	being built and they have to move into the Annexe
8.	I want my brother to have fun with learning
9.	I think it should be built because it is a better idea and it should be built for new people and kids coming.
10.	I think it should be built for new children
11.	I believe bringing East End up to scratch and expanding the school itself. I don't believe in establishing a school in the Annexe as they children of East End are not being treated fairly. They are not getting nice new rooms until 'Linkwood' are finished with them, they may lose crucial areas in school eg active play, library and SFL. This to me says East End children aren't as important and Moray Council simply don't care about them.
12.	1 - I agree with statement one however I feel this situation should have been foreseen before now. 2 - I do not necessarily agree or disagree with two, but if the children are to attend East End then I feel they should integrate as East End pupils and be part of the East End community until such time as the new school is built and ready; when they could move if they so wish.
13.	School needed in Pinefield / Barlink area
14.	I believe children should be enrolled at existing schools until the new school is actually ready due to the severe affect it will have on the SFL children within East End primary.
15.	I believe that the pupils should begin primary one in other schools and come together when the school is ready. Primary one pupils learn a lot from their buddies and also have routines and behaviour modelled throughout. If the children are taught separately they will miss this key learning.
16.	I wish the boys and girls to come to East End. Wearing our uniforms. I want to make friends with them. East End will be a big school with lots of boys and girls.
17.	I do not believe having a school within a school is a good idea. I see the benefits for New Elgin Primary. I see some for south-east school, but I don't see any for East End. In fact all I see is deficits for the school, who are trying to turn around after a poor inspection. The pressure it will add to teachers to liaise with each other? No buddy systems for south-east. Playground arguments? The biggest deficit for East End is losing its support for learning room (for a Head Teachers office). Also the eventual use of GP spaces should the time come, we currently have 6 (3 more than required, we know) but 3 of these will need to be shared with the new school. Passing the buck to Head Teachers as to which ones we use is unfair as Moray Council caused this. Can someone clarify the benefits for East End.
18.	Unnecessary need to establish a temporary new school. Agreed there are benefits of starting a new school but these could be delayed to include pupils that are all moving P1-7. Pupils could attend East End and remain in a class with their peers that will then move with them. Therefore pupils get all the benefits of being part of East End for example P7 Buddys, school assembly, sport day, school shows, fayres, enterprise activities, playground interaction with senior pupils, sharing success and experiences, role models etc. This enables the pupils to have an enhanced GIRFEC and Shanarri. The way the situation has been handled has led (wrongly in my opinion) to the possibility of division of which I do not want my children to be

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	a part of. One is in East End and one is enrolling in 2017.
19.	Leave catchment areas as they were until the new school is building is built and staff established; then move / start intake of pupils. Or put mobile (temporary) classrooms on the site of the new school to be used while the build takes place.
20.	I see the need for a new school but hope that priority for placing requests is given to siblings of pupils already at New Elgin who have only been put out of zone due to the recent changes.
21.	Establish a new school once the building is finished. In the meantime, pupils within the south-east Elgin catchment area should attend the existing schools, i.e. East End.
22.	Mobile classrooms
23.	New school needed in this area
24.	Concerns about the following: *Acting Head Teacher for new school *Amount of pupils who will actually enrol for new school *If pupils do not enrol in new school, what happens to pupil numbers in NEP?
25.	Because they can't go anywhere else while the new school is being built.
26.	I agree because East End primary does not have a lot or children. I also agree to the new school because we are packed.
27.	Because they can't go anywhere else.
28.	I agree because New Elgin can't take any more.
29.	I agree with the new primary school because where will we put P1?
30.	I agree with building a new primary school because I think it will help people with younger brothers and sisters.
31.	We don't have room for any more pupils.
32.	What would happen if the adult was sick and could not take his kids to school.
33.	I don't want the younger pupils to feel left out or lonely.
34.	1 - I agree to build a new school because it will make more space for pupils that have siblings at New Elgin but are at the new school zone; could still go to New Elgin.
35.	1 - I agree but I disagree with it because it would be useful if it worked out if people in New Elgin Primary have siblings that are now in the new school zone could still go to New Elgin.
36.	I agree because New Elgin primary has too many pupils.
37.	I agree with the proposals because New Elgin primary is full and by temporarily starting the school at the Annexe will give the pupils freedom and more space.
38.	I have said yes to the first one because New Elgin primary is getting too crowded.
39.	I agree with the new school getting built because it will mean that New Elgin primary school won't be as crowded. The New Elgin primary school pupils will have a lot more space if they build a new school.
40.	What happens when you have your work but you are late for work but your children has to go to school.
41.	I agree to build a new school because it will be really helpful and there will be more space for new pupils.
42.	I don't want them to go to East End because I think they will feel left out.

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43.	I think they should build a new school because it would make more room for New Elgin Primary.
44.	I agree to build another school because New Elgin primary is full and it would be really helpful.
45.	I agree because most of us have been in this school for seven years and we shouldn't be affected. Whereas the new P1s haven't been here yet.
46.	I agree there should be a new school so New Elgin Primary isn't packed with pupils.
47.	I agree because if the Moray Council don't make a new school it will affect not just Elgin but other schools and leave them in the same position.
48.	I think the Council needs to build a new school because New Elgin primary is full and some other schools are nearly full too.
49.	1 - I agree because it would make more space for New Elgin primary pupils.
50.	I agree because we don't have room at New Elgin primary.
51.	If you build a new school it will make more space.
52.	So New Elgin primary does not get full.
53.	I agree that there should be a new school but because I have younger siblings and other siblings in New Elgin. I disagree with the second proposal because of starting times and my mum rush have to push everywhere. But then again where would the new P1s go? I would be happy to give up some of the playground but what about the PE times and lunch times? So this really affects my family and I really care about my family and what happens to them and I would really hate for my sisters to go into East End and for my mums benefit she would be going all over Elgin.
54.	I agree to make a new school because New Elgin Primary is too big as it is and couldn't take in anymore pupils.
55.	2 - If you move to a new school you might not feel welcome as you would in your school. 1 - If you build a new school it is a new start and way to meet new people and get new friends.
56.	1 - I agree with a new school because there are too many people for New Elgin and all other school. 2 - I agree with schooling the children in the new schools catchment area because they have space, and space is needed.
57.	I agree with the new school being built because New Elgin primary have a lot of pupils and some should go to the new school.
58.	I agree with the proposal 1 because New Elgin primary can't take anymore pupils do to the fact that we have gone over the limit of pupils in our school. I agree with proposal 2 because they would be part of their school until the school is built.
59.	I agree with number one because NEPS is full. I disagree with number two because I think it is wrong to have two schools but have one gym hall and one dinner hall.
60.	I agree that we need a new school 100% but it should have been built by now so that all years within the catchment area could have move into it. I see where some parents are coming from and why they are annoyed as regards kids at different schools with now option to move them to the same school as its only for P1.
61.	I recognise the need for the new school and for it to start in a temporary building, however feel that the 10 siblings (approx) of children already attending New Elgin, who were previously in zone but have now been put

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	<p>out of zone - through no fault of their own - should be accommodated (approximate number given by HT of New Elgin at a recent meeting). I feel that my 4 year old should not be penalised due to the zone changes and that he - and others in the same position - should not suffer or be separated from his sibling due to the zone changes. I hope that the council stands by what they said when they commented on the fact that it wasn't buildings but the people that were important. I hope that they feel that keeping families together is a priority. I am of the opinion that a lot of the worries expressed are due to the stress of the possibility of families/siblings being split. As we have always been in zone for New Elgin, our youngest child, who is now due to start P1 in August, has grown up with the expectation that he will attend NEP school. He already feels part of the school, having attended Summer Fairs, Christmas Fairs, concerts, open afternoons and parents' nights and has always accompanied his brother to and from the school. Until recently, we have always reinforced this with the idea that it would support his transition from nursery to primary. We are anxious for our son to be granted a place at NEP and hope that if families, people and children are of utmost importance to the council that they will find a way to accommodate these 10 children. The reason I wish the new school to go ahead is because it will release pressure on New Elgin Primary and increase the chance of siblings/families being kept together. I hope that the temporary building goes ahead as it will kick start and increase the impetus for completion of the new school which is vital.</p>
62.	N/A I think the proposal is a well thought out plan.
63.	Putting up porta cabins at new Elgin primary temporary including a dining area
64.	<p>It is essential that a new school is built to accommodate the already bulging population of South East Elgin. As there are no other feasible alternatives, using the existing accommodation at East End is the only solution until the new school is completed. As the children will already be separated from siblings, it would not be in their best interest to be fully integrated into East End, only to be separated when they are moved to the new school. We would therefore strongly object to the new school being integrated into East End but fully support the new school being a separate entity but located on the same campus, as proposed by Moray Council. We would, however, strongly support the appointment of the new Headteacher as soon as possible to ensure as smooth a transition into P1 and thereafter in the formation of the new school. We do not agree that this could be managed by a Depute Headteacher, as has been suggested by East End parents, as the new Headteacher would be required to manage an extremely delicate situation, coordinating with East End school, contributing to the new build and creating an ethos within the new school.</p>
65.	<p>The council was well aware of the growing population in Elgin and the new school should have been built prior to this immediate crisis where kids starting school will be displaced. The new catchment areas are fine however provisions should be made for new P1's starting school with siblings already at school, expecting parents to have children at different school's is ridiculous as is expecting 4 and 5 years old's to be bused to separate locations without their parents!.</p>
66.	The proposal must go ahead to give the pupils in the new catchment area

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	an identity with their own school from day one, primary one. Non of the other options are appropriate or suitable for the primary one or primary seven pupils. New Elgin issues of overcrowding etc cannot be forgotten. These proposals ensure that the New Elgin Primary School roll does not continue to increase. However, the school roll will continue to sit around 500+ pupils which is still too many to ensure quality learning experiences. The siblings of pupils in school and who are now out of zone should be treated as in-zone pupils and placing requests should be automatically granted.
67.	I agree with establishing a new school and its proposed location. My concern is the 'temporary' arrangements that are being made for East End School. East End already uses tow classrooms within the Heritage Centre. While there was a delay in these being renovated those children were being taught in the corridor. Is that to happen again if East End lose the use of the facilities? My suggestion is to incorporate the new school's pupils into East End and extend East End's facilities in the Heritage Centre. This way no child loses out on facilities or needs to be taught in a corridor. Classes can still be arranged so that children that will move to the new school can still be taught together.
68.	I think the siblings should be able to come to New Elgin primary.
69.	Take ten pupils form each primary.
70.	I think that we should put the people in the NEON.
71.	Temporary accommodation at New Elgin Primary for primary one or seven.
72.	Extend Eastend primary and enrol children as part of Eastend. Once a new school has been built, transfer children to the new school.
73.	I am sure there is another area school that would have a building ready.
74.	Hold off for a year and then let both schools use the heritage centre as required. Or let the pupils attend east end but as a class so that there will be little or no disruption when the new school is ready the class just moves to the new school.
75.	Instead of using the annex for new pupils at east end primary would it not be far better to house all pupils at east end as one then when the new school is built the children that are in that catchment area could transfer to new school, I have two sons at east end primary and they both use the annex and have done since they started school the annex is part of east end and is used on a daily basics
76.	Pupils should continue to be registered at the existing schools, until the school is built. As a parent and ex pupil at East End, I cannot understand where the existing and new intake of P1 pupils will be placed in the building. My daughter has her class in the old building, with the role increasing if the old school is taken over by the proposed new school pupils, where on earth will the East End pupils go? I have heard a rumour that the area currently used for those pupils having a packed lunch will be used as extra class space, which is proposterous! If this happens where will the packed lunch pupils go? I can only see that this proposal will lead to overcrowding of East End, which as a parent I completely oppose. My daughter has already been subjected to a bullying incident whilst using the toilet- girls in a cubicle next to my daughter asked "are you from the new school? If you don't tell us your name we will hurt you with a knife". This incident is being appropriately investigated by the head teacher, but it exemplifies to me that there will be

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	potential for serious negative rivalry between the two separate schools. I am wholly against any setup that compromises my children in such a way.
77.	Leave catchment area's as they are until you actually have a new school building in the South East. Alternatively install mobile school buildings at the new school site to be used while the build takes place.
78.	The council employ forward-thinking workers, who are able to be proactive rather than reactive and who can move plans forward more quickly for the new school. This should have been put in motion eight years ago!
79.	South east Pupils to be temporarily zoned between New Elgin and East End Schools. Priority given to those who live closest to each school when capacity problems arise. Each school sharing the burden should still mean a reduction in pupils to New Elgin and reduces the detrimental impacts upon East End school if all pupils were zoned to attend East End. There were about 80 pupils that commenced New Elgin Primary in August 2015 - there were about 50 pupils that commenced at East End. If another 50 pupils start at East End (figures estimated by the Council) then that would mean that children attending East End School would be doubled and East End would be as big or bigger than New Elgin in a few years time. As East End is closely situated to St Sylvester's Primary which is only about 100-150 metres away, there are already about 450 pupils travelling to the same small area each day (2 nurseries and 2 Primaries) with old narrow roads and narrow pavements. Any increase in the school roll will increase the traffic congestion in the area which is already well acknowledged and must be dealt with. The major issue in the streets around both schools is not parents but Moray Council staff who use these streets for parking while at work. The Council's proposal would simply reduce the problem in one area and cause serious problems for the East End School estate and surrounding streets. Buses should be provided for Pinefield children to East End.
80.	Out source to other schools
81.	I don't think having New Elgin school children at Greenwards is the answer, this will take away the play ground, as well as cause major disturbance at lunch time. Greenwards are also reaching full capacity and adding more children will only move the problem from one area to another. There has to be a better way, we know this could of been avoided, but hind site is a wonderful thing. Please don't make another school suffer for these mistakes.
82.	East end has a large playground/grassy area, this would be ideal to put temporary class rooms whilst the new school is built.
83.	Perhaps this should have been thought about prior to new house schemes?
84.	You can't look for new pupils and zoning without the school to put the kids in build the new school first then look at ways of filling it
85.	Put kids into east end! Need to build a school first before looking for pupils!!!
86.	Well this should have been dealt with before all the houses were built any suggestions now are limited due to moray council inability to recognise importance over money. Proposed sites for schools already sold and built on!!
87.	East end is the right choice as they have the most space.
88.	There is a large area behind the Magic Roundabout Nursery, I am aware it

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	is to be build on but why can't those plans be delayed and something put in place there. I for one would not be putting my 4/5 year old child onto a bus to be taken to another school. It very disruptive for such young children to be buses to an annex at another school to then be moved to a new school in another area of the town when it built. I would strongly suggest finding alternative accommodation for them in the same area they will eventually be in the new school
89.	I don't have any other suggestions. I'm just glad there is going to be a new school with nursery provision. Although I do feel bad for those who kids have been at nursery at New Elgin where they will now be unable to attend the school. I know from past experience how much they are a part of the school.
90.	i agree with new school, but feel the first years of school are daunting enough without kids being passed from pillar to post, my grandson stays in Thornhill road and would have liked him to go to New Elgin school as hes at the nursery.
91.	This should of been planned years ago, instead of leaving things until crisis point. Why not construct a temporary modular building on the proposal site for the new school at least that way the children will be going to the area that their new school will eventually be and cause less disruption to other schools and services.
92.	Temporary Accomodation at new elgin school
93.	None. However I feel that the New Elgin Primary nursery spaces should now be given priority to those within the catchment area and who will be attending New Elgin Primary.
94.	I think it is a good idea just be careful with your money. It won't take so long in the dinner hall.
95.	Be careful with budget because you say we have no money but you spend and spend. Be careful and try to get the best deals. It will be better but try not to make everything expensive and end up bankrupt.
96.	I agree with putting kids at East End Annexe but you need to spend your money wisely.
97.	It is a good idea but spend your money wisely. All the primary one pupils will be pleased.
98.	I agree but the Council should have a budget just in case. Also I still agree because the little ones are always around the older ones.
99.	I think it is a good idea to have a new school to cut down classes and also less crowds and more places to play.
100.	I agree with the purpose why we need a new school but I think you need to take in mind the children have made friends.
101.	I agree because there will be more space in the classrooms and we will all have our lunch together.
102.	I agree because it means that there will be less children and more space. There will also be less rush for lunch at school.
103.	I agree but also you need to be careful when spending your money.
104.	I agree because there will be more space to work and play.
105.	I think building a new school would be better because the teachers would teach more people.
106.	I agree because we can get lunch. I agree because there will be more

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	space to play on.
107.	I agree that they should build a new primary school because there will be more room in our school to learn and it will be a good chance for the primary one pupils to get together and make friends.
108.	Good idea but watch your budget on money. Reasons because it would give us more classrooms and lunch at the same time.
109.	I agree because the primary one pupils will be all together and they will make more friends. The only problem is that you stay with the budget.
110.	I agree because when they are little they will be wondering what is happening when older.
111.	I agree but be very careful with the money.
112.	I think there should be a good idea to build a new school because P4,5,6,7 wouldn't have a late lunch. Then we can all play together.
113.	I think that it is a good idea because it will help us learn better. I think it is a good idea because we can all go to lunch together.
114.	I agree because all the schools are crowded. I was hoping a new school was going to be complete.
115.	I think it is a good idea to build a new school because it will give more room and we can learn more. And there will be more space.
116.	I think it is a good idea because there would be more space for us (at New Elgin) and there would not be a rush for everything.
117.	I agree that building a new school will help stop the schools having too many pupils.
118.	I think it is a good idea for class size to work better. Good to get new friends for primary one. Thank you
119.	I agree to build a new school because schools in Elgin are getting very crowded and it is taking too long to get lunch.
120.	I agree for a new school to be built but the Council don't have much money, so spend it wisely.
121.	It will give all of the schools more room to learn and you will find it easier to learn. You have more space to play outside.
122.	I think that it is a good idea because some of the schools in Elgin are getting too big.
123.	I think it is a good idea because there are too many pupils in New Elgin PS.
124.	Whilst I agree with the proposal to establish a new school to ease pressure on New Elgin. I totally disagree with the proposal to establish an interim school in East End Annexe. East End school roll is predicted to increase over the next 2-3 years and the school already use two classrooms, stores and an office in the Annexe building. The consultation document does not address the requirements beyond August 2018 and if there is any delay in the build of the new school there will be little alternative but to create a hotchpotch of modular accommodation which will cost even more. Why not expand the catchment of East End to include P1 from the new SE zone until the new school is built. There is capacity (in the Annexe) and is likely to be a more attractive prospect to parents from the SE zone (whole school, buddy system, established leadership (Head and Deputy)) than a hastily constructed conversion in the old Heritage Centre.
125.	1 - Build the new nursery first at the proposed location for the new school. 2 - There are currently 2 classrooms and a support for learning base

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	<p>working in the Annexe. 3 - There is no room for them to transfer to the new building at East End. 4 - School capacity cannot be based on the number of classrooms. Early stages are capped at 25, composite classes are capped at 25 and only straight classes can have up to 33 pupils. The pupils at the proposed temporary school are likely to perceive themselves as a different school. They would have to share the gym (which is in the Annexe) with children from East End, they would have to share the dining room and the playground. Why not save money? Just make East End bigger. 3.2.1 - Removing space from East End pupils reduces the ability to create flexible learning spaces. the new building will be overcrowded. This whole proposal has effects on the current pupils at East End, many of whom come from challenging home circumstances. Surely they deserve better. 3.8 - Summary of benefits - there is nothing in this section that identifies any benefits what so ever to the present pupils at East End school. In fact 2 different schools plus the nursery using the gym will make it almost impossible to meet the criteria of 2 hours of quality PE, especially during the winter months. I hope the proposed transport arrangements work. Non teaching staff will be required to escort children from the proposed bus stop in Queen Street and again at the end of the school day. Who will monitor / patrol parental access to the site. This cannot be left to the Janitor. From personal experience, I have worked in a situation where there were two school son the same site and it is not something I would like to repeat. The animosity and hostility between the two sets of pupils was very destructive and unpleasant. Save money, just make East End bigger. Build a new nursery on the new site. There will be a 'capture' market for the new school and parents in the new zone could still be invited to input into the building of the new school.</p>
126.	<p>I feel that the children will be better off joining East End as a whole so they are involved in East End and not put seperately in the Annexe. By all means keep the kids together in classes so when they move to the new school they can move together with their teachers. Perhaps the new school Head could serve as Deputy Head in East End and this could be a good transition for both teachers and pupils.</p>
127.	<p>Children should come to East End all as one school.</p>
128.	<p>Undecided on question 2. Wouldn't it not be worth looking again at a temporary modular build for the new school at Greenswards which would not impact on East End and the traffic issue. You could then utilise the annexe when needed for the increased roll at East End.</p>
129.	<p>I am an East End parent. I believe the new 'Linkwood' school should be integrated into East End and make one whole new school, therefore not move the pupils out to the new school and give the option to parents to either keep their child at East End or enrol to the new 'Linkwood' school.</p>
130.	<p>My concern would be for transition of pupils. Feel it would be more suitable to have them as part of East End school until nearer the time of the builds completion to allow them to be part of the school community. For the same reasons as the decision was made to not move the current P7 to Greenwards, as I feel it would be more settling for the P1 to be part of a firmed school. Can there be a priority made for pupils in the old attachments who have siblings to stay in their old school to allow families to remain together?</p>

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131.	Provision should be made at New Elgin Primary for the pupils that were in the zone. How can the zone change without the new school being ready? It's quite ridiculous that has happened in the first place. Surely the zone can't change until the school is actually ready.
132.	Build ASAP and school admittance to be strictly within catchment areas. Stop admitting children from different areas to schools out with zones
133.	I dont see why the un-used annexe at east end cant be used for pupils already at the school that are moving up?
134.	N/a
135.	Build a school at same time as houses to save bursting New Elgin School to the seams would seem like a logical idea.
136.	If you have a sibling in new Elgin primary already, their brother/sister should be able to register to attend this school and not the new proposed school at East End primary. I do understand increased numbers and yes East end should be used for children but I disagree about splitting up a family and having 2 children at different primary schools as this will cause a big disruption to family lives, especially working parents who use breakfast clubs so they can attend work, this then incurs cost implicatations with transporting to different schools as my breakfast club walks to new Elgin school, East End would require transportation. New Elgin primary is in close proximity to my house and walking distance 5 mins, catchment line goes through my garden - aware it's postcodes you use but East End is not in walking distance nor close to my catchment area. I do think consideration is required about splitting up families plus we stay in new Elgin catchment at present and purposely built this house so both my kids would attend new Elgin primary.
137.	Pupils go to East End Primary (if no other option). They could be kept in same class. There would then be no need to divide facilities and segregation of areas.
138.	Expand East End School to include the south east catchment children until the new school is built.
139.	Alternative suggestion for the temporary school would be to leave East End as one school. P1 children from South east zone should be zoned to attend East End on a temporary basis until new school is built. Children from South east zone should still be provided with transport to school. If children have older siblings and parents choose to send the older siblings to East End (and if places are available at East End), they should also be provided with transport. Bus service should be provided for other children attending East End from Pinefield - even if this means a small charge has to be made. Look at other alternative properties - there are empty units around Elgin including at Glassgreen. Large empty houses could be used. Grant Lodge in Cooper Park or the Rothes Glen hotel if it is still for sale.
140.	i don't see the need to split east end up, the annexe should be renovated and east end can then cater for pupils who start school in aug 2016, its a ludicrous idea. which certainly isn't fair on any of the children of either school, and surely that's whats important!! either way children and families are going to be separated but at least if its all east end parents have the option of moving older siblings to east end which wont be any option with new temp school. I feel that nobody cares about east end from the council and councillors point of view! anything to help new elgin! well what about

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	the 200 pupils and all the concerned parents of east end!!!
141.	In my opinion, pupils already attending new elgin primary nursery should be left to start primary 1 in that school, the reason i as a parent who was in the catchment area before it changed put my child to that nursery is because it is a feeder nursery into the school, it took her a while to build relationships with friends and she knows a lot of the teachers at that school and the disruption of moving these children to a place they dont know with teachers they dont know is just awful, transition is due to start in january for these children going into primary 1 so my child will be going to assemblys and going to visit class rooms that she might not even be going to in the end. I completley understand the need for a new school to be built and i dont have an issue with that, but why should these children be shuffled about and taken away from what they know, she has always expected to go to new elgin primary like her sister did because thats what ive always told her, all i ask is that the children already at nursery there be left to carry on to primary 1 with their friends.
142.	Leave it as it is, allow East end numbers to rise until new school is ready!
143.	I agree with a new school being built at Linkwood. I do not agree with a temporary new Primary at East End from August 2016. The south east children should enrol at East End Primary until a new school is built. They should still be given a bus to East End and the bus should go through Pinefield to pick up children who are in East End catchment.
144.	Grant Lodge in Cooper Park. If no other options then south east zone should be zoned to attend East End Primary until new school is built. NO SEPARATE SCHOOL AT EAST END WHICH WOULD BE DAMAGING AND DIVISIVE AND HAS NO EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS FOR THE EAST END SCHOOL OR CHILDREN.
145.	Either let the children enrole to another school which has capacity for the next 3 years or look at the option to move p7 from New Elgin. I think moving P7 would help integrate them with pupils from Greenwards before going to High School. I think this would help them more than transporting vulnerable young children on a bus at the age of 4 years old.
146.	I agree that the new school needs to be built but i think the temporary school should be based at new elgin primary.
147.	Some of the children's brothers and sisters might go there.
148.	There are too many schools in Elgin.
149.	There are too many schools in Elgin.
150.	I disagree because I want new friends
151.	All the schools should just their own annexe or get an extension
152.	Build a new school. When ready, place children there. A school within a school is detrimental to existing pupils. Shared gym and dining areas will cause too many distractions to pupils and staff . Too many shared resources will only lead to sub-standard resources for all. Pupils will see each other as different and inevitably this will end up as division, which in turn causes strife.
153.	I disagree because the sound of the P1s on the bus does not sound right.
154.	Instead of having a separate school within a school, the pupils could just enroll in East End.
155.	I think it should be all eastend primary instead of two different schools in

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	one place as there will be a lot of comotion and disruption to the children already at East end what with a lot of things having to change like dropping and picking the children up if you shut roads taken away part of the play ground to build an office I think it should be all eastend and once the new school is built if parents want to move their children then then fair enough but in all honesty you new all these new houses where going up so a new school should of been built ages ago .
156.	Why make it a different school? Make it one school integrate them into East end. Address the parking issue? Why not use west end primary they have 3 vacant buildings. Not once has this school been mentioned!
157.	Refurbish/extend New Elgin & Greenwards schools, amend catchment areas/ or build a school on a better located site
158.	put it somewhere else because the road is tiny and they would be loads of traffic and there is kids. Put it somewhere near Elgin because some kids live very far away.
159.	Wait until the school has been built before trying to establish it. Why only have p1-3, why not all primary years. The new school hasnt even began to be built and there is no guarantee that it will be built. East End Pupils need the area proposed for the temporary school. Why shouldnt they be allowed to use it. The Heritage Centre was moved out of the grounds of East End because the school needed the space. Just let East End use the whole of their school.
160.	Allow pupils to be part of east end primary until a new school is actually physically built. Families should then be allowed to transfer their children if they wish to. That should include children right up to p7.
161.	I feel they should just make East End primary bigger and allow the children to go there until the new school is established as I feel it will be harder for both schools to cope and having to share parts of the school may cause problems.
162.	I agree with the proposal and request that the pupils from South East Elgin are not integrated as pupils of East End Primary School as I believe that this will be detrimental to their future development.
163.	Why don't they use the anex building next to the school for some of the classes
164.	Continued provision at old catchment area until the school is built. Siblings should not be made to attend separate schools. Health and safety concerns, traffic, school buses. Where are the teachers coming from when there are shortages at current schools. Will the target date be met? East End struggling in school tables.
165.	I think they should be integrated in with the east end pupils not segregated with different play times etc until the new school is built.
166.	Use and expand already existing East End School until new school built.
167.	An integration into East End makes more sense to us. How would buddy (transition) system operate? How do pupils going to new school currently in East End feel when sibling integrated to new school

East End Pupil Class Responses

Total number of pupils: 190

Proposal 1:

I agree with the proposal to establish a new primary school, with nursery provision, in the specified location, to serve the agreed catchment area for the delineated geographical zone in south-east Elgin.	133
I disagree with the proposal to establish a new primary school, with nursery provision, in the specified location, to serve the agreed catchment area for the delineated geographical zone in south-east Elgin.	48
No vote (as indicated by the teacher)	1

Proposal 2:

I agree with the proposal to establish the school initially at a temporary site at East End Primary School Annexe until the new school building is complete.	59
I disagree with the proposal to establish the school initially at a temporary site at East End Primary School Annexe until the new school building is complete.	121
No vote (as indicated by the teacher)	7

Positive Comments

- New school and East End could share environment.
- Make friends if other children are here.
- More children to play with.
- Children will have a school to go to.
- The children need a place to learn.
- Not enough room in the schools so they need to build a new one.
- They can still learn until their school is built.
- It is a good idea as you will make new friends.
- Agree that the new school should be built and agree with the location.
- Great to share the school and helping others.
- Unfair on the other pupils.
- Can share our equipment with school that don't have yet.
- Our red hoodies could help; share buddies.

Negative Comments

- Might be problems in the playground between pupils.
- Communication problems between pupils.
- No room at lunch time.
- Different uniforms.
- Where will people park?
- Fighting in the playground.
- Who is going to do playground duties?
- Not enough room in this building.
- We might have to change our dinner times.
- The dinner ladies could be rushed.
- Too many children in the playground.
- We could get squashed in the classes.
- Worried about having to move school.
- Where will the children go that currently use the Annexe?
- What will happen to classes after the new school is built?
- Arguments between two schools.
- We might not have enough shelter.
- We would need more playground assistants.
- Wi-Fi network overloaded.
- East End won't get to use the classrooms.
- Might lose some of our equipment.
- Not room for another school in the same building.
- What happens to the nursery pupils?

Questions

- What will the school look like and how will it be run?
- What will the school uniform be like?
- Where are the classrooms going to be in the Annexe?
- Where are the new school going to have their lunch?
- Where are the new pupils going to play?
- Where will the Head Teacher for the new school go?
- Will they have to use our halls?
- What will happen if there are too many children to come to East End for the new school?
- Where would we all go?
- Who will teach them?
- Will the playground be big enough?
- Will our red leaders be trained for both schools or just our school?
- Would we have to share assembly?
- Who would you tell if had a fall out?
- What if there is not enough staff?
- Would we share the nursery with another school?
- Why can't the school have different coloured Leaders?
- What happens if the new school is not completed in time? Where would the extra pupils from both schools go?