



Moray Council

Schools Catchment Area Amendments Consultation

Public Meetings

21 November 2016

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In attendance:

Graham Jarvis (Head of Lifelong Learning, Culture & Sport)
Paul Watson (Senior Education Adviser for Schools Consultations)

Alison McLaughlin (CEO Admin Assistant)

HMI Sally Stewart (Education Scotland)

Elected Members In Attendance:

Cllr John Divers (Scottish Labour Party)
Cllr Mike Shand (Scottish National Party)
Cllr Graham Leadbitter (Scottish National Party)
Cllr Patsy Gowans (Scottish National Party)

Number of Community Representatives / Members of the Public in Attendance:

9

Graham Jarvis welcomed all attendees to the meeting and provided an introduction to the School Catchment Area Amendments Consultation. Paul Watson carried out a presentation on the proposal. A question and answer session followed the presentation.

Questions & Answer Session

Q	Calcots area is split by the river and neighbours will be zoned to different primary schools; would it not make sense for this catchment area to follow specific houses rather than a river?
A	The delineation for Elgin Academy and Milne's High catchment area is the river. There aims to be a consistent approach to the delineation of the catchments by making the primary and secondary school zone boundaries the same, eliminating split catchment areas. (PW)
Q	We will have to submit a placing request to attend the same school as our neighbours but we will not be provided with free transport even though our neighbours will?
A	Yes, you can submit an out of zone placing request but free transport will not be provided. (PW)
Q	If children currently attend a primary school that is out of zone, will they be able to attend that ASG secondary school?
A	Yes, they should be able to attend the ASG secondary school. The revised

Revised Admissions to Schools Policy 2016

	Admissions Policy gives higher priority to those of have attended ASG primary schools and have older siblings who attend this secondary school. (PW)
Q	For those children currently attending an out of zoned primary school and who will then attend the ASG secondary school, will they still receive free transport?
A	All eligible children currently attending a ASG primary school will continue to receive transport if they transfer to what is their current zoned secondary school; the council will honour the obligation to provide transport. (PW)
Q	The route from the Fairfield area through the natural reserve trail is not a safe route to school during the winter months for primary and secondary school pupils.
A	During the 2015 rezoning consultation this was reviewed, however due to capacity issues at West End primary school it was identified rezoning the Fairfield area to West End primary was not a feasible option. The current roll at West End primary school would need to be reduced to make this possible. If we limited the out of zone placing requests at West End primary school over the next few years, it may then be possible to amend the Fairfield catchment area to West End primary school. (PW)
Q	How will the proposed implementation dates affect the nursery transition process if there are no guarantees that placing requests will be accepted?
A	The only reason a placing request would be refused is due to capacity issues of that specific school, which in the area of Lhanbryde is not an issue. Placing request are confirmed by the end of April enabling transition to take place. (PW)

- Discussion held on the current and future capacity of Seafield primary school.
- Discussion held on school transport and the council's policy was clarified.
- Discussion held on the impact of proposed future Military families moving to the area and the impact on the school roll.

Paul Watson concluded the meeting by thanking those in attendance for coming along and participating.