



**Perth & Kinross Council
Education and Children's Services
Statutory Consultation Public Meeting**

Minute of meeting held on Thursday 23 February 2012

At 7 pm in Chapelhill Hall, Chapelhill

Present

Councillor Elizabeth Grant	Convener, Lifelong Learning Committee
Tina Yule	Head of Corporate Business Change and IT
Karen Robertson	Service Manager - Business and Operations

In Attendance

Pamela Biccocchi – Minutes	
Jacqueline Horsburgh	Inspector, HMIE
Joan Murray	Headteacher, Logiealmond Primary School

4 members of the public

WHO

1. Welcome and Introductions

Councillor Grant opened the meeting and welcomed members of public in attendance to the Statutory Consultation Public Meeting. Councillor Grant introduced herself, the other speakers and explained who the members of Lifelong Learning Committee are and the role of the Committee.

2. Format of meeting

Councillor Grant explained the format the meeting would follow.

3. The proposal

Councillor Grant clarified the proposal is that the catchment area of Logiealmond Primary School be extended to subsume the delineated area of Glenalmond College site with a corresponding reduction in the catchment area of Methven Primary School from Monday 7 January 2013.

4. Presentations

Background

Tina Yule gave a presentation on the background of the review of school estates and the factors considered. It was noted that this consultation is a review of the Glenalmond College site only as current catchment areas within the Glenalmond College site are dependant on the location of the property.

Statutory Consultation Process

Karen Robertson gave a presentation on the legal framework, the proposal paper, each stage of the statutory consultation process and the timescales for each of these stages. It was noted that the consultation closes on 23 March 2012. KR encouraged all views to be made known thus allowing Elected Members to make a fully informed decision.

Councillor Grant then opened up the meeting to any questions or observations from the floor.

5. Questions

Q. The cost of the consultation exercise was commented upon.

A. KR explained that a statutory consultation must be undertaken when proposing any change to a school catchment area in order to reach as many people affected as possible. The process being followed by Perth and Kinross is thorough, transparent and inclusive. Councillor Grant noted that following a consultation process allows the Council's actions to be audited.

Q. Are objections available to the public to consider?

A. KR advised that representations are restricted to Council Officers, Elected Members and HMI. The final consultation report will have all views reported in a summary including reasons for agreeing and objecting to the proposal. It was noted that as there are 21 properties in the affected area there may be some concern with regard to the longer term transition arrangements.

Q. How can pupils in the Logiealmond catchment area catch the school bus to Methven?

A. KR explained the Council's policy with regard to allocation of concessionary seats.

Q. What happens when the report goes to Lifelong Learning Committee? Is that it?

A. Councillor Grant stated yes; that the decision of the Lifelong Learning Committee will be final. However, the school estate is under continual review. House building is currently static although this may not be the case in the future. Parental choice is a significant factor affecting school rolls. A member of the public noted that lack of after school care was often stated as an issue, however, facilities were now available in the area so it was hoped that this would change.

Q. Can schools make a representation?

KR informed the meeting that staff in both affected schools had been sent copies of the proposal paper and were able to make representations.

6. Close and Thanks

Councillor Grant thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 7.50pm.