



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

Minute of meeting held on Monday 2 February 2015

At 7pm in Oakbank Primary School

<u>Present</u>	
Councillor Bob Band	Convener, Lifelong Learning Committee
Karen Robertson	Service Manager – Business Services
Dorothy Henderson	Quality Improvement Officer – Inclusion Services
<u>In Attendance</u>	
Councillor Wilson	Perth and Kinross Council
Councillor Stewart	Perth and Kinross Council
Councillor Munro	Perth and Kinross Council
Brain Reid	Assistant Project Manager – Project Support
Ken McAra	Education Scotland
Moya Dawson	Headteacher, Oakbank Primary School
Alison Downie	Depute Headteacher, Oakbank Primary School
Emma Wilson – Minutes	Perth and Kinross Council
9 member of the public	
1. <u>Welcome and Introductions</u>	
Karen Robertson opened the meeting and welcomed the members of the public in attendance. Karen Robertson introduced herself and the panel to the members of the public and thanked them for attending.	
2. <u>Format of meeting</u>	
Karen Robertson explained the format of the meeting.	
3. <u>The proposal</u>	
Karen Robertson explained the consultation proposal to the attendees:	
<i>“To establish Additional Supports Needs Specialist Provision at Oakbank Primary School with effect from August 2015.”</i>	
In line with the terms of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 a period of formal consultation will be undertaken from 7 January 2015 until 27 February 2015 .	
There were three presentations explaining the consultation in further detail.	
4. <u>Presentations</u>	
<u>Background</u>	
Karen Robertson gave a presentation on the background to the proposal. The presentation outlined what Perth and Kinross Council want to achieve from the Additional Support Needs provision including the Councils vision of making best use of public resources.	

	Karen Robertson outlined that the reasons behind Additional Support Needs specialist provision being added to the replacement of Oakbank Primary School.	
	<u>Additional Support Needs (ASN) Specialist Provision at Oakbank Primary School</u>	
	Dorothy Henderson gave a presentation on the objectives of Additional Support Needs Specialist Provision at Oakbank Primary School. It was explained that ASN provision will meet the needs of projected and potential pupils with ASN. Dorothy Henderson explained in detail the educational benefits of the ASN provision. Details were provided in relation to staffing and that arrangements will be consistent with Perth and Kinross Council staffing standard agreements. Dorothy Henderson also advised that a detailed consultation will be undertaken with individual members of staff, Trade Unions and professional associations on an implementation plan for staffing.	
	<u>Transport Arrangements</u>	
	Karen Robertson gave a presentation on current and future transport arrangements. Catchment areas and when free school transport was provided was discussed. Karen Robertson outlined the fact that pupils who travel significant distances to other specialist provisions may have the opportunity to travel shorter distances to access ASN provision.	
	<u>Statutory Consultation Process</u>	
	Karen Robertson gave a presentation on the statutory consultation process including the legal framework, consideration by Lifelong Learning Committee, the content of the proposal including the Educational Benefits statement, statutory consultation period and representation from interested parties as the first part of the consultation process. Karen Robertson then went on to explain the next stages of the process which includes the involvement of Education Scotland, the preparation and publication of the consultation report and the decision made by the Lifelong Learning Committee.	
	Karen Robertson then opened up the meeting to any questions from the floor.	
5.	<u>Questions</u>	
Q.	What will the impact be on pupils, positive or negative, who do not have ASN who attend Oakbank Primary School?	
A.	The impact would be positive in all respects. The definition of ASN is so broad that the new provision will meet a range of needs to everyone's benefit.	
Q.	Would the pupils be separate from the main school?	
A.	The new provision can be accessed from the school when required as it is sited within the body of school. The aim is to have children with Additional Support needs integrated into mainstream education where, and when, appropriate. Children who excel in subjects have the opportunity to offer support throughout the school.	
Q.	From a practical point of view how does the provision work within the school?	
A.	The provision works by assessing what the needs of the individual pupils are. Some pupils require ASN in terms of nurture or social skills. The new provision is very flexible and pupils can attend in periods of time over weeks, full days or half days. The accommodation allows for a range of needs to be met.	

Q.	If there are only 12 spaces available – how will the pupils be chosen?	
	The selection of pupils varies depending on individual learning needs. Pupils will be considered by the ASN Transition Panel to ensure the best decision is made for each individual pupil who requires additional support.	
Q.	Are class numbers taken into account when allocating spaces?	
A.	Yes. There needs to be space in that year group. As year groups move up, the class sizes increase within the school in accordance with legislation. The Integration of pupils into mainstream varies. Pupils may spend less time in mainstream when in early year groups but as they move up the school, time in mainstream classes may increase.	
Q.	How many additional staff will be brought in?	
A.	There will be 1 class teacher and 1 Additional Support Needs assistant per class. However this is a standard allocation for the size of each class and this may vary due to a child's, or children's, individual needs.	
Q.	How many other schools provide ASN provision?	
A.	There are 7 schools with specialist ASN provision. Each serves a catchment area however allocation to specialist provision is determined by a Panel. The Panel may decide that the best provision for the child is outwith the child's catchment area. All children requiring ASN provision for next year have already been allocated places which are not within Oakbank.	
Q.	Is the reason for the provision having its own entrance due to the shared play area causing problems?	
A.	No. Having its own entrance will allow pupils to be dropped off at the door. Some pupils who require additional support find the play area overwhelming due to the size and also the noise. Wherever possible, schools with ASN specialist provision have separate play areas and playtimes. With support of the school, so many pupils can integrate over time.	
Q.	What range of needs will you support?	
A.	The fullest range of needs will be supported by responding to each child's individual needs in order to provide the best support.	
Q.	The new school was already planned so what has changed to make allowances for the new ASN provision?	
A.	The budget for the school build has been increased to allow for the ASN provision. This provision would take the form of 2 teaching spaces, snoezelen quiet area and a sensory space.	
Q.	Is there support for the transition of ASN pupils into mainstream schooling?	
A.	Yes there is support which is very flexible depending on the individual pupils. This may start with short periods of time and slowly building up the amount of time spent in mainstream classes.	
Q.	Will the children who attend have as complex needs as those at Fairview?	
A.	No. The children at Fairview have the most complex needs with specialist teaching. Their needs are different to those pupils with ASN who would benefit from this provision.	

6.	<u>Close and Thanks</u>	
	Karen Robertson thanked everyone for attending the meeting, reminded them of the different ways to make representation on the proposal and that the consultation period ends on Friday 27 February 2015 at 5pm.	