



Education & Children's Services

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Statutory Consultation Public Meeting



**Minute of meeting held on Thursday 22 May 2025
at 6.00p.m. in Goodlyburn Primary School**

Present:

David Macluskey	Education & Learning (Chief Education Officer) Strategic Lead
Fiona MacKay	Service Manager – Inclusion & Additional Support Needs
Annie Carr	Quality Improvement Officer – Early Years
Karen Robertson	Service Manager – Business Services

Present:

Carly Williams – Minutes	Early Years Officer
Councillor John Rebbeck	Convenor, Learning & Families Committee
Anne-Marie Sands	Headteacher – Goodlyburn Primary School
Sheila Brown	Education Scotland

2 members of staff from Goodlyburn and City of Perth Early Childhood Centre
0 members of the public

Welcome and Introductions

David Macluskey opened the meeting and welcomed the members of staff in attendance to the Statutory Consultation Public Meeting.

As no members of the public were present, Karen Robertson advised that the presentation would be added to the website and that responses and questions could still be submitted by any members of the public as part of the consultation through the PKC website.

David introduced himself and the panel to the staff and thanked them for attending.

Format of meeting

David Macluskey then explained the format the meeting would follow.

The proposal

All those present understood the proposal:

- Permanently close the standalone City of Perth Early Childhood Centre building at its previous location on McCallum Court, Perth, and formalise delivery of the ECC at Goodlyburn Primary School.

Presentation

The two members of staff in attendance at the statutory consultation public meeting had previously attended the staff consultation meeting held on 13 May 2025 at 3.15pm within Goodlyburn & City of Perth Early Childhood Centre.

However, a presentation was provided to all present to explain the background to the proposal and the reasons for consultation.

David Macluskey outlined:

- The PKC Vision
- Statutory duties of a local authority
- Current delivery of ELC in PKC
- History of the response to flooding events at the former building since 2002
- ELC provision within Goodlyburn & CoPECC since 2022
- The wider context of ELC provision within the North Perth ELC Community
- The findings of an impact assessment of closure of the old site

Karen Robertson outlined:

The statutory consultation process including the legal framework, consideration by Learning & Families Committee, the statutory consultation period and the different ways in which representations from interested parties could be made as the first part of the consultation process. Karen Robertson then explained the next stages of the process which includes the involvement of Education Scotland, the preparation and publication of the consultation report and the final decision made by the Learning & Families Committee, currently anticipated to be November 2025.

David Macluskey then opened the meeting to any questions, comments or observations from the floor.

The two staff members present advised that they were in attendance to voice similar concerns to those presented during the staff consultation meeting.

Q: If the ECC provision is to be made permanent at Goodlyburn Primary School, what building improvements will take place to make the spaces fit for purpose and equitable with other PKC ECC services?

A: The immediate issues will be escalated with the PKC Property team. We recognise the challenges and there is staffing additionality in place to support operational delivery at the moment. Further conversations may need to take place around any future long-term solutions such as capital building projects.

Q: As the building has already been demolished, we do not contest it. However, there was a lack of communication and support to staff at the time of the flooding and the aftermath from the council. How will this be acknowledged?

A: David Macluskey will visit staff at Goodlyburn and City of Perth Early Childhood Centre to apologise to staff personally and to listen to their views. As the flooding event took place in August 2020, some of the issues raised around management of the response can be attributed to the context of the time and the prioritisation of the national and local Covid-19 pandemic response.

Q: The papers presented to committee mention investment to the outdoor spaces including an outdoor classroom however why does it not have heat or electricity?

A: Any property work that is essential to upgrade facilities which are currently below acceptable standards will be prioritised. Other upgrades to the environment will be considered as part of a wider longer-term plan.

Q: Why was the public meeting scheduled at 6pm in the evening which could be a barrier for parents and carers with young children who wanted to attend?

A: All protocols were followed, and the meeting dates and times were made available in a timely manner. There are still opportunities for anyone who was unable to attend in person to submit any representation they wish to make known through the online form, via email, or by post. As there has been no noticeable change in the quality of service delivered by the ECC since it vacated from the previous building and began delivery at Goodlyburn Primary School, it may be that parents and carers are not concerned about the proposal. This can be attributed to the continuity of high-quality provision delivered by the staff which is recognised and appreciated by everyone present.

Q: What are the next steps following the consultation, particularly to make the ELC spaces in the current building functional?

A: After the consultation closes, we will set out the feedback given and the council's response. The reports will be published and presented to committee who will then make a decision on closure. Responses to particular concerns e.g. the environment will be covered in the report.

David Macluskey, Education & Learning (Chief Education Officer) Strategic Lead thanked the panel, Councillor Rebbeck, Sheila Brown and staff members present for attending and closed the meeting.