



**EDUCATION EXECUTIVE**

**OUTCOME OF CONSULTATION ON NON-DENOMINATIONAL PRIMARY SCHOOL CATCHMENTS AT LINLITHGOW PRIMARY SCHOOLS**

**REPORT BY HEAD OF EDUCATION (PRIMARY, EARLY LEARNING AND RESOURCES)**

**A. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To seek Education Executive approval, following public consultation, to vary the catchment areas of non-denominational primary schools in Linlithgow.

To present to Education Executive with details of the outcome of the formal consultation, and the comments of Education Scotland on the consultation.

**B. RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that Education Executive: -

1. Approves the proposal to review non-denominational primary school catchment areas at:
  - Linlithgow Primary School
  - Linlithgow Bridge Primary School
  - Springfield Primary School
  - Lowport Primary School
  - Boghall Primary School
2. Notes the outcome of the formal consultation, and the comments of Education Scotland on the consultation.

**C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS**

<b>I Council Values</b>	Focusing on our customers' needs; being honest, open and accountable; making best use of our resources; working in partnership
<b>II Policy and Legal (including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment)</b>	The consultation does not change any existing policies.  Legal  The Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994. Education (Scotland) Act 1980 and related regulations. The Standards in Schools (Scotland) Act 2000, the School Education (Amendment)(Scotland) Act 2002 and School (Consultation)(Scotland) Act 2010. It is also

necessary to consider primary and secondary school provision and catchment area arrangements in the context of the West Lothian Local Development Plan.

<b>III</b>	<b>Implications for Scheme of Delegations to Officers</b>	None
<b>IV</b>	<b>Impact on performance and performance Indicators</b>	None
<b>V</b>	<b>Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement</b>	We are better educated and have access to increased and better quality learning and employment opportunities.
<b>VI</b>	<b>Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)</b>	Approved financial resources will meet obligations for printing and postage, costs associated with public meetings, for advertisements for the public meetings and for dedicated staff time for the process.
<b>VII</b>	<b>Consideration at PDSP</b>	PDSP offered initial consideration at its meeting on 28 May 2019 of the proposal and to seek Panel recommendation for submission to Education Executive on the proposal to commence formal public consultation. Education Executive, at its meeting on 11 June 2019, authorised the commencement of statutory consultation.
<b>VIII</b>	<b>Other consultations</b>	<p>Finance and Property Services, Operational Services, Planning Economic Development and Regeneration Services, Legal Services.</p> <p>A formal consultation period was conducted between Monday 22 August 2022 until Friday 07 October 2022 involving all relevant consultees as outlined via Schedule 2 of the Schools (Consultation)(Scotland) Act 2010.</p>

## D. TERMS OF REPORT

D1. The West Lothian Local Development Plan was approved in September 2018.

In recognition of the Local Development Plan, West Lothian Council has an obligation to address school capacities within the non-denominational primary school education sector in Linlithgow. Doing so will offer an opportunity to better match allocated housing developments to existing primary school capacities and to better match local community ties.

The figures detailed in Table 1 below show capacities and forecast school rolls at the non-denominational primary catchments for Linlithgow, Linlithgow Bridge, Low Port and Springfield Primary Schools and for Boghall Primary School, Bathgate.

### School Roll Forecast from the 2020 Based Forecasts:

Table 1 – Non-Denominational Primary Schools:

School	Capacity	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2028-29	2029-30
Linlithgow Primary School	441	400	391	389	371	385	387	386	387	381	368	364
Linlithgow Bridge Primary School	231	185	197	194	193	201	194	198	189	172	174	172
Low Port Primary School	198	175	181	187	201	207	200	203	201	201	208	203
Springfield Primary School	415	323	342	350	342	344	348	347	339	325	314	315
Boghall Primary School	462	275	266	260	245	241	239	216	212	204	196	193

West Lothian Council note that identified capacities are not well matched to the allocated Local Development Plan sites. Adopting the proposed approach offers a feasible solution that alleviates potential capacity issues.

## D2. CONSULTATION ARRANGEMENTS

The Statutory Consultation was widely communicated through the council's website and digital media channels. A letter informing the proposal and consultation process was issued to consultees. Copies of the Public Consultation Paper were made available via central locations within West Lothian.

The formal consultation period began on Monday 22 August 2022 until Friday 07 October 2022, a period of at least 30 school days. A copy of the Public Consultation Paper is included in Appendix I, The Final Report on the statutory Consultation on the proposal to review admission catchment arrangements at Linlithgow Primary Schools (The Final Report). Details of the consultees and consultation arrangements are also given in The Final Report, section 1.5.

A public meeting was held at Linlithgow Academy on 04 October 2022. A note of this meeting is included in section 3 of The Final Report.

## D.3 RESPONSE TO CONSULTATION

All interested parties were invited to submit their comments in writing to Education Services, Civic Centre, Howden Road South, EH54 6FF or by email via the

dedicated West Lothian Council School Consultation email address Education.Consultation@westlothian.gov.uk.

No expressions of opposition to the proposals were received during the statutory consultation period.

Written email representations were received from two West Lothian primary school pupil councils during the consultation period. Both expressed support for the proposals.

A written representation was received from one parent who also subsequently attended the public meeting. The representation supported the proposal but raised concerns about the publicity surrounding the proposal, specifically that their ELC setting had not yet circulated the proposal. The proposal was subsequently circulated by the relevant ELC setting.

During the public meeting all four attendees expressed support for the proposals. Attendees included four parents of children at a Linlithgow ELC setting. There was however, questions raised around the consultation process and the mechanism by which the authority might inform parents of children in an ELC setting of proposed catchment changes.

Although the number of attendees was small this was not unexpected given the relatively small number of residential properties affected by the catchment review and that no expressions of opposition to the proposals were noted during the pre-consultation in 2019.

A copy of the Council's Report of the statutory consultation is appended to this report as Appendix 2.

#### **D4 EDUCATION SCOTLAND RESPONSE**

Report by Education Scotland addressing educational aspects of the proposal by West Lothian Council to review admission catchment arrangements at Linlithgow primary schools, November 2022.

HM Inspectors agree that there are educational benefits from the proposal. The changes in catchment will enable more children to go to their nearest school. The proposal will also help to balance school rolls and school capacity. Staff, parents and children are content with the proposal. If the proposal is approved, there may be a need to consider further travel and traffic arrangements.

The full Education Scotland report is attached as Appendix 3.

#### **E. CONCLUSION**

With regard to the 2010 Act and having considered all of the information received during the consultation process, officers of West Lothian Council are satisfied that no comments have been received which would have caused them to review the merits of the proposal.

Based on these findings, it is recommended that West Lothian Council Education Executive agree to implement the proposal to review admission catchment arrangements at Linlithgow Primary Schools as per The Final Report, Appendix 1. If agreed the changes would be implemented from August 2023.

## F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

PDSP Report 28 May 2019

<https://coins.westlothian.gov.uk/coins/submissiondocuments.asp?submissionid=43885>

Education Executive Report 11 June 2019

<https://coins.westlothian.gov.uk/coins/submissiondocuments.asp?submissionid=42427>

West Lothian Council Schools and Education Consultations Public Webpage

<https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/article/75234/Proposal-to-Review-Admission-Catchment-Arrangements-at-Linlithgow-Primary-Schools>

### **Appendices/Attachments:**

Appendix A Final Report of the Statutory Consultation

Appendix B Consultation Document

Appendix C Education Scotland Report

Contact Person:

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Catherine Campbell, Senior Education Development Officer

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Greg Welsh, Head of Education (Primary, Early Learning and Resources)

Date: Tuesday 17 January

**APPENDIX A Final Report of the Statutory Consultation**

**A PROPOSAL TO REVIEW ADMISSION CATCHMENT ARRANGEMENTS AT  
LINLITHGOW PRIMARY SCHOOLS**

**FINAL REPORT OF THE STATUTORY CONSULTATION  
Monday 22 August 2022 until Friday 07 October 2022**

**CONTENTS**

		<b>Page</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	
	1.1 Purpose of Report	3
	1.2 Summary of Proposal	3
	1.3 Background	4
	1.4 Timeline	5
	1.5 Consultees	6
	1.6 Consultation Process	7
<b>2.</b>	<b>CONSULTEE RESPONSES TO PROPOSAL</b>	<b>8</b>
	2.1 Responses Received	9
<b>3.</b>	<b>NOTE OF PUBLIC MEETING</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>ANALYSIS OF CONSULTATION RESPONSES</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>5.</b>	<b>REPORT BY EDUCATION SCOTLAND</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>6.</b>	<b>COUNCIL OFFICER REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Appendix A</b>	Letter to Consultees	15
<b>Appendix B</b>	Consultation Document	17
<b>Appendix C</b>	Education Scotland Report	31

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

The purpose of this report is to give information on:

- West Lothian Council's proposals in relation to catchment arrangements at Linlithgow Primary Schools.
- the Consultation Process
- Consultee Responses
- Notes of Public Meeting

### **1.2 SUMMARY OF PROPOSAL**

West Lothian Council, Education Services propose to review non-denominational primary school catchment areas at:

- Linlithgow Primary School
- Linlithgow Bridge Primary School
- Springfield Primary School
- Lowport Primary School
- Boghall Primary School

Address the demands of future housing developments in the Linlithgow area and ensure best use of existing and future school capacities.



### 1.3 BACKGROUND

The West Lothian Local Development Plan was approved in September 2018.

In recognition of the Local Development Plan, West Lothian Council has an obligation to address school capacities within the non-denominational primary school education sector in Linlithgow. Doing so will offer an opportunity to better match allocated housing developments to existing primary school capacities and to better match local community ties.

The figures detailed in Table 1 below show capacities and forecast school rolls at the non-denominational primary catchments for Linlithgow, Linlithgow Bridge, Low Port and Springfield Primary Schools and for Boghall Primary School, Bathgate.

#### School Roll Forecast from the 2020 Based Forecasts:

**Table 1 – Non-Denominational Primary Schools:**

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Boghall Primary School	462	275	266	260	245	241	239	216	212	204	196	193

West Lothian Council note that identified capacities are not well matched to the allocated Local Development Plan sites. Adopting the proposed approach offers a feasible solution that alleviates potential capacity issues.

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**1.4 TIMELINE**

The following timeline was established and incorporates the organisation of a public meeting, Education Scotland involvement, the preparation and publication of the report on the outcomes of the consultation and subsequent submission to West Lothian Council Education Executive for its decision in **17 January 2023**.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Description</b>
28 May 2019	Education PDSP Meeting	To seek Panel recommendation for submission to Education Executive on proposal to commence formal public consultation
11 June 2019	Education Executive Meeting	Meeting to discuss proposal and agree continuation to statutory consultation phase
09 September 2019	Pre-Consultation meeting	Seeking stakeholder views on the proposal
22 June 2021	Education Executive meeting	Report on pre-consultation
22 August 2022	Start of Consultation	Beginning of formal public consultation <b>(min 6 continuous weeks consultation period including min of 30 school days)</b>
04 October 2022	Public Meeting	Public Meeting to discuss proposal
07 October 2022	End of Consultation	End of Public Consultation
October 2022	Submit report to Education Scotland*Dates to be agreed in advance with Education Scotland	West Lothian Council Education Services relays report on proposal and consultation findings to Education Scotland
November 2022	Deadline for Education Scotland three week period for reporting back to Education Services	Education Scotland response to West Lothian Council submission
December 2022	Give Education Scotland at least 5 days notice prior to publishing final report	Upon receipt of response from Education Scotland Authority will prepare and publish final consultation report
December 2022	Publication of final consultation report	A minimum of three weeks <b>after</b> publication of consultation report Authority will make final decision

## **1.5 CONSULTEES**

In terms of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, any proposal to make amendments to the school estate in this case, establishment of a new education establishment, requires a formal consultation.

The Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, as amended by the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014, sets out the statutory consultation requirements.

The statutory consultees for a proposal to relocate an education establishment are prescribed as follows:

- the Parent Council or Combined Parent Council of any affected school
- the parents of the pupils at any affected school
- the parents of any children expected by the education authority to attend any affected school within two years of the date of publication of the proposal paper
- the pupils at any affected school (in so far as the education authority considers them to be of a suitable age and maturity)
- the staff (teaching and other) at any affected school
- any trade union which appears to the education authority to be representative of the persons mentioned in bullet point above
- the community council (if any)
- the Community Planning Partnership (within the meaning of section 4(5) of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 for the area of the local authority in which affected school is situated.
- any other community planning partnerships considered relevant by the Authority.
- any other education authority that the education authority considers relevant
- any other users of any affected school that the education authority considers relevant
- in relation to any relevant proposal which affects a denominational school, the Church, Denominational Body or Scottish Hierarchy of the Roman Catholic Church

## 1.6 CONSULTATION PROCESS

The consultation period incorporated a period of 30 school days (excluding any school holiday) from Monday 22 August 2022 until Friday 07 October 2022. This timescale adheres to the statutory consultation period for such circumstances which is a minimum of 6 consecutive weeks and include at least 30 school days.

To communicate, the Education Service proposal information was delivered through the undernoted media avenues:

- West Lothian Council Website:
- <https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/article/75234/Proposal-to-Review-Admission-Catchment-Arrangements-at-Linlithgow-Primary-Schools>
- West Lothian Council digital media products
- Available in hard copy via central locations within West Lothian
- Hard copy available for postal distribution on request

In order to ensure all parties had the same opportunity to access the consultation information, facilities were put in place to communicate the proposal in a manner best suited to the needs of the individual. To this regard, the Consultation Document was made available through the following means as and when requested:

- Translation Services
- Provision for deaf and hearing impaired, blind and visually impaired

A copy of the Consultation Document is attached as Appendix B.

A public meeting was held at:

### **Linlithgow Academy on Tuesday 04 October 2022 at 7pm.**

Council officers outlined the key elements of the proposal and answered questions from meeting attendees. Minutes of the public meeting are detailed in Section 3 of this report.

During the consultation period views on the proposal were welcomed in writing to the address given below:

Catherine Campbell, Education Services, Civic Centre, Howden Road South, EH54 6FF

Responses by e-mail were directed to [Education.Consultation@westlothian.gov.uk](mailto:Education.Consultation@westlothian.gov.uk)

All interested parties were invited to submit their comments by close of business Friday 07 October 2022.

## 2.0 CONSULTEE RESPONSES TO PROPOSAL

West Lothian Council Education Services noted comments made through a variety of means however only those official representations submitted in the terms of the **Consultation Document SECTION 5: Consultation Process and How To Have Your Say (Appendix B)** have been recorded for reporting purposes.

No hard copy written representations were received during the consultation period. All responses from consultees were received either in electronic format (email) or by oral representation at the statutory public meeting.

### 2.1 RESPONSES RECEIVED

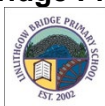
#### 2.1.1 Email response

One email response was received from a parent below who also subsequently attended the public meeting regarding the proposals during the consultation. The representation supported the proposal but raised concerns about the publicity surrounding the proposal, specifically that their ELC setting had not yet circulated the proposal. The proposal was subsequently circulated by the relevant ELC setting.

### 2.1.2 Pupil Council Responses

Responses from two Pupil Councils were received during the consultation. Both expressed agreement with the proposals.

#### Linlithgow Bridge Primary School



#### Pupil Council Meeting 9<sup>th</sup> September 2022

##### Discussions

- **Introductions – first meeting of the session; welcome to P1 reps.**
- **Role of the Pupil Council – notebooks issued**
- **Brainstorming session – next Dress Down Day ( ideas – Superhero; Upside Down; Bunny Day (Easter); Emotions Day; Under water / Summer clothes:**
- **Agreed – Frid 30<sup>th</sup> Sept – Dress Down Day – children invited to wear autumn colours and to bring a donation for the West Lothian Foodbank.**
- **Mrs Webster explained about the School Catchment Area consultation. Children`s comments included –**

“There will be lots more children”

“It is a good idea for them to come here”

“They could build a new school”

- **Children to inform classes.**

Next meeting – 7<sup>th</sup> October



Please see response below from our Pupil Council:

RO- 'I think this is a good idea it will ensure that Linlithgow academy doesn't become too full.'

FB- 'I think it is good and bad idea, by changing the catchment we will have less children but if we had a wider catchment area then we have the opportunity to make more friends from different backgrounds. '

GC - 'I don't have an opinion as I don't think it will affect me.'

SE - 'I think it is unfair as everyone should be able to choose the school that they like and not be so restricted.'

OT- 'What about the families that have difficulty with transport, will they being able to access Bathgate OK?'

DH- 'I can see it from both points of view, however I am not sure If I agree with the decision as this could have a negative impact on the families that this will affect.'

**3.0 NOTE OF PUBLIC MEETING**

**MINUTE OF PUBLIC MEETING HELD AT  
LINLITHGOW ACADEMY ON WEDNESDAY 04 OCTOBER 2022 AT 7PM  
TO DISCUSS PUBLIC CONSULTATION DOCUMENT:  
“PROPOSAL TO REVIEW ADMISSION CATCHMENT ARRANGEMENTS AT  
LINLITHGOW PRIMARY SCHOOLS”**

**In attendance from West Lothian Council:**

Andrew Maguire	Executive Councillor for Education
Greg Welsh	Head of Education (Primary, Early Learning and Resources)
Catherine Campbell	Senior Education Development Officer
Andrew Cotton	Senior Education Planning Officer

**Meeting attendees:** Four parents and one Education Scotland representative.

- Cllr Maguire opened the meeting with introductions and the agenda.
- Andrew Cotton and Greg Welsh delivered a PowerPoint presentation to the attendees.
- Link to Education Services Presentation here:



Linlithgow  
Primaries Statutory C

**Discussion Opportunity – Cllr Maguire opened the floor to comments and questions:**

<b>Attendee Comments</b>
Attendees informed officers that they were parents of nursery age children in the Linlithgow Bridge proposed catchment change. Both sets of parents expressed agreement with the proposals.
<b>WLC Response:</b>
This was noted and the presentation spent more time on this aspect of the proposals including the catchment maps.
<b>Attendee Comments</b>
Attendees commented that they were unaware of the pre-consultation exercise that took place before. If they had known they might have made a different placement application for the location of their children’s nursery.
<b>WLC Response:</b>
Officers explained that a non-statutory pre-consultation exercise had taken place in 2019. In June 2021 formal approval was sought at Education Executive to go out to statutory consultation after Covid restrictions could be lifted. Officers explained that all statutory processes as defined by Education Scotland had been undertaken prior to formal consultation opening on the 22 August 2022 as outlined in Section 4 of the consultation document. However, it was noted that parents of nursery age children particularly those with private providers might not be aware of previous catchment proposal discussions and

**Education  
Services**

that officers would look to review how information about potential catchment changes could be shared outwith the statutory consultation process. This was reiterated by Cllr Maguire.
<b>Attendee Comments</b>
An attendee highlighted that they had been made aware of the Letter to Consultees, appendix A of the report via a friend whose child attended another catchment school. They had contacted the authority via email and discussed this with Andy Cotton, Planning Officer over the phone prior to the public meeting.
<b>WLC Response:</b>
Officers explained that schools receive the same information about the consultation via a group email and are advised to distribute this information to their school community as soon as they can and via a mechanism that works best for their school setting including school email, printed letters, school apps and Group Call alerts.
<b>Attendee Comment:</b>
The attendee followed up that they had received the Letter to Consultees the following day from the school and were happy with the proposal that their child would now attend Linlithgow Bridge.
<b>WLC Response:</b>
Response noted.
<b>Attendee Comment:</b>
One attendee noted that the catchment change was sensible and safest from their family's perspective. They could see Linlithgow Bridge from their house and could walk rather than drop their child off by car.
<b>WLC Response:</b>
Response noted.
<b>Attendee Comment:</b>
A follow up question around safe routes to school was asked.
<b>WLC Response:</b>
Officers responded that a Road and Transport safe route is defined as a child accompanied by a responsible adult link here <a href="https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/schooltransport">https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/schooltransport</a> All the walking routes are assessed by a qualified transportation engineer. For a walking route to be deemed as being acceptable for a child to walk whilst accompanied by a responsible adult three simple tests are applied: The route must be paved and of adequate width, or be a shared roadway, the route must have an all-weather surface, the route must be lit.
<b>Attendee Comments</b>
Another attendee asked how many properties were affected by the proposals.
<b>WLC Response:</b>
HoE explained that this information was contained in the consultation document and in the Letter to Consultees issued. The total number is 286 residential properties.
<b>Attendee Comment:</b>
Discussion took place around the timeline of information available particularly when making final decisions and making applications for their children's nursery and primary school.
<b>WLC Response:</b>
Officers explained that there's no catchment for Early Learning Centre places. An ELC child place does not determine the child's primary school placement. HoE further explained that several primary schools do not have their own ELC setting resulting in primary school classes being made up of a mixture of children from several ELC settings including children attending private providers, children in home settings and children from



**Education  
Services**

placing requests.
<b>Attendee Comment:</b>
One attendee mentioned that this was perhaps not fully understood by families who made ELC applications.
<b>WLC Response:</b>
HoE explained that this information was on the letter of acceptance issued to parents explaining that a place in an ELC setting did not guarantee a place in a particular primary school.
<b>Attendee Comment:</b>
Another attendee commented that they'd prefer not to have children at two different ELC settings.
<b>WLC Response:</b>
HoE advised to keep their child in their current ELC setting to avoid two transition points. The professional adult relationships established within the ELC is likely more important than peer relationships which may become mixed going into P1. This was followed up by an officer who informed the group that approximately 50% of parents in the area moving from Linlithgow PS to Linlithgow Bridge PS already made placing requests for Linlithgow Bridge PS.
<b>Attendee Comment:</b>
A follow up question enquired about the transition process going into P1.
<b>WLC Response:</b>
Officers explained that transition processes vary between schools but all children with a place at Linlithgow Bridge Primary School will be contacted in advance with information of the process.
<b>Attendee Comment:</b>
Discussion took place around the likelihood of the proposals being put in place.
<b>WLC Response:</b>
HoE explained that it would be an officer recommendation that the Education Executive approve the proposals. Cllr Maguire followed up that given the clear support for the change during the consultation process to date and the officer recommendation then councillors would be clear on the strong rationale for change. A final decision will be made at a meeting of Education Executive on 17 January 2023 as stated in the Consultation Document and Letter of Consultees.
<b>Attendee Comment:</b>
A question around the capacity of the schools once housing developments were completed.
<b>WLC Response:</b>
Andy Cotton, Planning Officer explained that it is his job to calculate, project and report on school roll forecasts. Roll forecasts are shown in Section 1.2 of the consultation document and confirm that the roll forecast for Linlithgow Bridge is well below its 231 capacity up to and including year 2029/30.
<b>Attendee Comment:</b>
An attendee asked a question on behalf of a friend regarding clarification of the policy regarding sibling links and making a placing request outwith a catchment area.
<b>WLC Response:</b>
HoE clarified that an older child already attending a non-catchment school did not guarantee a place for a younger sibling. However, the council's placement panel for non-catchment children always consider siblings and place children where possible.

**Meeting Close:**

Cllr Maguire thanked everyone for their attendance and participation in discussion

#### 4.0 ANALYSIS OF CONSULTATION RESPONSES

No expressions of opposition to the proposals were received during the statutory consultation period.

Written email representations were received from two West Lothian primary school pupil councils during the consultation period. Both expressed support for the proposals.

A written representation was received from one parent who also subsequently attended the public meeting. The representation supported the proposal but raised concerns about the publicity surrounding the proposal, specifically that their ELC setting had not yet circulated the proposal. The proposal was subsequently circulated by the relevant ELC setting.

During the public meeting all four attendees expressed support for the proposals. Attendees included four parents of children at a Linlithgow ELC setting. There was however, questions raised around the consultation process and the mechanism by which the authority might inform parents of children in an ELC setting of proposed catchment changes.

Although the number of attendees was small this was not unexpected given the relatively small number of residential properties affected by the catchment review and that no expressions of opposition to the proposals were noted during the pre-consultation in 2019.

## 5.0 REPORT BY EDUCATION SCOTLAND

Report by Education Scotland addressing educational aspects of the proposal by West Lothian Council to review admission catchment arrangements at Linlithgow primary schools. November 2022

### Summary

HM Inspectors agree that there are educational benefits from the proposal. The changes in catchment will enable more children to go to their nearest school. The proposal will also help to balance school rolls and school capacity. Staff, parents and children are content with the proposal. If the proposal is approved, there may be a need to consider further travel and traffic arrangements.

## 6.0 COUNCIL OFFICER REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION

### 6.1 REVIEW OF PROPOSAL

Feedback from consultee submissions and the report from Education Scotland have been analysed in order that any issues highlighted were given cognisance and responded to. As a result of this analysis officers conclude the undernoted factors:

#### Identified Key Benefits:

- The changes in catchment will enable more children to go to their nearest school.
- The proposal will help to balance school rolls and school capacity.
- Staff, parents and children are content with the proposal.

### 6.2 RECOMMENDATION

With regard to the 2010 Act and having considered all of the information received during the consultation process, officers of West Lothian Council are satisfied that no comments have been received which would have caused them to review the merits of the proposal.

Based on these findings, it is recommended that West Lothian Council Education Executive agree to implement the proposal to review admission catchment arrangements at Linlithgow Primary Schools. If agreed the changes would be implemented from August 2023.

**Appendix A – Letter to Consultees**

05 September 2022

**Contact: James Cameron**  
Tel 01506 281680

E-mail: james.cameron@westlothian.gov.uk

Dear Consultee

**West Lothian Council Education Services Proposal to Review Admission Catchment Arrangements at Linlithgow Primary Schools**

West Lothian Council's Education Executive at its meeting on 22 June 2021, authorised Education Services to commence statutory consultation on the proposal to alter the non-denominational primary school catchment areas of:

- Linlithgow Primary School
- Linlithgow Bridge Primary School
- Springfield Primary School
- Low Port Primary School
- Boghall Primary School

The consultation document outlining the proposal is available online from 22 August 2022 on the following webpage: <https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/article/75234/Proposal-to-Review-Admission-Catchment-Arrangements-at-Linlithgow-Primary-Schools>

**SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS****Tartraven**

This area comprises 17 residential properties in the Bathgate Hills area south of Beecraigs. They are located within the Linlithgow & Linlithgow Bridge Community Council area, Electoral Ward 1 (Linlithgow) and St Joseph's Primary School Linlithgow for denominational primary stage schooling. However, for non-denominational schooling, they are located in Boghall Primary School and Bathgate Academy catchments. The proposed change to Linlithgow Primary School and catchment fits better with local community ties. There are currently no children living in this area who attend West Lothian Council education establishments.

**Wilcoxholm and Burgh Muir**

This area comprises 46 residential properties along the Edinburgh Road, Maidlands and Pilgrim's Hill. A walking route is available to Springfield Primary School and the proposed change will ensure that Low Port Primary School is not over capacity if the Wilcoxholm Farm development site proceeds. There are currently 20 children living in this area who attend West Lothian schools. The land at Burgh Muir east of Bonnytoun House and north of the A803 has one current residential dwelling and is allocated as Employment Land and Countryside Belt in the West Lothian Local Development Plan.

**Kildimmery**

This area comprises 11 residential properties on the south of the B9080. It is isolated from the Linlithgow Primary catchment – Linlithgow Primary School is only the 3rd closest non-denominational primary school after Springfield Primary School and Low Port Primary School. The Wilcoxholm Farm development will open up walking routes to Springfield Primary School for the aforementioned 11 properties.

**Falkirk Road**

This area comprises 212 residential properties in Linlithgow Bridge located between the railway line and the Falkirk Road. The area is traditionally considered to be part of the Linlithgow Bridge community and walking distances to Linlithgow Bridge Primary School are significantly shorter than those to Linlithgow Primary School. The proposal ensures the Falkirk Road (land at BSW Timber) development site is located within the Linlithgow Bridge Primary School catchment. The proposed change will help better balance capacity between Linlithgow Primary School and Linlithgow Bridge Primary School if the allocated new dwellings at Preston Farm and Kettlestoun Mains progress.

Hard copies of the consultation document are also available for uplift from the Civic Centre, Howden South Road, Livingston, EH54 6FF or can be requested in writing from:

Catherine Campbell, Project Officer, West Lothian Council Education Services, Civic Centre, Howden South Road, Livingston, EH54 6FF.

The consultation period is from 22 August 2022 to 5pm on 07 October 2022.

A public meeting to discuss the consultation document will be held at Linlithgow Academy on Tuesday 04 October 2022 at 7.00pm-8.00pm.

You are also invited to submit your comments on the consultation in writing to Catherine Campbell at the above address or by e-mail to [Education.Consultation@westlothian.gov.uk](mailto:Education.Consultation@westlothian.gov.uk)

For written representations to be considered they must be received no later than 5pm on Friday 07 October 2022.

A decision on the proposal is planned to be made in January 2023 by the Council's Education Executive. This decision will be based on feedback received from all stakeholders through written responses and through information gathered from public meetings. Feedback received from Education Scotland will also be offered due regard.

Yours sincerely

Greg Welsh  
**Head of Education (Primary, Early Learning and Resources)**



**WEST LOTHIAN COUNCIL EDUCATION SERVICES  
CONSULTATION DOCUMENT  
August 2022**

**REVIEW OF ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS AS A RESULT  
OF ALTERATION TO THE NON-DENOMINATIONAL  
PRIMARY SCHOOL CATCHMENT AREAS OF:**

- **LINLITHGOW PRIMARY SCHOOL**
- **LINLITHGOW BRIDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL**
- **SPRINGFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL**
- **LOW PORT PRIMARY SCHOOL; AND**
- **BOGHALL PRIMARY SCHOOL**

## **CONTENTS**

### **SECTION 1**

- 1.1 Purpose of this Document**
- 1.2 Background**
- 1.3 Summary of Proposals**

### **SECTION 2**

- 2.1 Educational Benefit Statement**

### **SECTION 3**

- 3.1 Integrated Impact Assessment**

### **SECTION 4**

- 4.1 Consultation Process: How To Have Your Say**

# SECTION ONE

This section introduces the reason for the consultation. It provides information about why West Lothian Council is proposing to review admission arrangements as a result of alteration to non-denominational primary school catchment areas.

## 1.1 PURPOSE OF THE DOCUMENT

The purpose of this document is to advise:

1. West Lothian Council's proposals to review admission arrangements as a result of alteration to the non-denominational primary school catchment areas of:
  - I. Linlithgow Primary School
  - II. Linlithgow Bridge Primary School
  - III. Springfield Primary School
  - IV. Low Port Primary School
  - V. Boghall Primary School
2. The educational benefits of the proposals and how they will make things better; and
3. Information on how you can give your views and take part in the consultation process.

West Lothian Council believes that thorough and effective consultation will support better outcomes for pupils, their families and the wider community as a whole.

Public consultations are necessary when a local authority is proposing to make a change to the school estate in this instance, proposed amendment to school catchment areas. To carry out a public consultation the Council requires to follow the statutory guidance outlined in the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010. With this in mind this document is organised into three sections:

Section 1 of this document introduces the proposals and gives background and rationale.

Section 2 contains the educational benefits statement and provides an assessment of the effects of the proposals on the children/young people and their families of the affected schools.

Section 3 details how West Lothian Council has organised the consultation process to meet the requirements of the legislation and how you can take part and give your views.



## 1.2. BACKGROUND

The West Lothian Local Development Plan was approved in September 2018.

In recognition of the Local Development Plan, West Lothian Council has an obligation to address school capacities within the non-denominational primary school education sector in Linlithgow. Doing so will offer an opportunity to better match allocated housing developments to existing primary school capacities and to better match local community ties.

The figures detailed in Table 1 below show capacities and forecast school rolls at the non-denominational primary catchments for Linlithgow, Linlithgow Bridge, Low Port and Springfield Primary Schools and for Boghall Primary School, Bathgate.

### School Roll Forecast from the 2020 Based Forecasts:

Table 1 – Non-Denominational Primary Schools:

School	Capacity	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2028-29	2029-30
Linlithgow Primary School	441	400	391	389	371	385	387	386	387	381	368	364
Linlithgow Bridge Primary School	231	185	197	194	193	201	194	198	189	172	174	172
Low Port Primary School	198	175	181	187	201	207	200	203	201	201	208	203
Springfield Primary School	415	323	342	350	342	344	348	347	339	325	314	315
Boghall Primary School	462	275	266	260	245	241	239	216	212	204	196	193

West Lothian Council note that identified capacities are not well matched to the allocated Local Development Plan sites. Adopting the proposed approach offers a feasible solution that alleviates potential capacity issues.

## 1.2 PRE CONSULTATION

Pre-Consultation was undertaken in Autumn 2019 including a public meeting at Linlithgow Academy on 09 September 2019. Consultees were supportive of the principles of the consultation.

The initial proposal was generally well received by the community. A number of concerns were raised about specific planning applications and these were addressed although it was noted that many of these issues fell outwith the scope of an Education Consultation.

The Pre Consultation was reported to Education Executive on 22 June 2021.

## 1.3 SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS

### 1.3.1 Tartraven

This area comprises 17 residential properties in the Bathgate Hills area south of Beecraigs. They are located within the Linlithgow & Linlithgow Bridge Community Council area, Electoral Ward 1 (Linlithgow) and St Joseph's Primary School Linlithgow for denominational primary stage schooling. However, for non-denominational schooling, they are located in Boghall Primary School and Bathgate Academy catchments. The proposed change to Linlithgow Primary School and catchment fits better with local community ties. There are currently no children living in this area who attend West Lothian Council education establishments.

### **1.3.2 Wilcoxholm and Burgh Muir**

This area comprises 46 residential properties along the Edinburgh Road, Maidlands and Pilgrim's Hill. A walking route is available to Springfield Primary School and the proposed change will ensure that Low Port Primary School is not over capacity when the Wilcoxholm Farm development site proceeds. There are currently 20 children living in this area who attend West Lothian schools.

The land at Burgh Muir east of Bonnytoun House and north of the A803 has one current residential dwelling and is allocated as Employment Land and Countryside Belt in the West Lothian Local Development Plan.

### **1.3.3 Kildimmery**

This area comprises 11 residential properties on the south of the B9080. It is isolated from the Linlithgow Primary catchment – Linlithgow Primary School is only the 3<sup>rd</sup> closest non-denominational primary school after Springfield Primary School and Low Port Primary School.

The Wilcoxholm Farm development will open up walking routes to Springfield Primary School for the aforementioned 11 properties.

The proposed change will help better balance existing school capacities as 270 new homes proposed at Preston Farm and Kettlestoun Mains in the Linlithgow Primary School catchment without change would place the school under pressure.

### **1.3.4 Falkirk Road**

This area comprises 212 residential properties in Linlithgow Bridge located between the railway line and the Falkirk Road. The area is traditionally considered to be part of the Linlithgow Bridge community and walking distances to Linlithgow Bridge Primary School are significantly shorter than those to Linlithgow Primary School.

The proposal ensures the Falkirk Road (land at BSW Timber) development site is located within the Linlithgow Bridge Primary School catchment.

The proposed change will help better balance capacity between Linlithgow Primary School and Linlithgow Bridge Primary School if the allocated new dwellings at Preston Farm and Kettlestoun Mains progress.

## **1.4. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS**

Review admission arrangements as a result of alteration to the current non-denominational primary school catchment areas of:

- Proposal 1 – Linlithgow Primary School
- Proposal 2 – Linlithgow Bridge Primary School
- Proposal 3 – Springfield Primary School
- Proposal 4 – Low Port Primary School
- Proposal 5 – Boghall Primary School

An associated future proposal will review the non-denominational secondary school catchment areas at Linlithgow Academy and Bathgate Academy to ensure the revised Tartraven catchment change also matches at Secondary level but this does not form part of this consultation process.

The principal aims of the proposals are to address the demands of future housing developments and ensure the best use of existing and future school capacities in West Lothian non-denominational school catchment areas.

## SECTION TWO

This section contains the expected educational benefits to be gained should the proposals come to fruition.

### 2.1 EDUCATIONAL BENEFIT STATEMENT

Whilst assessing the educational benefits of the proposals, the undernoted factors were considered:

- **Curriculum For Excellence**

Curriculum for Excellence is the national curriculum of experiences and outcomes for all pupils, 3-18 years.

The national guidance from Education Scotland encourages education authorities to ensure that curricular provisions offer opportunities for learners to achieve across all curricular areas and develop skills, attributes and capabilities through courses aligned with the key principles of Curriculum for Excellence: challenge and enjoyment, breadth, progression, depth, personalisation and choice, coherence and relevance.

A key educational advantage is that the affected schools will continue to be fully equipped to deliver the full breadth of Curriculum for Excellence.

Continued engagement of creative teaching and learning approaches in a viable and sustainable school establishment broadens scope for attainment and achievement and builds a positive ethos for staff and pupils alike.

- **Admission**

There will be no impact to pupils currently in attendance at West Lothian schools as a result of proposed variations to school catchment areas. All pupils will continue to attend their existing schools for the remainder of their primary stage education.

Younger siblings of those pupils currently attending Linlithgow Primary School, Linlithgow Bridge Primary School, Springfield Primary School, Low Port Primary School and Boghall Primary School will retain the catchment status of the older sibling and will be permitted to attend the existing primary school establishment if parents wish siblings to attend the same primary school.

This catchment status would remain until such times that the sibling link is broken i.e. should the elder sibling leave primary stage education prior to commencement of the younger sibling at primary school.

Criteria for admission will continue to be in accordance with West Lothian Council's current admission arrangements. [West Lothian Council Primary School Admission Policy](#)

It is proposed to transfer only the specified dwellings set out in section 1.2 of this report. All other existing catchment area criteria for each of the non-denominational primary schools highlighted in this report will remain unchanged.

- **School Capacity**

West Lothian Council do not anticipate any impact to existing school capacities at the detailed schools as a result of the proposed school catchment alterations.

- **School Management/Staff Teams**

West Lothian Council do not foresee alteration to current school management structures at the schools detailed in this report. All existing staffing facilitations and day to day operations within each of the schools will continue as is.

Any amendments to current staffing will be undertaken in accordance to West Lothian Council statutory recruitment processes.

- **School Transport**

In relation to Proposals 1-4 there are no anticipated amendments to existing school transport provisions as a result of the proposals.

In relation to Proposal 5 – Review of admission arrangements as a result of alteration to school catchment area of Boghall Primary School – There is an anticipated amendment to existing school transport provisions as a result of this proposal. The 17 properties detailed in section 1.2.1 of this report would continue to be eligible for school transport but entitlement would change from Boghall Primary School to Linlithgow Primary School.

Any requests for school transport provisions will be considered in accordance with West Lothian Council's School Transport Policy. [West Lothian Council School Transport Policy](#)

- **Transition**

Linlithgow Primary School, Linlithgow Bridge Primary School, Springfield Primary School and Low Port Primary school will continue to be associated schools and aligned to Linlithgow Academy with Boghall Primary School remaining aligned to Bathgate Academy.

Transition programmes currently adopted will be unaffected by the proposed amendment to catchment allocation. All of the relative establishments will endeavour as always to ensure the transition process will continue to be a seamless and positive experience for those pupils involved.

- **School Grounds/Outdoor Learning/Playground**

The school grounds and playground areas at the identified primary schools will continue to offer ample scope for development of the outdoor classroom. This will have a positive impact on the learning environment for all pupils and will support the development of good relationships and positive behaviour, not only in the classroom, but also outdoors and in the wider community.

Car parking and pupil drop off / uplift areas will continue to ensure safe and efficient traffic flow. Appropriate car park protocols and risk assessments will be maintained.

- **Breakfast / School Clubs**

Breakfast clubs will continue to provide pupils with a healthy breakfast and offer opportunity to sample and develop preferences for healthy options. The aim of the club is to establish positive relationships at the start of the school day and improve attitude, behaviours and motivation to learn.

Pupils will continue to be invited to take part in a wide range of extracurricular activities. Activities are designed to offer opportunity to learn new skills and enhance experiences. Participation in these activities promotes and encourages social interaction, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens.

- **Parental Involvement**

Parents and carers are an integral part of the school community with their ongoing contributions and working partnerships being considered key to the success of the school.

West Lothian Council do not foresee any impact to existing opportunities for parental involvement and engagement as a result of the intimated proposals.

A principal focus as always is the delivery of a welcoming school that is inclusive for all parents, carers, pupils and staff.

- **Community Links**

All external links that each of the highlighted primary schools has established will remain with each establishment continuing to have clear and distinct associations within the local community.

- **Benefits for Any Other School Users**

The proposed changes will have no impact on existing external school users. All existing provisions for other school users will continue as a result of the proposed catchment area review.

## **SECTION THREE**

This section provides information on the Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) conducted by Council officers to meet statutory equality duties, to assess policies and practices and ensure compliance with all legislative requirements.

### **INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

To meet statutory equality duties, the Council conducts an Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) to critically assess policies and practices and ensure compliance with all legislative requirements.

The aim of an IIA is to examine policies and practices in a structured way taking account of equality, human rights and socioeconomic disadvantage (poverty) implications when making decisions, ensuring the impact within the community is recognised and addressed accordingly.

IIA screening is completed using the Council's Integrated Impact Assessment Toolkit and allows the Authority to recognise positive steps it can take to promote fairness and equality of opportunity for all.

As part of the consultation process the Council will consult with a wide range of stakeholders, staff, parents/carers and young people and will welcome and address comments on the IIA process.

The outcome of the Integrated Impact Assessment will inform the Final Consultation Report and the Council's consideration of the proposed changes prior to reaching a decision on whether they should be implemented.

## SECTION FOUR

This section provides information on how West Lothian Council has organised the consultation process for the proposals contained within this document. It also provides information on how you can take part and give your views.

In terms of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, any proposal to alter the catchment area of a school requires a formal consultation process.

The Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, as amended by the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014, sets out the statutory consultation requirements.

The statutory consultees are prescribed as follows:

- the Parent Council or Combined Parent Council of any affected school
- the parents of the pupils at any affected school
- the parents of any children expected by the education authority to attend any affected school within two years of the date of publication of the proposal paper
- the pupils at any affected school (in so far as the education authority considers them to be of a suitable age and maturity)
- the staff (teaching and other) at any affected school
- any trade union which appears to the education authority to be representative of the persons mentioned in bullet point above
- the community council (if any)
- the community planning partnership (within the meaning of section 4(5) of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 for the area the local authority in which any affected school is situated.
- any other community planning partnership that the education authority considers relevant
- any other education authority that the education authority considers relevant
- any other users of any affected school that the education authority considers relevant
- in relation to any relevant proposal which affects a denominational school, the Church, Denominational Body or Scottish Hierarchy of the Roman Catholic Church.

As stated in the terms of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 statutory consultation periods should last a minimum of six weeks continuous and incorporate a minimum of 30 school days (excluding school holidays). Therefore the consultation period for this particular proposal will run from 20 August 2022 until 07 October 2022.

The consultation paper will be made available for reference electronically and in paper format.

Public meetings will be held in respect of the proposals at the venues listed below:

Location	Date/Time
Linlithgow Academy	04 October 2022 at 19.00

This meeting will give interested parties a formal opportunity to express their views.

Representatives of the Council will be present at the meetings to outline the proposals, facilitate discussions and answer questions.

The Council website will contain information on the consultation. The web address is: [www.westlothian.gov.uk/education](http://www.westlothian.gov.uk/education)

During the consultation period any views on this proposal should be sent in writing to the address given below:

Catherine Campbell, Education Services, Civic Centre, Howden Road South, EH54 6FF

Responses can also be made by e-mail [Education.Consultation@westlothian.gov.uk](mailto:Education.Consultation@westlothian.gov.uk)

All responses to be received by no later than 5.00pm 07 October 2022.

### **Consultation Timeline:**

Following the end of the Consultation period West Lothian Council must provide Education Scotland with a report detailing all findings pertaining to the Consultation period.

All written and oral comments received during the consultation process are recorded and represented in said report, along with the Council's response to those comments.

Education Scotland will consider the Council submission and advise their response accordingly.

West Lothian Council will ensure that considerations received from Education Scotland are included in the Final Consultation Report. This Final Report will be made available and notification will be given to those individuals or groups that have made representations during the Consultation period.

West Lothian Council will not make any decisions, or put any changes into effect until the Final Consultation Report has been concluded, published and subsequently presented to the Education Executive on 17 January 2023.



**The Consultation Timeline below encompasses statutory legislative requirements detailed as per Schools (Consultation)(Scotland) Act 2010.**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Description</b>
28 May 2019	Education PDSP Meeting	To seek Panel recommendation for submission to Education Executive on proposal to commence formal public consultation
11 June 2019	Education Executive Meeting	Meeting to discuss proposal and agree continuation to statutory consultation phase
09 September 2019	Pre-Consultation meeting	Seeking stakeholder views on the proposal
22 June 2021	Education Executive meeting	Report on pre-consultation
22 August 2022	Start of Consultation	Beginning of formal public consultation ( <b>min 6 continuous weeks consultation period including min of 30 school days</b> )
04 October 2022	Public Meeting	Public Meeting to discuss proposal
07 October 2022	End of Consultation	End of Public Consultation
12 October 2022	Submit report to Education Scotland*Dates to be agreed in advance with Education Scotland	West Lothian Council Education Services relays report on proposal and consultation findings to Education Scotland
November 2022	Deadline for Education Scotland three week period for reporting back to Education Services	Education Scotland response to West Lothian Council submission
December 2022	Give Education Scotland at least 5 days notice prior to publishing final report	Upon receipt of response from Education Scotland Authority will prepare and publish final consultation report
December 2022	Publication of final consultation report	A minimum of three weeks <b>after</b> publication of consultation report Authority will make final decision
17 January 2023	Education Executive Meeting	Decision made

Propozycja władz lokalnych West Lothian Council dotycząca przeglądu obwodu niewyznaniowych szkół podstawowych w następujących placówkach: Linlithgow Primary School, Linlithgow Bridge Primary School, Springfield Primary School, Lowport Primary School i Boghall Primary School  
W celu uzyskania kopii niniejszego dokumentu należy zadzwonić do Catherine Campbell pod numer telefonu 01506 281666. NALEŻY PODAĆ IMIĘ I NAZWISKO, JAK I JĘZYK, W KTÓRYM WYMAGANE JEST TŁUMACZENIE

West Lothian savivaldybės pasiūlymas peržiūrėti ne denominacinių pradinį mokyklų pasiekiamumo zonas Linlithgow pradinei m-klai, Linlithgow Bridge pradinei m-klai, Springfield pradinei m-klai, Lowport ir Boghall pradinėms mokykloms.

Jei norėtumėte šio dokumento kopijos prašome skambinti Catherine Campbell telefonu 01506 281666. PATEIKITE SAVO VARDĄ, ADRESĄ IR KALBĄ J KURIAJ NORĖTUMĖTE, KAD DOKUMENTAS BŪTŲ IŠVERSTAS.

Vestloziānas domes (*West Lothian Council*) priekšlikums pārskatīt nekonfesionālo pamatskolu – Linlithgow pamatskolas, Linlithgow Bridge pamatskolas, Springfield pamatskolas, Lowport pamatskolas un Boghall pamatskolas mikrorajonus  
Ja jūs vēlaties sanemt šī dokumenta eksemplāru, lūdzam zvanīt Catherine Campbell uz 01506 281666. JUMS JĀNORĀDA JŪSU VĀRDS, UZVĀRDS UN ADRESE, KĀ ARĪ VALODA, KURĀ JŪS VĒLATIES ŠO DOKUMENTU SANEMT

بلدية ويست لوثيان West Lothian Council – عرض لمراجعة مناطق القبول العادة للمدارس الابتدائية غير الدينية وذلك لكلا من مدرسة لينليثغو Linlithgow الابتدائية ومدرسة لينليثغو بريدج Linlithgow Bridge الابتدائية ، ومدرسة سبرينج فيلد Springfield الابتدائية ، ومدرسة لوبورت Lowport الابتدائية ومدرسة بوجهول Boghall الابتدائية .

إذا رغبت بالحصول على نسخة من هذه الوثيقة ، فيرجى منك الاتصال بميلاني لوري Catherine Campbell على رقم الهاتف 01506 281666 وذكر اسمك وعنوان سكنك واللغة التي ترغب بأن تتم ترجمة هذه الوثيقة إليها.

ويست لوتهين كونسيل، لنلتهاگاؤ پرائمری اسکول، لنلتهاگاؤ برج پرائمری اسکول، اسپرنگ فيلڈ پرائمری اسکول، لوپورٹ پرائمری اسکول اور بوگ ہال پرائمری اسکول پرایک غیر فرقہ ورانہ پرائمری اسکول کے جغرافیائی علاقوں کا جائزہ لینے کی تجویز  
اگر آپ اس دستاویز کی ایک نقل حاصل کرنا چاہیں تو برائے مہربانی 01506 281666 پر میلینی لاوری سے رابطہ کریں، اپنا نام، پتہ مہیا کرتے ہوئے اور اس زبان کے بارے میں بتاتے ہوئے جس میں آپ چاہتے ہیں کہ اس دستاویز کا ترجمہ کیا جائے

西洛錫安議會政府關於對Linlithgow Primary School (林利斯戈小學)、Linlithgow Bridge Primary School (林利斯戈橋小學) Springfield Primary School (春園小學)、Lowport Primary School (樓頗特小學)、Boghall Primary School (巴豪小學)的非教派小學所覆蓋的區域進行審核的建議。

如果您想要一份本文檔的副本，請致電給 Catherine Campbell，號碼是 01506 281666。請將您的姓名、地址和希望將該文件翻譯成的語言告訴我們。

West Lothian Council (西洛锡安议会) · 提议审查Linlithgow Primary School, Linlithgow Bridge Primary School, Springfield Primary School, Lowport Primary School 和 Boghall Primary School非教派小学学区

如果您得到本文件的一份副本，请致电Catherine Campbell 01506 281666 提供您的姓名地址和您希望以何种语言获得翻译文件

ওয়েস্ট লথিয়ান কাউন্সিল নির্দিষ্ট ধর্মীয় মূল্যবোধের বাইরের নিম্নোক্ত প্রাইমারি স্কুলগুলোর ক্যামেন্ট এরিয়া পর্যালোচনার ব্যাপারে প্রস্তাবনা করছে, স্কুলগুলো হল লিনলিথগো প্রাইমারি স্কুল, লিনলিথগো ব্রীজ প্রাইমারি স্কুল, স্প্রিং ফিল্ড প্রাইমারি স্কুল, লোপোর্ট প্রাইমারি স্কুল এবং বগহাল প্রাইমারি স্কুলের আপনি এই ডকুমেন্টটির একটি কপি পেতে চাইলে অনুগ্রহ পূর্বক মেলানি লরিকে 01506 281666 নম্বরে টেলিফোন করুন। কল করার সময় আপনার নাম, ঠিকানা এবং আপনি যে ভাষাতে ডকুমেন্টটির অনুবাদ পেতে চান তা জানাবেন।



## **Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010**

**Report by Education Scotland addressing educational aspects of the proposal by West Lothian Council to review admission catchment arrangements at Linlithgow primary schools.**

**November 2022**

## 1. Introduction

1.1 This report from Education Scotland has been prepared by His Majesty's Inspectors of Education (HM Inspectors) in accordance with the terms of the [Schools \(Consultation\) \(Scotland\) Act 2010 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](#) ("the 2010 Act"). The purpose of the report is to provide an independent and impartial consideration of West Lothian Council's proposal to review admission catchment arrangements at Linlithgow primary schools. Section 2 of the report sets out brief details of the consultation process. Section 3 of the report sets out HM Inspectors' consideration of the educational aspects of the proposal, including significant views expressed by consultees. Section 4 summarises HM Inspectors' overall view of the proposal. Upon receipt of this report, the 2010 Act requires the council to consider it and then prepare its final consultation report. The council's final consultation report should include this report and must contain an explanation of how, in finalising the proposal, it has reviewed the initial proposal, including a summary of points raised during the consultation process and the council's response to them. The council has to publish its final consultation report three weeks before it takes its final decision.

1.2 HM Inspectors considered:

the likely effects of the proposal for children and young people of the schools; any other users; children likely to become pupils within two years of the date of publication of the proposal paper; and other children and young people in the Linlithgow and Bathgate areas;

- any other likely effects of the proposal;
- how the council intends to minimise or avoid any adverse effects that may arise from the proposal; and
- the educational benefits the council believes will result from implementation of the proposal, and the council's reasons for coming to these beliefs.

1.3 In preparing this report, HM Inspectors undertook the following activities:

- attendance at the public meeting held on 4 October 2022 in connection with the council's proposals;
- consideration of all relevant documentation provided by the council in relation to the proposal, specifically the educational benefits statement and related consultation documents, written and oral submissions from parents and others; and
- visits to the site of Linlithgow, Linlithgow Bridge, Springfield, Low Port and Boghall Primary Schools, including discussion with relevant consultees.

## 2. Consultation process

2.1 West Lothian Council undertook the consultation on its proposal(s) with reference to the [Schools \(Consultation\) \(Scotland\) Act 2010 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](#).

2.2 The consultation process ran from 22 August until 7 October 2022. The proposal paper was made available on the council's website. Stakeholders, including Parent Councils, parents and staff, were provided with paper and electronic copies. A public meeting was held on 4 October 2022. It was attended by four people, one of whom also sent in an email submission. Attendees' main questions were in regard to the communication and timing of the proposal, and placing requests for children not yet of school age. All attendees expressed support for the proposal. Children in the five primary schools affected by the proposal were consulted, with written submissions from two pupil councils. Children were largely in agreement with the proposal.

### 3. Educational aspects of proposal

3.1 HM Inspectors agree with the council's educational benefits statement. Children currently attending the five schools affected by the proposed changes to catchment areas will continue to go to their existing school. The proposal does not affect the secondary school that children in the five schools will attend. The proposal has no implications for transition arrangements from primary to secondary school. In any schools where rolls increase due to the proposal, there may be a need to adjust how space is used. However, all five headteachers were clear that this will not have any detrimental effect on their capacity to deliver a wide range of educational opportunities.

3.2 The staff and parents that spoke to HM Inspectors in the five schools consider that the proposal is practical. They are clear that the proposal will enable more children to attend their nearest school and help to balance school rolls to better match capacity. The projected school rolls under the proposal should continue to allow for placing requests from parents from out with individual school catchment areas. A few parents expressed concerns about potential rapid increases in school rolls if several, potential housing developments are undertaken across the area. However, they recognise this is a longer term issue and out with the scope of this proposal.

3.3 Children who spoke with HM Inspectors were supportive of the proposed changes to primary school catchment areas. Those in the schools where rolls may increase look forward to making more friends. The proposal will reduce travel distances from home to school for some families. Children think this is good for the environment and that it may reduce fuel costs for families. A few children from Springfield Primary School are concerned about whether all children have a safe route to walk to school. This is in relation to the limited crossings and school crossing patrols on busy roads in the area.

3.4 Staff from two of the schools expressed concern over the potential increase in school traffic that the proposal could create. In both cases, they are developing further their work to provide safe walking routes, walking buses and alternatives to school gate drop-offs. However, if the proposal is approved then it will be important that the council continues to work with school staff and Parent Councils to review travel and traffic arrangements.

### 4. Summary

Overall, HM Inspectors agree that there are educational benefits from the proposal. The changes in catchment will enable more children to go to their nearest school. The proposal will also help to balance school rolls and school capacity. Staff, parents and children are content with the proposal. If the proposal is approved, there may be a need to consider further travel and traffic arrangements.

**HM Inspectors  
November 2022**