



Councillor Kelly Parry

Questions to the Leader – Beeslack Replacement School

1. Can the Council Leader clarify when the location of the Beeslack replacement school will be made public and will there be any opportunity to change the location of the school should the community object to the location when it is disclosed;
2. Does the Council Leader accept the 'new' location of the Beeslack replacement School will significantly impact on Loanhead and Roslin pupils given the extra walking distance to the new location, in some cases 40 minutes each way;
3. Will the Council Leader meet with Community Councils within the Midlothian West Ward to discuss the location and implications of the site chosen for the Beeslack Replacement school?;
4. Has the Council Leader made any assessment of whether funding applications to the Scottish Government for funding the Beeslack replacement school were incorrect or misleading given the change in location for the new site?;
5. Can the Council Leader give an estimate of the costs of:
 - i) the original consultation for the Beeslack replacement school and;
 - ii) costs associated with the scoping exercises for the original site and further sites, including but not limited to any remedial work, site investigations, professional fees and other associated costs in the process;
6. Can the Council Leader say with confidence that Councillors and the community have not been misled on the proposed site of the School, or that any information has been delayed or withheld to either Councillors, the public or the Council Leader?;
7. When was the Council Leader made aware that there would be additional scoping for additional sites for the school given all previous press releases relating to the Beeslack replacement focused on one single site?;
8. When was the Council Leader and the Cabinet Member for Education made aware that a 'new' site had been identified and 'favoured' by Council Officials?;

9. Can the Council Leader clarify that the new site is 'not adjacent to Roslin' or 'on the A701' despite all consultations and council press releases on the event focusing on 'land adjacent to Roslin and the A701' and the consultation email address being A701schools@midlothian.gov.uk?

10. Would the Council Leader agree that comments made by Councillor Muirhead in a Midlothian Council official press release below from October 2019 could be interpreted as misleading:-

"The new school would be situated on the A701 corridor, adjacent to Roslin.

Councillor Muirhead said the identified site will provide the best possible location for a learning campus which will draw together the growing communities of Loanhead, Bilston, Roslin and Auchendinny."

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10 August 2021