

Catchment Review Programme

Report by Mary Smith, Director, Education, Communities and Economy

1.0 Purpose of Report

This report provides an update on the progress of the school catchment review programme as last reported to Council on 16 December 2014 and outlines the proposed next phases of the programme.

2.0 Background

In December 2014 Council approved eight recommendations:

- (i) statutory consultation to establish the catchment areas for the new non-denominational primary schools in Bilston and North Gorebridge;
- (ii) statutory consultation on the proposed changes to the school catchment areas of Loanhead and Paradykes Primary Schools;
- (iii) statutory consultation on the proposed changes to the school catchment areas of Newtongrange, Mayfield and Bonnyrigg Primary Schools;
- (iv) detailed feasibility studies looking at a range of options available to the Council to provide primary school capacity for the proposed growth in Bonnyrigg and Auchendinny;
- (v) a detailed feasibility study looking at a range of options available to the Council for Roman Catholic primary school provision in the Bonnyrigg/Rosewell area;
- (vi) a detailed feasibility study looking at a range of options for secondary school provision for Shawfair and the option of a '3 - 18 School';
- (vii) the identification of potential sites for secondary schools to serve Penicuik, the A701 corridor and Gorebridge, and preparation of detailed feasibility studies looking at the range of options available to the Council;
- (viii) preparation of an updated School Estate Management Plan;

This report provides a progress update on these eight recommendations.

2.1 Recommendations (i) and (iii):

- (i) statutory consultation to establish the catchment areas for the new non-denominational primary schools in Bilston and North Gorebridge;
- (iii) statutory consultation on the proposed changes to the school catchment areas of Newtongrange, Mayfield and Bonnyrigg Primary Schools;

In August 2015 a statutory consultation was commenced on the proposals to establish the catchment area of the new primary school in North Gorebridge and adjust the catchment areas of Gorebridge and Stobhill Primary Schools, to adjust the catchment areas of Mayfield and Newtongrange Primary Schools and to relocate Newbattle High School to the replacement school site at Mayfield Road. The outcome of that consultation with recommendations to proceed with all proposals is presented in a separate report to Council today.

2.2 Recommendation (ii): statutory consultation on the proposed changes to the school catchment areas of Loanhead and Paradykes Primary Schools;

In September 2015 a statutory consultation was commenced on the proposals to establish the catchment area of the new Bilston Primary School and adjust the catchment areas of Roslin, Loanhead and Paradykes Primary Schools. This consultation closed in November, it is planned to publish the consultation report in early January and to bring a report to the next meeting of Council on 9 February 2015.

These two consultations complete the work identified in the next phase of the catchment review programme as outlined in last year's report namely:

Programme of School(s) Catchment Consultations
Catchment area for the new primary school at Bilston, opening August 2016
Catchment area for the new primary school at North Gorebridge, opening August 2016
Loanhead and Paradykes Primary Schools – School location, catchment boundaries and primary school provision for pupils arising from committed development sites
Newtongrange, Bonnyrigg and Mayfield Primary Schools – catchment boundaries and primary school provision for pupils arising from committed development sites at Cockpen Farm, Mayfield and Newtongrange

2.3 Recommendations (iv) and (v):

- (iv) detailed feasibility studies looking at a range of options available to the Council to provide primary school capacity for the proposed growth in Bonnyrigg and Auchendinny;
- (v) a detailed feasibility study looking at a range of options available to the Council for Roman Catholic primary school provision in the Bonnyrigg/Rosewell area;

Bonnyrigg/Lasswade/Rosewell

The Bonnyrigg/Lasswade area has 7,200 homes which are served by four non denominational primary schools, Burnbrae, Bonnyrigg, Hawthornden and Lasswade Primary Schools, and one denominational school, St Mary's Primary School. Rosewell has 760 homes which are served by Rosewell and St Matthew's Primary Schools.

	Total Properties in Catchment	Primary Pupils Residing in Catchment
Bonnyrigg	1,484	388
Burnbrae	1,428	357
Hawthornden	2,105	422
Lasswade	2,179	279
	<hr/> 7,196	<hr/> 1,446
Rosewell	763	152
	<hr/> 7,959	<hr/> 1,598

The proposed allocation of 1,100 houses for Bonnyrigg/Lasswade is spread across the town. Meeting the demand for primary school places from the allocated sites will require additional capacity to be provided, and various options have been considered and discussed with local members. The new housing will be delivered over an extended period, and the numbers of children arising from the new housing may change over this period making a final solution difficult to predict.

In November Council decided to build a primary school on former Hopefield Primary School site. Options for the use of this site include:

- a denominational school to serve Bonnyrigg/Lasswade/Rosewell;
- a non denominational school to provide additional capacity for Bonnyrigg/Lasswade;
- a primary school campus with a denominational stream and a non denominational stream.

Officers plan to undertake informal consultation during December with the communities of Bonnyrigg, Lasswade and Rosewell, as well as church representatives and other interested parties and to bring a paper to Council early in 2016 outlining the preferred use of the former Hopefield Primary School site and the implications that will have for future requirements for primary school provision in the area.

Auchendinny

The Local Development Plan contains a Settlement Statement for Penicuik/Auchendinny which identifies the Auchendinny site capacity as 350 units, with 260 to be provided in the plan period up to 2024. The development will generate more pupils than Glencorse Primary School can accommodate. Extension of the school has been considered by the developers and concluded that it would not deliver an optimal solution. The preferred approach is the provision of a new single-stream primary school, and a site is identified which will allow the new school to relate well to both the new development and the likely wider school catchment.

The proposed new school at Auchendinny would replace Glencorse Primary School as well as provide for pupils arising from proposed housing development. The replacement of existing capacity at Glencorse Primary School would have financial implications for the council in finding its share of the required capital investment.

- 2.4 Recommendation (vi):** a detailed feasibility study looking at a range of options for secondary school provision for Shawfair and the option of a '3 - 18 School'; The Shawfair development of 3,990 houses is planned to deliver a secondary school, two additional primary schools and extensions to Danderhall and St David's Primary School. In addition the Local Development Plan proposes housing development at Cauldcoats and Newton Farm, with provision for a primary school at each location and an extension to the secondary school.

The options for provision of education infrastructure to serve the Shawfair wider area is presented in a separate report to council today.

- 2.5 Recommendation (vii):** the identification of potential sites for secondary schools to serve Penicuik, the A701 corridor and Gorebridge, and preparation of detailed feasibility studies looking at the range of options available to the Council;

Penicuik/A701 Corridor

Officers propose to consult communities on options for secondary schools to serve the A701 Corridor and Penicuik early in 2016 and to subsequently bring a paper to Council outlining the preferred approach.

It is proposed that, as part of this consultation, we investigate the 'centres of excellence' model in order to capitalise on the expertise in the sciences developed at the University of Edinburgh's Bush estate and to investigate the possibility of designating one of these secondary schools as a 'centre of excellence' in the sciences.

Gorebridge

Three potential sites for a secondary school to serve Gorebridge have been identified.

It is proposed as part of the long term planning for house building in the Gorebridge area that Council safeguards a preferred site for a secondary school so that it will be available for inclusion, if required, in the next Midlothian Local Development Plan. At this point the level of housing development should be sufficiently progressed and there should be sufficient evidence available of pupil support to attend local school so that consideration can be given to whether secondary pupil numbers are sufficient to make a secondary school sustainable and a new high school located in Gorebridge or its environs.

- 2.6 Recommendation (viii):** preparation of an updated School Estate Management Plan
The development of an updated School Estate Management Plan is being progressed and will be informed by Council's decisions in respect of a number of items referred to in this report as well as the strategy which Education adopts in relation to developing centres of excellence.

3. Emerging Issues

3.1 Roman Catholic primary schools

Midlothian has seven denominational primary schools:

St David's, 7 class school, serving Dalkeith and Danderhall
St Luke's, 8 class school, serving Mayfield and Easthouses
St Andrew's, 7 class school, serving Gorebridge and Newtongrange
St Mary's, 10 class school, serving Bonnyrigg and Lasswade
St Matthew's, 3 class school, serving Rosewell
St Margaret's, 4 class school, serving Loanhead and Roslin
Sacred Heart, 5 class school, serving Penicuik

Pupil Census 2015										
	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	P7	Total Roll	Capacity	Occupancy
Sacred Heart	21	18	20	13	17	11	13	113	125	90%
St Andrew's	18	24	25	23	17	25	18	150	199	75%
St David's	29	27	30	31	29	29	29	204	214	95%
St Luke's	22	24	23	34	25	20	21	169	242	70%
St Margaret's	8	13	5	11	7	9	6	59	100	59%
St Mary's	20	21	14	23	19	21	17	135	263	51%
St Matthew's	6	5	5	1	6	2	1	26	75	35%
	124	132	122	136	120	117	105	467	538	87%

As a result of occupancy and capacity issues, we propose to undertake a consultation on the development of a strategy for denominational school provision across Midlothian.

3.2 Newtongrange Lawfield and Mayfield Primary Schools

There is a considerable amount of new housing development within the current catchment areas of Newtongrange Lawfield and Mayfield Primary Schools.

	Total Properties in Catchment 2014	Primary Pupils Residing in Catchment 2014	Planned Housing Development	Projected Total Houses
Lawfield	2,190	449	65	2,255
Mayfield	1,610	336	798	2,408
Newtongrange	2,337	429	255	2,592
	6,137	1,214	1,118	7,255

It had been planned that the housing developments in Easthouses would deliver an extension to Lawfield Primary School and those in Mayfield and Newtongrange would deliver a new primary school in South Mayfield. However development on the major Mayfield site has not commenced and shows no sign of doing so. Meantime smaller housing developments have been progressed and social housing developments have been completed with consequent impact on pupil numbers.

	Pupil Census 2015	Pupil Projection 2020	School Capacity
Lawfield	279	406	367
Mayfield	242	315	434
St Luke's	169	207	242
Newtongrange	368	397	414
	1,058	1,325	1,457

Newtongrange is operating at capacity while Lawfield is nearing capacity and Mayfield is under-occupied, but pupil numbers are growing rapidly. Additional primary school capacity is required across the 3 schools for the 350 pupils who will come from the planned housing development, including the major South Mayfield site. Without that major development site, additional primary school capacity is required for 220 pupils.

The review of the school catchment boundaries, reported to Council today, proposes rezoning a significant part of the planned new housing from Newtongrange to Mayfield Primary School. An examination is required of the options to provide primary school capacity for the housing sites in Mayfield which will come forward in the short to medium term. This could include extensions to Lawfield and Mayfield Primary Schools and/or identification of a site for a new primary school.

3.3 Dalkeith - Kings Park, Woodburn & St David's Primary Schools

Pupil Census 2015										
	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	P7	Total Roll	Capacity	Occupancy
Kings Park	73	73	62	67	64	77	59	475	505	94%
Woodburn	68	64	65	57	59	53	53	419	676	62%
St David's	29	27	30	31	29	29	29	204	214	95%
	170	164	157	155	152	159	141	1,098	1,395	79%

The level of housing development yet to be built in Dalkeith is estimated to generate a further 125 pupils for Kings Park, 200 pupils for Woodburn and 45 pupils for St David's. Kings Park is operating at capacity with 18 classes from August 2015, with no other spaces in the school suitable for use as additional classrooms. Woodburn is also operating 18 classes from August 2015, there are 4 additional built classes at Woodburn which are in the process of being made available for school use and alternative accommodation found for the current occupants. St David's is also operating at capacity.

	Total Properties in Catchment	Primary Pupils Residing in Catchment	Planned Housing Development	Projected Total Houses
Kings Park	3,175	376	449	3,624
Woodburn	3,024	578	1,090	4,114
	6,199	954	1,539	7,738

Additional school capacity will need to be provided either by way of extension to King's Park or to Woodburn or by providing a 3rd non denominational primary school to serve Dalkeith, for which a suitable site would need to be identified. A feasibility study looking at the range of options is required providing estimated costs of delivering the extensions or new school for each site and relative benefits, risks and timing of each option.

4 Report implications

4.1 Resource

Further resources will be required to undertake feasibility studies identified in this report funded from the budget allocated to the Delivering Excellence - Education Transformation Project.

4.2 Risk

- House building in certain areas may be disrupted because of insufficient primary school provision to support the planned growth in housing.
- Delays in decision making could affect parental choices, leading parents to make choices they otherwise would not have made, the consequences of which could be blamed on the Council.

- c) Not progressing the catchment reviews increases the risk of a mismatch between existing school capacity and projected pupils from the catchments resulting in a funding requirement for additional capacity in some areas whilst existing capacity is underutilised

4.3 Policy

a) Strategy

The aim of this paper is in accordance with the corporate objective to provide suitable infrastructure for the efficient and effective delivery of services to meet the full range of community needs and with the directorate priority to provide increased access to educational facilities and resources through effective school estate asset management planning. It also supports the priority to improve the quality of learning and teaching, leading to raised levels of achievement and attainment.

b) Consultation

Consultation on various aspects of the paper has taken place with different stakeholders including councillors and officers. This report proposes further informal consultations with communities affected.

c) Equalities

This paper does not propose a new policy or changes to existing ones.

d) Sustainability

There are no sustainability issues relating to this report; however it underlines the necessity for a sustainable school estate strategy.

5 Recommendations

- a) Note that statutory consultations have been completed.
- b) Note that informal consultation is being undertaken on the use of the former Hopefield Primary School site to provide primary school capacity for the Bonnyrigg/Lasswade and Roswell areas and that a report on this matter will be brought to the next meeting of Council.
- c) Note that informal consultation will be undertaken on the options for secondary schools to serve the A701 Corridor and Penicuik to include a 'centre for excellence' for Science and that a report on the way forward will be brought to Council in the course of 2016.
- d) Approve the safeguarding of a site in Gorebridge to provide a location for a secondary school which can be included in the next Midlothian Local Development Plan.
- e) Note that consultation will be undertaken on the development of a strategy for denominational school provision across Midlothian.
- f) Approve detailed feasibility studies looking at a range of options available to the Council to provide primary school capacity in Mayfield and Dalkeith.

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Appendix 1 Pupil Census 2015

Appendix 2 Midlothian Housing Development & School Estate

Appendix 1

Pupil Census 2015

School Name	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	P7	Total Roll	Capacity	% Occupancy
Bonnyrigg Primary School	63	62	56	61	65	66	66	439	459	95.6%
Burnbrae Primary School	56	59	48	44	32	31	20	290	459	63.2%
Cornbank St James Primary School	36	25	30	47	38	26	30	232	342	67.8%
Cuiken Primary School	33	28	37	33	26	39	40	236	267	88.4%
Danderhall Primary School	36	40	34	27	41	34	41	253	317	79.8%
Glencorse Primary School	7	4	4	6	5		3	29	100	29.0%
Gorebridge Primary School	63	54	36	41	44	50	46	334	434	77.0%
Hawthornden Primary School	52	35	46	49	45	59	53	339	434	78.1%
King's Park Primary School	73	73	62	67	64	77	59	475	505	94.1%
Lasswade Primary School	57	49	55	51	63	63	56	394	434	90.8%
Lawfield Primary School	59	52	26	38	43	28	33	279	367	76.0%
Loanhead Primary School	22	26	26	26	30	33	27	190	217	87.6%
Mauricewood Primary School	39	50	50	57	50	44	40	330	484	68.2%
Mayfield Primary School	45	45	31	44	24	24	29	242	434	55.8%
Moorfoot Primary School	12	11	15	16	16	9	15	94	100	94.0%
Newtongrange Primary School	57	55	57	47	48	42	62	368	414	88.9%
Paradykes Primary School	39	30	45	32	46	27	38	257	342	75.1%
Rosewell Primary School	20	23	12	19	15	10	19	118	213	55.4%
Roslin Primary School	38	33	31	35	39	24	37	237	317	74.8%
Sacred Heart Primary School	21	18	20	13	17	11	13	113	125	90.4%
St Andrew's Primary School	18	24	25	23	17	25	18	150	199	75.4%
St David's Primary School	29	27	30	31	29	29	29	204	214	95.3%
St Luke's Primary School	22	24	23	34	25	20	21	169	242	69.8%
St Margaret's Primary School	8	13	5	11	7	9	6	59	100	59.0%
St Mary's Primary School	20	21	14	23	19	21	17	135	263	51.3%
St Matthew's Primary School	6	5	5	1	6	2	1	26	75	34.7%
Stobhill Primary School	29	30	25	30	23	25	22	184	242	76.0%
Strathesk Primary School	52	42	51	50	49	39	30	313	434	72.1%
Tynewater Primary School	29	21	21	28	21	23	17	160	242	66.1%
Woodburn Primary School	68	64	65	57	59	53	53	419	676	62.0%
	1,109	1,043	985	1,041	1,006	943	941	7,068	9,451	74.8%
Secondary	Student Stage breakdown									
School Name	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6		Total Roll	Capacity	% Occupancy
Beeslack Community High School	123	105	120	138	113	99		698	860	81.2%
Dalkeith High School	111	149	156	151	157	114		838	1,050	79.8%
Lasswade High School	298	282	258	271	254	167		1,530	1,480	103.4%
Newbattle High School	150	152	164	185	148	66		865	1,050	82.4%
Penicuik High School	122	96	95	92	76	88		569	945	60.2%
St David's RC High School	103	82	100	121	101	99		606	945	64.1%
	907	866	893	958	849	633		5,106	6,330	80.7%
Special										
School Name										
Saltergate School								117	124	94.4%
								12,291	15,905	77.3%

Appendix 2

Midlothian Housing Development and the School Estate

The current distribution of housing stock across Midlothian's communities and primary school catchments along with the planned and proposed housing developments is shown in the table below.

Secondary School	Associated Primary School	Existing Housing	Planned Development	Proposed Development	Total Houses
Penicuik	Cornbank	1,037	100		1,137
	Cuiken	1,856	294		2,150
	Strathesk	2,454	67	32	2,553
		5,347	461	32	5,840
Beeslack	Glencorse	427	132	350	909
	Mauricewood	1,641	433		2,074
	Bilston	430	300	550	1,280
	Roslin	879	70	460	1,409
		3,377	935	1,360	5,672
Lasswade	Bonnyrigg	1,403	219	660	2,282
	Hawthornden	2,108			2,108
	Burnbrae	1,118	679	750	2,547
	Lasswade	2,203	0	71	2,274
	Loanhead	1,632	238	100	1,970
	Paradykes	1,500	0		1,500
	Rosewell	790	465	60	1,315
		10,754	1,601	1,641	13,996
Newbattle	Gorebridge x 2	2,254	1,053	78	3,385
	Redheugh		700	600	1,300
	Lawfield	2,069	263	60	2,392
	Mayfield	1,605	549		2,154
	Moorfoot	387	15		402
	Newtongrange	2,312	443		2,755
	Stobhill	853	164		1,017
		9,480	3,187	738	13,405
Dalkeith	Kings Park	3,168	465	100	3,733
	Tynewater	907	67		974
	Woodburn	2,643	952	95	3,690
		6,718	1,484	195	8,397
Shawfair	Danderhall	1,417	496		1,913
	Shawfair x 2		3,500		3,500
	Newton			700	700
		1,417	3,996	700	6,113
Midlothian Total Houses		37,093	11,664	4,666	53,423

Primary School Estate

The number of primary pupils generated from established housing across the county attending Midlothian non denominational schools equates to 180 pupils for every 1,000 houses. The number is higher for new housing, which is estimated to generate 280 primary pupils for every 1,000 houses.

Midlothian's preferred model of primary school provision is a two stream school, built with capacity to accommodate 60 pupils at every stage of Primary 1 to Primary 7, a total of 420 primary pupils. This indicates that a newly built community with 1,500 houses would require a two stream school, however to maintain full use of that school's capacity would require a community with over 2,000 houses.

The 2011 census reports that 9.8% of Midlothian's population identified themselves as Roman Catholic while the analysis of pupils attending Midlothian primary schools in 2014 shows that 11.9% choose to attend a denominational school. This equates to 37 denominational pupils for every 1,000 new houses and 24 denominational pupils for every 1,000 established houses.

Given the smaller pupil numbers a single stream model of primary school provision is considered here, built with capacity to accommodate 30 pupils at every stage of Primary 1 to Primary 7, a total of 210 primary pupils. A newly built community would need to have over 5,000 houses to require a single stream school, and to maintain full use of that school's capacity would require a community with over 8,000 houses.

Secondary School Estate

The numbers of secondary pupils generated from established housing across the county attending Midlothian non denominational schools equates to 130 pupils for every 1,000 houses. The number is higher for new housing, which we estimate generates 200 secondary pupils for every 1,000 houses. These numbers are based on experience to date and on the traditional delivery model for secondary curriculum, which may change as Curriculum for Excellence becomes more established.

Views from Midlothian's group of secondary school head teachers vary but there is universal agreement that, in the Midlothian context, schools below 750 pupils are undesirable due to the consequent restrictions in curricula choices, and overall sustainability. The group also felt there were benefits in larger schools being able to attract high calibre staff from a wider pool of candidates as a career pathway would lead to a bigger school with more responsibilities and opportunities. There was general agreement that an upper limit of about 1,800 pupils would achieve a reasonable balance. The 2013 Scottish School Estate Statistics show that only 1 out of 365 secondary schools has a roll over 1800 pupils.

Using these parameters indicates that for a Midlothian community to be able to sustain a secondary school with no less than 750 pupils, it should have at least 6,000 houses. It also indicates that a community with more than 13,000 houses is going to generate more pupils than would be seen as optimum for one secondary school.