

GLASGOW CITY COUNCIL

EDUCATION SERVICES

THIS IS A FORMAL
CONSULTATIVE DOCUMENT

**FUTURE DENOMINATIONAL AND NON DENOMINATIONAL EDUCATION PROVISION FOR
CHILDREN OF PRIMARY AGE RESIDING WITHIN THE
CATCHMENT AREAS OF ST PHILOMENA'S PRIMARY SCHOOL,
ST GILBERT'S PRIMARY SCHOOL AND BARMULLOCH PRIMARY SCHOOL**

REPORT BY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Schools	Ward	Strategic Planning Area	Learning Community
St Philomena's Primary	(21) North East	North	All Saint's
St Gilbert's Primary	(17) Springburn	North	St Roch's
Barmulloch Primary	(21) North East	North	Springburn

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**FUTURE DENOMINATIONAL AND NON DENOMINATIONAL EDUCATION PROVISION
FOR CHILDREN OF PRIMARY AGE RESIDING WITHIN THE
CATCHMENT AREAS OF ST PHILOMENA'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, ST GILBERT'S
PRIMARY SCHOOL
AND BARMULLOCH PRIMARY SCHOOL**

1. Background

- 1.1 Glasgow City Council has led the way in designing and refurbishing schools for the 21st Century. Considerable investment has gone into building and refurbishing secondary schools via Project 2002 and building new primary schools and early years' centres via the Pre 12 Strategy.
- 1.2 The Council has radically improved the condition and quality of its education estate in the past 8 years. Since 2002 the Council has invested approximately £550m to ensure that children, young people and staff have high quality, vibrant learning and teaching environments that support the Council's commitment to raising attainment and achievement. A transformational approach was adopted which dramatically altered the landscape of school provision and significantly reduced the number of schools across the city.
- 1.3 Following on from Project 2002 and the Pre 12 Strategy, it would now be prudent to consider the ongoing revenue costs of maintaining and repairing buildings which were not part of Project 2002 or the Pre 12 Strategy. Clearly, whilst much has been achieved over the last decade, much remains to be done.
- 1.4 The number of children and young people resident in Glasgow is projected to remain reasonably constant over the coming decade with a continuing marginal decline within the secondary school sector.
- 1.5 If no action is taken it is projected that the level of under occupancy in Glasgow's primary schools would decline from 40% at present to 32% by 2019.
- 1.6 Levels of occupancy that are neither efficient nor effective tie up valuable resources that should be targeted at improving the quality of the learning and teaching environments and raising attainment and achievement for all of Glasgow's children and young people.
- 1.7 This proposal will take the opportunity to rationalise provision in order to:
 - ensure that every child has access to a wider range of quality learning experiences.
 - enhance the delivery of Curriculum for Excellence in quality learning and teaching environments.
 - reduce expenditure on maintaining 'empty space', due to low occupancy rates, to allow redirection of resources to learning and teaching.

2. Present Situation

2.1 St Philomena's Primary School

- 2.1.1 St Philomena's Primary School was built in 1959. It is a denominational school, which serves the area of Robroyston. The building at present has a capacity of 495 and the current school roll for session 2008/2009, based on the October 2008 roll, is 161 (33% occupancy).
- 2.1.2 The school currently operates with 7 classes, including two composite classes. The average class size is 23.
- 2.1.3 The 2008 conditions survey of the school found the school to be in condition D. The new suitability audit completed with the aid of the school in 2008 classed the building and its facilities as B. The condition and suitability ratings are explained in Appendix 5.
- 2.1.4 The area served by St Philomena's Primary School is shown in Appendix 1.
- 2.1.5 A detailed roll projection is shown in Appendix 2.

2.2 St Gilbert's Primary School

- 2.2.1 St Gilbert's Primary School was built in 1973. It is a denominational primary school, which serves the area of Royston. The building at present has a capacity of 423 and the current school roll for session 2008/2009, based on the October 2008 roll, is 188 (44% occupancy).
- 2.2.2 The school currently operates with 7 classes, 2 of which are composite. The average class size is 27.
- 2.2.3 The 2008 conditions survey of the school found the school to be in condition A. The new suitability audit completed with the aid of the school in 2008 classed the building and its facilities as B. The condition and suitability ratings are explained in Appendix 5.
- 2.2.4 The area served by St Gilbert's Primary School is shown in Appendix 1.
- 2.2.5 A detailed roll projection is shown in Appendix 2.

2.3 Barmulloch Primary School

- 2.3.1 Barmulloch Primary School was built in 1959. It is a non denominational primary school, which serves the area of Barmulloch. The building has a capacity of 433 and the current school roll for session 2008/2009, based on the October 2008 roll, is 189 (44% occupancy).
- 2.3.2 The school currently operates with 8 classes, including 1 composite class. The average class size is 23. In addition, the school has a nurture class.
- 2.3.3 The 2008 conditions survey of the school found the school to be in condition D. The new suitability audit completed with the aid of the school in 2008 classed the building and its facilities as C. The condition and suitability ratings are explained in Appendix 5.
- 2.3.4 The existing location and area served by Barmulloch Primary School are shown in Appendix 3.
- 2.3.5 A detailed roll projection is shown in Appendix 2.

3. Methodology for Projecting School Rolls

- 3.1 Planning for the demand of future school places is reviewed annually. Future school rolls are predicted taking into account the following factors;
- Birth rates in Glasgow
 - Housing needs assessments contained in appropriate Structure and Local Plans.
 - Migration of children in and out of Glasgow.
 - The progression of children through each stage P1 to P7.
 - The impact of placing requests (parental choice).

4. Proposal

- 4.1 It is proposed that St Gilbert's Primary School be closed at the end of session 2008/2009 and that children transfer to the roll of St Philomena's Primary School at the beginning of session 2009/2010.
- 4.2 Children due to commence primary one at St Gilbert's Primary School in session 2009/2010 would also transfer to the roll of St Philomena's Primary School at the beginning of session 2009/2010.
- 4.3 Children who currently reside within the shared catchment area of St Philomena's Primary School and St Thomas' Primary School will retain the right to attend St Philomena's Primary School.
- 4.4 St Philomena's Primary School is associated with All Saints Secondary School and St Gilbert's Primary School is associated with St Roch's Secondary School. Therefore, if the proposed closure goes ahead, discussions will be undertaken in relation to catchment areas for secondary education.
- 4.5 The distance between St Philomena's Primary School and St Gilbert's Primary School is 0.7 miles.
- 4.6 Funding will be made available to the receiving school to ensure the accommodation is fit for purpose, with minimum disruption to the curriculum, the children, parents and staff.
- 4.7 The revised catchment area to be served by St Philomena's Primary School is shown in Appendix 4.
- 4.8 If the above proposal is accepted it is proposed that the Barmulloch Primary School building is closed at the end of session 2008/2009 and that the school relocates to the vacated St Gilbert's Primary School building at the beginning of session 2009/2010.
- 4.9 Children who currently reside within the shared catchment area of Barmulloch Primary School and Wallacewell Primary School will retain the right to attend Barmulloch Primary School.
- 4.10 Barmulloch Primary School is associated with Springburn Academy. The proposal in this consultation will have no effect on the existing transfer arrangements to secondary education.
- 4.11 The distance between Barmulloch Primary School and St Gilbert's Primary School is 0.7 miles.
- 4.12 The existing and proposed locations and area served by Barmulloch Primary School are shown in Appendix 3.

5. Educational Benefit Statement – St Gilbert’s Primary School to St Philomena’s Primary School

- 5.1 Glasgow City Council is committed to an education directed to the development of the personality, talents and abilities of children so that they achieve their fullest potential.
- 5.2 St Gilbert’s Primary School and St Philomena’s Primary School both have low rolls. Larger and more flexible learning groups allow for greater peer interaction and access to the full benefits of Curriculum for Excellence.
- 5.3 Larger schools allow for greater flexibility in the deployment of staff to meet the specific needs of children. They also provide an opportunity for sharing good practice across a greater number of staff. Children will benefit from this broader staff expertise and range of learning and teaching methodologies.
- 5.4 This proposal will enhance the delivery of Curriculum for Excellence in a quality learning and teaching environment.
- 5.5 There are good facilities at St Philomena’s Primary School, including hall and gym areas, a full ICT suite and a recently installed lift to all floors to enhance disabled access.
- 5.6 The proposal will reduce expenditure on maintaining ‘empty space’, due to low capacity rates, to allow redirection of resources to learning and teaching.
- 5.7 The most recent HMIe/Care Commission Reports are available from Heads of Establishments.

6. Educational Benefit Statement – Barmulloch Primary School to St Gilbert’s Primary School Building

- 6.1 Glasgow City Council is committed to adequate and efficient, fair and equal provision of the highest quality education for all young people in the city.
- 6.2 The Barmulloch Primary School building requires major refurbishment. St Gilbert’s Primary School is in a better condition.
- 6.3 This proposal would improve the educational opportunities for children at Barmulloch Primary School by providing a better environment for the development of Curriculum for Excellence.

7. Consequences of Closure

- 7.1 The proposal as outlined in section 4 would have implications for teaching and support staff. All members of staff will be fully consulted about their future, as will the appropriate trade unions. The particular wishes of each member of staff will be taken into consideration, within the context of appropriate human resources’ policies and agreements. The procedures for dealing with the impact on staff will be considered in separate papers subject to consultation with the relevant trade unions.
- 7.2 Using the roll information currently available it is anticipated that the new combined St Philomena’s Primary School would have a roll of approximately 358 (72% occupancy) in August 2009. On this basis it is anticipated that the new overall average class sizes would be in the region of 27.

- 7.3 Using the roll information currently available it is anticipated that on transfer to the St Gilbert's Primary School building, Barmulloch Primary School would have a roll of approximately 176 (42% occupancy) in August 2009. On this basis it is anticipated that the new overall average class sizes would be in the region of 25.
- 7.4 The only lets affected would be those relating to the Barmulloch Primary School building and these could be accommodated in nearby schools.
- 7.5 There are red blaes pitches at Barmulloch Primary School, St Philomena's Primary School and St Gilbert's Primary School. In accordance with Scottish Planning Policy Guidelines 11 (SPPG11) there may be a requirement to consult sportscotland if the Barmulloch Primary School pitch is lost.
- 7.6 An initial survey of the road safety issues has been conducted which indicates:
- 7.6.1 The preferred routes to St Philomena's Primary School and Barmulloch Primary School (St Gilbert's site) are considered no less safe than any other routes taken by children throughout Glasgow with all the major roads having crossing points with pedestrian facilities.
- 7.6.2 Children from St Gilbert's Primary School and Barmulloch Primary School who require to walk more than one mile, by the shortest available safe route, to their new designated school will be entitled to free school transport.
- 7.6.3 A pedestrian accident search was carried out for the most recent 3 year period within the schools' catchment areas and this did not highlight any accident clusters/patterns that would require further investigation at this time.

8. Financial Implications

St Philomena's Primary School

- 8.1 Adaptations will be required in St Philomena's Primary School to ensure that no child is disadvantaged by the move. The cost to upgrade and adapt the school is estimated to be £1.379m.

Barmulloch Primary School

- 8.2 Adaptations will be required in St Gilbert's Primary School building to ensure that no pupil is disadvantaged by the move. The cost to upgrade and adapt the school is estimated to be £100,000.
- 8.3 The costs to decant, make safe and secure the school are estimated to be £36,000. Until final disposal there will be revenue implications to maintain the closed site as tidy in line with the Clean Glasgow Initiative. Barring major vandalism or wilful fire raising these costs are estimated to be in the order of £500 per annum.
- 8.4 The ongoing revenue burden, attraction to vandals and legal obligations (or risks) associated with vacant buildings would be substantially reduced if the building is demolished. Current estimates to demolish the school in a controlled manner are in the order of £100,000. Wilful fire raising or an act of major vandalism can force an emergency removal, which, depending on the severity, can double or treble the costs

Savings

- 8.5 Moving St Gilbert's Primary School into the St Philomena's Primary School building would generate an estimated saving of £136, 882 broken down as follows:

Employee Costs	£72,049
Property Costs	£61,755
Supplies and Services	£3, 078
Total	£136,882

- 8.6 Moving Barmulloch Primary School into the vacated St Gilbert's Primary School building would generate an estimated saving of £101,405 broken down as follows:

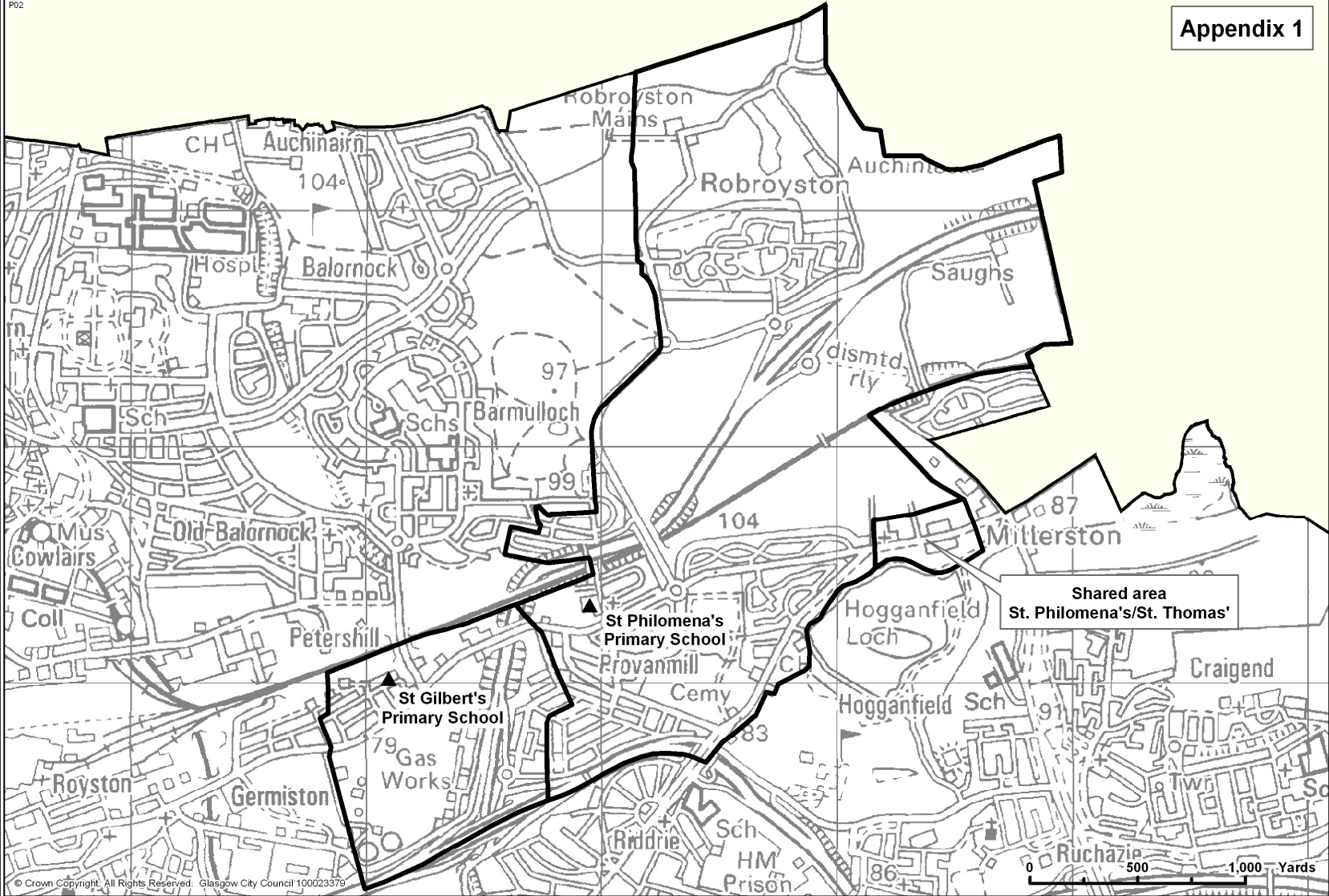
Employee Costs	£0
Property Costs	£101,405
Supplies and Services	£0
Total	£101,405

9. Future Use of the Building

- 9.1 Education Services have no proposals for the future use of the Barmulloch Primary School building and it would be surplus to requirements.

10. Consultation Process

- 10.1 Glasgow City Council consults beyond that which is statutorily required.
- 10.2 This consultative document has been made available to interested parties, including Parent Councils, Student Councils, Staff, Trade Unions and Community Planning Partners.
- 10.3 Interested parties are invited to make written submissions on the proposal to the Executive Director of Children and Families, Wheatley House, 25 Cochrane Street, Glasgow or e-mail to Schoolconsultations@glasgow.gov.uk no later than Wednesday 18 March 2009.
- 10.4 The Executive Director of Children and Families will prepare a report on the results of the consultative process for consideration at a future meeting of the Full Council.



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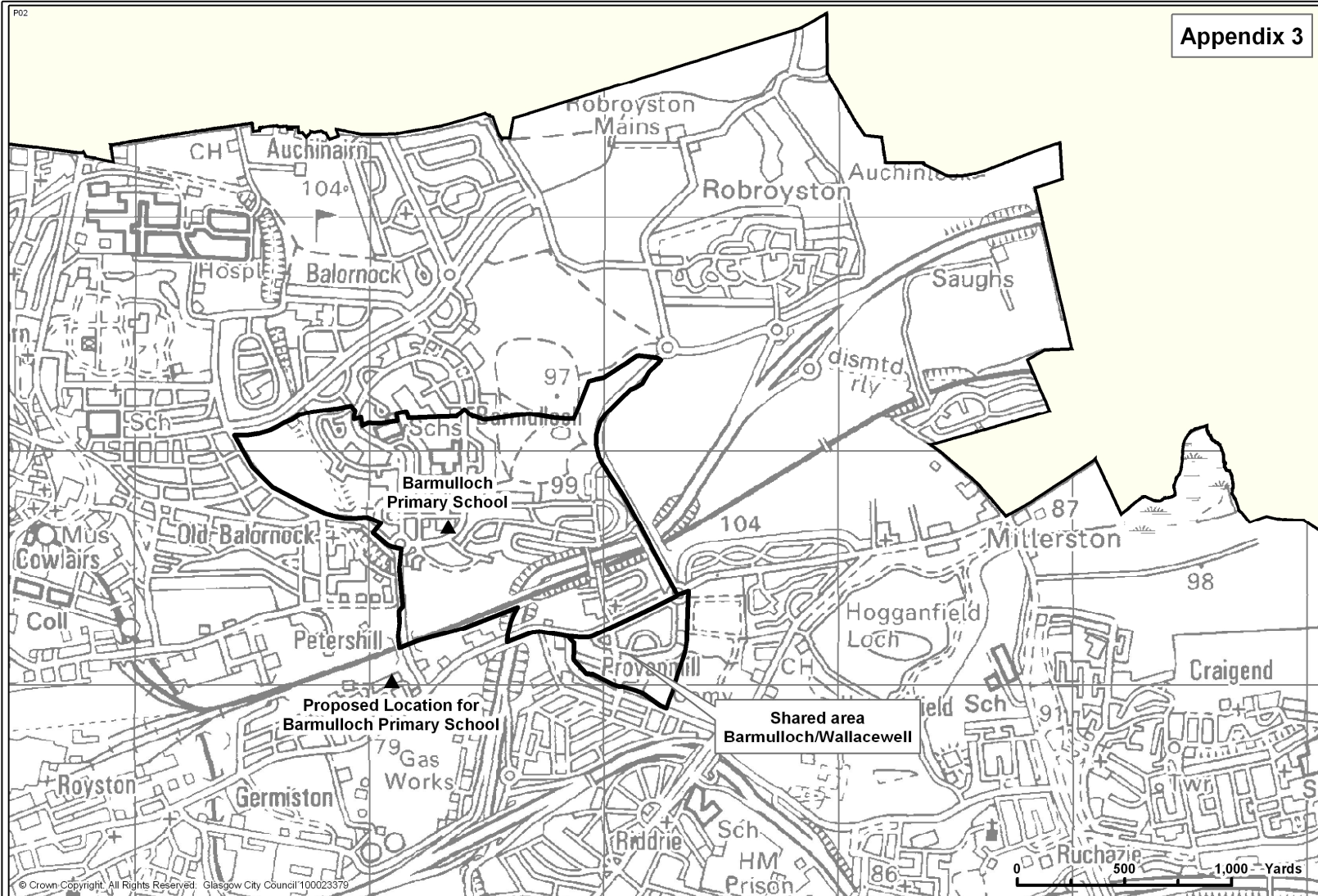
Education Services
Wheatley House
25 Cochrane St., Glasgow G1 1HL

Existing Locations and Catchment Areas for St. Philomena's and St. Gilbert's Primary Schools

Date: 15/01/2008
Prepared By: PKO

Primary Schools Roll, Projections and Capacities between 2008 and 2019

Establishment	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
St Philomena's Primary School Roll	161	158	155	159	144	139	120	121	123	124	125	125
St Philomena's Primary School Capacity	495	495	495	495	495	495	495	495	495	495	495	495
% Occupancy	32.5	31.9	31.3	32.1	29.1	28.1	24.2	24.4	24.8	25.1	25.3	25.3
St Gilbert's Primary School Roll	188	200	200	204	209	223	235	235	236	236	237	237
St Gilbert's Primary School Capacity	423	423	423	423	423	423	423	423	423	423	423	423
% Occupancy	44.4	47.3	47.3	48.2	49.4	52.7	55.6	55.6	55.8	55.8	56.0	56.0
Combined Roll of St Philomena's and St Gilbert's	349	358	355	363	353	362	355	356	359	360	362	362
St Philomena's Primary School Capacity	495	495	495	495	495	495	495	495	495	495	495	495
% Occupancy	70.5	72.3	71.7	73.3	71.3	73.1	71.7	71.9	72.5	72.7	73.1	73.1
Barmulloch Primary School Roll	189	176	163	151	144	145	144	146	146	147	148	148
Barmulloch Primary School Capacity	433	433	433	433	433	433	433	433	433	433	433	433
% Occupancy	43.6	40.6	37.6	34.9	33.3	33.5	33.3	33.7	33.7	33.9	34.2	34.2

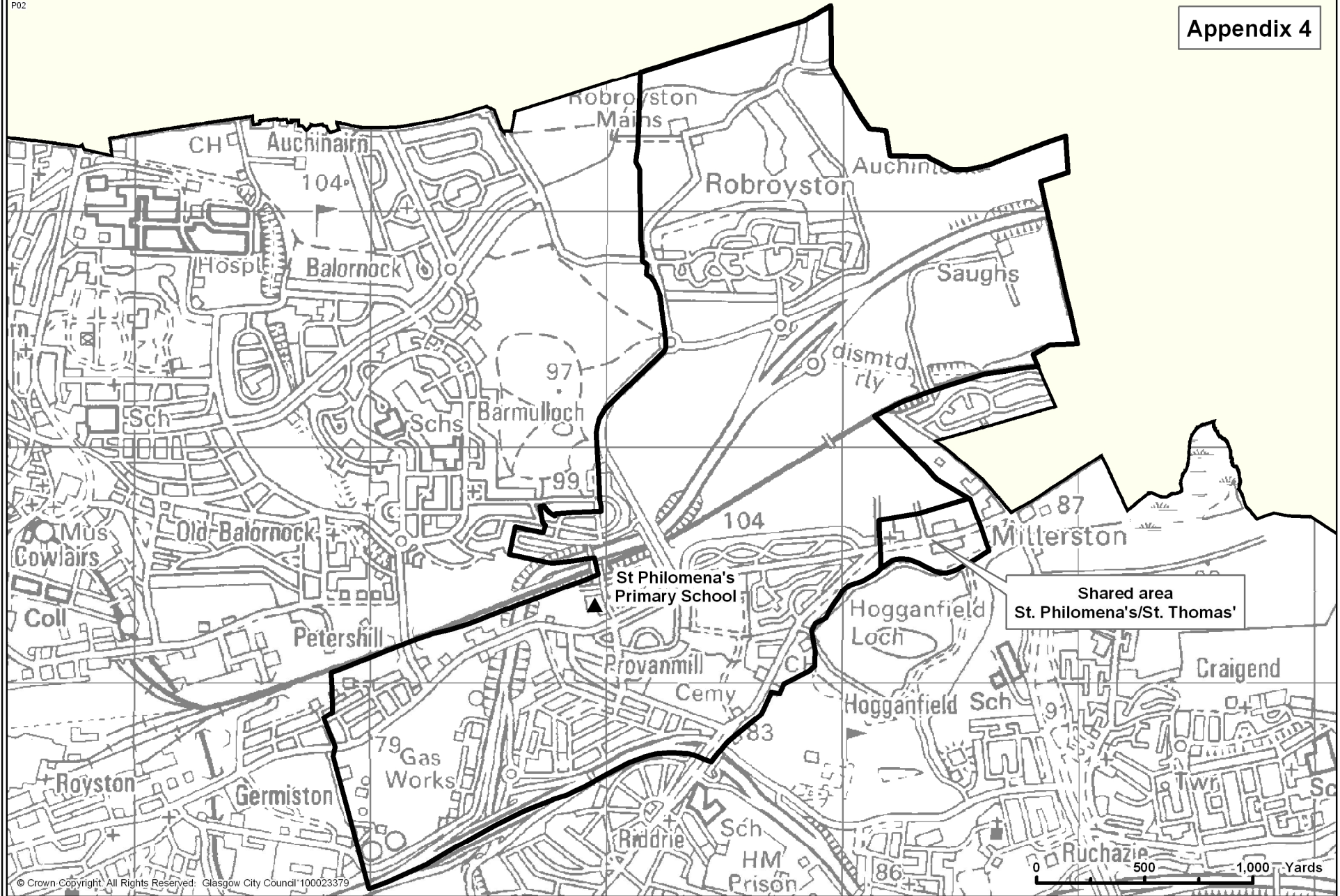


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Education Services
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25 Cochrane St., Glasgow G1 1HL

Existing Location and Catchment Area for Barmulloch Primary School and Proposed New Location

Date: 15/01/2008
Prepared By: PKO



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Explanation of Condition and Suitability

The Condition and Suitability ratings used in this document are generally as defined in the Guidance provided by the Scottish Government publications "The Core Fact" and Suitability Core Fact."

Copies of the Guidance publications can be downloaded from the Scottish Government website
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Education/Schools/Buildings/commitments>.

The Suitability and Condition ratings used, in line with the Guidance given, represent the whole building average and does not reflect the individual elements or components that make up the final score.

Scottish Government Definition - Condition	Glasgow City Council Convention
A: Good – Performing well and operating efficiently.	A: Good – Performing well and operating efficiently.
B: Satisfactory – Performing adequately but showing minor deterioration.	B: Fair – Performing adequately but showing minor deterioration.
C: Poor – Showing major defects and/or not operating adequately.	C: Poor – Showing major elemental defects that could be repaired.
D: Bad – Life expired and/or serious risk of imminent failure.	D: Very Poor – Showing major elemental defects requiring full replacement.
D: Bad – Life expired and/or serious risk of imminent failure.	E: Distressed – Life expired and/or serious risk of imminent failure.

Note; For reporting on the Core Facts return to the Scottish Government and Audit Scotland Glasgow's D and E conditions are reported as D.

Scottish Government Definition - Suitability	Glasgow City Council Convention
A: Good – Performing well and operating efficiently (the school buildings and grounds support the delivery of services to children and communities)	A: Good – Performing well and operating efficiently (the school buildings and grounds support the delivery of services to children and communities)
B: Satisfactory – Performing well but with minor problems (the school buildings and grounds generally support the delivery of services to children and communities)	B: Satisfactory – Performing well but with minor problems (the school buildings and grounds generally support the delivery of services to children and communities)
C: Poor – Showing major problems and/or not operating optimally (the school buildings and grounds impede the delivery of activities that are needed for children and communities in the school)	C: Poor – Showing major problems and/or not operating optimally (the school buildings and grounds impede the delivery of activities that are needed for children and communities in the school)
D: Bad – Does not support the delivery of services to children and communities (the school buildings and grounds seriously impede the delivery of activities that are needed for children and communities in the school)	D: Bad – Does not support the delivery of services to children and communities (the school buildings and grounds seriously impede the delivery of activities that are needed for children and communities in the school)