

GLASGOW CITY COUNCIL

EDUCATION SERVICES

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CONSULTATIVE
DOCUMENT**

Proposal: to close Elba Lane Nursery School and open a new nursery in the Dalmarnock/Parkhead area which is open all year and provides early learning and childcare for children from age six weeks to five years.

Schools	Ward(s)	Strategic Planning Area	Learning Communities
Elba Lane Nursery School	9	North East	Eastbank
London Road Nursery School	9	North East	Eastbank
Helenslea Nursery School	9	North East	Eastbank
Parkhead Community Nursery	19	North East	Eastbank

REPORT BY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

This document has been issued by Glasgow City Council for consultation in terms of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, as amended.

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1. Background and Context

- 1.1 On 5 February 2015 the Council's Executive Committee approved proposals to establish a new non-denominational primary school and stand-alone nursery in the Dalmarnock area.
- 1.2 After decades of depopulation in areas across the city the population of Glasgow is growing again. Over the next decade the primary age population is predicted to rise between 13 and 18%. This is particularly evident in the North East of the City due to the success of the Council's regeneration strategies and the legacy impact of last year's Commonwealth Games.
- 1.3 In the summer of 2014 the City was the proud host of the twentieth Commonwealth games. The athletes' village accommodated over 6,000 participants and officials from across the Commonwealth countries participating in the games. The legacy from the games has seen the athletes' village converted into 700 houses and flats, available to either buy or rent.
- 1.4 Immediately after the conclusion of the games a re-fit commenced on the homes within the athletes' village prior to being released for sale or rent. As a consequence of the release of housing, arrangements have been put in place to accommodate the immediate demand for additional nursery and primary school places in the Dalmarnock area.
- 1.5 Beyond the release of houses from the athletes' village, City Legacy Ltd has indicated that they wish to progress with a second phase of 152 homes for sale adjacent to the village at Sunnybank Street. They intend submitting a planning application later this year with the aim of these being released in 2016.
- 1.6 In addition to the above, further sites have been identified for housing development as part of the Clyde Gateway regeneration programme with an overall target of up to 1,400 new home over the next decade.
- 1.7 The effect of the immediate release of the homes from the athletes' village together with planned and targeted housing developments over the next decade will require the Council to invest in additional nursery and primary school provision for the locality and, more generally, the Clyde Gateway regeneration area over the coming years.

2. Temporary Early Years and Primary School Provision

- 2.1 The timing of the release of housing has created an immediate need for additional nursery and primary school places in the area. The existing denominational primary schools in the area, St Michael's and Sacred Heart, currently have spare capacity.

- 2.2 In order to accommodate the initial increase in demand for nursery and non-denominational primary school places, the Council has established two modular annexe buildings; on the existing Dalmarnock Primary School site and the site of the old Dalmarnock Primary School (now demolished) which is directly adjacent to the existing school grounds and pitch. In doing so this has removed the immediate primary pupil roll pressures on the existing Dalmarnock Primary School and established increased nursery places at London Road Nursery which is co-located with Dalmarnock Primary School whilst a permanent solution is developed.

3 Local Nurseries

- 3.1 There are a number of nurseries in the local area: Elba Lane Nursery School, Helenslea Nursery School, London Road Nursery School and Parkhead Community Nursery. With an increasing population in the area there is an increasing demand for nursery provision to support parents in and into employment as well as to meet the Council's duty under the legislation to provide parents with access to high quality early learning and childcare. Appendix 1 shows the location of the proposed new nursery along with early design proposals.
- 3.2 Elba Lane Nursery School is open term-time from 8.30 am to 4.30 pm. It provides high quality early learning and childcare and has 15 full-time equivalent places for two year olds and 40 full-time equivalent places for 3 to 5 year olds. An additional 15 places for 2 year olds will be made available by November 2015. Appendix 2 shows where the children lived who attended in 2014/15.
- 3.3 Helenslea Nursery is open term-time from 8.30 am to 4.30 pm. It provides high quality early learning and childcare and has 80 full-time equivalent places for 3 to 5 year olds. There will also be 10 new places for 2 year olds created by January 2016. Appendix 3 shows where the children lived who attended in 2014/15.
- 3.4 London Road Nursery School is open all year round from 8.00 am to 5.00 pm, with the potential to open to 6.00 pm if there was sufficient need. It provides high quality early learning and childcare and has 15 full-time equivalent places for two year olds and 100 full-time equivalent places for 3 to 5 year olds an increase of 40 places from August 2015. Appendix 4 shows where the children lived who attended in 2014/15.
- 3.5 Parkhead Community Nursery is open all year round from 8 am to 6 pm. It provides high quality early learning and childcare and has 12 full-time equivalent places for under 2s, 25 full-time equivalent places for 2 to 3 year olds and 56 full-time equivalent places for 3 to 5 year olds. Appendix 5 shows where the children lived who attended in 2014/15.

4 Proposal

- 4.1 It is proposed to close Elba Lane Nursery School and open a new nursery in Silverdale Street (see Appendix 1). The new nursery would provide high quality early learning and childcare and would have 12 full-time equivalent places for under 2s and 128 full-time equivalent places for 2 to 5 year olds.
- 4.2 This is a significant increase in the number of places available and with extended hours which would give parents more flexibility.
- 4.3 A staffing structure would be put in place for the new nursery, which would take into account the requirements of the Care Inspectorate. The staff of Elba Lane Nursery would be offered the opportunity to transfer to the new nursery. All staff would continue to be employed by Education Services. Those staff who did not want to transfer to the new nursery would be offered suitable vacancies in other nurseries as available at that time. Discussions would take place with individuals and their trade unions to ensure that their individual needs and wishes are taken into consideration as much as possible. The staffing structure would include a mixture of staff on term-time and all year contracts.
- 4.4 The new nursery would be part of the Eastbank Learning Community.

5. Roll Projection Methodology

- 5.1 Planning for the demand for nursery places is reviewed annually. Future demand is predicted taking into account the following factors:
- Birth rates in Glasgow.
 - Housing needs assessment, contained in strategic and local plans.
 - Migration of children in and out of Glasgow.
 - The historical demand for placements made by parents resident in other Local Authorities.
- 5.2 Early Years' establishments have fixed rolls and capacities agreed in partnership with the Care Inspectorate. Should the proposal be agreed, children who attend Elba Lane Nursery School would be offered a continued placement at the new nursery or an alternative nursery based on parental choice. The new nursery would have increased capacity to meet the anticipated demand for placements. In addition, it would offer new provision for very young children. Admissions would continue to be managed within the existing policy and procedures.

6. Educational Benefit Statement For The Proposal

6.1 The Children

- 6.1.1 Currently, Elba Lane Nursery School provides high quality early years education and childcare. The nursery provides valued support to parents and carers. The development of the new nursery will continue this high standard of provision. The new nursery would provide high quality playrooms. This would provide a quality learning environment and support children's learning within Curriculum for Excellence at the early level. In addition, toilet and changing facilities would be improved to a level that would exceed legislative requirements and meet the needs of all the children including those with additional support needs.
- 6.1.2 The new building would highlight the value that the Council places on the importance of a high quality-learning environment, particularly for our most vulnerable children. The nursery would include a dedicated parents' room to allow the nursery provide family support in line with the Council's policy on early intervention, *One Glasgow*.
- 6.1.3 The grounds around the nursery would be designed to provide high quality playground and outdoor space. This would provide better opportunities for children to play and learn. The appendices provide an indication of how the nursery will look with its grounds landscaped.

6.2 Parents, Carers and Local Community

- 6.2.1 The new nursery would increase the number of nursery places available for parents all year round. The new nursery would provide a focus for the community engagement and further develop existing community links.
- 6.2.2 It is proposed that the nursery would be open throughout the year from 8.00 am to 6.00 pm. This would offer families, particularly working parents, childcare and education throughout the year. This is in line with the national and Council priority to support working families and the economy.
- 6.2.3 The development of the nursery would extend access to services and nursery places available to vulnerable two year olds and their families as part of the 'One Glasgow' programme. One Glasgow plans to make services for families and children under the age of eight years of age, in particular, more accessible and coherent.
- 6.2.4 The nursery would have facilities, which would allow parents to become involved in the life and work of the centre. A parents' room would be created and families encouraged to work with staff and other partners to better understand a range of issues such as child development, parenting, budgeting as well as offer opportunities for continued adult education. The development of parents' room and visiting professionals' accommodation in the new nursery would significantly improve opportunities for partnership work.
- 6.2.5 It is important that parents and carers are secure in the knowledge that their families and children's needs are understood and met. Education staff in the new nursery would build on the already existing good practice in Elba Lane

Nursery School and work in collaboration with a wide range of professional partners.

6.3 Other users

6.3.1 The new nursery would have improved facilities. There are currently no other users of Elba Lane Nursery School. The nature of the layout of nurseries make it generally unsuitable for other users to let in the evenings.

6.4 Future users of the provision

6.4.1 The changes proposed would improve the facilities in the area. There would be no detriment to future users of the provision.

6.5 Other schools/establishments in our authority

6.5.1 The proposal would not impact adversely on other schools or establishments. The new nursery would expand the number of early years' places available in the north east of the city and would reduce demand for placement at other establishments in the area.

6.6 Our assessment of any other likely effects of the proposal (if implemented)

6.6.1 The proposal would increase the number of available early years' places in the north east of the city. The number of staff, including the management team would increase in line with the new service requirements. A larger staff allows for further sharing of best practice and more opportunities for curriculum development.

6.7 How we would intend to minimise or avoid any adverse affects that may arise from the proposal (if implemented)

6.7.1 Education Services has a duty to secure improvement in education. Through our quality assurance and improvement policy, Education Services monitors and supports the quality of education being delivered in all its establishments. This policy would be used to monitor and support the quality of education and care being delivered in the new establishment to ensure that provision for children continues to develop and improve. Leaders of Early Learning, Quality Improvement Officers would provide support prior to, during and after the development of the new nursery to ensure continuity of learning.

6.8 The benefits, which we believe, would result from implementation of this proposal

6.8.1 In addition to the benefits detailed above, this proposal would support the desire that schools and communities have access to high quality resources.

7. Equality Statement

7.1 An Equality Impact assessment will be undertaken as part of the consultation exercise to assess if the proposal discriminates against anyone on the basis of:

- Age
- Gender
- Religion
- Racial Group
- Disability
- Sexual Orientation

In carrying out the equality impact assessment we will take account of (and address) any equality issues raised in written or oral representation made as part of the consultation process. The result of the equality impact assessment will be included in the consultation response document and will also be available on the Glasgow City Council website.

8. Proposed Date For Implementation Of The Proposal

8.1 It is intended that, if agreed, the proposal would be progressed during 2016/17.

9. The Consultation Process

9.1 Where a Council brings forward proposals to close/merge schools there is a requirement to carry out a public consultation within the statutory framework defined by the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010.

9.2 The following arrangements have been put in place:

Consultation papers have been distributed to a wide range of stakeholders and interested parties including:

- Parents/carers/children (establishments affected by the proposals)
- Appropriate staff
- Other Local Authorities
- Archdiocese of Glasgow
- NHS GGC
- Trades Unions
- Community Councils
- Area Partnerships
- Groups formed under Part 2 of the Local Government in Scotland Act (2003)
- Other users of the school premises

In addition a notice to advise of the consultation arrangements has been placed in the Press and a dedicated page has been set up on the Council website for both information, and to enable interested parties to respond to the proposals.

Web site address: www.glasgow.gov.uk/schoolconsultations

e-mail address: Schoolconsultations@glasgow.gov.uk

The indicative timetable for the consultations is as per the table below

Date	Action	Location
24 Sep 15	Executive Committee	
5 Oct 15	Start of Public Consultation period (Advert)	
20 Oct 15	Public Meeting at 6.30 pm	St Michael's Primary School
20 Nov 15	End of Public Consultation Period	
30 Nov 15	Report to Education Scotland	
14 Jan 15 (tbc)	Consultation response report published at least 3 weeks prior to Executive Committee	
4 Feb 15 (tbc)	Report to Executive Committee	

9.3 Arrangements have been put in place to ensure the inclusiveness of the process e.g. a plain English/easy-read version of the document has been produced, crèche facilities, upon prior request, will be available at the public meetings.

9.4 As stated above a public meeting will be held to discuss the proposal. Anyone wishing to attend the public meeting is welcome to do so. The meeting will be an opportunity for attendees to:

- Hear more about the proposal.
- Ask questions about the proposal.
- Have their views noted so that they can be taken into account as part of the consultation response process.
- Ask officers about the various ways in which they can respond to the proposal.

9.5 Involvement of Education Scotland

9.5.1 A copy of this Proposal Document has been sent to Education Scotland by Education Services. They will also receive a copy of any relevant written representations that are received by Education Services from any person during the consultation period or, if Education Scotland agree, a summary of them. They will also receive a summary of any oral representation made to Education Services at the public meeting and a copy of any other relevant documentation. Education Scotland will then prepare a report on the educational aspects of the proposal not later than 3 weeks after Education Services has sent them all representations and documents as mentioned

above. In preparing their report, they may visit the affected establishments and make such reasonable enquiries of such people there, as they consider appropriate, and may make such reasonable enquiries of such other people, as they consider appropriate.

9.6 Preparation of Consultation Report

Education Services will review the proposal having regard to the Education Scotland report, responses to the consultation, and oral representations made at the public meetings. Education Services will then prepare a consultation response report for consideration by the Council's Executive Committee. This consultation response report will be published in electronic and printed formats and will be available on the Glasgow City Council web site, Education Services, City Chambers East Building, 40 John Street, Glasgow G1 1JL and at the affected centres free of charge. All those who received direct notification of the consultation will be sent either a full or summary response document. All those who responded and provided contact details through the consultation process will also receive a copy of the full or summary response document as appropriate.

9.7 The response report will include a record of the total number of written representations made during the consultation period, a summary of the written representations, a summary of the oral representations made at the public meetings, the Authority's response to the Education Scotland report and any other relevant information, including details of any alleged inaccuracies and how these have been handled. The report will also contain a statement explaining how it complied with the requirement to review the proposal in light of the Education Scotland report and representations (both written and oral) that it received. The Consultation Report will be published at least 3 weeks prior to the Executive Committee making a decision.

9.8 Reasonable requests for alternative forms of consultation papers or response documents will be accommodated wherever possible e.g. audio or by interpreted support. Should you wish a copy of this consultation paper or response document in any other format please contact Education Services:

- Online at Schoolconsultations@glasgow.gov.uk
- At Education Services, City Chambers East Building, 40 John Street, Glasgow G1 1JL
- Or by calling 0141 287 4327

9.9 Note on Corrections

If any inaccuracy or omission is discovered in this Proposal Document and/or during the consultation either by Education Services or any person, Education Services will determine if relevant information has been omitted or, if there has been an inaccuracy. Education Services will then take appropriate action, which may include the issue of a correction or the reissuing of the Proposal paper or the revision of the timescale for the consultation period as

appropriate. In that event, relevant consultees and Education Scotland will be advised.

9.10 Conclusions From The Consultation Exercise

The outcome and conclusion of the consultation exercise will be presented to the Executive Committee.

10. Scottish Ministers Call In

- 10.1 The Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010; If the proposal is approved (that is to close schools and re-build on a new site) there is a five week period, which begins on the date the decision is made, for anyone to make representations to Scottish Ministers requesting the case to be called in. There is then a further three-week period for Ministers to reach a decision on whether or not to call in the case. Once a decision has been reached, the local authority in question and each individual who had requested a call in will be notified of the decision.