

DATA LABEL: PUBLIC



## **EDUCATION EXECUTIVE**

### **PROPOSAL TO VARY ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS BY ALTERING THE CATCHMENT AREAS OF ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL POLBETH, OUR LADY OF LOURDES PRIMARY SCHOOL AND ST NINIAN'S PRIMARY SCHOOL**

#### **REPORT BY HEAD OF EDUCATION (LEARNING, POLICY AND RESOURCES)**

##### **A. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To seek Education Executive approval, following formal public consultation, of the proposal to vary admission arrangements by altering the catchment areas of the following denominational primary schools:

- St Mary's Polbeth Primary School,
- Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School,
- St Ninian's Primary School,

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

##### **B. RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that Education Executive:

1. Approves the proposal to vary admission arrangements by altering the catchment areas of the following denominational primary schools:
  - St Mary's Polbeth Primary School,
  - Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School,
  - St Ninian's Primary School,
2. Notes the outcome of the formal consultation, and the comments of Education Scotland (HMI) on the consultation

##### **C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS**

<b>I</b>	<b>Council Values</b>	Focusing on our customers' needs; being honest, open and accountable; making best use of our resources; working in partnership
<b>II</b>	<b>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 Local Outcomes Improvement Plan</b>	<p>We are better educated and have access to increased and better quality learning and employment opportunities.</p> <p>Our economy is diverse and dynamic, and West Lothian is an attractive place for doing business.</p>
<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 required for the process.
<b>VII</b>	<b>Consideration at PDSP</b>	PDSP offered initial consideration at its meeting on 27 August 2019.
<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 Wednesday 15 September 2021 and Friday 5 November 2021 involving all relevant consultees as outlined via Schedule 2 of the Schools (Consultation)(Scotland) Act 2010.</p>

## **D. TERMS OF REPORT**

### **D1 Background to Consultation Proposal**

As part of the delivery strategy for the West Lothian Local Development Plan (LDP) it is proposed to construct 2000 new homes at Gavieside.

West Lothian Council has a statutory responsibility to ensure sufficient school places, to improve the quality of the school education provided, to raise standards of education and to secure best value in available resources.

The principal aim of the proposal is to address the demands of future housing developments and ensure the best use of existing and future school capacities in West Lothian denominational school catchment areas by ensuring that the entire new development will be in a single consistent catchment area.

The proposal also ensures primary school catchment boundaries better align to natural features such as rivers and political boundaries such as community council boundaries.

## **D2 CONSULTATION ARRANGEMENTS**

The Statutory Consultation was widely communicated through the council's website, digital media channels and in the local press. 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 Wednesday 15 September 2021 until Friday 5 November 2021 a period of 30 school days. A copy of the Public Consultation Paper is included in Appendix 2, The Final Report on the Statutory Consultation is at Appendix 1.

A virtual public meeting was held on 30 September 2021. Notes of the meeting are included in section 3 of The Final Report.

## **D3 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](mailto:Education.Consultation@westlothian.gov.uk).

No responses were received and no members of the public attended the public meeting.

As the proposal was of a technical nature and did not affect any existing children this was not a surprise.

A copy of the Council's Report of the statutory consultation is appended to this report as Appendix 1.

## **D4 EDUCATION SCOTLAND RESPONSE**

HM Inspectors agree that the proposal for the catchment area variations to St Mary's Polbeth Primary School, Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School and St Ninian's Primary School has potential educational benefits.

The proposal has the potential to ensure continued use and development of existing spaces for learning. The securing of the current structure of classes and an increased peer group will have social and educational benefits. The proposal also delivers best value by addressing capacity issues within the primary schools' estate

The full Education Scotland report is attached as Appendix 3.

## **E. CONCLUSION**

With regard to the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 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.

Officers have considered carefully the written representations, including the Education Scotland report.

It is recommended that Education Executive agree to implement the proposal to alter the catchment areas of Seafield Primary School, Parkhead Primary School, Livingston Village Primary School, Bankton Primary School and Dedridge Primary School as per The Final Report.

<https://coins.westlothian.gov.uk/coins/submissiondocuments.asp?submissionid=43584>

**F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES**

Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010

*Education Executive report 10 September 2019 – Review of Denominational Primary School Catchment at St Mary’s Polbeth Primary School, Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School and St Ninian’s Primary School - Report by Head of Education (Learning, Policy and Resources)*

**Appendices/Attachments:**

- Appendix 1 Report of the Statutory Consultation
- Appendix 2 Consultation Document
- Appendix 3 Education Scotland Report

Contact Person:

Catherine Campbell, Senior Education Development Officer, West Lothian Civic Centre, Howden South Road, Livingston, West Lothian, EH54 6FF Tel: 01506 284566, e-mail [catherine.campbell@westlothian.gov.uk](mailto:catherine.campbell@westlothian.gov.uk)

Andrew Cotton, Senior Education Planner, West Lothian Civic Centre, Howden South Road, Livingston, West Lothian, EH54 6FF Tel: 01506 281080, e-mail [andrew.cotton@westlothian.gov.uk](mailto:andrew.cotton@westlothian.gov.uk)

***James Cameron, Head of Education (Learning, Policy and Resources)***

Date: Tuesday 18 January 2022

**PROPOSAL TO REVIEW ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS ARISING FROM  
SCHOOL CATCHMENT AREA VARIATIONS AT ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL  
POLBETH, OUR LADY OF LOURDES PRIMARY SCHOOL AND ST NINIAN'S  
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**A REPORT OF THE STATUTORY CONSULTATION**

**Wednesday 15 September 2021 until Friday 5 November 2021**

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The purpose of this report is to give information on:

- West Lothian Council's proposal to review Admission Arrangements arising from School Catchment Area Variations at St Mary's Primary School Polbeth, Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School and St Ninian's Primary School
- the Consultation Process
- Consultee Responses
- Notes of Public Meeting

### 1.2 SUMMARY OF PROPOSAL

West Lothian Council, Education Services propose to:

- Review of non-denominational primary school catchment areas at:
  - ❖ St Mary's Primary School Polbeth,
  - ❖ Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School
  - ❖ St Ninian's Primary School
- The principal aim of the proposal is 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.

**Education Services**

**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 March 2022.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Description</b>
10 September 2019	Education Executive Meeting	Meeting to review proposal and Consultations Document and agree commencement of Statutory Consultation phase.
19 January 2021	Education Executive Meeting	Meeting to update Education Executive on timescales for the review
15 September 2021	Start of Statutory Consultation	Beginning of formal public consultation ( <b>min 6 continuous weeks consultation period including min of 30 school days</b> )
30 September 2021	Public Meeting	Public Meeting to discuss proposal
05 November 2021	End of Consultation	End of Public Consultation
12 November 2021	Submit report to Education Scotland	West Lothian Council Education Services relays report on proposal and consultation findings to Education Scotland
Mid February 2022	Offer Education Scotland at least 5 days notice prior to publishing final report	Upon receipt of response from Education Scotland and on consideration of previous consultation period representations, Authority will prepare and publish final consultation report
Late February 2022	Publication of final consultation report	A minimum of three weeks <b>after</b> publication of consultation report Authority will make final decision
22 March 2022	Education Executive Meeting	Decision made



### 1.3 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

## 1.4 CONSULTATION PROCESS

The consultation period incorporated a period of 30 school days (excluding any school holiday) from Wednesday 15 September 2021 until Friday 5 November 2021. 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/70752/Proposal-to-Review-Admission-Arrangements-arising-from-School-Catchment-Area-Variations-at-St-Mary-s-Primary-School-Polbeth-Our-Lady-of-Lourdes-Primary-School-and-St-Ninian-s-Primary-School>
- West Lothian Council digital media products
- Local Press
- 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 conducted via Teams on Thursday 30th September 2021. 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 5 November 2021.

## 2. 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

None

## 3. NOTE OF PUBLIC MEETING

**MINUTE OF PUBLIC MEETING HELD VIA TEAMS  
30 SEPTEMBER 2021, TO DISCUSS PUBLIC CONSULTATION DOCUMENT:  
"PROPOSAL TO REVIEW ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS ARISING FROM  
SCHOOL CATCHMENT AREA VARIATIONS AT ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL  
POLBETH, OUR LADY OF LOURDES PRIMARY SCHOOL AND ST NINIAN'S  
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

### In attendance from West Lothian Council:

Catherine Campbell  
Andrew Cotton

Senior Education Development Officer  
Senior Education Planning Officer

**Meeting attendees :** 3 attendees from Education Scotland

**Discussion Opportunity**

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Education Services

#### 4. ANALYSIS OF CONSULTATION RESPONSES

No responses were received and no members of the public attended the public meeting.

As the proposal was of a technical nature and did not affect any existing children this was not a surprise.



**Appendix A – Letter to Consultees**

West Lothian Civic Centre

Howden South Road

Livingston

West Lothian

EH54 6FF

September 2021

Dear Consultee

West Lothian Council has a statutory obligation to adopt a whole school approach even when consulting on a proposal that only makes minor adjustments to catchment boundaries.

The proposal only affects 7 existing residential properties around the B7015 north of Gavieside and does not affect any children currently in education in West Lothian.

The principal aim of the proposal is to address the demands of future housing development at Gavieside and ensure the best use of existing and future school capacities in West Lothian.

**Proposal to Review Admission Arrangements arising from School Catchment Area Variations at St Mary's Primary School Polbeth, Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School and St Ninian's Primary School.**

West Lothian Council's Education Executive at its meeting on 10 September 2019 authorised West Lothian Council's Education Services to commence statutory consultation on the proposals to review and amend the current non-denominational catchment areas of St Mary's Primary School Polbeth, Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School and St Ninian's Primary School.

The consultation document outlining the proposal is available online on the following webpage:

<https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/article/70752/Proposal-to-Review-Admission-Arrangements-arising-from-School-Catchment-Area-Variations-at-St-Mary-s-Primary-School-Polbeth-Our-Lady-of-Lourdes-Primary-School-and-St-Ninian-s-Primary-School>



The Consultation period will run from 15 September 2021 until 5pm on Friday 5 November 2021. A public meeting to discuss the consultation document will be held:

**Date: Thursday 30 September 2021**

**Time: 7.00PM to 8.30PM**

**Venue: Via Microsoft Teams**

[https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting\\_OTc4NzJmZWmtODgzNS00OWJhLWE4MDktNTViNTU1ZDUyMDhi%40thre%20ad.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%221de78b07-ad4e-4049-a2db-953ee8b36107%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%2221310a60-b992-4690-b831-3bf45f6c8cb6%22%7d](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_OTc4NzJmZWmtODgzNS00OWJhLWE4MDktNTViNTU1ZDUyMDhi%40thre%20ad.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%221de78b07-ad4e-4049-a2db-953ee8b36107%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%2221310a60-b992-4690-b831-3bf45f6c8cb6%22%7d)

You are also invited to submit your comments on the consultation 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 5 November 2021**.

A decision on the proposal is planned to be made in Spring 2022 by the Council's Education Executive. This decision will be based on feedback received from all stakeholders through written responses and feedback from meetings and from feedback received from Education Scotland.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James Cameron".

**James Cameron**

**Head of Education (Learning, Policy and Resources)**

**WEST LOTHIAN COUNCIL EDUCATION SERVICES  
CONSULTATION DOCUMENT  
SEPTEMBER 2021**

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

- **ST MARY’S PRIMARY SCHOOL POLBETH**
- **OUR LADY OF LOURDES PRIMARY SCHOOL; AND**
- **ST NINIAN’S PRIMARY SCHOOL**

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### **SECTION 1**

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

### **SECTION 2**

- 2.1 Integrated Impact Assessment**

### **SECTION 3**

- 3.1 Educational Benefits Statement**

### **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 the denominational primary school catchment areas of St Mary's Primary School Polbeth, Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School and St Ninian's Primary School.

### 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 denominational primary school catchment areas of:
  - I. St Mary's Primary School Polbeth
  - II. Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School
  - III. St Ninian's 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, 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.

Within the Local Development Plan Gavieside is a major development with over 2,000 new dwellings planned. At present, almost the site is split between Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School and St Mary's Primary School Polbeth catchment areas for denominational primary schooling.

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

The figures detailed below show capacities and forecast school rolls at the denominational primary schools for St Mary's Primary School Polbeth, Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School and St Ninian's Primary School.

**School Roll Forecast from the 2018 Based Forecasts**

School	Capacity	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
St Mary's Primary School Polbeth	252	133	170	173	183	189	197	205	209	207	202	196
Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School	171	153	150	158	156	155	159	159	150	153	148	150
St Ninian's Primary School	387	268	269	266	264	273	269	272	266	263	258	257

West Lothian Council note that said capacities are not well matched to the allocated Local Development Plan sites. Adopting the proposed approach detailed in Section 1.3 of this report offers a feasible solution that alleviates potential capacity issues.

## 1.3. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS

The principal aim of the proposal is to address the demands of future housing developments and ensure the best use of existing and future school capacities in West Lothian denominational primary school catchment areas.

West Lothian Council propose to review admission arrangements as a result of alteration to the current denominational primary school catchment areas of:

- Proposal 1 – St Mary's Primary School Polbeth
- Proposal 2 – Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School
- Proposal 3 – St Ninian's Primary School

Details of proposed school catchment area realignment are explained in sections (1.3.1) – (1.3.4) of this report with area maps attached as appendices.

### 1.3.1 PROPOSED CHANGE OF CATCHMENT AREA FROM OUR LADY OF LOURDES PRIMARY SCHOOL TO ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL POLBETH



An area of Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School catchment north of the B7015 and south of the River Almond is proposed to transfer from Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School catchment to St Mary's Primary School Polbeth catchment area. There are 7 existing residential properties in this area with no children in education in West Lothian.

**1.3.2 PROPOSED CHANGE OF CATCHMENT AREA FROM ST NINIAN'S PRIMARY SCHOOL TO ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL POLBETH**

It is proposed to transfer a small area of St Ninian's Primary School catchment to St Mary's Primary School Polbeth catchment area. This will allow the catchments to follow the Killandean Burn. No residential properties are affected by this particular proposal.

**1.3.3 PROPOSED CHANGE OF CATCHMENT AREA FROM ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL POLBETH TO ST NINIAN'S PRIMARY SCHOOL**

It is proposed to transfer a small area of St Mary's Primary School Polbeth catchment to St Ninian's Primary School catchment area. This will allow the catchments to follow the Killandean Burn. No residential properties are affected by this particular proposal.

**1.3.4 DENOMINATIONAL SECONDARY SCHOOL CATCHMENT AREAS**

Each denominational secondary school in West Lothian has a defined catchment area which consists of combined associated primary school catchment.

Primary to secondary school alignment for the denominational primary schools detailed in this report are as follows:

- St Mary's Primary School Polbeth – St Kentigern's Academy
- Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School – St Kentigern's Academy
- St Ninian's Primary School – St Margaret's Academy

Further to proposed amendments to primary school catchments as detailed in sections (1.3.1) – (1.3.3) of this report it is further proposed to associate each of the identified area changes to the designated secondary school to ensure all secondary school catchments align with primary school catchments.

Maps of the proposed alterations can be found here:

<https://coins.westlothian.gov.uk/coins/submissiondocuments.asp?submissionid=43584>

## SECTION TWO

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 THREE

This section contains the educational benefits to be gained should the proposals be progressed.

3.1	EDUCATIONAL BENEFIT STATEMENT
	<p>Whilst assessing the educational benefits of the proposals, the undernoted factors were considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <p><b>Curriculum For Excellence</b></p> <p>Curriculum for Excellence is the national curriculum of experiences and outcomes for all pupils, 3-18 years.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>A key educational advantage of the proposed amendments is that the affected schools will continue to be fully equipped to deliver the full breadth of Curriculum for Excellence.</p> <p>The continued engagement of creative teaching and learning approaches in viable and sustainable school establishments broadens scope for attainment and achievement and builds a positive ethos for staff and pupils alike.</p> </li> <li> <p><b>Admission</b></p> <p>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.</p> <p>Younger siblings of those pupils currently attending St Mary's Primary School Polbeth, Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School and St Ninian's 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.</p> </li> </ul>

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 areas set out in section 1.3 of this report. All other existing catchment area criteria for each of the 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**

There are no anticipated amendments to existing school transport provisions as a result of the proposals.

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](#)

- **Secondary School Alignment**

There are no proposed amendments to existing primary to secondary school associations as a result of this proposed review of school catchment areas.

St Mary's Primary School Polbeth and Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School will continue to be an associated primary school and aligned to St Kentigern's Academy catchment.

St Ninian's Primary School will remain in alignment to St Margaret's Academy catchment.

Primary to secondary 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**

Community interaction encourages a welcoming ethos, provides pupils with valuable life and interpersonal skills and promotes acknowledgement and respect for the local area.

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 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 15<sup>th</sup> September 2021 until 5<sup>th</sup> November 2021.

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

A public meeting will be held in respect of the proposals online via Microsoft Teams.

Location Microsoft Teams	Date/Time 30 <sup>th</sup> September, 19:00
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[Click here to join the meeting](#)





The 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: <https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/article/47477/Schools-and-Education-Consultations>

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

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

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

All responses to be received by no later than 5.00pm 5<sup>th</sup> November 2021.

### **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 in Spring 2022.

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



**West Lothian Council proposal to review school catchment areas at St Mary's Primary School Polbeth, Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School and St Ninian's Primary School**

If you would like a copy of this document please contact

[Education.Consultation@westlothian.gov.uk](mailto:Education.Consultation@westlothian.gov.uk) , giving your name, address and the language you would like the document translated in to

قتراح مجلس لشوي ان لغربية لمر اجعة المن اطقال تتيق عفي النطاق الم محيط مدرسة سلت ماري الابتدائية بوليث  
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إذالغنت غب فيل احصول عل نيس خة من هذالمستقنه فيرجى اتصلا ب-  
Education.Consultation@westlothian.gov.uk ، مع اعطاء اسمك وعولك ليك غبة الترغب في ترجمه  
الوثيقه اليها.

**Propozycja Rady Miasta West Lothian przeglądu okolic naboru do szkół podstawowych: St Mary's Primary School Polbeth, Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School oraz St Ninian's Primary School**

Jeżeli chcieliby Państwo otrzymać kopię tego dokumentu prosimy o kontakt z

[Education.Consultation@westlothian.gov.uk](mailto:Education.Consultation@westlothian.gov.uk) , podając swoje imię i nazwisko, adres zamieszkania oraz w jakim języku chcieliby Państwo otrzymać ten dokument

سرينٹ هري پيرٹ مري سركولپ طيعتھ، اولي ڈي آفل ورتي زپرٹ مري سركول، اور سرينٹ ريويژن پيرٹ مري سركول هيں  
سركول كي چيفٹ طي را لي عري مقاميب چورك ے لھ ے سركول ك ے  
كازسرن و جلازلھن ك ے لھ ے هسٹ  
لويهي ن كفس لكوت جھز

گر آپ اس دستاويھ زكي طي كقول چلتم ے یرت وپرٹ ے كرم درج فل س ے ريلطكيوں.  
Education.Consultation@westlothian.gov.uk برٹ ے مھوان يھان ان اھتھ اور اس زبان كا نام جس هيں  
آپتر جمش دم دستاويھز چلتم ے هيں، مي لكيوں۔



西洛锡安议会政府关于对St Mary's Primary School Polbeth (波尔比兹圣玛丽小学), Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School (露德圣母小学) 以及St Ninian's Primary School (圣妮妮安小学) 所覆盖的区域进行审核的建议

如果您希望获得一份该文件的翻译件, 请将您的名字、住址、以及您希望将本文件翻译成的语言告诉我们: [Education.Consultation@westlothian.gov.uk](mailto:Education.Consultation@westlothian.gov.uk)

West Lothian評議會提議審查Polbeth的St Mary小學, Our Lady of Lourdes小學和St Ninian小學的學校追趕區域

如果您需要本文檔的副本, 請聯繫[Education.Consultation@westlothian.gov.uk](mailto:Education.Consultation@westlothian.gov.uk), 將你的姓名, 地址和提供您希望將文檔翻譯成的語言

সেইন্ট ম্যারিজ প্রাইমারী স্কুল পোলব্যথ (St Mary's Primary School Polbeth), আওয়ার ল্যাডী অব লোর্ডেস প্রাইমারী স্কুল (Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School) এবং সেইন্ট নীনিয়ান্স প্রাইমারী স্কুলসমূহের (St Ninian's Primary School) ক্যাঙ্কমেন্ট এরিয়াগুলো (শিক্ষার্থী ভর্তির অগ্রাধিকার এলাকার সীমানা) পুনর্বিবেচনার জন্যে পশ্চিম লোথিয়ান কাউন্সিলের প্রস্তাবনা।

যদি আপনি এই দলিলের একটি কপি পেতে চান, তাহলে অনুগ্রহ করে [Education.Consultation@westlothian.gov.uk](mailto:Education.Consultation@westlothian.gov.uk)-তে যোগাযোগ করুন এবং আপনার নাম, ঠিকানা দিন এবং এই দলিলটি কোন্ ভাষায় পেতে চান তা উল্লেখ করুন।

Vakarų Lodiano tarybos pasiūlymas patikrinti Šv. Marijos pradinės mokyklos Polbete, Lurdo Dievo Motinos pradinės mokyklos ir Šv. Niniano pradinės mokyklos rajonus

Jeigu pageidautumėte gauti šio dokumento kopiją, parašykite adresu [Education.Consultation@westlothian.gov.uk](mailto:Education.Consultation@westlothian.gov.uk), nurodydami savo vardą, adresą ir kalbą, į kurią turėtų būti išverstas dokumentas

Vestlotianas padomes (West Lothian Council) ierosinājums pārskatīt skolu mikrorajonu robežas pamatskolām St Mary's Primary School Polbeth, Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School un St Ninian's Primary School

Ja vēlaties saņemt šī dokumenta kopiju, lūdzam sazināties ar [Education.Consultation@westlothian.gov.uk](mailto:Education.Consultation@westlothian.gov.uk), norādot savu vārdu, adresi un valodu, kādā vēlaties saņemt dokumenta tulkojumu





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

**Report by Education Scotland addressing educational aspects of the proposal by West Lothian Council to review admission arrangements arising from school catchment area variations at St Mary's Primary School Polbeth, Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School and St Ninian's Primary School.**

November 2021

## 1. Introduction

1.1 This report from Education Scotland has been prepared by Her Majesty's Inspectors of Education (HM Inspectors) in accordance with the terms of the [Schools \(Consultation\) \(Scotland\) Act 2010](#) ("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 arrangements arising from school catchment area variations at St Mary's Primary School Polbeth, Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School and St Ninian's Primary School. 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 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 of the schools; children likely to become pupils within two years of the date of publication of the proposal paper;
- 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:

- 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
- virtual visits to St Mary's Primary School Polbeth, Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School and St Ninian's Primary School.

## 2. Consultation process

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

2.2 West Lothian Council undertook a statutory consultation which ran from 15 September 2021 until 5 November 2021. Information was provided to stakeholders including parents of children attending the three schools. A public meeting was held on 30 September 2021 which no one attended. The council received no objections or written responses to the proposal.

## 3. Educational aspects of proposal

3.1 West Lothian Council has set out a sound rationale for its proposal to review admission arrangements arising from school catchment area variations at St Mary's Primary School Polbeth, Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School and St Ninian's Primary School. Within West Lothian Council's Local Development Plan Gavieside is a major development with over 2,000 new dwellings planned. Currently, almost all of the site is split between Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School and St Mary's Primary School, Polbeth catchment areas for denominational primary

schooling. The proposed changes to catchment areas will ensure that there is greater alignment of housing developments to existing and future primary school capacities. Currently, only seven residential properties sit within the proposed area of change with no children in these properties attending West Lothian schools. The proposal helps to avoid pressure on accommodation in the future and also supports schools linking with their local communities which support Curriculum for Excellence. The clarification of the catchment areas avoids uncertainty for parents moving into the new catchment areas.

3.2 The council believe that 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. Arrangements for younger siblings have also been considered and those pupils currently attending St Mary's Primary School, Polbeth, Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School and St Ninian's 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 no older sibling was in attendance at any of the affected primary schools. The assurances that existing pupils will not be affected and that siblings can attend the same school is positive. Current arrangements for primary to secondary school associations will remain the same and not change as a result of this proposed review of school catchment areas. HM Inspectors agree that there will be no negative impacts on the local community.

3.2. HM Inspectors met with the headteachers of St Mary's Primary School Polbeth, Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School and St Ninian's Primary School. All headteachers were in favour of the proposal.

3.3 The council did not receive any responses during the consultation period.

3.4 HM Inspectors met with a representative of the Scottish Catholic Education Service who expressed no concerns in relation to the proposal.

## 4. Summary

HM Inspectors agree that West Lothian Council's proposal provides a valid case for the proposed catchment area changes which will result in educational benefits. If approved, there will be a greater alignment of housing developments to existing and future primary school capacities.

**HM Inspectors  
November 2021**