

DATA LABEL: PUBLIC



**EDUCATION EXECUTIVE**

**RELOCATION OF BEATLIE SCHOOL, LIVINGSTON**

**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 relocate Beatlie School to purpose built accommodation at a site east of the Xcite Craigswood Leisure Facility off Grange Road, Livingston.

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 the Education Executive:

1. Approves the proposal to relocate Beatlie School.
2. Notes the outcome of the formal consultation, and the comments of Education Scotland (HMI) on the consultation.

**C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS**

I	<b>Council Values</b>	Focusing on our customers' needs; being honest, open and accountable; making best use of our resources; working in partnership
II	<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 Single Outcome Agreement</b>	<p>Outcome 2: We are better educated and have access to increased and better-quality learning and employment opportunities.</p> <p>Outcome 3: 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>	<p>The approved General Services Capital Programme includes approved budgets of £6.75m to deliver the projects from 2021/22 onwards.</p> <p>The additional funding for the school will be met over a 25-year period by the Scottish Government as part the LEIP outcomes-based funding model.</p> <p>The NHS will pay a pro rata contribution of construction and ongoing property costs for the lease of the CDC facility within the campus.</p> <p>The project will be managed through existing staff resources and supported by funded internal posts and external technical consultants from within the project's financial resources.</p>
<b>VII</b>	<b>Consideration at PDSP</b>	4 May 2021, the Panel noted the report and agreed that it should be presented to Education Executive for decision following Council Executive consideration on the recommended site.
<b>VIII</b>	<b>Other consultations</b>	<p>Finance and Property Services, Operational Services, Planning Economic Development and Regeneration Services, Legal Services.</p> <p>Formal consultations involve Parent Councils, parent/carers, pupils, staff and trade unions at affected schools. Community Councils within the catchment areas of the affected schools will also be consulted.</p>

## **D. TERMS OF REPORT**

Beatlie School is an all-through establishment for children with a range of additional support needs related to complex educational and profound medical needs. There is also an early year's nursery provision. The school is currently located within a former primary school building, built in 1966, offering limited flexibility and accessible circulation space.

The NHS Child Development Centre is also located within the Beatlie School Campus and provides assessment and support facilities for families across West Lothian.

West Lothian Council Education Service has reviewed the condition, suitability and capacities of existing property assets, to establish feasible modification and relocation options to inform decisions on future service delivery.

The outcome of this investigation was the recognition that there was a need to consider options for relocation of Beatlie School related to (i) existing property asset performance and (ii) the delivery of a single all-through education establishment for pupils with a range of additional support needs related to complex educational and profound medical needs.

The council was successful in its application for Learning Estate Investment Programme funding. The project is based on the development of a new school and partner accommodation for the NHS Child Development Centre (CDC). The CDC accommodation is being funded by the NHS.

### **Site Selection**

Site section was agreed at Council Executive on 8 June 2021.

The site location identified by officers for the new Beatlie School is on the existing playing fields to the east of Craigswood Xcite, West Lothian Leisure Sports Facility.

The principles of the site selection exercise were as follows:

1. Land must be owned by the council (or a partner organisation) and be sufficient for the delivery of the campus;
2. Preference for remaining within Livingston to maintain existing strong links with local community organisations;
3. Site should not if possible be technically challenging to develop in terms of topography and utilities to mitigate cost risks associated with abnormal development costs; and
4. Site should be on a location that is accessible for public transport and the road network.

It was agreed by Council Executive that appropriate engagement with existing users

and West Lothian Leisure will take place advising of the timescales for delivery.

## **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.

Based on these findings, it is recommended that West Lothian Council Education Executive agree to implement the proposal to relocate Beatlie School to purpose built accommodation at a site east of the Xcite Craigswood Leisure Facility off Grange Road, Livingston. If agreed and implemented would result in Beatlie School occupying the new facility in August 2023

## **F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES**

- Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010

Appendices/Attachments:

Appendix 1 The Final Report on the Consultation

Contact Person(s):

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

Date of meeting: 18 January 2022

## **Appendix 1**

**RELOCATION OF BEATLIE SCHOOL**  
**FINAL REPORT OF THE STATUTORY CONSULTATION**  
**Monday 16 August 2021 until Friday 24 September 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 relocate Beatlie School, Livingston
- the Consultation Process
- Consultee Responses
- Note of the Public Meeting

### **1.2 SUMMARY OF PROPOSAL**

West Lothian Council, Education Services propose to:

- relocate Beatlie School to purpose built accommodation at a site east of the Xcite Craigswood Leisure Facility off Grange Road, Livingston.
- This current proposal if agreed and implemented would result in Beatlie School occupying the new facility in August 2023.

### **1.3 BACKGROUND**

West Lothian Council Education Executive, at its meeting on 22 June 2021, approved Education Services proposal to commence formal consultation in relation to Beatlie School relocation.

Beatlie School is an all-through establishment for children with a range of additional support needs related to complex educational and profound medical needs. There is also an early year's nursery provision. The school is currently located within a former primary school building, built in 1966, offering limited flexibility and accessible circulation space.

The NHS Child Development Centre is also located within the Beatlie School Campus and provides assessment and support facilities for families across West Lothian.

The council was successful in its application for Learning Estate Investment Programme funding. The project continues to be based on the development of a new school but also now includes partner accommodation for the NHS Child Development Centre (CDC).

## 1.4 TIMELINE

The following timeline was established and incorporates the organisation of a virtual 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 November 2021.

Date	Event	Description
4 May 2021	Education PDSP Meeting	To seek Panel recommendation for submission to Education Executive on proposal to commence formal public consultation
22 June 2021	Education Executive Meeting	Meeting to discuss proposal and agree continuation to statutory consultation phase
16 August 2021	Start of Consultation	Beginning of formal public consultation ( <b>min 6 continuous weeks consultation period including min of 30 school days</b> )
9 September 2021	Public Meeting	Public Meetings to discuss proposal
24 September 2021	End of Consultation	End of Public Consultation
End September 2021	Submit report to Education Scotland *Dates to be agreed in advance with Education Scotland	West Lothian Council Education Services relays report on proposal and consultation findings to Education Scotland
October 2021	Deadline for Education Scotland three-week period for reporting back to Education Services **Education Scotland do not include any schools holiday periods within their 3 week timeframe	Education Scotland response to West Lothian Council submission
October 2021	Give 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
17 December 2021	Publication of final consultation report	A minimum of three weeks <b>after</b> publication of consultation report Authority will make final decision
January 2022	Education Executive Meeting	Decision made

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



## 1.5 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

## 1.6 CONSULTATION PROCESS

The consultation period incorporated a period of 30 school days (excluding any school holiday) from Monday 16 August 2021 until Friday 24 September 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/70539/Beatlie-Statutory-Education>
- 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 virtual public education consultation meeting was held via a Teams link on the 9<sup>th</sup> September, 7.00pm till 8.30pm. [Teams link for the meeting here.](#)

Council officers outlined the key elements of the proposal and answered questions from meeting attendees. Minutes of the 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 24 September 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.

Two written representations were received during the consultation period.

### 2.1 RESPONSES RECEIVED

There were 2 individual electronic response received.

As part of the consultation process and in order to ensure a rigorous and thorough examination of the responses received, Council officers read every response.

For the purpose of this report respondent comments are anonymised.

#### 2.1.1 School Pupil Council Responses (email):

##### Williamston Primary School – Beatlie Consultation



**Due to COVID, our pupil council looks very different. We therefore took a selection of pupils from P4-7 and consulted them.**

#### **P4 Pupil Comments**

- Good that they have found somewhere that are treated right – they have the right people to look after them
- Very good
- Amazing that they are getting a bigger better school
- The boys and girls that go to the school might be a bit nervous.
- The boys and girls should be excited that they are moving to a new school that they belong in

#### **P5 Pupil Comments**

- They will need a ramp because some people won't be able to walk up the stairs.
- Handrails would help.

- Yes, a new building will help children with their learning.
- It's a good idea because the new building will be more advanced and things will be made special for these children
- The new building might distract them from their learning because it's all new.
- People with sensitive ears might find the new building loud – you need to think about this when you are building.

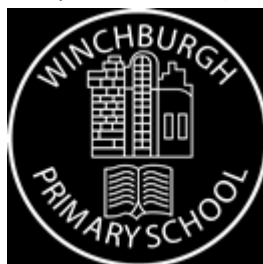
#### **P6 Pupil Comments**

- It would be a good idea because they will be able to learn easily.
- It's a good idea because they are getting more technology which can help them with their learning.
- It would be a good idea as it will help most children learn. It will help a bunch of children get help in one place rather than across the council.
- It's a good idea, it will be one big school. With all the new stuff it will help the children to learn. It will help the staff because there is more updated technology.
- I think because the children have been in the school for a while, they will be used that building so they might find it difficult to move. You could try to make the new building similar to the old one so that it's not such a big process to move. This would help them to settle in and get used to it quickly.

#### **P7 Pupil Comments**

- It's good because it might be bigger so more children would benefit
- There might be more modern resources to help the children with difficulties and staff in learning.
- The new equipment will help them with their needs.
- They won't get as nervous because they don't have to change school to go to high school.
- It's good that they are building a new school like this in West Lothian.
- They might struggle to find their way around so more staff might be needed or each child should have someone to help them.

#### **2.1.2 School Pupil Council Responses (email):**



### **Proposal to build a new school at Craigswood for Beatlie School Campus**

The pupils sought the views across the senior pupils.

Views of senior pupils at Winchburgh PS are;

- The pupils will have access to a purpose build facility to enhance their learning experience
- They will receive the necessary care they need from support staff they know well
- The teaching staff will know the pupils and continue to support their learning needs
- The proposed site has more space to accommodate transport needs of pupils

Concerns from the senior pupils;

- No concerns were raised

Winchburgh Primary school pupils have no objection to this proposal.

### 3 NOTE OF PUBLIC MEETING

**MINUTE OF PUBLIC MEETING HELD VIA TEAMS  
Thursday 9 September 2021, TO DISCUSS PUBLIC  
CONSULTATION DOCUMENT:  
RELOCATION OF BEATLIE SCHOOL, LIVINGSTON**

**In attendance from West Lothian Council:**

Greg Welsh  
Catherine Campbell  
Carol Robbie

Interim Head of Education, Primary and Early Years  
Education Development Officer  
Beatlie School, Head Teacher

**Meeting attendees:** 2 parents, 2 employees and 3 representatives from Education Scotland

**Education Services Presentation:**



PRESENTATION  
Beatlie Statutory Co

**Discussion Opportunity – Greg Welsh opened the floor to comments and questions:**

Attendee Comments
Parent attendee commented that they welcomed the continuity of education from nursery to secondary in one building. They went on to add that their child had a positive experience during transition points as a result of this arrangement.
An attendee commented that discreet areas denoted within the new building for nursery, primary and secondary would allow children to move through the school in an age appropriate environment and was welcomed.
A parent commented that her child loves water and rebound therapy. Adding that the inclusion of the hydrotherapy facility is fantastic and will unlock so much in the children.

Another attendee commented that the outdoor space, hydrotherapy and rebound therapy were exciting.

WLC Officers duly noted the comments and suggestions.

Attendee question: How is the school future proof?

WLC Response: Good question and something we have asked two design and technology companies working on the project to have a look at. The authority believe that the new school should be designed to allow children to be as independent as possible including assistive and smart technology solutions built into the design. Future proofing the school isn't necessarily about increasing the floor space but including technology that will be available now and, in the future, to allow young people to control their environment e.g. light, sound, smell and move around the building independently.

Attendee asked if the school roll will be the same going forward?

Officer Response: Yes, funding is for a new like for like facility. The Beatlie school roll has been consistent for the past five years and projections don't show this to change.

Attendee Comment

One attendee commented that they were pleased that the NHS CDC will also be relocated within the new school building. From her experience this will make it easier for families to get to appointments. Furthermore, this will allow for more joined up thinking as staff can easily speak to other expert services on site.

An attendee asked what's happening to First Steps?

Response: Officers have met with third sector users of Beatlie Campus including First Steps and Sign Post. Both have been offered suitable alternative accommodation at Livingston Family Centre. Both organisations have responded positively to this offer. WLC will continue to support both organisations during the period of transition.

Attendee Comment

An attendee both a parent and employee of West Lothian Council commented that they are proud to work for West Lothian Council and have been impressed with the level of commitment to Beatlie School.

WLC Officers duly noted the comments.

### Meeting Close:

Greg Welsh thanked everyone for their attendance.

#### **4 ANALYSIS OF CONSULTATION RESPONSES**

No expressions of opposition to the proposals were received during the statutory consultation.

Written email representations were received from two West Lothian primary school pupil councils during the consultation period. Both expressed support for the proposals.

During the public meeting all four attendees expressed support for the proposals. Attendees included two parents of children at Beattie School and two employees of Beattie School.

## **5 REPORT BY EDUCATION SCOTLAND**

Report by Education Scotland addressing educational aspects of the proposal by West Lothian Council to relocate Beatlie School, Livingston.

October 2021

### **Summary**

HM Inspectors agree that the council's proposal has clear educational benefits. A new school building could provide a high-quality learning environment, with space for specialised equipment, therapeutic interventions and for teaching life-skills. There is potential to improve the curriculum through the enhanced facilities, for example, in outdoor education and technologies.

Parents, school staff and the wider community agree that the new campus will bring improved experiences and outcomes for children and young people.

## **6 COUNCIL OFFICER REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION**

### **6.1 REVIEW OF PROPOSAL**

Feedback from consultee submissions and the report from Education Scotland have been analysed in order that any issues highlighted were given cognisance and responded to. As a result of this analysis officers conclude the undernoted factors:

#### **Identified Key Benefits:**

- New accommodation will be compliant with the Council's obligations under the Equality Act 2010, fully accessible, specially built and equipped with modern solutions to meet the learning and care needs of pupils and will provide opportunities for a wide range of learning experiences.
- Facilities would enable pupils to have full time placements to fulfil their education entitlements within a highly supportive environment.
- The new school will include the most up to date assistive technology equipment which will be designed to help facilitate greater independence for users to explore their surroundings, by increasing, maintaining or improving their functional capabilities.

### **6.2 RECOMMENDATION**

With regard to the 2010 Act 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.

Based on these findings, it is recommended that West Lothian Council Education Executive agree to implement the proposal to relocate Beatlie School to purpose built accommodation at a site east of the Xcite Craigswood Leisure Facility off Grange Road, Livingston. If agreed and implemented would result in Beatlie School occupying the new facility in August 2023.



## Appendix A – Letter to Consultees

West Lothian Civic Centre  
Howden South Road  
Livingston  
West Lothian  
EH54 6FF

**Contact: James Cameron**  
Tel 01506 281680

12 August 2021

Dear Consultee

### West Lothian Council Education Services

#### Proposal to Relocate Beatlie School, Livingston

West Lothian Council's Education Executive at its meeting on 22 June 2021 authorised West Lothian Council's Education Services to commence statutory consultation on the proposal to relocate Beatlie School, Livingston.

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

<https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/article/49192/Schools-and-Education-Open-Consultations>

Hard copies of the consultation document are also available for uplift from the Civic Centre, Howden South Road, Livingston, EH54 6FF or can be requested in writing from:

Catherine Campbell, Senior Education Development Officer, West Lothian Council Education Services, Civic Centre, Howden South Road, Livingston, EH54 6FF.

The consultation period is from Monday 16 August 2021 until Friday 24 September 2021 inclusive. A virtual public meeting to discuss the consultation document will be held on:

**Date: Thursday 9 September 2021**

**Time: 7.00PM to 8.30PM**

**Meeting Link: [Teams link for the meeting here.](#)**

You are also invited to submit your comments on the consultation in writing to Catherine Campbell at the above address or 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 24 September 2021**.

A decision on the proposal is planned to be made in November 2021 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



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

**Appendix B – Consultation Document**

**WEST LOTHIAN COUNCIL  
EDUCATION SERVICES CONSULTATION**

**RELOCATION OF BEATLIE SCHOOL, LIVINGSTON**

**CONSULTATION DOCUMENT**

**AUGUST 2021**

**SECTION 1: Purpose of this Document**

**SECTION 2: The Proposal**

**SECTION 3: The Educational Benefit Statement**

**SECTION 4: Integrated Impact Assessment**

**SECTION 5: Consultation Process and How to Have Your Say**

## SECTION 1: PURPOSE OF THE DOCUMENT

The purpose of this document is to give information on:

- West Lothian Council's proposal to relocate Beatlie School, Livingston, as part of the Council's continuing commitment to ensure equitable, quality and sustainable provision for pupils with additional support needs;
- The educational benefits to be gained through the implementation of this proposal; and
- 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 and their families and will enable the vast majority of pupils with severe, complex and medical needs to be educated within West Lothian with tailored support to meet their needs.

Public consultations are necessary when a local authority is proposing to make a significant change to its school estate, in this case the relocation of a school. To carry out a public consultation West Lothian Council requires to follow the statutory guidance outlined in the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010. With this in mind, this document is further organised into the following sections:

**Section 2** details the proposal and gives the background and rationale.

**Section 3** contains the educational benefits statement in relation to the proposal and provides an assessment of the effects of this proposal on the children/young people and their families of the affected schools.

**Section 4** provides information on the Integrated Impact Assessment undertaken in reference to the proposal. An Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA)) is undertaken to ensure that the Council meets its statutory requirement to assess policies and practices and ensure that they meet the legislative requirements in relation to its equality, human rights and socioeconomic obligations.

**Section 5** 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.

## **SECTION 2: PROPOSAL AND BACKGROUND TO THE PROPOSAL**

### **2.1. THE PROPOSAL: - TO RELOCATE BEATLIE SCHOOL, LIVINGSTON**

West Lothian Council, Education Services proposes to relocate Beatlie School, Livingston to a new all-through educational facility on a site east of the Xcite Craigswood Leisure Facility off Grange Road, Livingston as identified by Council Executive.

In addition, the NHS Child Development Centre currently located within the existing Beatlie School and providing support facilities for young people across West Lothian will also be relocated to the new purpose-built facility.

West Lothian Council do not foresee any impact to the existing Beatlie School roll capacity as a result of implementation of this proposal.

Education authorities have a statutory duty in terms of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980 to make adequate and efficient provision of school education across their area. This duty applies in respect of both the current school population and anticipated pattern of demand.

Furthermore, the Standards in Scotland's Schools Act 2000 details the education authority has a duty to provide every child or young person an education aimed at developing their personality, talents, mental and physical abilities to their fullest potential. To this regard, West Lothian Council has a duty to provide support to children and young people who have additional needs which may cause a barrier to their learning. Most pupils who experience barriers to learning can be supported in their mainstream school with specialist intervention, staff training and/or direct support. However, a number of pupils require more intensive support with specialised education and care. This is provided within specialist educational establishments and is in line with the Council's commitment to promoting fairness and equality.

West Lothian Council wishes to optimise the educational experience for every pupil by providing the best possible education which meets the need of all learners. The relocation of Beatlie School from the current building at Craigshill, Livingston to a new purpose-built facility at a site also within Livingston and to be agreed at Education Executive will create a single inspiring learning environment for existing and future pupils with a range of additional support needs related to complex educational and profound medical needs.

## **2.2 BACKGROUND TO THE PROPOSAL**

West Lothian Council undertook public consultation regarding Additional Support Needs (ASN) provision during 2013 to 2015. Extensive consultation with stakeholders took place and contributions provided valuable feedback on the requirements for future provision.

Subsequent investigations were initiated by West Lothian Council Education Services into reviewing the condition, suitability and capacities of the existing ASN properties, establishing feasible modification and relocation options to inform decisions on future delivery.

The outcome of these investigations was the recognition that there was a need to consider options for relocation of Beatlie School related to (i) existing property asset performance and (ii) the delivery of a single all-through education establishment for pupils with a range of additional support needs related to complex educational and profound medical needs.

West Lothian Council offers a range of specialist establishments within the ASN School Estate. Each special school has a clear purpose that caters for the specific need of the child or young person attending. Beatlie School, having embedded excellent support to those pupils with a range of additional support needs related to complex educational and profound medical needs is in an excellent position to continue to facilitate this dedicated approach.

## **2.3 SITE LOCATION**

On evaluation of existing school estates and review of available land within the Authority a number of options for the relocation of Beatlie School were considered and agreed at Council Executive on 8 June 2021.

The preferred location that has been identified by officers for the new Beatlie School is on the existing playing fields to the east of Craigswood Xcite, West Lothian Leisure Sports Facility (Appendix 2).

The principles of the site selection exercise were as follows:

1. Land must be owned by the council (or a partner organisation) and be sufficient for the delivery of the campus;
2. Preference for remaining within Livingston to maintain existing strong links with local community organisations;
3. Site should not if possible be technically challenging to develop in terms of topography and utilities to mitigate cost risks associated with abnormal development costs; and

4. Site should be on a location that is accessible for public transport and the road network.

Should the proposal be agreed on completion of proposed works, the newly constructed Beatlie School will deliver 6 class bases with an additional, 2 general purpose spaces, nursery, hydrotherapy pool, rebound therapy, soft play room, sensory room and a multi-purpose hall with dining.

In addition, NHS Child Development Centre will comprise clinical assessment rooms, soft play, public waiting area and offices.

Intended delivery of proposed facilities and relocation of Beatlie School is August 2023.

## **2.4 ADMISSION CRITERIA**

There will be no amendment to criteria for admission to specialist provision in West Lothian as a result of this consultation exercise.

Admission will continue to be in accordance with West Lothian Council's current admission arrangements for specialist provision, details of which are detailed via the attached link [West Lothian Council Admission to Specialist Provision Policy](#)

## **2.5 SCHOOL CATCHMENT AREA**

Specialist provision (special schools and classes) are managed by West Lothian Council and have a single catchment area covering the whole of West Lothian. There will be no amendment to the current catchment arrangements for specialist provision as a result of this proposal.

## **2.6 NON-DENOMINATIONAL EDUCATION PROVISIONS**

All specialist education establishments in West Lothian are non-denominational therefore the provisions offered to children and young people at Beatlie School are not affiliated to a particular religious denomination.

## **SECTION 3: THE EDUCATIONAL BENEFIT STATEMENT**

The current proposal if agreed and implemented would result in the relocation of Beatlie School providing additional support for children aged 3 to 18 years with a range of additional support needs related to complex educational and profound medical needs.

The specific educational benefits of the proposal are outlined below in terms of the following:

- 3.1 Curriculum for Excellence
- 3.2 Transition
- 3.3 Transport
- 3.4 School Management
- 3.5 Staff Teams
- 3.6 Accommodation
- 3.7 School Grounds/ Outdoor Learning
- 3.8 Recreational Area
- 3.9 Community Links

### **3.1 CURRICULUM FOR EXCELLENCE**

The curriculum for pupils with a range of additional support needs related to complex educational and profound medical needs is based on the same principles as all educational establishments across West Lothian. Design of the curriculum, taking cognisance of these principles will depend on the nature and complexity of the needs of the children and young people.

Education Scotland has produced a set of milestones with accompanying guidance to specifically support learners with complex additional support needs. The aim of the milestones is to support practitioners to identify the progression of learning.

Progression can be achieved through a well-planned, joint and individualised learning programme. In Beatlie School, staff will develop and refresh the curriculum on a regular basis and manage curriculum change and innovation to improve the range and quality of experiences and outcomes for children and young people and ensure delivery of curriculum entitlements.

The proposed relocation of Beatlie School will enhance full and progressive participation in the curriculum and will support a clear strategy to provide entitlement to a broad general education and senior phase education.

As an additional support needs all-through provision, Beatlie School will be well placed to ensure that the pupils experience challenge and progression through consistent, well-planned teaching which is flexible and responsive to distinctive geographical, cultural, social and special needs contexts.

Many learners with complex additional support needs will require the use of special equipment and approaches to help them with progression. This includes learners who are likely to have a range of communication and physical needs.

Some learners with complex additional support needs have limited or no verbal language. Therefore, practitioners will employ a range of strategies to support and enable understanding and communication. Use of on-body and/or manual signing, sensory cues, objects of reference, song signifiers, and visual supports such as photographs and symbols can enable learners to understand and anticipate.

Additionally, many learners will use Voice Output Communication Aid devices (VOCA) for expressive communication. Learners with complex needs will access these devices in a number of ways: through touch screens, assistive switches or eye tracker units. A range of devices will be made available throughout the new Beatlie School.

Learners with physical needs may range from those who have very limited mobility and require an extensive range of physical supports to those who have some difficulties within a particular area such as head or hand control. Support for physical needs is likely to include a wide variety of equipment or approaches to enable learners to access the curriculum and make progress. Examples might include a supportive seat which would allow a child or young person to maintain a position which will in some instances support more independent hand function, or a

walking aid to allow them to travel in different ways. Allied Health Professionals and other agencies will be able to advise on the most appropriate equipment that is required to support learners.

It is likely in many cases that the achievement of a milestone may require such specialist equipment or approaches to support progression.



### **3.2 TRANSITION**

West Lothian Council will endeavour to maintain effective straightforward transition for all pupils progressing through the key stages of their education.

A key benefit of the all-through school approach is that Beatlie School will continue to adopt individualised transition programmes ensuring movement between year stages is a positive and seamless process for the children and young people involved.

Furthermore, pupils at Beatlie School will benefit from having the opportunity to continue their educational pathway in a supportive and familiar setting with minimal disruption.

### **3.3 TRANSPORT**

The school transport provisions currently in place for pupils attending Beatlie School will remain. No alterations to existing entitlements and schedule of provisions are anticipated as a result of the proposal. All provisions offered will continue to be in conjunction with West Lothian Council's policy on transport.

[West Lothian Council Transport Policy Additional Support Needs Provisions](#)

### **3.4 SCHOOL MANAGEMENT**

Should the proposal be agreed and implemented Beatlie School will continue to be managed by the schools current Head Teacher who will have responsibility for the day-to-day operational management of the school.

Any changes to staffing and management structures would be taken forward in line with national staffing guidelines.

### **3.5 STAFF TEAMS**

An effective staff team will be in place to ensure that the learning and care needs of pupils can be fully met. Teachers and support staff work together to meet the needs of pupils and to help them to learn.

It is not anticipated that there would be implications for any staff currently employed at Beatlie School as a result of this proposal. Current staffing levels would be

maintained or enhanced to meet the needs of children and young people appropriately.

Agencies and partners will continue to work closely together to support and inform the planning process for learners. This involves a range of agencies and staff to meet the individual needs of each child. These include:

- Educational Psychology
- School Community Paediatrician
- School Nurse
- Speech and Language Therapy
- Physiotherapy
- Occupational Therapy

Within an all-through school of Beatlie School there would be scope for the establishment of a stable and unified team of specialist staff and learning support assistants working closely with professionals from NHS Lothian, Social Policy and family services. For many children the continuum of care and support is more important than the chronological age of the pupil concerned and there are obvious advantages in prolonging the relationships, between teachers and other adults with support roles. This continuity enables more positive relationships among school staff and stronger links with parents and the local community. Families and their children can maintain relationships with the school and other agencies and professionals, and parents can become more involved and remain better informed. The all-through school structure, therefore, would appear better able to extend opportunities for parental and community engagement and to promote continuity of teaching and support provision.

By providing specialist staff and quality facilities and resources, the proposal aims to enhance provision for pupils with complex educational needs and profound medical needs, ensuring they are well supported in their education and in their social and emotional wellbeing. All through schools enable greater opportunity for collaboration between staff on curriculum development, learning and teaching, and professional development. Such professional dialogue can take place across stages within the primary and continue the secondary stages.

### **3.6 ACCOMMODATION**

West Lothian Council believe that the requirements of pupils with a range of additional support needs related to complex educational needs and profound medical needs are best met in a facility designed specifically to support the nature of their needs.

Future accommodation at Beattie School will be compliant with the Council's obligations under the Equality Act 2010, fully accessible, specially built and equipped with modern solutions to meet the learning and care needs of pupils and will provide opportunities for a wide range of learning experiences in line with Curriculum for Excellence.

Facilities would enable pupils to have full time placements to fulfil their entitlements to a broad, general education and senior phase education within a highly supportive environment.

The new school will include the most up to date assistive technology products which will be designed to help facilitate greater independence for wheelchair users to explore their surroundings, by increasing, maintaining or improving their functional capabilities.

Beattie School will include meeting rooms to support partnership working with families, multi-agency partners and community partners. Dedicated teaching areas, in addition to small class sizes with a high staff to pupil ratio, will allow staff to plan flexibly to meet pupil needs.

In summary the pupils and parents of Beattie School will have access to an educational establishment which will provide a high level of support relevant to meeting the needs of all pupils attending the specialist provision with a range of additional support needs related to complex educational needs and profound medical needs

### **3.7 OUTDOOR LEARNING**

For all children, outdoor learning is an integral feature of their education. On a programmed basis, pupils will be given regular opportunities to take their education outdoors into the local community and further afield.

At Beatlie School, the accessibility of the outdoor space is of prime importance and it will be designed to allow young people of all abilities to participate in learning, play and wellbeing experiences offered by quality landscape design.

The proposed relocation of Beatlie School will provide the benefit of continued access to safe outdoor spaces that the pupils and staff are familiar with. This will enable learning to take place outside and not only in the formal classroom setting.

### **3.8 RECREATIONAL AREA**

The recreational facilities available to pupils at the new Beatlie School site will promote social interaction and health and wellbeing and in order to maximise the opportunities for health promotion, all available space will be well utilised, with recreational space being promoted, as appropriate, as an extension to the formal classroom.

Recreational spaces would be created as safe areas to deliver a variety of activities relevant to all pupil ages. Further design of the recreational area will be taken forward in consultation with staff and pupils.

### **3.9 COMMUNITY LINKS**

The relocation of Beatlie School will enable pupils to build upon and further benefit from existing strong community links.

Beatlie School has a wide range of existing strong community links including:

- The local Craigshill Community
- Almondbank Library
- Hearts & Minds Charity
- RDA Horse Riding

Strong community links facilitates the promotion of a wide range of skills, provides opportunities for new skills to be applied in real life contexts and enables learning to take place in the outside world as well as in the formal classroom.

## **SECTION 4: 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 5: CONSULTATIONPROCESS: HAVE YOUR SAY**

This section provides information on how West Lothian Council has organised the consultation process for the proposal 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 relocate 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 for a proposal to relocate a school 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

Council officers will be present at the public meetings to outline the proposals, facilitate discussions and answer questions.

The Consultation meetings will give interested parties a formal opportunity to express their views.

The consultation period will incorporate a period of 30 school days (excluding any school holiday) from 16 August 2021 until 5pm on Friday 24 September 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.

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

A virtual public meeting will be held in respect of the proposals at the venue listed below:

**Date: Thursday 9 September 2021**

**Time: 7.00PM to 8.30PM**

**Meeting link: [Teams link for the meeting here.](#)**

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

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

James Cameron, Head of Education (Learning, Policy and Resources), 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 interested parties are invited to submit their comments by close of business 5pm Friday 24 September 2021.

An on-line version of this document and other items related to the consultation can be found on the West Lothian Council website using this link:

<https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/article/49192/Schools-and-Education-Open-Consultations>

### **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 decision, or put any changes into effect, until the Final Consultation Report has been concluded, published and subsequently presented to the Education Executive.



## Appendix C – Education Scotland report



# Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010

Report by Education Scotland addressing educational aspects of the proposal by West Lothian Council to relocate Beatlie School, Livingston.

October 2021

[Link to report PDF below](#)



Education Scotland  
Report Beatlie Scho

