

Appendix 5



From: Peterhead Community Council
To: Maxine Booth, Quality Improvement Manager, Aberdeenshire Council
Date: 3 December 2019
Subject: Questions regarding Report to Education & Children's Services Committee

With reference to: *Report to Education and Children's Services Committee – 10 October 2019:
Relocation of Peterhead Academy*

REFERENCE:

2.1 Authorise a statutory consultation with local stakeholders (parent councils, parents, pupils, staff and local community) on proposals regarding the replacement and relocation of Peterhead Academy.

QUESTIONS:

- 1 What methods will be used to consult with stakeholders, particularly residents in the area of the new building?**
- 2 What methods will be used to engage with those young people/families affected by the move from the centre of town to Kinmundy?**

REFERENCE:

5.3 The financial implications of the consultation exercise are minimal - these are in terms of distribution of the consultation to consultees. As the majority will be distributed electronically, where possible, this will be a small print run and postage costs for the remainder. This would be expected to cost in the region of £100.

QUESTIONS:

- 1 How are you measuring the effectiveness of using mostly electronic distribution methods?**
- 2 Have your efforts been getting to the people that need to be consulted? How do you know?**

REFERENCE:

5.4 There will be financial implications for the delivery of the new Peterhead Community Campus, and these have already been assessed and factored into the capital plan.

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Chair: Lisa Buchan

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5.2 The table below shows whether risks and implications apply if the recommendations are agreed.

Subject	Yes	No	N/A
Financial	x		
Staffing	x		
Equalities	x		
Fairer Scotland Duty		x	
Town Centre First	x		
Sustainability	x		
Children and Young People's Rights and Wellbeing	x		

QUESTIONS:

- 1 Is there enough money set aside for the Academy to be completed and delivered to the agreed standard in terms of the building?
- 2 What measures have been taken to mitigate the risks to 'staffing' (table 5.2)?
- 3 Is there money set aside to complete any work to the existing building to make it a) safe in the immediate term after evacuating to the new site and b) to complete any renovations/rebuild in the following months/years?

REFERENCE:

The schools affected by this proposal are: • Peterhead Academy

1.7 This proposal does not impact upon primary provision at Boddam School, Buchanhaven School, Burnhaven School, Clerkhill School, Dales Park School, Longhaven School (currently mothballed), Meethill School, Peterhead Central School, Port Erroll School, St Fergus School and a special school provision at Anna Ritchie School.

QUESTION:

- 1 In the proposal document, dated October 2019, the only school listed as affected is Peterhead Academy. Why does this proposal not include Dales Park, Meethill, Anna Ritchie and Clerkhill when these have been implicated in public discourse?

REFERENCE:

DISTRIBUTION A copy of this document is available on the Aberdeenshire Council website: www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk, or by e-mail at LearningEstates@aberdeenshire.gov.uk This document will be provided to: • Parent Councils of Peterhead Academy and the cluster primary schools • Parents of pupils at Peterhead Academy and the cluster primary schools • Pupils at Peterhead Academy and the cluster primary schools • Teaching and ancillary staff at Peterhead Academy • Trade union representatives of the above staff • Boddam Community Council • Buchan East Community Council • Cruden Community Council • Longside and District Community Council • Peterhead Community Council • Relevant users of Peterhead Academy • Education Scotland

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- 1 The distribution list does not include the wider stakeholders that are to be consulted. Will the list be amended to include them?**

REFERENCE:

2.3 The existing Peterhead Academy building is scored C under both, condition and suitability, as outlined in the Core Facts returns that go to the Scottish Government as part of Aberdeenshire Council's School Estate Management Plan.

QUESTION:

- 1 How has the building been allowed to deteriorate to a sub-optimal condition?**

REFERENCE:

2.4 A number of options for replacing Peterhead Academy have been explored, which has involved a number of possible locations.

QUESTION:

- 1 For clarity, is that 'number', two? i.e. current site rebuild and Kinmundy?**

REFERENCE:

2.5 Following a number of meetings held with the public in previous years another two public drop-in sessions were held in February and March 2019. The meetings were well attended, with around 400 parents, staff, councillors and members of the community present. The members of the public had an opportunity to complete questionnaires, exit polls and comment sheets. Officers within Education & Children's Services have carefully considered all of the responses to the consultation and have made a recommendation in the report.

QUESTIONS:

- 1 Can you provide further information on these public meetings held in previous years?**
- 2 Are 400 people the total number of separate individuals who attended the meetings this year and in previous years?**

REFERENCE:

3.2 The new Peterhead Community Campus will be built with a capacity of 1400 secondary pupils with shared facilities and with sufficient core areas that additional accommodation could be provided for future roll increase should this be required.

QUESTION:

- 1 Are you fully satisfied that the new building will be future-proof?**
- 2 Has full consideration been given to the increase in housing and future potential growth?**

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3.4 Pupils living outwith 3 miles of their zoned secondary school would have an entitlement to school transport.

7.2 The travelling times for pupils attending the new Community Campus on foot would vary from the travelling time to the current establishment, although this could be either an increase or a decrease depending on where they live.

7.3 The travelling times for pupils transported to the schools by either bus or car would also change slightly, depending on the pupils' home addresses.

QUESTIONS:

- 1 Will the 'school transport' be provided free?
- 2 Sections 7.2 and 7.3 are stating the obvious without acknowledging the impact on those from areas of higher deprivation. Many areas of the town that have lower incomes will have further to walk than now. They do not fall outwith the 3 mile limit. What do you foresee the impact being on those families who do not have the means to drive their children to the school? It should be noted that many parents living in areas such as Buchanhaven and Longate area are working poor, so finding extra money to pay for travel would penalise them and their children.
- 3 Some more affluent areas are of similar distance (e.g. White Gates 2.1 miles). What measures will be in place to reduce congestion around the school for those being dropped off in cars? Schools across the town have already had to take measures to improve safety as a result of congestion and irresponsible parking/idling at the end and start of the school day.

Illustration: Distances to Dales Park Pavillion:

From	Distance
High Street	1.9 miles
Cooper's Close	2.1 miles
Longate	2.2 miles
Roanheads	2.3 miles
White Gates	2.1 miles

Illustration: Difference in Walking Time between old and new sites:

From	Current Walking Time (in minutes)	New Site Walking Time (in minutes)
High Street	14	40
Cooper's Close	6	34
Longate	7	34
Roanheads	10	39
White Gates	34	35

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REFERENCE:

4.1 Aberdeenshire Council is committed to delivering entitlements to learners in the 21st century according to Curriculum for Excellence. The new modern community campus will be a signal to the whole community how Aberdeenshire Council values 21st century learning and it will represent best value through the effective and efficient use of Council resources.

QUESTIONS:

- 1 The aspirations stated in section 4 are aspirational. Have these been realised by other community campus developments?**
- 2 What has been the impact of a new building on other Community Campus' pupil outcomes?**
- 3 Are there successful examples of merging primary schools with a secondary school that has needed academic improvement?**
- 4 How will high quality teaching staff be attracted to teach here?**

REFERENCE:

6.3 There may be a slight increase in distance for some individuals attending the new community and leisure facilities as they will no longer be as centrally located within the town. However, there may also be a reduction in distance for other members of the public living to the South and West of the town. It is believed that the improved quality of facilities available for community use and the improved parking available on site will outweigh any inconvenience caused by a slightly longer journey to use them.

QUESTIONS:

- 1 This is a concerning statement. Although true, it does not acknowledge that moving these facilities to a location surrounded by more affluent areas makes it more inaccessible to those living in areas of higher deprivation. The danger is that this is excluding more people than creating opportunities for inclusion. What consideration has been given to this?**

REFERENCE:

10.2 It is also anticipated that all staff based at the existing community facilities at Peterhead Academy will also transfer to the new community campus, in line with their existing contract and HR & OD policies and procedures.

QUESTIONS:

- 1 Can you list the community facilities that will cease to operate from the Community Centre?**

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11.5 A public meeting will be held on 12 November 2019 at Peterhead Academy at 7 pm. Anyone wishing to attend the meeting is free to do so. The meeting will be convened by the Council and the Council will present the reasons for bringing forward the proposal. There will be an opportunity for questions and comment. A note will be taken so that comments can later be summarised and considered.

QUESTIONS:

- 1 How will you ensure representative representation from all stakeholder groups?**

Presented by:

Lisa Buchan, Chair

On behalf of Peterhead Community Council

3 December 2019

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