

Aberdeenshire Council

Integrated Impact Assessment

Rezoning of Balmedie School catchment at Blackdog Final Consultation Report

Assessment ID	IIA-001249
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Approved By	Anne Marie Davies Macleod
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1. Overview

This document has been generated from information entered into the Integrated Impact Assessment system.

Education & Children's Services have completed a Statutory Consultation on the Rezoning of Balmedie School catchment at Blackdog. This Impact Assessment is on the final consultation report on the statutory consultation.

During screening 5 of 10 questions indicated that detailed assessments were required, the screening questions and their answers are listed in the next section. This led to 4 out of 5 detailed impact assessments being completed. The assessments required are:

- Children's Rights and Wellbeing
- Equalities and Fairer Scotland Duty
- Health Inequalities
- Sustainability and Climate Change

In total there are 8 positive impacts as part of this activity. There are 0 negative impacts, all impacts have been mitigated.

A detailed action plan with 7 points has been provided.

This assessment has been approved by annemarie.daviesmacleod@aberdeenshire.gov.uk.

The remainder of this document sets out the details of all completed impact assessments.

2. Screening

Could your activity / proposal / policy cause an impact in one (or more) of the identified town centres?	No
Would this activity / proposal / policy have consequences for the health and wellbeing of the population in the affected communities?	Yes
Does the activity / proposal / policy have the potential to affect greenhouse gas emissions (CO2e) in the Council or community and / or the procurement, use or disposal of physical resources?	Yes
Does the activity / proposal / policy have the potential to affect the resilience to extreme weather events and/or a changing climate of Aberdeenshire Council or community?	No
Does the activity / proposal / policy have the potential to affect the environment, wildlife or biodiversity?	No
Does the activity / proposal / policy have an impact on people and / or groups with protected characteristics?	No
Is this activity / proposal / policy of strategic importance for the council?	Yes
Does this activity / proposal / policy impact on inequality of outcome?	No
Does this activity / proposal / policy have an impact on children / young people's rights?	Yes
Does this activity / proposal / policy have an impact on children / young people's wellbeing?	Yes

3. Impact Assessments

Children's Rights and Wellbeing	No Negative Impacts Identified
Climate Change and Sustainability	No Negative Impacts Identified
Equalities and Fairer Scotland Duty	No Negative Impacts Identified
Health Inequalities	No Negative Impacts Identified
Town Centre's First	Not Required

4. Childrens' Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment

4.1. Wellbeing Indicators

Indicator	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Unknown
Safe		Yes		
Healthy		Yes		
Achieving		Yes		
Nurtured		Yes		
Active		Yes		
Respected	Yes			
Responsible		Yes		
Included	Yes			

4.2. Rights Indicators

UNCRC Indicators upheld by this activity / proposal / policy	Article 3 - Best interests of the child Article 12 - Respect for the views of the child Article 15 - Freedom of association Article 23 - Children with disabilities Article 28 - Right to education Article 31 - Leisure, play and culture
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4.3. Positive Impacts

Impact Area	Impact
Included	Pupils residing within the Blackdog settlement being zoned to one School will increase their social inclusion for friendships and opportunity to enhance the community.
Included	All pupils within the Blackdog settlement will receive free school transport to Balmedie School.
Respected	Pupil engagement was part of the statutory consultation. Balmedie and Scotstown Schools both discussed the consultation with pupils and asked questions on the proposal to gain their views. The online survey was open to anyone and there was a section for pupils within the identified consultee groups when completing the survey. There was also a specific comment section of the survey for any children within the household to have their say.

4.4. Evidence

Type	Source	It says?	It Means?
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Type	Source	It says?	It Means?
Internal Data	Blackdog Primary School Catchments Informal online survey results	It states views of the Blackdog residents regarding Primary School catchments within the area.	The results were the majority of residents within the Blackdog settlement who completed the survey believe they should be zoned for Balmedie School.
Internal Consultation	Pupil Engagement on the Consultation	Balmedie and Scotstown Schools discussed the consultation with Pupils and asked a variety of questions in order to gain their views.	There was a mixture of views on the proposal with pupils having both concerns and positive comments.
External Consultation	Rezoning of Balmedie School at Blackdog Statutory Consultation online survey	It gives an overview of the results of the online survey which took place during the statutory consultation period.	It shows that the majority of the participants which took part in the online survey agree to rezone the Balmedie catchment area to include the settlement of Blackdog.
External Consultation	Public Meeting	The public meeting during the consultation period was an opportunity for all consultees to have their questions answered.	A parent expressed her child's upset to not getting on the school bus like the other children within Blackdog.
Internal Data	Out of Zone Placing Requests	Residents of Blackdog wishing to attend Balmedie School instead of their zoned school, Scotstown.	Some families already make the decision to attend Balmedie School instead of their zoned school.

4.5. Accounting for the Views of Children and Young People

Pupil engagement was part of the consultation process with opportunity for children to participate in the online survey and pupil engagement discussions and questions at Balmedie & Scotstown Schools.

4.6. Promoting the Wellbeing of Children and Young People

All pupils within Blackdog settlement who are enrolled in school will be able to continue their education in that school and transport will also continue. Siblings of pupils enrolled in Scotstown School will be able to attend subject to Aberdeen City Council's Placing Request Policy. New pupils enrolling within Balmedie School from August 2023 or currently enrolled in Balmedie School residing within Blackdog will now be entitled to free school transport. There will also be more opportunity for building children's friendships within the Blackdog settlement to strengthen the community.

4.7. Upholding Children and Young People's Rights

Any existing primary school pupils would not be required to move schools and this would apply to any younger siblings of current pupils attending Scotstown School subject to Aberdeen City Council's Placing Request Policy. Pupils currently receiving school transport to either Balmedie or Scotstown Schools will continue and any new pupils enrolled within Balmedie School residing in the Blackdog settlement will be entitled to School transport if the recommendation is approved.

4.8. Overall Outcome

No Negative Impacts Identified.

It is recognised by both Aberdeenshire Council and Education Scotland that there is educational and social benefits to this proposal for the Blackdog settlement.

5. Equalities and Fairer Scotland Duty Impact Assessment

5.1. Protected Groups

Indicator	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Unknown
Age (Younger)	Yes			
Age (Older)		Yes		
Disability		Yes		
Race		Yes		
Religion or Belief		Yes		
Sex		Yes		
Pregnancy and Maternity		Yes		
Sexual Orientation		Yes		
Gender Reassignment		Yes		
Marriage or Civil Partnership		Yes		

5.2. Socio-economic Groups

Indicator	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Unknown
Low income		Yes		
Low wealth		Yes		
Material deprivation		Yes		
Area deprivation	Yes			
Socioeconomic background		Yes		

5.3. Positive Impacts

Impact Area	Impact
Age (Younger)	Children and young people being zoned for one primary school will have more opportunity for social inclusion with the community and neighbours. All pupils residing within the Blackdog settlement and attending Balmedie School will also be entitled to free school transport therefore no children will be excluded.
Area deprivation	The settlement of Blackdog is currently split by primary school catchments. Pupils residing within Blackdog are unable to walk or cycle to neither Balmedie or Scotstown Schools. Extending the Balmedie School catchment to include the whole of the settlement of Blackdog will strengthen the community and provide free school transport to all pupils enrolled in Balmedie School therefore decreasing the area deprivation on school transport.

5.4. Evidence

Type	Source	It says?	It Means?
Internal Data	Blackdog Primary School catchments informal survey results	It states the views of the Blackdog residents regarding Primary School catchments within the area.	The results were the majority of residents within the Blackdog settlement who completed the survey believe they should be zoned for Balmedie School.
External Consultation	Rezoning of Balmedie School catchment at Blackdog Statutory Consultation online survey	It gives an overview of the results of the online survey which took place during the statutory consultation period.	It shows that the majority of participants which took part in the online survey agree to rezone the Balmedie School catchment area to include the settlement of Blackdog.

5.5. Engagement with affected groups

The proposal document and cover letter was sent to all those which were affected as well as residents living within the Blackdog settlement to inform the directly affected consultees and gain their views and comments on the proposal.

5.6. Ensuring engagement with protected groups

There was a variety of methods for communication for consultees to have their say in the consultation. The proposal document was sent to all consultees who were affected. The online survey had a list of groups to identify by as (parent/carers, pupil, community member, staff member, other) as well as a section of the survey was specifically for children and young peoples views within the household. The Learning Estates contact was noted for anyone who had difficulty in reading the document or for any written comments.

5.7. Evidence of engagement

The Statutory Consultation was distributed to all affected consultees. During the consultation period there was an public meeting for opportunity for the public to have their views considered and questions answered, an online survey was available as well as pupil consultation through Balmedie and Scotstown Schools. The Learning Estates contact details were displayed for anyone who had difficulty reading the document or for any written comments. All consultation methods were advertised in letter/emails, proposal document, posters, Council social media, public notice and the Council website.

5.8. Overall Outcome

No Negative Impacts Identified.

All feedback including the online survey was analysed and the majority of consultees agree that the Balmedie School catchment area should be rezoned to include the settlement of Blackdog. This included all the Blackdog residents which took part in the survey and are directly affected.

5.9. Improving Relations

The school transport for both Balmedie and Scotstown Schools will continue for current pupils enrolled residing within the settlement of Blackdog.

5.10. Opportunities of Equality

The rezoning of Balmedie School to include the settlement of Blackdog will create more opportunity for both children and parent/carers building friendships and strengthening the community of Blackdog. This will also alleviate any concerns from families on school transport as no pupils will be excluded from free school transport living within the Blackdog settlement from August 2023.

6. Health Inequalities Impact Assessment

6.1. Health Behaviours

Indicator	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Unknown
Healthy eating		Yes		
Exercise and physical activity		Yes		
Substance use – tobacco		Yes		
Substance use – alcohol		Yes		
Substance use – drugs		Yes		
Mental health	Yes			

6.2. Positive Impacts

Impact Area	Impact
Mental health	The settlement of Blackdog being zoned for one school will alleviate confusion on primary school catchments within the area and uncertainty regarding school transport

6.3. Evidence

Type	Source	It says?	It Means?
Internal Data	Blackdog Primary School Catchments informal online survey	It states the views of the Blackdog residents on Primary School catchment areas.	Some residents stated they have confusion on catchment zones and issues with school transport.
Internal Data	Out of Zone Placing Requests	Residents of Blackdog wishing to attend Balmedie School instead of their zoned school, Scotstown.	Parent/Carers have expressed anxiety of the uncertainty of getting a place in Balmedie School and School transport.
External Consultation	Rezoning of Balmedie School Statutory Consultation online survey	It states the results of the survey.	Many participants of the survey stated the rezoning makes sense/current zoning does not make sense. Also there was comments on uncertainly on the primary school catchments and school transport.

6.4. Overall Outcome

No Negative Impacts Identified.

The rezoning of Balmedie School will alleviate concerns and confusion on primary school catchments and school transport. All the Blackdog residents who completed the online survey voted to rezone the Balmedie School to include the settlement of Blackdog.

7. Sustainability and Climate Change Impact Assessment

7.1. Emissions and Resources

Indicator	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Unknown
Consumption of energy	Yes			
Energy efficiency		Yes		
Energy source		Yes		
Low carbon transition		Yes		
Consumption of physical resources		Yes		
Waste and circularity		Yes		
Circular economy transition		Yes		
Economic and social transition		Yes		

7.2. Biodiversity and Resilience

Indicator	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Unknown
Quality of environment		Yes		
Quantity of environment		Yes		
Wildlife and biodiversity		Yes		
Infrastructure resilience		Yes		
Council resilience		Yes		
Community resilience		Yes		
Adaptation		Yes		

7.3. Positive Impacts

Impact Area	Impact
Consumption of energy	There would be an increase in School Transport entitled pupils however this would be less emissions than multiple parent/ carers individually taking their children to school on a daily basis therefore this would be a reduction in CO2 emissions and more economical.
Consumption of energy	Balmedie School is a closer distance than Scotstown School from the Blackdog settlement.

7.4. Evidence

Type	Source	It says?	It Means?
External Data	https://co2.miljolare.no/help_sheets/?op_id=602&o pt_id=98	It gives the calculations on CO2 emissions from types of transportation per passenger.	It states that a car has the emissions of 0.11 to 0.183 per passenger whereas a minibus or bus has the emissions of 0.055 to 0.069.

Type	Source	It says?	It Means?
External Data	Google Maps	It gives the distances from area to area.	It shows that Blackdog is closer to Balmedie School than Scotstown School.

7.5. Overall Outcome

No Negative Impacts Identified.

The rezoning of Balmedie School will increase the school transport due to the increase in entitlement of pupils within the settlement of Blackdog however this will be an reduction of parent/carers taking their children to and from school on a daily basis, therefore reducing carbon emissions and more economical. Blackdog is also approximately a mile shorter distance to Balmedie School than Scotstown School.

8. Action Plan

Planned Action	Details	
Public Meeting	Lead Officer Repeating Activity Planned Start Planned Finish Expected Outcome Resource Implications	Maxine Booth No Thursday November 10, 2022 Thursday November 10, 2022 A face to face public meeting took place during the consultation period and gave an overview of the consultation with opportunity for the public to have their questions answered and views and comments considered. Let of the venue and Learning Estates Team staff time.
Statutory Consultation	Lead Officer Repeating Activity Planned Start Planned Finish Expected Outcome Resource Implications	Maxine Booth No Friday October 14, 2022 Friday January 06, 2023 During the Statutory Consultation period there was a variety of methods of communications with all relevant stakeholders including; Parent Councils, Parent/Carers, Pupils, Staff, Community Councils, Ward Members, Residents of Blackdog, Aberdeen City Council, Trade Union representations, relevant users of Balmedie School, Early Years providers and Education Scotland. All written or oral comments, pupil engagement and online survey was then considered and analysed to decide the outcome of the consultation. Printing letters, posters and maps. Learning Estates Team staff time.

Planned Action	Details	
Final Consultation Report	Lead Officer Repeating Activity Planned Start Planned Finish Expected Outcome Resource Implications	Maxine Booth No Friday February 03, 2023 Tuesday April 25, 2023 All responses from the consultation period was analysed and a final consultation report written with Officer recommendation. Elected Members will be asked to decide whether to implement the Officer recommendation. Staff Time.
Online Survey	Lead Officer Repeating Activity Planned Start Planned Finish Expected Outcome Resource Implications	Maxine Booth No Friday October 14, 2022 Friday January 06, 2023 An online survey was developed and available for the public to have their say on the proposal during the consultation period. This was analysed and used to inform the final consultation report Staff Time
Pupil Engagement Survey	Lead Officer Repeating Activity Planned Start Planned Finish Expected Outcome Resource Implications	Maxine Booth No Friday October 14, 2022 Friday January 06, 2023 Balmedie and Scotstown Schools discussed the proposal with pupils and asked them questions on the proposal to gather their views and comments. These were incorporated into the final consultation report. Staff Time

Planned Action	Details	
Education Scotland Involvement	Lead Officer Repeating Activity Planned Start Planned Finish Expected Outcome Resource Implications	Maxine Booth No Friday January 13, 2023 Friday February 03, 2023 All documentation on the proposal was sent to Education Scotland for consideration and Education Scotland produced a report on the Educational aspects of the proposal. Feedback from Education Scotland has been incorporated into the final consultation report. Staff time.
Implementation	Lead Officer Repeating Activity Planned Start Planned Finish Expected Outcome Resource Implications	Maxine Booth No Tuesday August 22, 2023 Tuesday August 22, 2023 All pupils living within the Blackdog settlement will be newly rezoned to Balmedie School from August 2023. Staff Time and School Transport