

EDUCATION AND YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

PROPOSAL TO RELOCATE GARNOCK VALLEY EARLY YEARS CENTRE TO ST BRIDGET'S PRIMARY SCHOOL EARLY YEARS PROVISION IN KILBIRNIE

REPORT BY HEAD OF SERVICE (DIRECTORATE of EDUCATION AND YOUTH EMPLOYMENT)

This document has been issued by North Ayrshire Council for consultation in terms of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 (as amended)

**Proposed Relocation of Garnock Valley Early Years Centre, to
St Bridget's Primary School Early Years Provision**

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1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 North Ayrshire Council's Early Learning and Childcare Expansion Programme Board is responsible for delivering the Scottish Government's new Early Years Strategy to provide 1140 hours per annum of early learning and childcare (ELC) for all three and four year old and eligible two year old children, by 2020.
- 1.2 To ensure that North Ayrshire early years classes and centres are prepared for this expansion, a full review was undertaken of our early year's estate to identify what level of investment may be required to support the increase in operational hours.
- 1.3 This proposal relates to Garnock Valley Early Years Centre (GVEYC) and St Bridget's Primary Early Years Class, both located in Kilbirnie. GVEYC is a dedicated, standalone building located in the grounds of St Bridget's Primary School which provides ELC for up to 15 two to three year old, and 8 birth to two year old, children per session. St Bridget's Primary Early Years Class provides ELC for up to 40 three to five year old children per session.
- 1.4 The proposal is to relocate GVEYC to newly refurbished provision at St Bridget's Primary School Early Years Class. Its main aim is to establish a more inclusive ELC service that focuses on secure and seamless transitions for young children and is designed to facilitate delivery of an enhanced service model that reflects, and is responsive to, local needs.
- 1.5 Taking account of the Care Inspectorate publication 'Space to Grow' as a standard, the Directorate of Education and Youth Employment has identified the following key principles to be included, where possible, in the design of all our establishments;
 - Parents meeting and learning spaces;
 - Dining and general purpose spaces;
 - Nurture space;
 - Small break out areas to provide greater flexibility in the delivery of early learning and childcare;
 - Greater flexibility and variety of space and activities for children who could be accommodated within the service from 8am – 6pm; and
 - Provision for children to move freely between the internal learning environment and outdoor learning and social spaces.
- 1.6 In its current location, delivering 1140 hours at GVEYC will be challenging. The Centre has limited flexibility of space to enable the creation of a lunch provision, quiet room or nurture space. Only one of the two playrooms has free flow access to outdoor learning space. The move to a newly refurbished and remodelled provision would provide some of our most vulnerable children with the facilities to support smooth transitions through their early learning journey. St Bridget's Primary School Early Years Class and GVEYC are ranked in SIMD deciles¹ and 2 respectively, in the Scottish Indicator for Multiple Deprivation.

2. Strategic Context

2.1 Council Vision

The current North Ayrshire Council Plan sets out our key aims and ambitions over the five year period 2015-2020.

Our mission is 'to improve the lives of North Ayrshire people and develop stronger communities'. We aim to achieve this by being 'a leading organisation defined by excellent and innovative services'.

The Council's priorities to achieve this aim are outlined below:

- Growing our economy, increasing employment and regenerating towns;
- Working together to develop stronger communities;
- Ensuring people have the right skills for learning, life and work;
- Supporting all of our people to stay safe, healthy and active;
- Protecting and enhancing the environment for future generations.

Further information on the Council's priorities can be found on the Council's website at www.northayrshire.gov.uk

2.2 Education and Youth Employment Vision

North Ayrshire Council's Directorate of Education and Youth Employment aspires to deliver an education estate that is fit for 21st century learning and teaching, guided by Scottish Government's principles of estate management and the Space to Grow Guidance which include:

- the condition of the establishment and its ability to support and enhance the function of early years to accommodate the increase in hours;
- more suitable and inclusive establishments which are future proofed for flexibility and adaptability;
- establishments which are greener, more sustainable and environmentally efficient;
- establishments which best serve their communities;
- a well-managed estate which represents and delivers best value;
- establishments which both drive and support effective early learning and childcare; and
- establishments which provide children with relevant indoor and outdoor learning experiences

In considering capital investment and infrastructure plans, the Scottish Government assumes that effective early years expansion planning will take account of a sequential decision making process as follows:

1. Use what we have – make full use of existing assets;
2. Use what we purchase – enhancing the use of partner provision; and
3. Create what we need – including the use of outdoor nurseries.

A key part of the early learning and childcare expansion programme is to co-locate 2 year old provision with 3-5 year old provision, wherever possible, to support and facilitate children's transition through early years and into primary school. This

proposal enhances the opportunities for improved transitions as children move through their school career, offering clear pathways through early level to primary education.

2.3 Asset Management Strategy

The Local Government (Scotland) Act 2003 places a duty on Local Authorities to demonstrate best value in delivering their services and managing any assets they hold.

Typically, individual Councils hold assets worth many millions of pounds and it is in the interest of Councils and their residents that the most effective use of these assets is being made. This is achieved through the delivery of a Property Asset Management Plan (PAMP).

North Ayrshire Council's PAMP clearly outlines the priorities for the physical care and improvement of the Council's property portfolio and is intended to assist the Council in contributing to its key priorities.

The purpose of the PAMP is to support the delivery of our vision for North Ayrshire properties, providing a strategic framework to facilitate fit for purpose properties to ensure our property assets continue to play an active role in the delivery of our services. The PAMP sets out the Council's approach to the management of its property assets by:

- establishing a corporate framework for the management of all our property assets;
- highlighting our corporate outcomes and priorities and how they will be supported through the effective and efficient management of our property assets;
- presenting an overview of the extensive property assets owned by the Council;
- identifying the internal and external influencing factors and challenges affecting property;
- identifying a number of activity themes to improve the performance of property assets management; and
- outlining the investment we will make in our property assets over the next five years.

3. Background to Current Proposal

- 3.1 The expansion of funded early learning and childcare (ELC) places from 600 hours per annum to 1140 hours per annum for eligible 2 year olds and all 3 and 4 year olds by 2020, is an integral part of Scottish Government's drive to improve outcomes for all children. It is a flagship Scottish Government policy designed to reduce health and social inequality in later life and is linked to policies for school age children to close the poverty related attainment gap.

North Ayrshire Council's Directorate of Education and Youth Employment has a well-established programme of work to meet this additional requirement for ELC across the authority. The Directorate is committed to ensuring that this opportunity contributes to the fulfilment of its vision of enabling children and young people "to have the best start in life" and for "North Ayrshire to be the best place in Scotland to grow up"

Nationally, the Scottish Government recognises that the expansion in ELC to 1140 hours per year will require transformational change in how ELC is delivered. This will not just reflect the substantial increases in workforce and infrastructure investment, but also new and innovative models of delivery. Local authorities are fully engaged in the planning and delivery of the ELC programme at a national level with Scottish Government.

3.2 North Ayrshire Council's expansion programme prioritises high quality learning experiences for our children, recognising the significant contribution that universally accessible early learning and childcare can make to a child's development and to closing the attainment gap. High quality indoor and outdoor learning environments are a key part of this approach. In addition, as children will be spending more time in an early years setting, there is even more need to ensure the overall environment and facilities are:

- fit for purpose;
- of a high quality to support and inspire the learning experience;
- supporting positive outcomes and creating opportunities for children to have fun, learn and play;
- improving learning outcomes for children;
- positively supporting children to access indoor and outdoor learning opportunities which inspire curiosity, wonder and excitement; and
- welcoming places at the heart of our communities.

3.3 In an early learning and childcare setting, there are several transitions that we expect children to manage: from home to ELC provision; from person to person; from ELC provision to ELC provision; and eventually from ELC provision to primary school. It is essential that all of these transitions are managed sensitively, inclusively and positively. North Ayrshire Council is already focussed on this careful management of transitions and pays particular attention to the needs of eligible two year old children when they make the transition from home to an ELC setting and within the setting from two year old provision to three-five year old provision. Currently GVEYC will be the only establishment in North Ayrshire that provides ELC for two to three year olds exclusively in a standalone centre.

4. Pre-Consultation Stakeholder Engagement

4.1 The Council recognises both the importance of seeking the views of the communities and the valuable contribution that this collaborative approach has in establishing a comprehensive proposal. Working together from this early stage builds the foundation for positive joint working throughout the life of this initiative.

4.2 In August 2018, the Directorate of Education and Youth Employment embarked on a series of engagement events with parents, staff and community representatives. These events aimed to present the proposal to relocate the ELC provision within GVEYC to St Bridget's Primary Early Years Class, and to listen to and consider the views expressed in the development of this proposal.

4.3 A working group was established to consider and develop a robust plan to ensure that as many views as possible were heard prior to formulating the more detailed

proposal. This resulted in a pre-consultation stakeholder engagement plan being produced, attached at Appendix 1.

- 4.4 Whilst this stage in the process is not legally required, the Council wanted to engage with all interested parties at the early, formative stage of the process and hear as many views as possible prior to formulating more detailed proposals.
- 4.5 The first step in this joint approach was to issue an information letter to parents and staff in August 2018, providing early information on the proposal. A copy of the pre-consultation stakeholder plan was included with this letter along with an invitation to attend information sessions.
- 4.6 A series of information and engagement sessions took place, with parents, staff, parent council representatives, the local community council and health visitors. The sessions highlighted the importance of their contribution and explained the significance of their role in encouraging others to participate.
- 4.7 The early engagement process has helped to shape the best way forward for this proposal and ensure that we meet the needs and desires of the community.

5. Outcome of Pre-Consultation Stakeholder Engagement

- 5.1 The key themes emerging from the pre-consultation stakeholder engagement were:

Suitability of the proposed new facility at St Bridget's Primary School

Significant works are planned to improve and expand the learning environment at St Bridget's Primary School Early Years Class. This includes the provision of a dedicated entrance, creation of nurturing and parenting facilities and an enhanced outdoor learning environment. The programming of these works will ensure minimum disruption to the pupils attending St Bridget's Primary School and Early Years Class.

Support for parents

All the parenting classes and support provided at Garnock Valley Early Years Centre will continue to be delivered at St Bridget's Primary School Early Years Class. As a result of the planned works, these classes and support will take place in a dedicated parenting space designed with their needs in mind.

Loss of nursery based provision for birth – 2 year old children

The Council has previously taken a decision to direct all referrals for children aged birth to 2 years to its specialist Day Carer service. This is currently being phased in across the Council and will be fully implemented by August 2020.

Change of staff working arrangements

Discussions around staff working arrangements at the new location will take place as part of the transitional planning for the new facility.

St Bridget's Primary School denominational provision

Early learning and childcare provision is non-denominational across the authority.

Parking

Traffic management will be considered as part of the detailed design development process.

6. Current Service Provision Information

- 6.1 GVEYC is located within a dedicated, standalone building in the grounds of St Bridget's Primary School in Kilbirnie, see Appendix 2. It has the capacity to provide 600 hours of early learning and childcare (ELC) provision for 15 two to three year old children and 8 birth to two year old children. (Birth to two year old children are not eligible for funded ELC but are provided with an ELC service because they are vulnerable or are referred through the Named Person Service).
- 6.2 Currently 25 eligible two to three year old children attend GVEYC. This is split with 12 attending the morning session and 13 in the afternoon sessions and 1 child in the birth-2 room.
- 6.3 On 19 June 2018, Cabinet approved a proposal to cease provision of early learning and childcare for all children aged birth – two years in NAC Early Years Centres and direct all referrals to the Council's Day Carer service. This will mean that the number of children aged birth – two years attending GVEYC will gradually reduce until 2020 when there will be no children in this age group attending GVEYC.
- 6.4 The current facility and infrastructure within the GVEYC has limited flexibility to accommodate the demands of the expansion to 1140 hours. This includes the provision of lunch space, nurture space, and a quiet room. In addition there is free flow access to the outdoor space from one of the two playrooms. Some children have to be accompanied to a path that is adjacent to the car park area and escorted around the building to the rear garden and outdoor learning area.
- 6.5 The GVEYC Service is managed by a Head of Centre and Depute Head of Centre.
- 6.6 GVEYC provides a transport service for children who attend the Centre. This is a unique service in North Ayrshire and was developed as a response to the rural nature of the Garnock Valley. However, there is a need to review the continuation of this service as part of this proposal as the same rural and deprivation characteristics that exist in the Garnock valley, also exist in other localities of the authority which do not benefit from a transport service. Children currently attending St Bridget's Primary School Early Years Class do not receive this transport provision.

NAC does not provide transport for any other early years child unless the child has an additional support need, there is a request from the HSCP, or they live more than 5 miles from the nearest early years establishment (Arran only).

- 6.7 St Bridget's Primary School Early Year's Class exists within St Bridget's Primary School in Kilbirnie. It is located less than 50 yards from GVEYC. It has capacity to provide 600 hours of early learning and childcare provision for 40 three to five year olds per session. There is currently no two year old provision at St Bridget's. The ELC provision is managed by the Head Teacher of St Bridget's Primary School

7. Financial Information

- 7.1 North Ayrshire Council has secured funding from the Scottish Government to enable the implementation of the increased hours for early learning and childcare.

Feasibility visits were undertaken at each early years class and centre to determine the scope of capital works that may be required to ensure that our establishments are fit for purpose.

A scoping exercise was completed for the expansion of the early year's provision at St Bridget's Primary Early Years Class to include the two to three year old provision. An initial cost proposal suggests that the project would cost in the region of £639,000.

7.2 Revenue Costs

The revenue saving as a result of this proposal will be £200,818. This is made up of:

Staffing costs	£193,696
Operational costs (incl transport)	£7122

Appendix 4 provides a detailed breakdown of recurring costs and savings.

There has been no recurring savings applied in relation to building costs or income. This is because any potential saving would not be directly linked to Education and Youth Employment.

8. Proposal

- 8.1 In line with the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 (as amended), and as a result of early engagement with a wide range of interested parties, North Ayrshire Council, proposes that:

Education provision at Garnock Valley Early Years Centre will be discontinued with effect from June 2020. Children will relocate to a modernised and fit for purpose learning environment located at St Bridget's Primary School.

- 8.2 As part of the ELC expansion programme, North Ayrshire Council is planning to undertake a £639,000 refurbishment project at St Bridget's Primary School to enhance the current early years' provision. This refurbishment will provide suitable ancillary facilities to accommodate the expansion to 1140 hours from August 2020 which is not currently available at the school. This will include dining, nurture and parenting facilities. The outdoor learning area and children's toilets will also be enhanced and improved.

The £639,000 project has been developed in line with the Council's standard brief and 1140 hours key principles. Existing fittings would be stripped out for renewal and existing toilets relocated with direct access from the playroom to encourage independence of the children.

A small extension would be created within the facility for 3-5 year olds, to create a more open and bright playroom. A significant feature and improvement will be the creation of free flow access to the outdoor garden area direct from both playrooms, complete with covered canopy and external lighting. This free flow arrangement will allow the children to lead and develop their own play opportunities. A flexible lunch/GP space would be developed for children to receive meals and this will also

be utilised for general purpose activities and for parents groups. A dedicated parent's room will also be provided within the scope of the proposed plan.

Improvements are being considered for the entrance and cloaks areas and all fixtures and fittings would be renewed to give a modern, fresh and high quality facility. A quiet room would also be created between the 2 playrooms. This would be a shared space for each age group which would have the benefit of assisting with transition and shared activities between the two groups of children.

Consideration is being given to altering the existing fence line GVEYC and St Bridget's early years garden to allow the GVEYC garden to be retained by the new facility.

8.3 The co-location of two to three year old children within a whole early years community will provide:

- support for high quality transitions for our youngest children;
- an inclusive nurturing environment;
- links with other siblings already in the school;
- consistency of staffing;
- a familiar setting through all stages of their early learning and primary education;
 - improved outdoor learning opportunities;
- one point of contact for parents where there is more than one sibling attending early years or school provision; and
- inclusion in a larger early years community for parents.
- access to the whole St Bridget's Primary School community and facilities

9. Educational Benefits Statement

- 9.1 The newly refurbished and remodelled St Bridget's Primary Early Years Class will continue to be led by a dedicated Head Teacher, supported by an Early Years Manager and Senior Early Years Practitioner. The team will lead the development of a range of curricular pathways, that will maximise opportunities for attainment and achievement for all children from 2 years old.
- 9.2 The modern learning environment will fully support the guidelines contained within Birth to Three: Positive Outcomes for Scotland's Children and Families, Curriculum for Excellence and Building the Ambition.
- 9.3 Dining and social areas will be improved from current arrangements. This, along with the development of external areas to create stimulating and inspiring outdoor learning space, will encourage young children to socialise and improve their health and wellbeing.
- 9.4 The new learning environment will allow for greater movement of children and consequently better learning opportunities across all areas. This should result in a removal of barriers to accessing all curriculum areas as well as wider learning opportunities.
- 9.5 Outdoor learning areas will allow for free flow to all weather participation in activities. These improved outdoor areas will further promote opportunities for

outdoor learning to meet the needs as set out by the Scottish Government in 'Curriculum for Excellence through Outdoor Learning'.

- 9.6 This model will also support effective transition into the primary school stage and enable staff to share information to ensure progression in children's learning.
- 9.7 Professional collegiate collaboration for staff will be enhanced in this new expanded and refreshed setting, enabling a shared understanding and safeguarding of the range of children's needs, in particular in relation to Getting it Right for Every Child and child protection.
- 9.8 The proposed relocation will result in easier integrated working with support services such as educational psychology, learning support, health and social services. These specialist services will enable improved planning across sectors, and as a result will provide:
- better personalised planning for children with additional support needs; and
 - improved transition processes for children with additional support needs.

9.9 **What will be the impact on children and young people from any affected early years provision?**

Provision of a modern, fit for purpose learning environment will have a positive impact on all children and families attending the enhanced provision.

9.10 **Specific Benefits for the Children and Families**

Easing the transition between early years and primary stages will provide better outcomes for children at transition points. An inclusive environment that improves the participation of ELC in the life of the school, will enable enhanced opportunities for cross sectoral work with staff able to move between stages of education, facilitating continuous learning experiences for children. There will be improved opportunities for families and staff to work more closely together.

9.11 **How will the proposal impact on future children?**

The opportunity to build on the strengths of the St Bridget's Primary School Early Years Class and GVEYC will be realised through this proposal. A wider range of staff expertise, interest and skills in one enhanced learning environment will open the way for improved learning experiences for children in the short and long term.

Modern design specifications will be used to reduce revenue costs, for example, through energy efficiency. This will also free resources for the general benefit of children and young people in the Authority area.

9.12 **What is the community impact of the new early years provision?**

The co-location of the early years and primary education in this local area will enable families to come together to support and develop parenting skills, and help enrich the community.

9.13 **What is the impact on other children in the Council area?**

This proposal will not have any impact on other children in the Council area.

9.14 Are there any other likely effects of the proposal?

Families with primary or early years children will have all educational services concentrated in one area, for example easing problems of school transport or family emergencies.

9.15 How does the authority intend to minimise or avoid adverse effects that may arise from the proposal?

It will be essential to fully support the transition arrangements to the new ELC provision for all children and families involved. Should the proposal go ahead, during the transition phase to St Bridgets Primary School Early Years Class , a commitment will be undertaken to ensure that the full range of children's needs are addressed and that any disruption to their early learning and childcare is minimised. Care will be taken to ensure that all children, parents and staff are familiar with their new environment.

The two ELC establishments already work closely together and this will be further strengthened by ensuring the improvement planning process leads to a consistent approach to all aspects of ELC. In addition, a number of other measures will be put in place to support the proposal. These include:

- opportunities for children, parents and staff and parents to come together prior to any move;
- joint planning between staff on matters such as curriculum planning; and
- joint and team events;
- familiarisation visits to the new establishment by both parents and children to enable them to experience the new learning environment.

In supporting the move to St Bridget's Primary School Early Years Class, the Head Teacher and leadership team will be involved in visits to other similar sized establishments with two – five provision, to observe, learn and reflect on best practice.

10. The Proposed New Provision

10.1 The newly extended and refurbished facility would accommodate 40 three to five year olds and 14 two to three year old children.

10.2 It is proposed that the design should accommodate the existing numbers of children that attend early years across the two sites.

The design will signal to all users (children, parents and staff) that learning is a valued activity, and that the learning environment is a priority. It will be inspiring and invite exploration of the use of the environment and space in different and imaginative ways.

10.3 The extended facility would be staffed according to local and national policies and agreements in place at the time, which are designed to ensure that all duties and responsibilities of the early years provision are carried out.

The staffing levels will principally be determined by the number of children.

Transfer of staff would be managed in accordance with existing agreed Council policies and procedures.

- 10.4 The newly refurbished facility will be appropriately equipped with the facilities and resources to allow for the delivery of the teaching and learning of the early years curriculum.

Stakeholders will have the opportunity to be involved in the design of the new provision. It will be important that all users of the proposed facility have the opportunity to express their views.

- 10.5 A Transport Assessment will require to be undertaken as part of the planning process. Within this assessment predicted traffic flows to, from and around the school are assessed and where necessary mitigation measures are proposed to deal with and identify problems including congestion. Part of the focus will be to encourage walking / cycling and sustainable modes of travel. These will be encouraged as part of the project to reduce the numbers of children being dropped off and picked up by private car.
- 10.6 In line with North Ayrshire Councils policy, transport will only be provided for those early year's children that qualify under additional support need, there is a request from the HSCP, or they live more than 5 miles from the nearest early years establishment. Therefore, the existing transport arrangements will cease from August 2020 when the new facility at St. Bridget's becomes fully operational.
- 10.7 The use of the existing GVEY site, once vacated has still to be determined. It is likely that it would be used either by the Council or a third party for future development, for a purpose that complies with or is capable of complying with the requirements of the Local Development Plan. However consideration will be given to retaining the existing GVEYC garden space.

11. Statutory Public Consultation Process

- 11.1 This document has been issued by North Ayrshire Council for consultation in terms of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 (as amended).

11.2 What is a Statutory Public Consultation?

In Scotland, local authorities have a statutory duty to ensure the adequate and efficient provision of ELC in their area. If a local authority proposes to change any part of the existing education provision in its area, then it must engage in a formal consultation process under the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 (as amended). The act aims to ensure that all major changes which affect schools are subject to clear consultation with parents, children, young people and communities.

11.3 When does the statutory public consultation start?

The consultation will start on 23 January 2019 and run until 12 noon on 8 March 2019, which includes a period of 30 school days.

11.4 Who will have access to this proposal document?

This proposal document has been made available to all interested parties, including St Bridget's Parent Council, Education Scotland, Parents and Carers of children attending the establishment affected, Staff, Trade Unions and any other users of the establishments as detailed in the distribution list.

This proposal document is published on the Council website at www.northayrshire.gov.uk. Copies are also available at St Bridget's Primary School Early Years Class and Garnock Valley Early Years Centre, Education and Youth Employment HQ, local library, local community centres and health centres. If requested, copies can be made available in alternative formats or in translated form for readers whose first language is not English.

11.5 What if I notice an error in the document?

If any inaccuracy or omission is discovered in this proposal document, either by the Council or any person, the Council will determine if relevant information has been omitted or if there has been an inaccuracy.

The Council may then take appropriate action, which may include the issue of a correction notice, the reissuing of the proposal document or the revision of the timescale for the consultation period, if appropriate. In that event, relevant consultees and Education Scotland will be advised.

11.6 How will I get a chance to give my opinion?

You will be able to give your opinion on the proposal by:

- Completing an online response form at www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk;
- Submitting a paper copy of the response form, attached at Appendix 3;
- Writing to the Head of Service (Inclusion), Education and Youth Employment, North Ayrshire Council, Cunninghame House, Irvine, KA12 8EE; or
- Emailing educ_consultation@north-ayrshire.gov.uk.

All responses must be submitted by **no later than 12 noon on 8 March 2019**.

11.7 Will there be any information sessions for the public?

A formal public meeting will be held to discuss these proposals and will be advertised in local newspapers. Anyone wishing to attend the public meeting is invited to do so.

The meeting will be convened by North Ayrshire Council and will provide an opportunity to hear more about the proposal, ask questions and have your views recorded so that they can be taken into account as part of the consultation process.

The public meeting will be held as follows:

Venue	Date	Time
St Bridget's Primary School	Tuesday 5 February 2019	6.00pm

A note will be taken at the meeting of comments, questions and officer responses. The note will be published on the Council website and a copy will be made available on request. The note will also be forwarded to Education Scotland along with all other submissions and comments that are received by the Council during the consultation process.

11.8 Will any other agencies be involved in the process?

The Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 (as amended) requires that a report on the proposal is prepared by Education Scotland. Education Scotland may attend the public meeting.

Once the statutory public consultation period comes to an end, Education Scotland have three weeks to consider the educational aspects of the proposal and submit a report to the council.

Education Scotland receive copies of relevant papers from the council, including:

- a copy of the proposal paper;
- copies of the written representations or a summary of them (if Education Scotland agree);
- a note of oral representations made at the public meeting;
- any other related documentation.

Education Scotland visit schools as part of their consideration of the proposal and meet with children, staff and parents who may be affected by the proposal.

Upon receipt of the proposal document and other relevant documentation, Education Scotland will consider the educational aspects of the proposal. They will ensure that their report takes account of:

- the educational benefits statement;
- the representations received by the council;
- any further written representations made directly to Education Scotland on any educational aspect of the proposal which is considered relevant.

The consultation report that the Council publish following the statutory public consultation must include the report from Education Scotland in full.

11.9 Will the outcome of the consultation be made public?

The Head of Service (Education and Youth Employment) will prepare a report on the results of the consultative process. The report will take account of all Education Scotland recommendations. This report will be published in electronic and printed formats and will be advertised in local newspapers. It will be available on the Council website and from Council headquarters, affected schools, local libraries, local community centres and health centres. The report will include a record of the total number of written representations made during the consultation period, a summary of the written and oral representations, and the Council's response to recommendations made by Education Scotland. A copy of the Education Scotland report will be an appendix to the consultation report which will be published and available for further consideration for a period of 3 weeks ahead of presentation to Elected Members at Cabinet.

11.10 When will the Council make a decision on the outcome of the consultation?

The consultation report, together with any other relevant documentation, will be considered by Cabinet (Education) who will make a decision on the proposal in May 2019.

11.11 What happens next?

If the proposal is approved, the Council is required, in terms of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland Act) 2010 (as amended), to notify Scottish Ministers within 6 days of making that decision. The Council is also required to place a notice on its website of the decision and of the opportunity to make representations to Scottish Ministers.

Scottish Ministers then have a period of eight weeks following an authority's decision in which to decide to call-in the decision or not. The first three weeks of this period is to allow stakeholders to make representations either against or in support of the decision. Scottish Ministers then have a further five weeks to consider all documents and representations.

Until the Council has been notified of the outcome, the proposal cannot be implemented.

In accordance with legislation, should the proposal not be approved, the Council are restricted in their ability to reconsider it within a 5 year period.

DISTRIBUTION

A copy of this document is available on the North Ayrshire Council website:
www.northayrshire.gov.uk

A summary of this document will be provided to:

- Stakeholders associated with the early years centres/classes affected by the proposal, including:
 - Parents/Carers
 - Parent Councils
 - Headteachers
 - Teaching and Non-Teaching Staff, including facilities management
- Local Elected Members
- Member of Parliament
- Member of Scottish Parliament
- Education Scotland
- Chief Executive
- Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Support)
- Head of Service (Place) x 2
- Executive Director (Economy and Communities)
- Director, Health and Social Care Partnership
- Head of Democratic Services
- Community Planning Partnership Board
- Sub Division Commander, Police Scotland
- Area Commander, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
- Chief Executive, NHS Ayrshire and Arran
- Principal of Ayrshire College
- Community Councils
- Strathclyde Partnership for Transport
- East Ayrshire Council
- South Ayrshire Council
- Inverclyde Council
- Dumfries and Galloway Council

Trade Unions

- Unison
- EIS, Education Institute of Scotland
- NAS/UWT, National Union of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers
- T&GWU, Transport & General Workers' Union
- GMB
- UNITE
- VOICE

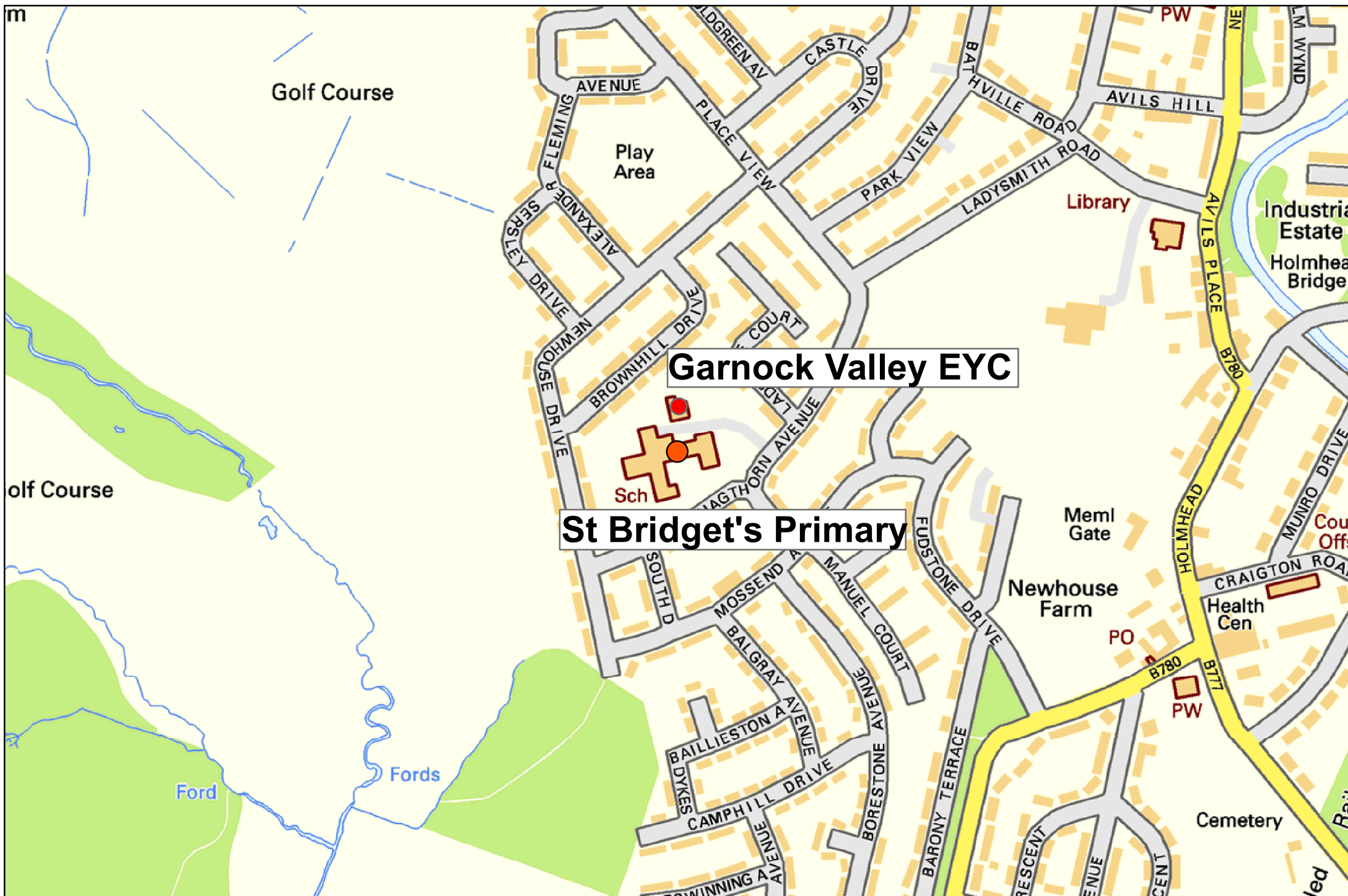
Copies of the Proposal Document will be made available to view at:

- St Bridget Primary School Early Years Class and Garnock Valley Early Years Centre
- Education and Youth Employment, Cunninghame House, Irvine
- Local Public Libraries, Community Centres and Health Centres

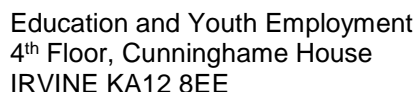
Adverts will be placed in local newspapers.

North Ayrshire Council
Education and Skills: Garnock Valley Early Years Centre
Pre-Consultation Stakeholder Engagement Plan

Stakeholder	Date Time Venue
GVEY Staff and St Bridget's Primary School Early Years Staff	3 September 2018 4.15pm St Bridget's Primary School
Parent Council	3 September 2018 2.30pm St Bridget's Primary School
Parents	25 September 2018 3.00pm St Bridget's Primary School
	1 November 2018 9.15am St Bridget's Primary School
Local Community Council	11 September 2018
Health Visitors	28 November 2018



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Appendix 3 PROPOSAL CONSULTATION

Garnock Valley Early Years Centre
St Bridget's Primary School Early Years Class

For convenience this form can be completed online at: www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk

It is proposed to relocate GVEYC to newly refurbished provision at St Bridget's Primary School Early Years Class. Its main aim is to establish a more inclusive Early Learning and Childcare service that focuses on secure and seamless transitions for young children and is designed to facilitate delivery of an enhanced service model that reflects, and is responsive to, local needs.

North Ayrshire Council, in line with our Data Protection responsibilities will only use the personal data provided for the sole purpose of evaluating your responses. The response submitted by you may form part of the response paper that will be submitted to the Council for consideration in the near future and will therefore be made available for public inspection.

Should you wish any of your personal details (e.g. name, address, phone number, etc.), which you have included in your response, to be included in our published responses it is necessary for us to obtain your consent. Please indicate this by ticking the box below.

☐

Further details how North Ayrshire manages your data can be found within our privacy Policy at the following website link. <https://www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk/privacy-policy.aspx> If you require a paper copy please contact Education and Youth Employment on 01294 324429.

MUST BE COMPLETED FOR A VALID RESPONSE	
Name (PRINTED)	Address Email Address:

Please confirm that you have read the full report by ticking this box ☐

Garnock Valley Early Years Centre Parent/Carer ☐ Staff ☐ Pupil ☐ Other ☐

St Bridget's Primary School Early Years Centre Parent/Carer ☐ Staff ☐ Pupil ☐ Other ☐

Other (please state)

Do you agree with the proposal? Yes ☐ No ☐ No Preference ☐

Please use this space for any additional comments

