

Report To: Education and Communities Committee

Date: 03 May 2016

Report By: Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development

Report No: EDUCOM/40/16/LW

Contact Officer: Linda Wilkie

Contact No: 01475 712812

Subject: Consultation on the Relocation of Glenbrae Children's Centre and Kelly St. Children's Centre

1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 This report provides Committee with information on the requirement to consult on the proposed relocation of Glenbrae Children's Centre and Kelly St. Children's Centre.

2.0 SUMMARY

2.1 As part of the school estates strategy Inverclyde Council is planning to relocate two Early Years' services.

2.2 It is proposed that Glenbrae Children's Centre is relocated into Inverclyde Council's property on Aberfoyle Road which currently houses Property Services.

2.3 It is proposed that Kelly St. Children's Centre be expanded and relocated into a new building on a site on a portion of the former Greenock Academy site.

2.4 Inverclyde Council has a statutory responsibility to consult on proposals to relocate educational establishments.

2.5 The consultation process would run from May to October 2016.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 It is recommended that the Committee:

- Note the content of this report.
- Agree that the consultation process can go ahead.

Wilma Bain
Corporate Director
Education, Communities & Organisational Development

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 As part of the school estates strategy Inverclyde Council is planning to relocate two Early Years' services:
1. Glenbrae Children's Centre to be relocated to refurbished accommodation within the same geographical area.
 2. Kelly St. Children's Centre to be relocated to a new build on a portion of the former Greenock Academy site and any issues affecting the ground conditions of that site will be fully resolved as part of this proposal. The Centre will also be expanded to include provision for children aged 2 – 3 years.
- 4.2 The current buildings have significant issues in terms of condition and suitability and in the case of Kelly Street there is no physical capacity to extend the provision within the current building / site. These issues were highlighted in the report on the acceleration of the School Estate Management Plan and Early Years' Estate proposals submitted to the January 2016 Committee.
- 4.3 Where a Council brings forward proposals to close or relocate an educational establishment there is a requirement to carry out a public consultation within the statutory framework defined by the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010.

5.0 CONSULTATION REQUIREMENTS

- 5.1 There are 5 phases to the consultation process that are relevant to this proposal. The Authority:
1. prepares a proposal paper which must include an educational benefit statement.
 2. publishes the proposal paper, advertises the fact and notifies Education Scotland and relevant consultees.
 3. consults on the proposal – for a minimum of six weeks including 30 school days.
 4. prepares and publishes a consultation report
 5. publishes its final decision
- 5.2 The following timeline is proposed:

Date	Action
16.05.16	Start of Public Consultation period (Advert). Publication of proposal paper
25.05.16 (TBC)	Public Meeting at 7pm in All Saints Primary School for Glenbrae Children's Centre.
26.05.16 (TBC)	Public Meeting at 7pm in St. Mary's Primary School for Kelly St. Children's Centre.
17.08.16	End of Public Consultation period
09.09.16	Summary of Consultation Information to HMIE / Education Scotland (3 week period)
October 2016	Publish consultation report
November 2016	Report to Committee
November 2016	Publish final decision

- 5.3 Schedule 2 of the 2010 Act identifies a core set of relevant consultees who should be consulted. This includes parents - present and future, staff, children and relevant trade unions.

6.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Financial Implications:

It is anticipated that the implications of this report will be met within existing resources.

One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report £000	Virement From	Other Comments
N/A		16/17	A small spend (not exceeding £2,000) is anticipated for the cost of advertising, lets for public events and a note taker.		Costs will be contained within education budget.

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact £000	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
N/A					

7.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 The process must be carried out with due regard to the legislation.

8.0 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 There are no personnel implications.

9.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

9.1 **Equalities**

Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out?

Yes

No

Individual projects consider DDA issues as part of the development of the detailed designs and Building Standards approval (where required). There are no equalities issues.

10.0 REPOPULATION

10.1 The regeneration works outlined in this report should contribute to retaining and increasing the population within the area.

11.0	BACKGROUND PAPERS	
11.1	Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, Statutory Guidance, May 2015	