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**To: Education and Children Policy Board**

**On: 21 January 2016**

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**Report by: Director of Children's Services**

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**Heading: Response to the proposal to relocate Bargarran Primary School and St John Bosco Primary School and Nursery Class to a new shared campus**

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## **1. Summary**

- 1.1 On 14 May 2015 the education and children policy board agreed to a formal consultation on the proposal to relocate Bargarran Primary School and St John Bosco Primary School and Nursery Class to a new build shared campus on the site of the existing schools.
  - 1.2 In accordance with the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, a formal consultation on the proposal was undertaken and a consultation document was prepared and issued simultaneously to parents and interested parties affected by the proposal.
  - 1.3 The consultation formally opened on 3 June 2015 and closed at 12 noon on 3 September 2015.
  - 1.4 The purpose of this report is to provide the education and children policy board with recommendations which recognise the issues raised and comments made in the course of the consultation exercise. A report on the issues raised and a consideration of these is included as appendix 1 to this document.
  - 1.5 Responses to the consultation were predominately positive and supportive and details of such responses are contained within appendix 1 to this report.
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## **2. Recommendations**

- 2.1. The education and children policy board is asked to:
  - note the issues raised through the formal consultation detailed in appendix 1;
  - note the comments made by Education Scotland in relation to the educational benefits of the proposal detailed in appendix 4;
  - approve the relocation of Bargarran Primary School and St John Bosco Primary School and Nursery Class to a new build shared campus on the site of the existing schools;

- approve the development of detailed project proposals, including project design, fully developed project costing, financial assessment and funding approach for the construction of the new campus; and
  - note that the new facility will be delivered by the Council's property services section, augmented by external consultants as required.
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### **3. Background**

- 3.1. As part of Renfrewshire Council's approach to school estate management a schools' project team, including officers from various council services, continually assesses the performance of the school estate.
  - 3.2. The project team identified that the condition and sufficiency of a number of primary schools and pre 5 centres present significant challenges for the Council at this time.
  - 3.3. A focussed review of the primary and pre 5 estates was therefore undertaken to inform the service's School Estate Management Plan (SEMP) which was approved by the education policy board in May 2014.
  - 3.4. As part of this ongoing development the education and children policy board agreed to a formal consultation on the proposal to relocate Bargarran Primary School and St John Bosco Primary School and Nursery Class to a new build shared campus on the site of the existing schools in May 2015.
  - 3.5. Elected members agreed a consultation document which was subsequently issued to parents and interested parties affected by the proposal. A copy of the consultation document is attached to this report as appendix 2.
  - 3.6. The consultation formally opened on 3 June 2015 and closed at 12 noon on 3 September 2015.
  - 3.7. Responses to the consultation were predominately positive and supportive and details of such responses are contained within appendix 1 to this report.
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### **4. Consultation**

- 4.1. Following agreement to consult on the proposal to relocate Bargarran Primary School and St John Bosco Primary School and Nursery Class to a new build shared campus on the site of the existing schools a consultation document was issued to parents and interested parties affected by the proposal.
- 4.2. The consultation document invited members of the public to respond to the proposal either through contributions to a public consultation meeting or by written submissions in hard copy or email to the director of children's services. Interested parties also had the opportunity to take part in the consultation through the Council's online survey.
- 4.3. A public meeting was held with parents and members of the public as part of the consultation process on 3 June 2015.
- 4.4. A presentation was made by officers from children's services. The presentation outlined the background to the proposal, highlighting the impact this would have on the school communities.
- 4.5. Those in attendance at the public meeting were invited to raise questions and notes of the questions asked, and the answers provided by children's services officers, were published on the Council's website.

- 4.6. A report on written responses received and comments made through the Council's online survey is attached as appendix 1 to this report.
- 4.7. 4 responses regarding equality discrimination concerns were received, the details of which are noted within appendix 1 to this report.

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## **5. Comments and observations arising from the consultation**

- 5.1. During the course of the consultation, questions were raised regarding how the council would progress this proposal. Appendix 1 to this document, "Response to the proposal to relocate Bargarran Primary School and St John Bosco Primary School and Nursery Class to a new shared campus" details the questions asked and the responses provided.
- 5.2. Education Scotland have been consulted on the proposal in accordance with the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010. The response received from Education Scotland was supportive of the Council's proposal and is attached to this document as appendix 4. A summary of this finding is noted below:
- 5.3. The proposal has clear educational benefits for children who may attend the shared campus in future. These include: improved transitions from nursery, the delivery of Curriculum for Excellence within modern, purpose-built, sustainable accommodation, and a rich digital learning environment with appropriate outdoor learning spaces. Children will potentially have access to increased learning opportunities and better socialisation across both schools. Traffic management and site security will be improved. It will also assist the council to deliver 'Best Value' and make efficient and effective use of its resources by addressing significant under-occupancy in each of the two primary schools concerned. Whilst the majority of stakeholders were overall supportive of the proposal, the lack of detail in terms of proposed design made it difficult for those consulted to give their full support. In its final consultation the council needs to clearly set out how it intends to engage with key stakeholders such as the Diocese of Paisley, parent representatives and teaching staff from both primary schools around the design development process. Also, the council needs to set out how it intends to address concerns raised during the consultation. In particular, it will need to clarify what arrangements it will put in place to retain the ethos and identity of each school and manage the shared facilities.
- 5.3.1. Renfrewshire Council welcomes the comments made by Education Scotland and will adopt the consultative approach successfully used to progress previous new build projects. This approach ensures that the design of the shared campus is informed by the views of all stakeholders.

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## **Implications of this report**

### **1. Financial Implications**

The total capital investment for this project is £15.967m.

The revenue implications of this proposal will be developed as the project progresses however, it is envisaged that all costs will be contained within existing revenue resources.

## **2. HR and Organisational Development Implications**

Community Resources will consider the deployment of their staff who currently operate over 2 facilities. Similarly, Corporate Business Support will determine the deployment of their staff as appropriate.

As the Janitors' houses at both schools will be demolished prior to the development of the new site community resources and development and housing services will liaise with the schools' Janitors to support them through the re-housing process.

## **3. Community Plan/Council Plan Implications**

Children and Young People	· An improved school environment supports learning and achievement.
Community Care, Health and Well-being	· An improved school environment supports health and wellbeing.
Greener	· Sustainable approaches to ensuring high quality assets will be developed.

## **4. Legal Implications**

This proposal adheres to the procedures required to take forward any proposal in terms of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010.

## **5. Property/Assets Implications**

This proposal aims to deliver a shared campus designed to provide sustainable accommodation that is fit for education in the 21st century.

## **6. Information Technology Implications**

None.

## **7. Equality and Human Rights Implications**

The Recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report however, 4 comments regarding equality discrimination concerns were received as part of the consultation; the details of which are noted within appendix 1 to this report. An equalities impact assessment is attached as appendix 3 to this report.

## **8. Health and Safety Implications**

None.

## **9. Procurement Implications**

The procurement model for the delivery of this project is being developed by corporate procurement and finance and resources. The new facility will be delivered by the Council's property services section, augmented by external consultants as required, and a main contractor will be appointed through a competitive tender process.

## **10. Risk Implications**

None.

**11. Privacy Impact**  
None.

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**List of Background Papers**

- (a) Background Paper 1: Consultation Proposal for the Development of the School Estate Management Plan (SEMP) 2013
- (b) Background Paper 2: Report on the consultation to develop the School Estate Management Plan (SEMP) and proposals to address the property challenges in the primary and pre 5 estate.
- (c) Background Paper 3: Proposal to consult on: The relocation of Bargarran and St John Bosco Primary Schools to a new build shared campus on the site of the existing Schools.

The foregoing background papers will be retained within ELS for inspection by the public for the prescribed period of four years from the date of the meeting. The contact officer within the service is Ian Thomson, education manager (resources). 0141 618 7241, [ian.thomson@renfrewshire.gov.uk](mailto:ian.thomson@renfrewshire.gov.uk)

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*Children's Services  
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## Response to the proposal to relocate Bargarran Primary School and St John Bosco Primary School and Nursery Class to a new shared campus

### 1. Consultation Process

- 1.1. Following agreement to consult on the proposal to relocate Bargarran Primary School and St John Bosco Primary School and Nursery Class to a new build shared campus on the site of the existing schools a consultation document was issued to all interested parties.
- 1.2. A consultation meeting was held with parents and members of the public and meetings were also held with staff from the affected schools.
- 1.3. The consultation formally opened on 3 June 2015 and closed at 12 noon on 3 September 2015.
- 1.4. Copies of the consultation document were issued to parents of every pupil in attendance at Bargarran Primary School and St John Bosco Primary School and Nursery Class and to all parent council groups. Copies of the document were also distributed to local libraries and a copy was placed on the Council website. An advert to notify the public of the consultation meeting was also placed in the local press. In addition the consultation document was issued to council officers, local elected members, MSPs and MPs for the Renfrewshire area and Education Scotland.
- 1.5. All formal responses submitted as part of the consultation exercise have been retained and can be viewed on request to the director of education and leisure services.

### 2. The Consultation

- 2.1. A number of written responses were received from interested parties registering their comments on the proposal. The following is a breakdown of written responses were received:

Category	Number of Responses	Type of Response
Parents	3	e-mailed questions.
Parents	75	on-line survey or questionnaire
Staff	5	on-line survey or questionnaire
Pupils	7	5 individual responses via the on-line survey and 2 written submissions from Bargarran and St John Bosco Primary Schools
Friend	6	on-line survey or questionnaire
Renfrewshire Resident	15	on-line survey or questionnaire
Church	1	View
Other	6	on-line survey or questionnaire



- 2.2. The public meeting was held in Bargarran Primary School on 3 June 2015 and was attended by 52 members of the public.
- 2.3. Arrangements were also made to consult directly with the staff of both schools.
- 2.4. A note of the public meeting was taken and can be obtained by request to the director of children's services and can be viewed on the Council website at [www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/haveyoursay](http://www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/haveyoursay)

### **3. Analysis of key issues raised during the consultation**

- 3.1. 115 responses were received.
- 3.2. 84 responses (73%) were supportive of the proposal and 31 (27%) responses were against.

### **4. Response to key issues raised during the consultation**

- 4.1. Questions, comments and responses from public consultation meeting

Q: What would the shared campus be known as?

R: Both establishments will maintain their independent identity with appropriate signage directing users of the building.

Q: What are the implications for Janitorial and administrative staff?

R: Community Resources and Finance and Resources are responsible for the deployment of janitorial and administrative staff respectively. These services will determine the numbers of staff required to support education in the new shared campus and this may be less than the current numbers operating over both sites. It should be noted however that Renfrewshire Council has a policy of no compulsory redundancy and therefore any staff not required within the new shared campus would be considered for redeployment to other locations.

Q: How will parents contribute to the design process?

R: The opinion of parents, pupils, staff and partner agencies is sought in a number of ways. All interested parties can contribute to the design process through the public consultation; highlighting concerns and observations either on-line or by writing directly to the Director of Children's Services. Thereafter school based focus groups become the vehicle for all parties to contribute to the design process via the head teachers of both schools. Head teachers will attend all focus groups as representatives of parents, pupils, staff and partner agencies.

Q: How will sharing work?

R: Sharing of spaces will only be considered where appropriate. This will be predominately in relation to pupil social spaces; dining; P.E.; administrative areas; and some shared resource areas.

Q: How will PE be delivered?

R: 2 hours of P.E. will be available to all pupils utilising 2 indoor P.E. spaces and an all weather outdoor pitch. Timetabling of these spaces will be managed collaboratively across both schools and the nursery class.

Q: What will teaching spaces look like?

R: Teaching spaces will be flexible, organised over 3 curricular areas. Previous design principles will be utilised to create spaces for independent, flexible



learning areas; “traditional” class spaces, orientated towards teaching walls; and easy access to outdoor learning spaces.

Q: How will disruption be managed?

R: Disruption management plans form an integral part of the programming process for any major development and the health and wellbeing of all service users is central to such plans. Every effort is made to identify any individuals who may be potentially adversely affected during the construction phase of a project in order that alternative arrangements can be considered in advance of any works to mitigate any risk to any individual or group. Traffic management schemes are also considered to ensure the movement of vehicles does not create any hazard and the construction site is fenced off from the operational school areas. Additionally, special attention is given to the management of impacts from noise and dust and the Council’s procurement procedures ensure that the contractor is mindful of the neighbours of the schools; requiring communication strategies that ensure neighbours are made aware of significant aspects of construction which may impact on them.

Q: Where will the new building be?

R: Approval to proceed with the proposal is required before detailed plans can be developed but initial feasibility studies show that the new building would be best accommodated to the rear of the existing establishments on the site of the current sports field and grassed areas.

Q: What evaluations have been conducted in relation to previous projects and are these papers in the public domain?

R: Renfrewshire Council operates a post occupancy review process which assesses the successes and failing of previous projects. Through established project management team liaison this data is used to improve arrangements for new projects on a “lessons learned” basis.

Q: What guarantee is there that parents will get what they ask for (in terms of input to design)?

R: Parental contribution is central to the consultative approach operated by Renfrewshire Council. This process requires assessment of suggestions, some of which can be accommodated and some of which cannot. Where any recommendation or suggestion is not taken forward justification for the decision will be made via the focus group model previously described.

Q: What are the implications for Bargarran Community Nursery building?

R: As the shared campus project is at a feasibility stage a full assessment of the impact on the Community Nursery will have to be undertaken.

Q: How will the Council ensure all users are safe during construction?

R: Disruption management plans form an integral part of the programming process for any major development and the health and wellbeing of all service users is central to such plans. Every effort is made to identify any individuals who may be potentially adversely affected during the construction phase of a project in order that alternative arrangements can be considered in advance of any works to mitigate any risk to any individual or group. Traffic management schemes are also considered to ensure the movement of vehicles does not create any hazard and the construction site is fenced off from the operational school areas. Additionally, special attention is given to the management of impacts from noise and dust and the Council’s

procurement procedures ensure that the contractor is mindful of the neighbours of the schools; requiring communication strategies that ensure neighbours are made aware of significant aspects of construction which may impact on them.

Q: What will the shared entrance look like and how will this space demonstrate the ethos, values and beliefs of both schools?

R: The design of all areas of the school will be sensitive to the ethos, values and beliefs of both schools. Head teachers will ensure that comments and contributions to this process are considered to ensure that the values of both school communities are reflected in public reception areas.

Q: What happens if there is a negative response to the proposal?

R: Officers are required to present a true and accurate reflection of the views of all interested parties to provide elected members with information to determine whether a proposal should be approved. If this report is negative, demonstrating that the communities are not supportive of the proposal, then elected members will not provide an approval to proceed and an alternative approach will have to be considered.

Q: How will asbestos be managed?

R: The health and wellbeing of all service users is central to the development of any building project. Specialist asbestos removal contractors will be used to remove any asbestos containing materials. This removal forms part of the demolition process which would be undertaken after all staff and pupils had transferred to the new building. Renfrewshire Council is very experienced in asbestos management and all council properties have an asbestos report which identifies any areas of the building which have asbestos containing materials.

Q: How is roll projection managed?

R: Renfrewshire Council has a roll projection model which considers housing developments, birth rates and previous trends. The projection model is informed by the Council's land register which identifies all housing development areas and it projects over a ten year basis.

Q: How will staff share facilities?

R: Staff will only share spaces where appropriate. Administrative and support staff for both schools will share a common space and the staffroom for all staff will be shared. Head teachers and individual school management teams will not share office spaces but staff development spaces will be shared.

Q: How will noise levels be managed for learners with hearing impairment?

R: As part of the design process the Council employs acousticians to support architects to manage general levels of noise and noise transfer. This support relates to the shape and size of spaces; appropriateness of loose furniture; use of technology; and selection of flooring. In addition the Council has a hearing impairment team which can be used to assess potential impacts on pupils with known support needs.

Q: How will learners contribute to the process?

R: Head teachers will conduct a survey of the pupil body to seek opinion and views. Pupil voice is central to school life and all pupils will be encouraged to have their say. The success of a new school project is based on the

satisfaction of the end users and to this end it is essential that all contributions to the design process are considered.

Q: How will traffic be managed on a tight site during construction?

R: Renfrewshire Council has had considerable experience and success in traffic management during construction of new and refurbished schools. With the health and wellbeing of all service users as our first priority the organisation of traffic flows will be managed around the school day. In basic terms, access to and from the construction site will be curtailed to ensure congestion is avoided in so far as it is possible to do so. The Council's project team will develop a traffic management strategy informed by both schools' travel plans which identify the flow of pupils to and from school.

Q: How will the Council achieve project completion within timescale?

R: The Council's project management team have considered the suggested timeline and on assessing the various project milestones which have to be reached they have provided a programme which demonstrates that we can achieve a phased delivery of the project commencing in the spring of 2018.

Q: What are the planning implications for the project?

R: Planning consent is required and the Council's standard approach will be followed.

Q: Can all activities be accommodated in the PE spaces (assemblies, religious observance etc.)?

R: All school activities will be accommodated within the new shared campus. A co-operative approach between both schools, with efficient timetabling of shared spaces, will allow for assemblies; religious observance; and any other whole school activities.

Q: What is the Council asking parents to respond to in relation to the consultation?

R: Parents are being asked to comment on whether they support the proposal to build a new shared campus.

Q: Will there be a fixed stage in the gym?

R: No, a portable stage provides greater flexibility for use of the gym space.

Q: What will happen between the end of the consultation and the board approval date? And what will happen thereafter if approval to proceed is given?

Activity	Date
Public consultation period ends 6 weeks after the date of the public meeting. The total period excludes any school holidays or in-service days.	3 September 2015
Report to Education Scotland on outcome of consultation.	by 17 September 2015
Response from Education Scotland on outcome of consultation.	by 8 October 2015
Publish Response (3 weeks before policy board)	21 December 2015
Consultation response report (including Education Scotland response) presented to education and	January 2016

#### 4.2. Questions, comments and responses from written submissions

Q: Are the council working from any form of plans of a new building at present? It was implied that there are no plans in place but I believe this is untrue?

R: Feasibility studies have been undertaken to establish if the new shared campus could be accommodated on the existing site of both schools while they remain operational. Renfrewshire Council adheres to the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 Statutory Guidance when progressing any new build project requiring a formal consultation and the consultative approach adopted by the Council was described at the public meeting held in Bargarran Primary School. Should this proposal be approved, it was explained that the head teacher would represent the interests of the staff, pupil and parent body on regular focus groups which consider design development. For reference, developed plans for the St Fergus' Primary School new build were made available at the public meeting to help parents understand the designed concepts which could be adapted, subject to approval to proceed, for a new shared campus for Bargarran and St John Bosco Primary Schools.

Q: Will there be provision for natural outdoor space akin to the 'nature path' already in existence at SJB or will outdoor space be of a outdoor exercise type? I know many of the children in SJB value the 'nature path' both as a wild play and as a teaching resource.

R: Outdoor learning; physical education; and social spaces are central to the design of new schools in Renfrewshire.

Q: Will the current green flag status of SJB be maintained by the environment of any new build? The children and staff have worked very hard to maintain this status and I believe Bargarran PS do not share the same amount of credits.

R: Yes. Eco spaces would also included in the design of the outdoor learning environment

Q: Will there be any chance of a separate entrance to the school to facilitate the faith welcome which currently exists? I have spoken to parents of children in joint faith campuses in Renfrewshire and beyond who state that joint office areas are 'clinical and sterile'. I believe as faith is central to our school, we should have this on display in every area of our school and not hidden round a corner. Furthermore to this, the gym hall in SJB is used for mass and has a crucifix present, would that be allowed to be a fixture as if not, there are serious issues in respecting and ensuring the dignity of children carrying out their faith?

R: Renfrewshire Council recognises the importance of respecting and reflecting the ethos and values of both establishments and the design of all areas of the campus will be sensitive to the ethos, values and beliefs of both schools. Head teachers will ensure that comments and contributions to this process are considered to ensure that the values of both school communities are reflected in public reception areas. In respect of religious observance within the shared campus it will be the responsibility of the head teacher of St John Bosco Primary School to ensure that when mass is celebrated in the gym it is a dignified experience for pupils which is in keeping with the values of the Catholic church.

- Q: I am very concerned about the plans to have three classes taught in one area. Currently at both schools, two classes are taught in one large class and my daughter repeatedly tells me what is happening in opposite area. There are not only issues with audio distraction but visual distraction and the amount of planning time by teachers to ensure they respect each others teaching styles. I would like to see concrete evidence of the educational benefit of this (not financial benefit) from a wider population and not just the opinion of some biased council employees.
- R: Renfrewshire Council has a mix of closed, semi open and open teaching environments which support learning across the authority. Quality assurance is central to the Council's improvement agenda for schools and inspections conducted by Education Scotland and the local authority do not highlight any educational detriment relating to the open or closed nature of learning spaces. The Council's project team is a professional body of officers experienced in design development for schools and its research is informed by national and international thinking in terms of modern flexible learning spaces. Evaluation of recently designed facilities is undertaken and best practice considered when determining the best design approach for our school buildings. The Scottish Futures Trust reference school also informs this process and key publication such as Smarter Scotland's "Building Excellence - Exploring the Implications of The Curriculum for Excellence for School Buildings"; the Scottish Governments "School Design: Optimising the Internal Environment Building Our Future: Scotland's School Estate"; and technical building bulletins are widely used as reference documents in respect of new build school projects.
- Additionally, no adverse reports have been received in relation to the experiences of learners or staff at the recently built St James' Primary School in Renfrew which was designed to provide modern and flexible open learning spaces. In relation to noise transfer and visual distraction the Council employs acousticians to support architects to manage general levels of noise and noise transfer and all staff at both schools are experienced and skilled practitioners who are familiar with the challenges and opportunities presented in an open learning environment.
- Q: I was personally disappointed that the turnout was fairly low for the meeting on Wednesday evening and that SJB was not represented by the diocese (hopefully this will be changing soon). I'm sure the parents of both schools are happy to be receiving a brand new school with new opportunities but this is not to be at the detriment of Catholic identity or at the loss of existing facilities. I have a daughter in P2 and a son who will be starting P1 in August 2018 and the school is central to our family.
- R: Every effort was made by the Council to publicise the event through a variety of methods. Letters were issued to parents; summary consultation documents were provided; a press release was issued; and the Council website was updated to advise of the upcoming event. The design of all areas of the shared campus will be sensitive to the ethos, values, beliefs and identity of both schools. Head teachers will ensure that comments and contributions to this process are considered to ensure that the values of both school communities are reflected in public reception areas.
- C: This is the best outcome for both schools based on the options that were previously offered - a new state of the art school that will provide the best educational start to the children at both schools. I am also for this proposal as it should secure the future of both the catholic and non-denominational



schools in this part of Erskine. If the status quo was never going to be an option, we should be working together as a community to make the most of the situation and embrace the change for the benefit of all the children in both schools.

- R: Maintaining the status quo does not deal with the challenges the Council faces in terms of overall sufficiency within the school estate. Addressing capacity issues across the school estate is central to Renfrewshire Council's School Estate Management Plan which is why the shared campus suggestion was proposed for communities to consider.
- C: I currently have two children attending St John Bosco Primary, and two children attending St John Bosco Nursery and I wanted to take this opportunity to add that while I am in favour of this proposal this is because it has been made clear that the status quo is not an option and that the maintenance of two separate campuses will not be supported. All the points and concerns that were raised by the Parent Council of St John Bosco and at the Focus groups are still valid and I hope that these will be considered sympathetically during this project.
- R: All comments made by interested parties through the consultation process are welcomed and considered. However, as stated previously maintaining the status quo does not deal with the challenges the Council faces in terms of overall sufficiency within the school estate.
- C: I also want to point out that this Consultation seems to have stirred up mixed emotions in (hopefully) a minority of people that leave me with a very bad taste in my mouth and make me feel extremely uncomfortable. I really hope that these individuals realise that in the long term this is the best outcome for the people who really matter - our children and their education - and that a RC school has just as much right to be there as the non-denominational school. Both schools have co-existed quite happily with a path separating them and I am sure they will continue to do so while sharing a roof!
- R: If approval to proceed is secured the head teachers of both schools will work with staff, parents and pupils to ensure a successful and respectful transition to the new shared campus.
- C: I am a parent of two children (P2 and P5) who attend Bargarran Primary School, Erskine and wish to convey my full support for the proposal to erect a new build shared campus for Bargarran / St John Bosco Primary School. Not only does it not make financial sense to have the operational costs of two schools literally next door to one another, but I believe Bargarran Primary is dated and not fit for purpose when compared to modern accommodation. I would welcome the opportunity for my now P2 child to reap the benefits of seeing her final primary years being educated in modern, new build accommodation. I would, however, like to express my concerns over the potential number of class rooms in an open plan base (3/4 was mentioned at the consultation meeting). Whilst I appreciate that modern accommodation is built with various sound proofing materials such as acoustic tiled ceilings etc, I still am of the view that any more than 2 classes to a base would be detrimental to the children's learning experience. In addition, with the growing number of children with additional support needs I believe a base of any more than 2 classes would be too noisy and prove to many distractions for most children, let alone those with additional support needs. I would respectfully urge the Council to consider this element should the proposal be approved.

- R: As stated previously, Renfrewshire Council has a mix of closed, semi open and open teaching environments which support learning across the authority. Quality assurance is central to the Council's improvement agenda for schools and inspections conducted by Education Scotland and the local authority do not highlight any educational detriment relating to the open or closed nature of learning spaces. In relation to noise transfer visual distraction and pupils with additional support needs the Council employs acousticians to support architects to manage general levels of noise and noise transfer and all staff at both schools are experienced and skilled practitioners who are familiar with the challenges and opportunities presented in an open learning environment.
- 4.3. Questions, comments and responses from the Council's online questionnaire which asked contributors to comment on why they were supportive or against the proposal.
- C: Very disruptive to all children from both schools. Education is very important and children will struggle to learn effectively in an environment that is unsettled with noise from building work surrounding them. As mother to children with additional needs, a quiet, comfortable learning space is essential for effective learning.
- R: Disruption management plans form an integral part of the programming process for any major development and the health and wellbeing of all service users is central to such plans. Every effort is made to identify any individuals who may be potentially adversely affected during the construction phase of a project in order that alternative arrangements can be considered in advance of any works to mitigate any risk to any individual or group. Additionally, special attention is given to the management of impacts from noise and dust.
- C: Seems unfair that this should have any effect on Bargarran Primary School as Both Catholic Schools in Erskine (St John Bosco and St Anne's) are running well under full capacity. The nursery roll should not be taken into consideration when counting numbers for St John Bosco. Join St Anne's and St John Bosco.
- R: At the last census date the occupancy level at Bargarran Primary School was slightly less than the occupancy level at St John Bosco; this assessment does not include nursery class numbers. Addressing capacity issues across the school estate is central to Renfrewshire Council's School Estate Management Plan which is why the shared campus suggestion was proposed for communities to consider. The amalgamation of St Anne's and St John Bosco Primary Schools was not presented as an option because Renfrewshire Council is committed to maintaining the current number of schools within its school estate (no school closures) and to providing education for pupils within their locale wherever this is possible.
- C: Not against this idea but my child will no longer be at primary when and if the campus is built. My son is the last of 3 children at primary school. He starts Park Mains August 2016.
- R: Arrangements have been made on previous projects for pupils to be invited back to the school to see the new building; this can be arranged if appropriate.
- C: Do have concerns about construction traffic getting to and from the site (small concern).
- R: Renfrewshire Council has had considerable experience and success in traffic management during construction of new and refurbished schools. With the health and wellbeing of all service users as our first priority the organisation of



traffic flows will be managed around the school day. In basic terms, access to and from the construction site will be curtailed to ensure congestion is avoided in so far as it is possible to do so, should approval to proceed be secured. The Council's project team will develop a traffic management strategy informed by both schools' travel plans which identify the flow of pupils to and from school.

- C: The school needs updated and a brand new build is the best proposal for all involved other than 2 entirely separate schools which doesn't seem to be an option.
- R: Maintaining 2 separate schools does not deal with the challenges the Council faces in terms of overall sufficiency within the school estate. Addressing capacity issues across the school estate is central to Renfrewshire Council's School Estate Management Plan which is why the shared campus suggestion was proposed for communities to consider.
- C: As an ex pupil of Bargarran Primary School, I think this is a terrible idea. It is the oldest school in Erskine and has such a great reputation. I feel that relocating to a shared campus will ruin some of the well earned reputation of the school and lead to problems in the future.
- R: While the Council acknowledges that the reputation of both schools is important to both communities it also recognises that these reputations have been built on relationships, interactions and the quality of education delivered from the buildings. Through a process of transition for the current pupil bodies, the history of both buildings and the experiences of past pupils can be celebrated through a wide range of educational activities involving all partners of the schools.
- C: Bargarran is currently non-denominational and merging with St John Bosco will change this.
- R: The non-denominational status of Bargarran Primary School would not change. If approval to proceed is secured the individual identity of both schools would be respected and maintained.
- C: All schools should be 'community schools' as opposed to having faith elements - whether this is Church Of Scotland, Roman Catholic, Baptist, Muslim, Sikh etc. By merging these two schools, perhaps St Anne's and Barsail Primary's should also be merged in a shared campus, and Trinity High merged with Renfrew High.
- R: Renfrewshire Council has agreed its SEMP and at this time there are no plans for further shared campuses.
- C: The disruption to pupils during works and concerns around how this will affect their schooling.
- R: Disruption management plans form an integral part of the programming process for any major development and the health and wellbeing of all service users is central to such plans. Every effort is made to identify any individuals who may be potentially adversely affected during the construction phase of a project in order that alternative arrangements can be considered in advance of any works to mitigate any risk to any individual or group. Additionally, special attention is given to the management of impacts from noise and dust.
- C: SJB has a growing intake of pupils and with the growth of Bishopton is likely to become more sustainable on its own.
- R: Roll projections for St John Bosco do suggest a potential increase in occupancy over time and the condition of the building is satisfactory, but beginning to show signs of deterioration. From the Council's perspective this proposal considers the net benefit of improving the environment to support the educational experience for children and young people attending both schools. Additionally, the Council must also consider the potential efficiency benefits

derived from reducing the number of property assets it has to maintain. By reducing the overall number of buildings the Council has the opportunity to investment further in the remaining school estate; ultimately benefiting all pupils in Renfrewshire.

- C: Disruption to children's education and housing them in portacabins should not be allowed.
- R: There would be no need to decant any classes to temporary accommodation.
- C: Children should not have to put up with noise, dirt and pollution caused during the building.
- R: Disruption management plans form an integral part of the programming process for any major development and the health and wellbeing of all service users is central to such plans. Every effort is made to identify any individuals who may be potentially adversely affected during the construction phase of a project in order that alternative arrangements can be considered in advance of any works to mitigate any risk to any individual or group. Additionally, special attention is given to the management of impacts from noise and dust.
- C: Both schools are in desperate need of modernisation, my only concern is that by putting a catholic school and a non denominational school in the same school but separate could actually further segregate all the children.
- R: At present there are already 2 shared campuses in Renfrewshire and none of the 4 establishments report any adverse effects on the emotional or physical well-being of pupils.
- C: Better outdoor space for school children and safer outdoor space.
- R: Outdoor learning; physical education; and social spaces are central to the design of new schools in Renfrewshire.
- C: My job, but most importantly my home, for past 15 years and you're going to pull down which I think is a disgrace when there are a shortage of council houses and the school is less prone to be vandalised when you have a janitor who lives on site and the money be better spent on other schools which are worse i.e. West, St Fillan's, Williamsburgh etc. Save money, keep repairs work in house and stop giving work to companies like CGC who don't complete work and cost the tax payer money. Re-address the boundaries for Rashielea, St Fillan's, Langbank, ect. Stop giving teaching staff retirement packages and classroom assistants redundancy packages of tax payers money and then they walk into another school a month later back as a class assistant. Shocking waste of money.
- R: Renfrewshire Council is sensitive to the impact this development would have in respect of Janitors' housing. Accordingly, community resources and development and housing services would liaise with the schools' Janitors to support them through the re-housing process should approval to proceed with the project be secured. In respect of vandalism to schools Renfrewshire Council has a mix of schools with an onsite Janitor and without and there is no evidence which demonstrates that levels of vandalism are necessarily affected by an onsite presence. Comments relating to procurement and personnel matters are noted but not pertinent to this consultation.
- C: I have let St John Bosco Primary for 20years the school building facilities and staff have been exemplary throughout the years. Request:- that the new building has a gym with wooden floor (dance studios in Park Mains concrete.
- R: All responses to the consultation will be considered through the design process.
- C: New building - both schools would benefit from a fresh new building inside and out as they look old and dingy.

- C: The staff and children work hard to keep the appearance of the inside looking good but the brickwork/roofing etc is weathered over time.
- C: Staffing - more support to the children through the whole school day instead of the office not being manned at breaks.
- C: Modernised school promoting better education and providing better facilities.
- C: As one of the most respected faith schools in the area it should be supported.
- C: Both schools require new builds rather than refurbishment.
- C: I believe it will encourage integration for both schools to share the one campus.
- C: A great opportunity to share resources and space.
- C: A great ecumenical opportunity.
- C: I am for but only if brand new school and not extension on one of the current schools.
- C: Would be good for community to have a brand new build school, like the high school.
- C: It's a better use of local resources.
- C: I support the proposal to have all the kids/friends together and to keep the costs down as only 1 school.
- C: The kids would get a new and better school.
- C: There would be better Resources for the kids.
- C: Good opportunity for children of all religious backgrounds and develop equality for everyone
- C: Better facilities for the school (so long as existing facilities are matched and respected!)
  
- C: I have concerns that introducing a shared campus will limit the future flexibility of building / ground redesign as it will subsequently have a potential impact on both schools and not one or the other. This will introduce an additional factor that will potentially block these future modifications.
- R: Renfrewshire Council believes that by future proofing its designs it allows for potential modification to both its new buildings and grounds. The design brief for all new schools recognises the need to consider the various factors that might impact on a new building's performance in the longer term. In respect of this proposal this means that future proofing the building and its grounds for potential increases in roll numbers is central to the design process.
- C: The recommendations come across as biased towards the shared campus and does not fully disclose the potential of single redevelopments for both schools. As such I don't feel I have all of the appropriate information to make an informed decision.
- R: Maintaining 2 separate schools does not deal with the challenges the Council faces in terms of overall sufficiency within the school estate. Addressing capacity issues across the school estate is central to Renfrewshire Council's School Estate Management Plan which is why the shared campus suggestion was proposed for communities to consider. The Council's project team is a professional body of officers experienced in design development for schools and the rationale for a shared campus is articulated in the report to the education and children policy board "Proposal to consult on: The relocation of Bargarran and St John Bosco Primary Schools to a new build shared campus on the site of the existing Schools". In this document the Council highlights the educational benefits of a shared campus approach and states that there are financial and operational benefits derived through property asset reduction which provides best value for the Council.

- C: I work for Inverclyde Council where we have created a shared campus for two high schools, this shared space allows for much greater access to resources and teaching spaces under a controlled safe environment at a much reduced cost. secondly the pupils from both schools already socialise out with school, I have found the people with the greatest objections are the parents.
- C: The house that I live in being demolished when it is not interfering with the new school at a time when social housing is scarce. The impact it will have on jobs for people who work in both schools because there will be cuts. The rating of the buildings are B but in Bargarran's case there would be more pupils in the school if the catchment area boundary was changed so kids in houses across the road went to the school nearest them.
- R: Renfrewshire Council is sensitive to the impact this development would have in respect of Janitors' housing. Accordingly, community resources and development and housing services would liaise with the schools' Janitors to support them through the re-housing process should approval to proceed with the project be secured. It has been identified that the demolition of both Janitors' houses is essential to the development of the new school design and the catchment areas for non-denominational schools in Erskine have not been identified as being problematic through the Council's school estate management plan (SEMP).
- C: There are several school buildings in Paisley that are not even close to being in as good condition as the buildings that are to be demolished and I think this is only being done so that you can then sell-off the land for PRIVATE HOUSING. Unless maybe a deal has already been done. Also to have big open teaching spaces divided by moveable partitions just does not work just cheap option.
- R: Renfrewshire Council considers 3 core facts in relation to the development of its SEMP. The process of review identified that the existing school buildings were not performing well for the school communities as they were too big and while the condition of both buildings was "B" satisfactory, it was felt that both were beginning to show signs of deterioration which would put pressure on future lifecycle maintenance budgets. If the total area of the combined school sites is greater than required then the surplus area would be referred to the director of development and housing services for further consideration and to be disposed of if it is not required for council purposes. Renfrewshire Council has not identified surplus land at this time and no deals, in terms of new housing, have been entered into. In respect of flexible learning spaces Renfrewshire Council has a mix of closed, semi open and open teaching environments which support learning across the authority. Quality assurance is central to the Council's improvement agenda for schools and inspections conducted by Education Scotland and the local authority do not highlight any educational detriment relating to the open or closed nature of learning spaces. The Council's project team is a professional body of officers experienced in design development for schools and its research is informed by national and international thinking in terms of modern flexible learning spaces. Evaluation of recently designed facilities is undertaken and best practice considered when determining the best design approach for our school buildings.
- C: Better facilities.
- C: Community spirit.
- C: A new modern school would serve the needs of all the children. It would be a vital consideration that the Catholic ethos of St John Bosco School would not



- in any way be compromised. That the children would continue to have their space e.g. play areas that religious statues etc would be tolerated without question.
- R: The catholic identity of St John Bosco Primary School would not be compromised by this proposal.
- C: Children get a sense of unity with the other school children i.e. Bargarran and they learn and are encouraged to embrace culture and ethos of each school.
- C: There must be a head teacher for each school name.
- R: School management arrangements are not affected by this proposal; each establishment would continue to have its own head teacher.
- C: RE shall continue as per usual within a catholic (RC) School.
- R: The delivery of the RE curriculum would not be affected by this proposal.
- C: New school needed - progress must be made but not at the expense of what we as catholic hold dear. The ethos of catholic education is ours by right. We must retain that right to be independent within campus.
- R: The catholic identity of St John Bosco Primary School would not be compromised by this proposal.
- C: The opportunity to share will be a new and challenging enterprise which I believe will benefit all.
- C: In favour of shared premises but if this is to happen I have to insist that the ethos and present practises that the Catholic school has continues. Statutory Right we choose to send child to a catholic education with the view that this will encompass a whole child's education.
- R: The catholic identity of St John Bosco Primary School would not be compromised by this proposal.
- C: Staff who work in catholic schools also are approved by the RC Church this cannot be guaranteed for future education of our children.
- R: The status of St John Bosco Primary School would not be affected by this proposal; church approval arrangements would not change as a result of this proposal.
- C: Fear for the dilution of Catholic Ethos. (do not want shared spaces, e.g. dinner hall, play ground, gym hall, foyer etc) (do not want Bargarran staff supervise St John Bosco pupils in shared spaces).
- R: The catholic identity of St John Bosco Primary School would not be compromised by this proposal. Sharing spaces where appropriate is vital to the success of a shared campus. Managing the pupil body is the responsibility of the individual school.
- C: Major concern over design of classrooms. (more detail given in full response enclosed).
- R: Renfrewshire Council has a mix of closed, semi open and open teaching environments which support learning across the authority. Quality assurance is central to the Council's improvement agenda for schools and inspections conducted by Education Scotland and the local authority do not highlight any educational detriment relating to the open or closed nature of learning spaces. The Council's project team is experienced in design development for schools and its research is informed by national and international thinking in terms of modern flexible learning spaces. Evaluation of recently designed facilities is undertaken and best practice considered when determining the best design approach for our school buildings. The Scottish Futures Trust reference

school also informs this process and key publication such as Smarter Scotland's "Building Excellence - Exploring the Implications of The Curriculum for Excellence for School Buildings"; the Scottish Governments "School Design: Optimising the Internal Environment Building Our Future: Scotland's School Estate"; and technical building bulletins are widely used as reference documents in respect of new build school projects.

Additionally, no adverse reports have been received in relation to the experiences of learners or staff at the recently built St James' Primary School in Renfrew which was designed to provide modern and flexible open learning spaces.

C: Better facilities for the children.

C: Think the campus is a great idea as its more modern also better opportunities for teachers and children.

C: I understand in the current economic climate that there are strong arguments to reduce cost in the provision of schools in Renfrewshire which will be addressed by adopting a shared campus. As a Catholic grandparent in the parish of Our Lady of Lourdes Bishopton I urge you to ensure that the created build will allow for the continued teaching of gospel values in daily teaching practice. This is paramount and secular interests must not be allowed to dilute this by restricting practices which are common across all Catholic schools.

R: The catholic identity of St John Bosco Primary School would not be compromised by this proposal.

C: I believe there are opportunities for the Communities associated with St John Bosco and Bargarran to understand and mutually respect the values and differences expressed by these communities. I am hopeful that relationships will improve particularly in "this part of the world".

C: As long as religious freedom is not diluted and we are able to practise our catholic faith and it's not hidden away down a corridor so not to offend.

R: The catholic identity of St John Bosco Primary School would not be compromised by this proposal.

C: If we have a separate gym hall and dining hall to accommodate masses, P.E times, hymn practise. To be able to display holy pictures and statue and not hidden away.

R: The catholic identity of St John Bosco Primary School would not be compromised by this proposal. However, if this proposal is approved, there will be areas of the campus which will be shared by both schools; where it is appropriate and beneficial to do so.

C: Children in at a early age should get to know each other regarding what religion they are. But I hope Renfrew council treat all children with respect when building this new school.

R: Renfrewshire Council is respectful of all communities and this will be reflected in the design development of the shared campus should the proposal be approved.

C: I would not like to see separate play-grounds but what I would like is for this to be monitored closely.

R: The head teachers of both schools would monitor the operation of both the internal and external spaces to ensure the wellbeing of both school communities.

- C: Less segregation among different religious educations but concerned uphold catholic education and ethos of current St John Bosco.
- R: The catholic identity of St John Bosco Primary School would not be compromised by this proposal.
- C: Very important different classrooms so catholic education of the pupils is upheld.
- R: The design of the shared campus will allocate the relevant number of classrooms to each school; classrooms will not be shared. The catholic identity of St John Bosco Primary School would not be compromised by this proposal.
- C: New campus, adequate provisions for all children and staff.
- R: The design development of the new building would reflect input from relevant parties and accommodate the full provisions for curricular and extra-curricular activity.
- C: Security fencing. Also feel that no matter the response from parents the merge will go ahead.
- R: The campus would be secured by a perimeter fence. The proposal does not aim to merge schools; both establishments would maintain their individual identity in a single building and the proposal would only be taken forward if elected members approved it.
- C: I do not want any disruption to my child's education
- R: The disruption to learning would be managed through a disruption management plan as previously described. This plan would be informed by head teachers to minimise the effects of major construction adjacent to the school building.
- C: Unnecessary change.
- R: Renfrewshire Council believes the change is necessary. This opinion is laid out in the consultation document.
- C: The residents of Erskine appear to be a harmonious community and whether the campus is shared or not I don't feel will impact on the kids friendships or social interaction. It's important for each school to have their individual identity and will this happen with a shared campus.
- R: The individual identities of both schools would not be compromised by this proposal.
- C: Is this purely a financial decision or are the children and teachers at the heart of this proposal. I'm unsure!
- R: Renfrewshire Council believes there are educational benefits to this proposal and longer term financial efficiencies. This opinion is laid out in the consultation document.
- C: Modernising facilities.
- C: Both Schools in need of modernisation.
- C: Will be good for children to starting playing together between the two schools. I think the original school building is old and would benefit from being modernised and more up to date.
- C: I have a concern against the new build I would like to be assured my son still receives full catholic education. I would also like to know is my son still going to be taught by staff and teachers from St John Bosco. All staff and teachers have had a positive effect on my son and I wish this to continue.
- R: The catholic identity of St John Bosco Primary School would not be compromised by this proposal and any pupils attending St John Bosco Primary School would be taught by a teacher from that school.



- C: That the school provides adequate provision for both schools - gym halls, dining area and most importantly classrooms.
- R: The design development of the new building would reflect input from relevant parties and accommodate the full range of provisions for curricular and extra-curricular activity.
- C: That the identity of each school remains prominent and that the catholic ethos of SJB remains intact.
- R: The catholic identity of St John Bosco Primary School would not be compromised by this proposal.
- C: Stamp out any bigotry which exists.
- C: Providing adequate provision for both schools - gym hall, dining hall, solid classroom space (walls) and taking into consideration the catholic ethos of presentation of religious artefacts within appropriate spaces.
- R: The design development of the new building would reflect input from relevant parties and accommodate the full range of provisions for curricular and extra-curricular activity. The catholic identity of St John Bosco Primary School would not be compromised by this proposal.
- C: Providing the school role / number of classes / class sizes are accommodated for and space is adaptable depending on role size. St John Bosco is a small school with a strong identity and is important to keep and maintain.
- R: The shared campus would be designed in line with Scottish Government guidance and roll projections for both schools.
- C: Sectarianism will never change, would love to see it happen but you always have the problems. Then the schools have to deal with the bullying issues. We see it on the school bus and they are segregated.
- R: If approval to proceed is secured the head teachers of both schools will work with staff, parents and pupils to ensure a successful and respectful transition to the new shared campus utilising the existing school policies to deter sectarianism and bullying.
- C: The facilities is not going to be big enough i.e. gym hall, assembly, mixing with dinner times. Although 2 school together still segregating the kids. If going to do it mix all pupils, why not combine 2 x St schools and 2 other schools and lay on transport.
- R: The proposal being consulted on is designed to accommodate 2 schools with individual identities in a single building. It is not the intention of Renfrewshire Council to create 1 school.
- C: Good for children to integrate with the other school, even if it is just a case of being in the same building. Discourages segregation - at least better than the two school being entirely separate, building etal, as the case now.
- C: Both schools are pretty old and ugly. A new build might make the area (Bargarran) a nicer place to spend any time. Considering with the 're-vamp' of the Bargarran 'shopping centre'.
- C: My son attends a catholic school as I want him to grow up with a catholic ethos, as I had, as it teaches children valuable and essential life lessons. In a shared campus this catholic ethos would not surround the children with the same emphasis as it would be an impossibility in a shared campus.
- R: The catholic identity of St John Bosco Primary School would not be compromised by this proposal. Shared campus' already exist and operate well within Renfrewshire with no adverse impact recorded on the denominational ethos of any of the schools involved.

- C: On a shared campus there will be conflict between children from either denomination with name calling bullying etc. The children in catholic schools will be ridiculed if they are attending Mass for example, and this will impact on the children's learning and cause tension.
- R: If approval to proceed is secured the head teachers of both schools will work with staff, parents and pupils to ensure a successful and respectful transition to the new shared campus.
- C: New building / playground area.
- C: Better teaching conditions.
- C: So long as POD classes are not included. Councillors emphasised value of noise proofing I counter that for my child and many others visual distraction would be detrimental to education.
- R: Pupils will not be located in modular buildings and the internal environment will be designed in a way which is conducive to learning for all pupils.
- C: So long as St John Bosco and Bargarran can maintain separate entrances to ensure catholic ethos of SJB is not diluted. Entering SJB and viewing religious statues etc is central to the caring and faith elements of our education.
- R: The catholic identity of St John Bosco Primary School would not be compromised by this proposal.
- C: There might be more bullying than there is currently!
- R: If approval to proceed is secured the head teachers of both schools will work with staff, parents and pupils to ensure a successful and respectful transition to the new shared campus utilising the existing school policies to deter bullying.
- C: Shared campus will result in better, newer facilities for our children until shared opportunities within both schools.
- C: More economical, reduction in staff.
- R: It is envisaged that a shared campus would be more efficient than the current arrangement. With regard to staff reductions it should be noted that the Council has a policy of no compulsory redundancy for permanent employees which would allow for negotiated re-deployment where appropriate.
- C: Concerned that catholic ethos will not be given a high priority for the shared campus.
- R: The catholic identity of St John Bosco Primary School would not be compromised by this proposal.
- C: Concerned child's education will be affected considering the amount of ICT, Library currently gets, will this remain?
- R: The delivery of the curriculum will not be affected by this proposal. The Council's project team is experienced in design development for schools and its research is informed by national and international thinking in terms of modern flexible learning spaces which will be carefully considered to support all types of learning.
- C: Adequate facilities like gym halls, dinning spaces, stages etc. How will there be sufficient to satisfy both schools? Our role size at SJB is growing year on year. How will this demand be satisfied with class sizes and classroom design to retain our school identity?
- R: The design development of the new building would reflect input from relevant parties and accommodate the full range of provisions for curricular and extra-

- curricular activity. Subject to approval to proceed, the building will be designed to ensure it accommodates the current and future rolls of both schools and the catholic identity of St John Bosco Primary School would not be compromised by this proposal.
- C: Catholic Ethos. The choice of a faith school is a personal family decision. How will this be respected and reserved at entrance areas and shared spaces within the school.
- R: The design of all areas of the school will be sensitive to the ethos, values and beliefs of both schools. Head teachers will ensure that comments and contributions to this process are considered to ensure that the values of both school communities are reflected in public reception areas and shared spaces.
- C: Only voting 'for' if the council take the following into consideration. 1) Religious identity in tact in entrances, 2) Boundary fences, 3) thought to enclosed classrooms.
- R: The catholic identity of St John Bosco Primary School would not be compromised by this proposal; a perimeter fence will secure the campus; and Renfrewshire Council has a mix of closed, semi open and open teaching environments which support learning across the authority. Quality assurance is central to the Council's improvement agenda for schools and inspections conducted by Education Scotland and the local authority do not highlight any educational detriment relating to the open or closed nature of learning spaces.
- C: I would expect parents to be involved in focus groups throughout all phases particularly "Design".
- R: Parental contribution is central to the consultative approach operated by Renfrewshire Council. This process requires assessment of suggestions, some of which can be accommodated and some of which cannot. Where any recommendation or suggestion is not taken forward justification for the decision will be made via the focus group model previously described.
- C: Why change a school that works to a very high standard and cares about each individual pupil and all the kids are like extended family to each other.
- R: Renfrewshire Council believes the change is necessary. This opinion is laid out in the consultation document.
- C: I am in favour but do have concerns regarding the design of classrooms and the loss of facilities e.g. an ICT suite and shared gym hall. It should not be that a new school offers less than the original one. With new housing being built will the new school be equipped to cope and still offer the same high standard?
- R: The Council's project team is experienced in design development for schools and its research is informed by national and international thinking in terms of modern flexible learning spaces. Evaluation of recently designed facilities is undertaken and best practice considered when determining the best design approach for our school buildings. Additionally the Council considers potential increases in school rolls through its projection model and therefore would build the shared campus to accommodate any potential roll increase.
- C: I am for the proposals of the new shared campus but only if Renfrewshire Council is able to guarantee the ability of St. John Bosco to provide a Catholic education permeating every aspect of the pupils' school day, as it does at present. It is important that the capacity of the new build St. John Bosco takes into account the growing Catholic population from the new housing developments in Bishopton, both at present and in the future.

- R: The catholic identity of St John Bosco Primary School would not be compromised by this proposal and the shared campus will be built to accommodate future increases in the school rolls.
- C: Provision of enhanced educational facilities for children.
- C: Provision of enhanced resource for community. However this vote in favour for the proposal is subject to a number of provisos including: Provision for the maintenance of the distinctive Catholic ethos of St John Bosco Primary school; Sufficient provision of ICT facilities in an ICT suite standing the importance of these skills in terms of learning, life and work; Provision of gym hall for the school -timetabling issues arising from a shared gym may impact significantly on the delivery of HWB/PE experiences; Self contained classrooms rather than shared bays, or at the very most no more than 2 classes per teaching bay.
- R: The Council's project team is a professional body of officers experienced in design development for schools and its research is informed by national and international thinking in terms of modern flexible learning spaces. Evaluation of recently designed facilities is undertaken and best practice considered when determining the best design approach for our school buildings. Renfrewshire Council has a mix of closed, semi open and open teaching environments which support learning across the authority. Quality assurance is central to the Council's improvement agenda for schools and inspections conducted by Education Scotland and the local authority do not highlight any educational detriment relating to the open or closed nature of learning spaces. The Scottish Futures Trust reference school informs the design process and key publication such as Smarter Scotland's "Building Excellence - Exploring the Implications of The Curriculum for Excellence for School Buildings"; the Scottish Governments "School Design: Optimising the Internal Environment Building Our Future: Scotland's School Estate"; and technical building bulletins are widely used as reference documents in respect of new build school projects.
- C: The current school's building fabric and services are not sustainable long term and a new build would create a more sustainable building and learning environment.
- C: There is effectively a shared campus at present and the new build proposals take forward an opportunity to maximise resources whilst retaining each school's individual identity. It should be noted however that I have concerns about the design capacity of the building, especially the St John Bosco element whereby the estimation of role from the ongoing new housing development at Dargavel in Bishopton will swell numbers.
- R: Subject to approval to proceed, the shared campus will be designed in line with Scottish Government guidance and built to accommodate future increases in the school rolls.
- C: Given that St John Bosco has proved to be a good performing school with an increasing role and my direct experience in being involved in the North Lanarkshire schools programme whereby a number of popular new build schools had to have further extensions built to them due to popularity and non-faith children not accounted for, using the exact same calculation model as Renfrewshire are using, led to over capacity at the denominational school I

- am concerned that a very conservative estimate has been made regarding building capacity.
- R: The above point is acknowledged. Renfrewshire Council's model for roll projection has been used to determine future rolls for both establishments. Subject to approval to proceed, the design of the new shared campus will be informed by this data and the requirement for future expansion (if required) will be considered in terms of site provision.
- C: Unless a new build primary school is built fairly shortly at Dargavel or Bishopton Primary extended, the parents there may consider sending non-denominational children to the denominational school in the catchment area (i.e. St John Bosco) rather than send them to a burgeoning and decaying building at Bishopton Primary. This is human nature and has been evidenced in similar situations in other local authority areas. Parents will not hang about regarding their children's education and I am worried that the success of the proposed new campus may create its own set of new capacity problems.
- R: Renfrewshire Council is involved in negotiations concerning the Dargavel development and the educational provision therein. The potential impact described above is central to these negotiations and the urgency required to advance this development is acknowledged.
- C: Enough space for PE and ICT for the children
- R: The design development of the new building would reflect input from relevant parties and accommodate the full range of provisions for curricular and extra-curricular activity.
- C: Plenty of outdoor space for outdoor learning
- R: The design development of the new building would reflect input from relevant parties and accommodate the full range of provisions for curricular and extra-curricular activity.
- C: I have just moved my child out of Bargarran Primary.
- C: Why fix what's not broken. Both schools have been there for as long as I can remember!
- R: Renfrewshire Council believes the change is necessary. This opinion is laid out in the consultation document.
- C: A new school is needed.
- C: As long as catholic ethos is maintained, is a good thing.
- R: The catholic identity of St John Bosco Primary School would not be compromised by this proposal.
- C: RC children should be taught in a RC environment.
- R: The catholic identity of St John Bosco Primary School would not be compromised by this proposal.
- C: Up to date, modern school building while still protecting individual school identity - no concerns with a joint playground.
- C: Assurances that the catholic ethos will not be lost - continued encouragement of children's religious studies within school.
- R: The catholic identity of St John Bosco Primary School would not be compromised by this proposal.



- C: The feelings of the school (St John Bosco) will change.
- R: The catholic identity of St John Bosco Primary School would not be compromised by this proposal.
- C: The nature path will be lost.
- R: Outdoor learning will be central to the design development of the new shared campus.
- C: New school is needed.
- C: I feel as long as the catholic ethos is maintained it is a good move.
- R: The catholic identity of St John Bosco Primary School would not be compromised by this proposal.
- C: Need for new facilities.
- C: Preservation of catholic ethos. I want my children to be taught in an environment fit for 21st century rather than the school building's current state. I am for a new build shared campus reluctantly; I would prefer there to be a new build stand alone school. I am concerned that in the long term, shared campus buildings could dilute denominational schools. To this end, as we have been reassured at the meeting on 3rd June, as each school will keep its own identity and only share a building, I would want a separate entrances with own foyers so that Catholic symbols, statues, Crucifixes, pictures of Saints, Popes and religious can be shown with pride and not hidden down a corridor off the main entrance of a shared atrium. I would want there to be separate staff rooms as the Catholic ethos of our schools is all encompassing and not just during lesson times. Teachers should be able to have conversations freely that reflect their ethos. Furthermore, I would want the new build to have sufficient space for Religious services, an oratory would allow services and Masses to be conducted without having to consider what is going on in the timetable for the shared spaces. Religion is a protected characteristic and therefore should be given the space to practise that religion.
- R: Maintaining the status quo does not deal with the challenges the Council faces in terms of overall sufficiency within the school estate. Addressing capacity issues across the school estate is central to Renfrewshire Council's School Estate Management Plan which is why the shared campus suggestion was proposed for communities to consider. The catholic identity of St John Bosco Primary School would not be compromised by this proposal.
- C: If there were to be a new build shared campus, I would want secured fencing of the school building, not allowing a free walk way to passers by that is the current state. I am concerned over the design of the classrooms and would want there to be consideration against open plan/flexible learning spaces and consider classrooms. A teacher's job is made difficult enough these days without having to consider the lesson plan of their colleagues. I would want there to be ICT suites, libraries, garden space in each school.
- R: The shared campus would be secured by appropriate fencing. The Council's project team is a professional body of officers experienced in design development for schools and its research is informed by national and international thinking in terms of modern flexible learning spaces. Evaluation of recently designed facilities is undertaken and best practice considered when determining the best design approach for our school buildings. Renfrewshire Council has a mix of closed, semi open and open teaching environments which support learning across the authority. Quality assurance is central to the Council's improvement agenda for schools and inspections

conducted by Education Scotland and the local authority do not highlight any educational detriment relating to the open or closed nature of learning spaces. The Scottish Futures Trust reference school informs the design process and key publication such as Smarter Scotland's "Building Excellence - Exploring the Implications of The Curriculum for Excellence for School Buildings"; the Scottish Governments "School Design: Optimising the Internal Environment Building Our Future: Scotland's School Estate"; and technical building bulletins are widely used as reference documents in respect of new build school projects.

- C: I trust that the elected officials will be considerate of my concerns at the design stage and only go through with a shared campus if it is indeed the only way forward.
- R: The views of all interested parties will be presented to elected members as part of the formal consultation process.
- C: A newly built campus would ensure that St John Bosco School would continue to provide excellent education in a better equipped building that is purpose built and future proof.
- C: Whilst I have some concerns about the shared campus in terms of the possible dilution of catholic ethos and identity, I trust that elected officials will be sensitive to our beliefs and work with our Head teacher, parent council and Diocesan representatives to ensure agreement on shared spaces, facilities, entrances and staff workrooms at the design stage.
- R: The catholic identity of St John Bosco Primary School would not be compromised by this proposal.
- C: It is important that the Catholic ethos is maintained so there must be separate entrances, playgrounds, dining areas, halls etc.
- R: The catholic identity of St John Bosco Primary School would not be compromised by this proposal however, where it is appropriate and beneficial, there will be areas of the campus which will be shared by both schools.
- C: The school is functioning and performing well at the moment and the sharing with Bargarran pupils cannot improve on that and is likely to reduce standards. Since there are no cost savings involved you should leave well alone.
- R: Renfrewshire Council believes the change is necessary. This opinion is laid out in the consultation document.
- C: The roll for St John Bosco is increasing faster than predicted and is already out of date. In addition to pupils from the new housing developments there are also many placing requests (including from Bargarran) so the justification is flawed.
- R: The above point is acknowledged in terms of the acceleration of housing development. However, Renfrewshire Council's model for roll projection has been used to determine future rolls for both establishments and the model accounts for this acceleration. The design of the new shared campus will be informed by this data and the requirement for future expansion (if required) will be considered in terms of site provision. In relation to placing requests into any school, this information is also assessed and managed appropriately through the application of placing request legislation.
- C: Catholic values and ethos which are well evident in St John Bosco will be eroded in a joint campus with shared facilities such as playgrounds, dining hall etc.
- R: The catholic identity of St John Bosco Primary School would not be compromised by this proposal.



- C: There will be a loss of Catholic ethos in the school and playground since this cannot be maintained in a facility with shared areas. Behaviour in these schools is currently poles apart and St John Bosco pupils will suffer as a result.
- R: The catholic identity of St John Bosco Primary School would not be compromised by this proposal. The Council is not aware of any evidence to support the assertion that the pupil body of St John Bosco would be adversely affected as described above.
- C: There is no business case for the new build since there are minor operational savings which cannot justify such a major expenditure in schools which have only just been reroofed.
- R: Renfrewshire Council believes the change is necessary. This opinion is laid out in the consultation document. The long term impact on the whole school estate is central to the philosophy for the school estate management plan; again the rationale for this approach is laid out in the consultation document and previous reports to the education policy board on the rationale for school estate management planning.
- C: Educational standards will deteriorate in a move away from year group areas to an open plan approach which causes major disruption to concentration e.g. when music practise is under way.
- R: The Council's project team is experienced in design development for schools and its research is informed by national and international thinking in terms of modern flexible learning spaces. Evaluation of recently designed facilities is undertaken and best practice considered when determining the best design approach for our school buildings. Renfrewshire Council has a mix of closed, semi open and open teaching environments which support learning across the authority. Quality assurance is central to the Council's improvement agenda for schools and inspections conducted by Education Scotland and the local authority do not highlight any educational detriment relating to the open or closed nature of learning spaces. The design of the new shared campus would allow for spaces to be created for "noisy" activities located in areas adjacent to but not impacting on the main teaching areas.
- C: As a parent we choose to send our children to a faith school, which included being able to play with like minded children of the same belief, a shared campus will erode this. St John Bosco as a faith school offers us as parents the education of our child with a catholic ethos, something which will not continue with a mixed campus.
- R: The catholic identity of St John Bosco Primary School would not be compromised by this proposal.
- C: In favour of new build shared campus so long as plenty of space is allocated for design of classrooms to minimise open plan design / several classes / years sharing same room.
- R: The Council's project team is experienced in design development for schools and its research is informed by national and international thinking in terms of modern flexible learning spaces. Evaluation of recently designed facilities is undertaken and best practice considered when determining the best design approach for our school buildings. Renfrewshire Council has a mix of closed, semi open and open teaching environments which support learning across the authority. Quality assurance is central to the Council's improvement agenda for schools and inspections conducted by Education Scotland and the local authority do not highlight any educational detriment relating to the open or closed nature of learning spaces.

- C: In favour as long as there is adequate provision of shared spaces + that new design is not detrimental to pupils in terms of dining areas / playgrounds / gym hall etc. Better facilities within new school building creating a more modern environment for the kids.
- R: The Council's project team is experienced in design development for schools and its research is informed by national and international thinking in terms of modern flexible learning spaces. Evaluation of recently designed facilities is undertaken and best practice considered when determining the best design approach for our school buildings. Renfrewshire Council has a mix of closed, semi open and open teaching environments which support learning across the authority. Quality assurance is central to the Council's improvement agenda for schools and inspections conducted by Education Scotland and the local authority do not highlight any educational detriment relating to the open or closed nature of learning spaces.
- C: Yes, with the condition/concern that the following is taken into consideration: The excellent Catholic ethos of the school is maintained; an equality impact assessment is undertaken which will consider how proposals will affect the religious character and observance of a Catholic school; options are outlined regarding staff rooms, school entrance(s), shared spaces.; the design of the building is innately fit-for-purpose for Catholic education (e.g. oratory; place to celebrate the Sacraments, religious displays, images and statues); a variety of design options are proposed; there seemed to be a preference of learning bays for multiple classes. The level of detail about acoustic baffle boards etc suggested that this was the preferred option; I would like to see other options; feedback from other schools who have been through similar redevelopments is made available to inform parents (Ian Thomson referred to this post-construction evaluation at the public meeting); and options and rationale regarding the design, location and function of learning, teaching, outdoor and social area is shared with stakeholders through future consultation.
- R: The catholic identity of St John Bosco Primary School would not be compromised by this proposal. Consultees have been provided with the opportunity to highlight concerns relating to the effect this proposal might have on equality groups or protected characteristics. An analysis of returns made to the Council in this respect will be undertaken as part of the consultation process. The Council's project team is experienced in design development for schools and its research is informed by national and international thinking in terms of modern flexible learning spaces. Evaluation of recently designed facilities is undertaken and best practice considered when determining the best design approach for our school buildings. Parental contribution is central to the consultative approach operated by Renfrewshire Council. This process requires assessment of suggestions, some of which can be accommodated and some of which cannot. Where any recommendation or suggestion is not taken forward justification for the decision will be made via the focus group, where head teachers represent the interests of both school communities.
- C: I am for this proposal only by virtue of the fact that Ian Thomson stated that this is a consultation 'in principle', and that no specific details have yet been decided. I have concerns about this proposal, but I trust in Mr Thomson's assurances of future engagement and consultation. I agree with the proposal as long as: the Catholic ethos of the school in its new location is supported to flourish and is, in no way, undermined by the design of the building; I would like to see options/consultation on matters such as: school entrances; staff rooms; shared spaces; space for religious observance that is fit-for-purpose; clarity regarding the provision for religious images, symbols and artefacts,

especially in shared areas; assurance of non-discrimination on the grounds of religion in line with the Equality Act; I believe a new fit-for-purpose school will allow a better learning and teaching environment within which our pupils needs can be met in order that their development, attainment and achievement is adequately promoted. However, again trusting in Mr Thomson's assurances, I hope to have further opportunities to contribute to discussions regarding: design of teaching and learning spaces (I would have major concerns about the 3 open-plan design that was highlighted at the public meeting); social and playground provision; outdoor learning provision; confirmation of how the space can be used/extended to cope with changes in local demographics; provision of ICT; and shared learning spaces including provision for PE.

- R: The assurances made through this process are those of Renfrewshire Council. The observations noted above will be considered as part of this consultation process. As previously stated the opinion of parents, pupils, staff and partner agencies is sought in a number of ways. All interested parties can contribute to the design process through the public consultation; highlighting concerns and observations either on-line or by writing directly to the Director of Children's Services. Thereafter school based focus groups become the vehicle for all parties to contribute to the design process via the head teachers of both schools. Head teachers will attend all focus groups as representatives of parents, pupils, staff and partner agencies.
- C: I want to retain a separate campus with dedicated areas for entrance, classrooms and recreation. This will be representative of standard Catholic educational policy which will include the visibility of Catholic images and prayers, which will not be possible in a joined campus. I also believe that no foresight has been given to the increase in pupil population with the formation of Dargavel Village in Bishopton. We have already seen a significant increase in the pupil register at St John Bosco, which will continue to grow year on year. This needs to be considered when the sizing of the future requirements for St John Bosco is carried out. This in itself should drive the decision to maintain a separate school campus for St John Bosco.
- R: The catholic identity of St John Bosco Primary School would not be compromised by this proposal. The Council has a roll projection model which considers housing developments, birth rates and previous trends. The projection model is informed by the Council's land register which identifies all housing development areas and it projects over a ten year basis. This information has been considered in relation to this proposal.
- C: The disruption to children while campus being built and as the RC children have to go to Mass etc as part of their education it would be disruptive to the other children I think.
- R: Disruption management plans form an integral part of the programming process for any major development and the health and wellbeing of all service users is central to such plans. The movement of all pupils throughout the shared campus would be considerate of all learners and managed by the respective management teams and staff of both establishments.
- C: St John Bosco and Bargarran school were the first schools to be built in Erskine away back in the 70, I and my husband went to it, my 3 children went to it, and my daughter would want her son to go to it when the time comes!
- C: A brand new, modern building, offering excellent, up to date facilities for both schools, as well as improvements in parking for staff and parents/carers.

- C: An enhanced learning environment for all pupils and an opportunity for increased collaborative working with Bargarran Primary which will help promote and build upon positive relationships between the two schools.
- C: My main concern is that I am aware that from a management point of view, it will become harder to plan and timetable for your own school for things such as P.E or religious observance as the flexibility of the timetable will very much depend on that of the school with whom you share a campus. I believe this could cause many teething problems for head teachers who are already overworked. But overall...I think a shared campus is the best option available to us at this time.
- R: The management of shared spaces would be determined through the focus group model with input from both schools to ensure the best possible outcome for all pupils.
- C: I consider this proposal will bring positive opportunities for the schools to share modern facilities purpose designed for current needs. This will / should ensure proper account of special needs is incorporated into the school campus.
- C: I would expect, as noted in the various consultation documents, that the individual identities and beliefs of the schools will be respected and promoted in the layout and use of the shared facilities.
- C: It is good for children to mix with all faiths and learn respect for each other.
- C: It makes economic sense.
- C: I believe all religions race colour or creed should be given the same education without segregation.
- C: With new build comes new energy and eagerness as with new Park Mains building kids get excited by new things and being excited about a new start at a new educational building can only be a positive thing.
- C: Discourages discrimination between children's religions. Encourages and influences children to be equal (equality) in the early stages of their lives; setting them up to be responsible citizens in later life.
- C: New build, new resources = Better education opportunities. (Long overdue)
- C: A new modern building will provide better facilities and a shared campus will give equal benefit to both schools and therefore all the children of the community.
- C: The buildings have not moved with the times and not been modernised. Also there is a great need for more capacity within the Erskine catchment area.
- C: Buildings old and needing lots of repairs.
- C: It will benefit the community and create good liaisons with the two schools.
- C: Brand new nursery. Appropriate outdoor areas for two year olds and three to five year olds.
- C: More space for parking and better community sports facilities.
- C: Modern, up to date facilities for nursery and school that will help enhance learning experiences for children.
- C: Opportunities for new sports facilities for local community.
- C: Updated building with newer facilities.
- C: New opportunities for staff and children, e.g. doors leading to outdoor area.
- C: Building updated to 21st Century, better facilities for children / staff.
- C: Bringing two schools together.
- C: Closer links to primary schools.
- C: Improved facilities.
- C: Will be a great establishment for 21st century. I would love to see it similar to Moorpark with a state of the art outdoor area suited for CfE.



- C: Will be great for transitions in the nursery as majority of children go to both schools so the children will be familiar with setting and settle well.
- C: The facilities for outdoor play / toilets are needed to be updated and a new purpose built building would provide this for the nursery.
- C: I work in the nursery and children go to both St John Bosco and Bargarran and a joint campus would be beneficial for transition.
- C: A new purpose built school for the 21st century providing an environment both indoors and outdoors for learning which support the role of CfE.
- C: Help to bridge the gap between people of different faiths, setting a good example of the multi-cultural Scotland in which we live. The children and staff can only benefit from the shared campus.
- C: New nursery grounds and purpose built nursery / outdoor area would be beneficial to children and staff.
- C: Currently two very good sized schools and nursery which can therefore offer pupils plenty of classroom, canteen, gym hall, library, ICT suite space all of which will be curtailed in a new build. I also am concerned regarding space in school that projection of school roll numbers affected by new estates like Dargavel are not accurate.
- R: It should be noted that while the existing schools are “good sized” they are both designed for much greater rolls than are required. Parents should be assured that the Council’s project team is experienced in design development for schools and its research is informed by national and international thinking in terms of the design, size and functionality of modern flexible learning spaces. Additionally, evaluation of recently designed facilities is undertaken and best practice considered when determining the best design approach for our school buildings. In respect of roll projection, it should be noted that the Council has a roll projection model which considers housing developments, birth rates and previous trends. The projection model is informed by the Council’s land register which identifies all housing development areas and it projects over a ten year basis. This information has been considered in relation to this proposal.
- C: PE, school shows and mass (SJB school) are a very important part of school year for pupils and parents. I cannot see how two schools and one nursery can share a gym hall and still enjoy the above mentioned activities with any regularity. Two gym halls with a stage would be a necessity. Both schools currently have this and would then lose out. Has been said at meetings re above there will not be 2 gym halls, unacceptable.
- R: Through its focus group model Renfrewshire Council’s design team would work with both school communities to understand the spaces required to deliver the full range of provisions. With regard to the above comment in relation to gyms, the comment made at the public meeting was that two full height gyms would not be required but that the demands of the individual school timetables would require 2 PE spaces; one of which would not necessarily have to be a full height gym.
- C: When creating a new learning environment, the council must ensure that the best learning environment for all pupils. One of the worst offenders in failing to deliver this environment is poor acoustics. Causes include poor soundproofing, open plan classrooms, shared classrooms, environmental noise pollution (extractors / fans, exterior noise, traffic etc). The negative impact this can have on a child’s learning potential, even without additional challenges are well documented. When you add the issue of additional needs, it is even more important that the children have an environment that can nourish their attention and willingness to learn. If best practice is used,

Renfrewshire Council can make the new 'campus 'sound good'. Government Standard - BB93 (advice attached) although not compulsory in England and Wales, places the duty on the education provider to comply with the regulation in regards to new and refurbished schools to make them 'sound good'. Inverclyde Council are building all their new schools to BB93 recommendations although they are not legally obliged to. Will Renfrewshire Council accept the recommendations of BB93 when planning the joint campus for Saint John Bosco and Bargarran Primary Schools?

R: Renfrewshire Council project team is a professional body of officers experienced in design development for schools and its research is informed by national and international thinking in terms of modern flexible learning spaces. Evaluation of recently designed facilities is undertaken and best practice considered when determining the best design approach for our school buildings. The Scottish Futures Trust reference school also informs this process and key publication such as Smarter Scotland's "Building Excellence - Exploring the Implications of The Curriculum for Excellence for School Buildings"; the Scottish Governments "School Design: Optimising the Internal Environment Building Our Future: Scotland's School Estate"; and technical building bulletins are widely used as reference documents in respect of new build school projects. Additionally, the Council employs acousticians to support architects to manage general levels of noise and noise transfer. This support relates to the shape and size of spaces; appropriateness of loose furniture; use of technology; and selection of flooring. The Council also has a hearing impairment team which can be used to assess potential impacts on pupils with known support needs.

C: A new campus for St John Bosco and Bargarran Primary Schools is vital. Will Renfrewshire Council (RC) maintain the Catholic ethos within St John Bosco? Will RC maintain the identity of both schools by having separate entrances and areas for worship? Will RC ensure they deliver defined gym halls, dining areas, stages, playgrounds, cloakrooms, PE changing rooms, Library, ICT suites, and if a child with additional needs requires 1:1 support will there be a suitable room provided for each school that is not a "breakout area" i.e. a quiet room with a door? Prior to planning the new school, will RC meet and consult with all specialist visiting support teachers, Educational audiologists', Educational Psychologist, physiotherapists etc to ensure the needs of the children with additional support needs will be met? Will RC ensure that there is the minimum of disruption to the children in both schools while the new school is being built? Will they also ensure the Health and Safety of all the children by demolishing / deconstructing the old schools out with term time?

R: The catholic identity of St John Bosco Primary School would not be compromised by this proposal. As previously stated the input from all interested parties will be considered as part of the design development should approval to proceed be secured. The observations above are noted and will be fully considered as part of the development process.

4.4. The pupils of Bargarran Primary School were consulted on the proposals to build a new shared campus. 142 pupils took part in the consultation. 92 pupils were in favour of a new shared campus; 45 pupils were against a new shared campus and 5 pupils were undecided. The undernoted reflects the reasons for and the reasons against the proposal:

Reasons for:

- Age of current school

- Make more friends
- New building/larger building
- Current school can be very cold
- See my family members
- Opportunity to share
- Better for the school
- Save money
- Eco friendly building
- Better P.E. facilities
- Condition of present building
- Newer resources
- More space

Reasons against:

- No need for change /Don't want to change/Happy with school as it is
- Lose facilities we presently have
- New school might be too noisy
- New building too big
- Arguments/fighting/bullying in the playground
- Too much money to build the new school

R: Renfrewshire Council welcomes input from all pupils and will give careful consideration to the points noted above. If the proposal to rebuild the school is approved by elected members the head teacher will ensure that pupils are informed of the rationale for what improvement suggestions can and cannot be accommodated within the design.

4.5. The pupils of St John Bosco Primary School were consulted on the proposals to build a new shared campus. 135 pupils took part in the consultation. 111 pupils were in favour of a new shared campus and 24 pupils were against a new shared campus. The undernoted reflects the reasons for and the reasons against the proposal with design suggestions provided by the pupil body:

Reasons for:

- Our school has leaking windows – so new windows!
- New playground facilities and games
- A fence all round the schools
- Better halls for PE
- More friends
- Open bays

What we would like:

- Swimming pool
- Rollercoaster in the playground



- Football pitch – 4G
- New MUGA
- New uniform
- Cheerleading mats
- Dressing up area
- Better and bigger toilets
- Place to keep school pets
- New cycling racks
- Trampoline
- Lockers
- Cinema
- Vending machines
- Tannoy announcement system
- Music studio
- Monkey bars and wall bars outside
- Swings and see saws
- Subway bit for lunch
- More welcoming wallpaper
- Better computers
- ICT suite
- Separate bays
- Better indoor design
- Changing rooms for PE
- BIG lunch hall
- Green house to grow things
- Sandpits
- Flower beds
- Grand piano
- Safe play area
- Something to keep the rain off the playground so that we can play outside when it's raining
- Better cloakrooms
- A gym for the public to use after school
- Less homework and new jotters
- Library
- Praying room like a church
- Chocolate fountain in the dinner hall

- Donkeys in the playground
- Bumper cars round the playground
- Outdoor areas painted with games
- A private zoo
- School mascots
- Exercise machines
- Guard dog at the gate
- Water features
- Athletics track
- Climbing wall
- A Golden Time Room

Reasons against:

- Don't want to lose my memories
- Don't want the school to be knocked down
- Both schools should just stay the same
- Don't have enough money
- People have memories like parents – what do you think their faces will be like

R: Renfrewshire Council welcomes input from all pupils and will give careful consideration to the points noted above. If the proposal to rebuild the school is approved by elected members the head teacher will ensure that pupils are informed of the rationale for what improvement suggestions can and cannot be accommodated within the design.

#### 4.6. Comments from the Diocese of Paisley

##### Introductory Comments

Paisley Diocese recognizes the financial constraints facing Renfrewshire Council and the principles outlined in the SEMP Strategy in 2014 to maximize all available resources to provide the best educational experience for all learners in Renfrewshire.

The Diocese is committed to the retention of Catholic Education across all communities within Renfrewshire and is of the opinion that this is best served through distinct Catholic schools at all levels. This view is supported by the Council's assertion (Paragraph 4.6 ) that “ A significant increase in the roll at St John Bosco Primary is indicated ...” which confirms the support given to St John Bosco primary school by the catholic community which it serves and indeed the wider community.

However in the spirit of constructive dialogue the Diocese is willing to discuss how “The design principles for the building would be informed by the ethos and vision of both school communities”( Paragraph 5.7 ) to ensure the catholicity of St John Bosco Primary School is retained and not diluted. To this end more detailed information / drawings outlining how the shared campus would be built would be helpful in determining the extent to which any new

build would reassure the Diocese that the needs of the Catholic community in this part of Erskine are being safeguarded and better served by a shared campus rather than a distinct new build Catholic Primary School.

While welcoming the acknowledgement that any new build project on an existing site will of necessity bring disruption ( Paragraph 6.3 ) the Diocese remains to be convinced that the assurances given with regard to “ disruption management arrangements “ ( Paragraph 6.4 ) will be realized throughout the project. Consequently all necessary support must be given to the Head teachers to ensure pupils / staff / parents are not further disadvantaged during any new build project emerging from this consultation process and that so far as possible learning and teaching continues with minimal disruption.

### Specific Matters

Notwithstanding the points raised above with regard to the Diocese’s preferred option of a distinct new build for St John Bosco Primary School it is recognized that the proposal as put forward by Renfrewshire Council does contain some positives in terms of resource management and learning opportunities for both schools and the pupils / staff therein. While accepting that financially the shared campus proposal is the most cost effective for the Council this must not and cannot be at the expense of the distinct Catholic ethos of St John Bosco Primary School which is so valued by the Catholic community in this part of Erskine and the Diocese generally as well as the wider community.

It is the view of the Diocese that a minimum requirement for discussions around any new build shared campus would be the incorporation of the following points in the design principles currently being developed by Renfrewshire Council :-

1. Both schools should have separate entrances to ensure both schools have a clear identity for pupils / parents / staff. This would enable both schools to very clearly establish their ethos and vision for all to see and in the case of St John Bosco to display the appropriate signs of a Catholic school.
2. Contrary to Paragraph 5.18 in the Proposal it is the view that both schools should have separate playgrounds supervised by staff appropriate to each school. Given that the new build shared campus is to be built on the current site of the existing schools which currently permits separate playgrounds this should not be an overly difficult issue to resolve.
3. The provision of religious signs and displays throughout learning and teaching areas including assembly areas is essential in all Catholic schools and this must be accounted for in maintaining the overt and visible catholicity of St John Bosco Primary School. To this end the incorporation of a designated Oratory at the design stage would be consistent with new build projects for Catholic schools across a range of Local Authorities. This should not be at the expense of any other designated learning and teaching areas.
4. Individual staffrooms for both schools should be created to ensure that staff from each school have the opportunity to discuss matters relevant to their school without any imposition on other colleagues. This does not preclude shared educational discussions at collegiate times if

considered appropriate but rather ensures the individual identities of both schools are preserved in a shared campus.

5. Each school requires distinct management areas and designated Business Support Staff so that contact with parents is specific to each school community to reassure both communities that the distinctive ethos and vision for each school is being preserved in the shared campus.

If a decision is taken to proceed with a new build shared campus and in the absence of any detailed Plans / Drawings then the identification of shared learning areas and resources should be done jointly and the use thereof planned jointly thereafter to ensure both schools benefit equally and the anticipated gains realized. These shared areas should not impact on the integrity of each individual school and should not detract from the ethos / vision of each school.

All current arrangements for each school should be incorporated in any proposed new build shared campus i.e pupil uniform, dining hall, toilets and management / reception / display / play areas as outlined above. Also any anticipated involvement / presence of external agencies on any shared campus must not detract from necessary learning and teaching areas for each school.

#### Concluding Remarks

Catholic Education and its various achievements has long been recognized as a major contributor to Scottish society by the Scottish Government, Education Scotland and Renfrewshire Council. Consequently any proposal emerging from this consultation must of necessity preserve and enhance the acknowledged positive contribution made by Catholic education in the Diocese and in St John Bosco Primary School in particular in this regard.

In the absence of any counter proposals for a separate new build campus for St John Bosco Primary School, the Diocese of Paisley is willing to enter into further discussions with Renfrewshire Council on specific arrangements for a shared campus with Bargarran Primary School and St John Bosco Primary School on the current site occupied by both schools. However in the absence of specific information on the new build plans in the form of detailed drawings, identification of learning and teaching areas and the range of issues identified in section 2 of this response the Diocese reserves the right to raise further any contentious issues which impinge on the capacity of St John Bosco Primary School to express and promote its own distinctive ethos.

Consequently The Diocese of Paisley is willing to enter into discussions relating to the proposed Shared Campus for Bargarran Primary School and St John Bosco Primary School on the current site of the existing schools provided the integrity of both schools is retained and the distinctive vision and ethos of both schools is clearly seen in detailed plans for the new build. Should this not be the case then the Diocese would not be willing / able to support this proposal.

A copy of this response will be provided to education Scotland as part of the wider consultation process.

R: Renfrewshire Council welcomes the constructive comments received from the Diocese of Paisley. Subject to approval by elected members, the design of

the new shared campus would be developed through the focus group model previously described, which would be informed by head teachers of both schools as representatives of their respective school communities. Additionally, all constructive contributions made through the formal consultation process will be assessed and where any recommendation or suggestion is not taken forward the head teacher will be made aware of the justification for the decision through the focus group model.

Renfrewshire Council has made considerable progress in supporting schools through major construction programmes. Disruption management plans form an integral part of the programming process for any major development and the health and wellbeing of all service users is central to such plans. Every effort is made to identify any individuals who may be potentially adversely affected during the construction phase of a project in order that alternative arrangements can be considered in advance of any works to mitigate any risk to any individual or group. Traffic management schemes are also considered to ensure the movement of vehicles does not create any hazard and the construction site is fenced off from the operational school areas. Additionally, special attention is given to the management of impacts from noise and dust and the Council's procurement procedures ensure that the contractor is mindful of the neighbours of the schools; requiring communication strategies that ensure neighbours are made aware of significant aspects of construction which may impact on them.

In relation to the Diocese' preferred option of a new build St John Bosco it should be noted that maintaining the status quo does not deal with the challenges the Council faces in terms of overall sufficiency within the school estate. Addressing capacity issues across the school estate is central to Renfrewshire Council's School Estate Management Plan which is why the shared campus suggestion was proposed for communities to consider. The comments made by the Diocese in relation to design principles will be assessed as part of the design development process and where any recommendation or suggestion is not taken forward the head teacher, as representative of the school community, will be made aware of the justification for the decision through the focus group model.

Renfrewshire Council recognises the importance of respecting and reflecting the ethos and values of both establishments in the creation of a shared campus and the design of all areas of the building will be sensitive to the ethos, values and beliefs of both schools. Renfrewshire Council also values partnership working with all interested parties throughout the development of all construction projects and through its head teachers, the Council will ensure that comments and contributions to this process are considered to ensure that the values of both school communities are reflected throughout the building.

4.7. 4 responses regarding equality discrimination concerns were received, the details of which are noted below:

C: My only concern that our children must be given a good catholic education as any child, and that bigotry stamped out with a small majority of parents not children but parents. In my view that is where it starts. Our priest allowed to visit the school and our services carry on has normal. No overcrowding our classrooms and that all children are secure and safe and all the other things that go along for a good education for all our children.



- C: I am all for primary school kids in these two schools coming together. This can only be a good thing and pupils can get to know each other. There must be a provision to teach the catholic ethos to catholic children, and to teach good values to all pupils, so bringing these schools under a shared campus can only be a good thing.
- C: Catholic education will be restricted. Masses in school won't happen due to shared areas not allowing the time. When you walk into a catholic school you are greeted with holy pictures and possibly a statue. If this is not allowed it is an attack on religious freedom. We would need an oratory or separate area. Separate gym hall and dinner hall to accommodate PE times, masses, hymn practice, dinner times.
- C: I think the way forward for catholic education in Scotland is mixed campus schools, but I am concerned that the teaching of the catholic ethos and education of our children remains in the centre of importance. I agree classrooms should be separate but don't see why the playgrounds can't be mixed to teach our children to live together as many of them play together out with the school setting, teaching tolerance, love and understanding and that it is ok for our children to have different religions, but if parent choose to send their children to a catholic school it is because they believe in catholic education.
- R: Renfrewshire Council acknowledges its duty to eliminate discrimination; advance equality; and foster good relations across all equality groups. Through its consultative process and equality impact assessment protocols the Council will collate any concerns received from individuals who believe this policy proposal might adversely impact on them in respect of their equality group or protected characteristics. As part of consultation process all of the above concerns will be assessed in relation to the potential impact of this proposal.

Renfrewshire Council recognises the importance of respecting and reflecting the ethos and values of both establishments potentially affected by this proposal and the design of all areas of the campus will be sensitive to the ethos, values and beliefs of both schools. Head teachers will ensure that comments and contributions to this process are considered to ensure that the values of both school communities are reflected in public reception areas. In respect of religious observance within the shared campus it will be the responsibility of the head teacher of St John Bosco Primary School to ensure that when mass is celebrated in the gym it is a dignified experience for pupils which is in keeping with the values of the Catholic church.

## **THIS IS A CONSULTATION DOCUMENT**

### **Proposal relating to: The relocation of Bargarran Primary School and St John Bosco Primary School and Nursery Class to a new shared campus.**

#### **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 Renfrewshire Council's vision for its school estate is to promote learning and achievement, and to give our children and young people the opportunity to learn in the best possible environment.
- 1.2 The SEMP sits within the council's corporate asset management plan to ensure the most effective use of all council assets. The purpose of the SEMP is to set out a strategy to focus the resources available for new and redesigned school and pre 5 accommodation.
- 1.3 The SEMP is guided by Scottish Government's 9 principles for school estate management planning and the council's 4 objectives for the school estate in Renfrewshire:

#### Scottish Government Principles:

- 1. Good consultation to support better outcomes;
- 2. Innovative design and change informed by experience;
- 3. A more integrated, holistic and longer term approach to change;
- 4. Schools must be in a condition to support and enhance their functions;
- 5. Schools must be more suitable and inclusive, better future proofed for flexibility and adaptability;
- 6. Schools should be greener, more sustainable and environmentally efficient;
- 7. A well managed estate should represent and deliver best value;
- 8. Schools should drive and support effective learning and teaching; and
- 9. Schools should best serve their communities.

#### Council Objectives:

- 1. To provide the best educational experience for all learners in Renfrewshire;
  - 2. To satisfy the condition, sufficiency and suitability core facts;
  - 3. To retain services within communities where possible; and
  - 4. To provide environmentally and economically sustainable facilities with lower carbon footprints.
- 1.4 The council's SEMP aims to improve the fabric, efficiency and suitability of school buildings. To assist councils in making progress towards this objective a set of indicators referred to as 'core facts' are gathered on an annual basis. These core facts provide ratings with respect to a school's condition, sufficiency and suitability.

1.5 Core facts ratings are as follows:

- A Good
- B Satisfactory
- C Poor
- D Bad

1.6 Through its school estate project team the council continually reviews the performance of the school estate in terms of these core fact findings.

1.7 This process identified that the existing school buildings were not performing well for the school communities as they were too big and while the condition of both buildings was “B” satisfactory, it was felt that both were beginning to show signs of deterioration.

1.8 A programme to engage school communities and interested parties in the development of the SEMP was approved by elected members and further investigation of the property performance challenges facing these establishments concluded that:

- the educational experience for all children and young people could be improved if delivered in a new build shared campus which was specifically redesigned to support education in the 21<sup>st</sup> century;
- the condition and sufficiency challenges facing these schools are such that the most appropriate, best value approach would be to create a new build shared campus on the site of the existing Schools; and
- a consultative approach, involving all stakeholders and service users, would deliver a new build shared campus which would enhance the educational experience for all children and young people attending both schools. The new building would be well designed; recognising current practice in energy management and statutory compliance and it would be sustainable with low carbon emissions.

1.9 In line with legislative requirements detailed in the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, amended through the enactment of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014, this report seeks approval to consult on the proposal to relocate Bargarran and St John Bosco Primary Schools to a new build shared campus on the site of the existing Schools.

1.10 Subject to approval by the education and children policy board to proceed with this proposal, the new build shared campus could be operational by January 2018. The proposed programme would be:

- |  |                |
|--|----------------|
| • Consultation commences                     | June 2015      |
| • Approval to proceed received               | January 2016   |
| • Start of design phase                      | January 2016   |
| • Start of construction phase                | September 2016 |
| • School operational                         | January 2018   |
| • Demolition of vacant facilities commencing | June 2018      |

## 2. Rationale for change and project development

- 2.1 At the last school census date in September 2014 Bargarran Primary School had a capacity of 424 with a pupil roll of 244 meaning its sufficiency rating was poor (category C) and it was only 57.55% full.
- 2.2 At the last school census date in September 2014 St John Bosco Primary School had a capacity of 262 with a pupil roll of 151; meaning its sufficiency rating was poor (category C) and it was only 57.63% full.
- 2.3 In terms of planning accommodation for the future it is essential to consider not only the current roll but the potential variances in the pupil roll over a period of time.
- 2.4 The table below illustrates roll projections for both schools over a 10 year period.

	Capacity	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Bargarran	424	244	245	250	246	243	242	247	250	251	250	252
St John Bosco	262	151	180	191	203	211	217	212	203	181	188	198

- 2.5 The roll projection for Bargarran Primary School is fairly static over a 10 year period and a revised capacity of around 260 spaces is recommended.
- 2.6 A significant increase in roll at St John Bosco Primary School is indicated as a result of potential housing developments within the catchment area, suggesting that the revised capacity for the school should be based on an occupancy level of around 220 spaces. Fluctuation in the roll projection at 2022 is due to the reliability of information relating to the timing of the builders programme; that is to say that, at this time, the information available through the land register relates to a seven year period only.
- 2.7 Through the SEMP development process officers identified three potential solutions to the sufficiency (C) challenges facing both schools. These options included:
- Option 1. The creation of a shared campus in an extended and refurbished building;
  - Option 2. The capacity reduction of both school buildings to create efficient, smaller schools achieved through partial demolition of the surplus areas within the existing buildings; and
  - Option 3. The construction of a new build shared campus.
- 2.8 Following the compilation of cost estimates and an assessment of all of the options in the context of the council's asset management strategy; it is considered that the creation of a new build shared campus for both schools on the site of the existing Schools is the best value option for the council.

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## 3. Educational benefits statement

- 3.1 In line with legislative requirements detailed in the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, amended through the enactment of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 it is incumbent on the council to produce an educational benefits statement which describes the impact the proposal might have on the pupils of any affected schools; other community groups using the affected schools; children who would be likely to become pupils at the schools; and other pupils within the council area.

- 3.2 Having carried out a review of the educational benefits of this proposal with the head teachers, children's services concludes that the educational experience and outcomes for children and young people will be improved if delivered in a facility specifically redesigned to support the curriculum.
- 3.3 The following paragraphs detail some of the benefits that would be experienced by children and young people attending Bargarran and St John Bosco Primary shared campus if this proposal was implemented by the council.
- 3.4 A new build shared campus will better support the delivery of the curriculum. Curriculum for Excellence encourages staff to provide opportunities for children to take responsibility, to work independently and in teams, and to make meaningful choices and decisions. It advocates children learning through being more actively involved in the process, learning by organising their own experiences, and learning with and from other children and adults. A new build shared campus will facilitate the range of learning experiences necessary for the development of these skills.
- 3.5 In a new build shared campus the physical environment would be enhanced to provide breakout spaces and flexible learning areas in line with the Scottish Government capacity guidance document "Determining Primary School Capacity" issued in October 2014.
- 3.6 A shared campus would provide the opportunity to enhance the ICT provision, which will make a significant contribution to achieving learning approaches advocated in Curriculum for Excellence. As ICT becomes increasingly more mobile the ICT strategy for the shared campus would be developed through a consultative approach based around the needs of pupils and staff.
- 3.7 A new build shared campus will energise the learning communities and support their wellbeing. The design principles for the building would be informed by the ethos and vision of both school communities.
- 3.8 Playground and social gathering areas would be designed to provide the most favourable environment. Improvements to the outdoor environment will encourage different kinds of energetic play as well as access to outdoor learning opportunities for all pupils at all stages.
- 3.9 The dining and PE facilities would be designed to accommodate the projected school rolls. With improved PE facilities, which support the PE curriculum and contribute to the health and well being of children, the new shared campus would provide the facilities required to ensure opportunities to participate in physical activity and sport, making use of indoor and outdoor spaces.
- 3.10 Both schools currently have "ECO Schools" status and would benefit in working together to share experiences in this aspect of school life. A garden area would benefit pupil participation in learning about plant life and living things; further supporting the continued work in learning about environmental issues.
- 3.11 Flexible working spaces and staff development facilities within the shared campus will foster collegiality and promote working practices which can respond to the expertise and interests of staff. This would ensure the delivery of high quality learning experiences for all children and would encourage pupil engagement and motivate learners.



- 3.12 The shared campus proposal would also provide enhanced opportunities for cross school peer observations which will support the school improvement agenda within both establishments.
- 3.13 The new building would provide nurture spaces to support both schools in meeting the full range of needs of pupils.
- 3.14 A new build shared campus with an extended early years provision supports the council's early years strategy and enhances the opportunities available for family learning.
- 3.15 Out of School Care would continue to support families. A new build shared campus would provide designated storage facilities and access to accommodation which is compliant with Care Inspectorate regulations.
- 3.16 A new building will be fully compliant with the provisions of the Equality Act (2010).
- 3.17 A new build shared campus would be secured with appropriate fencing to the campus boundary. This would enhance security arrangements and promote a greater sense of wellbeing for all pupils.
- 3.18 A single playground would be better supervised by the deployment of support staff from both schools to a single area.
- 3.19 The development of a shared campus would provide the opportunity for improving traffic management around both schools.
- 3.20 The proposal would ensure the new build shared campus has a condition and sufficiency rating of "A".
- 3.21 By providing an efficient shared campus, which is designed specifically for the current and future pupil numbers, it is envisaged that the sufficiency of Renfrewshire Council's school estate will be improved to the benefit of all pupils within the council area.

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#### **4. Impact on schools and their communities**

- 4.1 An equality impact assessment was undertaken as part of the development of the school estate management plan and no adverse comment was received from the Bargarran or St John Bosco school communities. The recommendation contained within this report has also been assessed in relation to its impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendation contained in the report and an equalities impact assessment is available on request.
- 4.3 As this proposal relates to the construction of a new build shared campus on the site of the existing Schools there will be a degree of disruption to staff, pupils and the school community for the duration of the programme of work.

- 4.4 Renfrewshire Council is experienced in disruption management arrangements and all works would be managed through this established process. As with all successfully delivered school projects previously undertaken, the head teacher and project manager would assume responsibility for the day to day management of the plan and staff, pupils, parents, professional bodies and trade unions would be updated through an agreed communications arrangement determined at a local level.
- 4.5 Renfrewshire Council has temporary accommodation which could be re-located to the school site if required. The local community centre could also be considered to augment the temporary accommodation if this was required.
- 4.6 As part of the design development process for the project the head teachers of both establishments would represent the interests of their school communities at regular focus group meetings with the council's project team.
- 4.7 Bargarran Primary School is currently supported by an Out of School Care group. The new shared campus would provide designated storage facilities and access to accommodation which is compliant with Care Inspectorate regulations. At an appropriate stage of design development the out of school care group would be advised of the implications for their service.
- 4.8 Any non school lets or clubs operating from either School would be redirected to alternative locations for the duration of the construction period.
- 4.9 There are two occupied Janitors' houses within the curtilage of the schools' grounds. Both houses were previously identified as being suitable for "right to buy" but neither Janitor elected to pursue this option. Accordingly, the properties would be demolished as part of the project demolition. Well in advance of this action, community resources and development and housing services would liaise with the schools' Janitors to support them through the re-housing process.

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## **5. Consultation arrangements**

- 5.1 The consultation document, attached to this report as Appendix 2, provides background information to the project. It details the proposal and indicates a timeframe for implementation should the proposal be approved.
- 5.2 The consultation will adhere to the procedures required to take forward the proposal in terms of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, amended through the enactment of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014.
- 5.3 The Act defines ten types of proposal that trigger the consultation process. Proposals requiring consultation are those where a council proposes to:
- discontinue permanently a school (this includes special schools and nursery schools) or a stage of education in a school (this includes years in a secondary school or a special class in a mainstream school or where the council proposes to discontinue Gaelic medium provision);
  - establish a new school or stage of education in a school;
  - relocate a school or nursery class;
  - vary the catchment area or modify the guidelines for placing requests for a school;

- vary the arrangements for the transfer of pupils from a primary school to a secondary school;
- change the school commencement date of a primary school;
- vary arrangements for the constitution of a special class in a school other than a special school;
- discontinue arrangements for the provision of transport by the council for pupils attending a denominational school;
- change a denominational school into a non-denominational school; and
- discontinue a further education centre which is managed by the council.

5.4 The consultation document also includes an educational benefits statement which sets out an assessment of the effects of the proposal if implemented.

5.5 Involvement of Education Scotland.

- A copy of this proposal has been sent to Education Scotland and at the end of the formal consultation period children's services will prepare a report for Education Scotland which will include all relevant written and oral representations that are received by the service from any individual during the consultation period;
- Education Scotland will then provide the council with a report on the educational aspects of this proposal no later than 3 weeks after children's services has sent them all of the representations and documents noted above; and
- In preparing their report, Education Scotland may visit establishments affected by the proposal.

5.6 Children's services will then reassess the proposal in relation to the comments made in the report provided by Education Scotland. Thereafter the service will prepare a consultation response report for consideration by the education and children policy board.

5.7 In line with the recommendations of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, amended through the enactment of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014, the council will publish its final consultation report. The final consultation report will contain:

- an explanation of how the council has reviewed the proposal;
- the report from Education Scotland in full;
- a summary of points raised during the consultation – both written and oral – and the council's response to them; and
- the substance of any alleged or discovered inaccuracies and omissions details of the council's response and the action taken.

5.8 The report will be available on the council's website, at the schools affected by the proposal, at education and leisure HQ and at all public libraries. Additionally, all mandatory consultees who received direct notification of the consultation will be sent a copy of the response report.

5.9 If any inaccuracy or omission is discovered in this proposal document, either by children's services or any individual, children's services will determine if relevant information has been omitted or, if there has been an inaccuracy. Children's services will then take appropriate action which may include:

- the issue of a correction;
- the reissue of the proposal paper; or
- the revision of the timescale for the consultation period as appropriate.

5.10 The Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, amended through the enactment of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 does not require referral to Scottish ministers in cases other than closure of schools.

Activity	Date
Approval for consultation sought from education and children policy board	14 May 2015
Consultation document to be issued outlining the proposal to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the parent council of any affected schools;</li> <li>• the parents of the pupils at any affected school;</li> <li>• the parents of any children who would be likely to become pupils at the affected schools;</li> <li>• the pupils at any affected school (in so far as the education authority considers them to be of a suitable age and maturity);</li> <li>• the staff (teaching and other) at any affected school;</li> <li>• any trade union or professional body which appears to the education authority to be representative of the persons mentioned above;</li> <li>• the community council (if any);</li> <li>• any bodies which have been established by a local authority, whether formally or informally, for the purpose of assisting it in carrying out its functions under Part 2 of the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003 (asp 1);</li> <li>• any other education authority that the education authority considers relevant; and</li> <li>• any other community groups using any of the affected schools.</li> </ul>	28 May 2015
Advert to advise of public consultation meeting and the commencement of the formal consultation period issued via local press.	29 May 2015
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public consultation meeting held to consult with affected community; and</li> <li>• Questionnaire to go live on the council website.</li> </ul>	3 June 2015
Public consultation period ends 6 weeks after the date of the public meeting. The total period excludes any school holidays or in-service days.	3 September 2015
Report to Education Scotland on outcome of	by 17 September 2015

consultation.	
Response from Education Scotland on outcome of consultation.	by 8 October 2015
Publish Response (3 weeks before policy board)	21 December 2015
Consultation response report (including Education Scotland response) presented to education and children policy board meeting stating consultation outcomes and making final recommendation.	January 2016
Copy of proposal paper and consultation response report sent to Scottish Ministers within 6 days of education and children policy board approval.	





Equality Impact Assessment relating to:

SEMP Development: Bargarran Primary School and St John Bosco Primary School and Nursery Class

Officer and department responsible for completing the assessment.	Ian Thomson, Children's Services
Name of policy, strategy or project.	Proposal to relocate Bargarran Primary School and St John Bosco Primary School and Nursery Class to a shared campus.
What is the main purpose or aims of the policy, strategy or project?	To provide a learning environment which is conducive to education in the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century and to address historical catchment anomalies to better serve communities.
Who will be the beneficiaries of the policy/strategy/project?	This strategy would specifically affect the Bargarran and St John Bosco Primary School communities.
Has the policy/strategy/project been explained to those it might affect directly or indirectly?	<p>Yes. This has been undertaken through an informal consultation which highlighted the challenges and opportunities available to address the inefficiencies within the school estate. Written representations were made to The Director of Children's Services, Renfrewshire Council, Children's Services, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1LE. All participants were provided with an equalities proforma which provided the opportunity to record any concerns relating to this proposed strategy; no responses were received in this respect. Additionally this proforma was made available on-line; again no responses were received.</p> <p>Further to this exercise members of the public were asked to nominate themselves for a series of focus groups to discuss SEMP matters on a geographical basis in more detail. These focus group meetings took place during January 2014. Notes from the public meetings and the focus group meetings have been collated and have been made available through the Council's website.</p> <p>A formal consultation was undertaken between June and September 2015 in accordance with the requirements of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010. A public consultation meeting took place on 3 June 2015. All participants were provided with the opportunity to complete an equalities proforma to record any concerns relating to this proposed strategy. 4 comments regarding equality discrimination concerns were received as part of the consultation; the details of which are noted within appendix 1 "Response to the proposal to relocate Bargarran Primary School and St John Bosco Primary School and Nursery Class to a new shared campus".</p>

Have you consulted on the policy?	As above.
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Complete the following table and give reasons/comment where:

- The policy/strategy/project could have a positive impact on any of the equality target groups or contributes to promoting equality, equal opportunities and improving relations with equality target groups.
- The policy/strategy/project could have a negative impact on any equality target groups. (If the impact is high a full EIA should be completed)

Equality group	Positive impact		Negative impact		Reason/comment
	High	Low	High	Low	
Race		✓		✓	
Sex		✓		✓	
Disability		✓		✓	
Religion / Belief		✓		✓	It is recognised that the main challenges within the school estate relate to denominational schools. However, the proposed strategy does not recommend the closure of any denominational schools and the proposed actions to address the property challenges facing the Council are common to both denominational and non-denominational schools.
Sexual Orientation		✓		✓	
Age		✓		✓	
Gender Reassignment		✓		✓	
Marriage and Civil Partnership		✓		✓	
Pregnancy and Maternity		✓		✓	

**Report by Education Scotland addressing educational aspects of the proposal by Renfrewshire Council to relocate Bargarran Primary School and St John Bosco Primary School and Nursery Class to a new shared campus.**

## **1. Introduction**

1.1 This report from Education Scotland has been prepared by HM Inspectors in accordance with the terms of the *Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010* and the amendments contained in the *Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014*. The purpose of the report is to provide an independent and impartial consideration of Renfrewshire Council's proposal to relocate Bargarran Primary School and St John Bosco Primary School and Nursery Class to a new shared campus. Section 2 of the report sets out brief details of the consultation process. Section 3 of the report sets out HM Inspectors' consideration of the educational aspects of the proposal, including significant views expressed by consultees. Section 4 summarises HM Inspectors' overall view of the proposal. Upon receipt of this report, the Act requires the council to consider it and then prepare its final consultation report. The council's final consultation report should include a copy of this report and must contain an explanation of how, in finalising the proposal, it has reviewed the initial proposal, including a summary of points raised during the consultation process and the council's response to them. The council has to publish its final consultation report three weeks before it takes its final decision. Where a council is proposing to close a school, it needs to follow all legislative obligations set out in the 2010 Act, including notifying Ministers within six working days of making its final decision and explaining to consultees the opportunity they have to make representations to Ministers.

1.2 HM Inspectors considered:

- the likely effects of the proposal for children of the Bargarran Primary School and St John Bosco Primary School and Nursery Class; any other users; children likely to become pupils within two years of the date of publication of the proposal paper; and other children in the council area;
- any other likely effects of the proposal;
- how the council intends to minimise or avoid any adverse effects that may arise from the proposal; and
- the educational benefits the council believes will result from implementation of the proposal, and the council's reasons for coming to these beliefs.

1.3 In preparing this report, HM Inspectors undertook the following activities:

- attendance at the public meeting held on 3 June 2015 in connection with the council's proposals;
- consideration of all relevant documentation provided by the council in relation to the proposal, specifically the educational benefits statement and related consultation documents, written and oral submissions from parents and others; and
- visits to the site of Bargarran Primary School and St John Bosco Primary School and Nursery Class, including discussion with relevant consultees.

## **2. Consultation Process**

- 2.1 Renfrewshire Council undertook the consultation on its proposal with reference to the *Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010* and the amendments in the *Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014*.
- 2.2 The formal consultation ran from 3 June 2015 until 3 September 2015. The council posted the consultation document on its website. Copies of the document were also distributed to local libraries. An advert to notify the public of the consultation meeting was placed in the local press. Copies of the consultation document were issued to parents of every pupil in attendance at Bargarran Primary School and St John Bosco Primary School and Nursery Class and to all parent council groups. In addition, the consultation document was issued to council officers, local elected members, Members of the Scottish Parliament and Members of Parliament for the Renfrewshire area and to Education Scotland.
- 2.3 The council made arrangements to gather the views of children at both Bargarran Primary School and St John Bosco Primary School and Nursery Class. One hundred and forty two Bargarran Primary School pupils took part in the consultation. Ninety two were in favour of the proposal. Forty five pupils were against the proposal with the remaining five undecided. One hundred and thirty five pupils at St John Bosco Primary School and Nursery Class took part in the consultation. One hundred and eleven pupils were in favour of the proposal with 24 against. A public meeting on 3 June 2015 was attended by 52 stakeholders. The majority of those present were in agreement that a new building would benefit all.
- 2.4 The council received 116 written responses from interested parties. These included: parents, school staff, children, Church representatives and Renfrewshire residents. In principle, despite the lack of detailed plans, the majority of responders were cautiously in favour of the proposal. The proposal was seen to bring positive opportunities for the schools to share modern, purpose-built facilities. However, a number of issues were raised. These included: retaining the individual identity of each school; possible design layout of classrooms; and the management of shared areas. The majority of responses came from parents and carers at St John Bosco Primary School and Nursery Class. Overall, the majority of St John Bosco Primary School and Nursery Class parents were supportive of the proposal. However, this support came with the caveat that the catholic identity of St John Bosco Primary School and Nursery Class should not be compromised. This was also the key reason given against the proposal by some St John Bosco Primary School and Nursery Class parents. All of the St John Bosco Primary School and Nursery Class staff who responded supported the proposal.

## **3. Educational Aspects of Proposal**

- 3.1 In terms of 'Best Value' the proposal sets out a strong case. Bargarran Primary School and Nursery Class has a capacity of 424. However a current pupil roll of 244 means it is only 57.55% full. The projected roll over a ten year period is fairly static with a revised capacity of 260 places recommended. Bargarran Primary School is rated 'B' (satisfactory) for educational suitability and for building condition. St John Bosco Primary School and Nursery Class has a capacity of 262. A current pupil roll of 151 means it is only 57.63% full. However as a result of potential housing developments a significant increase in roll at St John Bosco Primary School and Nursery Class is



forecast. St John Bosco Primary School and Nursery Class is rated 'B' (satisfactory) for educational suitability and building condition.

- 3.2 Despite the lack of detailed design proposals, the council has set out a reasonable case in support of the proposal. The council states that there will be a number of potential educational benefits for children if the new-build, shared campus proposal goes ahead. These include: a new, purpose-built, shared campus providing an attractive and improved learning environment which better suits the demands of a 21st Century curriculum. The new school would provide improved breakout spaces and flexible learning areas. It would be more environmentally friendly and provide a range of improvements, including better access to digital technology. Improved physical education (PE) facilities will support children's health and wellbeing. Improvements to the outdoor environment will provide increased opportunities for outdoor learning and for continued engagement by both schools in the Eco-Schools Scotland programme. The proposed new-build campus will help to extend early years provision locally and increase family learning opportunities.
- 3.3 Children from both St John Bosco Primary School and Nursery Class and Bargarran Primary School who met with HM Inspectors were supportive of the proposal. They liked the idea of a modern school with new equipment. They were excited about the possibility to engage in a wider range of activities such as outdoor learning. The opportunity to make new friends and ability to see existing friends in school and at break times was a major attraction. They were particularly enthusiastic about a possible shared playground. Children welcomed the improved security the proposed merged campus would bring.
- 3.4 Teaching, nursery and support staff from both St John Bosco Primary School and Nursery Class and Bargarran Primary School who met with HM Inspectors were cautiously supportive of the shared campus proposal. Nursery staff welcomed a purpose-built, fully accessible setting which catered for early years children. The shared campus would further improve and enhance transitions between the nursery and the two schools. Teaching staff from both schools could clearly articulate the benefits access to improved, purpose-built facilities would bring. Outdoor learning activities would be improved. The proposal would address concerns relating to parking, safety and security of children. Whilst overall supportive of the proposal, teaching and nursery staff from both schools were concerned about the lack of any design detail in relation to the proposed shared campus and classroom layout. St John Bosco Primary School and Nursery Class staff stressed the need for the Catholic identity of the school to be openly displayed within any shared campus facility. In taking forward its proposal the council needs to involve the teaching staff from both schools in the design development process at an early stage.
- 3.5 St John Bosco Nursery parents were supportive of the proposal. They felt the proposal built on the existing joint working whilst offering improved transition and integration for all children. Children will benefit from access to up to date facilities. They welcomed improvements to parking and security. In the absence of any detailed plan, parents were concerned to ensure their children get access to increased resources rather than less.
- 3.6 Community representatives and existing non-school lets generally supported the proposal. Children will benefit from updated facilities. Organisations who currently offer services on a let basis would welcome the opportunity to engage with the council more fully should the proposal go ahead.

- 3.7 Members of St John Bosco Primary School and Nursery Class Parent Council who met with HM Inspectors did not support the proposal as it currently stands. In particular they expressed concerns about the potential for the Catholic identity to be lost in a shared campus. They did not support the suggestion of a shared entrance, staffroom and playground. The need for St John Bosco Primary School and Nursery Class to publicly display its Catholic identity was strongly reinforced. Parent Council representatives cited the Scottish Catholic Educational Services Shared Campus Arrangements as their point of reference. Concerns about possible layout and allocation of class space were also shared. In taking forward its proposal the council needs to engage with the parent council to address areas of concern.
- 3.8 Bargarran Primary School parents who met with HM Inspectors were supportive of the proposal. They felt it offered an improved learning environment, with better opportunities for children from both schools to mix and integrate. The proposal would improve traffic management and safety for children. However, parents expressed concerns about possible class layout and the possibility of the shared entrance displaying religious symbols. Parents also raised possible capacity issues arising from the shared use of dining and PE facilities by the two schools and the nursery. In taking forward its proposal, the council will need to engage with parents to address these concerns.
- 3.9 The Diocese of Paisley, in its response to the council, recognises the potential for more effective resource management and improved learning opportunities for children and staff. However, the Diocese makes clear this must not be at the expense of the distinct catholic ethos of St John Bosco Primary School and Nursery Class, which is highly valued by the Catholic community in Erskine. The Diocese of Paisley is willing to enter into discussions with the council regarding the shared campus proposal, provided the integrity and distinctive ethos of each school is retained. In taking forward its proposal, the council will need to engage with the Diocese to address these concerns.

#### **4. Summary**

The proposal has clear educational benefits for children who may attend the shared campus in future. These include: improved transitions from nursery, the delivery of Curriculum for Excellence within modern, purpose-built, sustainable accommodation, and a rich digital learning environment with appropriate outdoor learning spaces. Children will potentially have access to increased learning opportunities and better socialisation across both schools. Traffic management and site security will be improved. It will also assist the council to deliver 'Best Value' and make efficient and effective use of its resources by addressing significant under-occupancy in each of the two primary schools concerned. Whilst the majority of stakeholders were overall supportive of the proposal, the lack of detail in terms of proposed design made it difficult for those consulted to give their full support. In its final consultation the council needs to clearly set out how it intends to engage with key stakeholders such as the Diocese of Paisley, parent representatives and teaching staff from both primary schools around the design development process. Also, the council needs to set out how it intends to address concerns raised during the consultation. In particular, it will need to clarify what arrangements it will put in place to retain the ethos and identity of each school and manage the shared facilities.