

FIFE COUNCIL – EDUCATION DIRECTORATE

**CONSULTATION REPORT ON THE
PROPOSAL TO CLOSE KIRKTON OF
LARGO PRIMARY SCHOOL AND TO
REZONE THE CATCHMENT AREA OF
LUNDIN MILL PRIMARY SCHOOL**

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1.0 Background to the Proposal

- 1.1 To ensure that the school estate provides best value for money, the Education Directorate must ensure that the number of pupil places is matched as efficiently as possible to the numbers of pupils living in each catchment area. To support this, the Education Directorate undertakes regular reviews of the school estate. Included within these reviews, the Education Directorate must take account of changing demographic patterns leading to falling and rising school rolls in different parts of Fife, planned housing development and other factors which might impact on the need for school places.
- 1.2 Acknowledging all the above and taking into account the three guiding principles relating to condition and suitability, occupancy and the progressive reduction in the overall carbon footprint for the Council, a proposal was developed regarding the closure of Kirkton of Largo Primary School and the rezoning of the catchment area of Lundin Mill Primary School. Following consideration by the Cabinet Committee, on 8 January 2026, it was agreed to undertake a process of public consultation, as required by The Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010.
- 1.3 Kirkton of Largo Primary School is a small rural school with a maximum capacity for 50 pupils. Kirkton of Largo Primary School has not been in operation for academic sessions 2023/24, 2024/25 and 2025/26. As the school is temporarily closed (formerly referred to as “mothballed” there are no pupils enrolled for session 2026/2027. Currently the school does not meet the Council’s guiding principles for the school estate as:
 - (a) Occupancy of the school is less than 60%
 - (b) The school has fewer than 50 pupils
 - (c) The school has fewer than 3 classes.
- 1.4 The pupil roll of Kirkton of Largo Primary School had fallen from 46 pupils in 2012 to 28 pupils in 2020, 21 pupils in 2021, then 13 pupils in 2022. During academic session 2022/23, the school employed fewer than 5 staff, including the Joint Headteacher (also covering Lundin Mill Primary School) with a single class teacher, covering all primary stages.
- 1.5 During academic session 2022/23, the school roll at Kirkton of Largo Primary school declined from 21 to 13 pupils. There were five pupils in primary 5, six in primary 6 and 2 in primary 7. At the end of that academic session, June 2023, a number of families moved their children to other primary schools, resulting in a projected school roll for the new academic session, in August 2023, of 6 pupils.
- 1.6 At the end of term, the class teacher was successful in obtaining another post and the Headteacher contacted the parents/carers of the remaining 6 pupils to advise they would have a new teacher in Kirkton of Largo for session 2023/24. Subsequently, based on this staffing development, all the parents/carers decided to make placing requests to Lundin Mill Primary School and all pupils were able to be accommodated in the class organisation at Lundin Mill Primary School for session 2023/24.

- 1.7 For each subsequent academic sessions, all Primary 1 pupils living in the Kirkton of Largo Primary Schol catchment area have enrolled within Lundin Mill Primary School or made placing requests to other primary schools.
- 1.8 During academic session 2024/25, following a decision by the Cabinet Committee, on 9 January 2025, the school was mothballed (now known as temporary closure). Once a school is temporarily closed, it is necessary to undertake a regular review of that decision to. In line with that requirement, a stakeholder meeting was held in December 2025, before a report was taken to Cabinet Committee on 8 January 2026.
- 1.9 Continuing with the current temporary closure (formerly known as “mothballing”) is not justified in the circumstances and would be contrary to the Statutory Guidance on the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010. Having explored alternative options to encourage viability, there is no mechanism available to the Education Authority to increase the school roll of Kirkton of Largo Primary School, which would not have significant effect on the viability of the neighbouring schools.
- 1.10 It is not anticipated that catchment pupils from the Kirkton of Largo Primary School area already enrolled in other schools would return to Kirkton of Largo Primary School if the school were to reopen. From the consultation sessions with pupils at Lundin Mill Primary School, those pupils do enjoy being part of a larger school with a larger friendship group.
- 1.11 Kirkton of Largo Primary School does not meet the guiding principles for the sustainability of the school estate, and the Education Authority considers that there is no reasonable alternative to closure.
- 1.12 In reaching this conclusion the Education Authority has been aware of Kirkton of Largo Primary School’s rural status and has, therefore, also given full regard to the relevant factors, which are:
- When formulating the proposal, the Council is required to:
- (i) identify and explain the reasons for formulating the proposal,
 - (ii) describe what steps (if any) it took to address those reasons before formulating the proposal or if it took no such steps explain why it did not do so, and
 - (iii) consider whether there are any reasonable alternatives to the proposal as a response to those reasons.
- 1.13 As Kirkton of Largo Primary School is a rural school, in the proposal the Council must also give special regard to:
- (i) the likely effect on the local community in consequence of the proposal (if implemented), and
 - (ii) the likely effect caused by any different travelling arrangements that may be required in consequence of the proposal (if implemented).

1.14 The following are links to the committee papers referred to above in relation to Kirkton of Largo Primary School:

- Proposed Mothballing of Kirkton of Largo Primary School
https://www.fife.gov.uk/data/assets/pdf_file/0024/49362/Agenda-Cabinet-Committee-of-9-January-2025.pdf
- Review of the Mothballing of Kirkton of Largo Primary School and Proposal to Close Kirkton of Largo Primary School and to Rezone the Catchment Area of Lundin Mill PS
<https://www.fife.gov.uk/kb/docs/articles/about-your-council2/politicians-and-committees/committees/fife-wide-or-strategic/cabinet/meetings/cabinet-committee-8th-january-2026>

2 Summary of the Proposal

2.1 The statutory consultation process was undertaken in respect of the following proposal, to:

- a. Close Kirkton of Largo Primary School on Monday 17 August 2026.
- b. Rezone the catchment area of Lundin Mill Primary School to incorporate all the current catchment area of Kirkton of Largo Primary School, from Monday 17 August 2026.
- c. Seek alternative uses for the Kirkton of Largo Primary School site.

2.2 A copy of the full consultation proposal is contained in Appendix A.

3 The Consultation Process

3.1 The consultation process was undertaken in terms of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010. A proposal paper was published, which included an educational benefits statement. The relevant consultees included the parents/carers of pupils attending the following primary schools; parents of pupils expected to attend the schools within 2 years; pupils of the schools; staff members and Parent Councils:

Kirkton of Largo Primary School
Lundin Mill Primary School

3.2 A few pupils living in the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area were enrolled in alternative primary schools. For those parents/carers, the Education Authority ensured that they also received the Notice of Consultation and information on where they could make representations. This also included parents/carers of nursery aged children.

3.3 The relevant consultees also included trade unions, community councils and other users of the schools. The relevant consultees were notified of the proposal by Notice of Consultation dated 21 January 2026 (contained in Appendix B) and by advertisement in the local newspaper covering the villages associated with the catchment areas, week commencing 19 January 2026. The

statutory period of consultation included the minimum requirement of 30 school days and ran from Wednesday 21 January 2026 until close of business on Tuesday 10 March 2026.

- 3.4 Section 7 of the 2010 Act requires, as part of statutory consultations on school organisation matters, e.g. closures, establishments of new schools, changes to admission arrangements and catchment areas, that education authorities hold a public meeting. To ensure parents/carers and interested parties had an opportunity to hear about the proposal and ask questions of the officers involved, one public meeting was arranged.
- 3.5 The public meeting was publicised in the proposal paper and relevant notices; with the links sent to parents through Groupcall and the events advertised in the local newspaper and through Fife Council's 'Our North East Fife' and 'Our Levenmouth' Facebook pages, and the Fife Council twitter account. This ensured that sufficient notice was given to parents/carers or other interested parties to take part. The meeting was also publicised on the website at <https://www.fife.gov.uk/kb/docs/articles/short-address-for-forms/consultations/kirkton-of-largo-primary-school-consultation>
The meeting took place at the Durham Hall, Lower Largo on Monday 9 February 2026, from 6.00 – 7.00pm
- 3.6 The Education Authority was also able to offer 2 drop-in sessions for parents/carers, at Lundin Mill Primary School. These drop-in sessions were arranged and publicised for parents/carers and interested parties, allowing stakeholders to have an informal chat with officers, where officers were available to discuss the content of the proposal document. These informal drop-in sessions took place on Tuesday 3 February 2026 from 8.45 – 9.30 am and from 2.30 – 3.15 pm.
- 3.7 In person pupil consultation sessions were facilitated by the Quality Improvement Officer and the Compliance Officer on Tuesday 3 February at Lundin Mill Primary School.
- 3.8 In total, 30 primary aged pupils from P4-P7 took part in the face-to-face consultation sessions. The pupils involved in the consultation sessions equated to 38.9% of the total number of P4 – P7 pupils.

School Name	School Roll Census 2025	No. of P4 - P7 Pupils	% of P4-P7 on the roll	P4-P7 participation in sessions	% of P4-P7 pupils
Lundin Mill Primary School	133	77	57.9%	30	38.9%
Total	133	77	57.9%	30	38.9%

- 3.9 Pupils from Lundin Mill Primary School were asked to provide feedback following a short presentation on the proposal. From the information received at the pupil consultation session, almost all the pupils were keen to continue the existing arrangement for pupils from the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area to join their school, to continue friendship groups and help maintain existing pupil numbers. Overall, the pupils were positive and

enthusiastic to provide well considered feedback.

- 3.10 The proposal paper was sent to His Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education in Scotland on Wednesday 21 January 2026, together with the Notice of Consultation issued to all statutory consultees. After the end of the statutory consultation period on Tuesday 10 March 2026, the Education Authority provided documents to His Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education in Scotland, including a summary of the written and oral representations received by the Education Authority during the consultation and the pupil consultation, for the purpose of His Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education in Scotland preparing a report on the proposal. The proposal paper, Notice of Consultation, Blank Consultation Response Form and the PowerPoint presentation from the public meeting were also included in the documents issued to His Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education in Scotland on Thursday 12 March 2026.
- 3.11 His Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education in Scotland provided a draft report to Fife Council on 24 March 2026 and a final report on 26 March 2026. The report is contained in Part 8 of this report.
- 3.12 The Education Authority has reviewed the proposal having particular regard to the written and oral representations received and His Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education in Scotland report, before preparing this Consultation Report. This report will be published in electronic and printed form. Notification of the publication of this Consultation Report will be given to those who made written representation on the proposal, and the publication of this Consultation Report will be advertised. Opportunities will then be available for consultees and other interested parties to make representations to the elected members of Fife Council who will make the decision on whether to implement the proposal or not. The Cabinet Committee, on 28 May 2026, will consider the Consultation Report and be invited to decide on it. The decision of that committee may be subject to internal governance procedures before it becomes final. If Fife Council decides to implement the proposal, in whole or in part, the decision to close Kirkton of Largo Primary School will be notified to the Scottish Ministers. The Council will notify the Scottish Ministers of the decision and provide them with a copy of the Consultation Proposal Document, this Consultation Report and the notice published under section 11A (3) of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, within 6 days of the decision becoming final. The Council will also publish the fact it has done so on its website together with details of the opportunity for making representations to the Scottish Ministers within the first 3 weeks of the 8-week period. The Scottish Ministers have an 8-week period from the date of the Council's decision to decide if they will call in the proposal. Within the first 3 weeks of the 8 week period, the Scottish Ministers will take account of any relevant representations made to them by any person. The Scottish Ministers can issue a call-in notice if they consider that the Council has failed in a significant regard to comply with the requirements of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, which are relevant to the closure proposal or if they consider that the Council has failed to take proper account of a material consideration relevant to the decision to implement the closure proposal. Unless the Scottish Ministers inform the Council that they do not intend to call-in the proposal by the end of the 8-week period, the Council will not proceed to implement the proposal during the 8-

week period. Until the outcome of any call-in has been notified to the Council, it is unable to proceed to implement the proposal. If the Scottish Ministers decide to call-in a closure proposal, they must refer it to the Convener of the School Closure Review Panel for determination by a School Closure Review Panel. The Council may not then implement the proposal in whole or in part unless the Panel has granted consent to it (with or without conditions) and either an appeal to the Sheriff has expired or, if an appeal has been made, it has either been abandoned or the Sheriff has confirmed the Panel's decision.

4 Total Number of and Summary of Written Representations Received

- 4.1 In total, 10 written representations were received in writing or online. These comprised 9 Consultation Response Forms (some with detailed comments) and one written statement received by email.
- 4.2 The Consultation Response Form was available online at [Kirkton of Largo Primary School Closure and Rezone the Catchment Area of Lundin Mill Primary School Consultation - Fife Council - Citizen Space](#) and in paper format at Lundin Mill Primary School, from the Main Reception at Fife House, Glenrothes and from Waid Academy, for those who requested it.
- 4.3 A copy is reprinted in Appendix 16 of Appendix A to this report. One completed paper copy was received, which was entered into the online system and is included in the 9 completed online.
- 4.4 In summary, 5 other interested parties, 3 parents/carers, and 1 grandparent responded to the Consultation Response Form. No pupils or staff completed the online consultation form.
- 4.5 All 9 respondents who completed the Consultation Response Form responded to questions within the questionnaire, indicating whether they supported the proposal or did not support the proposal or they answered 'Don't' know' if they were unsure on how to answer each part of the proposal.
- 4.6 In response to Question 3.1 - Do you support the proposal to close Kirkton of Largo Primary School and rezone the catchment area of Lundin Mill Primary School to include the existing catchment area of Kirkton of Largo from 17 August 2026?

Parent/Carer of a child living in the:	Question 3.1 Do you support the proposal to close Kirkton of Largo Primary School and rezone the catchment area of Lundin Mill Primary School to include the existing catchment area of Kirkton of Largo from 17 August 2026? (please choose one ✓)					
	Consultees who responded Yes	%	Consultees who responded No	%	Consultees who responded Don't know	%
Kirkton of Largo Primary School Catchment Area	1		1		0	
Lundin Mill Catchment Area	0				0	
None of the above	0		1		0	

Total	1	11	2	22	0	
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Pupil living in the:	Consultees who responded Yes	%	Consultees who responded No	%	Consultees who responded Don't know	%
Kirkton of Largo Primary School Catchment Area						
Lundin Mill Catchment Area						
None of the above						
Total	0		0		0	

Staff Member:	Consultees who responded Yes	%	Consultees who responded No	%	Consultees who responded Don't know	%
Kirkton of Largo Primary School Catchment Area						
Lundin Mill Catchment Area						
None of the above						
Total	0		0		0	

Grandparent:	Consultees who responded Yes	%	Consultees who responded No	%	Consultees who responded Don't know	%
Kirkton of Largo Primary School Catchment Area						
Lundin Mill Catchment Area					1	11
None of the above						
Total	0		0		1	11

Other interested party	Consultees who responded Yes	%	Consultees who responded No	%	Consultees who responded Don't know	%
Kirkton of Largo Primary School Catchment Area						
Lundin Mill Catchment Area	3					
None of the above	2					
Total	5	56				

Summary of all responses received	Consultees who responded Yes	%	Consultees who responded No	%	Consultees who responded Don't know	%
Overall Total	6	67	2	22	1	11

4.7 A summary of the comments within the Consultation Response Forms is given below and a further breakdown of the responses is provided within Appendix C.

4.8 **Summary of comments from the Consultation Response Forms**

- 4.8.1 There were 6 responses in support of the proposal. Within the written representation most are in support of the building being used for an alternative use. The limited number of births in the area were reflected in responses, along with an understanding of the limited social experiences involving very small numbers of pupils. The small travel distances between Kirkton of Largo village and Lundin Mill Primary School were highlighted as a positive. One respondent shared their positive lived experience of attending Kirkton of Largo alongside a sibling and, while supporting the proposal, took the time to highlight many positives of their time at Kirkton of Largo Primary School.
- 4.8.2 There were 2 responses which did not support the proposal. The first focuses on consideration of an additional use to the existing school building, highlighting the benefits of classes being organised in single stream class organisation. The second comment focuses on the challenges of having to travel beyond the village lived in. In addition, availability of Nursery space in the area was raised.
- 4.8.3 6 respondents offered additional comments. 4 comments focused on alternative uses of the building. These range from a nursery, outdoor learning base, childcare (both afterschool and during the day), asset transfer to the community, affordable housing to meeting the diverse needs of young people who require additional support for learning, including neurodiversity. One comment enquired about transport from Upper Largo due to a narrow walking path, if the proposal were to go ahead. The final comment highlighted the positive memories experienced as a pupil for both them and their family, as well as indicating a lack of engagement with members of the community extending beyond that of the school community or anticipated future school community.
- 4.8.4 Respondents supported the rezoning of the catchment area on the basis of current and projected pupil numbers, noting that there is little realistic prospect of the school roll increasing to a sustainable level in the foreseeable future. The travel distance between the schools was seen as reasonable and manageable.
- 4.8.5 It was highlighted that very low pupil numbers had, in recent years, limited social interaction and peer-group opportunities for children, which was viewed as detrimental to the overall educational experience.
- 4.8.6 Reference was made to the ongoing financial implications and the savings that closure could realise, however overwhelmingly respondents highlighted the need to

consider alternative uses for the school building, which is a significant landmark within the community holding many positive memories for the local community.

4.8.7 One respondent was keen to clarify that historically opportunities for young people attending Kirkton of Largo Primary School were offered by school staff and the parent council. These included extra-curricular activities and breakfast club as well as the involvement with the wider community. The school's achievements, staff commitment and positive legacy were highlighted.

4.8.8 Respondents felt that while Kirkton of Largo Primary School may no longer be viable as a school, due to declining rolls, the building should be considered for early years or nursery provision, to address local childcare capacity pressures.

4.9 **Summary of other written representations made**

4.9.1 The written statement (Appendix G) received expresses the importance of the school building to the local community and seeks to highlight the potential for future use to support outdoor education, given the proximity to historical and geographical areas of significance along with possible links to established sporting facilities.

4.9.2 **Requests for information**

There were no requests for information during the consultation process.

5.0 **Summary of Oral Representations Made at the Public Meeting**

5.1 There was 1 public meeting held on Monday 10th February 2026, which was attended by 7 members of the public. The record of the public meeting is contained in Appendix E. The following summarises the comments made by attendees during the meeting.

5.2 Distance to School/Walking Route/Transport

Walking routes safety and transport arrangements were highlighted given concerns that the South Feus area may be under a mile and children living in this street may not be entitled to free school transport. Clarification was also sought to the offer of transport for the 6 children who moved from Kirkton of Largo Primary School in 2023. An explanation was provided that if this was not offered as these children made placing requests to Lundin Mill Primary School.

A local councillor advised that approval had been granted for the design of a new footpath between Lower Largo and Upper Largo.

One of the stakeholders suggested people had moved to Upper Largo thinking there was a school in the village and there would not be. It would mean their child would not be able to walk to school. This would not be favourable now or for those considering this as a location to stay with their family in the future.

5.3 Parents/Carers Coerced into moving their child(ren) from Kirkton of Largo Primary School to Lundin Mill Primary School

One of the stakeholders advised parents/carers did not have a choice when the school roll at Kirkton of Largo PS reduced, as there was no viability of them continuing their education there.

5.4 Alternative Uses for Kirkton of Largo Primary School Building

It was suggested that the Kirkton of Largo PS building could be used to support Nursery provision in the area.

5.5 Roll Projections

There were questions raised over the roll projections used in the presentation, with one stakeholder asking how the Education Authority is able to predict the number of children who would potentially be looking to enrol at Lundin Mill PS over the next 5 years. Officers were also asked if the projections included children who are currently attending private nursery providers.

There was also the request to seek clarity on potential house building within the Lundin Mill PS catchment area to determine if there would be a capacity issue at the school.

5.6 Kirkton of Largo Primary School Building

One stakeholder suggested the Kirkton of Largo PS school building had been left to deteriorate.

Clarification on the ownership of the Kirkton of Largo Primary School building was sought, as this may influence the determination of future use of the building.

5.7 Alternatives to the proposal

There were no alternatives to the proposal suggested, however one stakeholder offered an alternative use for the school building if it were to close.

6.0 Summary of Comments from Pupil Consultation

6.1 Almost all pupil representatives from primary 4 to 7 at Lundin Mill Primary School engaged very well in the dialogue about the proposal to close Kirkton of Largo Primary School and rezone the catchment area to Lundin Mill Primary School.

6.2 Children consistently highlighted concerns about very low numbers if Kirkton of Largo Primary School were to reopen. Pupils felt that having fewer than 10 children would reduce opportunities to make friends, limit play options, and make fall-outs more difficult to manage due to fewer peers. Many pupils felt that a single primary 1 to primary 7 class would make learning more challenging. They believed the teacher would have less time for each age group, leading to potential loss of learning time. In addition, pupils were

concerned about limited chances to take part in team sports, events, or group activities. Some referenced specific examples (e.g. netball teams, sports days) that would not be possible in a very small school. A few felt that attending a very small primary school could make the transition to a much larger secondary school more challenging. A small number of pupils expressed that they liked smaller schools or felt children at a small school might receive more individual attention.

6.3 The majority of pupils felt positively about the current school roll at Lundin Mill Primary School and expressed a desire to maintain similar numbers. Pupils felt the school currently has the right number of children, with sufficient classrooms, cloakroom space and a good-sized playground. Many felt that current numbers allow them to be part of age-appropriate peer groups, maintain friendships, and experience leadership roles such as those undertaken by P7 pupils. Several pupils noted that being part of a larger year group helps when moving on to Waid Academy. Pupils did not want numbers to fall but also felt that becoming too big could reduce space and affect the school environment.

6.4 While there was interest from a few pupils to reopen Kirkton of Largo, due to the proximity to their homes, there was a desire to have a balanced number of pupils (not too many and not too few) to allow them to take part in a wide range of learning activities and social interactions.

7.0 Fife Council's Response to the Written and Oral Representations made and to the Pupil Consultation

7.1 Transport Entitlement/ Walked Routes

7.1.1 Fife Council currently exceeds the statutory requirement in respect of the provision of free transport for primary aged children and provides all primary pupils living more than one mile from their catchment school with free transport as outlined in section 7.1 of Appendix A.

7.1.2 For those who walk to school, the safety of our pupils enroute is important, therefore walked route assessments would be carried out should any pupil in the current Kirkton of Largo catchment area fall within one mile of Lundin Mill Primary School. The Education Authority has determined that, at present, no pupil living in the current Kirkton of Largo primary School catchment area falls within one mile of Lundin Mill PS.

7.1.3 During the public meeting, officers clarified that Fife Council Policy regarding transport entitlement would be applied consistently, using distance thresholds and Walked Route to School Assessments. However, it is not anticipated, using the current policy of 1 mile of travel for primary school pupils, that anyone living in the village of Upper Largo would not be entitled to transport to school. However, the new walking route between the villages raised by a local councillor highlighted options for families to walk if this was their preference.

7.2 Enrolment

- 7.2.1 The Education Authority is clear that there was no encouragement to move pupils away from Kirkton of Largo Primary School, prior to the school having no pupils in August 2022.

7.3 Building Condition

- 7.3.1 As explained in paragraph 14.1 of the proposal document, The Kirkton of Largo Primary School building is owned by Fife Council. Kirkton of Largo Primary School is situated on North Feus, Upper Largo. The school is currently maintained by our Property Services Team and Orbis to ensure it is wind and watertight and is regularly checked by Janitorial Services. The school resources were removed in November 2024 to ensure compliance with Fife Council's insurance.
- 7.3.2 The Kirkton of Largo school building would require significant investment to reopen, due to changed building standards and insurance requirements. The costs associated with the reopening of the school are shared in the proposal document (Appendix 7 within Appendix A).

7.4 Capacity of Lundin Mill Primary School including Nursery places in the area

- 7.4.1 In developing the proposal, the Education Authority has taken into consideration the future pupil roll projections and any new housing in the geographical area outlined in the Housing Land Audit 2024. There are no known housing developments in the Lundin Mill catchment area. In addition, known births and nursery attendance, including funded provision, also contribute to the roll projection data.
- 7.4.2 There is no known capacity risk at Lundin Mill Primary School. The number of classes and staff are reviewed then allocated at the start of each academic session to reflect the number of catchment pupils expected to attend the school.

7.5 Future Use of the School Site - Educational Considerations

- 7.5.1 It was raised, at the public meeting, that the community would prefer that the building be used for another educational purpose, such as children with additional support needs, as a facility to offer additional early years spaces or to support outdoor learning. As outlined during the public meetings, no discussion on the potential future use of the school building could be undertaken until the outcome of the statutory consultation process is known.
- 7.5.2 As explained in part 14 of the proposal document, if the closure proposal is approved by the Cabinet Committee of Fife Council, presumption will be given to other educational uses for the site. If none can be identified other uses by the Council will be considered. If no alternative uses can be identified in this way the site will be disposed of. Meantime, no decision can be made on the future use of the site unless the closure proposal is approved. For the avoidance of doubt the site will not be put to any alternative use until the closure proposal is

approved by Cabinet Committee and that decision has become final.

7.6 Educational Benefits/Small Schools

7.6.1 The Education Authority acknowledges the comments made by stakeholders regarding small schools and successful learners from small schools. The Education Authority would respond that the educational benefits outlined in part 6 of the proposal document provide the benefits that are believed would be delivered for all stakeholders and, by attending a larger school the more varied experiences that can be delivered. This includes being part of a larger peer group to enable pupils to have bigger friendship groups.

7.7 Alternatives to the Proposal

7.7.1 The alternatives considered by the Education Authority were set out in part 4 of the proposal document (Appendix A). In formulating the proposal document, the Education Authority reviewed other nearby primary schools (under the management of Fife Council) to consider whether the catchment area of Kirkton of Largo Primary School could be extended. The nearest schools to Kirkton of Largo Primary School are:

- (a) Lundin Mill Primary School (1.4 miles)
- (b) Colinsburgh Primary School (3.7 miles)
- (c) Largoward (4.5 miles)
- (d) Elie (5.2 miles)

7.7.2 As outlined in section 4.2.6.25 of the Proposal Document (Appendix A), the Council did consider whether part of the existing Lundin Mill Primary School catchment area could be rezoned to Kirkton of Largo Primary School to increase the school roll at Kirkton of Largo Primary School. More than 30 pupils would need to enrol at Kirkton of Largo Primary School to increase the occupancy to more than 60%. This would then result in 2 small schools, neither of which would meet the guiding principles set out in paragraph 3.1 of the proposal document.

7.7.3 This alternative option may also incur increased transport costs for transporting pupils from Lundin Mill Primary School to Kirkton of Largo Primary School, compared to fewer than 10 pupils that are currently transported. The Council would also be maintaining 2 small schools, and the revenue costs associated with operating these.

7.7.4 Colinsburgh Primary School is located 3.7 miles from Kirkton of Largo and can be accessed off the busy A917. The A917 to and from Kirkton of Largo village to Colinsburgh is a main commuter route from Leven to St Andrew's and the speed limit is 60 mph with no pedestrian footpaths.

7.7.5 By reducing the catchment area of Colinsburgh Primary School in this way, this would result in the continued operation of 2 small schools, neither of which would meet all the guiding principles set out in paragraph 3.1 of the proposal document. Rezoning some of the properties within the Colinsburgh catchment

area would result in additional revenue expenditure for the Education Directorate, to provide distance entitled free transport over a longer distance.

- 7.7.6 Largoward Primary School is located 4.5 miles from Kirkton of Largo Primary School and can be accessed off the busy A915. The A915 to and from Upper Largo to Largoward is a main commuter route from Leven to St Andrews and the speed limit is 60mph with no pedestrian footpath.
- 7.7.7 Rezoning some of the properties within this catchment area would result in additional revenue expenditure for the Education Directorate, to provide free transport as well as a few pupils driving past Largoward Primary School to attend Kirkton of Largo Primary School. Rezoning some of the Largoward catchment area to Kirkton of Largo Primary School would result in no pupils at Largoward Primary School. As Largoward Primary School is part of a different secondary school cluster and is associated with Madras College, it would not be an appropriate option to rezone pupils from Largoward catchment area to Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area.
- 7.7.8 Elie Primary School is located 5.2 miles from Kirkton of Largo and can be accessed off the busy A917. The A917 to and from Kirkton of Largo village to Elie is part of the main route from Leven along the East Neuk of Fife and the speed limit is 60 mph with no pedestrian footpaths.
- 7.7.9 To meet the Council's guiding principles, more than 30 pupils would need to enrol at the school, to increase the occupancy to more than 60%. However, there are currently fewer than 20 pupils enrolled at Elie Primary School. By reducing the catchment area of Elie Primary School in this way, this would result in no pupils attending Elie Primary School. This option would result in a number of pupils travelling past Elie Primary School to attend Kirkton of Largo Primary School. This option would also take away the opportunity to build independence for those Elie Primary School pupils who currently walk to school.
- 7.7.10 Accordingly, the Education Directorate does not consider rezoning part of the catchment area of Lundin Mill, Collinsburgh, Largoward or Elie Primary Schools to Kirkton of Largo Primary School to be a reasonable alternative to the proposal as a response to the reasons for formulating the proposal. It would not be in the interests of the pupils and wider community. It would not provide any educational benefits to the children living in the catchment areas of any of the schools.

7.8 Pupil Consultation Feedback

- 7.8.1 The Education Authority is pleased to hear the comments from all the pupils who took part in the sessions. Pupils felt that the rezoning of the Lundin Mill Primary School catchment to include the existing Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area would allow pupils to have larger friendship groups and enable bigger groups for sporting activities. It was however acknowledged that a few children thought they would receive more attention in a smaller school.

- 7.8.2 The pupils also were aware of the challenges for pupils in a school with all pupils in one single class and how it would be difficult to have enough pupils for a sport groups or for younger pupils having different interests from older pupils.
- 7.8.3 Many felt that current numbers allow them to be part of age appropriate peer groups, maintain friendships, and experience leadership roles such as those undertaken by P7 pupils. Several pupils noted that being part of a larger year group helps when moving on to Waid Academy.

8.0 Report from HMIE, on behalf of His Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education in Scotland



Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010

Report by HMIE addressing educational aspects of the proposal by Fife Council to close Kirkton of Largo Primary School and to rezone the catchment area of Lundin Mill Primary School.

March 2026

Introduction

- 1.1 This report from HMIE has been prepared by His Majesty's Inspectors of Education (HM Inspectors) in accordance with the terms of the [Schools \(Consultation\) \(Scotland\) Act 2010](#) ("the 2010 Act"). The purpose of the report is to provide an independent and impartial consideration of a proposal by Fife Council to close Kirkton of Largo Primary School and to rezone the catchment area of Lundin Mill Primary School. 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' view. Upon receipt of this report, the Act requires the council to consider it alongside any relevant considerations the council received and then prepare its consultation report. The council's consultation report should include 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 consultation report at least three weeks before it takes its final decision. With all proposals the council needs to follow all statutory obligations set out in the 2010 Act. Where a council is proposing to close a school, there are specific additional obligations. These include notifying Ministers within six working days of making its final decision and explaining to consultees the opportunity they have to make representations to Ministers. There are special provisions that apply to close a rural school.
- 1.2 HM Inspectors considered:
- the likely effects of the proposal for children of the school; any other users; children likely to become pupils within two years of the date of publication of the proposal paper; and other children and young people 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 9 February 2026 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 Waid Academy and Lundin Mill Primary School, including discussion with relevant consultees and meetings with community representatives.

1.4 As the proposal, if implemented, will lead to the closure of a rural school, HM Inspectors also took account of the council's consideration of any reasonable alternatives to closure of Kirkton of Largo Primary School, the likely effect on the local community and the likely effect of any different travelling arrangements of the proposed closure.

Consultation process

- 2.1 Fife Council undertook the consultation on its proposal(s) with reference to the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010.
- 2.2 Fife Council took the decision to temporarily close Kirkton of Largo Primary School in January 2025. There were no pupils enrolled at the school from the academic session 2023/2024 up to the present. From October 2023, the council carried out regular engagement with parents. Children were offered places at Lundin Mill Primary School and transport if they met the distance criteria. Kirkton of Largo Primary School has a shared headship with Lundin Mill Primary School.
- 2.3 The public consultation ran from 21 January to 10 March 2026. Copies of the proposal were made available to stakeholders and on the council website. Stakeholders were invited to complete a consultation response form. A public meeting was held on 9 February 2026 at Durham Hall, Lower Largo. Two informal drop-in sessions took place at Lundin Mill Primary on 3 February 2026. Seven people attended the public meeting and one person attended an informal drop-in session. Attendees asked about transport arrangements and if there was enough capacity at Lundin Mill Primary School. The council received nine online response forms. Six respondents supported the proposal, two did not and one selected 'don't know'. Respondents raised issues including safe travel for children going to Lundin Mill Primary School and the future use of the Kirkton of Largo school building.
- 2.4 Council officers conducted two pupil consultation sessions at Lundin Mill Primary School with a total of 30 children from P4 to P7. Most children did not want to attend a reopened Kirkton of Largo Primary School. They were concerned that very low numbers would limit their friendships, play and group activities. A few children thought it could be more difficult to learn in a single P1-P7 class. A few other children thought that smaller schools could offer more individual attention. Most pupils were positive about the current roll at Lundin Mill Primary School and wanted numbers to stay broadly similar. A small number liked the idea of reopening Kirkton of Largo due to its location but emphasised the need for a balanced number of pupils.

Educational aspects of proposal

- 3.1 Fife Council proposes to permanently close Kirkton of Largo Primary School and rezone the catchment area to Lundin Mill Primary School. The council has provided a comprehensive educational benefits statement, which outlines the benefits for children in the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment and those attending Lundin Mill Primary School. The council recognises that most primary-aged children from Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment are attending Lundin Mill Primary School. In its proposal, the council states that being part of a larger school has the potential to enhance children's curriculum experiences, including leadership and team roles. A larger pupil roll at Lundin Mill Primary School will allow classes to be organised across narrower year groups. This could help to support planning and increase opportunities for peer-group learning. Children from Kirkton of Largo are settled in Lundin Mill Primary School. They enjoy learning alongside peers and are developing wider friendship groups. There are more lunchtime and after-school activities than were previously available at Kirkton of Largo Primary School. HM Inspectors agree that there are potential educational benefits for the children attending Lundin Mill Primary School and children from the Kirkton of Largo catchment.
- 3.2 Most of the children, young people, parents, staff and community that spoke with HM Inspectors support the council's proposal to permanently close Kirkton of Largo Primary School. Stakeholders are disappointed that Kirkton of Largo Primary School is currently closed. However, they understand the council's reasoning behind the temporary closure and do not think it is feasible for the school to reopen. A few stakeholders would prefer the school to reopen as they feel it is a valuable asset for the community.
- 3.2 All stakeholders that met HM Inspectors agree that rezoning the catchment area to Lundin Mill Primary School makes sense. Projections show there is capacity within Lundin Mill Primary School to accommodate children from the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment. This will help to sustain the school roll, which is predicted to fall in the next few years. Parents do not want to move children who are settled and happy at Lundin Mill Primary School. Children and young people who met with HM Inspectors spoke positively about their experiences of being at Kirkton of Largo Primary School. They liked the smaller class sizes and the access to the outdoors. However, most children agreed that they would not want to return to Kirkton of Largo Primary School. If the proposal is implemented, stakeholders welcome the opportunity for Lundin Mill Primary School to participate in the wider community of Kirkton of Largo.
- 3.4 A few parents with younger children would have liked their children to attend Kirkton of Largo Primary School and identified a lack of out of school care as an issue. Parents would like the council to explore the possibility of re-purposing the school building to provide services they feel are missing in the

community such as out of school care, playgroup provision or support to children with additional support needs. If the decision is made to close the school permanently, most stakeholders want to see the building used to benefit the community. Community representatives do not see the need for another community centre in the area. However, they recognise the need for further engagement with the community to discuss options.

- 3.5 As the proposal, if implemented, will lead to the closure of a rural school, HM Inspectors also took account of the council's consideration of the factors to which it should have special regard. As part of the options appraisal the council considered a range of factors. This included, reopening the school or continuing with the temporary closure. In considering the rezoning of the catchment area, four other schools were considered alongside Lundin Mill Primary School. The council have stated that they do not see continuing with the temporary closure as an option. Ongoing engagement with local parents has shown that while parents are disappointed with the temporary closure they have not requested for the school to reopen. Most parents have opted for nearby Lundin Mill Primary School. In considering the permanent closure, the council notes that there were no children enrolled for the last three academic sessions up to and including in 2025/2026. Projected pupil numbers do not show a significant increase in the catchment area. HM Inspectors agree with the council's appraisal of the options.
- 3.6 Most children from the Kirkton of Largo area currently attend Lundin Mill Primary School. Where children meet the distance criteria, transport has been provided. If the proposal is implemented, this should mean there would be no change for children currently attending Lundin Mill Primary School. The council has also stated that if the proposal is implemented, they will review the walking routes to Lundin Mill Primary School, in line with their transport policy. Consideration was also given to the rezoning of the catchment area. Four other schools were considered. Lundin Mill Primary School is the closest at 1.4 miles from Kirkton of Largo Primary School and already has a shared headship. HM Inspectors agree with the council's position that Lundin Mill Primary School is the most appropriate catchment to rezone.
- 3.7 In considering the likely impact on the local community, the council noted that Lundin Mill Primary School already has links with local groups. Community halls are available in the area and no local groups regularly used Kirkton of Largo Primary School. As a result, the council believes that the impact of closure would be minimal for the community. HM Inspectors agree with the conclusions that the council has drawn from consideration of the alternatives to closure.

Summary

HM Inspectors agree with the educational benefits outlined in the council's proposal to permanently close Kirkton of Largo Primary School. There have been no enrolments for the last three academic sessions. Lundin Mill Primary

School has the capacity to accommodate children from the area now and in the future and to meet their educational needs. Whilst stakeholders are disappointed, they agree with the council's assessment. Stakeholders also agree that the catchment should be re-zoned to Lundin Mill Primary School. This is the closest school, which most children from Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment already attend. Most stakeholders would like to see the building used to benefit the community. If this proposal is agreed, the council should engage further with local people to explore future options for the building.

HM Inspectors
March 2026

On behalf of His Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education in Scotland

9.0 Statement of Fife Council's response to the Report from HMIE on behalf of His Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education in Scotland

- 9.1 The Education Authority is pleased to note that the report from HMIE agrees that the proposed closure of Kirkton of Largo Primary School and the proposed changes to the catchment area of Lundin Mill Primary Schools will result in educational benefits.
- 9.2 HMIE found that pupils from the Kirkton of Largo catchment are settled, happy and benefiting from being educated within a larger school community at Lundin Mill Primary School, including access to wider peer groups, improved curriculum experiences and increased opportunities for social interaction and extra-curricular activities.
- 9.3 HMIE agreed that Lundin Mill Primary School has the capacity to accommodate pupils from the Kirkton of Largo catchment now and in the future.
- 9.4 The Education Authority acknowledges HMIE's assessment that the majority of children, parents, staff and community members support the proposal, understand the reasoning behind the temporary closure and do not think it is feasible for the school to reopen, while recognising the disappointment expressed by some stakeholders regarding the loss of the school as a community asset and the view of a few that they would prefer it to reopen.
- 9.5 In relation to rural school considerations, the Education Authority welcomes HMIE's confirmation that appropriate regard has been given to reasonable alternatives to closure, the likely impact on the local community and the likely effect of any different travelling arrangements.
- 9.6 The Education Authority notes HMIE's agreement with the authority's appraisal of the options and there is no reasonable alternative to the proposal to close Kirkton of Largo Primary School and rezone the catchment area to Lundin Mill Primary School and this is the most appropriate option.
- 9.7 The Education Authority also notes HMIE's recommendation that, should the proposal be approved, further engagement should take place with the local community regarding the future use of the Kirkton of Largo Primary School building. If approval is given to implement the proposal, the Education Authority will work with relevant Council services and local stakeholders to explore options for future use of the building, in line with Council policy and statutory requirements.
- 9.8 Overall, the report from HMIE supports the proposal and confirms that the Education Authority has given due consideration to educational benefits, stakeholder views, reasonable alternatives and rural school considerations, in accordance with the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010.

10.0 Errors, Omissions and Additional Information

- 10.1 No errors or omissions were identified before, during or after the consultation period.

10.2 There have been no requests for additional information.

11.0 Review of the proposal by Fife Council including an Explanation of Compliance with Sections 11, 11A, 12, 12A and 13 of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 When Carrying out the Review

11.1 When reviewing the proposal, the Education Authority confirms that it is satisfied that implementation of the proposal is the most appropriate response to the reasons for formulating the proposal identified by the authority under section 12A (2) (a).

11.2 The Education Authority, in the proposal paper (Appendix A), clearly identified the reasons for formulating the proposal. It also outlined the alternatives that were considered prior to formulating the proposal. The Education Authority has identified that the representations made during the consultation period have not provided any options which are reasonable alternatives to the closure of Kirkton of Largo Primary School.

11.3 The consultation process has identified a number of educational benefits associated with the proposed closure of Kirkton of Largo Primary School. It also identified some concerns and opposition from a small number of consultees. While these are understandable, the Education Authority does not believe that they constitute an adequate reason to withdraw the proposal, nor do they propose a reasonable alternative to the closure of the school.

11.4 The Education Authority remains convinced that, implementation of the closure proposal is the most appropriate response to the reasons for the proposal. In line with the principles outlined in paragraph 3.1 of the Consultation Proposal Document, the closure of Kirkton of Largo Primary School and the rezoning of the catchment area of Lundin Mill Primary School represents a viable way to provide sustainable primary education for both villages.

11.5 The Education Authority has complied with the provisions for rural schools detailed in the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, as contained in sections 11A, 12, 12A and 13.

11.6 The Education Authority has special regard to the following factors mentioned in section 12 (3), namely

(b) the likely effect on the local community in consequence of the proposal (if implemented)

(c) the likely effect caused by any different travelling arrangements that may be required in consequence of the proposal (if implemented).

11.7 The Education Authority has considered section 12 (4), 'the effect on the community is to be assessed by reference (in particular) to -

(a) the sustainability of the community

The Education Authority has considered the representations made in terms of the likely effect on the local community in consequence of the proposal being implemented. The village or settlement of Upper Largo is not a major

employer within the community. Therefore, the Education Authority does not believe that the closure of the school will have a major effect on the sustainability of the community.

- (b) the availability of the school's premises and its other facilities for use by the community.

Kirkton of Largo Primary School was not used by the community as there is a separate Church Hall. The closure of the primary school will not impact on the availability of the Hall for community groups/residents.

11.8 The Education Authority has considered section 12 (5), for the purpose of subsection 3 (c) -

- (a) the effect caused by such travelling arrangements includes (in particular) -
 - (i) that on the school's pupils and staff and any other users of the school's facilities,
 - (ii) any environmental impact,
- (b) the travelling arrangements are those to and from the school of (and for) the school's pupils and staff and any other users of the school's facilities.

The Education Authority has considered the transport impact for pupils attending Lundin Mill Primary School from the Upper Largo village. Whilst there has been a small increase in the carbon footprint for the Council, the Kirkton of Largo pupils are already travelling a longer distance to school. The Education Authority is content that these distances, and the travel times involved, are within the range which currently exist for other pupils across Fife.

11.9 The Education Authority considers that, in reflecting on the written and oral representations made and in reviewing the proposal in light of those representations, in light of the report from HMIE and in terms of section 12, 12A and 13, it is appropriate to implement the proposal.

11.10 In view of the above the Education Authority recommends that approval be given to the proposal to:

- a. Close Kirkton of Largo Primary School on Monday 17 August 2026.
- b. Rezone the catchment area of Lundin Mill Primary School to incorporate all the current catchment area of Kirkton of Largo Primary School, from Monday 17 August 2026.
- c. Seek alternative uses for the Kirkton of Largo Primary School site.

11.11 As detailed in paragraph 3.12 above, if the Cabinet Committee of Fife Council decides to implement the proposal, in whole or in part, the decision to close Kirkton of Largo Primary School will be notified to Scottish Ministers. The Council will notify the Scottish Ministers of the decision, providing a copy of the Proposal Paper, this Consultation Report and the notice published under section 11A (3) of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, within 6 days of the decision becoming final. The Council will also publish the fact it has done so on its website, together with details of how to make representations to

Scottish Ministers. The Scottish Ministers have an 8-week period, from the date of the Council's decision, to decide if they will call-in the proposal. Within the first 3 weeks of that 8-week period, the Scottish Ministers will take account of any relevant representations made to them by any person Unless the Scottish Ministers inform the Council that they do not intend to call-in the proposal before the end of the 8-week period, the Council will not proceed to implement the proposal during the 8 week period. Until the outcome of any call-in has been notified to the Council, it is unable to proceed to implement the proposal. If Ministers decide to call-in a closure proposal, they must refer it to the Convener of the School Closure Review Panels for determination by a School Closure Review Panel. The authority may not implement the proposal in whole or in part unless the Panel has granted consent to it (with or without conditions) and either the period for making an appeal to the sheriff has expired or, if an appeal has been made, it has either been abandoned or the sheriff has confirmed the Panel's decision.

- 11.12 The Education Authority has reviewed the proposal having particular regard to the written and oral representations received and His Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education in Scotland report, before preparing this Consultation Report.
- 11.13 The Scottish Ministers can issue a call-in notice if they consider that the Council has failed in a significant regard to comply with the requirements of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, which are relevant to the closure proposal or if they consider that the Council has failed to take proper account of a material consideration relevant to the decision to implement the closure proposal.

Appendix A

FIFE COUNCIL EDUCATION DIRECTORATE

THE CONSULTATION PROCESS

The following schools are affected by this Proposal Document:

- Kirkton of Largo Primary School
- Lundin Mill Primary School

This document has been issued by Fife Council as a proposal paper in terms of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010.

DISTRIBUTION

A copy of this document is available on the Fife Council website:

<http://www.fife.gov.uk/kirktonoflargoprimary>

A link to this document, published on the website, will be provided to:

- The Parent Council or Combined Parent Council of any affected school
- The parents of the pupils at any affected school
- The parents of any children expected by the education authority to attend any affected school within two years of the date of publication of the proposal paper
- The parents of those pupils expected in local nurseries associated with Kirkton of Largo PS
- The pupils at any affected school (in so far as the education authority considers them to be of a suitable age and maturity),
- The staff (teaching and other) at any affected school,
- The trade union/s which appear to the education authority to be representative of the above staff
- The Community Councils (Largo Area (active), Largoward and District, Colinsburgh and Kilconquhar, Elie and Royal Burgh of Earlsferry)
- The community planning partnership (within the meaning of section 4(5) of the Community Empowerment (Scotland Act 2015) for the area of the local authority in which any affected school is situated
- Any other community planning partnership that the education authority considers relevant
- Any other users of any affected school that the education authority considers relevant
- Any other education authority that the education authority considers relevant,
- Elected Members for the area (Wards 19 and 21 – Cllr Fiona Corps, Cllr Sean Dillon, Cllr Alycia Hayes, Cllr David Alexander, Cllr Eugene Clarke, Cllr Colin Davidson, Cllr Alistair Suttie)
- MSPs for the area (Claire Baker, Murdo Fraser, Jenny Gilruth, Roz McCall, Alex Rowley, Mark Ruskell, Liz Smith, Alexander Stewart)
- The Constituency MP (Wendy Chamberlain).

A copy of this document is also available for inspection at and collection from:

- Main Reception, Fife Council, Fife House, North Street, Glenrothes KY7 5LT
- The following primary school affected by the proposal (between the hours of 9 am and 3 pm):
 - Lundin Mill Primary School, Pitcruvie Park, Leven, KY8 6HY
- Waid Academy, St Andrews Road, Anstruther, KY10 3GY
- Or via email to sustainableschoolestate.enquiries@fife.gov.uk
- [Online at www.fife.gov.uk/kirktonoflargoprimary](http://www.fife.gov.uk/kirktonoflargoprimary)

This document can be made available, on request, free of charge, in alternative formats, or in translated form for readers whose first language is not English. Please apply in writing to: Education Directorate, 4th Floor, Fife House North Street, Glenrothes or by email to: Education.Services@fife.gov.uk (Telephone 03451 555555 ext. 444331). Page 51 of this document provides additional contact numbers, in different languages.

SUMMARY OF PROCESS FOR THIS PROPOSAL DOCUMENT

1. Consideration by the Cabinet Committee

This Proposal Document has been issued as a result of a decision taken by the Cabinet Committee of Fife Council on Thursday 8 January 2026. Views are now sought in formal consultation on the proposal in this document.

2. Notice of Consultation and Publication of the Proposal Document

Statutory consultees will be given notice of the proposal. The proposal document will be published on the council website www.fife.gov.uk and available from this link, www.fife.gov.uk/kirktonoflargoprimary. Copies will be available for inspection at and collection from:

- Main Reception, Fife Council, Fife House, North Street, Glenrothes, KY7 5LT.
- The following school affected by the proposal (between the hours of 9 am and 3 pm):
 - Lundin Mill Primary School, Pitcruvie Park, Lundin Links, Leven, KY8 6HY.
- Waid Academy, St Andrews Road, Anstruther, KY10 3GY.
- Or via email to sustainableschoolestate.enquiries@fife.gov.uk
- [Online at www.fife.gov.uk/kirktonoflargoprimary](http://www.fife.gov.uk/kirktonoflargoprimary)

3. Advertisement of the Proposal

The proposal will be advertised through Fife Council's social media accounts e.g. Facebook. An advertisement will also be placed in local newspapers, week commencing Monday 19 January 2026. The affected schools (in operation) will also publicise the consultation process in newsletters, by Groupcall and email.

4. Length of Consultation period

The consultation will commence on Wednesday 21 January 2026 and will, thereafter, run until close of business on Tuesday 10 March 2026. This meets the statutory requirement for a minimum period of 6 weeks, that runs continuously and includes 30 school days.

5. Public meetings

The Education Directorate will hold 1 public meeting on the date listed below:

- Monday 9th February 2026 from 6-7 pm (Durham Hall, Lower Largo)

At the public meeting, there will be opportunities to:

- hear more about the proposal and any alternatives to the proposal considered by the Council
- ask questions about the proposal and the alternatives
- have your views recorded so that they can be considered as part of the consultation process, including views on any alternatives to the proposal, and
- complete a Consultation Response Form.

In addition to the public meeting offered above, informal drop-in sessions have been arranged as follows:

- Lundin Mill Primary School on Tuesday 3 February 2026 from 8.45-9.30am and 2.30-3.15pm

At the informal drop-in session there will be opportunities to:

- hear more about the proposal and any alternatives to the proposal considered by the Council
- ask questions about the proposal and the alternatives
- complete a Consultation Response Form.

6. Responding to the Proposal

Interested parties can also respond to this proposal document by making a written representation (by letter, email or completion of a Consultation Response Form) on the proposal, before close of business Tuesday 10 March 2026, to any of the following:

- Kirkton of Largo Primary School Proposal, Education Directorate, Fife Council, 4th Floor (West), Fife House, North Street, Glenrothes KY7 5LT.
- sustainableschoolestate.enquiries@fife.gov.uk
- by completing the Consultation Response Form online at ([Managing Our School Estate | Fife Council](#))
- <https://forms.office.com/e/TFuNChzTPa>
- by emailing a completed Consultation Response Form to: sustainableschoolestate.enquiries@fife.gov.uk

The proposal details possible alternatives to the closure of Kirkton of Largo Primary School. After assessment, the Council does not consider those to be reasonable alternatives to the closure. You can make written representations on the proposal and on the alternatives included in the proposal paper. If you consider there are other alternatives to the proposal you can include those alternatives in your written representations on the proposal.

7. Pupil Consultation

Pupil focus groups will be arranged during the consultation period with representative groups of over 25% of the pupils within P4-P7 at Lundin Mill Primary School. Parents/carers will be asked to consent to their child taking part. The intention of these pupil focus groups is to seek the views of pupils regarding the proposal to close Kirkton of Largo Primary School and rezone the catchment area. These sessions will be carried out by officers within the Education Directorate and will use display boards and materials to explain what a consultation is, what the proposal would mean to pupils and seek their views on any potential impact to the existing pupils. The information from pupils will be included in the report to Education Scotland and the Consultation Report at the end of the process

8. Involvement of Education Scotland HM Inspectors

A copy of the proposal paper will be sent to Education Scotland by Fife Council. Education Scotland will also receive a copy of any relevant written representations that are received by the Council from any person during the consultation period or, if Education Scotland agrees, a summary of them. Education Scotland will further receive a summary of any oral representation made to the Council at the public meetings and, as available (and so far as otherwise practicable), a copy of any other relevant documentation. Education Scotland will then prepare and submit a report on the educational aspects of the proposal within a 3-week period (unless the Council and Education Scotland agree a longer period) after the Council has sent them all representations and documents mentioned above. However, for the avoidance of doubt, the 3-week period will not start until after the consultation period ends. Education Scotland may make such reasonable enquiries of such people at the school (e.g. Headteacher, staff, pupils) as they consider appropriate and may make such reasonable enquiries of such other people as they consider appropriate.

9. Preparation of Consultation Report

The Council will review the proposal having regard (in particular) to the Education Scotland Report and written representations that it has received. In addition, oral representations made at the public meetings will form part of that review. It will then prepare a Consultation Report. The report will include a record of the total number of written representations made during the consultation period, a summary of the written representations and a summary of the oral representations made at the public meetings, as well as a copy of the Education Scotland Report and any other relevant information, including details of any alleged inaccuracies and how these have been handled. The report will also contain a statement explaining how the Council complied with the requirement to review the proposal in light of the Education Scotland Report and representations (both written and oral) that it received. The Consultation Report will be published and available for further consideration for a period of 3 weeks before a decision can be made on the proposal. The report will be published, made available for inspection and where reasonably required, made available without charge in other forms. The publication of the report will be advertised and any person who made written representations during the consultation period will be advised of its publication. The report will also explain the opportunity that may arise from making representations to Scottish Ministers in respect of call-in of the proposal.

10. Decision

The Consultation Report, together with any other relevant documentation, will be considered by the Cabinet Committee of Fife Council, which will come to a decision whether to implement the proposal, in whole or in part, or not. The decision of the Cabinet Committee will be subject to the Council's internal governance procedures before it becomes final. If the Council decides to implement the proposal, in whole or in part, the decision insofar as it relates to the closure of Kirkton of Largo Primary School will be notified to the Scottish Ministers.

11. Scottish Ministers Call-in

Fife Council will notify the Scottish Ministers of the decision and give them a copy of the Proposal Paper and Consultation Report within 6 days of the Council making a decision to implement the proposal in whole or in part. The Council will also publish the fact it has done so on its website together with details on how to make representations to Scottish Ministers. The Scottish Ministers have an 8-week period, from the date of the Council's decision, to decide if they will call-in the proposal. Within the first 3 weeks of that 8-week period, the Scottish Ministers will take account of any relevant representations made to them by any person. Unless the Scottish Ministers inform the Council that they do not intend to call-in the proposal before the end of the 8-week period, the Council will not proceed to implement any proposal during the 8-week period. If the Scottish Ministers decide to call in a closure proposal, they must refer it to the Convener of the School Closure Review Panel for determination by a School Closure Review Panel. The authority may not implement the proposal in whole or in part unless the Panel has granted consent to it (with or without conditions) and either the period for making an appeal to the sheriff has expired or, if an appeal has been made, it has either been abandoned or the sheriff has confirmed the Panel's decision.

Until the outcome of any call-in has been notified to the Council, it is unable to proceed to implement the proposal.

The Scottish Ministers can issue a call-in notice if they consider that the Council has failed in a significant regard to comply with the requirements of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, which are relevant to the closure proposal or if they consider that the Council has failed to take proper account of a material consideration relevant to the decision to implement the closure proposal.

12. Note on Corrections

If during the consultation period any inaccuracy or omission is discovered in this proposal document, either by the Council or by notification from any other person, the Council will determine whether relevant information has in its opinion been omitted, or whether there is in fact an inaccuracy, and whether the omission or inaccuracy relates to a material consideration relevant to the education authority's decision as to the implementation of the proposal. It will then take appropriate action in respect of the inaccuracy or omission which may include deciding to take no further action, issuing a notice in respect of the inaccuracy or omission, extending the consultation period or publishing a correct proposal document and giving revised notice of the consultation. Where applicable, the notifier of the inaccuracy or omissions will be advised of the determination, the reasons for that determination and the action (if

any) the Council is taking and of the reasons why it is or is not taking such action and the notifier will be invited to make representations to the Council if they disagree with the determination or decision whether to take action. Where the notifier makes representations, the education authority can make a fresh determination and decision in respect of the inaccuracy or omission and must inform the notifier if it does so.

Fife Council

Education Directorate

THE CONSULTATION PROPOSAL

PROPOSAL TO CLOSE KIRKTON OF LARGO PRIMARY SCHOOL AND TO REZONE THE CATCHMENT AREA OF LUNDIN MILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Format of the Proposal Document

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13. Grant Aided Expenditure (GAE)
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Appendices

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Appendix 2	Map of existing Kirkton of Largo school community, local community and wider community
Appendix 3	Map of proposed Lundin Mill Primary School catchment area (including Kirkton of Largo catchment area)
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1 Introduction

- 1.1 This consultation paper sets out the rationale and implications in respect of the proposal to close Kirkton of Largo Primary School and to rezone the primary catchment area of Lundin Mill Primary School.
- 1.2 This paper also sets out the consultation process, the timescales and the ways by which parents/carers and other interested parties can make representations on the proposal.
- 1.3 In Fife, the Education Authority discharges its duty to secure adequate and efficient education for the local authority area by operating a “catchment” system, to enable parents/carers to comply with their duty to provide efficient education for their child(ren). Postcodes for each address in Fife are associated with a denominational (Roman Catholic) and non-denominational primary and secondary school, known as catchment schools. Parents can check their catchment area at [Check school catchment areas | Fife Council](#).
- 1.4 To ensure that the school estate provides best value, the Education Directorate must ensure that the number of pupil places is matched as efficiently as possible to the numbers of pupils living in each school catchment area.
- 1.5 There are no proposed changes to the denominational primary school, nor either denominational or non-denominational secondary school catchment area relevant to the proposal.
- 1.6 If the proposal is approved, parents will continue to have the right to exercise parental choice and to make placing requests to alternative schools, subject to the normal constraints of school capacity.
- 1.7 Kirkton of Largo Primary School is classified as a small rural school, with a maximum capacity for 50 pupils. Whilst reviewing the information in respect of the proposal to close Kirkton of Largo Primary School, the Education Directorate appraised the school occupancy, catchment boundaries, births and any proposed housing development sites in the Kirkton of Largo and Lundin Mill Primary School catchment areas.
- 1.8 Several additional factors have been considered in the development of this proposal. These include projected pupil numbers from any deliverable sites in the Housing Land Audit related to Kirkton of Largo and Lundin Links. However, there are no housing development sites in the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area. Also included in the review, was analysis of the latest placing request statistics and trends, and potential opportunities to realign catchments geographically.
- 1.9 In including these factors, the Education Directorate is anticipating future housing development, building capacity and resilience, ensuring that school occupancy levels now, and in the future, can be managed.
- 1.10 During academic session 2022/23, the school roll at Kirkton of Largo Primary school declined from 21 to 13 pupils. At the end of that academic session, in June 2023, a number of families moved their children to other primary schools,

resulting in a projected school roll for the new academic session in August 2023, of 6 pupils.

- 1.11 At the end of term, the class teacher was successful in obtaining another post and the Headteacher contacted the parents/carers of the remaining 6 pupils to advise they would have a new teacher in Kirkton of Largo for session 2023/24. Subsequently, based on this staffing development, all the parents/carers decided to make placing requests to Lundin Mill Primary School and all pupils were able to be accommodated in the class organisation at Lundin Mill Primary School for session 2023/24.
- 1.12 During session 2022/23, the last year the school was operational, Kirkton of Largo operated as a one class, single teacher primary school, covering all primary stages. During session 2022/23, Kirkton of Largo Primary School had one teacher, one Pupil Support Assistant (PSA) and one Clerical Assistant. A Catering Assistant was also employed by Fife Council's Facilities Management Service. In terms of staff resources during session 2022/23, Kirkton of Largo Primary School employed fewer than 5 staff, including the joint Headteacher. At the end of session 2022/23, all the staff were redeployed to other school establishments, prior to the new term in August 2023. The PSA from Kirkton of Largo joined the staff at Lundin Mill Primary School, which supported the transition process for pupils who had previously known the staff member at Kirkton of Largo Primary School.
- 1.13 For academic session 2023-2024, there were fewer than 10 pupils from the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area attending Lundin Mill Primary School, all travelling together in one vehicle, with pick up points close to their home addresses. Pupils were escorted to/from the school building and to/from the transport provided.
- 1.14 The school roll for session 2024/25 was expected to be fewer than 5 pupils. The Headteacher advised the parents that if they wished to enrol at Kirkton of Largo Primary School, it could not be guaranteed there would be more than one or two pupils. The parents/carers, on being provided with that information, decided to submit a placing request to Lundin Mill Primary School or make a placing request to another primary school. Therefore, Kirkton of Largo Primary School had no pupils for a second academic session. There have continued to be no pupils since then.
- 1.15 In session 2025/26, there are 17 primary aged pupils living in the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area. At September census 2025, 88% of pupils were enrolled at Lundin Mill Primary School as placing requests and 12% were attending Colinsburgh Primary School as placing requests.
- 1.16 Engagement has continued with the parents/carers within the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area. The Education Directorate wrote to all parents/carers on 23 October 2023, 12 November 2024, 17 December 2024, 9 December 2025 and 19th December 2025 to outline the latest position. The letter of 23 October 2023 advised that there would be no pupils in Kirkton of Largo Primary School for academic session 2023/24. The letter of 12 November 2024 invited parents/carers to attend a meeting on Monday 18 November 2024 to discuss the proposed mothballing and to obtain feedback. It also notified parents that the Education Directorate would be seeking approval

to mothball the school with immediate effect. The letter of 17 December 2024 confirmed the Education Directorate still intended to seek approval at Cabinet Committee to mothball the school with immediate effect. It also invited any queries or views on the proposal in writing. The letter of 9 December 2025 invited parents/carers to attend a meeting on Tuesday 16 December 2025 to discuss the current mothballing and to obtain feedback. The letter of 19th December advised that, following the review of the mothballing, the Education Directorate, in light of the Scottish Government guidance regarding the three-year time limit for mothballing, and in considering the impact for the small number of pupils living within the catchment area, had concluded that a statutory consultation should be undertaken proposing the closure of Kirkton of Largo Primary School.

- 1.17 A total of 9 people attended the meeting on 18 November 2024, including the chair of the community council, one of the four ward members for the area and a representative from Largo Communities Together. The letters dated 12 November and 17 December 2024 were addressed to the parents/carers of all primary pupils living in the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area and parents/carers of all nursery pupils living in the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area currently attending a Fife Council nursery. The letters were also copied to parents/carers of pupils currently attending Lundin Mill Primary School. There were 137 pupils enrolled in Lundin Mill Primary School. There were 21 primary aged pupils and 5 nursery aged pupils living in the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area. Therefore, a small proportion of the parents/carers who were notified attended the meeting.
- 1.18 Those parents/carers who attended the session on 18 November 2024 were advised that the online enrolment system for any new Primary 1 pupil due to start in August 2025, would be live in January 2025. Any Primary 1 catchment pupils of Kirkton of Largo Primary School would be able to progress their enrolment application indicating their catchment school of Kirkton of Largo Primary School. Parents/carers of pupils enrolling prior to any decision to mothball being made would be contacted directly to advise them of the recommendation to this Committee and no decision on enrolment would be made until after committee. Parents also had the right to make a placing request application to any other school in Fife. The online enrolment system continued to show addresses zoned to Kirkton of Largo Primary School.
- 1.19 A summary of the points raised from those who attended the session on 18 November 2024 is included below (also contained within Appendix 9):
- How does pre-school nursery fit in with education?
 - Could the building be repurposed for another use?
 - What would it take to open the building?
 - The building has been bequeathed to the community; therefore, the community should have a say on future use.
 - How can the community input to the process?
 - Will free transport be provided to Kirkton of Largo pupils attending Lundin Mill Primary School?
 - What is the timeline for next steps?
- 1.20 On 9 January 2025, the Cabinet Committee of Fife Council considered the recommendation by the Education Directorate to mothball Kirkton of Largo

Primary School as the school had had no pupils enrolled for academic sessions 2023/24 and 2024/25. The Committee agreed:

- (1) to mothball Kirkton of Largo Primary School with immediate effect;
- (2) that, during the mothballing period, any children wishing to enrol at Kirkton of Largo Primary School would be offered a place at Lundin Mill Primary School and provided with free transport if they met the distance criteria;
- (3) that the resources and furniture within the school be offered to surrounding schools; and
- (4) that a further report be brought back to Committee no later than December 2025 reviewing the decision.

- 1.21 Following this decision, the Education Directorate has monitored the number of pupils living in the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area, the number of births in the catchment area and local housebuilding and anticipated housebuilding. The school building is currently being maintained by Property Services, to ensure it is wind and watertight.
- 1.22 There has been no enrolment of any pupils in Kirkton of Largo Primary School for academic sessions 2023/24, 2024/25 or 2025/26. During the past year, the Education Directorate has not received any enquiries from parents/carers or elected members regarding requests to enrol at Kirkton of Largo Primary School.
- 1.23 The Kirkton of Largo Primary School building is not currently used for Community Use.
- 1.24 On 9 December 2025, the Education Directorate wrote to parent/carers of pupils living in the catchment area of Kirkton of Largo Primary School and nursery aged pupils living in the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area, to invite them to an engagement session. The letter was also copied to parents/carers of pupils currently attending Lundin Mill Primary School and forwarded to the Largo Communities Together organisation. There are 17 pupils living in the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area and there are approximately 133 pupils attending Lundin Mill Primary School.
- 1.25 The engagement session was held in the local community, on 16 December 2025 in Durham Hall, Lower Largo. The session held was also attended by residents in the community. A total of 16 people attended the meeting on 16 December 2025 including 2 elected members. Therefore, a small proportion of the parents/carers who were notified attended the meeting.
- 1.26 A presentation was given by the Head of Service (Appendix 8) which detailed the current status of Kirkton of Largo Primary School; the reasons for the engagement sessions; information around the catchment area; the existing decisions made by Fife Council Committee; house building in the area and the next steps.
- 1.27 A summary of the points raised from those who attended the session on 16th December 2025 is included below (also contained within Appendix 9):

- What is the status of the Kirkton of Largo Primary School building. My understanding is that the building was bequeathed to the local community for Education purposes. Are you able to confirm if this is the case?
- Is the Kirkton of Largo Primary School building being monitored and maintained?
- Where did you get information about catchment children from? Are you saying you can predict the number of catchment children for a school?
- If a few families requested to have Kirkton of Largo PS reopened, could you do this?
- Mixed age classes can be beneficial as the younger children learn from the older children. Their reading etc. might improve. I do not agree with Education in relation to P1-7 classes not being beneficial.
- Can you increase the nursery capacity at Lundin Mill Primary School and increase the size of the nursery? If we cannot reopen the building as a school, could it be a childcare facility instead? What are the proposals for the building if it becomes available for alternative use?
- What is the procedure for consulting with the community in relation to a Community Asset Transfer if Fife Council cannot find another use for the building?
- I am aware of housing developers who might be interested in building within the area. How would you accommodate additional families moving in? Would there be enough places in local schools?
- I think the situation here has developed over many years. We originally lost our mother and toddler group, and it just progressed from there. As the Headteacher at Lundin Mill Primary School is a joint Headteacher of both there and Kirkton of Largo Primary School, there has been more effort made to align the communities of the two schools. The diminishing population of the area just tops it all though.
- If the consultation is going ahead, which date will it commence? When will we get a final decision?

1.28 In summary, the feedback from those who attended the meeting did not focus on continuing the mothballing. Positive memories were shared from the time there were more pupils living in the Kirkton of Largo catchment area. Parents were not asking about Kirton of Largo Primary School reopening but checked the available capacity at Lundin Mill Primary School, as well as what would happen with the building in the event of a subsequent closure. Officers provided information and details of the processes that could be in place to support wider consultation. Officers also advised that the building is not able to be repurposed during the mothballing period and that any discussion on future use of the building would take place following any decision to close the school.

1.29 In December 2025 an opportunity was also provided for feedback via an online form, or in writing, by 19 December 2025. 13 responses were received with 3 from parents of children living in the Kirkton of Largo Catchment area and 8 from residents of the community. The responses are summarised as follows:

- Best interests of children socially and educationally to be with adequate number of peers.
- The property could be used for another educational purpose or made available to lease for a nurse provision or use by the local community.

- Kirkton of Largo to reopen as Lundin Mill Primary School does not have space to meet the needs of all children that attend e.g. sensory room.
 - Disagree with joint headteacher arrangement as managing one school is easier.
 - Pupils should not have to be transported to school and general transport arrangements.
 - The school is an important part of village life.
 - Composite classes allowed the children to be nurtured by each other.
- 1.30 In summary 16 parent/carers or other interested parties attended the engagement session and 13 completed the online questionnaire with responses shown above. 4 of those who completed the questionnaire also attended the information sessions.
- 1.31 On 19th December 2025, the Scottish Government updated the provisions relating to mothballing in the statutory guidance on the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010. Instead of mothballing, the guidance now refers to temporary closures (formerly known as “mothballing”).
- 1.32 This proposal paper reflects the outcome of the December 2025 review of the decision to mothball the school, which concluded that the Education Directorate should proceed with development of a proposal to close Kirkton of Largo Primary School and rezone the catchment area of Lundin Mill Primary School. The Education Directorate wrote to parents on 19 December 2025 advising them of the decision to request the approval of the Cabinet Committee on 8th January 2026 to proceed to statutory consultation on the proposal to close Kirkton of Largo Primary School and rezone the catchment area of Lundin Mill Primary School.
- 1.33 As Kirkton of Largo Primary School is a rural school, as required by Section 12A (2) (a), of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, this proposal identifies the reasons for formulating the proposal. These are:
- (a) Kirkton of Largo Primary School had no pupils enrolled for academic sessions 2023/2024 and 2024/2025.
 - (b) There are no pupils enrolled in Kirkton of Largo Primary School for session 2025/2026. Those due to enrol for Primary 1, living in the Kirkton of Largo catchment area, have chosen to attend Lundin Mill Primary School. Overall, the current number of primary age pupils living in the Kirkton of Largo catchment area is 17.
 - (c) Kirkton of Largo Primary School has been temporarily closed (formerly known as “mothballed”) since January 2025. The school building is currently being maintained by Property Services to ensure it is wind and watertight.
 - (d) Updated birth information has shown that the births in the catchment area have not increased in the last year and there is no other anticipated significant increased growth in the pupil population in the catchment area from, for example, large scale housing development of over 100 units.

(e) Kirkton of Largo Primary School does not meet all the Fife Council guiding principles as outlined in paragraph 3.1 of this proposal.

1.34 On 8 January 2026 the Education Directorate submitted a report to the Cabinet Committee, responding to the decision of the Cabinet Committee of 9 January 2025, to mothball Kirkton of Largo Primary School to provide the outcome of the required annual review of this decision. As a result of the review and the feedback from the engagement session in December 2025, a statutory consultation proposal paper was presented with a proposal to close Kirkton of Largo Primary School and to rezone the catchment area of Lundin Mill Primary School. Approval of the content of the proposal was sought, and the Committee was asked to authorise officers to proceed with statutory consultation in respect of the proposal. The decision of the Committee on 8 January 2026 was:

The Committee:

1. noted the information contained within the report in respect of the current position regarding pupil numbers within the catchment area of Kirkton of Largo Primary School and the current position with planning applications in the Kirkton of Largo and Lundin Mill Primary School catchment areas.
2. approved the content of the statutory Consultation Proposal paper, in terms of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, relating to the proposed closure of Kirkton of Largo Primary School and the rezoning of the catchment area of Lundin Mill Primary School.
3. authorised officers to proceed to statutory consultation in terms of the Consultation Proposal;
4. authorised officers to make such amendments to the Consultation Proposal paper (including the timeline) as may be necessary for clarification, correction or to ensure compliance with relevant legislation;
5. authorised the continued temporary closure (mothballing) of Kirkton of Largo Primary School until the outcome of the statutory consultation process is determined and, during the continued temporary closure (mothballing) period, approve the arrangement whereby any child or children wishing to enrol at Kirkton of Largo Primary School will be offered a place at Lundin Mill Primary School and provided with free transport if they meet the distance criteria; and
6. noted that the Consultation Report will be brought forward to a future meeting of the Cabinet Committee of Fife Council.

1.35 The committee papers can be accessed at [Cabinet Committee \(8th January 2026\) | Fife Council](#)

2 The Proposal

2.1 The proposal is to:

- a. Close Kirkton of Largo Primary School on Monday 17 August 2026.

- b. Rezone the catchment area of Lundin Mill Primary School to incorporate all the current catchment area of Kirkton of Largo Primary School, from Monday 17 August 2026.
 - c. Seek alternative uses for the Kirkton of Largo Primary School site.
- 2.2 After the consultation, a consultation report will be submitted to a future meeting of the Cabinet Committee. If approved in full, the closure and changes to the catchment area would be implemented on Monday 17 August 2026 and would apply to all applications for enrolment, including placing requests, made from that date. Nursery aged pupils beginning Primary 1 in August 2026 will enrol in their existing catchment primary school in January 2026.
- 2.3 The temporary closure (mothballing) arrangements for Kirkton of Largo Primary School will continue until the outcome of the statutory consultation process is decided.
- 2.4 In terms of the temporary closure (mothballing) arrangements, Kirkton of Largo Primary School remains on Fife Council's online enrolment system. Any new Primary 1 pupil due to start school in August 2026, living in the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area and seeking to enrol online, will be contacted by Lundin Mill Primary school. For any new pupils seeking to enrol from stages P2 to P7, the parent/carer should make contact with Lundin Mill Primary School directly.

3 Contextual Analysis

3.1 Guiding Principles

3.1.1 The Council has set guiding principles for reviewing the school estate, which were agreed by the Council's Executive Committee on 2 October 2012, following a Fife school review, and more recently at the Education & Children's Services Committee on 28 August 2018. These are:

- (a) Every school should be rated as 'A' or 'B' for both condition and suitability, to include a number of accessible schools in each geographical area.
- (b) Schools should have an occupancy rate greater than 60% of capacity and, in order to ensure equity in provision, schools should be operating within an optimal occupancy and efficiency range of 80-100%. Consideration should be given to establishing a minimum number of pupils in any school which is less than 5 miles from another school; therefore, schools should have a minimum of 3 classes, recognising that effective learning requires interaction between pupils. This group activity is most effective when children are of a similar age and, to enable this, where possible schools should have a minimum roll of 50 pupils.
- (c) A strategy for a sustainable school estate should support the progressive reduction in the overall carbon footprint for the Council.

3.2 Review Factors

3.2.1 The factors considered in the review of the school estate include:

- Educational benefits
- Condition surveys
- Suitability assessments
- Recent investment in school buildings
- Energy performance data
- School roll projections and capacities
- Catchment areas, including impact of Strategic Development Allocations and Local Development Plans
- Cost per pupil
- Distance to nearest school
- Best Value model for existing Public Private Partnership (PPP) contracts i.e. increasing occupancy.

3.3 **New Housing Developments within Kirkton of Largo and Lundin Mill Primary School Catchment Areas**

3.3.1 Fife Council adopted the Fife Local Development Plan (FIFEplan) on 21 September 2017, following a review by the Scottish Government. This plan sets out the planning policies and proposals for the development and use of land across Fife.

3.3.2 The roll projection model includes methodology to identify pupil numbers from new housing development sites that are included in the Housing Land Audit (HLA). The HLA report is published annually and provides the most up to date information on site status, including whether sites have planning consent, are under construction, have no consent or indeed whether there are any constraints such as marketing or no interest demonstrated by a developer.

3.3.3 A small housing development of 5 dwellings was completed in 2024-25 within the Lundin Mill Primary School catchment area.

3.3.4 The latest publication of the Housing Land Audit, dated 2024, shows there are no effective housing sites in either catchment area.

4 **Kirkton of Largo Primary School - The Case for Closure**

4.1 **Kirkton of Largo - Background Information**

4.1.1 Kirkton of Largo Primary School is an accessible rural school with a maximum capacity for 50 pupils. The school roll for Kirkton of Largo Primary School steadily declined over a period of 9 years and for the last 3 academic sessions no pupils have enrolled in the school. There are approximately 204 residential homes in the Kirkton of Largo catchment area. The previous school rolls and occupancy rates were as follows:

School Year	School Roll	Capacity	Occupancy
2025	0	50	0%
2024	0	75	0%
2023	0	75	0%
2022	13	75	18%
2021	21	75	28%
2020	28	75	38%

2019	32	75	43%
2018	39	75	52%
2017	34	75	46%
2016	31	75	42%
2015	35	75	47%
2014	43	75	58%

- 4.1.2 For academic session 2022/23 the school roll at Kirkton of Largo Primary School declined from 21 to 13 pupils organised across P5, 6 and 7. Following P7 pupils transitioning to secondary school and parental choice to move pupils to other schools, 6 pupils were projected to attend in session 2023/24. Following a staffing change at the end of term, the parents of the remaining 6 pupils were contacted by the headteacher to advise they would have a new teacher in Kirkton of Largo for session 2023/24. Subsequently, based on this staffing development, all the parents/carers decided to make placing requests to Lundin Mill Primary School and all pupils were able to be accommodated in the class organisation at Lundin Mill Primary School for session 2023/24.
- 4.1.3 The analysis of the September 2025 pupil census data highlights there are 17 primary aged pupils living in the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area. 15 of these 17 are enrolled at Lundin Mill Primary School and the remaining 2 chose an alternative primary school in the area.
- 4.1.4 From the current nursery information, there are fewer than 5 pupils enrolled in nursery provision from the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area.
- 4.1.5 Information provided by the NHS (Community Health Index record of births up to 28 February 2025) has been used to identify the number of births in the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area, showing those pupils who would be due to start school in the next 4 years. These figures are a snapshot of residence at birth and are subject to change where, for example, families may relocate into and out of a school catchment area. The figures are listed in the table below:

Starting primary school August 2025	Fewer than 5 pupils
Starting primary school August 2026	Fewer than 5 pupils
Starting primary school August 2027	Fewer than 5 pupils
Starting primary school August 2028	Fewer than 5 pupils
Starting primary school August 2029	Fewer than 5 pupils

- 4.1.6 Prior to mothballing the school, the Education Directorate held a meeting with parents/carers, in November 2024, to outline the position. The Education Directorate monitored the school roll and reviewed the number of nursery pupils eligible to commence Primary 1 in August 2025. None of the parents of nursery pupils formally requested a place for Primary 1 in Kirkton of Largo Primary School. The Education Directorate subsequently wrote to parents/carers of pupils living in the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area to advise it was moving forward with a committee paper seeking approval to formally mothball the school. The Education Directorate did not receive any objections by parents/carers, in response.
- 4.1.7 Kirkton of Largo Primary School has been temporarily closed (mothballed) formally since 9 January 2025 and has not been operational with staff and

pupils since June 2023. The school building is currently being maintained by Property Services, to ensure it is wind and watertight, and all resources have been removed from the building, to comply with Risk Management guidance. No pupils have been enrolled for session 2023/24, 2024/25 or 2025/26.

- 4.1.8 The transfer of existing pupils to Lundin Mill Primary School, prior to academic session 2023/24, was managed appropriately by Education Directorate staff, school staff and parents/carers, to ensure that children were supported through their transition of moving from one school to another. School staff supported the pupils, who moved from Kirkton of Largo Primary School to Lundin Mill Primary School in August 2023, to integrate into their new class setting and establish new friendships.
- 4.1.9 Although Kirkton of Largo Primary School had a small area used for pupil dining, the school was not used for any (non-school) community activities. During the time the school was operational, Kirkton of Largo Primary school did not run a breakfast or after school club for pupils.
- 4.1.10 Largo and Newburn Parish Church, in Kirkton of Largo, is used by local residents for community activities, as well as used for voting during local elections. This is located 0.16 miles (250 metres) from Kirkton of Largo Primary School.

4.2 **Kirkton of Largo – A Rural School**

- 4.2.1 Kirkton of Largo Primary School is classified as an accessible rural school, based on the criteria applied by the Scottish Government. As a result of this classification, and because fewer than 70 children were attending the school up until August 2023, the local authority received additional funding of £3,000 per pupil per annum as a contribution to the higher cost of educating children in such settings.
- 4.2.2 As Kirkton of Largo Primary School is a rural school, when formulating this proposal, the Council is required to:
 - i. Identify and explain the reasons for formulating the proposal,
 - ii. Describe what steps (if any) it took to address those reasons before formulating the proposal or if it took no such steps explain why it did not do so, and
 - iii. Consider whether there are any reasonable alternatives to the proposal as a response to those reasons.
- 4.2.3 In addition, in the proposal the Council must also give special regard to:
 - i. The likely effect on the local community in consequence of the proposal (if implemented), and
 - ii. The likely effect caused by any different travelling arrangements that may be required in consequence of the proposal (if implemented).
- 4.2.4 The reasons for formulating the proposal

- 4.2.4.1 As indicated in paragraph 1.33, this proposal was formulated for the following reasons:
- (a) Kirkton of Largo Primary School has had no pupils enrolled for academic sessions 2023/2024 and 2024/2025.
 - (b) There are no pupils enrolled in Kirkton of Largo Primary School for session 2025/2026. Those due to enrol for Primary 1, living in the Kirkton of Largo catchment area, have chosen to attend Lundin Mill Primary School. Overall, the current number of primary age pupils living in the Kirkton of Largo catchment area is 17.
 - (c) Kirkton of Largo Primary School has been temporarily closed (formerly known as “mothballed”) since January 2025. The school building is currently being maintained by Property Services to ensure it is wind and watertight.
 - (d) Updated birth information has shown that the births in the catchment area have not increased in the last year and there is no other anticipated significant increased growth in the pupil population in the catchment area from, for example, large scale housing development of over 100 units.
 - (e) Kirkton of Largo Primary School does not meet all of the Fife Council guiding principles as outlined in paragraph 3.1 of this proposal.

4.2.5 Steps taken to address the reasons before formulating the proposal

- 4.2.5.1 When the school roll fell to zero in 2023, and the school was no longer operational, the authority monitored relevant factors including the number of primary age children, the number of births and housebuilding in the catchment area to establish whether the position might change. When the school roll remained zero in 2024, as an alternative to proceeding with a closure proposal at that stage, the authority mothballed the school to allow a further opportunity to monitor these factors. As indicated earlier in this proposal the mothballing of the school was reviewed later in 2025. The authority reviewed the relevant factors. The outcome of the 2025 review led to this proposal.

4.2.6 Reasonable alternatives to the proposal as a response to those reasons

- 4.2.6.1 The Education Directorate is required to consider whether there are any reasonable alternatives to the proposal as a response to the reasons for the proposal stated above.

4.2.6.2 Continued Temporary Closure (formerly known as “Mothballing”) of Kirkton of Largo Primary School

- 4.2.6.2.3 The Statutory Guidance on the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, confirms that temporary closure (formerly known as “mothballing”) may be a reasonable alternative to school closure for local authorities. Temporary closure refers to a temporary decision to close a school, in this case, where the roll has fallen to zero. Temporary closure, rather than permanent closure of a school, gives the opportunity for the school to reopen should circumstances change.

- 4.2.6.4 The Education Directorate arranged a meeting for any parent affected by the declining school roll at Kirkton of Largo Primary School in November 2024 and subsequently wrote to all parents advising them that as no pupils had requested to enrol at Kirkton of Largo Primary School for session 2024/25, the Education Directorate would take forward a paper to the Cabinet Committee on 9 January 2025 to seek approval to mothball the school.
- 4.2.6.5 The decision to mothball Kirkton of Largo Primary School on 9 January 2025, was as an alternative to proceeding with a closure proposal. Closure requires a statutory consultation in accordance with the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 and a decision by Fife Council's Cabinet Committee, following the consultation.
- 4.2.6.6 The Cabinet Committee, on 9 January 2025, considered the recommendation to mothball Kirkton of Largo Primary School as the school had had no pupils enrolled for the academic session from August 2023. The Committee Decision of 9 January 2025 was:
- (a) to mothball Kirkton of Largo Primary School with immediate effect.
 - (b) that during the mothballing period, any children wishing to enrol at Kirkton of Largo Primary School will be offered a place at Lundin Mill Primary School and provided with free transport if they meet the distance criteria.
 - (c) that the resources and furniture within the school be offered to surrounding schools; and
 - (d) that a further report reviewing the decision be considered by the Cabinet Committee in December 2025.
- 4.2.6.7 As referred to throughout this document Kirkton of Largo Primary School had no pupils enrolled for academic sessions 2023/2024, 2024/2025 or 2025/2026. The school has remained formally mothballed since 9 January 2025. There has been no attempt by parents to seek the reopening of Kirkton of Largo Primary School for academic sessions 2023/24, 2024/25 or 2025/26. All pupils in the catchment area have enrolled at Lundin Mill Primary School or other schools.
- 4.2.6.8 The school building is currently being maintained by Property Services to ensure it is wind and watertight. Updated birth information shows the births in the catchment area have not increased in the last year and there is no other anticipated significant increased growth in the pupil population in the catchment area from, for example, large scale housing development of over 100 units.
- 4.2.6.9 The decision to mothball Kirkton of Largo Primary School was reviewed in December 2025. This proposal paper reflects the outcome of the review of the which is to proceed with this proposal to close Kirkton of Largo Primary School and rezone the catchment area of Lundin Mill Primary School.

- 4.2.6.10 Paragraph 63 of the guidance provides “The maximum length of the temporary closure’s duration is likely to depend on the location of the school and the desirability of maintaining capacity to re-open a school there, but it is unlikely that it should exceed three years in areas that are not very remote.”
- 4.2.6.11 Paragraph 64 of the guidance provides “It is also vital that the flexibility to close a school or nursery for a temporary period is not used to undermine the purpose of the 2010 Act to enable the community to consider and scrutinise proposals by local authorities to permanently close local schools and nurseries.”
- 4.2.6.12 Paragraph 65 of the guidance provides “Temporary closures are only appropriate in very restricted circumstances. Temporary closure may be appropriate where the numbers of children attending are zero and there is a realistic prospect of families returning, for example, in very remote or islands communities where the school is the only local provision. In such case temporary closure helps preserve the possibility of reopening if families return.”
- 4.2.6.13 The Education Directorate does not consider that continuing with the current temporary closure (formerly known as “mothballing”) arrangement is a reasonable alternative to the proposal as a response to the reasons for formulating the proposal. It would not be in the interests of the pupils and wider community to continue with the existing temporary closure (“mothballing”) arrangement. To retain a building, which is empty and not in operation, for another year, would require Fife Council to continue to ensure security, undertake repairs and sustain maintenance contracts. Where the school is not very remote, the school roll is zero and there is no realistic prospect of the school roll increasing sufficiently to justify reopening the school, continued temporary closure (“mothballing”) of the school is not justified and would be contrary to the terms of the Statutory Guidance referred to. It would deny statutory consultees and other interested parties the opportunity to have their say on the future of Kirkton of Largo Primary School.**
- 4.2.6.14 Kirkton of Largo Primary School to reopen
- 4.2.6.15 Pupil enrolment trend data demonstrates that parents/carers within the Kirkton of Largo village have chosen to make placing requests to other schools over the last number of years and therefore the parents have chosen their preferred primary provision. The school roll at September 2022 census was 13 pupils (18% occupancy). There is no mechanism available to Fife Council to increase the school roll.
- 4.2.6.16 The Education Directorate believes that whilst the school was in operation with 13 pupils, the educational experience would be different to other schools with a higher occupancy and larger peer group and that the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment pupils are now benefitting from being part of a larger school.
- 4.2.6.17 The parents who attended the meeting in November 2024 were disappointed that the school roll could not be sustained in Kirkton of Largo Primary School. However, the parents/carers have acknowledged that at Lundin Mill Primary

School there is a larger peer group to allow pupils to collaborate.

4.2.6.18 Based on the school roll, from September 2025 census, there were 17 primary aged pupils living within the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area. 15 were attending Lundin Mill Primary School with 2 attending elsewhere.

4.2.6.19 The table below shows the school roll, year on year, if all the projected pupils from the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area attended the school. This does not include the current catchment pupils who are enrolled in any other primary schools. Nor does it include pupils from new housing as there is none proposed in this area. It has been determined by a trend of births in the catchment area.

2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
<5	6	7	9	9

4.2.6.20 Pupil enrolment trend data indicates that it is highly unlikely that all projected pupils would enrol in Kirkton of Largo Primary School if it were to reopen.

4.2.6.21 Should a decision be made to reopen Kirkton of Largo Primary School, there would be no requirement for current primary age pupils living in the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area, currently enrolled in Lundin Mill Primary School or any other primary school, to enrol at Kirkton of Largo Primary School. If the school were to reopen during session 2026/27, there would be:

- (a) approximately 18 pupils living in the catchment area for session 2026/27, including those currently attending denominational primary school provision.
- (b) only one pupil at 2 different primary school stages
- (c) one class with all pupils taught in a composite class ranging from P1 to P7.
- (d) minimum staffing costs of approximately £140,000. In addition, costs to fully equip the school with furniture and resources would require to be met, together with the costs of redecorating the school, providing new floor coverings and providing enhancement to the dining facilities. These costs could equate to approximately £150,000. The total budget required to reopen the school is estimated to be in the region of £290,000.

4.2.6.22 **The Education Directorate does not consider that the reopening of Kirkton of Largo Primary School is a reasonable alternative to the proposal as a response to the reasons for formulating the proposal. It would not be in the interests of the pupils and wider community to reopen because the projected pupil roll (based on birth rates and known pupils living in the catchment area) falls short of one of the guiding principles.**

4.2.6.23 Consideration of the rezoning of the nearest primary schools' catchment areas

4.2.6.24 There are 4 other schools which are situated fewer than 6 miles from Kirkton of Largo Primary School, where consideration could be given to rezoning their catchment areas to increase the occupancy of Kirkton of Largo Primary School. The closest primary schools to Kirkton of Largo Primary School are:

- (a) Lundin Mill Primary School (1.4 miles)
- (b) Colinsburgh Primary School (3.7 miles)
- (c) Largoward Primary School (4.5 miles)

(d) Elie Primary School (5.2 miles)

4.2.6.25 (a) **Lundin Mill Primary School**

4.2.6.26 Lundin Mill Primary School is an accessible rural school located 1.4 miles from Kirkton of Largo Primary School, with a published permanent capacity for 150 pupils. In accordance with the Committee decision of 9 January 2025, any pupil of school age currently living in the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area, or any new pupils to the village, are advised Lundin Mill is their local school. The small number of pupils currently living in the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area have been accommodated in Lundin Mill and integrated within the school or have chosen to attend other primary school provision, including denominational provision.

4.2.6.27 To increase the occupancy of Kirkton of Largo Primary School, to meet the Council's guiding principles, more than 30 pupils would need to enrol at the school, to increase the occupancy to more than 60%. This would likely result in the closest school, Lundin Mill also reducing to around 60% capacity. By reducing the catchment area of Lundin Mill Primary School in this way, this could result in the operation of 2 small schools, neither of which would meet all the guiding principles set out in paragraph 3.1 above.

4.2.6.28 Reducing the catchment area of Lundin Mill Primary School, by rezoning part of the catchment to Kirkton of Largo Primary School, would, therefore, affect the long-term sustainability of Lundin Mill Primary School. It would not be practicable to rezone properties from Lundin Mill Primary School catchment area to Kirkton of Largo Primary School, as this could result in a declining school roll and occupancy for Lundin Mill in the long term, based on the current trends.

4.2.6.29 In addition, an increased number of pupils would require transport to Kirkton of Largo Primary School. This scenario would result in an increased revenue cost for the Education Directorate, by procuring a larger vehicle to transport pupils from Lundin Mill to Kirkton of Largo Primary School. At present the vehicle(s) transport fewer than 5 pupils from Kirkton of Largo to Lundin Mill. It would also take away the opportunity to build independence for those Lundin Mill Primary School pupils who currently walk to school.

4.2.6.30 The Education Directorate believes that being part of a larger school will enable both the existing pupils living in the Lundin Mill Primary School catchment area and those pupils from Kirkton of Largo catchment area attending Lundin Mill Primary School to continue to benefit from an enhanced range of curricular experiences, providing more opportunities to become successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens.

4.2.6.31 Decreasing the pupil population for Lundin Mill Primary School will, over both schools, increase the number of pupils educated in classes organised in a broader range of school years (e.g. P1 to P4 instead of P1 to P2). This will widen the scope of teacher planning, taking account of the 7 principles of Curriculum for Excellence design, ensuring learner's experience a coherent curriculum across all 4 contexts (opportunities for personal achievement, interdisciplinary learning, ethos and life of the school and Curriculum areas and subjects). It will also reduce the opportunities for children to collaborate during

planned learning activities and reduce the ability to adapt the learning environment to reflect the age and stage of the pupils learning more closely within it.

4.2.6.32 Composite class organisation spanning 3 or more primary year groups provides fewer opportunities for planned and focused collaborative and cooperative learning activities, undermining a more rigorous development and progression of pupils' skills and knowledge. Importantly, pupils will have fewer opportunities to learn with and from their similar age peers. They will have fewer opportunities to consolidate and extend their learning, articulate arguments, explore new ideas and find creative solutions to problems within groups of their peers.

4.2.6.33 **The Education Directorate does not consider rezoning part of the catchment area of Lundin Mill Primary School to Kirkton of Largo Primary School a reasonable alternative to the proposal as a response to the reasons for formulating the proposal. It would not be in the interests of the pupils and wider community to rezone pupils from another community to sustain Kirkton of Largo Primary School. It would not provide any educational benefits to the children living in the catchment areas of either Kirkton of Largo Primary School or Lundin Mill Primary School.**

4.2.6.34 (b) **Colinsburgh Primary School**

4.2.6.35 Colinsburgh Primary School is an accessible rural school with a maximum capacity of 74 pupils, distributed across 3 classrooms and could accommodate the small number of catchment pupils from Kirkton of Largo Primary School. The school is currently rated C (Poor) for Suitability and B for Condition.

4.2.6.36 Three housing sites have been granted planning permission within the Colinsburgh catchment area, resulting in 71 new dwellings by 2027 (as described in the table below). It is projected that additional pupils generated from these houses will support the school to maintain an occupancy level greater than 60%, one of the guiding principles set out in paragraph 3.1.

	Number of homes	Expected Completion
Kilconquhar Mains (LAR090)	13 homes	By 2025
Colinsburgh SE (LAR083)	50 homes	By 2027
Muircambus Farm (LAR104)	8 homes	By 2026

4.2.6.37 Colinsburgh Primary School is located 3.7 miles from Kirkton of Largo and can be accessed off the busy A917. The A917 to and from Kirkton of Largo village to Colinsburgh is a main commuter route from Leven to St Andrew's and the speed limit is 60 mph with no pedestrian footpaths.

4.2.6.38 To increase the occupancy of Kirkton of Largo Primary School, to meet the Council's guiding principles, more than 30 pupils would need to enrol at the school, to increase the occupancy to more than 60%. This would result in the Colinsburgh Primary School roll reducing to around 20% capacity and 1 multi composite class ranging from P1 to P7.

4.2.6.39 By reducing the catchment area of Colinsburgh Primary School in this way, this would result in the continued operation of 2 small schools, neither of which would meet all the guiding principles set out in paragraph 3.1 above.

- 4.2.6.40 Rezoning some of the properties within the Colinsburgh catchment area would result in additional revenue expenditure for the Education Directorate, to provide distance entitled free transport over a longer distance.
- 4.2.6.41 This option would result in a number of pupils travelling past Colinsburgh Primary School to attend Kirkton of Largo Primary School. This option would also take away the opportunity to build independence for those Colinsburgh Primary School pupils who currently walk to school.
- 4.2.6.42 **The Education Directorate does not consider rezoning part of the catchment area of Colinsburgh Primary School to Kirkton of Largo Primary School a reasonable alternative to the proposal as a response to the reasons for formulating the proposal. It would not be in the interests of the pupils and wider community to rezone pupils from another community to sustain Kirkton of Largo Primary School. It would not provide any educational benefits to the children living in the catchment areas of either Kirkton of Largo Primary School or Colinsburgh Primary School.**
- 4.2.6.43 (c) Largoward Primary School**
- 4.2.6.44 Largoward Primary School is an accessible rural school with a maximum capacity of 50 pupils, distributed across 2 classrooms, and could accommodate the small number of catchment pupils from Kirkton of Largo Primary School. The school is currently rated B (Satisfactory) for Suitability and B (Satisfactory) for Condition.
- 4.2.6.45 Largoward Primary School is part of a different secondary school cluster and is associated with Madras College. The secondary catchment for pupils living within the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area is Waid Academy. For this reason alone, it would not be an appropriate option to rezone pupils from the Largoward Primary School catchment area to Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area.
- 4.2.6.46 Largoward Primary School is located 4.5 miles from Kirkton of Largo and can be accessed off the busy A915. The A915 to and from Kirkton of Largo village to Largoward is a main commuter route from Leven to St Andrew's and the speed limit is 60 mph with no pedestrian footpaths.
- 4.2.6.47 To increase the occupancy of Kirkton of Largo Primary School, to meet the Council's guiding principles, more than 30 pupils would need to enrol at the school, to increase the occupancy to more than 60%. However, there are currently fewer than 15 pupils enrolled at Largoward Primary School.
- 4.2.6.48 By reducing the catchment area of Largoward Primary School in this way, this would result in no pupils attending Largoward Primary School.
- 4.2.6.50 This option would result in a number of pupils travelling past Largoward Primary School to attend Kirkton of Largo Primary School. This option would also take away the opportunity to build independence for those Largoward Primary School pupils who currently walk to school.

4.2.6.51 The Education Directorate does not consider rezoning part of the catchment area of Largoward Primary School to Kirkton of Largo Primary School a reasonable alternative to the proposal as a response to the reasons for formulating the proposal. It would not be in the interests of the pupils and wider community to rezone pupils from another community to sustain Kirkton of Largo Primary School. It would not provide any educational benefits to the children living in the catchment areas of either Kirkton of Largo Primary School or Largoward Primary School.

4.2.6.52 (d) Elie Primary School

4.2.6.53 Elie Primary School is an accessible rural school and currently has one class of pupils ranging from P3 to P7. It has a maximum capacity of 75 pupils, distributed across 3 classrooms and could accommodate the small number of catchment pupils from Kirkton of Largo Primary School. The school is currently rated B (Satisfactory) for suitability and B (Satisfactory) for condition. The occupancy of the school is less than 20%.

4.2.6.54 Two housing sites have been granted planning permission within the Elie catchment area, potentially resulting in 80 new dwellings by 2030 (as described in the table below). It is projected that additional pupils generated from these houses will support the school to attain an occupancy level greater than 60%, one of the guiding principles set out in paragraph 3.1.

	Number of homes	Expected Completion
Grange Road (LAR092)	25 homes	2027 - 2030
Elie East (LAR093)	55 homes	2026 - 2029

4.2.6.55 Elie Primary School is located 5.2 miles from Kirkton of Largo and can be accessed off the busy A917. The A917 to and from Kirkton of Largo village to Elie is part of the main route from Leven along the East Neuk of Fife and the speed limit is 60 mph with no pedestrian footpaths.

4.2.6.56 To increase the occupancy of Kirkton of Largo Primary School, to meet the Council’s guiding principles, more than 30 pupils would need to enrol at the school, to increase the occupancy to more than 60%. However, there are currently fewer than 20 pupils enrolled at Elie Primary School.

4.2.6.57 By reducing the catchment area of Elie Primary School in this way, this would result in no pupils attending Elie Primary School.

4.2.6.58 Rezoning some of the properties within the Elie catchment area would result in additional revenue expenditure for the Education Directorate, to provide distance entitled free transport over a longer distance.

4.2.6.59 This option would result in a number of pupils travelling past Elie Primary School to attend Kirkton of Largo Primary School. This option would also take away the opportunity to build independence for those Elie Primary School pupils who currently walk to school.

4.2.6.60 The Education Directorate does not consider rezoning part of the catchment area of Elie Primary School to Kirkton of Largo Primary School a reasonable alternative to the proposal as a response to the reasons for

formulating the proposal. It would not be in the interests of the pupils and wider community to rezone pupils from another community to sustain Kirkton of Largo Primary School. It would not provide any educational benefits to the children living in the catchment areas of either Kirkton of Largo Primary School or Elie Primary School.

- 4.2.7 The likely effect on the local community in consequence of the proposal (if implemented)
- 4.2.7.1 The local community has been defined in three ways, as demonstrated in Appendix 2.
- 4.2.7.2 The first community considered is the school community. The existing school community of Kirkton of Largo has already become part of a larger, sustainable school community and as such brings together all the children within the Lundin Mill school community. Lundin Mill Primary School has engagement links with the Community Council, Kirkton of Largo church, a Dementia Friendly group and Peacehaven Care Home, among others.
- 4.2.7.3 As stated above, when in operation, the school community at Kirkton of Largo Primary School made no use of the school building for activities involving the local community, and no impact in this respect is anticipated.
- 4.2.7.4 The second community considered is the local community which is the Upper Largo community. This community makes no use of the school building for community activities. The community can make use of a Largo and Newburn Parish Church, approximately 250 metres from the school, and implementation of the proposal would therefore not affect the holding of community events in the village. It is the view of the Education Directorate that the loss of the school premises would not adversely affect the community. The school, prior to temporary closure (formerly referred to as “mothballing”), did not have any links with the Largo Area Community Council.
- 4.2.7.5 If the proposal is implemented, it is the view of the Education Directorate that the sustainability of the Upper Largo village community will not be affected, and the community will remain. Children will continue to live in the community and will attend a school fewer than 2 miles from their existing school. From August 2022, the Headteacher of Lundin Mill and Kirkton of Largo Primary Schools worked to enhance the link between the two communities. Combined activities such as woodland visits, school excursion to Ardroy for P7 pupils, special assemblies once a term, where Kirkton of Largo pupils would join pupils at Lundin Mill, and peer mediation training, commenced. This allowed pupils and parents/carers an opportunity to hear about the joint activities and provided the pupils a broader school experience.
- 4.2.7.6 It is also the view of the Education Directorate that there will be no significant impact on the desire for housing in the area. The expected number of pupils, from births in this catchment area, is likely to have no significant impact for the Education Directorate and would still allow for consideration of any planning application for additional housing within the catchment area.
- 4.2.7.7 The existing pupils living in the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area, from births, can be accommodated in Lundin Mill Primary School.

4.2.7.8 Roll projections for Lundin Mill Primary School, including Kirkton of Largo Primary School Catchment are:

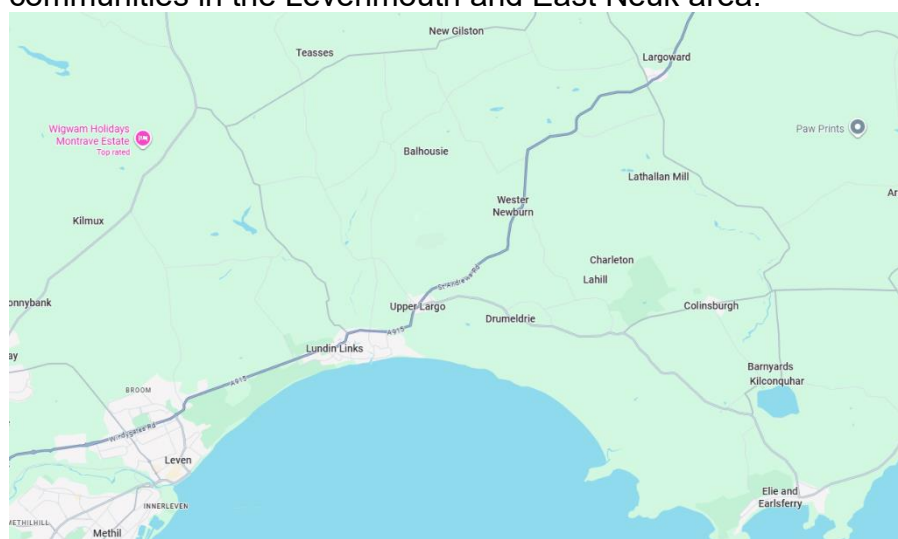
Year	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031
Number of projected pupils	129	114	109	102	100	94

4.2.7.9 Further analysis of local community impact is provided in section 15 of this proposal.

4.2.7.10 Finally, the wider community of which Upper Largo village is a part, will benefit from the development of a more sustainable school estate, with a reduction in the revenue costs due to under-occupation and maintenance of a council asset. The longevity of the remaining schools will be improved, providing stability to the area. There will be no impact on the use of shops, services and facilities in this wider community by residents of the Upper Largo community because of the closure of Kirkton of Largo Primary School.

4.2.7.11 If the proposal is implemented, the Education Directorate does not consider that there will be any adverse effect on the local community, whether defined as the school community, the local village community or the wider rural community surrounding the village of Upper Largo. Overall, the Education Directorate considers that there will be a positive effect on the local community.

4.2.7.12 The picture below demonstrates the proximity of Kirkton of Largo to other communities in the Levenmouth and East Neuk area.



4.2.8 The likely effect caused by any different travelling arrangements that might be required as a result of the proposal

4.2.8.1 Lundin Mill Primary School is situated 1.4 miles from Kirkton of Largo Primary School. Primary age pupils who live more than one mile from their catchment school are entitled to free transport under the present Fife Council School Transport Policy. As a result of the January 2025 decision to temporarily close (formerly mothball) Kirkton of Largo Primary School, Fife Council offers all parents residing in the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area, who

were already attending Lundin Mill Primary School because of a placing request, and any new pupils, free transport to Lundin Mill Primary School. For those pupils who meet the distance criteria, this arrangement will continue. The journey time from Kirkton of Largo Primary School to Lundin Mill Primary School is less than 10 minutes by mini-bus or car, and whilst there will be variations in this for some pupils, the Education Directorate does not consider that there will be any significant adverse effects as a result of this proposal. There will be a small environmental impact of transporting the Kirkton of Largo pupils who may have previously walked to school.

4.2.8.2 It is unlikely that the arrangements school staff make to get to school will change in any significant way. There is unlikely to be any environmental impact arising from the arrangements staff make to get to school.

4.2.8.3 Other users of the school premises or facilities will not be affected in relation to transport arrangements. The Kirkton of Largo Primary School building was not used for community use activities prior to the school becoming non-operational in August 2023 and therefore there is no effect on other users' transport. As previously indicated, the church hall is approximately 250 metres from the school.

4.2.9 Therefore, the Education Directorate has concluded that there is no reasonable alternative to the proposal to close Kirkton of Largo Primary School and rezone the catchment area to Lundin Mill Primary School. The rezoning of Lundin Mill Primary School catchment area will sustain the long-term school roll at Lundin Mill Primary School, as well as meet the occupancy rate of above 60% and allow Lundin Mill Primary School to continue to operate with more than 3 Primary classes. Implementation of the proposal to close Kirkton of Largo Primary School is the most appropriate response to the reasons for this proposal as outlined above at paragraph 1.32 and 4.2.4.1.

5. Lundin Mill - The Case for Rezoning the Catchment Area

5.1 Lundin Mill Primary School is classified as a rural school in accordance with the Scottish Government Rural Schools Classification dated October 2021.

Lundin Mill Primary School

5.2.1 Lundin Mill Primary School is the nearest primary school, within the Waid Academy cluster, to the Kirkton of Largo village and is also located in a village. Lundin Mill Primary School is situated 1.4 miles from the Kirkton of Largo Primary School building and the journey from school to school takes fewer than 10 minutes by mini-bus or car. There are currently approximately 1185 residential homes in the Lundin Mill catchment area. Pupils from the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area, who have attended Lundin Mill Primary School in the last 3 academic sessions, have helped sustain the roll at Lundin Mill. The school has also accepted approximately 25 placing requests across P1 to P7 (excluding the pupils from Kirkton of Largo). There have also been approximately 10 pupils across all primary stages who have chosen to attend other schools. The school roll year on year has been as follows:

Academic Year	School Roll	Academic Year	School Roll
2025-2026	133	2020 -2021	99
2024 -2025	137	2019 - 2020	93
2023 - 2024	127	2018 - 2019	94
2022 - 2023	130	2017 - 2018	99
2021 - 2022	114	2016 - 2017	110

- 5.2.2 There are no known plans for new housing in the Lundin Mill Primary School catchment area.
- 5.2.3 The accommodation for Lundin Mill Primary School is situated in 2 separate buildings in close proximity to each other. There are 5 permanent classrooms in one building. In addition, there is one temporary classroom situated in the same building as the nursery.
- 5.2.4 Following a review of the capacities of all primary schools in Fife, Lundin Mill Primary School capacity has reduced from 7 classes to 6 to allow for a permanent multi-purpose space in the main building greater than 45sqm. The published pupil capacity within Lundin Mill Primary School is 150 pupils, consisting of 6 composite classes of up to 25 pupils.
- 5.2.5 The school roll at Lundin Mill Primary School was recorded as 137 pupils in the September 2024 census, with an occupancy of greater than 60%. The figures include pupils from the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area who made placing requests to Lundin Mill Primary School prior to session 2023/24, when the school was last operational, and any subsequently enrolled in terms of the mothballing arrangements. The school roll for Lundin Mill Primary School for session 2025/26 is 133 pupils, accommodated within 6 classes. This allows the multi-use area to be used flexibly, to deliver aspects of the curriculum.
- 5.2.6 For session 2025/2026, there are fewer than 5 nursery aged pupils living in the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area attending nursery provision across the Levenmouth area. For session 2025/26 there are 26 nursery aged pupils living in the Lundin Mill Primary School catchment area due to attend nursery provision across this area. These figures include N4 (anti-pre-school) and N5 pupils (pre-school) children due to attend in the August, January and April intakes.
- 5.2.7 The addition of Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment pupils into the Lundin Mill Primary School catchment area would help to ensure the continued sustainability of this school roll, with more than 50 pupils, 3 classes and an occupancy over 60%, thus continuing to meet the guiding principles as set out in paragraph 3.1.
- 5.2.8 School roll projections for Lundin Mill Primary School (based on the 2024 pupil census), indicate the roll of Lundin Mill Primary School is likely to decline over the next few years to an occupancy of just over 60% by 2031. If this projection did not include the small number of births from the Kirkton of Largo catchment area, occupancy levels at Lundin Mill Primary School would fall below 60%.

Year	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031
Projected Number of Pupils	129	114	109	102	100	94

Capacity	150	150	150	150	150	150
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- 5.2.9 There is nursery provision on site at Lundin Mill Primary School. The local nurseries for pupils living in the Kirkton of Largo and Lundin Mill Primary School catchment areas are situated at Anstruther, Crail, Lundin Mill, Pittenweem and St Monans. In addition, there are a number of private providers and childminders in this geographical area. Most pupils from the catchment areas of Kirkton of Largo and Lundin Mill have chosen to attend Lundin Mill nursery.
- 5.2.10 Lundin Mill Primary School does not operate a morning or after school childcare service. The nearest childcare club is run from Kennoway or Mountfleurie Primary Schools.
- 5.2.11 Lundin Mill Primary School has links with the local bowling, tennis and golf clubs. It is also near the coastal path, beach and local park.
- 5.2.12 The proposed new catchment area for Lundin Mill Primary School, from Monday 17 August 2026, is shown within Appendix 3.
- 5.2.13 The Education Directorate is confident that the collaboration between the Planning Service and the Education Directorate, to analyse and respond to planning applications, is robust. School capacity risks are reviewed whenever the Housing Land Audit is renewed and when every new planning application is received, and the roll projections reflect current pupil numbers, school capacity, class organisation and other relevant legislation and policies. These assessments are, and will continue to be, based on school data that is updated annually e.g. Pupil Census, School Estate Core Facts and Housing Land Audit.

6. Educational Benefits Statement

- 6.1 The Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 provides that where an education authority has formulated a relevant proposal in relation to any school, it must comply with the requirements of the Act before proceeding with the proposal. The education authority must prepare an educational benefits statement which includes:
- (a) the authority's assessment of the likely effects of a relevant proposal (if implemented) on:
 - (i) the pupils of any affected school,
 - (ii) any other users of the school's facilities,
 - (iii) any children who would (in the future but for implementation) be likely to become pupils of the school,
 - (iv) the pupils of any other schools in the authority's area,
 - (b) the authority's assessment of any other likely effects of the proposal (if implemented),
 - (c) an explanation of how the authority intends to minimise or avoid any adverse effects that may arise from the proposal (if implemented),
 - (d) a description of the benefits which the authority believes will result from implementation of the proposal (with reference to the persons whom it believes will derive them).

- 6.2 The authority's assessment of the likely effects of this proposal (if implemented) on:**
- 6.2.1 **(i) The pupils of any affected school**
- 6.2.1.1 Benefits for the pupils of Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area**
- 6.2.1.2 In making this proposal, the Education Directorate believes that being part of a larger school will enable both the existing pupils living in the Lundin Mill Primary School catchment area, and those pupils from Kirkton of Largo catchment area attending Lundin Mill Primary School, to continue to benefit from an enhanced range of curricular experiences, providing more opportunities to become successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens.
- 6.2.1.3 An increased pupil population (less than 20 moving to more than 100) will enable Kirkton of Largo catchment pupils to be educated in classes organised in a narrower range of school years (e.g. P1 to P2 instead of P1 to P7). This allows for teacher planning to focus on fewer stages, taking account of the 7 principles of Curriculum for Excellence design, ensuring learner's experience a coherent curriculum across all 4 contexts (opportunities for personal achievement, interdisciplinary learning, ethos and life of the school and Curriculum areas and subjects). It also provides more opportunities for children to collaborate during planned learning activities as well as the learning environment more closely reflecting the age and stage of the pupils learning within it.
- 6.2.1.4 Composite class organisation spanning 3 or fewer primary year groups provides greater opportunities for planned and focused collaborative and cooperative learning activities, supporting a more rigorous development and progression of pupils' skills and knowledge. Importantly, pupils will have opportunities to learn with and from their similar age peers. They will have more opportunities to consolidate and extend their learning, articulate arguments, explore new ideas and find creative solutions to problems within groups of their peers.
- 6.2.1.5 Children from Upper Largo village are integrating within Lundin Mill Primary School and the advantage for Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment pupils is that they now have a bigger peer group at each primary stage. It is no longer the case where a single pupil from one primary stage must play with pupils from an older or younger year group, as previously there were no other pupils at the same age. This has reduced the risk of social isolation as a result of having no other peer group of the same age. Lundin Mill has 6 classes (for the past 4 years) some of which have been organised in composite classes. There has always been a minimum of at least 4 pupils of each stage which provides greater peer support in each class setting.
- 6.2.1.6 Within the larger school, learners will have the opportunity to develop wider relationships and friendships which will see them better prepared to meet the social and learning opportunities and challenges ahead in the large context of secondary school. This is important in terms of developing their learner journey from 3 to 18 years of age.

- 6.2.1.7 Attending a larger school provides pupils from Upper Largo with the opportunity to undertake a wider range of leadership and team roles during a wider variety of planned pupil experiences.
- 6.2.1.8 It is anticipated that the larger occupied school will provide more flexible support to children with additional support needs and will provide opportunities for these children to be supported by a range of adults over time. A greater pool of adults can help facilitate the development of children's independence and their capacity to interact with others.
- 6.2.1.9 A larger school / sustained roll at Lundin Mill Primary School offers children from the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area an increased possibility of participating in teams in a range of local and national competitions and events. These educational, cultural, and sporting activities provide a number of benefits for children in terms of both academic and social development, whilst also supporting the process of transition towards the larger and more varied educational setting of secondary school.
- 6.2.1.10 Pupils currently transitioning from Nursery to Lundin Mill Primary School Primary 1 are more likely to have attended Nursery with a child who is also transitioning to the same primary school. This will provide peer familiarity and reassurance for pupils. Similarly, a greater number of children transitioning from P7 at Lundin Mill to Waid Academy will ensure similar benefits for young people.
- 6.2.1.11 There are 30 nursery aged pupils living in the Lundin Mill and Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment areas attending Fife Council nurseries or partner providers. 14 of the 30 attend Lundin Mill nursery, 11 attend other Fife Council nurseries and 5 attend partner providers.
- 6.2.1.12 It was previously exceptionally difficult to facilitate any after school activities at Kirkton of Largo, with 2 teachers working within the school (1 teacher in session 2022/23) as well as small numbers making some activities non-viable. Alongside a larger group of teachers, partners offer more viable opportunities for children in Lundin Mill.
- 6.2.1.13 Benefits for the pupils of Lundin Mill Primary School catchment area**
- 6.2.1.14 The gradual move of children from Kirkton of Largo Primary School has resulted in no negative impact for pupils attending Lundin Mill Primary School from the Kirkton of Largo catchment area.
- 6.2.1.15 Lundin Mill Primary School pupils will have increased opportunities to develop relationships and friendships with peers from a wider geographical area. They will also have greater opportunities to participate in co-operative and shared learning experiences with more peers of a similar age.
- 6.2.1.16 An increased school roll supports the sustainability and viability of the school, offering greater certainty to learners within the Lundin Mill Primary School community. There will be a narrower age range of pupils in each composite class.
- 6.2.1.17 Pupils within Lundin Mill will continue to have access to any lunchtime and extracurricular school clubs on offer which are managed by school staff or

Active Schools. The addition of pupils from Kirkton of Largo will provide an enhanced number of pupils to take part in teams organised by age.

6.2.1.18 There may be opportunities in future for pupils to get involved with any evening activities run by outside agencies. There is currently no demand for the school to be open in the evening for community events or activities, except for school events such as Parent Council meetings.

6.2.1.19 Primary Teacher staffing allocations are assigned annually to reflect pupil rolls, therefore there would be a neutral effect from any increase in pupil numbers.

6.2.2 (ii) Any other users of the school's facilities,

6.2.2.1 Effect on Staff as a result of the closure and rezoning proposal

6.2.2.2 The number of pupils in Kirkton of Largo, for the last academic session it was operational, resulted in a single class school. Operating as a single class for an academic session results in limited opportunities for staff collaboration. As a result of an increased pupil roll at Lundin Mill Primary School there will be a larger staff team which will have opportunities to work in collaboration with additional peers for a variety of different purposes. These opportunities include self-evaluation for self-improvement activities, developing and implementing school improvement priorities, as well as assessment and moderation activities to ensure consistent standards and expectations for all pupils.

6.2.2.3 At Lundin Mill Primary School, there is a greater number of staff than previously located within Kirkton of Largo Primary School. This results in an increased range of staff specialism, knowledge, expertise, skills and talent as well as increased scope in the deployment of staff to meet the needs and respond to the differing interests and curricular choices of individuals.

6.2.2.4 Increased opportunities for collaborative working between a larger number of teachers and pupil support staff will provide a wider range of learning and teaching approaches, develop a consistency of expectations and opportunities to share good practice, leading to better outcomes for children. Furthermore, collective professional learning activity will offer increased opportunities for moderation and curriculum development which will directly impact on school improvement. This will support the national and Fife-wide empowerment agenda.

6.2.2.5 The larger occupied school will provide a progressive and coherent curriculum, based on an enhanced range of planned learning and teaching approaches, which will have a potential positive impact on the quality of pupils' wider achievements. More teachers and more Pupil Support Assistants in one setting will help promote high quality staff interaction through joint planning and shared career-long professional learning opportunities.

6.2.2.6 This rezoning proposal is expected to sustain the existing school roll at Lundin Mill Primary School. As a result, the number of staff required is expected to remain at the same level, supporting consistency across all aspects of school life.

6.2.2.7 Effect on Facilities as a result of the closure and rezoning proposal

- 6.2.2.8 Kirkton of Largo Primary school comprises 2 classrooms smaller than the 57 square metre standard size. The school hall is considerably smaller than the size recommended by Sport Scotland.
- 6.2.2.9 Pupils who previously attended Kirkton of Largo Primary school will benefit from the enhanced facilities available at Lundin Mill Primary School. This will provide staff with greater flexibility of opportunities to use different types of learning environments that better support a range of learning activities and opportunities for all learners.
- 6.2.2.10 Indoor and outdoor physical education facilities at Lundin Mill can deliver the recommended 2 hours of physical education per week, to all pupils, throughout the year. This is crucial to the physical and emotional wellbeing of the children. The school has a central large gathering space that is used for dining, PE and a range of other curricular activities as well as whole school assemblies and performances.
- 6.2.2.11 It is not expected that this proposal will have any significant impact on the facilities of Lundin Mill Primary School. This school has a variety of learning spaces to allow all pupils to receive the full breadth of the curriculum and meet learners needs.

6.2.2.12 Effect on Parents as a result of the closure and rezoning proposal

- 6.2.2.13 In the session 2022/23, Kirkton of Largo Primary School did not have a Parent Council.
- 6.2.2.14 The increased number of pupils attending Lundin Mill Primary School provides all parents from the Kirkton of Largo catchment area the opportunity to be part of a larger parent forum of the school and wider geographical community area.
- 6.2.2.15 An active Parent Council at Lundin Mill gives the opportunity for parents from Kirkton of Largo catchment area to become a member of a supportive group which has regular meetings and fundraising events. All parents of Lundin Mill and Kirkton of Largo pupils are invited to join every meeting.
- 6.2.2.16 Parents from the Kirkton of Largo catchment area will be able to attend a wider range of events on offer at Lundin Mill, as a result of the enhanced curricular opportunities made available to pupils during and beyond the school day. The benefits of parental involvement in their children's education are clearly recognised and any increase in parental involvement has the potential to directly benefit children in their learning.

6.2.2.17 Effect on the Community as a result of the closure and rezoning proposal

- 6.2.2.18 In Upper Largo, pupils had limited opportunities to be active members of the immediate school community. However, this contrasts with the experience available in Lundin Mill Primary School, where pupils are an integral part of the community. Litter picks in the community, links with the Largo Area Community Council, links with the bowling club and football club continue.

6.2.2.19 Benefits for any other users of the school's facilities

- 6.2.2.20 The Kirkton of Largo Primary School building is not currently used for community use activities and was not used for community activities prior to school becoming non-operational in August 2023. The nearby church hall is available for wider community use. Should this proposal be implemented, any new community activities could be staged in the church hall which is less than 250 metres from the existing school building.
- 6.2.2.21 This proposal seeks to sustain the Lundin Mill school community long term. This proposal will ensure the school estate is managed long term as the current information will future proof the provision required in the catchment area. The proposal will meet the guiding principles around occupancy and enables communities to be brought together across housing situated in close proximity.
- 6.2.2.22 For those pupils attending Lundin Mill Primary School, the school may deliver community events in the evenings and there would not be any negative effect on any community activity continuing as a result of this proposal. Accordingly, there would be no negative impact for any other users of each of the school's facilities.

6.2.3 (iii) Benefits for any children who would (in the future but for implementation) be likely to become pupils of the school

- 6.2.3.1 The closure of Kirkton of Largo Primary School from 17 August 2026 will alleviate uncertainties for current catchment pupils, future pupils and their families and will provide long term stability.
- 6.2.3.2 The rezoning of Lundin Mill Primary School catchment area will ensure that homes in the Lundin Links, Lower Largo, Upper Largo, surrounding farms and single rural dwellings in the geographical area will all be associated with one primary school, ensuring long term stability for the community.
- 6.2.3.3 At Lundin Mill Primary School all pupils and parents will benefit from a sustained school roll which will support continuity in school leadership team allocations, along with support for learning and admin support. These positions are allocated to schools based on the size of the school roll.

6.2.4 (iv) Benefits for the pupils of any other schools in the authority's area

- 6.2.4.1 The formal closure of Kirkton of Largo Primary School would reduce inefficient operating expenditure, thus allowing redirection of resources to support pupils across Fife. The more efficient use of resources will support a more equitable and "best value" model for deployment of resources across Fife schools. This has implications for the school estate, resources and staffing, all of which are considered to impact positively on children's learning. Other than as a result of normal inflationary costs etc. the financial operating costs of Lundin Mill have not increased from the time of Kirkton of Largo Primary School being mothballed.
- 6.2.4.2 The rezoning of the Lundin Mill Primary School catchment will benefit other pupils in the local authority because those living in the same communities as

them will be able to attend school alongside them, strengthening peer relationships both in and out of school.

6.3 The authority’s assessment of any other likely effects of the proposal (if implemented)

- 6.3.1 As all the current Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area pupils live more than 1 mile from Lundin Mill Primary School, free school transport will continue to be provided to them, in line with current Fife Council policy.
- 6.3.2 If the proposed change to the catchment area is implemented, any pupil who currently attends Lundin Mill Primary School from the Kirkton of Largo catchment area, who is currently in receipt of free school transport, will continue to be provided with free school transport, in line with current Fife Council policy until they move address and/or education setting.

6.4 How the Authority intends to minimise or avoid any adverse effects that may arise from the proposal (if implemented)

- 6.4.1 Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment pupils are well established within the Lundin Mill Primary School community, following successful transition prior to temporary closure (formerly known as “mothballing”). Comprehensive transition arrangements continue to be in place at Lundin Mill to welcome children from a variety of nursery settings.
- 6.4.2 No guarantee can be given that future placing requests for Lundin Mill Primary School will be granted, as that would be contrary to the terms of the Schools Admissions Policy. However, the Education Directorate will endeavour to work with parents/carers to try and secure places, where possible, within available accommodation. Priority will be given to ensuring continuity and support for children with additional support needs. More information on siblings is contained in section 9.

6.5 Description of the benefits which the authority believes will result from implementation of the proposal (with reference to the persons whom it believes will derive them).

- 6.5.1 The education of current and future pupils from Kirkton of Largo village and the surrounding area will take place in a larger setting which will facilitate delivery of improved educational opportunities in a more sustainable context. Broadly, the Education Directorate believes the larger setting of Lundin Mill Primary School provides an increased range of opportunities to deliver Curriculum for Excellence for existing Lundin Mill Primary School pupils and to enable any new and future Kirkton of Largo catchment pupils to benefit from an educational setting organised to meet their identified needs.
- 6.5.2 The expenditure currently required to maintain Kirkton of Largo Primary School will be redirected to the benefit of all learners in schools across Fife. This redirection can positively impact directly on staffing, resourcing and school estate management, and enhance educational opportunities for a larger group of children and young people. Taking account of the financial constraints which apply to all local authorities currently, and in the foreseeable future, this

intention is consistent with prudent and efficient management of public funds.

- 6.5.3 This proposal will ensure a best value approach to the management of the school estate, as capacity exists in Lundin Mill Primary School to manage the projected pupil roll.
- 6.5.4 This proposal will utilise capacity available within Lundin Mill Primary School, ensuring the occupancy remains over 60%.
- 6.5.5 For a number of pupils, this proposal will ensure that pupils build relationships, resilience and independence.

7. Transport Arrangements

7.1 A pupil is legally entitled to free transport to school if:

- they're under 8 and live more than 2 miles from their catchment school or
- they're over 8 and live more than 3 miles from their catchment school

7.2 However, in terms of the current Home to School Transport Policy, Fife Council provides free school transport to all primary pupils living more than one mile and all secondary pupils living more than two miles from their catchment area school. Pupils are entitled to free school transport according to the policy in place at that time.

7.3 Where there are spare seats on existing school buses or suitable commercial bus services, pupils can pay a fare or use their NEC card (with the travel entitlement loaded) to travel at no cost. The availability of school transport for pupils attending a school as a placing request is not guaranteed and if an offer of a place is accepted, parents would generally be responsible for getting their child to and from school.

7.4 Kirkton of Largo Primary School Catchment Pupils

7.4.1 There is no available walking route from Kirkton of Largo village to Lundin Mill Village.

7.4.2 For the current academic session (2025/26), all pupils living in the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area who were attending Lundin Mill Primary School were offered free school transport. This applied to pupils attending Lundin Mill Primary School as a result of the temporary closure (formerly referred to as "mothballing") arrangements and those pupils who previously attended Lundin Mill Primary School following placing request applications (prior to academic session 2025/26).

7.4.3 Whilst Kirkton of Largo Primary School was in operation, there were fewer than 5 pupils eligible for distance entitled school transport during academic sessions 2020/21, 2021/22 and 2022/23.

7.4.4 Should the proposal to close Kirkton of Largo Primary School be implemented, free school transport will continue to be provided for pupils living in the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area who are living more than 1 mile from

Lundin Mill Primary School, in line with current Council policy.

- 7.4.5 The current arrangements are that pupils who are eligible for distance entitled transport are picked up near their homes. Pupils are then dropped off near to Lundin Mill Primary School.

8. Nursery Provision

- 8.1 The proposed closure of Kirkton of Largo Primary School and the transfer of the catchment to Lundin Mill will have no impact on nursery provision available.
- 8.2 In addition to the nursery settings managed by the Education Directorate, there are a number of private providers and childminders in this geographical area. These nurseries will offer a variety of operational models to enable parents/carers to select their choices for nursery provision to suit their own individual family circumstances.
- 8.3 There is sufficient capacity across the wider local nursery area to accommodate all the nursery aged pupils from the current Kirkton of Largo and Lundin Mill Primary School catchment areas.

9 Siblings

- 9.1 The rezoning of the catchment area of Lundin Mill Primary School to include the catchment area of Kirkton of Largo Primary School will not result in siblings in the same household within the catchment area being zoned to different schools.
- 9.2 Parents have the right to request that their child attend a school other than their designated catchment school (or to their designated catchment school if the child has not been offered a place there). Any such request is called a placing request and is governed by the Education (Scotland) Act 1980. In most circumstances placing requests will be granted where pupil places are available, but the pupil will not automatically be entitled to free or subsidised school transport. Further information on placing requests and the procedure involved can be found in the School Admissions Policy for Primary and Secondary Schools in Fife which can be found at [Apply for a school place | Fife Council](#).
- 9.3 The Council cannot guarantee a placing request will be granted in advance. Placing requests are allocated in terms of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980 and the existing School Admissions Policy referred to above.
- 9.4 As may be the case for any school, a situation may arise that a sibling of a child currently attending Lundin Mill Primary School as a placing request may not be able to attend the same primary school as their older sibling if the rezoning proposal is approved. Where the number of placing requests exceeds the number of available places at the school, the priority criteria within the Admissions Policy apply. The priority criteria provide that a child living at the same household address as their sibling is given a higher priority (following pupils with Additional Support Needs (ASN)), than if a child's non-catchment school is closer to the home address than the catchment school or due to childcare/parent's working arrangements.

9.5 Although no guarantee can be given that a sibling’s placing request will be granted, the Education Directorate will endeavour to work with parents/carers to try and secure places, where possible, within available accommodation. Where appropriate, siblings will be supported to move to their catchment school with enhanced transition arrangements in place to minimise impact. Priority will be given to ensuring continuity and support for children with additional support needs.

10 Secondary School Implications

10.1 In terms of the School Admissions Policy for Primary and Secondary Schools in Fife, enrolment at a secondary school is based on the catchment area in which a pupil’s home address is situated. No changes to secondary school catchments are being proposed as part of this consultation.

10.2 The policy also provides that standard enrolment for transfer from primary to secondary are organised annually between the secondary school and its associated primary schools.

10.3 Kirkton of Largo Primary School and Lundin Mill Primary School are associated primary schools for Waid Academy.

10.4 The denominational schools associated with these primary schools are St Agatha’s Roman Catholic Primary School in Leven and St Andrew’s Roman Catholic High School in Kirkcaldy. As indicated in para 1.5, there are no proposed changes to the denominational primary and secondary catchment areas associated within the proposal.

11. Cost per Pupil Calculation

11.1 The cost per pupil broadly equates to the total expenditure for all running costs associated with a primary or secondary school, divided by the number of pupils enrolled in the school at the September census.

11.2 The cost per pupil for each of the schools was as follows:

	Financial Year 2022/23	Financial Year 2023/24	Financial Year 2024/25
Kirkton of Largo PS	£7,302 *	-	-
Lundin Mill PS	£4,087	£5,135 **	£6,266

* Based on the budgets from 2022-203 and excludes any Pupil Equity Funding (PEF).

** which excludes any Pupil Equity Fund (PEF) and additional teachers funding as part of any Scottish Government initiative to increase teacher posts through the COVID-19 pandemic.

12. Financial Implications of the closure of Kirkton of Largo Primary School

12.1 No saving has yet been realised as no budgetary reduction has been approved. The budget associated with Kirkton of Largo Primary School has been, and if the closure proposal is approved, will be, distributed as part of the overall primary schools’ budget. Some reduction in cost has been realised as a result of the temporary closure (formerly known as “mothballing”) of Kirkton of Largo Primary School. If Kirkton of Largo Primary School were to close on Monday 17

August 2026, the detailed breakdown of the estimated financial implications, at that time, is contained within Appendix 7.

- 12.2 If it were determined that the school should reopen, approximately £140,000 would be required to staff the school. In addition, costs to fully equip the school with ICT (information and communication technology), furniture and resources, to meet the needs of learners will be required. It will be necessary to redecorate the school, provide new floor coverings and provide enhancement to the dining facilities. These costs could equate to approximately £150,000. The total budget required to reopen the school is estimated to be in the region of £290,000.

13 Grant Aided Expenditure (GAE)

- 13.1 As indicated in paragraph 4.1.1, Kirkton of Largo Primary School is classified as an accessible rural school, based on the criteria applied by the Scottish Government. As a result of this classification, and because fewer than 70 children were attending the school up until August 2023, the local authority received additional funding of approximately £3,000 per pupil per annum as a contribution to the higher cost of educating children in such settings.

- 13.2 However, as Kirkton of Largo Primary School is currently temporarily closed (formerly known as “mothballed”), the proposed closure of the school will have no impact on GAE allocations. GAE allocations are determined by school roll numbers, and the school currently has no pupils. Any decrease in the number of pupils in rural schools does not necessarily result in a decrease in total GAE flowing to Fife. Any decrease is calculated relative to the movement over the other 31 authorities. GAE figures do not represent budgets, targets or expenditure guidelines but are simply a distribution method of determining each local authority’s share of total revenue budget funding based on relative need. The GAE process is complex, and the implications of one school closure cannot be calculated based on the overall allocation of GAE.

14. Future Use of the Site

- 14.1 The Kirkton of Largo Primary School building is owned by Fife Council. Kirkton of Largo Primary School is situated on North Feus, Upper Largo. The school is currently maintained by our Property Services Team and Orbis to ensure it is wind and watertight and is regularly checked by Janitorial Services. The school resources were removed in November 2024 to ensure compliance with Fife Council’s insurance.
- 14.2 If the closure proposal is approved by the Cabinet Committee, presumption will be given to other educational uses for the site. If none can be identified other uses by the Council will be considered. If no alternative uses can be identified in this way the site will be disposed of.
- 14.3 No decision can be made on the future use of the site unless the closure proposal is approved by the Cabinet Committee.
- 14.4 For the avoidance of doubt the site will not be put to any alternative use until the closure proposal is approved by Cabinet Committee and that decision has become final.

15. Community Impact of the Closure

- 15.1 In preparing this proposal the Council has considered the ways in which the closure of Kirkton of Largo Primary School might impact on the community, taking account of research published by the Scottish Government in 2012 (Robinson and Whittaker, EAS Learning Research). This research identifies a number of key areas for consideration.
- 15.2 Based on this proposal all children from the Kirkton of Largo community would be educated within Lundin Mill Primary School. Lundin Mill Primary School already has a small number of Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area pupils enrolled, following successful placing requests and also as a result of the temporary closure (formerly known as “mothballing”), arrangements for Kirkton of Largo Primary School. As no pupils are currently enrolled at Kirkton of Largo Primary School, in practical terms, no pupils will require to transfer to Lundin Mill Primary School, upon closure of the school.
- 15.3 Loss of social resource and community resource
Kirkton of Largo Primary School has not been used by other community users during academic sessions 2022/23, 2023/24, 2024/25 or 2025/26. The community of Kirkton of Largo has access to a church hall, fewer than 250 metres from the existing school building. Closure of the school would have no impact on this aspect of village life.
- 15.4 Economic impact
Kirkton of Largo Primary School is not a major employer within the community and in this respect the closure of the school will not have any significant economic impact. In addition, there are currently no large retail or service facilities located within Upper Largo village whose continued viability might be dependent on the school. More Local retail and services are located in Lundin Links (1.4 miles) and within Leven. There is no evidence to suggest that the proposed school closure will have any impact on the desirability of houses for purchase or let, and comparable Fife communities without schools continue to flourish.
- 15.5 Community and parental involvement
The education of the children at Lundin Mill Primary School has not negatively impacted on parents’ desire to be involved in their children’s education.
- 15.6 Impact on pupils
During academic session 2022/23, the Headteacher started to increase the educational and social links between Kirkton of Largo and Lundin Mill Primary Schools and this continues with the current headteacher and pupils/parents/carers. Currently, all children within Lundin Mill are benefitting from having access to larger peer groups, increased friendships and the increased social opportunities which this offers.
- 15.7 Attitudes to school closure
Prior to the decision to temporarily close (formerly known as “mothballing”) Kirkton of Largo Primary School, all parents/carers of those pupils from the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area attending Lundin Mill Primary School or any other primary school in Fife were invited to provide feedback on the Council’s proposal to mothball the school. It is unfortunate that the school

roll has declined in previous years, but parents and members of the community understand the decisions that have been made, despite positive memories of the school in use. In December 2025, as part of the review of the decision to temporarily close Kirkton of Largo Primary School, all parents/carers of those pupils from the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area attending Lundin Mill Primary School or any other primary school in Fife were invited to provide further feedback. The feedback did not focus on continuing the mothballing. Positive memories were shared from the time there were more pupils living in the Kirkton of Largo catchment area. Parents were not asking about Kirkton of Largo Primary School reopening but checked the available capacity at Lundin Mill Primary School, as well as what would happen with the building in the event of a subsequent closure.

15.8 Loss of close relationship between headteachers/teachers and the local community

In August 2023, there were no pupils enrolled in Kirkton of Largo Primary School. In the previous session, staff at Lundin Mill Primary School had established good communication and strong links with parents/carers from the Kirkton of Largo school community. To support the transition to Lundin Mill Primary School in August 2023, the Pupil Support Assistant transferred from Kirkton of Largo Primary School to Lundin Mill Primary School. This member of staff was able to maintain the link with pupils which provided continuity for the pupil being supported, as well other former pupils from Kirkton of Largo Primary School. From session 2023/24, the Headteacher at Lundin Mill has also been the Headteacher for Kirkton of Largo, providing continuity of leadership for families. Arrangements have been in place to ensure that these links are maintained with parents/carers, and it is anticipated that there will be no impact on such relationships.

15.9 Pupils' sense of community identity

The current participation of children in activities in the wider community would indicate that this does not represent an area of significant impact. Links were already being established in 2022/23. The staff within Lundin Mill Primary School do not make any pupils feel any different and all pupils are part of the same school community. Kirkton of Largo pupils have integrated into the school community, and the school continues to reinforce links back to community groups to ensure all pupils from Kirkton of Largo Primary School are included.

15.10 Loss of community confidence and a general decline in quality of life

The potential impact of the closure of the school in terms of community confidence and quality of life, while limited, is recognised. However, there is a Community Council in operation for the Largo area, and this should continue to maintain the community aspect for both small villages.

15.11 In summary, if the proposal is implemented the Council does not consider that there will be any adverse effect on the local community, whether defined as the school community, the village community or the wider rural community surrounding the village of Kirkton of Largo. Overall, the Council considers that there will be a positive effect on the local community. The Council considers that any adverse impact is unlikely to be significant, but where identified, this will be addressed through a range of measures.

16. Summary of Proposal

16.1 The proposal is to:

- Close Kirkton of Largo Primary School on Monday 17 August 2026.
- Rezone the catchment area of Lundin Mill Primary School to incorporate all the current catchment area of Kirkton of Largo Primary School, from Monday 17 August 2026
- Seek alternative uses for the Kirkton of Largo Primary School site

16.2 The school roll of Kirkton of Largo Primary School was 0 pupils for academic session 2023/24, 2024/25 and 2025/26. With a maximum pupil capacity of 50, this represents 0% occupancy. The school does not meet the guiding principles of being more than 60% occupied, having more than 50 pupils or 3 classes or more. The school roll is unlikely to increase with the current demographic profile of the catchment area and there are no housing sites with approved planning consent within the school catchment area, which will adequately support a declining school roll, expected to start in the near future.

16.3 Having identified the reasons for this proposal and considered whether there are any reasonable alternatives to the proposal, as a response to those reasons, the Council considers closure would be the most appropriate response to those reasons.

16.4 The reasons for formulating this proposal:

16.4.1 As indicated in paragraphs 1.31 and 4.2.4.1, this proposal was formulated for the following reasons;

- (a) Kirkton of Largo Primary School has had no pupils enrolled for academic sessions 2023/2024 and 2024/2025.
- (b) There are no pupils enrolled in Kirkton of Largo Primary School for session 2025/2026. Those due to enrol for Primary 1, living in the Kirkton of Largo catchment area, have chosen to attend Lundin Mill Primary School. Overall, the current number of primary age pupils living in the Kirkton of Largo catchment area is 17.
- (c) Kirkton of Largo Primary School has been temporarily closed (formerly known as “mothballed”) since January 2025. The school building is currently being maintained by Property Services to ensure it is wind and watertight.
- (d) Updated birth information has shown that the births in the catchment area have not increased in the last year and there is no other anticipated significant increased growth in the pupil population in the catchment area from, for example, large scale housing development of over 100 units.
- (e) Kirkton of Largo Primary School does not meet all the Fife Council guiding principles as outlined in paragraph 3.1 of this proposal.

16.5 Lundin Mill Primary School is classified as an accessible rural school in accordance with the Scottish Government Rural Schools Classification dated October 2021.

16.6 Pupils from the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area can be accommodated within the existing accommodation at Lundin Mill Primary School, with continued flexibility in the use of the accommodation.

17 Proposed Date for Implementation

17.1 If approved in full by the Cabinet Committee of Fife Council, it is intended that the closure of Kirkton of Largo Primary School and the rezoning of the catchment area of Lundin Mill Primary School would be implemented from Monday 17 August 2026 and would apply to all applications for enrolment, including placing requests, from that date.

17.2 Nursery aged pupils beginning Primary 1 in August 2026 will enrol in their existing catchment primary school in January 2026.

17.3 In terms of the temporary closure (formerly known as “mothballing”) arrangements in place for Kirkton of Largo Primary School, Kirkton of Largo Primary School remains on the Council’s online enrolment system. Any new Primary 1 pupils, seeking to enrol online in their catchment school, will be contacted by Lundin Mill Primary School. For any new pupils from stages P2 to P7, the parent/carer should contact Lundin Mill Primary School direct.

18 Statutory Consultation Process – Proposed Timeline

Thursday 8 January 2026	Consultation proposal considered by Fife Council ‘s Cabinet Committee
Tuesday 20 January 2026	Parents and other statutory consultees issued with Consultation Notice informing them of relevant dates and information about the statutory consultation
Wednesday 21 January 2026 – Tuesday 10 March 2026	Consultation live
Wednesday 11 – Friday 13 February 2026	School INSET and School holidays
	<p>Public meeting held on: Durham Hall, Lower Largo, on Monday 9 February 2026 from 6-7 pm</p> <p>Drop-in sessions at: Lundin Mill PS on 3 February 2026 from 8.45 - 9.30am and 2.30 to 3.15pm</p>
Tuesday 10 March 2026	Consultation Close
Friday 13 March 2026	Report on consultation process is submitted to Education Scotland
Monday 16 March – Friday 3 April 2026	Education Scotland 3-week review
Friday 3 April – Friday 17 April 2026	School holidays

Tuesday 21 April 2026	Education Directorate receive report from Education Scotland
Friday 24 April 2026	Sign off Education Scotland report
Tuesday 5 May 2026	Consultation Report published 3 weeks before the Cabinet Committee
Thursday 28 May 2026	Report submitted to the Cabinet Committee
Thursday 4 June 2026	Estimated end of Fife Council's internal Call-In Period
Friday 14 August 2026	Estimated end of Scottish Government Call-In Period
Monday 17 August 2026	Proposed date of implementation

The information included in this document can be made available in large print, braille, audio CD/tape, and British Sign Language interpretation on request by calling 03451 55 55 00
Calls cost between 3p to 7p per minute from a UK landline, mobile rates may vary.

BT Text phone number for Deaf people 18001 01383 441177

LANGUAGE LINES

এ নথিতে যেসব তথ্য আছে তা 03451555599 এ নাম্বারে ফোন করে অনুরোধ করলে বড় ছাপা, ব্রেইল, ওডিও সিডি/ট্যেপ ও ব্রিটিশ সাইন ল্যাংগুয়েজ ইত্যাদি মাধ্যমে পাওয়া যাবে।
কলের জন্য ইউকে ল্যান্ডলাইন থেকে খরচ হবে প্রতি মিনিটে ৩পি থেকে ৭পি, মোবাইলের খরচ ভিন্ন হতে পারে।

عند الطلب، يمكن توفير المعلومات الواردة في هذا المستند في صورة مستندات مطبوعة بأحرف كبيرة ومستندات بطريقة برايل وعلى أسطر/أقراص مضغوطة صوتية مع الترجمة بلغة الإشارة البريطانية من خلال الاتصال بالرقم 03451 55 55 77
تتراوح تكلفة المكالمات بين 3 إلى 7 بنسات في الدقيقة من أي خط أرضي في المملكة المتحدة، وقد تختلف أسعار المكالمات بالهاتف المحمول.

如果你需要以大字體印刷、盲人點字、光碟/錄音帶格式或英國手語傳譯說明這份文件的內容，請致電 03451 55 55 88 提出要求。

用英國電訊固定座機撥打上述電話號碼收費每分鐘 3 至 7 便士，以手機撥打收費各異。

Informacje zawarte w tym dokumencie mogą zostać udostępnione w wersji drukowanej dużą czcionką, w alfabecie Braille'a, w wersji dźwiękowej na płycie CD/taśmie lub w tłumaczeniu na brytyjski język migowy – prosimy o kontakt pod numerem 03451 55 55 44.

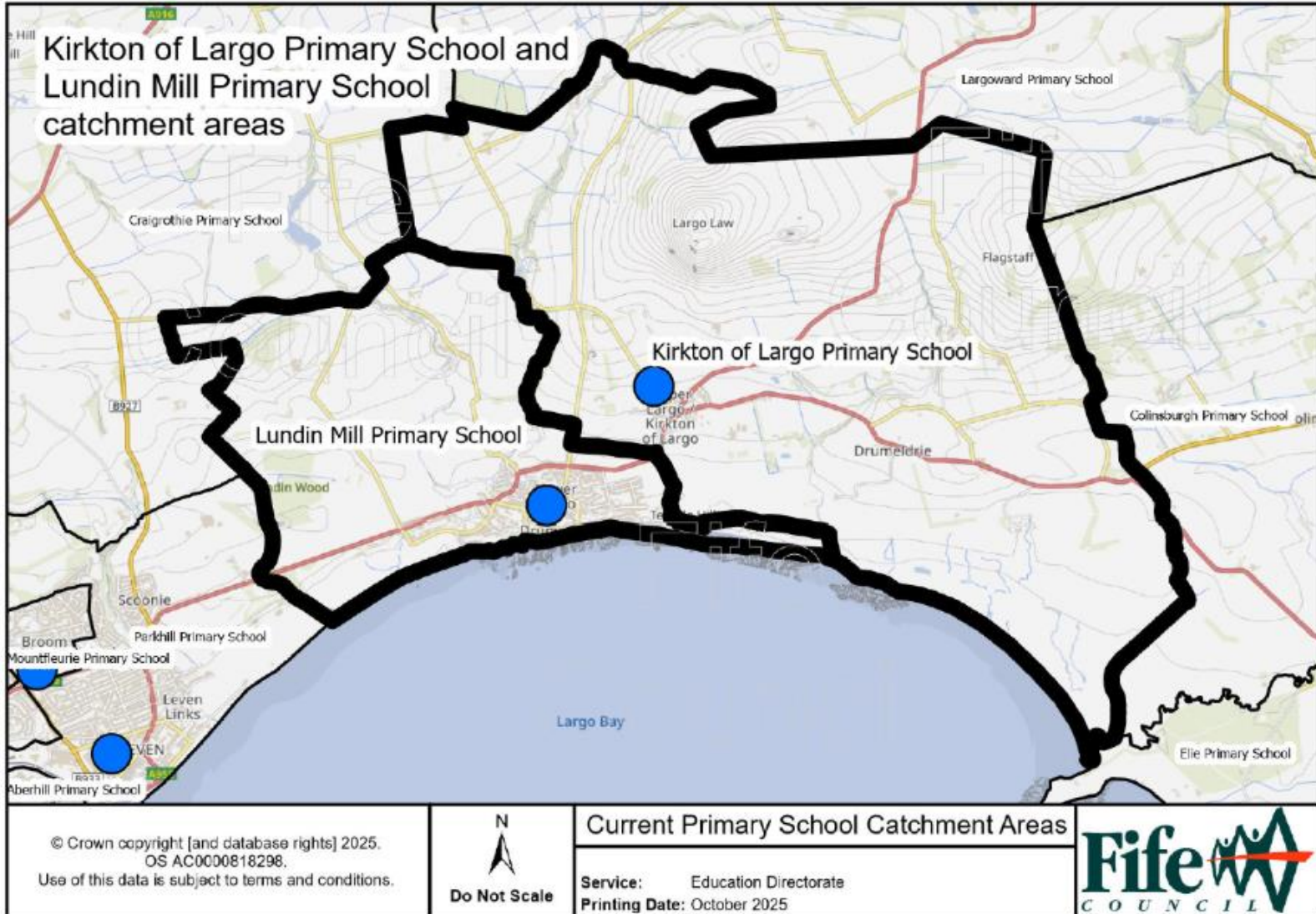
Koszt połączenia wynosi 3-7p za minutę z brytyjskich telefonów stacjonarnych, koszty połączeń z telefonów komórkowych mogą być różne.

ਇਸ ਦਸਤਾਵੇਜ਼ ਵਿਚਲੀ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਟੈਲੀਫੋਨ ਨੰਬਰ 03451 55 55 66 ਰਾਹੀਂ ਮੰਗ ਕਰਨ ਉੱਤੇ ਵੱਡੇ ਅੱਖਰਾਂ, ਬ੍ਰੇਅਲ, ਆਡੀਓ ਸੀ.ਡੀ./ਟੇਪ ਅਤੇ ਬ੍ਰਿਟਿਸ਼ ਸਾਈਨ ਲੈਂਗੂਏਜ ਦੇ ਅਨੁਵਾਦ ਵਿਚ ਮੁਹੱਈਆ ਕਰਾਈ ਜਾ ਸਕਦੀ ਹੈ।

ਯੂ.ਕੇ. ਲੈਂਡਲਾਈਨ ਰਾਹੀਂ ਕਾਲ ਕਰਨ ਦਾ ਖਰਚਾ 3 ਤੋਂ 7 ਪੈਨੀਆਂ ਪ੍ਰਤੀ ਮਿੰਟ ਹੋਵੇਗਾ, ਮੋਬਾਈਲਾਂ ਦੇ ਰੇਟ ਵੱਖਰੇ ਵੱਖਰੇ ਹੋ ਸਕਦੇ ਹਨ।

03451 55 55 66 پر درخواست کرنے سے اس تحریر میں دی گئی معلومات بڑے پرنٹ، بریل، آڈیو سی ڈی/ٹیپ اور ترجمانی والی برطانوی اشاراتی زبان (برٹش سائن لینگویج) میں مہیا کی جاسکتی ہیں۔
کسی برطانوی لینڈ لائن سے فون کے نرخ 3 تا 7 پنس فی منٹ ہیں، موبائل کے نرخ مختلف ہوسکتے ہیں۔

Appendix 1 - Map of existing catchment areas – Kirkton of Largo and Lundin Mill Primary Schools



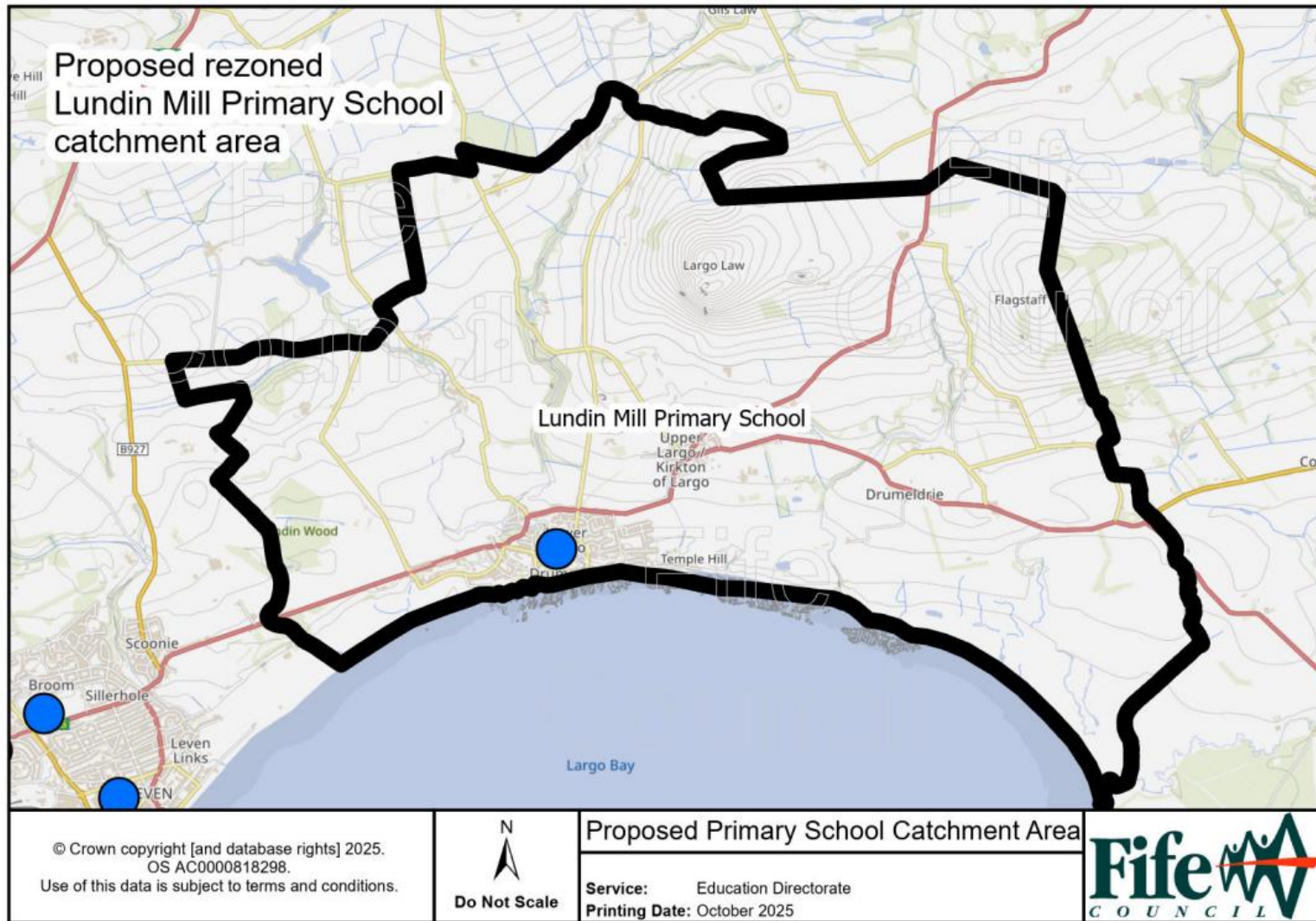
Appendix 2 - Map of existing Kirkton of Largo school community, local community and wider community

©

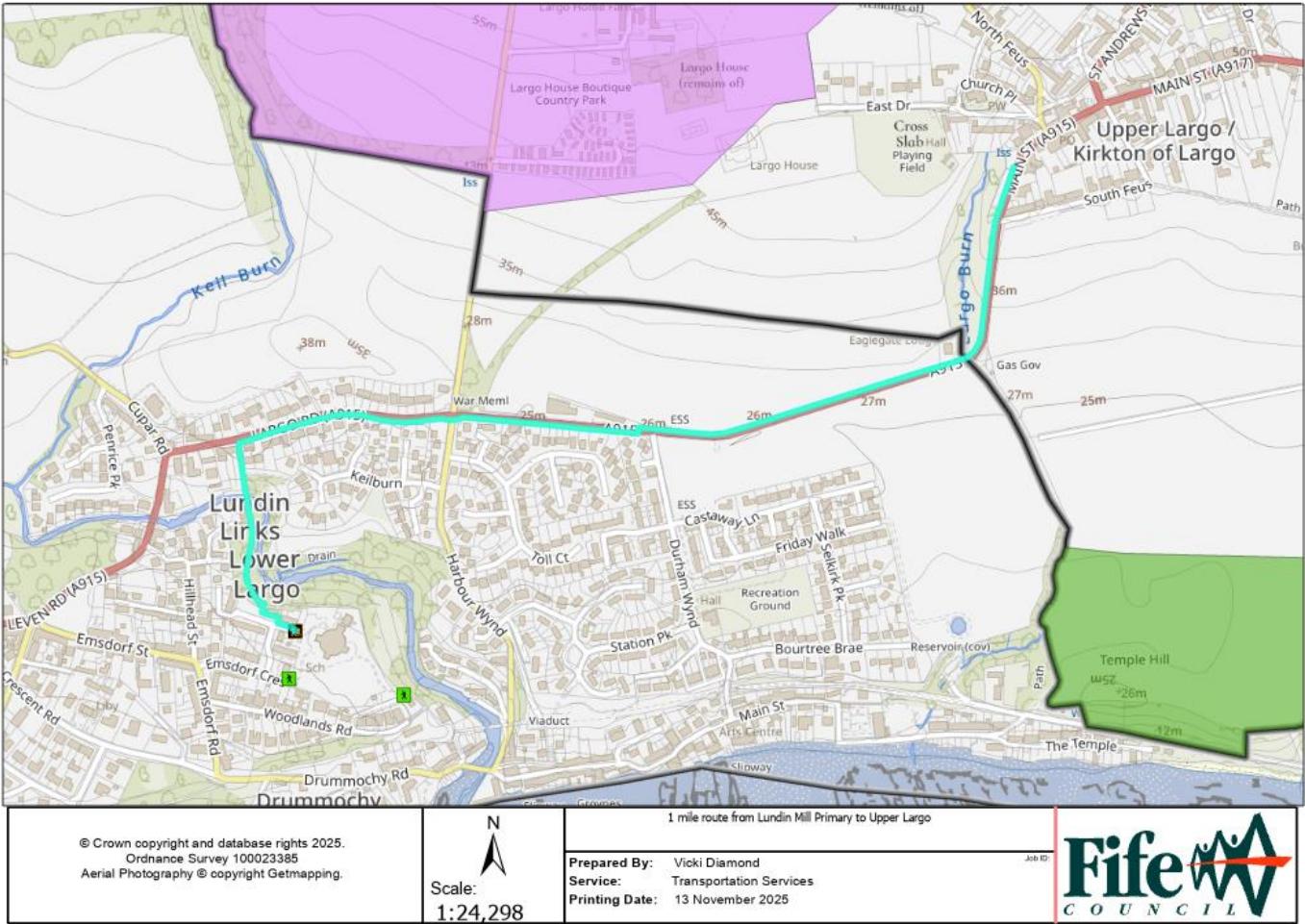


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Appendix 3 - Map of proposed Lundin Mill Primary School Catchment Area (including Kirkton of Largo catchment area)



Appendix 4 – Travel route currently in use by pupils being transported from Kirkton of Largo catchment area to Lundin Mill Primary School



Appendix 5 - Core Facts

School Name	Kirkton of Largo	Lundin Mill	Colinsburgh	Largoward	Elie
Condition	B	B	B	B	B
Suitability	B	B	C	B	B
Capacity	50 pupils	150 pupils	74 pupils	50 pupils	75 pupils
Residential properties in the catchment area	330	1185	429	989	443
School Roll Sept 2025	0	133	31	6	13
Distance from Kirkton	N/A	1.4 miles	3.7 miles	4.5 miles	5.2 miles
Nursery on site	No	Yes	No	No	No
Accessible Rural school	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Appendix 6 - Proposed Housing Sites

Site Name	Catchment Area	Local Development Plan (FIFEplan Proposed Site Capacity	Expected Completion during
Kilconquhar Mains (LAR090)	Colinsburgh Primary School	13	2024 - 2025
Colinsburgh SE (LAR083)	Colinsburgh Primary School	50	2026 - 2027
Muircambus Farm (LAR104)	Colinsburgh Primary School	8	2025 - 2026
Grange Road (LAR092)	Elie Primary School	25	2027 - 2030
Elie East (LAR093)	Elie Primary School	55	2026 - 2029

Appendix 7- Financial Analysis

Proposal for the Closure of Kirkton of Largo Primary School and the rezoning of Lundin Mill Primary School catchment area to include the current catchment area of Kirkton of Largo from 17 August 2026 The figures below detail the revenue budget allocation for the full financial year costs associated with the period the school was last operational (financial year 2022/23)		
Estimated cost reduction from closure		
Staff Costs	£	
Teachers staffing	195,864	Assuming no increase in classes/job-sizing at Lundin Mill as pupils have been absorbed into existing classes in the receiving school.
Admin & clerical	21,139	No additional Admin & clerical resource required in Lundin Mill.
School Support Assistant	13,940	No increase in Lundin Mill required.
Teacher training	74	Saving
Other training		
Saving on Staff Costs	231,017	
Premises Costs	64,362	
Saving on Premises Costs	64,362	Assumed full amount saved once building is disposed of.
Other Costs		
Travel Exp-Mileage	79	Saving
Furniture	110	Saving
A Allocation (Classroom Resources)	1,465	Saving
B Allocation (Facilities Management Resources)	602	Saving
Parents Council	374	Saving
Supplies & Services		
Saving on Other Costs	2,630	
Transport Costs	£1,852	Nearly all catchment pupils within walking distance – cost is provided for one taxi
TOTAL	£299,861	
Estimated cost increase from closure		
Transport	£3,704	Costs associated with pupils travelling to Lundin Mill Primary School from Kirkton of Largo village – costs provided for an additional taxi if required.
ESTIMATED NET COST REDUCTION FROM CLOSURE	£296,157	

Appendix 8 – Presentation from Engagement Sessions held in December 2025

<p>Education Directorate Improving life chances for all</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Fife COUNCIL</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Engagement regarding the future of Kirkton Primary School</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Durham Hall – Tuesday 16th December 5.00 – 6.00pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Shelagh McLean, Head of Service</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Review of Mothballing December 2025</p>	<p>Education Directorate Improving life chances for all</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Fife COUNCIL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reasons for Engagement • Kirkton of Largo Primary School Catchment • Guiding Principles • Statutory Consultation • Committee Decisions • Next Steps • Questions
<p>Education Directorate Improving life chances for all</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Fife COUNCIL</p> <p>Why engage?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fife Council will need to decide on the future of Kirkton of Largo Primary School • Kirkton of Largo has had no pupils since July 2023 • Mothballed since January 2025 • Mothballing requires an annual review • Scottish Government guidance promotes mothballing does not take place for longer than a 3 year period 	<p>Education Directorate Improving life chances for all</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Fife COUNCIL</p> <p>Kirkton of Largo Catchment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No pupils for 3 school sessions (23-24, 24-25 and 25-26) • The building is not occupied and monitored by Fife Council's Property Services Team • No proposed housing in the catchment area • Fewer than 5 known births per year in Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment since 2020 • The Education Service has not been contacted by any family of primary aged children seeking reopening
<p>Education Directorate Improving life chances for all</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Fife COUNCIL</p> <p>Guiding Principles of the School Estate</p> <p>The Council has set a number of guiding principles for reviewing the school estate, which were agreed by the Council's Executive Committee on 2 October 2012, following a Fife school review, and more recently at the Education & Children's Services Committee on 28 August 2018. These are:</p> <p>(a) Every school should be rated as 'A' or 'B' for both condition and suitability, to include a number of accessible schools in each geographical area.</p> <p>(b) Schools should have an occupancy rate greater than 60% of capacity and, in order to ensure equity in provision, schools should be operating within an optimal occupancy and efficiency range of 80-100%. Consideration should be given to establishing a minimum number of pupils in any school which is less than 5 miles from another school; therefore, schools should have a minimum of 3 classes, recognising that effective learning requires interaction between pupils. This group activity is most effective when children are of a similar age and, to enable this, where possible schools should have a minimum roll of 50 pupils.</p> <p>(c) A strategy for a sustainable school estate should support the progressive reduction in the overall carbon footprint for the Council</p>	<p>Education Directorate Improving life chances for all</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Fife COUNCIL</p> <p>Kirkton of Largo</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Condition B • Suitability B • Occupancy <60% • Fewer than 50 pupils • Current Catchment Pupils - 1 class of P1-P7
<p>Education Directorate Improving life chances for all</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Fife COUNCIL</p> <p>Statutory Consultation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To consider any proposal to change the arrangements relating to a school, a Statutory Consultation must be carried out in accordance with the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 • Statutory Consultation process is designed to allow all statutory consultees the opportunity to engage, have their views heard and make representations • This engagement session does not form part of a statutory consultation process 	<p>Education Directorate Improving life chances for all</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Fife COUNCIL</p> <p>Committee Decisions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In January 2025, the building was formally mothballed • Mothballing requires an annual review
<p>Education Directorate Improving life chances for all</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Fife COUNCIL</p> <p>Next Steps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek feedback from interested stakeholders – from in person meeting or online form • Information from these sessions will be included in a report to the Cabinet Committee of Council in January 2026 • Education Directorate will be required to recommend a way forward 	<p>Education Directorate Improving life chances for all</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Fife COUNCIL</p> <p>Have your say</p> <p>Engagement Session to Discuss the Future of Kirkton of Largo Primary School – Fill in form</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Engagement Session to Discuss the Future of Kirkton of Largo Primary School</p> </div> <p>https://forms.office.com/e/M8P3UD1L5e</p>

Appendix 9 – Feedback from Engagement Sessions held in November 2024 and December 2025

November 2024

- How does pre-school nursery fit in with education?
- Could the building be repurposed for another use?
- What would it take to open the building?
- Is there a reasonable prospect of the building reopening?
- The building has been bequeathed to the community; therefore, the community should have a say on future use.
- How can the community input to the process?
- Can the building be used in the meantime for community groups?
- Can the impact be allowed to practically shape the thinking of any potential new use of the building?
- Will free transport be provided to Kirkton of Largo pupils attending Lundin Mill Primary School?
- What would happen to the building if the closure were approved?
- Could the community group do a feasibility study on future of the building?
- Could the building in future be used for a youth group?
- What is the timeline for next steps?

December 2025

- In relation to the QR code you are currently displaying on screen, can anyone provide feedback?
- Why is there such a short time between the engagement session and the Cabinet Committee meeting where recommendations will be taken in January?
- I would like to ask about the status of the Kirkton of Largo Primary School building. My understanding is that the building was bequeathed to the local community for Education purposes. Are you able to confirm if this is the case?
- Is the Kirkton of Largo Primary School building being monitored and maintained? Are repairs routinely being carried out?
- In your presentation, you said there are currently 18 children (response clarified 17) living within the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area. Where did you get this information from?
- Are you saying you can predict the number of catchment children for a school?
- If a few families requested to have Kirkton of Largo PS reopened, could you do this?
- I think having mixed age classes are beneficial as the younger children learn from the older children. Their reading etc. might improve. I do not agree with Education in relation to P1-7 classes not being beneficial.
- In the presentation you mention 'catchment area.' When you are talking about this, what are you considering as the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area?
- Is there any way of taking Lundin Mill Primary School into consideration? In terms of them turning any children away, could they go to Kirkton of Largo Primary School?
- My understanding of everything you are saying is that there is no guarantee any child would get into Lundin Mill Primary School if they lived within the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area. This is worrying for me.

- I have heard there are issues with locals not being offered nursery spaces. Can you increase the nursery capacity at Lundin Mill Primary School and increase the size of the nursery? You could also reopen and move some of the school age children up to Kirkton of Largo Primary School.
- We have pre-school age children and would like Kirkton of Largo Primary School to be available as a school. If we cannot reopen the building as a school, could it be a childcare facility instead? What are the proposals for the building if it becomes available for alternative use?
- What is the procedure for consulting with the community in relation to a Community Asset Transfer if Fife Council cannot find another use for the building?
- What is the total capacity of Lundin Mill Primary School and what is the current roll?
- I am aware of housing developers who might be interested in building within the area. How would you accommodate additional families moving in? Would there be enough places in local schools?
- I think the roll at Lundin Mill Primary School has increased since the last time I was aware of this, therefore I am happy to hear these figures.
- When was the last time Kirkton of Largo Primary School had 50 pupils or more?
- I would have wanted to see leaflets put through each door in Upper Largo to notify people of this engagement session tonight. I think families have potentially missed out on hearing about this session. Some people will not have access to social media therefore when we shared it on the community Facebook page, they are unlikely to have seen it.
- I think the situation here has developed over many years. We originally lost our mother and toddler group, and it just progressed from there. As the Headteacher at Lundin Mill Primary School is a joint Headteacher of both there and Kirkton of Largo Primary School, there has been more effort made to align the communities of the two schools. The diminishing population of the area just tops it all though.
- If the consultation is going ahead, which date will it commence?
- When will the consultation start?
- When will we get a final decision?

Appendix 10 – Letter to parents/carers updating them on the position at Kirkton of Largo Primary School 23 October 2023

Parent/Carer of all pupils living in the Kirkton
of Largo Primary School catchment area

Education and Children's Services

Shelagh McLean, Head of Education
and Children's Services

03451 555555 ext. 444229
shelagh.mclean@fife.gov.uk

Our Ref: SMcL

Date: 23 October 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

Kirkton of Largo Primary School

I am writing to all parents of primary pupils living within the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area and those currently attending Lundin Mill Primary School to give you an update on the position with Kirkton of Largo Primary School.

We were advised the first week of the school holidays from the Headteacher of Kirkton of Largo Primary School that the P6/7 class teacher would be moving to a new teaching position in another school. As a courtesy to all parents of P6/7 pupils, the Headteacher sent out a message to parents/carers during the school holidays to advise them that in August 2023, the P6/7 pupils would return to school and they would have a new teacher.

Following this information, a number of parents contacted Lundin Mill Primary School to enrol at Lundin Mill Primary School and as a result, there are no pupils attending Kirkton of Largo Primary School.

At present, the school building is continuing to be monitored by Facilities Management and all the necessary health and safety checks being completed on a regular basis. We will continue to monitor the situation and will contact parents in February 2024, once the outcome of the primary one [enrolments](#) is complete. Should you have any questions, please get in touch with Lundinmillps.headteacher@fife.gov.uk in the first instance.

Yours sincerely,



Shelagh McLean
Head of Education and Children's Services

Education & Children's Services Directorate,
4th Floor, Fife House West, North Street, Glenrothes, KY7 5LT



Appendix 11 – Letter to parents/carers to invite them to attend a meeting in relation to potentially mothballing Kirkton of Largo PS 12 November 2024



Parents/Carers of all Primary Pupils Living in the Kirkton of Largo Primary School Catchment Area

Parents/Carers of all Nursery Pupils Living in the Kirkton of Largo Primary School Catchment Area Currently Attending a Fife Council Nursery

EDUCATION DIRECTORATE

Shelagh McLean, Head of Education Service

03451 555555 ext. 444229
shelagh.mclean@fife.gov.uk

Our Ref: SMcL/KoLPS

Date 12 November 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Kirkton of Largo Primary School

I wrote to parents/carers of primary pupils living in the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area on 23 October 2023 providing an update on the position with the school. At that time, there were no pupils attending Kirkton of Largo Primary School.

There were no new enrolments in January 2024 for the current academic session 2024/25. Parents of pupils in the catchment area eligible to enrol were advised it was likely there would be one or two pupils with a single class teacher. Ultimately, those parents/carers made placing requests to Lundin Mill Primary School or other alternative schools.

Therefore, there have been no pupils enrolled in Kirkton of Largo Primary School for academic sessions 2023/2024 and 2024/2025. The school roll fell to zero and it remains zero.

At present, the school is classed as non-operational. The school building is monitored by Facilities Management and necessary health and safety checks are completed on a regular basis.

Following review, the Education Directorate considers it appropriate to mothball Kirkton of Largo Primary School and intends to seek approval of this at the meeting of the Council's Cabinet Committee on 9 January 2025. Mothballing is an alternative to closure. It is a form of temporary closure which does not require statutory consultation under the [Schools \(Consultation\) \(Scotland\) Act 2010](#). More information on mothballing can be found at [Schools \(Consultation\) \(Scotland\) Act 2010: guidance - gov.scot](#)

Education Directorate
4th Floor West, Fife House
North Street, Glenrothes,
Fife KY7 5LT

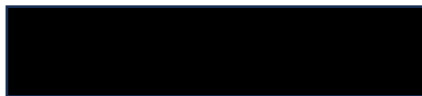


Mothballing the school will not impact any pupils living in the Kirkton of Largo catchment area who already attend other schools. It will mean that while the school is mothballed, any new pupils in the Kirkton of Largo catchment area who are eligible to enrol at primary one or other stages will be offered a place at Lundin Mill Primary School. It will also mean that while the school is mothballed free school transport will be provided to pupils living in the Kirkton of Largo catchment area who attend Lundin Mill Primary School (provided they are distance entitled in terms of the School Transport Policy).

I would like to invite all parents/carers of nursery and primary pupils living in the Kirkton of Largo catchment area to a meeting on Monday 18 November at 5.30-6.30pm at **Lundin Mill Primary School** to discuss the proposed mothballing and to obtain your feedback. At the meeting, we will provide information on the current position with the school including details of roll projections based on births in the catchment area and details of housing developments. There will also be an opportunity for you to ask questions and provide your feedback.

I look forward to seeing you at the meeting. Meantime, should you have any questions, please get in touch with Lundinmillps.Headteacher@fife.gov.uk in the first instance.

Yours sincerely

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of the sender.

Shelagh McLean
Head of Education Service

Copied to – Parents/Carers of Pupils Currently Attending Lundin Mill Primary School

Appendix 12 – Letter to parents/carers advising intention to seek approval from Cabinet Committee to mothball Kirkton of Largo PS 17 December 2024



Parents/Carers of all Primary Pupils Living in the Kirkton of Largo Primary School Catchment Area

Parents/Carers of all Nursery Pupils Living in the Kirkton of Largo Primary School Catchment Area Currently Attending a Fife Council Nursery

EDUCATION DIRECTORATE

Shelagh McLean, Head of Service
03451 555555 ext. 444229
shelagh.mclean@fife.gov.uk

Our Ref:
Date: 17 December 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

Kirkton of Largo Primary School

I wrote to all parents and carers of pupils living in the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area on 23 October 2023 and 12 November 2024, to provide information about the school roll. Due to a movement of pupils at the end of academic session 2022/23 there were no pupils enrolled in Kirkton of Largo Primary School for session 2023/24. Subsequently there were no enrolments for session 2024/25.

An engagement session was held on 18 November 2024, in Lundin Mill Primary School, and parents/carers from the Kirkton of Largo Primary School were invited as well as any parents/carers of nursery aged children who may be interested in hearing about the current position. Nine people attended this meeting and were given an opportunity to ask questions about the building and future enrolments.

I am writing to you today to advise that, in view of the current position, the Education Directorate will submit a report to the Cabinet Committee, on Thursday 9 January 2025, recommending that, as the school pupil roll has been zero for sessions 2023/24 and 2024/25 (and any projected pupils are expected to enrol within Lundin Mill Primary School for session 2025/26), elected members authorise the Education Directorate to mothball the school. This report will be available online at [Cabinet Committee 9 January 2025 | Fife Council](#). Papers are normally uploaded online 5 days before any committee meeting.

The mothballing of Kirkton of Largo Primary School would be a temporary measure which does not require any statutory consultation in terms of the Schools Consultation (Scotland) Act 2010 and is an alternative to full closure, which would require full statutory consultation. It would be our intention to mothball the school and review this decision no later than January 2026.

Education & Children's Services Directorate,
4th Floor Rothesay House, Rothesay Place,
Glenrothes, KY7 5PQ.



I trust this outlines the current position for this school. Should you have any views on the proposed mothballing of Kirkton of Largo Primary School, please email them to: Sustainableschoolestate.enquiries@fife.gov.uk.

Your sincerely,

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of the sender.

Shelagh McLean
Head of Service, Education

Appendix 13– Letter to parents/carers to inform them of an engagement session to review the Mothballing of Kirkton of Largo intention to seek approval from Cabinet Committee to mothball Kirkton of Largo PS 9 December 2025



Parent/Carer of:

All parents/carers of pupils living in the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area

All parents/carers of pupils attending Lundin Mill Primary School

All parents/carers of nursery aged pupils living in the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area

Education Directorate

Shelagh McLean, Head of Service,
Education Directorate
shelagh.mclean@fife.gov.uk

Our Ref: KOLES/SMcL/KL

Date: 9 December 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

Engagement Regarding the Future of Kirkton of Largo Primary School

I am writing to you as a parent/carers of a child living in the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area or as a parent/carers of a pupil attending Lundin Mill Primary School.

As you may be aware, Kirkton of Largo Primary School has had no pupils since June 2023. Pupils from this catchment area have been offered a place at Lundin Mill Primary School or opted to enrol at other primary schools through placing request applications.

Kirkton of Largo Primary School has been formally mothballed since January 2025, and the Council needs to consider its future. For academic session 2025/26, there remains no school pupils on the roll.

As part of our annual review of the mothballing arrangements, and prior to considering the next steps, the Education Directorate is holding an engagement session for parents/carers. This will enable officers from the Education Directorate to provide an update on the mothballing status of the school and answer any queries from parents/carers. The informal engagement session is not part of a formal consultation process. The session will take place at Durham Hall, Lower Largo on Tuesday 16thth December from 5-6 pm.

Additionally, an online form has been prepared to allow parents to give feedback on the current arrangements for pupils within the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area and an opportunity for stakeholders to provide feedback on the information shared at these sessions. Feedback can be given at:
<https://forms.office.com/e/s4cDPDS6uW>

Education Directorate,
4th Floor, Fife House West, North Street
Glenrothes, KY7 5LT.





We look forward to seeing you at this event.

Yours sincerely,



Shelagh McLean
Head of Service, Education Directorate

Appendix 14 – Letter to parents/carers to inform them of the outcome of the mothballing review and the intention to seek approval from Cabinet Committee to progress to Statutory Consultation regarding the Closure of Kirkton of Largo Primary School 19 December 2025



Parents/Carers of all Primary Pupils Living in the Kirkton of Largo Primary School Catchment Area

Parents/Carers of all Nursery Pupils Living in the Kirkton of Largo Primary School Catchment Area Currently Attending a Fife Council Nursery

EDUCATION DIRECTORATE

Shelagh McLean, Head of Service
shelagh.mclean@fife.gov.uk

Date: 19 December 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

Kirkton of Largo Primary School

I wrote to all parents and carers of pupils living in the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area and parents and carers of all nursery pupils living in the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area currently attending a Fife Council nursery on 9 December 2025, inviting parents and carers to a meeting on Tuesday 16 December at 5.00-6.00pm to discuss the annual review of the mothballing and to obtain your feedback. Sixteen people attended this meeting and were given an opportunity to hear about the current position with the school including details of roll projections based on births in the catchment area and details of housing developments. They were also given an opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback.

I am writing to you today to advise that, the Education Directorate, in light of the Scottish Government guidance regarding the three-year time limit for mothballing, and to consider the impact for the small number of pupils living within the catchment area, the review of the mothballing concludes that a statutory consultation should be undertaken proposing the closure of Kirkton of Largo Primary School. The Education Directorate intends to seek approval of this statutory consultation at the meeting of the Council's Cabinet Committee on 8 January 2026. The report submitted to Cabinet Committee will be available online at [Cabinet Committee \(8th January 2026\) | Fife Council](#). Papers are normally uploaded online 5 days before any committee meeting.

Cabinet Committee will also be asked to authorise the continued mothballing of Kirkton of Largo Primary School until the outcome of the statutory consultation process is determined and, during the continued mothballing period, to continue the arrangement whereby any child or children wishing to enrol at Kirkton of Largo Primary School will be offered a place at Lundin Mill Primary School and provided with free transport if they meet the distance criteria.

Education Directorate,
Fife House, North Street,
Glenrothes, KY7 5LT.



I trust this outlines the current position for this school. Should you have any queries about the proposed statutory consultation in relation to Kirkton of Largo Primary School and/or wish to express your views on the continued mothballing please email:
Sustainableschoolestate.enquiries@fife.gov.uk.

Your sincerely,



Shelagh McLean
Head of Service, Education

Copied to – Parents/Carers of Pupils Currently Attending Lundin Mill Primary School

Appendix 15 - Glossary of terms

Core Facts

Core Facts are a series of data which are collected by local authorities to measure progress and success of a school estate strategy as well as benchmarking against other local authorities in Scotland. The core facts are used at both local and national level to:

- establish a baseline
- inform targets
- inform spending decisions
- support monitoring and evaluation of progress over time
- support assessments of value for money.

More information is available at: [School estates: core facts overview - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](http://www.gov.scot/resources/consultation-papers/corporate/School%20estates%20-%20core%20facts%20overview.pdf)

School Condition Rating

Condition core facts are established by professional review, carried out by the Council's Asset & Facilities Management Service. Schools are assessed against a range of criteria set down by the Scottish Government and are examined on a 5-year rolling programme.

- A: Good – Performing well and operating efficiently
- B: Satisfactory – Performing adequately but showing minor deterioration
- C: Poor – Showing major defects and/or not operating adequately
- D: Bad – Life expired and/or serious risk of imminent failure.

School Suitability Rating

Suitability core facts are established through a similar process to the condition core facts process, undertaken by Headteacher and Business Managers.

This information assesses how well the school environment supports the delivery of the curriculum against criteria laid down by the Scottish Government.

- A: Good – Performing well and operating efficiently (the school buildings support the delivery of services to children and communities)
- B: Satisfactory – Performing well but with minor problems (the school buildings generally support the delivery of services to children and communities)
- C: Poor – Showing major problems and/or not operating optimally (the school buildings impede the delivery of activities that are needed for children and communities in the school)
- D: Bad – Does not support the delivery of services to children and communities (the school buildings seriously impede the delivery of activities that are needed for children and communities in the school).

Suitability surveys are reviewed by Headteachers/Business Managers every 5 years through a rolling programme. Where school investment has been carried out in a particular school, the following year's Core Facts Update will be amended to reflect any subsequent change to the condition, suitability or accessibility rating.

School Accessibility Rating

Accessibility ratings are collated by the School Estate Team, along with the Education Access Officer, who undertake surveys of all the school buildings. These ratings are then ratified by the Accessibility Strategy Group. The ratings are classified as follows:

- A: Fully accessible
- B: Building partially accessible but Curriculum accessible
- C: Partially accessible or not currently accessible but has the potential to be made accessible
- D: Inaccessible and unable to be reasonably adapted to be made accessible.

As part of the Accessibility Strategy, there will be a number of accessible schools in each geographical area.

Local Development Plan

Fife Council adopted FIFEplan (Fife's Local Development Plan) on 21 September 2017. This plan details the local development changes to infrastructure within settlements and includes new plans with planning consent. **The Council are currently inviting communities to create Local Place Plans, which will help shape the next Local Development Plan. More information is available at [Invitation to create Local Place Plans](#) page.**

Housing Land Audit

Enterprise, Planning & Protective Services undertakes an annual audit (known as the Housing Land Audit) of the Housing Land Supply in Fife, using 1st April as the base date. The Audit monitors housing completions and makes predictions about future house building in Fife.

Homes for Scotland (representing the national house builders) and local developers are consulted on the information to be included in the Housing Land Audit to discuss and agree the Audit as far as possible. The latest publication for 2021 is published at [Planning Information and Land Use Audits | Fife Council](#)

Public Private Partnership (PPP)

There are 2 existing contracts in Fife (PPP1 and PPP2) where schools have been procured and constructed through this process. The schools are maintained for a period of 25 years by a contractor and after 25 years the building is handed to the Council for future repair and maintenance. An annual unitary charge includes design and construction, services delivery including building and grounds maintenance, finance costs, legal, insurances, management and risk.

Life Cycle Costs

Costs for replacing assets at the end of their life span. These include building, fabric, services and furniture and equipment to ensure the asset is maintain is a substantial condition.

Efficiency Range 80-100%

No local authority can effectively run at 100% occupied. The 80%-100% efficiency range allows a degree of flexibility within schools to support Curriculum for Excellence.

Cost per Pupil Calculation

The cost per pupil calculation for schools is computed in July of each year. The calculation is intended to bring together all comparable costs for each school and benchmark these at individual school level through the production of a cost per pupil figure.

The calculation is currently based on the School Revenue Budget Statements that are issued to schools in April of each year. The calculation takes into account a number of factors particularly the school roll from the last census in September of the previous year. The calculation takes schools running costs including an allocation for janitorial staffing costs. It excludes the costs for school transport, depreciation and the financing costs of schools built under PFI contract arrangements (PPP schools).

Having identified the relevant running costs for each school and by dividing these costs by the school roll this produces a cost per pupil figure which is used for comparison purposes.

Proposal Paper

The Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 provides that where an education authority has formulated a relevant proposal in relation to any school, it must comply with the requirements of the Act before proceeding with the proposal. One of the requirements is that it must prepare and publish a proposal paper. Section 4 of the Act provides:

4 Proposal paper

- (1) The education authority must prepare a proposal paper which—
 - (a) sets out the details of the relevant proposal,
 - (b) proposes a date for implementation of the proposal,
 - (c) contains the educational benefits statement in respect of the proposal,
 - (d) refers to such evidence or other information in support of (or otherwise relevant in relation to) the proposal as the education authority considers appropriate.
- (2) The proposal paper must also give a summary of the process provided for in [sections 1 to 17D] (so far as applicable in relation to the proposal).
 - (2A) Where a proposal paper relates to a closure proposal, it must also contain information about the financial implications of the proposal.
- (3) A proposal paper may include more than one proposal.
- (4) The education authority must—
 - (a) publish the proposal paper in both electronic and printed form,
 - (b) make the paper, and (so far as practicable) a copy of any separate documentation that it refers to under subsection (1)(d), available for inspection at all reasonable times and without charge—
 - (i) at its head office and on its website,
 - (ii) at any affected school or at a public library or some other suitable place within the vicinity of the school,
 - (c) provide without charge the information contained in the proposal paper—
 - (i) to such persons as may reasonably require that information in another form, and

- (ii) in such other form as may reasonably be requested by such persons.
- (5) The education authority must advertise the publication of the proposal paper by such means as it considers appropriate.

Educational Benefits Statement

The Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 provides that where an education authority has formulated a relevant proposal in relation to any school, it must comply with the requirements of the Act before proceeding with the proposal. One of the requirements is that it must prepare an educational benefits statement. Section 3 of the Act provides:

3 Educational benefits statement

- (1) The education authority must prepare an educational benefits statement which includes:
 - (a) the authority's assessment of the likely effects of a relevant proposal (if implemented) on:
 - (i) the pupils of any affected school,
 - (ii) any other users of the school's facilities,
 - (iii) any children who would (in the future but for implementation) be likely to become pupils of the school,
 - (iv) the pupils of any other schools in the authority's area,
 - (b) the authority's assessment of any other likely effects of the proposal (if implemented),
 - (c) an explanation of how the authority intends to minimise or avoid any adverse effects that may arise from the proposal (if implemented),
 - (d) a description of the benefits which the authority believes will result from implementation of the proposal (with reference to the persons whom it believes will derive them).
- (2) The statement must also include the education authority's reasons for coming to the beliefs expressed under subsection (1)(d).
- (3) In subsection (1), the references to effects and benefits are to educational effects and benefits.

Rural School

In terms of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 a rural school is a school designated as rural by Scottish Ministers. Section 14 provides:

14 Designation of rural schools

- (1) In this Act, a "rural school" is a school which is designated as such by its inclusion in the list of rural schools maintained by the Scottish Ministers for the purposes of this subsection.

- (2) In determining the question of rurality when considering whether a school falls to be included in or excluded from the list of rural schools, the Scottish Ministers are to have regard (in particular) to:
 - (a) the population of the community (or settlement) in which the school is located,
 - (b) the geographical circumstances of that community (or settlement) including its relative remoteness or inaccessibility.
- (3) The list of rural schools is to be accompanied by an explanation of how the Scottish Ministers devised the list:
 - (a) by reference to subsection (2), and
 - (b) if they consider it appropriate, by reference to any recognised criteria available from a reliable source.
- (4) The Scottish Ministers are to:
 - (a) monitor the list of rural schools (and update it as regularly as they consider necessary),
 - (b) publish it (including as updated) in such way as they consider appropriate.
- (5) An education authority must provide the Scottish Ministers with such information as they may reasonably require of it in connection with the list of rural schools.

Special Provision for Rural Schools

11A Presumption against rural school closure

- (1) This section applies in relation to any closure proposal as respects a rural school.
- (2) The education authority may not decide to implement the proposal (wholly or partly) unless the authority—
 - (a) has complied with sections 12, 12A and 13, and
 - (b) having so complied, is satisfied that such implementation of the proposal is the most appropriate response to the reasons for formulating the proposal identified by the authority under section 12A(2)(a).
- (3) The authority must publish on its website notice of—
 - (a) its decision as to implementation of the proposal, and
 - (b) where it decides to implement the proposal (wholly or partly), the reasons why it is satisfied that such implementation is the most appropriate response to the reasons for formulating the proposal identified by the authority under section 12A(2)(a).

12 Factors for rural closure proposals

- (1) Subsection (2) applies in relation to any closure proposal as respects a rural school.
- (2) The education authority must have special regard to the factors mentioned in subsection
- (3) The factors are—

- (a) [...]1 (Repealed by Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 asp 8 (Scottish Act) Pt 15 s.80(2)(a) (August 1, 2014: repeal has effect subject to transitional provision specified in SSI 2014/165art.5)
 - (b) the likely effect on the local community in consequence of the proposal (if implemented),
 - (c) the likely effect caused by any different travelling arrangements that may be required in consequence of the proposal (if implemented).
- (4) For the purpose of subsection (3)(b) [and sections 12A(2)(c)(ii) and 13(5)(b)(ii)] 2, the effect on the community is to be assessed by reference (in particular) to—
- (a) the sustainability of the community,
 - (b) the availability of the school's premises and its other facilities for use by the community.
- (5) For the purpose of subsection (3)(c) and sections 12A(2)(c)(iii) and 13(5)(b)(iii) 3 —
- (a) the effect caused by such travelling arrangements includes (in particular)—
 - (i) that on the school's pupils and staff and any other users of the school's facilities,
 - (ii) any environmental impact,
 - (b) the travelling arrangements are those to and from the school of (and for) the school's pupils and staff and any other users of the school's facilities.

12A Preliminary requirements in relation to rural school closure

- (1) This section applies where an education authority is formulating a closure proposal as respects a rural school.
- (2) The authority must—
- (a) identify its reasons for formulating the proposal,
 - (b) consider whether there are any reasonable alternatives to the proposal as a response to those reasons,
 - (c) assess, for the proposal and each of the alternatives to the proposal identified under paragraph (b) (if any)—
 - (i) the likely educational benefits in consequence of the implementation of the proposal, or as the case may be, alternative,
 - (ii) the likely effect on the local community (assessed in accordance with section 12(4)) in consequence of such implementation,
 - (iii) the likely effect that would be caused by any different travelling arrangements that may be required (assessed in accordance with section 12(5)) in consequence of such implementation.
- (3) For the purposes of this section and section 13, reasonable alternatives to the proposal include (but are not limited to) steps which would not result in the school or a stage of education in the school (within the meaning of paragraph 12 of schedule 1) being discontinued.
- (4) The authority may not publish a proposal paper in relation to the proposal unless, having complied with subsection (2), it considers that implementation of the closure

proposal would be the most appropriate response to the reasons for the proposal.

- (5) In this section and section 13, the references to the reasons for the proposal are references to the reasons identified by the education authority under subsection (2)(a).

13 Additional consultation requirements

- (1) This section applies in relation to any closure proposal as respects a rural school.
- (2) The proposal paper must additionally—
- (a) explain the reasons for the proposal,
 - (b) describe what (if any) steps the authority took to address those reasons before formulating the proposal,
 - (c) if the authority did not take such steps, explain why it did not do so,
 - (d) set out any alternatives to the proposal identified by the authority under section 12A(2)(b),
 - (e) explain the authority's assessment under section 12A(2)(c),
 - (f) explain the reasons why the authority considers, in light of that assessment, that implementation of the closure proposal would be the most appropriate response to the reasons for the proposal.
- (3) The notice to be given to relevant consultees under section 6(1) must—
- (a) give a summary of the alternatives to the proposal set out in the proposal paper,
 - (b) state that written representations may be made on those alternatives (as well as on the proposal), and
 - (c) state that written representations on the proposal may suggest other alternatives to the proposal.
- (4) In sections 8(4)(c), 9(4) and 10(2)(a), the references to written representations on the proposal include references to written representations on the alternatives to the proposal set out in the proposal paper.
- (5) When carrying out its review of the proposal under section 9(1), the education authority is to carry out—
- (a) for the proposal and each of the alternatives to it set out in the proposal paper (if any), a further assessment of the matters mentioned in section 12A(2)(c)(i) to (iii), and
 - (b) an assessment, in relation to any other reasonable alternative to the proposal suggested in written representations on the proposal, of—
 - (i) the likely educational benefits in consequence of the implementation of the alternative,
 - (ii) the likely effect on the local community (assessed in accordance with section 12(4)) in consequence of such implementation,
 - (iii) the likely effect that would be caused by any different travelling arrangements that may be required (assessed in accordance with section 12(5)) in consequence of such implementation.

- (6) The consultation report must additionally explain—
 - (a) the education authority's assessment under subsection (5)(a),
 - (b) how that assessment differs (if at all) from the authority's assessment under section 12A(2)(c),
 - (c) the authority's assessment under subsection (5)(b),
 - (d) whether and, if so, the reasons why the authority considers that implementation of the proposal (wholly or partly) would be the most appropriate response to the reasons for the proposal.

Appendix 16 – Consultation Response Form

FIFE COUNCIL – EDUCATION DIRECTORATE CONSULTATION RESPONSE FORM

Proposal to close Kirkton of Largo Primary School and rezone the catchment area of Lundin Mill Primary School from Monday 17 August 2026.

Section 1 - Your Details

(to be provided by parent/carers or interested parties to enable the local authority to inform any person who makes written representations on the proposal of the publication of the consultation report as required by the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010).

Name	
Address	
Postcode	
Email address (if applicable)	

Section 2 - What is your main interest in responding to this consultation? (choose one)

I am a:	Tick ✓
Parent/Carer	
Pupil	
Staff member	
Grandparent	
Other interested party, please explain the nature of your interest and/or if you are responding on behalf of an organisation e.g. a community council.	

Do you live in one of the following catchment areas? (choose one)

I live in the:	Tick ✓
Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area?	
Lundin Mill Primary School catchment area?	
None of the above	

Which education establishment/s do you have a link with?

	Tick ✓
Kirkton of Largo PS	
Lundin Mill PS	
Another primary school in the North East Fife area	
Any nursery in the Levenmouth local area	
Waid Academy	
None of the above	

Section 3 - Your Views

Question 3.1 Do you support the proposal to close Kirkton of Largo Primary School and rezone the catchment area of Lundin Mill Primary School to include the existing catchment area of Kirkton of Largo from Monday 17 August 2026? **(please tick (✓) either Yes, No or Don't know)**

Yes			No			Don't know	
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If you support the proposal, what are your reasons? (Please list these below)

If you do not support the proposal, what are your reasons? (Please list these below)

Are there any further comments on the proposal you would like to make, including any representations on the alternatives to the proposal referred to in the proposal paper or any other alternatives to the proposal you would like to suggest? (Please list these below)

Section 4 - About You

The following questions are **voluntary**. They are to assist Fife Council in fulfilling its obligations under the Equality Act 2010 in relation to the proposal. Your responses to these questions are confidential.

1. What is your age? **Please choose one (✓).**

18 or under		25-34		45-54		65-74	
19-24		35-44		55-64		75 and over	

2. What is your gender? **Please choose one (✓).**

Male		Female		Non-Binary		Prefer not to say	
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3. What is your ethnic background? **Please choose one (✓).**

White Scottish		African	
Other White British		Asian, Asian Scottish, or other Asian British	
Other White background		Caribbean or Black	
Mixed or multiple ethnic background		Other ethnic background	

4. Do you consider yourself as having a disability? **Please choose one (✓).**

YES		NO	
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Thank you for taking part in this consultation. For further information on how we use your data please visit: www.fife.gov.uk/privacy/education

Please complete online at www.fife.gov.uk/kirktonoflargoprimary or return this form by post to: Kirkton of Largo Primary School Closure Proposal, Education Directorate 4th floor (West), Fife House, North Street, Glenrothes, KY7 5LT by **close of business on Tuesday 10 March 2026.**

Appendix B Notice of Consultation



For the attention of:

- ❖ • The Parent Council of the affected schools
- The parents of the pupils at the affected schools
- The parents of those pupils expected to attend the affected schools within 2 years
- The parents of those pupils expected in local nurseries associated with Kirkton of Largo PS
- The pupils at the affected schools
- School staff at the affected schools
- The trade unions representatives of the above staff
- • The Community Councils – Largo Area, Largoward and District, Colinsburgh and Kilconquhar, Elie and Royal Burgh of Earlsferry
- Other relevant users of the affected schools
- Community Associations
- Relevant Community Planning Partnerships
- Elected Members for the area
- MSPs for the area
- The Constituency MP

EDUCATION DIRECTORATE

Shelagh McLean,
Head of Service
shelagh.mclean@fife.gov.uk

Date: 21 January 2026

○ Dear Sir/Madam

Statutory Consultation Notice - Proposal to close Kirkton of Largo Primary School and rezone the Catchment Areas of Lundin Mill Primary School Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010

On 8 January 2026, the Cabinet Committee of Fife Council authorised the Education Directorate to undertake a statutory consultation in terms of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 on the proposal to:

- Close Kirkton of Largo Primary School on Monday 17 August 2026.
- Rezone the catchment area of Lundin Mill Primary School to incorporate the current catchment area of Kirkton of Largo Primary School, from Monday 17 August 2026.
- Seek alternative uses for the Kirkton of Largo Primary School site.

The proposed changes to the catchment areas are shown on the attached maps.

If the proposal is approved, the closure of Kirkton of Largo Primary School and changes to the catchment area of Lundin Mill Primary School would take effect from 17 August 2026 and will apply to all applications for enrolment, including placing requests, made from that date. Nursery aged pupils beginning Primary 1 in August 2026 will enrol in their existing catchment primary school in January 2026. Any nursery aged pupils living in the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area, beginning Primary 1 in August 2026, seeking to enrol online in their catchment school, will be contacted by Lundin Mill Primary School. Parents/carers of any new pupils from Primary 2 to Primary 7 stages, living in the Kirkton of Largo catchment area, seeking to enrol in their catchment school, should contact Kirkton of Largo Primary School direct.



A full copy of the proposal is available on the Fife Council website at www.fife.gov.uk/kirktonoflargoprimary. Printed copies will also be available for inspection and collection from:

- Main Reception, Fife Council, Fife House, North Street, Glenrothes, KY7 5LT
- The following school affected by the proposal (between the hours of 9 am and 3 pm):
 - Lundin Mill Primary School, Pitcruvie Park, Lundin Links, Leven, KY8 6HY
- Waid Academy, St Andrews Road, Anstruther, KY10 3GY
- Or via email to sustainableschoolestate.enquiries@fife.gov.uk
- Online at www.fife.gov.uk/kirktonoflargoprimary

The proposal can also be made available in other languages and formats, free of charge on request, by contacting the Education Directorate on 03451 555555 ext. 444331.

The statutory consultation period commences on Wednesday 21 January 2026 and will end on Tuesday 10 March 2026.

A public meeting has been arranged at:

- Durham Hall, Lower Largo on Monday 9 February 2026 from 6-7 pm

At this meeting, council officers will give a presentation on the proposal and any alternatives, answer questions on the proposal and any alternatives and record the oral representations on the proposal and any alternatives, of anyone who attends.

Informal drop-in sessions have also been arranged at:

- Lundin Mill Primary School on Tuesday 3 February from 8.45 – 9.30 am
- Lundin Mill Primary School on Tuesday 3 February from 2.30 – 3.15 pm

At these sessions council officers will be available to give further information on the proposal and alternatives and answer questions on the proposal and any alternatives.

You are invited to have your say on this proposal. You can attend the public meeting, and/or you can make written representations:

- to Kirkton of Largo Primary School Proposal, Education Directorate, Fife Council, 4th Floor (West), Fife House, North Street, Glenrothes KY7 5LT.
- by email to sustainableschoolestate.enquiries@fife.gov.uk
- by completing the Consultation Response Form online at (Managing Our School Estate | Fife Council
- <https://forms.office.com/e/TFuNChzTPa>
- by emailing a completed Consultation Response Form to: sustainableschoolestate.enquiries@fife.gov.uk

Printed copies of the Consultation Response Form will also be available for completion at the public meeting, informal drop-in sessions, and from the schools and council offices listed above.

Possible alternatives to the closure of Kirkton of Largo Primary School are set out in the proposal paper. Those are:

- to continue the temporary closure (formerly known as "mothballing") of Kirkton of Largo Primary School.
- to reopen Kirkton of Largo Primary School.
- to rezone the catchment areas of the primary schools nearest to Kirkton of Largo Primary School, to Kirkton of Largo Primary School. Those schools are:
 - Lundin Mill Primary School;
 - Colinsburgh Primary School;
 - Largoward Primary School; and
 - Elie Primary School

After assessment, the Education Directorate does not consider that those alternatives included in the proposal document are reasonable alternatives to the closure of Kirkton of Largo Primary School.

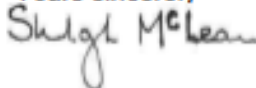
You can make written representations on the proposal and on the alternatives that are included within the proposal paper. If you consider there are other alternatives to the proposal you can include those in your written representations on the proposal.

To be taken into account, all written representations on the proposal, by letter, by e-mail or by completion of the Consultation Response Form, must arrive by close of business on Tuesday 10 March 2026.

Following the conclusion of the consultation period the Education Directorate will review the proposal and prepare a Consultation Report for consideration by a future Cabinet Committee of Fife Council. Further detail on this process is contained in the proposal paper.

We look forward to seeing you at these events.

Yours sincerely



Shelagh McLean
Head of Service, Education

Appendix C Responses to the Consultation Response Form

In total there were 9 responses to the Consultation form received, either through the online consultation form or submitted a paper copy.

Categories of stakeholders	%
Parent/Carer	33%
Pupil	0%
Staff member	0%
Grandparent	11%
Other interested party, please explain the nature of your interest and/or if you are responding on behalf of an organisation e.g. a community council.	56%

Percentage of respondents and the catchment area they live in?	%
Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area	22%
Lundin Mill Primary School catchment area	44%
Neither of the above	33%

Which education establishment/s do you have a link with?	%
Kirkton of Largo PS	34%
Lundin Mill PS	34%
Another primary school in the North East Fife area	10%
Any nursery in the NE1 local area	0
Waid Academy	0
None of the above	22%

During the consultation process, a total of 9 responses to question 3 in section 2 were received, either in written form or online. The table below provides details of the responses.

Parent/Carer of a child living in the:	Question 3.1 Do you support the proposal to close Kirkton of Largo Primary School and rezone the catchment area of Lundin Mill Primary School to include the existing catchment area of Kirkton of Largo from 17 August 2026? (please choose one ✓)					
	Consultees who responded Yes	%	Consultees who responded No	%	Consultees who responded Don't know	%
Kirkton of Largo Primary School Catchment Area	1		1		0	
Lundin Mill Catchment Area	0				0	
None of the above	0		1		0	
Total	1	11	2	22	0	

Pupil living in the:	Consultees who responded Yes	%	Consultees who responded No	%	Consultees who responded Don't know	%
Kirkton of Largo Primary School Catchment Area						

Lundin Mill Catchment Area					
None of the above					
Total	0		0		0

Staff Member:	Consultees who responded Yes	%	Consultees who responded No	%	Consultees who responded Don't know	%
Kirkton of Largo Primary School Catchment Area						
Lundin Mill Catchment Area						
None of the above						
Total	0		0		0	

Grandparent:	Consultees who responded Yes	%	Consultees who responded No	%	Consultees who responded Don't know	%
Kirkton of Largo Primary School Catchment Area						
Lundin Mill Catchment Area					1	11
None of the above						
Total	0		0		1	11

Other interested party	Consultees who responded Yes	%	Consultees who responded No	%	Consultees who responded Don't know	%
Kirkton of Largo Primary School Catchment Area						
Lundin Mill Catchment Area	3					
None of the above	2					
Total	5	56				

All responses received	Consultees who responded Yes	%	Consultees who responded No	%	Consultees who responded Don't know	%
Overall Total	6	67	2	22	1	11

In summary, 5 other interested parties, 3 parents/carers, and 1 grandparent responded to the consultation response form on paper or digitally. The responses provided from the paper format are also included in the figures above. No pupils or staff completed the online consultation form.

Appendix D

Summary of Comments made in response to Question 3 on the Consultation Response Form

There were 6 comments made under 3.1 of the Consultation Response Form - if you support the proposal, what are your reasons?

1	Save the council and tax payer
2	I believe it should be redeveloped into social or affordable housing for locals who cannot afford to purchase homes where they have grown up.
3	I have three children, all went to KOL primary - my eldest went right through from p1 to p7, my middle child got to p6 then went to Lundin mill for p7, and my youngest did p1 at KOL and has been at Lundin Mill for P2 onwards. Although KOL was a fantastic school, in the last years of its existence there were not enough kids there to provide a good social experience for the students. The birth rates and local population trends do not predict this to change so there is no reason for KOL to reopen as a school. I would support the council and community looking for alternative uses of the building that provide needed services for the local community.
4	Little prospect of sufficient pupils in the future and presents the opportunity to use the site/building for community benefit.
5	Given the current and projected numbers of pupils, it makes sense to consolidate. The distance between both schools seems close and manageable.
6	While given the current socio-economic climate and age-demographic I support the re-zoning of the catchment zone, I would like it to be known that I did not and do not support the closure of Kirkton of Largo Primary School. KOL was a good school. It was a school that was committed to its pupils, that supported its parents and carers, and was whole-heartedly part of the community (not only that of Upper and Lower Largo but also of Lundin Links). With that in mind, I would also like it to be known that I disagree with several aspects of the proposal document. On several occasions, the document states that the school provided no extra-curricular activities or breakfast clubs, this is untrue. During my time at the school and throughout my brothers experience (my youngest brother was at the school until he went to high school and it was closed or 'mothballed') and in all occasions extra-curricular activities and breakfast clubs were available. Breakfast clubs were maintained with the support of the parent council and while extra-curricular activities could vary from term-to-term they often revolved around sports. Said extra-curricular activities often took place during lunchtimes if, due to staff numbers, after school was not possible. The proposal suggests that the school was not part of the community, this is untrue. The school was the heart of the community and locals were often included and invited to events held at the school. The school used facilities in the local area so as to support the community; this included the church. The school often held fundraisers which involved community organisations and took advantage of the green space around them, giving students a full and varied education. Kirkton of Largo knew its students and parents/carers well. The size of the school was a blessing - parents/carers and children felt supported and felt heard, its loss was significant

	<p>and the pressure on staff, pressure to move-on and give-up the school, cannot go overlooked. Throughout my brothers experience at the school, there was a feeling that students were being shepherd away from KOL to Lundin Mill Primary School. There was a feeling that the school wasn't being supported and that became apparent after the decision was taken for it to be closed or 'mothballed'. The proposal states that parents/carers could still ask their children to be placed at KOL but this was never well explained and was never encouraged.</p> <p>'Mothballing' has a stigma associated with it, it means closure however you would like to frame it - KOL never stood a chance. So while I currently agree with the rezoning, this is not because I don't think KOL should re-open or because I don't think it's a good school, but rather because I think the Council has left us with no other choice. KOL has been closed too long to re-open as it once was. It has been tarnished by years of shoehorning and lack of investment or failure to see its promise and potential. The proposal document and the manner in which is talks about the school makes that apparent. Going forward, I simply ask that the facts of this case be ironed out properly and the brilliance of KOL and its teachers be recognised. KOL provided opportunities for growth and development. It built lasting connections and was able to build close relations with students, parents and carers due to its small community - it was therefore able to help many families during hardship and often went above and beyond for its community. The school celebrated its pupils, it took the time to know them and did its best to cater to their needs. The school fought to stay open but knew it was up against a losing battle - when the Council says that the primary teacher chose to move on and encouraged parents/carers to move their children to Lundin Mill, let it be known that this was not a decision which was made easily and instead, was one that came with great upset and turmoil.</p>
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There were two comments made under 3.1 of the Consultation Response Form – If you do not support the proposal, what are your reasons?

1	<p>I feel Lundin Mill would benefit from being able to offer p1-7 as individual classes and that Kirkton of largo may not longer be feasible as a primary school should ultimately be considered for early years childcare as there appears to be ongoing capacity issues for nursery provision from the introduction of free childcare places for an amount of hours as per government policies. So whilst I agree it is not necessary for it to be a primary school as there is adequate provision, if the building is fit for purpose I would strongly ask that the committee consider the pre school needs of the area and surrounding areas to create more early years placement opportunities before normalising the mothballing process and ultimately sale of the property.</p>
2	<p>My daughter is due to start nursery in April and has only been offered one day at Lundin mill . As there is an entitlement of so many hours in place for children to attend from 3 years old so mothers can go back to work . I feel this is unfair on anyone who lives in the local area . I unfortunately can't travel due to injury . So something more permanent and close to home is best. There is a lot more younger children in the area than before. I feel it's not right they cannot attend close by education because others are coming from further a field. I do understand that staffing plays a major role , however it would be very sad if Kirkton closes.</p>

There were 6 comments made under section 3.1 of the Consultation Response Form - Are there any further comments on the proposal you would like to make including any representations on the alternatives to the proposal referred to in the proposal paper or any other alternatives to the proposal you would like to suggest?

1	Private nursery, forest school, social/affordable housing
2	Community Asset Transfer
3	As above. However I'd also suggest thoughts regarding neurodivergent support or additional needs schooling is a potential alternative option that should be explored as this is something frequently noted that there is a lack of provision for. As a parent of a neurodiverse child, a registered nurse and private art therapist, I believe while the building may no longer be required for the traditional school roll the building itself could be repurposed with GIRFEC principles in mind of supporting individuals who require a more personalised approach to their education requirements and facilitate increased attendance and engagement for these young people that the traditional system of education cannot fully adapt to meet the needs of.
4	Road safety for Upper Largo children having to walk to & from school along side a very busy A915 where the pavement is very narrow and at some point having to cross this road to get to school.. An alternative route via the Serpentine would add a significant distance and safety issues particularly during dark winter days. Would the extension of the catchment area mean provision of transport?
5	As it won't open as a School would like to propose maybe a day care ,after school club or anything that involves something for children .
6	I would like it to be known that while it is not a legal requirement for previous communication on this matter to be shared with the broader community and ex-pupils, parents or carers, the Council has missed an opportunity to engage fully in this case. The proposal document continuously highlights that low levels of engagement and promotes the numbers of parents/carers contacted but it fails to ask the community of Largo and Lundin Links for their views, it fails to ask those with experience for their thoughts and chooses instead to engage with those who have little to no experience with the school or a pre-conception as a result of the so-called 'mothballing'. This consultation or 'survey' does not allow me to go into as much detail as I would like but again, I would like to emphasise that KOL is mis-represented in the proposal document. The facts of this case and the tremendous efforts and achievements made by KOL should not be overlooked or dismissed in this manner. I would not be who I am today without my KOL experience and I would forever be grateful for the support that my family and I received while here, I wholeheartedly believe that I would not have received this level of care and attentiveness elsewhere.

Appendix E Record of Public Meeting

Transcript of Public Meeting – Monday 9 February 2026 – Durham Hall, Durham Wynd, Lower Largo

FIFE COUNCIL – EDUCATION DIRECTORATE Public Consultation Meeting held at Durham Hall, Durham Wynd, Lower Largo on Monday 9 February 2026 at 6.00 pm

Attendees:

Shelagh McLean, Head of Service (Education) (SMcL)
Lyn Meeks, Quality Improvement Officer (LM)
Kim Lawson, Note Taker

This meeting was attended by a representative from HMIE and the new Headteacher, Mrs Liz Wilson.

7 members of the public attended this meeting.

Shelagh McLean (SMcL) opened the meeting by introducing Fife Council representatives.

This is the formal public meeting, scheduled in respect of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, following the decision by the Cabinet Committee of Fife Council on 8 January 2026, which authorised the Education Directorate to consult with parents, pupils and other interested parties on the proposal to close Kirkton of Largo Primary School and rezone the catchment area of Lundin Mill Primary School from Monday 17 August 2026.

The statutory consultation period is from Wednesday 21 January 2026 to Tuesday 10 March 2026.

SMcL presented a PowerPoint presentation on the proposal, highlighting the educational benefits of the proposal and gave an overview of the proposed catchment areas should the proposal be approved.

Questions were requested at the end of the presentation and any questions that arose after the meeting could be sent in as outlined in the proposal paper.

A summary of these questions would form part of the final report.

Question	Member of the community: I would like clarification on transport and how kids will get to and from Lundin Mill PS. What are implications of children being under 1 mile? Does this mean they wouldn't get any transport? The South Feus area is likely under a mile.
Response	SMcL: If a child lives over 1 mile from the school they will be entitled to transport. Many young people can walk to our Primary School settings in Fife. Scottish Government legislation states if a child lives more than 2 miles from their catchment Primary School, they would be entitled to transport however, in Fife, our policy is

	<p>that anyone who lives more than one mile from their catchment school would be entitled to transport. If an area of the proposed Lundin Mill PS catchment in Upper Largo is within 1 mile we would do a Walked Route to School Assessment. We would identify the route from the affected area and define whether this would be reasonable or not. This would include officers of Fife Council, Councillors, parents and any other stakeholders, applying the relevant guidance and walking the appropriate route. It would then be determined as either a suitable walking route or not. If not, transport would be provided,</p>
Question	<p>Cllr: I am aware that Transportation have budgeted for the design of the new footpath between Lower Largo and Upper Largo. Are you talking to Transportation and can you make it clear to them that more children would be using path?</p>
	<p>SMcL: We are regularly in discussions with Transportation. Any new infrastructure which is put in place could potentially be used as the walking route however we would still need to undertake a Walked Route to School Assessment to make sure it is an appropriate route for young people to walk. If the route does not meet the Walked Route to School guidelines, the affected children would be entitled to transport.</p>
Statement	<p>Member of the community: I wouldn't be happy for any kids to walk to school on the existing route.</p>
Response	<p>SMcL: I can only reassure you that any routes would be assessed as part of the process. We would need to determine any appropriateness of a Walked Route to School if there is one.</p>
Statement	<p>Member of the community: In view of the timescales involved here, it would be helpful if transportation could advance their path programme.</p>
Response	<p>SMcL: We will discuss this with them however we can't do anything until we know the consultation outcome. We would want to be aware of any potential plans by Transportation to create pavements and walk ways in order for us to undertake a Walked Route to School Assessment. We cannot do this within the 30-day consultation period. We would plan to undertake this in the future, to provide reassurance to parents/carers.</p>
Question	<p>Member of the community: The six children from Kirkton of Largo Primary School who left prior to the school being mothballed, were they offered transportation as part of the transfer?</p>
Response	<p>SMcL: These requests were considered placing requests to other schools at this time, therefore they were not entitled to transport. As the school is now mothballed, any children within catchment who attend Lundin Mill PS are offered transport.</p>
Question	<p>Member of the community: I'm a grandparent and one of reasons some of my family moved to Upper Largo was for the proximity to Kirkton of Largo PS. Will they be disadvantaged now if they live within 1 mile of Lundin Mill PS? Will they need to walk them to school?</p>

Response	SMcL: The Walked Route to School assessment would need to be done from their address to Lundin Mill PS. If the distance was 1 mile or more, they would automatically be entitled to transport within Fife Council policy and this would be provided. If they live within 1 mile of Lundin Mill PS, we will undertake a walked route to school assessment. This is a standard approach used across Fife.
Statement	Member of the community: I'm therefore thinking there would be no favour or grace given to them. They've moved to an area thinking the school is open and it's not.
Response	SMcL: It is the same approach we use across Fife. There will not be many areas in Upper Largo within 1 mile of Lundin Mill PS. We would need to assess this. The address needs to be 1 mile from the school as per the actual route, not as the crow flies. We would do all this work if the rezoning of the catchment area went ahead. We would also ensure we had the appropriate number of spaces on transport if necessary.
Question	Member of the community: It might not be particularly helpful for the consultation itself but I need to say something. The Headteacher at Kirkton of Largo PS did advise a parent with young pre-school children to apply to Lundin Mill PS as Kirkton of Largo PS would likely close. I know this doesn't have an impact on process and is anecdotal however I have a sense of disappointment that she was pushing in this direction before the consultation took place. The parents of the 6 pupils didn't really have a choice as there was no viability on 6 of them staying at Kirkton of Largo PS. Around 15/20 years ago, there was a girl who had cerebral palsy who attended Kirkton of Largo PS. A lot of her family then made placing requests with 8 or 9 children looking to enrol. This element was an important part of the school. I also recall one of the inspectors highlighted friendliness and the caring atmosphere in school. It is hard to capture this within a school as they were placing requests however if you take something away then this means you would end up with no placing requests and therefore wouldn't know the demand. There was not enough effort made to draw people into school. It would potentially have been beneficial for people with disabilities. A lot of locals are disappointed. I feel in hindsight, more effort could have been put in by the Headteacher & Fife Council to encourage people to send their children to Kirkton of Largo Primary School. Within your presentation, you refer to the number of children within the Kirkton of Largo PS catchment area who have nursery placements. Does that include private nursery placements?
Response	SMcL: If children are receiving 1140 funded hours, Fife Council is involved in funding these, therefore we would know about them and where they live. It's unusual that anyone would not claim the 1140 funded hours however it is always possibility. If they aren't claiming for 1140 funded hours, we might not be aware of them yet. We have publicised the consultation as widely as possible to capture anyone who might have been missed or potentially does not have a child or young person in school. If we know about the stakeholder, the information has

	<p>been passed to them. In relation to your comments about the Headteacher at Kirkton of Largo PS, I can only apologise. Fife Council would not actively encourage anyone away from a school. It is not something we would expect a Headteacher to do. There is a fine line in describing what would be someone's experience at one school in comparison to another, without sounding as if you are encouraging any particular decision. Any professional advice given would be based on individual family circumstances. We would not expect anyone to be encouraged in or out of a school. Every school in Fife should be able to provide the type of education that children require. If we get any placing requests, we will accept them if the capacity at the school will allow this. This might not be the case mid-year due to class set up however if they move into catchment, we would be looking to accept their application as soon as we could. We always want parents to have a choice. There would have been a change when teacher at Kirkton of Largo Primary School left and we didn't manage this any differently to any other school in a similar position. We gave families the choice and explained the circumstances. Within this area, we know people make placing requests to different schools. This is a factor which is built into projections. There are a number of reasons why parents make a placing request, including for work, childcare etc. There are all sorts of reasons. If there is space within a class, the placing request school would be required to offer them a place.</p>
Question	<p>Member of the community: I was a pupil at Kirkton of Largo PS and had a wonderful experience at school. Under the previous Headteacher it was a wonderful place. It excelled in IT and had lots of history. As it stands, it looks as though the building has been left to deteriorate. How was this allowed to happen?</p>
Response	<p>SMcL: It would cost Fife Council roughly £220,000 to open the school again and make it an appropriate learning environment for everyone. This is not a lot of money in terms of the change required. This is an estimate to bring the building up to standard use. The type of environment required has changed over the last 3 years. The requirements in terms of insurance of Fife Council required us to close the building otherwise it would not be insured at this point in time. If the school were to reopen, we would put everything back in place. Every school in Fife does their best with each teacher bringing their own skills, know-how and experience when they are working with our children and young people. Every school has a different strength. We understand that not all areas require a large school and not all areas require a small school. We don't want them all the same size and all our buildings are slightly different. The new Headteacher for Lundin Mill PS is here with us tonight. The ethos, culture and environment of a school is extremely important to us. We know that young people's</p>

	experiences are different and there are always challenges, however we are supporting them constantly. If we were to reopen, our job would be to ensure this is positive at Kirkton of Largo PS.
Question	Member of the community: If there was to be an increased catchment for Lundin Mill PS, I'm wondering how the capacity of the building would cope? What do the projections look like? There are a number of developers within the area which would potentially bring in further housing and therefore families. Would Lundin Mill PS cope with this?
Response	SMcL: We look at capacity modelling across Fife schools. Based on our methodology, we can only use the planning information we have. If a development site is in the Housing Land Audit, we build these into our projections. Colinsburgh PS projections are higher than average but the number of children coming from any development is less than we thought. Within the Lundin Mill PS and Kirkton of Largo PS catchment area there is no known housing application within the Housing Land Audit. There are a few development sites within the Elie PS and Colinsburgh PS catchment areas which have been considered. We are not anticipating pressure on schools based on house building in this area.
Response	LM: In addition, in relation to the previous comment around nursery numbers, we would know number of children born into an area so we can factor them in to our projections. Our projections are for a 5-year period so they have already been born. In general, the pupil roll in Fife has gone down in last few years.
Question	Member of the community: There are a large number of houses which have been built at the end of Standing Stane road. Where are the children from this housing going?
Response	SMcL: We are not seeing large numbers of children being generated from this housing at the moment. In the future, there is a new school planned.
Question	Member of the community: In relation to the history and the ownership of the Kirkton of Largo PS building, it was apparently the parish council who voted to have building built in 1875. What is the history of the building? I have previously asked about Common Good, and was wondering where Kirkton of Largo PS would sit in this?
Response	SMcL: We were asked this before the building was mothballed and it was checked by the Fife Council legal team. It was transferred fully at one point in time to Fife Council.
Statement	Member of the community: This will be important once we reach the point of determining alternative uses.

SMcL concluded the meeting by thanking people for their attendance and for all the points they have raised. SMcL advised all points raised have been noted and will be responded to within the Consultation Report.

Any stakeholder who completes the online form with their details will also be advised in advance of the publication of the Consultation Report.
The PowerPoint presentation will be available on the website where other information is available.

Parent/carers were asked to note they had from now until close of day on 10 March 2026 to have their say regarding the consultation and were advised how they could do this.

Meeting closed at 7.12 pm.

Appendix F

Pupil Consultation Feedback

Proposal by Fife Council to close Kirkton of Largo Primary School and to rezone the catchment areas of Lundin Mill Primary School.

Pupil Consultation – Lundin Mill Primary School

Two sessions were undertaken in Lundin Mill Primary School, on Tuesday 3 February 2026, to discuss with pupils the proposed plans to rezone the catchment area. The Officer outlined the proposal and the reason for the visit. A number of questions, listed below, were posed to pupils to allow officers to gather information and feedback.

Lundin Mill Primary School – Tuesday 3 February 2026

Gather views and feelings about:

- Are you aware of a consultation proposal to look at closing Kirkton of Largo Primary School?
- Are you aware of a consultation proposal to look at changing the catchment area of Lundin Mill Primary School?
- If yes, has this been discussed at home or in school?
- What do you think about the plan to add the whole of the Kirkton of Largo Catchment area with Lundin Mill catchment area?
- Under occupancy - What do you think about the plan to try and keep the same number of children attending your school?
- What will changing the catchment area of Lundin Mill mean for you and your school?
- Do you think this will make any difference to your time in school (P4/5/6/7)/ educational experience?
- Would they have any concerns for more / less / same numbers of pupils attending the school?
- What's important to you about your school?
- Any other comments or worries about the proposal you want to share?

There were two groups of pupils included, the first group was made up of 5 P4s and 9 P5s, and the second group was made up of 8 P6s and 8 P7s. The feedback received from the first group was as follows:

- 4 of the children had heard about the consultation as it had been discussed at school.
- The pupils thought the following in relation to adding the Kirkton of Largo PS catchment area to the Lundin Mill PS catchment area:
- I think it's nice that Kirkton of Largo PS is going to open as think it's good for local people to go to school there
- I would like it to open for any use
- My sister went when there were less than 10 pupils, they had great fun but would enjoy it with more people there.
- More people means more friends and more fun.

If Kirkton of Largo Primary School was to be reopened, based on the projections, the number of children enrolled would be low. The children felt this meant:

- Less than 10 people means people might have different likes
- Not as many friends
- Not good as there would only be one class.
- Would be trickier to learn as P1-7.
- Good to have more children
- Not fun as if you fell out with some people you would have less people to play with.
- Not enough for a football team.
- We have sports day at Lundin Mill PS, wouldn't be as good having small numbers.
- Less opportunity to take part in team events.

When asked what the children thought about trying to keep the number of children attending Lundin Mill PS similar to what it is now, they thought:

- We have a good number of people at Lundin Mill PS now
- We have a class each and space for our coats
- There is a nice space outside
- I wouldn't want the numbers at Lundin Mill PS to drop
- It is good for us all to be together
- If we had too many people, there wouldn't be enough space
- There would be nursery moving up, P7s moving on, I think numbers would stay the same
- It would be good to go to nursery here then school
- Some people come here from Leven so I think the numbers will go up
- The numbers we have right now are good

In relation to whether changing the catchment of area of Lundin Mill PS would make any difference to their time in school, the children advised:

- We could have more events if more children here.
- Lots of people like to take part so more events would be good.
- I don't like a lot of people in a school.
- The number of people now is good as the playground is big enough and classrooms are big enough.
- I want everyone to be together

The children were asked if they had any final comments:

- We shouldn't have too much people or too less people at school
- It would be nice if the school would open and I would like it used for something else.
- I think the numbers at this school are good as it is.
- It's up the road from my house and I want to see it being used for something else
- I walk to school and I'm moving to upper largo so would like it to open there
- I like to have my rights
- Out of the 14 children in the group, 8 are mostly driven to school and 6 walk.

The feedback received from the second group was as follows:

- 15 out of 16 children knew about consultation. 1 had spoken about it at home and 14 had heard about it at school.
- The pupils thought the following in relation to adding the Kirkton of Largo PS catchment area to the Lundin Mill PS catchment area:
- You would get more learning in a smaller school as they would be able to buy netbooks as it would cost them less.
- Teachers might not want to teach at Kirkton of Largo PS as it is small school.
- You would get more time with the teacher at Kirkton of Largo PS however different ages in same class which would be difficult.
- If Kirkton of Largo Primary School was to be reopened, based on the projections, the number of children enrolled would be low. The children felt this meant:
 - It would be trickier to make friends and less experience of making friends as less people.
 - Less group work.
 - It was on Newsround that there was a small school with 2 people and they never got much learning time. I think there was 1 teacher and 2 girls. They got to play outside a lot.
 - As Kirkton of Largo PS was a smaller school the children will get a shock going up to High School as it will be much bigger.
 - There is a netball event today with 8 of us going. This might not be possible at a smaller school.
 - You would learn to make friends with people who are older than you at Kirkton of Largo PS as there are less children.
 - The teacher would have to give work for each different age group covering P1-7.
 - We have a walking bus but they wouldn't be able to do that with 1 adult working at a school at KOL.
 - If P1 got their work first, P7 would be waiting a while. It would take away learning time.
 - When asked what the children thought about trying to keep the number of children attending Lundin Mill PS similar to what it is now, they thought:
 - You would know more people when moving to Waid if you were at Lundin Mill PS.
 - We have a good playground here at Lundin Mill PS so it would be good to share this..
 - A few of the pupils went to Pittenweem PS for peer mediation and we realised how small their playground was in comparison.
 - The numbers at Lundin Mill PS are good. We all have a classroom each.
 - Numbers work well at Lundin Mill PS.
 - In relation to whether changing the catchment of area of Lundin Mill PS would make any difference to their time in school, the children advised:
 - The P7s have a lot of leadership activities, we lead assemblies which will help when I'm an adult.
 - It would be annoying being the only P7.
 - Could the school be turned into a place for people with learning difficulties.
 - There are advantages of having people the same age as you.
 - I thought this school is a good size but in comparison to others, we might not have a good hall for PE.
 - We have areas for people who struggle with learning at this school which is good. There are lots of spaces to meet different needs.
 - The children were asked if they had any final comments:

- I would like Kirkton of Largo PS to open as I prefer a small school.
- Good idea to open it as it would be fun. I like smaller schools as I was there previously.
- Good idea to extend Lundin Mill PS catchment so our numbers stay the same.
- I think we should extend the catchment and use the Kirkton of Largo PS building for different educational purposes.
- I think we should extend the Lundin Mill PS catchment.
- We have 130 odd people in our school, if it was less than 10 people at Kirkton of Largo PS, I think they would get more attention as less pupils. Teachers would be by themselves though.
- Extend catchment and building used for something else
- School should be used for something else.
- Out of the 16 children in the group, 9 walk to school, 6 are driven and 1 cycles.

Summary of Comments from the Pupil Consultation

Almost all pupil representatives from primary 4 to 7 at Lundin Mill Primary School engaged very well in the dialogue about the proposal to close Kirkton of Largo Primary School and rezone the catchment area to Lundin Mill Primary School.

Across both pupil groups, children consistently highlighted concerns about very low numbers if Kirkton of Largo Primary School were to reopen. Pupils felt that having fewer than 10 children would reduce opportunities to make friends, limit play options, and make fall-outs more difficult to manage due to fewer peers. Many pupils felt that a single primary 1 to primary 7 class would make learning more challenging. They believed the teacher would have less time for each age group, leading to potential loss of learning time. In addition, pupils were concerned about limited chances to take part in team sports, events, or group activities. Some referenced specific examples (e.g., netball teams, sports days) that would not be possible in a very small school. A few felt that attending a very small primary school could make the transition to a much larger high school more challenging. A small number of pupils expressed that they liked smaller schools or felt children at a small school might receive more individual attention.

The majority of pupils felt positively about the current school roll at Lundin Mill PS and expressed a desire to maintain similar numbers. Pupils felt the school currently has the right number of children, with sufficient classrooms, cloakroom space and a good-sized playground. Many felt that current numbers allow them to be part of age-appropriate peer groups, maintain friendships, and experience leadership roles such as those undertaken by P7 pupils. Several pupils noted that being part of a larger year group helps when moving on to Waid Academy. While pupils did not want numbers to fall but also felt that becoming too big could reduce space and affect the school environment.

While there was interest from a few pupils to reopen Kirkton of Largo, due to the proximity to their homes, there was a desire to have a balanced number of pupils (not too many and not too few) to allow them to take part in a wide range of learning activities and social interactions.

Appendix G Other Written Responses

One written representation was received from an interested party by letter:

Received
[redacted] / 6th Feb 2026.



31st January 2026

Kirkton Of Largo Primary Proposal
Education Directorate
Fife Council
4th Floor (West)
Fife House
North Street
Glenrothes KY7 5LT

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re Kirkton of Largo Primary School Proposal

I write as a resident of Upper Largo and I am aware that the school will no longer be needed to educate primary pupils in this area. Last summer in the Simpson Institute our local Heritage Group organised a weekend to celebrate the long history of the school. We were amazed that over 180 people, past pupils, family members and village residents came to view the exhibition and reminisce about their association with the school. This we felt demonstrated the importance this school has been for the local area. I noted that you have asked for views and suggestions for the future use of the school building and would like to suggest the following idea.

The school has all the facilities required to consider its usage as a non-residential outdoor education facility for students of all ages.

The local area has opportunities for the study of a range of educational subjects.

Historical aspects – prehistory standing stones, Pictish settlements, Admiral Wood and Largo House, Polish Army base, 2nd WW links, historical issues in small settlements in the East Neuk over the centuries, trading links to the continent, local link to Alexander Selkirk .

Geographical aspects – landform, geology and coastal features, land use, farming and fishing developments, tourism and recreation facilities.

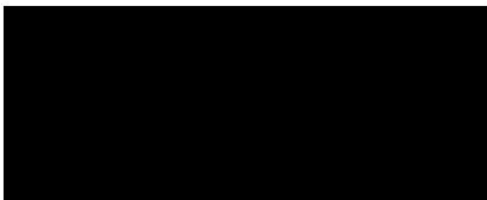
Ecology – local Woodland Trust properties, coastal features, balance of nature with local developments.

Possibility of links to water-based sports, local cricket pitch, tennis courts and bowling in Lundin Links.

The Simpson Institute serves the community well for social events. The continuing link of Kirkton School to education would be greatly appreciated locally.

I expect there will be further suggestions for the future use of the building. Consideration for some space to store historical information and artefacts would be much appreciated by the local community.

Yours sincerely



**Appendix H:
Equality Impact Assessment**

Part 1: Background and information

<p>Title of proposal</p>	<p>Proposal to Close Kirkton of Largo Primary School and Rezone the Catchment Area of Lundin Mill Primary School</p>
<p>Brief description of proposal (including intended outcomes & purpose)</p>	<p>This is a proposal to close Kirkton of Largo Primary School and to rezone the catchment area of Lundin Mill Primary School from Monday 17 August 2026.</p> <p>Kirkton of Largo Primary School has been under temporary closure (previously mothballed) since January 2025 due to there being no pupils for a third academic session. There are also not any pupils anticipated for the 2026-27 session.</p> <p>At the September Census 2025, the majority of the pupils living within the Kirkton of Largo Primary School catchment area attended Lundin Mill Primary School as placing requests.</p> <p>Continuing with the current temporary closure (formerly known as “mothballing”) is not justified in the circumstances and would be contrary to the Statutory Guidance on the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010. Having explored alternative options to encourage viability, there is no mechanism available to the Education Authority to increase the school roll of Kirkton of Largo Primary School, which would not have significant effect on the viability of the neighbouring schools.</p> <p>The reasons for formulating the proposal were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kirkton of Largo Primary School has had no pupils enrolled for academic sessions 2023/24 and 2024/25. • There are no pupils enrolled in Kirkton of Largo Primary School for session 2025/2026. Those due to enrol for Primary 1, living in the Kirkton of Largo catchment area, have chosen to attend Lundin Mill Primary School. Overall, the current number of primary age pupils living in the Kirkton of Largo catchment area is 17. • Kirkton of Largo Primary School has been temporarily closed (formerly known as “mothballed”) since January 2025. The school building is currently being maintained

	<p>by Property Services to ensure it is wind and watertight.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated birth information has shown that the births in the catchment area have not significantly increased in the last year and there is no other anticipated significant increased growth in the pupil population in the catchment area from, for example, large scale housing development over 100 units. • Kirkton of Largo Primary School does not meet all the Fife Council guiding principles as outlined in paragraph 3.1 of the proposal. <p>The proposal has been consulted on in accordance with the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010.</p> <p>If this proposal is approved by the Cabinet Committee on 28 May 2026, this will result in the closure of Kirkton of Largo Primary School and the realignment of the catchment area of Lundin Mill Primary School from Monday 17 August 2026.</p> <p>The proposal will not impact on any pupil who is due to start Primary One in August 2026, as they will have enrolled for their existing primary school.</p> <p>It is important to note that there will be no changes to the secondary catchment area of Waid Academy as currently both Kirkton of Largo and Lundin Mill Primary Schools are associated with Waid Academy.</p> <p>There are also no changes to the Roman Catholic catchment areas of St Agatha's RC Primary School and St Andrew's RC High School.</p>
Lead Directorate / Service / Partnership	Shelagh McLean, Head of Service, Education
EqlA lead person	Lyn Meeks (QIO) Education Kim Lawson (Compliance Officer) Education
EqlA contributors	All relevant consultees, as defined by the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, were invited to participate in the formal consultation process. The Equality Impact Assessment was contributed to by a range of staff within Fife Council.
Date of EqlA	16 April 2026

How does the proposal meet one or more of the general duties under the Equality Act 2010? (Consider proportionality and relevance on p.12 and see p.13 for more information on what the general duties mean). If the decision is of a strategic nature, how does the proposal address socio-economic disadvantage or inequalities of outcome?)

General duties	Please Explain
Eliminating discrimination, harassment and victimisation	N/A
Advancing equality of opportunity	<p>Lundin Mill Primary School has sufficient accommodation to allow young people to socialise in a variety of areas both inside and out and this will include accessible areas to include any young people with additional support needs. Lundin Mill Primary School has a variety of multi-purpose areas which allow the full breadth of the curriculum to be experienced.</p> <p>There is also a positive impact for parents who are uncertain about the size of classes at Kirkton of Largo. The class organisation at Lundin Mill Primary School is likely to be in composite classes of no more than 2 stages compared to the multi-stage composite classes. It is expected that pupils from Kirkton of Largo will take part in more varied experiences that can be delivered by attending a larger school. They also include being part of a larger peer group to enable pupils to have bigger friendship groups.</p> <p>Upper Largo is at least 1.0 miles from Lundin Mill Primary School therefore any children from this area would be entitled to transport to Lundin Mill Primary School. This means no walking routes are required to be carried out by the Education Directorate.</p> <p>There is also a positive impact for parents during the enrolment stage as parents will have clarity of their catchment school.</p>
Fostering good relations	Lundin Mill Primary School already promote having good relationships with their community. This already extends to Upper Largo due to the majority of

	children from this area attending Lundin Mill Primary School for at least the last 2 years.
Socio-economic disadvantage	Whilst we recognise the journey to school will be further extended for some pupils living within close proximity of their existing primary school, across all socio-economic groups, we would continue to promote a healthy lifestyle which includes exercise and activity both within and outwith school, promoting active travel would contribute to this healthy lifestyle choice.
Inequalities of outcome	The Education Directorate is confident that the facilities and resources on offer within Lundin Mill Primary School will ensure that the wide range of the curriculum is delivered with plenty of pupil opportunities, extra-curricular activities and inclusive approaches supporting a focus on improved outcomes for all of the young people.

Having considered the general duties above, if there is likely to be no impact on any of the equality groups, parts 2 and 3 of the impact assessment may not need to be completed. Please provide an explanation (based on evidence) if this is the case.

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Part 2: Evidence and Impact Assessment

Explain what the positive and / or negative impact of the policy change is on any of the protected characteristics

Protected characteristic	Positive impact	Negative impact	No impact
Disabled people			No impact
Sexual orientation			No impact
Women			No impact
Men			No impact
Transgendered people			No impact
Race (includes gypsy travellers)			No impact
Age (including older people aged 60+)			No impact
Children and young people	School building with multi-purpose space available to provide greater	Pupils will be offered transport in line with Fife	

	flexibility and enhanced opportunities for pupils. Larger school roll and greater opportunities for pupils to have peer support and friendship groups.	Council's transport policy.	
Religion or belief			No impact
Pregnancy & maternity			No impact
Marriage & civil partnership			No impact

Please also consider the impact of the policy change in relation to:

	Positive impact	Negative impact	No impact
Looked after children and care leavers	Additional spaces to ensure the needs of care experienced pupils can be met e.g. multi-agency meetings can take place		
Privacy (e.g. information security & data protection)			No impact
Economy			No impact

- Please record the evidence used to support the impact assessment. This could include officer knowledge and experience, research, customer surveys, service user engagement.
- Any evidence gaps can also be highlighted below.

Evidence used	Source of evidence
1. Knowledge of existing school provision/ practice	Officer discussion/ consultation
School facilities and accommodation	School layout plans
Feedback received from relevant parties during the statutory consultation process	Consultation Response Forms, public meetings and pupil consultation, report from HMIE

Part 3: Recommendations and Sign Off

(Recommendations should be based on evidence available at the time and aim to mitigate negative impacts or enhance positive impacts on any or all of the protected characteristics).

Recommendation	Lead person	Timescale
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		

Sign off

(By signing off the EqIA, you are agreeing that the EqIA represents a thorough and proportionate analysis of the policy based on evidence listed above and there is no indication of unlawful practice and the recommendations are proportionate.

Date completed: 16 April 2026	Date sent to Community Investment Team: Enquiry.equalities@fife.gov.uk
Senior Officer: Kim Lawson name	Designation: Compliance Officer

FOR COMMUNITY INVESTMENT TEAM ONLY

EqIA Ref No.	
Date checked and initials	