

## **Options to Address Primary School Capacity and Accommodation Pressures in South Edinburgh**

Affecting James Gillespie's Primary School, South Morningside Primary School, Bruntsfield Primary School, Tollcross Primary School, James Gillespie's High School and Boroughmuir High School

### **1 Introduction**

1.1 This consultation paper sets out the rationale for, and implications of, options to address primary school capacity and accommodation pressures in the south Edinburgh area. The paper also sets out the consultation process and the means and timescales for making representations.

1.2 The consultation paper is divided into the following sections:

1. Introduction
2. Background and Context
3. Roll Projections, Catchment Data and Capacity Analysis
4. Option 1 - Establish a New Primary School
5. Option 2 - Increase the Capacity of South Morningside Primary School
6. Option 3 - Maintain and Improve Existing Arrangements
7. Planning and Transport
8. Financial Considerations
9. Indicative Construction Timescales
10. Summary of Options
11. Consultation Process

#### **Appendices**

1. Response Questionnaire
2. Existing Catchment Areas, School Locations and combined Deanbank and Oaklands Site
3. Option 1a: Indicative Site Layout
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5. Option 1: Proposed Catchment Changes
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9. Option 2: Proposed Catchment Changes
10. Option 2: Travel Routes and Distances between Blackford Rise Area, Proposed Annexe Site and South Morningside Primary School
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13. Option 3: Proposed Catchment Changes
14. Revenue Cost Implications
15. Analysis and Review of Nursery Proposals associated with all Options
16. Inspection, Attainment and Achievement Information for Primary Schools

1.3 Three different options have been identified for consideration as follows:

**Option 1 – Establish a new primary school** on the combined site of the existing South Morningside Primary School Deanbank temporary annexe and the Oaklands Care Home on Canaan Lane incorporating sections of the Bruntsfield, James Gillespie's and South Morningside Primary School catchment areas. This option would also require the northern tip of the James Gillespie's Primary School catchment area to be realigned with Tollcross Primary School and could be delivered with any of the following Early Years provision sub options:

- a. **not including a nursery** as part of the new school building due to the retention of the existing nursery classes of South Morningside Primary School currently based at Fairmilehead Church Hall;
- b. **including a nursery** as part of the new school building and retaining the capacity currently provided by the existing nursery classes of South Morningside Primary School based at Fairmilehead Church Hall; or
- c. **including a nursery** as part of the new school building to replace the capacity currently provided by the existing nursery classes of South Morningside Primary School based at Fairmilehead Church Hall and necessitating the closure of that facility.

**Option 2 – Increase the capacity of South Morningside Primary School** to four streams by establishing a permanent annexe of South Morningside Primary School accommodating the nursery to P3 stages on the combined site of the existing Deanbank temporary annexe and the Oaklands Care Home on Canaan Lane. This would require the existing South Morningside Primary School catchment to be extended to incorporate sections of the Bruntsfield and James Gillespie's Primary School catchment areas and would also require the

northern tip of the James Gillespie's Primary School catchment area to be realigned with Tollcross Primary School.

**Option 3 – Maintain and improve existing accommodation arrangements** by permanently establishing South Morningside Primary School's Deanbank temporary annexe including the provision of a new gym, the relocation of the South Morningside Primary School nursery to the Deanbank site and a minor catchment change to incorporate the combined site of the existing temporary Deanbank temporary annexe and the Oaklands Care Home within the South Morningside Primary School catchment area.

1.4 The following table summarises the accommodation provided under each of the options considered in this consultation paper:

| Option | Accommodation at Deanbank/Oaklands site        | Accommodation at South Morningside Primary School main school site | Impact on South Morningside nursery (Fairmilehead Church) | Accommodation at Bruntsfield Primary School | Accommodation at James Gillespie's Primary School |
|--------|--|--|---|---|---|
| 1a     | 14 primary classes<br>No nursery               | 15 primary classes   | Existing nursery retained                                 | 21 primary classes                          | 15 primary classes                                |
| 1b     | 14 primary classes<br>New nursery              | 15 primary classes   | Existing nursery retained                                 | 21 primary classes                          | 15 primary classes                                |
| 1c     | 14 primary classes<br>New nursery              | 15 primary classes   | Existing nursery proposed for closure                     | 21 primary classes                          | 15 primary classes                                |
| 2      | 13 primary classes<br>New nursery and Gym Hall | 16 primary classes   | Relocated to Deanbank/Oaklands site                       | 21 primary classes                          | 15 primary classes                                |
| 3      | 6 primary classes<br>New nursery and Gym Hall  | 15 primary classes   | Relocated to Deanbank/Oaklands site                       | 21 primary classes                          | 19 primary classes                                |

1.5 Each of the options would require that varying degrees of catchment change be undertaken. Option 1, the creation of a new primary school, would also require the transfer of pupils from existing schools although this would be on a voluntary basis. Secondary school catchment areas are unaffected by any of the options considered in this paper.

1.6 Options 1a, 1b, 1c and 2 would involve the transfer of parts of existing primary school catchment areas to different primary school catchments which introduces the potential issue of younger siblings of pupils currently in one primary school possibly being required to attend a different primary school from elder brother/sister in the future.

1.7 Whilst it is not considered feasible to provide a guarantee regarding siblings under Options 1a, 1b, 1c and 2 in certain circumstances priority would be applied to siblings. In future, after meeting catchment needs, younger siblings of pupils at any primary school (but not any associated nursery) which is subject to a change of catchment area who attended the school at the time of the

decision on catchment change and were, at that time, resident in the parts of that primary school proposed for transfer would be given priority for placing requests into that primary school in future. This policy would apply for a full primary school cycle (i.e. seven years) but would only apply if, when the younger sibling was entering P1, he/she continued to be resident in the parts of the primary school catchment from which transfer had previously been approved and an elder sibling is still a pupil at that primary school.

1.8 Comments on the proposals should be submitted by no later than close of business on Tuesday, 6 October 2015 by email or post to the addresses set out in Section 11 of this paper. A response questionnaire is provided for this purpose which respondents are encouraged to use, details are included in Appendix 1 and which can also be completed online via the Council website [www.edinburgh.gov.uk/southedinburghschools](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/southedinburghschools).

1.9 Four public meetings will be held as follows, further details of which are provided in section 11:

| Venue                            | Date                       | Time            |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|
| South Morningside Primary School | Thursday, 3 September 2015 | 6:30pm – 8:30pm |
| James Gillespie’s Primary School | Tuesday, 8 September, 2015 | 6:30pm – 8:30pm |
| Bruntsfield Primary School       | Tuesday, 22 September 2015 | 6:30pm – 8:30pm |
| St Peter’s RC Primary School     | Tuesday, 29 September 2015 | 6:30pm – 8:30pm |

## 2 Background and Context

2.1 On 19 May 2015 the Education, Children and Families Committee approved that a consultation be undertaken regarding options to address the long-term accommodation issues in the south Edinburgh area. This followed previous reports to Committee on [9 December 2014](#) and [4 March 2014](#) which set out the accommodation and capacity issues faced in this area and the requirement to identify solutions to these issues through discussions with each of the school communities affected.

2.2 For the purposes of this process the south Edinburgh area is defined as encompassing the three primary school catchment areas covered by Bruntsfield, James Gillespie’s and South Morningside Primary Schools. This area has traditionally experienced pressure on primary school places with schools having had high occupancy levels during a period of declining rolls and a necessity for additional accommodation subsequently being required through the provision of temporary units and annexes, some of which still remain.

2.3 The Council’s over-riding priority is to ensure that it can meet its commitment to ensuring that places are available for all pupils to attend their local catchment school should they wish to do so. The issue of rising primary school rolls in the City has been, and remains, a significant challenge but is one which the Council

is committed to addressing and has been doing so successfully for several years through its primary school rising rolls programme.

- 2.4 Through the establishment of stakeholder working groups and a consultative process with parents and school communities this programme has, in the past three years (including delivery of new accommodation for August 2015), delivered extensions to provide additional classrooms at 14 primary schools with additional accommodation also being created at several other primary schools by adapting existing buildings.
- 2.5 Bruntsfield Primary School has experienced high P1 intakes in the past few years which have necessitated the school's involvement in the rising rolls programme. However, rather than new build, the accommodation solution identified for Bruntsfield Primary School was internal reconfiguration of the existing building to create more classroom space. This reconfiguration has increased the capacity of the school while maintaining good supporting accommodation.
- 2.6 Previous reports to the Education, Children and Families Committee setting out the issues in the south Edinburgh area have included Bruntsfield Primary School as a key component of a long-term solution for the area. While projections suggest that the work undertaken at the school to date, and the further adaptations possible, would be sufficient to address projected growth in the catchment area there is a strong rationale for including a small proportion of the existing Bruntsfield catchment area within the proposed catchment area changes for options 1a, 1b and 2 and this is exemplified in the relevant sections of this paper.
- 2.7 Through the rising rolls process James Gillespie's Primary School was identified as a school that would struggle to accommodate catchment demand in August 2015. The school site is a reasonable size and a new classroom extension has been constructed for use from August 2015. However, while the new building will provide the school with the accommodation necessary to provide sufficient places for its current and projected catchment demand, there will remain an ongoing requirement to accommodate classes in the existing temporary unit. There also remain suitability issues associated with the size of some of the classrooms in the main school building.
- 2.8 The accommodation issues at South Morningside Primary School have been more acute and, in order to address capacity issues and the suitability issues associated with the temporary units on the school site and the annexe located at the Cluny Church Centre, the Rising Rolls Working Group at South Morningside Primary School identified a larger, off site annexe solution as its preferred option. Accordingly, on 9 December 2014 the Education, Children and Families Committee approved that the short-term solution for South Morningside Primary School was the creation of a temporary P1 and P2 annexe at the former Deanbank Resource Centre on Canaan Lane.
- 2.9 Whilst it is considered that accommodation pressures in the area can be addressed in the short term through the measures set out above which also

improve the suitability of the accommodation available, these solutions create their own challenges and a longer term, sustainable and permanent solution is now required.

- 2.10 Several options for a longer-term solution have previously been investigated. A report to the Council's Estate Strategy and Rising Rolls Working Group on 8 May 2013 considered options to relieve pressure through catchment review. However, it was acknowledged that there were only minor opportunities for catchment change and that these were unlikely to be of sufficient size to address the issue. The Estate Strategy and Rising Rolls Working Group concluded it was likely that additional accommodation would be required if intake numbers were sustained at their (then) present level.
- 2.11 In 2011 a feasibility study was undertaken which considered options to locate all of South Morningside Primary School's pupils in permanent buildings on the main school site; the provision of a new gym and relocation of the nursery were also considered. This feasibility study was updated in 2014. However, due to the significant loss of playground space which would arise and advice received from Planning that the height of the proposed buildings and their proximity to the common boundary would make planning issues difficult to overcome, the option of a permanent expansion of accommodation on the existing school site was not considered to be a reasonable or deliverable solution.
- 2.12 The delivery of the first option which has been identified for consideration, creating an entirely new primary school, would entail significant additional capital and revenue costs and require considerable restructuring of the catchment areas of the non-denominational primary schools in the south Edinburgh area. It is a long-term solution that would represent a significant change for the residents and wider communities of each school in the south Edinburgh area and would have significant budgetary implications. For these reasons, two further options have been developed which seek to build upon the temporary solutions already delivered but with a more limited demographic and financial impact.

### **Site Considerations**

- 2.13 There are few options in the south Edinburgh area to provide the land necessary to deliver any of the proposals considered in this paper and some of the options which are available could, in the absence of an appropriate site, carry with them a high degree of uncertainty in terms of the timescales within which they may be deliverable and the cost that would be attached.
- 2.14 Accordingly, successfully identifying a site for a new school or an annexe building has been a significant factor in the failure to deliver previous proposals. This was most notably the case in 1998 when a proposal for a new double stream primary school on an NHS site was consulted upon, approved and included within the Council's first Public Private Partnership (PPP) project but could not be delivered as the availability of the site slipped beyond project longstop dates resulting in its removal from the project.

- 2.15 In the report to Committee on [9 December 2014](#) a potential site constituted from the site of the former Deanbank Resource Centre (now the Deanbank temporary annexe of South Morningside Primary School) and the directly adjacent site on which the Oaklands residential care home is located was identified. This site is considered to be appropriate for an educational establishment and, as it is in Council ownership through Health and Social Care, offers a high level of certainty and control regarding both availability and the timescales to deliver whatever solution is approved by Council as the outcome of this consultation process.
- 2.16 Oaklands is one of Health and Social Care's older facilities and there is a desire to replace it with a new facility on a different site. Whilst the business case for the provision of a new facility will assume a receipt for the combined Oaklands and Deanbank site; no business case has yet been considered, or approved, by the appropriate Committee and the full funding package which would allow this to be progressed is not yet in place. It is fully recognised that a new care home would have to be delivered before the Oaklands site could be vacated and the indicative timescales set out in this paper are therefore contingent on a new care home being completed prior to the start of construction of any new primary school or annexe building.
- 2.17 When it approved that a statutory consultation for the south Edinburgh area could be progressed, the Education, Children and Families Committee noted the intention of Children and Families to undertake discussions with Health and Social Care regarding arrangements for the transfer of the Deanbank Resource Centre and Oaklands residential care home sites. In order to implement interim accommodation solutions for South Morningside Primary School, Children and Families has leased the Deanbank Resource Centre site from Health and Social Care and discussions regarding the value and timing of the purchase of the combined Deanbank and Oaklands site which would also allow Health and Social Care to progress the necessary business case for the provision of a new facility are underway.
- 2.18 The size of site for any new (or replacement) school is prescribed in the School Premises (General Requirements and Standards) (Scotland) Regulations 1967 and the 1973 and 1979 amendments to those regulations. For a new double stream primary school with capacity for a further 40 pupils in the nursery, the total site size should be 1.9 hectares comprising two elements for which the appropriate sizes are defined separately:
- A main school site on which the actual school buildings are located of not less than 1.3 hectares (of which 0.1 hectares relates to the nursery); and
  - An area for playing fields of not less than 0.6 hectares.
- 2.19 The size of the combined Deanbank and Oaklands site is 0.96 hectares which is less than the minimum specified requirement for a main new school site. In certain circumstances a smaller site area for either element can be provided with the consent of the Scottish Government subject to it being agreed that it

would be impractical or unreasonable to apply the standards within the legislation.

- 2.20 The combined site is considered sufficient to provide an appropriate environment for a new primary school and nursery of this size. Accordingly, the consent of the Scottish Government to make use of the smaller site will be progressed to ensure, should the Council wish to pursue Option 1, that the decision of the Scottish Government is known at the earliest opportunity and ideally in advance of the Council's consideration of the outcomes of this statutory consultation in February 2016.
- 2.21 The regulations do not actually require that playing fields (or pitches) are adjacent to the actual school building but that they are *available* to the school i.e. could be elsewhere and off-site. In Edinburgh there are many schools where the maximum areas for playing fields are not met however the city complies with the regulations by virtue of the extensive alternative pitch provision which is available to schools throughout the city. Taking the area of such off-site facilities into consideration this would be the case which would apply regarding the proposed new primary school.
- 2.22 The establishment of the current Deanbank temporary annexe of South Morningside Primary School did not require that a statutory consultation be undertaken under the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 as it was established as a temporary measure. However, despite currently being the site of an educational facility, to establish a *permanent* annexe of South Morningside Primary School on the combined Deanbank and Oaklands site does require that a statutory consultation be undertaken. While the consent of the Scottish Government would be required to deliver a new primary school on this site as it is smaller than specified in the regulations, no such consent would be required to establish permanent annexe accommodation.
- 2.23 Deanbank House was built circa 1912. While the Deanbank House building is not listed, due to its location within the Grange Conservation area Planning has advised that, regardless of the option, they would expect the Deanbank House building to be retained. The demolition of unlisted buildings (such as Deanbank House) which are considered to make a positive contribution to a conservation area is only permitted where the proposals may be justified by the condition of the building, the conservation deficit, the adequacy of efforts made to retain the building and the relative public benefit of the demolition.
- 2.24 Children and Families believe this represents a significant risk to the delivery of any option which would require the demolition of the Deanbank House building. Accordingly, all options considered retain the Deanbank building as a part of the final design solution. The Oaklands Care Home building is not of historic interest and all options considered would require, and assume, its demolition.

### 3 Roll Projections, Catchment Data and Capacity Analysis

3.1 This section considers the historic, current and projected roll and catchment population data and the accommodation issues and other factors that have resulted in this consultation being undertaken and that have shaped the options set out in this paper.

#### South Edinburgh Area Overview

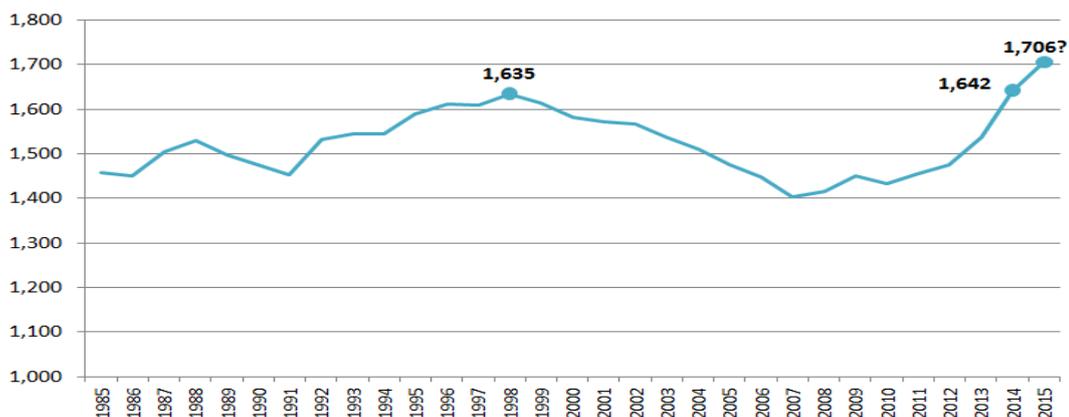
3.2 Table 1 shows that, between the three south Edinburgh primary schools, there will be, as of August 2015, an optimum operating capacity of 1,736 primary pupils. However, the combined roll of the three schools in August 2015 is forecast to be 1,706; an occupancy level exceeding 98%. However, it should be noted that generic capacity figures do not take account of a school's capacity for team teaching arrangements; a practice which is increasingly commonplace across the Council's primary school estate including at each of the three south Edinburgh primary schools.

**Table 1: School Capacity and Estimated Class and Roll Data for August 2015**

| School            | Number of Classes | Capacity (as of Aug 2015) | Classes Expected 2015/16 | Estimated Roll 2015/16 | Estimated Occupancy Rate |
|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Bruntsfield       | 20                | 560                       | 20                       | 559                    | 99.8%                    |
| James Gillespie's | 19                | 546                       | 17                       | 494                    | 90.0%                    |
| South Morningside | 21                | 630                       | 21                       | 653                    | 103.6%                   |
| <b>Totals</b>     | <b>60</b>         | <b>1,736</b>              | <b>58</b>                | <b>1,706</b>           | <b>98.3%</b>             |

3.3 Figure 1 shows how the combined rolls of the three primary schools has changed since 1985 and illustrates that the capacity challenges currently faced in this area are the greatest in more than 30 years. It also illustrates that the peak experienced in 1998 when a new school was previously approved for the south Edinburgh area was lower than the current combined roll.

**Figure 1: Growth in the combined rolls of Bruntsfield, James Gillespie's and South Morningside Primary Schools**



- 3.4 The growth in the overall school roll has been driven by growth in the combined primary age catchment populations of each of the three south Edinburgh primary schools. This population growth has been significant, rising from 1,445 primary aged pupils in 2006 to 1,861 in 2014 – a rise of nearly 29% in eight years compared to a citywide increase in the primary age population of 11.5% over the same period.
- 3.5 A reduction in the number of pupils from outside the south Edinburgh area being successful in gaining a place at one of the three south Edinburgh schools has been a consequence of increased catchment demand. The percentage of non-catchment pupils in the combined south Edinburgh primary school roll has fallen every year since 2005 from 22.6% to 9.9% in 2014.
- 3.6 However, while the overall pupil population in the south Edinburgh area has increased, patterns of parental choice have remained relatively consistent. For example the percentage of pupils from the combined Bruntsfield, James Gillespie's and South Morningside Primary School catchment areas attending a Roman Catholic (RC) school has remained between 10.3% and 12.5%. Furthermore, the percentage of non-denominational pupils from these three catchment areas attending any of the three primary schools has remained at approximately 90%.

### **Bruntsfield Primary School**

#### *Capacity and Growth*

- 3.7 The roll at Bruntsfield Primary School has increased from 431 primary pupils in 2010 to 556 in 2014, a growth of 29% over a five year period. The roll has not been this high for at least 30 years and has necessitated that work be undertaken at the school to create additional classroom space by subdividing some of the very large classrooms in the building. By August 2015 the school's capacity will be 20 classes (560 pupils) and a feasibility study undertaken to explore options to create additional classroom space has identified several other solutions to further increase the school's capacity to 21 classes (630 pupils) if that is ultimately required.
- 3.8 In addition to some very large classrooms the school has three halls, two of which are among the largest in the city's primary school estate. The school also benefits from a swimming pool. However, the school grounds are small and, while the school and Parent Council have recently secured funding for a significant investment in playground improvements, in terms of the ratio of the number of pupils per m<sup>2</sup>, it is one of the smallest playgrounds in the city.
- 3.9 The accommodation pressure being experienced at Bruntsfield Primary School is principally attributable to significant growth in the primary age catchment population which has increased by a third since 2010. Despite pressure on surrounding schools the percentage of the total pupil population attending Bruntsfield has seen little change, rising from 73% in 2010 to 75% in 2014.
- 3.10 In 2014, the loss to the RC sector accounted for 46% of the pupils from the catchment area's primary age population choosing to attend another school.

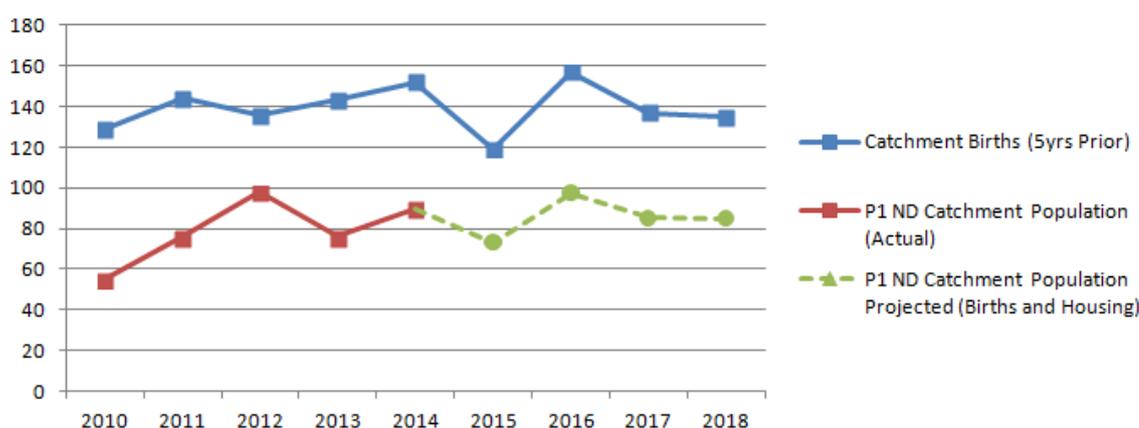
However, there is a broad range of schools attended by those choosing a non-denominational primary school other than Bruntsfield Primary School with the most popular alternative options being Bun Sgoil Taobh na Pairce, James Gillespie's Primary School, South Morningside Primary School, Tollcross Primary School, Sciennes Primary School and Dalry Primary School.

- 3.11 The percentage of non-catchment pupils attending Bruntsfield Primary School has fallen from 20% in 2010 to 16% in 2014. However, it is only in the 2014 P1 intake that the percentage of non-catchment pupils gaining a place at the school has been significantly reduced, falling to just one pupil. The percentage of the total catchment pupil population attending Bruntsfield Primary School also rose marginally to 78% with more than half of those attending another school choosing the RC sector, in particular St Peter's RC Primary School.

*Roll Projections*

- 3.12 Figure 2 suggests that, based on births from five years prior and data for known housing development, the non-denominational P1 catchment population at Bruntsfield Primary School will reach its highest level in August 2016. An intake of 90 P1 pupils is forecast for that year. The next two year's intakes are forecast to be 75 pupils, the same level as August 2015. This level of intake is consistent with a school operating almost at full three streams (21 classes).

**Figure 2: Actual Catchment Births (from five years prior) and P1 ND Catchment Population (Actual and Projected), 2010 to 2018**



- 3.13 Longer term projections based on the National Records of Scotland (NRS) age 5-11 years population projections for the City of Edinburgh Council area suggest that regular intakes of 90 pupils could become commonplace beyond 2018. If this were to be the case, it would suggest that growth to 21 classes would be required in the long-term. This is the level of capacity that a feasibility study has identified may be achieved within the schools existing accommodation whilst continuing to meet the Scottish Government's recommended level of General Purpose space provision.

## **James Gillespie's Primary School**

### *Capacity and Growth*

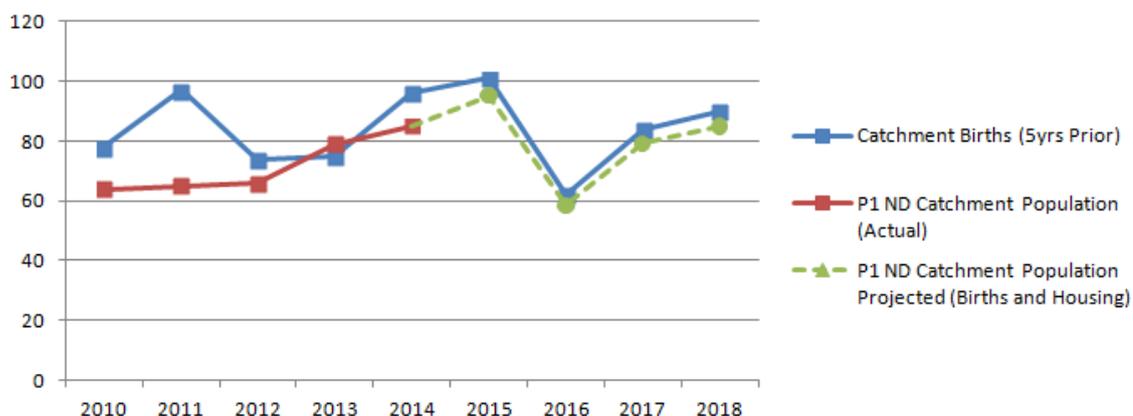
- 3.14 The roll at James Gillespie's Primary School has increased from 402 primary pupils in 2010 to 451 in 2014 (growth of 12%) and has not been this high for at least 30 years.
- 3.15 The relatively modest growth in the overall roll masks significant increases in P1 intakes in the last two years. In the 28 years prior to 2013 the P1 intake at James Gillespie's Primary School had not exceeded 66 pupils. However, in 2013 and 2014 the P1 intakes were 75 and 85 respectively. The P1 intake for August 2015 is anticipated to be 90 pupils. This is an intake level more commonly associated with a three stream school (21 class capacity).
- 3.16 These increases at P1 have necessitated that the temporary units at the school be retained and that it be included in the primary school rising rolls programme for August 2015. This has resulted in the delivery of additional classroom and general purpose space and, following reassessment according to the Scottish Government's new primary school capacity guidance, increases the capacity of the school to 19 classes (546 pupils) from its previous level of 16 classes.
- 3.17 As a result of the new rising rolls building the school now benefits from two new classrooms and a large open General Purpose space. The General Purpose spaces within the main school building are generally small and the school also has six classrooms which fall below the minimum size expected by the Council. However, the school benefits from a playground area that is relatively large for a city centre school and in 2013 work on a new gym hall and a new nursery was completed. Two of the existing classrooms were also significantly refurbished during these works.
- 3.18 The total primary age population of the James Gillespie's catchment area (excluding pupils attending independent schools) in 2010 was 427 pupils which grew by 29.5% to 553 in 2014. Despite pressure on surrounding schools, the percentage of the total catchment pupil population attending James Gillespie's Primary School has seen little change, rising from 65% in 2010 to 70% in 2014.
- 3.19 Loss to the RC sector accounts for 26% of the pupils from the catchment area's primary age population choosing to attend another school. However there is a broad range of schools attended by those choosing a non-denominational primary school other than James Gillespie's with the most popular alternative options being Bruntsfield Primary School, South Morningside Primary School, Tollcross Primary School and Sciennes Primary School.
- 3.20 In the 2014 P1 intake the percentage of non-catchment pupils was 8% compared to 11% in 2010. Accordingly, there is little difference in the percentage of P1 places being allocated to non-catchment pupils. However, the percentage of non-catchment pupils attending James Gillespie's Primary School as a whole has fallen from 30% in 2010 to 14% in 2014. This reduction suggests that places made available beyond P1 as a result of increases in class size limits which would previously have allowed higher numbers of non-

catchment pupils to transfer into the school are now being filled by catchment pupils from the school's waiting list.

### *Roll Projections*

3.21 Figure 3 (below) suggests that, based on births from five years prior and data from known housing development, the non-denominational P1 catchment population at James Gillespie's Primary School will reach its highest level in August 2015 when an intake of 90 P1 pupils is forecast. However, there is a significant drop in the catchment births the following year and an intake in August 2016 comparable to those experienced pre-2013 is forecast (60 pupils). The following two years are projected to see a return to higher intake levels with an intake of 75 pupils projected for 2017 and an intake of 90 pupils projected as potentially being necessary for 2018.

**Figure 3: Actual Catchment Births (from five years prior) and P1 ND Catchment Population (Actual and Projected), 2010 to 2018**



3.22 Longer term forecasts based on the National Records of Scotland (NRS) population projections for the Council area suggest that regular intakes of 75 pupils would become commonplace beyond 2018. This would suggest that a capacity of 19 classes would be required in the longer-term. Accordingly, the school has capacity to support the projected growth albeit requiring the continued use of two classes in the temporary unit and a further six classes in classrooms that fall below the minimum size expected by the Council.

3.23 However, the significant growth in the total catchment population at all stages does suggest that growth in the birth rate and new housing developments are not the only factors behind the accommodation pressures being experienced in the James Gillespie's catchment area. Anecdotal evidence suggests that the development of student accommodation in the City of Edinburgh Council area has drawn students away from private rental properties within Marchmont and other areas creating opportunities for families to move into the James Gillespie's catchment area. This is one of the reasons why projections are updated on an annual basis.

## **South Morningside Primary School**

### *Capacity and Growth*

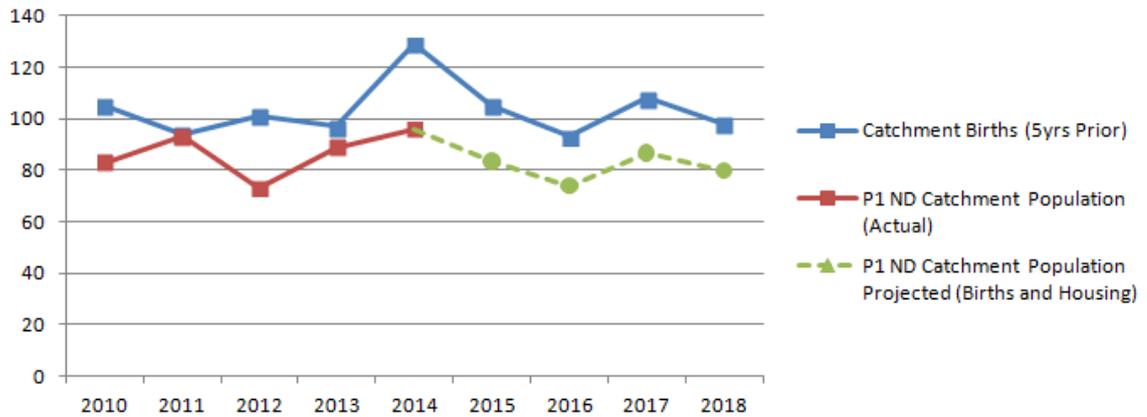
- 3.24 South Morningside Primary School is a 21 class (630 pupil) capacity school split across three sites. The school's nursery class is located at Fairmilehead Church, two miles from the main school site on Comiston Road. From August 2015 the school is operating a temporary P1/P2 annexe at the former Deanbank Resource Centre on Canaan Lane which replaces the previous two classroom annexe at the Cluny Church Centre and the four classrooms located in temporary units on the main school site. The 15 remaining classrooms on the main school site will accommodate all P3 to P7 pupils.
- 3.25 The roll at South Morningside Primary School in 2014 is 630 pupils, the highest it has been since 2001. The roll for August 2015 is forecast to be 653 pupils - the highest for at least 30 years. The optimum P1 intake for a school with a 21 class capacity is 90 pupils based on forming two classes of 25 and a team teaching class of 40 pupils. However, the school has exceeded this intake level twice in the past five years and it is forecast will do so again in August 2015.
- 3.26 The most efficient P1 intake limit after 90 pupils is 99, allowing three classes of 33 pupils at the P4 to P7 stages without incurring the cost of an additional teacher (this also means it is a limit that can be defended at appeals). However at P1, an intake limit of 99 pupils requires the formation of one class of 25 pupils and two team teaching classes of up to 37 pupils, thus incurring the cost of an additional teacher compared to an intake of 90 and requiring two classrooms capable of supporting larger class sizes. If the P2 and/or P3 stages also exceed 90 pupils there is a requirement for both an additional teacher and classrooms large enough to support team teaching classes in these stages.
- 3.27 The accommodation at the Deanbank temporary annexe has been arranged in a way that provides the classroom space necessary to support larger team teaching classes at P1 and P2 and provide these classes with several breakout spaces. However, operating an annexe building that is approximately 1km from the main school site is a challenge from a management perspective and also creates logistical issues for parents with children at both school sites.

### *Roll Projections*

- 3.28 While it may be significant in terms of staffing and accommodation implications, in real terms the difference between P1 intakes of 90 or 99 pupils is small. This means projections of future P1 intakes must be treated with caution. For example, while an intake of 99 was correctly projected for August 2014, the intake for August 2015 was projected to be 90 but current registration numbers suggest that a requirement for an intake of 99 is more likely. South Morningside traditionally draws a high number of non-catchment placing requests meaning that an intake from the catchment population of 91 rather than 90 would most likely result in an overall intake of 99. Accordingly, within projections for the South Morningside area the margins of error are very fine.

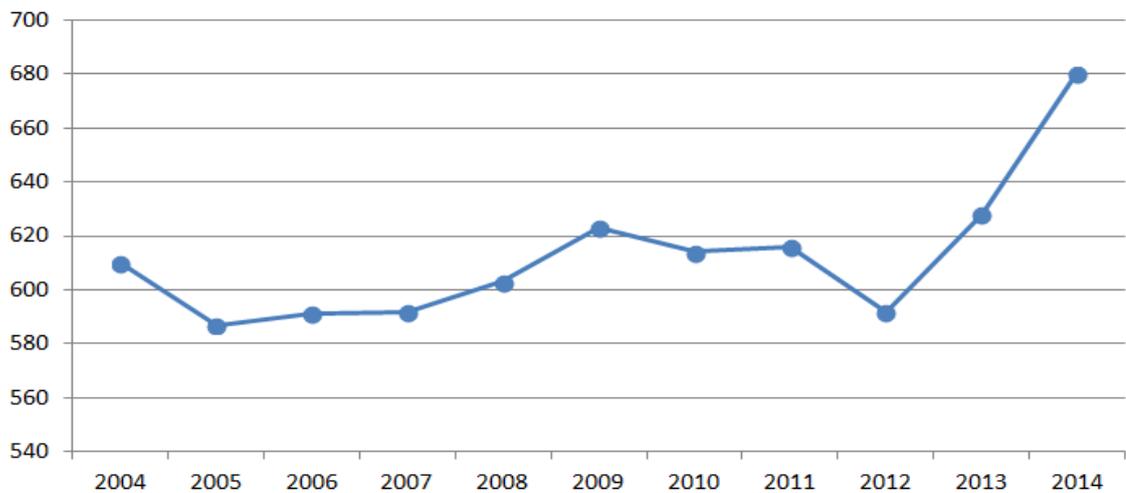
3.29 Figure 4 illustrates that the birth rate in the catchment area has changed little over a nine year period. The exception to this is the significant spike in 2009 affecting the 2014 P1 intake.

**Figure 4: Actual Catchment Births (from five years prior) and P1 ND Catchment Population (Actual and Projected), 2010 to 2018**



3.30 Figure 5 illustrates that the total primary age population of South Morningside Primary School had remained broadly static until 2014 when it grew significantly.

**Figure 5: Total South Morningside Primary School Catchment Population, 2004 to 2014**



3.31 The reason for this growth is increasing numbers of P1 age pupils within the catchment area and the cumulative effect this is having on the total catchment population as these higher numbers roll forward and lower numbers at P7 enter secondary school. The total P1 catchment population has increased from 87 in 2009 to 117 in 2014 and registrations for August 2015 suggest that it is likely to stay at these higher levels.

3.32 The number of P1 pupils within the South Morningside Primary School catchment area attending an RC school has also increased from 14 in 2009 to 20 in 2014. It is this increase that has allowed South Morningside's P1 intake to remain within the 99 pupil intake limit.

3.33 Growth in the P1 stage alone rather than at several stages would suggest that the increased accommodation pressure at South Morningside Primary School is related principally to an increase in the birth rate. However, with the exception of a spike in 2009 affecting the 2014 catchment population, changes in the birth rate have been largely insignificant and do not fully explain the high registrations being experienced for August 2015. Additionally, in several years, most notably 2011 and 2013, the total number of P1 pupils in the catchment (i.e. including denominational and non-denominational pupils) has exceeded the births from five years prior. Accordingly, other factors such as migration of young families into the catchment area or changes in the number of pupils attending schools in the independent sector are likely to be unquantifiable contributing factors.

## 4 Option 1 – Establish a new Primary School

### Option Overview

- 4.1 Establish a new primary school on the combined site of the existing South Morningside Primary School Deanbank temporary annexe and the Oaklands Care Home incorporating sections of the Bruntsfield, James Gillespie's and South Morningside Primary School catchment areas. This option would also require the northern tip of the James Gillespie's Primary School catchment area to be realigned with Tollcross Primary School and could be delivered with any of the following Early Years provision sub options:
- a. **not including a nursery** as part of the new school building due to retention of the existing nursery classes of South Morningside Primary School currently based at Fairmilehead Church Hall;
  - b. **including a nursery** as part of the new school building and retaining the capacity currently provided by the nursery classes of South Morningside Primary School based at Fairmilehead Church Hall; or
  - c. **including a nursery** as part of the new school building to replace the capacity currently provided by the nursery classes of South Morningside Primary School based at Fairmilehead Church Hall and necessitating the closure of that facility.

### Option Summary

- A new double stream (14 class) primary school would be established on the combined site of the existing South Morningside Primary School Deanbank temporary annexe and the Oaklands Care Home on Canaan Lane.
- The Deanbank House building would be retained and upgraded and would form part of the new school's accommodation.
- In addition to the accommodation in Deanbank House a new school building would be constructed to include eight classes together with gym, dining and office facilities.

- Under Option 1a the new school building would not include a nursery facility and South Morningside Primary School's nursery would continue to operate from the Fairmilehead Church.
- Under Option 1b the new school would include a new nursery facility and South Morningside Primary School's nursery would be retained.
- Under Option 1c the new school would include a new nursery facility and South Morningside Primary School's nursery would close with any remaining eligible pupils offered a place at the new school's nursery.
- Sections of the catchment areas of Bruntsfield, James Gillespie's and South Morningside Primary School would become the catchment area of the new school.
- The new school's catchment area would include the Craighouse Campus development.
- The northern tip of the James Gillespie's catchment area would be realigned with Tollcross Primary School.
- The date from when the catchment changes would be effective is the school year at the start of which the new primary school could be completed and opened and is entirely dependent on when that happens; the pupil registration process would be progressed on that basis. The new primary school would become the non-denominational catchment school for all P1 pupils living in the new school's catchment area at the time of P1 registrations in the preceding November.
- In November of the year preceding the opening of the new school, all pupils from P1 to P6 stages living in the new catchment area and also those pupils from P1-P6 stages attending any other non-denominational and denominational primary schools in the city would be offered the opportunity of applying for a place at the new school for the start of the following school year. Subject to the level of interest places would be offered on a prioritised basis with the overarching aim being to achieve the required transfer of pupils from the other south Edinburgh schools.
- There would be no mandatory transfer for pupils living in the new catchment area.
- In the following January the class organisation of the new school for the start of the forthcoming school year in August would be established based on P1 registrations and those P1 to P6 catchment pupils accepting the offer of a place at the new school.
- Standard processes for the placement of non-catchment pupils making a placing request to the new school would apply, however, places for catchment pupils would be reserved at each stage through the school year.
- If the number of pupils voluntarily transferring from South Morningside Primary School is insufficient to allow all remaining South Morningside

Primary School pupils to be accommodated on the main school site, an annexe of South Morningside Primary School would continue to operate in classes within the new primary school building(s) until such time as numbers fell sufficiently.

- If the number of pupils accepting the offer of a place at the new school exceeds the available capacity, pupils from South Morningside Primary School would be prioritised to reduce the requirements for the continuation of an annexe of South Morningside Primary School on the new school site.
- Options 1a, 1b and 1c would involve the transfer of parts of existing primary school catchment areas to different primary school catchments which introduces the potential issue of younger siblings of pupils currently in one primary school possibly being required to attend a different primary school from elder brother/sister in the future.
- Whilst it is not considered feasible to provide a guarantee regarding siblings under Options 1a, 1b and 1c in certain circumstances priority would be applied to siblings. In future, after meeting catchment needs, younger siblings of pupils at any primary school (but not any associated nursery) which is subject to a change of catchment area who attended the school at the time of the decision on catchment change and were, at that time, resident in the parts of that primary school proposed for transfer would be given priority for placing requests into that primary school in future. This policy would apply for a full primary school cycle (i.e. seven years) but would only apply if, when the younger sibling was entering P1, he/she continued to be resident in the parts of the primary school catchment from which transfer had previously been approved and an elder sibling is still a pupil at that primary school.
- To ensure a contingency is maintained, the temporary unit at James Gillespie's Primary School would only be removed once organisations for the new school and James Gillespie's Primary School were agreed in January prior to the new school opening and it was clear that there would be no continuing requirement for the temporary unit building.
- No changes would be made to existing secondary school catchment boundaries. James Gillespie's High School would continue to be the catchment secondary school for pupils attending the new primary school from the former James Gillespie's Primary School catchment area while Boroughmuir High School would continue to be the catchment secondary school for pupils attending the new primary school from the former South Morningside and Bruntsfield Primary School catchment areas. Tollcross Primary School is currently a feeder primary school to James Gillespie's High School and so there would also be no change of secondary school for pupils from the northern tip of the James Gillespie's Primary School catchment area realigned with Tollcross Primary School.

- South Morningside Primary School would be reduced to double stream (15 classes) with all primary classes being on one site. James Gillespie's Primary School would be reduced to double stream (15 classes) with the removal of the temporary unit and reconfiguration of smaller classes subject to rolls falling to appropriate levels. Bruntsfield Primary School would retain the ability to operate as a three stream (21 class) school.
- The selection of Option 1c would require that the proposed closure of South Morningside Primary School's nursery classes be referred to Scottish Ministers for consideration.

### **Implications**

- 4.2 This section considers the implications and practicalities of implementing the option to establish a new primary school in the south Edinburgh area which would involve four main elements:
- (i) The establishment of a new double stream (14 class) primary school on the combined sites of the existing South Morningside Primary School Deanbank temporary annexe and the Oaklands Care Home on Canaan Lane;
  - (ii) The realignment of catchment boundaries to meet capacity objectives and create a catchment area for a new south Edinburgh school;
  - (iii) The process by which a new school would be populated; and
  - (iv) The inclusion, or exclusion, of new nursery facilities with the new primary school and the corresponding **closure** or retention of South Morningside Primary School's nursery classes at Fairmilehead Church.
- 4.3 Secondary school provision would remain unaffected by this proposal. Accordingly, the catchment boundaries currently in place for secondary schools would remain as they are. This means that the primary pupils in the James Gillespie's Primary School section of the new primary school catchment would continue to feed into James Gillespie's High School while primary pupils in the South Morningside Primary and Bruntsfield Primary sections of the new primary school catchment would continue to feed into Boroughmuir High School. Tollcross Primary School is currently a feeder primary school to James Gillespie's High School and so there would also be no change of secondary school for pupils from the northern tip of the James Gillespie's Primary School catchment area realigned with Tollcross Primary School.

### **Establishing a New Primary School**

- 4.4 A new primary school would be established on the combined site of the existing South Morningside Primary School Deanbank temporary annexe and the Oaklands Care Home on Canaan Lane. The Deanbank House building would be retained and upgraded to form part of the accommodation of the new school. The Oaklands Care Home would be demolished to make way for a new school building.
- 4.5 The new school would be double stream (14 classes) with capacity for 420 primary pupils. A feasibility study to consider how the new build element of the

new school could be located on the combined Oaklands and Deanbank site has been undertaken. The indicative site layout is included as Appendix 3 for option 1a (excluding a new nursery) and Appendix 4 for options 1b and 1c (both including a new nursery). In developing this feasibility study, the advice of Planning has been sought and consideration has been given to traffic implications for the area, the requirements of developing a design in a conservation area, limiting the impact on the mature trees in the grounds of the site and limiting the impact of the design on neighbouring properties.

- 4.6 Appendices 3 and 4 show that the new school building would be located to the east of the site and would be accessed via a landscaped courtyard which would be used to address the significant level drop across the combined Deanbank and Oaklands site allowing disabled users ease of access. Being south west facing, this should also act as an attractive and sunny open space. The existing access road would be retained and upgraded for vehicular turning requirements. The loss of existing trees on the site would be minimal.
- 4.7 Subject to the availability of the Oaklands site and the availability of the capital and revenue funding to progress the project it would be the intention to have the new primary school constructed and operational as soon as possible. It is estimated that the earliest date when a new primary school could be opened is August 2019 with the new school and nursery (if required) built over an estimated three phases starting on site in August 2017. This would be dependent on the Oaklands site being secured from Health and Social Care and vacated well in advance of the construction start date.
- 4.8 An indicative proposal for the phasing of the construction would be as follows:

- *Phase 1: Construct new building*

During phase 1 the Oaklands site would be isolated from the Deanbank site to allow the main school building to be constructed whilst maintaining the operation of South Morningside Primary School's Deanbank temporary annexe. Accordingly, there would be no requirement for decant of the pupils from the Deanbank temporary annexe whilst the new building was being constructed.

It is estimated that the duration of this building phase would be approximately 15 months. This may be able to be reduced slightly for the option excluding a nursery but for the purposes of this paper 15 months is considered a reasonable estimate for either option.

On completion of the new building the pupils would be decanted into it from the Deanbank temporary annexe to allow the upgrade works to be undertaken.

- *Phase 2: Construct hard standing, access, car parking and undertake initial upgrade works to Deanbank House*

During phase 2, the access route which had previously not been part of the building site in order to maintain access to the Deanbank temporary annexe

building during Phase 1 would be reconfigured to form the hard standing, access routes and car parking for the new school.

The initial upgrade works to Deanbank House would also be undertaken together with any further upgrade works which were possible within the time available in advance of the start of the next school year by when the building would require to be available for use. It is estimated that the duration of this phase would be a minimum of three months.

- *Phase 3: Further upgrade works to Deanbank House*

Any further upgrade works required to Deanbank House which could not be completed in the time available before the necessity to open the new school would be progressed in the next available school holiday periods; this may require any substantive works to be undertaken over several future summer holiday periods.

### **Catchment Realignment Overview**

- 4.9 The location of the school building, existing pupil flows, obvious geographical boundaries, public transport links and distances to and from a school are all factors taken into account when establishing new catchment boundaries. However, the principal driver is to ensure that the catchment populations for each of the schools affected are appropriate to their proposed capacity.
- 4.10 Under Options 1a, 1b and 1c the catchment areas of James Gillespie's and South Morningside Primary Schools would be realigned to reduce their catchment populations to a level consistent with double stream (14/15 class) capacities. The resulting catchment area for the new school would also be appropriate for a double stream school.
- 4.11 The catchment changes proposed under Option 1a, 1b and 1c are shown in Appendix 5. More detailed maps and lists of the addresses affected may be viewed on the Council website [www.edinburgh.gov.uk/southedinburghschools](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/southedinburghschools).
- 4.12 The date from when the catchment changes would be effective is the school year at the start of which the new primary school could be completed and opened and is entirely dependent on when that happens; the pupil registration process would be progressed on that basis. The new primary school would become the non-denominational catchment school for all P1 pupils living in the new school's catchment area at the time of P1 registrations in the preceding November.

### **Proposed Catchment Changes - Bruntsfield Primary School**

- 4.13 Under Options 1a, 1b and 1c the section of the Bruntsfield catchment area adjacent to the new school site on Canaan Lane would be realigned with the new school. This area may be summarised as including Falcon Road, Falcon Road West, Falcon Avenue, Falcon Gardens and Falcon Court. There is easy access to the proposed site of the new school from these areas via the footpath from Falcon Road (beside St Peter's RC Primary School) or pedestrian routes via Falcon Court. All properties in this area are less than 400m from the new

school site (see Appendix 11) and, in 2014, 41% of the primary age pupil population from this section of the Bruntsfield catchment area attended St Peter's RC Primary School.

### **Proposed Catchment Changes - James Gillespie's Primary School**

#### *South of Catchment*

- 4.14 The proposed changes affecting the south of the James Gillespie's Primary School catchment area may be summarised as incorporating the Astley Ainsley Hospital site and all areas of the James Gillespie's Primary School catchment area south of the railway line. It is proposed that this section of the James Gillespie's catchment area be realigned with the new school. In 2014, 31% of the primary age pupil population in this area attend a City of Edinburgh Council school other than James Gillespie's Primary School.
- 4.15 Appendix 7 shows travel distances and routes between the area of the James Gillespie's catchment proposed for realignment and the new school. It shows that all residential properties within the area proposed for transfer to the new school are a greater distance from James Gillespie's Primary School than they would be from the new school. The number 41 bus service runs along Blackford Avenue and may be used to journey north, making it convenient for pupils attending James Gillespie's Primary School; or may be used to travel south and then west, making it equally convenient for pupils who would attend the proposed new school on Canaan Lane.

#### *North of Catchment*

- 4.16 The proposed changes affecting the north of the James Gillespie's Primary School catchment area may be summarised as incorporating all areas north of Bruntsfield Links. It is proposed that this section of the James Gillespie's catchment area be realigned with Tollcross Primary School. In 2014, 43% of the primary age pupil population in this area attend a school other than James Gillespie's Primary School with 27% attending Tollcross Primary School.
- 4.17 Appendix 8 compares the travel distances and routes from the area of the James Gillespie's catchment proposed for realignment to both Tollcross Primary School and James Gillespie's Primary School. It illustrates that the difference in the distances travelled would be small.

### **Proposed Catchment Changes - South Morningside Primary School**

- 4.18 Appendix 6 illustrates the proposed catchment changes affecting South Morningside Primary School. These may be summarised as follows:
- Section A: All areas within the South Morningside catchment area north of the railway line would be realigned with the new school's catchment area.
  - Section B: All areas east of Braid Road but south of the Braid Burn would be realigned to the new school's catchment area.

- Section C: All areas north of Morningside Road including the Craighouse Campus and Meadowspot would be realigned with the new school's catchment area.
- 4.19 Its proximity to the site of the proposed new school makes Section A an obvious choice for realignment with the new school. To exclude it from the new school's catchment would make realignment of other areas from the South Morningside catchment difficult to achieve.
- 4.20 However, due to the location of South Morningside Primary School within its catchment area and the clustering of the pupil population within that catchment, any proposal to reduce the size of the South Morningside catchment would necessarily result in many families being a greater distance to the new school than from their (existing) catchment school. However, not to include these areas would make reducing South Morningside Primary School to a double stream school and populating a new school practically impossible to achieve.
- 4.21 Accordingly, Appendix 6 illustrates that many of the properties in Sections B and Section C are considerably closer to South Morningside Primary School than they are to the proposed new school. For example some properties on Hermitage Drive (in Section B) would be located only 300m from South Morningside Primary School and up to 1.2km from the proposed new school site. In Section C the residents of Pewland Gardens closest to South Morningside Primary School are currently approximately 650m from their catchment school and this distance would double to approximately 1.3km under the catchment changes proposed.
- 4.22 Despite its relatively large area, the number of primary age pupils from Section B attending a Council run school is low with 53 in total in 2014, 12 of whom attend St Peter's RC Primary School (adjacent to the proposed new school site) and 37 of whom attend South Morningside Primary School. By contrast, other areas in the northern and western sections of the South Morningside catchment area are more densely populated making it difficult to draw a boundary line that does not divide a single street or include too much of the pupil population.
- 4.23 The inclusion of Section B also provides a greater geographical link between the areas of the South Morningside and James Gillespie's Primary School catchment sections being transferred. Furthermore, the proposed new school may be accessed from this area via Braid Avenue and Woodburn Terrace, avoiding the more congested streets around Morningside Road.
- 4.24 While the walking distances to the new school would be greater for many residents of Section C than at present, the areas selected for transfer have the benefit of being located close to, or on, the route of the regular number 23 bus service which stops at Morningside Park, opposite the entrance to Canaan Lane. The less regular number 38 service also runs along Cluny Gardens with a stop at Woodburn Terrace.

### **Catchment Change Analysis**

4.25 Tables 2 and 3 show the impact the proposed catchment changes set out above would have had on the total catchment population and P1 catchment population of Bruntsfield, James Gillespie's, South Morningside and Tollcross Primary Schools had they been applied in each of the last three years.

**Table 2: Total Catchment Population 2012-2014; Actual and Adjusted for New School**

|                             |          | 2012       |    |       | 2013       |    |       | 2014       |    |       |
|-----------------------------|----------|------------|----|-------|------------|----|-------|------------|----|-------|
|                             |          | ND         | RC | Total | ND         | RC | Total | ND         | RC | Total |
| <b>Bruntsfield</b>          | Actual   | 495        | 72 | 567   | 505        | 69 | 574   | 555        | 73 | 628   |
|                             | Adjusted | <b>466</b> | 49 | 515   | <b>465</b> | 46 | 511   | <b>518</b> | 47 | 565   |
| <b>James Gillespie's</b>    | Actual   | 423        | 45 | 468   | 470        | 38 | 508   | 509        | 44 | 553   |
|                             | Adjusted | <b>295</b> | 32 | 327   | <b>338</b> | 26 | 364   | <b>369</b> | 32 | 401   |
| <b>South Morningside</b>    | Actual   | 514        | 78 | 592   | 539        | 89 | 628   | 583        | 97 | 680   |
|                             | Adjusted | <b>334</b> | 29 | 363   | <b>352</b> | 35 | 387   | <b>371</b> | 37 | 408   |
| <b>To New School</b>        |          | <b>310</b> | 84 | 394   | <b>329</b> | 89 | 418   | <b>352</b> | 98 | 450   |
| <b>To Tollcross Primary</b> |          | <b>27</b>  | 1  | 28    | <b>30</b>  | 0  | 30    | <b>37</b>  | 0  | 37    |

**Table 3: P1 Catchment Population 2012-2014; Actual and Adjusted for New School**

|                             |          | 2012      |    |       | 2013      |    |       | 2014      |    |       |
|-----------------------------|----------|-----------|----|-------|-----------|----|-------|-----------|----|-------|
|                             |          | ND        | RC | Total | ND        | RC | Total | ND        | RC | Total |
| <b>Bruntsfield</b>          | Actual   | 98        | 13 | 111   | 76        | 14 | 90    | 92        | 13 | 105   |
|                             | Adjusted | <b>90</b> | 7  | 97    | <b>69</b> | 10 | 79    | <b>86</b> | 9  | 95    |
| <b>James Gillespie's</b>    | Actual   | 66        | 5  | 71    | 79        | 7  | 86    | 85        | 4  | 89    |
|                             | Adjusted | <b>46</b> | 4  | 50    | <b>61</b> | 4  | 65    | <b>71</b> | 2  | 73    |
| <b>South Morningside</b>    | Actual   | 73        | 15 | 88    | 89        | 18 | 107   | 97        | 20 | 117   |
|                             | Adjusted | <b>44</b> | 8  | 52    | <b>56</b> | 6  | 62    | <b>56</b> | 8  | 64    |
| <b>To New School</b>        |          | <b>52</b> | 14 | 66    | <b>52</b> | 19 | 71    | <b>56</b> | 18 | 74    |
| <b>To Tollcross Primary</b> |          | <b>27</b> | 5  | 0     | <b>5</b>  | 6  | 0     | <b>6</b>  | 5  | 0     |

*Bruntsfield Primary School*

4.26 Table 2 illustrates that the catchment changes proposed would reduce the non-denominational catchment population of Bruntsfield Primary School by an estimated average of 35 pupils a year. This is unlikely to reduce the long-term requirement for 21 classes at the school. However, due to the proximity of many residential properties within the Bruntsfield catchment area to the new school site, to exclude Bruntsfield from any catchment changes would result in the new school being located on its catchment boundary with the nearest pupil population aligned with a school considerably further away.

### *James Gillespie's Primary School*

- 4.27 Table 2 illustrates that in 2014, had the catchment changes under the new school proposal been in place, the non-denominational catchment population would have been 369 pupils – reducing the actual population by 140 pupils (27.5%). With an overall retention rate of 76% in 2014 this would have resulted in a catchment roll of 280 pupils at James Gillespie's Primary School, significantly lower than the optimum 434 pupil capacity for a 15 class school. The number of catchment pupils captured in 2012 and 2013 would have been 224 and 257 respectively – also significantly lower than the available capacity.
- 4.28 However, Table 3 illustrates significant growth in the actual P1 catchment population between 2012 and 2014. It also shows that, if the proposed catchment changes are applied to the P1 catchment population in 2014, it results in a reduction in the non-denominational catchment population from 85 to 71 pupils. Pressure at neighbouring schools means that fewer placing requests to schools outside the James Gillespie's catchment are being granted. This means that the percentage of non-denominational catchment pupils retained by James Gillespie's Primary School at P1 was 94% in August 2014 compared to 76% for the school as a whole. Accordingly, applying the catchment changes under the new school proposal to the P1 intake in August 2014 would result in an intake of 67 pupils compared to an optimum intake level of 60 pupils for a double stream school.
- 4.29 However, the long-term forecast for the James Gillespie's Primary School catchment area suggests that the P1 intake in 2015 will be a peak with projections to 2021 (based on National Records for Scotland's long-term population projections) suggesting that an annual non-denominational P1 catchment population of approximately 75 should be expected. Table 3 suggests that the catchment changes proposed as part of the new school proposal could reduce the non-denominational P1 catchment population of James Gillespie's Primary School by an average of 17 pupils per year – suggesting a long-term non-denominational P1 catchment population of approximately 58 pupils. Based on a retention rate of 94% this would equate to an estimated 55 P1 pupils compared to an optimal intake of 60 pupils for a double-stream primary school.
- 4.30 Furthermore, it is anticipated that, in the long term, the additional capacity in the area would generate greater pupil flow between the three south Edinburgh primary school catchment populations, reducing the percentage of catchment pupils retained by each school.
- 4.31 However, if growth is not maintained in the James Gillespie's Primary School catchment area in future years or the catchment population (or retention rate) drops, historic pupil flows suggest that it is likely to draw placing requests from neighbouring schools, including Bruntsfield Primary School and Sciennes Primary School, alleviating pressure on these schools.

### *South Morningside Primary School*

- 4.32 Table 2 illustrates that in 2014, had the catchment changes under the new school proposal been in place, the total non-denominational catchment population of South Morningside Primary School would have been 371 pupils – reducing the actual population by 212 pupils (36%). With an overall retention rate of 91% in 2014 this would have resulted in a roll from catchment pupils of 337 pupils - within the optimum 434 pupil capacity for a 15 class school. The number of catchment pupils retained in 2012 and 2013 would have been 334 and 352 respectively.
- 4.33 Table 3 illustrates that the proposed catchment change applied to the P1 catchment population would have reduced the non-denominational P1 catchment population from 97 to 56 pupils in August 2014. Pressure at neighbouring schools means that fewer placing requests to other schools are being granted. Accordingly, the percentage of non-denominational catchment pupils retained by South Morningside Primary School at P1 was 98% in August 2014 compared to 91% for the school as a whole. This means that had the catchment changes under the new school proposal been in place, the P1 intake in August 2014 would have been 55 pupils compared to an optimum intake level of 60 pupils for a double stream school.
- 4.34 Accordingly, it is anticipated that the catchment realignment proposed for South Morningside Primary School would result in catchment demand at P1 level of between 50 and 60 pupils on an annual basis allowing some flexibility to respond to growth in the catchment area.
- 4.35 It should be noted that the catchment changes set out in this paper do not affect denominational school catchment areas. Accordingly, pupils living in the catchment of St Peter's RC Primary School would continue to have the right to a place at that school. Equally, the changes proposed in this paper do not affect the catchment arrangements for Bun Sgoil Taobh na Pairce, the Council's Gaelic Medium Primary School or existing secondary school catchment boundaries.

### *New Primary School*

- 4.36 Table 2 illustrates that in 2014 the new school would have had a non-denominational catchment population of 352 pupils while Table 3 illustrates that the new school would have had a P1 catchment population of 56 pupils. This is in keeping with a capacity of 420 pupils and an optimum P1 intake of 60 pupils. Assuming a drop-off to other schools this would suggest that the proposed catchment area would provide a degree of flexibility to support growth.
- 4.37 However, in 2014 nearly 22% of pupils in the new catchment area attend a school in the RC sector, principally St Peter's RC Primary School. This compares with 16% in the existing South Morningside Primary School catchment, 13% in the existing Bruntsfield catchment and 8% in the existing James Gillespie's catchment.

4.38 The higher than average percentage of pupils in areas close to St Peter's RC Primary School choosing to attend that school may suggest that, historically, convenience has been a significant factor in many parent's decision to apply for a place at that school. Accordingly, it is possible that a new non-denominational primary school on the site adjacent to St Peter's RC Primary School may have the impact of reducing the number of pupils in this area choosing to attend the RC sector. The impact of a shift back to the non-denominational sector, if this does occur, cannot be quantified but supports the need to retain some flexibility for growth in the number of non-denominational pupils the new school may be required to support.

#### *Tollcross Primary School*

4.39 The section of the James Gillespie's Primary School catchment north of Bruntsfield Links has been included in the overall catchment review of the south Edinburgh area for several reasons. Principally it is included because there is a need to reduce the catchment population of James Gillespie's Primary School and the reduction required cannot be fully achieved through realignment of areas in the south of the catchment with a new school. There is also an existing flow of pupils from this area with 27% of the primary age pupil population already attending Tollcross Primary School. Finally, Bruntsfield Links would form an obvious geographical line between the catchments of James Gillespie's and Tollcross Primary Schools.

4.40 Under the Scottish Government's Primary School Capacity Guidance issued in October 2014, Tollcross Primary School has been assessed as having a 12 class capacity. In August 2014 it operated with eight classes. Its P1 catchment population in August 2014 was 21 pupils and the provisional data suggests that 19 of the projected P1 intake in August 2015 will be catchment pupils. Accordingly, there is capacity within Tollcross Primary School to support an increase in its catchment population.

### **Populating a New School**

#### *Populating P1 in a new school*

4.41 On the assumption that the new school could be progressed, funded, constructed and opened by August 2019 the catchment changes set out above would apply from the start of the P1 registration process in November 2018 prior to the opening of the new school in August 2019. A later date of opening would result in a deferral of this and other key dates from when the change in catchment areas would be effective.

4.42 Pupils eligible to start school in August 2019 and living within the catchment area of the new school when registrations opened in November 2018 would be expected to make a non-catchment placing request if they wished to attend a school other than their new catchment school. Accordingly, it is anticipated that a double stream (two class) intake of P1 pupils would be formed in August 2019 through catchment realignment alone.

### *Populating P2 to P7 in a new school*

- 4.43 In Autumn 2018 the Council would write to the parents and guardians of all P1 to P6 pupils living in the catchment area of the new school, including those attending Bruntsfield Primary School, James Gillespie's Primary School, South Morningside Primary School and all other non-denominational or denominational City of Edinburgh Council primary schools offering them the opportunity to apply for a place at the new school for the start of the school year in August 2019. This letter would make it clear that subject to the level of interest places would be allocated on a prioritised basis with the overarching aim being to achieve the required transfer of pupils from the other south Edinburgh schools.
- 4.44 Parents or carers may choose to refuse this offer of a place. There would be no mandatory transfer for pupils already attending another primary school.
- 4.45 In January 2019 a special meeting of the Children and Families Working Group that meets in January each year as part of the annual P1 and S1 intake process would meet with the Head Teachers of the new school, James Gillespie's Primary School and South Morningside Primary School to establish class organisations for August 2019 based on the number of P1 registrations for each school and the number of pupils from upper stages accepting the offer of a place at the new school.
- 4.46 Standard processes for the placement of non-catchment pupils making a placing request to the new school for August 2019 would apply, however, places for catchment pupils would be reserved at each stage through the school year. The number of places to be reserved would be determined by the Working Group.
- 4.47 The experience of other local authorities who have opened an entirely new school would suggest that transfer on a voluntary basis is likely to result in an uneven distribution of pupils between year groups with a risk that some stages, especially from P4 to P7, are very small or altogether empty. Accordingly, it should be anticipated that composite classes at upper stages may be necessary.
- 4.48 This would suggest that it is unlikely that the roll at South Morningside Primary School would reduce sufficiently to allow its remaining pupils to be accommodated on the main school site alone. However, while this would result in a requirement to continue to operate an annexe of South Morningside Primary School in classes within the new primary school building(s) until such time as numbers fell sufficiently, it would have the advantage of providing the pupils attending this annexe with the full range of facilities offered by the new school. Accommodating some, or all, of South Morningside Primary School's P6 and P7 classes here would have the further advantage of providing the newly established school with a sizeable cohort of senior pupils, increasing opportunities for peer interaction.

4.49 The temporary annexe arrangements of South Morningside Primary School would continue to operate until such time as the roll at South Morningside reduced to a level sufficient to allow all pupils to be accommodated on the main school site. The capacity occupied by the new school as an annexe of South Morningside Primary School would have to be a consideration in all pupil placements and the organisation of the new school.

#### **Staffing for a New School**

4.50 It is anticipated that the majority of the teaching staff and support staff at the new school would be members of the existing South Morningside Primary School and James Gillespie's Primary School staff.

4.51 A process to identify which staff would move to the new school would be undertaken in Autumn 2018 prior to offers of transfer being sent to pupils living within the new school's catchment area. Details of this process and additional recruitment requirements for the new school would be the subject of a separate report to the Education, Children and Families Committee in Spring 2018.

#### **Early Years Provision**

4.52 A review of Early Years provision across the city has identified no requirement for additional Early Years capacity in the south Edinburgh area. Accordingly, some of the options in this paper propose no overall or minor increases in the net number of nursery places provided. The exception is option 1b which would see an increase in capacity. This option would provide an opportunity for integrated learning across all Curriculum of Excellence levels but would increase the cost of the new school and divert funding away from other areas of the city where extra capacity is anticipated to be required.

4.53 Within this wider context of limited funding and the likely need to increase Early Years provision across the city in future years views are being sought through this statutory consultation on three sub options within option 1 which are a new school:

- a. not including a nursery** as part of the new school building due to retention of the existing nursery classes of South Morningside Primary School currently based at Fairmilehead Church Hall;
- b. including a nursery** as part of the new school building and retaining the capacity currently provided by the nursery classes of South Morningside Primary School based at Fairmilehead Church Hall; or
- c. including a nursery** as part of the new school building to replace the capacity currently provided by the nursery classes of South Morningside Primary School based at Fairmilehead Church Hall and necessitating the closure of that facility.

4.54 If the option approved by Council following the consultation process is Option 1a then no new nursery would be built as part of the new primary school and there would be no change to existing Early Years arrangements. South Morningside Primary School's nursery classes would continue to operate from

Fairmilehead Church Hall and would continue to be managed by staff from South Morningside Primary School.

- 4.55 If the option approved by Council following the consultation process is Option 1b then a new nursery would be built with the new primary school and there would be no change to existing Early Years arrangements. South Morningside Primary School's nursery classes would continue to operate from Fairmilehead Church Hall and would continue to be managed by staff from South Morningside Primary School.
- 4.56 If the option approved by Council following the consultation process is Option 1c then a new nursery would be built with the new primary school and this would require the closure of South Morningside Primary School's nursery classes at Fairmilehead Church Hall. Accordingly, under this option South Morningside Primary School would no longer provide nursery places from the end of the academic year prior to the opening of the new school building.
- 4.57 Appendix 15 provides further details and analysis of Options 1a, 1b and particularly Option 1c which would result in the closure of South Morningside Primary School's nursery classes and the establishment of a new nursery at the new school site.

#### **Educational Benefits of Option 1**

- 4.58 The education benefits outlined in this section apply to all the sub options: 1a, 1b and 1c. The sub options only alter the Early Years provision and a summary of the benefits of each sub option is provided in appendix 15.
- 4.59 Under Option 1 a new school would be established in south Edinburgh. While the pupils affected by this proposal attend schools that are highly regarded for the quality of the service they provide for children and families, a new school that relieves pressure on existing school facilities provides the opportunity to enhance the learning and teaching environment for all pupils.
- 4.60 The principal educational advantage of Option 1 is that it addresses sufficiency and suitability issues at all schools in the south Edinburgh area, particularly for South Morningside Primary School.
- 4.61 Under Option 1 all South Morningside Primary School's primary classes would be located on a single site and would reduce to 15 classes. The Council considers that this would provide the following advantages for pupils at South Morningside Primary School:
- A greater sense of togetherness, providing the potential for a stronger shared identity, a unified school ethos and a stronger sense of community.
  - Continuity for pupils with no transition required between an annexe and the main school building.
  - Reduced time spent by staff preparing for and 'acclimatising' children to their new environment following transition from the infant annexe to the main school building.

- Less management time and resources spent physically managing two sites and also developing and sustaining means of maintaining the links and relationships between the two sites.
- Greater opportunities for collaborative working between stages and across all curriculum levels.
- Greater flexibility in allocating staff time so that visiting staff may be timetabled to suit the whole school.
- No separation of siblings between two sites.
- Greater potential for whole school assemblies.
- Greater familiarity for parents and pupils with a smaller number of staff providing the potential for stronger relationships and greater trust.
- A smaller, closer school community providing a greater sense of safety and reduced anonymity.

4.62 Parents of pupils at South Morningside Primary School would also benefit from the removal of the logistical challenges currently faced by parents when considering drop-off times, pick-up times and attendance at after school clubs.

4.63 For pupils from the Bruntsfield, James Gillespie's and South Morningside Primary School catchment sections realigned with a new school, Option 1 would provide access to purpose built facilities. The Council believes that affected pupils, staff and the wider school community would benefit from access to a modern learning and teaching environment, with facilities designed specifically for a modern curriculum.

4.64 Appendix 16 of this paper considers the inspection, attainment and achievement information available for the existing south Edinburgh Primary Schools. It highlights that all four schools affected by the catchment changes proposed under Option 1 (Bruntsfield, James Gillespie's, South Morningside and Tollcross primary schools) are performing above the city average.

4.65 Under Option 1 the new building would complement the older Deanbank House, allowing children to develop skills for learning, life and work in a range of learning and teaching contexts, something that is promoted under Curriculum for Excellence. The indoor and outdoor learning and play facilities at the new school would be flexible so that children could work together in large or smaller groups, and have access to state of the art ICT. Purpose-built physical education facilities would assist in the delivery of a better quality of two hours of PE as required by Scottish Government's Healthy Living Strategy.

4.66 The availability of a new, purpose built facility including a gym hall could also advantage the local community including St Peter's RC Primary School. The availability of the parkland adjacent to the proposed site for Option 1, which is currently used by St Peter's RC Primary School, would present an opportunity for the new school to deliver a full sports curriculum. However, the shared use of this space would need to be managed between both schools.

- 4.67 Under Option 1 in addition to South Morningside Primary School, James Gillespie's Primary School and, to a lesser extent, Bruntsfield Primary School, would also experience reduced pressure on their facilities as the rolls drop following realignment of their catchment boundaries and uptake at the new school. This would assist the schools in the delivery of two hours of PE as required by Scottish Government's Healthy Living Strategy. It would also reduce pressure on the schools dining facilities and allow for greater flexibility in the timetabling of General Purpose spaces. The benefits associated with smaller schools such as greater familiarity for parents and pupils with a smaller staff and a closer school community would also be applicable.
- 4.68 The principal educational disadvantage of Option 1 is that it proposes wholesale changes to schools which are already high performing and are highly regarded for the quality of the service they provide.
- 4.69 At secondary level pupils in the section of the existing James Gillespie's Primary School catchment area transferring to the new school would continue to feed to James Gillespie's High School. This would mean that pupils in the same classes at the new school would feed to different secondary schools.
- 4.70 The implications of this are separation of friends between P7 and S1 and a requirement for the new school to form transition relationships with both Boroughmuir High School and James Gillespie's High School. The Head Teacher of the new school would therefore have to work with both the Boroughmuir and James Gillespie's clusters.

### **Capital Works Required**

- 4.71 A construction cost estimate has been prepared by external cost consultants, Morham & Brochie Limited, which shows an indicative capital cost of £12.203m taking into consideration provision for future cost inflation. This cost, which is for options 1b and 1c, includes provision for:
- Demolition of the Oaklands Care Home building;
  - Construction of a new eight class school building (including nursery);
  - Upgrade of the Deanbank building;
  - Upgrade of access; and
  - Landscaping to all areas.
- 4.72 If option 1a was chosen, constructing a new school without a nursery, then the estimated costs would be reduced to £11.325m.
- 4.73 The cost of the construction work is in addition to the cost of purchasing the site from Health and Social Care which would be £6m under all options. This cost would be either partly or fully funded from the capital receipt received following the sale of the current Boroughmuir High School site.
- 4.74 In addition there would be a requirement at a future date to demolish the temporary unit at James Gillespie's Primary School and undertake the internal works required to reconfigure the six small classrooms into four larger

classroom spaces. The estimated cost of this work is £0.13m. The timescales for this work would be dependent on the roll at James Gillespie's Primary School falling sufficiently to allow it to take place.

### **Additional Revenue Costs**

- 4.75 A new school would increase the number of primary school establishments in the City from 88 to 89 which would lead to an increase in total costs. This is because, in addition to the additional teaching and support staff, there would be a requirement to create and fill all the management and non-teaching staff positions associated with running a separate primary school. These positions would include a Head Teacher, a Business Manager, admin/clerical staff, dining room staff and janitorial staff.
- 4.76 Some of these costs may be offset against the costs currently incurred for the dining staff, admin/clerical staff and janitorial staff at the Deanbank temporary annexe of South Morningside Primary School.
- 4.77 Reduced rolls at South Morningside Primary School and James Gillespie's Primary School would also result in a reduction in the number of promoted positions at these schools however, for the most part; the positions created at a new school would be new and would require that additional annual revenue costs be provided for in the Children and Families revenue budget.
- 4.78 The creation of a new school building would also result in additional building running, maintenance and repair costs for the school estate.
- 4.79 The additional revenue costs for Options 1a, 1b and 1c are set out in full in Appendix 14. These figures include an estimated average annual repairs spend based on previous experience of new school buildings. The maintenance burden for the new building is likely to be low in the short to medium term but would increase over time.

### **Community Issues**

- 4.80 Research on practices adopted in other authorities leading up to the opening of an entirely new school has highlighted the value of appointing the Head Teacher at least six months before the new school opens. This would allow the Head Teacher to take time to appoint staff, oversee the completion and occupation of the building and take a leading role in establishing relationships within the new school community including with the potential parent body and promoting the school to its potential users and community. This could play a significant part in increasing the number of parents willing to transfer their child from existing schools to the new school.
- 4.81 A significant consultee from the outset of this consultation process through to the operation of the new school would be the school community of St Peter's RC Primary School. The location of the new school on the site directly adjacent to St Peter's would provide significant opportunities for collaborative working between pupils and staff and the sharing of resources.

## 5 Option 2 – Increase the Capacity of South Morningside Primary School

### Option Description

- 5.1 Expand the capacity of South Morningside Primary School to four streams by undertaking a catchment review with Bruntsfield Primary School and James Gillespie's Primary School and establishing a permanent annexe of South Morningside Primary School; accommodating nursery to P3 stages on the site of the existing Deanbank temporary annexe and the Oaklands Care Home on Canaan Lane.

### Option Summary

- A permanent annexe of South Morningside Primary School would be created on the combined Deanbank temporary annexe and the Oaklands Care Home site by expanding the existing annexe to accommodate all nursery to P3 pupils.
- A new building would be constructed on the site which would include gym, dining and office facilities and a new 40/40 nursery.
- The Deanbank House building would be retained and upgraded and form part of the new school's accommodation.
- The catchment area of South Morningside Primary School would be extended to incorporate the southern section of James Gillespie's Primary School's catchment and the area of Bruntsfield Primary School's catchment immediately adjacent to the Deanbank temporary annexe site.
- The northern tip of the James Gillespie's catchment area would be realigned with Tollcross Primary School.
- The date from when the catchment changes would be effective is the school year at the start of which the new permanent annexe could be completed and opened and is entirely dependent on when that happens; the pupil registration process would be progressed on that basis. P1 pupils living in the affected sections of the James Gillespie's and Bruntsfield Primary School catchment areas would register at South Morningside Primary School from the preceding November.
- No transfer process for pupils in upper year groups would be undertaken – roll reduction at Bruntsfield and James Gillespie's Primary Schools and population of the new capacity at South Morningside Primary School would be achieved through catchment change affecting only future P1 intakes.
- Option 2 would involve the transfer of parts of existing primary school catchment areas to different primary school catchments which introduces the potential issue of younger siblings of pupils currently in one primary school possibly being required to attend a different primary school from an older brother/sister in the future.

- Whilst it is not considered feasible to provide a guarantee regarding siblings under Option 2, in certain circumstances priority would be applied to siblings. In future, after meeting catchment needs, younger siblings of pupils at any primary school (but not any associated nursery) which is subject to a change of catchment area who attended the school at the time of the decision on catchment change and were, at that time, resident in the parts of that primary school proposed for transfer would be given priority for placing requests into that primary school in future. This policy would apply for a full primary school cycle (i.e. seven years) but would only apply if, when the younger sibling was entering P1, he/she continued to be resident in the parts of the primary school catchment from which transfer had previously been approved and an older sibling is still a pupil at that primary school.
- James Gillespie's Primary School would be reduced to double stream (15 classes) with the removal of the temporary unit and reconfiguration of smaller classes being possible subject to rolls falling to appropriate levels. Bruntsfield Primary School would retain the ability to operate as a three stream (21 class) school.
- South Morningside Primary School's nursery classes would be relocated from the Fairmilehead Church to the new annexe building.
- The capacity on the South Morningside Primary School main school site would be extended by one classroom to allow four classes at each year group from P4-P7 to be accommodated.
- No changes would be made to existing secondary school catchment boundaries.

### **Implications**

- 5.2 This section considers the implications and practicalities of implementing an option to increase the capacity of South Morningside Primary School by creating a permanent annexe for the school on the combined existing Deanbank temporary annexe and the Oaklands Care Home site which would involve three main elements:
- 1 The establishment of a permanent 13 class annexe of South Morningside Primary School on the combined Deanbank and Oaklands Care Home site;
  - 2 The realignment of catchment boundaries to meet capacity objectives and create an enlarged catchment area for South Morningside Primary School; and
  - 3 Relocation of all nursery and P1 to P3 pupils of South Morningside Primary School to the new annexe.
- 5.3 As secondary school provision would remain unaffected by this option the current catchment boundaries for secondary schools would remain. This means that primary pupils in the section of the James Gillespie's Primary School catchment that is realigned with South Morningside Primary School would continue to feed into James Gillespie's High School while pupils in the

existing South Morningside and Bruntsfield Primary School catchment areas would continue to feed into Boroughmuir High School.

- 5.4 Tollcross Primary School is currently a feeder primary school to James Gillespie's High School and so there would also be no change of secondary school for pupils from the northern tip of the James Gillespie's Primary School catchment area realigned with Tollcross Primary School.
- 5.5 As this proposal allows natural expansion of the South Morningside Primary School roll, no transfer of pupils or staff is required and it is assumed that the management structures of the school would be largely unaffected.

#### **Establishing a Permanent Annexe of South Morningside Primary School**

- 5.6 The location, site and proposed indicative layout for the expanded and permanent annexe of South Morningside Primary School including a nursery are the same as described for the option to create a new primary school under Options 1b and 1c.
- 5.7 Accordingly, the timescales for the delivery of the permanent annexe, particularly the new building which would be required, are dependent upon a new care home being funded and delivered on an alternative site before the Oaklands site could be vacated. As these timescales are unknown at this time, the indicative timescales set out in this paper are subject to this new provision being made prior to the start of construction of the new annexe building.
- 5.8 The requirement to accommodate four streams at P1 to P3 means that the new annexe site would need at least 13 classes (allowing five P1 classes, four P2 classes and four P3 classes). It would effectively be a double stream primary school and would include all the facilities associated with a separate school: a gym hall, a dining hall and all the required general purpose and support spaces - cloakroom space, etc. It would also include a new 40/40 nursery.
- 5.9 Accordingly, as this is only 1 class less than option 1, the feasibility study undertaken for Options 1b and 1c to consider how a new school, including the new building with nursery which would be required to supplement the accommodation provided by the Deanbank building, could be created on the combined Oaklands and Deanbank site is also a reasonable assessment of the overall cost, timescales and land required to deliver Option 2. The indicative site layout is shown in Appendix 4.
- 5.10 There would also be a requirement under Option 2 to extend the capacity of the South Morningside main site by one classroom in order to accommodate four classes at each stage from P4 to P7. This would require that the school building on the main school site be extended by one additional classroom. This would have the disadvantage of reducing the playground area. As the requirement would be for a single room it is likely the main school building would be physically extended rather than constructing a separate building.

## **Catchment Realignment Overview**

- 5.11 Under Option 2 the catchment area of South Morningside Primary School would increase in size to accommodate sections of the existing Bruntsfield and James Gillespie's Primary School catchment areas. The location of the school building, existing pupil flows, obvious geographical boundaries, public transport links and distances to and from the school are all factors taken into account when establishing new catchment boundaries. However, the principal driver is to ensure that the catchment populations for each of the schools affected are appropriate to the proposed capacity.
- 5.12 Under Option 2 the sections of the Bruntsfield and James Gillespie's Primary School catchment areas proposed for realignment are the same as proposed under Option 1. However, rather than being realigned with a new school, under Option 2 the southern area of the James Gillespie's catchment area and the proposed area of transfer from Bruntsfield Primary School would be realigned with an expanded South Morningside Primary School. The section of James Gillespie's Primary School catchment north of Bruntsfield Links would be realigned with Tollcross Primary School as proposed under Option 1.
- 5.13 This catchment realignment would, over a period of time, reduce the catchment population of James Gillespie's Primary School to a level consistent with a double stream (15 class) capacity and reduce pressure on Bruntsfield Primary School. The corresponding increase in the catchment area of South Morningside Primary School would create a catchment population appropriate for a four stream primary school. The proposed catchment changes are shown in Appendix 9.
- 5.14 Option 2 splits South Morningside Primary School across two sites and, under this proposal, pupils from the sections of Bruntsfield and James Gillespie's catchment areas which would be realigned with the South Morningside Primary School catchment area would be required to attend P4 to P7 classes at the main South Morningside Primary School site.
- 5.15 Appendices 10 and 11 compare the current and proposed routes and travel distances for pupils in the sections of the Bruntsfield and James Gillespie's catchment areas proposed for realignment with South Morningside Primary School. They show that the distance pupils from these realigned areas would be required to travel to their catchment school would be less than at present for P1 to P3 pupils and similar to existing distances for the P4 to P7 stages.

## **Catchment Change Analysis**

- 5.16 Tables 4 and 5 (below) show the impact the proposed catchment changes set out above and in Appendix 9 would have had on the total catchment population and P1 catchment population of Bruntsfield Primary School, James Gillespie's Primary School, South Morningside Primary School and Tollcross Primary School had they been applied in each of the last three years.

**Table 4: Total Catchment Population 2012-2014; Actual and Adjusted for Expanded South Morningside Primary School**

|                             |          | 2012       |     |       | 2013       |     |       | 2014       |     |       |
|-----------------------------|----------|------------|-----|-------|------------|-----|-------|------------|-----|-------|
|                             |          | ND         | RC  | Total | ND         | RC  | Total | ND         | RC  | Total |
| <b>Bruntsfield</b>          | Actual   | 495        | 72  | 567   | 505        | 69  | 574   | 555        | 73  | 628   |
|                             | Adjusted | <b>466</b> | 49  | 515   | <b>465</b> | 46  | 511   | <b>518</b> | 47  | 565   |
| <b>James Gillespie's</b>    | Actual   | 423        | 45  | 468   | 470        | 38  | 508   | 509        | 44  | 553   |
|                             | Adjusted | <b>295</b> | 32  | 327   | <b>338</b> | 26  | 364   | <b>369</b> | 32  | 401   |
| <b>South Morningside</b>    | Actual   | 514        | 78  | 592   | 539        | 89  | 628   | 583        | 97  | 680   |
|                             | Adjusted | <b>671</b> | 114 | 785   | <b>711</b> | 124 | 835   | <b>760</b> | 135 | 895   |
| <b>To Tollcross Primary</b> |          | <b>27</b>  | 1   | 28    | <b>30</b>  | 0   | 30    | <b>37</b>  | 0   | 37    |

**Table 5: P1 Catchment Population 2012-2014; Actual and Adjusted for Expanded South Morningside Primary School**

|                             |          | 2012       |          |       | 2013       |          |       | 2014       |          |       |
|-----------------------------|----------|------------|----------|-------|------------|----------|-------|------------|----------|-------|
|                             |          | ND         | RC       | Total | ND         | RC       | Total | ND         | RC       | Total |
| <b>Bruntsfield</b>          | Actual   | 98         | 13       | 111   | 76         | 14       | 90    | 92         | 13       | 105   |
|                             | Adjusted | <b>90</b>  | 7        | 97    | <b>69</b>  | 10       | 79    | <b>86</b>  | 9        | 95    |
| <b>James Gillespie's</b>    | Actual   | 66         | 5        | 71    | 79         | 7        | 86    | 85         | 4        | 89    |
|                             | Adjusted | <b>46</b>  | 4        | 50    | <b>61</b>  | 4        | 65    | <b>71</b>  | 2        | 73    |
| <b>South Morningside</b>    | Actual   | 73         | 15       | 88    | 89         | 18       | 107   | 97         | 20       | 117   |
|                             | Adjusted | <b>101</b> | 22       | 123   | <b>114</b> | 25       | 139   | <b>117</b> | 26       | 143   |
| <b>To Tollcross Primary</b> |          | <b>27</b>  | <b>5</b> | 0     | 5          | <b>6</b> | 0     | 6          | <b>5</b> | 0     |

5.17 As the catchment sections proposed for realignment are the same as under Option 1 the impact of the changes on Bruntsfield Primary School and James Gillespie's Primary School is the same as for Option 1.

5.18 It should be noted that none of the proposed catchment changes would affect denominational school catchment areas. Accordingly, pupils living in the catchment of St Peter's RC Primary School would continue to have the right to request a place at that school. Equally, the changes proposed in this paper do not affect the catchment arrangements for Bun Sgoil Taobh na Pairce, the Council's Gaelic Medium Primary School.

### **South Morningside Primary School – Impact of Catchment Changes**

5.19 Under Option 2 there would be no change to any existing areas of the South Morningside catchment. All pupils currently attending South Morningside Primary School would continue to do so. However, the catchment boundary of South Morningside Primary School would be extended north and east to incorporate sections of the existing Bruntsfield and James Gillespie's Primary School catchment areas.

- 5.20 Table 4 illustrates that in 2014, had the catchment changes under the expanded school proposal been in place, the total non-denominational catchment population of South Morningside Primary School would have been 760 pupils – increasing the catchment population by 177 pupils (30%). With an overall retention rate of 91% in 2014 this would have resulted in a roll from catchment pupils alone of 692 pupils, within the optimum capacity of 840 pupils for a four stream (29 class) school. The number of catchment pupils captured in 2012 and 2013 would have been 611 and 647 respectively.
- 5.21 Table 5 illustrates that in 2014, had the proposed catchment change been applied to the non-denominational P1 catchment population, it would have increased from 97 to 117 pupils. South Morningside Primary School had a P1 capture rate of 98% in August 2014 compared to 91% for the school as a whole. This means that had the catchment changes under the expanded school proposal been in place, the P1 intake in August 2014 would have been 115 pupils, within the 120 pupil optimum intake level appropriate for a four stream school.
- 5.22 Accordingly, it is anticipated that the catchment realignment proposed for South Morningside Primary School would result in catchment demand at P1 level of between 99 and 120 pupils on an annual basis allowing some flexibility to respond to growth in the catchment area.

### **Populating an Expanded South Morningside Primary School**

- 5.23 There would be no requirement for pupils to transfer from either Bruntsfield or James Gillespie's Primary Schools to South Morningside Primary School.
- 5.24 The catchment changes proposed would apply only to P1 pupils from the realigned sections of the Bruntsfield and James Gillespie's Primary School catchments.
- 5.25 The date from when the catchment changes would be effective is the school year at the start of which the new permanent annexe could be completed and opened and is entirely dependent on when that happens; the pupil registration process would be progressed on that basis. P1 pupils living in the affected sections of the James Gillespie's and Bruntsfield Primary School catchment areas would register at South Morningside Primary School from the preceding November.
- 5.26 It is anticipated that it would take several years for the new annexe to reach its classroom capacity and for James Gillespie's Primary School to reduce to a 15 class organisation. The same sibling priority offered in option 1 would apply to James Gillespie's and Bruntsfield primary schools in option 2.

### **Staffing an Expanded South Morningside Primary School**

- 5.27 Staffing arrangements would be largely unchanged from those currently in operation. Standard staffing allocation procedures would apply and it is anticipated that, over time, the staff roll at James Gillespie's Primary School would reduce while South Morningside Primary School's staff would grow as their respective rolls changed.

## **Early Years Provision**

- 5.28 A new 40/40 nursery would be built. South Morningside Primary School's nursery classes would relocate from the Fairmilehead Church hall in which they are currently located to the new building. This would result in a modest increase in the number of places available in the area and would allow the lease for the church hall at Fairmilehead to be ended thus removing the risk to service continuity which exists by relying on using leased accommodation.
- 5.29 The advantages and disadvantages of the relocation of South Morningside Primary School's nursery classes to the combined Deanbank and Oaklands site are considered in Appendix 15.

## **Educational Benefits of Option 2**

- 5.30 The principal educational advantages of Option 2, expanding the capacity of South Morningside Primary School, is that it builds on the existing strengths of South Morningside Primary School but provides greater opportunities for pupils, staff and school users with access to purpose built facilities. Specifically, the Council considers that Option 2 would provide the following advantages:
- The increased number of staff would provide opportunities for pupils to take part in a wider range of curricular and extra-curricular activities due to the availability of the broader range of skills and talents of an increased staff team.
  - A larger cohort of pupils at the current Deanbank temporary annexe would provide greater flexibility to group children for learning and teaching so that learning activities could be more closely aligned with children's needs.
  - Learners, staff and other school users would benefit from an improved learning and teaching environment through access to modern, built for purpose facilities and spaces.
  - The increased number of staff would benefit the school as a whole through the greater flexibility to deploy staff according to the needs of children.
  - A larger roll would provide pupils with greater opportunities to develop friendships and develop social skills.
  - Pupils and staff would benefit from the broader range of expertise within the school's staff and greater opportunities to share effective practice.
  - Pupils would benefit from opportunities to experience a wider range of learning and teaching approaches.
  - The increased roll would result in a larger management team providing additional support to promote the school's improvement agenda.
  - The larger parent population would provide greater strength and depth for the Parent Council, increasing the numbers of parent volunteers and resources available.

- 5.31 Appendix 16 of this paper considers the inspection, attainment and achievement information available for South Edinburgh Primary Schools. It highlights that all four schools affected by the catchment changes proposed under Option 1 (Bruntsfield, James Gillespie's, South Morningside and Tollcross primary schools) are performing above the city average.
- 5.32 Under Option 2 South Morningside Primary School would become Edinburgh's only four stream school. However, as it would be split across two sites with a junior school and a senior school, this provides the benefits of a large school without overwhelming pupils or congesting external areas. A larger cohort of pupils on the annexe site for a longer period of time would offer pupils the potential for greater social diversity and choice in an environment that would effectively be a school in its own right rather than a 'satellite' facility. A managed transition between the annexe and the main site would provide pupils with experience and resilience for the transfer between primary and secondary.
- 5.33 For pupils from the sections of the Bruntsfield and James Gillespie's Primary School catchment which would be realigned with an extended South Morningside Primary School, Option 2 would provide access to new, purpose built facilities. All pupils, staff and the wider school community would benefit from access to a modern learning and teaching environment, with facilities designed specifically for a modern curriculum. The new building would complement the older, allowing children to develop skills for learning, life and work in a range of learning and teaching contexts, something that is promoted under Curriculum for Excellence. The indoor and outdoor learning and play facilities at Deanbank would be flexible so that children can work together in large or smaller groups, and have access to state of the art ICT. The enhanced provision of physical education facilities would assist in the delivery of a better quality of two hours of PE as required by the Scottish Government's Healthy Living Strategy. A modern building would also be built to support the Council's policy of inclusion.
- 5.34 The co-location of the nursery classes with P1, P2 and P3 classes on the annexe site would allow the school to improve transition arrangements between nursery and P1 and allow nursery and primary staff greater opportunities to collaborate and improve all children's learning experiences. A new, purpose built, nursery facility on the Deanbank site would provide a brighter and more attractive environment for learning and teaching and would improve the security and safety of nursery pupils.
- 5.35 The availability of new, purpose built facilities including a gym hall could also advantage the wider school community such as through increased provision for after school clubs and greater opportunities for whole school assemblies on the annexe site. This would also promote greater interaction between older and young year groups. The availability of new facilities could also benefit the wider community including St Peter's RC Primary School further developing South Morningside Primary School's links in this community. The availability of the parkland adjacent to the proposed site for Option 2, which is currently used by

St Peter's RC Primary School would present an additional opportunity to deliver a full sports curriculum. However, the shared use of this space would need to be managed between both schools.

- 5.36 The principal educational disadvantage of Option 2 is that it makes permanent the temporary split site arrangement currently being managed by South Morningside Primary School. This creates challenges in developing sustainable peer interactions, in maintaining a unified school ethos, in encouraging collaborative working between staff and in allocating staff time. Furthermore, it potentially separates siblings and presents more of a logistical challenge for parents when considering drop-off times, pick-up times and attendance at after school clubs. In addition, Curriculum for Excellence levels are Nursery-P1, P2-P4 and P5-7 so having a P1-3 annexe may have a detrimental effect on planning progressive learning experiences across the first two levels.
- 5.37 At secondary level, pupils in the section of the existing James Gillespie's Primary School catchment area transferring to South Morningside Primary School would continue to feed to James Gillespie's High School. This would mean that pupils in the same classes at South Morningside Primary School would feed to different secondary schools. The implications of this would be the separation of friends between P7 and S1 and a requirement for South Morningside Primary School to form transition relationships with both Boroughmuir High School and James Gillespie's High School.

### **Capital Works Required**

- 5.38 A construction cost estimate has been prepared by external cost consultants, Morham & Brochie Limited, which shows an indicative capital cost for the project of £12.203m taking into consideration provision for future cost inflation. This cost includes provision for:
- Demolition of the Oaklands Care Home building;
  - Construction of a new eight class school building (including nursery);
  - Upgrade of the Deanbank building;
  - Upgrade of access; and
  - Landscaping to all areas.
- 5.39 The cost of the construction work is in addition to the cost of purchasing the site from Heath and Social Care which would be £6m. This cost would be either partly or fully funded from the capital receipt received following the sale of the current Boroughmuir High School site.
- 5.40 There would be a requirement at a future date to demolish the temporary unit at James Gillespie's Primary School and undertake the internal works required to reconfigure the six small classrooms into four larger classroom spaces. The estimated cost of this work is £0.13m. The timescales for this work would be dependent on the roll at James Gillespie's Primary School falling sufficiently to allow it to take place.

5.41 Furthermore, Option 2 would require the provision of an additional classroom on the main South Morningside Primary School site to allow the 16 classes necessary to support four stream of P4-P7 pupils to be accommodated. This would require that the existing school building be extended. The current estimated cost of this extension allowing for inflation to 2019 would be £398,000.

#### **Additional Revenue Costs**

5.42 Option 2 would not increase the number of schools in the city. The staff required to operate an annexe of South Morningside Primary School are already in place by virtue of the existing Deanbank temporary annexe. The growth in the number of staff to support the larger pupil roll at South Morningside Primary School would be necessary regardless of the solution put in place and would be offset by a corresponding reduction in the staffing levels at James Gillespie's Primary School.

5.43 The new annexe building would result in additional building running, maintenance and repair costs for the school estate.

5.44 The additional revenue costs for Option 2 are set out in full in Appendix 14. These include an estimated average annual repairs spend based on previous experience of new school buildings. The maintenance burden for the new building is likely to be low in the short to medium term but would increase over time.

5.45 The leases for both the existing Deanbank temporary annexe building and the church hall at Fairmilehead would no longer be required representing revenue cost savings for the Council.

#### **Community Issues**

5.46 A significant consultee from the outset of this consultation process through to the operation of the new annexe would be the school community of St Peter's RC Primary School. The location of the annexe on the site directly adjacent to St Peter's would provide significant opportunities for collaborative working between pupils and staff and the sharing of resources.

## **6 Option 3 – Maintain and Improve Existing Arrangements**

### **Option Description**

6.1 Maintaining and improving existing accommodation arrangements by permanently establishing South Morningside Primary School's existing Deanbank temporary annexe for P1-P2 but also including the provision of a new gym for the use of the pupils in the annexe, the relocation of South Morningside Primary School's nursery to the Deanbank site and a minor catchment change to incorporate the combined site of the existing temporary Deanbank temporary annexe and the Oaklands Care Home within the South Morningside Primary School catchment area.

## **Option Summary**

- A new 40/40 nursery building and a gym hall would be constructed adjacent to the Deanbank building using part of the Oaklands care home site.
- South Morningside Primary School's nursery classes would be relocated from the Fairmilehead Church to the new nursery on the expanded Deanbank site.
- The Deanbank temporary annexe of South Morningside Primary School would be retained with further minor upgrade undertaken to meet the requirements of a permanent building.
- The catchment area of South Morningside Primary School would be extended to incorporate the combined Deanbank and Oaklands site. The only properties affected by the change would be the Deanbank and Oaklands buildings. No residential properties would change catchment.
- The opportunity would also be taken to address an anomaly in the James Gillespie's and Bruntsfield Primary School catchment boundary which currently results in the boundary dissecting the St Peter's RC Primary School site rather than running around its perimeter.
- No change would be made to James Gillespie's Primary School's existing accommodation, the accommodation on South Morningside Primary School's main site and Bruntsfield Primary school would retain the ability to operate as a three stream (21 class) school.
- No changes would be made to existing secondary school catchment boundaries or transfer arrangements.

## **Implications**

- 6.2 This section considers the implications and practicalities of maintaining the existing accommodation arrangements at Bruntsfield Primary School and James Gillespie's Primary School and maintaining and improving the existing South Morningside Primary School accommodation regarding which there are three main elements:
- 1 The establishment of South Morningside Primary School's Deanbank temporary annexe as permanent accommodation for P1-P2 pupils from South Morningside Primary School but with additional facilities;
  - 2 Minor realignment of the existing South Morningside Primary School catchment boundary to incorporate the combined Deanbank and Oakland site. The opportunity would also be taken to address an anomaly in the James Gillespie's and Bruntsfield Primary School catchment boundary which currently results in the boundary dissecting the St Peter's RC Primary School site rather than running around its perimeter; and
  - 3 Relocation of South Morningside Primary School's nursery class to a new facility on an expanded annexe site.

- 6.3 The minor change to the primary school catchment boundaries would also be made to secondary school catchment boundaries. However, the proposal would affect only the combined Deanbank and Oakland site and no other properties would be affected. This means that primary pupils in the James Gillespie's Primary School catchment area would continue to feed into James Gillespie's High School while pupils in the South Morningside Primary School catchment area would continue to feed into Boroughmuir High School.
- 6.4 As this proposal maintains existing capacity arrangements, no transfer of pupils or staff would be required.

### **Establishing Deanbank as a Permanent Annexe of South Morningside Primary School**

- 6.5 Under Option 3 a new 40/40 nursery building and a gym hall would be constructed adjacent to the existing Deanbank temporary annexe using part of the Oaklands care home site.
- 6.6 Appendix 12 illustrates how the new nursery and gym buildings could be accommodated on an expanded Deanbank temporary annexe site. The same upgrade works as proposed in options 1 and 2 would take place at Deanbank House to ensure its suitability for use as a permanent education facility.
- 6.7 The new gym hall and the new nursery would be erected as separate buildings to the east of the site. The existing vehicular access would be maintained and upgraded.
- 6.8 Due to the reduced level of accommodation provided under Option 3, part of the Oaklands site would be surplus to requirements and would be sold to reduce the overall cost to the Council.
- 6.9 It would be the intention to have the new nursery and gym hall operational as soon as possible with the works required taking place over three phases. The timescales for the delivery of the new facilities would be dependent upon a new care home being funded and delivered on an alternative site before the Oaklands site could be vacated. As these timescales are unknown at this time, the indicative timescales set out in this paper are subject to this new provision being made prior to the start of construction of the new facilities.
- 6.10 An indicative proposal for the phasing of the construction would be as follows:
- *Phase 1: Construct new nursery and gym buildings*  
During phase 1 the Oaklands site would be isolated from the Deanbank site to allow the new nursery and gym buildings to be constructed whilst maintaining the operation of South Morningside Primary School's Deanbank temporary annexe. Accordingly, there would be no requirement for decant of the pupils from the Deanbank temporary annexe. It is estimated that the duration of this phase would be eight months.
  - *Phase 2: Construct hard standing, access and car parking and undertake initial upgrade works to Deanbank House*

During phase 2, the access route which had previously not been part of the building site in order to maintain access to the Deanbank temporary annexe building during Phase 1 would be reconfigured to form the hard standing, access routes and new car parking.

The initial upgrade works to Deanbank House would also be undertaken. It is estimated that the duration of this phase would be three months with the majority of the work undertaken during the summer break otherwise a disruptive and expensive decant to temporary accommodation would be required.

- *Phase 3: Upgrade works to Deanbank House*

Any further upgrade works required to Deanbank House which could not be completed in the time available before the necessity to open the new school would be progressed in the next available school holiday periods; this may require any substantive works to be undertaken over several future summer holiday periods.

### **Catchment Realignment**

6.11 Under Option 3 there would be only a minor catchment realignment to bring the combined Deanbank and Oaklands site into the South Morningside Primary School catchment area. The opportunity would also be taken to address an anomaly in the James Gillespie's and Bruntsfield Primary School catchment boundary which currently results in the boundary dissecting the St Peter's RC Primary School site rather than running around its perimeter. A map illustrating the extent of the proposed changes is included at Appendix 13.

6.12 As the catchment change proposed would affect only non-residential sites within the Council's ownership, there would be no change to the catchment populations of Bruntsfield Primary School, James Gillespie's Primary School or South Morningside Primary School.

### **Early Years Provision**

6.13 A new 40/40 nursery would be built as part of Option 3. This would be separate from the Deanbank temporary annexe building. South Morningside Primary School's nursery classes would relocate from the Fairmilehead Church hall in which they are currently located to the new building. This would result in a small increase in the number of places available in the south Edinburgh area and would allow the lease for the church hall at Fairmilehead to be ended.

### **Educational Benefits of Option 3**

6.14 The principal educational advantage of maintaining existing accommodation arrangements is that it would require no change to existing catchments thereby offering a continuation of the high standard of education already available at each of the current schools in the south Edinburgh area.

6.15 The main beneficiaries would be the pupils from South Morningside Primary School attending the existing Deanbank temporary annexe and South Morningside Primary's nursery classes. Option 3 offers considerable

educational advantages to nursery, P1 and P2 classes by delivering improved internal and external learning and play environments and by providing purpose built physical education facilities enhancing the schools ability to meet the require two hours of PE per week.

- 6.16 The co-location of the new nursery with P1 and P2 classes on the annexe site would allow the school to improve transition arrangements between nursery and P1 and allow nursery and primary staff greater opportunities to collaborate and improve all children's learning experiences. However, it would require increased effort to plan transition and progressive learning opportunities between the nursery-P1 and the P2-P4 levels.
- 6.17 The availability of a new, purpose built gym hall could also advantage the wider school community such as through increased provision for after school clubs or whole school assemblies on the annexe site. This would also promote greater interaction between older and young year groups. The availability of a new gym hall could also benefit the wider community including St Peter's RC Primary School further developing South Morningside Primary School's community links in this area. The availability of the parkland adjacent to the proposed site for Option 3, which is currently used by St Peter's RC Primary School would present an additional opportunity to deliver a full sports curriculum. However, the shared use of this space would need to be managed between both schools.
- 6.18 The principal educational disadvantage is that it would make permanent the split site arrangement currently being managed by South Morningside Primary School. This creates challenges in developing peer interactions, in maintaining a unified school ethos, in encouraging collaborative working between staff and in allocating staff time. Furthermore, it would potentially separate siblings and presents more of a logistical challenge for parents when considering drop-off times, pick-up times and attendance at after school clubs. As the accommodation at James Gillespie's Primary School would remain the same the benefits realised in option 1 and 2 from reducing the number of pupils at the school would not be achievable.

### **Capital Works Required**

- 6.19 A construction cost estimate for Option 3 has been prepared by external cost consultants, Morham & Brotchie Limited, which shows an indicative capital cost for the project of £4.587m taking into consideration provision for future cost inflation. This cost includes provision for:
- Demolition of the Oaklands Care Home building;
  - Construction of a new 40/40 nursery and a gym hall;
  - Upgrade of the Deanbank building;
  - Upgrade of access; and
  - Landscaping to all areas.

- 6.20 The cost of the construction works would be partially offset by the proceeds from the disposal of the area of the combined Deanbank and Oaklands site which would be surplus to requirements and has an estimated value of £2.2m.
- 6.21 The cost of purchasing the combined Deanbank and Oaklands site from Health and Social Care will be £6m and this will be either partly or fully funded from the capital receipt received following the sale of the current Boroughmuir High School site.

### **Additional Revenue Costs**

- 6.22 Option 3 would result in no changes to existing staffing arrangements. It is anticipated that all three south Edinburgh schools would eventually be required to operate at capacity with team teaching being required in early years. This would result in staffing costs across the three south Edinburgh schools rising from £4.9m to an estimated £5.4m based on 2014/15 costs.
- 6.23 The new nursery and gym buildings would result in additional building running, maintenance and repair costs for the school estate. However, under Option 3 the leases for both the Deanbank temporary annexe building and the church hall at Fairmilehead would no longer be required and, offset against the additional costs associated with the new gym and nursery would result in an estimated saving of £5,000 on current revenue costs.
- 6.24 The additional revenue costs for Option 3 are set out in full in Appendix 14. These figures include an estimated average annual repairs spend based on previous experience of new nursery and gym buildings. The maintenance burden for the buildings is likely to be low in the short to medium term but would increase over time.

### **Community Issues**

- 6.25 A significant consultee from the outset of this consultation process through to the operation of a permanent annexe of South Morningside Primary School would be the school community of St Peter's RC Primary School. The location of the annexe on the site directly adjacent to St Peter's would provide significant opportunities for collaborative working between pupils and staff and the sharing of resources.

## **7 Planning and Transport**

### **Planning Considerations**

- 7.1 Deanbank House was built circa 1912. While the building is not listed, due to its location within the Grange Conservation area Planning have advised that, regardless of the option developed, they would expect the Deanbank House building to be retained. The demolition of unlisted buildings (such as Deanbank House) which are considered to make a positive contribution to a conservation area is only permitted where the proposals may be justified by the condition of

the building, the conservation deficit, the adequacy of efforts made to retain the building and the relative public benefit of the demolition.

- 7.2 Children and Families believes this represents a significant risk to the delivery of any option which would result in, or require, the demolition of the Deanbank House building. Accordingly, all options considered in this paper retain the Deanbank building as a part of the final design solution. The Oaklands Care Home building is not of historic interest and all options considered would require, and assume, its demolition.
- 7.3 Planning has advised that particular consideration would be required to the trees on the Deanbank and Oaklands sites. Trees within a conservation area are covered by the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997. This Act requires that Planning be given advance notice of the intention to uproot, fell or lop trees in a conservation area. Accordingly, in developing the outline designs for all options in this paper the impact on the trees has been kept to a minimum.
- 7.4 A full survey of the trees on the Deanbank and Oaklands sites to assess their importance as wildlife habitats would be undertaken as part of the design process and would form part of the final planning submission. A separate bat survey of the trees and buildings on the site would also be undertaken.
- 7.5 Following advice from Planning, all options in this paper seek to minimise the impact on the stone walls which form the perimeter of the Deanbank and Oaklands sites, particularly along Canaan Lane. Accordingly, the designs developed retain the Deanbank House access road as their vehicular access point. Inside the site, the large stone walls between Deanbank House and the Oaklands Care Home would also be preserved where possible.

### **Transport**

- 7.6 The Deanbank and Oaklands sites are located directly adjacent to St Peter's RC Primary School and may be accessed by vehicles and by pedestrians from Canaan Lane to the south and by pedestrians only from Falcon Road to the north. The roads surrounding St Peter's RC Primary School, including Canaan Lane, are already within a 20mph zone and as such include a number of measures allowing children safe access to the combined Deanbank and Oaklands site. Canaan Lane is a one way, traffic calmed, 20mph zone with a zebra crossing close to its junction with Woodburn Terrace. Canaan Lane is also a cycle route.
- 7.7 All options would provide for staff and visitor parking on the Deanbank site. However, it is not Council policy to specifically provide drop-off zones for parents and carers.
- 7.8 Under Options 1a, 1b and 1c while the number of pupils attending the Deanbank and Oaklands site would increase, the proposed catchment area of the new school would ensure that the majority of pupils could access their new school via public transportation with much of the catchment population within walking distance of it. This is likely to make it easier to encourage pupils and parents or carers to walk, cycle or scoot to school.

- 7.9 Furthermore, the new school would not result in an increase in the number of younger pupils (nursery to P2) attending the combined Deanbank and Oaklands sites, parents of whom are more likely to consider using a car to drop-off their child at school or nursery. Option 1a, 1b and 1c would also have the advantage of removing South Morningside Primary School's split site reducing the need for parents using a car to drive between sites.
- 7.10 This would not be the case under Option 2 which would retain South Morningside's existing split site arrangement and would result in a significant increase in the number of younger pupils on the combined Deanbank and Oaklands sites. As Option 3 also includes the relocation of the nursery to the Deanbank site it too would increase the number of younger pupils on the combined Deanbank and Oaklands sites.
- 7.11 Accordingly, both Options 2 and 3 may result in an increase in the number of parents likely to consider using a car to drop-off their child at school or nursery. However, as Options 2 and 3 result in only older pupils being located at the main South Morningside Primary School site, it is anticipated that there would be a corresponding reduction in the number of parents likely to consider using a car to drop-off their child there.
- 7.12 A review of traffic management arrangements for inclusion in any required planning applications will be undertaken regardless of the option progressed. This will include an evaluation of the success or otherwise of the temporary road closures scheme being piloted at St Peter's RC Primary School.

## **8 Financial Considerations**

- 8.1 The estimated total capital and additional annual recurring revenue costs associated with each option are summarised in Table 6 (below) with further details regarding the revenue costs being provided in Appendix 14.

**Table 6: Cost Summary**

|  | <b>Option 1a</b><br>£'000 | <b>Option 1b</b><br>£'000 | <b>Option 1c</b><br>£'000 | <b>Option 2</b><br>£'000 | <b>Option 3</b><br>£'000 |
|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Capital Construction                   | 11,325                    | 12,203                    | 12,203                    | 12,203                   | 4,587                    |
| New space at South Morningside Primary | -                         | -                         | -                         | 398                      | -                        |
| Works at James Gillespie's Primary     | 136                       | 136                       | 136                       | 136                      | -                        |
| Site Acquisition                       | 6,000                     | 6,000                     | 6,000                     | 6,000                    | 6,000                    |
| Part site disposal proceeds            | -                         | -                         | -                         | -                        | (2,200)                  |
| <b>Estimated Total Capital Costs</b>   | <b>17,461</b>             | <b>18,339</b>             | <b>18,339</b>             | <b>18,737</b>            | <b>8,387</b>             |

|  | <b>Option 1a</b><br>£'000 | <b>Option 1b</b><br>£'000 | <b>Option 1c</b><br>£'000 | <b>Option 2</b><br>£'000 | <b>Option 3</b><br>£'000 |
|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Estimated Additional Staffing Costs (based on 2014/15 expenditure) | 329                       | 468                       | 329                       | 240                      | 17                       |
| Estimated Additional Premises Costs (based on 2014/15 expenditure) | 81                        | 81                        | 63                        | 61                       | (18)                     |
| <b>Estimated Additional Revenue Costs/(Saving)</b>                 | <b>410</b>                | <b>549</b>                | <b>392</b>                | <b>301</b>               | <b>(1)</b>               |

### **Funding**

- 8.2 On 13 May 2015 the Finance and Resource Committee agreed that any additional funding received from the sale of the Boroughmuir High School site (beyond the sum already allocated to the provision of the new school) should be prioritised toward the site acquisition for a long term solution to rising rolls in south Edinburgh and the re-provision of facilities at Leith Primary School. It is anticipated that this capital receipt will cover either part, or all, of the £6m cost of purchasing the Deanbank and Oaklands site from Health and Social Care and assist in moving forward with the provision of a new care home in the city.
- 8.3 However, there is currently no provision in the Council Capital Investment Programme to 2019/20 for any capital funding relating to the construction work required on the Deanbank and Oaklands site to deliver any of the options set out in this paper nor is there provision in the Children and Families revenue budget for the associated revenue costs.
- 8.4 On completion of the consultation and the agreement by Council of the option to be progressed, the identification and approval of the required additional capital and revenue funding would require to be considered by Council as part of future Council budget processes.

- 8.5 In a report to Council on 25 September 2014 regarding [Future Investment in the School Estate](#) through a Wave 4 Programme, the first priority for capital investment was identified as being the funding necessary to respond to the challenges of primary school rolls in the City including a resolution to the long term accommodation pressures in the south Edinburgh area.

## **9 Indicative Construction Timescales**

- 9.1 The timescales for the delivery of the new facilities are entirely dependent upon a new care home being funded and delivered on an alternative site before the Oaklands site could be vacated and also the necessary funding being approved and provided to deliver the project.
- 9.2 Table 7 sets out, for each option, the indicative construction timescales which would apply based on an assumed date of initiation of Council approval on 4 February 2016 to the completion of all works required. These timescales assume, and are subject to the combined site being available prior to the start of construction.
- 9.3 The timescales for Option 1c, which would involve the closure of South Morningside Primary School's nursery classes, are also dependent on when a final outcome is known taking into consideration the necessity to refer the matter to Scottish Ministers and, if the proposal was then called-in, the time for a final decision to be taken by the School Closure Review Panel.
- 9.4 Scottish Ministers have a period of eight weeks following an authority's decision in which to decide whether to call in the decision. If Scottish Ministers did decide to call in the decision it would be referred to a School Closure Review Panel for determination. Depending on circumstances it could take a further period of up to 17 weeks for a decision to be reached. The timescales in Table 7 assume that a decision is reached by Scottish Ministers within eight weeks of the Council meeting and that the proposal is not called-in.
- 9.5 For each option the timescales for Phase 2 of the works involving the construction of the hard standing, access road, car parking and undertaking any initial upgrade works to Deanbank House are determined by the time available for such works to be undertaken in advance of the start of the next available school year. Any remaining non-essential works would be carried out in subsequent holiday periods.

**Table 7: Indicative Construction Timescales**

|   | <b>Options 1a, 1b &amp; 2</b> | <b>Option 1c</b>   | <b>Option 3</b>    |
|---|-------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Conclusion of consultation and approval of Option to be progressed                | February 2016                 | February 2016      | February 2016      |
| Final decision by Scottish Ministers (only required for option involving closure) | n/a                           | +2 months          | n/a                |
| Appoint Design Team   | +3 months                     | +3 months          | +3 months          |
| Design Development to RIBA Stage 2  | +3 months                     | +3 months          | +3 months          |
| Design Development to RIBA Stage 3 (submit for Planning)                          | +3 months                     | +3 months          | +3 months          |
| Design Development to RIBA Stage 4 and completion of planning                     | +4 months                     | +4 months          | +4 months          |
| Complete construction contract tender process and award contract                  | +5 months                     | +5 months          | +5 months          |
| Construction Completion of Phase 1 (New Build)                                    | +15 months                    | +15 months         | +8 months          |
| Construction Completion of Phase 2 (Access Road and Deanbank House)               | +9 months                     | +7 months          | +4 months          |
| <b>Estimated Opening Date</b>   | <b>August 2019</b>            | <b>August 2019</b> | <b>August 2018</b> |

## 10 Consultation Process

10.1 The Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, as amended by the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014, sets out the statutory consultation requirements for:

- The establishment of a new school;
- The relocation of a stage of education;
- Changes to existing admission arrangements (such as catchment change); and
- The closure of a stage of education.

10.2 The prescribed consultees vary for each of the above, however, the requirements for a closure encompass all the necessary consultees and it is this process that will be followed to ensure full compliance with all the requirements of the Act. Accordingly, consultees will be as follows (where relevant):

- the Parent Council of any affected school;
- the parents of the pupils at any affected school;
- the parents of any children expected to attend any affected school within two years of the date of publication of the proposal paper;

- 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;
- any trade union which appears to the education authority to be representative of the staff (teaching and other) at any affected school;
- the community councils (if any);
- the Roman Catholic Church;
- any other education authority that the education authority considers relevant;
- any other users of any affected school that the education authority considers relevant.

10.3 The extent of the consultation with pupils at the affected schools and the appropriate means of engaging with those pupils will be discussed in detail with each school's management team.

10.4 The consultation period will run for a 6 week period from Monday, 24 August 2015 to Tuesday, 6 October 2015 and the paper will be made available electronically and in paper format and copies will be available for inspection at the Council Offices at Waverley Court, at Morningside Library, Fountainbridge Library, Newington Library and at the schools affected by the proposals.

10.5 Four public meetings will be held in respect of the proposals at the venues listed below which will give interested parties a more formal opportunity to express their views. Representatives of the Council will be present at the meetings to outline the proposals, assist discussions and answer questions. Free childcare and/or translation services can be provided at each public meeting if requests for these services are made to (0131) 469 3161 no later than Friday 28 August 2015. A record of each public meeting will be taken by the Council.

| Venue                            | Date                       | Time            |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|
| South Morningside Primary School | Thursday, 3 September 2015 | 6:30pm – 8:30pm |
| James Gillespie's Primary School | Tuesday, 8 September, 2015 | 6:30pm – 8:30pm |
| Bruntsfield Primary School       | Tuesday, 22 September 2015 | 6:30pm – 8:30pm |
| St Peter's RC Primary School     | Tuesday, 29 September 2015 | 6:30pm – 8:30pm |

10.6 All comments received will be recorded and represented in the final report regarding the outcomes of the consultation, along with the Council's response to those comments. Individual responses will not be provided to submissions made during the consultation. However, if common themes emerge from submissions, the Council will prepare a Frequently Asked Questions paper and publish it on the Council website during the consultation.

10.7 The Council website will contain information on the consultation and this will be updated as necessary [www.edinburgh.gov.uk/southedinburghschools](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/southedinburghschools)

10.8 During the consultation period, any views on this proposal should be sent to in writing to the following address:

Gillian Tee  
Executive Director of Communities and Families  
City of Edinburgh Council  
Council Headquarters  
Waverley Court  
Level 1:2  
4 East Market Street  
Edinburgh EH8 8BG

- 10.9 Respondents are encouraged to use the response questionnaire which has been produced and is provided in Appendix 1. The response questionnaire can also be completed online at [www.edinburgh.gov.uk/southedinburghschools](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/southedinburghschools) Responses can also be made by e-mail to the following address [cf.propertyreview@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:cf.propertyreview@edinburgh.gov.uk) All responses, whether by letter, e-mail or using the online questionnaire should be received by no later than close of business on Tuesday, 6 October 2015.
- 10.10 Once the public consultation phase finishes, details of the representations received will be issued to Education Scotland for their consideration of the educational effects of the proposals. Education Scotland will issue a report on their findings which will be included in the final Council report on the consultation.
- 10.11 Following the conclusion of the consultation period and after consideration of the representations received and the views of Education Scotland on the educational benefits of the proposal, a report on the Outcomes of the Consultation will be presented to the Council for consideration. The report will be made publicly available and notification will be given to those individuals or groups that have made representations during the consultation period. The report will include a summary of written representations received during the consultation period and representations made at the public meeting along with the Council response to representations made and also to any issues raised by Education Scotland.
- 10.12 It is anticipated that the consultation report, setting out recommendations, will be presented to a Meeting of the Council on 4 February 2016. It is expected that the report will be published no later than 14 January 2016 being the required three weeks in advance of it being considered by the Council.
- 10.13 Should a recommendation be made that would result in the closure of the nursery classes at South Morningside Primary School (only in Option 1c in this paper) and the Council was to approve that recommendation at its meeting on 4 February 2016, the decision would require to be referred to Scottish Ministers within six working days who would then have eight weeks from the date of the Council decision to decide whether to call in the proposals for determination.

- 10.14 Scottish Ministers have a power to call in a closure decision, but only where it appears to Ministers that the council has failed in a significant regard to comply with the requirements of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, as amended or, in coming to its decision, has failed to take proper account of a material consideration relevant to the proposal. Ministers have up to eight weeks from the date of the Council's decision to decide whether or not to issue a call-in notice.
- 10.15 In considering whether or not to call in the proposal, Scottish Ministers are to take account of representations made to them within the first three weeks of that eight week period. Any person wishing to make a representation that the decision should, or should not, be called in will have three weeks from the date of the Authority's decision to convey their representation to the Scottish Ministers.
- 10.16 The Council cannot proceed further with implementing the closure decision wholly or partly before the eight week period has expired, unless Scottish Ministers have given notice before the end of the period that they will not call the decision in.
- 10.17 Should Scottish Ministers decide not to call in the proposal, then the Council could then enact the decision. Based on a Council decision being taken on 4 February 2016 the eight week consideration period is likely to conclude on 1 April 2016.
- 10.18 Should Scottish Ministers decide to call in the proposal it would be referred to the Convenor of the School Closure Review Panels who must, within a period of seven days beginning with the day on which the call-in notice is issued, constitute a School Closure Review Panel to review the proposal.
- 10.19 The School Closure Review Panel would then be required to consider whether, in relation to the closure proposal, the Council had failed in a significant regard to comply with the requirements of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, as amended or, in coming to its decision, had failed to take proper account of a material consideration relevant to the proposal. The School Closure Review Panel must notify the Council of its decision within a period of eight weeks beginning with the day on which it was constituted however there are circumstances when this period can be extended to 16 weeks.
- 10.20 Following a review of the closure proposal the School Closure Review Panel may (a) refuse to consent to the proposal, (b) refuse to consent to the proposal and remit it to the education authority for a fresh decision as to implementation or (c) grant consent to the proposal either subject to conditions, or unconditionally. The Panel must give reasons for its decision.
- 10.21 An appeal may be made to the sheriff against a decision of a School Closure Review Panel by the education authority or a relevant consultee in relation to the closure proposal. An appeal may be made only on a point of law, must be made by way of summary application and must be made within the period of 14 days beginning with the day on which the Panel publishes notice of the

decision. In the appeal the sheriff can either (a) confirm the decision or (b) quash the decision and refer the matter back to the Panel. The sheriff's determination of the appeal is final.

## APPENDIX 1 – Response Questionnaire

### Statutory Consultation on Options to Address Primary School Capacity and Accommodation Pressures in South Edinburgh

#### Introduction

The combined rolls of Bruntsfield Primary School, James Gillespie's Primary School and South Morningside Primary Schools are the highest they have been in more than 30 years. A new school was proposed in 2002 to address rising rolls in the area but no land was available at that time to allow its delivery. Since then other measures such as temporary units and annexe accommodation have been used to accommodate demand at the three schools. Accommodation issues at South Morningside Primary School have been most acute with the school currently split across three different sites.

The combined Deanbank House and Oaklands Care Home site (adjacent to St Peter's RC Primary School) has now emerged as a suitable site to allow delivery of a solution to the primary school capacity issues in the area. Therefore, this statutory consultation considers options to address the capacity and accommodation pressures facing the three schools in the south Edinburgh area by using this site to deliver one of the following options:

Option 1 – Establish a new primary school.

Option 2 – Increase the capacity of South Morningside Primary School.

Option 3 – Maintain and improve existing accommodation arrangements.

Under Options 2 and 3 South Morningside Primary School's existing nursery classes would be relocated to new accommodation on the Deanbank House/Oaklands site. However, under Option 1 there are three sub-options relating to nursery provision. These are:

- a. retain South Morningside Primary School's existing nursery classes at Fairmilehead Church Hall but do not build new nursery classes as part of the new primary school building;
- b. retain South Morningside Primary School's existing nursery classes at Fairmilehead Church Hall and build new nursery classes as part of the new primary school building; and
- c. close South Morningside Primary School's existing nursery classes at Fairmilehead Church Hall but build new nursery classes as part of the new primary school building.

You can read the background to the consultation in two reports to the Council's Education, Children and Families Committee to on [9 December 2014](#) and [4 March 2014](#).

Options 1 and 2 require that the catchment areas of Bruntsfield, James Gillespie's and South Morningside Primary Schools be changed (a minor catchment change under Option 3 affects no residential addresses). These options also affect the catchment area of Tollcross Primary School. This would only affect new P1 pupils in the areas of catchment being transferred. These catchment changes would be implemented when the new accommodation required under either option was completed.

The full details of all the options are available in the statutory consultation paper which you should read before completing this questionnaire. The statutory consultation paper is available online at [www.edinburgh.gov.uk/southedinburghschools](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/southedinburghschools) and copies are available in the affected schools and local libraries.

#### Why we are consulting?

The Council has a legal obligation to carry out a statutory consultation under the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 as amended by the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014. The different options put forward will have different impacts on families and we want to hear the views of anyone

affected by the proposals. All comments made during the statutory consultation period will be recorded and represented in a final report anticipated to be considered by Council on Thursday, 4 February 2016.

This questionnaire should be completed and returned by no later than 5pm on Tuesday, 6 October 2015. All personal information in the questionnaire is for internal use only and will not be made public however the responses to questions 6 and 7 may be reflected either in whole, or in part, in the report to Council but on an anonymised basis. The questionnaire can be completed online at the following link [www.edinburgh.gov.uk/southedinburghschools](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/southedinburghschools) or can be completed in the following pages and returned to the following address:

Gillian Tee  
Executive Director of Communities and Families  
City of Edinburgh Council  
Council Headquarters  
Waverley Court  
Level 1:2, 4 East Market Street  
Edinburgh EH8 8BG

Responses can also be made in writing to the address above or by e-mail to the following address [cf.propertyreview@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:cf.propertyreview@edinburgh.gov.uk).

### Questionnaire

#### **Question 1**

What is your name?

Name

#### **Question 2**

What is your email address? (Optional)

Email

#### **Question 3**

What is your postcode?

Postcode

**Question 4**

What is your main interest in the consultation?

*Please select (tick) all items that apply:*

- Parent/Carer of school child
- Parent/Carer of school child with younger sibling/s
- Parent/Carer of pre-school child
- School Staff
- Pupil
- Local resident
- Local organisation
- Other

If you are answering on behalf of an organisation, or for other reasons, please explain below.

**Question 5**

Do you have a child or children in a primary school or nursery classes at the moment?

*Please select (tick) only one item.*

- No  Yes

If yes please tell us the name(s) of their school or nursery classes.

- Bruntsfield Primary School
- James Gillespie's Primary School
- James Gillespie's Primary School Nursery Classes
- South Morningside Primary School
- South Morningside Primary School Nursery Classes
- St Peter's RC Primary School
- St Peter's RC Primary School Nursery Classes
- Tollcross Primary School
- Other Primary School (please specify below)
- Other Nursery Classes (please specify below)

**Question 6**

Having considered the options as detailed in the statutory consultation paper, which option do you prefer?  
*Please select (tick) only one item.*

- Option 1(a)
- Option 1(b)
- Option 1(c)
- Option 2
- Option 3
- None of the above

Please give reasons for your preferred option.

**Question 7**

Any other comments or suggestions?

Comments or suggestions can also be emailed to [cf.propertyreview@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:cf.propertyreview@edinburgh.gov.uk).

## List of affected addresses

### Option 1

#### **James Gillespie's Primary School to Tollcross Primary School**

|                    |                   |              |
|--------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Barclay Place      | 1 to 23           | (odd)        |
| Barclay Place      | 39 to 49          | (odd)        |
| Barclay Terrace    | 2 to 7            | (odd / even) |
| Barclay Terrace    | 9 to 12           | (odd / even) |
| Brougham Place     | 1 to 10           | (odd / even) |
| Brougham Place     | 12 to 18          | (odd / even) |
| Brougham Place     | 20 to 26          | (odd / even) |
| Brougham Street    | 2 to 27           | (odd / even) |
| Brougham Street    | 29 to 33          | (odd)        |
| Drumdryan Street   | 1 to 10           | (odd / even) |
| Drumdryan Street   | 12 to 17          | (odd / even) |
| Drumdryan Street   | 19 to 21          | (odd)        |
| Glen Street        | 28                |              |
| Glengyle Terrace   | 1 to 17           | (odd / even) |
| Leven Street       | 2                 |              |
| Leven Street       | 8 to 44           | (even)       |
| Leven Terrace      | 1 to 16           | (odd / even) |
| Tarvit Street      | 1 to 13           | (odd / even) |
| Tarvit Street      | 15                |              |
| Tarvit Street      | 21 to 25          | (odd)        |
| Tarvit Street      | 29 to 35          | (odd)        |
| Valleyfield Street | 1 to 16           | (odd / even) |
| Valleyfield Street | 18 to 28          | (even)       |
| Wright's Houses    | 1, 28, 30, 31, 34 |              |

#### **James Gillespie's Primary School to New Primary School**

|                      |                    |              |
|----------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Blackford Avenue     | 39                 |              |
| Blackford Avenue     | 60 to 126          | (even)       |
| Blackford Avenue     | 127 to 137         | (odd / even) |
| Blackford Avenue     | 144, 146           |              |
| Blackford Hill Grove | 1 to 25            | (odd / even) |
| Blackford Hill Grove | 27, 29             |              |
| Blackford Hill Rise  | 1, 3, 5, 6         |              |
| Blackford Hill Rise  | 7 to 25            | (odd)        |
| Blackford Hill View  | 1 to 20            | (odd / even) |
| Blackford Hill View  | 22                 |              |
| Canaan Lane          | 35 to 51           | (odd)        |
| Canaan Lane          | 54, 56, 58, 60     |              |
| Canaan Lane          | 61, 63, 64, 70, 74 |              |
| Charterhall Grove    | 1 to 103           | (odd)        |
| Charterhall Grove    | 107                |              |
| Charterhall Road     | 2, 7, 9            |              |
| Charterhall Road     | 11 to 33           | (odd / even) |
| Charterhall Road     | 35 to 43           | (odd)        |
| Charterhall Road     | 106 to 130         | (even)       |

|                      |            |              |
|----------------------|------------|--------------|
| Cluny Place          | 2          |              |
| Eden Lane            | 2 to 12    | (even)       |
| Eden Lane            | 15         |              |
| Eden Terrace         | 1, 2, 3    |              |
| Eva Place            | 1 to 9     | (odd)        |
| Eva Place            | 10, 12, 14 |              |
| Grange Loan          | 137 to 157 | (odd)        |
| Ladysmith Road       | 1 to 21    | (odd)        |
| Ladysmith Road       | 22 to 53   | (odd / even) |
| Ladysmith Road       | 55 to 69   | (odd)        |
| Maurice Place        | 2          |              |
| Maurice Place        | 1 to 13    | (odd)        |
| Mortonhall Road      | 22 to 28   | (even)       |
| Mortonhall Road      | 31, 33, 35 |              |
| Mortonhall Road      | 39 to 53   | (odd)        |
| Newbattle Terrace    | 76 to 84   | (even)       |
| Newbattle Terrace    | 92         |              |
| Observatory Green    | 1 to 4     | (odd / even) |
| Observatory Road     | 1 to 22    | (odd / even) |
| Oswald Road          | 37         |              |
| South Oswald Road    | 23 to 91   | (odd)        |
| South Oswald Road    | 42         |              |
| Watertoun Road       | 3 to 15    | (odd / even) |
| Watertoun Road       | 17, 19     |              |
| Watertoun Road       | 23 to 31   | (odd)        |
| West Saville Terrace | 93 to 119  | (odd)        |
| West Saville Terrace | 158 to 188 | (even)       |

#### **Bruntsfield Primary School to New Primary School**

|                  |                |              |
|------------------|----------------|--------------|
| Canaan Lane      | 1              |              |
| Falcon Avenue    | 5 to 13        | (odd)        |
| Falcon Avenue    | 14 to 21       | (odd / even) |
| Falcon Avenue    | 23 to 51       | (odd)        |
| Falcon Avenue    | 52 to 75       | (odd / even) |
| Falcon Avenue    | 77             |              |
| Falcon Court     | 16 to 90       | (odd / even) |
| Falcon Gardens   | 1 to 49        | (odd)        |
| Falcon Lane      | 2 to 5         | (odd / even) |
| Falcon Road      | 2 to 10        | (even)       |
| Falcon Road      | 53 to 75       | (odd)        |
| Falcon Road West | 3, 4, 5, 7, 10 |              |
| Falcon Road West | 15 to 21       | (odd)        |
| Morningside Road | 145 to 235     | (odd)        |
| Steel's Place    | 1 to 10        | (odd / even) |
| Steel's Place    | 12, 14, 16     |              |

#### **South Morningside Primary School to New Primary School**

|                  |         |              |
|------------------|---------|--------------|
| Balcarres Court  | 1 to 21 | (odd / even) |
| Balcarres Street | 1 to 8  | (odd / even) |

|                    |                           |              |
|--------------------|---------------------------|--------------|
| Balcarres Street   | 10                        |              |
| Balcarres Street   | 15 to 19                  | (odd / even) |
| Balcarres Street   | 23 to 26                  | (odd / even) |
| Balcarres Street   | 28                        |              |
| Balcarres Street   | 30 to 50                  | (odd / even) |
| Balcarres Street   | 52 to 58                  | (odd / even) |
| Balcarres Street   | 60 to 72                  | (even)       |
| Balcarres Street   | 73 to 84                  | (odd / even) |
| Belhaven Place     | 1 to 4                    | (odd / even) |
| Belhaven Terrace   | 1 to 7                    |              |
| Braid Avenue       | 2                         |              |
| Braid Avenue       | 3 to 23                   | (odd / even) |
| Braid Avenue       | 25 to 35                  | (odd)        |
| Braid Avenue       | 39 to 79                  | (odd)        |
| Braid Road         | 69                        |              |
| Bruce Street       | 1, 2, 3, 5                |              |
| Canaan Lane        | 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14 |              |
| Canaan Lane        | 18 to 30                  | (even)       |
| Canaan Lane        | 31 to 34                  | (odd / even) |
| Canaan Lane        | 36 to 42                  | (even)       |
| Cluny Avenue       | 1 to 18                   | (odd / even) |
| Cluny Drive        | 2 to 11                   | (odd / even) |
| Cluny Drive        | 13, 15, 17                |              |
| Cluny Drive        | 18 to 45                  | (odd / even) |
| Cluny Drive        | 47, 49, 51                |              |
| Cluny Gardens      | 1                         |              |
| Cluny Gardens      | 2 to 13                   | (odd / even) |
| Cluny Gardens      | 15, 17, 19                |              |
| Cluny Gardens      | 20 to 32                  | (odd / even) |
| Cluny Gardens      | 34 to 51                  | (odd / even) |
| Cluny Gardens      | 53, 55, 57                |              |
| Cluny Gardens      | 58 to 81                  | (odd / even) |
| Cluny Gardens      | 83 to 125                 | (odd)        |
| Cluny Gardens      | 102, 104                  |              |
| Cluny Gardens      | 129 to 149                | (odd)        |
| Cluny Place        | 1 to 18                   | (odd / even) |
| Cluny Terrace      | 1 to 19                   | (odd / even) |
| Cluny Terrace      | 21, 23                    |              |
| Corrennie Drive    | 1 to 13                   | (odd / even) |
| Corrennie Drive    | 15 to 25                  | (odd)        |
| Corrennie Gardens  | 1 to 18                   | (odd / even) |
| Corrennie Gardens  | 20, 22, 23, 24            |              |
| Craighouse Avenue  | 2 to 48                   | (even)       |
| Craighouse Avenue  | 51                        |              |
| Craighouse Avenue  | 54 to 64                  | (even)       |
| Craighouse Gardens | 1 to 9                    | (odd / even) |
| Craighouse Gardens | 11, 13                    |              |
| Craighouse Gardens | 15 to 45                  | (odd / even) |
| Craighouse Gardens | 47 to 55                  | (odd / even) |

|                     |                    |              |
|---------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Craighouse Gardens  | 57 to 65           | (odd)        |
| Craighouse Gardens  | 66 to 73           | (odd / even) |
| Craighouse Gardens  | 75 to 80           | (odd / even) |
| Craighouse Gardens  | 82, 86, 88, 90, 92 |              |
| Craighouse Park     | 1 to 7             | (odd / even) |
| Craighouse Park     | 9 to 27            | (odd)        |
| Craighouse Road     | 1 to 14            | (odd / even) |
| Craighouse Terrace  | 1 to 25            | (odd / even) |
| Craighouse Terrace  | 27 to 33           | (odd)        |
| Egypt Mews          | 1 to 12            | (odd / even) |
| Egypt Mews          | 14, 15, 16         |              |
| Hermitage Drive     | 1 to 12            | (odd / even) |
| Hermitage Drive     | 14 to 28           | (even)       |
| Hermitage Drive     | 15, 23, 31         |              |
| Hermitage Gardens   | 1 to 10            | (odd / even) |
| Hermitage Gardens   | 12 to 26           | (even)       |
| Hermitage Gardens   | 27 to 37           | (odd / even) |
| Hermitage Gardens   | 39, 41             |              |
| Hermitage Terrace   | 1 to 10            | (odd / even) |
| Jordan Lane         | 1 to 6             | (odd / even) |
| Jordan Lane         | 8 to 18            | (odd / even) |
| Jordan Lane         | 20, 22, 23, 24, 25 |              |
| Jordan Lane         | 38 to 48           | (odd / even) |
| Maxwell Street      | 1 to 15            | (odd / even) |
| Maxwell Street      | 17, 19, 20, 21, 23 |              |
| Maxwell Street      | 26, 27, 29, 30, 34 |              |
| Meadowspot          | 2                  |              |
| Meadowspot          | 101, 103           |              |
| Meadowspot          | 105 to 120         | (odd / even) |
| Meadowspot          | 122                |              |
| Meadowspot          | 124 to 142         | (odd / even) |
| Midmar Avenue       | 1 to 8             | (odd / even) |
| Midmar Drive        | 4 to 34            | (even)       |
| Midmar Gardens      | 1 to 25            | (odd / even) |
| Midmar Gardens      | 27                 |              |
| Midmar Gardens      | 29 to 33           | (odd / even) |
| Midmar Gardens      | 35                 |              |
| Millar Crescent     | 1, 2, 3, 5, 7      |              |
| Millar Crescent     | 9 to 30            | (odd / even) |
| Millar Crescent     | 32 to 48           | (even)       |
| Millar Crescent     | 33, 35             |              |
| Millar Place        | 1 to 7             | (odd / even) |
| Millar Place Lane   | 1 to 6             | (odd / even) |
| Morningside Gardens | 1 to 12            | (odd / even) |
| Morningside Gardens | 15 to 23           | (odd / even) |
| Morningside Park    | 3, 5               |              |
| Morningside Park    | 7 to 10            | (odd / even) |
| Morningside Park    | 12 to 31           | (odd / even) |
| Morningside Park    | 33, 35, 37         |              |

|                     |                  |              |
|---------------------|------------------|--------------|
| Morningside Road    | 216              |              |
| Morningside Road    | 237 to 265       | (odd)        |
| Morningside Road    | 271              |              |
| Morningside Road    | 302 to 336       | (even)       |
| Morningside Road    | 340 to 358       | (even)       |
| Morningside Road    | 366 to 372       | (even)       |
| Morningside Road    | 376 to 426       | (even)       |
| Morningside Terrace | 1 to 12          | (odd / even) |
| Myreside Court      | 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8 |              |
| Nile Grove          | 1 to 29          | (odd / even) |
| Nile Grove          | 31               |              |
| Nile Grove          | 33 to 37         | (odd / even) |
| Nile Grove          | 39 to 57         | (odd)        |
| Nile Grove          | 63 to 71         | (odd)        |
| Pewlands Avenue     | 1 to 21          | (odd / even) |
| Pewlands Avenue     | 23 to 39         | (odd)        |
| Pewlands Garden     | 1 to 50          | (odd / even) |
| Pewlands Garden     | 52 to 78         | (even)       |
| Pewlands Terrace    | 4 to 23          | (odd / even) |
| Woodburn Place      | 1, 2             |              |
| Woodburn Terrace    | 1 to 43          | (odd / even) |

## Option 2

### **James Gillespie's Primary School to Tollcross Primary School**

|                    |                   |              |
|--------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Barclay Place      | 1 to 23           | (odd)        |
| Barclay Place      | 39 to 49          | (odd)        |
| Barclay Terrace    | 2 to 7            | (odd / even) |
| Barclay Terrace    | 9 to 12           | (odd / even) |
| Brougham Place     | 1 to 10           | (odd / even) |
| Brougham Place     | 12 to 18          | (odd / even) |
| Brougham Place     | 20 to 26          | (odd / even) |
| Brougham Street    | 2 to 27           | (odd / even) |
| Brougham Street    | 29 to 33          | (odd)        |
| Drumdryan Street   | 1 to 10           | (odd / even) |
| Drumdryan Street   | 12 to 17          | (odd / even) |
| Drumdryan Street   | 19 to 21          | (odd)        |
| Glen Street        | 28                |              |
| Glengyle Terrace   | 1 to 17           | (odd / even) |
| Leven Street       | 2                 |              |
| Leven Street       | 8 to 44           | (even)       |
| Leven Terrace      | 1 to 16           | (odd / even) |
| Tarvit Street      | 1 to 13           | (odd / even) |
| Tarvit Street      | 15                |              |
| Tarvit Street      | 21 to 25          | (odd)        |
| Tarvit Street      | 29 to 35          | (odd)        |
| Valleyfield Street | 1 to 16           | (odd / even) |
| Valleyfield Street | 18 to 28          | (even)       |
| Wright's Houses    | 1, 28, 30, 31, 34 |              |

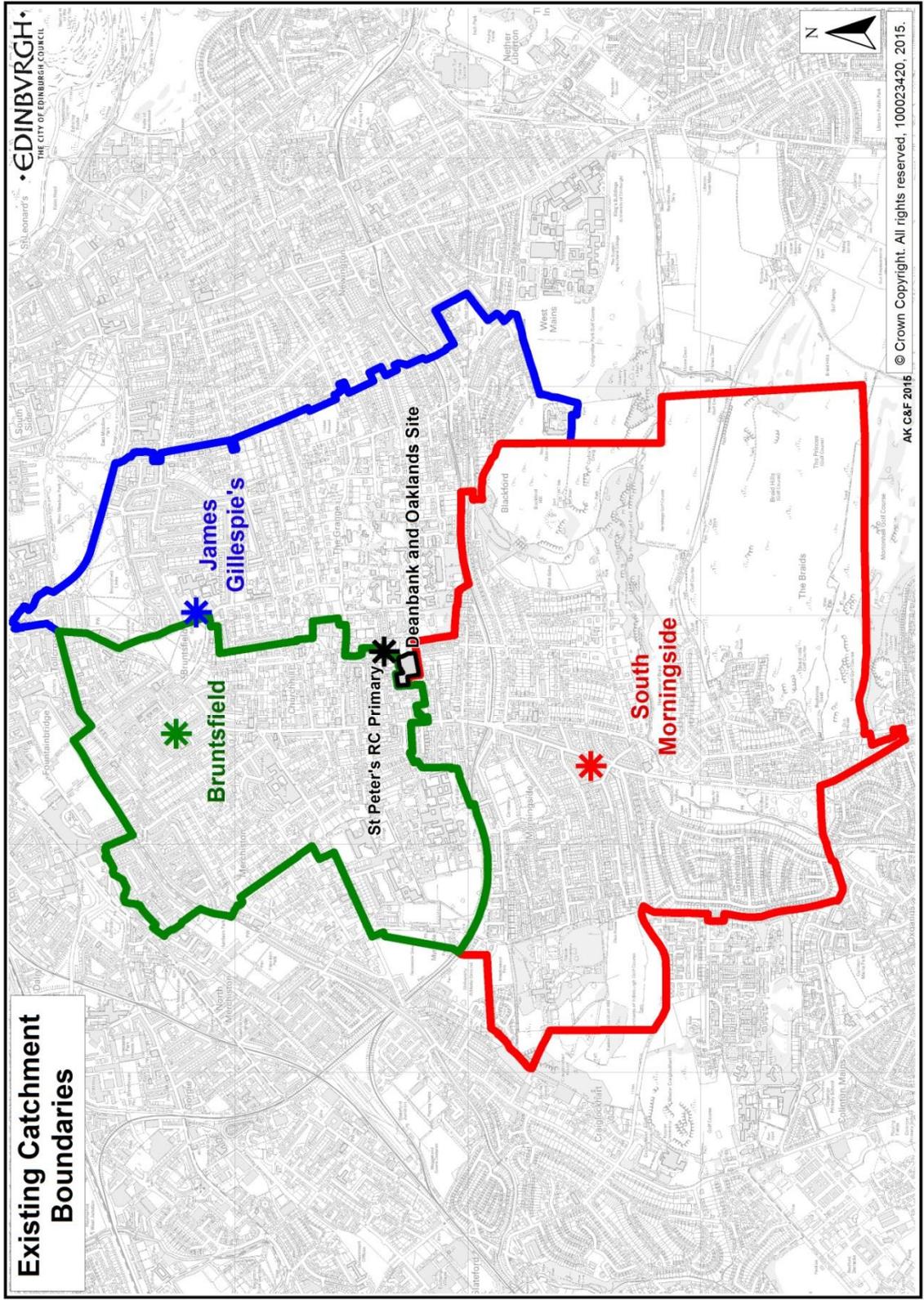
**James Gillespie's Primary School to South Morningside Primary School**

|                      |                    |              |
|----------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Blackford Avenue     | 39                 |              |
| Blackford Avenue     | 60 to 126          | (even)       |
| Blackford Avenue     | 127 to 137         | (odd / even) |
| Blackford Avenue     | 144, 146           |              |
| Blackford Hill Grove | 1 to 25            | (odd / even) |
| Blackford Hill Grove | 27, 29             |              |
| Blackford Hill Rise  | 1, 3, 5, 6         |              |
| Blackford Hill Rise  | 7 to 25            | (odd)        |
| Blackford Hill View  | 1 to 20            | (odd / even) |
| Blackford Hill View  | 22                 |              |
| Canaan Lane          | 35 to 51           | (odd)        |
| Canaan Lane          | 54, 56, 58, 60     |              |
| Canaan Lane          | 61, 63, 64, 70, 74 |              |
| Charterhall Grove    | 1 to 103           | (odd)        |
| Charterhall Grove    | 107                |              |
| Charterhall Road     | 2, 7, 9            |              |
| Charterhall Road     | 11 to 33           | (odd / even) |
| Charterhall Road     | 35 to 43           | (odd)        |
| Charterhall Road     | 106 to 130         | (even)       |
| Cluny Place          | 2                  |              |
| Eden Lane            | 2 to 12            | (even)       |
| Eden Lane            | 15                 |              |
| Eden Terrace         | 1, 2, 3            |              |
| Eva Place            | 1 to 9             | (odd)        |
| Eva Place            | 10, 12, 14         |              |
| Grange Loan          | 137 to 157         | (odd)        |
| Ladysmith Road       | 1 to 21            | (odd)        |
| Ladysmith Road       | 22 to 53           | (odd / even) |
| Ladysmith Road       | 55 to 69           | (odd)        |
| Maurice Place        | 2                  |              |
| Maurice Place        | 1 to 13            | (odd)        |
| Mortonhall Road      | 22 to 28           | (even)       |
| Mortonhall Road      | 31, 33, 35         |              |
| Mortonhall Road      | 39 to 53           | (odd)        |
| Newbattle Terrace    | 76 to 84           | (even)       |
| Newbattle Terrace    | 92                 |              |
| Observatory Green    | 1 to 4             | (odd / even) |
| Observatory Road     | 1 to 22            | (odd / even) |
| Oswald Road          | 37                 |              |
| South Oswald Road    | 23 to 91           | (odd)        |
| South Oswald Road    | 42                 |              |
| Watertoun Road       | 3 to 15            | (odd / even) |
| Watertoun Road       | 17, 19             |              |
| Watertoun Road       | 23 to 31           | (odd)        |
| West Saville Terrace | 93 to 119          | (odd)        |
| West Saville Terrace | 158 to 188         | (even)       |

**Bruntsfield Primary School to South Morningside Primary School**

|                  |                |              |
|------------------|----------------|--------------|
| Canaan Lane      | 1              |              |
| Falcon Avenue    | 5 to 13        | (odd)        |
| Falcon Avenue    | 14 to 21       | (odd / even) |
| Falcon Avenue    | 23 to 51       | (odd)        |
| Falcon Avenue    | 52 to 75       | (odd / even) |
| Falcon Avenue    | 77             |              |
| Falcon Court     | 16 to 90       | (odd / even) |
| Falcon Gardens   | 1 to 49        | (odd)        |
| Falcon Lane      | 2 to 5         | (odd / even) |
| Falcon Road      | 2 to 10        | (even)       |
| Falcon Road      | 53 to 75       | (odd)        |
| Falcon Road West | 3, 4, 5, 7, 10 |              |
| Falcon Road West | 15 to 21       | (odd)        |
| Morningside Road | 145 to 235     | (odd)        |
| Steel's Place    | 1 to 10        | (odd / even) |
| Steel's Place    | 12, 14, 16     |              |

# APPENDIX 2 - Existing Catchment Areas, School Locations and combined Deanbank and Oaklands Sites



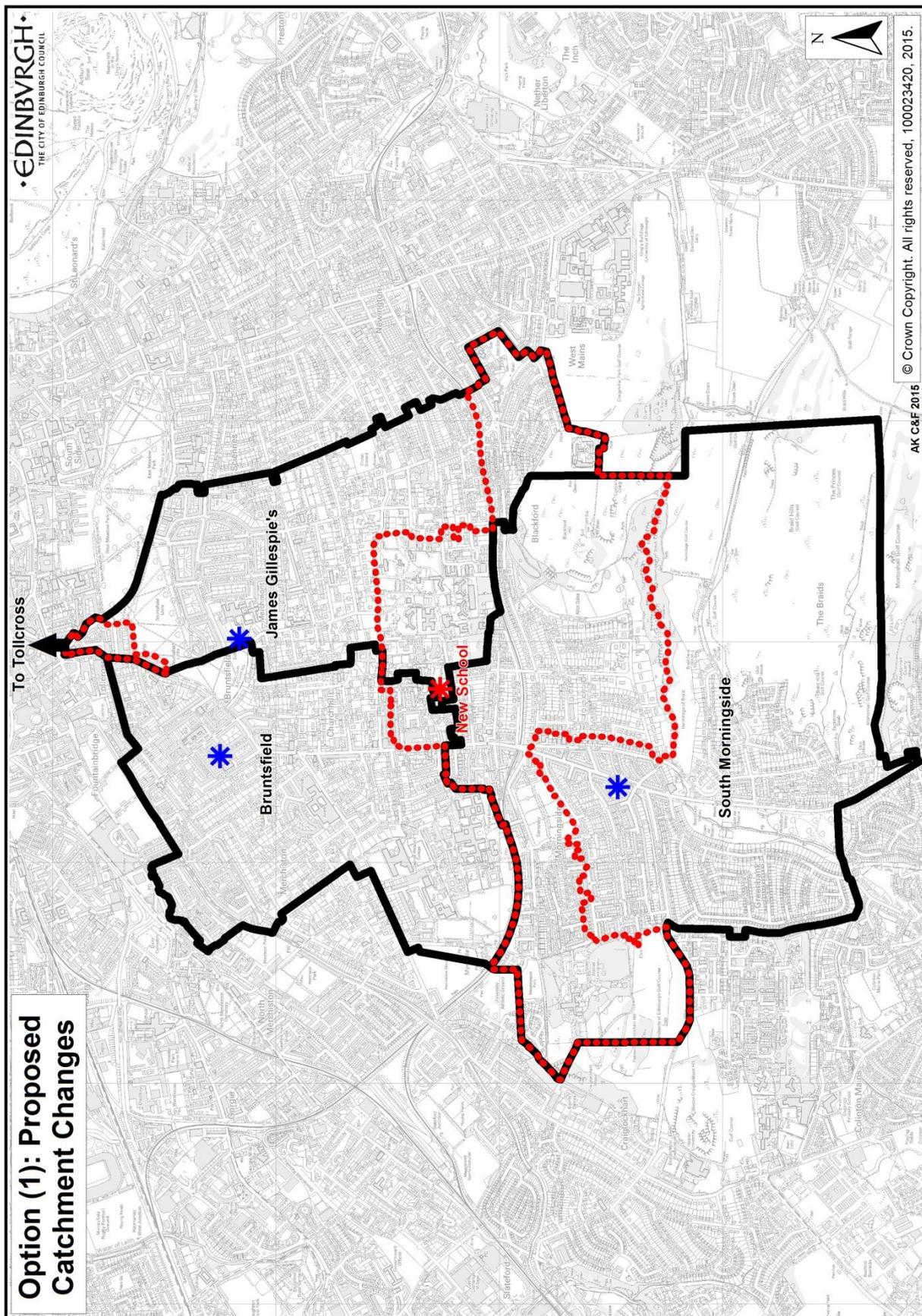
# APPENDIX 3 – Option 1a: Indicative Site Layout



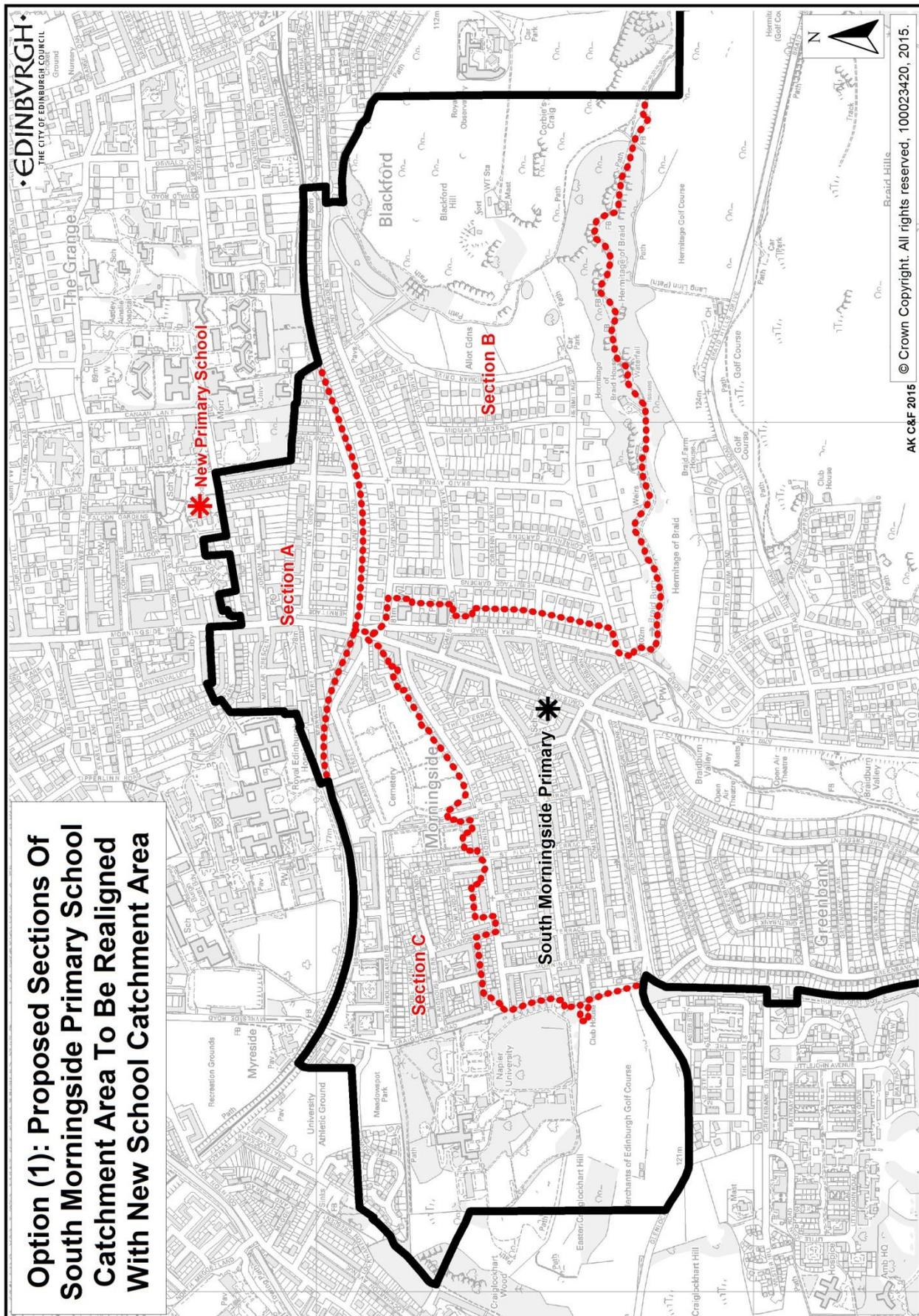
# APPENDIX 4 - Options 1b, 1c and 2: Indicative Site Layout



# APPENDIX 5 - Option 1: Proposed Catchment Changes



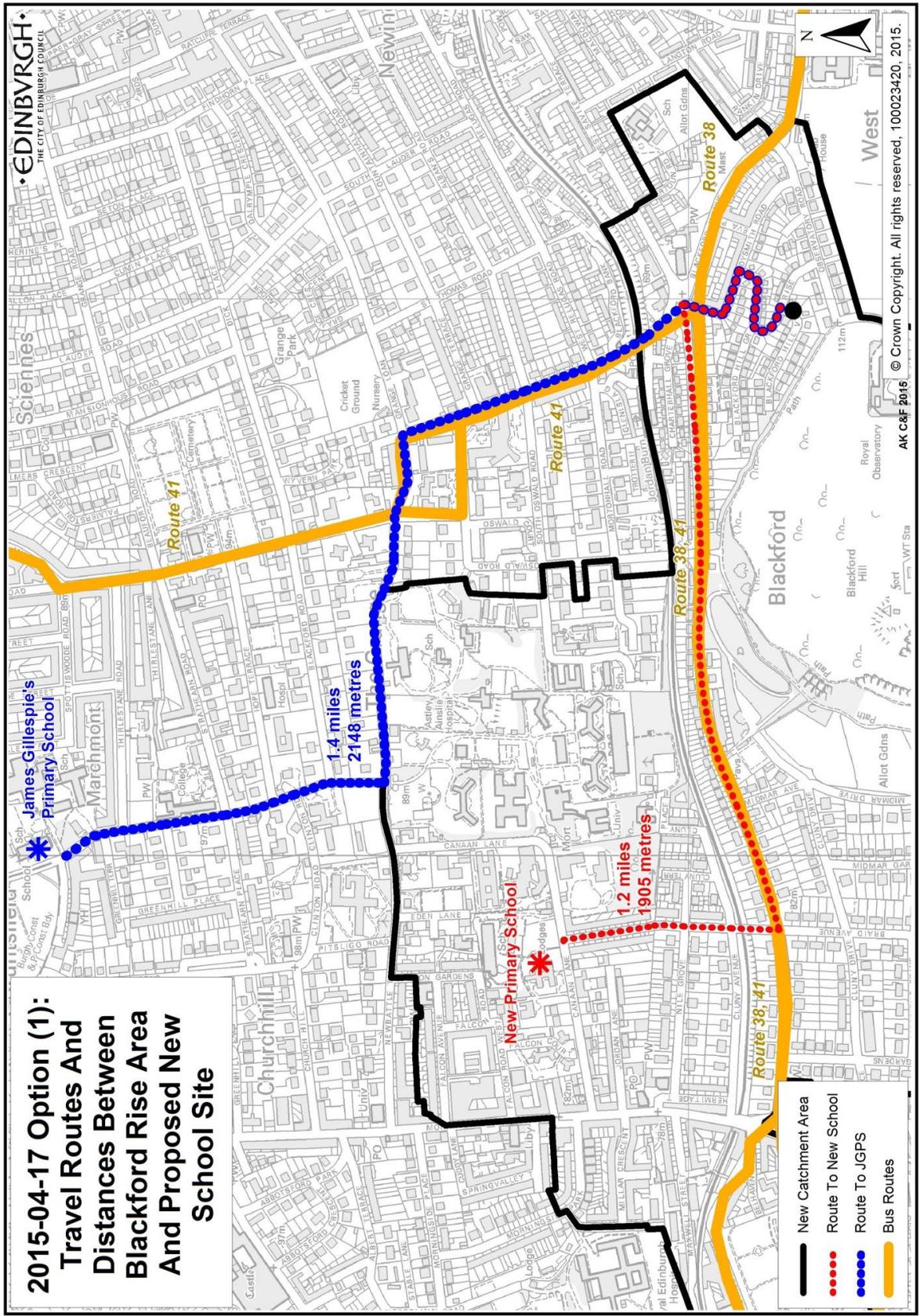
**APPENDIX 6 - Option 1: Proposed Sections of South Morningside Primary School Catchment Area to be Realigned with New Primary School Catchment Area**



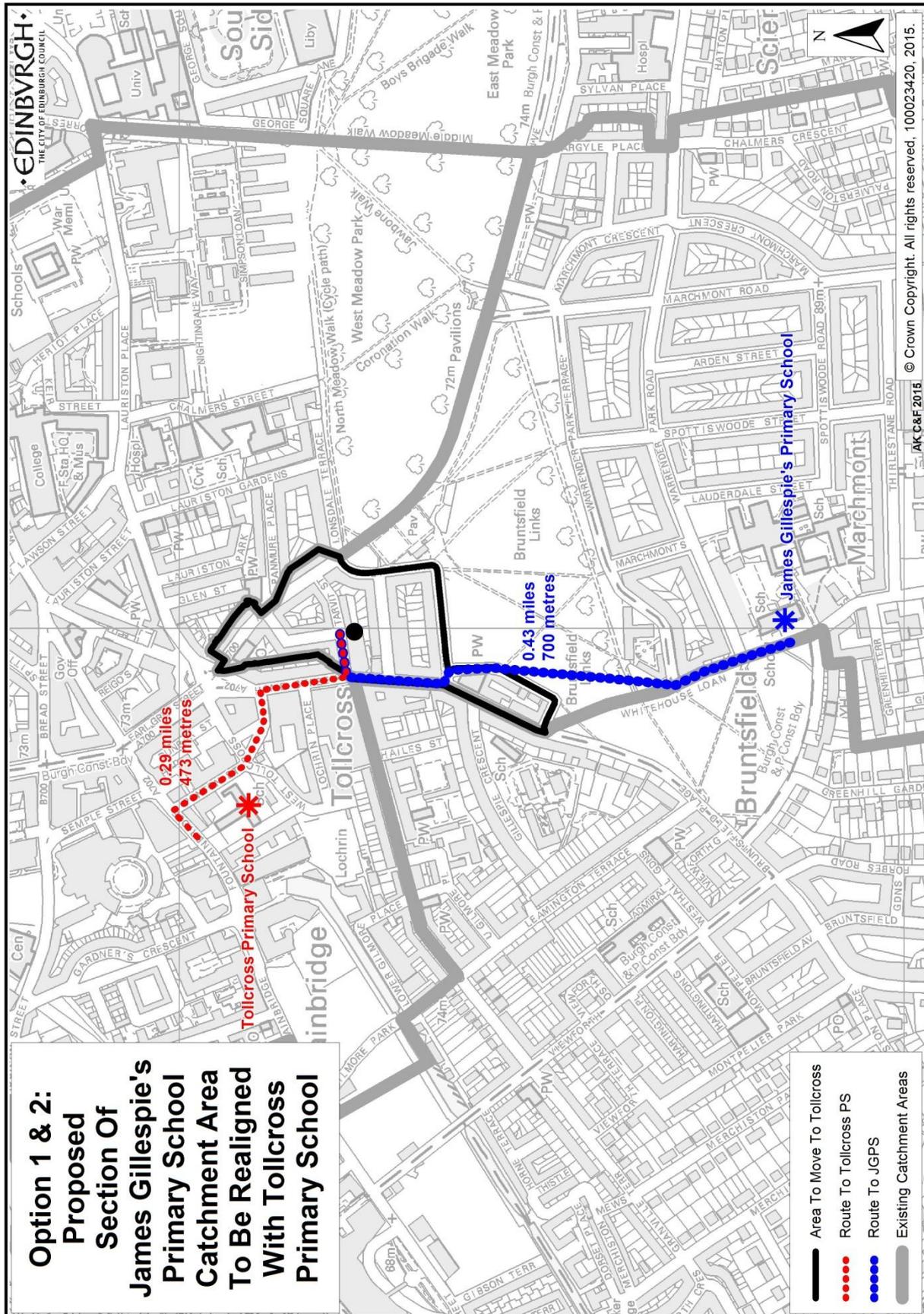
**Option (1): Proposed Sections Of South Morningside Primary School Catchment Area To Be Realigned With New School Catchment Area**

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AK C&F 2015

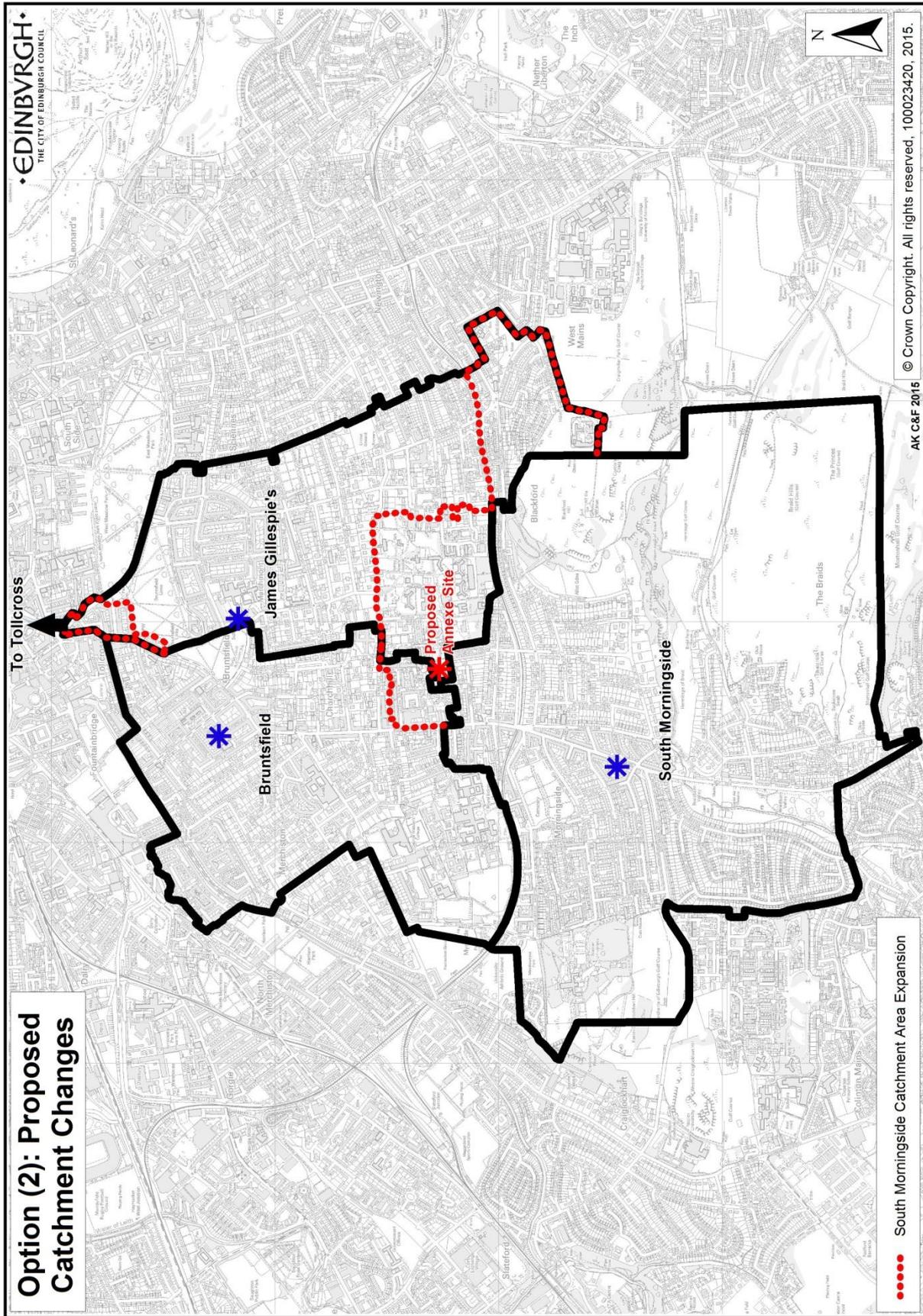
# APPENDIX 7 - Option 1: Travel Routes and Distances between Blackford Rise area and Proposed New School Site



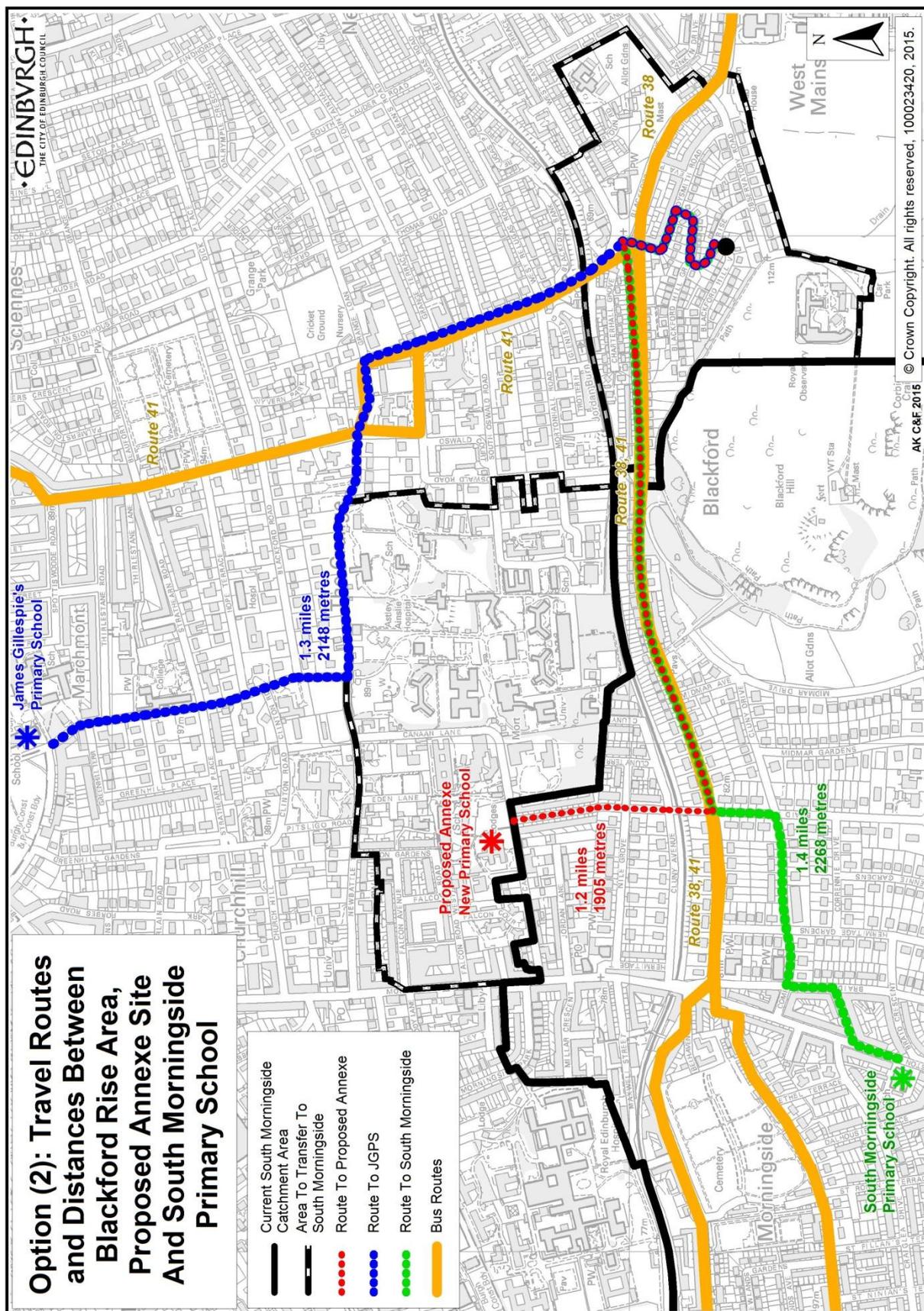
# APPENDIX 8 - Options 1 & 2: Proposed Section of James Gillespie's Primary School Catchment Area to be Realigned with Tollcross Primary School



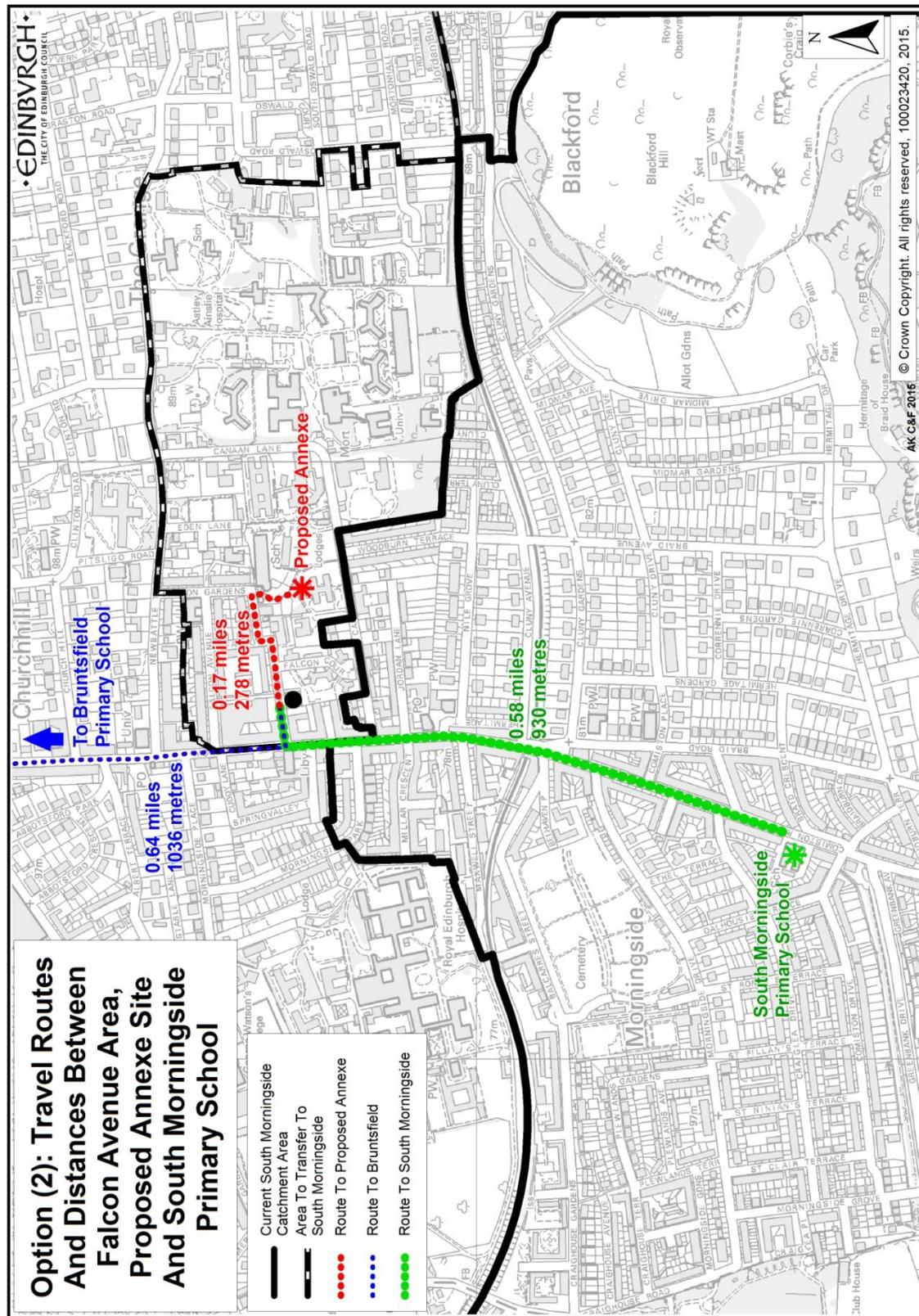
# APPENDIX 9 – Option 2: Proposed Catchment Changes



# APPENDIX 10 - Option 2: Travel Routes and Distances between Blackford Rise Area, Proposed Annexe Site and South Morningside Primary School



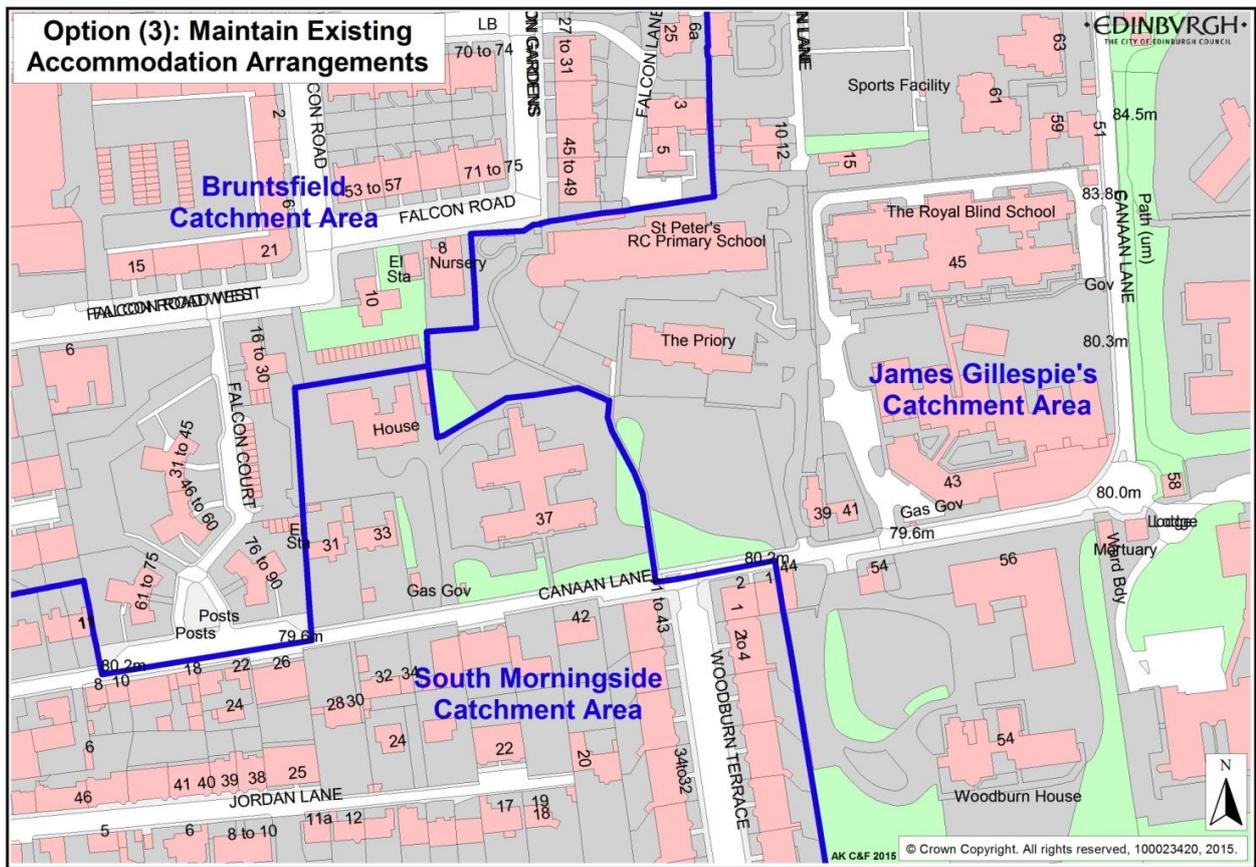
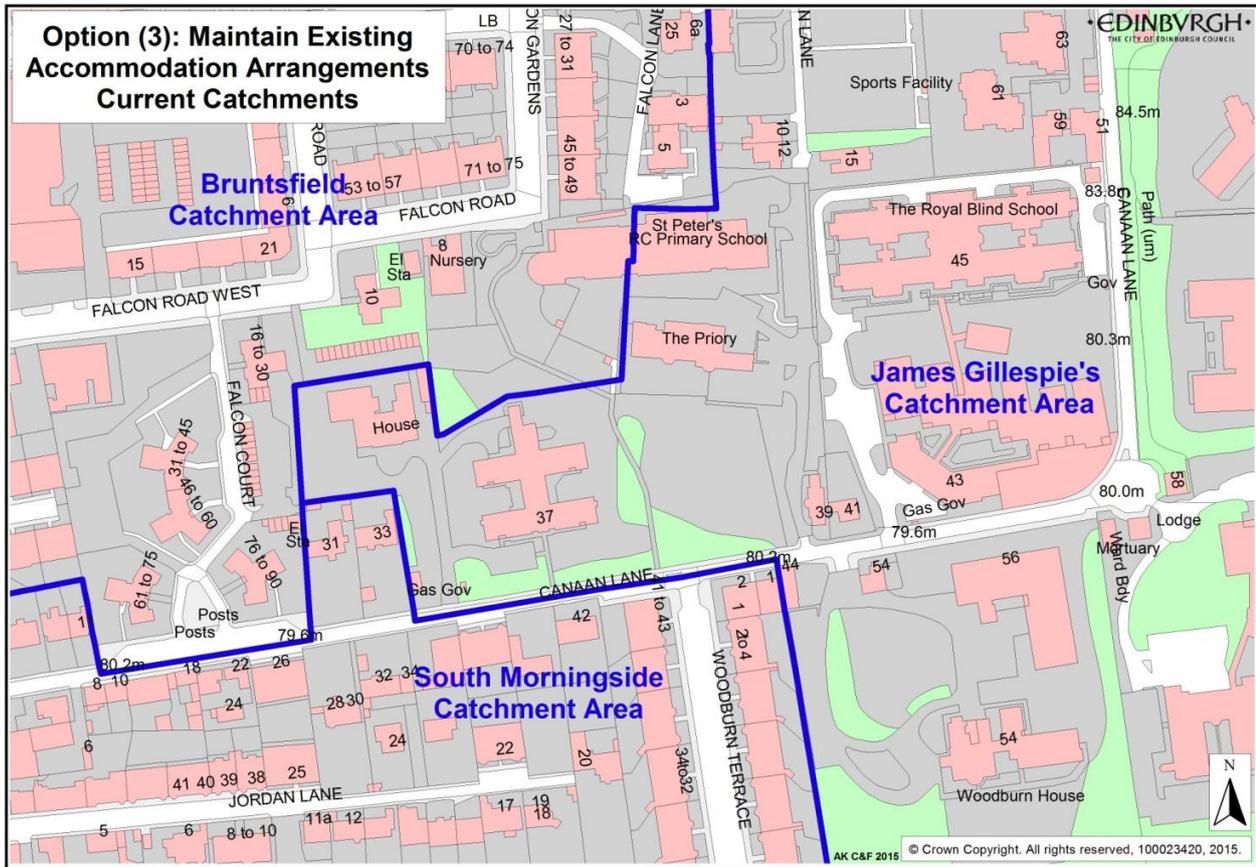
# APPENDIX 11 – Option 2: Travel Routes and Distances between Falcon Avenue Area, Proposed Annexe Site and South Morningside Primary School



# APPENDIX 12 - Option 3: Indicative Site Layout



# APPENDIX 13 – Option 3: Proposed Catchment Changes



## APPENDIX 14 – Revenue Costs

- 1.1 The building work required to progress the solution arising from this consultation is unlikely to be completed until August 2019. Projections of future demand for places from 2019 onwards are likely to be less accurate as they are based on city wide projections produced by the National Records for Scotland rather than being based on known birth data which can be broken down by catchment area. Accordingly, providing a precise analysis of revenue costs following the implementation of any of the options being considered is difficult to achieve.
- 1.2 Additionally, the most significant factor in the Children and Families Department's revenue expenditure relates to staffing – management, teaching and support staff – which is based on allocations according to catchment demand at individual schools. This makes forecasting the impact on the department's annual revenue expenditure especially difficult under Option 1 as the distribution of pupils between the schools will be dependent on the degree to which pupils from existing catchment areas transfer to the new school. This has the potential to affect all schools in the city.
- 1.3 At a very basic level, it could be assumed that a class formed at the new school would mean that the formation of a class in another school is not required. However, as the new school's classes could potentially be formed from small numbers of pupils transferring from many schools, the minor reduction in demand at another school may be insufficient to reduce the staffing requirement. Accordingly, in such circumstances the class offered at the new school would be additional revenue expenditure.
- 1.4 Conversely, reductions in pupils at different stages across several schools could result in a reduction in the number of team teachers required or classes formed at one or more schools across the estate thus making the formation of a class at the new school cost neutral or even offering a saving.
- 1.5 Furthermore the capacity offered at the new school will be dependent on the transfer rate from South Morningside Primary School which will be required to continue to operate with an annexe until such time as the roll reduces sufficiently to accommodate all pupils on the main school site. A reduced capacity at the new school may require the formation of more composite classes which will reduce the number of transfer requests that it may be possible to accept from pupils at other primary schools – including James Gillespie's and Bruntsfield.
- 1.6 Accordingly, under Option 1, the transitional period to establish the new school presents a high degree of uncertainty for staffing allocations and consequently for revenue expenditure. The transitional period will last until such time as the remaining larger classes have worked their way through the schools and the south Edinburgh schools are populated conventionally through catchment intakes. This transitional period could last for a full school cycle (seven years) following the establishment of the new school.
- 1.7 Following the transitional period it is anticipated that, due to the consistently high level of demand traditionally experienced in this area from both catchment and non-catchment pupils, all south Edinburgh schools will operate at their target capacity.

Current revenue expenditure between the three south Edinburgh schools (including all staffing and premises costs) is £4.9m per annum. The following table uses 2014/15 based cost data from the three south Edinburgh schools and data from comparator schools to estimate the additional revenue cost associated with each option. However, some of these additional revenue costs would be incurred regardless of the option chosen due to rising rolls at the affected schools. Accordingly, the net estimated additional revenue costs associated with each option reflect the revenue impact of future rising rolls. The cost estimates are based on schools operating at their class capacity under each option.

**South Edinburgh – Additional Revenue Costs (table on next page)**

|  |                            | Current Revenue Expenditure (2014/15 based)<br>(£'000) | OPTION        |               |               |               |               |
|--|----------------------------|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
|  |                            |  | 1(a)          | 1(b)          | 1(c)          | 2             | 3             |
|  |                            |  | (£'000)       | (£'000)       | (£'000)       | (£'000)       | (£'000)       |
| <b>Bruntsfield Primary Classes/Capacity Roll</b>                                 |                            | <b>19/566</b>  | <b>21/630</b> | <b>21/630</b> | <b>21/630</b> | <b>21/630</b> | <b>21/630</b> |
| Bruntsfield Primary Staffing Costs   | Management                 | 314  | 21            | 21            | 21            | 21            | 21            |
|  | Teaching                   | 797  | 185           | 185           | 185           | 185           | 185           |
|  | Other                      | 168  | 4             | 4             | 4             | 4             | 4             |
|  | <b>Staffing Total</b>      | <b>1,279</b>   | <b>210</b>    | <b>210</b>    | <b>210</b>    | <b>210</b>    | <b>210</b>    |
| Bruntsfield Primary Premises Costs   | Rates & Services           | 115  | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             |
|  | Utilities                  | 58   | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             |
|  | Repairs & Maintenance      | 67   | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             |
|  | <b>Premises Cost Total</b> | <b>240</b>   | <b>0</b>      | <b>0</b>      | <b>0</b>      | <b>0</b>      | <b>0</b>      |
| <b>Estimated Additional Revenue Costs for Bruntsfield Primary School</b>         |                            | <b>1,519</b>   | <b>210</b>    | <b>210</b>    | <b>210</b>    | <b>210</b>    | <b>210</b>    |
| <b>James Gillespie's Primary Classes/Roll</b>                                    |                            | <b>16/446</b>  | <b>15/434</b> | <b>15/434</b> | <b>15/434</b> | <b>15/434</b> | <b>19/504</b> |
| James Gillespie's Primary Staffing Costs   | Management                 | 250  | 9             | 9             | 9             | 9             | 76            |
|  | Teaching                   | 705  | 37            | 37            | 37            | 37            | 195           |
|  | Other                      | 241  | (22)          | (22)          | (22)          | (22)          | (3)           |
|  | <b>Staffing Total</b>      | <b>1,196</b>   | <b>24</b>     | <b>24</b>     | <b>24</b>     | <b>24</b>     | <b>268</b>    |
| James Gillespie's Primary Premises Costs <sup>1</sup>                            | Rates & Services           | 85   | (2)           | (2)           | (2)           | (2)           | 0             |
|  | Utilities                  | 78   | (4)           | (4)           | (4)           | (4)           | 0             |
|  | Repairs & Maintenance      | 55   | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             |
|  | <b>Premises Cost Total</b> | <b>218</b>   | <b>(6)</b>    | <b>(6)</b>    | <b>(6)</b>    | <b>(6)</b>    | <b>0</b>      |
| <b>Estimated Additional Revenue Costs for James Gillespie's Primary School</b>   |                            | <b>1,414</b>   | <b>18</b>     | <b>18</b>     | <b>18</b>     | <b>18</b>     | <b>268</b>    |
| <b>South Morningside Primary Classes/Roll</b>                                    |                            | <b>21/628</b>  | <b>15/434</b> | <b>15/434</b> | <b>15/434</b> | <b>29/840</b> | <b>21/630</b> |
| South Morningside Primary Staffing Costs   | Management                 | 318  | (59)          | (59)          | (59)          | 79            | 0             |
|  | Teaching                   | 1,066  | (324)         | (324)         | (372)         | 357           | 0             |
|  | Other                      | 289  | (70)          | (70)          | (161)         | 48            | 17            |
|  | <b>Staffing Total</b>      | <b>1,673</b>   | <b>(453)</b>  | <b>(453)</b>  | <b>(592)</b>  | <b>484</b>    | <b>17</b>     |
| South Morningside Primary Premises Costs   | Rates & Services           | 146  | (45)          | (45)          | (45)          | 108           | 40            |
|  | Utilities                  | 59   | (24)          | (24)          | (24)          | 17            | 11            |
|  | Repairs & Maintenance      | 58   | (17)          | (17)          | (17)          | 12            | 1             |
|  | Fairmilehead Lease         | 18   | 0             | 0             | (18)          | (18)          | (18)          |
|  | Deanbank House Lease       | 52   | (52)          | (52)          | (52)          | (52)          | (52)          |
| <b>Premises Cost Total</b>   | <b>333</b>                 | <b>(138)</b>   | <b>(138)</b>  | <b>(156)</b>  | <b>67</b>     | <b>(18)</b>   |               |
| <b>Estimated Additional Revenue Costs for South Morningside Primary School</b>   |                            | <b>2,006</b>   | <b>(591)</b>  | <b>(591)</b>  | <b>(591)</b>  | <b>551</b>    | <b>(1)</b>    |
| <b>New School Classes/Roll</b>   |                            | -  | <b>14/420</b> | <b>14/420</b> | <b>14/420</b> | -             | -             |
| New School Staffing Costs  | Management                 | -  | 258           | 258           | 258           | -             | -             |
|  | Teaching                   | -  | 643           | 691           | 691           | -             | -             |
|  | Other                      | -  | 125           | 216           | 216           | -             | -             |
|  | <b>Staffing Total</b>      | -  | <b>1,026</b>  | <b>1,165</b>  | <b>1,165</b>  | -             | -             |
| New School Premises Costs  | Rates & Services           | -  | 153           | 153           | 153           | -             | -             |
|  | Utilities                  | -  | 42            | 42            | 42            | -             | -             |
|  | Repairs & Maintenance      | -  | 30            | 30            | 30            | -             | -             |
|  | <b>Premises Cost Total</b> | -  | <b>225</b>    | <b>225</b>    | <b>225</b>    | -             | -             |
| <b>Estimated Additional Revenue Costs for New South Edinburgh Primary School</b> |                            | -  | <b>1,251</b>  | <b>1,390</b>  | <b>1,390</b>  | -             | -             |
| <b>Total Estimated Additional Revenue Costs for South Edinburgh Area</b>         |                            | <b>n/a</b>   | <b>888</b>    | <b>1,027</b>  | <b>870</b>    | <b>779</b>    | <b>477</b>    |
| <b>Minus Estimated Additional Revenue Costs of Rising Rolls</b>                  |                            | <b>n/a</b>   | <b>(478)</b>  | <b>(478)</b>  | <b>(478)</b>  | <b>(478)</b>  | <b>(478)</b>  |
| <b>NET ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL REVENUE COSTS/(SAVINGS)</b>                          |                            | <b>n/a</b>   | <b>410</b>    | <b>549</b>    | <b>392</b>    | <b>301</b>    | <b>(1)</b>    |

Table Notes:

- All costs based on 2014/15 figures.
- Each option assumes schools operating at their capacity.
- Figures for 2014/15 are actual expenditure while estimates for each option are based on budget costs (so a teaching position may be filled by a probationer on a lower salary scale than a teacher with greater experience but this would not be reflected in budget costs which assume a single grade).
- James Gillespie's Primary School 2014/15 expenditure adjusted to include for new Rising Rolls building (utilities and services) adjusted to reflect increased floor area.
- James Gillespie's Primary School premises costs for Options 1 (a, b &c) and 2 adjusted to reflect reduced floor area following removal of temporary unit.
- South Morningside Primary School premises costs for 2014/15 have been adjusted to include Deanbank's actual premises costs for 2014/15 but do not reflect removal of the two temporary units.
- For consistency lease costs provided for Deanbank are assumed at full year lease rate of £52k per annum (actual first year lease for 2014/15 is £39k)
- Option 1 premises costs (new school) are based on Currie Primary School.

## APPENDIX 15 – Analysis and Review of Nursery Proposals associated with all Options to Address Primary School Capacity and Accommodation Pressures in South Edinburgh

### Introduction

- 1.1 This appendix considers the impact on Early Years provision within the south Edinburgh area of each of the options being considered.

### Context

- 2.1 For the purposes of this process the south Edinburgh area is defined as encompassing the three primary school catchment areas covered by Bruntsfield, James Gillespie’s and South Morningside Primary Schools. This area includes the following City of Edinburgh Council Early Years services:
- James Gillespie’s Primary School Nursery Classes
  - South Morningside Primary School Nursery Classes
  - St Peter’s RC Primary School Nursery Classes
  - Viewforth Early Years Centre
- 2.2 While the nursery classes at South Morningside Primary School are managed and administered from South Morningside Primary School, the nursery classes themselves are located at Fairmilehead Church approximately 2.4km from the main school building, almost 1km outside the area defined in this consultation paper as “south Edinburgh”.
- 2.3 In addition to Early Years services managed by the Council, 17 partner providers also offer services in the south Edinburgh area. These are mainly concentrated in areas north of the South Morningside Primary School catchment area, principally around Bruntsfield Place and Holy Corner.

### Capacity

- 3.1 The table below shows the capacity provided at each of the Council’s current Early Years facilities for pre-school (four year old) and ante pre-school (three year old) children and the number of places occupied as at June 2015. Roll data from the summer term is considered to be a better indicator of demand as it includes the total demand recorded through each of the three nursery intake points during the year (August, January and April).

| CEC Early Years Facility                         | Building Capacity (P/T Places) | Roll (P/T Places - June 2015) |
|--|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| James Gillespie’s Primary School Nursery Classes | 80                             | 80                            |
| South Morningside Primary School Nursery Classes | 60                             | 47                            |
| St Peter’s RC Primary School Nursery Classes     | 60                             | 60                            |
| <b>Total</b>                                     | <b>200</b>                     | <b>187</b>                    |

- 3.2 The majority of spare places available at South Morningside Primary School nursery classes are afternoon places and the availability of places through the school year in these classes in the afternoon session is a common occurrence. Anecdotally it is believed that this may be due to the location of the nursery and the difficulties faced by parents in collecting their primary aged children from the main South Morningside site and then getting to the nursery on time.
- 3.3 Viewforth Early Years Centre is not included in the table above as it will mainly accommodate children younger than three years olds which will cause the capacity for three year olds to vary. The number of four year olds at the centre is usually small.
- 3.4 Data suggests that partner providers operating in the south Edinburgh area offer around 880 places, 75% of which were occupied in June 2015. However, this data should be treated with caution as it also includes provision of places and capacity for under three's which, due to the way roll and capacity data is recorded, cannot be separated from roll and capacity figures for three to five year olds. Accordingly, it is not possible to accurately assess the number of places specifically provided by partner providers for three to five year old children or the number of places available.

### **Future Demand**

- 4.1 The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 placed a requirement on local authorities to expand free nursery provision from 475 hours to 600 hours a year for all three and four year olds and for certain two year olds. The Scottish Government made additional capital funding available to all Local Authorities aligned to the extended entitlements arising from the Act. In order to oversee the development of proposals for the most effective use of the £9.9m of additional capital funding made available to City of Edinburgh Council, an officer working group involving representatives from Early Years and Asset Planning in Children and Families and Corporate Property in Services for Communities was formed in June 2014.
- 4.2 This group identified a number of priorities for investment based on an analysis of the likely demand for services using figures provided by the Scottish Government and a review of the current estate including an initial assessment of development feasibility. Likely demand for places in the south Edinburgh area was not considered to be great relative to the needs of other areas of the city. Accordingly, investment in Early Years facilities has not been prioritised in the south Edinburgh area.
- 4.3 Birth data for the south Edinburgh area as a whole shows relative stability with the birth rate maintained at a reasonably consistent level between 2010 and 2014 which is in line with the pattern at a citywide level. Unlike at primary level where catchment boundaries and the cumulative effect of higher intake rates are significant factors in creating accommodation pressures, this pattern would not suggest significant growth on current levels of demand for Early Years Services in future years.
- 4.4 However, the Council anticipates that further changes in The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act are likely in the future which would increase the number of hours of early learning and childcare that the authority is required to provide. This may result in significant reductions in the availability of spaces if new additional accommodation is not provided.

## Options Analysis

- 5.1 The following section considers each of the options to address primary school capacity and accommodation pressures in south Edinburgh in turn, highlighting what the Council believes to be the arguments for and against each proposal from an Early Years perspective.

**Option 1 – Establish a new primary school** on the combined site of the existing South Morningside Primary School Deanbank temporary annexe and the Oaklands Care Home on Canaan Lane incorporating sections of the Bruntsfield, James Gillespie’s and South Morningside Primary School catchment areas. This option would also require the northern tip of the James Gillespie’s Primary School catchment area to be realigned with Tollcross Primary School and would further involve either:

- a. **not including a nursery** as part of the new school building due to the retention of the existing nursery classes of South Morningside Primary School currently based at Fairmilehead Church Hall;
- b. **including a nursery** as part of the new school building and retaining the capacity currently provided by the nursery classes of South Morningside Primary School based at Fairmilehead Church Hall; or
- c. **including a nursery** as part of the new school building to replace the capacity currently provided by the nursery classes of South Morningside Primary School based at Fairmilehead Church Hall and necessitating the closure of that facility.

### Option 1a: New School but no New Nursery

#### Arguments For Option 1a

- The actual delivery of the provision for children in the South Morningside nursery class on its current site is of high quality.
- South Morningside Primary School’s nursery classes have successfully operated from Fairmilehead Church for eight years.
- The staff at South Morningside Primary School have worked hard to ensure positive transition experiences for children and to ensure that they feel part of the wider school in spite of the split site arrangement.
- Parents and the school have established procedures to address the logistics of operating across split sites and, under Option 1a, this situation would be improved by the removal of South Morningside Primary School’s annexe building, thus reducing the difficulties faced by school management and parents with pupils at three separate sites.
- Not providing nursery classes at the new school would increase the size of the play area available to primary pupils attending the new school by over 600m<sup>2</sup>.
- Not providing nursery classes at the new school would reduce the potential traffic pressures on Canaan Lane and the surrounding area.
- Nursery classes are already available at the adjacent St Peter’s RC Primary

School. Unlike the primary schools with which they might be associated, all nursery classes are non-denominational. Providing new classes at a new primary school would not provide a geographic spread of Early Years facilities or be cost effective in terms of the management and running costs associated with adjacent facilities providing the same services.

- Not providing a nursery at the new school would not be unusual. There are a number of primary schools across the city that do not operate their own nursery classes and where positive examples of transition can be seen (e.g. Bruntsfield Primary School or Sciennes Primary School).

#### Arguments **Against** Option 1a

- Option 1a maintains the separation between South Morningside Primary School's nursery classes and the main school building. While staff at South Morningside Primary School work hard to ensure positive transition experiences for children between the nursery classes at Fairmilehead and P1 and to ensure that pupils feel part of the wider school community, the additional time spent by staff and management overcoming the challenge that a split site represents could be focused on developing other aspects of the service delivery. In addition to the above, challenges include:
  - ensuring the effective and efficient delivery of support from the senior management team;
  - maintaining naturalistic contact between the rest of the school and the nursery;
  - effectively delivering a whole 3 -12 approach for children and their families;
  - integrating nursery staff and early primary level staff in a single staff team and ensuring ease of communication between those responsible across the early level provides opportunities for staff to share experiences and learning and be involved in developing active learning opportunities.
- By maintaining South Morningside Primary School's nursery classes at Fairmilehead, Option 1a also does not address the difficulties currently faced by the majority of parents managing the logistics of pick up and drop off at two separate sites.
- In addition to the cost of the lease at Fairmilehead and the continuity risks associated with tenancy rather than ownership of the facility, there are existing additional staffing costs to mitigate some of the challenges related to daily set up and pack up activity in a church hall which is not solely used for nursery classes. Option 1a will not reduce these costs or remove the risks associated with tenancy.
- Option 1a does not provide any additional Early Years capacity within the south Edinburgh area of the city. Accordingly, it does not provide a means of future proofing against the changes that may be necessary in Early Years estate capacity to address the anticipated increase in the number of hours of early

learning and childcare that the authority may be required to provide.

- As well as maintaining separation of the nursery classes at South Morningside Primary School from the main school building, by not delivering Early Years services as part of the new school building an opportunity to offer a fuller, richer and more complete learning environment to pre-school pupils in the city will be missed because the new school will not:
  - provide for the whole early level (i.e. nursery through primary 1) on the same site, thus it will not offer continuity of experience for children or increase opportunities for seamless transition;
  - provide nursery pupils with access to the additional resources that a new primary school can offer such as access to halls, general purpose spaces, larger outdoor areas, additional rooms for meetings and parent liaison work and the P1 resources that may benefit gifted children requiring additional challenge through differentiated experiences; afford parents of pupils attending the new school with the convenience of drop off and pick up in one place if they have younger siblings;
  - allow pre-school children access to their siblings attending the new school.

### **Option 1b: New School including New Nursery and retaining existing South Morningside Primary School Nursery**

#### **Arguments For Option 1b**

- The actual delivery of the provision for children in the South Morningside nursery class on its current site is of high quality.
- South Morningside Primary School's nursery classes have successfully operated from Fairmilehead Church for eight years.
- The staff at South Morningside Primary School have worked hard to ensure positive transition experiences for children and to ensure that they feel part of the wider school in spite of the split site arrangement.
- Despite the difficulties associated with a split site, parents will continue to choose to send their child to South Morningside Primary School's nursery classes because they are closely associated with the primary school and because of the points outlined above. Parents and the school have established procedures to address the logistics of operating across split sites and, under Option 1b this situation will be improved by the removal of South Morningside Primary School's annexe building, thus reducing the difficulties faced by school management and parents with pupils at three separate sites.
- Option 1b provides additional Early Years capacity within this area of the city. Accordingly, it provides a means of future proofing against the changes that may be necessary in Early Years estate capacity to address the anticipated increase in the number of hours of early learning and childcare that the

authority may be required to provide;

- The educational benefits of including a nursery as part of the new school are as follows:
  - the school will provide for the whole early level (i.e. nursery through primary 1) on the same site, thus it will offer continuity of experience for children and increase opportunities for seamless transition;
  - it will provide nursery pupils with access to the additional resources that a new primary school can offer such as access to halls, general purpose spaces, larger outdoor areas, additional rooms for meetings and parent liaison work and the P1 resources that may benefit gifted children requiring additional challenge through differentiated experiences;
  - it will afford parents of pupils at the new school with the convenience of drop off and pick up in one place;
  - it will allow pre-school children access to their siblings;
  - it will create a single, integrated and co-located staff team delivering nursery and primary education thus providing an environment conducive to:
    - the effective and efficient delivery of support to all staff from the senior management team;
    - close and easy communication between those responsible across the early level, providing opportunities for staff to share experiences and learning and be involved in developing active learning opportunities.

#### Arguments **Against** Option 1b

- Option 1b maintains the separation between South Morningside Primary School's nursery classes and the main school building. While staff at South Morningside Primary School work hard to ensure positive transition experiences for children between the nursery classes at Fairmilehead and P1 and to ensure that pupils feel part of the wider school community, the additional time spent by staff and management overcoming the challenge that a split site represents could be focused on developing other aspects of the service delivery. In addition to the above, challenges include:
  - ensuring the effective and efficient delivery of support from the senior management team;
  - maintaining naturalistic contact between the rest of the school and the nursery;
  - effectively delivering a whole 3 -12 approach for children and their families;
  - integrating nursery staff and early primary level staff in a single staff team and ensuring that communication between those responsible across the early level provides opportunities for staff to share experiences and learning and be involved in developing active learning opportunities.
- By maintaining South Morningside Primary School's nursery classes at

Fairmilehead, Option 1a also does not address the difficulties currently faced by the majority of parents managing the logistics of pick up and drop off at two separate sites.

- In addition to the cost of the lease at Fairmilehead and the continuity risks associated with tenancy rather than ownership of the facility, there are existing additional staffing costs to mitigate some of the challenges related to daily set up and pack up activity in a church hall used purposes other than nursery classes. Option 1b will not reduce these costs or remove the risks associated with tenancy.
- The cost associated with delivery of a new nursery as part of the new primary school is over £0.8m. The cost of staffing and running this new facility is estimated to be around £140k per annum. The south Edinburgh area is not considered a priority in terms of Early Years investment. Accordingly, this funding may be better focused in areas of greater need.
- Providing nursery classes at the new school would reduce the size of the play area available to primary pupils attending the new school by over 600m<sup>2</sup>.
- Providing nursery classes at the new school would increase the traffic pressures on Canaan Lane and the surrounding area.
- Nursery classes are already available at the adjacent St Peter's RC Primary School. Unlike the primary schools with which they might be associated, all nursery classes are non-denominational. Providing new classes at a new primary school would not provide a geographic spread of Early Years facilities or be cost effective in terms of the management and running costs associated with adjacent facilities providing the same services.
- Option 1b provides more nursery places in the area than are currently required. Accordingly, in the short-term at least, it is an unnecessary investment. In the long term a possible requirement for the Council to provide more hours of early learning and childcare may make the off site nature of the South Morningside Primary School nursery classes less of an issue.
- Additional capacity in this area may also have a detrimental impact on demand for places at South Morningside Primary School's nursery classes which are located further from the main South Morningside Primary School site than the new nursery classes would be.

Although it is anticipated that the South Morningside Primary School community would want to retain their own nursery classes and the new school community would wish to have nursery classes of their own, there are a number of primary schools across the city which do not have nursery classes and where positive examples of transition can be cited (e.g. Bruntsfield Primary School or Sciennes Primary School).

## Option 1c: New School including New Nursery and closing existing South Morningside Primary School Nursery

### Arguments For Option 1c

- The educational benefits of including a nursery as part of the new school are as follows:
  - the school will provide for the whole early level (i.e. nursery through primary 1) on the same site, thus it will offer continuity of experience for children and increase opportunities for seamless transition;
  - it will provide nursery pupils with access to the additional resources that a new primary school can offer such as access to halls, general purpose spaces, larger outdoor areas, additional rooms for meetings and parent liaison work and the P1 resources that may benefit gifted children requiring additional challenge through differentiated experiences;
  - it will afford parents with the convenience of drop off and pick up in one place;
  - it will allow pre-school children access to their siblings;
  - it will create a single, integrated and co-located staff team delivering nursery and primary education thus providing an environment conducive to:
    - the effective and efficient delivery of support to all staff from the senior management team;
    - close and easy communication between those responsible across the early level, providing opportunities for staff to share experiences and learning and be involved in developing active learning opportunities.
- With the closure of the nursery classes and removal of the annexe, South Morningside Primary School would operate from a single site and would no longer face the challenges associated with operating across three sites.
- The nursery classes at the new school would be considerably closer to South Morningside Primary School than Fairmilehead reducing the logistical challenge faced by parents dropping off at the main South Morningside Primary School site and nursery classes.
- Although it is anticipated that the South Morningside Primary School community would want to retain their own nursery classes, there are a number of primary schools across the city where this is not the case and where positive examples of transition can be cited (e.g. Bruntsfield Primary School or Sciennes Primary School).
- Option 1c removes the costs and the continuity risks associated with tenancy at Fairmilehead Church and the additional staffing costs currently incurred to mitigate some of the challenges related to daily set up and pack up activity in a church hall used for purposes other than nursery classes.

- The cost of running the nursery associated with the new school would, in part, be offset against the cost reduction following the closure of South Morningside Primary School's nursery classes.

#### Arguments **Against** Option 1c

- The provision for children in South Morningside Primary's nursery classes is of high quality and this would be lost.
- South Morningside Primary School will no longer provide for the whole early level, thus it will no longer offer any form of continuity of experience for children, reducing the efficiency of the transitional processes that school management and staff have worked hard to develop despite the challenges presented by a split site.
- South Morningside Primary School's nursery classes are considered to be an integral part of the school community and, despite their location, continue to attract pupils from South Morningside Primary School's catchment area.
- Option 1c provides only 20 additional nursery places within this area of the city. Accordingly, it provides only a limited future proofing against the changes that may be necessary in Early Years estate capacity to address the anticipated increase in the number of hours of early learning and childcare that the authority may be required to provide;
- The cost associated with delivery of a new nursery as part of the new primary school is over £0.8m yet the increase in capacity offered by the new facility will be only 20 places greater than the existing provision made at South Morningside Primary School's nursery classes. The south Edinburgh area is not considered a priority in terms of Early Years investment. Accordingly, this funding may be better focused in areas of greater need.
- Providing nursery classes at the new school will reduce the size of the play area available to primary pupils attending the new school by over 600m<sup>2</sup>.
- Providing nursery classes at the new school will increase the traffic pressures on Canaan Lane and the surrounding area.
- Nursery classes are already available at the adjacent St Peter's RC Primary School. Unlike the primary schools with which they might be associated, all nursery classes are non-denominational. Providing new classes at a new primary school would not provide a geographic spread of Early Years facilities or be cost effective in terms of the management and running costs associated with adjacent facilities providing the same services. Accordingly, Option 1c does not help the council fulfil its duty to secure best value in the delivery of its services.

**Option 2 – Increase the capacity of South Morningside Primary School** to four streams by establishing a permanent annexe of South Morningside Primary School accommodating the nursery to P3 stages on the combined site of the existing Deanbank temporary annexe and the Oaklands Care Home on Canaan Lane. This

would require the existing South Morningside Primary School catchment to be extended to incorporate sections of the Bruntsfield and James Gillespie's Primary School catchment areas and would also require the northern tip of the James Gillespie's Primary School catchment area to be realigned with Tollcross Primary School.

## **Option 2: Expand South Morningside Capacity**

### **Arguments For Option 2**

- The educational benefits of Option 2, which co-locate South Morningside Primary School's nursery classes and early levels on the same site in a new building are as follows:
  - greater potential to meet children's learning and development needs more effectively through provision of modern, dedicated facilities with enhanced security;
  - provision on a single campus for the whole early level (i.e. nursery through primary 1) will offer continuity of experience for children and increase opportunities for seamless transition;
  - it will provide nursery pupils with access to the additional resources that a new primary school can offer such as access to halls, general purpose spaces, larger outdoor areas, additional rooms for meetings and parent liaison work and the P1 resources that may benefit gifted children requiring additional challenge through differentiated experiences;
  - it will allow more pre-school children from South Morningside Primary School greater access to their siblings;
  - it will create a single, integrated and co-located early level staff team delivering nursery and primary education thus providing an environment conducive to:
    - improved delivery of support to all staff from the senior management team;
    - close and easy communication between those responsible across the early level, providing opportunities for staff to share experiences and learning and be involved in developing active learning opportunities.
- Option 2 will reduce the number of drop-off locations for parents with more than one child attending South Morningside Primary School and will reduce the distance between South Morningside Primary School's main building and nursery provision;
- Option 2 will increase the nursery capacity offered by South Morningside Primary School by 20 places;
- South Morningside Primary School's current nursery classes are in an adapted church hall that is not dedicated for nursery use. The creation of a new purpose-built facility has the potential to provide a stimulating and positive

environment for learning and bring about improvements to the quality of children's learning experiences.

- Option 2 removes the costs and the continuity risks associated with tenancy at Fairmilehead Church and the additional staffing costs currently incurred to mitigate some of the challenges related to daily set up and pack up activity in a church hall used for purposes other than nursery classes.

#### Arguments **Against** Option 2

- Nursery classes are already available at the adjacent St Peter's RC Primary School. Unlike the primary schools with which they might be associated, all nursery classes are non-denominational. Providing new classes at a new primary school would not provide a geographic spread of Early Years facilities or be cost effective in terms of the management and running costs associated with adjacent facilities providing the same services. Accordingly, Option 2 does not help the council fulfil its duty to secure best value in the delivery of its services.
- The cost associated with delivery of a new nursery as part of the new primary school is over £0.8m yet the increase in capacity offered by the new facility will be only 20 places greater than the existing provision made at South Morningside Primary School's nursery classes. The south Edinburgh area is not considered a priority in terms of Early Years investment. Accordingly, this funding may be better focused in areas of greater need.
- Providing nursery classes at the new school will reduce the size of the play area available to primary pupils attending the new school by over 600m<sup>2</sup>.
- Providing nursery classes at the new school will increase the traffic pressures on Canaan Lane and the surrounding area.
- Nursery classes are already available at the adjacent St Peter's RC Primary School. Unlike the primary schools with which they might be associated, all nursery classes are non-denominational. Providing new classes at a new primary school would not provide a geographic spread of Early Years facilities or be cost effective in terms of the management and running costs associated with adjacent facilities providing the same services. Accordingly, Option 2 does not help the council fulfil its duty to secure best value in the delivery of its services.

**Option 3 – Maintain and improve existing accommodation arrangements** by permanently establishing South Morningside Primary School's Deanbank temporary annexe including the provision of a new gym, the relocation of the South Morningside Primary School nursery to the Deanbank site and a minor catchment change to incorporate the combined site of the existing temporary Deanbank temporary annexe and the Oaklands Care Home within the South Morningside Primary School catchment area.

### Option 3: Maintain Existing Arrangements

#### Arguments **For** Option 3

The arguments for Option 3 are the same as set out above for Option 2.

#### Arguments **Against** Option 3

The arguments against Option 3 are the same as set out above for Option 2.

## **Appendix 16 – Inspection, Attainment and Achievement Information for South Edinburgh Primary Schools**

1.1 The benefits associated with each option, including those stemming from proposed changes in accommodation at each school are considered in detail in sections 4, 5 and 6 of the main report. The following sections provide an overview of the inspection reports and the educational attainment and achievements of each of the schools affected by proposals for catchment change.

### **Education Scotland School Inspection Reports**

1.2 The following table summarises the evaluation of quality indicators in the inspection reports undertaken by Education Scotland or the Council's Quality Improvement Officers for each school. It should be noted that the inspection dates vary considerably.

**Table 1: Education Scotland Evaluation of Quality Indicators at South Edinburgh Schools**

| <b>Evaluation Criteria</b>                  | <b>Bruntsfield</b>            | <b>James Gillespie's</b>          | <b>South Morningside</b>         | <b>Tollcross</b>                    |
|---|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Date of Evaluations                         | Aug 2014<br>(Self Evaluation) | June 2014<br>(Education Scotland) | Dec 2009<br>(Education Scotland) | August 2010<br>(Education Scotland) |
| <b>Primary School</b>                       |                               |                                   |                                  |                                     |
| Learners' experiences                       | Very good                     | Very good                         | Good                             | Good                                |
| Improvements in performance                 | Very good                     | Very good                         | Good                             | Very good                           |
| Meeting Learning needs                      | Good                          | Good                              | Good                             | Very good                           |
| <b>Nursery Class</b>                        |                               |                                   |                                  |                                     |
| Children's experiences                      | N/A                           | Satisfactory                      | Satisfactory                     | N/A                                 |
| Improvements in performance                 | N/A                           | Satisfactory                      | Good                             | N/A                                 |
| Meeting Learning needs                      | N/A                           | Satisfactory                      | Good                             | N/A                                 |
| <b>Work of the school and nursery class</b> |                               |                                   |                                  |                                     |
| The curriculum                              | Good                          | Good                              | Good                             | Good                                |
| Improvement through self-evaluation         | Very good                     | Good                              | Satisfactory                     | Good                                |

- 1.3 The evaluation of quality indicators shows that all schools received positive inspections.
- 1.4 Internal follow through reports undertaken by Quality Improvement Officers from the Children and Families Department, concluded that all schools continue to provide a good/very good standard of education and that any necessary improvements have been made following the Education Scotland evaluation.
- 1.5 In particular the evaluations of South Morningside Primary School are all now judged to be very good and evaluation of improvements through self evaluation for Tollcross Primary School is also judged to be very good.
- 1.6 Bruntsfield Primary School was last inspected in October 2007. Under the criterion being evaluated at that time the school received three very good, nine good and three adequate but given the time since the previous inspection, it now has limited value. The subsequent follow through report undertaken in 2009 indicated that was position was now good and very good evaluations. The information in the above table relates to a full evaluation carried out in 2014 by Quality Improvement Officers.

## Educational Attainment and Achievement

- 1.7 With the introduction of the Curriculum for Excellence, there is no one national measure of attainment and achievement for primary schools. The City of Edinburgh Council uses a range of information to report on attainment and improvements in performance for its primary schools and pupils. The measurements used include evaluations using Quality Indicators, standardised assessments, Curriculum for Excellence levels and wider achievement.
- 1.8 For the purposes of this report, in order to provide a comparative assessment additional attainment data has been produced for Bruntsfield, James Gillespie's, South Morningside and Tollcross primary schools.
- 1.9 The data is derived from standardised assessments of pupils at each school at P1, P4 and P7 using nationally applied criterion over the last three years (2012/13; 2013/14 and 2014/15). This allows for a comparison to be made between schools over time, using mean standard scores. Tables 2, 3 and 4 (below) show the mean standard assessment scores for the schools along with the city average for comparative purposes.
- 1.10 The P1 data provides an evaluation of the baseline literacy and numeracy skills of pupils that have started schools aged 4 and 5. Assessment tests in reading and mathematics at both P4 and P7 help to monitor the change in attainment as pupil progress through primary school.

**Table 2(a): P1 Baseline Literacy**

| Primary School      | 2012-13    | 2013-14    | 2014-15    |
|---------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Bruntsfield         | 113        | 115        | 109        |
| James Gillespie     | 111        | 109        | 109        |
| South Morningside   | 109        | 108        | 111        |
| Tollcross           | 98         | 99         | 103        |
| <b>City Average</b> | <b>103</b> | <b>103</b> | <b>103</b> |

**Table 2(b): P1 Baseline Numeracy**

| 2012-13    | 2013-14    | 2014-15    |
|------------|------------|------------|
| 113        | 113        | 109        |
| 109        | 108        | 108        |
| 110        | 108        | 111        |
| 105        | 102        | 104        |
| <b>106</b> | <b>106</b> | <b>105</b> |

**Table 3(a): P4 Reading**

| Primary School      | 2012-13    | 2013-14   | 2014-15    |
|---------------------|------------|-----------|------------|
| Bruntsfield         | 110        | 114       | 114        |
| James Gillespie     | 116        | 112       | 107        |
| South Morningside   | 115        | 108       | 107        |
| Tollcross           | 103        | 101       | 106        |
| <b>City Average</b> | <b>102</b> | <b>99</b> | <b>100</b> |

**Table 3(b): P4 Mathematics**

| 2012-13   | 2013-14   | 2014-15   |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 103       | 110       | 108       |
| 106       | 104       | 105       |
| 104       | 100       | 102       |
| 100       | 94        | 107       |
| <b>96</b> | <b>94</b> | <b>96</b> |

**Table 4(a): P7 Reading**

| Primary School      | 2012-13    | 2013-14    | 2014-15    |
|---------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Bruntsfield         | 104        | 116        | 120        |
| James Gillespie     | 112        | 116        | 116        |
| South Morningside   | 112        | 113        | 115        |
| Tollcross           | 106        | 106        | 112        |
| <b>City Average</b> | <b>101</b> | <b>104</b> | <b>105</b> |

**Table 4(b): P7 Mathematics**

| 2012-13   | 2013-14   | 2014-15   |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 99        | 109       | 112       |
| 99        | 105       | 104       |
| 105       | 99        | 103       |
| 103       | 103       | 101       |
| <b>94</b> | <b>95</b> | <b>96</b> |

### *P1 Baseline Literacy and Numeracy*

1.11 All four schools generally have pupils entering school with attainment levels in both literacy and numeracy above or very close to the city average.

### *P4 Reading and Mathematics assessment tests*

1.12 These tests indicate that pupils at P4 in all of the four schools are performing above not only the city average but in most cases are performing above the standard set by the test.

### *P7 Reading and Mathematics assessment tests*

1.13 In reading, pupils in P7 across all the four schools are performing above the city average and above the standard set by the test. In mathematics all four schools are performing above the city wide average and in most cases are performing above the standard set by the test.



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