



Care, Learning and Wellbeing

A PROPOSAL DOCUMENT

Potential Relocation of Tarbolton Primary School and Nursery School and Proposed Closure and Re- designation of Tarbolton Nursery School to Tarbolton Primary Nursery Class

The following schools are affected by this proposal document;

**Tarbolton Primary School, Tarbolton
Tarbolton Nursery School, Tarbolton**

March 2014 (Amended)

This document has been issued by South Ayrshire Council's Leadership Panel for consultation under the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010

1. Purpose of the Paper

- 1.1 This proposal paper is being published in accordance with the requirements of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010. The proposals contained in this document seek to consider the relocation of Tarbolton Primary and Nursery School to a more central site within the village of Tarbolton to be part of a new community campus and to close and re-designate Tarbolton Nursery School as a Nursery Class.

2.0 The Proposal

The proposal is:

- 2.1 to consider the potential relocation of Tarbolton Primary School and Nursery School to an alternative central site within the village of Tarbolton to be part of a new community campus, and
- 2.2 to close and re-designate Tarbolton Nursery School as a Nursery Class, and
- 2.3 that the above changes will take effect on the completion of the new community campus facility which is expected to be ready in early 2016.

3.0 Background

- 3.1 In 2001 the proposed refurbishment of Tarbolton Primary School was included in South Ayrshire Council's bid for funding under the Scottish Public Private Partnership programme. The funding available to the Council was insufficient to deliver all of the projects included in the bid and therefore the Tarbolton project, which was considered unsuitable for the PPP programme was subsequently removed. The project was then to be considered for inclusion in the Council's own capital investment programme.
- 3.2 In 2007 South Ayrshire Council commenced a fundamental review of its school estate which involved extensive engagement with schools and communities. The outcome of the review process was captured in the report "Planning for Improvement: A Report on the Fundamental Review of the school Estate" which was approved by the Council in 2009. During engagement with the Tarbolton community in June 2009 the proposal for a community campus emerged.

Following an options appraisal exercise in 2009, a further meeting was held with the Tarbolton community to consider the options for creating a community campus bringing together primary and nursery provision, community facilities, sports, leisure and health facilities and the village library. The outcome of this engagement confirmed support for a community campus.

The provision of a community campus is an identified project in the Council's School Estate Management Plan and in December 2012 the Council agreed to fund the building of a new school from its 2013-18 capital programme with the possible rationalisation of other services into a single community campus. The main funding for the project will be released in 2014/15 and 2015/16.

- 3.3 During the first part of 2013 the Scottish Futures Trust, in partnership with South Ayrshire Council facilitated a number of placemaking workshops. The workshops recognised the Council's investment as a "once in a lifetime" opportunity for the

village and therefore focussed on how to get the best from the funding available. A report on the outcome from the workshops is available from the Council's website at www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/schools/future-needs/tarbolton.aspx.

4.0 Education in South Ayrshire Council

- 4.1 Education provision within South Ayrshire is currently delivered through 8 secondary schools, 41 primary schools, 2 special schools and integrated specialist provision for children and young people with additional support needs at a number of schools. Early years provision is delivered through 4 nursery schools, 27 nursery classes and 11 partnership nurseries.
- 4.2 South Ayrshire Council's vision document 'Securing the Future for South Ayrshire' confirms the commitment of the Council to provide a positive learning environment that motivates young people. Improving the school estate is central to this commitment.
- 4.3 The quality of learning and teaching in South Ayrshire is considered to be very good and has been highlighted in many school inspections carried out by Education Scotland. In its Assurance and Improvement Plan for 2013-16, Audit Scotland commented that "The Education service performs well and displays a high level of engagement with national initiatives. Almost all primary school children are attaining expected levels and young people at S4, S5 and S6 perform strongly in SQA examinations".
- 4.4 In addition to its very successful Public Private Partnership programme, South Ayrshire Council has used the outcome of its fundamental review of the school estate to drive the modernisation agenda for school buildings and improve the learning and teaching environment for our young people.

5.0 Details of Existing Provision

5.1 Provision at Tarbolton Primary School

- 5.1.1 Tarbolton Primary School was originally built in 1875 with an annexe being built in 1959 to accommodate an increasing roll. The location of the school is shown in Appendix 1. The school presently has capacity for 267 children and at 2nd September 2013 there were 175 children on the school roll. This indicates that the school is currently operating at 65.5% capacity.
- 5.1.2 The condition and suitability of the school buildings are assessed in accordance with Scottish Government guidelines.

In relation to its condition, the school building has been given an overall C rating for which means that it is poor and has major defects and is not operating adequately.

With regards to suitability the school building has been given a B rating which means that it is satisfactory - performing well but with minor problems. The key issues relating to suitability are:

- Split teaching accommodation
- Poor access for vehicles and pedestrians
- Limited playground space
- Accessibility issues
- Site security

- Poor reception and administration accommodation.
- Limited traffic management for school transport
- Poor layout

5.1.3 The projected roll for Tarbolton Primary indicates that the roll will increase over the next 10 years. This is due to an expected increase in the number of nursery children and children coming from new housing. A copy of the projected roll is shown in Appendix 2

5.1.4 Tarbolton Primary School is an associated primary for Belmont Academy, along with Alloway Primary School, Braehead Primary School, Doonfoot Primary School, Holmston Primary School and Kincaidston Primary School.

5.2 Provision at Tarbolton Nursery School

5.2.1 Tarbolton Nursery School was built in 1966 and its location is shown in Appendix 1. The nursery provides early years education for the Tarbolton area with capacity for 30 children (morning and afternoon) aged 3-5 and 10 places (morning and afternoon) for infants. The number of children and infants attending the nursery in 2013 are 49 3-5 year olds and 16 infants. The roll is expected to increase slightly due to a general increase in birth rates and new housing.

5.2.2 The condition of the nursery building has been given a C rating and is considered to be poor and in need of a full refurbishment. The suitability of the nursery is rated as B, which is satisfactory meaning that it is performing well but with minor problems. The suitability issues relate to poor accessibility, space, location, parking and external play areas.

6.0 Details of the Proposal

6.1 Potential relocation of Tarbolton Primary School and Tarbolton Nursery School.

6.1.1 The proposal is to build a new Tarbolton community campus incorporating primary and nursery provision, sports, leisure and community facilities, the village library and potentially Health services.

6.1.2 Although an exact location has still to be identified, the outcomes from recent placemaking workshops clearly indicate that the location of the campus will be crucial to its success. Architects are being appointed who will be tasked with identifying the most suitable site for the new campus within the area highlighted in Appendix 3. There is the potential that the identified community campus site is outwith the current school site which is why this consultation is being undertaken. This will ensure that there is no unnecessary delay in progressing the project.

6.1.3 Once a site has been identified it will be shared with the community for comment.

6.2 Proposed Closure and Re-designation of Tarbolton Nursery School

6.2.1 Although Tarbolton Nursery School is registered as an individual school, the current management operation reflects a nursery class model, common across South Ayrshire Council.

6.2.2 The proposal formalises the current arrangements which reflects that both schools are managed together. This is a more efficient and economic way of managing nursery provision particularly in relation to Curriculum for Excellence which encourages stronger learning links between the nursery and primary 1.

6.3 Preferred Option and Educational Statement

6.3.1 Preferred Option

The preferred option of South Ayrshire Council is:

- (1) if determined by the design process, to re-locate Tarbolton Primary School and Nursery School to an alternative site, if identified, to be part of the new community campus,
- (2) to close and re-designate Tarbolton Nursery School as a Nursery Class, and
- (3) that the above changes will take effect on the completion of the new community campus facility which is expected to be ready early in 2016.

6.3.2 Educational Benefits Statement of the Proposal

The educational benefits of this proposal are set out below.

The vision for the new Tarbolton community campus is that it will be a learning centre for the whole community. The building will be the focus for lifelong learning and will have integrated facilities for primary, nursery, sports, library and leisure with the potential inclusion for health. The intention is to reconfigure public facilities within the village into one campus that will become the essential hub for the whole community.

- (1) What will be the impact on children and young people from any affected schools?

The community campus will be built to meet the needs of today's learners and will ensure a more effective environment for learning and teaching of children. The flexible use of space and creative use of new technologies will ensure a learning experience that is relevant, meaningful and challenging for all children.

The re-designation of Tarbolton Nursery School as a nursery class supports continuity and progression in young children's learning. The Early Level in Curriculum for Excellence is intended to outline the experiences and outcomes for children from nursery to the end of Primary 1 (3 – 6 years). The transition and continuity in learning between nursery and primary is enhanced by strong, consistent leadership across the early level.

Young children will benefit from seamless transition between pre-school and primary with staff and management who know them well.

The nursery, if incorporated into the school, will be developed to provide a high quality learning environment with direct access to a secure, dedicated outdoor play area.

- (2) How will the proposal impact on future learners?

The community campus will ensure the long term sustainability of the primary and nursery provision in Tarbolton. Future learners will also have access to state of the art education facilities that can best support modern learning and teaching methods.

- (3) What is the community impact of the school?

The proposal to create a community campus in Tarbolton has already provided opportunities for co-operative working between educationalists, health professionals, planning officials, sports, library and leisure managers and members of the wider community.

Sharing facilities with the community will help strengthen the existing school/community relationships.

- (4) What is the impact on other children and young people in the Council area?

The rationalisation of various buildings into a single Tarbolton community campus will result in revenue savings in running costs and maintenance which will benefit children across South Ayrshire Council.

The new campus will remain a public asset which people from outwith the Tarbolton area can choose to access.

- (5) Are there any other likely effects of the proposal?

The campus project offers the opportunity to address a range of other issues within the village such as road and car parking improvements. It will also replace other public buildings which require investment e.g. the community centre, activity centre, library and health centre.

The planned investment in a new community campus is a 'once in a generation' opportunity to bring about wider social, economic and physical benefits for the village. In particular, the potential for the investment to contribute to improving the physical appearance of the village centre.

- (6) How does the authority intend to minimise or avoid any adverse effects that may arise from the proposal?

The Council will work with any stakeholders affected by the Tarbolton community campus project to identify and overcome issues. In particular, stakeholders will be given the opportunity to influence the designs of the projects and to contribute to the development of contingency plans to minimise the disruption to the school and community while any building work is ongoing.

- (7) Summary of benefits which the authority believes will result from implementation of the proposal:

- (a) Formalising primary and early years education under a single management structure will ensure a seamless transition for very young children.
- (b) Young people and the community will benefit from a significantly better quality learning and teaching environment that meets the needs of all learners in the 21st century through purpose built learning spaces that take account of Curriculum for Excellence and create better opportunities for personal achievement
- (c) The shared community campus will ensure that public facilities in Tarbolton can be sustained in the long term and that the community will continue to have access to a range of quality facilities which support community life.
- (d) The community will benefit from a community learning hub with access to a range of learning and sports facilities to enrich the lives of the learners and the local community.

- (e) Young people and the community will benefit from increased confidence and a sense of being valued sufficiently to merit a significant investment in their learning and in the community's facilities for learning and leisure.
- (f) Through increased community involvement, young people will have the opportunity to work towards informed and responsible citizenship
- (g) Curriculum design is enhanced by improved partnership working.

7.0 Consideration of Factors Affecting Rural Schools

As explained in section 3 of the proposal document, the wider strategic driver for this proposal is the provision of a new community campus for the village of Tarbolton which will include high quality nursery provision. Tarbolton Nursery School will be integrated within this community campus, therefore nursery provision will continue as a class in the new Tarbolton Primary School rather than as a separate nursery school. The proposal of a community campus was developed in conjunction with the community through a series of stakeholder meetings.

7.1 Alternatives to the Closure Proposal

The alternative to the closure of Tarbolton Nursery School has been explained in section 6.0 of the proposal document and demonstrates that the proposed re-designation of the nursery school to a nursery class is a viable alternative to closure and represents best value in relation to the long term educational benefits for young children. Nursery classes provide a more efficient management arrangement for nursery provision without compromising the quality of the provision. South Ayrshire Council already has 29 nursery classes which provide high quality nursery services. This is reflected in the inspection reports published by Education Scotland and the Care Inspectorate.

The new nursery class will have provision for an additional 20 nursery places, increasing the capacity from 30/30 to 40/40. The Council is also planning to increase nursery hours and introduce more flexible arrangements for parents in line with Scottish Government recommendations. This will increase employability opportunities within the nursery and support working parents.

7.2 Impact on the Local Community

The proposed re-designation of the nursery school will have limited impact on the community. Other than nursery provision the existing nursery building is not used by the wider community and has reached the end of its life. Under the re-designation proposal, nursery provision will be part of the primary school which will sit within a modern community campus setting. The campus will include access for the community to high quality facilities including learning, sports, leisure, community and library accommodation. The proposal ensures that local nursery provision and other services can continue to be sustained in the village for the long term.

The impact of the proposed new campus on existing facilities will be considered as part of the design development process of the project and will include further stakeholder engagement.

7.3 Transport

Although there is no direct impact on the transport arrangements for children, some improvements will be made to the road infrastructure within the village as part of the community campus project.

8.0 Staff

- 8.1 The basic staffing entitlement for the proposed nursery class will be set in accordance with the approved Scheme of Delegation for Schools and agreed SNCT/JNCT circulars. This is likely to result in a reconfiguration of the existing staffing arrangements.
- 8.2 All staff will be fully consulted about any future changes as will the appropriate trade unions and professional bodies. Revised staffing arrangements will be managed in accordance with the Council's policies and procedures and agreements made through the Joint Negotiation Committee for Teachers.

9.0 Future of existing buildings within Tarbolton

A number of buildings will be affected by the proposal to create a community campus within the village. The Council's Asset Management team and Health Board's property management team will consider the future of any remaining buildings as part of the design process for the campus project.

10.0 Financial Implications

School budgets within South Ayrshire Council are calculated in accordance with the Council's framework for devolved school management set out in the Scheme of Delegation for Schools. The schools present budget is set out below.

10.1 Revenue Budget Implications

The 2013/14 revenue budgets for Tarbolton Primary and Nursery School are shown below along with the indicative budget of Tarbolton Primary with a Nursery Class.

	2013/14 Tarbolton PS Full Year Budget	2013/14 Tarbolton NS Full Year Budget	Indicative Full Year Budget for Tarbolton Primary School with a Nursery Class	Potential Saving
Employee Costs	£543,613	£144,176	£679,112	-£8,677
Non Employee Costs	£87,263	£25,334	£112,597	£0
Income	-£8,327		-£8,327	£0
Total	£622,549	£169,510	£783,382	-£8,677

- 10.1.1 The indicative budget for Tarbolton Primary School with a Nursery Class is allocated in accordance with the approved Scheme of Delegation for Schools.
- 10.1.2 Any increase in the school's revenue budget due to an increased roll will be managed as part of the Council's annual roll adjustment exercise when all school budgets are adjusted to reflect actual increases or decreases in their rolls. This would also take account of other education factors and efficiency measures managed through the Council's agreed budget process.

10.2 Capital Budget Implications

The Tarbolton community campus is an identified project in South Ayrshire Council's 5 year capital programme. Design consultants are being appointed to appraise the

project, identify the most central suitable site, develop concept designs, further develop the outline project brief and schedule of accommodation and provide up to date project costs, including any road infrastructure improvements.

11.0 Consultation Process

This proposal is being issued for consideration under the Schools (Consultation)(Scotland) Act 2010 and the following stages are covered by the Act.

11.1 Consideration by the Leadership Panel with the responsibility for education

The decision to publish this proposal document and follow the consultation procedures set out in the Schools (Consultation)(Scotland) Act 2010 was taken by the Council's Leadership Panel on Tuesday, 18th February 2014.

11.2 Consultees and distribution of the Proposal Document

The proposal document will be placed on the Council's web site at www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk and copies of the proposal document will also be placed in the County Buildings, Ayr, all schools affected by the proposal, Tarbolton Community Centre, Tarbolton Health Centre and Tarbolton Library. Further copies will be made available to the consultees listed below, free of charge, as prescribed by the Act:

- The Parent Councils of the schools affected
- The parents/carers of children and young people at the affected schools
- Parents/carers of children expected to attend an affected school within 2 years of the date of publication of this proposal document
- Young people affected by the proposal
- The teaching and support staff at the affected schools
- The trade union representatives of the above staff
- The Community Council
- Community users of the affected schools
- Community Associations
- The constituency MSP
- List MSP's for the area
- The Constituency MP
- Religious representatives associated with the school
- Chief Executive, NHS Ayrshire and Arran

11.3 Length of Consultation Period

The consultation process will begin on Monday, 24th February 2013 with an advert being placed on the Council's web site at www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk and notification letters issued to stakeholders as prescribed by the Act. The consultation will cease at the end of the day on **Friday, 4th April 2014**. This allows for a consultation period of 30 school days as required by statute.

Copies will be available from both schools affected by this proposal, County Buildings, Ayr, Tarbolton Community Centre, Tarbolton Health Centre and Tarbolton Library.

11.4 Public Meetings

The following public meeting will be arranged at which officers from the Council will be available to explain the proposals and offer an opportunity to attendees to ask any questions, state their views or raise points of clarification.

Tarbolton Primary School: Wednesday 19th March 2014 at 7.00pm

A note of the views expressed at the public meetings will be recorded as part of the consultation process.

11.5 Involvement of Education Scotland

A copy of the proposal paper and the dates of the public meeting have been sent to Education Scotland, which is responsible for inspection and review of schools. Education Scotland will also receive a copy of any relevant written representations that are received by the Council from any person during the consultation period or, if Education Scotland agree, a summary of them. Education Scotland will also receive a summary of any points made to the Council at the public meeting that will be held and, as available (and so far as otherwise practicable), a copy of any other relevant documentation. Education Scotland will then prepare a report on the educational aspects of the proposal not later than 3 weeks after the Council has sent them all representations and documents mentioned above. However, for the avoidance of doubt, the 3 week period will not start until after the consultation period has ended. In preparing their report, Education Scotland may enter the affected schools and make such reasonable enquiries of such people there as they consider appropriate and may make such reasonable enquiries of such other people as they consider appropriate.

The most recent Education Scotland/ Care Commission reports relating to all schools affected by this proposal are available at www.educationscotland.gov.uk.

11.6 Note on Corrections

If any inaccuracy or omission is discovered in this proposal document either by the Council or any person, the Council will determine if relevant information has been omitted or, there has been an inaccuracy. It will then take appropriate action which may include the issue of a correction or the reissuing of the proposal paper or the revision of the timescale for the consultation period if appropriate. In that event, relevant consultees and Education Scotland will be advised.

11.7 Preparation of the Consultation Report

After following the consultation process described above the proposal will then be reviewed by the Care, Learning and Wellbeing directorate, taking into account the Education Scotland report, written representations received and oral representations made by any person at the public meetings. A consultation report containing the information required by Section 10 of the 2010 Act will be prepared. The report will include a record of the total number of written representations made during the consultation period, a summary of the written representations, a summary of the oral representations made at the public meeting, the Council's response to the Education Scotland report as well as any written or oral representations it has received, together with a copy of the Education Scotland Report and any other relevant information, including details of any alleged inaccuracies or omissions and how these have been dealt with. The report will also contain a statement explaining how it complies with the requirement to review the proposal in light of the Education Scotland report and representations (both written and oral) that the Council received.

The consultation report will be published on the Council's website and made available for further consideration for a period of 3 weeks. The publication of this report is required under the consultation legislation but it not available for comment or further response.

11.8 Decision

This report will be submitted to a future meeting of the Council for consideration and the Elected Members will decide whether or not to implement the proposals in whole or in part. The decision may be subject to the Council's scrutiny process.

11.9 Scottish Ministers Call-in

After the consultation process is completed, Section 15 of the Schools (Consultation)(Scotland) Act 2010 allows Scottish Ministers to call in a decision to implement the proposed closure and re-designation of Tarbolton Nursery School. The Council must notify Scottish Ministers of their decision within 6 days of the decision being made (including the day on which it was made).

Scottish Ministers have a 6 week period from the date of that final decision to decide if they will call-in the proposal. Within the first 3 weeks of that 6 week period, the Scottish Ministers will take account of any relevant representations made to them by any person. Until the outcome of the 6 week call-in process has been notified to the Council, they will not proceed to implement the proposal approved at stage 10.8 above. If the Scottish Ministers call-in the proposal they may refuse to consent to the proposal or grant their consent to the proposal subject to conditions or unconditionally. Until the outcome of the call-in has been notified to the Council, they are unable to proceed to implement the proposal.

12.0 Responding to the Proposal

12.1 Interested parties are invited to respond to the proposal and send any written submissions to the Executive Director - Care, Learning and Wellbeing, South Ayrshire Council, Wellington Square, Ayr KA7 1DR or e-mail to tarboltonconsultation@south-ayrshire.gov.uk, no later than **Friday, 4th April 2014**. A response form is attached as Appendix 4 and can also be accessed at www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk and completed online.

12.2 Data Protection Act 1998

Those sending in a response, whether by letter or electronically should note that personal information i.e. name, address and contact details will not be made available publicly. Only staff involved in the management and administration of the consultation exercise including Education Scotland and the Elected Members of the Council will be given access to that information. An anonymised summary of the responses will be published on the Council's website for information.

13.0 Other Languages

This document can also be made available in other formats languages.

Text only versions of this publication are available in Polish, Chinese and Urdu.

For further information please contact:

0300 123 0900

Dostępna jest wersja tej publikacji w języku polskim, zawierająca wyłącznie tekst.

Aby uzyskać więcej informacji, proszę skontaktować się z:

0300 123 0900

本出版物還有純文字中文版。

有關更多資訊，請聯絡：

0300 123 0900

اس اشاعت کے نسخہ کا صرف متن اردو زبان میں دستیاب ہے۔
مزید جانکاری کے لیے براہ کرم درج ذیل پر رابطہ قائم کریں:

0300 123 0900

Do you know anyone who is registered blind or has a visual impairment?

If you do and you think that they would like a larger print version or an audio cassette version of the text contact Council staff on:

0300 123 0900

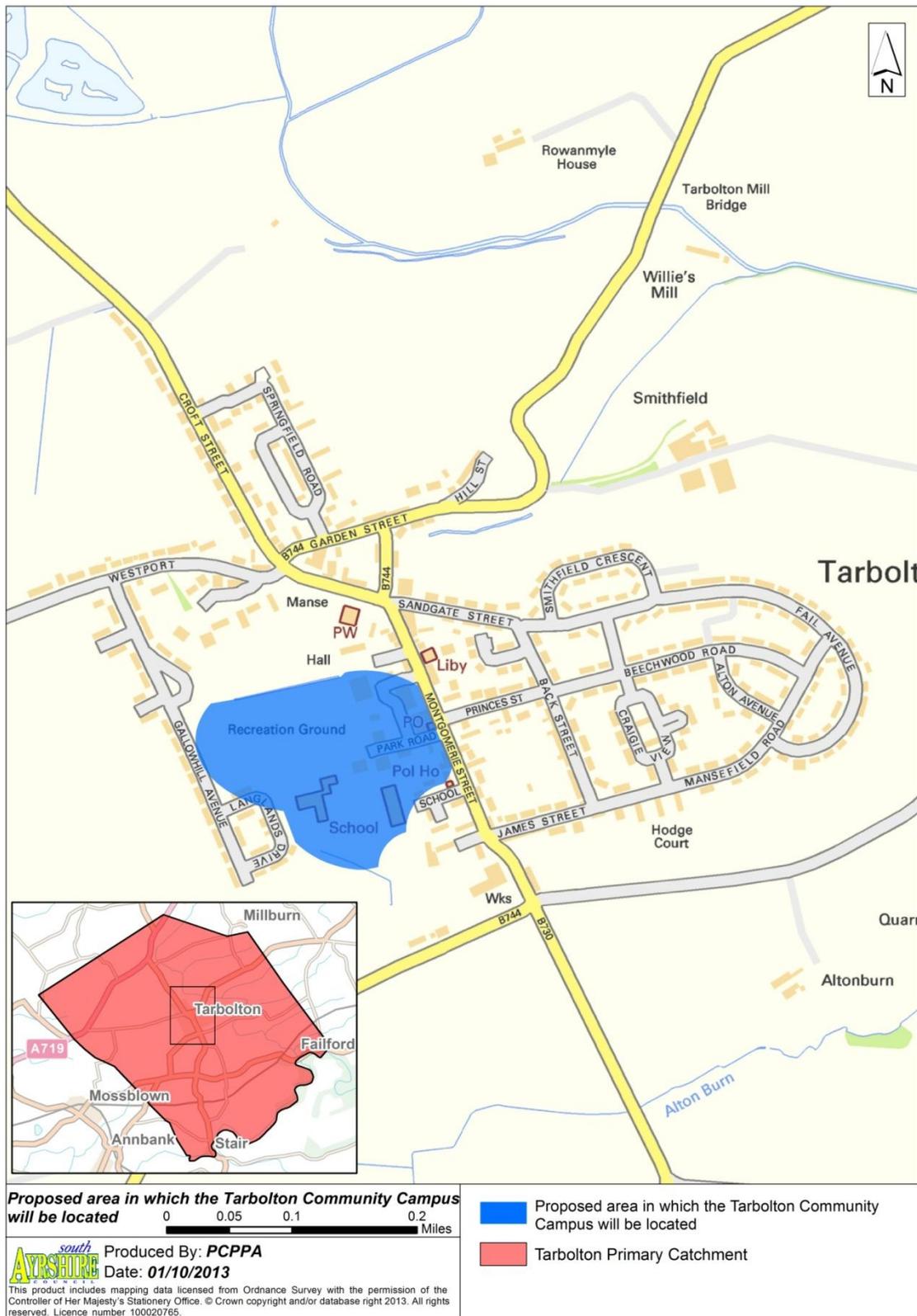
Tarbolton Primary School Catchment area and Tarbolton Nursery



Tarbolton Primary – Projected Rolls (including children and young people from new housing)

Year	Tarbolton Primary School Projected roll
2013	175
2014	181
2015	194
2016	204
2017	219
2018	236
2019	248
2020	258
2021	267
2022	272
2023	275
2024	279

Proposed central area within which the new Tarbolton Community Campus will be located



Harry Garland
 Executive Director
 Care, Learning and
 Wellbeing
 County Buildings
 Wellington square
 Ayr
 KA7 1DR

Appendix 4



Potential Relocation of Tarbolton Primary School and Nursery School and Proposed Closure and Re-designation of Tarbolton Nursery School to Tarbolton Primary Nursery Class

RESPONSE FORM

This form can be completed online at www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk or sent to the above address no later than 4th April 2014.

Name		Address	
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Please place an X in the appropriate box below which indicates your preferred response.

Parent/Carer Staff Young person Other

Other (please state) _____

Summary of proposal *(Please refer to the proposal document for full details)*

The proposals contained in this document seeks to consider the potential relocation of Tarbolton Primary and Nursery School to an alternative central site within the village of Tarbolton to be part of a new community campus and to close and re-designate Tarbolton Nursery School as a Nursery Class.

If an alternative site is identified for the new community campus would you agree to the relocation of Tarbolton Primary School and Nursery School

Yes No
 No preference

Do you agree with the proposal to close and re-designate Tarbolton Nursery School as a Nursery Class.

Yes No
 No preference

Please use this space and the back of the sheet for any additional comments

Data Protection Act 2010. Your response may form part of the report to the Council for consideration and therefore the details of your response may be made available for public inspection. Your personal details (name, address and contact details) will not be made available.