



**Dumfries and Galloway Council
Skills, Education and Learning Directorate**

**REVIEW OF THE PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE
CATCHMENT AREA FOR PUPILS LIVING IN THE
BURNHEAD AREA FROM HOLYWOOD PRIMARY
SCHOOL TO DUNSCORE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

This Report has been issued by Dumfries and Galloway Council Education and Learning Directorate in accordance with the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 as amended and Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014.

This Report has been prepared following a review by Dumfries and Galloway Council to change the catchment area of Dunscore Primary School, Holywood Primary School, Wallace Hall Academy and North West Community Campus.

Having regard (in particular) to: relevant written representations received by Dumfries and Galloway Council (from any person) during the consultation period; Oral representations made to it (by any person) at the public meetings held at Auldgrith Village Hall on the 7th of September 2022; and the findings contained within the Final Report from Education Scotland.

Publication Information

The Report will be published on the Dumfries and Galloway Council website:

www.dumgal.gov.uk/consultations

Copies of this Report are also available on request from:

Statutory Consultation – Wallace Hall
Dumfries and Galloway Council
Militia House
109/111 English Street
DG1 2HR

E-mail: statutoryconsultation@dumgal.gov.uk

To request this information in a more accessible format or alternative language, please contact the postal or email address listed above.

Formal notice of the Report and relevant information will be made available, free of charge, to the consultees listed as follows:

- a) Parents and carers of pupils within the current Dunscore Primary School catchment including children expected to attend primary school within two years of the date of publication.
- b) Parents and carers of pupils within the current Holywood Primary School catchment including children expected to attend primary school within two years of the date of publication.
- c) Parents and carers of pupils at Wallace Hall Academy.
- d) Parents and carers of pupils at North West Community Campus (secondary).
- e) Staff and Parent Councils of Holywood Primary School.
- f) Staff and Parent Councils of Dunscore Primary School.
- g) Staff and Parent Councils of Wallace Hall Academy.
- h) Staff and Parent Councils of North West Community Campus (secondary).
- i) Trade union representatives.
- j) Auldgirith and District Community Council.
- k) HMle.
- l) The pupils of any affected school.
- m) Any persons or organisation who made written representation during the consultation process.

Contents

1	Background	4
2	Consultation Process.....	4
3	Review of proposals following the consultation period.....	6
4.	Responses received	6
5.	Issues raised during the consultation process.....	6
6.	Responses to the issues raised during Public Consultation	7
7.	Late Submission	8
8.	Summary of issues raised by Education Scotland, and Dumfries and Galloway Council's response.	8
9.	Effects on the Community	11
10.	Alleged Omissions or inaccuracies	11
11.	Further Review of Alternatives to Closure	11
12.	Procedure for Ministerial Call-in	11
13.	Legal Issues	11
14.	Financial Implications	12
15.	Equality Impact Assessment	12
16.	Conclusion	12
17.	Recommendation.....	13
18.	Appendices	13

1 Background

The consultation process for this proposal first started on the 12th of November 2019 but was interrupted by COVID-19 lockdowns and could not be completed. The Proposal Paper presented (found in Appendix A) was an update to the original paper with updated data to reflect any changes that had taken place over the previous three years.

Members of the Auldgirth and District Community Council made representation to the Education and Learning Directorate in March 2019 with the request to review the catchment boundary for Wallace Hall Academy and its associated Primary Schools. The Community Council met with the Acting Director in June 2019 where they discussed their view of the historical anomaly for the Burnhead community who, in their opinion felt, should be within the catchment area for Wallace Hall Academy.

It was the request of the Auldgirth and District Community Council at the time that the boundary for the catchment area for Wallace Hall Academy would be altered to allow those children from the Burnhead community to attend Wallace Hall Academy as their secondary school. The Community Council had representation from families who had already chosen to send their children to Wallace Hall Academy, accepting that this was out of the current catchment provision and that they were responsible for school transport. The map of the current and proposed catchment areas can be found within the appendices of the Proposal Paper (Appendix A).

The Burnhead community currently falls under the catchment for Holywood Primary School, which is associated with the North West Community Campus in Dumfries. The Council is not seeking to change this association between the two schools but does seek to address the concerns of the Burnhead community. To implement this change, the Council would need to amend the adjacent primary school catchment boundaries to include the Burnhead community within the catchment of one of the primary schools that are currently associated with Wallace Hall Academy and not Holywood Primary. It is the recommendation of the Council to realign the catchment of Dunscore Primary School to include the area of Burnhead.

2 Consultation Process

The formal consultation process ran from Monday the 5th of September 2022 to Friday the 4th November 2022.

Schools across Dumfries and Galloway were closed on Monday 19th September 2022 as an additional bank holiday to mark the last day of the period of National Mourning in respect of HM Queen Elizabeth II. The consultation timeline was amended to ensure that the consultation period extended to thirty school days

as detailed in the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 as amended and all consultees were notified and the papers reissued.

Written representations on the proposal were sought from interested parties as defined within the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 as amended.

In accordance with statutory requirements, the following were consulted:

- Parents and carers of pupils within the current Dunscore Primary School catchment including children expected to attend primary school within two years of the date of publication.
- Parents and carers of pupils within the current Holywood Primary School catchment including children expected to attend primary school within two years of the date of publication.
- Parents and carers of pupils at Wallace Hall Academy.
- Parents and carers of pupils at North West Community Campus (secondary).
- Staff and Parent Councils of Holywood Primary School.
- Staff and Parent Councils of Dunscore Primary School.
- Staff and Parent Councils of Wallace Hall Academy.
- Staff and Parent Councils of North West Community Campus (secondary).
- Trade union representatives.
- Auldgirth and District Community Council.
- HMle (Education Scotland).
- The pupils of any of the affected schools.

The Proposal Paper was also available at the following locations:

- Auldgirth Village Hall.
- Dumfries and Galloway Council Headquarters.

The Proposal Paper was also published on Dumfries and Galloway's website at:

www.dumgal.gov.uk/consultations

A public meeting was held, the details of which are set out below. The meeting was advertised in advance in the Galloway News and detailed within the Proposal Paper. The minutes of the meetings can be found in Appendix B.

27th of September 2022, 6.00-8.00PM, Auldgirth Village Hall, DG2 0XG.

3 Review of proposals following the consultation period

Following receipt of written representations received by Dumfries and Galloway Council and consideration of oral representations made at the public meetings, officers reviewed the proposal.

Feedback from the consultation was considered by a range of Council officers. This ensured that the Council met the requirements of the 2010 Act.

The outcome of this review process is reflected in the response, conclusion and recommendations outlined below.

4. Responses received

There was one written response during the public consultation period (not including pupil questionnaires) which was submitted by email. A copy of this response can be found at Appendix F.

The views of pupils from Dunscore Primary School and Holywood Primary School were sought by means of an age adapted survey that was completed by pupils with support from Education Officers in the form of a focus group. A copy of their responses can be found at Appendix E.1 and E.2 and their views summarised in Section 5 below.

There was a single response recorded at the public meeting. A copy of this response can be found at Appendix C.

5. Issues raised during the consultation process

The single written response was received from a member of school staff. This response commented on the requirement for a change in catchment since the introduction of free public transport for school aged pupils. This issue is addressed at Issue 1 in Section 6.

The single response received from the Public Meeting supported the reason for changing the catchment area for pupils in the Burnhead area. The minutes from this meeting can be found at Appendix B.

The responses from pupils cited the advantages to making a change to the catchment area and agreed with the proposal. The issues they did raise included

a reduction in the number of pupils at Hollywood Primary School and an increase in travel costs. These issues are addressed at Issue 2 and 3 in Section 6.

The main issues put forward are all summarised below, together with the responses from the Council.

6. Responses to the issues raised during Public Consultation

The one issue raised by the member of school staff and the response from the Council is set out below:

Issue 1

The entitlement for free transport for school aged children removes the need for a change in catchment.

Response 1

Although the free transport entitlement will make it easier for school aged children to travel to Wallace Hall Academy, unless they are zoned to Dunscore Primary School they will not receive a guaranteed place to attend Wallace Hall Academy as their Secondary School.

The two issues raised by pupils and the responses from the Council are set out below:

Issue 2

Hollywood Primary School will see a drop in school roll.

Response 2

The Council has demonstrated that pupils who currently live in the Burnhead area do not attend Hollywood Primary School and instead are choosing to attend Dunscore School, North West Community Campus, Wallace Hall Primary School and Duncow School. Current and projected rolls at all four schools included in this proposal indicate that parents will continue to be able to choose which school their child attends through placing requests. This information can be found in the appendices within Appendix A.

Issue 3

A change in catchment area would increase transport costs.

Response 3

Dunscore Primary School is closer in location, on average, for primary aged children living in the Burnhead area than Holwood Primary School. The average distance of travel for Burnhead pupils is 3.6 miles to Dunscore Primary School and 4 miles to Holywood Primary School. This information can be found in the appendices within Appendix A.

7. Late Submission

No late submissions were received after the consultation period had ended.

8. Summary of issues raised by Education Scotland, and Dumfries and Galloway Council's response.

In line with legislative requirements, Education Scotland was invited to submit comments on the Council's proposal. A copy of the Report from Education Scotland can be found in Appendix D.

In their Report, Education Scotland recognised the Council's proposal to change the catchment area of school aged children living in the Barnhead area to that of Dunscore Primary School has potential educational benefits.

In the Report, HM Inspectors agree that this proposal will support the continuity of learning and transition arrangements from primary to secondary school. HM Inspectors agreed with stakeholders that the proposal should reduce the number of placing requests to both primary and secondary schools. In addition, it will entitle a small number of children to access school transport to both their chosen and nearest primary school. This may result in a reduction of fuel costs for a few families.

Children who spoke to HM Inspectors were supportive of the proposed change to primary school catchment areas. They see value in the proposal as they think

they would enjoy shared transport to school and believe that this will positively impact on the environment.

There were three issues identified for further consideration (labelled 4, 5 and 6) and these are set out below:

Issue 4

Inspectors considered that it would be helpful for the Council to expand upon the Educational Benefits Statement in the consultation Report.

Response 4

The Council has prepared the Educational Benefits Statement below:

All children and young people have an entitlement to a curriculum which is coherent with smooth and well-paced progression through the experiences and outcomes, particularly across transitions, from early learning and childcare to primary, from primary to secondary school, and beyond school. The proposal made in this consultative document aligns with this entitlement.

This proposal would enhance 3 to 18 working and ensure the delivery of the entitlement to a coherent curriculum with progression and continuity of learning for children. Within Dumfries and Galloway, Cluster working involves staff from Early Years, Primary and Secondary working collaboratively to develop the curriculum, assessment and learning and teaching approaches. This ensures improved progression and continuity of learning for pupils.

In order to ensure progression and continuity of learning, there needs to be effective tracking of children's progress from upper primary into secondary. A key element of this is a shared understanding of pupils' progress within and through Curriculum for Excellence Levels. This is more effectively achieved when Primary and Secondary teachers work as part of a 3 to 18 cluster to develop a shared attainment progression journey and measure pupil progress within this framework.

Cluster Primary Schools also work together collaboratively on learning projects with children from all the schools within the cluster participating in events and learning opportunities together. Staff from within the Cluster Primaries engage in planned professional development to support identified Cluster development priorities.

In addition, Secondary schools work with associated Primary Schools to develop and implement a programme of transition, which takes place during Primary 7. There are also enhanced transition arrangements for children with additional support needs. Within the current catchment arrangements, Hollywood Primary works within the North West Community Campus Cluster and is not part of the transition or collaborative working arrangements for Wallace Hall Academy. If the catchment for the Burnhead area was included within that of a Primary School associated with Wallace Hall Academy, they would be able to experience the benefits of improved transition and secondary cluster working to enhance the curricular and wellbeing provision for children.

Issue 5

HM Inspectors spoke to several stakeholders who questioned whether this proposal is still required. These stakeholders stated that their original concerns about the cost of travelling to school have been resolved now that young people can access free public bus transport.

Response 5

Although the free transport entitlement will make it easier for school aged children to travel to Wallace Hall Academy, unless they are zoned to Dunscore Primary School they will not receive a guaranteed a place to attend Wallace Hall Academy as their Secondary School.

Issue 6

Stakeholders who spoke to HM Inspectors at Hollywood Primary School expressed concern about the potential negative impact on the school roll in the future in removing the Burnhead community from the school catchment area. Current and projected rolls at all four schools included in this proposal indicate that parents will continue to be able to choose which school their child attends through placing requests.

Response 6

The Council has demonstrated that pupils who currently live in the Burnhead area do not attend Holywood Primary School and instead are choosing to attend Dunscore School, North West Community Campus, Wallace Hall Primary School, Dunscore School and Duncow School. Current and projected rolls at all four schools included in this proposal indicate that parents will continue to be able to choose which school their child attends through placing requests.

9. Effects on the Community

The request to carry out this catchment review has originated from the Burnhead residents via the Community Council; therefore, the proposal is understood to reflect their requirements.

10. Alleged Omissions or inaccuracies

No alleged omissions or inaccuracies were raised in this proposal.

11. Further Review of Alternatives to Closure

Not applicable to this proposal.

12. Procedure for Ministerial Call-in

Not applicable to this proposal.

13. Legal Issues

Throughout this statutory consultation Dumfries and Galloway Council has complied in full with the requirements of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, as amended.

As provided for in section 1 of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980, it is the duty of the Council to ensure adequate and efficient provision of school education within Dumfries and Galloway, such education to be directed towards the development

of the personality, talents and mental and physical abilities of children or young persons to their fullest potential (Standards in Scotland's School Etc. Act 2000). As with all Council duties, the Council also has a duty to make arrangements to secure best value, and in securing best value the Council is required to maintain an appropriate balance between, inter alia, the quality of its performance of its functions and the cost to the authority of that performance (Local Government in Scotland Act 2002, section 1). Each of the above, and all other legislative requirements, have been taken into account in the preparation of this Report.

No further legal issues were identified in this proposal.

14. Financial Implications

There would be minimal financial impact as a result of this proposal, as illustrated in the Proposal Paper, so should give no concern to the Council and the school's stakeholders.

15. Equality Impact Assessment

The proposal has been assessed as having no impact on the following Equality areas:

- Disability
- Gender
- Gender reassignment
- Pregnancy of Maternity
- Marriage/Civil Partnership
- Race
- Religion or Belief
- Sexual Orientation
- Looked After Children
- Young Carers
- Children and Young People Living in Deprivation

In respect of age equality, the proposal relates to primary schools and as such primarily affects children in the 3-12 age group and their parents. The proposal is advanced on the basis of educational benefit to the children in the area concerned. No negative age-related effects arise. Age is not a protected characteristic for the purposes of school provision.

16. Conclusion

The consultation process has complied fully with legislative requirements and has provided an opportunity for all parties to identify key issues of concern. These issues have been fully considered and the Council's response detailed in Sections 6 and 8. For the reasons set out in these sections, Dumfries and Galloway Council considers the change in catchment area for school aged children living the Burnhead area to Dunscore Primary School is the most appropriate response to the reasons for the proposal.

Education Scotland staff engaged with stakeholders affected by this proposal. They also had the opportunity to review in detail the proposal document and all written responses. They agreed that the proposal has potential educational benefits. They also agreed with children that the proposal would entitle a few children to access school transport to get to their nearest primary school.

17. Recommendation

It is therefore recommended that Dumfries and Galloway Council approves the proposal to change the catchment area for pupils living in the Burnhead area from Holywood Primary School to Dunscore Primary School.

18. Appendices

Appendix A	The Proposal Document and Appendices
Appendix B	Minutes of Public Meeting
Appendix C	Copies of Responses from Public Meeting
Appendix D	Report from Education Scotland
Appendix E	Copies of Responses from Pupil Consultation
Appendix F	Copies of Written Responses (redacted)

END OF CONSULTATION REPORT



**Dumfries and Galloway Council
Skills, Education and Learning Directorate**

Public Consultation Document

**Proposal to change the catchment area for pupils
living in the Burnhead area from Holywood Primary
School to Dunscore Primary School.**

This proposal has been issued by Dumfries and Galloway Council Education and Learning Directorate in accordance with the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 as amended and Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014.

Statutory Consultation Period: Monday 5th September to Friday 4th November 2022.

Dumfries and Galloway Council is proposing, subject to the outcome of the statutory consultation process, to change the catchment area of Dunscore Primary School, Holywood Primary School, Wallace Hall Academy and North West Community Campus.

The proposed changes, if approved, will take place as of August 2023.

HMIe (Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education) is referred throughout the document in line with the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act (1980). HMIe was amalgamated into Education Scotland which was created on the 1 July 2011 as the lead public body for assessment and education improvement in Scotland.

Publication Information

The proposal paper will be available, free of charge, at:

- Council Headquarters, Dumfries, DG1 2DD.
- Wallace Hall Academy, Thornhill, DG3 5DS.
- North West Community Campus, Dumfries, DG2 9LU.
- Dunscore Primary School, Dunscore, DG2 0SY.
- Hollywood Primary School, Hollywood, DG2 0RF.
- Auldgirth Village Hall, Auldgirth, DG2 0XG.

And published on the Dumfries and Galloway Council website:

www.dumgal.gov.uk/consultations

Copies of this paper are also available on request from:

Statutory Consultation – Wallace Hall
Dumfries and Galloway Council
Militia House
109/111 English Street
DG1 2HR

E-mail: statutoryconsultation@dumgal.gov.uk

To request this information in a more accessible format or alternative language, please contact the postal or email address listed above.

Formal notice of the proposal and relevant information will be made available, free of charge, to the consultees listed as follows:

- a) Parents and carers of pupils within the current Dunscore Primary School catchment including children expected to attend primary school within two years of the date of publication.
- b) Parents and carers of pupils within the current Hollywood Primary School catchment including children expected to attend primary school within two years of the date of publication.
- c) Parents and carers of pupils at Wallace Hall Academy.
- d) Parents and carers of pupils at North West Community Campus (secondary).
- e) Staff and Parent Councils of Hollywood Primary School.
- f) Staff and Parent Councils of Dunscore Primary School.
- g) Staff and Parent Councils of Wallace Hall Academy.
- h) Staff and Parent Councils of North West Community Campus (secondary).
- i) Trade union representatives.
- j) Auldgirth and District Community Council.
- k) HMle.
- l) The pupils of any affected school.

Contents

1. Relevant Proposals and Consultees.....	4
2. Correction of the Paper	4
3. Consultation Period	4
4. Public Meeting	5
5. Involvement of HMle	6
6. Consultation Report.....	6
7. Time for Further Consideration	7
8. Explanation of Approach	7
9. Proposal Paper	7
10. Educational Benefits Statement.....	13
11. Recommendation	14
Appendix 1 - Current Catchment Area of Wallace Hall Academy.....	15
Appendix 2 - Current Primary Catchment Boundaries	16
Appendix 3 – Proximity of Schools & Transport Routes	17
Appendix 4 – Proposed New Primary and Secondary Catchment Boundaries	19
Appendix 5 - Proposed Dates for Implementation.....	21

1. Relevant Proposals and Consultees

Dumfries and Galloway Council is proposing, subject to the outcome of the statutory consultation process, to realign the catchment of Dunscore Primary School to include the area of Burnhead.

Formal notice of the proposal and relevant information will be made available, free of charge, to the consultees listed as follows:

- a) Parents and carers of pupils within the current Dunscore Primary School catchment including children expected to attend primary school within two years of the date of publication.
- b) Parents and carers of pupils within the current Holywood Primary School catchment including children expected to attend primary school within two years of the date of publication.
- c) Parents and carers of pupils at Wallace Hall Academy.
- d) Parents and carers of pupils at North West Community Campus (secondary).
- e) Staff and Parent Councils of Holywood Primary School.
- f) Staff and Parent Councils of Dunscore Primary School.
- g) Staff and Parent Councils of Wallace Hall Academy.
- h) Staff and Parent Councils of North West Community Campus (secondary).
- i) Trade union representatives.
- j) Auldgirth and District Community Council.
- k) HMIe.
- l) The pupils of any of the affected schools.

2. Correction of the Paper

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

3. Consultation Period

A period of statutory consultation commences on Monday the 5th of September 2022 and ends on Friday the 4th of November, 2022 (note that both of these dates are inclusive). This period allows for the statutory minimum of six weeks, including at least thirty school days.

Schools across Dumfries and Galloway will be closed on Monday 19th September 2022 as an additional bank holiday to mark HM Queen Elizabeth II's funeral and the last day of the period of National Mourning. The consultation period and has been amended to ensure that the consultation period extends to thirty school days as detailed in the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 as amended.

3.1 Responses to the Proposals

Any written representations should be sent to the following postal address:

Statutory Consultation – Wallace Hall Academy
Dumfries and Galloway Council
Militia House
109/111 English Street
DG1 2HR

Or by email to:

statutoryconsultation@dumgal.gov.uk

When responding you are invited to state your relationship with the school – for example, “pupil”, “parent”, “carer”, “relative”, “former pupil”, “teacher in school” or “member of the community”. However, it is not compulsory to do so.

Those sending in a response, whether by letter or electronically, should know that their response will be open to public scrutiny and may have to be supplied to anyone making a reasonable request to see it. If they do not wish their response to be made publicly available, they should clearly write on the document: “I wish my response to be considered as confidential with access restricted to Councillors and Council Officers of Dumfries and Galloway Council”. Otherwise, it will be assumed that the person making the response agrees to it being made publicly available.

All written responses must be received by the last day of the consultation period, Friday 4th November at 5 pm.

4. Public Meeting

A public meeting will be held to discuss this proposal, the details of which is set out below:

- 27th of September 2022, 6.00-8.00PM, Auldgirth Village Hall, DG2 0XG.

Anyone wishing to attend the public meeting is invited to do so. The meeting will be convened by the Council, will be chaired by a senior Education Officer and will be addressed by officers of the Education and Learning Directorate. A short introduction to the session will start at 6PM with members of the public free to drop into the session until 8PM.

The meeting will be an opportunity for the public to hear more about the proposal; to ask questions about the proposal; and to have the views of all stakeholders recorded so that they can be taken into account. A note will be taken at the meeting of questions asked and views expressed. This note will be published on the Council website.

The note will be forwarded to HMIE, along with other submissions and comments received by the Council during the consultation process.

4.1 Advertisement in Local Media

A notice announcing the public meetings will be placed in the Dumfries and Galloway Standard and on the Dumfries and Galloway Council website.

4.2 Meetings with Pupils and Staff

School staff may arrange to discuss proposals with pupils (who are considered to be of a suitable age and maturity) in the affected schools. A record of questions, responses and views will be taken, and this will be published in the Consultation Report.

5. Involvement of HMIE

When the proposal document is published, a copy will also be sent to HMIE by Dumfries and Galloway Council. HMIE will also be sent, by Monday 7th November 2022, a copy of any relevant written representations that are received by the Council from any person during the consultation period, as well as the summary note of the public meeting that will be held. So far as is practicable a copy of any other relevant documentation will also be sent to HMIE, by Monday 21st November 2022. HMIE will then prepare a report on the educational aspects of the proposal, to be completed no later than 3 weeks after they receive the consultation papers (Friday 9th December 2022). In preparing their report, HMIE may visit the school and make such enquiries of persons there as they consider appropriate. HMIE may also make reasonable enquiries to such other persons they consider it appropriate.

6. Consultation Report

Dumfries and Galloway Council will review the proposal having regard to the HMIE report, written representations that it has received, and oral representations made at the public meeting. It will then prepare a Consultation Report. This report will be published in electronic and printed formats (anyone who submitted a written representation during consultation will be contacted) and will be available, free of charge at the following addresses:

- Council Headquarters, Dumfries, DG1 2DD.
- Wallace Hall Academy, Thornhill, DG3 5DS.
- North West Community Campus, Dumfries, DG2 9LU.
- Dunscore Primary School, Dunscore, DG2 0SY.
- Holywood Primary School, Holywood, DG2 0RF.
- Auldgirth Village Hall, Auldgirth, DG2 0XG.
- The Dumfries and Galloway Council website.

The Consultation Report will include a summary of the written and oral representations made during consultation and a copy of the HMIE report, together with the Council's considered response to the issues raised. The report will include details of any alleged inaccurate and/or omissions and how these have been handled. The Consultation Report will be published at least 3 weeks prior to being submitted to the Education and Learning Committee.

7. Time for Further Consideration

At this present time Dumfries and Galloway Council intends to publish its report on Thursday 5th January 2023. In publishing the report the Council will invite any person or party to make further representations to the Education and Learning Committee prior to its meeting within a 3 week window; Monday 9th January to Friday 27th January 2023. A notice to this effect will also be published on the Dumfries and Galloway Council website.

The final Consultation Report will be submitted to the Education and Learning Committee in early 2023. However, this timescale may change depending on the nature of issues raised during consultation, and the need to give full consideration to those issues. In the latter event, the report may not be submitted until a later Committee meeting.

8. Explanation of Approach

The proposal is advanced within the context of all applicable legislation. Amongst other duties, education authorities are required to secure adequate and efficient provision of school education (S.1 of the Education Act 1980); and to endeavour to secure improvement in the quality of school education in schools that are managed by them (S.3 of The Standards in Scotland's Schools Act 2000).

9. Proposal Paper

9.1 Rationale

The consultation process for this proposal first started on the 12th of November 2019, but the process was interrupted by COVID-19 lockdowns and could not be completed. This proposal is an update to the original paper with updated data to reflect any changes that may have taken place over the last three years.

Members of the Auldgirth and District Community Council made representation to the Education and Learning Directorate in March 2019 with the request to review the catchment boundary for Wallace Hall Academy and its associated Primary Schools. The Community Council met with the Acting Director in June 2019 where they discussed their view of the historical anomaly for the Burnhead community who, they felt, should be within the catchment area for Wallace Hall Academy.

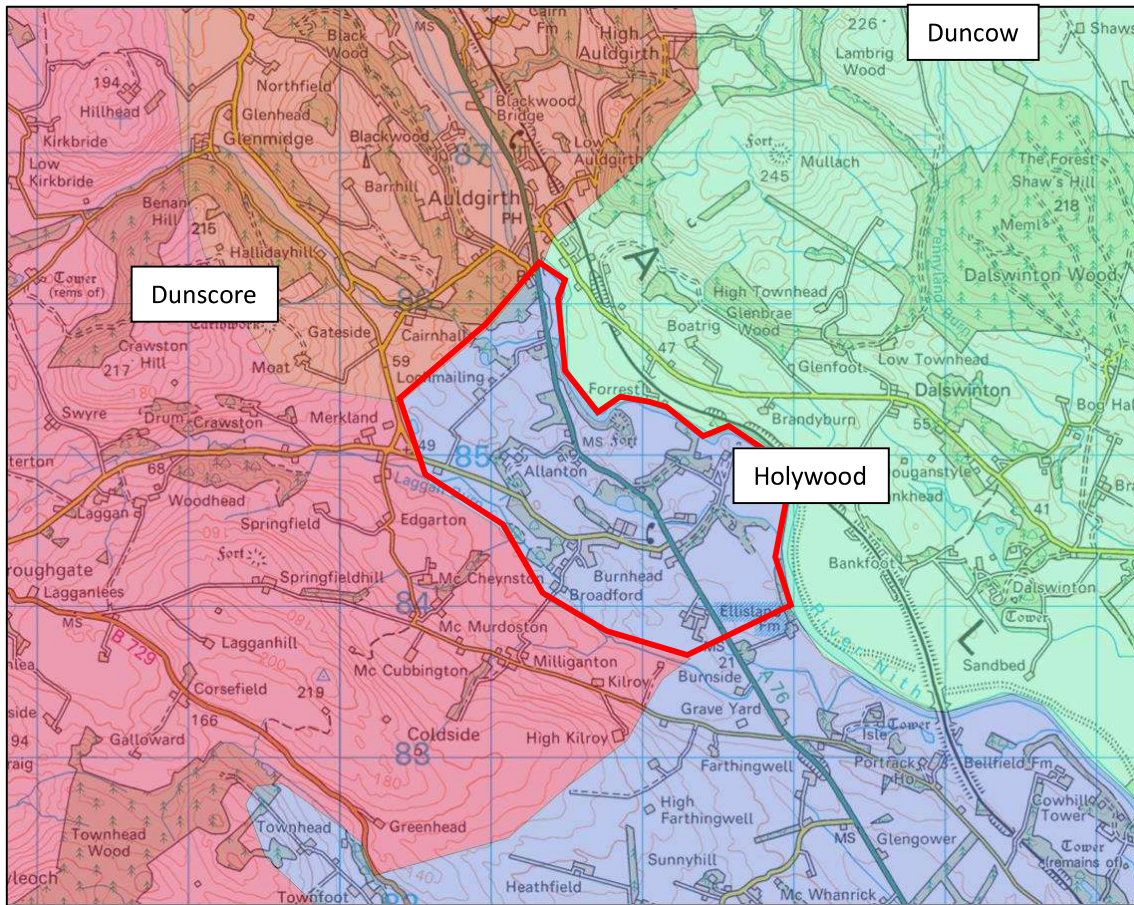
It was the request of the Auldgirth and District Community Council at the time that the boundary for the catchment area for Wallace Hall Academy would be altered to allow those children from the Burnhead community to attend Wallace Hall Academy as their secondary school. The Community Council had representation from families who had already chosen to send their children to Wallace Hall Academy, accepting that this was out of the current catchment provision and that they were responsible for school transport. The map of the current catchment of Wallace Hall Academy is included in Appendix 1.

The Burnhead community currently falls under the catchment for Holywood Primary School, which is associated with the North West Community Campus in Dumfries. The Council is not seeking to change this association between the two schools but does seek to address the concerns of the Burnhead community. To implement this change, the Council would need to amend the adjacent primary school catchment boundaries to include the Burnhead community within the catchment of one of the primary schools that are currently associated with Wallace Hall Academy and not Holywood Primary. The current primary catchment boundaries are shown in Appendix 2.

9.2 Existing Provision

Closeburn

The current catchment area for primary aged children from the Burnhead area (denoted with a red outline) is Holywood Primary School and can be seen in the diagram below:



Map of the Burnhead area in relation to its local primary schools.

Holywood Primary School is associated with the North West Community Campus in Dumfries. The Council does not seek to end this association between these two schools.

The primary schools that are associated with Wallace Hall Academy and have catchment areas that border the Burnhead area are Closeburn Primary School, Duncow Primary School and Dunscore Primary School. These are also shown on the diagram above.

To ensure the secondary catchment for pupils within the Burnhead area is Wallace Hall Academy, the Council will need to amend the primary school catchment boundaries to include the Burnhead community within the catchment of one of these three primary schools.

9.3 Proposed Change in Education Provision

The Council seeks to carry out an adjustment to the school catchment for the Burnhead area based on the factors below:

- Proximity of schools & transport routes (see Appendix 3)
 - Dunscore Primary School is the closest primary school for the majority of pupils who live in the Burnhead area. On average, it is 0.4 miles closer for Burnhead pupils than Holywood and closer still than Duncow and Closeburn.
- Condition of schools
 - Due to recent refurbishment at Dunscore Primary School, all three primary schools under consideration are of equal condition and quality.
- Rolls and capacities within neighbouring schools
 - Dunscore, Closeburn and Duncow all have the capacity to accept the pupils from the Burnhead area.
 - Wallace Hall Academy has the capacity to accept the pupils from the Burnhead area.
- Suitability of schools
 - The most recent evaluations against this measure indicates that all primaries are equally suitable for learning and teaching.

Based on the factors above and the proposal and appendices below, we wish to consult stakeholders on the proposal to realign the catchment area to include the Burnhead area within the catchment for Dunscore Primary School, as shown in Appendix 4. This would also put pupils of the Burnhead area in the catchment of Wallace Hall Academy.

If the proposal is implemented, any primary school children and their siblings would remain within their current chosen school for the duration of their primary schooling, if they so desired and would not be asked to move.

9.4 Pupil Distribution

The current distribution of primary aged pupils that reside within the Burnhead area is as follows:

Pupil Identifier	Stage	Catchment School	Attending School
1	Primary	Hollywood Primary	Dunscore School
2	Primary	Hollywood Primary	North West Community Campus
3	Primary	Hollywood Primary	Wallace Hall Primary School
4	Primary	Hollywood Primary	Dunscore School
5	Primary	Hollywood Primary	Duncow School

This information shows that all current primary aged pupils are currently choosing to attend a variety of primary schools, none of which is their actual catchment school.

The current distribution of secondary aged pupils that reside within the Burnhead area is as follows:

Pupil Identifier	Stage	Catchment School	Attending School
6	Secondary	North West Community Campus	Wallace Hall Academy
7	Secondary	North West Community Campus	Wallace Hall Academy
8	Secondary	North West Community Campus	Wallace Hall Academy
9	Secondary	North West Community Campus	St Joseph's College
10	Secondary	North West Community Campus	Wallace Hall Academy
11	Secondary	North West Community Campus	Wallace Hall Academy
12	Secondary	North West Community Campus	Wallace Hall Academy
13	Secondary	North West Community Campus	Wallace Hall Academy

This information shows that the overwhelming majority of secondary aged pupils are currently choosing to attend Wallace Hall Academy, despite this not being their catchment school. One secondary aged pupil instead attends St Joseph's College and had previously attended St Andrew's Primary School.

9.5 Impact on Schools

The following table shows the current roll and maximum capacity of each primary school as well as Wallace Hall Academy:

School	Current Roll (Census 2021)	Capacity (2022)
Closeburn Primary	51	208
Duncow Primary	39	74
Dunscore Primary	47	100
Hollywood Primary	59	75
Wallace Hall Academy	540	864

This shows that there is capacity at Dunscore Primary to accept a higher number of primary aged pupils and that Wallace Hall Academy has the capacity to accept a higher number of secondary pupils.

If all primary aged pupils from the Barnhead area were to attend Dunscore Primary in August 2023 in the event that this proposal was successful, the effect on the following schools will be as follows:

Primary School	Change in Roll
Closeburn Primary	No change
Duncow Primary	- 1 pupil
Dunscore Primary	+3 pupils
Hollywood Primary	No change
Wallace Hall Primary	-1 pupil
North West Community Campus (primary)	-1 pupil

This shows that there would be minimal impact to the considered schools and also that Dunscore has the capacity to accept an additional 3 pupils if they chose to attend.

9.6 Condition of Schools

The schools are given condition ratings for each building within the school site and by the various physical elements that make up each building. Evaluation of this information is carried out to determine the priorities for investment.

The following table shows the condition of the primary schools in consideration:

Name	Overall Condition
Closeburn (survey date 08/06/20)	B
Duncow (survey date 15/05/20)	B
Dunscore (survey date 11/06/20)	B

The overall condition of Dunscore is the same as the other primary schools under consideration. Additionally, since the most recent survey that was taken at Dunscore, they have had further improvements made to their pupil toilet facilities.

9.7 Suitability of Schools

Suitability is a measure of whether a school is fit for the purpose of delivering the education curriculum.

That is whether its design and layout enhance its function and use, whether there is space and scope to accommodate all the pre-school, day school and after-school demands and services, whether it is 'inclusive' and accessible to those with disabilities, how capable it is of adjustment or adaptation, how able to 'flex' in response to future, sometimes unforeseen changes in the scale and nature of demand and usage, to changes in climate and to changes in ICT and other technology and the ways in which education may be delivered.

The following table shows the Suitability Rating for the primary schools in consideration:

School	Suitability rating
Closeburn Primary (survey date 25/01/22)	B
Duncow Primary (survey date 08/03/22)	B
Dunscore Primary (survey date 08/03/22)	B

The most recent evaluations against this measure indicates that all primaries are equally suitable for learning and teaching.

9.8 Impact on Transport

Secondary aged pupils would be transported to Wallace Hall Academy on existing service bus routes and can do so for free using the Young Persons' (Under 22s) Free Bus Travel service. This existing service can accommodate the small pupil numbers under discussion and is currently doing so.

Currently, eligible Burnhead primary-aged pupils are entitled to free travel to Hollywood Primary School. This entitlement would be changed to travel to Dunscore Primary School for eligible children. If all eligible pupils were to take this entitlement, transport costs would be equivocal to transport costs to Hollywood Primary (see Appendix 2).

9.9 Impact on the Community

The request to carry out this catchment review has originated from the Burnhead residents via the Community Council; therefore, this proposal is understood to reflect their requirements.

9.10 Financial Impact

There would be minimal financial impact as a result of this proposal, as illustrated in the factors discussed above, so should give no concern to the Council and the school's stakeholders.

9.11 Impact on Future Pupils and Provision

A change in catchment area for the pupils of Burnhead to include them with the current catchment for Dunscore Primary would mean that current and future pupils will have the entitlement to be placed at Wallace Hall Academy for their secondary education.

10. Educational Benefits Statement

10.1 Impact on Pupils

All children and young people have an entitlement to a curriculum which is coherent with smooth and well-paced progression through the experiences and outcomes, particularly across transitions, from early learning and childcare to primary, from primary to secondary school, and beyond school. The proposal made in this consultative document aligns with this entitlement.

This proposal would enhance 3 to 18 working and ensure the delivery of the entitlement to a coherent curriculum with progression and continuity of learning for children from the Burnhead community if they intend to attend Wallace Hall Academy.

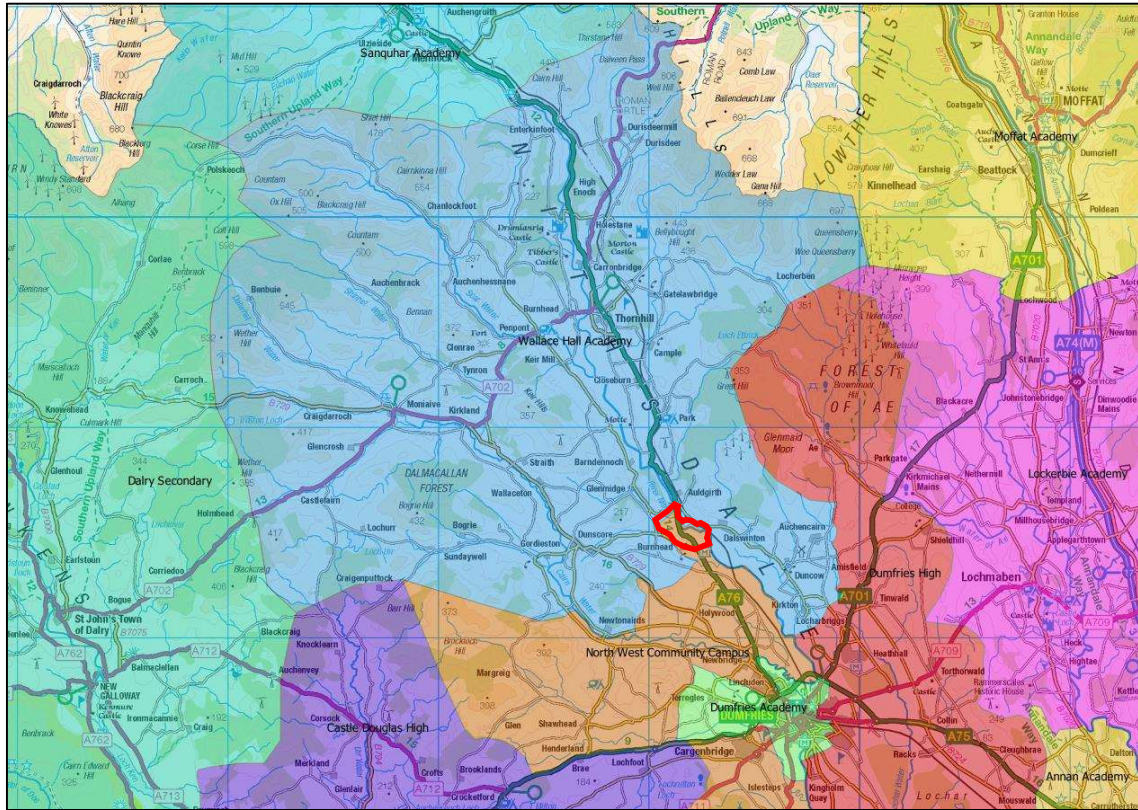
11. Recommendation

This proposal seeks to realign the catchment of Dunscore Primary School to include the area of Burnhead, as shown on the map within Appendix 4.

The proposed changes, if approved, will be implemented for the start of the academic year in August 2023.

Appendix 1 - Current Catchment Area of Wallace Hall Academy

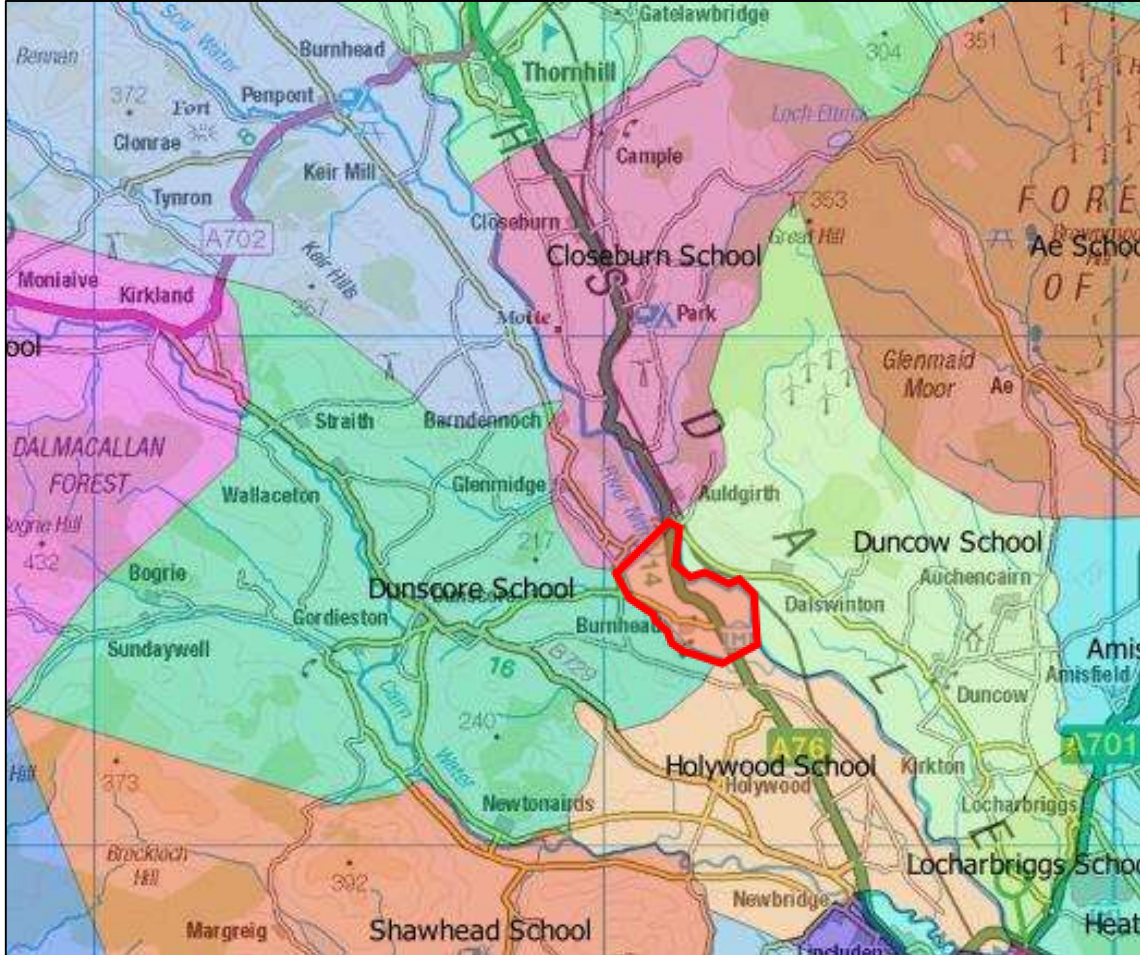
The map below shows the current catchment for Wallace Hall Academy (the large central area in blue):



The Burnhead area (highlighted in red) in relation to the surrounding Secondary School Catchment Areas

Appendix 2 - Current Primary Catchment Boundaries

The map below shows the current catchments for the primary schools that surround the Burnhead area (marked in red):



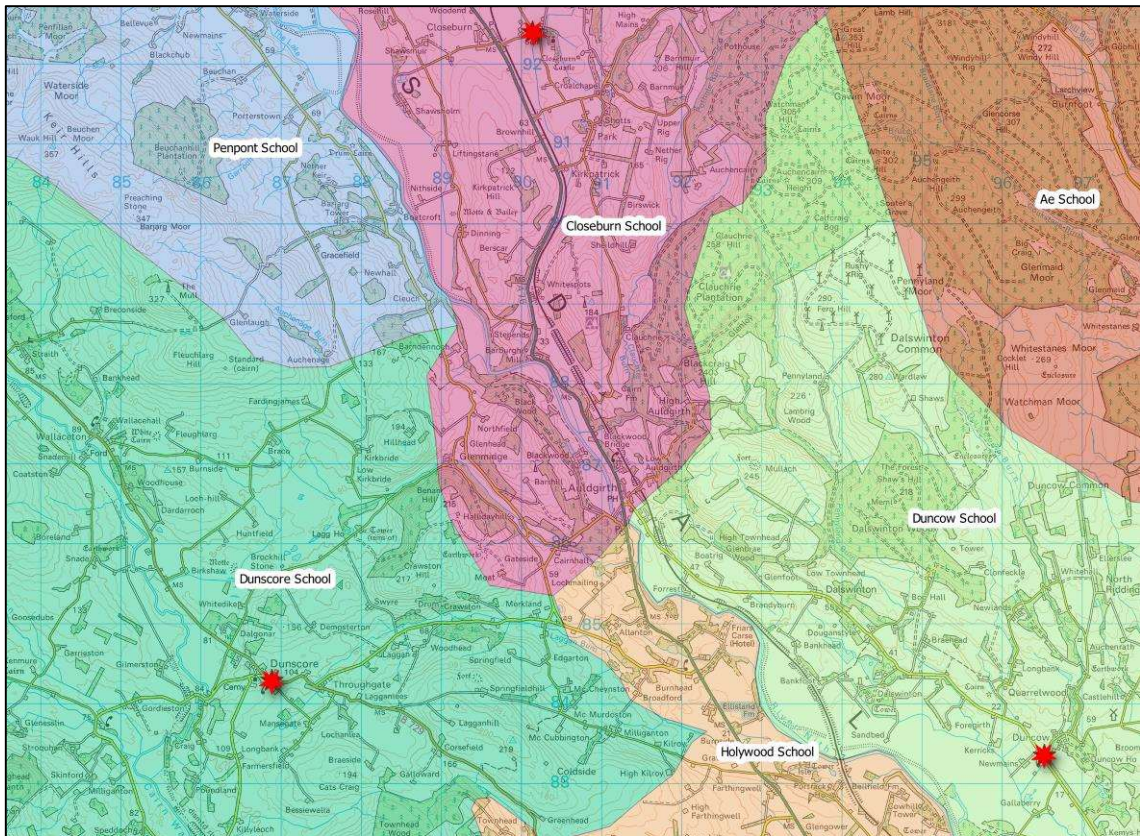
The Burnhead area (highlighted in red) in relation to the surrounding Primary School Catchment Areas

Appendix 3 – Proximity of Schools & Transport Routes

Proximity of Local Schools

The map and table below show the approximate distances to the neighbouring Wallace Hall catchment primary schools (marked in red on the map) from the Burnhead area.

These were devised using an average of the distances from all postcodes for properties where a current primary pupil resides within the Burnhead area (and nursery aged children who will attend primary in the next two years) to the postcodes for each of the individual primary schools.



Map of locations of local primary schools

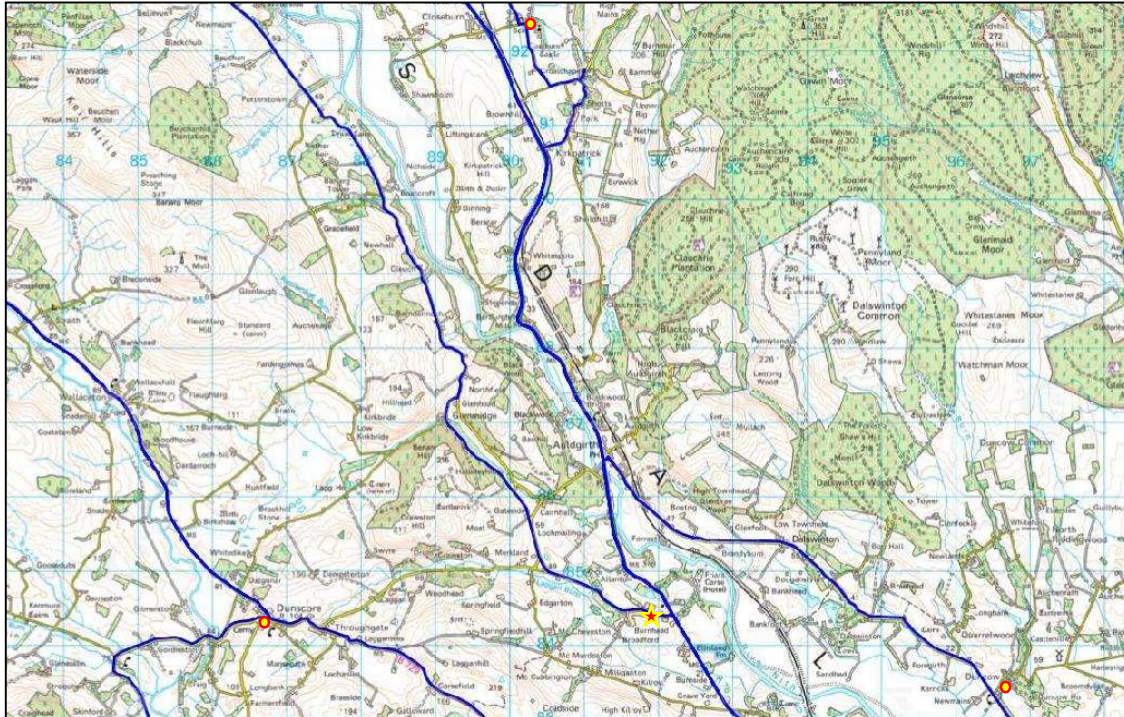
School	Approximate Distance for Burnhead Pupils in Miles
Closeburn Primary School	5.9
Duncow Primary School	5.7
Hollywood Primary School	4
Dunscore Primary School	3.6

This data shows that the closest school (on average) for the pupils currently living in the Burnhead area is Dunscore Primary School.

Currently, primary aged pupils are entitled to transport to Holywood Primary School from the Burnhead area using a taxi service. This taxi service would be altered to take those pupils to Dunscore Primary school instead if required.

Local Transport Routes

The map below shows the current service bus routes that serve the Burnhead area in blue:

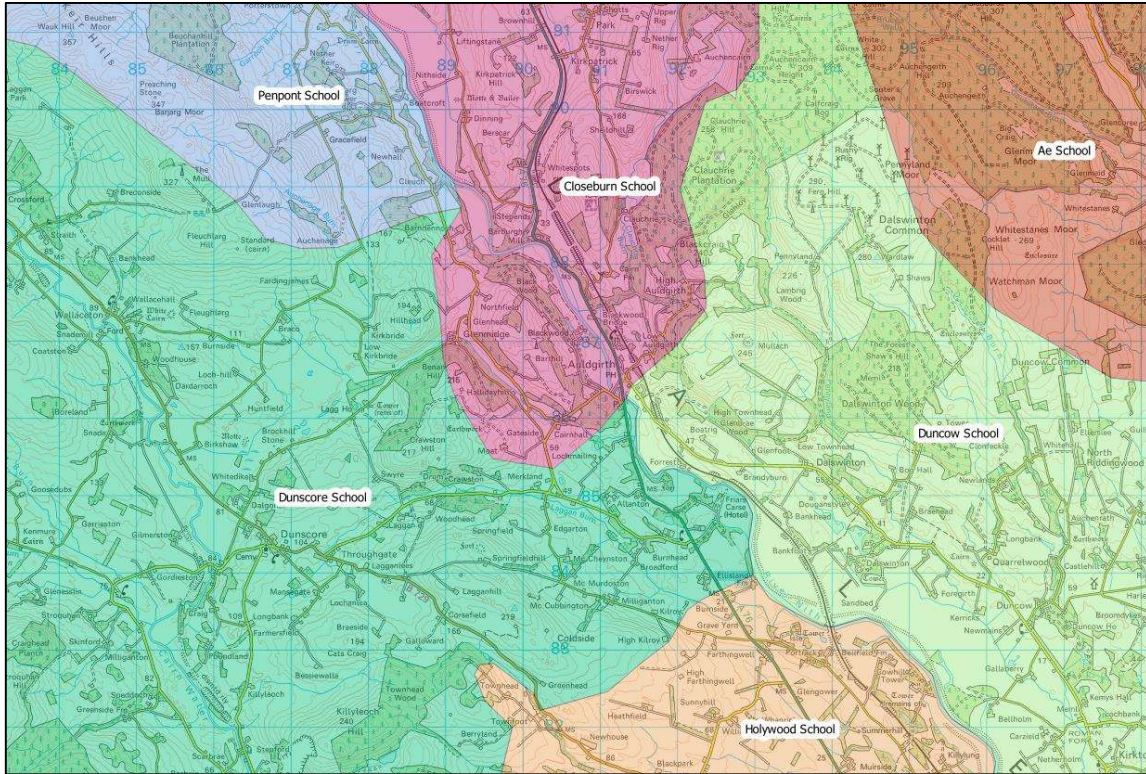


Map of local service bus routes

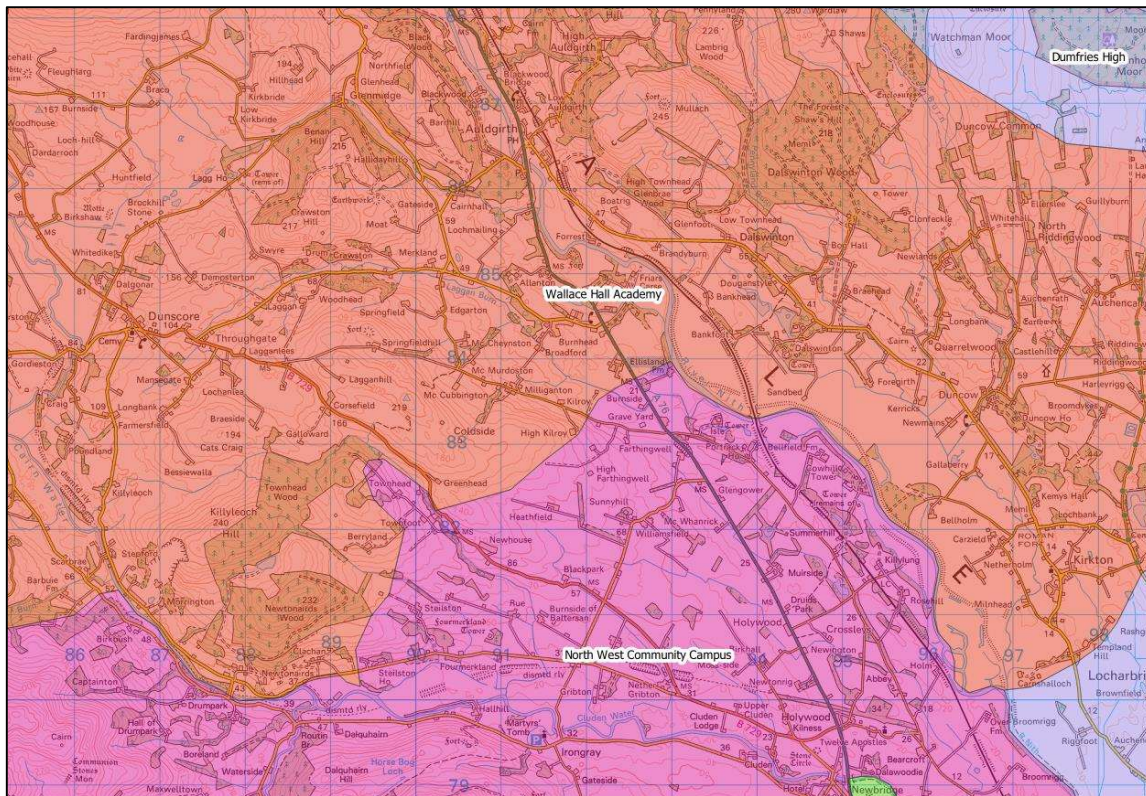
There is a service bus that goes straight through the Burnhead area and would provide free transport to secondary aged pupils who would be attending Wallace Hall Academy.

Appendix 4 – Proposed New Primary and Secondary Catchment Boundaries

If the proposal were to be agreed and implemented, the primary and secondary school catchments would be realigned as shown below:



Proposed new Primary Catchment Boundaries



Proposed new Secondary Catchment Boundaries

Appendix 5 - Proposed Dates for Implementation

Key Dates

The anticipated timescale and key dates for the implementation of this proposal are set out in the following table:

Consultation Period	Monday 5 th September to Friday 4 th November 2022
Public Meeting	Tuesday the 27 th September 2022
HMIe considers proposal	Monday 21 st November to Friday 9 th December 2022
Consultation Report published	Thursday 5 th January 2023
Period for further consideration	Monday 9 th January to Friday 27 th January 2023
Council Decision	By March 2023
Implementation date	Tuesday 22 nd August 2023

END OF PROPOSAL PAPER

PUBLIC MEETING – Wallace Hall Catchment

Tuesday 27th September, 6.00 – 8.00 pm.

Education and Learning Directorate Officers present: John Thin (JT), Larann Foss (LF), Kevin Williamson (KW) and Karen Bryden (KB)

Alice Bainbridge (AB) note taker

Stakeholders: One

KW welcomed the stakeholder to the meeting.
Stakeholder explained that they had recently moved to the Burnhead area and have two preschool children. They had only heard about the meeting by chance that day after visiting Holywood Primary.
LF provided some background as to how the process had come about and what was involved. He also explained that families known to the Authority via SEEMiS (school database) and through NHS data had been contacted to let them know about the process and the public meeting. As the stakeholder had only recently moved to Burnhead and children were not enrolled in an authority nursery they had not appeared on the list of potential consultees.
Stakeholder finds the idea of education in a smaller village school appealing. Decision as to which school to enroll the eldest child at would be taken in the new year when applications are due to be submitted. Decision on which school is influenced by factors such as availability of wrap around care, transport and location in relation to workplace. Neither Holywood Primary or Dunscore Primary provide full wrap around care. Discussions followed regarding the lack of childcare provision in rural areas and how this is limiting for parents who work. Stakeholder explained the timing of the consultation was not ideal as decision on potential catchment change would not be made until after applications for school places are due.
Officer explained that process had been delayed due to COVID. Reassurance was given that due to current numbers at both schools there would be flexibility and it would be anticipated that places would be available at either school.
Stakeholder said that presently they had no preference for either primary school and going forward any decision would be made around employment options and childcare provision. Secondary schooling was a long way off, but they could see the appeal of Wallace Hall as an option. Stakeholder had no objection to the catchment for Wallace Hall Academy changing.
Officers thanked Stakeholder for input to the consultation process reiterating that any further representations could be made up until 4 th November.
Meeting closed at 8 pm.

Loreburn Primary Relocation - Public Meeting Representation

Name	[REDACTED]	Capacity: PARENTS (staff, parent/carer etc)
E-mail Address:	[REDACTED]	
Comment in relation to proposal:		
<p>Speaking as a Burnhead resident, I support the reason for changing the catchment. However I would also support either primary school to look to expand their before / after school care provision to facilitate more parents to return to work across the region and to contribute more to the development of the local economy.</p>		



Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010

Report by Education Scotland addressing educational aspects of the proposal by Dumfries and Galloway Council to change the catchment area for pupils living in the Burnhead area from Hollywood Primary School to Dunscore Primary School

December 2022

1. Introduction

1.1 This report from Education Scotland has been prepared by His Majesty's Inspectors of Education (HM Inspectors) in accordance with the terms of the [Schools \(Consultation\) \(Scotland\) Act 2010](#) ("the 2010 Act"). The purpose of the report is to provide an independent and impartial consideration of Dumfries and Galloway Council's proposal to change the catchment area for pupils living in the Burnhead area from Holywood Primary School to Dunscore Primary School. Section 2 of the report sets out brief details of the consultation process. Section 3 of the report sets out HM Inspectors' consideration of the educational aspects of the proposal, including significant views expressed by consultees. Section 4 summarises HM Inspectors' overall view of the proposal. Upon receipt of this report, the Act requires the council to consider it and then prepare its final consultation report. The council's final consultation report should include this report and must contain an explanation of how, in finalising the proposal, it has reviewed the initial proposal, including a summary of points raised during the consultation process and the council's response to them. The council has to publish its final consultation report three weeks before it takes its final decision.

1.2 HM Inspectors considered:

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

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

- consideration of all relevant documentation provided by the council in relation to the proposal, specifically the educational benefits statement and related consultation documents, written and oral submissions from parents and others; and
- visits to Holywood Primary School, Dunscore Primary School, Wallace Hall Academy and the North West Community Campus, including discussion with relevant consultees.

2. Consultation process

2.1 Dumfries and Galloway Council undertook the consultation on its proposal(s) with reference to the [Schools \(Consultation\) \(Scotland\) Act 2010](#).

2.2 The council started to consult on this proposal in November 2019 following an approach by Auldgirth and District Community Council. The council could not then complete the original consultation due to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. The full consultation period ran from 5 September to 14 October 2022. The council made copies of the proposal document available to the public and published it on the council website. Information about the proposal was made available to stakeholders including children, young people, parents and carers of the schools affected by the proposal. One person attended the public meeting held on 27 September 2022 in Auldgirth Village Hall. They supported the proposal. The council received one email which queried the need for the change as they felt school transport issues had been resolved. The council consulted with children attending Dunscore and Holywood Primary Schools. Children mainly

commented on travel to school and the advantages of being zoned to your nearest school. It should be noted that members of Auldgirth and District Community Council now have mixed views on the proposal.

3. Educational aspects of proposal

3.1 The council believes the proposal would enhance continuity of learning and transition arrangements for children ages 3–18 from the Burnhead community if they intend to attend Wallace Hall Academy. Currently of the eight secondary age young people from the Burnhead area seven chose to attend Wallace Hall Academy. Currently none attend the secondary, North West Community Campus, that they are zoned to. Of the five primary aged children four attend primary schools in the Wallace Hall catchment area. Given this, HM Inspectors agree that this proposal will support the continuity of learning and transition arrangements from primary to secondary school. Inspectors consider that it would be helpful for the council to expand upon the brief educational benefits statement in the consultation report. HM Inspectors have discussed this with officers from the council.

3.2 A majority of the stakeholders that spoke with HM Inspectors are in support of the proposal. HM Inspectors agree with stakeholders that the proposal should reduce the number of placing requests to both primary and secondary schools. In addition, it will entitle a small number of children to access school transport to both their chosen and nearest primary school. This may result in a reduction of fuel costs for a few families. However, HM Inspectors spoke to several stakeholders who questioned whether this proposal is still required. These stakeholders stated that their original concerns about the cost of travelling to school have been resolved now that young people can access free public bus transport.

3.3 Stakeholders who spoke to HM Inspectors at Holywood Primary School disagree with the proposal. They acknowledge that no children from Burnhead community currently attend Holywood Primary School even though it is the school they are zoned to. However, they expressed concern about the potential negative impact on the school roll in the future in removing the Burnhead community from the school catchment area. Current and projected rolls at all four schools included in this proposal indicate that parents will continue to be able to choose which school their child attends through placing requests.

3.4 Children who spoke to HM Inspectors were supportive of the proposed change to primary school catchment areas. They see value in the proposal as they think they would enjoy shared transport to school and believe that this will positively impact on the environment.

4. Summary

HM Inspectors agree that the proposal has potential educational benefits. There is potential to support the continuity of learning and transition for the children located in the Burnhead community as they move to secondary school at Wallace Hall Academy. HM Inspectors agree with children that the proposal would entitle a few children to access school transport to get to primary school. Whereas, currently none have this entitlement as all attend a school other than the one they are zoned to. HM Inspectors recommend that the council in its final report offers more information on the educational benefits. This should provide stakeholders with a fuller understanding of the current rationale for this change.

**HM Inspectors
December 2022**

Dunscore Pupil Consultation

<p>Are there any advantages of this proposed change?</p>	<p>More children coming to Dunscore Spend less money on fuel Dunscore is a nice school Theres a pre school and then the children can come here.</p>
<p>Are there any disadvantages of this proposed change?</p>	<p>Hollywood might have less pupils It would make more fuel damage</p>
<p>Do you have any suggestions for an alternative to the proposal?</p>	
<p>Do you have any other thoughts or comments about this proposed change?</p>	<p>Dunscore school is a very nice school. People who live near Hollywood will go to Hollywood school.</p>
<p>Do you think the change suggested in the proposal should be carried out? Why?</p>	<p>Yes, it makes sense to change.</p>

K. Bryden 13/10/22

M. Armstrong

Hollywood Pupil Consultation

<p>Are there any advantages of this proposed change?</p>	<p>Less fuel, save money as closer Less distance to walk</p>
<p>Are there any disadvantages of this proposed change?</p>	
<p>Do you have any suggestions for an alternative to the proposal?</p>	<p>Buses from Burnhead to Hollywood Cycle route from Burnhead to Hollywood</p>
<p>Do you have any other thoughts or comments about this proposed change?</p>	
<p>Do you think the change suggested in the proposal should be carried out? Why?</p>	<p>Should happen as it would be easier for the people in Burnhead.</p>

K Bryden
M. Armstrong 11/10/22.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 23 September 2022 15:34
To: statutory consultation
Subject: Wallace Hall Academy - Statutory Consultation

Good Afternoon,

A number of parents have commented on whether there is a need for the change in catchment now that the Scottish Government are providing free transport for all school age pupils. They believe this was the reason for the change of catchment proposal in the first place?!

Kind Regards,



Website: <http://www.dumgal.gov.uk>

Disclaimer:

This email, from Dumfries and Galloway Council, and any files transmitted with it, is confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed.

If you are not the intended recipient of this email (and any attachment) please inform the sender by return email and destroy all copies. If you are not the intended recipient or responsible for delivering it to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any use, disclosure, review, dissemination, distribution or reproduction of this email is strictly prohibited. Please be aware that communication by internet email is not secure as messages can be intercepted and read by someone else. Dumfries and Galloway Council do not accept liability for any loss or damage which may result from this email or any files attached. It is your responsibility to scan this email and any attachments for computer viruses or other defects.

Any email including its content may be monitored and used by the Council for reasons of security and form monitoring internal compliance with the policy on staff use. Email monitoring or blocking software may also be used.

Any email message sent or received by the Council may require to be disclosed by the Council under the provisions of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002. For further information and to view the Council's privacy statement please click [here](#)

 **SAVE PAPER - Please do not print this e-mail unless absolutely necessary**