

EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCILEDUCATION COMMITTEE23 June 2022Report by Director of EducationFUTURE SPECIALIST ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FOR LEARNING PROVISION FOR CHILDREN OF EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL**PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1. To seek approval to carry out a statutory education consultation on a proposal to increase provision for early years and primary children and young people with additional support needs across East Renfrewshire.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. Members are asked to:

i. approve that the Director of Education proceeds with a consultation on a proposal to establish further provision for children and young people with additional support needs as soon as is practically possible;

ii. request the Director of Education to report on the consultation at a specially convened additional Education Committee on 8th December 2022.

BACKGROUND

3. A National Review of the implementation of additional support for learning in schools was carried out by Angela Morgan (2020); it considered the implementation of the Additional Support for Learning legislation and how this is applied to practice across authorities. This included: the quality of learning and support; the different approaches to planning and assessment to meet the needs of children and young people; the roles and responsibilities of all education staff and the areas of practice that could be further enhanced through better use of current resources.

4. Following the publication of Angela Morgan's report on Additional Support for Learning in Scotland, 'All Our Children, All Their Potential', a review of Additional Support for Learning (ASL) in East Renfrewshire Council was undertaken March-September 2021 (Appendix 1). The review took cognisance of the national review and subsequent recommendations made through the National Action Plan and our proposed work to implement these, with an overall objective therefore, to develop and implement an enhanced model of Additional Support Needs provision within East Renfrewshire. The recommendations of this review were agreed by Education Committee in February 2022¹.

5. The East Renfrewshire review considered how we provide high quality support to children and young people with Additional Support Needs (ASN) who attend specialist provision whilst also providing enhanced ASN provision in our mainstream schools through sharing of specialist knowledge, training and resources. This remains central to the realisation

of the department's vision of *Everyone Attaining, Everyone Achieving through Excellent Experiences*.

6. The report provides the detail of the work of the review, the result of the initial consultation and the subsequent recommendations regarding proposed changes in structures and strategic developments to improve outcomes for children and young people with additional support needs.

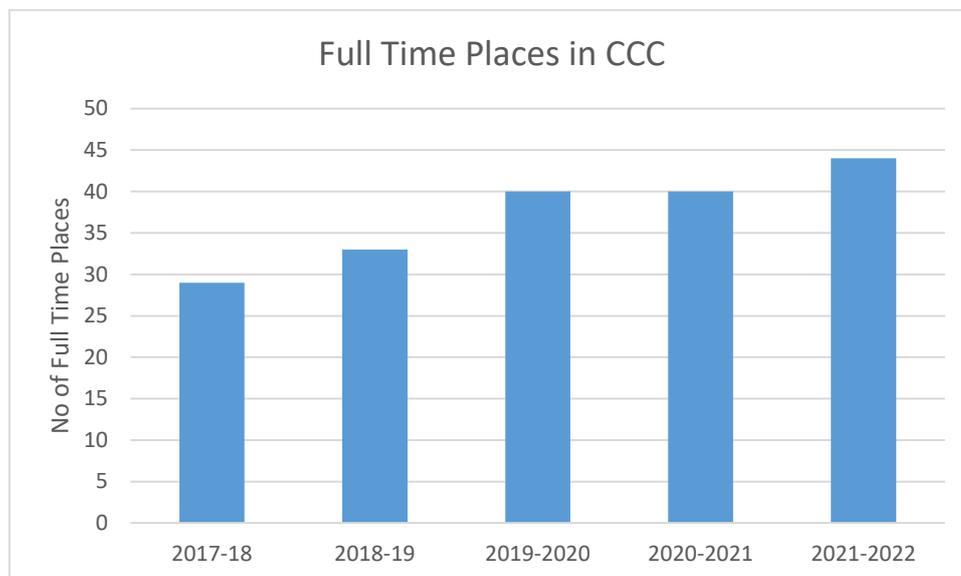
REPORT

7. As part of the East Renfrewshire desktop review, an ASN data gathering and analysis exercise was undertaken to determine the incidence and nature of additional support needs across the school and ELC population. The review indicated that there are between 23% - 28% of school-aged children with a recorded ASN.

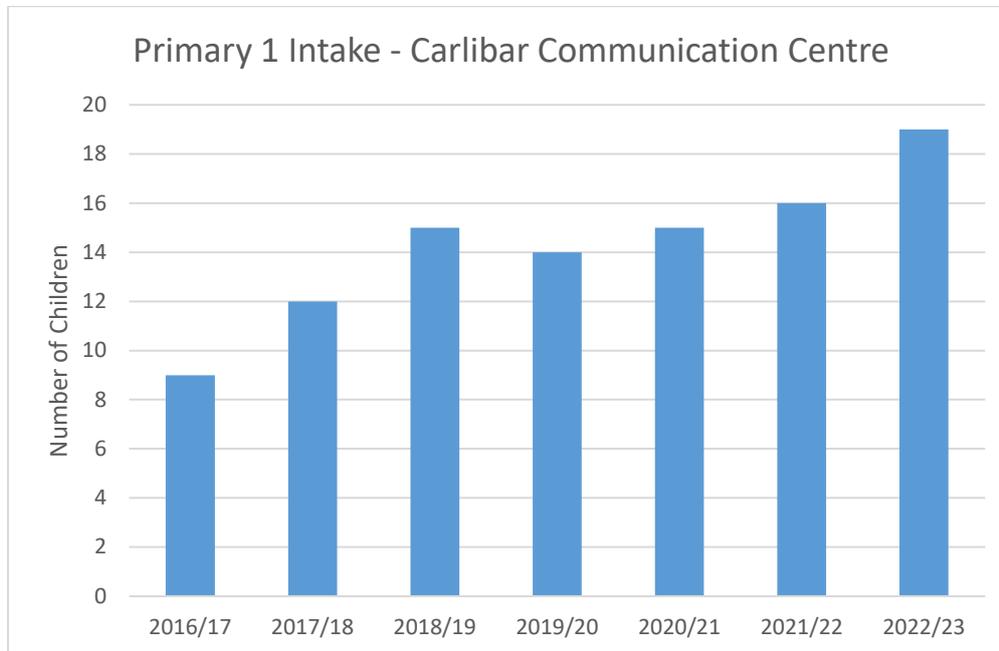
8. An analysis of the data for children and young people with additional support needs across East Renfrewshire highlighted that the most frequently recorded ASN is dyslexia (1249) followed by 'other' (816) and Autism Spectrum Disorder (709).

9. Current specialist provision in East Renfrewshire supporting children with an autism spectrum disorder and social communication needs, includes the Pre School Assessment and Development Unit (PSADU), Carlibar Communication Centre (CCC) and outreach service. Williamwood Communication Support Service (WCSS) supports secondary school-aged pupils with ASD and social communication difficulties and Isobel Mair School supports children and young people with complex additional support needs, many of whom have an ASD diagnosis.

10. The review highlighted many strengths of existing specialist services and provision. However, it also highlighted the increasing number of children and young people who access such resources and the subsequent growing pressure on specialist provision. The additional support needs of children attending Carlibar Communication Service (CCS) have changed over time with children presenting with increasingly more complex social communication needs that require full time continued support within CCC. This is in part due to families moving into the area and capacity within Isobel Mair School.



11. There continues to be significantly more P1 children requiring a placement with the CCC than there are P7s moving on either to secondary school, Williamwood Communication Support Service or Isobel Mair. This is a further pressure on the capacity of the CCC in supporting children who require specialist support and in turn highlights future pressures that will be placed on WCSS.



12. There are currently 43 young people who attend Williamwood Communication Support Service and of those, just under two thirds have transitioned from Carlibar Communication Centre. There are however, an increasing number of young people where challenges in accessing mainstream provision related to additional support needs manifest after transition to secondary school. In addition to this, continued house building and families who have children with additional support needs moving into East Renfrewshire put further pressure on places within our specialist provisions.

13. As a result of the review and the challenges highlighted above, it is proposed to increase capacity of specialist provision for children and young people with neurodevelopmental difficulties and ASD. This would enable class sizes to be maintained at optimum levels for supporting young people's needs whilst providing enhanced learning opportunities.

14. Under this proposal, there would be increased connection between establishments as a way of continuing to ensure that all education staff gain more knowledge of working with pupils with a diverse range of needs, and obtain an in depth knowledge needed to promote flexibility and meet individual needs.

15. It is proposed that Phase 1 of this development is to create a new Primary Communication centre and Pre-School Assessment and Development Unit. Analysis of our school estate in terms of suitability of provision, capacity and occupancy levels across the authority has identified Carolside Primary School as the most suitable location. It is proposed, following the results of consultation, this service would be operational from August 2023 with a phased introduction starting with new P1 children.

16. This new service will minimise transport costs and arrangements, and allow more children to access specialist support settings closer to their mainstream establishment and their local community.

17. The Education Resource Group will continue to allocate places to the specialist support services based on assessment of needs. However, where pupils reside will inform whether children are offered support in either Carlibar Communication Service or the new Carolside provision. Appendix 2 outlines the catchment schools of both services.

18. The consultation period will last from Wednesday, August 17th, 2022 to midnight on Friday, 30th September, 2022. The consultative document is included as Appendix 3.

FINANCIAL AND EFFICIENCY IMPLICATIONS

19. At present there is no identified finance to take forward the proposal to increase capacity of specialist provision so the department will direct funding from its delegated budget. The consultative proposal is a necessary step in seeking to establish this new education provision.

CONSULTATION

20. The purpose of this paper is to seek elected member approval to undertake a consultation exercise as is required by the Schools Consultation (Scotland) Act 2010 as amended.

21. If any inaccuracy or omission was discovered in the Proposal Document either by the Education Department, or any person, the department would determine if relevant information has been omitted or, if there had been an inaccuracy. The Education Department would 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 as appropriate. In that event, relevant consultees and Education Scotland would be advised.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE PROPOSAL

22. The implications of the proposals are set out in the consultative proposal document and await the outcome of the consultation. The Director of Education will report the results of this consultation exercise, including the report submitted by Education Scotland, to the Education Committee on 1 December 2022.

23. If, following the consultation exercise the decision is made to agree the proposal, then as soon as practically possible additional provision would be established.

24. This proposal is not subject to ministerial call in.

25. East Renfrewshire Council's legal team has been fully involved and is aware of the proposal and consequential outcomes for the Council.

CONCLUSIONS

26. The review of ASL within East Renfrewshire has highlighted that there is a need to increase specialist our ASN provision in order to continue to effectively meet the additional support needs of children and young people. It will ensure sufficient spaces within our specialist provision, given the increasing number of children and young people with complex additional support needs and neurodevelopmental difficulties.

27. Legislation requires the Council undertake a statutory consultation on the proposed changes.

RECOMMENDATION

28. Members are asked to:

i. approve that the Director of Education proceeds with a consultation on a proposal to establish further provision for children and young people with additional support needs as soon as is practically possible;

ii. request the Director of Education to report on the consultation at a specially convened additional Education Committee on 8th December 2022.

Mark Ratter
Director of Education
23 June 2022

Convener Contact Details
Councillor Anderson, Convener for Education and Equalities
Tel: 07341 640 825
Tel: 0141 577 3107
Email: andrew.anderson@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk

Report Author
Siobhan McColgan, Head of Education Services (Equality and Equity)
Tel: 0141 577 3253
Siobhan.McColgan2@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk

Background Papers
[Report on the East Renfrewshire Additional Support for Learning Review](#)

Appendices
Appendix 1: East Renfrewshire Council Additional Support for Learning Review
Appendix 2: Catchment Overview
Appendix 3: Future Specialist Additional Support for Learning Provision Consultation Document

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EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL: EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

THIS IS A FORMAL CONSULTATIVE DOCUMENT

**FUTURE SPECIALIST ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FOR LEARNING PROVISION FOR
CHILDREN OF EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL**

JUNE 2022

This document has been issued by the Education Committee of East Renfrewshire Council for consultation in terms of the Schools Consultation (Scotland) Act 2010 as amended.

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EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL: EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

FUTURE SPECIALIST ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FOR LEARNING PROVISION FOR CHILDREN OF EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL

1. The Education Department takes an inclusive approach to supporting and meeting learners' needs. There are a number of different specialist services across East Renfrewshire to meet the range of learners' needs, as we know some children and young people benefit from specialist teaching methods.
2. The specialist Additional Support for Learning (ASL) Provision in East Renfrewshire Council currently consists of Isobel Mair School and Family Centre; Isobel Mair Satellite in Woodfarm High School; Williamwood Communication Support Service; Carlibar Communication Service, which comprises of a Pre School Assessment and Development Unit, Carlibar Communication Centre and Outreach Support; Social, Emotional and Behavioural Needs Outreach Support Service and Sensory Support Service.
3. During the East Renfrewshire Review of ASL, analysis of current and predicted future capacity highlighted the need to extend the current provision in order to meet future needs.

PURPOSE OF THE CONSULTATION

4. The purpose is:
 - (a) To consult on the proposal to establish a Pre School Assessment and Development Unit and Primary Communication Service in Carolside Primary School.
 - (b) To move the current Social, Emotional and Behavioural Needs (SEBN) Outreach Service to Carlibar Communication Centre to an enhanced nurture classroom.

INTRODUCTION

Background

5. East Renfrewshire Education Department's vision is *Everyone Attaining, Everyone Achieving through Excellent Experiences*. East Renfrewshire Council has a well-earned reputation for providing an excellent education for children and young people ensuring that Article 28 the Right to an Education, of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of a Child (UNCRC), is at the heart of decisions made.
6. Our vision is supported by providing quality educational surroundings in which all children, young people and staff can excel. The Council recognises that a quality environment signals the value it places on learning and teaching and the experience of all who use the facilities.
7. All councils must ensure effective management of their school places and have a statutory duty to provide adequate and efficient provision of school education for their area.
8. Local authorities also have a "... duty to secure best value by continuous improvement in performance of the authority's functions, while maintaining an appropriate balance between

quality and cost and having regard to economy, efficiency, effectiveness, equal opportunities and the achievement of sustainable development.”¹

9. East Renfrewshire Council’s Community Plan outlines the local outcomes that will be delivered for its residents. In particular this proposal would contribute to the realisation of the following outcomes:

(a) Strategic Outcome: All children in East Renfrewshire experience a stable and secure childhood and succeed; and,

(b) Strategic Outcome: East Renfrewshire residents are fit and active and have the skills for learning, life and work.

10. There are 5 capabilities (Prevention, Digital, Community Engagement, Data and Modernisation) that East Renfrewshire Council prioritises to develop excellence in as an organisation to further the vision: A modern, ambitious council creating a fairer future with all.

11. East Renfrewshire Council adheres to relevant legislation and guidance that underpins education provision, duties of best value and asset management. It recognises the importance of effective asset management with it being intrinsic to one of the council’s 5 capabilities, Modernising How We Work.

12. A *National Review* of the implementation of additional support for learning in schools was carried out by Angela Morgan (2020); it considered the implementation of the Additional Support for Learning legislation and how this is applied to practice across authorities. In seeking to take forward improvements to the education provision for learners with additional support needs, the Education Department undertook a review of Additional Support for Learning in 2021. (Education Committee Paper ASN Consultation Appendix 1)

13. Key outcomes and recommendations from the review included the need to *‘Increase the current capacity of specialist provision through expanding the specialist services across the authority’*.

PRESENT POSITION

14. Where a child’s additional support needs require additional specialist support, a referral is made to the Early Years Intervention Group (EYIG) or Education Resource Group (ERG) and following assessment and consultation on their needs, they may be allocated specialist support.

Carlibar Communication Service

15. Carlibar Communication Support Service (CCS) is an East Renfrewshire resource for Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) and Primary aged children who require intensive additional support for language and communication needs, social interaction, rigidity and flexibility of thinking and/or emotional and sensory regulation. It comprises of a Pre School Assessment and Development Unit, Communication Centre and Outreach Support. It is based within Carlibar Campus and is managed by the Head Teacher of Carlibar.

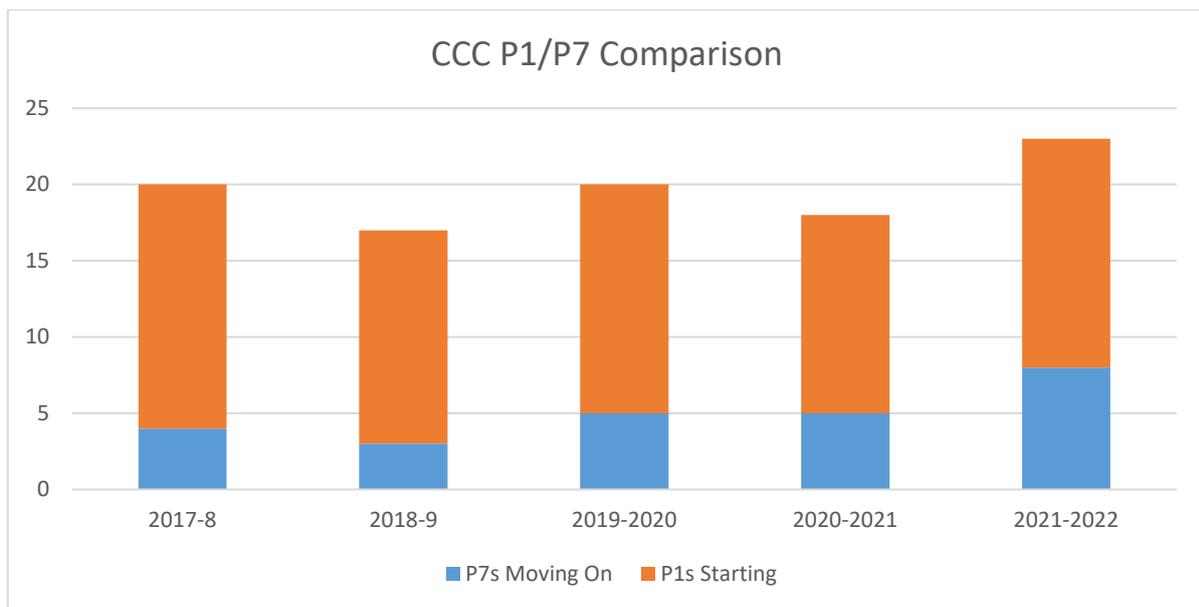
16. The additional support needs of children attending Carlibar Communication Service (CCS) has changed over time with children presenting with increasingly more complex social

¹ Putting Learners at the Centre: Towards a Future Vision for Scottish Education: <https://www.gov.scot/publications/putting-learners-centre-towards-future-vision-scottish-education/documents/>

communication needs that require full time continued support within Carlibar Communication Centre (CCC).

17. In 2017-18, there were 29 children being supported within the CCC on a full time basis; this increased to 44 by 2020/21. As a result, the number of children being supported via a split placement has reduced from 58 in 2017/18 to 37 in 2020/21. Given that capacity in terms of space has not increased, this has provided a challenge in ensuring support is in place for all pupils who require it.

18. There continues to be significantly more P1 children requiring a placement with the CCC than there are P7s moving on either to secondary school, Williamwood Communication Support Service or Isobel Mair.



SEBN Outreach

19. Social Emotional Behavioural Needs (SEBN) Outreach Support is currently based in St John's Primary School. There are 3 SEBN teachers who provide SEBN outreach support to primary and secondary pupils across East Renfrewshire.

20. Over the past 3 years, 37 children and young people have been supported via outreach support. Of those, 16% have gone on to receive further support from Carlibar Communication Service and 24% have gone on to educational provisions out with East Renfrewshire Council. There has been an increase in the number of primary aged children being placed in specialist education establishments out with East Renfrewshire.

21. Research indicates that the number of children requiring additional support related to SEBN difficulties is higher in areas of deprivation. This is evident with 54% of children supported in the last 3 years attending Carlibar PS, St Mark's PS, Thornliebank PS or St John's PS.

Williamwood Communication and Support Service (WCSS)

22. WCSS is based within Williamwood High School and is managed by the Head Teacher of Williamwood. There are currently 43 young people who attend WCSS and of those, just under two thirds have transitioned from CCC. There is an increasing number of young people

who presenting with challenges in accessing mainstream settings that manifest following transition to secondary school.

23. This session 3 young people moved on from WCSS. However following a similar trend to CCC, there were significantly more children joining in S1 than there were leaving. Given the increasing number of children with significant needs in CCC, continued house building and families who have children with additional support needs moving into East Renfrewshire the number of children and young people requiring support in WCSS will continue to increase further.

Transport

24. Education authorities have a statutory responsibility to provide and finance the transport of school pupils who live specified distances from school under the Education (Scotland) Act 1980 as amended. There is no specific legislative requirement that covers Additional Support Needs Transport, with the above legislation covering all children in education.

25. As most of our specialist education establishments are out with the catchment area of those pupils who attend them, most of our children and young people attending a specialist provision are automatically covered due to the distance they live from the specialist provision. Currently pupils are collected from their house to the specialist provision and returned to their home.

26. There are currently 3 buses and a people carrier transporting 45 children to and from Carlibar daily, 10 buses transporting 126 children and young people to and from IMS daily and 14 taxis transporting 31 young people to WCSS.

Consultation as part of the ASN Review

27. As part of the engagement and listening phase of the East Renfrewshire Additional Support for Learning Review, which took place between March-June 2021, there was consultation with more than 350 teachers and support staff involved in the delivery of ASN provision, consultation with unions and engagement with more than 600 parents and carers of children and young people with ASN who attend specialist provision or mainstream schools in East Renfrewshire. In addition to this, and consistent with Article 12 of the UN Convention of the Rights of the Child, ASN pupil focus groups were carried out to ensure that the voices and experiences of children and young people were key to informing and implementing the actions and recommendations made as a result of this review.

28. The majority of parents/carers surveyed believe that either a specialist provision or blend of specialist provision and school would best meet the needs of children and young people with severe and complex needs.

29. A significant number of parents and carers highlighted that they feel there is a need for an increase in this type of specialist provision, where there is specialist knowledge and teaching approaches. *“More facilities like Carlibar CCC are desperately needed in the authority, children are missing out on the tailored support they need due to a lack of available spaces. This is having a detrimental effect on ASN children who are in mainstream and also the children who don’t have ASN.”*

PROPOSAL

30. The purpose is:

(a) To consult on the proposal to establish a Pre School Assessment and Development Unit and Primary Communication Service in Carolside Primary School.

(b) To move the current Social, Emotional and Behavioural Needs (SEBN) Outreach Service to Carlibar Communication Centre to establish an enhanced nurture classroom.

EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS STATEMENT

31. The vision of the Education Department *Everyone Attaining, Everyone Achieving through Excellent Experiences*, is at the heart of the work that department and school staff undertake as they seek to provide the highest quality education and services to develop the whole individual.

32. In our schools it is recognised that all children and young people need support to help them learn and develop to be the best they can be. This Education Department's continued commitment to inclusion focuses on the provision of high quality support that leads to positive outcomes for all children and young people.

33. The practice of inclusion within our schools and early learning and childcare settings continues to sit alongside the principles of key national drivers. *Curriculum for Excellence* has the central purpose of ensuring that all children and young people develop as successful learners, confident individuals, responsible citizens and effective contributors and therefore must be central to an inclusive approach. The Additional Support for Learning (Education) (Scotland) Act (2004) as amended (2009) remains the principal legal framework for driving practice. The Standards in Scotland's Schools Etc. Act 2000, Equality Act 2010, Children and Young People Act 2014 and UNCRC are also key. Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC) is the national programme for all who work with children and young people, which underpins these and broader related frameworks.

34. The expansion of ASL provision would result in a number of educational benefits, in particular providing suitable high quality environments resourced with specialist staff will help realise the department's vision for children and young people with additional support needs and offer a high quality educational experience to meet the needs of the increasing number of children and young people with ASN that require specialist provision.

35. Increased accommodation and resources associated with the proposed new provision are likely to have a positive impact on the motivation, aspirations and enjoyment of children, staff and the wider schools community. At all stages, children would benefit from enhanced resources and pedagogy related to ASL.

36. The proposed increase in specialist staff supporting new services working within mainstream buildings would be advantageous and provide more effective support to the career-long professional learning of staff. In particular mainstream staff will benefit from the expertise of specialist staff in upskilling in inclusive pedagogy. In addition to this it would enable staff across specialist provisions to develop support networks in order to reflect, share and develop good practice in order to learn together and plan for improvement. This would lead to improved quality of learning, teaching and achievement for children both within and out with the specialist provisions.

37. Across our settings and schools we recognise the importance of adopting nurturing approaches in order to support behaviour, wellbeing, attainment and achievement of our children and young people. The 5 key indicators of the national Strategic Equity Fund (SEF) are attainment, attendance, inclusion, engagement and participation. The development of an enhanced nurture provision within Carlibar Communication Centre will support the development of relationship and attachment based approaches in a safe environment for primary aged children who are demonstrating high levels of social, emotional and behavioural needs. It would support any SEF funds being used to support nurturing approaches across all our schools via the specialist nurture provision.

38. Placing the Social, Emotional and Behavioural Needs (SEBN) Outreach Team within Carlibar will have the added benefit of aligning key primary outreach services under the headship of 1 person ensuring a co-ordinated approach to outreach support.

39. Following a review of our school estate, we have identified that there is sufficient space in terms of rooms, communal spaces and outdoor areas to support the development of an additional Early Years and Primary and provision based in Carolside Primary School under phase 1 of our ASN provision enhancement. Phase 2, to be planned at a later date would consider additional secondary provision. These would be located in opposite sides of the authority to the current provisions. This additional capacity would reduce the distance that pupils would require to travel on a daily basis to attend a specialist provision, providing a significantly better pupil experience.

40. It is proposed, following the results of consultation, this service would be operational from August 2023 with a phased introduction starting with new P1 children. The Education Resource Group will continue to allocate places to the specialist support services based on assessment of needs. However, where pupils reside will inform whether children are offered support in either Carlibar Communication Service or the new Carolside provision. (Education Committee Paper ASN Consultation Appendix 2)

41. Currently it is not considered that there would be any adverse impacts on children attending Carolside Primary School by implementing the proposal. There is currently additional space and capacity to establish this provision within the school. Additional staffing and resources will be allocated to support this new service. In addition, the wider benefit to pupils of Carolside includes opportunities for further development of inclusive practice across the whole school thus ensuring a joint ethos, based on clear vision and inclusive values in Carolside.

42. Pupils currently attending Carlibar Communication Centre will not be adversely affected as this new provision will adopt a phased approach to admissions with primary 1 catchment pupils starting at Carolside Communication and Support Centre from August 2023. Pupils currently attending Carlibar Communication Centre will continue to do so.

43. The enhanced nurture provision located within the CCC will not adversely impact children currently attending Carlibar Communication Centre or the pupils who will be supported there as the environment has been designed to offer a safe and nurturing space and will be led by trauma informed, experienced staff.

44. Pupils who live within the catchment of the new service will not be adversely impacted by attending the new service as the environment and staffing will be appropriate to their needs. An added benefit is that they will spend less time traveling to the specialist provision.

45. The authority will continue to monitor the provision in schools and early learning and childcare centres in accordance with established procedures and will provide support and challenge in order to secure continuous improvement in the quality of education. Should the proposed new ASL Specialist Provision proposal be approved the department would ensure that standards and quality would continue to improve for all learners.

46. The Education Department considers that the proposals would not have an adverse impact on any child or staff member in terms of age, gender, religion, race, and disability.

47. A Children's Rights, Fairness and Equality Impact Assessment will be undertaken as part of the consultation exercise. In carrying out this assessment the department will take account of (or address) any rights, fairness or equality issues raised as part of the consultation process. The Children's Rights, Fairness and Equality Impact Assessment will be included in the consultation report on the results.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE PROPOSAL

48. The consideration of an appropriate location for additional specialist provision must be cognisant of not only an establishment's current school roll, but also its projected school roll as a consequence of planned local residential developments. East Renfrewshire like all councils, must ensure effective management of its school places as it has a statutory duty to provide adequate and efficient provision of school education for its area.

49. In identifying an appropriate location for specialist learning provision the Education Department has taken into consideration a variety of factors including:

- (a) the availability of space to increase provision at a later date should it be required;
- (b) the location of the establishment with regards to ease of access;
- (c) the ability for Carolside Communication Service to have its own unique area whilst integrating with Carolside Primary School;
- (d) the Council's duty to *'secure continuous improvement in performance (while maintaining an appropriate balance between quality and cost); and, in making those arrangements and securing that balance, to have regard to economy, efficiency, effectiveness, the equal opportunities requirement and to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development.'*²

50. Carolside Primary School is located on Ashfield Road, to the north-east of the Council's area, and at the heart of the Clarkston community.

51. The school is currently operating as a 4 stream school (4 classes at each stage) with a school roll recorded in the annual school pupil census in September 2021 of 691. The school's current planning capacity on the basis of being 4 stream is 840, the school's roll over each of the last 5 years is detailed in table 2:

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
Roll	836	828	801	739	691
Planning Capacity	100%	99%	95%	88%	82%

Table 2

52. Currently, pupil projections do not indicate any new pupils taking up residence within the school's catchment area over the next 7 years as a consequence of planned new residential property developments.

² Local Government in Scotland Act 2003: Best Value: Revised Statutory Guidance: 2020 <https://www.gov.scot/publications/best-value-revised-statutory-guidance-2020/>

53. The layout of the Carolside Primary School is conducive to the creation of a specialist service whilst supporting the integration of the specialist service to whole school activities and accessing shared resources. It is proposed that the service would be located in the enclosed area within the ground floor of the school where there are 3 classrooms, a pod area and access to toilets in a self-contained area.

54. Carlibar Communication Centre is located within Carlibar Primary School, on Carlibar Road. There are 11 classrooms within the Communication Centre and places are allocated via the ERG. The enhanced nurture provision will be housed in 1 classroom within the ground floor of CCC which can be accessed via the CCC entrance. Creating additional space within Carolside Primary School will facilitate space to enable this.

Admissions and Transfer Arrangements

55. Under the proposal, there would be no change to primary school admission arrangements and it would not affect any change to Carolside's associated secondary school. Carolside Primary would still serve the same community.

56. It is proposed that there will be no changes to the allocation of specialist support places as a result of the proposed setting. Places will continue to be allocated as a result of assessment and consultation, as part of the Education Resource Group process, with children remaining on the school roll of the school they have been granted a place in to allow for split placements and transition back into mainstream education.

Traffic Management

57. It is not envisaged that there would be any material changes to walking/cycling distances to children and young people currently attending Carolside as a consequence of this proposal. It is predicted that there will be a positive impact on the length of travel time for children accessing the specialist service for those who are entitled to transport as the service will be located nearer their community. There will be no negative impact in terms of school traffic management as the majority of the children accessing the new service will be brought to school via a school bus.

Timescale, Transition, Management Arrangements and Support

58. The legislative timescales required for the various elements of statutory consultation as defined by the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, means that it is difficult to align the process of consultation with planned local governance processes and timelines such as Education Committee. As a consequence of the required timescales, the report on the results of the proposal will not be available for consideration by the next Education Committee (17 November 2022), following the end of the Consultation on 30 September 2022. This means that a decision on the proposal and associated findings of the consultation by Education Committee cannot be progressed for some time, and likely no earlier than January 2023.

59. If the proposed new arrangements for Specialist Additional Support for Learning provision are ultimately approved by Education Committee when they consider the outcome of this consultation, then transition and support would be carefully considered to manage the transfer to and the establishment of the new provisions. There would be support from the Quality Improvement Manager for Inclusion and Educational Psychology Service working with senior school staff to ensure that pupils are not disadvantaged during the transition. It is very likely that there will be the need for an extended period of transition for children and young people accessing the service, with staff working with parents/carers to ensure that the

transition is as smooth as possible. As part of the transition for the P1 cohort who would be starting at the new service, children, parents and staff would have the opportunity to familiarise themselves with the buildings including social areas, classrooms, play areas and entry/exit points. This is in line with existing transition arrangements for children moving from Nursery to CCC.

60. There are no implications for lets as any current lets at Carolside Primary School and Carlibar Communication Centre could continue.

Current & Future Provision

61. Should the proposal be accepted, East Renfrewshire Council will continue to provide high quality support to the growing number of children and young people who present with complex social, communication and behavioural needs. Subject to necessary approvals, there would be the opportunity to expand the specialist provision across both sides of the authority within the existing educational estate. This would ensure that class sizes, pedagogical approaches and the learning environment can best meet the needs of pupils with ASN. This would also reduce transport requirements and minimise lengthy journeys for children and young people who attend provision at the opposite side of the authority from where they live.

62. As part of this consultative process, consideration has been given to the findings from East Renfrewshire's ASL review. This provided an analysis of ASN data across the authority and highlighted the increasing number of children with more complex additional support needs. It is noted that the availability of and demand for educational places for children and young people with ASN will continue to be subject to ongoing monitoring and review. This will take into account changes to local/national educational policy such as the outcome of the national ASL review (the Morgan review), expansion of early years, or changes in class size.

63. Consideration will also be given to the new housing estates, and other demographic changes such as the number of families with children with ASN moving into the authority, which may lead to discussion about the need for any relevant modifications to the educational estate. Any future required changes to education estate provision would be subject to the procedures and approaches for such requests for capital investment, via the capital investment strategy and the Corporate Asset Management Group and subsequent future committee and council reports and any necessary consultation.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

64. At present there is no identified finance to take forward the proposal to increase capacity of specialist provision so the department will direct funding from its delegated budget to support the recommendations as outlined in ASL review.

65. Additional staffing in each establishment will be required to deliver the service however any additional costs will come from existing authority staffing budgets and may involve a redistribution of staffing ratios across the school estate.

CONSULTATION

66. The Council is required to formally consult on a variation to the arrangements for the constitution of a special class in a school other than a special school. How this is carried out and who must be consulted is clearly set out in the Schools Consultation (Scotland) Act 2010 as amended.

67. This report is issued as a formal consultative document and will be made available to all interested parties. A copy of the report is available for inspection at the settings and schools and at the Council's Head Office, Eastwood Park, Rouken Glen Road, Giffnock, East Renfrewshire, G46 6UG; and at the Council Offices, 211 Main Street, Barrhead, East Renfrewshire, G78 1SY. An electronic version can be accessed at the East Renfrewshire Council website (<https://getinvolved.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/>).

Settings affected

68. Carolside Primary School, Carlibar Communication Centre and the early learning and childcare establishments of the Clarkston and Busby Community area.

Period of Consultation

69. The consultation period will last from Wednesday 17 August 2022 to midnight on Friday 30 September 2022.

Relevant Consultees

70. We will consult with the following:

- Parents/ carers of all children/ young people in the affected settings;
- Parent Councils of the affected settings;
- Parents/ carers of any child(ren)/ young person (people) expected to attend an affected setting within the next 2 school years;
- Pupils of each affected school (in so far as the education authority considers them to be of a suitable age and maturity);
- Staff (teaching and otherwise) of each affected setting;
- Trade unions representing staff employed in the affected settings; and
- Any other education authority that the education authority considers relevant.

71. During the consultation period a public meeting will be held in Eastwood High School at 7:00 pm on Wednesday 7 September 2022. Elected members and senior officers of East Renfrewshire Council will be present to discuss the proposal and there will be an opportunity to ask questions at the meeting.

72. Note on Corrections: If any possible inaccuracy or omission in the Consultative Document is discovered by the Education Department or is suggested by any other person, the department will determine if relevant information has been omitted or if there has been an inaccuracy. The Education Department will then take appropriate action that may include the issue of a correction or the reissuing of the Proposal paper or the revision of the timescale for the consultation period as appropriate. In that event, relevant consultees and Education Scotland will be advised.

Responding to the Consultation

73. East Renfrewshire Council invites all interested parties to make written representation on the consultative proposal. Interested parties are encouraged to provide feedback on East Renfrewshire Council's website <https://getinvolved.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk> or alternatively consultees can complete and return the consultation response proforma attached (Appendix A).

74. Written responses regarding the proposal will also be accepted by post. Such responses should be clear about who you are, where you live, why you are interested including your relationship with the affected settings (e.g. parent/ carer of pupil in an affected setting, member of staff at an affected setting, relative of a pupil at an affected setting etc.) and whether or not you agree with the proposal, or have any alternative solutions or comments. Petitions will be treated as a single response.

75. Education Scotland is entitled to copies of all responses received. We would therefore advise that your personal information will be supplied to Education Scotland if they request it. Separately, other interested parties may also seek sight of the responses received and accordingly you should advise if you wish your personal details withheld in respect of these requests.

76. Please send all written representation on the proposal to East Renfrewshire Council no later than midnight on Friday 30 September 2022 via the Council's consultation website, or postal address for hard copies to East Renfrewshire Council, Education Department, Council Offices, 211 Main Street, Barrhead, East Renfrewshire, G78 1SY.

77. Education Scotland will be sent details of the consultation responses including issues raised at the public meeting and other relevant documentation. Education Scotland will then prepare and submit a report to the Director of Education within three weeks. In preparing their report Education Scotland may visit the affected schools.

78. The Director of Education will report the results of this consultation exercise including the report submitted by Education Scotland to the Education Committee on 1 December 2022. The consultation report on the results will be available for public inspection at least 3 weeks before that date. The report will be available at all reasonable times at Council Offices at Eastwood Park, and Barrhead Main Street, in the affected school, local library and published on the Council's website.

79. Reasonable requests for alternative forms of consultation papers or response documents will be accommodated wherever possible e.g. audio support or language translations. For this support please contact Aileen Vance via email Aileen.Vance@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk or write to the address in paragraph 65 above.

80. The final report and the decision taken by the Education Committee will be made available on the Council's website. Printed copies of the report will be made available on request to anyone who has responded to the consultative document.

Mark Ratter
Director of Education
June 2022

Appendices
Appendix A: Consultation Pro-forma

**Proposed Catchment Schools for Carlibar Communication Centre and Carolside
Communication Centre**

Home School	Community	Proposed ASN Establishment
Crookfur Primary School	Newton Mearns	Carlibar
Carlibar Primary School	Barrhead/Neilston/Uplawmoor	Carlibar
Cross Arthurlie Primary School	Barrhead/Neilston/Uplawmoor	Carlibar
Hillview Primary School	Barrhead/Neilston/Uplawmoor	Carlibar
Neilston Primary School	Barrhead/Neilston/Uplawmoor	Carlibar
St John's Primary School	Barrhead/Neilston/Uplawmoor	Carlibar
St Mark's Primary School	Barrhead/Neilston/Uplawmoor	Carlibar
St Thomas' Primary School	Barrhead/Neilston/Uplawmoor	Carlibar
Uplawmoor Primary School	Barrhead/Neilston/Uplawmoor	Carlibar
Braidbar Primary School	Giffnock/Thornliebank	Carlibar
Giffnock Primary School	Giffnock/Thornliebank	Carlibar
Our Lady of the Missions	Giffnock/Thornliebank	Carlibar
Thornliebank Primary School	Giffnock/Thornliebank	Carlibar
Mearns Primary School	Newton Mearns	Carlibar
St Cadoc's Primary School	Newton Mearns	Carlibar
Maidenhill Primary School	Newton Mearns	Carlibar
Busby Primary School	Busby/Clarkston/Eaglesham	Carolside
Carolside Primary School	Busby/Clarkston/Eaglesham	Carolside
Eaglesham Primary School	Busby/Clarkston/Eaglesham	Carolside
Netherlee Primary School	Busby/Clarkston/Eaglesham	Carolside
St Joseph's Primary School	Busby/Clarkston/Eaglesham	Carolside
Calderwood Lodge	Newton Mearns	Carolside
Kirkhill Primary School	Newton Mearns	Carolside
St Clare's Primary School	Newton Mearns	Carolside

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EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL : EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

FUTURE SPECIALIST ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FOR LEARNING PROVISION FOR
CHILDREN OF EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL

FORM FOR YOUR RESPONSE

ABOUT YOU

Name: Address: Post Code Tick the box if we should keep your name and address confidential**Please select all that apply and complete as appropriate:**

- I am a Parent/Carer of a child/ children attending an *affected school(s)* as noted below. (**Carer means the responsible adult with whom the young person lives**)
- Carolside Primary School
- Carlibar Communication Centre/PSADU
- Busby Nursery Class
- Cart Mill Family Centre
- Carolside Nursery Class
- Netherlee Nursery Class
- Overlee Family Centre
- My child/ children reside(s) in the delineated catchment area(s) of the school(s) attended above

Name(s) of my child(ren): I am a pupil at I am a member of staff at I am responding on behalf of a group or organisation.
Name of group/organisation I am related to a young person attending one of the *affected schools* I provide care to a young person attending one of the *affected schools* I reside within East Renfrewshire Other (*please specify*)

Please provide information to all sections. Should you not wish to specify some of the details in the ABOUT YOU section, we will still take your response into account.

WHAT YOU THINK (tick only one box)

- I agree with the proposal.
- I do not agree with the proposal.

PLEASE WRITE YOUR REASON(S)/ COMMENTS BELOW

The reason(s) I have for reaching my decision is/are:

Any other additional comment:

Signed

Send your reply to East Renfrewshire Council, via the online consultation website or post to Education Department, Council Offices, 211 Main Street, Barrhead, East Renfrewshire, G78 1SY, no later than midnight **Tuesday 30 September 2022.**