

Report

Report to:	Executive Committee
Date of Meeting:	28th August 2019
Report by:	Executive Director (Education Resources)

Subject:	Newfield and Stonehouse Primary Schools Catchment Review
----------	---

1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ update the Executive Committee on the projections for Newfield and Stonehouse Primary Schools and the current catchment area of the two schools
- ◆ To seek approval from Executive Committee to undertake a statutory consultation on realigning the catchment areas of both Newfield and Stonehouse Primary Schools in Stonehouse.

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) that a statutory consultation is undertaken under the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 to change the catchment areas of both Newfield and Stonehouse Primary Schools to better align new housing developments in the area to the primary school geographically closer to the development.

3. Background

3.1. The current catchment areas for both Newfield and Stonehouse Primary Schools are shown on Appendix 1. This is a historic boundary arrangement that, due to changes in the housing and population distribution within the area over time, should be redrawn to more appropriately link housing areas to each non-denominational primary school and more equitably balance the pupil population.

3.2. Newfield Primary School:

Newfield Primary School has 8 Classrooms and a Nursery class for 30 children. With this accommodation (and assuming an average of 30 pupils per class), the school could accommodate 240 pupils.

3.3. The current pupil roll is 213. Pupil projections based on the average P1 intake over the last three years plus known housing developments in the area suggest the roll may decrease to 187 in August 2021.

3.4. Stonehouse Primary School:

Stonehouse Primary School has 8 Classrooms, 3 ASN Classrooms and a nursery class for 33 children. With this accommodation (not including ASN classes), the school could accommodate 240 mainstream pupils.

- 3.5. The current mainstream pupil roll is 217. Pupil projections based on the average P1 intake over the last three years plus known housing developments in the area suggest the mainstream roll may decrease to 191 in August 2021.

4. Proposals

- 4.1. There are several housing developments underway in the Stonehouse Area with other areas identified as potential developments for the future. Due to the “doughnut” nature of the existing Newfield Primary School’s catchment area (see Appendix 1) these developments are currently zoned to Stonehouse Primary School but geographically are closer to Newfield Primary School.
- 4.2. 36% of placing requests to Newfield come from areas that would be rezoned if the proposal was approved. For example 16 children, 60% of the children, currently residing within the Cot Castle Road development, have chosen to attend Newfield Primary School through the Placing Request process, most likely due to Newfield Primary School being geographically closer than Stonehouse Primary School to this development.
- 4.3. Appendix 2 shows the proposed change to the catchment line which would re-align the new housing development consisting of Cot Castle View, Cot Castle View East, Cot Castle View West and Cot Castle Grove to Newfield Primary School.
- 4.4. Any future development on land adjacent to the Stonehouse Integrated Community Facility is also proposed to be re-aligned to Newfield Primary School.
- 4.5. Appendix 3 shows the detail of the streets included in the realignment to Newfield Primary.
- 4.6. The predicted number of pupils generated from new housing developments is 32 from within the proposed Newfield Primary School catchment area and 17 from within the proposed Stonehouse Primary School catchment area. Given the current capacity of both schools it is therefore anticipated that the catchment realignment will still allow for both schools to accommodate the predicted numbers of children generated from the new housing.

5. General/Other Implications for the Council

- 5.1. The intended effective date of any revised catchment realignment would be from the school session starting in August 2020.
- 5.2. As part of the statutory consultation process, a public meeting will be held to fully engage with the local community on this proposal.
- 5.3. Families with children already attending either school, and with a further sibling enrolling in P1 in respect of school sessions August 2020 through to August 2025 will have the choice for their P1 child to be granted placement in that school regardless of the any catchment change.

6. Employee Implications

- 6.1. Employee resources at each school would continue to be provided by means of existing staffing protocols and agreed management structures.

7. Financial Implications

- 7.1. The proposal demonstrates a Best Value approach to effectively managing the primary school estate and the Council's property portfolio.

8. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 8.1. Under the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, any proposals to vary any of the admission arrangements for a school, including its catchment area, would necessitate a statutory consultation.
- 8.2. There was no requirement to carry out an Equality Impact Assessment in terms of this report.

Tony McDaid
Executive Director (Education Resources)

2nd August 2019

Link(s) to Council Values/Objectives

- Raise educational achievement and attainment
- Achieve efficient and effective use of resources

Previous References

None

List of Background Papers

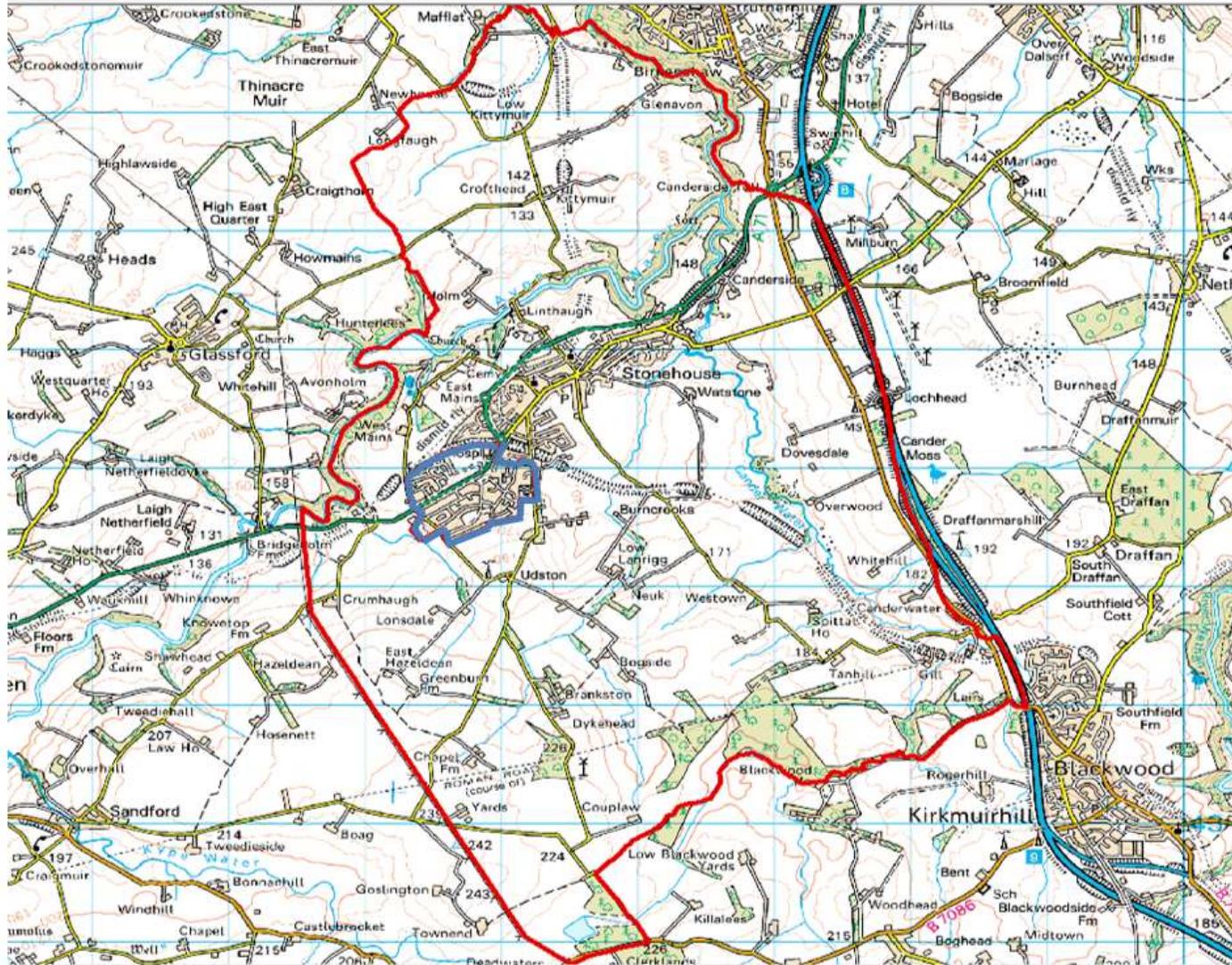
None

Contact for Further Information

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

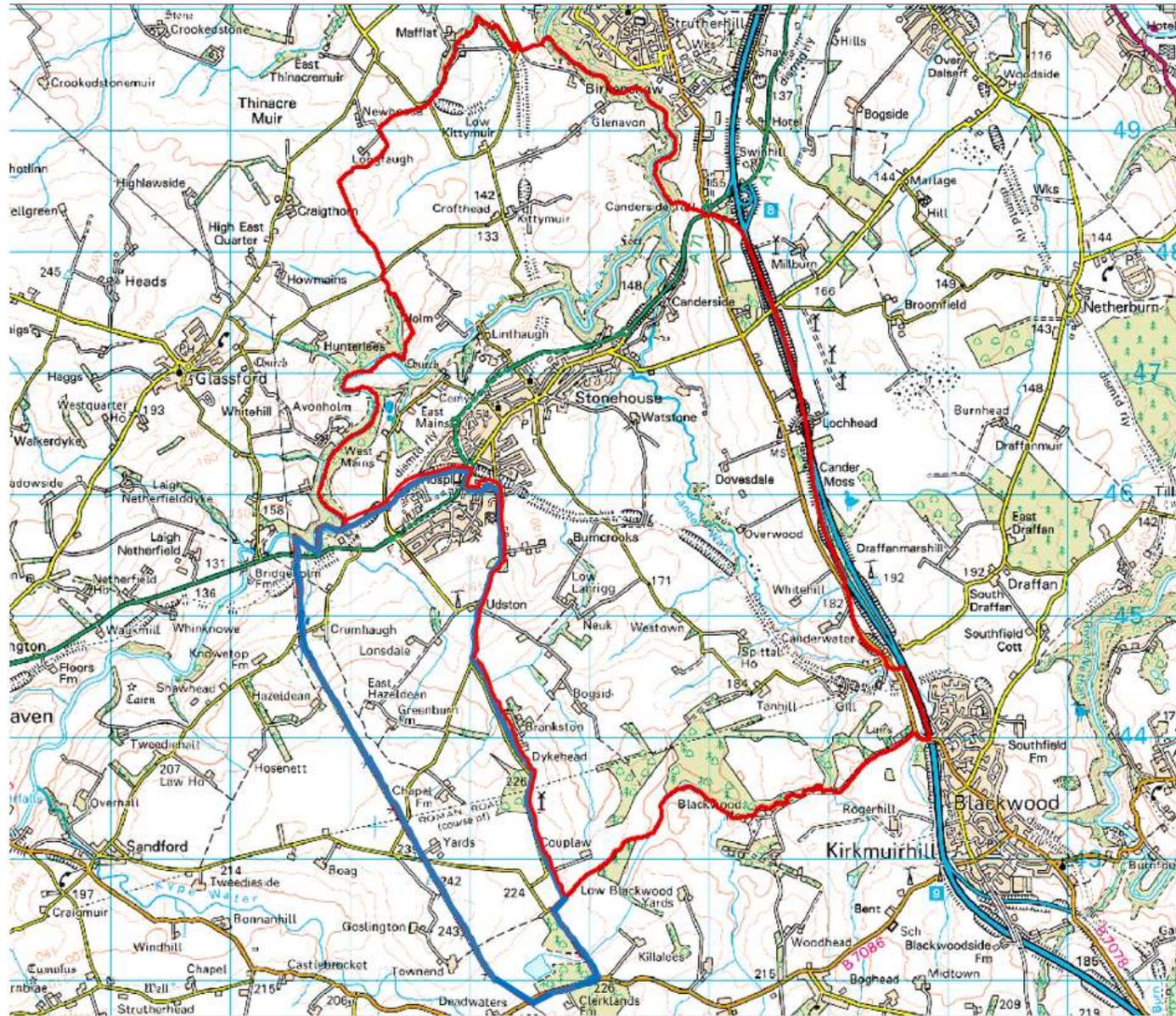
Vance Sinclair, Partnership Development Manager
Ext: 2065 (Tel: 01698 452065)
E-mail: vance.sinclair@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Appendix 1 – Existing Catchment areas



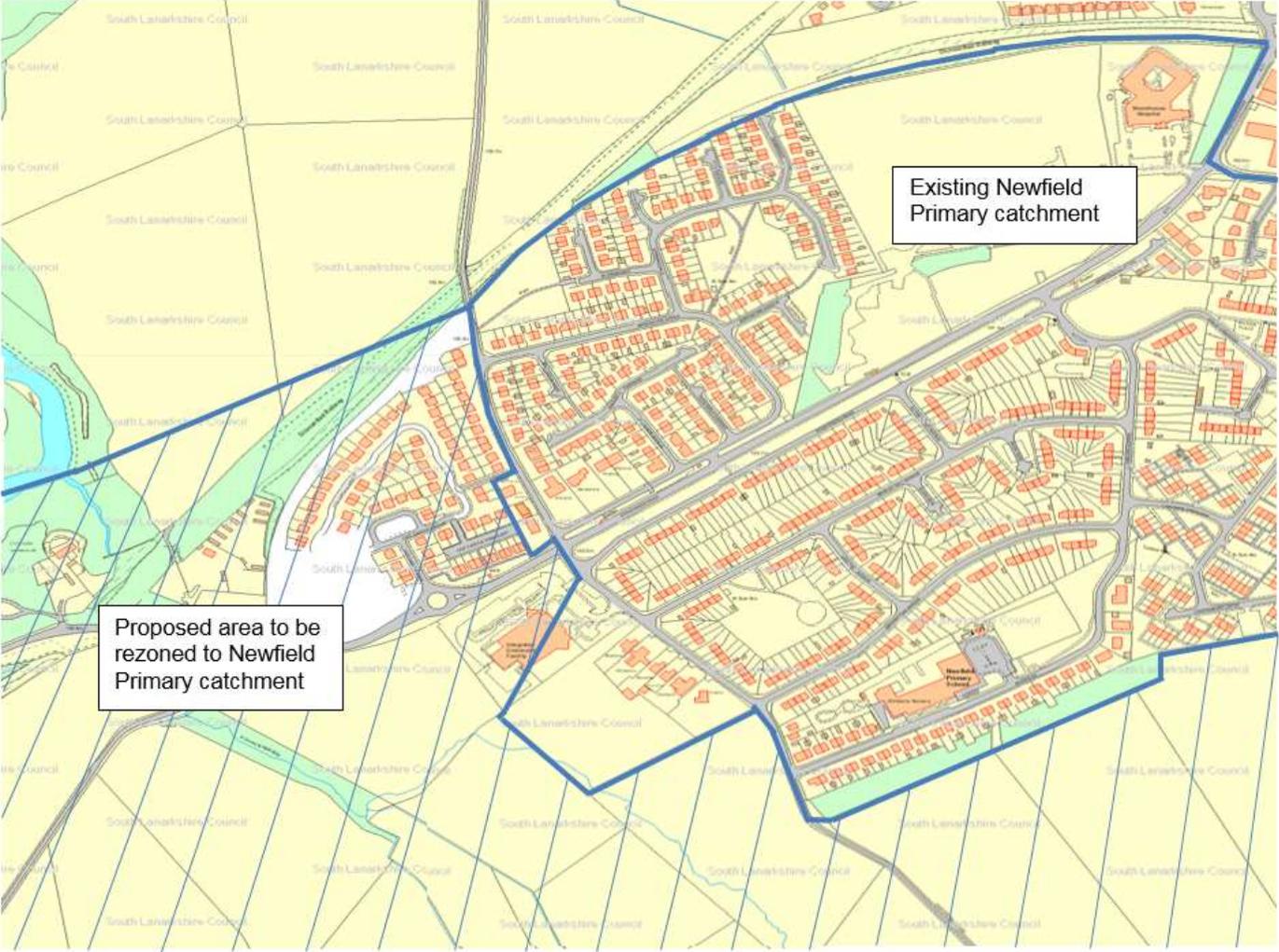
- Existing Stonehouse Primary Catchment
- Existing Newfield Primary Catchment

Appendix 2 – Proposed Catchment areas



-  Proposed Stonehouse Primary Catchment
-  Proposed Newfield Primary Catchment

Appendix 3
Detail of housing area proposed to move to Newfield Catchment area



-  Existing Newfield Primary Catchment
-  Proposed addition to Newfield Primary Catchment