

CATCHMENT AREA CONSULTATION MEETING – LEVERHULME MEMORIAL SCHOOL -
TUESDAY 16 DECEMBER 2014 AT 7.30PM

Bernard Chisholm

Can I just say welcome folks, I appreciate you being here and to Rebecca who has had to leave us but, my name is Bernard Chisholm. I am a Head of Service and if you excuse me I have to record the meeting as part of the public consultation. My colleague, the Chair of Education and Children's Services, Catriona Stewart, would normally chair this meeting but is ill tonight and the colleagues in legal and others were not able to be here so unfortunately I am on my own.

The purpose of the meeting was as outlined in the proposal document which you should have seen. It was in the press and I've got a copy of it if you haven't seen it and basically I previously discussed with the community the boundary based on the previous boundary of Sir E Scott, Seilebost and Leverhulme School. With the school estate review and the closure of Seilebost we wanted to discuss with parents where the catchment would be more appropriately be placed.

At that meeting it became apparent that parents on the east side in the townships of Lickisto, Geocrab and Manish had by custom and practice always attended Sir E Scott but were in fact in the Leverhulme catchment so it was felt that in order to ensure the community understood we were changing the boundary or proposing a change to the boundary we should hold a further consultation in order to make it clear to people on the east side that if they wish to have that change they could make representation.

In terms of some legal and procedural things if I can tell you that the proposal document has been approved as you have it by Council. A copy of this document was published in the Comhairle website and this meeting had been advertised through local media and the Stornoway Gazette, West Highland Free Press and Radio na Gaidheal. There is a consultation period of 34 days extending from the 20 November to 23 January 2015 and the public meetings for this were held this evening at 5.30pm at Sir E Scott and now at 7.30pm here in Leverhulme.

Education Scotland will in fact have been notified of the meeting and the outcome of this meeting together with all submissions, oral and written, will be forwarded to them and Education Scotland will then prepare a report on the merits of the proposal not later than 20 February 2015.

The Council or Comhairle will review the proposal having regard to the Education Scotland report and we will then prepare a consultation report and that will be published in electronic and printed format and advertised in local newspapers and on the Council website. The report itself will contain a statement explaining how we've complied with the requirement to review the proposal in light of the Education Scotland report and with all the representations we got and it will be published at least 3 weeks prior to the Comhairle making a decision and the consultation report together with all documentation will be considered by the Education and Children's Services Committee on 14 April 2015. That committee will then make a recommendation and this recommendation would be then subject to the approval of the full Council on 22 April 2015.

If there are any omissions or corrections that you noted in the Report then I will note these and amend them later. Other than that I will open the meeting for any questions on the proposal that you may have, and because it is being recorded I might ask you to speak into the mic. Okay so are there any questions in relation to the proposal?

[Type text]

[Type text]

APPENDIX B

1st un-named female During the previous consultation any questions that I had were answered at that stage so I don't have any questions.

Bernard Chisholm Anything with yourself?

2nd un-named female No I don't think so, no.

Bernard Chisholm There will be time for any members of the community to make any written submissions and these will be considered and I recognise that given the situation of today; a funeral and other community meetings it has been difficult for everyone to here but I have noted that most people were aware of it an gave views at the previous meeting and it would be my intention to report the outcome of this therefore to Council recommending the proposal to Council and proceeding as outlined in the report. Okay, it only remains for me to say thank you all on a very wet and windy night in Harris for coming out and taking the time. It is very much appreciated. Thanks very much