

**AGENDA ITEM NO: 18** 

**Education and Communities** Report To:

Committee

Date:

31 October 2017

Report By:

**Corporate Director Education,** 

Report No:

**EDUCOM/73/17/RB** 

**Communities and** 

**Organisational Development** 

**Contact Officer: Ruth Binks**  Contact No:

01475 712824

Subject:

Statutory consultation to address minor anomalies in the current

school catchment areas

#### 1.0 PURPOSE

The purpose of this paper is to seek approval from the Education and Communities Committee to undertake a statutory consultation to amend the catchments areas identified in Appendix 1 in order to produce a GIS map of school catchment areas.

#### 2.0 SUMMARY

- There is a need to provide a spatial dataset of school catchment areas which can assist with customer enquiries, management and planning decisions and also be published on a mapping section of the Inverclyde Council website. Currently Education Services use street lists to identify catchment areas. The street lists have been compiled from historical maps.
- 2.2 When transferring the street lists onto a GIS data map there were several obvious conflicts between the original maps and the street lists. As the street list is the definitive list currently used by Education Services to define a catchment area, any proposed changes to catchment areas will be subject to statutory consultation. Therefore in order to produce an accurate GIS map from the street lists, statutory consultation needs to be undertaken for some addresses in order to vary the catchment area.
- 2.3 It is proposed to undertake both a pre-consultation and a statutory consultation exercise between November 2017 and March 2018 with a final decision being taken by the Education and Communities Committee in May 2018.

#### 3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

The Education and Communities Committee is asked to approve the request to undertake a statutory consultation to amend the catchments areas identified in Appendix 1 in order to produce a GIS map of school catchment areas.

**Ruth Binks Head of Education** 

#### 4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 In 2005, maps of school catchment areas were produced by Education Services. In 2010 a Geographic Information Systems (GIS) dataset was produced from the maps and this dataset was used to create catchment street lists. The catchment street lists are currently used by Education Services to define catchment areas and have been in use since 2010.
- 4.2 In June 2016 work was undertaken to transfer the 2010 catchment street lists onto a GIS map. This work was undertaken in order to comply with the requirements of the Scottish Government to provide a spatial data set to progress compliance with the Infrastructure for Spatial Information in Europe (INSPIRE) directive. It is also desirable for Inverclyde Council to be able to publish a map of catchment areas on the website so that parents have easy access to information that will help facilitate decisions about schooling. The current system where a street list is used is labour intensive of officer time because the street catchment areas are not published on the website.
- 4.3 When the 2010 catchment street lists were transferred back onto a map in June 2016 there were areas where the original maps were in conflict with the street lists. Work has been undertaken to identify each area that is in conflict and to confirm the proposed catchment area for each address.
- 4.4 The Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 as amended states that statutory consultation should be undertaken if an authority intends to vary the catchment area for a school.

#### 5.0 CURRENT POSITION

- 5.1 Appendix 1 shows a list of addresses where changes to catchment areas are proposed. The list shows the address, the catchment area of the school as identified on the original map, the catchment area of the school as identified on the current street catchment list, the recommendation of the working group which has considered this and the linked secondary schools that will be affected.
- 5.2 It is in the educational interests of our pupils to have a clear and easily understood list of catchment areas publicly available. This means that parents can make fully informed choices when choosing a school for their child. It is equally important that the catchment areas fall within the natural community of a school. Where possible, boundaries for school catchment areas are delineated by roads or natural geographic boundaries and try to include houses facing onto the same street. This gives a sense of community to the catchment area as pupils who attend the same schools will often want to socialise together after school and attend the same clubs. Appendix 2 shows detailed maps of the properties affected.
- 5.3 If agreed, then a pre-consultation will be undertaken whereby the addresses affected will be contacted by letter (see appendix 3) to advise them of the proposed changes and to gauge views. The pre-consultation would take place during the month of November. The purpose of a pre-consultation would be to identify any specific concerns that are raised and to help the authority to best prepare the statutory proposal paper and educational benefits statement required to undertake such a change. At the end of this period an all members briefing would be held to outline the content of the proposed consultation paper. When proposing to vary the catchment area the Educational Authority must, in accordance with the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 as amended:
  - Prepare and publish a proposal paper
  - Prepare an Educational benefits statement, which must set out clearly the positive benefits that would accrue from implementation of a proposal, be comprehensive and detailed, set out clearly how a proposal will improve outcomes for children and young people and enable them to do their best
  - Give notice of the Proposal to the relevant Consultees and invite representations,
  - · Give notice to hold a public meeting
  - Involve HMIE

The consultation period must be minimum of 6 weeks to include at least 30 school days. Those persons/ bodies requiring consultation are:

- 1) Parent Council
- 2) Parents of the pupils at any schools affected
- 3) Parents of any children expected by the EA to attend any affected school within 2 years of date of publication
- 4) Pupils at any affected schools (regards to be had to age and maturity)
- 5) All staff at any affected school
- 6) Any Trade Union
- 7) Any Community Council (if applicable)
- 5.4 The statutory consultation period would begin on the 4 January and end on 20 February 2018. The act requires that reports are prepared by HM Inspectors of Education (HMIE) working for Education Scotland. HM Inspectors have three weeks to consider the educational aspects of the council's proposal and submit a report to the council. Unless there are unforeseen issues the intention would be to publish the final consultation document by 13 April 2018 for a decision to be taken to the Education and Communities Committee in May 2018.
- 5.5 If the decision is taken to change the catchment areas of the addresses in Appendix 1 then parents/carers will be advised of the following:
  - Any pupils and siblings of pupils living at an address affected by the changes will have the
    right to remain at their current school if they so wish, even if they no longer live in the
    catchment area. If applicable, transport will still be provided and the places will not be
    considered as placing requests. This applies to primary schools and the secondary school
    associated with that primary school.
  - If the decision is taken to change catchment areas, any pupil affected by the change of catchment area who is currently at the newly identified school on a placing request will be reverted to the catchment area of that school with immediate effect of the decision being made. This may mean that the pupil becomes entitled to transport.
  - If any pupils living at an address affected by the changes wish to change to the new catchment area school then this will be considered as a within catchment area enrolment and places allocated accordingly.
  - Once a choice has been made as to the school a pupil will attend, then the expectation is that pupils remain in the school until significant transition points e.g. the transfer to secondary school. The authority will remain flexible as to the allocation of a secondary school place but once an initial decision has been made by a family then the expectation is that pupils remain in that school and any subsequent changes of school would be subject to a placing request. Parents/carers will retain the right to submit placing requests and any change of denominational sector will still be subject to a placing request.
- 5.6 Initial research indicates that of the families living at the 87 residences affected by these changes, there are currently 4 children attending Inverclyde's early years learning provision and 31 attending school (P1 S6) with a number having already submitted a placing request to the proposed school.
- 5.7 As part of the process, any areas of Invercive that currently do not have any residential housing have been considered. Where there is no mention of the identified area on the current street list then the 2010 maps have been used to allocate the catchment areas for schools. This applies to Spango Valley, Inverkip Power Station and the former Holy Cross Primary School. Where the address that the area covers is mentioned on the current street list then the catchment area has been allocated according to the street list. This applies to the Old St. Stephen's High School site. There is one exception to this for the area covering the former Ravenscraig Hospital. There is no mention of the hospital on the street list so officers reverted to the 2010 map but feel that the allocation of the catchment area for the denominational primary school on the 2010 map is incorrect. The 2010 map identifies St Patrick's Primary School as the denominational school for the area but it is recommended that consultation be undertaken to change this area to be in the catchment of St. Andrew's Primary School.

#### 6.0 IMPLICATIONS

#### **Finance**

6.1 Financial Implications:

One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report £000	Virement From	Other Comments
	Cost of advert and possible meeting costs				

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact £000	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
N/A					

## Legal

6.2 There are legal implications which are addressed in this report because of the need to carry out a formal statutory consultation.

#### **Human Resources**

6.3 There are no Human Resources issues arising from this report.

## **Equalities**

6.4 Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out?

X	Yes	An equality impact assessment will be carried out as part of the consultation process.
	No	This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy. Therefore, no Equality Impact Assessment is required.

## Repopulation

6.5 This proposal will help with repopulation of Inverclyde as families moving into the area will be better informed of school catchment areas.

### 7.0 CONSULTATIONS

7.1 The consultations required for this proposal are contained within the report. This report has been produced as a result of a short life working group made up of officers from Education Services, Legal Services, School Estates and Safer Communities.

#### 8.0 CONCLUSIONS

8.1 An accurate map of school catchment areas will be beneficial to Inverclyde for the reasons stated in this report.

# 9.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

9.1 Nil.

# Appendix 1 Summary of addresses affected

Table 1. Summary of Primary Non-Denominational Conflicts and potential recommendations

Street(s)	Map Catchment	Street List Catchment	Recommendation	Current Secondary school	Recommended Secondary School	Maps
Lansbury Street (14-30 even)	King's Oak Primary	Newark Primary	King's Oak Primary	PGHS	Inverclyde Academy	1A and 1B
Albert Road (43-57 odd) and (46-52 even)	Gourock Primary	Moorfoot Primary	Gourock Primary	Clydeview	•	2A and 2B
Ardgowan North Lodge, Braeton, High Lunderston, Low Lunderston and Lunderston House on Cloch Road	Inverkip Primary	Moorfoot Primary	Inverkip Primary	Clydeview	Inverclyde Academy	3A and 3B
Old Inverkip Road (133-147 odd)	Lady Alice Primary	Whinhill Primary	Lady Alice Primary	Inverclyde Academy	No change	4A and 4B
Drumshantie Road (1-9 odd)	Moorfoot Primary	Gourock Primary	Moorfoot Primary	Clydeview	No change	5A and 5B
Burnside Farm & Cottage, Burnside Smithy, Finlaystone South Lodge, Old Smithy Cottage and Finlaystone Estate on Old Greenock Road	Kilmacolm Primary	Newark Primary	Kilmacolm Primary	PGHS	No change	6A and 6B

Table 2. Summary of Primary Denominational Conflicts and potential recommendations

Street(s)	Map Catchment	Street List Catchment	Recommendation	Current Secondary school	Recommended Secondary School	Maps
Lyle Road (80-98 even)	St. Joseph's	St. Mary's	St. Joseph's Primary	Notre Dame	St. Columba's	7A and 7B
Neil Street (2-4 even)	Primary St. Joseph's	Primary St. Andrew's	St. Joseph's Primary	St. Columba's	No change	8A and 8B
	Primary	Primary				
Caddlehill Street and Greenbank	St. Patrick's	St. Mary's	St. Patrick's	Notre Dame	No change	9A and 9B
Lane	Primary	Primary				

# Table 3 Summary of areas without current residential housing

Street(s)	Map Catchment	Street List Catchment	Recommendation	Current Secondary school	Recommended Secondary School	Мар
Former Ravenscraig Hospital	St. Patrick's Primary	N/a	St. Andrew's Primary School	Notre Dame	St. Columba's	10A and 10B

# Appendix 2

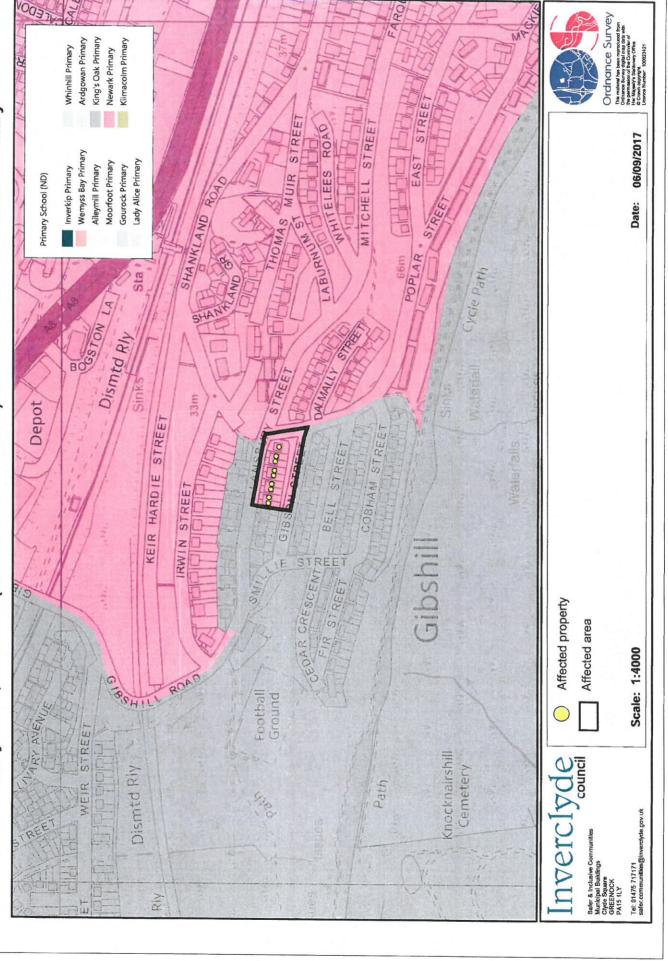
#### Details of consultation

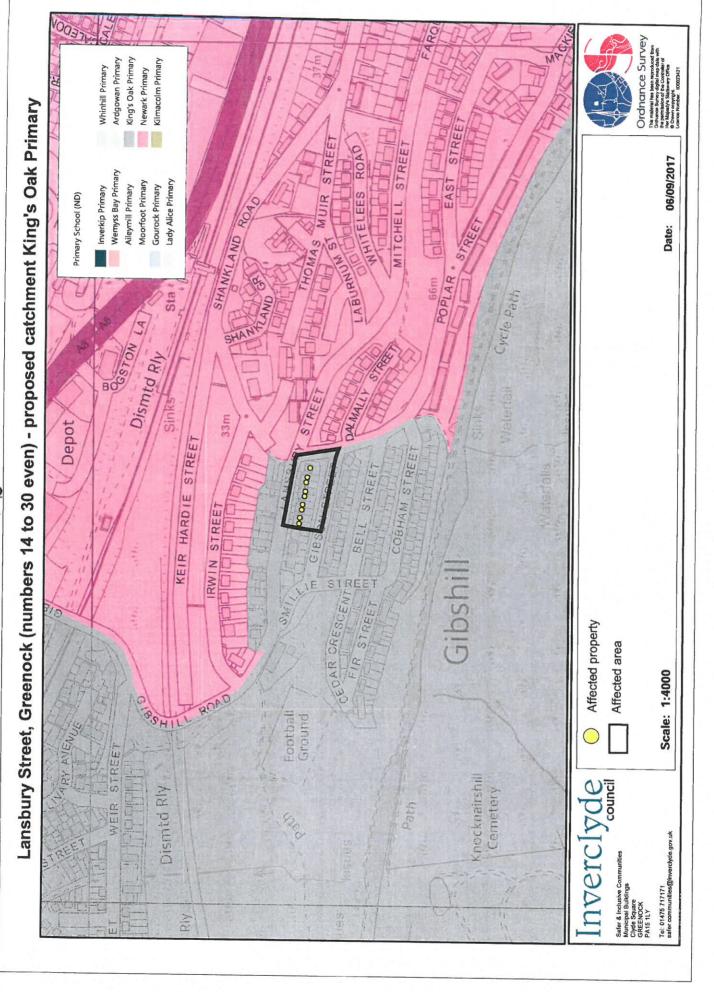
Lansbury street 14 -30 even

Currently 14-30 even are in the Newark Primary School catchment area. The proposal is to change this to the King's Oak Primary School catchment area. Map 1A shows the current catchment area and 1B shows the proposed catchment area.

The schools affected for consultation are King's Oak Primary School, Newark Primary School, Port Glasgow High School and Inverclyde Academy.

Lansbury Street, Greenock (numbers 14 to 30 even) - current catchment Newark Primary

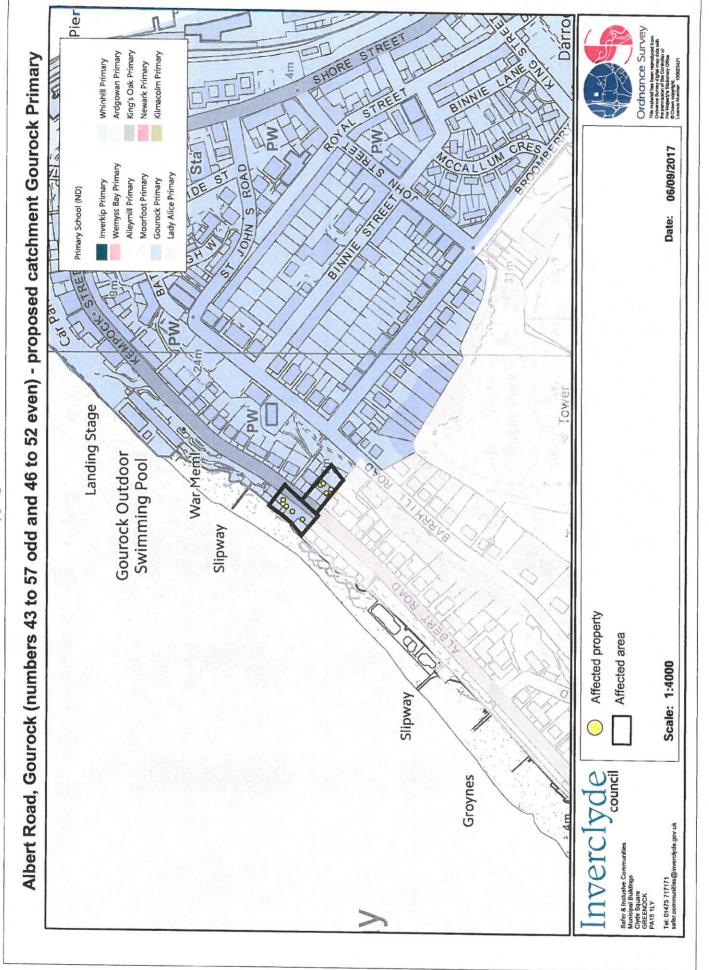




Albert Road (43-57 odd and 46-52 even)

Currently 43-57 odd and 46-52 even are in the Moorfoot Primary School catchment area. The proposal is to change this to the Gourock Primary School catchment area. Map 2A shows the current catchment area and 2B shows the proposed catchment area.

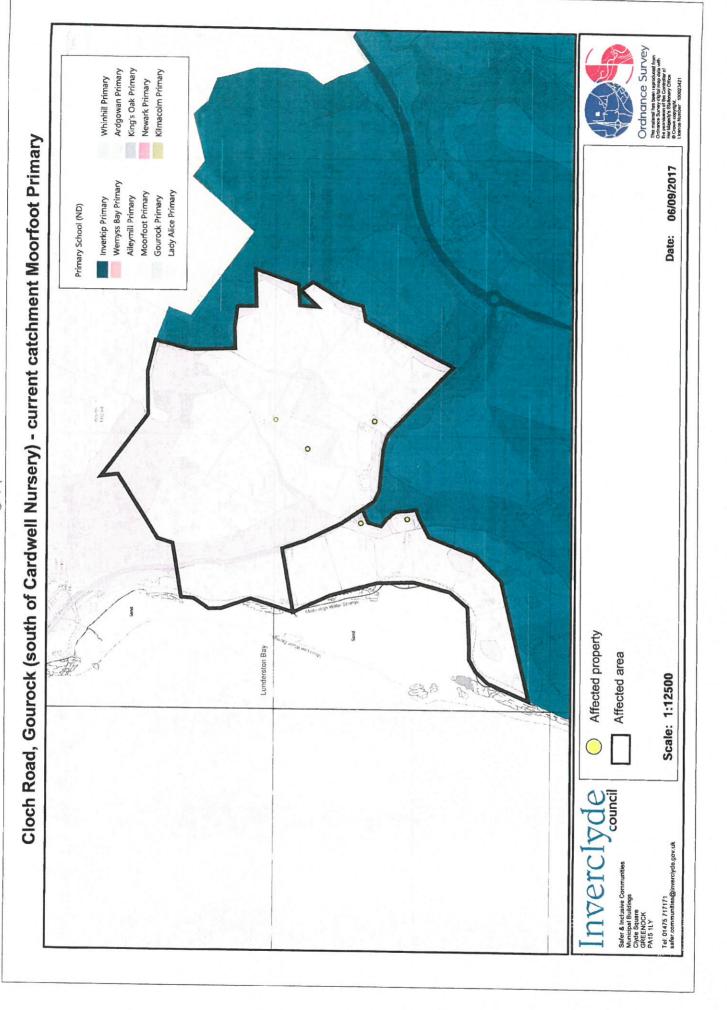
The schools affected for consultation are Gourock Primary School and Moorfoot Primary School.

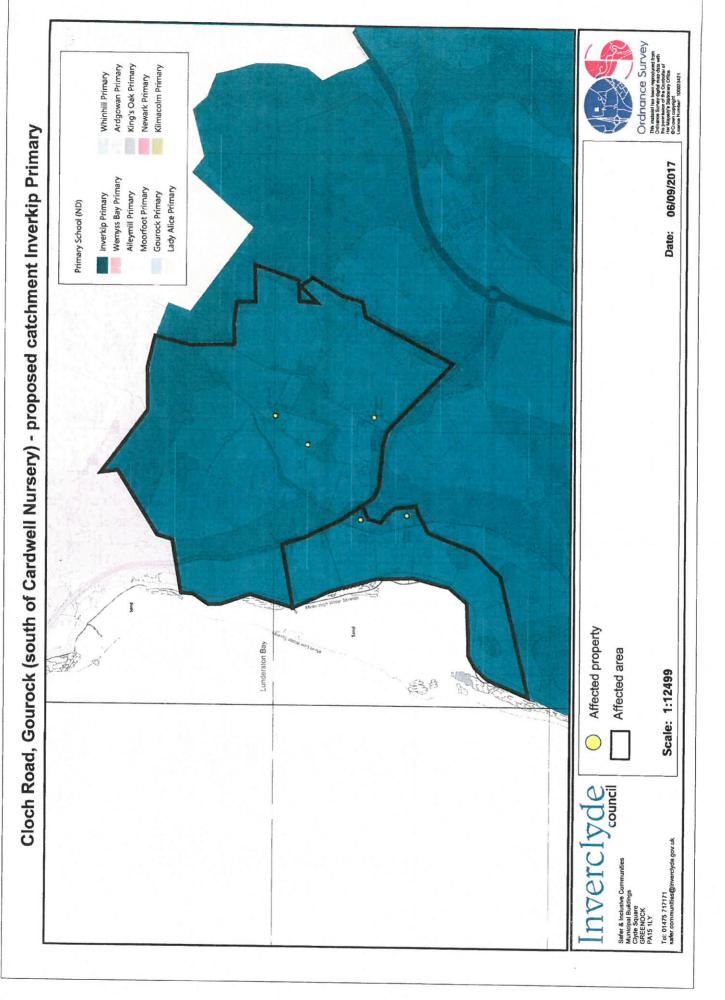


Cloch Road:- Ardgowan North Lodge, Braeton, Lunderston House, High Lunderston and Low Lunderston

Currently the above houses are in the Moorfoot Primary School catchment area. The proposal is to change this to the Inverkip Primary School catchment area. Map 3A shows the current catchment area and 3B shows the proposed catchment area.

The schools affected for consultation are Inverkip Primary School, Moorfoot Primary School, Inverclyde Academy and Clydeview Academy.

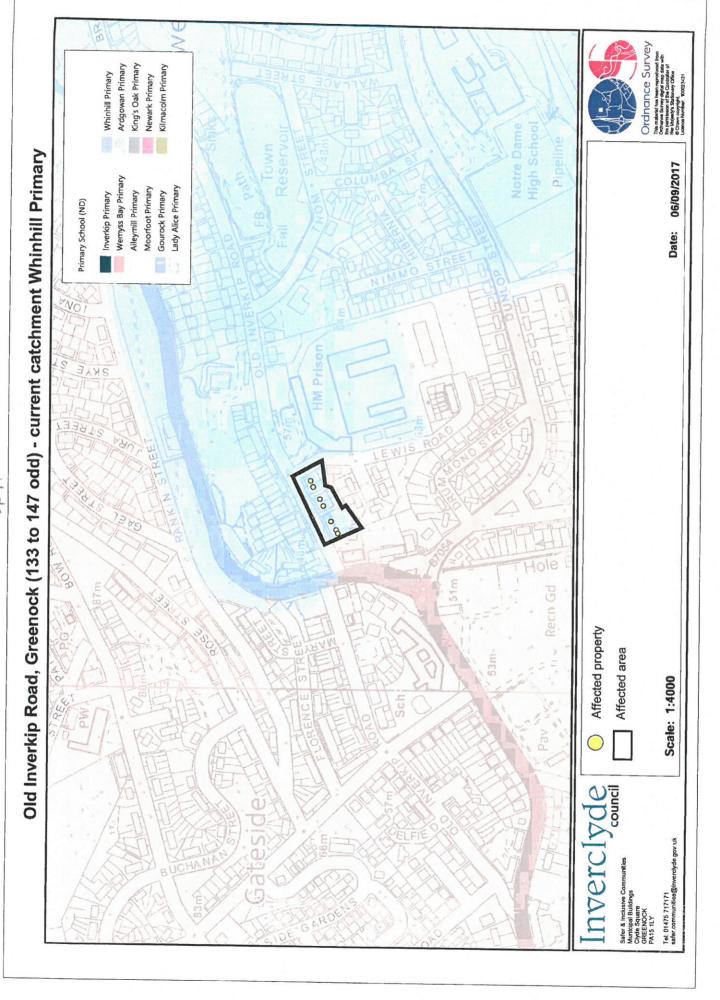


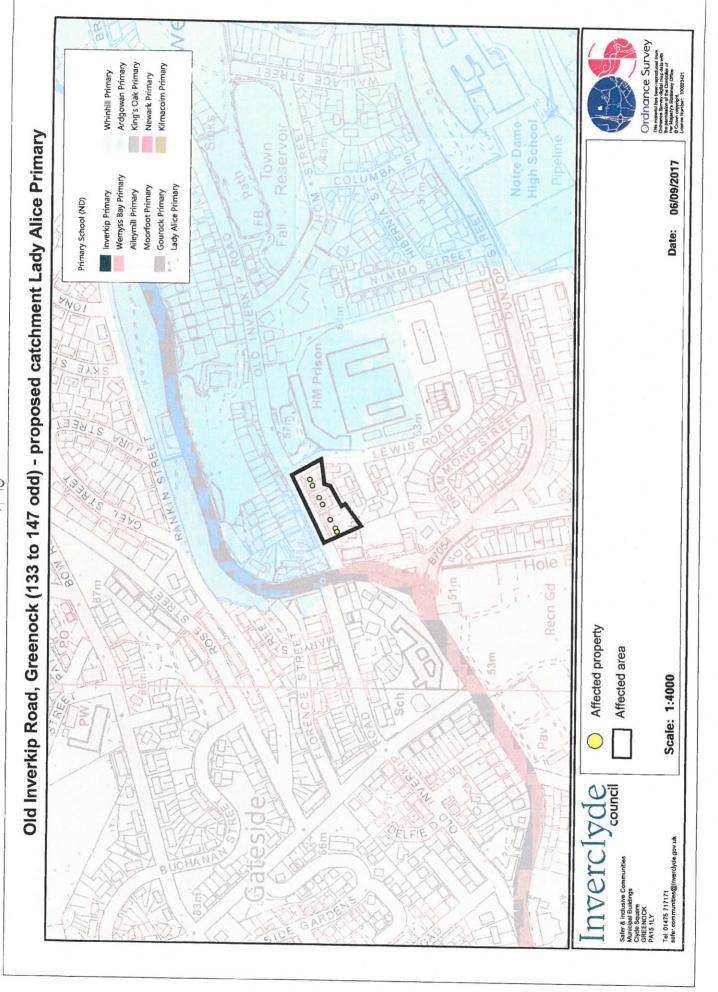


Old Inverkip Road, Greenock (133 – 147 odd)

Currently 133-147 odd are in the Whinhill Primary School catchment area. The proposal is to change this to the Lady Alice Primary School catchment area. Map 4A shows the current catchment area and 4B shows the proposed catchment area.

The schools affected for consultation are Whinhill Primary School and Lady Alice Primary School.

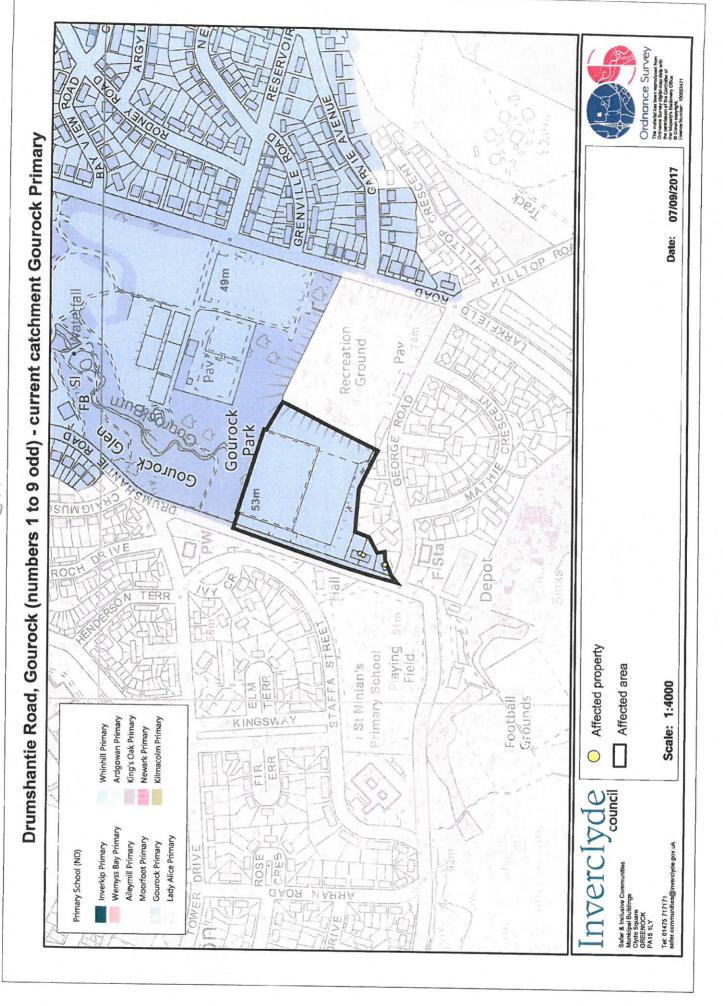


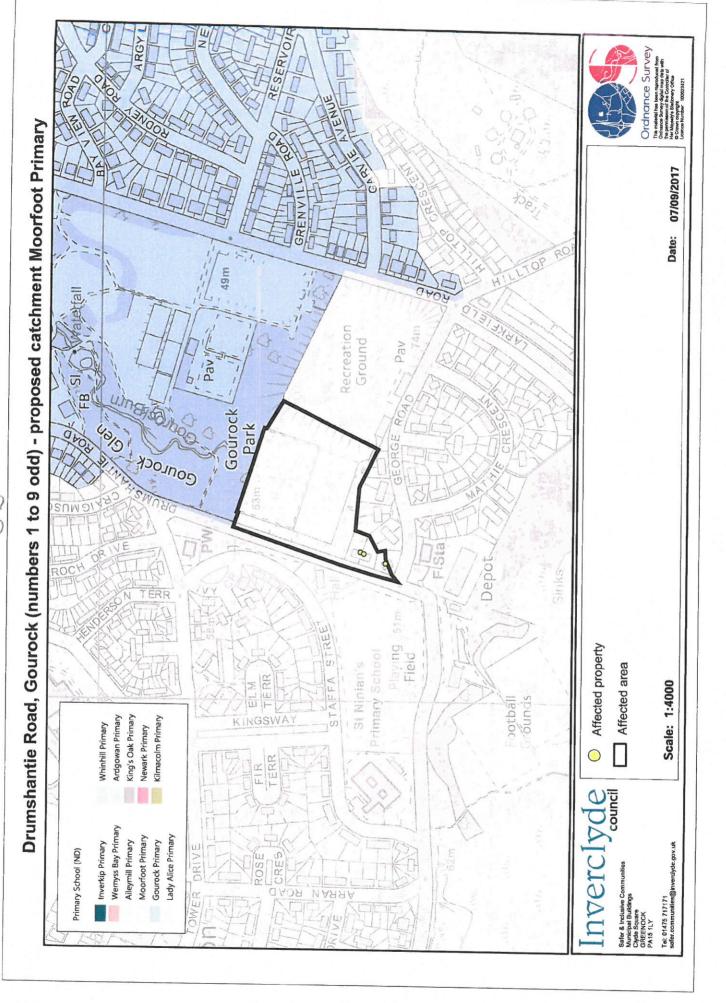


Drumshantie Road, Gourock (numbers 1-9 odd)

Currently 3 -9 odd are in the Gourock Primary School catchment area. The proposal is to change this to the Moorfoot Primary School catchment area. Map 5A shows the current catchment area and 5B shows the proposed catchment area.

The schools affected for consultation are Gourock Primary School and Moorfoot Primary School.

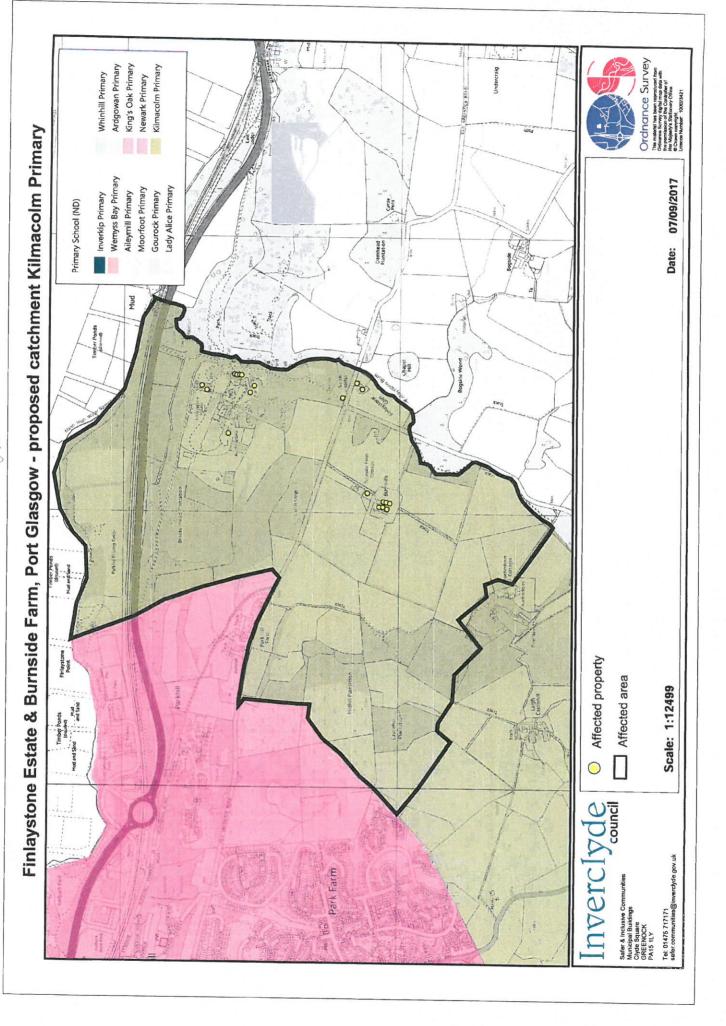




Burnside Farm & Cottage, Burnside Smithy, Finlaystone South Lodge, Old Smithy Cottage and Finlaystone Estate on Old Greenock Road

Currently the above properties are in the Newark Primary School catchment area. The proposal is to change this to the Kilmacolm Primary School catchment area. Map 6A shows the current catchment area and 6B shows the proposed catchment area.

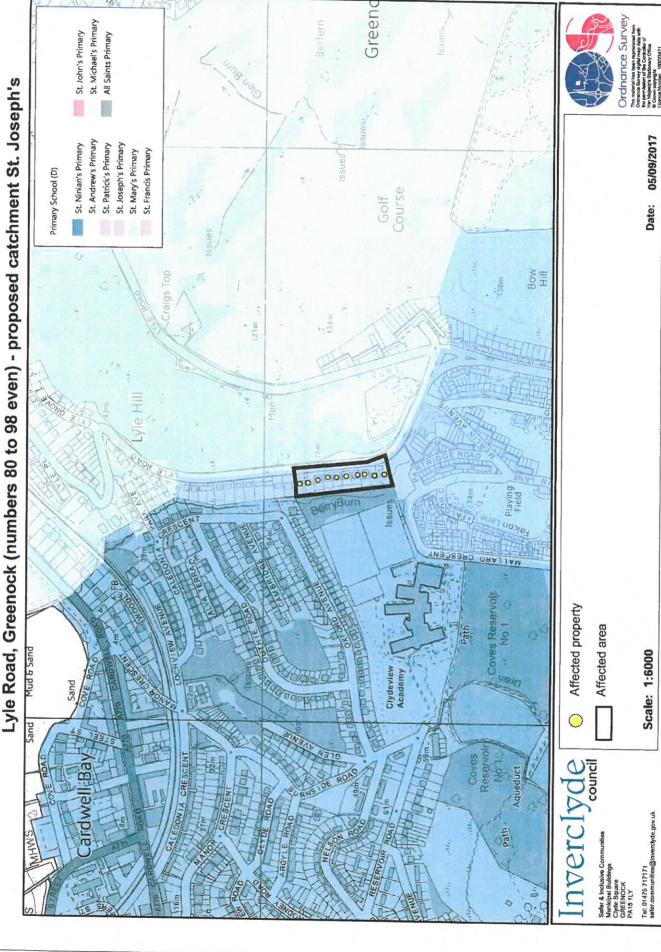
The schools affected for consultation are Newark Primary School and Kilmacolm Primary School.



Lyle Road, Greenock (numbers 80-98 even)

Currently 80-98 even are in the St. Mary's Primary School catchment area. The proposal is to change this to the St. Joseph's Primary School catchment area. Map 7A shows the current catchment area and 7B shows the proposed catchment area.

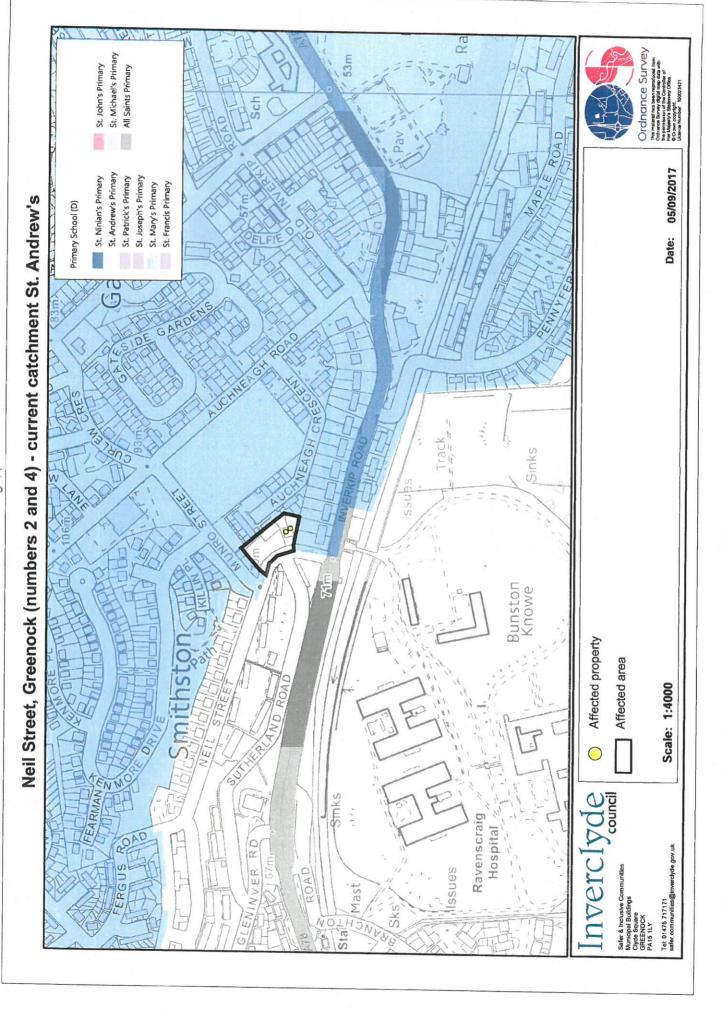
The schools affected for consultation are St. Mary's Primary School, St. Joseph's Primary School, Notre Dame High School and St. Columba's High School.

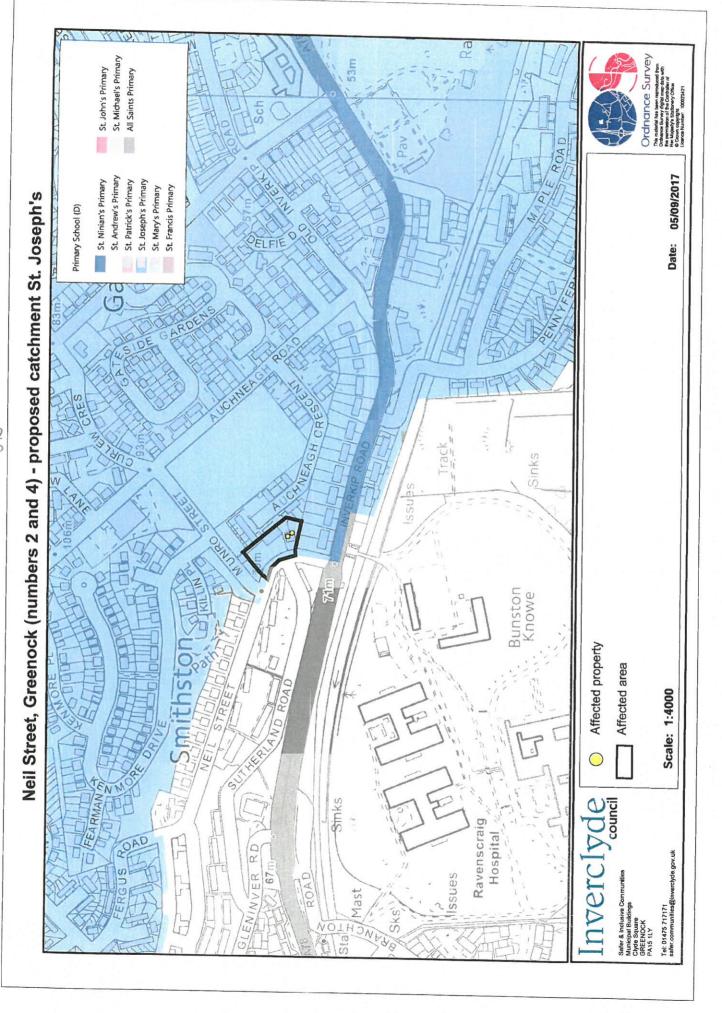


Neil Street, Greenock (numbers 2 and 4)

Currently 2 and 4 are in the St. Andrew's Primary School catchment area. The proposal is to change this to the St. Joseph's Primary School catchment area. Map 8A shows the current catchment area and 8B shows the proposed catchment area.

The schools affected for consultation are St. Andrew's Primary School and St. Joseph's Primary School.

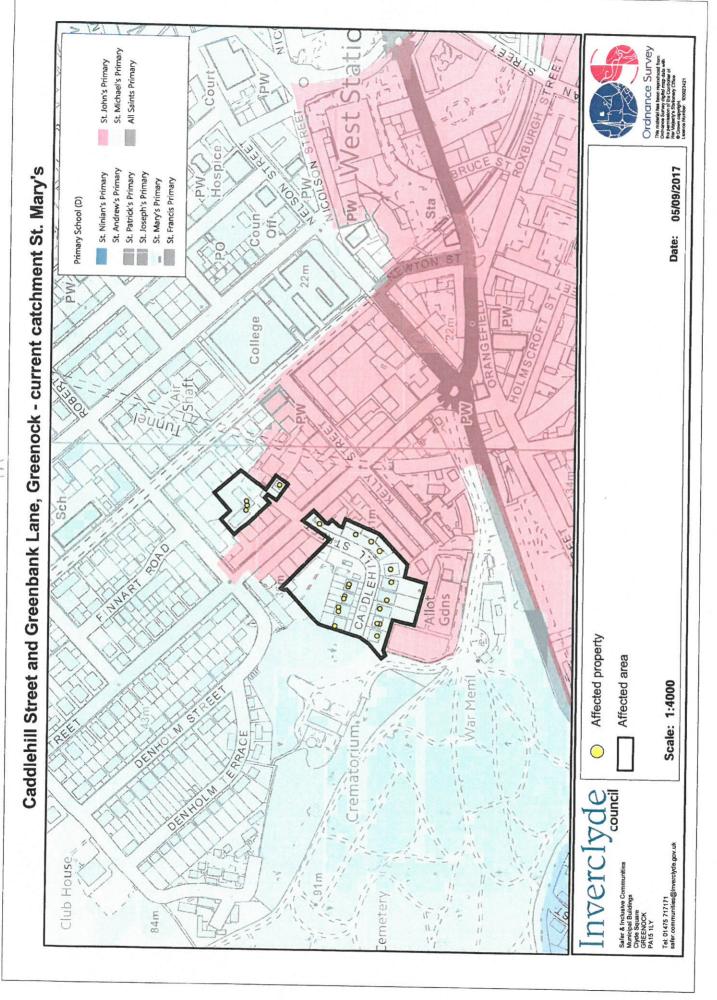


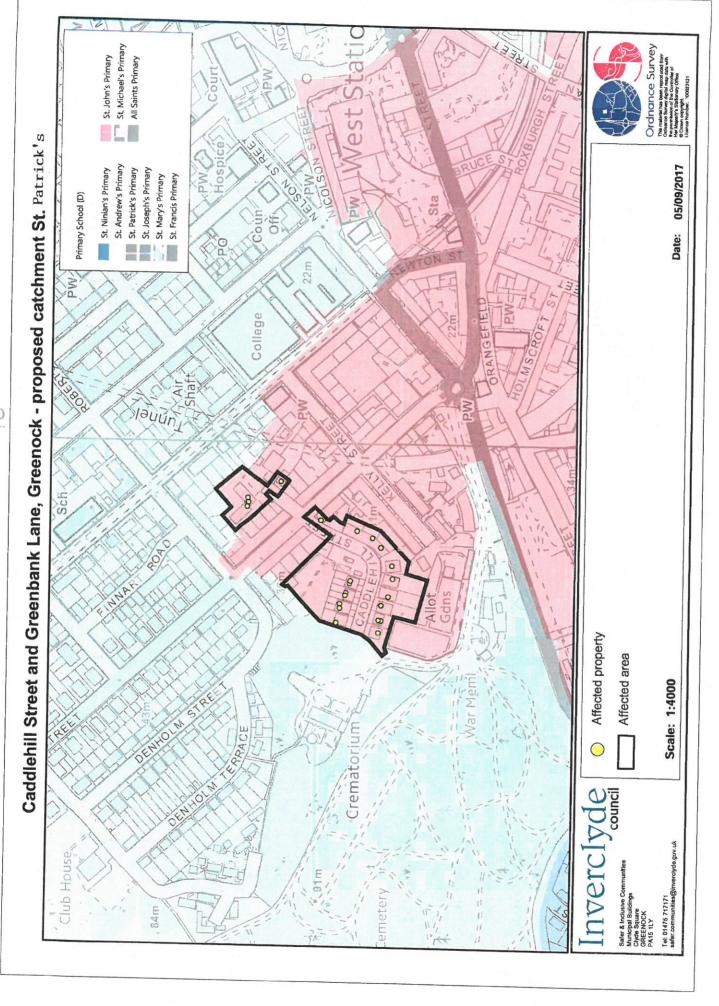


Caddlehill Street and Greenbank Lane Greenock

Currently these streets are in the St. Mary's Primary School catchment area. The proposal is to change this to the St Patrick's Primary School catchment area. Map 9A shows the current catchment area and 9B shows the proposed catchment area.

The schools affected for consultation are St. Mary's Primary School and St. Patrick's Primary School.

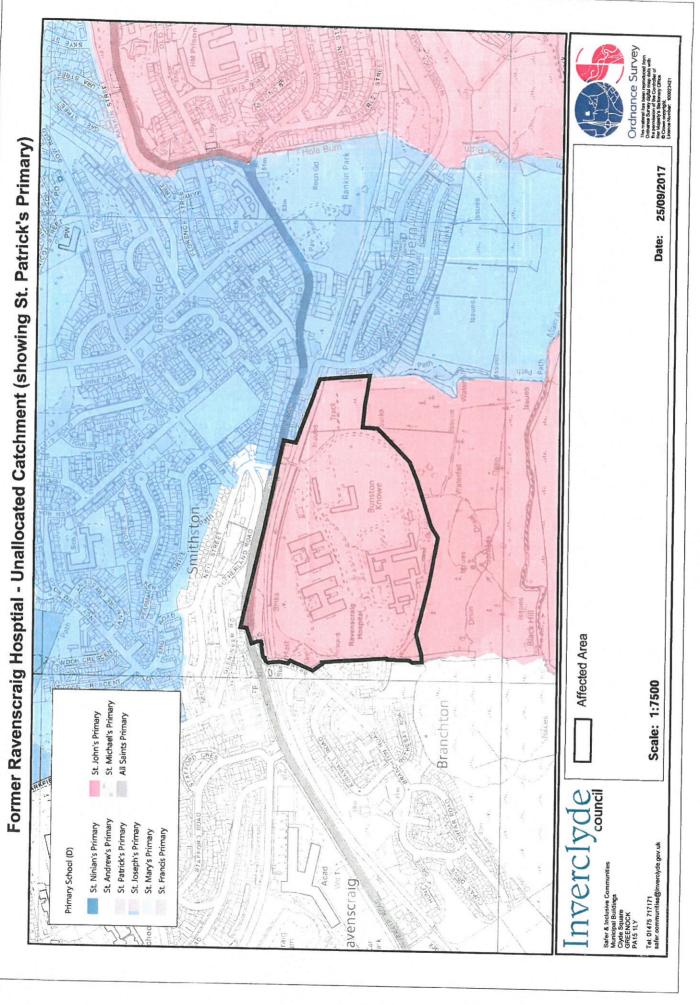


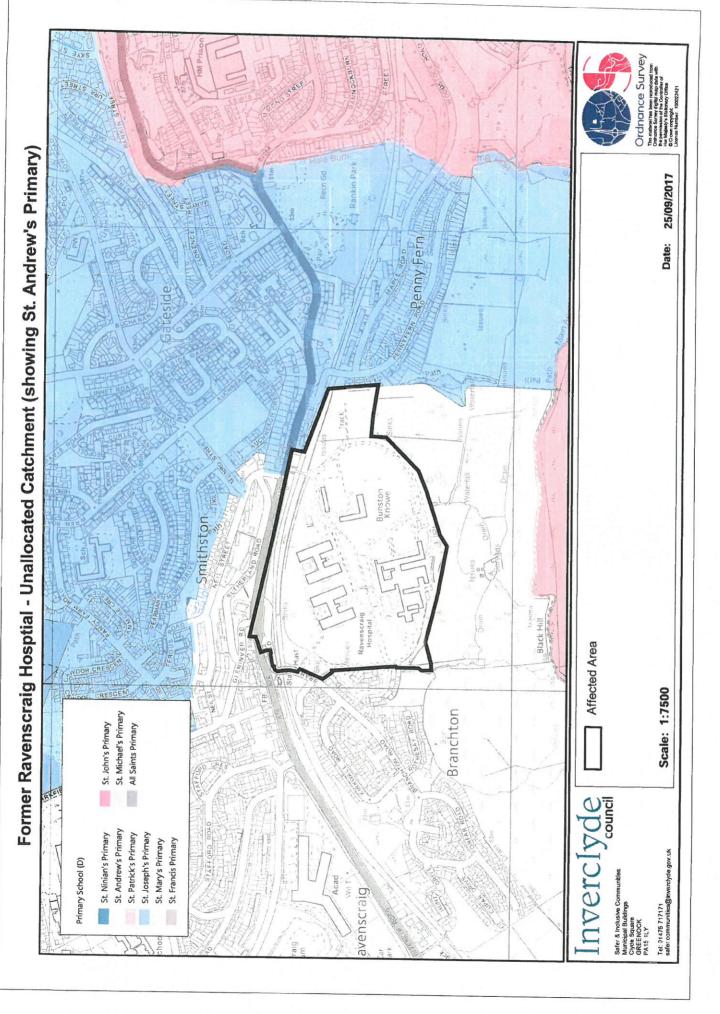


# Former Ravenscraig Hospital

Currently this area is identified on the 2010 map as being in the St. Patrick's Primary School catchment area. The proposal is to change this to the St Andrew's Primary School catchment area. Map 10A shows the current catchment area and 10B shows the proposed catchment area.

The schools affected for consultation are St. Patrick's Primary School, St. Andrew's Primary School, Notre Dame High School and St. Columba's High School.





#### Appendix 3

### Dear owner/occupier,

I am writing to you because Inverclyde Council are currently reviewing the catchment area address list for schools in order to produce a geographical map of school catchment areas. As part of this process historical minor anomalies have been picked up whereby the school catchment postcodes list does not match the original maps. I am writing to you because your address is affected by this process and could result in a change to the catchment areas in which you live.

In order for an education authority to change the catchment area of a school, statutory consultation must take place. This involves consulting with affected stakeholders, undertaking public consultation and ensuring that the changes are for the best educational benefits of the pupils involved.

Before Inverclyde Council proceeds to a statutory consultation, we are undertaking a preconsultation exercise by contacting all addresses who may be affected to gauge your opinions and to consider your thoughts. If taken forward then statutory consultation would take place during January and February of 2018.

As you may be aware addresses within Inverclyde have two catchment areas. This proposal affects the (denominational/non-denominational school) catchment area that your house is in.

Your house is currently in the catchment area for X primary school and X secondary school. If the proposal was to go ahead then your house would be in the catchment area for X primary school and X secondary school.

If you have a child currently attending an Inverclyde school, please be assured that Inverclyde Council will do everything possible to avoid any disruption to your child's education. To this end, we propose to put the following measures in place for those affected:

- Any pupils and siblings of pupils living at an address affected by the changes will have the right to remain at their current school if they so wish even if they no longer live in the catchment area. If applicable, transport will still be provided and the places will not be considered as placing requests. This applies to primary schools and the secondary school associated with that primary school.
- If the decision is taken to change catchment areas, any pupil affected by the change of
  catchment area who is currently at the newly identified school on a placing request will be
  reverted to the catchment area of that school with immediate effect of the decision being
  made. This may mean that the pupil becomes entitled to transport.
- If any pupils living at an address affected by the changes wishes to change to the new catchment area school then this will be considered as a within catchment area enrolment and places allocated accordingly.
- Once a choice has been made as to the school a pupil will attend then the expectation is that pupils remain in the school until significant transition points e.g. the transfer to secondary school. The authority will remain flexible as to the allocation of a secondary school place but once an initial decision has been made by a family then the expectation is that pupils remain in that school and any subsequent changes of school would be subject to a placing request. Parents/carers will retain the right to submit placing requests and any change of denominational sector will still be subject to a placing request.

Inverclyde Council are keen to hear your views about this proposal and I would be grateful if you could respond in writing if possible to the following address:

Proposed Schools Consultation Education Services Wallace Place Greenock PA15 1JB

If you have any further queries regarding this proposal or the outlined process then please contact Education Services on 01475 712850.

Yours faithfully