

South Ayrshire Council

**Report by Director of Education
to South Ayrshire Council
of 12 October 2023**

Subject: Report on the Public Engagement on Relocation of Troon Early Years Centre

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this paper is to report to Council on the public engagement on the relocation of Troon Early Years Centre, share information on options and seek council approval to relocate Troon Early Years Centre.

2. Recommendation

2.1 It is recommended that the Council:

2.1.1 notes the information from the public engagement;

2.1.2 considers the options for early years provision in Troon; and

2.1.3 approves the relocation of Troon Early Years Centre to the existing library and approves the relocation of the library to the municipal building.

3. Background

- 3.1 In line with national policy South Ayrshire Council has delivered an ambitious programme of increased hours of early learning and childcare. The proposal for Troon is the final project in the 1140 expansion of early learning and childcare (ELC) for eligible children aged two to five years. There have been a number of challenges to expand the current provision in Troon. Since 2018 a range of options and considerations have been explored in the Troon area.

- 3.2 The council needs additional early years provision in Troon to ensure that parents have access to flexible options of early learning and childcare for children aged two to five years in their local area. Due to limited space parents of children currently attending Troon Early Years Centre do not have access to the full range of session choices and times as other parents. In addition there would be provision for eligible two year olds. This is not currently available in Troon Early Years Centre. The current property does not have the capacity to deliver beyond the current arrangements.

- 3.3 In March 2023 Council agreed that officers carry out a public engagement to seek views on a proposal to relocate the existing early years provision into the current Troon Library site and hence relocate the library to the Troon Municipal Building. A programme of public engagement activities took place between April 2023 and June 2023. A range of engagement activities took place including in person meetings at Troon library, meetings with the Parent Council and meetings with groups of users of Troon library and The Cabin. From mid-May the proposals, information and feedback form were available for the wider public both online and at the library and Early Years Centre. Groups and individuals were invited to submit comments on the proposals.
- 3.4 As part of the engagement, meetings were held with current groups using the library for meetings and events. As a result of these meetings, it was concluded that all existing groups can be accommodated within the relocated library and local area. Meetings were also held with group that use the Cabin and all groups can be accommodated with the proposed new library space or community space.
- 3.5 An investment of approximately £0.5 million in the relocated library will provide a modernised facility for user groups.
- 3.6 Within the library is an area dedicated to the Marr Educational Resource Centre. Currently, the Marr Trust are working with the Council to review the delivery model and are exploring alternative options. Access to computers that were provided by the Marr Trust will be available in the proposed library provision.
- 3.7 If the proposal to relocate is approved, the current early years provision within the grounds of Troon Primary School would be surplus to Educational Services requirements.
- 3.8 During the engagement, the public were asked to bring forward any alternative sites not considered by the Council process and a range of alternative options were suggested by members of the public. Professional Design Services and education staff carried out site visits and considered each of these. An options appraisal of each is included in Appendix 1.
- 3.9 The consultation and proposals are the result of joint council working across services including Educational Services, Asset Management, Thriving Communities, Estates, Professional Design Services and Library Services.
- 3.10 A 'Frequently Asked Questions' summary was provided online and updated during the engagement process. This reflected the main themes emerging and the responses provided to them (Appendix 2).
- 3.11 During the engagement events several comments focused on traffic and road safety. The council will engage with Ayrshire Roads Alliance as part of the planning process. Comments were also received on the accessibility of the municipal building. An accessibility plan would be prepared.
- 3.12 At the end of the public engagement 227 responses were received. A summary of these responses is available in Appendix 3.

4. Proposals

- 4.1 Following the public engagement council are asked to consider the responses in Appendix 3.
- 4.2 The Council is asked to consider the options for early years provision in Troon. Alternative options provided during the engagement were explored and included within the options appraisal in Appendix 1.
- 4.3 Following a review of the options the recommended option is to approve the relocation of Troon Early Years Centre to the existing library and the relocation of the library to the ground floor of the municipal building.

5. Legal and Procurement Implications

- 5.1 The recommendations in this report are consistent with legal requirements and reflect appropriate advice.
- 5.2 There are no procurement implications arising from this report.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1 The costs to convert the current library including the demolition of The Cabin is approximately £1.4 million. The cost to convert the municipal building is approximately £540,000. There is sufficient funding within the capital budget 'Early Learning and Childcare – Multi Year Capital Allocations' to fund these works.

7. Human Resources Implications

- 7.1 The additional staffing required for the Early Years Centre has been agreed and budgeted within the revenue budget for the expansion plan.

8. Risk

8.1 Risk Implications of Adopting the Recommendations

- 8.1.1 Accepting the recommendation may result in the council facing negative feedback from constituents who are opposed to moving the library. This will be managed within existing operational activities.

8.2 Risk Implications of Rejecting the Recommendations

- 8.2.1 The risks associated with rejecting the recommendations are insufficient future capacity in Troon for statutory early years provision for 2 years and reduced options for 3-5 provision for Troon parents and carers.

9. Equalities

- 9.1 An Equalities Impact Assessment (EQIA) has been carried out on the proposals contained in this report, which identifies potential positive and negative equality impacts and any required mitigating actions. The EQIA is attached as Appendix 4. A Children's Rights Equalities Impact Assessment is included in Appendix 5.

10. Sustainable Development Implications

- 10.1 **Considering Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)** - This report does not propose or seek approval for a plan, policy, programme or strategy or document otherwise described which could be considered to constitute a plan, programme, policy or strategy.

11. Options Appraisal

- 11.1 An options appraisal has been carried out in relation to the subject matter of this report. Information is contained in Appendix 1. Sites considered were:

1. Extending the existing Troon Early Years Centre within the grounds of Troon Primary School
2. Sites adjacent to Troon Primary School (Police Scotland, Scottish Fire and Rescue Services and NHS)
3. Relocating Troon Library to the Municipal Buildings and conversion of Troon Library to an Early Years Centre.
4. Garage at Dukes Road, Troon
5. North Sands Foreshore
6. Marr Playing Fields
7. Troon Old Parish Church
8. Town centre retail properties (various)
9. South Beach

12. Link to Council Plan

- 12.1 The matters referred to in this report contribute to Priority One 'Spaces and Places' and Priority Two 'Live, Work and Learn'.

13. Results of Consultation

- 13.1 There has been public engagement on the contents of this report. Information is included in Appendix 3.
- 13.2 Consultation has taken place with Councillor Martin Kilbride, Portfolio Holder for Buildings, Housing and Environment, Councillor Alec Clark, Portfolio Holder for Culture, Tourism and Rural Affairs, and Councillor Stephen Ferry, Portfolio Holder for Education, and the contents of this report reflect any feedback provided.

14. Next Steps for Decision Tracking Purposes

- 14.1 If the recommendations above are approved by Members, the Director of Education will ensure that all necessary steps are taken to ensure full implementation of the decision within the following timescales, with the completion status reported to the Cabinet in the 'Council and Cabinet Decision Log' at each of its meetings until such time as the decision is fully implemented:

<i>Implementation</i>	<i>Due date</i>	<i>Managed by</i>
Refurbishment of Municipal building	31 October 2024	Service Lead – Professional Design Services
Relocation of Troon Library	31 October 2024	Service Lead – Destination South Ayrshire
Refurbishment of Troon Library	31 August 2025	Service Lead – Professional Design Services
Relocation of Troon Early Years Centre	31 August 2025	Quality Improvement Manager

Background Papers **None**

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Date: **2 October 2023**

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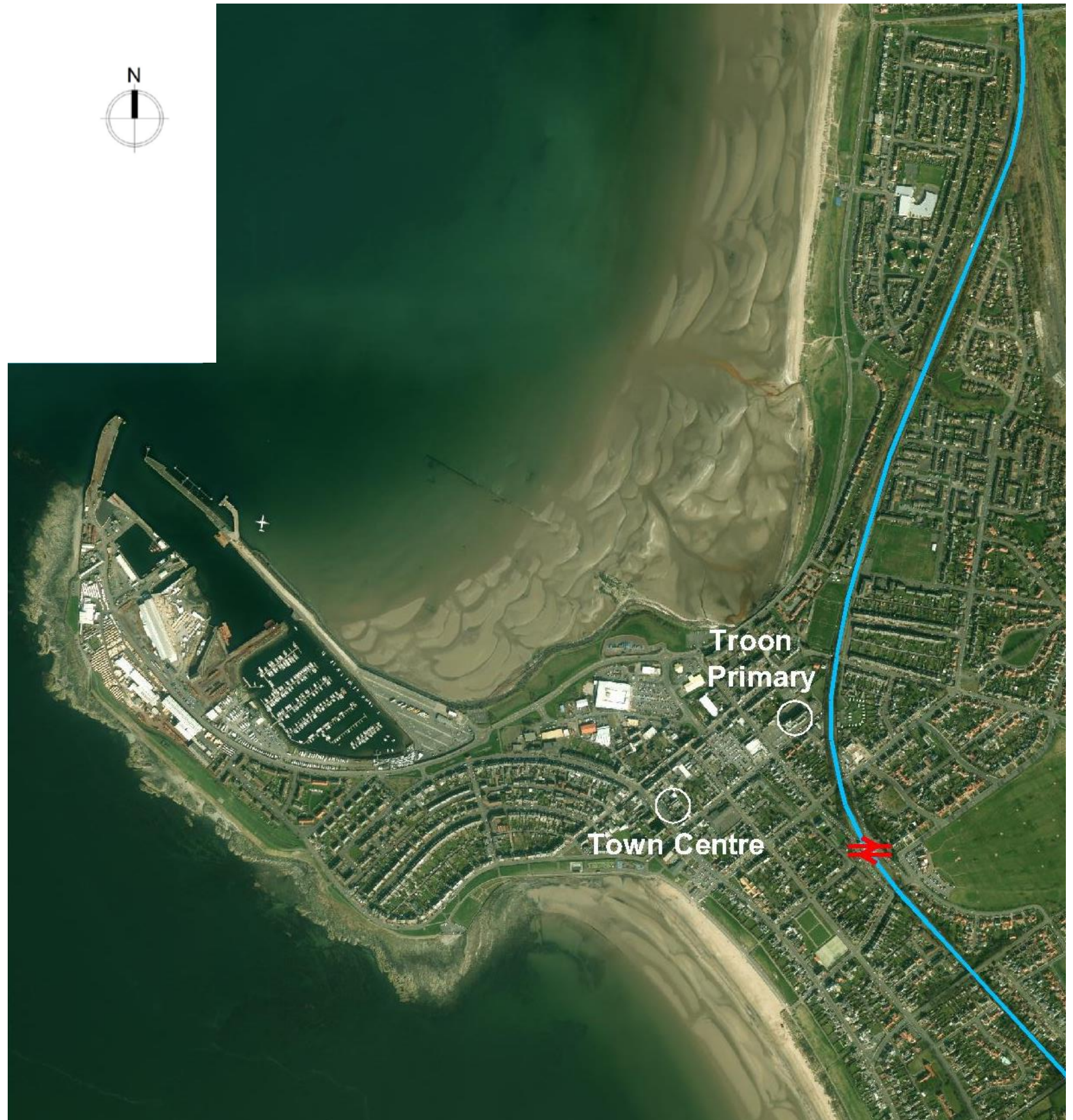
01 Introduction

Client

South Ayrshire Council
Education Services
County Building
Ayr
KA7 1DR

This report has been produced by South Ayrshire Council – Professional Design Services to review the feasibility of building an extended/ new facility within Troon Town Centre.

A number of design options will be presented in the report to assess the suitability of a number of sites for development.



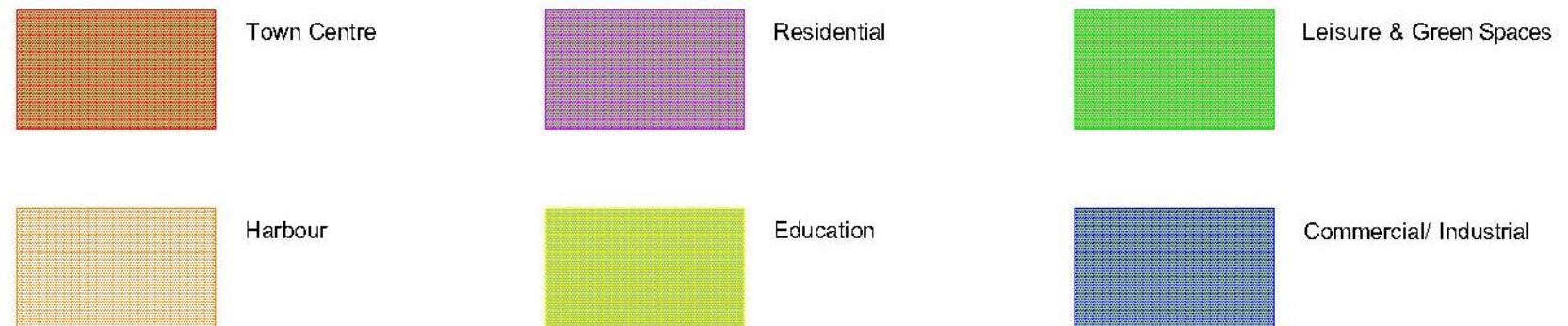
Surrounding Land Use

A number of sites have been reviewed as part of this feasibility study. Generally these are all in or on the perimeter of the Town Centre, close to all local amenities and within easy walking distance of the existing Early Years Centre and Primary School.

There are a number of leisure facilities in the area and the North beach is to the north.

A number of educational facilities are located within the area.

Troon train station and the A78 road are situated to the East of the existing primary school.



Town Facilities

All of the sites considered are located within easy reach of the town centre. The sites have been considered to provide an easy walk for parents between facilities where they may drop off one child at an early years facility and an older sibling at the Primary School.

The sites are all well placed to access the Town Centre amenities and are well connected to surrounding residential areas and local transport links.

Option 1 – Extending the existing Troon Early Years Centre within Troon Primary School.

Option 2 – Sites adjacent to Troon Primary School.

Option 3 - Relocating Troon library to the Municipal buildings and converting Troon Library to an Early Years Centre

Option 4 – Dukes Road

Option 5 – North Sands Foreshore

Option 6 – Marr Playing Fields

Option 7 – Troon Old Parish Church

Option 8 – Town centre Retail properties

Option 9 – South Beach



The Brief

Currently in Troon there is a 40no places at the early years facility operated by South Ayrshire Council (SAC) on Troon Primary School site. The existing facility is small and is not able to provide the desired flexibility for the increase in funded hours that the Scottish Government require SAC to provide. As such a review of the places required to provide the right level of flexibility for parents to achieve the increase in funded hours has been carried out. This identified that 80no places are now required within Troon Town Centre to accommodate the increased uptake predicted.

Based on rule of thumb calculations recommended by the Scottish Government each child requires 5.8m² of space. This allows for dedicated play space and auxiliary spaces. Based on 90no places at 5.8m² per child, 522m² is an estimation of the required area for the early years centre.

Project Requirements

90no children in total comprising;

10no 2-3 year olds;

80no 3-5 year olds.

Play space areas are based on Care Commission guideline June 2017.

- 2-3 year old = 2.8m² per child (28m² for 10 children)
- 3-5 year old = 2.3m² per child (161m² for 70 children)

Staff Numbers

- 2-year olds: at least one member of staff for every five children.
- 3-5 year olds: at least one member of staff for every eight children.

The centre operates 52 weeks a year 8am -6pm.



Site Options

01 Troon Primary School

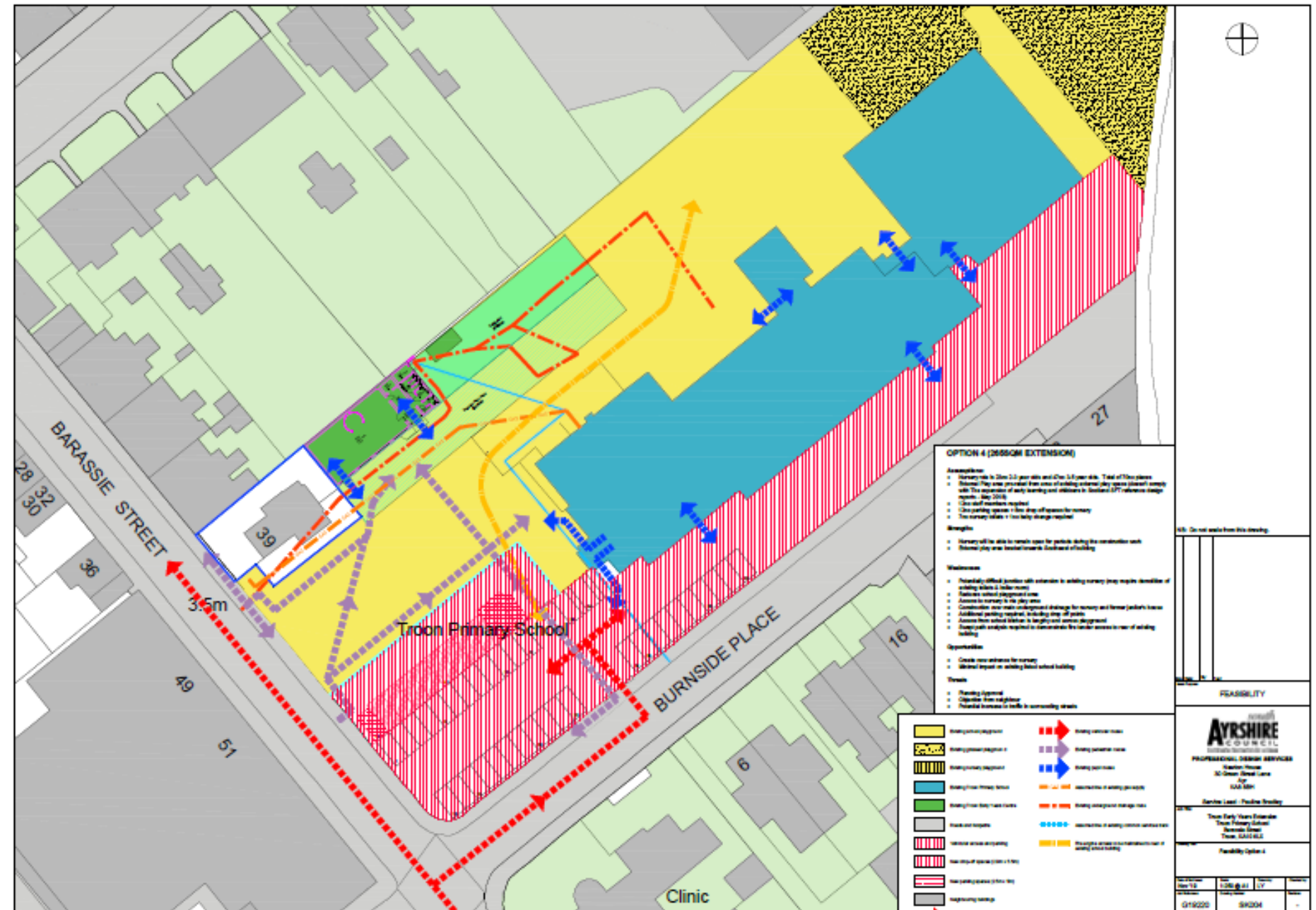
The logical location for any expanded early years provision in Troon is to extend the existing facility at Troon Primary School. A number of options were explored to extend the existing building and an overall review of the school site and its ability to provide an 80no space early years centre was carried. As part of this, a number of options were considered for locating an extension to the existing facility or for two separate 40no place facilities at Troon Primary School.

One of many options considered was extending the existing facility and play area to minimise the impact on the school's playground. However, it can be seen from the adjacent plan, that the additional space required for the Early Years Centre, parking and drop-off significantly reduce the playground area available to the Primary School, to unworkable proportions.

A desk stop study of the site was carried out that highlighted incoming services that serve both the the existing EYC and the main school. The relocation of these services would result in significant costs and disruption to the school and Early Years Centre.

There are also existing issues with traffic around the school, particularly at peak times. It was considered that additional capacity at the school site would contribute to creating additional traffic congestion.

In conclusion, this option was discounted due to the significant impact on the school playground, costs involved in relocation existing services in infrastructure and the potential increase in traffic issues.



Area of school site = 2.55 acres (excluding existing nursery building and play area)

School roll = 371 pupils

The "School Premises (General Requirements and Standards) (Scotland) Regulations 1967" set out the minimum size for school sites and playing fields. Regulations 7 stipulates the required area for sites for Primary and Secondary schools and regulations 8 stipulates the area required for site for Playing Fields.

For 316-450 pupils

Regulation 7 for Primary School
Regulation 8 for Primary Schools

2 acres of site required
Additional 1 acre for playing fields

Total area required 3 acres

Given that Troon Primary School should have a 3 acre site and only has 2.55 acres, extending the existing facility is not achievable without compromising the existing Primary School site.

02 Sites adjacent to Troon Primary School

The next logical location for any expanded early years provision in Troon is a site adjacent to or in the vicinity of Troon Primary School

A desktop study was carried out to identify any existing sites owned by SAC or other Public Sector bodies in the vicinity of Troon Primary School to identify any sites that were suitable to develop, co-locate or to extend:-

Properties that were investigated include

1. St Patricks Primary
2. Police Scotland office in Troon
3. Scottish Fire and Rescue Centre in Troon
4. NHS facility on Burnside Place
5. Boy Brigade building
6. Scout Hut
7. Troon Library (See Option 3)

The St Patricks Primary School was investigated but was dismissed as the school is at full capacity, has limited parking and no available space to extend the building footprint.

Other Public Sector bodies, Police Scotland, SFRS and NHS were all approached regarding the properties located in the vicinity of Troon Primary School but none of the sites identified were deemed to be disposable assets.

Other sites identified within Troon Centre that are owned by SAC are on long leases i.e. Boy Brigade and the Scout buildings. Initial approaches were made to both organisations and both were disinclined to relocation proposals.

Troon Library was identified as a possible option and this has been explored in Option 3.



03 Troon Library

The clients preferred location for a new Early Years Centre is the town centre location. Option 3 comprises of the conversion of the existing Troon library building into an Early Years Centre.

The Library would be relocated into the ground floor of the Existing Municipal building located directly across the street from the existing library.

The existing library would then be converted into a new Early Years Centre. The proposal would include the demolition of the existing 'mens shed' to allow the formation of an external play space.

The Block plan on the right gives an overview of the proposed area of works, including: the Municipal Building, Ivy Cottage, public car park, ornamental gardens, memorial garden and the library with associated car park.

The plan highlight the areas which will be retained, namely the ornamental and memorial gardens.

Indicative sketch plans of the proposed library conversion and Early years Centre are shown in the Fig.1 and 2



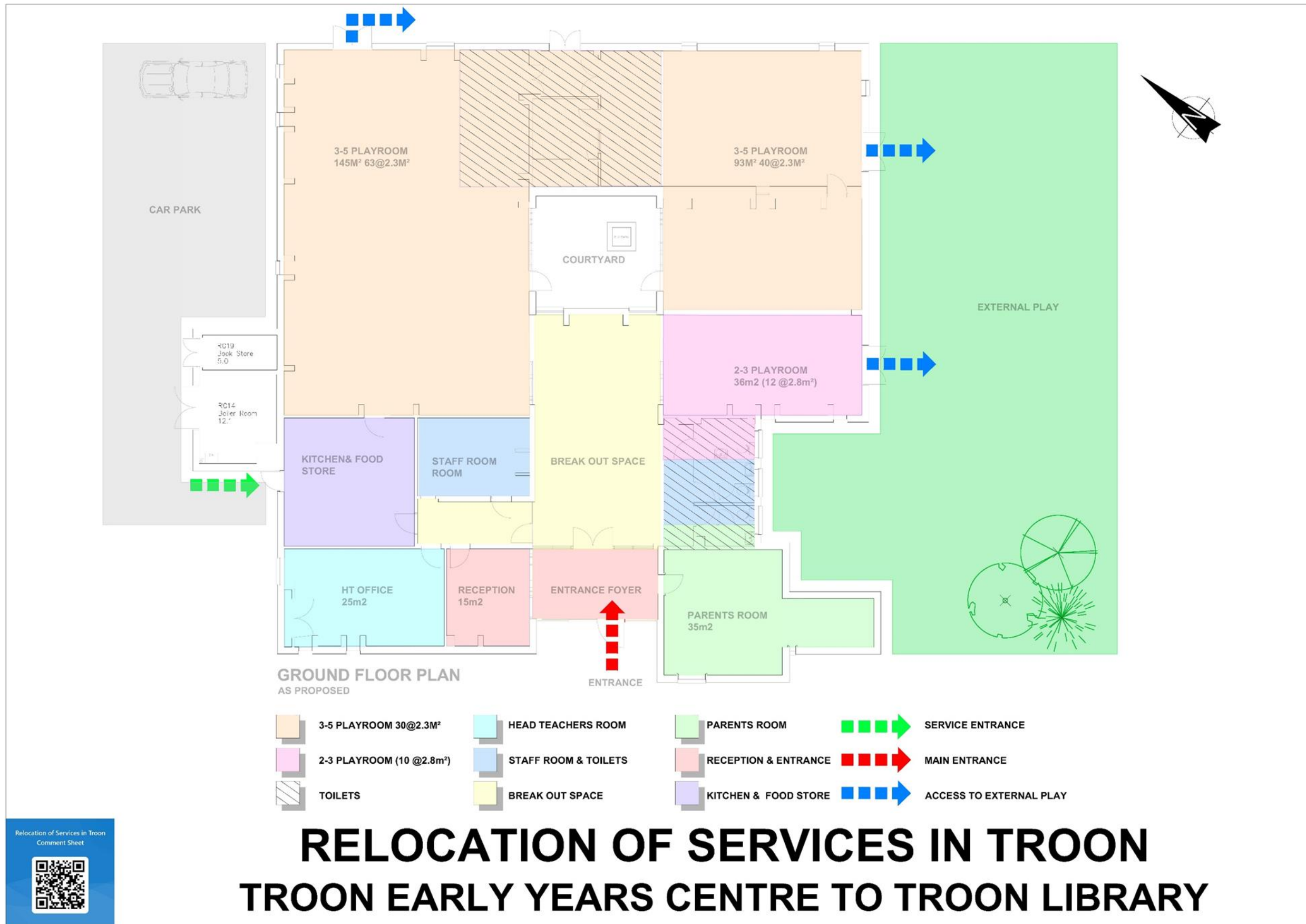
Fig 1. Library to Municipal buildings



Relocation of Services in Troon
Comment Sheet

RELOCATION OF SERVICES IN TROON LIBRARY TO THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING

Fig 2. EYC to Library building



04 Dukes Road

Another town centre location that was considered for the new Early Years centre was 5 Dukes Road. The Site is located behind safeway and within walking distance of North Shore Beach.

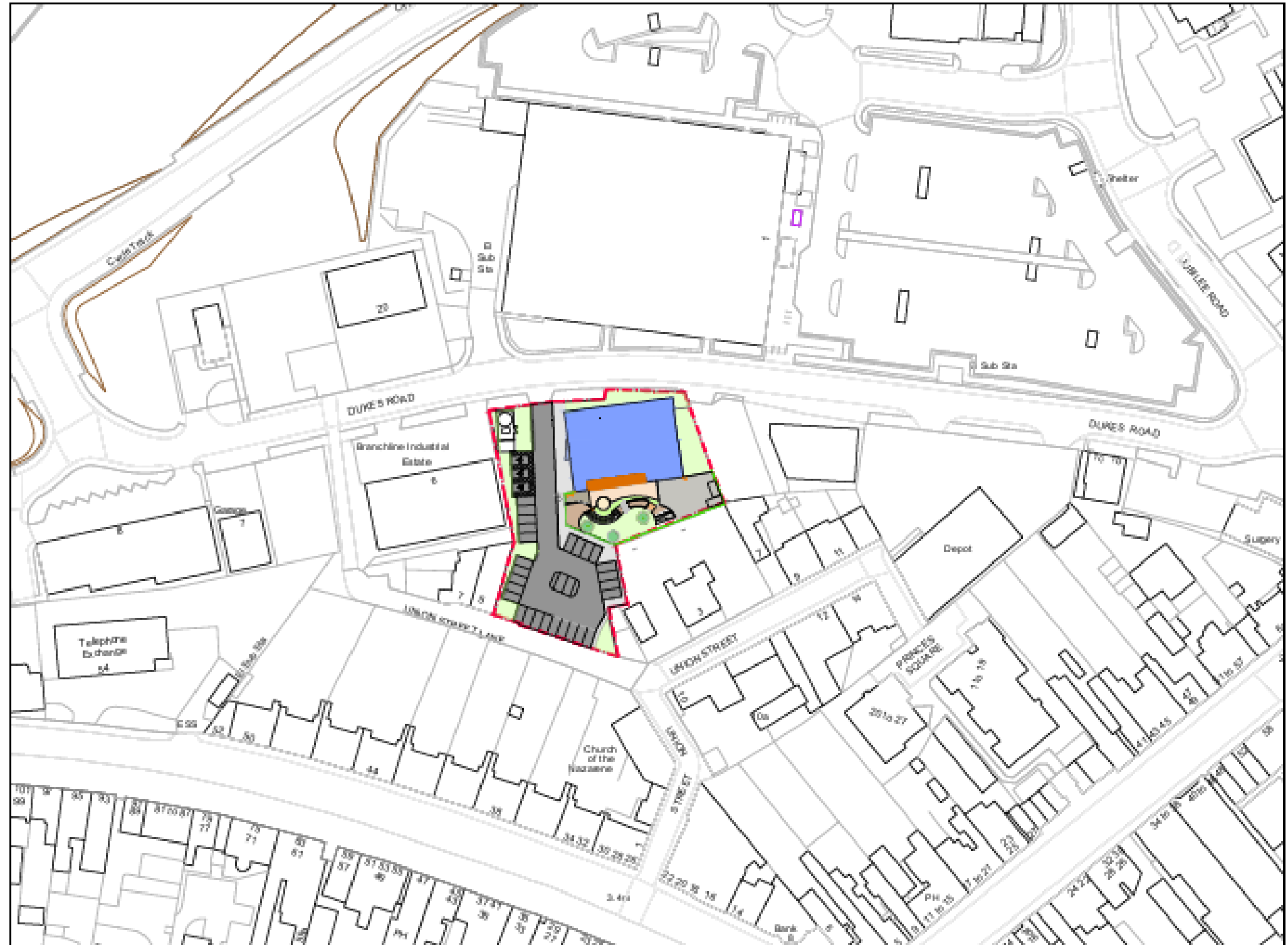
The existing site is in a light industrial area and comprises a workshop premises including office accommodation and adjacent site. The original proposal was to convert the existing building but this was deemed not practicable for the following reasons

- Level changes within and around the building
- Existing car park is not big enough to accommodate the number of anticipated parking spaces
- Provision of external play space directly accessed from play spaces would be problematic.

The proposals attached is based on SAC buying both sites i.e. 5 Dukes road and the adjacent site (currently used as a carwash).

This purchasing of the sites , demolition costs and construction costs means that this would be the most expensive option.

An indicative sketch plan is included in Fig. 3



Location Plan
Scale 1:1000

Fig 3. Dukes Road



05 North Sands Foreshore

A possible site for the proposed EYC was identified on North Sands Foreshore, Troon. The proposed site is shown in blue on the location plan.

The seafront location would provide the EYC access to beach and is close to the town centre. The site topography was challenging and would require an innovative design solution to incorporate the clients space requirements. Initial sketch proposals were prepared and discussed with the client. See appendix 4.

A desk top study was carried out to investigate the site conditions and ownership and this option was discounted due to the following reasons noted below:-

- An Engineering study carried out as part of the North Shore Troon Offices Study group in 1998 found that sections of the site were reclaimed and highlighted issues with contamination. Remedial works to address the contamination were deemed cost prohibitive
- Site ownership i.e. proposed site is not completely owned by South Ayrshire Council.
- Loss of public parking on North shore beach front.
- Proximity to recycling centre.

An indicative sketch plan is included in Fig. 4

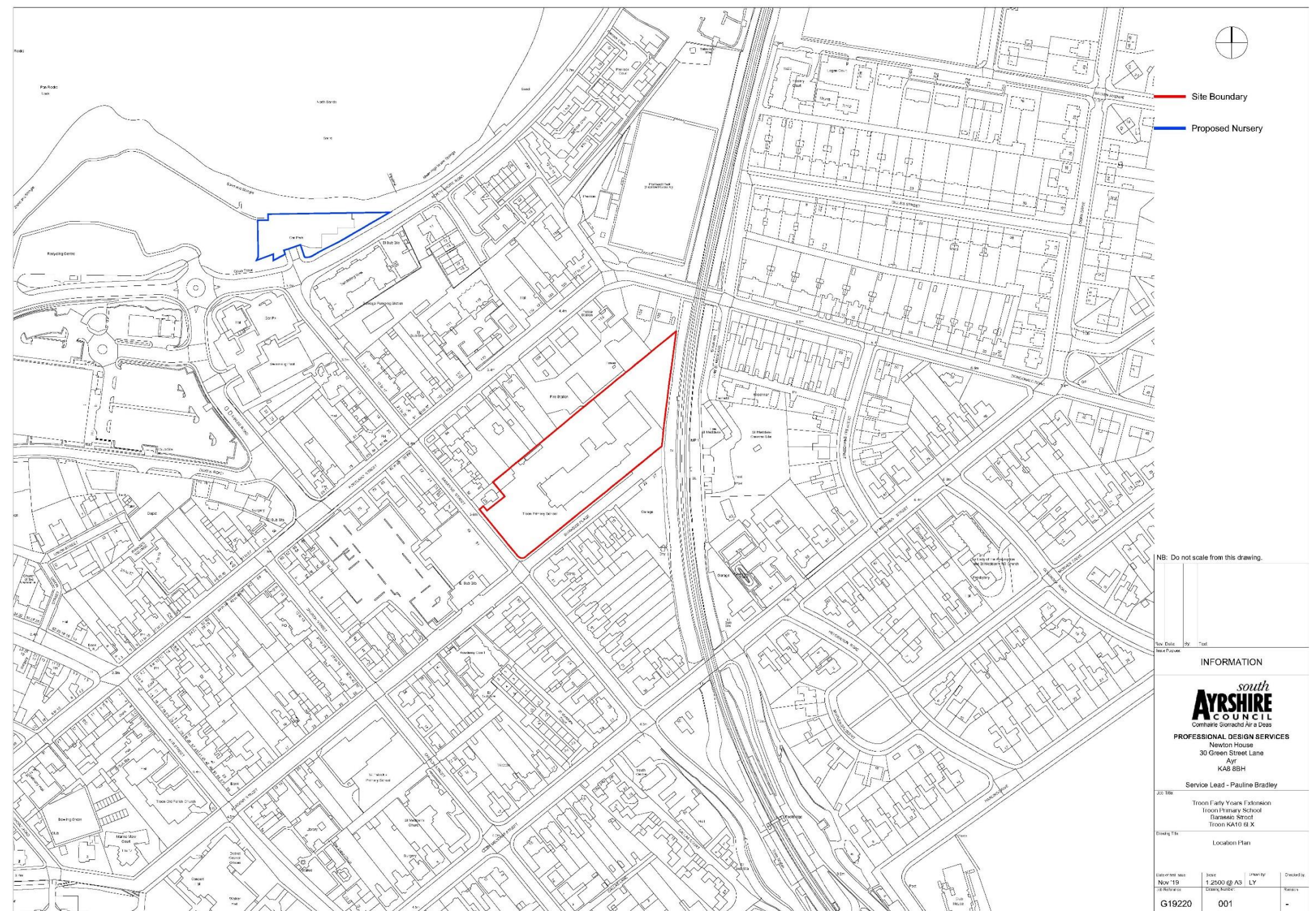
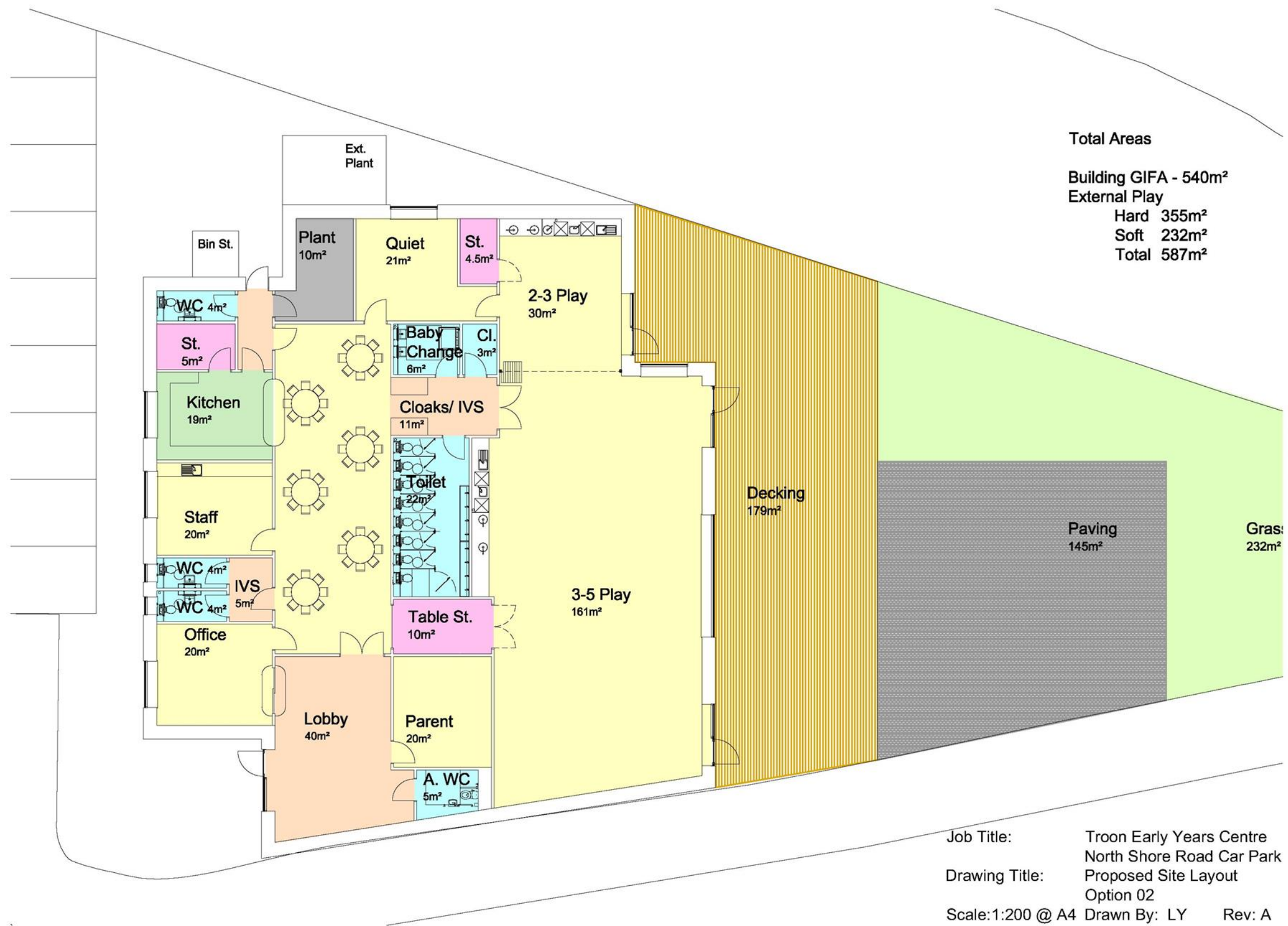


Fig 4. North Sands Foreshore



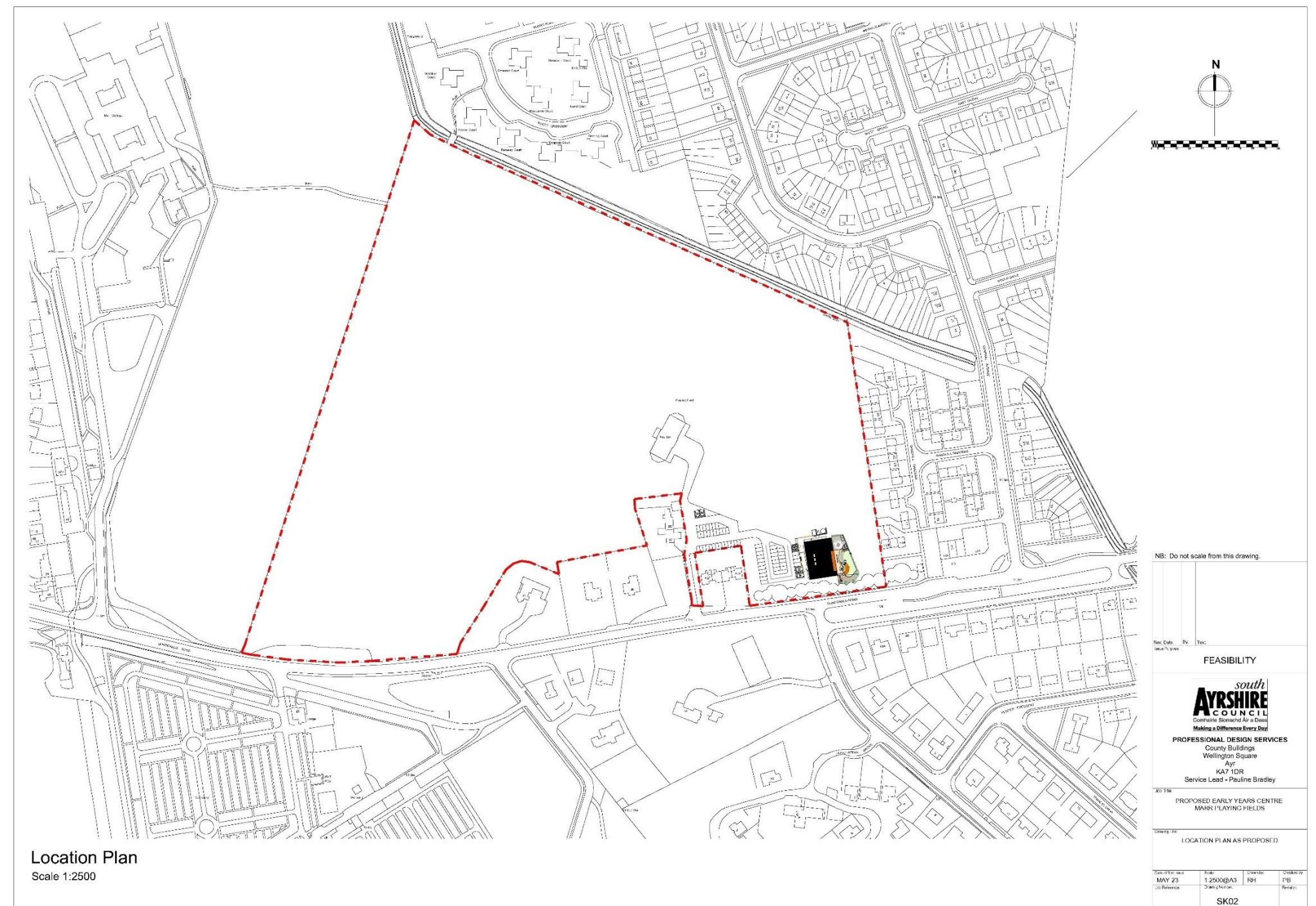
06 Marr Playing Fields

Another possible site identified for the proposed EYC was to develop a small section of the Marr Playing fields adjacent to Dundonald Road. The proposed site is shown on the location plan.

Of all the sites considered this is located furthest from the town centre and is towards the catchment area for the newly opened Struthers Early Years Centre.

The provision of a new EYC and associated parking would result in a reduction in green space / sports amenity in the local area.

The development would provide enhanced parking at Marr playing fields at weekends when the EYC was not in use



07 Troon Old parish Church

A number of town centre sites were proposed as possible locations for the new Early Years Centre including Troon Old Parish Church. The church was built circa 1894 to replace an existing church which was deemed to small to accommodate its congregation. This earlier building now functions as the church hall and is linked to its replacement by a single storey corridor. The cruciform plan church is built of red sandstone and is B listed.

The church were looking to rationalise their estate and were considering selling the church but retaining the church hall.

Whilst the location was deemed to meet the EYC requirements this option was discounted due to the following:-

- Listed building status would make conversion to an EYC very expensive
- The building form is not suitable for conversion to an EYC i.e ceiling heights, exposed / ornate stonework etc.
- There are water ingress issues as a result of previous remedial works that would require to be addressed as part of the refurbishment.
- On going maintenance costs of a 19th Century B listed church.



08 Town Centre Retail Properties

A number of town centre vacant sites were proposed as possible locations for the new Early Years Centre including M&Co.

These option was discounted as a none of the sites available could accommodated the flooring:-

- Building of sufficient GIFA to accommodate the EYC brief requirements
- External class room space accessed directly from the EYC.
- Car parking / drop off for staff and visitors



09 South Beach

A possible site for the proposed EYC was identified on South Beach, Troon. The proposed site is shown in red on the location plan.

The seafront location would provide the EYC access to beach and is close to the town centre. The site topography is challenging and would require an innovative design solution to incorporate the clients space requirements.

Development of this site would be challenging and was not progressed for the following reasons:-

- Vehicular Access would be challenging. Permission would require to be obtained from ARA to form a new vehicular access road to and from the site.
- Ground conditions. The site conditions are unknown for this site and a full site investigation would require to be carried out.
- The proximity of the site to the coastal boundaries means the site conditions would be deemed to be abnormal.
- Loss of public amenity on the South shore of Troon beach front



FAQ's – Engagement on Relocation of Troon Early Years Centre to Troon Library

Title:	Frequently Asked Questions
Date:	May 2023

- Q1:** The Cabin is on Common Good so cannot be touched.
- A1:** The Cabin is not Common Good.
- Q2:** Groups using the Cabin cannot/will not be relocated elsewhere, and even if accommodation can be found it will be too dear to rent.
- A2:** We are engaging with user groups to support alternative accommodation options in the event of the proposals going ahead. If any displaced groups were relocated to South Ayrshire Council facilities there are community rates in place, and we could also consider applying discretion to let charges where appropriate.
- Q3:** The Early Learning Centre could be put into the Town Hall instead of the Library.
- A3:** There is no suitable space in Troon Town Hall for an Early Years Centre. There are a number of requirements before premises can be registered as an Early Years Centre. An Early Years Centre needs to comply with regulations and be registered by the Care Inspectorate. The cellular nature of the accommodation (ground floor of the municipal building) is not suitable for a modern nursery where free flow between areas, and outside, is encouraged. Converting one of the halls to an Early Years Centre would impact on the overall usage of the facility for large events such as graduations and music/beer festivals.
- Q4:** Disabled people will not be able to access the Library if it is moved to the Town Hall.
- A4:** There is a ramp to the main entrance and all the library accommodation will be on the ground floor. Following feedback during the engagement process property services are currently reviewing the ramp access. The facility would be fully accessible.
- Q5:** Moving the Library will stop groups or people from using it as a community hub.
- A5:** We are committed to ensuring that the library continues to be used as a community hub. All existing library activities would be offered in the new facility.
- Q6:** The Marr Resource Centre needs to be saved.
- A6:** The Marr Educational Resource Centre has been underused for years and there is currently a review underway with the Marr Trust. The library would continue to provide IT support and access to PCs and bring your own device Wi-Fi, in the same way that all other branch libraries successfully operate.
- Q7:** This will cost the jobs of the four staff who work in the Marr Educational Resource Centre.
- A7:** There is one temporary Assistant in Charge and one part time Centre Assistant. The remaining posts were vacant and deleted as part of a review of the Libraries and Museums service in 2022.
- Q8:** Moving the Library will lead to a reduction in services.

- A8:** There will be no impact on staffing levels or opening hours. All current activities and services would be delivered in the new facility. There would not be a dedicated Marr Educational Resource Centre in the new facility; however, the library would continue to provide IT support and access to PCs and bring your own device Wi-Fi, in the same way that all other branch libraries successfully operate.
- Q9:** The Town Hall is not big enough to accommodate the Library, or the new Library will be much smaller.
- A9:** There is a minimal change in total floor space (3m reduction excluding MERC) and there would be very little impact on stock levels or space available for community activity.
- Q10:** Moving the Library is a prelude to closing it altogether. (The faction in the Community Council who are willing to consider the proposals take my line that moving it is likely to save it as we are unlikely to invest the money which will be required at some point in the not-too-distant future to upgrade the existing structure).
- A10:** The move would mean an investment of over £0.5 million; this type of investment is likely to secure the library for the long term. This funding is highly unlikely to be made available to the library if it stayed in the current location.
- Q11:** Why can we not invest the money in the Library and not bother with an Early Learning Centre as the Library will be better used.
- A11:** The library could deliver the exact same activity in the new facility and at the same time allow for increased capacity to support children and families in the local community. There is a requirement to provide families with access to early learning and childcare as well as choice of when they attend. The current Early Years Centre does not have the capacity. In addition, we do not have provision for two-year-olds who are eligible for a place.
- Q12:** Why can we not build the Early Learning Centre elsewhere (Troon Primary, Marr College, Dukes Road, etc.).
- A12:** A wide range of options have been explored over the past four years and there has been no suitable site to locate an Early Years Centre.
- Q13:** The current Early Learning Centre at Troon Primary has been running for years without issue so why does it need to be moved.
- A13:** The Scottish Government increased the entitlement to early learning and childcare, almost doubling the hours children can attend. There is a need for more physical space to allow children to attend for longer rather than just morning and afternoon sessions as previously happened. There is insufficient internal space at Troon Early Years Centre to take more children, no space for children aged three and very limited outdoor play space. Parents do not get the full range of choices as is available at other full year centres. There is no option for children to attend 9am – 3pm which is a popular choice if parents have children attending primary school. Increased space will enable us to provide these.
- Q14:** There is insufficient parking for the Early Learning Centre to be moved.
- A14:** Parents can drop off at the car park or on street.
- Q15:** Relocating the Library will make it more dangerous for elderly people accessing it as they will have to cross South Beach Road (as they already have to do to access the Town Hall, Walker Hall, Ivy Cottage, or if they park in the car park).

A15: At the same time elderly people arriving by car will not have to cross the road.

Q16: The Council say they do not have enough money to build a new Early Learning Centre even if a suitable location could be found – why are developers not being forced to pay for it as they are the ones bringing new people into the town.

A16: Developers do provide a contribution for education provision. This proposal is linked to the increase in early years hours not new house building.

Q17: There is no visibility of the children's library from the reception desk

A17: This is similar to the model at Carnegie Library in Ayr

Q18: Would there be spaces for all parents of 2 year olds?

A18: There would be limited spaces for children aged two years. These will generally be for children who are eligible for a 2 year old place

Q19: Has the council considered relocating the EYC to the council property in St Meddans Street (Scout Hall)

A19: The property is under lease and the current lease holders were not looking to terminate this when approached.

Q20: Would the council consider a new build?

A20: A new build would require an appropriate site. There would be a cost associated with this, any demolition work. The cost of an appropriate size EYC build would be approx. £3.5 million. There is a budget of approx. £1.4 million available for this project

Q21: Could the property (council) on the Dukes Road site be used?

A21: This site has been assessed and found to be unsuitable for a number of reasons. It is currently being used and would be extremely difficult to re-purpose this building for early years use. Consequently, the current building would have to be demolished and a new build facility constructed. The purchase cost, plus demolition and the cost to construct a new nursery would be in excess of £4m. There is a budget of approx. £1.4 million available for this project.

Comments/ Feedback

1. The Ramp at the Municipal building is not suitable

The ramp will be re assessed to ensure that users are able to access the building

2. The road is busy and a potential hazard for public crossing

As part of any future planning process Ayrshire Roads Alliance would be statutory consultee. It would not be appropriate to pre-empt a future council decision by engaging with ARA at this time. If the proposals were agreed a traffic management plan would be put in place and would take account of concerns raised.

3. As part of the engagement process alternative sites have been proposed by members of the public .

These suggestions have been welcomed. Officers are actively exploring these suggestions to determine if they would be feasible as alternative locations. Due to the commercial sensitivity of some of these locations it is not possible for us to share further information at this point.

4. Will the gardens at the front of the library be removed?

There are no plans to remove the gardens at the front of the library.

5. Will members of the public still be able to sit on the benches at the front of the library?

Members of the public will still be able to enjoy this public space.

6. Will the memorial garden be removed?

The memorial garden will remain as it is.

7. Suggestions on future development opportunities for Marr Educational Trust have been provided. These will be collated and passed to the Trust following the engagement period.

Design guidance link : <https://www.gov.scot/publications/space-grow-design-guidance-early-learning-childcare-out-school-care/pages/9/>

Rationale for not Using the Town Hall/Municipal Building as an Early Years Centre:

1. Size

On the basis of the rate per child of 5.8m². A nursery to accommodate 90 children would require a minimum of 522m².

The Ground floor of the town hall is approximately 375m² which includes a foyer space which is approximately 50m² most of which would be unusable as Nursery space. Therefore, the ground floor would not be big enough to accommodate a nursery of this size.

2. Listed Status

The Town Hall is B listed. The extent and nature of the works required to convert the town hall into an Early Years Centre may be problematic and cost prohibitive.

3. Existing/Proposed Building Use

The Town Hall has an upper floor and a basement which can only be accessed via the ground floor. It would not be practicable to access these areas through the nursery.

4. External Play

All of the Early Years Centres we have provided to date have access to secure external space direct from the play space. This would not be possible at the Town Hall.

5. Sanitary Provision

The current provision should be as follows:

- Pupil toilets – one WC for every ten children, located off the playroom. Therefore, nine toilets
- Nappy change facilities – One per nursery room.
- Staff toilets.
- Visitor toilets shall be fully accessible and located such that they are available to visitors without requiring access beyond the main secure entrance.
- Accessible toilet(s).
- Handwashing for children and adults within the play spaces.
- Food prep area.
- Adequate ventilation, natural light.

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Paper	1	Member of Public	I don't think it's a good idea to relocate Troon Library. It is well positioned where it is and there is no reason to use public funds to relocate both the Library & The Early Years Centre when the Early Years Centre could be in the Municipal Building.
Paper	2	Library User; Member of Public;	I feel that moving the library is not a good idea, given the great space and flexibility that we have in the current building. I believe that it is for purpose and a fantastic, well used community hub. I feel that is completely wrong to change the use of this central building and take it out of public accessibility. I don't believe that this is the best location for an EYC, because of traffic, all the parking issues it will cause and given the buildings prime location it should be used for a purpose that benefits the full community. I don't believe that facilities created in the library will match the high standard that we currently have in our library. The space around the library is also a very attractive and a nice place to sit for locals and visitors, with the memorial garden and green space. this will no longer be a tranquil spot if an EYC is created. I know that there are additional pressures on the town given the amount of new houses, however I feel that a better location for a new EYC can and must be found.
Paper	3	Library User	I fully support the library move to the town hall, giving the town hall a revived purpose instead of it being under utilised on a daily basis. It already has accessible access and I really can't see why people are complaining, but that's Troon for you! Both buildings then receive the much needed revamp they require. I would suggest ARA and SAC, MUST look at a traffic management plan around Troon Primary, St. Patrick's and the EYC/New Library. A great addition would add a pedestrian crossing from the current library side across to the Town Hall, this would benefit the whole community at all times of the day and night get across an already busy road which would inevitably become busier. Yes you'll lose a few parking space but people will just need to walk a bit further.
Paper	4	Parent/Carer;	I fully support the relocation and growth of Troon Primary Early Years Centre. I have seen the proposed plans and wholeheartedly believe it is in the best interests of the children lucky enough to attend. The relocation of the library also allows for a regeneration of this service and rejuvenated interest. Well done SAC on this idea, I hope both are welcomed by the People in our town.
Paper	5	Library User; Member of Public;	I have Chronic Lung Disease and joint problems. I feel that the ramp and stairs at the Town Hall are too steep. I was breathless after a trial run last week. My preference is to remain there.
Paper	6	Library User;	I have concerns about parking issues if EYC moves to present library. Would not like to lose gardens in the future
Paper	7	Parent/Carer; Library User; Member of Public	I have three children. If the early years centre is moved this will impact on our morning hugely. At the moment I will be able to drop them off at Troon primary and the early years centre before heading to work. However if the proposed move goes ahead this will add additional pressure and stress on myself trying to get to work. I will also have to request late starting time from my work and if not approved get a child minder to drop off my children which is a additional bill to pay out when everything else is already going up.
Paper	8	User of Community Group	I hope the new place is going to be easily accessible for people who are not so fit.
Paper	9	Library user; User of Community Group	I joined Troon Library on my 7th birthday in 1949, and have been a member ever since. I now have stenosis of the spine and I am so pleased that the library has such an easy access. The Town Hall, I'm afraid is not so easy .. lots of steps and the ramp is such a high slope. In icy weather I could not attempt it. I'm surprised you do not use the money to extend the school, thus keeping the children in one location, when there is more than one child in the family. The Troon Town Hall is a beautiful building, located in an ideal spot and it is a disgrace to imagine this idea to use it for an adult and child library in use for only 5 days a week. Surely something more iconic could be considered. I believe we may soon be losing two churches in the town,

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			and I know the church halls have been used for so many activities over the years - young children included, and young mothers' groups etc. There is more careful thought to be given to this proposal and it is not the time to waste money unnecessarily. An extension to the existing school for the early learning centre, leave the existing well attended library and young children's library as it is and The Cabin still available to the elderly, thus leaving the Town Hall for future upcoming projects. There would still be the very sought after land left by the two Churches. In closing I would also like to remind you that Ayr Street us a very busy street and on the bus route, also a very windy street - I recall one child being saved from being blown right down the street, by a schoolteacher, who broke her arm in the attempt. It's not a great place for young children who would be much safer in the street where the school is built and trafficked accordingly. Please think again, I can see in the near future a time when this important building will be needed by the public for all the changes that are coming and we should be ready for that. Remember, anticipation is the best part of organisation. Please reconsider.
Paper	10	Library User	I love the library. Use it all the time. I think the atmosphere & friendliness will be lost if it moves.
Paper	11	Library User	I object to the change of location. An Early Learning Centre could be in another place. This Library is ideal where it is.
Paper	12	Library User; User of Community Group;	I object to the relocation of the library as it is an important easily accessible building for everyone - used by all ages. It brings people together when might otherwise be on their own. Parking across the road is already full at all times. South Beach Rd is a very busy road making it very difficult to cross and dangerous if a child runs on ahead. There will be no drop off point on the pavement at the library side as it is also always full with no spaces to stop or park
Paper	13	Parent/Carer	I think it is a brilliant idea, fantastic looking plans for the nursery & library
Paper	14	Member of Public	I think it is good for the town and young families moving into the area to provide a new centre that will meet the needs of the children better.
Paper	15	Library User	I think the library is in a perfect location the facilities will be diminished by the proposed re-location.
Paper	16	Parent; Library User; Member of Public; Other	I think the library should remain where it is. Refurbish the Walker Hall for the Young Children. If you refurbish the Walker Hall only, the cost would be substantially less. (instead of wasting so money of tax payer money) Any money saved should be spent on our disgraceful road conditions i.e. pot holes everywhere. N.B All the Builders of new houses in Troon should be made to provide a lot more infrastructure. The Planning Department should foreseeable apply pressure on the builders to provide all that is required regarding infrastructure. Listening to local people parking is a big issue (NB) this should be seriously looked at with consultation with residents of Troon.
Paper	17	Member of Staff;	I think the relocation to the library is a good idea. The new build would offer more suitable facilities for the children, families and staff. We would also be able to offer the term time option to families which there is high demand for. I also think the plans for the library look great and better than what they currently have.
Paper	18	Library User; Member of Public	I think this is a great idea. There has been a need for years for a pedestrian crossing from the library area to the town hall/ beach area. Could this be part of the project?
Paper	19	Member of Public	I think this is a great idea. My children went to Troon nursery nearly 20 years ago and it wasn't ideal then. I think the new nursery will greatly benefit the children and the new library plans look great and will hopefully encourage more people to use the library
Paper	20	Parent/Carer; Library User; Member of Staff;	I think this is an excellent expansion on Troon EYC and look forward to seeing and possibly using the new space. It will be great to take the children across to the beach, play park, library and into the town centre. The current space is no longer fit for purpose. I am glad the library is staying nearby and easy to access from the town centre.

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Paper	21	Parent/Carer; Library User;	I think this will be a huge shame for the children who currently have the opportunity to settle into their school whilst enrolled in the EYC meaning the move to primary 1 is seamless and they are comfortable and ready to love to learn. My son has just finished at the Troon Primary EYC and feels really confident about starting school since he's spent so much time there. As a parent, juggling separate pickups and drop-offs for school and nursery are also difficult vs the ease of siblings being in one location. There are already 2 excellent private nurseries in Troon one of which we've used, and we feel moving the Troon primary EYC is to mop up the children who can't fit into Struthers due to the new housing and the 2 private nurseries should be utilised instead. This will help support them while they're underfunded. They offer hours that school nurseries do not and my husband and I would not both be able to work if it weren't for also being able to utilise these.
Paper	22	Parent/Carer; Library User;	I think Troon nursery does need to be expanded but what concerns me is I like that Troon nursery are at the school and the kids get to spend time in school facilities which I felt the transition to primary one was easier due to this .also is more running about /picking up for parents that have nursery and school kids
Paper	23	Parent/Carer; Library User; Member of Public	I understand nursery needs to be bigger and expands but I like the fact that nursery is next to school and they go in and out school as it makes p1 transition easier. And they get used to dinner hall etc and teachers all before they start so in that aspect I think the move will make p1 harder for the kids. Maybe they could keep Troon nursery and the library being a new nursery site from school
Paper	24	Library User;	I use the library a lot and the M.E.R.C and I need to use the large monitors for enlarging maps for my project about Troon.
Paper	25	Library User, Member of Public, User of Community Group	I use the library for not just borrowing books but also for the talks and book groups. Also, during the winter it is a warm, safe place. There are very few of those. I use the Marr I.T. service located in the building. Without which I would find it difficult to maintain my ability to use I.T. The library is the only place I know which is free to use. Of course I do pay through taxes!
Paper	26	Parent/Carer;	I wholeheartedly agree with the relocation of the Troon EYC and fully believe it will benefit the children.
Paper	27	Library User, Member of Public	I wish for Troon Library to stay at its current location.
Paper	28	Library User; Member of Public;	I would like to put forward some observations and comments. I submitted a document with a range of questions at one of the engagement sessions at Troon library - however - the questions appear to have not been captured, reflected and answered within the latest FAQ document. Can a reason be given for the above please. The latest FAQ does however refer to a suggestion/recommendation I put forward about engaging with Marr Education Trust Board and states that this would be followed up after the engagement process. The above suggestion was based on the view and expectation that engaging with C K Marr Educational Trust Board would happen sooner rather than later - and that potential collaboration with the Marr Trust has a direct connection with the evaluation and assessment of alternative sites put forward by other members of the community. I believe also that an SAC Officer/Director responsible for Education is also a member of the C K Marr Board of Trustees - and it is my view that the Marr Trust has the potential and financial resources to contribute - should they be willing - to a future solution that provides enhanced library and EYC facilities for the Town. The aims and purposes of the C.K. Marr Trust is "the advancement of education" in its widest sense. This would suggest there is value in engaging with Marr Trust Board to identify potential opportunities and appetite in helping to establishing a brand new EYC facility in a new location while enhancing the library in its current location to become an even more vibrant and thriving community space. Such a collaboration and financial contribution from the Marr Trust has the potential to leave a greater C K Marr legacy within the town - and fitting with the vision and aspirations that came out of the SAC-led Troon Together community consultation

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			initiative. I therefore think it is an omission and missed opportunity - to note engage and make the Marr Education Trust Board aware of community suggestions while the engagement process is in progress. The Marr Trust are past stakeholders in the library and while the MERC has served its purpose over past years and now reached "end of life" - there is real opportunity for a new initiative and innovation in community capability within the Town, supported by the Marr Trust. SAC have recently invested a significant amount of money in the Cutty Sark Centre in Ayr - a community events space to celebrate local art, history and culture. What would it take for Troon to have something similar - for example - transforming the existing library and Cabin into Troon's equivalent of the Cutty Sark - a library and combined community space encompassing education, art, culture and heritage in collaboration with C K Marr Trust. As well as above - establishing a new Troon and C K Marr Early Learning Centre as another long-lasting educational facility in a new purpose-built facility. It is my view that engaging with the Marr Trust Board is potentially an integral part of evaluating alternative locations for an EYC put forward by the community and future vision for the town. Please note - it would also be useful if this facility allowed uploading of documents.
Paper	29	Library User;	I would like to see the expansion of childcare but I am concerned about losing library facilities
Paper	30	Library User	I would want the library to remain in current location. The Town Hall is an old building, not good for library facilities. Want it to stay here.
Paper	31	Library User, Member of Public	If it aint broken don't try to fix it. Existing premises are ideal for adults, children and activities.
Paper	32	Member of Public	If the Library moves to the Town Hall, the disabled access is more difficult plus no disabled parking.
Paper	33	Parent/Carer; Member of Public;	If the space is needed then it needs moved but there is a big disadvantage to the children not being beside school with it being a good transition to starting school
Paper	34	Member of Staff	I'm looking forward to the move, I think it will be good for staff moral and exciting to have a new dynamic of have 2's
Paper	35	Library User; Member of Public;	In general, people do not take kindly to change, and I can understand the opposition to the proposed changes. However, I can also see the other side - the Council has to try and make the best use of the buildings they have. Unfortunately, a lot of the drop-in times are not suitable for me, as I no longer drive and I need someone to give me a lift. I feel the whole consultation project has been very badly handled. Before coming to the public,, there should have been a detailed explanation given of why you need more Early Years provision and giving a list of all places that had been considered and the reasons why they are not suitable. I attended the first drop-in session which was a complete shambles and the staff member could not answer many of the questions asked, which was very frustrating for everyone. I expected a full document on-line giving all the details as I have stated above and then people could have understood better what was proposed and why and then made comments. It is very difficult to make a reasoned decision, with so little information available..
Paper	36	Member of Staff	In support if this proposal. Current facilities are no longer fit for purpose. Great provision in new location for children, parents and staff benefitting the wider community as a whole
Paper	37	Library User	Interested to know if the co working hub will be re-established if this move goes ahead? I was interested in this pre pandemic before I was resident in the area. I've recently moved to Troon, and I think a hub where freelancers can come and go when needed would be fantastic. Needs to be integrated into the design of the whole space and seen as something Troon welcomes. Welcomes and understands that creative industry freelancing in these times are tough, we recognise this and support this through this shared space. Brings interesting people and ideas to the area so well worth the investment I think

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Paper	38	Library User; Member of Public; User of Community Group; Other; (Member of the Art Group who currently uses 'The Cabin' (+ 10 other Groups);	Is there an alternative in the Troon Area for the current 'Cabin' users.
Paper	39	Library User; Member of Public	It is clear that Early Years provision is required, and equally that part of the Troon Town Hall building is in need of repurposing. While this proposal at first sight appears to resolve both issues there are several points that should be made against it. Parking is at a premium in that part of Troon all year round, and inevitably a great deal more traffic will be generated by this proposal. It is hard to believe that Pick up/Drop off would not cause significant problems. It is difficult to see from the plan how the gardens, including the memorial garden, will not be affected, particularly since part of it is designated 'external play'. The gardens are an integral and important feature of the town and their damage and loss would be very detrimental to its attraction to residents and visitors. Equally it is disingenuous to claim that the public benches will remain available. It is similarly hard to see from the plan how the proposed library can fit into the Town Hall building without considerable loss of amenity. 'Amenity' is more than floor space for bookshelves. It would appear that this idea has gained traction in the Council and that the case is being made to fit.
Paper	40	Parent/Carer; Library User; Member of Public	It is not practical or safe to have the children's library so far from the adults library and given staff limitation it's difficult to have this supervised at all times. There is not enough space for the children's library and the adult library to be together. Therefore, this proposal to move the library to the town hall <u>WILL NOT WORK!</u> Also, although there is a ramp it is a longer entrance access which will make it more difficult for many users. The adults library proposed area is too small and has no space for the jigsaw table which is an important service for combatting loneliness and giving people a welcome space to be in. It also seems impractical for the school to have a nursery so far away, especially for school drop off/collection and coherence of the school
Paper	41	Library User	It would be best leave the excellent library where it is!
Paper	42	Library User, Member of Public, User of Community	It would be more beneficial for the children to have the facility nearer where they live. Parking here would be a bottleneck twice a day as carpark so often full.
Paper	43	Library User; Member of Public; Other	It's very important to keep the library as many people use it and the way the council are tearing apart public services is absolutely shocking. Far too many council buildings been sold off as people working from home. People need community spaces and nothing will improve till everyone gets back in workplaces. Also why are governments doing free nursery places from age 2 when they don't have enough accommodation?
Paper	44	Library User; Member of Public;	Just to say well done on conducting such a consultation process. It must have been exhausting. So many of the comments I've read are from people who simply don't want change. I think the logic of the proposed changes is good.
Paper	45	Library User	Leave Library where it is.
Paper	46	Parent/Carer	Leave the library where it is and find an alternative site. The town is not all about childcare and the option suggested is lazy research etc. Parking and traffic will be affected as well as a the majority of users to accommodate on sector of the community.
Paper	47	Library User	Leave things as they are!
Paper	48	Library ser, Member of Public	Library is a VITAL resource especially to encourage young people to read

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Paper	49	Library User	Library would lose its "special traditional" building famille community
Paper	50	Parent/Carer	Like the plans, definitive improvement in the nursery provision, concert hall is under used on a daily basis in its current form so makes sense to use the space giving a new library and a new nursery facility
Paper	51	N/A	Looks Great
Paper	52	Parent/Carer; Library User; Member of Public; User of Community Group;	Looks Great! Very Exciting
Paper	53	Library User	Moving Library to Municipal Buildings will mean a smaller facility plus the access will present problems for disabled people. No Disable Parking only 2 bays outside concert hall and 3 in Joy Cottage Car Park. A bit of a walk. Would there be the same problem if teachers instead of parking in Troon Primary School parked elsewhere and walked, and put the facility in the playground. If parents have an older child they will then have to walk from Barassie Street to South Beach - 2 places if they drive clogged with cars parking.
Paper	54	Library User	Moving the library to the Town Hall is taking a step back in times - old building, high ceilings, old windows. Car Parking in this area is problematic at best especially in summer - this move would exaserate the problem. Not happy about any library move!
Paper	55	Other; Direct Neighbour;	My concerns about the relocation of Troon Early Years Centre are Car park being used much earlier in the morning than at present. More traffic movements within the car park area. More traffic congestion around St Patrick's Primary School which is a MAJOR safety issue. Vehicles sitting with their engines running. Despite notices being displayed, these are ignored on a regular basis. Delivery vehicles to the business "Drift" which take place from as early as 5.30 am throughout any day during the week, except Sunday. Unless a barrier is placed at the entrance to the car park and it is used exclusively by members of staff working at the Troon Early Years Centre, those living and working locally will continue to park, or try to park in the car park, as that's what they've been used to doing. I was assured by, I believe, Laura Kerr, that parents would use the car park across the road and the present 'Library' car park would be exclusively for the members of staff working at the Troon Early Years Centre. As I have lived at my address for 31-32 years, everybody uses this car park and park throughout the day and/or overnight. As I am a neighbour, South Ayrshire Council have a duty of care with my health and welfare and as my garden does not allow me to grow more vegetation to assist with helping cleansing the pollution released by vehicles nor does it give me any separation from traffic movements. This is an ideal opportunity to restrict traffic and ensure that the car park is exclusive to this members of staff working at the Troon Early Years Centre.
Paper	56	Library User	N/A
Paper	57	Library User	N/A
Paper	58	Member of Public	N/A
Paper	59	N/A	N/A
Paper	60	Member of Public	N/A
Paper	61	Member of Staff	N/A
Paper	62	Library User; Member of Public;	New plans not easy for users

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Paper	63	Parent/Carer, Library User, Member of Public	No I do not want Library to move from present location.
Paper	64	Parent/Carer, Library User, Member of Public	No is not suitable as the parking and area is so busy and more dangerous for children/parents.
Paper	65	Library User; Member of Public;	No objection in principle BUT can SAC be trusted to manage the transfer without prolonged closure of the library due to missed/prolonged timescales
Paper	66	N/A	Oppose moving the library
Paper	67	Library User; Member of Public; User of Community Group;	Other sites are available - old fire station etc. Should nearer to new family homes area in Barassie. Very unhappy about the location of this proposed early years centre. Parking <u>will</u> be <u>an issue</u> given disability and mobility problems for Troon residents. Many of the activities in the Town Hall/Walker Hall and the Library make this area extremely busy - Troon is a Conservation Area. Ramp on Municipal Building not suitable for people with mobility problems. Cost issue for heating etc. <u>South Ayrshire Council</u> you need to publicise this relocation more in order to get <u>all</u> of the community involved.
Paper	68	Member of Public;	Parking will be an issue. Leave our Library where it always has been
Paper	69	Library User; Member of Public; Other; Retired Librarian	Part Three - Following from comments on budget (Comments 1 & 2 already submitted) - list of building works and suggestions for furniture & equipment to be covered within the £0.5M budget - can costs be met? Comments on public engagement & on the Early Years Centre. Keeping the Public on Side - A lot of consultation has gone on at an early stage to reassure local residents; as project progresses to win further support the Council needs to keep the public engaged. The flat plans that are currently being shown are hard to envisage for some people and at a later stage 3D models or computerised visualisation along with mood boards & illustrations of some of the fixtures and fittings proposed may make it easier to picture what is being planned. The quality of the space is as important as the quantity and Library users need to feel that everything they have already will be in the Library only newer, fresher and better. The existing Library has tired paintwork, would benefit from a more consistent approach to signage, and has mismatched furniture that has evolved over the years, all of this could be improved in the Town Hall renovation. It would be helpful to have a timeline for the project- when will the building work start, when will the move to the new premises take place? Flag up milestones to Library users as they are delivered during the project and have a list of "You asked for...We are providing..." to show how the Council are acting on public suggestions. Maintaining consultation and feedback meetings going forward will generate support among parents and Library users. I would not reference the Carnegie Library in Ayr so much in public meetings. It is a library very much of its time and, although no doubt compliant with disability access requirements, from the outside at the main entrance it may seem forbidding and the existing library in Troon more appealing. The Early Years Centre and other issues - The gardens outside the library are I think non-negotiable - they are popular with residents and visitors alike. More should be done to enhance them ; Troon should aim to win a best kept garden award to improve our tourist attractions. However managing public access to the gardens beside the entrance to the Early Years Centre could be challenging. Many centres operate within a more controlled school environment. What security measures will be put in place to ensure the safety of small children and keep them away from strangers? Small children may also be at risk from the busy road into the town - can any traffic calming measures/reduced speed zones/crossings be used around the Town Hall? This could be important if the Early Years Centre wishes to bring children across to the Library - this would be a nice thing to do bringing both halves of the proposed development together. Lack of parking for both the Library and the Early Years Centre could be a problem. Could extra land be acquired beside the existing car park to enlarge it adjacent to Ivy Cottage and the South Beach Kiosk, where the big wheel

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			is located on its visits to Troon? I wish the Council a successful move for the Library if it has to take place, fully costed and delivered on time with a minimum of disruption to services. I look forward to continuing to use the Library in the future, if not in its present location, then in a well designed conversion.
Paper	70	Member of Public	Plans and proposals look excellent and long overdue. Provision for both services will be significantly improved.
Paper	71	Member of Public	Please do not move library. It is a wonderful community space for all age groups, so accessible.
Paper	72	Library User	Please do not take library out of this location. Thank you
Paper	73	Library User	Please Keep Library in Troon. Happy to move to Council Building
Paper	74	Member of Public	Please Keep Library where it is.
Paper	75	Parent/Carer, Library User, Member of Public	<p>Please see attached letter dated 29th June 23.</p> <p>I am writing to you regarding the proposal to move Troon Library (the Library) from its present bespoke building to rooms within the Walker Hall. I write as a library user, parent and resident of Troon.</p> <p>I very strongly favour maintaining the Library in its current building and location for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o The Library's purpose is its promotion of access to and the sharing of knowledge, learning and resources. In addition, it makes a critical contribution to the deepening of culture and the maintenance and growth of civilisation. o The Library having its own building in a prominent location, is a physical statement and tangible outward sign, to and from society, as to the value assigned to its purposes and truths. o The Library, it its own building, has been bequeathed to this generation by former generations who recognized the value of such an important amenity. o A bespoke building serves as a physical protection from those who might seek to diminish the Library's place in the community. Were the Library to be merged into the Walker Hall, its prominence would be wholly diminished. Inevitable this would result in reduced footfall. In time its resources and physical space would doubtless come under pressure for competing uses, its priority would be reduced along with its budget. o The Library, including the Marr Educational Resources Centre is currently set in a beautiful location, surrounded by wonderful gardens and with views of the Firth of Clyde/Irish Sea. Such an attractive location undoubtedly draws people in to the Library, the town and the area, encouraging use of its excellent resources. o A library is a key amenity for the who community – from early years right through to retiral and old age. A multitude of individuals, groups and clubs use the current building and its resources concomitantly benefitting from its beautiful paths and gardens. The option of space within the Walker Hall would result in a wholly diminished visitor experience. <p>Whilst early years provision is clearly important, there must surely be other ways of achieving this that do not involve the removal of such a jewel from the whole community.</p>
Paper	76	Library User; Member of Public;	Poor parking for blue badge holders. Electric point for cars. Car Park always full
Paper	77	Parent/Carer; Library User	Positive Outlook
Paper	78	Library User	Prefer library to stay where it is - its valuable asset and accessible for older users.
Paper	79	Parent/Carer; Library User; Member of Public; User of Community Group;	Provided the replacement library and community spaces are finished and open to the public before the existing spaces close and work starts on the new EYC I don't think there is a huge issue.

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Paper	80	Member of Public	Public libraries shouldn't be housed within educational establishments
Paper	81	Library User	Quality of space is as important as quantity. The Library move needs the best possible refurb to reassure people what they will have as a service is just as good as the present facility. Advice from professionally qualified library staff needs to be taken on board re layout, shelving etc to ensure the move works well. Troon people value the gardens in front of the existing Library, it is a tourist attraction that people are likely to want to see maintained however, does it present a problem for the early years centre in terms of safety if it is a busy through route (stranger danger?) and beside a busy road?
Paper	82	Library User;	Ramp at Town Hall too steep. RNIB Group - some members very disabled/sticks/anxious walkers can't use stairs or ramps.
Paper	83	Member of Staff;	Really excited by the plans, EYC will be exactly what the children need and partnership working between the EYC and library will continue with both services in new, quality locations.
Paper	84	Member of Staff;	Really excited with the new plans for the eyc. Our current provision is not serving our children well, new plans look amazing.
Paper	85	Library User;	Ridiculous idea. Library is lovely as it is - an excellent resource in Troon and well used.
Paper	86	Library User; Member of Public;	Please see Pages 24-27 for supporting document.
Paper	87	Library User; Member of Public	Seems to be a very reasonable proposal. The facilities in the Town Hall look to be well thought and adequate.
Paper	88	Library User	Seniors with mobility issues will be unable to cope when the library is not on the ground floor (no lift) and again no parking. Will the library have the same opening hours?
Paper	89	Library User; Member of Public	Shocking decision to consider this option. Proper infra structure and other amenities including early learning centre should be located nearer the hundreds of new houses which have been built in the area. Why change what is a central amenity for all ages.
Paper	90	Library User; Member of Public;	Shocking. Absolutely shocking idea on many fronts. Why can't early years centre be in Town Hall? Parents/adults library need to be close to child's library. Children need to be able to be supervised at a short distance as in present library.
Paper	91	Library User;	Since we moved to Troon 45 years ago the library has been constantly used by our Family. In todays crisis it provides a warm haven to people my age (70+) A friendly place on the level with wonderful staff. Both our daughters used the library to study for exams. One for her PhD and my other daughter for her nursing. Plus my husband for his Police exams in the 80s. A Sanctuary. Plus my husband had to travel a lot with his job and he must have rented out every audio tape from this wonderful library (not to mention the jigsaws!) Remembering R from the old days!
Paper	92	Library User	South Ayrshire Council have not properly engage with the community regarding the relocation of the Library. This whole process needs to be handled more extensively to include all members of the community. I do not believe that the proposed relocation would be in the best interest of <u>all</u> members of the Troon Community. Already the area is busy and if you look properly at the current traffic & flow of visitors you would realise this is not feasible. The Municipal Hall is not suitable for immobile people.
Paper	93	Library User; Member of Public	Status Quo. Keep Library where it is now, Please!
Paper	94	Parent/Carer	Super idea to move to the library.
Paper	95	Member of Public	Super Work by EYC
Paper	96	Library User; Other – Co Working Hub	The designated outdoor play space for the Nursery children is <u>much too small</u> and awkward to access. The Education Dept should consider again a) the site at Dukes b) the open parkland to the south of Milton Crescent & north of Darley Golf Course. C) Extend the current pre-school unit at Troon Primary using part of the P1-P7 playground and extending the P1-P7 play space

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			by fencing in that playground space used for staff car parking. This option is by far the cheapest and most quickly achieved. <u>The library is the Hub of Troon</u> - used constantly by Community Groups - it is the only source of adult education - creative activities and of immense importance to the elderly - to the hearing impaired etc. Where will the Marr Centre be located? The Concert Hall space is much smaller than the superb library we use - from very young to the elderly.
Paper	97	Library User, Member of Public	The existing library is the wrong location for the early learning centre. South Beach is congested by traffic and will only get worse if this goes ahead. I couldn't get my disabled scooter up the ramp of the proposed location in the Municipal Building
Paper	98	Parent/Carer	The experience of EYC learners is limited by the (too small) accommodation. As a parent, I support the new plans. This will hopefully also open up a wider range of options re pattern of attendance. The library is an essential part of any town, but I feel there are appropriate plans in place for its relocation, so nothing will be lost there.
Paper	99	Library User; Member of Public;	The Library and all its facilities has been used throughout our families life. The quiet calm atmosphere has provided the perfect place for studying. The staff have always been helpful and friendly. If a thing aint broke don't try to fix it.
Paper	100	Parent/Carer; Library User; Member of Public;	The library is a wonderful asset in the centre of our town for residents and public access to toilets with a frontage that sends a strong message to locals and visitors about our town. The lovely gardens where the elderly, disabled or mothers with children can visit and sit outside on benches in the beautiful gardens. The new proposal is a functionary clinical facility purely for books, has problematic access for elderly and disabled as opposed to the current level access. I have visited Kilmarnock library at the Dick Institute and before I was aware of the proposals I made comparisons to our lovely friendly cosy space as their library is cold and clinical like the foyer of council offices with information leaflets. While I support premises being found for the EYC, it should not be at the expense of this facility used mainly by the elderly and could be seen as age discrimination. I believe the current library should have been developed into a community space with small cafe for older visitors to engage. I believe there is a proposal for a space to keep Troon history and artifacts and the current library would be perfect for this venture instead of them having to go online. Troon primary has huge external grounds and it seems foolish that money is not available to develop the grounds which would leave a town asset in situ.
Paper	101	Library User	The library is in the best place at present in view of carparking, elderly users & stairs. The Town Hall would be more appropriate for Early Learning Centre
Paper	102	Library User	The library should be left where it is. Moving across the road will generate a mass of traffic. Leave our library in situ.
Paper	103	Member of Public	The library should remain on its current site as works well. Pushing it out and getting rid of the resource centre us short sighted and playing to only a small percentage of the community. There will be traffic safety issues if it becomes an ELC, dangerous already and nit sufficient parking on road or car park to accommodate the increased user numbers . The junction is busy and blind.
Paper	104	Member of Public	The library should remain where it is. Its better to have the Adult & children books closer to allow parents easy access to check on their child. For the elderly access is better currently
Paper	105	Member of Staff	The logistics of moving to Council Offices is horrific. Our Buildings here is purpose built. It has easy access for disabled people. So many people rely on coming to library as it is just now. Money to be sent is ridiculous.
Paper	106	Member of Public	The loss of the Old Cabin would be a huge disappointment. Have an ELC so close to a main road is hazardous, not to mention the chaos it would cause traffic wise. Suggested relocation would be next to Muirhead Primary School in Buchan Road surely!!!

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Paper	107	Library User, Member of Public	The Municipal Building is dismal. I am totally against the proposal its horrendous. The Library as is is a wonderful space for all and if moved will affect a lot of people for the worse. Parking access, ability to keep an eye on their children is badly affected. It's a community space for <u>all</u> day trippers enjoy the atmosphere and use the benches etc for picnics.
Paper	108	Library User, Member of Public	The municipal building has an inappropriate access for disability - my daughter is a wheelchair user. Inappropriate parking for safe drop off and pick up of Early Years children. Lack of fore thought on behalf of council who allow for large estates of houses without adequate supporting infrastructure like early learning.
Paper	109	Library User; User of Community Group;	The proposal will cause a lot more traffic on South Beach Road. Access to library in Walker Hall not suitable for less able people. New nursery could be built in area of many new houses in Barassie as more young families stay there.
Paper	110	Member of Public;	The proposed library looks super and future proofs our community hub. I think the location for a nursery is ideal. The children can play on the beach every day.
Paper	111	Parent/Carer	The proposed looks amazing and will provide excellent facilities. The proposed EYC look great. The current EYC at Troon primary is not fit for purpose and the proposed facilities are needed to deliver a high standard of experiences at Early Level. The 2 year old room would be a much needed addition. Being close to the beach is perfect for outdoor learning.
Paper	112	Library User	The purpose built library for the people of Troon should remain as a library. It is <u>NOT</u> an old building (1975) The car park next to the Walker Halls must be kept open to <u>ALL</u> and no spaces prioritised for EYC Parents. Lots of groups, visitors and walkers use this on a daily basis. Ayr St is a very busy road and care is always taken crossing it as there is no pedestrian crossing. This is an ill thought out plan which is of no benefit to anyone.
Paper	113	Parent/Carer; Library User; Member of Public;	The purpose -built library should be kept as such. If the Meadowgreen Centre hadn't been forced to close as an early years centre, this wouldn't be an issue. Perhaps the developers of the new houses should have been made to consider thus provision locally in NE Troon before being allowed to build so many new houses. In short, leave the library alone. Put the early years centre in the Walker Hall.
Paper	114	Member of Staff	The relocation will improve services greatly and benefit children & families for sure
Paper	115	Parent Carer; Library User; Member of Public;	The town would benefit from a bigger EYC and more equipped library space. Due to the number of houses and people within these estates the infrastructure must be upgraded to cope with the influx. Parking must be a priority for the EYC relocation though as I don't think the area at the current library offers enough.
Paper	116	Library User; Member of Public;	The under 5s should attend a nursery at the school they will be attending. I have seen Brodick Primary, a tiny school integrate the under 5s. St Pat's could also build on, or make space for inside use. To remove a building which is for everyone in the centre of town, will only anger the older people in Troon. Has any other town built a huge centre for under 5s? We have built so many houses and lost so much greenspace in Troon, that there is already annoyance that there are no more facilities for these new people. Why can there not be made space in that part of Troon - Muirhead/Barassie. Is that not where the children will be from.
Paper	117	Library User;	These proposals have caused considerable concern ,as revealed in recent discussions. Could SAC not install the new EYC in the council building and leave our spacious, much loved library in situ? Surely this would satisfy the requirement for a new EYC and allay the concerns of both library staff and users. Finally, rumours circulating indicate that the proposals are, in fact, a fait accompli, and that the consultation is little more than window dressing.
Paper	118	Parent/Carer;	Think it will be a great benefit to the community.

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Paper	119	Member of Public;	Think this would great opportunity for both parties.
Paper	120	Library User; User of Community Group;	This building was purpose built as a library and resource centre and so it should remain. It is an excellent community resource and re-location will not enhance the service
Paper	121	Member of Public	This is a bad idea. Love the library especially the staff. Don't Move!!!
Paper	122	Member of Public	This is a really positive move for the community. The current provision is too small and will give parents greater choice. It is a good use of public buildings rather than them lying empty.
Paper	123	Member of Public	This is not an engagement process! When did the consultation take place? This area is too congested already and the Municipal Building isn't appropriate for the Library. Adding all of those children, adults, workers & traffic. Doesn't make sense. Stop this now!!
Paper	124	Parent/Carer, Library User, Member of Public	This is not suitable for all that use this facility as stairs crossing main busy road is very dangerous for old & young alike. No wheelchair access of difficulty for all who have problems walking. Also partially sighted, blind, deaf will find it very hard to use stairs in a not familiar entrance & leaving building. Kids, adults with all kinds of serious illness.
Paper	125	Library User;	This proposal will rob us of one of our few decent amenities, popular and used by all: readers, parents with young children, members of the public without internet access, or who need to use the printers. Those who attend computer literacy classes in the resource centre. The library provides a welcome peaceful environment in which to browse books and DVDs, read papers and seek advice from the friendly helpful staff. The gardens are lovely, well maintained and add to the peaceful ambience. Surely the council could find a better site for the early years centre and let us keep our library. Finally I would like to recommend that the council gives urgent attention to the frankly dismal condition of our roads and pavements: potholes, cracked surfaces and patched up areas. Bradan Road, where I live, is heavily congested and in a very poor state.
Paper	126	Member of Staff	This relocation will be of great benefit to children and families
Paper	127	Parent/Carer; Library User;	This sounds like a sensible plan
Paper	128	Member of Public	Too much traffic in this area already. An Early Years Centre would just add to the volume and congestion in the area. Leave the Library where it is!!
Paper	129	Library User; Member of Public: Other; Retired Librarian	Troon Library Consultation - If there are no other viable options for the location of the Early Years Centre, I feel moving the Library to the Town Hall is a practical solution if professionally qualified library staff are in agreement with the proposals. Librarians who have built up day to day experience of local user needs will have lots of useful input to contribute. Of the two buildings the Town Hall is the building with more local heritage and it would be good to see it have some rejuvenation and activities located there that would generate more life into the Town Hall making it a more vibrant space. If other rooms in the Town Hall and adjacent Walker Hall could be refurbished (from an additional budget) perhaps groups using the Cabin and Ivy Cottage could be relocated there and touring exhibitions from South Ayrshire museum collections could take place? Budget - I have some reservations about the budget for the Library conversion & move (c.£0.5+M) being adequate. Throughout my career I have had some experience of library building developments, both new build and conversions, and the consequent stock moves. It would be helpful as the project progresses for council tax payers to have some detail on the breakdown of costs. The new Library has to have a high spec., giving Library users enhanced provision, so that they feel they have not lost out to the Early Years Centre and both parties experience a "win-win" situation. To create a modern Library in the Town Hall that is fit for purpose the budget will need to cover:- meeting the conversion costs of a B-listed building, removal of any

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			<p>"nasties" in the fabric of the Town Hall, improving heating, air-conditioning & ventilation, electrical upgrades to provide a safe power supply & sufficient power points for IT and other equipment, suitable lighting levels & task lighting, Wi-Fi provision, upgrades to the plumbing & (drinking) water supply to create toilets including those with disabled access, mother & baby facilities and for Library/Council staff, fire, smoke & water detection systems & alarms; fire exit doors & fire escape route signage; security alarms & security measures at doors & exit routes, wind & weather proofing the feature windows in the Town Hall to ensure they are watertight and secure, redecoration of the building and providing new floor coverings(particularly in the children's area), ensuring provision of photocopying facilities, scanners & printers comply with health & safety guidance, providing a variety of disabled access measures. not only improving the ramp access, but also hearing loop provision and measures for the visually impaired. You may also wish to consider sensory and tactile features in the children's library.</p> <p>In addition to all of the above the budget will also have to cover high quality library furnishings and shelving that can be configured in a flexible manner. Attention needs to be given to the staff workstation, where library users borrow and return books, especially if the work area has to be compatible with the needs of other Council helpdesk staff who may have to work there. There are specialist companies that provide library equipment, interior design & advice on layout but this can come with a price tag that reflects the quality of their services & products. I feel that high quality furniture is very important in the children's area of the Library. I also have concerns about the supervision of the children's library. I do not feel that saying this is how the Carnegie operates is an adequate response- because it runs that way elsewhere doesn't make it best practice that Troon should emulate. You may wish to get the Library's design team or an architect's practice that has expertise in planning Library floor space to review the flow between the adult and children's areas and or consider CCTV/security cameras/monitors. Part Two to follow</p>
Paper	130	Library User, Member of Public, Other (Child Psychotherapist	<p>It would have been good if 75% of this form was for comments. As is, 25% has been devoted to the issue. This is symbolic of the whole Issue. I fear that SAC will do 75% what they want and only 25% will be about what children need. A much more detailed questionnaire was need to truly take into account the views of the public. I am concerned about 1) Car parking issues - car park is already over subscribed. 2) Safety issues re crossing road. 3) Effect on nearby residential properties 4) Removal of a designated Library building in the town where children crucially experience the value of reading & the experience of visiting 'The Library' as a distinct & designated place. 5) The venue seems to crammed in for an EYC of the size proposed. Children need space to develop as individuals - cramming & cramming will stunt their emotional development. 6) An outdoor Nursery would be a much better idea.</p>
Paper	131	Library User	<p>Troon Primary School is the obvious choice for the early years centre. The existence of EAP pipes under the playground should not be a problem enough to stop the early years centre from being built there. Troon Library must not be moved as the Town Hall lacks the ambience - Poor Light, smaller windows, too stark, hard to find etc</p>
Paper	132	Library User	<p>Do not want to loose library nor should we. Parking Issue - Why not build nursery at Marr or near XXX</p>
Paper	133	Library User;	<p>Troon Primary School would be a much more suitable location for the relocation of Troon Early Years Centre, as there is already a nursery there. Surely it should be possible to build an extension to the existing nursery there? There is also ample space for an outside playground.</p>
Paper	134	Parent Carer; Library User; Member of Public;	<p>Troon PS is in desperate need for a larger facility for their early years centre. Troon library is a great location as it is already owned by the council and is not hugely well utilized by the community whereas an EYC would be. Parking and crossing patrols for drop offs and pick ups should be carefully considered. This is always an issue for local schools and EYCs.</p>

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Paper	135	Library User; Member of Public	Very disappointed to see the library moving. It is very convenient for older folks with disability. It is a great resource and important in my life.
Paper	136	Parent/Carer	Very keen for more external space and 9-3 time option
Paper	137	Member of Staff;	Very much in support of the move. We no longer have facilities that are fit for purpose.
Paper	138	Library User	Very sorry to hear about "planned move" from library. It is such a welcoming place where it is & bright - Is there such a demand for nursery places in Troon centre???
Paper	140	Member of Public, User of Community Group	Waste of Money
Paper	141	Library User, Member of Public, User of Community Group	Waste of Resources
Paper	142	Library User, Member of Public, User of Community Group	We need library at front. Flower display makes Troon beautiful - need the cabin - perfect building. Fence back of council office for play area.
Paper	143	Parent/Carer; Library User; Member of Public;	We understand the need for better nursery provision, but not at the expense of the library. Troon Library is one of the best in South Ayrshire and it would be terrible to lose this hub for our young children to read, learn and spend time with others.
Paper	144	Library User, Member of Public	What a dreadful idea on so many fronts! The library is a focal point & meeting place for <u>all</u> inside & out. Day visitors use the outside space, its peaceful & away from the rush. Good for the health of all ages together enjoying the space, It's a prime/location which if anything should be improved <u>for all</u> . The community Groups will suffer too. I don't see service desk at the new location in the childrens section of library, a staff member will presumably have to be in there and will need to be able to get on with work not end up childminding. Will there be a sign to say 'Children must not be left on their own' in that section? The parking will be horrendous too. Not all citizens will be able to access the New Library space as some mobility devices are wider than the ramp. In the existing library adults can relax and go between child & adult sections to keep an eye out. Whereas if an unattended child walks out the front door (in the new library) Library Staff are not childminders.
Paper	145	N/A	What will happen to the commemorative benches once the Early Years Centre is in place. Another big problem which all residents in Troon are aware of is parking, plus it is a main artery into to Troon for delivery lorries.
Paper	146	Member of Public	Whilst I understand Troon EY building is too small, purpose build facility would be the preferred option. 1) Parking - will impact on parking at all times of the day, the nursery will become at some point a 52 wk establishment. 2) The building was purpose built as a library, new facilities in a Victorian building may be compromised and what can be offered. 3) The future of the Marr Centre - a great addition to Troon and could offer more than it does at now. (Since lockdown SAC have diminished its role and facilities) 4) The front of library (Planting beds and benches offer a welcome amenity in the town which does not have a Public Park, even if it stays may not be the haven it is now. 5) The loss of the Cabin. As someone who is reaching retirement, I will want to access some of the groups which it offers. 6) The population of Troon Loan area has increased with the addition of new houses using the library will only offer a short-term solution.
Paper	147	Library User, Member of Public	1) Busy road, due to electric refuelling stand. 2) Only 2 invalidity parking at Town Hall. 3) Exit road very busy shops X X X
Paper	148	Library User	Whilst there is a feeling of fait accompli on this matter, I cannot see any problem <u>PROVIDING</u> the council honours its work by <u>RETAINING full library stock, resources etc.</u> Whilst making better use of Troon Municipal Buildings
Paper	149	Library User, Member of Public	Poor parking at Town Hall - 2 only invalidity out of six. 2) exit on to busy main street. 3) Electric, <i>refurnishing point</i>

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Paper	150	Library User	Why close the library? Why not build a new Nursery?
Paper	151	Library User; Member of Public;	Why is this move taking place, is there some great advantage in doing it.
Paper	152	Library User; Member of Public;	Why spend £500K relocating Library when E.C.L. will soon be too small in Library areas in a year or 2 extra space will be taken for car parking - at present not enough. 700 houses extra. If ECL was in council building it would save costs. Outside area could be on grass and beach would be safely accessible. Already primary schools use the beach. We already have 5 primary schools against 1 secondary. <u>Think Long Term.</u> A large Primary ELC built within Marr College or part of playing field would be a solution which in the long term would save administration costs.
Paper	153	Library User, Member of Public, User of Community Group	With smaller spaces for more things, I cannot see the point
Paper	154	Parent/Carer; Library User;	With the relocation I would hope that it doesn't shorten the opening hours or reduce the services available or selection of books available to children. Thanks.
Paper	155	Parent/Carer	Wonderful Idea!
Paper	156	Member of Public; Other - (Troon Community Council Member);	Would prefer alternative location as library and Marr Resource needed. Otherwise - Saving Town Hall Needed
Paper	157	Member of Public	Would prefer if this site was used as it should be as our Library. Realise children may need nursery provision but should be in a not so busy area for parking and dropping off.
Paper	158	Library User, Member of Public	Would prefer library to remain in its present location, and after choosing one's library books it is a delight to sit outside afterwards on a sunny day and enjoy the beautiful outside grounds and summer flowers that are so beautifully placed there and looked after in the summer season.
Paper	159	User of Community Group;	Yes Move
Paper	160	Library User	<p>South Ayrshire Council ["SAC"] has chosen the current Library site for the new Early Years Centre ["EYC"]. This is a central location in the town and subject to the usual rules of parking i.e. there is on-street parking along South Beach from the dentist, past 2 cafes and the Library and the old "OIR2 cabin - apart from the latter, all of these are well used and there are often few/no spaces available for parking while the public car park across the road next to Ivy Cottage is invariably full at most times. Indeed, all streets in central Troon have double yellow lines with parking spaces at a premium [and these rules often ignored by motorists with obvious safety concerns] plus 2 of the spaces to the side of the Town Hall [facing the church] have been converted to electric charging points, further reducing parking options.</p> <p>The proposal to site the EYC at the Library will make the parking [and indeed dropping off/picking up] situation worse, given that the age of the children and lack of nearby residential areas will undoubtedly mean parents/guardians will travel to it by car. This will add to the already large volume of road traffic in this area, many looking for parking facilities whether locals or tourists, and will increase the risk of parking chaos and pedestrian safety issues as motorists take inappropriate parking decisions if attending or dropping off/picking up at EYC. Parking at the public car park and having to cross a busy road with young children will be a dangerous practice.</p> <p>The replies on the FAQ;s to the parking and crossing the road issues are almost dismissive of the issues and don't stand up to scrutiny.</p> <p>TROON LIBRARY IN TOWN HALL</p>

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			<p>The current Troon Library was custom-built as a library and has all the necessary facilities for a library in the most advantageous spots. Relocation to the Town Hall leads to less space {smaller area and divided areas} that was not designed for library purposes, leading to the need for major refurbishment even if only for security measures, as well as loss of the library as a community meeting space. While it may still function as a library, it will be a lesser facility and the cost [approximately £600000] could certainly be spent on the existing library.</p> <p>EARLY YEARS CENTRE IN EXISTING LIBRARY BUILDING As previously mentioned, the existing Library was custom-built as a functioning library and so it seems strange that SAC has decided to make it its choice for a EYC instead of building a new custom-built EYC or a moving to a location more closely aligned to such a function. With a budget of £2m, [being the cost of [£1.4m for Library refurbishment and the £600000 from the Town Hall refurbishment], surely a plan to create a better library and a made for the purpose EYC could have been achieved? It is suggested that alternative sites for the EYC were sought and discounted - did these include the old "industrial" building on Templehill [next to the new care home] which has a better site for parking and dropping off/picking up [having parking and a turning point inside its fenced area]? or the vacant Auchengate building on the north side of Barassie [next to Dundonald Camp] which has ample safe car facilities [and is closer to the huge influx of new residents to the area, many with young children], or Muirhead Activity Centre which only recently earmarked by SAC for passing on as an asset transfer? The price tag of £2m for this relocation could certainly be spent with better facilities, safety and community service in mind.</p> <p>LIBRARY FUTURE It is stated that moving Troon Library to the Town Hall, which cuts the library space and removes MERC completely [which after Covid, seems to have been badly neglected and underused and not well advertised] is not a precursor to closure of library facilities. It is probable that moving to the Town Hall may have an effect on usage as access by many will be now having to cross what will be an extremely busy road/junction and this may deter some sections of the community. Any drop in numbers will then be used by SAC as an excuse for downgrading or removal of library services at a time when they are needed - for pleasure, mental wellbeing, literacy improvement as well as social and community purposes.</p> <p>OVERALL The relocation of services in Troon is not needed - find more suitable premises for the EYC, spend a fraction of the budget on the existing Library and save the town from the chaos that will be the traffic situation at that location in the future.</p>
Email	161	Library User, Member of Public, Other (Resident of Troon)	<p>1) Library was purpose build for its function with appropriate consideration of space, lighting and window location. 2) Landmark in Troon with gardens sitting space etc. 3) Perfect room space for other activities and groups to use in rooms off the general library. 4) Seems to restyle library for Early Years Centres is not well considered - would be better away from Main Town Centre in estates where new family homes have been built - Less chance of traffic congestion and safety risks - not adequate parking for parents to be able to escort children to centre. 6) Library is lifeline with its additional club functions and occasional evening talks etc. Correct height of ceilings and well thought out lighting for older residents makes it a welcoming intimate space. The lofty Town Hall will not suit them. I hope the grasping at straws attitude to find a suitable long term venue for an early learning centre will be reconsidered and a more suitable/accessible venue can be found.</p>
Online	162	Library User; Member of Public; User of Community Group;	<p>1. Early Learning Centre play area looks too small for outside play plus for example a sand pit, chute, swings etc. 2. Troon Town Centre is short of car parking space. The only car park nearby would have to serve the Library, Holiday & Day Visitors, activities involving Walker Hall, Ivy Cottage and the Concert Hall as well as the Early Learning Centre drop off and pick up. Ayr St is busy enough and it is on a bus route. A crossing would be needed to allow the elderly in particular to cross to the library.</p>

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			<p>3. I am not in favour of female librarians working in the Town Hall building by themselves in the evening especially in the winter months. I fell this would leave them vulnerable. The ambience is not as warm and bright as in the present library. 4. There is plenty of room, car parking space etc for an Early Years Centre in Marr College Playing Fields. 5. The Town Hall would make a good Museum space. The town doesn't have a museum. The Museum and Library in the same area of the town would be of educational and historical value for all.</p>
Online	163	Parent/Carer; Library User; Librarian in Another Sector;	<p>1. Can we be assured that the library will be made sufficiently visible in its new location e.g., with obvious outside signage? I am concerned that in the new location it will be hidden away and less used as a result. I know this seems obvious, but you'd be surprised at how many public libraries are hidden away with no directional signage... 2. If the library is moved, will SAC support attempts to reinvigorate/improve the library service beyond its physical attributes? Libraries benefit communities far beyond the provision of books. Compared to other neighbouring library services (e.g., East and North Ayrshire), SAC libraries are very under-resourced and provide a very 'bare bones' service with few outreach events. It may help to contact the Scottish Library and Information Council (https://scottishlibraries.org/) for further information and guidance and consult the current strategy for public libraries in Scotland: https://scottishlibraries.org/advice-guidance/national-strategies/forward-scotlands-public-library-strategy/. 3. If the Marr Resource Centre is closed, what will its funding be used for? 4. How will traffic congestion outside of the ELC be prevented (at pick-up and drop-off times)? It would be great if this could tie into improving the public bus transport in Troon...! 5. Will a crossing patroller be hired to cover the road, given that the only crossing is at the junction with Portland St, and presumably many parents will use the beach car park opposite for parking?</p>
Online	164	Parent/Carer	<p>A full Wednesday of care should be available with the move to a bigger centre which should hopefully have more staff. Will food faculties be available to cater for lunch?</p>
Online	165	Library User	<p>A play area next to the memorial garden is not appropriate. Children make a noise when playing, therefore anyone wanting quiet contemplation will be disturbed.</p>
Online	166	Parent/Carer; Library User; Member of Staff;	<p>Absolutely amazing idea. Troon needs more childcare places. And the municipal buildings will be just what the library needs!</p>
Online	167	Library User; Member of Public; User of Community Group;	<p>Adult area is smaller. Junior library will need constant supervision. Disabled access is problematic. Money could be better spent on library services. Nursery could be accommodated in Town Hall.</p>
Online	168	Library User	<p>Adult Area looks smaller on plans for new library which means there will be less books on display to choose from - How can this be an improvement for Library Users</p>
Online	169	Library User; Member of Public	<p>All looking good and making use of Town Hall in way forward. If all groups using 'Cabin' are catered for then happy with the plans</p>
Online	170	Library User	<p>Although I see the need for Early Learning provision in Troon, I don't think it should be at the expense of the library. The current building was purpose built as a library to give easy access to users. Moving it to an older building will give fragmented facilities and lead to a loss of the friendly open atmosphere. It won't be as user friendly.</p>

RELOCATION OF SERVICES TROON CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Online	171	Library User	Another point the location of the library is very accessible to both young and old plus people rely on mobility scooters etc will find the situation the Municipal Building would pose lots of problems. The Library in Troon is more than just a place to get books it is very much at the heart of the community and the staff provide a great service. The Municipal Building is going to make the library quite small plus the desk will be too far away from the entrance.
Online	172	Library User	As a former Assistant in Charge at Troon Library. I am totally against this proposal and always will be. Early Years <u>should</u> be situated within the school grounds so they can interact with the school. It's ridiculous that this has been talked about for 5 years and this is the first we have heard about it. I know there would be a standstill during COVID. As I said, I am totally against this proposal and my mind will not be changed!!
Online	173	Other; Gran	As a Gran who had to take grandkids back and forth to Barassie I am in total favour of the library moving across the road! The Nursery at Troon Primary is not fit for purpose and way too small. I do wonder how many children over the past few years didn't get to a nursery at all. Not all children have a Gran with a car! The town hall space lying empty is perfect for a library. A new pre five needs to be near to Troon Primary so this is ideal. The over 70's who are complaining have to move forward and think of the next generations. Can I also say I'm 72 and we will all be dead soon!! 🙄 Parking is an issue at most Primary schools however we all find ways around it. There will be no serious issue regarding parking at the library! I trust I'm not too late to put forward my point of view. Happy to attend any meeting if there are still some to come. Regards, A forward thinking Gran!!! 😊
Online	174	Parent/Carer	As parents that will have younger siblings accessing the service we are very much in favour of the move
Online	175	Parent/Carer; Library User	Both new plans look great. This will improve the children's early years provision enormously and bring a much needed investment into both the nursery and library. Great to see a commitment to improving the library service too at a time when there are so many cuts.
Online	176	Library User; Member of Public	Brilliant idea. Fantastic for Early Years. Plans look great
Online	177	Library User; Member of Public	Can a new early years centre not be built in the playground of Troon primary? That would keep a close link between the school and early years centre and help children progress into school
Online	178	Library User	Cannot see the logic behind this decision. Two moves - instead of one!!
Online	179	Library User; Member of Public; Other; Retired Librarian	Comments Continued(Part Two) - Continuation of comments on budget -following from comments on monitoring the children's library and the flow between adult and children's areas. In the current economic climate there are relatively few new build public Libraries to make site visits to in Scotland but viewing some recent conversions/refurbs. may provide ideas about how adult and young persons services can operate in tandem. Architectural periodicals & journals for Library & Information professionals will provide some inspiration for successful Library layouts. If the Library budget can stretch you may want to think about: using a removal company that specialises in effecting library moves and that can supply shelf- to-shelf book crates to transfer stock, permanent signage , shelving end guides & shelf labels, printed publicity of the new library layout inc. floor plans so that readers quickly familiarise themselves with relocated stock & service, installing an electronic message board- this looks better than tatty A4 notices and can be updated regularly when the Library is open to publicise what is on in the Library that day & forthcoming events. It could also be used to promote other South Ayrshire Council activities and consultations. With the necessary permissions in place it may also be possible to stream current news feeds, an

RELOCATION OF SERVICES TROON CONSULTATION RESPONSES

			out of hours book drop - if the Town Hall is open for other events when the Library is closed it may be useful to have a lockable book bin where readers can drop off stock, exhibition/display cases/boards and leaflet holders - in recent years some excellent exhibitions have been held in the library that would have benefited from better display equipment to showcase the exhibits, dedicated storage for equipment when it is not in use. It should not be cluttering up the corner of meeting rooms used for book groups. Breakout space for groups should include suitable tables, comfortable, adjustable chairs and storage for jigsaw puzzlers, crafters and board games, a coffee point(this could generate a revenue stream for the Library service), stock enhancement- the collection of popular fiction is adequate but non-fiction, local/family history & Scottish literature, reference & books for young adults inc. material to support school pupils/students could be improved. Part Three for comments to cover the Early Years Learning Centre to follow.
Online	180	Library User; Member of Public	Current arrangement and location of library are excellent. No change please.
Online	181	Parent Carer; Library User; Member of Public;	Delighted that Troon will get a suitable nursery able to meet the 1140 hour commitment in a more flexible way.
Online	182	Member of Staff;	Delighted with the proposed changes for both services. Far improved library and early years provision to future proof our town.
Online	183	Member of Staff	Delighted with the proposed changes for both services. Far improved library and early years provision to future proof our town.
Online	184	Library User; Member of Public; User of Community Group	Difficulty with access to building
Online	185	N/A	Do hope gardens will not be turned into carpark. Why not new centre at top of town near new housing young mostly live.
Online	186	Library User	Do Not Move!
Online	187	Parent/Carer; Library User; Member of Public	Do not think Town Hall is easily accessible. Existing Library is so accessible. Not like layout.
Online	188	Library User	Does not make sense
Online	189	Parent/Carer; Library User	Excellent plan. Delighted to retain library & gain new bigger nursery quickly! Current 8.5 month old (8.5yr & 6yr old)
Online	190	Parent/Carer; Library User	Excellent plans for both library and eyc. Delighted to see this making progress.
Online	191	Member of Public	Extra persons coming in to Town Centre and you have plans to bring Aldi into town and there is NO PARKING. Why do Planners forget about parking areas when making plans. There is a large Housing Estate going from Loans to Barassie. Why not put these plans into place within that Housing Estate? Lack of thought on SAC'S part.
Online	192	Parent/Carer; Member of Public; User of Community Group;	EYC is a good idea. It is essential to town. I feel however all possibilities must be fully explored.
Online	193	Parent/Carer; Library User; Member of Public	Fantastic plans. Great idea to improve early years and provide new library.
Online	194	N/A	Far end of playing fields at Muirhead

RELOCATION OF SERVICES TROON CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Online	195	Library User; Member of Staff	Far too much expenditure to relocate the library and alter the interior. The Library Building is purpose built for its usage. There are many clubs who use the Library and it is a Community Hub. This will not encourage people to continue supporting the Library
Online	196	Member of Public	Feel that a more appropriate place could be found for the Nursery Children as this library is so adequate for all Troon families and is used appropriately.
Online	197	Library User; Member of Public	Feel the current library facility is excellent for the town, excellent Marr resource centre, accessible. Library gardens attractive feature for locals and visitors, memorial garden lovely for mindfulness and wellbeing. Library has suitable car park facilities. Early years centre will be detrimental to the attractiveness of the town centre. Will decrease parking in the centre. Will increase traffic. Will result in less community facilities. No ability for future expansion of early years.
Online	198	Library User; Member of Public	First of all, this form is not fit for purpose. No closing date! Leave the Library as is! This will cause utter mayhem for pick up & drop off when traffic is already high volume. The library is a great place to come, Town hall is dark & oppressive and not safe to cross the road.
Online	199	Library User; Member of Public	Firstly worse form ever!! No date of return, no questions asked re any suggestions for any other ideas. Why does less than 1% of people who live in Troon have precedence over the 99% of people who live here. Lastly love library where it is. It is the community hub of Troon. Why change something that works well.
Online	200	Library User; Member of Public	From the Council Offices proposal, the adult library provision seems a lot smaller than the existing one with less facility for displaying books. Being disabled I couldn't negotiate my scooter up the twisting ramp to the Council Offices.
Online	201	Library User; Member of Public	Further comments after I sent in some on-line would not allow me access a second time!! 1) Hope the new ELC will be open to all children no matter what primary school they will be attending. 2) The flower beds are world - famous, so there will need to be a small metal fence installed (about) 20 ins high to stop children running straight out across them. 3) Before Covid, the Community Council tried to get a controlled crossing from the library to the other Council buildings. Last we heard, we would lose parking spaces. A controlled crossing will now be essential as there will be a large increase in pedestrians crossing both ways at this location need to be a small metal fence installed (about) 20 ins high to stop children running straight out across them. 3) Before Covid, the Community Council tried to get a controlled crossing from the library to the other Council buildings. Last we heard, we would lose parking spaces. A controlled crossing will now be essential as there will be a large increase in pedestrians crossing both ways at this location
Online	202	Library User; Member of Public	Given Struthers & Troon have had extensions recently, why & where are Library users expected to park?
Online	203	Parent/Carer	Good idea..... Would be happy with the move
Online	204	Library User; Member of Public	Good re-use of existing vacant areas of Town Hall and existing library
Online	205	Member of Public	Great Idea
Online	206	Member of Public	Great Idea!
Online	207	Parent/Carer; Library User; Member of Public;	Having seen the plans for both the EYC and the library, it has my full support. The facility for the EYC is far superior to the current provision and will bring Troon Primary up to the standard offered by other school nursery's in terms of allocation of hours as well as improving their outside space. I think this is essential for the families of Troon. The current building is quite run down but absolutely should be improved as part of the project and remain part of the school facility - there are numerous ways in which it could be incorporated for the good of the school. The only slight concern is the road traffic. Troon Primary

RELOCATION OF SERVICES TROON CONSULTATION RESPONSES

			has an ongoing case open with ARA to improve safety measures and I would like to see this advancing more quickly to ensure a smoother route for the nursery children when they go to and from the main school building. Local councillors are also aware. I personally also like the proposed library relocation as it looks like a beautiful part of the building, and it will be lovely to see it utilised more fully. Given the proximity to the current library, I can't see any issue with this proposal whatsoever.
Online	208	Library User; Member of Public	Hope new area will be as good or better than what we already have and all staff will be retained.
Online	209	Library User	Hope the new library has good access for elderly and disabled
Online	210	Library User; Member of Public	Hope you will be providing the same services.
Online	211	Library User; Member of Public;	Hopefully moving across the road will be a good move. My only concern is parking.
Online	212	Member of Public	How will parking be addressed for pick Up /drop off. The existing library car park as detailed on the plans is very limited
Online	213	Library User	I agree that the Nursery within T.P. School is inadequate for the needs of the client group it serves. However, I am concerned about the relocation of the excellent Troon Library and the outstanding staff. If the new site for the library goes ahead safe crossing will be needed to gain access. Also, the Council should consider a Tourist Info Desk within the new library. Also leave space for Artists, Writers etc to display their talents and share with others. This would develop Community Groups thus enhancing the scope of our current library facilities
Online	214	Library User	I am firmly against the Library's proposed relocation. This library stands on the shoulders of previous generations. To relocate it would upset its use, size and unique setting
Online	215	Member of Public	I am not in favour of is. Will compromise library facilities
Online	216	Library User; Other – Co Working Hub	I am really hoping there will be a space for the Co Working Hub in the new library space. There are so many more people in the area who work from home since the onset of covid, including myself.
Online	217	Library User, User of Community Group (Loans Community Council)	I am very happy with where the library is at the moment - (May 2023)
Online	218	Library User; User of Community Group	I am very much against the relocation. I use the library myself and also get books for my grandson. I also use the Old Mens Cabin on a Thursday evening and, to my knowledge there has been no alternative location for the users of The Cabin. I feel the new Early Years building should be purpose built elsewhere in Troon.
Online	219	Library User; Member of Public	I assume all services provided by current Library staff will continue. I would not like to see a reduction in staff or facilities in the new building
Online	220	Parent/Carer; Library User; Member of Public	I believe I need much more information on the proposed move before I can be persuaded that the changes are positive.
Online	221	Library User; Member of Public	I believe nursery needs another location
Online	222	Member of Public	I believe the library should remain where is has been for over 75 years. It is part of Troon's heritage and history. It is a quiet setting for the library users and a tranquil place to site for older people to admire the gardens.
Online	223	Other	I cannot understand the reasoning behind the proposal of the Council to move the Troon Library to new premises in the Town Hall and alter the existing purpose built Library to house the Troon Early Years Centre for children aged 2-4years old. The existing Troon Library is a real asset for the Town: It is well used and enjoyed by so many of the residents. There is the computer section within the library which is also well used. Access to the library is on the level with convenient parking beside the pavement in front of the building. There are also extra rooms within the library building which are well used by a Reading Group, Scrabble, the Rummikub, a Bridge group and more. If this change of use goes ahead: It will be a massive loss

		<p>to the Town and to the residents who have supported and enjoyed the library for all the years of its existence. It will also increase traffic in an already busy and popular area of the Town and hinder the access of visitors to the retail centre of Troon. The proposed move to the Town Hall does not have level access. The slope to access the Town Hall might be within the accepted 'ease of access' but nothing is as good as 'level'. The parking outside the existing library is more convenient than that of the car park on the Town Hall side and that car park is more frequently full and for longer periods. There is not as much space for the display of books in the Town Hall as in the existing Library. There are no extra spaces to hold all the other activities that take place in the existing library and no available spaces to provide for these as yet – so I am told. Why would this building be seen as ideal for a pre-school nursery from 2-4 years old children. The library premises after alterations will provide space for up to 90 young children. The cabin is to be demolished and that space to be altered for an outside play area for all the children. These children will be brought and collected to this area at different times of the day depending when they are booked in. I understand the possible times will be from 8am to 6pm and the busiest time is around 3pm. What will be the effect of this change of use of the Library and surrounding area on the centre of Troon? There will be an increase in traffic at this already popular parking area, well used by residents and visitors to the town so their use of this parking area will be much restricted. The one hour parking gives time for casual shopping, a coffee or a quick snack or just a gentle stroll round the block of shops. This regular use by residents and visitors alike will be restricted by the increased demand for parking and the retail shops will suffer. One would assume that as this area is the centre of the town then the majority of the children will come from the many spread out residential areas of Troon and will be delivered and collected by car. The cars bringing the children will use the pavement area opposite the entrance if they are fortunate to find a space. This should not be too much of a problem around 8am or even 6pm but at most times in between when the people of the town and the visitors are going about their daily habits there can be periods where the parking spaces are few and far between and particularly around 3pm. The result will be more traffic building up and frustration until the problem is solved. This could be across the road or round the corner with young children having to walk further across roads and avoiding traffic. I love the answer to Question 14 in your document of Frequently Asked Questions. 'Parents can drop off at the car park or on street'. You don't just 'drop off' children of that age! You park the car in a safe place. You park, you erect push chairs if needed. You unbuckle child from car seat – with rear door open. You unbuckle any other child/baby that you have to take with you. And then you make the journey from wherever you have parked! This situation brings major concerns for the safety of the children and with the increase in traffic at this already popular and busy area there are concerns for the Troon inhabitants in general. In good weather periods this area of a popular town like Troon is packed with cars in every available space near the beach and shops. Or when the Walker Hall is in use e.g. booster vaccinations – parking on both sides of the road. To contemplate gathering that number of young children into such an area is madness. Why has this proposal even progressed as far as this? Is this the least expensive solution? Or is it an effort to make use of the space in the Town Hall whether it is fit for purpose or not? It might cost more to acquire a site nearer to a densely residential area but much more sensible and safer and something that would not have a detrimental effect on access to the retail centre of the town for residents and visitors. And the Troon residents deserve to be allowed to continue to enjoy their well used , easily accessible and much loved library. The Library at present is an asset for the Town. Its present situation is an extremely attractive part of the Town with adequate seats to enjoy and of course the gardens. I implore you to reconsider and find a more appropriate solution to the relocation of the Troon Early Years Centre.</p>
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RELOCATION OF SERVICES TROON CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Online	224	Parent/Carer; Library User	I do believe that given the right plans being implemented, the change of use for the existing Library building will be of benefit to both the community and the proposed change of use.
Online	225	Library User	I do not think moving library is going to do the town any good. Personally I wouldn't make it up ramp or stairs. Disabled people would not be able to use library. There has to be another solution, rather than move library. Surely there has to be other places for nursery to be replaced!!! I am definitely <u>not</u> happy at this proposal. (what about m&co, great space with parking facilities and a lift to upper area)
Online	226	Member of Public; User of Community Group	I don't think enough thought has been given to elderly and people with disabilities having to cross a busy road and once there they have to negotiate a number of steps. Also, the ramp is difficult for people in scooters or wheelchairs.

Documents supporting Feedback Comment Sheet 86

Comments/Questions

Clarification on Existing FAQs

The current FAQ includes the following:

Q13: The current Early Learning Centre at Troon Primary has been running for years without issue so why does it need to be moved.

A13: The Scottish Government increased the entitlement to early learning and childcare, almost doubling the hours children can attend. There is a need for more physical space to allow children to attend for longer rather than just morning and afternoon sessions as previously happened. There is insufficient internal space at Troon Early Years Centre to take more children, no space for children aged three and very limited outdoor play space. Parents do not get the full range of choices as is available at other full year centres. There is no option for children to attend 9am – 3pm which is a popular choice if parents have children attending primary school. Increased space will enable us to provide these.

- The current Troon EYC website says: "Families are able to choose morning, afternoon or full day care. We offer 1140 hours, with provision between 8.00am and 6.00pm."
- Within Answer 13 above - what is meant by:
 - "to allow children to attend for longer than just morning and afternoon sessions as previously happened"?
 - "There is no option for children to attend 9am – 3pm"?
- Can you provide the detailed capacity limitations/weaknesses for the current Troon EYC across all relevant areas?

Sharing capacity across all EYCs

- How many EYCs are there currently throughout Troon including Barassie?
- What is the projected future capacity needed for each location to provide statutory requirements for anticipated population/number of children for each area?
- How are each of the other locations being developed to meet these needs?
- Is it possible to "share capacity" across the EYCs to ensure total demand for EYC places can be balanced in the short and long term across the town? If not – then why not?

Evaluation of Options prior to publicising proposal

Can the FAQ's be updated to provide more factual data on the various options evaluated before the proposal was finally developed and released to the media on March 2nd.

- What specific options and locations were considered for increasing capacity for Troon EYC?
- What are the reasons for each option being considered not suitable, affordable or compliant with current statutory requirements?
- What are the financial considerations relevant to each of the options considered?

Clarifications on current proposed solution

Customer Services facility within the proposed library space

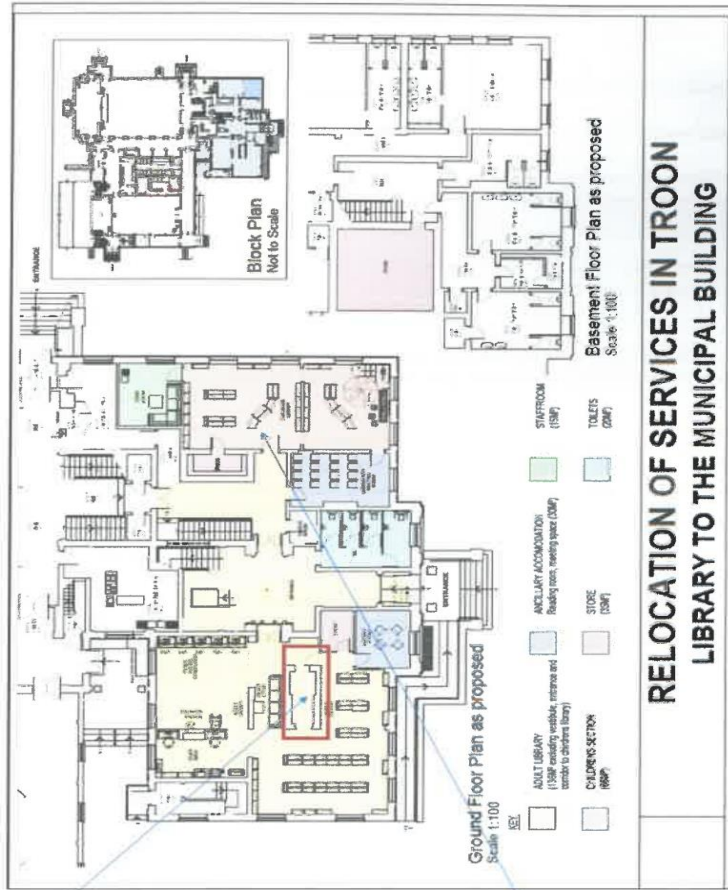
In the Troon Going Out publication it has been stated that "Existing resources, services and facilities would be maintained and/or enhanced including the return to a full customer services provision within the new library, 5-days a week".

Can it be explained how the above will be accommodated and provided and managed within the proposed library space?

Impact on on-street parking and additional traffic management

- Can further information be provided on road management aspects of the proposal, for example:
 - Impact on parking
 - Introduction of pelican crossing/enhanced safety features

Questions relating to proposed new layout/location- see below



<p>What is this and why is it there?</p> <p>Expectation</p> <p>It has been stated that the return of full customer services 5-days a week will/could be provided within the new library space – how and where will this be accommodated?</p> <p>What is the difference in volume of shelving space/book inventory between current library and proposal?</p> <p>What is the difference in community space and availability between current library and proposal?</p> <p>Anyone can enter the childrens space without passing reception desk – presumably requiring constant CCTV surveillance by staff.</p> <p>Should there not always be staff /small reception in children area?</p> <p>While disabled access is “legally compliant” – it is clearly not suitable and well below current library ease of access – and not acceptable to certain users.</p>

Clarification on Engagement Process and SAC Community Engagement Strategy

Context

- There is a clear need and statutory duty to increase EYC capacity
- There is a clear need and statutory duty to provide a comprehensive and effective library service
- There is a clear and obvious need to not provide one service at the detriment/deterioration of the other
- There is a need to find a harmonious solution that meet the needs of all specific community members contributing towards promoting a thriving community over the long term as espoused by council strategy and ambitions
- It is to be expected and anticipated that a change of this scope and scale and disruption to what is a loved, cherished and symbolic aspect of Troon community life – The Library - will generate strong feelings across specific sectors of the community
- It appears also there were rumours, concerns and fears across sections of the community about the future of the library – prior to the proposal being announced – and which was known to Ward Councillors

Within this context - such a scale of change demands an effective and highly proficient communication and engagement process. Initial community reaction would suggest there were weaknesses in the way the engagement process was launched and some “learnings” to be gained by Ward Councillors and SAC Officers. See specific questions further below relating to this aspect.

Engagement Model and Approach

The SAC approach to community engagement is described here: <https://www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/article/37963/Community-Development-Engagement> which includes an Engagement Strategy and adoption a specific national frameworks and standards. Content within the strategy and frameworks include:

We will communicate clearly and regularly with the people, organisations and communities affected by the engagement.

How will we know we have met this Standard?

- Information on the community engagement process, and what has happened as a result, is clear and easy to access and understand.
- Information is made available in appropriate formats.
- Without breaking confidentiality, participants have access to all information that is relevant to the engagement.
- Systems are in place to make sure the views of the wider community continuously help to shape the engagement process.
- Feedback is a true representation of the range of views expressed during the engagement process.
- Feedback includes information on:
 - » the engagement process;
 - » the options which have been considered; and
 - » the decisions and actions that have been agreed, and the reasons why.

DEFINING COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT LEVELS

The International Association of Public Participation identifies five key stages in the spectrum of engagement. The Council will adopt this framework and this will be used to identify, plan and measure the effectiveness of our community engagement activities. There are five definitions of engagement within the spectrum. These are:

	INFORM	CONSULT	INVOLVE	COLLABORATE	EMPOWER
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION GOAL	To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions	To obtain public feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decisions	To work directly with the public throughout the process to ensure that public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered	To partner with the public in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution	To place final decision making in the hands of the public
PROMISE TO THE PUBLIC	We will keep you informed	We will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and aspirations and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision	We will work with you to ensure that your concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision	We will look to you for advice and innovation in formulating solutions and incorporate your advice and recommendations into the decisions to the maximum extent possible	We will implement what you decide

Questions relating to the engagement process.

- Which “promises” within the spectrum of engagement are applicable to this proposal?
- How do Troon Ward Councillors and Officers plan to conduct assessment and improvement reviews to ensure high quality delivery against these promises?
- When will information gathered from the engagement process – and the influence this has had on the proposal - be presented back to the community?
- Will there be regular updates to the FAQs throughout the engagement process – as feedback is reviewed and answers developed – and how will these be communicated to the community?
- Will all community feedback be published and made available – in an “anonymised” form? If not – why not?
- If the eventual decision lay with Ward Councillors and others – when is this decision expected to be made, how will it be voted on and who will communicate it to the local community?

Question about future maintenance of the library

- The opinion expressed by a Ward Councillor suggested that if this proposal does not go ahead there is risk of there not being future funds available to maintain the current library building with its flat roof – and this potentially puts the library at risk in the future
- It was also mentioned that libraries across other councils have been closed due to budget constraints and that a similar situation could arise in Troon and therefore adopting and implementing this proposal helps ensure the long-term future of Troon library
- Should an alternative solution be found or if the proposal is not approved – what assurance can be given that Troon library will have an appropriate building maintenance plan?

Question relating to Collaboration, Innovation in formulating solutions

- What is the potential for this engagement to explore more transformative change – for example:
 - During engagement sessions – some members of the community talked about “thinking outside the box” and going beyond current thinking and trying to create more transformative change – some suggestions in this area include:
 - Transforming Troon library to become an enhanced community hub and culture, heritage and events facility
 - Partnering with the C K Marr Educational Trust Board of Governors exploring the potential to create the Troon Library and C.K. Marr Heritage and Exhibition Centre
 - Looking for innovations that take some of the future aspirations described in the “Troon Together” Report and building these into future library and community hub development plans with a focus on enhancing youth engagement

**South Ayrshire Council
Equality Impact Assessment including Fairer Scotland Duty**

Section One: Policy Details*

Name of Policy	Relocation of Services in Troon
Lead Officer (Name/Position)	Aileen Valenti, Quality Improvement Manager, Early Years
Support Team (Names/Positions) including Critical Friend	Sarah Pye, Quality Improvement Officer Lyndsay McRoberts, Director of Education

*The term Policy is used throughout the assessment to embrace the full range of policies, procedures, strategies, projects, applications for funding or financial decisions.

What are the main aims of the policy?	Proposal is to relocate Troon Early Years Centre to Troon Library and relocate the library to the Municipal Building.
What are the intended outcomes of the policy?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in the number of places available for children aged 3 and 4 yr olds. • Increase in the flexibility and session times available. • Places available for eligible two-year-olds. • Improved outdoor play space. • Improved facilities for all children and in particular children with disabilities and additional support needs. • Relocation of the library to the municipal building. • Upgraded and modernised library environment.

Section Two: What are the Likely Impacts of the Policy?

Will the policy impact upon the whole population of South Ayrshire and/or particular groups within the population? (please specify)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This paper will largely impact on young, children, parents/carers, families and library users in Troon.
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Considering the following Protected Characteristics and themes, what likely impacts or issues does the policy have for the group or community?

List any likely positive and/or negative impacts.

Protected Characteristics	Positive and/or Negative Impacts
Age: Issues relating to different age groups e.g. older people or children and young people	<p>This proposal is specifically targeted at improving outcomes for children aged three to five and eligible children aged two.</p> <p>Evidence suggests that provision for early learning and childcare will have a positive impact on the young children in securing positive outcomes.</p> <p>The proposal to relocate the library will specifically impact on library users of all ages.</p>
Disability: Issues relating to disabled people	<p>Increased facilities for children with disabilities.</p> <p>Accessibility of the proposed relocated library have been raised. All public buildings require to have suitable accessibility strategies in place.</p>
Gender Reassignment – Trans/Transgender: Issues relating to people who have proposed, started or completed a process to change his or her sex	<p>The proposals will not impact positively or negatively.</p>
Marriage and Civil Partnership: Issues relating to people who are married or are in a civil partnership	<p>The proposals will not impact positively or negatively.</p>
Pregnancy and Maternity: Issues relating to woman who are pregnant and/or on maternity leave	<p>The proposals will impact positively on parents particularly in the period after the birth. Support for parents/carers is offered in early years centres.</p>
Race: Issues relating to people from different racial groups,(BME) ethnic minorities, including Gypsy/Travellers	<p>The proposals to relocate the early years centre are offered equally across all ethnicities including gypsy travellers and migrant workers.</p>
Religion or Belief: Issues relating to a person’s religion or belief (including non-belief)	<p>The proposals will be being offered equally across all religions and beliefs.</p>
Sex: Issues specific to women and men/or girls and boys	<p>Potential positive impacts as the support will be provided to both male and female parents/carers and children.</p> <p>It is believed that provision of early learning and childcare, including access to ELC for two-year-olds and increased flexibility for parents, will bring particular benefits for women as the primary carers, particularly impacting upon the cost and accessibility of childcare as a barrier to return to work.</p>

Sexual Orientation: Issues relating to a person's sexual orientation i.e. LGBT+, heterosexual/straight	The proposals will not impact positively or negatively on issues relating to sexual orientation.
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Equality and Diversity Themes Relevant to South Ayrshire Council	Positive and/or Negative Impacts
Health Issues and impacts affecting people's health	There may be a positive impact on families through access to local, flexible early years provision.
Human Rights: Issues and impacts affecting people's human rights such as being treated with dignity and respect, the right to education, the right to respect for private and family life, and the right to free elections.	We will continue to ensure that all service users are treated with dignity and respect. This proposal positively supports the rights to education and family life. A Children's Rights Impact Assessment has been included.

Socio-Economic Disadvantage	Positive and/or Negative Impacts
Low Income/Income Poverty: Issues: cannot afford to maintain regular payments such as bills, food and clothing.	Potential positive impacts on reduced childcare costs for families
Low and/or no wealth: Issues: enough money to meet basic living costs and pay bills but have no savings to deal with any unexpected spends and no provision for the future	Potential positive impact on family costs. Children attending the centre will have access to a healthy snack and lunch provision.
Material Deprivation: Issues: being unable to access basic goods and services i.e. financial products like life insurance, repair/replace broken electrical goods, warm home, leisure/hobbies	The provision of extended early learning and childcare will have a positive impact on supporting key skills including health and wellbeing, literacy and numeracy of young children and contribute to closing the attainment gap. This includes places for eligible two-year-olds and children in need.
Area Deprivation: Issues: where you live (rural areas), where you work (accessibility of transport)	The proposals will not impact positively or negatively.

Section Three: Evidence Used in Developing the Policy

<p>Involvement and Consultation In assessing the impact(s) set out above what evidence has been collected from involvement, engagement or consultation? Who did you involve, when and how?</p>	<p>There has been consultation with members of public, parents and library users.</p> <p>This was carried out in May and June 2023.</p> <p>There was a number of engagement sessions and online comments forms. A summary is included in Appendix 3.</p>
<p>Data and Research In assessing the impact set out above what evidence has been collected from research or other data. Please specify what research was carried out or data collected, when and how this was done.</p>	<p>A variety of research on the positive impact of early intervention has informed this paper. This includes Early Intervention -The Next Steps, 2011, Joining the Dots, 2011 and The Effective Provision of Pre-School Education (EPPE) Project</p>
<p>Partners data and research In assessing the impact(s) set out in Section 2 what evidence has been provided by partners? Please specify partners</p>	<p>School roll, population statistics and legislative standards have been used to help develop the proposals in the plan.</p> <p>A range of partners across services have been involved in developing the proposals.</p>
<p>Gaps and Uncertainties Have you identified any gaps or uncertainties in your understanding of the issues or impacts that need to be explored further?</p>	<p>None</p>

Section Four: Detailed Action Plan to address identified gaps in:

- a) evidence and
- b) to mitigate negative impacts

No.	Action	Responsible Officer(s)	Timescale
1	If the proposals are agreed review the current accessibility to the Municipal Building to ensure access for all library users.	Pauline Bradley	2024

Note: Please add more rows as required.

Section Five - Performance monitoring and reporting

Considering the policy as a whole, including its equality and diversity implications:

When is the policy intended to come into effect?	From October 2024
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When will the policy be reviewed?	Ongoing
Which Panel will have oversight of the policy?	South Ayrshire Council

Summary Equality Impact Assessment Implications & Mitigating Actions

Name of Policy: Relocation of Services in Troon

This policy will assist or inhibit the Council’s ability to eliminate discrimination; advance equality of opportunity; and foster good relations as follows:

<p>Eliminate discrimination</p> <p>This proposal will improve outcomes for all children, but in particular for vulnerable children and their parents/carers, thereby reducing socio-economic discrimination.</p>
<p>Advance equality of opportunity</p> <p>The plan advances the opportunity for young children and their parents to fulfil their potential, and particularly improve their health and educational achievements.</p> <p>It supports working parents/carers and those returning to training and or study.</p>
<p>Foster good relations</p> <p>This policy will foster positive relations with parents/carers within the community from across all protected characteristics.</p>
<p>Consider Socio-Economic Disadvantage (Fairer Scotland Duty)</p>

Summary of Key Action to Mitigate Negative Impacts	
Actions	Timescale
If the proposals are agreed review the current accessibility to the Municipal Building to ensure access for all library users.	October 2024

Signed: Aileen Valenti, Quality Improvement Manager

Date: 19th September 2023

CRWIA Stage 1**Screening – key questions****1. Name the policy, and describe it's overall aims.**

The relocation of Troon Primary Early Years Centre aims to provide more early learning and childcare places and more flexible choices for session times to support children and families.

2. What aspects of the policy/measure will affect children and young people up to the age of 18?

The Articles of the UNCRC and the child wellbeing indicators that directly link with the proposed relocation of Troon Early Years Centre are:

- Article 18 – Parental responsibilities and state assistance
- Article 23 – Children with disabilities
- Article 28 – Right to education
- Article 29 – Goals of Education
- Article 31 – Leisure, play, and culture

3. What likely impact – direct or indirect – will the policy/measure have on children and young people?

The impact of the relocation of Troon Early Years Centre is anticipated as providing the following benefits for children and families:

- Children's development improves and the poverty related attainment gap narrows. This will particularly positively impact those children aged two who are not able to access the current provision.
- The increased flexibility of session times will support parents to make choices that suit their family needs. Parents will have the opportunity to be in work, training or study.
- By reducing potential barriers for families such as access to childcare, session times consistent with school hours, family resilience will increase through improved health and wellbeing of parents and children.

4. Which groups of children and young people will be affected?

The expansion to 1140 hours is intended to maximise this opportunity to ensure that all children in Scotland get the best possible start in life. The expansion is specifically targeted at children aged two to five years.

By relocating Troon early years centre there will be improved facilities for children particularly those with disabilities. This includes accessible toilets and changing provision.

5. Will this require a CRWIA?

Yes . There are specific positive impacts of the proposal for children and families.

CRWIA Declaration

Tick relevant section, and complete the form.

CRWIA required	CRWIA not required
Yes	

Authorisation	
Policy lead Aileen Valenti Quality Improvement Manager	Date 18th September 2023
Deputy Director of equivalent Sarah Pye Quality Improvement Officer	Date 18th September 2023

CRWIA Stage 2

The CRWIA - key questions

1. Which UNCRC Articles are relevant to the policy/measure?

The Articles of the UNCRC and the child wellbeing indicators that directly link with the proposed relocation of Troon Early Years Centre are:

- Article 18 – Parental responsibilities and state assistance
- Article 23 – Children with disabilities
- Article 28 – Right to education
- Article 29 – Goals of Education
- Article 31 – Leisure, play, and culture

2. What impact will the policy/measure have on children's rights?

The proposal if agreed will have a positive impact on Children's Rights.

The expansion to 1140 hours is intended to maximise this opportunity to ensure that all children in Scotland get the best possible start in life.

By relocating Troon early years centre there will be improved facilities for children particularly those with disabilities. This includes accessible toilets and changing provision.

More flexibility about session length will also allow parents to access ELC sessions that are more closely aligned with their working patterns. This in turn could help ensure that children are able to benefit from their full ELC offer while also maximising the time that they are able to spend with their parents and facilitate their right to be raised by, or have a relationship with, their parents, which will have positive impacts on Article 18 (Parental responsibilities and state assistance).

3. Will there be different impacts on different groups of children and young people?

The proposal will have a particularly positive impact on improving accessibility for children with disabilities. It will also provide access to provision within Troon EYC that is not currently available

4. If a negative impact is assessed for any area of rights or any group of children and young people, what options have you considered to modify the proposal, or mitigate the impact?

There are no perceived negative impacts

5. How will the policy/measure contribute to the wellbeing of children and young people in Scotland?

Outline how the implementation of the policy/measure will support public bodies in Scotland to meet their duties to safeguard, support and promote the wellbeing of children in their area, with wellbeing defined by eight wellbeing indicators. The indicators are: Safe, Healthy, Achieving, Nurtured, Active, Respected, Responsible, and Included.

It is widely recognised, including by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), that the provision of accessible and high-quality early learning and childcare helps to provide children with skills and confidence to carry into school education. In addition, it is a key early intervention strategy for closing the poverty-related attainment. The relocation of Troon Early years centre will provide access to high quality ELC for eligible children including children aged 2 years. This is not currently available in Troon EYC.

There is evidence from international evaluations and studies of early learning and childcare, including our own Growing Up in Scotland Study, which support the fact that all children, and especially those from disadvantaged backgrounds, can benefit in terms of social, emotional and educational outcomes from attending early learning and childcare.

6. How will the policy/measure give better or further effect to the implementation of the UNCRC in Scotland?

This is an initial focus on the specific impact on Children's Rights of this proposal. The full effects of the legislation have not yet been implemented.

7. What evidence have you used to inform your assessment? What does it tell you?

Parents' views and use of early learning and childcare¹: South Ayrshire gathered the views of parents on implementation of ELC and 1140 hours. This information is used to shape the service delivery model. This includes accessibility, and flexibility.

Starting Strong 2017: Key OECD Indicators on Early Childhood Education and Care; 2017. The latest OECD report (2017) concludes that giving all children access to high quality early education and care will lay the foundations for future skills development, boost social mobility and support inclusive growth. This report also states that disadvantaged children benefit the most from this investment.

The effective provision of pre-school education (EPPE) project: this was a longitudinal study funded by the Department for Education and Skills 1997 – 2004. Leading academics published numerous reports using EPPE data focusing in particular on the impact on children's outcomes. There is clear evidence from EPPE to show that duration of attendance (in months) is important, with an earlier start (under 3 years of age) related to better intellectual development. It also found that high quality ELC is essential and related to better intellectual and social/behavioural development for children.

Changes in early learning and childcare use and outcomes at age 5: comparing two Growing Up in Scotland cohorts¹: this provided evidence of the impact of the expansion to 600 hours on children's outcomes by comparing with those who had been entitled to 475 hours.

8. How you consulted with relevant stakeholders?

A public engagement on the relocation of Troon EYC involving the public and including parents was carried out between May and June in 2023.

9. Have you involved children and young people in the development of the policy/measure?

There is limited information from children due to the age of the children. Parents were included in the proposals and there were opportunities to take account of their views.

A consultation with parents on Early Learning and Childcare options and sessions was carried out between January and February 2022. The results are available on the council consultation website.



SOUTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

INFORMATION BRIEFING BY EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

11th October 2023

SUBJECT: Relocation of Troon Early Years Centre

This briefing provides additional information in response to questions from elected members in advance of the council meeting.

Q. What options were explored for expansion of Early Years on the Troon Primary School site?

There were seven different onsite options explored for the Troon site and feasibility plans drawn up for each one. These included standalone new builds, expansions and extensions including one and two level buildings. None of these met the requirements in terms of the space required indoors and out without significantly compromising the school playground. Any on-site build would significantly impact on South Ayrshire meeting the School Premises Regulations 1967.

The School Premises (General Requirements and Standards) (Scotland) Regulations 1967 set out the minimum size for school sites and playing fields. Regulations 7 and 8 stipulates the required area for sites for Primary and Secondary schools. The total area required in regulation 7 and 8 is 3 acres for a school the size of Troon Primary. The current site area, including the existing EYC is 2.55 acres, which is already slightly below regulations at present therefore extending the Early Years Centre at Troon Primary School and reducing this further is not feasible.

As part of the exploration stage, looking at the Troon Primary site, we considered the option of extending the footprint of the Troon Primary site. Contact was made with the Police and Fire Service to look at purchasing land to extend the school site. Neither service wished to pursue this.

In addition to not meeting the School Premises Regulations, there were a number of other issues for consideration on the Troon site.

1. Existing medium pressure gas pipe crosses the site and would require to be diverted by external contractors. This is major groundwork which would cause significant disruption to the school, local houses and businesses and is likely to cost in excess of £200,000-£300,000.
2. Existing underground drainage runs around existing nursery building and may require to be diverted. The drainage also runs in close proximity to the former janitor's house, which is now in private ownership. This work would cause considerable disruption to the school and local area and incur significant additional costs.
3. Building on the current school site would cause significant disruption for the existing school pupils for the duration of any build due to heavy machinery onsite and groundwork that would be required (gas main)
4. Fire engine access has to be maintained to rear of the existing school result, any works would need to be at the front of the building, resulting in a very linear building if extended.

5. There is already current traffic congestion in and around Troon Primary at drop off/pick up times, adding an expanded EYC to this would cause additional issues within the local area.

Q. Could the current parking at the school be removed and the EYC build on this area?

This option was explored and discounted as a result of the impact on the playground space and regulations. A new build would extend beyond the current parking space available and limit the playground space available to school children. The school would need to maintain ASN transport access and drop off, which would impact further on the playground space.

In principle, Ayrshire Roads Alliance would provide the guidance on parking requirements and drop off facilities. There are currently 35 parking spaces at Troon Primary School, two of which are accessible spaces. The parking provision is in accordance with Class 10 of the National Roads Development Guide. If the EYC was built on site, an additional 11 spaces (including 1x accessible) would be required to be provided. Removing the car parking would require an alternative parking site to be found for a minimum of 46 cars within close proximity to the school, there is no identified public space for this around the school. This would therefore result in staff parking in the streets around the school, adding an additional 46+ parked cars to the area on a daily basis. This would not be a reasonable option for Troon residents in an already congested area at school drop off/pick up.

Q. Has advice been sought from outside agencies such as Scottish Futures Trust?

Officers have engaged with Scottish Futures Trust (SFT) throughout the expansion planning process. Each of the proposed sites and developments were discussed with representatives from SFT. Due to the complexity at Troon Primary, the SFT link officer and appointed architect were asked to visit the school and discussed the challenges of the site. The meeting took place in 2019. No additional solutions were forthcoming as a result of the meeting.

Concerns were also raised by the Troon Parent Council direct to SFT on the potential impact on an already limited playground and outdoor space if an expanded EYC was built on the current school site.

Q. What is the cost of a new build?

The cost of a standalone new EYC build for approx. 80 children would be in excess of £4 million. Under the current EY expansion programme, funding available from Scottish Government in South Ayrshire for Troon EYC is £1.4m (£1.8m including the library upgrade) Any additional costs for a standalone centre or grounds work such as moving a gas main would need to be found from existing Council budgets.

Q. Is the proposed EYC large enough to accommodate expected growth?

The proposed EYC is large enough to accommodate the current population – any future/ further house building in the Troon town centre area would require consideration as part of the wider school capital programme and developer contribution for educational provision including early years.

Q. What is the engagement with Ayrshire Roads Alliance (ARA) in relation to road safety issues at both the new EYC and the existing site if it was expanded?

Engagement with ARA would be part of the planning consent process. The comments from the engagement would be taken into account.

Q. Will the existing library facilities, including opening hours be maintained?

All existing facilities will be maintained – all existing groups will have the same times allocated in the new community room and the opening hours will be the same.

Q. How many users of the Library there are and how many took part in the engagement?

There are 67,490 registered library users in South Ayrshire, it is not possible to determine how many are Troon users. During the engagement, 156 library users provided a response.

Q. Will disabled access to the Town Hall will be improved?

Disabled access will be improved.

Person to Contact:

Lyndsay McRoberts, Director of Educational Services
(Lyndsay.mcroberts@south-ayrshire.gov.uk)

Aileen Valenti, Quality Improvement Manager
(aileen.valenti@south-ayrshire.gov.uk)

Date 11th October 2023

High Level Summary of Comments from Engagement Troon EYC/Library with response

361 comments were received as part of the engagement

This included:

Library Users – 156 (42.3%)

Parent/Carers – 49 (13.5%)

Members of Public – 117 (32.4%)

Community Groups – 24 (6.6%)

Members of Staff – 15 (4.1%)

Below is a summary of key themes emerging from the engagement

Theme	Comment summary	Response
The current library should remain where it is.	There was a strong feeling predominately from existing library users that the library served an important community role alongside its use as a library space. Concerns about losing library facilities. Service users worry that the ambience and ethos would be lost in the move.	There will be no loss of library facilities for Troon. The library and community hub would be relocated across the road to an upgraded municipal building with no change to the current service. The current ICT provision would remain. The community of people and staff would remain on the new site. There will be no loss of staff. A few people indicated that this may regenerate the current service facilities and this was a positive thing.

<p>The Municipal Building isn't large enough to accommodate the library.</p>	<p>There was concern that there would be a reduced service and reduction in the books available.</p>	<p>There is a minimal change in total floor space (3m reduction excluding MERC) and there would be no anticipated reduction to stock levels or space available for community activity.</p> <p>The new library will be upgraded with new shelving and furniture and Troon library staff will be involved in designing the areas and purchasing furniture to meet the needs of the community that use the library.</p>
<p>Relocation of the EYC would be beneficial</p>	<p>Parents would have access to the same options as other EYCs across South Ayrshire. Current space including outside space is too small</p>	<p>Positive views on improved facilities and session times for families. A few felt it made good use of public buildings and seemed sensible</p>
<p>Accessibility issues at the Municipal Building</p>	<p>A few library users/ members of the public commented on difficulties accessing the municipal building via the ramp or stairs.</p>	<p>Accessibility access would be improved at the Municipal Building</p>
<p>Parking issues</p>	<p>Current congestion and lack of spaces</p>	<p>A parking plan would be put in place and options for drop off for parents. See below</p>
<p>Road safety concerns</p>	<p>There were concerns that the road was busy and there may be safety concerns. Suggestion of a crossing added to the road.</p>	<p>As part of any future planning process Ayrshire Roads Alliance would be statutory consultee. It would not be appropriate to preempt a future council decision by engaging with ARA at this time. If the proposals were agreed a traffic management plan would be put in place and would take account of concerns raised.</p> <p>Elderly people arriving by car will not have to cross the road.</p>

<p>The EYC should be built on the Troon Primary Site</p>	<p>There were a number of comments relating to building the EYC on the Troon Primary site.</p>	<p>There were seven different onsite options explored for the Troon site and feasibility plans drawn up for each one. These included standalone new builds, expansions and extensions including one and two level buildings. None of these met the requirements in terms of the space required indoors and out without significantly compromising the school playground. Any on-site build would significantly impact on South Ayrshire meeting the School Premises Regulations 1967.</p> <p>The School Premises (General Requirements and Standards) (Scotland) Regulations 1967 set out the minimum size for school sites and playing fields. Regulations 7 and 8 stipulates the required area for sites for Primary and Secondary schools. The total area required in regulation 7 and 8 is 3 acres for a school the size of Troon Primary. The current site area, including the existing EYC is 2.55 acres, which is already slightly below regulations at present therefore extending the Early Years Centre at Troon Primary School and reducing this further is not feasible.</p> <p>In addition to not meeting the School Premises Regulations, there were a number of other issues for consideration on the Troon site.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Existing medium pressure gas pipe crosses the site and would require to be diverted by external contractors.
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		<p>This is major groundwork which would cause significant disruption to the school, local houses and businesses and is likely to cost in excess of £2-300k.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">2. Existing underground drainage runs around existing nursery building and may require to be diverted. The drainage also runs in close proximity to the former janitor's house, which is now in private ownership. This work would cause considerable disruption to the school and local area and incur significant additional costs.3. Building on the current school site would cause significant disruption for the existing school pupils for the duration of any build due to heavy machinery onsite and groundwork that would be required (gas main)4. Fire engine access has to be maintained to rear of the existing school resulting in any works being at the front of the building resulting in a very linear building if extended.5. There is already current traffic congestion in and around Troon Primary at drop off/pick up times, adding an expanded EYC to this would
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		cause additional issues within the local area.
Locate the EYC near the new house building rather than Troon town centre	There were concerns that the relocation was due to new house building rather than due to the increased EYC hours and the resulting reduced number of children able to attend Troon EYC	The proposal is to extend the EYC to meet the need of the current children and families within the Troon Primary school area and St Patricks PS. Parents need provision within a short distance for early years and primary children in the Troon town area. An expansion programme has already taken place at Struthers Primary to accommodate the increased house building.
What would happen to the MERC	There were comments about the loss of the Marr Educational Resource Centre	There would not be a dedicated Marr Educational Resource Centre in the new facility; however, the library would continue to provide IT support and access to PCs and bring your own device Wi-Fi, in the same way that all other branch libraries successfully operate. A review of the future operating model of the MERC took place prior to this consultation and resulted in a range of different options for the facility. This will be revisited with the Marr Trust after the decision is made regarding the EYC and library.
Loss of flower beds and memorial garden	Concerns raised about any possible loss / impact on the flower beds and memorial garden	The flower beds and memorial garden would remain as they are.
The current EYC space at Troon is no longer fit for purpose	Benefits to children and families highlighted	The current EYC does not have the indoor or outdoor space required. Children should benefit from high quality provision across all of South Ayrshire.

<p>What about other sites</p>	<p>Comments and suggestions were made regarding potential alternative sites</p>	<p>A number of sites were explored including any additional suggestions offered during the engagement. Options appraisals for each option is available to the public as part of the consultation response.</p>
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