

County Buildings
Wellington Square
AYR KA7 1DR
Tel. No. 01292 612169

5 October 2023

Dear Councillor

SOUTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

You are requested to participate in a meeting of South Ayrshire Council to be held **on Thursday 12 October 2023 at 10.00 a.m.** for the purpose of considering the undernoted business.

This meeting will be held in the County Hall, County Buildings, Ayr on a hybrid basis for Elected Members, will be live-streamed and available to view at <https://south-ayrshire.public-i.tv/>

Yours sincerely

CATRIONA CAVES
Head of Legal and Regulatory Services

B U S I N E S S

1. Provost.
2. Sederunt and Declarations of Interest.
3. Minutes of meetings of the Council and Panels.

(a) Minutes of previous meetings.

Submit for approval as a correct record and authorise to be signed:-

- (i) 29 June 2023
- (ii) 15 September 2023 (Special)

(copies herewith).

(b) Minutes of Panels.

The minutes (copies previously issued) of the undernoted meetings are for noting:-

- (i) Audit and Governance Panel of [31 May](#), [28 June](#) and [6 September 2023](#)
- (ii) Cabinet of [20 June](#) and [29 August 2023](#).

In accordance with the Scheme of Delegation and Standing Orders for Meetings, the recommendations in the minutes as contained in the 'C' paragraph have been referred to the Council for decision: -

- o Minutes of 29 August 2023 – "Treasury Management Annual Report 2022/23"

(copy of minute excerpt herewith).

- (iii) Chief Officers' Appointments/Appraisal Panel of [27 June](#) and [28 June 2023](#).
 - (iv) Local Review Body of [20 June](#) and [22 August 2023](#)
 - (v) Regulatory Panel – Licensing of [25 May](#), [22 June](#) and [31 August 2023](#).
 - (vi) Regulatory Panel – Planning of [11 May](#) and [27 June 2023](#).
 - (vii) Service and Partnerships Performance Panel of [13 June](#) and [22 August 2023](#).
4. Results of Local Government By-Election 2023 – Ward 8 – Girvan and South Carrick – Submit report by Chief Executive (copy herewith).
 5. Appointments to Panel and Working Groups – Submit report by Head of Legal and Regulatory Services (copy herewith).
 6. Standing Orders Relating to Meetings – Submit report by Head of Legal and Regulatory Services (copy herewith).
 7. SAC LLP (Nominees) Limited – Submit report by Head of Legal and Regulatory Services (copy herewith).
 8. Report on the Public Engagement on Relocation of Troon Early Years Centre – Submit report by Director of Education (copy herewith).
 9. Notice of Motion:
 - (a) Moved by Councillor Bob Pollock, seconded by Councillor Martin Dowey:-

“Following recent events relating to the Station Hotel in Ayr, it has become clear through the practical experiences of this Council as the Building Standards Authority, that the obligations under Section 29 and 30 of the Building (Scotland) Act 2003 can place a significant undue financial burden on a Local Authority in circumstances where a building becomes a danger to the public and its owner is absent.

The Council is obligated under the legislation to carry out the works necessary to maintain public safety, and these costs can be significant and ongoing with no obvious conclusion or backstop position. This has been the case with Ayr Station Hotel, in dealing with an absentee landlord, and with significant expense being incurred by the Council and in turn its taxpayers over several years.

Quite rightly Councils have duties to protect public safety from dangerous buildings, but it is an invidious position that the Council has limited powers to ensure in so doing that their costs are met. With many of our historic buildings reaching an age where, without adequate maintenance, they could become a danger to the public, I have a real concern that in the near future we will see many more problems arising similar to that of the Ayr Station Hotel, with the Council and the public purse having to deal with the situation. I am also aware that this is a concern shared by other public rescue services.

My motion is to request that Council asks the Chief Executive to formally write to the Scottish Government, seeking a review of the legislative powers under the Building (Scotland) Act 2003 relating to dangerous buildings. The specific review that is being requested relates to circumstances where a property owner fails to maintain their building in a safe manner. In these circumstances when carrying out their statutory obligations, appropriate financial protection should be provided to Councils to enable us to carry out our duties, but with protection over the scale of costs and also easier and quicker means of Compulsory Purchase of the building when appropriate.”

10. Formal Questions.
11. **Affordable Housing Proposals, Ayr – Submit report by Depute Chief Executive and Director of Housing, Operations and Development (Members only).**
12. Consideration of Disclosure of the above Confidential Report.

<p>For more information on any of the items on this agenda, please telephone Janice McClure, Committee Services on at 01292 612169, at Wellington Square, Ayr or e-mail: janice.mcclure@south-ayrshire.gov.uk www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk</p>
--

Webcasting

Please note: this meeting may be filmed for live and subsequent broadcast via the Council's internet site. At the start of the meeting, it will be confirmed if all or part of the meeting is being filmed.

You should be aware that the Council is a Data Controller under the Data Protection Act 2018. Data collected during this webcast will be retained in accordance with the Council's published policy, including, but not limited to, for the purpose of keeping historical records and making those records available via the Council's internet site.

Generally, the press and public will not be filmed. However, by entering the Council Meeting, you are consenting to being filmed and consenting to the use and storage of those images and sound recordings and any information pertaining to you contained in them for webcasting or training purposes and for the purpose of keeping historical records and making those records available to the public. In making use of your information, the Council is processing data which is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest.

Live streaming and webcasting takes place for all public South Ayrshire Council meetings. By entering a public Council meeting you are consenting to the possibility that your image may be live streamed on our website, be available for viewing online after this meeting, and video and audio recordings will be retained on Council Records. Further information on how we process your personal data can be found at: <https://south-ayrshire.gov.uk/59239>

If you have any queries regarding this and, in particular, if you believe that use and/or storage of any particular information would cause, or be likely to cause, substantial damage or distress to any individual, please contact Committee.Services@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

Copyright

All webcast footage is the copyright of South Ayrshire Council. You are therefore not permitted to download footage nor upload it to another website nor take still photographs from this footage and distribute it without the written permission of South Ayrshire Council. Please be aware that video sharing websites require you to have the permission of the copyright owner in order to upload videos to their site.

SOUTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL.

Minutes of a hybrid webcast meeting
on 29 June 2023 at 10.00 a.m.

Present in County Buildings: Councillors Iain Campbell (Provost), Laura Brennan-Whitefield, Ian Cavana, Alec Clark, Brian Connolly, Ian Davis, Julie Dettbarn, Martin Dowey, Stephen Ferry, William Grant, Peter Henderson, Hugh Hunter, Martin Kilbride, Mary Kilpatrick, Craig Mackay, Brian McGinley, Bob Pollock, Cameron Ramsay, Philip Saxton, Gavin Scott, Bob Shields, Duncan Townson and George Weir.

Present Remotely: Councillors Kenneth Bell, Ian Cochrane, Chris Cullen, Mark Dixon and Lee Lyons.

Attending in County Buildings: E. Howat, Chief Executive; M. Newall, Depute Chief Executive and Director of Housing, Operations and Development; L. McRoberts, Director of Education; J. Bradley, Director of Strategic Change and Communities; C. Caves, Head of Legal and Regulatory Services; T. Baulk, Head of Finance, ICT and Procurement; W. Wesson, Chief HR Adviser; K. Anderson, Service Lead – Policy, Performance and Community Planning; D. Alexander, Service Lead – Procurement; T. Burns – Service Lead – Asset Management and Community Asset Transfer; G. Farrell, Service Lead – Organisational Development and Customer Services; P. Bradley, Service Lead- Professional Design Services; C. Neillie, Solicitor; M. Piper, Customer Services Officer; J. McClure, Committee Services Lead Officer; A. Gibson, Committee Services Officer; C. Griffiths, Committee Services Assistant; and C. McCallum, Committee Services Assistant.

Attending Remotely: T. Eltringham, Director of Health and Social Care.

1. Provost.

The Provost

- (1) welcomed everyone to the meeting;
- (2) intimated that no apologies had been received;
- (3) outlined the procedures for conducting this meeting and advised that this meeting would be broadcast live; and
- (4) advised that he had written, on the Council's behalf, to express the Council's warmest congratulations to Dr Hazel McFarlane from Troon who had been the recipient of an MBE in the King's Birthday Honours List, for her charitable services to people with sight loss

2. Sederunt and Declarations of Interest.

The Chief Executive called the Sederunt for the meeting and having called the roll, confirmed that there were no declarations of interest by Members of the Council in terms of Council Standing Order No. 17 and the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

3. Minutes of previous meetings

(1) Minutes of 1 Previous Meetings of the Council.

- (a) Provost Campbell, seconded by Councillor Kilpatrick, moved the [Minutes](#) of South Ayrshire Council of 1 March 2023 as a correct record.

The Council

Decided: to approve the Minutes of 1 March 2023 and authorise these minutes to be signed as a correct record.

- (b) Provost Campbell, seconded by Councillor Kilpatrick, moved the [Minutes](#) of South Ayrshire Council (Special) of 14 June 2023 as a correct record.

The Council

Decided: to approve the Minutes of 14 June 2023 (Special) and authorise these minutes to be signed as a correct record.

(2) Minutes of previous meetings of Panels.

The Minutes of the undernoted Panels were submitted for information:-

- (i) Appeals Panel of [9 December 2022](#) and [23 February 2023](#).
- (ii) Audit and Governance Panel of [22 February](#) and [22 March 2023](#).
- (iii) Cabinet of [15 February](#), [14 March](#), [29 March \(Special\)](#), [25 April](#) and [23 May 2023](#).

In accordance with the Scheme of Delegation and Standing Orders for Meetings, Councillor Dowey, seconded by Councillor Lyons, moved the recommendations as contained in the 'C' paragraph of the Cabinet minutes of 25 April 2023 entitled "Code of Conduct for Employees - Conflict of Interest Policy" (copy of [minute excerpt](#) herewith).

The Council

Decided: to approve the recommendations as contained in the 'C' paragraph.

- (iv) Chief Officers' Appointments/Appraisal Panel of [22 November](#), [5 December](#), [6 December](#) and [8 December 2022](#) and [26 May 2023](#).
- (v) Local Review Body of [31 January](#), [14 March 2023](#) and [18 April 2023](#).
- (vi) Partnerships Panel of [8 February 2023](#).
- (vii) Regulatory Panel – Licensing of [16 February](#), [16 March](#) and [27 April 2023](#).
- (viii) Regulatory Panel – Planning of [2 February](#) and [30 March 2023](#).
- (ix) Service and Partnerships Performance Panel – [18 April](#) and [16 May 2023](#)
- (x) Service and Performance Panel of [10 January](#) and [7 February 2023](#).
- (xi) Ayrshire Shared Services Joint Committee of [10 March 2023](#).

4. **Employer Supported Policing Initiative – Police Scotland**

There was submitted a [report](#) (issued) of 16 June 2023 by the Chief Executive advising of the Employer Supported Policing (ESP) programme which would allow the Council to formally support employees to become voluntary Special Constables across all Ayrshire Local Authorities.

Councillor Ian Davis, seconded by Councillor Martin Dowey, moved the recommendations as outlined in the report.

Comments were made by Members that:-

- (1) this was an excellent opportunity for Council employees to have the best available training with voluntary service being a great step forward; and that this would also assist Police Scotland in relieving pressure by having more Special Constables on the streets; and
- (2) that this programme would be of benefit to both Police Scotland and the Council employees who would gain valuable experience and contribute to the community.

Following a question on whether there was also a voluntary programme for retained Firefighters, the Chief HR Adviser advised that the Council's Special Leave Policy provided for retained Firefighters, however, she had recently been contacted by Scottish Fire and Rescue Service who had requested a further meeting on this matter.

The Council

Decided:

- (a) to commit to becoming an Employer Supported Policing Partner;
- (b) to approve the provision of paid special leave of up to 5 days (pro-rata) to use towards training; and
- (c) to request officers to update the Special Leave Policy.

5. **Appointments to Panel**

There was submitted a [report](#) (issued) of 16 June 2023 by the Head of Legal and Regulatory Services seeking approval to make alterations to the membership of Panels.

Councillor Martin Dowey, seconded by Councillor William Grant, moved the recommendations as outlined in the report.

A question was raised by a Member in relation to whether training would be provided for the proposed new Members of the Panels; and the Head of Legal and Regulatory Services advised that training would be provide for those Members listed; that training for the Licensing Board was mandatory and Councillor Lyons would require to undertake and pass this training course prior to sitting on the Board; and that should any Member have a requirement for additional training on any matter, they should contact her and this would be provided.

In terms of Standing Order No. 19.9, there was no general agreement to the unopposed motion, therefore, the Council moved to a vote for or against the Motion.

A Member requested a Roll Call Vote, however Provost advised that a Roll Call Vote required to be requested prior to the vote commencing.

The Council, having considered any other amendments which might be required to membership of Panels,

Decided: by a majority,

- (1) to note the changes in the representatives nominated by the Conservative Group, Independent Members and the SNP Group identified in Appendix 1 to the report;
- (2) to approve the appointment of Cllr Julie Dettbarn as the Chair of the Audit and Governance Panel; and
- (3) to request that officers make the required amendments to the list of Panels to reflect these changes.

6. **Representation on and Remits of Working Groups**

There was submitted a joint [report](#) (issued) of 21 June 2023 by the Head of Legal and Regulatory Services seeking approval to make alterations to the list of Working Groups.

Councillor Martin Dowey, seconded by Councillor William Grant, moved the recommendations as outlined in the report.

Having heard a Member advise that the Active Travel Forum was not on the list of Working Groups, the Chief Executive advised that the creation of an Active Travel Member/Officer Working Group had been approved at Cabinet of 20 June 2023.

A Member advised that it would be helpful to have an explanation as to why officers were changing on some of the Groups; and the Head of Legal and Regulatory Services advised that she would take this comment on board when preparing future reports on Working Groups and she would circulate a note to Members following the meeting on the change of officers within this report.

A Member requested a roll-call vote.

The Head of Legal and Regulatory Services then took the vote by calling the roll as follows:-

Iain Campbell	Motion
Mary Kilpatrick	Motion
Kenneth Bell	Motion
Laura Brennan-Whitefield	Motion
Ian Cavana	Motion
Alec Clark	Motion
Ian Cochrane	Motion
Brian Connolly	Motion
Chris Cullen	Motion

Ian Davis	Motion
Julie Dettbarn	Motion
Mark Dixon	Motion
Martin Dowey	Motion
Stephen Ferry	Motion
William Grant	Motion
Peter Henderson	Motion
Hugh Hunter	Motion
Martin Kilbride	Motion
Lee Lyons	Motion
Craig Mackay	Motion
Brian McGinley	Motion
Bob Pollock	Motion
Cameron Ramsay	Motion
Philip Saxton	Motion
Gavin Scott	Motion
Bob Shields	Motion
Duncan Townson	Motion
George Weir	Motion

The Council

Decided:

- (1) to review the list of Working Groups and approve the proposed changes to representation (as outlined in Appendix 1 to the report); and
- (2) to approve the amended remits and titles where appropriate.

7. Representation on Outside Bodies

There was submitted a [report](#) (issued) of 19 June 2023 by the Head of Legal and Regulatory Services seeking approval to make alterations to the lists of Outside Bodies.

Councillor Martin Dowey, seconded by Councillor William Grant, moved the recommendations as outlined in the report.

Having heard a Member advise that KIMO International was not on the list of Outside Bodies, the Head of Legal and Regulatory Services advised that any organisations not listed would be submitted to Council in October 2023 for approval.

A Member advised that it would be helpful to have an explanation as to why officers were replacing Councillors on some Outside Bodies; and the Head of Legal and Regulatory Services advised that she would take this comment on board when preparing future reports on Outside Bodies and she would circulate a note to Members following the meeting on the reasons for Officers replacing Councillors on these Bodies within this report.

The Council, having considered any other amendments which might be required to representation on Outside Bodies,

Decided:

- (1) to remove Skypath Aerospace Training Community Interest Company (CIC) from the list of Outside Bodies;
- (2) to approve an amendment to the officer representative on the Glasgow Prestwick International Airport Consultative Committee; and
- (3) to note the changes in the representatives nominated by the SNP Group identified in 4.3 of the report.

8. Appointments to Convention of Scottish Local Authorities

There was submitted a [report](#) (issued) of 16 June 2023 by the Head of Legal and Regulatory Services seeking the Council's approval to make alterations to the list of representatives on the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities.

Councillor Martin Dowey, seconded by Councillor William Grant, moved the recommendations as outlined in the report.

The Council, having considered any other amendments which might be required to COSLA representation,

Decided: to note the change in the representative nominated by the SNP Group, namely that Councillor William Grant replace Councillor Peter Henderson.

9. Schedule of Meetings

There was submitted a [report](#) (issued) of 16 June 2023 seeking approval of a proposed timetable of meetings from August 2024 to June 2025 and to amend the frequency of meetings of the Local Review Body.

The Head of Legal and Regulatory Services advised that an amendment to the timetable had been circulated to Members changing Cabinet from Wednesday 30 April 2025 to Tuesday 29 April 2025.

Councillor Martin Dowey, seconded by Councillor Lee Lyons, moved the recommendations as outlined in the report.

Following a question from a Member on why the frequency of the Local Review Body was changing; the Head of Legal and Regulatory Services advised that the Members of the Body had requested this change for greater efficiency of the process as there were now fewer cases to be considered and meetings were often being called for one case or had required to be cancelled due to lack of business, therefore, fewer meetings of the Local Review Body were required.

The Council

Decided:

- (1) to approve the timetable of Council, Cabinet and Panel meetings from August 2024 to June 2025 as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report;
- (2) to approve the proposed changes to meetings of the Local Review Body as outlined in Appendix 2 of the report (marked in bold text); and
- (3) to request the Head of Legal and Regulatory Services to submit a timetable of meetings from August 2025 onwards to a future meeting of the Council.

10. South Ayrshire Charitable Trust

There was submitted a [report](#) (issued) of 16 June 2023 by the Head of Legal and Regulatory Services providing an annual update on the South Ayrshire Charitable Trust and amend the Trust Business Plan for 2023/24 financial year

Councillor Martin Dowey, seconded by Councillor Davis, moved the recommendations as outlined in the report.

Questions were raised by Members in relation to:-

- (1) the remaining Girvan funds; and the Service Lead – Legal and Licensing advised that the Service Lead – Corporate Accounting outlined that there had been challenges in resolving this issue, however, this matter would be treated as a priority; and
- (2) the difference between a grant and a donation; and the Solicitor advised that a grant was provided when an application was made for specific funds and that donations had been given during Covid to certain bodies nominated by Councillors.

Comments were made by Members in relation to:-

- (a) the need for more grant funding to be provided in next year's budget and for locality planning to be considered as a means to allocate the monies;
- (b) commending officers for their work on this issue as it was gratifying to see the results of the grant funding;
- (c) this being an excellent initiative which carried out what it was intended for and was a good means of continuing to provide support for local communities, however, the funds would require to be replenished; and
- (d) there being people still requiring financial assistance and, as this initiative was a good way of providing this, therefore officers were requested to consider whether there was a need for support in the areas covered by the trust to be bought forward as a request for additional funds to be injected into the trust as part of the budget setting process.

The Council, as Trustees of South Ayrshire Charitable Trust,

Decided:

- (i) to note the summary of grant funding made by the trust during 2022/23, detailed in Appendix 1 of the report;
- (ii) to approve the business plan for the running of the trust for the year 2023/24, detailed in Appendix 2 of the report; and
- (iii) to agree that the funding for South Ayrshire Charitable Trust be re-examined during the budget setting process o take account of the targeted result It had achieved ..

11. Standing Orders Relating to Meetings

There was submitted a [report](#) (issued) of 19 June 2023 by the Head of Legal and Regulatory Services seeking approval to amend the Standing Orders Relating to Meetings following review.

The Head of Legal and Regulatory Services outlined that there was a further amendment to the Standing Orders, namely that Standing Order 19.2 should now read:-

“19.2 The Provost may require that any motion or amendment shall be reduced to writing and the time taken to do so shall be such period as is required to be determined at the discretion of Provost. A copy shall be passed to the Clerk who shall circulate it to each Councillor. The Provost may require any motion or amendment to be read out prior to it being put to the meeting. Wherever possible, Members should make all efforts to discuss motions and amendments with the Monitoring Officer in advance of the meeting and submit them in writing to the Clerk rather than tabling these on the day of the meeting.”

Councillor Martin Dowey, seconded by Councillor Lee Lyons, moved the recommendations as outlined in the report, with the addition of the amendment to Standing Order 19.2.

Questions were raised by Members in relation to:-

- (1) the amendment to Standing Order 19.2 and whether, following an adjournment, the meeting would reconvene without further delay after the time given by the Provost; and the Head of Legal and Regulatory Services advised that the Standing Orders currently outlined that the Provost had powers to reconvene the meeting following the time provided by him for the adjournment and that, provided the meeting was quorate, the meeting would recommence at that time;
- (2) the amendment to Standing Order 4.4 which stated that a Member must advise the Chief Executive in advance of the meeting of their intention to join the meeting remotely and the consequences of not doing so; and the Head of Legal and Regulatory Services advised that there was no timescale for doing this, it could be on the morning of the meeting and was merely to assist officers with knowing the number of Members joining remotely and attending in the Hall and to provide assistance to any member attempting to join remotely if it was known they were doing so and had not joined the meeting; and
- (3) Standing Order 4.4 regarding attendance by remote means requiring to be advised to the Chief Executive in advance of the meeting and to be from a fixed private location and whether this must always be the same location; and the Chief Executive advised that the location must be private and the Member must remain within the location during the meeting.

Comments were made by Members in relation to:-

- (a) the amendment to Standing Order 19.2 and that the purpose of having an adjournment was to allow the Member making the amendment adequate time to compose the amendment and that, if the time was not sufficient, this process acted against good governance and democracy; and the Head of Legal and Regulatory Services advised that, when Provost gave a time period for the adjournment, should the Member making the adjournment feel this time was not sufficient, they would have the opportunity at that time to request a longer adjournment;
- (b) wherever possible Members moving an Amendment would speak to the Monitoring Officer in advance prior to the meeting, however, a Member may find themselves in a situation during the meeting where they required to move an Amendment to demonstrate their views, therefore it was not always possible to discuss an Amendment with the Monitoring Officer in advance of the meeting;
- (c) the need to work in a reasonable way to ensure that Members were enabled to do their job to the best of their ability, therefore they should be given the time sought by them for an adjournment to compile their Amendment;
- (d) Standing Order 35.4(2) regarding the call-in process, that those Members calling-in a decision of Cabinet should have an alternative recommendation should they not agree with the Cabinet decision as adequate time was provided to allow Members to liaise with the appropriate officers to provide an alternative recommendation;
- (e) Standing Order 35.4(2) regarding the call-in process, when a further Member advised that he did not agree with the proposed amendments as they were overly restrictive and, if a Member of the Panel felt a decision of the Cabinet was not correct, however, they did not necessarily have an alternative recommendation, they should still have the right to call-in this matter for further discussion; and the Head of Legal and Regulatory Services advised that an alternative recommendation would allow the Panel to consider this as an option, however, this did not restrict Members from calling-in a matter as they could outline that they were seeking further information; and that the addition of the "outcomes" section also allowed officers to be prepared to respond at the Panel. The Member then responded that, in that case, the wording should be amended to say "the outcomes section **may** be completed with sufficient details as to allow the Audit and Governance Panel and officers to appreciate the alternative recommendation(s) that is (are) sought"; and the Head of Legal and Regulatory Services advised that if an alternative recommendation was sought, this section should be completed;
- (f) Standing Order 35.4(7) which outlined that no member of the Audit and Governance Panel who had signed a call-in request may take part in the consideration of the call-in request, that this denied Members the opportunity to exchange views and this recommendation was not appropriate; and the Head of Legal and Regulatory Services advised that it would be a conflict of interest by the Member who had called the matter in if they then took part in the decision making as they could be seen as acting in a way that was not fair and impartial.. The Member responded that this would only be the case where a further recommendation had been made and, if the call-in was to request further information, the Member should be entitled to take part in the consideration of this matter; and the Chief Executive advised that the Member could participate in the discussion of the matter called-in, however, should leave the meeting when the vote was taking place, which the Member accepted;
- (g) Standing Order 35.4(6) which outlined that the relevant Portfolio Holder may also attend or be requested to attend Audit and Governance Panel to answer questions on matters called-in, that this should be worded "that the relevant Portfolio Holder will be requested to attend";

- (h) Standing Order 19.2 and that the need for open discussion was essential for good governance and that scrutiny was integral; and in relation to Standing Order 4.4 regarding attendance at meetings, that remote and in-person attendance should be treated with parity; and the Head of Legal and Regulatory Services advised that it was essential that flexibility was retained for Members to join remotely or in person and that there was no timescale around Members advising of their intention to join remotely, however, it was important to have prior notice to allow officers to make the required arrangements to allow Members to join remotely and vote;
- (i) Standing Order 4.4 regarding attending the meeting from a fixed private location, that often the closest wi-fi could be a coffee shop and that the Member could wear a headset to join the meeting; and the Head of Legal and Regulatory Services advised that this was not appropriate as the Member would require to contribute to the meeting, move Motions, etc and that a member of the public could interrupt the Member and this would affect the conduct of the meeting;
- (j) Standing Order 35.4(2) regarding the call-in process, that this was about having additional scrutiny of a report and did not always require an alternative recommendation; that being a Member of the Audit and Governance Panel should not preclude a Member from signing a call-in form; and that the call-in system was a good way for all Members to have the opportunity to scrutinise all reports;
- (k) Standing Order 4.4, Members should be entitled to advise of their intention to join a meeting remotely through their Personal Assistant; with regard to Standing Order 19.2, should the time provided by Provost not be sufficient, this Standing Order should be re-examined; regarding Standing Order 35.4(2), the wording should be changed to "the outcomes section **may** be completed..." ; in relation to Standing Order 35.4(6), the relevant Portfolio Holder should be in attendance at the meeting unless there was a good reason for them not to attend; and in relation to Standing Order 35.4(7), this required to be re-examined;
- (l) Standing Order 35.4 regarding the call-in process, that further details and further discussion were often required and that this Standing Order should not be amended to limit this and by accepting these amendments it would hinder good governance; and that by accepting these amendments Members of the Audit and Governance Panel would be discriminated against as they could not take part in consideration of the call-in request if they had signed the call-in form; and
- (m) Standing Order 4.4, this was seeking to introduce a means of preventing Members participating in the meetings; that it would be advantageous for ICT to recommend an alternative secure way to access the Council's internet rather than Members joining meetings via a public network; and the meetings were designed for remote attendance and resources were in place for this, therefore, the amendment to Standing Order 4.4 should be removed; and the Head of Legal and Regulatory Services advised that it was important to know in advance whether a Member was joining a meeting remotely in case they had issues joining and to ensure the quorum would be met throughout the meeting; and that Members should join meetings in a private area to ensure they could participate without interruption and without background noise.

Following the comments made by Members, the Head of Legal and Regulatory Services advised

- (i) that, in terms of Standing Order 35.4(2), should the Council so wish, the wording could be amended to read “the outcomes section **may** be completed with sufficient details as to allow the Audit and Governance Panel and officers to appreciate the alternative recommendation(s) that is (are) sought”; and
- (ii) that, in terms of Standing Order 35.4(7), this was not to restrict discussion but was to deal with the voting element which could be seen by members of the public as being pre-emptive, however, this could be removed meantime, re-examined and submitted to a future meeting of South Ayrshire Council for consideration.

A Member then advised that presently there was no requirement in the call-in form for a Member to make a recommendation, that this requirement was being included, therefore, clarity was required on this matter as Members must feel able to raise their concerns and for the Audit and Governance Panel to then reconsider the matter.

The Chief Executive advised that an adjournment could take place to allow an Amendment to be considered or for Councillor Dowey to consider whether he was content to include the Amendment within the terms of his Motion.

Point of Order

Councillor Martin Dowey raised a Point of Order that he would like the views of Audit Scotland with regards to a Member signing a call-in form and whether they should be entitled to take part in the discussions and/or voting. A Member advised that he had spoken to Audit Scotland on this matter and they did not make a ruling on this.

Point of Order

Councillor William Grant then raised a Point of Order that further discussions should continue prior to an adjournment taking place; and Provost advised that an adjournment would not take place until all Members who wished to speak had spoken.

Councillor Dowey then advised that all Members should have the opportunity to join meetings remotely if they wished; that he was happy with the current call-in process; and that he was agreeable to Standing Order 35.4(7) being re-examined and considered at the meeting of South Ayrshire Council scheduled to be held in October 2023.

A Member then called for an adjournment and Provost called a fifteen minute adjournment

Adjournment

The time being 11.35 a.m., the Council adjourned for fifteen minutes.

Resumption of Meeting

The time being 11.50 a.m. the Council reconvened.

Following discussions during the adjournment, the Head of Legal and Regulatory Services outlined that the following amendments had been agreed by Councillor Brian McGinley:

- (A) Standing Order 4.4 should be amended to read “An ordinary meeting may be held on a wholly remote basis by electronic means or in circumstances whereby some Councillors attend in person and others take part via remote means. Attendance by remote means requires to be advised to the Chief Executive **or by another Councillor** in advance of the meeting and requires to be from a fixed private location”;
- (B) the amendment to Standing Order 19.2 remain as the proposal tabled at this meeting;
- (C) the additional sentence in Standing Order 35.4(2) be amended to read “The ‘outcomes’ section **may** be completed with sufficient detail as to allow the Audit and Governance Panel and officers to appreciate the alternative recommendation(s) that is (are) sought”;
- (D) Standing Order 35.4(6) be amended to read “The relevant Portfolio Holder will be requested to attend Audit and Governance Panel and will attend (unless there are reasonable reasons as to why they are unable to do so) to answer questions on matters called-in”; and
- (E) Standing Order 35.4(7) be removed from the Standing Orders meantime and be submitted to the meeting of South Ayrshire Council of 12 October 2023 to allow discussions to take place with Group Leaders and the Independent Members.

Following a question from a Member on the current position with regards to Standing Order 35.4(7) and whether a Member of the Audit and Governance Panel could still sign a call-in as this Standing Order was being removed meantime; the Head of Legal and Regulatory Services advised that this Standing Order was around the appropriateness of a Member taking part in the vote if they had signed a call-in form; and that she would direct Members to the Code of Conduct for clarity.

Having heard Councillors Martin Dowey and William Grant advise that they were happy to include the above amendments within their Motion, the Council

Decided: to approve the revised Standing Orders Relating to Meetings (attached as [Appendix 1](#) to the report) subject to the amendments at (A) to (E) above with effect from 30 June 2023.

12. Standing Orders Relating to Contracts

There was submitted a [report](#) (issued) of 16 June 2023 by the Head of Finance, ICT and Procurement seeking approval to amend the Council’s Standing Orders Relating to Contracts following their most recent review.

Councillor Martin Dowey, seconded by Councillor Ian Davis, moved the recommendations as outlined in the report.

Comments were made by Members in relation to:

- (1) the Procurement Team working well which had been recognised when they had recently won the Contract and Supplier Management Award at the National Government Opportunity awards;

- (2) how valuable the Procurement Team was and referring to the successful open day which had taken place for small and medium enterprises to ascertain how the processes worked to allow them to tender for Council work; and the Service Lead – Procurement advised that eighty representatives from local businesses had attended the open day in the County Hall and that further open/meet the buyer days would be arranged for local suppliers to attend to explain the procurement process to them; and that the number of local businesses tendering had increased since the open days had taken place; and
- (3) the good work which had been undertaken in encouraging local businesses to tender for Council work.

Questions were raised by Members in relation to

- (a) Standing Order 22.3 and whether this applied to contracts which were eligible for negotiation or had been negotiated; and the Service Lead - Procurement advised that the contracts within the report had passed their three or four year initial term and were for the renewal of support and maintenance and that any new or replacement system put in place would be subject to the normal procurement process; and
- (b) Standing Order 4.4 and the exemptions within this; and the Service Lead – Procurement advised that previously demolition was considered an exemption in the Standing Orders, however, this had now been amended and various frameworks and contractors could aid demolition projects, therefore, by adding this to the Standing Orders it was not exempt and should follow all current procurement processes.

The Council, having considered the revisions proposed to the Standing Orders Relating to Contracts (summary of proposals contained in Appendix 1 to the report),

Decided: to approve the revised Standing Orders Relating to Contracts (Appendix 2 to the report) and the list of delegations (Appendix 3 to the report) with effect from 1 July 2023.

13. Future Operating Proposals – Customer Services

There was submitted a [report](#) (issued) of 9 June 2023 by the Director of Strategic Change and Communities providing options and recommendations for the future operation of Customer Services.

Councillor Martin Kilbride , seconded by Councillor Martin Dowey, moved approval of option 3 within the report – Provision of Customer Services by phone, online and face-to-face by appointment.

Comments were made by Members in relation to:-

- (1) not all members of the public having access to the internet, therefore would require a face-to-face meeting and should have the ability to speak to an officer without an appointment; and the Service Lead – Organisational Development and Customer Services advised that presently members of the public could see an officer at a range of locations on particular days but an online referral form was being introduced to enable customers to go to any frontline Council building and request a referral to Customer Services which would then be forwarded to an officer in Customer Services who would deal with the enquiry in the most appropriate way; and
- (2) welcoming this proposed approach as it was reflective of the modern way of delivering services.

Questions were raised by Members in relation to:-

- (a) whether there was flexibility to review the locations for Customer Services officers meeting with members of the public; and the Service Lead – Organisational Development and Customer Services advised that officers could work from any building if it was appropriately set up for customer interactions;
- (b) concerns at staff turnover being so high and what steps were being taken to maintain trained staff; and the Service Lead – Organisational Development and Customer Services advised that staff turnover had been an issue in the last twelve months and work had been undertaken with the team to establish why this was, with uncertainty regarding the future working arrangements being a significant reason, however, should the report be agreed, this would significantly reduce staff turnover; that it took some time to train staff so any turnover of staff had a detrimental impact on the delivery of the service; and that the Customer Services Team were very supportive of the recommendations within the report;
- (c) whether all offices used for appointments were suitable for elderly people and those with disabilities; and the Service Lead – Organisational Development and Customer Services advised that all frontline Council buildings have been assessed for accessibility for those with disabilities by relevant officers;
- (d) whether the staff turnover was due to staff leaving for jobs within the Council or outwith; and the Service Lead – Organisational Development and Customer Services advised that the majority of staff were leaving for other jobs within the Council but mostly of the same grade, due to the reasons stated at (b) above; and
- (e) whether a more joined-up approach may be advantageous with the Council working with Police Scotland, Health and Social Care Partnership, etc for anyone in crisis; and the Service Lead – Organisational Development advised that very few crisis cases were dealt with by Customer Services, however, any customer requiring to see someone immediately could go to any Council building and officers would assist them or there was a direct telephone line to a Customer Services Supervisor.

The Council, having considered the options appraisal carried out for this report, as outlined in Appendix 1 to the report,

Decided: to approve option 3 – Provision of Customer Services by phone, online and face-to-face by appointment

14. **Service Plans 2023-24**

There was submitted a [report](#) (issued) of 19 June 2023 by the Director of Strategic Change and Communities seeking approval of the proposed annual Service Plans for each service area following consideration by the Service and Partnerships Performance Panel.

The Service Lead – Policy, Performance and Community Planning introduced the report and advised that Audit Scotland had recently reported positively on the new performance reporting regime which was an important step forward in the Council's Best Value journey.

Councillor Martin Dowey, seconded by Councillor Lee Lyons, moved the recommendations as outlined in the report.

Comments were made by Members in relation to:

- (1) welcoming the report and the attached action plan as it gave a clear indication of the way forward and provided a good template for the Service and Partnerships Performance Panel to scrutinise;
- (2) Parent Councils should be consulted on the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) and Councillors asked which groups in each ward should also be consulted;
- (3) commending the work undertaken to date which was a good way forward, however, outlining that more work was required, for example, Performance Indicators (PIs), clear timescales relating to the PIs and benchmarking with other Councils and each Service Lead required to outline how their contribution assisted the strategic priorities; and the Service Lead – Policy, Performance and Community Planning advised that Place and Wellbeing was a theme throughout every strategic Council document at the moment which was very positive; that, with the Community Planning partnership, there was an agreed strategic direction and collaboration was key to this; and that reports submitted to Members for scrutiny would also show the wider impact and the cumulative impact; and
- (4) outlining that as this was a good news story of the achievements of the Council, this should be publicised

Questions were raised by Members in relation to;

- (a) the (LOIP) and the development process for this going forward and how engagement with the individual communities would be carried out and fed back to them; and the Service Lead – Policy, Performance- and Community Planning advised that the LOIP had been approved in 2017, therefore, required to be refreshed and during the review of Community Planning, it had been realised that there were too many outcomes to realistically manage, therefore each of the strategic delivery partnerships had agreed to take forward a priority, consult with the community on this and feed back and there would then be a refreshed LOIP by March 2024;
- (b) following previous criticism from Audit Scotland, whether the officer was confident that the outcomes could be reported in an accurate and meaningful manner; and the Service Lead – Policy, Performance and Community Planning advised that he was confident as, when the initial report had been received from Audit Scotland in 2021, they had suggested that targets be added to the actions but, as this was for the previous Council Plan which was coming to an end, there was no value in adding targets at that time, however this provided a good base to develop the new Performance Management Framework which can measure progress against the Council Plan and was a step forward;
- (c) the steps being taken to minimise disruption in Ayr High Street when the proposed works for the demolition of the Station Hotel and the works at the old Hourstons building were taking place in 2024; and future plans for Kyle Ward as presently there were none within the Council Plan; and the Service Lead – Professional Design Services advised that proposals for the demolition works in Ayr High Street were currently being developed and these comments regarding co-ordinating the works would be taken on board; and that she was happy to bring forward proposals for the Kyle Ward; and

- (d) whether the comparisons across service areas of different Councils on the COSLA website were examined to share good practice or to understand if lessons could be learned; and the Service Lead – Policy, Performance and Community Planning advised that sharing best practice was very important in local government and he did this through the local government benchmarking framework, however, although this aided discussions in performance, this data was not definitive as authorities reported their data in various ways.

The Council, having thanked the Service Lead – Policy, Performance and Community Planning and his Team for their work on this matter,

Decided:

- (i) to approve the contents of the Service Plans 2023/24;
- (ii) to note the actions that would be reported to the Service and Partnerships Performance Panel over 2023/24 as part of the Council Plan 2023-28 Performance Management Framework; and
- (iii) to note that performance against the Council Plan would also be the subject of an annual report to Council.

Time of Meeting

The time being 12.40 p.m., Provost, seconded by Councillor Dowey moved that Council agree to continue the meeting beyond 2.00 p.m. as the business of the meeting was not likely to be completed by 2.00 p.m., in accordance with Standing Order No. 6.2.

The Council

Decided: to continue the meeting beyond 2.00 p.m. in accordance with Standing Order No. 6.2.

15. Proposed Ward Capital Projects 2023 to 2027

There was submitted a [report](#) (issued) of 22 June 2023 by the Depute Chief Executive and Director of Housing, Operations and Development seeking approval to proceed on a range of capital projects brought forward through Place Plans developed by local communities and by Ward Elected Members, and recommending capital projects for initiation and implementation during financial year 2023/24. The report also updated on arrangements for considering potential capital investment projects in the period to 2027.

The Depute Chief Executive and Director of Housing, Operations and Development introduced the report and thanked all Members for their advice and support in the development of the programme of projects.

Councillor Martin Dowey, seconded by Councillor Ian Davis, moved the recommendations as outlined in the report.

Comments were made by Members in relation to:-

- (1) commending the Depute Chief Executive and Director of Housing, Operations and Development and his team for their work on this project, setting up the process, carrying out consultations, etc in tight timescales; that the consultation with Members was to be welcomed as this had led to constructive discussions and the delivery of many projects of varying sizes; and that this was a good news story for all wards within South Ayrshire;
- (2) the significant amount of work that had gone into this project which would benefit all communities in South Ayrshire; that this was the first time a significant amount of investment had gone into the fabric of each town; and that this was the first tranche and there would be further consultation regarding the second stage;
- (3) thanking the Depute Chief Executive and Director of Housing, Operations and Development for the way in which Members were consulted, with all options carefully laid out and all projects relevant to the communities;
- (4) thanking colleagues within their wards as Members had worked together to achieve the best projects for their wards;
- (5) following initial concerns, this project had proven to be constructive, positive and well thought out and would be of massive benefit to the communities of South Ayrshire;
- (6) wishing this project every success going forward;
- (7) this being the start of a journey with significant monies remaining for projects; and that the projects would be subject to ongoing evaluation;
- (8) referring to the good start made on these projects; that interested parties would require to be liaised with regarding their priorities; and that some areas may require more monies than others;
- (9) the worthwhile discussions which had taken place with Ward Members and the positive effects of these discussions;
- (10) that in relation to requests for Girvan and South Carrick, the request for the New Merchant Navy and Seafarers' Memorial at Girvan Harbour had been requested by Girvan Town Team and Girvan Community Council and not by Go Girvan as stated;
- (11) not believing this work could be achieved within the timescales, however, thanks to the great work of various officers this work had been carried out and had brought communities together on how the monies should be spent; and looking forward to seeing the plans for Ayr East; and
- (12) this project highlighting that all Members could work together on Ward matters for the good of the communities of South Ayrshire.

Questions were raised by Members in relation to:-

- (a) seeking assurances that Ayr East Ward would not be placed in a detrimental position as the projects for this ward were not yet finalised and concerns that these projects had been based on Place Plans which had not yet been published; and the Depute Chief Executive and Director of Housing, Operations and Development advised that colleagues in Thriving Communities would be starting the process soon on the plans for Ayr East; that the Place Plans were well developed and, although not published until today, he was very confident that what was being proposed was what the communities were seeking; and that this was a priority for the Council and those projects approved for delivery would be delivered within the timescales set out in the report;
- (b) given that the Place Plans commenced with public consultations in the last week, how would the process now go forward in developing the Place Plans; and the Director of Strategic Change and Communities advised that Place Plans had taken various degrees of time to conduct with communities as some communities had established community groups but it became more complex when an area did not have established groups or representatives for the area, therefore, several consultations required to take place; that Ward Members and schools were also consulted along with any individual looking to become more involved with the development of Place Plans in their area; and that, once initial consultation had been concluded, she would go back to the area outlining the results to ensure that this is what was intended by the consultees; and it was intended to commence as quickly as possible to develop projects for the Ayr East Ward to include within the proposals;
- (c) whether the Place Plans would be an ongoing process with no closure; and the Director of Strategic Change and Communities advised that it was an ongoing process, with the means of contributing to the consultation also being placed on the Council website, however there would be a closing date; that Place Plans required to be progressive and fluid; and that some of the consultation took place prior to the Covid-19 outbreak and some after, therefore responses were very different depending on the circumstances;
- (d) the plan for ongoing maintenance of the projects which would require upkeep; and the Depute Chief Executive and Director of Housing, Operations and Development advised that the expectation was that there would be no revenue costs associated with the chosen projects;
- (e) whether the Place Planning Section was now fully staffed; and the Director of Strategic Change and Communities advised that the post referred to had not yet been filled, however, this was part of the ongoing service review of Economy and Regeneration and the work of other officers within the section had been prioritised to ensure that Place Plans progressed; and
- (f) asking the Leader that, as additional monies had been provided for Ayr Town Centre and Girvan, would monies be allocated next year or 2025 for the regeneration of other towns; and Councillor Dowey advised that all towns required additional monies, however, projects for other towns within South Ayrshire would be examined.

The Council

Decided:

- (i) to agree the capital investment projects identified in Appendix 1 for initiation and implementation during financial year 2023/24;
- (ii) to agree that a report would be brought back to Cabinet on 26 September 2023 identifying a comprehensive programme of further capital investment projects for implementation between 2024 and 2027;
- (iii) to agree that potential capital investment projects that met with wider strategic initiatives or had potential for other grant financial contribution be given priority in work review and consideration by the Capital Asset Management Group;
- (iv) to agree that the programme identified in 2.1.2 could be supplemented by a rolling programme of further capital investment projects identified through further community consultation undertaken during 2023/24 and which would be recommended to future Council meetings; and
- (v) to note that Place Plans developed to date would be published on the Council's website.

16. Transfer of the Former St Ninians School Site from the General Fund to the Housing Revenue Account

There was submitted a [report](#) (issued) of 21 June 2023 by the Depute Chief Executive and Director of Housing, Operations and Development seeking approval to transfer the site encompassing the former St Ninians Primary School in Adamton Road, Prestwick from the General Fund to the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) at nil value provided that the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) met the abnormal costs of £791,331 ahead of a proposed development of Council housing, the extent of the site as outlined in Appendix 1 to the report.

Adjournment

The time being 1.10 p.m., the Council agreed to adjourn for twenty minutes to allow discussions around an Amendment to the recommendations in the report.

Resumption of Meeting

The time being 1.30 p.m., the meeting recommenced.

Councillor Martin Kilbride, seconded by Councillor Hugh Hunter, moved the recommendations as outlined in the report with an additional recommendation, namely "to agree that officers seek to expedite the demolition".

A Member referred to the value of the land and the value of the abnormal costs and the HRA requiring to meet the abnormal costs and whether in future, when land was moved from the General Services Account to the Housing Revenue Account, this should be taken account of and whether this had been considered by the officer or the Portfolio Holder in this case; and the Service Lead – Asset Management and Community Asset Transfer advised that the report followed the Council's Acquisition and Disposal Policy.

A comment was made by a Member that, in relation to Standing Order 19.2 which had been discussed at Item 11 of this Minute, the adjournment to consider the Amendment to the recommendation in this report had taken twenty minutes to compile an eight word Amendment; and Provost advised that, as stated when he called the adjournment, this was combined with a comfort break.

The Council

Decided:

- (1) to note that the consultation carried out by the Council on 5 October 2022 and 7 February 2023 with the tenants and the public was in favour of the proposed transfer of the site from the General Fund to the HRA;
- (2) to grant authority to transfer the site of the former St Ninians Primary School from the General Fund to the HRA at nil value ahead of the proposed residential development provided that the Council's HRA met the abnormal costs of £791,331; and
- (3) to agree that officers seek to expedite the demolition.

17. Review of South Ayrshire Integration Scheme

There was submitted a [report](#) (issued) of 20 June 2023 by the Director of Health and Social Care advising the Council of the requirement placed on the Parties to the South Ayrshire Integration Scheme by Section 44 of the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014, to carry out a review of the Integration Scheme.

Councillor Lee Lyons, seconded by Councillor Ian Davis, moved the recommendations as outlined in the report.

A question was raised by a Member in relation to the list of prescribed consultees which did not include locality planning partnerships and whether they would be consulted as part of the process; and the Director of Health and Social Care advised that, should it be decided to widen the list of consultees to obtain a broader representation and views, this could be done and could include locality planning groups; and that all suggestions on who to consult would be taken on board.

Comments were made by Members commending the report, particularly table 1 which provided detailed timelines allowing this Council to work in line with East Ayrshire Council, North Ayrshire Council and Ayrshire and Arran Health Board.

The Council, having considered the requirement for the Integration Scheme to be reviewed,

Decided:

- (1) to note that the review required to be undertaken jointly by the parties to the Integration Scheme, namely South Ayrshire Council and NHS Ayrshire and Arran;
- (2) to agree that officers proceed with arrangements for the review and joint consultation as described in paragraphs 4.2 and 4.3 of the report;
- (3) to note that further reports would be provided to Council as the review progressed; and
- (4) to otherwise note the contents of this report.

18. Notices of Motion

Five Notices of Motion having been submitted in accordance with Council Standing Order No. 18, by Councillor Bob Pollock, seconded by Councillor Martin Kilbride; by Councillor Peter Henderson, seconded by Councillor Hugh Hunter; by Councillor Alec Clark, seconded by Councillor Peter Henderson; by Councillor Julie Dettbarn, seconded by Councillor Hugh Hunter; and by Councillor Craig Mackay, seconded by Councillor William Grant.

Having heard Councillor Martin Kilbride advise that Councillor Laura Brennan-Whitefield would now Second this Motion instead of him,

- (1) Councillor Bob Pollock, seconded by Councillor Laura Brennan-Whitefield, moved:-

“Council acknowledges the detrimental effect disposable vapes have on the environment and their increasing use particularly by young people and the consequent concern that this is encouraging an increasing nicotine dependence in this group as well as the potential negative health impacts for young people using these products.

Council asks the Chief Executive to write a letter following Council to the Scottish and UK Governments requesting that single use vapes are banned and to report back any response she receives to members.”

A full debate took place regarding the terms of the Motion and the Council

Decided: unanimously to agree the terms of the Motion.

Following discussions of this Motion, the Head of Legal and Regulatory Services advised that she would issue a briefing note to Members on the work of Trading Standards in relation to the monitoring and control of disposable vapes.

- (2) Councillor Peter Henderson, seconded by Councillor Hugh Hunter, moved an Amendment to their original Motion as follows:-

“The Council Chief Executive is asked to write to Baroness Virginia McVea, Chief Executive Officer of the Maritime and Coastguard Agency, UK Department of Transport, requesting that she send a representative to brief local Councillors and the local community on the impact of the proposed closure of Ballantrae Coast Guard Station and Portpatrick Coast Guard Station in South West Scotland.

The Coast Guard Station in Ballantrae covers the Area from Girvan to Stranraer and is equipped with Rescue equipment and full time trained and Auxiliary staff, they have a vehicle and equipment to rescue anyone in difficulty on the coast and also assist the RNLI in rescue operations. It is understood that it is proposed to remove the vehicle and equipment and trained personnel from this station.”

A full debate took place regarding the terms of the Motion and the Council

Decided: unanimously to agree the terms of the Motion.

- (3) Councillor Alec Clark, seconded by Councillor Peter Henderson, moved:-

“Given the proposed closure of The Bank of Scotland in Girvan , the Chief Executive Mrs Eileen Howat is requested to write to The Head of the Lloyds Banking Group to express the disappointment of South Ayrshire Council at the loss of physical branch banking services to not only the residents of Girvan and South Carrick but also to other towns within South Ayrshire which will lead to the nearest Bank Branch to remain open being in the County Town of Ayr. The Bank of Scotland in Girvan provides essential face to face services for a generation of people who are not online, for those of the most vulnerable in our society such as residents of North Park Court who have learning difficulties, for those in our outlying rural villages who will now have to travel up to thirty three miles for full physical banking Services. It is also a major blow for retail footfall and Town Centre Regeneration. The possibility of a shared banking Hub in no way compensates for a full face to face service which dedicated staff have provided over the years some of whom now face a very uncertain future. This is of course a sign of the times which has affected many towns all over the UK. However no cognizance is or has been taken of the decimating effect this policy of closing branches has on our high streets and the fact it has a detrimental and socially isolating effect on many within the local communities. The closing of the branch is not in line with the promises made by marketing strap lines used by the Bank of Scotland such as “The Bank that cares about Communities” and Is “By Your Side”. I would ask for your support on this issue.”

A full debate took place regarding the terms of the Motion and the Council

Decided: unanimously to agree the terms of the Motion.

- (4) Councillor Julie Dettbarn, seconded by Councillor Hugh Hunter, moved:-

“South Ayrshire Council is fully committed to achieving the best possible outcomes for each and every one of our Children & Young People. We have a special responsibility for those who require direct support from us, including Care Experienced Young People and Young Carers. Council recognises that the Scottish Government’s enhanced bursary for Care Experienced Young People enables many young people to continue their education into college or university and achieve the best possible start to their adult lives. Council recognises that Young Carers often experience difficulties accessing further education as their caring responsibilities may significantly impact on their ability to access student employment to support their studies. Council requests the Chief Executive to write to the First Minister to ask the Scottish Government to consider extending the enhanced bursary to Young Carers to ensure they benefit from equal access to further education and are recognised for, and not disadvantaged by, their significant contribution in providing care and support to their loved ones.”

A full debate took place regarding the terms of the Motion and the Council

Decided: unanimously to agree the terms of the Motion.

- (5) Councillor Craig Mackay, seconded by Councillor William Grant, moved:-

“Council notes the clear benefits to health and social interaction from having accessible and well-equipped outdoor play areas. While acknowledging that significant improvements have been made across South Ayrshire in recent years, many small play areas within residential areas remain in need of upgrading, or additional equipment installed to enable use by less able-bodied children.

As a Scottish Government priority funding is being made available to councils, but with an expectation this will be supplemented from other sources. Council recognises that small pockets of funding, when they from time to time become available from underspends, developer contributions and other sources, can quickly make a big difference to a play area. However no transparent process is in place to identify which community play areas should be prioritised within each ward.

Council notes that it is a requirement of the new Local Development Plan Regulations that a Play Sufficiency Assessment is completed which reviews play areas based on the condition and range of equipment available, RPII inspection reports, SIMD data and includes consideration of the priorities identified through community consultation processes, and that officers shall present a report to Council on 12 October 2023 identifying the funding and staffing required and the associated timelines to complete this work .Officers are requested to produce as part of this exercise an ongoing priority list of "shovel-ready" improvements that could be implemented in each ward as and when funding becomes available.

Council further requests that officers consider as part of this exercise and the preparation of the Supplementary Guidance for Developer Contributions how to maximise developer contributions where on site provision for outdoor play is unable to be included within a site and include their proposals in a future report to Cabinet."

A full debate took place regarding the terms of the Motion and the Council

Decided: unanimously to agree the terms of the Motion.

Following discussions of this Motion, the Head of Legal and Regulatory Services advised that she would contact the relevant Officer to circulate a briefing note to Members on the maintenance of play parks.

19. **Formal Questions.**

In terms of Council Standing Order No. 26.2, there were submitted **Formal Questions** from Councillors Pollock, McGinley, Saxton and Mackay, along with responses which were made available to all Members.

Point of Order

Councillor Henderson raised a Point of Order that Councillor Pollock had asked questions which could have been easily answered by contacting the appropriate officer; and that questions should not be raised regarding articles in the Ayrshire Post. Provost responded that in terms of Standing Order 26, there were no restrictions on what questions could be asked.

Councillor Hunter then requested that Councillor Henderson retract a remark he made regarding the Ayrshire Post as this was an unfounded comment, however Councillor Henderson refused to withdraw his comment.

The Head of Legal and Regulatory Services advised that a report would be submitted to the Council meeting of 12 October 2023 on Standing Orders Relating to Meetings and that all Members had the opportunity to submit comments to her on proposed changes to the Standing Orders in respect of formal questions, however, there were limitations around competency and relevancy which would require to be taken into account.

Point of Order

A Point of Order was raised by Councillor Craig Mackay, asking if the thirty minutes provided for discussion of Formal Questions was being used during discussion of the various Points of Order; and Provost advised that it was.

Councillor Mackay then asked when Council would move into discussion of supplementary questions; and Provost responded that Supplementary Questions would be discussed when all Members had read the Formal Questions and Responses.

Point of Order

Councillor Bob Pollock raised a Point of Order around whether his Formal Questions were competent, as these questions had gone through a clearing process and were approved; that these questions were around articles in the press which were factually incorrect and that it was important that this was clarified. The Chief Executive advised that she had no jurisdiction over Formal Questions submitted to her; and that questions could be put by Elected Members to various individuals.

The Head of Legal and Regulatory Services then reminded Members around the provisions in the Standing Orders Relating to Meetings for Points of Order; that any Member raising a Point of Order should refer to the Standing Order number and provide her with a clear explanation of what was incompetent or not relevant about the point being made to enable her to make a ruling on this.

A comment was made by Councillor Philip Saxton regarding references to the Ayrshire Post in the Formal Questions; and Councillor Bob Pollock advised that his Formal Questions related to direct quotes from articles in the Ayrshire Post.

(1) Councillor Pollock raised supplementary questions in relation to his Formal Questions as follows:-

- “that in relation to question 1.2, could I have clarity on the steps now taken to address any of the concerns identified regarding the original bids put in and how we ensure we do not repeat these mistakes; and that any further bids going forward are liable to be successful”; and the Chief Executive advised that the process for submission of round 3 of the Levelling Up bids was awaited; that she had taken on board the comments made and that advice would be taken from any authority that had previously been successful to ensure that in the next round of bids submitted, this authority had the greatest chance of being successful.
- “in relation to question 3.3, if a bid was received on Belleisle House, would the Council be in a position to accept this or would it require to go through procurement and advertising procedures”; and the Depute Chief Executive and Director of Housing, Operations and Development advised that the building was currently advertised for sale and that, should a bid be received and it was acceptable to the Council, this would then be taken forward.

- “in relation to question 6 on Golf, following the improvements made by the current administration and the changes proposed in the pricing structure, has there been an increase in membership and the number of rounds played?”; and the Director of Strategic Change and Communities advised that there had been an increase in membership; that member rounds so far this year had increased by 13% in Troon and 12% in Ayr and that non-member rounds had increased by 32% in Troon, by 33% in Ayr and by 100% in Carrick since the new prices had been introduced; and that there had been an increase of 10% of new members joining.
 - “in relation to question 6, following a report produced which highlighted the mental benefits and physical wellbeing of playing golf, could an officer comment and provide details?”; and the Director of Strategic Change and Communities advised that a detailed report had provided evidence that mental and physical wellbeing was greatly enhanced by the use of sporting activity such as golf and that she would submit this report to Members;
 - “in relation to question 9.1 regarding Girvan Harbour, does the Council have a legal requirement to maintain the harbour; and what would be the impact of not dredging the harbour?”; and the Depute Chief Executive and Director of Housing, Operations and Development advised that the Council did have a legal requirement, was responsible for the harbour as the Harbour Authority and that the Ayrshire Roads Alliance maintained the harbour on the Council’s behalf by providing the Harbour Master’s service; and that, if the Council stopped dredging the Harbour, there would be a risk to the RNLI as access to the harbour could be compromised.
 - “in relation to question 9.2 regarding the removal of School Crossing Patrols if the Labour supported SNP budget had been implemented, were there potential safety implications had this been implemented; and was a survey carried out?”; and the Depute Chief Executive and Director of Housing, Operations and Development advised that there would have been risks associated with removing School Crossing Patrols; and that a full Risk Assessment of each of the School Crossing Patrol locations would have been carried out prior to considering removal.
- (2) Councillor McGinley raised a supplementary question in relation to his Formal Question as follows:-
- “in relation to question 12 regarding facilities at Ayr Hospital, this is a major issue for the people of South Ayrshire and I would expect Councillor Lyons to stand up and advocate on our behalf to ensure that the services are delivered. What actions, if any, are the Council taking through Councillor Lyons as Portfolio Holder to ensure that the services at Ayr Hospital are protected?”; and Councillor Lyons advised that the Council and himself must follow a process if an issue is highlighted; and that Councillor McGinley had never raised any concerns with him regarding this matter.

(3) Councillor Mackay raised supplementary questions in relation to his Formal Questions as follows:-

- “in relation to Question 13, I have had difficulty getting a response from Ayrshire Roads Alliance and made three attempts to contact them about concerns raised in January regarding a specific junction. There’s a poor level of attention from ARA given to road safety concerns, particularly around schools. Councillor Pollock faced similar difficulties in having measures around Troon Primary School implemented. Will this change and will we in fact see requests for restrictions around schools trialled and not just talked about?”; and the Depute Chief Executive and Director of Housing, Operations and Development advised that he would contact the Head of ARA regarding this matter; and that he would like to see a more focussed service from ARA to South Ayrshire and he intended to make that improvement.
- “in relation to Question 14, I had requested these details be put on the agenda for the last Active Travel Forum and was told that none of the actions had been completed over the last year. I highlighted that some had been achieved and it is disappointing that this list is still made available as a baseline for future work and batted down the line to the next Active Travel Forum. It is a sad reflection on the administration that they cannot keep track of the things they have achieved. Could I have an assurance that the administration will start to afford active travel issues the attention that is required going forward?”; and Councillor Dowey responded “yes”.

20. Closing Remarks.

The Provost

- (1) thanked all in attendance for their contribution; and
- (2) referred to the imminent retiral of Councillor Peter Henderson, spoke of the many hours worked by him in the past six years since he became a Councillor in 2017 and wished him a long and happy retirement.

Provost then invited any other Member to speak on the retiral of Councillor Henderson.

Councillor Martin Dowey outlined that he hoped Councillor Henderson would enjoy his new found spare time; advised that it would be difficult to replace him in Ward 8 as he was a very hard working Councillor who did his best for everyone and, on behalf of the Conservative Group and the Administration, wished him well.

Councillor William Grant referred to an end of an era; outlined that he had enjoyed working with Councillor Henderson for the good of the Carrick area; praised him for his leadership with many excellent projects being brought to fruition during his term as Leader of the Council; and advised that he would be sadly missed.

Councillor Alec Clark advised that he and Councillor Henderson had worked together as Ward Councillors since 2017 and had been through good and bad times, however, Councillor Henderson had defended and backed up the reputation of the Council at all times; that they had worked on many issues in many communities and he was one of the most diligent, hard working and responsible Councillors that he had the pleasure of working with; and he thanked him for their working relationship, advised that he would be sorely missed and wished him well in his retirement.

Councillor Duncan Townson thanked Councillor Henderson for his service to the people of Ward 8 and beyond; referred to him leading the Council through one of its most challenging periods in history with the Covid-19 pandemic and advised that his contribution to the public and to the Council would be sorely missed; and hoped he enjoyed his retirement.

Councillor Hugh Hunter thanked Councillor Henderson for allowing him the privilege of seconding his valedictory Motion; outlined that he was dependable, hard working and a very nice man; and wished him all the best.

Councillor Brian McGinley spoke of his close working relationship with Councillor Henderson during the previous administration and advised that he was straightforward and honest which was not easy when running a Council with different political groups; commended his hard work and his reputation of working for his party at national level and for national organisations too which enhanced the reputation of South Ayrshire Council; and outlined that, following his short number of years on the Council he would be fondly remembered, wished him a happy retirement and thanked him for all that he had done.

The Chief Executive thanked Councillor Henderson on behalf of the staff of South Ayrshire Council as he had always been extremely supportive and advised that it was a privilege to work with him when he was Leader; and wished him well in his retirement.

Councillor Henderson then thanked everyone for their kind words; advised that he had always had a strong work ethic and if anyone came to him for assistance, he tried his best to help and had always tried to support the staff at all levels; referred to the highlights of his time as a Councillor and outlined that he was proud of his contribution to South Ayrshire Council.

The meeting ended at 3.30 p.m.

SOUTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL (SPECIAL).

Minutes of a hybrid webcast meeting
on 15 September 2023 at 11.00 a.m.

Present in County Buildings: Councillors Iain Campbell (Provost), Kenneth Bell, Ian Cavana, Alec Clark, Brian Connolly, Ian Davis, Julie Dettbarn, Martin Dowe, Stephen Ferry, William Grant, Peter Henderson, Hugh Hunter, Martin Kilbride, Mary Kilpatrick, Lee Lyons, Brian McGinley, Bob Pollock, Cameron Ramsay, Philip Saxton, Gavin Scott, Bob Shields, Duncan Townson and George Weir.

Present Remotely: Councillors Ian Cochrane, Chris Cullen and Craig Mackay.

Apologies: Councillors Laura Brennan-Whitefield and Mark Dixon.

Attending in County Buildings: E. Howat, Chief Executive; M. Newall, Depute Chief Executive and Director of Housing, Operations and Development; C. Caves, Head of Legal and Regulatory Services; C. Cox, Assistant Director – Planning and Development; L. Penman, Co-ordinator (Housing New Build); J. McClure, Committee Services Lead Officer; A. Gibson, Committee Services Officer; and C. McCallum, Committee Services Assistant.

1. Provost.

The Provost

- (1) welcomed everyone to the meeting;
- (2) intimated that apologies had been received from Councillors Laura Brennan-Whitefield and Mark Dixon; and
- (3) outlined the procedures for conducting this meeting and advised that this meeting would be broadcast live.

2. Sederunt and Declarations of Interest.

The Chief Executive called the Sederunt for the meeting and having called the roll, confirmed that there were no declarations of interest by Members of the Council in terms of Council Standing Order No. 17 and the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

3. Scottish Government Consultation on a Fairer Council Tax

There was submitted a [report](#) (issued) of 7 September 2023 by the Head of Finance, ICT and Procurement providing details of the Scottish Government/COSLA consultation on a Fairer Council Tax, providing information relative to South Ayrshire Council's tax base and a proposed consultation response attached at [Appendix 1](#) to the report.

The Chief Executive introduced the report and advised that as this was a political consideration, that the draft consultation response had been prepared on the basis of an officer response and was examining the benefits that additional income would bring to South Ayrshire Council.

Councillor Davis, seconded by Councillor Dowey moved that Council:

- (1) note the Joint Consultation which related to an increase in the Council Tax multipliers;
- (2) consider the implications of the proposed changes to the Council Tax Multipliers for South Ayrshire; and
- (3) approve the proposed consultation response as detailed in Appendix 1 with the following amendments to consultation question responses:

1. Do you think that Council Tax in Scotland should be changed to apply increases to the tax on properties in Bands E, F, G, and H?

No

Please give reasons for your answer? **Free Text**

We acknowledge the regressive nature of Council Tax in Scotland and note the work that the Joint Working Group has undertaken in this consultation to reduce the disparities and pressures between dwellings in Band A compared to Band H. However we do not believe that the proposals go far enough to bring fairness and equity across the Council Tax Bands and believe that a fundamental review of Council Tax is required.

2. The proposal is to increase the Council Tax on properties in Bands E, F, G and H by 7.5%, 12.5%, 17.5% and 22.5% respectively. Do you agree with the levels of increase set out in this proposal?

No

3. If you have answered no to Question 2, what do you think the increases to the Council Tax on properties in Bands E, F, G and H should be?

- Don't know

4. When should any increases be introduced if the tax on higher band properties is increased as proposed?

- Other (Please state) Not applicable

Councillor Davis referred to the unfairness of the present Council Tax system with a reform of this system being required to make it fairer for all residents; that many people in larger houses were only just coping financially and that an increase in Council Tax could result in them having to downsize their house; that this could affect the housing market as those looking for a house which was Band D or E may now require to purchase a house in Band C which would in turn affect first time buyers due to the knock-on effect of people downsizing; and that any increase could also put pressure on the Council's advice services.

By way of Amendment, Councillor Townson, seconded by Councillor Philip Saxton, moved

- “(a) to accept recommendations 2.1.1 and 2.1.2; and
- (b) that recommendation 2.1.3 be amended to read “The Chief Executive is requested to write to the Scottish Government noting the impact of the Cost of Living Crisis and the continued increase in interest rates for all residents in South Ayrshire and advising that this Council does not wish to make a response to the consultation questions. Any changes to Council Tax should be following a full review of the Council Tax system”.”

Councillor Grant then requested an adjournment to consider the terms of the Motion and the Amendment.

Councillor Dowey advised that the Conservative Group would like to agree a joint Motion with the Labour Group requesting that the Chief Executive write to the Scottish Government raising the Council’s concerns regarding the Council Tax system; and that discussions would take place during the adjournment on this.

Adjournment

The time being 11.10 a.m., the Council adjourned for twenty minutes.

Resumption of Meeting

The meeting resumed at 11.30 a.m.

The Chief Executive advised that, following consultation, 2.1.3 of the Motion would now read:

2.1.3 - “requests the Chief Executive to write to the Scottish Government noting the impact of the Cost of Living crisis and the continued increases in interest rates for all residents of South Ayrshire; and approves the proposed consultation as circulated amending free text Q1 as follows:- “A full review of Council Tax is required”.”

Councillors Davis and Dowey agreed these changes to the Motion with Councillor Dowey advising that, as there had been no response from CoSLA to the Scottish Government on this matter, if no response to the consultation was submitted, South Ayrshire Council would be disregarded.

Councillor Townson then advised that the Labour Group would proceed with their original Amendment as the Labour Group believed that during the ongoing cost of living crisis, no increases should be considered at this time.

Councillor Saxton further advised that, as he believed the consultation was flawed, any response to the consultation could be misconstrued and therefore, a response should not be submitted to the consultation; and that he also wished to proceed with the Labour Group’s original Amendment.

Councillor Grant, seconded by Councillor Dettbarn, moved a Counter-Amendment that “Council is recommended to approve the recommendations in the paper”. Councillor Grant referred to the terms of the Motion and Amendment and advised that the SNP Group would be supporting the officer’s recommendations as a full review of the Council Tax system was required to be fairer for everyone.

Comments were made by Members in relation to

- (i) the review which was not in keeping with good principles of a consultation where questions should be open and inclusive and have options; the need to address the Council Tax system and make it fair for everyone in South Ayrshire; and that there should be no response to the consultation as the Council was being put in an untenable position if it responded;
- (ii) it was disappointing that a joint response could not be agreed by this Council to the consultation; that the response to number 3 of the consultation should be “No” and not “Don’t Know” as there should be no increase; that no further burdens should be placed on tax payers; and that this was a national tax being forced on local governments;
- (iii) that Councils were being made scapegoats to “take the flack” on behalf of the Scottish Government; that this was not the time to make further increases to Council Tax during a cost of living crisis; and that this consultation was a box ticking exercise which would make no difference if the Council responded or not;
- (iv) that an entire review of the Council Tax system was required and that there was a Government reform to carry this out; that the Institute for Fiscal Studies supported the current proposals as being a step in the right direction pending a full review of Council Tax; that cross-party discussions prior to the pandemic had been at a well developed stage and a commitment had been given by the Scottish Government that taking the review of Council Tax forward would be carried out by way of a Citizen’s Assembly with everyone being represented;
- (v) that, with reference to the Member’s comments at (iv) above, the Institute of Fiscal Studies had supported the current proposals as “a small step in the right direction” and had also warned that “Scottish Ministers were ducking key overhauls of the system to make it fairer”; and
- (vi) the introduction of the Council Tax system which had not changed since the valuations in 1991 and introduction in 1993; that this system was not related to income, was not a fair tax; and that a total reform of the system was required.

By way of a vote, seven Members voted for the Counter-Amendment (Cllrs Grant/Dettbarn), seven Members for the Amendment (Cllrs Townson/Saxton) and eleven Abstained. Provost then exercised his casting vote in favour of the Amendment which was accordingly carried and became the substantive Amendment.

By way of a further vote, eight Members voted for the Amendment, thirteen for the Motion and four Abstained. The Motion was accordingly declared carried

The Council, having considered the proposed consultation response contained at [Appendix 1](#) to the report; and the implications of the proposed changes to the Council Tax Multipliers for South Ayrshire,

Decided:

- (A) to note the Joint Consultation which related to an increase in the Council Tax multipliers; and
- (B) that 2.1.3 be amended to read:

“requests the Chief Executive to write to the Scottish Government noting the impact of the Cost of Living Crisis and the continued increases in interest rates for all residents of South Ayrshire; and approves the proposed consultation as follows:”:

1. Do you think that Council Tax in Scotland should be changed to apply increases to the tax on properties in Bands E, F, G, and H?

No

Please give reasons for your answer? **Free Text**

A full review of Council Tax is required

2. The proposal is to increase the Council Tax on properties in Bands E, F, G and H by 7.5%, 12.5%, 17.5% and 22.5% respectively. Do you agree with the levels of increase set out in this proposal?

No

3. If you have answered no to Question 2, what do you think the increases to the Council Tax on properties in Bands E, F, G and H should be?

○ Don't know

4. When should any increases be introduced if the tax on higher band properties is increased as proposed?

○ Other (Please state) Not applicable

5. Should the Council Tax Reduction scheme be expanded to protect those on lower incomes from any increases to higher band properties?

Yes

More information:

- In 2017, the Council Tax Reduction Scheme was expanded to provide relief to households affected by the changes if their income was in the lower half of incomes in Scotland.
- The expanded Council Tax Reduction Scheme relief scheme protected low-income households living in Bands E to H from the increase in their bill caused by the increase in the multipliers, and is still available.

6. The proportion of properties in each valuation bands E - H varies across the country. This means that some Councils would benefit more than others from any increases in Council tax in these property bands. Should steps be taken to ensure that all Councils benefit proportionately from this policy?

Yes

Please give reasons for your answer? **Free Text**

The potential yield of £176m should be retained by local government therefore it is important that any additional financial benefits resulting from increased Council Tax income from Bands E to H are not adjusted from the Core grant funding amount that is to be remitted to each Council. It is, however, recognised that some Council areas have a disproportionately higher level of band E to H dwellings compared to other Councils and that a suitable equitable methodology should be established in consultation between COSLA and the Scottish Government to identify a fair redistribution approach.

More information:

- If further changes were made to charges for property Bands E to H there would be disproportionate benefits to some Council areas where they have more Band E to H properties relative to other Councils.
- General Revenue Grant is the main source of funding for local authorities.
- The distribution of General Revenue Grant could be adjusted to ensure the benefits are shared proportionately by all Councils.
- This adjustment would mean that any changes would not disproportionately benefit, or disadvantage, any Council.

7. Please tell us how changes to Council Tax rates for properties in Bands E, F, G and H might impact you, or the people your organisation represents?**More information:**

We have undertaken initial work to assess the potential impacts of these changes for individuals and communities. We would welcome your views and comments to help us better understand these impacts.

Answer:

Please provide your views

Increasing the multiplier by 7.5% – 22.5% for Bands E to H will cause financial hardship in some low income households who own properties within these bandings.

It is recommended that a review of the Council Tax Reduction scheme be undertaken to assess the quantum of the Council Tax Reduction grant and widen the eligibility to support those who are likely to find themselves in need of financial support as a result of the changes proposed to the multiplier effect for Bands E to H.

8. Please tell us how you think changes to Council Tax rates for properties in Bands E, F, G and H would affect your local area, or Scotland as a whole (please consider social, economic, environment, community, cultural, enterprise impacts that you think are relevant)?**More information:**

We have undertaken initial work to assess the potential impacts of these changes for individuals and communities. We would welcome your views and comments to help us better understand these impacts.

Answer:

Please provide your views

As noted in the response to Question 7 consideration of eligibility criteria for access to the CTR scheme is required for low-income households who are already suffering severe financial hardship.

9. Please tell us how you think changes to Council Tax rates for properties in Bands E, F, G and H might affect Island Communities

More information:

- If further changes were made to charges for property Bands E to H there would be disproportionate benefits to some Council areas where they have more Band E to H properties relative to other Councils.
- General Revenue Grant is the main source of funding for local authorities.
- The distribution of General Revenue Grant could be adjusted to ensure the benefits are shared proportionately by all Councils.
- This adjustment would mean that any changes would not disproportionately benefit, or disadvantage, any Council.

Answer:

Please provide your views

Not applicable in South Ayrshire however as suggested in the response to Question 6 an appropriate equitable mechanism should ensure a fair redistribution to those Councils with island Communities.

10. Do you think there would be any equality, human rights, or wellbeing impacts as a result of the proposed increases in Council Tax rates for properties in Bands E, F, G and H ? Please tell us what you think these impacts would be.

Answer:

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Please give reasons for your answer.

This will be better understood at a national rather than local level.

4. Station Hotel, Ayr

There was submitted a [report](#) (issued) of 8 September 2023 by the Depute Chief Executive and Director of Housing, Operations and Development providing an update on matters relating to the Station Hotel in Ayr; and seeking approval for the continuation of funding for the protective measures in place at the building until the end of May 2024.

The Assistant Director – Planning and Development introduced the report; referred to the two surveys recently undertaken; outlined that good progress was being made by the Ayr Station Strategic Governance Group; and reiterated that the building was not owned by South Ayrshire Council.

Councillor Dowey, seconded by Councillor Lyons moved the recommendations as outlined in the report.

Questions were raised by Members in relation to:

- (1) progress with legal negotiations to obtain compensation from the owner of the Station Hotel; and the Head of Legal and Regulatory Services advised that, as the owner had no assets in the UK, there were a number of decrees against the property and an inhibition which prevented the building from being sold to a company which would put it into liquidation; that, as the owner had assets in Malaysia, a decree had been taken out there and a sequestration would be the next stage which would be heard on 6 October 2023, at which time she would update Members on the outcome; and that it was hoped that the enforcement action would prompt the owner to make payments due to the Council;
- (2) the £80,000 spent with no prior approval; and the Depute Chief Executive and Director of Housing, Operations and Development advised that the £80,000 for traffic management provision had been requested a number of years ago, however, a previous Chief Officer had chosen not to pay this, the works had been carried out and now required to be paid;
- (3) how much the external experts were costing to carry out a Work Programme, was it necessary and would the money be reclaimed; and the Depute Chief Executive and Director of Housing, Operations and Development advised that the monies had been approved at a previous meeting for the experts who were working on the methodology; and that every effort was being made to recover all costs so far and future costs;
- (4) whether the costs for demolishing the southern part of the building were necessary; and the Depute Chief Executive and Director of Housing, Operations and Development advised that the costs associated with the demolition were necessary as the Council had a statutory duty under the Building (Scotland) Act 2003 to keep the building safe; and that a number of the costs should be recoverable;
- (5) whether it was necessary to demolish the southern wing as it was currently encapsulated and therefore safe; and the Head of Legal and Regulatory Services advised that external experts had been appointed to support the development of the programme of works for the demolition of the southern wing and to secure the permissions, however, more evidence was required in relation to that to understand the impact of the programme of works and that, once that was clear, progress could be made; and that previously KC advice had been taken in relation to the Council's duty to the public and for the safety of the adjacent buildings and that the Council would comply with its duties to then proceed with demolition;

- (6) whether an update would be submitted to Members following receipt of the detailed programme of works on the demolition; and the Chief Executive advised that the Council had taken a decision based on a report that demolition was probably the most appropriate option, however, the Council was not at the stage of approving demolition of the Hotel as the monies to carry this out were not available and the Council had not gone through the necessary processes, eg serving notices, etc as this building did not belong to the Council, therefore a further report was required before proceeding to demolish the Hotel and an expert report would inform this decision. She further advised that a report would be submitted to a meeting of South Ayrshire Council in February 2024; and that the present costs were around keeping the building safe and keeping the encapsulation around the building to allow the train station to operate and to keep the public safe;
- (7) should the Station Hotel be demolished, who held the title deeds to the plot of ground; and the Head of Legal and Regulatory Services advised that that the title remained with Mr Ung, however, the Council had an inhibition and he would require to pay the Council monies owed by him that had been incurred looking after the building for him to be in a position to sell the plot of land; and
- (8) whether there would be timescales attached to the programme of works being considered at the Council meeting in February 2024; and the Depute Chief Executive and Director of Housing, Operations and Development advised that the Co-ordinator (Special Projects and PPP) was currently working on detailed plans for potential options for demolition with prescribed timescales.

The Head of Legal and Regulatory Services advised that she would provide a written briefing to members prior to the report being submitted to Council in February 2024 outlining the legalities of the Act and the Council's statutory duties.

Comments were made by Members in relation to:

- (a) the costs to the Council of keeping the Station Hotel wind and watertight and if any group had a costed plan for the Hotel, they should provide this timeously before time runs out; that the building had been abandoned and the Council was required by statute to keep it safe, however, this could not continue;
- (b) concerns regarding the monies required to demolish the southern part of the building and where these monies would be sourced from; and concerns that the other stakeholders in this matter had taken no responsibility for the Hotel;
- (c) that the people of South Ayrshire required a conclusion to this matter and required a good travel hub;
- (d) thanking the officers concerned for work undertaken on this matter; referring to the frustration felt by Members and Officers in relation to this issue; and outlining that, whilst pleased to note that an update would be submitted to Council in February 2024, it was disappointing to note that a draft development strategy for Ayr town centre would not be submitted to Cabinet until 29 October 2024; and the Depute Chief Executive and Director of Housing, Operations and Development advised that this was a typographical error and should read 31 October 2023; and that it was hoped to bring a detailed plan to Council in February 2024 outlining plans for the southern wing of the Hotel which would be in keeping with the commitment agreed by Council in December 2022 that a solution be agreed within eighteen months, subject to funding being available and approval by Council;

- (e) pride in the heritage of South Ayrshire and, whilst it had been hoped that a developer would purchase the building and preserve it, this had not happened and the Council could not continue to provide monies to make the privately owned building safe;
- (f) whether the Council would be issuing a response to the SAVE report which was flawed in a number of areas; and the Assistant Director – Planning and Development advised that the Council had taken a decision in December 2022 towards demolition which was what the Council was continuing to do; and that the Morton Partnership Report had no impact on the recommendations within the report being considered at this meeting. The Chief Executive further advised that it would be appropriate for the Council to respond to the SAVE report outlining that the report was not fully costed, that no resources had been referred to and the SAVE Group did not own the property, however, should there be an interested action group or potential developer with a costed plan, they should contact this Council, otherwise the Council would be proceeding with demolition.

Following discussion of the Chief Executive's response outlined at (f) above, the Mover and Seconder of the Motion agreed to include within their Motion that officers respond to the SAVE proposal

The Council

Decided:

- (i) to agree funding of up to £664,000 from uncommitted reserves to continue the building encapsulation until the end of May 2024 pending confirmation of quantum of Scottish Government funding contributions;
- (ii) to agree funding £80,000 from uncommitted reserves for the provision and maintenance of traffic management arrangements for the period 2018-2023;
- (iii) to note the activity undertaken by the stakeholders and the Ayr Station Strategic Governance Group resulting in an agreement by Scottish Ministers to reinstate the Scottish Government's 50% share of the cost of encapsulation;
- (iv) to note the progress made in appointing external experts to support the development of a programme of works for the demolition of the southern wing of the building and for securing all necessary permissions for so doing; and
- (v) to note the ongoing engagement with interested action groups and potential developers of the building and to request officers to respond to the SAVE proposal and explain in this response the limitations of the Council's powers and seek from the interested action groups and/or potential developers a fully costed proposal for the refurbishment of the building with associated agreement from Mr Ung and which provides proposals for the funding of the scaffolding until such time as any proposed refurbishment commences.

Councillor William Grant left the meeting at this point

Adjournment

The time being 12.45 p.m., the Council adjourned for ten minutes.

Resumption of Meeting

The Council resumed at 12.55 p.m.

5. Affordable Housing- Riverside Place, Ayr

There was submitted a [report](#) (issued) of 11 September 2023 by the Depute Chief Executive and Director of Housing, Operations and Development providing an update on progress of the Affordable Housing Project at Riverside, Ayr, including the most up to date scheme, costs and programme; and seeking approval to execute the necessary documents.

The Assistant Director – Planning and Development introduced the report and advised that two of the three blocks of flats had been demolished and one remained with the telecommunications mast remaining, that the development site had been reduced to take account of the one remaining block of flats with the number of housing units, therefore reduced; that the Council was now at the final stage of entering into contract with HubSW and that specifications and costs were detailed within the report; that there was an ongoing investigation regarding the circumstances around the mast and the remaining block of flats which could not be discussed; and that a report would be submitted to Council on conclusion of the process.

Councillor Kilbride, seconded by Councillor Pollock moved the recommendations as outlined in the report.

Comments were made by a Members in relation to:

- (1) this design being the best use of the site and that seventy five social houses were much needed in South Ayrshire; and
- (2) this project being welcomed; and that it was hoped that more social housing would be erected when the third block of flats was demolished.

Questions were raised by Members in relation to:

- (a) the Scottish Government contribution of £89,819 per unit; and the Co-ordinator (Housing New Build) advised that the Scottish Government subsidies had increased;
- (b) whether there had been detailed consultation on this matter with current tenants or tenants' associations; and the Co-ordinator (Housing New Build) advised that a full consultation had been undertaken with the surrounding residents and with the Tenant Participation Group; that she had examined demand for that type of housing in the area; and that all discussions had been very positive; and
- (c) why Section 3 of the Equality Impact Assessment within the report showed no positive or negative impact on people experiencing various types of social disadvantage when this proposal would have a positive impact as it was providing much needed affordable homes; and the Assistant Director – Planning and Development advised that this was due to the stage in the process; and that the previous report would have identified a positive impact.

The Council

Decided:

- (i) having considered the outcome of the HubSW Stage 2 detailed design phase for the project, including the most up to date scheme (affordable housing), costs and programme, to approve this; and
- (ii) to delegate authority to the Head of Legal and Regulatory Services to arrange for execution of the necessary documents at Financial Close on behalf of the Council.

6. Formal Questions

The Council noted that no Formal Questions had been submitted.

7. Closing Remarks.

The Provost thanked all in attendance for their contribution.

The meeting ended at 1.00 p.m.

Agenda Item No. 3(b)(ii)



**EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF
THE CABINET
OF 29 AUGUST 2023**

11. Treasury Management Annual Report 2022/23

There was submitted a report ([issued](#)) of 18 August 2023 by the Head of Finance, ICT and Procurement presenting, in line with the requirements of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) Code of Practice on Treasury Management, the annual report of treasury management activities for 2022/23, as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report.

The Cabinet

Decided: to approve the Annual Treasury Management Report 2022/23, as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report.

South Ayrshire Council

**Report by Chief Executive
to South Ayrshire Council
of 12 October 2023**

Subject: Results of Local Government By-Election 2023 – Ward 8: Girvan and South Carrick

1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise the Council of the outcome of the recent By-Election in Ward 8 - Girvan and South Carrick.

2. Recommendation

2.1 **It is recommended that the Council notes the outcome of the By-Election for Ward 8 – Girvan and South Carrick and the election of Alan Lamont as Councillor for this electoral ward.**

3. Background

3.1 Following the retiral of Councillor Peter Henderson, a By-Election was held in Electoral Ward 8 – Girvan and South Carrick on 21 September 2023.

3.2 Five candidates stood in the election, with polling being conducted using the Single Transferable Vote System.

4. Proposals

4.1 The result of the By-Election was as follows:

<i>Candidate</i>	<i>First Preference</i>	<i>Elected at Stage</i>
LAMONT, Alan	1,315	4
McLAUGHLIN, Joseph	778	
ROSS, Jamie	108	
SAXTON, Nicola	499	
SOMMERVILLE, Denise	70	

4.2 More detailed information is available on the Council's [website](#).

- 4.3 Alan Lamont (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party) was elected as Councillor to fill the Ward 8 – Girvan and South Carrick vacancy.
- 4.4 With the election of Alan Lamont, the political balance of the Council is now as follows:

Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party	11
Scottish Labour Party	5
Scottish National Party (SNP)	8
Independent	4

5. Legal and Procurement Implications

- 5.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report.
- 5.2 There are no procurement implications arising from this report.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1 Not applicable.

7. Human Resources Implications

- 7.1 Not applicable.

8. Risk

8.1 *Risk Implications of Adopting the Recommendations*

- 8.1.1 There are no risks associated with adopting the recommendations.

8.2 *Risk Implications of Rejecting the Recommendations*

- 8.2.1 There are no risks associated with rejecting the recommendations.

9. Equalities

- 9.1 The proposals in this report have been assessed through the Equality Impact Assessment Scoping process. There are no significant potential positive or negative equality impacts of agreeing the recommendations and therefore an Equalities Impact Assessment is not required. A copy of the Equalities Scoping Assessment is attached as [Appendix 1](#).

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 not been carried out in relation to the subject matter of this report.

12. Link to Council Plan

12.1 The matters referred to in this report contribute to Priority 4 of the Council Plan: Efficient and effective enabling services.

13. Results of Consultation

13.1 Not applicable.

14. Next Steps for Decision Tracking Purposes

14.1 If the recommendations above are approved by Members, the Chief Executive 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:

Implementation	Due date	Managed by
Report for noting only – no further action	Not applicable	Not applicable

Background Papers **None**

Person to Contact **Eileen Howat, Chief Executive**
County Buildings, Wellington Square, Ayr, KA7 1DR
Phone 01292 612612
E-mail eileen.howat@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

Date: 2 October 2023

South Ayrshire Council Equality Impact Assessment Scoping Template

Equality Impact Assessment is a legal requirement under the Public Sector Duty to promote equality of the Equality Act 2010. Separate guidance has been developed on Equality Impact Assessment's which will guide you through the process and is available to view here: <https://www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/equalities/impact-assessment.aspx>

Further guidance is available here: <https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/publication-download/assessing-impact-and-public-sector-equality-duty-guide-public-authorities/>

The Fairer Scotland Duty ('the Duty'), Part 1 of the Equality Act 2010, came into force in Scotland from 1 April 2018. It places a legal responsibility on Councils to actively consider ('pay due regard to') how we can reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage, when making strategic decisions. [FSD Guidance for Public Bodies](#) in respect of the Duty, was published by the Scottish Government in March 2018 and revised in October 2021. See information here: <https://www.gov.scot/publications/fairer-scotland-duty-guidance-public-bodies/>

1. Policy details

Policy Title	Results of Local Government By-Election 2023 – Ward 8 – Girvan and South Carrick
Lead Officer (Name/Position/Email)	Eileen Howat, Chief Executive – eileen.howat@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

2. Which communities, groups of people, employees or thematic groups do you think will be, or potentially could be, impacted upon by the implementation of this policy? Please indicate whether these would be positive or negative impacts

Community or Groups of People	Negative Impacts	Positive impacts
Age – men and women, girls & boys	-	-
Disability	-	-
Gender Reassignment (Trans/Transgender Identity)	-	-
Marriage or Civil Partnership	-	-
Pregnancy and Maternity	-	-
Race – people from different racial groups, (BME) ethnic minorities and Gypsy/Travellers	-	-
Religion or Belief (including lack of belief)	-	-
Sex – (issues specific to women & men or girls & boys)	-	-

Community or Groups of People	Negative Impacts	Positive impacts
Sexual Orientation – person’s sexual orientation i.e. LGBT+, lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, heterosexual/straight	-	-
Thematic Groups: Health, Human Rights & Children’s Rights	-	-

3. What likely impact will this policy have on people experiencing different kinds of social disadvantage i.e. The Fairer Scotland Duty (This section to be completed for any Strategic Decisions). Consideration must be given particularly to children and families.

Socio-Economic Disadvantage	Negative Impacts	Positive impacts
Low Income/Income Poverty – cannot afford to maintain regular payments such as bills, food, clothing	-	-
Low and/or no wealth – 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	-	-
Material Deprivation – being unable to access basic goods and services i.e. financial products like life insurance, repair/replace broken electrical goods, warm home, leisure/hobbies	-	-
Area Deprivation – where you live (rural areas), where you work (accessibility of transport)	-	-
Socio-economic Background – social class i.e. parent’s education, employment and income	-	-

4. Do you have evidence or reason to believe that the policy will support the Council to:

General Duty and other Equality Themes Consider the ‘Three Key Needs’ of the Equality Duty	Level of Negative and/or Positive Impact (High, Medium or Low)
Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation	Low
Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not	Low
Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not. (Does it tackle prejudice and promote a better understanding of equality issues?)	Low
Increase participation of particular communities or groups in public life	Low
Improve the health and wellbeing of particular communities or groups	Low
Promote the human rights of particular communities or groups	Low
Tackle deprivation faced by particular communities or groups	Low

5. Summary Assessment

Is a full Equality Impact Assessment required? (A full Equality Impact Assessment must be carried out if impacts identified as Medium and/or High)	YES NO
Rationale for decision: This report advises Members of the results of the Local Government By-Election 2023 – Ward 8 – Girvan and South Carrick. Their decision on this has no specific equality implications	
Signed : Eileen Howat Head of Service Date: 26 September 2023	

South Ayrshire Council

**Report by Head of Legal and Regulatory Services
to South Ayrshire Council
of 12 October 2023**

**Subject: Appointments to Panels and Working Groups
(including Change to Vice-Chair of South Ayrshire
Integration Joint Board)**

1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval to make alterations to the membership of Panels and Working Groups.

2. Recommendation

2.1 It is recommended that the Council:

2.1.1 notes that the position of Vice-Chair of the South Ayrshire Integration Joint Board is now vacant;

2.1.2 appoints a new Vice-Chair of the South Ayrshire Integration Joint Board from members listed at 4.2;

2.1.3 notes that there is a vacancy on the Regulatory Panel and the Local Review Body;

2.1.4 appoints a new member to the Regulatory Panel and the Local Review Body;

2.1.5 notes the change in the representative nominated by the Conservative Group identified at 4.5 as a Conservative member of the Audit and Governance Panel;

2.1.6 notes the changes in the Roman Catholic Church, Parent Council and Pupil representatives on Cabinet (when meeting as the Education Authority) identified in 4.6 and 4.7;

2.1.7 notes that there is a vacancy on the Planning Liaison Group;

2.1.8 appoints a new member to the Planning Liaison Group;

2.1.9 notes the change in the representative nominated by the SNP Group identified at 4.10 as the SNP member of the Best Value Member/ Officer Working Group;

2.1.10 requests that officers make the required amendments to the lists of Panels and Working Groups to reflect these changes; and

2.1.11 considers any other amendments which might be required to membership of Panels or Working Groups.

3. Background

3.1 In terms of para 11.1 of the Council's Scheme of Delegation, amendment of the membership of the Cabinet and other Panels, Committees and Sub-Committees is reserved to Council.

3.2 As detailed in para 28.3 of the Council's Standing Orders Relating to Meetings, the duration of the term of office of all Chairs and Vice-Chairs of Panels shall extend until the next ordinary election of the Council. Any change to the position of Chair or Vice-Chair which is not reserved for a member of a specified Political Group requires to follow the procedure set out in Standing Order 28.1. A majority of the Councillors present and voting thereon at any meeting of the Council require to approve this change, providing the item of business is specified in the notice calling the meeting. The Council may proceed immediately to fill the resultant vacancy/ vacancies.

3.3 Standing Order 28.5 allows political Groups to replace any nominated member by informing the Chief Executive who will advise Members in writing of changes and report them to the next Ordinary Meeting of Council for noting.

4. Proposals

Panels

South Ayrshire Integration Joint Board

4.1 The Conservative Group has intimated that Councillor Lee Lyons will stand down as the Vice-Chair of the South Ayrshire Integration Joint Board although will remain a member of the Joint Board.

4.2 Members are requested to appoint new Vice-Chair from the remaining members nominated by South Ayrshire Council, namely Councillors Julie Dettbarn, Hugh Hunter and Cameron Ramsay.

Regulatory Panel/ Local Review Body

4.3 The Independent Group has intimated that Councillor Hugh Hunter will stand down as a member of the Regulatory Panel and the Local Review Body and that no Independent member wishes to take up this position.

4.4 Members are therefore requested to appoint another member to Regulatory Panel and Local Review Body.

Audit and Governance Panel

4.5 The Conservative Group has requested that Councillor Alan Lamont replace Councillor Gavin Scott as one of the Conservative members on the Audit and Governance Panel.

Cabinet

- 4.6 The Diocese of Galloway has confirmed the appointment of Hugh McGuire to replace Phil Davey as the Roman Catholic Church representative on Cabinet (when meeting as the Education Authority).
- 4.7 Nigel Fullard has replaced the previous Parent Council representative (Euan Terras), and Aimee Allan and Millie Gibson (Carrick Academy) have replaced the previous Pupil Council representatives (Cameron McKenzie and Taylor McGill).

Working Groups

Planning Liaison Group

- 4.8 The Independent Group has intimated that Councillor Hugh Hunter will stand down as a member of the Planning Liaison Group and that no Independent member wishes to take up this position.
- 4.9 Members are therefore requested to appoint another member to the Planning Liaison Group.

Best Value Member/ Officer Working Group

- 4.10 The SNP Group has requested that Councillor William Grant replace Councillor Julie Dettbarn as the SNP member on the Best Value Member/ Officer Working Group.
- 4.11 Members may wish to consider any other amendments which might be required to membership of Panels or Working Groups.

5. Legal and Procurement Implications

- 5.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report.
- 5.2 There are no procurement implications arising from this report.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1 Not applicable.

7. Human Resources Implications

- 7.1 Not applicable.

8. Risk

Risk Implications of Adopting the Recommendations

- 8.1.1 There are no risks associated with adopting the recommendations.

Risk Implications of Rejecting the Recommendations

- 8.2.1 There are no risks associated with rejecting the recommendations.

9. Equalities

- 9.1 The proposals in this report have been assessed through the Equality Impact Assessment Scoping process. There are no significant potential positive or negative equality impacts of agreeing the recommendations and therefore an Equalities Impact Assessment is not required. A copy of the Equalities Scoping Assessment is attached as [Appendix 1](#).

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 not been carried out in relation to the subject matter of this report.

12. Link to Council Plan

- 12.1 The matters referred to in this report contribute to Commitment 1 of the Council Plan: Fair and Effective Leadership/ Leadership that promotes fairness.

13. Results of Consultation

- 13.1 There has been no consultation on the contents of this report.
- 13.2 Consultation has taken place with Councillor Martin Dowey, Portfolio Holder for Corporate and Strategic, 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 Head of Legal and Regulatory Services 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>
Publish details of membership of Panels and Working Groups	20 October 2023	Service Lead – Democratic Governance

Background Papers [Scheme of Delegation](#)

Person to Contact **Catriona Caves, Head of Legal and Regulatory Services**
County Buildings, Wellington Square, Ayr, KA7 1DR
Phone 01292 612556
E-mail catriona.caves@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

Date: 4 October 2023

South Ayrshire Council Equality Impact Assessment Scoping Template

Equality Impact Assessment is a legal requirement under the Public Sector Duty to promote equality of the Equality Act 2010. Separate guidance has been developed on Equality Impact Assessment's which will guide you through the process and is available to view here: <https://www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/equalities/impact-assessment.aspx>

Further guidance is available here: <https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/publication-download/assessing-impact-and-public-sector-equality-duty-guide-public-authorities/>

The Fairer Scotland Duty ('the Duty'), Part 1 of the Equality Act 2010, came into force in Scotland from 1 April 2018. It places a legal responsibility on Councils to actively consider ('pay due regard to') how we can reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage, when making strategic decisions. [FSD Guidance for Public Bodies](#) in respect of the Duty, was published by the Scottish Government in March 2018 and revised in October 2021. See information here: <https://www.gov.scot/publications/fairer-scotland-duty-guidance-public-bodies/>

1. Policy details

Policy Title	Appointments to Panels and Working Groups (including Change to Vice-Chair of South Ayrshire Integration Joint Board)
Lead Officer (Name/Position/Email)	Catriona Caves, Head of Legal and Regulatory Services – catriona.caves@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

2. Which communities, groups of people, employees or thematic groups do you think will be, or potentially could be, impacted upon by the implementation of this policy? Please indicate whether these would be positive or negative impacts

Community or Groups of People	Negative Impacts	Positive impacts
Age – men and women, girls & boys	-	-
Disability	-	-
Gender Reassignment (Trans/Transgender Identity)	-	-
Marriage or Civil Partnership	-	-
Pregnancy and Maternity	-	-
Race – people from different racial groups, (BME) ethnic minorities and Gypsy/Travellers	-	-
Religion or Belief (including lack of belief)	-	-
Sex – (issues specific to women & men or girls & boys)	-	-

Community or Groups of People	Negative Impacts	Positive impacts
Sexual Orientation – person’s sexual orientation i.e. LGBT+, lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, heterosexual/straight	-	-
Thematic Groups: Health, Human Rights & Children’s Rights	-	-

3. What likely impact will this policy have on people experiencing different kinds of social disadvantage i.e. The Fairer Scotland Duty (This section to be completed for any Strategic Decisions). Consideration must be given particularly to children and families.

Socio-Economic Disadvantage	Negative Impacts	Positive impacts
Low Income/Income Poverty – cannot afford to maintain regular payments such as bills, food, clothing	-	-
Low and/or no wealth – 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	-	-
Material Deprivation – being unable to access basic goods and services i.e. financial products like life insurance, repair/replace broken electrical goods, warm home, leisure/hobbies	-	-
Area Deprivation – where you live (rural areas), where you work (accessibility of transport)	-	-
Socio-economic Background – social class i.e. parent’s education, employment and income	-	-

4. Do you have evidence or reason to believe that the policy will support the Council to:

General Duty and other Equality Themes Consider the ‘Three Key Needs’ of the Equality Duty	Level of Negative and/or Positive Impact (High, Medium or Low)
Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation	Low
Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not	Low
Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not. (Does it tackle prejudice and promote a better understanding of equality issues?)	Low
Increase participation of particular communities or groups in public life	Low
Improve the health and wellbeing of particular communities or groups	Low
Promote the human rights of particular communities or groups	Low
Tackle deprivation faced by particular communities or groups	Low

5. Summary Assessment

Is a full Equality Impact Assessment required? (A full Equality Impact Assessment must be carried out if impacts identified as Medium and/or High)	YES NO
Rationale for decision: This report seeks approval to make alterations to the list of Panels and Working Groups. Their decision on this has no specific equality implications	
Signed : Catriona Caves	Head of Service
Date: 20 September 2023	

South Ayrshire Council

Report by Head of Legal and Regulatory Services to South Ayrshire Council of 12 October 2023

Subject: Standing Orders Relating to Meetings

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval to amend the Standing Orders Relating to Meetings following review.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 **It is recommended that the Council approves the revised Standing Orders Relating to Meetings (extracts contained in [Appendix 1](#)) with effect from 13 October 2023 .**

3. Background

- 3.1 It is a requirement of corporate governance that the Council's Standing Orders Relating to Meetings be kept under review. The last update was approved by Council on 29 June 2023 when the Monitoring Officer was asked to consider any amendments that could be made to the Standing Orders to improve the process followed for Formal Questions set out in Standing Order 26 and to revisit the provisions managing the call -in process set out in Standing Order 35.4 and to bring a report to this Council.
- 3.2 The Monitoring Officer met with Council Leaders on 18 September 2023 and they confirmed their support for these proposed changes.

4. Proposals

- 4.1 After consideration of the provisions in other Councils' Standing Orders and discussion with the Chief Executive, it is proposed that the Standing Orders Relating to Meetings be updated to reflect changes to provide clarification in relation to:
- 4.1.1 the persons to whom Formal Questions may be directed; and
- 4.1.2 voting by Audit and Governance members on a call-in where they sign a call-in request.
- 4.2 The proposed amendments are tracked and highlighted in **bold text** in the relevant extracts from the revised Scheme ([Appendix 1](#)).
- 4.3 Subject to approval, it is proposed that the revised Standing Orders Relating to Meetings are adopted with effect from 13 October 2023.

4.4 Subject to approval, the revised Standing Orders Relating to Meetings, will be published on The Core and the Council's website, and will also be notified to employees by way of the SAC Staff Community Hub.

5. Legal and Procurement Implications

5.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

5.2 There are no procurement implications arising from this report.

6. Financial Implications

6.1 Not applicable.

7. Human Resources Implications

7.1 Not applicable.

8. Risk

8.1 Risk Implications of Adopting the Recommendations

8.1.1. There are no risks associated with adopting the recommendations.

8.2 Risk Implications of Rejecting the Recommendations

8.2.1 The risk associated with rejecting the recommendations is that the Council's corporate governance will be less effective.

9. Equalities

9.1 The proposals in this report have been assessed through the Equalities Impact Assessment Scoping process, and there are no significant positive or negative equality impacts of agreeing the recommendations, therefore an Equalities Impact Assessment is not required. A copy of the Equalities Scoping Assessment is attached as [Appendix 2](#).

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 not been carried out in relation to the subject matter of this report.

12. Link to Council Plan

12.1 The matters referred to in this report contribute to enabling services through the delivery of sound decision making and governance.

13. Results of Consultation

13.1 There has been no public consultation on the contents of this report.

13.2 Consultation has taken place with Councillor Martin Dowey, Portfolio Holder for Corporate and Strategic, 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 Head of Legal and Regulatory Services will ensure that the following steps are taken within the following timescales, with progress reported to the Leadership Panel in the 'Council and Leadership Panel Decision Log' at each of its meetings until such time as the steps are completed:

<i>Steps to be taken</i>	<i>By what date</i>	<i>Managed by</i>
Updated Standing Orders Relating to Meetings to be published and notified to employees	20 October 2023	Head of Legal and Regulatory Services

Background Papers **Report to South Ayrshire Council of 26 June 2023 - [Standing Orders Relating to Meetings](#)**

Person to Contact **Catriona Caves, Head of Legal and Regulatory Services
County Buildings, Wellington Square, Ayr, KA7 1DR
Phone 01292 612556
E-mail catriona.caves@south-ayrshire.gov.uk**

Date: 2 October 2023

Relevant Extracts from Revised Standing Orders Relating to Meetings

Page 20, Para 26.1:

Questions may be directed to the Leader of the Council, any Cabinet Member, the Chair of any Committee, the Leaders of the Opposition or Council representatives on Outside Bodies ~~Portfolio Holder, Panel Chairs, the Chief Executive or Directors. Where addressed to a Portfolio Holder or Panel Chair,~~ any Such questions ~~shall~~ must relate to the functions of ~~that Portfolio or Panel,~~ respectively such office holder or member.

Page 29, Para 35.4:

Additional paragraph inserted and subsequent paragraphs renumbered:

- (7) No member of the Audit and Governance Panel who has signed a call-in request may take part in any voting which follows after members of the Panel have completed their deliberations on the call-in request.

South Ayrshire Council Equality Impact Assessment Scoping Template

Equality Impact Assessment is a legal requirement under the Public Sector Duty to promote equality of the Equality Act 2010. Separate guidance has been developed on Equality Impact Assessment's which will guide you through the process and is available to view here: <https://www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/equalities/impact-assessment.aspx>

Further guidance is available here: <https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/publication-download/assessing-impact-and-public-sector-equality-duty-guide-public-authorities/>

The Fairer Scotland Duty ('the Duty'), Part 1 of the Equality Act 2010, came into force in Scotland from 1 April 2018. It places a legal responsibility on Councils to actively consider ('pay due regard to') how we can reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage, when making strategic decisions. [FSD Guidance for Public Bodies](#) in respect of the Duty, was published by the Scottish Government in March 2018 and revised in October 2021. See information here: <https://www.gov.scot/publications/fairer-scotland-duty-guidance-public-bodies/>

1. Policy details

Policy Title	Standing Orders Relating to Meetings
Lead Officer (Name/Position/Email)	Catriona Caves, Head of Legal and Regulatory Services – catriona.caves@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

2. Which communities, groups of people, employees or thematic groups do you think will be, or potentially could be, impacted upon by the implementation of this policy? Please indicate whether these would be positive or negative impacts

Community or Groups of People	Negative Impacts	Positive impacts
Age – men and women, girls & boys	-	-
Disability	-	-
Gender Reassignment (Trans/Transgender Identity)	-	-
Marriage or Civil Partnership	-	-
Pregnancy and Maternity	-	-
Race – people from different racial groups, (BME) ethnic minorities and Gypsy/Travellers	-	-
Religion or Belief (including lack of belief)	-	-
Sex – (issues specific to women & men or girls & boys)	-	-
Sexual Orientation – person's sexual orientation i.e. LGBT+, lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, heterosexual/straight	-	-

Community or Groups of People	Negative Impacts	Positive impacts
Thematic Groups: Health, Human Rights & Children's Rights	-	-

3. What likely impact will this policy have on people experiencing different kinds of social disadvantage i.e. The Fairer Scotland Duty (This section to be completed for any Strategic Decisions). Consideration must be given particularly to children and families.

Socio-Economic Disadvantage	Negative Impacts	Positive impacts
Low Income/Income Poverty – cannot afford to maintain regular payments such as bills, food, clothing	-	-
Low and/or no wealth – 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	-	-
Material Deprivation – being unable to access basic goods and services i.e. financial products like life insurance, repair/replace broken electrical goods, warm home, leisure/hobbies	-	-
Area Deprivation – where you live (rural areas), where you work (accessibility of transport)	-	-
Socio-economic Background – social class i.e. parent's education, employment and income	-	-

4. Do you have evidence or reason to believe that the policy will support the Council to:

General Duty and other Equality Themes Consider the 'Three Key Needs' of the Equality Duty	Level of Negative and/or Positive Impact (High, Medium or Low)
Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation	Low
Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not	Low
Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not. (Does it tackle prejudice and promote a better understanding of equality issues?)	Low
Increase participation of particular communities or groups in public life	Low
Improve the health and wellbeing of particular communities or groups	Low
Promote the human rights of particular communities or groups	Low
Tackle deprivation faced by particular communities or groups	Low

5. Summary Assessment

Is a full Equality Impact Assessment required? (A full Equality Impact Assessment must be carried out if impacts identified as Medium and/or High)	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
--	--

Rationale for decision:

This report provides an update on amendments to the Standing Orders Relating to Meetings following further review, and asks Members to approve. Their decision on this has no specific equality implications

Signed : Catriona Caves

Head of Service

Date: 21 September 2023

South Ayrshire Council

**Report by Head of Legal and Regulatory Services
to South Ayrshire Council
of 12 October 2023**

Subject: SAC LLP (Nominees) Limited

1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval of a change of representation on SAC LLP (Nominees) Limited.

2. Recommendation

2.1 It is recommended that the Council:

2.1.1 approves the appointment of Councillor Martin Dowey and Mike Newall, Depute Chief Executive and Director of Housing, Operations and Development (and prospective Chief Executive), as Directors of SAC LLP (Nominees) Limited with immediate effect; and

2.1.2 notes that Eileen Howat, Chief Executive, will resign as a Director of SAC LLP (Nominees) Limited with effect from 31 October 2023.

3. Background

3.1 On 4 October 2018, the Council updated Elected Members on the need to amend the Ayr Renaissance LLP agreement to reflect that the Board was to be made up of Elected Members or Council Officers. Members also agreed that Ayr Renaissance LLP should be wound up providing that there was no detriment to the current or previous members of the Ayr Renaissance Board or the Council by this decision.

3.2 At its meeting on 27 November 2018, the Leadership Panel:

3.2.1 agreed proposed amendments to the LLP agreement;

3.2.2 noted advice provided in terms of the transfer of assets from Ayr Renaissance LLP to South Ayrshire Council;

3.2.3 requested officers to take the necessary action to transfer the assets in line with the professional advice provided; and

3.2.4 delegated authority to the (then) Head of Regulatory Services to progress the wind up of Ayr Renaissance LLP following the transfer of the assets.

- 3.3 At its meeting of 19 May 2022, South Ayrshire Council agreed the removal of Ayr Renaissance LLP and SAC LLP (Nominees) Limited from the List of Outside Bodies, on conclusion of all matters relating to Ayr Renaissance.
- 3.4 Following the resignation of Councillor Peter Henderson in June 2023, the current sole Director of SAC LLP (Nominees) Limited is Eileen Howat, Chief Executive, who retires from the Council's service on 31 October 2023. The winding up of Ayr Renaissance is not yet completed, and matters in relation to previous grant funding obtained from the Heritage Lottery Fund and potential claw-back require to be clarified. In the circumstances it is necessary to appoint new Directors to maintain the legal status of the company, until such time as the winding up of Ayr Renaissance LLP can be concluded.

4. Proposals

- 4.1 Members are asked to approve the appointment of Councillor Martin Dowey and Mike Newall, Depute Chief Executive and Director of Housing, Operations and Development (and prospective Chief Executive), as Directors of SAC LLP (Nominees) Limited with immediate effect; and note that Eileen Howat, Chief Executive, will resign as a Director of the company with effect from her retirement date, 31 October 2023.

5. Legal and Procurement Implications

- 5.1 Officers will take the appropriate legal steps to implement the decision of Elected Members.
- 5.2 There are no procurement implications arising from this report.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1 Not applicable.

7. Human Resources Implications

- 7.1 Not applicable.

8. Risk

8.1 Risk Implications of Adopting the Recommendations

- 8.1.1 There are no risks associated with adopting the recommendations.

8.2 Risk Implications of Rejecting the Recommendations

- 8.2.1 There are no risks associated with rejecting the recommendations.

9. Equalities

- 9.1 The proposals in this report have been assessed through the Equality Impact Assessment Scoping process. There are no significant potential positive or negative equality impacts of agreeing the recommendations and therefore an Equalities Impact Assessment is not required. A copy of the Equalities Scoping Assessment is attached as [Appendix 1](#).

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 not been carried out in relation to the subject matter of this report.

12. Link to Council Plan

- 12.1 The matters referred to in this report contribute to Priority 4 of the Council Plan: Efficient and effective enabling services.

13. Results of Consultation

- 13.1 There has been no public consultation on the contents of this report.
- 13.2 Consultation has taken place with Councillor Martin Dowey, Portfolio Holder for Corporate and Strategic, 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 Head of Legal and Regulatory Services 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:

Implementation	Due date	Managed by
Where approved, lodge appropriate form with Companies House to update company information	By 10 October 2023	Service Lead – Legal and Licensing

Background Papers **Report to South Ayrshire Council of 4 October 2018 – [Ayr Renaissance LLP](#)**

Report to Leadership Panel of 27 November 2018 – [Ayr Renaissance LLP](#)

[South Ayrshire Council – 19 May 2023 - Minutes](#) (page 8, item 13)

Person to Contact **Karen Briggs, Service Lead – Legal and Licensing
County Buildings, Wellington Square, Ayr, KA7 1DR
Phone 01292 612416
E-mail karen.briggs@south-ayrshire.gov.uk**

Date: 2 October 2023

**South Ayrshire Council
Equality Impact Assessment
Scoping Template**

Equality Impact Assessment is a legal requirement under the Public Sector Duty to promote equality of the Equality Act 2010. Separate guidance has been developed on Equality Impact Assessment's which will guide you through the process and is available to view here: <https://www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/equalities/impact-assessment.aspx>

Further guidance is available here: <https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/publication-download/assessing-impact-and-public-sector-equality-duty-guide-public-authorities/>

The Fairer Scotland Duty ('the Duty'), Part 1 of the Equality Act 2010, came into force in Scotland from 1 April 2018. It places a legal responsibility on Councils to actively consider ('pay due regard to') how we can reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage, when making strategic decisions. [FSD Guidance for Public Bodies](#) in respect of the Duty, was published by the Scottish Government in March 2018 and revised in October 2021. See information here: <https://www.gov.scot/publications/fairer-scotland-duty-guidance-public-bodies/>

1. Policy details

Policy Title	SAC LLP (Nominees) Limited
Lead Officer (Name/Position/Email)	Karen Briggs, Service Lead – Legal and Licensing – karen.briggs@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

2. Which communities, groups of people, employees or thematic groups do you think will be, or potentially could be, impacted upon by the implementation of this policy? Please indicate whether these would be positive or negative impacts

Community or Groups of People	Negative Impacts	Positive impacts
Age – men and women, girls & boys	-	-
Disability	-	-
Gender Reassignment (Trans/Transgender Identity)	-	-
Marriage or Civil Partnership	-	-
Pregnancy and Maternity	-	-
Race – people from different racial groups, (BME) ethnic minorities and Gypsy/Travellers	-	-
Religion or Belief (including lack of belief)	-	-
Sex – (issues specific to women & men or girls & boys)	-	-

Community or Groups of People	Negative Impacts	Positive impacts
Sexual Orientation – person’s sexual orientation i.e. LGBT+, lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, heterosexual/straight	-	-
Thematic Groups: Health, Human Rights & Children’s Rights	-	-

3. What likely impact will this policy have on people experiencing different kinds of social disadvantage i.e. The Fairer Scotland Duty (This section to be completed for any Strategic Decisions). Consideration must be given particularly to children and families.

Socio-Economic Disadvantage	Negative Impacts	Positive impacts
Low Income/Income Poverty – cannot afford to maintain regular payments such as bills, food, clothing	-	-
Low and/or no wealth – 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	-	-
Material Deprivation – being unable to access basic goods and services i.e. financial products like life insurance, repair/replace broken electrical goods, warm home, leisure/hobbies	-	-
Area Deprivation – where you live (rural areas), where you work (accessibility of transport)	-	-
Socio-economic Background – social class i.e. parent’s education, employment and income	-	-

4. Do you have evidence or reason to believe that the policy will support the Council to:

General Duty and other Equality Themes Consider the ‘Three Key Needs’ of the Equality Duty	Level of Negative and/or Positive Impact (High, Medium or Low)
Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation	Low
Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not	Low
Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not. (Does it tackle prejudice and promote a better understanding of equality issues?)	Low
Increase participation of particular communities or groups in public life	Low
Improve the health and wellbeing of particular communities or groups	Low
Promote the human rights of particular communities or groups	Low
Tackle deprivation faced by particular communities or groups	Low

5. Summary Assessment

Is a full Equality Impact Assessment required? (A full Equality Impact Assessment must be carried out if impacts identified as Medium and/or High)	YES NO
Rationale for decision: This report seeks approval of a change of representation on SAC LLP (Nominees) Limited. Members' decision on this has no specific equality implications	
Signed : Karen Briggs Service Lead Date: 14 September 2023	

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**

Person to Contact **Aileen Valenti, Quality Improvement Manager**
County Buildings, Wellington Square, Ayr, KA7 1DR
Phone 01292 612021
E-mail Aileen.Valenti@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

Date: **2 October 2023**

Contents

01	Introduction
02	Site Options
03	Option Appraisal
04	Conclusion

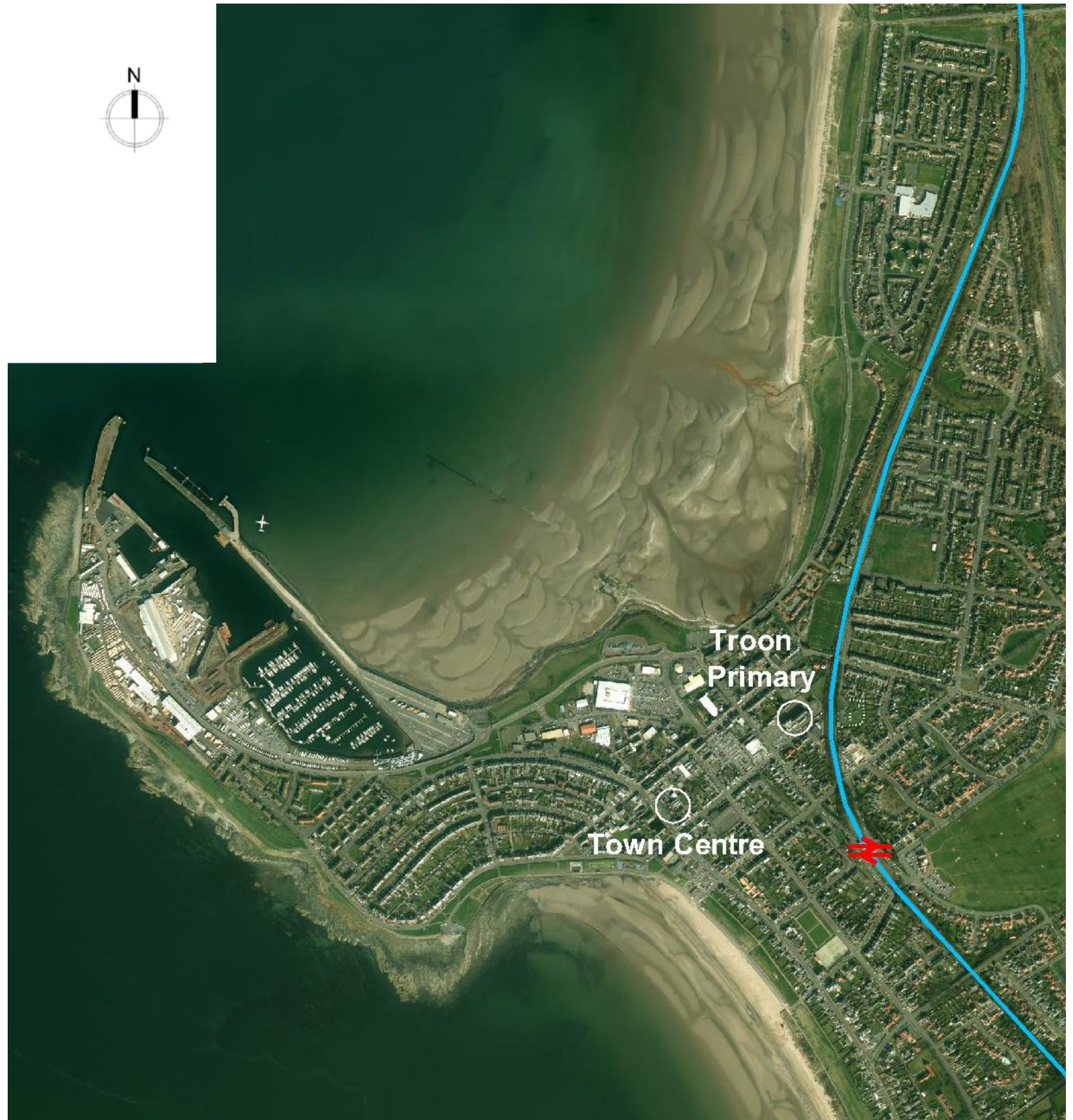
01 Introduction

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.



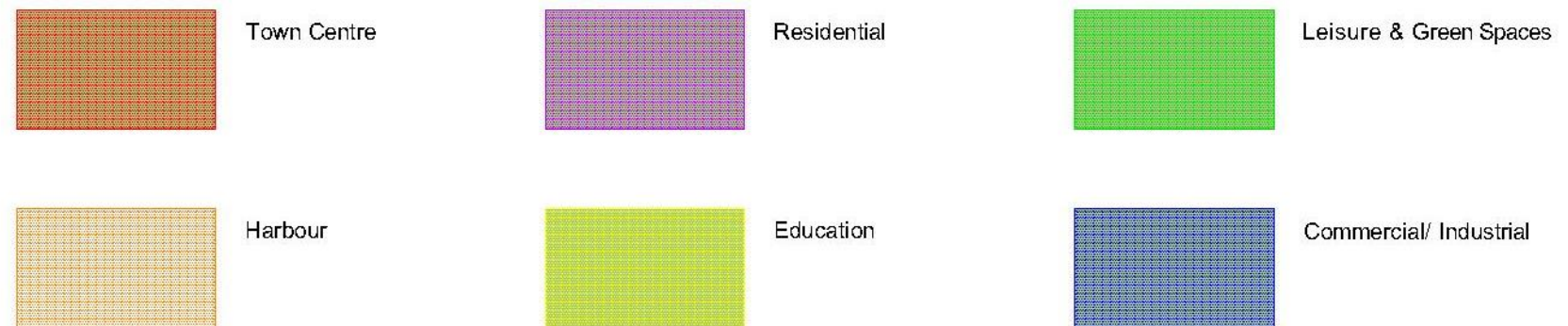
Surrounding Land Use

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

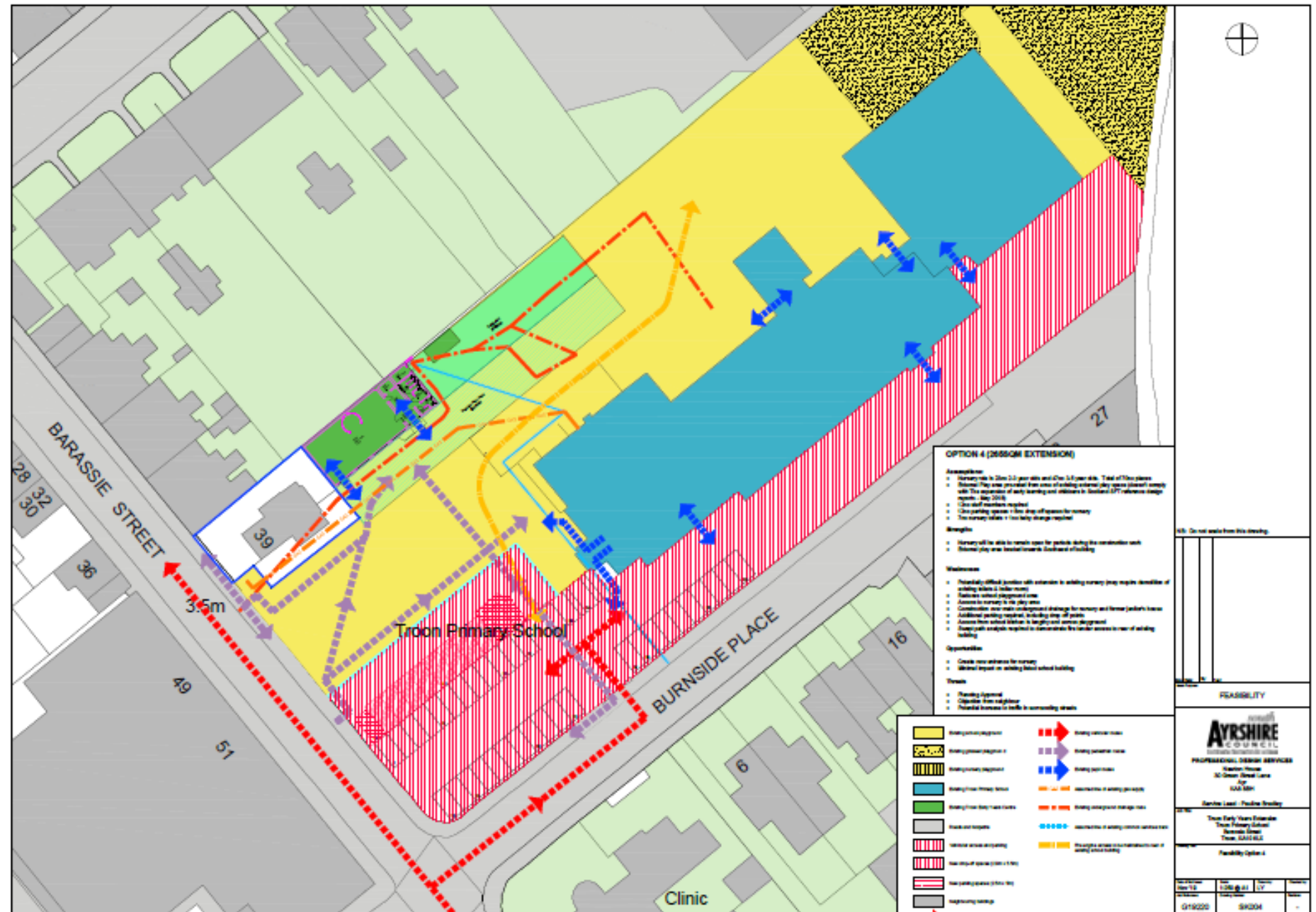
The logical location for any expanded early years provision in Troon is to extend the existing facility at Troon Primary School. A number of options were explored to extend the existing building and an overall review of the school site and its ability to provide an 80no space early years centre was carried. 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 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.

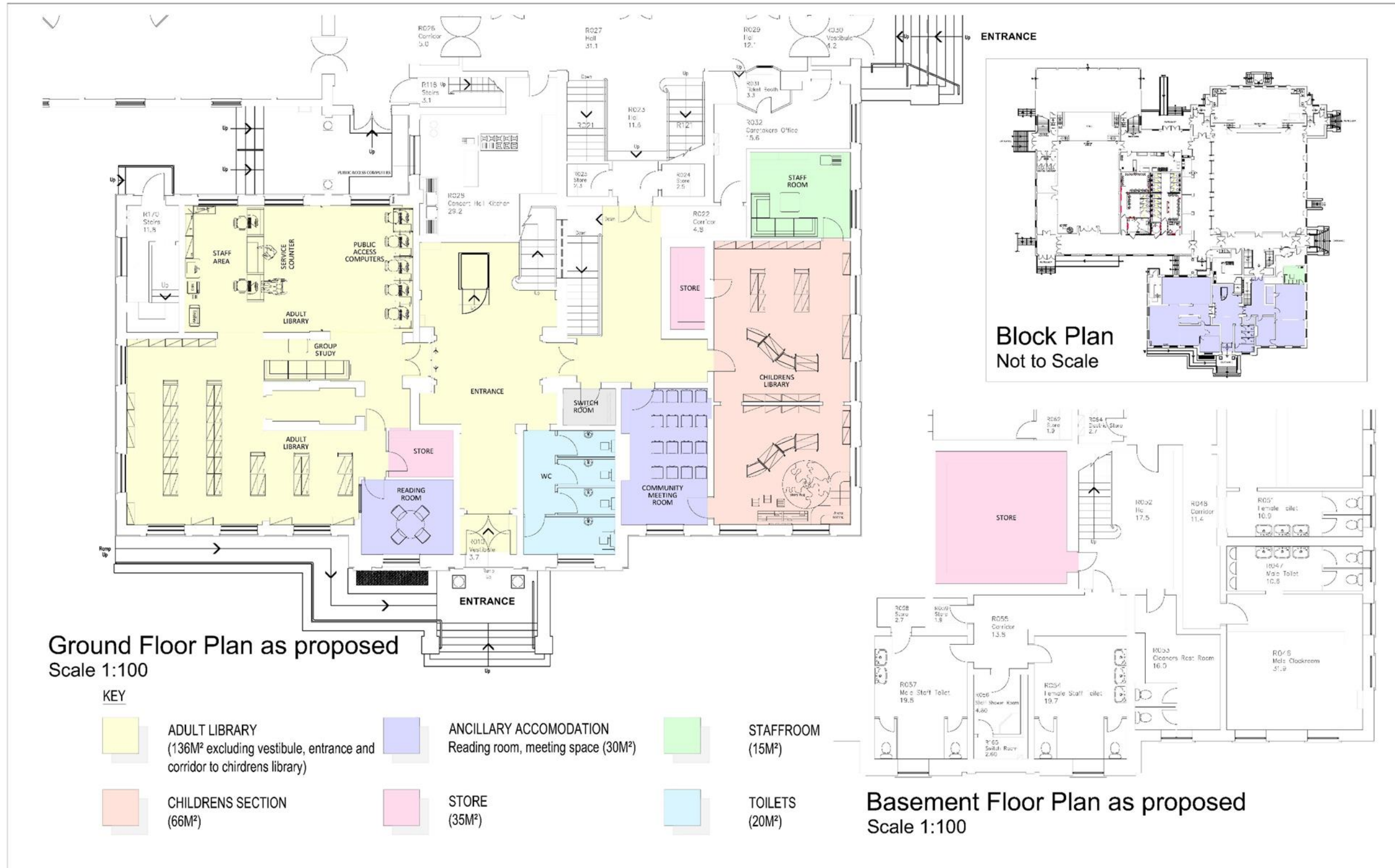
The Block plan on the right gives an overview of the proposed area of works, including: the Municipal Building, Ivy Cottage, public car park, ornamental gardens, memorial garden and the library with associated car park.

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



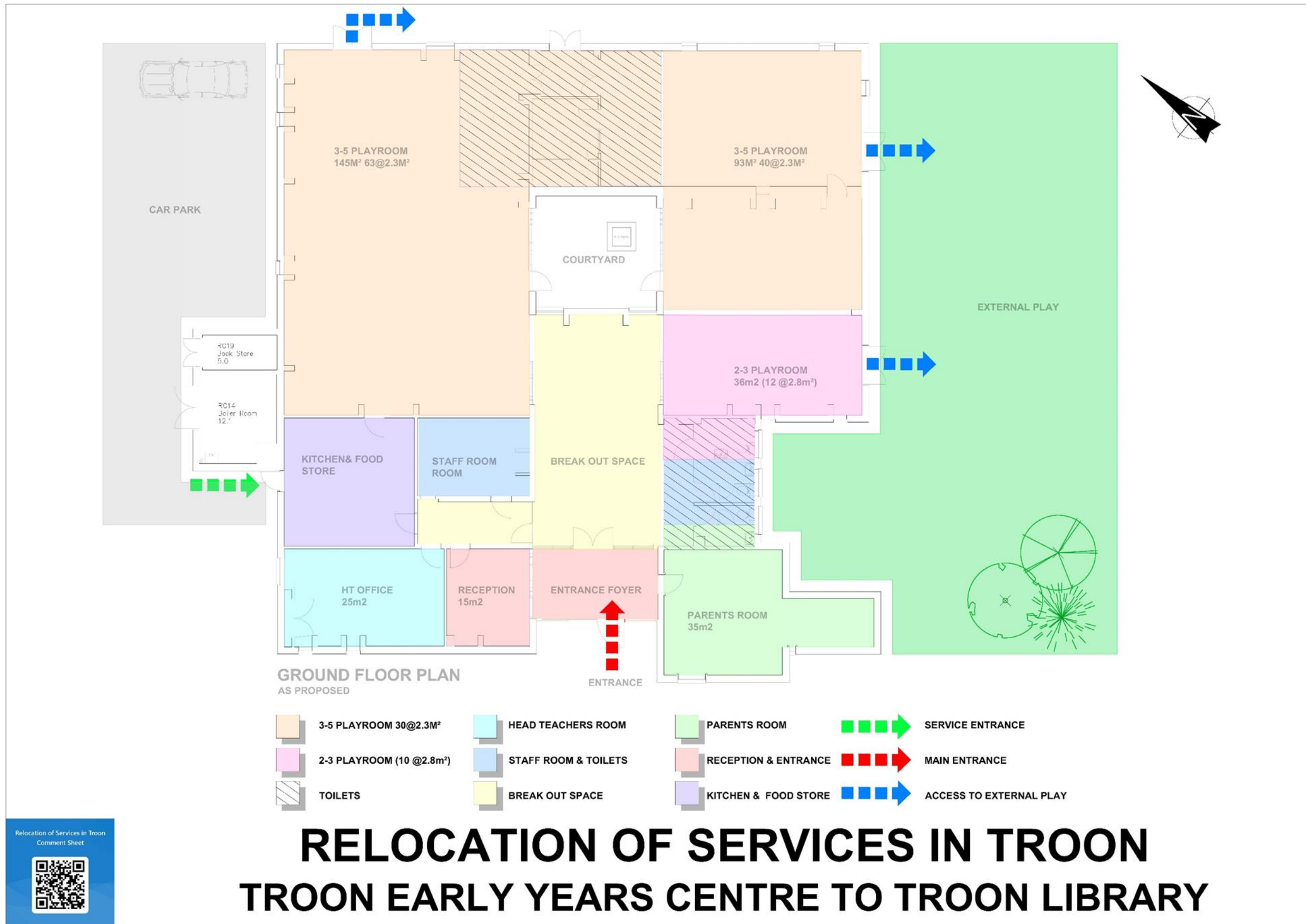
Fig 1. Library to Municipal buildings



RELOCATION OF SERVICES IN TROON 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.

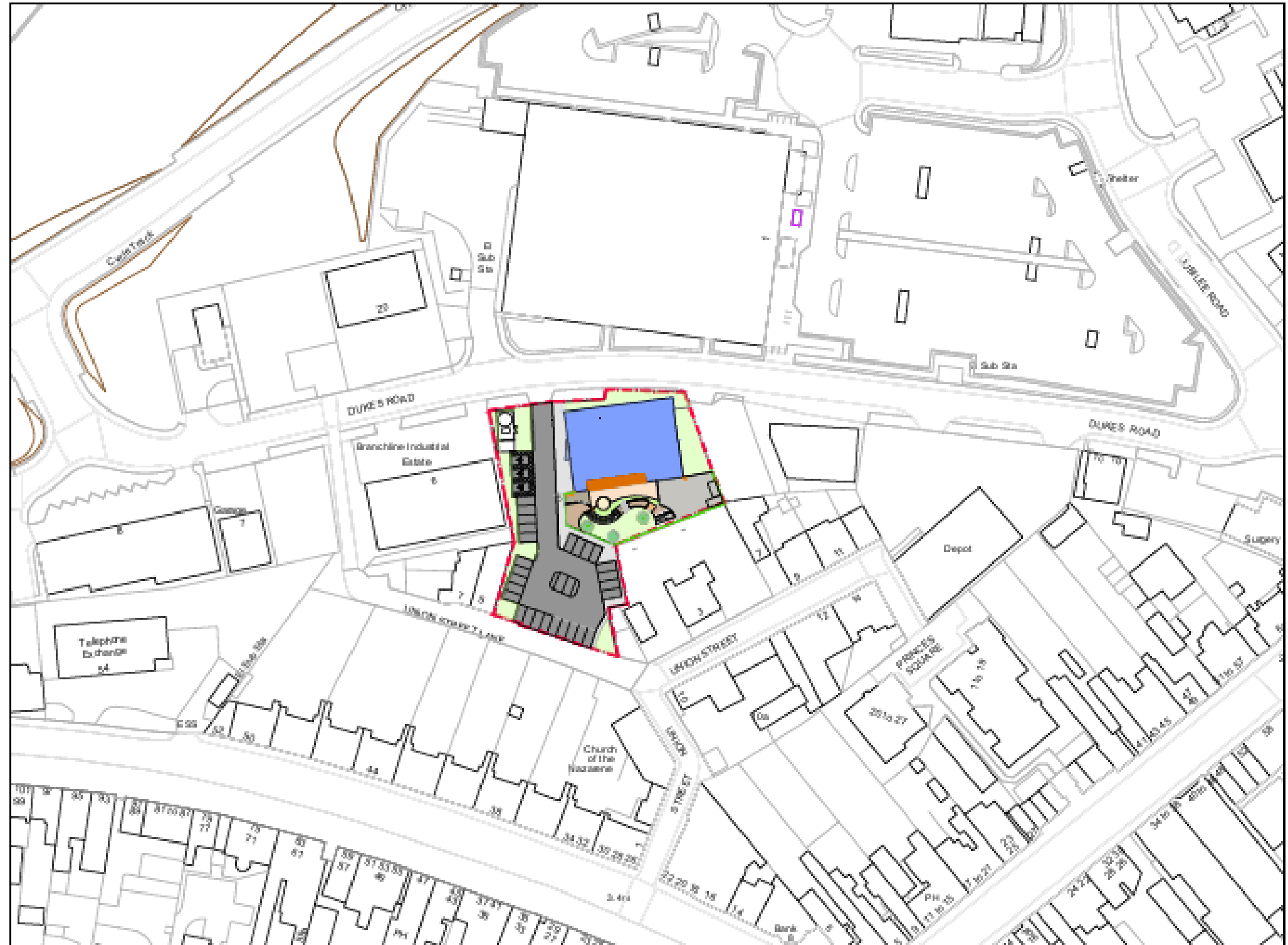
The existing site is in a light industrial area and comprises a workshop premises including office accommodation and adjacent site. The original proposal was to convert the existing building but this was deemed not practicable for the following reasons

- 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

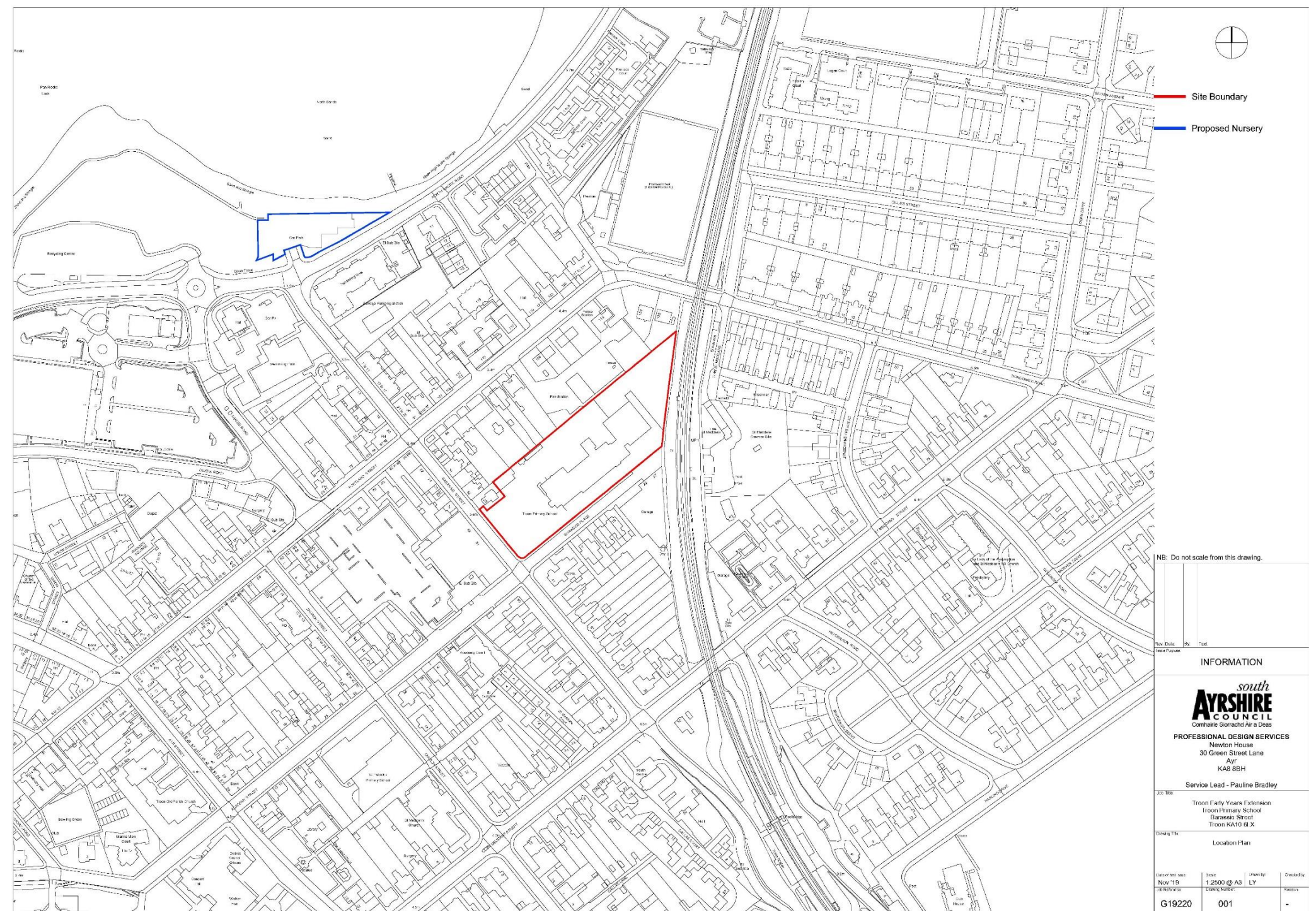
A possible site for the proposed EYC was identified on North Sands Foreshore, Troon. The proposed site is shown in blue on the location plan.

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



NB: Do not scale from this drawing.

Rev	Date	By	Tail
1	12/11/19	Pauline Bradley	Pauline Bradley

INFORMATION

South Ayrshire Council
Comhairle Ghraibhidh Air a Deas

PROFESSIONAL DESIGN SERVICES
Newton House
30 Green Street Lane
Ayr
KA8 8BH

Service Lead - Pauline Bradley

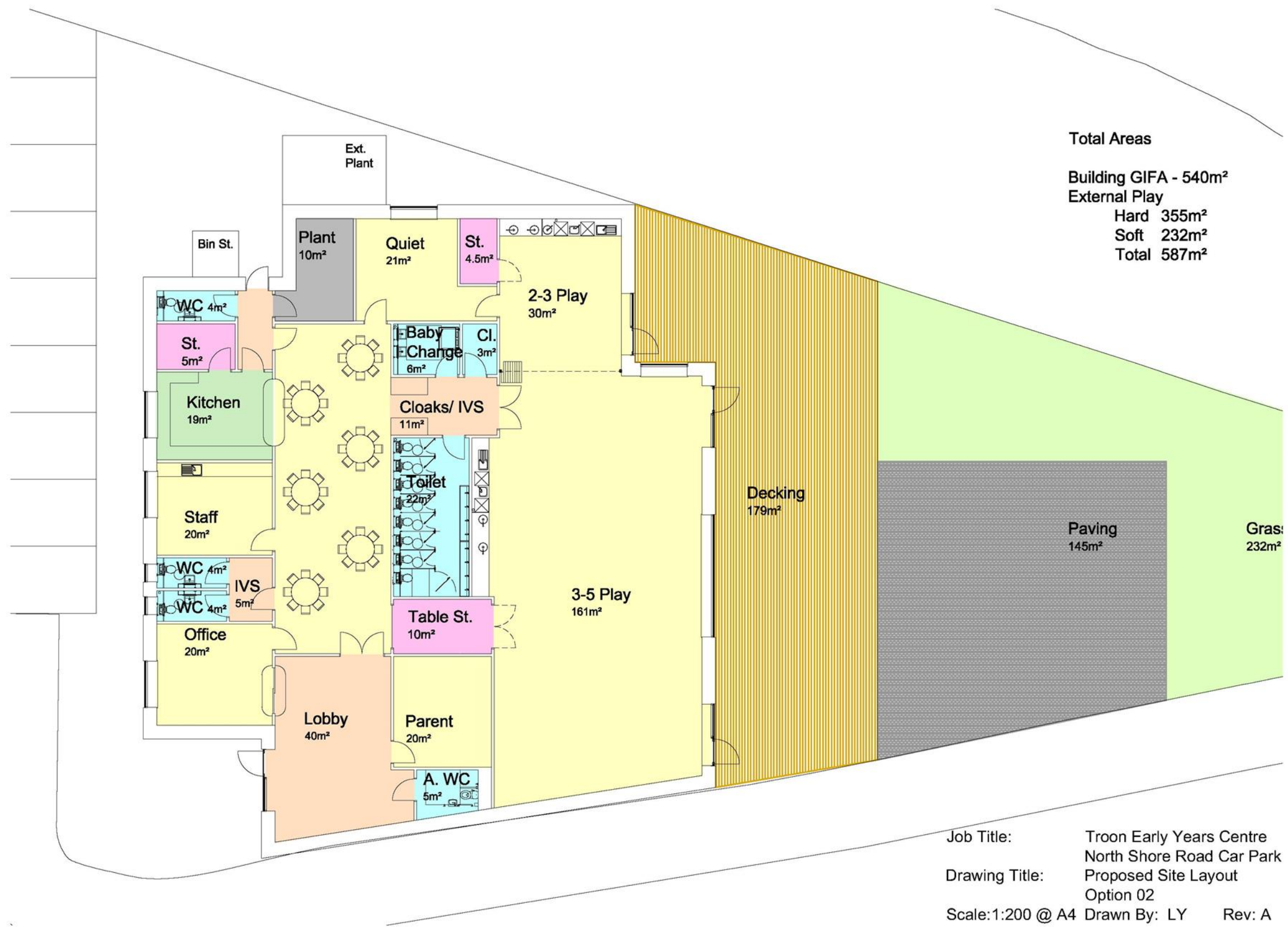
2019 196

Troon Early Years Extension
Troon Primary School
Dunsmuir Street
Troon KA10 9J X

Drawing Title: Location Plan

Drawn By	Scale	Checked By	Drawn Date
G19220	1:2500 @ A3	LY	Nov '19
001			

Fig 4. North Sands Foreshore



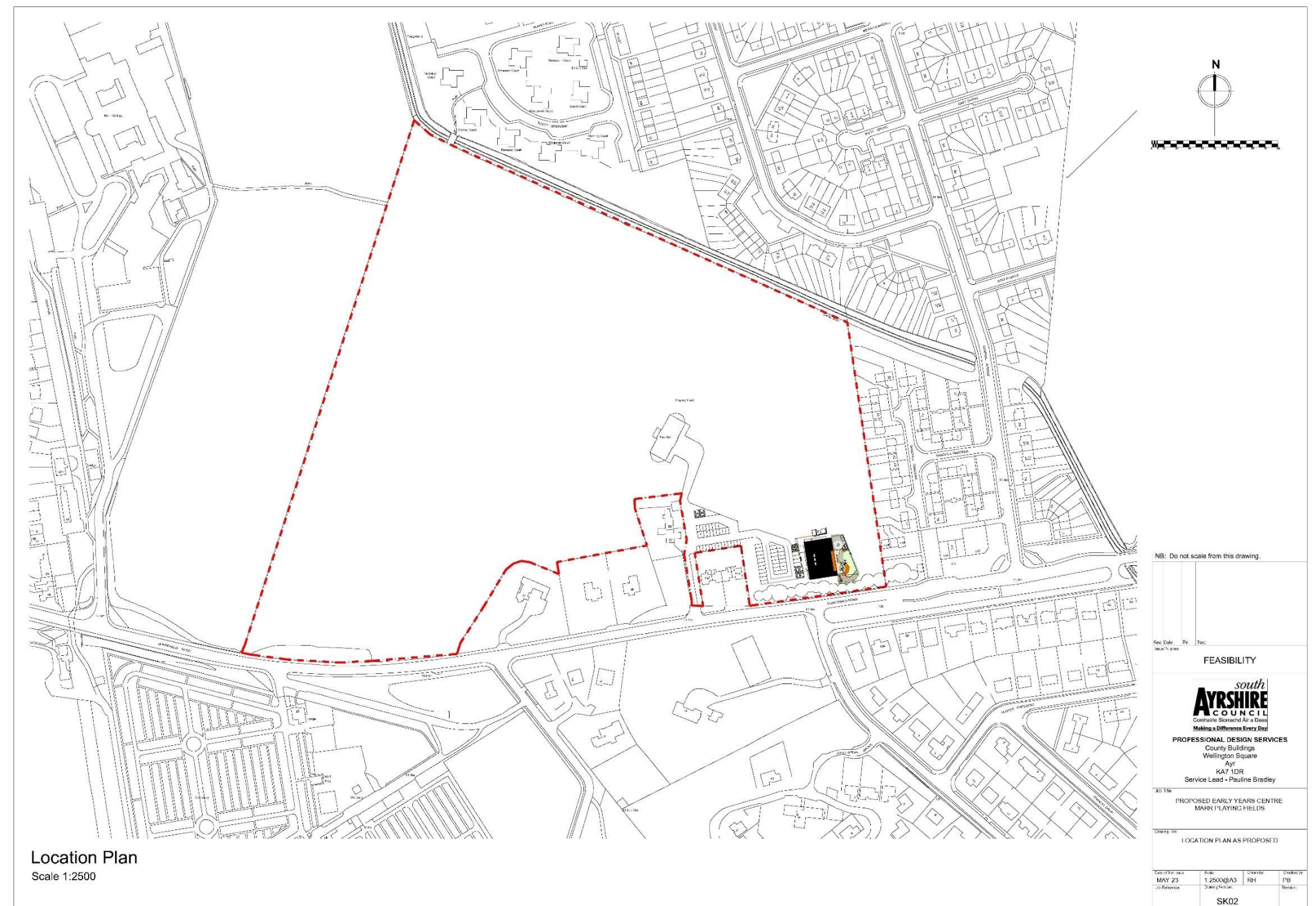
06 Marr Playing Fields

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



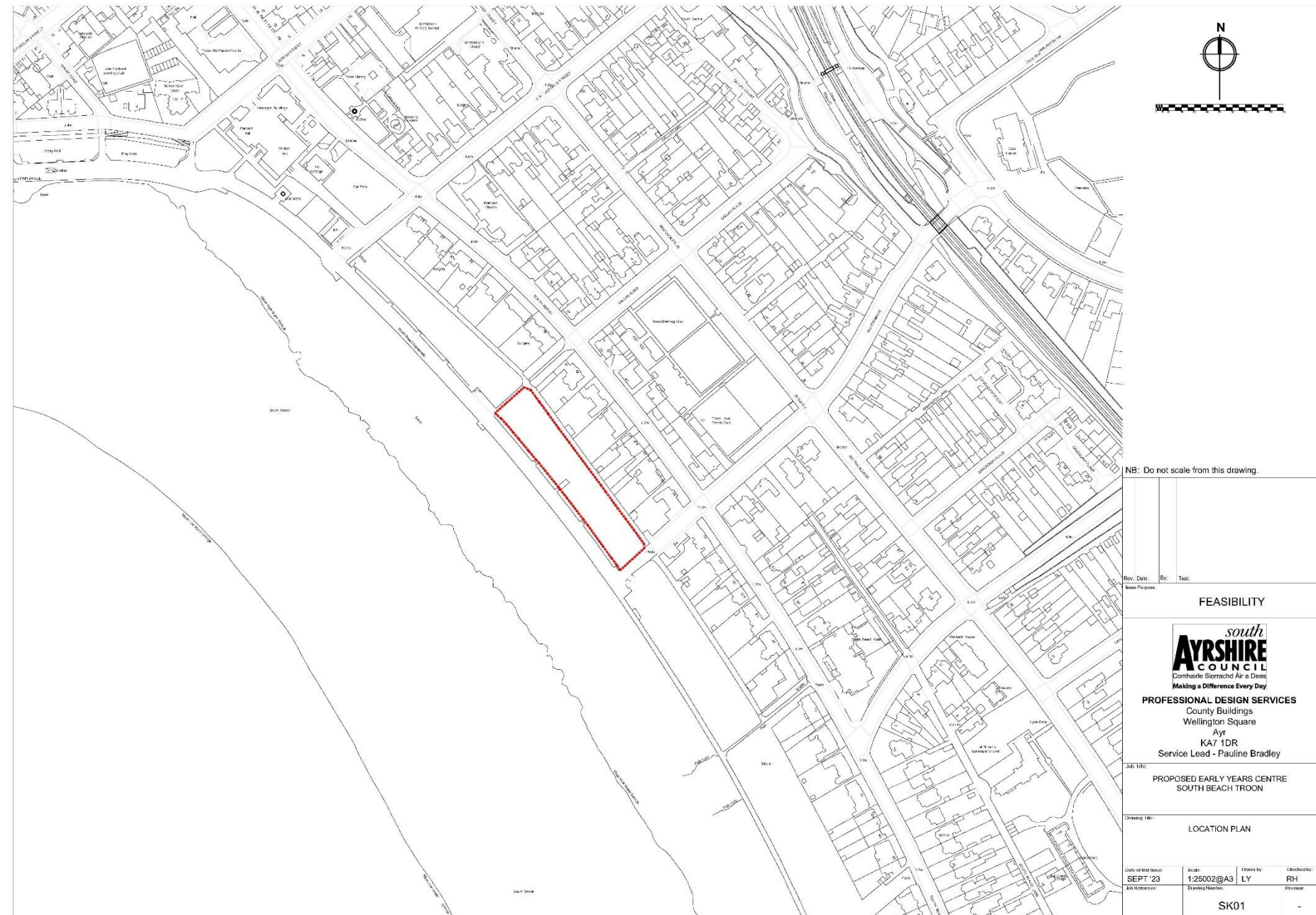
09 South Beach

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

<p>Q1: The Cabin is on Common Good so cannot be touched.</p> <p>A1: The Cabin is not Common Good.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Q3: The Early Learning Centre could be put into the Town Hall instead of the Library.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Q4: Disabled people will not be able to access the Library if it is moved to the Town Hall.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Q5: Moving the Library will stop groups or people from using it as a community hub.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Q6: The Marr Resource Centre needs to be saved.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Q7: This will cost the jobs of the four staff who work in the Marr Educational Resource Centre.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Q8: Moving the Library will lead to a reduction in services.</p>
--

- 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.

RELOCATION OF SERVICES TROON CONSULTATION RESPONSES

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,

RELOCATION OF SERVICES TROON CONSULTATION RESPONSES

			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.

RELOCATION OF SERVICES TROON CONSULTATION RESPONSES

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

RELOCATION OF SERVICES TROON CONSULTATION RESPONSES

			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

RELOCATION OF SERVICES TROON CONSULTATION RESPONSES

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

RELOCATION OF SERVICES TROON CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Paper	49	Library User	Library would lose its "special traditional" building familie 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

RELOCATION OF SERVICES TROON CONSULTATION RESPONSES

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

RELOCATION OF SERVICES TROON CONSULTATION RESPONSES

			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.

RELOCATION OF SERVICES TROON CONSULTATION RESPONSES

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

RELOCATION OF SERVICES TROON CONSULTATION RESPONSES

			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!!!

RELOCATION OF SERVICES TROON CONSULTATION RESPONSES

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.

RELOCATION OF SERVICES TROON CONSULTATION RESPONSES

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

RELOCATION OF SERVICES TROON CONSULTATION RESPONSES

			<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>

RELOCATION OF SERVICES TROON CONSULTATION RESPONSES

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>

RELOCATION OF SERVICES TROON CONSULTATION RESPONSES

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>

RELOCATION OF SERVICES TROON CONSULTATION RESPONSES

			<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>

RELOCATION OF SERVICES TROON CONSULTATION RESPONSES

			<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>
--	--	---

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".

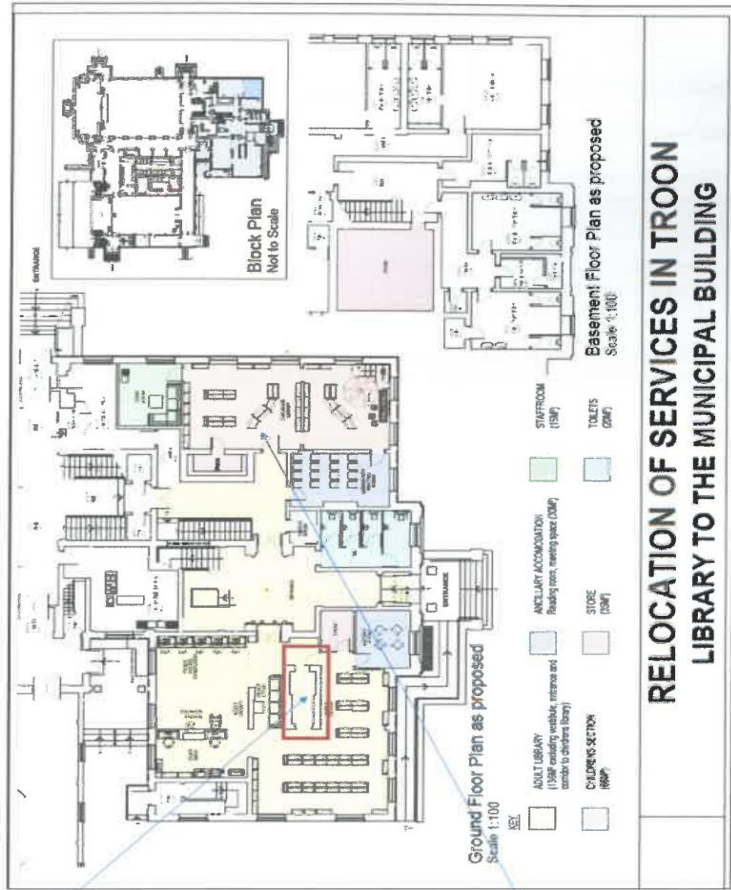
Can it be explained how the above will be accommodated and provided and managed within the proposed library space?

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

Proposed Library Plan



<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.
---	---

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.
---	--

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
--	-------------------

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.
--	--	--

		<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
--	--	---

		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>
-------------------------------	---	--