

**SCHOOLS (CONSULTATION) (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010 – SKIPNESS PRIMARY
SCHOOL**

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 In response to the current Coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic this report sets out proposals to extend the current six week statutory consultation exercise with regard to the proposal to close Skipness Primary School and to re-schedule the public meeting, currently set for 6th May 2020, when the Covid-19 situation subsides.
- 1.2 Members are asked to:-
- 1.2.1 Agree the extension of the current consultation period, due to end on 15th May 2020, to 31st August 2020;
 - 1.2.2 Agree that the public meeting scheduled for 6th May 2020 is cancelled and a new date established once the current UK/Scottish Government restrictions on public assemblies are reduced/lifted.

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2.0 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 Skipness Primary School has been mothballed since October 2016 and since that time has had no pupils enrolled.
- 2.2 On 5th September 2019 the Community Services Committee agreed that the Education Service would undertake the required preliminary consultation and an Options Appraisal for Skipness Primary School. A report providing details of the Options Appraisal, which was carried out in accordance with Section 12A of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, was tabled at the Community Services Committee held on 10th December 2019, where the Committee agreed to note the outcome of the preliminary requirements and requested that officers formulate a draft proposal.
- 2.3 At the Community Services Committee held on 12th March 2020, Members considered and agreed to adopt the draft proposal as a “relevant proposal” that would proceed to a statutory consultation under the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, as amended.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are asked to:-

- 3.1 Agree the extension of the current consultation period, due to end on 15th May 2020, to 31st August 2020;
- 3.2 Agree that the public meeting scheduled for 6th May 2020 is cancelled and a new date established once the current UK/Scottish Government restrictions on public assemblies are reduced/lifted.

3.0 DETAIL

- 4.1 Following agreement of the draft proposal at the Community Services Committee on 12th March 2020, Officers have commenced the statutory consultation exercise

under the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, with regard to the proposed closure of Skipness Primary School with effect from 28th October 2020.

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- 6.4 HR – none
- 6.5 Fairer Scotland Duty: none
 - 6.5.1 Equalities - protected characteristics - none
 - 6.5.2 Socio-economic Duty - none
 - 6.5.3 Islands - none
- 6.6 Risk - appropriate measures put in place to ensure the learning and teaching environment remains safe
- 6.7 Customer Service – proposals allow all relevant stakeholders to engage for an extended period of time

Douglas Hendry
Executive Director with responsibility for