

ANGUS COUNCIL

CHILDREN AND LEARNING COMMITTEE – 21 FEBRUARY 2017

PRIMARY SCHOOL CAPACITIES

REPORT BY MARGO WILLIAMSON, STRATEGIC DIRECTOR – CHILDREN AND LEARNING

ABSTRACT

This report provides details of the planning and working capacities, and the projected rolls of primary schools for 2017/18. It seeks approval to extend or remove the caps on the rolls of identified schools.

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Children and Learning Committee approve:

- (i) capping the role of Timmergreens and Whitehills Primary schools; and
- (ii) removing the roll cap on Inverbrothock, St. Thomas and Woodlands Primary schools.

2. ALIGNMENT TO THE ANGUS COMMUNITY PLAN/SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT/CORPORATE PLAN

This report contributes to the following local outcome(s) contained within the Angus Community Plan and Single Outcome Agreement 2013-2016:

Our children and young people are confident individuals, effective contributors, successful learners and responsible citizens

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Reference is made to Paragraph 5 of the minute of meeting of the Children and Learning Committee of 2 April 2016 where members approved the principles of establishing reserved places and capping school rolls. It also requested an annual report from the Head of Schools and Learning regarding the school capacities for the following school session. The August primary projections are not available until late February when the bulk of P1 registrations have been received in schools. In preparing this report, the long range forecasts prepared in November 2016 have been used, with updated information where available. This will allow Committee to consider the recommendations and facilitate school planning. This report looks only at those schools at or near the level of the cap. The capacities for all schools will be reviewed as part of the school investment strategy.

4. CURRENT POSITION

- 4.1 The Council encourages parents to enrol their children in their local school but otherwise to agree to all Placing Requests wherever possible. A small number of Angus schools are under considerable pressure for space due to high rolls.
- 4.2 Each primary school's capacity has been assessed on its design, core facilities and the effective delivery of the 21st century curriculum. The capacity profile for each primary school (found in appendix one) shows the planning and working capacity of each school. The planning capacity is the figure used to determine possible future developer contributions related to new house builds. The working capacity accounts for the most effective class configuration of each school for session 2017/18. The working capacity is the figure that is used to assess any placing requests.
- 4.3 When a school roll reaches 90% of the working capacity, an in-depth analysis of the roll and roll projection is undertaken. Approval will be sought from Committee to cap the roll when a

school reaches 95% working capacity (or when 5 or fewer places remain). The roll will be capped at the working capacity less the reserved places. Reserved places are retained for children who may move into the catchment area over the course of the year.

Number of Classes	Reserved Places
5 -7 classes	5
7 – 10 classes	10
11 -14 classes	14

4.4 In situations where the children living in zone exceeds the number of available places in a capped school, there may be a requirement to travel to a nearby school. On these occasions transportation will be provided.

5. PROPOSALS

5.1 Approval is sought to extend the caps on the rolls of the following schools: - Timmergreens and Whitehills Primary schools.

5.1.1 Roll Capping of Inverbrothock Primary School

Based on the Scottish Government guidance of 1.7m² per pupil, Inverbrothock would have a working capacity of 413. Based on this standard, many of the classrooms within Inverbrothock could not accommodate the maximum class size per age group. The guidance identifies 1.7m² as the preferred space standard but 1.5m² is within the acceptable range. Whilst it is our desire to have all schools operating at a minimum of 1.7m² per pupil, Inverbrothock has operated at 1.5m² for some time.

5.1.2 Inverbrothock is a two stream school and as such it is proposed to retain 14 places as reserved spaces within the school. Based on a working capacity of 413, this would result in a cap of 399 at Inverbrothock. It was agreed to cap the roll at Inverbrothock to reduce the roll in line with the working capacity and the recommended standard of 1.7m² over time to ensure equity of space for the children at Inverbrothock. The projected school roll for session 2017/18 is 365 which is below the level of cap based on 1.5m² per pupil in some classes. It is proposed to remove the cap at Inverbrothock.

Projected school roll for 2017/18		365
Working Capacity	414	
Less Reserved Spaces	(14)	
Target working capacity	399	
Percentage Occupancy (Working)		88.2%

5.1.3 Roll Capping of St. Thomas Primary School

St Thomas Primary School has a maximum working capacity of 125 for session 2017/18. It is proposed to retain 7 places as reserved spaces in the school. This caps the school to accept placing requests up to 118 places. The projected roll for 2017/18 is 116 and it is therefore proposed to remove the cap on St. Thomas.

Projected school roll for 2017/18		116
Working Capacity	125	
Less Reserved Spaces	(7)	
Target working capacity	118	
Percentage Occupancy (Working)		92.8%

5.1.4 Roll Capping of Timmergreens Primary School

Timmergreens Primary School has a maximum working capacity of 254 for session 2017/18. This is based on using a general purpose room as a classroom. If all the designated classrooms were used only the working capacity would be 217. It is our intention to manage the roll down so that the school can benefit from using all general purpose rooms for their original purpose. It is proposed to retain 7 places as reserved spaces in the school for children moving into the school zone, therefore capping the roll at 210.

- 5.1.5 The projected school roll for session 2017/18 is 217 pupils, which is above the cap. Given our intention to bring the school roll down to 210 pupils, these and any category 3 placing requests (pupils from out with the catchment area with no siblings in the school) will be refused.

Projected School Roll for 2017/18		217
School Capacity if only classrooms used	217	
Number of retained places required	7	
Target working capacity	210	
Percentage Occupancy (Working)		100%

5.1.6 Roll Capping of Woodlands Primary School

Woodlands has a working capacity of 233. As a 5 to 7 class school 7 places would be retained for reserved places.

- 5.1.7 We have been looking to bring the roll down to a maximum of 226 places. This is in line with our policy of retaining 7 places for new children moving into catchment in a school with 5 to 7 classes.

- 5.1.8 The projected roll at Woodlands is below the level of the cap. It is therefore proposed to remove the cap at Woodlands Primary school.

Projected School Roll for 2017/18		215
Working Capacity	233	
Number of retained places required	7	
Target working capacity	226	
Percentage Occupancy (Working)		92.27%

5.1.9 Roll Capping of Whitehills Primary School

- 5.1.10 The projected roll at Whitehills for session 2017/18 is 429. As a two stream school 14 places would be reserved for pupils moving within the catchment area. The working capacity is 449 which does not take account of the Gaelic Medium Unit (GMU). As actual rolls are not currently available, an estimate has been made of the impact of the GMU, which reduces the working capacity by approximately 8.

Projected school roll for 2017/18		429
Working Capacity	441	
Less Reserved Spaces	(14)	
Target Working Capacity	427	
Percentage Occupancy (Working)		97.3%

It is proposed to cap the roll at Whitehills primary at 427 places.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 It is not anticipated that there will be any additional costs from this report. Any which do arise are likely to be related to transport. These costs will be contained within existing resources.

NOTE: The background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) which were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report are:

- Paragraph 5 of the minute of meeting of the Children and Learning Committee of 2 April 2016

REPORT AUTHOR: Les Hutchinson, Head of Quality and Performance

EMAIL DETAILS: childrenandlearning@angus.gov.uk

List of Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Capacity Profile

North Arbroath

Primary School	Planning Capacity	Working Capacity	Projected Roll 2017/18 as at November 2016	Roll as % of Planning Capacity	Roll as % of Working Capacity
Friockheim	210	183	135	64.29%	73.77%
Hayshead	501	501	447	89.22%	89.22%
Inverkeillor	100	100	66	66.00%	66.00%
St Thomas	125	125	116	92.80%	92.80%
Warddykes	317	317	296	93.38%	93.38%
Total	1,253	1,226	1,060	84.60%	86.46%

West Arbroath

Primary School	Planning Capacity	Working Capacity	Projected Roll 2017/18 as at November 2016	Roll as % of Planning Capacity	Roll as % of Working Capacity
Arbirlot	50	50	22	44.00%	44.00%
Carmyllie	98	99	14	14.29%	14.14%
Colliston	75	75	52	69.33%	69.33%
Inverbrothock	414	414	365	88.20%	88.20%
Ladyloan	434	421	252	58.06%	59.86%
Muirfield	434	434	202	46.54%	46.54%
Timmergreens	217	217	217	100.00%	100.00%
Total	1,722	1,710	1,124	65.27%	65.73%

Brechtin

Primary School	Planning Capacity	Working Capacity	Projected Roll 2017/18 as at November 2016	Roll as % of Planning Capacity	Roll as % of Working Capacity
Andover	393	380	274	69.72%	72.11%
Edzell	100	100	79	79.00%	79.00%
Lethnot	25	25	0	0.00%	0.00%
Maisondieu	459	459	376	81.92%	81.92%
Stracathro	25	25	17	68.00%	68.00%
Tarfside	25	25	4	16.00%	16.00%
Total	1,027	1,014	750	73.03%	73.96%

Carnoustie

Primary School	Planning Capacity	Working Capacity	Projected Roll 2017/18 as at November 2016	Roll as % of Planning Capacity	Roll as % of Working Capacity
Burnside	485	485	414	85.36%	85.36%
Carlogie	434	434	328	75.58%	75.58%
Monikie	100	108	76	76.00%	70.37%
Newbigging	50	50	20	40.00%	40.00%
Woodlands	217	233	215	99.08%	92.27%
Total	1,286	1,310	1,053	81.88%	80.38%

Forfar

Primary School	Planning Capacity	Working Capacity	Projected Roll 2017/18 as at November 2016	Roll as % of Planning Capacity	Roll as % of Working Capacity
Aberlemno	50	50	14	28.00%	28.00%
Inverarity	75	75	26	34.67%	34.67%
Langlands	456	456	415	91.01%	91.01%
Letham	208	208	145	69.71%	69.71%
Strathmartine	50	50	29	58.00%	58.00%
Strathmore	434	426	336	77.42%	78.87%
Tealing	75	82	45	60.00%	54.88%
Whitehills	449	441	429	95.55%	97.28%
Total	1,797	1,788	1,439	80.08%	80.48%

Kirriemuir

Primary School	Planning Capacity	Working Capacity	Projected Roll 2017/18 as at November 2016	Roll as % of Planning Capacity	Roll as % of Working Capacity
Airlie	75	75	29	38.67%	38.67%
Cortachy	46	46	30	65.22%	65.22%
Eassie	50	50	15	30.00%	30.00%
Glamis	75	75	60	80.00%	80.00%
Isla	75	75	33	44.00%	44.00%
Newtyle	100	100	55	55.00%	55.00%
Northmuir	418	414	346	82.78%	83.57%
Southmuir	368	310	204	55.43%	65.81%
Tannadice	267	267	58	21.72%	21.72%
Total	1,474	1,412	830	56.31%	58.78%

Monifieth

Primary School	Planning Capacity	Working Capacity	Projected Roll 2017/18 as at November 2016	Roll as % of Planning Capacity	Roll as % of Working Capacity
Auchterhouse	67	67	33	49.25%	49.25%
Birkhill	321	300	230	71.65%	76.67%
Grange	459	459	352	76.69%	76.69%
Liff	125	132	99	79.20%	75.00%
Mattocks	75	75	64	85.33%	85.33%
Murroes	116	116	98	84.48%	84.48%
Seaview	434	421	319	73.50%	75.77%
Total	1,597	1,570	1,195	74.83%	76.11%

Montrose

Primary School	Planning Capacity	Working Capacity	Projected Roll 2017/18 as at November 2016	Roll as % of Planning Capacity	Roll as % of Working Capacity
Borrowfield	306	297	248	81.05%	83.50%
Ferryden	217	188	117	53.92%	62.23%
Lochside	441	441	395	89.57%	89.57%
Rosemount	226	226	197	87.17%	87.17%
Southesk	262	255	199	75.95%	78.04%
St Margaret's	50	50	38	76.00%	76.00%
Total	1,502	1,457	1,194	79.49%	81.95%

