



Proposal Document

Proposal:

To adjust the school zone boundaries for Fernielea School, Kingswells School, Hazlehead Academy and the new Countesswells secondary school, to accommodate the new housing development at Maidencraig, with effect from 1st August 2017.

The schools affected by this proposal are:

**Fernielea School
Kingswells School
Bucksburn Academy
Hazlehead Academy**

Statutory Consultation Period

Monday 22nd August 2016 to Friday 7th October 2016 (inclusive)

All submissions expressing views on the proposals detailed in this document should be made in writing or by email by 5.00pm on Friday 7th October 2016.

It is intended to respond to issues raised from correspondence within a report presented to the Education and Children's Service Committee on 26th January 2017.

Contents

List of Consultees

1. Background
2. The Proposals
3. The Affected Schools
4. Educational Benefits
5. Options for Consultation
6. Additional Information
7. Public Meeting
8. Submission of Views
9. Outcome of Consultation
10. Appendices

LIST OF CONSULTEES

Notice of the issuing of this Proposal Document will be provided to:

- The Parent Councils of the affected schools
- The parents of the pupils and children at the affected schools
- The parents of children expected to attend an affected school within 2 years of the date of publication of this Proposal Document
- The pupils at the affected schools
- The teaching and support staff at the affected schools
- The trade unions representatives of the above staff
- The Community Councils for the areas affected
- The constituency MSP
- Regional MSPs for the area
- The Constituency MP
- Community Planning Partnership Board
- The Director of Corporate Governance, Aberdeen City Council
- The Director of Communities, Housing and Infrastructure, Aberdeen City Council

A copy of this document is available from:

- Aberdeen City Council, Marischal College, Broad Street, Aberdeen, AB10 1AB
- Public libraries in the vicinity of the schools affected
- Council buildings in the vicinity of the schools affected
- The schools affected by the proposal

The Proposal Document is also available on the Aberdeen City Council website:

<http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/Maidencraig2016>

This document is available in alternative formats or in translated form for readers whose first language is not English. Please apply to Education and Children's Services, Marischal College, Broad Street, Aberdeen, AB10 1AB, by telephone on 01224 522273; or by e-mail:

schoolestate@aberdeencity.gov.uk

STATUTORY CONSULTATION

1. BACKGROUND

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL'S VISION FOR EDUCATION

- 1.1 Aberdeen City Council has a Vision which conveys a picture of the aspirations and expectations of our service users, stakeholders and the wider community and makes clear linkage to the Corporate Vision and six key strategic priorities:

Our Corporate Vision is:

for Aberdeen to be an ambitious, achieving, smart city with the following strategic priorities:



- 1.2 Our vision for Education is:

Improving learning opportunities to deliver better outcomes.

- 1.3 The Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2012 identified an area of land at Maidencraig, in the West of Aberdeen, as a site suitable for the development of housing, with space for up to 750 new homes. In order to identify the most appropriate primary and secondary school provision for these new homes, some minor adjustments to the existing primary and secondary school zone boundaries are required.
- 1.4 This Proposal Document therefore seeks comment on the proposal to adjust the school zone boundaries for Fernielea School, Kingswells School, Hazlehead Academy and Bucksburn Academy, in order to accommodate the proposed new housing development.

2. THE PROPOSAL

- 2.1 As illustrated by the maps in Appendices 1 and 2 of this document, the proposed Maidencraig development is made up of two areas of land, identified as Maidencraig south east, and Maidencraig north east. The two areas are separated by the A944 Lang Stracht.
- 2.2 The maps in Appendices 1 and 2 also show the existing school zone boundaries in this area of the City. They show that Maidencraig north east falls entirely within the Kingsford School

and Hazlehead Academy school zones, and there is sufficient capacity at both of these schools to accommodate children expected to be living within this section of the new development. As a result, no changes are proposed for the school zone arrangements for this area of the development.

- 2.3 The majority of the Maidenraig south east site falls within the Fernielea School and Hazlehead Academy school zones; however, a small part of this development, to the west of the site, falls within the Kingswells School and Countesswells¹ secondary school zones.
- 2.4 If the school zone boundaries in this area were to be left unchanged, this would mean that children living in this western section of the site would be required to cross the A944 Langstracht, in order to walk to school. It would also mean that this housing development would be split between two different primary schools and two different secondary schools. Where possible, school zone boundaries are planned to avoid requiring children to cross busy roads, to help ensure there are safe walking routes to school. In addition, it is preferable for school zones to align with the layout of housing developments, to ensure individual areas of housing are zoned to the same schools, and to help develop a sense of community within those areas.
- 2.5 Minor changes to the boundary line between the Fernielea School zone and the Kingswells, School zone, and to the boundary line between the Hazlehead Academy school zone and the Countesswells secondary school zone are therefore proposed, in order to ensure that all children living within Maidenraig south east are entitled to attend the same school, and that they all have access to safe walking routes to school. This would mean that the whole of Maidenraig south east would be zoned to Fernielea School and Hazlehead Academy.
- 2.6 The maps at appendices 3 and 4 of this document show how the school zones would change, should the above proposals be accepted.
- 2.7 The effects of the proposed changes on the schools concerned are described below.

3. THE AFFECTED SCHOOLS

Fernelea School

- 3.1 Table 1 (below) details the current and forecasted rolls for Fernielea School for the next seven years. The forecasts include the anticipated number of pupils likely to be living in the Maidenraig south east development in future, along with the anticipated increases in pupil numbers from other planned housing developments in the area.

¹ The Countesswells secondary school zone is a newly created zone which took effect from 1st August 2016, to serve the planned new Countesswells housing development. Prior to a new secondary school being built at Countesswells, children living within the northern part of the Countesswells secondary school zone will be entitled to a place at Bucksburn Academy.

Table 1: Fernielea School Current and Forecast Pupil Numbers²

	Current	Forecast Pupil Numbers						
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Fernielea School	263	270	272	286	306	323	332	347

- 3.2 The current stated capacity of Fernielea School for planning purposes is 300 pupils. However, due to the planned new housing developments in the area, work is currently under way to create additional classroom space within the school, which will increase the planning capacity of the school to 399 pupils by the end of 2016. This would ensure that there is sufficient capacity to accommodate the numbers of pupils expected to be attending the school over the next seven years.
- 3.3 Given that the proposed changes to the school zone boundaries for Fernielea School are relatively minor, and also considering that the effect on pupil numbers at the school as a result of the Maidenraig south east development have already been accounted for in the pupil roll forecasts above, it is not expected that there will be any detrimental impact on the pupil capacity of the school, if the proposals were to be accepted.

Kingswells School

- 3.4 Given that the proposed changes to the school zone boundaries for Kingswells School are relatively minor, in that there would not be any significant number of houses added to or removed from the school zone, it is not anticipated that there will be any material effect on the pupil roll forecasts for Kingswells School, if the proposals were to be accepted.

Hazlehead Academy

- 3.5 Table 3 (below) details the current and forecasted rolls for Hazlehead Academy for the next seven years. The forecasts include the anticipated number of pupils likely to be living in the Maidenraig south east development in future, along with the anticipated increases in pupil numbers from other planned housing developments in the area.

² Current school rolls are based on the most recent available data, from projections calculated in 2015. Projected pupil rolls take account of birth rates, new housing developments and placing requests to and from a school. This data is a best estimate based on the available information at the time of calculation. Due to rounding, numbers may not add up precisely to the totals provided.

Table 3: Hazlehead Academy Current and Forecast Pupil Numbers³

	Current	Forecast Pupil Numbers						
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Hazlehead Academy	788	802	839	854	902	967	1027	1082

- 3.6 The current stated capacity of Hazlehead Academy for planning purposes is 1008 pupils. Table 3 shows that, taking into account the Maiden Craig south east development and other planned housing developments in the area, the school is predicted to remain within capacity until at least 2022. Appropriate measures would be put in place at that time to ensure any additional pupils can be accommodated at the school.
- 3.7 Given that the proposed changes to the school zone boundaries for Hazlehead Academy are relatively minor, and also considering that the effect on pupil numbers at the school as a result of the Maiden Craig south east development have already been accounted for in the pupil roll forecasts above, it is not expected that there will be any detrimental impact on the pupil capacity of the school, if the proposals were to be accepted.

Bucksburn Academy

- 3.8 The proposals outlined in this paper include recommended changes to the school zone boundaries for the Countesswells secondary school zone. This is a newly created zone which took effect from 1st August 2016, to serve the planned new Countesswells housing development. Whilst a new secondary school is planned for the Countesswells development, this has not yet been built, so until the new school opens, children living within the northern part of the Countesswells secondary school zone will be entitled to a place at Bucksburn Academy.
- 3.9 The effects of the proposed school zone changes on Bucksburn Academy have therefore been considered, and given that the proposed changes to the school zone boundaries for this area are relatively minor, in that there would not be any significant number of houses added to or removed from the school zone, it is not anticipated that there will be any material effect on the pupil roll forecasts for Bucksburn Academy, if the proposals were to be accepted.

4. EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS

- 4.1 The proposals described in this document will have the following benefits:

- Children living within the Maiden Craig south east development will be entitled to a place at their nearest primary school, reducing the time needed for them to travel to school;
- The schools affected by the proposals will have sustainable and viable pupil rolls which help with the delivery of the full breadth of Curriculum for Excellence;

³ Current school rolls are based on the most recent available data, from projections calculated in 2015. Projected pupil rolls take account of birth rates, new housing developments and placing requests to and from a school. This data is a best estimate based on the available information at the time of calculation. Due to rounding, numbers may not add up precisely to the totals provided.

- A sustainable roll ensures that effective teacher staffing levels are maintained and led by a range of promoted teaching staff. Effective year group numbers will be maintained and children will be able to learn within a variety of peer group opportunities, both formally and informally;
- If implemented, this proposal will assist Aberdeen City Council in delivering city wide primary and secondary education provision in schools with sustainable pupil rolls, and in a way which ensures that all pupils are educated in buildings that are not over crowded.

4.2 The above benefits will therefore ensure that the implementation of this proposal will maximise the educational benefits for pupils attending the schools affected.

5. OPTIONS FOR CONSULTATION

5.1 The options under consideration and for which the Council seeks comment from interested stakeholders are:

- To retain the status quo and maintain the existing school zones for Fernielea School, Kingswells School, Hazlehead Academy and the new Countesswells secondary school, or:
- To adjust the school zone boundaries for Fernielea School, Kingswells School, Hazlehead Academy and the new Countesswells secondary school, to accommodate the new housing development at Maiden Craig, with effect from 1st August 2017.

6. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

6.1 To assist stakeholders in accessing relevant information, a dedicated area of Aberdeen City Council website has been populated with all information within this consultation document and further detail on the consultation process and data relating to the proposal.

The relevant web pages can be accessed at:

<http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/MaidenCraig2016>

Please contact us on the telephone number below if you want this document in Braille, large print or on an audio CD, or if you want the document translated into another language.

إذا كنت تود الحصول على هذه الوثيقة بالخط العريض أو البريل أو الأشرطة الصوتية المدمجة أو كنت تود ترجمتها إلى لغة أخرى فالرجاء الاتصال بنا على الهاتف أدناه.

আপনি যদি এই দলিলটি ব্রেইলে, বড় ছাপার অক্ষরে বা শোনার জন্য সিডি, অথবা দলিলটি অন্য কোন ভাষায় অনূদিত চান তবে অনুগ্রহ করে নীচের টেলিফোন নম্বরে ফোন করে আমাদের সাথে যোগাযোগ করুন।

如欲索取此文件的凸字版、大字版、語音光碟，或其他語文翻譯本，請致電下列號碼。

Proszę się skontaktować z nami pod poniższym numerem telefonu jeśli ten dokument jest wymagany w alfabecie Brajla, w dużym druku, na płycie kompaktowej CD lub przetłumaczony na inny język.

Пожалуйста, свяжитесь с нами по номеру телефона, указанному ниже, если Вы хотите получить этот документ шрифтом Брайля, крупным шрифтом или на компактном аудио диске, а также если Вам нужен перевод этого документа на другой язык.



01224 522273

6.2 A copy of this statutory consultation document will be available for public consultation during the period of consultation at the following venues:

- Marischal College
- Central Library
- Mastrick Library
- Northfield Library
- Fernielea School
- Kingswells School
- Bucksburn Academy
- Hazlehead Academy
- Kingswells Community Centre
- Mastrick Community Centre
- Hazlehead Learning Centre
- Beacon Learning Centre

7. PUBLIC MEETING

7.1 A public meeting to discuss the proposals will take place on:

Thursday 22nd September 2016, from 7.00 to 8.00pm at Hazlehead Academy.

8. SUBMISSION OF VIEWS

8.1 Any interested stakeholders may respond to the consultation by completing the comment form attached at Appendix 4, and sending it to:

Maidencraig Rezoning Consultation
Education & Children's Services
Aberdeen City Council
Business Hub 13
Second Floor North
Marischal College
Broad Street
ABERDEEN
AB10 1AB

Responses may also be submitted in writing to the address above, or by sending an email to:

schoolestate@aberdeencity.gov.uk

All responses should be submitted before 5.00pm on Friday 7th October 2016.

9. OUTCOME OF CONSULTATION

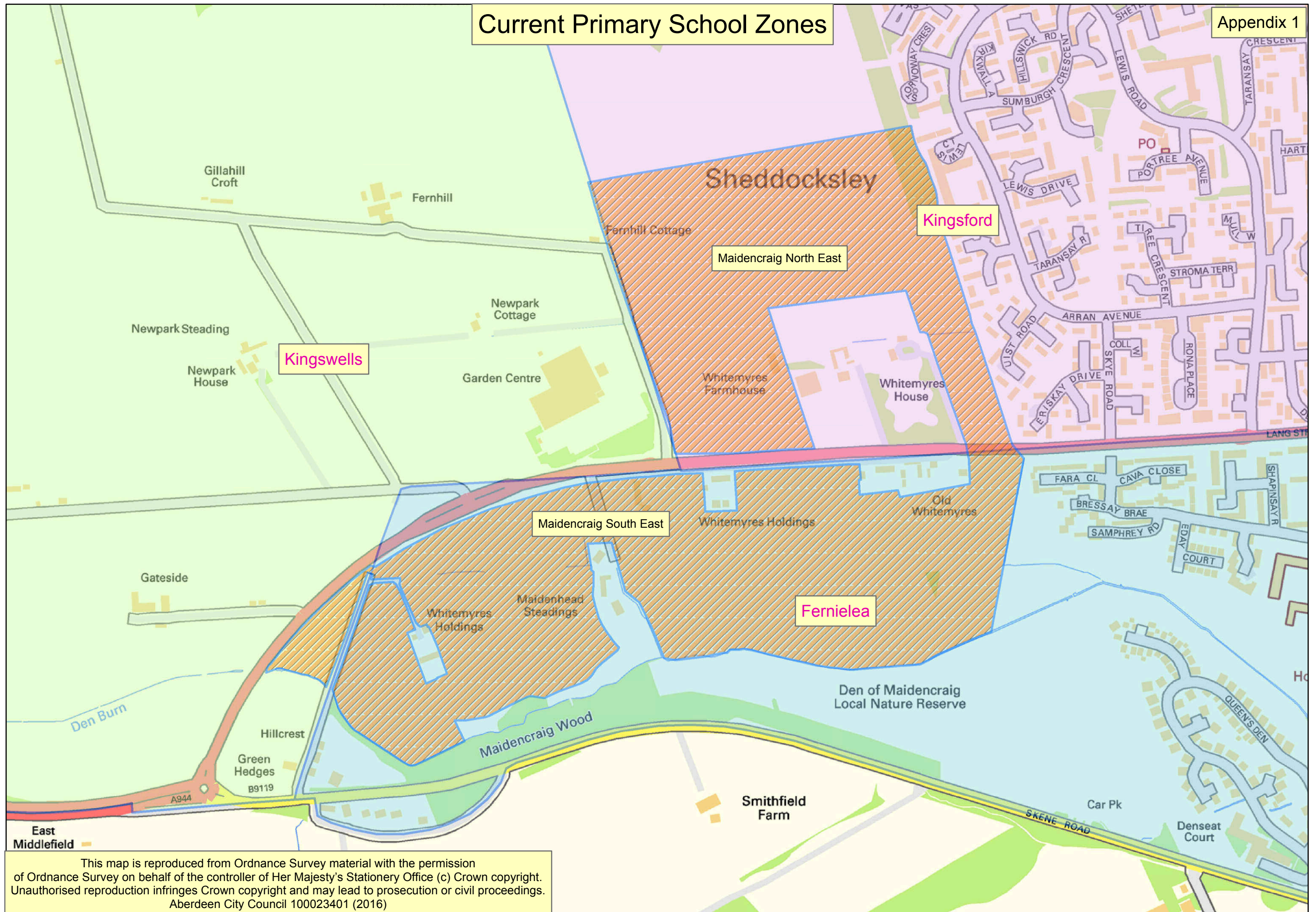
9.1 A summary of submissions will be published on the council website at

<http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/Maidencraig2016>

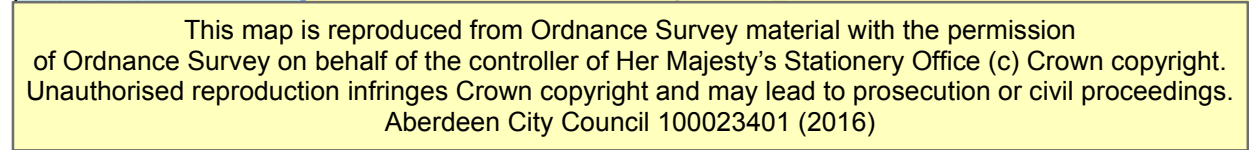
9.2 A report on the consultation will be delivered to the Education & Children's Services Committee on 26th January 2017. This will provide information for Elected Members to make a final decision on the proposal.

Current Primary School Zones

Appendix 1

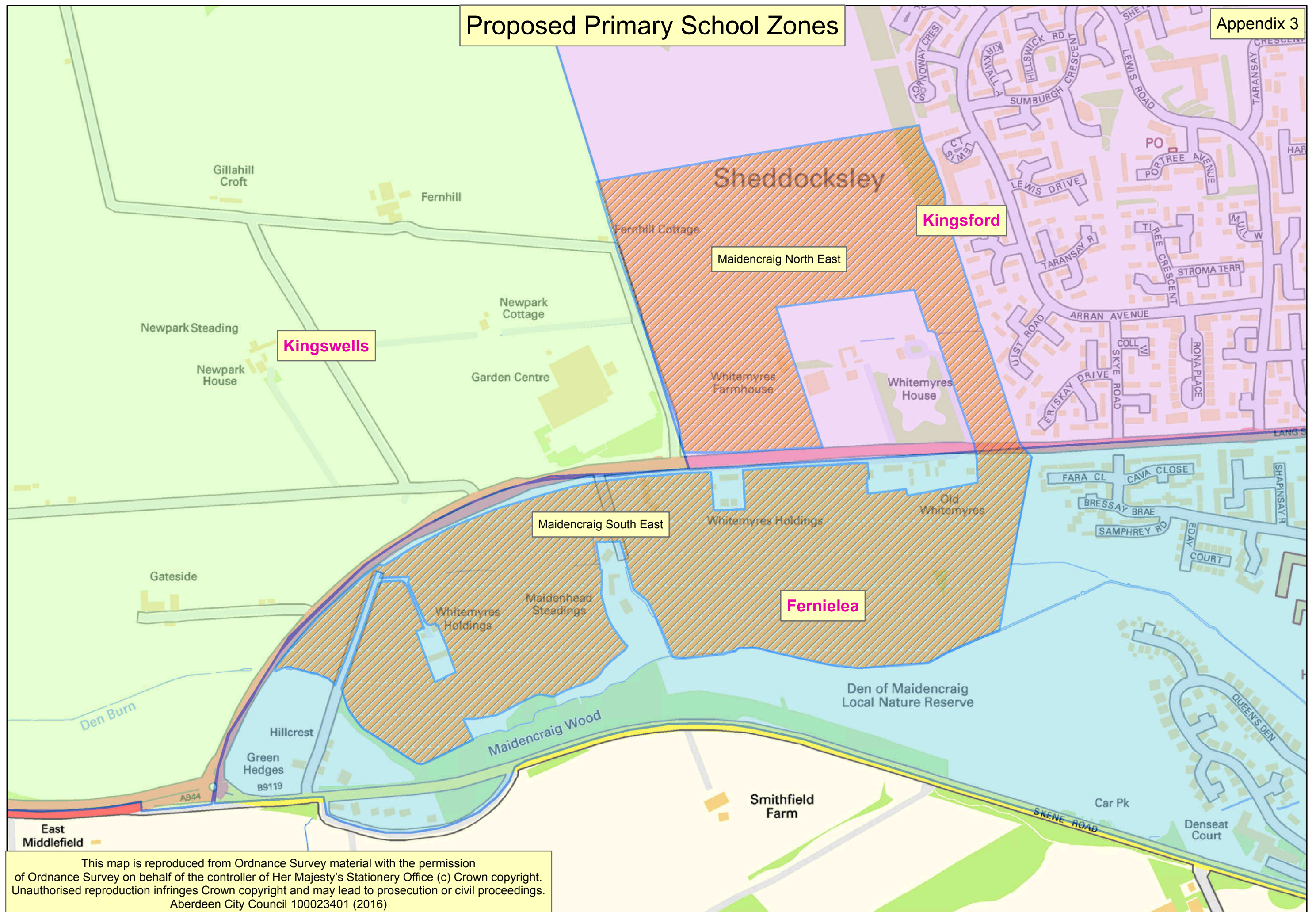


This map is reproduced from Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office (c) Crown copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Aberdeen City Council 100023401 (2016)



Proposed Primary School Zones

Appendix 3



This map is reproduced from Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office (c) Crown copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Aberdeen City Council 100023401 (2016)

Proposed Secondary School Zones

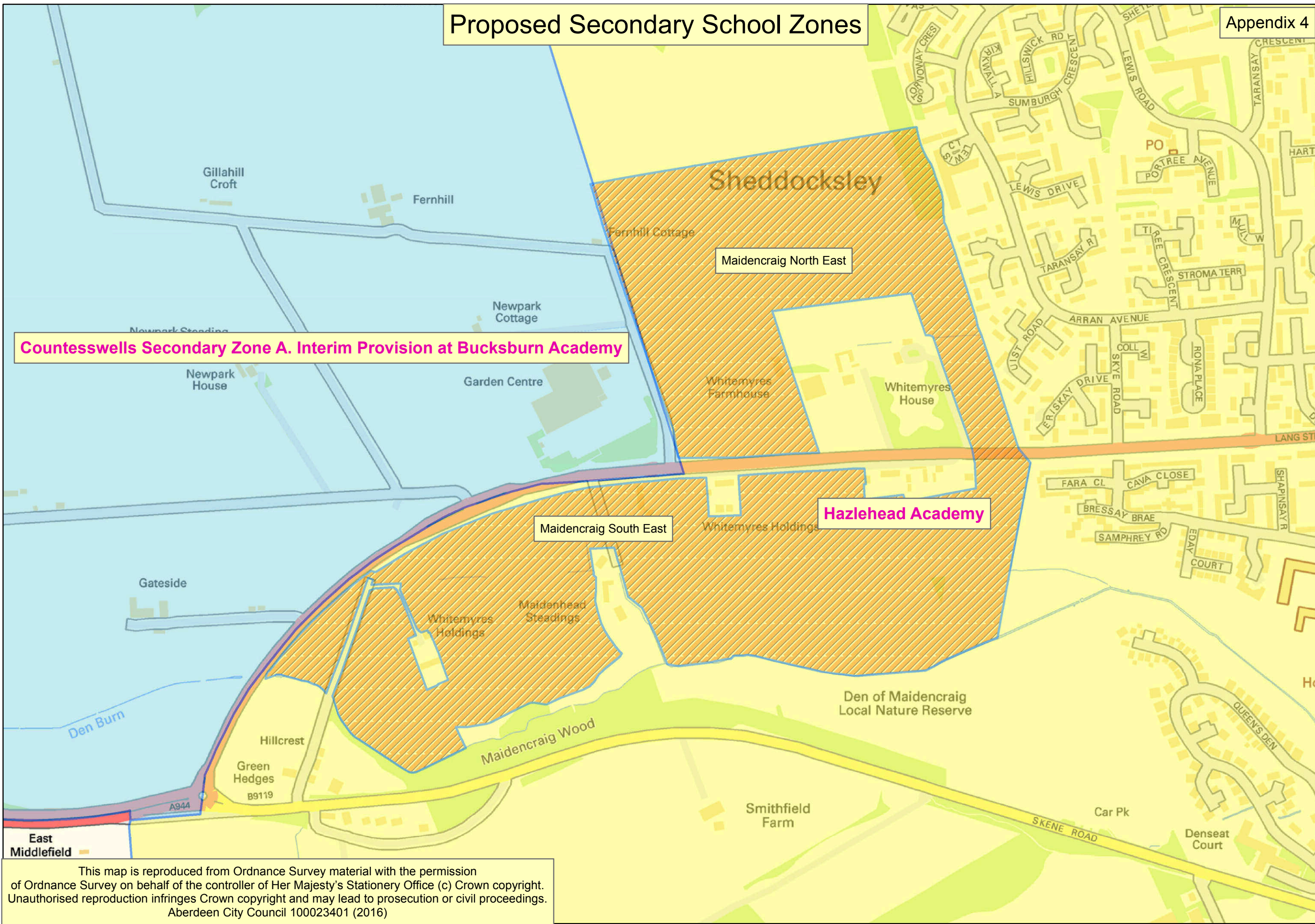
Countesswells Secondary Zone A. Interim Provision at Bucksburn Academy

Sheddocksley

Maidencraig North East

Hazlehead Academy

Maidencraig South East



This map is reproduced from Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office (c) Crown copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Aberdeen City Council 100023401 (2016)

Comment Form Maidencraig Rezoning 2016

Public Consultation

Proposal:

To adjust the school zone boundaries for Fernielea School, Kingswells School, Hazlehead Academy and the new Countesswells secondary school, to accommodate the new housing development at Maidencraig, with effect from 1st August 2017.

All completed comment forms will be included in a final Consultation Report to the Education & Children's Services Committee.

Contact Information (Optional)

Provision of personal information is optional. Your personal details will not be published, nor will they be used for any purpose without your expressed consent.

First name(s):	
Last name:	
Address:	
Postal Code:	
Phone:	
Email:	
<p>I am a</p> <p>parent/carer of current primary pupil(s) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>parent/carer of current secondary pupil(s) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>parent/carer of future pupil(s) (pre 5 child) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>local resident <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>other <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If other, please describe:</p>	<p>Please tick (✓) all applicable boxes</p> <p>School name: _____</p> <p>School name: _____</p>

What is the most positive part of the proposal (if any)?

What is/are your main concern(s) about the proposal?

What would you like the Council to know about the proposal?

Overall, do you support the proposal? (Please tick) Yes ☐ No ☐

Any other comments?

Thank you for your comments.

Please send this form to:

Maidencraig Rezoning Consultation
Education & Children's Services
Aberdeen City Council
Business Hub 13
Second Floor North
Marischal College
Broad Street
ABERDEEN
AB10 1AB

or by email to

schoolestate@aberdeencity.gov.uk

by 5.00pm on Friday 7th October 2016.

Further information about the consultation process, including a full list of all meetings, as well as the Consultation Document, is available from the Council website at <http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/Maidencraig2016>