

Bucksburn-Oldmachar Rezone

Email Submissions

27.1.20 – Comment from EIS Union

Good morning Andrew,

Thank you for your email. The EIS does not take a view on these types of changes.

Regards

27.1.20 - Comment

Good Morning

I am writing this email to express my concern with regarding to the Grandhome development in Bridge of Don, Aberdeen. We have only just moved to the new development in July 2019, one of my reasons for us staying in the Bridge of Don was so that my daughters education would not be disrupted.

My daughter is a 4th year pupil of Oldmachar, having previously attended Greenbrae Primary – here are my views :

1. There are no bus routes from Bridge of Don to Bucksburn and introducing this would cost the council and parents money.
2. We are trying to encourage fitter, healthier children, it takes my daughter 8 minutes to walk to school every day, walking to Bucksburn is not an option!
3. My child is at a crucial stage in her school career, sitting her Nat 5's this year then onto highers etc, a move to a new school would be added pressure when they are studying for the future.
4. Children at academy have formed friendships, to be split from their friends is unfair & trying to fit in with new friendship groups that have been formed for years is hard, this is not good for teenage mental health.
5. Teacher / children relationships, what is the point of working with a guidance teacher for years to just move and get a new one who they don't know and doesn't know them?
6. School day timings are different and this won't work with parents who work around already established school times.
7. Bucksburn & Dyce academy share a curriculum so it's possible the kids will have to attend both these schools not just Bucksburn, your information clearly forgot to mention this, how do you propose the Bridge of Don kids get to Dyce if getting to Bucksburn is tough enough, what if the last class of the day is in a different school to where they have been all day, its completely disrupting!
8. School statistics, figures published by the Times : Oldmachar Academy 25th, Bucksburn Academy 257th, Dyce Academy 270th – I'd rather keep my child at the school that is performing the best!

Should you wish to discuss this further, please feel free to get in touch

24.4.20 - Response

Thank you for your email below and apologies for the time it has taken to respond to you.

Just to confirm, the proposals we are currently consulting on are to adjust the school zone boundaries for Oldmachar Academy and Bucksburn Academy, so that the whole of the Grandhome development is zoned to Oldmachar Academy. If approved, this would mean that all children living within Grandhome would be entitled to a place at Oldmachar Academy in future. This should remove any concerns about travel distances and means of travel to Bucksburn Academy, as this would not be the zoned school for Grandhome.

I have attached a copy of the consultation document, which explains this in more detail.

I hope this helps to address the concerns you set out in your email, but if you have any further queries, please feel free to contact me direct.

Kind regards,

29.1.20 - Comment

As a resident living in the new Grandhome estate development, with a daughter already attending Oldmacher Academy. I am totally opposed to any residents of Grandhome having to trek all the way over to Bucksburn Academy when Oldmacher is a 10 minute walk from my house. It makes no sense to me. Is there even any direct buses from Bridge of Don to Bucksburn?

There are many new builds happening in Bucksburn at the moment with more plans for further housing being built in the future. I doubt very much they need any extra pupils coming from outside of their area.

The Grandhome estate is in Bridge of Don therefore school age children should be going to the closest school ie Oldmacher Academy.

Kind regards

24.2.20 - Response

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future. This should remove any concerns about travel distances and means of travel to Bucksburn Academy, as this would not be the zoned school for Grandhome.

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Kind regards,

9.3.20 – Comment from Oldmachar Parent Council

Oldmachar Parent Council are grateful for the opportunity to share their views, concerns and ongoing questions regarding this consultation.

While the rezoning makes geographical sense and is clearly of benefit to the young people who will eventually live in the rezoned area, it raises several questions and concerns which we believe if not fully resolved will result in detriment to the education of and to the health and well being of our current and future young people.

This consultation has drawn our attention to a rapidly increasing roll for Oldmachar Academy which is not linked to the proposed rezoning. Our concerns hold no matter what decision is taken. Rezoning will increase all our concerns.

Reviewing and resolving these concerns is an opportunity for Aberdeen City Council to make a positive difference to the education and health and well being of the current and future young people of Bridge of Don and Danestone.

Our concerns can be summarised as follows:

1. Capacity to welcome the additional young people.
2. Suitability of the Oldmachar building to safely accommodate these young people.
3. No long term plan for secondary education provision in Bridge of Don and Danestone.
4. An unfairness that Grandhome residents may get new school buildings while there is no improvement to the ageing and deteriorating provision for current Bridge of Don and Danestone residents
5. The safety of our young people as they arrive to and leave from school?
6. What will the effects of the increased roll be on the health and well being of our current and future young people?
7. Will there be enough staff across all subject areas as the roll increases?

Capacity to welcome these pupils.

The figures suggest there will be capacity to cope with the increasing roll and pupils attending Oldmachar from the proposed rezoning area.

These rely on accurate roll predictions. These have been shown to be inaccurate in Bridge of Don in recent years. Greenbrae school, recently extended, has already reached its new capacity with more children now predicted to be in zone when this was not forecasted.

We are concerned the figures are under predicting our roll over the next few years. A large proportion of houses being built locally are large family homes and it seems likely there will be more than 0.1 academy pupils per household.

An urgent review of educational provision across Bridge of Don is needed and long term plans made to ensure no-one is taken by surprise and our already stretched schools are not stretched further to the detriment of the young people.

Suitability of Oldmachar building to safely accommodate these pupils.

A condition and suitability report in 2015 rated the Oldmachar's building condition and suitability as C. Poor. This rating reflects the recognition of poor suitability of the building layout and design to provide flexible areas, break out spaces and social areas.

With few social/break out areas currently our young people can experience crowding or 'nowhere to go'. This will not be contributing positively to behaviour and health and well being. Our young people need safe spaces to go to socialise or when they are just need some time out. They need a canteen big enough to facilitate them all enjoying a healthy and sociable meal.

We understand that the suitability of Oldmachar will be reviewed by August 2020 but there are no guarantees of funding for improvement works. With a rapidly increasing roll the rating of C can surely not improve. If the building is currently unsuitable we should not be accepting more pupils without improvement works.

We urge the council to consider;

How and when will investment be made to improve the suitability of the building?

How will staff be supported to create break out areas and social spaces in the available (but currently unsuitable spaces)?

We thank the council officers who are helping the Parent Council move forward with the Quad project (aiming to transform the outdoor Quad area into an attractive social area) but urge the council to consider supporting this more to ensure the transformation is significant, worthwhile and all for the benefit of our young people's health and wellbeing.

No long term plan for secondary education provision in Bridge of Don and Danestone

With a rapidly increasing population in this area due to multiple large housing developments and an ageing school estate there can be no doubt that a long term plan is urgently needed. Despite assurances to parents and the community over the past ten years that this is being developed we have never seen one.

There is confusion and uncertainty as to whether new schools will be built (and if they are, when will they be built) in the Grandhome estate and which parts of our community they will serve.

Rezoning provides no clarity to those purchasing houses in the Grandhome estate as no one is able to say if and when zones and school provision will change again.

We ask the council to urgently move past the 'we must review the school estate in Bridge of Don' status we have been in for several years and consulting the community at all stages create a clear plan for the future of secondary education in Bridge of Don and Danestone.

This plan must be equitable for all areas of our community and provide a secondary education where our young people can flourish.

An unfairness that Grandhome residents may get a new school while there is no improvement to the ageing and deteriorating provision for current Bridge of Don and Danestone residents.

It is essential that long term provision must be equitable for all areas of our community. Our aim should be that all our young people are taught in inspiring and fit for purpose buildings. These buildings could be the centre of our community (something Bridge of Don and Danestone lack) providing much needed community space for social, educational and sporting groups all of which will build the community and therefore improve the mental health of residents.

We will consider it unacceptable if that is only delivered in a new area of our community while current residents have no improvements to their current facilities.

There is potential to make a huge difference to all ages in our community with a well thought through plan and investment into school estate.

The safety of our young people as they arrive to and leave from school

There is no designated drop off or pick up points for pupils arriving by car. The school car park and the Jesmond centre car park are busy and usually full. Parents report concerns over safety to the Parent Council on a regular basis. School staff share those concerns.

An increased roll will result in an increased number of young people being dropped off by car and an increased risk of accidents and injury.

The parent council are in no doubt that the council must address this before they can zone more pupils to the school.

How can we ensure safe drop off and pick up? How can we encourage pupils to arrive on foot or bike?

What will the effects of the increased roll be on the health and well being of our current and future young people?

While this is addressed somewhat in the sections above, it is of great importance and must also be considered as a separate concern.

What support will the school receive to ensure they are able to care for every child?

Has there been an assessment of facilities to ensure they are suitable for an increasing roll?

Are the canteen facilities able to provide nutritious and appealing meals for the increasing roll?

Can PE halls cope with 2 periods per week recommended for each pupils plus Nat 5 & Higher pupils?

Where will the young people stay safe at lunchtimes and breaktimes?

What will be done to ensure no detriment to the health and well being of current and future young people?

What will be done to improve health and well being and ensure we get it right for every child?

Health and wellbeing of our children is of prime importance.

We have received no assurance that the rising roll will not be detrimental to the health and well being of future and current young people.

Will there be enough staff across all subject areas as the roll increases?

While we would be delighted with increased subject choice, how will suitable staff be recruited to cope with extra numbers across all curricular areas?

We are aware this is not an Oldmachar specific problem and our question relates to all city schools.

This cannot be seen as an advantage of the zoning proposal if there is no guarantee staff can be found.

The council must continue to consider new strategies to employ more teachers in our city.

Conclusion

It is essential that the council consider the wider picture as they consider this re-zoning proposal.

Here is an opportunity to make an extremely positive impact on the young people and wider community of Bridge of Don and Danestone. Ignoring our (and others) concerns will result in detriment to our young people. Their education and health and well being is at stake.

15.3.20 – Comment

I have two children, one currently attending Oldmachar Academy and one who will attend Oldmachar in a few years time.

I object to this proposal on the grounds that:

- it is completely unreasonable to perform a consultation when so much information is about to be revised;

- the proposal provides no Educational Benefits to pupils at Oldmachar Academy or Bucksburn Academy;

- the proposal does not change any capacity issues at Bucksburn Academy since the area being rezoned will not be developed until after 2026.

At the Consultation meeting Council Officers stated material changes to relevant information would occur in a matter of months:

1. The Secondary School Estate is about to be reviewed.
2. Secondary School Capacities are about to be reviewed.
3. School Conditions and Suitabilities are about to be reviewed.

Residents cannot be expected to consult on this proposal when so much information is about to change.

For the same reason it is completely unreasonable for Councillors to make a decision regarding this proposal.

This rezoning will provide no Educational Benefits for pupils at Oldmachar Academy:

1. The school roll will continue to increase. The school suitability is already C - Poor. There are no plans to invest in the school improving this. It is hard to believe the school suitability will get anything other than worse as the school roll increases and wear and tear in the building increases. Never mind that the school was built in the 1980s and to my knowledge has not changed to reflect requirements for Curriculum for Excellence.

2. The 2017-based school roll forecast showed Oldmachar Academy going over capacity in 2024.

3. The 2018-based school roll forecast issued immediately before the consultation started is lower than the 2017 forecast. School roll forecasts have a degree of uncertainty, but this is never presented in any consultation document.

4. The lower 2018-based school roll forecast was achieved by changing the pupils/household ratio for Primary school age children from 0.35 to 0.25. The lower pupil/household ratio is that agreed with the Grandhome developer matching that for houses zoned to Danestone Primary. The higher pupil/household ratio is that used for houses zoned to Middleton Park Primary. The timing of the change could be coincidental, but it was not made in several previous forecasts, therefore why now?

5. A reason given for the rezoning is to provide clarity to families living within the Grandhome development (see section 3.4). Council Officers have stated in emails that there have only been two or three enquiries requesting clarity. This seems an excessive reaction to so few enquiries. A better method would be to ensure developers provide accurate information. One Grandhome developer, CALA, provides misleading information in its brochures mentioning Middleton Park as the nearest Primary School. While this is true, CALA know full well that the development is currently zoned to Danestone Primary.

This proposal will not resolve capacity issues at Bucksburn Academy that it purports to resolve:

1. Referring to sections 4.3 and 4.2 of the consultation document, the area being rezoned will not be developed before 2026, the final year of the school roll forecasts presented in the consultation document: it is not the cause of capacity issues at Bucksburn Academy.
2. At the consultation meeting Council Officers stated there are already plans to rezone areas of Kingswells from the Bucksburn Academy zone.
3. The rezoning of Kingswells housing is obviously not yet reflected in the Bucksburn Academy roll forecast. The roll forecast currently presented for Bucksburn Academy is higher than will occur after the Kingswells rezoning.

I also wish to note that

- changes are being made to the Local Development Plan for Silverburn and Berryhill following a Council meeting on 2nd March, the impact of which are unclear;
- residents may not have been as engaged as normal in this consultation, being distracted by issues regarding the COVID-19 pandemic.

Yours sincerely,

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What is the most positive part of the proposal (if any)? - Comments	What is/are your main concern(s) about the proposal? - Other Comments	Summary of reasons	What would you like the Council to know about the proposal? Comments	Overall, do you support the proposal? - Do you support the proposal?	Any other comments? - Comments
None	I am very concerned that Oldmachar Academy will not be able to take this increase in pupils - there seems to have been a large number of new houses built in Bridge of Don, but not so much concern seems to have been given to how the existing schools can cope with such a large influx of families. I believe the school is already finding it difficult to recruit the required staff, and as far as I am aware, they are already at maximum capacity. I would like to know what your intentions are with regard to Oldmachar's capabilities.	capacity		No	
None far to much pupils in area for one school	Traffic, A rise in amount of children per class facilities and staffing concerns	capacity	There needs to be better access for pupils to walk to school as traffic is a huge issue around area!	No	
	Overloading the school. Deterioration in education for pupil's. Children's safety.	capacity	I would like these questions answered please.	No	
	Several - is there capacity for 300 extra students? At the moment there is already overcrowding at lunch - How many extra teachers will be employed? there are already issues with recruiting and training teachers in Aberden - Safety - have the safety implications of having so many more students been adequately looked into? Not just arriving and leaving but also during the school day, moving from class to class	capacity		No	
	That the school will not be able to cope with the extra number of children due to the re zoning as you are already having to re zone the primary as Danestone is now full and this is only with an extra few 100 houses. You underestimated the amount of children already in the area and that are moving in to these new houses I am also concerned that due to this you will start re zoning the primary schools that are currently in zone for Oldmachar and children will be moved to Bridge of Don which is not the school we choose to put are children to when we moved to Danestone	capacity	That they need to actually consider the fact that there have all ready under estimated the amount of children in the area so by the time all these houses are built there is going to be even more children than expected	No	That there should be an additional school built in Danestone/bridge of do you accommodate these children
Pupils will make friends with other pupils in the area	With no clear answer as to whether more schools will be built for the ever increasing house builds within the bridge of don area I am concerned that when my children eventually go to school that they will not get the attention to learning that all children deserve. This doesn't seem well planned out	capacity	Parents are concerned for their children's learning. There really needs to be a stop put to all the new house builds if the area can't accommodate the children in the current schools or there has to be a guaranteed plan of building new schools before it's too late	No	
	As a mum to a child at nursery age I recognise that it would be her age group and younger that will be mostly affected by the proposed changes. It is a concern to me that she will not get a place at oldmachar. We specifically chose to buy in this area to ensure attendance at that school as it is where I attended. With so many housing developments in the local area it seems inevitable that the amount of children requiring places will increase. I believe that the council need to think about the impact on the schools prior to granting planning permission.	capacity	It seems unfair for those who have bought houses in the area in the hope that their child will go to a good school to have that jeopardised because of the continuation for new housing developments	No	
	Main concerns Capacity at the secondary school classroom and catering facilities Safety of pupils Wellbeing of children in an overcrowded school Support of children in a school at full capacity Teaching and support staffing	capacity	It's shocking that the school will be over capacity by 2026. The rezoning is putting an extra burden on already overstretched facilities. The zoning of these new houses is within an infrastructure that cannot cope	No	Please look again at the zoning to bucksburn it find a larger school
None	Capacity at Oldmachar- class sizes will obviously increase and therefore affect education. Increased traffic around oldmachar making this a safety concern Lack if teachers Why are so many houses being granted planning permission and schooling is an afterthought?!	capacity	Why are so many builders being granted planning permission and schooling not considered at this point? At what point will a new school be considered for bridge of don with all the new houses being erected? If this proceeds - how will the increased traffic be managed? Does oldmachar have room to accommodate these extra pupils as projected and what will class sizes be? Any proposals to take on new teachers?	No	The increasing size of bridge of don warrants the erection of a new school In the area- at least one new primary and secondary
None! The school will end up oversubscribed. I worry that my child's education will suffer by being in a school which is over capacity.	Oldmachar will be at or over capacity by 2026 without the additional pupils which will be added due to the rezoning. How can you justify this proposal when it is bound to have a detrimental effect on all pupils?	capacity	I don't understand how the council can grant planning permission for hundreds of family houses and then be surprised that the schools then can't cope with the increased numbers. It's not just secondary schools. It should be a condition of the planning permission that adequate additional schools be built but the building needs to begin when the first houses are built, not at a later date when, in the meantime the surrounding schools have to accommodate the additional pupils to the detriment of those legitimately attending the school from the existing catchment areas.	No	The council needs to find an alternative to the proposal. It's about time developers stuck to section 75 agreements with regards to school provisions and the council need to start making sure that these agreements make it incumbent to provide adequate facilities right from the start!

Nothing! My daughter is currently in P2 at Danestone. My son is in S3 at Oldmachar. This will effect my daughter in the future. The school is predicted to already be over capacity for 2026. It is ludicrous to then add more areas to this catchment!!! If the council insist on allowing companies to build more houses they must also provide a new larger school to cope with the increase of families that will need to be provided education in this area, in both secondary and primary. Adding more children to schools that are already struggling to me seems crazy!! For my sons S4 year (2020/2021) they will not be running crucial courses - computing, D and T, graph com and woodwork. This will have huge implications for him and I'm sure many other children. Staffing changes so regularly. It not just about how many children attend these schools, we must also look at quality of the education they will receive!		capacity	That is a terrible idea. It's simple. If they insist on granting permission to build new houses in this area then instead of pushing already struggling schools to capacity +, they then need to build a newer and bigger school that are update with health and safety standards, instead of patching up the old schools that are not fit of purpose and pushing more kids into them.	No	
there is absolutely nothing positive about the proposed re-zoning	Oldmachar is already stretched to the point where modern studies teachers are teaching foreign language classes. This will only get worse with the addition of up to 300 pupils over the next decade. There is a single road that access Oldmachar (Jesmond Drive) which is already too busy and again, will only get worse by the addition of more pupils due to very poor planning when building consent was granted	capacity	The council should already know that the addition of so many houses without a thought for the schooling is nothing short of idiotic. It's almost as if they were made an offer they couldn't refuse to let it happen. The council need to and should already know (IF THEY ACTUALLY CARE), that this proposal does not have the support of many, if any local residents who know what challenges the school already faces and this addition pressures by this proposal will only pile further pressure on the teachers.	No	Stop granting planning for massive schemes unless provisions for schools and community facilities are part of the plan. I know developers don't want to build things like schools that they can't sell but it is not the job of the council to facilitate the already huge profit margins Unless, like I mention above, there is something in it for them
None.	These will make a huge impact to the number of pupils in the academy and primary school nearby. I believe, it affects a student's focus if the class is too crowded. I am afraid, that my daughter will always be distracted. In addition to this, teachers will not be able to monitor the progress of students properly if their pupils are way too many. Outdoors will also be too crowded. Instead of enjoying break time with fresh air, other students will be too many to enjoy peace outside.	capacity	Before these thousands of houses been approved to be built, have you thought about this matter? This idea will only affects our children's future.	No	
None	A dated school which is fast becoming unfit for purpose being crammed fuller with even more pupils.	capacity	Oldmachar Academy needs a major revamp and lots of extra space if this is to go ahead	No	
None!!!! Far too many houses being built and not enough facilities for the school that children are meant to be zoned to	Traffic, class size and out of zone pupils	capacity	Stop building in a area that can't cope!!!!!!	No	
Nothing	Increase in pupils school roll at Oldmacher Academy. Increased pupils in Class numbers & reduced benefits to pupils education. Increase in traffic to & from Oldmacher Academy on already busy & inadequate roads. More traffic congestion in Bridge of Don area overall. More congestion & inconvenience at shops for local residents. Significant increase in pollution, in regards to noise, waste & environmental issues.	capacity	Rather than fire fight the current situation, where the council planning department granted these properties to be constructed in the first place, it would have been prudent to involve all other parties & address issues at the time, such as roads & access, amenities, congestion, schooling, traffic, buses & routes, medical practices, leisure & sports facilities, play parks, parking & green land area's in general. As this was not the case, We find ourselves, (as usual) having to live with the councils mistakes & lack of foresight & planning in this subject & yet again, leave Bridge of Don residents & children to be subjected to a decline in both living & educational standards which contributes to a lesser quality of life.	No	As a parent & grandparent, I have serious concerns on this current government's education policies & curriculum and I really worry about the future generation's standards of education in the years ahead. This proposal does nothing to improve or enhance current & future pupil's, standard of education at Oldmacher Academy. It certainly does nothing to improve the quality of life for the local community either.
None	Over crowding, Danestone Primary Is already almost at capacity, our daughter is in a large p2 class, but in the smallest area., of a classroom at Danestone. There is not enough primary schools for Danestone , or bridge of don, they are all outdated and need a major overhaul. No idea how you can expect the new housing development which could have the prospect of over 300 children to fit into Oldmachar academy, that again is outdated, and would end up over crowded. I was also be very annoyed when it comes to nearer the date, if it was decided that Danestone children would have to be re zoned to accommodate the new houses. Before the council agreed to the housing scheme, the schools should have been started to be built at the same time,with a new academy to accommodate everyone!	capacity	Oldmachar academy will not be able to accommodate another 300 Children , we need a new state of the art academy to accommodate the extra amount of children.	No	

	The school is not going to cope with the increase of children. That Danestone will be re zoned to another academy to allow room for new houses	capacity	That they should start to build an extension on to oldmachar or knock it down and make it bigger to allow for the new influx of children they should have maybe thought about this before they approved a new 7000 house development most people moving in to 3/4 bedroom houses have children and there is no room in any of the school in bridge of don for these children the hole area needs done up but due to it not being a under privileged area we just have to deal with it	No	All the schools in bridge of don and Danestone need refurbished they haven't had any work done then since they were built they are very rundown and the council need to start paying for things to be done to are local schools
None	St Machar Academy cannot support the increase in pupils as a result of the new builds. Figures may show that this might bring it close but not too capability, however in reality what the figures show and what may actually happen can be tow very different things. To squeeze pupils in to a well performing school is only going to have a negative effect on the schools performance and the education of its pupils.	capacity	Solid confirmation that further schools will be provided in the Bridge of Don area is essential. Family homes simply cannot be built with no facilities for schooling in place for the children. Once agreements of new schools is reached a set date of when they will be built , and when they will be available for use must be made available. Building should be put on hold until an agreement can be made and plans put in place, if it proceeds without any plans then the education and educational experience of all the children affected in the Bridge of Don area will suffer.	No	
	Staffing Subjects that our no longer available due to specialised teachers. Larger pupil classes.	capacity	Yes	No	
None.	Oldmachar Academy will become overcrowded very quickly. By the time my children attend the school it will be at capacity and I do not want my children's education to suffer because of this.	capacity	Keep it as it is	No	
I can understand why the Council would want to relocate this area to Oldmachar Academy, as it does maintain safety regarding pupils walking to school etc and makes sense to have the children move up to Oldmachar. But Bridge of Don doesn't have the means to support this in terms of primary schools and medical centres and teaching staff.	I do not know how the current Academy and neighbouring primary schools will be able to accommodate new pupils. I can only imagine just how many new houses will be built = lots of children. I attended Oldmachar 2001 - 2007 and I am unaware of the pupil numbers then, but it was a squeeze then to fit in the amount of pupils- corridors were always crowded and it was quite scary having to push your way through to get to your next class. Also, are there enough permanent teachers at the Academy? Neighbouring primary schools like Middleton Park surely don't have the capacity to take on many more pupils. The school is tiny (and could do with an extension hint hint!) If this phase of houses is to continue, the Council seriously need to consider building an additional primary school (which has been mentioned) and either upgrading Oldmachar or building an additional Academy to service the whole of Bridge of Don.	capacity	To be honest, there is absolutely no need for more houses in Bridge of Don, there are enough as it with the ongoing Shielhill development and new houses seem to keep popping up all the time across Aberdeen without the services/facilities to support them ie schools, medical centres, community centres.	No	I don't not support it, but a lot has to be taken into consideration first before the Council plough ahead as they usually do. They seem to lack taking into consideration the public's views and do what is best for them/what is the cheapest option.
	That my children will not get the extra learning support they require. It is hard enough getting the help now. Also the level of help to all pupils may be compromised	capacity		No	
Schools need to be made bigger to cope with the new persons	The schools are not big enough as it is, too many children and not enough teachers and rooms.	capacity	Putting up houses in new areas need to take in consideration the amount of children in the area already only adding in primary schools to new developments is not suitable as the secondary schools won't cope with the new amount of people.	No	
	There is already a lack of specialist teachers to cover some subjects at Oldmachar resulting in temporary teachers and teachers qualified to teach other subjects covering classes they are not qualified to teach. This concerns me as I have heard on several occasions that children are often watching DVDs 'being baby sat!' (which my be relevant to the subject or not!) Some subjects are also no longer available due to lack of staff. I am concerned that pupils are already not having quality teaching in some subjects without adding more pupils to the problem due to re-zoning.	capacity		No	
Sorry do not agree with proposal	Oldmachar already has withdrawn subjects on offer because of lack of staffing, pupils not getting the opportunity to undertake subjects they would like, therefore other classes are becoming overcrowded. School building does not accommodate the current number of pupils, not enough social areas. No confidence in projected numbers for future roll Why does an Aberdeenshire school utilise another aberdeen City academy which has a less & falling roll, maybe looking at bridge of Don academy rezoning would be more appropriate Oldmachar school facilitates require major upgrade to accommodate increase in school roll, current ACC budgets will not allow this	capacity	As above	No	
The route to Oldmachar Academy is a safer route. However, if paths and cycle routes to Bucksburn Academy were constructed this would not only provide walkways for the youngsters but also give members of the community a place to walk and wheel. This would hopefully see an increase in active travel modes and encourage a healthy lifestyle for all.	The pupil forecasting, as we know is not always reliable or accurate. Looking at forecasts made in 2017 the forecasted roll for Oldmachar for 2026 was 1179. The prediction has now changed to 1104?? Less children expected to enroll in the school but with more large family homes being built?? In yet another roll forecast it was stated that Oldmachar Academy would have a roll of 691 in 2020. The current role is nearly 800! • 60 available places in 2026 is not sufficient considering in inaccuracies in forecasting as stated above. • Some subjects not available or are limited to certain year groups at Oldmachar due to lack of teachers to teach these subjects. This will only get worse with more children enrolling in an already struggling establishment. • The Oldmachar building is not fit for purpose. Very dated and would struggle to cope with overcrowding. • The education of our youngster is paramount and this proposal would have a detrimental effect on the learning provisions available. Resources are stretched.	capacity		No	•Build a new establishment that will be fit for purpose and accommodate pupils from the zones stated. •
	I am very concerned with the school being over crowded and in turn results and child's development, education and safety are compromised	capacity	There are going to be far higher numbers from the new Grandhome estate than they have predicted.	No	
People from the whole of our estate would go to the same school, so we would have an increased community feeling.	Possible overcrowding of Oldmachar (and feeder primaries), uncertainty of when (and if) a new school will be built in Grandhome to relieve pressure.	capacity	We need some clarity about any proposed upgrade and also how the numbers will affect primary education and education for those not yet in primary by the time they reach S1.	No	

None	I think the house builders were suppose to build other primary schools to accommodate all the children and future children. I think if you can't build other schools then you need to do major re-extension to the academies to be able to cope or seriously upgrade them,	capacity	I think the house builders were suppose to build other primary schools to accommodate all the children and future children. I think if you can't build other schools then you need to do major re-extension to the academies to be able to cope or seriously upgrade them,	No	If this goes ahead please can the above be carried out
	Concerned that my children may end up in different schools, concerned the lack of space resources ect. Given I was once an oldmachar pupil and already know the schools layout, capacity ect and even when I was at school in 1997 it was over crowded then with out dated facilities, the huts that are being used again were not fit for purpose in my day let alone now. If we are re zoned too Bucksburn the travelling is a concern and cost. Loss of friendships, the lack of being able too socialise with new friends from different areas.	capacity		No	
There is a chance more money will be invested in oldmachar academy.	Oldmachar can not offer a full syllabus due to lack of teaching staff. There will be no extra teachers available but more pupils will be needing an education. The school seems full to bursting already and the teachers appear to be stressed out and shouty., more pupils will have a negative effect on stressed out teachers! Also, the school is big enough with childrens needs already getting lost in the chaos! Oldmachar is already failing on the governments aim of GIRFEC. More pupils will make matters worse.	capacity	GIRFEC. This is being ignored already, more pupils will make matters worse.	No	
Nothing	Overcrowding, poor pupils experience, very poor planning from ACC. All the house developers should pay a part of the building cost of a new secondary school along with council. I don't want my daughter having a very poor education in an overcrowded Old Machar Academy. And I don't think it is also fair on Old Machar academy staff to add this new pressure on their jobs. ACC needs to take its responsibility. This organisation, ACC, represents us therefore they should serves our needs. Respect more their staff and their pupils.	capacity		No	If ACC 's proposal goes through it will surely damage for a long term its reputation on education in the city.
Unsure if there are any positives for Oldmachar academy unless the increase in pupil numbers is met with an increased , protected budget to provide additional teachers and provisions.	The school is already massively underfunded. The maths department as an example is arguably the worst in Scotland and cannot attract the staff required to prepare the children to the necessary level ahead of exams. The sheer number of parents that have to provide tutors to supplement the program is ridiculous. The capacity of the building is not the issue. If the building can take the numbers then there is no case to argue against taking this area into the fold. The supplementary agreement has to be one of ring fenced funding to increase the provisions for the children beyond that of the current level to avoid having a negative effect on the already stretched resources and to ensure that additional resources are sourced ahead of any planned approval for this. A teacher/staffing strategy has to be approved alongside this to give residents the reassurance that additional numbers can be dealt with not just in terms of building capacity but more importantly with resource and provision and maintenance.	condition	See answer on the left and be completely transparent about the resourcing model that MUST go along with this and meet the same timeframes.	No	I would support the proposal IF a resourcing strategy was available to go along with this proposal. Until then the proposal is not complete and cannot be considered.
Maybe Oldmachar will offer a broader range of subjects/courses to pupils at all levels?	The school is currently understaffed, lacks resources to support ASN learners, the building is ageing and is in need of repair. It has a concerning lack of social spaces for young people to spend break and lunchtimes. The school will be close to capacity soon with all the new houses in Dubford and Grandholm.	condition	They need to make provision for extra staff!	No	
	That although the school will be within its theoretical capacity, the existing building will not be suitable enough to hold an extra 300 pupils. The current teacher shortage within Aberdeen City also makes it unlikely that staffing at the school will be sufficient.	condition		No	
None. Oldmachar is no longer fit for purpose as it is. Forward planning should have enabled the construction of schools when contracts were awarded to the housing companies.	Current oldmachar academy building not fit for purpose. A larger roll in future in a context of reduced council funding will create too much pressure and affect pupils learning experience negatively.	condition	When was the rezoning decision made? And why at this late stage? Seems to have arisen in an ad hoc reactive and short sighted manner.	No	Acc should properly fund education in this city. It should be the number 1 priority. This rezoning project seems ill considered.
None	Current lack of staff, class sizes, poor and old resources, issues with bathrooms, lack of lockers. School appears to be barely coping with current student levels, never mind increase in numbers. When the closure of Middleton Park and Glashieburn was found to be a poorly thought out and inappropriate idea, we were assured that officers didn't just look at "capacity"- it doesn't appear so. The new schooling resources that were promised need to be forced through, not at some distant point in time but now so the education of affected children is not compromised.	condition	As above	No	No
	Overstretched resources at oldmachar, teaching staff, space etc resulting in a poor academic and social environment More children walking to/from school up whitestripes. It's already a busy road.	condition	I'm worried about overstretched resources at oldmachar, teaching staff, space etc resulting in a poor academic and social environment More children walking to/from school up whitestripes. It's already a busy road.	No	What resources are the council putting into oldmachar to accommodate extra pupils? What are the future development plans for the school?

Unfortunately and very sadly for the local Community not alot for Oldmachar Academy, and for the schools zoned to go there.	There is absolutely no forward planning to improve the physical structure of the buildings to Oldmachar Academy, there is no money set aside for the provision of extra / sufficient resources to cope with the increase in predicted pupil roll numbers, and certainly no guarantee of extra teacher adverts being filled. Bucksburn appear to be benefitting from a new extension, but Oldmachar will get no such money spent on care and repair of existing run down buildings. When the developers are able, new primary and secondary schools will be built for the Grandholm area, so then any Council funds for schools will be directed at that area, and again Oldmachar will miss out. No investment in the children coming to Oldmachar appears clear. I think it will have a huge effect on the physical and mental well being of all the pupils and teachers at Oldmachar if the roll increases over time to accept 1,000 pupils in the current tight and outdated space, technology and resources.	condition	It doesn't appear fair or right at all to increase Oldmachar's pupil roll without investing in the whole structure and purpose of the School at the same time. I think it's completely unfair as no money is being invested here, and the pupils will suffer.	No	Not at present.
	The state of the building and how over capacity it is already and now it is no longer fit for purpose.	condition	That they need to look at drastically improving the current school building or at building a new school. That they need to hold the developers at Grandhome to their promises about funding for new schools.	No	
I'm struggling to answer this as can't see many positives	I feel that oldmachar academy is a very old school that needs a lot of money, time and investment put into it. It's run down and needs to be fixed and renovated before hundreds of more children can join. Oldmachar has much more children compared to bridge of don academy and as far as I can see struggling to offer space and a full education to the already insisting children Oldmachar covers a very large area and with more areas being added will over populate and over crowd the school. I feel it would be too overwhelming for both children and teachers. Not a healthy or peaceful environment to learn and be educated in.	condition	Consider what your other options are? Build a super school. Join bridge of don and oldmachar together in a big modern building. Stop building houses in the bridge of don we're already over populated!!!	No	
That pupils in the estate will all be attending one school	No Concerns.		This seems a no brainer of a proposal (it should go ahead).	Yes	
				Yes	
Most positive part is to keep all children. From this zone going safely to the nearest school	There might not be enough classroom space and teachers to cover the expected new pupils		I think it's a great idea to re zone this land from Bucksburn to Oldmachar academy in that it's safer for children. Just make sure there is adequate pavement from the new development.	Yes	N/a
				Yes	
Bucksburn Academy is close to capacity. There are new houses being built in all the ASG areas which has had a huge impact on pupil numbers. Any rezoning that reduces the number of pupils attending Bucksburn can only be a good thing.	My only concern would be that planning would justify building even more houses within the current ASG. This would have a knock on effect on both primary ASG schools and Bucksburn Academy.		What would the council do to ensure the ASG school numbers were kept below capacity?	Yes	
Makes sense to rezone to Oldmachar for a safety point of view and closer overall. Will help take the pressure off Bucksburn which is already nearing capacity.				Yes	
Pupils from Grandholme area will have easier travel to school. And capacity at both schools will allow for expansion with minimal disruption to existing pupils.				Yes	
Children safety should come first so moving boundaries would benefit this				Yes	
Consolidated local children to a local school	School is already understaffed and under funded. Pupils will suffer if the school roll increases with no additional resources in place.			Yes	For years children's education has suffered at this school and throughout Scotland due to lack of funding, poor curriculum and deteriorating infrastructure. To ensure pupils can leave school then this needs to change. Pushing more pupils without change would be a disaster.
That children don't have to cross the river and main roads	Oldmachar seems to struggle to fill posts for the current student roll, let alone an increased roll.		Oldmachar currently cannot accommodate an increased student number, without thought being given to free/social space and the number of teachers available.	Yes	I support it only if the staffing and space issues will be addressed
addressing over crowded schools	that the council listen to people saying ' but my childs older sibling goes to and they wont be together' weakest argument ever. do whats right for the schools not random parents who aren't brave enough to say, i want my child to go to XX school because its better.		fire through, your dammed if you do and dammed if you don't	Yes	
Keeping class sizes manageable and making good use of existing resources	I'm not sure about condition of Oldmachar but Bucksburn is a bright modern school with excellent facilities and it would be a shame if pupils had to "downgrade"		I believe they have to consider infrastructure and travel distances	Yes	
All future pupils within the same neighbourhood of grandhome would be going to the same secondary school.	No concerns			Yes	
	That there will be enough teachers and classes won't be any bigger than they already are			Yes	
Safer distance for new pupils to travel as opposed to Bucksburn. Integrating with local children.	Excess traffic, already parents dropping off and collecting kids causes a huge back up of traffic in the adjacent Alex Collie centre. Capacity of school for example canteen, class size. Teachers being stretched with bigger classes. Adjacent Asda and Scotmid having pupils causing disruption (has happened before).		A new academy will be required in the near future.	Yes	
I think it's better for the children to go to school in the area they live and it would be safer coming and going to school.	My only concern is that the children will have much bigger classes and won't get the same attention.		I think Bucksburn is too far for the children to go to school safely. I am happy for the re zoning but I think they definitely need to have an academy built for the new Grandhome area in time.	Yes	

That school kids that live in Bridge of Don can go to a school in the same area.	my concern is that my children will be made to attend a school they are not familiar with and without their friends. A school that is not in the area where they live.		I like the proposal. I live in the new Grandhome development and my daughter can walk to Oldmarcher academy in 7 minutes and my youngest can walk to Forehill Primary in 11 minutes. We moved here less than two years ago from the Ashwood area of Bridge of Don and it's ideal for all our needs. We wanted to stay in the same area. We want our kids to go to these schools. We are happy the way it is right now.	Yes	If I wanted my kids to go to Bucksburn Academy then I would have moved to Bucksburn. I think everyone who lives in the Bridge of Don and Danestone and Grandhome postcodes should be able to attend schools in Bridge of Don.
Pupils in Grandhome area will have a school close to their house, walking distance, relatively safe to walk.	Too many children at Oldmarcher: crowded corridors (is already the case), not enough space in the lunch all, bigger classrooms (current numbers are already difficult for teachers to cope with), not enough support, too many children hanging out around the school (already too much litter on the ground)		I would support the proposal for a short period of time, if the necessary actions (e. g. more staff and adaptations to the building) are in place. I would also like to council to look specifically at how this will affect children with additional needs, as they are the first to suffer from a busier environment and a lack of support.	Yes	
Trying to keep children living in a community going to a school with in that community.	Although I am for keeping kids living in Bridge of Don going to a Bridge of Don school I worry that the present schools can not cope with the rise in numbers of pupils. Why do housing developers keep getting the go ahead to build thousands of new houses if the infrastructure to support all the new residents is also not updated. There is to be 7000 new houses built in the Grandhome area. Build new schools. It only makes sense. You can't expect the present schools to just take them all in, making the classes bigger and putting pressure on the teachers and over all the school as a whole. Being a teacher is challenging enough without having over crowded classrooms. You want the schools to produce better students for our future stop cramming them in to classes where the teacher has no time to teach any of them individually! Bucksburn Academy is already being extended even though it's a new school because of all the houses that are being built in that area. They have the same situation happening there. Lots of houses being built. Build more schools!		Say yes to building new houses but make the house builders keep their promises to build the communities with the houses. We all want the community to work. Adding more pressure to the existing schools in the area will end a decline of education. I'm all for living in Bridge of Don and do going to school in Bridge of Don. Support the schools properly. Give them what they need. More manageable class numbers.	Yes	Build more schools!!!!
Geographically a sensible option. Makes sense not to have pupils travelling across Persley Bridge and all the way to Bucksburn Academy, crossing a number of major roads on the way.	Main concerns I have are the suitability of Oldmarcher Academy and the provision of teaching staff to cope with the additional numbers. I appreciate that on paper Oldmarcher has the capacity for these extra pupils but is this just classroom space? Are there enough specialist classrooms and are they equipped to cope with the increase in pupils? E.g. Science labs; computing rooms; PE halls and more importantly changing areas. Where do pupils go at break times/lunch times etc? The canteen is struggling to cope with numbers already, and pupils complain of nowhere to sit. This lack of social space leads to high numbers leaving the building at break and lunch times which causes more problems around local shops etc. There is also a high level of vandalism within the school which I believe, at least in part, is caused by boredom and lack of areas to go to. Add more than 300 extra pupils to this is going to exacerbate the situation unless extra social/break out spaces are found. In the 2015 report the state of building and suitability of Oldmarcher was rated as C, poor, surely something needs to be done to improve this if accommodating more pupils and potentially taking the school to capacity by 2026? And what then? When will a decision on a new school be made? How long to then get it ready? As with so many schools there are problems recruiting staff for Oldmarcher. What is going to be done to ensure extra staff are in place to guarantee quality education for every child? Already German has gone; drama hasn't been available for years, although I believe they are trying to recruit for this next year; there is regularly a shortage of teachers in maths and science departments and now the current S3 are being told that design and technology subjects will not be on offer for their Nat 5 year as there are no staff available. With all the focus on STEM subjects this is a shocking position to be in and my concern is that adding extra pupils will lead to more cover teachers not knowing the subjects and effectively less choice and a watered down education for all, or more travel from a younger age to attend subjects in other schools (yes this can be character building and let pupils mix with others sharing their interests, all very well in S6 and to a certain extent S5 but I'm not happy at the thought of S4 pupils spending hours a week on buses and potentially missing class teaching time to attend classes at schools around the city). The health and well-being of every pupil at Oldmarcher must be taken into account when addressing how to make this work. Can we get assurances that the increase in numbers will not have a detrimental affect on health and well-being of current and new pupils. Another concern is the additional traffic - with pupils potentially travelling further to school there is likely to be a big increase in numbers being dropped off by parents. With no allocated drop off area and a main road right outside the school this proves an issue to the safety of those being driven to school and others walking.		On the whole I support the proposal, as stated at the beginning it makes geographical sense, but all the issues surrounding the suitability of the building, GIRFEC and staffing concerns need to be dealt with . I think parents and school staff also have a right to know long term plans. Previously the possibility of demolishing Oldmarcher and Bridge of Don was spoken about with a brand new academy for the whole area. With the school and parent council working together at present on proposals to develop the quad area within the school to provide outdoor classroom space, a performance area, social areas and break out areas for pupils (all much needed and wanted by pupils, staff and parents alike) it is only fair that we are given information on longer term plans too, beyond 2026. This development would be a fantastic asset to the school long term but is likely to cost £100000s and take years to complete so it would be heartbreaking to put in all the time, effort and money only to be told couple of years later that it is to be ripped down.	Yes	
Sensible rezone to maintain a school roll at Oldmarcher and reduce strain on Bucksburn academies. Clarity for prospective residents at Grandhome until such time secondary school provision is required.	No concerns. It is the most sensible option.			Yes	
The safety of pupils is being considered for travelling to school and it will be beneficial to reduce travelling time.	Oldmarcher already has temporary classrooms in the form of fabricated huts and buildings that have been there for years. By 2026 predicted roll numbers make the school close to capacity, these numbers could be higher than predicted. The school is dated and may not cope well with the way the education system is progressing (based on my views as an ex-pupil between 1998 and 2002 with a child zoned for Oldmarcher in 2029)		I think that the re-zoning is a good initial idea but improvements need to be made regarding the secondary schools in Bridge of Don for the long term. Better facilities are required for secondary education and ultimately new schools need to be built.	Yes	
That the children can walk or cycle to school within 10 minutes and avoid any busy many roads. As well as parents not having to take them.	Over crowding at Oldmarcher when there aren't enough staff at the moment. I believe it is fine just now and for the children who currently live in the Grandhome estate. But further down the line the newer homes may not fit at the school.			Yes	It seems insane for anyone living in grandhome, which essentially is bridge of don to go all the way to Bucksburn. People buy homes in certain areas for a reason. The danger of children trying to get to Bucksburn is ludicrous. Not to mention extra traffic and accidents.
Children won't have to travel to Bucksburn	School placing availability and amount of kids at school. How are the school going to protect my child from the dangers of drug dealing at the school? Will there be enough staff to deal with this?			Yes	

The safety of young people in the Grandhome development	School capacity Teacher capacity Safety in the area at drop-off/collect time and congestion with traffic coming from Asda at the same time.		There are real concerns over the staffing of the school - some important subjects are not currently offered and there are concerns that this will not improve in the next couple of years, despite there apparently being less vacancies. We need to ensure that Oldmachar is fully staffed and resourced for just now as well as with a significantly enhanced school roll.	Yes	With the proviso that it is fully resourced and the buildings are fit for purpose
Makes sense to remove the zoning to bucksburn when it's over the other side of the river.	Struggling for teachers as it is.		That they'll help and support the school as it gets busier	Yes	
It obviously makes geographical sense for the area to be rezoned to Oldmachar and for a whole housing development to be zoned to the same school.	This consultation has highlighted the rapidly rising roll at Oldmachar and the lack of long term plans for the school estate in Bridge of Don and Danestone despite a rapidly increasing population due to new housing. My concerns are that if Oldmachar is at or near capacity the building is not suitable for that number of pupils. Particularly a lack of social space, break out areas and canteen facilities. If all investment is into a new school in the Grandhome estate my concern is there will be no investment into Oldmachar and current and future pupils will suffer. Safety of pupils as they arrive to and leave from school is another concern. There is no safe drop off or pick up zone and those in the proposed rezoned area are (realistically) unlikely to walk as it is a significant distance. Where will staff come from to teach the extra pupils? And how will current staff be resourced and supported to care for the increased number of pupils. A long term plan for the school estate in our community is essential. An ageing school estate and many new houses across several developments mean creating a long term plan in consultation with the community must be a priority.		This proposal at first glance initially appears to be a sensible and minor change to zoned school areas. But it raised several important issues that if aren't addressed will have a negative impact on the education, and the health and well being, of current and future pupils. The council must commit to addressing these - in the context of addressing issues across the whole of it's school estate.	Yes	I support the proposal IF the above concerns are addressed.
There are no positives for the current young people at Oldmachar	Very little concern from ACC or forward thinking by ACC for an increasing school roll in a school building which was and is rated poor. How do you expect a school roll to increase from 716 to 1104 in a building rated as poor and very little prospects for improvement. I'm concerned about the pupil to new house build ratios built into the projected school roll calculations - they appear very light and I feel totally underestimate the predicted school roll. I'm also concerned that past predictions for bridge of Don school rolls, eg Greenbrae, have been way off predictions so what happens if we end up having a burst full school in 2-3 years time, with no space for children or their learning and wellbeing? This isn't good enough or responsible governance of your city's education or wellbeing of the next generation. I'm also concerned that the revised capacity being proposed soon, will not take account of the space constraints/ lack of flexibility in our school and will be pushed to the current capacity figures to ensure that no further spend is needed in the school. What support is being offered to the school management to assist with this large influx of pupils into the school. Where and how can we attract teachers to educate all this additional children? Who will want to work in a school that is in a very poor condition, has space issues which may affect pupil behaviour? Oldmachar has virtually no social spaces or safe spaces for children to occupy in their lunch or break times which isn't conducive to positive behaviours at the moment. So adding another 400 children into this mix will seriously affect the working of the school and the children's well being. How are they all going to get fed at lunch times - children often highlight issues with space and queuing at the moment? What about the safety of our children and local community around the school at drop off and pick up times - there is no where to park right now, add another 400 children being dropped off/picked up and this will be a recipe for an accident. The bridge of don area have been promised a review of its school estate for over 10 years now and nothing appears to have been done by ACC. Our children are the future for our area and the city so please take action on the services available to them.		See above.	Yes	I have answered yes to the proposal based on ACC taking responsibility for the children currently in the area in a school that really isn't fit for purpose for over 1000 children.