

From: Foi Enquiries

Sent: 15 January 2020 16:56

Subject: FOI-19-1703 - Milltimber South

Thank you for your information request of 18 December 2019. Aberdeen City Council (ACC) has completed the necessary search for the information requested. Our response is now detailed below and attachments are sent in Email 2 of 2.

The emails are available on demand from foienquiries@aberdeencity.gov.uk

The following information is requested in relation to the Council's 2017 Based Aberdeen City School Roll Forecasts (School Roll Forecasts):

- 1. Provide a copy of the latest 'Housebuyers Survey' that is used by Aberdeen City Council to calculate the 'Pupils/Household' factors in the School Roll Forecasts.**

Information not held. The pupil per household ratios for each area of the city were calculated a number of years ago using a housebuyers survey carried out at that time, and have been rolled forward each year. The Housebuyers Survey used at the time was not retained.

We are unable to provide you with information on **the latest 'Housebuyers Survey'** as it is not held by ACC. In order to comply with our obligations under the terms of Section 17 of the FOISA, we hereby give notice that this information is not held by us.

- 2. Confirm the 'P1-P7 Distribution Rates' applied to Milltimber Primary School, Culter Primary School, Cults Primary School, St Joseph's Primary School, Ashley Road Primary School, Gilcomstoun Primary School, Mile End Primary School, and Skene Square Primary School.**

Prim Class/Yr Distribution Factor

P I	0.17
P II	0.16
P III	0.16
P IV	0.14
P V	0.13
P VI	0.12
P VII	0.12

Sec Class/Yr Distribution Factor

S I	0.25
S II	0.25
S III	0.25
S IV	0.25

- 3. Confirm the 'Proportional Adjustment Factor' applied to: Cults Academy and its associated feeder primary schools; and Aberdeen Grammar School and its associated feeder primary schools.**

	Proportional Adjustment Factor							
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Aberdeen Grammar								
Primary Schools	1.00632	1.1713	0.98724	1.00425	1.00362	0.99582	0.99281	0.974
Secondary Schools	1.0173	0.95284	0.94712	0.93924	0.94124	0.94657	0.95064	0.9753
Cults Academy								
Primary Schools	0.99384	1.0178	0.99676	1.00166	1.00172	0.99993	0.99912	0.99364
Secondary Schools	1.00743	0.97859	0.99111	0.98721	0.99742	0.99891	0.99621	1.00566
Lairhillock Adj.	0.99673	0.99673	0.99673	1.01049	0.98547	0.96534	0.95438	0.94847

4. Confirm how the ‘Parents Charter’ factors applied in the *School Roll Projections* are derived and applied to the forecasting, and why this factor is not applied consistently to all forecast years.

Parent Charter figures are set based on historical trends for the school and usually applied equally across the forecast years, these are revised year on year when it becomes known how many pupils there were in P1 relative to the number of eligible preschool children there were in the catchment in the related year.

Forecasts are generally published some time towards the end of April. At this time, schools have initial registrations from parents in the area planning to place their child in school in the following August. This gives an indication of the number of pupils we are likely to have in the first forecast year. If the predicted P1 intake is somewhat higher/lower than the initial registrations figure, the Parent Charter will be adjusted to provide a more accurate estimate of P1 intake.

5. Confirm how the Council calculates the capacities of its schools (primary and secondary) referenced in the *School Roll Forecasts*, including whether the Council adopts Scottish Government’s *Determining Primary School Capacity (2014)* guidance.

Primary school capacities are calculated in accordance with the Scottish Government *Determining Primary School Capacity (2014)* guidance document.

For secondary schools the following methodology is used to calculate the school’s functional capacity, as referenced in the school roll forecasts document:

A secondary school’s theoretical capacity (T) is calculated based on the number of practical (P) and non-practical (N) classroom spaces in the building. According to class size maxima set by Scottish Government, a practical classroom will have space for a maximum of 20 pupils and a non-practical classroom 30 pupils. The following formula is therefore used to calculate the theoretical capacity:

$$T = (P \times 20) + (N \times 30)$$

Schools are expected to provide an appropriate range of curricular choice for all pupils, which cannot be achieved if all classrooms are in use at any one time. Schools therefore operate a timetable where up to 60% of their theoretical classroom capacity is in use at any one time.

To provide additional flexibility for use of space to support pupils with additional support needs, an additional “capacity allowance” is given to schools according to their rating in the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation. Schools with the highest index rating are given 10% additional allowance, ‘medium’ schools are given 5% additional allowance and schools serving areas of lowest deprivation are given 0% additional allowance.

This means for example that Aberdeen Grammar School (lowest deprivation) has a functional capacity of 60% of its theoretical capacity, Harlaw Academy (medium deprivation) has a functional capacity of 55% of its theoretical capacity, and the functional capacity of Northfield Academy (highest deprivation) is 50% of its theoretical capacity.

The catchment area for Cults Academy includes Lairhillock Primary School, which is within the Aberdeenshire Council area.

6. Confirm how pupils from the Aberdeenshire Council area are factored into the *School Roll Projections* for Cults Academy.

60% of Lairhillock Primary school P7 population is applied to the S1 roll in each related forecast year, to represent the proportion of Lairhillock Primary pupils from the Maryculter West area that are zoned to the Academy.

7. Provide a copy of the 2019/20 (or latest available) school roll for Lairhillock Primary School (Aberdeenshire) as applied in the *School Roll Projections* for Cults Academy. Please provide this information broken into year groups.

The Lairhillock figures applied to the 2017 forecasts are provided at the back of the 2017 School Roll Forecast Report, available here : <https://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/services/education-and-childcare/schools-and-education/schools-pupil-roll-forecasts>.

The following information is requested in relation to the latest school roll information from the 2019/20 School Year:

8. Confirm the 2019/20 school roll for: Cults Academy and its associated feeder primary schools; and Aberdeen Grammar School and its associated feeder primary schools.

<u>School</u>	<u>Sept 2019 Roll</u>
Cults Academy	1041
Cults School	587
Culter School	321
Milltimber School	243
Aberdeen Grammar School	1088
Mile End School	499
Ashley Road School	402
Gilcomstoun School	245
Skene Square School	321

9. Provide a copy of the Council’s latest available school roll projections for the Council area and/or any other assessment that is currently being used by the Council to identify capacity constraints at schools.

This is available here : <https://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/services/education-and-childcare/schools-and-education/schools-pupil-roll-forecasts>

10. Confirm the number of successful out-of-catchment placing requests (including appeals) into Milltimber Primary School and Cults Academy, including the origin school of the pupils.

Milltimber 10 – Origin school – 8 Culter, 1 Kaimhill & 1 unknown

Cults 11 – Origin school – 3 Lochside, 2 Hazlehead, 2 Harlaw, 1 St Machar & 3 not known.

There were no successful appeals for either school.

The following information is requested in relation to the use of planning obligations gathered in the Milltimber Primary School, St Joseph Primary School and Cults Academy catchment areas:

- 11. Confirm if sites from the Aberdeenshire Council area that are within the catchment areas of St Joseph's Primary or Cults Academy have (including how much) or are expected to contribute proportionately to mitigating any impacts on education infrastructure in the Aberdeen City Council area and how this is managed in practice.**

There are currently no sites in Aberdeenshire which have contributed or are expected to contribute to education infrastructure within these areas of Aberdeen City.

It is noted that financial contributions are being collected by the Council for secondary school infrastructure from developments within the catchment area of Cults Academy, including the proposal at Oldfold Farm (application reference 130378).

- 12. Confirm what mitigation the Council is intending to implement to mitigate the impact of new pupils from development within the catchment of Cults Academy, including the indicative timescale and costs of the identified mitigation solution.**

A new larger replacement Milltimber School is to be constructed. Reconfiguration works have recently been completed at Cults School. No other future works are planned at present within the Cults Academy catchment to mitigate the impact of new housing development. Work will be planned and implemented at the appropriate time to create any new capacity that may be required.

- 13. Confirm the total number of new homes and their locations, which the Council expects to contribute towards the capacity solution at Cults Academy.**

Not applicable – no capacity solution currently planned for Cults Academy (see response to Q. 12)

- 14. Provide the specifications of the current Milltimber Primary School i.e. number of classrooms, floor areas and details of any ancillary facilities, including community facilities and nursery provision. This should include a description and, where available, any associated plans and drawings**

The existing school building is open plan comprising 7 class spaces (571.8sqm) laid out around a central gym / dining hall. A modular classroom unit on site provides 2 further classrooms (146 sqm). The school also has 1 general purpose space (74.8sqm), an additional support needs room (95sqm), a library (75sqm) and a nursery (96.4sqm).

Please see floorplan attached: [Milltimber School](#). (sent in Email 2 of 2)

- 15. Confirm the scale and specification of the proposed new primary school to be provided at Milltimber i.e. number of classrooms, floor areas and details of any ancillary facilities, including community facilities and nursery provision. This should include a description and, where available, any associated plans and drawings.**

The new Replacement Milltimber School will be a two-stream primary school (434 pupil capacity) with early learning and childcare provision (60 pupil capacity) and will be located at the new Oldfold development. The new building is designed to provide opportunities for community use while recognising the need for security for all school users. The new school will also accommodate users out of school hours (including breakfast club / afterschool club). The school hall, dining area, meeting room, toilets and GP rooms may be used out of school hours and as such will be designed in a way to allow for easy segregation. The all-weather 3G pitch will provide additional outdoor sports provision for pupils during core school time and for community use via Aberdeen City Council's lettings system.

Please see plans and drawings attached: December- Presentation Boards (1). (Sent in Email 2 of 2)

16. Confirm the estimated cost of the new primary school at Milltimber and how this cost has been derived.

The final cost of the project has not yet been established. Estimated costs are commercially sensitive and cannot be made publicly available as they could adversely affect the procurement process currently under way.

17. Confirm the total number of new homes and their locations which the Council expects to contribute towards the new primary school at Milltimber Primary School.

786 new homes (including 258 to be constructed after 2026), broken down as follows:

TOR-NA-DEE HOSPITAL	106
CULTER HOUSE ROAD	5
EDGEHILL ROAD	5
OLDFOLD	550
WATERWHEEL INN	20
EXISTING MILLTIMBER SCHOOL SITE	60
ALLOWANCE FOR SMALL SITES	40

18. Confirm the total level of financial contribution (if any), which the Council expects to make toward the new primary school at Milltimber.

This figure will not be known until financial close on the project is reached and a confirmed figure for the cost of the new school is available.

19. Confirm the basis and provide a copy of any evidence for the cost per pupil adopted in the *Supplementary Guidance: Planning Obligations*.

The per pupil rates in the tables on page 12 of the Planning Obligations Supplementary Guidance represent the actual cost (at the time of producing the SG) of building / extending a school in Aberdeen. For the avoidance of doubt, the costs include any necessary groundworks. The per pupil rates were reviewed against the build costs for Stoneywood Primary, Riverbank Primary and Lochside Academy prior to adoption of the SG and were found to be proportionate and to accurately reflect actual build costs.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE HANDLING OF YOUR REQUEST

We handled your request for information in accordance with the provisions of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002. Please refer to the attached PDF for more information about your rights under FOISA.

We hope this helps with your request.

Yours sincerely,



Tomina Egbuson | Access to Information Officer

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