

"Connecting People, Places and Learning" Learning Estate Management Plan • November 2021



Education & Children's Services
Improving Lives Together
Ambition | Compassion | Integrity



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1 Introduction

The Education & Children's Services (ECS) Learning Estate Strategy outlines the strategy to consider the development and management of the Learning Estate in context of meeting national and local outcomes, planning ahead and providing best value and benefits to our communities. The Learning Estate Strategy aligns with and complements the Council's recently approved Investment Blueprint and 30-year Investment Plan. Representing approximately 80% of the Council's property estate, the Learning Estate Strategy will help to inform development of the Council's Corporate Property Asset Management Strategy which will set out the future strategy direction for all Council-owned property assets.

The strategy details the overall strategic context of the strategy, how we currently deliver on the principles of the national Learning Estate Strategy and our way forward in terms of improvement actions. It outlines that we are already focused on many of the principles of the national strategy, however, there are a number of areas for improvement through the strategy.

This Learning Estate Management Plan (LEMP) delivers the Learning Estate Strategy. See **Appendix 2A** for the governance structure. The LEMP provides a review of the property assets used by ECS to deliver its services, outline current improvements and provide details of proposals for delivering improvements, as identified in the Learning Estate Strategy. The LEMP will be reviewed every 3 years.



2.1 Portfolio Overview

The Learning Estate consists of 70 primary schools and 11 secondary schools. This includes 4 all-through schools and 1 joint denominational/non-denominational school. There is 1 stand-alone nursery¹ and 1 Additional Support Needs (ASN) school.

Specialist additional support provision is provided in 8 of our primary schools and 3 secondary schools. In addition, there are support facilities provided at Connections and NAVIGATE.

Appendix 2B provides details of the schools within the Learning Estate.

Six of our schools are managed through Public Private Partnership (PPP) arrangements and 1 school is managed through Design Build Facilities Management (DBFM). The remaining estate is managed directly by the Council.

2.2 Condition

Property Services are responsible for the infrastructure of schools in relation to condition. Condition relates to the current state of the fabric of school buildings and whether it is safe and secure. Property Services, as landlords of the Learning Estate, undertake the condition surveys and this provides information on key aspects of property compliance, such as electrical, mechanical and building elements. This information is then used to allow plans to be made to undertake works where required. Property Services are also responsible for undertaking maintenance and servicing within the schools managed directly by the Council.

The overall condition of schools is reported on an annual basis to the Scottish Government as part of the Core Fact data². Table 1 below details the overall condition of our school buildings reported to the Scottish Government in May 2021.

The definition used for the overall ratings are as follows:

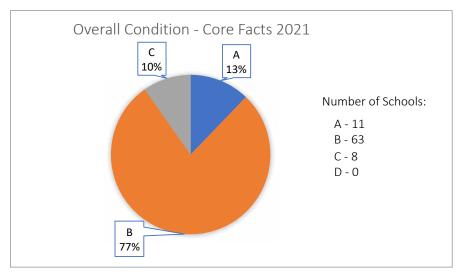
| Overall Rating | Definition - Condition |
|-------------------|--|
| Α | Good - Performing well and operating effectively |
| В | Satisfactory - Performing adequately but showing minor deterioration |
| С | Poor - Showing major defects and/or not operating adequately |
| D | Bad - Economic life expired and/or risk of failure |



¹ Due to flooding, City of Perth Early Childhood Centre (COPECC) (stand-alone nursery) is currently operating within Goodlyburn Primary School on an interim basis.

² Only schools are included in the annual core fact return, therefore, the standalone nursery COPECC is not included.

Table 1: Overall Condition



See **Appendix 2B** for condition overall ratings of individual schools.

A new template for assessing a building's condition is currently being implemented by Property Services which is based on refreshed Scottish Government guidance. The new process has been prepared to 'strengthen the risk-based approach to condition surveys and ensure greater uniformity in the scope and methodology applied to each school'.

The timescale for implementation of the new assessment process has been delayed due to COVID-19 restrictions, however, it is the intention this new assessment methodology will be applied as soon as possible to do so. The new process has been carried out across 20% of the Learning Estate.

The table below details the 8 schools which have an overall rating of condition C, together with the actions intended to improve condition at these schools.

Table 2: Schools - Condition Overall Rating C

| School | Action |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Balbeggie Primary School | Part of Phase 3 of School Estate Transformation Programme. |
| Balhousie Primary School | New school will replace both Balhousie Primary School and North Muirton Primary School on the site of North Muirton Primary School. The new school is planned to be completed Easter 2023. |
| Cleish Primary School | Further detailed analysis is being carried out for improving the condition and suitability of the school. |
| Logiealmond Primary School | The occupancy is to be reviewed in 2022. |
| Methven Primary School | Funds drawn down to commence a project to replace both the dining/gym facilities to improve the condition of Methven Primary School. |
| North Muirton Primary School | As per Balhousie Primary School above. |
| Perth High School | Replacement school, target completion date mid-2024. |
| Ruthvenfield Primary School | Upgrade planned to improve condition. Timescale to be confirmed. |



2.3 Suitability

Suitability is a measure of whether a school is fit for the purpose of delivery of the education curriculum. We undertake suitability surveys on a cyclical basis within schools. This allows us to determine how well spaces are being used in ways that contribute to supporting the delivery of the curriculum and identify any areas where improvements require to be made to enhance their function.

A new template for assessing suitability is now being used and this is based on refreshed Scottish Government guidance. The new process has been prepared to 'strengthen the links between the Learning Estate and its suitability for delivering Curriculum for Excellence'.

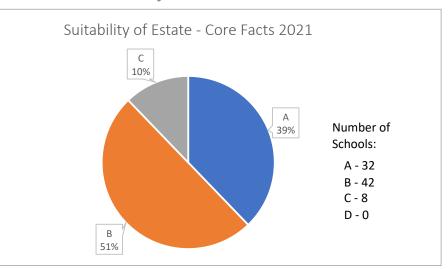
The overall suitability rating of schools is also reported on an annual basis to the Scottish Government as part of the Core Fact data³. Table 3 below details the overall suitability ratings of our school buildings reported to the Scottish Government in May 2021.

| Overall Rating | Definition - Suitability |
|-------------------|--|
| Α | Good - Performing well and operating effectively (the school buildings and grounds support the delivery of services to children and communities) |
| В | Satisfactory - Performing well but with minor problems (the school buildings and grounds generally support the delivery of services to children and communities) |

³ Only schools are included in the annual core fact return, therefore, the standalone nursery City of Perth Early Childhood Centre (COPECC) is not included.

| Overall Rating | Definition - Suitability |
|-------------------|---|
| С | Poor - Showing major problems and/or not operating optimally (the school buildings and grounds impede the delivery of activities that are needed for children and communities in the school) |
| D | Bad - Does not support the delivery of services to children and communities (the school buildings and grounds seriously impede the delivery of activities that are needed for children and communities in the school) |

Table 3: Overall Suitability



See **Appendix 2B** for overall suitability ratings of individual schools.



The table below details the 8 schools which have an overall rating of suitability C, together with the actions intended to improve suitability at these schools.

Table 4: Schools - Suitability Overall Rating C

| School | Action |
|------------------------------|---|
| Blairgowrie High School | Replacement Blairgowrie Recreation Centre (Physical Education (PE) department) planned to open November 2023. |
| Braco Primary School | Options for upgrade/replacement are currently being progressed. Timeline estimated to be 2024. |
| Cleish Primary School | Further detailed analysis is being carried out for improving the condition and suitability of the school. |
| Milnathort Primary School | Currently under review. |
| Muthill Primary School | Currently under review. |
| Perth Academy | Upgrade phased programme underway. |
| Perth Grammar School | Upgrade phased programme underway. |
| Perth High School | Replacement school, estimated completion mid-2024. |

2.4 School Occupancy

The efficient use of property assets is crucial to an effective property portfolio, particularly in the current economic climate. This requires the identification of underutilised assets and examining ways of either utilising them more efficiently by increasing occupation levels, or by vacating and declaring the asset surplus, and this is taken forward through the Learning Estate Transformation Programme. Tables 5 and 6 below details the current occupancy rates for primary and secondary schools.

See **Appendix 2B** for the current occupancy level of individual schools.

Table 5: Primary School - Occupancy Levels (based on number of schools as at Census 2020)

| | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 |
|-------------------------|---------|---|---------|
| Above 80% | 24 | 24 | 21 |
| 60% - 80% | 28 | 25 | 26 |
| Below 60% | 19 | 21 | 23 |
| Total number of schools | 71 | 70 | 70 |
| Comments | | Blairingone Primary School closed | |

Table 6: Secondary School - Occupancy Levels (as at Census 2020)

| | 2018/19 % | 2019/20 % | 2020/21 % |
|----------------------------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|
| Bertha Park High School | Not applicable | 19 | 31 |
| Blairgowrie High School | 68 | 68 | 72 |
| Breadalbane Academy | 54 | 54 | 55 |
| Community School of Auchterarder | 64 | 66 | 70 |
| Crieff High School | 61 | 60 | 62 |
| Kinross High School | 79 | 78 | 77 |
| Perth Academy | 80 | 80 | 83 |
| Perth Grammar School | 89 | 74 | 75 |
| Perth High School | 92 | 93 | 97 |
| Pitlochry High School | 47 | 49 | 44 |
| St John's High School | 76 | 68 | 76 |

Capacities

In considering occupancy levels, it is important to consider the overall approved capacity of schools (this is also referred to as planning capacity). It should be noted that the number of pupil places available in a school does not mean the school could accommodate that number of pupils. There is a difference between the approved capacity and working capacity of a school.

The approved capacity is the maximum number of pupils that could attend the school. The working capacity changes every year and is dictated by factors including room size, number of pupils in each year group and the Perth & Kinross Council Staffing Standard. The class structure and staffing standard for each school is agreed before the start of each academic session, depending on the number of children registered. There may only be a number of places available in each year group throughout an academic session. Should pupils, falling within a year group that is full, wish to attend a school during an academic session, they may not get a place.

Work is currently undertaken to review the approved capacity for any schools identified in considering the operational capacities of schools. Table 7 on the next page identifies four schools where it is proposed to change the approved capacity as a result of this analysis.

Table 7: Proposed Approved Capacity Changes

| School | Current Capacity | No of Classes Capacity Based On | Proposed Revised Capacity ⁴ | No of Classes Revised Capacity Based On | Reason for Change |
|---|---------------------|---------------------------------------|--|---|---|
| Coupar Angus Primary School | 333 | 11 | 269 | 9 | Expansion of nursery for 1140 hours and inclusion of specialist ASN provision which utilised available classroom spaces. The school roll, at Census 2020, was 142 pupils, operating from 7 classes, therefore, is below the revised approved capacity. |
| Dunbarney Primary School | 207 | 7 | 232 | 8 | The capacity of 207 is based on 7 classes. The school has been operating from 8 classes since 2012/13. The planning capacity has not changed to date as the school roll has not exceeded the capacity of 207. |
| Newhill Primary School | 423 | 14 | 456 | 15 | The capacity of 423 is based on 14 classes. The school has been operating from 15 classes since school session 2017/2018 as part of working capacity arrangements. The planning capacity has not changed to date as the school roll has not exceeded the capacity of 423. There are 7 general-purpose spaces across the campus and Scottish Government guidance suggests 3 general purpose spaces would be required as a minimum. |
| St Ninian's Episcopal Primary School | 150 | 6 | 99 | 4 | The addition of a nursery for the expansion to 1140 hours for ELC has utilised available classroom space to ensure a sustainable school roll for the school. |

⁴ Note, all schools have sufficient space, including General Purpose space, to accommodate a permanent increase in capacity.



Work is ongoing in taking forward a number of high-level improvements within the Learning Estate to improve the condition and suitability of our schools as well as considering occupancy levels. These are:

- School Estate Transformation Programme.
- 🦊 Investment Capital Programme.

It should be noted that Property Services also have capital and revenue programmes to improve the condition of the Learning Estate, which is on average £2,000,000 per annum. Expenditure is focussed on reactive maintenance and servicing/compliance. There is limited funding for planned maintenance.



3.1 School Estate Transformation Programme

On 24 August 2016, Lifelong Learning Committee (Report No. 16/347 refers ②) approved principles to be used as a basis for the transformation review 'Securing the Future of the School Estate'.

The principles approved by Lifelong Learning Committee as a basis for the transformation review were as follows:

- (i) Schools should have an occupancy rate where possible greater than 60% of the capacity, and ideally should be operating at over 80% capacity;
- (ii) Every school should be rated as A or B, ie at least satisfactory for condition and suitability; and
- (iii) Life expired buildings⁵ within the school estate should be prioritised for replacement.

On 2 November 2016, Lifelong Learning Committee (Report No. 16/485 refers ②) approved the development of a number of options appraisals to consider, in detail, schools which were identified as requiring further consideration.

The outcomes of the transformation programme to date are as follows.

⁵ Life expired buildings are defined as buildings which are uneconomic to maintain.



Completed Projects

| Transformation Project | Outcome/Current Status | | | |
|---|---|--|--|--|
| Phase 1 | | | | |
| Blairingone Primary School | Blairingone Primary School was permanently closed on 28 June 2019 due to low pupil numbers. Catchment area permanently rezoned to Fossoway Primary School. | | | |
| Forteviot Primary School | Forteviot Primary School was permanently closed on 28 June 2019 due to low pupil numbers. Catchment area permanently rezoned to Forgandenny Primary School. | | | |
| Greenloaning Primary School | Greenloaning Primary School was permanently closed on 28 June 2019 due to low pupil numbers. Catchment area permanently rezoned to Braco Primary School. Investment in Braco Primary School is planned. | | | |
| Logiealmond Primary School | Logiealmond Primary School should remain open. Review to be undertaken in 2022. | | | |
| St Ninian's Episcopal Primary School | Project to provide a nursery class is complete. Capacity revision as a result of building works noted in section 2.4 above which utilised a classroom space. | | | |
| Phase 2 | | | | |
| Grandtully Primary School | Education provision continues at Grandfully Primary School as the increased pupil roll is likely to be sustained. | | | |
| Logierait Primary School | Project to provide a nursery class is complete. | | | |

Ongoing Projects

| Transformation Project | Outcome/Current Status | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| Abernyte Primary School | School capacity of 44 pupils to be maintained. Statutory Consultation to be undertaken on a proposal to amend the catchment area to include the area currently within Inchture Primary School catchment area north of the A90. The expected timescale to commence is 2022. | | | |
| Balhousie Primary School/ North Muirton Primary School | A new school to replace both Balhousie Primary School and North Muirton School will be built on the site of North Muirton Primary School. The new school is anticipated to be complete by Easter 2023. | | | |
| Braco Primary School | Feasibilities have been developed for a refurbishment of the existing school and for a new school on the site of the existing school. Investigations are taking place into whether the school can be rebuilt on a different site. | | | |
| Cleish Primary School | Further detailed analysis is being carried out for improving the condition and suitability. The outcome will be reported to a future meeting of the Lifelong Learning Committee, anticipated to be January 2022. | | | |
| Methven Primary School | Project to replace the gym/PE facilities to improve the condition of Methven Primary School is ongoing. The capacity will be reduced to 176 pupils following completion of the project. | | | |
| Pitlochry High School | Proposals are being developed to maximise wider community use of Pitlochry High School and to look at property and community facilities in conjunction with other services and partners. | | | |
| | A scoping exercise on the possibility of making Kirkmichael Primary School catchment area a dual secondary school catchment area for both Pitlochry High School and Blairgowrie High School has taken place. A feasibility study is underway to provide options for consideration in terms of accommodation use and facilities for Perth College UHI and the wider community. | | | |
| Ruthvenfield Primary School/ Strategic Sites | A new primary school is to be built to provide capacity for pupils from the strategic sites being progressed to the north and northwest of Perth. A statutory consultation is being undertaken in respect of the establishment of the school, new catchment areas proposed, and associated changes required by the Schools Consultation (Scotland) Act 2010. Ruthvenfield Primary School will continue to operate from their existing building at this time with a new catchment area created. | | | |



Phase 3 - Final Phase

Further information on the final phase of the programme will be available on conclusion of the second phase. The following primary schools are in the final phase of the programme:

- Balbeggie Primary School
- Collace Primary School
- Coupar Angus Primary School
- ❖ Glendelvine Primary School
- Kettins Primary School
- Meigle Primary School
- Stanley Primary School



3.2 Investment - Capital Programme

Since 2016, the Council has invested in the delivery of 4 replacement primary schools along with major upgrades at 2 primary schools and 4 secondary schools. A new secondary school, Bertha Park High School, was completed and opened to pupils in August 2019. Investment has also been delivered in ELC with upgrade projects completed in 18 settings which have provided new or enhanced provision to extend nursery provision to 1140 hours. See **Appendix 2C** for further details relating to completed investment projects.

Current Capital Programme

The Council approved its updated 8-year capital programme in October 2021. A total of £81m has been invested since 2015/2016. The programme will deliver £160m of further improvements to the Learning Estate between 2021 and 2029.

The current projects in the capital programme are detailed in section 5.



4 Future Investment

4.1 The Perth & Kinross Offer and Investment Blueprint for the Future

The Perth & Kinross Offer (*'The Offer'*) establishes a new direction for the Council which will transform the way we work with our communities, citizens, partners, businesses, employees and other stakeholders, to ensure that public services can be co-created and delivered sustainably to achieve better outcomes for the people of Perth and Kinross.

The Council has recently approved the Investment Blueprint and 30-year Investment Plan. The Blueprint is intended to help the Council identify future investment priorities and to establish a more transparent and flexible approach to investment decision-making, ensuring that capital investment fits with delivery of The Offer and is responsive to the changing needs within our communities.

4.2 Investment Prioritisation

There are a number of areas which are driving the prioritisation of the Learning Estate. This is an integrated programme which considers input from Property Services, Education & Children's Services and Corporate Asset Management:

- the School Estate Transformation Programme which considers condition, suitability and occupancy/ sufficiency; and
- Life-Expired Buildings.

In addition to these core prioritisation factors, other areas also drive the prioritisation of projects:

- Accessibility/Additional Support Needs;
- Digital Learning;
- Early Learning and Childcare;
- Energy Efficiency and Low Carbon;
- Property related compliance works;
- Locality Planning/Local Place Plans; and
- Outdoor Learning.



4 Future Investment

4.3 Key Influences

The Learning Estate has been developed over many years and will continue to support our local and national priorities for years to come. The longevity of the Learning Estate requires it to adapt to changes in learning, legislation, technology and society.

Key drivers for change, in the life of this Strategy, are considered in terms of political, economic, social, technical, legal and environmental influences on the Learning Estate and the Learning Estate Strategy. The detailed PESTLE analysis is contained in Appendix 2D.

| Category | Drivers | |
|---------------|---|--|
| Political | 30-year blueprint for Scotland's infrastructure | After school and holiday care |
| | Scottish Government Learning Estate Investment Plan | ♣ Gaelic Medium Education |
| | Council's Investment Blueprint and 30-year Investment plan | Additional Support for Learning (ASL) Review |
| Economic | ♣ Increased demand on the construction industry | ♣ Tender price inflation |
| Social | The Perth & Kinross Offer | ♣ Population change |
| Technical | ♣ Digital Strategy | Council's Interim Climate Change Emergency |
| | Construction Quality | Report |
| | Revised Building Standard Regulations | Net Zero Low Carbon Building Standard |
| Legal | The Education (Scotland) Act 2016 | United Nations Convention on the Rights of |
| | The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 | the Child |
| Environmental | Protecting Scotland's Future: The Government's Programme for Scotland 2019-2020 - net zero carbon targets | COVID-19 measures |

4 Future Investment

4.4 Key Risks

| Risk Description | Impact (Scale 1-5) | Probability (Scale 1-5) | Action Plan to Mitigate Risk |
|--|-----------------------|----------------------------|--|
| Insufficient capital funding to undertake projects. | 4 | 4 | Council briefed on capital requirements as part of budget process. |
| There is a health and safety risk if essential maintenance is not undertaken. | 4 | 2 | Ensure cyclical condition surveys undertaken and essential maintenance identified and taken forward. |
| The increasing complexity of buildings and the life cycle of new technology will increase the cost of maintenance. | 3 | 4 | Additional priority and funding required. |



The following plan details actions which will contribute towards the management and improvement of the Learning Estate in Perth and Kinross. The plan indicates which of the principles in the Learning Estate Strategy that each action supports. See Appendix 2E for details for the guiding principles of the national strategy.

These actions will be delivered through the following programmes:

- School Estate Transformation Programme;
- Asset Management Programme; and
- Capital Investment Programme.

The plan also details improvement actions which are required to deliver the new Learning Estate Strategy and The Perth & Kinross Offer.



Action Plan

1 Transformation Programme

| Actio | on | Task | Current Proposed Investment | Target Completion Date | Principles | Expected Outcome |
|-------|--|--|-----------------------------------|---|------------------------|---|
| 1.1 | Transformation | - Phase 1 | | | | |
| 1.1.1 | Abernyte Primary School | Statutory consultation to be undertaken on a proposal to amend the catchment area. | | December 2022 | 1, 2, 3, 4 | Possibility of increasing the catchment area to include the area currently within Inchture Primary School catchment area north of the A90. |
| 1.1.2 | Logiealmond Primary School | Review the occupancy in 2022. | | December 2022 | 1, 2, 3, 4 | Review occupancy of school following the outcome of the options appraisal in 2018. |
| 1.2 | Transformation | - Phase 2 | | | | |
| 1.2.1 | Cleish Primary School | Feasibility design to be completed. | | January 2022 | 1, 2, 3, 4 | Completed works to improve the overall condition and suitability which are currently rated 'C'. |
| 1.2.2 | Kirkmichael Primary School Secondary Catchment | Undertake a scoping exercise. | | November 2021 | 3, 8 | Possibility of making Kirkmichael Primary School catchment area a dual secondary school catchment area for both Pitlochry High School and Blairgowrie High School. |
| 1.2.3 | Highland Perthshire Learning Partnership Property Sub- Group | Undertake feasibility study to provide options for flexible use of the accommodation including facilities for Perth College UHI. | | Expected completion of the feasibility December 2021 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9 | Provide facilities to accommodate flexible learning opportunities for senior phase pupils within Pitlochry High School as well as facilities for Perth College UHI also taking into consideration wider community use. Developed feasibility study will provide options for consideration in terms of accommodation use and facilities for Perth College UHI and the wider community. |

| Actio | n | Task | Current Proposed Investment | Target Completion Date | Principles | Expected Outcome |
|-------|--------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|------------|--|
| 1.2 | Transformation | - Phase 2 (continued) | | | | |
| 1.2.4 | Strategic Sites | A statutory consultation will be undertaken in respect of the establishment of the school, new catchment areas proposed, and associated changes required by the Schools Consultation (Scotland) Act 2010. Ruthvenfield Primary School will continue to operate from their existing building at this time with a new catchment area created. | | May 2022 | 1, 2, 3, 8 | New catchment areas will be created. |
| 1.3 | Transformation | - Phase 3 | | | | |
| 1.3.1 | Transformation - Phase 3 | It is agreed the following primary schools are in the final phase of the programme: Balbeggie, Collace, Coupar Angus, Glendelvine, Kettins, Meigle and Stanley. | | To be confirmed | 1, 2, 3 | Further information on the final phase of the programme will be available on conclusion of the second phase. |

2 Capital Investment Programme

| Actio | on | Task Current Target Proposed Completion Investment Date | | Completion | Principles | Expected Outcome | | | | |
|-------|--|---|-------------|------------------|------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| 2.1 | 2.1 Capital Projects - Schools | | | | | | | | | |
| 2.1.1 | Blairgowrie Recreation Centre | Replacement recreation centre. | £24,000,000 | November 2023 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8 | New recreation centre providing a 6-lane swimming pool, 4 court hall, 2 court hall/ gym, dance studio, fitness suite, village changing, accessible changing and a teaching class for physical education. This project will also be at the cutting edge of building sustainably using the Passivhaus methodology. | | | | |
| 2.1.2 | Braco Primary School | Replacement school. | £5,600,000 | To be confirmed | 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8 | A project to improve the condition and suitability. Timeline to be confirmed. | | | | |
| 2.1.3 | Harris Academy (Dundee City Council) | Extension to Harris Academy by DCC | £4,200,000 | August 2024 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8 | Capacity of Harris Academy increased and pupils from Invergowrie Primary School continue to be entitled to attend. | | | | |
| 2.1.4 | Methven Primary School | Replacement dining and PE facilities. | £4,500,000 | Late 2023 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8 | Replacement of life-expired buildings, Improved condition and suitability. | | | | |
| 2.1.5 | New Primary School - Bertha Park | New school. | £14,350,000 | Summer 2026 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8 | Provide a new school to accommodate pupils from housebuilding. | | | | |
| 2.1.6 | New Primary School - North Perth | New school. | £19,900,000 | Easter 2023 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8 | New school on the site of the existing North Muirton to provide a 16 class 500 capacity school with an ASN base. This school will replace the existing schools at Balhousie and North Muirton. | | | | |

| Action | Task | Current Proposed Investment | Target Completion Date | Principles | Expected Outcome | | | | |
|--|---|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| 2.1 Capital Projects - Schools (continued) | | | | | | | | | |
| 2.1.7 Perth Academy | Upgrade programme. | £16,700,000 | Phased | 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8 | An infrastructure and upgrade programme of works, next phase is considering the upgrade of the science block and further infrastructure works throughout the school. | | | | |
| 2.1.8 Perth Grammar School | Upgrade programme. | £7,050,000 | Phased | 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8 | An infrastructure and upgrade programme of works, next phase of scope is further toilet upgrades, class upgrades and social space upgrades with further infrastructure works throughout the school. | | | | |
| 2.1.9 Perth High School | Replacement school. | £58,300,000 | Mid 2024 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8 | New school on existing site for 1,600 pupils using a modern approach with bespoke teaching spaces and learning plazas providing a fit-for-purpose modern teaching environment. This project will also be at the cutting edge of building sustainably using the Passivhaus methodology. | | | | |
| 2.2 Other Capital Pr | rogrammes - Schools | | | | | | | | |
| 2.2.1 Accessibility Programme | Accessibility works. | £1,000,000 | As required | 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 | Unplanned works as identified to address individual pupils needs in school settings. | | | | |
| 2.2.2 Furniture and Blinds | Replacement programme. | £1,000,000 | Ongoing | 1, 2, 3, 4 | Ongoing programme to upgrade schools' furniture and blinds. | | | | |
| 2.2.3 Practical Upgrades | Upgrade practical teaching spaces in secondary schools. | £2,500,000 | Ongoing | 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 | Upgrade practical teaching spaces in secondary schools to reflect modern curriculum delivery requirements. | | | | |



| Actio | n | Task | Current Proposed Investment | Target Completion Date | Principles | Expected Outcome | | | |
|-------|--|---|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| 2.2 | 2.2 Other Capital Programmes - Schools (continued) | | | | | | | | |
| 2.2.4 | Audio Visual and Wi-Fi Upgrades | Implementation of the planned upgrade programme. | | Ongoing | 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 | This is a Property Services/IT programme. In liaison with Property Services, assist with taking forward programme of digital infrastructure improvements within schools. This will allow schools to develop digital learning to facilitate a range of learning approaches. | | | |
| 2.2.5 | ASN Programme | Implementation of works to enhance the Learning Estate to meet the needs of children and young people with ASN. | | Ongoing | 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9 | Upgrade programme in line with emerging priorities identified. | | | |
| 2.3 | Early Learning a | and Childcare Programi | me | | | | | | |
| 2.3.1 | Rattray Primary School | Upgrade to Early Learning and Childhood Centre. | £4,300,000 | June 2022 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 | Works are planned to commence in 2021. Upgraded ELC provision. | | | |
| 2.3.2 | Stanley Primary School | Reconfiguration to extend nursery provision. | | To be confirmed | | Reconfiguration of classroom spaces to extend nursery provision. | | | |
| 2.3.3 | COPECC | Undertake feasibility study to consider long-term options for replacement of building after flooding. | | December 2021 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 | Feasibility. | | | |
| 2.3.4 | Review inclusion in ELC settings | Finalise plans emerging from review of Inclusion in ELC settings. | | To be confirmed | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 | Identified requirements/plan for inclusion in ELC settings. | | | |

3 Asset Management Programme

| Action | Task | Current Proposed Investment | Target Completion Date | Principles | Expected Outcome |
|--|---|-----------------------------------|--|---------------------------|--|
| 3.1 Rebalancing the Secondary School Estate (Perth City) | Undertake a review of secondary school estate in Perth City. | | Initial review to be completed by January 2022 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9 | Occupancy in the Perth City Estate needs rebalanced after the opening of Bertha Park High School. Consideration needs to be given to the significant costs associated with improving Perth Academy and Perth Grammar School. Funding may also be available through the Scottish Government Learning Estate Investment Programme. |
| 3.2 Suitability/Life- Expired/Condition Building Review | Undertake condition surveys on a cyclical basis. Review school estate annually. | | Cyclical | 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9 | Ensure estate maintained at overall rating of A or B for condition and suitability. Ensure that majority of spaces are being used in ways that contribute to supporting the delivery of the curriculum and improvements have enhanced their function. |
| | Develop a plan for dealing with suitability C and life-expired buildings. | | December 2023 | | Outcomes for improvement inform scope of works and priorities to be considered as part of future capital projects. This will be undertaken in conjunction with Property Services and Corporate Asset Management. |
| 3.3 Develop Concerto - Property Asset Management System | Liaise with Corporate Asset Management to further develop Concerto. | | Ongoing | 3 | Continued development of Concerto as a single asset register. |
| 3.4 Capacity Review | Review school capacities. | | Ongoing | 3 | Review capacity on a cyclical basis linked to suitability assessments in line with how schools are being used. |

| Action | Task | Current Proposed Investment | Target Completion Date | Principles | Expected Outcome |
|---|--|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|------------|---|
| 3.5 Head of Establishment Arrangements Review | Review Head of Establishment arrangements and areas of responsibility. | | Ongoing | 3 | In conjunction with Health, Safety & Wellbeing team and Property Services, undertake a review of Head of Establishment arrangements document. |

4 Improvement Actions to Deliver the Learning Estate Strategy and The Perth & Kinross Offer

| Action | Task | Current Proposed Investment | Target Completion Date | Principles | Expected Outcome |
|---|--|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|---|
| 4.1 Perth & Kinross Council Capital Blueprint: 30-year capital blueprint | Consider emerging priorities relating to Education & Children's Services in the blueprint. | | October 2022 | All | To be developed in conjunction with Corporate Asset Management team. |
| 4.2 Climate Change: Energy Consumption in Schools - reduction programme with Property Services | Review energy usage in schools. | | To be confirmed | 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10 | Identify areas where energy savings can be made. Identify actions to support schools in bringing about behavioural change to save on utility costs. |
| 4.3 Outdoor Learning: Increase focus on outdoor learning environment | Undertake audit of ELC and primary school estate. | | To be confirmed | 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9 | Develop a planned programme of improvement in line with play strategy. |

| Action | Task | Current Proposed Investment | Target Completion Date | Principles | Expected Outcome |
|------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|------------|--|
| 4.4 Engagement: | Benchmark with other Local Authorities on engagement | | December 2022 | 8, 9 | Consistent approach to all consultation and engagement exercises. Learn from |
| UNCRC | with parents, pupils and | | | | and implement best practice approaches to |
| The Perth & Kinross Offer | communities. | | | | improve outcomes. |
| Local Place Plans | Develop approaches to enhance pupil participation | | | | |
| Public Sector Partners | in developing the Learning Estate in accordance with Article 12 of the UNCRC. | | | | |
| | Contribute to the development of Local Place Plans. | | | | |
| | Collaborate with the Corporate Asset Management Team and other public sector partners to improve the effective use of the wider property portfolio in geographic areas. | | | | |

Governance Structure



Schools Condition/Suitability/Occupancy*

| School Name | Overall Condition Rating | Overall Suitability Rating | Capacity | Census Roll (Census 2020) | Occupancy | Specialist ASN Provision |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------|------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------|
| Abernethy Primary | А | А | 283 | 127 | 45% | No |
| Abernyte Primary | В | А | 44 | 7 | 16% | No |
| Aberuthven Primary | В | В | 46 | 25 | 54% | No |
| Alyth Primary | А | А | 283 | 159 | 56% | No |
| Arngask Primary | В | В | 98 | 82 | 84% | No |
| Auchtergaven Primary | В | В | 150 | 125 | 83% | No |
| Balbeggie Primary | С | В | 73 | 58 | 79% | No |
| Balhousie Primary | С | В | 224 | 105 | 47% | No |
| Bertha Park Secondary | А | А | 1,100 | 345 | 31% | No |
| Blackford Primary | В | В | 75 | 62 | 83% | No |
| Blair Atholl Primary | В | В | 50 | 30 | 60% | No |
| Blairgowrie High School | В | С | 1,058 | 767 | 72% | Yes |
| Braco Primary | В | С | 68 | 48 | 71% | No |
| Breadalbane Academy (Primary) | В | А | 302 | 158 | 52% | No |
| Breadalbane Academy (Secondary) | В | А | 784 | 430 | 55% | No |
| Burrelton Primary School | В | В | 98 | 71 | 72% | No |
| Cleish Primary School | С | С | 64 | 38 | 59% | No |

| School Name | Overall Condition Rating | Overall Suitability Rating | Capacity | Census Roll (Census 2020) | Occupancy | Specialist ASN Provision |
|--|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------|------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------|
| Collace Primary School | В | В | 49 | 50 | 41% | No |
| Community School of Auchterarder (Primary) | В | В | 514 | 465 | 90% | No |
| Community School of Auchterarder (Secondary) | В | В | 799 | 559 | 70% | No |
| Comrie Primary School | В | В | 197 | 142 | 72% | No |
| Coupar Angus Primary School | В | В | 333* (269) | 142 | 43% | Yes |
| Craigie Primary School | В | В | 217 | 188 | 87% | No |
| Crieff High School | В | А | 959 | 588 | 61% | No |
| Crieff Primary School | А | А | 466 | 364 | 78% | Yes |
| Dunbarney Primary School | В | А | 207* (232) | 204 | 99% | No |
| Dunning Primary School | В | В | 125 | 101 | 81% | No |
| Errol Primary School | А | А | 316 | 186 | 59% | Yes |
| Fairview School | А | А | 65 | 69 | 106% | |
| Forgandenny Primary School | В | В | 67 | 46 | 69% | No |
| Fossoway Primary School | В | А | 150 | 94 | 63% | No |
| Glendelvine Primary School | В | В | 75 | 30 | 40% | No |

| School Name | Overall Condition Rating | Overall Suitability Rating | Capacity | Census Roll (Census 2020) | Occupancy | Specialist ASN Provision |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------|------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------|
| Glenlyon Primary School | В | В | 25 | 7 | 28% | No |
| Goodlyburn Primary School | В | В | 302 | 236 | 78% | No |
| Grandtully Primary School | В | В | 43 | 27 | 63% | No |
| Guildtown Primary School | В | В | 46 | 12 | 26% | No |
| Inch View Primary School | В | А | 418 | 343 | 82% | Yes |
| Inchture Primary School | В | А | 264 | 224 | 85% | No |
| Invergowrie Primary School | А | А | 283 | 164 | 58% | No |
| Kenmore Primary School | В | В | 75 | 27 | 36% | No |
| Kettins Primary School | В | В | 46 | 31 | 67% | No |
| Kinloch Rannoch School | В | В | 50 | 19 | 38% | No |
| Kinnoull Primary School | В | В | 203 | 171 | 84% | No |
| Kinross High School | В | А | 1,286 | 988 | 77% | No |
| Kinross Primary School | А | А | 566 | 477 | 84% | No |
| Kirkmichael Primary School | В | В | 72 | 69 | 96% | No |
| Letham Primary School | В | В | 301 | 204 | 68% | No |
| Logiealmond Primary School | С | А | 48 | 9 | 19% | No |
| Logierait Primary School | В | А | 50 | 24 | 48% | No |
| Longforgan Primary School | А | А | 144 | 103 | 72% | No |

| School Name | Overall Condition Rating | Overall Suitability Rating | Capacity | Census Roll (Census 2020) | Occupancy | Specialist ASN Provision |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------|------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------|
| Luncarty Primary School | В | А | 194 | 134 | 69% | No |
| Madderty Primary School | В | В | 73 | 58 | 79% | No |
| Meigle Primary School | В | А | 71 | 36 | 51% | No |
| Methven Primary School | С | В | 229 | 114 | 50% | No |
| Milnathort Primary School | В | С | 257 | 227 | 88% | No |
| Moncreiffe Primary School | В | А | 238 | 154 | 65% | No |
| Murthly Primary School | В | В | 73 | 47 | 64% | No |
| Muthill Primary School | В | С | 100 | 61 | 61% | No |
| Newhill Primary School | В | А | 423* (456) | 426 | 101% | No |
| North Muirton Primary School | С | В | 290 | 216 | 74% | Yes |
| Oakbank Primary School | А | А | 434 | 389 | 90% | Yes |
| Our Lady's RC Primary School | В | В | 316 | 218 | 69% | No |
| Perth Academy | В | С | 1,218 | 1,014 | 83% | Yes |
| Perth Grammar School | В | С | 1,182 | 890 | 75% | Yes |
| Perth High School | С | С | 1,546 | 1,502 | 97% | No |
| Pitcairn Primary School | В | В | 125 | 74 | 59% | No |
| Pitlochry High School (Primary) | В | В | 300 | 186 | 62% | No |

| School Name | Overall Condition Rating | Overall Suitability Rating | Capacity | Census Roll (Census 2020) | Occupancy | Specialist ASN Provision |
|---|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------|------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------|
| Pitlochry High School (Secondary) | В | В | 237 | 104 | 44% | No |
| Portmoak Primary School | В | В | 150 | 106 | 71% | No |
| Rattray Primary School | В | В | 317 | 230 | 73% | No |
| Robert Douglas Memorial Primary School | В | В | 462 | 427 | 92% | Yes |
| Royal School of Dunkeld Primary School | В | В | 217 | 136 | 63% | No |
| Ruthvenfield Primary School | С | А | 91 | 59 | 65% | No |
| St Dominic's RC Primary School | В | В | 142 | 141 | 99% | No |
| St John's RC Academy (Primary) | В | А | 418 | 411 | 98% | No |
| St John's RC Academy (Secondary) | В | А | 838 | 640 | 76% | No |
| St Madoes Primary School | В | В | 150 | 118 | 79% | No |
| St Ninian's Episcopal Primary School | В | В | 150* (99) | 66 | 44% | No |
| St Stephen's RC Primary School | В | А | 100 | 88 | 88% | No |
| Stanley Primary School | В | А | 217 | 90 | 41% | No |
| Tulloch Primary School | А | А | 434 | 369 | 85% | Yes |
| Viewlands Primary School | В | А | 395 | 344 | 87% | No |

^{*}Does not include COPECC as it is a stand-alone nursery. Capacity changes proposed. Figures in brackets () indicates revised capacity.



Capital Investment Projects - Completed Since 2016

Schools

| School | Scope | Spend |
|---------------------------|---|-------------|
| Alyth Primary School | Refurbishment and extension to provide a 9-class primary school on existing site. | £9,700,000 |
| Bertha Park High School | New secondary school. | £32,500,000 |
| Kinross Primary School | New 18-class school on existing site. | £12,170,000 |
| Longforgan Primary School | Refurbishment and extension to provide a 6-class school with a learning resource centre and new hall. | £6,220,000 |
| Oakbank Primary School | New 14-class school with ASN base on existing site. | £9,588,000 |
| Perth Academy | Infrastructure works including external stonework repairs, drainage improvements, toilet upgrades, lighting upgrades, PE upgrades and asbestos removal. | £5,300,000 |
| Perth Grammar School | Refurbishment to provide reception and ancillary accommodation, new learning resource centre, new external lighting and toilet upgrades. | £675,000 |
| Perth High School | External repairs, upgraded CCTV system and social space upgrades. | £1,097,000 |
| Pitcairn Primary School | Extension to provide dining facilities and all spaces within school upgraded with new heating and new lighting. | £1,600,000 |
| Tulloch Primary School | New 14-class school with ASN base on existing site. | £10,488,000 |

Early Years Provision - 1140 hours

| Early Year Setting | Project Description | Capacity Previous Registration | Capacity Current Registration | Budget |
|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Blair Atholl Primary School | Minor works, vinyl, changing table. | 20 | 20 | £11,909 |
| Coupar Angus Primary School | Reconfiguration of classrooms to provide additional nursery accommodation. | 50 | 72 | £709,082 |
| Crieff Primary School | Reconfiguration to provide separate 2-year-old accommodation. | 53 | 58 | £55,724 |
| Glenlyon Primary School | Minor works to provide a corridor and new door, included moving radiator. | 8 | 10 | £7,995 |
| Goodlyburn Primary School | Outdoor nursery classroom provision. | 0 (Outdoor provision) | 8 (Outdoor provision) | £91,191 (Combined project cost with RDM) |
| Guildtown Primary School | Reconfiguration of classroom and toilets to provide nursery accommodation and unisex toilets. | 0 | 16 | £162,103 |
| Inchture Primary School | New-build stand-alone nursery. | 35 | 58 | £1,910,000 |
| Kirkmichael Primary School | Nursery improvement works. | 20 | 20 | £14,417 |
| Letham Primary School | Nursery extension and full infrastructure upgrade of school. All classrooms refurbished. New reception area and new AV/Wi-Fi throughout the building. | 50 | 116 | £5,474,018 |
| Logierait Primary School | Reconfiguration of a classroom to form nursery accommodation. | 0 | 8 | £223,243 |

| Early Year Setting | Project Description | Capacity Previous Registration | Capacity Current Registration | Budget |
|-----------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| Longforgan Primary School | Part of large project to extend and refurbish school. | 12 | 32 | £685,496 contribution to larger project |
| Murthly Primary School | Form toilet on first floor within existing storeroom area. | 20 | 24 | £19,568 |
| Newhill Primary School | Reconfiguration and extension of existing nursery and stores to extend capacity of nursery. | 77 | 122 | £263,076 |
| Oakbank Primary School | Extension to existing nursery. | 55 | 93 | £1,100,000 |
| Robert Douglas Memorial School | Outdoor nursery classroom provision. | 0 (outdoor) | 8 (outdoor) | Combined project costs with Goodlyburn - see above |
| | Reconfiguration of classroom to form additional toilet, install commercial dishwasher. | | | £36,780 |
| Royal School of Dunkeld | Reconfiguration of the existing nursery including snack preparation and toilets. Work done to P1 classroom to provide additional nursery accommodation. | 24 | 40 | £49,105 |
| St Ninian's Primary School | Reconfiguration of classroom to provide nursery accommodation and full infrastructure upgrade to the school. | 0 | 24 | £1,476,464 |

PESTLE Analysis - Learning Estate - November 2021

Political

The Infrastructure Commission for Scotland published their "Key Findings Report: A blueprint for Scotland" in January 2020. The report makes a number of recommendations to the Scottish Government around the theme of "making the most of existing assets" on the premise "that most of the underlying infrastructure that will be used in 30-years' time already exists today and it is, therefore, essential that these assets are most effectively and efficiently utilised, maintained and enhanced to net zero carbon readiness". Council approved the development of an Investment Blueprint for 2020-2050 on 6 March 2020.

The national Learning Estate Strategy developed by the Scottish Government in conjunction with COSLA was launched in September 2019. The strategy aligns with the Investment Blueprint and is supported by the Learning Estate Investment Programme (LEIP). Perth & Kinross Council has been successful in bidding for funding through the second phase of the programme for Perth High School and the new primary school to replace Balhousie Primary School and North Muirton Primary School.

The programme is jointly funded by Scottish and Local Government and is designed to:

- improve the condition of the school estate;
- support growth projects where there are no local condition priorities;
- stablish links across the learner journey where appropriate;

- benefit 50,000 pupils to learn in condition A/B schools;
- enable the delivery of wider SG policy objectives, including the guiding principles of the Learning Estate Strategy; and
- support sustainable estate planning with clear investment and maintenance strategies.

There is an ongoing commitment to the extension of **ELC** with significant additional provision having already been made within the Learning Estate.

The Scottish Government have indicated that they will develop a strategic framework for **after-school and holiday childcare** in order to better meet the needs of families. It is likely that some of this provision will be delivered through the existing assets in the Learning Estate.

The Scottish Government have committed to the extension of **Universal Free School Meals** to all primary school aged pupils, with all pupils being entitled to a free school meal by August 2022. This will increase the volume of meals being produced and consumed in schools and will be delivered via existing assets within the Learning Estate. There will be significant investment into existing catering infrastructure to support this programme.

Gaelic Medium Education remains a priority in Scottish education, with the national plan for Gaelic seeking to increase the number of Gaelic schools.

Economic

The "health" of the construction industry is fundamental to the ability of the Council to deliver its Learning Estate Strategy.

The main reference source for **construction inflation** projections is the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors Building Cost Information Service (BCIS). Their current view is over a forecast period of 2nd quarter 2021 to 2nd quarter 2026. BCIS are forecasting a rise in tender prices over this forecast period of circa 21%. Tender prices are expected to rise by circa 4% in the 2nd quarter of 2022 compared with the same quarter in 2021, driven in particular by sharp materials cost increases and longer supply times. With demand increasing over the remainder of the forecast, and with less contractors in the market (liquidations during COVID-19), tender prices are forecast to rise ahead of input costs, by around 4% per annum.

Following a period of construction inflation stability up to the end of 2019, there are now, as at 3rd quarter 2021, current extraordinary market pressures which are likely to affect materials/labour supply and therefore tender pricing in the short-term; and possibly on a varying geographical basis. The BCIS Materials Cost Index shows that, provisionally, materials prices rose by almost 5% in 2nd quarter 2021 compared with the previous quarter, and by 10% compared with a year earlier. This follows increases in the 1st quarter of 2021, of 3.5% on a quarterly basis, and over 6% on a yearly basis. The forecast for the 3rd quarter of 2021 shows an increase of 3% compared with the 2nd quarter of 2021, and a 13% annual increase.

In 2021, there has been a lot of concern about materials shortages which is likely to be reflected in longer lead times, higher prices and price volatility. Materials shortages are as a result of a number of

compound factors, such as COVID-19, supply chain bottlenecks due to global demand shocks and a shortage of qualified HGV drivers.

BCIS are assuming that following the end of the furlough period, excess demand for labour will be met. They also assume that by the latter part of the forecast period, access to foreign labour will also improve.

It should be noted however, that the "short-term" position is not clear as it is influenced by several factors on a global scale, but inflationary effects may be varied on a local basis. Capital projections within the Capital Plan will therefore require to be closely monitored and managed.

Social

Perth and Kinross is one of the areas of Scotland with a **population** projected to grow, and this is expected to continue. The latest projection by National Records of Scotland (NRS) indicates an 8% increase in population over the 25-year period of their latest projection. This increase will largely be in the numbers of older people. Over the 25-year period of the projection, primary pupil numbers are projected to remain largely steady. Secondary pupil numbers will grow slightly as recent increases in younger children progress through the education system. It should be noted that population projections are trend-based, not policy-based.

Projections are less certain as they extend further into the future and also in periods of rapid change. The birth rate in the Perth and Kinross area is one of the lowest in the country and therefore continued growth of the population will rely heavily on continued in-migration from Scotland, the rest of the UK and overseas. In-migration of families with pre-school and school age children will



be important in maintaining and growing school roll numbers. Employment and housing opportunities will be key in maintaining that in-flow, as well as maintaining the good quality of life for which the area is recognised. There is uncertainty over the impact of the UK's discontinuation of EU membership on in-migration.

It is likely that future growth will be within the strategic sites identified within the Local Development Plan which will see a concentration of housing required within and around Perth City. At the same time, more rural areas, especially to the north and west of the area may see reductions in school-age populations.

The Perth & Kinross Offer is a new direction for the Council, designed to transform the way we work with our communities, citizens, partners, businesses, employees and other stakeholders, to ensure that public services can be delivered sustainably and achieve better outcomes for the people of Perth and Kinross.

This transformation will require a change in the traditional relationship between public services, citizens, businesses, investors and visitors. We need to move away from the relationship of provider and consumer to work collaboratively, agreeing joint priorities and designing the future we want together. We also need to agree how we align budgets with our ambitions, using our resources to maximum impact and ensuring communities have services where and when they need them.

Curriculum for excellence has changed the concept of a school, its purposes, functions, design and the way the spaces are used. There is an expectation that the buildings themselves will inspire pupils and teachers to learn and teach in new ways.

Technical

The Education & Children's Services Digital Strategy articulates the need and a plan to deliver relevant digital literacy and digital skill development for all children and young people in Perth and Kinross.

The constant and rapid change in technology leads to a requirement for continued investment in Information and Communications Technology (ICT) infrastructure. This investment is crucial to provide an active and stimulating learning environment, provide opportunities to bring innovation and creativity to classrooms and ensure attainment and achievement is supported by 21st century ICT resources.

In relation to construction works - following the "Edinburgh Schools Inquiry" and the impact of the Grenfell Tower fire in North Kensington, government-led initiatives to ensure **greater scrutiny of construction work quality** have been launched. The impact of this is likely to be extended construction programmes due to scrutiny timescales being introduced at pre-construction and post-construction stages. This extended time will provide greater surety of what is being built and how it is being built.

More stringent fire safety measures are now included in **revised Building Standard Regulation** which came into effect as at
1 October 2019. These will impact largely on high-rise buildings but will also relate to facilities for disabled people within larger public buildings.

Legal

The Education (Scotland) Act 2016 amends the Standards in Scotland's Schools Act 2000 by adding in new duties to address inequality of outcome. These duties apply in different ways to both Scottish Ministers and education authorities. Where the education authority is making or implementing strategic decisions about school education, it is required to have due regard to the need to carry out its functions in a way which is designed to reduce inequalities of outcome. This is particularly directed in the Act towards pupils who experience those inequalities through socio-economic disadvantage, but there is also a power to extend the range of pupils who are covered by this duty.

The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 of sets out a new right for community organisations to request the transfer of local assets into local community ownership/management. Public bodies including Councils must consider such requests and respond within a reasonable timescale to them.

UNCRC will become part of Scottish Law in the next 3-9 months. This means that the Council will have to act compatibly with UNCRC rights in relation to everything it does. This will mean a shift towards embedding children's rights in everything we do as a Council. UNCRC Article 12 requires that children and young people should be active participants in decisions which affect them. They have a right to have their views sought and taken into account in relation to any matter which affects them or any other UNCRC rights. There is a positive obligation in relation to engagement and participation where the exercise of those functions is likely to have an impact on children and young people, either as individuals or as members of the community.

Environmental

The Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 introduced ambitious legislation to reduce emissions by at least 80% by 2050, and will drive new thinking, new solutions and new technologies putting Scotland at the forefront of building a sustainable low carbon economy.

All public buildings are intended to be exemplars of best practice of a low carbon estate. Low-carbon and zero-carbon solutions for our buildings will inevitably come with an increased capital cost premium.

"Protecting Scotland's Future: The Government's Programme for Scotland 2019-2020" published in September saw the Scottish Government underline its commitment to net zero carbon emissions by 2045 through staged targets including emission free city centres (2030) and a move to low-carbon heating for all new homes (2024).

Low Carbon Design/Construction

In accordance with the aspiration of the Council's Interim Climate Emergency Report and the Scottish Government's Net Zero Low Carbon Building Standard, Passivhaus is our current solution to new build design approach to meet the standard and improve construction quality.

It is intended that new capital construction projects are in compliance with "Passivhaus" standard and that any adaptation works to existing buildings in future will aim to comply with "Enerphit" standard. These are rigorous energy-efficient design and construction processes that maximise heat recovery and maintain a constant internal temperature whilst using minimal energy for heating and cooling. These processes require close scrutiny and a certification process that invariably lead to increased capital cost however with minimal



post construction defects and significantly reduced energy costs and carbon emissions.

COVID-19 Measures

Within the school estate, greater emphasis should be placed on ventilation, by keeping windows open as much as possible, and doors open when feasible and safe to do so.

Updated advice published in August 2021 also emphasised the need for a renewed focus on the importance of good ventilation and the potential for CO2 monitors to be utilised to ensure good air quality in enclosed spaces.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has published a **roadmap** of to improve and ensure good indoor ventilation in the context of COVID-19. The Scottish Government has also published **ventilation** guidance of COVID-19.

The key requirement for local authorities is to work with schools to identify and implement local approaches that balance the need for fresh air in key parts of the school estate with the maintenance of adequate temperatures.

There is a need for an appropriate supply of fresh air to assist with minimising the risk of virus infection. There is also a need to maintain indoor temperatures for reasons including user comfort, health and wellbeing, and learning and teaching.

Schools should continue to ensure a focus on implementation and maintenance of wider controls including personal hygiene, symptom vigilance, enhanced cleaning and distancing.



Guiding Principles of the National Strategy

The guiding principles of the national strategy and therefore of our Learning Estate strategy are as follows:

- 1 Learning environments should support and facilitate excellent joined up learning and teaching to meet the needs of all learners.
- **2** Learning environments should support the wellbeing of all learners, meet varying needs to support inclusion and support transitions for all learners.
- 3 The Learning Estate should be well-managed and maintained, making the best of existing resources, maximising occupancy and representing and delivering best value.
- **4** The condition and suitability of learning environments should support and enhance their function.
- 5 Learning environments should serve the wider community and where appropriate be integrated with the delivery of other public services in line with the place principle.

- **6** Learning environments should be greener, more sustainable, allow safe and accessible routes and be digitally-enabled.
- **7** Outdoor learning and the use of outdoor learning environments should be maximised.
- 8 Good consultation about learning environments, direct engagement with learners and communities about their needs and experiences, and an involvement in decision making processes should lead to better outcomes for all.
- **9** Collaboration across the Learning Estate, and collaboration with partners in localities, should support maximising its full potential.
- 10 Investment in Scotland's Learning Estate should contribute towards improving learning outcomes and support sustainable and inclusive economic growth.



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