

Comann nam Pàrant (Dùn Èideann & Lodainn) 15.08.2021

A Phàrantan / luchd-cùraim còire Dear Parents and Carers

We hope that you are all well. We write to share with you an update from Ian Perry and Alison Dickie, Chair and Vice Chair of Education, Children and Families at City of Edinburgh Council. They met recently with Shirley-Anne Somerville, Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills, and you can view their <u>follow-up letter to Ms Somerville here</u>.

As you know, the Council had planned to move to a Statutory Consultation at the Education, Children and Families committee on the 24 August on the options for building a new GME secondary school. The Council have recently identified a further two sites which, although not owned by the Council, may provide an additional two options for consideration. The Council wish to explore these possible options **before** commencing the statutory consultation.

We anticipate that many parents will welcome the news that the consultation will be paused in order for the Council to explore these options for the site of the new Gaelic high school. Comann nam Pàrant (Dùn Èideann is Lodainn) is pleased to see collaboration between the Council and Scottish Government on this significant project, especially given the commitment by the SNP in their manifesto to a centrally-located school and a general presumption against co-location.

We look forward to receiving further information, as well as clarification on financial support available from Scottish Government and the impact that any change to location may have on proposed timelines for the creation of a new Gaelic high school.

Comann nam Pàrant will continue to work with all partners and families throughout this process to achieve our collective ambition for Gaelic education in Edinburgh. We will provide further updates to you as soon as we have further information from the Council.

Le gach deagh dhùrachd

Comann nam Pàrant (Dùn Èideann is Lodainn)