



COMHAIRLE NAN EILEAN SIAR

Department of Education

Sandwick Road, Stornoway. HS1 2BW
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Education Provision Consultation Document – February 2006

**Proposal to change the location of
Balivanich Primary School
Benbecula**

Roinn an Fhoghlaim

EDUCATIONAL PROVISION: CONSULTATIVE DOCUMENT - FEBRUARY 2006**PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE LOCATION OF
BALIVANICH PRIMARY SCHOOL****INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 The Comhairle, at its Meeting on 15 December 2005, authorised the Director of Education to proceed to undertake the necessary statutory consultations with parents of pupils concerned and the appropriate School Boards in terms of Section 22(A) of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980, as amended, on a proposal to change the site of Balivanich Primary School to Tindill Close, Balivanich.

BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Following dialogue with parents it has been agreed that the preferred site for the new Balivanich Primary School building is the one adjacent to existing housing in Tindill Close, Balivanich as shown in the appended plan. Civil Engineering Consultants were engaged by the Comhairle to carry out site investigations and other survey work to assess the suitability of the site. It has since been confirmed that the site is capable of accommodating a building of this nature and negotiations to purchase the site have been taking place.
- 2.2 Notwithstanding the unanimous agreement which exists in relation to the change in location it is a legal requirement that a statutory consultation exercise be carried out.

CONSULTATIVE PROCESS

- 3.1 This document outlines the background to the Comhairle's proposals. The procedure to be adopted and persons to be consulted are detailed in the Education (Publication and Consultation Etc.)(Scotland) Regulations 1981 as amended. The Regulations require that an education authority either (a) invites written representations to be made within a specified period or (b) holds a public meeting to discuss the proposals. In line with previous practice both options are being made available and written representations will be considered by the Comhairle together with the note of the consultation meeting as part of the Report detailing the outcome of the consultation exercise prior to a decision being taken.
- 3.2 Consultation with parents will take the form of Public **Meeting in Balivanich Primary Schools at 7.30pm on Thursday, 2 March 2006**, at which the Council's proposals will be explained in detail, and to which parents concerned are invited. The Council will also take into consideration any written representations on the proposals, which may be submitted to the **Director of Corporate Services at the Council Offices, Stornoway, by 4.00pm on Monday, 13 March 2006**.

PROPOSAL

- 5.1 It is proposed that Balivanich Primary school be relocated from its current location to a new building to be constructed on a site at Tindill Close, Balivanich as shown on the appendix to this document.

MML/DS
01 February 2006