

Cllr Lindsay Paterson- August 2013 update

School catchment areas

In addition to Cllr Work's update on 30 July on school provision/catchment areas I received the following information on 12 August from the education department following queries made in June and July about the impact of the new housing at the former Agilent site:

"It is acknowledged that development of the Agilent site for housing could put pressure on the Queensferry Primary School catchment area.

The Section 75 Agreement relating to the Agilent site makes provision for extending one of the local non-denominational primary schools to deal with this pressure for which a maximum contribution of £1 million has been agreed. The Agreement also makes provision for funding of £716,000 to be available to address accommodation pressures at St Margaret's RC Primary School.

Should it be proposed to provide additional accommodation at one of the other local non-denominational primary schools (and not Queensferry Primary School) this would require a change to the catchment boundaries. Any proposal to undertake a statutory consultation regarding any change to catchment boundaries would require Council approval with whom the final approval of any change would ultimately rest following consideration of representations made during the consultation process.

The Section 75 Agreement requires that, within three years of commencement of the development, the Council will determine whether or not additional accommodation is required and, if so, whether to provide that at Queensferry Primary School or to make alternative provision to cater for the development. This matter will be considered when there is greater certainty regarding when the development would start."

Public toilets at Hawes Pier

Councillors received correspondence regarding the public toilets at Hawes Pier and the poor impression they give to visitors. I have been told that "there are no current plans to refurbish the facilities in South Queensferry, budget availability will determine whether these can be refurbished at a later date." I will continue to press for improvements due to the volume of cruise ship passengers and other visitors who use these facilities.

Ferry Fair

Congratulations to the Committee and all those involved in the organisation of this year's Ferry Fair week, which remains a hugely popular event.

Waste collections

I have received a couple of complaints about waste collections in rural locations around Dalmeny recently, mostly problems with food bin collections.

Echline surgery

I will be holding my regular advice surgery at Echline Primary School on Monday 26th at 6.30pm.