

Portobello School Private Bill – Public Opinion Survey

The City of Edinburgh Council is consulting on a proposal to take a Private Bill to the Scottish Parliament in early 2013 to seek authority to use Portobello Park as the location for a new Portobello High School.

As we already have planning permission to progress the new high school in the park, the Private Bill would simply remove the legal issue that currently stops us from locating the school there. If the Council is able to use the park as the site for the new Portobello High School we would also:

- create an entirely new area of open space of roughly 2.2 hectares at the existing combined site of Portobello High School and St John's RC Primary School.
- give St John's RC Primary School the additional space it very much needs (increasing the area the school occupies from 0.6 hectares to 1.3 hectares).
- improve entrances to the park and create better paths to give everyone better access and especially people with pushchairs, disabilities and mobility issues.
- improve public paths down the edges of the golf course and introduce a cycle path along the eastern boundary.
- keep mature boundary trees wherever possible around the park to help preserve its look and feel.
- create a pleasant, good-sized grass area slightly smaller than a full-size football pitch between Hope Lane and Milton Road for recreation and play.
- provide two all weather pitches to replace the park's current grass pitch area and ensure there would be no charges for people who live in the Portobello area who wanted to book and use them when the school was not using them.
- invest £150,000 in improving outdoor play facilities in Magdalene Glen.

More information on our proposals can be found on our website www.edinburgh.gov.uk/newportobelloschool or, alternatively, in the information leaflet which we have produced – if you would like a copy of this to be sent to you please call 0131 469 3161.

This brief questionnaire is one way you can tell us if you support our plans and asks you to answer just a few questions.

QUESTIONS:

Q1 Do you support the Council's proposals to change the use of Portobello Park from a public park to being the location for a new Portobello High School?

- **Yes**, I support the Council's proposals
- **No**, I do not support the Council's proposals

Q2. Do you have any reasons for your view that you would wish us to consider?

Q3. If the Council does decide to go ahead with a Private Bill, and that Bill is passed so as to allow Portobello Park to be used as the site for the new Portobello High School, a new area of open space would be created at the existing combined site of Portobello High School and St John’s RC Primary School. We can do this under the powers the Council already has so this would not actually be part of the Private Bill. However it is an important part of the proposals to use Portobello Park as the site for the new Portobello High School and we want to know what people think the best use of this new space would be. What would you like to see in that new area of open space, which would be roughly the size of three full-size football pitches, if it was created?

Please provide the following information. We are asking for this personal information in order to confirm which survey responses have come from the local community or elsewhere in the city, and ensure that only one response per individual is recorded. **Please note that this is for internal use only and no personal details will be published.**

Name

Address

Postcode

Please return this questionnaire either to the mailbox at the road-show, at Portobello or Piershill Libraries, or by post to Portobello School Private Bill, 1/2 Waverley Court, The City of Edinburgh Council, 4 East Market Street, Edinburgh EH8 8BG. You can also complete this questionnaire online at www.edinburgh.gov.uk/newportobelloschool. If you would prefer to put your comments in writing this can be done either by email to NewSchoolBuildings@edinburgh.gov.uk or in writing to the address shown above.

The consultation period runs until 5.00pm on Thursday, 31 January 2013 and to be considered your response has to reach us by then. The results of the consultation process will be reported to the Council in March 2013 for a decision on whether the Private Bill should be taken forward.

