

Planning primary education for the Ulverston area

A consultation document



May 2007

Introduction

As you may know, the County Council and its key partners are in the process of carrying out a very comprehensive exercise to review all schools throughout Cumbria. One of the general issues being examined is the future of separate infant and junior schools.

Ulverston currently has a number of infant and junior schools. The view has been taken that a review of the provision in the town ought to be carried out to see whether changes should be made. For example, one school is quite small even in Cumbrian terms, despite being in an urban area, and has become smaller in the last few years.

The issuing of this document is the start of a genuine and open consultation process. We would like as many people as possible with an involvement or interest in the schools, or in primary education in the area more generally, to contribute their thoughts on what should happen. There is a questionnaire at the back of this document which we would like you to fill in and send back to us.

If you would like further information on our document and the things it covers, you can find out more by:

- visiting our website: www.cumbriacc.gov.uk/childrensservices/school-organisation
- ringing the School Organisation Project Team: 01228 606013

The outcomes of today's planning are not just for the benefit of our children and their future. They will potentially lead to improvements in the area's economy, and this will benefit the whole community. Your responses to this document will make a major contribution in helping to achieve these ambitions.



Philip Chappelhow

County Councillor Philip Chappelhow,
Cabinet Member for Children's Services,
Cumbria County Council



Moira Swann

Moira Swann,
Corporate Director, Children's Services,
Cumbria County Council

Index



• The purpose and nature of the consultation document	3
• A countywide approach to changing the school network	4
• Focusing on Ulverston	5
• About Dale Street Infant & Nursery School and Sir John Barrow Junior School	7
• About Croftlands Infant School and Croftlands Junior School	8
• Information relating to the possibility of amalgamations	9
• The case for considering change	12
• Achieving amalgamation	12
• Drawing conclusions	14
• Next steps - the consultation and decision making process	15
• Appendix A - Map: Location of the Ulverston schools	17
• Appendix B - Map: Catchment areas	18
• Appendix C - Accommodation plan: Dale Street Infant & Nursery School	19
• Appendix D - Accommodation plan: Sir John Barrow Junior School	20
• Appendix E - Accommodation plan: Croftlands Infant School	21
• Appendix F - Accommodation plan: Croftlands Junior School	22
• Translation services	23
• Questionnaire	24

The purpose and nature of the consultation document



The purpose of this document is to provide information and comment on possible ways of changing the existing pattern of primary schools in Ulverston.

Its aim is to focus on whether change would be likely to:

- create the most effective provision for the future;
- enhance the educational opportunities for pupils;
- lead to a more cost-effective use of resources.

We have tried to achieve the right balance covering the most important issues whilst keeping the document to a reasonable length. It has been written for parents, school staff, governors, young people and other members of the public, who will have different starting points in terms of knowledge and understanding. We have attempted to take this into account. We also wanted to be direct and relevant and keep things as clear as we could. We hope that we have managed to make the document as easy as possible to read and understand.

Your views will be a great help in reaching a decision on the future of the schools being considered. We realise that you may want more information to help you form your opinions. Details of how you can access additional information or talk over any issues of concern with us are given on page 16.

The consideration of the future of primary education in Ulverston sits within a countywide context and approach. We feel that we should say a little about this before focusing on the Ulverston area.

A countywide approach to changing the school network

In Autumn 2005, Cumbria County Council launched a strategic review of schools to be carried out by the end of 2007. The review covers all nursery, primary, secondary and special schools in the county. Other services for children are also part of the review.

The aim is to bring about higher achievement and better educational standards. The County Council sees this as a great opportunity to improve young people's education and their life chances and choices.

The main reason that the countywide review is taking place is because the number of school aged children is going to fall considerably over the next 10-15 years. There are also some key educational issues which need to be addressed. With all of this in mind, it is important to plan for the future to ensure that we have the appropriate number and type of schools which are of the right size, in the right place with good quality facilities.

The review process is a new and ambitious approach. It includes all partners with an interest in education and other services for young people, and several groups are involved:

- **Local Partnership Groups (LPGs)** who:
 - look at their areas of the county and identify options for the future
- **School Organisation Forum** which:
 - oversees the whole review process
 - considers options from Local Partnership Groups and makes recommendations to the County Council
- **Cumbria County Council** which:
 - decides which options should go to public consultation and considers the results of the consultation
 - makes statutory proposals to achieve school organisation change
 - decides whether or not to approve statutory proposals, after considering any formal objections to them
- **School Organisation Project Team** which:
 - supports the entire review process



Focusing on Ulverston



The current provision in outline

There are six primary schools in the town. Information on them is set out in the table below.

School	Status	Age range	Published Admission Number	Maximum Net Capacity ¹	No of places ²	No of pupils Jan 07
Croftlands Infant	Community	3-7	60	180	180	142
Croftlands Junior	Community	7-11	76	254	304	226
Dale Street Infant & Nursery	Community	3-7	23	81	69	45
Sir John Barrow Junior	Community	7-11	60	230	240	233
St Mary's Catholic Primary	Voluntary Aided Catholic	4-11	17	110	119	126
Ulverston CE Infant	Voluntary Aided C of E	4-7	30	85	90	85
1 - using the Department for Education and Skills formula for assessing the capacity of schools 2 - based on the greater of the maximum net capacity and the published admission number x number of year groups (excluding nursery places)					1014	857

A map showing where the schools are located is provided as Appendix A.

Croftlands Infant and Junior Schools share the same catchment area. The majority of children attending the Infant School (80%) normally transfer to the Junior School at the beginning of their Year 3.

Dale Street Infant & Nursery School and Sir John Barrow Junior School also share the same catchment area. The vast majority of children attending the Infant School (95%) transfer to the Junior School at the beginning of their Year 3.

Like many faith schools, neither St Mary's Catholic Primary School nor Ulverston CE Infant School have catchment areas.

Overall pupil numbers

At the peak of the pupil population during the last ten years there were 1,060 pupils in the six schools. In January 2007 there were 857 primary aged pupils at the town's schools.

Pupil numbers are going to fall over the next few years. The combined projected school rolls at the Ulverston schools are:

Sept 2007	Sept 2008	Sept 2009	Sept 2010	Sept 2011
834	822	801	764	758

Identifying the options for change

The Local Partnership Group (LPG) had the task of coming up with options for change. The LPG is made up of representatives of the County Council and its partners in providing education and linked services. See page 4 for more information.

A small Working Group of the LPG carried out the 'hands on' work. To help in the process of coming up with an initial list of options, the Working Group was given a range of information. This included data on pupil numbers, educational standards, the financial position of schools and so on.

After much consideration, the LPG recommended that consultation should take place, and that it should focus on the potential amalgamation of:

- Dale Street Infant & Nursery School and Sir John Barrow Junior School
- Croftlands Infant School and Croftlands Junior School

The LPG recognised that there were other ways to address this fall in pupil numbers and safeguard educational standards which this would threaten. However, they felt that these two potential amalgamations would be the most practical changes to consider.

The School Organisation Forum accepted the LPG's recommendation and on 28 November 2006, the County Council's Cabinet agreed to this public consultation on those possibilities. The reasons for this are outlined in more detail in 'The case for considering change' section, on page 12.

About Dale Street Infant & Nursery School and Sir John Barrow Junior School



Education in the schools

This section provides information about educational provision at the two schools. It is based on the most recent Ofsted inspection reports and monitoring by the Council's School Improvement Team.

Dale Street Infant & Nursery School

Dale Street Infant & Nursery School was inspected by Ofsted in 2004 and judged to be providing a good standard of education for all children, with very good provision for children with special educational needs. Overall the quality of teaching and learning was good or better. As a result pupils' achievement was good. Pupils were well cared for. Leadership and management of the school was good.

Results at Key Stage 1 in the 2006 assessments were below Cumbrian and national averages for reading and writing, and well above Cumbrian and national averages for mathematics. These results indicate an improving trend for attainment in mathematics.

Sir John Barrow Junior School

The last inspection report on Sir John Barrow School was produced by Ofsted in February 2007. The school was judged to provide a satisfactory quality of education with several good features. Teaching and learning were described as satisfactory overall, with some good lessons. As a result pupils' achievement is satisfactory. The headteacher was judged to provide good leadership. Pupils' attitudes to school were good, and the school was seen to take very good care of all pupils. As a result, pupils' personal development is good.

2006 results at Key Stage 2 were below Cumbrian and national averages for English, in line for mathematics, and above for science. These results indicate an improving trend for attainment in mathematics and consistently high attainment in science.

Pupil numbers

The pupil roll at Sir John Barrow has been around 230 for the last four years. During the same period, the numbers of pupils at Dale Street have fallen from 70 to 45, partly because it has attracted a smaller proportion of the children starting school in the area.

Catchment area

A map showing the area from which the schools take most of their pupils is provided as Appendix B.

School buildings and sites

The schools' sites are approximately 600 yards from each other. The accommodation at both schools is in reasonable condition.

About Croftlands Infant School and Croftlands Junior School

Education in the schools

This section provides information about educational provision at the two schools. It is based on the most recent Ofsted inspection reports and monitoring by the Council's School Improvement Team.

Croftlands Infant School

Croftlands Infant School was inspected by Ofsted in October 2006. The report identified the school as a good school with good provision in all areas. Standards of pupils' achievement were judged to be good as a result of good teaching. The care, guidance and support for children was described as good, as was the provision for children's personal development and well-being. Leadership and management of the school was judged to be good with clear direction.

Results at Key Stage 1 in reading, writing and mathematics in the 2006 assessments were above Cumbrian and national averages. These results continue the trend of high attainment for pupils in the school.

Croftlands Junior School

Croftlands Junior School was last inspected by Ofsted in February 2007. The inspection team judged that standards of achievement require significant improvement and the school was given a 'Notice to Improve'.

All other aspects of provision made by the school were at least satisfactory. Teaching for the older juniors was generally good, and children were judged to be well cared for.

2006 results at Key Stage 2 were above Cumbrian and national averages for English, below for mathematics and science. These results indicate an improving trend for English.

Pupil numbers

The pupil roll at the Infant School has fallen from 194 in 2005 to its current level of 142. This reduction will impact on pupil numbers in the Junior School in the next few years.

Catchment area

A map showing the catchment area from which the two schools take most of their pupils is provided as Appendix B. On average, the intake to the Infant School's reception year has been about 25% greater than the number of children living in the catchment area.

School buildings and sites

The school buildings are timber framed and date back to the mid-60s. They were extensively refurbished between 1988 and 1990. The buildings are currently in a reasonable condition, though some maintenance work is required over the next few years.

Federation with Newton School

The Junior School has been federated with Newton School since 2005. When the federation came into being the pupil roll at Newton was 40. The latest pupil projections suggest it could fall to under 30 in three years time.

This federation arrangement needs to be considered as part of the consultation process.

Information relating to the possibility of amalgamations



Before setting out the case for considering change, we feel it would be helpful to provide some more general information and comment concerning the possibility of amalgamation.

A preference for all-through primary schools

The County Council has a long-stated preference for all-through primary schools, as opposed to separate infant and junior schools. In summary, this is based on the belief that, all other things being equal, they offer:

- better continuity of education;
- greater organisational and educational flexibility;
- more financial efficiency.

This preference was also included in the education vision document 'Enhancing Lives Through Learning - A Vision for Schools in Cumbria' formulated by the School Organisation Forum towards the end of 2005. This document underpins the countywide review exercise referred to on page 4.

Some general educational issues

Where there are 'linked' infant and junior schools (i.e. where all or part of their catchment areas are shared), they are managed separately by their respective headteachers. Each has its own ethos, philosophy and approach to the curriculum. Usually, the staff of the schools work hard collaboratively to try to ensure a smooth transition between the infant and junior phases. It is likely, however, that one effectively managed primary school would more easily achieve a sense of progression and continuity for pupils. This is extremely important both in curricular and social terms and it is something on which the National Curriculum lays a good deal of emphasis.

It is very difficult to produce impartial evidence to prove that amalgamations improve educational performance. There are too many variable factors which might have an impact in any particular situation to do that. There are indications though that the educational outcome of schools formed by amalgamation are, in general, better than those at the junior schools which they replaced. That, together with the observed dip in children's performance in Year 3 commented on by inspectors nationally, tends to support the County Council's broad preference for all-through primaries.

Both the Government and the Council are attaching increasing importance to enhancing pupil attainment in literacy and numeracy. Schools are required to set targets for improvement and to develop action plans which will lead to their achievement. The intention is for these targets to be challenging. A primary school planning for this across both Key Stage 1 of the National Curriculum (covered in infant schools) and Key Stage 2 (covered in junior schools) may be better equipped to meet the challenge.

Schools have limited resources with which to employ teachers. Headteachers are often faced with difficulties in finding an educationally effective pattern of class organisation which reflects curricular and individual pupil needs whilst balancing class sizes. Generally speaking, larger schools have more options in this respect.

In considering changes of this nature, concern is sometimes expressed at the loss of the degree of staff specialisation which comes from experience of teaching infant aged or junior aged pupils. On the other hand, within larger schools, there may well be a greater range of subject expertise. There are also likely to be

increased opportunities for professional development in larger schools, where teachers are able to teach across the full primary phase and gain line management experience.

Curriculum management within a primary school is based on a system of coordinators who take responsibility for developing policy, practice and assessment in a curriculum area(s). There are 12 main curriculum areas. Clearly for smaller schools, this burden of responsibility has to be spread amongst fewer teachers so they have to devote their time to a number of areas. Where there is a larger teaching staff, curriculum coordination can be more effectively organised and time-managed. Moreover, in all-through primary schools, curriculum planning can be coordinated across the first two National Curriculum key stages.

Assessment of pupils' progress is easier when done across the two key stages. Similarly, the increased emphasis these days on 'personalised learning' for children is supported by the greater opportunities for differentiation in work programming which exists in all-through primaries.

The reduction in the overall number of schools means there will be a need for fewer headteachers, which eases the current difficulties being experienced with recruiting and retaining them.

Parents of infant aged pupils sometimes raise concerns about the welfare of their children in primary schools. These tend to focus on how well 'small' children cope with 'big' children, for example at playtime. However, examination of Ofsted inspection reports confirms that pupils' welfare is not threatened in amalgamated schools, any more that it is in other schools in Cumbria. More positively, younger children have the opportunity to learn from their older peers. Older pupils can also contribute to the teaching/learning process by mentoring younger pupils.

Although some parents do have concerns, many prefer all-through primaries. This is mainly because they avoid a change of school at the age of seven and the insecurity that this can bring about.

Cumbria has many examples of successful infant and junior schools and equally successful 3/4-11 primary schools. The number of separate infant and junior schools has, however, fallen very considerably following a series of mergers in recent years. This has resulted from the serious consideration of the kind of issues covered here.

Financial issues

School amalgamations

When schools are amalgamated, revenue resources are released for other purposes. Some of these benefits are received by the Department for Education and Skills (DfES) and the remainder by the County Council and the schools involved.

In the case of the Council, the 'released' resources are available for distribution across all schools and thereby benefit all Cumbria's pupils. In addition to this, a significant proportion of 'freed up' resources become available to the schools for the direct educational benefit of pupils. This opportunity arises from more efficient and effective use of resources, for example reductions in school management and administration, more efficient use of staff and less duplication of materials and equipment.

Larger schools

There are also felt to be other financial advantages in relation to school amalgamations. For example:

- a larger single budget would offer greater flexibility in the use of resources;
- the ability to deal successfully with fluctuations in the level of the budget due to year on year changes in total numbers would be enhanced.

The cost-effective use of resources

The Government expects Local Authorities to use the funding available for education effectively. Cumbria County Council sees one of its key roles as seeking to ensure the cost-effective use of resources.

It is at least arguable that continuing to maintain linked but separate infant and junior schools, some of which may be shrinking in size and occupy the same site, would not represent the best use of resources. Having a single school in these situations may well mean that more of the available resources are spent directly on teaching and learning, thereby contributing to raising standards.

Parents and the community

The involvement of parents with schools and with their children's education is vital. Some families have children in two or three different schools and this can be quite demanding. Parents usually find it easier to develop and sustain relationships with the staff of one rather than two schools in the primary phase of education. Taking part in events and contributing to school activities does not have to be duplicated.

It may be that, for parents, having a single primary school would offer a clearer identity which they could relate to more easily. Schools are reliant on the efforts of the communities they serve, and parental support could possibly be channelled more effectively into one school rather than two. This is not a question of financial support; it involves the time and energy people in the community devote to their local schools.

Educational research shows that, where the school and home are engaged in a strong partnership, children generally achieve at a higher level. Parents may well benefit from having all-through primary schools so that there is continuity throughout their children's primary school careers which gives them a greater understanding of procedures, learning strategies and expectations.

School Transport

The general policy

Under the normal transport policy, free transport is provided to a child's nearest or catchment school if the distance between their home and the school exceeds the 'statutory walking distance'. The 'statutory walking distance' is three miles for children aged eight and above, and two miles for children under eight. The distance is measured by the nearest available walking route.

The policy in primary school reorganisation situations

Under the Authority's current school transport policy, pupils living in the catchment area who are attending a school at the time of its closure, and who transfer to the new catchment school, receive free transport until the time they would have left that school had it remained open, providing the distance between home and school is more than one mile in the case of pupils under eight, and over two miles for older pupils. This only applies if pupils have to go to a different site which is further from their home than the site they previously attended. If the distance from their home is more than the statutory walking distance of two/three miles, however, the general policy (above) would apply.

An amalgamation of Dale Street Infant with Sir John Barrow Junior could mean that a small number of the Infant School's current pupils could become entitled to free transport under the policy relating to school organisation.



The case for considering change

The primary-age pupil population in the town has fallen by 200 (19%) over the last 7-8 years. Pupil projections indicate that it is likely to fall by around a further 100 or so (11%) in the next five years.

Fewer pupils mean smaller school budgets. It appears, unsurprisingly, that reductions in roll are eating into what were healthy budget surpluses at each of the four schools. It is highly likely that further reductions in roll will present challenges for each governing body, as all four schools are probably going to have considerably fewer pupils than in the recent past.

This kind of fall in numbers is particularly damaging to small schools, and the exercise of parental choice in this context can affect individual schools quite badly. At Dale Street, the impact of a decreasing pupil population is worsened by the fact that it has attracted a smaller proportion of children over the last few years. Whilst the other three schools are likely to remain viable for the foreseeable future, Dale Street is now a very small school in urban terms.

In the circumstances it does seem appropriate to consider, bearing in mind the information and comment on pages 9 to 11, whether amalgamation might create stronger schools better equipped to maintain and improve the education of their pupils than would the existing separate infant and junior schools.

Achieving amalgamation

General

This section covers the technical steps which would need to be taken if it is decided to pursue the amalgamation of either or both of the two pairs of schools.

Up to now, in previous similar cases in Cumbria, amalgamations have been achieved through the closure of both of the existing schools and the establishment of a new one, albeit in most cases in one or both of the existing schools' buildings.

Very recent legislation means that local authorities must hold a 'competition' when proposals are to be made for a new school. This includes situations like these where the new schools would be replacements for existing schools. The competition would involve inviting any interested parties to compete to establish the new school or schools. If there was to be an amalgamation involving a completely new school, the County Council would be very likely to wish to compete with any other potential providers to establish and run it. This legislation requiring competition is new and untested and it is uncertain whether there would be any interest from other possible providers.

Alternatively, it is possible, in order to effectively achieve an amalgamation, to close one of the two existing schools and to extend the age range of the other to enable it to take both infant and junior aged children. This route to amalgamation has been opted for in two other similar situations in Cumbria in the last couple of months. As technically this does not create a new school, there is no requirement to hold a competition.

Whichever of the two processes was to be followed in each case, the end product would be a single primary school catering for pupils aged between 3 and 11. As part of the consultative process, discussion will take place with the governors and staff of the schools on what is felt to be the best route to take.

If it is decided to pursue an amalgamation, appropriate statutory proposals to bring that about would need to be published, following which a final decision would be taken.

Staffing issues

It is accepted that the process of amalgamation can create uncertainties, particularly for staff. As part of the countywide review, a handbook on staffing issues associated with school closures and amalgamations has been prepared. A draft of the handbook has recently been distributed to all schools.

The precise nature of the staffing processes may vary somewhat, depending on which of the legal processes to achieve amalgamation referred to above is chosen.

School Buildings

Sir John Barrow Junior School

Sir John Barrow School would be expected to have a small number of unfilled places in coming years. If the schools were to amalgamate, all of the pupils would be based on the Sir John Barrow site.

The accommodation and external areas would need to be developed to cater for both nursery and infant aged children. This would involve new teaching accommodation, toilets, storage facilities and secure play areas. There may also be scope to address some existing suitability issues within the school building such as poor library provision, small classrooms and the undersized hall. The extent to which some of these issues can be addressed will depend on the availability of resources, site restrictions and school priorities.

Following discussions with the Headteachers and Chairs of Governors from Sir John Barrow and Dale Street Schools, a preferred location on the site for the new facilities has been identified. Development in that particular area is feasible in practical terms and early discussions with the planning authority suggest that there are unlikely to be any issues which cannot be overcome. If the decision is taken to amalgamate, the building project would be developed with the full involvement of staff and governors.

The Croftlands Schools

There is more than sufficient accommodation at the Croftlands Schools for an all-through primary school of the size required for the future. If the schools were to amalgamate, there would not be the capital resources immediately available to remodel / make extensive changes to the buildings. Ideally though, some work would be undertaken to reflect the change to a single school. In the longer term, the Government's stated intention to transform primary school buildings might offer new build opportunities.



Drawing conclusions

The main reason for the countywide review is a big fall in the pupil population in Cumbria. This is a factor here in Ulverston as we have explained.

Reducing pupil numbers mean less resources for education. That being the case, to try to maintain the existing network of schools would threaten the quality of education provision. The County Council wants very much to see standards improve rather than fall.

All but one of the schools in the town are infant or junior schools. The County Council has, for a long time now, had a preference for all-through primary schools. In this document we have provided a range of information and comment on the possibility of amalgamations to create such schools.

The Council feels that the case for amalgamating infant and junior schools to form all-through primary schools is generally very strong. It believes that this should normally be a way forward because it feels it enhances educational opportunities for children. This view is shared by the governors of a further three pairs of infant and junior schools in the county who are currently working enthusiastically with the Council to bring about amalgamation. The Council does recognise, though, that there will be contrary opinions in some situations.

Dale Street Infant School is now a very small school given its urban context. There appears to be acceptance that its future viability is questionable and that consideration of change is appropriate. Informal discussions with the heads and chairs of governors of the Dale Street and Sir John Barrow Schools suggest that there may well be support for the merger of the two schools as long as appropriate facilities are developed on the Sir John Barrow site.

With regard to the Croftlands situation, neither schools' viability is in doubt. The question to consider is whether a single all-through 3-11 primary school would be likely to be more robust and better able to provide effectively for pupils than the separate, and potentially shrinking, infant and junior schools.

We would like to have your views on the possibility of amalgamation in one or both of the situations covered in this document. There is a questionnaire at the back which will help you to tell us your thoughts. Hopefully, this consultation document, along with the meetings to be held between 4 and 11 June 2007, additional information available and individual discussions which are on offer (all outlined in the next section), will help you to form your opinions on the subject.

We look forward to receiving your completed questionnaire or e-mail response as your views are important and will influence the decisions which are eventually taken.

Next steps - the consultation and decision making process



The consultation period

The consultation is based on this document which was prepared by the County Council's School Organisation Team. The consultation period starts on Tuesday 8 May 2007. The final date for letting us have your thoughts and comments is **Friday 22 June 2007**.

How to express your views

This consultation document has been very widely distributed. It has gone to the parents, staff and governors of Dale Street, Sir John Barrow and the Croftlands Schools, all of the County Council's key partners in the provision of education, neighbouring schools, the District Council, voluntary organisations, staff associations and unions, and many others. It is important that we know what you think about these possible amalgamations. We look forward to hearing from you.

Questionnaire

There is a questionnaire at the back of this document. We would like you to complete it and return it to us. Alternatively, you can complete the questionnaire online from Tuesday 8 May 2007 by following the consultation finder links on the County Council website: www.cumbriacc.gov.uk/consultation

Meetings

A series of consultation meetings will be held in early June 2007. They will give you the opportunity to express your views and to ask questions. The details of the meetings are set out below:

Date	Time	Meeting for	Venue
Monday 4 June	3.00pm - 3.30pm	Croftlands Infant and Junior School Councils	Croftlands Infant School
	4.00pm - 5.00pm	Staff of Croftlands Infant and Junior Schools	
	5.00pm - 6.00pm	Governors of Croftlands Infant and Junior Schools	
	6.30pm - 8.00pm	Parents of pupils at Croftlands Infant or Junior Schools	
Wednesday 6 June	3.00pm - 3.30pm	Dale Street and Sir John Barrow School Councils	Sir John Barrow School
	4.00pm - 5.00pm	Staff of Dale Street and Sir John Barrow Schools	
	5.00pm - 6.00pm	Governors of Dale Street and Sir John Barrow Schools	
	6.30pm - 8.00pm	Parents of pupils at Dale Street and Sir John Barrow Schools	
Monday 11 June	7.30pm - 9.30pm	Neighbourhood Forum: Parents and other members of the community	Main Hall, Coronation Hall

The Lead Member for Children's Services, Councillor Philip Chappelhow, will chair each meeting, which will start with a short introduction on how the session will be run. Then there will be a very brief presentation on the main points in the consultation document. During the rest of the meeting, you will be able to say what you feel about what is said in the document and ask questions of the panel of County Council officers who will be present.

Notes of each meeting will be taken to summarise the points made. These will be made available to members of the Council's Cabinet when they are taking the decision regarding the potential amalgamation.

What happens after the consultation process?

Once the responses to the consultation process have been analysed, a report will be prepared for the County Council's Cabinet. The report will include notes of the consultation meetings, a summary of comments received from individuals and photocopies of the responses from recognised organisations. The report will be a public document, so will be available to the media and on the County Council website.

The Cabinet will consider the response to the consultation and form a view about what it believes to be the appropriate provision for the future. This is likely to occur on Tuesday 24 July 2007.

If it is decided to seek to amalgamate one or both of these pairs of schools, one of the legal processes referred to in the section on 'Achieving Amalgamation' on page 12 will need to be followed. It is likely any mergers would happen in September 2008 or 2009.

How can I find out more?

Members of the School Organisation Project Team will be more than happy to discuss with you any of the issues covered in this document or anything else related to the schools. You might find this helpful before completing the questionnaire.

The number to ring is 01228 606013.

As we said earlier, we wanted to keep this document as short as possible. There is extra information available if you want to read the detailed background documents that we used when we wrote this paper. These include projected pupil numbers and the most recent Ofsted inspection reports.

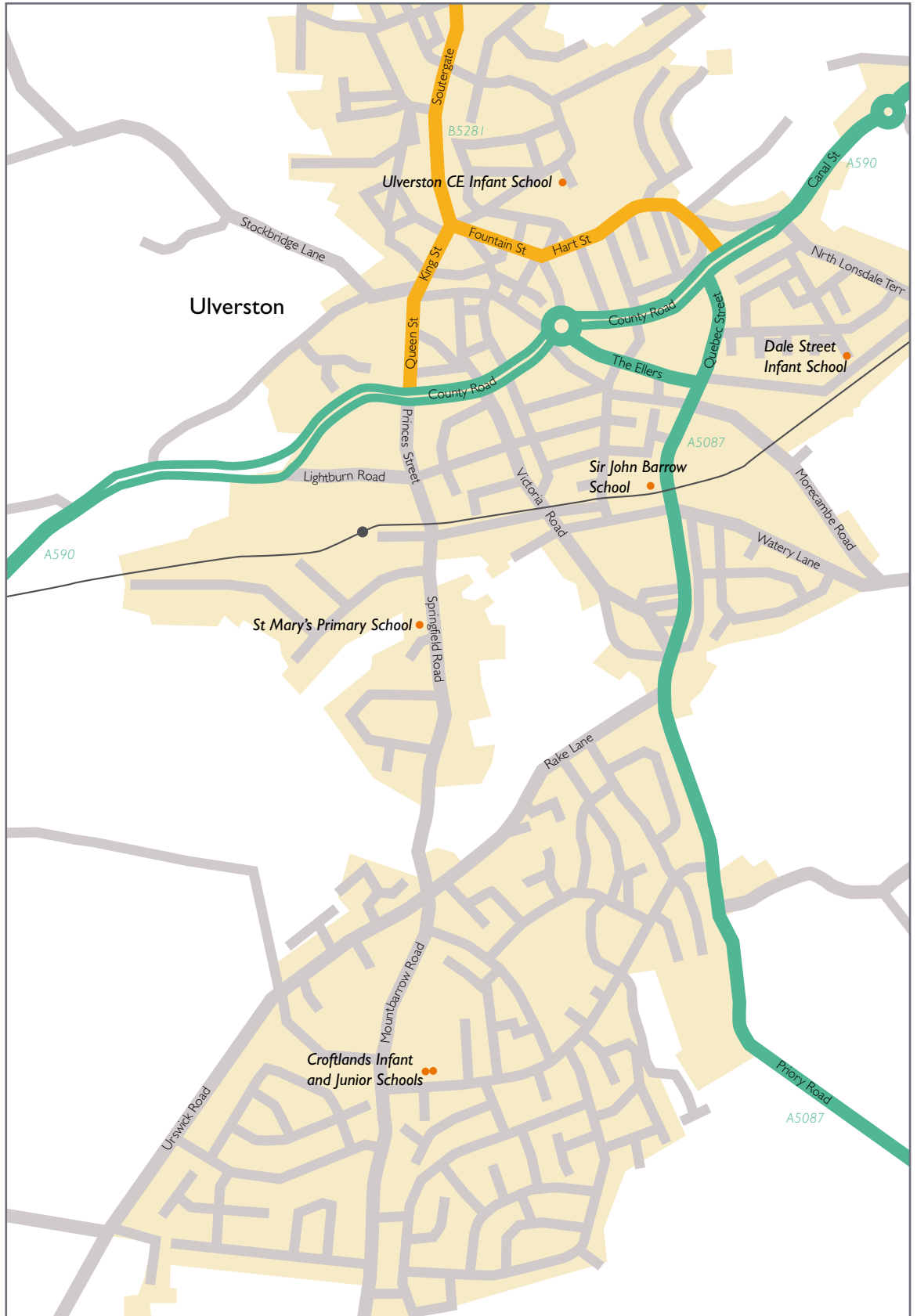
All of these documents are available to view or download on our website:

www.cumbriacc.gov.uk/childrenservices/school-organisation

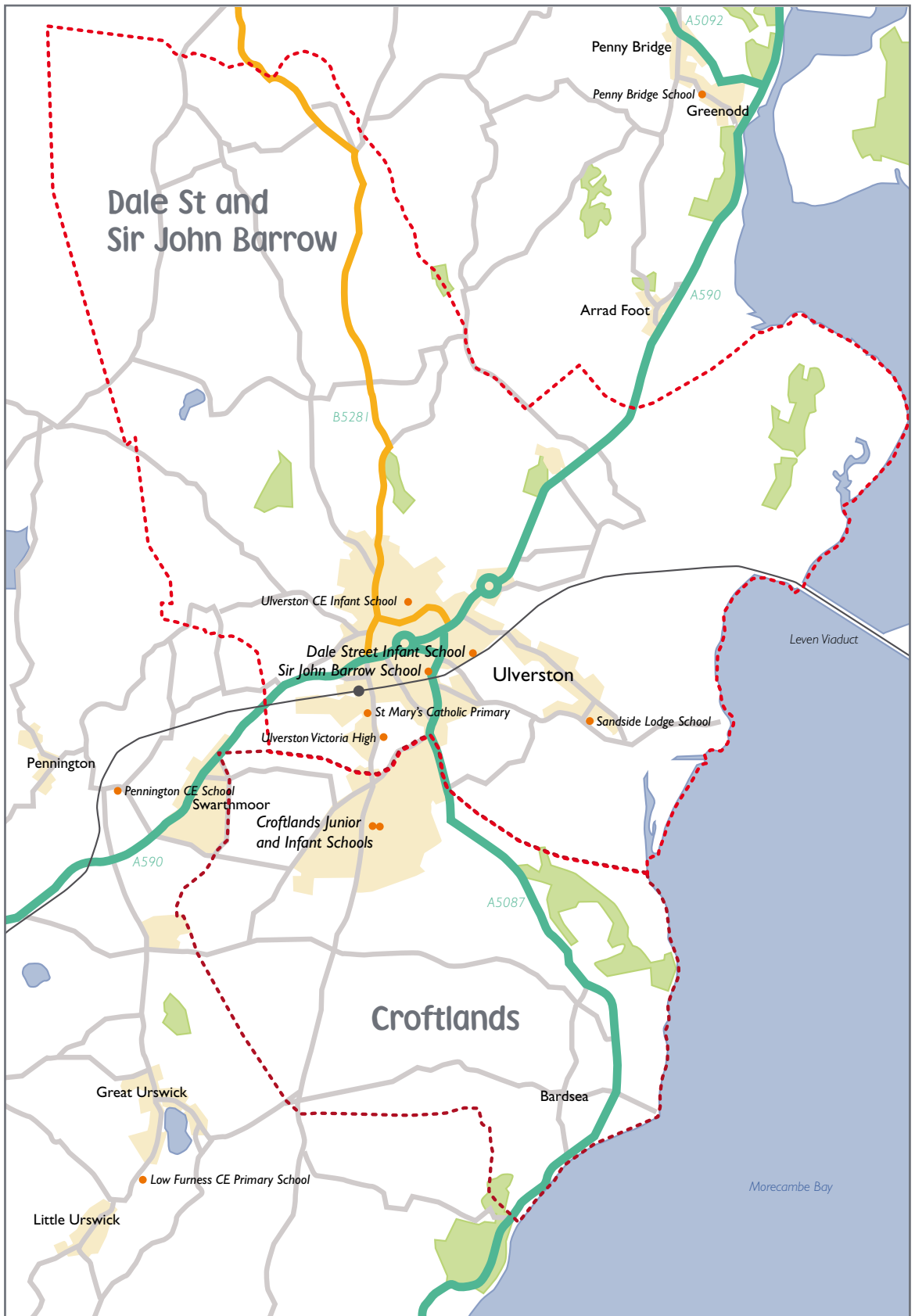
If you do not have access to the internet, we can provide you with a printed copy of any sections of the additional information. All you need to do is to call the School Organisation Project Team on 01228 606013. Alternatively, requests can be made by fax to 01228 606016, or by post to the following address:

Freepost RRBS – RLBG – GZGL
CUMBRIA COUNTY COUNCIL
School Organisation
18 Portland Square
CARLISLE
CA1 1PE

Appendix A - Map: Location of the Ulverston schools



Appendix B - Map: Catchment areas



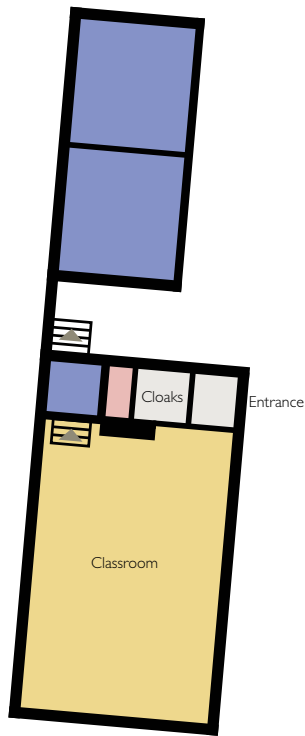
Appendix C - Accommodation plan: Dale Street Infant & Nursery School



Key to Areas

- Teaching
- Staff
- Communal
- Storage/other
- Toilets
- Circulation
- Non school use

Appendix D - Accommodation plan: Sir John Barrow Junior School



Key to Areas

- Teaching
- Staff
- Communal
- Storage/other
- Toilets
- Circulation



Appendix E - Accommodation plan: Croftlands Infant School



Key to Areas

- Teaching
- Staff
- Communal
- Storage/other
- Toilets
- Circulation
- Non school use

Appendix F - Accommodation plan: Croftlands Junior School



Translation services

English

You can get a copy of this document in different formats such as large print, braille, audio, or in a different language by calling 01229 894401.

Bengali

আপনি 01229 894401 -এই নম্বর ফোন করে, বিভিন্ন ফরম্যাট যেমন বড় প্রিন্ট, ব্রেইল, অডিও বা একটি ভিন্ন ভাষাতে এই নথিটির একটি কপি পেতে পারেন।

Portuguese

Pode obter uma cópia deste documento em vários formatos, como por exemplo em Braille, áudio, ou numa outra língua. Para tal ligue para o 01229 894401.

Cantonese

如果您想获取该文件的不同版本，如：大字体印刷、盲文、音频或不同语言版本，请致电：01229 894401。

Lithuanian

Paskambinę telefonu 01229 894401, galite užsisakyti šio dokumento kopiją įvairiais formatais, pavyzdžiui, atspausdintą dideliu šriftu, Brailio raštu, užsisakyti garso įrašą arba gauti dokumentą, išverstą į norimą kalbą.

Polish

Aby otrzymać kopię tego dokumentu w innych formatach, takich jak duży druk, druk Braille'm, audio, lub w innym języku proszę dzwonić pod numer 01229 894401.

Turkish

01229 894401'u arayarak, bu dokümanın bir kopyasını büyük puntolu, körler için kabartmalı, ses dosyası gibi değişik formatlarda veya farklı bir dilde edinebilirsiniz.



Questionnaire

Planning primary education for the Ulverston area

This questionnaire is to help you put your views, comments and suggestions in writing. All views will be made available to those taking decisions. Please continue on a separate sheet if required. Alternatively, complete your questionnaire online at www.cumbriacc.gov.uk/consultation.

Please complete, tear out and return to the address overleaf. The last date for responses to be received is **Friday 22 June 2007**.

Q1 Given the current situation, and the information contained in this document, do you think it appropriate for Dale Street Infant & Nursery School to amalgamate with Sir John Barrow Junior School?

- Yes 1
No 2
Don't know 3

Q2 Please give your reasons, and any additional comments you wish to make on the question above.

Q3 Given the current situation, and the information contained in this document, do you think it appropriate for Croftlands Infant School to amalgamate with Croftlands Junior School?

- Yes 1
No 2
Don't know 3

Q4 Please give your reasons, and any additional comments you wish to make on the question above.

Q5 Please provide below any further comments or suggestions you wish to make on the content of this consultation document or more generally including any ideas you have for alternative options for the future.

Q6 Please tell us the nature of your interest in the process, and which schools you are connected to. Please tick all that apply.

Interest	✓	At which school(s)?				
		Dale Street (✓)	Sir John Barrow (✓)	Croftlands Infant (✓)	Croftlands Junior (✓)	Other (please state)
Student	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Parent/Carer of current school pupil	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Member of support staff	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Member of teaching staff	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Governor	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Pre-school parent	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Local resident	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Other (please state)	<input type="checkbox"/>				

Q7 Name

Address

.....

..... Postcode

Q8 How old are you?

Under 20 1 20-39 2 40-59 3 60+ 4

Signature

Thank you for completing this consultation questionnaire.
Please now return it to the FREEPOST address below:

Freepost RRBS - RLBG - GZGL
 CUMBRIA COUNTY COUNCIL
 School Organisation
 18 Portland Square
 CARLISLE CA1 1PE



School Organisation Project Team

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www.cumbriacc.gov.uk/childrensservices/school-organisation