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Dear Mr Vance,

**SCHOOLS (CONSULTATION) (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010: HIGHLAND COUNCIL –
ALTNAHARRA PRIMARY SCHOOL**

I refer to your email of 28 June 2019 notifying Scottish Ministers of Highland Council's decision of 27 June 2019 to implement the proposal to close Altnaharra Primary School.

A three week period began on 27 June 2019 for any person to make a representation to Scottish Ministers requesting that the decision should (or should not) be called in by them for further investigation (as provided for by section 15(4) of the 2010 Act). That period expired on 17 July 2019 and no representations were received.

Under section 17 of the 2010 Act, the Scottish Ministers may only issue a call-in notice if it appears to them that the education authority may have failed:

- (a) in a significant regard to comply with the requirements imposed on it by (or under) this Act so far as they are relevant in relation to the closure proposal, or
- (b) to take proper account of a material consideration relevant to its decision to implement the proposal.

Having reviewed Highland Council's Proposal Paper and Consultation Report, the Scottish Ministers consider that Highland Council has fulfilled its obligations under the 2010 Act and consequently have decided not to issue a call-in notice for this proposal.

Education Scotland's Report noted that the Council would need to consider stakeholders' views on school transport arrangements and engage with the local community and the Altnaharra Community Trust on future community use of the school building and associated development plans for the area.



