

T: 0131-244 7573  
E: Liza.McLean@gov.scot

Fiona Robertson  
Executive Director for Children, Young People  
& Partnerships  
Midlothian Council

15 March 2021

Dear Fiona Robertson,

**SCHOOLS (CONSULTATION) (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010: MIDLOTHIAN COUNCIL –  
GLENCORSE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

I refer to your email of 21 January 2021 notifying Scottish Ministers of Midlothian Council's decision of 19 January 2021 to implement the proposal to close Glencorse Primary School. Ministers have considered this proposal in line with the requirements set out in the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 ("the 2010 Act").

Under section 17 of the 2010 Act, 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) the 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.

Section 15(2) of the 2010 Act requires an education authority to provide a copy of the proposal paper and the consultation report prepared under the Act to Ministers when notifying them of a closure proposal.

Section 15(4) of the 2010 Act requires Ministers to take into account any relevant representations made to them by any person during the 3 week period from the date that a closure decision is made. In relation to this closure proposal, the 3 week period began on 19 January 2021 and expired on 8 February 2021. A total of one representation was received.

Having reviewed the documents provided by Midlothian Council under section 15(2) and considered all relevant representations made under section 15(4), Ministers consider that Midlothian Council has fulfilled its obligations under the 2010 Act and do not intend to issue a call-in notice for this proposal.

Midlothian Council may now implement its decision to close Glencorse Primary School in line with the timescales set out in its proposal paper. The Council should also, as set out in Education Scotland's report, continue to support children and parents who feel a sense of loss from the closure of a small school and work with parents to address their concerns over safe walking routes to school.

Yours sincerely,



**LIZA MCLEAN**  
**INTERIM DEPUTY DIRECTOR, LEARNING WORKFORCE, INFRASTRUCTURE AND REFORM**