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Mr Douglas Hendry
Executive Director
Argyll & Bute Council
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Argyll PA31 8RT
By email: douglas.hendry@argyll-bute.gov.uk

30 October 2019

Dear Mr Hendry,

SCHOOLS (CONSULTATION) (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010: ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL – ASHFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL

I refer to your email of 6 September 2019 notifying Scottish Ministers of Argyll and Bute Council's decision of 5 September 2019 to implement the proposal to close Ashfield Primary School.

A three week period began on 5 September 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 26 September 2019 and one representation was 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 Argyll and Bute Council's Proposal Paper and Consultation Report, the Scottish Ministers consider that Argyll and Bute Council has fulfilled its obligations under the 2010 Act and consequently have decided not to issue a call-in notice for this proposal.

Argyll and Bute Council may now implement its decision to close Ashfield Primary School in line with the timescales set out in its proposal paper from 30 October 2019.

Yours sincerely,



Jerry O'Connell
WIR: School Funding, Infrastructure and Organisation