Appendix 3iii

Name of consultation: Badcaul Primary School

Your comments: It is exceptionally short sighted to close this school. As it stands there is already a parent group investigating childcare options in the area yet what impetus will come when the children have no prospect of schooling?

To future proof the resilience of this community it is essential to keep the facility open this is an area that is affected by snow storms in winter and can often be cut off.

The impact of closing the school will see fewer and fewer families willing to move to Little Loch Broom due to lack of services or distance.

The Scottish Government has policies to guard against pupil deprivation and lack of access to services is a form of rural deprivation.

Instead of adopting the default position to close a school that is dwindling why not work with those in the community looking to grow a childcare facility and look at routes to provide wrap around school and nursery care.

Furthermore please consider the reasons why recruitment of teachers is problematic. If there is very little housing available then it becomes a problem. If the school were remodelled and updated to include a family house for a teacher that was tied to the job this may change things.

https://www.gov.scot/news/affordable-housing-initiative-for-key-workers/

The closure of this school would have a knock on effect on Scoraig, on Ullapool High and on the provision of services for families nearby as it will see the doctor surgery close and regular public transport also close.

A school is the heart of any community and this one could be turned around if plans to reverse this decision were made concrete because this will deliver a critical hammer blow to rural depopulation in Wester Ross.

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I am commenting as: Local resident

I am commenting on behalf of: Community member

Name:

Title	First name	Last name
Miss	Lucy	Beattie

Address:

postcode_search Choose address		Did you find the address on the list above?	
IV23 2RN	Hilltop Cottage Campbelltown, Loch Broom, IV23 2RN	Yes	