

North Lanarkshire Council

Report

To: The Education Committee	Subject: Review of denominational primary school provision for Cumbernauld village and areas north of the A80
From: Director of Education	
Date: October 1999	
Ref: MON/MM	

Purpose and Content

The attached report is a consultative document which reviews the education provision for primary age denominational pupils living in Cumbernauld Village and areas north of the A80.

Recommendations

It is recommended that:

- 1 The Education Committee agrees to adopt the following proposals:
 - (a) that a new denominational primary school, accommodated in a building shared with a non-denominational primary school, be built in Carrickstone north of Eastfield Road.
 - (b) that the catchment areas for the new denominational school include Cumbernauld Village, Craigmarloch, Carrickstone, Westerwood, Dullatur and Castlecary, as shown in appendix 2.
- 2 this report be issued as a consultative document and made available to all interested parties.
- 3 all interested parties, including the relevant school boards, be asked to make written representations on the proposal to the Director of Education, Municipal Buildings, Kildonan Street, Coatbridge, no later than 30 November 1999.
- 4 the Director of Education prepare a report of the consultative process for consideration at a future meeting of the education committee.

Members wishing further information regarding the attached report should contact:

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North Lanarkshire Council

Department of Education

Review of Denominational Primary School Provision in Cumbernauld Village and areas north of the A80

Report by the Director of Education

1 Background

- 1.1 At its meeting in September 1998, the education committee considered the current provision of primary schools in the authority and agreed that priority should be given to a review of schools in Cumbernauld.
- 1.2 The main concerns underpinning this decision are the following. In aggregate, there are too many primary school places and closures can be justified on value for money grounds. In addition, there exists a geographical disparity between school location and housing developments. The provision of schools north of the A80 is inadequate and pupils are zoned to relatively distant schools on the south side of the town.
- 1.3 In broad terms, the committee approved for Cumbernauld:
 - (a) the development of new provision north of the A80 and the possible consolidation of existing primary schools in the town.
 - (b) the retention by education of any capital receipts and revenue savings from the area and their allocation to the building of the new schools north of the A80 and the upgrading of the remaining primary schools.

2 Existing denominational primary school provision

- 2.1 There are seven denominational primary schools in Cumbernauld. Two of these schools, St. Francis of Assisi Primary School, Westfield and Holy Cross Primary School, Croy are located north of the A80. All others lie south of the A80.

The location of denominational primary schools is shown in appendix 1.

2.2 The following table indicates the current rolls for each of the seven schools.

School	Location	Primary Roll
St. Lucy's Primary	Abronhill	191
Sacred Heart Primary	Kildrum	157
St. Joseph's Primary	Carbrain	172
St. Mary's Primary	Seafar	276
St. Helen's Primary	Condorrat	314
St. Francis of Assisi Primary	Westfield	159
Holy Cross Primary	Croy	230

2.3 The catchment area for each school is shown on the map in appendix 1. The catchment area for St. Mary's Primary School extends beyond Seafar and Cumbernauld Village to include areas north of the A80 and also the rural areas to the south of Cumbernauld Town as shown in appendix 3.

2.4 At present, 68 children from these areas have free school transport to/from St. Mary's Primary School.

2.5 Of the 276 primary children who currently attend St. Mary's Primary School, 74 live in the areas to the north of the A80 and east of Balloch/Eastfield. A further 64 primary children from these areas attend the other six denominational primary schools as a result of placing requests. There are also suggestions that a number of Roman Catholic children attend a non-denominational school because a denominational school is not easily accessible.

3 Arguments for Change

3.1 The area to the north of the A80, which includes Craigmarloch, Carrickstone, Westerwood, Dullatur and Castlecary, is rapidly developing in terms of new housing and has no local primary schools. Primary school children from these developing areas travel inappropriate distances to their zoned school. Consequently, many parents are enrolling their children in schools which are closer to home. The demand for local primary school provision will continue to grow as the population increases.

4 A Proposal for Cumbernauld Village and areas north of the A80

4.1 The proposal is that:

- (a) a new denominational primary school should be built in the Carrickstone area of Cumbernauld. The location of the proposed new school is shown in appendix 2

- (b) The catchment area for the new school should include the following areas:-

Cumbernauld Village, Craigmarloch, Carrickstone, Dullatur, Westerwood and Castlecary

- (c) The new school building would be on a campus shared between a denominational school and a non-denominational school. The schools would be staffed separately but would share a common staff room, dining facilities, PE/ Assembly areas and children's play areas. The building would also have accommodation for pre-school provision.

4.2 Implications

- 4.2.1 All pupils will benefit from the proposed change. The staffing allocation to each school will be increased after the change. A wider range of teacher expertise, including learning support, will be available in each school.

4.2.2 New School Rolls

If all primary school children currently living in areas to be zoned to the new denominational school were to attend the new school, it would have a roll of 138.

Taking account of new housing, the roll projection for the new denominational school would be:-

Year	1999/2000	2002	2004	2006	2008
Roll	138	206	227	248	253

- 4.2.3 If the existing 138 pupils were to attend the new denominational primary school, the effect on current primary school rolls would be as follows:-

School	Revised Roll
St. Lucy's Primary	186
Sacred Heart Primary	153
St. Joseph's Primary	168
St. Mary's Primary	202
St. Helen's Primary	307
St. Francis of Assisi Primary	133
Holy Cross Primary	212
New School	138

4.2.4 Staffing

The new school will be staffed in accordance with current staffing standards.

4.2.5 Transport

In accordance with North Lanarkshire Council policy, free transport will be provided for children living more than one mile away from their local primary school by the shortest, safe walking route.

4.2.6 Community use of the new school building

Community use of the new school building will be encouraged. It is anticipated that this use will be substantial given that it is a modern purpose built facility and the lack of other facilities in the locality.

4.2.7 Secondary Education

The implications for secondary education will be dealt with in a paper to the next meeting of the education committee.

4.3 Financial Implications

4.3.1 The budget for the new denominational school would be as follows:-

Budget for new denominational school	£362,790
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This budget entitlement is based on a projected denominational pupil roll of 240 and contains the following elements:-

Element	Budget
Staffing (Teaching and A.P.T. & C.)	£ 335,158
Property Costs	£ 1,826
Supplies and Services	£ 9,638
Administration Costs	£ 1,414
Payments to Agencies	£ 14,092
Other Expenditure	£ 662
Property Costs *	£ 125,840 *

* Property costs are shared with non-denominational school as shown in appendix A

4.3.2 The property costs have been calculated for the joint campus and then allocated on a pro-rata basis. The details are included in appendix A.

5 Summary of Proposals

- 5.1 A new school building accommodating a denominational and a non-denominational school should be built in Carrickstone.
- 5.2 The catchment area for the new denominational school should include:- Cumbernauld Village, Craigmarloch, Carrickstone, Westerwood, Dullatur and Castlecary as shown in appendix 2.
- 5.3 Until the new denominational primary school is opened, the current catchment areas should be retained.

6 Recommendations

It is recommended that :

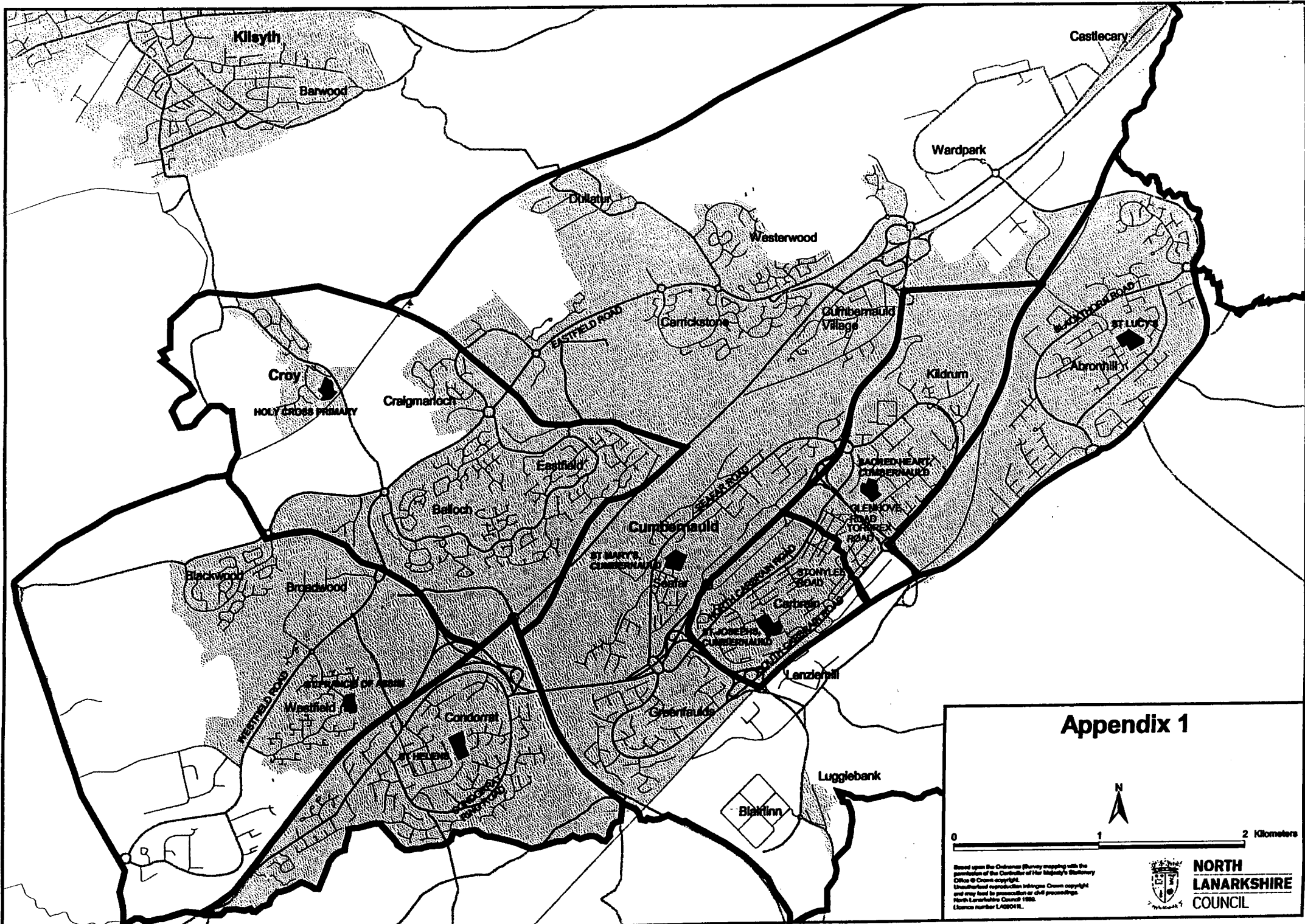
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MM/JP
Oct 1999

Appendix A

Breakdown of Projected Budget Entitlements for New Schools in one building on shared campus

Budget Entitlement	N.D. School	Common Costs	R.C. School
Staffing (Teaching & A.P.T. & C.)	£675,228		£335,158
Property Costs			
Rates		£38,817	
Water meter charges		£1,333	
Furniture & Fittings	£808		£556
Electricity		£17,135	
Gas		£7,260	
Cleaning materials	£32		£32
Window cleaning		£138	
Contract cleaning		£28,363	
Contract janitor service		£30,254	
Janitorial supplies	£1,545		£741
Contract grounds maintenance		£670	
Security systems – Line rental	£179		£179
Health & Safety	£318		£318
Uplift of waste		£1,870	
Supplies and Services	£19,947		£9,638
Administration Costs	£4,844		£1,414
Payments to Agencies	£27,376		£14,092
Other Expenditure	£128		£662
Total	£730,405	£125,840	£362,790
Overall Total		£1,219,035	

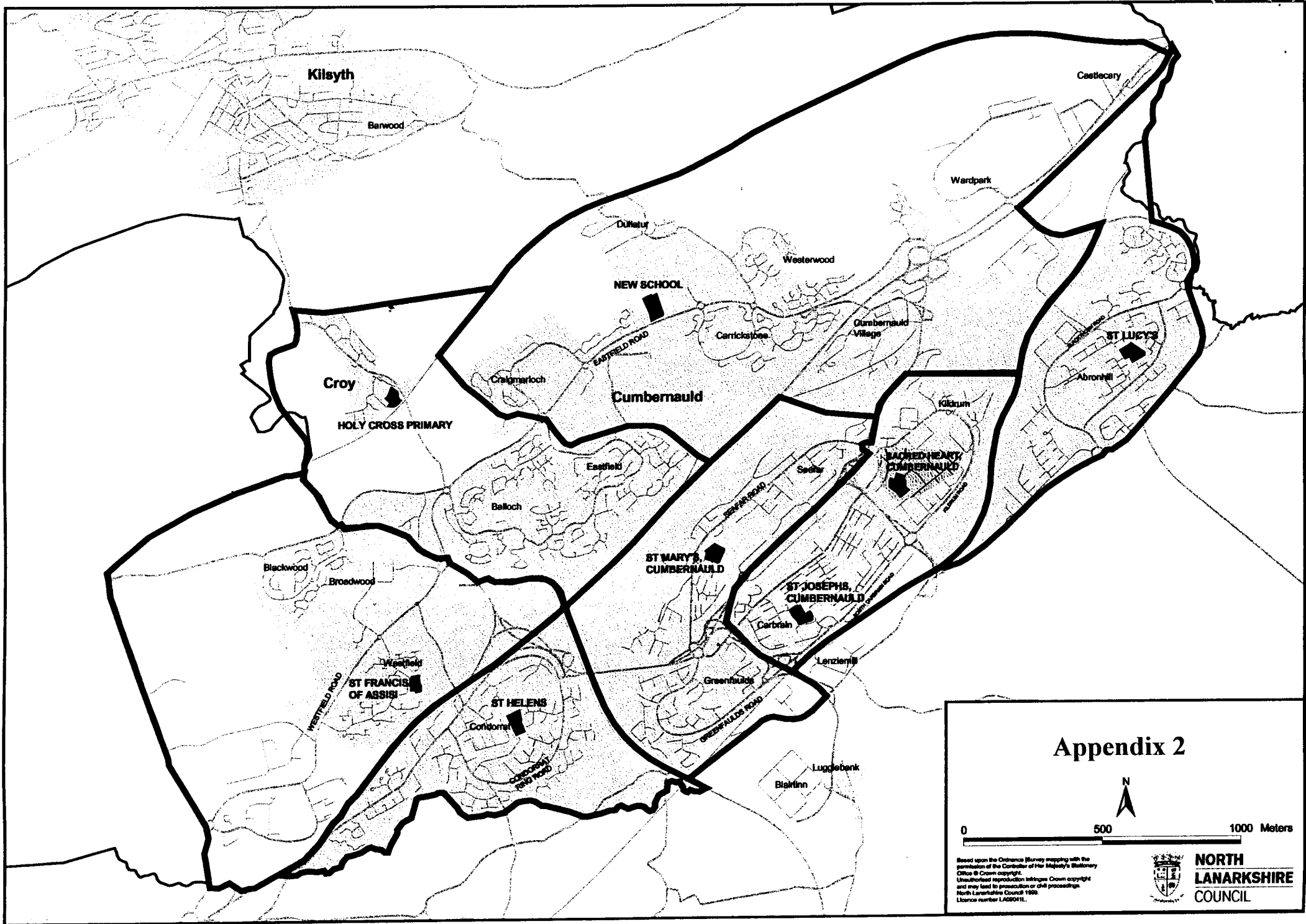


Appendix 1



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Appendix 2



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Appendix 3



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