

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Education
Date of Decision:	20 March 2017
Decision Title:	Amalgamation of Fort Hill Community School and Cranbourne Business and Enterprise College, Basingstoke including the Fort Hill Special Educational Needs resourced provision.
Decision Reference:	8124
Report From:	Director of Children's Services

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1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. This paper reports on the outcome of the public consultation on the proposal to amalgamate Fort Hill Community School with Cranbourne Business and Enterprise College (CBEC).
- 1.2. Parental preference for Fort Hill Community School has significantly reduced over the past five years with only 35 in-catchment first preferences received for September 2017. Pupil numbers have declined to such an extent that the school's ability to provide a wide-ranging curriculum offer will become severely limited. The financial impact of reducing numbers also means the school will be faced with a substantial deficit budget from the beginning of the 2018 financial year.
- 1.3. Following discussion and a written request from the school's governing body the County Council opened a public consultation on 19 January 2017. The preferred option of the County Council is to amalgamate Fort Hill Community School and Cranbourne Business and Enterprise College (CBEC), Basingstoke including the Fort Hill Special Educational Needs Specific Learning Difficulties resourced provision. This would be achieved through the closure of Fort Hill School, creating a single larger secondary school on the Cranbourne site. Implementation would be for September 2017. During the consultation the County Council also welcomed any fully considered additional viable proposals.

2. Contextual information

- 2.1. On 11 January 2017 the Governing Body of Fort Hill and Cranbourne Business and Enterprise College Federation wrote to the County Council asking that a consultation on the amalgamation of Fort Hill and CBEC be

undertaken. A six week consultation period commenced on 19 January 2017.

- 2.2. The governing body asked that particular consideration be given by the County Council to four key issues should the amalgamation proceed:
- education to continue for the current Yr9 and Yr10 at the Fort Hill site so that these children’s GCSEs are not affected;
 - travel is arranged for students between the Fort Hill and CBEC sites and the costs covered by the County Council;
 - an agreed percentage of the Fort Hill lump sum is protected for the first year of the amalgamation; and
 - a financial contribution is made to the new amalgamated school in respect of the closure of the Fort Hill site. This would be used to:
 - support parental costs such as new uniform
 - support the TUPE and restructure process
 - allow for creative solutions to be sourced that enhance the opportunities for students who attend CBEC from 2017.
- 2.3. In response to the points set out in 2.2 the County Council would, if the amalgamation proceeds:
- work with CBEC and any future academy sponsor to enable education to continue for the current Yr9 and Yr10 at the Fort Hill site so that these children’s GCSEs are not affected;
 - provide free transport for students from the Fort Hill site to CBEC for a period of two years;
 - support fully the transitioning of staff from Fort Hill to CBEC; and
 - work within the constraints of the school’s funding formula to support the amalgamation process and enhance opportunities for students attending CBEC from 2017.

Performance

- 2.4. GCSE results at Fort Hill over the past five years have been consistently poor, despite the best efforts of all those involved. The table below sets out the school’s GCSE performance using the Government’s preferred measure of the proportion of pupils being awarded five or more GCSEs including English and mathematics at grades A* to C (%5A*-C(E+M) against the national figures for the four year period 2012 to 2015.

	%5A*-C(E+M) Fort Hill	%5A*-C(E+M) National
2012	42%	59%
2013	42%	61%
2014	44%	57%
2015	39%	57%

- 2.5. The school's performance has been below the national headline figures year on year over this time.
- 2.6. Pupils' progress has also been poor over this time. The preferred government measure used up to 2015 was based on the proportion of pupils that make three levels of progress in English over the five years of attending a school, and three levels of progress in mathematics. These figures are given below against the national averages.

	3LP English Fort Hill	3 LP English National	3 LP mathematics Fort Hill	3 LP mathematics National
2012	50%	68%	59%	69%
2013	51%	71%	66%	71%
2014	61%	72%	53%	66%
2015	61%	71%	46%	67%

- 2.7. Figures for Fort Hill fall significantly short of those achieved nationally. Unlike the percentage 5A*-C(E+M), which is a threshold measure, the progress figures measure how far pupils move from their starting points when they enter secondary school to when they leave therefore, providing information about a school's effectiveness. Schools in which progress rates are low are clearly ineffective.
- 2.8. The Government sets a minimum expectation for school performance, called the floor standard. It is based on both pupils' progress and their attainment. In 2015, performance in Fort Hill was so weak that the school fell below this floor standard.
- 2.9. In 2016 the Government's preferred measures of secondary school performance changed. Schools are now judged against the proportion of pupils reaching "the basics" (An A* to C grade in both English and mathematics), the proportion of pupils being awarded the English baccalaureate (%EBacc – the equivalent of 5A*-C but in a tightly defined range of subjects), Attainment 8 (A8 – pupils' average performance across eight tightly defined subjects) and Progress 8 (P8 – a measure of pupils' progress in these eight subject areas).
- 2.10. Fort Hill has performed poorly across these measures. 47% of pupils were awarded the basics against 63% nationally, 9% achieved the EBacc against 25% nationally, A8 was 44% versus 50% nationally, P8 was – 0.55. This means that pupils at the school made half a GCSE grade less progress on average than pupils nationally in the same subjects.
- 2.11. In 2016, the definition of the floor standard was changed so that it is now solely based on the P8 progress measure. Fort Hill falls below this new standard.
- 2.12. The Department for Education (DfE) has a measure that it uses to identify "coasting schools". These are schools in which the overall attainment and progress of pupils' falls below a set level consistently over a three year period. The performance of Fort Hill was such over the three year period

2014 to 2016, that it was formally identified as a coasting school by the DfE.

- 2.13. The school was inspected by Ofsted in 2013 and judged as requiring improvement.
- 2.14. Since 2012 the school and local authority have worked closely together and considerable activity has taken place with the aim of bringing about improvement in standards, progress and the overall quality of the school. As well as using other sources of school support, this has included work from local authority subject inspectors to support and challenge the leadership and management, in particular subject areas in the school; support and help to develop teaching; support to develop the subject knowledge of teachers who are working outside their subject specialisms and support and challenge for the school's senior leadership.
- 2.15. Following the departure of the previous headteacher in 2013, strong interim leadership was brokered into the school by the local authority from CBEC. One of the approaches that can be taken in a relatively small, underperforming school is to link it formally to a larger, more successful school to provide it with the capacity it needs to improve. This formal link is achieved either through federating with another school or through amalgamation. The Fort Hill governing body understood the challenges that the school was facing and pursued federation with another school with the result that in early 2014 Fort Hill formally federated with CBEC (a school that was at that time judged good by Ofsted and with GCSE results above the Hampshire and national average). Governors worked with those at CBEC to set up a federation to help secure capacity for the schools for the future.
- 2.16. Her Majesty's Inspectors (HMI) visited the school to monitor the progress that was being made in addressing the identified weaknesses, following the two requires improvement judgements made by Ofsted. On both these occasions, HMI judged that effective action was being taken. In the 2013 visit they found that the weaknesses were being tackled with "determination and energy" and that the school and local authority "are working well together to improve students' achievement". In their 2015 visit they judged the school to be "taking effective action to tackle the areas requiring improvement", with the local authority continuing "to provide valued support".
- 2.17. Despite this work, standards have remained stubbornly low, as have rates of progress. In the professional judgement of the Hampshire's Inspection and Advisory Service, if Ofsted was to inspect the school currently, it is highly likely to be rated as 'requires improvement' or 'inadequate'.
- 2.18. Fort Hill is not seen as the school of choice by a significant number of eligible students. During this period, the school's roll has fallen significantly to such an extent that only 38 pupils have identified the school as their first preference for 2017 Y7 intake, this is against 220 eligible students within its catchment and a Published Admission Number (PAN) of 145. Consequently, the school's budget share is relatively small and will fall further. This has a negative impact on the breadth of the curriculum the

school can afford to offer, limits the school's ability to use allowances to attract and retain staff, and limits the extra-curricular activities that can be offered. The small size of a school can be a factor in its choice by parents – either negatively or positively.

- 2.19. Basingstoke's County Councillors are supportive of their local schools and understand the challenges being faced at Fort Hill and CBEC. There is rightly a strong desire from them to see sustained and continued improvement in provision and outcomes for children within the Borough.

School places

- 2.20. Fort Hill School has a capacity of 731 places and Cranbourne a capacity of 1,182 places. The number on roll of both schools at January census was 1,100. Cranbourne prior to 2011 had a PAN of 260 (currently 180) and a capacity of 1,300 places. Based on current numbers on roll the total of pupils from both schools can be accommodated on the Cranbourne site. This number could not be accommodated within the available buildings and space on the Fort Hill site.
- 2.21. Basingstoke town is served by eight secondary schools: Bishop Challoner Catholic Voluntary Aided Secondary School, Fort Hill Community School, Brighton Hill Community School, The Vyne Community School, Cranbourne Business and Enterprise College, Aldworth School, Everest Community Academy and The Costello School. Of these, two are academy schools: Everest and Costello. The combined number of places in Year 7 across all the schools is 1,484 but the intake over the last three years has been 1,103, 1,102 and 1,168. Year 7 has approximately 300 surplus places. In total Basingstoke's secondary schools have 7,595 places and the combined number on roll is fewer than 5,600. All schools except Bishop Challoner, Aldworth and Costello have significant surplus places.
- 2.22 In the admissions round for children starting secondary school in September 2017 Fort Hill received only 38 first preference applications and Cranbourne only 46. On national offer day the total offers made were 72 and 67 respectively. Taking account of the numbers of pupils in linked primary and junior schools and assuming a similar level of popularity applied over the coming years, an intake of the order of between 40 and 50 children would continue at Fort Hill. Wider experience shows that children allocated a place in the main admission round at a school they did not name in their preference, tend not to go on to attend that school. In the case of Fort Hill for the September 2017 intake that number is 26.

Looking longer term the number of children in the primary phase schools of Basingstoke has already increased. The current intake of fewer than 40 forms of entry (FE) is expected to grow. Fort Hill provides 5 FE of the current 50 forms of entry. The forecast number of Year 7 children does not exceed the available places (based on current admission numbers and the 2017 demand for Fort Hill) until 2023. There is unused capacity in other Basingstoke schools, notably Cranbourne, that could be used if numbers grow quicker due to factors outside the standard forecast model.

3. Consultation

- 3.1 Dedicated webpages, containing information on the consultation process, outlining the Council's preferred option, giving dates of the public drop-in meetings and linking to a response survey, were live from 19 January to 2 March 2017 - www.hants.gov.uk/aboutthecouncil/haveyoursay/consultations/forthillandcbe
- 3.2 Letters containing information and the link to the consultation webpages were sent to parents of the schools concerned and all other schools within two miles, together with a range of other local and relevant stakeholders. Copies of the letter, webpage and response survey form are attached at Appendices 1, 2 and 3 respectively. A list of consultees is attached at Appendix 4.
- 3.3 Two public meetings and a drop-in meeting were held, one at Fort Hill, one at CBEC and one at the Westside Community Centre in Basingstoke. Separate meetings for staff were held at Fort Hill and CBEC. A Hampshire County Council officer also attended meetings with students at both schools. All consultation responses have been made available to Hampshire County Councillors.
- 3.4 The public consultation meetings were attended by a mixed audience including pupils, parents, staff, governors and other interested parties. As well as having questions directly answered at these meetings, attendees were encouraged to complete the online or hard copy response forms. The minutes for the meetings are included at Appendix 2.
- 3.5 A total of 932 online and written responses have been received. An analysis of those response forms received and summary of comments made are outlined below. In addition a petition in support of keeping Fort Hill open has been received. On verification this had 2,558 eligible signatures and is made available in the consultation response file.
- 3.6 Responses to Question 1: "In what capacity are you responding to this consultation?"

Parent of a pupil at Fort Hill Community School	321
Parent of a pupil at Cranbourne Business and Enterprise College	39
Parent of a pupil at another school	115
Pupil at Fort Hill Community School	64
Pupil at Cranbourne Business and Enterprise College	4
Pupil at another school	12
Member of staff at Fort Hill Community School	38
Member of staff at Cranbourne Business and Enterprise College	9
Governor at Fort Hill Community School/Cranbourne Business and Enterprise College	9
District/County Councillor	8
Member of the public	236
Other	77

- 3.7 Responses to Question 2: “Do you support the amalgamation of Fort Hill Community School and Cranbourne Business and Enterprise College, Basingstoke?” This would be achieved through the closure of Fort Hill School and setting up of the amalgamated school on the Cranbourne site.” Please note not all responses had this box completed

Yes	42
No	882

- 3.8 Summary of comments in response to question 3 on the survey “Should you wish to comment further or to suggest alternative viable options please use the box below:”

Academise Fort Hill	3
Add Castle Hill Infant/ Junior schools to Fort Hill site	6
Amalgamate each school with better/other schools	8
CBEC needs to sort itself out first	7
Change catchment areas for all Basingstoke secondary schools	7
Close all schools in Basingstoke and build 3-4 super schools	1
Close CBEC, move pupils to Fort Hill site	15
Condense Fort Hill into smaller school and hire out rest of site	1
Invest into and improve Fort Hill	85
Keep Fort Hill open and cancel plans for new Manydown School	1
Keep Fort Hill open and slow down plans for new Manydown School	7
Keep Fort Hill open in case pupil numbers increase	2
Keep Fort Hill open until all current pupils have finished	15
Of the responses, a number of people expressed concern on the following issues:	
Poor quality of CBEC	51
Distance to CBEC/Transport	129
Negative effect on CBEC/Traffic	53
Current Years 7 & 8 at Fort Hill	32
Current Years 9 & 10 at Fort Hill	50
Negative effect on Fort Hill pupils	104
Suggestions to improve Fort Hill	6
Academise Fort Hill	3
Funding	36

Impact on staff/teachers	69
Winklebury/community needs a secondary school	163
Pupil numbers in Basingstoke	46
Manydown/Housing	110

- 3.9 Hampshire County Council officers met Basingstoke and Deane Borough Councillors on 1 February 2017 to outline the options as part of the consultation process. Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council's Cabinet Member for Communities and Community Safety wrote to the County Council on 1 March and this letter is included in the consultation response file. A meeting of Rooksdown Parish Council was also attended on 27 February 2017.
- 3.10 A response was also received on behalf of the Labour Councillors representing residents across Basingstoke and Deane and this is included in the consultation response file.

4. Options suggested by consultees during the consultation exercise

Suggestions for alternative solutions provided through consultation responses:

Academise Fort Hill	3
Add Castle Hill Infant/ Junior schools to Fort Hill site	6
Amalgamate each school with better/other schools	8
CBEC needs to sort itself out first	7
Change catchment areas for all Basingstoke secondary schools	7
Close all schools in Basingstoke and build 3-4 super schools	1
Close CBEC, move pupils to Fort Hill site	15
Condense Fort Hill into smaller school and hire out rest of site	1
Invest into and improve Fort Hill	85
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Keep Fort Hill open until all current pupils have finished	15

- 4.1 The alternative solutions suggested during the consultation are addressed below:

Academise Fort Hill

- It is a school's governing body that decides whether to become an academy or not. However, academies are no better funded than maintained schools, nor do they have access to any greater resource than is available to other schools so becoming an academy will not, in itself, address the issues currently facing the school.

Link Fort Hill with Aldworth, Vyne or other Basingstoke Schools

- A local authority officer visited Aldworth, The Vyne, and Brighton Hill Schools separately to meet with individual headteachers in order to discuss this option as part of the consultation process. In each case, the headteacher understood the circumstances facing the school and was keen to discuss how they might be able to help. However, all of these schools felt that the challenges present in Fort Hill at this time were such that they were unable to consider an amalgamation or federation with the school.

Set up an 'all through' school

- Consideration has been given to setting up a 4 to 16 "all through" school as a way of driving up standards. One of the advantages of a school such as this is that teachers of Y7 pupils will have a much clearer understanding of pupils' performance in the previous key stage and have higher expectations of work in Y7 and beyond as a result. This is the basis for driving up standards through the school.
- This option would need to identify either a securely good or outstanding primary school that feeds into Fort Hill, or a securely good or outstanding infant and junior school. A school would then be set up across the two or three sites. The all through school would take the DfE number of the good school, or one of the good schools, in the grouping. This may lead to closure of other schools.
- On this basis, an officer of the local authority held two meetings with the headteacher of Castle Hill Primary School. He was keen to support the school and the community and was therefore interested in exploring fully how the all through model could work. However, issues regarding funding and the budget were too significant for this idea to be pursued further.
- Given the challenges being faced by Fort Hill Community School, it is highly unlikely that an approach based on raising expectations at Key Stage 3 will bring about the required changes in performance.
- It should also be noted that in setting up such a school, it would be important that the primary or infant/junior schools have capacity to support Fort Hill. Fort Hill federated with CBEC, as a way of providing additional capacity to secure improvement, has not had the desired impact so it is difficult to see what linking the school to a primary school would bring that was not available through the current federation.

CBEC needs to sort itself out first

- Whilst Cranbourne received an inadequate Ofsted judgement in December 2015 this reflected a judgement around a safeguarding procedure. This was addressed quickly and the school has subsequently strengthened considerably. Unfortunately, there have been no subsequent HMI visits to reflect the improved quality of the school as it is now subject to an academy order. In the professional judgement of Hampshire's Inspection and Advisory Service, if the school was re-inspected at this time, it would not be rated as inadequate.
- Standards in the school have been consistently higher than Fort Hill for some time.

Change catchment areas for all Basingstoke secondary schools

- Changes to school catchment areas are unlikely to impact on the distribution of pupils across the schools in Basingstoke as parents express a preference for a school based on a number of factors. Catchment areas only become relevant in the admission process if schools are oversubscribed. The low pupil numbers create the surplus places that exist which would not change if catchment areas were adjusted.

Close all schools in Basingstoke and build 3-4 super schools

- This has many complexities and financial issues that are insurmountable. Such a proposal is very unlikely to get support from the wider school community.

Close CBEC, move pupils to Fort Hill site

- Fort Hill has a capacity of 731 places and is located on a site that has significant development restrictions. The total population of both schools at January census was 1,100. This number of students could not be accommodated on the Fort Hill site.

Condense Fort Hill into a smaller school and hire out rest of site

- The low pupil numbers at Fort Hill School are a key factor that impacts on the available budget for the school and brings into question the viability of the school in the longer term (see Finance in section 7). Creating a smaller school would exacerbate the financial issue, which could not be offset by any potential income from hiring out the remaining parts of the school.

Invest into and improve Fort Hill

- Improving the financial situation at Fort Hill is reliant on attracting more pupils. The current Ofsted ratings, coupled with low standards, are leading people to look elsewhere for the education of their children. Creating an appropriate environment for pupils is clearly important. However, helping pupils learn better is the most effective way of improving educational standards. The local authority has invested significantly at the school through its Advisory and Inspection Service,

which has been working closely with the school over the past five years to help teachers teach more effectively and to support school leaders to bring this about. Unfortunately, there has been a higher than county average turnover of teaching staff, creating a continuing need for intensive support. This support has been subject to HMI scrutiny on their monitoring visits and found to be appropriate. However, the work in the school and the work of the local authority has not had the impact that had been anticipated. Therefore, an alternate approach must be considered so as to ensure current and future students of the school are not let down.

Keep Fort Hill open and cancel plans for new Manydown School

- Should the new housing development at Manydown receive planning permission, it is not expected that new homes will be occupied until 2018/19, at the earliest. New primary provision is unlikely to be provided until 2020/21 and the requirement for any new secondary school places is not anticipated until the mid 2020s. The intention is to provide new school places to meet the demand from the Manydown development when needed. Keeping Fort Hill open beyond September this year in expectation of future demand from Manydown will cause significant financial issues due to the large funding deficit that will exist and do nothing to address the quality of education currently on offer to students. Therefore, keeping the school open because of future development on Manydown is not a viable option.

Keep Fort Hill open and slow down plans for new Manydown School

- The same issues as detailed above apply in relation to this option.

Keep Fort Hill open in case pupil numbers increase

- Looking longer term the number of children in the primary phase schools of Basingstoke has already increased. The current intake in the secondary phase of fewer than 40 forms of entry (FE) is expected to grow. Fort Hill provides 5 FE of the current 50 forms of entry. The forecast number of Year 7 children does not exceed the available places (based on current admission numbers and the 2017 demand for Fort Hill) until 2023. There is unused capacity in other Basingstoke schools, notably at Cranbourne, that could be used if numbers grow quicker due to factors outside the standard forecast model. The forecasting takes account of known housing developments.

Keep Fort Hill open until all current pupils have finished

- Previous experience in the local authority has shown that setting a closure date in the medium term presents significant challenges for the school. First of all, it becomes more difficult to recruit quality teachers to the school as people leave over the four year period. Secondly, pupils tend not to remain for the full period and numbers begin to decline quickly, creating further financial challenges. Thirdly, the smaller number of pupils on roll makes it harder to provide a quality curricular and extra curricular offer for the pupils. The range of subjects

that can be studied becomes quite limited, as does, for example, opportunities for extra curricular team sports.

Set up a grammar school

- The School Standards and Framework Act does not allow for the establishment of any new all-selective schools. Therefore it is not currently possible to develop a new, or convert the existing Fort Hill School in to a grammar school.

Do nothing

- Given the work that has been undertaken over the past five years and the way in which standards have remained stubbornly low, it is clear that a different approach is now required if they are to improve and the school consequently attract more pupils. Maintaining the current approach would not bring this about.

5. Issues raised through the consultation process

- 5.1 The issues raised through the consultation process are summarised below with comments provided.

The poor standards of education at CBEC, the fact they are in special measures and the low numbers at the school

Over the five year period 2012 to 2016 standards at CBEC, as indicated by the government's attainment and progress measures, have been consistently above those in Fort Hill apart from in 2012.

Cranbourne received an inadequate Ofsted judgement in December 2015 - this was as a result of an issue related to a safeguarding procedure, not educational performance. This was immediately addressed by the school and subsequently checked by education advisors who confirmed the issue had been effectively dealt with. Unfortunately, there have been no subsequent HMI visits to reflect the improved quality of the school as it is now subject to an academy order. In the professional opinion of Hampshire's Inspection and Advisory Service, if the school was to be inspected now it would no longer be rated as inadequate.

Can the accommodation at CBEC cope with the additional pupils

Based on current numbers on roll the total of pupils from both schools can be accommodated on the Cranbourne site. Fort Hill School has a capacity of 731 places and CBEC a capacity of 1,182 places. The combined number on roll at both schools at January census was 1,100. Prior to 2011 CBEC had a Published Admission Number (PAN) of 260 (currently 180) and a capacity of 1,300 places. It is felt that the accommodation and facilities at CBEC are sufficient to provide a curriculum to meet the educational needs of pupils transferring to the site from Fort Hill. If the amalgamation is agreed, it is proposed that only pupils from current Years 7 and 8 at Fort Hill would transfer - this represents approximately 167 pupils.

The distance between the schools and the difficulty for students to get to CBEC, the extra traffic that will be generated and the safety of the walking route to CBEC from the Fort Hill area

There are a number of walking and cycling routes between the schools which are felt to be useable assuming a suitable level of road sense that would be expected in pupils of secondary school age. Based on the County Council's Hampshire Journey Planner website the distance is approximately 2.3 miles walking between the school sites, and 2.4 miles if cycling. The estimated time to travel these routes is 45 minutes (at a walking speed of 3.5 mph/5.6 kph) and 18 minutes respectively.

An initial analysis has been undertaken of the current travel methods for those students who attend Fort Hill which shows that:

- 348 walk to school
- 0 cycle to school
- 60 travel by car alone
- 2 travel by car with others
- 5 travel by public bus
- 10 travel by taxi
- 1 travels by train
- 1 uses other means of transport
- 27 unknown

For those current year 7 and 8 pupils the details are:

- 126 walk to school
- 0 cycle to school
- 19 travel by car alone
- 0 travel by car with others
- 1 travels by public bus
- 3 travel by taxi
- 1 travels by train
- 1 uses other means of transport
- 17 unknown

It is anticipated that there would be parents who do not wish to let their child walk to CBEC and will consider driving. For those current year 7 and 8 students (168 in total), only 19 (11%) currently travel to Fort Hill by car.

When it was agreed that Kings Furlong Infant and Junior Schools should expand, a School Travel Plan (STP) and Travel Statement (TS) were completed to assess the impact from additional pupils. Owing to the proximity of CBEC to the Kings Furlong Schools it is felt that the analysis undertaken has some relevance to this situation. The work that was undertaken included a parking beat survey to assess the availability of legal on highway parking in the vicinity of the schools. This showed there were sufficient places on the local highway network for parents to park to drop-off their child to attend school. It is fair to assume that any additional traffic

generated by parents dropping off their child at CBEC can be accommodated on the local highway thus giving parents the ability to park legally and drop their child off to attend school. Given the age range of these children, they may be more independent and therefore not require any escort that requires longer term parking.

Should the Executive Member for Education conclude that Fort Hill Community School be amalgamated with CBEC, the County Council's School Travel Plan team would work with the school community to identify sustainable methods of travel to school. This work would include:

- assessing the existing transport infrastructure
- details of local and national transport policies
- details/plans of development/proposals
- mapping of infrastructure, walking/cycling zones, bus routes, and postcode/mode of travel (pupils and where available, staff). Other mapping where relevant e.g. to indicate dispersal of parking with the inclusion of an additional entrance or plan showing suggested measures/improvements.
- consultation with any relevant stakeholders (parents, staff, pupils, residents, governors and other relevant external consultees that schools wish to engage with)
- inclusion of travel data from local schools
- summary of issues
- action plan consisting of appropriate aims and objectives, 'SMART' (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Time-Bound) targets, suitable measures (soft and hard), possible actions which are allocated to suggested roles/bodies and within approximate timescales. Ensure that it is clear that measures are identified to mitigate against any increase in the number of car journeys.
- monitoring strategy with appropriate timescales to undertake a full survey and review travel plan based on the new school population and community.

How can Fort Hill be closed when the new housing at Manydown will generate significant numbers of additional pupils

The latest estimates for the Manydown development show plans for approximately 3,400 dwellings with first completions expected in 2018/19. Within the development it is planned there will be two new primary schools, one of three forms of entry (630 pupils) and two forms of entry (420 pupils), plus a site reserved for a secondary school of up to 1,800 pupils.

Subject to the development receiving planning approval and any revision to the expected build out rate for the housing, it is anticipated that the first primary school would open at the earliest in 2021. This development is forecast to yield five forms of entry (150 pupils per year group) of additional pupils at both primary and secondary phases. However, growth in pupil numbers will be incremental in line with the completion rate for the new

housing, with five forms of entry representing the likely total of pupils across both primary and secondary when all the housing has been built.

The demand for secondary school places arises later in the projection of additional demand for new school places, as historically the yield is low as parents tend to restrict moving house when their children are of secondary school age. It is currently estimated, therefore, that any new secondary school places on the Manydown development would not be needed until post 2025.

As the Manydown development is likely to grow beyond the initial number of 3,400 dwellings there will be additional demand for secondary school places that will be provided by building a larger school on Manydown to serve the localised development.

Due to the issues at Fort Hill with low attainment and low demand for places at the school, identified elsewhere in this report, it is not a sustainable option to keep Fort Hill open in the hope of additional demand for school places from Manydown due to the significant timescale involved before it is anticipated that demand arises.

Concerns over how the news on the consultation was broken and the overall process

The consultation was undertaken in line with the guidance from the Department for Education which does not prescribe how such a consultation should take place but does recommend a minimum period of six weeks. The guidance suggests that consultation takes place in term time. While the consultation period in this case did include half-term, the majority of the consultation has been during term time and was not open or completed during a school holiday period.

Significant opportunities existed for consultees to make representations through a website, at public meetings and a drop-in event and via e-mail or letter.

The commencement of such consultations is always carefully considered and every effort is made to manage it in such a way as to minimise any anxiety and disruption it might cause. Every opportunity to listen to feedback from those involved is taken and where beneficial and acceptable changes to the process can be made, they will.

Why hasn't the LA supported Fort Hill more to improve the outcomes for pupils

Over the past five years there has been considerable support provided to Fort Hill. This has included subject support to ensure the curriculum and the provision improves, support for individual teachers, and support to improve both senior leaders and middle leaders. This has included support for English, maths, science, Special Educational Needs & Disability (SEND) and the use of data. Much of this work has been successful and the curriculum has strengthened. However, there has been considerable staff turnover and a decline in pupil numbers affecting the balance of curriculum on offer.

The support provided is similar to that of a number of schools who have made good improvements. Her Majesty's Inspectors have judged the support that has been received and have indicated that it has been appropriate.

For the parents of children in Year 6 the admissions process has been compromised. The key dates within the consultation have left parents with a child due to move to secondary without a proper choice of a school place.

As no decision has been made yet about the future of Fort Hill, the Local Authority must continue to process all Year 7 applications submitted for the school in the usual way. Parents were notified of the outcome of their application on 1 March 2017. Parents are entitled to make a late application to other schools if they wish and preference will be met wherever possible, depending on availability of places. Parents also have the right of appeal to an independent appeal panel against any decision to refuse their child a place at a particular school. In the event that a decision is taken to close Fort Hill, the Local Authority will ensure that all current pupils and those due to start Year 7 in September 2017 are provided with a suitable alternative school place.

There will be a significant loss to the Winklebury community if you shut the school

Should the proposal be approved, the future of the Fort Hill site is currently undecided. The County Council would be keen, in conjunction with the Borough Council and local community, to look at how the site could be used to support public infrastructure opportunities.

6. Special Education Needs Provision

- 6.1. Fort Hill Community School has a resourced provision for children with Specific Learning Difficulties (SpLD). As part of the consultation process a separate meeting was held with the parent / carers and children support by the provision. The importance of this provision is recognised and, if the school is amalgamated with CBEC, pupils placed in the resourced provision would continue to receive the same level of support that is currently available to them, including access to a suitably qualified teacher and other support as required within a mainstream setting to meet their individual needs. Support would continue to be provided to reflect the provision as specified within the pupils' Education, Health and Care Plans, and/or their individual education plans.

7. Financial Impact

- 7.1. The following information is based on minimal changes to the current funding arrangements. It is anticipated there will be reforms to the school funding from 2018/19, however, the detail regarding any reform is not yet known.
- 7.2. Fort Hill Community School ended 31 March 2016 with a carry forward surplus balance of £439,464. At budget revision the school's financial

position for 2016/17 shows a surplus balance of £132,895 with an 'in-year deficit' of £301,976. The fall in number on roll directly impacts the amount of funding the school receives. The school's number on roll in October 2015 was 516 by October 2016 this had reduced to 459, a decrease of 57 pupils.

- 7.3. The majority of school funding is driven by pupil numbers with the school receiving £4,737 per child. Recognising the uncertainty of future numbers, the school's three year financial plan has been modelled on the basis of different intakes into year 7. As this model is based on the school's agreed plan, it does not reflect any changes likely to be required in 2017/18 or any pupils joining or leaving in year.

Forecast intake of 80 pupils (schools current plan).

PAN 80	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Total Income	2,709,872	2,607,391	2,458,573	2,465,249	2,380,901
Total Expenditure	3,267,238	3,314,042	3,379,367	3,438,957	3,484,852
In Year Surplus/(Deficit)	(557,367)	(706,651)	(920,794)	(973,708)	(1,103,951)
Surplus/(Deficit) Brought Forward	132,895	(424,472)	(1,131,123)	(2,051,917)	(3,025,625)
Cumulative Surplus/(Deficit) C/Fwd	(424,472)	(1,131,123)	(2,051,917)	(3,025,625)	(4,129,576)

Forecast intake of 60 pupils

PAN 60	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Total Income	2,709,872	2,519,642	2,283,144	2,202,049	2,015,955
Total Expenditure	3,267,238	3,314,042	3,379,367	3,438,957	3,484,852
In Year Surplus/(Deficit)	(557,367)	(794,400)	(1,096,224)	(1,236,908)	(1,468,897)
Surplus/(Deficit) Brought Forward	132,895	(424,472)	(1,218,872)	(2,315,096)	(3,552,004)
Cumulative Surplus/(Deficit) C/Fwd	(424,472)	(1,218,872)	(2,315,096)	(3,552,004)	(5,020,901)

Forecast intake of 40 pupils

PAN 40	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Total Income	2,709,872	2,431,925	2,107,677	1,938,868	1,651,602
Total Expenditure	3,267,238	3,314,042	3,379,367	3,438,957	3,484,852
In Year Surplus/(Deficit)	(557,367)	(882,118)	(1,271,690)	(1,500,089)	(1,833,251)
Surplus/(Deficit) Brought Forward	132,895	(424,472)	(1,306,590)	(2,578,280)	(4,078,369)
Cumulative Surplus/(Deficit) C/Fwd	(424,472)	(1,306,590)	(2,578,280)	(4,078,369)	(5,911,620)

❖ **Schools are funded on a lagged basis therefore 2017/18 is consistent across all models as it reflects the October 2016 pupil numbers.**

- 7.4. Due to the projected fall in number on roll in future years the school's current three year financial plan shows a deficit balance of £424,472 in 2017/18 and £1,131,123 in 2018/19 assuming an intake of 80 pupils into Year 7 each year. The school would need to reduce its teaching staff by an estimated 22 full time equivalent posts in order to mitigate this position. If this is projected forward to 2021 /22 the deficit position would reach

£4,129,576. The school would need to continue to take further action to address the financial position in order to avoid setting a deficit budget in the future.

- 7.5. If pupil numbers are lower than the school has predicted, this difficult financial situation will become significantly more challenging. Based on the models above, the school will be potentially facing a cumulative deficit of up to approximately £2.5m in 2019/20 with an annual in year loss of over £1.2m.
- 7.6. Cranbourne Business and Enterprise College ended 31 March 2016 with a carry forward surplus balance of £398,569. At budget revision the school is projecting a balanced budget position. The school's three year plan is also showing deficit balance in 2017/18 and the school will need to take action to address this situation.
- 7.7. In the event of Fort Hill Community School closing and amalgamating with CBEC, both schools would receive a pro-rata budget share for the period 1 April to 31 August 2017 for five months of funding. From 1 September 2017, CBEC would be issued with a revised budget share that incorporates the pupils from Fort Hill School. A significant financial impact would be the loss of the Fort Hill School's lump sum, which is £160,000 per school for 2017/18. However, as a protection for amalgamating schools and to acknowledge the loss of the lump sum, CBEC would continue to receive two lump sums for the remainder of 2017/18 and for 2018/19 only would receive equivalent to 85% of the two combined lump sums.
- 7.8. Given the low number on roll being a significant contributory factor to both schools financial difficulties, the proposed changes present opportunities to seek efficiencies and ensure future financial sustainability.
- 7.9. Fort Hill School also has a resourced provision for Specific Learning Difficulties (SpLD) with 16 places that are commissioned are agreed annually between the school and the Special education Needs (SEN) Department.
- 7.10. Additional items incurred by the re-organisation (i.e. new school signage) would be funded via the re-organisation fund from within the growth fund, as detailed within the Hampshire School Funding Policy Pack.

8. Personnel implications

- 8.1. Should a decision be taken to close Fort Hill and amalgamate it with CBEC the County Council will work with all affected staff, their professional associations and any future academy sponsor to ensure the interests of all staff is fully considered.

9. Admission Arrangements

- 9.1. As no decision has been made yet about Fort Hill, the local authority processed all Year 7 applications submitted for the school in the usual way. Parents were notified of the outcome of their application on 1 March 2017. Parents are entitled to make a late application to other schools if they wish

and preference will be met wherever possible, depending on availability of places. Parents also have the right of appeal to an independent appeal panel against any decision to refuse their child a place at a particular school. In the event that a decision is taken to close Fort Hill, the local authority will fully support parents to ensure that all current pupils and those due to start Year 7 in September 2017 are provided with a suitable alternative school place.

10. Conclusion

- 10.1. The authority has to evaluate the impact of the number of children in the catchment area of Fort Hill who have chosen to attend the school, against the numbers who have not and go elsewhere to be educated. We have to consider this against the track record of performance and the significant steps that have been taken to improve the school to little avail.
- 10.2. Counterintuitively, smaller schools perform less well than larger schools in the secondary phase. Whilst there are undoubtedly examples of small schools in which pupils perform well, the average performance is below that nationally. The figures below have been drawn from the national provisional data for mainstream academies and maintained schools for 2017.

	Attainment8	Progress8	%basics	%Ebacc
All schools	50.1	-0.03	63%	25%
Schools with Y11 cohort of 80 to 100 pupils (equivalent to 400 to 600 on roll)	49.9	-0.04	61%	24%
Schools with Y11 cohort less than 80 pupils (equivalent to less than 400 on roll)	46.8	-0.14	56%	16%

- 10.3. The figures show that schools with less than 80 pupils in Y11 (equivalent to less than 400 pupils on roll) performed less well than schools nationally in all three of the attainment measures. The performance of schools with between 80 to 100 pupils was very close to that nationally, although a little below the national figures.
- 10.4. It might be argued that the performance of schools with cohorts less than 80 pupils is lower due to pupils entering these schools with lower levels of attainment. However, the progress8 figure is lower than that nationally, indicating that pupils make less progress in small schools than they do nationally.
- 10.5. GCSE results in the maintained schools close to Fort Hill are all higher than in Fort Hill. Progress rates are better. Pupils would do better if they attended other local secondary schools.
- 10.6. The increase in pupil numbers would increase CBEC's budget and therefore the breadth of educational offer. In general, larger schools are

more successful than smaller schools. This is because they have more resources available to them and it is consequently easier to build up a critical mass of good teaching within the school. So setting up one larger school would be in the interests of pupils currently in both schools.

- 10.7. Having considered the above options, the County Council believes that amalgamating Fort Hill with CBEC on the CBEC site offers the best potential for success for both schools.
- 10.8. Alternative options or other proposals as to how the required improvement of Fort Hill could be achieved were invited as part of the consultation process; these are detailed in the report. Having reviewed these options it has been concluded that amalgamation of the two schools on the CBEC site provides the best opportunity for school improvement.

11. Recommendations

- 11.1. That a Public Notice be published in accordance with section 15 and 19 of the Education and Inspection Act 2006
 - to discontinue Fort Hill Community School and resourced provision with effect from 31 August 2017 and
 - to establish a new Specific Learning Difficulties resource provision at Cranbourne Business and Enterprise College.

CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:

Links to the Corporate Strategy

Hampshire safer and more secure for all:	No
Corporate Business plan link number (if appropriate):	
Maximising well-being:	Yes
Corporate Business plan link number (if appropriate):	
Enhancing our quality of place:	No
Corporate Business plan link number (if appropriate):	

Other Significant Links

Links to previous Member decisions:		
<u>Title</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Date</u>
Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives		
<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>	
Education and Inspections Act 2006	8/11/2006	
School Organisation-Maintained Schools	April 2016	
Guidance for proposers and decision makers		

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
Consultation responses documents.	Children's Services Department, Hampshire County Council Winchester

IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:

1. Equalities Impact Assessment:

1.1 The County Council has a duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 ('the Act') to have due regard in the exercise of its functions to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act;
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, gender and sexual orientation) and those who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

Due regard in this context involves having due regard in particular to:

- The need to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons sharing a relevant characteristic connected to that characteristic;
- Take steps to meet the needs of persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
- Encourage persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

1.2 Equalities Impact Assessment:

Equalities have been considered and no adverse impact has been identified.

2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:

2.1 The recommendations will have no impact on crime and disorder

3. Climate Change:

(a) How does what is being proposed impact on our carbon footprint / energy consumption?

No impact has been identified

(b) How does what is being proposed consider the need to adapt to climate change, and be resilient to its longer term impacts?

No specific measures have been identified

Appendix 1 – Copy of Consultation Letter



To: All Consultees including Councillors,
Parents, Staff & Governors of
Basingstoke Schools

*Children's Services Department
Elizabeth II Court North,
Winchester
Hampshire SO23 8UG*

**Telephone 01962 841841
Textphone 0845 603 5625**

Enquiries to Glenn Parkinson

My reference

Direct Line 01962 846664

Your reference

Date 19 January 2017

E-mail strategicplanningunit@hants.gov.uk

Dear Consultee,

Amalgamation of Fort Hill Community School and Cranbourne Business and Enterprise College, Basingstoke including the Fort Hill Special Educational Needs resourced provision.

At the request of the governing body of Fort Hill Community School and Cranbourne Business and Enterprise College (CBEC), Hampshire County Council is undertaking a consultation on a proposal to amalgamate the two schools including the Fort Hill Special Educational Needs (SEN) resourced provision.

This would be achieved through the closure of Fort Hill Community School and setting up of the amalgamated school on the CBEC site. The schools are currently federated under the leadership of one governing body.

Why is amalgamation being considered?

In recent years Fort Hill Community School has seen a substantial decline in pupil numbers. This decline has had a significant impact on the school's budget which is directly linked to the number of pupils it has on roll. Low numbers, when combined with a reduced budget, limits a school's ability to provide an appropriately broad curriculum and extra curricular offer. For 2017, 39 current year 6 pupils have identified the school as their first preference, this is against a Published Admission Number (PAN) of 145.

Using the Department for Education's preferred school performance measures it can be demonstrated that pupil achievement at Fort Hill needs improvement. The school is due to be inspected later this academic year and it is the view of Hampshire County Council's School Improvement Team that it is unlikely to secure a good judgement.

The governing body of the federated schools has met to discuss the situation with County Council officers. They feel that to ensure pupils in the area can attend a strong and stable educational provision, amalgamating Fort Hill with Cranbourne, on the Cranbourne site, is the best way forward for both schools.

*Director of Children's Services
Steve Crocker*

The Consultation

The consultation has opened today (19 January) and will run until 2 March 2017.

Officers will collate the responses and take a report on the outcomes of the consultation to the Executive Member for Education. If it is concluded that the amalgamation of Fort Hill Community School and Cranbourne Business and Enterprise College should proceed, a statutory notice setting out this intention will be published. A notice will also be published relating to the closure and re-provision of the Special Educational Needs provision.

Should notices be published there will be a four week period during which representations can be made. Any representations will then be taken into consideration before the County Council finally decides whether or not to proceed with the amalgamation of Fort Hill and Cranbourne schools. If it is agreed, the anticipated implementation date would be 1 September 2017.

How can my views be made?

Further information, together with frequently asked questions, and a consultation response form can be found on the County Council's consultation website:

<http://consultations.hants.gov.uk/active.aspx>

Additionally, consultation drop-in sessions have been arranged as follows:-

Wednesday 8 February 2017 at Fort Hill Community School 4.30pm – 6.30pm

Thursday 9 February 2017 at Cranbourne Business and Enterprise College 4.30pm – 6.30pm

Wednesday 15 February 2017 at Westside Community Centre 5.30pm – 7.30pm

Hampshire County Council officers will be available to discuss the proposals, answer questions and receive comments at these meetings.

If you are unable to attend one of these sessions or access the consultation online and wish to make a comment, please write to Glenn Parkinson, Strategic Development Officer, Children's Services Department, Elizabeth II Court North, Winchester, Hampshire SO23 8UG or e-mail strategicplanningunit@hants.gov.uk by 2 March 2017.

Yours sincerely



**Glenn Parkinson
Strategic Development Officer
Children's Services Department**

Appendix 2 – Copy of Consultation Webpage including minutes of consultation meetings held at Fort Hill and CBEC

Amalgamation of Fort Hill Community School and Cranbourne Business and Enterprise College, Basingstoke including the Fort Hill Special Educational Needs resourced provision

Consultation ends today

Hampshire County Council would like to thank all those who responded to the consultation so far to make their views known. Owing to the high number of responses, it is clear to us that more time will be needed to ensure that all the responses have been analysed thoroughly, and all views are captured within the report for the Executive Member for Education. For this reason, the Executive Member’s Decision Day Meeting has been rearranged to take place on Monday 20 March 2017. The report and recommendations to be considered will be published on 10 March 2017

Introduction

At the request of the governing body of Fort Hill Community School and Cranbourne Business and Enterprise College (CBEC), Hampshire County Council is undertaking a consultation on a proposal to amalgamate the two schools and re-provision the Fort Hill Special Educational Needs (SEN) resourced provision.

This would be achieved through the closure of Fort Hill Community School and setting up of the amalgamated school on the CBEC site. The schools are currently federated under the leadership of one governing body.

The County Council would like your views on the proposals.

This consultation will run until 2 March 2017. Officers will then take into account all the consultation responses before making a recommendation to the County Council's Executive Member for Education, Councillor Peter Edgar, on whether the amalgamation should be progressed, or not, and which statutory processes would be required.

- Will I have the opportunity to discuss the proposal and ask questions?

There will be opportunities for parents, pupils and other interested members of the community to meet with Hampshire County Council officers at a number of drop-in events. People will be able to ask questions and comment on the proposals. Comments made and issues raised will be reported back to the Executive Member for Education and will be fully considered before any decision is made.

Public drop-in sessions are being held at:

- Wednesday 8 February 2017 at Fort Hill Community School 4.30pm – 6.30pm
- Thursday 9 February 2017 at Cranbourne Business and Enterprise College 4.30pm – 6.30pm
- Wednesday 15 February 2017 at Westside Community Centre 5.30pm – 7.30pm

[Public Meeting Presentation](#)

[Fort Hill Public Meeting Minutes](#)

[CBEC Public Meeting Minutes](#)

How to take part in the consultation

Please read the further information below and the [Frequently Asked Questions document](#).

Please give us your views at any of the drop-in sessions and/or by using our [online consultation response form](#).

The Consultation

The consultation runs from 19 January until 2 March 2017.

Officers will collate the responses and take a report on the outcomes of the consultation to the Executive Member for Education. If it is concluded that the amalgamation of Fort Hill Community School and Cranbourne Business and Enterprise College should proceed, a statutory notice setting out this intention will be published. A notice will also be published relating to the closure and re-provision of the Special Educational Needs provision.

Should notices be published there will be a four week period during which representations can be made. Any representations will then be taken into consideration before the County Council finally decides whether or not to proceed with the amalgamation of Fort Hill and Cranbourne schools. If it is agreed, the anticipated implementation date would be 1 September 2017.

Appendix 3 – Copy of Survey Response Form



Amalgamation of Fort Hill Community School and Cranbourne Business and Enterprise College, Basingstoke, including the re-provision of Fort Hill Special Educational Needs resourced places.

The closing date for responses is midnight 2nd March

1) In what capacity are you responding to this consultation?

I am a:

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| Parent of a pupil at Fort Hill Community School | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Parent of a pupil at Cranbourne Business and Enterprise College | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Parent of a pupil at another school | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Pupil at Fort Hill Community School | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Pupil at Cranbourne Business and Enterprise College | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Pupil at another school | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Member of staff at Fort Hill Community School | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Member of staff at Cranbourne Business and Enterprise College | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Governor at Fort Hill Community School/Cranbourne Business and Enterprise College | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| District/County Councillor | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Member of the public | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Other please specify

Please enter your full postcode (this information will not be used to identify your address)

2) Do you support the amalgamation of Fort Hill Community School and Cranbourne Business and Enterprise College, Basingstoke?

This would be achieved through the closure of Fort Hill School and setting up of the amalgamated school on the CBEC site.

Yes

No

3) Should you wish to comment further or to suggest alternative viable options please use the box below.

Thank you for your comments regarding the future of Fort Hill Community School

These will be considered along with other responses to the consultation

Hampshire County Council adheres to the requirements of the UK Data Protection Act 1998. Hampshire County Council is registered on the public register of data controllers which is looked after by the Information Commissioner. Under the Data Protection Act the information which you have provided in this questionnaire will be used only for the purposes of this survey. All responses by individuals will be kept confidential, but views from organisations may be published in full. More information on Hampshire's data protection policies can be found at www.hants.gov.uk/dataprotection

Appendix 4 – List of Consultees

- Headteachers at all primary and secondary Schools within Basingstoke and Deane Borough
- Chairs of Governors at all primary and secondary Schools within Basingstoke and Deane Borough
- Parents of all children attending affected schools – sent via parent-mail
- Trade Union Representatives
- Local Diocesan Directors of Education
- Member of Parliament
- Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council – Chief Executive and relevant members
- Hampshire County Councillors for relevant area
- Hampshire County Council – Relevant Officers