

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICE

CORPORATE DIRECTOR MEETING WITH EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

10 November 2020

**Approval to proceed with the Presumption Route process - New schools for
Knaresborough and Northallerton**

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To report on the consultation undertaken and seek approval to proceed with the Presumption Route process for the establishment of two new primary schools to serve Knaresborough and Northallerton.

2.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2.1 The County Council is minded to establish two new primary schools to maintain school place sufficiency in response to expected housing growth in Knaresborough and Northallerton. The expected opening date for both schools is September 2022 but this will be kept under review in light of ongoing uncertainty caused by the pandemic. It is intended the two schools will be free schools in accordance with the DfE free school presumption guidance issued in November 2019.
- 2.2 The Presumption Route contains an expectation that LAs will have undertaken stakeholder consultation prior to commencing the process which seeks to secure an academy sponsor for each school. Although interested parties have already had opportunity to comment on the building proposals (including design and layout) through the town planning process it is considered good practice to consult locally on some of the principles and specifics of the new school proposals. On 15 September 2020 Executive Member approval was secured for a period of consultation which subsequently ran for 4 weeks closing on Friday 23 October 2020. This paper reports on the consultation responses and seeks approval to proceed with the Presumption Route process.

3.0 CONSULTATION

- 3.1 In accordance with requirements the consultation was live on the County Council's website for 4 weeks and was publicised through our social media and the local press. In addition recognised stakeholders were sent a copy of the consultation document via email. A list of the stakeholders contacted directly is attached as Appendix 1.

The consultation drew 22 responses for Knaresborough and 10 for Northallerton. Although this may seem a low number it arguably reflects that the principle of establishing new schools is understood and accepted by local stakeholders who have

already had the opportunity to respond to earlier consultations on each school via the town planning process.

3.2 Manse Farm, Knaresborough

3.2.1 Summary of consultation responses

Question	YES		NO	
	Number	%	Number	%
Do you agree with the principle that a new mainstream Primary School should be established to serve housing growth in Knaresborough formed by Manse Farm, Highfield Farm and other development sites?	22	100	0	0
Do you support the proposals for the age range and size of the intended school?	19	86	3	14
Do you support the proposed opening date of September 2022 and the phased opening profile?	21	95	1	5
Do you support the proposal that the School should have a defined catchment area based on the boundaries of the development sites for Manse Farm and Highfield Farm ?	17	77	5	23

3.2.2 Issues arising

The additional comments made by consultees are shown in full at Appendix 2. The issues arising are as follows:

Design and size

A consultee commented that the existing planning permission does not leave appropriate size to expand the school in the future. They suggested, in particular, there is insufficient ground floor and sports hall space for a school of 420.

We can confirm that the school has been designed to enable a later expansion to a 420 place (2FE) school and includes supplementary floor area within the 1FE design to facilitate the later addition of teaching accommodation without causing significant internal disruption to occupied parts of the school. The school hall meets the requirements stipulated in Building Bulletin 103 for a 2FE school (180sq.m). In addition, a studio space is immediately adjacent the hall and is connected via an acoustic folding wall to enlarge the area of the school hall if required.

Further comments were received from one consultee about renewable energy sources, the need for a growing area and the importance of enabling cycling.

Consideration has been given to sustainability where practicable as well as any sustainability policies required by NYCC. The building is designed for compliance with the Building Regulations as a minimum standard and by default the design will include

a number of sustainable features such as low energy lighting, water saving taps and cisterns rather than employing the use of renewables which are often expensive and difficult to maintain and install, and may be implemented to compensate for a less efficient thermal envelope. The Design Stage 'Simplified Building Energy Model' has been undertaken and the output document has demonstrated CO2 compliance, in that the building emission rate is lower than the target emission rate. No sustainability measures are required and therefore a photovoltaic system has not been included.

The landscape plan seeks to create variety in the external play environment through creative use of shrub and tree planting, site contouring, screening, and increasing ecological bio-diversity through the creation of wildflower areas and a habitat/orchard area.

Cycle storage forms part of the design. Cycle paths from the housing area is outside of the remit of the school development and should form part of the overall development master plan.

Community use

The specification for the school will include a stated expectation that the School will extend the use of their facilities for community use, including opening their facilities for sports and other clubs outside of school hours.

Developer Contributions

A consultee referenced additional developer contributions for items which were outside of education infrastructure requirements. The amount of the developers contribution to education was determined several years ago at outline planning stage using the prevailing legislation and policy at that time.

Catchment area

The majority of consultees agreed with the proposal for a catchment area based on the new housing development area but there was some disagreement with the view expressed that it would be restrictive and should be broader. It is important to note that the inclusion of a catchment area does not preclude applications from residents living outside of it. It is there as necessary part of a schools admission arrangements only in the event of oversubscription. Officers remain of the view that the proposed catchment area is the most appropriate response in this specific scenario.

Secondary places

Three of the 22 consultation responses referenced some concern about sufficiency of secondary phase places in the local area and specifically at the catchment school, King James's School. Although outside of the scope of this specific consultation we understand why this matter has been raised. On the Secondary place sufficiency is something that going forward we will keep under review however, data shows that there continues to be sufficient places for local children. Although typically fully subscribed for

the year of entry it remains the case that significant numbers of pupils (71 for September 2019) from outside of the school's catchment area are able to secure places. The school is therefore, at the current time, not close to been oversubscribed with demand from pupils in its own area.

Response on behalf of St Mary's Primary School

This detailed response supports the proposals and highlights their importance in preventing potential adverse impacts on existing schools. We will take forward a specific conversation with the School regarding their points about the need for additional nursery places.

Nursery provision

Local early years providers of all types were directly consulted about this proposal and only one has responded, and that was to support the proposal including the age range of the school. It remains the view of Officers that, notwithstanding the existing range of provision, the scale of expansion in Knaresborough warrants the inclusion of Nursery provision in the new school.

3.3 North Northallerton

3.3.1 Summary of consultation responses

Question	YES		NO	
	Number	%	Number	%
Do you agree with the principle that a new mainstream primary school should be established to serve housing growth in the North Northallerton Development Area and other housing sites?	10	100	0	0
Do you support the proposals for the age range and size of the intended school?	9	90	1	10
Do you support the proposed opening date of September 2022 and the phased opening profile?	10	100	0	0
Do you support the proposal that the School should not have a defined catchment area and instead priority for admissions should be based on proximity to the School?	10	100	0	0

3.3.2 Issues arising

The additional comments made by consultees are shown in full at Appendix 3. The issues arising are as follows:

Catchment area

All of the consultees agreed with the proposal for priority for admissions being based on proximity to the new school. There were comments around 'not being forced to attend' and 'all should be allowed to apply'. It is important to note that parents can apply to any school they wish under parental preference. The reference to proximity is there as a necessary part of a schools admission arrangements only in the event of oversubscription. Officers remain of the view that proximity without a defined catchment area is the most appropriate response in this specific scenario.

Community use

The specification for the school will include a stated expectation that the School will extend the use of their facilities for community use, including opening their facilities for sports and other clubs outside of school hours.

Response on behalf of Sacred Heart RC VA Primary School

Officers will take forward a specific discussion with the School/Trust around the need for additional places for Catholic children in Northallerton. It will not change the view that a new school should be developed to serve the North Northallerton Development Area and indeed the response from the Trust supports this principle.

Early Years

A supplementary response was received from a local Early Years provider expressing interest in providing additional services for pre-school children and also wrap-around services. They would need to take that conversation forward with the chosen Academy Trust at a later date and have been advised as such. None of the consultees objected to the proposed age range of the school as 4-11.

4.0 PROCESS AND TIMESCALE

- 4.1 The following indicative timetable sets out the process to be followed which would lead to recommendations on the proposed sponsors being made to the Regional Schools Commissioner:

LA Consultation stage	
15 September	Approval to consult - complete
25 September – 23 October	Consultation period - complete
10 November	Approval to commence Presumption Route process
Stage 1 – Invitation for Proposals	
23 November 2020	Launch of process: National and local announcements using DfE and NYCC websites
22 January 2021	Deadline for receipt of proposals
Stage 2 – Assessment	
w/c 1 February 2021	Assessment of proposals and selection of preferred proposers (shortlist)
w/c 15 / 22 February 2021	Assessment Panel Interviews
9 March 2021	Recommendation to CYPS Executive Members and confirmation of preferred sponsor.
17 March 2021	Proposals are sent to the Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC) for the North of England
Stage 3 - Decision by Regional Schools Commissioner (for the Secretary of State)	
The RSC will consider the LA assessments and recommendations and decide which proposer is in the best position to take forward the new school. The RSC will inform the LA and the successful proposer of the decision and the LA will inform unsuccessful proposers. There is no specified timescale for this part of the process.	

Draft copies of the School Specification documents will be provided at the meeting on 10 November 2020.

5.0 **RECOMMENDATION**

5.1 It is recommended that approval be given to proceed with the Presumption Route process to establish two new primary schools to serve Knaresborough and Northallerton.

CORPORATE DIRECTOR – CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE’S SERVICE.

Report prepared by Andrew Dixon, Strategic Planning Manager

Action AgreedExecutive Member
Date: 10 November 2020

Action RequestedCorporate Director
Date: 10 November 2020

Appendix 1 – List of consultees contacted directly

Appendix 2 – Responses received to the Knaresborough proposal

Appendix 3 – Responses received to the Northallerton proposal

Appendix 4 – Knaresborough Equality Impact Assessment

Appendix 5 – Northallerton Equality Impact Assessment

Background papers: Report to CYPS Executive Members 15 September 2020

Consultation documents; <https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/consultations>

	North Northallerton Consultees	Manse Farm Consultees
Schools	Alverton CP	Meadowside Primary Academy
	Applegarth CP	Aspin Park Primary Academy
	Broomfield CP	St John's CE Primary Academy
	Brompton CP	St Mary's Primary Academy
	Mill Hill CP	Goldsborough CE Primary
	Romanby CP	King James's School
	Sacred Heart RC	
	Northallerton School & 6 th Form	
Academy Trusts	Arete	Elevate
	St Margaret Clitherow	Bishop Wheeler
Local County Councillors	David Hugill	Zoe Metcalfe
	Caroline Dickinson	David Goode
		Andy Paraskos
District Councillors	Paul Atkin	Christine Willoughby
	Isobel Sanderson	Zoe Metcalfe
	Caroline Dickinson	
	Gerald Ramsden	
	Kevin Hardisty	
	Peter Wilkinson	
Parish/Town Councils	Northallerton	Knaresborough Town Council
	Brompton	Goldsborough/Flaxby
Local MP	Rishi Sunak	Andrew Jones
		Nigel Adams
Diocese	Diocese of Leeds CE	Diocese of Leeds CE
	Diocese of Middlesbrough Catholic	Diocese of Leeds Catholic
	Diocese of York CE	
Local District Council	Hambleton District Council	Harrogate Borough Council
Teaching Unions & Unison	NAHT	NAHT
	NASUWT	NASUWT
	NEU	NEU
	ATL	ATL
	NUT	NUT
	UNISON	UNISON
	VOICE	VOICE
EY Providers	x 17	x 36

					APPENDIX 2 – KNARESBOROUGH RESPONSES	
Ref	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Comments	Interest
1	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Pupil numbers across the other primary schools in Knaresborough will need to be closely managed	Academy Trust
2	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	The existing planning permission does not leave appropriate size to expand the school in the future. In particular, there is insufficient ground floor and sports hall space for a school of 420	Community
3	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	I hope that the school playing fields will be available for use of the public in the Manse Farm, Highfield Farm area. Otherwise this area will have a shortfall of green space where informal activities can take place.	HBC Councillor
4	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No comments made	
5	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No comments made	Primary Headteacher other Authority
6	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No comments made	
7	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Why is there no consideration for additional places at the already full secondary school King James!	Appeals Panel Member
8	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No comments made	
9	Yes	No	Yes	No	The developers should be providing more of the money towards the site, you state they are only providing £2 million and the government providing the rest. I'm sure these companies make more than enough money to provide the full cost alone of this school. Also, if you are planning to build even more houses on this site (K25), clearly, they need to provide a lot more than just a single school. Major improvements to the A59 roundabout at Goldsborough, turning the A59 into a dual carriageway to support the large influx of people/traffic this is going to increase. A secondary school as this is going to just provide too many children for KJS on a site that is limited. What about other amenities, are they providing funding for bus stops, healthcare, social/sports/leisure? No	Community
10	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Knaresborough has needed another primary school for a long time.	EY Provider
11	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	The site boundaries will constrain applications from the wider area. Goldsborough school occupies a very restricted site and is already above capacity. Proposed housing development in Goldsborough would generate additional demand for school places and few, if any, will be available at Goldsborough. Parents of village children should have the option of the proposed new school.	Parent
12	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No comments made	
13	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No comments made	
14	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Where will children older than nursery or reception attend school. A secondary school would also be required or King James current catchment area reduced to Knaresborough	Parent
15	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	I don't agree with limits based on catchment areas as it often leads to limited diversity	Retired primary teacher and university Lecturer
16	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No comments made	
17	Yes	No	Yes	No	As Knaresborough pupil numbers are forecast to exceed capacity within 5 years of this school being built, and there is a distinct possible margin of error, it seems wise to build a school for 420 pupils rather than the initial proposed 210. This school should have a broader catchment than the 2 new developments given current admission pressures at other primary schools With primary pupils forecast to increase by 300, this begs the question where the secondary education shall be provided as King James has limited additional capacity.	Community
18	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No comments made	
19	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No comments made	
20	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	1) The school ought to be built with renewable energy sources i.e. solar panels at very least. This will save the school money. The school ought also to be built, making use of the direction of the sun (so heating needs to be used less). 2) Provision of a large growing area is important - it is great for pupils, particularly those who find learning difficult. 3) Cycle storage and proper cycle paths from the target housing areas to the school should be mandatory.	Community

21	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	I think there is an increasing demand for a new school in the area. This would also provide new jobs which would benefit the area greatly	Community
22	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	<p>St Mary's primary school is an academy within the Bishop Wheeler Catholic Academy Trust (BWCAT). The local Academy Council at the school (AC) have read the proposals and acknowledge that the projected pupil numbers resulting from the new developments do justify the build of a new primary school to the East of the town on the site of the new development. However we note that the opening profile of the school would be staggered over a number of years as the development proceeds and that the school would primarily serve the new development area with a defined catchment area based on the boundaries of the new sites.</p> <p>We believe that it is important to maintain these factors in the proposal as the development proceeds, providing additional places at the point of need and not in advance, to avoid a possible adverse impact on existing Knaresborough primary schools, including St Mary's, in the early phases of the development.</p> <p>Your consultation document states that "the above (Knaresborough) schools are collectively close to their operational capacity". In fact, St Mary's has recruited below PAN into our reception class in five of the last six years from Sept. 2015 – Sept. 2020). Currently we have spare places in five of our seven classes (Years R to 4). Our own plans were based on the assumption that the new building developments in the town would bring in new Catholic families and the growth in the number of Catholic pupils would eventually fill our spare places and future reception intakes. This assumption seems to be supported by your projections, which show that by 2027 the forecast projection of pupil numbers would exceed primary school capacity when all the potential housing is built, even with the building of the new school for 210 pupils.</p> <p>We therefore acknowledge the need for the new, one-form entry school on the site of the new developments, as long as the staggered opening profile and the defined catchment area continue to be included in the proposals and the school remains at one-form of entry.</p> <p>We also note with some concern that nursery provision is included in the proposal for the new school from the start. At St. Mary's, we have developed detailed plans for nursery provision on our own site. We believe that there is a need for additional nursery places in the town based on anecdotal evidence and following the closure of a facility within the Catholic parish centre and we see this as an important element in securing a full entry into the future reception classes. These plans have been submitted to BWCAT for consideration and final approval, but they would inevitably involve the expenditure of start-up costs, including a capital development on our school site. We would be concerned at the impact of the new nursery at Manse Farm on our own nursery proposal, with the two developments possibly being opened at the same time, despite the fact that they would be at opposite ends of the town.</p> <p>We note that your Consultation Document on the proposed development does not contain any data or figures regarding existing nursery provision or any information on the projected demand for nursery places in the town. We would be grateful if you could provide us with any numbers that you may have regarding the current number of nursery or pre-school places within the town and any projections regarding future provision or demand.</p> <p>We would welcome the views of NYCC on whether you would anticipate that the projected demand for nursery places would be similar to the projections for increasing primary provision, as set out in the Consultation Document.. This would allow us to strengthen our business plan and avoid unnecessary expenditure of public funds.</p>	Chair of Academy Council – St Mary's, Knaresborough

					<p>We would finally wish to emphasise the fact that as a Roman Catholic School within a diocesan Catholic Trust, St Mary's offers a distinctive, catholic education to all parents within the town and plays a key role in offering a choice of primary settings within Knaresborough. In particular, we can offer primary places to Catholic families that move into the town, including into the proposed new building developments. We welcome the continued support of North Yorkshire County Council in ensuring that all families are fully aware of all the educational opportunities that are available to them across the town and district of Knaresborough.</p>	
YES	22	19	21	17		
NO	0	3	1	5		

APPENDIX 3 - NORTHALLERTON RESPONSES						
Ref	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Comments	Interest
1	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	I live on the North development and my son would be primary school age once this school is proposed to open. I would not wish for him to attend it. Whilst I agree that the catchment area of the school should encompass all of Northallerton, i would also argue that it is not right to force parents on the development to send their children to this school based on proximity. I have lived in Northallerton my entire life and already know which school I wish him to attend. Children on the development should not be disadvantaged by being forced into this school due to proximity. An untested and unproven school is off-putting to me as a parent but adding it that it will be an academy is so much worse.	Parent
2	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Not known
3	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Catchment areas don't really apply any longer so as long as they have a Northallerton address they should be allowed to apply	Not known
4	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	As a primary school teacher in Northallerton I definitely see a need for another primary school in the North of the Town.	Teacher
5	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	School acing should becoming more difficult with the number of new houses being built	Not known
6	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Not known
7	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Not known
8	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	I would urge the council to consider taking this opportunity to develop community usage of the prior new school. Having worked in a school that was open from 7.30am to 10.30 on to host a range of activities both recreational and educational which was widely used by the local community. I firmly believe that school should not shutdown at the end of the school day but remain open to house a plethora of activities. I realise that this would incur extra running costs, including caretaking, but by providing a mixture of fee paying and free the cost can be covered thus providing greater opportunities for all age groups.	Parish Council
9	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	While we do not object per se to the new school, an expansion at Sacred Heart would be a cost effective component of the overall solution. Our Bishop is supportive of expansion including welcoming non-Catholic children in the interests of the greater good and ensuring that they can access high quality provision in a warm and loving environment. The combined factors of growth at SH due to improved standards, numbers of Catholic children in the area and the loss of 49places on the same site suggest that an investment in Sacred Heart would be an effective way to secure high quality provision. We would welcome a discussion about the investment of Basic Need funding to make the school single form entry, particularly as some new families are likely to be Catholic or seek Catholic education	Academy Trust
10	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	We are very supportive of the proposal and look forward to hearing more details in the near future.	Dales Academies Trust
11					As one of the Directors at # Nurseries, we wanted to get in touch and raise our interest in providing additional/ add-on services for 2&3 year olds, Breakfast & Afterschool and Holiday Clubs. We currently have 11 Early Years provisions across the North East, with two of these childcare provisions in Northallerton, and one of these a super new partnership model with Broomfield School.	Early Years Provider
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		
YES	10	9	10	10		
NO	0	1	0	0		

Equality impact assessment (EIA) form: evidencing paying due regard to protected characteristics

(Form updated April 2019)

**Proposal to open a new primary school at: Manse Farm,
Knaresborough, North Yorkshire**

If you would like this information in another language or format such as Braille, large print or audio, please contact the Communications Unit on 01609 53 2013 or email communications@northyorks.gov.uk.



যদি আপনি এই ডকুমেন্ট অন্য ভাষায় বা ফরমেটে চান, তাহলে দয়া করে আমাদেরকে বলুন।

如欲索取以另一語文印製或另一格式製作的資料，請與我們聯絡。

اگر آپ کو معلومات کسی دیگر زبان یا دیگر شکل میں درکار ہوں تو برائے مہربانی ہم سے پوچھیے۔

Equality Impact Assessments (EIAs) are public documents. EIAs accompanying reports going to County Councillors for decisions are published with the committee papers on our website and are available in hard copy at the relevant meeting. To help people to find completed EIAs we also publish them in the Equality and Diversity section of our website. This will help people to see for themselves how we have paid due regard in order to meet statutory requirements.

Name of Directorate and Service Area	CYPS Strategic Planning Team
Lead Officer and contact details	Andrew Dixon, Strategic Planning Manager, Andrew.Dixon@northyorks.gov.uk
Names and roles of other people involved in carrying out the EIA	Sue Turley, Strategic Planning Officer, Sue.Turley@northyorks.gov.uk
How will you pay due regard? e.g. working group, individual officer	LA Officers, CYPS Executive Members, Regional School Commissioner and selected Academy Sponsor
When did the due regard process start?	Public Consultation started on 25 Sept 2020

Section 1. Please describe briefly what this EIA is about. (e.g. are you starting a new service, changing how you do something, stopping doing something?)

A proposal to establish a new mainstream primary school to primarily serve the Manse Farm development in Knaresborough and the proposed Highfield Farm development. The proposed new school will also support general school place sufficiency in the Knaresborough area.

It is intended that the new school will be a free school (a state-funded school, operating as an academy, independent of the local authority) in accordance with Department for Education guidance.

A period of consultation with the community has been carried out, including written consultation and statutory planning consultation to be followed (subject to approval) by an invitation to Multi Academy Trusts (MAT) to bid to run the school followed by a statutory representation period.

Section 2. Why is this being proposed? What are the aims? What does the authority hope to achieve by it? (e.g. to save money, meet increased demand, do things in a better way.)

The County Council is under a statutory duty to ensure there are sufficient school places in the area, promote high educational standards, ensure fair access to educational opportunity and promote fulfilment of every child's educational potential. There are a number of primary schools in Knaresborough Town and the area around the Manse Farm development site that are becoming increasingly full as primary pupil numbers are now rising alongside housing growth. These schools are collectively close to their operational capacity and there are limited opportunities to expand these schools further. These issues are set out in detail in the report to CYPS Executive Members on 15 September 2020 and the subsequent consultation document.

Section 3. What will change? What will be different for customers and/or staff?

It is proposed that a new primary school at Manse Farm will be established with effect from September 2022. The age range of the school will be 3-11 (Nursery to Year 6), providing places for 210 pupils (one form of entry) plus nursery with the ability to expand to 420 places (two forms of entry) should that be required in the future. The school will provide places for boys and girls (mixed).

If the proposal is approved, the Academy Trust chosen to operate the school would determine the oversubscription criteria for admissions purposes. The proposed new school will provide additional school place capacity for the whole of Knaresborough town and the immediate area. However, it will primarily serve the development area formed by the Manse Farm and Highfield Farm sites in which there is currently no housing. NYCC intend to propose that the new school should have a defined catchment area based on the boundaries of the new development sites. This would mean that for admission purposes residents of the new development would have priority for places in the event of oversubscription. This would enable the new school to best serve its immediate local area and reduce the need for journeys to alternative schools.

Section 4. Involvement and consultation (What involvement and consultation has been done regarding the proposal and what are the results? What consultation will be needed and how will it be done?)

A planning application was submitted under reference number NY/2019/0215/FUL. A statutory consultation period was required before planning permission was granted on 11 June 2020.

In addition to this statutory consultation, a public consultation was held on specific aspects of the proposal including type of school, age range, opening profile etc. The 4 week period for this non-statutory public consultation ran from Friday 25 September 2020 to Friday 23 October 2020. Consultation documents were distributed to a wide range of stakeholders. The consultation document and responses are included in the report to the Executive Member for Schools on 10 November 2020.

A further consultation will be conducted. The formal statutory consultation, which sponsors are required to undertake under section 10 of the Academies Act 2010, takes place during the pre-opening phase of the school i.e. after the sponsor has been selected.

Section 5. What impact will this proposal have on council budgets? Will it be cost neutral, have increased cost or reduce costs?

A Section 106 agreement with the developers means that they must provide NYCC with a fully serviced school site on which to build the school. Under the free school presumption route it is expected that the local authority will fund building costs. Local authorities are also required to meet the revenue costs of the new provision. This relates to the per-pupil revenue funding and opening development costs.

The actual cost will be determined by the required procurement exercise which will commence in Autumn 2020. However, it is estimated that the cost of a new school might be in the range of £5m to £6m depending on design, site issues, planning constraints, timing etc.

The local authority has the statutory duty to ensure that sufficient school places are available. It receives capital funding to address this 'basic need', although it is acknowledged by central government that this funding does not meet the full costs of providing additional pupil places. In addition, the County Council has a policy of trying to secure developer contributions for educational provision arising from housing. There is an agreed contribution of £2.002m towards primary education arising from the Manse Farm development. Basic Need Grant will fund the remainder.

There may be some additional pupil transport costs.

Please explain briefly why this will be the result.

If the school opens, there could be a potential additional cost to the Local Authority in providing transport to this new school. Free home to school transport would be provided for entitled pupils in accordance with the County Council's Home to School transport policy. An assessment will be made based on travel distance from pupils' home address to establish if any pupils are eligible for free home to school transport.

Section 6. How will this proposal affect people with protected characteristics?	No impact	Make things better	Make things worse	Why will it have this effect? Provide evidence from engagement, consultation and/or service user data or demographic information etc.
Age		X		<p>Provision of nursery and primary school places where needed. Providing improved local choice for school places for families.</p> <p>The new school will cater for children of between 3 to 11 and establishing a new school will increase opportunity for pupils to access a same age peer group.</p>
Disability	X			<p>Pupils – the school is mainstream, offering universal provision. It will offer appropriate educational provision for all learners for whom a mainstream placement is considered appropriate. It will promote inclusive opportunities for the most vulnerable children and have a strong focus on early intervention, as well as high quality teaching and learning.</p> <p>Expertise will be utilised from the County Council to provide appropriate SEN support.</p> <p>Staff – As an organisation NYCC will continue to meet the requirements of the Equality Act 2010 which obligates us to make reasonable adjustments to accommodate disabled individuals as employees or service users.</p> <p>The design of the new school is in accordance with equalities legislation so that the building is entirely accessible for pupils, staff, parents, visitors and other members of the community.</p> <p>In addition to the building specification, the School Admissions Code makes it unlawful to discriminate against or disadvantage disabled children or those with special educational needs.</p>
Sex	X			<p>No impact is anticipated.</p> <p>The new school is coeducational and available to pupils of all genders.</p>
Race	X			<p>No impact is anticipated.</p>
Gender reassignment	X			<p>No impact is anticipated.</p>

Sexual orientation	X			No impact is anticipated.
Religion or belief	X			<p>The proposal is that the school will be inclusive, regardless of religion or belief. The nearest Roman Catholic primary school is 1.9 miles away serving a wider catchment on denominational grounds. The nearest Church of England school, is 1.5 miles away and has it's own catchment area within Knaresborough Town.</p> <p>The Regional Schools Commissioner may decide that this school should be sponsored by a church-based multi academy trust. The Equality Act contains limited exceptions to the prohibition of discrimination on grounds of religion or belief. Schools designated by the Secretary of State as having a religious character are exempt from some aspects of the prohibition of discrimination and this means they can make a decision about whether or not to admit a child as a pupil on the basis of religion or belief.</p>
Pregnancy or maternity	X			No impact is anticipated.
Marriage or civil partnership	X			No impact is anticipated.

Section 7. How will this proposal affect people who...	No impact	Make things better	Make things worse	Why will it have this effect? Provide evidence from engagement, consultation and/or service user data or demographic information etc.
..live in a rural area?	X			<p>This proposal would not have an adverse impact on rural areas, since pupils living in villages surrounding the Manse Farm and proposed Highfield Farm development site would be able to continue attending those local schools, for example, Goldsborough CE has a primary school in the village of Goldsborough. Some children attend schools outside their normal catchment areas, including schools in Knaresborough. The new school would provide an additional choice of school.</p> <p>However, it is unlikely rural pupils would be entitled to free home to school transport to the new school. Free home to school transport would be provided for entitled pupils in accordance with the County Council's Home to School Transport policy which sets out that free school transport will be provided to the</p>

				catchment school or nearest school to a child's home address if it is over the statutory walking distances set out by law.
...have a low income?	X			No impact anticipated
...are carers (unpaid family or friend)?	X			No impact anticipated

Section 8. Geographic impact – Please detail where the impact will be (please tick all that apply)

North Yorkshire wide	
Craven district	
Hambleton district	
Harrogate district	X
Richmondshire district	
Ryedale district	
Scarborough district	
Selby district	

If you have ticked one or more districts, will specific town(s)/village(s) be particularly impacted? If so, please specify below.

Knareborough Town, primarily to the western side of the Town.

Section 9. Will the proposal affect anyone more because of a combination of protected characteristics? (e.g. older women or young gay men) State what you think the effect may be and why, providing evidence from engagement, consultation and/or service user data or demographic information etc.

The proposals were identified as being generally positive for all and as having no differential impact on protected groups. The school will be inclusive of all members of the community and will not discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation, against any gender reassignment or any religion or belief. All pupils at the school will be valued equally and treated with respect under these proposals and staff and governors would need to manage sensitively.

The County Council's Officers now feel that this proposal to establish a new school is in the best interests of children and families served by the school. Pupil numbers are projected to increase, existing schools in Knareborough area are operating near their capacity with limited potential for expansion, and a new school at Manse Farm means that children will be able to attend their local school with the opportunity to travel by foot.

The Local Authority's Admission Team will continue to work with all families to try to meet their individual preferences for primary schools.

Home to school transport will be assessed in line with the County Council's policy.

Section 10. Next steps to address the anticipated impact. Select one of the following options and explain why this has been chosen. (Remember: we have an anticipatory duty to make reasonable adjustments so that disabled people can access services and work for us)	Tick option chosen
1. No adverse impact - no major change needed to the proposal. There is no potential for discrimination or adverse impact identified.	X
2. Adverse impact - adjust the proposal - The EIA identifies potential problems or missed opportunities. We will change our proposal to reduce or remove these adverse impacts, or we will achieve our aim in another way which will not make things worse for people.	
3. Adverse impact - continue the proposal - The EIA identifies potential problems or missed opportunities. We cannot change our proposal to reduce or remove these adverse impacts, nor can we achieve our aim in another way which will not make things worse for people. (There must be compelling reasons for continuing with proposals which will have the most adverse impacts. Get advice from Legal Services)	
4. Actual or potential unlawful discrimination - stop and remove the proposal – The EIA identifies actual or potential unlawful discrimination. It must be stopped.	
<p>Explanation of why option has been chosen. (Include any advice given by Legal Services)</p> <p>The existing primary schools are collectively close to their operational capacity. Pressure on places is being seen especially in the younger age groups. The projections taking account of historic and current pupil numbers, underlying demographics and the expected pupil yield from new housing show that a shortfall in places can be expected from September 2022 onwards. This shortfall of places would continue to rise, largely due to the impacts of new housing, from 2023 onwards without the introduction of additional provision.</p> <p>The new school option has been chosen to ensure the LA continues to meet its statutory duty for school place sufficiency. The alternative of sufficiently expanding existing schools does not exist, and even if it did, the places created would not be as well located as a new school would be.</p> <p>This proposal would have a positive impact for those living within the Manse Farm and proposed Highfield Farm development site that attend the school as they would have be able attend a local school, as set out in Section 9.</p> <p>It is felt that the proposal is in the best interests of educational provision in the area. Careful consideration has been had to transport implications and the impact on local people and the wider community of opening the school. It is concluded that the case for the new school is strong and in the best interests of educational provision in the area.</p>	

Section 11. If the proposal is to be implemented how will you find out how it is really affecting people? (How will you monitor and review the changes?)

Monitoring of standards will be carried out through the County Council's Education and Skills Team and through Ofsted inspections. Monitoring of sufficiency of school places in the Knaresborough area will be undertaken by the CYPS Strategic Planning Team.

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Section 12. Action plan. List any actions you need to take which have been identified in this EIA, including post implementation review to find out how the outcomes have been achieved in practice and what impacts there have actually been on people with protected characteristics.

Action	Lead	By when	Progress	Monitoring arrangements
Not applicable				

Section 13. Summary Summarise the findings of your EIA, including impacts, recommendation in relation to addressing impacts, including any legal advice, and next steps. This summary should be used as part of the report to the decision maker.

The purpose of the consultation and proposed decision to establish a new school for Manse Farm and the proposed Highfield Farm development is to secure sufficient school places and ensure that the children are provided for with the best local education provision in a sustainable, stable and effective manner. In order to achieve these aims, and the positive impacts identified, the proposal to establish the new school at Manse Farm in Knaresborough is considered appropriate.

Section 14. Sign off section

This full EIA was completed by:

Name: Sue Turley
Job title: Strategic Planning Officer
Directorate: CYPS
Signature:

Completion date: October 2020.

Authorised by relevant Assistant Director (signature): Amanda Newbold

Date: 30 October 2020

Equality impact assessment (EIA) form: evidencing paying due regard to protected characteristics

(Form updated April 2019)

Proposal to open a new primary school at: North Northallerton Development Area, Northallerton, North Yorkshire

If you would like this information in another language or format such as Braille, large print or audio, please contact the Communications Unit on 01609 53 2013 or email communications@northyorks.gov.uk.



যদি আপনি এই ডকুমেন্ট অন্য ভাষায় বা ফরমেটে চান, তাহলে দয়া করে আমাদেরকে বলুন।

如欲索取以另一語文印製或另一格式製作的資料，請與我們聯絡。

اگر آپ کو معلومات کسی دیگر زبان یا دیگر شکل میں درکار ہوں تو برائے مہربانی ہم سے پوچھیے۔

Equality Impact Assessments (EIAs) are public documents. EIAs accompanying reports going to County Councillors for decisions are published with the committee papers on our website and are available in hard copy at the relevant meeting. To help people to find completed EIAs we also publish them in the Equality and Diversity section of our website. This will help people to see for themselves how we have paid due regard in order to meet statutory requirements.

Name of Directorate and Service Area	CYPS Strategic Planning Team
Lead Officer and contact details	Andrew Dixon, Strategic Planning Manager, Andrew.Dixon@northyorks.gov.uk
Names and roles of other people involved in carrying out the EIA	Mark Ashton, Strategic Planning Officer, Mark.Ashton@northyorks.gov.uk
How will you pay due regard? e.g. working group, individual officer	LA Officers, CYPS Executive Members, Regional School Commissioner and selected Academy Sponsor
When did the due regard process start?	Public Consultation started on 25 Sept 2020

Section 1. Please describe briefly what this EIA is about. (e.g. are you starting a new service, changing how you do something, stopping doing something?)

A proposal to establish a new mainstream primary school to primarily serve pupils living in the North Northallerton Development Area. The proposed new school will also support general school place sufficiency in Northallerton.

It is intended that the new school will be a free school (a state-funded school, operating as an academy, independent of the local authority) in accordance with Department for Education guidance.

A period of consultation with the community has been carried out, including written consultation and statutory planning consultation to be followed (subject to approval) by an invitation to Multi Academy Trusts (MAT) to bid to run the school followed by a statutory representation period.

Section 2. Why is this being proposed? What are the aims? What does the authority hope to achieve by it? (e.g. to save money, meet increased demand, do things in a better way.)

The County Council is under a statutory duty to ensure there are sufficient school places in the area, promote high educational standards, ensure fair access to educational opportunity and promote fulfilment of every child's educational potential. There are three key concerns: 1) The North Northallerton Development Area will generate additional primary aged children; 2) All six existing primary schools are to the south of Northallerton; and 3) These schools are collectively close to their operational capacity and there is limited opportunity for expansion. These issues are set out in detail in the report to CYPS Executive Members on 15 September 2020 and the subsequent consultation document.

Section 3. What will change? What will be different for customers and/or staff?

It is proposed that a new primary school will be established to serve North Northallerton with effect from September 2022. The age range of the school will be 4-11, providing places for 210 pupils (one form of entry) with the ability to expand to 420 places (two forms of entry) should that be required in the future. The school will provide places for boys and girls (mixed).

If the proposal is approved, the Academy Trust chosen to operate the school would determine the oversubscription criteria for admissions purposes. NYCC intend to propose that it would not have a defined catchment area. Instead, we would propose that priority for admission to the school would be determined by proximity to it. This will be the subject of further consultation with local schools during the chosen MAT's representation period.

Section 4. Involvement and consultation (What involvement and consultation has been done regarding the proposal and what are the results? What consultation will be needed and how will it be done?)

A planning application was submitted under reference number NY/2019/0220/FUL. A statutory consultation period was required and some changes to the design and layout were made in response to comments, before planning permission was granted on 1st September 2020.

In addition to this statutory consultation, a public consultation was held on specific aspects of the proposal including type of school, age range, opening profile etc. The 4 week period for this non-statutory public consultation ran from Friday 25 September 2020 to Friday 23 October 2020. Consultation documents were distributed to a wide range of stakeholders,. The consultation document and responses are included in the report to the Executive Member for Schools on 10 November 2020.

A further consultation will be conducted. The formal statutory consultation, which sponsors are required to undertake under section 10 of the Academies Act 2010, takes place during the pre-opening phase of the school i.e. after the sponsor has been selected.

Section 5. What impact will this proposal have on council budgets? Will it be cost neutral, have increased cost or reduce costs?

A Section 106 agreement with the developers means that they must provide NYCC with a fully serviced school site on which to build the school. Under the free school presumption route it is expected that the local authority will fund building costs. Local authorities are also required to meet the revenue costs of the new provision. This relates to the per-pupil revenue funding and opening development costs.

The actual cost will be determined by the required procurement exercise which will commence in Autumn 2020. However, it is estimated that the cost of a new school might be in the range of £5m to £6m depending on design, site issues, planning constraints, timing etc.

The local authority has the statutory duty to ensure that sufficient school places are available. It receives capital funding to address this ‘basic need’, although it is acknowledged by central government that this funding does not meet the full costs of providing additional pupil places. In addition, the County Council has a policy of trying to secure developer contributions for educational provision arising from housing. There is an agreed contribution of £950,000 towards education arising from the North Northallerton development. Basic Need Grant will fund the remainder.

There may be some additional pupil transport costs.

Please explain briefly why this will be the result.

If the school opens, there could be a potential additional cost to the Local Authority in providing transport to this new school. Free home to school transport would be provided for entitled pupils in accordance with the County Council’s Home to School transport policy. An assessment will be made based on travel distance from pupils’ home address to establish if any pupils are eligible for free home to school transport.

Section 6. How will this proposal affect people with protected characteristics?	No impact	Make things better	Make things worse	Why will it have this effect? Provide evidence from engagement, consultation and/or service user data or demographic information etc.
Age		X		Provision of primary school places where needed. Providing improved local choice for school places for families. The new school will cater for children of statutory school age between 4 to 11 and

				establishing a new school will increase opportunity for pupils to access a same age peer group.
Disability	X			<p>Pupils – the school is mainstream, offering universal provision. It will offer appropriate educational provision for all learners for whom a mainstream placement is considered appropriate. It will promote inclusive opportunities for the most vulnerable children and have a strong focus on early intervention, as well as high quality teaching and learning.</p> <p>Expertise will be utilised from the County Council to provide appropriate SEN support.</p> <p>Staff – As an organisation NYCC will continue to meet the requirements of the Equality Act 2010 which obligates us to make reasonable adjustments to accommodate disabled individuals as employees or service users.</p> <p>The design of the new school is in accordance with equalities legislation so that the building is entirely accessible for pupils, staff, parents, visitors and other members of the community.</p> <p>In addition to the building specification, the School Admissions Code makes it unlawful to discriminate against or disadvantage disabled children or those with special educational needs.</p>
Sex	X			<p>No impact is anticipated.</p> <p>The new school is coeducational and available to pupils of all genders.</p>
Race	X			No impact is anticipated.
Gender reassignment	X			No impact is anticipated.
Sexual orientation	X			No impact is anticipated.
Religion or belief	X			The proposal is that the school will be inclusive, regardless of religion or belief. The nearest Roman Catholic primary school is 1.7 miles away and covers a wide area including Northallerton town and beyond. The nearest Church of England school is 4.7 miles away.

				The Regional Schools Commissioner may decide that this school should be sponsored by a church-based multi academy trust. The Equality Act contains limited exceptions to the prohibition of discrimination on grounds of religion or belief. Schools designated by the Secretary of State as having a religious character are exempt from some aspects of the prohibition of discrimination and this means they can make a decision about whether or not to admit a child as a pupil on the basis of religion or belief.
Pregnancy or maternity	X			No impact is anticipated.
Marriage or civil partnership	X			No impact is anticipated.

Section 7. How will this proposal affect people who...	No impact	Make things better	Make things worse	Why will it have this effect? Provide evidence from engagement, consultation and/or service user data or demographic information etc.
...live in a rural area?	X			<p>This proposal would not have an adverse impact on rural areas, since pupils living in villages surrounding Northallerton with existing local school would be able to continue attending those local schools. For example, South Otterington, Ainderby Steeple, Kirby Fleetham and Osmotherley have primary schools in their villages, although some children attend schools outside their normal catchment areas, including schools in Northallerton. The new school would provide an additional choice of school.</p> <p>However, it is unlikely rural pupils would be entitled to free home to school transport to the new school. Free home to school transport would be provided for entitled pupils in accordance with the County Council's Home to School Transport policy which sets out that free school transport will be provided to the catchment school or nearest school to a child's home address if it is over the statutory walking distances set out by law.</p>
...have a low income?	X			No impact anticipated
...are carers (unpaid family or friend)?	X			No impact anticipated

Section 8. Geographic impact – Please detail where the impact will be (please tick all that apply)

North Yorkshire wide	
Craven district	
Hambleton district	X
Harrogate district	
Richmondshire district	
Ryedale district	
Scarborough district	
Selby district	

If you have ticked one or more districts, will specific town(s)/village(s) be particularly impacted? If so, please specify below.

Northallerton Town, primarily the northern side of the Town.

Section 9. Will the proposal affect anyone more because of a combination of protected characteristics? (e.g. older women or young gay men) State what you think the effect may be and why, providing evidence from engagement, consultation and/or service user data or demographic information etc.

The proposals were identified as being generally positive for all and as having no differential impact on protected groups. The school will be inclusive of all members of the community and will not discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation, against any gender reassignment or any religion or belief. All pupils at the school will be valued equally and treated with respect under these proposals and staff and governors would need to manage sensitively.

The County Council's Officers now feel that this proposal to establish a new school is in the best interests of children and families served by the school. Pupil numbers are project to increase, existing schools in the south of Northallerton are operating near their capacity with limited potential for expansion, and a new school to the north of Northallerton means that children will be able to attend their local school with the opportunity to travel by foot.

The Local Authority's Admission Team will continue to work with all families to try to meet their individual preferences for primary schools.

Home to school transport will be assessed in line with the County Council's policy.

Section 10. Next steps to address the anticipated impact. Select one of the following options and explain why this has been chosen. (Remember: we have an anticipatory duty to make reasonable adjustments so that disabled people can access services and work for us)

Tick option chosen

1. No adverse impact - no major change needed to the proposal. There is no potential for discrimination or adverse impact identified.	X
2. Adverse impact - adjust the proposal - The EIA identifies potential problems or missed opportunities. We will change our proposal to reduce or remove these adverse impacts, or we will achieve our aim in another way which will not make things worse for people.	
3. Adverse impact - continue the proposal - The EIA identifies potential problems or missed opportunities. We cannot change our proposal to reduce or remove these adverse impacts, nor can we achieve our aim in another way which will not make things worse for people. (There must be compelling reasons for continuing with proposals which will have the most adverse impacts. Get advice from Legal Services)	
4. Actual or potential unlawful discrimination - stop and remove the proposal – The EIA identifies actual or potential unlawful discrimination. It must be stopped.	
<p>Explanation of why option has been chosen. (Include any advice given by Legal Services.)</p> <p>The existing primary schools are collectively close to their operational capacity. Pressure on places is being seen especially in the younger age groups. The projections taking account of historic and current pupil numbers, underlying demographics and the expected pupil yield from new housing show that a shortfall in places can be expected from September 2022 onwards. This shortfall of places would continue to rise, largely due to the impacts of new housing, from 2023 onwards without the introduction of additional provision.</p> <p>The new school option has been chosen to ensure the LA continues to meet its statutory duty for school place sufficiency. The alternative of sufficiently expanding existing schools does not exist, and even if it did, the places created would not be as well located as a new school would be.</p> <p>This proposal would have a positive impact for those living within the North Northallerton Development Area that attend the school as they would have be able attend a local school, as set out in Section 9.</p> <p>It is felt that the proposal is in the best interests of educational provision in the area. Careful consideration has been had to transport implications and the impact on local people and the wider community of opening the school. It is concluded that the case for the new school is strong and in the best interests of educational provision in the area.</p>	

<p>Section 11. If the proposal is to be implemented how will you find out how it is really affecting people? (How will you monitor and review the changes?)</p> <p>Monitoring of standards will be carried out through the County Council’s Education and Skills Team and through Ofsted inspections. Monitoring of sufficiency of school places in the Northallerton area will be undertaken by the CYPS Strategic Planning Team.</p>

<p>Section 12. Action plan. List any actions you need to take which have been identified in this EIA, including post implementation review to find out how the outcomes have been achieved in practice and what impacts there have actually been on people with protected characteristics.</p>				
Action	Lead	By when	Progress	Monitoring arrangements
Not applicable				

Section 13. Summary Summarise the findings of your EIA, including impacts, recommendation in relation to addressing impacts, including any legal advice, and next steps. This summary should be used as part of the report to the decision maker.

The purpose of the consultation and proposed decision to establish a new school for Northallerton is to secure sufficient school places and ensure that the children are provided with the best local education provision in a sustainable, stable and effective manner. In order to achieve these aims, and the positive impacts identified, the proposal to establish the new school in Northallerton is considered appropriate.

Section 14. Sign off section

This full EIA was completed by:

Name: Mark Ashton
Job title: Strategic Planning Officer
Directorate: CYPS
Signature:

Completion date: October 2020.

Authorised by relevant Assistant Director (signature): Amanda Newbold

Date: 30 October 2020