Possible permanent expansion of Pupil Places at Beardall Street Community Primary School and relocation of the school to a new site in Hucknall

Consultation Responses Analysis:

Number of consultation leaflets distributed approximately 500

Expansion of Pupil Places	No. of responses received Agreed	No. of responses received Disagreed	No. of responses received Didn't Know
Parent/Carer	15	3	3
Governor	1	0	0
Staff	9	0	0
Pupil School Council of Beardall Street Primary	1	0	0
Other	2	3	1
TOTALS	28	6	4

Where reply forms indicated more than one type of respondent, only one has been included in the table above using a priority order of 'parent/carer', 'governor', 'staff' and then 'pupil/other'.

Relocation of school to a new site	No. of responses received Agreed	No. of responses received Disagreed	No. of responses received Didn't Know
Parent/Carer	15	3	3
Governor	1	0	0
Staff	9	0	0
Pupil School Council of Beardall Street Primary	1	0	0
Other	3	2	1
TOTALS	29	5	4

Where reply forms indicated more than one type of respondent, only one has been included in the table above using a priority order of 'parent/carer', 'governor', 'staff' and then 'pupil/other'.

Comments/Issues/Points raised within Written/Electronic/On-line responses:

The decision making process

- Opinion expressed that the proposed relocation school site is far from convenient for pupils and parents located within Beardall Street Primary's existing catchment area
- Opinion expressed that a more central location for a new school building would be better for everyone
- Opinions expressed that Hucknall's demographic was appropriate enough to suggest a further school of Beardall Street Primary's pupil capacity should be provided
- By providing an additional primary school rather than expanding Beardall Street Primary, opinion expressed this would reduce the number of vehicles using the same routes during school runs
- In supporting the proposals, opinions expressed they will help the current growth of Hucknall's population where there is pressure on gaining school places in the locality
- Feelings expressed it is important that Beardall Street Primary should be brought up-to-date, and that its pupils deserve to be taught using the best facilities and equipment available
- Support expressed for a proposed expansion of the school, citing that there is a demand for it
- Feelings expressed that Beardall Street Primary should remain open in its existing premises, citing that the proposed new school site is too far away
- Although recognising the fact that the school has outgrown its current premises and there is an increased demand for pupil places, opinion expressed of not knowing enough about the proposals to make an informed view
- Opinion expressed that Beardall Street Primary is a very popular school and as such, concern raised that the school's existing nursery provision is not also proposed to be expanded, citing that there is allegedly already a waiting list for places
- Suggestion made that 39 full time equivalent nursery places should also be provided at the expanded school, citing this would be beneficial to children and families and would allegedly be in line with other schools of a similar size
- In supporting the proposals, opinion expressed that the existing school building would not be able to accommodate an increase of pupils on roll
- Opinion expressed that providing 105 more pupil places will not be adequate, citing that Hucknall schools are overcrowded due to new housing development in the locality
- Opinion expressed that Hucknall also needs a larger or new comprehensive school

- In supporting the proposals, opinion expressed that the statutory process should have commenced sooner, citing that the proposed implementation date of September 2014 is probably not achievable
- Comment made that if parents/carers are being encouraged not to drive their children to school, why relocate Beardall Street Primary to another location where a tramline and busy roads have to be crossed to access the school site, citing that those that can drive will do so

Staffing matters

- Relating to the proposed new school site, opinion expressed there will be more roads to cross. Clarification then sought on whether there would be school staff positioned on each road, in the event parents were unavailable to escort their children to the new site.
- Opinion expressed that the support from Beardall Street Primary to its children/parents is brilliant, and it was hoped that these standards are not hindered by a rise in pupil numbers
- Opinion expressed that the expansion proposal will provide more teaching jobs
- Clarification sought by Beardall Street Primary governors on whether the school's budget would be increased at the appropriate time to allow for a necessary increase in staffing

Building and site related issues

- Concern expressed for the future of the existing Beardall Street school site if no longer required for educational purposes
- Opinions expressed that Beardall Street Primary is in an old building, requiring alleged substantial funds to maintain it. It was also felt it lacked facilities such as a playing field.
- Concern raised about the possible need for several entrances and exits to/from the proposed new school site from differing parts of Hucknall, and the safety implications of this
- Concern raised that the new school building should not be located too close to neighbouring houses, so as to alleviate potential on-looking into classrooms
- Feeling expressed that although the existing school is 'small and cosy', there is only so much that can be done to keep repairing it
- In supporting the proposals, comments made that it will be beneficial to have a playing field, an increased size of playground and school hall, improved toilet areas and heating system
- Concern expressed that a relocated school would allegedly add a total of 50 minutes to school travelling time at the beginning and end of the day
- Comment made of there being no plans available to view at the consultation drop-in session concerning the proposed new school's actual location
- Opinion expressed that the new school building should be designed to benefit children with special needs requirements

Pupil, Curriculum and Community related issues

- Comment made that there are already two primary schools within 0.5 mile of the proposed relocation school site, citing this will leave children within the central area of Hucknall having to make much longer journeys
- Clarification sought on whether pupils currently living outside Beardall Street Primary's existing catchment area, will get less priority than those located nearer to the new school site
- In disagreeing with the proposal, opinion expressed that smaller class sizes and schools mean that every child has the same access to educational needs, regardless of their individual ability
- Opinion expressed that there should be an emphasis on quality not quantity
- Comment made that if an additional primary school had been proposed, this would ensure class sizes of optimum size for better teaching and ultimately learning
- Support expressed that the proposals would enhance the school and create much need pupil places
- Feelings expressed that it was hoped an expanded school does not have a detrimental effect on the existing school's ethos and 'community' feel
- Suggestion made of providing a school bus for the proposed new site to serve children living at the extremities of housing estates in Hucknall, in particular for parents/carers who don't drive
- Support expressed for the proposals, citing that it will be beneficial to have more classes of children of the same age
- Opinion expressed that keeping high standards in an expanded Beardall Street Primary school will keep its good name
- Comment made that the proposals will provide opportunities for more pupils being placed in the school, and help towards minimising the number of pupils being refused places
- In supporting the proposals, it was felt that providing much needed improved school facilities could only be seen as a positive step forward for all concerned at the school
- Opinion expressed that the proposals may have the affect of creating more than one class per year group
- Feeling of uncertainty expressed about not knowing whether to support the proposed expansion or not, citing that more children in a class could have a detrimental effect on the amount of attention received by existing pupils
- Opinion expressed and concern raised that a Year 6 child would not be able to walk to school by themselves, given the extra journey time a relocated school would allegedly entail
- Concern raised and opinion expressed about access to the proposed new school site, citing there will be main roads to negotiate than at present and there are allegedly, an inadequate number of safety crossings along the potential walking route

- Opinion expressed that a proposed new school site is allegedly already having a detrimental effect on Beardall Street Primary, suggesting that several families are deciding not to apply for places at the school
- In advocating a strong belief that children should walk to school, concern and opinion expressed that relocating the school will lead to increased vehicular traffic flow as more parents transport their children to the new school site
- Concern expressed for the safety and wellbeing of children negotiating a potential walking route to the proposed new school site, especially crossing the road in close proximity to Hucknall's tram station
- In disagreeing with the proposals, clarification sought on whether there
 will be safe walking and cycling routes to the proposed new school site,
 ready and open by September 2014. It was also felt that if these were
 not provided in time for the opening of the new school building, there
 could be a child fatality.
- Concern raised and opinion expressed that children having started at the school and then being relocated to another site and building after Year 1, was an unnecessary disruption to their education
- Beardall Street Primary governors expressed concern that insufficient account had been taken in the proposals of a number of locations where difficulties were apparently experienced for children crossing the road, especially in groups