

LONDON BOROUGH OF CROYDON

To: all Members of the Council (via e-mail)
Access Croydon, Town Hall Reception

PUBLIC NOTICE OF KEY DECISIONS MADE BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, PEOPLE ON 1 NOVEMBER 2016

In accordance with the Scrutiny and Overview Procedure Rules, the following decisions may be implemented from **1300 hours on 9 November 2016** unless referred to the Scrutiny and Overview Committee:

The following apply to each decision listed below

Reasons for these decisions: are contained in the attached Part A report

Other options considered and rejected: are contained in the attached Part A report

Details of conflicts of Interest declared by any Cabinet Member: none

The Leader of the Council has delegated Executive decision ref. no. 58.16LR to the Executive Director People, the power to make the decisions set out below:

OFFICER'S EXECUTIVE DECISION REFERENCE NO. : 0616PE
Decision Title: Education Estates - Pupil Referral Units (PRUs)

Having carefully read and considered the attached Part A report and the requirements of the Council's public sector equality duty in relation to the issues detailed in the body of the report, the Executive Director, People in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People & Learning

RESOLVED:

Having considered the consultation feedback on the proposed amalgamation of Saffron Valley Pupil Referral Units (PRUs), to :

1. Agree that the PRUs can be amalgamated;
2. Authorise officers to implement the amalgamation of the PRUs as specified in the statutory notice.

Scrutiny Referral/Call-in Procedure

1. The decisions may be implemented **1300 hours on 9 November 2016** (5 working days after the decisions were made) unless referred to the Scrutiny and Overview Committee.
2. The Acting Council Solicitor shall refer the matter to the Scrutiny and Overview Committee if so requested by:-
 - i) the Chair or Deputy Chair of the Scrutiny and Overview Committee and 4 members of that Committee; or
 - ii) 20% of Council Members (14)
3. The referral shall be made on the approved pro-forma (*attached*) which should be submitted electronically or on paper to Jim Simpson and James Haywood by the deadline stated in this notice. Verification of signatures may be by individual e-mail, fax or by post. A decision may only be subject to the referral process once.
4. The Call-In referral shall be completed giving:
 - i) The grounds for the referral
 - ii) The outcome desired
 - iii) Information required to assist the Scrutiny and Overview Committee to consider the referral
 - iv) The date and the signatures of the Councillors requesting the Call-In
5. The decision taker and the relevant Chief Officer(s) shall be notified of the referral who shall suspend implementation of the decision.
6. The referral shall be considered at the next scheduled meeting of the Scrutiny & Overview Committee unless, in view of the Acting Council Solicitor this would cause undue delay. In such cases the Acting Council Solicitor will consult with the decision taker and the Chair of Scrutiny and Overview to agree a date for an additional meeting. The Scrutiny & Overview Committee may only decide to consider a maximum of 3 referrals at any one meeting.
7. At the Scrutiny & Overview Committee meeting the referral will be considered by the Committee which shall determine how much time the Committee will give to the call in and how the item will be dealt with including whether or not it wishes to review the decision. If having considered the decision there are still concerns about the decision then the Committee may refer it back to the decision taker for reconsideration, setting out in writing the nature of the concerns.
8. The Scrutiny and Overview Committee may refer the decision to Full Council if it considers that the decision is outside of the budget and policy framework of the Council.
9. If the Scrutiny and Overview Committee decides that no further action is necessary then the decision may be implemented.

10. The Full Council may decide to take no further action in which case the decision may be implemented.
11. If the Council objects to the decision it can nullify the decision if it is outside of the policy framework and/or inconsistent with the budget.
12. If the decision is within the policy framework and consistent with the budget, the Council will refer any decision to which it objects together with its views on the decision. The decision taker shall choose whether to either amend / withdraw or implement the original decision within 10 working days or at the next meeting of the Cabinet of the referral from the Council.
13. The response shall be notified to all Members of the Scrutiny and Overview Committee
14. If either the Council or the Scrutiny and Overview Committee fails to meet in accordance with the Council calendar or in accordance with paragraph 6 above, then the decision may be implemented on the next working day after the meeting was scheduled or arranged to take place.
15. **URGENCY:** The referral procedure shall not apply in respect of urgent decisions. A decision will be urgent if any delay likely to be caused by the referral process would seriously prejudice the Council's or the public's interests. The record of the decision and the notice by which it is made public shall state if the decision is urgent and therefore not subject to the referral process.

Signed: Acting Council Solicitor & Acting Monitoring Officer

Date: 02.11.16

Contact Officers: jim.simpson@croydon.gov.uk ; james.haywood@croydon.gov.uk

Telephone: 020 8726 6000 Ext. 62326 or 63319

PROFORMA

**REFERRAL OF A KEY DECISION TO THE
SCRUTINY AND OVERVIEW COMMITTEE**

For the attention of: Jim Simpson, Democratic Services & Scrutiny
e-mail to jim.simpson@croydon.gov.uk and james.haywood@croydon.gov.uk

Meeting:
Meeting Date:
Agenda Item No:

Reasons for referral:

- i) The decision is outside of the Policy Framework
- ii) The decision is inconsistent with the budget
- iii) The decision is inconsistent with another Council Policy
- iv) Other: Please specify:

The outcome desired:

**Information required to assist the Scrutiny and Overview Committee to consider
the referral:**

Signed:

Date:

Member of _____ Committee

REPORT TO:	Executive Director, People
AGENDA ITEM:	N/A
SUBJECT:	Education Estates - Pupil Referral Units
LEAD OFFICER:	Barbara Peacock - Executive Director, People Department Jane Doyle – Director, People Department
CABINET MEMBER:	Councillor Alisa Flemming, Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Learning
WARDS:	All
CORPORATE PRIORITY/POLICY CONTEXT/AMBITIOUS FOR CROYDON:	
The recommendations in this report contribute to achieving priority 3 of the independence strategy to provide people with the best opportunity to maximise their life chances and have a good quality of life through the provision of high quality universal services, including an excellent learning offer.	
FINANCIAL IMPACT	
The PRUs are funded from the High Needs Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG), which is currently under significant cost and demand pressures. It is anticipated that efficiencies will be found through the amalgamation of the PRUs.	
KEY DECISION REFERENCE NO: 0616PE. This is a key decision as defined in the Council's Constitution. The decision may be implemented from 1300 hours on the expiry of 5 working days after it is made, unless the decision is referred to the Scrutiny & Strategic Overview Committee by the requisite number of Councillors.	

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Executive Director, People, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Learning, having carefully considered the requirements of the Council's public sector equality duty in relation to the issues detailed in this report, is recommended to:

- 1.1 Consider the consultation feedback on the proposed amalgamation of Saffron Valley Pupil Referral Units (PRUs);
- 1.2 Agree that the PRUs can be amalgamated;
- 1.3 Authorise officers to implement the amalgamation of the PRUs as specified in the statutory notice.

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2.1 At the 11th July 2016 cabinet meeting (ref. A79/16) the Cabinet agreed the following recommendations:

- Officers can publish a statutory notice setting out details of the Saffron Valley Federation amalgamation proposal.
- Officers can undertake statutory consultation with stakeholders on the proposed amalgamation of the Saffron Valley Federation, comprising the Coningsby Pupil Referral Unit (PRU), the Phil Edwards PRU, Moving On and Cotelands PRUs.
- Following consideration of the consultation, that the Executive Director, People Department seeks authorisation from the Leader of the Council, to make the final decision whether or not to amalgamate Saffron Valley, in consultation with the Lead Member, within 2 months of the end of the consultation period.
- In the event the decision of the Executive Director is to agree amalgamation, that officers be authorised to implement the amalgamation proposal as specified in the statutory notice.

2.2 Delegated powers

On 02 September, the Leader of the Council agreed to the above recommendations (Executive decision ref. no. 58.16LR).

2.3 Pupil Referral Units (PRUs)

A PRU is a school established and maintained by Local Authorities (LAs) to provide suitable education for children who, by reason of illness, exclusion or otherwise, may not receive such education (section 19 of the Education Act 1996).

2.4 Saffron Valley PRUs

Saffron Valley PRUs are responsible for educating young people of secondary school age, who are unable to attend a mainstream school because they have been excluded from school, are at significant risk of exclusion from school or for other reasons they are not able to attend a mainstream school.

2.5 The PRUs have recently been reconfigured to provide a targeted focus on meeting the needs of specific cohorts of learners, including education for emotionally school based refusers and school age mothers; and tuition for children and young people who are temporarily out of mainstream school due to medical reasons.

2.6 The senior leadership team of the PRUs are already working with one management committee providing the strategic leadership across the sites and are in agreement with the proposed amalgamation of the PRUs.

2.7 The Proposal

The proposal is to amalgamate the Saffron Valley PRUs comprising of the Coningsby, Phil Edwards, Moving On and Cotelands into one PRU operating across five sites from 4 November 2016. All the PRUs were judged as 'Good' for overall effectiveness in their last inspection.

2.8 The main reasons for the proposed amalgamation of the PRUs are to deliver a quality bespoke curriculum across the PRUs; ensure best value for money; and allow tighter governance and accountability across the PRUs.

2.9 Statutory Notice and Consultation

A statutory notice was published on 07 September which started a four week consultation period on the proposed amalgamation of Saffron Valley PRUs. The consultation period ended on 05 October 2016.

2.10 Details of the proposed amalgamation of the PRUs were circulated to key stakeholders, including pupils, parents/carers, Ward Members and Member of Parliament. Stakeholders had the opportunity to express their views on the proposal to amalgamate the PRUs via email, post, including completion of a questionnaire, and at the public consultation meeting.

2.11 Summary of consultation findings

Overall, the responses received during the consultation period indicate that the majority of respondents are in support of the proposed amalgamation of the Saffron Valley PRUs:

- 67% 'strongly in favour' or 'In favour';
- 27% 'not sure';
- 3% 'not in favour';
- 3% gave no indication; and
- no one stated that they were 'strongly against'.

2.12 A total of 59 responses have been received from members of staff and management committee at Saffron Valley PRUs; other schools; parents/carers of children attending the PRUs and/or other schools; and local residents. Of the 59 responses the majority of respondents (28) selected 'strongly in favour' of the proposed amalgamation of the PRUs.

- 2.13 A total 10 people (mainly staff and members of the management committee) attended the public consultation meeting at the school on 14 September 2016 and are in support of the proposed amalgamation. A detailed consultation outcomes report is attached as Appendix 1.

3. DETAIL

Background

- 3.1 Under Section 19 of the Education Act 1996 Local Authorities have a statutory duty to arrange suitable education for permanently excluded pupils, and for pupils who – because of illness or other reasons – would not receive suitable education without such provision. Education outside of school, when it is arranged by Local Authorities or schools is called alternative provision. In such circumstance, pupils may be admitted to a Pupil Referral Unit (PRU).
- 3.2 Local Authorities are also under a general Duty of Best Value to “make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the way in which its functions are exercised, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness.” In deciding how to fulfil this duty, Local Authorities are required to consult stakeholders. (Section 3 Local Government Act 1999)
- 3.3 Regulation 4 of the Education (Pupil Referral Units) (Management Committees etc.) (England) Regulations 2007 allows the local authority to make arrangements for group of PRUs to operate jointly under one management committee.

Saffron Valley PRUs

- 3.4 There are currently four PRUs operating across five sites in Croydon as a ‘soft’ federation named ‘Saffron Valley Federation’. The management arrangements of the PRUs are federated under a single management committee and with one Head teacher to leading across the five sites.
- 3.5 The management committee will remove the word ‘Federation’ from its name and replace it with ‘Collegiate’. The PRUs will now be known as ‘Saffron Valley Collegiate’, from 4 November 2016, subject to the Executive Director’s approval that the PRUs can be amalgamated. This mean that the PRUs – Phil Edwards; Moving On and Cotelands will be technically closed; and the Coningsby PRU’s DfE registration number be retained/used for the amalgamated PRUs – Saffron Valley Collegiate.
- 3.6 The Saffron Valley PRUs were judged as ‘Good’ for overall effectiveness in their last inspection, therefore can be amalgamated without first receiving the Secretary of State’s approval.

Proposal

- 3.7 The proposal is to amalgamate the five PRUs - Coningsby, the Phil Edwards, Moving On and Cotelands, into one PRU – Saffron Valley Collegiate - whilst continuing to operate across the five sites, from 4 November 2016. The proposed amalgamation would not change the numbers on roll or the location of the students and therefore no additional building work would be required. In

addition, no change to the existing staffing structures or working arrangements is anticipated.

3.8 Reasons for the proposed amalgamation

Saffron Valley have been operating as a 'soft' federation under one management committee for 4 years, however they remain separate institutions. The four PRUs have recently appointed one Head teacher to lead across the five sites.

3.9 The proposed amalgamation of the PRUs are to:

- deliver a quality bespoke curriculum across the PRUs which better meets the needs of individual students, through academic, vocational and therapeutic pathways;
- ensure best value for money is achieved through joint purchasing power; and
- allow tighter governance and accountability across the PRUs, with one management committee, providing strategic leadership across the sites.

3.10 The amalgamation of the PRUs would result in:

- One PRU operating across five sites
- One management committee*
- One Department for Education registration number
- One Ofsted inspection
- One Head teacher*
(*already in place)

4. **CONSULTATION**

Statutory Notice and Consultation

- 4.1 On 11th July, Cabinet agreed that officers can publish a statutory notice setting out details of the Saffron Valley Federation amalgamation proposal; and can undertake statutory consultation with stakeholders on the proposed amalgamation of the Saffron Valley Federation, comprising the Coningsby Pupil Referral Unit (PRU), the Phil Edwards PRU, Moving On and Cotelands PRUs.

- 4.2 The Council followed the statutory process outlined in the DfE statutory guidance for proposers, governing bodies and decision makers“Making ‘prescribed alterations’ to maintained schools April 2016” The Council also had regard to the “Opening and Closing maintained schools” April 2016 statutory guidance.
- 4.3 A Statutory Notice was published 07 September which started a four week consultation period on the proposed amalgamation of the PRUs. A public meeting was held at the school on the 14 September. A consultation document, including a questionnaire, was used as a basis for informing and seeking the views of stakeholders.
- 4.4 Details of the consultation was widely publicised, using different means/modes of communication e.g. website, newspaper, school bulletin, displayed in local library and emailed to Ward Councillors and Member of Parliament and trade unions. Anyone with an interest had the opportunity to express their views in writing, including completion of an online questionnaire or verbally at the public meeting. The consultation period ended on 5th October 2016.
- 4.5 Consultation findings
Responses received during the consultation period, including comments made at the public meetings, have been analysed and a consultation outcomes report produced and attached at Appendix 1.
- 4.6 Overall, the responses received during the consultation period indicate that the majority of respondents support the proposed amalgamation of the Saffron Valley PRUs, with 67% of respondents ‘strongly in favour, or ;in favour’. Table 1 below shows the breakdown of responses – number and percentage - from those who completed the questionnaire.
- 4.7 Consultation questionnaire response

Response	Number	Percentage
Strongly in favour	28	48%
In favour	11	19%
Not sure	16	27%
Not in favour	2	3%
Strongly against	0	0%
No indication	2	3%
Total	59	100%

Table 1

- 4.8 A total of 59 responses have been received from members of staff and management committee at Saffron Valley PRUs; other schools; parents/carers of children attending the PRUs and/or other schools; and local residents. Of the 59 responses the majority of respondents (28) selected ‘strongly in favour’ of the proposed amalgamation of the PRUs.
- 4.9 Public meeting

A public consultation meeting was held at Coningsby PRU on 14th September 2016. The purpose of the meeting was to inform stakeholders about the proposal to amalgamate Saffron Valley PRUs; seek their views on the proposal; and respond to questions. A total of 10 people (mainly staff and members of the management committee) attended the public meeting on 14 September 2016.

- 4.10 The following points/comments were made in support of the proposed amalgamation of the PRUs:
- Streamlining leadership
 - One point of contact
 - Sharing of resources
 - Improved outcomes for the young people.
- 4.11 From the completed consultation questionnaire and comments, there is strong support for the amalgamation of the PRUs. Respondents mentioned a number of benefits for amalgamating the PRUs, ranging from benefits to pupils, staff and cost efficiencies.
- 4.12 A detailed consultation outcomes report has been produced and attached at Appendix 1.

5. Instrument of Government

In accordance with 'The Pupil Referral Units (Miscellaneous Amendments) (England) Regulations 2012', Local Authorities must make an instrument of government for the management committee of the PRUs maintained by the authority. The instrument of government must contain the name of the PRU (or the PRUs in the group) and the composition of the management committee. The Local Authority or Management Committee can review the instrument of government at any time.

5.1 Amendment of Instrument of Government - Saffron Valley PRUs

Subject to agreement that the Saffron Valley PRUs can be amalgamated, an amended 'Instrument of Government' will be submitted to the Executive Director for signing and a copy sent to the DfE.

PRU 99 form

- 5.2 Subject to the agreement for the PRUs to be amalgamated, a PRU 99 form will be completed for each PRU to notify the DfE of the changes, including the PRU that will incorporate the other PRUs and retain its existing number.

6 FINANCIAL AND RISK ASSESSMENT CONSIDERATIONS

6.1 Revenue and Capital consequences of report recommendations

The DSG budget for the PRUs is as follows:

Current year	Medium Term Financial Strategy – 3 year forecast		
2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20

	<i>£'000</i>	<i>£'000</i>	<i>£'000</i>	<i>£'000</i>
DSG Budget available				
Expenditure	4,329	4,229		
Income				
Effect of decision from report				
Expenditure	4,329	4,229		
Income				
Remaining budget	0	0		
Capital Budget available				
Expenditure				
Effect of decision from report				
Expenditure				
Remaining budget				

6.2 The effect of the decision

The 2017/18 DSG budget has been set using the assumption that budget savings of £100k can be made through efficiencies from the federation of the PRUs and through a move to pupil lead, rather than place lead funding.

6.3 Risks

The budget assumes that there is no increased demand, beyond the place numbers currently available and that the PRUs, once federated, will establish efficiency savings through their budget setting process.

6.4 Options

We have taken into consideration the academy/free schools presumption duty in Section 6A of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 which requires local authorities to seek proposals to establish an Alternative Provision (AP) academy or AP free school where there is an identified need for new AP schools in the borough. We have considered the presumption duty and determined that it is not engaged as the proposed amalgamation of the existing PRUs does not constitute a new school.

6.5 Future savings/efficiencies

It is anticipated that the move to pupil lead funding from place lead funding will lead to the PRU places being fully utilised and a saving will be made from the Alternative Provision (AP) budget. Currently we are in a position where not all places are full, but AP provision is being purchased.

Approved by Lisa Taylor, Assistant Director of Finance and Deputy 151 Officer

7. COMMENTS OF THE COUNCIL SOLICITOR AND MONITORING OFFICER

- 7.1 The Council solicitor comments that under Section 6A of the Education and Inspections Act 2006, if a local authority in England thinks a new school needs to be established in their area, they must seek proposals for the establishment of an Academy.
- 7.2 Under Section 19 of the Education Act 1996, local authorities shall make arrangements for the provision of suitable education for those children of compulsory school age who, by reason of illness, exclusion from school or otherwise, may not for any period receive suitable education unless such arrangements are made for them. A pupil referral unit is a school which is specially organised to provide education for such children.
- 7.3 Section 19(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006, as amended by the Education Act 2011 provides that where the local authority proposes to make a prescribed alteration to a maintained school, the local authority is required to publish their proposals.
- 7.4 The statutory guidance "Making prescribed alterations to maintained schools" April 2016 confirms that the statutory process for making prescribed alterations to schools has four stages:
 - 1. Publication of the statutory proposal/notice
 - 2. Representation (formal consultation)
 - 3. Decision
 - 4. Implementation

- 7.5 The local authority has a duty of best value under Section 3 Local Government Act 1999 to secure continuous improvement in the way its functions are exercised having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness
Regulation 4 of the Education (Pupil Referral Units)(Management Committees etc.)(England) Regulations 2007 enables the local authority to make arrangements for the establishment of a committee to act as the management committee for several PRUs.

(Approved by: Jacqueline Harris-Baker Acting Council Solicitor and Acting Monitoring Officer.)

8. HUMAN RESOURCES IMPACT

- 8.1 There are no direct Human Resources implications arising from this report for Croydon Council employees

(Approved by: Debbie Calliste, HR Business Partner, on behalf of the Director of Human Resources)

9. EQUALITIES IMPACT

- 9.1 An initial equality analysis of the proposed amalgamation has been undertaken which shows that the proposed amalgamation is likely to be neutral and will not have an adverse impact on protected group.

10. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

- 10.1 None

11. CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION IMPACT

- 11.1 None

12. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS/PROPOSED DECISION

- 12.1 To deliver a quality bespoke curriculum across the federation which better meets the needs of individual students, through academic, vocational and therapeutic pathways.
- 12.2 To ensure best value for money is achieved through joint purchasing power.
- 12.3 To allow tighter governance and accountability across the PRUs, with one management committee, providing strategic leadership across the sites.

13. OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

- 13.1 An alternative option would have been to do nothing which would not have realised the benefits of amalgamation.

CONTACT OFFICER: Jennifer Duxbury, Head of School Place Planning and Admissions/

BACKGROUND PAPERS - LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

None

Appendix 1 – Consultation outcomes report

**PROPOSED AMALGAMATION OF SAFFRON VALLEY PUPIL REFERRAL
UNITS:**

**THE CONINGSBY
THE PHIL EDWARDS
MOVING ON
COTELANDS**

CONSULTATION OUTCOMES REPORT

Contents

	Page no.
Introduction	2
Background	2-3
Publication of Statutory Notice and Consultation	3-4
Communication and Consultation activities	4-5
Consultation feedback	4-5
• Key findings	
• Key points in support of the proposed amalgamation	
• Consultation questionnaire	
• Public consultation meeting	
Equality Impact Assessment	5
Next steps	5
Appendix 1: Detailed analysis of responses, including demographics of respondents	6-12

1. Introduction

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the: Management Committee of Saffron Valley Pupil Referral Units' (PRUs); Council's Executive Director, People Department, and the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Learning with the outcomes of the consultation for the proposed amalgamation of the Saffron Valley PRUs.

1.2 Saffron Valley PRUs comprise of:

- The Coningsby
- The Phil Edwards
- Moving On
- Cotelands; which includes Springboard Tuition Service.

1.3 The PRUs are responsible for educating young people of secondary school age, who are unable to attend a mainstream school because they have been excluded from school, are at significant risk of exclusion from school or for other reasons are not able to attend a mainstream school. All the PRUs were judged as 'Good' for overall effectiveness in their last Ofsted inspections.

Consultation proposal

1.4 The proposal is to amalgamate the Saffron Valley PRUs into one PRU, whilst continuing to operate across the five sites, from 04 November 2016. This means that the PRUs would have one Department for Education registration number, one Ofsted inspection and one Head-teacher.

1.5 The proposed amalgamation would not change the numbers on roll or the location of the students and therefore no additional building work would be required. In addition, no change to the existing staffing structures or working arrangement is anticipated.

1.6 The senior leadership team of the PRUs are already working as one management committee providing the strategic leadership across the sites and are in agreement with the proposed amalgamation.

1.7 This report is based on the responses received during the consultation period following the publication of the statutory notice where anyone with an interest could support, object or comment on the proposed amalgamation of Saffron Valley PRUs.

2. Background

2.1 There are currently four PRUs operating over five sites in Croydon under a single management committee called Saffron Valley. One

Head teacher has been appointed to lead across the sites; however, the PRUs remain separate institutions.

- 2.2 The PRUs have recently been configured to provide a targeted focus on meeting the needs of specific cohorts of learners and are located:
- The Coningsby PRU is located at 45 Coombe Road, Croydon CR0 1BQ. The Coningsby PRU will provide education for young people in Years 7 to 9.
 - The Phil Edwards PRU is located at 17 Sylvan Road, London SE19 2RU. From September 2016, this PRU will provide education for young people in Years 10 and 11.
 - Moving On PRU is located at South London House, 279 High Street, Croydon CR0 1QH. The PRU will provide education for young people in Years 10 and 11.
 - Cotelands PRU ,co-located at John Ruskin College Selsdon Park Road, Forestdale, South Croydon CR2 8JJ and Springboard Service,170 Sanderstead Road, Sanderstead ,Croydon CR2 0LY. Cotelands will provide education for emotionally school based refusers and school age mothers in years 10 and 11. Springboard provide tuition from reception to year 11, for young people who are temporarily out of mainstream school. This is usually, but not solely, due to medical reasons.

3. Publication of Statutory Notice and Consultation

- 3.1 The Council carried out appropriate consultation with stakeholders by following the guidelines in the Department for Education- Making 'prescribed alterations' to maintained schools guidance for proposers, governing bodies and decision-makers. A Statutory Notice was published, which started a four week representation period - 07 September to 05 October 2016; and invited anyone with an interest to make representations, comment or object to the proposed amalgamation of the PRUs.
- 3.2 The statutory notice was published in the local Croydon Guardian newspaper, on the Council's and PRUs' websites and displayed on the gates of the PRUs.
- 3.3 Communication and Consultation activities
A variety of methods of communication were used to inform stakeholders and enable them to feedback their views on the proposed amalgamation of Saffron Valley PRUs. A consultation document including a questionnaire was used to inform stakeholders about the proposal and give them the opportunity to express their views in writing via the completion of the questionnaire (online and paper copy), email;

and post- and verbally at the public meeting at the school.

3.4 Communication activities included the circulation of the consultation document, including the questionnaire via:

- Schools E- Bulletin to all of the schools in the borough
- Email to Ward Cllrs, MPs and Trade Unions
- Online – on the schools / council website and online questionnaire

A poster advertising the consultation and public meeting was displayed in the Central library. The Statutory Notice was published in the local newspaper.

3.5 Public meeting at Coningsby PRU

A public consultation meeting was held at Coningsby PRU on Wednesday 14 September 2016. Presentation about the proposed amalgamation was given by a representative from the Council and Saffron Valley PRUs. The presentation covered: the current and proposed structure of the PRUs; and rationale for and benefits of the proposed amalgamation. The meeting was also used to seek attendees' views on the proposal and respond to their questions.

3.6 A total of 10 people, including the Chair of the Management Committee attended the public meeting. Attendees at the meeting expressed support for the proposed amalgamation. The questions raised were mainly about the process/procedure and timetable. No one objected to the proposed amalgamation.

4 Consultation feedback

4.1 Key findings

- The majority of respondents support the proposed amalgamation of the PRUs
- The majority of respondents are a member of staff at the Saffron Valley PRUs
- The management committee support the amalgamation of the PRUs
- No respondents cited 'strongly against' the proposed amalgamation of the PRUs.

4.2 Key points in support of the proposed amalgamation

- Streamlining leadership
- One point of contact
- Sharing of resources
- Improved outcomes for the young people.

4.3 Consultation questionnaire

Stakeholders had the option to express their views on the proposed amalgamation of the PRUs by selecting from the range of 'strong in favour' to 'strongly against'. Additionally, respondents had the opportunity to comment on the proposal.

- 4.4 A total of 59 people completed the consultation questionnaire (8 online and 51 paper copies). Of which:
- 28 are 'strongly in favour';
 - 11 'in favour';
 - 16 'not sure';
 - 2 'not in favour'; and
 - 2 gave no indication.

4.5 Public consultation meeting

A member of the School's leadership team along with a representative from the council gave a presentation to explain the processes and rationale for the proposed amalgamation, and gave the opportunity for attendees to ask questions and give their views on the proposal. A total of 10 people attended the public meeting that was held at the Coningsby PRU on Wednesday 14 September 2016.

5. Equality Impact Assessment

- 5.1 An initial equality analysis of the proposed amalgamation has been undertaken which shows that the proposed amalgamation is likely to be neutral and will not have an adverse impact on the protected group.

6 Next steps

- 6.1 The consultation outcomes report will be published and circulated to stakeholders, including the management committee of Saffron Valley PRUs, to feedback the findings on the proposed amalgamation. The outcomes report will also be used by the Council, as the decision maker, to decide whether to agree the proposal to amalgamate the Saffron Valley PRUs. Subject to approval, the PRUs will be implemented from the 04 November 2016, and the PRUs will be known as 'Saffron Valley Collegiate'.

End

(Please see Appendix 1 below for detailed analysis of responses)

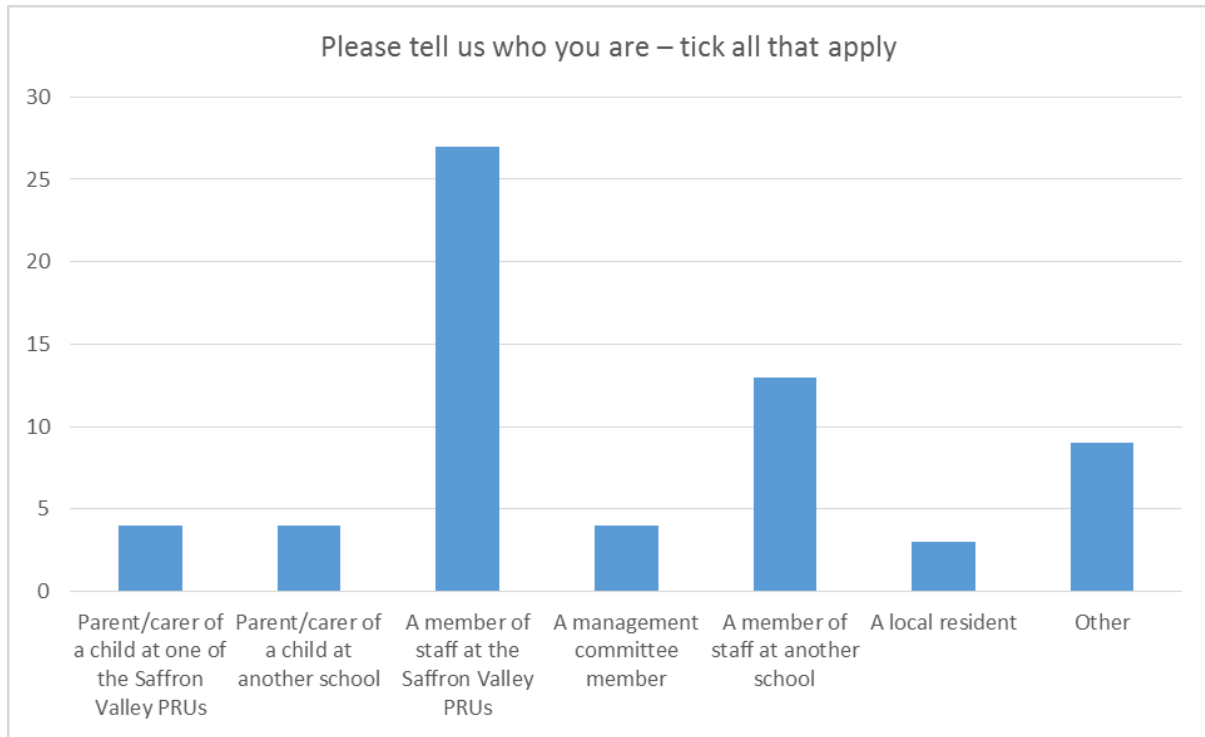
Appendix 1

Proposed amalgamation of Saffron Valley Pupil Referral Units – Detailed Analysis of Questionnaire responses.

1. Please tell us who you are – tick all that apply*

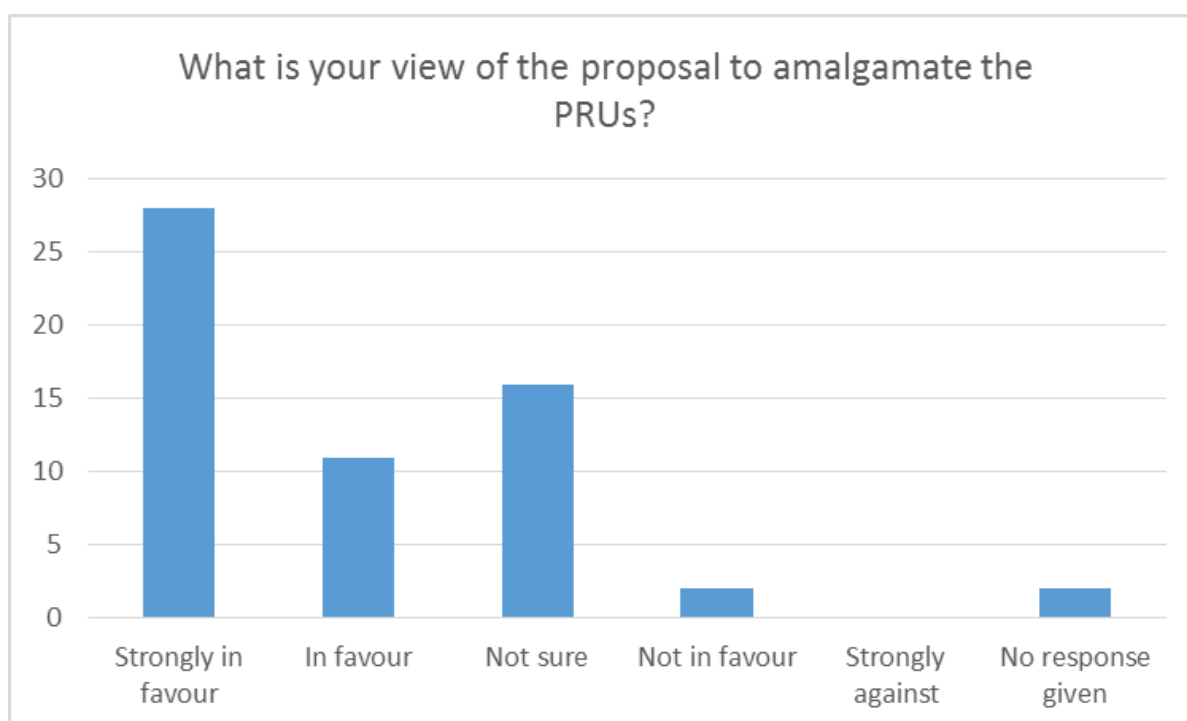
*64 responses received from 59 Applicants.

Response	Number	Percentage
Parent/carer of a child at a Saffron Valley PRUs	4	6%
Parent/carer of a child at another school	4	6%
A member of staff at the Saffron Valley PRUs	27	42%
A management committee member	4	6%
A member of staff at another school	13	21%
A local resident	3	5%
Other	9	14%
Total	64	100%



2. What is your view of the proposal to amalgamate the PRUs?

Response	Number	Percentage
Strongly in favour	28	48%
In favour	11	19%
Not sure	16	27%
Not in favour	2	3%
Strongly against	0	0%
No response given	2	3%
Total	59	100%



- **Strongly in favour – 28 responses**
 - 3 were parents/carers of a child at another school
 - 1 of which is also a member of staff at another school
 - 8 were members of staff at the Saffron Valley PRUs
 - 4 were a management committee member of the Saffron Valley PRU
 - 8 were members of staff at another school
 - 5 selected 'other'.
- **In favour – 11 responses**
 - 5 were members of staff at Saffron Valley PRUs
 - 2 were local residents
 - 3 were members of staff at another school

- 1 selected 'other'
- **Not sure – 16 responses**
 - 4 were parents/carers of a child at one of the Saffron Valley PRUs
 - 2 of which were also members of staff at Saffron Valley PRUs
 - 1 of which was also a member of staff at Saffron Valley PRUs and selected 'other'
 - 1 was a parent/carer of a child at another school
 - 10 were members of staff at Saffron Valley PRUs
 - 1 selected 'other'
- **Not in favour – 2 responses**
 - 1 was a member of staff at Saffron Valley PRUs
 - 1 selected 'other'
- **Strongly against – 0 responses**
- **No response given – 2**
 - 1 was a member of staff at another school
 - 1 was a local resident

3. Please use the space below to add any other comments or views on the proposal.

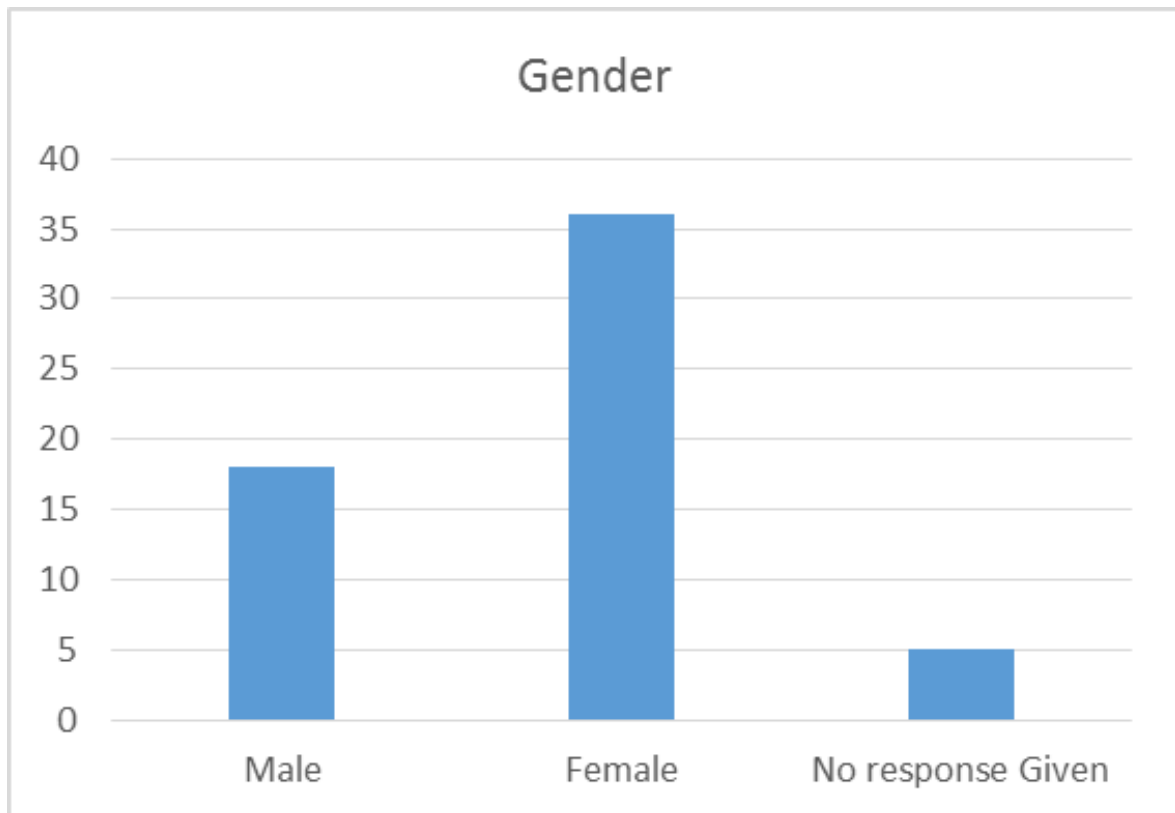
Below are some of the comments made on the questionnaire:

- *The amalgamation appears to me to ensure a more efficient use of resources and lack of duplication. A consistent approach across the PRU's*
- *Children unable to attend mainstream schools may benefit from being in smaller groups thus receiving more attention in both education, improving social skills and any other*
- *In order to strengthen and secure the provision for our pupils this is the next step. Budgets, shared good practise and economies of scale are only a few of the points. The pupils' welfare is key.*
- *I think this will thoroughly support students and their education*
- *The amalgamation of the PRUs will allow the provision to be streamlined and the resources be used more cost effectively; ensuring that these challenging students reach their full potential in the correct setting.*
- *This will promote cohesive and stronger leadership across alt. provisions. Also enables single point of contact for external agencies.*

About You

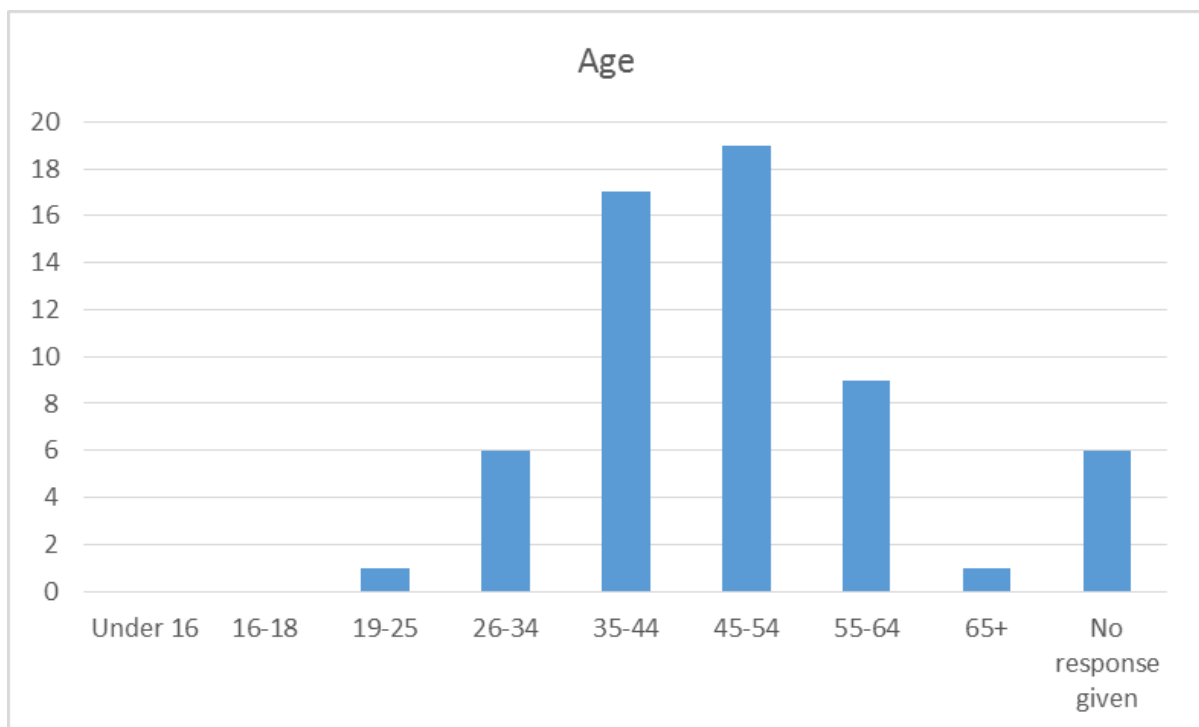
Gender

Response	Number	Percentage
Male	18	31%
Female	36	61%
No response Given	5	8%
Total	59	100%



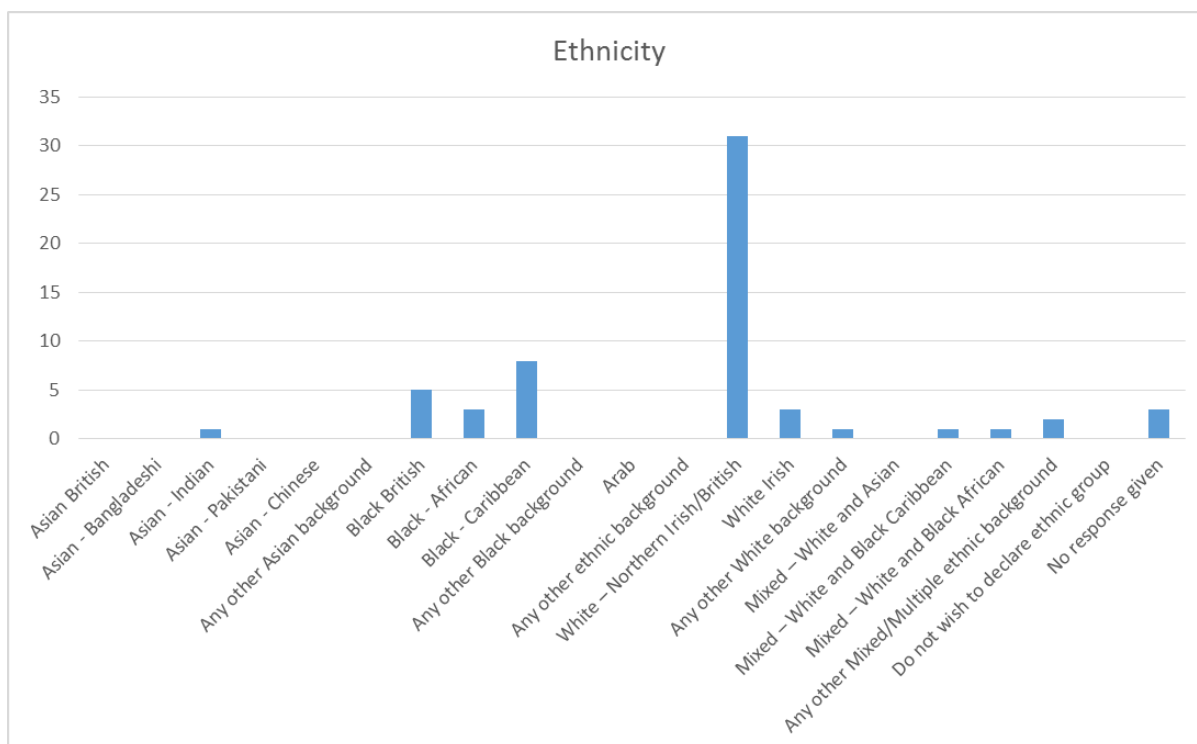
Age Range

Response	Number	Percentage
Under 16	0	0%
16-18	0	0%
19-25	1	1%
26-34	6	10%
35-44	17	29%
45-54	19	33%
55-64	9	16%
65+	1	1%
No response given	6	10%
Total	59	100%



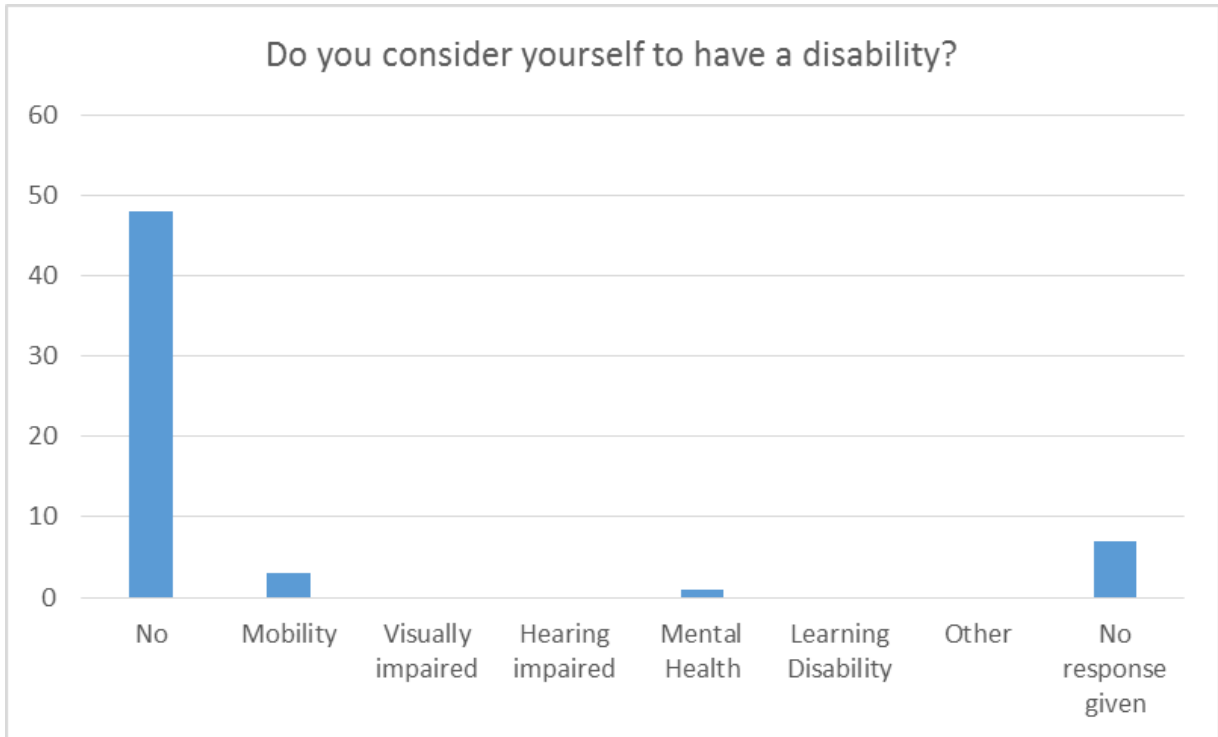
Ethnicity

Responses	Number	Percentage
Asian British	0	0%
Asian - Bangladeshi	0	0%
Asian - Indian	1	1%
Asian - Pakistani	0	0%
Asian - Chinese	0	0%
Any other Asian background	0	0%
Black British	5	8%
Black - African	3	6%
Black - Caribbean	8	14%
Any other Black background	0	0%
Arab	0	0%
Any other ethnic background	0	0%
White – Northern Irish/British	31	53%
White Irish	3	6%
Any other White background	1	1%
Mixed – White and Asian	0	0%
Mixed – White and Black Caribbean	1	1%
Mixed – White and Black African	1	1%
Any other Mixed/Multiple ethnic background	2	3%
Do not wish to declare ethnic group	0	0%
No response given	3	6%
Total	59	100%



Do you consider yourself to have a disability?

Possible Responses	Number of Responses	Percentage
No	48	81%
Mobility	3	5%
Visually impaired	0	0%
Hearing impaired	0	0%
Mental Health	1	2%
Learning Disability	0	0%
Other	0	0%
No response given	7	12%
Total	59	100%



END