

## MATTERS TO BE SPECIFIED IN SECTION 15 PROPOSALS TO DISCONTINUE A SCHOOL

*Insert the information asked for in the expandable box below each section.*

### Contact details

1. The name of the local education authority or governing body publishing the proposals, and a contact address, and the name of the school it is proposed that should be discontinued.

Cumbria County Council,  
Contact :- Mike Tuer, School Organisation Project Team, 18 Portland Square,  
Carlisle CA1 1PE  
NORTH CUMBRIA TECHNOLOGY COLLEGE (DCSF No.5408) Edgehill Road  
Carlisle CA1 3SL and  
ST AIDAN'S COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL (DCSF No 5403), Lismore Place, Carlisle  
CA1 1LY

### Implementation

2. The date when it is planned that the proposals will be implemented, or where the proposals are to be implemented in stages, information about each stage and the date on which each stage is planned to be implemented.

31 August 2009

### Consultation

3. A statement to the effect that all applicable statutory requirements to consult in relation to the proposals were complied with.

All applicable statutory requirements to consult in relation to the proposal were complied with in that Cumbria County Council undertook appropriate consultations on possible changes to the existing schools in Carlisle during June to September 2006.

4. Evidence of the consultation before the proposals were published including—
- (a) a list of persons and/or parties who were consulted;
  - (b) minutes of all public consultation meetings;
  - (c) the views of the persons consulted; and
  - (d) copies of all consultation documents and a statement of how these were made available.

- (a) See attached distribution list
- (b) See attached notes of public meetings
- (c) See attached report and attachments
- (d) See attached consultation document. This was distributed as in (a), available at the school and appropriate public places such as the local libraries and on-line through the County Council website.

### **Objectives**

5. The objectives of the proposal.

The effect of the proposal will be to close North Cumbria Technology College (NCTC) and St Aidan's County High School on 31 August 2009. The intention is to replace these with a Central Carlisle Academy to be built on the site of the existing St Aidan's County High School.

### **Standards and Diversity**

6. A statement and supporting evidence indicating how the proposals will impact on the standards, diversity and quality of education in the area.

The Authority with the support of the Learning and Skills Council for Cumbria (LSC) have brought forward the proposals as they consider that the creation of an Academy will be in the best educational interest of current and future pupils.

### **Provision for 16 -19 year olds**

7. Where the school proposed to be discontinued provides sixth form education, how the proposals will impact on—

- (a) the educational or training achievements;
- (b) participation in education or training; and
- (c) the range of educational or training opportunities,

for 16-19 year olds in the area.

The intention is to expand the range of courses available through greater cooperation with the other secondary schools and the College of Further Education and use of the proposed 14-19 Centre and through that increase the staying on rates at 16+.

### **Need for places**

8. A statement and supporting evidence about the need for places in the area including whether there is sufficient capacity to accommodate displaced pupils.

The proposals will reduce the large number of unfilled places currently in the secondary schools in Carlisle. There will be sufficient places to accommodate all the pupils in the Carlisle area during when all the projects are completed.

9. Where the school has a religious character, a statement about the impact of the proposed closure on the balance of denominational provision in the area and the impact on parental choice.

Not applicable.

### Current School Information

10. Information as to the numbers, age range, sex and special educational needs of pupils (distinguishing between boarding and day pupils) for whom provision is made at the school.

NCTC and St Aidan's School cater for both boys and girls aged 11-18. In January 2007 there were 441 pupils on roll at NCTC and 1482 at St Aidan's.

### Displaced Pupils

11. Details of the schools or further education colleges which pupils at the school for whom provision is to be discontinued will be offered places, including—

- (a) any interim arrangements;
- (b) where the school included provision that is recognised by the local education authority as reserved for children with special educational needs, the alternative provision to be made for pupils in the school's reserved provision; and
- (c) in the case of special schools, alternative provision made by local education authorities other than the authority which maintains the school.

It is intended that the Academy will open on 1 September 2009 initially in the same buildings as currently occupied by the existing North Cumbria Technology College and St Aidan's County High School and in temporary buildings on one or both of those sites. The Academy, when the new premises are completed and numbers of pupils allow, will be situated entirely on the site of the existing St Aidan's County High School.

12. Details of any other measures proposed to be taken to increase the number of school or further education college places available in consequence of the proposed discontinuance.

## **Impact on the Community**

**13.** A statement and supporting evidence about the impact on the community and any measures proposed to mitigate any adverse impact.

The intention is that some of the buildings and facilities at NCTC site will be available for Community use once the site is vacated.

**14.** Details of extended services the school offered and what it is proposed for these services once the school has discontinued.

The intention is to continue and enhance the further education courses currently provided at the two schools.

## **Travel**

**15.** Details of length and journeys to alternative provision.

NCTC is situated approximately 2.5 miles from St Aidan's site. Around 65% of the pupils living in the catchment area of NCTC attend schools in the centre of Carlisle. This leaves initially up to 340 pupils who may have to travel slightly further to the St Aidan's site than they otherwise would have to NCTC.

**16.** The proposed arrangements for travel of displaced pupils to other schools including how they will help to work against increased car use.

It is anticipated that once the work on the building projects are completed that the number of pupils travelling into central Carlisle will be reduced with an overall consequential reduction in the number of car journeys. This is a result of both the reduction in the number of places available in the central Carlisle Schools and the projected reduction in the number of pupils overall. At post 16 fewer car/bus journeys will be required for students as they will mainly be based in the centre of Carlisle thus allowing access on foot between the schools, including the Central Carlisle Academy, the 14-19 Centre and Carlisle College of Further Education.

## **Related Proposals.**

**17.** A statement as to whether in the opinion of the local education authority or governing body, the proposals are related to any other proposals which may have been, are, or are about to be published.

The final decision on the establishment of the Academy will be made by the Secretary of State at the end of the feasibility stage. Any decision on the outcome of these proposals will be subject to that approval.

--

**Rural Primary Schools**

18. Where proposals relate to a rural primary school designated as such by an order made for the purposes of section 15 of the EIA 2006, a statement that the local education authority or the governing body (as the case may be) considered—

- (a) the likely effect of discontinuance of the school on the local community;
- (b) the availability, and likely cost to the local education authority, of transport to other schools;
- (c) any increase in the use of motor vehicles which is likely to result from the discontinuance of the school, and the likely effects of any such increase; and
- (d) any alternatives to the discontinuance of the school,

as required by section 15(4) of the EIA 2006.

Not applicable.
-----------------

**Maintained nursery schools**

19. Where proposals relate to the discontinuance of a maintained nursery school, a statement setting out—

- (a) the consideration that has been given to developing the school into a children’s centre and the grounds for not doing so;
- (b) the body’s assessment of the quality and quantity of the alternative provision compared to the school proposed to be discontinued and the proposed arrangements to ensure the expertise and specialism continues to be available; and
- (c) the accessibility and convenience of replacement provision for local parents.

Not applicable.
-----------------

**Special educational provision**

20. Where existing provision for pupils with special educational needs is being discontinued, a statement as to how the local education authority or the governing body believes the proposal is likely to lead to improvements in the standard, quality and/or range of the educational provision for these children.

Not applicable.
-----------------