

# North Somerset Council

## Report to the Executive

**Date of Meeting: 27 April 2022**

**Subject of Report: Consultation Outcomes and Revised Budget for the Expansion and Creation of a Second Site for Baytree School – 2023/24 School Year**

**Town or Parish: All**

**Officer/Member Presenting: Cllr Catherine Gibbons, Executive Member for Children's Services & Lifelong Learning**

**Key Decision: Yes**

**Reason: Pupils attend Baytree School from their homes across North Somerset**

## Recommendations

1. That the Executive approves the expansion and creation of a second site for Baytree School, The Campus, Highlands Lane, Weston super Mare from a 72-place provision to a 120-place school located on the existing site and a new site off Brookfield Walk, Clevedon with effect from, at the earliest, 1 September 2023.
2. That the Executive approves the additional capital budget of £3,202,020 as noted within the financial section of this report to enable a revised project budget of £18,297,020.

### 1. Summary of Report

- 1.1 In September and October 2019 the Council asked for views on its proposal to expand Baytree School onto a second site. The expansion, if agreed, will take the school from operating as a single-site school at The Campus in Weston-super-Mare, that currently caters for around 72 pupils, to a two-site school with additional provision for between 65 and 85 pupils at the new location, off Brookfield Walk in Clevedon. Whilst the provision across the two sites is future proofed to allow for at least 157 places to be physically available, initially the expansion is looking for the two sites to offer around 120 school places across both locations.
- 1.2 Between September 2019 and January 2022 several challenges to the location of the second site delayed the planning approval determination and the progression of this school organisation process. The use of the proposed location for the new school site had been the subject of an unsuccessful Town and Village Green request. In addition, the Planning Application had to be submitted, following Committee approval, to the then Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government for approval due to its location in green belt land and objections

from the Environment Agency which have now been resolved. Also, the Planning Authority asked for additional noise and air quality assessments to be undertaken over at least a six-month period to prove the site was appropriate for development as part of the pre-commencement conditions. The Planning and a subsequent Appropriation determination were also the subject of Judicial Reviews that went to both written and oral hearings, both of which were unsuccessful.

Noting the delay in potential delivery of the expansion from the initial request for views received from stakeholders in 2019, a second period of consultation was undertaken between 20 September to 22 October 2021 inclusive <https://n-somerset.inconsult.uk/BaytreeSchoolSupplementary/consultationHome> . This was to ensure that any changes in responses due to the time between initially seeking opinions and the new date for delivery of the expansion could be fully considered.

- 1.3 Overall there were 428 responses to the first and 88 responses to the second e.Consult consultations by their closing dates.

In October 2019, 96% of those responding agreed there is a need to create more places for pupils with Severe and Profound Learning Difficulties (S&PLD). This reduced to just over 85% in October 2021. In October 2019, 93% of consultees agreed that to take more pupils, Baytree School needs to expand onto a second site. This reduced to just under 80% by October 2021. In October 2019, when asked if the second site should be located within easy reach of most homes and within easy reach of the current Baytree School, 87% agreed with this proposal. This reduced to around 78% by October 2021. The overall support for proposals of 90% in 2019 reduced to just under 70% in 2021. Whilst 13% indicated they had equalities concerns in 2019 and this rose to 22% in 2021, the numbers of those with protected characteristics who responded to the consultation fell from two to one.

One of the reasons for the change could have been that those responding with a direct connection with the school had fallen from 49 to 12 between consultation periods. In general, those with a connection to the school were more likely to support the proposals.

- 1.4 The full responses to the consultations are attached to this report as Appendices 1 and 2.
- 1.5 A Statutory Notice was published on 17 February 2022 and ran for four weeks. Two responses were received within this period, both of which support the expansion of Baytree School on a new site. A response from the school's Governing Board was received after the closing date and was also in support of the proposals. The full responses can be seen in Appendix 3.
- 1.6 The project has experienced extensive delays due to the reasons listed in 1.2 above and including a Judicial Review challenge. This, timed and combined with historical levels of inflation within the construction industry together with need to ensure robust project management, requires additional funding of £3.2m to be allocated to the project to ensure it meets its programme requirements.

## **2. Policy**

- 2.1 Section 14 of the Education Act 1996 provides Local Authorities (LAs) with a statutory duty to ensure that there are sufficient schools for primary and secondary education in their areas.

The School Admissions Code does not apply to special schools. Governing Bodies of all categories of special school, and LAs for community special schools, may seek to increase the number of places by following a statutory process, if the increase is by:

- 10%; or
- 20 pupils (or five pupils if the school is a boarding-only school), (whichever is the smaller number).

As the school will increase in size by more than 10% and more than 20 pupils, a formal process must be followed on this occasion.

- 2.2 In addition, where the main entrance of a proposed new site for a school would be more than two miles from the main entrance of the current school site, LAs can propose the transfer to an entirely new site for community special schools following a statutory process.

The current site is not capable of expansion. As this is a second site for this school, the creation of a new location has been included in the expansion consultations alongside the increase in the numbers of places.

- 2.3 The Council's agreed [Education Provision in North Somerset - A Commissioning Strategy 2021-2024 \(n-somerset.gov.uk\)](https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/education-provision-in-north-somerset-a-commissioning-strategy-2021-2024) is the policy base for any local decisions.

Special schools can be considered for expansion when they are classed by Ofsted as good or outstanding, there is a proven demand for places, where any building works will increase capacity but also enhance and assist to resolve condition issues, and where the increase fits with the Council's strategic principles as outlined in its commissioning strategy. Baytree School is a 'good' school, there is demand for places and the new site meets the growing suitability requirements of many of Baytree's pupils.

- 2.4 This consultation is not about the merits or otherwise of a second site for Baytree School in Clevedon, but rather about the need for an expansion that requires a new site as the current buildings are not capable of further enlargement. The strength of feeling from local residents to a proposed site is however evident in the responses and cannot be isolated from the proposal overall.

### **3. Details**

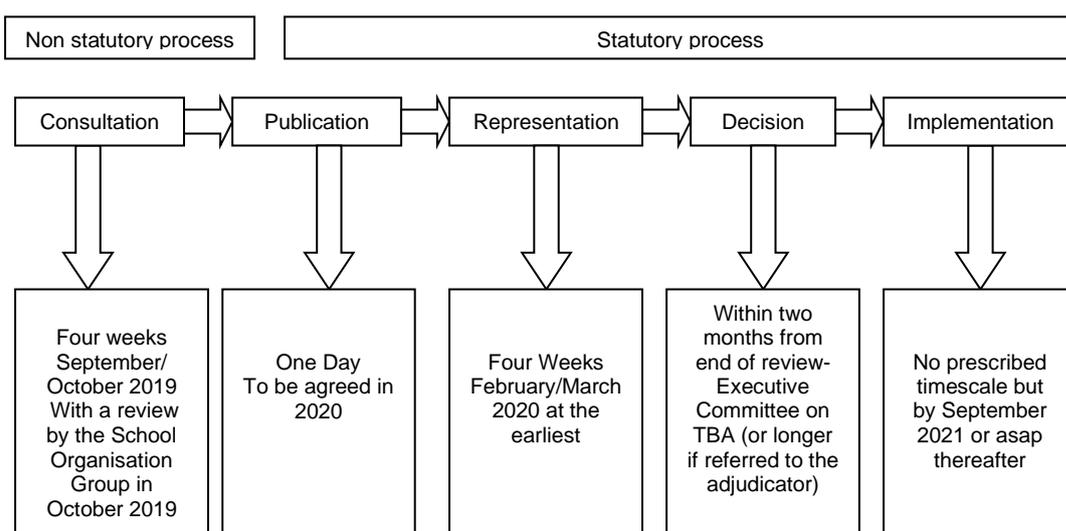
- 3.1 Baytree School is the only school in North Somerset designated to provide education to children with profound and complex learning difficulties. The school needs the capacity to offer more places to meet increasing demand. In addition, the current two-storey site does not include hoist systems or offer a fire-resistant lift, so as well as being undersized to meet demand, it is also no longer capable of meeting the physical needs of those pupils who require assistance or who are unable to use stairs. Initial statistics outlining the reasoning behind the proposed Baytree School expansion can be found in the following document: [Baytree consultation key facts and figures.pdf \[228.08 KB\]](#)

- 3.2 The consultation responses in 2019 showed that, whilst there was overwhelming support for the need for extra school places on a new site, there was considerable opposition from some to its proposed location in Clevedon. Working through the necessary steps to secure a site with planning approval has delayed the progress of the school expansion. This is because, before a decision is taken that will result in the allocation of places to named individuals, the Council needs to be certain it can deliver the new site and that the school will be ready to receive pupils.
- 3.3 Work to get to these committee decisions has included a significant site review process (528 in total), dealing with a Town and Village Green application for the school site, a robust planning application approval process that included overcoming objections from a statutory consultee and a referral, in line with policy, the Secretary of State (SoS) for Housing, Communities and Local Government and a Judicial Review of both the Planning and Site Appropriation processes. The delays have resulted in two school change consultations being needed due to the delays between starting the change process in 2019 and being ready to start the delivery of the scheme on site.
- 3.4 The expansion of Baytree School is part of a wider strategy to meet the needs of pupils requiring places in North Somerset special schools. Once Baytree School can expand into its new site, a review of its space on its current site will be undertaken. Noting that the new site can accommodate at least 65, and up to 85 pupils, the current site is assessed to meet the needs of 72 pupils (137 in total, taking the lower limits) and the planned increase in Place Value is recommending 120 places, there may be between 17 – 20 spaces available for alternative SEND use (still to be determined) such as Early Years, more complex Moderate Learning Difficulties etc. It is therefore essential that the need for extra Severe and Profound Learning Difficulties (S&PLD) places is completed so the reviews on further provision within existing resources can commence.

## 4. Consultation

- 4.1 The 'Making Significant Changes (prescribed alterations) to Maintained Schools ~ Statutory Guidance for Proposers and Decision Makers – October 2018 requires Local Authorities to consult interested parties when developing proposals prior to the formal publication of any proposals. For the significant changes such as the one being recommended, this would include holding consultations and public meetings during term time.

Initially, for the LA to progress any changes for Baytree School the following consultation process was to be followed:



- 4.2 With delays to the scheme as detailed in 3.2 and 3.3 above, the representation, decision and implementation dates have changed to 17 February, 27 April and from 1 September 2023 respectively.
- 4.3 Full responses to the consultations are attached as Appendices 1 and 2 attached to this report. Members are recommended to review the charts in Appendix 1 that provide further analysis.
- 4.4 A comparison of the responses to the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> public consultations are as below:

<b>First questionnaire – 428 responses</b>	<b>Second questionnaire - 88 responses</b>
96% of those responding agreed there is a need to create more places for pupils with S&PLD by September 2021. Slightly less than 2% opposed the recommendation and just over 2% had no view	Just over 85% of those responding agreed there is a need to create more places for pupils with S&PLD by September 2023. 8% opposed the recommendation and just under 7% had no view
93% of consultees agreed that to take more pupils, Baytree School needs to expand on to a second site. 4% of consultees disagreed with this proposal whilst 3% had no view	Just under 80% of consultees agreed that to take more pupils, Baytree School needs to expand on to a second site. Just under 15% of consultees disagreed that this requires a second site whilst just over 5% had no view
When asked if the second site should be located within easy reach of most homes and within easy reach of the current Baytree School, 87% agreed with this proposal. Just under 5% disagreed and 8% had no view.	When asked if the second site should be located within easy reach of most homes and within easy reach of the current Baytree School, around 78% agreed with this proposal. Just over 11% disagreed and just under 11% had no view.
Overall, 90% supported the suggested proposals, 8% opposed the recommendations and just over 2% had no view.	Overall, just under 70% supported the suggested proposals, 26% opposed the recommendations and just over 4% had no view.
13% of consultees indicated they had concerns about equality impacts, although when assessed against the legislative criteria for such an impact, this number was reduced to two responses from people with protected characteristics – 0.5%. An additional one person who, by the nature of the response would have a protected characteristic, did not have any concerns about equality impacts that they wanted to raise. There were an additional 53 responses that referenced equality issues for others, ranging from the need for pupils with SEND to have equality in the provision and location of their places when	22% of consultees indicated they had concerns about equality impacts, although when assessed against the legislative criteria for such an impact, this number was reduced to one response from a person with a child with a protected characteristic – see 1.3 above.  Of those responding on equalities grounds, three support the expansion, two have no view and the remaining 15 are opposed to the change.

<p>compared with mainstream pupils, to the need for local neighbours to be able to use the Brookfield Walk site field, with their needs and concerns being considered as equally important as the needs of the pupils that the school will be designed to serve.</p>	
<p>Of those responding to the consultation overall, 49 had direct connections with the school, 67 were members of the community with a connection to the school, 39 were residents of Clevedon but not direct neighbours to the new site, 54 were members of the wider community, 36 neighbours of the proposed new site, 19 neighbours of the current site and 164 were classified as other stakeholders. In the category of other stakeholders, of those who provided a category, 17 identified as parents of children at Baytree School, 21 were parents of children with SEND and five were parents of children that had recently left Baytree School.</p>	<p>Of those responding to the consultation overall, 12 had direct connections with the school, 19 were members of the community with a connection to the school, nine were residents of Clevedon but not direct neighbours to the new site, 54 were members of the wider community, 22 were neighbours of the proposed new site, two were neighbours of the current site and 13 were classified as other stakeholders. There were 11 responses from parents of pupils at the school.</p>

- 4.5 In general terms those who live closer to the site were more likely to be opposed to the changes proposed, whilst those who have links with the SEND community are more likely to be in support of the changes.

Examples of comments from those in support of the scheme include:

*I am a parent of a child who has profound learning difficulties and it is so important that our most vulnerable children have access to an education in the correct setting.*

*There is a need for a bigger provision in North Somerset and a split site will provide greater access to families.*

*The cohort of students attending Baytree School is completely different of that when the school was first built. More student assessability equipment is required and this is impacting on the already limited space that the school has.*

Examples of comments from those who oppose the scheme include:

*Nobody in the local or wider community disputes the need for a school, however, the location is completely unsuitable and at the deprivation of immediate residents by taking away their only green space.*

*Children with complex physical & learning difficulties should remain in the original purpose-built site. Other pupils without need for specialist buildings could be re-sited on non-green belt sites.*

*Totally wrong site for children pollution coming from motorway.*

- 4.6 A Statutory Notice was published on 17 February 2022 and ran for four weeks. It was placed, as required, on the website where the original proposal was published. Two responses were received, both of which support the expansion of Baytree School on a new site. A letter of support has also been received from the Governing Board of Baytree School in support of the proposals. The full responses can be seen in Appendix 3.
- 4.7 A summary of the equalities issues is given in section 9 below with details contained within appendix 4.
- 4.8 The consultation stages have now been completed. Based on the responses provided there is still support for the expansion of Baytree School and the new site. Regulations allow the Executive, as the local decision maker, to:
- Reject the proposal
  - Approve the proposal without modification
  - Approve the proposal with modifications,
  - Approve the proposal without modification subject to certain conditions – such as an opening date that meets the availability of the new site following a successful construction

Within one week of making a decision, the Council must publish the decision with reasons on its website and send a copy to the School's Adjudicator.

## **5. Financial Implications**

### **Costs – capital**

- 5.1. A capital scheme with a budget of £15.095m was approved by Council in August 2021. Willmott Dixon have been appointed as the contractor to deliver the scheme and they were due to start on site in October 2021.
- 5.2. Since the initial budget was set, construction work on the expansion of Baytree School at Brookfield Walk in Clevedon has been delayed. This was due to the need to satisfy planning conditions and the lodging of a claim for a Judicial Review by a nearby resident. Both North Somerset staff and our construction partners have continued to work on the project, responding to planning condition requirements and external challenges in preparation for starting on site. Starting on site has been aborted on a few occasions. The further delays to date have additionally impacted on the overall costs of the scheme and these could continue to rise if the main construction phase is not started soon. The costs are now estimated to be:

Item	£
Willmott Dixon Contractor Costs	£100,000
Perfect Circle – Construction Consultants	£19,000

Wilmott Dixon Uplift to the project	£1,600,000
Staff costs	£22,500
Legal costs (external and internal)	£9,570
<b>Total Costs arising from delays due to meeting Planning Conditions and Judicial Review</b>	<b>£1,751,070</b>

As the Council have awarded the contract to deliver the school to a contractor, the Liquidated and Ascertained Damages in the contract were £1,885 per calendar day. Colleagues in the Major Projects Team worked with Wilmott Dixon to limit any potential claims for damages due to the delay.

- 5.3. In addition to the costs of the Judicial Review, an interim assessment of the scheme has shown that other capital delivery costs will increase beyond currently budgeted levels. The **main** reasons for the further uplifts are listed below:

Item	£	Comment
Delay to date costs	1,751,070	As noted above
IT / Fixtures & Fittings	80,000	Uplifted as per inflationary indices
Risk / contingency	401,057	2.5% as recommended – previously only holding 1% provision. This will be fully informed by standard risk assessment process and could be released if not spent / committed.
Interim / temporary solution to provide educational facilities at existing Baytree site	250,000	Slightly uplifted from original plans to modify / extend current provision.
Faithful & Gould	230,000	Contract administration including NEC project management and cost consultancy services.
Allegiant Supervisor Costs	60,000	Works supervision.
Internal Fees	180,000	Fund project management and ensure alignment with Major Projects.
Additional fees	249,893	Items where costs have not seen a large increase or have already been realised e.g. land purchase, planning etc.
<b>Total</b>	<b>£3,202,020</b>	

Further inflationary pressures have now been fed through into the project as a result of various external global and economic factors, such as increases in energy prices and building supply costs, and these are recognised and captured within the increased 'Risk' element of the revised budget. However, it should be noted that the

project management team does include cost consultants who will robustly assess both current and future costs and claims to ensure that only necessary costs will be incurred and also that value for money will be achieved.

Additional project management fees have also been included to ensure the project is robustly managed in accordance with the requirements of the agreed Major Projects governance and management processes. It enables officers to continue to work to mitigate risk and significant areas of inflationary uplift, with a view to reducing costs where possible. All of these measures will ensure the project is pro-actively and robustly managed with progress being reported alongside all other Major Projects into the approved Capital Board structure.

- 5.4. The revised total cost of the scheme is estimated to be **£18,297,020** and the table below provides an overview of the major components:

Item	£
Wilmott Dixon Contractor Costs	£16,042,283
Fixtures, fittings and IT	£609,500
Risk and contingency allocation	£401,057
Interim modifications to existing provision at Baytree	£250,000
Fees - Internal (Place and Children's)	£380,000
Fees – External (F&G, PC and Supervisor)	£410,000
Fees – Planning and Building Regs	£45,000
Fees - Legal	£50,000
Fees – Other (design and feasibility)	£34,180
Land purchase	£75,000
<b>Total Revised Cost of the Scheme</b>	<b>£18,297,020</b>

- 5.5. Spend to date on the project is £1,430,716.

### **Funding – capital**

- 5.6. The report to Council in August 2021 approved a project budget of £15,095,000, along with allocating resources to fully fund the scheme.

However as noted above, the cost of the scheme will increase by £3,202,020 to £18,297,020 as a result of the Judicial Review, programme delays, significant inflationary impacts and the need to fully fund project management going forward.

This means that the Council needs to identify and approve additional resources so that the project can be finalised and delivered.

- 5.7. The table below provides details of additional funding streams which can be released to fund the revised capital project costs, along with comments regarding potential impacts.

Funding Source	£	Comments
Basic Need Grant	£1,293,169	Currently unallocated to any other project
Basic Need Grant	£1,510,000	Reallocation from provisional scheme in Churchill, that is on hold

Special Provision Fund	£102,901	Currently unallocated to any other project
Special Provisions Fund	£295,950	Given to provide interim places from September 2021/22, so can be used to fund the interim solutions at Baytree
<b>Additional Funding</b>	<b>£3,202,020</b>	

- 5.8. Whilst these sums can be released and applied as funding towards this project, it will mean that the resources are no longer available and cannot be spent at other mainstream and special schools who may require capital upgrades or where extra places should have been secured. Recognising that the Council has a statutory duty to secure sufficient school places for its residents, the impacts of allocating these resources on the service will be fed into the next update of the Council's Capital Strategy, which is due to be refreshed later in the financial year.

### **Costs - Revenue**

- 5.9. Funding for maintained special schools comes from the High Needs Block of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG). This funding stream is experiencing unprecedented levels of increasing demand, driven by significant increases in the number of children with Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) and parental preferences for specific named special school provision.

With a carry forward deficit of £7.150m in 2020/21 and with an anticipated further overspend as below, the delivery of an expanded Baytree School is essential to the strategic delivery of a reduction in this expenditure.

<b>Area</b>	<b>£000s</b>	<b>£000s</b>
<b>Brought Forward deficit</b>		<b>7,150</b>
<b>In-year variances:</b>		
- Out of Authority Placements	2,393	
- Top-up Funding	1,340	
- Children Missing Education (Bespoke Packages)	989	
- Schools Block Contingencies and Growth Funding	278	
- Delegated Place Funding	332	
- Other	109	
<b>Sum of in-year variances</b>		<b>5,441</b>
<b>Deficit to carry forward</b>		<b>12,591</b>

- 5.10. The current Baytree School site has the capacity for 72 pupils. There are 75 pupils on roll. At the end of the 2021/22 school year, one pupil will leave the school. There is currently demand from 10 new pupils (five early years and three of statutory school age and 2 within other cohorts across the school) who will join the school from the start of the 2022/23 school year. Demand for 2023/24 shows five pupils leaving and five possible early years children and three statutory school age children requiring places, based on data as at October 2021.

The average cost per place at Baytree School, as at October 2021, is £31,844. This figure is made up of £10,000 place funding and £21,844 Top-up-Funding. The

current average cost at Claremont, the nearest appropriate alternative school located in Bristol if a place is available) as at October 2021 is £50,676. This is made up of £10,000 place funding, £32,670 Top-up-Funding, and £8,006 site specific costs.

The Council and school are taking the exceptional step of repurposing the current site's staff administration room, meeting room and headteacher's office to become a classroom for new students from September 2022. This is a temporary measure that is saving the overspend high needs block around £188,320, this school year. New temporary locations for these functions are being sought, including the provision of temporary accommodation external to the main site.

Figures, based on current projections for this financial year, show the home to school transport costs per annum are as below:

- Average cost per head to Claremont is £20,035
- Average cost per head to Baytree is £5998

Based on 10 pupils, the savings to the Home to School Transport (HTST) budget in not transporting pupils to Claremont totals c£140,370 pa (£14,037 per child).

5.11. Using this information and projections going forward, and based on the assumptions of demand for places and base costs remaining the same until 2028/29 for illustration purposes (though costs are likely to increase), this is the impact for the next seven years on the high-needs schools budget if Baytree is not able to take additional pupils from September 2022 and pupils continue to be placed in higher-costing schools outside the district:

	2021 /2022	2022 /2023	2023/ 2024	2024/ 2025	2025/ 2026	2026/ 2027	2027 /2028	2028/ 2029	Change from 2021/22
Baytree 1	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	0
Minimum extra places needed	0	10	3	8	8	8	8	8	50
	75	85	85	93	101	109	117	125	50
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Additional cost based on mentioned assumptions		329	427	690	956	1,216	1,479	1,742	1,742

Internal placements at Baytree School are, on average, £32,859 per place less, including transport costs, than placements at schools outside of north Somerset.

5.12 The Headteacher of Baytree School has exceptionally agreed to forgo his office and his staff will operate under temporary arrangements to ensure that local pupils requiring new places can be offered an appropriate school place. There are no other spaces for extra pupils in the next school year. Going forward, the extra places created by the second site will be used to meet new demand and to enable those, at an appropriate stage in their school journey, to move back to North Somerset and be offered a local place at their transition stage.

- 5.13 Whilst the school will move from a Place Value of 72 to 120, Place Value funding will be increased incrementally to match the numbers of pupils on roll in an academic year.

### **Social and Emotional Costs**

- 5.14 The requirement for pupils to spend long periods of time travelling to and from school, in the early morning and late at night, can be challenging for pupils with specialist needs. Pupils attending provision at a distance from home are often bound to travel arrangements and cannot take part in the broader life of the school, meaning they miss out on activities and social engagement with peers. Additionally, some pupils with complex care needs, as part of the morning routine, may need to wake up exceptionally early, impacting on their readiness to learn when arriving at school.
- 5.15 It is recognised by the Council that reduced journey times can have a positive effect on pupils' behaviour, levels of anxiety and overall outcomes. The Department for Education specifies 'reasonable' maximum journey lengths of 45 minutes (for primary age children) and 75 minutes (for secondary age children) which are exceptionally difficult to achieve when children are placed in Bristol or elsewhere, due the geography and commuting patterns in North Somerset.

## **6. Legal Powers and Implications**

- 6.1 The School Standards and Framework Act 1998 sets out how Local Authorities should exercise their statutory duties to secure primary and secondary education to meet the needs of the population in their area. The Education and Inspection Act 2006 enhanced the role of Local Authorities, making them strategic commissioners of services with a mandate to promote high standards for all and greater choice and diversity.
- 6.2 The Education Act (EA) 1996 Section 14A, added by Section 3 of Education and Inspections Act (EIA) 2006 requires Local Authorities to consider and respond appropriately to parental representations about school provision in relation to Local Authorities' functions under Section 14 of the Education Act 1996. Local Authorities must reasonably consider parental representations regarding the provision of schools and respond accordingly, including outlining any proposed action or, where it considers action is not needed, to explain the reasons for this.
- 6.3 The Education Act 2011 maintains the role of Local Authorities as the strategic commissioner of services but provides greater autonomy of education provision by the encouragement of the establishment of academies, free schools, studio schools and Enterprise Colleges that are independent of the Local Authority. The Act gives Local Authorities 'a critical new role as strengthened champions of choice, securing a wide range of education options for parents and families, ensuring there are sufficient high-quality school places, co-ordinating fair admissions, promoting social justice by supporting vulnerable children, and challenging schools which fail to improve.'

## **7. Climate Change and Environmental Implications**

- 7.1 The Council is committed to becoming carbon neutral by 2030. Reducing the journey lengths of pupils attending special schools and offering local provision will assist with this commitment
- 7.2 An energy efficient approach has been carried throughout all aspects of the new site's design and passive design has been utilised to minimise both energy usage and running costs. A three-tier approach has been adopted. Firstly, building loads have been reduced through effective fabric design that go above and beyond the U-values and air tightness values stated within 2013 Part L2A 2 of the Building Regulations and those recommended within the National Calculation Methodology Non-Domestic Modelling Guide. Secondly, installed building services systems have been designed to maximise their efficiencies so that resources are not wasted. Finally, 15% regulated energy via renewable technologies has been incorporated.

## **8 Risk Management**

- 8.1 Whilst early consultations with the public are not statutory, it has been important to share the strategic plans and commissioning strategies of the Council, in relation to its special education provision planning with schools, other partners and local stakeholders. By consulting on proposed plans, the risk of not providing the right forms of education is mitigated.
- 8.2 Some responders had expressed concerns that the site was not a suitable location for children and young people due to its proximity to the M5 motorway. Further reviews of air quality and noise assessments were requested by Planning Authority that delayed the start on site in the autumn 2020. The issues surrounding the site from an air quality perspective are, long and short term NO<sub>2</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations over the course of the year. Using predicted increases in traffic due to the project, the impact on the local environment has been modelled. Further monitoring took place using both diffusion tubes and a continuous monitor, with the results analysed alongside other factors such as wind, time of year and atmosphere stability. Furthermore, worst case scenario Highways England data traffic flows on the M5 were calculated as part of the sensitive analysis. Overall using the atmospheric dispersion models, both the long term and short-term air quality objectives at the site are not expected to be breached. Furthermore, worst case modelling based on observed traffic data further provides confidence in the model results. All diffusion tubes returned results that were below half of the Air Quality Objective in both Winter and in Summer, and the continuous monitor correlated well with the low readings from the diffusion tube monitoring. The highest NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations were generally seen in the evenings which was likely due to a combination of cooling temperatures and a contracting troposphere and the breakdown of ozone leading to an NO<sub>2</sub> spike.

As a result of these findings the Planning Authority was able to lift, in September 2021, its conditions to the planning application in relation to air quality and noise. This robust challenge to show compliance has removed the risk of a need to provide further clarity once on site and has hopefully also provided reassurance to those who may have opposed the scheme for this reason. Reputationally the Council has been able to show that it is prepared to challenge applications and that it is progressing a scheme that meets national standards.

- 8.3 The Council's ability to deliver the project was also delayed following external challenges. Some local neighbours who were not happy that the plans were being progressing indicated that they believed 'the council to be underhand and have no regard for local residents opposing the development. They have ignored their own policies to get the result they want.'

Whilst the scheme has been further impacted due to the judicial review, the findings of The Queen on the application of Blerk -v- North Somerset Council have confirmed that the Council's planning processes have been robust. It is hoped that this independent review, that has now passed any further appeal period, will allay the concerns of some who have previously been opposed to the expansion proposals or who felt that the Council was not following its own published processes.

- 8.4 The initial consultation in September/October 2019 showed that an expansion of Baytree School was supported. The location of a second site was and remains contentious with some local neighbours. The updated review again shows support for the changes proposed, with continued opposition to the site choice by some. As with the earlier response, in general those who are responding from the SEND community are in supportive of the changes, and neighbours are largely opposed to the scheme.

Whilst general opposition to the scheme can be seen to have increased slightly, the % of responses from neighbours in proportion to the total number of responses has also increased. Overall, however, the numbers of those replying to this consultation has decreased from 428 in September/October 2019 to 88 in October 2021. This may or may not show that acceptance by the wider community of the need for the school is now in place or that overall opposition to the changes is reducing.

Responses from immediate neighbours to this consultation have however increased from 14 in 2019 to 22 in 2021. They are the largest single block of responders in 2021. This could have affected the decrease in support overall, that remains high.

The latest consultation has removed the reputational risk that the Council was following its own agenda only as there continues to be more in support of the changes recommended than there are those opposing the scheme.

- 8.5 An outcome of sharing plans with the local community before a planning submission was made, was that neighbours of the site submitted a Town and Village Green (TVG) application. This application was not supported by the Planning Committee in August 2020. Now that planning permission has been granted, a new TVG cannot be submitted.
- 8.6 The need for the planning decision to be referred to the Secretary of State and ongoing discussions with the Environment Agency did delay the planning determination by approximately 4 months. Both external decision makers have now offered no objection or have withdrawn their objection to the scheme accordingly. This has shown that the decision has been reviewed by external statutory consultees who have not offered objections.
- 8.7 The full review of all potential sites and an exemplar design meant that planning permission could be granted, subject to conditions, in September 2020.

- 8.8 There remains a risk that the full capital funds needed to progress this scheme will not be approved by Cllrs. Officers continue to work to secure capital allocations from developers and through external funding sources as available.
- 8.9 Parents have been reassured that the senior staff at Baytree School will consider not only the needs of the child in relation to the delivery of education at either site, but also the school locations of other family members and the linking of pupils with their peer groups before any changes in site location are made. Any changes will be discussed and agreed with parents beforehand. Whilst a meeting with parents was offered for the most recent review, only two parents wanted to attend. These parents met with the Headteacher of the school individually and both sets were supportive of the changes proposed. The support of the school to the needs of their pupils minimises the risk of the unsuccessful transition of some pupils from the current to the new site.
- 8.10 The Council has continually been asked for its Plan B following comments that the public feel it has not acted quickly enough to find the funding and site which fully meets the school's requirements. If this project cannot be delivered, the pupils will be offered places at the nearest school with a place available. This could be a considerable distance from their home. There are currently no other sites that can meet the urgent need to provide extra provision for North Somerset pupils within an existing town/community within the timescale for the delivery of this scheme. The start on site and delivery of the scheme will reduce the risk going forward that the Council will no longer have enough school places for pupils with profound and severe learning difficulties.
- 8.11 Any delay to the provision of extra places for pupils with SEND across North Somerset will add to transport costs. Whilst this will be dependent on the outcomes of individual pupil placements, it is likely to continue to be considerable. The start on site and delivery of the scheme will reduce the risk going forward that that Council will continue to overspend on out of district placements for pupils with severe and profound learning difficulties. This is because, over time, the pressure on this budget should reduce as fewer pupils will need to travel to placements outside of North Somerset.
- 8.12 It is highly probable that the new school site will not be available from the later date of September 2023. Officers are working on interim solutions to provide a short-term contingency, provided the progress of the new Baytree site is a delay, rather than a cancellation.
- Officers also continue to work with the contractor and will gauge whether parts of the site can be handed to the school before final completion, around early January 2024, to enable local places to be offered for the 2023/24 school year. This will reduce the risk of needing extra classrooms in or around the current site in the 2023/24 school year.
- 8.13 The Projects Team will oversee a Risk Register in line with the agreed and approved governance and project management processes. This includes robust contract and cost management and risk assessment and management. A QRA risk register is ongoing and will form the basis of future risk understanding and management.
- 8.14 Faithful and Gould will be providing specialist risk management throughout this project to support officers in project delivery.

## 9 Equality Implications

[Have you undertaken an Equality Impact Assessment? Yes/No] Yes. This has been updated following this consultation and is attached as appendix 4.

- 9.1 On the question of equality, in the latest 2021 consultation responses, 20 responses were received that included concerns about equality issues. The written comments from both the 2019 and 2021 consultations are included in appendix 4. Shown below are the latest comments, one from a person with a protected characteristic and the other in support of those who may have a protected characteristic but not, it would appear, specifically from a person in this group \*:

	Equality Concern	Equality Issue that complies with the Protected Characteristics definition within the Equalities Act	Comment
1	Where in walking distance does my disabled daughter get green space?	Y	Older, disabled and younger people living close to the site may be differentially negatively affected by the loss of the open space as they may find it harder to travel any extra distance to other local sites. In relation to play space there are 5 other play areas within a mile / 1.1 miles of the site.  Enhancements are to be made to the access to the community orchard to make this site more accessible to all local residents.
2	Failure to approve the expansion is contrary to the requirement to provide schooling for disabled children and a clear equalities issue	Y*	Agreed – the reason for the changes proposed is to enable the Council to fulfil its statutory duty to provide school places for all its pupils. This this is in support of the change

- 9.2 The changes proposed by this consultation are intended to enhance the learning experiences of children with S&PLD who attend Baytree School as well as creating additional places at a purpose-designed school to enhance the Council’s current local offer.
- 9.3 Those responding to the consultation expressed concerns in relation to equality, stating that a loss of amenity land for local pupils will affect their mental health. According to the Council’s records, as at January 2021 (last school census data available) there were 117 children attending North Somerset schools that live in this area, broken down as follows:

<b>NCY</b>	<b>No. of children</b>
R	8
1	12
2	10
3	10
4	11
5	15
6	13
7	7
8	3
9	5
10	6
11	11
12	2
13	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>117</b>

There is a playground in Cherry Avenue, 0.3 miles and six minutes walking time from the Brookfield walk site. Teignmouth Road playground is 0.4 miles and a seven minutes walking time away from the area. The football pitches and play area at the end of Hazel Close / Homeground are 0.7 miles and 14 minutes walking time from the site and Clevedon Rugby ground is 0.8m away and a 16 minutes walking time from this location. Other nearby open spaces include the Coleridge Vale Road and Churchill Avenue play areas that are 1.1m away and 22 minutes walking time from the site.

The school delivery team, when reviewing the EIA at a meeting on 23 March 2022, are committed to explore whether there are opportunities to include child-friendly activity spaces or trails within the access route to the Community Orchard.

- 9.4 The creation of a new school site in Clevedon will remove access to the site from the local community. Consideration was given during the project to those locally who could be affected due to their age. This includes children who may play on the site or older people who may access the site for, for example, walking their dog.

The school site needs to be at least 2ha in size to provide sufficient space for all the indoor and outdoor spaces required for the pupils it serves. The site at Brookfield Walk is 1.9ha. Consideration was given to not including one area of land adjacent to the homes and its bordering field so this could be retained for community use. Regrettably, this would remove necessary play space for the school that cannot be

located elsewhere due to the need to provide drainage swales and to keep site material within this location for environmental reasons.

Asking Clevedon Town Council for a land swap of the Community Orchard for this area of land was also considered. The trees are a natural resource open to the whole community. Whilst the pupils would, and can have access to them, the area would not provide the play space needed for the school. A request for a land-swap consideration of this land, whilst initially explored, was not pursued.

- 9.5 The findings of this updated EIA following consultation shows there is one person with a protected characteristic who could be affected by the removal of the Brookfield Walk site. There are also those living near to the school who are children or older people who could suffer because of a loss of play space or the use of a nearby facility for, for example, dog walking.

There are other alternative nearby facilities within a mile of the site that can be used for the above purposes. The impact on those within the parameters of the EIA who would benefit from the creation of a new site could be argued to provide a greater benefit than the loss to the person with a protected characteristic or to older neighbours who, on the whole, have not stated explicitly they have an EIA category.

- 9.6 The responses to the two consultations and EIA implications were shared with the Children & Young People's Policy & Scrutiny Committee ~ School Organisation Steering Group on 15 December 2021. This was prior to the publication of the Statutory Notice. The EIA for the project has been updated to include these and/or their comments.

## **10. Corporate Implications**

- 10.1 The Council has a duty to meet the school-place needs of primary and secondary-aged pupils living in North Somerset including those with special educational needs and disabilities. The consultation sought the views of pupils, parents, staff, and local stakeholders to ensure that the best possible long-term educational outcomes can be achieved for children with S&PLD and that local resources are used effectively across the whole district.

## **11. Options Considered**

- 11.1 To not expand the school and rely on meeting the needs of North Somerset pupils through commissioning places at schools and other settings outside of this area. This is not sustainable for the following reasons:
- The Council has a moral and legal duty to meet the needs of children and young people with SEND
  - The Council cannot afford to continue to overspend on the High Needs block as this is impacting on the resources available for all pupils across the district
  - The Council has a statutory duty to provide school places for all children and young people

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## Appendices:

See Appendix 1 – responses to the 1<sup>st</sup> consultation  
See Appendix 2 – responses to the 2<sup>nd</sup> consultation  
See Appendix 3 – responses to the Statutory Notice

## Background Papers:

- Education Provision in North Somerset ~ A Commissioning Strategy 2021 - 2024 – see [Education Provision in North Somerset - A Commissioning Strategy 2021-2024 \(n-somerset.gov.uk\)](http://www.n-somerset.gov.uk)
- Executive – 5 February 2019 - <http://apps.n-somerset.gov.uk/cairo/docs/doc29420.pdf>
- Council – 19 February 2019 - <http://apps.n-somerset.gov.uk/cairo/docs/doc29460.pdf>  
[Approval to start consultations to expand Baytree School - https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/19-20-PC-19-Signed.pdf](https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/19-20-PC-19-Signed.pdf)
- Approval to designate a possible site for the expansion of Baytree School - <https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/19-20-CSD-43-signed.pdf>
- Expansion of Baytree School Consultation: [http://consult.n-somerset.gov.uk/consult.ti/Expansion\\_of\\_Baytree\\_School/consultationHome](http://consult.n-somerset.gov.uk/consult.ti/Expansion_of_Baytree_School/consultationHome)
- CYPS Policy & Scrutiny Committee on 20 June 2019 ~ <http://apps.n-somerset.gov.uk/cairo/docs/doc29644.pdf>
- Full Council Initial Budget Approval for Developing the Scheme - £1m – <https://apps.n-somerset.gov.uk/Meetings/document/report/NSCPM-38-558>
- Executive Member for Children Services and Lifelong Learning Decision Sheet (PC 19) - <https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/19-20-PC-19-Signed.pdf>.
- CSD43 Executive Member Decision for Baytree School 2nd site – <https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2020-02/19%2020%20CSD%2043%20signed.pdf>
- Town & Village Green application - Planning & Regulatory Committee – <https://apps.n-somerset.gov.uk/Meetings/document/report/NSCPM-105-633>
- Planning Application Determination ~ Planning and Regulatory Committee - <https://apps.n-somerset.gov.uk/Meetings/ByCommittee/4/2020/75>
- Appropriation Determination - [July 2021 executive member decisions | North Somerset Council \(n-somerset.gov.uk\)](http://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/July-2021-executive-member-decisions)
- Extension to the Phase 1 consultation process – Baytree School Expansion - [August 2021 executive member decisions | North Somerset Council \(n-somerset.gov.uk\)](http://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/August-2021-executive-member-decisions)

- Approval to publish a Statutory Notice - Decision Sheet CY64 2021 22 – [https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2022-02/CY64%202022.01.17\\_Decision%20to%20Publish%20a%20Notice%20v2.pdf](https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2022-02/CY64%202022.01.17_Decision%20to%20Publish%20a%20Notice%20v2.pdf)

# APPENDIX 1

## **e.Consult Responses**

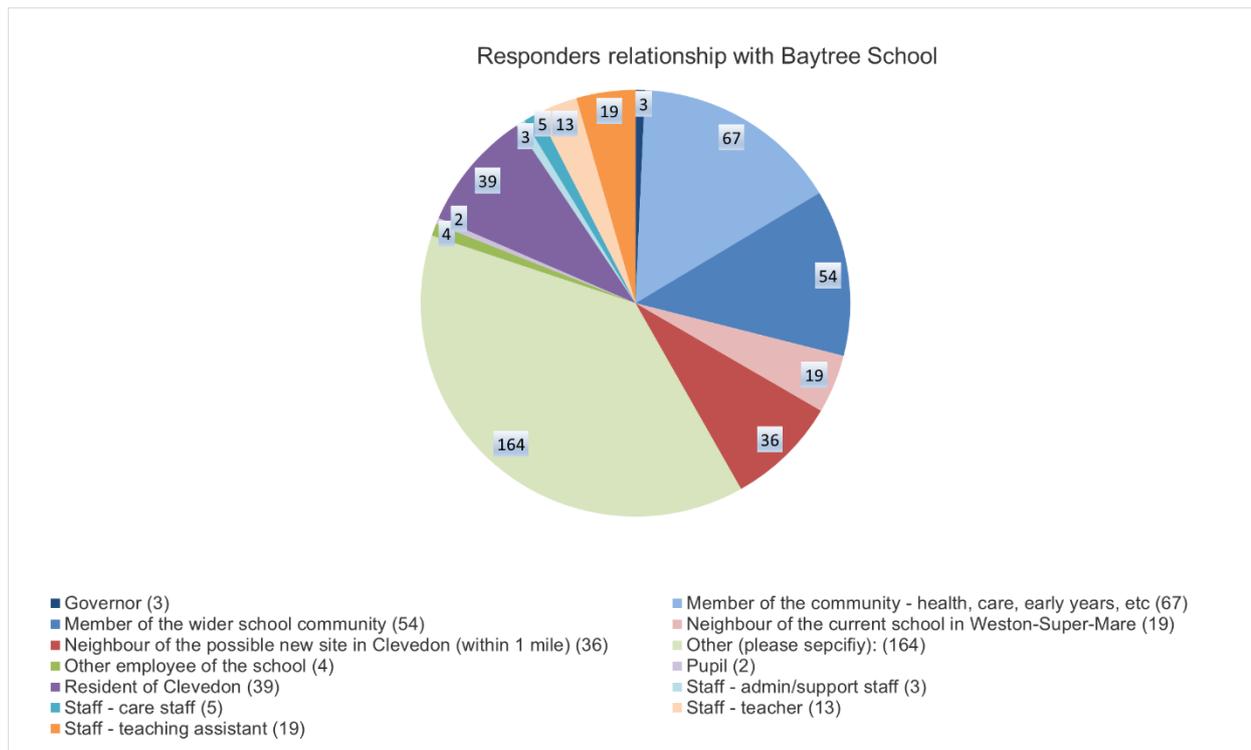
to

First Consultation for  
Proposed expansion to  
Baytree School,  
including  
location onto a second site

NB: All comments are a direct representation of those received and have not been altered to correct typographical or other errors etc

How many responded to the online consultation questionnaire? **428**

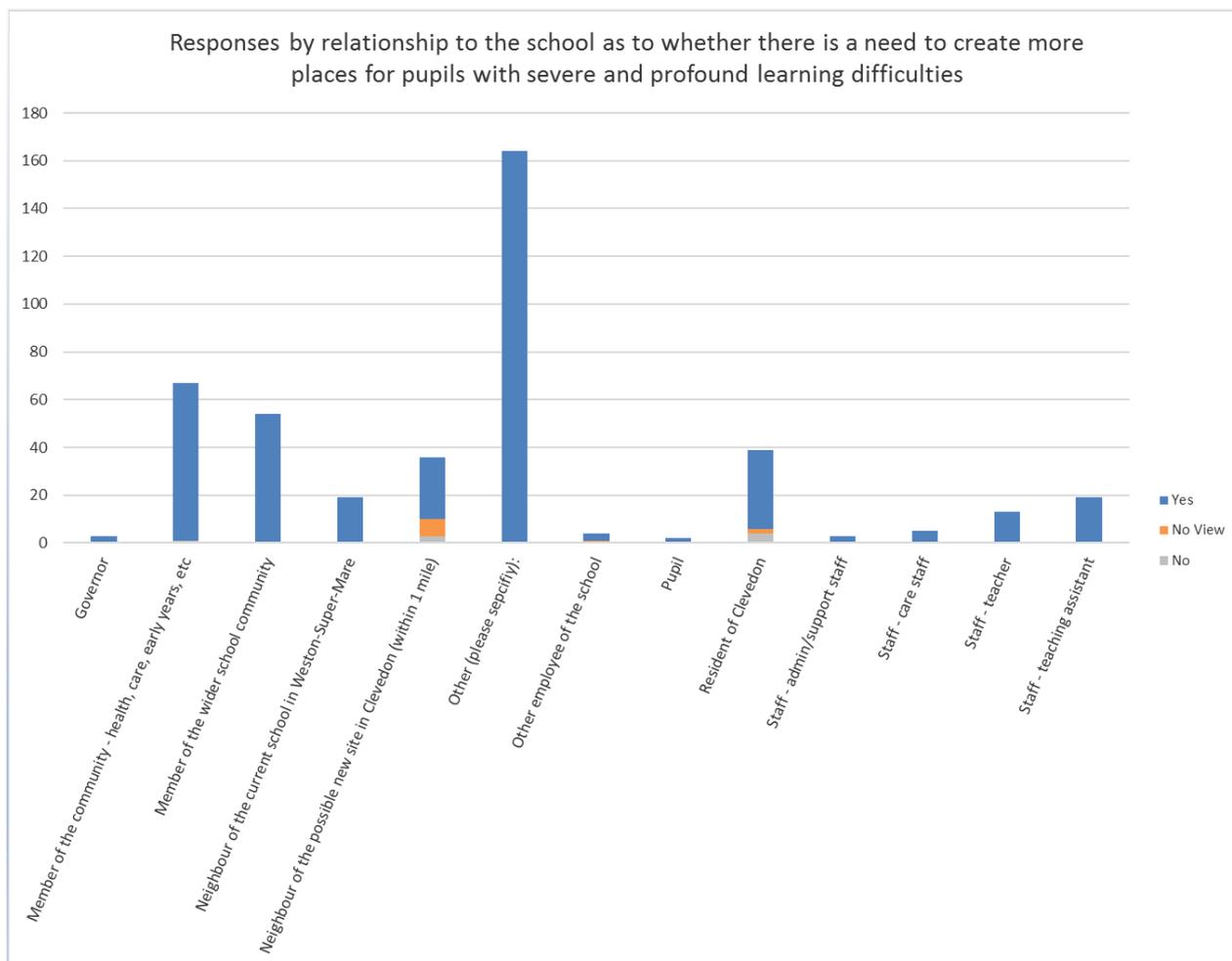
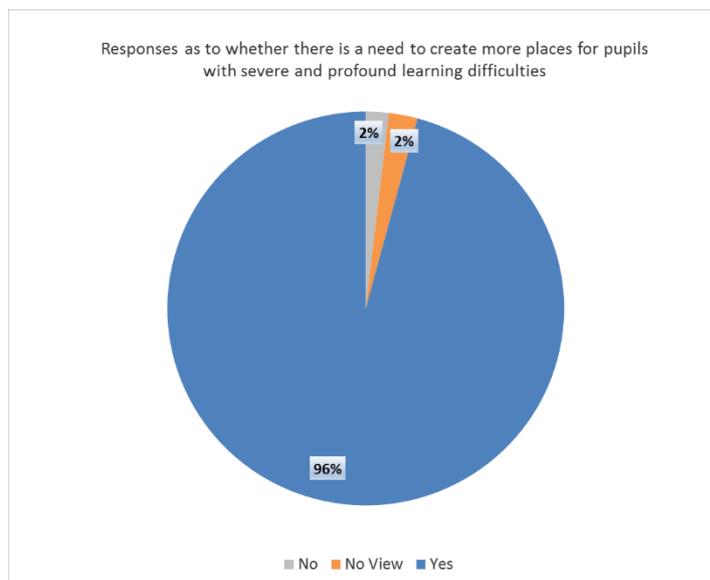
**Who responded to the questionnaire:**



## Responses to the questionnaire:

1.

Based on the information you have been given, do you agree there is a need to create more places for pupils with Severe and Profound Learning Difficulties at Baytree School from September 2021 onwards?



## Comments:

- Current school is now too small for the ever growing needs of the pupils and specialised equipment
- Not on green land though - it's a disgrace that all these derelict buildings lay unused and your planning to take away green space.
- There is a chronic lack of places for pupils with severe and profound learning difficulties within North Somerset. Currently children are being educated out of county, which involves longer commutes for these children and additional costs
- There is the need to create a provision which meets the needs of pupils with pmla at Baytree.
- Without an increased number of places children North Somerset will be forced to place children in mainstream schools where they will not be able to access the facilities and specialist teaching that they require to have the best life chances.
- No child should be left without a school place
- These children need to be educated close to their homes
- I feel the Brookfield Walk is not the correct location for this expansion
- I believe it is crucial that adequate places are available for pupils with severe and profound learning difficulties
- These schools are essential for children with severe disabilities. It also provides incredible support and guidance for parents
- The increasing dependency on provisions outside of North Somerset council is not a sustainable option in respect to the detrimental impact on the environment and the welfare of the students.
- The wider schools community is spending more than necessary on out-of-area placements for young people with high needs, because of a lack of capacity within North Somerset. An expansion of capacity would be welcomed by the schools sector.
- Sadly we have an increase of children with severe learning difficulties
- There is a clear need for additional special school places in North Somerset and the expansion of a current school makes the most sense.
- North Somerset are lacking SEN provisions. The number of SEN children are rising and the resources to support these children are sparse which is detrimental to these children often having to travel out of county.
- It is essential these additional needs children have the specialist provision they need
- There is a need for spaces but the school needs to be built on an appropriate site and Maynard Close is not
- Yes of course but please do not build on our green belt to save money!
- It's fundamentally needed in the interests of fairness & equality & education. These children desperately need - and are entitled to have - the same opportunities and resources to meet their needs that every other child in North Somerset enjoys.

- It is very important that a child can receive care in a nurturing environment close to their home. Extended travel causes more stress and impacts on all the family when local resources aren't available.
- There is no where near enough spaces for these children in and around somerset I
- Parish Councillor I am deeply concerned that children with serious special needs are currently travelling for about 80 minutes in each direction every school day to access appropriate facilities in Weston-s-Mare.
- The need for an increase in places for SLD and PMLD pupils is now. Therefore the successful expansion of Baytree School is vital to ensure these young people are educated within their community and have access to the local offer.
- As a former teacher of both children and adults with S&PLD I have witnessed the problems caused by a lack of local educational provision
- I strongly feel there is a need to expand provision for the growing number of pupils with severe and profound learning difficulties.
- We also need spaces for children with autism
- There is not enough specialist provision in NS for complex children, creating more spaces will help to meet some of the needs
- Significant increase in EHCPs since reforms implemented, greater demand for places as a consequence
- My son has had to go to another school which takes hour and half to get too because there was no places at bay tree
- Definately a need for additional places
- There are very few school that cater for children with special needs and if there is a good school that has the availability because of an extension then it needs to be created.
- There are so many children that need specialised care, that cant receive it due to funding or the schools being full. Opening another school would hugely help these issues
- Every child has the right to an education. It's as simple as that. This school will be able to offer amazing opportunities for children with additional needs. Support and opportunities that may not be able to be provided for in mainstream schools.
- Without the expansion childrens needs are not being met. Childrens with the highest levels of need will thrive being in a school environment that can fully enhance their learning and development needs.
- Should the expansion not occur, within 3 years, North Somerset will have to send around 20 children (based on known children forecast) or extremely expensive out of county alternatives, which will have a signifilcant impact on these children's lives
- Of course there is a need to create spaces for children with Learning Difficulties but due consideration must also be given to the location (adjacent to a motorway) and the impact on the exiting homes.

- My son attends Baytree and we are very grateful that he has a place. We know of other families who are not so fortunate because of the lack of specialist provision means their children can't join him.
- Having to bus children miles away causes hardship. Facilities need to be provided locally, just as they are for every other student.
- current school with excellent provision is unable to meet increasing demand without compromising standards for existing pupils
- I am unable to answer this question based on the information given. While it gives information pertaining to growth children in north somerset with an EHCP I can not comment on the needs of Baytree school as I've never been there or worked there.
- There are not enough special school places to place children transitioning from early years sector
- It is definitely needed to ensure children/young people can access the type of education they need. Families/children aren't requesting spaces frivolously they really do need the environment Baytree can offer.
- There is not enough provision for this sort of need resulting in many children being in mainstream when there needs would be better met elsewhere if there was enough provision.
- It's important we have local school provision for all our local children. They school not have to access schools out of county, which will happen if this new school is not built.
- There is currently a huge demand for special school placements.
- The number of children in Early Years with SLD/PMLD/complex medical needs in North Somerset are increasing. At Springboard Opportunity Group we have had an average of 6 children each year whose needs would be best met at an SLD/PMLD placement
- Although it may superficially make sense to expand Baytree, consideration of an independent new school for children for children with these needs should also be made
- We have children in our school waiting for places at Baytree
- Children are being turned away, more places needed.
- When my son started at Baytree 5 years ago there were several children who needed that 1 place and he got it. I was so grateful and honoured, I just want other families with children with complex needs to have an equal opportunity to an amazing sch
- My daughter attends Claremont Secondary in Bristol, due to a lack of both spaces and hoist facilities at Baytree.
- Yes, it is really needed. I have a daughter with disabilities and complex needs. She is due to start school in September 2020. I would like to place her in Baytree school but I am afraid it might be not enough spaces available.
- As the school is currently unable to accept all children that require it, those children are going to mainstream schools that do not have the funding to meet their needs effectively.

- A school should never have to turn children away because we simply do not have room. These children are entitled to an education and to have their needs met and shouldn't have to travel hours to get that.
- I think there is a need to expand all of three special schools to enable more pupils to stay in county and not have to travel so far to school as the provisions are all full at the moment.
- There is more recognition for severe and profound learning difficulties that cannot be suitably managed in mainstream education. The current Baytree provision is a specialist centre that caters for the most severe cases within North Somerset.
- My nephew needs a place at Baytree. His parents are applying but have been told there are only 5 places available & 15 children that are in need & applying.
- This new school will make an enormous difference to our family.
- All special schools in North Somerset are full and there is a huge need for this SEN group.
- It is important our vulnerable young people don't travel great distances for education
- North Somerset is in dire need of more specialist school placements for a large number of vulnerable pupils.
- There is a growing need for school places for pupils with SEND
- There is not enough physical space for children.
- Yes, there aren't enough school places to meet the increased demand of places required
- There is a significant need to provide children with disabilities living in North Somerset with local community based education.
- This need is urgent and needs a solution as soon as possible
- There is a huge requirement for more places. It is the only school of its kind in this area and the population growth has been huge!
- If there is a need it should be within local distance for parents of the children, therefore it must be built in Weston super mare. It is totally inconvenient for parents with profoundly disabled children to have to travel such a distance
- Not on a greenfield site or so close to a motorway
- upon visiting the school it is clear that they need more space, there are often hoists and wheelchairs in the corridors.
- The proposal is based on misguided views if we are to await 2 may be 3/5 years and increased building costs due to the lack of services and the inadequate infrastructure then the authority would be advised to review this location.
- Many children on the Portage caseload have not been able to access this provision due to no places. This has resulted in parents delaying school entry or attending unsuitable provision.
- We have been told that there is a need to create more places, however the numbers keep changing and there are a minimal number of children from the Clevedon area that would be assisted by this development

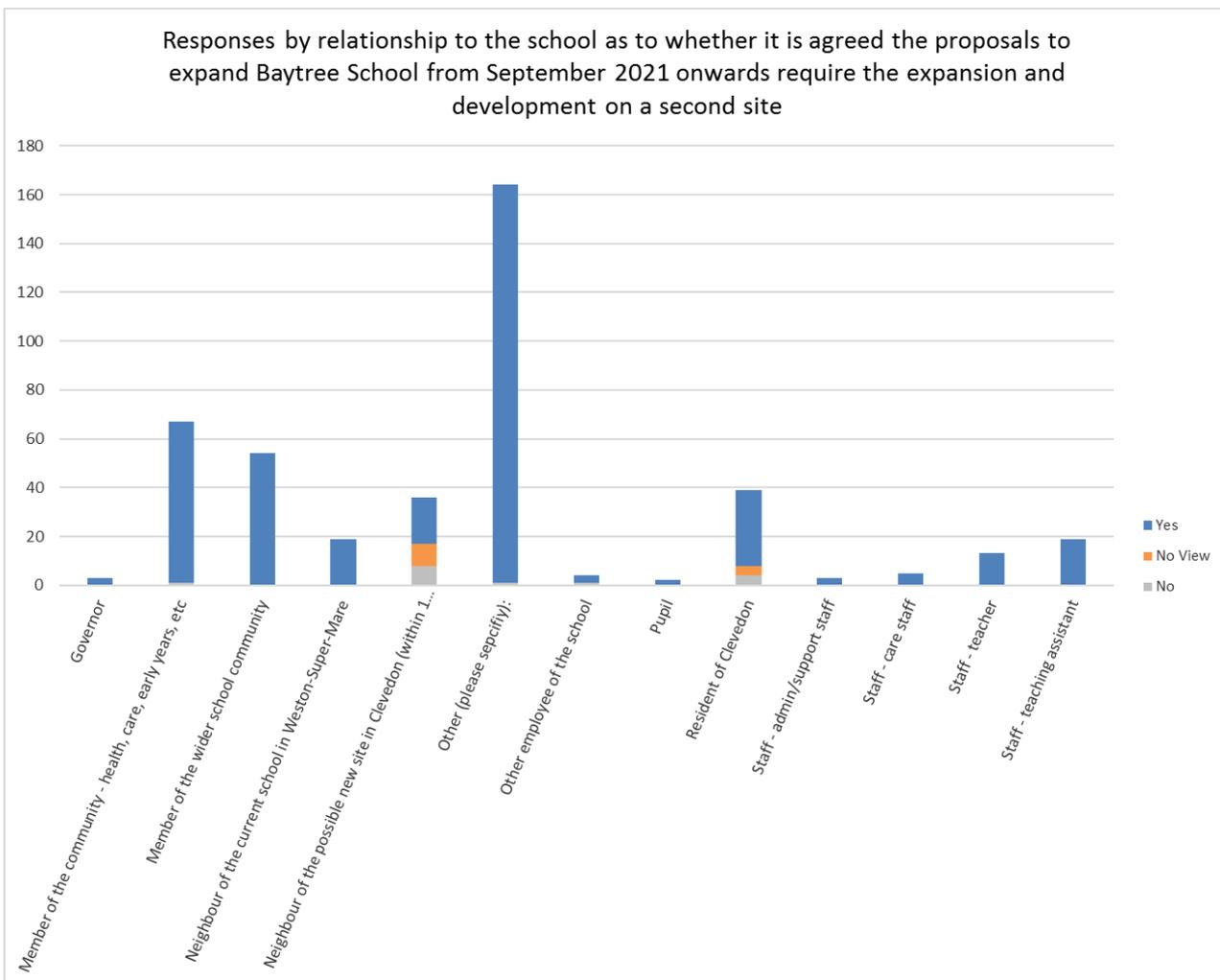
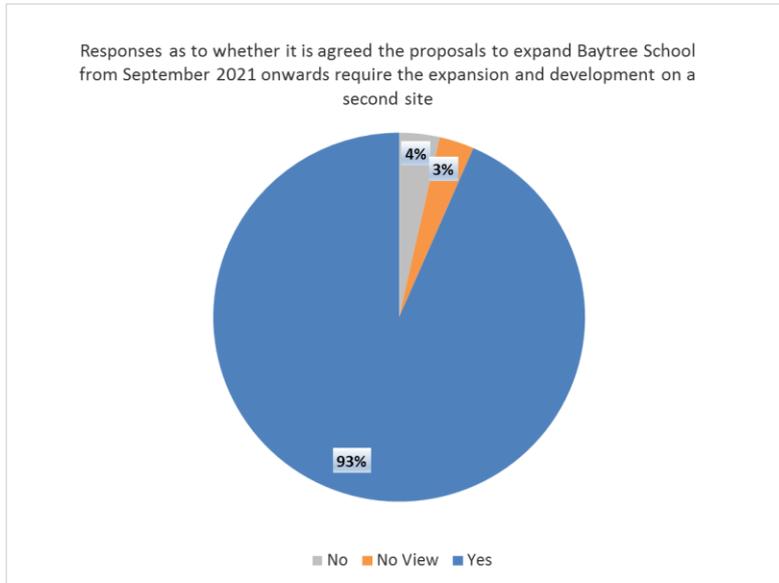
- It appears from the consultation, and from my discussions with Baytree's head teacher (Mr Bowen-Roberts), that Baytree cannot at its existing site meet the demand for places.
- It is vital that appropriate care is provided for children with severe and profound learning disabilities, at the moment provision is running at capacity and children have to endure long journeys to get there.
- There is an obvious need to create more places for children with special needs as the number of children with EHC plans has almost doubles since 2015
- In suitable location
- The need for new special school places is well known and established, and there is clear evidence of the need in the number of children who need to travel out-of-area for school, which is neither environmental, socially or educationally desirable.
- Classes are full and local children are having to go out of county for school
- Whilst there may be a need for more special school places this does not mean a new facility should be built on green belt open space at the rear of domestic houses in Brookfield Walk
- My grandson currently attends Baytree school in Weston Super Mare but the traveling between Portishead and WSM is very tiring for him and makes him very susceptible to illness.
- I recognise the need for a school but not on green belt land.
- The site is unsuitable there is not enough parking and the roads are too busy
- More pupils who attend special schools and live in North Somerset are educated out of area than any of our ten closest statistical neighbours. This is unsustainable, extremely expensive and, most importantly, not in the best interests of children and
- But not on the proposed site.
- New houses are being built all over and already there is a waiting list for places at the school
- Please look after the children that need our help and not pass them off to be someone else's problem.
- Current provision is insufficient for complex needs students eg that need ceiling hoists
- The existing school is no longer able to cater both for the number of children with complex needs or the types of needs they have. The council is paying huge amounts to send children out of area which is not the best approach to addressing need.
- The current school is no longer large enough to fulfil the growing needs of the community.
- I am aware that several Pill children travel for 3 hours daily to receive the special needs education they require. They badly need somewhere closer.
- There is an increasing demand for the provision of specialist education to meet the needs of children in our community with severe learning difficulties that cannot be provided by the current schools in N Somerset

- this expansion is essential to supporting the needs of this part of our local population
- Yes but the site of the school needs to be appropriate and the site in Clevedon is not
- There are far more suitable sites for the proposed school expansion which need investigating.
- This is felt to be a loaded question, whilst I may agree to the size expanding. I felt that this will be the only information you will use in the consultation, and disregard my contempt to the site being built at Brookfield walk.
- There is a number of children that we are aware of that will require a space at a school like Baytree in the coming year - there is therefore evidence for the need of a new building/school given that Baytree is unable to expand at its current site.
- Yes but not on our field
- We have more and children needing a place at Baytree school and sadly we're not able to take all the learners that should be with us due to lack of space and capacity.
- Although there may be a need for a new school it must not be built on green space
- There are insufficient places for autistic children in Clevedon, none for non verbal
- My boy attends Springboard, I am really worried we won't get a place at Baytree, I would be happy to drive the distance, for this to go ahead, he needs education, but I'm worried for him and what happens next, we need a new school more than anything
- As a former member of staff I saw the number of families who visited the school with a view to applying for a place. The majority of these children's needs could have been met by Baytree but only a very small no. of these children could get a place.
- I support children with learning disabilities as a specialist nurse, and am aware that there is a shortage of specialist school places within the county for children with such complex needs, who cannot be accommodated in mainstream schools .
- Parents of children with SEND in North Somerset are currently without options for suitable schooling in North Somerset. Too many are having to go out of county, meaning high expense to the LA and tax payers and long journeys for children with SEND.
- an additional SEN school in the area is vitally important. To find a place to have the trust and confidence in the staff to simply keep your child safe to learn and grow and give SEN children the same start in life as any other child.
- I am very concerned that mainstream schools are being asked to take very high level SEND children without the expertise or resources to do so. There is an urgent need for more provision.
- It would allow students to develop even further and help them grow even more
- As line manager for the Portage team who work with children with complex additional needs I am aware of the pressure for suitable school places for these children.
- Baytree is a wonderful school and already at capacity. I have only visited twice as a prospective parent and you can see they are struggling for space and being on two levels excludes physically disabled children from accessing more facilities

- I am very aware of the lack of spaces for children with PMLD. These children need a specialist environment in which to thrive and have a good quality of life.
- I think the proposed location is well chosen. Good transport links with Weston Super mare, necessary for pupils, staff and parents also other services that will be provided.
- There is a great increase in the number of children with an EHCP who need a place at Baytree especially in the early years to year 6 age group.
- As I know my son was one of 6 children who didn't get into baytree this year. The need is huge as our children deserve their education just as much as any other child.

2.

Based on the information you have been given, do you agree the proposals to expand Baytree School from September 2021 onwards require the expansion and development on a second site?



## Comments:

- But not in green space
- If we are to provide what is needed this is essential
- The school cannot expand where it is due to site restrictions and there is definitely the need to create more places for pupils with pmlD.
- The school is very far for a child with profound and severe learning difficulties to travel which could cause unnecessary stress for the individual and family.
- There is no more space on the current site
- Yes but in the correct location. Brookfield walk fields is not the right location. It has green belt status, protects our neighbourhood from pollution from the motorway and provides a home to many species of wildlife
- More investigation into suitable sites needs to be undertaken
- The consultation documentation makes a clear and compelling case for a second site.
- there is a need for children at this end of North Somerset for special needs education places nearer to the communities they live in
- Baytree too is inadequate for the needs of these children
- We have seen the current site expand as far as is possible. The needs of the children have changed dramatically since opening and the current site can not accommodate appropriately to all needs
- It is important we have another school in North Somerset
- This is green belt land and the heart of our community!
- The current school site is at capacity and cannot be expanded any further. Therefore the creation of a second site is the only viable option to ensure enough spaces are available for the CYP in N-Somerset with the most complex SEND.
- The site has limited scope for expansion so expansion which includes a second site is essential
- Yes, the existing site is over-subscribed and is not designed to cater for such severe learning difficulties.
- A considerable number of pupils live by n the north of North Somerset; it would be a good idea to have the second site nearer to their homes & families.
- Unfortunately with no land available in close proximity to the current site then yes the proposed site is the best option serving the wider community also
- the current site cannot accommodate any more young people
- Although the proposals to expand the school on a second site make sense due consideration has been given to the practical implications.
- I understand that it would not be possible to relocate Heron's Moor school to allow Baytree to take over the whole Campus site. So a second site is necessary.

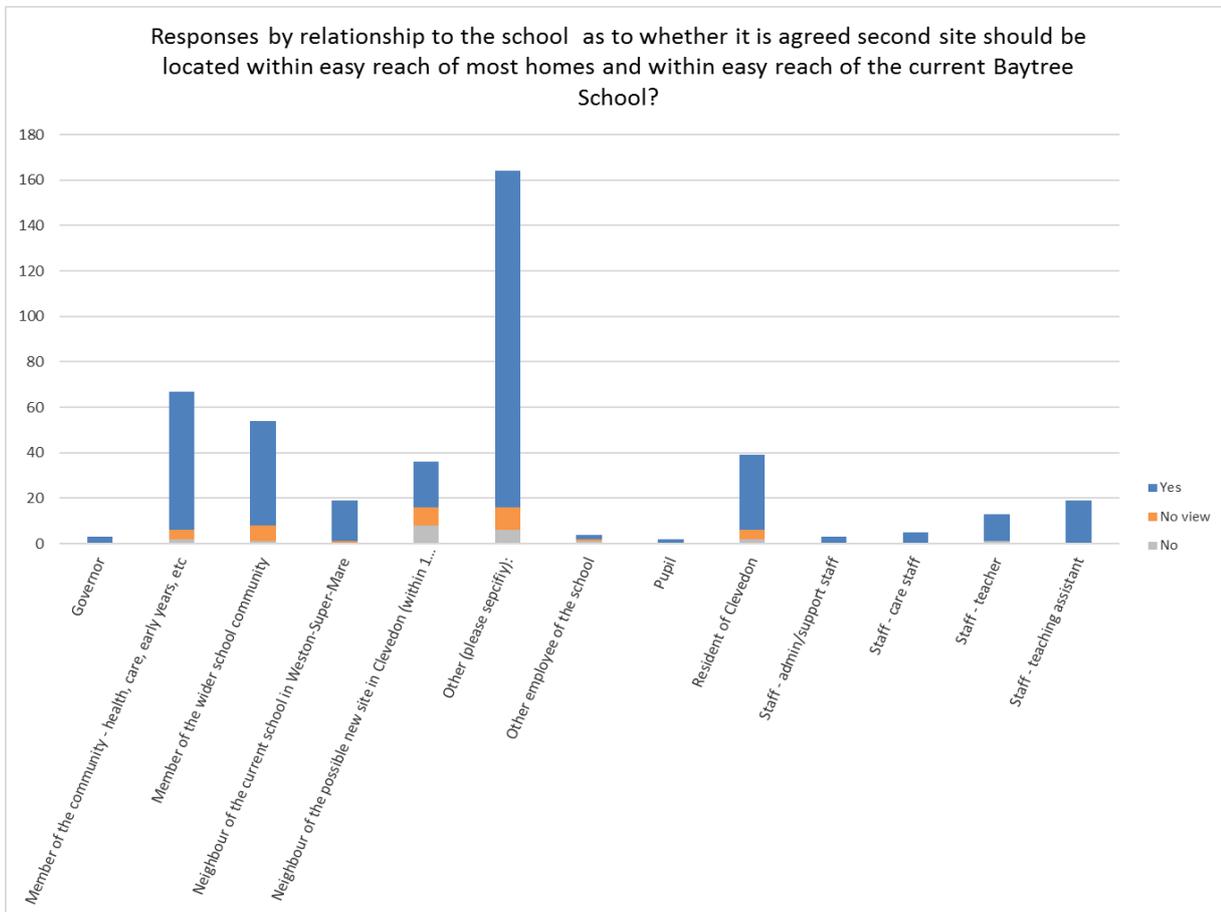
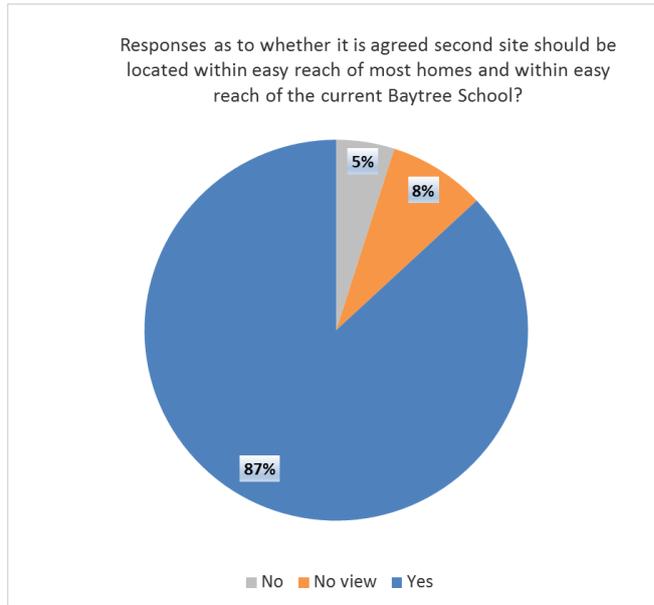
- Further movement of types of pupil within the campus should also be looked st.
- Again, same question as above & misleading as you are trying to get me to agree with the expansion when it is the location I am opposing.
- This seems like a sensible way to create more spaces within the area. It is clear that teh current site has no extra capacity to add classes and there is a limit to the additional adaptations that can be made.
- Some children would be able to be schooled closer to home as part of the additional provision. Reducing travel costs and length of school day for each
- Pupil specific facilities needed to ensure best curriculum practice to support complex needs cohorts
- Current site not suitable
- The number of places need is rising at a phenomenal rate and we desperately need provision.
- Yes see Q4 response.
- There is not space at the current site, so a new site must be sought.
- The current site is overflowing and not suitable for children with the most profound complex needs.
- Yes but not at proposed site
- The current site has limited development opportunity. Student in the north of the LA currently have to travel a long way to be able to attend the current site
- It makes complete sense to work with what you've got!
- The second site will expose the disabled children to high levels of pollution and noise directly from a high traffic motorway a direct health hazard to already vulnerable children
- There should be adequate provision on the existing site or at the same location this has been dismissed as far as I can see without full investigation and costings.
- We are told that the current Baytree site is not fit for purpose and has already had two extensions. That said, there would be scope to redesign the current site and if necessary rebuild this in full or in part as there is sufficient scope to do this
- It is clear that Baytree's current site cannot provide additional space to grow, and hence it seems appropriate for a second site to be provided which is tailored for the requirements of the pupils that will study there.
- Yes I agree that Baytree school needs to expand and that Clevedon is a nice central place for the surrounding villages.
- This provision would provide cost effective schooling for those in the north of the reach area.
- A new central site seems very appropriate, given the school drawing pupils from across the whole district.

- Why can't the existing site in Weston super mare be re worked to meet existing and future demands
- We agree that an urgent decision is required for an additional school and feel that the Council should also look into building this facility in Portishead as an alternative option.
- Not on green belt land .
- But not at this site, the roads cannot cope at the moment
- Not green belt land that is used by the Clevedon community
- North Somerset Council believes in the principle of local schools for local children. This is even more important for those with complex needs.
- But not on proposed site.
- Definitely. Children with complex needs are surviving longer, leading to a need for more specialist places
- The current Baytree site cannot expand further or be adapted to meet the types of need children increasingly have in terms of access to class or mobility needs
- Some pupils have do go 17 miles and if a second school was built it would half her journey
- The current school does not have the physical capacity to meet the needs of the many children in this community needing such intense support.
- The second site if needed should be built in close proximity to the first
- There is no doubt that further school places are required but the proposed plans have been rushed through by NSC, NSC are fully aware that residents of Clevedon really do value their Green Belt Land.
- This green belt land used by the local community should not be taken away, particularly from the local children who would have to find play areas in other parts of Clevedon crossing main roads. The fields are natural habitats
- The second site should be within easy reach of the existing site
- I feel bot all information has been provided to residents etc. I believe that die to the limited primary school places, Baytree will ultimately be relocated to the second site. Allowing for expansion of the primary school.
- Baytree current site can not to expanded further from what I understand.
- Not on our field in Clevedon
- Providing there really isn't another site that would enable us to have one big school.
- It must be built on an alternative site to the green space site on Brockfield walk
- The current site is inadequate as it is far too small with inadequate storage facilities. There is no room to expand withing the site.

- There is insufficient provision for all children with SEND for them to attend a local school. Also Baytree is too small, has no hoisting facilities and is not fit for purpose. These children deserve to have their needs met.
- In North Somerset the number of children with PMLD has risen significantly, there are not enough school places to accommodate the needs of these children.
- Places are needed so children with complex additional need can be educated nearer to their homes
- The current site has no room for expansion and being on two levels means it is not suitable
- As an ex employee of Baytree School I know that the facilities that these children require is inadequate to meet their complex needs. These children need specialist lifting equipment, personal care spaces and areas to store their much needed aids.
- the current site is bursting and has few capabilities to provide for future pupils
- Baytree School is bursting at the seams! Corridors and classrooms are full of wheelchairs and equipment needed for non-ambulant students. There is no room for expansion on the present site.
- 100% our children have enough fight on their hands. They should never be just a statistic! Our children need these places.

3.

Based on the information you have been given, do you agree the second site should be located within easy reach of most homes and within easy reach of the current Baytree School?



## Comments:

- But not on green space
- It must be on a major route - mid north somerset to ensure as easy acces as possible
- These are 2 different questions! Many children have to travel a long way to WSM so a second site at Clevedon would be ideal. Yet it's still close to the WSM site
- It will cut down on travel time for children with sen in north of north somerset
- The school needs to be part of the community
- The current school in Weston super Mare and not in Clevedon as proposed
- I think it would be useful to have a second site in the North of North Somerset to reduce pupil's travel time and make it easier for them to meet up out of school hours
- We just need more availability for those that need it
- Another site in area would help reduce journey length to get to and from school for some children but keeping it a reasonable distance from each site means combined school events are still possible
- I think the site needs to be accessible to all.
- Being close to the current school seems crucial for consistency across both sites and also to enable staff and children across both sites to interact and work together.
- Locating this provision near in a central location with quick transit routes is critical to the welfare of the studetns and families, especially as journey times are defined by legislation.
- This questions is unclear - "easy reach of most homes" within which area?
- The provision being in Clevedon would provide better access to those children and young people in the north of the county
- I don't believe the current proposed new site fits this criterior
- In order for the split site to work, both sites must be easy to reach and easy to travel between.
- time travelling is wasteful and exhausting. And family need to be in close proximity to be involved with the education and wellbeing of their children.
- As NS have declared a climate emergency the school should be built in Weston to reduce distance travelled by staff thus reducing co2 and stop the felling of established trees
- The parents already have so many unfair challenges without prohibitive transport arrangements compounding the issues for them and their children.
- Clearly important that effective management of the school is facilitated
- Although Baytree School will be located on two sites they will remain one school and one community. Providing opportunities for pupils to learn and socialise together.
- This site is not in easy reach, it is only being considered here because the council basically don't want to pay for a site

- Somewhere central near the M5 would be best to reduce journey times of the most complex children.
- Important that there are local schools for all children to attend, and therefore increasing provision within north of N Somerset creates greater capacity for this. Imp close to current site to allow staff flexibility
- The less time children spend in vehicles travelling to and from school the better
- Central for everyone.
- As above; not all students with complex needs live in Weston
- Children without additional needs have access to this. It shouldn't be any different for those with additional needs.
- It is important to ensure the feel of one school two sites
- Yes, but not on green belt land. I would not agree with any building built. The land is free but the cost to the environment, wildlife and the people who use these fields, will be high.
- long journey times are very difficult for SLD children to cope with
- Of course easy access is required but not in areas where access to existing homes is already congested.
- School should be sited where there is the most demand
- Yes definitely, expecting a 4 year old to travel from Nailsea or Clevedon to travel into Weston and back every day is too far
- The Brookfield walk site is not close enough to the current Baytree site
- Where are most homes? Who's homes? ~This is a loaded question again & not providing me to have my say.
- Absolutely the new site must be in the area - some of the students are young children/people who don't travel well; for ease of staff travel also. It would be great for the 2 sites to still work closely together rather than as 2 separate entities.
- But the motorway gives good access to Clevedon and this would help serve the north of the county
- I believe the second site should be in Weston, not Clevedon
- it is more important that the chosen site is able to accommodate all facets of the school - North Somerset is not that big that anywhere is that far away!
- I think the site has been well thought out with all repercussions/outcomes explored and it is ideal.
- The new site needs to be mid-county as the travel from Long Ashton to Worle is too long and contravenes the Home to School Transport Policy and the DfE guidance on ideal travel times.
- Bus transport will allow the children who need it to access the school. It is only fair on the families of these children that the site is easily accessible and within reach of most homes. They have enough obstacles in their path.

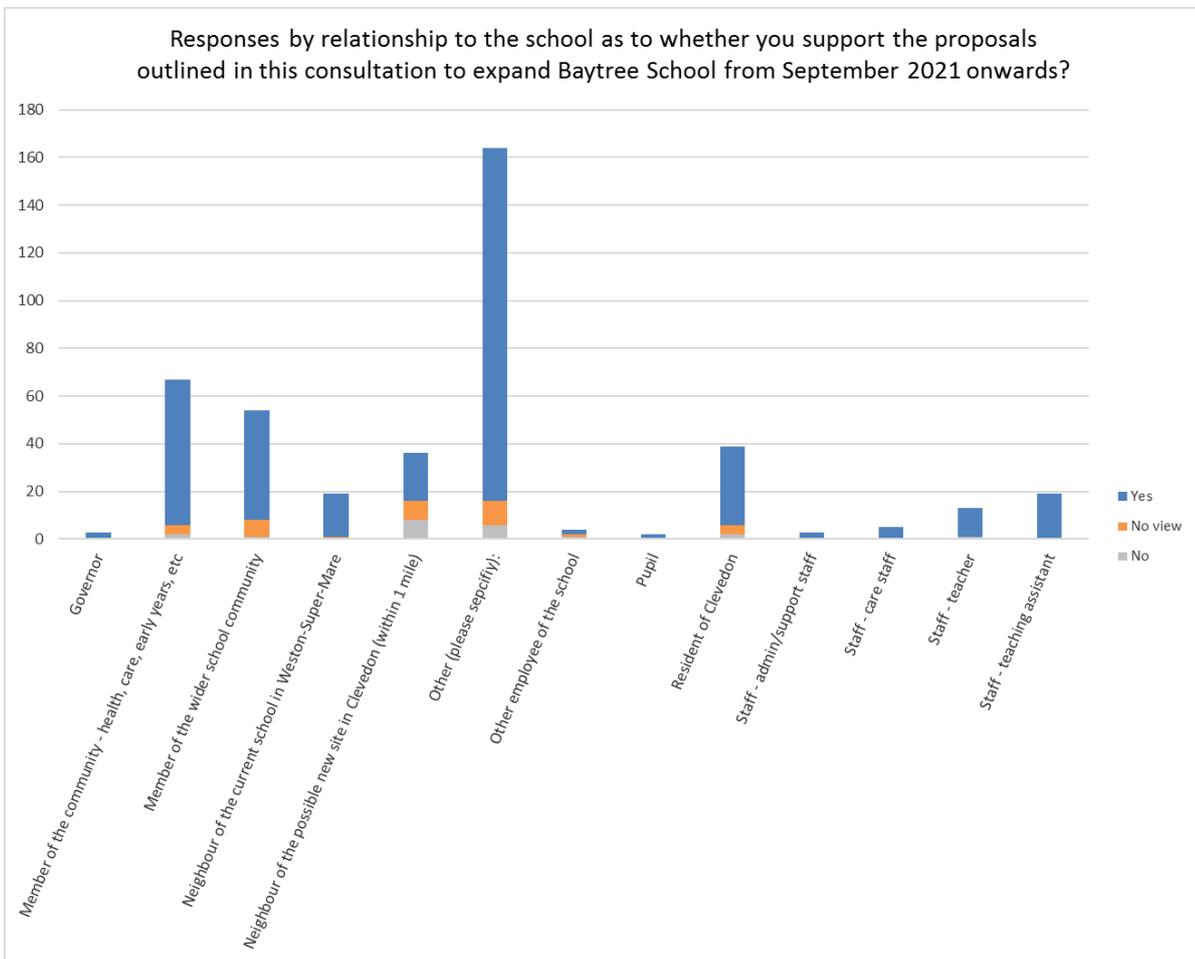
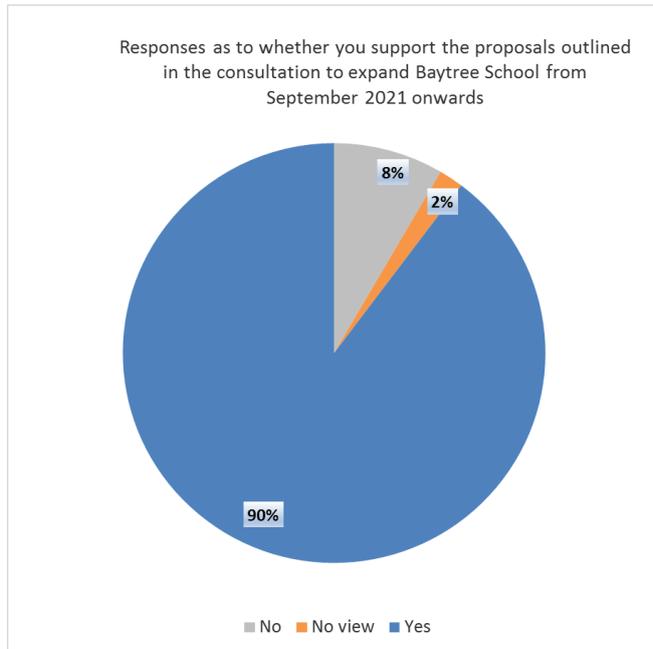
- Some children have to sit on the bus for up to an hour and a half to reach us and some of these children are only 5/6 years old. I certainly wouldn't want my young boy to have to do that.
- There is a shortage of specialist provision to the North of the district. Weston has two specialist provisions and Nailsea, one. To reduce journey times a northern based special school would be more suitable.
- Yes but not at proposed site
- I believe the best site should be sought. People travel from the whole county for specialist education so perhaps it should be further away to balance this
- For consistency across both school, regular liaison and opportunities for staff to communicate and work together are vital.
- I believe the site should be situated at an appropriate location which has maximum impact for the students and staff whilst limiting the negative impact on the local community. We are all members of N.Somerset&all should hold equal importance
- School transportation means this includes Clevedon
- It makes sense to have another special school based in Clevedon, there is one in Nailsea and Baytree in Weston. The proposed location is within the local community which is where these children should receive their education
- Again, there is a huge need for this amazing school to be able to accommodate more children locally
- A Weston super mare location would be suitable not Clevedon this. This would limit travelling and stress for families
- The report documents DO NOT support this location based on the mathematics, of the movements and transport, surely this smacks in the face of the climate change lobby.
- Within reach of peoples yes, but would question whether it needs to be nearer or further away from the existing facility. This would not be a determination we could / should be asked to make
- It will be better for at least some of Baytree's pupils that home-to-school travelling time be kept to a minimum. Where a school is split between two sites, it makes sense that it be easy to travel between the two sites.
- It is expensive and not in the best interests of the children to travel long distances to school. As far as possible the authority should be offering equal opportunities to children and not expecting them to travel long distances to meet their needs
- Special schools thrive when they are part of a local community, and this site appears to offer that opportunity. Alternative sites on the edges of towns or villages would give an institutional feel which is not appropriate for a school like Baytree.
- Local spaces for local children
- I feel you have selected the wrong site and are manipulating the statistics to suit
- There is already a school in Weston so a new development does not need to be within easy reach of this school but should serve the purpose to support both Clevedon and Portishead pupils with disabilities

- A new school could be anywhere.
- The new school should be located nearer the current school
- I live near the village of Pill. Children from this area are currently spending far too long getting to and from the Baytree site in Weston Super Mare each day
- But not on proposed site.
- Complex need children have limited ability to travel
- The new provision should not be in Weston as the catchment area for the children means long journeys for some children
- Baytree has an excellent reputation and it is vital that the new facility enables proper integration the existing school.
- Therefore should be developed in WSM
- The current school is in Weston Super Mare, so therefore it would make sense that the new school is located close-by so that services & resource can be shared, moving the new school does not make any economic sense.
- Brookfield is not within easy reach of Baytree
- The proposed site has no local amenities within walking distance. Restricted transport access. Within close proximity of M5 motorway junction which is often gridlocked with stationary traffic creating high exhaust emissions
- Apart from reducing travel time for the students parents would also find it easier to attend school meetings and events.
- Easy reach does not mean clevedon. It should be easy reach Weston-super-Mare.
- I think it should be within North Somerset for sure. I don't necessarily think it should be in Clevedon specifically, there are brownfield sites elsewhere (although I don't know if they are big enough to accommodate a school)
- Not on the field in Clevedon
- As the senior leadership with span both schools it would be senseless for them to spend too long travelling when they could be with the pupils. Also we may end up in a scenario where parents have multiple children in the two schools.
- These young people have complex health needs; it is unfair to ask that they travel long distances each day in order to attend school.
- Yes all children should be able to attend a local school that is suitable for them and can meet their needs. Being able to get to the second Baytree will enable good communication between schools and sharing of facilities.
- As Baytree school is based in Weston I believe there should be a school based in Clevedon/portishead.
- Presently many children from the North of the cunty spend hours each day commuting to the Westo site
- These children already have so much to deal with without long traveling times to school

- To me it would be sensible to locate a special school for these children with such complex needs centrally in North Somerset if possible. There will be less travel time and less stress .
- it is important that accessibility is there for all.
- The 2 sites will work together for the good of all students. Easy access to the M5 will help with this. The Clevedon site may well be more convenient for some families.
- I think the location for the new site is perfect.

4.

Based on the information you have been given, do you support the proposals outlined in this consultation to expand Baytree School from September 2021 onwards?



## Comments:

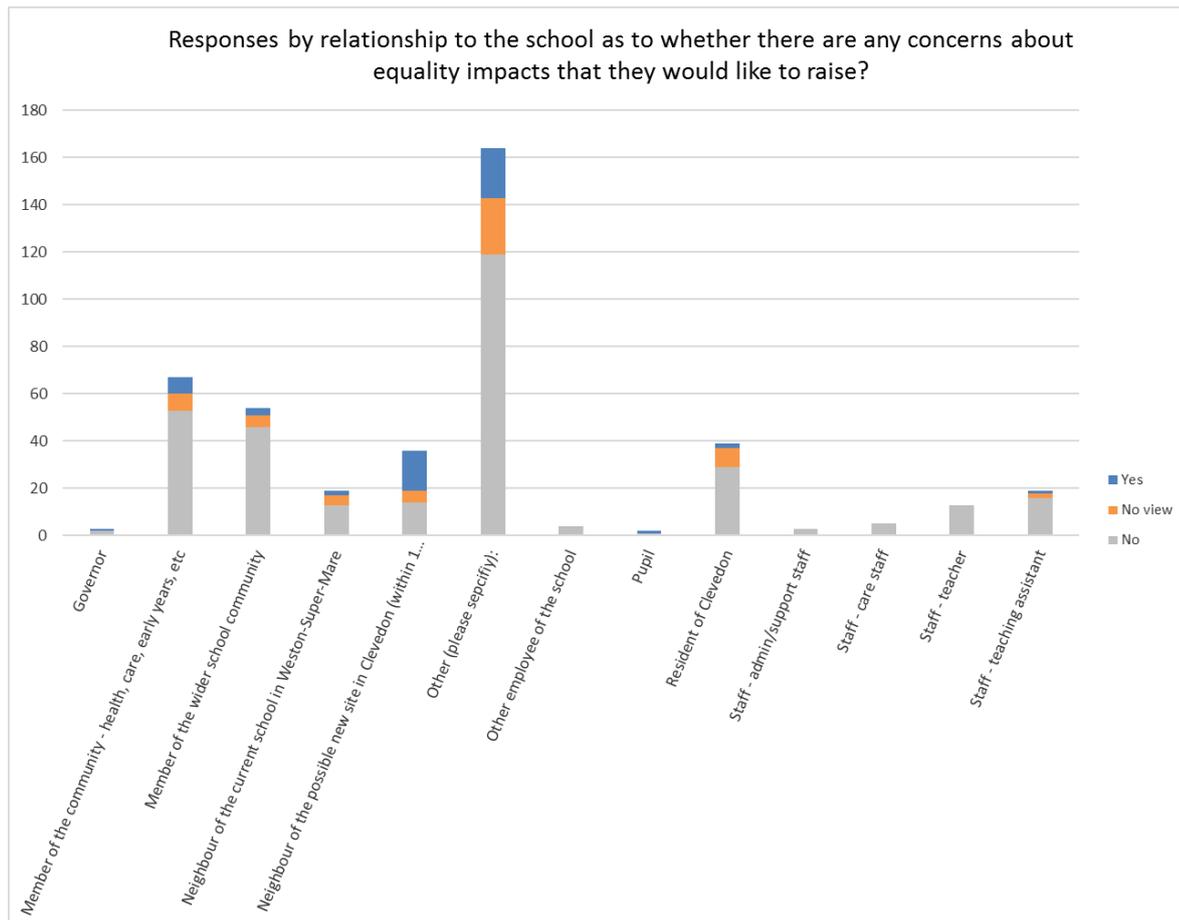
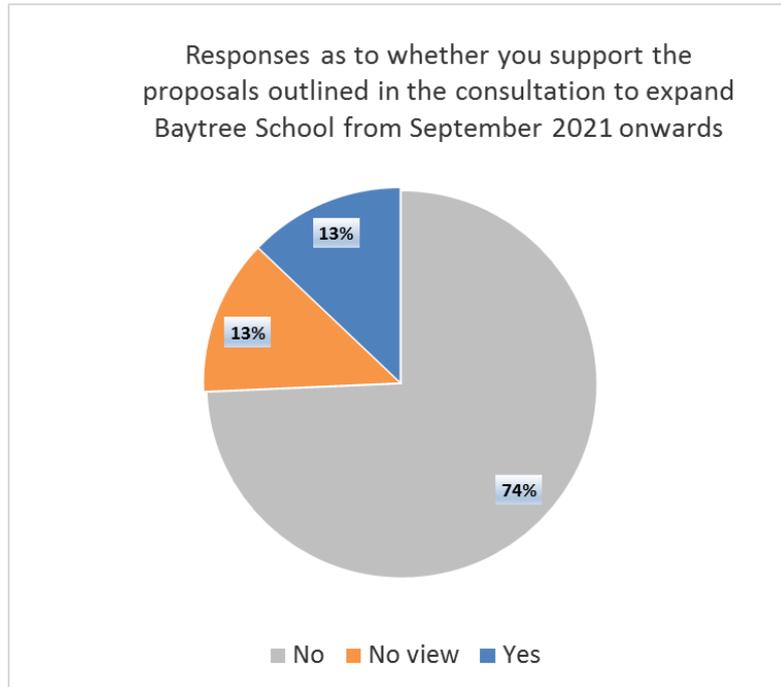
- Not on green space
- More spaces are urgently needed
- Further investigation into alternative sites must be undertaken
- I am deeply concerned that the proposed location for the news school is on a greenfield site and that this consultation has so far not made that clear.
- The provision being in Clevedon would provide better access to those children and young people in the north of the county
- The proposed new site is not close enough to the current school. This would cause logistical difficulties for children, parents, teachers, admin staff, maintenance staff and due to the extra travel involved raise CO2 levels in climate emergency
- There is a definite need within North Somerset and the expansion is both timely and welcome.
- These children and their families deserve the best opportunities we can give them
- NS are currently contradicting themselves within their policies, they have been deliberately obstructive with the process when enquires have been submitted
- Far too soon given the fact this apparently hasn't even passed for building permission, and the effect it'll have on neighbours with the rush to build it
- Build it somewhere else but not on green belt land
- Not on this site
- This fundamentally has to happen to ensure the safety and development of childrens and young people in NS
- We have a climate emergency happening,so whilst I understand the school has to expand,losing the only green space in this part of clevedon,is wrong on so many levels.M5,emissions,noise,is this the best for the children?
- I have observed the site on a number of occassions and only once have I seen it being used and then it was just as a route to a part that will not be affected
- The proposals have not taken into account the existing environment and impact on wildlife. For a so say green council no thought has been given to the damage this will cause.
- The lack of Baytree spaces & appropriate facilities has been identified for a long time. The need for overhead tracking & equipment was identified prior to the current Baytree being built.
- The proposal of Brookfield walk goes against national planning policy, is in green belt & has been chosen entirely due to the cost & time & being owned by NSC but these are not valid reasons to develop on green belt land.
- There is clearly a pressing need to expand. The young people who have not been able to access a space are real individuals not just numbers on a page. The worry their families wll have waiting to see if their child can have a space is horrendous.
- Because e we can then meet the needs of pupils more easily with less delay and closer to their homes

- The site chosen is inappropriate - it's on an already very busy junction and backs on to the motorway. You are also destroying a green space used by most of Clevedon
- A fantastic well needed proposal which will benefit many families hugely.
- Yes but not at proposed site
- This expansion is essential.
- The choice of site is totally impractical, there is not enough local infrastructure to support this and just because the land is "free" should not be the deciding factor
- I cannot support an application that is considering such a terribly unsuitable location as above
- Again, we can only go by what we are told in terms of whether expansion is needed
- It seems clear that there is an urgent requirement for increased provision for pupils with needs that Baytree caters for. It is undesirable for North Somerset Council not to be able to meet these needs within its own area, and for it to be forced to
- This will have a negative impact on my whole family due to increase traffic on an already busy road.
- Should not be built on green belt field In an area where there was already poor access
- The supply of new school places is urgently needed, and the new facilities will support the council in delivering value for money, responsible use of resources and reduced environmental impacts.
- Any expansion of bay tree school should be kept within Weston super mare as this would remove the travel of children along the busy M5 motorway at all different times during the week and also not risking those children being caught up in traffic jams
- This decision cannot be delayed due to the fact that these children are already extremely vulnerable and there is a big demand to provide these facilities now as already children have been turned away due to lack of space.
- Expansion is needed but not on green belt .
- Not on Green Belt Land
- The sooner the better
- Brookfield Walk is not the site to expand on. There are other ideal places.
- If provision is not made from 2021 then more and more children will need to be sent out of area.
- I feel this consultation has been biased and sites in WSM has not been fully explored
- The whole process has been undertaken in a secretive & rushed manner, the underlying theme appears to be that this land will be at nil cost to NSC.
- School should be expanded but not at a cost to the residents of Brookfield walk
- Don't split the school. Find a location big enough for 1 school for all the children.
- Green belt land with mature trees and hedgerows, a flood plain and designated as an open recreation space when Hither Green Industrial Estate was planned

- Little consideration has been given to hundreds of residents in Brookfield walk, and surrounding areas
- I would like a place for September 2021
- yes, this needs to happen as soon as possible
- The provision is needed now!
- As more children with disabilities are surviving and thriving, the need for suitable school places is becoming urgent
- The site chosen is fraught with difficulties for the local population and there are better brown field sites available. The site being proposed is used by the local community for many activities which are good for them as individuals and collectively.
- There are more children in North Somerset who require this provision to enable them to develop
- This is desperately needed!
- All concerns seem to have been addressed
- The proposals promise more badly needed school places with appropriate facilities e.g. classrooms, hoists, space for equipment.

5.

Based on the information given do you have any concerns about equality impacts that you would like to raise?



## Comments:

- As a parent of a disabled child living near site, what about her rights to have green space in walking distance.
- The impact on environment and the quality of life for residents of Brookfield Walk
- The site selection sensibly supports the right to a family life by the virtue of its central location
- As parents the fact that so many of our children need additional support but have to go outside North Somerset is unacceptable.
- North Somerset are not treating all of their constituents equally and are deliberately ignoring the concerns raised
- I feel the residents of Brookfield and Kelting Grove have been completely ignored and the school and council couldn't care less about our opinion about building on our only green space in East Clevedon. I greatly oppose the build site decision
- If this expansion does bit go ahead I am concerned that students with profound needs will not have equal access to local education. This is morally wrong.
- The Council isn't currently meeting statutory requirements to ensure equality of opportunity for all disabled children in the area.
- Weston is a town which is experiencing rapid growth. School provision for mainstream students has increased so it is in the interests of equal opportunities that provision for S&PLD should be increased also
- No school should be built next to a motorway at all and certainly not one where children may already be unwell
- The proposed land is on the edge of countryside stretching to Yatton, so hardly a huge loss of 'green belt' land; an open aspect would impact very positively on these students. There is also a good M5 link
- Some councillors have been using language that is markedly discriminatory against our young people. They need this site to give them appropriate support
- Of course equality is important but was potential noise (cars, sirens etc.) and air pollution from the adjacent motorway considered.
- Without an expanded Baytree, kids who desperately need the kind of specialist support they can provide will continue to go without. This is massively inequitable and must be addressed by the provision of these additional facilities.
- The broofied site will isolate the pupils from the community they have on the campus, the hydrotherapy pool & mainstream school
- Not being able to provide for SEND children is not inclusive
- Might not be relevant but I hope a second site will still allow students to access the community/have contact with other schools and won't just be shoved in the middle of nowhere cutting the students off.
- Not to build the school would be detrimental to equality for children with complex needs.

- I think every child should have the opportunity to attend a school
- Anything that can be done to ease the difficult path of these beautiful children and their amazing parents, most certainly should be done.parnts
- The site chosen is inappropriate - it's on an already very busy junction and backs on to the motorway. You are also destroying a green space used by most of Clevedon
- Families should be given a reasonable choice of specialist provision within North Somerset. Currently this is not always available.
- Too many SEN children are having to go out of County for education provision, compared to Bristol or South Glos. Complex needs provision needs to be increased drastically.
- For equality those with Special educational needs should be able to access education close to home and not have to travel out of area
- Highly vulnerable group of children who should have equal access to the right to have suitable educational provision
- I feel that the local community in Clevedon is not being listened and that the agenda of NSC and Baytree School is being put above everyone else
- This an obvious one isn't it? Children with special and severe needs will not in any way shape or form benefit from being away from home for longer than is necessary. The journey to other schools could see them stuck on a school bus for hours
- This application does not take into consideration the equality of children in both clevedon and Weston super mare. The health of both these groups of children will Ben compromised by the building and location of this school.
- This proposals indicates a total disregard for the future of the community and therefore the impact assessment as read is totally flawed in that area, these numbers need to be independently reviewed by someone impartial to the authority and school.
- Should be near Baytree school at highlands lane
- The consultation clearly sets out the equalities impact, and it is clear that the school will have a very positive impact for children who attend, their families and the wider school community.
- Disabled children would not have easy or safe access to local amenities
- I think taking away brookfield walk fields would have a detrimental effect on the local community meaning the loss of green belt land increased traffic in a purely residential area .
- The roads will become even busier making it unsafe for our children to play outside, no matter how many parking spaces you provide your staff/visitors/transport will still park outside my house making it impossible for us to park and our visitors.
- If the principle of local schools for local children is to be upheld then there should be fair allocation for ALL pupils.
- Failing to

- Shutter pupils have as much right to have their school close to their home.
- If additional places are not created in North Somerset special schools the most vulnerable children and young people and their families could be significantly adversely impacted - and create greater inequality in accessing education locally
- Every child should have the right to attend a school which meets their specific needs which is close to home and enables them to be a full member of that community.
- if no expansions then provision for some of the most needy children in our community will be insufficient
- The road network surrounding Brookfield is already congested, therefore bringing more vehicles to this area on a daily basis is going to increase pollution which will impact on residents quality of life.
- Any selected site must not be at the expense/loss of a desperately needed green space.
- Schools were supposed to support children with learning disabilities into main stream schools as part of being inclusive. Taking away the only open space in East Clevedon for a ninth school, when Clevedon is not expanding makes no sense
- Children with special educational needs and disabilities should have as many opportunities for a good education as do all other children in North Somerset.
- Whether you have a disability or not, everyone should be treated equally. Residents in Brookfield walk are not being treated equally. Our quality of life and right to open space and community would be removed if the school expanded to Brookfield wa
- You are not thinking of the needs of the residents of Clevedon (including canine residents)
- Every child should have the right to education
- A child should not be expected to travel 15 or even 20 miles to access a suitable school place just because they have an additional need
- I think it is important that children with special needs are able to attend a school suitable for their needs in their local community.
- I do feel that there isn't as much equality for our children with additional needs. Every child needs an educational platform just our children's needs vary and I don't think this should be made any more of an issue.

## 6.

### **Additional comments:**

- We purchased our house because of the location and beautiful surroundings. There are many other sites that can be used that won't be detrimental to this neighbourhood and more importantly the environment! As usual money saving tactics, are being used instead of what is best for all. I fully support the need to expand school especially having a child with mobility issues, however you cannot continue to build on green space. When does this stop!!

- This should not be challenged, we have children that are in desperate need of these places
- I think this is a fantastic service and if making it larger makes it even more accessible then it's a must in my eyes. We have a responsibility to provide the best possible education for our young and must take steps as a society to ensure that this includes our children with learning disabilities.
- Wherever you decide to build the school there are going to be objections. There are plenty of green spaces in Clevedon for use, so fully support the proposal. All children deserve an education and if Brookfield Walk is the most suitable, then I fully back the expansion.
- This seems a very positive expansion for children who need it.
- I can't remember if I've already answered this questionnaire before, apologies if I have
- It is clear that a new site for the school is needed to accommodate a growing number of pupils. I can see that careful consideration has been given to the location of the new premises and in my opinion this new site is very acceptable given its location to the M5 Motorway and other major roads. I do not feel that these proposals, if approved, will have any detrimental impact on local residents, including myself. I am therefore in favour of these plans to develop the site.
- This resource is clearly needed and Baytree has an excellent track record of supporting these vulnerable children.
- Building the school on the proposed site will have massive implications on roads in Clevedon. There is already queues leaving and entering Clevedon each morning and evening. Congestion is as you know a big cause of pollution and this will negatively affect residents as well the additional traffic. Not to mention the wildlife that will be eradicated. The green belt should be protected! The school is not wanted by the majority of residents!
- The green belt status of this land should remain exactly that for the protection of the environment. The additional traffic caused by having a school here would cause absolutely mayhem for the residents not to mention the added pollution it'll bring. I am completely against this site being developed / built on for any purpose and it should remain green land. North Somerset council have declared a climate emergency yet want to bulldoze our few remaining green spaces and concrete over it!
- Clevedon site is not acceptable for the new school
- This green space is enjoyed by all residents of Clevedon and whereas I have no problems of expansion for Baytree School, Brookfield Walk is not the answer to a fruitful life for its pupils.
- The current building is not enough for the school.
- I am deeply concerned that this survey does not include a question on the most important issue - the proposed location of the site. I trust that the results will not be used to justify that location

- North Somerset does not currently have enough places for pupils with severe and profound learning difficulties. This is a good, accessible site on which to build this provision.
- There is a huge need for more SEND places in this area but wondering why Clevedon is being chosen for the expansion rather than Weston as there is a risk of inconsistency and them essentially being 2 completely separate schools.
- The provision makes use of land that lends itself well to this type of facility in a well established neighbourhood, journey times are critical to the efficient use of resources and ensure that students arrive stress free and ready to learn, improving the outcomes. This really is all about location, location, location. The school will inevitably be good for local employment, and contribute to a thriving town. The availability of alternative local trails and footpaths in Clevedon are numerous.
- Working with young children and as SENDCO for my setting I am very concerned that children needing support are given the best possible opportunity to reach their potential and enjoy their education within their community
- Whilst agreeing that a second site is needed that second site should not be so far away from the current site. North Somerset has declared a climate emergency so they need to start acting like it and destroying green land just because it's a cheaper option is not the way to go.
- I think the site should be expanded and the Brookfield site would tick many boxes. I am concerned about traffic, as a local resident, however some of the congestion issues can be mitigated by using minibuses for larger numbers to save on individual car drop off and picks up and staggering start and finish times with pre and post school time provision. It would be great to have a school in the North of the district for those with SLD and PMLD which is easily accessible for many.
- I am recording this response in my capacity as Headteacher of \*\*\*; the Academy community is in favour of this expansion.
- "The people of Clevedon should not lose their much used green space. Brookfield Walk is not the right place for a school. Traffic on Northern Way is already a nightmare at peak times and a school would only add to this. Getting in or out of Brookfield Walk is already difficult. Not forgetting the environmental impact for the local community with increased traffic and loss of trees etc.

Also why would you locate a school so close to the motorway.

There is a better place for a school."

- To consider sending children with special need on long journeys at each end of the day is inhumane, costly in time and completely impractical for staff and families. The school needs input from families and this cannot happen if children are sent out of the area. Special needs schools are a community.
- The current Baytree building is not really big enough to accommodate the current pupils and their equipment even after 3 extensions. It is no longer a suitable building for the high numbers of pupils with physical disabilities in addition to complex learning disabilities.

- Please expand this vital school - the local area is criminally underserved for places at Special Schools and this school provides fantastic care and standards of education for its students.
- This is a no brainer. Children need access to education near there home.
- I would suggest the NHS looks at NHS case with Orchard View in Ham Green it offered respite care for the young disabled.the nhs closed the unit as they classed it as "too expensive" in the long run it has cost them far more as they can not offer a similar level of care. By choosing a piece of land that is not fit for purpose just because it is "free" it will cost NSC far more in the long run
- We need a new school for our young people with additional needs. End of story!
- "Brookfield is not the right place to build on account it's the only greenspace available and green belt for east clevedon. Access will be even harder for all concerned due to travel levels severely increasing at peak hours. Especially when there is plenty of brown space available to build this on.  
  
The streets residents are very much against loosing our field space, you will increase emissions as we will have to drive to other areas, and be cutting down 100s trees, lose of homes to wildlife."
- I worked at Baytree for just under 14 years, I now work in a local primary school. I have seen the increased need for educational provision for children and young people with complex health and/or learning needs. Due to funding, there is not enough support for vulnerable students. An additional Baytree site will ensure that the most vulnerable children and young people have access to education and life skills which they all are entitled to, ensuring achievement and quality of life.
- Currently, the school, the parents and the children are struggling with a very small but vital resource. Even then, the limited spaces mean too many children in the area are excluded with parents facing transport outside of the area, which fails the children on so many levels. In contrast, I can't see that the proposed plans would have any REAL adverse impact on local residents, at least not in contrast to the benefits to the children of YOUR community.
- It is clearly vital that provision for children with severe SEN in N Somerset is increased: current facilities are inadequate and it is known that demand is rising quite rapidly, The proposed site offers a cost-effective way to achieve this: to the best of my knowledge no alternative sites have been identified that offer a similarly cost-effective and appropriate solution to this urgent problem
- Don't build on green belt land! You have enough money from us in council tax, cut services to education, police, health, infrastructure and now this! Not on my watch and I will fight it all the way! If it has to be Clevedon then look at other areas where all services and infrastructure is in place ( old co-op)
- "The need to expand Baytree School is critical. The development of a second site for the CYP with the most complex SEND is an opportunity to ensure these incredible learners remain educated within their community, have access to the right level of support and an environment that will ensure their personal development.  
  
The creation of a second site will also increase capacity within the current Baytree school offering much needed places for CYP with SLD and/or Autism."

- Yes I wholeheartedly support this development
- North Somerset has declared a climate emergency and should not be destroying green belt land just because it is a cheaper option, there are brownfield sites that would be more appropriate. This site is too far from the other site which would result in a raise of co2 levels from travelling to and from
- This is much needed. We need to utilise land now and not keep it for dog walking. We lack spaces for children with disabilities this would save lots of money by not having to send a good portion out of county
- I think this is a well needed expansion of the school
- It is great to hear about the new plans for Baytree school in Clevedon and I am totally supportive of the proposals on the current site. It might be even better if it was explained to the general public why the current site was chosen over the site near the Crab Apple pub.
- Many of the pupils attending, or due to attend the specialist provision of Baytree school access health care at Bristol Children's hospital; and also CHSW Charlton Farm. North Somerset's overnight short break unit is in Clevedon too. OT & health services are based at Castlewood. For a family living in the north of the county, whose other children can attend a local school, having provision locally for their disabled child would have a positive impact.
- Only concerned about consistent noise & pollution levels being so close to the motorway.
- I really do hope this moves forward. What a fantastic opportunity for families who need it.
- I work in the Campus in the school that share a building with Baytree, There are currently 14 minibuses dropping off and picking up each day and very little space to do this in. There current corridors and classrooms are full of all the equipment needed for children with special needs. It is not fair for so many to have to travel if an additional site could be created to spread the spaces across N Somerset.
- It is paramount to these children that they have access to the best facilities available, the new proposal can do that with the ever growing SEND population change has to occur now to have any hope of accommodating more children and young people in the future!
- Don't say this green belt is the best site, be honest it's free, it's all financial. climate emergency, so you cut down trees, create more emissions, lose wildlife, create more traffic in a busy area ? I also cannot understand how the land is suitable for the children, pollution, high noise levels from M5. are you really thinking in the children's best interests or because it's the cheaper option?
- Not allowing this site would cause intolerable suffering to particularly vulnerable children. The site has been chosen as the most appropriate from the Council's available options. No notable trees will be damaged in the construction and access to the orchard and farmland will remain. The inconsistencies of opponents saying it is a dog walking area / area for children to play do not add up as I would certainly not let my children play where dogs are taken to foul.
- "A few other questions:

- 1) Do the potential pupils live locally?
- 2) How far do the potential pupils have to travel, increasing air pollution and traffic.
- 3) Has a badger, bat and bird survey been carried out?
- 4) Has a survey been carried out to check on the existing drainage, water supply, gas and electric services and the limited existing road access.
- 5) Has a flood risk assessment been carried out? The field at the rear of our property has surface water after heavy rain."

- A second site in Clevedon would be ideal for the benefit of SLD pupils in North Somerset. It is desperately needed as the current Baytree site isn't big enough for the rising numbers of children needing this provision.
- There is a continuing rise of children requiring specialist education and to suitably accommodate these in a sustainable and most effective educational way it would be of most benefit to North Somerset to expand the places that could be offered with a new school.
- "1 story site is not paramount with appropriate lift access. Pupils with profound learning difficulties will always have adults for safe access to the outside environment. Travel on the M5 is frequently disrupted with no alternative route so emergency contact between the sites is too far.

Brookfield walk community facilities is the field you are proposing to build on. There is no easy access to local facilities. The town centre is too far with mobility problems to access any cafe or library etc"

- \*\*\* Parish Council supports the Clevedon site for the new building as this will provide better provision for those living in the north of North Somerset.
- We need to look after all groups of children and investment is needed to ensure we give all pupils a safe and secure school placement. This is a really positive step towards that.
- The main factors that have led to the election of Brookfield Walk as a suitable site are very clearly due to the ownership of the land, cost & being able to deliver with the proposed timeline. None of these factors are valid reasons for considering developing green belt land as set out in the national planning policy framework page 42 items 147 -147 & makes clear that Green Belt land should only be developed in exceptional cases, and that economic growth is not in itself an 'exceptional case'.
- Listen to the views of send children and their parents first
- The school really does need to expand - students who have a space are so lucky to be able to access a school in our area where their needs are met and they have opportunities to thrive. It is heartbreaking that children (real children not just projected numbers) are not able to go to school where they can have their needs met. Mainstream school is simply not an option. I hope the new site wherever it is, is close to community facilities and can have ties with other schools as currently.
- More places are needed to accommodate children in need in North Somerset
- Why would we not give the most vulnerable children in society what they require.

- Special school placements in the south west are currently in huge demand. I support all send schools in area development to ensure the best facilities and access to learning for our send community.
- The site chosen is inappropriate - it's on an already very busy junction and backs on to the motorway. You are also destroying a green space used by most of Clevedon
- "Data from Early Years confirms that numbers of children needing SLD/PMLD provision are growing. It is essential that high quality placements are available for these children in their local community wherever possible. This proposal offers the best possible way forward to meet growing demand and enable all our children to receive their entitled education.

Having a severely disabled child is a life changing event which brings high levels of stress to families. Our support for them is essential."

- "I work for Springboard Opportunity Group. I see first hand the positive impact Baytree has for children with disabilities after they leave us. I see parents fighting for their children to be able to access the very limited special school places.

Springboard currently has a waiting list of children needing to access SEND Early Years education - that number won't change and the waiting list will only be transferred to school.

More places for these children is a MUST."

- Expansion of Baytree should not be allowed to mask the lack of placements for children with SEN. There is a lack of suitable placements for older children and the expansion of Baytree will do nothing to address this.
- There is a shortage of suitable places for children with additional needs, the proposed site meets the needs of the children and goes some way to fill the shortage with a relatively small school, with minimal impact on residents and wild life as most trees would remain. I would point out that not far away is an industrial estate with all that that entails, lorries etc.
- I fully support this proposal in every way. Thank you.
- This provision is well over due and needs to be actioned with immediate effect
- I'm pretty disgusted with the comments made by the local residents group in Clevedon, particularly on their Facebook group which verge on discriminatory to disabled children. It's very much a 'not in my back yard' attitude, despite the fact that inclusion is the much better approach to understanding and de-stigmatising those with special and educational needs. The new school would also go some way to making progress with the OFSTED Written Statement of Action from their SEN visit in May 2018.
- I was lucky enough to spend some time with children at baytree a number of times as I am a Teaching Assistant and had worked one to one with a couple of children that went there on dual placements and I had to accompany them. It is an amazing school and provides a great school for SEND children that cannot cope with a mainstream school. I can appreciate that the school was built some time ago now and there is new technology that could be so helpful for the staff and pupils.

- "As a staff member at the current school I experience the daily challenges of trying to store essential equipment for these children. I see children distressed from long journeys which in turn affects their education.  
I have concerns about how bus escorts cannot deliver emergency medication when on transport which leaves these children very vulnerable for a big portion of the day. The children need access to more sensory based activities to meet their needs which is currently not achievable."
- I feel this is definitely a provision that is needed within north Somerset and feel strongly we should bring as many pupils back into county as possible by expanding north Somerset's SEN provision.
- Another SEN provision is crucial for students in North Somerset. There are over 30 students travelling further afield with journey times exceeding the best practice standards to reach specialist provision that can be accommodated nearer. This has a negative impact on their health and wellbeing.
- Additional special school places should be given priority to meet the needs of local children and young people with additional needs and disabilities keeping provision close to home.
- "There is a huge need for another special educational needs school as places are at a premium and numbers for this provision are increasing.  
This group of children are at a disadvantage and are entitled to have an appropriate educational setting and provision suitable for their needs."
- children need to be educated within the local area, we live in Weston super-mare and one child is transported to Bristol every day and one child is at Baytree, if Baytree had more capacity then children wouldn't have to be educated outside of the local authority saving loads of money on transport and possibly respite? Baytree is the most amazing school and if this can be expanded this must be a positive step forward for everyone? what are the objections? I know traffic maybe a problem?
- A specialist school with extra spaces is very much needed and very quickly.
- I feel this whole situation is a travesty as the only green community space in east Clevedon would be removed, people are going to lose an area to exercise and walk their dogs, a safe space for families, a space for community events. Wildlife in the area will be lost, trees unnecessarily felled, potential flooding of the area caused, disruption and damage. The road infrastructure will not be able to cope (I have lots more but out of space)
- "I think that it is ESSENTIAL to create the opportunity for ALL to have education appropriate to their needs. I have the privilege of knowing some fabulous children with needs which can be met by Baytree - this opportunity should be available for all.
- Clevedon is perfectly located for an expansion site - close to the motorway as well as not far from the existing school for shared executive support."
- "Baytree school in the current site is too small for our children in terms of physical space, parking, equipment provision and accessibility.
- A new, larger site would provide the correct, needed facilities and space and the option for children who are forced into mainstream with EHCPs to be provided with the correct schooling.

- Children should have the opportunity to be schooled in a environment which suits them, not the other way around."
- Please? Come on people! This has to happen
- This application has also over looked the environmental impact on these fields, numerous animals thrive on these fields including bats. There are trees that are there for a reason to act as a buffer for the families from the motorway, absorbing both sound and pollution, along with gallons of rain water. Not only does the location put the pupils health at risk it puts the many elderly, families and children's health at risk while taking away vital space for recreational use.
- I do not agree with the expansion on ANY greenfield site, the access for the proposed 2nd site is not suitable, the loss of public space, wildlife and greenery is a disgrace, also being so close to the motorway would surely have negative effects on the severely disabled children.
- The need for the expansion has been made so clear in the proposals. Not only to benefit them while they're younger but to benefit them when they're older. I work with adults with learning difficulties that didn't get an education or the support in school they were entitled too or had to travel so far they were always too tired to do anything- the difference this could have made to their lives would be massive.
- Baytree is an incredible school and an extra site would open up more opportunities for children with additional needs, which is a growing population
- "Being a qualified and competent construction engineer I find it difficult to find justification in this proposed development. This opinion is based on the knowledge of the lack of services, water, drainage sewage etc. also the proximity to the M5 does need special consideration as part of any environmental impact.

Also I can understand that NSC has put this proposal out to any so called stake holders, but will due consideration be given to those involved. **NEGATIVE EFFECT ON COMMUNITY."**

- In view of increased demand, provision must be provided for children with additional needs.
- This is a perfect site to be part of a community, to have level access to shops and amenities and a direct road link to Worle and the rest of N Somerset
- Number of pupils has doubled. One of the stipulations of any proposed site is that it should be within walking distance of shops & amenities - Brookfield Walk is not. The land is green belt land & the Council has signed up to be greener and support the environment. The land is a flood plain, in which the trees absorb not only excess water but carbon from pollution caused by the motorway plus much needed noise reduction. Also concerns re access & parking. Idea to make more parking available
- I am in full support of the plans to expand Baytree school and for a site to be built in Clevedon. I do however feel that the old Quicksafe site is more appropriate for the project that the Brook field walk site.
- As a retired teacher with a daughter who is at present teaching in a school with a high proportion of special needs children I hear constantly of the struggle to get adequate provision for the children who need it.I hear of the impact on others both children and staff who are pressured and feel dissatisfied because they are unable to

meet the needs of the children in their care. Consequently when the authority come up with a plan to provide additional places I feel it is my duty to support it.

- My family including parent and Autie all live within one mile and in Sumerlin Drive opposite the proposed area. My main objection is to the increase in volume of traffic this will bring to Northern Way. Which is an already unsafe road which has been prone to numerous accidents and even a death! This would only increase. The area is already gridlocked from 3pm. The proposal would directly affect my life in a negative way.
- Access from Brookfield Walk onto Northern Way is already bad. Extra work would need to be done at the junction to aid with this I feel. Also, the bend on which the school entrance would be off is already quite tight and cars going quick around it. Thoughts to the road layout need to be seriously thought, so that it will make turning easier/safe.
- Brookfield Walk is certainly not a good location. It is not within "easy reach" of the existing school or homes, the greenbelt land is used by many dog walkers and families, and would be a huge loss to the residents not just in this area of Clevedon. Access onto the main road is already extremely difficult for those exiting Brookfield Walk or Sumerlin Drive. There is a lot of wildlife in that area which has been given no consideration. And the very close proximity of the motorway
- School should not be built on green belt land. The land is currently used and enjoyed by Clevedon residents of all ages. Road network surrounding proposed site can not support the increased traffic that the school will bring.
- "This would be good for families that live in other areas and closer to home  
It's close to local town and facilities close to motorway  
This would be good for the school"
- Baytree school was the best thing that happened to my nephew an excellent school but not enough spaces for everyone to attend
- This school is urgently needed and the proposed site is ideally suited. I fully support the development.
- The Clevedon site is not viable, to build on marsh land, on land that was left for the community is wrong. The impact of taking down yet another green space with lots of trees is also wrong. Have the planners done a study on the impact of traffic to the Brookfield Walk proposed site? There are problems getting in and out of the estate now, in Summer the M5 traffic is often diverted past this junction causing even more problems. Parking on the estate (there will be overflow from a school)
- "The proposed site here in Brookfield Walk is completely the wrong choice  
This green field is the place where we walk our children and grandchildren to visit the ancient apple orchard  
also teach them to recognise the birds and animals that make their homes there  
The ideal site for a new facility would be an existing brown field site"
- Every child is entitled to a local school that fits their needs.
- I feel that it is unacceptable for residents in this society who do not have children with special needs to complain against the location of this new school. There needs

to be a better understanding of the specific needs of these children which outweighs the current objections related to green belt building.

- I live backing on to Northern way in Clevedon and the traffic situation is horrendous with traffic at a stand still and increased traffic from a new school will only add to the current problems. Taking away green belt because it is free is not the answer. There must be a more suitable site within North Somerset .
- I am totally against your decision to use Brookfield Walk site. When the world is in a climate emergency North Somerset Council should be looking at sites where they are not destroying wildlife habitats, felling trees, and taking the only green open space in the area from the residents and local community.
- The number of children in the Primary age range attending Baytree has increased from 40% - 56% in the last four years. It is even more important that these younger children should be as close to their homes as possible.
- This school is essential to meet the needs of the children we currently have and also for children waiting for a place. North Somerset is in urgent need for a new school like this to meet with the town and surrounding area's needs and to support the families of the children with such complex needs.
- Brookfield Walk field is not an ideal site for the expansion of the school in any way shape or form. The other potential sites need re-evaluating.
- If pupils of Baytree could go to main stream school they wouldn't have to travel far to school. Sadly they need special school. They have to travel 17 or so miles to go to school. They have the right to this just like children going to mainstream schools.
- We need additional special school places to be given priority to meet the needs of local children and young people with additional needs and disabilities keeping provision close to home.
- Brookfield walk is not a suitable site for the expansion. We, as residents already have enough trouble trying to exit onto the main road as it is without parents doing the school run coming onto and out of the estate at busy times.
- Failure to expand in county special needs facilities will have devastating effects on children who use them and their families and on the local authority budget.
- There are a number of sites in WSM that should be explored further. Clevedon does not have the infrastructure with the roads, also we should not have to lose valuable green belt when there are other developed sites available
- NSC have informed everyone that the land for the proposed new school will be at nil cost; NSC has declared a Climate Emergency but is content to decimate yet more of OUR Green Belt Land just because its free land, so the whole decision making process must be questioned with regards to the competency of its decision making officers. Surely our education system must be all inclusive & building a new school adjacent to an existing educational facility would make perfect sense to anyone.
- I think a school of this kind is much needed and I support the plans to extend this school and I would like my support to be noted as I think only people who oppose the plan will comment.
- Baytree School provides outstanding care to children with a range of disabilities. If they need a second site, which it is clear they do, then the community should be

100% behind them. They provide much needed service for families all over North Somerset.

- Any selected new site must be a brown field site ie NOT a designated green space, must not involve cutting down a tree, nor paving over flood plain. Any selected new site must not be against the wishes of the local residents who have purchased expensive but small homes with the benefit of a small green space local to their houses. No school should ever be built so close to a motorway. No decision to expand or relocate any school building should ever be based on "the cheapest option".
- There was a distinct lack of additional need spaces for 2019 and a large number of children have already been identified for 2020.
- I agree Baytree needs expansion, probably via a second site. However the fields at Brookfield walk are not the place to have this site. The roads are already small on this estate, vehicular access would be a major issue for residents and those using the school. More importantly this is a greatly used community green space, great for dog walkers, families, children etc. and would be a huge loss. A separate site needs be sought by North Somerset council.
- Currently Baytree School is bursting at the seams and desperately needs to expand not only to give them more space to accommodate all the equipment ( wheelchairs, standing frames, walkers, hoists etc) but also to make room for children who are waiting for a space. In addition it is important that special needs children within North Somerset are schooled within this County and not have to endure the extra hardship of very long periods of time travelling to school.
- This questionnaire is biased. No questions are included about the choice of site. These questions are based on the school requesting an expansion. This decision for expansion had already been agreed at a higher level, with funds being made available, hence these questions are irrelevant. The questions in this questionnaire should be discussing the whether Brookfield walk is the best choice for the school and the community. Having a barrage of loaded questions does not represent equality.
- "The community must raise their support for those who would benefit from this the most - those who don't have a voice.

Yes the proposed site is green belt but all land was once green belt. There are brownfield sites about - maybe consider somewhere that would be allocated for housing (which is not affordable or will benefit our local community, as is all current housing developments in the county). Why not close Portishead children's centre as this is a building purpose fit for a school"

- We need our field to run and play with our other furry friends. If you take this away we will have nowhere nearby to play. You are also taking the home of all our wildlife friends too. We want our field to be saved as it is a community space
- "Would like to see some renewable energy.

Would like some form of respite area for staff who do direct payments with pupils, maybe option to stay overnight.

Needs plenty of storage for chairs and equipment

Would like ideally to be nearer amenities like coffee shop, food outlets, supermarket all so important for our pupils life skills times, Aldi too far away to walk with pupils

Needs to be enough parking for all staff and visitors to park on site, residents already upset let's not add to it."

- North Somerset Council it would be an absolute disgrace to build on Brookfield walk open green space .. There are numerous alternative sites available to NSC and these must be explored
- The cutbacks to services for children, adults and their families are having huge negative impacts on people. It is time we invest in those with additional needs.
- We need this so badly, springboard are amazing, but then there is nothing - we need another school in the local area, I would love a place for my boy in September 2021
- This school is much needed. North Somerset are spending so many funds on sending children out of county to schools to meet needs. This will mean more children are able to access the specialist school they need locally and mean less money is spent by the LA which can be spent in other areas of need.
- I am totally opposed to proposed site of the new school and the loss of the green belt land. I use this every single day, twice a day and there are no viable alternatives within walking distance, especially for those with young children or elderly/ aging dogs. I am also concerned about the loss of trees, the impact on air quality and noise from the motorway which is now absorbed by the trees.
- Baytree offers children with additional needs and their families a safe, purposeful and happy environment. But for every child starting at the school, there are many more who do not get a place whose educational journey would be so much better provided for at this fantastic school.
- The demand for High needs places is outstripping supply in the locality, this expansion is a necessity if we are to provide local schools for local children
- "This group of children are one of the most disadvantaged in our society, and we should be doing all we can to improve their quality of life. The current Baytree team have done a brilliant job in meeting their needs, but this school building was never designed with these children in mind, and cannot continue much longer without expansion.

This proposal would also allow the current site to focus on the remaining children, with asc / Severe LD who also have very specific needs."

- The current Baytree school was a amazing school when my daughter attended some years ago, I fully support their ambition to provide a further establishment to enable more numbers with PMLD to attend school closer to where they live in an environment specifically to meet their needs.
- Itll be good for the community to have more spaces for somewhere people with additional needs can go and for everyone to know they are in safe hands. Bay tree has done miracles for some of its past pupils and continues to do so.
- The present school is to small to house the children and the equipment they need. Whilst the staff are brilliant the school does serve them as it is they need better provision made for getting around in wheelchairs and bigger spaces for the children with complex needs who may need to wonder without them being in any danger the

present school children can escape into the other school quite easily. The current dining room is used by both schools and is like eating lunch in the middle of Zulu dawn!

- I am aware through my work and also as a parent of a former pupil of Baytree the difference the school can make to children and their families. My daughter often spent three hours or more per day travelling to school and back from Nailsea. Through involvement with MAISEY I am aware of the numbers of children under five who will be requiring places at Baytree in the near future therefore believe that the school must be built by 2021. The site looks ideal being in the centre of the county.
- Children with SPLD are like any other children except they have more difficulties which they have no control over. Let's help give them a place where they can be happy, grow and develop and not add further difficulties to their lives.
- Students in our area need local provision. Sending children out of town for their education is not right.
- Not enough spaces at Baytree school and staff so many families looking for special needs schools so this is needed
- Many more children are surviving with complex needs to to medical advances. This is wonderful for them and their families. However, their complex physical and learning needs are not being fully met in inadequate facilities at the present time. I feel that all children need equality of opportunity and have the right to an education that meets their needs and improves their life chances. I fully support this proposal by Baytree School and North Somerset.
- Having seen my sister go through the process of finding a suitable school for my niece and knowing how far she has to travel each day just to get to a school that suits her needs. There is definitely a need for more places to be available to the wider community for the wonderful school that is Baytree.
- There is a great need for this expansion
- Baytree is a wonderful school with dedicated staff who provide a great education for children with special needs. It is imperative that North Somerset Council provide enough places for children with special needs within North Somerset - they should have equal opportunities for a good education to meet their needs just like other children.
- "The need for the second baytree is huge! I would never ever want another parent to go through the struggles that I've gone through! Hoping for the best outcome possible so our children are given the same chance in life as children without additional needs.

Every child is equal and every child that requires a special educational needs school should have the same rights as a child in a mainstream school."

# APPENDIX 2

## **e.Consult Responses**

to

Supplementary Consultation  
for Proposed expansion to  
Baytree School,  
including location onto a second site

NB: All comments are a direct representation of those received and have not been altered to correct typographical or other errors etc

# Supplementary Consultation for Proposed expansion to Baytree School, including location onto a second site

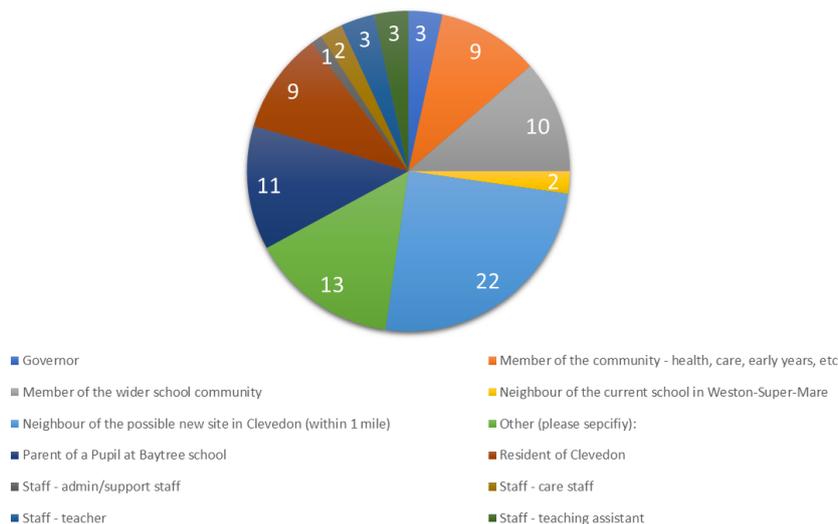
## e.Consult Responses

Comments (including typographical errors) are exact copies of those provided by respondents

How many responded to the online consultation questionnaire? 88

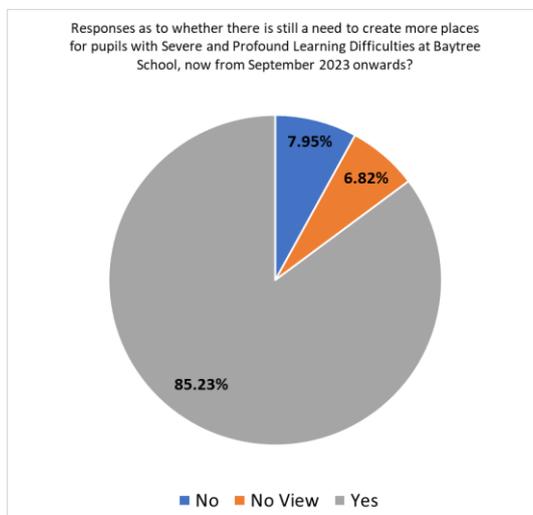
Who responded to the questionnaire:

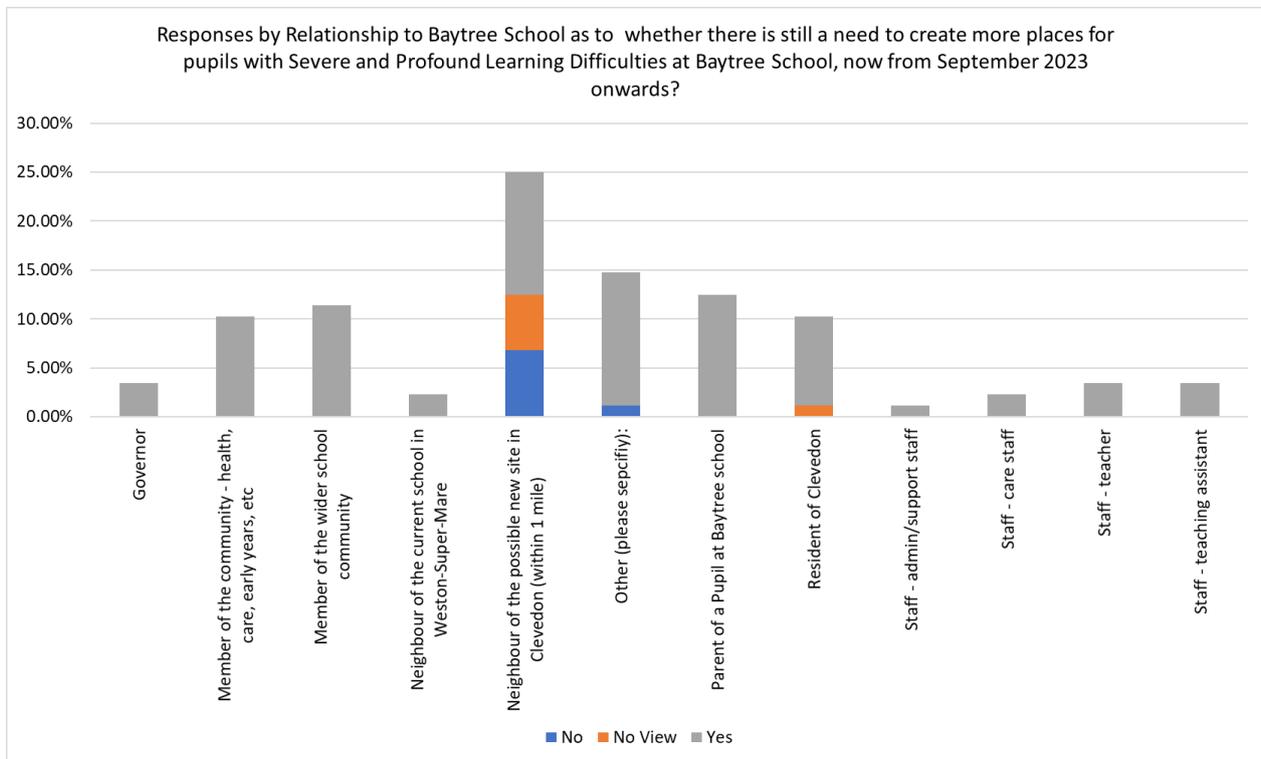
Responders Relationship with Baytree School



### Responses to the questionnaire:

**1. Based on the information you have been given, do you agree there is still a need to create more places for pupils with Severe and Profound Learning Difficulties at Baytree School, now from September 2023 onwards?**



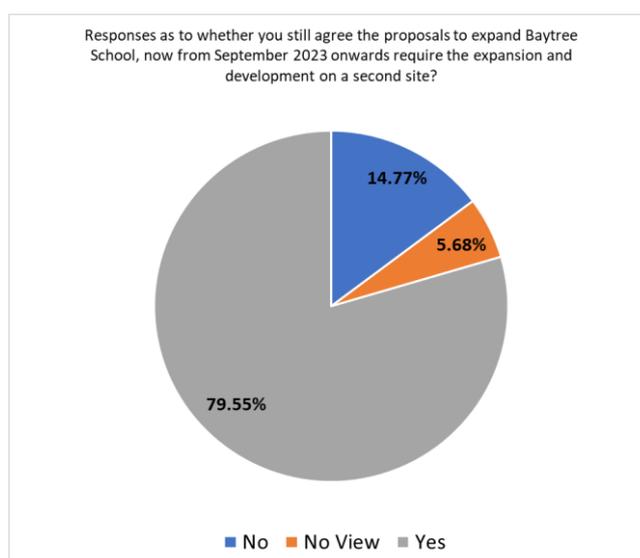


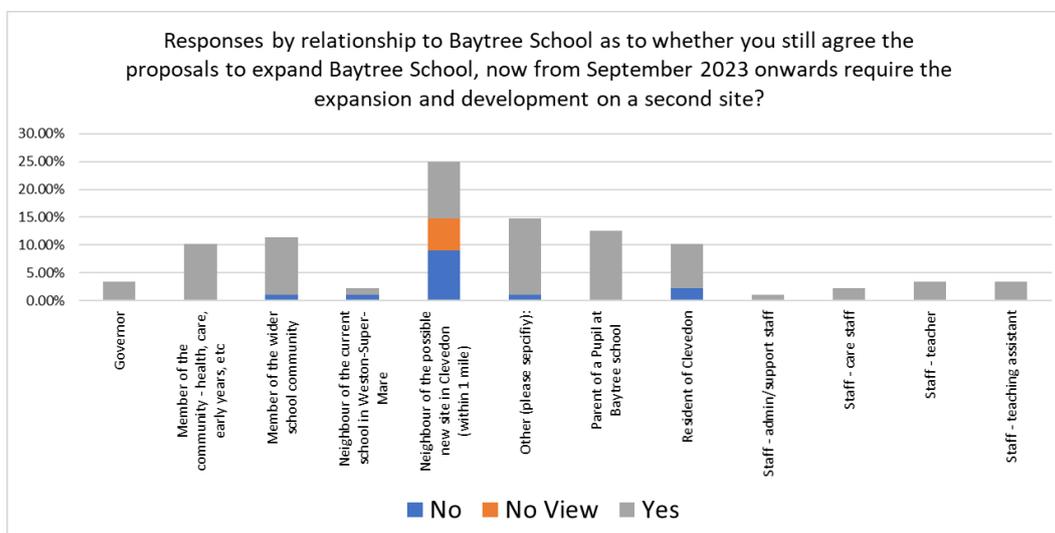
#### Comments:

- The document attached to this questionnaire only outlines your intention to gauge original responses. The original consultation is 2 years old and has not been included. It therefore does not give consideration to New concerned parties
- The need is plentiful and much needed. The current building is outdated and too small
- The need to expand Baytree School is now critical. The number of children and young people requiring a school placement at Baytree School has increased dramatically and the current site is over capacity.
- May be less far for some children to travel, eleviating additional transport/travelling time
- Surely not on green belt land in direct opposition to the councils self declared climate emergency
- Yes. Not on Green belt. Where does my disabled daughter get to walk now?
- It would seem from the councils own statistics that it would take many years for the new proposed new site to be used to it's full capacity. I would query whether pupils based at the current bay tree site would travel to Clevedon
- I believe there is a need to provide extra space for children with special needs however I believe the proposed site is not a appropriate site for the build, this is due to the removal of green belt, a rise in pollution levels on the residential
- I understand there has been suggested a need for extra places but this is the wrong place for children next to motorway and busy main road & housing estate

- Anyone who may be sensitive to noise pollution shouldn't be subjected to an environment which is so close to the M5 and a noisy (at times) Trading Estate.
- I don't know enough about this
- But not next to M5, wrong location
- even more urgent than before
- I am a parent of a child who has profound learning difficulties and it is so important that our most vulnerable children have access to an education in the correct setting.
- But not on green space! NSCC back ganders!
- DId not require new site
- Expansion IS probably needed but NOT at the expense of green space/local community playing fields.
- Nobody in the local or wider community disputes the need for a school, however, the location is completely unsuitable and at the deprivation of immediate residents by taking away their only green space. This survey should provide everyone with the op
- Only 25 pupils in the North Somerset District benefit from this new school, only 5 in Clevedon itself. Building a school to support 120 pupils is excessive and the school would be better suited in another location.
- Yatton Parish Council Planning Committee discussed the consultation for the expansion of Baytree School on Monday 4th October 2021. The Committee still very much supports the expansion of the school on the chosen site and considered there
- As the parent of a child with complex profound additional needs we have no place for schooling in North Somerset and would like not to be excluded by the lack of provision in the county

**2. Based on the information you have been given, do you still agree the proposals to expand Baytree School, now from September 2023 onwards require the expansion and development on a second site?**



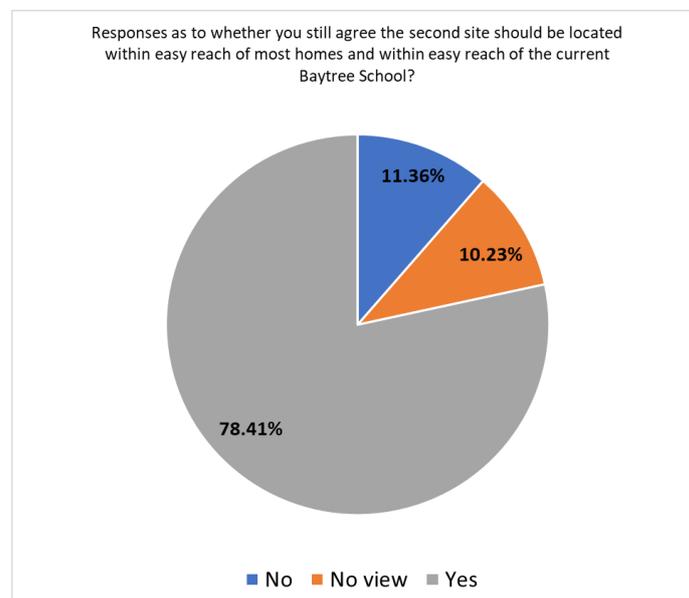


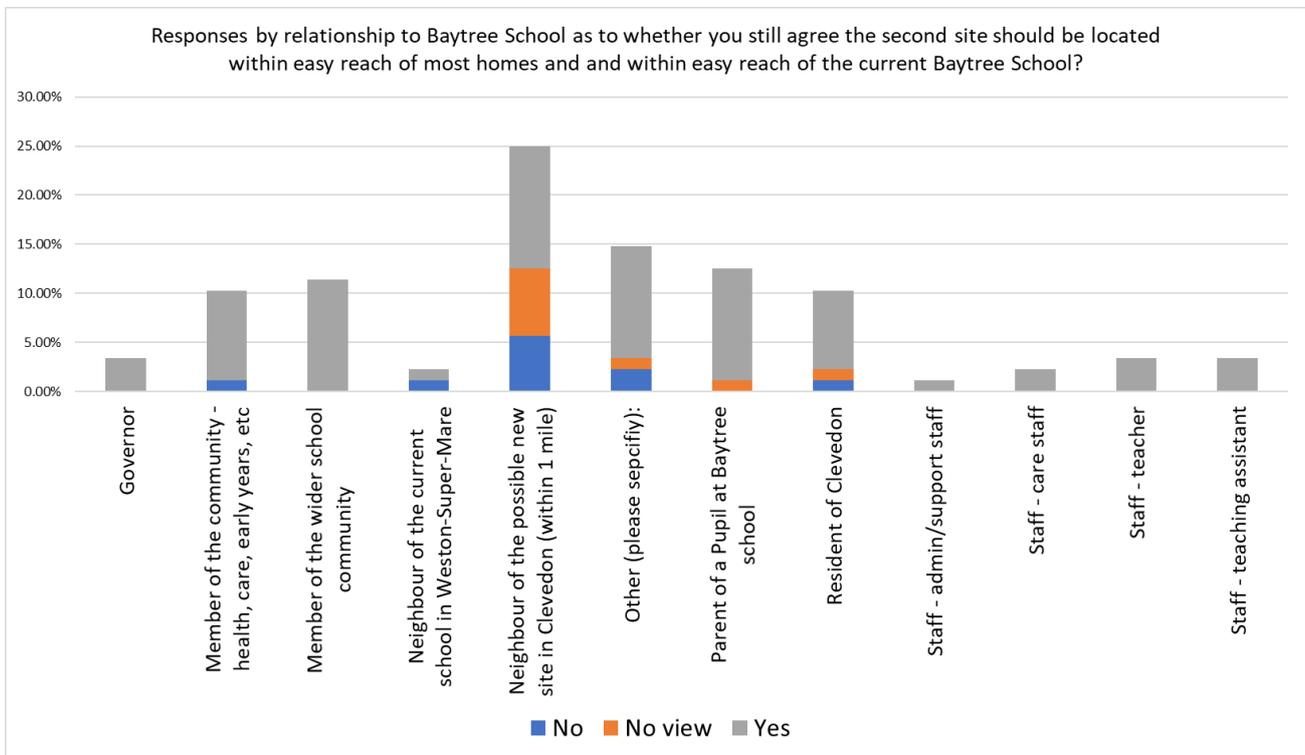
### Comments:

- In light of it being 2 years further consideration needs to be given in light of COVID-19 and education recovery plan as a whole county
- But not the site identified when other are available.
- There is a need for a bigger provision in North Somerset and a split site will provide greater access to families.
- Not on a green open space flood plain in Clevedon
- Yes, as the current site cannot be expanded the creation of a second site is paramount in ensuring CYP who require SEND provision receive this within their community.
- I DO NOT object to the Brookfield Walk site being used for the second site.
- The site which has been selected is not fit for purpose it is being built on green belt land which the council have now removed the green belt. The site is at risk of flood and next to the motorway. The estate is busy and it is the wrong place
- The current school could be made bigger. Other schools for special needs are not single story, and the expansion could go upwards. Or a better location could be found. Traffic in this area is already horrific.
- Surely not on green belt land in direct opposition to the councils self declared climate emergency
- Not on green belt land- disgusted beyond words by councils conduct
- The cohort of students attending Baytree School is completely different of that when the school was first built. More student assessability equipment is required and his is impacting on the already limited space that the school has.
- Reasons as per the above question
- As said before I believe the site is not appropriate
- Not if children need a quiet place too near busy motorway and main busy roads

- I don't have sufficient information
- None
- Leave green space a build away from a polluted motorway! Think of the kids!
- Children with complex physical & learning difficulties should remain on original purpose built site. Other pupils without need for specialist buildings could be resited on non green belt sites.
- AS per Q4, expansion but NOT at ghe expense of green belt/fields.
- Nobody in the local or wider community disputes the need for a school, however, the location is completely unsuitable and at the deprivation of immediate residents by taking away their only green space. This survey should provide everyone with the op
- Children need to exercise more but NSC want to take away green spaces
- See response above. Also building next to a motorway where pollution levels are a factor does not consider the needs of the pupils.

**3. Based on the information you have been given, do you still agree the second site should be located within easy reach of most homes and within easy reach of the current Baytree School?**



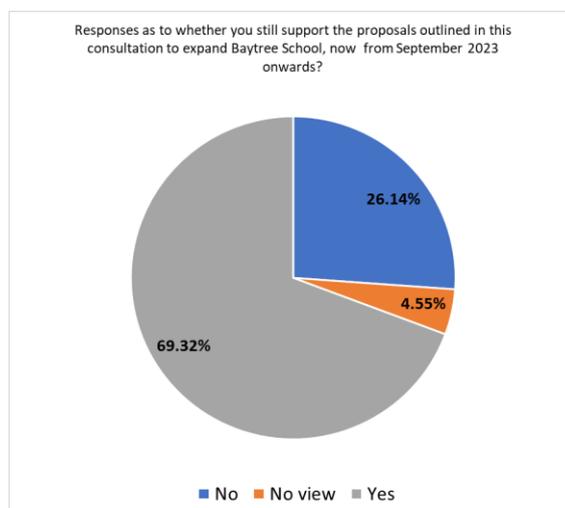


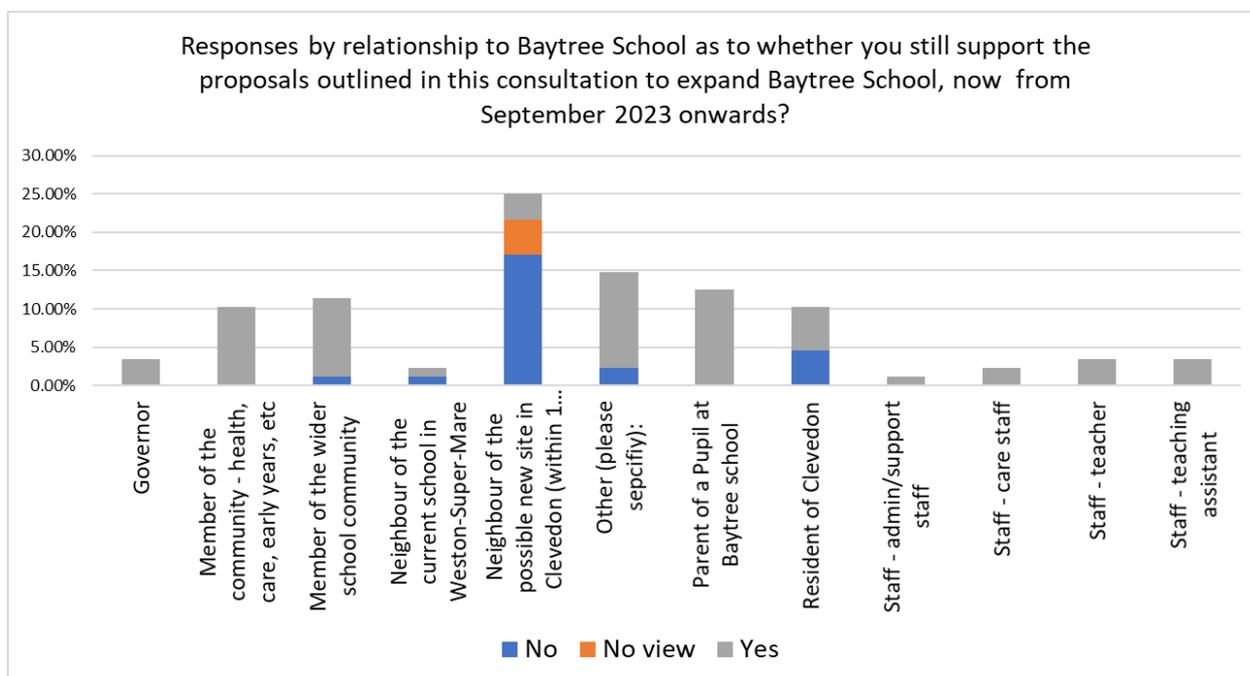
**Comments:**

- But not the site identified when others are available. No appeal has been made to Gov't for additional funds or fundraising sought to buy an alternative site.
- I think it needs to be on a site that can be managed by the Baytree leadership team but also considering the needs of the families and the accessibility of the new site to families across the whole area.
- Not on a green open space flood plain in Clevedon
- The Clevedon site is not practical, the traffic when children will be arriving/leaving is clogged with rush hour cars, adding chi
- Yes, this is critical in ensuring the expansion is within and enhancing the local community as well as being close to the current site to ensure the children, families and staff team feel apart of the Baytree community.
- Site is an ideal central location to the North of the district near the motorway and surrounding villages
- It should be sited in Weston so it is accessible to Baytree. There is more land available in Weston such as near the new housing development /old airfield.
- Because these questions are not asking what people need to answer, only worded how you want the answers. Rubbish
- But surely not on green belt land in direct opposition to the councils self declared climate emergency
- Not at the detriment of other disabled people living nearby's only area of green space
- The proposed new site is easily accessible for both Bristol and North Somerset students.

- I'm not convinced that Clevedon is sufficiently near enough to the current siter enough
- However there are better sites suited to the build
- Totally wrong site for children pollution coming from motorway
- It's a different school, I haven't got information to say why it's important to be 'close' to another school.
- Yes, leave the green green space alone and build on sites that need rejuvenated
- Lies have been told to warp the facts to allow building on green belt
- 'Easy reach' is a broad spectrum question.
- Nobody in the local or wider community disputes the need for a school, however, the location is completely unsuitable and at the deprivation of immediate residents by taking away their only green space. This survey should provide everyone with the op
- Easy reach of existing schoolOP
- The location of the proposed site will cause distress to those travelling to the site. Traffic volumes are excessive during the rush hour and this will impact those travelling to the site. There are more suitable locations.
- Easy reach within the community, but the existing baytree base should move to the new site too so they are all together and getting all the support they all need.
- Define EASY. It is easy to fly. From brs to mad
- Our near neighbour has a profoundly disabled child who attends Baytree. Having a local school suitable for her special needs in Clevedon would significantly improve her quality of life and wellbeing.

**4. Based on the information you have been given, do you still support the proposals outlined in this consultation to expand Baytree School, now from September 2023 onwards?**



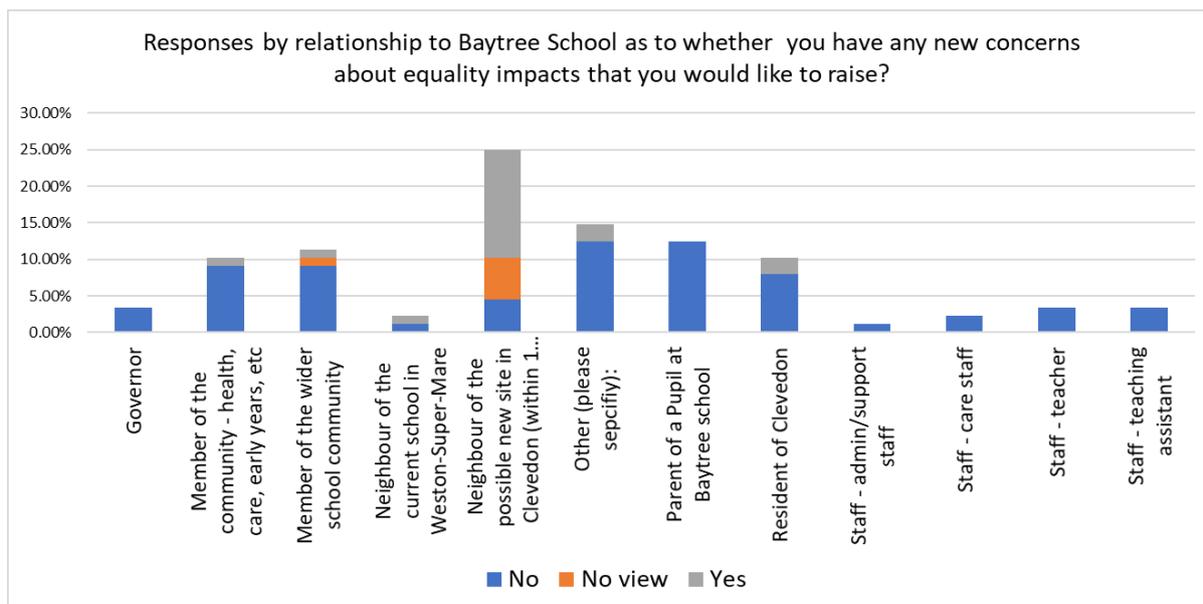
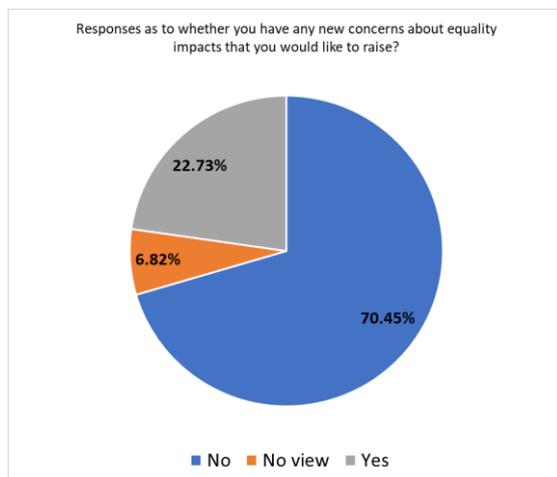


### Comments:

- It needs to be reviewed and further consideration and consultation given as things there are new matters that need to be considered if this a true consultation
- As previous answers. Wrong location. Next to M5. Pollution from busy roads. Loss of green belt and an asset to the community
- Yes but I would not like to see the skate park feature taken away from the local residents the children love this area to hang out and play its important kids have somewhere to socialise for community cohesion
- Not on a green open space flood plain in Clevedon
- Children will be stuck in traffic arriving and leaving school, this will cause distress and anxiety for all concerned
- No evidence of increasing need has been provided.
- Surely not on green belt land in direct opposition to the councils self declared climate emergency
- Yes I agree with the expansion but this is the wrong site, for the children, the residents and the wider community.
- Not on green belt
- The site will contribute to pollution, congestion of traffic, removal of green belt, flood plain, limited parking, removal of natural habitat among other issues.
- Too close to motorway & main roads/housing estate
- Where is the information to support this?
- Not supported the location
- there is an urgent need for this

- I don't support building on any green space land!
- I think this is an appalling misuse of power to destroy green belt land.
- Not on green belt
- No, I NEVER supported the proposal & these questions are biased and unfairly loaded

**5. Based on the information given, do you have any new concerns about equality impacts that you would like to raise?**



**Comments:**

- I am unhappy with the loss of the green fields to local residents. Could they not use the closed down Golden Valley garden centre brown field site on the Tickenham Road,

- 2 years have passed and in light of what has occurred, new priorities a new consultation should commence otherwise it is likely to not be ethical or in line with equality
- Levelling up agenda. Penalising Clevedon residents in loss of limited green space where alternative sites are available at cost.
- Just if the proposals effected the play areas that's all really
- The children will be exposed to unnecessary stress on their travels as the road structure can't cope with existing traffic with M5 also having heavy demands during school run.
- The council have torn up the rule book by allowing itself to build on green belt land and not considering the objections
- The impact on locals near the proposed new site have not been fully taken into account. Residents have not been taken seriously. The feedback was glossed over and ridiculed by councillors.
- This school should be built on the second field by the comprehensive in Clevedon. Much more inclusive than this suggestion. This is not at all inclusive
- The kids are being used as an excuse to move when it's not in their best interest - pollution, travel, congestion etc.
- Where in walking distance does my disabled daughter get green space ??
- There has been no consideration of the equality of the residents living in the road as objections were ignored
- Unfair to children with learning difficulties next to busy M5 & main road/noise levels
- Impact on Clevedon due to building on our open land the only space that is in green belt in this area of Clevedon is detrimental to the health and welcoming of local residents and children. How can you take from one group to give to another
- Floods, additional traffic, loss of green space, public recreation, environment, kids health!
- Disability has been used inappropriately to make the law surrounding green belt & environmental concerns irrelevant
- The development will deprive local residents both young and old by taking away the only green space accessible within walking distance, this space has been a much loved area enjoyed by local residents for many years.
- What about local families
- Yes, there are equality issues for the local residents and their children who, during lockdown, the only green place we have had to get out in is the proposed site. Taking away this green space puts local families at a disadvantage
- Failure to approve the expansion is contrary to the requirement to provide schooling for disabled children and a clear equalities issue
- NSC have not carried out any formal assessment.

**6. If you wish to make additional comments, please use the space below.**

- Further consultation opportunity should be given on the whole proposal as there are significant changes which influence these proposals
- As previous comments
- I support children who are deafblind/multi-sensory impaired and to have more provision available to these families would be encouraging.

- Please refer to our previous comments in support of this second site for Baytree school in Clevedon
- It's not acceptable to put children through the stress of traffic delays, with the addition of support staff and professionals contributing to extra cars on the roads, this is not fair on them or the local children who walk to/ from local school
- We cannot wait for the new school.. it's vital to so many children's well-being. Good luck
- The expansion of Baytree school is an essential part of the NS plan to address SEND needs. While close proximity to the existing site is important, the proposed new site still lies in an accessible area of North Somerset and the families who would access it
- Brookfield walk is still a totally unsuitable site.
- I believe this expansion is essential and will benefit children and their families as well as the local community
- not enough places for children with additional needs. Entitled to education the same as mainstream children are. For some children, their needs are such that if placed in a mainstream environment, it would be at the detriment to the other children
- The fields are well used by the community. This has not been acknowledged at all. There are no other public green spaces nearby. Most people will need to drive to get to green spaces. Totally against environmental issues including cutting down trees.
- This school does need to be built, but in a more appropriate location than on a road with limited parking, and very limited access. The fact the local residents do not want it there should also give pause. The ring road is congested already.
- Building on green belt land is an act of environmental terrorism
- Personally I feel that the Baytree expansion is a front, and their well being is not the first thought in all of this, I think we can all see the future, in that the original baytree will move in full and that land will then be sold for housing
- Councils conduct to date has been disgusting. How dare you put money before disabled children, including those that use that green space to walk, together with children of baytree and residents. Lies the whole way through.
- I understand the argument from both perspectives however I feel that there would be a more appropriate land located elsewhere that would be better suited to this build, there is limited access onto the current road that is already congested enough
- Totally disagree with building on green belt and land that belongs to the local community. Inappropriate site for children with learning difficulties right next to M5/busy main roads/housing estate
- There is no sufficient space to comment shame on you North Somerset once again undermining local democracy with your underhand tactics.
- Residents have never NOT agreed the need for more SEN places, just location
- Would parents of children in mainstream schools find it acceptable for their children to have to travel half - an hour each way to school? No they would not SO why should children with severe and profound difficulties be expected to?
- AGREE there is a need for additional school, but don't take away green space that will benefit the local community! Rejuvenate and use common sense, and what us tax payers are paying you for!
- I find it unbelievable how the council has had such a disregard for the climate & environment we live in , in order to save themselves money

- Plenty of sites more suitable than Brookfield walk which would also be a lot less contentious!
- The whole process has been underhand and NSC have no regard for local residents opposing the development. They have ignored their own policies to get the result they want.
- Nothing should be built on this site
- This questionnaire is biased and unfairly loaded assuming
- This response is made on behalf of Bristol North Somerset & South Gloucestershire NHS Clinical Commissioning Group
- This school is desperately needed by the children in North Somerset.
- This provision has been separately needed for five years and now is absolutely critical to support the most vulnerable, life limited children and their families in North Somerset. Failure to approve the expansion is a legal and moral failure.
- NSC should not consider building on green belt land ANYWHERE in NS
- We desperately need more SEND school spaces within North Somerset and currently this seems to be the most appropriate option.

## **7. Additional responses received by email:**

To Whom it May Concern,

On behalf of the HPA community we are completely in agreement with the proposal to expand the Baytree school on the proposed site. We hope that the planning and development itself continues at pace to deliver much needed places for some of the local authority's most vulnerable children and young adults.

Regards

I am writing on behalf of the Governing Body at Flax Bourton Church of England Primary School to support the expansion of Baytree School on a site in Clevedon.

Places for children with complex needs are in such short supply across North Somerset that many children are unable to have their needs met locally. This is distressing for families and their children and very frustrating for all in the field of education and care of children.

We all want to be able to provide the very best care and education for every child whatever their need and we would urge the council to grant permission for this building work in order to fulfill their duty of care \*and education) for all children.

Ruth Newton

(Chair of governors Flax Bourton Church of England Primary School)

# APPENDIX 3

## Statutory Notice Responses

### Response 1

Dear Sir / Madam,

Please accept this as NSPCWT's official comment in relation to the Statutory notice for the proposed expansion of Baytree School:

It is clear that many additional education places are required for children with profound and multiple needs in North Somerset. Already many are having to seek specialist provision outside of the county having an adverse impact on their education, mental health and wellbeing and family life.

Without additional places being made available within North Somerset there will continue to be a significant adverse effect on these children, who are the most vulnerable in our community, and their support networks - significantly disadvantaging those with disabilities and additional needs in North Somerset as they would be required to travel significant distances out of the area, away from their communities, to access appropriate education provision. As residents of North Somerset we have a responsibility to ensure some of our most vulnerable children are able to access suitable provision within our county.

With Baytree school based in Worle, Clevedon would be a really good location for further provision, ensuring we spread provision within the county, thus helping to provide provision within communities with less travel required for our highly vulnerable children. A real benefit to families in the North of the county.

This is a really well thought out plan that will have significant benefits, not just to those being educated at the school, but also the wider community. It is clear from various forums, including health, education and social care that the building of this provision is widely supported by all working with young people in our county.

Any delay in this critical provision being available is likely to significantly disadvantage the most vulnerable.

Many Thanks

Best Regards

**Kenton Mee**  
**Chair / CEO**

## **Response 2**

To Whom It May Concern

I would like to support the expansion of Baytree School for the following reasons:

1. Baytree School is over PAN
2. The level of need for children with complex needs is high and is currently not being met. This puts many children and families in difficult situations and with provision that is not acceptable.
3. The cost of educating some children out of the local authority is inefficient
4. The site chosen has good transport links
5. The facilities a new school will offer will only enhance the provision in North Somerset and Baytree's current site can no longer expand to keep up with need.

Best wishes  
Rob Collard



## **Baytree School**

'Making the most of every day'

The Campus  
Highlands Lane  
Weston-super-Mare  
BS24 7DX  
tel: 01934 427555  
charity no. 1040849  
email: [schooloffice@baytreeschool.co.uk](mailto:schooloffice@baytreeschool.co.uk)  
[www.baytreeschool.co.uk](http://www.baytreeschool.co.uk)  
Headteacher: Mr Ed Bowen-Roberts  
Deputy Headteacher: Miss Aline Kay  
Chair of Governors: Mr Nick Ward

School Organisation  
North Somerset Council  
Town Hall  
Walliscote  
Grove Road  
Weston-super-Mare  
BS23 1UJ

28<sup>th</sup> March 2021

F.A.O Janice Allen

### **Full Statutory Proposal: Expansion onto an additional site – Baytree School**

I am writing on behalf of the Governing Board of Baytree School to support the proposal to expand Baytree School into a second campus in Clevedon.

There can be no dispute that the demand for special school places for children and young people with Severe Learning Difficulties and Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties is increasing year on year in North Somerset and nationally. We can all be grateful that advances in medicine are enabling more children with profound medical needs to survive and thrive and these children deserve access to education that all other children rightly expect.

Baytree is the only school in North Somerset designated to provide the highly specialist education and support these amazing young people need. But, on its current campus, Baytree is simply not able to respond to the demand, both in terms of numbers of new children needing education, but also in terms of the physical and health needs of those children.

North Somerset desperately needs to create additional specialist school places and the expansion of Baytree, with its strong and proven track record, onto a second campus in Clevedon designed specifically to meet the complex needs of the children is the right response.

Expanding the provision onto the new campus, using the skills and expertise of the Baytree School leadership team and dedicated staff, will ensure the children of North Somerset who require extra support to access the education they deserve can get it.

I am sorry for the lateness of this response but hope you will still be able to take the views of the Governing Board into consideration.

Yours sincerely

Nick Ward  
Governing Board Chair

## Appendix 4

# Environmental Impact Assessment

### School Organisation Process – expansion of Baytree School

This template is for use where an initial assessment has been completed and has identified a potential medium or high risk for service users or staff. It should be used for the following:

- During the development or amendment of council policies
- When incorporating equality and diversity into annual team plans
- At the start of any new procurement or commissioning exercise

<b>Service area:</b>	Strategic Planning & Governance, Children’s Services Directorate
<b>Equality impact assessment owner:</b>	Sally Varley, Head of Strategic Planning & Governance
<b>Review date:</b>	September 2019/ Updated November 2019 and February 2021/ Further Updated March 2022

<b>Service User Impact (High, medium or low)</b>	
<b>Before mitigating actions</b>	<b>After mitigating actions</b>
M/H	M
Updated to: M	L

<b>Staff Impact (High, medium or low)</b>	
<b>Before mitigating actions</b>	<b>After mitigating actions</b>
M/H	L
Updated to: L	L

## North Somerset Council – Equality Impact Assessment

### Section 1 – The Proposal

#### 1.1 Background to proposal – maximum 250 words

1.1.1 The Council is proposing the creation of a second site for Baytree School with facilities to meet the needs of pupils with Severe and Profound Learning Difficulties. The numbers of non-ambulant pupils with complex medical needs are increasing and the current site is not capable of expansion or the level of significant modification necessary to cater for existing demand.

A review of thirteen sites has initially been undertaken and a location in Clevedon – Brookfield Walk – has been identified as a preferred site. It is hoped that in having additional places for pupils with Severe and Profound Learning Difficulties across the current and a new site, the needs of these pupils will be met through the facilities available at the two locations.

#### 1.2 Is there a budget reduction associated with this proposal?

If yes, please describe financial impact.

1.2.1 No – the Council is intending to allocate c £11.5 – 12.5m towards creating new facilities to meet the needs of pupils with Severe and Profound Learning Difficulties.

#### 1.3 Who is likely to be affected by these proposals?

1.3.1 Children with Severe and Profound Learning Difficulties and their families are likely to be affected by these proposals. Some may benefit from a school site closer to their home whilst others may have further to travel. Care has been taken to seek out a new site that is easily accessible from all parts of North Somerset to mitigate any adverse travel changes.

#### Post-Consultation Update

The consultation confirmed that generally children with Severe and Profound Learning Difficulties and their families are likely to be positively affected by these proposals. A school designed to meet their requirements and provide greater numbers of places will enable their needs to be better met and potentially avoid the need for out of the area placements.

## North Somerset Council – Equality Impact Assessment

The need for the expansion of Baytree School in relation to equality is summed up by a quote from the consultation responses:

"The need for the second Baytree is huge I would never ever want another parent to go through the struggles that I've gone through! Hoping for the best outcome possible so our children are given the same chance in life as children without additional needs. Every child is equal and every child that requires a special educational needs school should have the same rights as a child in a mainstream school."

Some pupils and their families may positively benefit from a school site closer to their home whilst others may be negatively affected by having to travel further. Having a choice of two locations may provide options to reduce transport overall, especially where a local place that previously would not have been available can be offered.

Disabled people living close to the site may be differentially, adversely impacted by the loss of the open space as they may find it harder to travel any extra distance to other local sites. The consultation asked if anyone had any concerns about equality matters that they would like to raise. There was a response regarding a person with a disability who a respondent felt might be adversely impacted by the removal of access to the site as it would compromise their opportunity to access nearby play space.

Others shared that the creation of a new school site in Clevedon will remove access to the site from the local community. There were concerns raised that the rights of those living close to the Brookfield Walk site could be disadvantaged by the removal of open space. One of the responses stated:

*"Whether you have a disability or not, everyone should be treated equally. Residents in Brookfield walk are not being treated equally. Our quality of life and right to open space and community would be removed if the school expanded to Brookfield walk"*

Concerns were raised for those locally who could be affected due to their age. Older and younger people could be differentially affected by the loss of the space. This includes children who may play on the site or older people who may access the site for, for example, walking their dog. They may find it more difficult to travel any extra distance to other local sites.

### Second Post Consultation Update

This consultation reaffirmed that generally children with Severe and Profound Learning Difficulties and their families are likely to be positively affected by these proposals. One responder on behalf of a person with a protected characteristic stated that:

## North Somerset Council – Equality Impact Assessment

*'Failure to approve the expansion is contrary to the requirement to provide schooling for disabled children and a clear equalities issue.'*

Concerns continued to be raised about disabled, younger and older people living close to the site who may be differentially, adversely impacted by the loss of the open space as they may find it harder to travel any extra distance to other local sites, and of the benefits the site gave to the community during Covid lockdowns. The consultation again asked if anyone had any concerns about equality matters that they would like to raise. A response regarding a person with a disability who could be adversely impacted by the removal of access to the site, as it would compromise their opportunity to access nearby play space, was made.

In response to those who use the site, and especially those living close to the Brookfield Walk site who could be disadvantaged by the removal of open space, the project will include enhancements to the access to the community orchard to make this site more accessible to all local residents. This will include an accessible all-weather path. In addition, the School Delivery Team, when reviewing the EIA at a meeting on 23 March 2022, committed to explore whether there are opportunities to include child-friendly activity space or trail within the access route to the Community Orchard.

### **1.4 Please detail below how this proposal may impact on any other organisation and their customers**

1.4.1 Pupils at Baytree School are supported by health and social care colleagues. Some may benefit from a school site closer to their office base whilst others may have further to travel. There are no proposed changes anticipated that will affect extended community activities at the current site in Weston and it is envisaged that similar community provision will be offered at the new site (i.e. use of the hydrotherapy pool to community / health groups).

Staff at Baytree Special School will be affected for the same travel reasons as above.

#### Post-consultation Update

44 members of school staff responded to the consultation questionnaire question about equality. Of these, 41 had no concerns, two had no view and one member of staff raised an equality concern stating:

*"Should be near Baytree school at highlands lane"*

## **North Somerset Council – Equality Impact Assessment**

The individual concerned did not indicate whether they are classified as having a Protected Characteristic. No specific concerns that disproportionately impact on existing staff with the Protected Characteristics were raised.

1.4.2 Residents living close to the chosen site may oppose the option to build a special school close to their homes. Often when delivering new or expanded schools, local neighbours have genuine concerns about excess travel to and from the site affecting their existing journeys and a loss of space or aspect from their homes.

### Post-consultation Update

Thirty-six close neighbours to the site submitted a consultation questionnaire. Fourteen neighbours had no equality concerns, five had no view and seventeen expressed concerns. The removal of local space for a child who has a disability was detailed. Some neighbours spoke of the Council not listening to the concerns of local residents on issues such as the removal of the quality of the environment for local residents or of not building close to the M5. It is noted that good air quality is a requirement for the site. An Air Quality Assessment completed in January 2019 confirmed that the quality was rated as A (A being the highest rating within A-C where there are 'no air quality grounds to refuse a planning application'). Further tests are ongoing.

No additional comments about an impact on people with other protected characteristics were made.

### Second Post Consultation Update

Twenty-two close neighbours to the site submitted a consultation questionnaire. Eleven expressed concerns for the removal of local space for a child who has a disability, the removal of space having a negative impact on the current users of the field, of not listening to the concerns of local residents on issues such as the removal of the quality of the environment for local residents or concerns about good air quality and the implications of a site close to the M5.

In response to removing green space from the use of residents of Clevedon, the review of alternative sites submitted as part of the successful planning application for this site accepted that it was shown that Special Circumstances do exist. Consequently, this site was deemed the only one that could meet the needs of the school at this time. The appropriation decision determined that whilst the removal of any land used by the local community was not taken lightly, the need for the school is greater and there are other local open spaces available to residents within Clevedon. The noise and air quality assessments show that the site is suitable for the school.

No new comments from people with protected characteristics were made.

## North Somerset Council – Equality Impact Assessment

### Section 2 – What Do We Know?

#### 2.1 Customer/staff profile details – what data or evidence is there which tells us who is, or could be, affected?

2.1.1 The groups that may be affected by the creation of a second site for Baytree Special School are: People with disabilities, potentially staff and people on a low income. There could be a disruption to transport arrangements for anyone connected to the school which needs to be considered as part of the process, this may or may not be positive change, depending on individual circumstances.

Currently, information regarding immediate stakeholders of Baytree School are indicated below.

#### Pupils

Our data shows that 68 pupils attending Baytree School currently live the following distances from the school:

Distance from School	Numbers of Pupils	Current Mode of Travel
0 – 3 miles	17	Parent drop off (Car)
3 – 6 miles	28	Minibus
6 – 10 miles	13	Minibus
10 – 15 miles	6	Minibus
Over 15 miles	4	Parent drop off / taxi / Minibus

Should all these pupils be recommended for education at the preferred second site, the data could change as below:

Distance from School	Numbers of Pupils	Current Mode of Travel
0 – 3 miles	4	Parent drop off (Car)
3 – 6 miles	12	Minibus
6 – 10 miles	24	Minibus
10 – 15 miles	26	Minibus
Over 15 miles	2	Taxi / Minibus

## North Somerset Council – Equality Impact Assessment

The creation of the new site is an expansion therefore not all pupils or staff will transition to the second site for Baytree School and therefore the impact will depend on which pupils and staff do transfer. The decision to place Children & Young People (CYP) will be based on the provision that best meets their needs; Baytree Weston will cater for CYP with Severe and Profound Learning Difficulties and CYP with an Autism diagnosis, whereas Baytree new site will cater for CYP with profound and multiple learning difficulties and associated complex health and physical needs. However, individual consultations will take place with the CYP families and the distance and journey time will be a factor whilst allocating the existing and future CYP across the two provisions.

2.1.2 Our data shows the 67 staff (teaching and non-teaching) currently working at Baytree School live the following, approximate distances from the school:

### Teaching staff

Distance from School	Numbers of Staff	Current Mode of Travel
0 – 3 miles	3	Car
3 – 6 miles	2	Car
6 – 10 miles	2	Car
10 – 15 miles		
Over 15 miles	5	Car

### Support Staff

Distance from School	Numbers of Staff	Current Mode of Travel
0 – 3 miles	32	Car
3 – 6 miles	14	Car
6 – 10 miles	3	Car
10 – 15 miles	3	Car
Over 15 miles	3	Car

As we do not know at this early stage which members of staff could be asked to work from the new site, we have shown in the table below what could happen if all the staff were to move to the new site.

**North Somerset Council – Equality Impact Assessment**  
Teaching staff

Distance from School	Numbers of Staff	Current Mode of Travel
0 – 3 miles		
3 – 6 miles		
6 – 10 miles	5	Car
10 – 15 miles	5	Car
Over 15 miles	2	Car

Support Staff

Distance from School	Numbers of Staff	Current Mode of Travel
0 – 3 miles	1	Car
3 – 6 miles	3	Car
6 – 10 miles	32	Car
10 – 15 miles	17	Car
Over 15 miles	2	Car

The vision and aspirations, alongside the leadership and management of the school will remain unchanged. It is hoped that the increase in provision and new facilities will offer greater opportunities for pupils and staff alike.

By retaining the current site, it is hoped that employment for those who would not be able to afford to travel at extra cost to the new site could continue to work at their current location.

As the existing Baytree site will remain and staff will be consulted individually, it is expected most staff living within 3 miles of the existing site may remain working at Baytree Weston whilst the staff living closest to the new site will be prioritised to move to Baytree new site. This will also be dependent on which pupils are re-located as staff support specific pupils.

The creation of the new site will also result in the need to appoint new members of staff, which we expect to advertise and recruit a substantial percentage from within the local area.

## North Somerset Council – Equality Impact Assessment

### Post-consultation Update

Some parents of pupils raised concerns that travel between sites could be problematic, especially if major road network incidents affect normal journey times.

With regards to staff, if all moved to the new location, based on the current staff more would travel further. It should be noted however that the whole school is not expected to move to the new location. The leadership of the school would work with staff to consider how best to allocate staff locations. Options to explore and consolidate vehicle use and methods of transport would be considered in any decisions. No specific concerns that impact on employees with Protected Characteristics were raised.

There were two responses made by (or on behalf of) pupils of the school. Both responses were in support of the expansion. *“Without an expansion Baytree, kids who desperately need the kind of specialist support they can provide will continue to go without. This is massively inequitable and must be addressed by the provision of these additional facilities.”*

The equality concerns highlighted that, without an expansion of Baytree School, the pupils who need specialist support may continue to go without it locally. It positively supported the need for expansion, feeling that a progression of the project would resolve an inequitable position.

### Second Post-Consultation Update

Nine responses were made by staff at the school, and all support the change. The school will work with staff to ascertain the best location for each staff member and will comply with this preference where they can also be accommodated with the needs of the child.

Eleven parents of pupils at the school responded. All were supportive of the change. It is noted that the school will work with pupils and parents to ascertain the best location for their education based on the needs of the young person and their links with peers and friendship groups where possible.

## **2.2 What does the data or evidence tell us about the potential impact on diverse groups, and how is this supported by historic experience/data?**

## North Somerset Council – Equality Impact Assessment

2.2.1 Most pupils, attending Baytree School are entitled to free home to school transport. It is hoped the maximum addition to any journey time to and from school will be around 10 – 15 minutes. For many new pupils, the journey times to establishments outside the district will be brought to within the statutory guidelines.

Best practice suggests journey times to be kept to a maximum of c45 minutes for primary aged pupils and c75 minutes for secondary aged pupils.

### Post-consultation Update

As pupils have not been identified to attend a second school site, if approved, no specific impacts can be assessed at this time. As set out above, parents raised concerns that travel between sites could be problematic, especially if major road network incidents affect normal journey times. An analysis of the project travel distances is set out at 2.1.1.

The Home to School Transport Team have run scenarios to identify how many pupils would have a journey that lasted longer than the guidelines of c45 minutes for primary-aged and c75 minutes for secondary-aged pupils, if all pupils attended either the current site or the proposed site in Clevedon. The opportunity for more students to have journey times within the recommended limits could be increased if transport was a deciding factor when determining the best site to meet the child’s individual needs. Which children will attend which site will be based on the needs of the pupil, their peer group needs and one to one discussions with parents. Journey times would be part of these conversations with pupils and parents when deciding which site is most appropriate.

<b>Summary - using current Baytree pupil home locations</b>	<b>No. primary pupils’ journey over 45 mins</b>	<b>No. secondary pupils’ journey over 75 mins</b>	<b>Total pupils over desired journey time</b>
Pill Scenarios	16	1	17
Yatton Scenarios	11	0	11

## North Somerset Council – Equality Impact Assessment

Churchill Scenarios	11	0	11
Gordano Scenario	14	0	14
Nailsea Scenario	13	2	15
Clevedon Scenario	9	1	10
Baytree current site	11	0	11

The equality concerns raised, positively supported the need for expansion, feeling that a progression of the project would resolve an inequitable position for pupils unable to access local provision, who may need to attend a school outside the district if extra places are not provided.

### Second Post-consultation Update

As before, this consultation showed that the change would mostly resolve an inequitable position for pupils unable to access local provision who may need to attend a school outside the district if extra places are not provided. The reason for the changes proposed better enable the Council to fulfil its statutory duty to provide school places for all its pupils locally.

### **2.3 Are there any gaps in the data, for example across protected characteristics where information is limited or not available?**

2.3.1 No. Consultation has not yet occurred with the local community. Once we have been given permission to undertake consultations with the local community this will identify any potential issues with wider stakeholders and people with protected characteristics. The EIA will be updated as part of the decision making and planning process.

## North Somerset Council – Equality Impact Assessment

### Post-consultation Update

Most of the responses received to the consultation supported the creation of new places for pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) to resolve potential deficits in the equality of opportunity for pupils with Severe and Profound Learning Difficulties. Consultees were asked to raise concerns and the information provided has enabled a review of needs to be undertaken.

### Second Post-consultation Update

This consultation has again confirmed that most of the opposition to the new school site is from local residents who are concerned about the loss of a local amenity space. It is noted that the removal of any land used by the local community is a decision that is not taken lightly. The need for the school is greater and there are other local open spaces available to residents within Clevedon.

In response to the removal of amenity land, the project will deliver enhanced access to a nearby Community Orchard. This should make this space more accessible all year round. Currently with no designated path, the access can be problematic in the winter when the field with poor drainage areas is less accessible.

## **2.4 How have we involved those that could be affected?**

2.4.1 Once NSC have been granted permission to consult, it is envisaged that a public consultation with stakeholders will commence in the Autumn 2019. The parents, staff and governors of Baytree School have been made aware that officers have requested permission to consult for this proposed project. In addition, the local town council, district councillors, ward councillor, council officers, members of the education community and direct neighbours of the proposed site location of the school have been notified that permission to consult has been requested. The link to the report requesting permission was issued to these stakeholders and can be found at: <http://apps.n-somerset.gov.uk/cairo/committees/comidx199-2019.asp>. A meeting with direct neighbours of the new site will be held separately in advance of the public consultation once permission to consult has been issued to obtain initial feedback.

As Baytree School is a maintained school, NSC are the decision makers and as such have to follow the statutory guidance from the Department for Education (DfE) for Making Significant Changes ('prescribed alterations') to maintained schools which can be found at:

## North Somerset Council – Equality Impact Assessment

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/756572/Maintained\\_schools\\_pr  
escribed\\_alterations\\_guidance.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/756572/Maintained_schools_pr<br/>escribed_alterations_guidance.pdf). A four-week consultation during term time will form part of this.

### Post-consultation Update

The first stage of a public consultation ran from Thursday 19 September 2019 to Friday 25 October 2019. A consultation document and response form were also available on the Council's website at: [http://consult.n-somerset.gov.uk/consult.ti/Expansion\\_of\\_Baytree\\_School/consultationHome](http://consult.n-somerset.gov.uk/consult.ti/Expansion_of_Baytree_School/consultationHome)

In addition to on-line paperwork and a questionnaire, statutory consultees, such as the parents of every registered pupil at the school, other LA's that commission places at Baytree School, were personally invited to respond, as were the Diocese of Bath & Wells, the Diocese of Clifton, early years providers and schools and MATs within North Somerset. Officers were available at nine different meetings and consultation events to explain the reasons for the consultations and to answer questions.

Overall there were 428 responses to the e.consult consultation. 96% of those responding agreed there is a need to create more places for pupils with Severe and Profound Learning Difficulties by September 2021. Slightly less than 2% opposed the recommendation and just over 2% had no view. 93% of consultees agreed that to take more pupils, Baytree School needs to expand onto a second site. 4% of consultees disagreed with this proposal whilst 3% had no view. When asked if the second site should be located within easy reach of most homes and within easy reach of the current Baytree School, 87% agreed with this proposal. Just under 5% disagreed and 8% had no view. Overall 90% supported the suggested proposals, 8% opposed the recommendations and 2% had no view.

13% of consultees indicated they had concerns about equality impacts, ranging from the needs of pupils with SEND to have a local school and equality of nearby provision to the removal of a local amenity for those who access the site for leisure. Support for a central location to meet the needs of pupils with profound needs across the whole district featured highly whilst others raised concerns about the removal of open greenbelt space and the impact on the local infrastructure with increased traffic and travel between sites. Some queried why the expansion couldn't be in Weston whilst others were grateful for a site in the north of the district. Concerns that the new site went against the Council's Climate Emergency were raised. Others recognised the inability of the current site to continue to meet needs that were desperately required for those needing this form of specialist school within North Somerset.

## **North Somerset Council – Equality Impact Assessment**

Of those responding to the consultation , 49 had direct connections with the school, 67 were members of the community with a connection to the school, 39 were residents of Clevedon but not direct neighbours to the new site, 54 were members of the wider community, 36 neighbours of the proposed new site, 19 neighbours of the current site and 164 were classified as other stakeholders. In the category of other stakeholders, 17 identified as parents of children at Baytree School, 21 were parents of children with SEND and 5 were parents of children that had recently left Baytree School.

At the two public consultation events, of the 31 who attended the event on 7 October 2019, those who were not direct neighbours of the site supported the changes and c80% of the direct neighbours disagreed with the proposals. Of the 10 consultees who attended the 10 October 2019 event, most supported the change. A district and town councillor were opposed to the recommendation and two local residents gave no firm view.

At the events specifically for school stakeholders, of the 18 parents/grandparent, nine staff and one local stakeholder, there was overall support for the changes. Parents understandably had concerns about the placing of pupils over more than one site, about travel to and between sites and about parity of provision. In determining which location the children will be educated at, every effort will be made to make sure the children’s needs are met as prescribed in the Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCP).

There were two events with direct neighbours on 4 and 30 September 2019. Those present were supportive of the need for new places but steadfastly opposed to any building on the fields adjacent to their homes.

The school representatives who met with officers were fully supportive of the expansion proposals and potential location for the new places.

In addition to the above, one Parish Council wrote in support of the proposals. The Town Council where the new site is proposed, and the local MPs did not respond.

### Second Post-consultation Update

In September and October 2019, the Council asked for views on its proposal to expand Baytree School onto a second site. 428 responses were received and 96% of those replying agreed that the new school site should be delivered.

Due to several challenges to the location of the second site that delayed the planning approval determination, a second consultation was undertaken in September and October 2021. 88 responses to the second consultation were received and a 93%

## **North Somerset Council – Equality Impact Assessment**

approval rate was confirmed. In February 2022, the Council published a Statutory Notice seeking views of its firm proposal to expand Baytree School onto a second site. Two responses were received, both in support of the recommended changes. No equality concerns were raised.

At the end of each of the two consultation phases this EIA has been updated. Overall, the findings have shown that whilst there are a small number of people with protected characteristic that could be disadvantaged by the provision of a school site at Brookfield Walk, and especially one person with a protected characteristic who uses the site for play, there are other alternative nearby facilities within a mile of the site that can be used for the above purposes. The same applies anecdotally to any child or older person who may have used the site and could suffer because of a loss of play space or the use of a nearby facility for, for example, dog walking,

The impact on those within the parameters of the EIA who would benefit from the creation of a new site could be argued to provide a greater benefit than the loss to the person with a protected characteristic or to older neighbours who, on the whole, have not stated explicitly they have an EIA category.

### **2.5 What has this told us?**

2.5.1 As we are at the beginning of the process, we are waiting approval to consult. Once we have received this permission and have consulted, we will be able to update the EIA.

#### Post-consultation Update

The development of the school expansion at Brookfield Walk will have a very positive impact on disabled people through the provision of new school places that will better meet the needs of children with Severe and Profound Learning Difficulties and avoid pupils either not having a suitable place to meet their needs or avoid the need for an out of district placement.

As set out above, older, disabled and younger people could be differentially negatively affected by the loss of the space including a local person, who has a disability which was raised by a local resident.

In relation to play space there are five other play areas within a mile / 1.1 miles of the site. There is a playground in Cherry Avenue, 0.3 miles and six6 minutes walking time from the Brookfield Walk site. Teignmouth Road playground is 0.4 miles and seven minutes walking

## **North Somerset Council – Equality Impact Assessment**

time away from the area. The football pitches and play area at the end of Hazell Close / Homeground are 0.7 miles and 14 minutes walking time from the site and Clevedon Rugby ground is 0.8m away and 16 minutes walking time from this location. Other nearby open spaces include the Coleridge Vale Road and Churchill Avenue play areas that are 1.1m away and 22 minutes walking time from the site. Play areas and Public Rights of Way (PROW) are shown in the appendix.

For other users of the site, including dog walkers, there is a PROW adjacent to Brookfield Walk development next to a local rhyme. It is used, along with a neighbouring field that borders the site, for activities such as running and dog walking. The development that includes Hazell Close, less than a mile away from this site, is a popular area for leisure activities including running and dog walking. Norton Woods are also under a mile from the site and a popular area for dog walkers and for families, although it is noted that in certain areas of Norton Woods dogs must be kept on their lead. It is also envisaged that the public will still have access to the orchard to the south to the proposed school site and access to existing PROW in the close vicinity.

The school site needs to be at least 2ha in size to provide sufficient space for all the indoor and outdoor spaces required for the pupils it serves. The site at Brookfield Walk is 1.9ha. Consideration has been given to not including one area of land adjacent to the homes and its bordering field so this could be retained for community use. Regrettably this would remove necessary play space for the school that cannot be located elsewhere due to the need to provide drainage swales and to keep site material within this location for environmental reasons.

Asking Clevedon Town Council for a land swap of the Community Orchard for this area of land was also considered. The trees are a natural resource open to the whole community. Whilst the Baytree School pupils would and can have access to them, the area would not provide the play space needed for the school and therefore the potential land-swap was not pursued.

Other than concerns about loss of open space for local people raised by some consultees, the consultation shows us that there is overwhelming support for the proposals which will have a significant positive impact on children who have SEND.

As there are other alternative nearby facilities within a mile of the site that can be used for the above purposes, it is considered the benefit from the creation of a new site for 65 children with Severe and Profound Learning Difficulties provides a greater benefit than the loss of the open space. The loss of immediate open space is outweighed by access for pupils with Severe and Profound Learning Difficulties whose equality of opportunity would be compromised, unlike mainstream pupils, as there would not otherwise be a local school place available to meet their school-place needs.

## **North Somerset Council – Equality Impact Assessment**

In relation to travel, which children will attend which site will be based on one-to-one discussions with parents to best meet the children's needs. Journey times would be part of these conversations with pupils and parents when deciding which site is most appropriate.

### Second Post-Consultation Update

The updated second consultation has confirmed the findings as listed above in 2.5.

## **2.6 Are there any gaps in our consultation, what are our plans?**

2.6.1 As stated above. We will update the EIA once we have carried out a consultation.

### Post-consultation Update

The consultation outcomes show support for continuing with the proposal to expand Baytree Special School.

### Second Post-consultation Update

Again, the consultation outcomes show support for continuing with the proposal to expand Baytree School.

**Section 3 – Assessment of Impact**

Will the proposals included in this assessment have an impact on any of the following?	Actual or potential impact				Is the actual or potential impact negative, positive or both?
	High	Medium	Low	None	
Disabled people	X				<p>The new facilities will be of great benefit to pupils and staff, enabling special educational needs for a growing population to be met. The travel distance for some new pupils may be more advantageous than out of the district travel. For some existing Baytree pupils', journeys to the new site may be shortened, for others, journeys may be longer.</p> <p>There is a risk if the school is not expanded through a second site that no further non-ambulant pupils can be educated on the current site as the numbers of pupils educated in classrooms on the ground floor may have been reached. These pupils would need to be educated away from North Somerset.,</p> <p><u>Post-consultation Update</u></p> <p>The consultation outcomes show support for continuing with the proposal to expand Baytree School to meet the</p>

			X		<p>needs of pupils with SEND who may not be able to secure a local school place if the project is not progressed.</p> <p>The assessment has increased to high positive in light of the consultation feedback. The actual impact cannot be assessed at this time as the pupils to be offered the new site, if progressed, have yet to be determined. This includes potential impact on changes, such as travel to a new site, that has yet to be assessed.</p> <p>People with disabilities could be negatively affected by the loss of the space for recreational purposes including a local person who has a disability. This was raised by a small number of residents living close to the proposed site and has been added to the assessment. This has been assessed as low in view of the range of other local facilities available.</p> <p><u>Second Post-consultation Update</u></p> <p>There are no changes from the previous assessment as listed in post-consultation update above</p>
People from different ethnic groups				X	None
Men and women			X		There will be no differential impact regarding the physical building on

# North Somerset Council – Equality Impact Assessment

					<p>whether a person is male or female. A change in location to where an employee may be asked to work or carry out the school run, may impact both males and females.</p> <p>Statistically there are more females than males working at the school. According to the DfE National Travel Survey 2014, trips to escort pupils to school are more likely to be made by women, as a consequence females are more likely to be affected by this proposed change.</p> <p><u>Post-consultation Update</u></p> <p>There have been no equality concerns raised by staff at the school. This assessment has remained as low negative in case those affected by the change have not yet identified the impact of the potential change in location on them directly.</p> <p><u>Second Post-consultation Update</u></p> <p>There are no changes from the previous assessment as listed in post-consultation update above</p>
Lesbian, gay or bisexual people				X	None
People on a low income					The cost of travel for those on a low income to a new site may be prohibitive.

			X		<p>It is noted that most pupils at the school qualify for free home to school transport due to their disability.</p> <p><u>Post-consultation Update</u></p> <p>There have been no equality concerns raised by staff at the school or by parents in relation to low income. This assessment has remained as low negative in case those affected by the change have not yet identified the impact of the potential change in location on them directly.</p> <p><u>Second Post-consultation Update</u></p> <p>There are no changes from the previous assessment as listed in post-consultation update above</p>
People in particular age groups			X		<p>There may be an impact on parent/carers if they are of a particular age. This is not currently known. There is likely to be a positive impact on children of a certain age, as the additional facilities will ensure that they are able to be educated within North Somerset at Baytree School – either the new or the Weston site where without the provision they may no longer be educated at the school.</p> <p><u>Post-consultation Update</u></p>

# North Somerset Council – Equality Impact Assessment

					<p>There have been no equality concerns raised by staff at the school or by parents in relation to particular age groups.</p> <p>Older and younger people could be negatively affected by the loss of the space for recreational purposes however there is a range of other facilities and open space available locally.</p> <p>This assessment remains as low negative for the potential adverse impact. A positive impact of the new school for young people attending the school (high) has been added to the assessment.</p> <p><u>Second Post-consultation Update</u></p> <p>There are no changes from the previous assessment as listed in post-consultation update above</p>
People in particular faith groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	None
Transgender people	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	None
People who are married or in a civil partnership	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	None
Women who are pregnant or on maternity leave	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	None

## North Somerset Council – Equality Impact Assessment

Other specific impacts, for example carers, parents; please specify	Parents and carers
Please describe the impacts listed above	<p>Some parents and carers of children with Severe and Profound Learning Difficulties and their families may benefit from a school site closer to their home whilst others may have further to travel. Care has been taken to seek out a new site that is easily accessible from all parts of North Somerset to mitigate any adverse travel changes as far as possible.</p> <p><u>Post-consultation Update</u></p> <p>This assessment still applies post-consultation.</p> <p><u>Second Post-consultation Update</u></p> <p>This assessment still applies post this second consultation phase.</p>
Does this proposal have any potential Human Rights implications? If 'yes', please describe	None are known
Does this proposal have an impact on health inequalities? If 'yes', please describe	None are known

## North Somerset Council – Equality Impact Assessment

### Section 4 – Action

This section asks how your understanding of impacts on people with protected characteristics has influenced your proposal, and how the findings of your Equality Impact Assessment will be reviewed in the future.

#### 1. How has the Equality Impact Assessment informed or changed the proposal?

Careful consideration will be given to moving pupils already attending the existing site to the new site. Changes will either be made over an appropriate period of transition or the pupil can complete their education at the current site where such a change would affect their education or their quality of health.

The continuation of provision at the current site should enable some posts for staff on lower-incomes to still be available.

##### Post-consultation Update

These considerations will need to continue to be applied.

##### Second Post-consultation Update

These considerations will need to continue to be applied.

#### 2. What course of action could we take/have we taken to mitigate the identified impact?

The location of the preferred new site was partly led by the ease of travel for pupils and staff to get to this new location. A North Somerset significant town with accessible public and private travel routes is needed. Clevedon is a preferred location.

##### Post-consultation Update

These considerations will need to continue to be applied.

## North Somerset Council – Equality Impact Assessment

### Second Post-consultation Update

These considerations will need to continue to be applied.

### **3. What are the plans to monitor the equality actual impact of this proposal?**

This assessment will be reviewed at key stages of the build delivery – at this initial school organisation and planning consultation stage; at site delivery stage and prior to the opening of the new site. Prior to the decision to construct the school, a full public sector equality duty assessment will be made in addition to updating this EIA.

### Post-consultation Update

These considerations will need to continue to be applied at each of the key milestones listed above as and if required.

### Second Post-Consultation Update

This assessment has been made at the end of a period of further consultation and at the start on construction on site. The School Delivery Team are keen to work with neighbours and they have been included in some delivery meetings so their concerns and needs can continue to be flagged. The School Delivery Team, when reviewing the EIA at a meeting on 23 March 2022, are committed to explore whether there are opportunities to include a child-friendly activity space or a trail within the agreed new access route to the Community Orchard.

### **4. What are the plans to publish this Equality Impact Assessment?**

It will be published alongside committee reports, decisions, the site planning application and made available on request as appropriate.

### Post-consultation Update

As above.

## North Somerset Council – Equality Impact Assessment

### Second Post-consultation Update

As above.

#### **Additional Note:**

Councillors at the CYPS Policy and Scrutiny Committee meeting on 20 June 2019 requested a review of previously considered alternative sites is undertaken and considered by the Executive Member responsible for securing a site for the new school. This EIA will be updated as part of the site approval process.

#### **Additional Note Updated:**

It is anticipated a planning application will be submitted early 2020 for a new school site on Brookfield Walk. The planning submission will include the applicant's justification as to why the development of a school in the Green Belt should be supported. The submission will also include a full Alternative Sites Assessment looking at potential locations across the whole district alongside the thirteen sites asked to be reviewed by the CYPS Policy and Scrutiny Panel. The latter were re-assessed by the Executive Member for Business, Economy and Employment. Brookfield Walk was designated as a potential 2<sup>nd</sup> site for Baytree Special School when Decision Sheet CSD43 was approved on 28 August 2019.

#### **Second Additional Note Updated:**

The responses to the two consultations and EIA implications were shared with the Children & Young People's Policy & Scrutiny Committee ~ School Organisation Steering Group on 15 December 2021. This was prior to the publication of the Statutory Notice. The EIA for the project has been updated to include these and/or their comments.

Work commenced to deliver the new school site in February 2022.

## **Appendix 1**

**Map of Play areas and Public Rights of Way in close proximity to the proposed site.**





**North Somerset Council – Equality Impact Assessment  
Appendix 2**

**Equality Concerns raised and comments**

	Equality Concern	Equality Issue that complies with the Protected Characteristics definition within the Equalities Act	Comment
1	I am unhappy with the loss of the green fields to local residents. Could they not use the closed down Golden Valley garden centre brown field site on the Tickenham Road	N	The garden site in Tickenham has been designated for homes that are being delivered on this site
2	2 years have passed and in light of what has occurred, new priorities a new consultation should commence otherwise it is likely to not be ethical or in line with equality	N	This consultation has been specifically undertaken to ask for updated views
	Levelling up agenda. Penalising Clevedon residents in loss of limited green space when alternative sites are available at cost.		The review of alternative sites has been accepted to have shown that Special Circumstances do exist, and this is the only site that needs the needs of the school. The appropriation decision determined that whilst the removal of any land used by

## North Somerset Council – Equality Impact Assessment

3		N	the local community is not taken lightly, the need for the school is greater and there are other local open spaces available to residents within Clevedon
4	Just if the proposals effected the play areas that's all really	N	See 3 above
5	The children will be exposed to unnecessary stress on their travels as the road structure can't cope with existing traffic with M5 also having heavy demands during school run.	N*	Having extra local school places available and delivering the new site is to avoid children and young people having to undertake journeys to schools outside of North Somerset that will often incur far longer journey times
6	The council have torn up the rule book by allowing itself to build on green belt land and not considering the objections	N	The planning committee approved the special circumstances case. This was also reviewed by the Secretary of State who provided no objection to the scheme. The delivery of a special school has been deemed an exceptional exception to the green belt status

## North Somerset Council – Equality Impact Assessment

7	The impact on locals near the proposed new site have not been fully taken into account. Residents have not been taken seriously. The feedback was glossed over and ridiculed by councillors.	N	See 3 above
8	This school should be built on the second field by the comprehensive in Clevedon. Much more inclusive than this suggestion. This is not at all inclusive	N	The review of alternative sites has looked at this site. It is used for sport and recreation and is an integral part of the delivery of secondary-aged curriculum needs by Clevedon School. It is not available for alternative uses. See also 6 above.
9	The kids are being used as an excuse to move when it's not in their best interest - pollution, travel, congestion etc.	N	The noise and air quality assessments show that the site is suitable for the school.
	Where in walking distance does my disabled daughter get green space ??		Older, disabled and younger people living close to the site may be differentially negatively affected by the loss of the open space as they may find it harder to travel

## North Somerset Council – Equality Impact Assessment

10		Y	<p>any extra distance to other local sites. In relation to play space there are 5 other play areas within a mile / 1.1 miles of the site.</p> <p>Enhancements are to be made to the access to the community orchard to make this site more accessible to all local residents.</p>
11	There has been no consideration of the equality of the residents living in the road as objections were ignored	N	See 3 above
12	Unfair to children with learning difficulties next to busy M5 & main road/noise levels	N*	See 9 above
13	Impact on Clevedon due to building on our open land the only space that is in green belt in this area of Clevedon is detrimental to the health and welcoming of local residents and children. How can you take from one group to give to another	N*	See 3 above
14	Floods, additional traffic, loss of green space, public recreation, environment, kids' health!	N*	See 3 and 9 above. The Environment Agency has

## North Somerset Council – Equality Impact Assessment

			approved the planning application for delivery.
15	Disability has been used inappropriately to make the law surrounding green belt & environmental concerns irrelevant	N*	The application has been reviewed by the Secretary of State. See 3 and 10 above.
16	The development will deprive local residents both going and old by taking away the only green space accessible within walking distance, this space has been a much-loved area enjoyed by local residents for many years.	N*	See 10 above
17	What about local families	N	See 10 above n
18	Yes, there are equality issues for the local residents and their children who, during lock down, the only green place we have had to get out in is the proposed site. Taking away this green space puts local families at a disadvantage	N*	See 10 above
19	Failure to approve the expansion is contrary to the requirement to provide schooling for disabled children and a clear equalities issue	Y*	Agreed – the reason for the changes proposed is to enable the Council to fulfil its statutory duty to provide school places for all its pupils. This this is in support of the change

**North Somerset Council – Equality Impact Assessment**

20	NSC have not carried out any formal assessment.	N	An EIA assessment was carried out as part of this review, was submitted with the planning application, and is being reviewed because of this extended consultation process
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