

Summary of Initial Assessment of Impact of Kings Priory School upon schools maintained by North Tyneside Council

- 1.1 In September 2012 the Department for Education (DfE) indicated that it had undertaken a very high level impact assessment prior to issuing the Academy Order. The DfE indicated that its initial assessment considered that at primary level the merger would have a minimal impact as the net gain in the published admission number (PAN) would be the provision of 15 additional state funded places, which was equivalent to the 2011 primary intake at Kings in September 2011. At secondary level the PAN of 125 assumed that the expected 2012 admission number at Kings of 80 pupils would be sustained thereby introducing approximately 45 additional places into the maintained sector. The DfE acknowledged that the two secondary schools within one mile of the proposed academy administered close to their PAN in the last year and therefore there could be some detrimental effect on those two schools.
- 1.2 A preliminary assessment by Council officers indicates that if the Kings Priory School proposals go ahead there will be a significant impact on the population in schools maintained by the Local Authority.

Summary

- 1.3 Following analysis of the impact of Kings Priory School on pupil numbers in schools maintained by North Tyneside Council the following conclusions have been reached:
- i. The proposals will not provide any additional capacity at primary level, taking account of the current size of Kings Primary School and Priory Primary. However it is not possible at this stage to anticipate whether the proposed admission arrangements into Kings Priory reception will have a detrimental impact on any individual neighbouring primary schools.
 - ii. The announcement of the Kings Priory Proposal has already affected the North Tyneside School System. 41 pupils have transferred from existing North Tyneside Schools into Kings and Priory with a further 12 pending.
 - iii. At secondary level additional capacity will be added into the North Tyneside school system at a time when pupil numbers are falling as a result of falling birth rates. Currently the secondary system is carrying 14% surplus capacity. A combination of falling rolls up to 2015/16 and the additional capacity provided by the Kings Priory School means the overall surplus secondary capacity will rise to 20% by 2015/16. The secondary aged school population will start to increase incrementally from 2015/16, however there is sufficient

surplus capacity in the existing school system to accommodate this increase which without the additional capacity provided by Kings Priory would be at 8% surplus by 2022/23.

- iv. In addition to the above, there are specific concerns relating to the impact resulting from the creation of an all-through school through the merger of Priory School and Kings School. This means that those attending the primary school will automatically transfer to the secondary school. This will result in a significant reduction in pupil numbers transferring into feeder secondary schools and will have an associated financial impact upon those schools. This rapid decline in pupil numbers and the associated financial impact is likely to result in reduced levels of staffing in neighbouring schools; this may restrict the ability of those schools to provide a broad and balanced curriculum and thus have a significant destabilising impact.
- v. Additional school places will also be added into the system at Year 9 for the first two years following the opening of the new Academy. Initial analysis indicates that this will have a detrimental impact on the three tier system, with a potential destabilising impact on Year 9 admissions in the 13 – 18 system.
- vi. The proposal for increasing the 6th form capacity is anticipated to have a negative impact on the 6th form provision across North Tyneside both in schools and at Queen Alexandra 6th Form College as traditionally those students leaving Marden, John Spence and Norham High Schools would transfer to post-16 arrangements at the Queen Alexandra 6th Form College.
- vii. Regarding the proposals surrounding nursery provision, it is now understood from the appointed project manager that the proposals to establish a nursery from September 2014 have been delayed. This will need to be reviewed as part of a future impact assessment. Notwithstanding this, the Local Authority would anticipate a significant impact for Sir James Knott Nursery.