

Appendix 1

Title: Responses to the consultation and consideration of representation

1. Aim of paper

This report provides an analysis and full response from the recently undertaken consultation concerning the proposed amalgamation between Stamford Hill and Tiverton Primary Schools.

2. Background

In recent years there has been a gradual decline in pupils on roll at Stamford Hill Primary and it is predicted that continued falling numbers at the school will impact significantly upon the viability of the school looking forward.

In March 2019 Cabinet agreed that a pre-consultation would be carried out between 27 March and 8 May 2019 on a number of options for the future of Stamford Hill Primary School.

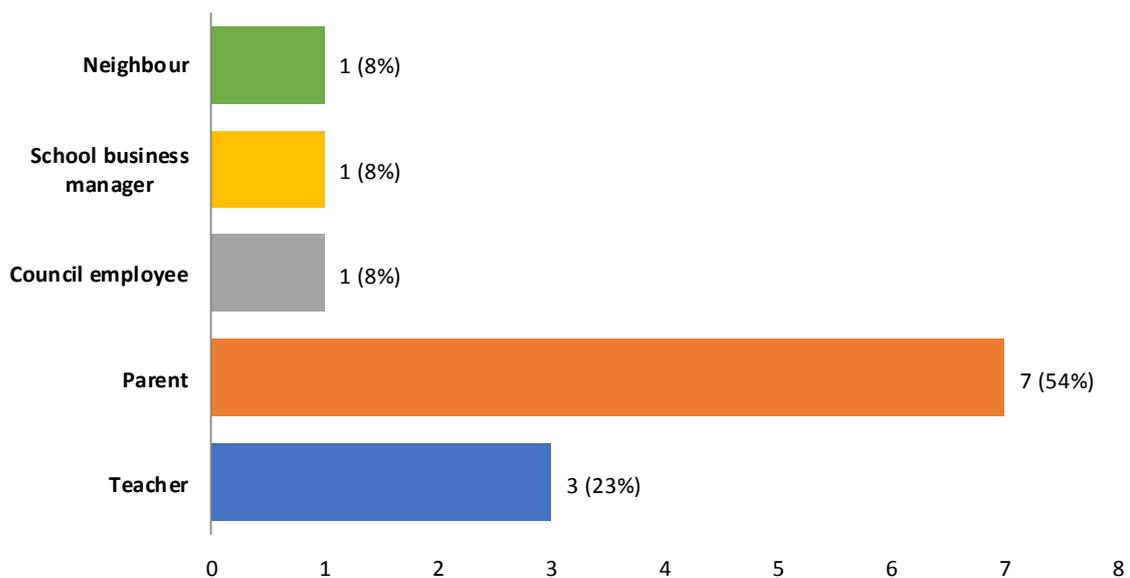
In July 2019 a Cabinet report set out the results of the pre-consultation and Cabinet agreed with the Council's recommendation to consult on the preferred option of an amalgamation between Stamford Hill Primary school with Tiverton Primary School.

3. Response number and respondent characteristics

A 6-week formal consultation was run between September and October 2019. Some 13 responses have been received as at Monday 28th October. Respondent characteristics are shown below:

Question 4 - Please tell us who you are? (tick all that apply)

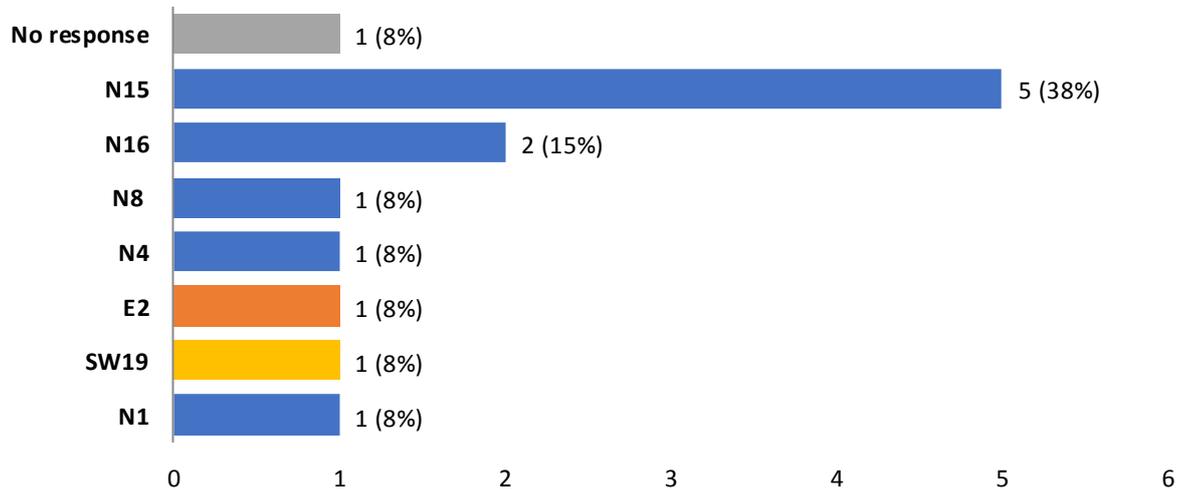
Source: Haringey Education Service 2019



7 respondents are parents, 3 teachers and 1 each a neighbour, a council employee and a school business manager.

Question 5 - What is your full post code?

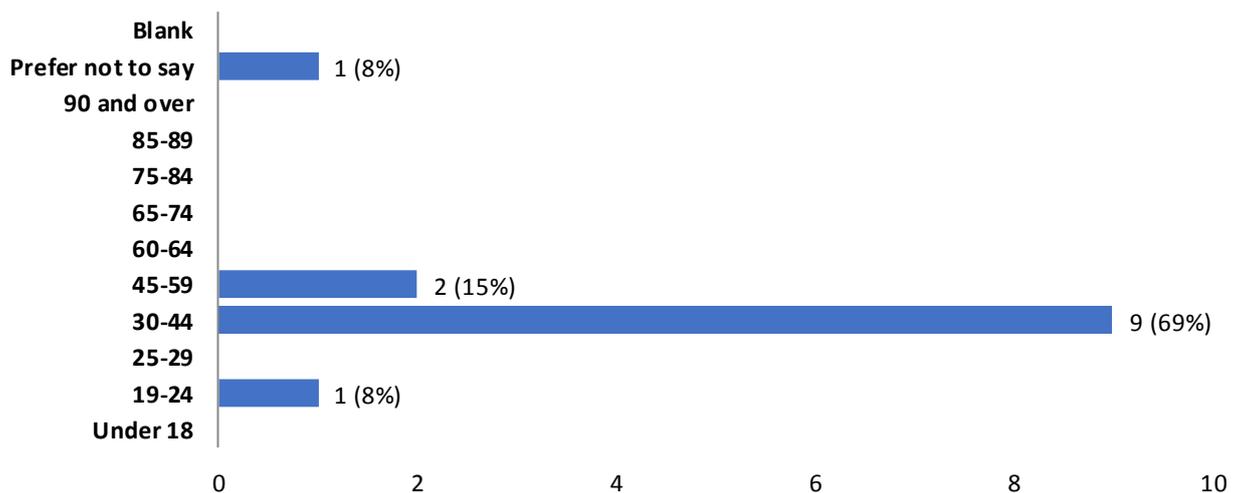
Source: Haringey Education Service 2019



The most popular postcode for respondents was N15 (5) followed by N16 (2), N8 N4, E2, SW19 and N1 (all 1).

Question 6 - What is your age group?

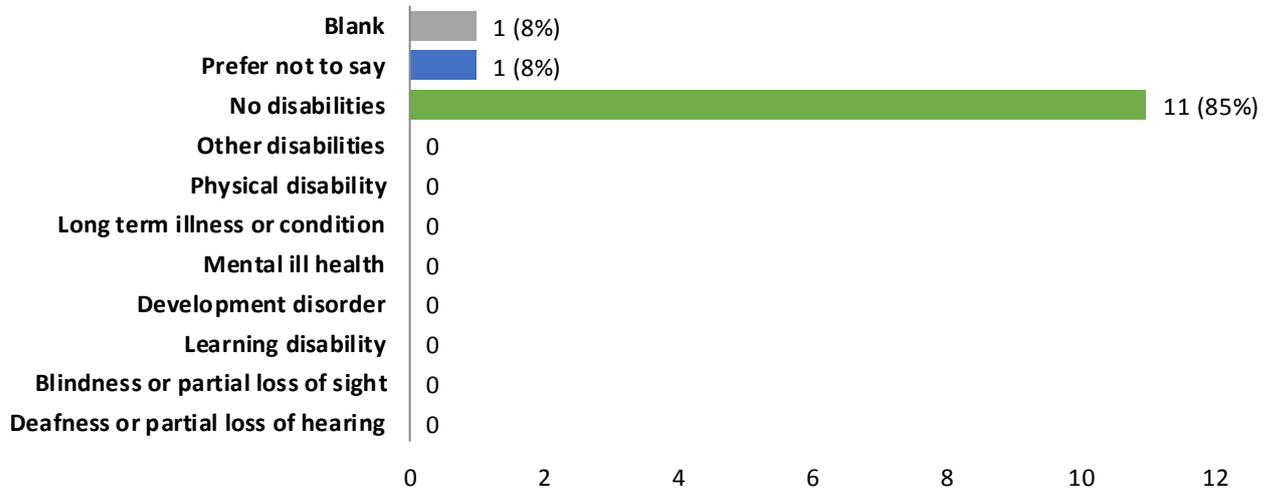
Source: Haringey Education Service 2019



The most popular age group for respondents is 30-44 (9) followed by 45-59 (2).

Question 7 - Do you have any of the following conditions which have lasted or are expected to last for at least 12 months?

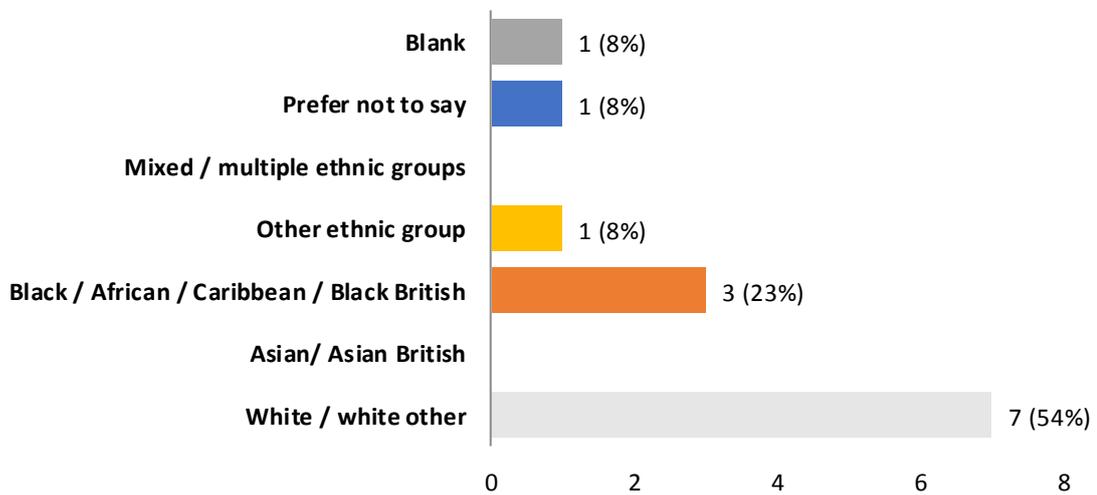
Source: Haringey Education Service 2019



11 of the respondents have no disabilities, 1 preferred not to say and 1 left the question blank.

Question 8 - Please indicate your ethnicity

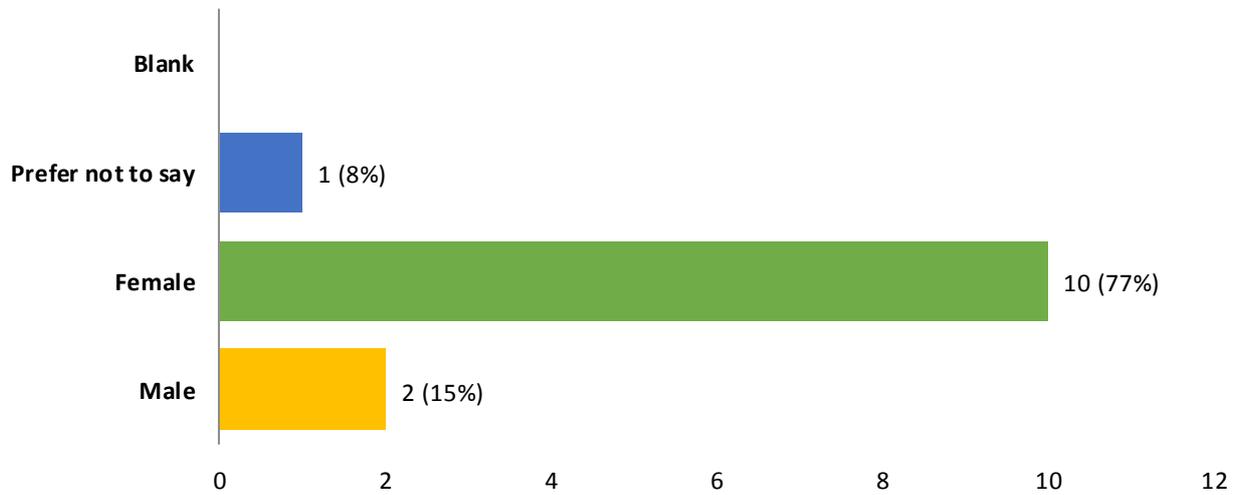
Source: Haringey Education Service 2019



7 respondents classified their ethnicity as White / White Other whilst 3 as Black / African / Caribbean / Black British and 1 as other ethnic group.

Question 9 - What is your gender?

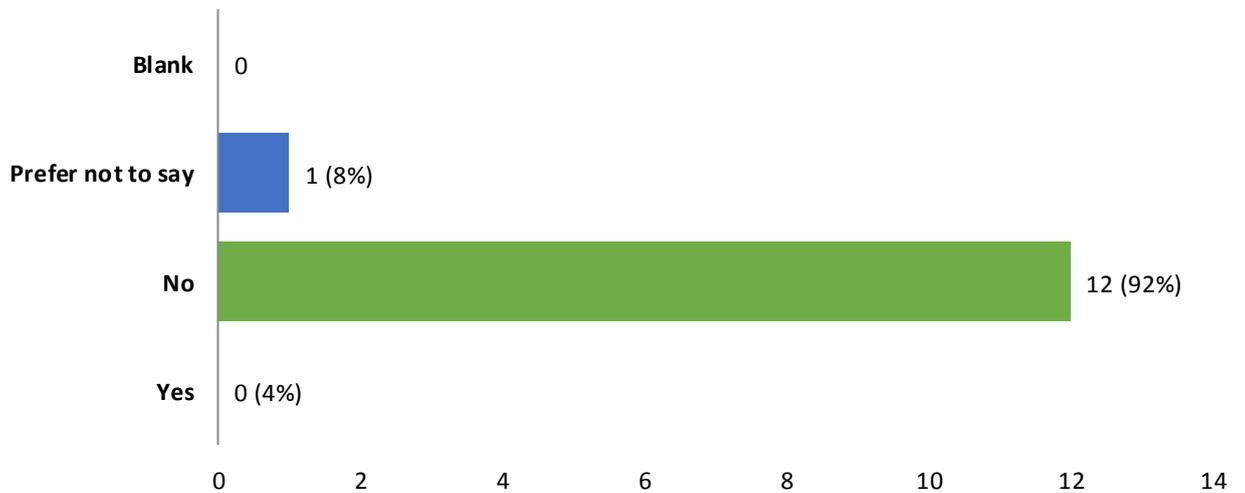
Source: Haringey Education Service 2019



10 respondents are female, 2 male and 1 preferred not to say.

Question 10 - Does your gender differ from your birth sex?

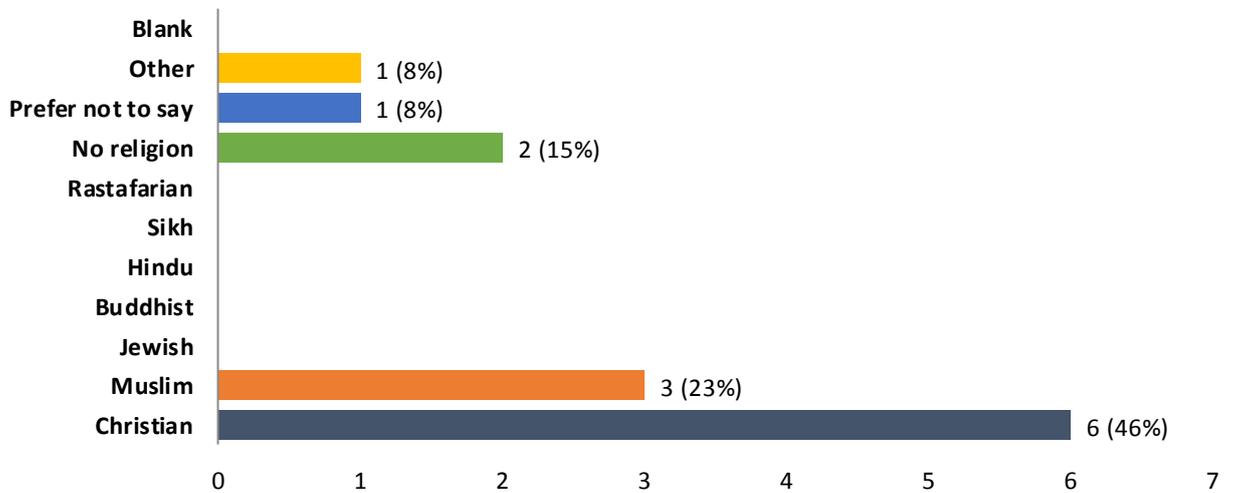
Source: Haringey Education Service 2019



12 respondents do not have a gender different from their birth sex whilst 1 preferred not to say.

Question 11 - Do you have a religion or belief that you would like to mention?

Source: Haringey Education Service 2019

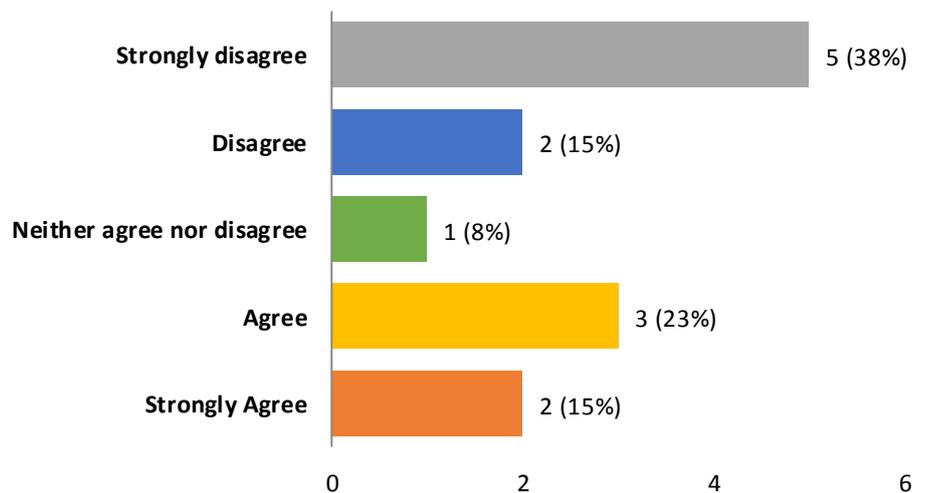


6 respondents have a religion or belief classed as Christian, 3 as Muslim, 2 have no religion and 1 answered other and another preferred not to say.

4. Survey analysis

Question 1 - To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposal to amalgamate Stamford Hill primary school and Tiverton primary school?

Source: Haringey Education Service 2019



Question 1 – To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposal to amalgamate Stamford Hill Primary school and Tiverton Primary School?

Some 5 respondents agreed or strongly agreed with the proposal to amalgamate Stamford Hill Primary school with Tiverton Primary School whilst 7 respondents disagreed or strongly disagreed.

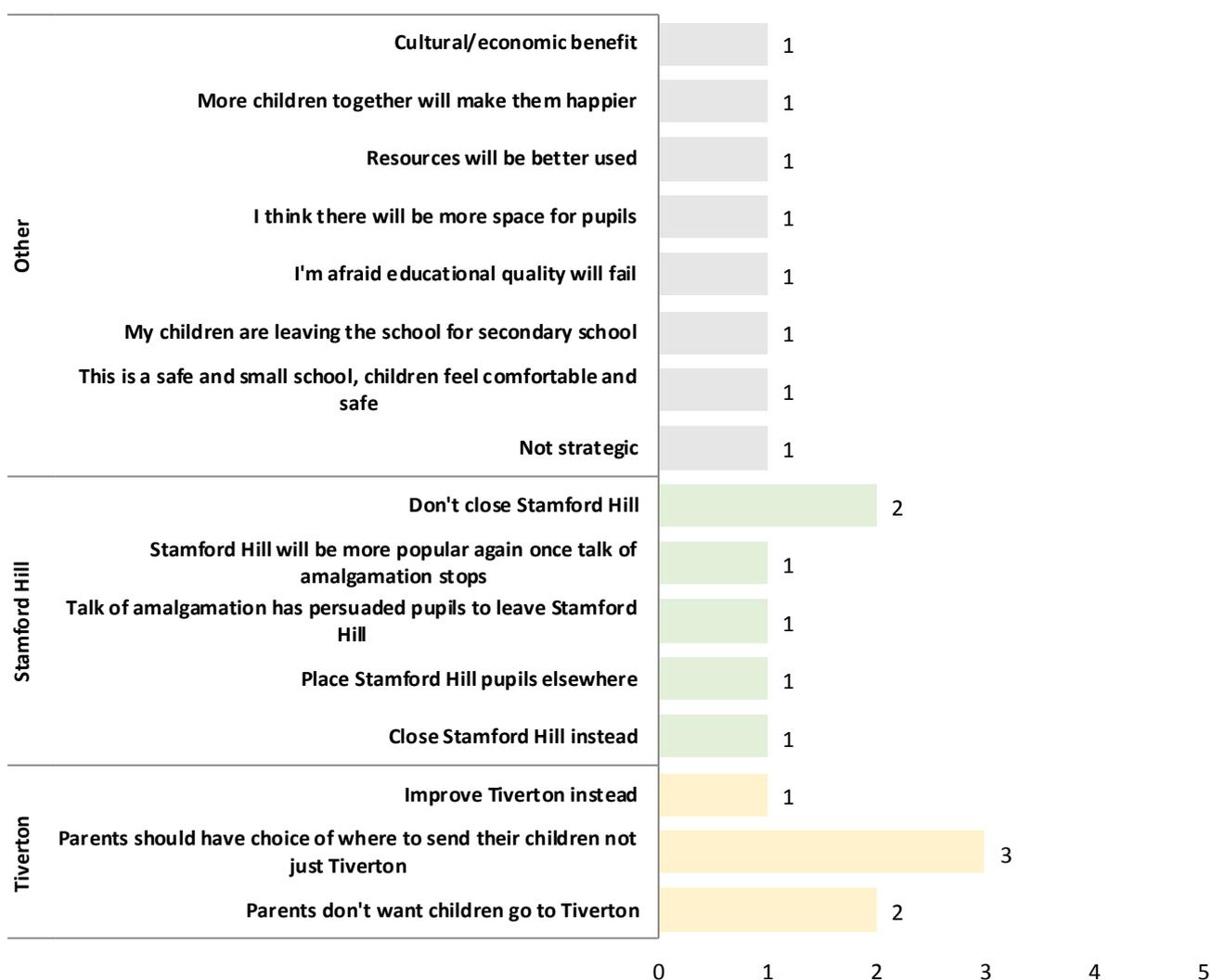
Question 2 – Please expand on the reason for your answer to Q1 below

The analysis below has been simply characterised into 3 categories, issues directly concerning Tiverton Primary School, issues directly concerning Stamford Hill Primary school and Other.

Due to low response rates only a few answers have been considered thematically such as “Parents should have choice of where to send their children not just Tiverton” (3). Most are single responses.

Question 2 - Please expand on the reason for your answer to Q1 below

Source: Haringey Education Service 2019



5. Officer’s response to the points raised by individuals not in favour of the proposal

The section below attempts to provide a response to some of the concerns raised by respondents about the proposed amalgamation.

Other:

“I'm afraid education quality will fail”

Officer's response: The main reason for seeking an amalgamation is to ensure educational resources are sufficiently funded through the adequate level of pupil funding. This is directly related to the number of pupils so a school with falling rolls (such as Stamford Hill) will struggle to maintain education quality or in the long-term remain financially viable. Amalgamation will improve funding and educational quality.

"This is a safe and small school, children feel comfortable and safe"

Officer's response: Tiverton Primary School is a safe and comfortable setting for a primary school. The new Tiverton school established through an amalgamation will continue to be a successful 2 form entry primary school.

"Not strategic"

Officer's response: This respondent suggested it would have been better to consult solely on the closure of Stamford Hill instead of amalgamation. Amalgamation was chosen because it was felt more prudent to partner with a close and successful primary school to ensure that, wherever desired, pupils and parents have the opportunity to maintain friendship groups and attend the next closest primary school.

Stamford Hill:

"Don't close Stamford Hill"

Officer's response: Unfortunately, the recent and sustained fall in birth rates and out migration has made it inevitable that the supply of local school places has to be constrained. Amalgamation is seen as the best way of achieving this aim and enhancing local educational resources.

"Stamford Hill will be more popular again once talk of amalgamation stops"

Officer's response: Popularity of local schools is less important than the demographic reality of fewer children. The latest birth data from the Office for National Statistics continue to show a drop-in birth rates and pupils on roll at Stamford Hill have now dropped to below 100 where the school has a capacity for 210.

"Talk of amalgamation has persuaded pupils to leave Stamford Hill"

Officer's response: Pupil rolls have been low for a number of years at Stamford Hill prior to the start of the amalgamation process.

"Place Stamford Hill pupils elsewhere"

Officer's response: As outlined above we felt it most prudent to guarantee all Stamford Hill pupils a place at their closest primary school which is Tiverton. However, this in no way impacts the opportunity for parents and carers of children at Stamford Hill to apply for any other Haringey primary school. Many schools in the local area are carrying a high number of vacancies which means that an alternative local school can be offered to any family that wants one. All Haringey schools in the area are judged by Ofsted to be 'Good' or 'Outstanding.'

"Close Stamford Hill instead"

Officer's response: This is part of the "Not strategic" response mentioned above. Please see response to that question as to why it was felt that amalgamation was the best available option.

Tiverton:

"Improve Tiverton instead"

Officer's response: The main issue here is not about educational standards at Tiverton but the demographic reality of fewer children and lower birth rates.

"Parents should have choice of where to send their children not Tiverton"

Officer's response: They do. Parents and carers of children attending Stamford Hill are guaranteed a place at Tiverton. However, this in no way affects the opportunity for them to apply to any other Haringey primary school.

"Parents don't want their children to go to Tiverton"

Officer's response: Many pupils have already transferred from Stamford Hill to Tiverton. But we understand that parents and carers may wish to apply to other Haringey (and indeed out of borough) primary schools and they are free to do so.

Actual responses to Question 2 – Please expand on the reason for your answer to Q1

Note: No adjustments to spelling or grammar has been made. Some responses have been translated using Google language.

<p>With the falling pupil numbers at Stamford Hill I feel that an amalgamation is not the most strategic move. A lot of the parents do not want their children to go to Tiverton, and I feel that a measured approach to providing pupils with places at various schools would be in the interest of the pupils. With regards to staffing, Tiverton already has a fully functioning staff body. By following the legal amalgamation process, it will cause unrest at Tiverton and seems like an unnecessary approach (especially when you take into account that most of the teachers at SH are agency or on fixed term contracts). In this instance, closing SH, and placing the pupils elsewhere seems like the most sensible course of action. Parents, staff and stakeholders have been told that the school will remain open to complete the 2019/2020 academic year. Any move to shorten this time would be unethical.</p>
<p>Once this issue of amalgamate is off more parent will bring their children back to Stamford Hill Primary school. There will be newcomer as well. The news of joining two schools together had caused more pupils to leave the school. I believe Stamford Hill Primary school will be normal again.</p>
<p>Because resources are better used, be they materials, and children are happier because they will be more; and there is cultural and economic benefit, because together they can be sustained.</p>
<p>Parents should have a choice where they send their children. If they wanted to send their child to Tiverton they would have! They should be given the choice of other schools in the borough and help in doing so.</p>
<p>We don't want it to be closed. If an old school is developed a little more, it can give better education in the education program.</p>
<p>We like it because it is a small school children feel comfortable, confident and safe.</p>
<p>Next year my son goes to high school.</p>
<p>I'm afraid education quality will fail.</p>
<p>I think there will be more space for pupils.</p>