

Appendix 1

Title: Analysis of the consultation responses including Officer responses to written feedback

1. Aim of paper

- 1.1 This appendix provides analysis and pictorial representation of the responses from the recently undertaken consultation on the options for the future of Tiverton Primary School.

2. Background

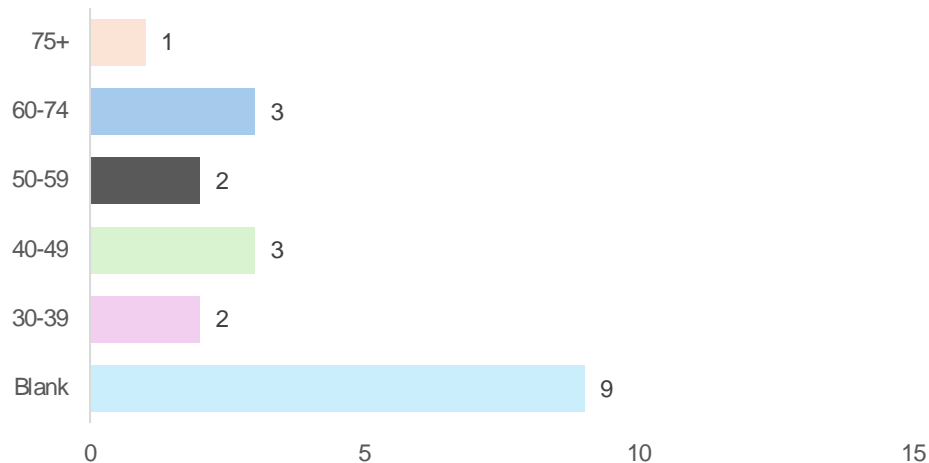
- 2.1 Tiverton Primary School is a substantive two form entry (fe) community school maintained by the local authority and located at Pulford Road, N15 6SP. Due to falling local demand the school now operates at one form entry.
- 2.2 Since 2019, there has been a gradual decline in pupils on roll at the school. Due to this sustained fall in rolls over several years, there is concern from the local authority that the school is at risk of becoming financially unviable and vulnerable in the context of a Requires Improvement Ofsted¹ judgement.
- 2.4 School funding is primarily determined by the number of children on roll, and falling rolls equate to reduced funding. This has meant that more and more schools are now facing serious financial pressures after year-on-year decline to their roll resulting in schools such as Tiverton Primary School falling into financial deficit. This impacts on the efficient running of schools, financial stability and education standards.
- 2.5 The Council has a duty of care to ensure children in its schools are able to receive a good education and to access the full curriculum. A school with a declining roll will be challenged to do this effectively because of inevitable financial pressures from reduced funding.

3. Response number and respondent characteristics

A 6-week non-statutory consultation ran between 6 November and 18 December 2024. Some 20 responses were received during this period. Respondent characteristics are shown below:

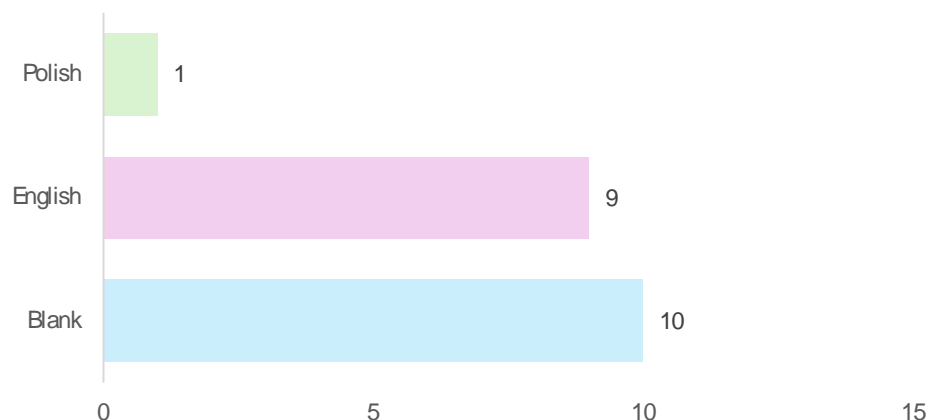
¹ The government has set out that Ofsted ratings will be replaced with 'score cards' which are due to be introduced in September next year. For the purposes of this report, Ofsted ratings will still be referred to as an evaluation of the quality of education.

Which age group applies to you?



Of those respondents who gave an answer 5 were aged 49 or below whilst another 5 were aged 50-74. One respondent was aged 75+.

Please select the option that best describes your preferred language



About half the sample size answered the question on preferred language. 9 respondents answered English whilst 1 answered Polish.

4. Survey results

Respondents to the survey were asked "To what extent, do you support the following options for the future of Tiverton primary school?"

Closure: A quarter of respondents to this question were neutral (25%) whilst 44% were very unsupportive (38%) or unsupportive (6%) of closure. Around a third (32%) were very supportive of closure (19%) or supportive (13%).

Amalgamation: Two fifths (40%) of respondents were very supportive of amalgamation

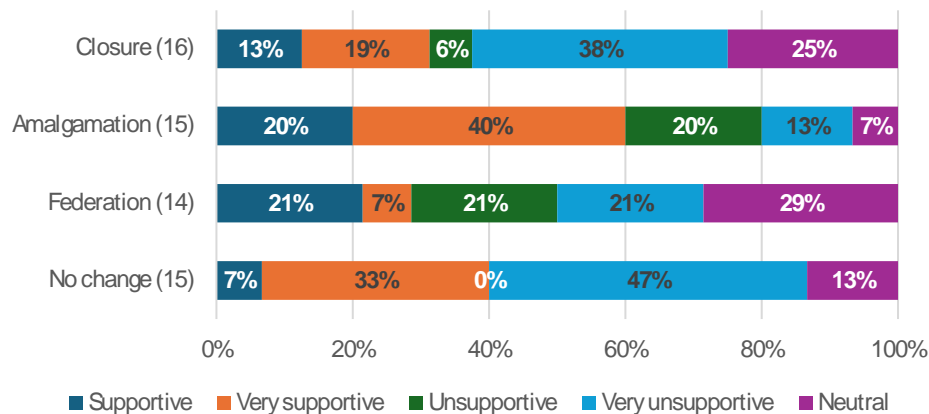
whilst a fifth each (20%) were either supportive or unsupportive. 7% were neutral.

Federation: Around a third (29%) were neutral to the proposal of federation whilst 21% each were either supportive, unsupportive or very unsupportive of federation.

No change: Almost half of respondents were very unsupportive of no change whilst a third (33%) were very supportive of no change. Some 13% were neutral.

Summary: There appears to be a variety of opinions from respondents though the largest single respondent group (47%) was very unsupportive of No change. Of the three options (closure, amalgamation or federation) the single largest respondent group was very supportive for amalgamation (40%).

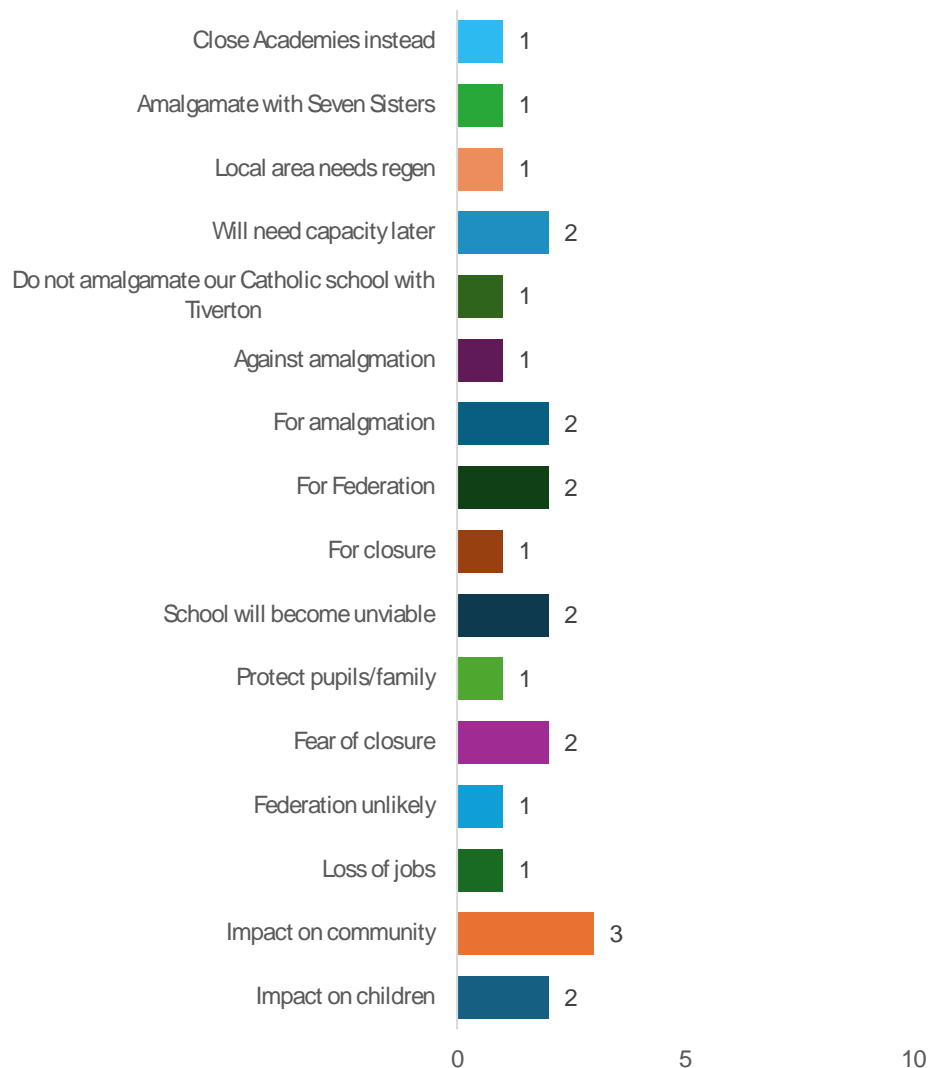
To what extent, do you support the following options for the future of Tiverton primary school?



When respondents were asked for the reasons for their views a variety of different answers were provided. 3 respondents mentioned the potential impact on the local community whilst another 2 mentioned the impact on children.

2 respondents felt that Tiverton was becoming unviable, another respondent felt the council should close academies instead and another that the local area around Tiverton school needed regeneration.

Please provide reasons for your views below:



5. Survey output and Officer response

Responses to “Please provide reasons for your views below”

Note: No changes to spelling have been made.

I am concerned at the impact the loss of the school will have both for the Children and the wider community. As a Trade Unionist I am concerned that any of the options will result in a loss of jobs for staff in the School. The reality is despite the comments this will be via redundancy as all Schools are shrinking and the Council cannot compel Schools to take displaced staff due to local management of schools. Federation would appear to be ruled out as it would not solve the problems faced by Tiverton and from the descriptions the difference between amalgamation and closure are minimal. If there is a genuine amalgamation this would increase uncertainty for staff as presumably staff at Tiverton and at the School they were going with would be placed at risk of redundancy.

Officer response: The Council will endeavour to ensure that any staff affected by closure will be given access to the redeployment pool and given individualised support to find alternative roles, considering any impacts on their protected characteristics.

Local primary school been a round for years . I wanted to send my daughter there but was worried about the rumours to close and her having to re settle of this was the case.

Officer response: We appreciate this is a challenging time for children and parents/carers. The council is committed to providing a place at a local primary school rated by Ofsted as 'Good' or 'Outstanding' to all children who require one.

I taught at this school for several years in the 1990's and at several other Haringey schools until my retirement. It was hampered then by a dilapidated, insecure site and instability in senior management due to ill- health. However, the spirit amongst the pupils was a joy - despite, or perhaps because, so many being from families seeking asylum, in temporary housing and other adverse circumstances. School was their safe place - we were always there. I imagine these neds have not changed and, although some sort of closure is inevitable, federation is to be preferred. This pathway will best be able to protect the children (and their parents- school is a fixed point among much uncertainty for many families) form too many feelings of dislocation and loss. I have faith that teachers, support staff and officers can work together with families to say an honourable farewell and move forward.

Officer response: The welfare and educational provision made to all Haringey children is the council's top priority, especially in an era of falling pupil rolls. Wherever possible, the council is committed to working directly with school staff, governors, parents and carers and all other stakeholders to ensure as smooth a transition as possible.

With falling roles, the school will become financially unviable.

Officer response: School funding is primarily determined by the number of children on roll, and falling rolls equates to reduced funding. Unfortunately, more and more schools are now facing serious financial pressures after year-on-year decline to their roll. Reduced funding can impact on the efficient running of schools, financial stability and education standards.

I am unsupportive of an amalgamation of Tiverton primary school with my daughters current school. Tiverton is not a catholic school and therefore does not follow the same core values with practising Catholicism as my childs school. Tiverton is classed as a school "requiring improvement" which is below the level and not aligned with what my childs school is currently assessed as. I do not want the quality of my childs learning to be disrupted by amalgamating with another school that is not up to the same standards and does not teach the same core catholic values.

Officer response: There has never been a proposal to amalgamate Tiverton primary school with a Faith school. The amalgamation proposal only considered comparable community schools within a reasonable distance.

Losing a valuable resource deprives a community for the future. I have seen schools close and then later for their to be a bulge / influx of children and schools left can not accomodate or build over playgrounds to facilitate. Depriving children of a facility to use.

Officer response: Peaks and troughs in demand for school places is to some extent an inevitable part of school place planning. However, the council has to balance the number of school places with the required demand to ensure the sustainability of schools across Haringey.

As a resident (also new parent) that lives on the Tiverton Estate, I think it's extremely depressing that this is the reality we face. Stamford Hill Primary School was amalgamated into Tiverton Primary in 2020, and now it looks like both sites could be empty all in the space of five years. I implore Councillors and Council Officers to walk around Stamford Hill Primary, and this edge of the borough around Seven Sisters Road. It feel forgotten about and it will feel very empty if we lose Tiverton Primary too. What will happen to these buildings? This part of the Borough had the 'Bridge' regeneration twenty years ago but its legacy feels non-existent. I do not support a closure but the data and the funding formulas make it seem inevitable. The building of St Anns and the thousands of new residents which will soon live in this part of the borough will surely increase school place pressures??

Officer response: A significant fall in birth rates has meant that demand for primary school places across Haringey has been falling for several years. New housing development has had little or no impact on stemming this fall. Our school roll projections take into account all future housing developments. Birth rates have also significantly fallen across all our neighbouring boroughs.

Amalgamation seems the best option given the capacity and resources at Seven Sisters.

Officer response: Amalgamation is one of several options outlined in the consultation and Council's Cabinet will determine whether it is a feasible option going forward.

There are too many schools in that area of Tottenham by amalgamating with Seven Sisters you would also be protecting the survival of the latter

Officer response: All options outlined in the consultation are being considered including an amalgamation with Seven Sisters. Wherever possible the council is keen to build sustainability into the schools' estate.

Amalgamation or Closure make the best sense in these circumstances.

Officer response: All options outlined in the consultation are being considered.

Please consider closing academies

Officer response: The current legislation does not give authority for the LA to propose closure of an Academy.