Addendum to Executive 6 December 2016

Item: Preliminary consultation responses to the proposal to change the age range of Everton Lower School from 3 - 9 years of age (Lower School) to 3 - 11 years of age (Primary School)

The Executive are asked to consider the additional late responses in their recommendation, following the closing date of the 16 November 2016 for the consultation replies to the above proposal, which were received by CBC on the 23 November 2016:-

	Agree with the proposal	Do not agree with the proposal	Summary of comments	CBC response (if required)
Local Resident:	3			
Parent of a child in the school	5			
School Governor	1			
Unity Church of England Multi Academy Trust Alban Academy, Bedford(in response to all the consultations in the area)		1	This will lead to a 'mixed economy of schools', surplus school places and uncertainty for pupils and parents.	The DfE guidance enables governing bodies of foundation and voluntary schools to propose and determine proposals. School places will be monitored and information through the admissions process will provide parents with the information to make informed decisions.
Potton Federation		1	The school will not be able to offer specialist provision and after school clubs. Potton Middle has existing capacity. Challenges in transition to a large school and transport.	This is addressed by the school in the FAQ, in the appendix of the Executive Report.
Total	9	2		

Purpose for considering the late responses

The above responses were received after the closing date for the consultation. Executive are asked to consider the above late responses as a number of other school consultations, facilitated by the schools Governing bodies, were being undertaken in the Sandy. These consultations had a closing date of the 23 November 2016. It is reasonable to assume that some consultees may have been confused with the two different programmes.

The DfE regulations and guidance outline the requirements and process for proposals to change age range at Council maintained schools and these include full public consultation, the publication of statutory proposals and the decision making process. The Council is the decision maker for proposals relating to maintained schools, which are set out in this report. However, whilst the revised guidance removed the power of governing bodies to propose and determine a change of age range of up to 2 years at community schools, it maintained that governing bodies of foundation and voluntary schools can propose:- age range change of up to 2 years (except for adding or removing a sixth-form) by following the non-statutory process.