

<b>Committee/Meeting:</b> Cabinet	<b>Date:</b> 3 August 2011	<b>Classification:</b> Unrestricted	<b>Report No:</b> <b>(CAB 022/112)</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Corporate Director Isobel Cattermole  <b>Originating officer(s)</b> Anne Canning, Service Head Learning and Achievement		<b>Title:</b> Establishment of sixth form consortium to meet increasing demand in sixth form places from 2012  <b>Wards Affected:</b> All	

<b>Lead Member</b>	Lead member for Children, Schools and Families
<b>Community Plan Theme</b>	A Prosperous Community
<b>Strategic Priority</b>	Improving educational aspiration and attainment

## 1. **SUMMARY**

- 1.1 This report outlines plans to increase the provision of sixth form places through the creation of a Sixth Form Consortium comprising St Paul's Way Trust School, Langdon Park, Stepney Green Maths Computing and Science School and Bow School of Maths and Computing. The proposals are related to each other as the four schools will provide a new post-16 provision through the creation of a sixth form consortium to be referred to as the "East Collaborative".

## 2. **DECISIONS REQUIRED**

Cabinet is recommended to:-

- 2.1 Note the contents of this report, including the published statutory proposals for St Paul's Way Trust School, Bow School, Langdon Park School and Stepney Green Maths, Computing and Science College at Appendix A;
- 2.2 Note the statutory requirements for the school organisation decision-making process and the considerations to be taken into account in making any decision (paragraphs 6.1 – 6.4);
- 2.3 Approve the proposals (attached as Appendix A) for the addition of sixth form places at St Paul's Way Trust School from September 2012, Langdon Park School and Stepney Green Maths, Computing and Science College from September 2013 and Bow School from September 2014.

### **3. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS**

- 3.1 The local authority coordinated formal consultation on the proposed addition of a sixth form in the four schools between 27 April 2011 and 27 May 2011. Following this, the local authority and the four schools published statutory proposals for the four schools. The school organisation decision making requirements (below paragraph 6.1 – 6.4) are that following the statutory consultation period, a formal decision has to be made on whether to implement the proposals. This report now recommends that the proposals are implemented.

### **4. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

- 4.1 Consideration has been given to expanding existing provision. This is not a viable option for two reasons. First those schools with existing 6<sup>th</sup> form provision do not have the physical or resource capacity to expand further. Secondly expansion at Tower Hamlets College is not deemed appropriate for the increase in demand for academic level 3 provision. Consideration was also given to taking no action. This is not an option as pupil place planning show there will be a demand for more places.

### **5. BACKGROUND**

- 5.1 Predications from three years ago suggested that there is a need for at least 320 more sixth form places by 2017. Our more recent predications suggest that this is likely to be considerably higher. Factors to be taken into account include raising birth rates and increases in housing. In addition new government legislation is raising the school leaving age to 18 by 2015. This means there will be more students in the system at post-16. The East Collaborative, together with the other providers, will be able to meet the new demand of 320+ students
- 5.2 Formal consultation on the addition of sixth form provision at the four schools started on 27 April 2011 and ended on 27 May 2011. A consultation document was sent to all stakeholders with two main purposes:
- to offer all stakeholders the opportunity to understand the reasoning behind the decision to re-designate the four schools to 11-18 status from September 2012; and
  - to invite views from stakeholders.
- 5.3 The local authority received six responses to the consultation. Of these, four were positive, and two raised some alternative views. Positive responses were received from the following stakeholders:
- Chair of Governors, Central Foundation Girls School - welcomed the expansion of parental choice and the school looks forward to working with the four schools in the future.
  - Chair of Governors at Langdon Park School (declared an interest as Chair of Governors) - fully supportive of the consortium, considers it an excellent way to provide a cohesive programme across schools.

- A London Borough of Tower Hamlets Councillor - wrote in support of sixth form provision for St Paul's Way Trust School.
- Tower Hamlets Borough Director, Commissioning Support Services (declared an interest as one of the Trustees of St Paul's Way Trust School) - fully supportive of the proposal.

- 5.4 Alternative responses were received from the following stakeholders:
- A local parent – considers we should be focusing on helping finance existing provision rather than providing new provision.
  - Head teacher of Tower Hamlets College – the college welcomes any proposal increasing diversity and choice in post-16 education, and believes opportunities exists for partnership between the four schools and the college. However, the college has some concerns including some queries around the detail of curriculum and provision, concerns around the financial impact on the college, and considers that the post-16 offer within the schools will not provide value for money.
- 5.5 A response has been sent to the college providing detailed answers to the queries and concerns raised. This included detail around how schools will look to develop high quality, tailored and balanced provision and will be mindful to avoid duplication in the current financial context. In terms of financial impact on the college, predictions from three years ago suggested that there is a need for at least 320 more places by 2017. Consequently, the local authority feels that the demand for places at the College should remain relatively stable if the courses on offer meet the needs of the students. It is expected that all post-16 providers in Tower Hamlets will build on their strong partnerships with other educational and business institutions to ensure that their curriculum continues to be engaging, appropriate and value for money.
- 5.6 Preliminary consultation had taken place prior to the formal consultation on the proposal to expand the schools through the addition of sixth form provision. The feedback from this consultation supported the proposals.
- 5.7 Taking into account the positive responses to consultation, the local authority and the four schools decided to publish statutory proposals for the four schools to alter the age range of the school from 11 to 16 years to 11 to 19 years. The four proposals were published in East End Life on 13 June 2011 for the four week statutory period. Copies of the four notices were also displayed at the main entrance of the four schools and at a second area on the perimeter of each school. In that four week period any individual can make a comment on the proposals. No comments were received during the statutory consultation period.
- 5.8 The text of the published notices are included in Appendix A. The notices were published in accordance with the regulations. The full statutory proposal is attached in Appendix B.

## 6. **BODY OF REPORT**

### Decision-making on school expansion proposals

- 6.1 The Education & Inspections Act 2006 requires that for proposals in the category of changing the age range to add a sixth form, the Local Authority makes the decision on the proposals after the statutory consultation period.
- 6.2 The schools adjudicator is an independent person appointed by the DfE (Department for Education). If a Local Authority fails to make a decision within 2 months of the end of the statutory consultation period, the matter has to be passed to the schools adjudicator.
- 6.3 There is a right of appeal in some circumstances to the schools adjudicator. For the current proposals, there is a right of appeal against the local authority's decision for the local Church of England and Roman Catholic dioceses, the LSC and the governing body of the schools in question. Appeals against the local authority's decision must be submitted to the local authority within four weeks of the decision being taken.
- 6.4 The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 provides statutory guidance which the local authority and schools adjudicator are required to have regard to in making decisions on statutory proposals. The following paragraphs and the detail in the full statutory proposal in Appendix B set out the relevant matters for the present cases to enable the Cabinet to take them into consideration in reaching a decision.

### The need for more sixth form places

- 6.5 There are fifteen secondary schools in Tower Hamlets providing places to 2760 students between the ages of 11 and 16. Six secondary schools have sixth form provision and there is further education provision at Tower Hamlets College. Beatrice Tate PMLD and Phoenix special schools also have small numbers of sixth form provision and plans are for Bowden House Residential school to take up to 2-4 sixth form students. The age range of the remaining five secondary schools is currently 11 to 16.

**Table 1. Student numbers pre and post 16**

School	Annual Places available	Equivalent FE	6 <sup>th</sup> form provision	Nos learners yr12/13 2009/10	Nos learners yr12/13 2010/11
BGTC	180	6	no	0	0
Bishop Chall (B)	120	4	yes	368	359
Bishop Chall (G)	150	5			
Bow	150	5	no	0	0
CFGS	240	8	yes	209	226
George Green's	210	7	yes	142	145

Langdon Park	180	6	no	0	0
Morpeth	240	8	yes	CHeath *	CHeath*
Mulberry	210	7	yes	372	372
Oaklands	120	4	yes	CHeath *	CHeath*
Raine's	150	5	yes	108	127
Sir John Cass	180	6	yes	501	643
St Paul's Way	240	8	no	0	0
Stepney Green	180	6	no	0	0
Swanlea	210	7	yes	CHeath*	CHeath*
Cambridge Heath *			yes	176	353
Tower Hamlets College			yes	1780	1780
<b>Total</b>	<b>2760</b>	<b>92</b>		<b>3751</b>	<b>4005</b>

- 6.7 The number of learners post 16 is determined by the capacity of the school. There is currently no fixed policy for setting standard numbers for sixth forms, so intake is determined by what each institution considers it can effectively manage. The success of a sixth form is measured against two key indicators: success-rates (students progressing) and standards.
- 6.8 The table above shows higher numbers in sixth forms than those taken in annually in years 7-11. This is because sixth form providers recruit from both within and outside the borough. Work is underway to confirm projections for future increase in demand. Predications from three years ago suggested that there is a need for at least 320 more places by 2017. Our more recent predications suggest that this is likely to be considerably higher. Factors to be taken into account include raising birth rates and increases in housing. In addition new government legislation is raising the school leaving age to 18 by 2015. This means there will be more students in the system at post-16.
- 6.9 The East Collaborative, together with the other providers, will be able to meet the new demand of 320+ students. However, there is no doubt that all sixth form providers will have to expand in subsequent years. Bethnal Green Technology College will also contribute to the post-16 offer as they are planning to develop their own provision from 2012.
- 6.10 The four schools in the East Collaborative have a potential intake post-16 from 2012 of some 500 students from the 2011 year 11. However, not all of these students will choose to remain in any of the four schools.
- 6.11 Destination surveys show that in the past 63% of the leavers from the four schools have been admitted to A level and vocational courses, 20% took up level 2 courses and 17% took up level 1 or foundation courses. This mirrors borough-wide take up of courses. However, the percentage of A-level uptake is not supported by current GCSE standards where 5A\*-C including English and maths for the LA is 52%. This could be interpreted as suggesting that a number of students are on courses which do not match their ability levels. However, students do take some re-sits and also pick up additional level 2

courses in year 12 leading to full level 3 in year 13. For entry to some courses it is not always essential to have both English and maths at A\*-C and students successfully complete L3 contributing to the 63%.

**Table 2. Potential take up of post-16 provision at the East Collaborative schools based on standard number at intake**

Course	% take up	Potential numbers leaving year 11 (excluding Bow School expansion) 750 students
A level	63%	472.5
Level 2	20%	150
Level 1	17%	112.5

### The rationale for post 16 development

- 6.12 Attainment post 16 has been improving slowly across the borough. However, a number of factors have impacted on raising standards
- Too many students have been accepted for courses that do not best match their abilities;
  - Schools have offered too many courses resulting in some subjects being duplicated across the borough with very small numbers of students in each school. This has not provided the best learning environment for the students;
  - Schools have not all provided high quality learning skills and support programmes;
  - The quality of teaching and learning has not been consistently high enough in each institution.
- 6.13 Remediation of these issues is now high on the agenda in all sixth forms and good progress is being made in improving the quality of learning and teaching post 16 at all levels.
- 6.14 The initiative to develop a consortium proposal was put forward by the head teachers of St Paul's Way Trust School, Langdon Park, Stepney Green and Bow School in December 2009 and has been developing since. A series of initial meetings between the head teachers, supported by the LA led to the establishment of two working parties to take forward the proposals. The strategic lead has come from the head teachers and operational proposals have been led by deputies and senior teachers in the four schools. LA officers have supported both groups.
- 6.15 The rationale for the proposal is wider than meeting the needs of an increasing post-16 population. The head teachers have identified the advantages of each school offering post-16 provision in order to raise attainment and provide an appropriate offer to improve the life chances of the students in borough. They are clear that a comprehensive and coherent high

quality school-based offer can best meet the needs of the diverse groups of students which attend Tower Hamlets schools.

- 6.16 In response to the issues identified in 6.12 across the providers the four schools are:
- Working on raising expectations for entry to post 16 and developing a programme to prepare students for level 3 working during Key Stage 4;
  - Ensuring there is a comprehensive curriculum offer which meets the needs of the full range of the cohort without undue duplication or poor value for money;
  - Implementing learning-to-learn training for staff and students to support post-16 achievement, including strong links to Universities and mentoring opportunities;
  - Ensuring good practice is being systematically developed through a programme of continuing professional development prior to 2012.
- 6.17 The four schools are keen to build on the continuity of provision through Key Stage 4 (years 7-11) into post-16. For many students, especially those who have had fractured or disjointed schooling arriving as mid-term admissions, the schools will be able to offer well-developed pastoral care and support which will enhance the opportunity for students to succeed.

#### The offer

- 6.18 Each school has particular strengths which they are able to take into post-16 provision.

<b>School</b>	<b>Specialisms</b>
Bow School	Maths and Computing
Langdon Park	Sports
SPWTS	Visual Arts Science
Stepney Green	Maths Computing Science

- 6.19 The offer from each school is planned to enable students to opt for a combination of subjects across the consortium. It is envisaged that students will take the majority of their subjects in no more than two of the schools except in exceptional circumstances. Each student will be registered at one of the schools and will remain on the roll of that school.
- 6.20 Each school will offer a core provision of English and mathematics at level 2 and level 3 (GCSE and A level equivalents) together with the full range of other subjects which will provide students with balanced option choices to enable them to enter higher education and training, and the employment market. Each school is developing a number of vocational options as well including opportunities for the new apprenticeship accreditations.
- 6.21 In order to ensure schools are ready to provide high quality learning post-16 there is an intensive programme of development in place for the academic year 2011-12. Mulberry school is supporting St Paul's Way Trust School to

embark on provision for up to 60 students, to be registered through Mulberry but taught at St Paul's Way Trust School. This will comprise post-16 pathways in either arts or sciences at AS level. The purpose of this is to develop expertise in teaching and learning post-16. A memorandum of understanding for the academic year 2011-12 has been agreed by the two schools setting out expectations for the support and development of staff at St Paul's Way Trust School. Mulberry has also offered to help the other three schools as they embark on post-16 planning and delivery.

- 6.22 Stepney Green and Bow School already offer successful AS courses in mathematics in year 11; these courses too will lead to embedding and developing post-16 practice across the schools. Langdon Park have experience of delivering a vocational qualification in Sports which will be built on in the future.

## **7. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER**

- 7.1 There will be capital implications of the changes in the age-range and the creation of any facilities required to complete the collaborative sixth form establishment. Each of the four schools involved in the collaborative are aware that there is no specific additional capital funding available to support this and they each are required to pursue different local solutions to the issue of how to expand accommodation requirements.

- Stepney Green Maths, Computing & Science College is looking to work with the Council to make use of the Haileybury Centre to provide additional accommodation for this initiative;
- St Paul's Way Trust School is looking at how to make best use of the accommodation they already have;
- Langdon Park School is making use of Sports Lottery and Thames Gateway funding, through the implementation of MyPlace to address their accommodation needs; the costs are 5.5m with 1m coming from Thames Gateway and the remainder from the BSF funding
- Bow School's Building Schools for the Future plans are not yet final. Their final designs may take account of their sixth form requirements. There is, however, no additional BSF resource to address this.

- 7.2 Each of the schools will use their BSF funding to best effect, where they have scope to do this. Details of BSF funding is as follows:

- St Paul's Way Trust School scheme: £36.3m completed Jan 2011 (new school)
- Stepney Green Maths, Computing & Science College scheme £16.9m commencing 2011
- Langdon Park School scheme: £16.6m commencing 2011
- Bow School scheme: £31.3m commencing 2012 ( new school)

- 7.3 The original BSF funding included some monies for post-16 places but the subsequent cuts required by Partnerships for Schools have resulted in a cut to that funding. There remains a risk, therefore, that these schools will find themselves with pressure for additional places and, having exhausted any



opportunities for local solutions, may seek support from the Authority at a later stage.

- 7.4 The revenue costs of meeting the needs of the additional sixth form students will be met from each school's individual schools budget, from the allocation provided by the Young People's Learning Agency. It is unlikely that the YPLA will provide start-up funding for these new sixth forms and there may be some uncertainty about levels of resourcing in the first instance, until actual numbers of students in each setting become firm. Each school will need to (and are planning to) bear costs from their delegated budgets at risk, in anticipation of funding levels from the YPLA. In the parallel arrangement for the Cambridge Heath Sixth Form Collaborative, the Department for Education has recognised the collaborative as an institution in its own right and it has received its own budget.

## **8. CONCURRENT REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE (LEGAL SERVICES)**

- 8.1 Section 19 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 gives the local education authority the power to publish for consultation proposals to make alterations such as adding a sixth form to an existing school or schools. The power to take the decision is contained in the The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007.
- 8.2 In determining those proposals the local education authority may—
- (a) reject the proposals;
  - (b) approve the proposals without modification; or
  - (c) approve the proposals with such modifications as the authority think desirable.
- If Members wished to make modifications to the proposals the authority must consult the governing body
- 8.3 Any determination of the proposals must be made within the period of 2 months from the end of the representation period. Where the authority does not make a determination within that period the proposals must be referred to the adjudicator appointed by the Secretary of State.
- 8.4 This report sets out how the consultation has been conducted and the result of it. Members are under a duty to have due regard to the results of the consultation as they make their decision.

## **9. ONE TOWER HAMLETS CONSIDERATIONS**

- 9.1 This proposal will support the Mayor's priority to raise attainment at post-16 by helping to meet the needs of an increasing post-16 population. The provision of an appropriate offer to young people will help to raise attainment and as a result improve the life chances of young people in the borough. Raising

attainment at post-16 is critical in ensuring young people secure sustainable employment and in breaking cycles of poverty.

## **10. SUSTAINABLE ACTION FOR A GREENER ENVIRONMENT**

10.1 There are no specific implications arising.

## **11. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

11.1 The action of increasing capacity in each school to provide for a 6<sup>th</sup> form cohort is agreed by the Local Authority but the maintenance and management and delivery of the provision is the responsibility of the governing body of each school.

## **12. CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS**

12.1 There are no specific implications arising.

## **13. EFFICIENCY STATEMENT**

13.1 The effect of the collaboration will be to ensure greater efficiency in the delivery of provision to young people aged 16 to 19 through access to planned joint delivery of the full range of appropriate entry level, level 1, 2 and 3 courses. Each provider will continue to determine their staffing complement but opportunities will be established so that staff will deliver provision across the collaboration based on numbers choosing courses. Agreement about viability of course numbers is yet to be confirmed but is likely to range between 12-15 students. Currently the development of provision is governed by each individual school. In the future it is envisaged that there will be governance arrangements across the schools with representation from each individual governing body. Funding allocations are determined on an individual school basis, based on numbers at intake, paid on retrospective calculation, and will be determined by national legislation through the YPLA and subsequently the Funding Agency. Pooling of funding for resourcing will be finalised once the curriculum is fully determined and will rest with the governance arrangements. Each school will maintain existing partnerships, for example, St Paul's Way Trust is working with Mulberry school to establish high quality teaching and learning at 6<sup>th</sup> form level. Bow school is also joining this partnership and Langdon Park and Stepney Green are considering this option as they come on line. The whole Collaborative are also working closely with Tower Hamlets College to ensure curriculum coverage is comprehensive. Potentially Tower Hamlets College is also able to offer support for introducing management systems to enable inter-school tracking of progress and attainment. Other potential significant partners include Queen Mary College, London University; formal discussions have been scheduled for the Autumn. In order to enable the schools to plan for and develop the provision, there is an allocation of £60K standards funding. This is being used to appoint a part-time professional expert in post 16 development to work with the schools from the Autumn term for one year. The brief of this person is to establish the curriculum offer, the strategic governance, the staffing requirements and the

day to day organisation of the collaboration. They will work with the LA Head of Secondary Learning and Achievement, the Headteachers of the Schools and the 6<sup>th</sup> form leads in the schools. They are accountable to the Headteachers and the LA.

**14. APPENDICES**

**Appendix 1** – Text of the four statutory proposals for St Paul’s Way Trust School, Bow School, Langdon Park School and Stepney Green Maths, Computing and Science College

**Appendix 2** – Full statutory proposal

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**Local Government Act, 1972 Section 100D (As amended)  
List of “Background Papers” used in the preparation of this report**

Brief description of “background papers”	Name and telephone number of holder and address where open to inspection.
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None



## Appendix 1

### Proposed addition of a sixth form at St Paul's Way Trust School

Notice is given in accordance with sections 19 (3) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that the Governing Body of St Paul's Way Trust School intends to make a prescribed alteration to St Paul's Way Trust School, 125 St Paul's Way, London, E3 4FT, from September 2012. St Paul's Way Trust School is a Foundation Mixed Comprehensive.

The Governing body of St Paul's Way Trust School intend to alter the age range of the school from 11 to 16 years to 11 to 19 years. The current total capacity and age range is **1200** for students aged 11-16. The current number of pupils registered (in January 2011) is **730**. An additional **80** pupils will be admitted to year 12 from September 2012. The proposed capacity and age range from September 2012 will be **1,360** aged 11 to 19 years.

The additional pupils will be admitted to year 12 until the sixth form has reached the increased number. The places will be available from September 2012.

This notice is related to three other notices concerning prescribed alterations by addition of a sixth form at three other schools in the East of Tower Hamlets. These are:

- Bow School, Paton Close, Fairfield Road, London, E3 2QD, which is a Community Boys Comprehensive, 80 sixth form places from 1 September 2014
- Langdon Park School, Byron Street, Poplar, London, E14 0RZ, which is a Community Mixed Comprehensive, 80 sixth form places from 1 September 2013
- Stepney Green Maths, Computing & Science College, Ben Jonson Road, Stepney, London, E1 4SD, which is a Community Boys Comprehensive, 80 sixth form places from 1 September 2013

The proposals are related to each other as the four schools will provide a new post-16 provision through the creation of a sixth form consortium to be referred to as the "East Collaborative".

A copy of the complete proposal for all four schools can be obtained by contacting Harriet Potemkin (tel: 020 7364 6712) or [harriet.potemkin@towerhamlets.gov.uk](mailto:harriet.potemkin@towerhamlets.gov.uk)

Within four weeks from the date of publication of these proposals, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them to the Interim Corporate Director, Children, Schools & Families, London Borough of Tower Hamlets, Town Hall, Mulberry Place, London E14 2bG, attn: Harriet Potemkin.

**Signed:** Professor Peter Heathcote, Chair of the Governing Body of St Paul's Way Trust School

**Publication Date:** 13 June 2011

## **Proposed addition of a sixth form at Bow School of Maths and Computing**

Notice is given in accordance with sections 19 (1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that the London Borough of Tower Hamlets intends to make a prescribed alteration to Bow School, Paton Close, Fairfield Road, London, E3 2QD. Bow School is a Community Boys Comprehensive.

The London Borough of Tower Hamlets intend to alter the age range of the school from 11 to 16 years to 11 to 19 years. The current total capacity and age range is **750** for students aged 11-16. The current number of pupils registered (in January 2011) is **609**. An additional **80** pupils will be admitted to year 12 from September 2014. The proposed capacity and age range from September 2014 will be **910** aged 11 to 19 years.

The additional pupils will be admitted to year 12 until the sixth form has reached the increased number. The places will be available from September 2014.

This notice is related to three other notices concerning prescribed alterations by addition of a sixth form at three other schools in the East of Tower Hamlets. These are:

- Langdon Park School, Byron Street, Poplar, London, E14 0RZ, which is a Community Mixed Comprehensive, 80 sixth form places from 1 September 2013
- St Paul's Way Trust School, 125 St Paul's Way, London, E3 4FT, which is a Foundation Mixed Comprehensive, 80 sixth form places from 1 September 2012
- Stepney Green Maths, Computing & Science College, Ben Jonson Road, Stepney, London, E1 4SD, which is a Community Boys Comprehensive, 80 sixth form places from 1 September 2013

The proposals are related to each other as the four schools will provide a new post-16 provision through the creation of a sixth form consortium to be referred to as the "East Collaborative".

A copy of the complete proposal for all four schools can be obtained by contacting Harriet Potemkin (tel: 020 7364 6712) or [harriet.potemkin@towerhamlets.gov.uk](mailto:harriet.potemkin@towerhamlets.gov.uk)

Within four weeks from the date of publication of these proposals, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them to the Interim Corporate Director, Children, Schools & Families, London Borough of Tower Hamlets, Town Hall, Mulberry Place, London E14 2bG, attn: Harriet Potemkin.

**Signed:** Isobel Cattermole, Interim Corporate Director Children, Schools and Families, London Borough of Tower Hamlets

**Publication Date:** 13 June 2011

## **Proposed addition of a sixth form at Langdon Park School**

Notice is given in accordance with sections 19 (1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that the London Borough of Tower Hamlets intends to make a prescribed alteration to Langdon Park School, Byron Street, Poplar, London, E14 0RZ. Langdon Park School is a Community Mixed Comprehensive.

The London Borough of Tower Hamlets intend to alter the age range of the school from 11 to 16 years to 11 to 19 years. The current total capacity and age range is **900** for students aged 11-16. The current number of pupils registered (in January 2011) is **885**. An additional **80** pupils will be admitted to year 12 from September 2013. The proposed capacity and age range from September 2013 will be **1,060** aged 11 to 19 years.

The additional pupils will be admitted to year 12 until the sixth form has reached the increased number. The places will be available from September 2013.

This notice is related to three other notices concerning prescribed alterations by addition of a sixth form at three other schools in the East of Tower Hamlets. These are:

- Bow School, Paton Close, Fairfield Road, London, E3 2QD, which is a Community Boys Comprehensive, 80 sixth form places from 1 September 2014
- St Paul's Way Trust School, 125 St Paul's Way, London, E3 4FT, which is a Foundation Mixed Comprehensive, 80 sixth form places from 1 September 2012
- Stepney Green Maths, Computing & Science College, Ben Jonson Road, Stepney, London, E1 4SD, which is a Community Boys Comprehensive, 80 sixth form places from 1 September 2013.

The proposals are related to each other as the four schools will provide a new post-16 provision through the creation of a sixth form consortium to be referred to as the "East Collaborative".

A copy of the complete proposal for all four schools can be obtained by contacting Harriet Potemkin (tel: 020 7364 6712) or [harriet.potemkin@towerhamlets.gov.uk](mailto:harriet.potemkin@towerhamlets.gov.uk)

Within four weeks from the date of publication of these proposals, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them to the Interim Corporate Director, Children, Schools & Families, London Borough of Tower Hamlets, Town Hall, Mulberry Place, London E14 2bG, attn: Harriet Potemkin.

**Signed:** Isobel Cattermole, Interim Corporate Director Children, Schools and Families, London Borough of Tower Hamlets

**Publication Date:** 13 June 2011

## **Proposed addition of a sixth form at Stepney Green Maths, Computing & Science College**

Notice is given in accordance with section 19 (1) the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that the London Borough of Tower Hamlets intends to make a prescribed alteration to Stepney Green Maths, Computing & Science College, Ben Jonson Road, Stepney, London, E1 4SD from 1 September 2013. Stepney Green Maths, Computing & Science College is a Community Boys Comprehensive.

The London Borough of Tower Hamlets intend to alter the age range of the school from 11 to 16 years to 11 to 19 years. The current total capacity and age range is **900** for students aged 11-16. The current number of pupils registered (in January 2011) is **841**. An additional **80** pupils will be admitted to year 12 from September 2013. The proposed capacity and age range from September 2013 will be **1,060** aged 11 to 19 years.

The additional pupils will be admitted to year 12 until the sixth form has reached the increased number.

This notice is related to three other notices concerning prescribed alterations by addition of a sixth form at three other schools in the East of Tower Hamlets. These are:

- Bow School, Paton Close, Fairfield Road, London, E3 2QD, which is a Community Boys Comprehensive. 80 sixth form places from 1 September 2014.
- Langdon Park School, Byron Street, Poplar, London, E14 0RZ, which is a Community Mixed Comprehensive. 80 sixth form places from 1 September 2013.
- St Paul's Way Trust School, 125 St Paul's Way, London, E3 4FT, which is a Foundation Mixed Comprehensive. 80 sixth form places from 1 September 2012.

The proposals are related to each other as the four schools will provide a new post-16 provision through the creation of a sixth form consortium to be referred to as the "East Collaborative".

A copy of the complete proposal for all four schools can be obtained by contacting Harriet Potemkin (tel: 020 7364 6712) or [harriet.potemkin@towerhamlets.gov.uk](mailto:harriet.potemkin@towerhamlets.gov.uk)

Within four weeks from the date of publication of these proposals, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them to the Interim Corporate Director, Children, Schools & Families, London Borough of Tower Hamlets, Town Hall, Mulberry Place, London E14 2bG, attn: Harriet Potemkin.

**Signed:** Isobel Cattermole, Interim Corporate Director Children, Schools and Families, London Borough of Tower Hamlets

**Publication Date:** 13 June 2011



## Appendix 2

### PROPOSALS FOR PRESCRIBED ALTERATIONS OTHER THAN FOUNDATION PROPOSALS

**Extract of Part 1 of Schedule 3 and Part 1 of Schedule 5 to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools)(England) Regulations 2007 (as amended):**

#### **In respect of a Governing Body Proposal: School and governing body's details**

1. The name, address and category of the school for which the governing body are publishing the proposals.

- St Paul's Way Trust School, 125 St Paul's Way, London, E3 4FT,, which is a Foundation Mixed Comprehensive.

#### **In respect of an LEA Proposal: School and local education authority details**

1. The name, address and category of the school .

- Bow School, Paton Close, Fairfield Road, London, E3 2QD, which is a Community Boys Comprehensive
- Langdon Park School, Byron Street, Poplar, London, E14 0RZ, which is a Community Mixed Comprehensive
- Stepney Green Maths, Computing & Science College, Ben Jonson Road, Stepney, London, E1 4SD, which is a Community Boys Comprehensive.

#### **Implementation and any proposed stages for implementation**

2. The date on which the proposals are planned to be implemented, and if they are to be implemented in stages, a description of what is planned for each stage, and the number of stages intended and the dates of each stage.

The additional sixth form places will be available on a phased basis. The proposed implementation date in respect of each school will be:

- St Paul's Way Trust School from September 2012
- Langdon Park School and Stepney Green Maths, Computing & Science College from September 2013
- Bow School from September 2014

## Objections and comments

3. A statement explaining the procedure for making representations, including —
- (a) the date prescribed in accordance with paragraph 29 of Schedule 3 (GB proposals)/Schedule 5 (LA proposals) of The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended), by which objections or comments should be sent to the local education authority; and
  - (b) the address of the authority to which objections or comments should be sent.

(a) Objections or comments should be sent to the London Borough of Tower Hamlets by 11 July 2011 (within four weeks of publication of proposals on 13 June 2011)

(b) Objections and comments should be sent to: Interim Corporate Director, Children, Schools & Families, London Borough of Tower Hamlets, Town Hall, Mulberry Place, London E14 2bG, attn: Harriet Potemkin.

## Alteration description

4. A description of the proposed alteration and in the case of special school proposals, a description of the current special needs provision.

The London Borough of Tower Hamlets and the Governing Bodies of the respective Schools intend to alter the age range of each school from 11 to 16 years to 11 to 19 years. The capacity and age range of each school will increase as set in the table below, which also shows the current capacity and age range.

<b>School</b>	<b>Current total capacity and age range</b>	<b>Current number of pupils registered (in January 2011)</b>	<b>Additional pupils admitted to year 12</b>	<b>Proposed capacity and age range</b>
Bow School	750 for students aged 11-16	609	80	910 aged 11 – 19
Langdon Park School	900 for students aged 11-16	885	80	1,060 aged 11 – 19
St Paul's Way Trust School	1200 for students aged 11-16	730	80	1,360 aged 11 – 19
Stepney Green Maths, Computing & Science College	900 for students aged 11-16	841	80	1,060 aged 11 – 19

The proposals are related to each other as the four schools will provide a new post-16 provision through the creation of a sixth form consortium to be referred to as the “East Collaborative”.

### School capacity

5.—(1) Where the alteration is an alteration falling within any of paragraphs 1 to 4, 8, 9 and 12-14 of Schedule 2 (GB proposals)/paragraphs 1-4, 7, 8, 18, 19 and 21 of Schedule 4 (LA proposals) to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended), the proposals must also include —

- (a) details of the current capacity of the school and, where the proposals will alter the capacity of the school, the proposed capacity of the school after the alteration;

St Paul's Way Trust School has a current total capacity and age range is **1200** for students aged 11-16. The current number of pupils registered (in January 2011) is **730**. An additional **80** pupils will be admitted to year 12 from September 2012. The proposed capacity and age range from September 2012 will be **1,360** aged 11 to 19 years.

Bow School has a current total capacity and age range is **750** for students aged 11-16. The current number of pupils registered (in January 2011) is **609**. An additional **80** pupils will be admitted to year 12 from September 2014. The proposed capacity and age range from September 2014 will be **910** aged 11 to 19 years.

Langdon Park School has a current total capacity and age range is **900** for students aged 11-16. The current number of pupils registered (in January 2011) is **885**. An additional **80** pupils will be admitted to year 12 from September 2013. The proposed capacity and age range from September 2013 will be **1,060** aged 11 to 19 years.

Stepney Green Maths, Computing & Science College has a current total capacity and age range is **900** for students aged 11-16. The current number of pupils registered (in January 2011) is **841**. An additional **80** pupils will be admitted to year 12 from September 2013. The proposed capacity and age range from September 2013 will be **1,060** aged 11 to 19 years.

- (b) details of the current number of pupils admitted to the school in each relevant age group, and where this number is to change, the proposed number of pupils to be admitted in each relevant age group in the first school year in which the proposals will have been implemented;

The schools currently do not have provision beyond the 11-16 age group.

Following these proposed alterations, 80 pupils will be admitted to Year 12 in each school, from September 2012 for St Paul's Way Trust School, from September 2013 for Langdon Park School and Stepney Green Maths, Computing & Science College and from September 2014 for Bow School.

- (c) where it is intended that proposals should be implemented in stages, the number of pupils to be admitted to the school in the first school year in which each stage will have been implemented;

Not applicable.

- (d) where the number of pupils in any relevant age group is lower than the indicated admission number for that relevant age group a statement to this effect and details of the indicated admission number in question.

Not applicable.

(2) Where the alteration is an alteration falling within any of paragraphs 1, 2, 9, 12 and 13 of Schedule 2 (GB proposals) /paragraphs 1, 2, 8, 18 and 19 of Schedule 4 (LA proposals) to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended), a statement of the number of pupils at the school at the time of the publication of the proposals.

St Paul's Way Trust School has a current total capacity and age range is **1200** for students aged 11-16. The current number of pupils registered (in January 2011) is **730**.

Bow School has a current total capacity and age range is **750** for students aged 11-16. The current number of pupils registered (in January 2011) is **609**.

Langdon Park School has a current total capacity and age range is **900** for students aged 11-16. The current number of pupils registered (in January 2011) is **885**.

Stepney Green Maths, Computing & Science College has a current total capacity and age range is **900** for students aged 11-16. The current number of pupils registered (in January 2011) is **841**.

## Implementation

6. Where the proposals relate to a foundation or voluntary controlled school a statement as to whether the proposals are to be implemented by the local education authority or by the governing body, and, if the proposals are to be implemented by both, a statement as to the extent to which they are to be implemented by each body.

The proposal in relation to the 3 Community Schools are to be implemented by the London Borough of Tower Hamlets. The proposal in relation to St Paul's Way Trust School is to be implemented by the Governing Body of St Paul's Way Trust School.

The proposals are related to each other as the four schools will provide a new post-16 provision through the creation of a sixth form consortium to be referred to as the "East Collaborative".

## Additional Site

7.—(1) A statement as to whether any new or additional site will be required if proposals are implemented and if so the location of the site if the school is to occupy a split site.

Stepney Green is working with the Council to make use of the Haileybury Centre to provide additional accommodation for this initiative. This is a community provision, run by the Local Authority, which will house 6<sup>th</sup> form accommodation. The school is allocating funding towards this building refurbishment programme.

Langdon Park are making use of Sports Lottery and Thames Gateway funding, through the implementation of MyPlace to address their accommodation needs within their existing site.

Bow School's Building Schools for the Future plans are being finalised so that final designs take account of their sixth form requirements, without the need for any site in addition to the new build already planned.

(2) Where proposals relate to a foundation or voluntary school a statement as to who will provide any additional site required, together with details of the tenure (freehold or leasehold) on which the site of the school will be held, and if the site is to be held on a lease, details of the proposed lease.

St Paul's Way Trust School has a new school building and are looking at how to make best use of this existing accommodation for the sixth form provision.

## Objectives

### 8. The objectives of the proposals.

Genuine diversity and choice in educational provision in the 14 to 19 age range is crucial for ensuring that young people in Tower Hamlets have the best possible start in life.

The family of schools in Tower Hamlets wants young people to be able to access a curriculum which meets their needs and circumstances. Making the right choice about their education post-16 can make the difference between a young person successfully progressing onto further education, training and employment, or making insufficient progress in education post - 16 as shown by regional and national comparisons, or becoming NEET (not in education, employment or training).

The East Collaborative schools will provide :

- new post-16 provision in the east of Tower Hamlets,
- a tailored curriculum offer to enable young people in the borough to make the right choices and so achieve successful outcomes.
- an inclusive post-16 curriculum on site that meets the needs of their students and complements the curriculum offer in the other East Collaborative Schools.
- greater breadth and choice.

## Consultation

### 9. Evidence of the consultation before the proposals were published including—

- (a) a list of persons who were consulted;
- (b) minutes of all public consultation meetings;
- (c) the views of the persons consulted;
- (d) a statement to the effect that all applicable statutory requirements in relation to the proposals to consult were complied with; and
- (e) copies of all consultation documents and a statement on how these documents were made available.

(a) A list of persons consulted is attached as appendix 2.

(b) Minutes of public consultation meetings are attached as appendix 3

(c) The local authority co-ordinated a formal consultation on the proposed addition of a sixth form in the four schools.

Formal consultation started on 27 April 2011 and ended on 27 May 2011. A consultation document was sent to all stakeholders with two main purposes:

- to offer all stakeholders the opportunity to understand the reasoning behind the decision to re-designate the four schools to 11-18 status

- from September 2012; and
- to invite views from stakeholders.

The local authority received six responses to the consultation. Of these, four were positive, and two raised some alternative views. Positive responses were received from the following stakeholders:

- Chair of Governors, Central Foundation Girls School - welcomed the expansion of parental choice and the school looks forward to working with the four schools in the future.
- Chair of Governors at Langdon Park School (declared an interest as Chair of Governors) - fully supportive of the consortium, considers it an excellent way to provide a cohesive programme across schools.
- A London Borough of Tower Hamlets Councillor - wrote in support of sixth form provision for St Paul's Way Trust School.
- Tower Hamlets Borough Director, Commissioning Support Services (declared an interest as one of the Trustees of St Paul's Way Trust School) - fully supportive of the proposal.

Alternative responses were received from the following stakeholders:

- Meg Mitchell, local parent – considers we should be focusing on helping finance existing provision rather than providing new provision.
- Michael Farley, Tower Hamlets College – the college welcomes any proposal increasing diversity and choice in post-16 education, and believes opportunities exist for partnership between the four schools and the college. However, the college has some concerns including some queries around the detail of curriculum and provision, concerns around the financial impact on the college, and considers that the post-16 offer within the schools will not provide value for money.

A response has been sent to the college providing detailed answers to the queries and concerns raised. The East Collaborative will provide an updated offer for post-16 education, which is needed to improve the quality of provision and to ensure that the full ability range is met. The offer will draw on the strengths and specialisms of each school. Schools will look to develop high quality, tailored and balanced provision and will be mindful to avoid duplication in the current financial context.

Predictions from three years ago suggested that there is a need for at least 320 more places by 2017. Consequently, the local authority feels that the demand for places at the College should remain relatively stable if the courses on offer meet the needs of the students. It is expected that all post-16 providers in Tower Hamlets will build on their strong partnerships with other educational and business institutions to ensure that their curriculum continues to be engaging, appropriate and value for money.

(d) All applicable statutory requirements in relation to the proposals to

consult were complied with.

(e)The consultation document is attached as appendix 1. This was emailed to all stakeholders listed in appendix 2.

## **Project costs**

**10.** A statement of the estimated total capital cost of the proposals and the breakdown of the costs that are to be met by the governing body, the local education authority, and any other party.

There will be capital implications of the changes in the age-range and the creation of any facilities required to complete the collaborative sixth form establishment. Each of the four schools involved in the collaborative are aware that there is no specific additional capital funding available to support this and they each are required to pursue different local solutions to the issue of how to expand accommodation requirements.

- Stepney Green Maths, Computing & Science College is working with the Council to make use of the Haileybury Centre to provide additional accommodation for this initiative; the costs for this are £3.5m coming from the Council.
- St Paul's Way Trust School is looking at how to make best use of the accommodation they already have;
- Langdon Park School is making use of Sports Lottery and Thames Gateway funding, through the implementation of MyPlace to address their accommodation needs; the costs are 5.5m with 1m coming from Thames Gateway and the remainder from the BSF funding
- Bow School's Building Schools for the Future plans are not yet final. Their final designs may take account of their sixth form requirements. There is, however, no additional BSF resource to address this.

Each of the schools will use their BSF funding to best effect, where they have scope to do this. Details of BSF funding is as follows:

St Paul's Way Trust School scheme: £36.3m completed Jan 2011 ( new school)

Stepney Green Maths, Computing & Science College scheme £16.9m commencing 2011

Langdon Park School scheme: £16.6m commencing 2011

Bow School scheme: £31.3m commencing 2012 ( new school)

The revenue costs of meeting the needs of the additional sixth form students will be met from each school's individual schools budget, from the allocation provided by the Young People's Learning Agency. It is unlikely



that the YPLA will provide start-up funding for these new sixth forms and there may be some uncertainty about levels of resourcing in the first instance, until actual numbers of students in each setting become firm. Each school will need to (and are planning to) bear costs from their delegated budgets at risk, in anticipation of funding levels from the YPLA. In the parallel arrangement for the Cambridge Heath Sixth Form Collaborative, the Department for Education has recognised the collaborative as an institution in its own right and it has received its own budget.

**11.** A copy of confirmation from the Secretary of State, local education authority and the Learning and Skills Council for England (as the case may be) that funds will be made available (including costs to cover any necessary site purchase).

BSF funding and external funding streams have been approved together with Council commitment .

### **Age range**

**12.** Where the proposals relate to a change in age range, the current age range for the school.

The four schools are currently for pupils aged 11 to 16.

### **Changes to sixth form provision**

**13. (a)** Where the proposals are to alter the upper age limit of the school so that the school provides sixth form education or additional sixth form education, a statement of how the proposals will—

- (i) improve the educational or training achievements;
- (ii) Increase the participation in education or training ; and
- (iii) expand the range of educational or training opportunities for 16-19 year olds in the area;

#### **(i) Improve the educational or training achievements**

Attainment post 16 has been improving slowly across the borough.

However, a number of factors have impacted on raising standards:

- Too many students have been accepted for courses that do not best match their abilities;
- Schools have offered too many courses resulting in some subjects being duplicated across the borough with very small numbers of students in each school. This has not provided the best learning environment for the students;
- Schools have not all provided high quality learning skills and support programmes;

- The quality of teaching and learning has not been consistently high enough in each institution.

The headteachers have identified the advantages of each school offering post-16 provision in order to raise attainment and provide an appropriate offer to improve the life chances of the students in borough. They are clear that a comprehensive and coherent high quality school-based offer can best meet the needs of the diverse groups of students which attend Tower Hamlets schools.

Across the providers the four school are:

- working on raising expectations for entry to post 16 and developing a programme to prepare students for level 3 working during Key Stage 4;
- ensuring there is a comprehensive curriculum offer which meets the needs of the full range of the cohort without undue duplication or poor value for money;
- implementing learning-to-learn training for staff and students to support post-16 achievement, including strong links to universities and mentoring opportunities;
- ensuring good practice is being systematically developed through a programme of continuing professional development prior to 2012.

#### **(ii) Increase the participation in education or training**

Work is going on currently to confirm projections for future increase in demand. Predications from three years ago suggested that there is a need for at least 320 more places by 2017. Our more recent predications suggest that this is likely to be considerably higher. Factors to be taken into account include raising birth rates and increases in housing. The East Collaborative, together with the other providers, will be able to meet the new demand of 320+ students.

Each of the schools will also be engaging in the promotion of apprenticeship programmes, increasing work-based and vocational learning and securing entry level and foundation level pathways to level 2 courses so that each will meet a young people not in education, employment or training (NEET) reduction target of zero NEETs.

#### **(iii) Expand the range of educational or training opportunities for 16-19 year olds in the area**

Each school will offer an inclusive post-16 curriculum on site that meets the needs of their students and complements the curriculum offer in the other East Collaborative Schools. This will allow for greater breadth and choice.

The offer from each school is planned to enable students to opt for a combination of subjects across the consortium. It is envisaged that students will take the majority of their subjects in no more than two of the schools except in exceptional circumstances. Each student will be registered at one of the schools and will remain on the roll of that school.

Each school will offer a core provision of English and mathematics at level 2 and level 3 (GCSE and A level equivalents) together with the full range of other subjects which will provide students with balanced option choices to enable them to enter higher education and training, and the employment market. Each school is developing a number of vocational options as well including opportunities for the new apprenticeship accreditations. As outlined above entry level and foundation level courses with an emphasis on work related provision will also be accessed through the collaboration.

(b) A statement as to how the new places will fit within the 16-19 organisation in an area;

Pupil place planning shows that the demand for places post-16 will increase, not just because of the raising of the school leaving age but also because of increase in the birth rates locally combined with the planned increase in housing. Currently there are some 4000 learners in years 12 and 13 across the seven post-16 providers, with the largest number attending Tower Hamlets College. Distribution of places across the borough is based on demand and varies from 501 places at Sir John Cass and Redcoat Foundation School to 108 at Raines Foundation mixed School. Minimum projections are that there will be a need for at least 320 more places in the east of Borough post 16 by 2017. In addition it is anticipated that all providers will be increasing their provision in line with demand.

(c) Evidence —

- (i) of the local collaboration in drawing up the proposals; and
- (ii) that the proposals are likely to lead to higher standards and better progression at the school;

(i) The governing bodies of the four schools and the local authority managed the consultation process to increase the provision of sixth form places through the creation of this Sixth Form Consortium.

The schools consulted with the following groups about the East Collaborative:

- The principal stakeholders – the governing bodies, current pupils and their parents and carers and all teaching and support staff of the four schools, through meetings and surveys
- The partnership stakeholders – the Tower Hamlets family of schools, including the primary schools and Tower Hamlets Local Authority.

Formal consultation started on 27 April 2011 and ended on 27 May 2011. A consultation document was sent to all stakeholders with two main purposes:

- to offer all stakeholders the opportunity to understand the reasoning behind the decision to re-designate the four schools to 11-18 status from September 2012; and

- to invite views from stakeholders.

A list of stakeholders who were sent the consultation document is attached as appendix 1. The consultation document is attached as appendix 2.

Notes from consultation meetings are attached as appendix 3.

(ii) There is high parental demand for in-school post-16 provision. There has been a strong tendency for students to “drop out” of subsequent placements in other institutions and students have asked to stay at their 11-16 school. By introducing post 16 provision the schools are better able to develop continuous pathways from 11-19. Schools will also be able to ensure continuity of pastoral care and development of resilience for learning.

Across the providers the four school are:

- Working on raising expectations for entry to post 16 and developing a programme to prepare students for level 3 working during Key Stage 4;
- Ensuring there is a comprehensive curriculum offer which meets the needs of the full range of the cohort without undue duplication or poor value for money;
- Implementing learning-to-learn training for staff and students to support post-16 achievement, including strong links to universities and mentoring opportunities;
- Ensuring good practice is being systematically developed through a programme of continuing professional development prior to 2012.

(d) The proposed number of sixth form places to be provided.

The eventual capacity will be for 160 post-16 places in each of the four schools, totalling 640 places across the East Collaborative schools.

### **Extended services**

**14.** If the proposed alterations affect the provision of the school’s extended services, details of the current extended services the school is offering and details of any proposed change as a result of the alterations.

The proposed alterations do not alter the provision therefore this is not applicable.

## Appendix 1

### Consultation on the addition of sixth form provision in the East of Tower Hamlets delivered through a consortium of four schools

*The sixth form provision through the consortium of four schools will be referred to as the East Collaborative for the purposes of this consultation.*

<b>School Names:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bow School</li><li>• Langdon Park School</li><li>• St Paul's Way Trust School</li><li>• Stepney Green School</li></ul>
<b>DfE Numbers:</b>	100965 100966 100969 100970
<b>Local Education Authority area:</b>	Tower Hamlets
<b>Diocese (if applicable):</b>	Church of England and Roman Catholic Diocesan Boards
<b>Proposals published by:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Tower Hamlets Local Authority</li><li>• Bow School</li><li>• Langdon Park School</li><li>• St Paul's Way Trust School</li><li>• Stepney Green School</li></ul>
<b>Date proposals published:</b>	w/c 25 <sup>th</sup> April 2011
<b>Date of Statutory Notice :</b>	w/c 6 <sup>th</sup> June 2011
<b>Proposed implementation date:</b>	September 2012

**This information is to be regarded as in the public domain and may be shown to interested parties without further notification.**

## **Introduction**

This consultation is about the future of sixth form provision in the East of Tower Hamlets. It proposes that post-16 learning is delivered by an East Collaborative. The members of the East Collaborative are four 11-16 community schools: Bow School, Langdon Park School, Stepney Green maths computing and science College and St Paul's Way Trust School.

The consultation has two main purposes: to offer all stakeholders the opportunity to understand the reasoning behind the decision to re-designate the four schools to 11-18 status from September 2012; and to invite views from stakeholders.

## **The rationale for change**

Genuine diversity and choice in educational provision in the 14 to 19 age range is crucial for ensuring that young people in Tower Hamlets have the best possible start in life.

The family of schools in Tower Hamlets wants young people to be able to access a curriculum which meets their needs and circumstances. Making the right choice about their education post 16 can make the difference between a young person successfully progressing onto further education, training and employment, or making insufficient progress in education post 16 as shown by regional and national comparisons, or becoming NEET (not in education, employment or training).

The East Collaborative schools will provide new post-16 provision in the East of Tower Hamlets, and are committed to tailoring the curriculum they offer to enable young people in the borough to make the right choice and so achieve successful outcomes. Each school will offer an inclusive post-16 curriculum on site that meets the needs of their students and complements the curriculum offer in the other East Collaborative Schools. This will allow for greater breadth and choice.

## **The proposal**

Demographic changes mean that we are predicting the need for an additional 320 post-16 places by 2017. This coupled with the increase in the leaving age (to 17 by 2013 and 18 by 2015) for engagement with further studies or training puts additional pressures on post-16 provision in the borough. The East Collaborative is proposing that they will deliver post-16 education to meet this expected increase in demand, with the aim being for the collaborative to be able to provide all these additional places by 2017.

As well as a broad and balanced offer students will benefit from the advantages of receiving continuity of academic and pastoral provision and the specialist curriculum at each school.

The 11-18 status at Mulberry School is supporting St Paul's Way Trust School to offer post-16 provision from September 2011. Due to the anticipated increase in the

number of post 16 students across the collaboration of schools, this arrangement will not be sustainable beyond September 2012. The proposal is therefore that the East Collaborative schools each add a sixth form and be redesignated as an 11 to 18 school in their own right from September 2012 to meet the increasing need. The proposal is already supported by Mulberry School.

Bow, Langdon Park and Stepney Green all have initial experience of delivering provision at level 3 and will continue to further develop this work prior to the full implementation of the East Collaborative.

The new sixth form consortium will be inclusive and will provide pathways from Key Stage 4 which includes vocational and academic courses. Students of all abilities will be catered for across the consortium.

### **Next steps**

This re-designation consultation notice sets out the case for formally adding a sixth form to each of the East Collaborative schools and invites views from stakeholders.

Subject to the outcomes from the consultation, the next stage of re-designation will be the publication of a statutory notice setting out the proposal to change the age range of the four schools to include sixth form provision. There will then be a four-week period for representations to be made before the proposals are sent for consideration to the London Borough of Tower Hamlets' Cabinet for their final decision.

Formal re-designation will take place in September 2012, with post 16 delivery commencing on a phased basis with St Paul's Way beginning an offer from September 2012, Langdon Park and Stepney Green in September 2013 and Bow School from September 2014.

### **Details of those to be consulted**

The schools have already informally consulted the following on the East Collaborative:

- The principal stakeholders – the governing bodies, current pupils and their parents and carers and all teaching and support staff of the four schools, through meetings and surveys
- The partnership stakeholders – the Tower Hamlets family of schools and Tower Hamlets Local Authority.

The list of those now to be consulted is provided in Appendix 1.

The timeline for the consultation and, subject to the outcome of the consultation, the timeline for completing the re-designation, is as follows:

Consultation period starts	27 April 2011
Consultation period ends	27 May 2011
Reflection on stakeholder views. Governing bodies decide whether to	

proceed to publication of Statutory Notices.	
date for publication of Statutory notices.	13 June 2011
Representation period ends.	11 July 2011
date for decision by Cabinet.	3 August 2011
If the change of age range is approved, the Governing Bodies of the four schools would then be in position to formalise arrangements.	
Formal re-designation	September 2012

### **Making a response to the consultation**

The schools governing bodies and the local authority invite your views on this important proposal. Please send your feedback to:

Layla Richards, Service Manager Strategy and Policy, Children, Schools and Families, London Borough of Tower hamlets

[Layla.richards@towerhamlets.gov.uk](mailto:Layla.richards@towerhamlets.gov.uk)

The deadline for responses to the consultation is Friday 27 May 2011.



## Appendix 2

### Proposal to establish East Collaborative Sixth Form

#### Consultation Requirements

The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 require proposers to consult the following interested parties.

Guidance	Consultee	Consulted by
The governing body of any school which is the subject of proposals (if the LA are publishing proposals);	Governing bodies Bow, Langdon Park, St Paul's Way, Stepney Green	East Collaborative Schools
The LA that maintains the school (if the governing body is publishing the proposals);	DCS, Head of Service Learning and Achievement	East Collaborative Schools
Families of pupils, teachers and other staff at the school;	Families and staff at Bow, Langdon Park, St Paul's Way, Stepney Green	East Collaborative Schools
Any other LA likely to be affected by the proposals, in particular neighbouring authorities where there may be significant cross-border movement of pupils;	Hackney Learning Trust, Newham	Head of Service Learning and Achievement
The governing bodies, teachers and other staff of any other school that may be affected;	All LBTH Secondary Schools and Tower Hamlets College	Head of Service Learning and Achievement
Families of any pupils at any other school who may be affected by the proposals including where appropriate families of pupils at feeder primary schools;	All LBTH Primary Schools	Head of Service Learning and Achievement

Any trade unions who represent staff at the school; and representatives of any trade union of any other staff at schools who may be affected by the proposals;	Regional Officers NUT NASUWT Unison ATL (Trade Union Forum Members)	Head of Service Learning and Achievement
If proposals involve, or are likely to affect a school which has a particular religious character, the appropriate diocesan authorities or the relevant faith group in relation to the school;	Church of England and Roman Catholic Diocesan Boards	Head of Service Learning and Achievement
If a foundation or voluntary school does not have a religious foundation, any trust or foundation providing the school;	St Paul's Way Trust	St Paul's Way Trust School
MPs whose constituencies include the schools that are the subject of the proposals or whose constituents are likely to be affected by the proposals;	Rushnara Ali Jim Fitzpatrick	Head of Service Learning and Achievement
The local district parish or community council where the school or proposed school that is the subject of the proposals is situated;	Ward Councillors for Bow East; Bow West; St Dunstons and Stepney Green; East India and Lansbury; and Mile End East.	Head of Service Learning and Achievement
Any other interested party, for example, the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (if one exists), or any local partnership or group that exists in place of an EYDCP (where proposals	LBTH Children and Families Partnership	Head of Service Learning and Achievement

<p>affect early years and/or childcare provision), or those who benefit from a contractual arrangement giving them the use of the premises;</p>		
<p>Such other persons as appear to the proposers to be appropriate.</p>	<p>Connexions Service</p>	<p>Head of Service Learning and Achievement</p>