## **Summary Table**

Total number of responses:	60				
Number in favour or against the proposal:					
In favour	12				
Against	48				
Don't know	0				
Not indicated	0				

Method of response:	
BeHeard (website)	59
Email (NASWUT)	1
Letter	0

BeHeard Respondent by type:	Total	In favour	Opposed	Neither/ don't' know
Pupil	0			
Parent	2		2	
School Governor	2	2		
School Staff Member	22	4	18	
Local Resident	18	2	16	
Local Councillor	2	1	1	
Member of Parliament	0			
Other, please specify (extended family/community; other organisations; former staff members, former pupils and their				
families)	13	3	10	
Not answered	0	n/a	n/a	

BeHeard Comment themes: 50 responses via BeHeard included comments (counted per mention of total responses that include comments)	Mentions
Loss/shortage of specialist/unique provision	27/50
Children receive good education and positive experience / closure would have a detrimental effect on pupils	19/50
Where will alternative places be provided if school closes	11/50
Concerns regarding land ownership/ future of land/ Cropwood Trust/covenants	8/50
Buildings are poor/ not safe/ not fit for teaching pupils	6/50
Staff are good	6/50
Proposal is financially motivated	5/50
School could be good again	5/50
The closure is a foregone conclusion/ conspiracy to close	5/50
Building condition poor/has been allowed to deteriorate	4/50
Safeguarding issues (past)	2/50

Address issues at school - don't close school.	2/50			
Staff not well trained	2/50			
Concern for pupils in year 10 doing GCSE's	1/50			
School leadership is poor	1/50			
Not enough done to respond to directive Academy Order	1/50			
School too far from pupils' homes / long journeys to school	1/50			
School not financially viable				

### Analyst notes:

- 59 responses were received via BeHeard and one response was received by email.
- The qualitative analysis refers to BeHeard responses.
- A response was received by email from NASUWT. A copy of the response forms part of this appendix it has been included in the total responses above but has not been included in the comment themes.
- An email was addressed to Councillor Francis from a Birmingham Councillor during the statutory
  consultation enquiring what provision would be available for pupils should the school close. A response was
  sent from Councillor Francis in answer to the enquiry. This has not been included in the summary as it was
  an enquiry for Councillor Francis. The same Councillor also made representation via BeHeard which is
  included in the above analysis.
- 9 of the 59 responses via BeHeard had no comments included.

Company	ANON	Type of	Other type of		
Part	I.D.	consultee	consultee		Comments
See	SKHZ-		oster carer	NU	I am in the position where I was a member of staff at Hunters Hill
	V6VQ-K				
Part					
with the control of t					
with the control of t					leadership, I felt from the moment FET input began, the running down of the school began. It was totally driven by finance how can you put a price on children s education who deserve the best provision Bham can offer?
Part					
Level Service					
with the control of t					The school buildings, I can tell you for a fact are fine and fit for purpose. £50000 was spent in the Summer of 2019 on the residential provision. Some people say this was a red herring to divert from future corruption? Crop wood House is a
Fig. 1. Part of the control print of the control pr					but what a magnificent resource for key stage 4 students. Personally   began to get sceptical when a previous H/T instructed that the building should not be used, from that moment the building began to be in disrepair
We will be a served of the control o					
From the control of t					that for the young people but why not be open and transparent about it/ about everything? Instead staff, students and parents have high anxiety and stress. Some say this has been a strategic plan of the City for some time all for financial
Part					Let me tell you, i totally understand the City has a financial deficit and it requires action. I also understand travel expenses for young people with needs is extortionate. So my guess is; children in the South of the City will go to Lindsworth and
well with the common to include the common to the common t					
Experimental process of the company					
Management of the part of th					Resources like Hunters Hill ( with residential provision) are needed within the City. Bham will minimise financial deficit short term but long term, more students will require out of district placements costing the City millions of pounds. I predict
Mile State					the city, once financially viable will do a uturn and resources like Hunters Hill will start to pop up again within Bham. After all, if it was deemed a need within the city once why not now?  I am proud to have helped as many children of Bham as I did within my years service, I m disappointed the City didn't recognise the hard work and dedication both myself and all other staff have put into this great establishment. If staff do read
West And Control of the Control of t	ANON-	Other please	SENDIASS officer	No	
West Property of the Common Co	SKHZ-		SENDIASS OFFICE		Without these the plan to close the school is short-sighted.
The state of the s		Parent			It is not clear what efforts were made to secure an academy sponsor - and so this seems to be a rushed decision which does not adequately take into account the needs of existing and future pupils
And the state of t					The children are being denied a specialist education after years of failing to support the school and the teachers. You must ensure that Hunters Hill is restored to a functioning educational facility.
Section 1.	ANON-	Staff Member		No	
week place for the place of the					
more district with a service of the Author recovers and controlled in a service of the author of the					
Instruction of the control of the					provide skills in Motor Vehicle studies, Farm and land studies, skills for working life such as Bricklaying, Painting Decorating, Construction and Cooking. The
Lorent, we cannot delicate the second of the control of the contro					give opportunities to our future generations. We need to build on our skills, encourage apprenticeships and generate a skilled workforce if we are to go it alone
Lactors and the state of the st					
March   Marc					students with a little investment. Students can breathe fresh air and appreciate out of city surroundings for a fraction of the cost being payed to private enterprise.
Mode Story (March 2007)  We should be shown that the story of the stor					livelihoods and stay open for the benefit of the students. We were once an outstanding school and can be again if given the chance. We are falling victim to the crisis Birmingham City Council financially finds themselves in, whether that is their
Adding collect   Security   Collection   C	ANON-	Other, please	SEND consultant	Yes	own doing or a consequence of our governments management in making investments where they are needed. It is common knowledge that there is a desperate need for provisions for students with special needs.
April	SKHZ-				Building unsafe teaching poor and therefore understandable that Birmingham feel they can do so much better for children than this
Months of the control	ANON-			Yes	emang arome, receiving your and are ever a most survivance and bit intigration receives and of various
Part   International part		specify	attend this school		My son used to attend this school and was discriminated against. Hunters Hill failed to make reasonable adjustments
In term.					
RODE  ONE part with the company of t					to them.
In the part of the size that the part of the size of t					
See					
Part of the control					serious risk of harm and their safeguarding is a disgrace.
All colders recovery a good extractions on the case with 1000 meet a chool when the man for the man for the present on the first collection.  The present of the case of the c					
Les undergrades of the company to the control of a rought point of any order of any					
React case for entirely goed from the load applicated out at 2 down from the form descript activation and control.  React case for entirely goed from the load applicated out at 5 down from the load of goods for these students currently and the proposal colds, where the load of goods for these students currently and the proposal cold, where the load of goods for these students currently and the proposal cold, where the load of goods for these students currently and the proposal cold, where the load of goods for these students currently and the proposal cold, where the load of goods for these students currently and the proposal cold, where the load of goods for these students currently and the proposal cold, where the load of goods for the students could be applied to the load of goods for the students could be applied to the load of goods for the students could be applied to the load of goods for the students could be applied to the load of goods for the students could be applied to the load of goods for the students could be applied to the load of goods for the students could be applied to the load of goods for the students could be applied to the load of goods for the					is unforgivable the damage they have caused our young people is irreparable and we still live that trauma.
Company   Comp					
Composition of the security of proteins from the security of pro	ANON	Other plans	SEMD provision in	No	I'm sure some will be to scared to speak out. So I will be their voice as I can clearly see this place is not fit for purpose.
Allow Good passed.  Septembly Service of Australia Control of Service of Control of Service of Control of Service of Control of Service of Control of Service	SKHZ-			140	
The series and example placed places for the children under attract the type of protting so closing the chool and examples and protein protein.	ANON-	Other, please	Support Worker	No	solution established, make this situation considerably worse.
MOND College (packed) White the state of the		specify			There are not enough school places for the children who attend this type of setting so closing the school will exacerbate what is already a major problem.
Work   Section of the print   Section of th				No	
uniformise in hearts		specify	friend of a parent		
Mode   Control processed   Ministry   Mini					
Section   Security	ANON-	Other please	******	No	After the enquiry we all believed the school would close never to open again
Then is not enough specialisin provision in Birminghum nome the meeting of the color choicing operational provisions will add further state to an appropriate in Bustines.  No  The school disturbule is not exceed to provision in Birminghum nome the meeting of the school was been a direct result of this location, staff in 2000 and the school in the provision of the school in the school in the provision of the school in the sc	SKHZ-		Birmingham		
dedication and good management, I am not satisfied that extensive consultations have taken place to restly the financial deficit by condensing the existing size onto one in that afficient work was referrable to report the financial deficit by condensing process that there is the place of the place. The place of the design of the place of the	V6VM-F		secondary school		There is not enough specialist provision in Birmingham to meet the needs of the cohort. closing specialist provision will add further strain to an already stretched situation
NOD-  ANOP- Soft Member  White In you going to the with the correct and appropriate management, the phood could suity be paided back to the outstanding provision that historics 1981 has been brown to be in the year. With a dedicated \$2.75 to give format and produce policies that shrive to mere high expectations, this would in man, retrie an regarging and self-environment for raudents and staff siles. Provincing that there was a passionate driving force leading the school would ultimately high to silveste the issue of low such dark markers. I am produce the staff of the return of the school with the stage of the school would ultimately high to silveste the issue of low such dark markers. I all the school were the school with the school will be a school or the female that the school will be a school or the school or the female that the school will be a school or the female that the school will be a school o		Staff Member		No	
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Susce of low student numbers. I am proud to serve these vulnerable students and believe they deserve a provision that Funters Hill incore was and could be again.  No. Statement Hill, is a much more than a school for these young people, it is a suntantum, it is a self place that not only provides in fundamental education, it is only provides structure, routine, stability, emotional support and love to Emmighan's not discretific.  Our the years there have been so many successor at Natures's Hill and a red of the red only of the landers and the school for the whole disk, both patients was only the school for the whole disk, both patients was of the stability of the whole disk, both patients was of the winder disk, both patients was of the stability of the school for the whole disk, both patients was of the state on the finished was one most in media.  Note that the school for patients and staff by an application of the school for the whole disk, both patients was of the state of the school for the whole disk, both patients was of the state of the school for the whole disk, both patients was of the state on the finished whole.  Writing at threats and patients and staff by an application of the school for the whole disk, both patients was of the school for the whole disk, both patients was often the school for the whole disk, both patients was often the school for the whole disk, both patients was often the school for the whole disk, both patients was often the whole disk and the school for the whole disk, both patients was often the whole disk and the school for the whole disk, both patients was often the whole the school for the whole disk, both patients was often the whole the school for the whole disk and the was often the whole the school for the whole disk and the was often the whole the school for the whole disk and the was often the whole the school for the whole disk and the was often the whole the school for the whole disk and the was often the was often the whole the school for patients was often the was					
ANDRES SUPERATION SUPE					
vicinities.  Over the years there have beers so many successes at Hunter's Rid that are often forgetten about, from students achieving the first GCSE level de veer in the academic year of 2019-2000 to learning basic life skills such as learning to tile show lock or how to catch have. The but The bits of achievements here at futures is rediscus. Where eier could the be achieved—where there is so much development of the whole child, but how been the some than the state of the sta		Staff Member		No	
skes or how to outs a but. The list of additivements here at hunters is endess. Where etic could this be achieved -where there is so much development of the whole dulls, both pastorally and acidemically? Not only do we provide support to our suduents active the additional in the state of the implication of the state of th					vulnerable.
our students but also to the families who are most in need. The staff treat is flater in the high college placement success rate. Not only do we look after the children whithat at \$4000, we ensure that we are with them throughout the college process to give them maanman spaper, tailored to their individual needs. Working at learning and an advantage of the most wonderful achievement and it have to continue to do this for as such as a such as					
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V6VH-A         no comment           ANON- Other, please SKHZ- specify         Former member of staff         No staff		Local Resident		No	Secured open was support to in white the fine shows we left defined.
ANON- Other, please SKHZ- specify V6W-					no comment
v6w	ANON-			No	
The school has been let down by poor leadership since the retirement of Under proper management the school was brilliant and can be brilliant again		эрсспу	J4011		
				ı	The school has been let down by poor leadership since the retirement of Under proper management the school was brilliant and can be brilliant again

	Staff Member		No	
SKHZ- V6V4-P				We are in need for secondary SEMH Schools in Birmingham.
anon- Skhz-	Staff Member		No	
V6V9-U				Leacher at Hunters Hill i see the benefits every day the pupils get from being at our wonderful school this is why i am strongly opposed to the closure of Hunters Hill College.  In my years at the school, everyday I see success after success. The pupils thoroughly enjoy coming into school each day and have a unique relationship with staff that allows their needs to be met each and every day.  This has been even more pertinent since school started up again after the return to school due to Covid-19. Pupils were so desperate to come back as it is their safe place and the one place that is a constant in their lives.  We are a school for pupils with social, emotional and mental health issues and closing the school and simply re-housing our pupils would have absolutely catastrophic outcomes to their mental well-being for many years to come and could easily have an adverse impact to the rest of their lives.  It takes many of our students an extremely long time to build up the appropriate relationships with adults and taking a child out of Hunters Hill, a place where they trust the staff, to then ask them to go and start again at another school would be morally wrong on so many different levels. It wouldn't be fair on the pupils themselves and also on the parents who would have to also start all over again with their child to even convince them to get up in the morning to go to school, let alone engage in lessons and do the very best they can each day.  This has been even more pertinent since school started up again at another school would be morally wrong on so many different levels. It wouldn't be fair on the pupils themselves and also on the parents who would have to also start all over again with their child to even convince them to get up in the morning to go to school, let alone engage in lessons and do the very best they can each day.  This has been even more pertinents into school start all over again with their child to even convince them to get up in the morning to go to school, let alone engage in lessons a
ANON-	Other, please	Ex Staff Member	No	The multiple opportunities for pupils to thrive and develop are endless which is why Hunters Hill is such a special place and the students need to continue with it being a part of their lives.
SKHZ- V6VU-Q	specify			The school has the potential to be a good, focused SEMH special school which serves the city of Birmingham. It's buildings on the whole are reasonable, the Cropwood site should be sold off to pay for the debts that Birmingham city council has allowed the school to build up through under funding. The removal of the residential provision was a positive move and it now should have the chance under, permanent, supportive leadership to improve and provide support.  The school has not enrolled y7s this year even though there were pupils ready to join. The excuse of the school being in special measures was used when actually the plan was to allow skilts school to keep its Y6 cohort and take more on in preparation to move.  The support that the school received through BEP and FET was mixed and often misguided and contradictory to each other.  If the debt was wiped, the school would be a prospect for a MAT group to take it over and build it for the future.  The whole process stinks of conspiracy and underhand actions from BCC, BEP and FET and has never had the education and futures of its pupils at the heart of its decisions.
SKHZ-	Staff Member		No	
N6VS-N ANON-	Staff Member		No	no comment
SKHZ- V6V6-R ANON-	Staff Member		No	no comment
anon- SKHZ- V6V5-Q	Stall Member		NO	I am strongly opposed to the closure of Hunters Hill College.  Everyday I see success after success. The pupils thoroughly enjoy coming into school each day and have a unique relationship with staff that allows their needs to be met each and every day.  This has been even more pertinent since school started up again after the return to school due to Covid-19. Pupils were so desperate to come back as it is their safe place and the one place that is a constant in their lives.  We are a school for pupils with social, emotional and mental health issues and closing the school and simply re-housing our pupils would have absolutely catastrophic outcomes to their mental well-being for many years to come and could easily have an adverse impact to the rest of their lives.  It takes many of our students an extremely long time to build up the appropriate relationships with adults and taking a child out of Hunters Hill, a place where they trust the staff, to then ask them to go and start again at another school would be morally wrong on so many different levels. It wouldn to the fair on the pupils themselves and also on the parents who would have to also start all over again with their child to even convince them to get up in the morning to go to school, let alone engage in lessons and do the very best they can each day.  The whole setting and environment of Hunters Hill is unique in itself. Set in the middle of the countryside, with access to a farm and excellent forest school facilities, this is an experience that our inner city students would otherwise not have. Not only outdoor activities but lessons such as art, motor vehicle C.D.T. The grounds itself offers the space most of the pupils need to either express themselves. The multiple opportunities for pupils to thrive and develop are endless which is why Hunters Hill is such a special place and the students need to continue with it being a part of their lives.
SKHZ-	Local Resident		No	
	Local Resident		No	no comment
SKHZ- V6FR-4 ANON-	Local Resident		No	no comment
SKHZ- V6FV-8	Local Resident		NO	I believe this is a much needed facility for children with educational needs that this provides
ANON- SKHZ- V6FQ-3	Staff Member		No	This is a repeat of the comments I made in part one as it was not made clear that those written comments would not be shared with the decision-makers. However, I made a positive comment relating to the new leadership in my previous response which I can no longer agree with. The influx of advisors, governors and in-school leadership have been unable and/or unwilling to effect the positive change that was promised and that three of the (BCC-appointed) governors are in favour of the closure speaks. That the clear majority of respondents to part one were either neutral or against the proposal, but with BCC pressing on with the process regardless without modification, suggests to me that this is a sham consultation and the decision has already been made.  This was my previous response:  "It baffles me that a school where exam results, the breadth of the curriculum, and leaving destinations and courses taken up post-16 have all been improving year on year, should be at risk of closure. Within the last four years the school was asked by the local authority to increase its PAN to have an additional class of children!  It is clear from the Ofsted reports that the rapid decline in the school's fortunes (despite the curriculum, results and pupil destinations improving) has been down to leadership and management issues. Hunters still has the capacity to get back to good if only it, the staff and students were provided with genuine, committed and skilled support.  The site has a restrictive covenant and also has some excellent vocational facilities which are completely unmatched by any other special school in the area. Food, hospitality and catering; motor vehicle maintenance; multiskills; farming and animal care; PE equipment and facilities are all on offer one one site and many were grant-funded. That plus the covenant would surely mean that the most efficient way forward would be for funding to be found to repair as necessary and continue to use this wide range of teaching spaces which is like no other available to BCC.
ANON- SKHZ- V6F1-3	Staff Member		No	I have been a staff member at Hunters Hill College for growing up we always had access to woodlands and forestry settings like Hunters Hill and I think to myself regularly how grateful I was to have this. Our students all suffer from social, emotional, and behavioural challenges and after running various outdoor activities I have seen first-hand the positive impact our setting has on students at Hunters Hill.  Removing Hunters Hill as a provision would have a detrimental impact on our students as our location provides a safe setting where young people can express themselves without the fear or judgment from the world around them. It is no
ANON- SKHZ-	Local Resident		No	coincidence we received an Outstanding judgment from Ofsted five years ago when our curriculum used to cater for the needs of our pupils.
V6FJ-V	Other, please	Worcestershire	Yes	It is impossible to judge the proposal without BCC clearly stating first what alternative provision will be made for the pupil provision and secondly what sustainable use BCC proposes for the site which is held in trust and hence must conform with charity commission law.  This school is located within the geographical boundaries of Worcestershire and currently supports 4 Worcestershire pupils with specialist needs. We do not have any objections to this proposal however the closure of the facility will require
SKHZ- V6FE-Q		Children First on behalf of Worcestershire County Council	No	alternative placements to be found for these pupils.  We appreciate the continued engagement Birmingham CC have provided us with during this proposal and appreciate continued close working to ensure children and young people are able to access good education places that meets their needs.
SKHZ- V6F3-5	Local Resident		140	BCC are not acting in accordance with the Trust Deed that the estate was originally passed over or the interests of the residents of Blackwell
	Local Resident		No	As an Assistant Headteacher at a local school, I battle constantly with trying to get students in Worcestershire with EHCPs in to named specialist schools. I am constantly been told there are no places available and therefore I daily see children that need specialist environments like this school being let down. This school is on the Worcestershire border and needs to remain open to support its county neighbour.  Also, as a local resident, this school should remain to give the students the opportunity 19 be in a rural area, away from inner city issues and give the students the chance to explore.
ANON- SKHZ-	Local Resident		No	Also, as a local resident, this school should remain to give the students the opportunity to be in a rural area, away normalied city issues and give the students the chance to explore.
V6FX-A ANON-	Local Resident		No	I feel this school provides a valuable service for children and parents. Without this school there would be an enormous gap in meeting the educational needs for pupils who need it most!
SKHZ- V6FG-S ANON-	Local Resident		No	I feel that the school could be an excellent facility with the right investment and leadership, offering great opportunities for children in need of behavioural support, or the buildings could even be repurposed as an outdoor education centre for the city's schools. It feels like a waste and a failure of imagination to close the school. Any attempt to sell the land for development would breach the covenants in place and would be strongly opposed by local residents.  There has been little done to inform the village of this process. We don't get a local paper and a huge majority of the village are not in social media. This effects the village and yet we aren't informed. Special schools are needed it should
SKHZ- V6FP-2				remain a school and I would be against building as we don't have don't have don't have the infrastructure to support the extension to the first school let alone any further housing. Make sure that you give opportunity to offer a proper consultation not during covid when you are restricting peoples access, such as those without internet access or limit ability on the internet
Anon- Skhz- V6FC-N	Other, please specify	l am a former staff member. I worked at the school	No	I am strongly opposed to the closure of Hunters Hill College.  Despite only working at the school I can honestly say that it was the most rewarding of my teaching career so far. Each day I saw children go from strength to strength.  The pupils at Hunters Hill all have some form of social, emotional and mental health issues, which at first was very overwhelming for myself. However, being in and around the school after a few weeks, I noticed very quickly just how special the relationships were between the staff and the pupils. I believe that closing the school would be so damaging to so many of these pupils, as for many, it is their safe place. For lots of the pupils at Hunters, building relationships does not come easy to them. I for one witnessed this first hand when I first joined the school. Without the staff having the relationships which they had already cemented with those pupils, I would not have been able to have made the impact on those pupils learning, as I did.  The whole environment at Hunters is fantastic for these pupils. The majority of the pupils come from tough urban backgrounds. Whereas, Hunters is the complete opposite to that. Its peaceful and Tranquil rural surroundings, allow the pupils to access great experiences such as the farm across the road and forrest school (which is the pupils favourite for sure). These experiences are not possible in their usual inner city lives and are just a few examples of how these pupils benefit from having access to these facilities.  Hunters is such a special place and when I was informed of its closure by a previous work colleague, I did not even hesitate to ask is there anything I can do. I hope the above gives you a taste of why Hunters needs to stay open and to continue to support the learning of these vulnerable children.
anon- Skhz- V6FM-Y	Other, please specify	I was a Teacher at Hunters Hill for years.	No	There are very few schools which cater for the kind of pupils that Hunters Hill has.  I am aware of the deterioration of some of the buildings and also the change in the care given to the pupils. If the school had received the care and support needed, the buildings would not be as they are now.  What concerns me is that there may be some ulterior motive to this closure. The land is valuable and although there is a Cadbury Covenant on the land, such covenants have been ignored before.  I know that I am probably wasting my time in expressing these views as I think the decision has already been made. Ofsted results are merely being used to back up the decision to close.  As always, the students and their needs come last. We fought these attitudes for years and made a difference to some students lives. That will not happen anymore!
Anon- SKHZ- V6F7-9	Local Councillor		Yes	Given the present unviability of the school I agree that there is no other option but to close the school. i understand that the future of the site is not the subject of this consultation but if it were possible to retain some of the excellent facilities there for use by young people I would be in favour of doing so. I am particularly concerned about the loss of the outdoor facilities on the Cropwoodvsite and especially the climbing equipment. The little farm and the training garage as well as the computer suite donated by IBM, I believe, will also be significant losses and I hope efforts will be made to offer the pupils school places where similar opportunities / facilities are in place.  Former pupils at Hunters Hill have gone on to become successful in many types of employment and some run successful businesses where I am a very satisfied customer. The catering industry has particularly benefitted from the training provided by the school, which also produced a Theses achievements should not be forgotten.
ANON- SKHZ- V6FZ-C	Local Resident		No	There needs to be more effort made to address the issues that exist with Hunters Hill School. The loss of these special school places will place an unacceptable burden on the wider school system in Birmingham and will lead to significant prejudice to the children and young people at Hunters Hill School and beyond.
ANON- SKHZ-	Staff Member	BCC Head Teacher	Yes	England of the second of the proper of removes the oction and octions.
V6FH-T ANON- SKHZ- V6FW-9	Staff Member		No	I believe that the school needs to close. Most of the staff are in denial regarding the need to develop and improve which makes it very difficult to shift the culture. The buildings are not suited to educate any pupil let alone SEMH pupils.
ANON- SKHZ-	Local Resident		No	no comment

	I	I	
ANON- SKHZ- V6F9-B	Staff Member	No	Having worked at Hunters Hill for vears I have seen the impact the school has had on students first hand. The range of SEMH that students attending Hunters Hill have is wide and varied but every effort has been made by staff to support each and every one of them. This is not only with their education but also with their mental and cognitive development needed for their transition to the outside world. Whether this be in their continued education or their pursuit of a career, I have witnessed the growth needed to function and flourish in their chosen paths. The school has had a focus on NVQ for students approaching year 11 and this has primarily been evident in the work undertook in Motor Vehicles, Food and Catering and Physical Education. Although many students have initially shown to be difficult to 'reach' at the point of starting their journey at Hunters Hill, I have consistently watched such students mature, gain confidence and develop the skills, both socially and academically, needed for their progression in a chosen field of study or work. There have been numerous success stories regarding students who have gone on to achieve their goals upon leaving Hunters Hill. It is with this view and have gone on the progression in a chosen field of study or work. There have been numerous success stories regarding students who have gone on to achieve their goals upon leaving Hunters Hill. It is with this view and
ANON- SKHZ-	School Governor	Yes	hope that the school can go on offering such opportunities to those students who need them most.
V6FU-7	Staff Member	Yes	no comment
SKHZ- V6FS-5			no comment
ANON- SKHZ-	Local Resident	No	1) In the medium term, the careful educational provision by the City Council for pupils with the special needs for which Hunters Hill College has catered in the past, including a suitable setting for respite care, which the rural setting of Hunters Hill College has, and could still, satisfy (given appropriate resources).
V6F6-8			2) In the long-term, appropriate maintenance and ultimately an appropriate use (presumably educational?) for this site, in a rural setting on Green Belt land. This use would have to be found, and, as I understand it (quoting from a past Birmingham City Council document concerning the College's land-use) "The City Council acts as Sole Corporate Trustee for a number of charitable and non-charitable
			Trusts and has delegated day to day decision making to the Trusts and Charities Committee. Charitable trust activity is regulated by the Charity Commission and
			any proposals relating to the estate will be governed by the Trust document as amended by any Scheme approved by the Charity Commission.
			The Cropwood Estate Trust holds the freehold interest of the land held in trust as Sole Trustee and is responsible for ensuring the Trust is managed in accordance with the
			governing document and in accordance with charity law and relevant Charity Commission guidance.
			The Trustees of the Charity could rely on the provisions of the Section 6(1) Trusts of Land and Appointment of Trustee Act 1996 which provides an implied statutory power of
			disposal. However, the Charity Commission Scheme dated 12th November 1997, establishing the regulation of the Charity also provides appropriate powers for the
			disposal of assets by sale or for lease. It requires that all such disposals be conducted in line with statutory processes set out in the Charities Acts and that the proceeds of any sale be invested in trust for the Charity."
			Therefore, it is important to note that the Council cannot sell this land and simply benefit from the proceeds going into its general coffers. These have to invested in the Cropwood EstateTrust, if I have this correct.  Aims and Objectives of the Trust
			Each property in trust is held as a separate trust and decisions need to be in the best interests of that trust. The assets of the Trust should at all times assist the Trust to
			comply with the Objects of the trust. The specific objects of the Cropwood Estate trust are wide ranging and are: the furtherance of any charitable purpose for the benefit of the
			inhabitants of the City of Birmingham including all or any of the following purposes (a) the provision and support of educational facilities (b) the provision and support of educational facilities (c) the education (c) the educati
ANON-	Local Resident	No	recreational and other leisure time occupation with the object of improving the conditions  Simple lack of funding is a poor excuse for closing a special school in such a wonderful and beneficial environment. I understand that the city is in financial dire straits but you have a duty of care to these children with needs(and to other
SKHZ- V6F5-7			potential future pupils of the school). This school and this unique environment has the potential to benefit so many city children in a meaningful way. Poor fabric of buildings and failing inspections are as a result of being left to run down by a failing I.A. Why are numbers on roll dropping? Perhaps a cynic may believe it is because there were plans to close so potential pupils may have been sent elsewhere? The farm and the unique environment and outdoors activities are a fantastic
			and life changing resource for the children of Birmingham who are lucky enough to be enrolled here. The intention of the Cadbury family who left the land and buildings to the city was that to fulfil this purpose (and similar). We know the physical and mental health benefits of access to the natural environment - schools are rolling out forest school programs because it is proven. It seems short sighted and unambitious of BCC to force the closure of this school without exploring
			the options to keep it open. Worcestershire is desperate for special school places - would a joint venture not be a solution? forcing pupils in BCC LA into other schools will only put pressure on them. Please KEEP IT OPEN, INVEST, USE IMAGINATION and SAVE THIS RESOURCE FOR THE FUTURE!
ANON- SKHZ- V6JR-8	Staff Member	Yes	To close the school, yes. Outdated and not capable of catering for the children.
ANON- SKHZ-	Staff Member	Yes	To close the school, yes. Outdated and not capable of catering for the children.
V6JV-C ANON-	Local Resident	Yes	The school is, in my opinion beyond repair. There is a long legacy of dysfunction which is far reaching. This makes improving teaching and learning almost impossible to improve.
SKHZ- V6JQ-7			Not safe for SEMH pupils needs , Hunters Hill needs closing its beyond repair
SKHZ-	Local Resident	Yes	The quality of the advertise is near and is not fair on the children.
V6J1-7 ANON- SKHZ-	Staff Member	No	The quality of the education is poor and is not fair on the children
V6JJ-Z			Hunters Hill was an excellent school and provided a safe, secure environment for pupils to learn and grow. It had a dedicated staff that went above and beyond to ensure that every opportunity possible was offered to the students. This all changed a number of years ago when long-standing senior staff left and inadequate staff, with no understanding of the complex issues these young people face, were employed to run the school and a path of destruction was in place.  This was exacerbated when Forward Education Trust came on board making changes that weren t in the best interest of the students, staff and Hunters Hill as an establishment.
			Hunters Hill could pride itself on the fact that staff loved their jobs and change of personnel was very low. The residency offered a wealth of opportunities to the young people that they wouldn't have necessarily accessed in their home lives and this was the first to be hit and an excellent team of staff that went above and beyond their duties took the blow and lost their jobs because an ulterior motive was in place.
			Then came the decision to close Hunters Hill School. Apparently this wasn t a planned decision yet no new pupils were being referred, money wasn t available for repairs (so the excuse of the building having gone past its prime was used) and an Ofsted report that highlighted faults with Senior Management resulted in Forward Eduction Trust being employed (at a vast expense I should imagine) to try and get Academy status so it wouldn't belong to Birmingham City Council anymore,
			when no one was interested it was a case of let's just shut the place. Since returning in September the school has been closed for various reasons which feels like it's just another nail in the coffin and a step closer to closure. It would also seem that Forward Education Trust no longer have an interest as there has
			been no input from them since the announcement of the closure other than a couple of Teams meetings.  Home staff supported in the school so a loss of 15 people on the shop floor is a huge amount and this has impacted on the way the school functions. There has also been a large number of school staff that have moved on due to the insecurity
			that is now faced and they are not being replaced at the same level of experience. Agency staff, that aren t Prime trained, are being taken on and being put in situations that aren t safe and along with all staff they could find themselves in vulnerable situations.
			Hunters Hill school is a Birmingham school in the county of Worcestershire and it used to be the case of out of site out of mind but now it s a case of lets cash in on this and try to sort the councils deficit.  In all of this the students should be first and foremost but their needs seemed to have been neglected for financial reasons.  The atmosphere at Hunters Hill is one of lack of support and fear of doing something or saying something that could cause repercussions.
ANON- SKHZ-	Parent	No	The authosphere at numbers min is one or lack or support and rear or doing somedning or saying somedning that could cause repercussions.
V6JE-U			This school is a fantastic school with all teachers going over and above their duties. At all times they have the pupils wellbeing as their priority. The ofsted was corrupt. It was part of a corrupt plan that people outside dont see.
			They bought in a corrupt Forward Education Trust who is also in a high position in ofsted to get the ball of destruction set in motion by giving an unfair corrupt ofsted inspection. Then they can destroy the staff and pupils that were happy and committed to the school, all so it can give the school a bad reputation. They firstly closed the residency after wasting over £50,000 on decor and new furniture only to not be used as they had no intention of
			reopening the residency. If the school is in such a sad state of repair why waste this £50,000 instead of maintaining the school itself.
			The reason being Birmingham City Council dont want to finance the outer boundary schools any longer so they use dirty tricks to ruin it and give it bad publicity. They have done it to 3 outstanding schools Skilts, Hunters Hill and now they have started on Springfield House.  They brought in the Forward Education Staff to run the school in to the ground and in the meantime the pupils and staff are being damaged.
			These pupils gave had an unsettled education previously but they finally fitted in at Hunters Hill. This school always pushed to pupils to do well and build their self esteem.  I am mortified and so angry and upset at the decision to close this school because you will not get a better SEMH school anywhere.
			I cannot believe how this corrupt plan has been legal and allowed its disgusting and heart wrenching.  There is a lot more to this corrupt behaviour that we as pupils parents and staff know but it will take too long to explain it all but it is an abuse of the system and totally corrupt. Few years ago they tried to do away with special schools as they
			wanted pupils to be integrated in to mainstream but they didn't win this fight but now they trying it again. Luckily I had someone on that panel with Albert Bore then whi fought for these special needs pupils. Parents and carers who have a special needs child knows how important these schools are and how they finally get accepted. Then the learning and social skills follow. I am so upset about the decision with Hunters Hill because this school is totally amazing with the original
			Hunters Hill staff. They gave 100% and the pupils were happy and well educated. If I could do anything to change your decision I would as the pupils deserve to keep this school open. The staff deserve to keep their jobs and be treated with respect. I wish this decision can be overturned and the Hunters Hill staff are allowed to continue the excellent work. Its heartbreaking whats going on and destroying lives Surely the money that has been wasted on the furniture sitting in the
ANCH	Conff ha	No	residency etc could be sold to help pay for the building and get sponsors etc. I pray a miracle can happen and you will overturn this decision and let Hunters Hill remain open and take out the Forward education Trust staff out.
ANON- SKHZ- V6JY-F	Staff Member	No	Writing in terms of a number of areas of this consultation.
- WI-F			The school could be and would be a good school if the correct guidance and leadership was in place, OFSTED criticized management and this has never been addressed and has continued to deteriorate. The support that was put into place was
			inadequate and the school get worse, the staff and students have not been given the chance to show improvement throughout this time. The current leadership I would even go as far to say that was put in place to wind the school up and even make the place unsafe to work. BCC have showed no support in years in any context especially financially. BCC have let the situation develop and have not intervened. BCC are also unwilling to answer the questions put to them on finances,
			leadership and more. Questions over who is responsible for the school site - governed by Cropwood trust but overseen by BCC. Then who is then responsible for maintaining the school. If neither side can agree then what chance does the school have. There have
			been buildings on the site sold but the school sees no money returned. The maintenance of the school is often as needed and not planned.  Questions still lie over the papers that were brought against the school again never been no answers on the accusations, has this been covered up? Accusations about the Senior support brought into school to help the school improve.
			Student numbers have been been put on hold and manipulated by BCC, consultation at Skilts and Hunters was not part off. Not a fair process or appropriately managed. These processes effect the numbers in school.  A committed and well trained staff group that have done and did everything to support and help students progress. Over the years every child leaves the school with a future, has developed the basic skills to succeed.  Unfortunately SENAR has spent the last few years changing the type of students principle to staff the wrong students in the school, this leaves the school with a lack of training and development. Training and development of staff
			Unfortunately Schak has spent the last few years changing the type of student sent to school and development of staff has been limited.  In relation to OFSTED the school was challenged to offer the students more, the departments and staff in school rose to the challenge and now students achieve GCSE's and new qualifications successfully.
			The travel to the school has been stated an issue, the school have offered options to cut the cost but the BCC have no interest in listening it would have been possible to halve the budget.  Where are these students going to go, a study and articles showed recently that there are no enough spaces in Birmingham for students with and EHCP plan. This has been questioned and again no answers.
			Current students in Year 10 they have started exam courses how can it ne acceptable at all or even ethical to move these students to other establishments during there exam years - you are potentially destroying the future of a number of young people? Schools they may move to could be doing different exams and different exam boards students with multiple needs expected to suddenly adapt to some where new?
			There seems to be a lack of understanding of the needs of the students by the people in BCC. There is no communication from the IEB to staff, only once have they said anything to the staff in 9 months.
			There are no governors/ IEB minutes of meetings available for the last few years.  No financial records available to review.  No financial records available to review.  In earliest, think the description on hunters till use made by certain people in the officer of BCC and whatever the way this description will be driven through whether its at the detriment of students, pagents / cares's and staff. It is even possible to
			In sadness I think the decision on Hunters Hill was made by certain people in the offices of BCC and whatever the way this decision will be driven through whether its at the detriment of students, parents/ carer's and staff. It is even possible to say this decision is potentially driven by financial need amend has involved choices that could be seen as corrupt between the few people involved. In 20 years of teaching I have never seen students and staff treated in such a disgusting and disrespectful way.
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ANON-	School	Yes	
SKHZ-	Governor		The school's location, lovely though it is in the Worcestershire countryside, is not practical for a Birmingham School. Most pupils have significant journey's to and from school each day, which is not good for their health and well-being and is a
V6JD-T			financial burden on the authority. These pupils deserve quality provision that is much closer to their homes. There is no justification that I can see for retaining a school in the current location.
			The buildings are not fit for purpose. The main school buildings are well past their 'end-of-life'. They are very expensive to maintain even to a basic standard, and do not provide the sort of spaces and facilities expected or required by a school
			these days. Despite considerable investment by BCC in maintenance and repairs there is a long list of urgent and costly works required simply to maintain the status quo. If a school was to be retained on this site a completely new building
			would be required that was suited to providing a quality education for today's young people, and that could be maintained at affordable costs.
			The main Cropwood House was clearly once a magnificent building. However, years of retro-fitting and neglect have left a shell that requires multi-million pound investment to bring it back into use. Even if this was done, I would argue that it
			would not be suitable for use as a school without destroying the original features that do remain inside. Asbestos is a concern in both of these buildings, and is something that would have to be dealt with if any redevelopment was to take
			place.
			I do believe that over the past 12 months, despite the challenges posed by Covid-19, progress has been made in improving the education offer for the pupils that remain at the school. However, this has been hampered by many external
			factors, and will only really be achieved by the appointment of a number of quality teachers, experienced in dealing with SEMH pupils. This is not something that can be remedied overnight, and attracting such staff to the current school will be
			extremely challenging. A significant proportion of the staff that remain in post at the moment have been appointed to roles for which they are not properly qualified and then have not received the support necessary for them to try to improve
			and up-skill. Poor practice is in-grained in many systems throughout the school to the extent that there is little understanding of the need for change.
			The school is not financially viable in its current state. Every effort has been made to reduce expenditure. However, historically the school has relied on the additional funding brought in by its previous status as a residential school. Even with
			this aspect of the school's work and staff removed, historical decisions made by previous governing boards around use of the budget leaves us with staffing costs that exceed income, and that is before other basic requirements such as fuel are
			taken into consideration. Obviously, funding could be improved by the allocation of additional pupils. However, this would also require additional high calibre staff, and premises that were fit for purpose. Turning around the current budget
			deficit position could take years to achieve, if it is at all possible. Regrettably, historical decision-making has not had pupil's welfare and progress at its heart.
			Cleary, if the school is to close this will mean redundancy for the staff that are left. A number have already been successful in securing new posts elsewhere. If staff are well-qualified they should be able to secure new appropriate posts;
			teaching is a profession which always has roles for qualified individuals. I am not dismissing the stress that this will cause, but trying to be pragmatic.
			There are clearly concerns from local recidents shout what would become of the city if the coheal is to clear. This is consoling that perhaps should be addressed more reductive and enough by DCC and the Command Estate Tour. However, this
			There are clearly concerns from local residents about what would become of the site if the school is to close. This is something that perhaps should be addressed more robustly and openly by BCC and the Cropwood Estate Trust. However, this is not a reason for keeping the school open.
			is not a reason for neething the school open.
ANON-	Staff Member	No	
SKHZ-	Starr Wichiber	140	Hunters Hill College is a great asset to the people of Birmingham, particularly for young people with SEMH issues and their families. The staff are highly trained in areas such as restorative practice, psychologically informed environments,
V6J3-9			helicities in miscollege to a great a special contemporary in miscollege and the special contemporary in the speci
1000			necurronal recovery invokes and ucessational recomplies. The secting of miss a unique and the apecuac removal minior would be entired as the proportion of t
			current executive head has overseen many of the issues that form upper current executive head has overseen many of the issues that form part of this consultation, yet their contract has been extended. I think with an innovative SLT in place that work in partnership with the staff team and key stakeholders, Hunters
			Learner executive need has over seen many or the issues train term and term part of insecting with the staff term and term part of insecting with the staff term and term part of insecting with the staff term and term part of insecting with the staff term and term part of insecting with the staff term and term part of insecting with the staff term and term part of insecting with the staff term and term part of insecting with the staff term and term part of insecting with the staff term and term part of insecting with the staff term part of insecting with the
ANON	Local Resident	No	Tilli Cudu decurile an outstanding school and centre or extenence for young people with schini.
SKHZ-	Local Resident	140	
V6JX-E			l agree with the comments made by my next door neighbour who has raised some valid points. Thank you.
ANON-	Local Resident	No	
SKHZ-			
V6JG-W			
			I second comments made by neighbour and local resident . Thanks
ANON-	Staff Member	No	
SKHZ-			L
V6JT-A			The school location allows students to have an exclusive environment away from their inner city lives. They have extraordinary learning experiences which will be lost if the school closes. Teachers and support staff are dedicated to improve the
			future opportunities of all students. Students gain essential life skills to help them contribute to society.

CONSULTATION RESPONSE



# Birmingham City Council Proposed Closure of Hunters Hill College December 2020

- 1. The NASUWT welcomes the opportunity to comment on the proposal by Birmingham City Council (BCC) to close Hunters Hill College (HHC).
- 2. The NASUWT is the largest union representing exclusively teachers and headteachers in the UK.

### **GENERAL COMMENTS**

- 3. HHC is a setting which caters for pupils who have challenging and often negative educational experiences which have led to significant social, emotional and behavioural needs. As such, the staff at the college are dedicated professionals who, day in and day out, strive to do their very best for the pupils in their care.
- 4. The NASUWT is disappointed that the Council has decided to close HHC rather than invest in its future. However, this failure to invest is not a new phenomenon.
- 5. There are numerous examples of BCC's neglect of the school. This is most evident in the Acivico 2019 report into the state of the buildings, which found high levels of deterioration in the fabric of the school, caused by a lack of both routine maintenance and ongoing investment in the college.
- 6. The poor state of the buildings is one of the reasons put forward by BCC for closure of the school, yet this is the direct fault of the local authority, in its neglect of the school.

- 7. A further reason for the closure is the falling numbers of pupils. Again, this is in the direct gift of BCC, who decided to pause placements to the school. Members also report that there has been no communication with HHC over the proposals to increase the age range of the Skilts School which is a direct feeder to the college.
- 8. The Ofsted inspection which placed the school in special measures is cited as a further reason for closure, yet there appears to have been little support offered to the school from the employer. Members report that there has been no action plan shared, and since the appointment of an improvement partner, the situation has further deteriorated rather than improved.
- 9. The Ofsted report was also highly critical of the management of the school, yet there has been little to address this, and the further deterioration at the school is evidence that management is still failing.
- 10. The final reason cited for closure is the parlous state of the finances. Notwithstanding the direct link to pupil numbers mentioned above, there appears to have been no attempt by the local authority to rectify the situation before it became apparently terminal. For example, at no time was the staff body consulted about possible cost savings, such as taking the pupil transport in-house.
- 11. The serial mismanagement by the local authority has led to significant numbers of agency staff being required for the school to function, compounded by an astonishing rate of suspensions. The NASUWT understands that around 14 staff have been suspended from duty recently, an incredible amount which the NASUWT believes to be comparable to the rest of the city as a whole at more than 400 other settings. It is hardly surprising that the school is in financial difficulty given these factors, which again are in the gift of the employer.
- 12. There are also questions around the role of the Cropwood Trust, of which BCC is the sole trustee. The NASUWT understands that the recent sale of buildings resulted in proceeds of £800,000, yet the school does not appear to have received a single penny.

- 13. It should be noted that the land now owned by the Trust was originally gifted to City for the purpose of establishing a school. Closure of the school on the site is not in the spirit of that original gift.
- 14. The lack of investment and routine maintenance, the block on new pupils joining the school, and the lack of general support, give the impression that BCC has been deliberately winding down the school for some time, and the closure of the school has become a self-fulfilling prophecy.
- 15. The NASUWT is also concerned that this consultation process is not meaningful, as members have been informed by members of the senior leadership team that the school will close.
- 16. The NASUWT has further concerns around the consultation process, particularly that comments submitted in the phase 1 consultation will not feature in the final consultation report. The NASUWT sees no rationale for this whatsoever.
- 17. It is a rather bizarre situation in a consultation for submissions not to be included in the final report, and even more so that the local authority expects submissions from the phase 1 process to be resubmitted in order for them to be considered.
- 18. The NASUWT is deeply troubled by reports from members that questions around the proposals are regularly going unanswered, compounded by the fact that the members report having little information provided by the Interim Executive Board. This further supports the view that the consultation is not meaningful and that the decision to close is a fait accompli.

### **SPECIFIC COMMENTS**

19. From the consultation documents, it is unclear what will happen to the pupils, notwithstanding some vague assurances around the input of the Special Educational Needs Assessment Review Team (SENAR). This needs to be clarified as a matter of urgency.

- 20. The exceedingly high number of staff suspensions is of grave concern to the NASUWT. It certainly gives the impression that the employer may be seeking to reduce redundancy payments by seeking to dismiss as many staff as possible. As noted above, the high numbers of suspensions is directly impacting on the financial situation in the school.
- 21. The role of the Trust and its interface with BCC is opaque. This also needs to be clarified as a matter of urgency. The lack of clarity and transparency over the future use of the site, should the school close, is again concerning.
- 22. Although disposals are permitted, BCC should immediately clarify what is likely to happen to the site, given that it was originally gifted to the City for the purpose of establishing a school. As disposals are permitted, BCC should also be clear on what would happen to the proceeds of any disposals, and indeed, previous disposals.

For further information on the Union's response, contact:

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