Northumberland County Council

Education Consultations <educationconsultation@northumberland.gov.uk>

Re: Bellingham Middle School

1 message

David Fletcher <fletch8928@gmail.com> 6 June 2018 at 19:17
To: Education Consultations <educationconsultation@northumberland.gov.uk>

Yes, I would.

On Wed, 6 Jun 2018, 13:26 Education Consultations, <educationconsultation@northumberland.gov.uk> wrote:

Dear David

Can you please confirm if you wish your response to be considered as part of the statutory consultation period?

Many thanks

Jacqui

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Education Consultations** <educationconsultation@northumberland.gov.uk>
Date: 8 May 2018 at 13:36
Subject: Fwd: Bellingham Middle School
To: fletch8928@gmail.com

Dear David

Thank you for your Email - the response below is sent on behalf of all LA Officers and Councillors to whom you sent your email.

As stated in our consultation timeline, the cabinet will decide whether or not to support the recommendations and approve the publication of a statutory proposal on 8th May 2018.

If approved, the publication of a statutory proposal would open a statutory consultation period of 4 weeks between 10th May - 7th June 2018. During this time all parties would be able to submit a representation either in support of or against the recommendations. **We can retain your Email on file as a response to this statutory consultation (should it occur) - please confirm whether you wish us to do so.**

The final report on the outcomes of statutory consultation would be published on 28th June 2018 and Cabinet would make a final decision on whether or not to implement the proposals in the statutory proposal on 10th July.

I look forward to hearing your confirmation of retaining your Email as part of the statutory consultation process.

Kind regards

Jacqui

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **David Fletcher** <fletch8928@gmail.com>
Date: 6 May 2018 at 21:35
Subject: Bellingham Middle School
To: Peter.Jackson@northumberland.gov.uk, Wayne.Daley@northumberland.gov.uk, Nick.Oliver@northumberland.gov.uk, Richard.Wearmouth@northumberland.gov.uk, Glen.Sanderson@northumberland.gov.uk, John.Riddle@northumberland.gov.uk, Cath.Homer@northumberland.gov.uk, Veronica.Jones@northumberland.gov.uk, Andy.Johnson@northumberland.gov.uk, Cath.Mcevoy@northumberland.gov.uk, Guy.opperman.mp@paliament.uk, teamoppy@gmail.com, rsc.north@education.gov.uk

I am writing to you to urge you to reconsider the recent decision to close Bellingham Middle School.
As parent of both a current year 5 child and a year 4 currently attending Bellingham First School, i find it incredulous that this decision is even being considered.
The middle school is an integral part of our children's school life, the three tier system in place is the only option that takes into account the remote nature of our community. It is bad enough that some children face journeys of up to two hours to attend a high school at age 13, without subjecting children as young as 11 to this. This move will effectively

steal time from our children, time that could be better spent in after school clubs or building their social interactions with peers.
The middle school's excellent and nurturing staff are committed to our children and the facilities and opportunities offered to them during their four years there, I believe, better prepare them for the move to a high school.Studies have shown that Middle schools do not suffer from the dip in standards and results achieved by secondary students at transition.
I believe we are being treated unfairly and unequally from the parents of Hexham and that Northumberland County Council should be in no doubt as to the strength of feeling and the support for Bellingham Middle School and the three tier system in our area.
I appreciate that Northumberland County Council has changes that they wish to make to the current education system, but i do not feel that a move from three tier to two is in our communities interests.
I urge you to reconsider
yours Faithfully
David Fletcher