**Land at Normanton Road, Crowland, Lincolnshire (Ref: H02-0759-25)**

**Review of Request for Contributions Towards Post-16 Education**

## 1. Introduction and Background

1.1 This report addresses the request for development contribution funding made by Lincolnshire County Council for additional post-16 school places arising from the above proposed development. The application is for 80 dwellings on land at Normanton Road, Crowland to the south of Spalding.

1.2 The planning authority is South Holland Borough Council (SHBC) and the education authority is Lincolnshire County Council (LCC). LCC has made a consultation response to the application to SHBC to request contributions towards education facilities, and the response forms the basis of this review.

1.3 In its consultation response, LCC indicates that contributions towards both primary school places and post-16 (sixth form) places are required, but that the local secondary school currently has sufficient places to accommodate the pupils calculated to arise from the development.

1.4 LCC does not at this time appear to have a published methodology as to how it intends to seek development contributions, nonetheless it appears from its consultation response that a standard process is in place and has been used.

1.5 As discussed separately, and following a brief review, the need for a primary school contribution is considered to be both necessary and reasonable. This element will not be addressed further in this report.

1.6 In recent years the Department for Education (DfE) has published guidance on "Securing Developer Contributions for Education (2013)" together with the results of its long-term research on the occupation of new housing by school aged pupils (Pupil Yield Dashboard) and the costs of new school buildings (the DfE Scorecard). While education authorities are not required to refer to these materials, they form a useful point of reference which can assist in assessing whether a request for contributions is likely to be CIL compliant.

2. Calculation Basis for Post-16 Places

2.1 LCC has, in its response, provided the detailed pupil product ratios (PPRs) it uses for Post-16 places, which varies by the size of each dwelling proposed. For the development in question the following mix has been used:

- 1-bedroom – 8 dwellings
- 2-bedrooms – 24 dwellings
- 3-bedrooms – 40 dwellings
- 4+-bedrooms - 8 dwellings

2.2 The PRR for each size of dwelling for post-16 pupils is shown in Table 1, it is noted that LCC does not assess 1-bedroom dwellings, so these are not included within the table. The final column provides the total post-16 students calculated.

| Dwelling Size | PPR per Dwelling | No. of Dwellings | Total P-16 Students |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2-bedrooms | 0.032 | 24 | 0.8 |
| 3-bedrooms | 0.078 | 40 | 3.1 |
| 4+-bedrooms | 0.144 | 8 | 1.2 |
| **Totals** | | **72** | **5.1** |

*Table 1: Pupil calculation using proposed mix*

2.3 LCC has, in its calculation employed the DfE Dashboard PPRs for post-16 pupils and on this basis the calculation is considered sound. The LCC request has been rounded down to the nearest whole number.

2.4 LCC has then applied its secondary school cost per pupil place of £27,251.34. This is also considered reasonable when compared to the DfE Scorecard figure for expansion work, weighted for the East Midlands.

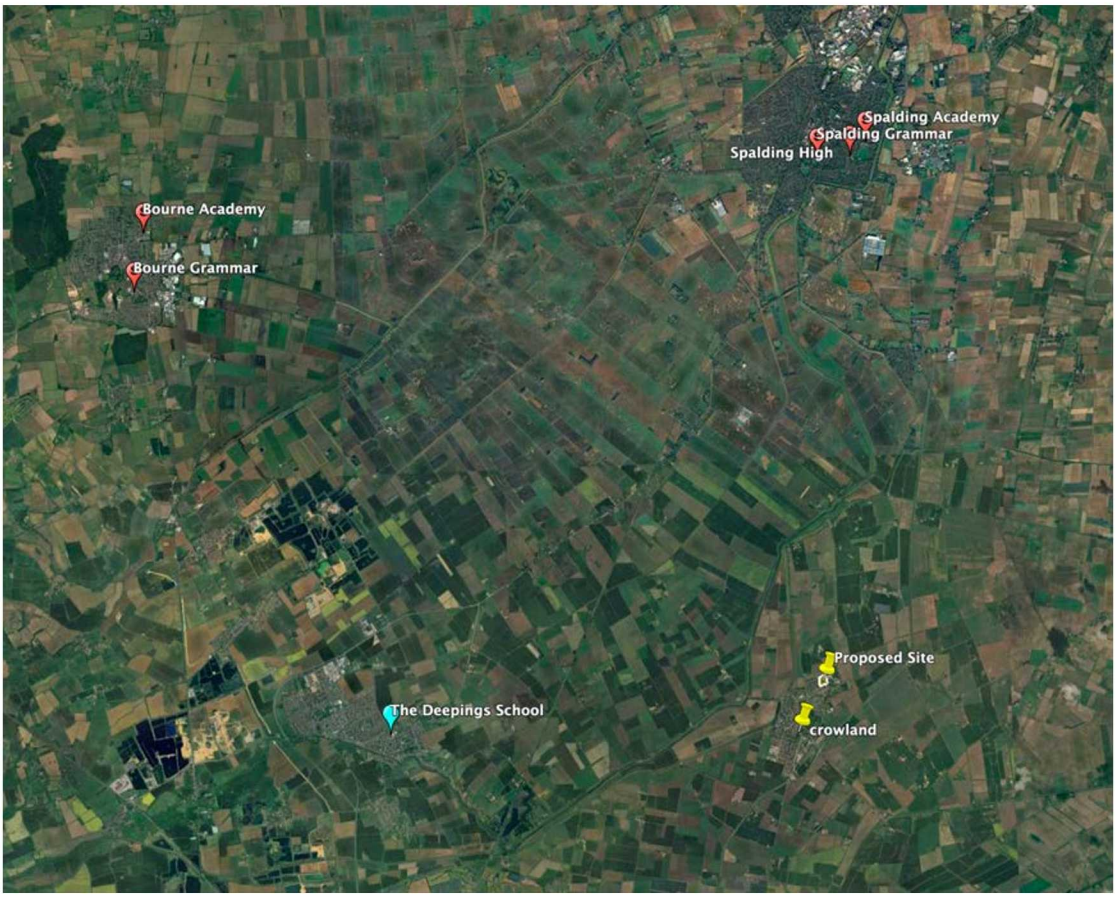
2.5 In conclusion, it is agreed that the calculation is accurate and properly based, and is considered to be "fairly and reasonably related in scale and kind to the development" (CIL Regulation 122 (2c)

3. Local Post-16 Provision

3.1 In its response, LCC indicates additional Post-16 provision is sought to meet needs in the Spalding/Bourne area. The schools are not listed individually, however, there are three secondary schools in Spalding, of which two host post-16 students, and one does not. There are two schools in Bourne, both of which have post-16 students.

3.2 LCC did not indicate that there was a secondary school in Market Deeping, which is the closest school to Crowland and acts as the catchment school for Crowland pupils on

admission at Year 7. All six schools are shown in Map 1, in relation to the proposed development.




*Map 1: Secondary schools in area of Crowland*

3.3 The capacities and numbers on roll at the six schools are shown in Table 2:

| | | Capacity | | | Numbers on Roll | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| School | Distance | Yr 7-11 | P-16 | Total | Yr 7-11 | P-16 | Total |
| Spalding High | 9.5+ | 763 | **246** | 1009 | 752 | **193** | 945 |
| Spalding Academy | 9.5+ | 1800 | **0** | 1800 | 1410 | **0** | 1410 |
| Spalding Grammar | 9.5+ | 750 | **320** | 1070 | 966 | **262** | 1228 |
| Bourne Academy | 15+ | 1300 | **225** | 1525 | 1250 | **250** | 1500 |
| Bourne Grammar | 15+ | 1200 | **500** | 1700 | 1209 | **529** | 1738 |
| The Deepings School | 7.9 | 1160 | **300** | 1460 | 1102 | **118** | 1220 |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | 6973 | **1591** | 8564 | 6689 | **1352** | 8041 |

*Table 2: Capacity and Numbers on Roll (January 2025)*

3.4 The table shows that there is currently a total of approximately 523 surplus places across the schools, of which 239 are within the post-16 year groups. However, some caution needs to be exercised here, in that the closest school to the proposed development currently only has one of its two post-16 year groups in place. The Deepings School accepted only 37 students into Year 12 (the first year of post-16) in September 2023 and did not admit any students in September 2024. It is now understood to have refreshed its curriculum offer and 118 students were admitted to Year 12 in September 2025. It is anticipated that a further year group should be admitted in September 2026, and if similar numbers to 2025 are admitted, the surplus across the five relevant schools would reduce to 121. The majority of this surplus would remain within The Deepings School.

3.5 It is likely that at the point LCC drew up its consultation response and sought post-16 places it was not yet known that The Deepings School would actually run a post-16 cohort, nor what the ultimate take-up of places would be.

3.6 The Deepings is formally listed as having accommodation for 300 post-16 pupils, potentially 150 in each of its two year groups. Consequently, were a similar number of pupils to enter post-16 education at the school next year, a surplus of approximately 64 places would remain – sufficient to meet the needs of this development at five students.

3.7 Further, across the six schools in the area, assuming a total post-16 take-up of 236 at The Deepings School, the proportion of post-16 pupils to main school pupils (Years 7-11) is approximately 24%. Table 3 shows the LCC forecasts for The Deepings School, with post-16 places calculated at this level (as they are not currently available within the forecasts of January 2024):

| Deepings Sec - 9250206 | Yr 7 | Yr 8 | Yr 9 | Yr 10 | Yr 11 | Main Total | P-16 Est | Total Est |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| May 2025 Actual | 154 | 215 | 226 | 205 | 204 | 1004 | 37 | **2045** |
| 2024-25 F/c | 165 | 240 | 243 | 212 | 217 | 1077 | 37 | **2191** |
| 2025-26 F/c | 202 | 169 | 236 | 239 | 212 | 1058 | 118 | **2234** |
| 2026-27 F/c | 211 | 206 | 166 | 233 | 239 | 1055 | 236 | **2346** |
| 2027-28 F/c | 216 | 215 | 213 | 165 | 232 | 1041 | *250* | **2332** |
| 2028-29 F/c | 212 | 217 | 219 | 210 | 164 | 1022 | *245* | **2289** |
| 2029-30 F/c | 203 | 213 | 221 | 216 | 209 | 1062 | *255* | **2379** |
| | 209 | 203 | 216 | 217 | 215 | 1060 | *254* | **2374** |
| | | | | | | | | |
| Total Listed Capacity | **261** | | | | | 1160 | 300 | **1460** |

*Table 3: Forecast for Deepings Secondary School (Spring 2024)*

3.8 The table, at column P-16 Est, shows the 37 pupils on roll in Spring 2024, followed by the 118 who were admitted in September 2025. This number then doubles to 236 for the second year of admission before reflecting the overall take-up figure of 24% of main school pupils, experienced over the wider group of schools.

3.9 On this measure, it is clear that by 2029-30 The Deepings School should be expected to have approximately 254 post-16 students on roll, leaving sufficient surplus places available to meet the needs of the proposed development.

4. Conclusion and Recommendation

4.1 On the basis that The Deepings School has now recommenced accepting post-16 students and by adopting the average stay-on rate for post-16 across the six schools in the wider area, it is considered that The Deepings School has sufficient post-16 places to meet the needs of the development and should continue to do so through to at least the end of the forecast period. It is recommended, therefore, that LCC be approached to seek withdrawal of that part of its request.

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