



## **Education Scrutiny Committee Thursday, 19 September 2013**

### **ADDENDA**

#### **5. Provisional Report on GCSE & A-Level Results (Pages 1 - 10)**

**10.05am**

Frances Craven, Deputy Director for Education and Early Intervention, and Sue Bainbridge, Schools & Learning Manager, to present a report (attached **ESC5**) to the Committee on Oxfordshire provisional 2013 GCSE and A-Level results.

#### **6. School Revenue Reserve Balances (Pages 11 - 14)**

**11.05am**

a) Frances Craven, Deputy Director – Education and Early Intervention, and Sue Bainbridge, Schools & Learning Manager, to provide further details (attached **ESC6**) relating to the report by Councillor Howson (previously circulated).

#### **7. Report on Soft Market Testing (Pages 15 - 18)**

**11.45am**

Graham Shaw, Deputy Director – Oxfordshire Customer Services, and Frances Craven, Deputy Director – Education and Early Intervention, to present a report (attached **ESC7**) to the Committee on the results of the soft-market testing as it relates to education.

This page is intentionally left blank

Division(s): Children, Education & Families

## EDUCATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

19 SEPTEMBER 2013

### A REPORT ON THE PROVISIONAL GCSE & A-LEVEL RESULTS IN OXFORDSHIRE MAINTAINED SCHOOLS AND ACADEMIES

Report by Frances Craven, Deputy Director for Education & Early Intervention

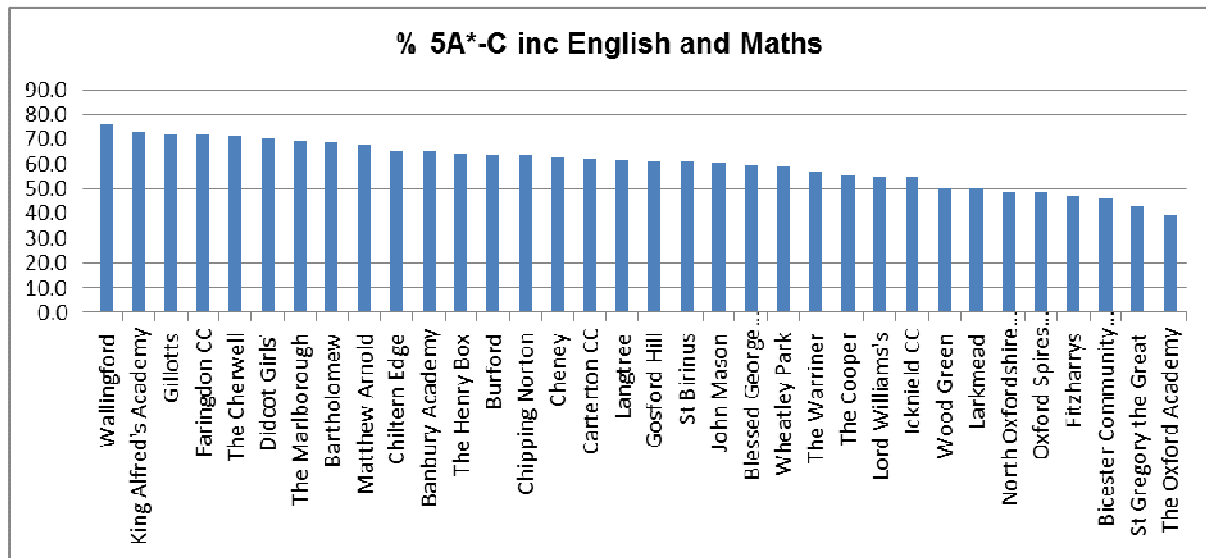
#### Introduction

1. GCSE results were provided to the local authority by schools and academies on Thursday the 22nd August. All 34 schools provided their results to show the percentage of pupils who gained 5A\* to C with English and maths.
2. A-Level results were provided to the local authority by schools and academies on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> August 2013. 28 schools have a sixth form but only 27 of these schools offer an A-Level programme.
3. Please note all data is provisional at this time and we will not be receiving the next set of validated data until the 24th September 2013.

#### Headline results showing the percentage of pupils achieving 5+ A\*-C GCSE including English and maths

4. Provisional figures show that 60.3% of Oxfordshire pupils achieved 5A\*-C GCSEs including English and maths – this is an increase from 57.9% in 2012.
5. There is a large variation in results across Oxfordshire schools. The school with the highest percentage of pupils achieving 5A\* to C with English and maths is Wallingford with 76%. This figure has been maintained from 2012. Oxford Academy however have the lowest percentage of pupils with only 42% achieving 5A\* to C with English and maths. This does however mean they are above the floor standards of 40%. Although this result is low it is an improvement of more than 50% on the outcome for 2012 which was 26%.
6. Table 1 shows the range of performance.

**Table 1**



**Comparisons with 2012 results for 5A\* to C GCSE with English and maths**

7. Annex 1 shows a summary outline of the results by school. Schools highlighted in green have improved, orange shows schools that have remained the same since last year and those highlighted pink have decreased in performance.
8. 20 out of the 34 Oxfordshire schools (59%) have shown an increase in performance this year – most noticeably Henry Box (up 20%pts) and Chipping Norton (up 18%pts)
9. 2 schools remained the same – Wallingford (76%) and Gillott's (72%)
10. 12 schools showed a decrease in performance compared with last year. Most noticeably The Cooper School (down 11%pts), Lord Williams' (down 10%pts) and North Oxfordshire Academy (down 10%pts).
11. Further work will need to be done to examine the results over time once the next set of validated data is returned.

**Oxfordshire schools performance in GCSE English and maths**

12. There has been a greater focus on improvements in English and maths across all phases over the last 10 years. The key indicator at GCSE now measures 5A\* to C's with English and maths included. However for those schools where we currently have all of their provisional data sets, some

show big differences in the percentage of children achieving 5A\* to C with English and maths and those without both English and maths included.

13. Schools to note are:
  - The Cooper School – 33%pt difference (92% 5A\*-C and 55% 5A\*-C with E/M)
  - Carterton Community College – 28%pt difference (90% 5A\*-C and 62% 5A\*-C with E/M)
  - Gosford Hill – 26%pt difference (87% 5A\*-C and 61% 5A\*-C with E/M)
  - Banbury Academy – 23%pt difference (88% 5A\*-C and 65% 5A\*-C with E/M)
14. Further analysis will be carried out within subjects and across different pupil groups.

### **English GCSE (%A\*-C)**

15. There is a wide variation in English results especially for boys. (Please note the gender breakdown is not yet available for 5 schools and not applicable to 2 further schools).
16. Across all schools and all pupils the biggest variation in English results is from Faringdon at 84% to St Gregory's 47%.
  - Focusing on boys' English results, the greatest variation is Faringdon 84% to St Gregory's 35%.
  - Focusing on girls' English results, the greatest variation is from Gillott's at 91% to St Gregory's 59%.
17. Girls outperform boys in all schools except Langtree (boys 1%pt higher).
18. Greatest gender differences:
  - Icknield School 28%pts difference (girls 74%, boys 46%)
  - St Gregory the Great School 24%pointts difference (girls 59%, boys 35%)
  - Bicester Community College 22%pointts difference (girls 65%, boys 43%)
  - The Warriner School 22%points difference (girls 75%, boys 53%)
  - John Mason School 22%points difference (girls 75%, boys 54%)
19. Across core subjects further analysis will be carried out with regards to other pupil groups, for example, those on free school meals and with English as an additional language to look at trends in performance over time.

**Maths GCSE (%A\*-C)**

- 20. There is a similar variation in maths results between the performances of boys and girls. (Please note the gender breakdown is not yet available for 5 schools and not applicable to 2 further schools).
- 21. Across all schools and all pupils the biggest variation in maths results is from Chipping Norton at 88% to Oxford Spire 58%.
  - Focusing on boys' maths results, the greatest variation is Bartholomew 89% to Lord Williams's 58%
  - Focusing on girls' maths results, the greatest variation is from Chipping Norton at 89% to Oxford Spire at 56%
- 22. Boys outperform girls in maths in 14 schools (data not available for 7 schools) – particularly noticeable in Wood Green (15%pts difference) and BGN (12%pts). However at Matthew Arnold girls outperform boys by 10%pts.
- 23. NB. It seems to have been maths results that have contributed to Lord Williams's decrease in results this year. They have the lowest % of boys with A\*-C in maths and one of the lowest girls results.

**The National Context for GCSE**

- 24. Most students taking GCSEs are aged 16 (Year 11) and at the end of Key Stage 4, but GCSEs can be taken by students of any age.
- 25. There are several differences with GCSEs this summer, which means that the cohort of students who took GCSEs this summer is likely to be different from the 2012 cohort of students, even though the standard set will be the same as in summer 2012. For example:
  - a) There are more entries this year from students in Year 10 or earlier years. See table 2.  
Overall results will be dependent upon the extent to which early entry pupils are ready to take GCSEs.

**Table 2**

| <b>Table to show the percentage of students taking GCSEs in year 11</b> |             |             |
|---|-------------|-------------|
|   | <b>2011</b> | <b>2012</b> |
| Maths   | 72%         | 67%         |
| English   | 79%         | 75%         |
| English language  | 80%         | 83%         |

- b) Entries for International GCSEs (IGCSEs) have increased significantly this summer. If schools with high ability students are moving to

IGCSEs, then we could see a lower proportion of higher grades at GCSE than in 2012.

- c) Some students, particularly in maths, enter for more than one qualification in the same subject, either with the same exam board or with different exam boards.
- d) Changes have been made to the GCSE science suite to make these qualifications more challenging. New qualifications in biology, chemistry, physics, additional science and additional applied science will be awarded for the first time. These new GCSEs are designed to be more challenging, because the previous syllabuses did not adequately test the subject content and were not sufficiently demanding.
- e) Spelling and Grammar are now being considered in humanities assessment.

### **A-Level Results**

- 26. Results are available for 27 of the 28 schools. The Oxford Academy KS5 Programme focuses on BTEC and the International Baccalaureate and so there are no A-Level results for this school.
- 27. 87.6% students achieved 2+A\*-E A-Level passes. Performance Table result for 2012 (excluding colleges) was 92.4%.
- 28. 3.4% students achieved 2+A\*-B A-Level passes (Performance Table results for 2012 (excluding colleges) was 40.5%).
- 29. For each measure girls have outperformed boys.

### **Actions**

- 30. Schools Intervention Leaders will be visiting all schools and academies to review the GCSE outcomes and to identify priority actions and any challenge required for schools and academies.
- 31. In term 2 training will be available for all heads of English and maths to review Ofsted requirements and to meet with exam boards to explore new requirements in relation to each subject.
- 32. On 24 September 2013, when the next set of data is available there will be further scrutiny of school and academy performance that will inform the next stage of intervention where required.

## **Financial and Staff Implications**

33. Within Schools and learning there are 5 school intervention leaders who will provide support and challenge to schools to secure further analysis and follow actions and training as required.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

34. **The Education Scrutiny Committee is RECOMMENDED to note this report which is currently based on provisional data and to comment on the proposed actions to be taken.**

FRANCES CRAVEN

Deputy Director for Education & Early Intervention

Background papers:

Annex 1 Summary of GCSE results

Annex 2 Provisional A level results

Contact Officer: Sue Bainbridge, Schools & Learning Manager

Tel: 01865 328508

September 2013



**2013 Key Stage 4 - Update 10th September 2013**

|  | NOR  | 2013 % 5+ A*-C inc. GCSE English and Maths | 2012 Results |
|--|------|--|--------------|
| <b>County</b>                          | 6264 | 60.3%                                      | <b>57.9</b>  |
| <b>Maintained Only</b>                 | 2116 | 56.7%                                      |              |
| <b>Academy Only</b>                    | 4069 | 63.3%                                      |              |
| Bicester Community College             | 173  | 46   | 48           |
| Blessed George Napier Catholic School  | 146  | 60   | 64           |
| Carterton Community College*           | 119  | 62   | 55           |
| Chiltern Edge School                   | 125  | 66   | 65           |
| Fitzharrys School                      | 125  | 47   | 42           |
| Icknield Community College             | 137  | 55   | 54           |
| John Mason School                      | 169  | 61   | 48           |
| Larkmead School*                       | 164  | 50   | 48           |
| Matthew Arnold School                  | 177  | 68   | 60           |
| The Cooper School                      | 211  | 56   | 67           |
| The Warriner School                    | 229  | 57   | 66           |
| Wheatley Park School*                  | 165  | 59   | 64           |
| Wood Green School                      | 176  | 51   | 53           |
| Banbury Academy                        | 185  | 65   | 49           |
| Bartholomew School                     | 176  | 69   | 64           |
| Burford (Secondary) School             | 198  | 64   | 56           |
| Cheney School                          | 231  | 63   | 48           |
| Chipping Norton School                 | 176  | 64   | 46           |
| Didcot Girls' School*                  | 192  | 71   | 56           |
| Faringdon Community College            | 178  | 72   | 66           |
| Gillotts School                        | 171  | 72   | 72           |
| Gosford Hill School                    | 171  | 61   | 70           |
| King Alfred's Academy                  | 298  | 73   | 75           |
| Langtree School                        | 107  | 62   | 51           |
| Lord Williams's School                 | 326  | 55   | 65           |
| North Oxfordshire Academy*             | 162  | 49   | 59           |
| Oxford Spires Academy                  | 156  | 49   | 58           |
| St Birinus School*                     | 214  | 61   | 59           |
| St Gregory the Great Catholic School   | 189  | 43   | 46           |
| The Cherwell School                    | 269  | 71   | 70           |
| The Henry Box School                   | 211  | 64   | 44           |
| The Marlborough Church of England Scho | 168  | 69   | 68           |
| The Oxford Academy**                   | 105  | 42   | 26           |
| Wallingford School                     | 186  | 76   | 76           |

\* Results taken from Oxford Mail website or direct from school - headline forms not yet received

\*\* The Oxford Academy results increase from initial figure of 39% following exam paper remarks

This page is intentionally left blank

## Highly Provisional KS5 - 2013 - Results from Schools

|  |                                       |                | 2013        |   | 2012         |                                 |
|--|---------------------------------------|----------------|-------------|---|--------------|---------------------------------|
|  |                                       |                | NOR         | % 2 or more A Level passes A*-E             | NOR          | % 2 or more A Level passes A*-E |
| <b>Oxfordshire</b>                       |                                       |                | <b>2427</b> | <b>87.6</b>                                 | <b>2248*</b> | <b>92.4*</b>                    |
| Maintained                               | Bicester Community College            | 4030           | 27          | 100.0                                       | 62           | 94.0                            |
|  | Blessed George Napier Catholic School | 4600           | 71          | 85.9  | 53           | 92.0                            |
|  | Fitzharrys School                     | 4127           | 46          | 87.0  | 63           | 95.0                            |
|  | John Mason School                     | 4126           | 55          | 98.2  | 42           | 100.0                           |
|  | Larkmead School                       | 4125           | 44          | 95.5  | 39           | 100.0                           |
|  | Matthew Arnold School                 | 4128           | 98          | 100.0                                       | 80           | 100.0                           |
|  | The Cooper School                     | 4032           | 72          | 97.2  | -            | -                               |
|  | Wheatley Park School                  | 4077           | 69          | 92.8  | 78           | 99.0                            |
|  | Wood Green School                     | 4052           | 111         | 97.3  | 98           | 100.0                           |
|  | Academy                               | Banbury School | 4000        | 110   | 87.3         | 105                             |
| Bartholomew School                       |                                       | 4054           | 94          | 93.6  | 79           | 99.0                            |
| Burford (Secondary) School               |                                       | 4040           | 86          | 84.9  | 76           | 97.0                            |
| Cheney School                            |                                       | 4120           | 119         | 71.4  | 113          | 96.0                            |
| The Cherwell School                      |                                       | 4116           | 214         | 93.5  | 210          | 98.0                            |
| Chipping Norton School                   |                                       | 4010           | 96          | 100.0                                       | 74           | 97.0                            |
| Didcot Girls' School                     |                                       | 4139           | 76          | 78.9  | 88           | 92.0                            |
| Faringdon Community College              |                                       | 4141           | 70          | 94.3  | 70           | 94.0                            |
| Gosford Hill School                      |                                       | 4060           | 38          | 81.6  | 46           | 98.0                            |
| The Henry Box School                     |                                       | 4050           | 102         | 99.0  | 124          | 100.0                           |
| King Alfred's Community & Sports College |                                       | 4142           | 143         | 79.0  | 158          | 82.0                            |
| Lord Williams's School                   |                                       | 4580           | 220         | 93.6  | 211          | 98.0                            |
| North Oxfordshire Academy                |                                       | 6905           | 64          | International Baccalaureate and BTECs taken |              |                                 |
| St Birinus School                        |                                       | 4129           | 72          | 81.9  | 70           | 97.0                            |
| St Gregory the Great Catholic School     |                                       | 4145           | 71          | 100.0                                       | 63           | 94.0                            |
| The Marlborough Church of England School |                                       | 4560           | 72          | 97.2  | 74           | 97.0                            |
| Wallingford School                       |                                       | 4140           | 63          | 74.6  | 71           | 90.0                            |
| The Oxford Academy                       |                                       | 6906           | 56          | 3.6   | 42           | 2.0                             |
| Oxford Spires Academy                    |                                       | 6907           | 68          | 63.2  | 59           | 56.0                            |

**Notes:**

The Cooper - No results in 2012 as 2013 is the first year of KS5 results

2013 Provisional figures **DO NOT** include results from Colleges, this could significantly affect the overall County figure

Figures are for A Levels only - Equivalencies are not included

\* Figures derived from Performance Tables to inc maintained and Academy schools only (excl colleges and independent schools)

This page is intentionally left blank

|  |
|--|
| Division(s):Children, Education & Families |
|--|

## **EDUCATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**18 SEPTEMBER 2013**

### **SCHOOL REVENUE RESERVE BALANCES**

**Report by Frances Craven, Deputy Director for Education & Early Intervention**

#### **Maintained Secondary Schools**

1. The County Council holds full financial records for all maintained schools. These include the published year end balances for secondary schools. Annex 1 contains a statement showing the balances published for maintained secondary schools at all year ends from March 2000 onwards. About two thirds of secondary schools in Oxfordshire are now academies and have ceased to be maintained schools.
2. The balance figures in Annex 1 are calculated as required by the Secretary of State for Education in the Consistent Financial Reporting Regulations. Balances up to March 2012 can be found on the DfE web site alongside those for maintained schools in other authority areas. Balances at March 2013 have only recently been reported to DfE so will appear on the web site imminently.
3. Although the figures are in accord with the Consistent Financial Reporting Regulations, there are a number of concerns that schools would raise if these balances were to be used as a measure of their performance. Key concerns would be as follows:
  - The reported balances include amounts that certain hub schools hold on behalf of partnerships of schools. These balances relate to the activities of all schools in the partnership but are reported against the hub school.
  - The balances at most of the year ends prior to March 2013 included amounts that the school were not permitted to spend before the summer term. Accordingly schools would reasonably object that these amounts should not be included in any calculation of “excessive” balances.
  - In a few cases, schools were holding balances with the approval of the Authority in order to carry out larger projects than could be afforded from a single year’s budget. Again schools would reasonably assert that these project amounts should not be included in any calculation of “excessive” balances.
  - At least one of the deficits reported does not arise through loss of operational control of finances but instead has been incurred with the

approval of the Authority as a necessary consequence of establishing sixth form provision at the school.

4. The Authority holds records of a number of these reasons to consider parts of the reported balances as reserved. However it is not known whether or not there are other substantial reasons that other parts of the balances of maintained schools should be held as reserved when considering whether balances are unutilised.
5. Collecting such information from all maintained secondary schools would create a significant task for the schools and also a task for the Authority's finance staff in validating such information. Such analysis could be provided to a future meeting of the panel.

### **Academy Secondary Schools**

6. Academies are independent schools. Other than in a few specific areas of responsibility, such as provision for pupils with special educational needs, they are not subject to any oversight by the Authority. Specifically it is clear in the legislation that Academies are not subject to any financial oversight by the Authority. Accordingly the Authority has no formal records of their financial activities occurring after conversion.
7. About half of the academies in Oxfordshire have chosen to continue to use the Authority's SAP finance system for their accounting records. The Authority has no permission to access their records for any purpose other than to support the academy's financial operations. Even if access to the data were permitted by the academy, all the points made above in relation to specific purposes for elements of the balances of maintained schools would apply.
8. Academies are required to publish accounting information in accordance with the Companies Act 2006. This is in a very different format and to different accounting standards to the Consistent Financial Reporting regulations which apply to maintained schools. Accordingly it is not straightforward to identify an unspent revenue balance for an academy, even where the information is published.
9. In the case of stand-alone academies it is possible to extract a figure more or less equivalent to an unspent revenue balance from the published accounts of the academy. In the case of multi-academy trusts the ability to extract balance figures for an individual academy depends on the reporting decisions which the directors of the trust have made. In most multi-academy trusts there is no reporting which would enable a calculation to be made of the balances of individual academies.
10. Accounts for academies are produced to the Companies Act timetable and in any event their financial year ends at 31 August rather than 31 March. Accordingly no published figures are yet available at August 2013.

11. The outcome of the above differences in reporting requirements is that the only information currently available about the balances of academies is the amount which was transferred from the Authority to the academy as it was created. These amounts are set out in Annex 1 alongside the year on year balances of the predecessor maintained schools.
12. Any further information would have to be obtained by request to each academy, including a request to provide reasons for the balances that are held. Academies would be under no regulatory requirement to respond, and may themselves have some difficulties in providing an unspent revenue balance equivalent to that reported for maintained schools.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

13. **The Education Scrutiny Committee is RECOMMENDED to note the contents of the report and decide on any necessary further action.**

FRANCES CRAVEN  
Deputy Director for Education & Early Intervention

Contact Officer:  
Simon Pickard, Finance Business Partner CEF  
Tel; 01865 797500

September 2013

ESC6

Year on Year Progression of reported revenue balances for secondary schools maintained by Oxfordshire County Council March 2000 to March 2013

| Figures are £                                  |             | 1999-00               | 2000-01               | 2001-02               | 2002-03               | 2003-04               | 2004-05               | 2005-06               | 2006-07               | 2007-08               | 2008-09               | 2009-10               | 2010-11               | 2011-12               | 2012-13               |                      |
|--|-------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| School Name                                    | DfES Number | Total revenue balance | Total revenue balance | Total revenue balance | Total revenue balance | Total revenue balance | Total revenue balance | Total revenue balance | Total revenue balance | Total revenue balance | Total revenue balance | Total revenue balance | Total revenue balance | Total revenue balance | Total revenue balance | Transfers to Academy |
| Drayton School                                 | 4005        | £33,259               | £(22,976)             | £18,044               | £(240,203)            | (143,640)             | 93,793                | (74,537)              | (84,814)              | (85,089)              |                       |                       |                       |                       |                       | Closed               |
| The Warriner School                            | 4007        | £1,429                | £99,243               | £127,334              | £(78,830)             | (115,542)             | (90,629)              | (74,454)              | 38,032                | 19,466                | 47,511                | (216,698)             | (74,363)              | 97,498                | 90,885                |                      |
| Chipping Norton School                         | 4010        | £75,155               | £87,328               | £134,284              | £239,269              | 34,259                | 378,909               | (6,531)               | 365,864               | 293,284               | 157,416               | 79,090                | 174,869               | 458,485               |                       | 458,864              |
| Banbury School                                 | 4021        | £94,241               | £120,734              | £(194,519)            | £(186,631)            | 49,099                | 172,397               | 13,110                | 50,696                | (78,868)              | (83,035)              | 51,207                | 73,894                | 235,872               |                       | 2,127                |
| Bicester Community College                     | 4030        | £2,646                | £(81,048)             | £(140,315)            | £(144,689)            | (175,568)             | (86,021)              | (43,185)              | (2,911)               | (17,606)              | 120,303               | 48,721                | 262,743               | 336,541               | 462,132               |                      |
| The Cooper School                              | 4032        | £(58,921)             | £(36,920)             | £76,071               | £143,796              | 193,192               | 182,762               | 247,539               | 302,688               | 146,550               | 57,179                | 74,885                | 6,894                 | (275,180)             | (226,338)             |                      |
| Burford School and Community College           | 4040        | £(39,497)             | £(94,850)             | £24,200               | £(225,819)            | (169,532)             | (322,766)             | (78,471)              | (372,226)             | (497,906)             | (371,346)             | 224,005               | 216,769               | 224,885               |                       | 36,914               |
| Carterton Community College                    | 4041        | £(2,480)              | £1,034                | £14,786               | £(19,616)             | (11,657)              | (55,836)              | (61,749)              | (216,841)             | (49,344)              | 56,702                | (30,227)              | 128,514               | 177,536               | 313,855               |                      |
| The Henry Box School                           | 4050        | £96,002               | £99,570               | £201,849              | £143,097              | 191,749               | 253,782               | 231,972               | 325,030               | 670,741               | 297,423               | 74,200                | 99,670                | 358,501               |                       | 358,501              |
| Wood Green School                              | 4052        | £99,065               | £238,369              | £208,573              | £(23,769)             | 4,491                 | 48,654                | (59,494)              | 63,522                | 68,892                | 12,854                | (79,390)              | 78,185                | 241,639               | 385,368               |                      |
| Bartholomew School                             | 4054        | £77,997               | £116,169              | £12,979               | £(85,740)             | (72,935)              | (15,431)              | 93,170                | 210,717               | 363,011               | 171,644               | 261,632               | 347,097               | 653,487               |                       | 641,760              |
| Gillotts School                                | 4055        | £154,097              | £199,442              | £233,830              | £170,269              | 223,410               | 233,199               | 105,730               | 171,560               | 163,914               | 234,529               | 249,113               | 117,095               | 182,614               |                       | 183,738              |
| Gosford Hill School                            | 4060        | £70,682               | £164,503              | £3,580                | £90,732               | 78,830                | 135,552               | (65,988)              | (91,839)              | (151,950)             | (37,430)              | 185,197               | 133,296               | 305,915               |                       | 194,580              |
| Peers School                                   | 4074        | £88,953               | £(997)                | £38,676               | £87,106               | (6,975)               | 257,918               | 71,267                | (21,474)              | 390,382               | (77,618)              | (77,618)              |                       |                       |                       | Closed               |
| Wheatley Park School                           | 4077        | £124,713              | £150,429              | £86,265               | £(28,450)             | 85,696                | 239,192               | 187,573               | 32,817                | 171,258               | 118,345               | 150,600               | (32,479)              | 60,781                | 161,398               |                      |
| Icknield Community College                     | 4082        | £(5,005)              | £(37,850)             | £(20,490)             | £(11,683)             | 34,223                | 27,764                | 47,750                | 46,595                | 65,019                | 139,152               | 172,136               | 164,573               | 393,336               | 363,402               |                      |
| Chiltern Edge Community School                 | 4092        | £126,496              | £135,430              | £27,156               | £(173,496)            | (210,052)             | 68,069                | 47,859                | 22,992                | 103,218               | 29,312                | (37,401)              | (24,923)              | 16,639                | (82,290)              |                      |
| Langtree School                                | 4094        | £(15,064)             | £(51,062)             | £(56,904)             | £(63,582)             | (30,553)              | (105,862)             | (55,511)              | 16,006                | 52,276                | 5,500                 | 33,278                | 59,011                | 140,780               |                       | 140,781              |
| The Cherwell School                            | 4116        | £68,375               | £71,784               | £41,678               | £115,417              | 93,782                | 364,281               | 503,311               | 614,734               | 1,208,041             | 851,795               | 338,061               | 513,326               | 564,131               |                       | 564,131              |
| Oxford Community School                        | 4117        | £(29,684)             | £(26,414)             | £40,042               | £45,563               | 197,614               | 140,044               | 433,574               | 625,836               | 712,633               | 238,960               | 30,291                | (240,347)             |                       |                       | Closed               |
| Cheney School                                  | 4120        | £(21,868)             | £(66,549)             | £32,056               | £(15,266)             | (198,080)             | (40,710)              | (6,943)               | (48,647)              | 78,446                | 409,998               | 616,406               | 578,489               | 639,318               |                       | 599,149              |
| Larkmead School                                | 4125        | £(6,215)              | £52,746               | £(27,657)             | £(54,012)             | (107,625)             | 4,618                 | (61,583)              | (178,810)             | (318,694)             | (94,302)              | (110,781)             | (126,108)             | 439,994               | 497,661               |                      |
| John Mason School                              | 4126        | £(15,058)             | £94,061               | £92,524               | £106,311              | 50,277                | 2,221                 | 12,679                | (11,690)              | (53,475)              | (209,076)             | (28,223)              | 95,629                | 99,021                | 160,064               |                      |
| Fitzharrys School                              | 4127        | £53,223               | £176,795              | £88,794               | £113,694              | (33,289)              | 147,464               | (57,598)              | (313,850)             | (308,210)             | (229,013)             | (359,716)             | (233,909)             | (31,720)              | 127,385               |                      |
| Matthew Arnold School                          | 4128        | £111,718              | £(18,819)             | £(107,784)            | £133,778              | 228,009               | 39,889                | 29,633                | (159,511)             | 167,735               | 203,106               | 295,203               | 322,256               | 688,723               | 634,433               |                      |
| St Birinus School                              | 4129        | £152,066              | £223,011              | £146,632              | £164,233              | 210,239               | 214,733               | 250,827               | 396,865               | 369,756               | 227,685               | 387,152               | 270,050               | 525,073               |                       | 117,597              |
| Didcot Girls' School                           | 4139        | £65,584               | £52,263               | £5,615                | £7,773                | 36,309                | 102,712               | 66,356                | 21,372                | (5,096)               | (2,585)               | (124,257)             | 165,427               | 132,945               |                       | 5,272                |
| Wallingford School                             | 4140        | £75,542               | £41,541               | £68,311               | £65,483               | 60,331                | 48,611                | (6,640)               | (220,373)             | (86,862)              | (74,756)              | (7,097)               | 30,321                |                       |                       | 25,000               |
| Faringdon Community College                    | 4141        | £(9,149)              | £(5,634)              | £100,753              | £(32,896)             | (175,526)             | (75,058)              | 102,025               | 65,666                | 146,942               | 51,369                | 34,490                | 65,535                | 152,075               |                       | 152,075              |
| King Alfred's Community and Sports College     | 4142        | £(237,005)            | £(246,659)            | £(162,161)            | £(153,668)            | (108,748)             | 31,096                | 144,908               | 225,653               | (74,518)              | (713,200)             | (191,038)             | 241,835               |                       |                       | 351,523              |
| St Gregory the Great VA Catholic Secondary Sch | 4145        | ..                    | ..                    | ..                    | ..                    | (72,043)              | (460,354)             | (435,939)             | (546,686)             | (82,237)              | (14,872)              | (316,406)             | 169,814               | 215,739               |                       | 245,599              |
| The Marlborough Church of England School       | 4560        | £(97,252)             | £(99,353)             | £(54,170)             | £70,012               | 132,352               | 144,634               | 196,036               | 92,204                | 151,286               | 222,165               | 36,772                | (57,312)              | 124,033               |                       | 156,867              |
| Lord Williams's School                         | 4580        | £186,888              | £294,354              | £338,251              | £326,539              | 301,396               | 326,883               | 260,256               | 358,211               | 548,309               | 456,520               | 330,687               | 399,778               | 492,831               |                       | 562,494              |
| Blessed George Napier Catholic School          | 4600        | £107,304              | £169,205              | £122,420              | £75,440               | 119,743               | 191,876               | 120,559               | 96,587                | 183,415               | 72,812                | 46,792                | 36,550                | 578,637               | 645,523               |                      |



Directorates:  
Children, Education & Families and  
Oxfordshire Customer Services

## EDUCATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

19 SEPTEMBER 2013

### A REPORT ON RESULTS OF SOFT MARKET TESTING

Report by Frances Craven, Deputy Director for Education & Early Intervention,  
and Graham Shaw, Deputy Director for Oxfordshire Customer Services.

#### Introduction

1. This paper is intended to update Education Scrutiny on the work completed so far with regard to soft market testing.
2. Final proposals on externalisation will be considered by Cabinet on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2013.

#### Background

3. Proposals for the externalisation of a range of back office services provided by OCS plus schools support and school improvement services were considered by Cabinet in July 2013. The services in scope are broadly speaking
  - Corporate Back Office (HR, Finance, ICT)
  - Schools Back Office (HR, Finance, ICT)
  - Schools and Learning/Foundation Years
  - Oxfordshire Skills & Learning

*The status quo is not an option and current delivery models are no longer viable.*

- £3M of savings needed from OCS alone from 2015/16
- Not enough capacity to support school improvement needs
- Back office services for schools are closely dependent on the system, processes and staff that deliver corporate back office services.

## **Soft Market Testing**

4. This process was designed to help us find out potential market interest in the services in scope, potential delivery models and views on how to proceed. A range of national and local providers took part – public and private sector providers. Providers completed a detailed questionnaire and took part in face to face discussion.
5. More work has been completed internally to clearly identify and validate current running costs and overhead costs. Individual services have been subject to further review and analysis in terms of service specifications and key performance indicators.
6. Work has continued with other Councils to understand their experience of the procurement process, the scope of externalisation and their views on delivery models. It is clear that a large number of Councils are faced with the same issues as Oxfordshire and are taking similar journeys.

## **Key Learning Points from Soft Market Testing**

7. Whether we do this in-house or with an external partner, we can only secure £3M savings by removing posts.
8. Some services or service elements will have to stop, as we cut our coat to suit our cloth.
9. One size does not fit all. Likely to mean different delivery models for different services and different timelines.
10. Market interest in all service areas; greatest interest in back office.
11. Testing has included private sector and public sector; national and local - all had valuable insights.
12. Schools need to be actively engaged and consulted in planning for services and delivery models they will use.

## **Next Steps**

13. Briefings for Staff, 30th September 2013 onwards.
14. Proposals to Cabinet, on the 15th October 2013.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

- 15. The Education Scrutiny Committee is RECOMMENDED to note the contents of the report and decide on any necessary further action.**

FRANCES CRAVEN, Deputy Director for Education & Early Intervention,  
Tel; 01865 815498

GRAHAM SHAW, Deputy Director for Oxfordshire Customer Services.  
Tel: 01865 797228

September 2013

This page is intentionally left blank