

Summary

This review was undertaken to independently cost and evaluate the three following organisational models:-

- Option 1 11-16 Secondary School in Selective Area
- Option 2 3-16 School in Selective Area
- Option 3 9-14 Middle School

After exploring the three options as requested, the following conclusions may be drawn:

- Providing secondary education in Crowland on known rolls is not economically viable.
- All 3 options show a deficit budget from Year 1, ranging from £183,123 (Option 2) to £485,386 (Option 3)
- The deficit increases in all models until by the end of 2015, the deficit ranges between £1,665,601 (Option 1) and £2,488,700 (Option 3)
- The model presenting the smallest deficit is that of 11-16 school, ie the current model of education in the area, but this assumes that the existing £359,060 deficit is cleared by the County Council.

Secondary education in Crowland has been a central feature of local life for many years and many local families have been loyal to the school and have requested places for their children and extended families. Unfortunately, many children in the area choose neighbouring schools, (approximately 44% when excluding grammar school pupils), which together with falling rolls has left the school in a difficult economic position. Providing a broad and balanced curriculum to equip students with the necessary skills for a technological world proves to be expensive and the current deficit budget reflects the costs of meeting curriculum demands.