



### **Summary of the objection by Bristol City Council's Education Department**

As part of the planning process, the developers behind the proposals to turn St Christophers into an luxury extra care complex, commissioned a review into whether the site was suitable to return to use as a school for children with special education needs. The report concluded that “there is a multiplicity of provision to meet their needs across the area and only a small proportion of children need a special school place” and that in the future “the overall needs within the City are likely to have been met”. In other words, the developers argued there was no need for replacement SEND provision on site as there were plenty of places available elsewhere across the city.

The council has now released a report and said it completely disagrees. The response from the Education Department details a list of ‘serious errors’ in the data provided in the original report by the developers and claims it was written by someone with a “limited understanding of SEND”. The council’s response goes on to explain that there are in fact a rising number of children within Bristol who need special school places and to say, as it does in the report, there will be a surplus is; “wholly inaccurate”. There will in fact be a shortfall of places and funding in the near future.