

Appendix 3

**RESPONSES FROM HEADTEACHERS COLLATED BY MR MOYNIHAN FROM  
ST MARY'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL (CREDENHILL)**

11 responses were collated

School	Comments
Brockhampton Primary School	I don't use the LEA pool as we swim at Tenbury. However, I felt I ought to just reply to your email and support what you are doing. It would be interesting to see how many schools are considering canceling swimming altogether as this could be a powerful part of the persuasion process.
Dilwyn CE Primary School	This doesn't affect me or our school directly as we go to Leominster for our swimming. and will continue to because it's relatively local. In case it's of any use, I'll give you my general views. If we were closer to Hereford I would certainly choose the LEA pool rather than Leominster, as it is more suitable for school purposes in terms of design of both the changing facilities and the pool itself.
Holmer CE Primary School	The Leisure Pool is not suitable or satisfactory. Do the Directorate understand that? We need a solution but it has to be affordable. We cannot afford to pay an excessive hire charge because the cost of travel and tuition go on top of that. There should be a universal provision for the County and the charge should be the same for all schools. We need to find out what the DCSF expects of councils in the way of their duties to provide suitable pools. What happens elsewhere.? I also think my idea of capital expenditure to take over the pool's repairs is a possibility.
Little Dewchurch CE Primary School	As I understand it, we presently pay £32.80 for half an hour's tuition each week. Under the first option, this would rise to £53 per week. If this is the only way to retain the LA pool, then I would vote for that option. I really am not happy with the situation at the Leisure pool, despite their attempts at reassuring us that the service would improve. Would we be guaranteed in writing that the main pool and diving pool would be available every week? At present we have only the splash pool, which is really unsuitable for swimming lessons. There is no point in spending money on sub-standard provision. Is there any date for when the LA pool might be open? I presume the present unsatisfactory situation will continue in September. If I am only offered the splash pool, I am considering discontinuing swimming lessons until we have proper provision again.
Longtown Primary School	Longtown would dearly love to see the LEA pool remain open – even if the cost went up to £106 per hour. We would find some way initially of funding the increased cost of £21 per week. I spent many hours years ago trying to optimise our swimming provision – I wouldn't like to lose it now. However, we would not cancel our swimming lessons at the Leisure pool, albeit a second class option,

	but may reduce our take up.
Michaelchurch Escley Primary School	We would happily pay the higher rate to go back to the LEA pool, otherwise we shall be looking to cross the border into WALES and take our swimmers to Hay or Abergavenny and the council will lose our custom altogether.
Peterchurch Primary School	I fully support the campaign to re-open the LEA pool and will be willing to pay £106 per hour to retain it. We have our own learner pool here but value the deep water experience our children receive at the LEA pool. We would <b>probably</b> not use Halo next year with the arrangements as they are due too the completely unsuitable facilities for those children who have to go in the Leisure pool which is too shallow in many cases and with that big wall most unsuitable for teaching. I also remain concerned about health and safety issues and therefore have to send a very high number of staff to supervise during the sessions.
St Francis Xavier's RC Primary School	I will be writing to the parents in Key Stage Two to tell them that we will not be going swimming next year as the Leisure Pool is unsuitable. I will also canvass the parents regarding the extra cost of having to pay for the L.E.A. Pool if it is reopened. (approx. £1 a week). The suggestion has also made that we could consider going to Leominster Pool as – time wise – it is a similar journey. I will investigate this. I hope that the heads in the other 36 schools do the same. If everyone refuses to use the Leisure Pool then action might be taken.
St Mary's CE Primary School (Fownhope)	I can confirm St. Mary's total support for the reopening of the LA pool even if this means at a higher rate. You know my strength of feeling on the matter and like you and others, if the option is Leisure pool or nothing, we'll choose not to swim.
Wellington Primary School	Would wish to see the LEA pool reopened. We agree in principle with your comments, but wish to point out that with the ever increasing cost of transporting our children to the pool, along with the tuition/pool hire fees, we are asking our parents/carers to pay for a school lesson which is approaching the cost of a good 'small group' lesson.
Withington Primary School	As I said yesterday, fully supportive of LA pool and yes a small price (comparatively!) to pay if fees increase. Withington would much prefer LA pool and option of Leisure pool has at best been a 'stop gap'.

The four Headteachers representing the other Schools would like to make it known they are in favour of the St Martin's Pool being reopened

- Mr J Moynihan (St Mary's CE Primary School – Credenhill)
- Mr E McGilp (St Martin's Primary School)
- Mr A Thomas (Holme Lacy Primary School)
- Mrs A Taylor (St Mary's CE Primary School – Fownhope)