### Design:

**Single mobile classroom**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Use</th>
<th>The building will be used for general teaching in conjunction with the existing accommodation within the school.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Size</strong></td>
<td>The development consists of a single storey, single classroom mobile building of approx 68m². The height is approx 3.3m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Layout</strong></td>
<td>The layout of the site is as existing, and therefore has been somewhat predetermined.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Landscape</strong></td>
<td>It is proposed to site the mobile on a large grassed area, in close proximity to an existing double mobile classroom, on an area which had previously facilitated a single mobile unit. This will provide easy access to the main school building and links to the main utilities. The landscape of the site will remain the same other than the footprint of the mobile.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Appearance</strong></td>
<td>The building is of standard single storey mobile classroom construction. The elevations are perpendicular surmounted by a low pitch roof. The roof is finished in grey felt with a small overhang, discharging rainwater into a black PVC gutter and down pipes. The height of the roof is approximately 3.3m from ground level. The walls are refinished in a stippled weatherproof coating, all painted in dark Green (12 B 25) colour. All windows have white uPVC frames and are double glazed in clear float glass. A wooden slatted skirt is fitted between ground and floor level, the slats being horizontal.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Access:**

The building design in both mobiles takes account of:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Approach</strong></th>
<th>Within the limits of the site, each mobile has been positioned to create ease of access for all users.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Parking</strong></td>
<td>Not applicable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Entrances</strong></td>
<td>Access to the site is as existing with no need for any alterations. Access to both mobiles will be via steps and ramp to the main entrance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Horizontal Circulation</strong></td>
<td>The horizontal circulation within each mobile has been carefully planned to accommodate all users.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Vertical Circulation</strong></td>
<td>Vertical circulation is not applicable as they are both single storey buildings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Access to all Services</strong></td>
<td>Internally both mobiles have been carefully laid-out to maximise use. All facilities are logistically placed in relation to each other.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Emergency Egress</strong></td>
<td>The design of each mobile will ensure and assist evacuation should an emergency need occur. All travel routes have been carefully planned and emergency exit facilities provided. Evacuation planning will be recorded and regularly tested by the occupiers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Waste Management</strong></td>
<td>There will be minimal waste generated during the installation of the single mobile. Each contractor will be responsible for removing their own waste to a licensed tip.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Linda Franklin  
Northamptonshire County Council  
Property Asset Management  
July 2012  

Ref DA/01
Northamptonshire, like all other areas of the country is having to deal with the largest numbers of Primary age pupils entering the education system since the 1970’s. There is a national growth in the birth rate that has now impacted on schools. As recently as last week a national newspaper ran a ‘two page spread’ on the crisis, as it referred to it (see link below). In other areas of the country 4 and 5 year olds are having to be bussed to schools with capacity. In the main, for obvious reasons, we have avoided this. In Northamptonshire the problem is compounded by being a growth county and through in-migration. We, like other areas are having to look at contingencies that may include using buildings other than schools. However, we are not there yet and are managing the situation. This has involved extensions to schools and the deployment of mobiles. The Northampton town centre area is that with the greatest pressure.

We are building new schools to accommodate new developments. These are funded through Section 106 funding and NCC funding. Where it is possible, and we have time, we are building extensions to schools. Some of the growth has been predicted, however some, for example that from in-migration is less predictable and there is a need to respond quickly. We are currently working with the largest number of ‘in year’ admissions that we have ever had. From 50 a month, several years ago, we now have more than 200 per week at some times.

In relation to Northampton, the town has seen a rise in demand for reception and Year 1-2 places over the past 3 years. See table below.
We are currently looking at permanent solutions to include extensions to the following local schools:

- Earl Spencer
- Castle
- Kings Heath
- Weston Favell
- Sunnyside
- Standens Barn
- Hunsbury Primary -reverting to 2 FE
- Briar Hill
- The Abbey
- Ecton Brook
- Upton
- Cogenhoe
- Hopping Hill remaining as 2FE
- Possibly Kingsthorpe

Other temporary solutions have been found at Queen Eleanor by extending for 2 years into existing accommodation. We are also looking at the use of alternative buildings as either standalone schools or annexes to existing schools.

As the result of a temporary bulge associated with the general population growth, from September 2012, East Hunsbury will be taking an additional FE Reception class of 30 pupils. It is therefore necessary to install a single mobile classroom to accommodate this extra class, while Northamptonshire County Council seeks a permanent solution to school capacity.

It is expected that extensions at other schools will take the strain of the bulge in the medium term. Longer term, the bulge is expected to fall back to a smaller number. When these bulge year groups work through the school, the mobiles can be removed from the site. Therefore, I apply for planning consent for both mobile classrooms for 5 years.

Linda Franklin
NCC Property Asset Management
July 2012
Ref SS/01

Two links to recent newspaper articles about the problem


http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/educationnews/9138541/Warning-over-acute-shortage-of-primary-school-places.html