



**Executive**  
11 April 2011

**Report from the Director of Children  
and Families and the  
Director of Regeneration  
and Major Projects**

Wards affected: All

**Temporary Expansion of Brent Schools: 2011-12**

**1 Summary**

- 1.1 Primary Schools: Demand for primary school places is forecast to exceed the supply of places again in 2011. As is the case across most London Authorities, Brent Council is experiencing a shortfall of primary school places, with severe shortage in the reception cohort.
- 1.2 The projection of rising demand for reception school places in the borough are matched by actual demand for places as of the January 15, 2011 deadline for submissions. Three and a half additional Reception classes are forecast to be required by September 2011 to ensure that the Council meets its statutory obligation to provide school places. A further three to five Reception classes may be required during the academic year.
- 1.3 Similarly, 2 classes are the forecast requirement for Year 1; 2.7 classes for Year 2 and 0.7 classes for Year 3 in September 2011. A further 7.6 classes may be required during the academic year for the Y1, Y2 and Y3 groups.
- 1.4 Eight temporary school expansion proposals are being recommended in this report, which are deemed suitable to cope with the shortfall for September 2011.
- 1.5 The Village School: On 12 April 2010 Brent Executive approved the rebuilding of the Hay Lane and Grove Park School buildings as one school (now referred to as The Village School) incorporating the existing recently completed 16+ Centre, a new Short Break Centre on site and the provision of the necessary temporary accommodation during the construction period on the site of adjacent Kingsbury High School.
- 1.6 A full report on this project is to go to Executive on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2011 which will provide an update to the members on the progress made in developing the rebuild scheme and the funding arrangements required to cover the costs. It will seek the necessary authorities to award the contract for building the Village School, the Main Scheme.

- 1.7 In order to maintain the programme the contract for constructing the temporary accommodation and legacy works for the Village School within the grounds of Kingsbury High School needs to be awarded prior to the Executive Meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2011.

## **2 Recommendations**

The Executive is recommended:

- 2.1 To approve the allocation of £1.5m from the Council's Main Capital Programme for providing additional primary school places across Brent schools from September 2011, as set out in the table under paragraph 3.2.13.
- 2.2 To delegate authority to the Director of Regeneration and Major Projects to appoint one or more works contractors using existing construction frameworks, for the recommended temporary school expansion schemes, in the event that any single works contract exceeds £1m in value.
- 2.3 To delegate authority to the Director of Regeneration and Major Projects to award the works contract for constructing temporary accommodation for the Village School, Decant and Legacy Scheme.

## **3 Detail**

### **3.1 Background**

#### **3.1.1 Update on Demand for School Places**

- 3.1.2 In a report to the Executive on Brent Primary Schools Expansion in November 2010, Members were informed that in the last two academic years, the Great London Authority's (GLA) accuracy rate for the projection of primary school rolls has been falling and has not addressed the real rise in demand for primary school places. This is generally true across London authorities, which are being caught out by an extremely high number of applications for Reception and Year 1 places.
- 3.1.3 It was further noted that according to the GLA's projection of school rolls (based on the January 2010 pupil census data), the number of four year olds on roll was expected to rise by over 300 pupils (10 classes) between 2010 and 2013, after which the demand is projected to decrease slightly. Whilst this translated into a shortfall in the capacity by 270 Reception places (9 classes) by September 2012 it did not fully take into account the GLA's analysis presented in September 2010 that the birth rate across London is increasing more than previously expected. It was noted that the impact of rising birth rate may further impact on the demand for Reception places.
- 3.1.4 The report also summarised that the GLA school roll projection analysis estimates that Brent Council will need to provide an additional 1680 (Reception to Year 6) primary places by 2015-16 (including a 5% planning margin), which equates to approximately four new 2FE primary schools.
- 3.1.5 The Council has been reviewing the GLA analysis and is addressing the anomalies based on the evidence that a large number of primary aged children currently remain without a school place and the number of applications for admissions being received for

the next academic year. This report aims to address the shortfall for the upcoming academic year 2011-12.

- 3.1.6 Inward migration and rise in birth rate have been the main contributing factors to the annual increase in demand for primary school places in addition to the change in Admission Code.

#### Compulsory school age

- 3.1.7 A child becomes of compulsory school age when he or she reaches the age of five and must start school in the term following his or her fifth birthday (unless a child is educated otherwise). Not all the Reception pupils without a school place will be aged five; however, they will all turn five throughout this school year.
- 3.1.8 Brent's policy, in line with most other London authorities has been to admit children into the Reception from age four onwards. Sir Jim Rose completed a review of the primary curriculum in April 2009 and recommended that children should ideally start school in the September following their fourth birthday. The Secretary of State accepted that recommendation and announced that all parents should be able to choose this option if that is what is best for their child. Parents are now able to choose for their child to start school on a part-time or full-time basis, or choose a place at a nursery or other early learning setting if they would prefer this. A revised School Admissions Code came into force on 10 February 2010, and requires all admission authorities to provide parents with this choice of a school place for entry from September 2011.

#### Increase in the Birth Rate

- 3.1.9 GLA's projections are based on ONS birth data, which was forecasting a short-term reduction in births. At the beginning of 2010 it was thought that the number of births in London had already peaked by the end of 2009 and had begun to fall. Conversely, births in London in the latter part of 2009, and nationally also in the first half of 2010, had again risen.
- 3.1.10 Since 2001 births in London have increased by 24.1%. The greatest percentage increases have been in Barking & Dagenham (51%), Greenwich (40%), Hounslow (37%), Redbridge (37%) and Sutton (33%). The percentage increase for Brent during the same period is 31% (3917 in 2001 to 5132 in 2009, an increase of 1215). Between mid 2006 - 2007 there were 4799 births in Brent – all requiring a reception place by September 2011.

#### September 2010-11: Reception

- 3.1.11 Applications for the current year are being received on a weekly basis. Whilst, some of the children will take up places created by the 'churn' (pupils transferring from one school to another), the majority of applications are for new comers into the borough. Existing vacancies in Year 5 and 6 are being driven out of the system through annual progression and as such are deemed to be unsuitable for Reception, Y1 and Y2 children.
- 3.1.12 Based on the GLA forecast for 2010-11, 3483 Reception pupils on roll were expected in Brent. This forecast achieved an accuracy rate of 93.98% (under projected), which is outside the standard tolerance level and left 150 children (as at 26 Oct 2010) without a Reception place for the current school year due to shortage of capacity.

3.1.13 In 2009-10, the Council provided 3428 (including 'bulge' classes) Reception year places, which meant that the shortfall of places for the on-going 2010-11 academic year should have been only 2 new classes (55 places) in addition to maintaining the capacity created by the two 'bulge' classes in 2009-10, thereby totalling to 4 additional classes.

3.1.14 However, after taking into account the GLA forecast, factoring in the anomaly of the previous year's (2009-10) forecast and based on the analysis of the applicants seeking admission, the Council provided 135 additional Reception places (4.5 classes) in September 2010 and a further 60 places (2 classes) were provided in February 2011 at Ashley Garden Early Learning Centre, totalling 6.5 additional classes.

3.1.15 Due to a surge in the 2010-11 demand for primary school places, a further 50 Reception places were mobilised as a temporary in-year solution by creating Reception classrooms in the Nursery provision. This means that the number of Reception places, including temporary provision, for the current academic year are 3592 places plus 50 Reception places in Brent nurseries, equalling a total of 3642 places. The table in Appendix 1 provides information on the temporary and permanent Reception provision created by the Council over a period of five years.

3.1.16 Despite the measures taken by the Council to increase the number of Reception year places in 2010-11, as of 11 March 2011, 73 Reception aged children remain without a school place. Between June 2010 and March 2011, 260 in-year applications were received from parents seeking a place for their child in the Reception class for the on-going academic year.

#### September 2010-11: Year 1 to Year 6

3.1.17 A similar situation exists in the Year 1 to Year 3 demand for school places. There are 3451 places available in Year 1; however, currently 125 children remain without a school place with only 18 vacancies across the borough in the corresponding year group.

3.1.18 The table below provides a summary of the number of children without a school place in the current academic year:

**Table 1. Unplaced Children and Vacancies**

<b>Year Groups</b>	<b>Unplaced Children 2009-10 19 Mar 2010</b>	<b>Unplaced Children 2010-11 26 Oct 2010</b>	<b>Vacancies 2010-11 26 Oct 2010</b>	<b>Unplaced Children 2010-11 11 Mar 2011</b>	<b>Vacancies 2010-11 11 Mar 2011</b>
<b>Reception</b>	60	150	12	73	9
<b>Year 1</b>	30	154	15	125	18
<b>Year 2</b>	15	91	42	72	23
<b>Year 3</b>	15	73	78	60	63
<b>Year 4</b>	4	63	127	39	113
<b>Year 5</b>	9	36	179	27	177
<b>Year 6</b>	0	67	125	51	92
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>634</b>	<b>578</b>	<b>447</b>	<b>495</b>

3.1.19 Both the number of unplaced children and vacancies are constantly fluctuating but overall demand is consistently exceeding supply in the lower year groups (Reception to

Year 2), which is correlated to the pattern of rising demand in the borough, and indeed across outer London, over the last three years.

- 3.1.20 The above table illustrates the magnitude of the challenge facing Brent. At the time of writing this report, only 9 (0.24%) vacancies exist in the Reception year group out of 3642 places in the borough. Similarly, only 18 (0.52%) vacancies exist in the Year 1 and 23 (0.67%) in Year 2.
- 3.1.21 In Year 3 the situation appears to be in balance with 60 children without a school place and 63 vacancies; however, it is worth noting that even though the Council is able to meet its statutory obligation of offering school places, parents may not accept a place. This could be the case when the availability exists in a faith school other than that of the family's preference or where parents are unable to take small children to two different schools without being late for school and/or their work. Children without a school place are anticipated to remain in the system next year, at which point they will be in the Year 4 age group.
- 3.1.22 Preston Park Primary School is willing to accept a 'bulge' class of 20 pupils in the current year 4 class with a requirement that a temporary modular accommodation should be installed in September 2011. This will address some of the parental preference issues and the Council should be able to reduce the current number of children out of a school place in Year 4.
- 3.1.23 Years 5 and 6 have sufficient school places for the Council to meet its statutory obligation and do not require any temporary accommodation. Parents may not be willing to accept a school place mainly due to unavailability of a place in their preferred school.

#### September 2011-12: Reception

- 3.1.24 The GLA forecast for 2011-12 suggests a demand of 3642 Reception pupils in Brent. This does not seem to be in line with the applications being received by the Council. 4140 on-time applications for the Reception year group were received by 15 January 2011. A further 156 applications have been received since the closing date, which means so far a total of 4296 applications have been received. Based on an approximate 85% conversion rate, 3652 children are being expected to be pupils on roll.
- 3.1.25 Based on the current academic year's 260 in-year Reception applications over a 10 month period, it is expected that a similar number of in-year applications will be received by the Council for the 2011-12 academic year. Using a conservative estimate of at least 35% (91 pupils, 3 classes) up to 55% (143 pupils, over 4.7 classes) of such applications are expected to result in a requirement for the Council to provide Reception school places. Hence, over the course of the 2011-12 academic year, the Council expects a total demand ranging from 3743 (3652+91) to 3795 (3652+143) Reception pupils.
- 3.1.26 There are however only 3547 Reception places available for the academic year beginning September 2011. Whilst, these include the current school expansion projects – Preston Manor High School (2 classes), Newfield (1 class), Brentfield (1 class), which will be available from September 2011, the overall Reception provision is less than the current year by 95 (3642-3547) places. This is because the 'bulge' classes provided in the current academic year are not necessarily available for September 2011.
- 3.1.27 The table below provides the numbers on roll forecast and deficit of places for the Reception year:

**Table 2. Shortage of Reception School Places**

Year Group	GLA Forecast for 2011-12	Brent's Forecast for 2011-12	No. of available Places 2011-12	Shortfall of Places	Shortfall of Classes
R	3642	3743	3547	-196	-6.5

(-) deficit in school places based on Brent Forecast.

- 3.1.28 The demand arising from in-year applications is expected to be spread across the academic year 2011-12. Hence, in September 2011, the forecast demand is equal to 3.5 classes while the balance of 3 classes is the forecast need for the remainder of the 2011-12 academic year i.e. from September 2011 to August 2012.

#### September 2011-12: Year 1 to Year 6

- 3.1.29 As is the case in the Reception year group, the demand pressure in the Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 is equally high. The GLA has projected that there will be 3641 Y1 pupils, 3439 Y2 pupils and 3228 Y3 pupils in September 2011. The forecast includes current Reception pupils in Nursery accommodation and will need to be relocated to a suitable Year 1 provision in September 2011. However, the Council's analysis based on the anomaly of GLA's forecast, the current intake in Brent schools, children without a school place and the expected in-year applications, provides the following updated numbers on roll forecast and deficit of places for the Y1 to Y3 groups:

**Table 3. Shortage of Y1 to Y3 School Places**

Year Group	GLA Forecast for 2011-12	Brent's Forecast for 2011-12	No. of available Places 2011-12	Shortfall of Places	Shortfall of Classes
Y1	3641	3783	3622	-161	-5.4
Y2	3439	3622	3448	-174	-5.8
Y3	3228	3556	3503	-53	-1.8

(-) deficit in school places based on Brent Forecast.

- 3.1.30 Comparison of Year 1 to Year 3 forecast number on roll with the corresponding number of school places available in 2011-12 indicates that there will be a net shortfall of school places in Year groups 1 to 3.
- 3.1.31 The shortage of school places for Year 1 – Year 3 in the above table includes projected demand arising from in-year applications. This means that although there is a deficit of 5.4 (Y1), 5.8 (Y2) and 1.8 (Y3) classes, 2 classes in Y1, 2.7 classes in Y2, and 0.7 classes in Y3 will be required for September 2011 while the balance is the forecast need for the remainder of the 2011-12 academic year i.e. from September 2011 to August 2012.
- 3.1.32 Preston Park is being recommended to provide a 'bulge' Year 4 class, which will reduce the number of children without a school place in the year group.
- 3.1.33 Years 5 and 6 are forecast to have sufficient school places for the Council to meet its statutory obligation and do not require any temporary accommodation.

#### Areas of Demand for School Places:

- 3.1.34 The Map in Appendix 2 illustrates the demand pressure across the borough with a large number of primary aged children currently without a school place. The representation of various year groups on the map indicates the pressure areas; the dots ('smiley faces') do not represent a one to one relationship with the total number of children without a school place i.e. one 'smiley face' does not equal a child without a school place.
- 3.1.35 The current unplaced children across each year group (R-Y3) are located throughout the Planning Areas 1-5; hence, there is a need to temporarily increase primary capacity for several planning areas. Unless the Council provides additional primary places, most of these children are likely to remain without a school place at the commencement of the new school year in September 2011, which means that they will progress to the next year group without a school place and may need to be provided a school place in 2011-12.
- 3.1.36 Appendix 3 shows the approximate increase or decrease in the primary school roll projections in comparison to the neighbouring authorities by 2014-15. This is particularly useful to understand the demand for primary school places in the outer London area.

#### Provision of Additional School Places: 2011-12

- 3.1.37 Due to the current shortage of places, the planning margin of 5% has not been factored in the requirement. The planning margin is usually included in providing school places to act as a buffer against sudden peaks in demand and to provide for parental preference.
- 3.1.38 In summary, it is recommended that Brent Council provides a total of 9.1 'bulge' classes, subject to availability, for year groups R to Y4 including by September 2011 as per the breakdown below:

#### Reception Year:

- 3.1.39 The lack of capacity in Brent schools means that for the upcoming 2011-12 academic year, the Council needs to provide an additional provision, increasing Reception class capacity by at least 196 places (6.5 classes) and up to 248 places (8.2 classes) over the course of the next academic year based on the number of in-year applications.
- 3.1.40 It is recommended that the Council increases its provision by 3.5 Reception classes prior to September 2011. An increase in provision should ensure that a sufficient number of places are available at the commencement of the new academic year. On commencement of the new academic year in September 2011, it may be necessary to provide further three to five Reception classes by February 2012 to ensure sufficient school places are available for the entire year.

#### Year 1 to Year 3:

- 3.1.41 Schools are generally hesitant to accept 'bulge' classes for Year 1 and upwards since they may not be able to adequately address the educational needs of the children, especially if some of these children maybe recent arrivals in UK with little prior education. Hence, there is a preference of accepting 'bulge' Reception classes over other year groups.
- 3.1.42 Subject to availability, it is recommended that Brent Council provides 2 Year 1 'bulge' classes, 2.5 Year 2 'bulge' classes and 0.5 Year 3 'bulge' class prior to September 2011. This is likely to ensure sufficiency of provision at the commencement of the next academic year in year groups 1 to 3. Between September 2011 to February 2012, it may

be necessary to provide further seven and a half 'bulge' Y1-Y3 classes for the entire school year in 2011-12.

Year 4 to Year 6:

- 3.1.43 There are sufficient school places in Y4, Y5 and Y6 for the Council to meet its statutory obligation by offering a school place, although some parents may not accept a place if it does not meet their criteria. Hence, Preston Park is being suggested for a Year 4 'bulge' class consisting of 20 pupils to improve take-up in the current academic year, which will require a modular classroom in time for September 2011 to ensure progression.

## **3.2 Strategy and options for delivering additional primary school places**

### **3.2.1 Medium term strategy to increase primary school capacity**

- 3.2.2 Demand for primary school places is forecast to grow year on year over the next four years. The Council is in the process of developing a strategy to meet the continuing demand for primary places over the next three to four years. A report will be presented to the Executive within the next two months, which will focus on the strategy to provide primary school places in balance with the availability of resources. There are different options currently being considered to increase capacity and viability of Brent Schools without compromising the educational outcomes. Some of these options under consideration include all-through schools, 5FE schools, and larger classes with qualifying measures being taken where necessary in accordance with the Legislation.

- 3.2.3 The report on the medium term strategy will not be developed in time to address the immediate issue of lack of school places for the September 2011 academic year. As an interim measure, this report seeks Member approval on providing temporary expansion in capacity to meet the short-term demand for Reception to Year 4 school places to ensure that the Council is able to meet its statutory obligation for the upcoming year 2011-12.

### **3.2.4 Temporary 'Bulge' Classes for September 2011:**

- 3.2.5 'Bulge' classes could be delivered using various options, such as:

- Minor remodelling to existing school buildings e.g. converting an ICT suite into a classroom
- Providing and/or relocating temporary accommodation (modular) to existing and new school sites
- Utilising brownfield (non-school site) accommodation as an interim measure
- Running 'special projects' to improve compliance under statutory duty.

- 3.2.6 'Bulge' classes planned under this report will offer temporary provision and have a one-time additional intake for September 2011. The admission number of the individual schools will then revert back to the previously published number in the subsequent academic years.

### **3.2.7 Criteria for selecting Schools for Temporary Expansion:**

- 3.2.8 At the time of selecting the on-going permanent school expansion projects, the Council had reviewed opportunities to increase capacity at all primary schools and attempted to match opportunities to areas where the highest demand for school places existed.

3.2.9 This work has been taken into account to draw up a priority list for the temporary expansion of schools based on the following criteria:

- shortage of school places in a local area;
- physical expansion of a school on a temporary basis deemed to be feasible;
- temporary expansion feasible without commitment to undertake permanent expansion
- expression of interest and/or agreement by the school to expand its capacity on a temporary basis;
- risk associated with the expansion of the specific schools, likelihood of planning consent;
- availability of funding to expand the school.

3.2.10 In this report, the proposals for temporary expansion of school capacity have been identified without further commitment from the Council at this stage to a future permanent expansion. The schools being considered for temporary expansion of their capacity will be re-evaluated along with other schools in the borough under the medium-term strategy for providing primary school places. This will ensure that a balance is achieved with schools, which may not have expressed an interest to temporarily expand from September 2011 but may be willing to take on a temporary/permanent expansion at a later date.

3.2.11 The Council has used an evaluation process to provide a degree of objectivity in selecting the schemes for temporary provision. Schools have been assigned corresponding percentage score if they meet the relevant criteria. Total scores for all schemes have been compared. Risk has also been categorised per school and allocated a High, Medium or Low weighting. A final ranking of schools based on the overall scheme has been computed. If two or more schemes in the same area of demand achieve the lowest score and fall within the same risk level, then the less expensive of the two would be preferred, other factors remaining the same.

3.2.12 The following schools, which meet the above listed criteria, were identified to provide new temporary primary classes from September 2011:

**Table 4. Schools identified for temporary expansion**

<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>School Name</b>	<b>'Bulge' Classes</b> (30 places)	<b>Area</b>	<b>Accommodation Type</b>	<b>Risk H, M, L</b>	<b>Risk Description</b>
1.	Capital City Academy	2	5	Temporary Modular	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The school has expressed an interest to expand permanently, although planning restrictions and space constraints may impede the process.</li> <li>The school may not be interested in accepting a 'bulge' class if a permanent expansion is not agreed.</li> <li>Donnington Primary School is opposite CCA and the impact on it needs to be considered.</li> <li>Operating a 'bulge' class at a secondary site has considerable startup cost – capital &amp; revenue.</li> <li>Brent's strategy on all-through schools needs to be considered.</li> </ul>
2.	St. Andrew & St. Francis	1	5	Temporary Modular	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Head teacher requires 1 classroom temporary accommodation to be replaced by a 2 classroom temporary class room, which could then be sufficient to operate a 'bulge' class.</li> <li>The site area is not large enough to support a permanent expansion.</li> </ul>
3.	<b>Mitchell Brook Primary</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Internal Adaptations</b>	<b>L</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The governing body has agreed to accept a 'bulge' class in September 2011.</li> </ul>
4.	<b>Wykeham Primary</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Internal Adaptations</b>	<b>L</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The governing body has agreed to accept 'bulge' Reception class.</li> </ul>
5.	Ashley Gardens ELC	2	2	Use existing provision	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Two year planning permission, which is currently due to end in December 2012 may need to be extended.</li> <li>The accommodation is built on land belonging to Preston Manor High School.</li> <li>Solution has not been identified to ensure progression of Reception classes to Y1 to Y6.</li> </ul>
6.	Wembley High	2	2	Internal Adaptations	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May not be appropriate to use the sixth form provision for teaching primary pupils.</li> <li>Operating a 'bulge' class at a secondary site has considerable startup cost – capital &amp; revenue.</li> <li>Brent's strategy on all-through schools needs to be considered.</li> <li>Alternatively, modular classrooms could be provided on site.</li> </ul>
7.	<b>Furness Primary</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Internal Adaptations</b>	<b>L</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is a Community school; the acting head teacher has expressed an interest to operate a 'bulge' class.</li> </ul>
8.	<b>St. Joseph RC Primary</b>	<b>20 places</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Internal Adaptations</b>	<b>M</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is a Voluntary Aided school; head teacher has expressed an interest to operate a 'bulge' class.</li> </ul>
9.	<b>Byron Court Primary</b>	<b>10 places</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Internal Adaptations</b>	<b>L</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The school has expressed an interest to permanently increase intake by 10 places per year group from Sep 2011 and is willing to further consider a permanent expansion by 1FE.</li> </ul>

10.	<b>Chalkhill Primary</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Internal Adaptations</b>	<b>M</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An expression of interest to operate a 'bulge' class has been made and the school is willing to further consider a permanent expansion by 1FE.</li> <li>Some repair works may need to be completed to enable use of premises.</li> </ul>
11.	<b>Braintcroft Primary</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Temporary Modular</b>	<b>M</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Feasibility study to be undertaken to develop options for a permanent expansion on a phased basis.</li> <li>School will consider accepting a 'bulge' class, subject to governing body approval.</li> </ul>
12.	St. Robert Southwell Primary	0.5	1	Temporary Modular	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Currently a 1.5FE school, it accepted a 'bulge' class in 2010-11 for 15 places.</li> <li>The school has refurbished the hall and administration office and has obtained phased planning permission for building new classes. The governing body has not agreed to take in a 'bulge' class.</li> <li>The school has expressed an interest in increasing the SEN intake by redesigning two class spaces if they become a permanent 2FE school.</li> </ul>
13.	<b>Preston Park Primary</b>	<b>20 places</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Temporary Modular</b>	<b>L</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The school has agreed to operate a 'bulge' class of 20 Year 4 pupils in the 2010-11 academic year.</li> <li>The school will be requiring temporary accommodation from September 2011 if an expansion is formally agreed.</li> </ul>
14.	Newman Catholic College	2	5	Internal Adaptations	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May not be appropriate to use the surplus capacity for teaching primary pupils.</li> <li>Operating a 'bulge' class at a secondary site has considerable startup cost – capital &amp; revenue.</li> <li>Brent's strategy on all-through schools needs to be considered.</li> <li>The school has not expressed an interest.</li> </ul>
<b>Total</b>	<b>14 Schools</b>	<b>16.1 Classes</b>	<b>1-5</b>			Eight schemes have been selected from this list.

**Note** – Schools in **BOLD** are the preferred schemes since they best fit the criteria and are not deemed to be high risk.

3.2.13 From the above list, the following schools are being proposed for temporary expansion to provide additional primary places in the borough:

**Table 5. Schools selected for temporary expansion**

<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>School Name</b>	<b>'Bulge' Classes</b> (30 places)	<b>Area</b>	<b>Accommodation Type</b>	<b>Risk H, M, L</b>	<b>Risk Description</b>
1.	Mitchell Brook Primary	1	4	Internal Adaptations	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The governing body has agreed to accept a 'bulge' class in September 2011.</li> </ul>
2.	Wykeham Primary	1	1	Internal Adaptations	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The governing body has agreed to accept 'bulge' Reception class.</li> </ul>
3.	Furness Primary	1	5	Internal Adaptations	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is a Community school; the acting head teacher has expressed an interest to operate a 'bulge' class.</li> </ul>
4.	St. Joseph RC Primary	20 places	4	Internal Adaptations	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is a Voluntary Aided school; head teacher has expressed an interest to operate a 'bulge' class.</li> </ul>
5.	Byron Court Primary	10 places	2	Internal Adaptations	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The school has expressed an interest to permanently increase intake by 10 places per year group from Sep 2011 and is willing to further consider a permanent expansion by 1FE.</li> </ul>
6.	Chalkhill Primary	1	3	Internal Adaptations	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An expression of interest to operate a 'bulge' class has been made and the school is willing to further consider a permanent expansion by 1FE.</li> <li>Some repair works may need to be completed to enable use of premises.</li> </ul>
7.	Braintcroft Primary	1	5	Temporary Modular	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Feasibility study to be undertaken to develop options for a permanent expansion on a phased basis.</li> <li>School will consider accepting a 'bulge' class, subject to governing body approval.</li> </ul>
8.	Preston Park Primary	20 places	2	Temporary Modular	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The school has agreed to operate a 'bulge' class of 20 Year 4 pupils in the 2010-11 academic year.</li> <li>The school will be requiring temporary accommodation from September 2011 if an expansion is formally agreed.</li> </ul>
<b>Total</b>	<b>8 Schools</b>	<b>6.6 Classes</b>	<b>1-5</b>			Eight schemes are being proposed for temporary expansion.

3.2.14 Total funding of £1.5m is requested to be allocated to meet the cost of the temporary expansions from the Council's School Capital Programme. Cost estimates are subject to further work on design and evaluation of the proposals. Schemes selected in the table above may need to be replaced or removed if a formal agreement to expand the schools is not reached with the individual governing bodies.

3.2.15 The Council will continue to monitor the forecast demand for the academic year 2011-12 and modify the temporary expansion programme to best meet the need. The requirement at commencement of the new academic year in September 2011 is for 9.1 classes in the various year groups, R-Year 6. Whilst only 6.6 classes have so far been identified. Most of the temporary expansion schemes are proposed for the Reception class; however, it may be possible to provide some of these classes for Year 1 to Year 3 groups after discussing the options in detail with the schools. Preston Park Primary School is being considered for a Year 4 class.

3.2.16 Other options are being considered by the Council to provide the balance of school places (2.5 classes). This includes identifying schools which may have surplus capacity in upper year groups Year 4, Year 5 & Year 6 with a view to utilise the physical capacity to operate a 'bulge' class for one to two years.

### 3.3 Update on the allocation under the Council's Main Capital Programme

3.3.1 The Executive report in November 2010 'Brent Primary Schools Expansion: Delivery Strategy 2010-14' identified a budget of £17.010m under the School's Capital Programme between 2010/11 and 2013/14, which could be used for primary school expansion projects. These monies consisted as follows:

Table 6. **Capital Programme (November 2010)**

<b>Capital Programme Allocation</b>	<b>2010/11 Budget £'000</b>	<b>2011/12 Budget £'000</b>	<b>2012/13 Budget £'000</b>	<b>2013/14 Budget £'000</b>	<b>Total Budget £'000</b>
Provision for School Expansion	2,922	2,340	2,590	2,590	10,442
Hut Replacement Programme	568	2,000	2,000	2,000	6,568
<b>Total Available Allocation</b>	<b>3,490</b>	<b>4,340</b>	<b>4,590</b>	<b>4,590</b>	<b>17,010</b>

3.3.2 After providing for spending on the ongoing school expansion projects and re-profiling expenditure, the budgets have been updated as follows:

Table 7. **Capital Programme (March 2011)**

<b>Capital Programme Allocation</b>	<b>2010/11 Budget £'000</b>	<b>2011/12 Budget £'000</b>	<b>2012/13 Budget £'000</b>	<b>2013/14 Budget £'000</b>	<b>Total Budget £'000</b>
Provision for School Expansion	1,300	2,876	4,590	4,590	13,356
Hut Replacement Programme	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Available Allocation</b>	<b>1,300</b>	<b>2,876</b>	<b>4,590</b>	<b>4,590</b>	<b>13,356</b>

3.3.3 If the recommended school expansion proposals are approved, the cost of £1.5m required for the proposed temporary expansion of Brent primary schools will be charged to the main Capital Programme, which will reduce the total available budget from 13.356m to 11.856m.

- 3.3.4 If the above schemes are to be delivered within the timescales required, it is important that the Council moves quickly to the design, planning and procurement stages. In order to ensure effective progress, full project governance and management arrangements have been implemented.
- 3.3.5 Normally Executive approval is required for all works contracts exceeding £1m in value. If it is decided that all the expansion schemes be placed within one contract then a contract exceeding £1m will need to be awarded. Accordingly the Executive is being asked to approve the delegation of authority to the Director of Regeneration and Major Projects in order to award a works contract for these expansion schemes in the event that his normal authority of being able to award contracts worth up to £1m is exceeded.

### **3.4 Temporary Accommodation for the Village School**

- 3.4.1 Hay Lane and Grove Park are two all age special schools located on adjacent sites off Stag Lane in Kingsbury. The schools cater for a wide range of special educational needs including profound and multiple learning difficulties, severe learning difficulties, autism with associated learning and behavioural difficulties and physical disabilities.
- 3.4.2 The Executive, at their meeting of 15th March 2010, agreed to proposals to bring the two, hitherto separate, schools together as one school with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2010, to be known as The Village School. The new school will have an increase in places from 210 to 235 pupils; increasing capacity will lead to significant savings in out-Borough placement and transport budgets.
- 3.4.3 The existing school buildings are facing major suitability and condition problems. Given the current state of the buildings it is becoming increasingly difficult for the Council to meet its statutory obligations towards these children.
- 3.4.4 In 2010 officers progressed procurement for two works contracts:
- 3.4.4.1 Constructing the new Village School on the site of Hay Lane and Grove Park including enabling works to the existing 16+ block so it can remain occupied during the works and a new Short Break Centre on the site.
- 3.4.4.2 Constructing temporary accommodation for the Village School on the site of Kingsbury High School including a legacy for Kingsbury High School consisting of a new games area and a new classroom block (the Decant and Legacy Scheme).
- 3.4.5 Due to the need to get temporary accommodation ready for the start of the school year in September into which pupils will be decanted to enable the main works to start, there is an urgent need to award the contract for temporary accommodation quickly. The Executive is therefore being requested to delegate the authority to award the works contract to build the temporary accommodation so that award can take place as soon as the tender evaluation is complete. Tenders are due to be received at the end of March and an update on the progress of evaluating the tenders can therefore be given at the Executive meeting.

## **4 Financial Implications**

- 4.1 Primary Schools: The cost estimates included within the report are subject to further work on design and evaluation of the schemes. Funding for the schemes will be provided via the Provision for Schools Expansion capital budget allocation approved by Full Council on 28 February 2011.
- 4.3 The Village School: The budget envelope for the project as approved by the Executive on 12 April 2010 is £29,395,000. Funding sources for this project include Targeted Capital Fund, Devolved Capital Grant, Maintenance Capital, Aiming High Grant and the capital receipt from the sale of Clement Close. The funding gap will be addressed through the provision of additional unsupported borrowing and the debt costs associated with this unsupported borrowing will be met with savings in both the General Fund and Dedicated Schools Budget.
- 4.4 Officers are currently awaiting the return of tenders for the two schemes. There is an indication that the scheme cost might be higher than the current approved budget but the current market conditions mean that it is likely that tenders will be competitive. The funding will be revisited when the actual costs are clear and this will be reported to Executive in May.
- 4.5 If approval is given to delegate the authority to award the works contract to build the temporary accommodation so that award can take place as soon as the tender evaluation is complete, this will be at risk should the decision at the May 2011 Executive be not to proceed with the main scheme.

## **5 Legal Implications**

- 5.1 Under sections 13 and 14 of the Education Act 1996, as amended by the Education and Inspections Act 2006, a local education authority has a general statutory duty to ensure that there are sufficient school places available to meet the needs of the population in its area. Local Authority must promote high educational standards, ensure fair access to educational opportunity and promote the fulfilment of every child's educational potential. They must also ensure that there are sufficient schools in their area and promote diversity and increase parental choice. To discharge this duty the Local Authority has to undertake a planning function to ensure that the supply of school places balances the demand for them.
- 5.2 The Executive is also being requested to delegate authority to the Director of Regeneration and Major Projects in order to award contracts that are otherwise required by the Council's Constitution to be awarded by the Executive. While these delegations are unusual they are being recommended to Members in order to deal with urgent priorities either to deliver primary school places or to ensure that special needs pupils have suitable temporary accommodation at the start of the school year in September.
- 5.3 The temporary accommodation contract at The Village School has been tendered in accordance with the Council's Contract Standing Orders and the EU public procurement regime as it applies to works contracts. For the primary school expansion schemes, it is being proposed to use existing construction frameworks. Examples include the IESE framework (also used for the Park Lane scheme described elsewhere on the agenda) or an Office for Government Commerce (OGC) scheme. The total value of all the primary

school expansion schemes proposed in this report do not exceed the EU threshold for works, so such contracts do not need to be tendered in accordance with the EU public procurement regime. However sometimes if modular buildings are being used then the resulting contract will be a supplies contract where the EU threshold is much lower, and use of a framework means that the full EU timetable does not need to be followed because the framework has already been pre-let under the EU rules. In addition use of a framework means that the requirements in the Council's Contract Standing Orders to run a full advertised process does not need to be followed, provided that the Borough Solicitor and Director of Finance and Corporate Services have approved the use of the framework.

## **6 Diversity Implications**

- 6.1 In 2008, the Council consulted widely on schools strategy in Brent, receiving over 800 responses. Brent residents were in favour of the Council's strategy for school places and believed that the LA should play a major role in managing and running schools (89% agree). Parent groups were the next most frequently identified (73% agree). Only four in ten participants felt that charities (38%), faith groups (37%) or private sponsors (36%) should have such involvement in Brent schools.
- 6.2 'Ensuring equal access to school places in Brent': Over two thirds of participants did not feel they were disadvantaged in obtaining a school place for their children due to any of the main diversity strands. Over, 90% did not feel they were disadvantaged due to their gender. This was also true for 85% of participants in relation to disability; 77% in relation to ethnicity; and 66% in relation to their faith.
- 6.3 The schools proposed for expansion have a diverse ethnic representation of children. Expanding the schools listed in this report would enable the Council to provide additional new places required for Brent's growing pupil population. The expansion of the recommended schools will improve choice and diversity.

## **7 Staffing/Accommodation Implications**

- 7.1 There are no implications for the immediate purpose of this report.

## **Background Papers**

- GLA Forecast for Brent
- 11 August 2010 Executive Report and supporting documents
- November 2010 Executive Report and supporting documents
- The Village School office Files and April 2010 Executive Report

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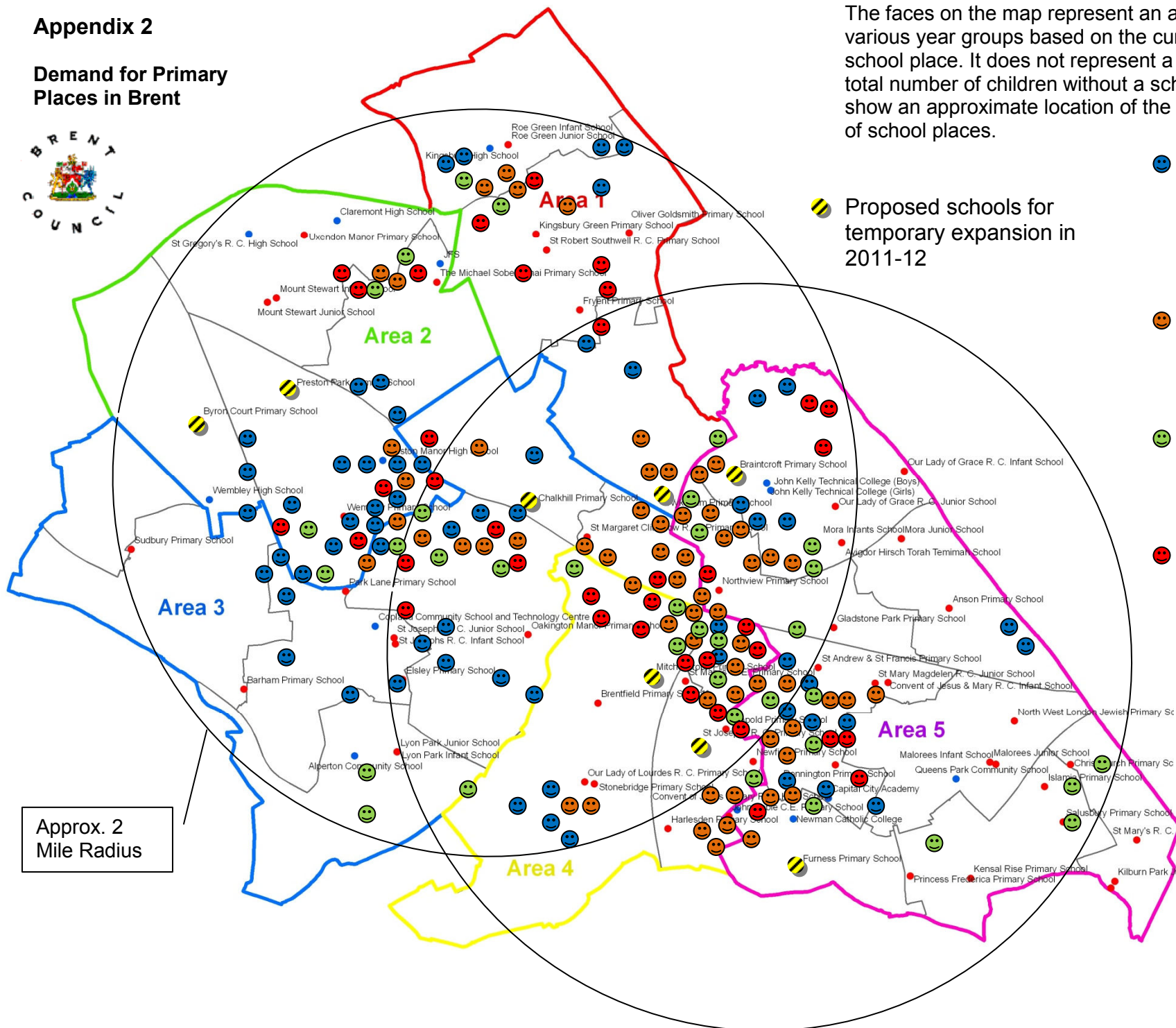
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## Temporary / Permanent expansion of primary schools over a period of 5 years

Sr. No.	Year	Sep 2006	Sep 2007	Sep 2008	Sep 2009	Sep 2010	Sep 2011
1.	Ark Academy			Permanent OFE to 2FE Primary		Permanent OFE to 6FE Secondary	
2.	Anson Primary				7R Permanent places		
3.	AV H Torah Temimah				1R bulge place		
4.	Braintcroft Primary					30 R bulge class	
5.	Brentfield Primary					30 R bulge class	Permanent to 3FE
6.	Islamia Primary					30 R bulge class	Permanent to 2FE (tbc)
7.	Gladstone Park Primary		7 bulge places in R	7 new places in Y1-Y6			
8.	Newfield Primary				30 R bulge class		Permanent 1FE to 2FE
9.	Curzon Crescent Nursery					30 R bulge class.	Move to Newfield Y1
10.	Park Lane Primary		30R bulge class	30R bulge class	30R bulge class	Permanent 1FE to 2FE	
11.	Preston Park		30R bulge class	30R bulge class			
12.	Stonebridge Primary		30R bulge class	Permanent 1FE to 2FE			
13.	Sudbury Primary		30R bulge class	Permanent 3FE to 4FE			
14.	Wembley Primary			Permanent 3FE to 4FE			
15.	Wykeham Primary					30 R bulge class 2010 only	
16.	St Robert Southwell					15R bulge class 2010 only	
17.	Ashley Gardens					60 R bulge classes	Move to Preston Manor High
18.	Preston Manor High School						Permanent 2FE
19.	College Green Nursery					8 R bulge class 2010 only	
20.	Granville Plus Children's Centre					12 R bulge class 2010 only	
21.	Kingsbury Green Primary School	Permanent 2FE to 3FE					
22.	North West London Jewish School						20 R bulge places

## Appendix 2

### Demand for Primary Places in Brent



The faces on the map represent an approximate area of demand for various year groups based on the current data of children without a school place. It does not represent a one to one relationship with the total number of children without a school place. The purpose is to show an approximate location of the current and next year's shortage of school places.

- Areas where Reception children were out of school in Oct '10; 73 children still remain without a place and will turn to Y1 out of place in Sep '11.
- Areas where Y1 children are out of school in Mar '11 will turn to Y2 out of place in Sep '11
- Areas where Y2 children are out of school in Mar '11 will turn to Y3 out of place in Sep '11
- Areas where Y3 children are out of school in Mar '11 will turn to Y4 out of place in Sep '11

Currently, there are sufficient school places in Y5 and Y6 for the Council to meet its statutory obligation by offering a school place, although some parents may not accept a place if it does not meet their criteria.

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## School Roll Projections

**2014-15**

Data Source: DfE

Data has not been validated

This Appendix shows the approximate increase or decrease in the primary school roll projections v/s. neighbouring authorities by 2014-15.

## Appendix 3

**Barking & D:**  
Primary +5558

**Barnet:**  
Primary +2842

**Harrow:**  
Primary +1596

**BRENT:**  
Primary +2483

**Ealing:**  
Primary +4474

**Camden:**  
Primary -650

**Hammersmith & F:**  
Primary +1665

**Kensington & C:**  
Primary +162

**Hillingdon:**  
Primary +5230

## School Roll Projections 2014-15

- Demand in outer boroughs is continuing to increase
- Primary Demand in Brent is significantly less than its immediate neighbours Ealing & Barnet.
- Pupil numbers in the East & West of London is expected to rise significantly by 2014-15