



**Executive
20 August 2012**

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

Wards Affected: All

Outcome of the Strategic Review of the Brent Schools Portfolio

1.0 Summary

- 1.1 This report provides an update on the capital available for school expansion and the timeline requiring additional funds for meeting the need for school places in Brent. A total shortfall in funding amounting to £82m has been identified.
- 1.2 According to the current roll projections, by 2020-21 Brent would require 21FE additional primary places, up to 19FE secondary places and 192 new SEN places. The demand is uniformly spread across the borough with hot spots in planning areas 3 & 5.
- 1.3 A portfolio review of Brent schools has been completed based on the analytical model included in the report. This informs the Council's strategy for creating new school places in existing primary and secondary schools as well as explores the options for creating new schools. This includes opportunity for acquiring new land under S106 agreement and creating Free Schools.
- 1.4 Based on the current funding, it is proposed to create 19.5FE primary places by 2015 through existing school expansion. 77 new SEN places are proposed to be created by 2015. A further report will be submitted to the December 2012 Executive for a strategy for developing new secondary places in Brent.
- 1.5 An update on the new temporary places being created for 2012-13 has been included. 490 new places will be available from the autumn term 2012.

2.0 Recommendations

The Executive is requested to:

- 2.1 Approve the current and future allocation of capital set out in Section 4.0 of this report.
- 2.2 Note the current and future demand for primary school places as set out in Section 5.0 of this report.
- 2.3 Agree the strategy for the delivery of primary school places as set out in Section 5.0 of this report.
- 2.4 Note that an additional report will be submitted to the Executive on the strategy to deliver secondary school places by December 2012.
- 2.5 Note that the demand for new school places cannot be met only through expansion of existing schools due to the limited availability of funding; the Council is required to promote additional ways of creating school places by pursuing the current government agenda on free schools and academies.
- 2.6 Agree the criteria set out in Appendix 3 of this report, specifically in relation to the provision of new Free Schools and Academies.
- 2.7 Agree the proposal to acquire Fulton Road (Quintain) and Oriental City properties for the purpose of developing new schools as part of the S106 developer's agreement. Terms to be advised to the Executive for approval.
- 2.8 Approve the principle of creating a new school expansion team as set out in Section 9.0 of this report, which will be subject to a further approval of a business case.
- 2.9 Note the provision of new temporary 'bulge' classes for the academic year 2012-13, as per Appendix 2 of this report, which includes removal of Stonebridge Day Care Centre and Preston Library from the current Council disposal programme for duration of 3-years and 7-years, respectively.

3.0 Background & Purpose

- 3.1 The Council has been reporting a severe shortage of school places in Brent since 2006. In August 2011, a report to Executive highlighted a need for 15FE primary provision by the start of the 2014/15 academic year.
- 3.2 As reported in March 2012, in the light of the supply and demand mismatch, the resource envelope available to the Council and the policy environment surrounding the provision of new school places, the Council has developed a four year strategy under the School expansion Programme 2012-16. This includes:
 - Delivering the permanent expansion schemes previously agreed by the Executive in August 2011, with a view to providing new permanent Reception classes by April 2013.
 - Initiating a further programme of temporary bulge class provision to increase primary capacity from September 2012, listed in this report.

- Adopting a 'rolling programme' approach to primary school expansion based on smarter procurement, construction and project management arrangements than those employed to date.
- Integrating SEN provision within the school expansion rolling programme, rather than treating it separately.
- Vigorously pursuing all options for secondary school improvement and expansion, in anticipation of the future demand.
- Continuing to lobby government for the additional resources required to meet our statutory obligations.

4.0 Capital Allocation

- 4.1 There has been an on-going lobbying campaign in conjunction with London Councils, to highlight the school places pressure across London and those particular to Brent. The campaign has been highly successful and Brent received £24.8m allocation of Basic Need Safety Valve money in October 2011. In addition due to the severe shortage of Primary School places nationally the government allocated further Basic Need funds in December 2011 and Brent received a further £24.09m; the third highest allocation in the country. An additional £30.8m Basic Need allocation was received in April 2012 which was the highest allocation in the country. The three allocations total £79.7m.
- 4.2 The above allocations are insufficient to meet the entire need for school places. There is little certainty if and when the government will provide new basic need safety valve funding, noting that there is a lag between availability of new funding and building new school provision. Prudential borrowing for mainstream places indicated in this section is unaffordable and is likely to compromise other services through reduction of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) funding to schools and/or General Fund Revenue account. Taking account of these considerations, it is recommended that the Council vigorously pursues setting up of Free Schools in Brent, which is further detailed in paragraph 4.6 of this report.
- 4.3 The total uncommitted main capital allocation, including that available to spend by the end of 2015-16 on new school places is £85.16m (including new and balance of prior year grant allocations) and the Section 106 contribution by end of 2014/15 will equal £7.14m. The total combined capital available for school places is expected to be £92.3m. This includes the unallocated and forecast budgets identified in the table below. These amounts will contribute towards meeting the demand for primary places; although it will not be sufficient to accommodate all of the projected demand for school places especially in both the secondary and SEN provision. Brent must continue to monitor the demand for school places and identify new sources of funding.

Table 1. Capital Programme Allocation

	2012/13 Forecast £'000	2013/14 Forecast £'000	2014/15 Forecast £'000	2015/16 Forecast £'000	Total Forecast £'000
**Phase 1 School Expansion Allocated (Fryent, Mitchell Brook, Barham, St. Robert Southwell)	13,576	5,640			19,216
Unallocated Capital	48,000	3,184	9,896		61,080
Projected Grant*	0	7,861	7,861	8,361	24,083
Sub-Total	48,000	11,045	17,757	8,361	85,163

Potential S106 allocation (future)	915	3,115	3,115		7,145
Total Available Capital (including potential sources)	48,915	14,160	20,872	8,361	92,308
SEN Invest to Save	<p>Prudential borrowing may be available to the Council subject to not breaching prudential borrowing limits and advice will be taken from the Director of Finance and Corporate Services on this issue.</p> <p>Should the Council be minded to investigate the use of Prudential Borrowing, it is proposed that its use would only be on the basis of 'Invest to Save' where it could be demonstrated that any additional borrowing costs at least match revenue savings to the Schools Budget.</p> <p>Approvals would need to be obtained on the basis of individual schemes underpinned by a fully validated business case.</p>				

*Forecast allocation. **For information only; not included in the sub-total/total cost.

4.4 **S106:** £915k of Section 106 (S106) funding is currently available to spend on capital schemes. As part of further S106 allocation, the Council is entitled to receive agreement contributions currently valued at approximately £6.23m by 2014-15 and a piece of land in the Wembley area to build a new primary school by September 2032. The Council is likely to develop a primary school on this land by 2018-19. The S106 Agreement to support this position is in the process of being finalised; the total amount of £6.23m (index linked) is likely to be agreed but the number of instalments and any geographic limitations have not been finalised as yet. An additional site may become available to the Council at Oriental City for development of a 2 FE primary school. Both sites would require formal Council approval to acquire under the S106 agreement.

4.5 Currently, St. Robert Southwell Primary school is in the process of completing a statutory consultation to expand by 0.5FE; a contribution of up to 10% is expected from the school. If further voluntary aided schools were to be expanded, the Council will require that the full LCVAP contribution be offered as contribution to the schemes.

Free School and Academy Programme

4.6 **New funding sources:** The scale of the school place shortfall is likely to require, over the medium term, the opening of new schools in the primary and secondary phases. This includes possible schools on new sites proposed under S106 developments e.g. Oriental City and the Quintain development. In the current national framework, the only options for new schools are via the academy or free school route. To enable the timely exploration of these options, the Council needs to establish a clear policy in relation to new academies and free schools. With Member support, officers have begun appropriate exploratory discussions, with a view to carrying out an informal process for selecting preferred providers. This process has been followed successfully by other local authorities and while it does not have formal legal status and does not preclude free school proposals being submitted by any bidder, it gives the Council a locus and relationship with potential providers which it would not otherwise have and a means of representing the interests of local young people and their communities. Clearly the Council would want to be extremely careful about identifying preferred providers and therefore a list of draft criteria is attached as Appendix 3 of this report for consideration.

4.7 Approximately 19 free schools are due to open in London through the wave 2 applications (2012), of which are nine primary schools, six secondary schools, three all-through schools and one sixth form establishment. The government has recently announced successful wave 3 applications (opening 2013 and beyond), with twenty nine schools due to open in London, of which are fifteen primary, nine secondary, one sixth form and four all-through (none in Brent). As

part of wave 3, five special schools will also be opening across the country, including one secondary school in Westminster.

- 4.8 While the window to submit an application to open a Free School in 2013 has closed, a further round of bidding for free schools is expected to be announced by the Department for Education imminently with a deadline late in the autumn school term. Working towards this timescale will ensure integration of these proposals with the proposals for a four year rolling programme of school expansion outlined above. New funding could be attracted via the Free School government initiative.
- 4.9 In order to meet the projected capacity needs across the school portfolio, it will be necessary to pursue the free school route for funding, thus removing the need for prudential borrowing.
- 4.10 Officers have researched the possibility of a University Technical College, a new style of institution which would provide high quality vocational education to 14 to 19 year olds. This would not be a viable solution to the place shortage in secondary phase because it would be designed to draw from a wide area and would not meet the pressing need for Key Stage 3 places. It could, however, be considered as part of the diversification of provision once plans are in place to meet basic need and if a suitable site becomes available. Furthermore, the criteria for free school partners (Appendix 3) include a requirement to commit to promoting employability and partnership with business, targeted particularly at secondary providers coming forward.

Cost of New School Places

- 4.11 The cost to provide new primary school places based on the current projects for expanding Brent schools are as follows:

Table 2. Cost for developing new school places

	Mainstream Provision			SEN Provision			
	Primary School Expansion	'Bulge' Class in an existing primary school**	Secondary School Expansion~	New Special School	Existing Special School	Additionally Resourced Provisions in Mainstream Schools	Temporary SEN Provision
Unit Cost per Pupil Place	£20.5k	£3k to £5k	£25.1k	£103.4k	£50k	£24k	£37.4k
Cost per FE*	£4.3m	£1.1m	£3.7m	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

*Primary FE (7 classes) based on class of 30 pupils. **'Bulge' Class based on class of 30 pupils for a period of 7 years.

~Secondary baseline does not include sixth form; Secondary FE (5 classes) based on class of 30 pupils.

- 4.12 The above estimates are based on current capital projects which do not include the option to buy new land and special cost e.g. feasibility studies & legal cost. The estimate includes design fee and has been calculated using today's value of money; it does not take into account inflation and contingency.
- 4.13 There are several advantages to providing permanent school places, yet temporary provision will be required to provide classes quickly where there is a sudden increase in demand for school places, or to mitigate the risk of reduction in demand, if any, in the oncoming years.

- 4.14 In order to achieve a balance between future expenditure and the need to meet the demand for primary school places, officers are recommending an approximate 90:10 split between permanent and temporary school places to meet the future demand. This may not apply to SEN provision. The cost model is as follows:

Table 3. Cost Model for meeting demand for primary school places up to 2020-21

Primary Provision:			
Forms of Entry	Existing Primary School Expansion £'000	'Bulge' Class in an existing primary school £'000	Total Capital Required £'000
21	90,405		
2 (14 classes)		2,100	
23 (including 10% float)	90,405	2,100	92,505
Secondary Provision			
Forms of Entry	Secondary School Expansion £'000		
19	70,300		70,300
SEN Provision:			
No. of Places Required	Existing Special School £'000	Additionally Resourced Provisions in Mainstream Schools £'000	
173	8,650		
19		456k	
192	8650	456	9,106
Capital Team			
Team required to deliver school expansion projects (4-years)			2,400
Total Capital Required			174,311
		Total Available Capital £'000	
Less: Main Capital Programme Allocation		85,163	
Less: S106 Capital Receipts Allocation		7,145	
Total Capital		92,308	
Net Capital Deficit			82,003

- 4.15 In total, the Council would require £174.31m based on the current cost of school expansion projects if it is to meet in full the current demand until 2020-21. With a forecast budget of £92.3m, this would indicate a net capital deficit of £82.0m.
- 4.16 Based on the shortfall of £82.0m, the Council must continue to lobby the government for new funding and also identify new funding routes, such as, attracting new funding via the free school initiative.
- 4.17 On an initial view, however, It should be noted that although it may appear that the entire primary expansion programme could be funded through the forecast capital of £92.3m, the approach of expanding primary schools only would leave the Council with a significant shortage of secondary places from September 2014. Hence, it would be necessary to spend capital on all types of provision (primary, secondary and SEN) at this stage if the Council is to resolve its long term problems.
- 4.18 Accordingly, the cash flow would be affected and the forecast budget would fall short before meeting the full demand for 2020-21. The current budget allocations would be spent prior to considering any future prudential borrowings, which is not an affordable option for the Council. Due to a long gestation period in such capital schemes, it is most likely that the cash flow will be higher in the later parts of the expansion projects, which has been reflected in the requirement. The only internal option for bridging this gap would be for the Council to incur increased levels of unsupported borrowing. The revenue cost arising from borrowing the total sum of £82.0m would be £5.76m per annum over the period of 40 years post scheme completion. As such this is not an option that would be affordable to either the Dedicated Schools Budget or the General Fund Revenue Budget
- 4.19 Accordingly, the cash flow could be affected and the forecast budget could fall short before meeting the full demand for 2020-21. If it was necessary to bring funding forward within the Capital Programme to meet expenditure this would incur increased levels of unsupported borrowing in the earlier years on a short term basis, incurring increased levels of debt charges by £1.16m (based on 40 years repayment) on the General Fund Revenue Account. However, upon receipt of corresponding grant money in subsequent years the forward funded sums could be repaid and the debt charges arising negated.

5.0 Demographics & Demand

- 5.1 The Greater London Authority (GLA) demographics team has provided its annual update to the roll projections based on the January 2012 pupil census data. The Council has carried out a sensitivity analysis on the latest GLA projections to develop the best case projections. While the data is based on up to date historical school rolls, housing, birth and migration data, it does not model the impact of governmental policy shift on housing benefits, nor does it take into account the 2011 National Census information. The first batch of 2011 census figures released earlier this week, shows that Brent's population has now risen to 311,200 making us the fifth largest London borough. However, the figure used by central government to calculate our grant funding is only 252,105, a massive difference of 59,095 or a variance of 23.4 per cent. These factors could significantly impact the roll projections. ONS is due to release the first set of population and household estimates in July 2012. Brent Council will review the implications in due course and include an update in the December 2012 report if appropriate.

Primary Requirement

5.2 The table below provides a summary of the number of children in Brent without a school place in the current academic year and equivalent datasets for the previous two years:

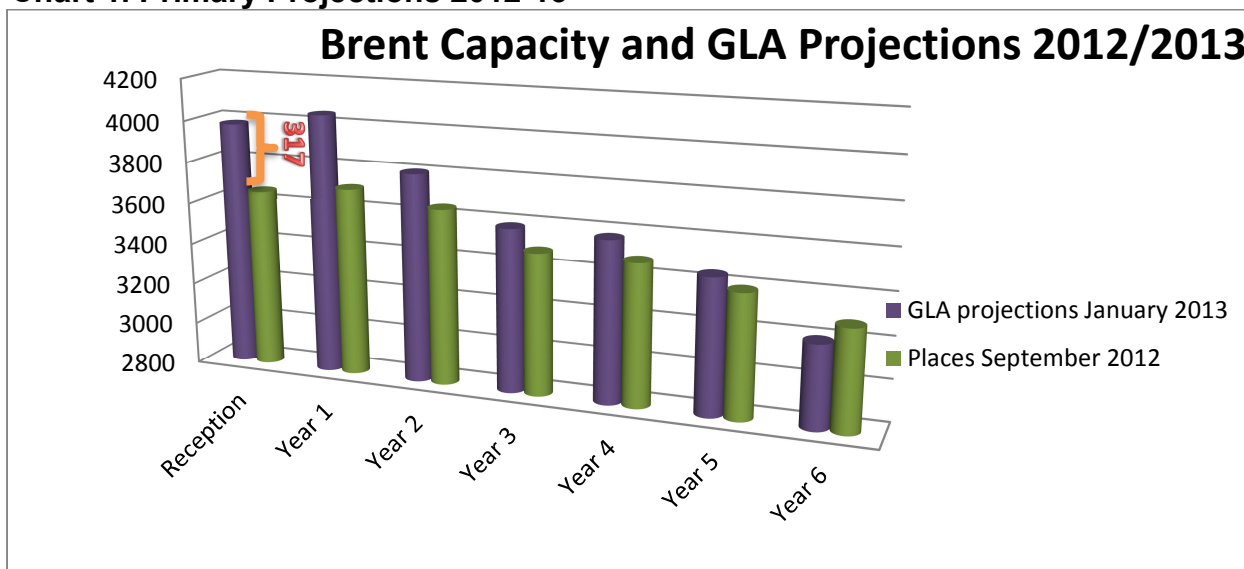
Table 4. Unplaced Children and Vacancies

Year Groups	Unplaced Children 2009-10 19 Mar 2010	Unplaced Children 2010-11 18 July 2011	Vacancies 2010-11 18 July 2011	Unplaced Children 2011-12 08 Feb 2012	Vacancies 2011-12 08 Feb 2012	Unplaced Children 2011-12 06 July 2012	Vacancies 2011-12 06 July 2012
Reception	60	70	10	191	70	148	11
Year 1	30	102	4	90	29	52	0
Year 2	15	107	18	154	2	50	44
Year 3	15	53	61	81	35	50	15
Year 4	4	15	129	68	65	49	58
Year 5	9	15	180	20	171	9	111
Year 6	0	26	110	28	179	10	176
TOTAL	133	388	512	632	551	368	415

5.3 Year on year comparison based on July 2011 and 2012, the Council has a higher proportion of Reception aged children (78 additional) without a school place; however, the total number of R-Y6 children without a school place has fallen by 20.

5.4 **Short Term 2012-13:** The graph below presents a snapshot of the gap between demand and supply of primary school places for the following academic year.

Chart 1. Primary Projections 2012-13

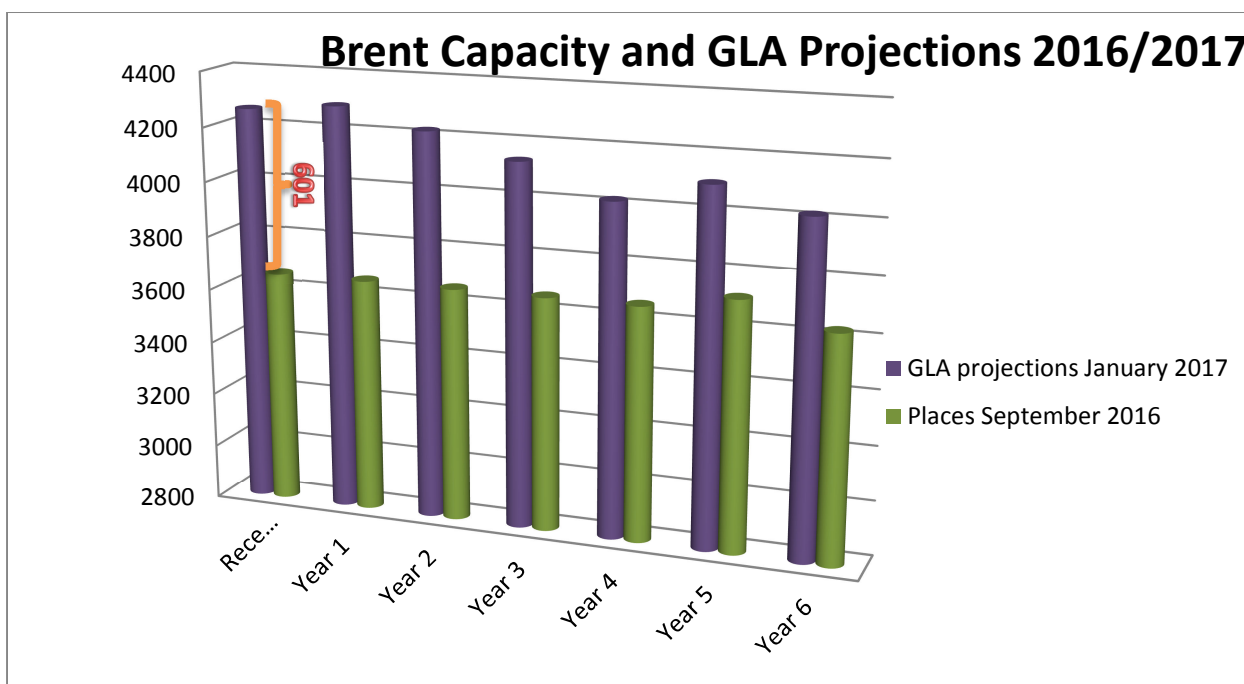


5.5 Similar to the previous five years, GLA 2012 projections tell a familiar story; demand for primary school places in Brent will continue to grow. This year's robust projection is supported by the actual number of applications being received for the 2012-13 academic year. 3717 on time applications have been received by January 15, 2012. We were able to offer all on time applicants a place. This is better than last year when we could not offer 29 children any place at all. Since the closing date a further 413 late applications have been received, compared to

598 late applications for full year last year. Based on previous years' experience, late applications will continue to be received late into the new academic year and account for a small but significant percentage of demand.

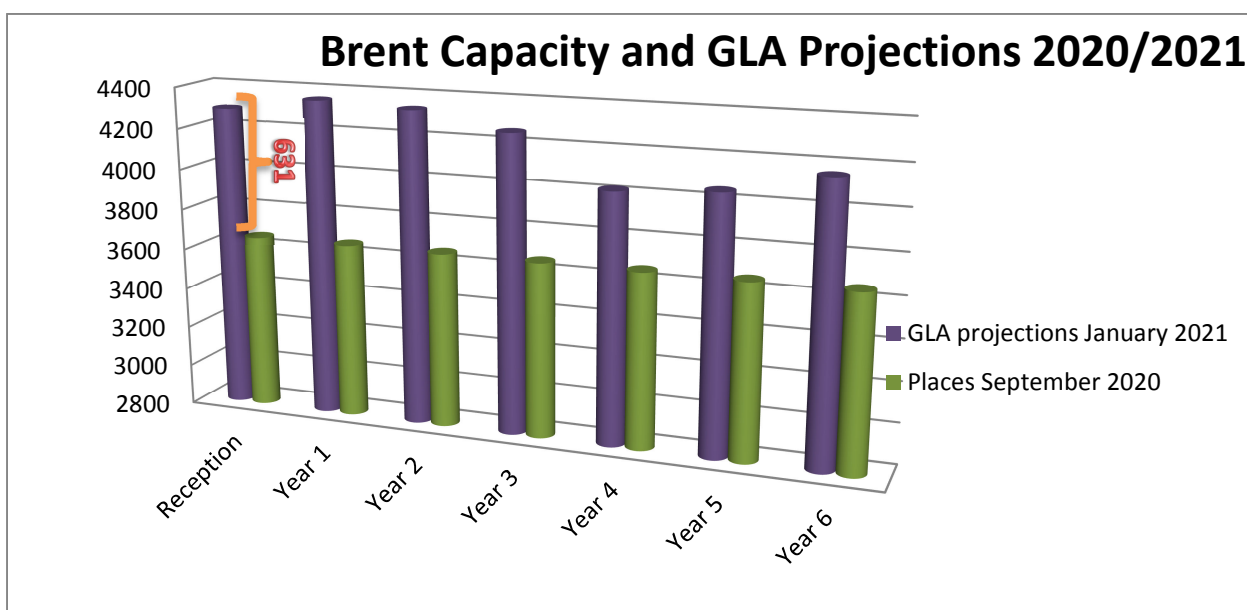
- 5.6 The Council aims to deliver 490 temporary school places by autumn 2012 in order to ensure the maximum number of Brent children have a school place in 2012-13 academic year. Some of these places have already been offered. The list of schools and non-schools where temporary provision is being created is listed in Appendix 2.
- 5.7 We are working closely with schools which have recently expanded on a permanent basis, to take in children in all the year groups rather than solely on a rising year basis (e.g. where the new classrooms are only filled by taking on new reception children, all the new classrooms are not fully utilised until after 6 years from completion of the building works). This will have a positive impact on capacity for year groups 3-5.
- 5.8 **2016-17:** The gap in supply and demand will widen by 2016-17, with a requirement for a projected 601 Reception school places. This equates to 20FE, which means that the majority of the new primary provision must be provided by September 2016.

Chart 2. Primary Projections 2016-17



- 5.9 **2020-21:** The graph below provides a summary of the deficit of primary school places by 2020-21. If no action were to be taken, the deficit in primary school places will continue increasing year on year and will reach untenable proportions i.e. 21 forms of entry based on the requirement for Reception places. The shortage of 21FE excludes the on-going Phase 1 schemes listed in paragraph 5.24 of this report.

Chart 3. Primary Projections 2020-21



5.10 This report focuses on meeting the medium to long term demand for primary school places. A float of +/-10% has been applied to the deficit of 21FE, which means that in the event of any fluctuation in projections, the requirement for new places could move by 2FE up or down. It is also planned that approximately 2FE will be delivered using temporary places in order to respond to the immediate annual shortage of school places and in order to safeguard against sudden peaks and troughs in the roll projections. The net effect of the float and the planned temporary provision of places mean that the Council should aim to provide 21FE permanent school places. The roll projection will be monitored on an annual basis to ensure that the target provision of 21FE could be time adjusted to reflect any major dips or increments.

School Expansion Programme 2012-2016

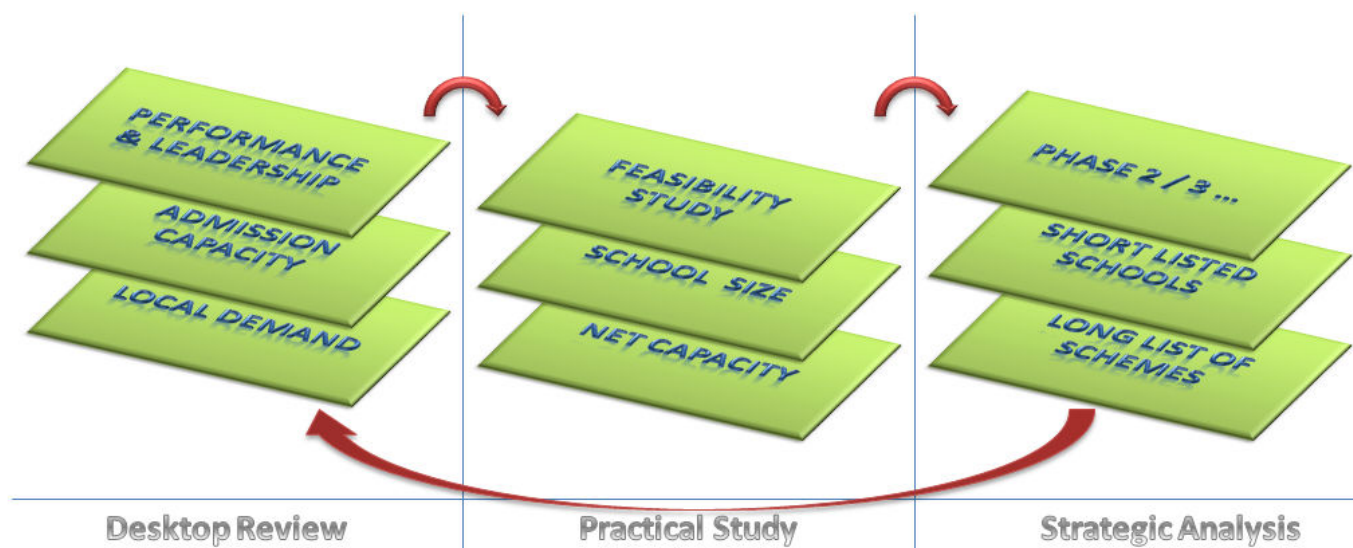
5.11 The Council has developed a four year rolling programme of school expansion based on improved demand forecast, smarter procurement, construction and project management arrangements than those employed to date. The programme will consider the immediate need for primary places, SEN requirements, additional expansion opportunities for secondary schools and explore financial models that may help to deliver these. Given both the condition of the secondary school portfolio, and the relatively higher cost of expansion, the Council will need to explore all avenues of possible funding to avoid a future significant supply and demand mismatch at secondary school level.

Portfolio Review

5.12 In August 2011, the Executive agreed the allocation of £150k from the Council's Main Capital Programme for updating the information on school condition and CAD database to enable intelligent planning for new expansions and allow timely maintenance work to be scheduled for existing buildings. The Council has completed updating the CAD plans for almost all schools in the borough.

5.13 A full portfolio review has been completed, which takes into account various factors in considering where school places are most needed and which schools could be expanded. A strategic analysis has been completed based on the following model:

OUR APPROACH:



5.14 The process involved a review of data to analyse the demand, capacity and performance in Brent schools. A long list of schools was drawn up, on the basis of which architectural feasibility studies were commissioned to undertake a technical review. The Council now has high level viable design options and an estimate of cost. This was further analysed to produce a short list of schools, from which a phased list of schemes has been drawn.

Primary Expansion:

5.15 The analysis has further developed the following principles established in 2011 as part of the borough wide school consultation process:

Principle 1 – Sufficiency of demand

There must be clear evidence of demand for additional primary places in the local area based on projections of medium term and longer term need.

Principle 2 – Improving learning environment & outcomes, including expanding popular schools

Schools which are identified for expansion must be able to demonstrate that they will be able to provide a good quality of education. The Council will consider the progress and achievements of children currently at the school and the school's capacity for further improvement taking into account an improvement in the learning environment.

Principle 3 – Efficient use of resources

There is a limited capital budget and a large projected shortfall in the number of primary school places. It is therefore essential that scarce resources are used most effectively in order to secure the maximum number of additional high quality school places within the available budget.

Principle 4 – Improving local SEN provision

The demand for SEN placements is continuing to rise and there is a projected shortfall in specialist SEN provision in Brent, both in special schools and additionally resourced mainstream provision. In expanding primary provision, consideration also needs to be given to improving the range and quality of local SEN provision available in Brent.

Principle 5 – Diversity of type of provision

The Council will consider different types of provision that will contribute to the overall objectives of providing high quality school places, cost effectively in areas of greatest need. These options will include:

- a) *Expansion of existing primary schools*
This will involve providing additional forms of entry on existing primary school sites and is dependent on the potential of the site for expansion.
- b) *Establishment of all through schools*
An all through school would be one school covering the primary and secondary phases, funded as a single institution. It would normally occupy a single site/campus at an existing secondary school.
- c) *Establishment of 5 FE primary schools*
A 5 FE primary school would be a large school catering for approximately 1050 children. There is an increase in the number of 5 FE schools opening across the country, in response to pressure on school places.
- d) *Amalgamating schools*
Amalgamating two or more schools can assist in providing additional school places by increasing capacity at single or multiple sites. Amalgamation would require the agreement of the schools concerned.
- e) *'Bulge' Classes*
A 'bulge' class would be one extra class of children in a year group, over and above the school's Admission Number, who progress up the school to the end of Year 6.
- f) *Developing new schools*
This criteria has been added post- consultation to allow creation of new capacity where existing schools are difficult to expand or if an opportunity to create a new school in an area of need arises e.g. a S106 opportunity.

5.16 Appendix 1 lists the schools shortlisted for a possible expansion categorised against the principles mentioned above.

Phasing of Schemes

5.17 The demand for primary school places is spread across the borough. The map below shows the demand by planning area. Planning Areas (PA) are virtual boundaries used as a method to project local demand. However, it must be noted that children more often than not attend schools across the planning areas. This may be attributed to several factors, such as: schools near the boundary of a planning area, parental preference and lack of school places.

5.18 As shown in the map, 21 new forms of entry are required by 2020-21 across the borough. A high level of demand exists across the borough, with a significant requirement in planning areas 3 & 5. Through a complete portfolio analysis, we have identified that potentially 17.5FE could be provided by 2014/15 across all planning areas through permanent expansion of existing primary and secondary schools and a further 2FE at Braintcroft by 2015/16, which is linked to the creating of new SEN places (paragraph 5.41).

Map 1. Primary Projections and Future Capacity

Permanent school expansion review

- 1 Area of High demand
- 2 Area of Medium demand
- 3 Area of Low demand

- 21 No. of new FE required by 2020-21
- 19.5 Phase 2 - Potential to expand existing provision, including 2FE increase at Braintcroft linked with SEN



5.19 A phased approach to providing school places has been considered. Phasing will provide some obvious advantages, such as, provision of school places will match the gap in capacity for the forthcoming years, ensuring the appropriate level of funding is available for the schemes; while those which have inherent property issues are allocated suitable resolution timescale.

5.20 Phasing of proposed schemes is suggested below based on the criteria listed under paragraph 5.15. However, the Council will need to validate the viability of each scheme listed in this report prior to commencing the expansion proposal under each phase. There are several risks which may delay or even stop the implementation of a scheme, such as, a school may oppose an expansion and/or planning constraints may render a scheme unviable. It may be necessary to substitute a scheme with another if any of the proposed schemes is not feasible, subject to due diligence completed by the Council and agreement with the school. In order to address such risks, the full list of schemes proposed in this report will over-deliver capacity; however, in practical terms we are buffering our supply strategy in order to ensure that right amount of places are created in the local areas of need. Hence, we will continue to review the supply and demand closely over the life of the expansion programme.

- 5.21 Officers will provide a bi-monthly update to members on the progress of the phases and individual schemes. Statutory consultation and procurement reports will be submitted for Executive approval as per the Council's standing orders.
- 5.22 We have also planned to issue a quarterly newsletter to schools and governing bodies to ensure they are well informed of the proposals across the borough. This will be over and above the specific correspondence with the schools which are being proposed for expansion.
- 5.23 The projected available funding by 2015/16 is £92.3m, which is most likely to be spent on expansion schemes across the programme including primary, secondary and SEN provision. This means that funding will fall short by the projected amount of £82m during the life period of this programme. It must be noted that some schemes which may be delivered under phase 3 may need to be commenced alongside phase 2 schemes. Hence, it will be necessary to ensure that prior to commencement of each scheme, associated funding cost is committed for the successful completion of the projects across the expansion programme.
- 5.24 **Phase 1:** On-going expansion schemes in the schools listed below will create new capacity by September 2013.

Table 5. Phase 1 Proposed Schemes

Sr. No.	School Name	Planning Area	No. of New FE	Total Proposed FE	Scheme Cost	Cost/FE	Risk in Delivery
1.	Barham Primary	3	1	4	£4.82m	£4.8m	L – delivery stage
2.	Fryent Primary	1	2	4	£7.33m	£3.6m	L – delivery stage
3.	Mitchell Brook	4	1	3	£4.35m	£4.3m	L – delivery stage
4.	St. Robert Southwell	1	0.5	2	£1.41m	£2.8m	M – subject to completing statutory consultation
5.	Contingency^				1.29m		
	TOTAL		4.5FE		£19.2m	£4.2m/FE	

^Contingency has been allowed for design and construction risk, which exist at this stage since the schemes are going through stakeholder consultation and statutory requirements.

- 5.25 **Phase 2:** Schemes which are likely to provide full new capacity by September 2014. The schemes in this phase will be funded from the existing Council funds and will be relatively straightforward to deliver.

Table 6. Phase 2 Proposed Schemes

Sr. No.	School Name	Planning Area	No. of New FE	Total Proposed FE	Estimated Cost	Cost/FE	Risk of Delivery
6.	Wykeham	1	1	3	£4.5m	£4.5m	M – School GB view pending
7.	Uxendon	2	2	4	£8m	£4m	M – school GB view pending
8.	Preston Park	2	2	5	£9m	£4.5m	M – school GB view pending
9.	Wembley High	2	4	4	£12m	£3m	L – school is interested and willing to contribute towards the cost.
10.	Vicar's Green (Ealing)	3	0.5	2	£2.5m	£5m	L – school is interested; Ealing Council will contribute 50% towards a 1FE provision.

11.	Chalkhill	3	2	4	£8.5m	£4.2m	M – school GB view pending
12.	Harlesden	4	2	3	£7m	£3.5m	L – school GB view pending
13.	*St. Joseph Primary	4	1	3	£3.2m	£3.2m	L – school is keen to expand
14.	Leopold	4	1	3	£4.3m	£4.3m	L – school is keen to expand
15.	Northview Primary	5A	1	2	£4.3m	£4.3m	M – school GB view pending
16.	*Princess Frederica CoE**	5B	1	3	£4.8m	£4.8m	M – school is keen to expand; Kensal Rise(former) library is being reviewed.
17.	Contingency^				£6.8m		
	TOTAL		17.5		£74.9m	£4.28m/FE	

*subject to agreement with the Westminster or CoE Diocese **Feasibility Study is underway ^10% contingency has been allowed for design and construction risk, which exist at this stage because since the schemes will evolve through stakeholder consultation and statutory requirements.

5.26 Phase 3: Schemes which are likely to provide new capacity by September 2015. The complexity of these schemes will be greater and will take longer to develop and deliver. Funding will need to be validated before commencement of any scheme.

Table 7. Phase 3 Proposed Schemes

Sr. No.	School Name	Planning Area	No. of New FE	Total Proposed FE	Estimated Cost	Cost/FE	Risk of Delivery
18.	Mount Stewart Inf. & Jr.	2	1	4	£4.5m	£4.5m	M - school GBs' view pending
19.	Elsley	3	2	2	£8.5m	£4.25m	M - school GB view pending
20.	Stonebridge Primary	4	1	3	£3.5m	£3.5m	M – Listed building
21.	Malorees Inf. & Jr.	5B	2	4	£9m	£4.5m	M – school GBs' view pending
22.	Braintcroft (& Manor colocation)***	5A	2	5	£26.5m	£13.25m	H – financial risk to not provide VfM. Refer to SEN section.
23.	Carlton Vale Inf / Kilburn Park Jr.~	5C	1	3	£13m	£13m	H – school GBs' view pending; requires fit in with area regeneration. Estimated Cost.
24.	Oriental City	1	2	2	£8m	£4m	M - subject to developer proposal and school competition
25.	Kingsbury Green	1	2	5	£5.3m	£2.6m	M – school GB view pending
26.	Contingency^				£7.8m		
	TOTAL		13		£86.1m	£6.6m/FE	

***Rebuilding of Braintcroft & Manor would be required, which is the reason for a high cost per new FE; refer to SEN section of this report. ~Estimated cost, feasibility not carried out. Rebuilding of the schools may be required, which is the reason for a high cost per new FE. ^10% contingency has been allowed for design and construction risk, which exist at this stage since the schemes will evolve through stakeholder consultation and statutory requirements.

5.27 **Phase 4:** Schemes which are likely to provide new capacity between September 2016 and September 2018. Proposals beyond Phase 4 will require further analysis work and will be largely dependent upon the gap in the provision of school places and the availability of funding.

Table 8. Phase 4 Proposed Schemes

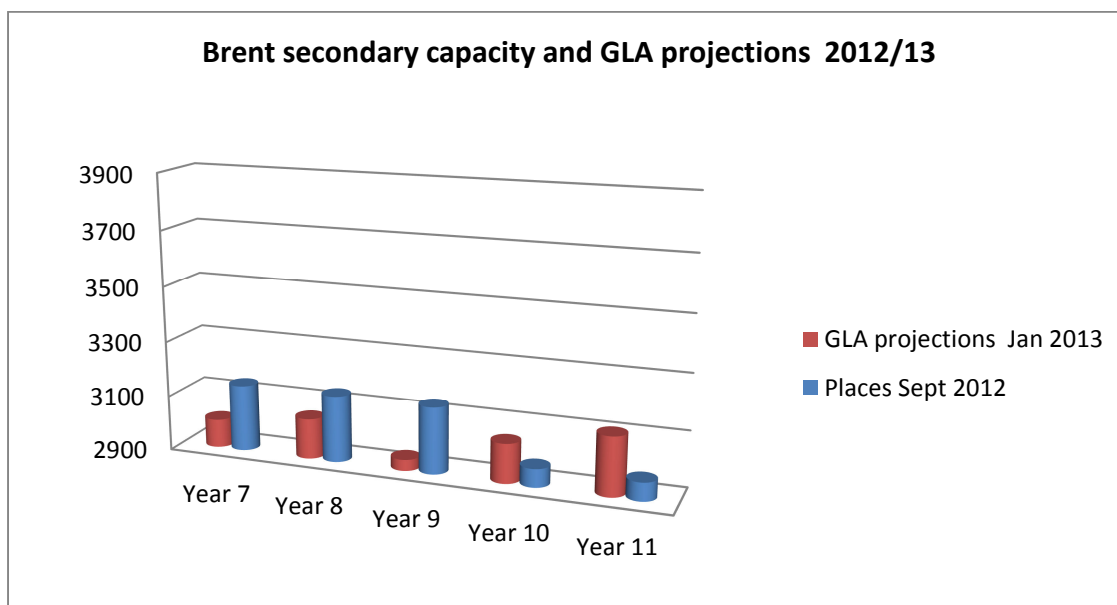
Sr. No.	School Name	Planning Area	No. of New FE	Total Proposed FE	Estimated Cost	Cost/FE	Risk of Delivery
27.	**St Joseph Inf. & Jr.	3	1	3	£4.5m	£4.5m	H – school GBs’ view pending; demand and Diocese agreement
28.	Quintain Site	3	2	2	£8m	£4m	M - subject to developer proposal and school competition
29.	Our Lady of Lourdes RC	4	2	3	£6.5m	£3.2m	M – subject to suitable decant strategy and VfM
30.	**John Keble CoE	4	1	3	£4.5m	£4.5m	H – subject to suitable decant strategy, VfM and demand
31.	**St Andrew & St Francis	5B	1	3	£4.5m	£4.5m	M – subject to costing and demand
32.	Newman College RC	5B	2	2	£6.3m	£3.1m	H – secondary school performance and popularity may affect primary viability.
33.	Contingency^				£3.5m		
	TOTAL		9		£37.8m	£4.2m/FE	

**Feasibility Study is underway

Secondary Requirement

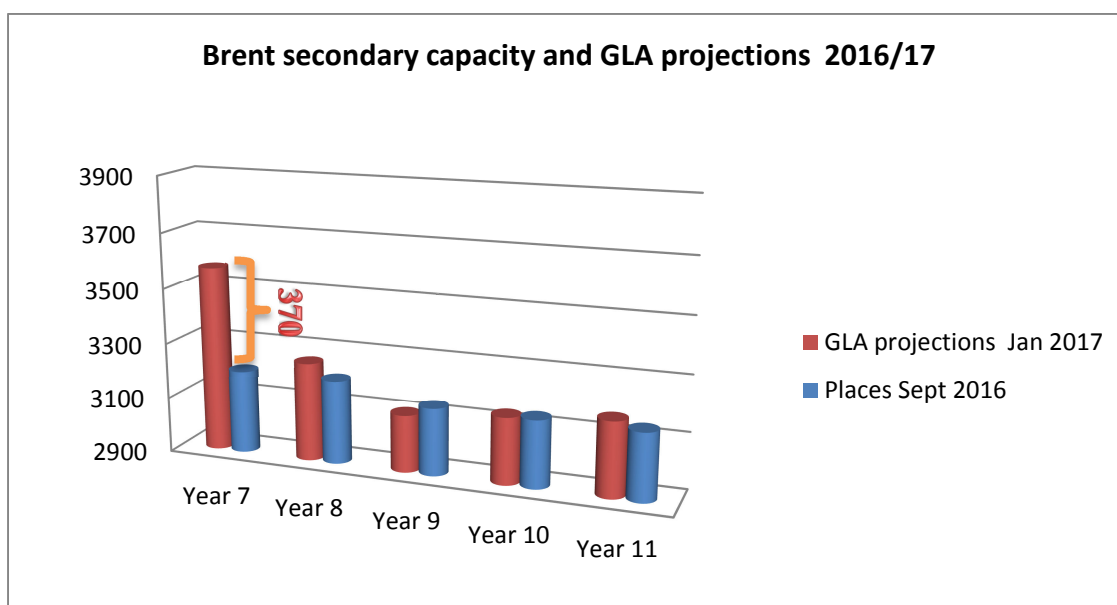
5.28 2012-13: Currently, there are sufficient school places in the borough in year groups 7 to 9 but there is a shortage of places in years 10 & 11.

Chart 4. Secondary Projections 2012-13



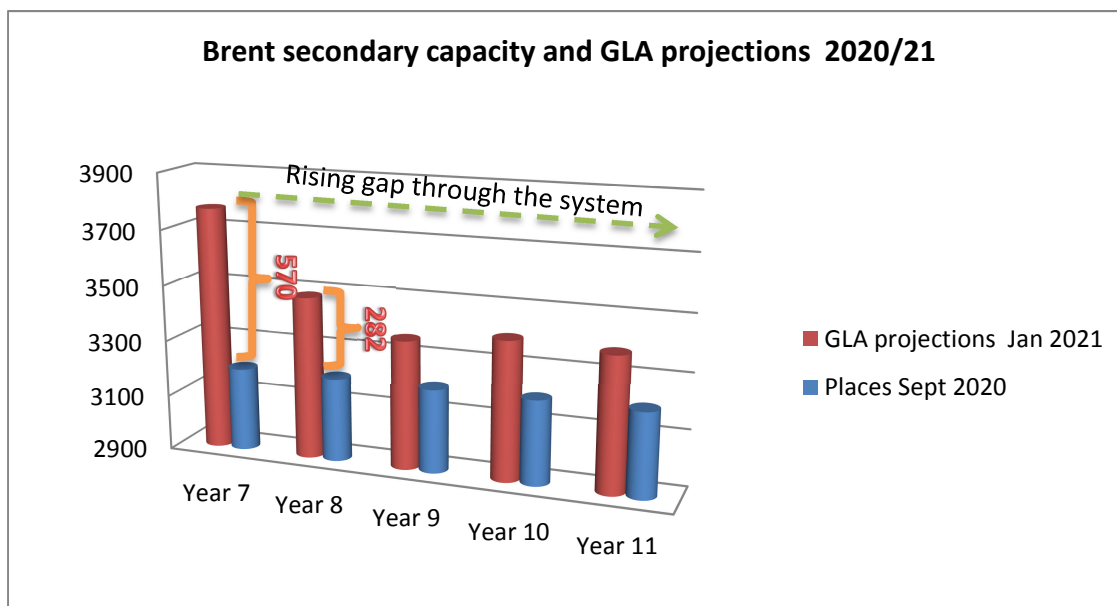
5.29 2016-17: The secondary provision will be under pressure from September 2014 onwards. The demand for secondary school places will outstrip the supply year on year unless new places are created. By 2016 370 (12.3FE) new places will be required. A large proportion of the requirement will be driven by the existing primary demand in the system which is making its way through the rising year groups.

Chart 5. Secondary Projections 2016-17



- 5.30 **2020-21:** Over the next eight years the demand for secondary school places will mirror the current shortages in the primary sector. An additional 570 new places (19FE) will be required after taking into account the new capacity being created at the Crest Academies.

Chart 6. Secondary Projections 2020-21



Current Secondary Expansion Projects

- 5.31 The Council has been working with partners in the borough to create new secondary school places. This includes opening of the Ark Academy, which created a 6FE provision in 2010. The Crest Boys' and Girls' Academies are currently being rebuilt, which will add 1FE secondary places at each school by September 2014.

Priority School Building Programme

- 5.32 The Council had submitted bids for resources to rebuild both Alperton and Copland Schools under the government's £2bn Priority School Building Programme (PSBP). In May 2012, the government announced that 261 of the 587 schools nationally have been successful in the application, which includes both schools in Brent. While more details on the programme are expected over the next few weeks, the aim of the programme is to complete the first PSBP schools in 2014 and all remaining selected schools over the next five years. At the time of writing this report, the Education Funding Agency (EFA) has informed that it aims to deliver schools in 'batches' and that both Brent schools are planned to be initiated in the third quarter of 2014. It is unclear at this stage whether the two Brent schools have been selected for a complete rebuild or high degree of refurbishment. Brent's bids included an option to increase the capacity by 1FE at each site. The EFA is likely to arrange a meeting with the Council and both the schools in the autumn term.
- 5.33 Since September 2011, the Department for Education commenced surveying schools for collecting building condition of the education estate. Sampling of this data should have been completed during a pilot phase of the programme in April and May 2012. Following this period, the property data surveys were planned to commence in phases. The first phase was scheduled to be completed by end May 2012 and the final phase is estimated to be completed by September 2013.

Next steps

5.34 There is clearly a need to significantly increase secondary capacity. While the Council's main focus so far has been to meet its statutory need in terms of primary provision, it must now also focus on providing more secondary places. The Council has been reviewing existing secondary capacity and it may be possible to increase the supply of school places in existing Brent schools but it is unlikely to meet the entire need. The key challenge as always is the lack of funding to provide new school places. In the report to the Executive in August 2011, we identified the baseline cost to develop secondary school places.

Special Education Needs – Primary & Secondary

5.35 The Council's Special Educational Needs (SEN) and Disability services have faced pressures arising from increased demand for specialist education placements for a number of years. This increase in demand is in line with a national trend and is due to a combination of factors including: advances in medical technology and higher survival rates of children with complex needs and increases in medical diagnoses for conditions such as autism. It has also been exacerbated in Brent by increased immigration and population growth.

5.36 By 2020, it is projected that 192 new SEN places will be required; of which 86 will be for primary aged children and 106 for secondary school pupils. The SEN requirement is over and above the mainstream places needed in Brent. The following table summarises the net requirement for new SEN places in the borough.

Table 9. SEN Requirement

Age Group/Phase of Education	Type of Provision	Total Additional Requirement		Type of SEN						
				ASD/SLCN*		BESD*		SLD/PD/PMLD*		Complex VI and/or HI*
		2016	2020	2016	2020	2016	2020	2016	2020	
PRIMARY	Special School Places	56	71	23	29	4	5	27	34	0
	ARP Places	12	15	8	9	0	0	0	0	6
	TOTAL PRIMARY	68	86	31	38	4	5	27	34	6
SECONDARY	Special School Places	79	102	24	32	5	7	46	59	0
	ARP Places	3	4	3	4	0	0	0	0	7
	TOTAL SECONDARY	82	106	27	36	5	7	46	59	7
TOTAL		150	192	58	74	9	12	73	93	13

*Autistic spectrum disorders (ASD); speech, language and communication needs (SLCN); behavioural, emotional and social difficulties (BESD); severe learning difficulties (SLD); physical disability (PD); profound and multiple learning difficulties (PMLD); visual impairment (VI); hearing impairment (HI)

Current SEN Expansion Projects

5.37 The Council is currently rebuilding The Village Special School, which will create an additional 25 new SEN places. This flagship SEN school is planned to be completed by September 2013, which will provide the very best facilities and education for some of the neediest children in the borough.

5.38 20 places as Additionally Resourced Provision (ARP) have been developed at Queens Park Community School and a further 20 places are currently being built at Alperton Community School.

- 5.39 Vernon House Special School offers provision for pupils with Behavioural, Emotional and Social Difficulties (BESD). The school has several places available and has recently undergone a statutory consultation process to broaden the designation for covering the need of pupils with ASD. It is expected that the proposal will provide up to 20 places for pupils with ASD, who would otherwise be placed in out of borough provision, thus saving £516k by 2016/17.

Future SEN provision

- 5.40 The aim is to provide a maximum of 192 new SEN places across Brent. Further analysis will take place to complete the due diligence in order to validate the savings over a period of time by limiting the demand for out borough provision. Currently two schemes are being reviewed in order to provide additional SEN places in the borough:

Table 10. Phase 2 SEN Expansion by September 2015

Sr. No.	School Name	Planning Area	No. of New Places	Total Proposed Places	Estimated Cost	Risk of Delivery
1.	Woodfield Special School	2	30	158	£1.5m	M - school GB view pending
2.	Manor (& Braintcroft colocation)	5A	44	170	£26.5m	H – financial risk to not provide VfM. Refer to SEN section.
	TOTAL		77		£28m	

Manor Special School & Braintcroft Primary School

- 5.41 It is envisaged that Braintcroft could be expanded by 2FE, which would make it a 5FE school. The increase will meet the need for primary places in the local area and improve the value for money criteria related to the rebuild.
- 5.42 Manor's colocation with Braintcroft will provide an opportunity to resolve the existing building related issues and substantially improve the offering for the SEN children. It will also make it possible to increase the capacity by 44 places, from 126 to 170. This will allow the Council to meet some of the projected demand and may also deliver savings under the SEN transformation programme. The financial modelling is at an early stage and a further update will be provided once the analysis has been completed.

6.0 Financial Implications

- 6.1 The figures included within Section 4 of this report refer to approved capital programme as part of the 2012/13 Budget Setting process. It should also be noted that the DCLG Settlement only related to the 2012/13 financial year and as such allocations for future years are forecasts only and will be subject to change post future settlement announcements.
- 6.2 Significant changes to school funding relating to the national funding formula and the funding of academies are planned by the DfE and announcements are expected shortly. These may have the effect of reducing further the Council's ability to support a programme of Prudential Borrowing on the scale indicated in this report.
- 6.3 As schools expand there are additional revenue costs that the expanding schools face. These are primarily additional teaching and teaching support staff but can include other start up costs

such as small items of equipment. For expansions that occur part way through a financial year a central element of the Schools Budget is used to provide funding to such schools on an agreed and standard basis. The schools annual budget share is also adjusted for the following financial year to reflect the additional pupil numbers. The Schools Budget is funded by a specific grant called the Dedicated Schools Grant that the Council receives each year. The DSG the Council receives each year is also for additional pupil number growth so as new pupils enter education in Brent's schools the funding the Council receives is adjusted to reflect this, thus allowing the increased revenue costs to be met. The DfE have now confirmed that under the new School Funding reforms local authorities will be able to continue holding a central element of the Schools Budget to fund school expansions, which is a welcome change from the initial proposals which would have barred local authorities from continuing to do so.

- 6.4 The List of Temporary School Places 2012-13 at Appendix 2 to this report includes Preston (former) Library and the Stonebridge (former) Day Centre which are currently included within the Capital Disposals Programme at a total forecast receipt of £2.2m which contributes to the funding of the Council's 2012/13 overall Capital Programme. If these two sites are released for the provision of Temporary Bulge Classes there will be a deficit arising in forecast capital receipts for 2012/13 which will be detrimental to the capital programme. This could result in an increased requirement for unsupported borrowing increasing debt charges to the revenue account, although it is likely that any such reduction in funding would be offset in the short term by slippage in programmed expenditure across the capital programme. As the proposals within Appendix 2 are for temporary class provision these assets will return to the disposals programme in future years forecast receipts.
- 6.5 The funding requirement in this report is based on the current pupil projections up to 2020-21. However, it must be noted that if the projections were to change significantly, this would have an impact on the funding requirement.

7.0 Legal Implications

- 7.1 Under sections 13 and 14 of the Education Act 1996 (as amended by the Education Acts 2006 and 2011), 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. The Local Authority must promote high educational standards, ensure fair access to educational opportunity and promote the fulfilment of every child's educational potential. It 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.
- 7.2 As a contingency, to support the admission to school of children as quickly as possible, the In Year Fair Access Protocol has been revised and schools and the Unions will be consulted on a new proposed Protocol in September 2012. The proposed Protocol allows for the admission of children over schools planned admission numbers in the event that a school place is not available. Schools will not be required to maintain classes over the planned admission number but will revert to the usual admission number when children leave.
- 7.3 This report does not include detailed plans about starting procurements for specific schemes. Where Executive reports are required to initiate such procurements and award contracts, and to approve the acquisition of land, these will be presented to the Executive at the appropriate time. Procurement and legal officers from the Legal and Procurement Department will continue to work closely with the Regeneration and Major Projects Department.

8.0 Diversity Implications

8.1 There are no implications for the immediate purpose of this report. However, an Impact Needs/Requirement Assessment (INRA) has been prepared as part of the four year rolling programme, please see Appendix 5.

9.0 Staffing/Accommodation Implications (if appropriate)

9.1 **Capital Team for Delivering School Expansion Projects:** Delivering a large number of schemes within such a short period of time will require a dedicated school expansion team to ensure that the programme is appropriately resourced in order to deliver quality school places on a regular basis. An annual budget of £600k is being proposed for creating the school expansion team under Property & Assets, Regeneration & Major Projects Department, which will be responsible for developing the strategy and delivery of the programme. The principle team will consist of a programme manager, project managers and a procurement specialist. The cost of the new team is proposed to be met from the capital funding as included under Table 3, which will be limited to the duration of the expansion programme and availability of capital funding. A further business case will be developed which will outline the team structure and cross-departmental roles and responsibilities.

Background Papers

- Executive Report August 2011 and supporting documents
- March 2012 Executive Report
- GLA Forecast for Brent 2012
- Feasibility Studies (2012)

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ANDY DONALD

DIRECTOR OF REGENERATION AND MAJOR PROJECTS

KRUTIKA PAU

DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Table 11. Principles Underlying Primary School Place Strategy

School Name	Principle 1 Sufficiency of demand	Principle 2 Improving learning environment & outcomes, including expanding popular schools	Principle 3 Efficient use of resources	Principle 4 Improving local SEN provision	Principle 5 – Diversity of type of provision:					
					a) Expansion of existing primary schools	b) Establishment of all through schools	c) Establishment of 5 FE primary schools	d) Amalgamating schools	e) 'Bulge' Classes	f) new schools
1. Barham 2. Fryent 3. Mitchell Brook 4. St. Robert Southwell 5. Wykeham 6. Uxendon 7. Chalkhill 8. Harlesden 9. St. Joseph Primary 10. Leopold 11. Northview Primary 12. Mount Stewart Inf & Jr 13. Elsley 14. Stonebridge Primary 15. Malorees Inf & Jr 16. Princess Frederica CoE 17. Kingsbury Green 18. Our Lady of Lourdes RC 19. John Keble CoE 20. St Andrew & St Francis 21. Vicar's Green (Ealing)	✓	✓	✓		✓					
22. Wembley High	✓	✓	✓			✓				
23. Preston Park							✓			
24. Braintcroft (& Manor colocation)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			
25. Carlton Vale Inf / Kilburn Park Jr	✓	✓	✓		✓			✓		
26. Newman College RC	✓	✓	✓			✓				
27. Oriental City 28. Quintain Site	✓	✓	✓							✓

Table 12. List of Temporary School Places 2012-13

No	School/Building Name	Area	No. of 'Bulge' Classes (30 places)	No. of places 2012-13
1.	Ashley Gardens Early Learning Centre	2	2	60
2.	Wembley High	2	2	60
3.	Vicar's Green (in Ealing)	-	0.5	15
4.	Curzon Crescent CC	4	1	30
5.	College Green Nursery	5	0.8	25
6.	Chalkhill Primary	2	1	30
7.	Mount Stewart Infants	2	1	30
8.	Preston (former Library), Carlton Avenue East, Wembley HA9 8PL	2	2	60
9.	Stone-bridge Centre, Twybridge Way, London NW10 0ST	4	6	180
	TOTAL		16.3 classes	490 places

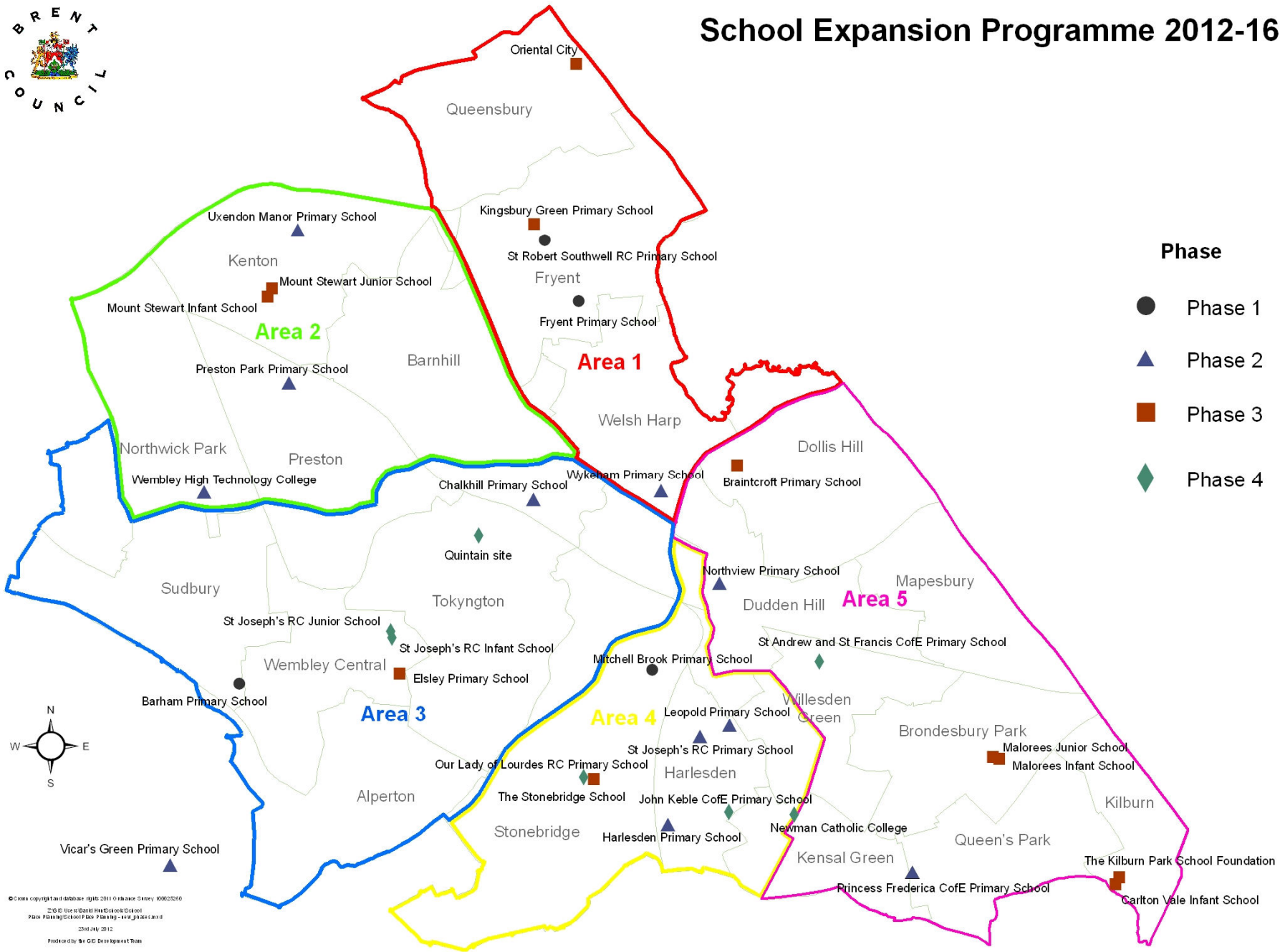
Partnership commitment for academies and free school providers working in collaboration with the council

Academies and free school providers working with the Council will be expected to demonstrate:

1. An absolute commitment to the ethos and values of inclusive education for all Brent's children and recognition of the positive role schools should play in the wider community.
2. A commitment to a close working relationship with the local authority in order to maintain an appropriate focus on borough-wide priorities, including local authority nomination of a member of the governing body and a commitment to sharing performance information.
3. The ability to deliver school improvement in an urban context.
4. That the establishment of the proposed education provision would be supported by demonstrable parental demand and with a genuine commitment to providing school places for local children.
5. Appropriate staffing arrangements to ensure high quality teaching and learning from qualified staff and good employment practices, including in relation to support and contracted staff.
6. A commitment to meeting the needs of Brent's diverse community.
7. A commitment to ensuring the future employability of young people (in particular in secondary and 16 to 19) through links with business, industry and higher education.
8. A commitment to community access and use of facilities through agreed extended opening and lettings policy.
9. A commitment to good pupil nutrition and healthy eating.
10. A commitment to inclusive practice and fair access to the school for all pupils as governed by the Admission Code of Practice and the Authority's Fair Access Protocols.



School Expansion Programme 2012-16



© Crown copyright and database right 2011 Ordnance Survey 100022510
250 000 scale map
Free Planning School Place Planning - see phase card
23rd July 2012
Produced by the DE Development Team

Impact Needs/Requirement Assessment

Department: Regeneration & Major Projects	Person Responsible: Richard Barrett
Service Area: Property & Assets Management	Timescale for Equality Impact Assessment :
Date: 20.07.2012	Completion date: 07.08.2012
Name of service/policy/procedure/project etc: School Expansion Programme 2012-2016	Is the service/policy/procedure/project etc: New <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Old <input type="checkbox"/>
Predictive <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Retrospective <input type="checkbox"/>	Adverse impact <input type="checkbox"/> Not found <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Found <input type="checkbox"/> Service/policy/procedure/project etc, amended to stop or reduce adverse impact Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Is there likely to be a differential impact on any group? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Please state below:
1. Grounds of race: Ethnicity, nationality or national origin e.g. people of different ethnic backgrounds including Gypsies and Travellers and Refugees/ Asylum Seekers Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2. Grounds of gender: Sex, marital status, transgendered people and people with caring responsibilities Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3. Grounds of disability: Physical or sensory impairment, mental disability or learning disability Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4. Grounds of faith or belief: Religion/faith including people who do not have a religion

	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5. Grounds of sexual orientation: Lesbian, Gay and bisexual	6. Grounds of age: Older people, children and young People
Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Consultation conducted	
Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (Initial consultation completed in 2011. Statutory Consultation will be completed once individual schemes are developed and agreed) No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Person responsible for arranging the review: Richard Barrett	Person responsible for publishing results of Equality Impact Assessment: Richard Barrett
Person responsible for monitoring: Rajesh Sinha	Date results due to be published and where: Summary of results from the initial school consultation were published in August 2011 Executive report; Summary of consultation was issued to all schools.
Signed:	Date: 07 August 2012 (updated)

Please note that you must complete this form if you are undertaking a formal Impact Needs/Requirement Assessment. You may also wish to use this form for guidance to undertake an initial assessment, please indicate.

1. What is the service/policy/procedure/project etc to be assessed?

According to the current roll projections, by 2020-21 Brent would require 21FE additional primary places, up to 19FE secondary places and 192 new SEN places. The demand is uniformly spread across the borough with hot spots in planning areas 3 & 5.

A portfolio review of Brent schools has been completed based on the analytical model included in the report. This informs the Council's strategy for creating new school places in existing primary and secondary schools as well as explores the options for creating new schools. This includes opportunity for acquiring new land under S106 agreement and creating Free Schools.

Based on the current funding, it is proposed to create 19.5FE primary places by 2015 through existing school expansion. 77 new SEN places are proposed to be created by 2015. A further report will be submitted to the December 2012 Executive for a strategy for developing new secondary places in Brent.

2. Briefly describe the aim of the service/policy etc? What needs or duties are it designed to meet? How does it differ from any existing services/ policies etc in this area

To provide much needed primary school places in the borough.

The growth in Brent's population is reflected in the increasing demand for school places. Numbers of four year olds on

school rolls are expected to rise strongly over the next three to four years.

Under sections 13 and 14 of the Education Act 1996 (as amended by the Education Acts 2006 and 2011), 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.

Primary: By 2020-21, if no action were to be taken, the deficit in primary school places will continue increasing year on year and will reach untenable proportions i.e. 21 forms of entry based on the requirement for Reception places. The shortage of 21FE excludes the on-going Phase 1 schemes.

Secondary: Over the next eight years the demand for secondary school places will mirror the current shortages in the primary sector. An additional 570 new places (19FE) will be required after taking into account the new capacity being created at the Crest Academies.

SEN: The Council's Special Educational Needs (SEN) and Disability services have faced pressures arising from increased demand for specialist education placements for a number of years. This increase in demand is in line with a national trend and is due to a combination of factors including: advances in medical technology and higher survival rates of children with complex needs and increases in medical diagnoses for conditions such as autism. It has also been exacerbated in Brent by increased in-migration and population growth.

By 2020, it is projected that 192 new SEN places will be required; of which 86 will be for primary aged children and 106 for secondary school pupils. The SEN requirement is over and above the mainstream places needed in Brent.

3. Are the aims consistent with the council's Comprehensive Equality Policy?

Yes, the project is consistent with the following areas:

Disability
Belief/Faith
Sexual Orientation
Age
Gender
Race

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 around four in ten participants felt that charities (38%), faith groups (37%) or private sponsors (36%) should have such involvement in Brent schools.

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.

The school proposed for expansion would enable the Council to provide additional new places required for Brent's growing pupil population.

2011 - Consultation Outcomes

In making decisions about the delivery of additional school places, the Council has established a set of planning principles. The Council received the responses from the schools for the consultation on these planning principles for which the closing date was 1 July 2011.

Principle 1 – Sufficiency of demand

There must be clear evidence of demand for additional primary places in the local area based on projections of medium

term and longer term need.

Principle 2 – Improving learning environment & outcomes, including expanding popular schools

Schools which are identified for expansion must be able to demonstrate that they will be able to provide a good quality of education. The Council will consider the progress and achievements of children currently at the school and the school's capacity for further improvement taking into account an improvement in the learning environment.

Principle 3 – Efficient use of resources

There is a limited capital budget and a large projected shortfall in the number of primary school places. It is therefore essential that scarce resources are used most effectively in order to secure the maximum number of additional high quality school places within the available budget.

Principle 4 – Improving local SEN provision

The demand for SEN placements is continuing to rise and there is a projected shortfall in specialist SEN provision in Brent, both in special schools and additionally resourced mainstream provision. In expanding primary provision, consideration also needs to be given to improving the range and quality of local SEN provision available in Brent.

Principle 5 – Diversity of type of provision

The Council will consider different types of provision that will contribute to the overall objectives of providing high quality school places, cost effectively in areas of greatest need. These options will include:

- a) Expansion of existing primary schools
This will involve providing additional forms of entry on existing primary school sites and is dependent on the potential of the site for expansion.
- b) Establishment of all through schools
An all through school would be one school covering the primary and secondary phases, funded as a single institution. It would normally occupy a single site/campus at an existing secondary school.
- c) Establishment of 5 FE primary schools
A 5 FE primary school would be a large school catering for approximately 1050 children. There is an increase in the number of 5 FE schools opening across the country, in response to pressure on school places.
- d) Amalgamating schools
Amalgamating two or more schools can assist in providing additional school places by increasing capacity at single or multiple sites. Amalgamation would require the agreement of the schools concerned.
- e) 'Bulge' Classes
A 'bulge' class would be one extra class of children in a year group, over and above the school's Admission Number, who progress up the school to the end of Year 6.
- f) Developing New Schools
This criteria has been added post- consultation to allow creation of new capacity where existing schools are difficult to expand or if an opportunity to create a new school in an area of need arises e.g. a S106 opportunity

The expansion will improve choice and diversity by providing fair access and improved parental preference to schools places in Brent. The impact on Equalities will be kept under review and reported to the members periodically.

4. Is there any evidence to suggest that this could affect some groups of people? Is there an adverse impact around race/gender/disability/faith/sexual orientation/health etc? What are the reasons for this adverse impact?

None. The expansion of the proposed schools is unlikely to adversely impact on a person with any of the 9 protected characteristic. However, further statutory consultation will be undertaken once individual schemes are fully proposed and developed.

Each expansion of a school will improve choice and diversity in the local area by providing fair access and improved parental preference to schools places in Brent.

5. Please describe the evidence you have used to make your judgement. What existing data for example (qualitative or quantitative) have you used to form your judgement? Please supply us with the evidence you used to make your judgement separately (by race, gender and disability etc).

Previous consultation results have been reviewed. Latest consultation in 2011 has been considered:

Overall, 29 responses were received on the consultation, of which five were from head teachers, nineteen from individual school governors and the remaining five responses were from others.

A majority of the respondents agreed with the principle of sufficiency of demand, improving outcomes and efficient use of resources.

Fourteen (48%) respondents selected the option to expand existing primary schools and four (13%) expressed a preference for all-through schools as their first choice. Seven (24%) respondents opted for creating 'bulge' provision and five (17%) respondents selected amalgamation as their second choice. Four respondents suggested that building a brand new school should have been an option and six suggested that the Gwenneth Rickus Building should be used as a primary school (if the building were to be available for alternative use).

There were five expressions of interest for providing a 'bulge' class and an equal number opted for permanent expansion. One school expressed an interest to become an all-through provision. It must be noted that the majority of respondents are individual school governors and may not necessarily represent the voice of the entire school.

6. Are there any unmet needs/requirements that can be identified that affect specific groups? (Please refer to provisions of the Disability Discrimination Act and the regulations on sexual orientation and faith, Age regulations/legislation if applicable)

None identified. School expansion will fully meet the requirements of the SEN Code of Practice and the accessibility standards. A range of special education needs is expected within the primary regular intake including students with language and communication needs, behavioural emotional and social needs and children on the autistic spectrum. A borough wide SEN 'unit' or additionally resourced provision is also proposed under the programme. The aim is provide a maximum of 192 new SEN places across Brent. Further analysis will take place to complete the due diligence in order to validate the savings over a period of time by limiting the demand for out borough provision.

7. Have you consulted externally as part of your assessment? Who have you consulted with? What methods did you use? What have you done with the results i.e. how do you intend to use the information gathered as part of the consultation?

In 2011, the Council consulted with all schools and received responses from head teacher, governors and others. This informed us the level of interest in the five principles developed by the authority (please refer to no. 3 above). The results have been reviewed and form one of the factors of the school expansion programme Executive report for August 2012.

We will undertake further statutory consultation for individual schools/schemes once they have been suitably developed for a proposed expansion.

8. Have you published the results of the consultation, if so where?

Following the close of consultation, a summary report was issued by the Council to all Brent schools. A brief update was also included in the August 2011 Executive Report.

9. Is there a public concern (in the media etc) that this function or policy is being operated in a discriminatory manner?

None is identified.

Please refer to no. 5 above.

10. If in your judgement, the proposed service/policy etc does have an adverse impact, can that impact be justified? You need to think about whether the proposed service/policy etc will have a positive or negative effect on the promotion of

equality of opportunity, if it will help eliminate discrimination in any way, or encourage or hinder community relations.

n/a, see above.

11. If the impact cannot be justified, how do you intend to deal with it?

n/a

12. What can be done to improve access to/take up of services?

n/a

13. What is the justification for taking these measures?

n/a

14. Please provide us with separate evidence of how you intend to monitor in the future. Please give the name of the person who will be responsible for this on the front page.

Schools are subject to performance monitoring in order to comply with DFE requirements. This includes data on disability, ethnicity and gender of children.

The impact on Equalities will be kept under review and reported to the members periodically.

15. What are your recommendations based on the conclusions and comments of this assessment?

Proceed to seek permission from Brent Executive to approve the programme. Thereafter, develop individual projects which will undergo a statutory consultation process.

Should you:

1. Take any immediate action? N/A.
2. Develop equality objectives and targets based on the conclusions? N/A
3. Carry out further research? N/A

16. If equality objectives and targets need to be developed, please list them here.

N/A.

17. What will your resource allocation for action comprise of?

There has been an on-going lobbying campaign in conjunction with London Councils, to highlight the school places pressure across London and those particular to Brent. The campaign has been highly successful and Brent received £24.8m allocation of Basic Need Safety Valve money in October 2011. In addition due to the severe shortage of Primary School places nationally the government allocated further Basic Need funds in December 2011 and Brent received a further £24.09m; the third highest allocation in the country. An additional £30.8m Basic Need allocation was received in April 2012 which was the highest allocation in the country. The three allocations total £79.7m.

If you need more space for any of your answers please continue on a separate sheet

Signed by the manager undertaking the assessment:

Full name (in capitals please): Richard Barrett

Date: 07 August 2012

Service Area and position in the council:

Details of others involved in the assessment - auditing team/peer review:

Rajesh Sinha

Once you have completed this form, please take a copy and send it to: **The Corporate Diversity Team, Room 5 Brent Town Hall, Forty Lane, Wembley, Middlesex HA9 9HD**