



## CHILDREN & LEARNING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE, 31 August 2017

<b>Subject Heading:</b>	School Expansion Programme
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<b>Policy context:</b>	Statutory responsibility to provide a school place for Havering children

### SUMMARY

This report updates members of the Committee on the progress of the school expansion programme since the last report in April 2017.

The Local Authority has a statutory duty to plan and secure sufficient school places for their area to meet the needs of its children and families. Since 2011, the Council has created an additional 3,500 primary school places through the expansion of 21 primary schools in the borough and the number of Primary age pupils is expected to continue rising significantly from 2015/16 to 2020/21, with more than 4,000 extra pupils, and this will continue to rise further.

As Primary children move into the secondary sector, the number of Secondary age pupils is expected to rise significantly from 2015/16 to 2022/23, this will cause our current surplus of places in the Secondary sector to be eroded and surpassed.

The ONS live birth data for 2013 shows that most London boroughs experienced a drop in their birth rate from 2013 to 2014, however, Havering had a 5% increase. While many London boroughs have already experienced the increase in birth rate which is now starting to plateau, for Havering we are still at the early stages of our increase in the birth rate.

There are also planned major housing developments and regeneration schemes in Havering, and in addition some areas have seen rapid housing growth and other demographic changes that have led to more families with school age children moving into these areas, which in turn create an additional demand for school places.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are asked to note the content of the report.

## REPORT DETAIL

### Background:

Havering in common with the many other London Boroughs and urban areas has been experiencing an increase in demand for primary school places for the last three years and continuing significant growth is forecast in the coming years. This increase in demand is due to rising birth rates in Havering, as well as families moving into the borough from other parts of London, the UK and abroad.

In October 2016, Cabinet approved Phase 4 of the school expansion programme as part of the Commissioning Plan for Education Provision 2015/16 – 2019/20. The Cabinet report contained detailed pupil projections across Early Years, Primary, Secondary and SEN phases, whilst also setting out the likely demand for school places as a result of the two housing zones planned for Rainham and Romford.

Cabinet will receive a further report in Autumn 2017, updated in line with the latest housing projections contained in the draft Local Plan, recommending approval of Phase 5 of the school expansion programme.

The main source of finance for the school places programme is the Basic Need grant awarded by the Department for Education. The Basic Need grant is determined by the annual SCAP (School Capacity) return made by the LA to the DfE and thus far, the Council has been able to manage the expansion programme for Phases 1 to 4 within the Basic Need Grant Allocation. The Council has also been able to apply sums secured through section 106 agreements towards some of the school expansion schemes.

Below is a summary of the proposed expansions in each phase agreed under Phase 4. The projected demand in future years which has been reported in this year's SCAP return, will be subject to approval by Cabinet and is therefore not reported in this update.

### Early Years:

Plans are underway to increase the Early Years provision in key wards, including Mawney, Harold Wood, Gooshays, Hylands, Rainham and Wennington, South Hornchurch and Upminster to meet the growing demand for places for 2, 3 and 4 year olds, whilst also increasing capacity for working parents of 3 and 4 year olds

to access up to 30 hours of free childcare. A number of school nurseries are being created, or expanded, as part of the wider programme of school expansion works.

Collier Row Primary Planning area:

- Expansion of Crownfield Infant School from 3FE to 4FE for 2017;
- Expansion of Crownfield Junior School from 3FE to 4FE for 2020.

Harold Hill Primary Planning area:

- Expansion of Broadford Primary School from 2FE to 3FE for 2017;
- Expansion of Pyrgo Priory Primary School from 2FE to 3FE for 2018;
- Expansion of Mead Primary School from 3FE to 4FE for 2018.

Rainham and South Hornchurch Primary Planning area:

- Expansion of Whybridge Infant School from 2FE to 3FE for 2017;
- Expansion of Whybridge Junior School from 2FE to 3FE for 2018;
- Expansion of Rainham Village Primary School from 2FE to 3FE for 2018;
- Expansion of Brady Primary School from 1FE to 2FE for 2019;
- A further 1FE will be needed for 2019;
- A site has been identified for one 3FE Primary school from 2021.

Romford Primary Planning area:

- Expansion of Hylands Primary School from 2FE to 3FE for 2017;
- Expansion of Mawney Primary School from 2FE to 3FE for 2017;
- Concordia Free School is expected to open on its permanent site for 2018;
- A further 1FE will be needed for 2019.

North East Secondary Planning area:

- Expansion of Drapers' Academy from 6FE to 7FE for 2018.

North West Secondary Planning area:

- A further 1FE will be needed for 2019.

Central Secondary Planning area:

- Marshalls Park School PAN rationalised from 172 to 180 for 2017;
- Emerson Park School PAN rationalised from 192 to 210 for 2017;
- Frances Bardsley Academy PAN rationalised from 220 to 240 for 2017;
- Expansion of Royal Liberty School from 4FE to 5FE for 2018.
- Expansion of Marshalls Park School from 6FE to 8FE for 2018.
- Expansion of Redden Court Academy from 5FE to 6FE for 2018.
- Expansion of Emerson Park School from 7 FE to 8FE for 2019.
- Expansion of Redden Court Academy from 6FE to 7FE for 2019.

### East Secondary Planning area:

- Hall Mead Academy PAN rationalised from 192 to 210 for 2019.

### SEN:

To meet the Primary SEN demand, three Additionally Resourced Provisions (ARPs) will need to be established in the Upminster, or Harold Hill, or Rainham and South Hornchurch primary planning areas.

For Secondary SEN, two ARPs will need to be established in the schools in the East and Central secondary planning areas.

Longer term forecasts highlighted the demand for a new Special School, and in April 2017, the LA was notified that it had been successful in submitting and Expression of Interest to the DfE to establish a new Special Free School for 60 children with Communication and Interaction Needs (C&I) and Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) in the age range 3 to 16. The competition process has now launched and will run for 4 months, with an expected decision on the proposer being made in January 2018. Information for perspective proposers can be found on the Havering Council website here;

[https://www.havering.gov.uk/news/article/219/new\\_commissioned\\_special\\_free\\_school\\_for\\_havering](https://www.havering.gov.uk/news/article/219/new_commissioned_special_free_school_for_havering)

The competition is also being advertised on the GOV.UK website here;

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/setting-up-a-new-special-school>

Depending on the interest shown, local and regional events may be held later in the year to bring together perspective sponsors.

### Next Steps:

Statutory processes are needed for any school expansion, including pre-consultation activity, publication of statutory notices, and implementation of decisions.

At the same time as the statutory process above being conducted, any required planning permissions must be sought before the Local Authority can publish the statutory notices.

A further Cabinet report will be prepared for Autumn 2017 which will provide an update to the current pupil projections, and identify plans to meet the planned demand for school places up until 2020/21.

## **IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS**

### **Financial implications and risks:**

#### **Capital;**

The Expansion Programme included within the October 2016 Cabinet report and subsequent 2017/18 Budget Setting reports was based on confirmed funding sources with the exception of £5m estimated 2019/20 Basic Need Allocation. The Council has recently been notified that it will not receive any Basic Need Allocation for 2019/20, and this will need to be factored into the Autumn 2017 Cabinet report. However, the Council has been allocated additional grant specifically for SEN places (c2.4m over the next three years) which had not been previously budgeted for. In addition, one of the Secondary expansions expected to cost £4m will not be going ahead. This will mean that the remaining approved expansion schemes can be delivered within the confirmed funding sources available.

#### **Revenue;**

The revenue implications for primary schools are that, in creating additional classes, additional resources will be incurred particularly for teaching and support staff. For each financial year after the October census date, the schools' annual funding allocation will reflect the additional pupils that will be on roll. For the period September to March before the new financial year, however, additional resources will need to be provided. This will be met from a Pupil Growth Contingency held within the Schools Budget (funded by the Dedicated Schools Grant) as agreed by the Schools Funding Forum.

### **Legal implications and risks:**

The Council has a statutory duty to secure that efficient primary and secondary education is available to meet the needs of the population of their area (Section 13 Education Act 1996).

At present, certain types of school organisational change (including change of age range, change of character, expansion through enlargement of premises, increase/decrease or change of provision for pupils with special educational needs) are subject to statutory processes of consultation and decision-making.

### **Human Resources implications and risks:**

The human resources implications for the schools to be proposed for expansion will be managed by the schools themselves. There is likely to be a need to recruit additional teaching and support staff and the relevant schools will undertake the recruitment and selection process in accordance with the appropriate policies and procedures. There are growing difficulties in recruiting to teaching posts and therefore schools will need to consider that additional resources and a longer

recruitment timescale may be required to fill vacancies. The Havering Education HR service will provide support as appropriate and required to all schools, academies or free schools that purchase relevant services.

### **Equalities implications and risks:**

An Equality Analysis was conducted for Phase 3 of the Primary Expansion Programme and was attached as an appendix 4 to the October 2016 Cabinet report. The issues arising from that analysis are in general still applicable and will be given due regard. A similar analysis will be undertaken for Phase 4 of the Expansion programme as firm proposals emerge to fully assess their impact on children with protected characteristics and their families. The Commissioning Plan for Education Provision 2015/16 - 2019/20 which identifies needs was also the subject of Equalities Analysis.

Expanding school capacity to meet the rising demand means that the Authority will be able to offer as many children as possible a local school place in their home authority. A primary objective of the expansions programme is to ensure that high quality education is available to all children in Havering. Officers will ensure that the consultation process is thorough and inclusive. Mitigating actions will be undertaken where an adverse impact has been identified in the EA.

<b>BACKGROUND PAPERS</b>
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None.