

2018 Programme of Secondary School Expansions

CONSULTATION FEEDBACK REPORT JULY 2017

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Section 1: Introduction and Executive Summary

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 and therefore it is obliged to plan for the expansion of its school capacity.

The Council has invested over £30million in recent years to provide the additional primary school places needed, but our pupil forecasts predict further increases in demand in the primary sector.

This growth we have been experiencing in the primary phase is now due to transfer on to the secondary phase. As such it is necessary to start the process of consulting on and implementing additional places in secondary schools in the borough to ensure that we will have enough secondary places available to meet the increased demand for places.

Following the Cabinet's approval of the phase 4 of the schools expansion programme, the additional capacity needed in our secondary schools will focus on the planning areas that are experiencing rapid growth in pupil numbers and long term pressure of demand on school places due to in year mobility and new housing growth. These planning areas are namely **North East and Central**.

The under listed schools in these planning areas were agreed to be considered for permanent expansion and PAN increases from September 2018 subject to consultation and a subsequent decision by the Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC) or Secretary of State, as appropriate.

Planning Area	School	Proposed Intake from Sept 2018
North East	Drapers' Academy	From 180 to 210
Central	Marshalls Park Academy	From 180 to 240
	Royal Liberty	From 120 to 150
	Redden Court School	From 150 to 180 in 2018 From 180 to 210 in 2019

Section 2: Consultation Process

For these schools to proceed to the next stage of the expansion process, it is required that the academy trust has undertaken a fair and open local consultation with all those who could be affected by the proposed change, and that the proposal takes account of all responses received.

The consultation process covered by this report ran from 12 June to 10 July 2017. The objective was to inform and gather views regarding the proposals from key stakeholders, particularly parents/carers of pupils and staff in the

schools being proposed for expansion, school governing bodies and other schools within the borough.

An electronic copy information booklet about the consultation proposal, process and a feedback questionnaire were circulated to as many stakeholders as possible and all were encouraged to respond by post or online via survey monkey. *Appendix A* contains a list of the stakeholders who received electronic copies of the consultation booklet. A public notice of the consultation exercise together with the consultation document was also posted on all the schools websites. A hard copy of the document was available on request for those who did not have access to a computer

The purpose of this report is to present a summary of the key responses received during the consultation process, including the main views gathered from the survey questionnaire and other responses received.

No consultation meetings were held at the schools being proposed for expansion. However, all the issues & concerns raised during the consultation period for each of these schools are addressed under Section 4 of the individual school's summary.

This consultation feedback report will also form part of the key decision report that will enable the local authority approve the release of funding required to support the proposed expansions.

Section 3: Online Questionnaire Response and Summary

This section of the report summarises the responses received from the online consultation questionnaire. The questionnaire provided an opportunity for consultees to respond to specific questions regarding the proposal as well as allowing for general comments.

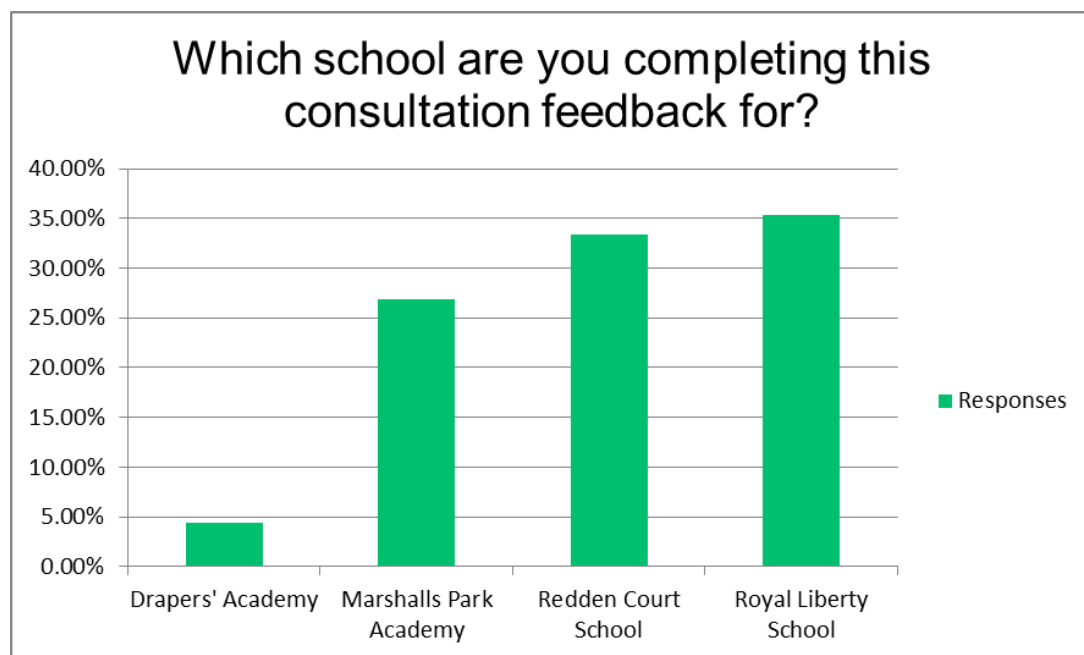
A general summary of concerns, issues and questions raised have been addressed as far as possible in **Section 4** of this report.

In total, **249 responses were received and the categories of the respondents** according to the role they defined on the questionnaire are shown below.

- **164** were parents/carers of children currently attending one of the schools proposed for expansion;
- **19** were members of staff/teacher in one the schools being proposed for expansion;
- **33** from parent/carers of children at another school in the borough;
- 14 were local residents
- **1** staff/teacher in another school in the borough
- **10** were members of a school governing body
- **8** indicated that their role was not in any of the category above

A breakdown of the number of responses received for each school that is being proposed for expansion is as follows:

School	Total Survey Responses received
Drapers' Academy	11
Marshalls Park school	67
Redden Court School	83
Royal Liberty School	88
Total	249



In addition to the online survey questionnaire, 5 electronic correspondences regarding the overall proposal was received. 3 from local secondary schools, 1 from the National Union of Teachers and 1 from a Multi Academy Trust (MAT) Board.

Responses to these have also been provided in section 4 of this report.



Question 1 asked respondents to state whether or not they support the proposal to expand the school they were completing a feedback for.

The table below shows the responses for and against received for each school;

School	Total Responses received	Approximate % Count	Responses in Support	Responses Against
Drapers' Academy	11	5%	3	8
Marshalls Park school	67	27%	25	42
Redden Court School	83	33%	39	44
Royal Liberty School	88	35%	23	65

Question 2 asked respondents to state their reasons for supporting the proposal.

A total of **90** consultees responded in favour of the expansion proposal. Out of this number, 59 stated their reasons; giving positive and constructive comments for the school they submitted the questionnaire for. Their various reasons are all shown in section 4 below.

Question 3 asked respondents to state their reasons for not supporting the proposal.

A total of **159** responded against the expansion proposal. Out of this number, 118 comments were received from consultees stating their reasons as shown in section 4 for not supporting the proposal for the school they submitted the feedback questionnaire for.

All the questions, issues and comments given by the consultees against the expansion proposal have been considered and addressed in Section 4 showing the individual school's summary.

Section 4: Individual Schools Summary

DRAPERS' ACADEMY

Expansion Proposal: Expansion from 6 to 7 forms of entry with an increased PAN from 180 to 210 starting in Year 7 by September 2018.

11 responses were received in respect of the proposal to expand Drapers' Academy. Of this,

- 3 respondents or 27% were in favour of the proposal
- 8 respondents or 73% were not in favour of the proposal

The majority of respondents 73% were not in favour of the proposal to expand Drapers' Academy. Respondents were also invited to comment on the proposal. 2 comments were received in favour of and 5 comments against the proposal.

The 2 comments in support of the proposal cited the following reasons:

Comments
<i>I need the places for my children. I do not want to have to send them to another school which is not local.</i>
<i>If it's required and there is shortage of spaces for pupils then the right thing should be expansion. And not only that, the council should ensure the school is supported with resources to support the expansion and make learning a great experience for the pupils.</i>

The table below shows the main issues and concerns received from respondents who are against the proposal together with the response to these:

Comments	Response
<p>Standards <i>The school shows below average performance compared to the national average in both progress 8 and attainment 8 ratings.</i> <i>The Ofsted rating of Good was achieved in 2012 and an expansion decision should at least wait until the next Ofsted is done, which I assume will be relatively soon. Given the number of places available in the school already, the number of preferences and first choices is low, suggesting limited demand for additional places.</i></p>	<p>GCSE outcomes for Drapers' Academy rose in 2016, with the proportion of students achieving an A*- C grade in English and maths combined in line with the national average despite the weak prior attainment of the cohort at KS2. Drapers' Academy is a good school and is oversubscribed. A total of 445 expressed an interest in the school for the 2017/18 academic year. The Academy already provided an additional 20 year 7 places in 2016/17 and will take an additional 30 pupils in year 7 in 2017/18 in order to help meet the increasing demand for places</p> <p>The academy trust supports the proposal and with the school's strong leadership, is capable of managing the proposed increase in numbers without having a detrimental</p>

The schools is currently unable to cope

Traffic and Parking

Increased traffic due to local roads being incapable of taking the additional need

Because the amount of congestion traffic, during school times! Litter and pollution! plus the roads are not equipped for the extra traffic it will bring!.

I don't support the proposal as there is not enough transport to ferry these children home. The traffic along Suttons lane at school time is horrendous. The attitude of these school children is disgusting when getting onto the buses. They make residents feel unsafe and vulnerable which i think is so wrong. The noise at the bus stops is so loud like they are rioting.

effect on standards.

Traffic around schools is a national concern. Transport specialists mostly look to changing behaviour as the way to reduce congestion.

We are also well aware of the current travel issues at the start and the end of the school day and we know increasing the school numbers will further compound this. The trust will be encouraged to review the school travel & transport plan which would explore and promote a number of strategies to ease congestion, raise awareness and a sense of responsibility when travelling on public transport.

MARSHALLS PARK SCHOOL

Expansion Proposal: Expansion from 6 to 8 forms of entry with an increased PAN from 180 to 240 starting in Year 7 by September 2018.

67 responses were received in respect of the proposal to expand Marshalls Park. Of this,

- 25 respondents or 37% were in favour of the proposal
- 42 respondents or 63% were not in favour of the proposal

The majority of respondents 63% were not in favour of the proposal to expand Marshalls Park. Respondents were also invited to comment on the proposal. 16 comments were received in favour of and 31 comments received against the proposal

Some of the comments taken from the 16 respondents in support of the proposal are as shown below:

Comments
<i>Marshalls Park has a long history of serving the local young people and community. Visitors to the school often comment on the atmosphere and behaviour and how at odds it is with our Inspection judgment. Where there are gaps in attainment/achievement, or pupils who are failing to make progress, this is being addressed with due alacrity. At present the school is on an exciting improvement journey and it can only be beneficial to offer the resulting improved education to more young people. The recently appointed Head clearly has the vision needed to manage such a change and I believe all our students would benefit from improved and extended facilities.</i>
I recognise the need for additional places mind have a child who needs a school place in 18/19. I do not believe the size of the expansion will have a detrimental impact on the school provided adequate staff can be recruited to meet the increased need.
<i>With the expansion of the school, if funded correctly it will enable the school to be made fit to educate both the current pupils and additional pupils. In addition to this the extra number of pupils will help the school by increasing its budget to improve the education for all pupils.</i>
<i>My son although is just about to leave Marshalls Park, I have found that under 2 Heads he has gone from strength to strength. The whole of the Senior Leadership team lead under the same vision and know each individual student. Marshalls also has an outstanding SEND team and pastoral care who help to integrate all of their students. My son has had a wonderful 5 years at Marshalls and I would chose them again as his secondary school.</i>
<i>Living in Collier Row there are limited choices for secondary schools and the expansion of Marshalls will give more choice.</i>

It will enhance the current curriculum and provide a well needed financial boost to the school. Marshalls is in need of some modernisation and this proposed expansion should help to afford some of that to happen. I do not believe building new schools is the answer, but investing in our current schools and making these the best they can be is the way forward.

Investment and development in the site. Fulfil the needs of the area as we have been oversubscribed for the last few years and there is a shortage of school places in the area.

The table below shows the main issues and concerns received from respondents who are against the proposal together with the response to these

Comments	Response
<p><u>School size and Overcrowding</u> <i>This is already a large school. My sons hates going to this school as he says the classes are so noisy he has no chance of learning. He hates the amount of noise from pupils around the school. By increasing the size of these schools you are adding an extra chance of failure for many pupils. Why extend so many schools? Children have enough to deal with growing up, keeping schools smaller rather than larger is a much nicer environment for them to learn in.</i></p> <p><i>Pressure on capacity of site and quality outdoor space for all pupils and activities. Further pressure on logistical elements such as increase in staff parking requirements, etc.</i></p> <p><i>The school is already struggling with disruptive pupils and a lack of discipline so I feel that to add two additional classes per year would further increase the problems that are already apparent.</i></p> <p><i>I chose this school for my child as it felt like a small and personal secondary school. A large school will damage its ethos. If you keep expanding the school it will lose a grip on its running.</i></p>	<p>There is no evidence to suggest that smaller schools perform better than larger schools. One of the most important aspects of any school is its leadership. The school is well led and that the quality of teaching delivered is high.</p> <p>By expanding the school we will be able to ensure that the high quality teaching already being delivered at Marshalls Park will be accessible to more children in the area. A larger school will give more possibilities to attract and retain high quality teaching staff.</p> <p>Feasibility studies have been carried out and the school has the additional space to accommodate the expansion being proposed under the Government area guidelines for mainstream schools BB103. If given the go ahead, the new accommodation will be built to support the additional pupils allocated and provide significant</p>

	investment in the school building.
<p><u>Educational Standards</u></p> <p><i>I feel that until Marshalls Park has an Ofsted rating of either good or outstanding it does not have the relevant experience, expertise and capacity to take on the huge task of expanding its teaching staff and subsequently the number of pupils. The only outcome of expansion at the current time can be deterioration in the educational and personal outcomes for pupils.</i></p> <p><i>The school's Ofsted rating prior to opening as an academy was "requires improvement" and this was the same when the previous Ofsted was done. It seems strange to ignore this for the technical reason that this was done prior to the school opening as an academy, especially since the council has taken account of the "good" rating of other schools proposed for expansion (e.g. Royal Liberty) even though this falls into exactly the same category.</i></p> <p><i>I cannot see how education standards will not drop with an increase of 60 pupils a year from 2018 when there are already teacher shortages. There have been so many schools closed over the last 10 years, Forest Lodge, Bedfords Park etc. and now you want to expand schools that are already bursting at the seams.</i></p> <p><i>School is already struggling with current student count. Likely that standard will decrease with expanded student population.</i></p>	<p>GCSE outcomes for Marshalls Park improved in 2016, in the first year of the new Headteacher's tenure. Outcomes were broadly in line with the national average and above the Havering average.</p> <p>The Ofsted report of March 2016 states:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The new headteacher has a clear strategy for improvement. • Changes to the structure of the governing body mean that it is now well placed to support the headteacher with bringing about rapid change. • Middle leaders are keen to move the school forward <p>The school has continued to improve since then and has been further strengthened by joining the South West Essex Community Education Trust and receiving the support of this Multi-Academy Trust, including the outstanding William Edwards School.</p> <p>The school supports the proposal and does not feel that expansion would have a detrimental effect on standards.</p> <p>Through careful planning, strong leadership which the school have and the support of the academy trust, any issues arising from the expansion will be addressed to ensure that it does not affect the quality of education.</p> <p>The wider range of staff recruited as a result of</p>

	<p>additional classes will bring with it an opportunity for the trust to broaden the level of expertise and specialisms within its staff and will ultimately enhance the teaching and learning delivered at the school.</p> <p>The wider range of staff recruited as a result of additional classes will bring with it an opportunity for the trust to broaden the level of expertise and specialisms within its staff and will ultimately enhance the teaching and learning delivered at the school. The larger cohorts will also enable the school to protect more of its curriculum features in these more austere times.</p> <p>By expanding the school we will be able to ensure that the high quality teaching already being delivered will be accessible to more children in the community.</p>
<p><u>Place demand should be met another school Instead of Marshalls</u> <i>I do not think that Bower Park School is being utilised to the best for accommodating pupils who live in or around the same area as Marshalls Park and could be!</i></p> <p><i>I think the council should look at Secondary Schools such as Gaynes which does not have a full intake next year. The council needs to address the inequality in placements and figure out a way to ensure all Secondary schools in the borough have their full number of pupils.</i></p>	<p>The secondary expansions are being proposed in order to meet the demand for school places from growing communities and housing growth within Havering. The plans to expand schools in the North East and Central planning areas are being proposed in order to meet the need for places from these planning areas. It is not possible for the Council to ensure that all secondary schools in Havering are full before considering expansion.</p> <p>The current guidance regarding making significant changes to an open academy states that: “The department expects that only academies that are rated as ‘good’ or ‘outstanding’ will seek to expand their</p>

	<p>premises, in order to increase their intake. Only in very limited circumstances will the RSC consider approval of a proposal to expand from a school in another category.” Any decision to expand a school not good or outstanding can only be taken by the Regional Schools Commissioner and as such is not within the remit of the Council to consider.</p>
<p><u>Lack of Teaching staff and additional resources</u> <i>Teachers are hard to find as there is a shortage. Will the teachers that are there be over stretched? Will they give the school more money to be able to employ the relevant staff. It’s not about accommodating more pupils its making sure there are enough resources to be able to teach them at the correct standard without pressurising teachers</i></p> <p><i>The school quite clearly doesn't have the necessary resources to accommodate such a large expansion in such a short space of time. This will lead the existing pupils and teachers suffering from the on-going changes needed to fit in the extra pupils. The numbers quoted are being directed to too few schools which will result in a drop in the standard of education. The additional student places needed should be spread out over a greater number of schools until these schools have had time to implement and prove they can cope with extra numbers.</i></p> <p><i>Marshalls Park is currently a requires improvement school. This will not be helped by the addition of a further 60 pupils from 2018 onwards who are likely not to have English as a first language. The school currently does not have the best facilities and is in bad repair in some areas. This will put more pressure on the school which has only in the last 2 months become an academy. Also the outdoor space currently available will be significantly reduced to accommodate additional pupils to the detriment of all pupils.</i></p>	<p>Schools receive funding for each pupil on roll at the school, and so funding will increase in line with the numbers of children attending the school.</p> <p>There will be an increase in the number of staff employed by the school to provide appropriate specialist knowledge, expertise and support to cover the expected increase in numbers.</p> <p>The wider range of staff recruited as a result of an additional class will bring with it an opportunity for the school to broaden the level of expertise and specialisms within its staff and will ultimately enhance the teaching and learning delivered at the school for all pupils.</p> <p>The school would accept that some areas are in need of repair (“bad repair”), and there is already an extension programme underway to rectify some of those features; other features would be addressed as part of the expansion plans.</p>

I do not support expanding current schools as the resources within these schools are already over stretched, if there is a requirement for more spaces then I would like to see a new school built which will offers new jobs and opportunities.

I wouldn't say I don't support it, however I would support the expansion if it was needed for children in the area. It seems that when other schools have been expanded children from out of the area have been given places. I also feel that the new head teacher Mr Frost should be allowed the time to get this school back up in the league tables and give him time to sort out his teaching staff. Good teachers are leaving. Why?? My child had no science teacher for a whole year. If there aren't enough teachers already how do you expect to educate more pupils?

The school can hardly cope at present with recruitment and retention of teachers so how is it going to become a good school with good teaching if my daughter often doesn't have a cover teacher for her lessons. I find these proposals just completely wrong and not the answer for a cheap alternative to the real problems. You shut down schools like Gobions, Forest Lodge in this area, build houses on them, families move in and there are then not enough schools and now you're trying to fit 10 elephants in a mini just ridiculous.

Build New Schools

The social and academic welfare of existing pupils, along with their potential to succeed, should not be put in jeopardy like this. Through no fault of their own, pupils and teachers will have space compromised and pressure on various resources increased. The only advantage to the school is increased funding - however this is not a profit, but a payment which will be spent quickly to accommodate each new child. Recruiting and retaining staff is difficult enough without these added pressures. If increasing numbers of new school places are needed going forward then BUILD NEW SCHOOLS!

The expansion is being proposed to meet in order to ensure that local authority meets its statutory duty to ensure there are enough school places for all Havering children who require one.

The Science department has been fully staffed for 2016/17 compared to 2015/16 when there was a significant amount of cover. For 2017/18, all subjects are fully staffed, including Science. As part of the Trust, the school has been able to offer a wider range of career opportunities and different pay and conditions, which we believe have already had a tangible impact on teacher recruitment and retention.

The growth we have been experiencing in the primary phase is now due to transfer the secondary phase. As such it is necessary to start the process of consulting on and implementing additional places in secondary schools in the borough to ensure that we will have enough secondary places available to meet demand.

Our pupil forecasts predict further increases in demand

The necessary changes and building work to the school cause severe disruption to the existing pupils. I would prefer new schools to be built closer to the new housing in the area rather than the expansion of existing schools.

Why not just build ONE new school? Surely this would be more cost effective than having so many different building projects and disruption to many schools.

with the planned housing regeneration and development programme which can only be met by building new schools once we exhaust the ability to expand our existing school estate. The LA in response to meeting this future need will then have to seek proposals from approved sponsors in order to establish new schools in the borough.

REDDEN COURT SCHOOL

Expansion Proposal: Expansion from 5 to 6 forms of entry with an increased PAN from 150 to 180 in September 2018 and from 6 to 7 forms of entry; rising from 180 to 210 places in September 2019 .

83 responses were received in respect of the proposal to expand Redden Court. Of this,

- 39 respondents or 47% were in favour of the proposal
- 44 respondents or 53% were not in favour of the proposal

The majority of respondents 53% were not in favour of the proposal to expand Redden Court. Respondents were also invited to comment on the proposal. 24 comments were received in favour of and 27 comments received against the proposal

The Head teacher and Senior Leadership Team are very much in support of the expansion proposal

Some of the comments taken from the 24 respondents in support of the proposal are as shown below

Comments

Primary schools are having to expand to accommodate the increase in students and it is obvious that they then will need a secondary school place. Secondary schools are already oversubscribed which can be seen by the increase in the number of applications for places every year.

It is needed to serve the purpose of the community and the demand from prospective parents who want their children to attend the school. Every year we have to disappoint 100s of applicants simply because of capacity and facilities available. The expansion will provide further opportunities for more children to succeed in the area. Also, with the budget cuts imposed by the government it is a necessary step in the future development of the school and the area. Expansion to the buildings and facilities will future proof the school with these increases to intake and will ensure that it is able to continue the current successful journey it is on.

The school is producing excellent results in terms of progress for all students and so would provide an excellent educational opportunity for more students from the borough.

There is a clear demand for places, with 144 out of 150 first preferences and a tight catchment area. Academic performance is strong, especially on Progress

<i>8, which is the fairest basis of comparison given varied intakes.</i>
<i>School already heavily oversubscribed due to its successful performance over a number of years; many disappointed parents and over 20 appeals were made for the school year 2017/18.</i>
<i>There is a need for additional places at the school for local children. Huge housing developments have been created around the school without additional education provisions. The council should use some of the money collected from the developers in the s.106 agreements as Education Contribution and fund these much needed extra places at Redden Court School.</i>
<i>it is integral for the continuing support of the community and the potential students who live within the area to have access to a good school.</i>
<i>This is an excellent school with a strong leadership.</i>
<i>Whilst I support the proposal I think it is crucial that the school has sufficient funding and building changes to enable the expansion to be successful.</i>

The table below shows the main issues and concerns received from respondents who are against the proposal with responses to these;

Comments	Response
<p><u>Small site area to accommodate the expansion</u></p> <p><i>I cannot see where you could possibly extend this school; it has the smallest school field for a secondary school in Havering, yet is outstanding within the physical education dept. I choose this school for my 3rd child due to the outstanding teaching it had given my 1st child and for how my 2nd child is achieving. This is a small school which is the reason for my choice and feels that because the government has cut the school budget the only way they can make up this loss is by agreeing to the expansion. My 3rd child had to endure building work for the last 2 1/2 years at primary and now to have to deal with it again.</i></p> <p><i>School buildings too small to accommodate</i></p> <p><i>The school building is not very big and I think it will ruin the school.</i></p>	<p>Feasibility studies have been carried out and the school has the additional space to accommodate the expansion being proposed under the Government area guidelines for mainstream schools BB103.</p> <p>The Prospect Road site is available for the school to use as a PE space and there will be sufficient number of rooms and spaces built to accommodate the needs of the expanded school</p> <p>If given the go ahead, the new accommodation will be built to support the additional pupils allocated</p>

Over population of local area and to many children commuting

Funding and Resources

The funding formula needs to be addressed before any expansion is considered.

Taking additional people into the area, needs investment in infrastructure, so a new school would be a better longer term solution, than increasing the strain on existing schools. If there's an opportunity to expand, then Redden Court would be better served by the addition of a 6th form.

Redden Court School's funding could be cut by around £800,000 by 2019 so it is not the time to be expanding schools when there will not be enough money to fund a larger school with more pupils and still provide quality education.

The school funding and staffing is stretched to its limits at the moment. My son has special needs and they don't have the resources to support him fully now.

They have already increased pupil numbers so class sizes are bigger, thus putting a strain on staff, funding has been cut and parents are being asked to pay funds to the school.

Without more funding the increase in numbers will impact on the teaching capability. We chose Redden Court due to the advantages of being a smaller school, which will be lost in the increase of children. Disappointing that this pressure is put on our school.

Standards

I believe that the education of the existing pupils will be unduly affected by such an expansion.

Ideally we should have smaller class & school sizes not bigger. The increase in numbers will cause additional cohesion & behaviour problems. I therefore am not in favour of this.

Discipline at the school will become more difficult to monitor and ensure good behaviour.

Schools receive funding for each pupil on roll at the school, and so funding will increase in line with the numbers of children attending the school.

There will be an increase in the number of staff employed by the school to provide appropriate specialist knowledge, expertise and support to cover the expected increase in numbers.

There is a strong senior leadership team (SLT) and the academy trust is confident that the staff and Governors will make every effort to ensure that the ethos of the school doesn't change and the school's friendly approach continues.

<p><i>The school has been unable to hire and retain decent staff in a number of subjects this school year. My son has had 3 cover teachers in one day. If there are more children this means more teachers. The school has already had low teaching standards because hiring is an issue this will only get worse!</i></p> <p><i>Although funding will be increased during expansion I feel sure the long term spend per child will decrease!</i></p> <p><i>The teachers currently have enough students to support. I believe an increase in students will negatively impact on teachers and students alike.</i></p> <p><i>Less staff in proportion to the amount of children will reduce the quality of the teaching. The increase in class sizes will put even more pressure on the teaching staff, facilities and equipment will be in short supply in proportion and place pressure on parents to take up the costs. Some children will inevitably receive a poorer quality of education and some children will slip through the net.</i></p>	<p>Schools receive funding for each pupil on roll at the school, and so funding will increase in line with the numbers of children attending the school. There will be an increase in the number of staff employed by the school to provide appropriate specialist knowledge, expertise and support to cover the expected increase in numbers.</p> <p>The wider range of staff recruited as a result of an additional class will bring with it an opportunity for the SLT to broaden the level of expertise and specialisms within its staff and will ultimately enhance the teaching and learning delivered at the school for all pupils.</p>
<p><u>School ethos</u></p> <p><i>One of the huge attractions of this neighbourhood school is its tight-knit ethos as it is not currently a massive secondary school of over 1000 pupils. It would be a great shame to potentially water down this ethos and leadership by expanding too quickly.</i></p> <p><i>This is a small local community school and it works! and I think it will ruin the school, the atmosphere and the residents will not be happy either!</i></p> <p><i>A one extra form entry is OK, but a two form entry is excessive. I believe that teaching will be affected. I sent my son to the school as it has the small village feel to it, but that would all be lost.</i></p>	<p>The expansion will allow the head teacher and the trust to continue to maintain the strong ethos, values, standards and quality of education currently in the school. There is no evidence to suggest that smaller schools perform better than larger schools</p> <p>The school will have new accommodation built to support the additional pupils allocated to them. How classes are organised (and therefore their size) is a matter for the academy trust and Head teacher, but a larger school does not automatically mean larger</p>

<p><i>My daughter and I selected this school together, as we thought a small school would be a more cosy and friendly place to thrive. My daughter feels safer in a smaller school. This is one of the reasons we did not select Emerson Park - the school is much too large.</i></p> <p><i>Whilst I can appreciate the need for school places, there are a few schools in the area who are under subscribed. The reason for choosing Redden Court School was that it was a small school with a community feel. By expanding the school, it will completely change the atmosphere and the feel of the school.</i></p> <p><i>This school has leady increased from 120 intake to 150 intakes in the last 6 years. This school has a lovely community feel and by increasing the size I believe this could be lost.</i></p>	<p>classes.</p> <p>The intention in this expansion proposal is to add an additional class of 30 pupils to each year group incrementally starting from Year 7 in September 2018 and then likewise in September 2019</p>
<p><u>Build New Schools</u></p> <p><i>Schools in Havering are already big enough. The answer is not to expand schools but to build new ones.</i></p>	<p>The growth we have been experiencing in the primary phase is now due to transfer the secondary phase. As such it is necessary to start the process of consulting on and implementing additional places in secondary schools in the borough to ensure that we will have enough secondary places available to meet demand.</p> <p>Our pupil forecasts predict further increases in demand with the planned housing regeneration and development programme which can only be met by building new schools once we exhaust the ability to expand our existing school estate.</p> <p>The LA can no longer establish new schools. Where a local authority thinks there is a need for a new school in its area it must seek proposals to establish an academy (free school).</p>

ROYAL LIBERTY SCHOOL

Expansion Proposal: Expansion from 4 to 5 forms of entry with an increased PAN from 120 to 150 in September 2018.

88 responses were received in respect of the proposal to expand Royal Liberty. Of this,

- 23 respondents or 26% were in favour of the proposal
- 65 respondents or 74% were not in favour of the proposal

The majority of respondents 74% were not in favour of the proposal to expand Royal Liberty. Respondents were also invited to comment on the proposal. 13 comments were received in favour of and 50 comments received against the proposal.

Some of the comments taken from the 13 respondents in support of the proposal are as shown below

Comments
<i>As a good school it is best placed to manage an increased cohort of 1FE and not change the character of the school whilst doing so</i>
<i>As it is vital that there is more choice for parents and only way to do this is to increase form entry sizes.</i>
<i>We must help to support the increase in secondary school children in our local area. I hope the council will help Royal Liberty accommodate these extra children. Parts of the school are run down.</i>
<i>An expansion of a single sex, good school is always welcome.</i>
<i>We need it - the area is growing</i>
<i>Better chances of boys getting a place. More diversity, More learning opportunities, More staff opportunities.</i>
<i>The School is one of the smallest in the area. Although correct funding would need to be in place as the pupils already suffer badly through lack of funding.</i>
<i>School spaces in the local community are greatly needed at good schools, and I believe Royal Liberty is one of the better placed schools to provide this.</i>
<i>To give quality education & spaces to children in immediate area who want to attend the school.</i>

The table below shows the main issues and concerns received from respondents who are against the proposal with the responses to these;

Comments	Response
<p><u>School Size and Overcrowding</u> <i>Overcrowding affects pupils' attention in class. Also 1 disruptive student can affect the whole class who will take up most of teachers' time.</i></p> <p><i>I do not feel the school is big enough to extend by an extra form and will impact the learning quality of the current pupils</i></p> <p><i>It is not a big school to expand it.</i></p> <p><i>Without making considerable changes to the size of the building already I feel the school would be too over crowded for the extra students.</i></p> <p><i>School has small grounds and facilities which struggle to cope with existing cohort and was chosen as it is a small school.</i></p> <p><i>The school playground and fields aren't big enough for more students and the queues for food will be enormous which means not everyone will get food or they will miss there break time queuing up for food. Also, all the corridors and classes will be crowded. There won't be enough space on the playground.</i></p> <p><i>There is also a fear that to grow in numbers the school will have to expand its site which might include encroaching on the sports grounds available to the boys at RL. This sports space is valuable to all at the school and more concrete means less space for sports with an increased number of boys needing access. That does not add up.</i></p>	<p>Feasibility studies have been carried out and the school has the additional space to accommodate the expansion being proposed under the area Government guidelines for mainstream schools BB103. If given the go ahead, the new accommodation will be built to support the additional pupils allocated.</p> <p>The expanded school will provide adequate facilities, sufficient number of rooms and spaces required to accommodate the needs and size of the school.</p> <p>Guidelines for outside play and learning space on constrained sites will be met and the new arrangements would be at least as good as the existing arrangements.</p>
<p><u>School ethos</u> <i>One of the main reasons we selected the school for our children was that it</i></p>	<p>The expansion will allow the head teacher and the academy trust</p>

<p><i>was so much smaller than others in the borough</i></p> <p><i>Royal Liberty is one of the smaller schools in the area, this is one of the reasons that I chose this school for my son, having a small class intake means that the school is able to provide better support and interaction for each child. In larger schools the child will often become lost with only the exceptionally bright and exceptionally poorly behaved getting noticed. Those in the middle or quieter are not noticed.</i></p> <p><i>It's a small school and I chose this particular school so that my son wouldn't get "lost" and overwhelmed.</i></p> <p><i>We chose this school because it was small and had a small community feel.</i></p> <p><i>It's an all-boys school which is small and works well at the moment. The site is quite small and in a select area of the borough. The boys tend to get on well as small and close knit and there is minimum disruption to local residents when boys go to and leave the school. I feel expansion will have a negative effect on school relationships the quality of teaching and the surrounding areas. I also feel that as a small school gang related crime and violence goes not exist as teaching staff know most pupils personally and expansion could invite trouble into the school which could then possibly go on unnoticed.</i></p>	<p>to continue to maintain the strong ethos, values, standards and quality of education currently in the school. There is no evidence to suggest that smaller schools perform better than larger schools</p> <p>The expansion will create an opportunity for the school to broaden the level of expertise and specialisms within its staff and will ultimately enhance the teaching and learning delivered at the school for all pupils</p>
<p><u>Additional classes will have detrimental effect on Standard and relationship between teachers and pupils</u></p> <p><i>Too many to a class already that teachers struggle to manage.</i></p> <p><i>I am fearful that expanding Royal Liberty will mean the levels of teaching and interaction between teacher and pupils will start to fall. The reason for choosing RL for our son was driven by the size of the school and the ability of</i></p>	<p>There is a strong senior leadership team (SLT) and the academy trust has confidence that the staff and Governors will make every effort to ensure that the ethos of the school doesn't change and that new staff are carefully recruited to ensure that the school's excellence and performance continues.</p>

the teachers to know the boys better in a smaller environment. My son is thriving in his first year at senior school because of this reason and when I look at how his friends from junior school have fared at larger schools in the borough with all the issues that brings I am really pleased with our decision to send him to RL.

The school at present is perfect just the way it is. The teachers are able to focus on each pupil. I picked royal liberty for that reason. I will be very disappointed if the expansion takes place.

I wish to keep school as is to preserve the excellence it currently has in teaching its current pupils expanding the school could dilute the school performance.

Royal Liberty ranks among the lowest performing schools in the borough on most academic measures, including Progress 8. There is limited demand for places, with only 90 first preferences of the 120 admitted this year; it is not clear expanding the school will enable many more in the borough to get their first choice of school.

Small forms means teachers have more time to spend with students, also more personalised the students are not just numbers.

Royal Liberty is a good school and is oversubscribed. New accommodation will be built to support the additional pupils allocated to them. How classes are organised (and therefore their size) is a matter for the academy trust and Head teacher, but a larger school does not automatically mean larger classes.

The intention in this expansion proposal is to add an additional class of 30 pupils to each year group incrementally starting from Year 7 in September 2018.

If the proposal is given a go ahead, the high quality teaching already being delivered at Royal Liberty will be accessible to more children in the community.

New School and Sixth Form needed

As we continue to build new homes (flats mostly) there seems to be no consideration for the impact on the services of the borough. We should build new school not over populate the ones we already have.

With new schools in the borough I feel there is no need to increase the amount of pupils in existing schools.

Whilst I believe that the borough is expecting an increase in the inbound amount of pupils at a junior level, where is the thinking to support the pupils that are exiting the other side into 6th form? The council seems to be working in silos, whilst approving regeneration and building developments, which obviously has a knock on impact to the amenities needed in the borough, there seems still to be very limited options beyond 6th form for this influx?

Require 6th form to the school not increase number of forms. Require more schools not bunch more children into schools. This is not a cattle farm but educating the next generations.

The school would be better served by adding a sixth form

The growth we have been experiencing in the primary phase is now due to transfer the secondary phase. As such it is necessary to start the process of consulting on and implementing additional places in secondary schools in the borough to ensure that we will have enough secondary places available to meet demand.

Our pupil forecasts predict further increases in demand with the planned housing regeneration and development programme which can only be met by building new schools once we exhaust the ability to expand our existing school estate.

The LA in response to meeting this future need will then have to seek proposals from approved sponsors in order to establish new schools in the borough

Current data for the Local Authority shows that there is no anticipated significant pressure for additional sixth form places overall to meet the needs of Havering residents in the next few years.

Building work proposal

As stated in the proposal, RLS is already oversubscribed. The school grounds are already fully used, and only one very small building is unused which is the old pool. So before any sort of approval is given I believe that parents of current students must be allowed to see any building works proposals to see how it will affect the current grounds. They should not lose any athletic lands for classrooms. Furthermore, according the gov.uk website, any academies

There will be a separate formal consultation with the school and local residents, around the development of the planned building works as part of the usual planning application procedures.

Royal Liberty is a good school, located in an area of demand for school places and it is feasible to create the additional places needed.



that want to expand have to be in either in good or outstanding standings. Considering the last Ofsted report for RLS was in 2013, I would expect a new report PRIOR to any approval to ensure that the current school governing body is still in the correct standings. Which I don't believe them to be good or outstanding. Lastly, i want to know why the likes of Coopers' or Campion have not been included in the expansion plans.

If the proposal is approved, it will provide the right number of places in the right area, promote high educational standards and will meet parental demand.
The plans to expand schools in the North East and Central planning areas are being proposed in order to meet the need from growing communities and housing growth for places from these planning areas.

Response to the correspondences received from National Union of Teachers' (NUT), ELAT Board, Brittons Academy, Bower Park Academy and Frances Bardsley Academy

Comments	Response
<p><u>NUT</u> <i>"Whilst it is reassuring to know that the Local Authority is addressing the wider issues of educational provision, it nonetheless raises questions in respect of a government policy which has systematically dismantled traditional educational structures, without providing any effective alternative.</i> <i>Whilst expansions are being planned for some schools, a number of others face increasing financial difficulties, due to falling pupil numbers, leading to restructures and redundancies.</i> <i>Is this really the best way to run our educational system?"</i></p>	<p>The secondary expansions are being proposed in order to meet the demand for school places from growing communities and housing growth within Havering. The plans to expand schools in the North East and Central planning areas are being proposed in order to meet the need for places from these planning areas. It is not possible for the Council to ensure that all secondary schools in Havering are full before considering expansion.</p> <p>The current guidance regarding making significant changes to an open academy states that: "The department expects that only academies that are rated as 'good' or 'outstanding' will seek to expand their premises, in order to increase their intake. Only in very limited circumstances will the RSC consider approval of a proposal to expand from a school in another category." Any decision to expand a school not good or outstanding can only be taken by the Regional Schools Commissioner and as such is not within the remit of the Council to consider.</p>
<p><u>Empower Learning Trust Board</u> <i>The Empower Learning Academy Trust (ELAT) comprises three academies: Hall Mead, Bower Park and Brittons.</i> <i>Formal responses to the consultation have been made by Bower Park and Brittons, which are located in areas affected by the proposed secondary school expansion. The purpose of this letter is to support the responses made by our member schools and put on record the concerns of the ELAT Board to the Local Authority's proposals.</i> <i>ELAT was established at the beginning of the current academic year and is led by Hall Mead (Ofsted Outstanding). Its purpose is to deliver rapid school improvement to its member schools and share best practice throughout the Trust.</i> <i>Good progress has been made in this regard, as evidenced by the recent Ofsted inspection of Brittons and DfE communications in respect of Bower Park, and the Trust's work will ultimately help the Authority ensure that an ever greater number of children can access a good local school.</i> <i>It is therefore unfortunate that the school expansion programme (as currently proposed) has the potential to disrupt this work, given that</i></p>	<p>In Havering we plan for school places on a planning area level. This is in order to reflect localised patterns of movement concerning school attendance. This approach to planning school places on a planning area level is supported by the ESFA.</p> <p>The planning areas used to plan school places in Havering are not arbitrary, but were formed after looking at which primary schools are the main feeder schools for each secondary. This information helped inform how the planning areas should be grouped.</p> <p>The secondary expansions are being proposed in order to meet the demand for school places from growing communities and housing growth within Havering. The plans to expand schools in the North East and Central planning areas are being proposed in order to meet the need for places from these planning areas. It is not possible for the Council to ensure that all secondary schools in Havering are full before considering expansion.</p> <p>For 2017/18 nearly 100 more Havering residents expressed a preference for and gained a place at an out borough secondary school, when compared to the previous year. The majority of the Havering pupils who were allocated an out borough school were from the Central and North East planning areas, which had the most increased year 6 cohort. Havering residents who were unable to secure a place at a local secondary of choice did not express a preference for a Havering school with places located elsewhere in the borough.</p> <p>Pupils unable to secure a place at a local, popular and successful school is leading to these</p>

neither Bower Park or Brittons are full.

All will support the need for secondary schools in Havering to expand to accommodate a genuine increase in student numbers, but this can only be the case if forecasts are robust, the impact of expansion properly understood / modelled and there are no available places within the Borough's existing provision.

To this end, we would draw your attention to the previous forecast of pupil numbers undertaken by the Borough, which resulted in several schools increasing their PANs, with other schools, mainly in the south of the Borough (such as Brittons) being advised this would not affect them. This has proven not to be the case, and Brittons has moved from a position of being "full" to undersubscribed.

Allied to the above, any expansion in school places must be undertaken in an equitable way, utilising the Borough's existing provision, before any new places are created. Bower Park has capacity for an additional 35 pupils, with Brittons able to accommodate a further 347 pupils across its PAN. Against this backdrop, it seems bizarre that the proposed expansion seeks to create more spaces than required (150 places, against an envisaged need of 128 places).

As the Council is aware, Schools are finding the current funding environment challenging and like Bower Park and Brittons, the ELAT Board hope the expansion consultation, and the eventual decision, is not based on Ofsted gradings.

*Ofsted's judgement is quite often historical and may not reflect that school's present delivery, let alone that of the future. If schools that have a lower Ofsted grading are denied the opportunity to expand (especially where there is evidence of improving standards) and the associated revenue benefits this brings, then the Borough is standing in the way of improving educational outcomes for children at **all** schools under its remit, something that could ultimately place the viability of ELAT at risk given the nature of the current expansion proposals.*

The above point is made by Brittons and summed up in Bower Park's representation, which the ELAT Board fully endorses, "In our opinion, the

pupils attending secondary school outside of the borough. However as we implement expansions at our good and outstanding schools in areas of secondary demand, we expect the number of pupils going out borough to reduce.

The Council doesn't feel that the recent PAN rationalisations at several schools in the Central planning area had a negative impact on the school roll at schools in the South. Brittons has not filled to its PAN on National Offer Day for a number of years. On the contrary, increasing the number of places available at those schools has meant that we have been able to meet parental preferences for more families by meeting the demand for school places at popular and successful schools from growing communities. This in turn has potentially stopped these families from seeking a school place outside of Havering.

The current guidance regarding making significant changes to an open academy states that: "The department expects that only academies that are rated as 'good' or 'outstanding' will seek to expand their premises, in order to increase their intake. Only in very limited circumstances will the RSC consider approval of a proposal to expand from a school in another category." Any decision to expand a school not good or outstanding can only be taken by the Regional Schools Commissioner and as such is not within the remit of the Council to consider. As such the Council is unable to consider expansion of Bower Park or Brittons at this time.

Havering is a net importer of year 7 pupils and has been for a number of years. We did see a reduction in the net import figure last year and we will continue to monitor this going forward. Regarding the robustness of our school roll projections, Havering like every Local Authority, submits updated projections to the ESFA on an annual basis. The ESFA closely monitors the projections submitted each year and will query with the Local Authority any aspect of the projections that it feels warrant further attention. We also maintain a close relationship with our neighbouring boroughs in order to monitor issues that may impact cross border movement of students. Our projections are reviewed on an annual basis and adjustments are made to reflect the most recent trends regarding school attendance.

Our school roll projections and Commissioning Plan for Education Provision are both publically available on the Havering website. We will consult with schools regarding their individual school roll projections in Autumn Term 2017 and this will give schools a further opportunity to provide feedback regarding school rolls in Havering.

We will monitor the impact of this initial phase of secondary expansions on all schools in Havering and will review future expansion plan.



<p><i>Council should focus on ensuring all the secondary schools in Havering are capable of delivering a first-rate education to those in their local community and this is best achieved by strategically ensuring all schools are full. A downward spiralling roll for a school that has failed in the past would likely have disastrous consequences on its ability to rapidly improve in the future. We do not believe your current proposals deliver a fair and equitable outcome for all the current and future children of Havering. Falling rolls at Bower Park would present significant challenges to driving up standards at the school and, were this to be caused by the expansion of another local Havering school, this would seem to be an own goal for the council and the community”.</i></p> <p><i>In light of the above, the ELAT Board wishes to place on record its objection to the proposed school expansion and would ask the Council to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>☒ Re-assess its forecast, taking into account unfilled spaces within the Borough's existing provision.</i> <i>☒ Review its modelling assumptions around the impact of expansion on under subscribed schools within the Borough and make its calculations and methodology available for review and comment.</i> <i>☒ Adopt an approach that utilises unfilled school spaces first.</i> <i>☒ Submits a revised proposal for consideration, based following the above exercise.</i> <p><i>Adopting the above suggestions will allow a more-balanced and viable approach to school expansion to be delivered, and one which will provide greater parental choice and a higher number of good pupil outcomes, as all Schools increase their roll and benefit from the revenue generated to deliver school improvement.</i></p>	
<p><u>Brittons Academy</u> <i>See correspondence attached as Appendix 1a</i></p>	<p>In Havering we plan for school places on a planning area level. This is in order to reflect localised patterns of movement concerning school attendance. This approach to planning school places on a planning area level is supported by the ESFA.</p> <p>The planning areas used to plan school places in Havering are not arbitrary, but were formed after looking at which primary schools are the main feeder schools for each secondary. This information helped inform how the planning areas should be grouped.</p> <p>The secondary expansions are being proposed in order to meet the demand for school places</p>

from growing communities and housing growth within Havering. The plans to expand schools in the North East and Central planning areas are being proposed in order to meet the need for places from these planning areas. It is not possible for the Council to ensure that all secondary schools in Havering are full before considering expansion.

In the South planning area where Brittons is located, we are not projecting a deficit of places until 2022/23. However with a rising year 6 cohort and major housing development planned through the approved Rainham Housing Zone, we will require Brittons to expand to meet the demand for secondary places in future.

For 2017/18 nearly 100 more Havering residents expressed a preference for and gained a place at an out borough secondary school, when compared to the previous year. The majority of the Havering pupils who were allocated an out borough school were from the Central and North East planning areas, which had the most increased year 6 cohort. Havering residents who were unable to secure a place at a local secondary of choice did not express a preference for a Havering school with places located elsewhere in the borough.

Pupils unable to secure a place at a local popular and successful school is leading to these pupils attending secondary school outside of the borough. However as we implement expansions at our good and outstanding schools in areas of secondary demand, we expect the number of pupils going out borough to reduce.

The Council doesn't feel that the recent PAN rationalisations at several schools in the Central planning area had a negative impact on the school roll at schools in the South. On the contrary, increasing the number of places available at those schools has meant that we have been able to meet parental preferences for more families by meeting the demand for school places at popular and successful schools from growing communities. This in turn has potentially stopped these families from seeking a school place outside of Havering.

The increase in places at The Albany School was for one year only and at this stage is not being made permanent. The additional year 7 places offered by this school were not filled, despite a growing population in the area. This furthermore underlines the need to implement the additional school places needed at popular and successful schools.

Havering is a net importer of year 7 pupils and has been for a number of years. We did see a reduction in the net import figure last year and we will continue to monitor this going forward. Regarding the robustness of our school roll projections, Havering like every Local Authority, submits updated projections to the ESFA on an annual basis. The ESFA closely monitors the projections submitted each year and will query with the Local Authority any aspect of the projections that it feels warrant further attention. We also maintain a close

	<p>relationship with our neighbouring boroughs in order to monitor issues that may impact cross border movement of students. Our projections are reviewed on an annual basis and adjustments are made to reflect the most recent trends regarding school attendance.</p> <p>The current guidance regarding making significant changes to an open academy states that: “The department expects that only academies that are rated as ‘good’ or ‘outstanding’ will seek to expand their premises, in order to increase their intake. Only in very limited circumstances will the RSC consider approval of a proposal to expand from a school in another category.” Any decision to expand a school not good or outstanding can only be taken by the Regional Schools Commissioner and as such is not within the remit of the Council to consider. As such the Council is unable to consider expansion of Brittons at this time.</p> <p>We will monitor the impact of this initial phase of secondary expansions on all schools in Havering and will review future expansion plans if necessary.</p>
<p><u>Bower Park Academy</u></p> <p>Re: Bower Park Academy response to the consultation on secondary school expansion</p> <p><i>The Governors of Bower Park Academy have reviewed the June 2017 consultation paper on Secondary School Expansion in Havering and are, in summary, very disappointed with the proposals as they seemingly fail to consider the impact on the needs of the wider community of Havering. We acknowledge, based on assumptions that we assume are well grounded, that there is a need for schools in the borough to expand to accommodate the growing numbers of young people either coming through the primary sector or moving into Havering. However, the rationale for a proposal to expand some schools substantially when other schools in the borough are not currently full is flawed. Bower Park, which has an overlapping catchment with Marshall Park, and is situated on the northern edge of the borough where the population to its north is sparse, relies significantly on attracting pupils from the southern half of the Havering Park Ward and the Petits Ward (north of the A12). Expanding Marshalls Park so aggressively will undoubtedly have an impact on the intake for Bower Park, particularly given Bower Park’s current Ofsted category. Your purpose as a council, we would have assumed, would</i></p>	<p>In Havering we plan for school places on a planning area level. This is in order to reflect localised patterns of movement concerning school attendance. This approach to planning school places on a planning area level is supported by the ESFA.</p> <p>The planning areas used to plan school places in Havering are not arbitrary, but were formed after looking at which primary schools are the main feeder schools for each secondary. This information helped inform how the planning areas should be grouped. For Bower Park, the top feeder primary is a school located in the Havering Park ward which forms the North West planning area where Bower Park is located. For Marshalls Park the top primary feeder school is located in a ward that forms part of the Central planning area where Marshalls Park is located.</p> <p>Bower Park and Marshalls Park are located in separate planning areas. The proposal to expand Marshalls Park is in order to meet the need for schools places from the Central planning area where this school is located.</p> <p>The secondary expansions are being proposed in order to meet the demand for school places from growing communities and housing growth within Havering. It is not possible for the Council to ensure that all secondary schools in Havering are full before considering expansion. Bower Park was allocated up to their PAN in 2015/16 and 2016/17, but by May of each year the year 7 number on roll was down to 167 and 162 respectively. Bower Park also has a number of pupils allocated the school each year who did not express a preference for the school. This shows that although there is demand locally for school places, parents are</p>

be to ensure that all the children of Havering can access a good local school and therefore the focus should be on promoting and developing Havering schools together in a way that is equitable for all, so that no school (and thereby no local community) is disadvantaged by the proposed expansion. The Governors at Bower Park feel that the viability of the Academy (which is currently not full) will be placed at greater risk by carrying through the proposals as drafted and the council would, therefore, be failing the local communities to the north/west of the A12.

Whilst the paper outlines where the population is expected to rise, the borough is divided into arbitrary areas in order to select which schools need to take more students. In many respects, these lines of division could equally be cut in a different way to pool potential students into areas where different schools would require an increased roll. We strongly believe that increased numbers of secondary pupils in the northern part of the central area can be just as easily accommodated by Bower Park as Marshalls Park.

Bower Park is the only school in the North/Central area where expansion is not proposed. It is proposed that our two closest neighbours, Marshalls Park and Drapers Academy, are expanded by three forms of entry in total. Bower Park Academy currently is not full and its 2017/18 intake is likely to be less than PAN. The Council anticipate 128 new places will be needed in 2018/19, yet the proposed expansion is for 150 places. Given that Bower Park could take a further 35 pupils in 2017/18 there would appear to be too many places being created in 2018/19. We would suggest that a less aggressive expansion of places would aid those schools at the periphery of the borough to become full and thereby increasing their resources to further school improvement as the funding follows.

Whilst we understand that parental choice is an important element of our school system, we believe that schools on the periphery of the Borough, in order to thrive, need the same opportunities to attract pupils as those in the Central Area and secondary school PAN planning should play an important part in the drive for all to thrive. In fact, the geographical location of schools at the perimeters of the borough, where natural barriers or sparse population area lead to disadvantage in

choosing not to send their children to Bower Park.

For 2017/18 nearly 100 more Havering residents expressed a preference for and gained a place at an out borough secondary school, when compared to the previous year. The majority of the Havering pupils who were allocated an out borough school were from the Central and North East planning areas, which had the most increased year 6 cohort. Havering residents who were unable to secure a place at a local secondary of choice did not express a preference for a Havering school with places located elsewhere in the borough.

Pupils unable to secure a place at a local popular and successful school is leading to these pupils attending secondary school outside of the borough. However as we implement expansions at our good and outstanding schools in areas of secondary demand, we expect the number of pupils going out borough to reduce.

The Council doesn't feel that the recent PAN rationalisations at several schools in the Central planning area had a negative impact on the school roll at schools in the South. On the contrary, increasing the number of places available at those schools has meant that we have been able to meet parental preferences for more families by meeting the demand for school places at popular and successful schools from growing communities. This in turn has potentially stopped these families from seeking a school place outside of Havering.

The current guidance regarding making significant changes to an open academy states that: "The department expects that only academies that are rated as 'good' or 'outstanding' will seek to expand their premises, in order to increase their intake. Only in very limited circumstances will the RSC consider approval of a proposal to expand from a school in another category." Any decision to expand a school not good or outstanding can only be taken by the Regional Schools Commissioner and as such is not within the remit of the Council to consider. As such the Council is unable to consider expansion of Bower Park at this time.

Havering is a net importer of year 7 pupils and has been for a number of years. However, we did see a reduction in the net import figure last year and we will continue to monitor this going forward. Regarding the robustness of our school roll projections, Havering like every Local Authority, submits updated projections to the ESFA on an annual basis. The ESFA closely monitors the projections submitted each year and do query with the Local Authority any aspect of the projections that it feels warrant further attention. We also maintain a close relationship with our neighbouring boroughs in order to monitor issues that may impact cross border movement of students. Our projections are reviewed on an annual basis and adjustments are made to reflect the most recent trends regarding school attendance.

We will monitor the impact of this initial phase of secondary expansions on all schools in

catchment area, should be positively discriminated for, so as to maintain the infrastructure for the local communities in those areas. Your current proposals clearly negatively discriminate to the detriment of those residents.

The paper references the current Ofsted status of schools where expansion is proposed, although oddly not all. We trust that the selection of schools for expansion is not based on this criterion. As we all know, any Ofsted judgement is historical and may not reflect that school's present delivery let alone that of the future. Furthermore, if schools that have a lower Ofsted grading are denied the opportunity to expand, this could prevent them from accessing the revenue that would help improve standards in the school. As you are aware, Bower Park Academy joined the Empower Learning Academy Trust and is already making rapid progress on its improvement journey as outlined by a recent visit from the Office of the Regional Schools Commissioner. The most recent letter from Tim Coulson dated June 2017, with regard to a visit by Nicola Pruden states, "Nicola visited a wide range of mathematics lessons and looked at a number of exercise books and was encouraged to note that classrooms were purposeful and progress in books appears to have improved since the last visit. There is now much more consistency and improved processes with regard to feedback and next steps. She also met and spoke with a group of students and the letter encapsulates their thoughts as follows: "Nicola suggested that the conversation she had with a group of learners was excellent, and they answered questions with maturity, confidence and honesty. The group said that they could continue to see clear improvement in the quality of teaching, especially in mathematics." From such evidence, it is clear that the Academy is improving at pace. We make this observation not because we believe expansion should be based on Ofsted category, but were it a criterion that the council use then we would argue that it is a poor criterion as what is happening in schools today and tomorrow is not what is on an Ofsted label (some of which are over 5 years old).

In our opinion, the Council should focus on ensuring all the secondary schools in Havering are capable of delivering a first-rate education to those in their local community and this is best achieved by strategically ensuring

Havering and will review future expansion plans if necessary.

all schools are full. A downward spiralling roll for a school that has failed in the past would likely have disastrous consequences on its ability to rapidly improve in the future. We do not believe your current proposals deliver a fair and equitable outcome for all the current and future children of Havering. Falling rolls at Bower Park would present significant challenges to driving up standards at the school and, were this to be caused by the expansion of another local Havering school, this would seem to be an own goal for the council and the community.

We would also ask that the council considers the robustness of its forecasts in the paper as a similar council forecast two years ago resulted in increases in the PANs of a few schools in the borough, yet other schools, mainly in the South of the borough, having been advised that this would not affect their rolls, found themselves struggling with less than full PANs. Seemingly the council did not take into account the outward drift of pupils to neighbouring authorities. We would not like to see the same mistake repeated to the detriment of havering residents.

Our final point concerns the financial vulnerability that the proposed expansion presents to Bower Park Academy. Every school in Havering is struggling to make their budget balance. Increased costs and static government funding is the root cause of the problem. The way to help support all schools in this difficult time is to ensure firstly that they are full and then to expand in a more even manner to increase revenue for each school through increased pupil numbers. If a school is not full, the lost revenue of spare places exacerbates the issues of balancing budgets and makes rapid improvement and the raising of standards increasingly challenging. Our concern is that Bower Park could be placed at risk by your proposals and potentially that the community in the north of the borough would no longer be served by a local secondary school. This would be disastrous for the local area.

Our determination as Governors of Bower Park Academy is to drive up the aspiration and the standards of the school to ensure its journey to good is rapid. There is much goodwill to achieve this in the local community and from the Empower Learning Academy Trust. We would not like this determination to be undermined by council actions that are likely to have a



<p><i>negative impact on our ability to make this happen. In our opinion, the expansion of Marshalls Park should be delayed until to 2019/2020 (as there are clearly enough spaces to meet demand in the previous year), and that it should be a one form entry expansion alongside a one form entry expansion at Bower Park. There is no doubt that Bower Park has the space to accommodate this expansion without any significant infrastructure cost and it would seem more equitable for all the schools in our area to expand to accommodate the rising student population</i></p>	
<p><u>Frances Bardsley Academy for Girls'</u> <i>I write in response to the consultation proposal regarding secondary school expansion. As you are aware, Frances Bardsley Academy is an oversubscribed and successful 11-18 school which retained its Good rating from Ofsted in January 2016. The school PAN was rationalised for the 2016 intake from 220 to 240 students. For 2017 entry we have again filled 240 places and have also had more appeals than ever before, none of which were upheld. The school is traditional and innovative, a founding school in the LIFE Education Trust and an active part of the Havering Learning Partnership of secondary schools and local colleges. We would like to have the opportunity to consider in greater detail and through consultation the possibility of expanding the intake from 240 to 270 students. We are situated in the central planning area which is experiencing the greatest need in terms of pupil places and have a strong track record of delivering good results and a broad and balanced curriculum as well as offering a wide range of extracurricular activities. We have experience of managing expansion recently at the school and of ensuring that the impact on the local community is effectively managed through staggered departure times for students and working with the local authority to ensure suitable exits to nearby</i></p>	<p>We understand that as a popular and successful school, Frances Bardsley is interested in pursuing further expansion from 240 to 270. At this time, we already have plans to meet the need for places from the Central planning area up until 2019/20. Any further planned expansion in the Central planning area will be implemented no earlier than 2020/21. Before any further expansion can be proposed in the Central area we would need to assess the impact of recent expansions already in place. Any expansion to meet the need for places from 2020/21 is also dependent on the Council securing the necessary funding from Central Government needed to implement additional places. Cabinet would also need to approve the proposed expansion and accompanying budget. Furthermore, as a single sex school that has recently expanded, we need to assess the impact of the recent expansion at Frances Bardsley on the gender balance at local schools. Havering already provides more single sex girls' school places than boys' places, so potential further expansion of Frances Bardsley would need careful consideration as this may further widen the gap between the number of girls' and boys' places available</p>

<p><i>bus stops.</i></p> <p><i>Whilst some additional building work would be necessary we could use this opportunity to consider building a Year 7 Centre which could assist with transition from Primary school and offer a bespoke learning environment for our students.</i></p> <p><i>The recent local authority BB103 survey makes it clear that in other respects, the school has sufficient communal spaces as well as a new larger canteen in which to house the greater numbers of students.</i></p> <p><i>I am aware that any expansion to 270 would not occur until the start of the 2019/20 academic year and we would ensure full due diligence is undertaken so that stakeholders are properly consulted and governors can make an informed decision.</i></p>	
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Section 5: Conclusion and Next steps

It is a statutory requirement for all Local Authorities to ensure that there are sufficient school places available for every child living in their Authority that requires a place. These should wherever possible be provided where parents want them.

In summary, all the issues raised have been addressed and there is no compelling evidence for the Local Authority not to support these proposals to meet the Council's statutory duties. The Governing Body and the Academy Trusts of the schools fully support the expansion proposals.

All the schools listed above are academies. As such, if the decision is taken to make the capital funding available for the expansion then these schools will all have to submit a business case to the Department for Education setting out their expansion proposals.

Thank you to all parents, staff, residents and families who have responded and taken time to submit the feedback questionnaires.

Work will continue with all stakeholders and schools up to and beyond the expansion programme to address all concerns and issues that groups or individuals may have.

Section 6: Survey Demographics

As part of our approach in ensuring a best assessment of the impact of our proposed activity and that we hearing from a wide cross-section of our stakeholders, the consultation questionnaire included additional questions to capture this information. The data result is represented as below.

Profile of respondents

Ethnicity

63% of the total respondents provided personal Ethnicity data while 27% preferred not to state their ethnicity. Of those who did, 96% White British, while 4% were made up of African, White Caribbean, Indian and Pakistani background.

Language

71% of the total respondents who were surveyed responded and 29% skipped the question. Of those who responded, 98% of these reported having English as their first language while 2% indicated they had another language other than English as their first.

Age

Of the total respondents surveyed 72% provided age data and 28% did not respond. 41% of participants who responded were aged 35-44, 41% aged between 45-54 while; those aged 18-24 accounted for the lowest at 1%. 10% stated that they were aged between 25-34, 4% aged 45-54 and 3% for over 64 years of age.

Gender

71% of survey participants, who responded, provided Gender data. Of these 72% were female compared to (28%) who were male.

Disability

Of the 72% who answered this question, 4% considered themselves disabled while, 96% stated that they were not.

Pregnancy

64% of the survey participants responded to this question. **(4%) stated that they were pregnant, 3% indicated that they were on maternity leave, (1%) were returning from maternity leave and a majority representing (92%) stated they were not.**

Appendix 1: Consultation Stakeholder List

Consultees
Parents/Carers of children who attend the academy schools proposed for expansion.
Teachers and Other staff at the academy schools proposed for expansion.
The governing bodies and members of the academy trust board of the schools proposed for expansion
Families of pupils in all maintained primary, secondary, special schools and academies in the Borough.
The governing bodies of all maintained & primary, secondary & special schools & academies in the borough.
Teachers and staff of all other maintained primary, secondary, special schools and academies in the Borough.
Early Years Providers in the borough.
Chief and Senior Officers of the London Borough of Havering
Trade unions who represent staff at the schools proposed for expansion, and representatives of any trade union of any other staff at schools who may be affected by the proposals.
All Havering Councillors whose wards include the schools that are subject of the proposal or whose wards are likely to be affected by the proposals
MPs whose constituencies include the schools that are the subject of the proposal or whose constituents are likely to be affected by the proposals. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Julia Dockerill • Andrew Rosindell • Jon Cruddas
Dioceses of Brentwood and Chelmsford <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chelmsford: Tim Elbourne, Director of Education • Brentwood: Moira Bishop, Assistant Director of Education
Neighbouring local authorities where there may be significant cross-border movement of pupils. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • London Borough of Barking and Dagenham • Essex County Council • Thurrock • London Borough of Redbridge

