



CHILDREN & LEARNING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 26 September 2019

Subject Heading:

School Expansion Programme

CLT Lead:

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Policy context:

Education: Statutory responsibility to provide a school place for Havering children

The subject matter of this report deals with the following Council Objectives

Communities making Havering

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SUMMARY

This report updates members of the Committee on the progress of the school expansion programme since the last report in August 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. Under Phase 3 and Phase 4 of the school expansion programme, a total of 19 schools have been expanded which has created an additional 3106 permanent primary and secondary school places in the borough. Although many other London Boroughs and urban areas are currently experiencing a plateau or decrease in demand for primary school places, Havering is still forecasting significant growth in the coming years. This increase in demand is due to rising birth rates, an increase in the number of families moving into the borough and continuing growth in housing development.

There is a continuing need for additional provision to meet the need for Early Years, Primary, Secondary and SEND places in Havering.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The purpose of this report is to inform Members of the School Expansion Plan. Members are asked to note the content of the report.

REPORT DETAIL

1. Background:

- 1.1 Although many other London Boroughs and urban areas are currently experiencing a plateau or decrease in demand for primary school places, Havering is still forecasting significant growth in the coming years.
- 1.2 Havering saw a large increase in the birth rate from 2014/15 to 2015/16: the birth rate in 2014/15 was 3152, which increased to 3464 in 2015/16- an increase of 10% year on year. This has led to a large increase in the projected reception intake for 2020/21.
- 1.3 The birth rate for the following year in 2016/17 fell to 3381, followed by a further reduction in the birth rate in 2017/18 to 3347.
- 1.4 The increase in demand for school places in Havering will be largely driven by the level of housing development planned in the borough, which is projected to continue in order for the borough to meet and exceed its housing target of 17,550 new homes over the 2016/17- 2030/31 period, as set out in the emerging Local Plan and London Plan 2016.
- 1.5 In March 2019, the Cabinet Member for Education approved the Commissioning Plan for Education Provision in Havering 2019-2023. The School Expansion Programme; Update to Phase 4 and Phase 5 expansion programme report is to be considered at September Cabinet.
- 1.6 The Commissioning Plan for Education Provision 2019-2023 contains detailed pupil projections across Early Years, Primary, Secondary, Post 16 and SEND phases whilst also setting out the likely demand for school places as a result of the two housing zones planned for Rainham and Romford.
- 1.7 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. It is intended that the Capital Cost for the update to phase 4 and phase 5 school expansion programme will be funded from a combination of basic need allocation, unallocated capital budget from earlier phases, SEND capital grant and S106 Housing Development contributions.

1.8 Below is a summary of the expansions proposed as part of the Update to Phase 4 and Phase 5 Expansion Programme due to be considered at Cabinet on 18 September 2019. The projected demand in future years is reported in this year's SCAP report and is subject to approval by Cabinet, and therefore is not reported in this update.

2. Early Years

2.1 Plans are underway to increase the Early Years provision in key wards, including Elm Park, Harold Wood, Hacton, Hylands, Pettits, Romford Town and South Hornchurch to meet the growing demand for places for 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.

3. Primary

3.1 The following is proposed to be delivered subject to consultation and statutory processes where necessary as follows, with the proposals for 2023/24 also being dependent on whether growth is sustained:

Collier Row

1FE bulge class at Oasis Pinewood Primary School for 2021/22

Elm Park

1FE bulge class at Suttons Primary School/Scargill Infants School for 2020/21

1FE permanent expansion of RJ Mitchell Primary School for 2021/22

1FE bulge class at Suttons Primary School/Scargill Infants School for 2022/23

Harold Hill

3 x 1FE bulge classes at Drapers' Pyrgo Priory School, Drapers' Maylands and Mead Primary School for 2020/21

1FE permanent expansion of Drapers' Pyrgo Priory School and 1FE bulge class Broadford Primary School for 2022/23

1FE permanent expansion of Broadford Primary School for 2023/24

Hornchurch

1FE bulge class at Langtons Infants School, 1FE bulge class at Harrow Lodge Primary School for 2020/21

1FE bulge class at Langtons Infants School for 2021/22

1FE bulge class at Langtons Infants School for 2023/24

Rainham and South Hornchurch

A new 3FE school delivered as part of Beam Park development for 2021/22

Romford

1FE bulge class at Concordia Primary Academy for 2021/22

1FE bulge class at Concordia Primary Academy for 2022/23
 A new 3FE school delivered as part of Bridge Close development for 2023/24

Upminster and Cranham

1FE bulge class at James Oglethorpe Primary School for 2020/21
 1FE bulge class at James Oglethorpe Primary School for 2021/22
 1FE permanent expansion (school TBC) for 2023/24

New schools

Beam Park- The Rainham and Beam Park Housing Development will see over 3000 new homes delivered. Due to this housing growth the need for a new 3FE primary school has been identified. The new primary school is currently due to open in 2021/22.

Bridge Close- The current housing trajectory sees over 5,300 new homes due to be delivered in the Romford area over the Local Plan period. Due to the housing growth planned for Romford, we are projecting the need for a new 3 form of entry primary school. We are currently exploring the opportunity to secure the Bridge Close school through Wave 14 for free schools. If not successful through Wave 14, then the Local Authority will run a competition to open the Bridge Close school through the free school presumption route. The new school is currently due to open in 2023/24 although this will be closely linked to the delivery of the new housing.

4. Secondary

4.1 The following expansion proposals were included in the previous OSC report, but were subsequently not implemented

1FE permanent expansion at one of the secondary schools in area 2024/25 and reinstate Sanders back to its original PAN of 192 from 2024/25.

In addition, Bower Park Academy has submitted a business case that if approved by the Secretary of State would see the Academy expand by 1FE from 2020/21. This proposal was part of an earlier phase of the expansion programme.

School	Phase	Planning area	Proposal	Implemented	Reason
Drapers' Pyrgo Priory School	Primary	Harold Hill	Expansion from 2FE to 3FE for 2017/18.	No	Business case was not submitted by the Academy. Places were not

					needed.
Emerson Park Academy	Secondary	Central	Expansion from 7FE to 8FE	No	Places were not required

5. SEND

5.1 In order to meet the increasing need, it is proposed that the LA implements more ARPs that focus on supporting children who have ASD and SEMH, particularly in early years and primary schools.

5.2 The following ARPs are proposed:

- 1 ARP at Nelmes Primary School 12 places for ASD
- 1 ARP at Scotts Primary School 12 places for ASD
- 1 ARP at Suttons Primary School 12 places for SEMH
- 1 ARP at a secondary school for ASD needs.
- 1 ARP at Beam Park School 12 places for ASD/SEMH
- 1 ARP at a secondary school for ASD and SEMH needs.

An ARP for 18 places – 6 places (2-4) and 12 places (4-11) for pupils with ASD and SEMH as part of the Bridge Close development.

5.3 Following the outcome of a successful bid to the Schools Nursery Capital Fund, the Local Authority will implement a 20 place nursery provision at Forest Approach Academy for 2, 3 and 4 year old pupils with SEND. The provision will be ready to open in September 2020

5.4 In addition, 2019/20 will see New Post 16 (sixth form) provision at Forest Approach Academy, which will take 14 pupils for Sept 2019. The intake will increase to respond to local demand. Corbets Tey will increase places from 155 to 170 places in 2021/22

5.5 In April 2017, the LA was notified that it had been successful in submitting an 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. Unity Schools Partnership Trust has been identified as the sponsor for this school which will be located on part of the St Edward's CofE Academy site, which is also sponsored by Unity. The school is due to open 2022/23

6. Next Steps:

- 6.1 Statutory processes are needed for any school expansion, including pre-consultation activity, publication of statutory notices, and implementation of decisions.
- 6.2 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. Academies are required to submit a business case to the DfE which needs to be approved by the relevant Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC), on behalf of the Secretary of State.
- 6.3 The LA makes annual statutory returns to the DfE regarding our projected school place demand (School Capacity Collection “SCAP” return). Future Cabinet reports will provide updates to the pupil projections, and identify plans to meet the expected demand for school places beyond what has already been identified in the September 2019 report: Update to Phase 4 and Phase 5 expansion Programme.

IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

Financial implications and risks:

Capital;

The Expansion Programme included within the Sept 2019 Cabinet report 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 in 2019/20, and this will need to be factored into the Autumn 2019 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. There are no apparent legal implications in noting the content of the Report.

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:

The Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 requires the Council, when exercising its functions, to have due regard to:

- (i) The need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010
- (ii) The need to advance equality of opportunity between persons who share protected characteristics and those who do not, and;
- (iii) Foster good relations between those who have protected characteristics and those who do not.

Note: 'Protected characteristics' are age, sex, race, disability, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnerships, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity and gender reassignment.

The Council is committed to all of the above in the provision, procurement and commissioning of its services, and the employment of its workforce. In addition, the Council is also committed to improving the quality of life and wellbeing for all Havering residents in respect of socio-economics and health determinants.

An Equality Analysis was conducted for Phase 4 of the Primary Expansion Programme and the issues arising from that analysis are in general still applicable and will be given due regard. The Commissioning Plan for Education Provision 2019-2023 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.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Appendix 1 – Commissioning Plan