

28 January 2014		ITEM: 6
Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee		
Pupil Place Plan (2014-2018)		
Report of: Janet Clark, Strategic Lead – Operations, Resources and Libraries Unit		
Wards and communities affected: All	Key Decision: Key	
Accountable Head of Service: Carmel Littleton, Director of Children's Services		
Accountable Director: Carmel Littleton, Director of Children's Services		
This report is Public		
Purpose of Report: To present the Pupil place Plan (2014-2018) and highlight the planning areas where demand for school places is projected to exceed available number of places from the 2014 to 2018.		

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Authority published Pupil Place Plan (2013-2017) last year. This has now been updated with the publication of the draft Pupil Place Plan (2014-2018). This is attached for the comments of Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

The Pupil Place Plan gives information about the supply of school places in the Authority and forecasts pupil numbers for the next five years, setting the context of the provision of school places in the Authority.

1. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1.1 Overview and Scrutiny Committee is asked to comment and propose any amendments to help shape the plan prior to final publication of the document.**

2. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND:

- 2.1** Thurrock has a statutory duty to provide a school place for every child living in its area of responsibility, who is of school age and whose parents want their child educated in the state funded sector.
- 2.2** To aid meeting this statutory duty, the Authority published a Pupil Place Plan last year for the period 2013 to 2017. The plan identified a shortfall of school places in certain areas. This resulted in the Authority creating addition 165 reception year places to meet demand in this academic year (2013/14) and

commencing the expansion of some primary schools to accommodate future projected demand.

- 2.3 Since demographic population changes, the plan is reviewed annually and updated in line with changes in the factors that influence the demand for places in the area such as new housing or changing demographic profile.
- 2.4 Work on the next draft Pupil place Plan for the period 2014 to 2018 has recently been completed and the document is attached for your review. The Pupil Place Plan gives information about the supply of school places in the Authority and forecasts pupil numbers for the next five years, setting the context of the provision of school places in the Authority.

3. ISSUES, OPTIONS AND ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS:

Primary Schools

- 3.1 The Pupil Place Plan (2014-2018) indicates that additional reception year places will be required in the following planning areas over the next five years: Grays North, Grays East, Grays West, Purfleet, Chafford Hundred, Rural Areas, Chadwell St Marys and Aveley.
- 3.2 Thurrock operates 12 primary planning areas for the purpose of projecting and reviewing the demand from pupils needing places against the school capacity available in an 'area'.
- 3.3 The table below summarises the total number of Reception places that is projected to be required over the next five years.

Planning Area	Projected shortfall Sept 2014	Projected total shortfall (Sept 2014-2018)
Grays North	-2	-41
Grays East	-13	-133
Grays West	-71	-519
Chafford Hundred	-11	-13
Chadwell St Marys	-19	-21
Rural Areas	-12	-53
Purfleet	NIL	-28
Aveley	NIL	-11

- 3.4 In 2014, it is expected that the projected shortfall of reception places in Grays East, Grays West and Chafford Hundred will be met by the new Harris Free School that will open in Sept 2014 as a 3FE. From 2016, the new Harris Free School will increase their intake from 90 to 150 reception children each academic year. This increase will readily meet the demand for places in Grays West and Chafford Hundred through till 2018.
- 3.5 One of the schools in the Chadwell St Mary planning area has advised the Authority that the school would be increasing their admission number from 60

to 90 in September 2014. This would mean that the projected shortfall of 19 places in 2014 will be met by the school and therefore remove the pressure in that area.

- 3.6 The projected shortfall of places in the rural planning area will be met in adjacent planning area where there is some capacity from September 2014.
- 3.7 The projected shortfall of two places in the Grays North planning area will be met in adjacent planning area where there is capacity in 2014 and in 2017, the possibility of one of the schools in the area taking a bulge reception class will be discussed with both schools. This will address the projected shortfall of 31 places in September 2017.
- 3.8 The projected shortfall of places in Purfleet will not be sustained. It is therefore proposed to meet the shortfall through bulges.

Secondary Schools

- 3.9 The Pupil Place Plan (2014-2018) indicates that additional Year 7 places will be required in the following three planning areas over the next five years: Chadwell St Mary & Tilbury, Chafford Hundred and Ockendon.
- 3.10 The table below summarises the total number of places that is projected to be required over the next five years.

Planning Area	Projected shortfall Sept 2014	Projected total shortfall (Sept 2014-2018)
Chadwell St Mary & Tilbury	Nil	-44
Chafford Hundred	-9	-181
Ockendon	Nil	-28

- 3.11 The secondary school in the Chadwell St Mary & Tilbury planning area plans to increase their PAN from 210 to 240 from September 2015. This will remove the projected shortfall of places in the Chadwell St Mary & Tilbury planning area from 2016 to 2018.
- 3.12 There are a number of surplus places in schools that are within reasonable distance of Chafford Hundred, which will meet the shortfall in demand in this planning area.
- 3.13 In the Ockendon planning area, there is a projected shortfall of 4 places in 2016, 11 in 2017 and 13 in 2018. These are marginal shortfalls and appropriate measures will be considered to address the projected shortfall.

4. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION:

- 4.1 Section 14(1) of the Education Act 1996 places a legal duty on local authorities to secure sufficient primary and secondary school places for children in their area.

5. CONSULTATION (including Overview and Scrutiny, if applicable)

- 5.1 The document has been sent to maintained schools, Academies and the Free school for consultation.

6. IMPACT ON CORPORATE POLICIES, PRIORITIES, PERFORMANCE AND COMMUNITY IMPACT

- 6.1 The issues in this paper support one of the five strategic priorities in the vision of the Authority: *To create a great place for learning and opportunity* - by supporting families to give children the best possible start in life; and raising levels of aspirations and attainment so that local residents can take advantage of job opportunities in the local area.

7. IMPLICATIONS

7.1 Financial

Implications verified by: **Kay Goodacre**
Telephone and email: **01375 652466**
kgoodacre@thurrock.gov.uk

School places are funded through allocations of the Dedicated Schools Grant, which is linked to the number of pupils within school, although it is lagged by one year, so significant growth can put some short term pressure on School Budgets.

The Capital costs of providing the infrastructure to provide more School places are generally funded through Basic Needs Capital Grants, although there is continual pressure on these costs and in some cases there would be the need to borrow to support further development. These costs would be detailed within the Schools Capital plan.

7.2 Legal

Implications verified by: **Lucinda Bell**
Telephone and email: lucinda.bell@BDTLegal.org.uk
07971316599

S14 of the Education Act 1996 requires that a Local Authority secures sufficient schools in its area.

7.3 **Diversity and Equality**

Implications verified by: **Samson DeAlyn**
Telephone and email: **01375652472**
Sdealyn@thurrock.gov.uk

The Pupil Place Plan aims to inform the Thurrock Capital Programme to improve learning environments for young people, support improvements in standards, raise aspirations and give all children the best possible start in life.

7.4 **Other implications (where significant) – i.e. Section 17, Risk Assessment, Health Impact Assessment, Sustainability, IT, Environmental**

None

BACKGROUND PAPERS USED IN PREPARING THIS REPORT (include their location and identify whether any are exempt or protected by copyright):

- Pupil Place Plan (2014-2018)

APPENDICES TO THIS REPORT:

- Pupil Place Plan (2014-2018)

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