

Thurrock: A place of opportunity, enterprise and excellence, where
individuals, communities and businesses flourish

Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee

The meeting will be held at **7.00 pm** on **10 March 2015**

Committee Room 1, Civic Offices, New Road, Grays, Essex, RM17 6SL.

Membership:

Councillors Val Morris-Cook (Chair), James Halden (Vice-Chair), Charles Curtis, Martin Kerin, Tunde Ojetola and Graham Snell

Reverend Darren Barlow, Church of England Representative

Substitutes:

Councillors Jan Baker, Terry Brookes, Mark Coxshall, Sue Gray, Yash Gupta (MBE) and Sue MacPherson

Agenda

Open to Public and Press

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Queries regarding this Agenda or notification of apologies:

Please contact Stephanie Cox, Senior Democratic Services Officer by sending an email to Direct.Democracy@thurrock.gov.uk

Agenda published on: **2 March 2015**

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DECLARING INTERESTS FLOWCHART – QUESTIONS TO ASK YOURSELF

Breaching those parts identified as a pecuniary interest is potentially a criminal offence

Helpful Reminders for Members

- *Is your register of interests up to date?*
- *In particular have you declared to the Monitoring Officer all disclosable pecuniary interests?*
- *Have you checked the register to ensure that they have been recorded correctly?*

When should you declare an interest *at a meeting*?

- **What matters are being discussed at the meeting?** (including Council, Cabinet, Committees, Subs, Joint Committees and Joint Subs); or
- If you are a Cabinet Member making decisions other than in Cabinet **what matter is before you for single member decision?**



Does the business to be transacted at the meeting

- relate to; or
- likely to affect

any of your registered interests and in particular any of your Disclosable Pecuniary Interests?

Disclosable Pecuniary Interests shall include your interests or those of:

- your spouse or civil partner's
- a person you are living with as husband/ wife
- a person you are living with as if you were civil partners

where you are aware that this other person has the interest.

A detailed description of a disclosable pecuniary interest is included in the Members Code of Conduct at Chapter 7 of the Constitution. **Please seek advice from the Monitoring Officer about disclosable pecuniary interests.**

What is a Non-Pecuniary interest? – this is an interest which is not pecuniary (as defined) but is nonetheless so significant that a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts, would reasonably regard to be so significant that it would materially impact upon your judgement of the public interest.

Pecuniary

If the interest is not already in the register you must (unless the interest has been agreed by the Monitoring Officer to be sensitive) disclose the existence and nature of the interest to the meeting

If the Interest is not entered in the register and is not the subject of a pending notification you must within 28 days notify the Monitoring Officer of the interest for inclusion in the register

Unless you have received dispensation upon previous application from the Monitoring Officer, you must:

- Not participate or participate further in any discussion of the matter at a meeting;
- Not participate in any vote or further vote taken at the meeting; and
- leave the room while the item is being considered/voted upon

If you are a Cabinet Member you may make arrangements for the matter to be dealt with by a third person but take no further steps

Non- pecuniary

Declare the nature and extent of your interest including enough detail to allow a member of the public to understand its nature



You may participate and vote in the usual way but you should seek advice on Predetermination and Bias from the Monitoring Officer.

Vision: Thurrock: A place of **opportunity**, **enterprise** and **excellence**, where **individuals**, **communities** and **businesses** flourish.

To achieve our vision, we have identified five strategic priorities:

1. Create a great place for learning and opportunity

- Ensure that every place of learning is rated “Good” or better
- Raise levels of aspiration and attainment so that residents can take advantage of local job opportunities
- Support families to give children the best possible start in life

2. Encourage and promote job creation and economic prosperity

- Promote Thurrock and encourage inward investment to enable and sustain growth
- Support business and develop the local skilled workforce they require
- Work with partners to secure improved infrastructure and built environment

3. Build pride, responsibility and respect

- Create welcoming, safe, and resilient communities which value fairness
- Work in partnership with communities to help them take responsibility for shaping their quality of life
- Empower residents through choice and independence to improve their health and well-being

4. Improve health and well-being

- Ensure people stay healthy longer, adding years to life and life to years
- Reduce inequalities in health and well-being and safeguard the most vulnerable people with timely intervention and care accessed closer to home
- Enhance quality of life through improved housing, employment and opportunity

5. Promote and protect our clean and green environment

- Enhance access to Thurrock's river frontage, cultural assets and leisure opportunities
- Promote Thurrock's natural environment and biodiversity
- Inspire high quality design and standards in our buildings and public space

Minutes of the Meeting of the Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 10 February 2015 at 7.00 pm

- Present:** Councillors James Halden (Vice-Chair, in the Chair), Charles Curtis, Martin Kerin and Graham Snell
- Reverend Darren Barlow, Church of England Representative
- Apologies:** Councillors Val Morris-Cook (Chair) and Tunde Ojetola
- Patricia Wilson, Roman Catholic Church Representative
- In attendance:** Carmel Littleton, Director of Children's Services
Andrew Carter, Head of Care and Targeted Outcomes
Ruth Brock, School Improvement Manager
Alan Cotgrove
Wendy Warman, Development Manager
Saania Ali, Youth Cabinet Representative
James Henderson, Youth Cabinet Representative
Stephanie Cox, Senior Democratic Services Officer
-

Before the start of the Meeting, all present were advised that the meeting may be filmed and was being recorded, with the audio recording to be made available on the Council's website.

24. Minutes

The Minutes of the Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee, held on 6 January 2015, were approved as a correct record.

25. Items of Urgent Business

There were no urgent items of business.

26. Declaration of Interests

Reverend Barlow declared a non-pecuniary interest in the general business of the meeting as he had children attending St Thomas Primary School, Grays Convent and Palmer's College. He was also a trustee and corporation member at Palmer's College and his wife was employed at St Thomas Primary School.

Councillor Curtis declared a non-pecuniary interest in the general business of the meeting by virtue that he had grandchildren attending Bulphan School and is a Governor at the Ockendon Academy.

The Chair advised that he proposed to bring forward 'Item 7, Youth Consultation – alternative ways of working to support young people across Thurrock' on the agenda, following which the remaining items would be taken in the order printed. Members were in agreement.

27. Youth Consultation alternative ways of working to support young people across Thurrock

The Development Manager introduced the report which outlined the results of the consultation that had been supported by Youth Cabinet, in order to examine alternative delivery models for youth activities across Thurrock.

Members were advised that the response to the consultation had been positive and that 383 responses had been received and that following further focus groups and polls on social media the name 'Inspire' had been chosen to brand provision going forward.

A Youth Cabinet representative explained that she was part of the Youth Hub Committee, and felt that this had been a good opportunity to review the needs of young people. She added that the last refresh had been some time ago and that the recent work would be of benefit to young people in Thurrock.

Councillor Kerin observed that it was important to work with young people regarding Not in Education Employment or Training (NEET) figures as this affected their age group and he valued their opinion. Members were advised that it was important to take into account the views of young people and that there had been a significant reduction in NEET figures to 5.4%.

A Youth Cabinet representative advised Members that the Youth Cabinet were keen to run more campaigns and he thought an examination of the NEET issue would be of interest. He informed Members that he would report back to the Youth Cabinet Participation Officer to see if this could be progressed further.

Rev Barlow highlighted that responses varied widely across the Borough and was concerned that young people in isolated communities such as Bulphan, Fobbing and West Tilbury could become disconnected from service provision. In response the Development Manager assured Members that young people were surveyed in schools and youth groups across the Borough.

Councillor Curtis asked whether partnership working could be developed to offer a wider breadth of services with local providers, especially in light of budget savings and the closure of Culver House, and whether youth clubs could be run at other facilities such as the Ockendon School on evenings and weekends.

The Director of Children's Services advised that they were looking to increase partnership working to offer a wider breadth of services with local providers. Councillor Halden encouraged Youth Cabinet be involved in the Supporting Pathways into Work for Young People task and finish review and requested

that they be invited to the first meeting. Democratic Services advised that Youth Cabinet representatives would be invited once the date was arranged.

Councillor Halden felt that the Council was very good at consulting with Youth Cabinet on issues that affected young people directly, but questioned whether much work was being undertaken in relation to less obvious youth related issues such as regeneration. The Youth Cabinet representative explained that a Regeneration Officer had recently presented at Youth Cabinet and felt that young people's voices were heard, however they would like to see greater feedback on how their views were implemented.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That the consultation feedback be noted and the Youth Cabinet formally applauded for the good work they undertook in developing and analysing the feedback.**
- 2. That Members endorse the work of the Project Team, supported by members of the Youth Cabinet, to explore alternative delivery models for Youth Related Activities.**
- 3. That the findings of the youth survey be used to inform services for young people.**

28. Commissioning of Local Authority Day Nurseries in Tilbury

The Director of Children's Services briefly introduced the report which set out the recommendations for the commissioning out of two local authority day nurseries in Tilbury, Little Pirates and Neptune Nursery.

The Interim Strategic Leader for School Improvement further added that this would continue to provide high quality service provision.

Members were advised that staff and parents had been consulted and that the main concerns raised included the quality of provision, staffing futures and that the location and number of places remained the same. The Committee were assured that the TUPE scheme would apply for all staff.

Members were concerned how a private enterprise could save £62,000 in the operation of the nurseries whilst generating a profit, and questioned whether a business plan was in place. Members also questioned how realistic the plans were that a provider could be found in light of the budget shortfall, and why the Council could not make the service more profitable.

The Director of Children's Services advised the Committee that:

- It was expected that an external provider could make a capital investment without increasing fees or staff reductions so as to ensure the nurseries profitability and that money could be saved in back office functions. It was reported this was more difficult for the

Local Authority which was only responsible for two nurseries, and that a larger provider would be able to make greater savings in relation to back office or administrative functions.

- In both nurseries the numbers were very good; there was high demand and waiting lists and a demand for funded places.
- A safety net was also in place so that if a suitable provider could not be found the local authority could keep the nurseries “in-house” until an alternative could be identified.
- The nurseries were not losing money and that there had been a considerable amount of interest from external providers to bid for the operation of the day nurseries.
- The Council did not have the capital money required to reinvest into the service to increase profitability.

A Member asked whether by commissioning out the two day nurseries if there was a danger that the Council could become deskilled, to which officers explained that the Local Authority had minimal oversight as this was driven by statutory partners.

Members were particularly concerned that an external provider would be inclined to increase prices. The Interim Strategic Leader for School Improvement explained that there was considerable scope for expansion at both nurseries as there was not enough provision for 2 year olds to meet demand. It was explained that with greater capital investment a greater profit could be achieved but Members were assured that an affordability factor would be written into the tender. It was further reported that there was not a great amount of variance in the cost of nursery places, as they had to remain competitive, and that a review of prices would be undertaken each year.

Members recognised that the proposal was a sensible idea but were keen that guarantees would be put in place in order to maintain the number of nursery places and guarantee the quality of service provision, to which it was explained that quality would be managed by OFSTED inspections.

RESOLVED

- 1. That the committee note the contents of the report, including the recommendations set out below to be agreed by Cabinet on 11 February 2015.**
 - **That it be agreed to commission out the two local authority run day nurseries in Tilbury as one unit, subject to the service specification, in order to maintain the number of places and service quality.**
 - **That a full range of early years and childcare services continues to be offered in Tilbury including provision for funded early education for two, three and four year olds.**
 - **That it be agreed to proceed to tender, as outlined in the commissioning report included at appendix 1.**

- **That authority be delegated to the Director of Children's Services in consultation with the relevant Portfolio Holder to proceed to tender and award the Contract to the successful provider.**

29. Thurrock Local Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report 2013-2014

The Business Manager sent the apologies of the Independent Chair of the Local Safeguarding Board and introduced the annual report which provided an account of the activity that had been conducted to oversee safeguarding services within Thurrock and to assess their effectiveness.

It was reported that the membership of the board from each agency was very good, and included five statutory partners such as the Police, NHS alongside representatives from Education, the Community and Voluntary Sector and commissioned service providers.

Members were advised that there had been a policy development refresh of Pan Essex Child Protection Procedures and the key achievements of 2013-14 were highlighted which included:

- The 2013 Conference on the Voice of the child.
- A managed review of fabricated illness.
- A responsive multi agency learning and development programme.
- The launch of the new LSCB website which to date had reached 29,461 hits and was used by both professionals and the community.
- The examination of water safety and child deaths in swimming pools.
- An information stand at the Big Lunch and Tilbury Family Festival events.
- Work with Youth Cabinet to evolve the young ambassador's programme for the LSCB.
- The survivors of Child Abuse conference.
- Walk Online Roadshows, in response to Police intelligence that victims of online crime were getting younger and younger.

The Committee were advised that the service had been awarded runner-up in the category of 'Innovator of the Year' at the Local Authority Awards and were funded through partnership funding, which had not increased in four years.

Members thanked all those involved for an excellent report, welcomed the greater focus on outcomes and commended the LSCB on their key achievements.

Officers explained that some outcomes had been particularly challenging, such as the Voice of the Child and ensuring that the needs of young people who required support were met.

Rev Barlow asked whether in light of the recent report from the BBC regarding the online issues that faced young people, if the funding was sufficient for the task that lay ahead. In response officers explained that it was important to examine funding not only in financial terms but in relation to resources available. It was reported that practice was regularly examined across all agencies to ensure they were effective as they could be, such as the Early Offer of Help Service.

Rev Barlow further observed that the £151,000 budget was comparatively small to the budget of the local authority, to which the Director of Children's Services explained that although the budget available was relatively small; in reality the LSCB had access through its statutory partners to an operating capacity of many of millions of pounds.

Councillor Curtis questioned whether the statutory partners still fully supported the work of the LSCB in light of the budget challenges faced by all agencies, to which officers assured Members that all agencies were committed to this work.

Councillor Halden recognised that Essex Police had recently embedded a new Victims Charter and asked whether all agencies should have a Victims Charter, not just the Police. In response, officers explained that there was a national charter that had been adopted and all agencies had its own victim support process.

Councillor Halden was concerned that information sharing between agencies was not as good as it should be, and questioned what power the LSCB had to hold agencies to account. The Business Manager advised that there was no specific power, but the LSCB had the right to challenge its statutory partners and others and this feedback was provided and acted upon by board members.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That the progress made on children's safeguarding for the 12 month period April 2013 to March 2014 be noted.**
- 2. That the Committee consider and comment upon the report.**

30. Learning from the Serious Case Review of "Julia"

The Head of Children's Social Care advised Members of the process of the serious case review, following which the Business Manger reported that Regulation 5 of the Local Safeguarding Children's Board Regulations 2006 set out the requirement for a serious case review to be undertaken in instances where abuse or neglect of a child was known or suspected, and where either the child died or was seriously harmed and there was cause for concern as to how the Authority, their Board Partners or relevant people worked together to safeguard the child.

The Committee were advised that this case had been referred to the Thurrock Local Safeguarding Children Board Serious Case Review Panel and they were satisfied that it met the specified criteria, following which a case review had been undertaken using the SCIE Learning Together Methodology.

A Member questioned how all agencies had been notified of the serious case review and whether this had included the Chief Executive of Thurrock Council. Members of the Committee were concerned that this case had not been highlighted to Elected Members earlier, until details were released in the local press.

The Director of Children's Services reported that the case review had been included on the Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee work programme, and that it had been referred to the next available meeting after the report had been published online.

Members were advised of the SCIE review process and that it used the case to identify where processes could be improved so that it was learning specific.

The Head of Children's Social Care advised Members in detail of the seven specific findings of the serious case review, which were outlined in the report.

Members indicated that there was no doubt that the young person was let down a number of agencies and her family, and observed that it was evident that there was a lack of good communication and no oversight or coordination between the different agencies who were involved.

The Head of Children's Social Care highlighted that information was being shared; however there was not sufficient analysis of the information or challenge when matters were not progressed.

Councillor Halden was alarmed at the fact that on a number of occasions there was no record of a response by Children's Social Care. The Head of Children's Social Care shared this alarm at the poor recording and reported that the service was auditing cases to ensure accurate recording.

Councillor Halden further reported his concern regarding the mistaken belief that the young person could not be seen without her mother, and questioned whether further training for Social Workers was required. In response officers explained that they did not believe this was a result of a lack of understanding but agreed that this needed action.

Councillor Kerin highlighted that the role of GP's was critical, as everyone was registered with a GP and they played a valuable role in the reporting of missed appointments. He further questioned whether there was a Safeguarding GP for Thurrock and felt that if there had of been the outcome for the young person could have been different.

In response the Committee were advised that each GP surgery in Thurrock had a designated safeguarding lead and GP's regularly attended meetings of

the board, as well as other work that included regular slots on GP forums and a training programme for doctors to become Child Sexual Exploitation Champions.

Councillor Snell highlighted that despite having identified the young person was having difficulties at school the case was closed and felt that the case should have not been closed as non-engagement by the mother was not a valid excuse. He added that if Social Workers had identified this further harm could have been prevented.

In response the Head of Children's Social Care explained that the purpose of the review was to identify where improvements could be made, and assured Members that one single Social Worker could not close a whole case, rather this was a whole system response.

Members raised concerns regarding the reporting process of the case to Elected Members in general and Overview and Scrutiny in particular, and felt that the serious case review should have been actively brought to Members attention earlier.

Members questioned how there were no concerns identified for the young person's half-sibling, despite the fact that she would have been exposed to a similar level of risk. In response officers explained that this was why it was important to produce a single assessment for a whole family in order to take a holistic approach, rather than a single method of assessment on individuals.

Members asked how the service would tackle non-engagement of a parent in future, to which the Head of Children's Social Care explained that a Children in Need Plan would be established and firm targets set so that if these were not met by a parent the Children's Social Care team could escalate the case as required, whether to a Supervision Order or a Court, in order to illicit change.

Councillor Curtis asked whether Children's Social Care had enough powers to elicit necessary change, to which the Director of Children's Services explained that powers rested with the Court, but that it was important the case was escalated by the service to enact these powers.

Rev Barlow observed that there was much preoccupation with the mother and questioned whether the reason why the case was not escalated was due to a high workload of the Social Workers. Officers felt that the workload of Social Workers was reasonable, rather the issues identified were regarding the lack of appropriate escalation of the case from a Children in Need plan to a Children Protection Plan and ultimately to the Court.

The Committee feared that the same problems could happen again in future and were concerned whether this was an isolated case or an inherent structural problem. The Head of Children's Social Care explained that everyone remained vigilant and that mechanisms were in place to ensure that concerns were identified and acted upon as soon as possible. He further

added that he could not guarantee that similar instances could not occur again in future, however he was confident that the same mistakes could not be made again as there were new mechanisms in place and greater awareness cross-agencies.

Members were sobered to learn that over twenty professionals had been involved in the young person's case, and were concerned that sufficient measures were not in place to prevent the same mistakes in future.

The Committee were advised that every agency involved in the case had contributed to the action plan and inter-agency training had been delivered to overcome the challenges identified. The Director of Children's Services added that all individuals involved in the case had also contributed to the review to establish the learning points.

Members stated that the report was upsetting reading but was well contextualised and presented, and requested that it be easily accessible.

Councillor Halden requested that officers undertake a Peer Review to ensure that lessons could be learned.

The Chair proposed a number of new recommendations to which the Committee agreed; as it was felt it was not adequate to simply note the report.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That the Committee welcomed the paper from the Local Safeguarding Children's Board, but Members were extremely concerned with the findings.**
- 2. That officers be instructed to refer a protocol to the Corporate Parenting Committee, detailing procedures for informing members and the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee of such serious issues in future.**
- 3. That officers be instructed to prepare a report for Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee regarding a form of a comprehensive peer review for Thurrock's Social Work team based on the findings of the report.**
- 4. That the Committee requests that the Cabinet Member to make a statement to the full council to explain what action the Council will take to prevent such corporate failings happening again.**
- 5. That the multi-agency action plan be referred to the next practicable meeting of Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee.**

31. Work Programme

Democratic Services highlighted the remaining items on the work programme, and advised Members that the items requested on the previous item would be included.

The Committee were advised that six items were outstanding on the work programme, and if the multi-agency action plan could be referred to the next meeting as requested by Members, it was recommended that some less urgent items be updated in the form of a briefing note due to time constraints.

The Director of Children's Services advised that an update regarding the Admissions Forum could be supplied to Members in the form of a briefing note, to which the Committee agreed; however Members requested that all other items remain on the work programme for March.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That an update on the Admissions Forum be provided to Members in the form of a briefing note.**
- 2. That the Serious Case Peer Review and Multi-Agency Action Plan be added to the work programme as appropriate.**
- 3. That the work programme be noted.**

The meeting finished at 9.19 pm

Approved as a true and correct record

CHAIR

DATE

**Any queries regarding these Minutes, please contact
Democratic Services at Direct.Democracy@thurrock.gov.uk**

10 March 2015	ITEM: 5
Children’s Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee	
Child Sexual Exploitation – Update	
Wards and communities affected: All	Key Decision: Non key
Report of: Andrew Carter	
Accountable Head of Service: Andrew Carter	
Accountable Director: Carmel Littleton. Director of Children’s Services	
This report is Public	

Executive Summary

This report provides an update on the Children’s Social Care, CSE Action Plan previously presented to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 11.11.14.

This report also provides an update on current actions taken by Children’s Social Care in response to the Ofsted Thematic Inspection - The sexual exploitation of children: it couldn’t happen here, could it?

1. Recommendation(s)

1.1 This report has been requested by the Committee and is for the purpose of updating the committee on progress against the CSE Action Plan.

2. Introduction and Background

2.1 Please see the attached report presented to the 11.11.14 Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

2.2 Since the publication of the Jay Report, Ofsted have published the outcome of their thematic review of CSE – The sexual exploitation of children: it couldn’t happen here, could it? (17.11.14)

2.3 The Ofsted Thematic makes the following key findings:

2.3.1 Strategic leadership

- full responsibilities to prevent child sexual exploitation, to protect victims and to pursue and prosecute the perpetrators are not being met
- the pace to meet statutory duties is too slow
- local arrangements are poorly informed by local issues and self-assessment do not link up with other local strategic plans
- specific training - is of good quality but it is not always reaching those that need it most

2.3.2 Performance management

- local authorities are not collecting or sharing with their partners the information they need in order to have an accurate picture of the full extent of child sexual exploitation in their area
- not all local authorities and LSCBs evaluate how effectively they are managing child sexual exploitation cases

2.3.3 Findings from practice

- formal child protection procedures are not always followed
- screening and assessment tools are not well or consistently used
- plans are not robust: CIN are poor; child protection and looked-after children plans vary in quality; no contingency plan in place if the initial plan was not successful
- plans for CIN are not routinely reviewed
- management oversight is not strong enough to ensure cases are always being properly progressed or monitored in line with the plan
- a dedicated child sexual exploitation team does not always ensure that children receive an improved service

2.3.4 Disrupting and prosecuting perpetrators

- full range of powers to disrupt and prosecute perpetrators are not being used

2.3.5 Missing children

- too many children do not have a return interview following a missing episode
- not cross-referencing CSE information with frequently absent from school even when the correct protocols are used, too many children still go missing

2.4.1 The Ofsted Thematic made the following recommendations for local authorities

- improve management oversight of assessments, plans and case review arrangements
- every child returning from a missing episode is given a return interview; set of standards; information centrally collated
- schools and the local authority cross-reference absence information with risk assessments for individual children and young people
- establish a targeted preventative and self-protection programme on child sexual exploitation for looked after children

2.4.2 Local authorities and partners:

- develop and publish a CSE action plan; progress should be regularly shared with strategic boards and senior leaders
- proactive sharing of information and intelligence
- consider using child sexual exploitation assessment tools
- have sufficient therapeutic support available
- experiences of victims and families should inform strategies and plans
- enable professionals to build stable, trusting and lasting relationships with children and young people
- effectiveness of local schools in raising awareness

3. Issues, Options and Analysis of Options

3.1 In response to the Ofsted recommendations we have:

3.1.1 Improved management oversight of assessments, plans and case review arrangements

3.1.2 A review of all current cases of suspected CSE and medium to high risks of CSE is ongoing as set out in the previous report to committee on 11.11.15. The review will look back at cases up to 5 years previous to 2014.

3.1.3 A dedicated Senior Social Worker for CSE cases is being recruited to strengthen our assessment, planning and review arrangements.

3.2 Every child returning from a missing episode is given a return interview; set of standards; information centrally collated

3.2.1 'Returning interviews' have been commissioned from Open Door and all young people are offered independent interviews.

3.3 Schools and the local authority cross-reference absence information with risk assessments for individual children and young people

3.3.1 Children missing education are closely monitored by Children's Services. A weekly report is provided to the DCS and monitored to ensure that children are in appropriate educational provision and safeguarded. Children missing education are considered at the Children Missing Panel where there are additional concerns about their welfare.

3.4 Establish a targeted preventative and self-protection programme on child sexual exploitation for looked after children

3.4.1 We are consulting with partners to develop an appropriate programme and aim to launch this from April 2015.

3.5 Local authorities and partners:

3.5.1 Develop and publish a CSE action plan; progress should be regularly shared with strategic boards and senior leaders. A local CSE Action Plan and revised Strategy CSE are in place.

3.5.2 Proactive sharing of information and intelligence

Clear information sharing procedures are in place and supported by the MASH. A review of the MASH is currently underway and will assess the effectiveness of information sharing with recommendations for improvements.

3.5.3 Consider using child sexual exploitation assessment tools

Child Sexual Exploitation risk assessment toolkits are in place and their use is being monitored. Children identified as a medium to high risk are referred to the Missing & CSE Panel.

3.5.4 Have sufficient therapeutic support available

Targeted & effective support for victims is available from SERICC.

3.5.5 Experiences of victims and families should inform strategies and plans

We are working with families and voluntary organisations to ensure that our strategies and plans are informed by the experiences of victims and their families.

3.5.6 Enable professionals to build stable, trusting and lasting relationships with children and young people

We continue to promote and develop relationship based social work and direct work with children and young people to allow meaningful relationships.

3.5.7 Effectiveness of local schools in raising awareness

Extensive e-safety and awareness raising campaigns have and continue to be undertaken with schools.

4. Reasons for Recommendation

4.1 To continually review and ensure the effectiveness of local responses to CSE.

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

5.1 N/A

6. Impact on corporate policies, priorities, performance and community impact

To be effective strategies to disrupt and prevent CSE must incorporate the full functions of the Council and its partners.

7. Implications

7.1 Financial

Implications verified by **Kay Goodacre**
Finance Manager

There are no specific financial implications to this report. The recruitment of a specialist Social Worker will be financed from existing resources.

7.2 Legal

Implications verified by: **Lindsey Marks**
Principal Solicitor Children's Safeguarding

This report is for information only and there are no legal implications arising from this report.

7.3 Diversity and Equality

Implications verified by: **Natalie Warren**
Community Development and Equalities Manager

CSE procedures must equally protect boys (young men) and girls (young women) and respond appropriately to their needs based on their racial, religious, cultural, linguistic, sexual orientation or other needs.

7.4 **Other implications** (where significant) – i.e. Staff, Health, Sustainability, Crime and Disorder)

There are no other implications to this report.

8. **Background papers used in preparing the report** (including their location on the Council's website or identification whether any are exempt or protected by copyright):

Ofsted Thematic Report on CSE
11.11.14 Overview and Scrutiny Report on CSE 'Responses to the Jay Report'.
CSE Action Plan

9. **Appendices to the report**

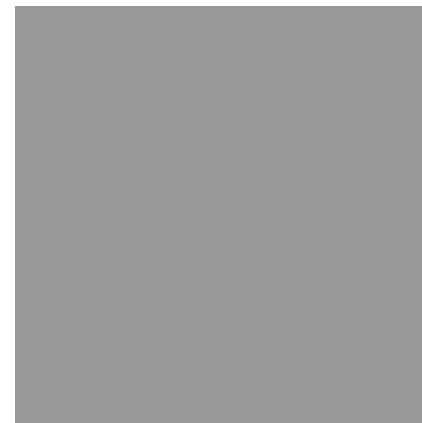
- **Ofsted Thematic Report on CSE**
- **11.11.14 Overview and Scrutiny Report on CSE 'Responses to the Jay Report'.**
- **CSE Action Plan**

Report Author:

Andrew Carter
Head of Service

Child sexual exploitation thematic inspection findings

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The sexual exploitation of children: it couldn't happen here, could it?



17 November 2014

Agenda

Page 22

1. Methodology
2. Key findings
3. Recommendations
4. Next steps

Methodology

Page 23

- 8 local authorities
- 141 cases tracked in detail
- 50 initial referrals sampled
- spoke to 157 children and young people
- 41 parents or carers
- in excess of 200 professionals
- 36 children's homes
- 33 published SIF reports



Local authorities

Page 24

- Brent
- Bristol
- Camden
- Kent
- Luton
- Oldham
- Rochdale
- Rotherham



Key findings

Strategic leadership

- full responsibilities to prevent child sexual exploitation, to protect victims and to pursue and prosecute the perpetrators are not being met
- the pace to meet statutory duties is too slow
- local arrangements are poorly informed by local issues and self-assessment - do not link up with other local strategic plans
- specific training - is of good quality but it is not always reaching those that need it most

Key findings

Performance management

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local authorities are not collecting or sharing with their partners the information they need in order to have an accurate picture of the full extent of child sexual exploitation in their area

- not all local authorities and LSCBs evaluate how effectively they are managing child sexual exploitation cases

Raising awareness

- successful use a range of innovative and creative campaigns

Key findings

Findings from practice

- formal child protection procedures are not always followed
- screening and assessment tools are not well or consistently used
- plans are not robust: CIN are poor; child protection and looked-after children plans vary in quality; no contingency plan in place if the initial plan was not successful
- plans for CIN are not routinely reviewed
- management oversight is not strong enough to ensure cases are always being properly progressed or monitored in line with the plan
- a dedicated child sexual exploitation team does not always ensure that children receive an improved service – 2 workers

Key findings

Disrupting and prosecuting perpetrators

- full range of powers to disrupt and prosecute perpetrators are not being used

Missing children

- too many children do not have a return interview following a missing episode
- not cross-referencing CSE information with frequently absent from school
- even when the correct protocols are used, too many children still go missing

Recommendations

Local authorities:

- improve management oversight of assessments, plans and case review arrangements
- every child returning from a missing episode is given a return interview; set of standards; information centrally collated
- schools and the local authority cross-reference absence information with risk assessments for individual children and young people
- establish a targeted preventative and self-protection programme on child sexual exploitation for looked after children

Recommendations

Local authorities and partners:

- Page 30
- develop and publish a CSE action plan; progress should be regularly shared with strategic boards and senior leaders
 - proactive sharing of information and intelligence
 - consider using child sexual exploitation assessment tools
 - have sufficient therapeutic support available
 - experiences of victims and families should inform strategies and plans
 - enable professionals to build stable, trusting and lasting relationships with children and young people
 - effectiveness of local schools in raising awareness

Recommendations

LSCBs:

- ensure a comprehensive CSE action plan is in place
- hold partners to account for the urgency and priority given to the CSE action plan
- critically evaluate the activity and progress and publish these findings in the LSCB annual report
- check that child protection procedures are followed
- check that statutory duties on missing episodes are met
- ensure threshold documents are adhered to

Recommendations

LSCBs:

- ensure CSE training, including specialist training, is available to all professionals in the local area who require it; attendance monitored with follow-up action taken where professionals fail to attend
- evaluate the impact of training with a focus on how it makes a positive difference to keeping children and young people safer
- include information relating to child sexual exploitation activity in their performance framework

Recommendations

Ofsted:

- ensure that child sexual exploitation is considered within the safeguarding sections of all future inspection frameworks and across all remits
- continue to sharpen the focus given to child sexual exploitation in all children's services inspection frameworks, including the review of Local Safeguarding Children Boards.

Recommendations

The government:

- review and update the 2009 *Safeguarding children and young people from sexual exploitation; supplementary guidance to Working Together to Safeguard Children*
- develop a national data set that requires local authorities, the police and their partners to report on all prevention, protection and prosecution activity relating to child sexual exploitation in their area to a standard format. (inc. missing children and LAC children)
- require every police force to collate information specifically on child sexual exploitation, including the number of crimes reported, the level of disruption activity undertaken and outcomes, including cautions and prosecutions

Next steps

- media strategy
- dissemination and learning
- any questions?

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11 November 2014		ITEM: 8
Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee		
Child Sexual Exploitation and the Jay report – implications for Thurrock		
Wards and communities affected: All	Key Decision: Key	
Report of: Nicky Pace Interim Head of Care & Targeted Outcomes		
Accountable Head of Service: Andrew Carter – Head of Care & Targeted Outcomes		
Accountable Director: Carmel Littleton – Director of Children's Services		
This report is public		

Executive Summary

This report outlines the findings of Professor Jay enquiry into child sexual exploitation (CSE) in Rotherham. Her report highlighted serious failings in the council and other agencies, especially the police, over a number of years with regard to the safeguarding of children, and also serious failings of corporate governance, leadership, culture and the operation of the overview and scrutiny function.

This report reflects an early review of the service delivery in Thurrock in relation to CSE and the actions being taken to address any identified gaps.

1. Recommendations

1.1 For the overview and scrutiny committee to note the contents of this report.

1.2 To recall the action plan to future O&S meetings for updates on implementation.

2. Introduction and Background

2.1 There has been a growing awareness of the involvement and targeting of children and young people in society. With the increased use of the internet 'stranger danger' is no longer the stereotypical person waiting at the school gates in a white van, it is now a sophisticated international issue and often linked with organised crime. Paedophiles hunt children on the web and now an image of a child can be spread to thousands of users without the child knowing. The Jay report into Rotherham is one of many that have highlighted the risks posed to young people through sexual exploitation. The report into

paedophile rings in Derby city, Oxfordshire and Rochdale to name but a few and the recent report from the Office of the Children's Commissioner's Inquiry into Child Sexual Exploitation in Gangs and Groups have all highlighted the issues.

2.2 Sexual exploitation and grooming

2.2.1 What is child sexual exploitation? In 2008 the national working group network developed the following definition, which is commonly used in government guidance and policy:

2.2.2 'The sexual exploitation of children and young people under 18 involves exploitative situations, contexts and relationships where young people (or a third person or persons) receive 'something' (eg food, accommodation, drugs, alcohol cigarettes, affection, gifts, money) as a result of performing, and /or others performing on them, sexual activities. Child sexual exploitation can occur through the use of technology without the child's immediate recognition, for example by persuading them to post sexual images on the internet/ mobile phone without any immediate payment or gain. In all cases, those exploiting the child/young person have power over them by virtue of their age, gender, intellect, physical strength and /or economic or other resources. Violence, coercion and intimidation are common, involvement in exploitative relationships being characterised in the main by the child or young person's limited availability of choice resulting from their social / economic and /or emotional vulnerability. '

2.2.3 The process of 'grooming' by paedophiles has been well documented in national reports and research. Many of the children are already vulnerable when grooming began. The perpetrators often targets children's residential units and residential services for care leavers. It was not unusual for children in residential services and schools to introduce other children to the perpetrators.

2.2.4 Many of the children have troubled family backgrounds, with a history of domestic violence, parental addiction, and in some cases serious mental health problems. A significant number of the victims in Rotherham had a history of child neglect and/or sexual abuse when they were younger. Some had a desperate need for attention and affection. In Rotherham schools raised the alert over the years about children as young as 11, 12 and 13 being picked up outside schools by cars and taxis, given presents and mobile phones and taken to meet large numbers of unknown males in Rotherham, other local towns and cities, and further afield. Typically, children were courted by a young man whom they believed to be their boyfriend. Over a period of time, the child would be introduced to older men who cultivated them and supplied them with gifts, free alcohol and sometimes drugs. Children were initially flattered by the attention paid to them, and impressed by the apparent wealth and sophistication of those grooming them.

2.2.5 Many young people are convinced that they were special in the affections of a perpetrator, despite all the evidence that many other children were being

groomed and abused by the same person. Some victims are never able to accept that they had been groomed and abused by one or more sexual predators. A key objective of the perpetrators was to isolate victims from family and friends as part of the grooming process. Over time, methods of grooming have changed as mobile technology has advanced. Mobile phones, social networking sites and mobile apps have become common ways of identifying and targeting vulnerable children and young people and we know that much younger children are being targeted in this way. Unguarded use of text and video messaging and social networking sites, can mean that children can unwittingly place themselves in a position where they could be targeted, sometimes in a matter of days or hours, by sexual predators from all over the world. In a small number of cases, this can lead to direct physical contact, rape and sexual abuse with one or more perpetrators. Grooming can move from online to personal contact very quickly indeed. One of the most worrying features is the ease with which young children aged from about 8-10 years can be targeted and exploited in this way without their families being aware of the dangers associated with internet use.

2.2.6 The Jay report

The Jay report into child sexual exploitation (CSE) in Rotherham has received considerable media attention and makes chilling reading. This Independent Inquiry was commissioned by Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council in October 2013. Its remit, covered the period 1997- 2013 and it believed that during this period 1400 children and young people had been sexual exploited. This abuse is not confined to the past but continues to this day. In just over a third of cases, children affected by sexual exploitation were previously known to services because of child protection and neglect. These children and young people suffered the most appalling abuse. They were raped by multiple perpetrators, trafficked to other towns and cities in the north of England, abducted, beaten, and intimidated. There were examples of children who had been doused in petrol and threatened with being set alight, threatened with guns, made to witness brutally violent rapes and threatened they would be next if they told anyone; girls as young as 11 were raped by large numbers of male perpetrators.

2.2.7 The collective failures of political and officer leadership were clearly laid out in the report. From as early as 1997 there was growing evidence that child sexual exploitation was a serious problem in Rotherham. It would appear that within social care, the scale and seriousness of the problem was underplayed by senior managers. At an operational level, the Police gave no priority to CSE, treating many child victims with contempt and failing to act on their abuse as a crime. Further stark evidence came in 2002, 2003 and 2006 with three reports known to the Police and the Council, which could not have been clearer in their description of the situation in Rotherham. The first of these reports was effectively suppressed because some senior officers disbelieved the data it contained. The other two reports set out the links between child sexual exploitation and drugs, guns and criminality in the Borough. These reports were ignored and no action was taken to deal with the issues that were identified in them.

- 2.2.8 It would appear that senior officers in the Police and children's social care continued to think the extent of the problem, as described by those working with the young people (predominantly women) was exaggerated. At an operational level, staff appeared to be overwhelmed by the numbers involved. The report suggests that there were improvements in the response of management from about 2007 onwards but by 2009, the children's social care service was acutely understaffed and over stretched, struggling to cope with demand. Seminars for elected members and senior officers in 2004-05 presented the abuse in the most explicit terms. After these events, nobody could say 'we didn't know'. In 2005, the Council Leader chaired a group to take forward the issues, but there is no record of its meetings or conclusions, apart from one minute. This led Professor Jay to conclude that there was a closed, often macho culture which led to accusations of a 'cover up'. She also reported totally inappropriate use of language by some elected members and officers, which appeared to have gone unchallenged.
- 2.2.9 By far the majority of perpetrators were described as 'Asian' by victims, yet throughout the entire period, councillors did not engage directly with the Pakistani-heritage community to discuss how best they could jointly address the issue. Some councillors seemed to think it was a one-off problem, which they hoped would go away. Several staff described their nervousness about identifying the ethnic origins of perpetrators for fear of being thought racist; others remembered clear direction from their managers not to do so. The issue of race, 'Asian men, white girls' which was reported in the media was over simplistic, as it did not account for the abuse of Asian women and girls in their own communities who for many reasons may not have come forward. There is growing evidence of Somalian and Eastern European gangs who are involved in organised crime, gun running, drugs as well as sexual exploitation. However, one of the key features in Rotherham was a resistance to acknowledging the ethnic makeup of the perpetrators and the failure to engage with the communities.
- 2.2.10 In December 2009, the Minister of State for Children and Families put the Council's children's safeguarding services into intervention, following an extremely critical Ofsted report. The Council was removed from intervention thirteen months later.
- 2.2.11 The Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) and its predecessor oversaw the development of good inter-agency policies and procedures applicable to CSE. The weakness in their approach was that members of the Safeguarding Board rarely checked whether these were being implemented or whether they were working. The challenge and scrutiny function of the Safeguarding Board and of the Council itself was lacking over several years at a time when it was most required.
- 2.2.12 The Jay report highlighted many improvements in the last four years by both the Council and the Police in Rotherham, but it recognises the growing demands and financial constraints of both police and social care to respond continues to be challenging.

2.2.13 The Jay report made 15 recommendations to improve the response to victims of CSE in Rotherham. One of the key areas was the lack of ongoing treatment and therapeutic support for the victims.

2.2.14 As a direct response to the issues raised in this response, the Government have commissioned Louise Casey with a team to review the response to CSE in Rotherham. Alongside this, OFSTED have undertaken an in-depth CSE inspection (including a further ten of these across the country) as well as an inspection of safeguarding. Teresa May has also asked all police forces to review their current and past response to CSE (see below and attached letters?).

2.2.15 Thurrock response

The sexual exploitation of children and young people is completely unacceptable, regardless of race and culture. It is the collective responsibility of all agencies to identify those children at risk of CSE and ensure that swift and appropriate actions are taken to prevent them from becoming sexually exploited and to safeguard them from further risk of harm. A recent Children's Commissioner Report sets out recommendations and minimum standards that we need to ensure are in place to support tackling CSE. I am pleased to report that the majority of those recommendations are already in place in Thurrock. Our approach and response to CSE takes into account the Children's commissioner report and also Working Together 2013 and its previous editions, the supplementary guidance published in 2009 and the legislation framework of the Criminal Justice System. It is an integral part of our current LSCB Business Plan and Children's and Young Peoples Plan (CYPP) and is one of the elements of the Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy (VAWG) adopted across the Borough. The LSCB is committed to combating the sexual exploitation of children through effective and coordinated multi agency and partnership working. The Children's Safeguarding Board are working closely with the Children and Young People's Partnership Board (CYPP) and adult safeguarding to ensure that children and young people who have been subjected to child sexual exploitation will receive seamless support as they progress from childhood to adulthood.

2.2.16 We have worked in partnership with our colleagues in Southend and Essex to develop a strategy and approach to meet the emerging needs across Essex as well as in Thurrock. The Southend, Essex and Thurrock CSE Strategic Group was established in 2012 and is chaired by the public protection lead for Essex Police. The Strategic Group, which includes representatives from agencies across the three authorities, is coordinating the multi-agency response to cases of CSE in Southend, Essex and Thurrock. There is also a local multiagency 'missing' panel which meets monthly that looks at all children and young people who have been reported missing from home, care or education and identifies any risk factors which may indicate that the child is being sexually exploited. Thurrock has had a Missing protocol in place from 21012. Cases are regularly reviewed by this forum. The work of this panel led to an investigation known as Operation Steelband.

2.2.17 We also have a multi-agency work stream that focuses on exploitation of children on line, which includes feedback from a young person's group. We have successfully rolled out through the LSCB a 'walking on line' roadshow which has targeted years 5,6 and 7 and reached in the region of 5,500 children. The focus has been warning them of the dangers of the internet and the 'dark web' but more importantly teaching them how to keep themselves safe. A number of roadshows are also being held for parents across Thurrock to raise awareness and help parents keep their children safer.

2.2.18 We have rolled out a multi agency e-learning basic awareness course on across agencies from the LSCB, to ensure that all staff coming into contact with children and young people are aware of the signs and Champion training – symptoms and what they need to do in the event of any concerns. The LSCB through the interagency training group have made initial provision for 1,500 on-line licences to be available for this training. CSE Champion training is being provided to enable additional knowledge and awareness to be available to support front line staff. A champion will be an individual such as the safeguarding lead at a school, team leader or GP practice. In addition to completing the e-learning course they will attend a day session explaining the Thurrock approach to CSE in more detail including a risk assessment toolkit and intelligence pathway. This training is being implemented from March 2014 following the initial completion of on line training. All partners represented on the LSCB will nominate a lead professional for CSE, who will act as the single point of contact for all matters relating to child sexual exploitation for their individual agency. They will complete the on line course and attend a half day lead champion session.

2.2.19 To aid front line practitioners and managers in determining the best response to a child or young person who may be at risk of CSE, the Strategic Group has agreed a common risk assessment toolkit to aid identification of the risk a young person or child may face. The newly established MASH carries out a risk assessment of every referral for CSE , since its implementation in July three young people have been identified as at risk of sexual exploitation.

2.2.20 A close relationship has been developed with licensing , specifically of taxis and budget hotels in the borough. This raised awareness across the service has led to one taxi driver having his licence revoked following concerns.

2.2.21 Essex Police have agreed to be the lead agency in collating CSE intelligence. There is no specific offence of CSE and its pathways are very varied so all intelligence received associated with CSE will be tagged "Operation Care". This will enable analytical work to be conducted and produced to aid identification of linked offences or intelligence that will support a better understanding of the scale of the problem.

2.2.22 As a direct response to the Jay report, Thurrock's LSCB, children's services, alongside the police and health are reviewing all cases where there has been

any concerns about CSE and reviewing any recent operations and cases, as well as looking at historic cases from the last 5 years.

2.2.23 We believe that our response and approach is sufficiently flexible to respond to and learn from the experience of other areas, reviews and future guidance. We recognise there is more to be done and this is highlighted in future actions at the end of this report to ensure that we are confident that we have a robust response to CSE in the local area. We are not complacent about addressing this difficult issue.

3. Issues, Options and Analysis of Options

3.1 In appendix 1 the areas for future work and gaps in our response in Thurrock are outlined. However, this is an initial analysis and it will need to be developed further following the review of historic cases.

4. Reasons for Recommendation

4.1 For the overview and scrutiny committee to note the contents of this report.

4.2 To recall the action plan to future O&S meetings for updates on implementation.

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

5.1 In consultation with other agencies including the Local Safeguarding Children's Board and Licensing.

6. Impact on corporate policies, priorities, performance and community impact

6.1 The Jay report highlights a number of implications for corporate ownership and governance. It highlights the importance of a robust scrutiny role where challenge of the organisational culture is an open one.

7. Implications

7.1 Financial

Implications verified by: **Kay Goodacre**
Finance Manager – Children's Services

Increasing awareness raising may lead to increasing demand for services to investigate and support children and young people subject to CSE, which may put additional pressure on the children's social care budget. Any major operations that need ring fenced resource may not be able to be met from existing resources.

7.2 **Legal**

Implications verified by: **Lindsey Marks**
Principal Solicitor for Children's Safeguarding

There may be a necessity to take protective action of any children and young people who may have been subjected to CSE.

7.3 **Diversity and Equality**

Implications verified by: **Natalie Warren**
Community Development and Equalities Manager

This report highlights the necessity to develop strong links with developing communities, to understand the issues faced and address any developing areas of concern directly.

7.4 **Other implications** (where significant) – i.e. Staff, Health, Sustainability, Crime and Disorder)

This report highlights that CSE is not just an issue for Children's social care but wider issues such as licensing, public health (including sexual health) need to be aware of and addressing issues of CSE.

8. **Background papers used in preparing the report** (including their location on the Council's website or identification whether any are exempt or protected by copyright):

- Professor Jay report into CSE in Metropolitan Borough of Rotherham

9. **Appendices to the report**

- Appendix 1 – action plan

Report Author:

Nicky Pace
Interim Head of CATO

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RAG RATING	
	Outstanding
	On track
	Completed

Action plan for Child Sexual Exploitation

Objective /outcome	Action	When	Who	Update	RAG Status
Ensure robust systems in place to report on missing children and those identified as children at risk of sexual exploitation	➤ Staff reminded of process of recording missing & returned on LCS	Completed – 15.10.14	NP		Green
	➤ MASH to record all children & young people missing	Completed – July 2014 Nov 2014	MASH Bob Mills / Lesley Tabrett		Green
	➤ Produce weekly report of missing LAC	Nov 2014	Lesley Tabrett	Completed	Green
	➤ Additional mandatory questions to be added to LCS in C&F assessment & outcomes of CP & LAC reviews	March 2015	Lesley Tabrett	Completed	Green
	➤ Adopt CSE workspace recording system	June 2015	Lesley Tabrett	This will need to be procured from LL, cost quotation requested. Unlikely to be delivered by March 2015, but will confirm possible delivery date when received back from LL	Amber
A risk assessment to be undertaken on all children & young people, over	➤ Staff required to undertake risk assessment tool on all cases over 10,	End of December 2014	SMT	Risk assessments have been completed	Amber

120 subject to CP plans or LAC with specific focus on LAC placed at a distance from the borough	<p>subject to CP plan or LAC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ IROs /CP chairs to ensure completed as part of process 	January 2015	Neale Laurie	<p>and are ongoing</p> <p>CSE risk assessments are being routinely undertaken.</p>	Amber
All children missing have an appropriate & independent interview following being missing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Commission Vol organisation to undertake return interviews ➤ Variation of contract to Open Door being considered ➤ Analyse return interviews 	In place by end of 2014	NP/ Mark Livermore	New provider sourced. Contract variation completed. Service effective 1 Jan 2015. Comms to teams complete	Green
		December 2014	Mark Livermore		Amber
Policy /procedure are up to date & reflect CSE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ JSNA has section on CSE 	In place by end of 2014	Deborah Maynard	Completed.	Green
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Section of Commissioning strategy on CSE 	March 2015	Commissioning team	Commissioning Strategy in process via commissioning team manager – to be ready by March	Amber
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Community safety partnership relates to CSE 	March 2015	Michelle Cunningham	This is within priorities for 15/16, summarised in strategic assessment	Green

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ CSE protocol with YOS ➤ CSE protocol with Health inc CAMHS 	<p>March 2015</p> <p>March 2015</p>	<p>James Waud/Jason Read</p> <p>Paula McCullough/CCG</p>	<p>and within our action plans for 15/16. No £ allocated.</p> <p>YOS are CSE screening on ALL cases. Those that reach threshold will be referred to MASH for potential s.47 or to CSE Panel for further information.</p> <p>CSE – recognition and identification is included in New CAMHS service model and service specification</p>	<p>Amber</p> <p>Green</p>
The LSCB has an overview and strategic leadership of the multi-agency response to CSE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ CSE performance management data ➤ Audit of CSE activity ➤ Multi agency audit of CSE cases 	<p>December 2014</p> <p>January 2015</p> <p>December 2014</p>	<p>Alan Cotgrove</p> <p>Alan Cotgrove</p> <p>Alan Cotgrove</p>	<p>SET strategic CSE group in place to oversee and monitor data.</p> <p>LSCB audit group conduct thematic audits including CSE on a rotation basis.</p>	<p>Green</p> <p>Green</p>
That children & young people, parents and professionals have	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Produce leaflets for all groups 	<p>September 2014</p>	<p>LSCB</p>	<p>Various CSE leaflets have been produced</p>	<p>Green</p>

information on CSE				<p>by the LSCB and are available to both professionals, parents and children.</p> <p>A series of events has taken place and continues on a rolling basis making parents and professionals aware of the risks of online CSE.</p> <p>Walk on Line Roadshow in place for year 5 students across the borough, target audience of 2,300.</p>	
Engagement of faith communities to raise awareness and address risk of CSE (& other abuse issues ie FGM)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Engage with faith communities in raising awareness 		LSCB	LSCB conference with faith groups conducted in June 2014. Basic child protection training being developed for autumn.	Amber
Raise awareness and appropriate reporting of CSE with licensing / taxis and local hoteliers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Operation Care implemented across Essex – need to roll out to hotels ➤ Awareness raising sessions 	<p>March 2015</p> <p>March 2015</p>	<p>LSCB</p> <p>LSCB</p>	<p>Initial campaign conducted May 2014. New refreshed campaign being instigated with the 15 hotels across the borough during March 2015.</p>	Amber

<p>Review all cases where children and young people are thought to have been at risk of CSE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current cases • during the past 5 years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ identify cases through current casework/managers/ SMT ➤ methodology to be agreed & implemented 	<p>November 2014</p> <p>January 2015</p>	<p>Neale Laurie</p> <p>Neale Laurie</p>	<p>Review and methodology underway mid-way position is complete. Target date for completion 31st March 2015.</p>	<p>Amber</p>
<p>Ensure there is appropriate preventative support available to prevent C&YP escalating behaviour</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Review EoH provision to ensure services available for C&YP who may be at risk of CSE 	<p>March 2015</p>	<p>Mark Livermore</p>	<p>Whilst there is no specific service to address CYP at risk of CSE this is being explored in the commissioning strategy.</p> <p>Several services include elements that address risks for CYP around CSE:</p> <p><u>SERICC</u> – the EOH service, whilst delivered to women, works, to a degree, holistically with young people from the family who may be at risk and will work with those young people around exploitation and online safety even if they are not</p>	<p>Green</p>

				<p>identified as at risk.</p> <p>The Young person's sexual violence counsellor service works directly with young people directly affected by any form of sexual violence and will work in the same way as described above in the EOH service.</p> <p><u>Catch22</u> – the FIP (EOH) programme works holistically with all of the family. Staff are trained in CSE and how to identify it.</p> <p><u>Open Door</u> – The EOH substance misuse service works primarily with adults referred but will deliver an element of work with CYP. This is primarily around substance misuse, however all staff are trained in identifying</p>	
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				<p>CSE and will therefore pick up any concerns.</p> <p>The young people at risk programme (Open Door) covers several areas, with one of them being CSE – it is open by referral.</p> <p>The mentoring programme for young people (Open Door) will address any identified concerns around CSE, but will not cover this automatically. Again all Open Door staff are trained in CSE. It is open by referral.</p> <p>All new service specifications have a paragraph on CSE with the expectation that all staff are trained in this.</p>	
<p>Ensure sufficient therapeutic services available for young people</p>	<p>➤ working with CAMHS and health review current provision</p>	<p>By 2015</p>	<p>CAMHS /Paula McCullough</p>	<p>PMcC to meet with colleagues in CCG to</p>	<p>Amber</p>

who have been subjected to CSE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Develop bespoke services when necessary 	March 2015	CAMHS /Paula McCullough	review Commissioned when required.	Green
Review effectiveness of intervention /diversion /treatment of C&YP subjected to CSE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Clarify champion role in CSC ➤ Merge missing panel to incorporate children identified as CSE ➤ Review mechanism for cases where CSE identified , separate from stat processes 	Andrew Carter	October 2014	CSE consultant in place	Green
		Neale Laurie	By December 2014	CSE risk assessments are being brought to Missing Person Panel,	Amber
		Neale Laurie	By December 2014	however further work is underway to embed this process.	Amber
Review corporate whistle blowing policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ensure that staff are aware of whistle blowing policy and expected relationships/ behaviour. 	December 2014	Corporate strategy team	<p>Policy will be revised by 5th March based on a good and current PL template.</p> <p>WB Management briefings will be distributed within the same time scale to all managers.</p> <p>Legal Services will seek inserts in Insight every 3 months and would welcome funding for posters in our buildings and</p>	Green

				other public buildings.	
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10 March 2015	ITEM: 6
Children’s Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee	
Youth Cabinet Activity and Impact 2014/15	
Wards and communities affected: All	Key Decision:
Report of: Patrick Kielty – Working with the Youth Cabinet	
Accountable Manager: Michele Lucas, Interim Strategic Lead Learning & Skills	
Accountable Director: Carmel Littleton, Director of Children’s Services	
This report is Public	

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report sets out the activities and events carried out by the Youth Cabinet in the past year and will highlight the impact to young people and the wider community. The report will include the consultations carried out and the projects that the Youth Cabinet have focussed on during the year.

The report explores the work that the Youth Cabinet have undertaken as a result of the full Cabinet decision in August which looked at potential savings and asked the Youth Cabinet to undertake a consultation exercise to explore alternative delivery vehicles for the delivery of youth related activities across Thurrock.

1. RECOMMENDATIONS:

1.1 To continue to support the work undertaken by the Youth Cabinet thus enabling young people to remain at the heart of decision making regarding youth related activities.

1.2 To support members of the Youth Cabinet in the exploration of an alternative vehicle for delivering youth related activities recognising the need to secure savings going forward, whilst ensuring young people remain at the heart of the regeneration agenda.

2. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND:

The Thurrock Youth Cabinet was formed in 2006 with the aim of providing a voice for all young people in Thurrock. There are currently 33 members (between 11-19 yrs) representing local schools and youth groups. In addition since April 2014 a number of young people (11) have joined via the application process, which through the constitution, makes it open for any local young person to take part.

The Youth Cabinet carries out its work via a series of meetings, events and sessions. The following will have taken place between April 2014 and March 2015:

- 11 x monthly youth cabinet meetings
- 11 x monthly working groups
- 3 x UK Youth Parliament (UKYP) regional conventions
- 1 x UKYP annual sitting
- 1 x UKYP youth debate at the House of Commons
- 1 x youth debate at Thurrock Council (Democracy week)
- 1 x summer residential
- 1 x Thurrock Urban games
- 2 x teambuilding events
- 1 x civic dinner
- 2 x commissioning reviews
- 1x Youth Conference

The following are the key pieces of work the Youth Cabinet have undertaken in this time period:

Alternative Delivery Model

Following the proposal for a reduction in funds for the Youth Offer across Thurrock, the full Council meeting in August 2014 requested that the Youth Cabinet develop a questionnaire to seek young people's views around youth related activities across Thurrock.

A small task and finish group was set up with the questionnaire being approved by the full Youth Cabinet in September 2014. The consultation went live from 8th Oct to 14th Nov with 383 young people completing the questionnaire; the outcome of this consultation was presented to the Children's Overview & Scrutiny Committee in February 2015.

The questionnaire findings will support the development of services and activities being provided for young people in Thurrock.

One of the key areas of development is a Youth Hub in Grays. The building formerly known as the Connexions One Stop Shop has had some refiguration

on the ground floor and young people were asked to identify a name for the new Youth Hub.

The new name chosen was Inspire, Achieve came in second as a young person stated '*you need to be inspired first, before you achieve*' (quote from young person)

Events

YouthCon 2014

On 28th November 2014, the Youth Cabinet ran 'YouthCon' – a conference for young people in Thurrock. Over 90 young people took part in the day which featured debates, workshops, presentations and a market stall area promoting local services. Thurrock secondary schools/academies were represented, along with both special schools and the pupil support service.

This work developed the Youth Cabinet members' event management skills and gave them a chance to consult with a large group of young people on a number of issues including: transport, skills for life, tackling bullying and youth activities.

The young people attending accessed a number of opportunities and developed an understanding of the Youth Cabinet – we have had several applications to join since this event!

Democracy Week Debates

In October the Youth Cabinet took part in a debating evening with elected members. A number of young people from the Children in Care Council joined in this year's event and all participants passionately debated the topics which were 'The top issue from make your mark, Work Experience and 'Is it possible to stop bullying in schools, the workplace and communities?'

The debates help to highlight some of the issues for young people and what the Youth Cabinet can do in their work going forward i.e. Mental Health Awareness campaign and Work Experience survey.

Accredited Outcomes

A number of Youth Cabinet members have obtained accreditations/awards during 2014. 4 members gained the British Youth Council *Youth Voice Award* – which recognises young people that are actively involved in youth participation. 5 members became hate crime ambassadors and took part in the accredited hate crime training run by Essex Police.

Getting young people voting – 'Make Your Mark'

Every year the Youth Cabinet campaigns to get young people in Thurrock voting in '*Make Your Mark*'. This is a nationwide youth ballot that gives all

young people (11-18 yrs) the opportunity to vote on the single most important issue to them. In 2014 4,326 Thurrock young people took part and voted. This was up from previous years of 2013 (1,741) and 2012 (698) and reflects the hard work the Youth Cabinet put into this. The turnout in Thurrock was the second highest in the East of England. For the second year running the issue which received the most number of votes locally was work experience. The Youth Cabinet have since devised a questionnaire to go out to all secondary schools seeking their views on how work experience can be improved in addition to agreeing to support the task and finish group from Children's Overview and Scrutiny once established.

Reviewing Commissioned Services

The Youth Cabinet has continued to review services commissioned by Thurrock Council. In 2014 members reviewed both the *youth mentoring* and *youth at risk programmes* that come under the children's commissioning team. The format for these involved the Youth Cabinet members carrying out the following:

- Read and consider the project outline
- Interview the commissioned provider
- Produce a report based on their findings (which then forms part of the overall review). Having young people at the forefront of reviewing the services on offer underpins the Youth Cabinets objective of ensuring young people are at the heart of decision making and enabling young people to have a voice

Involvement in local decision making/scrutiny

In addition to representation on Children's Overview & Scrutiny the Youth Cabinet will be involved in the task and finish group looking at work experience in Thurrock. Members are also part of the project board looking at taking youth services outside of Thurrock Council through setting up an alternative deliver model. So far this work has seen 383 young people give their views on the future of youth services via a survey and an interactive vote around the potential name for the new youth related organisation.

Regional / National Participation

Through its membership of the UK Youth Parliament (UKYP), Thurrock is represented at a regional and national level. Young people from Thurrock have attended 3 regional conventions in 2014, which allowed them to take part in different sessions including contributing to government consultations. Our Member of Youth Parliament (Ejaay Manalastas) represented Thurrock in the 2014 UKYP debates at the House of Commons. Ejaay was fortunate to contribute to one of the debates on the day and was given the award of 'Best back bench speaker' for her contribution!

Youth Cabinet Newsletter

Members of the Youth Cabinet are currently devising a newsletter as their end of year annual report, this will enable members to develop their skills in feature writing and editing and will enable members to see at a glance the impact that the youth Cabinet has had in the past year. The newsletter will be available at the end of March and will be distributed to Cabinet members

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

5.1 Youth Consultation carried with a report going to the February meeting of the Children's Overview & Scrutiny Committee for approval.

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

6.1 This report contributes to the following corporate priorities:

- create a great place for learning and opportunity

7. IMPLICATIONS

7.1 Financial – N/A

Implications verified by: **Kay Goodacre**
Finance Manager

The savings proposals outlined for 15/16 and beyond would need to be aligned to the youth related activities supporting vulnerable groups within local communities, and ensuring that young people can access regeneration opportunities via the growth hubs across Thurrock.

7.2 Legal – N/A

Implications verified by: **Lucinda Bell**
Education Lawyer

The Committee is asked to note the report content and make decisions that are within the remit of the Committee's terms of reference and powers

7.3 Diversity and Equality –

Include representation of groups and ability to self nominate

Implications verified by: **Rebecca Price**
Community Development Officer

The Thurrock Youth Cabinet aims to represent the wider community of young people in Thurrock. It is a diverse group in terms of age (11-19

yrs), gender, ethnicity and disability – reflecting the make up of young people residing in Thurrock. Numerous schools and local groups (including Sea Cadets & Scouts) and schools are represented and the Youth Cabinet has a close link with another local young people's forum: Thurrock's Children in Care Council.

Through its membership and activities the Youth Cabinet is committed to equality and diversity. The membership reflects the diversity of the local area and members run a number of events throughout the year to engage diverse groups (e.g. youth conference, outreach events, joint sessions with the Thurrock Children in Care Council). A number of Youth Cabinet members have trained as Hate Crime Ambassadors and are committed working in this area. In February 2015, the Youth Cabinet will receive a presentation on the newly formed Thurrock Fairness Commission, with a view to getting involved in this.

In terms of access the Youth Cabinet is open to any young people (11-19 yrs) living or been educated in Thurrock.

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

None

APPENDICES TO THIS REPORT:

None

Report Author Contact Details:

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E-mail: pkielty@thurrock.gov.uk

10 March 2015	ITEM: 7
Children’s Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee	
A progress report on the Grangewaters Outdoor Education Centre Alternative Delivery Models Project	
Wards and communities affected: All	Key Decision: Key
Report of: Councillor J Kent, Portfolio Holder for Finance and Education	
Accountable Director: Carmel Littleton, Director of Children’s Services	
This report is Public	

Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to provide an update to the Children’s Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee on the progress made with respect to the work to be undertaken in order to commission out the opportunity to manage Grangewaters Outdoor Education Centre.

Changes to both funding and powers of local authorities have made it necessary to consider alternative models of delivery in order to secure certain services on a long term basis and reduce the cost of these to the Council. Officers have analysed and evaluated the most suitable pathway towards commissioning out the management of the Centre. It became apparent during that process that, a commercial valuation was required in order to assess the capacity of Grangewaters to attract interest as a going concern under any of the options remaining and to enable prospective organisations to realise the overall value of the centre. It was also felt that the Grangewaters site should be developed in order to enhance the value of the site. These steps align with the recommendations made by Officers to Cabinet in August 2014.

1. Recommendation(s)

- 1.1 That members note the content of this report intended to provide an update on the Grangewaters Alternative Delivery Models project.**

Introduction and Background

- 2.1 In January 2011, officers were given Cabinet permission to explore a range of alternative delivery models for the delivery of services (outside of the Council) and to return to Cabinet with recommendations as to the most suitable option(s). This has taken some time as officers have been working towards

the identification of a more sustainable model before proceeding with the development of the recommendations.

2.2 In August 2014 officers presented a report updating Cabinet members on the progress of the Grangewaters Alternative Delivery Models project and recommending an option for delivery of services at Grangewaters Outdoor Education Centre. In light of:

- The transformation agenda,
- impending changes to domestic law as a result of the new European directive
- public opinion

2.3 Officers recommended that Cabinet:

- grant permission to commission out the opportunity to manage Grangewaters Outdoor Education Centre
- grant approval to enter into a procurement process to facilitate the commissioning out of the management of Grangewaters.

Cabinet approved both recommendations and Officers began to lay the foundations for the procurement process that would facilitate the commissioning out of the management of the Centre.

2.4 Prior to the August sitting of Cabinet, the Alternative Delivery Models project group had considered the various options and decided that in order to measure the capacity of Grangewaters to attract interest as a going concern and to enable prospective organisations realise the overall value of the centre, a land valuation was required. It was also felt that a commercial valuation should be carried out.

2.5 Shortly after officers began the process required to obtain a commercial valuation, funds became available to develop the premises at Grangewaters and a project group was set-up to manage the development. Officers decided to discontinue the valuation temporarily to facilitate the building work which had the potential to enhance the value of the site. The procurement process in respect of a valuer will commence when the building work has been completed.

2.6 Officers will prepare the service specification around the management of Grangewaters and will work in partnership with the Legal Team to prepare the contract. The contract will be drafted to ensure that it meets the five principle requirements listed in the August 2014 Cabinet report.

2.7 Once the valuation is complete officers will prepare a report to Cabinet update Cabinet on the progress made.

3. Issues, Options and Analysis of Options

- 3.1 Grangewaters has secured services on a traded basis in order to support the Outdoor Education offer across Thurrock. As Grangewaters does not receive funding towards their direct running costs officers carried out research and considered the feasibility of potential alternative delivery models that would improve Grangewaters by enhancing service provision and use of the centre.
- 3.2 An appraisal of delivery models and the legal structures supporting them was considered by a working group including elected members in 2013/2014. After in-depth research and debate an options list of the most suitable models to achieve the objectives set for Grangewaters was compiled. Also, a public consultation on the future delivery of Grangewaters was arranged as well as a Stakeholder's event to consult with key stakeholders. The results revealed that the preferred model was a charitable organisation.
- 3.3 The findings were reported to Cabinet and the decision was taken to commission the opportunity to manage the centre out via a contract. The externalisation will be structured and the procurement carried out so as to ensure the retention of the asset and to secure community benefit and social purpose within Grangewaters.
- 3.4 Officers began the process required to commission the service. The first steps involved obtaining valuation of the land and a commercial valuation. The land valuation was secured and officers proceeded to identify a total of seven potential specialist leisure valuers suitable to take part in a procurement process. Their names were forwarded to Procurement for registration and a valuation brief was prepared.
- 3.5 Officers were in the process of organising a procurement process to appoint a valuer to carry out the commercial valuation, when a small-scale injection of funds became available for essential works that will enhance the value of the asset base and commercial activity associated with Grangewaters. A separate Project Group was set-up including internal colleagues from Asset Management, Procurement, Grangewaters, Children's Commissioning and an external engineering firm. The group meets monthly to steer the project which is expected to be completed by July 2015. The work is progressing within the proposed budget.
- 3.6 There are several issues which officers have been working on, such as TUPE rights. Should the proposed commissioning take place, some staff may transfer across to the new management.

Human Resources have been approached and have provided a job profile / TUPE consideration for all Grangewaters staff. Human Resources have also provided data around Council services (i.e. debt recovery, Procurement and Insurance) which are provided to Grangewaters. A trade union has also been involved in the process.

Union, HR representatives and officers involved in the project group have arranged and attended separate staff consultation meetings regarding the

implications of the Commissioning process. The meetings were arranged to offer advice and information to staff and to enable them to ask questions and to have those questions answered.

Grangewaters Staff have submitted an Expression of Interest to the Director of Children's Services. The staff have expressed an interest in the running of the service themselves. The Expression of Interest has been received and will be considered by management. Staff have taken a collective decision to engage in the proposed procurement process around the future management of Grangewaters.

- 3.7 A draft specification will be considered by a Task and Finish Group to be set up in February 2015. The group will include current members of the Project Group with the addition of service users i.e. representatives from schools, scouts, the boat club etc. and any other individual /organisation recommended.

4. Reasons for Recommendation

- 4.1 It is recommended that members note the progress being made. The reason for this recommendation is to ensure that members are consulted prior to Cabinet. A tight service specification will enable the Council to harness these objectives and protect the services and assets available at the Centre for the local community, ensure the retention of a social purpose in the operation of the centre, develop a business aspect of the service, and most importantly maintain the key service provision which enables a range of experiences that encourage children and young people to develop skills and experience in an outdoor environment. Also, this will open the process to voluntary organisations as identified as a preference in the consultation, whilst meeting the current restraints due to funding changes and enabling consideration of commissioning models.

- 4.2 At this stage it is worthy of note that officers working on a proposal to develop a Youth Mutual have been successful with a Cabinet Office bid for consultancy support. This entails direct support from a team offering legal, financial and business expertise.

A proposal around the inclusion of Grangewaters in the mutual could be considered. Officers have considered the advantages of a consultancy agreement around the development of a business model. The agreement would produce an overview of the financial and business potential within Grangewaters. This would be a step further than the planned commercial valuation as it would depict how to gain maximum utilisation of the assets and resource available at Grangewaters. Consequently, officers would be able to draft a more succinct specification that would attract the most suitable provider prepared to deliver the most appropriate service.

The business model will be developed once a range of tasks including those listed below are carried out:

- analysis of the current provision
- an examination of the condition of existing facilities
- a comparison with other provision/providers
- a review of current customer usage
- analysis of current financial condition
- a review of the current marketing approach

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

5.1 Consultation has been held with members of the public, stakeholders (including users of the service) and staff.

6. Impact on corporate policies, priorities, performance and community impact

6.1 Impact on corporate Priorities

The proposals contained in this report support the corporate priorities listed below:

- create a place for learning and opportunity.
- build pride, responsibility and respect to create safer communities
- improve health and wellbeing
- protect and promote our clean and green environment

6.2 Benefit to other Council initiatives

The work carried out during the development of Grangewaters has been beneficial to the initiative involving the development of an alternative delivery model around youth provision; the Youth Trust Proposal

The research conducted around the various alternative delivery models considered for Grangewaters, the lessons learned from the project and the process followed have been beneficial to the initiation of the Youth Mutual. It may also be useful to future initiatives as the Council's role with respect to certain aspects of non-statutory service delivery shifts from that of provider to commissioner.

7. Implications

7.1 Financial

Implications verified by: **Kay Goodacre**
Interim Finance Manager

Detailed financial implications would be reviewed as part of the appraisal process, however, it is expected that the options recommended would be based upon a zero cost to the Council.

7.2 Legal

Implications verified by: **Sheila Saunders, Contract and Procurement Solicitor (for and on behalf of Daniel Toohey, Principal Corporate Solicitor)**

- 7.2.1 Procurement: The commissioning process will need to be carried out in compliance with all, relevant, European and domestic procurement rules, including state aid and the principles enshrined in the Treaty on the functioning of the European Union: namely, transparency, fairness, non-discrimination, proportionality and mutual obligation.
- 7.2.2 Property: Dealing with the Grangewaters Outdoor Education Centre's land and/or assets by way of leases will enable the Council to retain an interest in the land and in the assets. A grant of a lease of land by the Council to any external organisation, for a period greater than 7 years, must comply with the duty, pursuant to section 123 of the Local Government Act 1972, to obtain the best consideration that can reasonably be obtained, unless the circumstances of the grant fall within an exception granted by the Secretary of State or the consent of the Secretary of State is obtained. There must, also, be compliance with state aid rules.
- 7.2.3 The Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 places a requirement on the Council to consider the economic, environmental and social benefits of its approaches to procurement before the process starts. The Council must consider how what is to be procured may improve the social, environmental and economic well-being of the relevant area, how it might secure any such improvement and whether it needs to consult.

7.3 Diversity and Equality

Implications verified by: **Natalie Warren
Community Development and Equalities
Manager**

Moving towards improved community ownership and delivery supports the priority to build pride, responsibility and respect to create safer communities. There is an opportunity within the commissioning agreement and the contract to enhance the benefit accruing to a wider range of people by close monitoring and detail within the service specification. A full equality impact assessment has been conducted around the options appraisal carried out by officers in order to ensure that the maximum benefit is gained from this development. There is no evidence of any adverse impact to any particular group.

7.4 **Other implications** (where significant) – i.e. Staff, Health, Sustainability, Crime and Disorder)

None.

8. **Background papers used in preparing the report** (including their location on the Council's website or identification whether any are exempt or protected by copyright):

Report to Cabinet 13 August 2014; non-exempt / not protected
Thurrock Council website; Cabinet documents
ITEM 13 - Alternative Delivery Model – Grangewaters Outdoor Education Centre

9. **Appendices to the report**

- Project Timeline
- Legal Implications report

Report Author:

Malcolm W Taylor, Strategic Lead Learner Support / Principal Educational Psychologist

Temí Fawehinmi, Contract and Performance Manager, Children's Commissioning Team, Directorate of Children's Services

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Legal Instructed to commence draft documentation	O&S Implications due 13th February	Proposals to O&S (10th March)	Staff Consultation closes.	Building work scheduled to end	Service Specification to Project Board for comment	Re-Commence Commercial valuation		Commercial Valuation Received	Service Specification complete	Procurement Options decided.
ry 2015		March 2015	April 2015	May 2015		June 2015	July 2015			August 2015

Hand over period. Staff TUPEd Etc			Contract Starts Tender Review	Contract Implimentaion and issue solving
Febuary 2016	March 2016	April 2016	May 2016	June 2016 to December 2016

Legal Implications of the Alternative Delivery Models

The key consideration for each of the options is the legal implications as these have a significant impact on the recommendations that can be made to Cabinet. The legal considerations fall under the following areas:

- Procurement
 - European procurement requirements
 - Part B (Public Contracts Regulations 2006, Schedule 3)
 - Service Concession Contracts
- 'Teckel'
- State Aid
- The duty upon the local authority to obtain best consideration, reasonably obtainable, in disposing of land unless the 'disposal' is a short tenancy (i.e. a tenancy lease for 7 years or less). The 'disposal', in this instance would be the grant of a 25 year lease of the Grangewaters Education Centre to an external body.
- The Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012.

The advice contained in this report was provided from the Legal Team and assumes that the 'contract value' will be above the relevant European threshold (£172,514) for service contracts.

European Procurement Rules – The Public Contracts Regulations 2006 (as amended)

Grangewaters is mainly educational with some elements of recreational use. The legal advice has been given on this basis.

A. **Part B Services:** Both 'educational' and 'recreational' services fall within Part B of Schedule 3 to the Public Contracts Regulations 2006. Part B services which are above the, relevant, threshold (£172,514) must comply with a number of the, individual, regulations. The ones which will need to be, particularly, taken into account, here, are:

- Regulation 4(3): "A contracting authority shall:
 - (a) treat economic operators equally and in a non-discriminatory way; and
 - (b) act in a transparent way. This means that the basic principles that underpin EU procurement law – equality of treatment, transparency and non-discrimination – apply to Part B services just as they apply to all other types of procurement
- Regulation 9: provisions on technical specifications must be sufficiently generic so as not to discriminate against suppliers in other countries or SMEs and do not put in place unjustified barriers to competition
- Regulation 31: requires the placing of a **Contract Award Notice** in the Official Journal of the European Union ("OJEU")

The effect of the requirement, identified in (b), is that all Part B, above threshold services, must be subject to a reasonable level of advertising/competition and the process for selecting the 'winner' must be transparent, fair and non-discriminatory as between member states. Needless to say, the Council's own Contract Procedure Rules require a competition to be carried out in respect of contracts for supplies and services with an individual value of £75,000 and above.

The effect of the requirement, contained in Regulation 31, is that all those who are interested will be alerted to the fact that a services contract has been awarded and may result in challenge(s).

B. Service Concession Contracts: This is a contract which is of the same type as a public service contract except for the fact that the consideration for the provision of services consists of, either: (i) the right to exploit the service; or (ii) the right to exploit the service and a payment. If there is, only, a payment, it will not be a concession contract. In addition:

a. The 'Operator' must:

- i. bear the risk involved in establishing and exploiting the service;
- ii. obtain revenue from the user(s), particularly by charging fees;
and

b. The Council must:

- iii. Transfer the responsibility of exploitation to the external 'Operator'

Service concession contracts are (presently) excluded from the Public Contracts Regulations 2006 but are subject to the principles of fairness, non-discrimination, transparency, proportionality and mutual obligation if the contract in question has 'cross-border' interest. Effectively, this means that if the contract has cross-border interest there must be a degree of advertising, sufficient to enable the services market to be opened up to competition and to, also, enable the impartiality of the procurement procedure used to be reviewed.

"Teckel"

This is included for completeness, only, as the information regarding Grangewaters indicates that the requirements of Teckel can be met such that the contract for the management and running of Grangewaters could be transferred to another organisation, without a competition process being carried out.

If (a) the Council were to exercise, over the external organisation, a control which is similar to that which it exercises over its own departments; and,
(b) the external organisation were to carry out the essential part of its activities for the Council, the management and running of Grangewaters could be transferred to another organisation without a competition process being carried out.

The tests are known as the Teckel 'control' and 'function' tests but legal advice indicates that these tests could not be satisfied.

State Aid

This is aid which:

- i. is granted by the State or through State resources
- ii. favours certain undertakings or production of certain goods
- iii. distorts or threatens to distort competition; and
- iv. affects trade between Member States, including potential effect on trade between Member States.

State Aid may not be given without the permission of the European Commission unless it is 'de minimis' aid or it falls within an exemption.

In the context of the considerations around Grangewaters, state aid may be involved in the giving of a grant (if relevant) and in the leasing of the Centre for 25 years at an 'undervalue' (a rental which is below market rent/no rental)

Best Consideration and Property/Lease

The Council has a duty to obtain the best consideration reasonably obtainable when disposing of land, unless it is a short tenancy (one which does not exceed 7 years). However, if the grant is for the improvement of the social, economic or environmental well-being of the Council's residents and the 'undervalue' does not exceed £2m, a lease could be granted at less than market rent.

The Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012

This Act imposes a duty upon the Council, where it proposes to procure or make arrangements for procuring:

- a. the provision of services; or
- b. the provision of services, together with the purchase or hire of goods; or
- c. the provision of services, together with the carrying out of works

to consider:

- a. how what is proposed to be procured might improve the economic, social and environmental well-being of the relevant area, and
- b. how, in conducting the process of procurement, it might act with a view to securing that improvement.

In giving the, requisite, consideration to (a) and (b), the Council may only consider matters that are relevant to what is proposed to be procured and must consider the extent to which it is proportionate, in all the circumstances, to take those matters into account.

The Council must, also, consider whether to undertake any consultation in respect of matters (a) and (b) to which it is required to give consideration.

10 March 2015	ITEM: 8
Children’s Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee	
Pupil Place Plan (2015-2019)	
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 report on the latest draft version the Pupil Place Plan (2015-2019) and bring to the attention of the Committee the latest forecast of pupil place requirements and the creation of a Schools Forum Pupil Place Planning Sub Group	

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Authority has undertaken to publish an annual Pupil Place Plan and the 2015 to 2019 version is available as a draft for discussion.

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.

The Council commissioned an external review of pupil place planning methodology which resulted in a number of recommendations being proposed and accepted. In addition, the Schools Forum agreed to the creation of a Pupil Place Planning Sub Group which will enable the Council to work more closely with representative head teachers and governors to review pupil place projections and discuss how additional school places might be introduced and surplus places removed.

1. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1.1 Overview and Scrutiny Committee is asked to comment on the draft forecasts, the proposed amendments to Planning Areas and the introduction of the Schools Forum Pupil Place Planning Sub Group.**

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 undertook to publish an annual Pupil Place Plan. This document is of use to many interested parties including potential school sponsors and developers of new dwellings.
- 2.3 As population demographics are dynamic, it is necessary to continually review and update pupil place forecasts. Pupil place requirements are reviewed several times during the year and an annual report is published with the latest forecasts.
- 2.4 The latest draft Pupil Place Plan for the period 2015 to 2019 is attached for comment. The external review of Pupil Place Planning methodology commissioned by the Council resulted in the format of the Plan changing to make it more accessible to lay readers. The Pupil Place Plan gives information about the supply of school places in the Authority and forecasts pupil numbers for the next five years, with information on the changing context within which planning takes place.

3. External Review and Recommendations

- 3.1 The Council commissioned an external review of pupil place planning methodology in 2014 to ensure that the processes involved were sufficiently robust and thorough. The report produced concluded that Thurrock's processes were generally robust.

However, the report highlighted that the context within which the Council is required to plan school places is becoming increasingly complex. There has been a proliferation of admissions authorities with the ability to increase their pupil numbers without consultation within proscribed limits. The Council is not permitted to open a new school without a competition and the presumption is in favour of Free Schools which take on average 4 years to bring to fruition. It is theoretically possible that the Council would have a statutory obligation to provide additional pupil places and, if no academies or Free Schools wished to add or open places, have no means of delivering its legal obligation.

The Borough has experienced a steep increase in the birth rate together with a more mobile population. During the last few years the Council has experienced a significant increase in the number of in year applications from families moving into the Borough. The unprecedented number of applications for places in all year groups made during the academic year from families unknown to the Borough is very difficult to manage. Many of these families are arriving in Thurrock from London and abroad.

The review report pointed out that the birth data on which the projections are based is geographically based ie demand from an area. However the use of catchment areas has the effect of turning the forecast into demand for individual schools. This can distort geographical demand.

The Council is currently considering whether it would be advantageous to move away from the “demand for” model as more Thurrock schools do not use catchment areas as part of their oversubscription criteria.

The external review recommended a reduction in the number of planning areas to 5 for primary phase places and three for secondary phase places. Larger planning areas provide more flexibility. The proposed pupil place planning areas are included in the document in appendix 1.

- 3.3 The new primary phase planning areas are as follows and the schools which fall within them are listed below.

Aveley, Ockendon and Purfleet
Aveley, Benyon, Bonnygate, Dilkes, Holy Cross, Kenningtons, Purfleet, Shaw, Somers Heath
Grays
Belmont Castle, Deneholm, Harris Chafford Hundred, Harris Mayflower, Little Thurrock, Quarry Hill, St Thomas’, Stifford Clays, Thameside, Tudor Court, Warren, West Thurrock
Tilbury
Chadwell St Mary, East Tilbury, Gateway, Herringham, Lansdowne, St Mary’s, Tilbury Pioneer, Woodside
Corringham and Stanford-le-Hope
Abbots Hall, Arthus Bugler, Corringham, Giffards, Graham James, St Joseph’s, Stanford Le Hope
Rural Area
Bulphan, Horndon on the Hill, Orsett

- 3.4 The secondary planning areas have been reduced to three and the schools which fall within the new planning areas are listed below:

- 3.5

West
Ockendon, Ormiston Park
Central
William Edwards School, Hathaway, Harris Chafford Hundred, Harris Free School, Grays Convent, Gateway
East
Gable Hall, Hassenbrook, St Cleres

- 3.6 The Harris Federation Free School will open in September 2015 with 120 places in temporary accommodation on the site of the existing Harris Academy. The location of the permanent site for the school is not known at this time however, the Council is advised that the Harris Free School will open in temporary accommodation on the site of the existing Harris Chafford Hundred School. Until the permanent site is confirmed the new Free school has been located within the Central planning area.
- 3.7 The Council has acted on information from the DfE and advertised 120 places at the new secondary Free School in the School Admissions brochure for September 2015. Many applications have been received and thus far the new Free School has accepted 90 of the applications. However, it appears that the EFA has not yet secured a site for this school which is normally essential to achieving Funding Approval and therefore permission to open the school. The short time remaining for the Free School to achieve final approval is a matter of concern.
- 3.8 The primary phase forecasts in the 5 year plan are calculated on the basis of known data regarding live births in Thurrock, the number of children already on roll in schools and the anticipated child yield from proposed housing developments in the planning system. However, our experience over the last three years of the scale of demand from families arriving in the Borough throughout the academic year has resulted in the addition of a 7% contingency. Already in the 2014/5 academic year a further 2.7% of the total school population has arrived in the Thurrock from elsewhere. By the end of the academic year in July 2015 that figure is likely to be closer to 5%.
- 3.9 There is currently surplus capacity in the secondary phase and therefore the projections are based on known data of how many children there are in Thurrock schools and historic patterns of transfer. No additional contingency has been added for secondary places. We anticipate that the surplus capacity in some secondary schools will be required as the increased primary population moves through the system. The number of children the Borough retains between Year 6 and Year 7 is also likely to increase as neighbouring Boroughs schools fill up with their own increased primary population due to the general rise in the birth rate. The need for secondary places will also be closely monitored to determine the changing impact of inward migration.
- 3.10 With the arrival of so many families we have experienced the need to open bulge classes in this academic year, in year groups other than Reception and Year 7, and the report details those areas where classes have been placed. The scale of inward migration is difficult to manage as we cannot know before they apply how many children need to be accommodated in which year groups. The situation is under constant review.
- 3.11 As part of the Council's drive to ensure a strategic and proactive approach to pupil place planning, the Schools Forum was asked to consider the creation of a Pupil Place Planning Sub Group to be made up of representative head

teachers and governor representatives. A consultation document was sent to all head teachers and chairs of governors inviting their views on the proposed new group. The responses received were positive.

- 3.12 The new sub group will enable a small number of committed head teachers and governor representatives to study the forecasts in detail and consider how fluctuations in pupil numbers might be dealt with in advance of the changes taking place. This will enable the schools to be closely involved in the process and bring their detailed local knowledge to the table. The new Sub Group will meet for the first time in the Spring of 2015.

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 Head Teachers and Chairs of Governors were consulted on the working and membership of the new Schools Forum Sub Group. The consultation period ran for 6 weeks and closed on 14th November 2014. The finished Pupil Place Plan will be 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, Finance Officer**

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 could 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: **Assaf Chaudry, Major Projects Solicitor**

The proposals contained in this report comply with the Council's statutory obligations under the Section 14(1) of the Education Act 1996 in that it places a legal duty on local authorities to secure sufficient primary and secondary school places and this still stands. Sections 6A, 7, 9, 10 and 11 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 (EIA, 2006), as amended by Section 37 of the Education Act 2011 sets out the process for establishing new schools, including a requirement to give precedence to proposals for new academies. The EIA 2006 puts the local authority in the role of strategic commissioner of provision for children and young people. Therefore the Council has an obligation to ensure that sufficient and suitable places are available in Thurrock for every child of school age attending school or due to start school and to provide additional places to meet any shortfall due to any increase.

7.3 **Diversity and Equality**

Implications verified by: **Natalie Warren, Diversity & Equalities Manager**

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 (implications unchanged from previous plan).

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:

- Draft Pupil Place Plan (2015-2019)

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PUPIL Place Plan

2015 - 2019



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Thurrock Council
Pupil Place Plan
2015 2019

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**For the purpose of this document, data has been extracted from the
Autumn 2014 Census**

Introduction

Every Local Authority has a statutory duty to provide a school place for every child living in their Authority whose parents request one.

The number of school places required in Thurrock is regularly reviewed as new data becomes available and an annual plan is published. Pupil forecasts are based on live birth data, information on proposed housing developments, pupil numbers on roll at Thurrock schools and other demographic data.

Where the pupil place forecasts indicate an increased or reduced number of school places are required, this information is fed into the capital programme planning process.

Thurrock Council has recently undertaken a review of the methodology employed to determine pupil place requirements and has introduced new arrangements effective from Spring 2015. A sub group of the Schools Forum has been created to enable Schools and Governor Representatives to work with Council Officers to review pupil place projections and discuss where any additional places should be accommodated. This collaborative working is more important than ever as more schools become their own Admissions Authority and the Council has limited scope to put more places into the schools system.

Thurrock aims to facilitate a range of schools, each with its own individual ethos and identity, to provide parents with a choice of education provision. In addition, the Council seeks to ensure that every child can be offered a school place within reasonable travelling distance from home. To ensure an element of parental preference, the Council plans to provide a small surplus of places.

This document deals with pupil place planning in respect of statutory school education. Young people are now required to stay on beyond 16 years in statutory education. In 2015 the participation age rose to 18 years. This document deals with schools places from 4 years to 16 years. Much post 16 provision is in colleges and in settings other than schools and information on Post 16 provision is contained in Annex 4.

Similarly, this document does not seek to forecast the number of school places required for children with special and additional needs. This work is undertaken separately by specialist Council Officers.

This document does not include planning for nursery provision which is also undertaken separately by the Council.

It is hoped this document will be of use to parents, schools and those interested in development in Thurrock.

School Place Planning

Thurrock Council has a legal duty to provide a sufficient number of school places. Planning pupil places is therefore a very important function of the Local Authority.

The methodology employed to calculate the number of school places required is contained in Annex 1.

A number of factors have come together in recent years to make the task of calculating and providing school places more complex and difficult. These factors include the increase in the birth rate combined with significant migration into the Authority. Many of the families moving into the Authority in recent years have applied for school places outside of the normal admissions round. The number of "In Year" applications are unprecedented. The demand is for places across all year groups and not just at Reception and Year 7.

It is difficult to determine why Thurrock has experienced such a significant increase in families moving into the Authority. Many outer London Boroughs have reported an increase in migration from central London Boroughs as families attempt to find accommodation which is affordable within new welfare benefit constraints. It is possible that Thurrock is also experiencing some inward migration for this reason. Thurrock generally has more affordable accommodation than London Boroughs but is still within reasonable travelling distance of the city. A significant number of families are also arriving from outside the United Kingdom.

The Council can plan for children born in the Authority who will require places in 4 years' time. However, it is more difficult to plan for an influx of families who arrive with no prior warning and outside of the normal application process.

The Council's ability to put additional places into the school system is limited by the small number of Community schools remaining in the Authority. Of the 11 state funded secondary schools in the Authority 9 are academies, 1 is a Free School and 1 is a Voluntary Aided School. There are no community secondary schools (i.e. under the control of the Council). Of the existing 39 primary schools in Thurrock only 9 are Community schools and remain under the control of the Council. Fortunately, the Council has a good relationship with schools and works with them to address pupil place issues.

The creation of the Pupil Place Planning Sub Group of the Schools Forum will formalise the existing excellent relationship between the Local Authority and schools in the Authority.

Context

Thurrock is located on the north bank of the river Thames, twenty miles east of central London and has 18 miles of river front. More than half of the land in Thurrock is designated Green Belt land.

Much of the riverside area of Thurrock is highly urbanised with a mixture of industrial and residential development at the west and eastern ends of the Authority. The Authority is characterised by five main urban communities plus a large rural area containing five main villages. The urban communities are:

- Grays and the adjacent Chafford Hundred
- West Thurrock and Purfleet
- Stanford-Le-Hope and Corringham
- Tilbury and Chadwell St Mary
- Aveley and Ockendon

Thurrock also boasts a large retail park at Lakeside.

South Essex College opened in September 2014. The new £45 million Thurrock Campus is a state-of-the-art facility, located on Grays High Street in the heart of the town centre, with teaching facilities second to none, with specially designed workshops for construction and engineering, as well as art & design.

There is a thriving arts sector locally which includes High House Production Park, a world class facility comprising: the Royal Opera House Production Workshop; the Backstage Centre, home of the creative and cultural sector skills; ACME artist studios and the Royal Opera House Costume Archive (opening in Easter 2015). There is potential to offer exciting opportunities to schools to have strong links with this local artistic hub along with the digital industries associated with it.

Thurrock is home to the largest deep water port and Business Park, based at Stanford-le-Hope. The project, when completed, will create a world class deep sea Container Port with a Business Park.

A stunning and innovative visitor centre for the Thurrock Thameside Nature Park has been built on a former landfill site, with superb views over Mucking Flats and the Thames Estuary. There are footpaths and cycle ways in 120 acres of nature park, which will expand to 845 acres. Great for birdwatching – and ship watching.

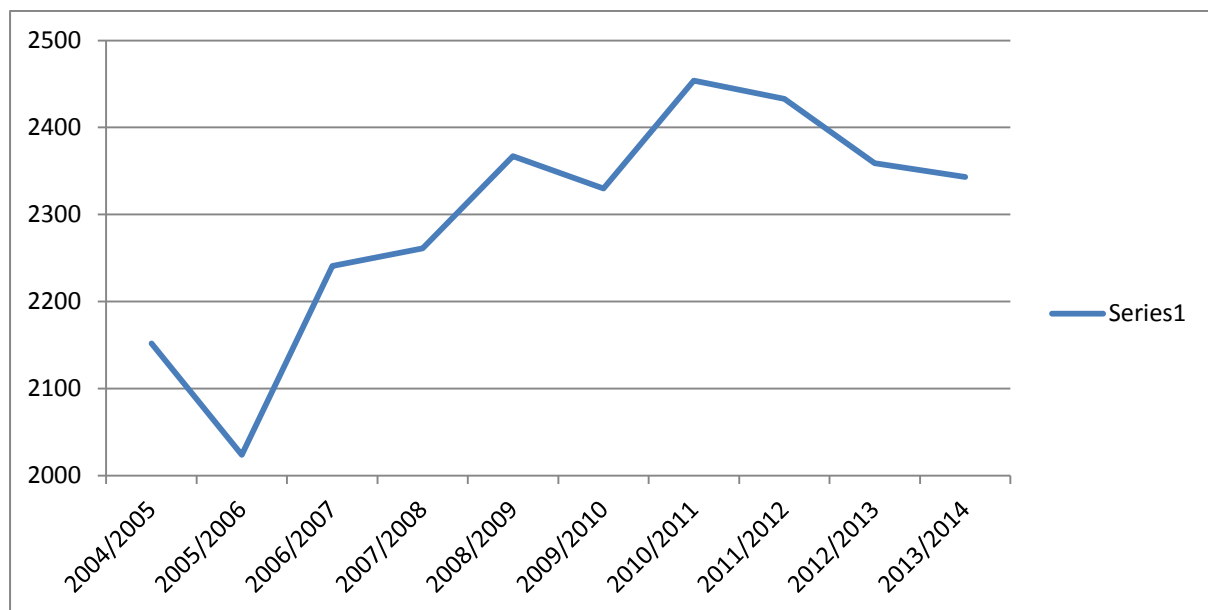
The Authority benefits from good transport links. The M25 passes through the Authority as does the A13 trunk road from London to Southend. There are also 7 railway stations in the Authority on the line which connects Southend and Fenchurch Street in central London.

Thurrock has a young population. The 2011 census published by the ONS states that 26.6% of the Thurrock population is aged 0 to 19. Those aged between 20 and 44, i.e. most likely to have children, make up 36.5% of the population. This compares with 60 to 84 year olds who make up only 16.4% of the Thurrock population.

The table below demonstrates the conversion of live births in Thurrock to demand for Reception places.

Year of Birth	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Number of live births in the authority	1,938	2,152	2,024	2,241	2,261	2,367	2,330
Year entering school at 4+	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Number of children admitted into reception	1,709	1,844	1,884	2,237	2,263	2,321	2,277
Historical uptake factor	83.85	83.30	92.57	99.82	100.09	98.02	97.9

The birth rate in Thurrock has increased significantly since 2005/2006 as demonstrated in the table below.



Schools and Planning Areas

Schools

There are currently 39 state maintained primary schools in Thurrock:

- 22 Academies
- 9 Community Schools
- 5 Voluntary Aided Schools
- 1 Voluntary Controlled
- 1 Foundation
- 1 Free School

Full details of the schools and the oversubscription criteria applied to each one is available in the Council's Admissions Book. This publication also contains information on making an application for a school place and can be accessed on the Council's website.

There are currently 11 state maintained secondary schools in Thurrock:

- 9 Academies
- 1 Voluntary Aided School
- 1 Free School

The Free School referred to above is the Harris Federation Free School. It will open with 120 places in September 2015. The places will be accommodated in temporary accommodation on the site of the existing Harris Academy Chafford Hundred. The school will eventually offer 180 places for each year group when the permanent building is completed. The site for the new school is not confirmed at the time of writing and updated information is available from the Harris Academy website.

Each Academy, Free School and Voluntary Aided-School is its own Admissions Authority. The Council is the Admissions Authority for Community Schools and Voluntary Controlled Schools. In respect of Voluntary Aided Schools the governing body of the school determines admission arrangements. For Academies and Free Schools, the relevant Academy Trust is the Admission Authority. Each individual Admissions Authority applies its own oversubscription criteria to applications and determines which applicants to offer places to.

Applications for all state funded secondary schools in Thurrock are made via the co-ordinated admissions process which is administered by the Council.

Pupil Place Planning Areas

The Council's 2014 review of Pupil Place Planning methodology resulted in the decision to have fewer but larger planning areas. Planning areas with only two or three schools did not provide the flexibility required in the more complex context in which the Council is now operating.

The Council has decided to use 5 planning areas for primary schools that, where possible, follow existing natural and road boundaries.

Primary Planning Areas

<p style="text-align: center;">Aveley, Ockendon and Purfleet</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aveley Primary • Benyon Primary • Bonnygate Primary • Dilkes Academy • Holy Cross Catholic Primary • Kenningtons Primary Academy • Purfleet Primary Academy • Shaw Primary Academy • Somers Heath Primary 	<p style="text-align: center;">Grays</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Belmont Castle Academy • Deneholm Primary • Harris Primary Academy Chafford Hundred • Harris Primary Academy Mayflower • Little Thurrock Primary • Quarry Hill Academy • St Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary • Stifford Clays Primary • Thameside Primary • Tudor Court Primary • Warren Primary • West Thurrock Academy
<p style="text-align: center;">Tilbury</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chadwell St Mary Primary • East Tilbury Primary & Nursery • The Gateway Primary Free • Herringham Primary Academy • Lansdowne Primary Academy • St Mary's Catholic Primary • Tilbury Pioneer Academy • Woodside Academy 	<p style="text-align: center;">Corringham and Stanford-Le-Hope</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abbots Hall Primary Academy • Arthur Bugler Primary • Corringham Primary • Giffards Primary • Graham James Primary Academy • St Joseph's Catholic Primary • Stanford-le-Hope Primary
<p style="text-align: center;">Rural areas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bulphan C of E Primary • Horndon on the Hill C of E Primary • Orsett C of E Primary 	

The planning areas for Primary are shown on the map in Annex 5.

The Primary forecast whole school is shown in Annex 7

The Primary Reception forecast is shown in Annex 8

Secondary Planning Areas

West	Central
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Ockendon School• Ormiston Park Academy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Gateway Academy• Grays Convent High School• The Hathaway Academy• Harris Academy Chafford Hundred• Harris Federation Free School• William Edwards School

East
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gable Hall School• Hassenbrook Academy• St Clere's School

The planning areas for Secondary are shown on the map in Annex 6.

The Secondary forecast whole school is shown in Annex 9.

The Secondary forecast for Year 7 is shown in Annex 10

Primary Forecasts

The whole school projections for each primary school planning area have been calculated using the actual number of children on roll in the schools in the October 2014 census and adding in the child yield from planned dwellings and adding 7% contingency. This degree of contingency is required to enable the schools to absorb the number of pupils we anticipate will arrive in the Authority from elsewhere in the UK and abroad in the September 2015/16 academic year and beyond. It also provides a margin to facilitate a degree of parental preference. The impact of inward migration will be closely monitored and forecasts adjusted accordingly.

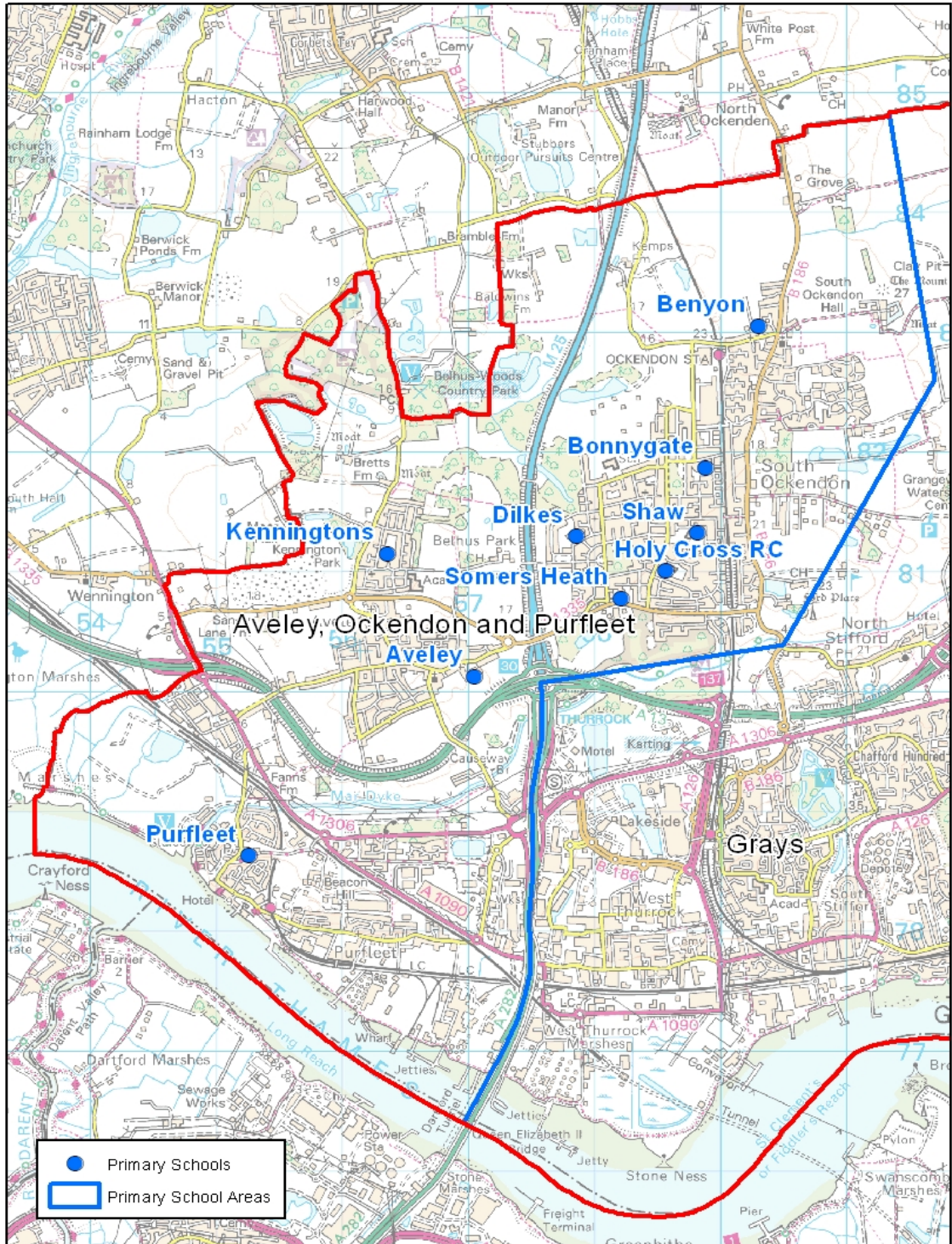
The Reception place forecasts were calculated on the number of live births in the Authority. We have historical data on the number of live births and the percentage of the children born who subsequently required a place in a Thurrock Reception class. We can, therefore, reasonably determine the number of local residents who will require a Reception place. What is more difficult to predict is the number of children of Reception age who will move into the Authority from elsewhere. The migration trend over the last three years indicates that we must make 5% provision in Reception places to accommodate these children. A 7% contingency across the board in the primary phase will ensure these children can be accommodated and, provide a small margin for parental preference.

By planning to accommodate a similar number of children arriving in the Authority to that experienced in the last three years we can avoid the need to create places at short notice.

Aveley, Ockendon and Purfleet

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Aveley, Ockendon and Purfleet



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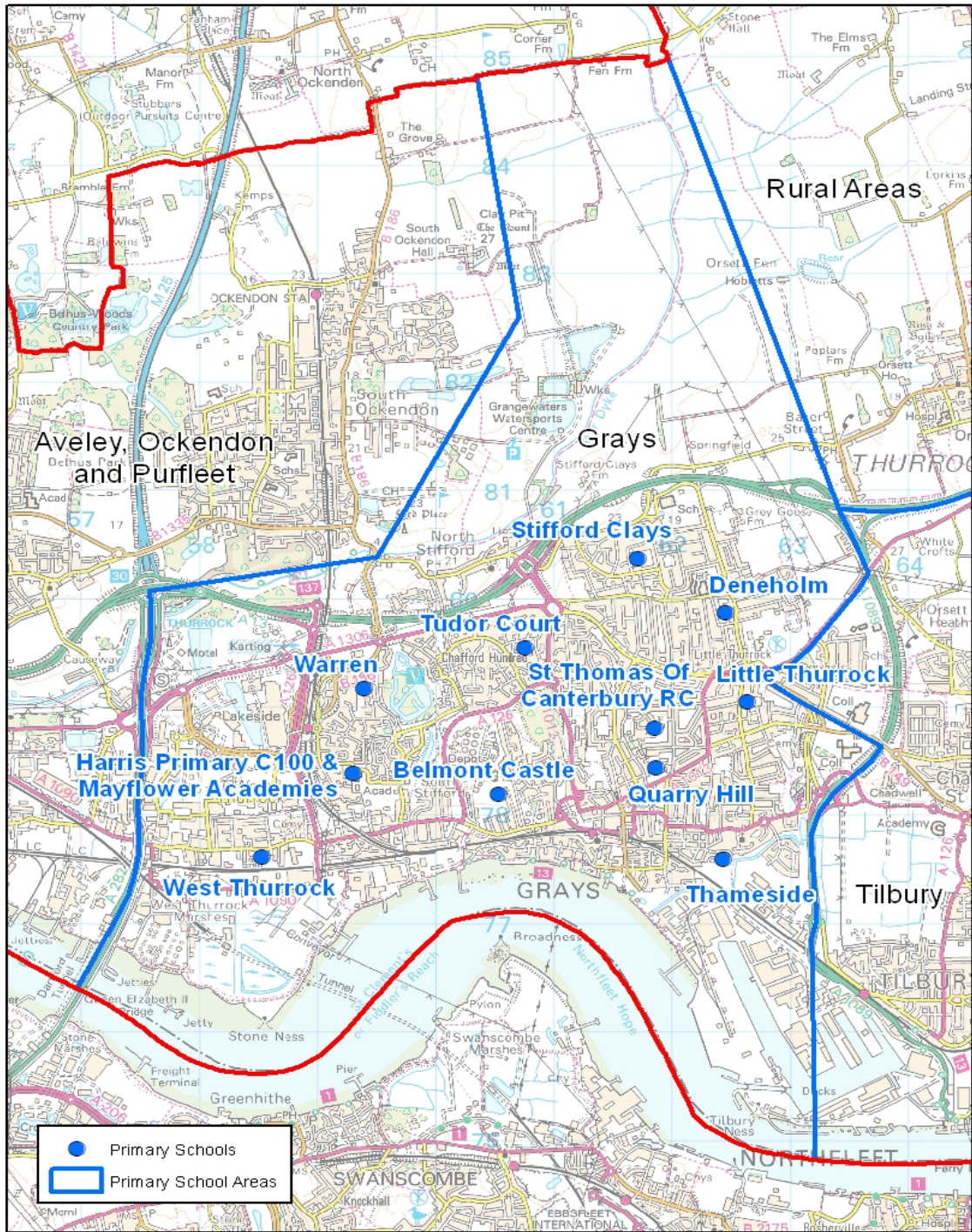
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Aveley, Ockendon & Purfleet		WHOLE SCHOOL FORECAST				
School	PAN	Sep-15	Sep-16	Sep-17	Sep-18	Sep-19
Aveley	420	434	435	461	455	431
Benyon	210	214	224	213	216	225
Bonnygate	420	359	375	434	457	462
Dilkes	420	418	414	426	427	428
Holy Cross	315	289	290	295	296	299
Kenningtons	420	426	449	489	503	487
Purfleet	630	440	469	490	517	539
Shaw	420	413	405	407	402	405
Somers Heath	210	213	209	205	198	196
	3,465	3,206	3,270	3,420	3,471	3,472
5% contingency		3,366	3,434	3,591	3,645	3,646
7% contingency		3,430	3,499	3,659	3,714	3,715
10% contingency		3,527	3,597	3,762	3,818	3,819

Aveley, Ockendon & Purfleet		RECEPTION FORECAST				
School	PAN	Sep-15	Sep-16	Sep-17	Sep-18	Sep-19
Aveley	60	69	55	61	62	62
Benyon	30	36	38	27	32	33
Bonnygate	60	53	55	69	79	64
Dilkes	60	59	54	72	61	62
Holy Cross	45	45	45	45	45	45
Kenningtons	60	80	73	69	73	74
Purfleet	90	89	84	73	74	80
Shaw	60	61	52	61	55	57
Somers Heath	30	29	30	27	23	27
	495	521	486	504	504	504
5% contingency		547	510	529	529	529
7% contingency		557	520	539	539	539
10% contingency		573	535	554	554	554

There is pressure across the board in this planning area. In the 2014/15 academic year there are only 18 Reception places available across the area, 16 of which are at Purfleet School which is geographically separated from the other schools in this area. There may have to be additional Year 1, Year 2 and Year 4 places created from September 2015. The forecast for Reception places indicates that additional places will be required at Reception from September 2015.

Grays



Grays

Grays		WHOLE SCHOOL FORECAST				
School	PAN	Sep-15	Sep-16	Sep-17	Sep-18	Sep-19
Belmont Castle	690	703	727	720	694	673
Deneholm	420	415	412	437	444	451
Harris Chafford Hundred	630	603	579	557	520	494
Harris Mayflower	630	119	179	229	276	329
Little Thurrock	630	598	620	647	636	640
Quarry Hill	420	527	553	568	560	551
St Thomas'	630	628	629	629	629	630
Stifford Clays	630	691	706	723	752	741
Thameside	630	597	621	640	638	648
Tudor Court	840	755	771	780	748	726
Warren	420	453	432	426	409	408
West Thurrock	420	529	572	616	566	562
	6,990	6,618	6,801	6,972	6,872	6,853
5% contingency		6,949	7,141	7,321	7,216	7,196
7% contingency		7,081	7,277	7,460	7,353	7,333
10% contingency		7,280	7,481	7,669	7,559	7,538

Grays		RECEPTION FORECAST				
School	PAN	Sep-15	Sep-16	Sep-17	Sep-18	Sep-19
Belmont Castle	90	93	110	97	94	99
Deneholm	60	57	56	86	67	67
Harris Chafford Hundred	90	70	67	67	52	64
Harris Mayflower	90	53	60	50	47	53
Little Thurrock	90	97	97	101	79	94
Quarry Hill	60	83	86	75	79	81
St Thomas'	90	90	90	90	90	90
Stifford Clays	90	95	106	108	117	107
Thameside	90	100	92	100	84	94
Tudor Court	120	95	105	100	89	97
Warren	60	55	62	55	58	58
West Thurrock	60	72	83	102	74	83
	990	960	1,014	1,031	930	987
5% contingency		1,008	1,065	1,083	977	1,036
7% contingency		1,027	1,085	1,103	995	1,056
10% contingency		1,056	1,115	1,134	1,023	1,086

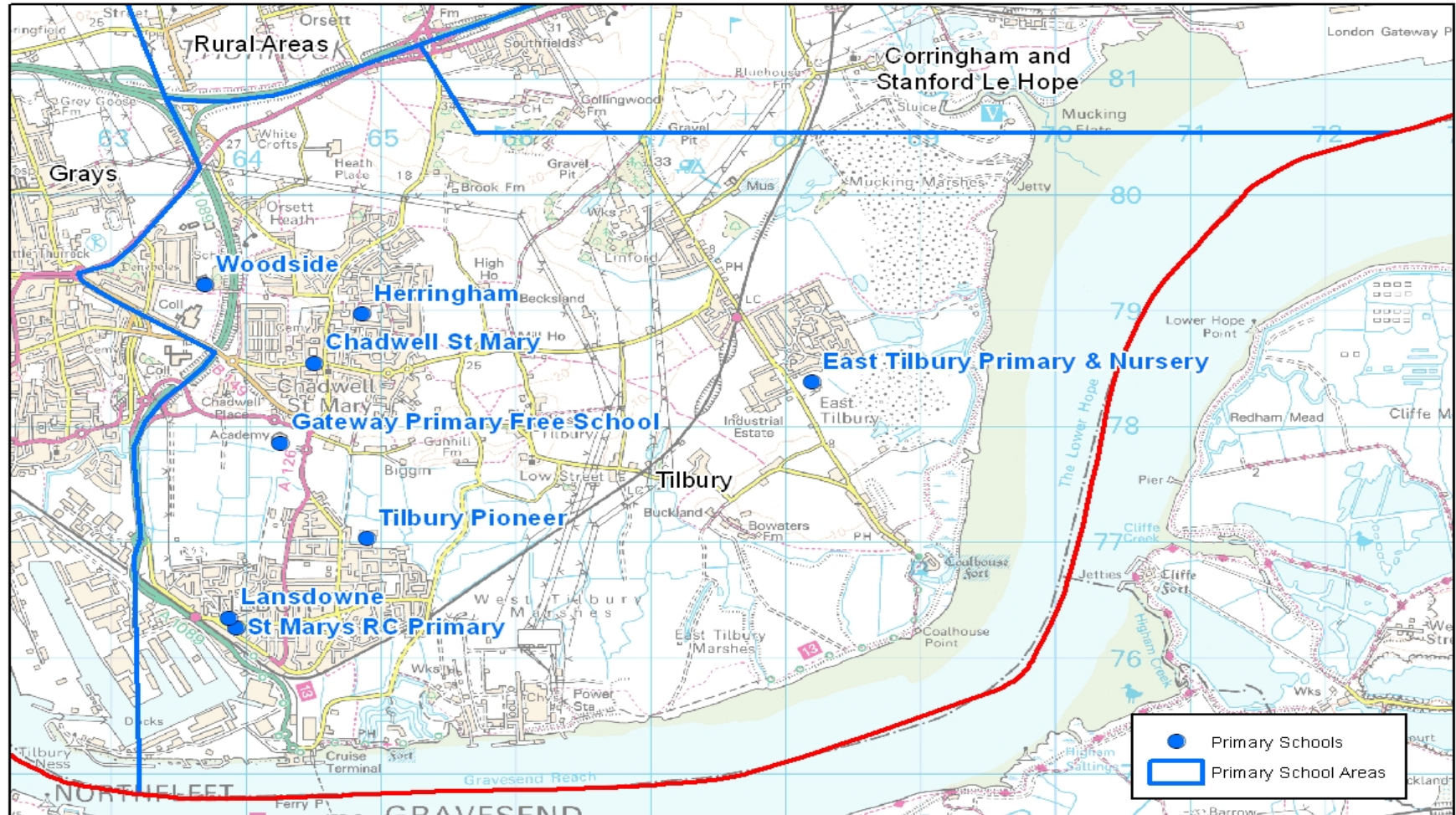
Grays primary planning area is also under pressure. Thameside Primary School opened an additional Year 3 class and an additional Year 1 class mid academic year (2014/15) to help meet demand in the area.

There will be particular pressure on Reception, Year 3 and Year 5 places in the 2015/16 academic year.

The September 2015 PAN for Grays Planning Area includes 90 places in Reception and Year 1 at the new Harris Mayflower Academy. The whole school PAN will increase as this school builds up the number of places as children progress through the school.

This school will provide an additional 60 Reception places from September 2016. The additional 60 Reception places will relieve the pressure on places in this year group.

Tilbury



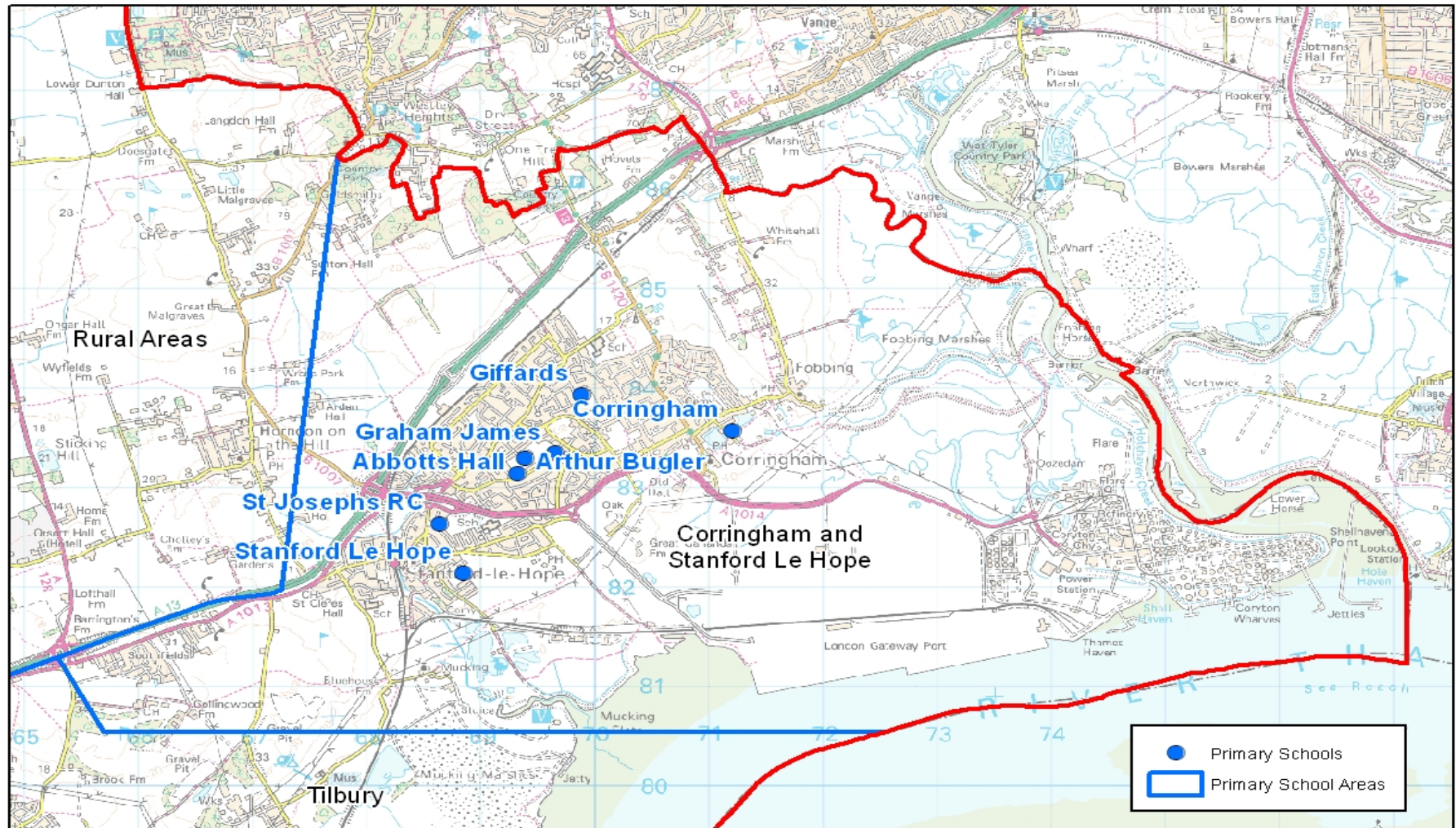
Tilbury

Tilbury		WHOLE SCHOOL FORECAST				
School	PAN	Sep-15	Sep-16	Sep-17	Sep-18	Sep-19
Chadwell St Mary	210	208	206	214	232	238
East Tilbury	630	558	593	597	569	594
Gateway	420	506	477	451	420	421
Herringham	420	383	392	394	392	390
Lansdowne	420	605	589	596	595	585
St Mary's	210	255	243	234	229	219
Tilbury Pioneer	420	214	292	349	375	383
Woodside	420	552	559	575	628	668
	3,150	3,281	3,351	3,410	3,440	3,498
5% contingency		3,445	3,519	3,581	3,612	3,673
7% contingency		3,511	3,586	3,649	3,681	3,743
10% contingency		3,609	3,686	3,751	3,784	3,848

Tilbury		RECEPTION FORECAST				
School	PAN	Sep-15	Sep-16	Sep-17	Sep-18	Sep-19
Chadwell St Mary	30	32	27	36	48	36
East Tilbury	90	85	89	76	67	79
Gateway	60	60	60	60	60	60
Herringham	60	54	59	55	58	57
Lansdowne	90	77	81	91	88	84
St Mary's	30	30	30	30	30	30
Tilbury Pioneer	60	81	78	57	26	61
Woodside	60	105	98	76	113	98
	480	524	522	481	490	505
5% contingency		550	548	505	515	530
7% contingency		561	559	515	524	540
10% contingency		576	574	529	539	556

Woodside Academy has opened a Year 2 class mid academic year to meet demand locally. The PAN for September 2015 has therefore been adjusted by this number. We predict a shortfall of places in Year 4 in the 2015/16 academic year.

Corringham and Stanford Le Hope



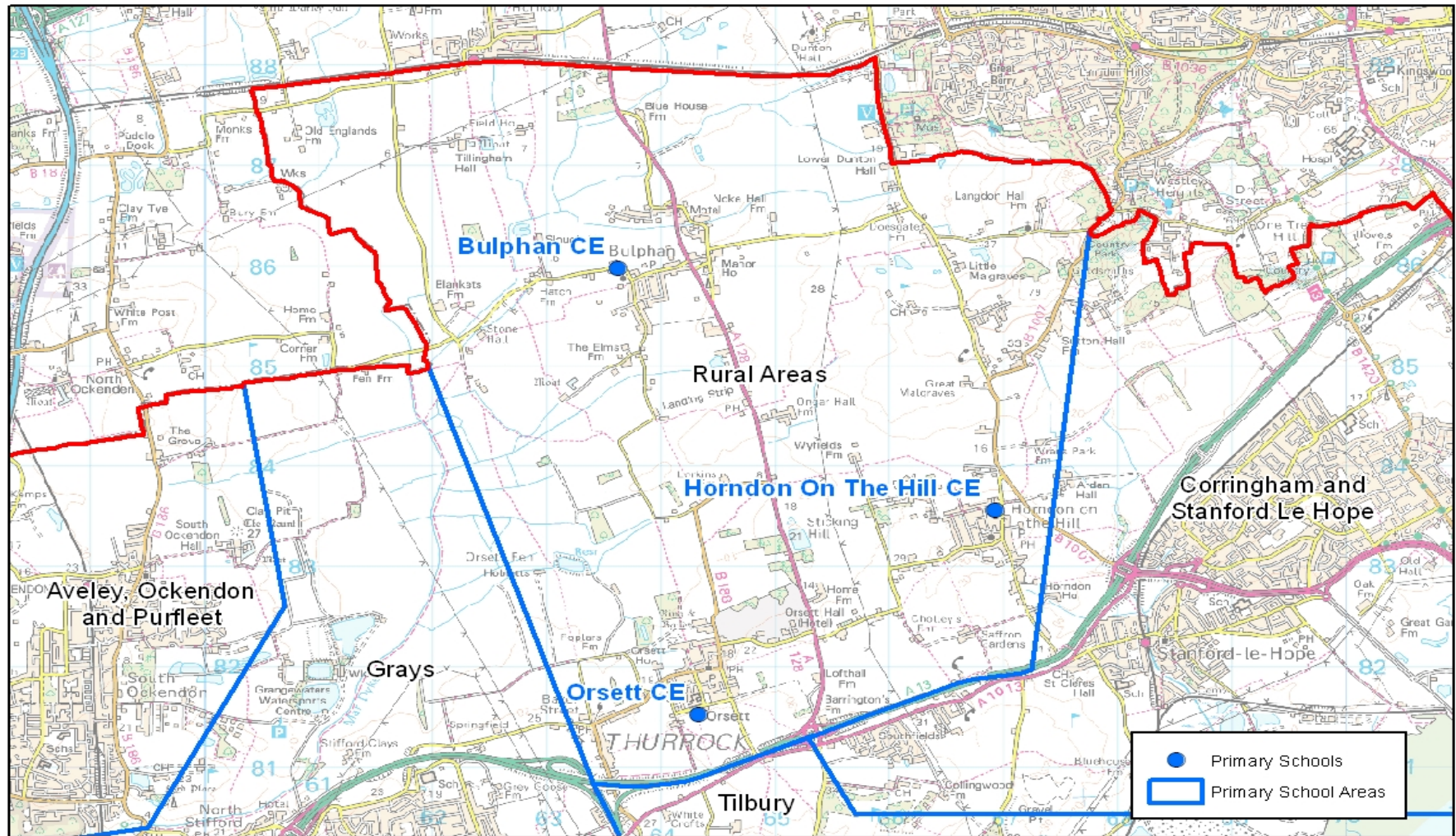
Corringham and Stanford Le Hope

Corringham & Stanford le Hope		WHOLE SCHOOL FORECAST				
School	PAN	Sep-15	Sep-16	Sep-17	Sep-18	Sep-19
Abbots Hall	210	214	213	208	206	205
Arthur Bugler	420	419	410	402	412	410
Corringham	420	447	451	453	473	486
Giffards	420	405	396	376	361	348
Graham James	420	274	276	279	282	291
St Joseph's	210	268	258	248	238	228
Stanford-le-Hope	420	400	375	392	384	381
	2,520	2,427	2,379	2,358	2,356	2,349
5% contingency		2,548	2,498	2,476	2,474	2,466
7% contingency		2,597	2,546	2,523	2,521	2,513
10% contingency		2,670	2,617	2,594	2,592	2,584

Corringham & Stanford le Hope		RECEPTION FORECAST				
School	PAN	Sep-15	Sep-16	Sep-17	Sep-18	Sep-19
Abbots Hall	30	32	30	25	28	29
Arthur Bugler	60	62	50	51	70	58
Corringham	60	93	62	62	83	75
Giffards	60	47	50	40	45	46
Graham James	60	56	32	34	33	39
St Joseph's	30	30	30	30	30	30
Stanford-le-Hope	60	54	54	51	67	57
	360	374	308	293	356	334
5% contingency		393	323	308	374	351
7% contingency		400	330	314	381	357
10% contingency		411	339	322	392	367

There is pressure on Reception places in this planning area in September 2015. The Council is currently in discussion with schools regarding where the additional places could best be accommodated. The matter will be discussed with head teacher and governor representatives at the Schools Forum Sub Group before a decision is reached.

The whole school forecast suggests there will be a shortfall of places in September 2015 if the 7% contingency demand figure is used. This issue will be closely monitored to identify where additional places may be required as families arrive in the Borough



Rural Area

Rural		WHOLE SCHOOL FORECAST				
School	PAN	Sep-15	Sep-16	Sep-17	Sep-18	Sep-19
Bulphan	84	100	102	99	95	90
Horndon-on-the-Hill	210	204	200	190	196	192
Orsett	210	221	231	217	201	199
	504	525	533	506	492	481
5% contingency		551	560	531	517	505
7% contingency		562	570	541	526	515
10% contingency		578	586	557	541	529

Rural		RECEPTION FORECAST				
School	PAN	Sep-15	Sep-16	Sep-17	Sep-18	Sep-19
Bulphan	12	12	12	12	12	12
Horndon-on-the-Hill	30	27	27	21	33	27
Orsett	30	34	41	16	19	28
	72	73	80	49	64	67
5% contingency		77	84	51	67	70
7% contingency		78	86	52	68	72
10% contingency		80	88	54	70	74

The live birth data for this planning area indicates that there will be a small shortfall in Reception places in September 2015. It is expected that any excess demand will be met in other planning areas.

Primary Forecast Summary

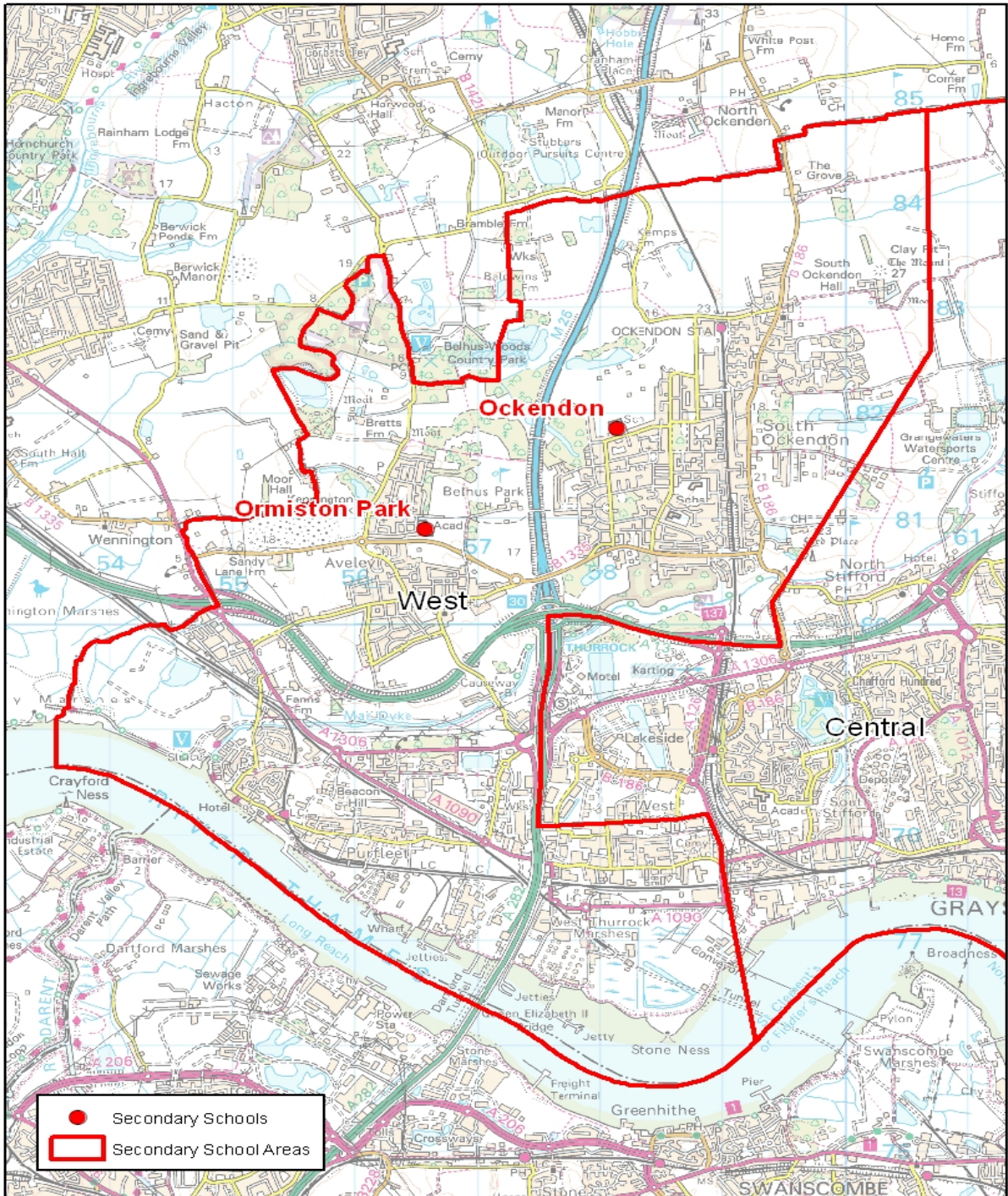
There is pressure on primary phase places in most year groups in different areas. The inward migration experienced in recent years appears to have had a more significant impact on primary places than secondary places. This may be because we have had surplus places in our secondary schools which could absorb the newcomers or it may be that the families arriving in Thurrock have younger children.

The ONS 2011 census data demonstrates that Thurrock has a significant population under 19 years. The largest percentage of the adult population is of child bearing age and therefore it unlikely that the demand for school places will reduce in the near future.

The Council will continue to monitor the impact of inward migration in order to respond to changing circumstances.

Future additional places will almost certainly be required across the local Authority.

Secondary Forecast



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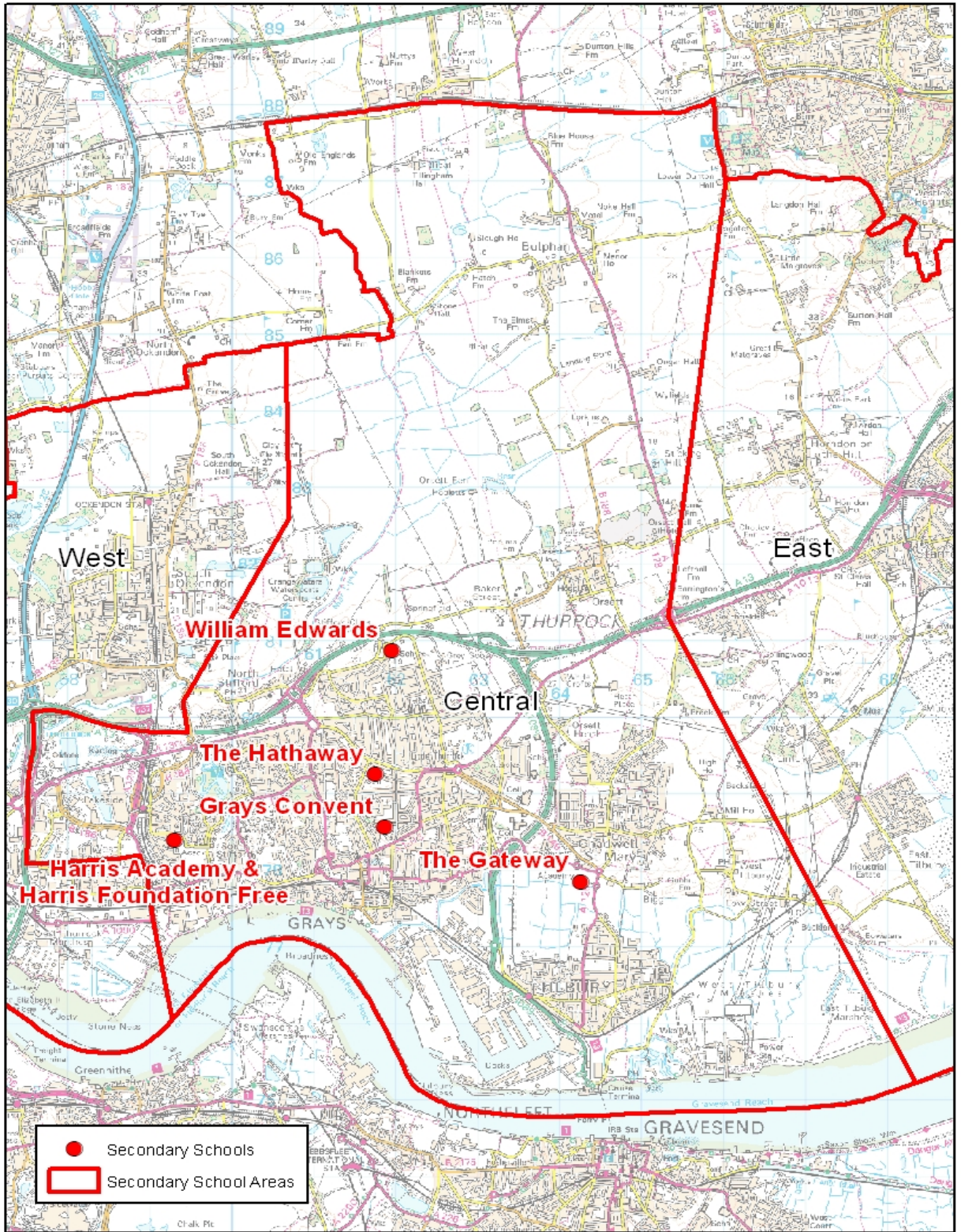
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West Planning Area

West Planning Area	WHOLE SCHOOL FORECAST					
School	PAN	Sep-15	Sep-16	Sep-17	Sep-18	Sep-19
Ormiston Park Academy	900	455	488	545	563	548
The Ockendon Academy	1,050	1,036	1,060	1,085	1,123	1,156
	1,950	1,491	1,548	1,630	1,686	1,704
5% contingency		1,566	1,625	1,712	1,771	1,790
7% contingency		1,596	1,656	1,745	1,805	1,824
10% contingency		1,641	1,703	1,794	1,855	1,875

West Planning Area	YEAR 7 FORECAST					
School	PAN	Sep-15	Sep-16	Sep-17	Sep-18	Sep-19
Ormiston Park Academy	180	103	106	104	117	118
The Ockendon Academy	210	216	222	216	244	246
	390	319	328	320	361	364
5% contingency		335	345	336	379	382
7% contingency		342	351	342	386	389
10% contingency		351	361	352	397	400

Central Planning Area



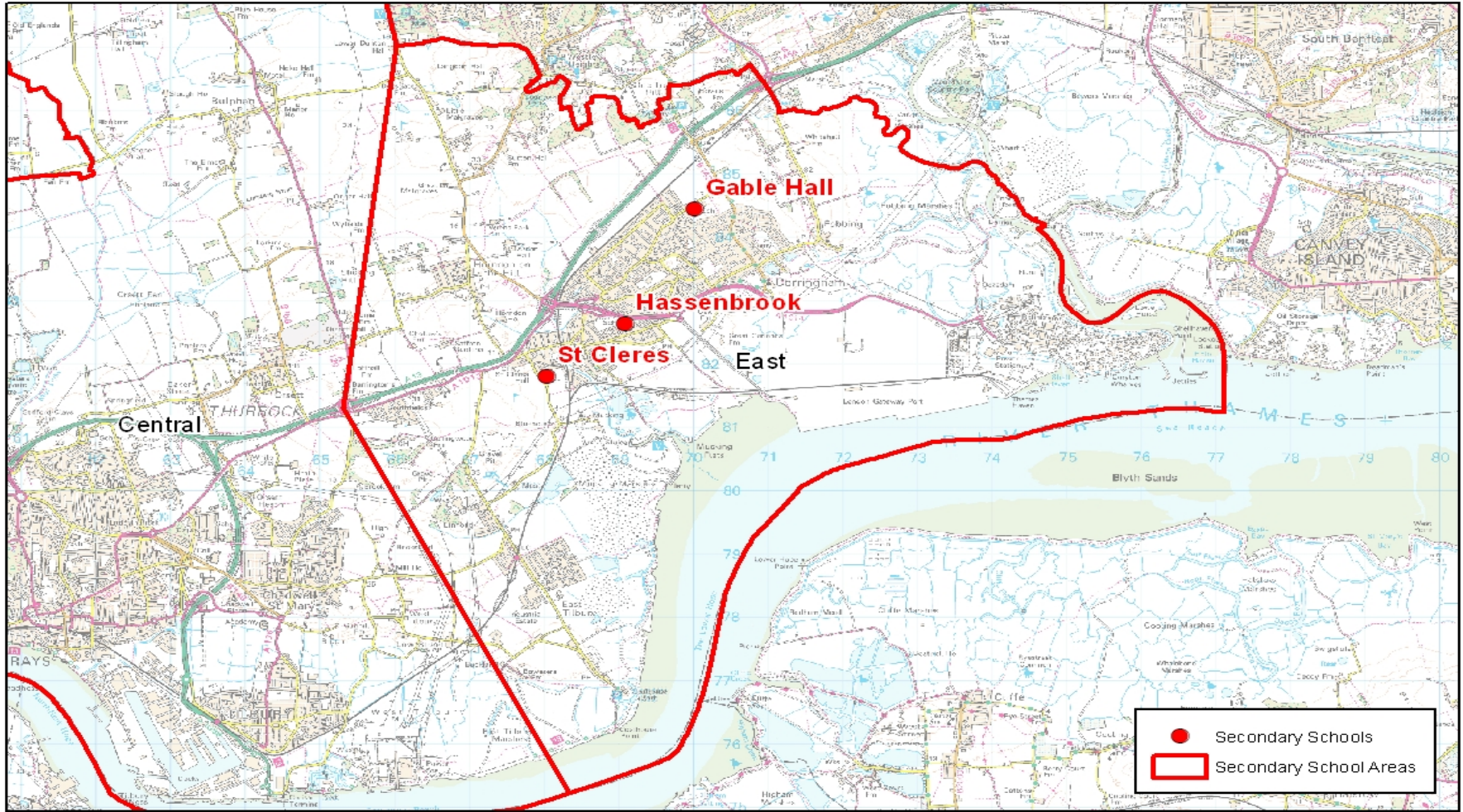
Central Planning Area

Central Planning Area	WHOLE SCHOOL FORECAST					
School	PAN	Sep-15	Sep-16	Sep-17	Sep-18	Sep-19
Grays Convent	620	505	488	477	511	527
Harris Academy Chafford Hundred	900	920	937	939	960	989
Harris Free School			120	240	360	480
The Gateway Academy	1,050	1,022	1,043	1,073	1,105	1,134
The Hathaway Academy	900	671	673	680	725	747
William Edwards	1,200	1,219	1,252	1,275	1,313	1,349
	4,790	4,337	4,513	4,684	4,974	5,226
5% contingency		4,680	4,864	5,045	5,349	5,611
7% contingency		4,769	4,957	5,141	5,451	5,718
10% contingency		4,902	5,096	5,285	5,604	5,879

Central Planning Area	YEAR 7 FORECAST					
School	PAN	Sep-15	Sep-16	Sep-17	Sep-18	Sep-19
Grays Convent	124	99	102	99	112	113
Harris Academy Chafford Hundred	180	187	192	187	211	212
Harris Free School	120	120	120	120	120	120
The Gateway Academy	210	214	220	214	242	244
The Hathaway Academy	180	141	145	141	159	161
William Edwards	240	255	262	255	288	290
	1,054	1,016	1,041	1,016	1,132	1,140
5% contingency		1,066	1,093	1,067	1,188	1,197
7% contingency		1,087	1,114	1,087	1,211	1,219
10% contingency		1,117	1,145	1,118	1,245	1,254

Subject to Funding Agreement, It is anticipated that the Central Planning Area will benefit from 120 additional Year 7 places in September 2016 as the Harris Federation is working with the DfE to open a new secondary Free School in the area. These places will meet projected demand in the secondary phase.

East Planning Area



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Scale 1:100,000

East Planning Area

East Planning Area	WHOLE SCHOOL FORECAST					
School	PAN	Sep-15	Sep-16	Sep-17	Sep-18	Sep-19
Gable Hall	1,360	1,237	1,249	1,252	1,278	1,316
Hassenbrook Academy	550	451	383	357	350	360
St Clere's	1,155	1,104	1,146	1,179	1,233	1,278
	3,065	2,792	2,778	2,788	2,861	2,954
5% contingency		2,931	2,917	2,927	3,004	3,102
7% contingency		2,987	2,973	2,983	3,062	3,161
10% contingency		3,071	3,056	3,066	3,147	3,249

East Planning Area	YEAR 7 FORECAST					
School	PAN	Sep-15	Sep-16	Sep-17	Sep-18	Sep-19
Gable Hall	272	249	256	249	281	283
Hassenbrook Academy	110	68	70	68	77	77
St Clere's	231	238	245	238	269	271
	613	555	571	555	627	631
5% contingency		583	599	583	658	663
7% contingency		594	610	594	671	676
10% contingency		610	627	611	689	695

There are currently surplus places in this planning area. However the increasing number of children in our primary schools suggests that these places will be needed in the next few years.

Secondary Forecast Summary

The take up of Year 7 secondary school places by children leaving Year 6 in Thurrock primary schools historically runs at around 93%. The secondary school projections set out above are based on an assumed transfer rate from Year 6 to Year 7 of 100%. In view of the fact that the conversion rate between Year 6 and Year 7 is usually around 93% this means there is a surplus of 7% already built into the secondary projections. We are therefore believe that no additional contingency is necessary. The known child yield from developments submitted for planning approval has been included in the pupil forecasts.

Authority Wide Issues

The significant increase in the birth rate in Thurrock in recent years has presented the greatest challenge for the authority and, indeed for other authorities in London and the South East. In addition to the rise in the birth rate of around 18%, the conversion rate from live births to Reception applications has increased resulting in an increase in the school population of around 25% in the last 10 years.

The number of applications for school places received from families moving into the Authority after the close of the normal admissions rounds has reached unprecedented levels. See the table below:

Academic Year	No. of children requiring a primary school place outside of the normal admission round who arrived in Thurrock from abroad. "In Year Admissions"	No. of children requiring a primary school place outside of the normal admission round who arrived in Thurrock from elsewhere in the UK. "In Year Admissions"	Total
2012/13	181	455	636
2013/14	189	585	774
2014/15*	199	493	692

*N.B. 2014/15 figures for 5 months only

The figure for "In Year" applications from families arriving in the Authority for the 2014/15 academic year shown above was accurate at the time of publication but is likely to increase as the academic year continues. The final figure may surpass that for 2013/14. The 692 children who have already applied for an "In Year" primary phase place this academic year represent 4.47% of the primary school population in Thurrock as measured at the November 14 pupil census (15,465 primary number on roll excluding nursery).

Planning for the children arriving in Thurrock is difficult as we do not know who they are, how old they are and, therefore, which year groups they will apply for until they make contact with School Admissions. Some may require Reception and Year 7 places, but many will require places in other year groups. This introduces the potential of bulge classes in year groups other than Reception and Year 7 as we have experienced this year.

The unpredictability of this source of demand requires the Council to build a general contingency into the number of primary school places available across the board to ensure that its obligations can be met.

It is anticipated that the new Pupil Place Planning Sub Group of the Schools Forum will work with the Council to identify how additional supply can be introduced into the school system when necessary.

There is particular pressure on Reception places in the Grays Planning Area where additional places have already been introduced at the Harris Mayflower Academy for September 2015.

The three primary schools in the Rural Planning Area will not be able to cope with the projected demand in that planning area in future years. These schools cannot easily be expanded and therefore it is likely that demand will have to be met by schools in neighbouring planning areas.

The increase in the primary phase population in recent years will feed through to the secondary system and more places will be required from around 2017 or 2018 depending on the impact of inward migration.

Annex 1

Pupil Place Forecasting Methodology

Pupil Place Planning is an important function of the Local Authority as the Council has a statutory obligation to provide sufficient school places. School place forecasts are therefore reviewed regularly and Thurrock publishes forecasts annually.

The recent pattern of inward migration has proved challenging for the Authority. It is difficult to plan for an unknown number of children arriving from outside the Authority requiring school places in all year groups.

The Council uses live birth data to predict the number of children requiring Reception places 4 years later. Each new born child is allocated to a catchment area based on home address. Through the catchment areas the child is notionally attached to a school and is therefore captured in the relevant planning area.

The Reception places in the forecast are calculated on live births plus 7% contingency to accommodate inward migration.

The primary phase whole school forecasts in this report are based on the actual number of children from the pupil census plus 7% contingency to accommodate current trends in inward migration and provide an element of parental choice.

The Council takes account of all new developments in the Authority and calculates the likely child yield from those developments which are then included in the forecasts.

The pupil census data provides details of the number of children in each year group in every school and this information is useful in assessing pressure points in the system such as a shortage of places in a particular year groups.

The number of children attending Thurrock primary schools is a good guide to the number of children requiring secondary school places. Cross border school placements are limited due to geographical and transport constraints.

Historic patterns of attendance are used to help inform the likely take up of available places.

The forecasts are not constrained by the physical accommodation available in the schools in the planning area and therefore indicate where pressure on places is likely to arise.

In 2014, the Schools Forum agreed to the creation of a Pupil Place Planning Sub Group made up of head teacher and governor representatives who will work with the Council to review the pupil place forecasts and decide how best to meet the identified need. The Sub Group will meet for the first time in Spring 2015.

Annex2

Special and Additional Needs

New Education, Health and Care Plans are being introduced for children aged 0 – 25 that will replace the current statements of special educational need, and the learning difficulties assessments for young people entering college. There is a new way of working to allow the identification of children and young people's needs, bringing together Education, Health and Social Care support into one plan. It is based on a more family focused approach with a stress on the individual goals for children, improving their opportunities for education and employment.

For children who currently have a statement of special educational needs, their statement and support will remain in place until it is converted to an Education, Health, Care Plan. The Council's SEN team will work with families to transfer the statement according to the Transition Plan which can be found on the website.

Further information on the new Education, Health and Care Plans can be obtained from the Council's website www.askthurrock.org.uk/kb5/thurrock.

Provision

The Council has two schools for children who have special needs and are unable to achieve their potential in a mainstream setting.

School	Status	Needs Met	Age Range	Number of Places
Beacon Hill Academy	Academy	Severe and profound learning difficulties	3 to 19	72
Treetops School		Moderate learning difficulties	3 to 19	276

Beacon Hill Post 16 Unit caters for students with severe and profound and multiple learning difficulties from 16 to 19. The Unit is located on the site of Treetops School in Grays. Students follow a personalised, accredited curriculum which promotes independence and transition to lifelong learning in the community.

Treetops is a day special school for pupils between the ages of 3 and 19. The school caters for children and young people with moderate learning difficulties or autism. The school is located in Grays and is an Authority maintained school.

In addition there are a number of mainstream schools with specialist provision in the Primary Sector:

School	Type of Provision	Age Range	Number of Places
Warren Primary	Resource base for pupils with hearing impairment	4-11	14
Stanford Le Hope Primary Academy	Resource base for pupils with visual impairment	4-11	5
Corringham Primary Academy	Resource base for pupils with speech and language	4-11	20

	difficulties		
Harris Primary Academy	ICAN resource base for children with speech, language and communication needs	Nursery age	5FTE
Dilkes Primary Academy	Resource base for pupils with behavioural, emotional and social difficulties	4-11	10
Lansdowne Primary Academy	Resource base for pupils with social communication/moderate learning difficulties	4-11	8

Secondary phase schools with specialist provision are:

School	Type of Provision	Age Range	Number of Places
Ormiston Park Academy	ASCEND unit (BESD)	11-19	15
Harris Academy Chafford Hundred	Resource Base for pupils with speech, language and communication impairment	11-19	20
St Clare's School	Resource Base for pupils with visual and hearing impairment.	11-19	6 in VI Unit 11 in HI

Support is offered to students with special needs post 16 years at Palmers Sixth Form College and South Essex College.

Annex 3

Provision for Pupils Out of School

Thurrock Pupil Support Service provides a broad curriculum to a diverse group of young people across three sites: The Phoenix Primary Centre, the Culver Secondary Centre, the Tuition Centre based at the Culver site and the Assessment Centre.

The service provides education for children and young people who have experienced difficulty learning for a variety of reasons. Each of our sites caters specifically for the identified needs of individual students aged between 5 years and 16 years.

The Pupil Support Service also provides support to students in mainstream schools who experience difficulties and are at risk of exclusion.

Admission to the service is by referral only. All referrals are made via the Council's Access and Inclusion Officer. The service is currently supporting 119 students.

Further information on the Pupil Support Service can be obtained from the Council's website www.thurrockpss.co.uk.

Annex 4 - Post 16 Provision

The 2008 Education Act raised the age of participation for young people in England. Those born on or after 1st September 1997 must remain in some form of education or training until their 18th birthday. This may be:

- full time education at school or college,
- an apprenticeship or traineeship,
- part time education or training as well as being employed, self-employed or volunteering for 20 hours per week or more.

Thurrock Council works in partnership with schools and other providers to plan provision for post 16 education and training. Young people can pursue a wide range of both academic and vocational courses in a range of settings.

Five secondary schools in Thurrock currently offer post 16 education; however the Gateway Academy has decided to concentrate on 11 to 16 education and is phasing out 6th Form provision. The new Harris Academy Free School which will open in September 2015 also intends to offer post 16 courses when the new school building is complete. Gable Hall, Hassenbrook and St Clere's schools form the Stanford and Corringham 6th Form consortium and between them provide a range of academic and vocational courses.

The Ockendon Academy Studio School and 6th form is a 14 to 19 school offering a range of academic qualifications in addition to work based training. Applications for work based training places in the Studio School should be made via the Council's school admissions team. There are currently 35 places in the Studio School and this number will increase in future.

The table below provides the number of students in Thurrock school 6th forms at November 2014. Stanford and Corringham 6th Form Gable Hall, Hassenbrook and St Clere's consortium.

Gov	School	12	13	14	Post-16 Total
CA	Gable Hall	160	63		223
VA	Grays Convent				
CA	Harris Academy Chafford Hundred	136	119		255
CA	Hassenbrook Academy				
CA	Ormiston Park Academy	49	43	8	100
CA	St Clere's				
CA	The Gateway Academy		29		29
CA	The Hathaway Academy				
CA	The Ockendon Academy	38	30		68
CA	William Edwards School				

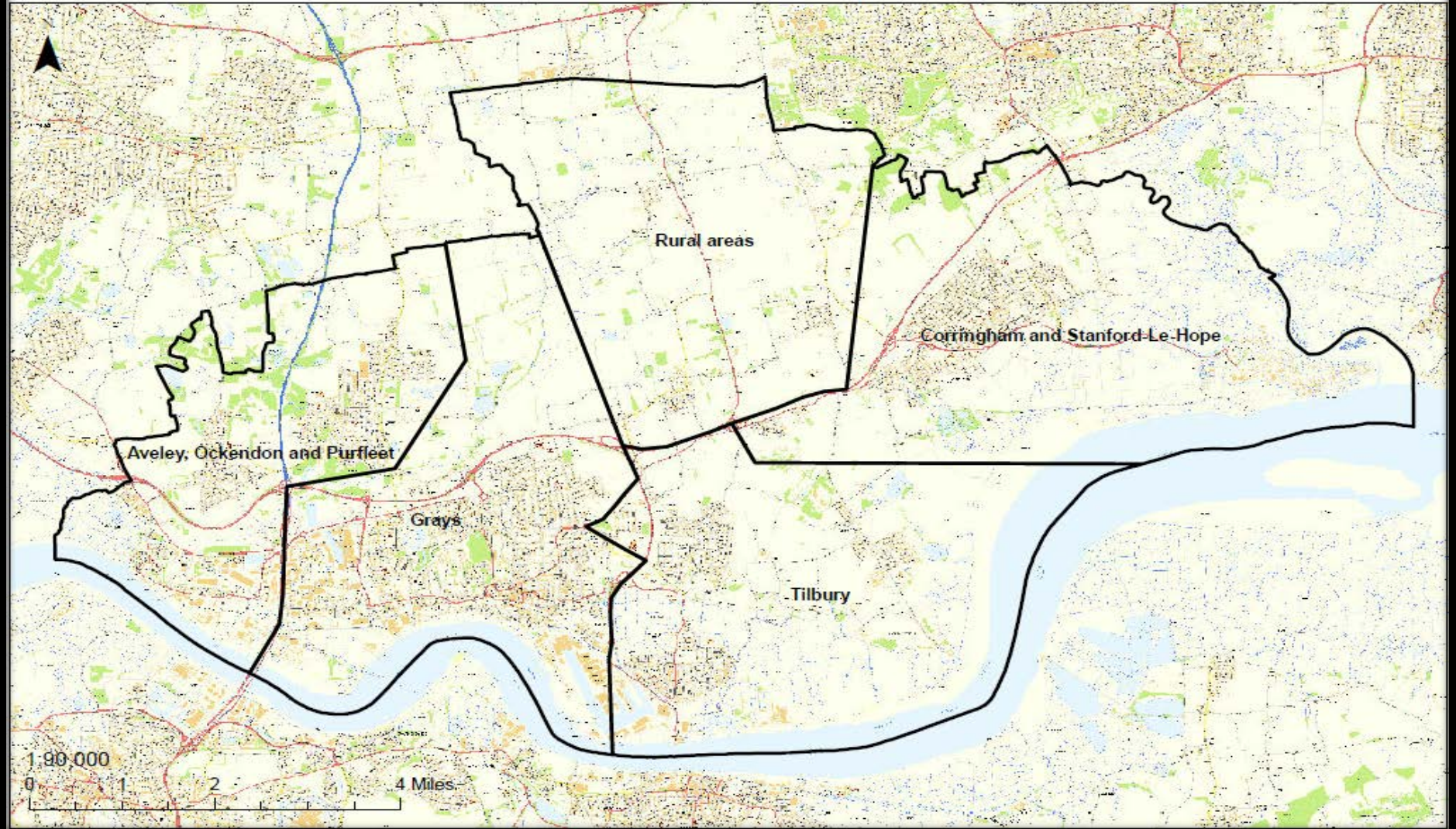
383	284	8	675
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Palmers College in Grays is a 6th form college and offers a range of A level, BTEC and secretarial courses to over 2000 students. Find out more about the course on offer on the college website www.palmers.ac.uk

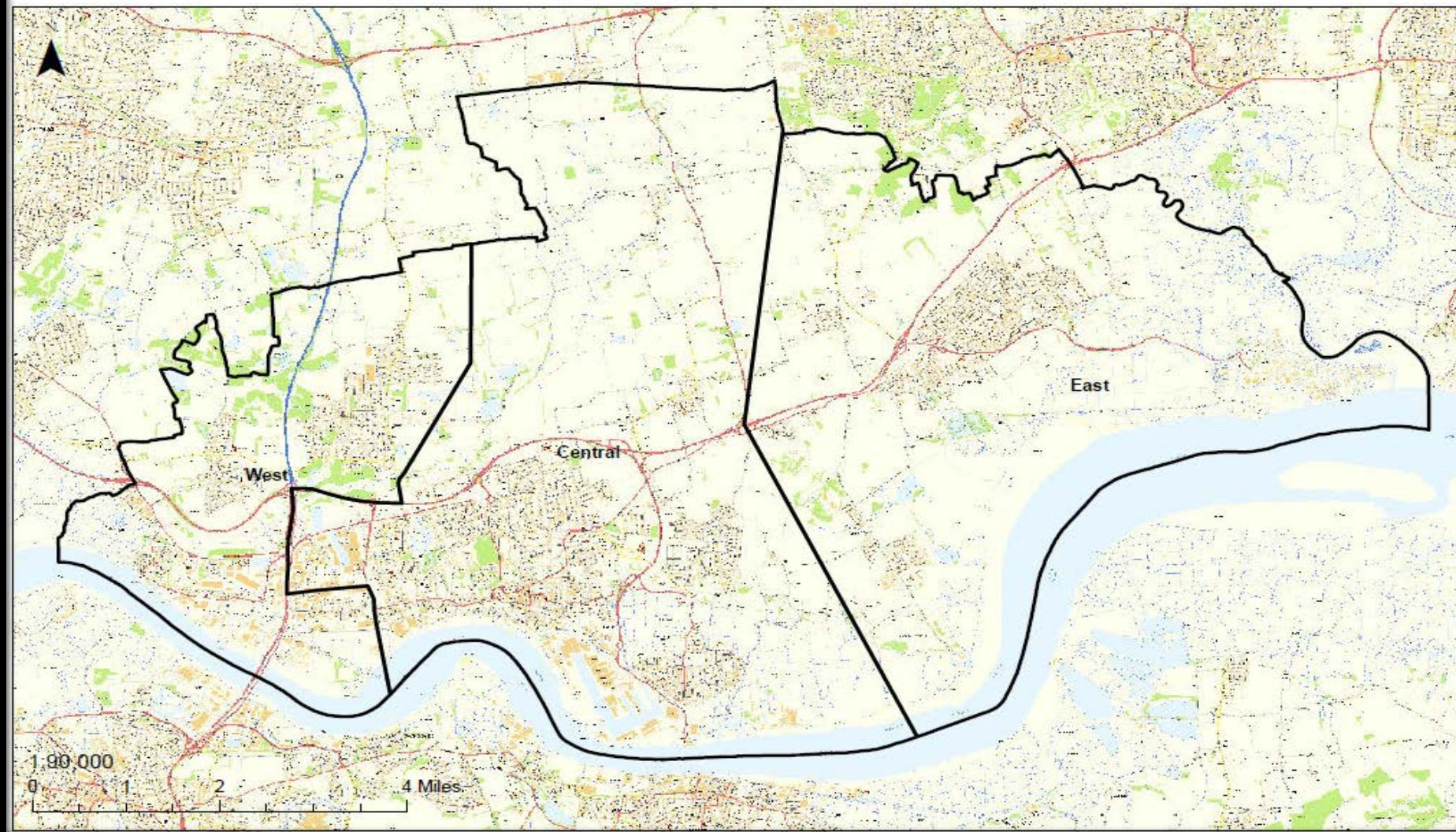
The recently opened South Essex College of Further and Higher Education in Grays offers a wide range of training opportunities which lead to accredited qualifications. Young people can study anything from bricklaying to costume design.

Full details on the opportunities available to Post 16 students can be found on the UCAS Progress website www.ucas.com.

Thurrock - proposed primary phase planning areas



Thurrock - proposed secondary phase planning areas



PRIMARY FORECAST WHOLE SCHOOL

ANNEX 7

Aveley, Ockendon & Purfleet		WHOLE SCHOOL FORECAST				
School	PAN	Sep-15	Sep-16	Sep-17	Sep-18	Sep-19
Aveley	420	434	435	461	455	429
Benyon	210	214	224	213	216	222
Bonnygate	420	359	375	434	457	458
Dilkes	420	418	414	426	427	426
Holy Cross	315	289	290	295	296	299
Kenningtons	420	426	449	489	503	473
Purfleet	630	440	469	490	517	549
Shaw	420	413	405	407	402	408
Somers Heath	210	213	209	205	198	199
	3,465	3,206	3,270	3,420	3,471	3,463
5% contingency		3,366	3,434	3,591	3,645	3,636
7% contingency		3,430	3,499	3,659	3,714	3,705
10% contingency		3,527	3,597	3,762	3,818	3,809
Grays		WHOLE SCHOOL FORECAST				
School	PAN	Sep-15	Sep-16	Sep-17	Sep-18	Sep-19
Belmont Castle	690	703	727	720	694	664
Deneholm	420	415	412	437	444	444
Harris Chafford Hundred	630	603	579	557	520	520
Harris Mayflower	630	119	179	229	276	366
Little Thurrock	630	598	620	647	636	636
Quarry Hill	420	527	553	568	560	530
St Thomas'	630	628	629	629	629	630
Stifford Clays	630	691	706	723	752	724
Thameside	630	597	621	640	638	644
Tudor Court	840	755	771	780	748	749
Warren	420	453	432	426	409	410
West Thurrock	420	529	572	616	566	539
	6,990	6,618	6,801	6,972	6,872	6,856
5% contingency		6,949	7,141	7,321	7,216	7,199
7% contingency		7,081	7,277	7,460	7,353	7,336
10% contingency		7,280	7,481	7,669	7,559	7,542
Tilbury		WHOLE SCHOOL FORECAST				
School	PAN	Sep-15	Sep-16	Sep-17	Sep-18	Sep-19
Chadwell St Mary	210	208	206	214	232	232
East Tilbury	630	558	593	597	569	605
Gateway	420	506	477	451	420	421
Herringham	420	383	392	394	392	393
Lansdowne	420	605	589	596	595	591
St Mary's	210	255	243	234	229	219
Tilbury Pioneer	420	214	292	349	375	382
Woodside	420	552	559	575	628	630
	3,150	3,281	3,351	3,410	3,440	3,473
5% contingency		3,445	3,519	3,581	3,612	3,647
7% contingency		3,511	3,586	3,649	3,681	3,716
10% contingency		3,609	3,686	3,751	3,784	3,820

**PRIMARY FORECAST WHOLE SCHOOL
CONTINUED**

ANNEX 7

Corringham & Stanford le Hope		WHOLE SCHOOL FORECAST				
School	PAN	Sep-15	Sep-16	Sep-17	Sep-18	Sep-19
Abbots Hall	210	214	213	208	206	206
Arthur Bugler	420	419	410	402	412	412
Corringham	420	447	451	453	473	471
Giffards	420	405	396	376	361	362
Graham James	420	274	276	279	282	312
St Joseph's	210	268	258	248	238	228
Stanford-le-Hope	420	400	375	392	384	384
	2,520	2,427	2,379	2,358	2,356	2,375
5% contingency		2,548	2,498	2,476	2,474	2,494
7% contingency		2,597	2,546	2,523	2,521	2,541
10% contingency		2,670	2,617	2,594	2,592	2,613
Rural		WHOLE SCHOOL FORECAST				
School	PAN	Sep-15	Sep-16	Sep-17	Sep-18	Sep-19
Bulphan	84	100	102	99	95	90
Horndon-on-the-Hill	210	204	200	190	196	195
Orsett	210	221	231	217	201	201
	504	525	533	506	492	486
5% contingency		551	560	531	517	510
7% contingency		562	570	541	526	520
10% contingency		578	586	557	541	535

PRIMARY FORECAST RECEPTION

ANNEX 8

Aveley, Ockendon & Purfleet		RECEPTION FORECAST				
School	PAN	Sep-15	Sep-16	Sep-17	Sep-18	Sep-19
Aveley	60	69	55	61	62	62
Benyon	30	36	38	27	32	33
Bonnygate	60	53	55	69	79	64
Dilkes	60	59	54	72	61	62
Holy Cross	45	45	45	45	45	45
Kenningtons	60	80	73	69	73	74
Purfleet	90	89	84	73	74	80
Shaw	60	61	52	61	55	57
Somers Heath	30	29	30	27	23	27
	495	521	486	504	504	504
5% contingency		547	510	529	529	529
7% contingency		557	520	539	539	539
10% contingency		573	535	554	554	554
Grays		RECEPTION FORECAST				
School	PAN	Sep-15	Sep-16	Sep-17	Sep-18	Sep-19
Belmont Castle	90	93	110	97	94	99
Deneholm	60	57	56	86	67	67
Harris Chafford Hundred	90	70	67	67	52	64
Harris Mayflower	90	53	60	50	47	53
Little Thurrock	90	97	97	101	79	94
Quarry Hill	60	83	86	75	79	81
St Thomas'	90	90	90	90	90	90
Stifford Clays	90	95	106	108	117	107
Thameside	90	100	92	100	84	94
Tudor Court	120	95	105	100	89	97
Warren	60	55	62	55	58	58
West Thurrock	60	72	83	102	74	83
	990	960	1,014	1,031	930	987
5% contingency		1,008	1,065	1,083	977	1,036
7% contingency		1,027	1,085	1,103	995	1,056
10% contingency		1,056	1,115	1,134	1,023	1,086
Tilbury		RECEPTION FORECAST				
School	PAN	Sep-15	Sep-16	Sep-17	Sep-18	Sep-19
Chadwell St Mary	30	32	27	36	48	36
East Tilbury	90	85	89	76	67	79
Gateway	60	60	60	60	60	60
Herringham	60	54	59	55	58	57
Lansdowne	90	77	81	91	88	84
St Mary's	30	30	30	30	30	30
Tilbury Pioneer	60	81	78	57	26	61
Woodside	60	105	98	76	113	98
	480	524	522	481	490	505
5% contingency		550	548	505	515	530
7% contingency		561	559	515	524	540
10% contingency		576	574	529	539	556

**PRIMARY FORECAST RECEPTION
CONTINUED**

ANNEX 8

Corringham & Stanford le Hope		RECEPTION FORECAST				
School	PAN	Sep-15	Sep-16	Sep-17	Sep-18	Sep-19
Abbots Hall	30	32	30	25	28	29
Arthur Bugler	60	62	50	51	70	58
Corringham	60	93	62	62	83	75
Giffards	60	47	50	40	45	46
Graham James	60	56	32	34	33	39
St Joseph's	30	30	30	30	30	30
Stanford-le-Hope	60	54	54	51	67	57
	360	374	308	293	356	334
5% contingency		393	323	308	374	351
7% contingency		400	330	314	381	357
10% contingency		411	339	322	392	367
Rural		RECEPTION FORECAST				
School	PAN	Sep-15	Sep-16	Sep-17	Sep-18	Sep-19
Bulphan	12	12	12	12	12	12
Horndon-on-the-Hill	30	27	27	21	33	27
Orsett	30	34	41	16	19	28
	72	73	80	49	64	67
5% contingency		77	84	51	67	70
7% contingency		78	86	52	68	72
10% contingency		80	88	54	70	74

SECONDARY FORECAST WHOLE SCHOOL

ANNEX 9

West Planning Area	WHOLE SCHOOL FORECAST					
School	PAN	Sep-15	Sep-16	Sep-17	Sep-18	Sep-19
Ormiston Park Academy	900	455	488	545	563	548
The Ockendon Academy	1,050	1,036	1,060	1,085	1,123	1,156
	1,950	1,491	1,548	1,630	1,686	1,704
5% contingency		1,566	1,625	1,712	1,771	1,790
7% contingency		1,596	1,656	1,745	1,805	1,824
10% contingency		1,641	1,703	1,794	1,855	1,875
Central Planning Area	WHOLE SCHOOL FORECAST					
School	PAN	Sep-15	Sep-16	Sep-17	Sep-18	Sep-19
Grays Convent	620	505	488	477	511	527
Harris Academy Chafford Hundred	900	920	937	939	960	989
Harris Free School			120	240	360	480
The Gateway Academy	1,050	1,022	1,043	1,073	1,105	1,134
The Hathaway Academy	900	671	673	680	725	747
William Edwards	1,200	1,219	1,252	1,275	1,313	1,349
	4,670	4,337	4,513	4,685	4,974	5,226
5% contingency		4,554	4,738	4,918	5,223	5,487
7% contingency		4,640	4,828	5,012	5,323	5,591
10% contingency		4,770	4,964	5,152	5,472	5,748
East Planning Area	WHOLE SCHOOL FORECAST					
School	PAN	Sep-15	Sep-16	Sep-17	Sep-18	Sep-19
Gable Hall	1,360	1,237	1,249	1,252	1,278	1,316
Hassenbrook Academy	550	451	383	357	350	360
St Clere's	1,155	1,104	1,146	1,179	1,233	1,278
	3,065	2,792	2,778	2,788	2,861	2,954
5% contingency		2,931	2,917	2,927	3,004	3,102
7% contingency		2,987	2,973	2,983	3,062	3,161
10% contingency		3,071	3,056	3,066	3,147	3,249

SECONDARY FORECAST YEAR 7

ANNEX 10

West Planning Area	YEAR 7 FORECAST					
School	PAN	Sep-15	Sep-16	Sep-17	Sep-18	Sep-19
Ormiston Park Academy	180	103	106	104	117	118
The Ockendon Academy	210	216	222	216	244	246
	390	319	328	320	361	364
5% contingency		335	345	336	379	382
7% contingency		342	351	342	386	389
10% contingency		351	361	352	397	400
Central Planning Area	YEAR 7 FORECAST					
School	PAN	Sep-15	Sep-16	Sep-17	Sep-18	Sep-19
Grays Convent	124	99	102	99	112	113
Harris Academy Chafford Hundred	180	187	192	187	211	212
Harris Free School			120	120	120	120
The Gateway Academy	210	214	220	214	242	244
The Hathaway Academy	180	141	145	141	159	161
William Edwards	240	255	262	255	288	290
	934	896	1,041	1,016	1,132	1,140
5% contingency		941	1,093	1,067	1,188	1,197
7% contingency		959	1,114	1,087	1,211	1,219
10% contingency		986	1,145	1,118	1,245	1,254
East Planning Area	YEAR 7 FORECAST					
School	PAN	Sep-15	Sep-16	Sep-17	Sep-18	Sep-19
Gable Hall	272	249	256	249	281	283
Hassenbrook Academy	110	68	70	68	77	77
St Clere's	231	238	245	238	269	271
	613	555	571	555	627	631
5% contingency		583	599	583	658	663
7% contingency		594	610	594	671	676
10% contingency		610	627	611	689	695

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