

CABINET ITEM COVERING SHEET PROFORMA

AGENDA ITEM

REPORT TO CABINET

12 OCTOBER 2017

**REPORT OF SENIOR
MANAGEMENT TEAM**

CABINET DECISION

Children & Young People – Councillor Ann McCoy

SCHOOL ORGANISATION PLAN 2017

1. Summary

Although the statutory requirement to publish an annual School Organisation Plan was abolished in 2004, the Council has continued to publish an updated plan to inform schools, parents and the general public. The Plan gives information about the number, types and sizes of schools maintained by the Council, Academies and Free Schools. It records the number of places available in those schools and it includes forecasts of pupil numbers over the next five years. This information is an important resource to support the Council in carrying out its statutory duty to ensure a sufficient supply of school places to meet the needs of children and young people in the borough.

When taken together with documents relating to the condition of school buildings and their suitability for purpose, the information in this plan may help to inform decisions about capital investment in existing or new school buildings.

The 'School Organisation Plan 2017' describes three specific issues to be confronted over the next five years:

- Rising numbers of four-year-olds starting school;
- The beginning of the end of falling numbers in our secondary schools;
- Uncertainty over the impact of Academies and possible Free Schools.

The draft plan is attached as the **Appendix** to this report.

2. Recommendations

Cabinet is asked to:

1. Note the information in the attached draft plan.
2. Note pressure in demand for secondary school places.
3. Agree that the 'School Organisation Plan 2017' be published on the Council website and made available to partner organisations.

3. Reasons for the Recommendation(s)/Decision(s)

The Council as Local Education Authority is under a statutory duty to ensure a sufficient supply of primary and secondary school places to meet the needs of children and young people resident in the borough. The School Organisation Plan brings together relevant information about the number, types and sizes of schools in the borough, the number of

pupils on roll and projections of future pupil numbers. The projections can point out trends that may lead to a need to increase or reduce the pupil capacity of schools in particular areas of the borough.

4. Members' Interests

Members (including co-opted Members) should consider whether they have a personal interest in any item, as defined in **paragraphs 9 and 11** of the Council's code of conduct and, if so, declare the existence and nature of that interest in accordance with and/or taking account of **paragraphs 12 - 17** of the code.

Where a Member regards him/herself as having a personal interest, as described in **paragraph 16** of the code, in any business of the Council he/she must then, **in accordance with paragraph 18** of the code, consider whether that interest is one which a member of the public, with knowledge of the relevant facts, would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice the Member's judgement of the public interest and the business:-

- affects the members financial position or the financial position of a person or body described in **paragraph 17** of the code, or
- relates to the determining of any approval, consent, licence, permission or registration in relation to the member or any person or body described in **paragraph 17** of the code.

A Member with a personal interest, as described in **paragraph 18** of the code, may attend the meeting but must not take part in the consideration and voting upon the relevant item of business. However, a member with such an interest may make representations, answer questions or give evidence relating to that business before the business is considered or voted on, provided the public are also allowed to attend the meeting for the same purpose whether under a statutory right or otherwise (**paragraph 19** of the code)

Members may participate in any discussion and vote on a matter in which they have an interest, as described in **paragraph 18** of the code, where that interest relates to functions of the Council detailed in **paragraph 20** of the code.

Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

It is a criminal offence for a member to participate in any discussion or vote on a matter in which he/she has a disclosable pecuniary interest (and where an appropriate dispensation has not been granted) **paragraph 21** of the code.

Members are required to comply with any procedural rule adopted by the Council which requires a member to leave the meeting room whilst the meeting is discussing a matter in which that member has a disclosable pecuniary interest (**paragraph 22** of the code)

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SUMMARY

Although the statutory requirement to publish an annual School Organisation Plan was abolished in 2004, the Council has continued to publish an updated plan to inform schools, parents and the general public. The Plan gives information about the number, types and sizes of schools maintained by the Council, Academies and Free Schools. It records the number of places available in those schools and it includes forecasts of pupil numbers over the next five years. This information is an important resource to support the Council in carrying out its statutory duty to ensure a sufficient supply of school places to meet the needs of children and young people in the borough.

When taken together with documents relating to the condition of school buildings and their suitability for purpose, the information in this plan may help to inform decisions about capital investment in existing or new school buildings.

The 'School Organisation Plan 2017' describes three specific issues to be confronted over the next five years:

- Rising numbers of four-year-olds starting school;
- The beginning of the end of falling numbers in our secondary schools;
- Uncertainty over the impact of Academies and possible Free Schools.

The draft plan is attached as the **Appendix** to this report.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Cabinet is asked to:

1. Note the information in the attached draft plan.
2. Note pressure in demand for secondary school places.
3. Agree that the 'School Organisation Plan 2017' be published on the Council website and made available to partner organisations.

DETAIL

1. Although the statutory requirement to publish an annual School Organisation Plan (SOP) was abolished in 2004, Stockton-On-Tees Borough Council (the Council) has continued to publish an updated plan to inform schools, parents and the general public. The SOP gives information about the number, types and sizes of schools maintained by the Council, Academies and Free Schools.

2. The Council does however have a statutory duty to ensure that there are enough school places in the borough to meet demand. The Council must therefore plan, organise and commission places for all state-funded schools in Stockton so that high standards are maintained, diverse school communities created and fluctuating pupil numbers are managed efficiently.
3. The demand for school places changes over time - this document is considered to be 'live' and, as such, is updated every two years. It sets out where the Council currently thinks there will be a need to provide more school places and if there may be a need to provide fewer places over the coming years. Increases in demand can lead to the creation of a new school or the expansion of schools, whereas decreases in demand can lead to a reduction in school provision.
4. Predicting school demand is a complex task because where children go to school involves a range of different and often conflicting factors, and as a result planning for school places is based on probabilities, not certainties. This means that while projections may be made from robust calculations, they do not offer any guarantees.
5. It is important for us to be as open and transparent as possible when considering school organisation decisions. We strive to communicate effectively with schools and school communities about the school place pressures in their area. However, the Council must also endeavour to manage expectations regarding school organisation proposals that are less certain.
6. This updated SOP aims to provide an overview of current and future pupil numbers which supports planning the provision of school places across the borough. This document will be produced every two years and be made available to our schools and partners.
7. School Place Planning is a critical aspect of the Council's statutory duty to assess the local need for school places to ensure that every child can be provided with a place in a state-funded school in Stockton-On-Tees. The Council needs to demonstrate that they have robust procedures and systems for forecasting pupil numbers taking account of changes in local circumstances to ensure there will be the right number of schools in the right places for the number of pupils expected in the future.
8. To enable the Council to gain a clearer understanding of where there are current and anticipated pressures in both primary and secondary school (including Academies) places in the borough, the Council have grouped all schools into specific local planning areas. This will allow more detailed analysis of need and inform decisions regarding the use of funding to meet demand. In Stockton we have broken the borough into the following separate planning areas namely Billingham & Wolviston, North Stockton, Central Stockton, Thornaby, Ingleby Barwick and Eaglescliffe & Yarm.
9. This plan also sets out the Council's policies and key aims on school organisation and the procedures required by law for making changes such as opening, closing or enlarging schools.
10. The Council has in place a strategic group that meets regularly and uses the SOP and the data supporting it, in making school place planning decisions. These include increasing school level Published Admission Numbers (PAN's) in response to predicted demand for places and the allocation of Basic Need Capital monies to those schools deemed the most appropriate following feasibility options work.
11. The headlines captured within the SOP are also used to inform the commentary, School Capacity and Pupil Forecast data the Council submits in support of the 'School Capacity Collection' (SCAP) return to the Department for Education (DfE) annually. The SCAP

provides the DfE with information on all schools which are maintained by the Council as well as the data for Academies and Free Schools.

12. The SCAP is used to inform Key Decisions regarding School Place Planning pressures across the borough and Capital allocation priorities across primary and secondary schools in terms of refurbishment and maintenance. This SOP should be read in conjunction with any Capital Papers to Cabinet on future Capital Plans for support and the allocation of appropriate funding.

COMMUNITY IMPACT IMPLICATIONS

13. None.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

14. None.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

15. The Council as Local Education Authority has a duty under The Education Act 1996 to ensure a sufficient supply of school places to meet the needs of the children and young people resident in the borough.

RISK ASSESSMENT

16. This School Organisation Plan 2017 is categorised as low to medium risk. Existing management systems and daily routine activities are sufficient to control and reduce risk.

COUNCIL PLAN POLICY PRINCIPLES AND PRIORITIES

17. This report is for information only and although it has no financial or legal implications it helps underpin elements of the Policy Principles in the Council Plan.

CORPORATE PARENTING IMPLICATIONS

18. This report does not contain corporate parenting implications.

CONSULTATION INCLUDING WARD/COUNCILLORS

19. This report does not require any consultation.

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Education related? Yes

Background Papers None

Ward(s) and Ward Councillors: Not ward specific

Property: There are no immediate implications although this report may be used and referred to in any Capital Programme's.

CHILDREN SERVICES

SCHOOL ORGANISATION PLAN

2017

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Section 1: Introduction and purpose of this plan

Although the statutory requirement to publish an annual School Organisation Plan (SOP) was abolished in 2004, Stockton-On-Tees Borough Council (the Council) has continued to publish an updated plan to inform schools, parents and the general public. The SOP gives information about the number, types and sizes of schools maintained by the Council, Academies and Free Schools.

The Council does however have a statutory duty to ensure that there are enough school places in the borough to meet demand. The Council must therefore plan, organise and commission places for all state-funded schools in Stockton so that high standards are maintained, diverse school communities created and fluctuating pupil numbers are managed efficiently.

The demand for school places changes over time - this document is considered to be 'live' and, as such, is updated every two years. It sets out where the Council currently thinks there will be a need to provide more school places and if there may be a need to provide fewer places over the coming years. Increases in demand can lead to the creation of a new school or the expansion of schools, whereas decreases in demand can lead to a reduction in school provision.

Predicting school demand is a complex task because where children go to school involves a range of different and often conflicting factors, and as a result planning for school places is based on probabilities, not certainties. This means that while projections may be made from robust calculations, they do not offer any guarantees.

It is important for us to be as open and transparent as possible when considering school organisation decisions. We strive to communicate effectively with schools and school communities about the school place pressures in their area. However, the Council must also endeavour to manage expectations regarding school organisation proposals that are less certain. This document does not seek to definitively set out all the actions the Council intends to take in the future, but rather is intended to provide an overview of issues that may arise in Stockton. Generally speaking, the Council will only name particular schools in this document when there is sufficient assurance that a proposal will be implemented or where this has already taken place.

This updated School Organisation Plan (SOP) aims to provide an overview of current and future pupil numbers which supports planning the provision of school places across the borough. This document will be produced every two years and be made available to our schools and partners.

School Place Planning is a critical aspect of the Council's statutory duty to assess the local need for school places to ensure that every child can be provided with a place in a state-funded school in Stockton-On-Tees. The Council needs to demonstrate that they have robust procedures and systems for forecasting pupil numbers taking account of changes in local circumstances to ensure there will be the right number of schools in the right places for the number of pupils expected in the future.

Schools submit data on pupil rolls to the Council in October, January and May each year through the School Census. Schools are encouraged to play an active role in the planning of pupil place process and to identify at an early stage any concerns with projections that may impact on future school planning.

To enable the Council to gain a clearer understanding of where there are current and anticipated pressures in both primary and secondary school (including Academies) places in the borough, the Council have grouped all schools into specific local planning areas. These planning areas are listed in 'Information on planning areas' from page 16. This will allow more detailed analysis of need and inform decisions regarding the use of funding to meet demand. In Stockton we have broken the borough into the following separate planning areas namely Billingham & Wolviston, North Stockton, Central Stockton, Thornaby, Ingleby Barwick and Eaglescliffe & Yarm.

This plan also sets out the Council's policies and key aims on school organisation and the procedures required by law for making changes such as opening, closing or enlarging schools.

The Council has in place a strategic group that meets regularly and uses the SOP and the data supporting it, in making school place planning decisions. These include increasing school level Published Admission Numbers (PAN's) in response to predicted demand for places and the allocation of Basic Need Capital monies to those schools deemed the most appropriate following feasibility options work.

The headlines captured within the SOP are also used to inform the commentary, School Capacity and Pupil Forecast data the Council submits in support of the 'School Capacity Collection' (SCAP) return to the Department for Education (DfE) annually. The SCAP provides the DfE with information on all schools which are maintained by the Council as well as the data for Academies and Free Schools.

The SCAP is used to inform Key Decisions regarding School Place Planning pressures across the borough and Capital allocation priorities across primary and secondary schools in terms of refurbishment and maintenance. This SOP should be read in conjunction with any Capital Papers to Cabinet on future Capital Plans for support and the allocation of appropriate funding.

Section 2: School Place Planning in Stockton-On-Tees

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Making major changes to school organisation

Changes to school organisation such as opening new schools, closing schools or enlarging them cannot happen without consulting everyone likely to be affected. In April 2016 the Department for Education updated its guides that provided information on the procedures established by The Education and Inspections Act 2006 (EIA 2006) and The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) and (Establishments and Discontinuance of Schools) Regulations 2013. The guidance sets out how any such proposals are decided. On 1 February 2011 the Education Act 2011 (EA 2011) amended the Education and Inspections Act 2006 (EIA 2006) to change the arrangements for establishing new schools. Most new schools will now be established via the academy/free school presumption and the related departmental advice describe the department's expectations of how that process should operate.

Academies

An Academy is a state-funded independent school which may have one or more sponsors. An Academy may be put forward in a competition for a new school, or the Council and potential sponsors may approach the government directly to suggest an Academy to replace one or more existing schools. The governing body of an existing school may decide to apply to the Secretary of State to convert to Academy status without a sponsor.

Free Schools

A Free School is a new school set up with the consent of the Secretary of State by a group of parents or other interested people. Like an Academy, a Free School is an independent school funded directly by the government.

Other changes to schools

Proposals for other changes such as closing a school, enlarging it or changing the age range, may be published by the Council or sometimes by school governing bodies. In most situations the Council will decide these proposals. In some circumstances there will be a right of appeal to an adjudicator. In all cases the people likely to be affected by any change – particularly parents, school staff and governors – must be consulted before any decision is taken. The decision-maker must also take account of guidance issued by the government.

More information about this is available on the website of the Department for Education at www.education.gov.uk/schools/leadership/schoolorganisation

The aim is for schools to be more in charge of their own decisions about size and composition and to be able to respond to what parents want locally without being unduly restricted by process.

Forecasting Primary and Secondary pupil numbers

Pre 2015, the Council used annually produced pupil projections data provided by Tees Valley Unlimited (TVU). However, following unforeseen shifts in pupil numbers, particularly in the primary sector, the Council has revised its pupil projection methodology and now adopts a local approach to forecasting future pupil numbers across primary & secondary. In addition, further analysis was undertaken in relation to the corresponding pupil yields from housing projects including anticipated increases into the necessary year groups using current local planning pupil ratios. This approach has been used in the Council's DfE School Capacity return (SCAP) in 2015, 2016 and 2017.

Pupil numbers in primary schools

Pupil numbers are now rising and many of our primary schools have very few empty places in the younger age groups. There are still empty places in many of the older age groups but over the next few years most of our primary schools will be full or nearly full. Previous SOPs included tables showing the total capacity and number of pupils at schools in each area of the borough. Those overall figures do not reveal the real impact of rising pupil numbers on schools and parents. Many primary schools, for example, have empty places in classes for 9-11 year-olds but it would not be practical to fill these places with 4-6 year-old children. The tables in this Plan concentrate on showing the number of places available in Reception classes and the number of four-year-olds expected to start school each year. This will show more clearly where the Authority and its partners may need to increase school capacity to accommodate these rising numbers.

Pupil numbers in secondary schools

Over recent year's pupil numbers in our secondary schools have begun to rise since the 2013/14 Academic Year as the higher numbers in primary schools move up into secondary. As these increases are expected to happen it will be necessary to increase the number of places in some secondary schools from 2018/19 onwards as the cohorts expected to transition into Year 7 are likely to exceed current Published Admission Numbers (PANs).

Academies

In Stockton we have seen a number of primary and secondary schools convert to Academy status and as of this report there are 34 across all types of school (see Table 1 for more details):

- In 2010 the first two secondary academies were established in September 2010, North Shore in North Stockton and Thornaby Academy;
- In 2013 three more secondary schools converted, St Michael's in Billingham, All Saints CE in Ingleby Barwick and Conyers in Eaglescliffe & Yarm.
- Five primary schools also converted in 2013, three in North Stockton and 2 in Central Stockton plus two Special Schools also converted in 2013 – Abbey Hill Technology College and Westlands School
- In 2014 a further six schools converted including the Primary Special School – Ash Trees in Billingham, 2 secondary schools both in Central Stockton and 2 primary schools in North Stockton and one in Eaglescliffe & Yarm.
- In 2015 Our Lady & St Bede RC in Central Stockton became part of Carmel College Academy Trust and St Patrick's Catholic College in Thornaby set up a Trust with 3 local primary schools;
- In 2016 two more secondary schools Egglescliffe and Bishopsgarth converted the latter now known as 'Outwood Academy Bishopsgarth. With 6 primary schools converting also.
- In 2017 St Marks CE in Stockton and Pentland Primary in Billingham formed a Multi – Academy Trust and Bader Primary in Thornaby sponsored by Conyers School in Yarm.

Table 1.

Planning area	School	Type	Sponsor	Date converted	
Billingham & Wolviston	Ash Trees	Special School	Ascent Trust	01/11/2014	
	Pentland	Primary	1Excellence	01/07/2017	
	St John's RC	Primary	St Thomas pf Canterbury Multi Academy Trust	01/04/2016	
	St Joseph's RC	Primary			
	St Paul's RC	Primary			
	St Michael's RC	Secondary	Carmel College Academy Trust	01/09/2013	
North Stockton	Frederick Natrass	Primary	Northern Education Trust	01/09/2013	
	Hardwick Green	Primary	Enquire Trust	01/06/2013	
	Harrow Gate	Primary	Enquire Trust	01/09/2014	
	Norton	Primary	Northern Education Trust	01/01//2014	
	Rosebrook	Primary	AdAstra Academy Trust	01/11/216	
	St Gregory's RC	Primary	Carmel College Academy Trust	01/04/2013	
	St Marks CE	Primary	1Excellence	01/07/2017	
		North Shore	Secondary	Northern Education Trust	01/09/2010
		Abbey Hill School Technology College	Special School	Horizons Specialist Academy Trust	01/08/2013
		Westlands	Special School	Horizons Specialist Academy Trust	01/08/2013
Central Stockton	St Bede RC	Primary	Carmel College Academy Trust	01/12/2013	
	The Oak Tree	Primary	Northern Education Trust	01/09/2013	
	Grangefield	Secondary	Northern Education Trust	01/01/2014	
	Ian Ramsey CE	Secondary	The Venerable Bede CE Academy	01/12/2014	
	Our Lady & St Bede	Secondary	Carmel College Academy Trust	01/02/2015	
Thornaby	Bader	Primary	Conyers	01/09/2017	
	Christ The King RC	Primary	Our Lady of Light Catholic Voluntary Academy Trust	01/09/2015	
	St Patrick's RC	Primary			
		St Patricks RC	Secondary	Our Lady of Light Catholic Voluntary Academy Trust	01/09/2015
	Thornaby	Secondary	Freeborough	01/09/2010	

Ingleby Barwick	St Therese of Lisieux RC	Primary	Our Lady of Light Catholic Voluntary Academy Trust	01/09/2015
	All Saints CE	Secondary	No sponsor	01/05/2013
Egglecliffe & Yarm	Junction Farm	Primary	No sponsor	01/02/2014
	The Links	Primary	Venn Academy Trust	01/08/2016
	Yarm	Primary	Enquire Trust	01/09/2015
	Conyers	Secondary	No sponsor	01/02/2013
	Egglecliffe	Secondary	Venn Academy Trust	01/08/2016

Academies are independent schools but for the sake of completeness this plan contains information about the number of places at the Academies and projections of future student numbers. The number of Academy conversions is up to date as at the time of this report being produced.

Schools in Stockton-On-Tees

Early years education

Education is not compulsory for children under the age of five, but local authorities must ensure that a nursery place is available for every three and four-year-old whose parents want one and for every eligible 2 year old that meets Government criteria. Every primary school in the borough contains a nursery unit. In many schools this operates as a Foundation Stage Unit so that children can move between nursery and reception class in a flexible way to meet their individual needs. Additional nursery education places are offered by providers in the private, voluntary and independent sectors including child minders. For further Government advice please visit the DfE website here: <https://www.gov.uk/topic/schools-colleges-childrens-services/early-years>

The Early Support Team, based at the High Flyers Children's Centre in Thornaby, provides specialised services for pre-school children with complex special needs. Further provision for pre-school children is available through the network of Children's Centres in each part of the borough.

Children in Stockton-On-Tees normally start full-time school in the September following their fourth birthday, but this can be deferred until the age of five at the request of parents.

Primary schools

From 1 September 2017 there were:

- Sixty primary schools for children aged 4 to 11 of which 20 are Academies;
- one special school Academy for children aged up to 11 with a range of special educational needs (Ash Trees);
- one special school Academy for children aged 5 to 16 with a range of emotional and behavioural difficulties (Westlands);
- one pupil referral unit for primary-age pupils temporarily excluded from school (Bishopton Centre at the Green Gates site).

Secondary schools

From 1 September 2017 there were:

- Thirteen schools for pupils aged 11 to 16 of which 11 are an Academy plus one Free School. Three academies have a school sixth form, with two currently operating and it is expected the Free School will accept its first Y12 cohort in 2019/20;
- one special school Academy for pupils aged 11 to 18 with a range of complex special educational needs (Abbey Hill School Technology College);
- one special school Academy for children aged 5 to 16 with behavioural, social and emotional difficulties (Westlands);
- one pupil referral unit for pupils temporarily excluded from school (Bishopton Centre).

Post 16 Education and Training in Schools

There are currently over 600 places available in the sixth forms at the academies of Egglecliffe and Conyers for pupils wishing to study post 16 education programmes. This number of places in schools is proposed to increase by a further 150 from 2019/20 at the Free School in Ingleby Barwick. In addition to School Sixth Form provision, learning and skills needs in Stockton are supported by one General FE College, one Sixth Form College and a number of Work Based Learning (WBL) providers offering Apprenticeships and WBL provider offering Foundation Learning.

The two colleges located within the borough are Stockton Sixth Form College and Stockton Riverside College (SRC), although SRC operates on two sites following its merger with Bede College in Billingham.

There is also a new vocational Skills Academy, in Billingham.

A diverse range of maintained schools

“Maintained” means that the Council provides the governing bodies of those schools with an annual budget for their running costs. The schools maintained by the Council fall into one of three categories below:

- Community schools are owned by the Council. The Authority employs their staff and controls the admission of pupils.
- Voluntary Controlled schools are also owned by the Authority and operate largely in the same way as community schools. The Council employs their staff and controls the admission of pupils. The main difference is that the school governing body has some members appointed by a voluntary body. All the voluntary controlled schools in Stockton-On-Tees are primary schools associated with the Church of England.
- Voluntary Aided schools belong to a voluntary body (usually one of the Churches) although the Council normally owns their playing fields. The governing bodies of Voluntary Aided schools employ all their staff and control the admission of pupils. The governing body of a Voluntary Aided school normally contributes 10% towards the cost of any capital work on the school buildings, with the remainder funded by Government. The running costs of aided schools are funded by the Council in the same way as other schools.

In some parts of the country there are Foundation Schools. Like voluntary aided schools they own their land and buildings, they employ staff and control admissions, and the Foundation may appoint the majority of the school’s governors. New Foundation Schools may be called “Trust Schools.” There are no Foundation schools or Trust schools in Stockton-On-Tees.

Academies are not maintained by the Council but are independent schools funded by the government and may be supported by a private sponsor. The sponsor may appoint a majority of governors and has influence over the curriculum of the school. Academies do not have to follow the national curriculum. They may have a longer school day and may employ staff on different conditions of service. Academies do not charge fees to students.

Free Schools are also independent schools funded directly by government and not maintained by Council. Any group (for example parents, a business or community group) may apply to the Secretary of State for permission to establish a Free School if they can demonstrate a demand for new school places.

Table 2 below shows the number of each type of school operating in Stockton-On-Tees from September 2017.

Table 2

Category	Primary	Secondary
Community	27	1
Church of England Voluntary Controlled	4	0
Church of England Voluntary Aided	4	0
Roman Catholic Voluntary Aided	4	0
Academy	20	11
Free School	1	1
Total	60	13

Federation

A federation is a group of two or more schools that have agreed to come together, often under a single governing body. The Council cannot create a federation of schools. This must be done by the governing bodies of the schools themselves after consulting parents, staff, other schools and the Council.

The Stockton Borough First Federation was set up on 1 April 2006. This is made up of Abbey Hill School Technology College and Westlands School, two schools that jointly provide for pupils with many different kinds of special educational needs. The federation has a single governing body and one executive head teacher. The two schools remain separate schools, each with its own budget, but the single governing body can share resources (including staff) across the two schools. Both schools converted to Academy status 1st September 2013.

Demand across the Borough

Early-years places

A free part-time nursery education place is available for every three and four-year-old whose parents want to take it up and for every eligible 2 year old that meets Government criteria. Information about this can be found at www.stockton.gov.uk/freechildcare. This may be in one of the nursery units attached to every primary school in the borough, in a nursery operated by providers in the private, voluntary and independent sectors or with a child minder. Information about private nursery and childcare providers is available from the Families Information Service at www.stockton.gov.uk/families

Primary school places

The spring schools census collected in January 2017 recorded a total primary school population of 19,936 on roll in the 60 schools across the borough. This included 17,124 children attending the year groups Reception through to Y6 against a capacity of 19050 pupil places (reported in SCAP 2017) a surplus of 10.1%.

Table 3 shows the number of children in each year group as at the January 2017 census:

Table 3.

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
2507	2537	2526	2378	2489	2369	2318

The trend of rising pupil numbers is very clear from the above. Every school has a Published Admission Number (PAN). This is the actual capacity of children normally admitted into Reception (four-year-olds starting school for the first time). The total Reception capacity for entry in September 2016 (as per SCAP 2017) across all primary schools was 2810 providing the Council with a borough surplus of 10.8% - albeit some of our planning areas have a higher percentage than others. The continued increase in the demand for places led to a capital investment programme being a priority across an agreed number of schools. This work began in 2015 with some temporary expansions to meet the immediate demand that preceded a comprehensive permanent expansion programme that commenced in 2016 and will be completed by early 2018. This will enable the Council to meet its sufficiency duty with regards to school place planning.

Secondary school places

The spring schools census collected in January 2017 recorded a total school population of 10,578 on roll in the 13 schools across the borough. This included 9,998 children attending the year groups Y7 through Y11 against a capacity of 11727 pupil places (excluding 796 School Sixth Form places) reported in SCAP 2017 a surplus of 14.7%. Table 4 shows the number of children in each year group as at the January 2017 census:

Table 4.

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13
2184	2043	2021	1897	1852	295	286

The trend of rising pupil numbers is very clear from the above with an 18% increase in the number of pupils entering secondary in the past five years between Sept 2012 (Y11) and Sept 2016 (Y7). Coupled with the even higher primary pupil population in Table 3, that are expected to move up into secondary over the next 7 years. This higher level of demand is expected to continue and the projected cohorts in Section 3 of this report has led to the Council carrying out some feasibility work across the secondary schools with a view to increasing school places.

The total Y7 capacity for entry in September 2016 across all secondary schools was **2373 places** providing the Council with a surplus of 7.9%. However the actual number of surplus places was a little higher due to an additional class of 30 places that was made available at Northfield School in Billingham to meet demand and Our Lady & St Bede Catholic Academy in Central Stockton admitting pupils above its Admission number.

Strategy for school investment in Stockton-On-Tees

The Key aims of the Strategy for Stockton are:

- Provide sufficient school places across the Borough and have between 5-10% surplus places to:
 - Provide every primary pupil a place within 2 miles;
 - Provide every secondary pupil a school place within 3 miles.
- Ensure that schools are maintained in a good condition, with maintenance work undertaken.
- Identify opportunities to improve the school stock.

There has however been significant investment in schools across the Borough in recent years with a primary expansion programme that will see an increase in school places which should be completed by April 2018 and subject to Cabinet approval in the autumn 2017 a secondary expansion programme will commence also.

Section 3: Pupil projections

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Methodology

For both primary & secondary pupil forecasts the Council used the actuals from both the Reception and Y7 known cohorts expected to enter in the corresponding September whilst using the relevant January pupil census data as a baseline for all corresponding years. During the completion of the annual School Capacity (SCAP) & pupil projections DfE returns, all future Primary Reception cohorts are determined using School Nursery data also from the same pupil census, plus other early years data held by Private & Voluntary settings for all the relevant forecast year periods. We then use the pupil home address and link it to a primary school admission zone in each of the six planning areas.

Following the use of actuals for the year of submission we then rolled forward the year groups from the census for each corresponding forecast year and added the next appropriate pupil information.

Using this approach we then rolled forward each set of data for subsequent forecast. We also projected the primary cohort in each planning area to move up into their respective secondary planning area e.g. primary pupil projections from 8080001 would move into the appropriate secondary schools in 8080007 planning area. This enabled the Council to identify local pressures in the specific planning areas.

We then overlaid potential pupil yield from all Housing sites with planning permission and those anticipated to deliver within the forecast periods. A family house is assumed to be all houses and flats with 2 or more bedrooms. One-bedroomed houses/flats and housing specifically designed for older people were excluded.

Housing totals and phasing figures were supplied as at the end of April and each assigned to appropriate planning areas. The total homes by year of expected construction were then used to calculate pupil yield – for primary this represents 26 pupils per 100 qualifying homes and then averaged across the respective primary year groups R – Y6. Secondary 20 pupils per 100 qualifying homes and averaged across the respective year groups Y7 – Y11.

For each corresponding pupil forecast year, these additional pupil yields were compounded thereafter across the appropriate year groups as appropriate.

A small number of old, historic S106 agreement contributions have been excluded from the S106/CIL table as they will be subject to full discount, due to the capacity levels in the applicable schools.

Housing

Stockton-On-Tees has a growing population, with a growing demand for housing. To ensure Stockton-On-Tees remains a great place to live, and that the housing needs of the Borough are met the Council will maintain a rolling 5 year supply of deliverable housing land. To achieve this the Council are preparing a new Local Plan; sites identified within the emerging Local Plan can be viewed at:

<https://www.stockton.gov.uk/local-plan/>

In the Publication 'Draft Local Plan' includes a housing requirement of 10,150 homes to be delivered between 2017/18 and 2031/32. The housing requirement will be achieved through the delivery of homes on sites with planning applications and allocations within the emerging Local Plan. The housing strategy within the emerging Local Plan seeks to promote development in the most sustainable way through:

- Supporting the aspiration of delivering housing in the Regenerated River Tees Corridor (between A66 and Newport Bridge) in close proximity to Stockton Town Centre
- Supporting development on suitable sites within the conurbation
- Creating a Sustainable Urban Extension to West Stockton

- Proposing major new residential development at Wynyard leading to the area becoming a sustainable settlement

There are a number of housing developments of greater than 250 homes that are either approved / planned or detailed in the Publication 'Draft Local Plan' across the borough that will affect most of our planning areas namely: Billingham & Wolviston – the Wynyard area (1,100 rising to 3,000+), North and Central Stockton - along Harrowgate / Yarm Back Lane (for 2,150 homes), Eaglescliffe & Yarm – (2,000+) and Ingleby Barwick – continues to expand (1,100).

Planning area & borough level pupil projections

The following projection tables are taken from the 2017 SCAP return and incorporate the change in methodology and indicate the Published Admission Numbers (PAN) for both Primary and Secondary Schools in each planning area, the allocated Reception and Y7 only cohorts and the number of children expected in each of the subsequent years of entry.

Billingham & Wolviston

This area includes thirteen primary schools including the free school Wynyard CE Primary and two secondary schools - Northfield School and St Michael's Catholic Academy.

Table 5 - Primary school places

8080001 Billingham & Wolviston	PAN	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	555	468	498	500	500	500

The above projections do not exceed the current PAN and the level of surplus places expected is within the 5 to 10% range. No further works are proposed given the capacity available. Although the available school places were increased by reassigning a two form entry primary free school from 8080002 (North Stockton) into this planning area namely Wynyard CE Primary School (Estab. no. 2016). The free school is currently located at a temporary location within the border between both Stockton & Hartlepool Borough Councils and is expected to be built and be open by Sept 2018.

However as stated above the future housing growth in the Wynyard area albeit within a neighbouring Council area (Hartlepool) could impact on the demand for school places in the future. With this in mind the Council understand a further free school application is expected in the next wave (autumn 2017) albeit in advance of the significant housing within Hartlepool boundary of Wynyard – not led by Stockton.

Table 6 - Secondary school places

8080007 Billingham & Wolviston	PAN	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total	466/*526	505	471	459	476	504	514	521

*subject to Cabinet approval this will increase due to proposed expansion at Northfield School from 2018

Although the above projections do not exceed the current/proposed PAN, in most years the level of surplus places falls below 5%. However the Catholic Academy receives upwards of 40 children from one of its feeder primary schools from another planning area (North Stockton) adding to these local children projections. In addition the academy has already (for Sept 2017 entry) admitted above its admission number to help address increase demand.

With the above pressures in mind the Council have already agreed to continue to provide 4 temporary classrooms to meet the demand for places at one of the two schools in this planning area which had been

planned for removal. They remained on site for Year 7 pupils entering secondary September 2016 and will remain again for entry in September 2017.

However following close collaboration with the school and the Governing Body, the Council has initiated Stage 1 of the Statutory process (18th May 2017) to propose a permanent increase in places at Northfield School (Estab. 4102) from 1350 to 1650. This proposal will increase Y7 places by 60 in this planning area from 466 to 526 by September 2018.

Stage 2 - Representation was completed 21st June 2017 and Stage 3 – Decision making, approval for this project was given via the Council’s Cabinet meeting held on 14th September 2017. Therefore Stage 4 – Implementation will involve the tendering of the project with on-site building work to follow, concluding with the opening of the new Y7 extension by September 2018.

In addition as stated above the future housing growth in the Wynyard area across both Stockton and Hartlepool the Council understand a further free school application is expected in the next wave (autumn 2017) albeit in advance of the significant housing in Wynyard – not led by Stockton.

North Stockton

This area includes fourteen primary schools (including seven academies) and two secondary schools namely Outwood Academy Bishopsgarth and North Shore Academy.

Table 7 - Primary school places

8080002 North Stockton	PAN	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	669	590	627	634	634	633

Initially the LA funded temporary increases to meet the demand for places across schools in this planning area for entry in September 2015. However since then following close collaboration with schools - three Capital investment projects have begun to increase capacity in school places in Reception by 60 places from Sept 2017 at:

- Hardwick Green Primary Academy (Estab. No. 2013) from 210 to 420 to be completed by Nov 2017;
- St John the Baptist CE Primary (Estab. No. 3001) from 210 to 315 to be completed by Aug 2017; and
- St Marks CE Elm Tree Primary (Estab. No. 2006) from 315 to 420 to be completed by Nov 2017.

The above projections do not exceed the current PAN and in most years the level of surplus remains between 5 & 10%.

Table 8 - Secondary school places

8080008 North Stockton	PAN	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total	*280	204	558	601	603	632	674	674

*The PAN in this area reduced by 50 places from September 2016 due to North Shore Academy reducing overall places to 160 from 210

The higher projected totals from 2018 onward, reflects the new methodology used to project the Year 7 places in the coming years. The data illustrates that from 2018 onwards there are higher numbers of primary pupil leavers in the North Stockton area compared to the actual number of secondary places available.

This area however experiences a ‘parental preference’ effect, as children will travel further to access Y7 places outside of this planning area and parents access school places at other secondary schools namely the

3 academies in 8080009 Central Stockton of Ian Ramsey CE, Our Lady & St Bede and The Grangefield and in some instances Conyers and Egglecliffe academies in 8080012 Egglecliffe & Yarm area.

There is potential to expand one of the two academies due to the size and location of a large 'strategic site' alluded to in the above text, namely Harrowgate / Yarm Back Lane for 2,150 homes. With this in mind further feasibility work will continue and an update on potential development at Outwood Academy Bishopsgarth to increase places was highlighted in a Capital Strategy paper that was approved at Cabinet on the 14th September 2017.

Central Stockton

This area includes ten primary schools (including two academies) and three secondary schools namely Ian Ramsey CE, Our Lady & St Bede and The Grangefield - all of which are now academies.

Table 9 – Primary school places

8080003 Central Stockton	PAN	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	490	477	504	504	505	504

Initially the Council funded temporary increases to meet the demand for places across schools in this planning area for entry in September 2015. However since then following close collaboration with schools - one Capital investment project has begun to increase capacity in school places in Reception by 30 places from Sept 2017 at:

- Bowesfield Primary (Estab. No. 2032) from 210 to 420 to be completed by April 2018

This area however experiences a 'parental preference' effect as children will travel further to access Reception places outside of this planning area and many parents can access school places at other schools. In addition some schools tend to admit above their admission number which also adds capacity.

The LA have also agreed a Strategic Infrastructure Plan with a number of developers and landowners as part of a large housing development at Harrowgate / Yarm Back Lane which included the need for a new primary school at some point during its development. There is a free school application expected in the next wave (autumn 2017) led by the CE Diocese and a new MAT - 1Excellence (two academy convertor primary schools (St Marks CE Elm Tree and Pentland)).

Table 10 - Secondary school places

8080009 Central Stockton	PAN	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Central Stockton total	597	632	448	466	458	493	499	488

Although the number of pupils expected to enter Y7 this September exceeds capacity, this was possible as one of the academies has admitted almost 60 additional pupils to meet parental demand.

The lower projected totals from 2018 onward, reflects the new methodology used to project the year 7 places in the coming years. The data illustrates that from 2018 onwards there are lower numbers of primary pupil leavers in Central Stockton compared to the number of actual places available. This area however experiences a 'parental preference' effect as children travel into Central Stockton to access a Year 7 place in particular from the North Stockton planning area (8080008).

This continued movement of pupils from North Stockton (8080008) into this planning area due to parental preference likely, and other demand from housing developments in the future, will require an expansion in secondary places. With this in mind further feasibility work will continue and an update on potential

development at the two academies of Our Lady & St Bede Catholic and Ian Ramsey CE to increase places was highlighted in a Capital Strategy paper that was approved at Cabinet on the 14th September 2017.

Thornaby

This area includes seven primary schools (including 3 academies) and two secondary schools namely Thornaby Academy and St Patrick's RC School.

Table 11 - Primary school places

8080004 Thornaby	PAN	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	380	339	426	426	426	425

Initially the LA funded temporary expansions to meet the demand for places across schools in this planning area for entry in September 2015. However since then following close collaboration with schools - two Capital investment project have begun to increase capacity in school places in Reception by 30 places from Sept 2017 at:

- Christ the King Catholic Academy (Estab. no. 3327) from 315 to 420 to be completed by Aug 2017; and
- Thornaby CE Primary (Estab. no. 3002) from 315 to 420 to be completed by Oct 2017

This area however experiences a 'parental preference' effect as children will travel further to access Reception places outside of this planning area. In addition some schools tend to admit above their admission number which also adds capacity. This will of course need to be reviewed to ensure supply meets demand.

Table 12 - Secondary school places

8080010 Thornaby	PAN	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total	261	183	277	332	293	318	359	343

The higher projected totals from 2018 onward, reflects the new methodology used to project the year 7 places in coming years. The data also illustrates there are higher numbers of primary pupil leavers in Thornaby compared to the number of actual places available. This area however experiences a 'parental preference' effect as children travel further south to other schools to access a Year 7 place namely in Ingleby Barwick, Eaglescliffe and Yarm.

There are no proposed expansions in this planning area but with recent planning approval for additional homes in other planning areas, this will need to be reviewed to ensure supply meets demand.

Ingleby Barwick

This area includes six primary schools (including 1 academy) and two secondary schools namely All Saints CE Academy and Ingleby Manor Free School & Sixth Form.

Table 13 - Primary school places

8080005 Ingleby Barwick	PAN		2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	390		345	271	273	274	274

There has been, an unexpected fall in the demand for Reception places in some Ingleby Barwick schools for entry in September 2015. However we expect the demand for places could increase as other housing developments are approved.

There are no planned expansions in this planning area but with recent planning approval for additional homes, this will need to be reviewed to ensure supply meets demand.

Table 14 - Secondary school places

8080011 Ingleby Barwick	PAN		2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total	270		277	344	375	361	409	372	364

The higher projected totals from 2018 onward, reflects the actual current primary cohort (adjusted to account for pupil yields from the approved housing sites) across the primary schools in this area that will leave and enter Y7 in the coming years. The data illustrates from 2018 onwards there will be higher numbers of primary pupil leavers compared to the number of places available.

Due to the size of the local primary pupil population, demand exceeds supply in this area. However some years ago the LA deemed other schools in 8080012 as 'in zone' and therefore accessible to children from this planning area. However there has been an increase in the number of Ingleby Barwick parents now choosing the Free School for their children over other 'zone schools' compared to previous intakes. This has led to the Council revisiting this arrangement as recently approved housing schemes in both 8080011 & 8080012 will impact on supply in the future.

With this in mind further feasibility work will continue and an update on potential development at All Saints CE Academy to increase places was highlighted in a Capital Strategy paper that was approved at Cabinet on the 14th September 2017.

Eggescliffe & Yarm

This area includes ten primary schools (including three academies) and two secondary schools namely Eggescliffe School and Conyers School which are both academies.

Table 15 - Primary school places

8080006 Eggescliffe & Yarm	PAN	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	331	258	192	194	193	193

There has been, a fall in the demand for Reception places in some schools for entry in September, however we expect the demand for places should increase as other housing developments are approved. There are no planned expansions in this planning area but with recent planning approval for additional homes, this will need to be reviewed to ensure supply meets demand.

Table 16 - Secondary school places

8080012 Eggescliffe & Yarm	PAN	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total	459	486	321	345	317	336	319	313

You can see from the above that both schools in this area admitted above their admission number for entry this September to satisfy demand and parental preference. The lower projected totals from 2018 onward, reflects the actual current primary cohort (adjusted to account for pupil yields from the approved housing sites) across the primary schools in this area that will leave and enter Y7 in the coming years. The data illustrates from 2018 onwards the lower number of primary pupil leavers in the surrounding schools compared to their respective secondary planning area schools and the number of actual places available.

As per the previous points above with regards to 8080010 and 8080011, children in recent admission rounds have secured places for their children in the two schools in this area due to the current low volume of resident pupils in this planning area. This of course cannot be sustained as significant housing in this area will reduce accessibility due to the distance they reside elsewhere in other planning areas so therefore displacing those affected back to their respective local schools.

There are no proposed expansions in this planning area but with recent planning approval for additional homes, this will need to be reviewed to ensure supply meets demand. With this in mind further feasibility work will continue and an update on potential developments at both Conyers and Eggescliffe Schools to improve current facilities was highlighted in a Capital Strategy paper that was approved at Cabinet on the 14th September 2017.

Borough level

Table 17 - Primary

Primary	PAN		2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	2815		2477	2518	2531	2532	2529

The projected totals from 2017 to 2021 reflect the revised approach the Council took this year with regards to pupil forecasting. With the investment already agreed and expected to be completed by spring 2018 there are no plans to increase places further. As already mentioned in this report another free school application could be possible in the future as a large strategic site commences.

Table 18 – Secondary

Secondary	PAN		2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total	*2373		2287	2419	2578	2508	2692	2737	2703

* This includes a 50 place reduction in places due to North Shore Academy reducing overall places to 160 from 210

The total number of pupils in 2017/18 incorporates actual children expected to enter Y7 for this coming September 2017 plus a small number of additional children from potential pupil yields linked to house building across the borough. 2018/19 onwards includes actual January 2017 census pupils, projected primary pupils plus appropriate pupil yields.

With the higher numbers across primary expected to enter secondary in the coming years therefore increasing demand, the Council have already began the process to investigate a capital investment programme to increase secondary school places in those priority areas in the near future to sufficiently meet the predicted demand whilst carrying a 5 to 10 % surplus.

With this in mind further feasibility work will continue and an update on a number of potential developments at Northfield School, Outwood Academy Bishopsgarth, Ian Ramsey CE Academy, Our Lady & St Bede Catholic Academy and All Saints CE Academy to increase places was highlighted in a Capital Strategy paper that was approved at Cabinet on the 14th September 2017. In addition potential developments at Conyers School and Egglecliffe School to improve current facilities

Darren Coulton
September 2017