

## School Places Planning

### 1. Aim and objective of the project

The Council has a statutory responsibility to provide adequate provision of school places for pupils who live in the borough.

*'sections 13, 13A and 14 of the Education Act 1996 which require local authorities to: ensure that efficient primary, secondary and further education is available to meet the needs of their population; ensure that their education functions are exercised with a view to promoting high standards ensuring fair access to opportunity for education and learning, and promote the fulfilment of learning potential; and secure that sufficient schools for providing primary and secondary education are available for their area.'*

Annex A - Clarification of local authority statutory duties relating to services relevant to the Education Services Grant

In order to comply efficiently and effectively with the statutory responsibility as detailed above officers are required to produce a set of School Place Planning (SPP) projections annually for the Department for Education. The annual School Capacity return (SCAP), and is used to determine school place capacity and to allocate funding for expanding/new schools where necessary.

### 2. What data we used - where it came from (internal or partners etc)

Data sources include:

- Strategic Housing Availability Assessment (SHLAA) - Greater London Authority 2015 round trend population projections.
- Housing development data – from Planning.
- Spring School Census – collected by the Council from all schools and verified by the DfE.
- Office of National Statistics birth rate data.
- GP Registration data from Greater London Authority.

### 3. Methodology employed for analysis, how it was interrogated - did we use any tools

Population data, birth and GP data, housing developments data and school expansions information is analysed. School expansions in neighbouring boroughs are also considered as this may impact on the provision of school places for residents of the Hillingdon. The priority is to complete the school places projection to ensure sufficient places can be provided to meet current and future demand.

The main tool used for the data analysis is Excel. An Excel spreadsheet is sent to the GLA detailing all known housing developments across the borough for the next 20 years. The GLA then combine this with the population projection data and the Spring School Census data where they also take the post code of the pupil's home and school to determine migration and movement across the borough. This data is then returned to the Council, checked and interrogated against previous SPP projections to ensure that all local issues have been taken into account. We will look at areas of pressure due the density of the population as well as pressure due to parental choice.

Geographical information systems are used to map areas around school to determine any pressures that may occur. This will also give an understanding of pupil mobility and parental preference.

#### **4. How was it used to drive project/influence service change etc**

The analysis is used to ensure that the Council's statutory responsibility is fulfilled. Where there are pressures, possible solutions will be presented to Members for consideration which may include temporary or permanent expansions of existing school or a feasibility study to determine if a new school will be required to meet future capacity needs within the borough.