

Children and Families Scrutiny Committee

Agenda

Date: Tuesday, 9th October, 2012
Time: 1.30 pm
Venue: Committee Suite 1,2 & 3, Westfields, Middlewich Road,
Sandbach CW11 1HZ

The agenda is divided into 2 parts. Part 1 is taken in the presence of the public and press. Part 2 items will be considered in the absence of the public and press for the reasons indicated on the agenda and at the foot of each report.

PART 1 – MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED WITH THE PUBLIC AND PRESS PRESENT

1. **Apologies for Absence**

2. **Declarations of Interest**

To provide an opportunity for Members and Officers to declare any disclosable pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests in any item on the agenda.

3. **Declaration of Party Whip**

To provide an opportunity for Members to declare the existence of a party whip in relation to any item on the agenda.

4. **Minutes of Previous Meeting** (Pages 1 - 8)

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 11 September 2012.

For any apologies or requests for further information, or to give notice of a question to be asked by a member of the public

Contact: Mark Grimshaw
Tel: 01270 685680
E-Mail: mark.grimshaw@cheshireeast.gov.uk

5. **Public Speaking Time/Open Session**

A total period of 15 minutes is allocated for members of the public to make a statement(s) on any matter that falls within the remit of the Committee.

Individual members of the public may speak for up to 5 minutes, but the Chairman will decide how the period of time allocated for public speaking will be apportioned, where there are a number of speakers.

Note: In order for officers to undertake any background research, it would be helpful if members of the public notified the Scrutiny officer listed at the foot of the agenda, at least one working day before the meeting with brief details of the matter to be covered.

6. **Consultation on the Proposed School Organisation Framework 2012** (Pages 9 - 226)

To consider a report of the Strategic Director of Children, Families and Adults.

7. **New Ofsted School Inspection Framework - Update**

To receive a verbal update from the Deputy Director of Children's Services.

8. **Youth Offending Service - Update**

To receive a verbal update from the Deputy Director of Children's Services.

9. **Available Walking Routes to School** (Pages 227 - 250)

To consider a report of the Transport Manager.

10. **Work Programme update** (Pages 251 - 256)

To consider the work programme.

11. **Forward Plan - extracts** (Pages 257 - 260)

To note the current Forward Plan, identify any new items and to determine whether any further examination of new issues is appropriate

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the **Children and Families Scrutiny Committee**
held on Tuesday, 11th September, 2012 at The Capesthorne Room - Town
Hall, Macclesfield SK10 1EA

PRESENT

Councillor A Kolker (Chairman)
Councillor K Edwards (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors L Brown, P Hoyland, D Neilson and P Hayes

Apologies

Councillors B Livesley, G Barton, R Domleo, P Butterill, G Merry, M Sherratt
and B Silvester

In attendance

Councillors H Gaddum and R Bailey

Officers

Fintan Bradley – Head of Service: Strategy, Planning & Performance
Chris Williams – Transport Manager
Jenny Marston - Policy & Accessibility Manager (Transport)
Mark Grimshaw – Scrutiny Officer

20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None noted.

21 DECLARATION OF PARTY WHIP

None noted.

22 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 17 July 2012 be approved
as a correct record.

23 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME/OPEN SESSION

There were no members of the public who wished to address the Committee.

24 QUARTER 1 FINANCE AND PERFORMANCE REPORT

Fintan Bradley, Head of Service: Strategy, Planning & Performance, attended to
present the Quarter 1 Finance and Performance report for the Children and
Families Directorate.

Fintan Bradley noted that the Directorate had a budget of £59m for 2012/13, excluding the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG). The emerging pressures on this budget had been identified at £4.9m with £4.1m of remedial action identified in order to reduce the base budget net overspend to £0.8m.

Touching on the emerging pressures, Fintan Bradley identified the key revenue issues that the Directorate was facing:

- Reliance on expensive out-of-Borough placements for Cared for Children due to a shortage of foster care provision.
- A reliance on expensive agency social workers in the Children in Need/Child protection, Children's Assessment Team and 16+/Cared for Support teams. This was due to a difficulty of recruiting experienced and qualified permanent social workers.

Fintan Bradley was asked to expand on the issue relating to the shortage of permanent social workers. He explained that whilst the service has had an ongoing campaign to recruit qualified social workers; competition was strong from neighbouring authorities for experienced staff. Other authorities were using initiatives such as 'Golden Hello's' to attract experienced social workers and therefore Cheshire East was finding it difficult to compete. Fintan added that the nature of the positions available, namely in the Child Protection teams also made it difficult to recruit permanent staff as these roles were some of the most challenging within the social work field.

Members agreed that it would be useful to receive more information on the issue relating to the recruitment of permanent social workers at a subsequent meeting. It was requested that the Committee receive information on:

- The number of social worker vacancies in the Council,
- How much more it was costing the Council to recruit agency workers in comparison to having permanent staff.
- How long agency staff tended to stay with the Council.

It was commented that the NHS had faced similar issues in terms of relying on agency workers and as a result, they had tried to counteract this by establishing a bank of staff. It was queried therefore whether creating a bank of social workers was something that the Council had considered.

A number of other suggestions were made as to how the Council could attempt to reduce the reliance on agency workers:

- That the service gather intelligence to understand what made agency working attractive to social workers so that conditions could be replicated within the Council i.e. flexible working, short term/temporary contracts.
- That offers be made to recently departed experienced social workers, of a particular standard, to either return to work on a reduced hour's basis or to mentor less experienced social workers.

It was suggested that an item be added to the work programme for the next scheduled meeting so that a response to these suggestions could be provided.

It was queried whether the closure of the Brereton Children's Home would place extra pressure on the budget. Fintan Bradley acknowledged that the closure would put pressure on placements which could potentially result in children being placed in out-of-Borough placements – incurring an additional cost.

Following on from this issue, it was requested that the Committee receive information at a future meeting on:

- How many foster carers the Council required.
- How many foster carers were currently employed by the Council.
- What the current 'turnover' rate was for foster carers.

A number of general comments were made on the Children and Families budget. It was noted that there appeared to be a number of areas in which there was a consistent overspend. It was suggested therefore that a budget session be arranged for the Committee in order to better understand these issues so that informed recommendations could be made.

In terms of performance information, attention was drawn to page 14 of the agenda which highlighted that the Directorate had not met its target on the following indicators:

- NI 59 – Initial assessments for children's social care carried out within 7 working days of referral
- NI 60 – Core assessments for children's social care that were carried out within 35 working days of their commencement.

It was queried how many days it was taking for initial and core assessments on those instances that the targets were missed. Fintan Bradley suggested that this information could be provided for the Committee in an updated action plan for the Ofsted Announced Inspection on Safeguarding.

RESOLVED –

- a) That the report be noted.
- b) That an item be placed on the Committee's work programme for the next scheduled meeting relating to the challenges in recruiting experienced social workers. That this include:
 - a. Information on:
 - i. The number of social worker vacancies in the Council,
 - ii. How much more it was costing the Council to recruit agency workers in comparison to having permanent staff.
 - iii. How long agency staff tended to stay with the Council.
 - b. A response to the following suggestions:
 - i. That the service gather intelligence to understand what made agency working attractive to social workers so that conditions could be replicated within the Council i.e. flexible working, short term/temporary contracts.
 - ii. That offers be made to recently departed experienced social workers, of a particular standard, to either return to work on a reduced hour's basis or to mentor less experienced social workers.

- c) That at a future meeting, the Committee receive information on:
 - a. How many foster carers the Council required.
 - b. How many foster carers were currently employed by the Council.
 - c. What the current 'turnover' rate was for foster carers.
- d) That an updated action plan for the Ofsted Announced Inspection be brought to a future meeting and that this include further information on the range of days being taken to perform initial and core assessments for children's social care.
- e) That a session be arranged for the Committee to go through the Children and Families budget pressures prior to December 2012.

25 SCHOOL COMPETITION PROCESS FOR AN AUTISM SPECTRUM CONDITION-SPECIFIC SPECIAL SCHOOL

Fintan Bradley explained the background and rationale for the development of an Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC) specific special school. In 2010, the Children and Families Service began the process of reviewing its arrangements for children and young people with special educational needs and disability (SEND). One of the priority recommendations emerging from the ongoing review was an identified need to develop local specialist provision for children and young people with ASC between the ages of 4-19.

As a result a business case was submitted and approved in principal by Cabinet in November 2011 with a feasibility study commissioned to explore siting the school on the former Church Lawton Primary School site.

Subsequently in February 2012, changes were made to the Education and Inspections Act 2006 part 2, in relation to the process for establishing new schools. This meant that the Council had to go through a competition process to establish a new school which would result in finding either an Academy sponsor, establishing a free school or going out to the market.

The Committee was asked to comment on the project in light of the new legislative changes.

There was unanimous agreement to the principle of establishing the school. A few concerns were expressed however with regards to the funding of the school. It was suggested that if the Council was not going to be running the school would the Department for Education (DfE) provide some of the capital costs. Fintan Bradley noted that the Council was still in negotiations with the DfE regarding the funding of the school and that it was possible that they would pay for the prudential borrowing.

It was queried what the payback period for the Council would be after the school had opened. Fintan Bradley confirmed that this would be approximately ten years.

It was queried if there was any chance of the Academy Trust or alternative provider, not providing sufficient places for Cheshire East children and instead

offering places to out-of-Borough children. Fintan Bradley confirmed that during the competition process, the Council would set out a service level agreement that would ensure priority for Cheshire East children. Additionally, the Council would also remain the admissions body and would therefore again ensure priority for Cheshire East children.

It was questioned whether parents in the North of the Borough were happy with the school location. Fintan Bradley acknowledged that whilst the location was not ideal it had been chosen to reduce the need to purchase land which would have been prohibitive to the project. He added that the service had received feedback from parent groups which expressed that they were positive about having a school in Cheshire East.

It was queried when the school was likely to open. Fintan Bradley reported that it was scheduled to open in September 2014.

RESOLVED –

- a) That the report be received.
- b) That the Committee endorse the principle of establishing an Autism Spectrum Condition-specific Special School in Cheshire East.
- c) That the Head of Strategy, Planning and Performance be requested to update the Committee with the outcome of the discussions with the Department for Education regarding the capital funding of the school.

26 AVAILABLE WALKING ROUTES POLICY

Chris Williams, Transport Manager and Jenny Marston, Policy and Accessibility Manager (Transport), attended to provide a presentation on the Available Walking Routes Policy. After providing a brief explanation of the legal context and a definition of an available walking route, Chris Williams continued to provide a brief overview of recent developments that had occurred to the policy area. He noted that a local authority had recently been subject to a Local Ombudsman Challenge to policy in this area. This had centred on the local authority in question not explicitly stating that they had followed central government guidance in their policy. Chris Williams explained that a number of other local authorities were in a similar position and therefore the Council was seeking to reaffirm its policy with a number of minor amendments and clarifications. These were detailed as follows:

- Incorporation of school responsibility for school travel plans
- Change to the notice period of withdrawals – 1 term suggested
- Consideration to be given to temporary issues when assessing a route as 'available' – ground conditions, major roadworks etc
- 'Crossing point' assessment updated
- 'No footpath' assessment updated
- Review procedure updated

In terms of the latter point, Chris Williams explained how the last formal review of available routes in the Borough had been conducted more than twenty years ago. Developments in the highways network since that point had meant that many

children could walk in relative safety and no longer required assistance. Chris Williams added that this had led to a relatively high number of children being entitled to school transport due to a lack of an available walking route in comparison to other local authorities (25% in Cheshire East compared to less than 5% nationally).

Chris Williams acknowledged therefore that once the review procedure for available routes began, it was likely that some children would no longer be entitled to transport whilst some would become entitled who previously had not been.

In summary Chris Williams noted that he would be making the following recommendations to Cabinet and he asked for the Committee's comments.

- Continue to use Road Safety GB guidelines
- Adjust policy statement to take account of DfE's guidance
- Adopt revised policy
- Reassess all current routes classed as unavailable to ensure consistency and fairness
- Adopt a policy of reassessment after a defined period – suggested at 5 years.

A number of comments were made stating that it seemed likely that once the review procedure for available walking routes had been completed more school children would have their entitlement to transport removed than would gain entitlement. It was asserted therefore that this policy could potentially be very unpopular, particularly considering that discretionary school transport had recently been removed for those pupils attending faith schools. Consequently, it was stated that such a review procedure would need to be carefully managed to ensure that local communities and local ward Councillors were kept fully informed.

It was contended that the notice period for withdrawal should be longer than the suggested one term. Chris Williams reported that the Council had looked at what notice period other authorities were providing and that this ranged from 0 to 12 weeks. By suggesting one term therefore the Council was offering a withdrawal period at the top of the range.

Chris Williams commented that the Council would always follow the 'Precautionary Principle' when it came to deciding if a route was safe or not. This meant that if there was any doubt about the safety of a route, the Council would always provide transport.

It was requested that the Committee receive the draft version of the updated policy on the 9 October 2012 with the amendments from the previous policy highlighted.

RESOLVED –

- a) That the presentation be noted.
- b) That the Committee receive the draft version of the updated policy on the 9 October 2012 with the amendments from the previous policy highlighted.

27 WORK PROGRAMME UPDATE

Members considered the work programme. Following the proceedings of the meetings it was agreed to put the following items on the work programme:

- Recruitment of experienced social workers (October 2012)
- Recruitment and retention of foster carers – including update on the fostering capital projects policy (November 2012)
- Children and Families Budget session (separate meeting to be arranged prior to December 2012).

In order to manage the size of the agenda for the October meeting, it was agreed that the Quarter 2 finance and performance report would be deferred to November 2012.

Councillor Edwards and Councillor Neilson provided an update of the Early Years and Care Leavers Task and Finish Reviews respectively. It was noted that the Care Leavers Review was likely to report to Committee in November 2012.

RESOLVED –

- a) That the work programme be noted.
- b) That the following items be added to work programme:
 - a. Recruitment of experienced social workers (October 2012)
 - b. Recruitment and retention of foster carers – including update on the fostering capital projects policy (November 2012)
 - c. Children and Families Budget session (separate meeting to be arranged prior to December 2012).
- c) That the Quarter 2 Finance and Performance report be deferred to November 2012.

28 FORWARD PLAN - EXTRACTS

The Committee gave consideration to the extracts of the forward plan which fell within the remit of the Committee.

RESOLVED – That the forward plan be noted.

The meeting commenced at 1.35 pm and concluded at 4.30 pm

Councillor A Kolker (Chairman)

This page is intentionally left blank

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Children and Families Scrutiny Committee

Date of Meeting:	9 October 2012
Report of:	Lorraine Butcher, Strategic Director – Children, Families and Adults
Subject/Title	Consultation on the Proposed School Organisation Framework 2012

1.0 Report Summary

- 1.1 The attached draft School Organisation Framework sets out the Local Authority's process for ensuring the provision of sufficient school places for children and young people resident in its area.
- 1.2 The overarching Plan provides contextual data about Cheshire East and the policy within which decisions on school organisation matters will be made.
- 1.3 Using January School Census data and forecasting methodology, the Annex provides an analysis of the supply of and demand for school places to inform school place planning across the seven Local Area Partnerships. The Annex will be produced each year using School Census Data and reviewed biannually each year to measure its reliability.

2.0 Recommendation

- 2.1 The draft Framework within which School Organisation will operate was approved for consultation by Councillor Gaddum, Portfolio Holder on 23 July 2012. Consultation commenced on 21 September and will end after a four week period on 19 October. The Children and Families Scrutiny committee are therefore invited to feedback their views on the Framework during this consultation window before a final decision is taken on its determination on 10 December. Full details are published on the home page of the Council's website.

3.0 Reason for recommendations

- 3.1 The Local Authority has a statutory duty, as strategic commissioner of schools places, to work within the legal requirements in relation to school organisation. It is therefore essential that the key policy that underpins this role is agreed in order that the priorities of this Local Authority inform its school organisation process. Feedback on process and proposed policy from the Children and Families Scrutiny Committee is a valued part of the consultation and determination process.

4.0 Wards Affected

4.1 All.

5.0 Local Ward Members

5.1 N/A.

6.0 Policy Implications

6.1 This School Organisation Framework will set the context and policy on school organisation matters and this will drive the capital programme in relation to the funding of school places.

6.2 An Equality Impact Assessment is attached.

7.0 Financial Implications

7.1 The Local Authority's Capital Programme provides the framework within which Capital spending decisions within the Department will be made.

7.2 The Framework will inform and incorporate the strategic capital investment priorities of the Department. These priorities are reviewed each year. The Framework will also inform and incorporate elements of the Section 106 Department Policy. The aim is to maximise all legitimate developer contributions. Therefore, the School Organisation Plan will need to accurately reflect the current surplus school places and illustrate the need for places both across the Borough and by identifying areas requiring particular focus.

7.3 In developing the Capital Programme the Council will seek to maintain where possible the principle that the school requirements are funded by grants provided specifically for schools, which has traditionally been funded by a Basic Need Grant from the Department for Education.

8.0 Legal Implications

8.1 The Education Act 1996 obliges the Local Authority to ensure that there are sufficient school places in its area by:

- (a) monitoring the number of children that are likely to require a school place, now and in the future; and
- (b) commissioning sufficient school places for those children.

8.2 In order to meet this statutory duty, the Local Authority must increase and decrease the number of school places available by complying with the relevant school organisation legislation, such as the Education and Inspections Act 2006, as amended, and the School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools)(England) Regulations 2007, as amended, and having regard to the guidance published by the Department for Education.

- 8.3 Local authorities that fail to comply with the law are in breach of their statutory duty and risk interested parties bringing legal proceedings against them in the High Courts. This can result in a local authority's decision being placed on hold or overturned, which could harm its ability to ensure the availability of sufficient places, its reputation and, if it is obliged to pay excessive legal and other costs, its finances.
- 8.4 It is therefore essential that the Local Authority has procedures that demonstrate why it has come to a particular decision and that facilitate compliance with the law. However, it is also important that any such policy is sound, as once the policy is in place, the Local Authority is expected to comply with the policy and its decisions can be challenged if the policy has not been followed.

9.0 Risk Management

- 9.1 The risk of not having an agreed Framework for the planning and provision of school places is that the Local Authority will fail to meet its statutory duty to commission sufficient school places for children and young people resident in its area.
- 9.2 There are a number of other risks as set out below:
- The Framework has been written at a time when Central Government policy has changed in relation to school organisation. The Framework will therefore need to be reviewed regularly and this is a time consuming activity;
 - Political endorsement of the Local Authority's priorities is necessary due to the potential challenges in relation to school organisation proposals and capital expenditure;
 - The Framework will be underpinned by the latest data and its interpretation and accuracy are crucial. The resources to undertake this are stretched and there are risks about ensuring we have sufficient interpretative analysis of the data;
 - Some schools will perceive the SOP as a threat in that it may highlight the need to effect challenge and change in some settings. To mitigate this, the Framework should be consulted upon for endorsement by Primary and Secondary Heads groups;
 - The Framework is not a statutory requirement and this will be the first of its kind for Cheshire East Council.
 - The Department for Education are currently consulting on changes to local funding formulas for implementation from 1st April 2013. There are strong indications that a National Funding Formula may be introduced from 2015/16. There are likely to be significant implications for funding on a school by school basis, which may impact on schools ability to provide surplus places. There are also likely to be reductions to levels of funding which may be held centrally by the Local Authority to provide additional support to schools to fund costs of additional places.

10.0 Background and Options

- 10.1 The Framework is written at a time of rapidly changing legislative framework and educational landscape which has seen growth in the number of Academies and Free Schools. Central Government changes in relation to schools and education capital funding, schools admissions and Schools Funding Formula mean that the role of the Local Authority is changing. However, local authorities do still have a responsibility for commissioning sufficient school places for children and young people in its area.
- 10.2 The Framework is informed by a data set relating to the population of Cheshire East, which will inform proposals. This data will be the subject of a biannual review and audit.

11.0 Access to Information

- 11.1 The consultation document published on the home page of the Council's website, which summarises the key policy proposals, is enclosed.
- 11.2 The School Organisation Framework includes:
- School Organisation Plan 2012 (Enclosed)
 - School Organisation Plan Appendices 1-16*
 - Annex – Review of School Places (Enclosed)
 - Annex Appendices 1-5*
 - Equality Impact Assessment (Enclosed)
- 11.3 *Appendices are available by contacting the report author.

Name: Barbara Dale

Designation: School Admissions and Organisation Manager

Tel No: 01270 686392 Email: barbara.dale@cheshireeast.gov.uk



**PROPOSED
SCHOOL ORGANISATION
FRAMEWORK**

PUBLIC CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

**Lorraine Butcher
Strategic Director
Children, Families & Adults
Cheshire East Council
Westfields, Sandbach
Cheshire
CW11 1HZ**

September 2012

FORWARD

All local authorities have a statutory duty as Strategic Commissioner of School Places to ensure that they have a sufficient number of suitable school places for children and young people resident in their area. The Education Act 2006 requires local authorities to promote fair access to educational opportunity, high standards and pupil achievement, to increase opportunities for parental choice and respond to parental representations and secure diversity in the provision of schools when planning the provision of school places.

The complete document, which includes the School Organisation Plan with information about Cheshire East Borough Council and its proposed policies and strategy as Strategic Commissioner of School Places, and the Annex to the Plan with information about the number of school places across the Borough and forecast demand, can be accessed online at www.cheshireeast.gov.uk or by contacting the Authority on 0300 123 5012. The Government's role for local authorities of encouraging good schools to expand and of commissioning Free Schools or Academies in response to demand for places informs the draft School Organisation Framework.

The Framework provides the strategy out of which discussions can take place and decisions can be made and acted upon by the Local Authority, the Diocesan Boards of Education, other promoters and individual schools. The Local Authority's agreed procedure for decision-making in respect of school organisation proposals is referred to within the Framework, including the procedures required by law or Government guidance for making changes such as opening, closing or expanding schools.

OBJECTIVE OF THIS CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

This Consultation Document summarises the proposed key priorities for this Local Authority as Strategic Commissioner of School Places, as set out in the School Organisation Framework, and invites you to **feedback your views** on these proposals **by the 19 October**.

You can do this by completing our online consultation response form or you may prefer to write in (including email) to:

Letter :- School Organisation and Capital Strategy Team, Cheshire East Council, Delamere House (EC), Delamere Street, Crewe CW1 2LL; or
e-mail: SOCS@cheshireeast.gov.uk

Alternatively, please contact the Authority on 0300 123 5012.

TIMESCALES

The timescales for implementation of the School Organisation Framework are set out below:

21 September 2012	Consultation with interested parties
19 October 2012	Consultation closes
October – November 2012	Analysis of consultation feedback
10 December 2012	Presented to Cabinet for Determination
19 December 2012	Implementation

FURTHER INFORMATION:

Where individual queries are received, we will not answer you directly, but we will compile a detailed response to the consultation that will be published on our website with hard copies available on request.

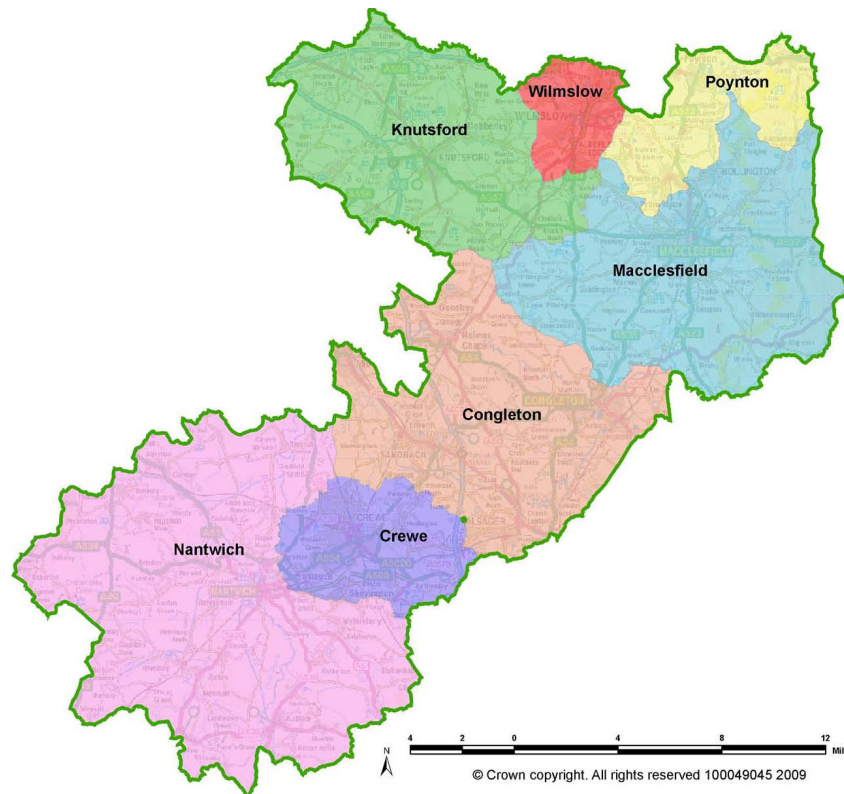
For further information, contact School Organisation and Capital Strategy Team, Cheshire East Council, Delamere House, Delamere Street, Crewe CW1 2LL, e-mail: SOCS@cheshireeast.gov.uk Tel: 0300 123 5012.

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

The Local Authority will only commit to policies and practices which will eradicate discrimination and promote equality for all, regardless of age, gender, disability religion and belief, race and ethnicity and sexual orientation. This policy will be subject to an Equality Impact and Needs Assessment. This assessment will be integral to all future policy and guidance reviews.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Following local government reorganisation of the seven Cheshire councils, Cheshire East Borough Council came into existence on 1 April 2009 as a unitary authority made up of the former borough councils of Congleton, Crewe and Nantwich and Macclesfield, and the former Cheshire County Council. It is surrounded by 10 neighbouring authorities along with its newest neighbour of Cheshire West and Chester Council, which was also created following the Cheshire area reorganisation.



Cheshire East is located in the north-west of England and is the third largest unitary authority in this region. It has an area of 1,116km², an electorate of over 280,000 and a population of approximately 364,300 (January 2011). It is a predominantly rural area but with the majority of the population residing in the Borough's urban areas.

Under *The Education Act 1996*, parents and carers have a duty to ensure their children receive full time education between the ages of 5 and 16 in school or otherwise (i.e. home education). In Cheshire East, the vast majority choose to send their children to school. The Education and Skills Act 2008 raised the age at which young people are required to participate in education or training. This change applies from 2013, when young people will be required to stay in education or training until they are 17 years of age and from 2015 until they are 18.

The status of schools in Cheshire East is subject to change at any time over the coming years with all schools being invited to convert to Academy status. At 1 September 2011, across the Borough there were 122 Local Authority maintained mainstream primary schools and 2 mainstream Academies. These schools had a combined capacity of 28,195 places, of which 26,061 were filled (May 2011) representing an unused (surplus) capacity of 7.6%. At the secondary phase and for the same period, there were 13 Local Authority maintained mainstream schools across the Borough and 8 Academies. 15 of these schools provide for children and young people aged 11-18 years old with on-site or co-located sixth form education. The total capacity of these schools was 24,562 pupils (May 2011). Of these, 23,351 places were filled at this time, which equated to an unused (surplus) capacity across Cheshire East of less than 5%.

For children and young people with special education needs, there are 4 Local Authority maintained schools and 2 independent schools providing education for 316 pupils. The Local Authority has one 30-place Pupil Referral Unit established in April 2011 located in Crewe which caters for pupils with Special Educational Needs (SEN) and Behaviour, Social and Emotional Difficulty (BESD).

Located in Crewe is the pupil referral unit (PRU). This provision opened on 1 April 2011 for children aged 11-16 and provides 30 pupil places providing interim education for pupils that are unable to attend school due to permanent exclusion, anxious school refusal, pregnancy, medical problems or other exceptional reason. The PRU also supports pupils to reintegrate them into mainstream schools as soon as practicable.

In addition to the Local Authority publicly funded schools, there are 9 independent sector mainstream primary schools and 2 independent mainstream secondary schools. At January 2011, Cheshire East had a total of 4,435 pupils aged 2 to 19 in Independent Education.

The types of schools in Cheshire East include:

Community schools – the most common type, the Local Authority owns and funds the school which is run by school Governors, and the Local Authority employs staff and operates its admissions policy;

Voluntary controlled schools – a charity (e.g. religious institution) will own the school and appoint Governors, but the Local Authority will run the school, fund it, employ staff and operate its admissions policy;

Voluntary aided schools – a charity (e.g. religious institution) will own the school which is run by school Governors and will fund it (possibly with some Local authority support). The Governors will appoint staff and administer the admissions policy in consultation with the Local Authority;

Foundation schools – the school is owned and run by Governors, who also employ staff and operate the admissions policy in consultation with the Local Authority (the Local Authority fund the school);

Trust Schools – this is a local authority maintained foundation school supported by a charitable Trust which can comprise a range of external partners such as schools, businesses, charities, universities and colleges;

Academies – an academy is an all-ability publicly funded independent school established by sponsors from business, faith or voluntary groups working with partners from the local community with freedoms to set their own pay and conditions for staff, freedom from following the National Curriculum and the ability to change the lengths of their terms and school days;

Free Schools – are all-ability, non-profit-making state- funded independent schools. They are set up in response to what local people say they want and need in order to improve education for children in their community. They have the same level of autonomy as Academies;

Special Schools – are state schools which are provided by the local authorities for certain children with special educational needs;

PRUs – are legally a type of school providing education for children of compulsory school age for whom attendance at a mainstream or special school is not an option because of exclusion or other reasons;

Independent schools – Governors own and run the school, employ staff and determine the admissions policy. Pupils are not required to follow the national curriculum, and the school is funded privately (e.g. fees or through charitable trust funds).

New schools can also be established in response to demand and these can include:

Studio Schools - cater for 14 to 19-year-olds, delivering project-based, practical learning alongside mainstream academic study. They are small schools - typically with around 300 pupils - delivering mainstream qualifications through project based learning. Students work with local employers and a personal coach, and follow a curriculum designed to give them the skills and qualifications they need in work or to continue in education.

University Technical Colleges (UTCs) - are Technical Academies for 14-19-year-olds. They offer technical courses and work-related learning, combined with academic studies. Each UTC is sponsored by a university and industry partner and responds to local skills needs. They provide young people with the knowledge and skills they need to progress at 19 into higher or further education, an apprenticeship or employment.

SUMMARY of the SCHOOL ORGANISATION FRAMEWORK

Please refer to the main document for full details.

Overview

In the Autumn of 2010, the Government launched a comprehensive review of all capital investment in schools, early years, colleges and sixth forms. Key issues included how best to meet parental demand; how to make current design and procurement cost-effective and efficient; and included an overhaul of how capital is allocated and targeted. An interim Capital Strategy, which is published on the Local Authority's website at sets out the current priorities. This Strategy will be superseded by a new Strategy informed by the outcome of the James Review.

Changes to local funding formulas are planned by The Department for Education for implementation from 1st April 2013. The direction of travel will be the delivery of funding to schools via pupil led factors wherever possible.

During the period 2001 to 2011, statistics published by The Office for National Statistics (ONS, 2011) show that the number of live births for England and Wales has risen by 22 per cent (despite a small fall between 2008 and 2009) with an annual growth of 2.4 per cent. This increase has implications for local authorities in terms of school place planning.

Demographic pressures nationally can impact on existing patterns of transfer between schools from one local authority to another (cross-border movement). Cheshire East is classed as a 'net importer' of pupils, which means that more families living outside Cheshire East send their children to Cheshire East schools compared with Cheshire East families choosing schools in other areas. The number of families taking up places in neighbouring local authorities may change as unused (surplus) places reduce in those authorities and create an unknown additional pressure on local provision.

In Cheshire East, European Migration has contributed to the movement of pupils 'in year' to schools in some areas. Migration can affect all year groups unlike rising birth rates, which are more likely to move through year groups progressively. In the academic year 2010-2011, 6020 pupils changed schools during the course of the year. This included pupils moving between Cheshire East schools, Cheshire East pupils leaving for schools in other authorities and new admissions into Cheshire East schools of pupils not previously on roll at a Cheshire East school. This 'in year' mobility can only be facilitated where there is a level of unused (surplus) places across the Authority.

New housing developments are recognised as an obvious potential source of increased demand for school places. Uncertainty about the point at which school places will be needed as a consequence of new housing developments presents a major source of risk in the process of planning and providing sufficient school places.

Planning for additional capacity over the derived need will be a priority on the basis that all indications are that demand for school places will continue to grow beyond 2015/16.

Primary School Places

The number of Cheshire East primary aged pupils over the period 2011 and 2016 is forecast to increase by just below 800 pupils representing a 3% increase over this period. Population forecasts indicate that the increased number of primary pupils will continue over the ten year period 2009-2019. The numbers vary from one Local Area Partnership (LAP) to another with the biggest increases in the number of pupils being in Congleton and Crewe. The area with the highest percentage increase over this period is Nantwich with the area forecast to have an additional 4.2% pupils in 2016 compared with 2011. The largest percentage increase from year to year is forecast for September 2013 with approximately 44% of the overall increase occurring at this time. The main areas of concern are the Wilmslow and Crewe LAPs, which for 2010- 2011 indicated only 1% unused (surplus) places in Wilmslow falling to -3% by 2016 and for Crewe, 7% falling to only 3% for the same period.

Secondary School Places

Forecasts indicate that between 2011 and 2016 there will be 1500 less secondary aged pupils. The biggest fall is forecast for the Congleton LAP with it having 49% of the total overall decrease of 1531. This represents a 9.6% fall in the number of pupils for this area. The pattern of unused (surplus) secondary places across the seven LAPs is quite different to that for the primary phase, with all areas showing an increase in the number of unused (surplus) places across this period. For the Wilmslow and Poynton LAPs, the number of unused (surplus) places is low but with forecasts indicating a reduction in the number of pupils for the period 2011-2016. The growth in the number of primary aged pupils will, of course, impact on the secondary sector as those pupils transfer to high schools.

Special Educational Needs

In 2010, the Local Authority began the process of reviewing its arrangements for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND). One of the priority recommendations emerging from the SEND review was the identified need to establish local specialist provision for children and young people with Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC) between the ages of 4 to 19.

Priorities

The Local Authority will

- establish and maintain effective working relationship with schools when carrying out its statutory responsibility for ensuring there are sufficient suitable school places in its area
- undertake consultation with school partnerships when reviewing school places to ensure that headteachers are fully engaged in the process from an early stage
- be committed to ensuring that every parent or carer can choose an excellent school for their child
- take into account the wishes of parents when planning and managing school places
- support the presumption in favour of the expansion of popular and successful schools
- engage with schools and local communities across Cheshire East via the seven Local Area Partnerships (LAPs)
- establish new schools, where possible, as Free Schools or Academies in line with statutory requirements by identifying and working with sponsors and partners
- seek to raise achievement for all learners by:
 - *working with schools to improve the quality of learning, teaching and provision of a personalised curriculum*
 - *supporting and challenging schools in the setting of demanding but realistic targets*
 - *encouraging schools to collaborate in raising expectations, sharing good practice and innovating*
- take into account Office for Standards in Education (Ofsted) inspection reports when reviewing the number of places in an individual school or in a group of schools
- pursue diversity in the provision of school places in order to:
 - *enhance parental choice of schools and maximise the number of places in popular schools*
 - *raise standards of achievement and attainment*
 - *enhance investment in education from a variety of stakeholders*
- support collaborative working between schools to increase freedoms and flexibilities and encourage joint working between providers of education
- maintain a sufficient level of unused (surplus) places to allow for parental preference.
- aim to achieve a target level of no more than 10% unused (surplus) places overall and with a minimum target of 4% at a more local level based on planning areas (school clusters)
- seek to establish any new provision as primary, secondary special or all-through

- aim to provide primary schools with single aged classes wherever possible. It may be necessary to have mixed aged/vertically grouped teaching arrangements in some schools because they are rural schools or due to the wishes of the local community
- seek to establish any new school built as 1 form of entry (FE) with a site and infrastructure suitable for development to 2 FE, as far as possible
- establish new primary schools or extend existing schools beyond 2 forms of entry (420 places) only in very exceptional circumstances
- aim to establish new primary schools with a minimum roll of 90 or more pupils
- aim to establish new secondary schools with a minimum roll of 900 pupils (180 intake) with a site suitable for expansion to a 210/240 intake.
- support federation as an option to secure the sustainability of several schools Consultation is an important part of the process towards federation and collaboration and the responsibility for this lies with existing governing bodies.
- monitor schools with 15% - 25% or more unused (surplus) places. Long term forecasts will be reviewed before any proposals are made to reduce the capacity to take into account future demand due to the potential for growth beyond the five year forecasting period.

Process

The Local Authority's Capital Strategy sets out the capital investment priorities for Children, Families and Adults Services., which are based on the following requirements:

- The provision of sufficient places to meet the needs of local communities;
- The removal of temporary accommodation when funding permits;
- The provision of healthy and safe environments in which pupils and staff can work;
- To meet curricular and organisational needs;
- To enhance physical access to buildings; and implement key strategic initiatives.

To enable the Local Authority to provide value for money, it is recognised that there should be a close link between the supply and demand for school places. Schools could not plan effectively if there were too many unused (surplus) places as patterns of parental preference can change from year to year creating uncertainty and financial pressures. Therefore, a balance needs to be struck between planning what is needed for an area as a whole and planning that enables parents to express meaningful preferences for individual schools.

School places will be monitored on an area basis using Local Area Partnerships (LAPs) and, at a more local level using planning areas (school clusters). Details of these groupings are included as appendix 7 to the main document. The purpose of focusing on LAPs is to identify future demand for each area and not to

restrict this pupil movement. It is also recognised within the overall Framework that schools form planning areas or clusters driven by their location and the pattern of demand from parents and carers for school places. Bi-annual reviews of pupil forecasts will be implemented to ensure demand and supply of school places are closely aligned.

Any proposal to reduce or reorganise provision will involve consideration of a number of factors, including:

- The extent to which a school actually admits pupils from the community (designated catchment or local area) generally served by the school;
- Whether the community is sufficient to sustain the school;
- The physical condition of the school premises;
- The nature of the site, accessibility to it and scope for expansion;
- The school's ability to deliver a full range of curriculum and social experiences.
- The latest Ofsted inspection reports (successful schools)
- The pattern of parental preference (popular schools)

Statutory consultation on proposals for change will be implemented in accordance with DfE guidance and statutory procedures. Proposals for change will always be referred for advice to the Children and Families Scrutiny Panel.

Decisions on School Organisation proposals will be made in accordance with the Local Authority's agreed procedure which provides that decisions to consult and publish statutory notices will be taken by the Individual Portfolio Holder for Children and Families and when considering statutory school reorganisation proposals and non statutory education reorganisation proposals which attract objections, decisions will be taken by a Cabinet Sub Committee.

The Organisation and Capital Strategy Team will maintain a database of all potential and approved housing developments within each Local Area Partnership. Housing developer financial contributions will be sought to fund additional school places arising from new housing. The number of pupils arising from new housing developments (pupil yield) will only be included in pupil forecasts when developer contributions have been agreed as part of the planning process (Section 106 agreements). However, all pupil yields generated from developer enquiries and planning applications will be taken into account in the order they are received when calculating subsequent developer contributions due to their cumulative effect on the demand for school places.

The Local Authority supports federation as an alternative solution for schools facing challenges of size or sustainability as this can deliver immediate benefits for the pupils, staff and community. Federations fall into four major groups:

- Hard Governance Federations - a single governing body shared by all schools and often a single headteacher.
- Soft Governance Federations - each school has its own governing body but the federation has joint governance/ strategic committee with delegated power.
- Soft Federation - each school has its own governing body the federation, however, has joint governance/strategic committee without delegated powers.
- Informal Loose Collaboration -each school has its own governing body and the group of schools meet informally on an ad-hoc basis.

Regardless of the form of federation adopted, all schools:

- retain their separate identity;
- continue to receive individual school budgets;
- have separate OFSTED inspections and
- report on performance individually.

The expectation on local authorities is that they will encourage good schools to expand and for the focus to be on supplying a sufficient number of good places rather than removing unused (surplus) capacity in undersubscribed schools. For the purpose of school place planning, the popularity of a school will be informed primarily by the percentage of children living in a school's catchment area who actually attend that school.

Raising achievement for all learners is one of the key priorities for this Local Authority. Any proposals for the review of the number of places in an individual school or in a group of schools will take into account Office for Standards in Education (Ofsted) inspection reports. Where the Local Authority has a number of possible options for change, standards will be a key consideration in the process and may influence the outcome of any review process.

In this predominantly rural Borough, small schools are considered an essential part of the local education provision where; without such schools, children could have to travel significant distances to the next nearest school. However, it is also recognised that small schools can easily become fragile in terms of both viability and performance. Whilst there is no nationally accepted definition of what level of pupil numbers defines a small school, as a benchmark, Ofsted regards a primary school of 100 pupils as small and 50 as very small. In comparison, The Audit Commission regards primary schools with fewer than 90 children as less cost effective. For secondary schools there is no small school classification, however, the national average is defined as a school with 984 pupils on roll. Generally, a secondary school would be considered smaller than the national average if it had between 600-800 pupils on roll.

Current Government guidance involves a presumption against the closure of small or rural schools. Recommendations to close such schools therefore

require particularly careful consideration. Any review involving small or rural schools will include, as a matter of priority, consideration of:

- the community importance of the schools
- the additional costs involved in running small schools;
- the difference between strong demand for places at a particular school and the evidence of usage by pupils living in a school's designated catchment or local area.

In all cases, where it is identified that changes are necessary, the first consideration will be to the benefits of collaboration and federation.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

All feedback received by **19 October** will be collated and presented in a report to the Council's Cabinet on **10 December** to inform decision making. Once determined, the School Organisation Framework will be implemented from 19 December 2012.

This page is intentionally left blank

Children, Families and Adults Services

School Organisation Plan 2012

DRAFT

Leave page blank

DRAFT

Forward

As the Strategic Commissioner of School Places, the Local Authority has a statutory duty to review provision within its area and to establish future demands. This School Organisation Plan¹ drives the overall School Organisation Framework and provides Cheshire East Council's strategy for ensuring the provision of sufficient and suitable school places for all the children and young people resident in the Borough. This Plan should be considered within the context of the Local Authority's 'Children Families and Adults Plan' 2010-2013, which is the single strategic overarching plan for all services delivering outcomes for children and young people. The Local Authority's vision is that we work together with children, families and adults in Cheshire East ensuring that everyone thrives. The Local Authority values education and learning as a means to achievement recognising that all children have something to offer. A copy of the Children and Families Plan 2010-2013 can be viewed online at www.cheshireeast.gov.uk.

The 2010 Schools White Paper, *The Importance of Teaching*, sought to reform the schools system by freeing schools from Government constraints, reducing bureaucracy and placing teachers at the heart of school improvement. The Education Act 2011 takes forward the legislative proposals in the Schools White paper and supports the Department's commitment to radically reform the schools system by removing unnecessary legal requirements on governing bodies, teachers and local authorities. Under the Education Act 2011, local authorities continue to have a strategic role as commissioner of school places with responsibility for ensuring that all children resident within their area have access to a suitable school place. The new requirements involve local authorities responding to demand through their commissioning role and not as the provider of school places, and working alongside a wide range of partners in meeting future demands.

The Local Authority's Corporate Plan 2011-2013, which is available online at www.cheshireeast.gov.uk, recognises the benefits of partnership working to facilitate a shared understanding of the needs and issues in Cheshire East and to enable a more effective use of public money through a co-ordinated provision of services. In order to ensure effective communications and consultation with local people and partners in respect of school place planning, the Local Authority will engage with its seven Local Area Partnerships (LAPs) of Congleton, Crewe, Knutsford, Macclesfield, Nantwich, Poynton and Wilmslow.

This School Organisation Plan, together with the Local Authority's overall School Organisation Framework, has been subject to consultation with key stakeholders including headteachers and school partnerships, ward members and diocesan authorities.

The Local Authority will only commit to policies and practices which will eradicate discrimination and promote equality for all, regardless of age, gender, disability, religion and belief, race and ethnicity and sexual orientation. This policy will be subject to an Equality Impact and Needs Assessment. This assessment will be integral to all future policy and guidance reviews.

¹ All data and references to Council policy, statutory requirements and Government guidance are correct at the time of writing (October 2011 – Sept 2012).

LEAVE BLANK

DRAFT

KEY ISSUES

Overview

The Local Authority recognises that an effective working relationship with schools is an essential prerequisite for discharging its statutory responsibility in terms of ensuring the provision of school places and is committed to ensuring that every parent or carer ('parent') can choose an excellent school for their child.

The Government has made clear that the wishes of parents should be taken into account when planning and managing school places. Places should be allocated where parents want them, and as such, it should be easier for successful and popular schools to grow to meet parental demand. The role for the Local Authority of encouraging good schools to expand and of commissioning Free Schools or Academies in response to increased demand informs this School Organisation Policy.

The delivery of the Dedicated Schools Grant to local authorities is based on pupil numbers, with higher pupil numbers continuing to deliver increased funding. Changes to local funding formulas are planned by The Department for Education for implementation from 1st April 2013. The direction of travel will be the delivery of funding via pupil led factors wherever possible. Changes for 2013/14 are envisaged to prepare local authorities and schools for the implementation of a National Funding Formula from 2015/16.

The Office for National Statistics (ONS, 2011) shows an annual growth of 2.4 per cent in the number of live births for England and Wales. During the period 2001 to 2011 the number of live births has risen by 22 per cent despite a small fall between 2008 and 2009, which has implications for local authorities in terms of school place planning.

In response to the more recent data published by the Office for National Statistics, which shows that previous projections for population growth were underestimated and that by 2020 there will be 21% more primary aged population than in 2010, it was announced in November 2011 that additional Government funding was being issued to local authorities with the greatest demographic pressures. These projections are based on the Office for National Statistics principal assumptions about levels of fertility, mortality and migration and their impact on the school-aged population. Cheshire East has been identified as one of those local authorities to receive additional funding. Further information is available from the DfE website (<http://www.education.gov.uk/childrenandyoungpeople/strategy/laupdates/a00200040/education-capital>)

Demographic pressures nationally can impact on existing patterns of cross-border movement. Cheshire East is classed as a 'net importer' of pupils, which is derived from a comparison between the number of children resident in other authorities attending a Cheshire East publicly funded school and the number of Cheshire East resident children attending the same category of schools in other authorities. The proportion of parents and carers currently accessing school places in neighbouring local authorities may change as unused (surplus) places reduce in those authorities and create an unknown additional pressure.

In Cheshire East, European Migration has contributed to pupil mobility in relation to schools in some areas. Migration can affect all year groups unlike rising birth rates, which are more likely to move through year groups progressively.

In the academic year 2010-2011, 6020 pupils changed schools during the course of the year. This included pupils moving between Cheshire East schools, Cheshire East pupils leaving for schools in other authorities and new admissions into Cheshire East schools of pupils not previously on roll at a Cheshire East school. This 'in year' mobility can only be facilitated where there is a level of unused (surplus) places across the Authority. The Local Authority recognises the need for effective school place planning to deliver sufficient school places to optimise parental preference, but is also aware of the conflict between having too few unused (surplus) places and the negative impact that this could have on 'in year' movement and parental preference, and on schools and their ability to manage budgets effectively, if too many unused (surplus) places are provided resulting in increased competition and uncertainty.

New housing developments are recognised as an obvious potential source of increased demand for school places. The Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) (2008) set out the strategic planning framework for development in the North West, which included an additional 20,700 homes to be developed in Cheshire East over a fifteen year period. Uncertainty about the point at which school places will be needed as a consequence of new housing developments presents a major source of risk in the process of planning and providing sufficient school places.

Primary School Places

The number of Cheshire East primary aged pupils over the period 2011 and 2016 is forecast to increase by just below 800 pupils representing a 3% increase over this period.

Population forecasts indicate that the increased number of primary pupils will continue over the ten year period 2009-2019.

The numbers vary from one Local Area Partnership (LAP) to another with the biggest increases in the number of pupils being in Congleton and Crewe. The area with the highest percentage increase over this period is Nantwich with the area forecast to have an additional 4.2% pupils in 2016 compared with 2011.

The largest percentage increase from year to year is forecast for September 2013 with approximately 44% of the overall increase occurring at this time.

The areas with the highest increase in pupil numbers for September 2013 are Congleton and Crewe.

The main areas of concerns are the Wilmslow and Crewe LAPs, which for 2010-2011 indicated only 1% unused (surplus) places in Wilmslow falling to -3% by 2016 and for Crewe, 7% falling to only 3% for the same period.

Secondary School Places

Forecasts indicate that between 2011 and 2016 there will be 1500 less secondary aged pupils.

The biggest fall is forecast for the Congleton LAP with it having 49% of the total overall decrease of 1531. This represents a 9.6% fall in the number of pupils for this area.

The pattern of unused (surplus) secondary places across the seven LAPs is quite different to that for the primary phase, with all areas showing an increase in the number of unused (surplus) places across this period.

For the Wilmslow and Poynton LAPs, the number of unused (surplus) places is low but with forecasts indicating a reduction in the number of pupils for the period 2011-2016.

The growth in the number of primary aged pupils will, of course, impact on the secondary sector as those pupils transfer to high schools.

Special Educational Needs

In 2010, the Local Authority began the process of reviewing its arrangements for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND). One of the priority recommendations emerging from the SEND review was the identified need to establish local specialist provision for children and young people with Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC) between the ages of 4 to 19. Subject to member approval, the Local Authority plans to undertake all necessary statutory procedures to establish a new school with a preferred implementation date of September 2013.

Population Figures – To Note

The 2011 Census figures for Cheshire East suggest that the population is much higher than previously thought, with the 2011 Census figures being 6,300 higher than the previous year's estimate. As a consequence, the population estimates and predictions used in this report should be treated with caution as they are based on previous population figures, which are now known to be incorrect. Once the 2011 mid year estimates have been produced, these will inform school place planning procedures. This 2011 population data will be available during 2013.

Additionally, two sets of predictions about the future population are used – projections provided by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) and locally produced forecasts. The projections assume that recent population trends will continue into the future, unconstrained by factors such as the availability of housing. The locally produced forecasts use similar recent trends, however, they do take into account the anticipated future housing supply. The ONS projections are considered as 'policy off' predictions, whereas the local forecasts are 'policy on'. Due to this difference in methodology, the predicted population estimates for these two methods will be different. Caution should be exercised when comparing these two sets of figures.

LEAVE BLANK

DRAFT

Table of Contents

Chapter	Paragraph	Title	Page
		Forward	3
		Key Issues	5
		Summary of Key Policy (Priorities)	11
1		Introduction	13
2		Cheshire East Borough Council	15
	2.1	Background Information	
	2.2	Population	
	2.3	Ethnicity	
	2.4	Live Births	
3		Policies and Strategy	23
	3.1	The Corporate Plan 2011-2013	
	3.2	Children and Families Service Plan (2010-2013)	
	3.3	Children and Families Capital Strategy	
	3.4	School Performance	
	3.5	School to School Support	
	3.6	Increasing Diversity	
	3.7	Federations	
	3.8	Popular and Successful Schools	
	3.9	Policy on Small and Rural Schools	
4		Education	31
	4.1	Introduction	
	4.2	Special Schools	
	4.3	Pupil Referral Unit (PRU)	
	4.4	Small and Rural Schools	
	4.5	Post 16 Provision	
	4.6	Cost per Pupil	
	4.7	Standards and Attainment	
	4.8	Cross Border Movement	
	4.9	Pupil Mobility	
	4.10	School Transport	
	4.11	School Transport – Post 16	
	4.12	Cared for Children	
	4.13	Elective Home Education	
	4.14	Flexible Schooling	
5		Children's Centres	49
6		Early Years and Childcare	51
	6.1	Free Early Education Entitlement	
	6.2	Childcare	
7		School Place Planning	53
	7.1	Introduction	
	7.2	Capital Investment	
	7.3	Housing Developer Contributions	

7.4	Asset Management	
7.5	General Guidelines	
7.6	Working in Partnership	
7.7	Methodology	
7.8	Forecasting	
7.9	Net Capacity Assessments	
7.10	Primary School Reviews	
7.11	Secondary School Reviews	
7.12	Removing Capacity	
7.13	Increasing Capacity	
7.14	Process for Change	
7.15	Decisions on School Organisation Proposals	
7.16	School Delegated Budget	
8	Pupil Forecasts	69
8.1	Mainstream Primary Schools	
8.2	Mainstream Secondary Schools	
8.3	Unused (Surplus) Places	
8.4	Commitments for 2011-2012	
9	Conclusion	77
Appendices		
1	CE Rurality Classification Maps Aug 2011	
2	National Population Forecasts	
3	2009 Based Population Forecasts	
4	Ethnic Minority Groups (EMG)	
5	Reception Pupils Graph 2000 to 2016	
6	Local Area Partnership (LAP) Map	
7	List of Schools – Rurality	
8	Secondary School Provision	
9	Cost per Pupil Summary	
10	Budget Share per Pupil 2011-2012	
11	Cross Border Movement	
12	Pupil Mobility 2010	
13	School Planning Areas/School Clusters	
14	LAP Reception Vacancies 2011	
15	LAP Year 7 Vacancies 2011	
16	Unused (Surplus) Forecasts	
Annex	Analysis of School Places 2011	

Summary of Key Policy (Priorities)

School places will be monitored on an area basis using Local Area Partnerships and, at a more local level using planning areas or school clusters.

Bi-annual reviews of pupil forecasts will be implemented to ensure demand and supply of school places are closely aligned and in accordance with the targets set out on this Plan. The implications of a movement to October rather than January Pupil counts dates, as referenced in the recent funding consultation, will need to be considered when determining the timing of these reviews, particularly with respect to any associated funding implications.

Maintaining a sufficient level of unused (surplus) places is important to allow for parental preference. Increased demand for places in the primary sector requires changes in some areas due to low levels of unused (surplus) places and insufficient places in some year groups to meet demand. At secondary level, current unused (surplus) places need to be protected so that they will be available when they are needed, as primary growth feeds through.

It is prudent to plan for additional capacity over the derived need on the basis that all indications are that demand will continue to grow beyond 2015/16. A figure of between 5 and 10 per cent is suggested by the Audit Commission, with 10% considered realistic. (The Audit Commission, 2010). The Local Authority will aim to achieve a target level of no more than 10% unused (surplus) places overall and with a minimum target of 4% at a more local level based on school clusters/planning areas.

New schools will be established, where possible, as Free Schools or Academies in line with statutory requirements.

The general presumption will be that any new provision will be primary, secondary special or all-through.

Priority will be to provide primary schools with single aged classes wherever possible. It may be necessary to have mixed aged/vertically grouped teaching arrangements in some schools because they are rural schools or due to the wishes of the local community.

Any school built as 1 form of entry (FE) should, if possible, have a site and infrastructure suitable for development to 2 FE. Only in very exceptional circumstances should primary schools be built or developed beyond 2 FE (420 places).

Primary schools should have a minimum roll of 90 or more pupils.

New secondary schools should have a minimum intake of 180 pupils with a site suitable for expansion to a 210/240 intake.

Any proposal to reduce or reorganise provision will involve consideration of a number of factors, including:

- The extent to which a school actually admits pupils from the community (designated catchment or local area) generally served by the school;

- Whether the community is sufficient to sustain the school;
- The physical condition of the school premises;
- The nature of the site, accessibility to it and scope for expansion;
- The school's ability to deliver a full range of curriculum and social experiences.
- The pattern of parental preference (popular schools)
- The latest Ofsted inspection reports (successful schools)

Any proposed reorganisation involving a small or rural school will also include consideration of:

- The community importance of schools
- The additional costs involved in running small schools;
- The difference between strong demand for places at a particular school and the evidence of usage by pupils living in a school's designated catchment or local area.
- In all cases, where it is identified that changes are necessary, the first consideration will be to the benefits of collaboration and federation.

The Local Authority's Capital Strategy sets out the capital investment priorities for Children, Families and Adults Services.

Developer contributions will be sought to fund additional provision arising from new housing as outlined in the Local Authority's agreed Section 106 policy.

The pupil yield arising from new housing developments will only be included in pupil forecasts when Section 106 agreements have been signed to ensure effective planning and implementation to meet future demand. However, all pupil yields generated from developer enquiries and planning applications will be taken into account in the order they are received when calculating subsequent developer contributions due to their cumulative effect on the demand for school places.

The Organisation and Capital Strategy Team will maintain a database of all potential and approved housing developments within each Local Area Partnership to inform planning.

Statutory consultation on proposals for change will be implemented in accordance with DfE guidance and statutory procedures

Proposals will always be referred for advice to the Children and Families Scrutiny Panel.

Decisions on School Organisation proposals will be made in accordance with the Local Authority's agreed procedure.

1 Introduction

- 1.1 Cheshire East Local Authority has a statutory duty to commission sufficient school places for children resident in its area. The Education Act 2006 requires local authorities to promote fair access to educational opportunity, high standards and pupil achievement, to increase opportunities for parental choice and respond to parental representations and secure diversity in the provision of schools when planning the provision of school places.
- 1.2 On 24 November 2010, the Secretary of State for Education, Michael Gove, introduced the schools White Paper, *The Importance of Teaching*, which outlined the Government's priority for local authorities of focussing on the supply of enough good places rather than removing unused (surplus) capacity. The Government's role for local authorities of encouraging good schools to expand and of commissioning Free Schools or Academies in response to demand informs this School Organisation Policy.
- 1.3 This five year Plan drives the Local Authority's approved Capital Strategy, which is published on the Local Authority's website at www.cheshireeast.gov.uk . The Policy provides the strategy out of which discussions can take place and decisions can be made and acted upon by the Local Authority, the Diocesan Boards of Education, other promoters and individual schools. The Local Authority's agreed procedure for decision-making in respect of school organisation proposals is referred to within this Policy, including the procedures required by law or Government guidance for making changes such as opening, closing or expanding schools.
- 1.4 To contribute to the Local Authority's five year pupil forecasting, the overall School Organisation Framework provides specific information about Cheshire East publicly funded schools including special schools, the pupil referral unit (PRU) and the maintained nursery school. This includes the number of school places available and the number of pupils on roll. In addition, it includes data on population, live births, housing (anticipated and forecasts) and cross border movement.
- 1.5 To enable the Local Authority to comply with its duty to commission sufficient suitable school places and to ensure that the standard of provision in schools meets national requirements and the needs of its residents, it will engage with schools and local communities across Cheshire East via the seven Local Area Partnerships (LAPs). This is to ensure the delivery of cost effective quality provision and the best opportunities for children and young people at a local level in line with the Local Authority's Corporate Plan.
- 1.6 Through the coordinated admissions process, parents and carers express preferences for schools of their choice and this, together with oversubscription in some schools, can result in movement within local areas and between them. The purpose of focusing on LAPs is to identify future demand for each area and not to restrict this pupil movement. It is also recognised within the overall Framework that schools form planning areas or clusters driven by their location and the pattern of demand from parents and carers for school places.

Leave page blank

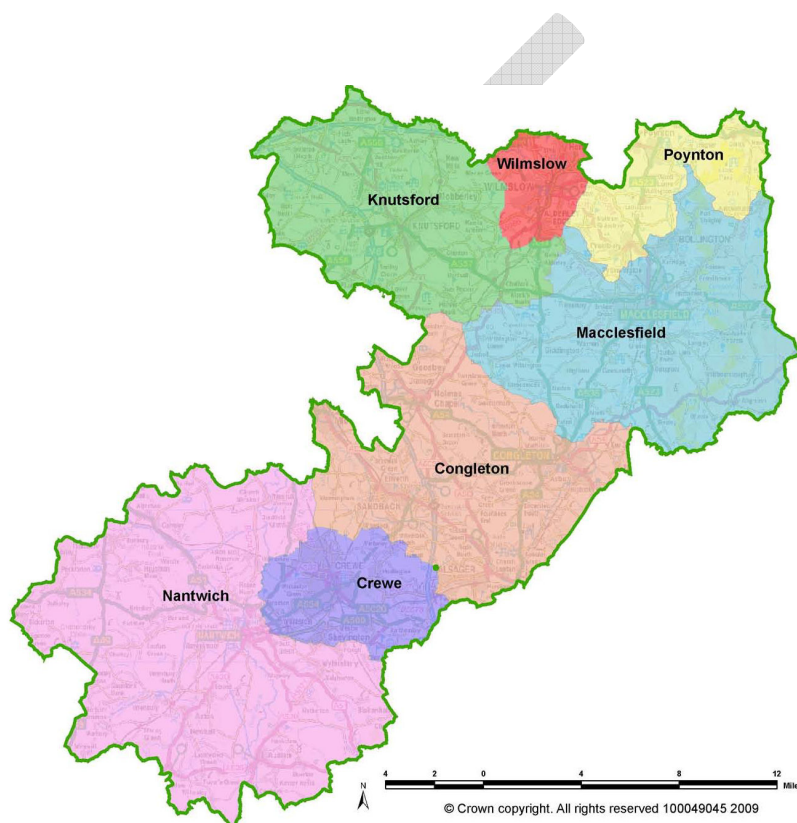
DRAFT

2 Cheshire East Borough Council

2.1 Background Information

- 2.1.1 Following local government reorganisation of the seven Cheshire councils, Cheshire East Borough Council came into existence on 1 April 2009 as a unitary authority comprising the former borough councils of Congleton, Crewe and Nantwich and Macclesfield, and the former Cheshire County Council. It is surrounded by 10 neighbouring authorities along with its newest neighbour of Cheshire West and Chester Council, which was also created following the Cheshire area reorganisation.

Map 1. Cheshire East Borough Council



- 2.1.2 Cheshire East is located in the north-west of England and is the third largest unitary authority in this region. It has an area of 1,116km², an electorate of over 280,000 and a population of approximately 364,300 (January 2011).
- 2.1.3 It is a predominantly rural area as can be seen on the map attached as **Appendix 1**. However, the majority of the population reside in the Borough's urban areas with just over 78% of the population living in areas designated as urban settlements with a population greater than 10,000 (Table 1 below).

Table 1. Cheshire East Rurality

AREA	TOTAL	%
Hamlet, Isolated Dwelling	19120	5.3%
Town and Fringe	31880	8.8%
Urban plus 10K and Less Sparse	283250	78.1%
Village Less Sparse	28450	7.8%
Total	362700	

Source: 2009 mid-year population estimates, Cheshire West and Chester Council.

- 2.1.4 The majority of the Cheshire East population is concentrated in the areas in and around the 10 towns of Alsager, Congleton, Crewe, Knutsford, Macclesfield, Middlewich, Nantwich, Poynton, Sandbach and Wilmslow. Table 2 below shows the total population for these predominantly urban areas and this represents 67% of the total population of 362,700.

Table 2. Population by LAP

LAP	AREA	TOTAL POPULATION
Congleton	Alsager	12230
	Congleton	26520
	Middlewich	13800
	Sandbach	17820
	Total	70370
Crewe	Crewe	50320
	Total	50320
Knutsford	Knutsford	12580
	Total	12580
Macclesfield	Macclesfield	50040
	Total	50040
Nantwich	Nantwich	14440
	Total	14440
Poynton	Poynton-with-Worth	14200
	Total	14200
Wilmslow	Wilmslow	30870
	Total	30870
	Overall Total	242820

Source: 2009 mid-year population estimates, Cheshire West and Chester Council.

2.2 Population

- 2.2.1 Nationally, the population of all Government Office Regions is projected to rise over the ten year period 2008 to 2018. The East is projected to be the fastest growing English region over this period with the projected to increase by 10 per cent over the decade to 2018, rising by over 0.5 million to 6.3 million. **(see Appendix 2)** Over the same period, the population of five other regions (London, Yorkshire and The Humber, South West, East Midlands and South East) are also projected to increase by 8 per cent or more. In contrast, the North West and North East are projected to have the smallest percentage increases in population between 2008 and 2018.
- 2.2.2 The 2009 Cheshire East population of 362,700 was forecast to steadily increase over the 20 year period (2009-2029) to over 380,000 (see Table 3 below). This represents a 6% increase in the total population over this period. The number of people aged 65 or above will increase by over 50% from 68,400 in 2009 to over 108,500 in 2029; the number of people aged 85 or above will more than double over the next twenty years, increasing from around 9,300 in 2009 to over 20,000 in 2029. The base for the forecasts is the 2009 mid-year estimate of population produced by the Office for National Statistics.

Table 3. Population Forecasts

	2009	2014	2019	2024	2029
Population (thousands)	362.7	365.8	369.8	376.5	384

Cheshire East, Population Forecasts, Jan 2011

- 2.2.3 In contrast, the number of children (between the age range 0-15) will decrease by approximately 4% over the next twenty years. However, as the number of children in each age group fluctuates reflecting past birth rates, the changes will vary within each age group with the largest overall decrease of 7% being in the 11-15 age range and the largest increase of 3% over the next 10 years being in the 5-10 age range. This increase is forecast to start around 2011 resulting in greater demand for school places over this period. **(Appendix 3)**

Table 4 Population Forecasts by Age Range

	Population (thousands)			% change	
Age range	2009	2019	2029	2009-19	2009-29
0-4	20.0	18.5	18.9	-8%	-6%
5-10	23.9	24.6	23.9	+3%	+0%
11-15	22.0	21.3	20.5	-3%	-7%
0-15	66.0	64.4	63.3	-2%	-4%

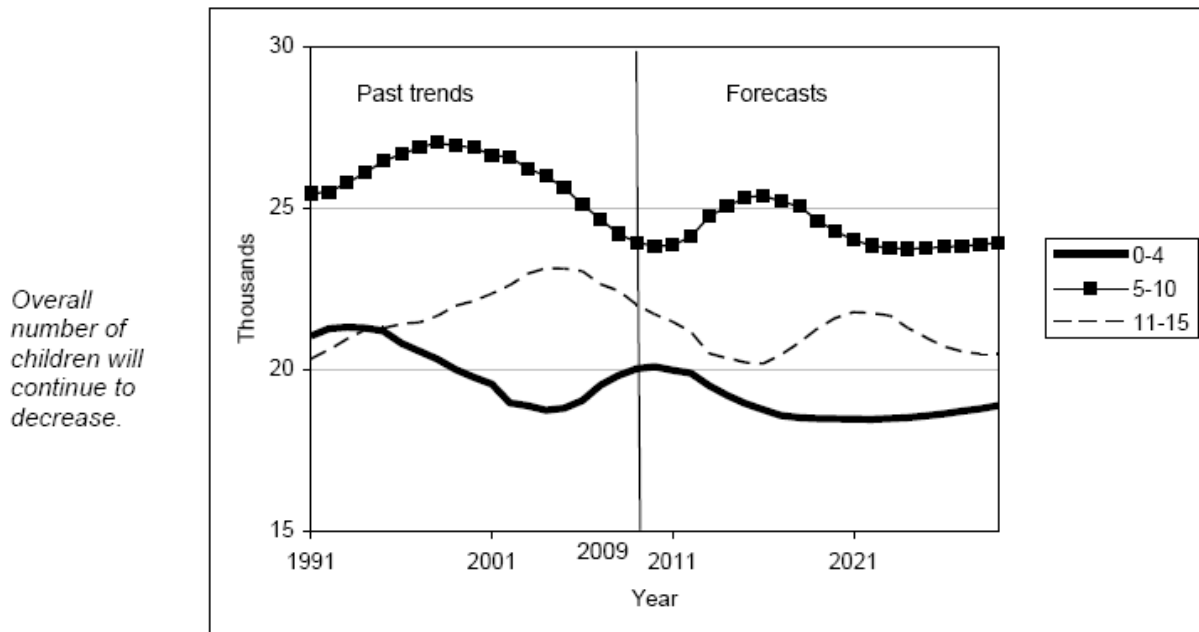
Cheshire East, Population Forecasts, Jan 2011

- 2.2.4 After 2016 forecasts indicate a return to decreasing populations within the 0-15 age range with a return by 2029 to the same number of Cheshire East 5-

10 year olds as there were in 2009 and 4% less children within the age range 0-15 overall.

- 2.2.5 Graph 1 below illustrates the overall pattern of decline between 1991 and 2029 in the number of children within the age ranges 0-4 years and 5-10 years. The pattern for children within the 11-15 age group illustrates that numbers forecast for 2029 are comparative with those in 1991, but with a continuation of the general pattern of a downward trend.

Graph 1. Past Trends and Forecasts by Age Range



Cheshire East, Population Forecasts, Jan 2011

- 2.2.6 Population estimates, based on the Office for National Statistics 2007 to 2016 mid-year estimates, are shown below by Local Area Partnership (LAP) and include all ages. The data shows that the increase in the population over this period will be in the Congleton, Crewe, Macclesfield and Nantwich local areas with a small increase in Wilmslow.

Table 5 Population Estimates by LAP

Local Area Partnership	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2007 - 2017 change
Congleton	92,600	93,000	93,300	93,600	93,900	94,200	94,500	94,700	94,900	95,100	95,400	2,800
Crewe	82,100	82,400	82,700	83,000	83,200	83,400	83,700	83,900	84,200	84,400	84,600	2,500
Knutsford	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	24,900	24,900	24,900	24,800	24,800	-200
Macclesfield	67,600	67,900	68,100	68,400	68,700	69,000	69,300	69,600	69,900	70,200	70,500	2,900
Nantwich	34,500	34,800	35,100	35,400	35,600	35,900	36,100	36,300	36,600	36,800	37,000	2,500
Poynton	23,700	23,700	23,700	23,700	23,700	23,800	23,700	23,700	23,700	23,700	23,700	0
Wilmslow	35,200	35,300	35,300	35,300	35,400	35,400	35,500	35,500	35,500	35,500	35,600	400
Cheshire East	360,700	362,100	363,200	364,400	365,500	366,700	367,700	368,600	369,700	370,500	371,600	10,900

Data source: Population Forecasts produced for Cheshire East by Cheshire West and Chester

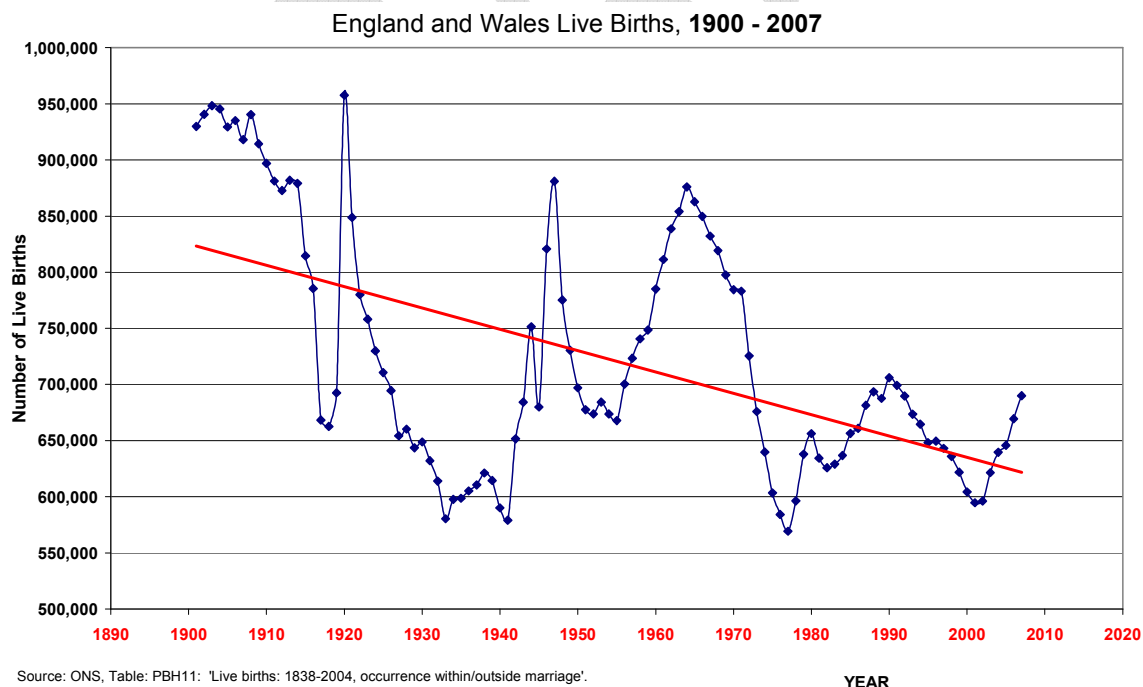
2.3 Ethnicity

- 2.3.1 The school population has seen an increase in the number of ethnic minority groups (EMG) over this period with a noticeable increase between 2007 and 2008 from 3936 EMG pupils to 5747. The total overall increase across the period 2007 to 2011 is 1288 with the numbers decreasing after 2008 and rising again in 2011 to 5224. **(Appendix 4).**
- 2.3.2 In 2007, the proportion of ethnic minority groups attending all Cheshire East schools was only 7.8%, which is much lower than the percentage for England at this time of 20%. By 2011, Cheshire East saw an increase to 10.4% compared with 24.3% nationally and therefore less than half the national level. However, for some areas, demographic changes have been significant. For example, Crewe and Wilmslow LAPs have seen the biggest change with Crewe having 16.8% EMG in 2007 but increasing to 23.8% in 2011, which is comparative with the national level. Wilmslow has also seen an increase from 10.2% in 2007 to 18.1% in 2011.

2.4 Live Births

- 2.4.1 Demographic data provided by the Office of National Statistics (ONS) illustrates a steady, long-term national decline over the last 100 years in England and Wales in the overall number of live births, with a number of peaks and troughs across the decades. This is shown in Graph 2 below.

Graph 2. Live Births 1900-2007



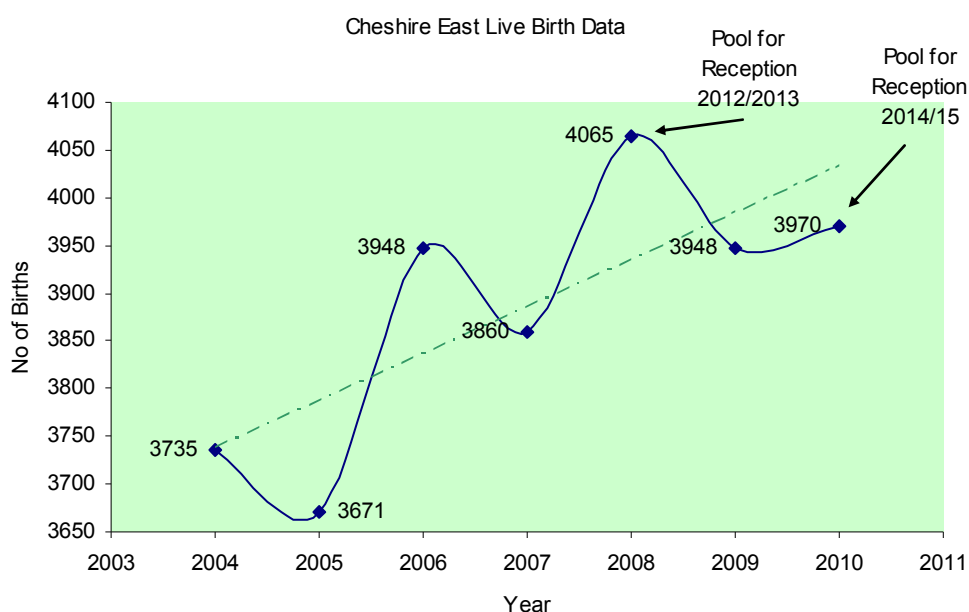
- 2.4.2 More recently, the number of live births nationally has been steadily increasing, as illustrated in Table 6 below, with an increase over this period of 83444 live births representing a 13% increase nationally.

Table 6. National Live Births 2004-2010

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
National	639,721	645,835	669,601	690,013	708,711	706,248	723,165

Data Source: Live Birth Data ONS

- 2.4.3 As there is a strong relationship between the number of live births and the subsequent level of demand for school places, any change in trends can have significant implications for the Local Authority in its strategic role as Commissioner of School Places. Graph 3 below shows the potential increase in demand for reception class places by September 2012 using Cheshire East live birth data, with approximately 400 more pupils than for September 2009. Whilst the graph illustrates that after 2012 the numbers will fall, the overall trend is for numbers to rise again for 2014 and possibly beyond.

Graph 3 Live Birth Trends 2004-2010

- 2.4.4 **Appendix 5** illustrates the increasing pressure on primary school places from 2010 due to reduced school capacity across the Borough, primarily between 2006 and 2010, and the increasing demand for school places over the same period. Whilst the overall impact on Cheshire East will be an increase in the number of primary aged pupils between 2006 and 2012, there is a difference in projections across the Local Authority's area with live births increasing more in some localities than in others as illustrated below. All of this has implications for the Local Authority in planning school places to meet demand over the period of the Plan 2011- 2016.
- 2.4.5 It is interesting to note the variance between pupil forecasts for 2008 to 2012 and the actual reception class pupil numbers and revised forecasts based on the birth rate admission pool. This data illustrates the anticipated pressure on reception class places from 2010. Further analysis involving historical trends to predict longer term forecasts is therefore essential to ensure sustainable provision for the future.

- 2.4.6 When compared to the national picture of a 13% increase over the period 2004-2010, Cheshire East birth rates represent only half this at just over 6%. However, the number of live births varies from one district to another with Crewe and Nantwich seeing an increase of 14% over this period compared with Congleton, which has seen a reduction at -3.9% (see Table 7 below).

Table 7. Live Birth Data by Former District Council

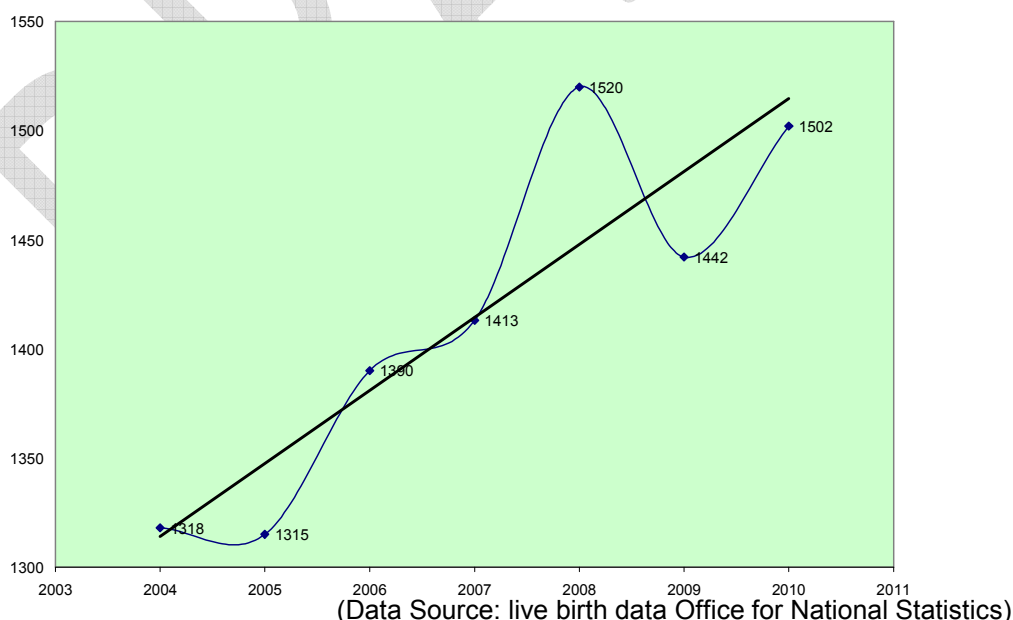
Former Districts Live Births	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Change 04 -10	% change 04 – 10
Congleton	873	866	931	898	907	885	839	-34	-3.9%
Crewe and Nantwich	1318	1315	1390	1413	1520	1442	1502	184	14.0%
Macclesfield	1544	1490	1627	1549	1638	1621	1629	85	5.5%
Cheshire East	3735	3671	3948	3860	4065	3948	3970	235	6.3%

Data Sources: live birth data Office for National Statistics

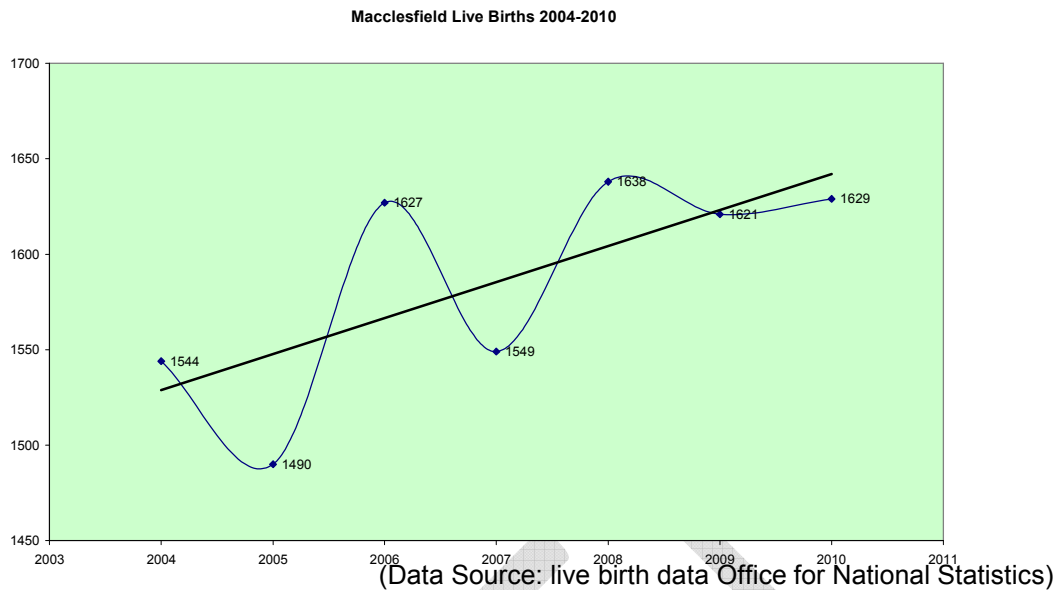
- 2.4.7 Graph 4 illustrates the changes over this period in the number of live births for Crewe and Nantwich, which has seen an increase above the national level of 13% at 14%. This increase represents 78% of the total increase for Cheshire East.

Graph 4 Crewe and Nantwich Live births 2004-2010

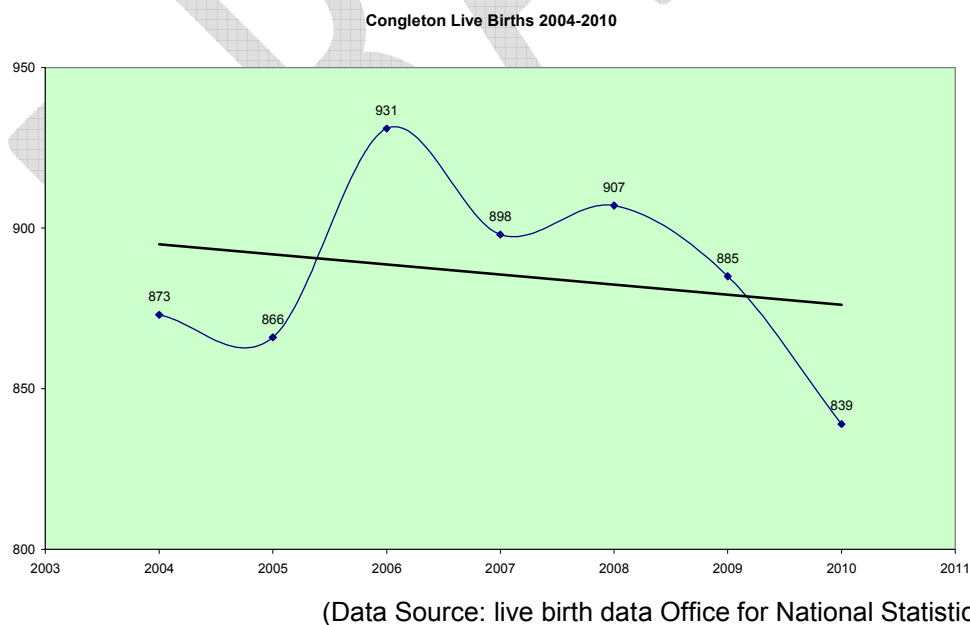
Crewe and Nantwich Live Births 2004-2010



- 2.4.8 Macclesfield has also seen an increase at 5.5% with an additional 85 live births over this period. This represents 36% of the Cheshire East net gain of 235 live births. (Graph 5)

Graph 5 Macclesfield Live Births 2004-2010

2.4.9 By contrast, for Congleton the position is the reverse with a fall in the number of live births by 3.9% between 2004 and 2010. This reduction means that whilst overall there is a net gain across Cheshire East of 235 live births over this period, the actual increase for Macclesfield and Crewe and Nantwich combined is 269.

Graph 6 Congleton Live Births 2004-2010

3 Policies and Strategy

3.1 The Corporate Plan 2011-2013

- 3.1.1 The Corporate Plan recognises the benefits of partnership working to enable a more effective use of public money through a co-ordinated provision of services. In order to ensure effective communications and consultation with local people and partners in respect of school place planning, the Local Authority will engage with its seven Local Area Partnerships of Congleton, Crewe, Knutsford, Macclesfield, Nantwich, Poynton and Wilmslow. A map illustrating the schools within each Local Area Partnership is attached as **Appendix 6**
- 3.1.2 The purpose of LAPs is to help improve services, to ensure that local people are able to influence decision making, and to actively engage and empower communities. LAPs bring together a wide range of partner organisations and individuals from the statutory, voluntary and community sectors and; by working together, they focus on delivering improved outcomes for local people and places. Information about LAPs is published on the Local Authority's website at www.cheshireeast.gov.uk .
- 3.1.3 Each Local Area Partnership (LAP) holds 4 Assemblies a year to engage the wider community and local partners in the work of the LAP. Area Assemblies are open to and involve anyone who has an interest in making the area better. The purpose of the Area Assemblies is to:
- Engage the wider community in the work of the LAP
 - Engage a wide range of local partners
 - Listen to community issues to inform future work
 - Develop local priorities
 - Set course of action which is detailed in the Area Plan
 - Capture local concerns requiring an immediate response
 - Receive and discuss up-dates from current projects and working groups
 - Act as a body for consultation about local issues and developments.
- 3.1.4 Across these local areas, where school partnerships have been formed, these will serve as the focus for discussion with schools and for consultation on school place planning matters to ensure that local needs are considered and high quality cost effective measures are proposed to meet changes in demand.

3.2 Children and Families Service Plan (2010-2013)

- 3.2.1 Following local government reorganisation and the establishment of Cheshire East Council in 2009, the Local Authority's service for Children and Families was formed. The Cheshire East Children and Families Service Plan (2010-2013) is the Authority's overarching strategy, which includes key priorities and identifies actions necessary to improve outcomes for children and young people in Cheshire East. This Plan sets out the Local Authority's vision for Children and Families in Cheshire East to have:
- A place where all children and young people are supported well to maximise their life choices

- Responsive, locally based services, that make sense to children, young people and their families, that address their needs early
- A place where no child is left behind because organisations do not work together.

3.2.2 The School Organisation Plan contributes to this by demonstrating how the Council will ensure that sufficient and suitable school places in good schools are available for all the children and young people resident in the Borough.

3.3 Children and Families Capital Strategy

3.3.1 In the Autumn of 2010, the Government launched a comprehensive review of all capital investment in schools, early years, colleges and sixth forms. The objective of the James Review; led by Sebastian James, Group Operations Director of DSG international plc, was to provide a guide for future spending decisions over the Spending Review period 2011-12 to 2014-15. Key issues included how best to meet parental demand; how to make current design and procurement cost-effective and efficient; and included an overhaul of how capital is allocated and targeted.

3.3.2 An interim Capital Strategy, which is published on the Local Authority's website at www.cheshireeast.gov.uk, sets out the current priorities for Cheshire East Council's Children, Families and Adults Service. This Strategy will be superseded by a new Strategy informed by the outcome of the James Review.

3.4 School Performance

3.4.1 The Schools White Paper, *The Importance of Teaching* highlighted the role for local authorities of ensuring that the school system works for every family by promoting a good supply of strong schools and with local authorities expected to identify and work with sponsors and partners who will take over weaker schools and transform them into Academies. The Education Act 2011 introduces these new priorities from February 2012.

3.4.2 The Local Authority's agreed School Improvement Strategy will inform process to ensure that outcomes and improvement targets identified in the strategy are not undermined.

3.4.3 Raising achievement for all learners is one of the key policy priorities for Cheshire East Borough Council. This is done by:

- working with schools to improve the quality of learning, teaching and provision of a personalised curriculum;
- supporting and challenging schools in the setting of demanding but realistic targets;
- encouraging schools to collaborate in raising expectations, sharing good practice and innovating.

3.4.4 Any proposals for the review of the number of places in an individual school or in a group of schools will take into account Office for Standards in Education (Ofsted) inspection reports. There will be prompt intervention in schools providing poor quality education and the Local Authority has developed triggers for the identification of such schools.

3.5 School to School Support

- 3.5.1 Most schools are able to develop as successful and improving organisations with relatively little external help. Recent changes to national initiatives has highlighted the need to create highly effective School to School support programmes which are being led through the National College for School leadership (NCSL).
- 3.5.2 Central to this initiative is the emerging role of Teaching Schools who have been identified to lead of a wide range of school improvement programmes. Cheshire East currently has 3 Teaching Schools which the Local Authority is working closely with these Schools to deploy and broker packages of support.
- 3.5.3 There are, however, a small number of schools which experience particular difficulties and become a cause for concern. The Local Authority uses the monitoring data (described in its School Improvement Strategy) to anticipate where there might be cause for concern. The Local Authority provides support and challenge and intervenes in these schools within the guidance set out in DfE's statutory guidance on Schools Causing Concern (SCC).
- 3.5.4 In Cheshire East, our SCC policy is called Improving Outcomes Programme and the overall objective of this programme is to reach the position where there are no schools requiring special measures or with a notice to improve in Cheshire East. The Local Authority will consider a range of information (key data) to identify schools which would fall into special measures or require a notice to improve if they were inspected, in order to act to prevent failure at the earliest possible stage.

3.6 Increasing Diversity

- 3.6.1 Cheshire East is committed to pursuing diversity in the provision of school places in order to:
- enhance parental choice of schools and maximise the number of places in popular schools;
 - raise standards of achievement and attainment;
 - enhance investment in education from a variety of stakeholders.
- 3.6.2 *The Importance of Teaching* (2010) set out the Coalition Government's aim of increasing the autonomy of schools and promoting collaborative working driven by school leaders and teachers. Collaboration is seen as the key to narrowing the attainment gap between deprived pupils and others.
- 3.6.3 Local authorities, as champions for parents, families and vulnerable pupils, are seen as having a strategic role in the process of increasing diversity, promoting educational excellence by ensuring a good supply of high quality school places, co-ordinating fair admissions and developing their own school improvement strategies to support local schools. Schools will themselves be able to choose how best to develop having autonomy and new freedoms to manage. They are encouraged to develop their own distinctive identity, such as through Specialist School status, increasing diversity across an area.

- 3.6.4 Under The Education White Paper, conversion to Academy status is available for the best schools, subject to collaborative working with less successful schools to help them improve. However, all schools will be able to become Academies by joining federations, Academy chains or multi-school trusts. Where teachers, parents and charities identify gaps in provision, they will have the opportunity to open new schools where there is a clear demand.
- 3.6.5 Where local authorities identify the need for a new school, legislation will require that, in the first instance, Academies should be established. The process for commissioning new schools will therefore involve the implementation of a procedure for seeking bids from Academy sponsors.

3.7 Federations

- 3.7.1 Under sections 24, 25 and 26 of the Education Act 2002, governing bodies of maintained schools are entitled to collaborate in different ways, ranging from joint committees and joint governing body meetings to federations under a single governing body. Closer collaborative working between schools is part of the Coalition Government's drive to increase freedoms and flexibilities and encourage joint working between providers of education. Guidance on the federation regulations is available on the Department for Education's website at www.education.gov.uk
- 3.7.2 The guidance indicates that a federation can be two or more schools with a formal agreement to work together to raise standards, or where there is a joint governing body as specified in the Education Act 2002
- 3.7.3 The Local Authority cannot oblige schools to federate but it can suggest this as an option to secure the sustainability of several schools. Federations can be a popular choice for governing bodies when their schools are facing challenges of size or sustainability with immediate benefits for the pupils, staff and community.
- 3.7.4 Federations fall into four major groups:
- **Hard Governance Federations** - a single governing body shared by all schools and often a single headteacher.
 - **Soft Governance Federations** - each school has its own governing body but the federation has joint governance/ strategic committee with delegated power.
 - **Soft Federation** - each school has its own governing body the federation, however, has joint governance/strategic committee without delegated powers.
 - **Informal Loose Collaboration** -each school has its own governing body and the group of schools meet informally on an ad-hoc basis.
- 3.7.5 Regardless of the form of federation adopted, all schools:
- retain their separate identity;
 - continue to receive individual school budgets;
 - have separate OFSTED inspections and
 - report on performance individually.

3.7.6 Consultation is an important part of the process towards federation and collaboration and the responsibility for this lies with existing governing bodies. The federation regulations provide that schools wishing to federate must first consult interested parties in the area including parents, staff at the schools and their local authority. During consultation, governing bodies are required to specify,

- the schools involved
- the proposed date of federation
- the proposed size of the governing body
- the proposed numbers of each stakeholder group
- the proposed arrangements for staffing (that is, whether there will be a headteacher of more than one school and whether other staff will work at more than one school)
- other details.

3.7.7 Collaborative or federated arrangements should enable innovative approaches to raising standards, improving teaching and learning and improving leadership to be explored. This should be achieved through:

- Schools learning from each other and sharing good practice
- Joint staff appointments and shared staff
- Coherent staff training and professional development
- Better support for governors
- Cost effectiveness and economies of scale
- A more coherent and better managed curriculum

3.8 Popular and Successful Schools

3.8.1 The Government is committed to a diverse school system characterised by improving standards and increased choice for parents and pupils. The Education White Paper outlined the expectation on local authorities to encourage good schools to expand and for the focus to be on supplying a sufficient number of good places rather than removing unused (surplus) capacity in undersubscribed schools. The Education Act 2011 introduced these requirements from February 2012.

3.8.2 For the purpose of school place planning, popularity will be informed primarily by the percentage of children living in a school's catchment area who actually attend that school, rather than any other alternative. This could also be taken as a plausible indicator of parental preference. It is recognised that not all schools have designated catchment areas, for example some faith schools and Academies serve named feeder schools as a priority. For these schools, consideration will be given to the percentage of local children living in the area normally served by the school.

3.8.3 Raising achievement for all learners is one of the key policy priorities for Cheshire East Borough Council. Any proposals for the review of the number of places in an individual school or in a group of schools will take into account Office for Standards in Education (Ofsted) inspection reports. This does not mean that only good or outstanding schools will be proposed for growth. However, where the Local Authority has a number of possible options for

change, standards will be a key consideration in the process and may influence the outcome of any review process.

- 3.8.4 When considering increases or reductions in published admission numbers (PANs); which determine the number of pupils to be admitted into the relevant year group (which for Cheshire East includes the reception class in a primary school, year 7 in a secondary school and in some cases, year 12 into a sixth form), and which should be set based on the school's net capacity, the process for change will be implemented in line with legal requirements as set out in the School Admissions Code.

3.9 Policy on Small and Rural Schools

- 3.9.1 Cheshire East Council recognises the value that a small school can contribute to its local community and the importance of retaining this. In this predominantly rural Borough, small schools are considered an essential part of the local education provision where; without such schools, children could have to travel significant distances to the next nearest school. However, it is also recognised that small schools can easily become fragile in terms of both viability and performance.
- 3.9.2 The Cheshire East Scrutiny Review Panel (October 2009) noted that parents are aware that small schools attract a proportionally greater level of resource than larger schools and, in many cases, they tend to choose such schools for their children because of expectations that educational standards will be higher in such an environment. However, the Panel raised an important issue of equity with observations made about the diversion of funding in such cases from the majority of pupils to a minority, which is considered questionable in those cases where a school may not be serving its local community.
- 3.9.3 Whilst there is no nationally accepted definition of what level of pupil numbers defines a small school, as a benchmark, Ofsted regards a primary school of 100 pupils as small and 50 as very small. In comparison, The Audit Commission regards primary schools with fewer than 90 children as less cost effective as these schools cost more per pupil and also receive additional allowances via the Schools Funding Formula (LMS).
- 3.9.4 For secondary schools there is no small school classification, however, the national average is defined as a school with 984 pupils on roll. This is based on secondary schools within the range of 38-2620 pupils. Generally, a secondary school would be considered smaller than the national average if it had between 600-800 pupils on roll.
- 3.9.5 Current Government guidance involves a presumption against the closure of small or rural schools. Recommendations to close such schools therefore require particularly careful consideration. Minister of State (Schools), Nick Gibb, in a Westminster Hall debate held on 18 February 2012 (Hansard 2012): confirmed that of 18,500 maintained schools, 5400 are rural schools and of 2800 maintained small schools (Primary <100 pupils, Secondary <600 pupils) 2300 are rural schools. Of those 525 have fewer than 50 pupils. In the debate the Minister confirmed
- the Government's continuing commitment to the policy of presumption against the closing of rural schools;

- that the government is working to ensure that the number of rural school closures is kept to a minimum
- that the new funding formula is intended to protect small schools.

3.9.6 Any review involving small or rural schools will include, as a matter of priority, consideration of:

- the community importance of the schools
- the additional costs involved in running small schools;
- the difference between strong demand for places at a particular school and the evidence of usage by pupils living in a school's designated catchment or local area.

3.9.7 In all cases, where it is identified that changes are necessary, the first consideration will be to the benefits of collaboration and federation.

DRAFT

Leave blank

DRAFT

4 Education

4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 Under *The Education Act 1996*, parents and carers have a duty to ensure that their children receive full time education between the ages of 5 and 16 and that this can be in school or otherwise (i.e. home education). In Cheshire East, the vast majority of parents and carers choose to send their children to school and, in order that this is an option to them, local authorities have a statutory duty to ensure that they have sufficient school places to meet demand.
- 4.1.2 At 1 September 2011, across the Borough there were 122 Local Authority maintained mainstream primary schools and 2 mainstream Academies. These schools have a combined capacity of 28,195 places, of which 26,061 are filled (according to the latest school census, May 2011) representing an unused (surplus) capacity of 7.6%.
- 4.1.3 At the secondary phase and for the same period, there were 13 Local Authority maintained mainstream schools across the Borough and 8 Academies. 15 of these schools provide for children and young people aged 11-18 years old with on-site or co-located sixth form education. The total capacity of these schools is 24,562 pupils (May 2011). Of these, 23,351 places are filled, which equates to an unused (surplus) capacity across Cheshire East of less than 5%.
- 4.1.4 For children and young people with special education needs, there are 4 Local Authority maintained schools and 2 independent schools providing education for 316 pupils.
- 4.1.5 The Local Authority has one 30-place Pupil Referral Unit established in April 2011 located in Crewe which caters for pupils with Special Educational Needs (SEN) and Behaviour, Social and Emotional Difficulty (BESD).
- 4.1.6 In addition to the Local Authority publicly funded schools, there are 9 independent sector mainstream primary schools in Cheshire East. This includes 2 in Alderley Edge, 2 in Crewe, 2 in Macclesfield, 2 in Wilmslow and 1 in Knutsford. At the secondary phase there are 2 independent mainstream schools, one located in Macclesfield and one in Alderley Edge. At January 2011, Cheshire East had a total of 4,435 pupils aged 2 to 19 in Independent Education.
- 4.1.7 The types of schools in Cheshire East include:

Community schools – the most common type, the Local Authority owns and funds the school which is run by school Governors, and the Local Authority employs staff and operates its admissions policy;

Voluntary controlled schools – a charity (e.g. religious institution) will own the school and appoint Governors, but the Local Authority will run the school, fund it, employ staff and operate its admissions policy;

Voluntary aided schools – a charity (e.g. religious institution) will own the school which is run by school Governors and will fund it (possibly with some

Local authority support). The Governors will appoint staff and administer the admissions policy in consultation with the Local Authority;

Foundation schools – the school is owned and run by Governors, who also employ staff and operate the admissions policy in consultation with the Local Authority (the Local Authority fund the school);

Trust Schools – this is a local authority maintained foundation school supported by a charitable Trust which can comprise a range of external partners such as schools, businesses, charities, universities and colleges;

Academies – an academy is an all-ability publicly funded independent school established by sponsors from business, faith or voluntary groups working with partners from the local community with freedoms to set their own pay and conditions for staff, freedom from following the National Curriculum and the ability to change the lengths of their terms and school days;

Free Schools – are all-ability, non-profit-making state- funded independent schools. They are set up in response to what local people say they want and need in order to improve education for children in their community. They have the same level of autonomy as Academies;

Special Schools – are state schools which are provided by the local authorities for certain children with special educational needs;

PRUs – are legally a type of school providing education for children of compulsory school age for whom attendance at a mainstream or special school is not an option because of exclusion or other reasons;

Independent schools – Governors own and run the school, employ staff and determine the admissions policy. Pupils are not required to follow the national curriculum, and the school is funded privately (e.g. fees or through charitable trust funds).

4.1.8 The status of schools in Cheshire East is subject to change at any time over the coming years with all schools being invited to convert to Academy status.

4.1.9 New schools can also be established in response to demand and these can include:

Studio Schools - cater for 14 to 19-year-olds, delivering project-based, practical learning alongside mainstream academic study. They are small schools - typically with around 300 pupils - delivering mainstream qualifications through project based learning. Students work with local employers and a personal coach, and follow a curriculum designed to give them the skills and qualifications they need in work or to continue in education.

University Technical Colleges (UTCs) - are Technical Academies for 14-19-year-olds. They offer technical courses and work-related learning, combined with academic studies. Each UTC is sponsored by a university and industry partner and responds to local skills needs. They provide young people with

the knowledge and skills they need to progress at 19 into higher or further education, an apprenticeship or employment.

- 4.1.10 The Funding Agreement between the establishment and the Secretary of State provides the framework within which Academies, Free Schools, UTCs and Studio School operate.

4.2 Special Schools

- 4.2.1 Special educational needs (SEN) is a legal definition referring to children with disabilities and learning difficulties. Most children with special educational needs are catered for in mainstream schools through additional planning and intervention on the SEN Code of Practice levels for School Action and School Action Plus.
- 4.2.2 The number of pupils with Statements of Special Educational Needs has been reduced in recent years following an SEN review in 2006, with more children in receipt of individual pupil funding (IPF).
- 4.2.3 Mainstream schools are increasingly developing their resources to ensure that they can meet the needs of children with special needs. An outcome of the review was the provision within all secondary schools of an Inclusion Resource Base to meet the needs of all children.
- 4.2.4 For children who may have special needs that cannot be met within mainstream provision, special schools provide an alternative option. This is currently delivered in Cheshire East by the Local Authority and the Private/Voluntary Sector.
- 4.2.5 In 2010, the Local Authority began the process of reviewing its arrangements for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND). One of the priority recommendations emerging from the SEND review was the identified need to establish local specialist provision for children and young people with Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC) between the ages of 4 to 19. Subject to member approval, the Local Authority plans to undertake all necessary statutory procedures to establish a new school with a preferred implementation date of September 2013.
- 4.2.6 Schools that specifically cater for the needs of children with special needs are shown in the table below.

Table 8. Special School Provision

School	Location	Sector	Gender	Age Range	Number on Roll
Adelaide School	Crewe	Cheshire East Council	Mixed	11-16	36
David Lewis School	Alderley Edge	Independent	Mixed	7-19	50
Oracle	Congleton	Independent	Mixed	7-16	6

Park Lane	Macclesfield	Cheshire East Council	Mixed	2-19	68
St John's Wood community	Knutsford	Cheshire East Council	Mixed	11-16	44
Springfield School	Crewe	Cheshire East Council	Mixed	2-19	112

4.2.7 The Local Authority's Statutory Assessment & Monitoring Team has an agreed protocol for calculating provision and identifying any unused (surplus) places.

4.2.8 Two secondary schools have specialist resourced provision for Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and Hearing Impaired (HI). These schools are Wilmslow High and Middlewich High. Pupils attending the specialist resourced provision in these schools are admitted in addition to the schools normal intake, which is determined by the published admission number (PAN). Two primary schools have specialist resourced provision for HI they are Lindow Primary and Middlewich Primary. Four primary schools have specialist resourced provision for ASC - they are Hermitage Primary, Ivy Bank Primary, Puss Bank Primary and Wilmslow Grange Primary. Five primary schools have specialist resourced provision for Complex and Moderate Learning Needs (CMLD) these are Bexton Primary, Elworth Hall Primary, Marlfields Primary, Vernon Primary and Wyche Primary. One primary school has specialist resourced provision for Behaviour, Emotional and Social Difficulties (BESD) that is Hungerford Primary. These primary schools with resourced provision receive additional funding based on pupil numbers. Pupils will be considered as attending mainstream and will be included in the PAN.

4.3 Pupil Referral Unit (PRU)

4.3.1 Councils provide Pupil Referral Units (PRUs) and other services and provisions for children temporarily unable to attend mainstream school because of permanent exclusion or by reason of their attendance, behaviour or other needs. PRUs are not used as long-term substitutes for mainstream or special schools. In general, the function of PRUs will be to provide short-term provision while preparing children for a return to mainstream education or, more exceptionally, to support a child through SEN assessment or reassessment prior to eventual placement in a special school. For some children in Key Stage 4, PRUs will provide support from the point of admission to the conclusion of compulsory education at 16.

4.3.2 Cheshire East Council has one pupil referral unit currently located in Crewe. This provision opened on 1 April 2011 for children aged 11-16 and provides 30 pupil places providing interim education for pupils that are unable to attend school due to permanent exclusion, anxious school refusal, pregnancy, medical problems or other exceptional reason. The PRU also supports pupils to reintegrate them into mainstream schools as soon as practicable.

4.4 Small and Rural Schools

- 4.4.1 Of the 124 Cheshire East primary schools, 87 are within the categories of *rural*, *predominantly rural* and *more rural than urban*. This represents 70.2% of the total number of primary schools across the Borough. A full breakdown of the rurality of schools within Cheshire East is attached as **Appendix 7**.
- 4.4.2 The majority of these rural schools are located within the Congleton LAP with Congleton having 23 rural primary schools (18.5% of the 124 Cheshire East primary schools). However, when looking at the proportion of rural schools within each LAP, Macclesfield has the highest with 19 of its 25 schools being designated within these three categories. The LAP with the highest number of entirely 'rural' schools is Nantwich, which has 39% of its 18 schools designated as rural. See Table 9 below.

Table 9. Rural Primary Schools by LAP

LAPs	Rural	Predom Rural	More Rural than Urban	Rural Total	% of Total LAP Schools	% of Total CE Schools	More Urban than Rural	Urban	Urban Total	% of Total LAP Schools	% of Total CE Schools	Total Schools
Congleton	3	11	9	23	74.2%	18.5%	7	1	8	25.8%	6.5%	31
Crewe	0	8	4	12	57.1%	9.7%	4	5	9	42.9%	7.3%	21
Knutsford	4	2	1	7	70.0%	5.6%	2	1	3	30.0%	2.4%	10
Macclesfield	3	11	5	19	76.0%	15.3%	2	4	6	24.0%	4.8%	25
Nantwich	7	5	1	13	72.2%	10.5%	5	0	5	27.8%	4.0%	18
Poynton	0	4	2	6	66.7%	4.8%	2	1	3	33.3%	2.4%	9
Wilmslow	0	3	4	7	70.0%	5.6%	3	0	3	30.0%	2.4%	10
Total	17	44	26	87	70.2%	70.2%	25	12	37	29.8%	29.8%	124

Primary Schools by LAP – Rurality (Jan 2011).

- 4.4.3 The majority of Cheshire East primary schools are not in the category of 'small' or 'very small' with only 17 schools with 100 pupils or less at January 2011 (reception class through to Year 6) and 4 schools with 50 pupils or less representing only 13.7% of the total provision. See Table 10 below.

Table 10. Numbers on Roll - Primary Schools

Number on Roll	Number of Primary Schools
50 and under	4
51-100	13
101-200	46
201-300	35
301- 400	17
401 -500	8
500+	1
Total	124

Jan 2011 School Census Data (Rec-Y6)

- 4.4.4 Of the 21 mainstream secondary schools, 8 are within the categories of *rural*, *predominantly rural* and *more rural than urban*. This represents 38.1% of the total number of mainstream secondary schools across the Borough.

Table 11. Rural Secondary Schools by LAP

LAPs	Rural	Predom Rural	More Rural than Urban	Rural Total	% of Total LAP Schools	% of Total CE Schools	More Urban than Rural	Urban	Urban Total	% of Total LAP Schools	% of Total CE Schools	Total Schools
Congleton	0	1	1	2	28.6%	9.5%	4	1	5	71.4%	23.8%	7
Crewe	0	3	1	4	80.0%	19.0%	1	0	1	20.0%	4.8%	5
Knutsford	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%	1	0	1	100.0%	4.8%	1
Macclesfield	0	1	0	1	25.0%	4.8%	2	1	3	75.0%	14.3%	4
Nantwich	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%	2	0	2	100.0%	9.5%	2
Poynton	0	1	0	1	100.0%	4.8%	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%	1
Wilmslow	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%	1	0	1	100.0%	4.8%	1
Total	0	6	2	8	38.1%	38.1%	11	2	13	61.9%	61.9%	21

Secondary Mainstream Schools by LAP – Rurality (Jan 2011).

- 4.4.5 The majority of these rural schools are located within the Crewe LAP with Crewe having 50 % of the 8 Cheshire East mainstream secondary schools designated as rural schools. These 4 Crewe schools represent 19% of the 21 Cheshire East mainstream secondary schools. The number of secondary schools within each LAP varies with some areas being served by only one secondary school.
- 4.4.6 In comparison with the national average size for a secondary school of 984 pupils, only 6 Cheshire East schools are below this number and a further 2 are broadly in line with the national average having numbers on roll of 970 and 931 pupils (January 2011 School Census Data). See Table 12 below. The majority of secondary schools are above the national average size representing almost 62% of the total.

Table 12 National comparison – Average Size of Secondary Schools

Category	Number	% of Total
Smaller than National Average	6	28.6%
National Average	2	9.5%
Above National Average	13	61.9%
Total	21	100%

(Source: Jan 2011 Census Data)

4.5 Post 16 Provision

- 4.5.1 The Education and Skills Act 2008 raises the age at which young people are required to participate in education or training (Raising of the Participation Age/RPA). This does not necessarily mean they will have to stay on at school after Year 11 as they will have a choice about how they want to participate post-16, which could be through full-time education, such as school or college; work-based learning, such as an Apprenticeship; or part-time

education or training if they are employed, self-employed or volunteering for 20 hours or more a week. This change applies from 2013, when young people will be required to stay in education or training until they are 17 years of age and from 2015 until they are 18. These changes will therefore need to be taken into consideration alongside any review of post-16 provision due to the potential for growth in the demand for places.

- 4.5.2 Post-16 education and training is non-compulsory and covers a wide range of provision from Foundation Learning (below level 2) to level 4 qualifications. Much of the provision is at level 3 which includes A levels, vocational courses and Advanced Apprenticeships. Post 16 education and training is provided in sixth forms within secondary schools, sixth form colleges, general further education/tertiary colleges, specialist colleges (such as those focusing on drama, or agriculture) and private work-based learning providers.
- 4.5.3 There are 17 post-16 providers based in Cheshire East, which includes 14 secondary school sixth forms (maintained schools and Academies) plus Macclesfield College, Reaseheath College, South Cheshire College and a number of private work-based learning providers including Total People.
- 4.5.4 Under Sections 15ZA and 18A of the Education Act 1996 (as inserted by the ASCL Act 2009), local authorities have a duty to secure sufficient suitable education and training opportunities to meet the reasonable needs of all young people in their area. Young people are those who are over compulsory school age but under 19, or are aged 19 to 25 and who have a learning difficulty. The Local Authority also has a duty to secure sufficient education and training for young people who are the subject of youth detention. The Local Authority therefore has a strategic overview of post-16 provision, with a statutory responsibility to encourage, enable and assist participation and secure education and training in the Local Authority area, taking into account quality and other factors.
- 4.5.5 The Young People's Learning Agency (YPLA) was established in 2010 to support the delivery of training and education and closed in April 2012. The YPLA had a duty to secure the provision of financial resources to persons (including local authorities) providing, or proposing to provide, suitable education and training to young people who are over compulsory school age but under 19, or are aged 19 to 25 and had a learning difficulty. In exercising these funding functions, the YPLA supported local authorities' key statutory duties, including where local authorities have chosen to work together.
- 4.5.6 The Skills Funding Agency (SFA) was also established in 2010 and the Chief Executive of Skills Funding has the power under Section 83 of the ASCL Act 2009 to secure the provision of facilities for suitable Apprenticeship training for young people who are over compulsory school age, but under 19 (including those subject to youth detention), or are aged 19 to 25 and subject to a learning difficulty assessment.
- 4.5.7 From April 2012, the new Education Funding Agency (EFA), which is an executive agency of the Department for Education (DfE), took on the YPLA's responsibilities. The EFA has responsibility for the direct funding of Academies and Free Schools and all 16-19 provision (excluding apprenticeships). This includes the funding of 16-19 provision in general further education colleges, sixth form colleges and independent provision.

The EFA will continue to distribute resources to local authorities for them to pass on to those schools which are not Academies.

- 4.5.8 Post-16 funding is determined by student choice. Student volumes drive funding in the following year. This is referred to as the 'lagged learner' number approach. It is possible for the number of students to exceed the planned take-up based on previous intakes and any growth in learner numbers will be consolidated the following year.
- 4.5.9 The Local authority, in order to make information on needs and gaps transparent and capable of being responded to, will develop with their partners and share with the EFA, a statement outlining their strategic overview. Schools, Academies, colleges and other providers are expected to be involved in the development of those statements and to respond to the priorities identified, whilst respecting learner choice.
- 4.5.10 Where the Local Authority and providers identify a gap in provision which cannot be met by changing existing provision, and is therefore outside the lagged approach, procurement of new education and training will be required. The Local Authority will decide with partners the best way of securing the provision. This includes working with other local authorities where necessary.
- 4.5.11 Information on Cheshire East Publicly funded mainstream secondary schools is attached as **Appendix 8**. A breakdown of schools with sixth forms is shown in Table 13 below.

Table 13. Secondary Schools & Academies Post-16 NOR - Years 12 to 14

Local Area Partnerships	Number of schools operating sixth forms	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Congleton	6	1203	1191	1190	1179	1169	1185	1218	1272	1288	1238
Crewe	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Knutsford	1	244	250	299	314	288	290	313	295	321	276
Macclesfield	4*	744	731	715	763	745	748	753	817	829	0
Nantwich	2	267	281	292	288	261	262	265	275	279	383
Poynton	1	322	341	354	344	313	290	314	319	336	333
Wilmslow	1	284	309	333	360	408	460	437	474	479	475
Cheshire East Total	15	3064	3103	3183	3248	3184	3235	3300	3452	3532	3536

Data Source: January School Census from the years stated above.

*The Macclesfield Academy was established in September 2011 as an 11-16 mainstream secondary school replacing 11-18 Macclesfield High School.

- 4.5.12 As regards demographic changes, the YPLA produced a 2010 Strategic Analysis for the sub-regional group of Cheshire East, Cheshire West and Chester and Warrington. The underpinning data set for this gave the following population projections/future cohorts-16 and 17 year olds:

Table 14. 16-17 Year Old Population Projections

Academic Year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
16-17 Year Olds	9400	9300	9200	9200	9000	9000	8900	8600	8600
Academic Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	
16-17 Year Olds	8300	8100	8300	8500	8700	8900	9100	9200	

Source: YPLA 2010 Strategic Analysis for the sub-regional group of Cheshire East, Cheshire West and Chester and Warrington.

4.6 Cost per Pupil

- 4.6.1 **Appendix 9** attached provides further information on the costs per pupil for 2011-2012 and 2010-2011, including comparisons between LAPs and types and phases of schools. This indicates that the majority of schools have costs per pupil of below £4,000 for both financial years.
- 4.6.2 The average cost per pupil across all types of schools (including Academies, 4 special schools and 1 maintained nursery school) is £4488. The average cost per pupil including Academies and 1 maintained nursery school but excluding 4 special schools is £4385. A full breakdown of the cost per pupil for individual schools is attached as **Appendix 10**.
- 4.6.3 The cost per pupil of maintaining primary provision across Cheshire East varies significantly with the maximum cost for 2011-2012 being £8,014 per pupil and the lowest being £3,190. This stems from the fact that the cost per pupil in a school with lower numbers on roll is much higher. For secondary mainstream schools, the average cost is 4,878 as shown in table 15 below, with a maximum of £6,065 and minimum of £4,506.

Table 15 Cost per Pupil by Type of School

Type of School	Average	Maximum	Minimum
Nursery	7,258	7,258	7,258
Primary	3,989	8,014	3,190
Secondary	4,878	6,065	4,506
Special	21,541	26,134	21,558

This data refers to the 2011-2012 financial year and includes Academies and Free Schools (Source: Cheshire East Schools Finance Team)

- 4.6.4 Of the 124 maintained primary schools and Academies, 44.4% have pupil costs in excess of the average of £3,989. This equates to 55 primary schools of which 33 also exceed the average cost per pupil for all schools (excluding special schools) of £4,385. At secondary level, only 9 schools have pupil costs that exceed the average of £4,878.

- 4.6.5 The Cheshire East average cost per pupil is compared in the table below with the average for each LAP. The variance between these is shown with ‘-’ indicating less than and ‘+’ indicating more than the Cheshire East average.

Table 16. Average Cost per Pupil (£) by LAP

LAP	Sector	LAP Average	CE Average	Variance (£s)
Congleton	Primary	3947	3989	-42
	Secondary	4817	4847	-30
Crewe	Primary	4172	3989	+183
	Secondary	5382	4847	+535
Knutsford	Primary	4426	3989	+437
	Secondary	4851	4847	+4
Macclesfield	Primary	4676	3989	+687
	Secondary	4874	4847	+27
Nantwich	Primary	4153	3989	+164
	Secondary	4660	4847	-187
Poynton	Primary	3818	3989	-171
	Secondary	4535	4847	-312
Wilmslow	Primary	4011	3989	+22
	Secondary	4599	4847	-248

(Source: Cheshire East Schools Finance Team)

- 4.6.6 The cost per pupil can also vary according to the rural classification of schools within Cheshire East. The Cost per Pupil by LAP and compared with rurality classification is shown in Table 17 below.
- 4.6.7 It could be considered that LAPs with a higher percentage of schools designated as rural, predominantly rural or more rural than urban may have a higher cost per pupil due to the rural areas served and the number of pupils within these areas that could attend the school. However, the level of provision within these areas compared with the number of pupils that could attend the schools will also have an impact. As an example, Poynton LAP, with only one secondary school serving this predominantly rural area has lower costs per pupil compared to the CE average by £312 per pupil. In comparison, Crewe LAP has five secondary schools serving the area of which 80% are classified as rural with an average cost per pupil in excess of the CE average by £535 per pupil.
- 4.6.8 At the primary phase, the area with the highest total percentage of schools classed as rural is Macclesfield. In this area the average cost per pupil is above the CE average by £687. However, Congleton LAP with a comparative number of schools within these rural categories has a cost per pupil below the CE average by £42.

Table 17. Rurality Average Cost per Pupil by LAP

LAP	Sector	Comparison of CE and LAP Average Cost per Pupil (£s)	% of Schools within LAP within each Rurality Classification						
			Rural	Predom' Rural	More Rural than Urban	Total Rural	Urban	More Urban than Rural	Total
Congleton	Primary	-42	9.70%	35.50%	29%	74.20%	3.20%	22.60%	25.80%
	Secondary	-30	-	14.30%	14.30%	28.60%	14.30%	57.10%	71.40%
Crewe	Primary	+183	-	38.10%	19.10%	57.20%	23.70%	19.10%	42.80%
	Secondary	+535	-	60%	20%	80.00%	-	20%	20.00%
Knutsford	Primary	+437	40%	20%	10%	70.00%	10%	20%	30.00%
	Secondary	+4	-	-	-	0.00%	-	100%	100.00%
Macclesfield	Primary	+687	12%	44%	20%	76.00%	16%	8%	24.00%
	Secondary	+27	-	25%	-	25.00%	25%	50%	75.00%
Nantwich	Primary	+164	38.90%	27.80%	5.50%	72.20%	-	27.80%	27.80%
	Secondary	-187	-	-	-	0.00%	-	100%	100.00%
Poynton	Primary	-171	-	44.40%	22.20%	66.60%	11.20%	22.20%	33.40%
	Secondary	-312	-	100%	-	100.00%	-	-	0.00%
Wilmslow	Primary	+22	-	30%	40%	70.00%	-	30%	30.00%
	Secondary	-248	-	-	-	0.00%	-	100%	100.00%

Includes Academies and Free Schools (Source: Cheshire East Schools Finance Team)

4.7 Standards and Attainment

- 4.7.1 The Education Act 2006 requires local authorities to promote fair access to educational opportunity, high standards and pupil achievement when planning the provision of school places. The academic results seen from our schools/settings for 2011 were very positive at ALL phases.
- 4.7.2 Performance tables for 2011 published by the Department for Education showed that Cheshire East was the joint fourth best performing region in the country and joint second in the North West. In comparison with statistical neighbours, the Authority is ranked first out of 11 authorities. Provisional results for 2012 show improvements from the 2011 figures. There are no national results against which to compare at the moment.
- 4.7.3 In 2011, Cheshire East Key Stage 2 results were ranked first out of eleven when compared to statistical neighbour authorities for expected rates of

progress in English, expected rates of progress in maths and for English and maths at level 4+. Provisional figures for 2012 indicate the results for Cheshire East this year have increased for all three measures with 85% of pupils achieving English and maths at level 4+.

- 4.7.4 The provisional percentages of pupils achieving the expected two levels of progress at Key Stage 2 in English and maths have gone up by 4 percentage points since 2011 to 92% and 91% respectively
- 4.7.5 There are two significant measures at the Early Years Foundation Stage profile. The first is that in 2012, a total of 75 percent of pupils gained at least 78 points across the Early Years Foundation Stage (including 6 or more points in "Personal, Social and Emotional" and 6 or more points in "Communication, Language and Literacy"). This is an improvement of 7 percentage points on 2011. Secondly, the gap between the lowest achieving 20% in the Early Years Foundation stage and the rest has reduced from 26% to 24%.
- 4.7.6 At sixth form level the provisional results, collected from schools on results day, indicate that 96.7% of all A Level entries achieving a A*-E grade. Just under a quarter of all students achieved grades A* to A (24.0%) and almost half of all students entered for A Levels (49.8%) achieved an A* to B grade. Provisional figures also show that Cheshire East's A-level students achieved an average point score of 756.4, which is an increase on last year's published figure of 724.9. As yet, there is no national comparative data for maintained schools.
- 4.7.7 The priorities identified for 2011-2012 are:
- To continue to narrow the gap in the performance of our more vulnerable young people at all phases.
 - To establish a revised data sharing protocol with schools and academies, which allows for the ongoing tracking of performance on a termly basis?
 - To establish revised arrangements for our Improving Outcomes Programme (IOP) which supports our most vulnerable schools.
 - To further refine and target intervention programmes to those which the need is greatest and which reduces the gap in performances of certain groups.
 - To commission, as required, high quality personnel to support the ongoing monitoring and challenge to schools underperforming or at risk of underperforming.

4.8 Cross Border Movement

- 4.8.1 Cheshire East is classed as a 'net importer' of pupils as the number of children resident in other authorities attending a Cheshire East maintained school exceeds the number of Cheshire East residents attending schools maintained by other authorities.
- 4.8.2 Table 18 below shows that based on the January 2011 Census, a total of 1,027 pupils attended Cheshire East primary schools compared with only 659 Cheshire East pupils attending schools in other areas. The number of non-Cheshire East residents on roll in Cheshire East schools represents 4% of the total Cheshire East school population compared with only 2.6% attending state funded schools in other areas.

- 4.8.3 For secondary schools, of the total school population of 18,775, there are 1659 pupils on roll in Cheshire East schools who are resident in other areas compared with 1045 Cheshire East residents taking places up outside their home authority. The number of non-Cheshire East resident pupils represents 8.8% of the total school population compared with only 5.8% of home residents receiving education in schools maintained by other authorities.
- 4.8.4 The overall gain for Cheshire East schools is 982 pupils, which represents 2.2% of the total school population of 44,759 pupils (reception class through to Year 11). (see **Appendix 11**)

Table 18. Pupil Migration - January 2011

Home' Local Authority (pupil place of residence)	Primary Schools			Secondary Schools			Total Net Result for Cheshire East
	Number of out of authority pupils attending Cheshire East schools	Number of Cheshire East pupils attending out of authority schools	Net Result for Cheshire East	Number of out of authority pupils attending Cheshire East schools	Number of Cheshire East pupils attending out of authority schools	Net Result for Cheshire East	
Cheshire West & Chester (CWAC)	238	361	-123	381	534	-153	-276
Derbyshire	58	31	27	28	23	5	32
Halton	0	0	0	0	3	-3	-3
Lancashire	x	0	0	0	x	0	0
Lincolnshire	0	x	0	0	0	0	0
Manchester	68	0	68	98	8	90	158
Northamptonshire	0	0	0	0	x	0	0
Oldham	0	0	0	0	x	0	0
Reading	x	0	0	0	0	0	0
Salford	0	0	0	4	0	4	4
Shropshire	53	x	53	21	x	21	74
Staffordshire	325	56	269	339	58	281	550
Stockport	122	131	-9	352	59	293	284
Stoke-on-Trent	45	8	37	37	51	-14	23
Tameside	0	0	0	4	x	4	4
Telford & Wrekin	0	0	0	0	4	-4	-4
Trafford	62	41	21	392	207	185	206
Wales	5	0	5	0	0	0	5
Warrington	49	22	27	3	92	-89	-62
<i>Total Excl suppressed data*</i>	<i>1,025</i>	<i>650</i>	<i>375</i>	<i>1,659</i>	<i>1,039</i>	<i>620</i>	<i>995</i>
<i>Suppressed data</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>-7</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>-6</i>	<i>-13</i>
Totals	1,027	659	368	1,659	1,045	614	982
<i>Total Excl. CWAC</i>	<i>787</i>	<i>289</i>	<i>498</i>	<i>1,278</i>	<i>505</i>	<i>773</i>	<i>1,271</i>

Data Source: School Census January 2011, table from DfE SFR 12-2011. NB. X indicates suppressed data.

- 4.8.5 Following Local Government Reorganisation of the 7 Cheshire Councils in 2009, it is to be expected that parents and carers will continue to seek places

for their children in schools that have traditionally served their local area, regardless of new local authority boundaries that now divide the former Cheshire County Council into 2 separate unitary authorities. Included in the above table are total pupil migration figures both including and excluding movement to and from Cheshire West and Chester Council to provide a further indication of the net gain in the number of pupils due to demand for places in schools maintained by this Authority.

4.9 Pupil Mobility

- 4.9.1 The total movement in and out of schools, i.e. pupils leaving or being admitted to the school other than at the normal point of entry in September, or normal point of exit at the end of August is referred to as pupil mobility.
- 4.9.2 In Cheshire East European Migration has affected pupil mobility in relation to schools. Schools near women's refuges experience higher rates of pupil mobility. Gypsy, Romany, Traveller (GRT) sites affect certain schools and their mobility levels.
- 4.9.3 In July 2010 there were 10 GRT sites in Cheshire East with planning permission, with 109 pitches in total. In addition, there were 2 GRT sites without planning permission having 11 pitches in total.
- 4.9.4 In previous financial years the Local Authority has held back funding from the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) to cover pupil number fluctuations and mobile children and children of asylum seekers. However, this arrangement was changed for the 2011/12 financial year. Funding is now being delegated to schools as part of their Age Weighted Pupil Unit, but without a specific use of the funding being enforced on schools. In addition, contingency funds for 2011/12 held by the Local Authority are available for any exceptional changes in pupil numbers for an individual school.
- 4.9.5 Analysis shows that during 2010-2011 academic year (excluding September starters through the normal admission round into reception and Year 7 and pupil leaving a class at the normal leaving point at the end of August) there were 3570 admissions to a Cheshire East school compared with 2450 leavers. The total number of movement between schools during the course of the year was 6020. This will include children moving between Cheshire East schools, Cheshire East pupils leaving for schools not maintained by this Local authority and new admissions into Cheshire East schools of pupils not previously on roll at a Cheshire East school.
- 4.9.6 The schools with the highest level of 'in year' mobility are set out in the Table 19 below. (Full details are provided as **Appendix 12**)

Table 19. Pupil mobility 2010-2011

Phase	School	Joiners	Leavers	Total Movement	LAP
P	St Mary's Catholic Primary School (Crewe)	92	14	106	Crewe
S	Brine Leas School	76	31	107	Nantwich

S	Poynton High School and Performing Arts College	64	46	110	Poynton
S	Sandbach High School and Sixth Form College	46	69	115	Congleton
S	Sir William Stanier Community School	74	47	121	Crewe
P	Leighton Primary School	99	54	153	Crewe
P	Wistaston Green Primary School	97	57	154	Crewe
S	Knutsford High School	91	78	169	Knutsford
S	Malbank School and Sixth Form College	84	90	174	Nantwich
S	The Macclesfield Academy	70	116	186	Macclesfield
S	Wilmslow High School	129	60	189	Wilmslow

Data source: CYPD 2010-2011

- 4.9.7 The LAP with the highest mobility was Crewe with almost 26% of the total Cheshire East mobility over this period. Congleton also experienced higher mobility than other LAP areas with nearly 23% of the total. The total number of schools varies from one LAP to another and this will affect the total level of mobility across an area. However, in looking at the average for each LAP, Crewe also has the highest average with nearly 62 movements per school.

4.10 School Transport

- 4.10.1 At its meeting on 30 April 2012, the Council's Cabinet agreed changes to its existing transport policy. These changes provide that from September 2012,

- Free transport will no longer be provided for children attending denominational schools through parental choice on the grounds of parent's religion/faith; withdrawal of which will take place for all students – whether current recipients or future applicants – from September 2012. Exceptions are to be provided for secondary school age children from low income families attending a choice of their 3 nearest qualifying schools between 2 and 6 miles from home, or up to a maximum of 15 miles to the nearest school preferred by reason of a parent's religion or belief, in accordance with statutory responsibilities;
- The savings resulting from the withdrawal of entitlement on grounds of religion/faith in 2012/13 be redirected to provide one-off funding to the affected educational establishments; this money is to be ring fenced accordingly. Each establishment will have freedom over how it uses this one-off funding to support alternative travel options to students. It is estimated that such savings will be of the order of £150,000, which will be distributed on an equitable basis to relevant establishments;
- A reduced devolved grant – £375,000 a year (equating to approximately 50% of current net expenditure) - be offered to all Sixth Forms and Further Education Colleges accepting Cheshire East resident students for post 16 mainstream transport subsidies and for this money is to be ring fenced accordingly. Each Sixth Form or College will determine the basis of support to each student taking account both the needs of the students and the establishments

themselves. The respective grants to be awarded on the basis of the 2011/12 data and the efficacy of this to be reviewed yearly;

- The Council, in full partnership and consultation with parents, carers and special schools, look at alternatives around SEN transport to improve outcomes by promoting a positive culture of independence for children, young people and families. In addition, the Council will undertake further reviews of provision such as where transport is provided by way of the Education and Inspections Act (2006) and social care transport needs.

- 4.10.2 The Local Authority is under a duty to promote the use of sustainable travel and transport between home and school. Sustainable modes of travel are defined as those that the Local Authority considers may improve the physical well-being of those who use them, the environmental well-being of all or part of Cheshire East, or a combination of the two.
- 4.10.3 All schools in Cheshire East have a travel plan and promote sustainable school travel. Many schools are continuing to monitor their travel plan and aim to update it on a yearly basis.
- 4.10.4 To promote sustainable travel, schools may consider promoting a number of schemes to encourage walking, cycling, public transport or car sharing. Details on the schemes that schools may wish to promote can be found at: www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools
- 4.10.5 There are 59 dedicated bus services available to access education sites within Cheshire East. A further 230,660 journeys were made by students travelling on local buses.
- 4.10.6 Specialist transport services are also available for young people with special educational needs, with transport supplied (2011) for 352 cared for pupils and 1,487 pupils with complex special educational needs. These services allow students to access both school and after-school activities. The Association of Transport Coordinating Officers (ATCO) benchmarking survey 2008–09 highlighted that Cheshire East spent £4,784 a client during the year on SEN transport (including overhead costs). This compares to an average spend per client of £4,386 across all 26 Local Authorities taking part. The school transport costs for each student were £941, compared to an average of £827 in the 26 Authorities taking part.
- 4.10.7 It is the responsibility of parents to ensure that their children get to and from school at the appropriate time each day. In the case of pupils of statutory school age who attend their nearest suitable school and live beyond the 'statutory walking distance' from it the Local Authority will provide free school transport. For Cheshire East Council this is defined within the agreed transport policy as 2 miles for primary school pupils and 3 miles for a pupil aged eleven to sixteen. The distance is measured along the shortest available walking route and the measure is done using a digital mapping system. For the purposes of the school transport policy the 'nearest suitable school' will be defined as either: the catchment school under the Local Authority's zoning arrangements; or the nearest school to the home address, which may be different from the catchment school.

- 4.10.8 School places at alternative schools are usually offered on the basis that parents are responsible for any travelling arrangements that are not covered by the Local Authority's Home to School Transport Policy and the costs involved. In some cases, pupils who are not eligible for free school transport may be able to purchase a spare seat place on an existing education contract if one is available. The Local Authority will not pay travelling expenses to parents choosing to send their child to a more distant school or with effect from September 2012, to a school chosen for religion or faith reasons, in preference to their local school. The Local Authority will consider requests from parents for free transport for children who live within the statutory distance from their nearest suitable school, but who have to travel along a hazardous route to school. It is a parent's responsibility to transport a child safely to school, and in looking at the route it will be assumed that the child is accompanied, if necessary by a responsible person.
- 4.10.9 The Local Authority's agreed Home to School Transport Policy ensures that generally, the Local Authority will provide transport for pupils who are registered pupils at their local school and live more than the recognised (statutory) walking distance from it, i.e. 2 miles for children of primary school age and 3 miles for older children. For most children this transport is free, but there are charges for those who make use of the Local Authority's school transport services but are not themselves entitled to free transport. The Local Authority makes no general transport provision for children under the age of compulsory education, or those of any age who attend private schools or colleges. For secondary aged pupils, if a child is from a low income family (based upon family eligibility for Free School Meals, or family being in receipt of the maximum level of Working Family Tax Credit), then the child will be entitled to free transport to any one of the three nearest suitable secondary schools between 2 and 6 miles of the home address, or an appropriate faith secondary school between 2-15 miles of the home address if preferred on the grounds of religious belief.

4.11 School Transport – Post 16

- 4.11.1 From September 2012, a reduced devolved grant will be offered to all sixth forms and further education colleges accepting Cheshire East resident students for post 16 mainstream transport subsidies. Each sixth form or college will determine the basis of support to each student taking account of the needs of the students and the establishments themselves.

4.12 Cared for Children

- 4.12.1 A 'cared for child' is a child who is in the care of a local authority or provided with accommodation by that local authority (as defined in section 22 of the Children Act 1989). Cared for children may be in foster care, residential care, with parent(s) or person(s) with parental responsibility, placed for adoption or supported to live independently.
- 4.12.2 The number of cared for children attending Cheshire East schools at January 2011 (School Census) was 123 of primary school age and 125 of secondary school age. The number of children above statutory school age was 75. At the same time there were 128 pre-school children.
- 4.12.3 Cared for Children are afforded the highest priority for admission to an oversubscribed school and in all cases, the Local Authority works closely

across service areas to ensure that children in care are allocated a place quickly at a suitable nearby school, even if that school is full.

4.12.4 With effect from September 2013, Children previously 'cared for' will be given the highest priority within the Local Authority's admission arrangements alongside cared for children, in accordance with changes introduced in the School Admissions Code (2012). The same or similar arrangements will be adopted by other admission authorities.

4.12.5 Previously cared for children are defined as children who were 'cared for' but immediately after being 'cared for' became subject to an adoption, residence, or special guardianship order. An adoption order is an order under section 46 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002. A 'residence order' is as an order settling the arrangements to be made as to the person with whom the child is to live under section 8 of the Children Act 1989. Section 14A of the Children Act 1989 defines a 'special guardianship order' as an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian (or special guardians).

4.13 Elective Home Education

4.13.1 Parents are entitled to educate their children at home instead of school if they choose to do so. Under UK law it is education that is compulsory, not schooling, though the vast majority of parents do choose to send their children to school.

4.13.2 Between September 2010 and July 2011 there were between 112 and 129 pupils known to Cheshire East whose parents had opted for Elective Home Education (EHE). In addition, 21 pupils who were EHE during the year were subsequently removed from the list due to alternative arrangements. Not all children who are EHE are known to the Local Authority, as 'parents are not required to register or seek approval from the local authority to educate their children at home.' (DCSF EHE Guidelines for Local Authorities section 2.4 2007)

4.14 Flexible Schooling

4.14.1 Flexi-schooling is an arrangement between the parent and the school where the child is registered at school and attends the school only part time; the rest of the time the child is home educated. "Flexi-schooling" is a legal option provided that the head teacher at the school concerned agrees to the arrangement.

4.14.2 In June 2012, there were 14 children and young people in Cheshire East known to the Elective Home Education department to be subject to a flexi-school agreement. This includes children in all year groups to the end of Year 11 and involves 3 Cheshire East primary schools, 2 high schools and a primary school in Staffordshire where 8 of the 14 children attend.

4.12.3 Flexi-schooling is distinct and separate to part-time attendance at school and is totally at the discretion of the headteacher.

5 Children's Centres

- 5.1 The Childcare Act 2006 imposed duties on local authorities to improve the well-being of young children in their area, reduce inequalities between them, and to make arrangements to secure integrated early childhood services.
- 5.2 The Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 inserted new provisions into the Childcare Act 2006 so that the Act now defines Sure Start Children's Centres in law. Specifically section 5A of the Childcare Act now gives local authorities a duty to secure sufficient children's centres provision for their area and to consult on any changes.
- 5.3 There are at present 13 Children's Centres in Cheshire East spread across fifteen sites. Each centre has a 'footprint' or catchment area that it serves.
- 5.4 Children's Centres aim to improve the co-ordination of services for families and children (aged 0-5 years old). This could include providing play and early learning opportunities, advice and guidance, healthcare, parenting and family support, help with skills and gaining qualifications, and links to training and work. Services are delivered under a multi-agency partnership approach.

Leave blank

DRAFT

6 Early Years and Child Care

6.1 Free Early Education Entitlement

6.1.1 The Government, through the Childcare Act 2006, has reformed the system of childcare provision for under fives. The Act introduced the 'Early Years Foundation Stage' which covers:

- The learning and development requirements of young children;
- Improvements in the qualifications of the workforce; and
- Changes to the system of regulation and inspection.

6.1.2 All 3-4 year olds are entitled to 15 hours of free early education per week for 38 weeks per year. Funding covers the period the term after the child's third birthday up to statutory school age (the term after the child's fifth birthday). Parents/carers have a choice about which setting to use. The Family Information Service provides parents with details of registered provision.

6.1.3 All 3-4 year olds are entitled to 15 hours of free early education per week for 38 weeks per year that may be taken flexibly. Funding covers the period the term after the child's third birthday up to statutory school age (the term after the child's fifth birthday). Parents/carers have a choice about which setting to use.

6.1.4 Government proposals to extend to two year olds the current entitlement of 15 hours free early education means that by 2014 free early education places will be made available for approximately 40% of two year olds by 2014.

6.1.5 Funding is being provided to local authorities each year for them to build up free early education places for disadvantaged two-year olds in readiness for the new entitlements. The amount of funding each year will increase to £760 million in 2014-2015.

6.2 Childcare

6.2.1 There is a wide range of childcare provision that may be state-maintained, or operate in the private, voluntary or independent sectors. These providers include:

- Reception and nursery classes in maintained and independent schools
- Day nurseries
- Pre-schools / Playgroups
- After school and breakfast clubs
- Holiday clubs
- Childminders

6.2.2 Local Authorities are required to annually assess the demand for, and supply of, childcare, and to conduct a comprehensive Childcare Sufficiency Assessment every three years. Cheshire East Council undertook a comprehensive Childcare Sufficiency assessment in 2011. A summary gaps analysis and a full copy of the report is available from:

http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/education_and_learning/children_and_families/childcare_sufficiency_csa.aspx)

- 6.2.3 The challenge for the Local Authority in maintaining its duty under the Childcare Act (2006) to secure sufficient childcare will be to maintain a diversity of provision across Cheshire East. Across all sectors, pressure from increased competition in the face of a shrinking market (both in terms of population and affordability) will require a pro-active approach in supporting childcare providers through difficult times.

DRAFT

7 School Place Planning

7.1 Introduction

- 7.1.1 This Plan is not intended to identify changes that are required in specific schools. However, within the framework provided by the Plan, the Local Authority and other providers can subsequently make specific proposals to address the priorities that have been identified in formulating this five year plan.
- 7.1.2 The Education Act 2011 explicitly focuses on the role of the local authority as commissioner of school places, with the first priority for a local authority; when it identifies the need for a new school, being to facilitate the establishment of an Academy or Free School.
- 7.1.3 Current DfE guidance makes clear that local authorities should match school place supply as closely as possible to parental preference and this can require different proposals in relation to unpopular and academically weak schools. The new emphasis on supplying enough good places rather than removing unused (surplus) places supports the presumption in favour of the expansion of successful and popular schools and a consequence of this is that action may also be necessary to remove unused (surplus) capacity in nearby schools.
- 7.1.4 The Plan recognises the requirement to manage places on an area basis and in line with changing demographics. Judgements about how best to manage school places across the Borough are not only concerned with ensuring that there are sufficient places available, but also about enhancing the quality of provision where unused (surplus) places are considered for removal and promoting the highest possible standards where additional places are required.
- 7.1.5 To enable the Local Authority to provide value for money, it is recognised that there should be a close link between the supply and demand for school places. Schools could not plan effectively if there were too many unused (surplus) places as patterns of parental preference can change from year to year creating uncertainty and financial pressures. Therefore, a balance needs to be struck between planning what is needed for an area as a whole and planning that enables parents to express meaningful preferences for individual schools.
- 7.1.6 Schools with 15% - 25% or more unused (surplus) places will be closely monitored. Long term forecasts will be reviewed before any proposals are made to reduce the capacity to take into account future demand due to the potential for growth beyond the five year forecasting period.
- 7.1.7 The Cheshire East Coordinated Admissions Scheme sets out the Authority's agreed process for coordinating applications for school places. The scheme allows parents three school preferences. All preferences are considered on the basis of the published oversubscription criteria and only if more than one school can potentially be offered is the preference ranking used, with a single offer being made for the school ranked highest.
- 7.1.8 For admission in 2011, the percentage of parents and carers offered their first choice of school (preference) was 90% for primary and 94% for secondary. A

slightly lower outcome was achieved for primary for 2012 at 88% and with 94% for secondary. Overall, and for both years, 95% of primary applicants and 98% of secondary applicants received an offer of a place at a school named as a preference on their application form. This data relates to the published offer date. Unsuccessful applicants at this stage can subsequently receive offers from the waiting list and on appeal.

- 7.1.9 In order to maintain customer satisfaction with the admissions process, the Local Authority will need to carefully monitor demand for school places and align its provision, as far as practicable, to meet any changes. This Plan sets out the priorities of this Local Authority for managing this process.

7.2 Capital Investment

- 7.2.1 A copy of the Local Authority's agreed Capital Strategy for 2012-2013 is published on the Local Authority's website at www.cheshireeast.gov.uk. The Strategy sets out the capital investment priorities for Children, Families and Adults Services, which are based on the following requirements:

- The provision of sufficient places to meet the needs of local communities;
- The removal of temporary accommodation when funding permits;
- The provision of healthy and safe environments in which pupils and staff can work;
- To meet curricular and organisational needs;
- To enhance physical access to buildings; and implement key strategic initiatives.

- 7.2.2 Bi-annual reviews of the pupil forecasting data contained within the Annex to the School Organisation Plan will be implemented to ensure demand and supply of school places are closely aligned. In addition, the condition and suitability of school accommodation will need to be reviewed as it is recognised that pupils and students benefit from high quality learning environments and equipment.

- 7.2.3 Building maintenance funds will be allocated on the basis of the priorities identified in the condition surveys. Suitability assessments are also reviewed and used to determine priorities for school improvements. Key areas for investment are identified in the Capital Strategy. In carrying out strategic reviews of school provision, sufficiency assessments will be used in conjunction with pupil projections to establish proposals for additional places, or to identify opportunities for the removal of those that are unused (surplus).

- 7.2.4 Wherever practical, pupils from new housing developments are accommodated at existing local schools where sufficient permanent capacity already exists. Where additional places have to be provided, the Local Authority may seek to secure; with the co-operation of the Local Planning Authority, a developer contribution to fund the provision of the additional permanent places needed. This might involve contributions towards the expansion of an existing school or full or part payment of a new school. Housing development will only be taken into account within the pupil forecasts when there is some level of certainty that the development will occur within the timeframe of the Plan. Certainty will be measured as the point at which developer contributions have been agreed. It is important to note, however,

that all pupil yields generated from developer enquiries and planning applications will be taken into account in the order they are received when calculating subsequent developer contributions due to their cumulative effect on the demand for school places.

- 7.2.5 An estimate of anticipated and planned housing developments is provided in the Annex to this Plan to demonstrate future demand and its potential impact on pupil place planning.

7.3 Housing Developer Contributions

- 7.3.1 The need for new housing within Cheshire East is expected to increase as a result of predicted increases in population, changes to family sizes and dynamics (e.g. divorce) and changes to the age profile of the area. The Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) (2008) set out the strategic planning framework for development in the North West, which included an additional 20,700 homes to be developed in Cheshire East over a fifteen year period. It should be noted that the Government intends to abolish the RSS through the Localism Act 2011, but, nevertheless, Local Planning Authorities will need to ensure that such housing targets are addressed in their Local Development Framework (LDF).
- 7.3.2 The five year housing trajectory figures published by each Local Planning Authority in their Annual Housing Monitoring Reports are used to provide the estimated phasing of housing developments. It must be recognised, however, that the actual developments and the rate at which new houses are built depends on a mixture of economic and social factors. House builders may prove unwilling to develop all the sites identified and may likewise apply for permission to construct dwellings on alternative pieces of land.
- 7.3.3 It is a statutory responsibility of the Local Authority to ensure the provision of sufficient suitable school places for children residing within its boundary. The Organisation and Capital Strategy Team therefore maintain a database of all potential and approved housing developments within each Local Area Partnership and procedures are implemented to assess the impact on local provision due to increased numbers of school aged children from these developments.
- 7.3.4 In all cases, a pupil (child) yield will be calculated to determine the anticipated number of additional school-aged children to an area. This is an established issue for school place planning that needs to take into account the changes in the housing market, which suggest that the profile of new occupation now and over the next few years may be different from that seen prior to 2007.
- 7.3.5 If existing schools in areas of growth have insufficient capacity to accommodate more pupils and to maintain a level of unused (surplus) places as outlined in this School Organisation Plan, a contribution will be sought from the developer/s via a Section 106 agreement to meet the increased demand at the primary and secondary phase. The basic cost for providing a school place is set out by the Department for Education who prepare a national "Basic need cost multiplier" to determine the cost per pupil for building new accommodation. A regional adjustment is then provided for each local authority.

- 7.3.6 In some instances it may not be feasible to extend existing accommodation and the Authority will, in such cases, require the provision of a new school/s to cater for the new development. The Local Authority will expect the developer to provide a cleared, fully serviced and accessible site free of charge in addition to the normal level of contributions towards school buildings.
- 7.3.7 School capacity is based on the Department for Education's (DfE's) sufficiency net capacity calculation and reflects the long term organisation of the school.
- 7.3.8 Contribution towards additional places will normally be informed by schools within a 2 miles radius of the development for primary provision and 3 miles for secondary. Distances are measured on the basis of the Local Authority's straight line distance measurement, which measures from the address point of the property to the address point of the school using Ordnance Survey address point data.
- 7.3.9 The procedure for seeking developer contributions is fully outlined in the Authority's S106 Policy and should be read alongside this School Organisation Plan.

7.4 Asset Management

- 7.4.1 In order to ensure that capital investment is used efficiently and as effectively as possible the Local Authority is developing an Asset Management Plan (AMP) in partnership with schools and Dioceses. The AMP provides the means through which likely future needs are assessed, criteria for prioritisation are set and informed decisions on local spending are made.
- 7.4.2 The AMP has the following main elements:

Local Policy Statement - This sets out how the Authority proposes to develop its AMP and the roles and responsibilities of all partners, including schools and the Dioceses. It also explains the basis on which information about premises will be calculated and the criteria and mechanisms that will be used for determining priorities. The Cheshire East Policy Statement is reviewed annually and published on the Local Authority's website.

Condition Surveys - These are updated annually and provide a systematic, informed and objective assessment of the physical state of the premises and the work needed to bring the premises up to suitable state of repair.

Suitability Assessment - Suitability is defined as how well premises meet the needs of pupils, teachers and other users, and contribute towards raising standards of education. Assessments also deal with some aspects of health and safety requirements. Suitability assessments focus on how well premises are helping in delivery of the curriculum, and contributing towards raising of educational standards at the school.

Sufficiency Needs - The Local Valuation Office (acting on behalf of the DfES) has undertaken a measuring exercise of all Cheshire schools. The new net area data was received at the end of June 2002 following which the Authority is carrying out new capacity calculations for all schools. The DfEE issued guidance on this in April 2001 and it is planned that the new capacities

will be effective from November 2002. The detailed information gathered in this way will be taken into account in the 2003/04 revision of the School Organisation Plan.

7.5 General Guidelines

- 7.5.1 The Education Act 2011 sets out the priority for local authorities of identifying and working with sponsors who will take over weaker schools and transform them into Academies. In undertaking this role, local authorities will be able to use their wider position in local regeneration, employment and community development, and their knowledge of existing schools, to seek sponsors and partners who will fit with the character of the local community and help raise aspirations.
- 7.5.2 Local authorities will also play a role in commissioning new provision and overseeing the transition of failing schools to new management. The Government plans to consult with local authorities and Academy sponsors on what role local authorities should play as strategic commissioners when all schools in an area have become Academies.
- 7.5.3 The School Organisation Plan provides the Local Authority's strategy for ensuring there are sufficient suitable school places for children resident in its area and its agreed priorities for children and young people:
- Raise and sustain high educational standards;
 - Provide more social inclusion and equality of opportunity;
 - Provide better choice and access to learning for learners, through increased collaboration between schools, colleges and other providers;
 - Give special protection and support to vulnerable communities;
 - Offer longer-term stability and greater certainty for the foreseeable future;
 - Develop lifelong and community learning; and
 - Ensure that schools be of an appropriate and sustainable size;
- 7.5.4 The Local Authority seeks to optimise the size of schools to ensure that resources are not wasted by maintaining inappropriately sized provision. However, there are many factors to be considered, such as the distance to alternative provision and the potential for extended school activities within the community.
- 7.5.5 It will be assumed that some new demand for places can be met in unused (surplus) capacity. This can be a more cost effective way of providing additional school places and as such, it is assumed that this will be done whenever possible. However, it is also acknowledged that unused (surplus) capacity is often not in the right place, for example due to housing and population movement. Therefore, the assumption is that most growth will need new provision. Factors affecting the extent to which existing capacity can be used include local geography and transport.
- 7.5.6 It is prudent to plan for additional capacity over the derived need on the basis that all indications are that demand will continue to grow beyond 2015/16. A figure of between 5 and 10 per cent is suggested by the Audit Commission, with 10% considered realistic. (The Audit Commission, 2010).

- 7.5.7 School places will be monitored on an area basis using Local Area Partnerships and, at a more local level using planning areas or school clusters. **(Appendix 13)** The purpose of focusing on LAPs is to identify future demand for each area and not to restrict this pupil movement. It is also recognised within the overall Framework that schools form planning areas or clusters driven by their location and the pattern of demand from parents and carers for school places. The Local Authority will aim to achieve a target level of no more than 10% unused (surplus) places overall but with a minimum target of 4% at a more local level based on these planning areas (school clusters). The purpose of this is to optimise parental preference and provide contingency for pupil mobility and removal into an area, whilst also seeking to ensure that the provision of school places is not only cost effective but also provides good quality education which is sustainable.
- 7.5.8 The size of primary and secondary schools will vary across the Borough according to local needs and circumstances. The general presumption will be that any new provision stemming from a review will be primary, secondary, special or all-through and that a judgement will always need to be made about the size of individual schools, how effectively they can operate and the needs of individual communities, such as whether a school is in a rural or an urban location.
- 7.5.9 Where new schools are needed, careful consideration will be given to the most effective form of organisation, governance and leadership for the new school. This will include consideration of federations and trusts and all through arrangements. In line with the Government's priority, in all cases where a new school is needed the priority will be to seek bids from sponsors for the establishment of an Academy or Free School.
- 7.5.10 A key priority of this Local Authority is that all children should be educated, wherever possible, in schools of a sufficient size to ensure appropriate staffing levels for effective curriculum delivery. In making any proposal for closure or reorganisation of school provision, consideration will be given to the ability of the school to provide effective educational and social provision for each child.
- 7.5.11 Any proposal to reduce or reorganise provision will involve consideration of many factors, including the following:
- The extent to which a school actually admits pupils from the community (designated catchment or local area) generally served by the school;
 - whether the community is sufficient to sustain the school;
 - the physical condition of the school premises;
 - the nature of the site, accessibility to it and scope for expansion;
 - the school's ability to deliver a full range of curriculum and social experiences.
 - The latest Ofsted inspections (successful schools)
 - The pattern of parental preference (popular schools)
- 7.5.12 Any proposed reorganisation involving a small or rural school will also include consideration of:

- The community importance of schools
- The additional costs involved in running small schools;
- The difference between strong demand for places at a particular school and the evidence of usage by pupils living in a school's designated catchment or local area.
- In all cases, where it is identified that changes are necessary, the first consideration will be to the benefits of collaboration and federation.

7.5.13 Schools with 15% to 25% or more unused (surplus) capacity overall will be monitored to ensure sustainability, but taking into account future demand due to the potential for growth beyond 2016.

7.5.14 In considering good value for money, where the unit cost per pupil is twice or more the Borough's average, this Local Authority will consider the funding of this to be an inefficient use of public resources. This is likely to be the case in schools that have a high proportion of unused (surplus) places.

7.5.15 The Annex to this Plan provides data on each of the LAPs, including the level of unused (surplus) places or shortfall in provision in mainstream primary and secondary schools. This data provides key information for pupil place planning and demonstrates important contrasts between schools in terms of their individual cost effectiveness, academic performance, and local popularity. In some cases, postcode data will be used to analyse the relationship between the supply and demand of school places and the pattern of parental preference for individual schools and local area partnerships.

7.6 Working in Partnership

7.6.1 In determining the number of places that will be needed in future years, the first priority will be to review provision through consultation with school partnerships. This is to ensure that headteachers are fully engaged in the process from an early stage.

7.6.2 Consultation will also involve working within Local Area Partnerships (LAP). Local Area Partnerships (LAP) bring together the key agencies within localities to ensure engagement with communities, provide empowerment opportunities and improve service delivery.

7.6.3 Statutory consultation on proposals for change will be implemented in accordance with DfE guidance and statutory procedures to include governing bodies, staff, parents, carers and other interested groups in the school's community. This will include consultation with the Dioceses of Shrewsbury and Chester. Where appropriate, neighbouring schools and local authorities that may have an interest will also be consulted. In addition, the Local Authority has a duty to respond to any representations from parents who are not satisfied with the provision of schools. This might be about the size of schools, the type of schools, where they are located or the quality of education provided.

7.7 Methodology

7.7.1 It is fundamental to the development and assessment of the School Organisation Plan to analyse demographic information relevant to the supply of school places. This includes:

- the numbers of pupils in the Borough and projected pupil numbers for the five year period of the plan
- live birth data and population forecasts
- the published admission numbers for each school
- the number on roll at each publicly funded school within the Borough
- catchment area data
- current net capacity
- unused (surplus) places
- shortfall in places
- cost per pupil
- number of sixth form places

7.7.2 In addition, information will be collated on,

- Projected NOR in five and ten years time
- Popularity of school expressed as percentage of pupils within the school catchment attending the school
- Ofsted reports and measures
- School site issues
- Proposed and approved housing developments

7.8 Forecasting

7.8.1 At the time of writing this report, the pupil forecasting methodology used in school place planning, as set out in this section, is being reviewed. The Annex to this Plan illustrates the need for more detailed analysis taking into account variation in unused (surplus) capacities between key stages and the need to produce forecasts beyond the current timescales to ensure sustainability for the foreseeable future.

7.8.2 A project undertaken by the National Foundation for Education Research (NFER), and summarised in its April 2012 report entitled 'Report for the Local Government Association - School Place Mapping', aimed to identify how local authorities establish the need for school places. One of its key findings is that many authorities demonstrate detailed knowledge of the circumstances of individual schools in their area, but it is acknowledged that 'it is not possible, and arguably not desirable, to attempt to derive a five-year forecast on the basis of school level data', recognising that forecasting for five years ahead means a significant margin of error.

7.8.3 The report states that in a 'relatively stable environment... the numbers of school age children are obviously an essential basis for planning school places'. But, with recent instability due to population change and movement, 'accurate and detailed forecasts' are needed' (NFER, 2012)

7.8.4 It is also acknowledged that inefficient forward planning also means insufficient notice to put new capacity in place and thereby reducing the

number of options for change available to the Local Authority and putting greater reliance on the use of existing accommodation and places.

- 7.8.5 Pupil forecasts are estimates of the number of pupils that are likely to attend maintained schools and Academies/Free Schools within the Borough over the next five years. The projections are currently based on January school census data and are reviewed bi-annually. Demand for school places is therefore informed by DfE defined capacity calculations and pupil projections. The number of pupils admitted to a school is also informed by admissions policy, which is determined by the relevant admissions authority. For Academies, and Free Schools and Foundation and Voluntary Aided Schools, this is the role of the governing body. The availability of places is therefore influenced by policy choices at a local level.
- 7.8.6 The new School Admissions Code introduced in February 2012 delivers greater freedoms for admission authorities that want to increase their intakes with the requirement to consult on increases in published admission numbers being removed and a reinforcement of the presumption in favour of the expansion of popular and successful schools. It is therefore considerably more difficult for local authorities to challenge admissions number decisions made by other admission authorities.
- 7.8.7 The current forecasts used by this Local Authority are produced taking into account, amongst other things:
- Existing numbers on rolls taken from the Spring School Census;
 - Current parental preferences and patterns of movement between the sectors;
 - Pre-school figures;
 - Housing forecasts where appropriate to an area;
 - Restrictions on class sizes at Key Stage 1;
- 7.8.8 For primary pupil forecasts, an average of the previous three years intake is taken and where this is significantly different from the intake figure provided by the admissions team, then an adjustment is made. The current numbers on roll and forecast reception numbers are rolled forward by a year group to provide forecasts for the next year ahead and so on for later years, to produce forecasts of pupil numbers for the next five years.
- 7.8.9 In some cases the forecast figure is overwritten to take into account other factors that may impact on a school's intake, for example,
- changes to admissions arrangements
 - provision of new accommodation
 - housing
- 7.8.10 The year 7 secondary school intake figures are arrived at by studying which primary school the pupils came from in the previous September. Using this information we then calculate percentage feeder rates for each of the Cheshire East primary schools based on an average rate transferring from that primary school to secondary school over the last three years. These percentage "feeder rates" are then applied to the number of pupils actually on roll at the primary schools in January to generate the future number of pupils which will feed from each of the primary schools into secondary schools. As well as using this primary school feeder rate we also add in a factor for the

number of pupils the secondary school takes from Non-Cheshire East and Non-Maintained primary schools and unexpected admissions from Cheshire East Primary Schools. An average number is arrived at by studying the intake pattern at the secondary school for the previous few years. The basis of all the other Years figures are the actual January figures rolled forward.

- 7.8.11 Sixth form forecasts are based on the average percentage rate of pupils staying on from year 11 to year 12 and year 12 to year 13. This rate is based on the previous 3 years.
- 7.8.12 The above follows closely the Feeder Model methodology as detailed on page 51 of the DfE Pupil Projection Guide.
- 7.8.13 In some cases the forecast figure is overwritten to take into account other factors that may impact on a school's intake, for example,
 - changes to admissions arrangements
 - provision of new accommodation
 - housing developments
- 7.8.14 The actual numbers on roll used for forecasting will be based on school census data.

7.9 Net Capacity Assessments

- 7.9.1 The capacity figures for primary and secondary schools in this Plan have been calculated using the DfE's 'net capacity assessment method' of assessing the capacity of mainstream schools to accommodate pupils. The method provides the opportunity for capacities to be set at levels to suit reasonable admission arrangements and organisation of schools (including infant class size limits) and ensures that there is neither too much nor too little space to support the core teaching activities.
- 7.9.2 For primary schools, the net capacity is calculated on the basis of the number and size of spaces designated as 'class bases'. For secondary schools, it is based on the number, size and type of teaching spaces and the age range of the school. In both cases, this is checked against the total usable space.

7.10 Primary School Reviews

- 7.10.1 When reviewing provision and planning for additional schools within an area due to additional demand, expansion will be delivered by all-through primary schools and not separate infant and junior schools. It is considered that this will provide continuity of experiences and ultimately an overall higher quality of educational achievement and experience, particularly at KS2.
- 7.10.2 The Local Authority's school place planning priority will be to provide single aged classes wherever possible (i.e. 1 FE with seven classes, 2 FE with fourteen classes) and in all cases to aid compliance with Infant Class Size Legislation, which limits infant classes to 30 pupils to a single school teacher. This includes any planning for new schools. However, for rural schools in Cheshire East, mixed aged/vertically grouped teaching arrangements may be a necessity as demand from the local community served by the school may be insufficient to provide for a full 1 form of entry (FE).

- 7.10.3 Any school built as 1 FE should if possible have a site capable of development to 2 FE, and be built with infrastructure (e.g. hall size) that can be added to easily. Only in very exceptional circumstances should primary schools in Cheshire East be built or developed beyond a 2 FE i.e. with the capacity to admit more than 420 pupils.
- 7.10.4 Small schools make an important contribution to the overall provision in Cheshire East, particularly in rural areas, where, without such schools, children could have to travel significant distances to the next nearest school. There is a Government presumption in favour of keeping small schools open. In cases where unused (surplus) places are high, this may not result in reorganisation providing the quality of education is not compromised. The Local Authority's view is that wherever possible, primary schools should have a roll of 90 or more pupils. However, it is acknowledged that smaller schools can also be viable and sustainable.
- 7.10.5 In all cases, where it is identified that changes are necessary, the first consideration will be to the benefits of collaboration and federation.

7.11 Secondary School Reviews

- 7.11.1 New secondary schools should be planned to have a minimum expected intake of 180 pupils and should always have a site capable of expansion to 210/240 pupils a year, as a minimum. Below this the level the budget generated is likely to restrict the breadth and depth of curriculum provision that can be sustained. Notwithstanding this, consideration will be given in exceptional cases to the development of smaller secondary schools. In circumstances where a small school is planned, the site should be capable of expansion to 210/240 pupils. The LA would like to see all teaching groups of below 30 pupils; however, a lower maximum size will be needed:
- Where specialist accommodation has health and safety limits;
 - For groups of children with special needs.
- 7.11.2 Where reviews of secondary school provision are undertaken, consideration should be given, through collaboration with the Cheshire East 14-19 team, to providing opportunities and facilities, where appropriate, to increase the number of post 16 children in education and training.

7.12 Removing Capacity

- 7.12.1 The Local Authority will aim to achieve a target level of no more than 10% unused (surplus) places overall and with a minimum target of 4% at a more local level based on school clusters/planning areas.
- 7.12.2 Maintaining a sufficient level of unused (surplus) places is important to allow for parental preference. Increased demand for places in the primary sector requires changes in some areas due to low levels of unused (surplus) places and insufficient places in some year groups to meet demand. At secondary level, current unused (surplus) places need to be protected so that they will be available when they are needed, as primary growth feeds through.
- 7.12.3 Where proposals are brought forward to remove unused (surplus) places, particular attention will need to be given to the quality of education provided

within an area and any community use of the premises. Where practicable, priority would be given to bringing forward proposals to remove unused (surplus) places from those schools in an area that are least successful and popular. This approach is intended to improve the quality of learning and achievement for all pupils and align the availability of school places more closely with parental preference.

7.12.4 In order to remove unused (surplus) school places the following measures will be considered:

- re-designation of accommodation for extended or other related use (see below);
- removing temporary accommodation;
- removing permanent accommodation by the removal of discrete blocks of accommodation;
- closure of a school, where sufficient places exist at better performing schools to accommodate displaced pupils within a reasonable travelling distance of the pupils' home addresses.

7.12.5 Where schools have excessive unused (surplus) capacity, it is possible for consideration to be given to the scope for extended school provision, providing such activities are compatible with the operation and security of the school. Such alternative uses might, for example, include early years' provision, breakfast and after school clubs, adult learning and skills facilities, parent/community rooms, and Local Authority designated support services.

7.12.6 In considering amalgamations as an option, a number of factors would need to be taken into account, including the following:

- Ofsted inspection reports,
- End of key stage test results and other key performance data,
- Research findings
- The circumstances of the individual schools

7.12.7 Whilst evidence suggests federation plays no direct role in removing unused (surplus) places, it can enable future changes to be made, reducing barriers to future amalgamation, providing an opportunity to improve school leadership, and improving staff capability. Forming a federation between two schools could be the first step towards school amalgamation, or the closure of the less successful or less popular school. Federation should be understood as one of several options for school governance which can achieve structural transformation of education and reducing unused (surplus) places as a first step in leading towards the amalgamation of two schools or the closure of one.

7.13 Increasing Capacity

7.13.1 Where there is a demonstrable need for additional places in an area, then consideration would first be given to determining whether the increased demand could be met by expanding existing schools in the area concerned. In considering any such action, the Local Authority will seek to deliver additional capacity in successful and popular schools. However, not all sites will be suitable for expansion and as such, this cannot be guaranteed. Therefore, where the disadvantages of such a proposal outweigh the

advantages, then alternative proposals, including the expansion of other schools in the area, or the construction of a new school, may be brought forward.

7.13.1 DfE guidance indicates that all proposals should be considered on their individual merits and that decision makers must not make blanket assumptions that schools need to be of a certain size before they can be good schools. Where additional accommodation is required in schools for a relatively short period of time, for example when an unusually large year group needs to be accommodated, or a school admits additional pupils from a new housing development whilst a new school is built, then relocatable or temporary classrooms may be provided.

7.13.2 Permanent accommodation will, wherever possible, be provided where growth is likely to be sustained for the foreseeable future, and where there is an identified long-term need.

7.14 Process for Change

7.14.1 The Local Authority has a statutory duty to plan for and secure sufficient schools for its area in line with its duties under section 14 of the Education Act 1996. Proposals will always be referred for advice to the Children and Families Scrutiny Panel.

7.14.2 The new 'presumption' for an academy/Free School requires the Local Authority to seek proposals to establish an academy/Free School in the first instance where it identifies a need for a new school

7.14.3 The Local Authority is advised to assess any proposals it receives against the criteria outlined here before forwarding all proposals to the Secretary of State, who will take into consideration any preference the Authority indicates:

- the quality of the places being added into the system, based on the proposer's vision and educational plan;
- the capability and capacity of the proposer to deliver their proposal to time and on budget, based on their expertise and experience;
- value for money, confirming that the proposer considers that the costs of establishing the new academy/Free School can be met within the estimate of capital costs outlined by the Local Authority and, where they cannot be met within that estimate, an explanation of the reasons for the additional costs and how any shortfall will be met.

7.14.4 In the event that the Local Authority does not identify a suitable sponsor through this initial process, it can, on approval of the Secretary of State, undertake a competition to decide who should establish the new school. At this stage the Local Authority will not be able to enter the competition itself to establish a new community or controlled school. The competition procedure requires that,

- The Local Authority issues a public notice which explains why another school is needed.
- The notice would describe the size and age range of the school and invites proposals for the new school from any interested person or group of people. These might be parents, businesses, charities or

faith groups, for example. The local authority might decide to put a proposal of its own into the competition.

- The Local Authority must publish all the proposals and hold at least one public meeting where the proposals can be discussed.
- the Local Authority will decide which proposal should be taken forward.

7.14.5 If no proposals or no suitable proposals are received during the competition, the Local Authority can then publish proposals of its own for a community or foundation school. The Schools Adjudicator will be responsible for determining such proposals.

7.14.6 Full details of the process for establishing a new school are [published on the DfE website and can be viewed by following this link.](#)

7.14.7 Other significant changes to school organisation are subject to statutory processes which require extensive consultation and can include public meetings. This allows all interested parties the opportunity to consider the proposed changes and contribute to the decision making process. Changes, such as closing schools or enlarging them require the publication of statutory notices. This process allows key stakeholders, such as parents, pupils, staff and the local community, the opportunity to consider, object or comment on proposals. Proposals may be published by the Local Authority or sometimes by school governing bodies. In most situations the Local Authority will normally decide these proposals. In some circumstances there will be a right of appeal to an adjudicator.

7.14.8 The process will involve the following stages:

- Share the problem with school partnerships and LAPs and invite local solutions
- Develop a strategic vision and plan
- Formal consultation
- Issue public notices, as appropriate
- Final decisions

7.14.9 Call-ins are only permitted at two stages of the decision-making process:

- when formal consultation is approved; and
- when notices are approved for publication.

7.15 Decisions on School Organisation Proposals

Decisions on School Organisation proposals will be made in accordance with the Local Authority's agreed procedure, which is published on the Local Authority's website. This procedure sets out

- That decisions to consult and publish statutory notices will be taken by the individual portfolio holder for Children and Families, and
- When considering statutory school reorganisation proposals and decisions on non statutory education reorganisation proposals which attract objections, decisions to be taken by a Cabinet Sub Committee under the procedures set out in the agreed procedures.

7.16 Schools Delegated Budgets

- 7.16.1 Arrangements for 2012/13 represent a continuation of the settlement introduced for 2011/12. Grants continue to be mainstreamed within the Dedicated Schools Grant, and the Minimum Funding Guarantee of -1.5% has continued. The Pupil Premium for Cared for Children and Free School Meal children has increased to £600, whilst the service children element has increased to £250. The criteria for allocation has also widened so that any child who has been on Free School Meals during the last six years now attracts the Premium
- 7.16.2 There will be a number of financial challenges faced by schools in 2012/13, and schools will be required to manage their finances more pro-actively than ever. The “flat cash” DSG award for 2012/13 will put pressure on schools to manage inflationary pressures.
- 7.16.3 The mainstreaming of grants has changed how schools currently plan their finances, and there will need to be consideration by schools as to how grants will be used in order to deliver local priorities and objectives.
- 7.16.4 Schools are being encouraged to be more autonomous and undertake as much responsibility as possible going forward. The increase in delegated funding and mainstreaming of grants based on pupil numbers has been aimed to encourage schools to make decisions about how funding is best used to benefit the schools and serve the needs of the pupils.
- 7.16.5 The DfE’s most recent funding consultation: *School Funding Reform: Next Steps Towards a Fairer System*, outlines the changes that the DfE are considering making to local funding formulas for 2013/14 in preparation for the introduction of a National Funding Formula for 2015/16. The Direction of Travel is for a reduction in formula factors to 10 as a maximum, maximum delegation of funding direct to schools, change in arrangements for the funding of High Needs to a Place Plus methodology, and a simplification of funding for Academies.

Leave blank

DRAFT

8 Pupil Forecasts

8.1 Mainstream Primary Schools

- 8.1.1 In line with the population forecasts for each LAP, the school-aged population projections indicate that there will be an increase in the number of primary aged pupils over the period 2011 to 2016 with an overall increase for Cheshire East of just below 800 pupils. (See Table 20 below) This represents a 3% increase over this period. The numbers vary from one LAP to another with the biggest increases in the number of pupils being in Congleton and Crewe. The area with the highest percentage increase over this period is Nantwich with the area forecast to have an additional 4.2% pupils in 2016 compared with 2011.
- 8.1.2 The largest percentage increase from year to year is forecast for September 2013 with approximately 44% of the overall increase occurring at this time. The areas with the highest increase in pupil numbers for September 2013 are Congleton and Crewe with 29% and 18% of the 346 pupils.

Table 20. Primary School Age Forecasts by LAP

LAP	SEPT 2011	SEPT 2012	SEPT 2013	SEPT 2014	SEPT 2015	SEPT 2016	LAP Difference	LAP % Difference
Congleton	6580	6652	6751	6779	6799	6808	228	3.5%
Crewe	6577	6665	6729	6802	6815	6799	222	3.4%
Knutsford	1553	1556	1586	1589	1590	1583	30	1.9%
Macclesfield	4562	4602	4658	4667	4712	4693	131	2.9%
Nantwich	2696	2727	2769	2814	2788	2810	114	4.2%
Poynton	1740	1743	1755	1747	1737	1751	11	0.6%
Wilmslow	2358	2365	2408	2412	2408	2415	57	2.4%
Total	26066	26310	26656	26810	26849	26859	793	3.0%
Year to Year		244	346	154	39	10	793	

Data Sources: 2011 January School Census, forecasts from Performance & Data team used in DfE 2011 SCAP return

- 8.1.3 Indications based on these forecasts are that across the Borough the current number of school places of 28,195 should be sufficient to meet the anticipated demand. However, this will reduce the level of anticipated unused (surplus) to 4.7% overall by 2016 compared with the level at May 2011 of 7.6%.

Table 21. Primary School Age Forecasts by NC Year Group 2011-2016

NC Year	SEPT 2011	SEPT 2012	SEPT 2013	SEPT 2014	SEPT 2015	SEPT 2016	NC Year Difference	%
R	3824	3828	3828	3828	3827	3827	3	0.1%
Yr1	3849	3828	3832	3832	3830	3830	-19	-0.5%
Yr2	3823	3853	3832	3836	3833	3833	10	0.3%
Yr3	3780	3827	3857	3836	3836	3836	56	1.5%
Yr4	3691	3784	3831	3861	3836	3839	148	4.0%
Yr5	3499	3691	3785	3832	3858	3836	337	9.6%
Yr6	3600	3499	3691	3785	3829	3858	258	7.2%
Total	26066	26310	26656	26810	26849	26859	793	3.0%
Year to Year		244	346	154	39	10	793	

Data Sources: 2011 January School Census, forecasts from Performance & Data team used in DfE 2011 SCAP return

- 8.1.4 The basis of the forecast September intake figure shown in Table 21 above is determined by calculating an average of the previous three years intake. Where appropriate, adjustments are made to reflect significant changes to intakes agreed through the coordinated admissions process. It is therefore important to consider alongside these pupil forecasts any potential impact due to anticipated changes in the population and live births.
- 8.1.5 Population forecasts indicate that the number of children aged 0-15 will decrease by around 4% over the next twenty years (2009-2029). However, in terms of school place planning and, in particular primary school places, what is really key here is that throughout this period, the number of children in each age group will fluctuate reflecting past patterns of numbers of births. As such, the largest overall decrease (of 7%) will be in the number of 11-15 year olds compared with changes in the number of 5-10 year olds over the next ten years, which are forecast to increase by 3% placing significant pressure on primary school places over this period. This increase was forecast to start around 2011.
- 8.1.6 Whilst forecasts do indicate that after 2016 the numbers will start to decrease again resulting in the same number of 5-10 year olds by 2029 as there were in 2009, with a forecast unused (surplus) capacity by 2016 of only 4.7% overall, a 3% increase in the number of primary aged children by 2019 will significantly reduce the level of unused (surplus) places from year to year and in so doing, reduce the Local Authority's ability to maximise opportunities for parental choice.
- 8.1.7 More importantly, the current unused (surplus) capacity of 7.6% is not evenly spread across the Borough and as such, some LAPs and some schools or clusters of schools will be put under greater pressure due to increased demand in an area. It is also important to note that the level of unused (surplus) places varies between year groups and also key stages resulting in more pressure in some year groups, and notably key stage 1. The figures must therefore be taken only as an indication of the overall unused (surplus) capacity and no detailed analysis must be implemented at a more local level to inform planning for future years.

8.1.8 The year groups currently under the greatest pressure tend to be in the reception classes through to Year 2 and this can be attributed to the forecast increase in the number of 5-10 year olds commencing around 2011. For admission into the reception class in September 2011, the position at 13 July 2011 was that across Cheshire East there were only 3% vacancies when comparing the number of children for whom places are offered and the number of places available. As some schools admitted over their published admission number (PAN) this created some vacancies in other schools resulting in vacancies at 5.6%. However, the level of unused (surplus) capacity in the Wilmslow and Crewe LAPs at this time was only 1.2% and 1.5% respectively. This is after additional places had been created in some schools. For Wilmslow there would have been a shortfall of -3.6% and for Crewe a negative unused (surplus) capacity at -1.6% had such actions not been taken. Further information about the reception class vacancies in 2011 is attached as **Appendix 14**.

8.1.9 The population forecasts indicate that an increased number of pupils within the primary age range will continue over a ten year period. Information about the implications that this has for each Local Area Partnership (LAP) will be addressed in the Annex to this School Organisation Plan.

8.2 Mainstream Secondary Schools

8.2.1 The current total capacity across the 21 maintained secondary schools and Academies is 24,562 pupils. Of these, 23,351 places are filled (May 2011), which equates to an unused (surplus) capacity across Cheshire East of less than 5%.

8.2.2 Pupil forecasts are calculated by taking an average of the previous three years intake. Where appropriate, adjustments are made to reflect significant changes to intakes agreed through the coordinated admissions process. It is therefore important to consider alongside these pupil forecasts any potential impact due to anticipated changes in the population and live births.

8.2.3 In line with population forecasts, the number of pupils across Cheshire East is projected to fall. Forecasts indicate that between 2011 and 2016 there will be 1500 less pupils. The biggest fall is forecast for the Congleton LAP with it having 49% of the total overall decrease of 1531. This represents a 9.6% fall in the number of pupils for this area. (See Table 22 below).

Table 22. Secondary School Age Forecasts by LAP

LAP	SEPT 2011	SEPT 2012	SEPT 2013	SEPT 2014	SEPT 2015	SEPT 2016	LAP Difference	LAP % Difference
Congleton	7801	7638	7433	7308	7134	7052	-749	-9.6%
Crewe	3524	3440	3359	3315	3322	3375	-149	-4.2%
Knutsford	1311	1291	1259	1248	1253	1254	-57	-4.3%
Macclesfield	4508	4460	4344	4331	4263	4275	-233	-5.2%
Nantwich	2381	2329	2274	2224	2229	2237	-144	-6.0%
Poynton	1586	1552	1517	1504	1479	1444	-142	-9.0%
Wilmslow	2009	1997	1973	1969	1963	1952	-57	-2.8%
Total	23120	22707	22159	21899	21643	21589	-1531	-6.6%
Year to Year		-413	-548	-260	-256	-54	-1531	

Data Sources: 2011 January School Census, forecasts from Performance & Data team used in DfE 2011 SCAP return

8.2.4 The largest decrease from year to year is forecast for September 2013 with approximately 36% of the overall decrease occurring at this time. For 2012 the projections show a 27% reduction in pupil numbers.

8.2.5 Based on these forecasts, indications are that the current number of school places of 24,562 is more than sufficient to meet the anticipated demand with current levels of unused (surplus) capacity of below 5% (May 2011) increasing to over 12% by 2016.

Table 23. Secondary School Age Forecasts by NC Year Group

NC Year	SEPT 2011	SEPT 2012	SEPT 2013	SEPT 2014	SEPT 2015	SEPT 2016	Difference	%
Yr7	3747	3574	3470	3642	3711	3759	12	0.3%
Yr8	3917	3747	3574	3470	3642	3711	-206	-5.3%
Yr9	3871	3917	3747	3574	3470	3642	-229	-5.9%
Yr10	4089	3871	3917	3747	3574	3470	-619	-15.1%
Yr11	3918	4089	3871	3917	3747	3574	-344	-8.8%
Yr12	1856	1845	1925	1830	1852	1777	-79	-4.3%
Yr13	1598	1544	1535	1603	1525	1541	-57	-3.6%
Yr14	124	120	120	116	122	115	-9	-7.3%
Secondary Total	23120	22707	22159	21899	21643	21589	-1531	-6.6%
Year to Year		-413	-548	-260	-256	-54	-1531	

Data Sources: 2011 January School Census, forecasts from Performance & Data team used in DfE 2011 SCAP return

- 8.2.6 The current level of unused (surplus) capacity at secondary level will change after 2017 as a result of the increased number of pupils in the primary sector. This will need further yearly evaluation to ensure that supply and demand are closely aligned.
- 8.2.7 The current and forecast unused (surplus) capacity is not evenly spread across the Borough, or between schools or year groups.
- 8.2.8 For admission into the Year 7 class in September 2011, the position at 26 June 2011 was that there were 11% vacancies after all applications had been processed. This unused (surplus) capacity is calculated by deducting the total number of year 7 children for whom places are offered from the total number of places available (based on the Year 7 published admission numbers). 11% is almost double the level of unused (surplus) across all year groups, which was forecast for September 2011 at just over 5.9%.
- 8.2.9 In order to accommodate local children and siblings, or as a consequence of successful appeals by parents, some schools have admitted above their published admission number (PAN) and this creates vacancies in other schools. The actual number of year 7 vacancies is therefore higher at 11.8%.
- 8.2.10 The number of unused (surplus) places is not evenly distributed across Cheshire East and for Wilmslow and Poynton LAPs the level of unused (surplus) in year 7 is very low at 0% resulting in pressure on school places from late applications and in year admissions. (see **Appendix 15**)
- 8.2.11 The population forecasts indicate that there will be a reduction by 3% in the number of pupils within the secondary age range over a ten year period, falling from 22,000 in 2009 to 21,300 thousand by 2019. Information about the implications that this has for each Local Area Partnership (LAP) will be addressed in the Annex to this School Organisation Plan.

8.3 Unused (Surplus) Places

- 8.3.1 A spreadsheet containing full details about the actual and forecast level of unused (surplus) places within each LAP up to 2016, which is based on January 2011 census data, is attached as **Appendix 16**. Analysis on 2012 data; which will be made available during the autumn term 2012, will be based on October 2012 school census data and will be calculated using a revised methodology.
- 8.3.2 At the primary phase, the overall unused (surplus) capacity calculated at January 2011 was 8% but with some LAPs experiencing a real shortfall in provision having very low or negative unused (surplus) capacity. Table 24 below shows that this unused (surplus) capacity will continue to reduce over the period 2011-2016 and, in some areas will be well below the target unused (surplus) level of 4% or over.

Table 24. Primary School Unused (Surplus) Places by LAP

	Primary % Unused (Surplus) Places						
Local Area Partnerships	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
Congleton	7%	8%	7%	6%	6%	5%	5%
Crewe	7%	6%	5%	4%	3%	3%	3%
Knutsford	6%	6%	6%	4%	4%	4%	4%
Macclesfield	15%	15%	14%	13%	13%	12%	12%
Nantwich	9%	8%	7%	5%	4%	5%	4%
Poynton	3%	5%	5%	4%	4%	5%	4%
Wilmslow	1%	-1%	-1%	-3%	-3%	-3%	-3%
Total	8%	8%	7%	6%	5%	5%	5%

Data Sources: 2011 January School Census, forecasts from Performance & Data team used in DfE 2011 SCAP return and capacity data from School Organisation team and used in DfE 2011 SCAP return

- 8.3.3 The areas highlighted in red on Table 24 identify the LAPs with unused (surplus) places that are forecast to be below 4%. The main concerns are the Wilmslow and Crewe LAPs, which for 2010/11 indicated only 1% unused (surplus) in Wilmslow falling to -3% by 2016 and for Crewe, 7% falling to only 3% by the same period.
- 8.3.4 A further consideration must be the pattern of parental preference and maximising parental satisfaction with the admissions process, whilst also ensuring cost effective and sustainable provision across an area. For some areas the level of unused (surplus) appears sufficient and in line with the Local Authority's minimum target of 4%. However, in a number of cases, the unused (surplus) is confined to a small number of schools and this can present problems if the distance to a school with vacancies is unreasonable or demand for places is low. Furthermore, in some areas, vacancies are confined to particular year groups resulting in significant pressure for some cohorts.
- 8.3.5 The table below shows that at the secondary phase the overall unused (surplus) capacity of 5% is also inconsistent across LAPs. The unused (surplus) places in some areas are currently very low and well below the minimum 4% target.
- 8.3.6 The pattern of unused (surplus) places across LAPs is quite different to that for the primary phase, with all areas showing an increase in the number of unused (surplus) places across this period. Nevertheless, the number of unused (surplus) places are very low in the Wilmslow and Poynton LAPs but with forecasts indicating a reduction in the number of pupils between 2011-2016.

Table 25. Secondary School Unused (Surplus) Places by LAP

	Secondary % Unused (Surplus) Places						
Local Area Partnerships	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
Congleton	2%	2%	4%	7%	8%	10%	11%
Crewe	11%	13%	15%	17%	19%	18%	17%
Knutsford	16%	18%	20%	22%	22%	22%	22%
Macclesfield	-4%	-4%	-2%	0%	1%	2%	2%
Nantwich	10%	12%	14%	16%	18%	18%	18%
Poynton	-3%	-4%	-2%	1%	2%	3%	6%
Wilmslow	-1%	-2%	-1%	0%	0%	1%	1%
Total	4%	5%	6%	8%	10%	11%	11%

Data Sources: 2011 January School Census, forecasts from Performance & Data team used in DfE 2011 SCAP return and capacity data from School Organisation Team and used in DfE 2011 SCAP return

- 8.3.7 The areas highlighted in red on Table 25 identify the LAPs with unused (surplus) places that are forecast to be below 4%. It should be noted that following the review of secondary provision in the Macclesfield LAP between 2009 and 2011, Macclesfield High School closed on 31 August 2011 and has been replaced by a 600 place 11-16 Academy on the same site. The reduction in the number of places on this site from 900 to 600 reduced the level of unused (surplus) places across the Macclesfield LAP and the overall level for Cheshire East. The main area of concern is Wilmslow with the one high school serving this area having insufficient capacity to meet current and future demand.

Leave blank

DRAFT

9 Conclusion

- 9.1. The Local Authority has already begun to experience difficulties in some areas arising from an insufficient number of primary school places due to a very small margin between the supply of school places and increased demand due to population changes and changes in live births. In particular, pressure on school places at the normal point of entry into the reception class has meant that for admission into the reception year groups, some schools have been requested to admit above the Published Admission Number to ensure provision at a reasonable distance for some families. Removal into the area during the school year has also presented problems for these areas with most year groups being full.
- 9.2 In order to address the current shortfall in the number of primary school places, measures have already been taken to deliver additional capacity for September 2012 in some areas. These measures have been implemented as a matter of priority ahead of the adoption by the Local Authority of this School Organisation Plan to ensure that the Local Authority can meet its strategic duty as commissioner of school places. Once adopted, this Plan will inform all future procedures in relation to school place planning. With population forecasts indicating increasing pupil numbers between the age range 5-10 years over the coming years, further more detailed analysis is required at a more local level. This process will be reported in the Annex to this School Organisation Plan.
- 9.4 The Department for Education has published (December 2011) national projections for the number of pupils in schools by type of school and age group using the latest mid-2010 based National Population Projections from the Office for National Statistics (ONS), which were released in October 2011 and covering the period up to 2020. The statistics are presented as the latest available findings and have been released to help planning, to study trends and to inform a variety of programmes and initiatives. The release is the first time that the impact of the mid-2010 based projections on future pupil numbers has been presented. The projections (published online at <http://www.education.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/STR/d001051/index.shtml>) indicate that,
- Overall pupil numbers (aged up to and including 15) in state-funded schools began to increase in 2011 and are projected to continue rising;
 - Numbers in maintained nursery and state-funded primary schools started increasing in 2010 and are expected to continue rising. By 2020, numbers are projected to be 20 per cent higher than in 2011, reaching levels last seen in the early 1970s;
 - By 2015, pupil numbers in maintained nursery and state-funded primary schools are projected to increase by 10 per cent. The number of pupils aged 5 to 6 will increase by 10 per cent. For pupils aged 7 to 10, a 9 per cent increase is projected over the same period;
 - State-funded secondary school rolls of pupils aged under 16 have been in decline since 2004 and are expected to decline further until around 2016, when the increases in primary pupil numbers will start to flow through;
 - By 2015, state-funded secondary pupil numbers aged under 16 are expected to be 5 per cent lower than in 2011;

- State-funded secondary pupil numbers aged 16 and over have risen every year since the mid-1990s. By 2013 (the latest year for which data is available) they are projected to be around 8,000 higher than in 2011;
 - These projections are based on the Office for National Statistics' principal assumptions about levels of fertility, mortality and migration and their impact on the school-aged population.
- 9.5 The Office for National Statistics (ONS, 2011) shows an annual growth in live births of 2.4 per cent. (Total figures are for England and Wales) Data indicates that there were 723,913 live births in England and Wales in 2011, compared with 723,165 in 2010 (a rise of 0.1 per cent) and 594,634 in 2001. The small rise in 2011 represents a continuation of the increasing numbers of live births recorded since 2001. During this period the number of live births has risen by 22 per cent from 594,634 in 2001 despite a small fall between 2008 and 2009.
- 9.6 The national picture of a rising birth rate over the last six to seven years has already required additional primary provision in many authorities. By 2014/15, it will start to be significant for some secondary schools.
- 9.7 New housing developments are an obvious potential source of increased demand for school places. However, there is more uncertainty about the pace and impact of development in the current (2011/12) economic climate. The issue for the Local Authority is therefore when to introduce additional school places to address any potential change arising from new housing, recognising that increasing capacity in an area can create unnecessary pressures, such as competition between local schools, if the new housing is not delivered. This risk has to be balanced against the risk of having insufficient places to meet demand arising from any known new housing proposals.
- 9.8 A key priority for this Authority must therefore be to establish, as far as possible, accuracy of predictions and develop effective forecasting methodology.
- 9.9 It is, however, recognised that there are difficulties in planning effectively when demand for school places is driven by school reputation and parental preference, which can be volatile. Furthermore, the proportion of parents currently accessing school places in neighbouring local authorities may also change as unused (surplus) places reduce in those authorities and create an unknown additional pressure within the home authority. Changes in patterns of housing may also impact out-of authority provision.
- 9.10 There is general acceptance across local authorities that forecasting by moving cohorts forwards through time, and working from birth data to establish the likely starting population, is a sensible starting point.
- 9.11 One of the key issues for this Local Authority is the need to fully understand recent trends, including increasing births and population changes and to produce analysis at a local level in order to plan school places effectively. This involves consideration of when and where growth in the birth rate requires changes to primary and secondary provision, how population movement, both migration (new arrivals) and local (within and between areas) is changing the pattern of demand for places, and how major changes in the housing market and uncertainty over new developments inform planning.

Analysis of School Places 2011

Introduction

The Borough of Cheshire East is divided into 7 Local Area Partnerships (LAPs). These are Congleton, Crewe, Knutsford, Macclesfield, Nantwich, Poynton and Wilmslow. In order that the Local Authority meets its statutory duty to ensure there are sufficient school places within its area for its residents, ongoing analysis of provision and consultation on changes will be driven by school census data at LAP level. LAPs facilitate local consultation and engagement to gain a shared understanding of local issues, needs and preferences important to the area.

This report presents information about the number of pupil places provided in Cheshire East Council's publicly funded schools, which includes Academies and Free Schools, together with information about the number of pupils on roll in each school and the number of vacant school places.

Any increase in demand for school places arising as a consequence of new housing developments is in addition to the core analysis of demographic basic need as set out in this document and is investigated separately. Planning applications are subject to a Section 106 Agreement, which will identify the potential number of pupils that the proposed housing development would yield. Financial contributions will be sought from developers to enable the Local Authority to commission sufficient school places to meet the additional future demand directly related to growth in pupil numbers from new housing.

Information published by the Office for National Statistics (2012) shows that previous projections for population growth, which were based on 2009 mid-year estimates, were underestimated and revised forecasts now show that by 2020 there will be around 21% more primary aged children than in 2010. This new data is now being investigated at a local level and details will be included in the 2012 Annex.

Admissions into the reception classes in September indicate an increasing primary aged population with parents of 3319 Cheshire East resident pupils in 2010 applying for school places, increasing to 3424 in 2011 and 3582 for 2012 resulting in an overall increase of 263 pupils. This represents 6.5% of the total number of primary schools places in 2011 of 4066. The total number of applications received for reception class places, including residents from other local authorities, has been increasing year on year with 3716 in 2010, increasing to 4080 in 2011 and 4328 in 2012 with a total increase over this period of 612 pupils.

The table below provides pupil numbers based on January 2012 School Census Data and provides an indication of the disparity between the numbers on roll in Key Stages One and Two and the variation across year groups. The data shows that the overall number of primary aged pupils has been increasing since 2007. This information is very important in planning the provision of school places as the overall forecasts (including all year groups) will be misleading if intakes into lower year groups are proportionally greater.

January 2012 Census	Key Stage 1			Key Stage 2			
	R	1	2	3	4	5	6
Admission Year	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
Year Group Total	3,804	3,773	3,730	3,631	3,451	3,548	3,753
% Year group	14.3%	14.2%	14.1%	13.7%	13.0%	13.4%	14.1%
Spare Places per Year Group	262	293	336	435	615	518	313
% Spare Places per Year Group	6.4%	7.2%	8.3%	10.7%	15.1%	12.7%	7.7%
Key Stage Total	11,307			14,383			
% Key Stage	44.0%			56.0%			
Number of Places per Key Stage (using 4066 per year)	12198			16264			
Key Stage Spare Places	891			1,881			
% Key Stage Spare Places	7.3%			11.6%			

The forecasting methodology applied to the 2011 School Census data and included in this report is currently under review. This is to ensure that, as far as possible, the planning and provision of school places is informed by robust data that delivers changes which are sustainable for the foreseeable future. Revised methodology, taking into account the issues identified in this report, will be applied to the 2012 data for publication towards the end of the autumn term 2012.

Background documents to this report are listed below and can be obtained on request by contacting SOCS@cheshireeast.gov.uk

January 2011 School Census Data
 October 2011 School Census Data
 Forecast Basic Need
 Reception 2011 Analysis
 Proposed Housing Developments

1 Congleton LAP

1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 The Congleton LAP has 32 primary schools and 6 secondary schools covering the areas of Alsager, Congleton, Holmes Chapel, Middlewich and Sandbach. The total capacity across this area is 7095 primary school places and 7962 secondary school places.

1.1.2 The 2011-2017 population forecasts for Congleton LAP (shown below) indicate that the overall number of children (0-15) will fall to around 15,600 by 2017, which is a reduction of 900 children over this period.

Age Band	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
0-15	16,500	16,400	16,200	16,100	15,900	15,600	15,600
16-44	31,000	30,700	30,300	29,700	29,200	28,900	28,500
45-64	27,200	27,200	27,100	27,100	27,400	27,600	27,700
65+	19,100	20,100	21,000	21,800	22,400	23,000	23,600
Total	93,900	94,200	94,500	94,700	94,900	95,100	95,400

Source: Office for National Statistics 2007 to 2016 mid-year estimates by age band and Local Area Partnership(LAP)

1.1.3 Over the period 2011-2016, secondary-aged pupils are forecast to fall by 749 representing 49% of the total overall decrease. This represents a 9.6% fall. For the same period, the number of primary aged pupils is forecast to increase with an extra 162 school aged pupils over the same period (2.46%), which is slightly below the forecast for Cheshire East as a whole of only 3% increase in the number of children aged between 5-10 years.

Congleton LAP Jan 2011 Census	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	2011-2016	2011-2016
Primary	6580	6632	6710	6717	6742	6742	162	2.46%
Yearly Change		52	78	7	25	0		
Secondary	7801	7638	7433	7308	7134	7052	-749	-9.60%
Yearly Change		-163	-205	-125	-174	-82		

Data Sources 2011 January School Census, forecasts from Performance & Data team used in DfE 2011 SCAP return

1.1.4 Between 2004 and 2010, live birth data indicates that there has been a fall in the number of births for this area, with a reduction by 3.9% over this period compared with an increase for Cheshire East of 6.3%.

1.1.5 Pupil forecasts indicate that September 2012 and 2013 will see an increase in the number of primary admissions with the majority of the increase in pupil numbers forecast for these intake years. For secondary there is a consistent

decline in the number of pupils into year 7 with September 2013 seeing the biggest reduction in numbers over this period.

- 1.1.6 The total number of school places of 7964 exceeds the 2016 pupil forecasts for the primary sector of 6808 pupils by 1,156. Reviews are implemented annually and further analysis will be undertaken to identify any long term implications for the secondary sector arising from the current pattern of increasing numbers into the primary sector.
- 1.1.7 Pupil forecasts indicate that by the end of the 2011-2016 period, there will be 910 (11%) secondary school vacancies in the Congleton LAP (including 6th form places). This is in line with the total forecast for Cheshire East of 11%.

	Secondary Unused (Surplus) Places					
	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
Congleton LAP	161	324	529	654	828	910
	2%	4%	7%	8%	10%	11%
Cheshire East	1093	1506	2054	2314	2570	2624
	5%	6%	8%	10%	11%	11%

- 1.1.8 For the primary sector, forecasts indicate a 5% surplus by 2016 of 390 vacant school places, which as for secondary, is in line with the Cheshire East forecasts including all primary schools.

	Primary Unused (Surplus) Places					
	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
Congleton	552	500	422	415	390	390
	8%	7%	6%	6%	5%	5%
Cheshire East	2162	1938	1613	1480	1436	1435
	8%	7%	6%	5%	5%	5%

- 1.1.9 Reception admissions for 2011 have been analysed to identify any variance from the pupil forecasts for this intake year. The results for this LAP show that the number of pupils allocated places for September 2011 was slightly higher than forecast at 1.98% based on the January 2011 School Census Data admission.

LAP Area	PAN	Spaces	Reception Allocation Sep 2011	Forecast from Jan 2011	Variance from Jan 11 Forecast	
Congleton	1035	56	979	960	19	1.98%
Cheshire East	4054	101	3953	3824	129	3.37%

1.1.10 An analysis of the number of pupils in each year group and key stage is compared in the table below with the number of spaces provided by the published admission number (PAN). This illustrates the difference between the 2011 (Reception) and 2005 (Year 6) intakes and highlights the overall growth in the number of pupils in the lower year groups with only 6.1% vacant places in key stage one compared with 10.5% in key stage two at October 2011.

October 2011 Census	Number of pupils on roll							
	Key Stage 1				Key Stage 2			
Congleton LAP	PAN	R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Total	1035	978	980	957	940	974	882	911
LAP Unused (Surplus) Places by Year Group		57	55	78	95	61	153	124
LAP % Unused (Surplus) Places by Year Group		5.5%	5.3%	7.5%	9.2%	5.9%	14.8%	12.0%
Key Stage Total		2915			3707			
Key Stage Unused Places (Surplus)		190			433			
Key Stage Unused Places (Surplus) %		6.1%			10.5%			
Cheshire East % Key Stage Unused (Surplus) Places		7.3%			11.6%			

1.1.11 The table below provides a summary of core data for this LAP compared with Cheshire East as a whole.

Data Summary	% Change	Notes	
LAP Secondary Forecasts	9.6%	Reduction	2011-2016
CE Population Forecasts (11-15 year olds)	3%	Reduction	2009-2019
LAP Primary Forecasts	3.5%	Increase	2011-2016
CE Population Forecasts (5-10 Year olds)	3%	Increase	2009 -2019
CE Population Forecasts (0-15 Year olds)	2%	Reduction	2009-2019
Congleton Borough Live Births	3.9%	Reduction	2004-2010
CE Live Births	6.3%	Increase	2004-2010

1.2 Area 1 – Congleton (Alsager)

School	Status
Alsager Highfields Community Primary	Foundation Trust
Cranberry Primary	Foundation Trust
Excalibur Primary	Foundation Trust
Pikemere Primary	Foundation Trust
Rode Heath Primary	Foundation Trust
St Gabriel's Catholic Primary	Voluntary Aided
Alsager School (Secondary)	Foundation Trust

- 1.2.1 In Alsager, there are 6 primary schools providing 1382 places. These comprise of 5 Foundation Trust schools and one Voluntary Aided Catholic school. Based on current projections there are sufficient primary school places in the area to meet demand for the next five years with unused (surplus) places anticipated at between 8%-11% for the period 2011-2016.

January 2011 Census Data	Unused (Surplus) Places					
School	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
Alsager Highfields	1	1	-4	-6	0	-7
% Unused (Surplus)	0%	0%	-1%	-2%	0%	-3%
Cranberry Primary	60	78	84	94	93	91
% Unused (Surplus)	23%	30%	32%	36%	35%	35%
Excalibur Primary	9	12	12	6	7	9
% Unused (Surplus)	4%	6%	6%	3%	3%	4%
Pikemere	3	5	6	7	6	6
% Unused (Surplus)	1%	2%	3%	3%	3%	3%
Rode Heath	32	39	37	42	40	39
% Unused (Surplus)	15%	19%	18%	20%	19%	19%
St Gabriel's Catholic	4	9	12	13	10	12
% Unused (Surplus)	2%	4%	6%	6%	5%	6%
Total	109	144	147	156	156	150
% Unused (Surplus)	8%	10%	11%	11%	11%	11%
Additional Unused (Surplus) from Previous Year	54	89	92	101	101	95

- 1.2.2 For these 6 primary schools, a large number of places are taken up by pupils resident in areas outside the schools' catchment areas. For 2 schools less than half the pupils on roll reside in the area zoned to the school. A further 3 schools have just over half its pupil population from within its catchment area. The percentage of pupils attending these schools that live outside Cheshire East ranges between 9.4% and 23% with an average across all 6 schools of 13.5%.

- 1.2.3 The level of unused (surplus) places in both key stages at October 2011 is low with only 1.3% in Key Stage 2 and 3.9% in Key Stage 1. This is unlike other areas, with more spare places in the infant classes compared with the junior classes.

October 2011 Census									
School Name	PAN	R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Total
Alsager Highfields	40	46	41	33	47	41	36	38	282
Cranberry	30	30	31	24	25	35	30	42	217
Excalibur	30	30	26	29	32	22	27	33	199
Pikemere	30	30	30	28	28	30	30	31	207
Rode Heath	30	30	28	22	22	31	22	31	186
St Gabriel's Catholic	30	30	30	30	24	30	30	33	207
Total	190	196	186	166	178	189	175	208	1298
Key Stage Total			548			750			
Key Stage Unused (Surplus) Places			22			10			
Key Stage % Unused (Surplus)			3.9%			1.3%			
Cheshire East % Key Stage Unused (Surplus) Places			7.3%			11.6%			

- 1.2.4 At the normal point of entry to school in September and also as 'in year' transfers, due to the popularity of these primary schools with families outside the local area, the current number of vacancies in all year groups is low and this can impact on availability for families seeking places as 'in year' admissions due to a recent house move. Any increase in capacity to provide contingency for late applications and 'in year' movement could still be taken up at the normal point of entry to the school and would therefore not necessarily address this situation.

- 1.2.5 Admissions into the reception class for 2011 (shown in the table below) reflects the growing pressure on key stage one places arising from increases in school-aged populations; specifically children within the age range 5-10 years (2011-2016), which for the Congleton LAP as a whole will see an increase of 3.5% by 2016.

1.2.6	F o r 2	Rode Heath	30	30	0	0%
		St Gabriel's Catholic	30	30	0	0%
		Total	190	189	1	0.5%
		Alsager Highfields	40	40	0	0%
		Cranberry	30	29	1	3%
		Excalibur	30	30	0	0%
		Pikemere	30	30	0	0%

013 and subsequent years, additional reception class places have been made available following the decision of Alsager Highfield's Governing Body to increase the published admission number (PAN) from 40 to 45 places. As this cohort moves through the school, this will impact on the current unused (surplus) forecasts.

- 1.2.7 At the secondary phase, there is one high school providing 1362 places for pupils aged 11-18. Forecasts indicate a low surplus of between 2%-3% in the period 2011-2013 but with an increase in subsequent years of between 6% - 13%.

	NOR Jan'11		Forecast Unused (Surplus) Places					
		Capacity	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
Alsager	1350	1362	30	47	86	110	145	182
			2%	3%	6%	8%	11%	13%

- 1.2.8 The number of places available in Years 7 -11 in October 2011 (i.e. excluding the sixth form) presents a different picture with over 7% unused (surplus) places compared with the forecast overall unused (surplus) for the 2011-12 academic year of only 2%.

School Name	Number of pupils on roll Oct 2011						Total NOR	PAN Total	Y7-11 Spaces	% Spaces
	PAN	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11				
Alsager School	235	203	224	211	224	222	1084	1175	91	7.7%

- 1.2.9 The high school primarily admits pupils from within the Alsager locality and at January 2011, 95% of the children living in Alsager attended the school. Of the total number of pupils on roll at the school, however, only 75% live in the designated catchment area indicating the level of popularity with families resident in other areas of the Congleton LAP and with families living outside Cheshire East; for the latter, nearly 17% of the school's population fall within this category.

Congleton (Alsager) Summary

Forecasts indicate that there is no immediate need to reorganise provision for the Alsager area and that any impact due to changes in populations and birth rates will need to be closely monitored. As only 49% of children attending these primary schools live within the Alsager locality, data indicates that the current capacity is more than sufficient to meet local needs. To provide a preferred 4% contingency for late applications and in year movement, 55 spare places would be required by 2016 across all 6 schools based on January 2011 capacity of 1382 places. This would equate to an average 1 space per year group per school. Forecasts suggest that the number of unused (surplus) places by 2016 will exceed this and therefore additional capacity should not be necessary.

Any increase in the number of applications for the primary phase at the normal point of entry into reception in September will reduce the availability of places available to families living outside the area applying through the coordinated admissions process as a lower priority within the oversubscription criteria. The pattern of parental preference for this area will therefore continue to put pressure on places and if all places are taken up through this process, this will reduce the Local Authority's ability to provide sufficient places for local residents new to the area.

Provision at the high school is sufficient to meet demand with data indicating a current unused (surplus) for Y7-Y11 at nearly 8% compared with 2% overall (i.e. including the sixth form) and with forecast pupil numbers showing an increase in the number of unused (surplus) places for the school as a whole increasing from 2% to 13% by 2016. The high school primarily admits pupils from within the Alsager locality with 95% of the children living in Alsager attending the school (Jan 2011). However, only 75% of the children live in the designated catchment area indicating the level of popularity with families resident in other areas of the Congleton LAP and with families living outside Cheshire East; which for the latter, represents nearly 17% of the school's population indicating that there are sufficient places for local residents and residents in other areas.

Congleton (Alsager) Actions

No action required at this stage to increase capacity in this area at both the primary and secondary phase. However, due to the pattern of parental preference in the area and increases in primary aged population across the Congleton LAP at 3.5% by 2016, provision for the primary phase must be re-examined in the 2012 Annex, which will include January 2012 School Census Data and forecasts to 2017.

1.3 Area 2 – Congleton (Town)

1.3.1 The town of Congleton	School	Status
	Astbury St Mary's CE Primary	Voluntary Aided
	Black Firs Primary	Community
	Buglawton Primary	Community
	Daven Primary	Community
	Havannah Primary	Community
	Marlfields Primary	Community
	Mossley Church of England Primary	Voluntary Controlled
	Scholar Green Primary	Community
	Smallwood Church of England Primary	Voluntary Controlled
	St Mary's Catholic Primary	Voluntary Aided
	The Quinta Primary	Community
	Woodcock's Well CE Primary	Community
	Congleton High (Secondary)	Academy
	Eaton Bank (Secondary)	Community(Academy from September 2012)

Congleton has 12 primary schools that fall within the Congleton LAP and 2

schools within the Macclesfield LAP (Maton and District CE and Bosley St Mary's CE). The total capacity for this area includes 2385 places across the 12 primary schools with 265 places in the two Macclesfield LAP schools resulting in a total capacity of 2650 primary school places.

- 1.3.2 Forecasts indicate that by 2016, there will be a small number of vacancies at 2% across all 14 schools compared with 8% in 2011 and 5% in 2012. This reduction in 'spare' capacity is going to put pressure on some schools due to the pattern of parental preference and a shortage of places. Of the 14 schools serving this area, 6 schools are forecast to have negative unused (surplus) capacity.
- 1.3.3 For the Congleton LAP, schools are spread across a wide area with the central area (Congleton town), which is more densely populated, having a cluster of 9 schools with a combined capacity of 1990 places. Forecasts indicate that for 2016 these 9 schools will have 1987 pupils shared between them resulting in no unused (surplus) capacity at this time and therefore lower than the unused (surplus) forecast for this area as a whole of 2%.

January 2011 Census Data	Unused (Surplus) Places					
School	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
Astbury St Mary's CE	-12	-16	-19	-21	-21	-20
% Unused (Surplus)	-11%	-14%	-17%	-19%	-19%	-18%
Black Firs	8	7	2	4	-2	2
% Unused (Surplus)	3%	3%	1%	1%	-1%	1%
Buglawton	4	1	-10	-18	-23	-20
% Unused (Surplus)	2%	1%	-6%	-10%	-13%	-11%
Daven	41	37	39	36	38	30
% Unused (Surplus)	20%	18%	19%	17%	18%	14%
Havannah	-9	-16	-20	-11	-16	-15
% Unused (Surplus)	-6%	-11%	-13%	-7%	-11%	-10%
Marlfields	37	37	39	35	31	30
% Unused (Surplus)	18%	18%	19%	17%	15%	14%
Mossley CE	6	-12	-16	-13	-13	-12
% Unused (Surplus)	2%	-3%	-5%	-4%	-4%	-3%
St Mary's Catholic	25	15	1	-8	-10	-8
% Unused (Surplus)	14%	8%	1%	-4%	-6%	-4%
The Quinta	20	15	8	16	12	16
% Unused (Surplus)	6%	5%	2%	5%	4%	5%
Total	120	68	24	20	-4	3
% Unused (Surplus)	6%	3%	1%	1%	0%	0%
Additional Unused (Surplus) from Previous Year	40	-12	-56	-60	-84	-77

- 1.3.4 As with all areas, forecasts indicate that the level of unused (surplus) will vary from school to school with some schools forecast to be oversubscribed with

no unused (surplus) at between 0% and -18% and others having unused places at between 1% and 14%.

- 1.3.5 Forecasts suggest that pressure on these schools will be more significant from 2013 with only 1% unused (surplus) across all 9 schools reducing from 6% in 2011. This equates to 24 spare places and an average per year group per school of 2.7 spaces per school across all seven year groups. In order to provide contingency for late applications and in year movement, and to deliver a 4% unused (surplus) capacity, forecasts indicate that an additional 77 spaces would be needed by 2016 but with greater need in 2015 with negative surplus. For both years, this would equate to 3 additional classrooms across all 9 schools.
- 1.3.6 The position at October 2011 for these 9 schools is that there were sufficient places in this area with an overall unused (surplus) at 10.3%. This is based on the number of places provided by the published admission, which for some schools will be higher than the schools net capacity and therefore at variance from the forecasts derived from a school's overall capacity. In view of this, capacities must be reviewed during 2012 alongside published admission numbers to align where possible to facilitate more accurate forecasting before any decisions are taken about introducing new capacity into this area.

School Name	Number of pupils on roll October 2011 Census									PAN Total	Spaces	% Spaces
	PAN	R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Total			
Astbury St Mary's CE	18	18	17	20	14	18	13	12	112	126	14	11.1%
Black Firs	38	38	40	41	35	40	34	37	265	266	1	0.4%
Buglawton	30	29	30	28	26	19	18	24	174	210	36	17.1%
Daven	30	30	22	23	27	23	27	21	173	210	37	17.6%
Havannah	25	25	30	22	20	32	18	16	163	175	12	6.9%
Marlfields	30	31	30	23	23	23	29	24	183	210	27	12.9%
Mossley CE	50	58	49	55	49	54	44	36	345	350	5	1.4%
St Mary's Catholic	30	28	25	30	26	19	16	18	162	210	48	22.9%
The Quinta	50	50	45	50	40	51	35	41	312	350	38	10.9%
Total	301	307	288	292	260	279	234	229	1889	2107	218	10.3%

- 1.3.7 As for other areas of Cheshire East, the unused (surplus) places vary across the two key stages. For these 9 schools, the difference is quite significant with only 1.8% vacancies in Key Stage One compared with 16.8% vacancies in Key Stage 2. As the pupil forecasting methodology rolls forward the intakes each year, this would account for the reduction from 120 spare places in 2011 to only 3 places by 2016.

October 2011	Key Stage One	Key Stage Two
--------------	---------------	---------------

Total Pupils on Roll	887	1002
Unused (surplus) for each Key Stage	16	202
% Unused (surplus) for each Key Stage	1.8%	16.8%
Cheshire East % Key Stage Spare Places	7.3%	11.6%

- 1.3.8 Located within the Congleton LAP, a further 2 primary schools provide a combined capacity of 269 places. These schools are situated near to the Staffordshire border. Both schools admit pupils from beyond their catchment area with 'local' children representing 52% and 59% (Jan 2011) of the total school population. One of these schools admits a high proportion of pupils from across the Cheshire East border and this represented 35% of the school population at January 2011. The number of places provided in these schools is therefore more than sufficient to meet local need allowing for children resident outside the local area to access places.

January 2011	Forecast Unused (Surplus) Places					
	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
Woodcock's Well CE	2	-1	-7	-9	-16	-11
% Unused (surplus)	2%	-1%	-8%	-10%	-18%	-12%
Scholar Green	38	32	28	26	28	23
% Unused (surplus)	21%	18%	16%	14%	16%	13%
Total	40	31	21	17	12	12
% Total Unused (surplus)	15%	12%	8%	6%	4%	4%

- 1.3.9 Smallwood CE Primary has been considered separately due to its proximity between Alsager and Congleton serving a more rural area. Due to demand for places at this school, forecasts indicate there will be no unused (surplus) places by 2016 with all 126 places filled. Based on Jan 2011 data, 54% of the children on roll at the school were resident with the school's catchment area and of those children resident in the area served by the school, 64.6% were on roll. Additional spaces are being provided from September 2013 with an increase in the Published Admission Number from 18 to 20, allowing for an additional 14 pupil places overall.
- 1.3.10 There are two 11-18 high schools located within the cluster providing 2221 places. Both schools primarily serve their local area and are forecast to have unused (surplus) capacity by 2016 of 14% and 17%. The combined number of spare places at October 2011 in Y7-11 was 180, which represents 10% of the total capacity.

NOR Jan'11	Capacity	Forecast Surplus Places (January 2011 Data)					
		11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
2024	2221	213	276	326	329	357	347
		10%	12%	15%	15%	16%	16%

- 1.3.11 Of the children resident in the areas served by each school, 68% and 66% attend their local high school. These figures are comparative with the number of children on roll at each school that live in the school's catchment area.

	Number of pupils on roll October 2011									
School Name	PAN	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11	Total NOR	PAN Total	Spaces Y7-11	% Spaces
Congleton High	180	150	158	178	170	179	835	900	65	7.2%
Eaton Bank	180	150	176	143	158	158	785	900	115	12.8%
Total	360	300	334	321	328	337	1620	1800	180	10.0%

Congleton (Town) Summary

Forecasts indicate that overall there is no immediate need to reorganise provision for the Congleton area. However, data indicates pressure on the nine schools located within the central cluster by 2016. In order to deliver a 4% unused (surplus) level to allow for contingency for late applications and in year movement, an additional 77 places are needed across these 9 schools by 2016. This would require an additional 3 classrooms. However, variance between a school's net capacity and its published admission number results in forecasts projecting over capacity for some schools in the future and thereby affecting the overall level of unused (surplus) places for this area. In view of this, capacities must be reviewed during 2012 alongside published admission numbers to align where possible and to facilitate more accurate forecasting before any decisions are taken about introducing new capacity into this area.

Provision in the Congleton (Town) outskirts at the primary phase is sufficient to meet local need and allows for families beyond the local area to access school places.

Population forecasts indicate a reduction by 9.6% in the number of secondary aged pupils for the Congleton LAP as a whole by 2016. At the secondary phase, there is more than sufficient capacity to meet demand over the plan period (2011-2016) with an increase to 16% in the number of unused (surplus) places across the two high schools by 2016 compared with 10% in 2011.

Congleton (Town) Actions

Primary school net capacities must be reviewed during 2012 alongside published admission numbers to align where possible and to facilitate more accurate forecasting before any decisions can be taken about introducing new capacity into this area. If capacities are brought in line with current published admission numbers, the unused (surplus) forecast of 0% by 2016 would increase to 6%. This is illustrated in the table below (based on Jan 2011 Census).

School	Current Capacities	Capacities if in line with PANs
Astbury St Mary's CE	112	126
Black Firs	270	280
Mossley CE	350	350
St Mary's Catholic	180	210
The Quinta	330	350
Buglawton	178	210
Daven	210	210
Havannah	150	175
Marlfields	210	210
Total	1,990	2,121

Unused (surplus) 11/12		Unused (surplus) 12/13		Unused (surplus) 13/14		Unused (surplus) 14/15		Unused (surplus) 15/16		Unused (surplus) 16/17	
-11%	-10%	-14%	-13%	-17%	-15%	-19%	-17%	-19%	-17%	-18%	-16%
3%	3%	3%	3%	1%	1%	1%	1%	-1%	-1%	1%	1%
2%	2%	-3%	-3%	-5%	-5%	-4%	-4%	-4%	-4%	-3%	-3%
14%	12%	8%	7%	1%	0%	-4%	-4%	-6%	-5%	-4%	-4%
6%	6%	5%	4%	2%	2%	5%	5%	4%	3%	5%	5%
2%	2%	1%	0%	-6%	-5%	-10%	-9%	-13%	-11%	-11%	-10%
20%	20%	18%	18%	19%	19%	17%	17%	18%	18%	14%	14%
-6%	-5%	-11%	-9%	-13%	-11%	-7%	-6%	-11%	-9%	-10%	-9%
18%	18%	18%	18%	19%	19%	17%	17%	15%	15%	14%	14%
6%	12%	3%	9%	1%	7%	1%	7%	0%	6%	0%	6%

1.4 Area 3 – Congleton (Middlewich)

School	Status
Cledford Primary	Community
Middlewich Primary	Community
St Mary's Catholic Primary	Voluntary Aided
Warmingham Church of England Primary	Voluntary Aided
Middlewich High School (Secondary)	Community

1.4.1 In the Middlewich area there are 4 primary providing 1136 places. Based on current projections, there are sufficient school places in the area to meet demand over the next 5 years with the number of unused (surplus) primary school places over this period ranging from 12%-14% and forecast to reach around 14% by 2016.

Middlewich	17%	19%	20%	24%	24%	24%
St Mary's Catholic	12%	12%	13%	15%	17%	18%
Warmingham CE	-20%	-25%	-21%	-25%	-23%	-27%
Total	12%	13%	13%	14%	14%	14%

- 1.4.2 For the 2 community primary schools, the majority of pupils (at over 60%) living in the areas zoned to these schools are admitted to their 'local' school resulting in 68% and 70% of the total school population comprising 'local' children.
- 1.4.3 In addition to the two community schools, Middlewich is also served by a Church of England primary school and a Catholic primary school. Due to its rural location, this Church of England primary school has a small catchment area of around 30 pupils (January 2011). However, popularity with families resident outside the school's catchment area means that a greater proportion of the children on roll are from other areas in Cheshire East. Forecasts indicate that by 2016 this school could have a shortfall of places by -27% if current patterns of admission continue. This school has a net capacity recorded of only 56 places compared with the 70 pupils that the school could admit overall based on the current published admission number (PAN) of 10, which was determined by the Governing Body for September 2012 and subsequent years.
- 1.4.4 The Catholic primary school serves a wide area covering the Parish of St Mary's and admits a small number of children from across the border at 5.07% of the total school population.
- 1.4.5 An assessment of the pressure on lower year groups due to population and birth rate changes shows that for the Middlewich primary schools this is not a matter of concern at this stage with a comparative number of unused (surplus) places in each key stage.

October 2011 Census		Number on Roll						
School Name	PAN	R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Cledford	60	38	58	55	46	48	48	50
Middlewich	60	58	45	44	48	60	52	53
St Mary's Catholic	35	35	22	33	34	34	31	29
Warmingham CE	8	10	11	8	11	8	13	8
Total	163	141	136	140	139	150	144	140
Key Stage Total		417			573			
Key Stage Unused (surplus)		72			79			
Key Stage % Unused (surplus)		14.7%			12.1%			
Cheshire East % Key Stage Unused (Surplus) Places		7.3%			11.6%			

- 1.4.6 The Reception admissions for September 2011 confirm that there are currently sufficient places in the area with unused (surplus) places high at 13.5% overall compared with 7.05% surplus for the same reception intake across all schools in the Congleton LAP and 5.6% for all schools in Cheshire East.

Reception 2011 Admissions				
School	PAN	Allocated	Spaces	% Unused (surplus)
Cledford	60	36	24	40%
Middlewich	60	60	0	0%
St Mary's Catholic	35	35	0	0%
Warmingham CE	8	10	-2	0%
Total	163	141	22	13.5%

- 1.4.7 The town of Middlewich has 1 secondary school (11-16) providing 700 places. Due to its proximity on the border with Cheshire West and Chester, the school has on roll around a quarter of children that are not resident in Cheshire East. This equates to approximately 180 pupils (January 2011).
- 1.4.8 Demand for school places is high resulting in low levels of unused (surplus) between 2011 and 2012 at only 1%-2%. However, forecasts indicate that surplus places will increase from 2013 to 5% and therefore above the preferred 4% target and reaching 15% by 2016. This suggests that there will be a short term pressure on places, which could impact on 'in year' applications and applications made during the normal admissions round i.e. for September admission into Year 7, from families resident outside the school's catchment area who have a lower priority within the school's published oversubscription.

Jan 2011 Census		Forecast Unused (surplus) Places					
	Capacity	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
Middlewich High	700	7	17	38	60	93	106
		1%	2%	5%	9%	13%	15%

Congleton (Middlewich) Summary

Forecasts indicate that there is no immediate need to reorganise provision for Middlewich with a forecast 14% unused (surplus) capacity by 2016 in the primary phase and 15% in the secondary. Any impact due to changes in population and birth rates will need to be kept under review. However, projected shortfall in places in one school (Warmingham CE) at the primary phase will need to be reviewed to re-assess the school's net capacity, which is currently well below the intake planned by the published admission number.

Demand for school places at the high school is high resulting in low levels of unused (surplus) in 2011/12 and 2012/13 at only 1% and 2%. Due to its proximity on the

border with Cheshire West and Chester, the school has on roll around a quarter of children that are not resident in Cheshire East. It will be necessary to closely monitor 'in year' applications for places in the short term due to pressure on school places which could impact on families moving into Middlewich with alternative schools with vacancies being some distance away

Congleton (Middlewich) Actions

Officers will need to reassess the net capacity for Warmingham CE Primary School, which is currently recorded as 56 places but with a planned admission of 70 places. The Published Admission Number is the minimum number that must be admitted to the school at the normal point of entry. From 2012, the PAN is determined as 10, which allows for 70 pupils across all 7 year groups.

Officers will need to continue to monitor the intakes to Middlewich High School, particularly in regard to 'in year' and late applications from local residents for whom an alternative school may be some distance away.

1.5 Area 4 – Congleton (Holmes Chapel)

School	Status
Brereton Church of England Primary	Voluntary Aided
Goostrey Primary	Community
Hermitage Primary	Community
Holmes Chapel Primary	Community
Holmes Chapel Comprehensive (Secondary)	Academy

- 1.5.1 There are 4 Holmes Chapel primary schools within the Congleton LAP providing 959 places and a further 2 schools in Homes Chapel which fall under the Knutsford LAP and provide 137 places resulting in a total capacity for Holmes Chapel of 1096.

Jan 2011 Census		Forecast Unused (surplus) Places					
School	Capacity	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
Brereton CE	120	-22	-33	-45	-48	-44	-45
Chelford CE	60	17	18	17	17	17	19
Goostrey	209	3	5	2	6	5	5
Hermitage	210	14	6	6	7	5	5
Holmes Chapel	420	67	71	71	83	85	87
Peover Superior Endowed (Controlled)	77	5	4	-1	-6	-6	-9
Total	1,096	84	71	50	59	62	62

Jan 2011 Census		Forecast % Unused (surplus) Places					
School		11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
Brereton CE		-18%	-28%	-38%	-40%	-37%	-38%
Chelford CE		28%	30%	28%	28%	28%	32%

Goostrey		1%	2%	1%	3%	2%	2%
Hermitage		7%	3%	3%	3%	2%	2%
Holmes Chapel		16%	17%	17%	20%	20%	21%
Peover Superior Endowed (Controlled)		6%	5%	-1%	-8%	-8%	-12%
Total	1,096	7.7%	6.5%	4.6%	5.4%	5.7%	5.7%

- 1.5.2 Taking into account all 6 schools, forecasts indicate that there will be an unused (surplus) capacity for Holmes Chapel falling from nearly 8% in 2011 to just below 6% for by 2016. This equates to 62 spare places across all year groups and all schools.
- 1.5.3 Unused (surplus) places vary from school to school and whilst demand for places at the 4 Congleton LAP schools means that by 2016 there is a forecast 5.4% surplus, the majority of this unused (surplus) is forecast to be in one school with forecasts suggesting a unused capacity for this school of 21% by 2016 assuming patterns of attendance continue.
- 1.5.4 For 2013 and subsequent years, the number of places available at Brereton CE will increase from 21 to 25 proving an additional 24 places across all years. These admissions have been determined to apply to the reception intake from 2013. The additional 28 places will reduce this school's projected under-capacity for 2016 from -38% to -11% based on current intakes. An updated assessment of the school's net capacity is necessary due to the variance between the anticipated intake of 25 pupils from 2013 and the recorded capacity of 120 places.
- 1.5.5 The 2 Knutsford LAP schools serving the rural outskirts of Holmes Chapel portray a contrasting picture with one school; primarily serving its catchment area with 79% of the children on roll living locally, forecast to have a unused (surplus) capacity of 32% by 2016 and the other, which has a very small catchment area with only 25% of the children on roll at the school resident in its area, forecast to have a shortfall of places at -12% by 2016. Overall, forecasts indicate that for these two schools there will be an unused (surplus) capacity of 7% by 2016 with 2012 at 16%.
- 1.5.6 The intake into the reception class in 2011 shows that across the four Congleton LAP schools there were 25 spare places at allocation which represented nearly 18% of the total capacity. Including the 2 Knutsford LAP schools, the combined unused (surplus) is slightly lower, but still high at 17.4%. The overall surplus for Congleton LAP at this stage was much lower at 7.05%. This suggests that the level of provision in the area is sufficient to meet demand for the foreseeable future.

School	PAN	Allocation	Spaces	% Spaces
Brereton CE	21	18	3	14%
Goostrey	30	26	4	13%
Hermitage	30	30	0	0%

Holmes Chapel	60	42	18	30%
Total	141	116	25	17.7%

Chelford CE	9	6	3	33%
Peover Superior Endowed (Controlled)	11	11	0	0%
Total	20	17	3	15.0%

Combined Total	161	133	28	17.4%
----------------	-----	-----	----	-------

- 1.5.7 As for all areas, an analysis of the lower year groups is important to assess the potential change in surplus places for future years due to recent changes in population and birth rates. The table below indicates that for the 4 Congleton LAP schools, there is a higher unused (surplus) capacity in Key Stage One than in Key Stage Two suggesting that the pressure on the lower years is not an issue for this area as for others. Whilst the position for the 2 rural schools is different with a high level of unused (surplus) in Key Stage Two, overall, the data suggests that there are no issues in this area at present with a Key Stage One unused (surplus) at October 2011 of 54 places.

October 2011 Census	Number of pupils on roll								
School Name	PAN	R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Total
Brereton CE	21	19	20	25	25	25	12	16	142
Goostrey	30	26	29	29	27	34	28	33	206
Hermitage	30	30	31	30	29	30	30	21	201
Holmes Chapel	60	41	46	50	51	62	52	54	356
Total	141	116	126	134	132	151	122	124	905
Key Stage Total		376			529				
Key Stage Unused (surplus)		47			35				
Key Stage % Unused (surplus)		11.1%			6.2%				

Chelford CE	9	7	4	7	6	6	6	7	43
Peover Superior Endowed (Controlled)	11	11	16	9	12	8	7	9	72
Total	20	18	20	16	18	14	13	16	115
Key Stage Total		54			61				
Key Stage Unused (surplus)		6			19				
Key Stage % Unused (surplus)		10.0%			23.8%				

Combined Total	161	134	146	150	150	165	135	140	1020
Key Stage Total		430			590				
Key Stage Unused		53			54				

(surplus)				
Key Stage % Unused (surplus)		11.0%	8.4%	
Cheshire East % Key Stage Spare Places		7.3%	11.6%	

1.5.8 There is 1 secondary school in Holmes Chapel providing 1180 (11-18) places. There is a current shortfall of places due to the school's popularity with families outside the school's catchment area, including families resident outside Cheshire East, which amounts to 10.4% of the total school population. Whilst the majority (at 91%) of the children resident in Holmes Chapel (846 at January 2011) attend their local high school, these children make up only 64% of the total school population.

1.5.9 Based on the admission number of 210 places per year group, the position at October 2011 for years 7-11 and thereby excluding the sixth form, was that there were spaces across the school, albeit that vacancies were low at only 2.9%. As secondary-aged population forecasts indicate a fall of 9.6% by 2016 for the Congleton LAP, the level of unused (surplus) places across Y7-11 may increase over this period.

October 2011 Census	Number of pupils on roll						Year 7-11			
School Name	PAN	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11	NOR	PAN	Spaces	
Holmes Chapel Comp	210	205	210	195	210	200	1020	1050	30	2.9%

1.5.10 Forecasts indicate that this pressure on places due to parental preference will continue up until 2013 with negative unused (surplus) for 2011 and 2012 but with surplus places increasing to 3% for 2013 and rising to 7% by 2016, assuming current patterns continue.

	Forecast Unused (surplus) Places						
	Capacity	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
Holmes Chapel	1180	-42	-7	33	40	67	81
		-4%	-1%	3%	3%	6%	7%

Congleton (Holmes Chapel) Summary

Forecasts indicate that there is sufficient capacity in this area to meet demand over the period 2011-2016. Intakes into reception classes for September 2011 also suggest that the changes in population and birth rates is not likely to have a significant impact on this area due to higher levels of unused (surplus) capacity in the primary sector compared with the overall surplus for Congleton LAP and also Cheshire East .

There is a current shortfall in places at the high school due to the school's popularity with families outside the designated catchment area, including families resident outside Cheshire East, which amounts to 10.4% of the total school population. Whilst the majority (at 91%) of the children resident in Holmes Chapel (846 at January 2011) attend their local high school, these children make up only 64% of the total school population. It will therefore be necessary to closely monitor applications for places at the high school as the short term pressure on school places could impact on families moving into Holmes Chapel.

Congleton (Holmes Chapel) Actions

There are no significant concerns regarding the number of pupil places across this area of the Congleton LAP with forecasts indicating 7% unused (surplus) capacity at the high school by 2016 and nearly 6% across the 6 primary schools.

It is recommended that officers reassess the net capacity for Brereton CE following the decision of the Governing Body of the school, in its role as the admission authority, to increase the Published Admission Number from 21 to 25 for September 2013 and subsequent years. This will ensure a more accurate forecast.

1.6 Area 5 – Congleton (Sandbach)

School	Status
Elworth Church of England Primary	Voluntary Controlled
Elworth Hall Primary	Community
Offley Primary	Community
Sandbach Community Primary	Community
St John's Church of England Primary	Voluntary Aided
Wheelock Primary	Community
Sandbach School (Secondary) (Girls)	Free School
Sandbach High & Sixth Form College (Boys)	Academy

- 1.6.1 For Sandbach, there are 6 primary schools providing 1270 places and a further 2 schools in nearby Haslington that come under the Crewe LAP with 620 places providing a total capacity across the 8 primary schools of 1890 places.

		Forecast Unused (surplus) Places					
Sandbach (inc Haslington)	Capacity	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
	1890	147	138	120	100	99	93
% Unused (surplus)		8%	7%	6%	5%	5%	5%

- 1.6.2 When taking into account all 8 primary schools, forecasts indicate that the number of unused (surplus) places will gradually fall over the 2011-2016 resulting in a reduction to 5% surplus capacity by 2016.

- 1.6.3 As the two Haslington schools are some distance from the centre of Sandbach, if we are to exclude these from the analysis, the level of unused (surplus) places across the 6 Congleton LAP schools is significantly reduced resulting in only 1% surplus places by 2016, which is only 14 pupil places across all year groups and all 6 schools. In addition, forecasts indicate that by 2016, the majority of the spaces will be in one school resulting in a 13% surplus for this school. Due to the overall shortfall of unused (surplus) places by 2016, the concentration of spaces in one school could result in parents of some children being offered schools some distance from their home address. It is important to bear in mind that the forecast number of places is for all year groups and therefore a total of 14 places across all 6 schools and all 7 year groups is very low.

School	Capacity	Forecast Unused (surplus) Places					
		11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
Elworth CE	280	4	4	2	1	1	0
		1%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%
Elworth Hall	210	46	31	17	8	5	6
		22%	15%	8%	4%	2%	3%
Offley	315	-7	-8	-13	-15	-10	-12
		-2%	-3%	-4%	-5%	-3%	-4%
Sandbach Community	105	7	3	6	0	4	0
		7%	3%	6%	0%	4%	0%
St John's CE	150	29	30	34	25	20	20
		19%	20%	23%	17%	13%	13%
Wheelock	210	1	1	1	0	0	0
		0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Total	1,270	80	61	47	19	20	14
		6%	5%	4%	1%	2%	1%

- 1.6.4 The number of places in each school varies with a high percentage of spaces in 2 of the 6 schools and overcapacity in others at October 2011. The number of places in each year group varies, with the September 2010 intake (Year 1 in October 2011) resulting in no spare places for 'in year' admissions.

School Name	Number of pupils on roll October 2011 Census Data									PAN Total	Spaces	
	PAN	R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Total			
Elworth CE	40	40	40	40	41	40	42	40	283	280	-3	-1.1%
Elworth Hall	30	20	30	29	27	20	13	13	152	210	58	27.6%
Offley	45	46	47	44	53	43	40	48	321	315	-6	-1.9%
Sandbach	15	15	12	11	19	11	17	11	96	105	9	8.6%
St John's CE	25	15	26	17	12	10	22	21	123	175	52	29.7%
Wheelock	30	30	30	30	31	31	29	30	211	210	-1	-0.5%
Total	185	166	185	171	183	155	163	163	1186	1295	109	8.4%
Spaces by		19	0	14	2	30	22	22				

Year Group												
% Spaces by Year Group		10.3%	0.0%	7.6%	1.1%	16.2%	11.9%	11.9%				

- 1.6.5 The number of spaces in each key stage varies with Key Stage One having only 5.9% unused (surplus) in October 2011 compared with 10.3% in Key Stage Two. This mirrors the pattern of attendance for the Congleton LAP with 6.1% and 10.5% respectively.

Congleton LAP - Sandbach Schools		Number of pupils on roll							
		October 2011 Census Data							
		PAN	R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
		Key Stage 1				Key Stage 2			
Total		185	166	185	171	183	155	163	163
Key Stage Total		522				664			
Key Stage Unused (surplus)		33				76			
Key Stage % Unused (surplus)		5.9%				10.3%			
Cheshire East % Key Stage Spare Places		7.3%				11.6%			

- 1.6.6 Assuming the current intake pattern into the lower year groups will continue, in line with the forecast increase in the number of primary-aged pupils for this LAP of 3.5% over the period 2011-2016, it is to be expected that the overall level of unused (surplus) capacity, currently forecast at only 1% by 2016 will reduce further causing significant pressure on school places in this area.
- 1.6.7 Due to the forecast shortfall in the number of school places in this area by 2016, further capacity is needed to optimise parental preference and provide contingency for 'in year' movement. Based on current forecasts, an additional 37 places in this area would provide a 4% contingency.
- 1.6.8 At secondary level, there are two high schools in Sandbach catering separately for girls and boys. The provision for girls in the area is 1214 places and for boys is 1285 places. Due to the level of demand for places at these two schools from outside the designated catchment area, forecasts indicate a low or negative surplus for 2011-2013 of between -3% and 1% at Sandbach High School and -1% and 2% at Sandbach School, with unused (surplus) places increasing for 2014 to 4% (girls) and 5% (boys) and further increasing to 7% and 8% respectively by 2016 in line with the overall unused (surplus) places for this area.

		Forecast Unused (surplus) Places					
School	Capacity	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17

Sandbach High	1,285	-38	-19	16	54	82	96
		-3%	-1%	1%	4%	6%	7%
Sandbach School	1,214	-9	10	30	61	84	98
		-1%	1%	2%	5%	7%	8%
Total	2,499						
Unused (surplus) Places		-47	-9	46	115	166	194
% Unused (surplus) Places		-1.9%	-0.4%	1.8%	4.6%	6.6%	7.8%

1.6.9 Both high schools primarily serve the town of Sandbach and nearby village of Haslington. The number of pupils on roll at the schools that are resident within the catchment area (at January 2011) are 51% (girls) and 55% (boys) suggesting that the number of places at the two schools is more than sufficient to accommodate local demand and to provide opportunities for families resident in other areas to secure places based on parental preference through the coordinated admissions process.

1.6.10 As both schools have sixth form provision, if unused (surplus) places are calculated on the basis of the Published Admission Number, for Sandbach High the figures are comparable with a slightly lower unused (surplus) at -2.4% for October 2011 in Y7 –Y11, and for Sandbach School a slightly higher surplus at 1% compared with -1% when the sixth form capacity is included.

October 2011 Census	Number of pupils on roll Y7-Y11 (Excluding 6th Form)					
School Name	PAN	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11
Sandbach High	210	211	218	211	211	224
		-1	-8	-1	-1	-14
Total Y7-Y11		1,075				
Total Spaces Y7-Y11		-25				
% Y7-Y11 Spaces		-2.4%				
Sandbach School	210	213	208	211	207	201
		-3	2	-1	3	9
Total Y7-Y11		1,040				
Total Spaces Y7-Y11		10				
% Y7-Y11 Spaces		1.0%				

Congleton (Sandbach) Summary

Forecasts indicate that additional capacity is needed in the Sandbach areas in order to address the forecast shortfall in primary school places and to provide contingency at 4% by 2016. This is based on current forecasts using January 2011 School Census Data. Any additional pressure due to increases in the primary-aged populations for the Congleton LAP forecast at 3.5% by 2016 will need to be examined closely. It is recommended that a minimum of 37 additional places are provided in the Sandbach area to deliver a 4% contingency by the end of the plan period in 2016. This additional capacity is needed by 2014 at the latest.

Provision at nearby Haslington (Crewe LAP) will need to be monitored to identify any potential detriment to primary schools in this area.

It will also be necessary to closely monitor applications for places at the two high schools as the short term pressure on school places could impact on families moving into Sandbach. However, the number of pupils on roll at the schools that are resident within the catchment area (at January 2011) at 51% (girls) and 55% (boys) suggests that the number of places at the two schools is more than sufficient to accommodate local demand and to provide opportunities for families resident in other areas to secure places based on parental preference through the coordinated admissions process.

Congleton (Sandbach) Actions

Additional capacity is to be delivered at the primary phase for completion by September 2014 at the latest. The additional capacity needed is a minimum of 37 places, which equates to 2 additional classrooms. This is based on January 2011 data and therefore further analysis is needed using 2012 intakes to identify additional pressures due to recent population increases in this area. An assessment of the 6 schools needs to be undertaken to identify where these places should be delivered taking into account feasibility and the pattern of parental preference in the area.

This data excludes housing proposals for this area as these will be included once planning applications have been approved and Section 106 agreements have been signed. This presents further potential for further pressure on school places in this area.

For the high schools, no additional capacity is required although short term pressure on school places will need to be monitored. Both high schools admit from beyond their catchment area with sufficient places for local demand and for families resident in other areas.

Leave blank

2 Crewe LAP

2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 The Crewe LAP has 21 primary schools and 5 secondary schools covering the areas of Crewe, Nantwich, Sandbach, and Shavington. The total capacity across this area is 7002 primary school places and 4069 secondary school places.
- 2.1.2 The 2011-2017 population forecasts for Crewe LAP (shown below) indicate that the overall number of children (0-15) will fall slightly over this period but returning in 2017 to the 2011/2012 figures.

Age Band	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
0-15	16,000	16,000	15,900	15,900	15,900	15,900	16,000
16-44	30,600	30,200	29,900	29,500	29,100	28,700	28,300
45-64	22,400	22,500	22,700	22,900	23,100	23,300	23,600
65+	14,200	14,700	15,200	15,600	16,000	16,400	16,800
Total	83,200	83,400	83,700	83,900	84,200	84,400	84,600

Source: Office for National Statistics 2007 to 2016 mid-year estimates by age band and Local Area Partnership (LAP)

- 2.1.3 During this period the number of secondary-aged pupils is forecast to fall by 149 (3.7%) whilst the number of primary aged pupils is forecasts to increase by 3.4%, with an extra 222 primary school aged pupils over this period for the Crewe LAP, which is slightly above the rate for Cheshire East of only 3%. This forecast growth at 3.4% represents 18% of the total increase forecast for Cheshire East.

Crewe LAP	Sep-11	Sep-12	Sep-13	Sep-14	Sep-15	Sep-16	2011-2016	
Primary	6577	6665	6729	6802	6815	6799	222	3.40%
Yearly change		88	64	73	13	-16		
Secondary	3524	3440	3359	3315	3322	3375	-149	-4.20%
Yearly change		-84	-81	-44	7	53		

Data Sources 2011 January School Census, forecasts from Performance & Data team used in DfE 2011 SCAP return

- 2.1.4 The former district of Crewe and Nantwich Borough has seen the greatest increase over the period 2004-2010 in the number of live births at 14% (above the national level of 13% for the same period) and above the Cheshire East average of 6.3%. This represents 78% of the total increase in live births for Cheshire East.
- 2.1.5 Current pupil projections suggest that there will be low level of unused (surplus) places in the Crewe LAP primary sector by 2016 at only 3%. This is

below the preferred target of 4% to allow for contingency for movement during the course of the year, but also 2% lower than the Cheshire East rate at 5% by 2016.

	Primary Surplus Places					
	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
Crewe LAP	425	337	273	200	187	203
	6%	5%	4%	3%	3%	3%
Cheshire East	2162	1938	1613	1480	1436	1435
	8%	7%	6%	5%	5%	5%

- 2.1.6 The number of unused (surplus) places in the secondary sector is forecast to increase from 8% in 2011 to 10% in 2016. This follows the pattern for Cheshire East but with a lower % surplus by 2016.

	Secondary Unused (surplus) Places					
	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
Crewe LAP	253	285	348	379	363	312
	8%	9%	11%	12%	12%	10%
Cheshire East	1093	1506	2054	2314	2570	2624
	5%	6%	8%	10%	11%	11%

- 2.1.7 Higher demand for places in September 2011 at the normal point of entry to school meant that only 1.5% (15 spaces) of the 1006 reception class places remained vacant for in year admissions. Of these 15 spaces, 13 were in one school. In order to ensure that all Cheshire East resident applicants received an offer of a school place, a number of schools admitted above their planned intake (set by the published admission. As applications are received after the initial allocation due to movement into the area or late applications, at one stage a total of 1044 places had been offered for the 1006 places resulting in a negative unused (surplus) at -3.8% in the reception classes.
- 2.1.8 Reception admissions for 2011 have been analysed to identify any variance from the pupil forecasts for this intake year. The results for this LAP show that the number of pupils allocated places for September 2011 was much higher at over 7% greater than forecast based on the January 2011 School Census Data admission and more than double the percentage for Cheshire East.

LAP Area	PAN	Spaces	Reception Allocation Sep 2011	Forecast from Jan 2011	Variance from Jan 11 Forecast	
Crewe LAP	1006	-38	1044	972	72	7.40%
Cheshire East	4054	101	3953	3824	129	3.37%

- 2.1.9 The locality covers a wide area across which there are 21 primary schools. As some schools currently have a high level of unused (surplus) capacity and

other schools have admitted above their net capacity to accommodate local children and siblings, the overall surplus for this area does not reflect the current pressure on some schools and some areas of this LAP.

- 2.1.10 A further impact on the Crewe LAP is the variation across year groups in the number of vacancies with infant classes experiencing the greatest pressure. The actual number on roll across all schools in the Crewe LAP (October 2011) is shown in the table below. This data indicates the current pressure on places across Key Stage One (infants) compared with the year groups in Key Stage Two (juniors) with a 1.1% unused (surplus) and 10.1% respectively. The analysis also highlights the significant pressure on admissions into the 2011 reception class.

Crewe LAP		Number of Pupils on Roll (NOR)						
October 2011 Census	PAN	Key Stage 1			Key Stage 2			
		Rec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Total	1006	1035	966	984	944	890	911	872
Year Group Spaces		-29	40	22	62	116	95	134
% Year Group Spaces		-2.90%	4.00%	2.20%	6.20%	11.50%	9.40%	13.30%
% Unused (surplus) by Key Stage		1.10%			10.10%			
Cheshire East % Key Stage Spare Places		7.3%			11.6%			

- 2.1.11 Based on the pupil forecasting methodology, there are sufficient places across the Crewe LAP to meet demand only up until 2013 at the primary phase with forecasts of 5% unused (surplus) up until 2012-2013 but reducing beyond 2013 to only 3% by 2016. The comparison between the overall surplus for this area and the surplus in Key Stage One of only 1.1% indicates that measures must be taken now to address an insufficient number of school places over the plan period, particularly in view of the increase in live births for this area and increase in the school aged population.

- 2.1.12 Projections for the secondary phase are quite different in that there is a significant unused (surplus) across the Crewe LAP forecast at 17% by 2016 and, in particular, in Shavington. Excluding Shavington, 10% surplus is forecast for the Crewe high schools by 2016.

	Forecast Unused (surplus)					
School	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
King's Grove	61	85	108	119	103	84
	8%	11%	14%	15%	13%	11%
Ruskin Sports College	12	26	39	51	39	41
	2%	4%	6%	8%	6%	6%
Sir William Stanier	151	156	184	180	185	161
	14%	15%	18%	17%	18%	15%

St Thomas More Catholic	29	18	17	29	36	26
	5%	3%	3%	5%	6%	4%
Shavington	292	344	362	375	384	382
	31%	37%	39%	40%	41%	41%
Total	545	629	710	754	747	694
	13%	15%	17%	19%	18%	17%

2.1.13 The current growth in the primary-aged population for this area will mean that after 2016, more places will be needed in the secondary sector and certainly, for 2018 and subsequent years.

2.1.14 As with primary provision, where unused (surplus) places are limited, vacancies can be at an unreasonable distance from the home address for some families and therefore a review of provision at a more local level is necessary.

2.1.15 The table below provides a summary of core data for this LAP compared with Cheshire East as a whole.

Data Summary	% Change	Notes	
LAP Secondary Forecasts -	4.2%	Reduction	2011-2016
CE Population Forecasts (11-15 year olds)	3%	Reduction	2009-2019
LAP Primary Forecasts	3.4%	Increase	2011-2016
CE Population Forecasts (5-10 Year olds)	3%	Increase	2009 -2019
CE Population Forecasts (0-15 Year olds)	2%	Reduction	2009-2019
Crewe and Nantwich Borough - Live Births	14%	Increase	2004-2010
CE Live Births	6.3%	Increase	2004-2010

2.2 Area 1 - Crewe (Town)

School	Status
Beechwood	Community
Brierley Primary	Community
Edleston Primary	Community
Gainsborough Primary	Community
Hungerford Primary	Community
Leighton Primary	Community
Mablins Lane Community Primary	Community
Monks Coppenhall Primary	Community
Oakefield Primary	Community
Pebblebrook Primary	Community
St Mary's Catholic Primary	Voluntary Aided
Underwood West Primary	Community
Vine Tree Primary	Community
Wistaston Green Primary	Community

King's Grove (Secondary)	Community
Ruskin Sports College (Secondary)	Community
Sir William Stanier (Secondary)	Community
St Thomas More Catholic (Secondary)	Voluntary Aided

- 2.2.1 In the town of Crewe there are 14 primary schools providing 4925 places and 4 secondary schools with a total capacity of 3138 places.
- 2.2.2 Within the Crewe LAP, Crewe town is forecast to have a shortfall of places with only 1% and 2% surplus across all 14 schools by 2015 and 2016. This gives an average unused (surplus) per school of less than one place per year group for 2016.
- 2.2.3 The position for September 2011 admission into the reception class is that all spaces have been filled leaving no contingency for in year admissions. 6 schools are over capacity having agreed to admit above the published admission number to accommodate local children and siblings without a school place. The table below indicates the pressure on places in the earlier year groups with Key Stage One having no vacancies.

Crewe Town Area Only	PAN	Number of Pupils on Roll (NOR)						
October 2011 Census Data		Key Stage 1			Key Stage 2			
		Rec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Total	708	744	680	699	679	608	639	610
Spaces by Year Group		-36	28	9	29	100	69	98
% Spaces by Year Group		-5.10%	4.00%	1.30%	4.10%	14.10%	9.70%	13.80%
% Spaces by Key Stage		0.00%			10.50%			
Cheshire East % Key Stage Spare Places		7.3%			11.6%			

- 2.2.4 Of the 14 primary schools serving this area, 13 schools are forecast to have either negative surplus or surplus of 4% or below. Of the forecast 83 spaces by 2016, it is important to bear in mind that these are across all year groups and 66% of these vacancies are in one school. Without additional capacity in this area children would be required to travel across town to access the limited number of places available.

			Unused (surplus)					
School	PAN	Places	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
Beechwood	40	280	15	6	6	6	7	6
			5%	2%	2%	2%	3%	2%
Brierley	23	161	-1	-11	-25	-29	-26	-26
			-1%	-7%	-16%	-18%	-16%	-16%
Edleston	30	210	0	-1	-1	0	0	0

			0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Gainsborough	60	420	2	1	1	0	0	0
			0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Hungerford	60	420	27	18	12	6	7	6
			6%	4%	3%	1%	2%	1%
Leighton	60	420	13	8	8	7	8	7
			3%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%
Mablins Lane	75	510	30	27	26	14	4	14
			6%	5%	5%	3%	1%	3%
Monks Coppenhall	55	360	21	8	-5	-17	-19	-18
			6%	2%	-1%	-5%	-5%	-5%
Oakefield	45	315	22	15	3	0	0	0
			7%	5%	1%	0%	0%	0%
Pebble Brook	30	210	17	13	11	8	7	6
			8%	6%	5%	4%	3%	3%
St Mary's Catholic	80	560	12	17	26	13	10	14
			2%	3%	5%	2%	2%	3%
Underwood West	60	459	43	34	22	19	21	19
			9%	7%	5%	4%	5%	4%
Vine Tree	30	210	4	5	2	0	0	0
			2%	2%	1%	0%	0%	0%
Wistaston Green	60	390	69	66	61	47	53	55
			18%	17%	16%	12%	14%	14%
Total	668	4,925	274	206	147	74	72	83
			5.6%	4.2%	3.0%	1.5%	1.5%	1.7%

2.2.5 In order to provide additional places and allowing for a 4% contingency, an additional 134 spaces are needed by 2016. This would provide just over 2 spaces per year group per school based on the 14 primary schools. However, as the pupil forecasts are based on January 2011 School Census Data, the increased number of pupils in the admission round for September 2011 suggests that more places will be needed. The total increase in pupil numbers for September 2011 comprise of 56% for the Crewe area.

2.2.6 As for other LAPs, the position at the secondary phase is quite different with a forecast unused (surplus) of 312 places (10%) by 2016. The current growth in the primary-aged population for this area will mean that after 2016, more places will be taken up in the secondary sector and certainly, for 2018 and subsequent years, the current unused (surplus) levels should reduce.

2.2.7 At both primary and secondary phase, pupils that are admitted to the Crewe schools are predominantly resident within the school's 'catchment area' or live within the Crewe LAP. The Catholic high school serving the area does admit pupils from a wider area based on its faith but nevertheless, the majority of these live in Cheshire East with only 1.5% living in other local authority administrative areas.

Crewe (Town) Summary

Forecasts indicate that there is an immediate need to increase capacity in Crewe town by at least 134 places in order to deliver 4% unused (surplus) at the primary phase, allowing for contingency and to address current problems in Key Stage One due to an insufficient number of places in the area.

Further pressure is anticipated due to changes in population and increased birth rates for this area with Crewe experiencing a high percentage of live births at 14% compared with Cheshire East at 6.3% and a National increase at 13%.

There are sufficient places across the four Crewe high schools for the Plan period but the forecast unused (surplus) capacity by 2016 of 10%, together with surplus in nearby LAPs will need to be monitored to take into account increases for future admissions due to increases at the primary phase for this area and to ensure sustainability of provision for the future.

With a forecast unused (surplus) for the Crewe (town) area at only 1% and 2% across all 14 schools by 2015 and 2016 and taking into account the current pressure on reception class places for 2011-2012 academic year with 0% surplus places, a review of provision has commenced to provide much needed additional capacity.

Consultation was undertaken over the autumn term 2011 and spring term 2012 on proposed increases in the number of places in some schools to create 32 more reception class places. Overall this would provide an additional 224 pupil places across all year groups as this intake number moves through the schools. Proposals have been agreed as set out below:

- Beechwood Primary School. An increase in the Published Admission Number (PAN) from 40 to 45 for September 2013. To accommodate this change, a two-classroom extension was agreed to extend the school from 280 places to 315 places.
- Oakefield Primary School. – An increase in the PAN from 45 to 60 for 2013. To accommodate this change, a three-classroom extension is underway to increase the capacity at this school from 315 places to 420 places.
- PAN changes to Monks Coppenhall (55 to 60) and Brierley Primary (23 to 30)

Current forecasts using January 2011 Census Data indicate that these measures would increase the percentage unused (surplus) places by 2016 to 6% across the whole of the Crewe LAP. However, as these measures have been actioned due to recent increases for September 2011 and 2012, further analysis of this will be carried out in the 2012 Annex using January 2012 School Census Data.

The table below gives an indication of the effect on the current provision across Key Stage One based on current numbers on roll:

Crewe Town Area Only	Revised PAN Total for 2013	Number of Pupils on Roll (NOR)		
October 2011 Census Data		Key Stage 1		
		Rec	Y1	Y2
Total	740	744	680	699
PAN-NOR (Vacancies by Year Group)		-4	60	41
% PAN-NOR (Vacancies by Year Group)		-0.5%	8.1%	5.5%
% Unused (surplus) by Key Stage		4.4%		
Cheshire East % Key Stage Spare Places		7.3%		

Crewe (Town) Actions

To undertake a further review of primary provision using 2012 School Census data to identify total additional capacity required for this area, incorporating recent increases in the number of reception applications and increasing population and birth rates in this area.

Secondary school capacity to be reviewed taking into account future intakes based on increased admissions into the primary schools.

2.3 Area 2 – Crewe (Nantwich)

School	Status
Willaston Primary	Community

2.3.1 There are 14 primary schools serving the town of Nantwich providing a total of 2470 places. For the one Nantwich primary school that falls within the Crewe LAP (Willaston Primary) forecasts indicate that there will be no vacancies by 2012 across all year groups. This school has a large catchment area comprising 241 pupils at Jan 2011. For the same period 66% of these children were on roll at their local school. The 210 places at this school are taken up by around 80% catchment area pupils with the remaining places filled by children resident within the Crewe LAP or within Cheshire East. For the purpose of this report, this school will be reviewed alongside other Nantwich schools.

2.3.2 At the secondary phase there are 2 high schools, both of which fall under the Nantwich LAP and offer a combined total capacity of 2716. These will be reviewed later on in this report as part of Nantwich LAP.

Crewe (Nantwich) Summary

As there is only one primary school that falls within the Crewe LAP covering the Nantwich area, this school will be considered alongside other local schools as listed above.

Crewe (Nantwich) Actions

To include Willaston Primary in the Nantwich LAP analysis, later on this report.

2.4 Area 3 – Crewe (Haslington)

School	Status
Haslington Primary	Community
The Dingle Primary	Community

2.4.1 Sandbach has 8 primary schools with 1890 places. Only 2 of these schools fall within the Crewe LAP and these provide 620 places serving the Haslington area.

		Forecast Unused (surplus)					
School	Capacity	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
Haslington	270	58	71	78	88	83	85
		21%	26%	29%	33%	31%	31%
The Dingle	350	9	6	-5	-7	-4	-6
		3%	2%	-1%	-2%	-1%	-2%
Total	620	67	77	73	81	79	79
		11%	12%	12%	13%	13%	13%

2.4.2 One of these schools is forecast to have a unused (surplus) of 31% by 2016. This is juxtaposed with a forecast over capacity at the other school resulting in an overall surplus for this area of nearly 13%. At January 2011, the number of pupils resident within the combined catchment areas for these 2 schools was 473, which represents 76% of the places available. Families from nearby Crewe and Sandbach also take up places in this area.

2.4.3 Unlike other area of the Crewe LAP, there is an equitable number of vacancies across key stage one and two with 8.1% and 8.9% respectively.

October 2011 Census	Number of pupils on roll									NET CAP	Unused (surplus) places %
School Name	Key Stage 1				Key Stage 2				Total		
	PAN	R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6			
Haslington	40	39	32	28	25	36	35	41	236	270	12.6%
The Dingle	50	50	50	49	53	50	40	48	340	350	2.9%
Total	90	89	82	77	78	86	75	89	576		
Total Key Stage			248		328						
Unused (surplus) Key Stage			22		32						

% Unused (surplus) Key Stage		8.1%	8.9%			
---------------------------------	--	------	------	--	--	--

Cheshire East % Key Stage Spare Places		7.3%	11.6%			
--	--	------	-------	--	--	--

- 2.4.4 There is a variance from the January 2011 forecast number of reception class pupils for admission in September 2011 with 15.6% additional pupils than anticipated. This is significantly higher than the overall percentage forecast for Cheshire East of 3.37% additional pupils.

School	PAN	Spaces	Reception Allocation Sep 2011	Forecast from Jan 2011	Variance from Jan 11 Forecast	% Variance
Haslington	40	1	39	26	13	50%
The Dingle	50	0	50	51	-1	-2.0%
Total			89	77	12	15.6%

- 2.4.5 Further analysis using the 2102 School Census data is necessary to identify any long term issues for this area.
- 2.4.6 Sandbach has 2 secondary schools catering separately for girls and boys with 1214 places and 1285 places respectively. These high schools fall within the Congleton LAP and were covered earlier in this report.

Crewe (Haslington) Summary

Provision in this area of the Crewe LAP is sufficient to meet demand over the period 2011-2016 with a forecast unused (surplus) across these 2 schools of 13% by 2016. The increased number of admissions to these schools in September 2011, which was higher than forecast using January 2011 data, will be included in the 2012 School Census forecasts. Further analysis of the long term demand for this area will be undertaken in the 2012 Annex.

Crewe (Haslington) Actions

There is no immediate need to review provision in this area due to forecast high levels of unused (surplus) by 2016. As intakes into the reception classes are increasing due to population changes and higher birth rates for the Crewe LAP, provision in these schools will be kept under review, including further analysis using 2012 data.

2.5 Area 4 – Crewe (Shavington)

School	Status
Shavington Primary	Community
The Berkeley Primary	Community

Weston Village	Community
Wistaston Church Lane Primary	Community

- 2.5.1 There are 4 primary schools in Shavington that fall within the Crewe LAP with 1247 places and 1 that falls within the Nantwich LAP area (Wybunbury Delves CE) providing a total capacity of 1455. The 4 Crewe LAP schools serve catchment areas with a combined total of 956 pupils. This represents 77% of the total capacity of 1247.
- 2.5.2 Forecasts indicate that this area will have a unused (surplus) capacity of only 3% by 2016, which equates to 45 school places across all 5 Shavington primary schools. In order to deliver contingency for in year admissions, an additional 13 places would be needed to increase this level of unused (surplus) to 4% for 2016. Based on current forecasts, this additional capacity will be needed by the end of the plan period or 2014 at the earliest, when the number of vacancies is forecast to fall to 3%. This will allow for further analysis of 2012 School Census data, when increased pupils numbers into reception in 2012 will be taken into account.

	Unused (surplus)					
	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
Shavington	87	57	58	49	40	45
	6%	4%	4%	3%	3%	3%

- 2.5.3 Pupil forecasts for September 2011 (based on January 2011 School Census data) suggest a 6% unused (surplus) across these 5 schools. However, the number of vacancies in the reception class following the allocation was very low at only 1.4% across all 5 schools. This illustrates the disparity between the level of unused (surplus) in each year group due to increasing numbers into the lower years.

Shavington Area (Crewe LAP - 4 schools + Nantwich LAP – 1 school)		Number of pupils on roll (October 2011 Census Data)						
		Key Stage 1			Key Stage 2			
	PAN	R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Total	208	203	204	208	187	193	199	172
Unused (surplus)		5	4	0	21	15	9	36
% Unused (surplus)		2.8%	2.2%	0.0%	11.8%	8.4%	5.1%	20.2%
Key Stage Unused (surplus) %		1.4%			9.7%			
Cheshire East % Key Stage Spare Places		7.3%			11.6%			

- 2.5.4 The table below includes only the 4 Crewe LAP primary schools serving this area indicating vacancies in Key Stage One for 2011 at only 1.5% unused (surplus) places.

Shavington Area (Crewe LAP - 4 schools)		Number of pupils on roll (October 2011 Census Data)						
		Key Stage 1			Key Stage 2			
	PAN	R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Total	178	174	174	178	158	166	168	147
Unused (surplus)		4	4	0	20	12	10	31
% Unused (surplus)		2.2%	2.2%	0.0%	11.2%	6.7%	5.6%	17.4%
Key Stage Unused (surplus) %		1.5%			10.3%			

2.5.5 The increase in demand for reception class places in the Shavington area must be reviewed to ensure that sufficient school places are available to meet current and future demands and to ensure that children are not required to travel unreasonable distances to schools with vacancies.

2.5.6 An analysis of the January 2011 pupil forecasts for this area shows that the anticipated number for September 2011 admission falls short by 2.5%. Taking into account the other 2 schools serving this area, the projections are short by 5.8%.

School	PAN	VAC	Reception Allocation Sep 2011	Forecast from Jan 2011	Variance from Jan 11 Forecast	
Shavington	30	0	30	30	0	0.0%
The Berkeley	50	2	48	46	2	4.3%
Weston	38	0	38	36	2	5.6%
Wistaston Church Lane	60	0	60	60	0	0.0%
Wybunbury Delves CE	30	0	30	29	1	3.4%
Total	208	2	206	201	5	2.5%
Pebble Brook	30	-10	40	29	11	37.9%
Willaston	30	1	29	30	-1	-3.3%
Overall Variance	268	-7	275	260	15	5.8%

2.5.7 At the secondary phase there is one high school serving Shavington with 931 places. Pupils resident in this area also attend schools in Nantwich and Crewe. The number of pupils resident within the schools catchment area is 996 but only 46% of these attend their local high school (January 2011 School Census data). The percentage of pupils on roll at the high school that reside within the catchment area represents 67% with 28% attending the school who live within the Crewe LAP and a further 5% who do not fall within these categories but are Cheshire East residents. A small percentage of pupils reside in other local authority areas.

- 2.5.8 The high school is forecast to have a high level of unused (surplus) places for the 5 year period and this will need to be closely monitored alongside surplus places in the nearby areas of Crewe and Nantwich. Under new leadership, intakes to the school have been increasing and more recently, unused (surplus) forecasts have reduced. Furthermore, this school serves a predominantly rural area and is some distance from alternative provision in nearby Nantwich and Crewe, which must be considered as part of any review.

Crewe (Shavington) Summary

Whilst forecasts indicate that for Shavington there is sufficient surplus at 6% for the 2011-2012 academic year, as this is forecast to reduce to only 3% by 2016, additional capacity is needed to deliver contingency at 4%. This would require as a minimum an additional 13 school places for this area by 2016. Further analysis of the impact of increasing intakes into Key Stage One and variance from the original forecasts will be necessary to deliver sufficient capacity for the future.

At the secondary phase provision needs to be closely monitored due to high levels of unused (surplus) forecast for the plan period.

Crewe (Shavington) Actions

To undertake a further review of demand for places in this area using 2012 School Census data and review current provision to identify the 'best option/s' to expand provision in this area.

At the secondary phase, update pupil forecasts to incorporate January 2012 data and to assess the implications for future admissions due to increased primary aged pupils in the area.

Leave blank

3 Knutsford LAP

3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 There are 10 primary schools within the Knutsford LAP and 1 secondary school. This LAP covers part of Holmes Chapel and Wilmslow. At the primary phase there are 7 schools in Knutsford (town) providing 1412 places, a further 2 primary schools within the Knutsford LAP serving Homes Chapel that provide 137 places and 1 school serving the Wilmslow area with 105 places resulting in a total capacity of 1654 primary school places.
- 3.1.2 The 2011-2017 population forecasts for Knutsford LAP (shown below) indicate that the overall number of children (0-15) will fall to around 4200 by 2017, which is a reduction of 100 over this period.

Age Band	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
0-15	4,300	4,300	4,300	4,200	4,200	4,200	4,200
16-44	7,700	7,600	7,500	7,400	7,300	7,300	7,200
45-64	7,300	7,200	7,200	7,100	7,100	7,100	7,100
65+	5,700	5,900	6,000	6,100	6,200	6,300	6,300
Total	25,000	25,000	24,900	24,900	24,900	24,800	24,800

Source: Office for National Statistics 2007 to 2016 mid-year estimates by age band and Local Area Partnership(LAP)

- 3.1.3 Over the period 2011-2016, secondary-aged pupils are forecast to fall by 57 at -4.35%.

Knutsford LAP Jan 2011 Census	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	2011- 2016	2011- 2016
Primary	1553	1556	1586	1589	1590	1583	30	1.93%
Yearly Change		3	30	3	1	-7		
Secondary	1311	1291	1259	1248	1253	1254	-57	-4.35%
Yearly Change		-20	-32	-11	5	1		

Data Sources 2011 January School Census, forecasts from Performance & Data team used in DfE 2011 SCAP return

- 3.1.4 Due to its proximity on the border of Cheshire East, pupils resident in other local authority areas take up places at schools within this LAP, but specifically, within Knutsford. The proportion of pupils on roll that fall within this category vary from school to school with 1 school having no children on roll from other local authorities and 1 school having 89% of its school population from across the border.
- 3.1.5 The secondary school for this LAP provides 1606 places. This school has a catchment area which comprised of 683 pupils at January 2011 of which 94%

were on roll at the high school at this time. The percentage of pupils on roll at the high school that live within the catchment area is just over 47% (Jan 2011). A very large proportion of the pupils on roll at this school live outside Cheshire East, representing 48% of the total number of pupils on roll. Pupils from outside the Knutsford LAP but resident in Cheshire East comprise of 5% of the total school population. The current level of unused (surplus) places at the secondary school serving the area is forecast to increase from 16% in 2011 to 22% by 2016.

- 3.1.6 Population forecasts indicate that the number of primary aged pupils in this area will increase slightly by 1.93% for 2011-2016 whereas the number of secondary aged pupils over this period will fall by 4.3% resulting in a forecast unused (surplus) capacity of 22%.
- 3.1.7 Between 2004 and 2010, live birth data indicates that there was an increase in the number of births for the former Macclesfield district, which included the towns of Bollington, Knutsford, Macclesfield and Wilmslow with 85 more births in 2010 compared with 2004 representing a 5.5% increase and therefore slightly below that for Cheshire East at 6.3%.
- 3.1.8 Reception admissions for 2011 have been analysed to identify any variance from the pupil forecasts for this intake year. The results for this LAP show that the number of pupils allocated places for September 2011 was broadly in line with the forecasts with only 0.9% increase in the number of pupils than forecast in January 2011 (School Census Data).

	PAN	Spaces	Reception Allocation Sep 2011	Forecast from Jan 2011	Variance from Jan 11 Forecast	
Knutsford LAP	241	12	229	227	2	0.88%
Cheshire East	4054	101	3953	3824	129	3.37%

- 3.1.9 There are no current concerns about the level of primary provision, although, as with all primary schools, forecasts indicate that the level of unused (surplus) places will reduce over the Plan period resulting in only 4% by 2016 for this LAP.
- 3.1.10 An analysis of the number of pupils in each year group and key stage is compared in the table below with the number of spaces provided by the published admission number (PAN). This highlights the overall growth in the number of pupils in the lower year groups with only 5.95% vacancies in key stage one compared with 11.83% in key stage two at October 2011. This change will impact on future pupil forecasts and must therefore be monitored.

October 2011 Census		Number of pupils on roll	
Knutsford		Key Stage 1	Key Stage 2

	PAN	R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Total	241	226	223	231	220	225	187	218
LAP Unused (surplus) by Year Group		15	18	10	21	16	54	23
LAP %Unused (surplus) by Year Group		6.2%	7.5%	4.1%	8.7%	6.6%	22.4%	9.5%
Key Stage Total		680			850			
Key Stage Unused (surplus)		43			114			
Key Stage Unused (surplus) %		5.95%			11.83%			
Cheshire East % Key Stage Spare Places		7.3%			11.6%			

3.1.11 The table below provides a summary of core data for this LAP compared with Cheshire East as a whole.

Data Summary	% Change	Notes	
LAP Secondary Forecasts	4.35%	Reduction	2011-2016
CE Population Forecasts (11-15 year olds)	3%	Reduction	2009-2019
LAP Primary Forecasts	1.93%	Increase	2011-2016
CE Population Forecasts (5-10 Year olds)	3%	Increase	2009 -2019
CE Population Forecasts (0-15 Year olds)	2%	Reduction	2009-2019
Macclesfield District Live Births	5.5%	Increase	2004-2010
CE Live Births	6.3%	Increase	2004-2010

3.2 Area 1 – Knutsford (Town)

School	Status
Bexton Primary	Community
Egerton Primary	Community
Manor Park School and Nursery	Community
St Vincent de Paul Catholic Primary	Voluntary Aided
Knutsford High School (Secondary)	Community

3.2.1 There are 5 out of the 10 primary schools in the Knutsford LAP that are located near to its border (together with Lower Peover CE Primary School, which is maintained by Cheshire West and Chester Council), and 1 school in Mobberley leaving a cluster of 4 schools located within the centre of the town and therefore in the more densely populated area of this LAP.

3.2.2 The overall forecast unused (surplus) places for Knutsford is 5% by 2016. However, when reviewing the provision in the 4 centrally located schools, the

forecasts are lower at only 4% by 2016. Forecasts also indicate that there will be lower unused (surplus) levels up until 2016 with only 2% surplus in the 2013-2014 academic year.

January 2011 School Census	Number of Unused (surplus) Places					
	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
Bexton	10	9	10	8	9	9
	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%
Egerton	8	4	0	-1	-1	-1
	4%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Manor Park	39	46	43	49	56	58
	19%	22%	20%	23%	27%	28%
St Vincent de Paul Catholic	-33	-32	-34	-30	-30	-30
	-18%	-18%	-19%	-17%	-17%	-17%
Total	24	27	19	26	34	36
	2%	3%	2%	3%	3%	4%

- 3.2.3 Unlike other areas of the Borough, the difference in the number of spare places in Knutsford in Key Stage 1 compared with Key Stage 2 shows that intakes have been lower in more recent years for these 4 schools overall, supporting the forecast increase in the number of spare places across this LAP by 2016. Further analysis will be necessary using January 2012 forecasts and the following September intakes.

October 2011 Census	Number of pupils on roll							
Knutsford (Town)	Key Stage 1				Key Stage 2			
	PAN	R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Bexton	60	59	58	60	59	57	55	57
Egerton	30	30	30	30	28	30	27	26
Manor Park	30	20	16	24	27	31	18	32
St Vincent de Paul	30	30	30	29	32	34	25	29
Total	150	139	134	143	146	152	125	144

LAP Unused (surplus) by Year Group	11	16	7	4	-2	25	6
LAP %Unused (surplus) by Year Group	7.3%	10.7%	4.7%	2.7%	-1.3%	16.7%	4.0%
Key Stage Total	416				567		
Key Stage Unused (surplus)	34				33		
Key Stage Unused (surplus) %	7.56%				5.50%		

Cheshire East % Key Stage Spare Places	7.3%				11.6%		
--	------	--	--	--	-------	--	--

- 3.2.4 Mobberley is served by one primary school and this has capacity for 140 pupils with an intake of 20 per year. Mobberley primary is forecast to have a shortfall of 22 places by 2016 (-16%) based on its January 2011 numbers on roll. 76% of the pupils on roll at the school live within the school's designated catchment area. At January 2011 there were 150 resident pupils of which just over 67% attended their local school.
- 3.2.5 This area of Knutsford has seen demographic changes and this has created some uncertainty for local parents when seeking places through the coordinated admission process due to oversubscription at the school.
- 3.2.6 Whilst the overall level of spare places at October 2011 was just below 6%, the disparity between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 demonstrates the increase in admissions lower down the school and the potential for further overcapacity by 2016 beyond the current forecast of -16% surplus.

October 2011 Census	Number of pupils on roll							
Mobberley CE	Key Stage 1				Key Stage 2			
School Name	PAN	R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
	20	20	23	20	22	18	13	16
Spare places by Year Group		0	-3	0	-2	2	7	4
% Spare Places by Year Group		0.0%	-15.0%	0.0%	-10.0%	10.0%	35.0%	20.0%
Key Stage Total		63			69			
Key Stage Unused (surplus)		-3			11			
Key Stage Unused (surplus) %		-5.00%			13.75%			
Cheshire East % Key Stage Spare places		7.3%			11.6%			

- 3.2.7 In order to ensure that this school can accommodate its local community a review of the provision for this area is necessary. Due to the rural nature of this area, the distance for local residents to alternative schools with vacancies will be beyond the statutory walking distance for primary aged pupils and this must be taken into account when conducting this review.
- 3.2.8 The high school serving this area has capacity for 1606 pupils, including admission into its sixth form with 1400 places for Year 7 to Year 11 based on a 260 intake. Forecasts suggest that overall there will be 22% spare places by 2016.

January 2011 School Census	Unused (surplus) Places					
	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
Knutsford High	295	315	347	358	353	352
	18%	20%	22%	22%	22%	22%

- 3.2.9 Using the intake of 260 places into each year group (set by the published admission number), October 2011 data shows that the number of spare places in Key 3 is higher than in Key stage 4 at 25%. This reduction in intakes into the lower year groups is to be expected with a forecast 3% reduction in secondary aged pupils between 2009 and 2019.

October 2011 Census		Key Stage 3			Key Stage 4	
		Number of pupils on roll				
	PAN	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11
Knutsford High School	260	182	190	215	231	216
LAP Unused (surplus) by Year Group		78	70	45	29	44
LAP %Unused (surplus) by Year Group		30.0%	26.9%	17.3%	11.2%	16.9%
Key Stage Total		587			447	
Key Stage Unused (surplus)		193			73	
Key Stage Unused (surplus) %		25%			14.4%	

- 3.2.10 This school attracts 94% of its catchment area (January 2011) but due to the small number of pupils resident in this rural area (683 in January 2011) the catchment area pupils make up 47% of the total number on roll with a further 48% of pupils residents in other local authorities.

Knutsford (Town) Summary

Forecasts indicate that overall there is no need to reorganise provision for this area of the Knutsford LAP with data indicating 4% spare places (71 pupil places) across all 10 schools by 2016. The forecast number of spare places for the 4 primary schools located within the central area of the Town is within the target of 4% minimum forecast at 5% by 2016. Population forecasts suggest a small increase at 1.93% (by 2016) in the primary aged population for this area compared with 3% (by 2019) across Cheshire East.

Disparity across these schools means that some primary schools are forecast to have a shortfall in school places and others will be facing pressure due to the established pattern of parental preference.

Mobberley primary is forecast to have a shortfall of 22 places by 2016 (-16%) based on its January 2011 numbers on roll. A review of capacity is necessary to ensure that this school can accommodate its local community. Due to the rural nature of this area, the distance for local residents to alternative schools with vacancies will be beyond the statutory walking distance for primary aged pupils and this must be taken into account when conducting this review.

Population forecasts indicate a reduction by 4.35% in the number of secondary aged pupils for this area by 2016. This is compared with an overall reduction for Cheshire East of 3% (by 2019) Data indicates that there is more than sufficient capacity to

meet demand over the plan period (2011-2016) with an increase to 22% in the number of unused (surplus) places by 2016 compared with 18% in 2011.

Knutsford (Town) Actions

The provision in this area must be monitored to ensure changes in the primary aged population can be accommodated in schools within a reasonable distance.

The capacity at Mobberley must be reviewed with a view to proposing an increase from its current 140 intake to 210 from 2013. This will provide for an admission of 30 pupils and for the school to operate as a 1 form of entry primary school.

Capacity at the high school will need to be monitored by the Academy Trust over the period 2011 -2016 with forecast falling roles for the secondary sector.

3.3 Area 2 – Knutsford (Holmes Chapel)

School	Status
Chelford Church of England Primary	Voluntary Controlled
Peover Superior Endowed Primary	Voluntary Controlled

- 3.3.1 The majority of the primary provision for Holmes Chapel is located within the Congleton LAP with 4 of the 6 schools falling within this grouping. The 2 Knutsford LAP schools are situated on its border with Holmes Chapel and these 2 schools provide between them 137 pupil places serving a predominantly rural area. The total number of children resident within the combined catchment areas for these schools (at January 2011) was 106. At this time only 49% of children in this combined area were on roll at their local school, with one school admitting 44% of its catchment and the other 62%.
- 3.3.2 The unused (surplus) capacity forecast for these two schools varies with Peover Superior forecast to be over capacity having a shortfall of 12% spaces by 2016 and Chelford forecast to be undersubscribed having 32% spare places by 2016. Chelford primarily serves its catchment area with 79% of the children on roll living locally. Peover has a very small catchment area and therefore only 25% of the children on roll are resident in its area. However, demand from other areas, including children from outside Cheshire East at just over 4% of the total school population, means that the school is forecast to have a shortfall of places at -12% by 2016.

Knutsford (Homes Chapel) Summary

Forecasts indicate that overall there is no need to reorganise provision for these schools which have sufficient capacity to serve their local areas. Population forecasts suggest a small increase at 1.93% (by 2016) in the primary aged population for the Knutsford area compared with 3% (by 2019) across Cheshire East. Overall, forecasts indicate that for these two schools there will be a unused (surplus) capacity of 7% by 2016 with 2012 at 16% surplus.

Taking into account all 6 schools in Holmes Chapel, forecasts indicate that there will be a reduction in the number of spare places by 2016 to 6% overall falling from nearly 8% in 2011. This equates to 62 spare places across all year groups and all schools and is above the minimum target level of 4%

Knutsford (Homes Chapel) Actions

Forecasts indicate that provision in this area is sufficient to meet demand. Provision will nevertheless be monitored to ensure changes in the primary aged population can be accommodated in schools within a reasonable distance in future years.

3.4 Area 3 – Knutsford (Wilmslow)

School	Status
Nether Alderley Primary	Community

- 3.4.1 The majority of the primary provision for Wilmslow is located within the Wilmslow LAP with only 1 school falling within the Knutsford LAP which is located on the border of these two areas.
- 3.4.2 This small school serving a predominantly rural area has a capacity of 105 pupil places. The total number of children resident within the catchment areas for this school (at January 2011) was 75. At this time 53% of children in this area were on roll at their local school representing 35% of the total school population at this time. The majority of pupils on roll at this school at 62% of the total school population reside outside the Knutsford LAP. This school is forecast to be oversubscribed over the Plan period with a forecast shortfall of places by 2016 at -15%.
- 3.4.3 The capacity at this school is sufficient to accommodate local children and also children from other areas. However, admissions to the school in some year groups have resulted in the number of pupils exceeding the overall number of places available resulting in a negative unused (surplus) for 2016.
- 3.4.4 As there is only 1 primary school that falls within the Knutsford LAP covering the Wilmslow area, the forecast shortfall in places for this school will be considered alongside the schools located within the Wilmslow LAP, which will be reviewed as a separate section in this report

Knutsford (Wilmslow) Summary

Forecasts indicate that for the one school serving this area there is insufficient capacity with a forecast shortfall of 15% by 2016 and as the school can accommodate its local residents and pupils from other areas, reorganisation is unnecessary. Furthermore, the school is organised as a half form of entry primary school and to increase accommodation could present difficulties in terms of class organisation and compliance with infant class size legislation.

Knutsford (Wilmslow) Actions

The capacity at the school is more than sufficient to meet local demand and demand from other areas. As this primary school is located on the boundary of the Wilmslow LAP it must also be considered along with other schools in this area.

Leave blank

4 Macclesfield LAP

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 There are 25 primary schools located in the Macclesfield LAP providing 5343 places covering the areas of Macclesfield and Bollington. This includes 2 schools that generally serve the Congleton area with a combined total of 265 places. A further 2 primary schools that serve the area of Macclesfield fall under the Poynton LAP and provide 443 primary school places. In addition, there are 4 mainstream secondary schools providing 4354 places.

4.1.2 The 2011-2017 population forecasts for the Macclesfield LAP (shown below) indicate that the overall number of children (0-15) will increase to around 12,800 by 2017, which is an increase of 300 and a growth at 2.4% on 2011 figures.

Age Band	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
0-15	12,500	12,600	12,600	12,600	12,700	12,700	12,800
16-44	23,900	23,500	23,300	23,100	23,000	22,800	22,600
45-64	19,700	19,800	19,800	19,900	20,100	20,200	20,400
65+	12,700	13,200	13,600	13,900	14,200	14,500	14,700
Total	68,700	69,000	69,300	69,600	69,900	70,200	70,500

Source: Office for National Statistics 2007 to 2016 mid-year estimates by age band and Local Area Partnership(LAP)

4.1.3 Pupil forecasts indicate that the number of primary aged pupils is forecast to increase by 131 pupils (2.9%) over the period 2011-2016 and the number of secondary aged pupils is forecast to fall by 233 (5.2%) as shown in the table below. For this area at primary level, the increases are reasonably balanced from year to year with the exception of only a small increase forecast for 2014 and a small reduction for 2016. For secondary schools the table shows that there will be a significant reduction in the secondary cohort for admission in 2013.

	Sep-11	Sep-12	Sep-13	Sep-14	Sep-15	Sep-16	2011-2016	
Primary	4562	4602	4658	4667	4712	4693		
Yearly change		40	56	9	45	-19	131	2.9%
Secondary	4508	4460	4344	4331	4263	4275		
Yearly change		-48	-116	-13	-68	12	-233	-5.2%

4.1.4 Live births for the former Macclesfield District (which also covers Wilmslow and Poynton LAPs) shows an increase from 2004 to 2010 of 85 births at 5.5%,

which is slightly below the Cheshire East average of 6.3% and less than half the National average of 13%.

- 4.1.5 At primary level, the current provision of 5343 school places is forecast to be more than sufficient to meet demand at least up until 2016 with vacancies forecast at 12% (650 places) compared with Cheshire East vacancies at 5%.

	Primary Spare Places					
January 2011	11-Dec	Dec-13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
Macclesfield LAP	781	741	685	676	631	650
	15%	14%	13%	13%	12%	12%
Cheshire East	2162	1938	1613	1480	1436	1435
	8%	7%	6%	5%	5%	5%

- 4.1.6 At secondary level, due to projected unused (surplus) places across the town, the Local Authority carried out a review of provision in early 2010. The outcome of this process was that the 11-18 Macclesfield High School with its total capacity of 1012 pupil places including 900 places in Y7 –Y11 was closed on 31 August 2011 and replaced with an 11-16 Academy on the same site providing 600 places.

- 4.1.7 The total (new) capacity at secondary level of 4354 is shown as insufficient to meet the short term demand for school places with -2% surplus for 2013. This forecast takes into account current numbers on roll and therefore admissions into some year groups based on the original higher capacity will influence the projections long term as these pupils numbers move through the school.

- 4.1.8 The unused (surplus) capacity forecast across this period is lower than the preferred 4% target following the removal of 300 places in this area and taking into account provision in the sixth form. However, forecasts indicate that surplus places are increasing each year from 2011 to 2015 resulting in a higher unused (surplus) level of 2%.

January 2011	Secondary Spare Places					
	11-Dec	Dec-13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
Macclesfield LAP	-154	-106	10	23	91	79
	-4%	-2%	0%	1%	2%	2%
Cheshire East	2162	1938	1613	1480	1436	1435
	8%	7%	6%	5%	5%	5%

- 4.1.9 A more accurate forecast based on Y7-11 pupil numbers and capacity is therefore required. This is demonstrated in the table below:

Macclesfield Schools		Years 7 -11				Years 7-13
School	PAN	Capacity Y7-11	NOR Jan 2011	Unused (surplus) at Jan 11	% unused (surplus) at Jan 11	2010 % Unused (surplus)
All Hallows Catholic College	210	1050	906	144	13.7%	12%
Macclesfield Academy	120	600	633	-33	-5.5%	-22%
The Fallibroome Academy	240	1200	970	230	19.2%	-20%
Tytherington High	210	1050	1197	-147	-14.0%	5%
Total		3900	3706	194	5.0%	-4%

4.1.10 As the number of secondary aged pupils across the town is forecast to fall, the unused (surplus) capacity for 2016, currently at 5% across Y7-Y11 (forecast at -4% across all age groups) will increase in line with this and therefore exceed the forecast surplus of 2% for 2016.

4.1.11 Reception admissions for 2011 have been analysed to identify any variance from the pupil forecasts for this intake year. The results for this LAP show that the number of pupils allocated places for September 2011 was higher than forecast at 5.3% based on the January 2011 School Census Data, which is higher than the overall variance across all schools at 3.4%

	PAN	Spaces	Reception Allocation Sep 2011	Forecast from Jan 2011	Variance from Jan 11 Forecast	
Macclesfield LAP	754	52	702	667	35	5.3%
Cheshire East	4054	101	3953	3824	129	3.4%

4.1.12 An analysis of the number of pupils in each year group and key stage is compared in the table below with the number of spaces provided by the published admission number (PAN). This illustrates the difference between the 2011 (Reception) and 2005 (Year 6) intakes and highlights the overall growth in the number of pupils in the lower year groups with only 8.8% vacant places in key stage one compared with 16.4% in key stage two at October 2011. The table also shows the growth in the numbers of pupils in each year group from 2008 and consequential reduction in the number of spare places falling to just over 7% in the 2011 reception classes.

October 2011 Census		Number of pupils on roll						
Macclesfield LAP		Key Stage 1				Key Stage 2		
School Name	PAN	R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Intake Year		2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
Number on Roll	754	698	691	673	626	657	605	633
Spare places by Year Group		56	63	81	128	97	149	121
% Spare Places by Year Group		7.4%	8.4%	10.7%	17.0%	12.9%	19.8%	16.0%
Key Stage Total		2062				2521		

Key Stage Unused (surplus)		200	495
Key Stage Unused (surplus) %		8.8%	16.4%
Cheshire East % Key Stage Spare Places		7.3%	11.6%

4.1.13 The table below provides a summary of core data for this LAP compared with Cheshire East as a whole.

Data Summary	% Change	Notes	
LAP Secondary Forecasts	5.2%	Reduction	2011-2016
CE Population Forecasts (11-15 year olds)	3%	Reduction	2009-2019
LAP Primary Forecasts	2.9%	Increase	2011-2016
CE Population Forecasts (5-10 Year olds)	3%	Increase	2009 -2019
CE Population Forecasts (0-15 Year olds)	2%	Reduction	2009-2019
Macclesfield Live Births	5.5%	Increase	2004-2010
CE Live Births	6.3%	Increase	2004-2010

4.2 Area 1 – Macclesfield (Congleton)

School	Status
Bosley St Mary's CE Primary	Voluntary Controlled
Marton and District CE Primary	Voluntary Aided

4.2.1 These two primary schools primarily serve rural areas of Macclesfield on the border with the Congleton LAP and have a combined capacity of 265 places. Forecasts indicate that both schools will have spare places at 12% and 27% by 2016. These spare places can influence the overall unused (surplus) capacity for the Macclesfield LAP and have therefore been considered separately.

4.2.2 A review of the numbers on roll in each key stage indicates that overall, the combined level of spare places is reasonably evenly spread across the key stages at nearly 16% and just over 17%.

October 2011 Census	Number of pupils on roll							
	Key Stage 1				Key Stage 2			
School Name	PAN	R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Bosley St Mary's CE	8	3	4	3	9	4	3	10
Marton & District CE	30	28	30	28	21	30	26	23
TOTAL	38	31	34	31	30	34	29	33
LAP Unused (surplus) by Year Group		7	4	7	8	4	9	5
LAP %Unused (surplus) by Year Group		18.4%	10.5%	18.4%	21.1%	10.5%	23.7%	13.2%

Key Stage Total		96	126
Key Stage Unused (surplus)		18	26
Key Stage Unused (surplus) %		15.8%	17.1%

- 4.2.3 The data indicates a more than adequate level of unused (surplus) based on October 2011 Census data with no apparent problems in the lower year groups to suggest pressure from increasing primary aged populations at 2.9% for this LAP.

	NOR Jan'11	Spare Places				
School		12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
Bosley St Mary's CE	36	19	16	12	17	15
		35%	29%	22%	31%	27%
Marton & District CE	182	24	24	28	23	25
		11%	11%	13%	11%	12%
Wincle CE	49	4	5	3	5	4
		8%	10%	6%	10%	8%

- 4.2.4 For one of these schools, whilst almost 63% of the children resident in the catchment area served by the school attend their local school, this represents only 42% of the total number on roll (January 2011) with nearly 31% of children attending the school living in other local authorities. There were 24 children resident in this rural catchment area at this time.
- 4.2.5 Any review of provision would need to take into account capacity and numbers on roll in nearby Wincle, which also falls under the Macclesfield LAP and contributes to provision in the rural area of the town. This school is forecast to have a unused (surplus) capacity by 2016 of 8%. This school had 31 pupils resident in its catchment in January 2011 of which 84% attended the school representing 55% of the total number on roll. 18.4% of children attending the school live in other local authorities.

Macclesfield (Congleton) Summary

Forecasts indicate that there is no necessity to increase provision in this area with high levels of spare places at 12% and 27% forecast for 2016. However, provision will need to be kept under review to ensure viability and sustainability for the foreseeable future.

Macclesfield (Congleton) Actions

No action required at this stage to revise capacity in this area. The capacity for this area of the Macclesfield LAP is to be monitored to ensure viability and sustainability for the foreseeable future.

4.3 Area 2 – Macclesfield (Town)

School	Status
Ash Grove Primary School and Nursery	Community
Bollinbrook Church of England Primary	Voluntary Aided
Bollington Cross Church of England Primary	Voluntary Controlled
Bollington St John's Church of England Primar	Voluntary Aided
Broken Cross Community	Community
Christ the King Catholic and CE Primary	Voluntary Aided
Dean Valley Community Primary	Community
Gawsworth Primary	Community
Hollinhey Primary	Community
Hurdsfield Community Primary	Community
Ivy Bank Primary	Community
Kettleshulme St James' CE Primary	Voluntary Aided
Parkroyal Community	Community
Pott Shrigley Church	Voluntary Aided
Puss Bank	Community
Rainow Primary	Community
St Alban's Catholic Primary	Voluntary Aided
St Gregory's Catholic Primary	Voluntary Aided
St John the Evangelist CE Primary	Voluntary Aided
The Marlborough Primary	Community
Upton Priory	Community
Whirley Primary	Community
Windle Church of England Primary	Voluntary Aided
All Hallows Catholic College (Secondary)	Voluntary Aided
The Fallibroome Academy (Secondary)	Academy
The Macclesfield Academy (Secondary)	Academy
Tytherington High (Secondary)	Community

- 4.3.1 Macclesfield is served by a large number of primary schools across a very wide locality with the majority serving the central and more densely populated area of the LAP. In addition to the 2 schools bordering the Congleton LAP (Bosley St Mary's and Marton and District CE), Macclesfield has a further 2 schools on its border; one on the border with Derbyshire (Windle CE) and the other on the border with the Poynton LAP (Kettleshulme St James CE). Both schools are small rural schools and have a combined capacity of only 115 places. These schools serve a wider area than their zoned catchment area with the percentage of children on roll at the schools that live in the catchment area being 55% and 33% respectively. The majority of pupils living in the area of the school do attend their local school at 87% and 85%. Based on January 2011 census data, both schools are forecast to have vacancies by 2016 at 8% of the schools' capacity.

School	NOR Jan'11	Spare Places				
		12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17

Wincle CE	49	4	5	3	5	4
		8%	10%	6%	10%	8%
Kettleshulme St James' CE	67	1	4	7	3	5
		2%	6%	11%	5%	8%

- 4.3.2 In the Bollington area of Macclesfield, there are 5 primary schools providing 626 places with a forecast unused (surplus) of 111 places by 2016. This represents almost 18% surplus places. Two schools in the area have a particularly high level of unused (surplus) forecast at 54% and 45% by this date.

		Spare Places				
School	Capacity	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
Bollington Cross CE	150	17	7	3	-1	2
		11%	5%	2%	-1%	1%
Bollington St John's CE	119	68	68	69	64	64
		57%	57%	58%	54%	54%
St Gregory's Catholic	105	14	19	13	12	14
		13%	18%	12%	11%	13%
Dean Valley	210	27	22	14	10	12
		13%	10%	7%	5%	6%
Pott Shrigley Church	42	16	18	20	19	19
		38%	43%	48%	45%	45%
Total	626	142	134	119	104	111
		22.7%	21.4%	19.0%	16.6%	17.7%

- 4.3.3 Three of these schools share a catchment area affording a higher priority for children resident in this area to all three schools. These schools are Bollington Cross, Bollington St John's and Dean Valley. The number of pupils resident in this area in January 2011 was 511 with 479 pupils places provided by the three schools at this time
- 4.3.4 Pott Shrigley had only 14 pupils resident in its catchment area in January 2011 of which just over 14% attended the school and comprising 6% of the total number on roll and the remaining 96% residing in the Macclesfield LAP.
- 4.3.5 St Gregory's admits pupils from a much wider area based on faith. 96% of the children on roll in January 2011 live within the Macclesfield LAP.
- 4.3.6 For the remaining schools, the total capacity is 4337. Forecasts indicate a 491 spare places by 2016 (11.3%) with 3 of these schools having over 25% surplus by 2016 including 1 school with 54%.

		Spare Places				
School	Capacity	Dec-13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
Ash Grove	155	46	36	29	27	32
		30%	23%	19%	17%	21%
Bollinbrook CE	209	3	1	-1	-1	-1
		1%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Broken Cross	180	92	95	104	100	98
		51%	53%	58%	56%	54%
Christ the King	210	38	28	29	21	26
		18%	13%	14%	10%	12%
Gawsworth	210	15	18	21	19	20
		7%	9%	10%	9%	10%
Hollinhey	210	15	7	7	8	7
		7%	3%	3%	4%	3%
Hurdsfield	119	35	37	35	34	31
		29%	31%	29%	29%	26%
Ivy Bank	315	-7	-17	-15	-15	-15
		-2%	-5%	-5%	-5%	-5%
Parkroyal	420	23	15	8	8	6
		5%	4%	2%	2%	1%
Puss Bank	351	58	56	58	61	56
		17%	16%	17%	17%	16%
St Alban's Catholic	418	96	100	110	102	108
		23%	24%	26%	24%	26%
St John the Evangelist CE	315	12	16	15	14	17
		4%	5%	5%	4%	5%
The Marlborough	420	73	71	70	69	70
		17%	17%	17%	16%	17%
Upton Priory	420	43	37	36	30	33
		10%	9%	9%	7%	8%
Whirley	210	3	2	1	1	1
		1%	1%	0%	0%	0%
Total	4337	547	504	509	480	491
		12.6%	11.6%	11.7%	11.1%	11.3%

4.3.7 The numbers on roll in Key Stage One across these 15 primary schools is much lower than in Key Stage Two with intakes into the infant year groups increasing year on year since 2008. This disparity between the key stages and the reducing level of unused (surplus) across these schools in more recent years will need to be considered in addition to the overall surplus place forecasts for this area currently forecast to reduce to just below 12% for 2016 across all 25 primary schools.

October 2011 Census	Number of pupils on roll						
Admission Year	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
School Name	R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Ash Grove	26	14	23	15	13	12	11
Bollinbrook CE	27	30	27	31	28	29	30
Broken Cross	5	14	10	7	18	12	11
Christ the King Catholic CE	30	28	27	21	28	14	26
Gawsworth	26	29	25	27	32	27	25
Hollinhey	31	29	28	30	27	20	25
Hurdsfield	22	17	9	11	10	13	9
Ivy Bank	46	47	47	49	43	36	49
Parkroyal	59	59	60	58	54	51	52
Puss Bank	45	44	36	44	45	43	37
St Alban's Catholic	45	48	49	35	50	44	49
St John the Evangelist CE	45	38	45	43	43	46	41
The Marlborough	53	49	50	46	51	49	46
Upton Priory	52	58	60	49	60	50	60
Whirley Primary	30	29	30	30	29	30	30
TOTAL	542	533	526	496	531	476	501
LAP Spaces by Year Group	45	54	61	90	56	117	92
LAP % Spaces by Year Group	7.7%	9.2%	10.4%	15.3%	9.5%	19.9%	15.7%
Key Stage Total	1601			2004			
Key Stage Spaces	160			355			
Key Stage Spaces %	9.1%			15.1%			

4.3.8 When grouping these 15 schools into clusters based on their locality, the number of spare places forecast for 6 of these schools for 2016 is slightly higher at 13% compared with 11.3% for all 15 schools and 12% for all schools in Macclesfield.

School		Forecast Spare Places (January 2011)					
	Capacity	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
St Alban's Catholic	418	95	96	100	110	102	108
		23%	23%	24%	26%	24%	26%
The Marlborough	420	78	73	71	70	69	70
		19%	17%	17%	17%	16%	17%
Upton Priory	420	41	43	37	36	30	33
		10%	10%	9%	9%	7%	8%
Whirley	210	2	3	2	1	1	1
		1%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%
Bollinbrook CE	209	6	3	1	-1	-1	-1
		3%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Hurdsfield	119	38	35	37	35	34	31

		32%	29%	31%	29%	29%	26%
Total	1796	260	253	248	251	235	242
		14%	14%	14%	14%	13%	13%
All Macclesfield LAP Primary Schools	5343	781	741	685	676	631	650
		15%	14%	13%	13%	12%	12%

- 4.3.9 For these 6 schools, the increasing number of spare places in Key Stage One is higher at just over 11% spaces compared with 9.1% across all 15 primary schools. Furthermore, the number of spaces in the reception class is greater at just below 11% compared with 7.7% across all 15 schools.

October 2011 Census	Number of pupils on roll						
Admission Year	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
School Name	R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Bollinbrook CE	27	30	27	31	28	29	30
Hurdsfield	22	17	9	11	10	13	9
St Alban's Catholic	45	48	49	35	50	44	49
The Marlborough	53	49	50	46	51	49	46
Upton Priory	52	58	60	49	60	50	60
Whirley Primary	30	29	30	30	29	30	30
TOTAL	229	231	225	202	228	215	224
LAP Spaces by Year Group	28	26	32	55	29	42	33
LAP % Spaces by Year Group	10.9%	10.1%	12.5%	21.4%	11.3%	16.3%	12.8%
Key Stage Total	685			869			
Key Stage Spaces	86			159			
Key Stage Spaces %	11.2%			15.5%			

All 16 Schools - Key Stage Spaces %	8.6%	14.5%
--	------	-------

- 4.3.10 For the cluster of 9 schools shown below, the forecast number of spare places are high for 2016 at 10% albeit lower than the 11.3% across the 16 primary schools and 12% for all Macclesfield schools.

School		Forecast Spare Places (January 2011)					
	Capacity	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
Hollinhey	210	19	15	7	7	8	7
		9%	7%	3%	3%	4%	3%
Broken Cross	180	92	92	95	104	100	98
		51%	51%	53%	58%	56%	54%
Ivy Bank	315	-10	-7	-17	-15	-15	-15
		-3%	-2%	-5%	-5%	-5%	-5%
St John the Evangelist CE	315	15	12	16	15	14	17
		5%	4%	5%	5%	4%	5%

Christ the King Catholic & CE	210	34	38	28	29	21	26
		16%	18%	13%	14%	10%	12%
Parkroyal	420	31	23	15	8	8	6
		7%	5%	4%	2%	2%	1%
Puss Bank	351	63	58	56	58	61	56
		18%	17%	16%	17%	17%	16%
Gawsworth	210	17	15	18	21	19	20
		8%	7%	9%	10%	9%	10%
Ash Grove	155	54	46	36	29	27	32
		35%	30%	23%	19%	17%	21%
Total	2,366	315	292	254	256	243	247
		13%	12%	11%	11%	10%	10%
All Macclesfield LAP Primary Schools	5343	781	741	685	676	631	650
		15%	14%	13%	13%	12%	12%

4.3.11 For these 9 schools, spare places are reducing year on year with 5.2% unused (surplus) reception class places in 2011 compared with 7.5% across Key Stage One and 14% for Key Stage 2.

October 2011 Census	Number of pupils on roll						
Admission Year	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
School Name	R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Ash Grove	26	14	23	15	13	12	11
Broken Cross	5	14	10	7	18	12	11
Christ the King Catholic CE	30	28	27	21	28	14	26
Gawsworth	26	29	25	27	32	27	25
Hollinhey	31	29	28	30	27	20	25
Ivy Bank	46	47	47	49	43	36	49
Parkroyal	59	59	60	58	54	51	52
Puss Bank	45	44	36	44	45	43	37
St John the Evangelist CE	45	38	45	43	43	46	41
TOTAL	313	302	301	294	303	261	277
LAP Spaces by Year Group	17	28	29	36	27	69	53
LAP % Spaces by Year Group	5.2%	8.5%	8.8%	10.9%	8.2%	20.9%	16.1%
Key Stage Total	916			1135			
Key Stage Spaces	74			185			
Key Stage Spaces %	7.5%			14.0%			

4.3.12 A more marked contrast can be seen when looking at the number of spare places in the 5 Bollington schools with the overall unused (surplus) in Key Stage 2 being more than three times greater than in Key Stage One.

October 2011 Census	Number of pupils on roll							
Admission Year		2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
School Name	PAN	R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Bollington Cross CE	22	22	22	24	17	15	11	11
Bollington St John's CE	15	10	14	6	2	8	8	9
Dean Valley	30	30	29	30	24	20	22	27
Pott Shrigley	6	4	5	4	2	5	5	5
St Gregory's Catholic	15	14	13	12	12	7	18	13
TOTAL	88	80	83	76	57	55	64	65
LAP Unused (surplus) by Year Group		8	5	12	31	33	24	23
LAP %Unused (surplus) by Year Group		9.1%	5.7%	13.6%	35.2%	37.5%	27.3%	26.1%
Key Stage Total		239			241			
Key Stage Unused (surplus)		25			111			
Key Stage Unused (surplus) %		9.5%			31.5%			

4.3.13 However, based on current projections there are more than sufficient primary school places in the Macclesfield area to meet demand over the next 5 years with a unused (surplus) of 12% forecast for 2016.

Jan-11		Forecast Spare Places					
NOR	Capacity	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
4554	5343	781	741	685	676	631	650
		15%	14%	13%	13%	12%	12%

4.3.14 For some schools there is a significant unused (surplus) capacity due to the pattern of parental preference in the area. This will need to be kept under review to ensure that all schools are viable for the foreseeable future.

4.3.15 It is recommended that more detailed analysis of the provision for this area is undertaken based on pupil forecasts using January 2012 and January 2013 Census. This will ensure that recent changes in population and live births are taken into full consideration before any reorganisation of provision in this area is proposed.

4.3.16 Furthermore, it is recommended that forecasts are produced using separate Key Stage data to take into account the variance between the overall numbers and the larger intakes into the infant classes.

Macclesfield (Town) Summary

Forecasts indicate that overall there is no need to increase provision in the primary sector at this stage. Unused (surplus) places will need to be carefully monitored due

to the high levels in some schools to ensure the efficient use of resources and optimisation of parental satisfaction with the admissions process.

There is a marked difference between the January 2011 forecasts for September 2011 admissions, which are based on historical patterns, and the actual number of places allocated for the reception classes. For this LAP the admissions are 5.3% higher than forecast. Pupil forecasts will therefore need to be reviewed using January 2012 and 2013 Census data and by introducing key stage forecasts to fully consider the impact of increasing admissions at the normal point of entry to the school.

Population forecasts suggest a small increase at 2.9% (by 2016) in the primary aged population for the Macclesfield area compared with 3% (by 2019) across Cheshire East. Live births have increased by 5.5% (2010) for the Macclesfield area which is slightly below the level for Cheshire East.

At the secondary phase, the current capacity appears to be insufficient to meet demand in the area. However, it is important to bear in mind that the reorganisation in 2010 to reduce capacity by 300 Year 7 to 11 pupil places has meant that forecasts are influenced by the higher intakes in previous years resulting in a current negative surplus for this area, but with surplus places forecast to increase by 2016 to 2% across all 4 schools. Furthermore, secondary population forecasts indicate a reduction by 5.2% in the number of secondary aged pupils between 2011 and 2016.

Macclesfield (Town) Actions

Forecasts indicate that provision in this area is sufficient to meet demand at the primary phase. Provision will nevertheless need to be monitored to ensure changes in the primary aged population can be accommodated in schools within a reasonable distance in future years. It is recommended that Key stage analysis is implemented using 2012 Census data to give a more appropriate forecast for future years.

Following the recent reorganisation of secondary school provision in this locality, capacity is now more closely aligned with demand. The forecast reduction in the number of secondary aged pupils over the plan period needs to be considered over a longer term to ensure that recent increases at the primary phase in the number of school-aged children are modelled to forecast secondary data beyond 2016.

Leave blank

5 Nantwich LAP

5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 Nantwich LAP falls under the former district of Crewe and Nantwich Borough. It is a predominantly rural area and has the highest number of entirely 'rural' schools across the Borough with 39% of its schools designated as rural.
- 5.1.2 There are 17 primary schools and 2 Secondary schools located in the Nantwich LAP. At the primary phase the total capacity is 2923 school places, which includes provision for the Broxton Rural and Tarporley areas. Another primary school (Willaston Primary) that primarily serves the Nantwich area falls within the Crewe LAP and provides a further 210 places.
- 5.1.3 The Crewe and Nantwich area has seen the greatest increase in the number of live births with growth at 14% when comparing 2004 to 2010 and therefore above the national level of 13% for the same period. This represents 78% of the total increase for Cheshire East.
- 5.1.4 The 2011 -2017 population forecasts for Nantwich LAP (shown below) indicate that the overall number of children (0-15) will increase to around 6,300 by 2017, which is an increase of 100 over this period.

Age Band	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
0-15	6,200	6,200	6,200	6,200	6,200	6,300	6,300
16-44	11,700	11,700	11,600	11,600	11,500	11,400	11,300
45-64	10,300	10,300	10,400	10,500	10,600	10,700	10,800
65+	7,400	7,700	7,900	8,100	8,300	8,500	8,700
Total	35,600	35,900	36,100	36,300	36,600	36,800	37,000

Source: Office for National Statistics 2007 to 2016 mid-year estimates by age band and Local Area Partnership (LAP)

- 5.1.5 Population forecasts indicate that in the primary age group, there will be an increase of 4.2% over the period 2011-2016 compared with a reduction in the number of secondary age pupils by 6%. There are no years when changes will be significant, but at the primary phase, forecasts indicate that 2015 will see a reduction in the number of primary aged pupils but rising again for 2016.

Nantwich LAP	Sep-11	Sep-12	Sep-13	Sep-14	Sep-15	Sep-16	LAP Difference	LAP % Difference
Primary	2696	2727	2769	2814	2788	2810	114	4.20%
Yearly change		31	42	45	-26	22		
Secondary	2381	2329	2274	2224	2229	2237	-144	-6.00%
Yearly change		-52	-55	-50	5	8		

- 5.1.6 Between 2004 and 2010, live birth data indicates that there has been an increase in the number of births for the Crewe and Nantwich area, above the national level of 13% at 14%. This increase represents 78% of the total increase for Cheshire East of 6.3%.
- 5.1.7 Current projections indicate that there are sufficient primary school places in the area to meet demand over the next 5 years with a forecast unused (surplus) for 2011-2012 at 8% reducing to around 4% by 2016 based on January 2011 school census data.

	Forecast Spare Places					
Capacity	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
2923	227	196	154	109	135	113
	8%	7%	5%	4%	5%	4%

- 5.1.8 The impact of growing numbers of primary aged pupils for this area is putting pressure on some schools and some year groups and, in particular, Key Stage One. Using October 2011 School Census data, the number of spare places in Key Stage One across all schools represents 5.9% of the total capacity. This is lower than the overall unused (surplus) forecast at 8% (all year groups) based on January 2011 census data. This indicates a slight disparity of just over 2% between Key Stage vacancies.

Nantwich LAP	PAN	Number of Pupils on Roll (NOR)						
October 2011 Census Data		Key Stage 1			Key Stage 2			
		Rec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
TOTAL	415	388	398	385	422	362	361	375
Unused (surplus)		27	17	30	-7	53	54	40
Unused (surplus) %		6.5%	4.1%	7.2%	-1.7%	12.8%	13.0%	9.6%
Key Stage Unused (surplus) %		5.9%			8.4%			

- 5.1.9 Based on current admission patterns, 13 of the 17 primary schools indicate very low or negative unused (surplus) by 2016 with one school forecast to have a 17% shortfall in the number of places. 3 schools are forecast to have a higher than average level of spare places across the area with 1 school having almost one third of its spaces vacant by 2016.

	Jan-11		Forecast Spare Places					
School	NOR	Capacity	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
Willaston	199	210	4	1	1	0	0	0
Spare Places			2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Acton CE	129	157	25	19	12	2	1	4
			16%	12%	8%	1%	1%	3%

Audlem St James' CE	144	207	62	65	62	61	66	65
			30%	31%	30%	29%	32%	31%
Bickerton Holy Trinity	129	140	13	18	12	13	22	16
			9%	13%	9%	9%	16%	11%
Bridgemere CE	87	105	14	12	9	1	2	-1
			13%	11%	9%	1%	2%	-1%
Bunbury Aldersey CE	205	210	7	6	6	7	9	6
			3%	3%	3%	3%	4%	3%
Calveley	100	105	-5	-9	-6	-13	-8	-6
			-5%	-9%	-6%	-12%	-8%	-6%
Highfields	200	210	9	4	3	-6	-6	-6
			4%	2%	1%	-3%	-3%	-3%
Millfields	191	210	18	18	14	15	15	13
			9%	9%	7%	7%	7%	6%
Pear Tree	212	210	-1	0	0	0	0	0
			0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Sound and District	129	133	1	0	-3	-6	-7	-9
			1%	0%	-2%	-5%	-5%	-7%
St Anne's Catholic	202	210	8	6	1	1	1	0
			4%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%
St Oswald's Worleston CE	55	52	-10	-10	-8	-10	-9	-9
			-19%	-19%	-15%	-19%	-17%	-17%
Stapeley Broad Lane CE	201	204	3	-5	-5	-6	-6	-6
			1%	-2%	-2%	-3%	-3%	-3%
Weaver	210	210	-1	-1	-1	0	0	0
			0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Wrenbury	125	156	23	25	22	24	29	21
			15%	16%	14%	15%	19%	13%
Wyche	145	196	54	44	30	22	22	21
			28%	22%	15%	11%	11%	11%
Wybunbury Delves CE	200	208	7	4	6	4	4	4
			3%	2%	3%	2%	2%	2%
Total	2,664	2,923	227	196	154	109	135	113
			7.8%	6.7%	5.3%	3.7%	4.6%	3.9%
Including Willaston	2,863	3,133	231	197	155	109	135	113
			7.4%	6.3%	4.9%	3.5%	4.3%	3.6%

5.1.10 Unlike other areas of the Borough, the forecast intakes for September 2011 were higher than the number of places allocated to the reception classes at 3%, which equates to 13 fewer pupils allocated places than were anticipated.

PAN	VAC	Reception Allocation Sep 2011	Forecast from Jan 2011	Variance from Jan 11 Forecast
415	25	390	403	-13
	6.0%	94.0%	97.1%	-3.2%

5.1.11 At the secondary phase there are 2 schools providing a combined capacity of 2716 places. For those residents living in the Broxton and Tarporley areas, secondary school provision is generally sought at Tarporley High School which, following the reorganisation of the Cheshire Councils in 2009, is now maintained by Cheshire West and Chester Council.

5.1.12 The 2 Nantwich high schools admit pupils from outside their designated catchment areas with 71% and 44% of children on roll (January 2011) at the schools living in the catchment area. For one of these schools nearly 45% of children on roll at this time were resident in another LAP.

5.1.13 Secondary school forecasts indicate that there are more than sufficient school places at the two local high schools to meet demand over the Plan period with surplus places forecast to increase to nearly 18% by 2016.

	Jan-11		Forecast Spare Places					
School	NOR	Capacity	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
Brine Leas	1,165	1,348	195	201	217	225	208	210
			14%	15%	16%	17%	15%	16%
Malbank	1,272	1,368	140	186	225	267	279	269
			10%	14%	16%	20%	20%	20%
Total		2,716	335	387	442	492	487	479
			12.3%	14.2%	16.3%	18.1%	17.9%	17.6%

5.1.14 The figures above include admissions to the sixth form and this can affect projections as shown in the table below, with a total of only 3.1% unused (surplus) in October 2011 across Years 7 to 11 compared with the overall forecast for all year groups of 12.3%.

October 2011 Census	Number of pupils on roll							Total Y7-Y11	
School Name	PAN	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11	Total	Spare Places	% Spare Places
Brine Leas	210	215	214	207	217	211	1,064	-14	-1.3%
Malbank	210	185	185	182	209	209	970	80	7.6%
TOTAL	420	400	399	389	426	420	2,034	66	3.1%
Unused (surplus) by Year Group		20	21	31	-6	0	66		
Unused (surplus) by Year		4.8%	5.0%	7.4%	-1.4%	0.0%	3.1%		

Group

- 5.1.15 The table below provides a summary of core data for this LAP compared with Cheshire East as a whole.

Data Summary	% Change	Notes	
LAP Secondary Forecasts	6%	Reduction	2011-2016
CE Population Forecasts (11-15 year olds)	3%	Reduction	2009-2019
LAP Primary Forecasts	4.2%	Increase	2011-2016
CE Population Forecasts (5-10 Year olds)	3%	Increase	2009 -2019
CE Population Forecasts (0-15 Year olds)	2%	Reduction	2009-2019
Crewe and Nantwich Live Births	14%	Increase	2004-2010
CE Live Births	6.3%	Increase	2004-2010

5.2 Area 1 - Nantwich (Central) (excluding Broxton, Tarporley and Shavington)

School	Status
Acton Church of England Primary	Voluntary Controlled
Highfields Community Primary	Community
Millfields Primary School and Nursery	Community
Pear Tree Primary	Community
St Anne's Catholic Primary	Voluntary Aided
Stapeley Broad Lane Church of England Primary	Voluntary Controlled
Weaver Primary	Community
Wyche Primary	Community
Brine Leas (Secondary)	Academy
Malbank (Secondary)	Foundation

- 5.2.1 The rurality of the Nantwich LAP means that variation in the number of vacancies across the schools can result in spare capacity at schools some distance from the home address. The 8 schools located nearer the centre of the town of Nantwich provide 228 places in the reception classes and a combined capacity of 1607 places.
- 5.2.2 For one school in particular (Pear Tree), the capacity of the school is significantly less than the number of children resident in the designated catchment area and, as such, the likelihood of success with an application from parents and carers of local children is significantly reduced assuming this school remains popular with its local families. The catchment area had 423 pupils in it in January 2011 compared with the capacity at the school, which is 210 places. For the same period only 44% pupils within this area taking up places in the school but this represents nearly 90% of the total school population. It is therefore necessary that a review of the catchment area is undertaken alongside an assessment of the total number of places in

this school and nearby schools. The distance to alternative provision must be fully considered.

- 5.2.3 The schools located nearer to the central area of Nantwich are forecast to see a reduction in the number of spare places by 2016 falling from 7% in 2011/2012 to only 2% by 2016, as shown below.

	Jan-11		Forecast Spare Places					
School	NOR	Capacity	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
Acton CE	129	157	25	19	12	2	1	4
			16%	12%	8%	1%	1%	3%
Highfields	200	210	9	4	3	-6	-6	-6
			4%	2%	1%	-3%	-3%	-3%
Millfields	191	210	18	18	14	15	15	13
			9%	9%	7%	7%	7%	6%
Pear Tree	212	210	-1	0	0	0	0	0
			0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
St Anne's Catholic	202	210	8	6	1	1	1	0
			4%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Stapeley Broad Lane CE	201	204	3	-5	-5	-6	-6	-6
			1%	-2%	-2%	-3%	-3%	-3%
Weaver	210	210	-1	-1	-1	0	0	0
			0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Wyche	145	196	54	44	30	22	22	21
			28%	22%	15%	11%	11%	11%
Total	1,490	1,607	115	85	54	28	27	26
			7%	5%	3%	2%	2%	2%

- 5.2.4 The majority of this unused (surplus) (in October 2011) was in the junior year groups with only 0.4% vacancies (3 spaces) for Key Stage 1 and more significantly, a shortfall in the number of places in the reception classes with more pupils than provided by the combined published admission numbers.

Nantwich Centre	PAN	Number of pupils on roll (Oct 2011)						
		Key Stage 1			Key Stage 2			
		R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Total	228	229	227	225	224	204	194	201
PAN-NOR (Vacancies by Year Group)		-1	1	3	4	24	34	27
% PAN-NOR (Vacancies by Year Group)		-0.4%	0.4%	1.3%	1.8%	10.5%	14.9%	11.8%
% Unused (surplus) by Key Stage		0.4%			9.8%			

- 5.2.5 In looking at the number of children resident in the catchment areas for these schools, January 2011 data shows that there were 1501 children resident in the area compared with 1590 school places across these 8 schools resulting in 89 spare places at 5.6% of the total capacity and therefore including all year groups.
- 5.2.6 Due to the increased number of admissions into the lower year groups to these schools and in order to provide some contingency in this area of the Nantwich LAP for in year admissions and to optimise parental preference as far as possible, additional places are needed. Forecasts indicate that the number of spare places will fall below 4% in 2013 and to only 2% in 2014. It is therefore recommended that further analysis is undertaken to identify which schools could be enlarged to deliver additional capacity for future intakes. In order to deliver 4% contingency across these 8 schools, based on January 2011 forecasts, a further 38 places would be needed.

Nantwich (Central) Summary

Forecasts indicate that there is increasing demand for places in Key Stage One across the 8 schools with only 4 places in the reception classes in October 2011. This is an area in which forecasts suggest an increase in the primary aged population by 2016 of 4.2%. Changes in populations and birth rates will need to be closely monitored and an assessment of these schools will be necessary, taking into account the 2012 School Census data. The years when pressure on school places is forecast to grow are 2013 and 2014. To provide a preferred 4% contingency 38 more places would be needed. This would equate to an average of just over 1 space per year group per school. It is important that the distance to alternative schools is taken into account when modelling future provision.

Due to the disparity in the number of places in Pear Tree Primary (210) and the number of children resident in the school's designated catchment area (423 January 2011), an assessment of the potential impact for local families must be undertaken to ensure that places are available at a reasonable distance. This will require a review of the school's catchment area and the number of places available in the local area.

Forecasts indicate that provision at the two high schools is sufficient to meet demand with data showing an overall unused (surplus) at nearly 18% by 2016. However, current surplus for Y7-Y11 is lower at only 3.1% (October 2011) compared with just over 12% overall (i.e. including the sixth form) for the same period. The 2716 places provided by these schools does however, exceed the number of children resident in the catchment area (1844) at January 2011, which represented 68% of the total capacity. In addition, forecasts for this area indicate a 6% reduction in the number of 11-15 year olds by 2016.

Nantwich (Central) Actions

A review of capacity in the central area of this LAP is necessary to ensure there are sufficient primary school places to meet demand in the future, particularly 2014

when forecasts indicate a fall in the number of spare places to only 2% across the 8 schools. This review of data must take into account places available in schools in the rural areas of the LAP and distance to these, as alternative schools with vacancies may be some distance away due to the spread of schools across this rural area. Analyses must be informed by catchment area data. Due to the unequal distribution of spare places across Key Stages, analyses must take into account the growing demand for places in Key Stage One.

To undertake a review of the catchment area for Pear Tree Primary alongside an assessment of the number of places available in the area for local families and the distance to these.

Due to reducing numbers of secondary aged pupils over the period 2011-2016, it is not considered necessary for capacity to be reviewed for this area at this stage. It is recommended that 2012 primary forecasts are modelled for future intakes to secondary and that the process takes into account the number of pupils resident in the school's catchment area that take up places at the school.

5.3 Area 2 – Nantwich (Broxton).

School	Status
Bickerton Holy Trinity CE Primary	Voluntary Controlled

- 5.3.1 There is only one primary school (Bickerton Holy Trinity) serving this area with a capacity of 140 places and a unused (surplus) forecast by 2016 of 11%. This area feeds into Tarporley High School, maintained by Cheshire west and Chester Council since Local Government reorganisation in 2009.

	Jan-11		Forecast Spare Places					
School	NOR	Capacity	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
Bickerton Holy Trinity CE	129	140	13	18	12	13	22	16
			9%	13%	9%	9%	16%	11%

- 5.3.2 However, the number of admissions forecast for September 2011 was lower than the actual number of admissions into the reception class with the school admitting 39% more children than forecast.

School	PAN	VAC	Reception Allocation Sep 2011	Forecast from Jan 2011	Variance from Jan 11 Forecast
Bickerton Holy Trinity CE	20	-5	25	18	7
					38.9%

- 5.3.3 The majority of pupils living in the school's designated catchment area (48 in January 2011) attend the school (90%) but this represents only one third of the total number of pupils on roll. Due to the nature of this school's

catchment area being split between the two Cheshire councils, almost two thirds of the pupils on roll live in Cheshire West and Chester.

Nantwich (Broxton) Summary

Forecasts indicate that there are sufficient places in this school for children resident in its catchment area and from other areas and with 11% spare places forecast for 2016. Whilst it is acknowledged that the recent higher intake into the reception class will reduce the forecast level of unused (surplus), this forecast was high and therefore it is not proposed that any action is taken.

Nantwich (Broxton) Actions

To continue to monitor demand taking into account increasing primary aged populations, which for the Nantwich LAP are forecast to grow by 4.2% by 2016.

5.4 Area 3 – Nantwich (Tarporeley)

School	Status
Bunbury Aldersey Church of England Primary	Voluntary Aided
Calveley	Community

- 5.4.1 There are 2 schools providing 315 places for this area. Based on January 2011 data, the combined unused (surplus) forecast for these schools by 2016 is 0% with one school having spaces and the other having numbers on roll in excess of the number of places at the school.

	Jan-11		Forecast Spare Places					
School	NOR	Capacity	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
Bunbury Aldersey CE	205	210	7	6	6	7	9	6
			3%	3%	3%	3%	4%	3%
Calveley	100	105	-5	-9	-6	-13	-8	-6
			-5%	-9%	-6%	-12%	-8%	-6%
Total	305	315	2	-3	0	-6	1	0
			1%	-1%	0%	-2%	0%	0%

- 5.4.2 These schools had on roll 96% and 61% (January 2011) of their catchment area of 257 pupils. As the number of places at the schools is higher than the number of children in the catchment area, this does provide places for children from other areas, with catchment area pupils making up 73% and 62% of the total number on roll.

Nantwich (Tarporeley) Summary

Forecasts indicate that there are sufficient places in these schools to meet local demand and to provide for families outside the catchment area. Whilst unused

(surplus) forecasts are low, it is not expected that additional places would be needed in this rural area due to the current availability of places for families living beyond the catchment area.

Nantwich (Tarporley) Actions

No action required at this stage. However, increases in the primary aged population across the Nantwich LAP at 4.2% by 2016 could impact on demand in this area and therefore, as for other areas of the Borough, provision at these schools must be monitored to ensure there are sufficient places for local residents in the future.

5.5 Area 4 – Nantwich (Shavington)

School	Status
Wybunbury Delves Church of England Primary	Voluntary Aided

- 5.5.1 There is one school in this area that falls within the Nantwich LAP with 208 places. Current unused (surplus) levels at only 3.4% (October 2011) are forecast to fall to only 2% by 2016.

	Jan-11		Forecast Spare Places					
	NOR	Capacity	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
Wybunbury Delves CE	200	208	7	4	6	4	4	4
			3%	2%	3%	2%	2%	2%

- 5.5.2 Included in the total number on roll at the school in January 2011 were 71 pupils resident in the school's designated catchment area. This represented 59% of the catchment area and 36% of the total number of pupils on roll at the school.

- 5.5.3 In January 2011 there were sufficient places in the school to accommodate local children and children from other areas.

- 5.5.4 The numbers on roll in each Key Stage in October 2011 varied with increased numbers in the lower year groups with only 1% unused (surplus) at this time compared with nearly 7% in Key Stage Two.

October 2011 Census	Number of pupils on roll									NET CAP	Unused (surplus) places %
School Name	PAN	R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Total		
Wybunbury Delves CE	30	29	30	30	29	27	31	25	201	208	3.4%
Spaces per year group		1	0	0	1	3	-1	5			
Total Key Stage Spaces		1			8						
% Key Stage Spaces		1.1%			6.7%			95.7%			

- 5.5.5 In addition to Wybunbury Delves, there are 4 other primary schools in the Shavington area. These are within the Crewe LAP. Forecasts indicate that there will be a unused (surplus) capacity of only 3% by 2016, which equates

to 45 school places across all 5 primary schools. In order to deliver contingency for in year admissions, an additional 13 places would be needed to increase this level of surplus to 4% for 2016.

- 5.5.6 To reflect the pattern of parental preference in this locality, included in the table below are the five Shavington schools and one Crewe school located in the same area (Pebble Brook). The forecasts show that, again, unused (surplus) levels are low from 2014 and below the desired 4%. As the former Borough of Crewe and Nantwich area has the highest percentage of live births across the Borough at 14% (2004-2010), it is highly likely that pressure on places will continue beyond 2016.

Jan 2011				Forecast Spare Places					
Area	LAP	School	Places	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
Shavington	Crewe	Shavington	210	-4%	-1%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Shavington	Crewe	The Berkeley	351	15%	10%	11%	9%	7%	8%
Crewe	Crewe	Pebble Brook	210	8%	6%	5%	4%	3%	3%
Shavington	Crewe	Weston Village	266	10%	8%	6%	6%	5%	5%
Shavington	Crewe	Wistaston Church Lane	420	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Shavington	Nantwich	Wybunbury Delves CE	208	3%	2%	3%	2%	2%	2%
		Total	1,665	6%	4%	4%	3%	3%	3%

- 5.5.7 For this area it is recommended that forecasts are reviewed taking into account the difference in the number of pupils forecast for September and the actual number of places allocated, as set out in the table below with a 7.5% increase across these 6 primary schools.

LAP AREA	School	PAN	VAC	Reception Allocation Sep 2011	Forecast from Jan 2011	Variance from Jan 11 Forecast	% Variance
Nantwich	Wybunbury Delves CE	30	0	30	29	1	3.4%
Crewe	Pebble Brook	30	-10	40	29	11	37.9%
Crewe	Shavington	30	0	30	30	0	0.0%
Crewe	The Berkeley	50	2	48	46	2	4.3%
Crewe	Weston Village	38	0	38	36	2	5.6%
Crewe	Willaston	30	1	29	30	-1	-3.3%
	Total	208	-7	215	200	15	7.5%
	%		-3.4%				

- 5.5.8 Disparity between key stages also requires further investigation with only 2 vacancies across the whole of Key Stage One for these 6 schools (October 2011) compared with nearly 11% in Key Stage Two and an overall unused (surplus) of 6.3%.

October 2011 Census	Number of pupils on roll									NET CAP	Unused (surplus) places %
School Name	PAN	R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Total		
Pebble Brook	30	40	29	30	26	29	28	24	206	210	1.9%
Shavington	30	30	30	30	28	34	30	35	217	210	-3.3%
The Berkeley	50	48	48	50	40	36	48	27	297	351	15.4%
Weston Village	38	36	36	38	31	36	30	33	240	266	9.8%
Willaston	30	28	30	30	29	30	29	26	202	210	3.8%
Wybunbury Delves CE	30	29	30	30	29	27	31	25	201	208	3.4%
Total	208	211	203	208	183	192	196	170	1363	1455	6.3%
Total Key Stage			622			741					
Key Stage Spaces			2			91					
% Key Stage Spaces			0.3%			10.9%					

Nantwich (Shavington) Summary

Whilst forecasts indicate that for Shavington there are sufficient places at 6% unused (surplus) for the 2011-2012 academic year, as this is forecast to reduce to only 3% by 2016, additional capacity is needed to deliver contingency at 4%. This would require as a minimum an additional 13 school places for this area by 2016 or 16 school places including Pebble Brook. However, these forecasts do not portray the true impact of increasing pupil numbers into the lower year groups due to population changes and rising births rates in this area with an increase in the number of places allocated for September being 7.5% higher than forecast in the preceding January resulting in only 0.3% surplus in Key Stage One across all 6 schools in October 2011. Therefore, further analysis of the impact of this will be necessary to plan for sufficient capacity for the future.

Nantwich (Shavington) Actions

A further review of data is necessary due to increasing demand in Key Stage One and disparity between the overall forecast unused (surplus) and demand for places in this area using 2012 School Census data and review current provision to identify the 'best option/s' to expand provision in this area.

6 Poynton LAP

6.1 Introduction

- 6.1.1 There are 7 primary schools located in Poynton with 1386 places and 2 schools in Macclesfield that fall within the Poynton LAP with 443 places making a combined total capacity of 1829 primary places for the Poynton LAP.
- 6.1.2 Prior to Local Government Reorganisation in 2009, Poynton was administered by the former Macclesfield Borough. For this area. Live births increased between 2004 and 2010 by 5.5%, which is slightly lower than for Cheshire East at 6.3% and less than half the National average of 13%. This represents 36% of the Cheshire East net gain of 235 live births over this period.
- 6.1.3 The 2011-2017 population forecasts for Poynton LAP (shown below) indicate that the overall number of children (0-15) will fall to around 3,700 by 2017, which is a reduction of 100 over this period.

Age Band	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
0-15	3,800	3,800	3,700	3,700	3,700	3,700	3,700
16-44	7,100	7,100	7,100	7,100	7,100	7,000	7,000
45-64	7,200	7,100	6,900	6,800	6,700	6,700	6,600
65+	5,600	5,800	6,000	6,100	6,200	6,300	6,400
Total	23,700	23,800	23,700	23,700	23,700	23,700	23,700

Source: Office for National Statistics 2007 to 2016 mid-year estimates by age band and Local Area Partnership(LAP)

- 6.1.4 Pressure on primary school places across Cheshire East is expected to continue in some areas with population forecasts showing an overall increase for Cheshire East in the number of 5-10 year olds by 3% over the period 2009-2019. However, forecasts indicate that for the Poynton LAP, there will only be a very small increase in the primary age population of less than 1% (0.63%) between 2011 and 2016.
- 6.1.5 For the same period, secondary-aged pupils are forecast to reduce by 142 pupils representing a fall by nearly 9%.

Congleton LAP Jan 2011 Census	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	2011- 2016	2011- 2016
Primary	1740	1743	1755	1747	1737	1751	11	0.63%
Yearly Change		3	12	-8	-10	14		
Secondary	1586	1552	1517	1504	1479	1444	-142	-8.95%
Yearly Change		-34	-35	-13	-25	-35		

Data Sources 2011 January School Census, forecasts from Performance & Data team used in DfE 2011 SCAP return

- 6.1.6 As a consequence of increasing pupil numbers, the number of spare primary school places is forecast to fall to 4% resulting in a forecast 78 spaces across the 9 Poynton schools by 2016. However, based on current projections, there are sufficient primary school places in the area to meet demand over the next 5 years with 4% unused (surplus) by 2016.

Jan 2011 Census	Primary Spare Places					
	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
Poynton LAP	89	86	74	82	92	78
	5%	5%	4%	4%	5%	4%
Cheshire East	2162	1938	1613	1480	1436	1435
	8%	7%	6%	5%	5%	5%

- 6.1.7 A breakdown of the data into year groups shows that the pressures in Key Stage One evident in some LAPs is not mirrored in the Poynton LAP with surplus across the two Key Stages being evenly spread.

Poynton LAP	PAN	Number of Pupils on Roll (NOR) October 2011 Census Data						
October 2011 Census Data		Key Stage 1			Key Stage 2			
		Rec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Total	267	257	254	247	264	262	244	247
PAN-NOR (Vacancies by Year Group)		10	13	20	3	5	23	20
% PAN-NOR (Vacancies by Year Group)		3.7%	4.9%	7.5%	1.1%	1.9%	8.6%	7.5%
% Unused (surplus) by Key Stage		5.37%			4.78%			

- 6.1.8 Reception admissions for 2011 have been analysed to identify any variance from the pupil forecasts for this intake year due to increasing birth rates and population changes. The results for this LAP show that the number of pupils allocated places for September 2011 was slightly higher than forecast at 3.6% based on the January 2011 School Census Data admission.

LAP Area	PAN	Spaces	Reception Allocation Sep 2011	Forecast from Jan 2011	Variance from Jan 11 Forecast	
Poynton	267	8	259	250	9	3.6%
Cheshire East	4054	101	3953	3824	129	3.37%

- 6.1.9 Secondary school provision is provided for the area at Poynton High School and this school has capacity for 1529 pupils. In January 2011, 94% of the children resident within the designated catchment area attended the school representing 75% of the total number on roll. As the number of places within the school exceeds the number of pupils in the catchment area by 18%,

parents and carers of pupils from other areas are successful in securing places at this school. Based on January 2011 data, 4% of the number on roll were children that live within Cheshire East but outside the catchment area for the school and 21% of the total school population were children resident in other local authorities.

6.1.10 The table below provides a summary of core data for this LAP compared with Cheshire East as a whole.

Data Summary	% Change	Notes	
LAP Secondary Forecasts	9.0%	Reduction	2011-2016
CE Population Forecasts (11-15 year olds)	3%	Reduction	2009-2019
LAP Primary Forecasts	0.63%	Increase	2011-2016
CE Population Forecasts (5-10 Year olds)	3%	Increase	2009 -2019
CE Population Forecasts (0-15 Year olds)	2%	Reduction	2009-2019
Macclesfield Borough Live Births	5.5%	Reduction	2004-2010

6.2 Area 1 – Poynton (Central)

School	Status
Lostock Hall Primary School	Community
Lower Park School	Community
St Paul's Catholic Primary School	Voluntary Aided
Vernon Primary School	Community
Worth Primary School	Foundation
Poynton High School (Secondary)	Community

6.2.1 A closer look at the clustering of schools in this area indicates that there are 5 schools near the centre of Poynton providing 1071 places. Forecasts indicate that there will be nearly 4% surplus across these 5 schools by 2016.

Poynton LAP (Central) School Name	PAN	Number of pupils on roll (October 2011 Census Data)								NET CAP	Unused (surplus) places %	
		Key Stage 1			Key Stage 2							Total
		R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6				
Lostock Hall Primary	21	17	16	19	20	19	21	9	121	147	17.7%	
Lower Park School	40	40	40	40	39	39	40	44	282	280	-0.7%	
St Paul's Catholic	17	14	14	14	16	19	14	16	107	119	10.1%	
Vernon Primary School	45	42	47	44	47	49	41	42	312	315	1.0%	
Worth Primary School	30	28	30	30	32	26	28	33	207	210	1.4%	
Total	153	141	147	147	154	152	144	144	1029	1071	3.9%	
Unused (surplus)		12	6	6	-1	1	9	9				
% Unused (surplus)		7.8%	3.9%	3.9%	-0.7%	0.7%	5.9%	5.9%				
Key Stage Spaces		24			18							
% Key Stage Spaces		5.2%			2.9%							

- 6.2.2 The number of spaces in Key Stage One is higher than in Key Stage Two as for all 9 Poynton schools. When looking at the variation across year groups and key stages there is sufficient unused (surplus) capacity in most year groups to meet demand, but with a low number of spaces in Year 4 and over capacity overall in Year 3. The number of spaces in the reception classes at 7.8% suggests that increasing populations and changes in the number of live births is not at this stage having a significant impact on this area, unlike other areas of the Borough.
- 6.2.3 As for the high school serving this locality, children outside the designated catchment area secure places in the primary schools together with children from outside Cheshire East.
- 6.2.4 At the high school there are 1529 pupil places with 1230 available for pupils in Years 7 to 11. In October 2011, there were very few spaces across these two Key stages with only 1 space in Year 9 and 4 spaces in Year 11 due to the popularity of the school. As some year groups included admissions over capacity, there was at this time an overall shortfall of 25 spaces across all year groups.

Poynton High (Oct 2011)									
	Number on Roll						Year 7 - 11		
PAN	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11	Total	Total	Spaces	% Spaces
246	251	247	245	270	242	1255	1230	-25	-2.0%

- 6.2.5 For subsequent years, and in line with population forecasts that indicate the number of pupils in the age groups 11-15 will be decreasing for Cheshire East by 7% overall between 2009-2019, the number of spare places at the high school is forecast to increase to 6% by 2016 compared with 11% across all high schools. However, in the years preceding this, the number of unused (surplus) places is forecast to be very low at -3% due to the popularity of the school with families within its catchment area and beyond. This forecast will, of course, be influenced by the pattern of parental preference and demand from other areas due to the popularity of the school.

Jan 2011 Census	Secondary Spare Places					
	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
Poynton LAP	-57	-23	12	25	50	85
	-4%	-2%	1%	2%	3%	6%
Cheshire East	1093	1506	2054	2314	2570	2624
	5%	6%	8%	10%	11%	11%

- 6.2.6 Based on the current admission number, which provides for 246 places per year group, the table below indicates that there has been greater pressure on places in previous years with a shortfall of 20 places in Key Stage Four (Y10/Y11) compared with the overall shortfall of 25 (-2%)

October 2011 Census		Number of pupils on roll Y7-Y11				
Intake Year		Sept 2011	Sept 2010	Sept 2009	Sept 2008	Sept 2007
School Name	PAN	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11
Poynton High	246	251	247	245	270	242
Spaces by Year Group		-5	-1	1	-24	4
% Spaces by Year Group		-2.0%	-0.4%	0.4%	-9.8%	1.6%
Spaces by Key Stage		-5			-20	
% Spaces by Key Stage		-0.7%			-4.1%	

6.2.7 Forecasts indicate that there are sufficient places to meet local demand, but due to the school's popularity with parents and carers of children in other areas, the school is oversubscribed each year. The Local Authority is aware that the impact of successful appeals does create pressure on accommodation for the school and, as a consequence, forecasts indicate a potential shortfall in provision up until 2013 but with the number of spaces increasing each year due to falling roles in the secondary sector.

Poynton (Central) Summary

Forecasts indicate that there is no immediate need to reorganise provision for the Poynton (Town) area and that any impact due to changes in populations and birth rates will need to be closely monitored.

In January 2011 there were 1041 pupils on roll and included in this were just over 6% of children resident outside Cheshire East. This suggests that the number of spaces in this area is sufficient to meet local needs with unused (surplus) places forecast at 6% by 2016 and to provide places for children resident outside the designated catchment areas for these primary schools and also those living in other local authorities.

Data suggests that the pressure on lower year groups is not as significant in this area as for other area of the Borough and therefore a significant change in the forecasts is not anticipated. The live birth data for this area, which shows an increase by 5.5% to 2010, is included in the former Macclesfield Borough and therefore covers a wider area than Poynton. This will therefore need to be monitored to ensure any impact on primary school places in this area can be assessed.

Any increase in the number of applications for the primary phase at the normal point of entry into reception in September will reduce the availability of places available to families living outside the area applying through the coordinated admissions process as a lower priority within the oversubscription criteria.

Provision at the high school is forecast to be sufficient to meet demand between 2013 and 2016, albeit with a very low number of spare places for in year admissions up until 2016 and with there being a shortfall in capacity in the preceding years due to the popularity of the school.

This school has the capacity to serve its catchment area and families in other areas, including residents outside Cheshire East. In January 2011, 94% of the children resident within the designated catchment area attended the school. This represented 75% of the total number on roll with 21% of the total school population resident in other local authorities.

Poynton (Central) Actions

No action is required at this stage to increase capacity in this area in the primary and secondary sectors.

The forecast increase in the primary aged population is very low for this area at only 0.63% and secondary aged pupils are forecast to reduce by 9% by 2016.

Due to the pattern of parental preference in the area spare capacity at the high school is limited but with forecasts suggesting this will increase to 6% by 2016 and therefore above the desired 4% for contingency to allow for in year admissions.

6.3 Area 2 – Poynton (Rural)

School	Status
Adlington Primary School	Community
Disley Primary School	Community
Mottram St Andrew Primary School	Academy
Lower Park School	Community

6.3.1 There are 4 schools located to the edge of Poynton serving the rural areas of this Local Area Partnership. The level of unused (surplus) for these schools varies and, with the exception of one school that has over 90% of its school population from within its catchment area, these schools have sufficient capacity to accommodate children from beyond the area zoned to the school.

6.3.2 The forecasts suggest there is a low number of spare places across these schools at below 4% up until 2015 and again in 2016.

Jan-11		Forecast Spare Places					
School	Capacity	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
Mottram St Andrew	163	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4
		-2%	-2%	-2%	-2%	-2%	-2%
Adlington	105	1	-5	-9	-6	-5	-6
		1%	-5%	-9%	-6%	-5%	-6%
Disley	210	40	39	34	35	41	32
		19%	19%	16%	17%	20%	15%
Prestbury CE	280	-9	-3	-1	0	0	0
		-3%	-1%	0%	0%	0%	0%

Total	758	28	27	20	25	32	22
% Spare Places		3.7%	3.6%	2.6%	3.3%	4.2%	2.9%

6.3.3 A closer look at the actual number of spaces for each year group across these 4 schools in October 2011 shows that based on the published admission number there are spaces in all year groups with the exception of the reception class due to admissions into this year groups exceeding the number of spaces provided by the admission number (PAN), albeit only by 2 additional pupils overall.

October 2011 Census	Number of pupils on roll									Unused (surplus) places %
School Name	PAN	R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Total	
Intake Year		Sept 2011	Sept 2010	Sept 2009	Sept 2008	Sept 2007	Sept 2006	Sept 2005		
Adlington	15	16	16	15	15	18	12	10	102	2.9%
Disley	30	30	28	16	30	26	19	24	173	17.6%
Mottram St Andrew	24	24	23	24	23	24	24	24	166	-1.8%
Prestbury CE	45	46	40	45	42	42	45	45	305	-8.9%
TOTAL	114	116	107	100	110	110	100	103	746	1.6%
LAP Unused (surplus) by Year Group		-2	7	14	4	4	14	11	52	
LAP %Unused (surplus) by Year Group		-1.8%	6.1%	12.3%	3.5%	3.5%	12.3%	9.6%		
Key Stage Total		323			423					
Key Stage Unused (surplus)		19			33					
Key Stage Unused (surplus) %		5.6%			7.2%					

6.3.4 In January 2011, these schools were able to accommodate children resident in their catchment areas with a majority of the catchment attending their 'local' school. In addition, places were available for residents in other areas with catchment pupils making up 30%, 93% 11% and 46% of the total number of children on roll at these schools.

6.3.5 The recent growth (from 2009) in the number of admissions into the reception class in 2011, together with the lower number of spare places overall in Key Stage One, will need to be monitored to ensure there are sufficient places for residents in these areas. It is not expected that this will be an issue for three of these schools due to the proportion of places available in the schools for children from other areas. For one school, a higher percentage of local children at 93% of the total school population access their local provision and therefore further increases in the primary

aged population will need to be kept under review to ensure families have access a school within a reasonable distance.

Poynton (Rural) Summary

Overall, there are sufficient spaces across the 4 rural schools, albeit unused (surplus) levels are forecast to be low at below 4% up to 2015 and again in 2016. The number of admissions into the reception classes in 2011 is higher than in previous years with all schools being either full or over capacity. As these schools have sufficient places for children in their catchment area and also families resident in other areas, the number of places in this area is forecast to be sufficient to provide for local demand.

Poynton (Rural) Actions

It is recommended that demand for places should continue to be monitored and taking into account any increased demand in subsequent years due to increasing populations and live births for this area, but that no action is required at this stage.

7 Wilmslow LAP

7.1 Introduction

- 7.1.1 There are 10 primary schools and 1 secondary school (11-18) serving the Wilmslow and Alderley Edge areas. These schools provide 2345 primary school places and 1977 secondary school places. In addition there is one school in the Knutsford LAP (Nether Alderley) providing 105 places for the Wilmslow area.
- 7.1.2 Although Wilmslow High School is the largest secondary school in Cheshire East with an intake into Year 7 of 300 pupils, the Local Authority is aware that demand for places from within the local area is high. The total number of children in the catchment area in January 2011 was 1872 school aged pupils and this included 400 for admission into Year 7 at the start of the term in September 2011. For admission in September 2012, the number of children resident in the catchment had increased to 465 Year 7 pupils.
- 7.1.3 Live births for the Macclesfield district, which includes the Wilmslow LAP show an increase between 2004 and 2010 of 5.5%, which is slightly below the Cheshire East average of 6.3% and less than half the National average of 13%.
- 7.1.4 The 2011-2017 population forecasts for the Wilmslow LAP (shown below) indicate that the overall number of children (0-15) will fall to around 6,400 by 2017, which is a reduction of 200 over this period.

Age Band	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
0-15	6,600	6,600	6,600	6,500	6,500	6,500	6,400
16-44	12,000	11,800	11,700	11,500	11,400	11,300	11,200
45-64	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,100	10,200	10,200	10,300
65+	6,800	7,000	7,200	7,300	7,400	7,500	7,600
Total	35,400	35,400	35,500	35,500	35,500	35,500	35,600

Source: Office for National Statistics 2007 to 2016 mid-year estimates by age band and Local Area Partnership (LAP)

- 7.1.5 Over the period 2011-2016, secondary-aged pupils are forecast to fall slightly by 57 pupils which is a 2.84% reduction over this period. For the same period, the number of primary aged pupils is forecast to increase with an extra 57 school aged pupils over the same period (at 2.42%), which is slightly below the forecast for Cheshire East as a whole of only 3% increase in the number of children aged between 5-10 years.

Wilmslow LAP	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	2011-2016	2011-2016
Jan 2011 Census								
Primary	2358	2365	2408	2412	2408	2415	57	2.42%
Yearly Change		7	43	4	4	7		

Secondary	2009	1997	1973	1969	1963	1952	-57	-2.84%
Yearly Change		-12	-24	-4	-6	-11		

Data Sources 2011 January School Census, forecasts from Performance & Data team used in DfE 2011 SCAP return

- 7.1.6 Pupil forecasts indicate that September 2013 will see the largest increase in the number of primary admissions with 75% of the total increase occurring at this time. For secondary there is a consistent decline in the number of pupils forecast for year 7 with September 2013 seeing the biggest reduction in numbers over this period at nearly half the total reduction at 42%.
- 7.1.7 For the primary sector, forecasts indicated a shortfall of 70 places (-3%) by 2016, which as for the high school, is well below the Cheshire East forecasts including all primary schools of 5%. An additional 70 places would not in itself provide any contingency for in year admissions and future intakes due to increasing population and live births for this area.

	Primary Unused (surplus) Places					
	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
Wilmslow	-13	-20	-63	-67	-63	-70
	-1%	-1%	-3%	-3%	-3%	-3%
Cheshire East	2162	1938	1613	1480	1436	1435
	8%	7%	6%	5%	5%	5%

- 7.1.8 Pressure on primary school places in this area is therefore expected to continue with population forecasts showing an overall increase for Cheshire East in the number of 5-10 year olds by 3% over the period 2009-2019 and for the Wilmslow LAP at 2.4% by 2016.
- 7.1.9 In January 2011, 5 of the 10 primary schools had already exceeded their capacity to accommodate local children, siblings and children for whom there was no other school within a reasonable distance. Overall, the shortfall in capacity was across most year groups.

Wilmslow All Primary Schools	Number of pupils on roll Jan 2011							
	PAN	R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
TOTAL	336	348	352	346	347	332	299	340
Vacancies by year group		-12	-16	-10	-11	4	37	-4

- 7.1.10 In October 2011, only two year groups (Y4 and Y5) had vacancies creating significant pressure 'in year' due to most year groups being full or over capacity and the nearest schools with spaces being some distance away in Knutsford, Macclesfield and Poynton. This data illustrates the overall growth in the number of pupils in the lower year groups with a shortfall of 38 places in Key Stage One at -3.8% compared with a 1.9% unused (surplus) (26 spaces) in Key Stage Two.

Wilmslow All Primary Schools	Number of Pupils on Roll October 2011							
	PAN	R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Intake Year		Sept 2011	Sept 2010	Sept 2009	Sept 2008	Sept 2007	Sept 2006	Sept 2005
TOTAL	336	348	352	346	347	332	299	340
Spaces by year group		-12	-16	-10	-11	4	37	-4
% Spaces by Year Group		-3.6%	-4.8%	-3.0%	-3.3%	1.2%	11.0%	-1.2%
Spaces by Key Stage		-38			26			
% Spaces by Key Stage		-3.8%			1.9%			

Cheshire East % Spare Places by Key Stage		7.3%	11.6%
--	--	------	-------

7.1.11 Reception admissions for 2011 have been analysed to identify any variance from the pupil forecasts for this intake year. The results for this LAP show that the number of pupils allocated places for September 2011 was only slightly higher than forecast at 1.45% based on the January 2011 School Census Data admission resulting in admission over capacity at just below 4%.

	PAN	Spaces	Reception Allocation Sep 2011	Forecast from Jan 2011	Variance from Jan 11 Forecast	
Wilmslow LAP	336	-14	350	345	5	1.45%
Cheshire East	4054	101	3953	3824	129	3.37%

7.1.12 A review of provision has already been undertaken to increase the number of primary places in this area. Additional capacity agreed at this stage will increase the total for the Wilmslow area to 2520 places with an increase of 24 reception class places taking the total to 360 compared with the 336 for admission in 2011. Consultation on these changes was implemented in the spring term 2012 and will apply for 2013:

- Lacey Green Primary School (Academy). A two-classroom extension and internal alterations to extend the school from 210 places to accommodate 315 pupils, together with an increase in the published admission number (PAN) from 30 to 45 for 2013 to bring it in line with the school's new capacity.
- Lindow Primary School. An extension and adaptations to extend the school from 156 places to 210 places, together with an increase in the PAN from 21 to 30 for 2013.

7.1.13 Using the January 2011 School Census data, this additional capacity would increase the unused (surplus) levels to 4% by the end of the 2011 to 2016 period. However, with the increasing admissions into the lower year groups and pressure on places in this area due to population changes and increasing

live births, these surplus forecasts will reduce and therefore further analysis will be necessary to ensure sufficient places in this area in the future.

January 2011 Forecasts		Forecast Spare Places					
		2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Capacity 2011	2345	-13	-20	-63	-67	-63	-70
		-1%	-1%	-3%	-3%	-3%	-3%
New Capacity 2012	2513	155	148	105	101	105	98
		6%	6%	4%	4%	4%	4%

7.1.14 Wilmslow High School is the largest secondary school in Cheshire East with an intake into Year 7 of 300 pupils. However, demand for places is high resulting in limited spaces for children outside the school's catchment area, including children attending local primary schools that feed into the high school.

7.1.15 At the normal point of admission in Year 7, the number of children resident in the catchment exceeds the number of places in Year 7 and this initially results in unsuccessful applications for local residents. However, due to the proportion of applicants that decline places in favour of the independent sector or grammar schools in other areas, catchment area applicants are able to secure a place in Year 7 before the end of the summer term.

7.1.16 Pupil forecasts indicate that despite the number of secondary aged pupils falling over the period 2011 to 2016, there will only be 25 (1%) secondary school vacancies in the Wilmslow LAP (including 6th form places) by 2016 and with overcapacity in 2011 and 2012. This is well below the total forecast for Cheshire East of 11% and below the preferred target of 4%.

	Secondary Unused (surplus) Places					
	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
Wilmslow LAP	-32	-20	4	8	14	25
	-2%	-1%	0%	0%	1%	1%
Cheshire East	1093	1506	2054	2314	2570	2624
	5%	6%	8%	10%	11%	11%

7.1.17 The table below provides a summary of core data for this LAP compared with Cheshire East as a whole.

Data Summary	% Change	Notes	
LAP Secondary Forecasts	2.8%	Reduction	2011-2016
CE Population Forecasts (11-15 year olds)	3%	Reduction	2009-2019
LAP Primary Forecasts	2.4%	Increase	2011-2016
CE Population Forecasts (5-10 Year olds)	3%	Increase	2009 -2019
CE Population Forecasts (0-15 Year olds)	2%	Reduction	2009-2019
Macclesfield Borough Live Births	5.5%	Increase	2004-2010
CE Live Births	6.3%	Increase	2004-2010

7.2 Area 1 – Wilmslow (North)

School	Status
Dean Oaks Primary School	Community
Lacey Green Primary School	Academy
St Benedict's Catholic Primary School	Voluntary Aided
Styal Primary School	Community
Wilmslow Grange Community Primary & Nursery	Community

7.2.1 In the North area of the town there are 5 primary schools providing 1022 places and forecasts across these schools indicate that there will be a shortfall of 67 spaces by 2016 (excluding contingency at 4%).

Jan-11		Forecast Spare Places					
School	Capacity	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
Dean Oaks	315	11	15	5	0	0	0
		3%	5%	2%	0%	0%	0%
Lacey Green	210	-19	-15	-19	-22	-25	-27
		-9%	-7%	-9%	-10%	-12%	-13%
St Benedict's Catholic	182	-20	-24	-29	-34	-33	-34
		-11%	-13%	-16%	-19%	-18%	-19%
Styal	105	-1	0	0	0	-1	0
		-1%	0%	0%	0%	-1%	0%
Wilmslow Grange	210	-1	-4	-6	-7	-5	-6
		0%	-2%	-3%	-3%	-2%	-3%
Total	1,022	-30	-28	-49	-63	-64	-67
		-3%	-3%	-5%	-6%	-6%	-7%

7.2.2 The position in October 2011 into the reception class was that all spaces were filled leaving no spare places for in year admissions. The table below indicates the pressure on places in the earlier year groups with Key Stage One having an overall shortfall of 36 places at -8.2% compared with 10 surplus spaces overall in Key Stage Two.

October 2011 Census	Number of pupils on roll							
School Name	PAN	R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Dean Oaks	45	45	48	49	45	44	35	49
Lacey Green	30	45	40	32	30	30	29	42
St Benedict's Catholic	26	24	28	28	31	20	20	22
Styal	15	14	15	15	14	12	14	15
Wilmslow Grange	30	30	31	30	33	30	29	30
TOTAL	146	158	162	154	153	136	127	158
LAP Unused (surplus) by Year Group		-12	-16	-8	-7	10	19	-12

LAP % Unused (surplus) by Year Group		-8.2%	-11.0%	-5.5%	-4.8%	6.8%	13.0%	-8.2%
Key Stage Total		474			574			
Key Stage Unused (surplus)		-36			10			
Key Stage Unused (surplus) %		-8.2%			1.7%			

7.2.3 Using the October 2011 data, the reorganisation planned for September 2012 will reduce the shortfall significantly for this area with the shortfall of 8.2% reducing to a 1.9% surplus in Key Stage One. This data indicates that further work is necessary to ensure sufficient places in this area for local residents.

Reorganisation for 2012								
School Name	Number of pupils on roll							
	PAN	R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Dean Oaks	45	45	48	49	45	44	35	49
Lacey Green	45	45	40	32	30	30	29	42
St Benedict's Catholic	26	24	28	28	31	20	20	22
Styal	15	14	15	15	14	12	14	15
Wilmslow Grange	30	30	31	30	33	30	29	30
TOTAL	161	158	162	154	153	136	127	158
LAP Unused (surplus) by Year Group		3	-1	7	8	25	34	3
LAP %Unused (surplus) by Year Group		1.9%	-0.6%	4.3%	5.0%	15.5%	21.1%	1.9%
Key Stage Total		474			574			
Key Stage Unused (surplus)		9			70			
Key Stage Unused (surplus) %		1.9%			10.9%			

7.2.4 Forecasts indicate that in order to retain 4% unused (surplus) for in year admissions, 108 additional places would be needed by 2016. This would equate to 1 space per year group per school.

7.2.5 105 places have been agreed for Lacey Green from 2013 and current forecasts indicate that this will provide 3% unused (surplus) by 2016 based on January 2011 numbers on roll.

7.2.6 Further analysis will be necessary taking into account the increased intakes into the reception classes for this area in the future using January 2012 School Census data as a starting point.

Wilmslow (North) Summary

There is a significant shortfall in the number of primary school places across this area of Wilmslow and as such, additional capacity has been provided funded out of the 2011-2012 Capital Programme. In October 2011 there were vacancies in only two year groups in Key Stage Two and an overall negative unused (surplus) of -3%.

Key Stage One has experienced pressure with a shortfall across these year groups at 8.2% resulting in no spare places available for in year admissions. The additional capacity planned for 2013 has reduced this shortfall, which based on October 2011 data, delivers a small surplus at 1.9% of 9 spaces across the 4 schools and all 3 year groups.

Wilmslow (North) Actions

Further work is necessary to ensure that there are sufficient places in this area of the town for local residents and taking into account the potential increase in the number of primary aged pupils due to increasing birth rates at 5.5% across the Macclesfield Borough and increasing primary aged populations for this LAP at 2.4%.

It is recommended that demand for places should be reviewed based on 2012 School Census data and taking into account any increased demand in subsequent years due to increasing populations and live births for this area.

7.3 Area 2 – Wilmslow (South)

School	Status
Alderley Edge Community Primary	Community
Ashdene Primary School	Community
Gorsey Bank Primary School	Community
Lindow Community Primary School	Community
St Anne's Fulshaw Church of England	Voluntary Aided

7.3.1 In the south of the town there are 5 primary schools with 1323 places. This area of the town is forecast to have negative and low unused (surplus) throughout the 2011-2016 plan period.

Jan-11		Forecast Spare Places					
School	Capacity	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
Alderley Edge	203	-6	-5	-6	1	2	2
		-3%	-2%	-3%	0%	1%	1%
Ashdene	420	2	2	1	0	0	0
		0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Gorsey Bank	420	11	11	3	1	1	0
		3%	3%	1%	0%	0%	0%
Lindow	147	-1	-8	-17	-14	-11	-11
		-1%	-5%	-12%	-10%	-7%	-7%
St Anne's Fulshaw CE	133	11	8	5	8	9	6
		8%	6%	4%	6%	7%	5%
Total	1323	17	8	-14	-4	1	-3
		1%	1%	-1%	0%	0%	0%

7.3.2 When comparing the October 2011 data for the schools to the South of the town, the pressure in the north is more prominent, although the number of spare places in the south is also very low. There are 16 spaces overall across

the 5 schools and 4 year groups in Key Stage Two and a shortage of 2 places overall in Key Stage One leaving no spaces for in year admissions.

October 2011 Census	Number of pupils on roll							
School Name	PAN	R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Alderley Edge	30	29	29	30	29	32	26	31
Ashdene	60	60	60	60	61	60	60	60
Gorsey Bank	60	60	60	60	60	59	58	58
Lindow	21	22	21	26	24	25	13	17
St Anne's Fulshaw CE	19	19	20	16	20	20	15	16
TOTAL	190	190	190	192	194	196	172	182
LAP Unused (surplus) by Year Group		0	0	-2	-4	-6	18	8
LAP %Unused (surplus) by Year Group		0.0%	0.0%	-1.1%	-2.1%	-3.2%	9.5%	4.2%
Key Stage Total		572			744			
Key Stage Unused (surplus)		-2			16			
Key Stage Unused (surplus) %		-0.4%			2.1%			

7.3.3 For this area of the town, additional capacity was provided in one school and this resulted in an increase in the number of spare places in Key Stage One to 4.2% compared with insufficient places at -0.4% based on the original capacity.

School Name October 2011	Number of pupils on roll							
	PAN	R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Alderley Edge	30	29	29	30	29	32	26	31
Ashdene	60	60	60	60	61	60	60	60
Gorsey Bank	60	60	60	60	60	59	58	58
Lindow	30	22	21	26	24	25	13	17
St Anne's Fulshaw CE	19	19	20	16	20	20	15	16
TOTAL	199	190	190	192	194	196	172	182
LAP Unused (surplus) by Year Group		9	9	7	5	3	27	17
LAP %Unused (surplus) by Year Group		4.5%	4.5%	3.5%	2.5%	1.5%	13.6%	8.5%
Key Stage Total		572			744			
Key Stage Unused (surplus)		25			52			
Key Stage Unused (surplus) %		4.2%			6.5%			

7.3.4 Forecasts indicate that an additional 56 places would be needed by 2016 to increase the current forecast of 0% unused (surplus) to 4%. Using numbers on roll in January 2011, these forecasts indicate that the 63 places provided in Lindow from 2013 will increase the surplus for this area to 3% by 2016 and more in line with the preferred 4%.

- 7.3.5 Further analysis is therefore needed to ensure that the changes made are sufficient to meet the growing demand in this area.
- 7.3.6 In addition to the 5 schools above, Nether Alderley, which is located with the Knutsford LAP, serves a predominantly rural area providing 105 pupil places. The total number of children resident within the catchment areas for this school (at January 2011) was 75. At this time 53% of children in this area were on roll at their local school representing 35% of the total school population at this time. The majority of pupils on roll at this school at 62% of the total school population reside outside the Knutsford LAP.
- 7.3.7 The capacity at this school is sufficient to accommodate children resident in the designated catchment area and also children from other areas. However, admissions to the school in some year groups over the published admission number have resulted in a negative surplus forecast for 2016 of -15%.

	Forecast Spare Places					
	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
Nether Alderley	-9	-11	-13	-14	-15	-16
	-9%	-10%	-12%	-13%	-14%	-15%

- 7.3.8 When considered alongside the Wilmslow provision in the South of the town, the negative surplus for this school reduces the number of spare places for the area from 0% spare places in 2016 to a shortfall of 19 places at -1.3%.

January 2011		Forecast Spare Places					
School	Capacity	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
Alderley Edge	203	-6	-5	-6	1	2	2
		-3%	-2%	-3%	0%	1%	1%
Ashdene	420	2	2	1	0	0	0
		0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Gorse Bank	420	11	11	3	1	1	0
		3%	3%	1%	0%	0%	0%
Lindow	147	-1	-8	-17	-14	-11	-11
		-1%	-5%	-12%	-10%	-7%	-7%
St Anne's Fulshaw CE	133	11	8	5	8	9	6
		8%	6%	4%	6%	7%	5%
Nether Alderley	105	-9	-11	-13	-14	-15	-16
		-9%	-10%	-12%	-13%	-14%	-15%
Total	1428	8	-3	-27	-18	-14	-19
		0.6%	-0.2%	-2.1%	-1.3%	-1%	-1.3%

- 7.3.9 Places at Wilmslow High School are under particular pressure in Years 7 – 10 and pupil forecasts indicate that this will be the case for 2011 and 2012. The current level of unused (surplus) for the school based on October 2011 school census data, including sixth form capacity, is -2.3% compared with a surplus including all high schools of 5%.

October 2011 Census	Number of pupils on roll						6th Form			NET CAP	Unused (surplus) places %
School Name	PAN	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11	Y12	Y13	Total		
Wilmslow High	300	302	308	307	308	303	252	242	2,022	1977	-2.3%
Total	300	302	308	307	308	303	252	242	2022	1977	-2.3%

7.3.10 Further analysis shown below indicates that for years 7-11 (excluding the 6th form), the school is oversubscribed and all year groups are full or have exceeded capacity. In January 2011, 90% of children resident in the catchment area attended the school and this made up 85% of children on roll at the school. There were only 3% on roll resident in other areas of Cheshire East and 13% living in other local authorities.

	Number of pupils on roll Jan 2011								
School Name	PAN	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11	Total NOR	Spaces Y7-11	% Vacancies
Wilmslow High	300	302	308	307	308	303	1528	-28	-1.9%
Spaces		-2	-8	-7	-8	-3			
% Spaces		-0.7%	-2.7%	-2.3%	-2.7%	-1%			

7.3.11 For subsequent years; and in line with population forecasts that indicate the number of pupils in the age groups 11-15 will be decreasing for Cheshire East by 7% overall between 2009-2019, the number of spare places is forecast to increase. This does not take into account any additional housing in the area. Whilst forecasts show an increase in the number of 'spare places' up to 2016, the numbers are extremely low reducing the level of customer satisfaction with the admissions process and the Authority's ability to accommodate children in their local high school as in year admissions with the nearest vacancies being in schools located in the towns of Macclesfield and Knutsford.

Wilmslow (South) Summary

The number of admissions in the south of the town has exceeded the number of pupil places resulting in negative or 0% unused (surplus) between 2013 and 2016. When including the provision at Nether Alderley, the negative surplus for this school reduces the number of spare places for the area from 0% spare places in 2016 to a shortfall of 19 places at -1.3%.

Forecasts indicate that an additional 56 places are needed by 2016 to increase the current forecast of 0% unused (surplus) to 4%. Using numbers on roll in January 2011, these forecasts indicate that the 63 places provided in Lindow from 2013 will increase the unused (surplus) for this area to 3% by 2016 and more in line with the preferred 4% minimum.

For subsequent years; and in line with population forecasts that indicate the number of pupils in the age groups 11-15 will be decreasing for Cheshire East by 7% overall between 2009-2019, the number of spare places is forecast to increase. This does not take into account any additional housing in the area. Whilst forecasts show an increase in the number of 'spare places' up to 2016, the numbers are extremely low reducing the level of customer satisfaction with the admissions process and the Authority's ability to accommodate children in their local high school as in year admissions with the nearest vacancies being in schools located in the towns of Macclesfield and Knutsford.

Capacity at Wilmslow High School is under particular pressure in Years 7 – 10 and pupil forecasts indicate that this will be the case for 2011 and 2012. The current level of surplus for the school based on October 2011 school census data, including sixth form capacity, is -2.3% compared with a surplus including all high schools of 5%.

Wilmslow (South) Actions

Further analysis of the data for this group of schools to ensure that the additional capacity provided for 2013 is sufficient to meet future demand for places in this area and to provide for some contingency for in year admissions.

The current shortfall at the high school (October 2011) is 28 pupil places. Based on pupil forecasts, this shortfall should reduce over the Plan period but data suggests a very low number of vacancies across all year groups up until 2016. A review of provision at the secondary phase is necessary taking into account increasing number of primary aged pupils in the area, in particular, in the lower year groups in Key Stage One.

Leave blank

Local Area Partnerships
Summary and Actions

Local Area Partnership (LAP)	Area	Summary	Actions
Congleton	Alsager	<p>Forecasts indicate that there is no immediate need to reorganise provision for the Alsager area and that any impact due to changes in populations and birth rates will need to be closely monitored.</p> <p>As only 49% of children attending these primary schools live within the Alsager locality, data indicates that the current capacity is more than sufficient to meet local needs.</p> <p>To provide a preferred 4% contingency for late applications and in year movement, 55 spare places would be required by 2016 across all 6 schools based on January 2011 capacity of 1382 places. This would equate to an average 1 space per year group per school. Forecasts suggest that the number of unused (surplus) places by 2016 will exceed this and therefore additional capacity should not be necessary.</p> <p>Any increase in the number of applications for the primary phase at the normal point of entry into reception in September will reduce the availability of places available to families living outside the area applying through the coordinated admissions process as a lower priority within the oversubscription criteria.</p> <p>The pattern of parental preference for this area will continue to put pressure on spare places in year and if all places are taken up through the normal admissions process, this will reduce the Local</p>	<p>No action required at this stage to increase capacity in this area at both the primary and secondary phase. However, due to the pattern of parental preference in the area and increases in primary aged population across the Congleton LAP at 3.5% by 2016, provision for the primary phase must be re-examined in the 2012 Annex, which will include January 2012 School Census Data and forecasts to 2017.</p>

		<p>Authority's ability to provide sufficient places for local residents new to the area.</p> <p>Provision at the high school is sufficient to meet demand with data indicating a current unused (surplus) for Y7-Y11 at nearly 8% compared with 2% overall (i.e. including the sixth form) and with forecast pupil numbers showing an increase in the number of unused (surplus) places for the school as a whole increasing from 2% to 13% by 2016. The high school primarily admits pupils from within the Alsager locality with 95% of the children living in Alsager attending the school (Jan 2011). However, only 75% of the children live in the designated catchment area indicating the level of popularity with families resident in other areas of the Congleton LAP and with families living outside Cheshire East; which for the latter, represents nearly 17% of the school's population indicating that there are sufficient places for local residents and residents in other areas.</p>	
Congleton	Town	<p>Forecasts indicate that overall there is no immediate need to reorganise provision for the Congleton area. However, data indicates pressure on the nine schools located within the central cluster by 2016. In order to deliver a 4% unused (surplus) level to allow for contingency for late applications and in year movement, an additional 77 places are needed across these 9 schools by 2016. This would require an additional 3 classrooms. However, variance between schools net capacities and published admission numbers results in forecasts projecting over capacity for some schools in the future and thereby affecting the overall level of surplus places for</p>	<p>Primary school net capacities must be reviewed during 2012 alongside published admission numbers to align where possible, and to facilitate more accurate forecasting, before any decisions can be taken about introducing new capacity into this area. If capacities are brought in line with current published admission numbers, the unused (surplus) forecast of 0% by 2016 would increase to 6% as illustrated in this report.</p>

		<p>this area. In view of this, capacities must be reviewed during 2012 alongside published admission numbers to align where possible and to facilitate more accurate forecasting before any decisions are taken about introducing new capacity into this area.</p> <p>Provision in the Congleton (Town) outskirts at the primary phase is sufficient to meet local need and allows for families beyond the local area to access school places.</p> <p>Population forecasts indicate a reduction by 9.6% in the number of secondary aged pupils for the Congleton LAP as a whole by 2016. At the secondary phase, there is more than sufficient capacity to meet demand over the plan period (2011-2016) with an increase to 16% in the number of unused (surplus) places across the two high schools by 2016 compared with 10% in 2011.</p>	
Congleton	Middlewich	<p>Forecasts indicate that there is no immediate need to reorganise provision for Middlewich with a forecast 14% unused (surplus) capacity by 2016 in the primary phase and 15% in the secondary. Any impact due to changes in population and birth rates will need to be kept under review. However, projected shortfall in places in one school (Warmingham CE) at the primary phase will need to be reviewed to re-assess the school's net capacity, which is currently well below the intake planned by the published admission number.</p> <p>Demand for school places at the high school is high resulting in low levels of unused (surplus) in 2011/12 and 2012/13 at only 1% and 2%. Due to its proximity on the border with Cheshire West and</p>	<p>Officers will need to reassess the net capacity for Warmingham CE Primary School, which is currently recorded as 56 places but with a planned admission of 70 places. The Published Admission Number is the minimum number that must be admitted to the school at the normal point of entry. From 2012, the PAN is determined as 10, which allows for 70 pupils across all 7 year groups.</p> <p>Officers will need to continue to monitor the</p>

		Chester, the school has on roll around a quarter of children that are not resident in Cheshire East. It will be necessary to closely monitor 'in year' applications for places in the short term due to pressure on school places which could impact on families moving into Middlewich with alternative schools with vacancies being some distance away.	intakes to Middlewich High School, particularly in regard to 'in year' and late applications from local residents for whom an alternative school may be some distance away.
Congleton	Holmes Chapel	<p>Forecasts indicate that there is sufficient capacity in this area to meet demand over the period 2011-2016. Intakes into reception classes for September 2011 also suggest that the changes in population and birth rates is not likely to have a significant impact on this area due to higher levels of unused (surplus) capacity in the primary sector compared with the overall surplus for Congleton LAP and also Cheshire East.</p> <p>There is a current shortfall in places at the high school due to the school's popularity with families outside the designated catchment area, including families resident outside Cheshire East, which amounts to 10.4% of the total school population. Whilst the majority (at 91%) of the children resident in Holmes Chapel (846 at January 2011) attend their local high school, these children make up only 64% of the total school population. It will therefore be necessary to closely monitor applications for places at the high school as the short term pressure on school places could impact on families moving into Holmes Chapel.</p>	<p>There are no significant concerns regarding the number of pupil places across this area of the Congleton LAP with forecasts indicating 7% unused (surplus) at the high school by 2016 and nearly 6% across the 6 primary schools.</p> <p>It is recommended that officers reassess the net capacity for Brereton CE following the decision of the Governing Body of the school, in its role as the admission authority, to increase the Published Admission Number from 21 to 25 for September 2013 and subsequent years. This will ensure that information current forecast unused (surplus) levels and provide a more accurate forecast.</p>
Congleton	Sandbach	Forecasts indicate that additional capacity is needed in the Sandbach area in order to address the forecast shortfall in primary	Additional capacity is to be delivered at the primary phase for completion by September

		<p>school places and to provide contingency at 4% by 2016. This is based on current forecasts using January 2011 School Census Data. Any additional pressure due to increases in the primary-aged populations for the Congleton LAP forecast at 3.5% by 2016 will need to be examined closely. It is recommended that a minimum of 37 additional places are provided in the Sandbach area to deliver a 4% contingency by the end of the plan period in 2016. This additional capacity is needed by 2014 at the latest.</p> <p>Provision at nearby Haslington (Crewe LAP) will need to be monitored to identify any potential detriment to primary schools in this area.</p> <p>It will also be necessary to closely monitor applications for places at the two high schools as the short term pressure on school places could impact on families moving into Sandbach. However, the number of pupils on roll at the schools that are resident within the catchment area (at January 2011) at 51% (girls) and 55% (boys) suggests that the number of places at the two schools is more than sufficient to accommodate local demand and to provide opportunities for families resident in other areas to secure places based on parental preference through the coordinated admissions process.</p>	<p>2014 at the latest. The additional capacity needed is a minimum of 37 places, which equates to 2 additional classrooms. This is based on January 2011 data and therefore further analysis is needed using 2012 intakes to identify additional pressures due to recent population increases in this area. An assessment of the 6 schools needs to be undertaken to identify where these places should be delivered taking into account feasibility and the pattern of parental preference in the area.</p> <p>This data excludes housing proposals for this area as these will be included once planning applications have been approved and Section 106 agreements have been signed. This presents further potential for further pressure on school places in this area.</p> <p>For the high schools, no additional capacity is required although short term pressure on school places will need to be monitored. Both high schools admit from beyond their catchment area with sufficient places for local demand and for families resident in other areas.</p>
--	--	---	---

Crewe	Town	<p>Forecasts indicate that there is an immediate need to increase capacity in Crewe town by at least 134 places in order to deliver 4% unused (surplus) capacity at the primary phase, allowing for contingency and to address current problems in Key Stage One due to an insufficient number of places in the area.</p> <p>Further pressure is anticipated due to changes in population and increased birth rates for this area with Crewe experiencing a high percentage of live births at 14% compared with Cheshire East at 6.3% and a National increase at 13%.</p> <p>There are sufficient places across the four Crewe high schools for the Plan period but the forecast unused (surplus) capacity by 2016 of 10%, together with surplus in nearby LAPs will need to be monitored to take into account increases for future admissions due to increases at the primary phase for this area and to ensure sustainability of provision for the future.</p> <p>With a forecast unused (surplus) for the Crewe (town) area at only 1% and 2% across all 14 schools by 2015 and 2016 and taking into account the current pressure on reception class places for 2011-2012 academic year with 0% unused (surplus) places, a review of provision has commenced to provide much needed additional capacity.</p> <p>Consultation was undertaken over the autumn term 2011 and spring term 2012 on proposed increases in the number of places in some schools to create 32 more reception class places. Overall this</p>	<p>To undertake a further review of primary provision using 2012 School Census data to identify total additional capacity required for this area, incorporating recent increases in the number of reception applications and increasing population and birth rates in this area.</p> <p>Secondary school capacity to be reviewed in the future taking into account future intakes based on increased admissions into the primary schools.</p>
-------	------	--	---

		<p>would provide an additional 224 pupil places across all year groups as this intake number moves through the schools. Proposals have been agreed as set out below:</p> <p>Beechwood Primary School. An increase in the Published Admission Number (PAN) from 40 to 45 for September 2013. To accommodate this change, a two-classroom extension was agreed to extend the school from 280 places to 315 places.</p> <p>Oakefield Primary School. – An increase in the PAN from 45 to 60 for 2013. To accommodate this change, a three-classroom extension to increase the capacity at this school from 315 places to 420 places.</p> <p>PAN changes to Monks Coppenhall (55 to 60) and Brierley Primary (23 to 30)</p> <p>Current forecasts using January 2011 Census Data indicate that these measures would increase the percentage unused (surplus) places by 2016 to 6% across the whole of the Crewe LAP. However, as these measures have been actioned due to recent increases for September 2011 and 2012, further analysis of this will be carried out in the 2012 Annex using January 2012 School Census Data.</p>	
Crewe	Nantwich	As there is only one primary school that falls within the Crewe LAP covering the Nantwich area, this school will be considered alongside other local schools as listed above.	To include Willaston Primary in the Nantwich LAP analysis, later on this report.
Crewe	Haslington	Provision in this area of the Crewe LAP is sufficient to meet demand over the period 2011-2016 with a forecast unused (surplus) across	There is no immediate need to review provision in this area due to forecast high

		these 2 schools of 13% by 2016. The increased number of admissions to these schools in September 2011, which was higher than forecast using January 2011 data, will be included in the 2012 School Census forecasts. Further analysis of the long term demand for this area will be undertaken in the 2012 Annex.	levels of unused (surplus) by 2016. As intakes into the reception classes are increasing due to population changes and higher birth rates for the Crewe LAP, provision in these schools will be kept under review, including further analysis using 2012 data.
Crewe	Shavington	<p>Whilst forecasts indicate that for Shavington there is sufficient unused (surplus) capacity at 6% for the 2011-2012 academic year, as this is forecast to reduce to only 3% by 2016, additional capacity is needed to deliver contingency at 4%. This would require as a minimum an additional 20 school places for this area by 2016. Further analysis of the impact of increasing intakes into Key Stage One and variance from the original forecasts will be necessary to deliver sufficient capacity for the future.</p> <p>At the secondary phase provision needs to be closely monitored due to high levels of unused (surplus) forecast for the plan period.</p>	<p>To undertake a further review of demand for places in this area using 2012 School Census data and review current provision to identify the 'best option/s' to expand provision in this area.</p> <p>At the secondary phase, update pupil forecasts to incorporate January 2012 data and to assess the implications for future admissions due to increased primary aged pupils in the area.</p>
Knutsford	Town	Forecasts indicate that overall there is no need to reorganise provision for this area of the Knutsford LAP with data indicating 4% spare places (71 pupil places) across all 10 schools by 2016. The forecast number of spare places for the 4 primary schools located within the central area of the Town is above the target of 4% minimum forecast at 5% by 2016. Population forecasts suggest a small increase at 1.93% (by 2016) in the primary aged population for this area compared with 3% (by 2019) across Cheshire East.	<p>The provision in this area must be monitored to ensure changes in the primary aged population can be accommodated in schools within a reasonable distance.</p> <p>The capacity at Mobberley must be reviewed with a view to proposing an increase from its current 140 intake to 210 from 2013. This will provide for an</p>

		<p>Disparity across these schools means that some primary schools are forecast to have a shortfall in school places and others will be facing pressure due to the established pattern of parental preference.</p> <p>Mobberley primary is forecast to have a shortfall of 22 places by 2016 (-16%) based on its January 2011 numbers on roll. A review of capacity is necessary to ensure that this school can accommodate its local community. Due to the rural nature of this area, the distance for local residents to alternative schools with vacancies will be beyond the statutory walking distance for primary aged pupils and this must be taken into account when conducting this review.</p> <p>Population forecasts indicate a reduction by 4.35% in the number of secondary aged pupils for this area by 2016. This is compared with an overall reduction for Cheshire East of 3% (by 2019) Data indicates that there is more than sufficient capacity to meet demand over the plan period (2011-2016) with an increase to 22% in the number of unused (surplus) places by 2016 compared with 18% in 2011.</p>	<p>admission of 30 pupils and for the school to operate as a 1 form of entry primary school.</p> <p>Capacity at the high school will need to be monitored by the Academy Trust over the period 2011 -2016 with forecast falling roles for the secondary sector.</p>
Knutsford	Holmes Chapel	<p>Forecasts indicate that overall there is no need to reorganise provision for these schools which have sufficient capacity to serve their local areas. Population forecasts suggest a small increase at 1.93% (by 2016) in the primary aged population for the Knutsford area compared with 3% (by 2019) across Cheshire East. Overall, forecasts indicate that for these two schools there will be a unused (surplus) capacity of 7% by 2016 with 2012 at 16% surplus.</p> <p>Taking into account all 6 schools in Holmes Chapel, forecasts</p>	<p>Forecasts indicate that provision in this area is sufficient to meet demand. Provision will nevertheless be monitored to ensure changes in the primary aged population can be accommodated in schools within a reasonable distance in future years.</p>

		indicate that there will be a reduction in the number of spare places by 2016 to 6% overall falling from nearly 8% in 2011. This equates to 62 spare places across all year groups and all schools and is above the minimum target level of 4%	
Knutsford	Wilmslow	Forecasts indicate that for the one school serving this area there is insufficient capacity with a forecast shortfall of 15% by 2016 and as the school can accommodate its local residents and pupils from other areas, reorganisation is unnecessary. Furthermore, the school is organised as a half form of entry primary school and to increase accommodation could present difficulties in terms of class organisation and compliance with infant class size legislation.	The capacity at the school is more than sufficient to meet local demand and demand from other areas. As this primary school is located on the boundary of the Wilmslow LAP it must also be considered along with other schools in this area.
Macclesfield	Congleton	Forecasts indicate that there is no necessity to reorganise provision for this area with sufficient levels of spare places at 12% and 27% by 2016.	No action required at this stage to revise capacity in this area.
Macclesfield	Town	<p>Forecasts indicate that overall there is no need to increase provision in the primary sector at this stage. Unused (surplus) places will need to be carefully monitored due to the high levels in some schools to ensure the efficient use of resources and optimisation of parental satisfaction with the admissions process.</p> <p>There is a marked difference between the January 2011 forecasts for September 2011 admissions, which are based on historical patterns, and the actual number of places allocated for the reception classes. For this LAP the admissions are 5.3% higher than</p>	Forecasts indicate that provision in this area is sufficient to meet demand at the primary phase. Provision will nevertheless need to be monitored to ensure changes in the primary aged population can be accommodated in schools within a reasonable distance in future years. It is recommended that Key stage analysis is implemented using 2012 Census data to give a more appropriate forecast for future

		<p>forecast. Pupil forecasts will therefore need to be reviewed using January 2012 and 2013 Census data and by introducing key stage forecasts to fully consider the impact of increasing admissions at the normal point of entry to the school.</p> <p>Population forecasts suggest a small increase at 2.9% (by 2016) in the primary aged population for the Macclesfield area compared with 3% (by 2019) across Cheshire East. Live births have increased by 5.5% (2010) for the Macclesfield area which is slightly below the level for Cheshire East.</p> <p>At the secondary phase, the current capacity appears to be insufficient to meet demand in the area. However, it is important to bear in mind that the reorganisation in 2010 to reduce capacity by 300 Year 7 to 11 pupil places has meant that forecasts are influenced by the higher intakes in previous years resulting in a current negative surplus for this area, but with unused (surplus) places forecast to increase by 2016 to 2% across all 4 schools. Furthermore, secondary population forecasts indicate a reduction by 5.2% in the number of secondary aged pupils between 2011 and 2016.</p>	<p>years.</p> <p>Following the recent reorganisation of secondary school provision in this locality, capacity is now more closely aligned with demand. The forecast reduction in the number of secondary aged pupils over the plan period needs to be considered over a longer term to ensure that recent increases at the primary phase in the number of school-aged children are modelled to forecast secondary data beyond 2016.</p>
Nantwich	Nantwich Town	<p>Forecasts indicate that there is increasing demand for places in Key Stage One across the 8 schools with only 4 places in the reception classes in October 2011. This is an area in which forecasts suggest an increase in the primary aged population by 2016 of 4.2%. Changes in populations and birth rates will need to be closely monitored and an assessment of these schools will be necessary, taking into account the 2012 School Census data. The years when</p>	<p>A review of capacity in the central area of this LAP is necessary to ensure there are sufficient primary school places to meet demand in the future, particularly 2014 when forecasts indicate a fall in the number of spare places to only 2% across the 8 schools. This review of data must take into</p>

		<p>pressure on school places is forecast to grow are 2013 and 2014. To provide a preferred 4% contingency 38 more places would be needed. This would equate to an average of just over 1 space per year group per school. It is important that the distance to alternative schools is taken into account when modelling future provision.</p> <p>Due to the disparity in the number of places in Pear Tree Primary (210) and the number of children resident in the school's designated catchment area (423 January 2011), an assessment of the potential impact for local families must be undertaken to ensure that places are available at a reasonable distance. This will require a review of the school's catchment area and the number of places available in the local area.</p> <p>Forecasts indicate that provision at the two high schools is sufficient to meet demand with data showing an overall unused (surplus) at nearly 18% by 2016. However, current unused (surplus) for Y7-Y11 is lower at only 3.1% (October 2011) compared with just over 12% overall (i.e. including the sixth form) for the same period. The 2716 places provided by these schools does however, exceed the number of children resident in the catchment area (1844) at January 2011, which represented 68% of the total capacity. In addition, forecasts for this area indicate a 6% reduction in the number of 11-15 year olds by 2016.</p>	<p>account places available in schools in the rural areas of the LAP and distance to these, as alternative schools with vacancies may be some distance away due to the spread of schools across this rural area. Analyses must be informed by catchment area data. Due to the unequal distribution of spare places across Key Stages, analyses must take into account the growing demand for places in Key Stage One.</p> <p>To undertake a review of the catchment area for Pear Tree Primary alongside an assessment of the number of places available in the area for local families and the distance to these.</p> <p>Due to reducing numbers of secondary aged pupils over the period 2011-2016, it is not considered necessary for capacity to be reviewed for this area at this stage. It is recommended that 2012 primary forecasts are modelled for future intakes to secondary and that the process takes into account the number of pupils resident in the school's catchment area that take up places at the school.</p>
Nantwich	Broxton	Forecasts indicate that there are sufficient places in this school for	To continue to monitor demand taking into

		children resident in its catchment area and from other areas and with 11% spare places forecast for 2016. Whilst it is acknowledged that the recent higher intake into the reception class will reduce the forecast level of unused (surplus), this forecast was high and therefore it is not proposed that any action is taken.	account increasing primary aged populations , which for the Nantwich LAP are forecast to grow by 4.2% by 2016.
Nantwich	Tarporley	Forecasts indicate that there are sufficient places in these schools to meet local demand and to provide for families outside the catchment area. Whilst unused (surplus) forecasts are low, it is not expected that additional places would be needed in this rural area due to the current availability of places for families living beyond the catchment area.	No action required at this stage. However, increases in the primary aged population across the Nantwich LAP at 4.2% by 2016 could impact on demand in this area and therefore, as for other areas of the Borough, provision at these schools must be monitored to ensure there are sufficient places for local residents in the future.
Nantwich	Shavington	Whilst forecasts indicate that for Shavington there are sufficient places at 6% unused (surplus) for the 2011-2012 academic year, as this is forecast to reduce to only 3% by 2016, additional capacity is needed to deliver contingency at 4%. This would require as a minimum an additional 13 school places for this area by 2016 or 16 school places including Pebble Brook. However, these forecasts do not portray the true impact of increasing pupil numbers into the lower year groups due to population changes and rising births rates in this area with an increase in the number of places allocated for September being 7.5% higher than forecast in the preceding January resulting in only 0.3% unused (surplus) in Key Stage One	A further review of data is necessary due to increasing demand in Key Stage One and disparity between the overall forecast unused (surplus) and demand for places in this area using 2012 School Census data and review current provision to identify the 'best option/s' to expand provision in this area.

		across all 6 schools in October 2011. Therefore, further analysis of the impact of this will be necessary to plan for sufficient capacity for the future.	
Poynton	Poynton Town	<p>Forecasts indicate that there is no immediate need to reorganise provision for the Poynton (Town) area and that any impact due to changes in populations and birth rates will need to be closely monitored.</p> <p>In January 2011 there were 1041 pupils on roll and included in this were just over 6% of children resident outside Cheshire East. This suggests that the number of spaces in this area is sufficient to meet local needs with unused (surplus) places forecast at 6% by 2016 and to provide places for children resident outside the designated catchment areas for these primary schools and also those living in other local authorities.</p> <p>Data suggests that the pressure on lower year groups is not as significant in this area as for other area of the Borough and therefore a significant change in the forecasts is not anticipated. The live birth data for this area, which shows an increase by 5.5% to 2010, is included in the former Macclesfield Borough and therefore covers a wider area than Poynton. This will therefore need to be monitored to ensure any impact on primary school places in this area can be assessed.</p> <p>Any increase in the number of applications for the primary phase at the normal point of entry into reception in September will reduce the availability of places available to families living outside the area</p>	<p>No action is required at this stage to increase capacity in this area in the primary and secondary sectors.</p> <p>The forecast increase in the primary aged population is very low for this area at only 0.63% and secondary aged pupils are forecast to reduce by 9% by 2016.</p> <p>Due to the pattern of parental preference in the area spare capacity at the high school is limited but with forecasts suggesting this will increase to 6% by 2016 and therefore above the desired 4% for contingency to allow for in year admissions.</p>

		<p>applying through the coordinated admissions process as a lower priority within the oversubscription criteria.</p> <p>Provision at the high school is forecast to be sufficient to meet demand between 2013 and 2016, albeit with a very low number of spare places for in year admissions up until 2016 and with there being a shortfall in capacity in the preceding years due to the popularity of the school.</p> <p>This school has the capacity to serve its catchment area and families in other areas, including residents outside Cheshire East. In January 2011, 94% of the children resident within the designated catchment area attended the school. This represented 75% of the total number on roll with 21% of the total school population resident in other local authorities.</p>	
Wilmslow	North	<p>There is a significant shortfall in the number of primary school places across this area of Wilmslow and as such, additional capacity has been provided funded out of the 2011-2012 Capital Programme. In October 2011 there were vacancies in only two year groups in Key Stage Two and an overall negative unused (surplus) of -3%.</p> <p>Key Stage One has experienced pressure with a shortfall across these year groups at 8.2% resulting in no spare places available for in year admissions. The additional capacity planned for 2013 has reduced this shortfall, which based on October 2011 data, delivers a small unused (surplus) at 1.9% of 9 spaces across the 4 schools and all 3 year groups.</p>	<p>Further work is necessary to ensure that there are sufficient places in this area of the town for local residents and taking into account the potential increase in the number of primary aged pupils due to increasing birth rates at 5.5% across the Macclesfield Borough and increasing primary aged populations for this LAP at 2.4%.</p> <p>It is recommended that demand for places should be reviewed based on 2012 School Census data and taking into account any</p>

			increased demand in subsequent years due to increasing populations and live births for this area.
Wilmslow	South	<p>The number of admissions in the south of the town has exceeded the number of pupil places resulting in negative or 0% unused (surplus) between 2013 and 2016. When including the provision at Nether Alderley, the negative unused (surplus) for this school reduces the number of spare places for the area from 0% spare places in 2016 to a shortfall of 19 places at -1.3%.</p> <p>Forecasts indicate that an additional 56 places are needed by 2016 to increase the current forecast of 0% unused (surplus) to 4%. Using numbers on roll in January 2011, these forecasts indicate that the 63 places provided in Lindow from 2013 will increase the surplus for this area to 3% by 2016 and more in line with the preferred 4% minimum.</p> <p>For subsequent years; and in line with population forecasts that indicate the number of pupils in the age groups 11-15 will be decreasing for Cheshire East by 7% overall between 2009-2019, the number of spare places is forecast to increase. This does not take into account any additional housing in the area. Whilst forecasts show an increase in the number of 'spare places' up to 2016, the numbers are extremely low reducing the level of customer satisfaction with the admissions process and the Authority's ability to accommodate children in their local high school as in year admissions with the nearest vacancies being in schools located in the towns of Macclesfield and Knutsford.</p>	<p>Further analysis of the data for this group of schools to ensure that the additional capacity provided for 2013 is sufficient to meet future demand for places in this area and to provide for some contingency for in year admissions.</p> <p>The current shortfall at the high school (October 2011) is 28 pupil places. Based on pupil forecasts, this shortfall should reduce over the Plan period but data suggests a very low number of vacancies across all year groups up until 2016. A review of provision at the secondary phase is necessary taking into account increasing number of primary aged pupils in the area, in particular, in the lower year groups in Key Stage One.</p>

		Capacity at Wilmslow High School is under particular pressure in Years 7 – 10 and pupil forecasts indicate that this will be the case for 2011 and 2012. The current level of unused (surplus) for the school based on October 2011 school census data, including sixth form capacity, is -2.3% compared with a surplus including all high schools of 5%.	
--	--	---	--

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT FORM



Equality impact assessment is a legal requirement for all strategies, plans, functions, policies, procedures and services under the Equalities Act 2010. We are also legally required to publish assessments.

Section 1: Description

Department	Children & Families		Lead officer responsible for assessment		Fintan Bradley, Head of Strategy Planning and Assessment	
Service	School Organisation		Other members of team undertaking assessment		Rob Hyde, Barbara Dale	
Date	September 2011		Version: One			
Type of document (mark as appropriate)	Strategy	Plan *	Function	Policy	Procedure	Service
Is this a new/existing/revision of an existing document (mark as appropriate)	New *		Existing		Revision	
<p>Title and subject of the impact assessment (include a brief description of the aims, outcomes , operational issues as appropriate and how it fits in with the wider aims of the organisation)</p> <p>Please attach a copy of the strategy/plan/function/policy/procedure/service</p>	<p>School Organisation Plan</p> <p>As the Strategic Commissioner of School Places, the Local Authority has a statutory duty to review provision in its area and to establish future demands. This School Organisation Plan provides Cheshire East Council's framework for ensuring the provision of sufficient and suitable school places for all the children and young people resident in the Borough for the period 2011-2016.</p> <p>This School Organisation Plan should be considered within the context of the Council's 'Children and Families Plan' 2010-2013, which is the single strategic overarching plan for all services delivering outcomes for children and young people</p> <p>The Council's vision is for all children and young people to be well supported to maximise their life chances and for Cheshire East to be a place where no child is left behind because organisations do not work together. The Council</p>					

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT FORM

	values education and learning as a means to achievement recognising that all children have something to offer.
Who are the main stakeholders? (eg general public, employees, Councillors, partners, specific audiences)	Children and Young People aged birth to 18 Parents / Carers

Section 2: Initial screening

Who is affected? (This may or may not include the stakeholders listed above)	Children and Young People Parents / Carers Schools Councillors
Who is intended to benefit and how?	The Education Act 2006 requires local authorities to promote fair access to educational opportunity, high standards and pupil achievement to increase opportunities for parental choice and respond to parental representations and secure diversity in the provision of schools when planning the provision of school places.
Could there be a different impact or outcome for some groups?	There is a risk that the type of school (ie religious denomination) chosen by the pupil/parent/carer is not available. Without any policy there may be insufficient places to accommodate all pupils within their local school. Through the SOP the council ensures that there is sufficient provision within the local area so that pupils can attend a school within a reasonable distance from their home.
Does it include making decisions based on individual characteristics, needs or circumstances?	
Are relations between different groups or communities likely to be affected? (eg will it favour one particular group or	

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT FORM

deny opportunities for others?)											
Is there any specific targeted action to promote equality? Is there a history of unequal outcomes (do you have enough evidence to prove otherwise)?			Certain groups of pupils can feel excluded and require specialist provision. The School Organisation Plan has a vital role to play in promoting equality and inclusion through supporting the 14-19 agenda and maintaining a variety of SEN provision within mainstream schools.								
Is there an actual or potential negative impact on these specific characteristics? (Please tick)											
Age	Y	N ✓	Marriage & civil partnership	Y	N ✓	Religion & belief	Y	N ✓	Carers	Y	N ✓
Disability	Y	N ✓	Pregnancy & maternity	Y	N ✓	Sex	Y	N ✓	Socio-economic status	Y	N ✓
Gender reassignment	Y	N ✓	Race	Y	N ✓	Sexual orientation	Y	N ✓			
What evidence do you have to support your findings? (quantitative and qualitative) Please provide additional information that you wish to include as appendices to this document, i.e., graphs, tables, charts										Consultation/involvement carried out	
										Yes	No
Age											
Disability											
Gender reassignment			This policy is not expected to have a significant impact on gender.								
Marriage & civil partnership											
Pregnancy & maternity											

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT FORM

Race			
Religion & belief			
Sex	This policy is not expected to have a significant impact on sexual orientation.		
Sexual orientation	This policy is not expected to have a significant impact on sexual orientation.		
Carers			
Socio-economic status			
Proceed to full impact assessment? (Please tick)	Yes	No	Date

If yes, please proceed to Section 3. If no, please publish the initial screening as part of the suite of documents relating to this issue

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT FORM



Section 3: Identifying impacts and evidence

This section identifies if there are impacts on equality, diversity and cohesion, what evidence there is to support the conclusion and what further action is needed

Protected characteristics	Is the policy (function etc....) likely to have an adverse impact on any of the groups? Please include evidence (qualitative & quantitative) and consultations	Are there any positive impacts of the policy (function etc....) on any of the groups? Please include evidence (qualitative & quantitative) and consultations	Please rate the impact taking into account any measures already in place to reduce the impacts identified High: Significant potential impact; history of complaints; no mitigating measures in place; need for consultation Medium: Some potential impact; some mitigating measures in place, lack of evidence to show effectiveness of measures Low: Little/no identified impacts; heavily legislation-led; limited public facing aspect	Further action (only an outline needs to be included here. A full action plan can be included at Section 4)
Age				
Disability				
Gender reassignment				
Marriage & civil partnership				

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT FORM

Pregnancy and maternity				
Race				
Religion & belief				
Sex				
Sexual orientation				
Carers				
Socio-economics				
Is this project due to be carried out wholly or partly by contractors? If yes, please indicate how you have ensured that the partner organisation complies with equality legislation (e.g. tendering, awards process, contract, monitoring and performance measures)				

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT FORM

Section 4: Review and conclusion

Summary: provide a brief overview including impact, changes, improvement, any gaps in evidence and additional data that is needed			
Specific actions to be taken to reduce, justify or remove any adverse impacts	How will this be monitored?	Officer responsible	Target date
Please provide details and link to full action plan for actions			
When will this assessment be reviewed?			
Are there any additional assessments that need to be undertaken in relation to this assessment?			
Lead officer signoff		Date	
Head of service signoff		Date	

Please publish this completed EIA form on your website

This page is intentionally left blank

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Children and Families Scrutiny Committee

Date of Meeting: 9 October 2012
Report of: Strategic Director – Places and Organisational Capacity
Subject/Title: Available Walking Routes to School
Portfolio Holders: Cllr Rod Menlove / Cllr Hilda Gaddum

1.0 Report Summary

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update members on proposed changes to and clarifications of home to school transport policy that will be considered by Cabinet on 15 October 2012. These proposed changes result from a recent Local Government Ombudsman case, where a local authority in the East Midlands was criticised for the way their policy had been drafted and implemented. This has caused most local authorities to re-examine the approach to their policies and working practices.
- 1.2 Councils are required by law to make travel arrangements to facilitate attendance at school where no suitable, available walking route to school exists. What this means in practice is that if there is no route that a child can walk along in reasonable safety, the council must provide free transport or some other suitable arrangement for the child to get to school. Transport provision should only therefore be offered where walking routes to schools are exceptionally dangerous.
- 1.3 The policy of Cheshire East since LGR is the legacy policy of Cheshire County Council. It has not been reviewed for a number of years, and – notwithstanding the need for change caused by the LGO decision – is therefore ripe for review. Should Cabinet approve a revised policy, this will trigger a process of reassessment of routes currently deemed to be unavailable on road safety grounds. The changes to the policy are relatively minor in nature; it is the reassessment of routes that will potentially have a significant impact.
- 1.4 The Committee is asked to bear in mind that in the last 25 years, significant developments have taken place in the highway, footpath and Public Right of Way network. Some of these are improvements such as pedestrian crossing installations / pedestrian refuges, town centre bypasses etc, that may result in transport no longer being required. Other issues such as greater traffic density, housing development etc, may result in more children becoming entitled to transport. It is anticipated at this point that there will be a balance of a substantial number of children who will no longer be entitled to transport compared to those who may become newly entitled. This will likely lead to a substantial reduction in home to school transport cost.

2.0 Decision requested

- 2.1 The Committee is invited to make recommendations to Cabinet for their consideration on 15 October 2012.

3.0 Reasons for recommendations

- 3.1 In order to ensure the council has adopted all current guidance since the last review of this policy area, a slightly revised policy has been drafted. This revised policy includes specific consideration of the issues raised by the Local Government Ombudsman in a recent case. Case law requires the council to consider the availability or otherwise of walked routes to school, and there have been minor clarifications of the law since the council last considered this policy.

4.0 Wards Affected

- 4.1 All

5.0 Local Ward Members

- 5.1 All

6.0 Policy Implications including – Carbon Reduction – Health

- 6.1 The adopted criteria encourage children to walk to school wherever possible, which has a beneficial impact on health outcomes. Schools are obliged to create a school travel plan that promotes sustainable travel to each school.

7.0 Financial Implications (Authorised by the Director of Finance and Business Services)

- 7.1 There are no direct consequences from adopting the revised policy, as it is merely a restatement and clarification of the existing policy. The process of reassessment of routes may mean that some routes are now considered available, and therefore transport may potentially no longer be offered with consequent reductions in expenditure. Conversely, some routes may no longer be available, and transport may have to be provided that is not currently offered. It is likely that the balance will be such that cost reductions will ensue, but it is not possible to estimate what the likely level may be.

8.0 Legal implications (Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)

- 8.1 The council is required by both the Education Act 1996 and the Education and Inspections Act 2006 to make suitable travel arrangements for certain students to attend school. Case law has established that local authorities are required to make arrangements where a child – living closer to school than statutory walking distance – does not have a route available that can be walked in reasonable safety.
- 8.2 For a route to be available, it must be a route to school, along which a child, accompanied as necessary, can walk with reasonable safety. An authority must therefore give regard to a policy and assessment process that determines whether a route can reasonably be classed as available.

9.0 Risk Management

- 9.1 There are no direct risk management issues. In undertaking an assessment of the availability of a particular route and its associated hazards, national road safety guidance is followed.

10.0 Background and options

- 10.1 A child is required to attend school and it is the parental responsibility to ensure this happens. However, councils are obliged to make travel arrangements on behalf of a parent – and hence at public expense – where:
- The child lives beyond statutory walking distance (2 miles for under 8s, 3 miles for over 8s)
 - The child has a physical or mental disability that means it is unreasonable for them to walk to school, even if they live closer than the above distances
 - There is no suitable available walking route.
- 10.2 The council is required to provide travel assistance where a route to school is assessed as “unavailable”. The definition of “available” has been tested in court, including at the House of Lords. For a route to be available, it must be a route to school, along which a child, accompanied as necessary, can walk with reasonable safety. The Lords held that a county council acted reasonably in not providing free transport to a 12-year-old. Her school journey was 2.94 miles from home, via an unlit country track.
- 10.3 The dangers of a route are factors to consider — but if the danger can be eliminated by accompanying the child, then the route may still be available. In this case, it is reasonable to expect the child to be accompanied to school by an appropriate person. For this reason, hazard assessment is restricted to the road safety risks faced, and risks to personal safety and security are not considered.
- 10.4 In order to determine whether a particular route encompasses hazards that may be sufficient to make a route unavailable, a formal assessment must be undertaken. This assessment must take into account a variety of factors, including:

- Widths of available footway, highway, bridleway etc
- Traffic flows
- Road accident records
- Crossing points
- “Step-offs” from the highway, such as roadside verges
- Street lighting, insofar as it is relevant to road safety

10.5 The assessment process that most local authorities follow is set out in guidance issued by Road Safety GB. The guidelines take into account the extant case law and legislation in this area, as well as government guidance. By following these guidelines, the council is therefore able to demonstrate that it is following nationally agreed practice, and that the latest advice from government, relevant legal issues etc are captured. The guidance contains a recommended route assessment procedure, as well as recommended approaches to detailed issues such as assessing traffic counts.

10.6 The Committee may wish to note that more than 1,250 students are currently entitled to transport at taxpayer expense through unavailable walking route. This represents around 25% of children entitled to transport, a relatively high proportion in comparison with other local authorities, for whom around 5% of children entitled to transport is the norm. It is likely (although not inevitable) that a reassessment of currently-unavailable routes would lead to a reduction in their number, with likely withdrawals of transport resulting. In addition, the reassessment process may identify routes that could become available, subject to improvements to the footpath or highway network, so that over time more routes may become available.

10.7 Since it is impossible to say for certain in advance what routes may be classified as available and hence transport withdrawn, or conversely what routes may actually be reassessed as unavailable leading to more transport being provided, it is also difficult to establish a detailed timeline. Should Cabinet be minded to agree the proposed policy, then assessment can commence almost immediately. It is proposed that a prioritisation mechanism be adopted:

- Routes most likely to result in a straightforward reclassification
- Routes most likely to lead to elimination of health and safety risks
- Routes most likely to lead to savings
- All other routes
- Ongoing assessment

10.8 The proposed policy is attached as Appendix 1 to this report.

10.9 At its meeting on 11 September 2012, the Committee requested mapping information to illustrate the type of routes, and the spread across the Borough; these will be tabled at the meeting.

11.0 Background papers

11.1 The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer:

Author: Chris Williams
Designation: Transport Manager
Email: chris.williams@cheshireeast.gov.uk

This page is intentionally left blank

MAINSTREAM HOME TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT POLICY

Assessment of availability of routes to be walked

1.0 Background

- 1.1 The Local Authority has a duty to make arrangements to facilitate attendance at schools and colleges by providing transport in certain circumstances. This document outlines Cheshire East Council's home to school/college transport policy as it relates to the availability or otherwise of routes where a child resides closer to the nearest appropriate educational establishment than the maximum distance allowed for under the overarching home to school transport policy.
- 1.2 This document applies to children living in the Borough of Cheshire East and describes free and assisted transport entitlement to mainstream schools, academies and colleges. This policy does not apply to pupils attending independent schools and colleges. Some children with Special Educational Needs – such as physical mobility difficulties - require specific transport, for which a separate assessment of their needs is undertaken. Under the Equality Act 2010, where necessary, reasonable adjustments for children with mobility or other issues will be given consideration in relation to the type of transport or vehicle that is used, and also in the availability or otherwise of routes.
- 1.3 Assessments do not determine whether a route is “safe” or “dangerous”. All roads may be thought of as presenting some element of road safety risk, whether they are heavily-trafficked urban routes, or more lightly-trafficked rural routes. Instead, the assessment determines whether transport should be provided at taxpayer expense because a particular walking route presents *exceptional* road safety hazards.

2.0 Statutory school age and statutory walking distances

- 2.1 Statutory school age means the age when a child **must** be in school i.e. the term immediately following their 5th birthday to 16 years old (i.e. the last Friday in June of the year the child turns 16). [Education Act 1997 Sec 52]
- 2.2 The measurement of the 'statutory walking distance' is measured by the shortest walking route between home¹ and nearest school gate along which a child, accompanied as necessary by a responsible adult, can walk with reasonable safety. If there is no such route, the local authority must provide free transport no matter what distance the child lives from the school.

¹ Measured to centreline of the road immediately outside the normal residence of the child

- 2.3 The adopted policy of Cheshire East is that, generally, children are expected to walk:
- Up to and including a maximum distance of 2 miles (3.21869 km) if child is attending a primary school
 - Up to and including a maximum distance of 3 miles (4.82803 km) if the child is attending a secondary school
- 2.4 There are additional criteria required by law to be adopted for children whose family or personal circumstances are such that they are entitled to transport even if the above general criteria are not met. These are contained in the overarching home to school transport policy.
- 2.5 Cheshire East Council no longer directly provides travel assistance to children of post-statutory education age. For the avoidance of doubt, no travel assistance is given to children remaining in education irrespective of the availability or otherwise of an available walking route.

3.0 Measurement of distances

- 3.1 Distances are measured by the shortest available walking route from the centreline of the road immediately outside the home address to the nearest school or college entrance. A route is available if it is a route along which a child, accompanied as necessary by a responsible adult, can walk with reasonable safety to school.
- 3.2 Distances are measured in a consistent fashion using computerised measuring systems:
- for in-borough measurements, the council's DataMap software is used.
 - for distances that cross the borough boundary, a mixture of systems may be used, including DataMap, Google Maps or other equivalent system. This is because the DataMap system only currently covers addresses that fall in Cheshire East. These methods may change as new software becomes available.
 - on request, we are able to provide a map of the available route and/or a list of the street/roads/footpaths etc measured in determining the distance between home and school.

4.0 Definition of Available routes

- 4.1 Cheshire East Council's definition of an available route:

Distances are measured by the shortest available walking route

between the middle of the road immediately outside of the home address and the nearest school or college gate. In accordance with the provisions of the Transport Policy, the shortest available walking route is the shortest route which a child, accompanied as necessary, can walk with reasonable safety.

- 4.2 Route availability is assessed using a rigorous and robust assessment process as detailed in the Appendices. Where a route is assessed as unavailable, officers will initially explore using mapping-software to investigate whether an alternative exists and is less than 2 miles (primary) and 3 miles (secondary) before allowing transport.

5.0 Withdrawal of transport / offers of transport

- 5.1 Where a route was previously unavailable and becomes available, reasonable notice of the transport provision to be withdrawn will be issued in writing to the parent. This period will be a minimum of a school term, or 12 weeks where shorter.
- 5.2 Where a parent disputes the assessment of an available route, or a request is made for an assessment where no previous assessment has been undertaken, there is a process of review (see Appendix 1.). Should an initial assessment reveal that no available route exists that presents an acceptable level of short-term risk, the council will normally provide transport until such time as a full assessment has been undertaken.
- 5.3 The council has a duty to ensure all children travel in reasonable safety and comfort. Any behaviour affecting other passengers, the public or the driver that endangers (whether intentionally or unintentionally) themselves or others may lead to transport being withdrawn from a pupil, either temporarily or permanently. In these circumstances, the arrangement and cost of transport will fall to the parent and it will remain the duty of the parent to ensure their children continue to attend school, irrespective of the availability or otherwise of a walking route.
- 5.4 Where a pupil or student has been assessed as eligible for assisted or free transport in error, reasonable notice of the provision to be withdrawn will be issued in writing to the parent. Where information has been provided that – in the opinion of the council – is both false, and has been deliberately or negligently provided, the council reserves the right to cease transport provision with immediate effect.
- 5.5 Where temporary factors are considered to be the reason for a route being assessed as not available (eg through significant planned roadworks temporarily rendering part of the route unavailable, ground conditions during winter months etc) the council may exceptionally consider provision of transport for the period(s) of unavailability. In these instances, notice periods for withdrawal may be shortened from that set out in 5.1 above.

6.0 General Points

- 6.1 All roads – urban and rural – are potentially dangerous. Provision of transport is considered and provided only where road conditions are exceptionally or abnormally hazardous, as set out in the assessment criteria. The council considers that the most appropriate means of ensuring children can safely travel to school is through road safety education, and parents and schools are expected to educate children in road safety matters from an early age.
- 6.2 Parents are responsible in law for ensuring their children receive an appropriate education which in most cases includes ensuring regular attendance at school. The law also requires parents to ensure a child is accompanied on their journey to and from school by an adult if necessary, with no age limit for the child prescribed in law for this responsibility. The council expects parents to make suitable alternative arrangements if they are unable to personally accompany the child.
- 6.3 Parents are responsible for ensuring their children have suitable clothing and footwear, reflective clothing or other visibility aids, torches etc.
- 6.4 It is expected that traffic along assessed routes will abide by all road traffic regulations, including remaining within posted speed limits, obey one-way traffic restrictions, not park in a manner which creates an obstruction to the highway etc. The council is entitled to expect that the police will undertake enforcement action.
- 6.5 In accordance with the law, the council assumes that children are accompanied by an adult as necessary. Routes are not classed as unavailable solely due to any or all of the following factors. They are, however, used to assess risks and hazards that a child may face that can be avoided if the child were to be accompanied as necessary in assessing the availability of a route:
- Lonely routes
 - Moral danger
 - Routes that pass close to canals, rivers, ditches, lakes, ponds etc
 - Routes that require railway crossings if a suitable, authorised crossing is present
- 6.6** General enquiries and specific requests should initially be addressed to:

Address: Cheshire East Transport
Floor 6, Delamere House
Crewe
CW1 2LL

Telephone: 0300 123 5012

Email: schooltransportenquiries@cheshireeast.gov.uk

If you require this information in an alternative version such as large print, Braille, tape or help in understanding it in your language, please contact 0300 123 5012, or e-mail: schooltransportenquiries@cheshireeast.gov.uk

7.0 Exceptional circumstances

- 7.1 Exceptionally, the council may consider circumstances that affect the availability or otherwise of walking routes in ways not set out in this summary of policy. Requests for consideration should be made to:

School Admissions
Children, Family and Adult Services
Cheshire East Council
Delamere House
Crewe
CW1 1LL

Further details available on our website: www.cheshireeast.gov.uk

APPENDIX 1

SCHOOL TRANSPORT REVIEW (APPEAL) PROCEDURE – AVAILABLE WALKING ROUTES

1.0 Commencement Date

1.1 This Procedure has effect from 1 January 2013.

2.0 Review of available walking route

2.1 If a parent/carer or young person is dissatisfied with the Council's assessed route on the grounds that it contains unacceptable road safety hazards, then a request for reconsideration can be made. There are two grounds for a review:

- (a) If there is a material change in relation to an existing available walking route which may affect the availability of that route; **or**
- (b) If there is a new available walking route assessment.

In either case referred to above, a parent/carer or a young person (or a group of parents/carers) may request that the available walking route be reviewed if they are dissatisfied with the assessment undertaken because it has not taken into account the published national guidance relating to route assessment in force at the time.

2.2 For the purposes of 4.1(a) above, 'a material change' means works (other than temporary works) which have been undertaken since the route was last assessed where those works significantly affect:

- the use of the highway
- the road layout
- the footpath
- the traffic volume
- the speed of traffic

2.3 Any request for a review of the availability of a walking route must be made in writing setting out the material change in question (in the case of an existing route) and why the parents/carers or young person consider that the assessed route is not available. Any supporting evidence relied upon by parents/carers or the young person must be submitted with the review request.

2.4 Receipt of a request for review will be acknowledged within 5 working days.

- 2.5 The review will be undertaken by a nominated officer from the Places and Organisational Capacity Directorate ("the Reviewing Officer") who will have had no previous involvement in relation to the available route assessment.
- 2.6 The Reviewing Officer will consider if there has been a material change in relation to an existing available walking route. If the Reviewing Officer is not satisfied that there has been such a material change, he or she will notify the parents/carers or young person of that fact in writing providing reasons for his/her decision.
- 2.7 In the case of new available walking route assessments or if the Reviewing Officer determines that there has been a material change in circumstances in relation to an existing route assessment then an assessment will be undertaken by the Reviewing Officer who will consider and take into account:-
- a) written material and representations submitted by the parent/carer or young person;
 - b) published national guidance in force at the time.
- 2.8 The assessment of the Reviewing Officer will wherever possible be completed within 20 working days of receipt of the review request (unless there are exceptionable circumstances in which case the assessment will be completed as soon as practicable thereafter). The review outcome will be communicated to the parent/carer or young person in writing by a representative from Cheshire East Transport enclosing a copy of the assessment and wherever possible this shall take place within 5 working days of the assessment being completed.

3.0 General

- 3.1 The decision of the Reviewing Officer is binding on the parents/carers/young person and the council.
- 3.2 There is no further right of appeal or review in relation to the processes set out in 3 and 4 above. A parent/carer or young person may refer the matter to the Local Government Ombudsman if he or she considers that the Transport Policy or this review procedure has not been correctly followed or properly applied in the case. Referrals to the Local Government Ombudsman should be submitted to:

The Local Government Ombudsman
PO Box 4771
Coventry
CV4 0EH
Telephone: 0845 602 1983
Fax: 0247 602 0001
Email: advice@lgo.org.uk

4.0 Requesting a Review

- 4.1 Parents/carers or young persons wishing to request a review under this procedure should do so by contacting:

The Transport Manager
Cheshire East Transport
Highways and Transport
Floor 6
Delamere House
Crewe
CW1

Tel: 0300 123 5012

Email: schooltransportenquiries@cheshireeast.gov.uk

APPENDIX 2

PROCESS FOR ASSESSING WHETHER OR NOT WALKING ROUTES TO SCHOOLS ARE UNAVAILABLE

1. Definitions

A walking route is available if it is a route along which a child, accompanied as necessary, can walk with reasonable safety to school.

This process is based on the statutory guidance 'Home to School Travel and Transport Guidance' produced by the Department for Education and Skills (DfES) in 2007 and the Assessment of Walked Routes to School guidelines produced by Road Safety GB in 2012 which provides guidance on the interpretation of both case law and what is generally accepted by many Local Authorities as good practice in assessing various elements of the walking route between home and school.

Specifically, the DfES guidance states, in Part 3, *Travel arrangements for 'eligible children'* and a section covering *Children unable to walk in safety to school because of the nature of the route* covered the following:

81. Where children live within "statutory walking distance" of their nearest qualifying school (or other place where education is provided under section 19(1)), local authorities will be under a duty to make travel arrangements where the nature of the route is such that a child can not reasonably be expected to walk (accompanied as necessary) in reasonable safety.
82. In assessing the comparative safety of a route, a local authority should conduct an assessment of the risks a child might encounter along the prescribed route (including, for example, canals, rivers, ditches, speed of traffic along roads, overhanging trees or branches that might obscure fields of vision for the pedestrian or motorist, etc.). The assessment of a route should take place at the times of the day that pupils would be expected to use the route.
83. Route assessments should feed into the local authority duty relating to sustainable school travel [...] and may inform the local authority's plans for upgrading the infrastructure supporting sustainable school travel.
84. In conducting the risk assessment, local authorities should take a range of factors into consideration, including:
 - the age of the child;
 - whether any potential risks might be mitigated if the child were accompanied by an adult (see also paragraph 86 below);
 - the width of any roads travelled along and the existence of pavements;
 - the volume and speed of traffic travelling along any roads;

- the existence or otherwise of street lighting; and
 - the condition of the route at different times of the year, at the times of day that a child would be expected to travel to and from school.
85. Whilst it is the responsibility of the parent to ensure that a child attends school regularly, the local authority should consider whether it is reasonably practicable for the child's parent/carer to accompany the child along a route which would otherwise be classified as too dangerous to walk in reasonable safety.
86. In conducting their risk assessments, local authorities should use data on recorded accidents along potential routes. However, a lack of such accidents should not be taken as conclusive evidence that a route is safe. It may well be that a route is potentially so dangerous that no reasonable person would walk along the route, or allow their children to do so – resulting in such a low level of pedestrian use that there were very few or no recorded accidents.'

2. Process

- (a) A request to assess a route for availability is made to Cheshire East Transport (normally from a parent or school, but also where the council considers transport is being provided for a journey to school that has potentially become available).
- (b) The request is passed to an Assessing Officer nominated or appointed by Cheshire East Transport, who will undertake an initial desktop evaluation of walking routes from the home address to the school. Should available walking routes be identified that are shorter than the statutory walking distance based on the age of the child, then no further assessment is undertaken. Should one or more routes be identified but there is doubt over the availability of the route, initial assessment of the potential route will be undertaken.
- (c) If an initial assessment reveals that there may be hazards that require a full assessment to be undertaken, the council will consider whether to provide transport assistance as an interim arrangement until the full assessment has been completed.
- (d) Evidence already available to the Assessing Officer will be taken into account in the full assessment, and other aspects of assessment may (but will not always) include a site visit, information on traffic volumes (where required and where available) and accident history records.
- (e) A written report of site visit (using a standard format) and other information (such as accident data) will be considered.
- (f) The findings of the process above will be considered by Cheshire East Transport, who will review the assessment and provide a written report on

whether the route is available. The outcome of the assessment will be communicated to the applicant.

- (g) Appeals against decisions can be made in accordance with the process set out in Appendix 1.
- (h) If a route is assessed to be unavailable, then free transport will be arranged with as soon as reasonably practicable. If a route is assessed to be available, but free transport has been provided (because previously the route was assessed as unavailable and remedial works have been undertaken to make the route available), the council will give notice in accordance with the guidance set out in the policy.

3. Assessment Report Format

General

- This guidance is a general summary of the factors taken into account in the assessment of available walking routes.
- The start and end points of the assessment and the details of the route taken will be provided along with a map of the route assessed. The route will be split up into sections (note these) for the purpose of reporting.
- The time of day the assessment is undertaken will be stated
- The weather and light conditions will be noted.
- Photographs will be taken to exemplify areas likely to be of concern

Section characteristics

The Assessment will;

- record if there is a footway and if so, the general availability and condition of it. An assessment of the suitability of the footway will be made with photographs of any narrow sections. An assessment will be made as to whether it is available for walking and of sufficient width and quality. The condition and maintenance of the footway maintained and other pedestrian use will be noted.
- define length/names of the roads on the route and any relevant characteristics, for example, whether the route is rural/urban, single/dual carriageway, A/B class, one-way, speed limit, estimated vehicle speeds and whether traffic calmed.
- define road widths and any variations where there is no footway, (noting locations where the road narrows at 'pinch points'). In the absence of footways a note of the forward visibility for sighting times will be made.
- Highlight any feature along the route that may need re-assessment in the future (e.g. likely change in traffic patterns or vegetation that may compromise available footway width)
- Consider whether there are any alternative walking routes.

Crossing – assessment

The Assessment will:

- consider whether there is a need to cross a main road or significant side road or entrance on the section of route being assessed.
- Make reference to the fact that there are side roads and entrances and specifically note any that are likely to have significant traffic movements and which need to be crossed.

- where roads need to be crossed, consider if, there is at least 4 seconds' sighting time for drivers to see pedestrians and whether waiting time to cross is less than 60 seconds (keeping a record of the average timings).
- Note any crossing facilities on the assessed section (central refuges, zebras, pelicans, etc.)
- note if crossing is recommended to take place at a specific location.

Walking at the side of the road assessment

The assessment will:

- Consider whether there is a footway on the section and if there is an available walking route on both sides of the road
- Consider which side of the road the footway is situated on and whether it has a reasonably even surface and is of sufficient width (generally deemed to be 0.5m, although each case is treated on its own merits and widths may be unacceptable or acceptable if wider or narrower than this guideline.)
- Consider whether 'availability' is likely to remain the same throughout the year and in all conditions
- Consider the characteristics (length, width and 'condition') of the verge or footway. Where no footway (or no continuous footway) exists, a further assessment is undertaken in accordance with the criteria set out below:

On roads of less than 6.5 metres in width extremely hazardous routes will be seen to exist where the traffic exceeds the maximum vehicle numbers per hour shown in the table below for the relevant width of road or where potential escape/refuge from traffic falls below the level set out in the table for relating traffic volumes and individual lengths of road where escape/refuge is not possible. Its purpose is to specify a level of hazard where the council will assume responsibility for transport costs. Below this level the council assumes parents will take this responsibility themselves. The table which measures the availability of verge or refuge against traffic volumes, for roads of different widths, is shown below:

Acceptable maximum length of single sections of road without verges or refuge before broken by a verge or refuge	Acceptable number of vehicles per hour by road width			
	<3.5m width	3.5m - 4.5m width	4.5m – 5.5m width	>5.5m width
10m	201 - 240 max	301 - 360 max	401 - 480 max	501 - 600 max
15m	161 - 200	241 - 300	321 - 400	401 - 500

25m	121 - 160	181 - 240	241 - 320	301 - 400
35m	81 - 120	121 - 180	161 - 240	201 - 300
55m	61 - 80	91 - 120	121 - 160	151 - 200
75m	41 - 60	61 - 90	81 - 120	101 - 150
120m	31 - 40	46 - 60	61 - 80	76 - 100
160m	21 - 30	31 - 45	41 - 60	51 - 75
240m	11 - 20	16 - 30	21 - 40	26 - 50
300m	6 - 10	9 - 15	11 - 20	13 - 25
500m	1 - 5	1 - 8	1 - 10	1 - 12

Footnotes

- 1 Where visibility, audibility and escapability factors for pedestrians are substantially worse or better than the norm, the acceptable length of non-verged road will be respectively reduced or increased by one step in the table (above).
- 2 A verge is a minimum area that a pedestrian could use as a refuge which is defined as 1.5 metres in length and 0.5 metres in depth.
- 3 Only single unbroken sections of non verged road will be measured and applied against the table - the cumulative effect on non-verged lengths on an entire route will not constitute the road being classified in its own right.
- 4 Where HGV (ie large lorries) numbers, in the hourly traffic count, are more than 10 and where this constitutes more than 10% of the total traffic volume, extremely hazardous routes will be seen to exist regardless of whether the total traffic volume fails to reach the levels required in the table.

4. Assessment Criteria

Whilst the following criteria are specific, professional judgement will be exercised to take account of any local circumstances and the merits of any individual case, as required.

Factor Assessed	What is Assessed	Assumptions
The age of the child	<p>The age of the children using the walking route will be assessed.</p> <p>The age of the child is assessed to distinguish between the 2 maximum walking distances from home to school i.e. 2 or 3 miles.</p>	<p>The existence of public transport (bus or rail) or farepaying places on contracted Home to School Transport is not taken into account when assessing a walking route.</p>
Whether any potential risks might be mitigated if the child were accompanied by an adult	<p>The route is assessed on the basis that a responsible adult will accompany the child as necessary.</p> <p>There may be circumstances where this may not be possible i.e. because of disability. Such circumstances would be considered by means of an appeal.</p>	<p>Existing case law about adults accompanying children remains unchanged</p> <p>It is recognised that parents may decide that accompaniment is not required as the child matures; however the legal precedent suggests that parents accompany as necessary until the child reaches normal school leaving age.</p>
The existence or otherwise of street lighting	<p>Where crossing roads or where there is no available footpath the existence or otherwise of street lighting will be considered (where visibility of pedestrians at the side of the road could be compromised).</p>	<p>The existence or otherwise of street lighting is taken into account where this will assist drivers in seeing pedestrians walking in the road or at identified crossing points where no light controlled (Pelican or Toucan) or Zebra crossings exist. If a continuous suitable footway exists then street lighting is desirable but may not be required for a route to be assessed as available.</p>
The condition of the route at different times of the year, at the times of day that a child would be	<p>Site visits will cover the whole route but focus on parts of the route with potential hazards, and will take place at the time in the morning (or afternoon) when children would be travelling to school.</p>	<p>The route will be kept well maintained by landowners and the Highway Authority. Where problems are identified, such as overgrown foliage and damage to footways we will ask landowners to repair this or the Council will repair this and recharge landowners as</p>

<p>expected to travel to and from school</p>	<p>Assessments when undertaken will consider seasonal variations in conditions along a route.</p> <p>Assessments may identify improvements to routes which if undertaken would make the route available, even if the route is deemed to be not available in the interim</p>	<p>appropriate</p> <p>Assessments will consider the condition of the route at different times of the year and in particular the effects of vegetation growth.</p>
--	---	---

5. Frequently Asked Questions (These do not form part of the assessment process)

What time are the assessments undertaken? - Assessments usually take place in the morning during the times that children will be travelling to school but assessments may also be undertaken when returning home in the afternoon. Visits are timed, where possible, so that crossing assessments of main roads take place at the times when the number of children travelling to school is highest. Detailed timings and measurements are undertaken.

What happens if I can't walk with my child? Any adult can walk with a group of children. We will work with schools to identify other ways of travelling to school through School Travel Plans. Where the walking route is less than 2 miles for children who attend primary school and less than 3 miles for secondary age children the responsibility for ensuring children attend school remains with the parent - this is not a council responsibility.

What happens if the footpath is really narrow? There is no minimum width for a footpath to be acceptable for walking. Officers will use their professional judgement on the available width including hedgerows and verges next to the footpath to determine its availability as suitable for walking.

What if my child has to walk in the dark? Generally school start and finish times are such that children can walk to school in daylight. There will be a limited number of times when this is before sunrise and after the sun sets i.e. in twilight hours. In these cases it is the parents' responsibility to accompany their child if they feel it is appropriate. You may decide that your child can walk unaccompanied but the legal responsibility remains with parents to make appropriate arrangements to ensure that their child attends school.

What accident data will be included? The report will include a general reference to all accidents on the route, additional reference to accidents involving pedestrians, and a detailed reference to pedestrian accidents at designated crossing points.

What if there isn't a footway? Even if there isn't a footway the walking route might still be assessed as available. The assessment will take account of traffic flows and whether pedestrians and car drivers have enough time to slow down or pedestrians have time to step off the road onto a verge.

What do I do if I think the walking route is unsafe? No walking route can be absolutely safe; the term used in guidance is reasonable safety which would make the walking route available. If you think the route isn't available you have the right to appeal. You must demonstrate that there is a change to the route that would not make it reasonably safe to walk along, or other circumstances that you feel the council should take into account that it hasn't already considered.

This page is intentionally left blank

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

REPORT TO: CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting:	9 October 2012
Report of:	Borough Solicitor
Subject/Title:	Work Programme update

1.0 Report Summary

- 1.1 To review items in the 2012/13 Work Programme, to consider the efficacy of existing items listed in the schedule attached, together with any other items suggested by Committee Members.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 That the work programme be received and noted.

3.0 Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.1 It is good practice to agree and review the Work Programme to enable effective management of the Committee's business.

4.0 Wards Affected

- 4.1 All

5.0 Local Ward Members

- 5.1 Not applicable.

6.0 Policy Implications including - Climate change - Health

- 6.1 Not known at this stage.

7.0 Financial Implications for Transition Costs

- 7.1 None identified at the moment.

8.0 Legal Implications (Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)

- 8.1 None.

9.0 Risk Management

9.1 There are no identifiable risks.

10.0 Background and Options

10.1 In reviewing the work programme, Members must pay close attention to the Corporate Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy.

10.2 The schedule attached, has been updated in line with the Committees recommendations on 11 September 2012. Following this meeting the document will be updated so that all the appropriate targets will be included within the schedule.

10.3 In reviewing the work programme, Members must have regard to the general criteria which should be applied to all potential items, including Task and Finish reviews, when considering whether any Scrutiny activity is appropriate. Matters should be assessed against the following criteria:

- Does the issue fall within a corporate priority
- Is the issue of key interest to the public
- Does the matter relate to a poor or declining performing service for which there is no obvious explanation
- Is there a pattern of budgetary overspends
- Is it a matter raised by external audit management letters and or audit reports?
- Is there a high level of dissatisfaction with the service

10.4 If during the assessment process any of the following emerge, then the topic should be rejected:

- The topic is already being addressed elsewhere
- The matter is subjudice
- Scrutiny cannot add value or is unlikely to be able to conclude an investigation within the specified timescale

11.0 Access to Information

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer:

Name: Mark Grimshaw
Designation: Scrutiny Officer
Tel No: 01270 685680
Email: mark.grimshaw@cheshireeast.gov.uk

As of 09/10/2012
Children and Families Scrutiny Committee

Next Agenda Setting Meeting: TBA

Possible Future Issues / Items (Chronology)

Meeting dates:

Month	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	April
Children and Families Scrutiny Committee (Tuesday) 1.30 pm: Westfields	13	11	15	12	12	16

Item	Corporate Priority / Targets	Notes	Suggested Action	Due Date and Status
Successful transition between children's and adults' social care services	Support our Children and Young People	Requested following the meeting held on 23 April 2012. Initial background paper required.		November 2012 Deferred from 17 July 2012
Update on Residential Provision Houses	Support our Children and Young People	To include information on the status of Wilkinson House and the occupancy rates of the residential houses. Also – lessons learned from Brereton Children's Home.		November 2012
Recruitment of Experienced Social Workers	Support our Children and Young People	Requested following the meeting held on 11 September. To understand the cost of relying on agency workers and to respond to a number of suggestions by the		November 2012

		Committee.		
Q2 Finance/Performance Management Report	Support our Children and Young People	To possibly include an update on capital projects and school results		November 2012
Fostering	Support our Children and Young People	Update on the Task and Finish Review – what has happened to recruitment and has that reduced dependency on out of Borough placements. Requested on 11 September 2012		November 2012
ICT system update	Support our Children and Young People	Quarterly update – 1 st paper received July 2012		November 2012
Academies	Support our Children and Young People	To cover issues around accountability and services packages		TBA
Director of Public Health	Support our Children and Young People	To cover issues around eating disorders and obesity		TBA
Supported travel for SEN pupils	Support our Children and Young People	To follow up recommendations made in the Task and Finish Review. Possible visit to Stockport Council.	Possible desk research and single Member task	TBA
Information and Guidance (Careers) update report	Support our Children and Young People	Six month update requested in June		December 2012
ICT system update	Support our Children and Young People	Quarterly update – 1 st paper received July 2012		February 2013

Items requiring further information via Email:

1. Public feedback/comments and complaints
2. Regulation 33 update
3. Annual safeguarding in schools report

Training Requirements/Site Visits:

- Local Authorities' changing interface with schools and education – **part II tba**
- School Funding – September 2012 (tba)
- C&F Budget (prior to December 2012)

Disregarded / Discontinued Items

Item	Date	Reason
Post 16 Transfer of Funding to Local authorities	22.09.10	Responsibility no longer with LA
Analysis of School Performance	22.09.10	To be merged with educational attainment item
Early Years Funding Reform	22.09.10	Briefing heard on 27.07.10
Children's Centres	26.10.10	Dealt with as part of the Family Support review.
School Status report	26.10.10	Merged with Academies item
Interventions in Schools	26.10.10	To be dealt with in the schools inspection item.
School Admissions Policy / TLC review	14.12.10	Superseded by White Paper item
Redesign of Children's Services	17.02.11	Incorporated into Safeguarding item
Teenage Pregnancy	17.02.11	Superseded by Director of Public Health Item
NEETS	17.02.11	Superseded by Connexions Item
Macclesfield High School Review	04.05.11	Item no longer needing consideration
Transport for Young People	18.05.11	Superseded by Home to School Transport Review
Aiming Higher Report	13.06.11	Superseded by Disabled Respite Care item.
Member Engagement in Social Services Systems	03.08.11	Superseded by Training session on Contact, Referrals and Assessments
Youth Policy Strategy	03.09.12	Superseded by Members training event.

Task Groups – potential/current

Title	Progress Notes	Actions
Foster services	Recommendations agreed 04.11. Went to Cabinet 06.11	Response received February 2012. Update required February 2013.
Care Leavers	Set up Membership 28/06/2011 – deferred to January 2012	Ongoing – expected to report in October/November
Health and Cared for Children	Following Fostering service review – in partnership with H&W Committee	Ongoing.
Early Years Education	Recommended to be established on 23.04.2012	Two meetings held

Dates of Future Cabinet Meetings

15 October 2012, 12 November 2012, 10 December 2012, 7 January 2013, 4 February 2013, 4 March 2013, 2 April 2013, 29 April 2013

Dates of Future Council Meetings

11 October 2012, 13 December 2012, 21 February 2013, 18 April 2013.



FORWARD PLAN 1 OCTOBER 2012 - 31 JANUARY 2013

This Plan sets out the key decisions which the Executive expect to take over the next four months. The Plan is rolled forward every month. It will next be published in mid October and will then contain all key decisions expected to be taken between 1 November and 28 February 2012. Key decisions are defined in the Councils Constitution.

Reports relevant to key decisions, and any listed background documents may be viewed at any of the Councils Offices/Information Centres 6 days before the decision is to be made. Copies of, or extracts from these documents may be obtained on the payment of a reasonable fee from the following address:-

Democratic Services Team
Cheshire East Council ,
c/o Westfields, Middlewich Road, Sandbach Cheshire CW11 1HZ
Telephone: 01270 686463

However, it is not possible to make available for viewing or to supply copies of reports or documents, the publication of which is restricted due to confidentiality of the information contained.

A decision notice for each key decision is published within 6 days of it having been made. This is open for public inspection on the Council's Website, Council Information Centres and Council Offices.

The law and the Council's Constitution provides for urgent key decisions to be made. A decision notice will be published for these in exactly the same way.

Forward Plan 1 October 2012 to 31 January 2013

Key Decision	Decisions to be Taken	Decision Maker	Expected Date of Decision	Proposed Consultation	Relevant Scrutiny Committee	How to make representation to the decision made
CE12/13-16 Development Autistic Spectrum Disorder - Special School	To seek permission to proceed with the development of an ASC special school on the site of the former Church Lawton Primary School.	Cabinet	15 Oct 2012	Briefings with Parish Councils and residents in the locality, through the special needs review and as part of the planning application consultation will take place with local stakeholders, parents, the wider schools community and neighbouring local authorities.	Children and Families	Lorraine Butcher, Strategic Director (Children, Families and Adults)
CE12/13-25 Available Walking Routes Policy	To review and provide policy clarification on the Available Walking Routes Policy, which forms part of the Home to School Transport Policy; the Policy to be prepared in accordance with national guidelines and best practice.	Cabinet	15 Oct 2012	No consultation as the policy is being updated in accordance with national guidance and legislation.	Children and Families	Lorraine Butcher, Strategic Director (Children, Families and Adults)

Key Decision	Decisions to be Taken	Decision Maker	Expected Date of Decision	Proposed Consultation	Relevant Scrutiny Committee	How to make representation to the decision made
CE12/13-8 Determination of School Organisation Plan 2011-2016	To approve the Plan which drives the overall School Organisation Framework and provides the strategy for ensuring the provision of sufficient suitable school places for all children and young people resident in the Borough for the period 2011-2016.	Cabinet	10 Dec 2012	By meetings and the School Organisation website.	Children and Families	Lorraine Butcher, Strategic Director (Children, Families and Adults)

This page is intentionally left blank