

Report to Cabinet



Date of Meeting	19 th December 2017
Portfolio	Councillor Donna Martin Cabinet Member for Children's Services
Report Author	Fay Davies
Public/Private Document	Public

The Need for Extra Year 7 School Places 2017- 2027

Executive Summary

1. There is a requirement to keep under review the need for extra class places in each Township. The purpose of this report is to set out proposals to address the need for extra Year 7 places up to September 2027, and
 - a. Report on the feedback from the consultation
 - b. Based on the feedback and further analysis, set out proposals to address the need for extra Year 7 class places for the period up to 2027.
 - c. To seek approval for proposed expenditure for the schemes in accordance with the Council's financial regulation.

Recommendation

2. Approve proposals to meet the additional demand for Year 7 class places as follows (NB the timing of all proposals is subject to detailed feasibility)
 - 2.1
 - **Heywood & Middleton**
 - Additional 30 places at Siddal Moor Sports College in existing accommodation. Temporary PAN from 210 to 240 for 1 year in September 2018.
 - Permanent increase of Siddal Moor Sports College PAN from 210 to 270 from September 2019.
 - Support the application of the Altus Education Partnership, in collaboration with Rochdale Sixth Form College and Hopwood Hall College, for a new Free School in Middleton Township for 2020. Please note: The DfE now require that any bid submitted by a trust include a named site. This will necessitate the authority

to name the site prior to the bid going ahead to facilitate the creation of the needed pupil places.

- **Pennines & Rochdale**
- 2.2
- Permanent increase of Matthew Moss High School to a PAN of 240 from September 2018 previously detailed in Cabinet report dated 31st October 2016.
 - Note the potential gap in provision for 2019-20
 - Note the need for a second new Free School in 2022 and be mindful of the DfE requirement that a site will need to be named.
- 2.3
- Authorise feasibility studies which will facilitate completion of detailed designs and submission of planning applications
- 2.4
- Approve expenditure on the proposed final programmes detailed within this report, for invitations to tender to be issued and accepted and for the supporting contracts, and any incidental and ancillary documentation, to be signed in order to deliver the development schemes outlined in the appendices, in accordance with financial regulations:

Reason for Recommendation

3. The Borough has seen consistent growth in the Primary school cohorts. In 2005 Reception numbers were 2450 and this year are predicted to be 3100. This is a 650 increase in Reception numbers. Secondary cohort sizes started to increase in 2012 and are expected to mirror and exceed the Primary increases until 2024. Secondary cohorts started at a low of 2200 pupil and are expected to increase to 3300, which is an increase of 1100. The disparity in increases in cohort sizes in Reception and Year 7 is due to both, the recent increases in cohort size that have occurred throughout the Primary years (55%), and the forecasted increase in housing builds (45%).

Key Points for Consideration

4. Borough-wide and Township birth rates, census, PAN and forecasts for Primary and Secondary pupil place need were presented previously to Cabinet on the 24th October 2017.
- 4.1 In the Cabinet report dated 24/10/2017 suggestions put forward as follows:-
- **Heywood and Middleton**
 - Provide an additional 30 places at Siddal Moor in existing accommodation for 2018.
 - Consult on an additional 30 (60 total) places at Siddal Moor by

extending school for September 2019.

- Establish a new 180 place Free school in the Middleton area by 2020.
- The shortfall in extra spaces will need to be sought through additional building and/or places at existing schools.

4.2 • **Pennines and Rochdale**

- Establish a new 180 place Free school in the area by 2022
- The shortfall in extra spaces will need to be sought through additional building and/or places at existing schools.

4.3 A consultation was opened on the 11th October 2017 and closed on the 8th November 2017 detailing the Need for Extra Year 7 Places in the Borough and by Township.

4.4 Appendix 1 lists the responses to the consultation on Extra Year 7 places. Two individual responses came in through the survey questions. Both supported the proposals for extra Year 7 places in the Rochdale and Pennines area. One supported the extra places in Heywood and Middleton, but the second did not. Responses came in from the Diocese of Salford and the Head of Cardinal Langley Secondary School. The Diocese and Cardinal Langley questioned the extra capacity being created in Heywood and Middleton with the proposed new Free school and the Siddal Moor expansion. They noted a lack of SEN provision in the Heywood and Middleton area and requesting that the site for the new Free school be named. Two set of questions were sent in by the Director of Personnel and finance and the Vice Chair of Governors from St Anne's academy. The responses given by the LA are in the report and a meeting was conducted with the Vice Chair.

4.5 **Alternatives Considered**

The case is clear for the need of 2 extra secondary schools. Given the limited options the acceptance of a local trust is considered to be the preferred choice. The option is to go out to tender with Multi academy trusts nationwide. Extra capacity is needed for 2019 and 2023/24 and will also be needed in the intervening years to enable in-year moves. Current spare capacity has been 4-6 FE across the borough and even with this spare local pressures have still be felt. Above the extra two schools all secondary schools will need to be approached to provide extra capacity.

Costs and Budget Summary

5. Any school where there is an increase in admissions, there may be capital costs associated with bringing space into use for class teaching purposes. These costs will be met from within current capital allocations as agreed by Cabinet. The DfE funding allocations for 2017/18 and 2018/19 are £11,818,280 and £5,200,090 respectively.

- 5.1 Detailed designs and costings will be produced over the next months but indicative capital costs for the proposed scheme is as follows:-
- Matthew Moss - £2.6m – this is an increase from previous costs reported in the Cabinet report of 16th October 2016.
 - Siddal Moor - £2.8m
- 5.2 School budgets are set for financial years based on pupil numbers as per the previous October school census. For September 2018 any planned increase in the numbers will allow schools to budget for additional staff. In addition, if in the light of final admission numbers, further additional places become planned for any school, under regulations, the Local authority is able to fund the estimated increase in places, if this is significant, so that the school will receive extra funding for the school places. This is dictated by the Growth Fund and paid from the Dedicated Schools Grant.
- 5.2 The costs associated with co-ordinating admission arrangements are met from the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG).
- 5.3 The costs for refurbishment or new build accommodation at schools which are providing additional pupil places is funded by the EFA annual allocations of Basic Need capital budget.
- 5.4 Where a school and the LA agree to increase the school's PAN to meet the LA's statutory need a school receives additional funding from the growth fund. The growth fund is funded by DSG and the current policy has been agreed by Schools Forum

Risk and Policy Implications

6. The Council has a statutory duty under the Education Act 1996 to ensure the provision of sufficient schools for primary and secondary education in their area. Under s.14 of the Education Act 1996, a local authority shall secure that sufficient schools for providing primary and secondary education are available in their area. Sufficient means sufficient in number, character and equipment to provide for all pupils the opportunity of appropriate education. In meeting this duty, a local authority must do so with a view to securing diversity in the provision of schools and increasing opportunities for parental choice.
- 6.1 The application of pupil place planning arrangements contributes to the Council Business Plan in ensuring an effective allocation process for school admissions.
- 6.2 There are no other known implications from this particular report ie Personnel, Equalities or Financial

Consultation

7. All school expansions recommended by Cabinet will be taken forward through a formal consultation process.

Background Papers	Place of Inspection
8. Appendix 1: Secondary consultation feedback	4 th Floor, Number One Riverside, Smith Street, Rochdale

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