

**For General Release**

<b>REPORT TO:</b>	<b>CYP SCRUTINY 17 September 2019</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>Education Estates Strategy Update</b>
<b>LEAD OFFICER:</b>	<b>Robert Henderson, Executive Director, Children, Families and Education</b> <b>Shelley Davies, Interim Director, Education and Youth Engagement</b> <b>Denise Bushay, Head of Service, School Place Planning and Admissions</b>
<b>CABINET MEMBER:</b>	<b>Councillor Alisa Flemming, Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Learning</b>
<b>WARDS:</b>	<b>All</b>
<b>CORPORATE PRIORITY/POLICY CONTEXT/AMBITIOUS FOR CROYDON:</b> Corporate Plan 2018 - 2022 The recommendations in this report are in line with the new operating model – ‘getting the basics right for residents’ and will contribute to the delivery of the following key priority / outcome: ‘Our children and young people thrive and reach their full potential: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Children and young people in Croydon are safe, healthy and happy, and aspire to be the best they can be</li><li>• Every child and young person can access high quality education and youth facilities</li><li>• Ensure there are high quality school places for Croydon’s increasing numbers of children and young people.</li></ul>	
<b>FINANCIAL IMPACT</b> The overall cost of the Education Capital Programme is estimated at £66.857m over the period 2019/20 – 2021/22 as set out in Appendix 4 and includes the ESFA funded new special free school - Addington Valley Academy (on the Timebridge site). This project is proposed to be fully funded by the ESFA at a budget of £13.509m.	
<b>KEY DECISION REFERENCE NO.:</b>	

The Leader of the Council has delegated to the Cabinet the power to make the decisions set out in the recommendations below:

## 1. DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS

The Cabinet is recommended to:

### **School Place Planning**

- 1.1 Note the update of mainstream school pupil projections undertaken and submitted to the Department for Education (DfE) in July 2019 – available places vs school capacity (SCAP) 2019 forecasts – appendix 1.
- 1.2 Note the temporary expansion of Smitham Primary by one form of entry from September 2019.
- 1.3 Approve the proposed three year school place supply strategy – paras. 3.24-3.26 and appendix 6.
- 1.4 Note delegated decision (ref no. 0619LR) taken by the Executive Director of Children, Families and Education, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Children Young People and Learning to close St Andrew's CofE High School from August 2020 – appendices 2 and 3.
- 1.5 Alternative Provision / Pupil Referral Unit (PRU)
  - 1.5.1 Note the decision of East Surrey College not to enter into a lease with Croydon Council for the land adjacent to the Cotelands site.
  - 1.5.2 Note that refurbishment of the existing Cotelands PRU building at John Ruskin College has been completed.
- 1.6 Special Educational Needs and Disability

Note and agree the updated Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) supply strategy (Table 1) for the next 3 academic years – 2019/20 to 2021/22. The SEND School Place Plan is informed by the Council's Dedicated Schools Grant Recovery Plan and 0-25 SEND Strategy.
- 1.7 Note that the ESFA commissioned Croydon to lead on the delivery of the new special free school - Addington Valley Academy (Timebridge site) which is proposed to be fully funded by the ESFA at a budget of £13.509m.
- 1.8 Note update on the partnership with Croydon Further Education (FE) college to establish new local post 16 places in an SEN Centre of Excellence.
- 1.9 Note the continued planned expansion of secondary autism Enhanced Learning provision at Oasis Arena.

- 1.10 Note the proposed feasibility option regarding Red Gates; St Giles and Priory Special Schools.

### **School Admissions**

- 1.11 Note the number of children and young people who received their first or top three preference school.

### **Capital Programme**

- 1.13 Note the updated Education Capital Programme spend - appendix 4.

### **School Maintenance and Compliance**

- 1.14 Note the updated on the Schools' Maintenance Plan for 2019/20 that was agreed in January 2019 - Appendix 5 and delegate authority to the Executive Director, Children, Families and Education to vary the plan to reflect actual prices and new urgent issues that may arise, including authorising spend against the allowance for emergency and reactive works. The Executive Director, Children, Families and Education shall report back to members in respect of any exercise of such authority.

- 1.15 Note update on fire safety works in Croydon community schools.

## **2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 2.1 Croydon's education estate strategy is key to the council meeting its statutory duty for sufficiency of school places. The strategy is underpinned the delivery of policies and priorities in the council's corporate plan. Croydon's education estate is made up of a diversity of educational provisions that caters for the differing needs and preferences of residents. This includes maintenance and improvement of the condition of school buildings and educational facilities for which the council is the responsible body (maintained schools) so that they remains safe, secure and suitable for teaching and learning, leading to better outcomes.
- 2.2 Croydon continues to fulfil its statutory duty for sufficiency of school places for children and young people in the borough by working collaboratively with the diverse education providers – Voluntary Aided, Academies and Free Schools - across the borough. The majority of schools both in the primary and secondary educational phase are now academies or free schools. Academies and free schools have greater freedoms and flexibilities and are independent from local authority control.
- 2.3 The education estates strategy is reviewed twice per year to ensure that it is remains relevant. Flexibility is built in the strategy and the supply strategy can contract or expand to meet the changing demand for school places. A proposed school place supply strategy is at appendix 6.
- 2.4 The Governing Body of Smitham Primary have agreed to provide up to an additional 30 Year R places in response to the growing demand in the South West. The growth is mainly due to the Cane Hill housing development.

- 2.5 The Governing Board at St Andrew's CofE High School, with the support of the Diocese and Croydon Council agreed that consultation should take place on the proposed closure of the school from August 2020 as the school is no longer considered viable both in terms of its ability to deliver a full and balanced curriculum and financial sustainability. The school currently has a carried forward deficit which will revert to Croydon upon closure.
- 2.6 The Leader of the Council delegated authority to the Executive Director of Children, Families and Education, in consultation with the Cabinet Member Children, Young People and Learning to authorise the Council to commence consultation on the proposed closure of St Andrew's CofE High School and to consider the outcome of the consultation and make formal decision to close the school. Croydon Council led a six week pre-publication consultation between March and April 2019, and a four week formal consultation between June and July 2019.
- 2.7 Following consultation, the Executive Director of Children, Families and Education, in consultation with the Cabinet Member Children, Young People and Learning have decided that St Andrew's CofE High School should close in August 2020 following completion of Year 11 GCSE examination. This is because the school is no longer considered viable both in terms of its ability to deliver a full and balanced curriculum and financial sustainability.
- 2.8 A total number of 145 responses were received during the pre-publication consultation period which included a letter from Waddon ward councillors; and letter from a Croydon Christian group - St Mark's secondary school - regarding a proposal for St Mark's school on the St Andrew's site. A total of 42 responses were received during the representation period. In addition, we received a letter from Waddon ward councillor which stated their position "if St Andrew's School is to close – and we can see the justification for closing this school for a period of time from August 2020 – then both the school buildings and all of the school playing field should be retained for future educational uses". A letter was also received from St Mark's Secondary School Croydon Group with an attachment containing 241 names stating "I do not support the closure of St Andrew's CE School. I do support the proposal from St Mark's Secondary School Croydon to open in its place".
- 2.9 In January 2019 the East Surrey College took over the running of John Ruskin College and the previous leadership and governance structure was replaced. After much discussion, the college has decided not to enter into a lease agreement to construct a modular building adjacent to the Coteland site for the relocation of Springboard Tuition Service. We are reviewing the offer from Springboard and Cotelands to ensure statutory requirements can be met from the available premises.
- 2.10 Increased places for children with severe learning difficulties (SLD) and moderate learning difficulties (MLD) will be delivered from St Nicholas School and Red Gates School, including specialist nursery places in the latter case. Croydon College will provide new post 19 specialist places in temporary accommodation on the Coulsdon site from September 2019. The Council's Dedicated Schools Grant Recovery Plan necessitates strategic review and

feasibility with options for special school provision in Red Gates, St Giles and Priory Schools.

- 2.11 This report provides an update on the education estates strategy that was agreed by cabinet in January 2019. This includes proposals that were under consideration, approved projects that are being implemented, changes to approved projects and new projects for which we are seeking approval.
- 2.12 The purpose of the report is to update and to seek Cabinet's approval for the recommendations.

### **3. DETAIL**

#### **School Place Planning**

- 3.1 Under section 14 of the Education Act 1996, every local authority (LA) has a statutory duty to provide sufficient school places for all pupils in its area. This includes the planning and reviewing of school places, securing diversity and increasing opportunities for parental choice to ensure the needs of the community are met, as well as managing surplus places.
- 3.2 In order to ensure effective pupil place planning, Croydon is proposing a 3 year school place supply strategy which will be reviewed/updated on an annual basis. The supply strategy is informed by data from a wide variety of sources and is appended at appendix 6 for members' consideration and approval.
- 3.3 Croydon has the largest population of 0-18 year olds in London at 97,200 residents (mid 2014 population estimate), which makes up 25.8% of the total population of Croydon. The number of residents aged 0-18 years will increase by approximately 8,200 residents by 2021. The Spring 2016 School Census showed there were a total of 56,565 pupils attending state funded schools in Croydon. This is an increase of 889 pupils or just under 2% compared to Spring 2015. (*Croydon Observatory*)
- 3.4 Over the next 10 years, there are significant housing developments planned across the borough, in particular in the Central and South West planning areas which is likely to increase the number of children and young people needing a school place in the foreseeable future. The developments in the South West and Central planning areas are already under construction. Approximately 8840 units will be implemented in the Central planning area over 10 years and more than 2500 units being delivered in the South and South West in the next 10 years.
- 3.5 Demand for school places  
The significant growth in demand that Croydon experienced previously necessitated a massive programme of works to create new/additional places through the establishment of new schools and expansion of existing schools. These additional places were created in educational planning areas across the borough with the greatest demand.  
*Primary*
- 3.6 Croydon has six educational planning areas – North West, East, Central, South

East, South, South West - for the primary phase pupil of place planning; each with its own distinct demographic profile and migration patterns.

- 3.7 Croydon has been experiencing a slowing of additional demand for primary school places on a borough wide level. However this differs across the six educational planning areas with some areas e.g. Central, South and South West showing an increase in demand, whilst other areas, such as, the North West and East are still experiencing a higher level than necessary of surplus places which could affect the viability of existing schools.
- 3.8 The demand for places in Croydon's primary phase is not restricted to children that are due to start compulsory education, nor does the on-time admissions round adequately provide an accurate picture of the number of places that will be required during the following education year. 'In year' applications for Year Reception places, which are a major factor in Croydon, create an all year pressure to find additional places, and since families who make these applications characteristically have young families with primary aged children, there is a continued pressure across the whole primary estate.
- 3.9 The number of primary applications received for the 2019 intake has more or less remained the same but varies across planning areas in comparison with the number of primary applications received for the 2018 intake. The extent to which this recent trend will impact on the demand for primary school places in future depends on planned housing developments scale and any additional school places created.
- 3.10 Croydon's projected demand for state-funded primary places for 2018/19 to 2023/24 are as follows:
- On roll 2018/19 = 33,229
  - Growth to 2023/24 = 332 (11 forms of entry)
- 3.11 In preparation for 2019/20, Croydon has put in place:
- 30 additional temporary primary school places – Year R.
- 3.12 *Secondary*  
There are two secondary educational phase planning areas, North and South, which reflect home to school journeys as pupils tend to travel further to school independently due to good transport links.
- 3.13 Projections indicate an increase in demand for secondary school places as pupils transfer from primary to secondary. Currently, there are enough secondary school places to meet overall demand (current surplus is 5.6%) at borough wide level. However this varies at educational planning area level with a higher level than required of surplus places in the North and sufficiency in the South. There has been an increase by 3% in the number of secondary applications received for the 2019 intake.
- 3.14 For the secondary educational phase, when compared with other London Boroughs, the projections indicate that Croydon will have the largest increase over the full projection period (2016/17 to 2027/28) where an additional 4,200 places (140 forms of entry) will be needed by 2027/28.

- 3.15 For 2020/21 academic year, an additional 900 secondary school places (Year 7 – 11) will be provided through the free school route.
- 3.16 Croydon's projected demand for state-funded secondary places 2018/19 to 2025/26 are as follows:
- On roll 2018/19 = 17,868
  - Growth to 2025/26 = 2821 (94 forms of entry)
- 3.17 Pupil Projections for SCAP 2019  
Croydon commissions the Greater London Authority (GLA) School Roll Projection (SRP) service to forecast future demand for school places. The SRP is used for the council's supply strategy for school place planning as well as its annual School Capacity (SCAP) return to the Department for Education (DfE).
- 3.18 The projections are designed to give a strategic-level indication of where additional demand may arise in future. It is not intended that the projections be considered as definitive evidence that additional provision is required in a particular planning area. The Council also applies local knowledge to ensure that local factors are taken into account to enhance the robustness of the projected figures.
- 3.19 When comparing the GLA 2018 projections to the October 2018 school census, there was a slight over-projection (2.5%) of the number of children in Reception for 2018/19 and a slight over-projection (1.1%) of the number of children in Year 7 for 2018/19, borough-wide.
- 3.20 To allow for unexpected in-year growth in demand and parental choice, the Council aim to allow approximately 5% surplus places. The percentage of surplus places varies across the planning areas and the spare capacity within the system allows for choice for parents with children of school age moving into the borough, especially in areas with new housing developments which feasibly could create a demand for school places in excess of the forecasts.
- 3.21 Based on current forecasts and the available places within the education system, in relation to primary, there is a potential shortfall of places in the Central, South and South West of the borough due to planned housing developments. Agreement has been reached with Smitham Primary to provide an extra 30 YR places in September 2019 via an internal bulge class. Discussions about possible expansion are taking place with existing schools to ascertain the feasibility, viability and desirability for providing additional school places.
- 3.22 For the secondary phase, there is sufficient capacity within the school estate to accommodate pupil demand for school places at borough level but there has been an increase in demand in the South and we are monitoring this to see if this is sustained growth. The Council also takes into consideration that children moving to secondary school tend to travel further, including across planning area and outside the borough.
- 3.23 Available Places vs SCAP19 forecasts - (Appendix 1)  
Appendix 1 contains Croydon's recent School Capacity (SCAP) survey and

forecast of pupil numbers submitted to the DfE in July 2019. The forecast will be validated by the DfE in early 2020.

3.24 School Places Supply Strategy – (Appendix 6)

The demand for school places is unevenly spread across the planning areas, with pressure in some areas and spare capacity in others. If the demand for school places increases, the Council can expand existing schools on a temporary or permanent basis, or new schools can be established through the free school presumption. If demand decreases, the number of places at existing schools can be reduced through an in-year variation of the schools' admission number via the Office for Schools' Adjudicator, Education and Skills Funding Agency or through consultation on the admission arrangements.

3.25 We are seeking cabinet approval for the proposed school place supply strategy (Appendix 6) for the next 3 years. It includes additional places that will be provided through the centrally funded free school programme and review that is currently underway at education planning area level. The Council is carrying out research to identify existing schools with capacity to expand in areas where demand for school places is likely to increase. The Council continues to monitor and work with schools with falling school rolls to manage surplus places. Cabinet is asked to approve the draft school place supply strategy.

3.26 Work is being undertaken to develop a detailed Education Estates supply strategy which is expected to be complete in the Spring 2020. A key part of element of the strategy will be air-mark potential sites in the Local Plan for educational use. Discussions are at an early stage however the potential for the site to provide additional school places in the South/South West of the borough is a top priority.

Types of schools

3.27 Croydon has a diverse range of educational provision, as outlined below:

- A total of 88 primary schools, of which:
  - 29 are maintained / Community schools
  - 59 are non-maintained: 46 Academies, 2 Free Schools and 11 Voluntary Aided schools
  
- A total of 23 secondary non-maintained schools, of which:
  - 6 are Voluntary Aided schools
  - 15 are Academies
  - 2 Free schools

3.28 The Academies Act 2010 provides a statutory mechanism for maintained schools, to 'convert' to academy status. New academies were also established under the label of 'free schools'. Where a local authority considers that there is a need for a new school in its area, it must (other than in exceptional cases) seek proposals to establish an academy in the form of a 'free school'.

3.29 Since 2018 a total of 6 maintained schools have changed their status to academy, the last being Beckmead Family of Schools which changed its status in April 2019.



3.30 Proposed closure of St Andrew's CofE High School

In December 2018, the Chair of the Governing Board of St Andrew's requested that the council commence the statutory process for the proposed closure of St Andrew's School following a review of the financial viability of the school. Statutory consultation took place between March and April 2019 (Pre-publication) ) and June and July 2019 (publication of statutory notice and representations stage ).

3.31 The Leader of the Council's decision reference number: 0619LR delegated to the Executive Director of Children, Families & Education, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People & Learning to: authorise the Council to commence consultation regarding the proposed closure of St Andrew's Church of England High School; and to consider the outcome of the consultation and make the formal decision to close the school.

3.32 During the pre-publication consultation period the council sought views and engage with those that will be directly affected by the proposed closure of St Andrew's CofE High School. Those with an interest also had the opportunity to suggest options for consideration on the proposed closure of the school. The representation period provided an opportunity for people to comment on or object to the proposal within four weeks of the publication date.

3.33 Following pre-publication and representation (formal consultation), the Executive Director of Children, Families & Education, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People & Learning have decided that St Andrew's CofE High School should close from August 2020 as the school is no longer considered viable both in terms of its ability to deliver a full and balanced curriculum and financial sustainability.

3.34 *Potential impact of the closure of St Andrew's*

a. Current Pupils

There will be no displaced pupils as there will only be Year 11 pupils who will have completed their GCSE examinations in July 2020 and the proposed closing date of the school is August 2020.

The interim provision for newly arrived Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (run by the Virtual School) is currently located at St Andrew's. Should the school close, a new location will be found for this provision.

b. Community

One of the key concerns raised during the consultation is the worry that the land will be sold for housing. The usage of the land is to be determined by the Southwark Diocesan Board of Education who are currently exploring options to continue using the site/building for educational purposes to retain proportionality of Church school places.

c. School Places

School roll projections indicate sufficiency of secondary school places across the borough for the next 3 years, however this will be reviewed / monitored if the proposed closure of St Andrew's is approved.

d. Balance of denominational provision

It is recognised that the proposed closure will reduce the number of Church of

England secondary school places available in the borough if an alternative plan has not been agreed by the Diocese.

*Pre-publication consultation*

- 3.35 A total number of 145 responses were received during the pre-publication consultation period; of which 48 were from a Croydon Christian group - St Mark's secondary school - regarding a proposal for St Mark's school on the St Andrew's site. We also received responses from Waddon ward councillors - Cllr Robert Canning; Cllr Joy Prince; and Cllr Andrew Pelling who expressed the view that both the school buildings and all of the school playing field should be retained for future educational use and their view is that a safeguard to this effect must be included as an integral part of any decision to close the school from next year.

*Representation / formal consultation*

- 3.36 During the representation period, a total number of 42 responses were received. This includes a letter from Waddon ward councillors - Cllr Robert Canning, Cllr Joy Prince; and Cllr Andrew Pelling who stated that that "if St Andrew's School is to close – and we can see the justification for closing this school for a period of time from August 2020 – then both the school buildings and all of the school playing field should be retained for future educational use. Our view is that a safeguard to this effect must be included as an integral part of any decision to close the school from next year. We also take the view that there is a need to plan for a balance of denominational provision of school places within the borough. The closure of St Andrew's CofE School would compromise this balance.
- 3.37 The majority of respondents are local residents.
- 3.38 The majority of respondents do not support the proposed closure of St Andrew's, but would support a new school on the site.
- 3.39 The top thematic issues raised by respondents are:
- closure of St Andrew's would result in less denominational places in Croydon
  - large amounts of planned housing in the area and therefore the school places will be needed in the future
  - local children will have to travel further to school.
  - the land no longer used for educational purposes / will be used for housing.
  - school should be improved rather than closed
  - school and playing field should be retained for future educational use.
- 3.40 The council's/Diocese response are outlined in the consultation outcomes report at appendices 2 and 3. The report contains a detailed analysis of the responses received.
- 3.41 St Andrew's CofE High School had a carried forward deficit of £1.324m as at March 2019, with a projected year end deficit of £1.975m (operating with a 2019/20 in-year deficit of £0.651m) by March 2020, leaving a total estimated deficit of £2.246m by August 2020. Under current legislation, where a

maintained school closes any balance held by the school (whether surplus or deficit) reverts to the Authority and cannot be transferred as a balance to any maintained school, even where the school is a successor to the closing school.

- 3.42 Cabinet is the decision maker on the proposed closure of St Andrew's school. The Statutory Guidance on opening and closing maintained schools makes clear that the decision-maker must consider the views of those affected by a proposal or who have an interest in it, including cross-local authority border interests. The decision-maker should not simply take account of the number of people expressing a particular view. Instead, they should give the greatest weight to responses from those stakeholders likely to be most directly affected by a proposal – especially parents (or those with parental responsibility) of children at the affected school.
- 3.43 In making a decision, Cabinet should be satisfied that there are sufficient surplus places elsewhere in the local area to accommodate displaced pupils, and the likely supply and future demand for places in the medium and long term. The Cabinet should take into account the overall quality of alternative places in the local area and the popularity of other local schools. Where, as in the current circumstances, there is a proposal to close a school that has been designated with a religious character, decision-makers should consider the effect that this will have on the balance of denominational provision in the area, as well as the number of pupils currently on roll, the medium and long term need for places in the area, and whether standards at the school have been persistently low.
- 3.44 The Diocesan Board of Education acknowledges that the proposed closure of St Andrew's school threatens the number and proportionality of church school places. For this reason, the Diocese is exploring options to retain the use of St Andrew's site for educational purposes to safeguard the number of proportionality of Church of England school places in Croydon.
- 3.45 From September 2018, the council provided pupils in Years 7-9 with an alternative school place with only Years 10 and 11 remaining at St Andrew's. The proposal is to close St Andrew's school in August 2020 following completion of Year 11 GCSE examinations.
- 3.46 When issuing a decision, the decision-maker can:
- reject the proposal;
  - approve the proposal without modification;
  - approve the proposal with such modifications as they think desirable, after consulting the proposer (as appropriate); or
  - approve the proposal – with or without modification – subject to certain conditions which are specified by statute.
- 3.47 Alternative Provision / Pupil Referral Unit  
The Council has a duty to make arrangements for the provision of suitable education at school or otherwise for each child of school age who for reasons of illness, exclusion or otherwise would not receive it unless such arrangements were made.
- 3.48 Alternative provision for primary age pupils is provided by The Beckmead Trust,

which is Croydon's specialist provision for pupils with Social Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) needs.

- 3.49 Croydon has a single maintained pupil referral unit - Saffron Valley Collegiate (SVC). The PRU provides places for secondary age pupils who have been permanently excluded from mainstream; have been offered places because they are considered being at risk of permanent exclusion; or who have been assessed as being emotionally based school refusers (EBSR); and for pupils of statutory school age who are unable to attend school because of medical needs.
- 3.50 In July 2018, via delegated authority, cabinet agreed to the relocation of Springboard Tuition Service – Pupil Referral Unit – PRU – including the commissioning of necessary works, subject to agreement from the site owner. In January 2019 the East Surrey College took over the running of John Ruskin College and the previous leadership and governance structure was replaced. Although there was an in principle agreement with the previous leadership at the college, after much discussions with the new leadership East Surrey College declined to enter into a lease for the land in April 2019. This decision means we are no longer able to construct a modular building on the Cotelands site.
- 3.51 We are looking at alternative sites where a new modular building may be erected to ensure that the breadth of offer to young people is still available.

### **Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND)**

- 3.52 The Council as an education authority has specific duties in relation to provision of education for children with special educational needs (SEN). The main duties include: to identify whether a child for whom they are responsible has SEN; and to assess a child who in their opinion has SEN. If the assessment shows that it is necessary to make an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP): determining the child's needs and the educational provision required and to ensure the specific provision set out in the Plan is provided. In addition, in carrying out its duties under Part 3 of the Children and Families Act 2014, local authorities must have regard to the importance of providing children and their parents and young people with the information and support necessary to participate in decisions.
- 3.53 Croydon's vision for young people with special educational needs and disabilities is that these young people are included within the community of Croydon and are given the same opportunities as others to access education to live fulfilled lives, gaining employment and living as independently as possible.
- 3.54 Croydon Council Cabinet approved the Council's 0-25 SEND Strategy in March 2019 and in July 2019 the Council submitted a five-year Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) Recovery Plan to deliver a budget addressing the 2018/19 overall DSG deficit of £9.193m, which includes the High Needs Block in year out-turn of £5.612m.. The DSG Recovery Plan was informed by a review of special school and Enhanced Learning Provision (ELP) funding which included review of the Council's strategic approach to special school place planning. The SEND place planning and Education Estates Strategy update takes account of

these developments. Since the introduction of the *Children and Families Act 2014* and the subsequent revision of the statutory *Special Educational Needs Code of Practice* (January 2015) extending responsibility to meet the needs from age 0-25, nationally, Local Authorities (LAs) have struggled to meet the growth in numbers with no additional funding from central government to support this.

### 3.55 St Nicholas Special Primary School

Construction is underway to expand St Nicholas school by 2FE. The new purpose built building will encompass this expansion and the existing 2FE provision to create a new 4FE school. The new building is on track to be completed in April 2020 and the demolition of the existing buildings on site and all external works are due to be completed by September 2020. In the interim and prior to completion, to accommodate demand for places at St Nicholas, temporary accommodation has been leased on the Canterbury Mills site for a further year. From September 2019 further children join new reception classes for the final year of St Nicholas School provision run from this site

### Croydon new Special Free School

3.56 To meet increased demand for special school places for children with autism and learning difficulties (aged 2 -19) the Council successfully bid for capital funding from the Department for Education via the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) to develop a new free special school. In 2018 Orchard Hill College Academy Trust (OHCAT) were appointed the education provider. Consultation was undertaken by OHCAT during May/June 2019.

3.57 An in depth, survey carried out indicated a need to change the original position of the building due to presence of soak-aways. Plans have been revised and planning permission approved.

### SEN Post 16 Centre of Excellence

3.58 To provide a specialist further education pathway for young people with SEND and to improve outcomes for these young people, Croydon Council and Croydon Further Education College are working in partnership to take forward development of a post 16 SEN Centre of Excellence providing education pathways for young people with severe and profound and multiple learning difficulties. This will include a comprehensive specialist offer that provides Entry Level and accredited pathways to employment, volunteering, supported engagement and independence for Croydon young people in their community.

3.59 From 2019 Croydon Council and Croydon College are planning education provision for young people with complex SEN who are post 19 in temporary accommodation on the Coulsdon College campus of Croydon College.

### Enhanced Learning Provision

3.60 Croydon Council has maintained current Enhanced Learning Provision (ELP) places. We are in the process of implementing agreements with providers to establish an effective programme for monitoring quality of education and outcomes for children. A bench-marking review of the Top Up funding for ELPs and special schools has been undertaken, with recommendations for review of

the effectiveness and coherence of ELPs and special school provision to follow. The current focus of the Council is working with providers to provide an enhanced learning specialist offer which is underpinned by practitioners who are suitably qualified and has flexibility to provide for the fluctuating number of children for whom this is a suitable education pathway.

- 3.61 Croydon's Dedicated Schools Grant was overspent at the end of the financial year 2018/19 by £9.2m, which includes the High Needs Block in year out-turn of £5.6m attributable to increase in numbers of children with an EHCP and an over-reliance on independent school sector placements. The latter being principally due to insufficient local specialist education places. A key focus of the approach to application of the special provision fund will be invest to save.
- 3.62 The five year High Needs Block strategy approved by cabinet in June 2019 identifies two key strands of development relevant to school place planning. Firstly the expansion of specialist education in local state-funded special schools and FE colleges to reduce reliance on the independent sector and increase local placement and secondly to increase placement in mainstream schools, with the right provision in place without the need for an EHC Plan whenever possible. The aim is to ensure that investment is focused on development of a coherent pathway that leads to increased numbers of young people with SEN engaged in employment and/or living independently with support in or near their local community. This strategy has been informed by the PPL Demand and Capacity Review (2017).
- 3.63 By way of further development and to inform financial and place planning the Council has reviewed the revenue funding of local state-funded specialist education placements and proposes increase on an interim two-year basis for Red Gates and Priory Schools to support the efficient management of these schools in the context of increased numbers and issues on both sites regarding the suitability of accommodation for the cohort of children attending the school. Revenue costs will be further reviewed in two years when the effect of the opening of the new free special school will be taken into consideration.

#### Special Provision Fund Allocation– strategic development of special school provision

- 3.64 Croydon's allocated special education provision fund is an original allocation of £0.969m annually for a three year period, with an additional funding of £0.676m and £1.352m announced in May and December 2018, respectively; with a total of £4,934m being allocated by 2020/21. The allocation is based on projected population growth. The changing pattern of need and increased number of children at Red Gates School and the building condition at St Giles School have led to a need to review the suitability of the buildings for provision of more personalised teaching and learning and facilities which are fit for purpose. This has been undertaken, when considered alongside the strategic direction of travel, need to provide coherent pathways which minimise uncertainty about children's local special education pathway in education and the pressing need to address the unsuitability and condition of the St Giles and Priory School buildings. A broader feasibility addressing strategically coherent and cost effective options which include development of the individual schools or a possible option of one all-through special school to meet the needs of children with severe learning disability (SLD) / profound and multiple learning disability

(PMLD) needs in a purpose-built fit for purpose building will be taken forward and presented during 2019/20 and 2020/21.

DRAFT

### 3.65 Table 1 – Proposed 3 year SEND school places supply strategy

1FE (form of entry) for Special schools usually equates to one class of 8 pupils

Academic Year 2019/20	Academic Year 2020/21
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• St Nicholas School planned place number .... (age 4-11) delivered across 2 sites (Canterbury Rd – temporary and St Nicholas School mainsite).</li> <li>• Willow Trees Specialist Nursery under management of Red Gates Primary School and delivered within curtilage of Red Gates. Red Gates School 1FE bulge reception class September 2019 – demountable installed for one year. Planned place numbers at Red Gates School (inc nursery places).</li> <li>• Post 19 SEN specialist pathway to adulthood programme (24 planned places) delivered in partnership with Croydon College on Coulsdon College site – temporary building.</li> <li>• Replacement of perimeter fencing at Priory School to address safe-guarding of young people. Planned place number at Priory School. In depth, strategic feasibility study to set out options for providing coherent, local pathways for children with more complex SEND, in buildings which are fit for purpose and support children’s learning and safe-guarding needs. (Red Gates, St Giles, Priory Schools)</li> <li>• ELP contracts issued and signed; provision monitored against needs of the young people for whom Council provides specialist provision. Recommendations to Education Estates Strategy Board to inform January Cabinet. Croydon’s allocated special education provision fund is an original allocation of £0.969m annually for a three year period, with an additional funding of £0.676m and £1.352m announced in May and December 2018, respectively; with a total of £4,934m being allocated by 2020/21</li> </ul>	<p>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• St Nicholas School new build opening April 2020. Planned place numbers Sept 2020 200 establishing full capacity of 230 by 2023 .</li> <li>• Planned opening of Addington Valley Academy new free special school postponed to September 2021.</li> <li>• Implementation of outcome of in-depth special school feasibility with approved forward plan for delivery of places in suitable buildings (Red Gates, St Giles and Priory special schools).</li> <li>• Post 19 pathway of specialist SEN provision with Croydon FE College delivered from Coulsdon College.</li> <li>• Plan for 16-25 specialist SEN pathway specification approved with schedule of works (Croydon College).</li> <li>• Recommendations for future ELP development.</li> <li>• Review Alternative Provision</li> </ul>

## 4. School Admissions

### Admission Authority

- 4.1 The Council is the Admission Authority for Community schools and is therefore responsible for determining the Admission Arrangements for these schools. Admission Arrangements were determined by full council in January and are part of Croydon’s policy framework approved by full Council.



#### 4.2 Primary

For the 2019/20 academic year (September 2019), a total of 4,690 applicants have been received for Year Reception places, of which 83% have been offered a place at their first choice preference school and 96% receive an offer at one of their top 3 preferred schools.

#### 4.3 Secondary

For the 2019/20 academic year, 4728 on-time applications for Croydon residents were received, of which 63% were offered a space at their first preference school and 85% received an offer at one of their top 3 preferred schools.

### 5 **Capital Programme**

The updated capital programme is attached at Appendix 4 and lists the projects and funding for the additional school places. The overall Capital programme delivery budget total is accurate, we are reconciling the profile spend with the capital delivery team.

#### 5.1 **Schools' Maintenance and Compliance**

The Council has a duty to ensure that its school buildings meet the minimum standard and premises are maintained so that: they are safe, warm and weather tight and provide a suitable learning environment.

#### 5.2 Schools' Maintenance Plan

The current Schools' Maintenance Plan (Appendix 5)-agreed by Cabinet in January 2019 has been updated to reflect new works, including planned maintenance to be undertaken over the next year 2020/21.

5.3 The Council is responsible for the larger condition and maintenance works in maintained schools. Funding for repairs and maintenance is delegated to schools. The sums below which it is the responsibility of schools for maintenance works are as follows:

- I. Nursery and PRUs £5k,
- II. Primary and special schools £10k,
- III. Secondary £25k

#### 5.4 Update on Planned Maintenance Works Programme 2019/20

Below is an update on the planned maintenance works as set out in the January 2019 cabinet paper.

#### 5.5 Mechanical Works

The replacement of pipework and radiators to the following schools is currently underway and will complete by September 2019 -

1. Norbury Manor
2. Orchard Way
3. Winterbourne Nursery and Infants
4. Winterbourne Junior Girls

5.5.1 Bensham Manor – replacement of pipework and radiators will be phased throughout the year and complete 30 August 2020.

5.5.2 Crosfield Nursery and The Hayes Primary School – Initial survey carried

out. Instruction to proceed with drawings and design issued.

5.5.3 Elmwood Primary School – completed.

## 5.6 Electrical Works

Bensham Manor – Works commenced in August 2019. The works have been programmed and co-ordinated with the Heating and Mechanical Maintenance Programme.

5.6.1 Purley Oaks Primary – Electrical works have been completed in August 2019.

5.6.2 Greenvale Primary – Electrical works commenced in July 2019 and due to complete by September 2019.

5.6.3 Ridgeway Primary were due to be undertaken as part of the 2020/21 maintenance programme, however, this was brought forward as urgent works were required and these are due to complete September 2019.

5.6.4 Electrical Surveys have been completed at the below schools and a design and specification has been produced for each school. The electrical works at the below schools will be programmed to be completed during 2019/20 school holidays

- Norbury Manor Primary
- Orchard Way Primary
- The Hayes Primary
- Winterbourne Infant & Nursery
- Woodcote Primary

## 5.7 General Build Works

Elmwood Infants Kitchen - Works started on site in August 2019 with a 20 week programme. Current completion date is programmed to be December 2019.

5.7.1 Kenley Remodeling Works – The budget for the works has increased due to the extent of works that are required. Commencement on site in August 2019.

5.7.2 Gresham Primary – The works to the existing bell tower and roof have been completed. Works are planned to the existing external drainage on site.

5.7.3 Tunstall Nursery – Works have been specified and are proposed to be completed in 2020/21.

5.7.4 Downsview Primary - Works have been specified and are proposed to be completed in 2020/21.

## 5.8 Asbestos Management

It is extremely important that any asbestos present in Croydon schools is managed properly. Failure to follow the Control of Asbestos Regulations 2012

and any corrective measures may put the future health of staff, pupils and visitors at risk.

- 5.9 Where asbestos is present, the council take the following steps to manage the asbestos in our schools ensuring they have the following:
- Management survey of asbestos-containing materials (ACMs)
  - Assess the risks associated with ACMs.
  - A plan for managing asbestos.
  - Make sure staff and visitors know the risks and precautions they need to take.
  - Keep the management of asbestos under continuous review.
- 5.10 All community schools between 2017 and 2018 have had full management surveys undertaken. The asbestos re-inspection programme commenced in 2018. Asbestos Management Plans (AMP) have been developed for each community school. The plan is to roll out the Asbestos Management Plan to each school when the new re-inspection programme commences in the new year. The Asbestos Management Plans will include all the asbestos and Refurbishment and Demolition (R+D) surveys. Where identified, the asbestos register will be updated to show any asbestos removals and where ACM's are present.
- 5.11 Reactive works  
The programmes set out in this report are based on estimated costs and not tendered prices. It is recommended that the Executive Director, Children, Families and Education, be given the delegated authority to vary the programme to reflect actual prices and new urgent issues that may arise, including authorising spend against the allowance for emergency and reactive works. Any such delegated decisions may only be taken provided they are within the budget and policy framework of the Council and any use of such delegated authority will be reported back to members.
- 5.12 Fire Safety in Schools - update from January 2019 Cabinet Paper  
The review of all of the fire safety audits was concluded in October 2018 and identified both management requirements and measures to be undertaken by the school and physical works that need to be undertaken to the building fabric as part of the overall capital programme allowance. The programme of physical works has been broken down in to eight tranches with between 5-7 schools in each tranche. Tranche one and two has been completed. Three further tranches have commenced on site in September 2019 with the remaining tranches to be completed by Summer 2020.
- 5.13 Due to the complexity and nature of the programme, the majority of works has to be undertaken out of school hours and in school holidays. This has resulted in the fire safety programme slipping slightly from its original intended dates and this is reflected in a requirement to slip £1.0m of the original allocated capital funding from 2019/20 to 2020/21.

## 6. **CONSULTATION**

- 6.1 The Education Estates Strategy and Delivery Group meet on a 3-monthly basis

to discuss the education estate. Please see consultation outcome report in relation to the proposed closure of St Andrew's CofE High School – appendices 2 and 3.

## 7 FINANCIAL AND RISK ASSESSMENT CONSIDERATIONS

### 7.1 Revenue and Capital consequences of report recommendations

	Forecast spend 2019/20	Medium Term Financial Strategy – 2 year forecast	
		2020/21	2021/22
	£'000	£'000	£'000
<b>Capital Expenditure</b>			
<b>Primary School Places</b>			
-Permanent Expansion	1,646	1,091	959
-Bulges	600	691	525
SEN Places	21,026	17,781	3,098
Fire Safety	1,588	1,000	
Major Maintenance	3,047	2,000	2,000
Other Education Schemes	7,534	2,044	229
<b>Effect of decision from report (Total)</b>	<b>35,441</b>	<b>24,606</b>	<b>6,810</b>
<b>Funding sources</b>			
Sources of Funding			
School Condition Funding	2,000		
Basic Needs	6,833		
Special education provision fund	969	969	
Additional allocation S106		2,028	
ESFA – Addington Valley Academy	10,000	3,500	
Borrowing	15,639	18,109	6,810
<b>Total</b>	<b>35,441</b>	<b>24,606</b>	<b>6,810</b>

- 7.1.1 The table above details the Education Capital Programme for the current and future two financial years and the associated funding sources. A detailed breakdown of the projects can be found in Appendix 4 to this report. With a further detailed breakdown of the Schools' Maintenance Programme in Appendix 5.
- 7.1.2 The table above includes all slippage and underspend from 2018/19 that has been re-allocated across the programme over the next three years.
- 7.1.3 The ESFA have commissioned Croydon to lead on the delivery of the new special free school - Addington Valley Academy (on Timebridge site). This project is proposed to be fully funded by the ESFA at a cost of £13.509m. Both the expenditure and funding for this project is detailed in the table above and the project is listed in Appendix 4.
- 7.1.4 Croydon's original allocation for special education provision fund of £0.969m annually for a three year period from 2018/19 has been supplemented with an additional allocation of £0.676m and £1.352m announced in May and December 2018, respectively; with a total of £2.028m being allocated by 2020/21. The funding is to support the creation of more specialist places in mainstream schools, colleges and special schools and improve facilities.

### **The effect of the decision**

- 7.2 The use of the free schools route to provide new school places within the borough in the future will result in a reduction in the requirements for future capital funding from the council as this will be funded by central government.
- 7.3 In approving the proposed closure of St Andrew's CofE High School in August 2020, the final deficit (currently projected as £2.246m as at August 2020) will revert to the local authority and will need to be taken into account in the Council's Medium Term Financial planning. All efforts will be made to reduce the deficit and keep the impact to the Council's revenue budget at a minimum.

### **Risks**

- 7.4 Due to the nature of this programme there is a risk the projects may overspend and regular monitoring of all projects and the programme will be undertaken and reported to this Cabinet as part of the quarterly financial monitoring reports.
- 7.5 If the costs of Addington Valley Academy are greater than the funding allocated by the ESFA the additional costs will need to be funded by the Council. We will be working very closely with the ESFA and contractor to ensure costs are maintained within budget.

### **Future savings/efficiencies**

- 7.7 If additional free school providers are interested in opening schools in Croydon, the cost to the Council could be reduced further in the future years. Also the Council's borrowing requirement may also be reduced if any further funding is allocated by the Department for Education. The fall in birth rate and associated

demand for school places would however result in reduced demand and this would be monitored closely to make future savings.

- 7.8 The provision of more school places within the borough will result in a reduction in the need for young people to travel outside of the borough, which will result in financial savings to the SEND transport budget.

*(To be approved by: Kate Bingham, Head of Finance (Children, Families and Education) / Lisa Taylor, Director of Finance, Investment and Risk (section 151 Officer)*

## **8. LEGAL COMMENTS**

- 8.1 The Head of Litigation and Corporate Law comments on behalf of the Director of Law and Governance that in addition to the statutory duties detailed within the body of the report, where executive functions are delegated to officers, Access to information procedure rules as set out in Part 4B of the Constitution, which include provisions in relation to key decisions, and Decision Making Procedure Rules in Part 4G need to be complied with by the officers concerned.
- 8.2 In relation to the recommendations within this report, the decision-maker must have regard to the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED), which requires them to have 'due regard' to:
- The need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equalities Act 2010 (*section 149(1)(a)*).
  - The need to advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it (*section 149(1)(b)*). This involves having due regard to the needs to:
    - remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;
    - take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it (*section 149(4)*); and encourage persons who share a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.
- 8.3 In considering a school closure such as proposed by recommendation 1.3, the Council is required to comply with the provisions of Part 2 and Schedule 2 of the Education and Inspections Act (EIA) 2006 as amended by the Education Act (EA) 2011 and The School Organisation (Establishment and Discontinuance of Schools) Regulations 2013 and have regard to the statutory guidance issued by the Department of Education entitled "Opening and closing Maintained schools", November 2018. The legislation and guidance details the statutory process which must be followed in relation to the closing of a maintained school and includes a pre-publication consultation which is recommended to last a minimum of 6 weeks, followed by the publication of the statutory notice and proposals in respect of the school and thereafter a 4 week

period during which objections or comments may be sent to the local authority. A decision on the proposals must be made within 2 months of the end of the representation period, otherwise the proposal must be referred to the Schools Adjudicator for decision.

- 8.4 The decision-maker must consider the impact of the proposals on the relevant protected characteristics and any issues that may arise from the proposals. Similarly, there should be a commitment to provide access to a range of opportunities which reflect the ethnic and cultural mix of the area, whilst ensuring that such opportunities are open to all.
- 8.5 Decision-makers should satisfy themselves that accessibility planning has been properly taken into account and that the proposal will not adversely impact on disadvantaged groups. They should bear in mind that a proposal should not unreasonably extend journey times or increase transport costs, or result in too many children being prevented from travelling sustainably due to unsuitable walking or cycling routes.
- 8.6 A proposal should also be considered on the basis of how it will support and contribute to the local authority's duty to promote the use of sustainable travel and transport to school.
- 8.7 Finally, where the closure of a school is contemplated, the decision-maker should be satisfied that there are sufficient surplus places elsewhere in the local area to accommodate displaced pupils, and the likely supply and future demand for places in the medium and long term. The decision-maker should take into account the overall quality of alternative places in the local area and the popularity of other local schools. Where, as in the current circumstances, there is a proposal to close a school that has been designated with a religious character, decision-makers should consider the effect that this will have on the balance of denominational provision in the area, as well as the number of pupils currently on roll, the medium and long term need for places in the area, and whether standards at the school have been persistently low.

Approved by: Sandra Herbert, Head of Litigation and Corporate Law, on behalf of the Director of Law and Governance and Deputy Monitoring Officer.

## **9. HUMAN RESOURCES IMPACT**

- 9.1 Communication and consultation with both teaching and support staff has commenced and will continue alongside representatives of the relevant professional associations and trade unions. This is supported by the school's HR provider.

Consultation and process will abide in accordance to the Employment Rights Act 1996 and the Schools policies and procedures relating to Restructuring, Reorganisation and Redundancy Procedures.

Approved by; (Approved by: Nadine Maloney, Head of HR Children, Families and Education, on behalf of the Director of Human Resources)

## 10. EQUALITIES IMPACT

- 10.1 An equality analysis has been undertaken as part of the January 2019 report and relevant for this update report. The analysis will help us to understand whether people with protected characteristics, as defined by the Equality Act 2010, will be disproportionately affected by the proposed changes and recommendations in the Education Estates Strategy report. A separate equality analysis has been undertaken in relation to the proposed closure of St Andrew's CofE High school and attached as appendix 8.
- 10.2 The proposed changes in this report will help the Council meet its statutory duty to provide sufficient school places for protected and non-protected groups. Croydon schools provide diverse educational provision in terms of type/category, size and educational sponsors. These include special schools, enhanced learning provisions at mainstream schools; and Academies /Free Schools. Pupils are allocated a school place based on the admissions criteria which aims to promote fair access to schools and are compliant with the School Admissions Code.
- 10.3 The proposed strategy is in line with the Council's Equality and Inclusion Policy and will enable the delivery of the following priorities:
- Make Croydon a place of opportunity and fairness by tackling inequality, disadvantage and exclusion.
  - Close gaps in educational attainment by working with local businesses and community groups to enable people of all ages to reach their full potential through access to quality schools and learning.
  - Work in partnership to lift people out of poverty by increasing employment opportunities across the borough ensuring local people have a pathway into employment, education and training.
- 10.4 The proposed strategy is consistent with the Council's general equality duty to have due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful conduct under the Equality Act 2010; to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between persons who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- 10.5 The equality analysis has found that the Education Estates strategy, including proposed changes and recommendations do not negatively impact on any protected group and that no major change is required as the strategy meets the general and specific equality duties. However, it is noted that the proposed closure of St Andrew's CofE High school will reduce the number of Church of England places, if an alternative is not found.
- 10.6 In relation to the proposed closure of St Andrew's CofE High School, the equality analysis identified the main risks as less denominational places in Croydon; insufficient school places due to housing developments; and usage of school and playing field for future non-educational use. The Diocesan Board is exploring options to retain the use of St Andrew's site for educational purposes to safeguard the number of proportionality of Church of England school places in Croydon. Pupil forecasts indicate that currently there are sufficient secondary school places at borough level for the next seven years.

*Approved by Yvonne Okiyo, Equalities Manager*



## **11. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

- 11.1 The recommendations in this report are in line with the council's strategic objectives as outlined in Croydon Local Plan, in particular:

Reduce social, economic and environmental deprivation, particularly where it is spatially concentrated, by taking priority measures to reduce unemployment, improve skills and education and renew housing, community and environmental conditions.

This will ensure that new developments do not have a detrimental effect on people and the environment, the pollution team provides advice on the environmental impact of planning applications. During this assessment issues such as noise, air pollution, odour and contaminated land are taken into account.

## **12. CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION IMPACT**

- 12.1 The Safer Croydon Partnership works to cut crime, help neighbourhoods fight disorder and reduce reoffending. The partnership includes the council, police, fire services, probation and health agencies, as well as businesses, community and voluntary sector organisations.

## **13. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS/PROPOSED DECISION**

- 13.1 The recommendations of this report are set out to ensure that the Council is compliant with its statutory duties as an education authority:
- School Place Planning (s13-14 Education Act 1996) to promote high standards of education and fair access to education; secure sufficient primary and secondary education, including SEN to meet the needs of the population of its area
  - School Admissions (School Admission Code 2014) to determine the Admission Arrangements for its community schools annually
  - School Maintenance - school buildings meet the minimum standard and premises are maintained so that they provide a suitable learning environment.

## **14. OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED**

- 14.1 Barring the temporary expansion of Smitham, there are no confirmed plans to deliver any new/additional mainstream school places. A review of demand is currently underway following the pupil forecasts undertaken in July .Future demand for new schools will be delivered through the free school route.
- 14.2 A number of schools, including academies in the north of the borough have reduced and/or proposed to reduce their admission number due to the disparity between the Published Admission Number and actual number on roll at the schools. The reduction will enable the schools to operate more efficiently and cost effectively. However, projections indicate a growing demand for school

places in the central, south and south west planning areas. This is being closely monitored and discussions are taking place with existing schools to determine the viability / flexibility of expansion.

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**BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:** None

**APPENDICES TO THIS REPORT:**

- Appendix 1 – Available Places vs SCAP19 forecasts
- Appendix 2 – Pre-publication consultation outcomes report – proposed closure of St Andrew’s CofE High School
- Appendix 3 – Representation consultation outcomes report – proposed closure of St Andrew’s CofE High school
- Appendix 4 – Education Capital Programme spend
- Appendix 5 – School Maintenance Plan
- Appendix 6 - School Places Supply Strategy
- Appendix 7 – Public notice – proposed closure of St Andrew’s CofE High School
- Appendix 8 – Equality Analysis – proposed closure of St Andrew’s CofE High School