



**Children and Young People Scrutiny Review
Board
Monday 21 October 2019**

ITEM 05

Report sponsor: Andy Smith, Strategic Director
of People Services
Report author: Gurmail Nizzer, Director of
Commissioning

Strategic School Place Planning

Purpose

- 1.1 Local authorities have a legal duty to ensure that sufficient school places exist for all children and young people residing within their boundary. The Council very carefully monitors pupil numbers and trends and develops school place planning proposals in response to population changes, as well as housing growth linked to Core Housing Strategies.
- 1.2 City-wide primary pupil numbers increased significantly between 2012/13 and 2016/17 and 18 primary school expansions were carried out to accommodate the growth. Following the high level of growth in the primary sector, projections are now showing a significant increase in secondary pupil numbers.
- 1.3 In addition, there are significant housing developments proposed in and around the City and the Council is working closely with Amber Valley Borough Council, Derbyshire County Council and South Derbyshire District Council to plan for increases in pupil numbers as a result of housing growth.
- 1.4 The purpose of this report is to update the Children and Young People Scrutiny Review Board on school place planning including pupil numbers, housing developments, school expansion projects, the newly opened Hackwood Primary Academy and the proposed new primary school to serve the Castleward and former DRI sites.

Recommendation

- 2.1 To note the strategic school place planning proposals relating to:
 - a. population changes and;
 - b. the proposed long-term housing growth arising from the Housing Core Strategies.

Reason

- 3.1 Local authorities have a legal duty to ensure that sufficient school places exist for all children and young people residing within their boundary. The Council very carefully monitors pupil numbers and trends and develops strategic school place planning

proposals in response to population changes, as well as housing growth linked to the Core Strategies.

Supporting information

Core Housing Strategies: School Place Planning

- 4.1 Derby City Council has been working closely with partners in Amber Valley Borough and South Derbyshire District Councils to prepare separate but aligned Core Strategies. The proposals across the three Authorities include around 33,000 houses across the Housing Market Area, with around 18,000 of these properties being located within Derby or on the edge of the City, known as the Derby Urban Area (DUA). A map showing the strategic housing sites in the DUA is attached as Appendix 1.
- 4.2 Derby City Council and Derbyshire County Council are responsible for providing education for those pupils residing within their own administrative boundaries. The two local authorities are working very closely together on school place planning, in close consultation with schools, to shape and develop a school place planning strategy. This is, of course, complex as the proposed new housing developments cross both the City / County boundaries. Pupil projections have been taken into account in developing the emerging school place planning proposals and will continue to be monitored and reviewed.

Core Housing Strategies: Primary School Provision

- 4.3 The City and the County use different thresholds for the requirement of a new primary school on a site, which is in line with different pupil yield calculations. Sites of over 750 new dwellings in the City are likely to require a new one form entry primary school whereas sites of over 1,000 dwellings in the County would be likely to trigger the same requirement.
- 4.4 The policy position for Derby City Council is that, for any development with more than 750 houses, the developer will need to provide both land and funding for an on-site primary school. Below this level, it is normally appropriate to consider expanding existing schools. However, if existing primary schools are unable to expand, new schools may still be required.
- 4.5 Across the whole of the DUA, proposals include the provision of 8 or 9 new primary schools within the City and County in the medium to long term.

Core Housing Strategies: New Primary School - Hackwood Primary Academy

- 4.6 From September 2019, a new one form of entry (210 places) primary school, with nursery provision, opened in Mickleover to serve the Hackwood Farm development. The housing development, which is currently underway, is comprised of 700 houses and sits on the Derby City/Derbyshire County Council border, with 410 homes in Derby City and 290 homes in South Derbyshire.

- 4.7 The new school is located in Derby City and serves the whole development. Based on Derby City Council's standard pupil yield multiplier, it is anticipated that 196 primary school aged pupils will be generated by a development of this size. The school's catchment area aligns directly with the new housing.
- 4.8 The building of the new school was funded by the Hackwood Farm developer through Section 106 funding. The school opened to tight timescales and, in accordance with legislation, the Council carried out a competition process to identify an Academy Trust to run the school. Following a detailed evaluation of proposals from Academy Trusts to open the new school, the Council recommended a preferred sponsor to the Secretary of State. The Harmony Trust was subsequently appointed by the Secretary of State to run the school.
- 4.9 The new school is opening up on a gradual basis to minimise any impact on other local schools. From September 2019, the infant phase and Year 3 classes were opened and these year groups will roll through the school, year by year, until all year groups are open. This approach will remain under review should demand for pupil places from the housing development increase in other year groups at an earlier stage, meaning that additional year groups need to be opened.

Core Housing Strategies: Proposed new primary school to serve the Castleward and former DRI sites

- 4.10 A new primary school is proposed on the Castleward site, in the location of the current Sovereign Car Park, to serve pupils from the new housing developments at both the Castleward site and former DRI site. A feasibility study is underway which will establish cost estimates and consider how a new school can be delivered on the proposed site. Under current legislation, the Council will be required to run a competition process to identify an Academy Trust to run the new school, in the same way as with Hackwood Primary Academy.

Core Housing Strategies: Secondary School Provision

- 4.11 In relation to secondary provision, it is very likely that a new secondary school will be required in the County to deal with the growth in housing numbers around the City / County boundary. This will remain subject to review and continuing development work.
- 4.12 Further school expansion proposals may also be required to deal with other housing developments within the DUA. For the majority of the other developments within Derby City, the proposal is for existing catchment area secondary schools to accommodate pupil numbers from new housing, where possible, either through the use of any existing surplus or school expansions, where necessary.

Population Growth: School Place Planning

- 4.13 In order to accommodate growing primary pupil numbers, a primary school expansion programme was implemented in September 2014 and September 2015. Following the primary school expansion programme, it is anticipated that there will be sufficient capacity across the City, as a whole, to deal with primary growth over future years (excluding additional capacity required in relation to new housing growth, as outlined above).
- 4.14 Following a significant level of growth in pupil numbers in the primary sector, pupil projections are now showing an increasing trend in secondary pupil numbers. Additional secondary school places were provided from September 2017, September 2018 and September 2019. Pupil numbers and trends continue to be regularly reviewed and updated.
- 4.15 School place planning proposals have been developed with a view to creating additional capacity across a number of schools. This is to ensure sufficient secondary places across the City as a whole. In developing proposals, a range of factors have been considered including whether school sites allow for expansion.
- 4.16 The table below sets out secondary school expansions that have been carried out to accommodate growth in secondary pupil numbers for September 2018 and September 2019. For these schools, the proposal is for the increased admission numbers to apply to Year 7 only, initially, and then roll through the schools gradually year by year.

Academic Year	School Name	Proposed increase in admission number	Additional places per year group	Additional places across Years 7-11
2018-19	Bemrose School – Secondary Phase	180 to 220	40	200
	Derby Cathedral School (New free school)*	120 to 180	60	300
2019-20	Derby Moor Community Sports College	266 to 300	34	170
	Murray Park School**	220 to up to 330	110	550
	West Park School	260 to 290	30	150
Total			274	1370

*In relation to the Derby Cathedral School, the original proposal had been for the free school to open with an admission number of 120. In view of significantly increasing secondary pupil numbers, the Council worked closely with Derby Diocesan Academy Trust and the Education Funding Agency on opening Derby Cathedral School with a higher admission number of 180 from September 2018.

**Admission number of Murray Park School to increase on a phased basis working with the school.

- 4.17 Pupil numbers and trends continue to be very closely monitored and reviewed and further proposals will be developed, as necessary, to respond to changes in Derby's pupil population.

Public/stakeholder engagement

5.1 For school place planning proposals, statutory consultation takes place in accordance with School Organisation Regulations for Council maintained schools. Where a significant change is proposed for an academy school, the academy trust is responsible for consultation and seeking the approval of the Secretary of State.

Other options

6.1 School place planning proposals have been developed with a view to creating additional capacity across a number of schools to deal with population growth and to respond to proposals in the Core Housing Strategies. In developing proposals a range of factors have been considered, including whether school sites to allow for expansion.

Financial and value for money issues

7.1 Basic Need funding is provided to the Council by the Department for Education for the provision of additional school places relating to population growth.

7.2 With regard to school places required due to new housing developments, Section 106 funding is sought from developers to provide additional school places. Developers can only be asked for funding to mitigate the impact of their development and not to address any existing issues with schools places.

Legal implications

8.1 Each local authority with responsibility for education has to secure sufficient primary and secondary education to meet the needs of the population of their area, under s.13 S13A and S14 (1) Education Act 1996.

Other significant implications

9.1 None.

This report has been approved by the following people:

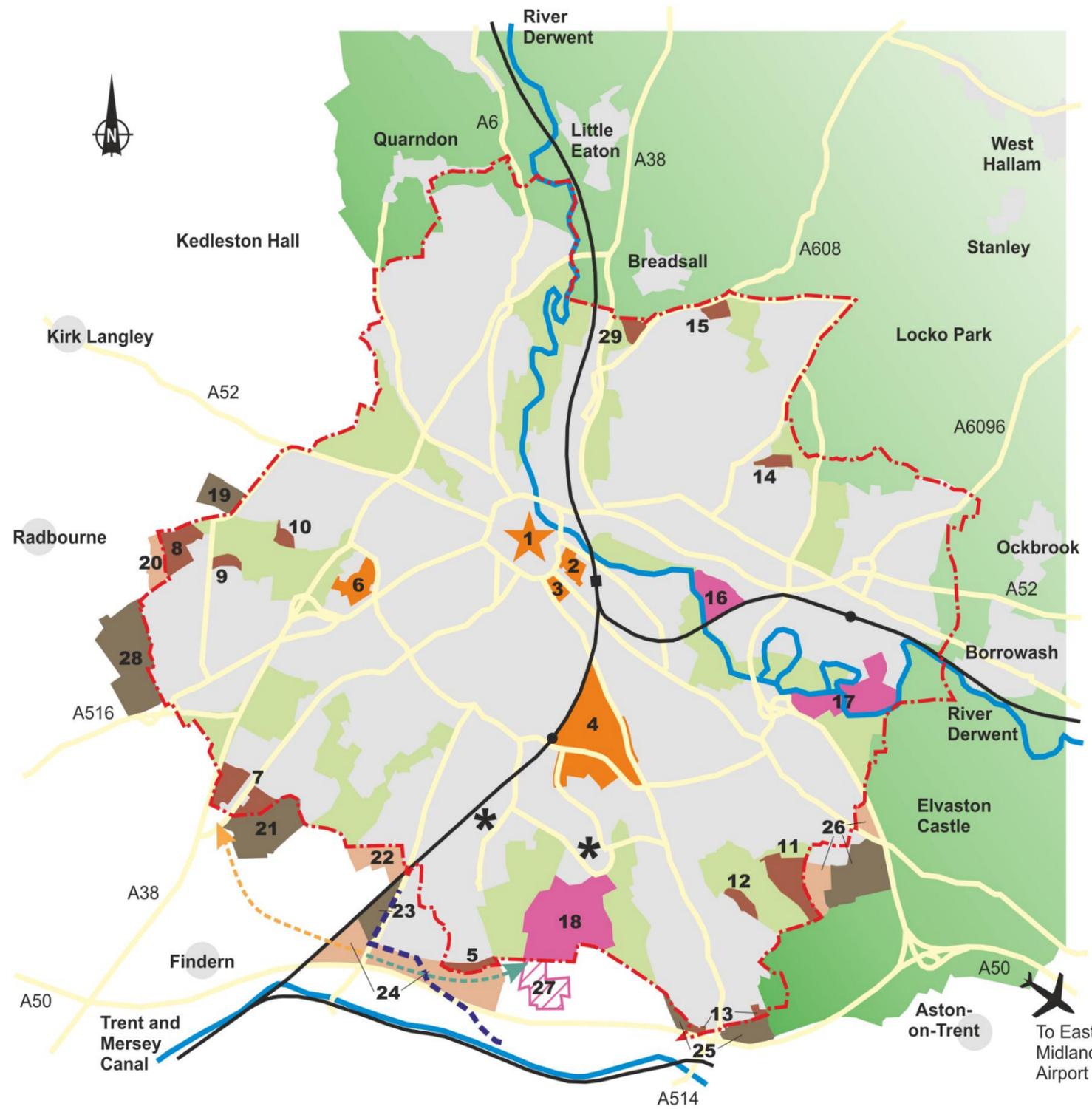
Role	Name	Date of sign-off
Legal	Madhuri Gembali, Solicitor	09/09/19
Finance	None	
Service Director(s)	Gurmail Nizzer, Director of Commissioning	09/09/19
Report sponsor	Andy Smith, Strategic Director of People Services	12/09/19 (DMT)
Other(s)		

Background papers:	None
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Derby Urban Area Strategic Growth

Key

- Strategic housing site in Derby 
- Strategic employment sites 
- Regeneration priority area 
- City Centre 
- Mixed use regeneration site 
- Green Wedges 
- Green Belt 
- Indicative line of South Derby Integrated Transport Link (Phase 1) 
- Indicative line of South Derby Integrated Transport Link (Phase 2) 
- Strategic extension to land south of Wilmore Road in South Derbyshire 
- South Derbyshire - housing allocations 
- Housing sites outside the City with planning permission or under construction 



Derby City

Site	Dwellings
1 City Centre*	1000
2 Castleward*	800
3 Former DRI*	400
4 Osmaston Regeneration Area*	600
5 Wragley Way*	180
6 Manor/Kingsway*	700
7 Rykneld Road	900
8 Hackwood Farm*	400
9 Onslow Road	200
10 Former Mackworth College*	220
11 Boulton Moor	800
12 Fellow Lands Way*	200
13 South Chellaston*	100
14 Brook Farm*	275
15 South of Mansfield Road*	200
16 Derwent Triangle	Employment (28ha)
17 Derby Commercial Park*	Employment (64.7ha)
18 Wilmore Road/Infinity Park*	Employment (86.8ha)
29 Breadsall Hilltop*	230

Amber Valley/South Derbyshire Urban Extensions

Site	Dwellings
19 Radbourne Lane*	530
20 Hackwood Farm*	290
21 Highfields Farm*	1040
22 Primula Way*	511
23 Stenson Fields*	487
24 Wragley Way*	1950
25 South Chellaston*	620
26 Boulton Moor*	1948
27 Wilmore Road/Infinity Park	Employment (30ha)
28 Newhouse Farm*	1650

*Indicates that site partly or wholly has permission or is underway
 * Breadsall Hilltop was not allocated in the Part 1 plan but it was intended to consider it in the Part 2 plan. Now has outline permission.

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Information on locations outside the City is included for information purposes and based on Amber Valley's and South Derbyshire's consultation material