Cambridgeshire’s
0-19 Education Organisation Plan
2019-2020
In Cambridgeshire our absolute priority is that children and young people achieve the best outcomes possible and go on to succeed in further learning and in work. Crucial to this is the way that we work with early years/childcare providers, schools and partners to plan and deliver a good quality place in learning for all across the County. The Council has a proven track record of working with a wide range of education providers to commission sufficient places to meet the needs of Cambridgeshire’s residents and is committed to continuing this approach into the future.

Cambridgeshire is one of the fastest growing counties in the country. A number of new communities are being created, or are in the process of being planned. This, combined with demographic change and higher birth rates in previous years means that there are significant pressures on education places in many parts of the county.

The organisation plan considers education provision in Cambridgeshire across the whole 0 – 19 age range, and up to the age of 25 for children with SEND.

*We are delighted to present this education organisation plan to you, and would welcome your continued engagement with it.*

If you would like any further information, or would like to discuss any part of the Education Organisation Plan in detail, please contact Clare Buckingham.

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Chapter 1: Introduction

What is Cambridgeshire like as a place?

1.1 Governance, location and population

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough are a Combined Authority with a directly elected Mayor over the Authority’s area. An Education Committee has been established with the Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC) and other key local stakeholders. The RSC works with the committee to provide strategic direction on education across the Combined Authority area.

Cambridgeshire County Council continues to work with five District Councils: Cambridge City, East Cambridgeshire, Fenland, Huntingdonshire and South Cambridgeshire. The County Council’s various Committees determine the Council’s policies and operational priorities. However, some decisions, including setting the revenue and capital budgets for Council services, are reserved for full Council.

Of Cambridgeshire’s 648,000 residents (population estimates as at mid-2015), approximately 20% live in Cambridge, which has national and global importance as a centre of learning and research. This is focused largely around the City’s two universities, Addenbrookes Hospital and associated research facilities, and a cluster of high-technology industries. The other four districts are largely rural, with population centres focused around a number of market towns, and the City of Ely.

1.2 Demographic Change

In line with the underlying national trend, there was a steady, although not uniform, general increase in birth rates\(^1\) across Cambridgeshire starting in 2007 and peaking in 2012. Birth rates across Cambridgeshire then remained broadly stable before falling in 2016, and again in 2017, in all districts apart from Fenland. In 2018, East Cambridgeshire, Fenland and, although to a much lesser extent, Huntingdonshire, saw lower birth rates, whilst in Cambridge birth rates rebounded, and in South Cambridgeshire they remained stable.

Using the actual number of births per year in each district, and a forecast of future birth numbers\(^2\), helps to provide an overview of the demand for early years/childcare and school places. The graph below shows the number of births per year by district between

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1 Birth rate is expressed number of live births per 1,000 population of all ages.
2 Actual numbers of births (2006-2015) are from the ONS mid-year estimates. Future forecasts (2015-2021) are taken from Cambridgeshire County Council Business Intelligence Service’s 2015-based population forecasts.
2006 and 2015, and the forecast number of births per year from 2016 to 2021. More recent ONS birth data shows that after rising to a total 7,530 births in Cambridgeshire in 2016, the number of births dropped in 2017 to 6,960, and remained at similar levels in 2018. Despite some fluctuations, overall, increases in births across the county since 2007 have had, and will continue to have, an impact on the number of early years and school places required.

**Number of births in Cambridgeshire**

1.3 **Housing development**

Cambridgeshire is facing a period of unprecedented growth as a result of both demographic change and significant new housing development, with the prospect of some 74,000 new homes in total across its five districts by 2031. The largest of these developments will be in Northstowe, a new town to the north of Cambridge, with a total of 9,500 homes. However, the district council development plans include many other sites with over 600 homes. The majority of these will require their own new schools and early years/childcare facilities. In addition, the prospect of more funding to support devolution may promote higher levels of development and/or increase the pace of development above that which the market alone can deliver.

Annual house building completion rates have significantly increased in Cambridgeshire for the last two years, including more than 1,100 new dwellings completed per year in Cambridge City alone for 2016-17 and 2017-18. The graph below shows net housing completions between 2009 and 2019 and forecast completions from 2020 to 2023.
1.4 Social and Economic Diversity

Cambridgeshire is generally regarded as being a wealthy and prosperous county. There are, however, areas which have higher levels of deprivation, most notably to the north of Fenland, but also in parts of Huntingdon and Cambridge, as shown below. The Child and Poverty Strategy (2014-2017) highlights the importance of high quality education in improving the outcomes of children and young people in these areas.
Economic and social deprivation in Cambridgeshire

The population of Cambridgeshire is predominantly White-British. The increased ethnic diversity in Cambridge City can be linked to the number of students, academics and workers within the high-tech industries. In rural parts of the county, especially in the north, the economy is focused largely around agriculture and associated industries. Early years/childcare providers and schools in these areas are often subject to seasonal changes to their pupil populations. These areas have attracted migrants from Eastern Europe. A similar experience is often shared by schools near Traveller sites. The county has one of the largest Traveller populations in the country.

Changes in the number of registrations for National Insurance Numbers (NINo) by migrant workers indicate that Cambridgeshire has experienced a more delayed response to Brexit compared to trends seen across the wider UK. Cambridgeshire recorded a sustained increase in NINo registrations from 2012 to 2016 with new highs recorded in consecutive years from 2014 to 2016. Whilst all the Cambridgeshire districts saw a reduction in NINo registrations in 2017 and 2018, the sharpest reductions came in 2018, whereas across the UK the sharpest reductions were seen in 2017. The political uncertainty surrounding Brexit will require this issue to be closely monitored because of the relationship between migration, population growth and the demand for school places.

Another aspect of Cambridgeshire’s diversity is the presence of a number of military bases and the relationship between these and the early years/childcare providers and schools in the local area. Military deployments and troop movements can have a significant impact upon early years/childcare providers and schools, often resulting in large reductions or increases in pupil numbers with little advance warning. For example, the closures of Brampton and Waterbeach barracks resulted in reductions in the number
of children on roll at early years/childcare settings and schools in these areas. These effects are now beginning to be reversed with development starting to take place on these former military bases.
Chapter 2: Early Years and Childcare

2.1 What is the National Policy?

Childcare Act (2006)
The Childcare Act (2006) places a duty on local authorities to secure sufficient and suitable quality education and childcare places to enable parents to return to work or to undertake education or training which could lead to employment. The Education Act (2011) altered this to include an entitlement of 570 hours of free early education per year for eligible two year olds, starting the funding period following their second birthday. This was in addition to the 570 hours of free early education already in place for all three and four year olds, starting the funding period following their third birthday. This is usually taken as 15 hours per week for 38 weeks of the year, but it is flexible. Some parents may choose to take fewer hours over more weeks, for example.

Whilst local authorities are not expected to provide childcare directly, they are expected to work with local private, voluntary and independent (PVI) sector providers to meet local need. Where this cannot be achieved, the local authority can put in place steps as provider of last resort.

The Act also includes the requirement for providers to apply for registration on the Early Years Register and/or The Childcare Register and the regulations with which all providers must comply.

Childcare Act (2016)
The Childcare Act (2016) extended the previous entitlement and since September 2017, children aged 3 and 4 from working families have been entitled to an additional 15 hours (per week 38 weeks per year) of free childcare, subject to their parents meeting the following eligibility criteria:

- Both parents are working (or the sole parent is working in a lone parent family)
- Each parent earns, on average, a weekly minimum equivalent to 16 hours at national minimum wage and less than £100,000 per year

The overall entitlement for families meeting these criteria is now 30 hours of free childcare per week (per week 38 weeks per year).
Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) sets standards for the learning, development and care of children from birth to 5 years old. All schools and Ofsted-registered early years’ providers must follow the EYFS, including childminders, preschools, nurseries and school reception classes.

2.2 What are the Council’s responsibilities?

- To ensure sufficient and suitable quality early education and childcare places to enable parents to work, or to undertake education or training which could lead to employment
- To secure sufficient and suitable early years and childcare places to meet predicted demand
- To secure free early years provision for all 3 and 4 year olds, and the 40% most vulnerable 2 year olds, of 570 hours per year
- To provide information, advice and assistance to parents and prospective parents on the provision of childcare in their area and other services which may be of benefit to parents, prospective parents or child and young people in their area
- To provide information, advice and training to childcare providers to improve early years outcomes

Cambridgeshire County Council, in line with Department for Education (DfE) guidance, requires that funded two, three and four year olds can access their free early education entitlement with registered early years/childcare providers (including early years registered childminders) that are newly registered and/or achieve an Ofsted grading of good or outstanding³. Quality of provision is a criterion for consideration where schools directly manage provision either through lowering their age range or community powers (section 27) or in the case of academies the trusts charitable objectives. The Council would not support a school to set up or take over early years provision if the school has received a ‘Requires Improvement’ or ‘Inadequate’ Ofsted rating, or where leadership capacity is limited.

2.3 How does the Council manage the quality of provision?

Ofsted is the arbiter of quality through its inspection framework but Cambridgeshire County Council will, as part of its assessment of the childcare market, identify where improvements to quality could be made as part of any identified market development priorities. The Council will not support the development of any new provision, of any

³ Relates to Section A3 of the Early Education and Childcare guidance (2018)
governance type, in an area where good or outstanding provision is currently meeting the needs of local families.

Registered providers can access a range of workforce development opportunities, with the majority of providers joining Cambridgeshire’s Early Years and Childcare Membership scheme. Additionally, the Council offers a comprehensive programme of training workshops and courses, designated person training/support and a full range of CACHE accredited qualification courses. The Council’s priority is to develop the early years workforce to enable them to support children to improve in all areas of attainment with a focus on communication, language and literacy scores by the end of reception for all children. The Best Start in Life Strategy (2019) outlines the Council and partners’ strategic intention to keep our youngest children safe and healthy, to develop confidence and to promote an aptitude for lifelong learning.

The Local Authority provides intensive support to currently registered early years and childcare providers at the point of registration, and if they receive an Ofsted judgement of ‘Requires Improvement’ or ‘Inadequate’. Following the inspection, a funding risk assessment is completed. This is regularly monitored and reviewed throughout the intervention process. It is the position of Cambridgeshire County Council that no new funded two year olds are able to access their early years entitlement at a provider graded ‘Requires Improvement’ or ‘Inadequate’. Where parents insist that they wish to access three and four year old entitlement from a provider who has received a ‘Requires Improvement’ judgement, the provider will be required to work with the Council, intensively, to improve practice and show that provision has the leadership capacity to improve within a required timescale.

In certain circumstances it may be necessary to withdraw all government funding e.g. where an Ofsted report or Welfare Requirements Notice highlights concerns or where the Local Authority identify concerns regarding safeguarding, equalities or SEND that cannot be mitigated. In these circumstances, the local authority will gather the relevant sufficiency data to identify settings and childminders with available places, and will provide information, advice and assistance to parents and carers.

When required, designated Officers from the Early Years Service will liaise with the regulator and other agencies to share relevant and proportionate information.

2.4 What types of provision are available?

In Cambridgeshire, there are a total of 1,150 Early Years/Childcare providers who offer places for children from birth upwards, as shown below.
Cambridgeshire County Council supports registered providers to have regard to the Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Code of Practice and provides a wide range of training including annual SenCo courses. Specialist officers will work with providers to develop exemplary inclusive practice, and to ensure that all children have the support they need to access a quality early years’ experience.

All providers within Cambridgeshire should have clear admissions policies that provide equality of opportunity and develop a working ethos that has regard for the Disability Discrimination Act (1995) and the Equalities Act (2010).

### 2.5 What does take up look like in Cambridgeshire?

Since 2017 the percentage of two year olds benefitting from universal funded early education places has decreased in Cambridgeshire. This differs to the trends seen nationally where the percentage of two year olds in receipt of the universal entitlement has increased overall. The Council are actively working to address this difference; by raising awareness of the entitlements which are available to parents and to ensure that there are a diverse range of providers who can accommodate this age group.

The percentage of three year olds benefitting from universal funded early education places has also decreased since 2016, but the number of four year olds claiming a place has remained fairly stable.
National Statistics: Education provision: children under 5 years of age (January 2018)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage of 2, 3 and 4-year-old children benefiting from universal places (%)</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>2 year olds</strong></td>
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<td>East of England</td>
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<td>England</td>
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<td><strong>3 year olds</strong></td>
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<td><strong>4 year olds</strong></td>
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<td>England</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Since its introduction in September 2017, there has been an increase in the number of children benefitting from the extended entitlement (30 hours) across the county.

The cohort of children accessing Free Early Education Entitlement increases throughout the academic year, peaking in the summer funding period before falling in autumn when children leave early years provision and take up a place in school reception. Development of early years/childcare places is a delicate balance between ensuring sufficient places are available in summer, but ensuring provision remains sustainable in quieter autumn funding periods.

2.6 How do we identify pressures in the Early Years and Childcare market?

The early years market is continually monitored and reviewed to ensure that there are sufficient early years/childcare places for all children who would like one. This ensures that the Council can identify where potential pressures may arise, and respond accordingly.

When assessing where more capacity in the childcare market is required, consideration is given to:

- occupancy levels and surplus capacity within existing provision
- child population using NHS data
A Market Position Statement is also published. This sets out the priority early years/childcare developments required across the county. Through these statements, all providers, regardless of their governance model (e.g. childminder, private, voluntary, independent, school or academy), are invited to expand or develop new early years and childcare provision to meet the identified pressures.

The Council is aware of the importance of implementing a successful business model from opening, therefore would work with new providers through the pre-opening process. The Council would also look to facilitate the expansion of provision which has been rated ‘Good’ or ‘Outstanding’ by Ofsted in order to meet demand.

### 2.7 What are the current pressures? How are we responding?

The information below sets out the early years/childcare places that are already in development, or planned but yet to open. This includes the following types of provision:

- Those which are currently being commissioned by the Council to run from its own premises
- Those linked to new schools to be run by the trust sponsoring the school or commissioned by them
- An expansion of existing early years settings
- Those planned due to a lowering of school age range
- Other new, privately, voluntary or independently run settings of which the Council has been informed

Following its approval by members in January 2016, it has been Council policy to build all new schools with Early Years facilities on site. This can help to ensure sufficient places exist for the earliest occupants of a development, and help to alleviate the pressure on existing settings.

The timing at which the facility is required will be dependent upon the level of demand in the local area to avoid creating surplus capacity. The Council is therefore committed to working in partnership with new schools to ensure that the facilities are delivered in the best interests of the whole community.
**Cambridge City**

**Cambridge City (North)**

**What are the current pressures?**
The demand for early years/childcare within Cambridge City is high and as a result, a number of settings operate a waiting list. The sufficiency information for Cambridge City is therefore kept under continuous review. The Council is currently aware of the need for additional full day care, and in particular the need to provide more places for children under the age of two.

**What are the requirements for major new housing developments?**
Where new developments are underway, an early years/childcare facility is built within all new primary schools. In addition to this, a full range of childcare, including full day care, sessional provision and wrap around care, will be required to meet the needs of children and their families moving into the Darwin Green development. The timing for this provision is not yet known and will be subject to the pace of housing development.

**Cambridge City (South)**

**What are the current pressures?**
There is an identified demand for full day care across the south of the city. In response to this, the Council has now completed its tender process for a full day care provider within the catchment area of Morley Memorial Primary School, and it is now in the pre-opening stage.

The Council is also aware of pressures in Trumpington and the need for further provision to accommodate the early years age range, and which offers the full range of free childcare entitlements.

**What are the requirements for major new housing developments?**
In line with Council policy, the new school which is built to serve the Marleigh (formerly Wing) development will include facilities for early years/childcare. It is expected that this will be open for September 2021. In addition to this, a full range of childcare, including full day care, sessional provision and wrap around care, will be required to meet the needs of children and their families in the following communities:

- Marleigh
- Land North of Cherry Hinton

The timing for this provision is not yet known and will be subject to the pace of housing development, and of take up at the school run provision on the Marleigh development.
East Cambridgeshire

What are the current pressures?
Following the closure of Cheveley Acorns pre-school in October 2018, there is an identified need for further provision in the village of Cheveley. The Council has been in discussion with the local primary school to address this, but would also welcome interest from the wider market. The Council would be particularly keen for this provision to offer the full range of funded childcare options, including childcare for funded two year olds.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?
None

Fenland

What are the current pressures?
A 52 place nursery, initially catering for children between the ages of three and five, has recently opened on the site of Peckover Primary School. As existing provision was on the other side of the town, it will help to address issues for parents who were having to drop off their children at two sites.

Planning permission to expand Wisbech Day Nursery has been approved, with building work now underway. The works will include three purpose built classrooms to relocate the Baby, Toddler and Lower Pre-School rooms.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?
None

Huntingdonshire

What are the current pressures?
A number of settings in Huntingdonshire have closed in recent months which has led to increased pressure on places within the district. Further full day care provision is currently required in and around Huntingdon, and further full day care and sessional
provision is required in Hartford and Ramsey. The Council would be particularly keen for this provision to offer the full range of funded childcare entitlements, including childcare for funded two years.

**What are the requirements for major new housing developments?**

Where new developments are underway an early years/childcare facility is built within all new primary schools. In addition to this, a full range of childcare, including full day care, sessional provision and wrap around care, will be required to meet the needs of children and their families in the following communities:

- Alconbury Weald
- Loves Farm 2, St Neots (Eastern Expansion)
- Wintringham Park, St Neots

The timing for this provision is not yet known and will be subject to the pace of housing development.

**South Cambridgeshire**

**What are the current pressures?**

Since the introduction of the extended entitlement in 2017, there has been an increased number of children claiming a funded early years place across South Cambridgeshire. This has led to the need for additional places across the district; either through new provision, or in many cases, the expansion of existing providers.

Further provision is currently required in both Cottenham and Sawston. In response to this, the Council is in discussions about the transfer of section 106 developer funding which has been secured for additional early years and childcare places to support a community development led by Cottenham Parish Council. This includes the building of a 40 place day nursery. A community hub is also being built in Sawston which will enable the expansion of the existing Jigsaw Pre-School which offers places for children aged two to five.

Stapleford Community Primary School will also be opening a pre-school from January 2020. This will offer places for children aged three to five.

**What are the requirements for major new housing developments?**

Where new developments are underway, an early years/childcare facility is built within all new primary schools. In addition to this, a full range of childcare, including full day care, sessional provision and wrap around care, will be required to meet the needs of children and their families in the following communities:

- Northstowe
• Waterbeach New Town

The timing for this provision is not yet known and will be subject to the pace of housing development.

2.8 Useful Links

Capital Programme – Business Plan (2018-23)

Childcare Act (2006)

Childcare Act (2016)

Child and Poverty Strategy 2014-2017

Disability Discrimination Act (1995)

Early Years and Childcare Local Provider Agreement

Early Years Funding: Frequently Asked Questions

Equalities Act (2010)
Family Information Directory
https://www5.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/site/custom_scripts/fid_results.aspx?fc2=&fc34=&e=&n=&q=Special%20schools&type=&distance=&minage=&maxage=&day=&time=&t=0&p=&page=1&view=List

Market Position Statement
https://www.contractsfinder.service.gov.uk/Notice/095c2ece-42a0-4f18-a4df-fe27a05ffa71

Ofsted
https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

Parents’ Guide to the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework

Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage
Chapter 3: Primary and Secondary Provision

3.1 What is the national policy?

Education Act (1996)
Section 14 of The Education Act (1996) places local authorities under a general duty to provide a school place for every child living in their area of responsibility who is of statutory school age and whose parents want their child educated in the state-funded sector.

Education and Inspections Act (2006)
The Education and Inspections Act (2006) also places additional duties on local authorities to ensure fair access to educational opportunity, to promote choice for parents and to secure diversity in the provision of schools. In addition to this, the Act also places an explicit duty on local authorities for the first time to respond formally to parents seeking changes to the provision of schools in their area, including new schools.

Academies Act (2010)
The Academies Act (2010) made it possible for all publicly funded schools in England to acquire Academy Status, including primary and special schools. Becoming an academy provides schools with increased autonomy over their curriculum, budget and staffing.

Education Act (2011)
The Education Act (2011) changed the arrangements for the establishment of new schools by introducing a presumption that when local authorities set up new schools, they will be academies (including free schools). It also made changes to the legislation relating to school land, to increase the Secretary of State's ability to make land available for free schools.

3.2 What are the Council’s responsibilities?

The Council continues to respond positively to the changes in national policy direction, working closely with existing and potential education providers and the Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC) to promote diversity, choice and quality in education provision across the County.

The Council is committed to working in partnership with all education providers, regardless of status. In its role as a champion for children, young people and their families, the Council continues to provide advice, guidance and support to:

- promote educational development and school improvement
- challenge the lowest performing schools to deliver improved outcomes
• enable early years and childcare provision and reception classes to be supported as one foundation stage and work together to secure good early years outcomes

The Council also acts as a critical friend; raising concerns over educational performance and outcomes directly with schools. Where these are not addressed by the school’s leadership and governors, the Council will request that Ofsted undertakes an inspection.

The Council believes that all education provision should be inclusive, attractive and welcoming, whilst promoting safeguarding. It should also enable children, young people and their families to access a range of support, advice and positive activities which includes transport beyond the statutory walking distances and in cases where there is not an available walking route to and from their designated school.

Breakfast/After School and Holiday Clubs
Breakfast Clubs, After School Clubs and Holiday Clubs also play an important role in ensuring that sufficient childcare is available outside of school hours. The Council therefore monitors the availability of provision to ensure that sufficient places are accessible for parents who want them. Where there is a need for additional places which cannot be met by existing providers, a Market Position Statement will be published.

3.3 What types of primary provision are available?

There are currently 210 primary schools in Cambridgeshire, with the largest proportion of these now operating as academies.

*Primary Schools in Cambridgeshire as of 31st August 2019*
In recent years, a number of primary schools have opened in response to the growth arising from the development of large urban settlements. These include Godmanchester Bridge Academy, Ermine Street Church Academy, Trumpington Meadows Primary School, Trumpington Park Primary School, The Shade Primary School, Pathfinder C of E Primary School and, most recently, Wintringham Park Primary Academy. This is set to continue with additional primary schools planned for St Neots Eastern expansion, Northstowe and Alconbury Weald.

In line with national trends, Cambridgeshire has seen a steady rise in the number of primary schools converting to, or being opened as, an academy.

**Number of primary academies in Cambridgeshire (July 2019)**

3.4 What types of secondary provision are available?

There are currently 33 secondary schools in Cambridgeshire; all of which are now academies, with the exception of the newly opened Northstowe Secondary College which opened as a Foundation School in September 2019.

The number of secondary schools converting to academy status has increased each year across the county, (as shown below) although the overwhelming majority of the County’s schools became academies before 2017.

**Number of secondary academies in Cambridgeshire (July 2019)**
3.5 **How do we commission school places?**

The different pressures on available education places require a range of approaches to commissioning school places. These include local area reviews, new development negotiations and working in partnership with other key stakeholders such as the Department for Education (DfE).

**Planning areas**

In urban areas, the impact of pupil forecasts on available provision is considered more widely than at the level of individual schools, reflecting the fact that there is often greater choice for parents when several settings or schools are located in close proximity. This also allows the Council to provide sufficient places, without creating surplus capacity. To support this approach, the Council groups schools within planning areas. These:

- include schools in close proximity
- link primary schools to their catchment or designated secondary schools
- take account of federations and partnerships between schools
- take account of natural barriers and constraints on journeys between schools
- have been agreed with the Department for Education (DfE) and form the basis of the Council’s annual school capacity return (SCAP) to government

A full list of the planning areas in Cambridgeshire, and the schools within each of them, is included in **Appendix C**. This will be kept under review as the Council responds to demographic changes and housing development proposals.

**Commissioning school places**

There are currently three ways to establish a new mainstream school:

- **Central Route**: this requires an application from a Multi Academy Trust (MAT) directly to the Department of Education (DfE). The DfE will decide whether or not to approve the application. Costs are the responsibility of the DfE.

- **Presumption Route**: the Council publishes a specification for a school and invites MATs to apply to run that school. This requires an application to the Council. The DfE will decide whether or not the preferred sponsor recommended by the Council will be successful. Costs are the responsibility of the Council.

- **Voluntary Aided (VA) route**: anyone, including a Diocese or Council, may publish a proposal for a new VA school in response to a clear demand for places that the new school would provide. In December 2018 the DfE launched a capital fund to support the establishment of new VA schools, which would meet 90% of the capital costs of the new school. The final 10% would be met by the applicant, developer or other stakeholder. The Council would be the decision maker as to whether or not the proposals, for which funding is approved by the DfE, should proceed to opening.
Where new schools are commissioned to meet basic need local authorities are responsible for the pre-opening start-up and post-opening diseconomy of scale costs. These are currently met from centrally retained Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) funding which is subject to annual Schools Forum approval. However, given the uncertainty of future funding, and the current burden of revenue expenditure, the Council will first utilise the national Free Schools Programme, and will only consider commissioning new schools under its presumption route where there is no possible alternative.

If the Council believes that a new school is required but no free school proposal is approved, then it would follow the presumption route. The Council would advertise the opportunity widely to ensure that there is a strong field of high quality applications.

In existing areas, mostly urban, where the Council is responding to demographic change, the option of providing a new school may not necessarily be the right approach educationally. In these circumstances, the preference is to work with existing schools and Trusts to expand provision, where possible, in good or outstanding schools. For example, the expansion of Westwood Primary School in March was carried out in partnership with the Elliot Foundation Multi-Academy Trust.

3.6 What are the pressures in the primary phase? How are we responding?

Cambridge City

After a period of significant increases in the birth rate, the most recent demographic data suggests that it has begun to level off⁴. The number of children born and living within Cambridge remain steady. This suggests that there will continue to be a close balance between demand and capacity for the near future, especially when the impact of the high levels of new housing developments in and around the city are taken into consideration. The Cambridge City Council Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) 2018 reaffirms the expectation that 14,000 new homes will be built in Cambridge in the period 2011-2031. The majority of these developments were allocated through the Local Plan (2006), but some additional development allocations were included in the Local Plan recently adopted by the City Council.

The AMR indicates that over the past three years the pace of housing development in the city has exceeded the identified housing trajectory. This is a pattern which is expected to continue over the coming five years, with slightly over 5,000 homes projected to be delivered, compared to the 3,500 homes identified as required over this period.

⁴ NHS CHIS, March 2017
These figures are for homes delivered within the Cambridge City Council administrative area. They do not include housing allocations within the South Cambridgeshire District Council administrative area which abut the city boundary. The impact of these developments, which are considered to be urban extensions, are considered as part of the overall planning of the Cambridge City planning area.

**Cambridge City North of the River Cam**

**What pressures have been identified previously? How have we acted upon them?**

In response to increasing demand for primary school places, the Council took steps to expand King’s Hedges Educational Federation to 3 forms of entry (3FE) to create 630 places overall from September 2016. This was in addition to previous expansions of The Grove Primary School, St Laurence’s RC Primary School and the opening of Chesterton Primary School.

The opening of the University of Cambridge Primary School in September 2015, and subsequent increase in the school’s Published Admissions Number (PAN) to 90 in September 2016, has had a significant impact on the Council’s strategic approach to place planning. The decisions taken by the school, ahead of any occupations on the North West Cambridge housing development, have created significant surplus capacity in schools in the north of the city, and also at Girton Glebe Primary School.

**What are we doing now? What will be needed within the future?**

With birth rates remaining at a high level, it is anticipated that the capacity which has been secured will ultimately be required. However, it is recognised that this is unlikely to be until the major developments in the Northwest Fringe have a substantial number of occupations. In order to address the inevitable imbalance in provision, King’s Hedges Educational Federation have reduced their PAN from 60 for the academic year 2019/20. This is to help schools across the north of the city plan and deliver high quality outcomes from a more consistent financial position.

**What are the requirements for major new housing developments?**

In addition to some small infill sites, the majority of major housing development over the coming five years will be delivered as part of the Northwest Fringe. This consists of two major sites; both of which straddle the administrative boundary with South Cambridgeshire:

- The Northwest Cambridge Site; delivering 3,000 new homes including 50% for identified University key workers. This includes approximately 1,500 homes within Cambridge and 1,500 homes within South Cambridgeshire. The first 700 units were occupied from September 2017 with further homes being released in batches.
Darwin Green; delivering around 2,500 new homes across two phases. The first homes, in the first phase (Cambridge City delivering up to 1,500) are likely to be occupied from late-2019 onwards. Timescales for the second phase of development (around 1,000 homes in South Cambridgeshire) are currently unknown.

There is the potential for further significant housing development in the north of the city on land surrounding the new Cambridge North Railway Station. However, it is unlikely that these developments would be under construction within the next five years.

There will be a new school as part of the Darwin Green development. Planning consent for this school has been secured by the Council. However, with the housing having been delayed and the changes in provision across the city, described above, it is likely that there will be sufficient capacity in the short-term. The final timetable for opening the new school is being kept under review, but it is anticipated that it may not be required until 2022/23.

Cambridge City South of the River Cam

What pressures have been identified previously? How have we acted upon them?

There are several catchment areas where there is projected to be an imbalance between the demand for places and available capacity. This has meant that some families moving into the city have been offered places at schools some distance from their home. The level of infill housing developments within these areas could lead to a shortfall of provision within the next three to five years. Currently, it is anticipated that the only area of the south city planning area which will have surplus capacity is Cherry Hinton.

The Council is in the process of exploring possible opportunities for addressing these challenges. Discussions are ongoing with planning officers from the City Council to identify potential options for increasing primary education capacity in the Coleridge/Romsey/Petersfield wards as part of the Local Plan process. This work remains at an early stage, though it is acknowledged that a combination of housing density and land prices within these areas of the city make securing sites of sufficient size to deliver new school provision very challenging.

As part of the planned response to the major housing developments in Trumpington, the Council has expanded Fawcett Primary School to 2FE. This provides an additional 210 places.
What are we doing now? What will be needed within the future?

There is the expectation that, as the housing developments are built out, Trumpington Meadows Primary School will also expand to become 2FE (an additional 210 places). As part of supporting its local community, the school has already made over admissions and operates with larger cohorts in many year groups when demand requires. In conjunction with the school’s governing body, it has been agreed to defer increasing the school’s PAN.

In addition to this, Trumpington Park Primary School, which opened in September 2017, is expanding in line with the growing demand across the development. Ultimately the school will have the capacity for 3FE (630 places overall).

The growth in demand continues to be monitored as the new community expands. As part of this, the Council will continue to engage with the governing bodies and Academy Trusts of both Trumpington Meadows Primary School and Trumpington Park Primary School, to allow increases in the schools’ PANs to be made at the appropriate time, and in a co-ordinated manner.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

In addition to several larger infill development sites, there are a number of urban fringe development sites. The largest of these is the Cambridge Southern Fringe, with additional development sites in the east of the city. Several of these sites straddle the administrative boundary.

The Cambridge Southern Fringe consists of three major housing developments:

- **Clay Farm/Showground**: delivering approximately 2,200 new homes. The development commenced in 2012 and it is now approximately 85% complete.
- **Glebe Farm**: delivering approximately 300 new homes. The development commenced in 2012 and is now complete.
- **Trumpington Meadows**: delivering approximately 1,200 new homes. This includes 600 in Cambridge City and 600 in South Cambridgeshire. The development commenced in 2012 and is approximately 70% complete.

Other housing development sites in the south of the City include:

- **Marleigh (formerly Wing)**: delivering up to 1,300 new homes in the east of the City to the north of Cambridge Airport. It is anticipated that work on the site, which is within South Cambridgeshire, will begin in 2019, with the first occupations currently in late-2020.
- **Land North of Cherry Hinton**: delivering up to 1,200 new homes in the south east of the city, on land south of Cambridge Airport. The site, which is split across the administrative boundary, is not expected to have its first occupations until at least
2021/22. A site for a new school is being sought through the Section 106 (S106) agreement attached to the planning consent for housing.

The Council anticipates that there will be a need for additional primary school capacity to mitigate the Marleigh housing development. A new 2FE primary school (420 places) has been approved to pre-implementation stage through the DfE through Wave 12 of the Free School Programme. The school is currently scheduled to open in September 2021.

Following discussions between the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA), the Council and the Anglian Learning Trust, it has been agreed that the school should open with no more than 1FE in Reception (30 places) in the first year, and limited places in other year groups. This is to ensure that the school will serve the new community and mitigate the impact of surplus capacity on surrounding schools.

The proposed development on Land North of Cherry Hinton is anticipated to generate demand for a new 2FE (420 place) primary school. The Council will be working closely with the developer to inform decisions about the opening date as clarity about the pace of development emerges. Initial reviews of demand in the local area suggest that the school would not be needed until a later stage of the development.

East Cambridgeshire

The East Cambridgeshire Local Plan adopted in 2015 sets an expectation that 11,500 new homes will need to be built in the period 2011 to 2031. These development targets are formally set out in the adopted Local Plan. A large part of this new housing development will be located within the market towns of Ely, Littleport, and Soham but there will also be significant levels of new housing built within other villages throughout the district. The Local Plan documents set out a vision for:

- Over 3,900 new dwellings in Ely to be built in the period up to 2031. This includes 3,000 homes proposed for an urban extension to the north of the town.
- New housing allocations to the east and south of Soham, with a total of 1,655 new dwellings to be built in the period up to 2031.
- A potential 1,447 new homes in Littleport to be built in the period up to 2031.

East Cambridgeshire District Council had been reviewing the Local Plan in response to changing circumstances. The Plan was expected to be adopted earlier this year but was withdrawn following the Examination in Public and the subsequent recommendations of the appointed planning inspector. The updated plan was expected to deliver higher levels of development with a change to the pattern of distribution to include more housing allocated in the larger villages within the district.
The 2015 Local Plan will continue to be used as the basis for the future planning of school places. However, the absence of a five year housing land supply means that there are likely to be housing applications coming forward on unallocated sites which will be considered within the National Planning Policy Framework.

**Bottisham Rural 1**

**What pressures have been identified previously? How have we acted upon them?**

An expansion of Burwell Primary School was planned in two phases, with the second phase completed in September 2018. The completion of these works mean that the school can now operate as 3FE (630 places).

Fulbourn Primary School is located in the district of South Cambridgeshire, but is a feeder primary school of Bottisham Village College in East Cambridgeshire. The pressure for places at the school is growing from within its catchment area. The completion of housing units on sites already being developed has required a modest expansion of the school.

**What are we doing now?**

Since 2016, a mobile has been provided at Bottisham Primary School to accommodate increased pupil numbers. The PAN of the school has also been increased from 30 to 40. However, a scheme for permanent expansion will now be considered as part of the new Capital Programme. This is due to be reviewed by the Council in February 2020.

A further expansion of Fulbourn Primary School was necessary to accommodate pupils from the development of the Ida Darwin hospital site and the Teversham Road development. This complex build project is now almost complete.

**What are the requirements for major new housing developments?**

As part of the East Cambridgeshire Local Plan, Burwell has been identified as a village suitable for further housing development with a further 350 dwellings planned. In addition to this, other sites for development were included as part of the now abandoned review of the Local Plan. When the district council consulted the local community on housing growth and the provision of the required supporting infrastructure, there was a preference for the expansion of the existing primary school over the creation of a second primary school to serve the village. This development will create additional demand for primary school places in the village. It is anticipated that there will be a need to accommodate a reception intake of around 75 pupils in the next five years, rising to 90 pupils (3FE) on completion of all the Local Plan development.
**Bottisham Rural 2**

What pressures have been identified previously? How have we acted upon them?

There is a demand for additional places at Cheveley Primary School, however, significant site constraints mean that it would not be possible to expand the school further. In recent years, the issue has resolved itself with some parents expressing a preference for the nearby Kettlefields Primary School. The Council have provided temporary accommodation at Kettlefields Primary School to meet the demand.

What are we doing now?

Forecast data suggests that the Council will need to invest in the replacement of the temporary accommodation which is currently being provided at Kettlefields Primary School. A project to address this will need to be identified in the new year five of the Capital Programme.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

None

**Ely Town 1**

What pressures have been identified previously? How have we acted upon them?

Due to an increased number of pupils, above those forecast, it was necessary to admit above PAN at Littleport Community Primary School in 2015, and at Millfield Primary School in 2017.

What are we doing now?

The Council will keep the date for the provision of additional places within Littleport under review.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

The East Cambridgeshire Local Plan establishes the potential for the further development of 1,700 dwellings in Littleport. As part of the consultation process on the Littleport...
Masterplan, and following the expansion of the existing Millfield Primary School, the Council had identified the need for a new 1FE (210 place) school to be provided by September 2020. However, the location of the first significant housing site to come forward may result in the expansion of an existing school being the preferred solution. In addition, the DfE and the Council do now not favour the establishment of new primary schools smaller than 2FE (420 places) because of their financial viability. The timing of the provision of additional places is to be kept under review and is subject to the pace of housing development.

Ely Town 2

What pressures have been identified previously? How have we acted upon them?
The Isle of Ely Primary Academy was constructed in a single phase and will ultimately provide 3FE (630 places). At present, the school is currently operating with 2FE (420 places).

What are we doing now?
A further 2FE (420 place) primary school is planned to serve the Highflyer Farm development to the north of Ely. The opening date of the new school will be dependent on the timetable for the build out of this development.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?
In addition to the impact of demographic changes, there are a number of development proposals, notably for 3,000 dwellings to the north of Ely; which includes the Highflyer Farm development. The locations for the two new primary schools were secured ahead of the new developments being built so that they can meet the needs of both the existing Ely community and the new housing, when it is built and occupied.
**Witchford Rural 1**

What pressures have been identified previously? How have we acted upon them?
There is modest housing growth in Stretham which has necessitated the expansion of Stretham Community Primary School by 30 places.

What are we doing now?
Further housing development is expected within Stretham. The Council will, therefore, continue to monitor the impact on school places to ensure that there is sufficient capacity within the village to meet the needs of pupils moving into the area.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?
None

**Witchford Rural 2**

What pressures have been identified previously? How have we acted upon them?
In Sutton, the pressure for places at the school has grown from within its catchment area. The school’s current PAN is 45 however, in both 2014 and 2015, it was necessary for the school to admit 60 pupils into its reception year. It was agreed with the school that this increased capacity would be met through temporary accommodation.

What are we doing now?
The arrangements at Sutton Primary School will need to be kept under review to ensure that there are sufficient places for children resident within its catchment area. It may be necessary to replace the temporary units which are currently on site with permanent accommodation if additional pupil numbers are sustained by housing growth.

A feasibility study/option appraisal has been commissioned recently to prepare proposals for expanding the primary school in response to an outline planning application for 250 homes on nearby land.

A number of developments in the village of Witchford may require Rackham Primary School to be expanded by 0.5FE (an additional 105 places). The timing of this expansion will be kept under review, and is subject to the build out of the development. The Council is also contributing to the development of Witchford Parish Council’s neighbourhood plan. The plan will be a material consideration in setting overall levels of development in the village and in identifying the education infrastructure required to mitigate impacts.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?
None
Soham Rural 1

What pressures have been identified previously? How have we acted upon them?
In recent years, there has been a growing pressure on Fordham Primary School to provide more places. A 1FE expansion, creating an additional 210 places, opened in September 2017 with the school now filling with an increasing number of children in each reception year intake.

What are we doing now?
No actions required

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?
In May 2019, a planning application for a new garden village of 500 homes at Kennett was approved. The Council is working with the sponsor of Kennett Primary Academy on a proposal for the relocation and expansion of the existing school to meet the long term demand for places. The school will increase in size from 105 places (0.5FE) to 210 places (1FE) however, at present, the timing of this is uncertain.

Soham Town 1

What pressures have been identified previously? How have we acted upon them?
In response to demographic pressures the Council has previously expanded Weatheralls Community Primary School by 1FE thereby increasing the overall number of spaces available from 420 to 630. It has also opened a new 2FE (420 place) primary school in the north of the Town; The Shade. The school currently operates at 1FE (210 places) but will be increased to 2FE (420 places) when the demand arising from new housing requires.

What are we doing now?
No actions required

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?
There are major development sites allocated in the Local Plan in the eastern and northern gateways to the Town, however, there is some uncertainty regarding the timescales for delivery. If the sites which have been allocated are developed, additional primary school provision will be required and the Council will need to secure a further primary school site through the Local Plan review process which will recommence later this year. The investment of public funds by the Peterborough and Cambridgeshire Combined Authority may contribute to bringing these sites forward sooner than may have been the case.
Fenland District Council’s Local Plan sets out a broad level of growth of 11,000 new homes for the district in the period up to 2031. These are mainly to be built as urban extensions to the existing market towns.

These proposals include:
- 4,350–5,050 homes to the east, south and west of Wisbech
- 3,400–5,500 homes to the north-east, south-west, south and east of March
- 1,150–2,400 homes to the south-east and south of Chatteris
- 1,250–1,950 homes to the north of Eastrea Road in Whittlesey

Although the annual number of births has fallen in the last two years, this may be counter-balanced by a recent increase in annual housing completions. In the coming years there will be a need for school place planning to respond, but this will need to reflect the pace of development which may be slow because of issues around development viability, and the impact of Brexit in those areas of the district where inward migration from the EU in recent years has been high.

**Chatteris Rural 1**

**What pressures have been identified previously? How have we acted upon them?**
This planning area covers a sparsely populated rural area. There is a need to respond to in-catchment demand at each school where it arises.

Benwick Primary School has been under sustained pressure to provide additional places. The number of 4 year olds living in the catchment area and requiring a place at the school is consistently above the current PAN, with a particularly large reception cohort in 2016. There are currently two mobile classrooms on site to accommodate these larger cohorts. Temporary accommodation has also been provided at Manea Primary School to enable the school to increase their intake in response to the housing growth within the village.

**What are we doing now?**
The Council recognises that it will be necessary to replace the temporary accommodation at both Benwick Primary School and Manea Primary School. This will therefore be considered for inclusion within the Council’s Capital Programme when funding can be made available.

**What are the requirements for major new housing developments?**
None
**Chatteris Town 1**

**What pressures have been identified previously? How have we acted upon them?**
The current forecast suggests that there is currently insufficient capacity in the town to meet the demand for school places within the existing community. Kingsfield Primary School already has one “bulge” class, but proposed housing developments are expected to further increase the demand for school places. As a result, an additional primary school was planned within the major development site to the south of the town to meet both an existing need and the need arising from this development.

A new primary school in Chatteris was approved in Wave 11 of the national free school programme, but the sponsor withdrew its application because of delays encountered at the pre-implementation stage.

**What are we doing now?**
The Council will now be providing the additional primary school places at Cromwell Community College. From September 2019, the school will accommodate children aged 2-19, as opposed to 11-19 as it did previously. A significant investment in accommodation suitable for primary phase education is being carried out on site. Phase 1 of this project, providing 210 places (1FE), is expected to be completed by December 2020 necessitating a temporary solution being put in place in September 2020.

**What are the requirements for major new housing developments?**
The expansion of Cromwell Community College, to include a further form of entry, will accommodate children from the two major development sites with outline planning consent.

**March Town 1**

**What pressures have been identified previously? How have we acted upon them?**
A combination of increased birth rate and small scale housing developments meant that there was a pressure on reception places in March, with the need to provide an additional 30 places by 2016. Westwood Primary School agreed to expand to 4FE in September 2016 by offering 120 places in Reception so that demand could be met locally. A two phase capital project delivered this expansion which was completed in the summer of 2018.

**What are we doing now?**
No actions required
What are the requirements for major new housing developments?
The potential for future growth in March is identified within the Fenland Local Plan. Further capacity will be required to address the needs arising from the additional housing identified in the south, south-west and south east of the town. This is likely to require the provision of new primary schools within these major housing development areas, however, the sites are some way from coming forward.

Westwood Primary School

Whittlesey Town 1

What pressures have been identified previously? How have we acted upon them?
For a lengthy period of time there was a surplus of primary school places. However, demographic change has meant that this is no longer the case. There are a number of active housing sites with planning permission which, once built out, will increase the pressure on places.

New Road Primary School over-admitted in September 2016, and then increased its PAN from 20 to 30 from September 2018.

What are we doing now?
In response to the housing development which has commenced in the town, it will be necessary to expand New Road Primary School to 2FE (420 places). A project has been included in the Capital Programme and design work is well advanced to deliver the additional accommodation by 2020.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?
None

Wisbech Rural 1

What pressures have been identified previously? How have we acted upon them?
None
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>What are we doing now?</strong></th>
<th>No actions required</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>What are the requirements for major new housing developments?</strong></td>
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**Wisbech Rural 2**

<table>
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<tr>
<th><strong>What pressures have been identified previously? How have we acted upon them?</strong></th>
<th>None</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td><strong>What are we doing now?</strong></td>
<td>No actions required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>What are the requirements for major new housing developments?</strong></td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Wisbech Town 1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>What pressures have been identified previously? How have we acted upon them?</strong></th>
<th>Notwithstanding the earlier expansions of Peckover Primary School and The Orchards Primary School, continued demographic changes meant that further capacity was required from September 2017. In response to this, a 1FE expansion of both Nene Infant School and Ramnoth Junior School was planned and is now complete. Combined, the expansion of these schools can provide an additional 210 places.</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>What are we doing now?</strong></td>
<td>No actions required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>What are the requirements for major new housing developments?</strong></td>
<td>The potential for future growth in Wisbech is identified within the Fenland Local Plan. Further capacity will be required to meet the needs arising from the additional housing identified. This is likely to require the provision of new primary schools within the major housing development areas which are to the east and west of the Town. However, timescales for these new developments remain uncertain linked to the requirement for major infrastructure improvements and associated financial viability.</td>
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</tbody>
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Huntingdonshire

Huntingdonshire District Council’s Local Plan, which was submitted to the Secretary Of State for examination on 29th March 2018, has now been adopted. This sets out the development plan for Huntingdonshire district up until 2036. The draft Local Plan proposes that 21,458 new homes will be built in the district in the period 2011 to 2036; an average of 858 new homes per year. Large extensions to Huntingdon are planned in addition to new developments on the former RAF Alconbury Airfield and further expansion to the east of St Neots.

Combined with existing targets, the Local Plan includes:
- approximately 8,339 new homes in Huntingdon, Godmanchester and Brampton
- 6,500 new homes on the former Alconbury Airfield and Grange Farm site as part of a new Enterprise Zone and 1,680 on RAF Alconbury
- 5,302 new homes in St Neots and at Little Paxton
- a proposed 873 dwellings planned in St Ives

The demand for reception places across the district will rely on the close monitoring of local variations and the impact of new housing developments.

**Huntingdon Rural 1**

**What pressures have been identified previously? How have we acted upon them?**
None

**What are we doing now?**
No actions required

**What are the requirements for major new housing developments?**
None
**Huntingdon Rural 2**

**What pressures have been identified previously? How have we acted upon them?**
A development of 1,250 dwellings has been identified in the Huntingdon Rural 2 area. This is made up of 815 dwellings planned for Brampton Park and 435 dwelling in the catchment area of Buckden Primary School. A 1FE expansion of Brampton Primary School, providing an additional 210 places, opened in 2016 to meet the demand generated from the new development in Brampton.

**What are we doing now?**
An expansion of Buckden Primary school may also be necessary to accommodate the increased number of pupils within the catchment area. The Council is currently reviewing the options, should this be required.

**What are the requirements for major new housing developments?**
The major development of a brownfield site is currently underway at Brampton park. As detailed above, an expansion of Brampton Village Primary School has been completed to meet the increased demand resulting from this development.

**Huntingdon Rural 3**

**What pressures have been identified previously? How have we acted upon them?**
The combination of increasing catchment pressure and the arrival of forces families from various bases abroad and elsewhere in the UK will increase demand for school places. Having identified the need to replace the existing school in Wyton due to the school’s condition, a construction project to replace the existing school and provide new school accommodation on the existing school site has now been completed. The school moved into the new accommodation in February 2019. The new building provides a total of 315 places; an increase of 105 places overall.

**What are we doing now?**
No actions required

**What are the requirements for major new housing developments?**
None
Huntingdon Town 1

What pressures have been identified previously? How have we acted upon them?
None

What are we doing now?
No actions required

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?
A major new development at Bearscroft Farm, Godmanchester, is underway and will provide 750 homes. In response, a new 1.5FE (315 place) primary school opened on its permanent site on the new development in October 2017 having been temporarily located on the Godmanchester Primary Academy site for a year.

A further new school providing 630 primary places will be required to serve the Ermine Street development on the outskirts of Huntingdon. A project is currently in the Capital Programme, however, there is uncertainty as to when it will be required.

Proposals for the re-development of the former Alconbury Airfield site as a 5,000–home, mixed-use development were set out as part of a Government-approved Enterprise Zone. The first houses were released for sale in Autumn 2016. The anticipated build rate is between 160 (initially) and 400 homes a year as the development progresses. It is anticipated that a development of this size will generate the demand for between 1,500 and 2,000 primary school places. The first of three primary schools, Ermine Street Church Academy, opened in September 2016 with 420 places (2FE). The school has been designed so that it can be expanded to 630 places (3FE) as the development grows. A new planning application has recently been submitted for the development of a further 1,500 dwellings on the southern area of the Alconbury Weald site known as Grange Farm. This application, if approved, would require an additional 3FE (630 place) primary school.
An area adjacent to the new development, RAF Alconbury, has been included in the Local Plan. If approved, this will deliver a further 1,680 homes and will require a new primary school.

**Ramsey Rural 1**

What pressures have been identified previously? How have we acted upon them?
The Local Plan includes details of developments in Ramsey Rural amounting to 590 new dwellings. There is currently some capacity in local schools which can accommodate children arising from these developments, however, this will need to be kept under review to ensure that sufficient places are available.

What are we doing now?
It may be necessary to expand local primary schools in the future, however, the timing of this is not yet known.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?
None

**Ramsey Town 1**

What pressures have been identified previously? How have we acted upon them?
None

What are we doing now?
Ramsey Spinning Infant School and Ramsey Junior School both previously had a PAN of 90. The Junior School reduced their PAN some years ago, and negotiations are now underway to gain agreement with the Academy Trust to increase their PAN once again to accommodate the children from the new developments.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?
The Local Plan includes details of developments in Ramsey Town amounting to 895 new dwellings. It may be possible to provide some additional places within existing schools to meet the needs of pupils arising from new development.

**Sawtry Rural 1**

What pressures have been identified previously? How have we acted upon them?
The Local Plan includes details of developments in the catchment area of Sawtry Infant and Junior Schools amounting to 375 new dwellings. A 1FE expansion of both schools was planned, however, a further application for 300 dwellings has been submitted which,
if approved, will require further provision. Some additional capacity has been provided at the Infant School to accommodate pupils in the short term, until a decision regarding the application is known and the further places can be delivered.

**What are we doing now?**
A number of options are currently being considered to ensure that there are sufficient places for the existing community and those from developments within the area.

**What are the requirements for major new housing developments?**
None

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_Sawtry Rural 2_

**What pressures have been identified previously? How have we acted upon them?**
None

**What are we doing now?**
No actions required

**What are the requirements for major new housing developments?**
None

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_St Ives Town 1_

**What pressures have been identified previously? How have we acted upon them?**
Plans were in place to increase the capacity at Eastfield Infant School/Westfield Junior School. However, as NHS data shows a fall in birth rates across St Ives, this is now under review.

**What are we doing now?**
Whilst the additional capacity will no longer be necessary, discussions with Eastfield Infant School/Westfield Junior School are ongoing to confirm whether they will amalgamate or retain their status as separate infant and junior schools.

**What are the requirements for major new housing developments?**
A large development of 400 dwellings planned for St Ives West is well underway. In response to this, an expansion of Thorndown Primary School has been completed.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>What pressures have been identified previously? How have we acted upon them?</th>
<th>What are we doing now?</th>
<th>What are the requirements for major new housing developments?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>St Neots Rural 1</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>No actions required</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Neots Rural 2</td>
<td>In August 2017, an expansion of Little Paxton Primary School was completed. The school now has a PAN of 60 and an overall capacity of 420 places (2FE).</td>
<td>No actions required</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Neots Rural 3</td>
<td>The Local Plan includes details of developments in St Neots Rural 3 amounting to 119 new dwellings. Forecasts suggest that there is sufficient capacity in the existing primary schools to accommodate children from these developments.</td>
<td>No actions required</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Neots Town 1 (8731130)</td>
<td>None</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What are we doing now?
No actions required

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?
Within Huntingdonshire District Council’s Local Plan, St Neots East is identified as a location for potential future housing growth. In addition to 140 dwellings planned in the town, the main housing will be delivered at Wintringham Park, (a 2,800 home development to the east of the railway) and Loves Farm 2 (a 1,020 home development adjacent to Loves Farm) known jointly as St Neots Eastern Expansion. The planning applications include sites for three new primary schools on the Eastern Expansion site.

The first of the three schools, Wintringham Primary Academy, opened in 2018. It will be able to accommodate 3FE (630 places) at capacity but opened with a small reception intake. The school is temporarily located on the site of The Roundhouse Primary School, but it is anticipated that the new school building will be completed by 2020.

What pressures have been identified previously? How have we acted upon them?
This planning area borders Peterborough Unitary Authority where there are pressures on the availability of places. There is also in-catchment growth in numbers in both Yaxley and Farcest. In response to this, three additional classrooms were provided at Fourfields Community Primary school for 2016.

What are we doing now?
The need for a second phase of expansion at Fourfields Community Primary School is currently under review although, at this time, it seems that further expansion will be unnecessary.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?
None
South Cambridgeshire

The South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC) AMR 2018 reaffirms the Local Plan expectation that 19,500 new homes will be built in the period 2011 to 2031. Although the extant Local Plan, alongside the Cambridge City Local Plan, was only adopted in September 2018, a new Local Plan is being drafted with an expected adoption in 2023.

The Local Plan anticipates the majority of these new homes to be delivered through urban extensions of Cambridge and Cambourne, or the creation of new developments proposed at Bourn Airfield, and two new towns at Northstowe and Waterbeach. Planning consent has been given for the first two phases of Northstowe, although phase two will not be delivered in meaningful numbers until the completion of the A14 upgrade in 2020. Consent has also been given for the development west of Cambourne which is expected to begin in the next 12 months. The other major developments are at an early stage of discussion in the planning process.

There has also been increased pressure as a result of demographic change. These pressures are a result of an increase in the birth rate seen in previous years. Additionally, there are clear patterns of inward migration into many villages with many family houses becoming available as older homeowners begin to downsize. The combination of these factors has led to growing pressures on many village schools across the district.

Bassingbourn Rural 1

What pressures have been identified previously? How have we acted upon them?
Currently there are no significant pressures within the planning area and existing schools have sufficient capacity to meet the local demand for places. However, there are plans for the Ministry of Defence to re-open Bassingbourn Barracks.

What are we doing now?
In response to the plans to re-open Bassingbourn Barracks, an expansion Bassingbourn Primary School is now underway and is due to be completed for the summer term of 2020. The completion of these works will mean that the school’s capacity will be increased to 2FE (420 places).

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?
None
**Comberton Rural**

**What pressures have been identified previously? How have we acted upon them?**

There are a number of speculative housing developments which have been proposed, and/or approved, which will have an impact upon primary provision the planning area.

In Caldecote, a number of planning applications for residential development have been approved. Caldecote Primary School currently operates close to its capacity, although some of the demand arises from pupils coming from outside the catchment area. The Council will therefore need to monitor this as it may be necessary to provide additional places at the school in the future.

In Hardwick, two sizeable housing developments have been approved. The Council is keeping demand in the village and the impact of housing development on projected pupil numbers under review.

Gamlingay Village College closed in 2018 at the same time as the First School extended its age-range to become an all-through, 2FE (420 place) primary school. The new primary initially operated from the First School site, but relocated to the refurbished Village College site in January 2019. This will provide sufficient capacity to meet the demand in the village as well as that arising from planned housing developments in the village.

**What are we doing now?**

Should the planning applications detailed above be approved, it may be necessary to expand Caldecote Primary School by 0.5FE (105 places) to create 1.5FE overall (315 places). It may also be necessary to increase the capacity at Hardwick Primary School to 2FE (420 places).

Two new primary schools are anticipated to be required to mitigate the development at Bourn Airfield. However, development is unlikely to commence within the next five years.

**What are the requirements for major new housing developments?**

There are a number of housing developments which fall within this planning area. This includes 3,500 homes in the new village proposed for development at Bourn Airfield in the submitted Local Plan.
Comberton Rural 2

What pressures have been identified previously? How have we acted upon them?
Housing development is drawing to completion across Cambourne. This has led to the demand for reception places at the four schools beginning to level off after a number of years of significant growth. However, the patterns of movement in, out, and within Cambourne appears to remain and it is likely that this could lead to continued pressure across all schools.

What are we doing now?
The scale of additional housing development west of Cambourne (2,350 dwellings) will lead to the need for two primary schools. The timescale for opening the first of these will depend on when the new development commences, and the future demand for places within the current Cambourne community. However, it is anticipated that it would not need to open before 2023.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?
The proposed housing development of Cambourne West, which would see the development of 2,350 homes, has been granted outline planning consent. This site would create a 50% increase in homes across Cambourne. With the move towards completion of the current phases of development, it is anticipated that there will be a rapid implementation of this consent in the coming years.

Cottenham Rural 1

What pressures have been identified previously? How have we acted upon them?
There are a number of speculative housing development proposals which have been approved in Cottenham. This means that, in total, around 500 new homes would be delivered in the village. Although there is currently some capacity within Cottenham Primary School, if all the housing developments are approved, there would be a requirement to secure additional capacity through further expansion of the school.
What are we doing now?
The scale and timing of any expansion of Cottenham Primary School will need to be determined once there is greater clarity about the scale of development in the village.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?
None

Impington Rural

What have we done recently?
There have been a number of speculative housing applications in Waterbeach over the past three years; some of which are now under construction. This housing growth, combined with increased demographic changes, have led to significant increases in the in-catchment demand for primary school places.

In Histon and Impington increased demand for places had led to the Council working with the Infant and Junior Schools to secure an additional form of entry. This increase in demand resulted from a combination of demographic changes, inward migration and new infill housing development. Whilst limited additional housing development has been proposed within the Local Plan, the village is identified as being one of the most sustainable within South Cambridgeshire.

What are we doing now?
In response to the pressures identified, the Council is in the process of expanding Waterbeach Community Primary School by 1FE (210 places) to create 3FE (630 places) overall. Building work is currently underway, with the project expected to be completed in 2020.

Histon and Impington Infant and Junior Schools will be redeveloped to enable them to extend their age ranges to operate as all-through primary schools. The Infant school will relocated to Buxhall Farm. The first phase of this project was completed in January 2019, and the second phase is expected to be completed for September 2021.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?
An outline planning application has been approved for the first phase of the major new development of 6,500 homes at Waterbeach Barracks. The developer has indicated that they anticipate delivering an initial phase of development of around 1,600 homes with development potentially commencing in 2021. If the development of Waterbeach Barracks proceeds as planned and proposed timescales are met, a new primary school will be required from 2021/22.
A second application, for 4,500 homes adjacent to the barracks site has recently been submitted. The timescales for this development are less clear at this stage. It is likely that an additional primary school would also be needed in response to the second application, and that this would be required at an early stage of the development. However, this may depend on the connectivity between the two developments.

Linton Rural 1

What have we done recently?
The schools in the Linton Rural planning area are increasingly operating close to, or at, capacity. This is in large part due to patterns of parental preference, with a number of schools attracting large numbers of pupils from outside the planning area, and from outside of Cambridgeshire. As such, although there is frequently pressure on places, the schools are able to meet demand for places from within their catchment community so there is no real demand for additional capacity.

What are we doing now?
No actions required

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?
None

Melbourn Rural 1

What have we done recently?
It is anticipated that there could be small scale speculative housing development across all catchment areas. Further pressures are also being experienced as a result of a shift in the demographic make-up of some villages. Specifically there is anecdotal evidence that a large number of family houses from earlier developments (i.e. 1950’s and 60’s) are returning to the market as the baby boomer generation chooses to downsize. This is supported by the growth in demand within some year groups, accounting for inward migration as well as changes in birth rates. These pressures are kept under review, especially in the context of the more significant housing development proposals detailed below.

What are we doing now?
An expansion of Barrington C of E Primary School to become a 1FE school (210 place) has been completed, and recently opened for September 2019.
What are the requirements for major new housing developments?
The development of 250 homes on a brownfield site within Hauxton’s catchment area is well underway. As a result, there is increased demand for school places at the village school. In response to this, additional capacity was created through the delivery of a new hall and classroom for September 2015 which enabled Hauxton Primary School to increase its PAN to 15. The potential for provision of a fifth classroom, allowing a further increase in PAN up to 20, was included within the design so that if there is a need for future additional places, these can be delivered.

A speculative planning application for 300 homes on the former CEMEX site on the outskirts of Barrington has been approved and an expansion of the local school has been completed.

Melbourn Rural 2

What have we done recently?
Growing demographic pressures, which can in part be linked to significant changes in employment (the relocation of Astra Zeneca), have created in-catchment demand in both Melbourn and Meldreth. In addition, there have been a number of speculative planning applications across both villages, which have either been, or because of the brownfield status of the sites, are expected to be, approved. To meet the expected demand, Melbourn Primary School has been expanded from its current 1.5FE (315 places) to 2FE (420 places), and the capacity at Meldreth Primary School increased to 1FE (210 places). These projects have been delivered ahead of the implementation of the housing developments. This reflects the limited capacity within both catchment areas and will also ensure that the Council has sufficient places for the early residents moving into the new developments.

What are we doing now?
No actions required

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?
None

Meldreth Primary School
**Sawston Rural 1**

**What have we done recently?**
Birth rates in the area have fallen, and the need for additional places to meet the existing demand is no longer required.

**What are we doing now?**
No actions required

**What are the requirements for major new housing developments?**
Outline planning permission for up to 1,500 residential dwellings has been submitted for an extension of the Genome Campus, Hinxton which, if approved, would require additional primary provision within the area.

**Sawston Rural 2**

**What have we done recently?**
None

**What are we doing now?**
No actions required

**What are the requirements for major new housing developments?**
None

**Sawston Rural 3**

**What have we done recently?**
South Cambridgeshire District Council’s Local Plan indicates that there will be significant development in and around Sawston in the near future. This development, combined with demographic change, continues to increase pressure on the available primary school places within Sawston.

**What are we doing now?**
In response to the proposed housing developments and increased birth rates, an expansion of The Bellbird Primary School has been completed, and recently opened for September 2019. The completion of these works mean that the school will now be able to operate with a PAN of 60, and an overall capacity of 420 places (2FE). An expansion of The Icknield Primary School is also planned, however, the timescales for redevelopment will depend on the pace of development across the village.
What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

None

Swavesey Rural and Northstowe

What have we done recently?
The impact of recently completed housing development combined with demographic change has increased demand for primary school places in Longstanton. In response to this, Hatton Park Primary School has over admitted catchment pupils over recent years with permanent accommodation being provided from September 2017. The school PAN will be increased, with the timing of this to be determined by the Academy Trust in the coming years.

What are we doing now?
No identified pressures

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?
The delivery of the new town of Northstowe, which has been planned over an extended period, has begun with the first new residents arriving in Spring 2017. The first new primary, The Pathfinder School, opened in September 2017. The school, which will ultimately become 3FE (630 places), has opened with a reduced PAN. This is in line with the long-standing approach of the Council to ensure that schools in new communities are able to grow in line with the housing development and community which they serve. Further primary schools will be required over the coming years.

Swavesey Rural 2

What have we done recently?
A number of speculative planning applications have been approved with a significant number of new homes anticipated to be delivered in Papworth over the next three to five years.
What are we doing now?
In order to meet the increased number of pupils projected from new development in Papworth, it may be necessary to expand Pendragon Community Primary School. The options for expansion are currently under review, but the timescales are not yet known, and will be determined by the pace of housing development in the village.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?
None

Swavesey Rural 3

What have we done recently?
Fenstanton Primary School is located in the District of Huntingdonshire but is a feeder primary school of Swavesey Village College in South Cambridgeshire. The demographic forecasts indicate that over the next five years there will be some years where in-catchment demand for reception places will exceed the school’s PAN. These pressures arise from a combination of demographic growth as well as the delivery of a number of new housing developments within Fenstanton.

What are we doing now?
The Council is currently exploring a range of options to ensure sufficient capacity, and to meet the increased demand arising from the housing developments within the village.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?
None

3.7 What are the pressures in the secondary phase? How are we responding?

Cambridge City

The Council has recently completed a detailed review of demand for secondary education provision in Cambridge City. This work concluded that the impact of the larger primary school cohorts seen since 2008 moving through to the secondary phase, mean that there is currently limited capacity. There is projected to be a shortfall in secondary provision which will increase further in coming years.
**Cambridge City**

What pressures have been identified previously? How have we acted upon them?
Trumpington College Academy opened in September 2015 to serve the developments on the south west fringe of Cambridge. The school will ultimately operate as 5FE (750 places), but is currently operating with a lower PAN. This will increase annually to ensure that the school grows in line with the housing developments it serves.

What are we doing now?
The Council has identified a number of mitigations to deliver additional capacity. This includes a 2FE expansion to Chesterton Community College which will create an additional 300 places. Whilst the works are now complete, the school has not yet increased its PAN and this will be subject to ongoing monitoring and review of demand. The Council has also supported a small expansion in capacity at St Bede’s taking the school to 6FE (900 places).

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?
A new school will also be opened to serve the new housing developments in the northwest of the City, which will be run by Cambridge Meridian Academy Trust (CMAT). Delays in the commencement of development at Darwin Green mean that the opening date of this school continues to be kept under review. Ultimately this will be a 6FE school, offering 900 places, but, it is anticipated that it will grow to meet the needs of the new housing developments.

In addition to this, as part of Wave 12 of the Government’s Free School Programme, a new secondary school has been approved for the east of Cambridge. Following discussions between the Council, the EFSA and the Knowledge Learning Trust, it has been agreed that the opening date for the school should be delayed from that initially approved by the DfE. Depending upon the overall timescales for the housing development, it is anticipated that the school will not be needed until 2023/24 at the earliest.

**East Cambridgeshire**

The Local Plan for East Cambridgeshire, which was adopted in 2015, promoted widespread but small pockets of housing development accompanied by a major expansion of Ely (3,900 homes), Soham (1,665 homes) and Littleport (1,447 homes).

A district wide review of secondary school provision is being undertaken to ensure sufficient places are delivered. It has concluded that current secondary schools in East Cambridgeshire should be expanded to meet their in-catchment need for places as and
when it arises. This will allow for a more flexible response to the slowly rising demand for places and provide these places at a local school. A single new school to meet the cumulative demand across East Cambridgeshire was not the Council’s favoured approach given the distances involved and the potential impact of a new school on existing schools within the district.

The Council is yet to implement any recommendations arising from its most recent review as there is a Wave 12 application for a new 4/5 FE free school in Soham, sponsored by the St Bede’s Trust, which is still under consideration by the DfE. If this application proceeds to implementation expansion of the existing schools within East Cambridgeshire would not be required to meet the basic need for places.

**Bottisham, Ely, Soham, Witchford**

**What pressures have been identified previously? How have we acted upon them?**

Children living in Burwell have the option of attending either Bottisham Village College or Soham Village College as their designated catchment school. An earlier district wide review of secondary provision in East Cambridgeshire, completed in 2010, concluded that limited expansion would be required at both of these schools with the timing dependent upon the rate of build and distribution of the proposed new housing development. A 3FE (450 place) expansion of Bottisham Village College was included within the Council’s Capital Programme and completed in 2018/19.

A further conclusion of the 2010 review was that a new secondary school would be required in Littleport. The number of secondary-aged children are beginning to rise within the area served by Ely College which currently includes the village of Littleport. The new secondary school in Littleport opened in September 2017 together with a co-located special school. It served Year 7 pupils initially, growing year on year from the bottom upwards. By September 2021 it will be operating in all five year groups with total capacity for 600 pupils (4FE).

**What are we doing now?**

No actions required

**What are the requirements for major new housing developments?**

None
Specific proposals have been adopted following the district-wide review of secondary school provision in Fenland which concluded in 2017. These are set out below in the pressures and response section.

**Chatteris, March, Whittlesey, Wisbech**

**What pressures have been identified previously? How have we acted upon them?**

Cromwell Community College was part of Cambridgeshire’s Building Schools for the Future programme. As part of this programme, the capacity at the college was increased to reflect the anticipated housing development in Chatteris.

The catchment forecasts for Thomas Clarkson Academy indicate that there is an increasing pressure for places in Year 7 from 2017, when the larger cohorts of reception pupils will begin to reach secondary school age. At this point, the potential pressure for places could increase dramatically year on year with a need for a further 210 places required for Year 7 by September 2024.

One of the recommendations in the review was for the Council to establish a new 4FE/5FE secondary school in Wisbech to open in 2020 to provide between 600 and 750 places. Three potential sponsors submitted applications in Wave 13 of the Free Schools Programme, however, these were unsuccessful. The DfE considered that there was no basic need case for a new secondary school in the area.

**What are we doing now?**

Demographic change means that a further form of entry will be required at Cromwell Community College. A project to deliver this has been included within the Capital Programme and is due for completion in August 2020.

A 1FE (150 place) expansion of Sir Harry Smith Community College, Whittlesey will also be required in either 2022 or 2023.
There are ongoing discussions between the Council and the Academy Trusts who have shown an interest in sponsoring the new school at Wisbech. It is likely that a further bid for a new secondary school and co-located provision for students with social, emotional and mental health (SEMH) needs will be submitted as part of the next round of free school applications (Wave 14).

**What are the requirements for major new housing developments?**
None

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**Huntingdonshire**

Huntingdonshire District Council has now adopted its Local Plan which sets out the development plan for the Huntingdonshire district up until 2036. The draft local plan proposes that 21,458 new homes will be built in the district in the period 2011 to 2036; an average of 858 new homes per year. The proposed developments and demographic changes will have a significant impact on secondary provision across Huntingdonshire.

In addition to the new developments, the primary cohorts across Huntingdonshire have been increasing. This is now starting to impact on the demand for secondary places. Most schools are experiencing an increase in pupils, though this is forecast to reach a peak in 2023/2024/2025. Many of the secondary schools can accommodate increased numbers, however, when combined with new developments, there is the need for additional secondary places in some areas.

**Huntingdon**

**What pressures have been identified previously? How have we acted upon them?**
New provision in Huntingdon will be largely driven by the needs coming from major new housing developments as proposed in the new Local Plan. The current pupil projections indicate that there is sufficient capacity at the two secondary schools to meet demand for places within their respective catchment areas until at least 2020/21. However, a 600 place (4FE) secondary free school has been approved to pre-implementation stage by the DfE in Wave 12 of its Free School Programme. A site has not yet been identified and the future of the project is unconfirmed.

**What are we doing now?**
Pupil forecasts will be kept under review as the larger primary cohorts age, and as the new developments are built.

**What are the requirements for major new housing developments?**
Alconbury Weald: The first residents moved into the new development at Alconbury Weald during the autumn of 2016. Eventually, this will be a new community of some
6,500 homes served by its own secondary school. The DfE has approved a 1,200 place (8FE) secondary school to pre-implementation stage under Wave 11 of the Free School Programme, however, the opening date of the school is yet to be agreed. Sawtry Community Academy will provide secondary school places in the first years of the community and pupil numbers will be closely monitors as the development progresses.

A new development of the outskirts of Huntingdon, known as Ermine Street, will result in the need for additional secondary school places, with additional places to be provided at either St Peter’s School or Hinchingbrooke School.

**Ramsey**

**What pressures have been identified previously? How have we acted upon them?**

Abbey College has reduced its PAN to 180 to better reflect demand from in-catchment pupils. The number of pupils in catchment currently exceeds PAN and is forecast to continue to increase to 9.4FE in 2023, however, a large number of children take their secondary place out of catchment. The condition of the buildings at Abbey College present additional challenges to offering sufficient places to in catchment children. The college is currently considering ways to improve to accommodation and the Council is providing support to enable the College consider all options.

**What are we doing now?**

No actions required

**What are the requirements for major new housing developments?**

None

**Sawtry**

**What pressures have been identified previously? How have we acted upon them?**

Sawtry Village College has reduced its PAN to 180 to better reflect in-catchment pupil numbers. However, the number of secondary-aged children resident in the school’s catchment area is rising, and the school is also offering places to children from the Alconbury Weald development until the secondary school opens.

**What are we doing now?**

No actions required

**What are the requirements for major new housing developments?**

None
**St Ives**

**What pressures have been identified previously? How have we acted upon them?**
The number of secondary-aged children in the St Ivo catchment is rising, however, these children can be accommodated within the school’s existing PAN with the exception of 2023 when, for one year, the numbers exceed the school’s PAN by 0.4FE.

**What are we doing now?**
No actions required

**What are the requirements for major new housing developments?**
None

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**St Neots**

**What pressures have been identified previously? How have we acted upon them?**
Currently the forecasts suggest that there will be sufficient secondary school capacity across the town’s two secondary schools to meet the demands from the existing community.

**What are we doing now?**
No actions required

**What are the requirements for major new housing developments?**
As the St Neots Eastern expansion develops, additional secondary school provision will be needed, although not until 2023. These projects currently fall outside the timescale of the Capital Programme, however, this will be kept under review as the developments progress.

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**Peterborough Rural**

**What pressures have been identified previously? How have we acted upon them?**
Like Cambridgeshire, Peterborough has, in recent years, experienced an increase in the number of primary-aged pupils. As these large cohorts of children age, there will be an increase in demand for secondary places. In particular, there are demographic pressures upon Fletton and Woodston, the areas of Peterborough which are closest to Stanground Academy which has been the catchment secondary school for Cambridgeshire children living in the Yaxley and Farcet area. In response to these pressures, the Council jointly commissioned (with Peterborough City Council) a new school to serve the 11-18 age range at Hampton Gardens which has become the catchment secondary school for Yaxley village. It is a Peterborough school, run by Hampton Academies Trust (HAT), which already runs nearby Hampton Academy. It opened in September 2017 for Year 7 pupils.
initially and will grow, year on year from the bottom upwards until September 2021 when it will serve all five secondary year groups.

**What are we doing now?**
No actions required

**What are the requirements for major new housing developments??**
None

![Hampton Gardens Secondary School](image1.jpg)

**South Cambridgeshire**

As outlined in the primary overview for South Cambridgeshire, the South Cambridgeshire District Council AMR 2018 reaffirms the Local Plan expectation that 19,500 new homes will be built in the period 2011 to 2031 which will have a significant effect on secondary place planning across the district. In addition, the District Council were unable to demonstrate the availability of sufficient sites to provide a five year housing land supply. This has led to a large number of speculative planning applications being submitted and approved across the District. This has, and will, continue to place significant pressures on the Council and schools to respond to changing patterns of demand.

The major new towns of Northstowe and at Waterbeach will be built out over the next fifteen to thirty years. These towns will be the major determinant in South Cambridgeshire in the years ahead.

**Comberton and Cambourne**

**What pressures have been identified previously? How have we acted upon them?**
None

**What are we doing now?**
The Council is currently in the process of expanding the current Cambourne Village College by 2FE (300 places) to meet the demand from within its catchment area.
**What are the requirements for major new housing developments?**

Future demand for places will rise steeply once the proposed major development of 2,350 houses to the west of Cambourne, approved in 2016, is built out. In response to this, the Council has identified a need for an additional 600 place (4FE) of secondary school provision which will be run as a second campus of Cambourne Village College. The timescale for this additional provision is not yet known and will depend largely on the pace of housing development within the area.

![Cambourne Village College](image)

**Cottenham and Impington**

**What pressures have been identified previously? How have we acted upon them?**

None

**What are we doing now?**

None

**What are the requirements for major new housing developments?**

The development of the new town at Waterbeach Barracks is anticipated to begin in 2021, although this is subject to planning consent being secured. This will require at least one new secondary school of at least 8FE (1,200 places). However, further provision may be required dependent upon the extent, and pace, of development. Cottenham Village College has sufficient capacity to accommodate the initial demand. With the growth in demand from speculative housing development, as well as the new town, it is likely that there would not be a shortfall in provision from around 2025/26, and further provision will then be needed subject to the extent and pace of housing development.

**Linton**

**What pressures have been identified previously? How have we acted upon them?**

None

**What are we doing now?**

No actions required
What are the requirements for major new housing developments?
None

Swavesey

What pressures have been identified previously? How have we acted upon them?
The demographic forecasts indicate that there is increasing demand for places at Swavesey Village College over the course of the next decade which, combined with development in the school’s catchment area, will lead to a shortage of places at the school towards the end of the decade. This pressure is being addressed in part through the expansion of the school to accommodate a PAN of 270, and through making changes in the school’s catchment area. This change will involve Longstanton (served by Hatton Park Primary School) becoming part of the catchment area of Northstowe Secondary College.

What are we doing now?
The Council is exploring the potential to increase the capacity of Swavesey Village College by 1FE (150 places) to mitigate the anticipated growth in demand as a result of the large number of speculative planning applications within the school’s catchment area.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?
A new secondary school required to serve the new town of Northstowe has recently opened, with its first intake starting in September 2019. The school will initially accommodate 600 pupils, but will expand in subsequent phases to be able to accommodate 1,200, and 1,800 pupils.

Sawston

What pressures have been identified previously? How have we acted upon them?
Sawston Village College has increased its PAN from 210 to 240. The academy undertook this independently of the County Council, however, in the medium term this may support the Council in responding to the increase in the demand for secondary school places forecast in the neighbouring planning area of Bassingbourn and Melbourn.
What are we doing now?
An assessment of the impact of increased pupil numbers, and of the options to create additional capacity at the school is underway.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?
None

Bassingbourn and Melbourn

What pressures have been identified previously? How have we acted upon them?
The pressure for places at Melbourn Village College is increasing as a result of larger secondary cohorts and changes in parental preference with the school retaining more children resident within its catchment area.

What are we doing now?
An assessment of the impact of increased pupil numbers, and of the options to create additional capacity at the school is underway.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?
None

3.8 Useful Resources

Academy and Free School Presumption

Capital Programme – Business Plan (2018-23)

Education Act (1996)

Education Act (2011)

Education and Inspections Act (2006)
First Steps: Admission to Primary School

Learn Together Cambridgeshire
https://www.cambslearntogether.co.uk/

Next Steps: Admission to Secondary School

Ofsted
https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

Youthsia
http://www.youthoria.org/
Chapter 4: Post 16 Provision

4.1 What is the national policy?

The Education and Skills Act (2008) increased the minimum age at which young people in England can leave learning.

Since 2015, young people have been required to continue in learning or training until the age of 18. Raising the participation age does not mean young people must stay in school; they can choose from one of the following options:

- Full-time education, such as school, college or home education
- Apprenticeships, work-based learning
- Part-time education or training if they are employed, self-employed or volunteering for at least 20 hours a week

4.2 What are the Council’s responsibilities?

The local authority has the duty to encourage, enable and assist young people to participate in education or training. It therefore has the responsibility to:

- secure sufficient education and training for young people who wish to travel into their area to learn
- secure sufficient suitable education and training provision for all young people in the area who are over compulsory school age but under 19 or aged 19 to 25 and an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan is maintained
- secure sufficient suitable education and training for young people subject to youth detention

4.3 What types of provision are available?

The Post 16 offer in Cambridgeshire is delivered by a range of providers including:

- further education colleges
- academies with a 6th form
- specific vocational skills centres at a number of schools and colleges
- maintained and private special schools for young people with SEND whose needs cannot be met within the range of support or specially resourced provision offered by mainstream providers
- independent schools
- independent private providers
- apprenticeship providers
Following a one month consultation period, Huntingdonshire and Cambridge Regional Colleges formally merged on 1st August 2017. The merger combines the strengths of both colleges, providing a range of courses including post-GCSE programmes and further education qualifications.

Changes to post 16 provision have also been proposed at a national level. In March 2019, the Department for Education (DfE) announced a review of post-16 vocational qualifications, excluding A-level and T-levels, in England. Consultation around these changes is planned in two stages. The first concluded in March 2019, but the second stage is planned for December 2019.

The proposed changes are to withdraw approval for funding for:

- qualifications that the DfE deems meet its criteria for pre-existing qualifications
- qualifications that have not demonstrated any market demand for the past two years
- qualifications with low enrolments

Proposed timetable for changes to take effect (Review of post-16 qualifications at level 3 and below in England, DfE)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Proposal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 2020</td>
<td>Funding approval withdrawn from pre-existing qualification</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 2021</td>
<td>Funding approval withdrawn from qualifications with low or no enrolments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 2023 onwards</td>
<td>Removal of approval for funding from qualifications as determined by the review and in line with the rollout of T Levels.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.4 How do we identify pressures?

Capacity Forecasts

Capacity forecasts are updated on an annual basis and are based on residency of students rather than place of provision delivery. It has not been possible to assess the capacity of apprenticeship providers, including the colleges, as many of these are national operators. This capacity assessment therefore focuses on what is known as ‘learner responsive’ rather than ‘employer responsive’ provision.

There are three potential scenarios regarding capacity, each requiring a different response from institutions and/or partnerships. These are:

- insufficient capacity
- sufficient capacity
oversupply

Housing Development
Information about housing development is taken from the local Planning Authorities’ documents including:

- Local Plan: this establishes policy aspirations in relation to future housing development
- Annual Monitoring Report: this sets out the number of new homes completed each year, and a trajectory for the number of new homes anticipated in future years

These set the aspirations and expectations for new housing development. As the rate of development is driven by economic conditions, they do not provide total certainty about the actual number of houses that will be built each year, but they are the best available evidence base on which to make assumptions about the impact of development on Further Education places.

Future Forecasting
A review of Post 16 provision is currently underway. The Council is working on incorporating its existing 2017 based forecasting model outputs with a detailed analysis of the demand for different types of provision across the county. This will enable the Council to accurately assess the post 16 learner market and where future gaps in provision by type are likely to occur.

4.5 How do we commission Post 16 places?

In recent years the role of the Council with regard to post-16 provision has moved away from being the commissioner of learner places, to working with schools and colleges in an influencing role, with a strategic overview of provision and needs.

The Council recognises that the providers of post-16 education and training, including general further education colleges, sixth form colleges and school sixth forms, are autonomous institutions free to determine their own curriculum and to attract students within a free market. Likewise, providers recognise the statutory responsibility placed on local authorities to secure sufficient suitable education and training opportunities to meet the reasonable needs of all young people in their area. Each provider is responsible for delivering a high quality learning experience promoting young people’s successful progression to 19 and beyond in the light of current legislation, including the raising of the participation age to 18.

The Council is committed to ensuring that the needs of all Cambridgeshire’s young people are met, while recognising that post-16 education and training provision is
ultimately determined by learner choice. This require cooperation and collaboration between all parties.

4.6 What are the pressures? How are we responding?

The pressures identified within this section remain unchanged from the previous version of the Education Organisation Plan (2018-19), with the number of places forecast to 2028.

**Cambridge (including East Cambridgeshire and South Cambridgeshire)**

Provision within sixth form colleges and general further education colleges in the Cambridge Area is forecast to remain static until 2026/27 at 3,584 and 3,531 respectively. Sixth form college provision is delivered within the area, so it has been assumed that historic travel to learn patterns will remain unchanged.

**What pressures have been identified previously? How have we acted upon them?**
None

**What are we doing now?**

The demand for places are forecast to increase in 2024/25. In response to this, a new sixth form will be established in Northstowe. This is anticipated to open in 2023/24 subject to ongoing discussions with the Academy Trust.

The Cam Academy Trust are in early discussions with the office of the Regional Schools Commissioner about the provision of Post 16 education at Cambourne Village College. It is proposing that the 350 place sixth form at Comberton Village College, a neighbouring school also sponsored by the Cam Academy Trust, is mirrored at Cambourne Village College. The Trust is seeking the earliest possible opening of such a sixth form as the demand for places at Comberton Village College have risen faster than forecast and it is currently operating above its planned capacity.

It is expected that the 2019 Post 16 review will identify significant additional demand for places post 2030 for which plans will need to be put in place.
Post 16 places available in 2026/27

Provision within sixth form colleges for Fenland residents is forecast to remain static until 2026/27. Following infrastructure changes at the College of West Anglia Isle Campus, to include a new Technology Centre replacing some existing building, capacity is expected to remain static at 1,752.

**What pressures have been identified previously? How have we acted upon them?**

School sixth form capacity in Fenland increased prior to 2013/14 predominantly due to the opening of additional school facilities following ‘Building Schools for the Future’ (‘BSF’) programmes at Cromwell Community College, Neale-Wade Academy, Sir Harry Smith Community College and Thomas Clarkson Academy. It was assumed that around 10% of learners at the University Technology College, which opened in Cambridge in September 2014, travelled from Fenland hence the increase in Fenland capacity from 2014/15.

**What are we doing now?**

No actions required.
Huntingdonshire

Provision within general further education colleges for Huntingdonshire residents is forecast to remain static until 2026/27 at 2,098. Sixth form college provision is forecast to remain the same. The sixth form college provision is delivered outside the area so it has been assumed that historic travel to learn patterns will remain unchanged.

School sixth form capacity has been forecast to grow for Huntingdonshire residents by 42 places from 2014/15, as it was assumed that around 10% of learners at the Cambridge Academy for Science and Technology travelled from Huntingdonshire.

In total, 725 places are accessed by Huntingdonshire residents outside of Cambridgeshire. It is assumed that the proportion will remain static over the next ten years. The out of county schools currently attracting Huntingdonshire learners are predominantly in Peterborough and the out of county further education colleges are predominantly in Peterborough, Bedford Borough and Lincolnshire.

What pressures have been identified previously? How have we acted upon them?

None

What are we doing now?

The new secondary school at Alconbury Weald, which has been approved to pre-implementation stage under Wave 11 of the Free School Programme, will include sixth form provision.
4.7 Useful Links

Apprenticeships
https://www.gov.uk/topic/further-education-skills/apprenticeships

Education and Skills Act (2008)

Learn Together Cambridgeshire
https://www.cambslearntogether.co.uk/

Ofsted
https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

Raising the participation age

Review of Post 16 qualification at Level 3 and below in England

UCAS
https://www.ucas.com/further-education
Your choices at 16

Youthoria
http://www.youthoria.org/
5.1 What is the national policy?

Children and Families Act (2014)
The Children and Families Act (2014) aims to ensure that all children, young people and their families are able to access the right support and provision to meet their needs. The Act outlines the Code of Practice for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

Special Educational Needs Code of Practice (2015)
The Code of Practice sets out a general presumption of mainstream education for children with SEND. In addition, it states parents of children with an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) and young people with such a Plan have the right to seek a place at a special school, special post-16 institution or specialist college.

Other key pieces of legislation which are used to guide practice include:
- Mental Capacity Act (2005)
- Equalities Act (2010)
- Care Act (2014)
- NHS Five Year Forward View (2014)
- Think Autism: an update to the Department of Health strategy (2014)
- Transforming Care - Building the right support (2015)

5.2 What are the Council’s responsibilities?

Section 14 of the Education Act (1996) places local authorities under a general duty to provide a school place for every child living in their area of responsibility, irrespective of their needs. This may be in mainstream or specialist provision.

Health services, the local authority and their partners are required to:
- include children, young people and their parents/carers in decision making at individual and strategic level
- work cooperatively together both at a strategic level when developing, buying and managing services and also at an individual level when agreeing support to families including the production of Education, Health and Care plans (EHCPs) for children and young people
The Children and Families Act (2014) also places a duty on every local authority to publish a Local Offer, setting out in one place information on the provision they expect to be available in their area for children and young people aged between 0 and 25 who have special educational needs or disabilities (SEND).

5.3 What types of provision are available?

Cambridgeshire County Council, in its role as the local admissions authority, is committed to inclusion and will endeavour to support children in mainstream schools wherever possible. However, there are a number of special education providers for those children and young people for whom mainstream is not considered appropriate.

*Special Education Providers in Cambridgeshire as of 15th August 2019*

- **11** Special Schools
- **6** Cabins
- **3** Primary units
- **5** Secondary units

5.4 How has this changed?

The number of pupils with special educational needs and disability (SEND) in England has increased for a third consecutive year representing 14.9% of the total pupil population. This is driven by increases in both the number of pupils with an EHC Plan and with SEND support (National Statistics, 2019).

In Cambridgeshire, 3.2% of children and young people currently have an EHC plan, compared with 3.1% nationally.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Percentage of pupils with statements or EHC plans (%)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cambridgeshire</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East of England</td>
<td>2.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>England</td>
<td>2.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The rise in the number of children with an EHC Plan in Cambridgeshire is shown below.

*The number of pupils with an EHC plan in Cambridgeshire – Census Data 2017-19*

- In 2017, 3,429 pupils had a statement or EHC Plan
- In 2018, 3,822 pupils had a statement or EHC Plan
- In 2019, 4,198 pupils had a statement or EHC Plan

+ 10%
+ 9%

5.5 How do we identify pressures?

National Statistics
The Department for Education publishes national statistics on an annual basis. This is collated using the information provided as part of the school census on pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and SEND provision in schools. This provides further analysis by primary type of need, and the trends over time.

Forecast Information
Projections of SEND need are calculated based on a standard formula using data from the last four years. These provide a snapshot of possible trends and pressures for the future. This method places most focus on areas where there is growth or turbulence beyond what might be expected from population increase and where a clear strategy is required to ensure that needs can be met.
5.6 How do we commission places for pupils with SEND?

The Children and Families Act (2014) states that local authorities must integrate educational provision and training provision with health and social care provision, where it promotes wellbeing and improves the quality of provision for children or young people with SEND.

Local authorities and NHS clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) must make joint commissioning arrangements for education for children and young people aged 0 to 25 with SEND. Joint commissioning may involve services that we already run, or buying services from other organisations. Reviewing and monitoring of services is ongoing and involves service users and providers.

5.7 What are the pressures? How are we responding?

The growth in the number of pupils with SEND, and with an EHC Plan means that additional places will be required across the 0 to 25 age range. In the next five years, this is likely to have the greatest impact on the secondary sector and potentially Post 16 due to the Council’s responsibility under the Children and Families Act to ensure provision for young people with special educational needs and disabilities up to the age of 25.

The information provided below sets out where in the county additional SEND provision is being developed, or planned, but yet to open. The SEND Capital Plan, published on the Council’s website, also includes an allocation of funding towards adaptations to mainstream provision. Where this is considered to be necessary, an assessment based on the child’s individual requirements is carried out. The request is then taken to a County panel to be discussed and approved on a case by case basis.

Cambridge City

What pressures have been identified previously?
The Castle School is an Area Special School for children and young people aged 2 to 19. The school is currently operating at capacity and is unable to respond to requests for places from families living in the local area.

What are we doing now?
A project to reconfigure existing space to create a room suitable for early years has been completed, and opened for the start of the term in September 2019. This has enabled the school to increase its capacity by a further 10 places.
East Cambridgeshire

What pressures have been identified previously?
Highfield Ely Academy provides 110 places for children and young people aged 2 to 19. An assessment of the suitability and condition of the school concluded that improvements to existing accommodation were necessary, and additional facilities were required in order to meet the needs of pupils on roll.

What are we doing now?
A project to improve the facilities at Highfield Ely Academy was agreed as part of the Capital Programme. The works are now underway, with the project due for completion in September 2020.

Fenland

What pressures have been identified previously?
There has been a significant and growing need for SEMH provision in Wisbech. The current provision is in unsuitable premises which are leased by the County Council. The lease is time limited and has already been extended on one occasion. There is a need to secure the future of the existing provision and expand. The provision is sponsored by TBAP Multi-Academy Trust.

What are we doing now?
There is a capital scheme currently in the design phase to co-locate new purpose built SEMH provision with a new secondary school in Wisbech. Before proceeding, the Council will have to await decisions on the next round of wave 14 applications that will be submitted for the establishment of a new secondary free school in Wisbech.

Huntingdonshire

What pressures have been identified previously?
Spring Common Academy is an area special school for children aged 2 to 19. An assessment of the school concluded that improvements were required to address issues with the suitability of existing accommodation.

Samuel Pepys School is an Area Special School for children and young people aged 2 to 19. The school is currently operating at capacity and is unable to respond to requests for places from families living in the local area.

The re-development of the Alconbury Airfield site is currently underway and is expected to deliver approximately 6,500 homes once complete. Due to the size of the
development, known as Alconbury Weald, it is recognised that there will be increased demand for specialist provision, above that which can be met by existing area special schools.

**What are we doing now?**

The Council is currently working with Spring Common Academy to finalise designs for the improvement works to be carried out, in anticipation that the project will be completed for September 2021.

A project to expand Samuel Pepys School has been identified within the Council’s Capital Programme. This will address the current issues with the suitability of accommodation and enable the school to offer a further 63 places, once complete.

An area special school will also be built as part of the Alconbury Weald development, with a large proportion of pupils attending the school expected to be residents of the new town. The new school, to be known as Prestley Wood Area Special School, will cater for children aged between 2 and 19 with Education, Health and Care Plans. In total, this school will have 130 places.

**South Cambridgeshire**

**What pressures have been identified?**

Northstowe is a new town being developed on the site of RAF Oakington. On completion, it is anticipated to have approximately 10,000 homes. Due to the size of the development, it is recognised that there will be increased demand for specialist provision above that which can be met by existing area special schools.

**What are we doing now?**

As part of the Northstowe development, a 110 place special school will be built, with a large proportion of pupils attending the school expected to be residents of the new town. The special school will cater for children aged between 2 and 19 with Education, Health and Care Plans.

### 5.8 Useful Links

**Care Act (2014)**


**Children and Families Act (2014)**

Equalities Act (2010)

Learn Together Cambridgeshire
https://www.cambslearntogether.co.uk/

Local Offer

Mental Capacity Act (2005)

NHS Five Year Forward View (2014)

Ofsted
https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

SEND Capital Plan

SEND Code of Practice (2015)

SEND Information and Advice Support Service

Service Level Agreement

The True Colours Trust
Think Autism: an update to the Department of Health strategy (2014)

Transforming Care - Building the right support (2015)
https://www.england.nhs.uk/learning-disabilities/natplan/

Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018)
Appendix A: Demographic Forecast Methodology

A.1 Analysis of data

The Council’s Business Intelligence Team undertakes research and analysis of population data. This includes birth data supplied by the NHS, school census data and the Government’s ten year census. From this data, a range of population and school place forecasts are produced.

A.2 Early Years and Childcare

Future demand for pre-school provision is assessed on the basis of the number of children born in the county each year. Data is obtained from the NHS, providing counts of children aged 0 to 4 that are registered with a doctor, by school catchment area and by lower super output area\(^5\). Translating this information into a pattern of demand for childcare is difficult as families can choose to take up provision close to their workplaces rather than to their home and take up rates for childcare places are different depending on family circumstance. Therefore, the NHS data is only considered together with a broader Childcare Sufficiency Assessment.

A.3 Primary and Secondary Provision

District and County level forecasts are produced once a year. These show the number of pupils forecast to attend schools within each District Council area. The key inputs to the forecasting model are the latest data on actual school rolls (taken from the annual January school census counts) and NHS data, showing the number of 0-4 year olds in each district. The forecasts are based on the assumption that recent trends, generally those in the past three years, will continue over the next ten years. In detail, the assumptions used are as follows:

- 4 year-old pupils: Intake of 4 year-olds into reception classes the following year is projected on the basis of the relationship over the last three years between the numbers of children aged 4 arriving at school and the numbers of births five years earlier – currently an average arrival rate of 99% across Cambridgeshire; however, this varies greatly across districts.
- 5-10 year-old pupils: Projected on the basis of the average change in the size of year-groups over the last three years.
- 11 year-old pupils: Projected on the basis of the average proportion transferring from the top primary year-group to secondary school over the last three years – currently a

\(^5\) A Super Output Area (SOA) is a geographical area designed for the collection and publication of small area statistics. It is used on the Neighborhood Statistics site, and has a wider application throughout national statistics. SOAs give an improved basis for comparison throughout the country because the units are more similar in size of population than, for example, electoral wards. Further information can be found at: http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/geography/beginner-s-guide/census/super-output-areas--soas--/index.html
transfer rate of 95% averaged across the County. The net loss on transfer mainly represents moves into the private sector.

- 12-15 year-old pupils: Projected on the basis of the average change in the size of year-groups over the last three years.

While the District and County-level forecasts of pupil numbers are the most robust for planning future provision at a strategic level, they do not give sufficient geographical detail to enable planning at a local level or to assist individual schools with their plans. Therefore, two other kinds of pupil forecasts for existing schools and communities are produced. These are:

- Future pupil numbers, determined by the school they are forecast to attend (trend based)
- Future pupil numbers, determined by catchment areas (catchment based)

**Individual (trend based) forecast**

Individual (trend based) school forecasts are produced once a year. These forecasts apply recent trends of parental preference, as well as taking current catchment numbers into account. These forecasts are primarily used to support individual schools’ budgetary and organisational planning.

**Catchment area forecast**

For strategic planning purposes, catchment area forecasts are produced. These forecasts take full account of all pupils living within each primary school catchment area, and are not limited by the capacity at any school. These forecasts make no assumptions about which school pupils will go to; therefore, they do not attempt to model the impact of parental preference. Experience has shown that parental preference can change dramatically over relatively short periods of time. The catchment forecasts also follow a trend-based approach, specifically:

- number of 4 year olds living in each catchment and attending a school are forecast on the basis of the relationship between the numbers of children recorded as living in the catchment in the NHS GP Registration data and the numbers attending maintained schools and living in each area (as shown by the January school census) over the previous three years
- year-groups are assumed to progress through the school phases, within the same catchment area, adjusted for the average net gains and losses experienced within those areas over the past three years

This approach provides a sound basis for ensuring that the over-riding statutory duty to provide a school place for all pupils whose parents want them educated in the state-funded sector is met. It is particularly effective when considering not just capacity and demand for places at individual schools, but those within geographical areas, enabling effective
utilisation of resources. Using this approach, and not looking specifically at demand and capacity of individual schools, also means it is possible to make allowances for parental preference.

The Council is able to collate data about parental preference from admission applications. A range of information is available through the Cambridgeshire Atlas web tool, which can also be used to show where children are not attending their catchment school. In combination with other information gathered, this provides a means of assessing patterns of parental preference. Although patterns of parental preference can, and often do, change on a regular basis, it is important that due consideration is given to promoting choice during reviews of education provision.

Whilst accepting the rights of parents to express a preference for a school place, this is considered to be secondary to the Council’s duty to secure sufficient school places. This is especially important in terms of making efficient use of limited capital resources. However, where pressures are identified, due consideration is given to parental preference in determining solutions to providing additional capacity.

A.4 Post 16

The Council’s Business Intelligence team produces local population estimates and forecasts. The current forecasts start from a base year of 2015 derived from the Council’s mid-2015 population estimates. These population forecasts are ‘policy-led’, so that they are consistent with planned levels of house-building between 2015 and 2036. The 2015-based population forecasts are mainly based on the 2015 housing trajectories, with some interpolation and extrapolation by the Council.

The Council uses POPGROUP⁶ to produce its population forecasts. The forecasts are produced by ageing forward the population by sex and single year of age, year by year, from 2015 to 2036 in the 2015-based population forecasts. Population change is forecast by allowing for the main components of population change: births and deaths (which together give natural change), and migration. This is the standard population forecasting methodology, as used by the Office for National Statistics (ONS).

Births are forecast by applying age-specific fertility rates to the numbers of women of child-bearing age in the local population. The forecast age-specific fertility rates used in the

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⁶ POPGROUP is a suite of demographic software developed to generate population estimates and forecasts, now managed and developed by Edge Analytics under licence from the Local Government Association (LGA) / Improvement and Development Agency (IDEA), the owners of the software.
Deaths are forecast by applying age-specific mortality rates to the number of men and women in the local population. The forecast sex- and age-specific mortality rates used in the model to produce the 2015-based population forecasts are taken from the ONS 2014-based population projections for the relevant districts within Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

Net migration is the balance between migration into an area and migration from it. The age and sex structure of migrants gives the probability of migrants being of a particular age and sex. This structure is determined for the base year of the model and then fitted to forecast totals of net migration to produce numbers of migrants into or out of an area by sex and age. The age and sex structure of migrants used in the model is taken from the ONS 2014-based population projections for the relevant districts within Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. In the 2015-based population forecasts, in-migration is adjusted such that the number of households generated by the model is consistent with the number of dwellings that are expected to be built between 2015 and 2036.

A.5 New communities

The scale and likely impact of housing growth within the County is assessed from each District Council’s development plans, and specifically their Core Strategies and Site Specific Development Plans. It is important to emphasise that these Plans do not provide assurance that this level of development will occur, as housing development is driven by economic conditions and market forces. Likewise, these strategies do not preclude additional ‘speculative’ development being proposed. They do, however, provide the best information available on which to base planning of future education provision in relation to proposed development.

Housing developments range in size from major development sites, often of 100+ homes, to smaller windfall developments which can be as small as 1-2 dwellings. Whilst windfall

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7 Each District Council is also the Local Planning Authority, overseeing the planning process for their geographical area.
8 Windfall housing is any residential development that is granted consent on land or buildings not specifically allocated for residential development within a Core Strategy or Local Plan. Typical examples of a windfall development include:

- Infill plots in settlements;
- Development on unexpected brownfield sites such as at a factory which suddenly closes down;
- Properties in people’s gardens or the intensification of sites by demolishing one property and replacing it with several new ones; and
- Conversions of rural buildings to residential properties.
developments are not identified within them, most Core Strategies will include references to areas and circumstances under which such development may be welcomed.

As the scale of development is lower on windfall sites, the impact on demographic pressures from these sites is less than from major developments and can be incorporated within general forecasts. In contrast, major developments require specific forecasts, and often require additional provision to be made. However, as this can be over extended periods, it is important to understand the likely short and long-term impact of these developments to support strategic planning of future provision.

The scale and pace of development is assessed by the Council’s Strategic Planning Research and Monitoring Team, who prepare and publish an annual development survey of housing development across the county.

All forecasting is an inexact process, heightened by the number of unknowns that exist in relation to future developments. While some key variables, such as dwelling size and tenure mix, can be identified, many, for example, the impact of place and design influencing the desirability of a development, cannot. Added to this is the need for infrastructure to evolve to meet the needs of the population as the development settles and matures.

To aid its forecasting for new housing developments, the Council has adopted assumptions for the numbers and age-range of children likely to live in different types of housing. These assumptions, known as multipliers, were approved by the Children and Young People’s Committee in September 2015. The figures were revised and re-approved by the Committee in 2017. The current figures are listed below:

- 20-30 pre-school aged pupils per 100 dwellings
- 30-40 primary children per 100 dwellings,
- 18-25 secondary pupils per 100 dwellings

Underpinning the ‘general multipliers’ are detailed multipliers for different tenures and dwellings sizes. The general multipliers, together with projections of the pace of housing delivery, enable the build-up of demand for school places to be modelled and planned at an early stage. As development proposals progress, the forecasts continue to evolve, as details of housing and tenure mix and pace of development become confirmed. These forecasts are monitored alongside pupil numbers obtained from school census data and NHS GP Registrations, and revised forecasts are produced.

A.6 Useful Links

Cambridgeshire Atlas
https://atlas.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/Profiles/WardProfiles/atlas.html
Appendix B: School Capacity Forecast Methodology

B.1 Statutory requirements

Regulations require the local authority to provide a statement to accompany the School Capacity Collection forecast pupil numbers explaining the method by which the forecast has been made.

B.2 Sources of data

- Pupil numbers already on roll come from the January annual school census, January 2019
- Primary forecasts of reception numbers are based on numbers of children under school age living in catchments derived from NHS Provide Data. To complete this piece of work Cambridgeshire County Council sent Provide a detailed look-up table / gazetteer so that children aged 0-4 (as at November 2018) could be allocated to school catchment areas. The council then received a data table which lists school and numbers of children in each year group 0-4
- Admissions for autumn 2019 are based on actual admissions data as at the end of the second round of applications under the County Council school admissions process.
- Intakes for 2023/24 are based on forecast numbers of births taken from a three year average of births for the previous three years
- Data about future house-building is taken from an assessment of the District Council Annual Monitoring Reports (AMRs) and published future housing trajectories / five year land supply reports. This assessment was supported by the County Council’s Business Intelligence team who provide a planning monitoring service for all of Cambridgeshire’s districts.

B.3 Processing the data

Cambridgeshire County Council has developed a combined pupil forecasting model, which has been in use since 2018. Together with the improved model there are set written procedures for updating and rolling forward the model with new data. This includes the following points:
- Raw data for school roll, 0-4s and births were entered into the model and subject to a quality assurance process (see below).
- By default year-groups are assumed to move through schools with an average of the net gains and losses experienced within the schools over the past three years. Where there was a significant reason to vary this methodology (for example because of erratic or exemption year group change in one of three of the past years) then this decision was made by the pupil forecaster and recorded.
• The model was adjusted to take into account changes in school organisation. For example the opening of new schools.

• The intake at four years old is forecast on the basis of the relationship between the numbers of children recorded as living in the primary school catchment in the CHIS data, and the average of actual intakes at that school from the previous three years. Real-time information from schools and the Admissions Team on the expected September 2018 intake (allocations) is also incorporated in the forecasts.

• The intake at 11 years old is forecast on the basis of the relationship between the numbers of 10-year-old pupils in the primary schools normally feeding to a secondary school and the average of actual intakes at that school from the previous three years. Admissions system data on allocations to school places from the second round of admissions for the September 2019 intake is also incorporated into the forecast.

B.4 Quality Assurance

• Forecasts are completed by the County Council’s Business Intelligence Team that has a track record/expertise in forecasting and also holds the population forecasting model and the regional economic forecasting model.

• All data-entry is quality assured. The process is that one member of the team at ‘analyst’ level enters the data and checks it. Then a second member of the team at ‘senior analyst’ level rechecks all the data entry. Key checks are then made against totals etc. to ensure all 0-4 numbers and PLASC numbers equal the original totals.

• This point provides a chance to check the accuracy of the previous year’s one year forecast. Significant differences are identified and explained. For the most part variances are attributable to known uncertainties for example areas undergoing rapid house-building, schools with poor Ofsted or areas of significant population turn-over. Where the difference is attributable to modelling decisions (only a small number of cases) then assumptions are adjusted for the following year’s forecasts.

• Forecasts generated and then sense checked against previous years forecasts. Where there are significant variations then the forecasts are rechecked and adjusted if needs be. This process is managed through regular meetings of the forecasting team.

• Forecasts are then passed to the place planning team and checked with place planning officers. Again, variations in officers understand of the situation on the ground are checked with the research team and a dialogue is held to ensure that the forecasts represent as accurate a picture as possible given the known information.

B.5 Other Factors

Housing
Individual primary school forecasts are adjusted for expected major changes in house-building within the school catchment, such as the beginning or completion of a large
housing estate. Housing additions are based on trajectories provided by district council planning departments each year. A number of major housing developments have planning permission and are planned to get underway in the county over the next five years. District councils forecast that the annual number of dwelling completions will increase from around 3,200 to 6,000 across the county from 2019/20 onwards.

Cross border movement
Cross border movement is accounted for by reviewing previous trends in arrival and transfer rates and applying a three year average. Assumptions are checked with neighboring authorities where significant cross border movements are known, particularly between Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

B.6 Forecasting model
No significant changes have been made to the forecasting model since last year. An accuracy assessment was carried out on the 2018 model against 2019 PLASC actuals. This concluded that the 2018 methodology was robust.
## Appendix C: School Planning Areas

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<tr>
<th>School Name</th>
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Appendix D: Capital Funding

D.1 Capital Programme

The Council, as part of its annual budget-setting process, sets out its five-year capital spending projections. Of this capital budget, the allocation to People & Communities is by far the largest with £693m set aside for providing for demographic pressures regarding new and improved schools, or early years places.

The Council recognises the importance of planning and prioritising the allocation of funding within a transparent and objective framework. Its criteria are:

- health and safety improvements to avoid school closures
- investment in the provision of sufficient school places in line with the Council’s statutory duties (referred to commonly as meeting basic need)
- implementing statutory changes, for example, increasing the age range a school serves
- implementing the recommendations of a review of education provision
- implementing new statutory duties or education policy changes where no other funding is available
- reducing schools’ maintenance costs, prioritising schools in the worst condition
- improving schools’ environmental performance, prioritising those with the most inefficient buildings

Whether temporary or permanent, the Council is committed to providing accommodation that meets both statutory and local policy requirements, including the Equalities Act (2010), to support children and young people with SEN in mainstream schools. In doing so the accommodation should:

- be of high quality
- be fit-for-purpose
- provide value for money
- provide flexibility to respond to changes in need and curriculum

The very nature of capital planning necessitates alteration and refinement to proposals and funding during the planning period. Therefore whilst the early years of the Business Plan provide robust, detailed estimates of schemes, the later years only provide indicative forecasts of the likely infrastructure needs and revenue streams for the Council.

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9 These criteria were endorsed by the Children and Young People’s Policy Development Group, in a paper on the Children and Young People’s Capital Programme, 4 November 2010
A copy of the Council’s current capital programme can be found using this link:

D.2 Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA)

The ESFA which is part of the DfE, provides all funding for free schools including capital funding. Once approved, free schools are given an ESFA contact who will work with them to acquire a suitable site for the school. The ESFA will pay for the purchase and lease of the building or land as well as any building work or refurbishment that needs to be done.

A list of all open and approved free schools and academies can be found using this link: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/open-academies-and-academy-projects-in-development

In addition, the Council will work with academies and free schools to seek to secure capital funds from the ESFA to help address condition and suitability needs.

D.3 Developer Contributions

When a new development is being built the Council will seek Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) or Section 106 (S106) contributions from the developer in order to ensure the effect of the development is mitigated.