



AGENDA

CABINET SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, 25th July, 2007, at 10.00 am Ask for: **Peter Sass**
Darent Room, Sessions House, County Hall, Telephone **01622 694002**
Maidstone

Refreshments will be available from 9.45 am. County Councillors who are not Members of the Committee but who wish to ask questions at the meeting are asked to notify the Chairman of their questions in advance.

UNRESTRICTED ITEMS

(During these items the meeting is likely to be open to the public)

A. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

- A1 Substitutes
- A2 Declarations of Interests by Members in Items on the Agenda for this Meeting
- A3 Minutes - 27 June 2007 (Pages 1 - 6)
- A4 Informal Member Group on Budgetary Issues - 11 July 2007 (Pages 7 - 12)
- A5 Cabinet Scrutiny Committee - Standing Report to July 2007 (Pages 13 - 16)

B. CABINET/CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS AT VARIANCE TO APPROVED BUDGET OR POLICY FRAMEWORK

- B1 The Bridge Development, Dartford (Pages 17 - 20)

Cabinet's decision on 16 July to approve the recommendations in this report is subject to automatic referral to this Committee because the £8.5m cost of the development will be fully funded from Developer Contributions, and is therefore effectively an addition to the Council's approved Capital Programme.

C. CABINET DECISIONS

No Cabinet decisions have been proposed for call in but any Member of the Committee is entitled to propose discussion and/or postponement of any decision taken by the Cabinet at its last meeting.

(Members who wish to exercise their right under this item are asked to notify the Head of Democratic Services of the decision concerned in advance.)

D. CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS

No Cabinet Member decisions have been proposed for call in.

E. OFFICER AND COUNCIL COMMITTEE DECISIONS

E1 Strategic Plan for the Provision of Secondary School Places 2007-2017 (Pages 21 - 92)

EXEMPT ITEMS

(At the time of preparing the agenda there were no exempt items. During any such items which may arise the meeting is likely NOT to be open to the public)

Peter Sass
Head of Democratic Services and Local Leadership
(01622) 694002

Tuesday, 17 July 2007

Please note that any background documents referred to in the accompanying papers maybe inspected by arrangement with the officer responsible for preparing the relevant report.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES of a meeting of the Cabinet Scrutiny Committee held at Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone on Wednesday, 27 June 2007.

PRESENT: Dr M R Eddy (Chairman), Mr D Smyth (Vice-Chairman), Mr A R Bassam, Mr J R Bullock MBE, Mr C J Capon, Mr B R Cope, Mrs T Dean, Mr J B O Fullarton, Ms A Harrison (substitute for Mrs M Newell) Mr C Hart, Mr C Hibberd (substitute for Mr A H T Bowles), Mr P W A Lake, Mr C J Law, Mr J E Scholes, Mrs P A V Stockell, Mr R Truelove and Mr C T Wells.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr J Wale, Assistant to the Chief Executive and Mr S C Ballard, Head of Democratic Services.

UNRESTRICTED ITEMS

6. Minutes
(Item A2)

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 23 May 2007 are correctly recorded and that they be signed by the Chairman.

7. Informal Member Group on Budgetary Issues – 14 June 2007
(Item A3)

RESOLVED that the notes of the meeting of the Informal Member Group on Budgetary Issues held on 14 June 2007 be noted.

8. Cabinet Scrutiny Committee – Standing Report to June 2007
(Item A4 – Report by Assistant to the Chief Executive)

RESOLVED that the report on the actions taken as a result of the Committee's decisions at previous meetings, and the updated report on progress with Select Committee Topic Reviews, be noted.

9. Children's Centres – Round Two – Next Six Sites (particularly Mongeham, Deal) (Decision (in Forward Plan) 07/00990)
(Item D1)

Mrs Dean and Mr Hart declared personal interests in this Item as Members of Steering Groups on Children's Centres which had yet to be established.

(1) Mr J D Simmonds, Cabinet Member for Education and School Improvement; Dr I Craig, Director of Operations; Mrs A Gamby, County Early Education and Childcare Officer; and Ms J Smith, Children's Centre Project Manager, Children, Families and Education Directorate, attended the meeting to answer Members' questions on this item, which covered the following issues:-

Strategy for Provision of Children's Centres and Criteria for Site Selection

- (2) In answer to questions from Mr Hart, Dr Eddy and Mr Smyth, Dr Craig and Mrs Gamby explained that the Government had adopted a 10-year National Childcare Strategy. As part of this, LEAs were required to establish Children's Centres to provide universal coverage of their areas by 2010. The DfES had issued prescriptive guidance on the facilities to be provided and criteria for site selection, including where a Children's Centre should be 'full-core' or 'partial-core'.
- (3) In Round One, Children's Centres were required to cover the 20% most deprived wards (subsequently 'super output areas' replaced wards as the geographical unit for measuring deprivation). KCC had established 20 Children's Centres in Round 1.
- (4) In Round Two, Children's Centres were required to cover at least the 30% most deprived super output areas. KCC had been given a target of 52 Round Two Children's Centres and was required to have them all designated by April 2008.
- (5) The Government had announced that there would be a Round Three in order to fill in all the gaps in Children's Centre coverage. KCC expected to have to provide some 30-35 Round Three Children's Centres. There would then be approximately 105 Children's Centres in Kent providing coverage for the whole County.
- (6) Dr Craig emphasised that, in all cases, KCC only proposed sites for Children's Centres. The actual decision on whether a site met the national criteria and should therefore be approved was for GOSE/DfES.
- (7) In answer to a question from Mr Truelove, Mr Simmonds confirmed that, although it was a Government requirement to provide Children's Centres, KCC fully supported this policy.

Capital Funding

- (8) In answer to questions from Dr Eddy, Mr Truelove and Mr Hart, Dr Craig explained that the DfES had made available a capital allocation for Round Two Children's Centres which worked out at approximately £200K per Centre. This was significantly less generous than the funding made available in Round One. Capital cost was therefore a consideration in site selection because any cost over £200K would have to be met from the County Council's own capital budget. This factor, and the short timescale, meant that school sites were often the preferred location for Children's Centres.
- (9) In answer to questions from Mr Bullock and Mr Scholes, Dr Craig said that the capital allocation of £200K for each Children's Centre appeared to be standard throughout the country. LEAs had lobbied the DfES unsuccessfully for an increase in this allocation.

Revenue Funding and Services Provided

- (10) In answers to questions from Mr Law and Mr Bullock, Dr Craig and Mrs Gamby confirmed that the DfES also provided revenue funding of an average of approximately £175K per annum for each Children's Centre through the general Sure Start grant. This funding was intended to cover management of the Centre and included the appointment of at least 0.5 FTE of a qualified teacher. It was not intended to fund the actual services offered to children and families.
- (11) Dr Craig emphasised that Children's Centres were not generally set up to provide new services. Their role was mainly to provide a local focus for the delivery of existing services by local authorities, NHS, voluntary organisations, etc, for children under five and their families. Each Children's Centre was expected to 'reach' 800 under-fives.
- (12) Ms Smith said that every Children's Centre had an outreach facility to try to ensure that all eligible families in its area (particularly those who suffered from deprivation) were aware of its services and how to access them.
- (13) In answer to a point from Mr Truelove, Dr Craig agreed that it would be helpful for local Members to act as 'champions' to promote their local Children's Centre.

Governance

- (14) In answer to a point made by Mr Capon, Dr Craig said that the location of Children's Centres on school sites did raise governance issues. Because Children's Centres were a wider community resource, it was important that their management was separate from the host school or other facility. The intention was that Children's Centres should be managed by the local Children's Trusts. There would be a further briefing for all Members in July on these Trusts, which would include their role in managing Children's Centres.

Consultation on Site Selection

- (15) In response to questions from Dr Eddy and a point from Ms Harrison, Dr Craig said that consultation on possible sites for the location of Children's Centres took place with provider stakeholders through the local Children's Consortium. This was because it was provider stakeholders which would have to reconfigure their services to make the Children's Centre the local focus. As a result of the Committee's previous consideration of this matter, local Members were also now consulted on possible sites in their area.

Selection of Mongeham as proposed site for Children's Centre

- (16) In answer to questions from Dr Eddy, Mr Hart, Mr Law and Mrs Dean, Mr Simmonds and Dr Craig explained that it had been a fundamental principle of the Primary Strategy that capital receipts from the sale of the

sites of schools that were closed should be ploughed back into improving educational facilities in the same area. Thus, with the amalgamation of South Deal and Mongeham Schools, the proceeds of the sale of the South Deal School site would be prioritised for improving the facilities at Mongeham. Locating the Children's Centre at the South Deal site would reduce the proceeds from the sale of the site and this was why Dr Craig had said that, for capital budget reasons, the South Deal site was not the preferred option. It had never been intended that the proceeds of the sale of the South Deal site would contribute towards the funding of the Children's Centre in that part of Deal.

- (17) Mr Simmonds and Dr Craig pointed out that the consultation document about the merger of South Deal and Mongeham Schools said that KCC intended to explore the possibility of locating a Children's Centre on the Mongeham site.
- (18) Mr Simmonds said that he had offered to meet Dr Eddy and Mr Birkett in Deal to discuss possible alternative sites for the location of the Children's Centre.
- (19) Dr Craig added that he had now given a commitment that Brambles Nursery could continue to operate from the South Deal site until next April. After that, he hoped that Brambles would form the nursery provision based on the new Children's Centre.

Selection of Other Sites – Grove Park, Sittingbourne

- (20) In answer to questions from Mr Truelove, Dr Craig and Ms Smith explained that Grove Park had been selected as a site for a Children's Centre following consultation with provider partners through the Swale Children's Consortium. While it was true that it did not serve one of the 30% most deprived super output areas, the 52 Children's Centres in Round Two would allow more than 40% of the most deprived super output areas to be covered, and Grove Park fell within this category.

Cliftonville West

- (21) In answer to a question from Mr Wells, Ms Smith agreed that Cliftonville West included one of the most deprived super output areas in the County. It was exceptional in that it had been very difficult to provide a site for a Children's Centre there because it had so far proved impossible to identify a suitable location. However, two possible locations had now at last been identified.

Hythe

- (22) In answer to questions from Mr Capon, Dr Craig explained that the Children's Centre at Hythe had originally been set up as an 'Excellence Centre' with a different remit from that subsequently adopted for Children's Centres. It was now becoming a Children's Centre and its remit was changing accordingly.

White Oak, Swanley

- (23) In answer to questions from Mr Fittock, Dr Craig explained that it was proposed to locate the Children's Centre on The Willows (a Social Services site) because Social Services (a major partner in the Children's Centre programme) had offered space there.

Conclusion

- (24) RESOLVED that Mr Simmonds, Dr Craig, Mrs Gamby and Ms Smith be thanked for attending the meeting, and the information they provided be noted.

This page is intentionally left blank

NOTES of a meeting of the Cabinet Scrutiny Committee's Informal Member Group on Budgetary Issues held on Wednesday, 11 July 2007.

PRESENT: Mr D Smyth (Chairman), Mr C J Law (substitute for Mr C J Capon) and Mrs T Dean.

APOLOGIES: Mr N J D Chard.

OFFICERS: Ms L McMullan, Director of Finance; Mrs C Head, Chief Accountant; and Mr S C Ballard, Head of Democratic Services.

1. Notes of Previous Meeting

(Item 1)

Agreed, but it was noted that the information about Assisted Mainstream Transport to School was still awaited. **(Action: CH)**

2. Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring Exception Report

(Item 2)

(1) Members' questions covered the following issues:-

Environment, Highways and Waste Portfolio (paragraph 2.3.1)

(2) In answer to a question from Mrs Dean, Ms McMullan said that, as in previous years, budgeted management action to balance this portfolio's budget had not been specified. Ms McMullan went on to confirm that the waste deliveries to Allington Waste to Energy Plant had been lower than anticipated in the year to date but that this was simply a timing issue.

Kent Adult Social Services (paragraph 2.2)

(3) In answer to questions from Mrs Dean and Mr Smyth, Ms McMullan explained that the problem with demographic pressures related partly to the issue of whether the introduction of Direct Payments and the Kent Card had, of themselves, increased demand for care provision. Research on this was not yet complete.

(4) Ms McMullan said that other local authorities were facing similar problems. As far as KASS was concerned, management action plans were being produced with a view to achieving a balanced budget by the year-end.

(5) In answer to questions from all three Members, Ms McMullan said that with both Direct Payments and the Kent Card, clients were assessed and provided with the funds necessary to pay for their care needs. Direct Payments were paid straight into the client's bank account so KCC had little sight over how the money was spent. The Kent Card could only be used to purchase from selected categories of suppliers and monthly statements were produced which could be used to check how the funds had been used. Ms McMullan offered to circulate a briefing note on the policing arrangements for the Kent Card. **(Action: LM)**

(6) Ms McMullan pointed out that Direct Payments were promoted by Government, which had set targets to Councils for their uptake. The Kent Card was an alternative system for giving clients greater control over their care provision but did not meet the Government's definition of a Direct Payments system.

(7) Ms McMullan accepted that there were some disadvantages to KCC from operating the Direct Payments system:-

- (a) KCC had no means of ensuring that expenditure was used by clients to meet their care needs. It was therefore possible that, over the longer-term, clients who used Direct Payments for non-care purposes could require greater care at KCC's expense;
- (b) because clients were purchasing their care individually, KCC could lose the benefits of bulk contracting/purchasing;

(8) The Group agreed that it would be helpful to discuss Direct Payments and the Kent Card with the KASS Director of Resources at the next meeting.

Special Educational Needs

(9) Mrs Dean asked for the latest position on the work to deliver the £6m SEN service within a £5m budget. **(Action: LM)**

SEN Transport (paragraph 2.1.2)

(10) In answer to a question from Mrs Dean, Ms McMullan explained that some of the savings were dependent on parents agreeing to transport their children to school themselves (with a mileage allowance from KCC to cover their costs). However, the parental survey had revealed that few parents were willing to consider this option and those that were tended to be those whose children currently used the lower-cost transport (shared taxis, minibuses, etc). To deal with this, Commercial Services were in talks with CFE. The only alternative was to make changes to the SEN transport policy but this could not be implemented in the current financial year and was seen as a last resort.

Arms-length Companies

(11) In answer to a question from Mrs Dean, Ms McMullan said that as a result of recent changes in legislation, KCC was able to establish arms-length companies which could compete for work with the private sector both within KCC and in the wider market and generate profits (although any profits would, of course, be subject to Corporation Tax). The advantage of setting up arms-length companies was that they helped to stimulate competition which, in turn, helped to drive down the costs incurred by KCC.

(12) Ms McMullan offered to check whether there was any legal requirement that the pricing structures of arms-length companies had to be the same for both in-house work and outside work. **(Action: LM)**

(13) In answer to a question from Mr Law, Ms McMullan said that our arms-length companies operated in exactly the same way as private companies. They could bid for work both in-house and in the wider market but KCC, schools, etc were free to use the arms-length company or an outside contractor, whichever was the cheaper for any particular job.

3. Roll Forward of 2006/07 Revenue Underspend (Item 3)

(1) Members' questions covered the following issues:-

Kent Works (page 10)

(2) In answer to a question from Mr Smyth, Ms McMullan said that the funding for Kent Works was intended to enable it to break-even within three years. In the event, Kent Works had spent more than expected because it had carried out more work than it was contracted to do. Management action was now being taken to restrict its activities to those required by the contract.

(3) Mrs Dean asked how the business in East Kent split between Kent Works and the East Kent Business Partnership. **(Action: LM)**

Early Years (page 3)

(4) In answer to a question from Mrs Dean, Ms McMullan said that one reason why Kent was behind other local authorities in qualifications for Early Years staff was possibly that we had a relatively large private sector. It was hoped that it would be possible to meet the bid for increased funding for qualifications for Early Years staff from underspends in the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) element of the Education and School Improvement portfolio (subject to agreement by the Schools Forum).

Schools Funding

(5) In answer to a question from Mr Law, Ms McMullan explained that KCC would like to increase the AWPU for primary schools but this required new money. It was extremely difficult to transfer funding from secondary to primary schools because of the minimum funding guarantee for schools set by the Government for the distribution of DSG.

4. 2007/08 Reporting Timetable and Proposals for Activity Monitoring (Item 4)

The Group agreed:-

- (a) the timetable of agenda items as set out in the Appendix to these notes; **(Action: CH/SCB)**
- (b) to give further consideration at the next meeting to the timing of the IMG's consideration of the Autumn Budget Statement; **(Action: LM)**
- (c) the list of proposed Key Activity Indicators detailed in Appendix 1 to the report; **(Action: CH)**
- (d) the proposed revisions to the monitoring template in Appendix 2 to the report; **(Action: CH)**
- (e) that future meetings should be held at 9.00 am on the following dates:-

Thursday, 13 September 2007

Thursday, 11 October 2007

Thursday, 29 November 2007 **(Action: SCB)**

- (f) that a copy of the Corporate Property Unit's Quarterly Property Report should be sent to each political group (**Action: LM**).

07/so/BudlssIMG/077107/Notes

MONTH	AGENDA ITEM(S)
July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly Exception report • Agreement to the list of key activity indicators • Agreement to revisions to monitoring template
August	<i>No meeting in 2007</i>
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarterly report • Kent Adult Social Services directorate*
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children, Families & Education directorate* • Monthly Exception report
November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarterly report • Environment & Regeneration directorate* • BVPI 2007-08 mid-year monitoring
December	<i>No meeting in 2007</i>
January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly Exception report • Chief Executives directorate* • Communities directorate*
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly Exception report • National 2006-07 BVPI Comparisons
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly Exception report
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarterly report
May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly Exception report (if appropriate)
June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Outturn report • Draft Final Accounts • BVPI 2007-08 Provisional Outturn

* The service specific reports are to include comparison of relevant key activity indicators with our statistical neighbours. We will also include unit cost information where it is meaningful to report this either on a quarterly basis or in the directorate specific reports.

This page is intentionally left blank

REPORT TO: CABINET SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 25 July 2007
BY: ASSISTANT TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

CABINET SCRUTINY AND POLICY OVERVIEW
Standing Report to July 2007

Summary

1. The report summarises in Table 1 outcomes of the most recent Cabinet Scrutiny Committee (CSC) meeting held on 27 June 2007. Cabinet Members and Chief Officers were provided with a copy of the action sheet and asked to respond as appropriate. The report includes any subsequent responses and actions by Cabinet Members and Senior Officers up to and including the meeting of Cabinet held on 16 July 2007.
2. Additionally, in Table 2 the report provides an updated report on the current programme for Select Committee Topic Review. This programme was agreed at Policy Overview Co-ordinating Committee on 7 June 2007.

Recommendations

3. Members are asked to note:
 - (i) progress on actions and outcomes from the meeting of Cabinet Scrutiny Committee held on 27 June 2007 as set out in Table 1;
 - (ii) the current position on Select Committee Topic Reviews.
-

Contact Officer: **John Wale 01622 694006**

ACTIONS FOR CABINET/DIRECTORATES FROM CABINET SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 27 June 2007

Item/Issue	Actions and Outcomes from Cabinet Scrutiny Committee
A2 Minutes of Cabinet Scrutiny Committee 23 May 2007.	The minutes were agreed.
A3 Informal Member Group on Budgetary issues – 14 June 2007	The minutes were noted.
A4 Cabinet Scrutiny Committee: Standing Report to June 2007	Report was noted. Mr Wale explained the changes made to the Select Committee Topic Review Programme following the meeting of POCC on 7 June 2007.
D1 Decision in Forward Plan: 07/00990 Children’s Centres- Round Two – Next Six Sites Particularly Mongeham, Deal)	<p>Mr J D Simmonds, Cabinet Member for Education and School Improvement; Dr I Craig, Director of Operations; and Mrs A Gamby, Head of Early Years/Childcare; and Mrs J Smith, Project Manager, Children’s Centres, attended for this item.</p> <p>There was extensive questioning and discussion of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategy for Provision of Children’s Centres and Criteria for Site Selection • Processes for Phases 1, 2 and 3 for Kent Children’s Centres • Capital Funding • Revenue Funding and Services Provided • Consultation on site selection • Selection of the Mongeham (Deal) site • Selection of other sites-Grove Park Sittingbourne, Cliftonville West, Hythe, and White Oak Swanley. <p>Following discussion, Members of the Committee decided to take no further action.</p> <p>They thanked Officers and the Cabinet Member for attending and for offering to provide the following information to the Committee:</p> <p>(a) Details of representations made for the Children’s Centre to be located on the South Deal Site;</p> <p>(b) Details of old and new remits of Hythe Excellence/Children’s Centre</p> <p>(c) The flow chart on the process for identifying \children’s Centre Sites to include publication of the proposal in KCC’s Forward Plan.</p>

Cabinet Scrutiny Committee: 16 July 2007
Table 2

Select Committee Topic Reviews:
Programme agreed at Policy Overview Co-ordinating Committee 7 June 2007

Policy Overview Committee/ Topic Review/Chair	Current Topic Review status and other topics agreed for the period July 2007 to July 2008 *
<p>Children Families and Education :</p> <p>PSHE-Children's Health: Chair Ms CJ CRIBBON</p> <p>Developing the Creative Curriculum</p> <p>Young People's Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development#</p> <p>Vulnerable Children</p>	<p>Inaugural meeting of the Select Committee was held on 5 October. Hearings and visits were held during November. The Select Committee report was accepted by Cabinet on 16 April 2007, and will be debated at full County Council on 24 July 2007. (Research Officer: Gaetano Romagnuolo)</p> <p>POCC agreed that this should remain in the work programme for 2008.*</p> <p># POCC suggested this topic could also be combined with aspects of Consultation and Participation with Children and Young People (Student Voice), and with Provision of Activities for Young People. In the work programme for 2008.</p> <p>POCC recommended this Topic Review should commence in Autumn 2007.</p>
<p>Corporate: Accessing Democracy</p>	<p>POCC recommended that this review should commence in Autumn 2007* Preliminary discussions have been held to assess how this work will compliment the work of the "Going Local" Informal Member Group.</p>
<p>Communities</p> <p>Student Voice –Consultation and Participation with Young People#</p> <p>Provision of Activities for Young People#</p>	<p>#See above; dates to be agreed.</p> <p>See above; dates to be agreed.</p>

Policy Overview Committee/ Topic Review/Chair	Current Topic Review status and other topics agreed for the period July 2007 to July 2008 *
Communities Alcohol Misuse Chairman: MR J FULLARTON	Inaugural meeting held on 16 May 2007; Terms of Reference Agreed, Hearings will be held mid June to the end of July. The Select Committee will report to Cabinet on 3 December 2007. (Research Officer: Gaetano Romagnuolo)
Adult Services Carers in Kent: MR L CHRISTIE Transitional Arrangements for Young People: MR A BOWLES	Inaugural meeting of the Select Committee was held on 5 June 2007. Hearing sessions are being held in July/August 2007, with a report to Cabinet on 3 December 2007. (Research Officer: Phillipa Cracknell) Select Committee hearings commenced in October 2006 and were completed in December 2006. The Select Committee report was accepted by Cabinet on 14 May 2007. Cabinet agreed that Mr K Lynes and Dr T Robinson establish an Informal Member Group (to include a representative of the Select Committee) to consider how the recommendations may be taken forward. (Research Officer: Susan Frampton).
Environment and Regeneration Flood Risk: MRS S HOHLER	POCC agreed that this topic review should proceed as soon as possible with the objective of completing it by September 2007. Inaugural Meeting held 12 July 2007; further hearings throughout July and early August. (Research Officer: Susan Frampton)

jhw/sc 16 July 2007

** Subject to formal agreement by Chairman and Spokespersons of POCC of Minutes of Meeting held 7 June 2007.*

BY: John Simmonds - Cabinet Member for Education & School Improvement
 Graham Badman - Managing Director for Children, Families & Education
 Roger Gough - Cabinet Member for Regeneration & Supporting
 Independence
 Robert Hardy - Acting Managing Director for Environment &
 Regeneration

TO: Cabinet – 16 July 2007 – Item No.6

SUBJECT: THE BRIDGE DEVELOPMENT DARTFORD

Classification: Unrestricted

Summary: Kent County Council (KCC) is developing an innovative new Cross-Directorate Learning Campus to form part of The Bridge Development. This report seeks agreement to proceeding with the Development.

Background

1. (1) The Bridge Development is a partnership between Dartford Borough Council (the landowners) and Pro Logis Developments Ltd (the developers). It will transform a 264 acre brownfield site (formerly the site of Dartford's Joyce Green Hospital and Little Brook Lakes), into an advanced sustainable community.

[2] KCC is a partner to the existing signed Section 106 Agreement between Dartford District Council, ProLogis Developments Ltd and Kent County Council. This was signed in October 2003. During early 2006 all the parties involved (KCC, DDC, ProLogis and Taylor Wimpey UK Ltd) agreed that the most appropriate way to deliver the community infrastructure would be within a hub on one site. This has resulted in the negotiation of a S106 Variation which has been agreed in principle. The finer details are being ironed out and finalised and will be signed off shortly. Taylor Wimpey UK Ltd will also be a partner to the 106 Variation.

[3] An inter-Directorate Team of KCC officers, led by Vicky Thistlewood in Regeneration and Economy has been working for some time on the design of the Learning Campus which forms part of the Bridge Development. This is a completely new approach and brings together all Directorates willingly to deliver an integrated County Council facility. The Campus includes:

- A new Primary School and nursery (phased development, eventually 2FE, but built in one "hit" with the unused 2nd FE being leased to Taylor Wimpey UK Ltd until required for the school)
- Facilities for Health
- Facilities for Adult Education
- Multi-Agency Social Care Facility for CFE
- Adult Social Service Community Resource Centre
- Community meeting room
- Youth Centre
- Library and Archives Access point
- Facilities for the Police
- Café

(3) A report was submitted to the School Organisation Advisory Board on 7 September 2006, requesting a Public Notice be issued to allow the new school to open. This request was agreed. A subsequent variation to the original Public Notice on 20 February 2007, altered the date of the opening to September 2009, to which there were no objections.

[4] KCC is working in partnership with Dartford Borough Council and the Developers to provide a truly integrated community facility, which is iconic, aspirational, eco friendly and creates a sense of place. It will play a pivotal role in creating a community that does not yet exist. This is KCC's first "School of the Future", bringing together a whole host of community facilities under one roof. Space is shared to maximise its use. It is intended that one facilities management team will look after the whole building. The design work has now reached RIBA Stage C.

[5] The cross-Directorate approach to the development at The Bridge is a fore-runner for other key developments e.g., Eastern Quarry etc., and has set the standard for both cross-Directorate working and partnership working.

Financial Implications

2. (1) The County Council has secured a developers contribution which, with index linking, equates to approximately £8.5m to meet the capital cost of this innovative development. Indications from all of the Directorates involved are that, with the possible exception of the new school, the available funding should be sufficient to deliver all of the facilities. In the case of the primary school, our existing primary brief is above the statutory minimum and the developer is unwilling to fund.

(2) In the event that the primary school element of the project costs in excess of notional funding, the addition will be met from within the Education and School Improvement Capital Budget. At that time any required variation to that Capital Programme will be addressed through the appropriate approvals process.

(3) The developer (Taylor Wimpey UK Ltd) have elected not to build the facility but to make the funding available to KCC. They are, however, the developers of the residential element. This transfers the risk of any budget over-run to the County Council, but does put us in control of the schemes development and delivery with Corporate Property managing the scheme on the Authority's behalf.

(4) In the event of any potential over-run the Directorates involved will either have to scale down their requirements, or produce additional funding. Any such variations will be addressed through the appropriate approvals process.

[5] For simplicity purposes it is proposed that this scheme, in totality, is added to the Education and School Improvement Capital Programme rather than being split across all the portfolios involved.

(6) Any revenue budget implications will be contained within the revenue budgets of the appropriate Directorates.

Recommendation

3. Cabinet is asked TO:

- (a) APPROVE the continuing development of The Bridge Development;
- (b) AGREE to this scheme, valued at £8.5m, at this point in time, being formally added into the Education and School Improvement Capital Programme and to be shown as being fully funded by Developer Contributions. In the event that the contribution is at a different level, the programme being amended accordingly. This will be incorporated into the September Monitoring report;
- (c) GIVE approval to spend and authority to negotiate and enter such agreements as are necessary to give effect to the scheme to the Director, Resources (CFE) and the Head of Corporate Property, in consultation with the other Managing Directors and Cabinet Members, subject to the Director of Finance and Cabinet Member for Finance being satisfied with all the financial arrangements, both Revenue and Capital;
- (d) NOTE that new Bridge Primary School will open in September 2009.

SIMON WEBB

Area Education Officer
Dartford & Gravesham
7003 5110

Background Documents:

School Organisation Advisory Board Report – 7 September 2006
Directorate files

This page is intentionally left blank

CABINET SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 25 JULY 2007

Document Title:	Strategic Plan for the Provision of Secondary School Places 2007-2017
Document Status:	This Plan was published to all Members in the Member Information Bulletin on 6 July. The Plan is produced by officers to assist KCC in its decision-making for planning secondary school places over the next ten years.
Documents Attached:	Strategic Plan for the Provision of Secondary School Places 2007-2017.
Purpose of Consideration:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. For Members to be briefed on the contents of the Plan. <i>Please note that all Members of the Council have been invited to attend the Committee's meeting for this purpose.</i> 2. For the Committee to satisfy itself of the validity of the forecasts contained in the Plan. 3. For the Committee to explore the implications of the forecasts in the Plan and to satisfy itself that appropriate strategies are in place to deal with those implications.
Possible Decisions:	<p>Because this item is not subject to formal decision, the Committee can take one of the following actions:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) make no comments; or (b) express comments to be taken into account by the Cabinet Member and officers as the Plan is taken forward.
Previous Consideration:	None.
Background Documents:	None.

This page is intentionally left blank

**STRATEGIC PLAN FOR
THE PROVISION OF SECONDARY SCHOOL
PLACES
2007 – 2017**

June 2007



CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	2
METHODS AND GLOSSARY OF TERMS	2
BACKGROUND INFORMATION	5
Kent year groups (0-18 year olds)	5
Housing provision	6
Projected change in house building	7
Births analysis	8
Pupils attending mainstream secondary schools	10
Migration between districts and other authorities	11
Post-16 summary	12
Further education in Kent's schools (sixth forms)	12
Sixth form stay-on	13
Grammar school provision	14
Catchment areas	14
Building Schools for the Future	15
Vocational education and training	15
DISTRICT ANALYSIS	19
Ashford	19
Shepway	23
Canterbury	27
Swale	31
Dover	35
Thanet	38
Dartford	42
Gravesham	47
Maidstone	51
Tonbridge & Malling	55
Sevenoaks	59
Tunbridge Wells	64

INTRODUCTION

This plan is produced by officers, to inform and assist Kent County Council (KCC) in its decision making for planning secondary school places over the next ten years.

The projections in this plan are based on best estimates, informed by district plans, the Kent Structure Plan and the local Primary Care Trusts' (PCT) live births data.

This report details available secondary places for Years 7-11 by individual school, and forecast need for each district in turn. Where possible, plans and ideas for the reduction or increase in places to match that forecast need are outlined. Some projects will be in progress, some will be at the feasibility stage and some will represent possibilities for future discussion.

Post-16 capacity and take-up is accounted for separately by the DfES. This will increase over the next few years, particularly due to the Government's recent statement about universal access to education up to the age of 18. This will need to be taken into account when considering the conclusion arrived at in this document. The next update to this plan will provide more in depth post-16 data.

METHODS & GLOSSARY OF TERMS

For each district the following information is provided:

- Contextual information for the district
- Bar chart showing year groups from ages 0+ to 18+
- Graph showing historic secondary rolls and forecast rolls (Years 7-11) 1991-2017
- Individual school data including the current Planned Admission Number (PAN) and the PAN for school year 2007-08, net capacity and current roll
- Planned and proposed school organisation changes to deal with the projected increase or decrease in pupil numbers

Net capacity (Years 7-11) is calculated from the school's asset management plan (AMP) and is based on actual physical space in each room of the school. The method is flexible in allowing for additional education needs (AEN) provision and also for a range of pupil workspaces. Net capacity data is routinely updated (usually on a yearly basis) by the Capital Strategy Unit. Where the net capacity of a school doesn't match the PAN and/or recent building works mean that a new net capacity assessment is required, the Capital Strategy Unit will be aware of any discrepancies and will be working on their resolution.

Net capacity assessments and vocational provision

The DfES has recently issued guidance for calculating the net capacity of secondary schools when there is a large amount of vocational provision. This includes whether the assessed net capacity of the vocational provision should be allocated to the host school's net capacity or split between user groups.

This issue affects a number of secondary schools that have developed vocational provision, especially where the management is on a franchised basis from local FE colleges, through a separate funding stream (alternative curriculum) from the rest of the school.

At present, for some schools, it may seem that they have a very high surplus capacity which in reality may not be the case.

School roll is the number of pupils in Years 7-11, taken from the Spring Term Schools Census 2007.

Projected new housing is based on district housing allocations from the Kent Structure Plan up to 2016 and from each district's Housing Land Survey (HLS), compiled by the districts once a year. The HLS gives local level detail of housing allocations, and planning permissions that have yet to be started, or are in progress. The HLS is the most accurate reflection of short and medium term building projects at the local level. The Kent Structure Plan gives a more strategic overview.

Pupil product from new housing is the estimated number of additional secondary pupils in the district as a result of new housing development. Pupil product ratios used per new dwelling are informed by the 2005 MORI survey (for 'new housing' pupil product) and Census 2001 data (for 'stock housing' pupil product).

KCC has developed a system that models the expected number of secondary pupils once a new dwelling becomes occupied, and then how this changes over time as the dwelling 'matures'.

Different pupil product ratios are now used for different dwelling types, when these are known. Flats and houses, for example, will be expected to generate different numbers of secondary aged pupils.

In reality, depending on the type of dwelling, the specific locality and local population structure, projected pupil product could be a high or low estimate of anticipated 'new' pupils but over a district area as a whole is expected to be fairly accurate.

In calculating the pupil product adjustment for a district as a whole, it is necessary to look at the projected rate of new house building, compared with the historic rate of house building. This is because pupil forecasts are based on historic trends, which inherently include a rate for additional pupils generated from new housing developments in the past.

Pupil forecasting methodology

The pupil forecasts that KCC produces are trend-based, and past trends are not always an indication of the future. However, for the secondary phase, where parental preference is arguably more constant than in the primary phase and large numbers of pupils are drawn from a wide area, with migration patterns more firmly established, forecasts have been found to be fairly accurate.

To inform the process of forecasting primary pupil numbers, KCC receives information from local health authorities to track the number and location of pre-school age children.

The pre-school age population is forecast into primary school rolls through trend-based analysis of preference patterns in each planning area. Secondary school forecasts are calculated by projecting forward the Year 6 cohort of feeder primary schools, at the trend based intake ratio. If the size of the Year 6 cohort is forecast to rise, the projected Year 7 cohort size at the secondary school will be forecast to rise.

An adjustment is made for pupil product from new housing developments. If the future allocation of an area is greater than the build rate of previous years, a pupil product adjustment will be added to the forecasts for the area. For secondary forecasts, this adjustment is made on a district basis, not a planning area basis.

Pupil forecasts are compared with current net capacity levels, to give the projected surplus or deficit of places in each area. It is important to note that where a deficit is identified within the next few years, and where that deficit is 'real', work will already be underway to address the situation.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

There are currently estimated to be 93,800 11-16 year olds and 85,851 6-10 year olds living in the KCC area. Not all of these attend mainstream schools and the figures vary greatly between districts. As these ranges both represent five year groups, broadly speaking there will be a significant fall in the 'natural' secondary roll over the next five to ten years.

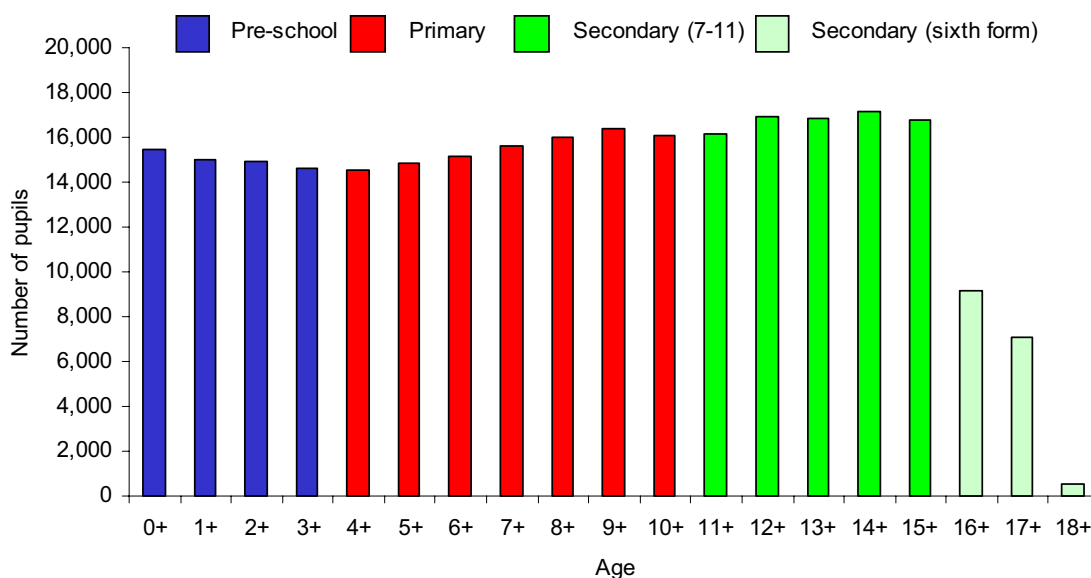
On average 93.2% of the primary aged population attend mainstream primary schools and 88.4% of the secondary aged population attend mainstream secondary schools¹.

The following chart shows the year groups currently within Kent schools (ages 4+ to 18+) and the pre-school population projected to attend Kent schools in the future (ages 0+ to 3+).

Taking into account only those pupils already in the schools system (excluding the effects of new housing development on increasing pupil numbers) it can be seen that even with the upturn in births over the last few years, the number of pupils entering Year R will be less than the number of pupils leaving Year 6 in the primary phase. However, when an adjustment for new pupils from future house building is made, after five years primary numbers are predicted to achieve a slight upturn.

The number of pupils due to leave Year 11 over the next nine years will outnumber those predicted to enter Year 7 by an average of 1,000 each year (excluding the effects of new housing development). This consistently falling roll in the secondary phase will require some school reorganisation in some districts over the next five to ten years.

Kent year groups (0-18 year olds) 2007



¹ The number of pupils in Kent secondary schools as a % of Kent's primary and secondary aged population – not necessarily 'matched' pupils, considering in and out migration

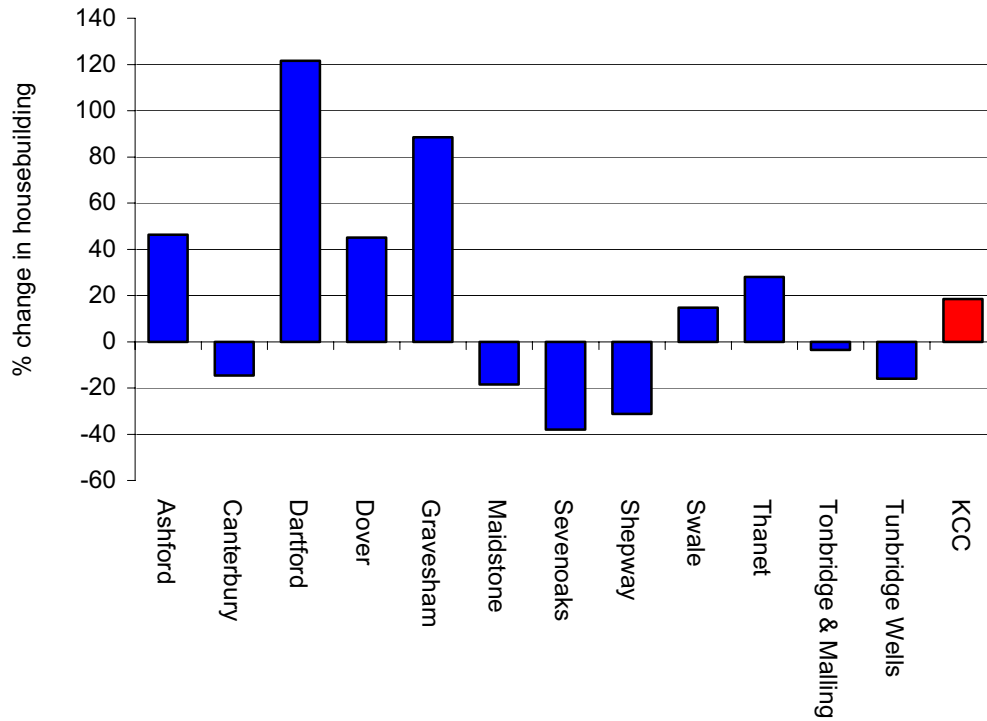
From the Kent Structure Plan, the KCC area housing allocation is 5,680 new dwellings a year through to 2016. Pupils generated by new housing developments may go some way to balancing the effect of a falling 'natural' roll, to result in little net change in the number of secondary pupils countywide. However, there is now a greater proportion of new dwellings being constructed for retired and elderly people, singles and for second or buy-to-let homes (often flats). Several years ago a larger proportion of new dwellings were suitable (in terms of location, size and price) for younger couples likely to start families. Many are now priced out of the market.

Each district's housing allocation from the Kent Structure Plan is shown below. For the purpose of this plan when forecasting roll numbers it has been assumed that new dwellings will be built in the ratio 80/20 between houses and flats for rural areas and in the ratio 60/40 for urban areas. A ratio of 50/50 is applied to the Kent Thameside area.

Housing provision – Kent Structure Plan (September 2006)

District	2006-11	2011-16	2006-16
Ashford	5,000	5,500	10,500
Canterbury	2,300	2,200	4,500
Dartford	4,000	4,500	8,500
Dover	1,600	2,200	3,800
Gravesham	1,500	1,500	3,000
Maidstone	2,200	2,000	4,200
Sevenoaks	800	800	1,600
Shepway	1,500	1,400	2,900
Swale	3,200	3,200	6,400
Thanet	2,100	2,200	4,300
Tonbridge & Malling	2,200	2,400	4,600
Tunbridge Wells	1,400	1,100	2,500
KCC Area	27,800	29,000	56,800
Medway	3,900	4,100	8,000
Kent	31,700	33,100	64,800

Projected change in house building 1996-2006 to 2006-16



The above graph gives a clear indication of the scale of proposed change in some districts between the historic (previous ten year) construction rate and the proposed construction rate for the next ten years.

Dartford will see the biggest change with an increase in house building in excess of 120% between the periods 1996-2006 to 2006-2016. The average completion rate per year in Dartford will move from 384 to 850 dwellings. Increases in average completion rates will also be seen in Ashford, Dover, Gravesham, Swale and Thanet.

Kent as a whole is likely to see a 20% increase in the rate of house building over the next ten years.

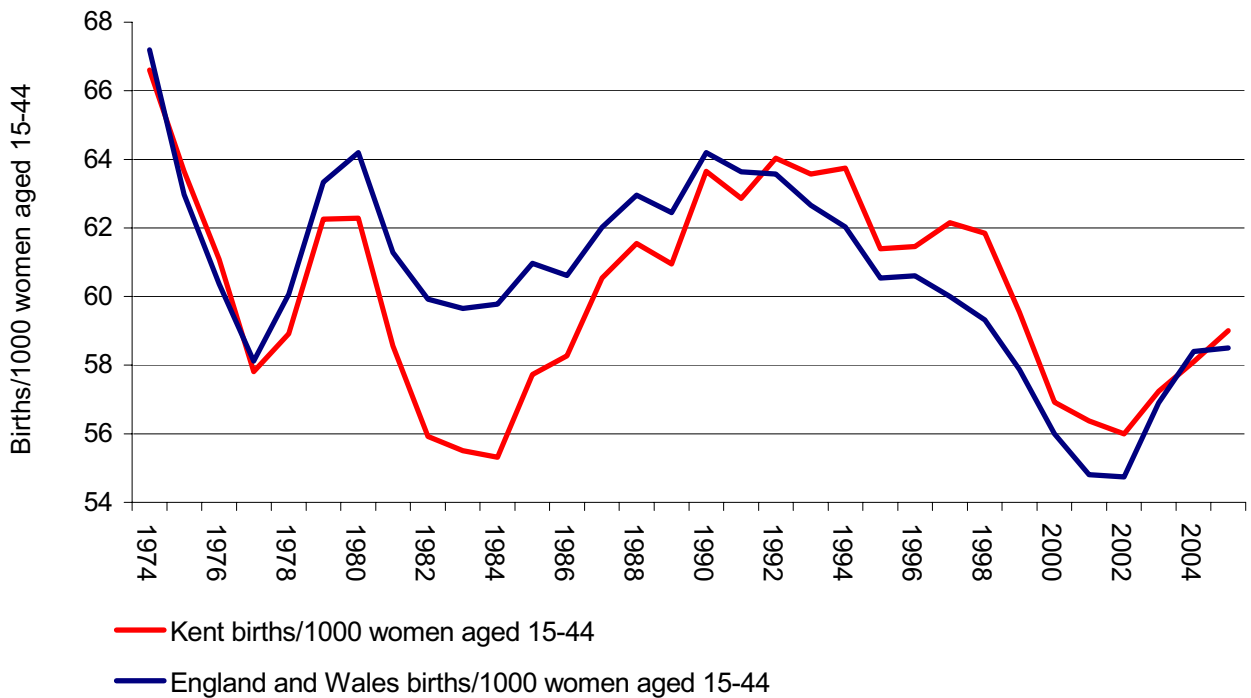
Births analysis

As can be seen from the following charts there was a significant drop in the birth rate between 1992 and 2002 which is currently affecting the school aged population.

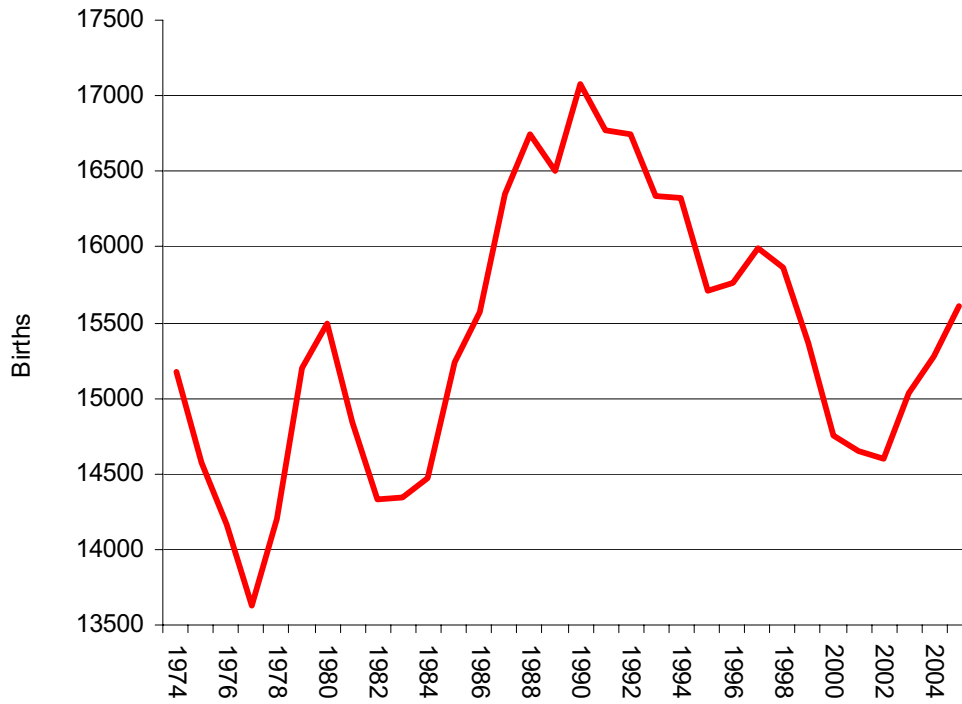
The number of Kent births rose from 13,632 in 1977 to reach a peak of 17,076 in 1990. Since 1990 the number of births has been decreasing year on year through to 2002, when there were 14,604. From 2002 onwards the number of births has increased again and the figure for 2005 (the latest available data) was 15,613.

The upturn since 2002 is not yet significant enough to compensate for this drop in school rolls in forthcoming years.

Kent and England and Wales birth rates 1974 – 2005



Kent live births 1974 – 2005



Note

The 2006 births data from the Office of National Statistics (ONS) are not yet available, at the time of producing this report

Pupils attending mainstream schools

The proportion of the resident population attending mainstream schools is widely different in each district of Kent. The number of pupils attending mainstream primary schools in Tunbridge Wells is approximately 20% less than the total primary population in the borough, while in Shepway the pupil population and number of pupils in the district's primary schools are nearly equal.

At the secondary phase, Maidstone schools educate 8% more pupils than the total secondary aged population while the number of pupils in Sevenoaks secondary schools is equal to only 35% of the district's secondary aged population. The full table with results for each district can be seen below:

District	Primary (R-6)			Secondary (7-11)		
	Pupils in schools	* Resident population	% primary-aged population in district schools	Pupils in schools	Resident population	% secondary-aged population in district schools
Ashford	9,537	10,100	94.4	6,345	7,500	84.6
Canterbury	9,741	10,700	91.0	8,327	9,000	92.5
Dartford	7,567	7,800	97.0	5,716	6,000	95.3
Dover	8,164	8,400	97.2	6,857	7,800	87.9
Gravesham	8,137	8,400	96.9	6,831	6,800	100.5
Maidstone	10,792	11,700	92.2	9,810	9,100	107.8
Sevenoaks	8,301	9,700	85.6	2,583	7,400	34.9
Shepway	8,082	8,100	99.8	5,543	6,400	86.6
Swale	11,174	11,500	97.2	8,242	9,000	91.6
Thanet	10,085	10,600	95.1	7,947	9,000	88.3
Tonbridge & Malling	9,550	10,100	94.6	7,561	8,000	94.5
Tunbridge Wells	7,674	9,600	79.9	7,172	7,800	92.0
Total	108,804	116,700	93.2	82,934	93,800	88.4

* Resident population derived from mid-year population estimates 2005 rounded to nearest 100

Note

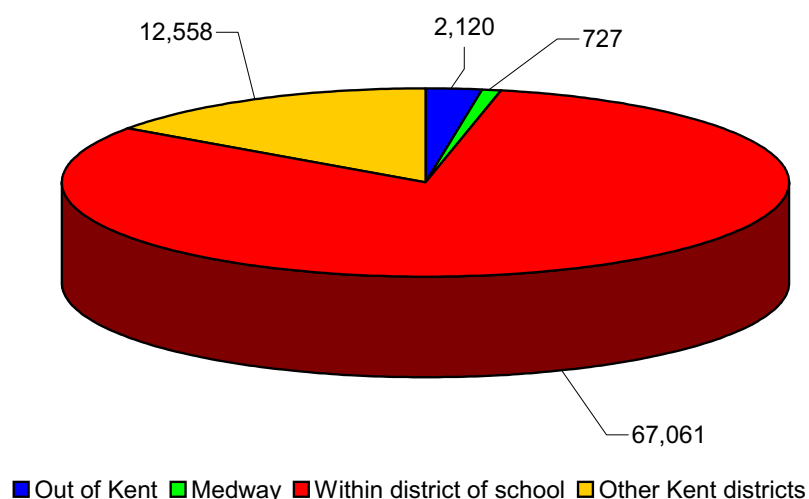
The above table is based on mid-year 2005 population estimates and PLASC 2006 to give a percentage of the resident population in each district that attend schools in that district. At the time of compilation the mid 2006 population estimates are not yet available

Migration between districts and other authorities

Not only is there a large difference between the resident school age population and pupil numbers in some districts but there is also significant migration between districts. The secondary pupil population in Tunbridge Wells and Dartford schools includes a large number of out-of-county pupils from East Sussex and the London Boroughs respectively.

Tunbridge Wells secondary schools receive 600 out-of-county pupils while Dartford schools receive 900 out-of-county pupils. These two boroughs account for 72% of Kent's out-of-county pupil population. 16% of pupils living and being educated in Kent attend a secondary school in a different district to which they live.

The pie chart below summarises the home addresses of pupils in Kent secondary schools (the category 'other Kent district', for example, means that their home is located in a different district to that of their school).



The full table for all Kent districts can be seen below:

Kent school district	Home address of secondary pupils					Total
	Within district of school	Other Kent districts	Medway	Out of Kent	Unknown address	
Ashford	5,995	252	0	101	0	6,348
Canterbury	6,952	1,353	2	24	0	8,331
Dartford	3,580	1,241	5	892	0	5,718
Dover	6,121	712	0	22	2	6,857
Gravesham	5,718	829	277	15	0	6,839
Maidstone	7,697	2,003	99	13	0	9,812
Sevenoaks	1,985	444	4	151	0	2,584
Shepway	5,397	150	0	6	0	5,553
Swale	7,761	432	45	4	0	8,242
Thanet	7,242	211	0	2	0	7,455
Tonbridge & Malling	4,383	2,619	295	265	0	7,562
Tunbridge Wells	4,230	2,312	0	625	5	7,172
Total	67,061	12,558	727	2,120	7	82,473

Post-16 summary

Out of a total of 45,310 17-18 year olds resident in Kent, 16,462 attend school sixth forms while 9,106 attend further education colleges on a full-time basis.

If current government proposals to make some form of training or education a statutory requirement to the age of 18 are accepted, an expansion of Kent's colleges and sixth forms may be required.

Type of post-16 activity	Number of 17-18 year olds	% of total 17-18 year olds
Full-time education in Kent maintained schools	16,462	36.3
Full-time education in Kent independent schools	1,500	3.3
Full-time education in FE college (and full-time part year)	9,106	20.1
Part-time education (distance learning, evening, e-learning and open courses)	1,091	2.4
Not in education, employment or training (NEET)	2,516	5.5
In employment	14,635	32.3
Total 17-18 year olds	45,310	100.0

Notes

An estimate has been made for 17-18 year olds in full time education in Kent independent schools (based on 2004 data from ISIS)

NEET and further education data supplied by Kent and Medway Learning and Skills Council (November 2006 based)

Further education data, taken from Individualised Learner Records (ILR) is based on school year 2006-07 and includes those funded by the LSC directly and the European Social Fund (ESF)

Total 17-18 year olds equates to NEET plus EET (in employment education or training) data. The 'in employment' figure is therefore the balance, given that the other figures are known

Further education in Kent's schools (sixth forms)

At present just over half of all Year 11 pupils decide to continue their Post-16 education in school. Broadly, this is projected to rise in the future, and in any year there are approximately 16,000 pupils undertaking Post-16 education in Kent schools.

Although forecasting sixth form numbers is out of the scope of this plan it is important and interesting to analyse the differences between clusters and areas in the proportion of 16 year-olds staying on for further education. The table below follows the 2005 cohort of Year 11 pupils through to Year 13. In total, out of 15,898 Year 11 pupils (in 2005), 8,644 stayed on to Year 12 and 7,002 completed their Year 13 education.

Sixth form stay-on

Figures vary between 37% of pupils in Sevenoaks secondary schools staying on for Post-16 education to 68% of pupils in Tunbridge Wells staying on into the sixth form. This is partly related to the types of secondary provision in those areas (for example Sevenoaks has no grammar provision). Again, Sevenoaks secondary schools have the worst result for stay-on once the pupil has decided to embark on Post-16 education – only 68% of those taking sixth form courses continue into the final year of study (Year 13).

District	Spring term			Stay-on rate (%)		
	2005	2006	2007	2005-2006	2006-2007	2005-2007
	Y11	Y12	Y13	Y11 - Y12	Y12 - Y13	Y11 - Y13
Ashford	1,169	570	511	49	90	44
Canterbury	1,637	917	694	56	76	42
Dartford	1,083	688	607	64	88	56
Dover	1,301	658	522	51	79	40
Gravesham	1,323	671	543	51	81	41
Maidstone	1,906	1,153	938	60	81	49
Sevenoaks	476	174	118	37	68	25
Shepway	1,118	535	428	48	80	38
Swale	1,601	839	614	52	73	38
Thanet	1,512	661	527	44	80	35
Tonbridge & Malling	1,454	885	721	61	81	50
Tunbridge Wells	1,318	893	779	68	87	59
Total	15,898	8,644	7,002	54	81	44

For those areas with an apparent under provision of Post-16 education opportunities or where take-up is lower than may be desirable, measures may already be in place to encourage the growth of school sixth forms, or develop new vocational centres.

Grammar school provision

There are currently 33 grammar schools out of a total of 101 secondary schools overall in Kent. Currently 27.7% of the total Years 7-11 roll attends these schools.

The following table shows the pattern on a district by district basis.

District	Roll – Jan 2007			
	Grammar	Non-grammar	Total	Grammar %
Ashford	1,573	4,810	6,383	24.6
Canterbury	2,069	6,231	8,300	24.9
Dartford	2,744	4,089	6,833	40.2
Dover	1,769	5,132	6,901	25.6
Gravesham	1,458	5,237	6,695	21.8
Maidstone	3,340	6,310	9,650	34.6
Sevenoaks	0	2,499	2,499	0
Shepway	1,543	4,008	5,551	27.8
Swale	1,809	6,341	8,150	22.2
Thanet	1,956	5,972	7,928	24.7
Tonbridge & Malling	2,159	5,292	7,451	29.0
Tunbridge Wells	2,673	4,467	7,140	37.4
Total	23,093	60,388	83,481	27.7

Catchment areas

The catchment area is a notional area which is dictated by a range of factors, including the school's admissions policy. The size of catchment areas for Kent's secondary schools varies greatly over the county, depending on the school's location (rural/urban/socio-economic), popularity, whether it's in a wide ability or selective area and the choice of other secondary schools in the vicinity.

The distances that pupils travel to school vary greatly between school types as follows:

Type of school	% pupils travelling less than 3 miles to school	% pupils travelling greater than 3 miles to school
High	77	23
Wide ability	53	47
Grammar	49	51
Kent average	63	37

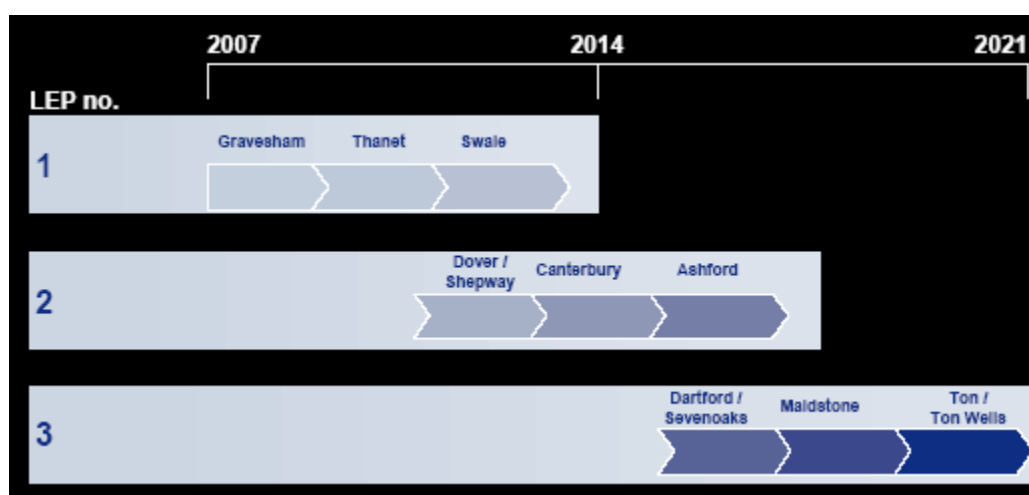
A breakdown of pupils travelling under and over three miles, by individual secondary school is available upon request.

Building Schools for the Future (BSF)

BSF is a national programme to rebuild or renew secondary schools in Kent over the next 15-20 years. Kent's BSF programme is planned in line with current government spending plans and assumptions. It is expected that these plans and assumptions will also hold for future waves, but over fifteen years circumstances may change, including government priorities, legislative requirements, and Kent's own local requirements.

Some assumptions may therefore change as the programme moves forward, but only in the light of substantial and sustainable evidence that they are blocking either the achievement of the government's or the authority's aims.

The programme for Kent districts is expected to be as follows:



Vocational education and training

The vocational education and training offer for 14-16 year-old learners continues to expand, with the introduction of a range of new vocational subjects. There are 2,400 14-16 year-olds taking part in the KCC vocational programme with this number expected to increase to over 4,000 in September 2007.

The evaluation of the phase one programmes and feedback from the learner voice survey highlights the success of the programme to date. In particular learners have welcomed the opportunity to work in new specialist facilities, which are modelled on industry standards giving them access to activities which replicate the real world.

The success of the programmes to date has been in part due to the quality of the delivery. As the vocational and applied learning offer continues to expand across the 14-19 planning forums, it is important to manage the impact of this expansion particularly on the Key Stage 4 curriculum. To maintain the quality of delivery it is important that there are appropriate progression routes for learners at 16+ from September 2008 onwards. Therefore, there is a need to develop a strategic plan for vocational provision and applied learning.

There are two key aspects to the strategic planning of the 14-16 vocational programmes.

- Planning the number of places required in vocational subjects for 14-16 year-old learners, offered on a collaborative basis from 2008 onwards. The implementation of the new diplomas and the projected decrease in secondary rolls over the next ten years makes this a significant challenge.
- Ensuring that learners who have embarked on a vocational programme at 14 have appropriate opportunities and meaningful progression at 16. This will require a significant review of post-16 programmes from September 2008 onwards.

Planning places for the 14-16 vocational collaborative offer is a complex task and decisions will need to be made as to which subjects are offered on a collaborative basis and which organisation is best placed to deliver high quality programmes.

Information needs to be shared, discussed and agreed at the 'local level' and should include all other vocational programmes including programmes offered by further education colleges and work-based learning providers. The Thanet planning forum is a good example of this co-ordinated offer.

Vocational Programme for 2007 & 2008

The locations of vocational programmes offered on a collaborative basis for September 2007 are as follows:

Ashford

Homewood School - construction, hair & beauty and hospitality & catering courses
The Towers School - hospitality & catering, motor vehicle and construction courses

The full vocational programme for Ashford has yet to be implemented; construction, motor vehicle, health & social care and engineering courses will be offered via South Kent College.

Canterbury and Faversham

Community College Whitstable - hair & beauty, construction and motor vehicle courses
Abbey School - hospitality & catering and horticulture courses
Herne Bay High School - business & IT, health & social care, creative industries and outdoor activities courses
Monkshill Farm/Hadlow College - animal care courses
Canterbury High - construction courses

Dartford and Hextable/Swanley

Swanley Technology College - construction, engineering, hair & beauty and motor Vehicle courses
Hextable School - performing arts courses
Wilmington Enterprise College - land & environment courses

Dover and Deal

St Edmunds, Dover - leisure & tourism, business & enterprise and performing arts courses

Dover Grammar School for Boys - vocational science courses

Archers Court - construction and health & social care courses

Astor College - health & social care courses

Walmer School - engineering courses

Gravesham

Thamesview School - construction, motor vehicle and health & social care courses

Northfleet Technology College - engineering courses

Swan Valley School - hospitality & catering and engineering courses

Northfleet School for Girls - retail courses

Young Apprenticeship programmes - construction, engineering, retail and outdoor education courses

Maidstone and Malling

New Line Learning Federation of Schools (Senacre, Oldborough Manor and Cornwallis)
- construction and hair & beauty courses

Maidstone Grammar Boys - engineering courses

Holmesdale - engineering courses

Swale (Sittingbourne and Sheppey)

Sittingbourne Community College - engineering, health & social care courses

Westlands School - construction courses

Fulston Manor School - creative & media courses

Thanet

Young Apprenticeship Programme - construction, engineering and retail courses

Thanet Skills Studio - construction, engineering, motor vehicle, retail, hospitality & catering and leisure courses

The above courses are offered in partnership with Thanet College and the following schools:

Hartsdown Technology College

King Ethelbert, Hereson

Ellington School for Girls

St George's

Charles Dickens

St Anthony's Special School

West Kent

West Kent College, North Farm - construction, engineering and motor vehicle courses in partnership with the following schools:

Wilderness
Mascalls
Tunbridge Wells High
Hugh Christie
Hayesbrook
Angley
Bennett Memorial
St Gregory's
Wrotham
Hadlow College - horticulture courses

New Developments

New facilities for construction training will be developed at The Bridge development in Dartford & Ebbsfleet. These will be mobile training facilities and will be located in the middle of large-scale developments in the area. A new facility will be developed in Sittingbourne to provide specialist training in building services & maintenance with a particular emphasis on new technologies such as wind and solar power. These facilities will be funded by a £2.2 million grant from the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG).

Priority areas for new vocational developments are Dover and the Tonbridge & Malling area.

KCC successfully gained a contract with the Learning and Skills Council to deliver 135 young apprenticeship places from 2007 in Thanet and Gravesend, which compliments the current 14-16 vocational offer.

Strong partnership and collaborative arrangements between schools, colleges, Kent Works, Connexions and employers will determine the success of the vocational programme. This will be a main area of focus for development by the vocational team over the next year.

DISTRICT ANALYSIS

Ashford

Area Education Officer: David Adams

Local Education Officers:

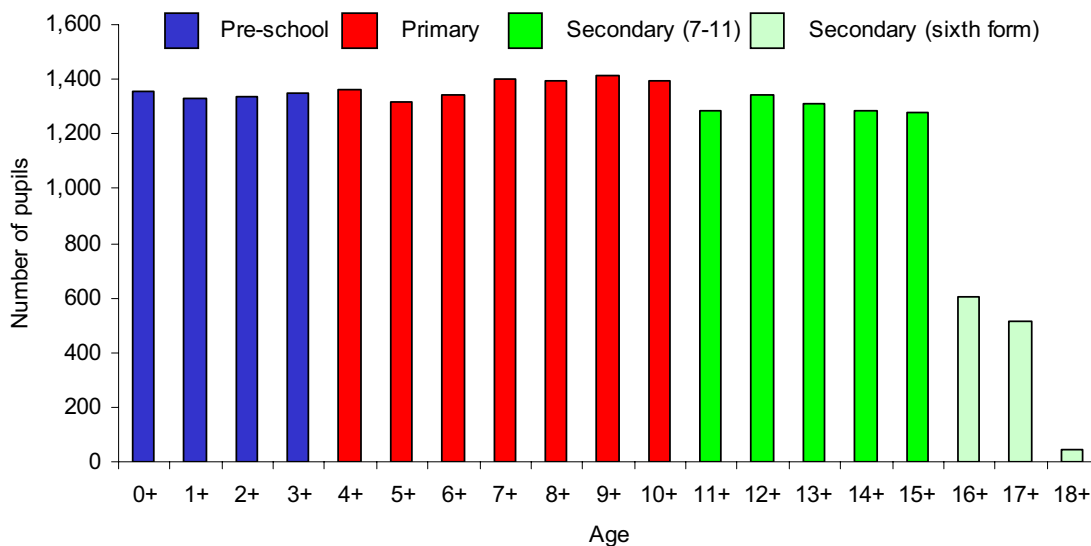
Ashford (A.S. One) Laura Froude
Ashford Rural Helen Anderson

Ashford is recognised as a regional focus for growth, as mentioned in the Office for the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) Communities Plan and is the fastest growing town in the south east of England. The provision for new housing in Ashford is set well above the amount indicated by existing trends and provides for an accelerating rate of net inward migration and local population growth.

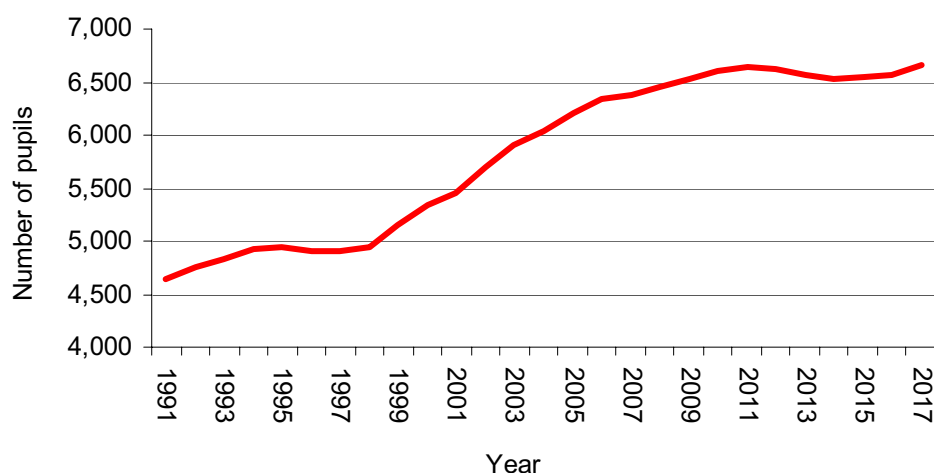
Targets for employment growth under Ashford's Future are ambitious and if housing and employment are to be more balanced a step change in recent investment levels will be required, supported by a boost in vocational skills provided by the town's further education sector.

Ashford Borough Council is in the process of drafting and approving its local development framework, and producing detailed master plans for major growth sites (e.g. the town centre, and Chilmington). The outcome of these will determine future planning strategies, particularly for the development of schools in Ashford town.

Ashford year groups (0-18 year olds) 2007



Ashford secondary schools historic and forecast pupil numbers 1991-2017 (Years 7-11) (Summer 2007-based pupil forecasts)



Ashford secondary schools summary table (Years 7-11)

School name	PAN 2007	PAN 2006	Current net capacity (Spring 2007)	PLASC 2007 roll	Current surplus/ (deficit)	% surplus/ (deficit)
Highworth Grammar School for Girls	165	165	825	845	-20	-2.4
Towers School	243	243	1,100	1,102	-2	-0.1
North School	180	150	1,015	813	202	20.0
Norton Knatchbull School	149	149	740	728	12	1.6
Christchurch CE High School	240	240	1,200	1,135	65	5.4
Homewood School & 6 th Form Centre	360	360	1,730	1,760	-30	-1.7
Total	1,337	1,307	6,610	6,383	227	3.4

A step change in Ashford's expansion will be delayed until improvements to Junction 10 of the M20 are complete (work has commenced). A new junction 10a is still some years off.

Through Ashford's Future and Ashford Borough Council's local development framework (LDF) process, KCC has requested that three secondary school sites be identified for secondary provision over the next 30 years and 12 additional primary sites, to match the town's expansion. This does not mean the authority is committed to building three new secondary schools, although it is prudent to allocate the land, should the need arise.

There are plans for a replacement South Kent FE College, known as 'The Learning Campus'. This is to be located within the town centre. A planning application has been

submitted and the campus is due to open in 2009. This will provide significant additional Post-16 capacity. The campus will incorporate an access point for KCC adult education services.

The North School is currently being rebuilt under a Private Finance Initiative (PFI) scheme. Its Published Admission Number (PAN) increases from 150 to 180 in September 2007, when six forms of entry of accommodation becomes available. Further accommodation will become available in 2008 and therefore, the PAN could increase to 240 in 2008. However, the forecasts indicate that not all this additional 7-11 capacity is needed immediately. Therefore, it has been agreed that the PAN will be 200 in 2008, with the spare accommodation temporarily being used to deliver sixth form studies to the pupils of A.S. One Cluster secondary schools. This helps to address accommodation pressures in the town's three 11-18 schools. Discussions regarding this collaborative sixth form delivery are ongoing.

Christ Church CE High School has expanded from six to eight forms of entry. The final small year group leaves the school this summer and will be replaced with 240 pupils. The school is then full. The school has aspirations to introduce vocational and post-16 courses, as well as to address some accommodation difficulties. The school is working with KCC and the Canterbury Diocese to identify a way forward.

There are no further plans for Homewood School which at twelve forms of entry, and having just completed an extensive programme of investment, is the largest school in the county. Homewood remains full and oversubscribed, drawing some pupils out of the town. The school offers a range of vocational courses to students.

The Towers School is currently at capacity, with the growth in the sixth form numbers creating accommodation pressures. In the short term these are being addressed via expansions to the dining and hall facilities, together with temporary accommodation. The school and local authority are working together to develop proposals for a long term solution to the accommodation pressures of the school and to bring greater coherence to the school's accommodation.

Highworth Grammar School for Girls has been provided with some temporary accommodation to address, in part, the accommodation shortfall at the school, as it is at capacity. The original school building dates from around 1912 and would benefit from an upgrade or replacement under BSF.

Norton Knatchbull Grammar School for Boys is also at capacity.

The forecasts indicate that with a PAN of 150 for The North School, there will be insufficient school places for the borough. The creation of 240 places per year group at the school (which enlarges it slightly from the 221 places it offered in the recent past) provides sufficient capacity until at least 2016-17 when it is forecast that there will still be in excess of 300 surplus Years 7-11 places over the borough as a whole. This represents a 5% surplus. Planning for a new school for post-2017 will commence shortly as part of the BSF discussions. Work on defining the new competition arrangements for determining the promoter of the new school will also commence.

However, these forecasts use the Kent Structure Plan housing allocations to predict the longer-term rate of housing growth. Ashford Borough Council has produced a draft

housing trajectory which exceeds the structure plan allocation by 40% to 100% throughout the period 2008-09 to 2015-16. If this trajectory is adopted and delivered it will significantly bring forward the need for a new school.

In terms of Post-16, the forecasts indicate that all three Post-16 schools in A.S. One Cluster are at or beyond capacity for their available Post-16 accommodation. The provision of temporary accommodation has alleviated the immediate problems, and the use of classrooms at The North School from 2008 will provide a medium term solution. The impact to the learning campus in 2009 needs to be understood before any permanent solutions are decided.

There remains a need in Ashford to work with individual schools to develop proposals to address short term accommodation issues to meet aspirations and changing curriculum needs. Discussions regarding BSF will involve the creation of additional capacity via a new school, as well as addressing the long term accommodation needs of Ashford's schools.

Proposed changes to net capacities of Ashford secondary schools (Years 7-11)

The table below shows planned and proposed changes in the short term, to September 2009:

School name	PAN change	Current net capacity (Spring 2007)	Future net capacity (September 2009)	Difference
Highworth Grammar School for Girls	No change	825	825	0
Towers School	PAN and net capacity realignment	1,100	1,215	+115
North School	150 to 180 in 2007 then to 200 in 2008	1,015	1,000*	-15
Norton Knatchbull School	PAN and net capacity realignment	740	745	+5
Christchurch CE High School	No change	1,200	1,200	0
Homewood School & 6 th Form Centre	PAN and net capacity realignment	1,730	1,800	+70
Total		6,610	6,785	+175

* Possibility of increasing to a planned admission number of 240 after 2008, which would increase the net capacity to 1,200

Summary

Summer 2007 forecasts suggest that 6,965 secondary places for years 7-11 will be required by 2012 and 7,012 places by 2017, allowing for 5% surplus capacity within secondary schools over the borough as a whole.

Based on current (spring 2007) net capacity figures the authority therefore needs to add 355 secondary places for years 7-11 by 2012 and 402 places by 2017.

Area Education Officer: David Adams

Local Education Officers:

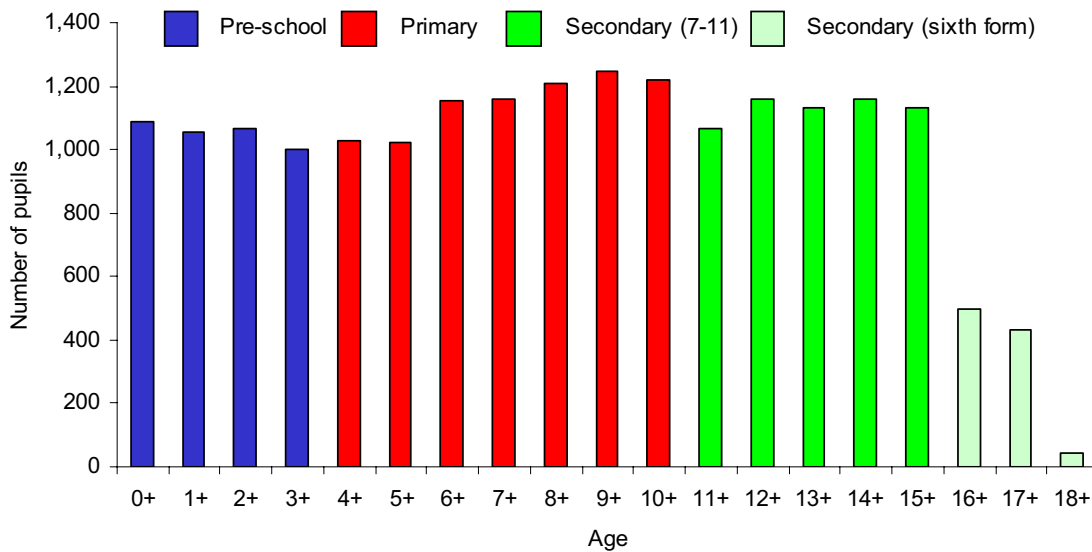
Shepway Rural
Shepway 1

Stephen Smith
Val Walton

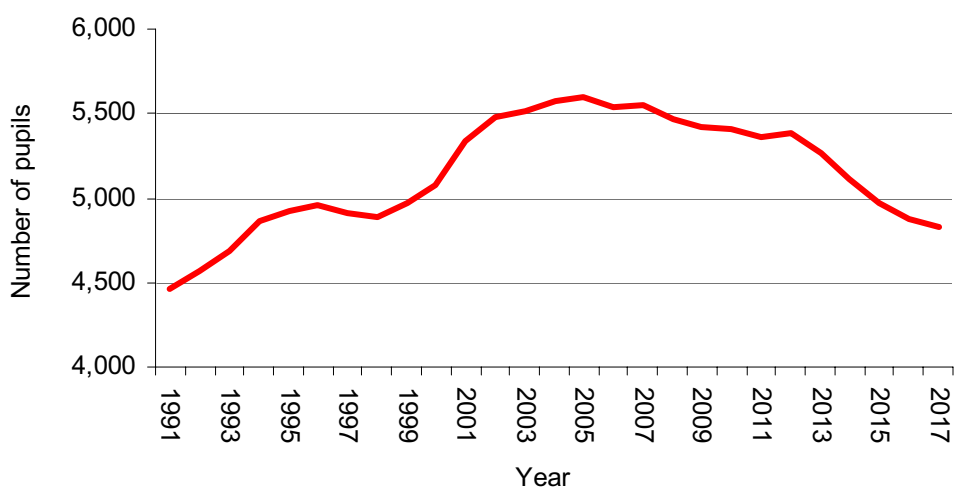
Policies for Shepway focus on the regeneration of Folkestone as a tourist resort to attract further investment into the town. Redevelopment of the harbour and seafront for a mix of uses, including a cultural quarter and a major residential element will make a substantial contribution.

New housing is focused on the main urban areas of Folkestone and Hythe and the major expansion of the village of Hawkinge. There are additional housing allocations within Dymchurch, Palmmarsh, Sellindge, New Romney and Lydd.

Shepway year groups (0-18 year olds) 2007



**Shepway secondary schools historic and forecast pupil numbers 1991-2017
(Years 7-11) (Summer 2007-based pupil forecasts)**



Shepway secondary schools summary table (Years 7-11)

School Name	PAN 2007	PAN 2006	Current net capacity (Spring 2007)	PLASC 2007 roll	Current surplus/ (deficit)	% surplus/ (deficit)
Harvey Grammar School	150	150	745	724	21	2.8
Channel School	240	180	850	757	93	10.9
Folkestone School for Girls	165	165	855	819	36	4.2
Pent Valley School	240	240	1,045	1,192	-147	-14.1
Brockhill Park School	235	235	1,100	1,143	-43	-4.0
Southlands Community School	243	243	1,345	916	429	31.8
Total	1,273	1,213	5,940	5,551	389	6.5

The Folkestone Academy, which replaces The Channel School, opens in new buildings in September 2007. The new school will add two forms of entry of additional capacity over the existing Channel School, with a planned admission number of 240, plus sixth form provision (which Channel does not currently have). The enlargement was introduced to accommodate the expansion of Hawkinge Village. New vocational facilities will be opened, including vehicle maintenance.

The Marsh Academy (currently Southlands Community Comprehensive School) will also open in September 2007 in existing accommodation for its first year. The school will operate at six forms of entry, down from the current eight forms of entry. The accommodation will be significantly improved, including a new science block and

vocational centre. The project is in implementation phase and building design is underway.

Brockhill Park Performing Arts College operates at eight forms of entry. A substantial amount of the school's accommodation needs rebuilding when BSF commences in Shepway (estimated to be 2012-13).

Pent Valley School has eight forms of entry. New accommodation has eased overcrowding. A significant proportion of the school is 1930s accommodation. The school currently fills to its planned admission number. The school will need substantial refurbishment and remodelling under BSF.

Folkestone School for Girls requires significant new accommodation and building refurbishment under BSF. The old grammar school site is inappropriate for current needs.

The Harvey Grammar School is largely well maintained but the main school building lacks flexibility to enable its adaptation to the future needs of teaching and learning. This will be a challenge for BSF.

The changes in published admission numbers in the Folkestone and Marsh Academies maintain the current level of provision in Shepway. On the basis of this, the forecasts suggest there will be in excess of 1,000 surplus places in Years 7-11 by 2016-17.

In terms of Post-16, a new 200 place sixth form will be opened at The Folkestone Academy. It is envisaged that increased participation and improved retention will fill this growth in capacity.

Discussions regarding BSF in Shepway are commencing and there is a recognition that action will need to be taken to reduce surplus capacity. These discussions will lead to a proposal for the area within 12 months.

Proposed changes to net capacities of Shepway secondary schools (Years 7-11)

The table below shows planned and proposed changes in the short term, to September 2009:

School name	PAN change	Current net capacity (Spring 2007)	Future net capacity (September 2009)	Difference
Harvey Grammar School	PAN and net capacity realignment	745	750	+5
Channel School (to Become the Folkestone Academy)	180 to 240	850	1,200	+350
Folkestone School for Girls	PAN and net capacity realignment	855	825	-30
Pent Valley School	PAN and net capacity realignment	1,045	1,200	+155
Brockhill Park School	PAN and net capacity realignment	1,100	1,175	+75
Southlands Community School	243 to 180	1,345	900	-445
Total		5,940	6,050	+110

Summary

Summer 2007 forecasts suggest that 5,665 secondary places for years 7-11 will be required by 2012 and 5,078 places by 2017, allowing for 5% surplus capacity within secondary schools over the district as a whole.

Based on current (spring 2007) net capacity figures the authority therefore needs to remove 275 secondary places for years 7-11 by 2012 and 862 places by 2017.

Area Education Officer: Alison Osborne

Local Education Officers:

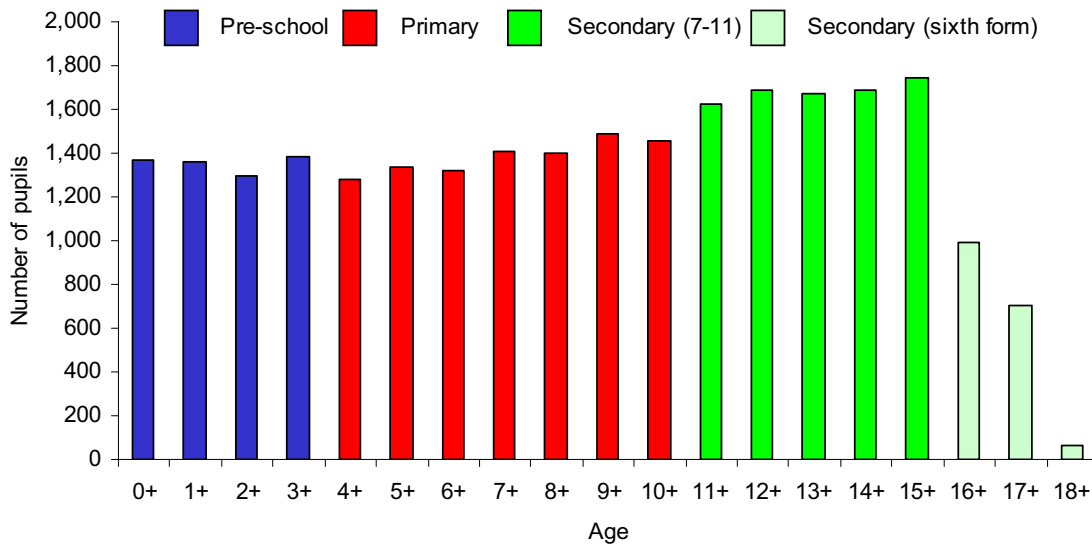
Canterbury Coastal Jean Mosley
 Canterbury City & Country Maggie Gregory

The city depends on a large inflow of commuters to support the levels of jobs in the area – increasing housing capacity in the city should help reduce the dependence upon car based travel to work. It may also have the effect (dependent on housing type) of a rising pupil population within the urban area.

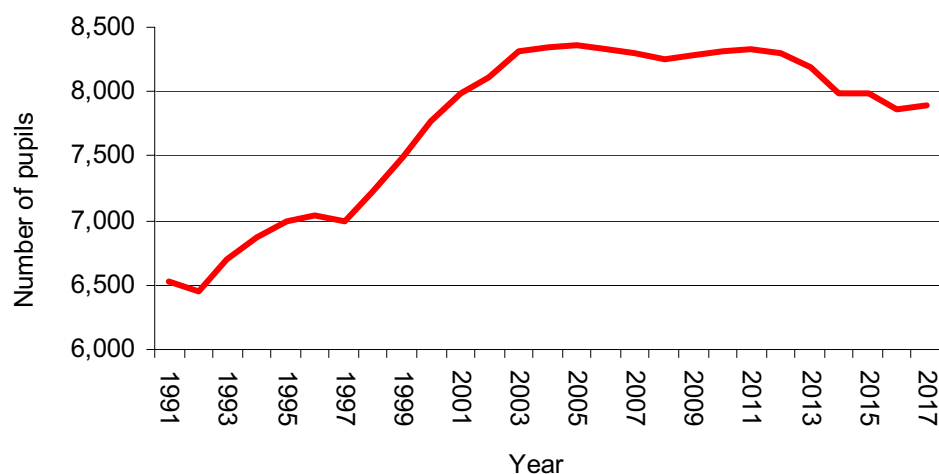
Although strategic policy reflects restraint, housing provision for Canterbury in the Kent Structure Plan is above levels needed to deal with pure trend based housing requirements. New housing should be focused to support the growth of the Canterbury City economy envisaged over the next 15-20 years.

Herne Bay and Whitstable have experienced significant housing expansion in recent years but the emphasis at the coastal towns should now be on realising capacity for housing within the urban area.

Canterbury year groups (0-18 year olds) 2007



**Canterbury secondary schools historic and forecast pupil numbers in 1991-2017
(Years 7-11) (Summer 2007-based pupil forecasts)**



Canterbury secondary schools summary table (Years 7-11)

School Name	PAN 2007	PAN 2006	Current net capacity (Spring 2007)	PLASC 2007 roll	Current surplus/ (deficit)	% surplus/ (deficit)
Community College, Whitstable	210	210	1,045	921	124	11.9
Archbishop's School	140	132	660	733	-73	-11.1
Herne Bay High School	258	258	1,320	1,311	9	0.7
Simon Langton Girls Grammar School	155	155	820	776	44	5.4
Simon Langton School for Boys	120	120	640	630	10	1.6
Canterbury High School	180	180	995	918	77	7.7
Barton Court Grammar School	120	120	610	663	-53	-8.7
St Anselm's Catholic School	180	180	895	902	-7	-0.8
Chaucer Technology School	235	235	1,175	1,140	35	3.0
Montgomery School	100	100	510	306	204	40.0
Total	1,698	1,690	8,670	8,300	370	4.3

The two secondary schools at the coast have been included in the Thanet Building Schools for the Future (BSF) programme and will therefore benefit from the significant improvements offered by this project.

The ten secondary schools and the further education college have contributed to a review of Post-16 education provision in the locality. The results of this review will influence future provision for all Post-16 students. There are likely to be increased links between sixth forms at the coast, and between city sixth forms.

Canterbury is a net importer of 780 secondary aged pupils, with around 450 from Swale Borough, 300 from Ashford Borough, 250 from Dover District and 240 from Shepway District. Over 300 pupils leave Whitstable and Herne Bay to attend Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, Faversham (there is no grammar provision in Canterbury Coastal Cluster).

At the coast, The Community College, Whitstable has expanded to seven forms of entry (in 2006) and has the first purpose-built vocational centre on site. The roll is gradually rising and is expected to fill to its capacity over the next five to ten years.

Herne Bay High School has a planned admission number of 258 and is oversubscribed. For entry to the school in September 2006, 59 pupils opting for Herne Bay High as their first preference failed to gain entry; only 50% of the secondary aged population of Herne Bay attend the school. Whether the coastal area needs another secondary school has been subject to much discussion over the years but forecast district rolls now prevent serious consideration of this option. The school will expand to an admission number of 270 when BSF is implemented.

For those living in the Herne Bay area, currently 400 pupils attend other high schools and 700 attend grammar schools in Faversham, Canterbury and Thanet. Herne Bay High has strong links with The Community College, Whitstable for vocational provision.

Montgomery School is still undersubscribed and has the lowest roll (around 300 pupils) of any secondary school in the county. The school currently has three forms of entry but there are plans to transform it into an academy with four forms of entry by September 2007. This could ease pressure on nearby Archbishop's School and Canterbury High School, which currently take children from the Sturry and Hersden areas who choose not to attend Montgomery.

In Canterbury, Archbishop's School remains undersized for the number of pupils on roll, with many classrooms smaller than national standards. Historically this school has taken large numbers of pupils on appeal, although this issue has now been addressed. A feasibility study has been carried out to make the school fit for purpose, which is likely to be through modernisation funding supported by the Diocese of Canterbury.

The Canterbury High School site is now known as the Canterbury Campus with adult education provision moving into new buildings on the site. The school has specialist sports status, with facilities being run through a PFI arrangement (including a running track and gymnasium). The school is federated with Beauherne Primary School with an executive head running the federated schools.

St. Anselm's Catholic School has one of the widest intakes of all Kent schools with a significant proportion of pupils (30-40%) coming from the Ashford area, where currently there is no catholic provision. With Ashford projected to grow significantly over the next ten years, a higher proportion of St. Anselm's pupil roll is likely to be comprised of

Ashford children in the future. In Canterbury this could adversely affect the chances of local non-catholic pupils of receiving a catholic education.

The Simon Langton grammar schools are planning increased collaboration, especially at Post-16, with the boys' school benefiting from recent modernisation to its sixth form facilities. Barton Court Grammar School has developed close ties with Canterbury Christchurch University in the development of its sports facilities.

Although rolls are projected to fall in Canterbury (as with most other areas) by 350 pupils over the next ten years, due to current capacity constraints and the district's large net immigration to its secondary schools from other areas, it won't be necessary to remove any capacity overall.

Proposed changes to net capacities of Canterbury secondary schools (Years 7-11)

The table below shows planned and proposed changes in the short term, to September 2009:

School name	PAN change	Current net capacity (Spring 2007)	Future net capacity (September 2009)	Difference
Community College, Whitstable	PAN and net capacity realignment	1,045	1,050	+5
Archbishop's School	132 to 140	660	700	+40
Herne Bay High School	258 to 270 (through BSF)	1,320	1,350	+60
Simon Langton Girls Grammar School	PAN and net capacity realignment	820	775	-45
Simon Langton School for Boys	PAN and net capacity realignment	640	600	-40
Canterbury High School	PAN and net capacity realignment	995	900	-95
Barton Court Grammar School	PAN and net capacity realignment	610	600	-10
St Anselm's Catholic School	PAN and net capacity realignment	895	900	+5
Chaucer Technology School	No change	1,175	1,175	0
Montgomery School	100 to 120	510	600	+90
Total		8,670	8,655	-15

Summary

Summer 2007 forecasts suggest that 8,734 places for years 7-11 will be required by 2012, and 8,314 places by 2017, allowing for 5% surplus capacity within secondary schools over the district as a whole.

Based on current (spring 2007) net capacity figures the authority does not therefore need to remove any secondary places for years 7-11 in the foreseeable future.

Area Education Officer: Alison Osborne

Local Education Officers:

Swale Urban Ian Le Brunn
 Swale Rural John Truman

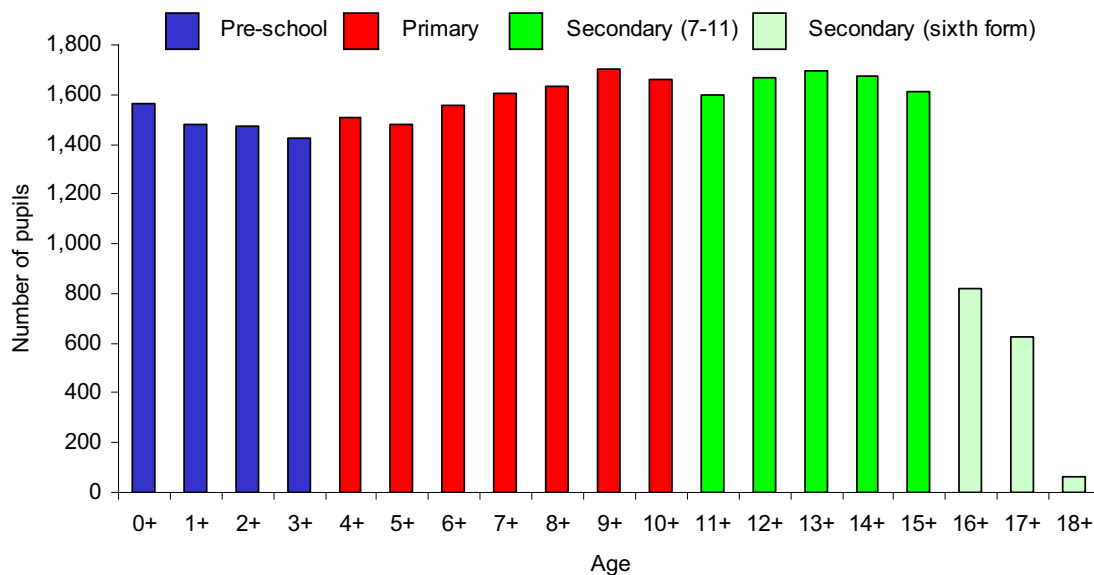
As part of the Thames Gateway development initiative, urban expansion will occur to the west and north east of Sittingbourne (dependent on the phased provision of the Sittingbourne northern relief road) and in the Minster and Rushenden areas on the Isle of Sheppey. A new bridge serving the Island opened in July 2006 and is seen as critical to its regeneration. Other strategic provisions include the completion of the expansion of Iwade village.

Housing provision for Swale remains well above the locally generated demand - and places a commitment to completion of strategic developments around the borough. Swale has produced an interim regeneration framework for the borough, which identified priority projects to support development.

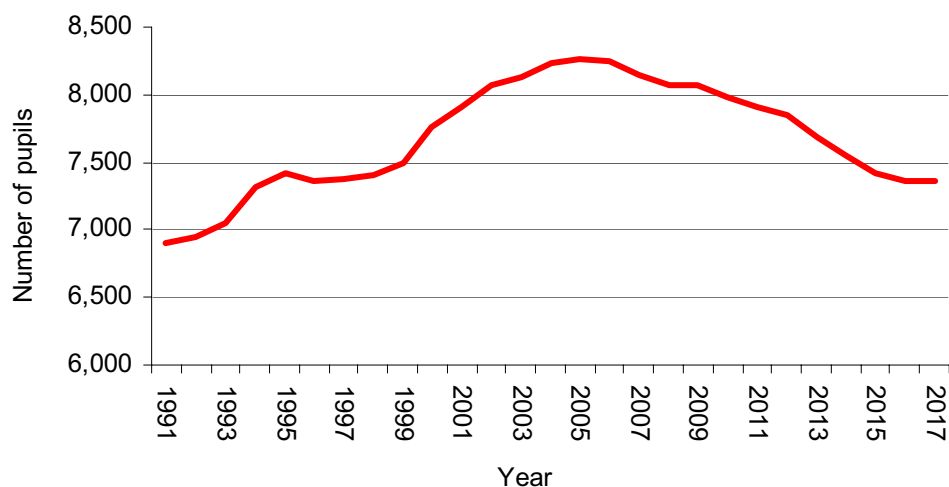
The decision to move from a three-tier to a two-tier education system on the Isle of Sheppey was taken in January 2007. Two consultations have run concurrently on a) the principle of a change to a two-tier system and b) a separate consultation on a proposed Island Academy for Years 7-13. Detailed proposals have now been brought forward for the primary phase and decisions should be taken imminently.

The County Council has participated in a review of further education provision, undertaken by the Learning and Skills Council. One outcome of the review has been the identification of the need for additional Post-16 vocational education in Swale.

Swale year groups (0-18 year olds) 2007



Swale secondary schools historic and forecast pupil numbers 1991-2017 (Years 7-11) (Summer 2007-based pupil forecasts)



Swale secondary schools summary table (Years 7-11)

School name	PAN 2007	PAN 2006	Current net capacity (Spring 2007)	PLASC 2007 roll	Current surplus/ (deficit)	% surplus/ (deficit)
Abbey School	235	235	1,145	827	318	27.8
Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School	124	128	680	635	45	6.6
Highsted Grammar School	120	120	600	615	-15	-2.5
Danley Middle School	180	180	360	321	39	10.8
Sittingbourne Community College	210	210	1,190	980	210	17.6
Borden Grammar School	120	120	600	559	41	6.8
St George's Middle School	120	120	203	219	-16	-7.9
Fulston Manor School	180	180	900	945	-45	-5.0
Minster College	450	450	1,350	1,308	42	3.1
Westlands School	270	270	1,345	1,395	-50	-3.7
Cheyne Middle School	210	210	423	346	77	18.2
Total	2,219	2,223	8,796	8,150	646	7.3

Swale comprises three distinct areas; Faversham in the east, Sittingbourne in the west and the Isle of Sheppey. At secondary level a significant number of the island's pupils attend secondary schools in Sittingbourne.

Faversham has two secondary schools – The Abbey School and Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School. The Abbey School has significant surplus capacity and many secondary aged children choose to travel to Canterbury's high schools. Abbey currently has over 300 surplus places, which is one of the highest in the county. There is new vocational provision at Abbey School for 11-16 year olds.

At Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School 52% of its pupils attend from outside the Faversham area (mainly from Whitstable and Herne Bay).

In Sittingbourne 96% of secondary aged pupils living in the town attend Sittingbourne schools. There is little outward migration but significant numbers of pupils from outside the town come into Sittingbourne for their education. The schools currently operate with only a very small surplus capacity (3% approximately).

Westlands and Sittingbourne Community College have new vocational provision on site. The three high schools currently take around 200 secondary aged pupils from the Isle of Sheppey, although plans for the academy could affect the roll numbers of Sittingbourne's roll numbers.

The Sittingbourne grammar schools, Borden Grammar School for Boys and Highsted Grammar School for Girls operate comfortably at four forms of entry. For both schools, about 20% of their roll is from the comprehensive system on the Isle of Sheppey.

On the Isle of Sheppey the academy proposal has not yet been decided. The forecast pupil numbers suggest that there should be secondary provision for 14-16 forms of entry on the island.

Over the next ten years the overall secondary pupil numbers are expected to fall giving a surplus capacity across the borough of 15% by 2017, from 7% currently. Future growth expected in Sittingbourne and Sheppey suggest that it may not be necessary to reduce capacity in these localities. In Faversham it may be necessary to reduce the number of school places, although if outward migration diminishes this would not be appropriate.

Proposed changes to net capacities of Swale secondary schools (Years 7-11)

The table below shows planned and proposed changes in the short term, to September 2009:

School name	PAN change	Current net capacity (Spring 2007)	Future net capacity (September 2009)	Difference
Abbey School	PAN and net capacity realignment	1,145	1,175	+30
Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School	128 to 124	680	620	-60
Highsted Grammar School	No change	600	600	0
Danley Middle School	No change	360	360	0
Sittingbourne Community College	PAN and net capacity realignment	1,190	1,050	-140
Borden Grammar School	No change	600	600	0
St George's Middle School	PAN and net capacity realignment	203	240	+37
Fulston Manor School	No change	900	900	0
Minster College	No change	1,350	1,350	0
Westlands School	PAN and net capacity realignment	1,345	1,350	+5
Cheyne Middle School	PAN and net capacity realignment	423	420	-3
Total		8,796	8,665	-131

Summary

Summer 2007 forecasts suggest that 8,256 secondary places for years 7-11 will be required by 2012 and 7,752 places by 2017, allowing for 5% surplus capacity within secondary schools over the borough as a whole.

Based on current (spring 2007) net capacity figures the authority therefore needs to remove 540 secondary places for years 7-11 by 2012 and 1,044 places by 2017.

Area Education Officer: Martyn Doole

Local Education Officers:

Deal & Sandwich
Dover

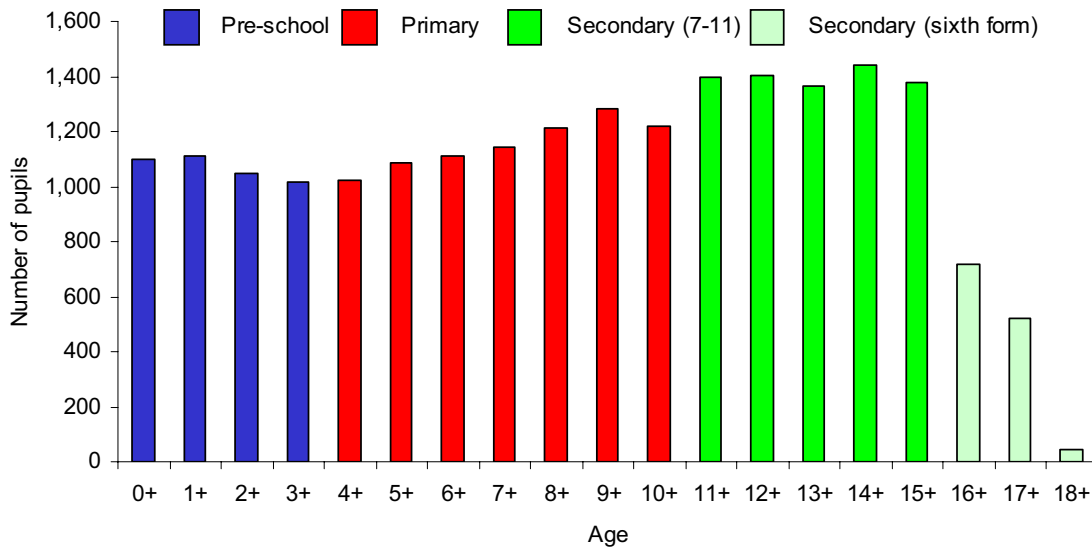
Alan Rogers
Lee-Anne Farach

Strategic policy for Dover centres upon the economic growth and regeneration of the town and former coalfield areas.

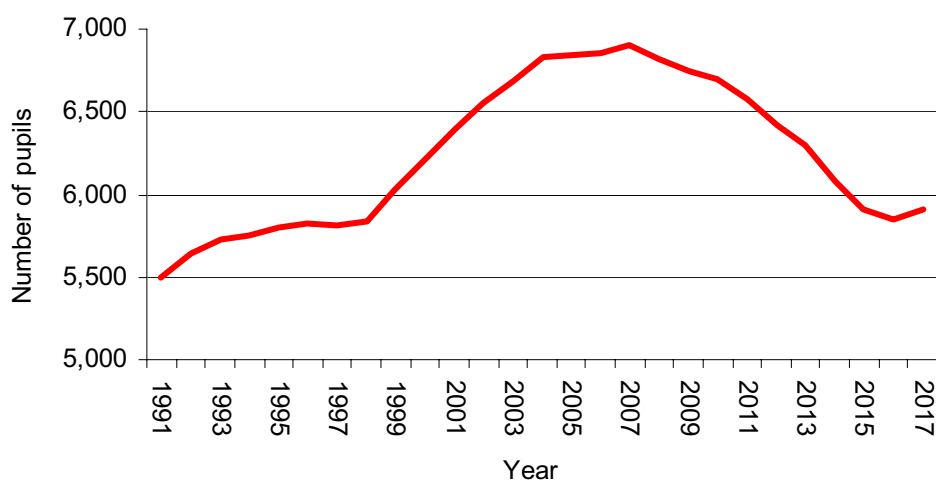
Within the local development framework for Dover, significant housing development is anticipated over the long-term. However, secondary school rolls are still set to decline significantly over the next ten years as the very significant decline in primary school rolls feeds through into the secondary phase.

Aylesham is an established location for strategic expansion involving up to 1,000 new dwellings together with job opportunities and community services and infrastructure. This development will offset some of the restraint on housing development in neighbouring Canterbury district as well as helping Aylesham to become a more sustainable location in its own right.

Dover year groups (0-18 year olds) 2007



Dover secondary schools historic and forecast pupil numbers 1991-2017 (Years 7-11) (Summer 2007-based pupil forecasts)



Dover secondary schools summary table (Years 7-11)

School name	PAN 2007	PAN 2006	Current net capacity (Spring 2007)	PLASC 2007 roll	Current surplus/ (deficit)	% surplus/ (deficit)
Dover Grammar School for Girls	120	120	565	580	-15	-2.7
Astor College for the Arts	240	240	1,275	1,130	145	11.4
Archer's Court School	180	180	1,025	879	146	14.2
St Edmund's Catholic School, Dover	155	155	735	720	15	2.0
Dover Grammar School for Boys	120	120	530	540	-10	-1.9
Walmer School	143	143	860	703	157	18.3
Castle Community School	120	120	595	567	28	4.7
Sir Roger Manwood's School	120	120	670	649	21	3.1
Sandwich Technology School	240	240	1,215	1,133	82	6.7
Total	1,438	1,438	7,470	6,901	569	7.6

Surplus capacity in Dover secondary schools is currently 7.6%. By 2017 it is predicted that there will be a further and sustained decline in secondary school rolls with the number of surplus places increasing from 569 to 1,555 or 21% based on existing net capacity figures.

The inclusion of Dover secondary schools within wave five of the BSF programme will provide major capital investment in 4-6 years time and provide an opportunity to reconfigure and rationalise capacity where appropriate.

On the basis of current projections it may be necessary to remove between six and eight forms of entry of secondary provision across Dover District by 2016-17. This represents a significant reduction, which would inevitably impact on both the selective and non-selective sectors.

Proposed changes to net capacities of Dover secondary schools (Years 7-11)

The table below shows planned and proposed changes in the short term, to September 2009:

School name	PAN change	Current net capacity (Spring 2007)	Future net capacity (September 2009)	Difference
Dover Grammar School for Girls	PAN and net capacity realignment	565	600	+35
Astor College for the Arts	PAN and net capacity realignment	1,275	1,200	-75
Archer's Court School	PAN and net capacity realignment	1,025	900	-125
St Edmund's Catholic School, Dover	PAN and net capacity realignment	735	775	+40
Dover Grammar School for Boys	PAN and net capacity realignment	530	600	+70
Walmer School	PAN and net capacity realignment	860	715	-145
Castle Community School	PAN and net capacity realignment	595	600	+5
Sir Roger Manwood's School	PAN and net capacity realignment	670	600	-70
Sandwich Technology School	PAN and net capacity realignment	1,215	1,200	-15
Total		7,470	7,190	-280

Notes

In the short term to 2009 minor PAN and net capacity realignment should take out 280 places in Dover District. BSF projects should address the significant amount of surplus capacity in Dover secondary schools thereafter

Summary

Summer 2007 forecasts suggest that 6,758 secondary places for years 7-11 will be required by 2012 and 6,226 places by 2017, allowing for 5% surplus capacity within secondary schools over the district as a whole.

Based on current (spring 2007) net capacity figures the authority therefore needs to remove 712 secondary places for years 7-11 by 2012 and 1,244 places by 2017.

Area Education Officer: Martyn Doole

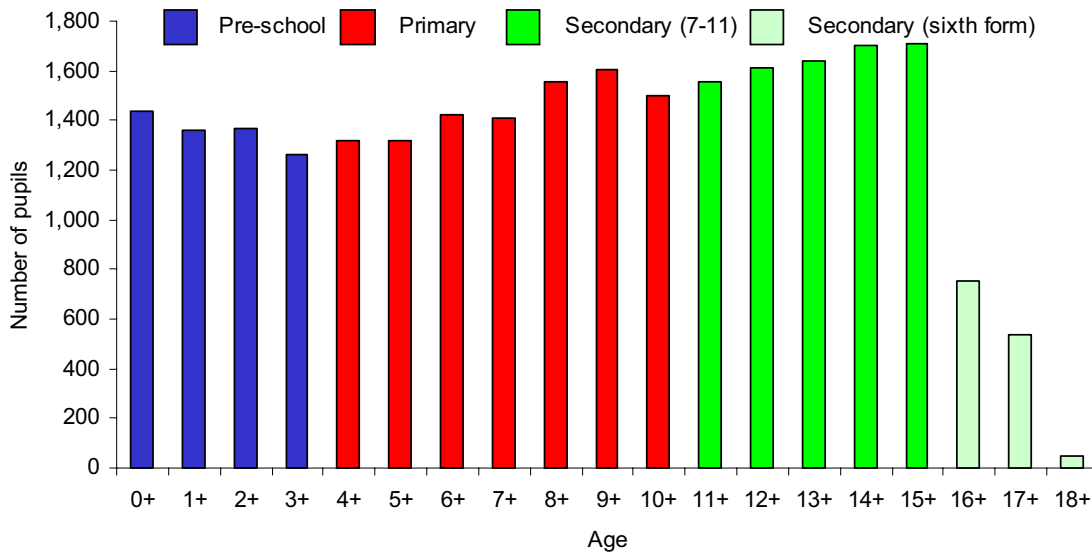
Local Education Officers:

Thanet 1 Lesley Gallagher
Thanet 2 Sara Woodward

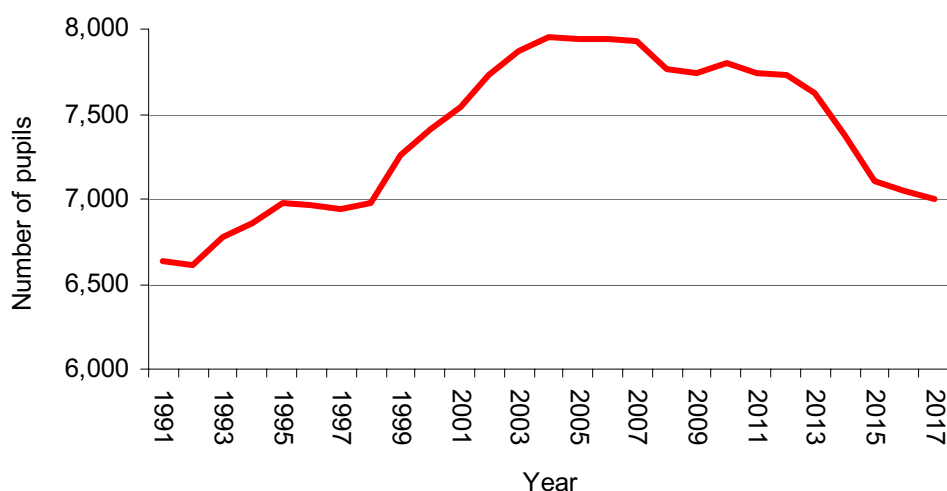
A better balance between housing and jobs is required to reduce out-commuting and address the needs of deprived communities.

Significant housing growth proposed for the district should be phased and depend upon evidence that the local economy is generating new jobs to accompany the increase in the resident population.

Thanet year groups (0-18 year olds) 2007



Thanet secondary schools historic and forecast pupil numbers 1991-2017 (Years 7-11) (Summer 2007-based pupil forecasts)



Thanet secondary schools summary table (Years 7-11)

School name	PAN 2007	PAN 2006	Current net capacity (Spring 2007)	PLASC 2007 roll	Current surplus/ (deficit)	% surplus/ (deficit)
King Ethelbert School	150	150	785	723	62	7.9
Hartsdown Technology College	210	210	1,050	1,003	47	4.5
Ursuline College	120	120	575	611	-36	-6.3
Clarendon House Grammar School	115	115	570	546	24	4.2
Ellington School for Girls	120	120	390	411	-21	-5.4
Hereson School	120	120	685	570	115	16.8
The Marlowe Academy	180	180	1,000	603	397	39.7
Charles Dickens School	232	232	1,160	1,027	133	11.5
St George's CE Foundation School	210	217	1,105	1,024	81	7.3
Dane Court Grammar School	165	165	835	856	-21	-2.5
Chatham House Boys' Grammar	111	111	640	554	86	13.4
Total	1,733	1,740	8,795	7,928	867	9.9

The following schools are in wave three of Building Schools for the Future:

- St George's CE Foundation School
- The Charles Dickens School
- King Ethelbert School
- Dane Court Grammar School

On the basis of standards, recent trends and geographic location the above named schools should be able to compete successfully for pupils in a falling rolls situation.

The following schools are in wave four of Building Schools for the Future:

- Ellington School for Girls
- The Hereson School
- Chatham House Grammar School
- Clarendon House Grammar School
- Hartsdown Technology College
- Ursuline College

There are pockets of significant housing development within Thanet. However, overall secondary school rolls are projected to decline over the next ten years as reduced primary school rolls feed through into the secondary phase. There are currently 867 surplus places in Thanet secondary schools (10% surplus). Based on current net capacity data this is projected to increase to 1,795, a surplus capacity of 20%.

Thanet schools are included in waves three and four of Building Schools for the Future. The BSF programme provides an opportunity to address some of the capacity issues facing the district. On the basis of current projections it may be necessary to remove up to eight forms of entry of secondary provision across the area by 2016-17. This represents a significant reduction, which would inevitably impact on both the selective and non-selective sectors.

Falling rolls at Hereson, Ellington, Clarendon House and Chatham House suggest a strong need to reconfigure provision in the short-medium term, to address capacity issues and maximise the potential for collaborative working between all of the existing Ramsgate schools.

New vocational provision serving the whole of Thanet has just opened at Westwood Cross, serving 14-19 year olds and linking with all secondary schools in the area. The centre has capacity for around 1,000 students.

Proposed changes to net capacities of Thanet secondary schools (Years 7-11)

The table below shows planned and proposed changes in the short term, to September 2009:

School name	PAN change	Current net capacity (Spring 2007)	Future net capacity (September 2009)	Difference
King Ethelbert School	PAN and net capacity realignment	785	750	-35
Hartdown Technology College	No change	1,050	1,050	0
Ursuline College	PAN and net capacity realignment	575	600	+25
Clarendon House Grammar School	PAN and net capacity realignment	570	575	+5
Ellington School for Girls	PAN and net capacity realignment	390	600	+210
Hereson School	PAN and net capacity realignment	685	600	-85
The Marlowe Academy	PAN and net capacity realignment	1,000	900	-100
Charles Dickens School	No change	1,160	1,160	0
St George's CE Foundation School	217 to 210	1,105	1,050	-55
Dane Court Grammar School	PAN and net capacity realignment	835	825	-10
Chatham House Boys' Grammar	PAN and net capacity realignment	640	555	-85
Total		8,795	8,665	-130

Notes

In the short term to 2009 minor PAN and net capacity realignment, together with a major new net capacity assessment for the relocated Ellington School for Girls should take out 30 places in the Thanet district. Wave Four BSF projects should address the significant amount of surplus capacity in Thanet secondary schools thereafter

Summary

Summer 2007 forecasts suggest that 8,136 secondary places for years 7-11 will be required by 2012 and 7,368 places by 2017, allowing for 5% surplus capacity within secondary schools over the district as a whole.

Based on current (spring 2007) net capacity figures the authority therefore needs to remove 659 secondary places for years 7-11 by 2012 and 1,427 places by 2017.

Area Education Officer: Simon Webb

Local Education Officers:

Dartford East	John Studley
Dartford West	Laurie Thomas

Kent Thameside is one of the two principal hubs for development identified in RPG9a for the Thames Gateway area, which includes the Dartford East and West Clusters.

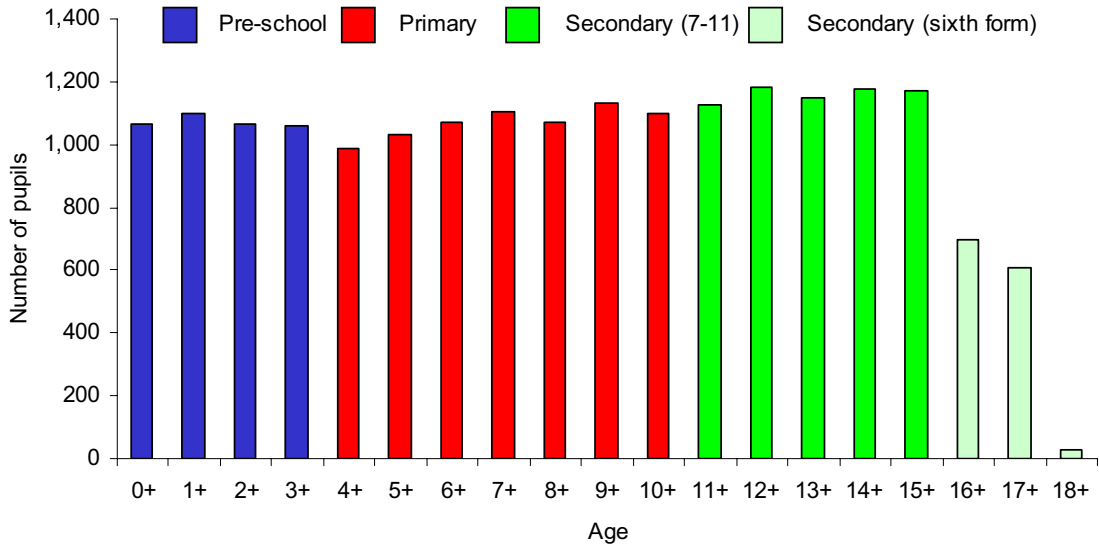
The scale of these major housing developments will provide a unique opportunity to introduce a pattern of higher density living, changing the profile of intakes within secondary schools. This will mean developing schools in the appropriate locations using the best urban design principles to create learning communities, integrated with other facilities such as youth centres, libraries, children's centres, sports facilities, health and social services provision.

There are significant housing developments at North Dartford (The Bridge), Eastern Quarry, Stone Castle, Ingress Park, Swanscombe Peninsula and two of the four Ebbsfleet quarters. We will need to monitor these closely to ensure that appropriate secondary provision is available in the correct localities at the right time.

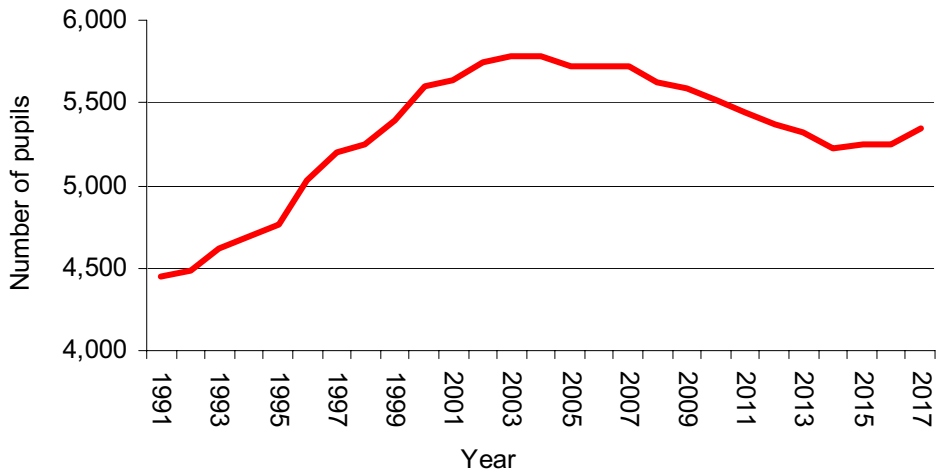
Even with the current intake to secondary schools expected to decline, the future housing developments should negate the need to make significant future changes. Because of the scale and size of these developments it is difficult to predict secondary pupil numbers and to be secure in the trends, however, as we approach the delivery dates the more precise our determinations will be.

The Dartford East and West Clusters are clearly communities in transition and the style, type and cost of housing in Kent Thameside will have a direct impact on secondary school numbers over the next ten years and beyond.

Dartford year groups (0-18 year olds) 2007



Dartford secondary schools historic and forecast pupil numbers 1991-2017 (Years 7-11) (Summer 2007-based pupil forecasts)



Dartford secondary schools summary table (Years 7-11)

School name	PAN 2007	PAN 2006	Current net capacity (Spring 2007)	PLASC 2007 roll	Current surplus/ (deficit)	% surplus/ (deficit)
Dartford Technology College	145	156	745	732	13	1.7
Axton Chase School	210	210	1,090	935	155	14.2
Wilmington Enterprise College	150	150	750	726	24	3.2
Swan Valley Community School	150	180	1,115	583	532	47.7
Grammar School for Girls, Wilmington	120	120	585	590	-5	-0.9
Wilmington Grammar School for Boys	120	120	520	613	-93	-17.9
Dartford Grammar School	150	150	750	796	-46	-6.1
Dartford Grammar School for Girls	150	150	750	745	5	0.7
Total	1,195	1,236	6,305	5,720	585	9.3

As with Ashford, Dartford has been targeted for considerable housing and employment growth across the Kent Thameside development area. The expected pupils from new housing developments will go some way to compensate for the overall decline in pupil numbers in the borough although developments are not expected to be finished until after 2020. Over the next ten years there is expected to be between 5-7% decline in the secondary pupil roll overall, taking into account the projected number of children from new housing developments. An additional important issue is that the location of provision will need to be aligned to address the needs of new communities.

Land Securities are finalising negotiations with Dartford Borough Council and Kent County Council to develop Eastern Quarry, one of the largest development sites in Europe. Proposals include the building of up to 6,250 homes of various sizes and styles, arranged in three villages. Enough land will be safeguarded for the building of two primary schools with capacity of up to two forms of entry each, plus a new secondary school with an attached two-form entry primary school on a large central learning campus. The initial size of the secondary school will be four forms of entry but will have built-in flexibility to scale up to six and then eight forms of entry, if required.

A further 1,000 dwellings have been proposed for Eastern Quarry 2, a neighbouring site, with land set aside for another two-form entry primary school.

In September 2007 Dartford Technology College will move into new buildings on the Dartford Campus, with Westgate Primary School and other education services (including adult education). The school's planned admission number will be 145. The development has been part funded by Kent County Council, with development contributions from Crest Nicholson Homes contributing the remaining amount.

Axton Chase, Dartford's wide ability school will reduce in size from seven to six forms of entry as it moves into new buildings on an adjacent site (estimated September 2009). The current site will be developed for new housing hence the project is part funded by the authority and part funded by development contributions.

Swan Valley has a current planned admission number of 180, although this will reduce to 150 for the September 2007 intake. With a net capacity of over 1,100 the realignment of space is a priority. Currently the school has just 583 pupils on roll, although being a PFI school the reorganisation options are relatively limited. New vocational provision has recently been built on site. Swan Valley will have the capacity to absorb all of the secondary pupils from Eastern Quarry until we need to provide the new school campus.

Housing development within Ebbsfleet is expected to provide 1,064 units within Dartford Borough and 2,320 units within Gravesham Borough. In excess of 50% of these new dwellings are expected to be flats.

No changes are envisaged for Wilmington Enterprise College or the Wilmington Grammar Schools.

The Leigh City Technology College will gain Academy status from September 2007. For the purposes of this strategic plan, forecast data for Leigh CTC has been excluded.

With the agreed reductions at Axton Chase School, Dartford Technology College and Swan Valley School (which will still have surplus capacity of around 170 places after its PAN reduction) there will be no further requirements to reduce or provide additional places in Dartford Borough in the short-medium term. For now, no further action is required.

Proposed changes to net capacities of Dartford secondary schools (Years 7-11)

The table below shows planned and proposed changes in the short term, to September 2009:

School name	PAN change	Current net capacity (Spring 2007)	Future net capacity (September 2009)	Difference
Dartford Technology College	156 to 145	745	725	-20
Axton Chase School	210 to 180	1,090	900	-190
Wilmington Enterprise College	No change	750	750	0
Swan Valley Community School	180 to 150	1,115	750	-365
Grammar School for Girls, Wilmington	PAN and net capacity realignment	585	600	+15
Wilmington Grammar School for Boys	PAN and net capacity realignment	520	600	+80
Dartford Grammar School	No change	750	750	0
Dartford Grammar School for Girls	No change	750	750	0
Total		6,305	5,780	-480

Summary

Summer 2007 forecasts suggest that 5,652 secondary places for years 7-11 will be required by 2012 and 5,627 places by 2017, allowing for 5% surplus capacity within secondary schools over the borough as a whole.

Based on current (spring 2007) net capacity figures the authority therefore needs to remove 653 secondary places for years 7-11 by 2012 and 678 places by 2017 (as outlined earlier, this will be achieved by the reductions already agreed for Axton Chase, Dartford Technology College and Swan Valley schools).

Area Education Officer: Simon Webb

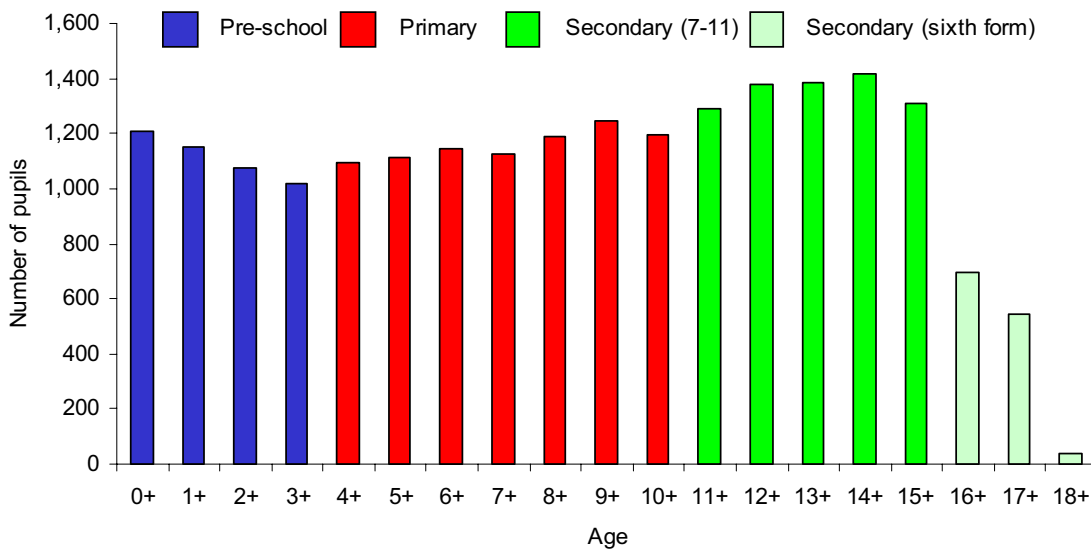
Local Education Officer:

Gravesham Sue Tunnicliffe

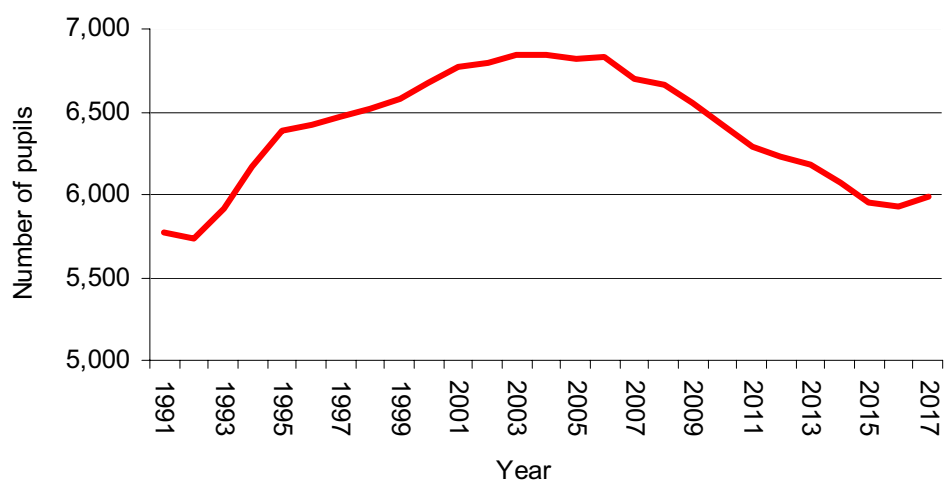
Future planned additional housing units are expected to be located along the Swanscombe Peninsula, two of the four Ebbsfleet quarters and Canal Basin. These developments will not add significantly to future secondary provision.

There is no doubt that the current profile of intake to secondary schools will change as the impact of the decline in primary rolls takes effect from September 2006. This is particularly marked in Gravesham and the delivery of the Building Schools for the Future (BSF) programme will remove in excess of 600 places.

Gravesham year groups (0-18 year olds) 2007



**Gravesham secondary schools historic and forecast pupil numbers 1991-2017
(Years 7-11) (Summer 2007-based pupil forecasts)**



Gravesham secondary schools summary table (Years 7-11)

School name	PAN 2007	PAN 2006	Current net capacity (Spring 2007)	PLASC 2007 roll	Current surplus/ (deficit)	% surplus/ (deficit)
Northfleet School for Girls	200	200	1,030	981	49	4.8
St George's CE School	210	210	1,050	1,035	15	1.4
Thamesview School	180	180	1,080	820	260	24.1
Meopham School	152	152	760	690	70	9.2
Northfleet Technology College	175	175	895	815	80	8.9
St John's RC Comprehensive	195	195	960	896	64	6.7
Gravesend Grammar School	150	150	705	728	-23	-3.3
Gravesend Grammar School for Girls	145	145	730	730	0	0
Total	1,407	1,407	7,210	6,695	515	7.1

Gravesham is also experiencing significant housing growth. The number of dwellings being built across the borough is in the region of 8,000, not much less than in Dartford Borough. Initial proposals indicate that there are likely to be more flats and apartments than in other areas of the county, which generate fewer children per dwelling, but the overall effect on education provision will still be significant.

Gravesham is the first area in Kent to benefit from the national BSF programme.

The reorganisation of school places will result in the planned admission number of Northfleet School for Girls reducing from 200 to 175 in September 2008. Construction work for its partial re-build will start on the site in 2008. Northfleet Technology College, the boys' high school will retain its current PAN of 175 but will also be completely rebuilt by 2010.

St. George's CE School is also planned for complete re-build on the existing site, within the same time frame as the Northfleet schools. In September 2008, its PAN will reduce to 180 from 210 to ensure the school is appropriately sized by 2010 for the move into its new six form entry accommodation. The Catholic School, St. John's, has agreed a reduction in their PAN from 195 to 180 to match the size of their BSF complete re-build, scheduled for completion in 2010.

The admission number for Thamesview School has already been reduced from 195 to 180 between 2005 and 2006. Under BSF, there are plans to rebuild the school on the same site with a PAN of 150, which will take effect from September 2008. The new school buildings should be operational by 2010.

The Gravesham grammar schools will also benefit from BSF investment, with the boys' school receiving more of a substantive rebuild programme than the girls' school, which will receive minor improvements and updating. Both will be subject to a reduction in planned admission numbers from 150 (boys' grammar) and 145 (girls' grammar) to 140 by 2008. These reductions mirror the expected general fall in pupil numbers for the borough and keep the proportion of pupils attending grammar schools in balance with the rest of the schools.

Outside of the urban area, the planning of Meopham School, to the south of the borough, needs to be considered alongside schools in Dartford and Tonbridge & Malling rather than other schools within Gravesham. Axton Chase in the south of Dartford borough is less than three miles away from Meopham, while Wrotham and Holmesdale in the Malling Cluster also share the school's catchment area. The long term future of Wrotham and Meopham schools are closely linked, and the viability of retaining both schools is uncertain. A contributory factor is that the future options for Holmesdale, Aylesford and Malling are limited under the recently signed PFI contract. Current BSF plans suggest that Meopham will be partially rebuilt with a reduced PAN of 140.

Pupil forecasts for the rural area to the south of Gravesham show a much larger fall than for the urban area, where there is some compensatory housing development over the coming years.

In summary, the Building Schools for the Future programme will result in a significant reduction of places across the whole of the secondary sector. We anticipate that no further action will be required.

Proposed changes to net capacities of Gravesham secondary schools (Years 7-11)

The table below shows planned and proposed changes in the short term, to September 2009:

School name	PAN change	Current net capacity (Spring 2007)	Future net capacity (September 2009)	Difference
Northfleet School for Girls	200 to 175	1,030	875	-155
St George's CE School	210 to 180	1,050	900	-150
Thamesview School	180 to 150	1,080	750	-330
Meopham School	152 to 140	760	700	-60
Northfleet Technology College	PAN and net capacity realignment	895	875	-20
St John's RC Comprehensive	195 to 180	960	900	-60
Gravesend Grammar School	150 to 140	705	700	-5
Gravesend Grammar School for Girls	145 to 140	730	700	-30
Total		7,210	6,400	-810

Summary

Summer 2007 forecasts suggest that 6,563 secondary places for years 7-11 will be required by 2012 and 6,303 places by 2017, allowing for 5% surplus capacity within secondary schools over the borough as a whole.

Based on current (spring 2007) net capacity figures the authority therefore needs to remove 647 secondary places for years 7-11 by 2012 and 907 places by 2017.

Area Education Officer: Chris Jones

Local Education Officers:

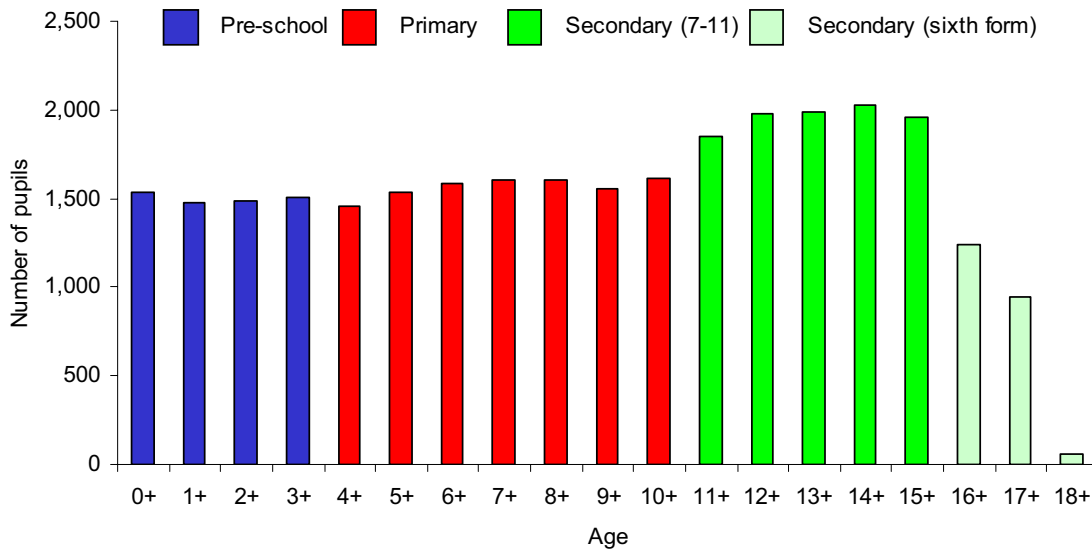
Maidstone 1 Julie Stones (Acting)
 Maidstone (MC2) Hilary Macdonald

The role of Maidstone as the county town will be underpinned through major new retail, cultural and community uses. Maidstone remains the centre for administrative, judicial and financial services in the county.

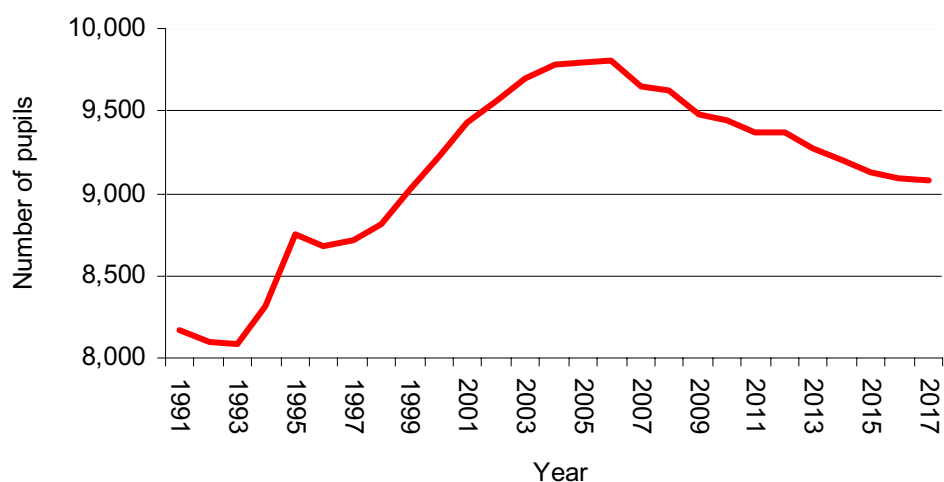
The strategic gap between Maidstone and Medway will be retained in order to maintain the separation of the two urban areas and protect areas of landscape importance.

Much of the housing development for the borough will be focussed within the town centre, ensuring that the borough’s housing allocation is met as far as possible by brownfield development. Approximately 50% of new dwellings are, however, likely to be built on greenfield sites, predominantly in the south-eastern outskirts of the town. Maidstone is planning for approximately 10,080 new homes to be built during the next 20 years, but the proportions of flats, affordable housing and larger homes is not yet clear.

Maidstone year groups (0-18 year olds) 2007



**Maidstone secondary schools historic and forecast pupil numbers 1991-2017
(Years 7-11) (Summer 2007-based pupil forecasts)**



Maidstone secondary schools summary table (Years 7-11)

School name	PAN 2007	PAN 2006	Current net capacity (Spring 2007)	PLASC 2007 roll	Current surplus/ (deficit)	% surplus/ (deficit)
Astor of Hever Community School	150	150	750	702	48	6.4
Maidstone Grammar School for girls	175	175	875	849	26	3.0
Maplesden Noakes School	180	180	875	830	45	5.1
Oakwood Park Grammar School	145	145	670	701	-31	-4.6
St Simon Stock School	165	180	955	831	124	13.0
Invicta Grammar School	175	175	950	907	43	4.5
Swadelands School	180	180	900	779	121	13.4
Valley Park Community School	180	180	890	869	21	2.4
Maidstone grammar School	175	175	870	883	-13	-1.5
Cornwallis	255	255	1,270	1,341	-71	-5.6
Oldborough Manor Community School	110	110	715	336	379	53.0
Senacre Technology College	180	180	965	622	343	35.5
Total	2,070	2,085	10,685	9,650	1,035	9.7

Our projections indicate that despite this scale of development, secondary school pupil numbers (pupils between the ages of 11 and 16) may decline by around 600 between 2007 and 2017, although an increase in the Post-16 stay-on rate may absorb some of the surplus capacity which this creates.

Whilst account needs to be taken of the growth and changing needs of its resident local population, there is also a need to consider the impact of demographic changes in adjacent districts, particularly Malling, which may also impact on the Maidstone school population. Maidstone grammar schools currently cater for over 1,000 pupils from the area served by the four Malling secondary schools because there is not a grammar school in that part of the county. A key issue will be to manage the expected reduction in pupil numbers so that the decline is shared proportionately between selective and non-selective schools.

In south Maidstone, The Cornwallis School, Oldborough Manor Community School and Senacre Technology College have already formed a hard federation, branded as New Line Learning (NLL) with a single governing body and one executive head teacher, overseeing the leadership and management of all three schools. Oldborough Manor and Senacre have significantly larger percentages of surplus places than other Maidstone secondary schools. The foundation is, with the local authority's support, seeking to establish itself as two academies from September 2007. If successful, this scheme will result in the Cornwallis School becoming an academy with 1,275 places for pupils between the ages of 11 and 16 and a sixth form of 550 places. Senacre and Oldborough Manor will be consolidated as a single academy on the Oldborough Manor site from January 2008, with 1,050 places. The net impact of this initiative will be to remove 625 places (in Years 7-11) from the NLL Federation.

Valley Park Community School, Maidstone Grammar School, New Line Learning Cornwallis, and Oakwood Park Grammar School are currently full. Most other Maidstone secondary schools have between 4% and 5% surplus capacity, which is equivalent in each instance to less than a form of entry. There are reducing levels of entry to a small number of schools which may, if they are sustained, suggest where capacity may need to be removed.

Projections based on current trends, and demographic information currently available suggest that by 2017, in addition to the places being removed by the New Line Learning proposal outlined above, a further three forms of entry will need to be removed from Maidstone secondary schools overall. If the decline in pupil numbers is constant, it will be necessary to phase this reduction over time, perhaps removing a form of entry at two to three year intervals throughout the period. The identification of where reductions should be made will need to reflect levels of applications to schools and the location of future housing development at each stage in this process.

Proposed changes to net capacities of Maidstone secondary schools (Years 7-11)

The table below shows planned and proposed changes in the short term, to September 2009:

School name	PAN change	Current net capacity (Spring 2007)	Future net capacity (September 2009)	Difference
Astor of Hever Community School	No change	750	750	0
Maidstone Grammar School for girls	No change	875	875	0
Maplesden Noakes School	PAN and net capacity realignment	875	900	+25
Oakwood Park Grammar School	PAN and net capacity realignment	670	725	+55
St Simon Stock School	180 to 165	955	825	-130
Invicta Grammar School	PAN and net capacity realignment	950	875	-75
Swadelands School	No change	900	900	0
Valley Park Community School	PAN and net capacity realignment	890	900	+10
Maidstone grammar School	PAN and net capacity realignment	870	875	+5
Cornwallis	New academy (PAN of 255)	1,270	1,275	+5
Oldborough Manor Community School	New academy (PAN of 210)	715	1,050	+335
Senacre Technology College	Proposed closure	965	0	-965
Total		10,685	9,950	-735

Summary

Summer 2007 forecasts suggest that 9,859 secondary places for years 7-11 will be required by 2012 and 9,551 places by 2017, allowing for 5% surplus capacity within secondary schools over the borough as a whole.

Based on current (spring 2007) net capacity figures the authority therefore needs to remove 826 secondary places for years 7-11 by 2012 and 1,134 places by 2017.

Area Education Officer: Chris Jones

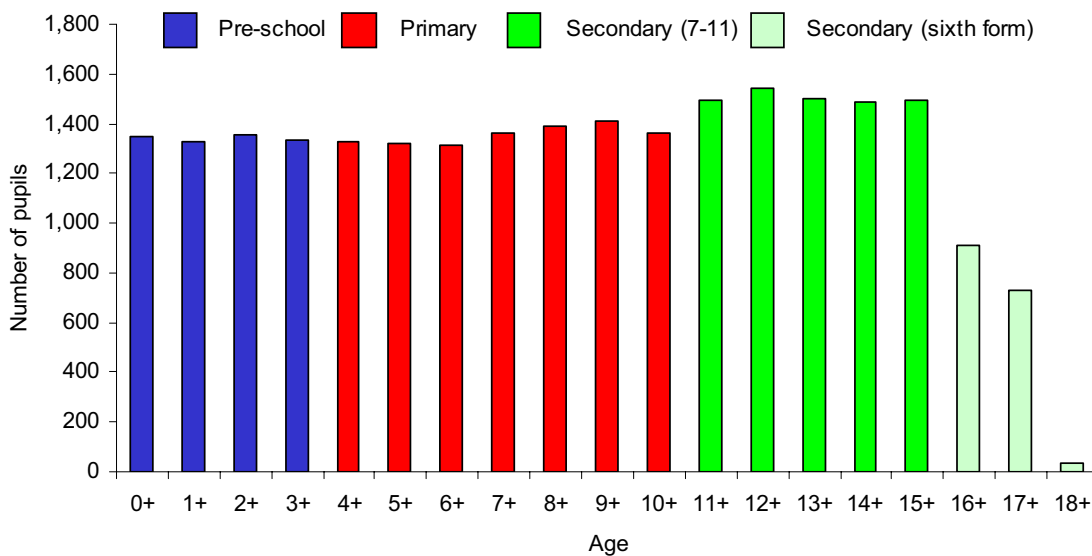
Local Education Officers:

Malling Tony Froud
 Tonbridge Roger Waddingham

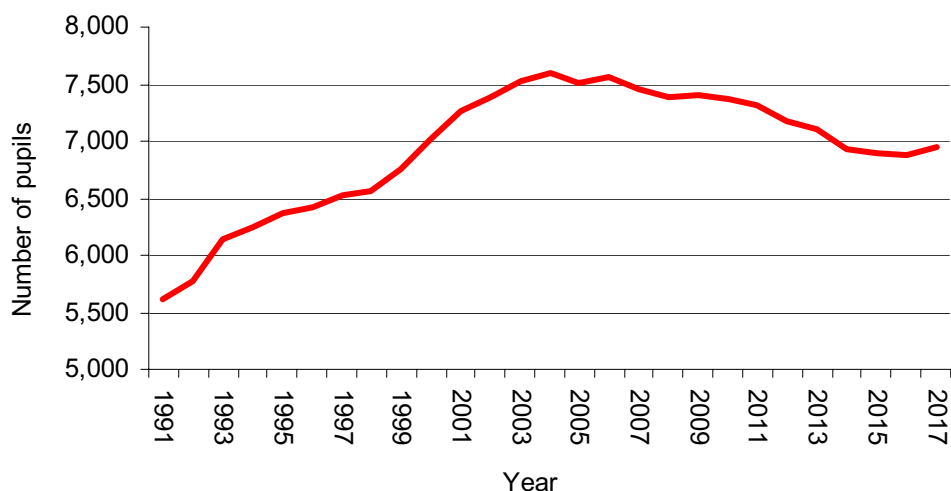
The Medway Valley area, which is an agreed area for significant residential development, lies at the Malling end of the borough and the Kings Hill business and residential development site sits centrally within the borough.

The main areas of housing development currently in progress are at Kings Hill and Holborough. Other significant residential development is planned at Leybourne Grange hospital site and Peter’s Pit, both at the Malling end of the borough. It is not yet clear what the mix of property types will be within these developments and thus their impact on pupil numbers. As has been seen elsewhere, flats and apartments are unlikely to add to the local population of children and young people.

Tonbridge & Malling year groups (0-18 year olds) 2007



Tonbridge & Malling secondary schools historic and forecast pupil numbers 1991-2017 (Years 7-11) (Summer 2007-based forecasts)



Tonbridge & Malling secondary schools summary table (Years 7-11)

School name	PAN 2007	PAN 2006	Current net capacity (Spring 2007)	PLASC 2007 roll	Current surplus/ (deficit)	% surplus/ (deficit)
Holmesdale Technology College	180	180	715	697	18	2.5
Wrotham School	120	120	635	614	21	3.3
Aylesford School	180	180	780	756	24	3.1
Malling School	180	180	1,015	462	553	54.5
Weald of Kent Grammar for Girls	150	150	770	775	-5	-0.6
Judd School	125	120	620	629	-9	-1.5
Hugh Christie Technology College	210	210	1,050	1,035	15	1.4
Tonbridge Grammar School for Girls	140	140	840	755	85	10.1
Hillview School for Girls	208	182	1,070	951	119	11.1
Hayesbrook School	151	151	755	777	-22	-2.9
Total	1,644	1,613	8,250	7,451	799	9.7

New buildings are in the course of construction for Aylesford, Holmesdale and Malling schools. These will provide much needed facilities which will enable the schools to meet the contemporary and future curriculum needs of their students.

The current pupil roll at the Malling School will provide surplus capacity which can be used to advantage for alternative educational purposes. Discussions are at an advanced stage to agree the forms that this might take.

Holmesdale Technology College is showing signs of increasing popularity, including interest from families in adjacent areas of Medway. Holmesdale has recently entered into a hard federation with The Malling School and it is anticipated that this will have a positive impact on the popularity of the latter.

Wrotham School, which is also within the Malling portion of the borough, is full.

In the Tonbridge area, Weald of Kent Grammar School, The Judd School, Tonbridge Grammar School and The Hayesbrook School are also full.

In the immediate future the overall capacity of secondary schools in Tonbridge and Malling Borough will include an acceptable level of surplus places, if current plans are realised. Projections suggest, however, that there will be a need to remove surplus capacity during the next ten years, possibly amounting to as many as six forms of entry, including at least four forms of entry from schools in the Malling area.

Much will depend upon the pace and nature of residential developments planned for the area and other demographic trends, particularly whether significant numbers of pupils continue to access school places in Maidstone and whether Malling schools become increasingly attractive to pupils from Medway Authority.

Proposed changes to net capacities of Tonbridge & Malling secondary schools (Years 7-11)

The table below shows planned and proposed changes in the short term, to September 2009:

School name	PAN change	Current net capacity (Spring 2007)	Future net capacity (September 2009)	Difference
Holmesdale Technology College	PAN and net capacity realignment	715	900	+185
Wrotham School	PAN and net capacity realignment	635	600	-35
Aylesford School	PAN and net capacity realignment	780	900	+120
Malling School	PAN and net capacity realignment	1,015	900	-115
Weald of Kent Grammar for Girls	PAN and net capacity realignment	770	750	-20
Judd School	120 to 125	620	625	+5
Hugh Christie Technology College	No change	1,050	1,050	0
Tonbridge Grammar School for Girls	PAN and net capacity realignment	840	700	-140
Hillview School for Girls	182 to 208	1,070	1,040	-30
Hayesbrook School	No change	755	755	0
Total		8,250	8,220	-30

Summary

Summer 2007 forecasts suggest that 7,556 secondary places for years 7-11 will be required by 2012 and 7,305 places by 2017, allowing for 5% surplus capacity within secondary schools over the borough as a whole.

Based on current (spring 2007) net capacity figures the authority therefore needs to remove 694 secondary places for years 7-11 by 2012 and 945 places by 2017.

Area Education Officer: Chris Lay

Local Education Officers:

Swanley & District Sevenoaks	Paul Shallcross Alison Hookway
---------------------------------	-----------------------------------

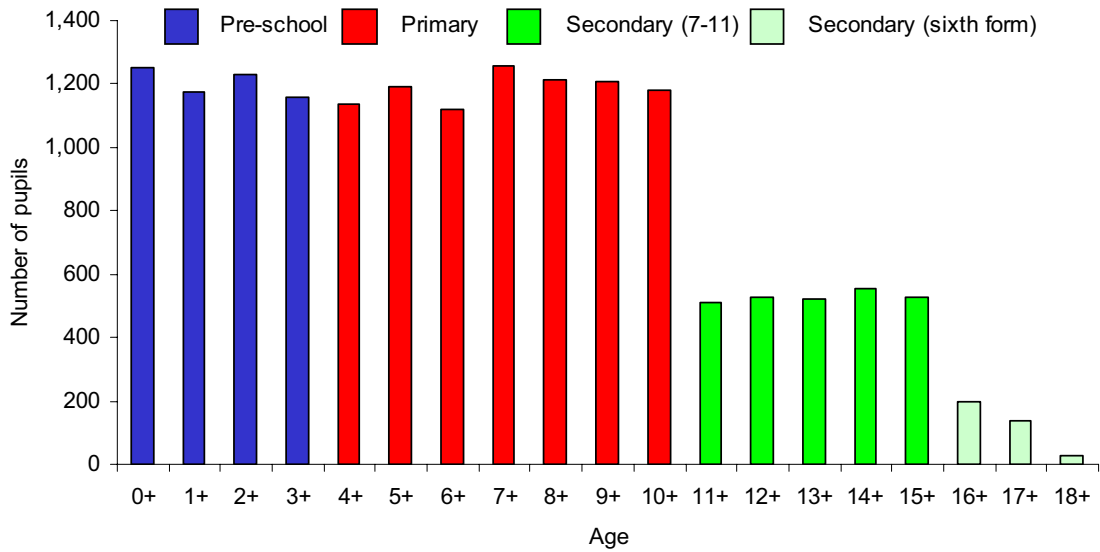
Sevenoaks District is characterised by three main centres of population at Swanley, Sevenoaks and Edenbridge. These are set within large areas of green belt. The desire to maintain this green belt is reflected in the Local Development Framework, with the majority of development being planned within, or close to, these centres of population. The emphasis in this district will be to maintain and secure a sustainable balance of job opportunities and housing in order to reduce the need to travel/commute. There will be continuing focus on providing key worker accommodation to meet the needs of the local economy.

Sevenoaks has the smallest allocation of new housing of all the Kent districts. The Kent Structure Plan housing allocation allows for significant restraint on the trend-based housing requirement of the district. However, the proximity of the northern part of the district (including the Swanley area) to the regionally significant housing opportunities within Kent Thameside has to be taken into account. The district is split north and south so far as secondary education is concerned, with two secondary schools in each cluster.

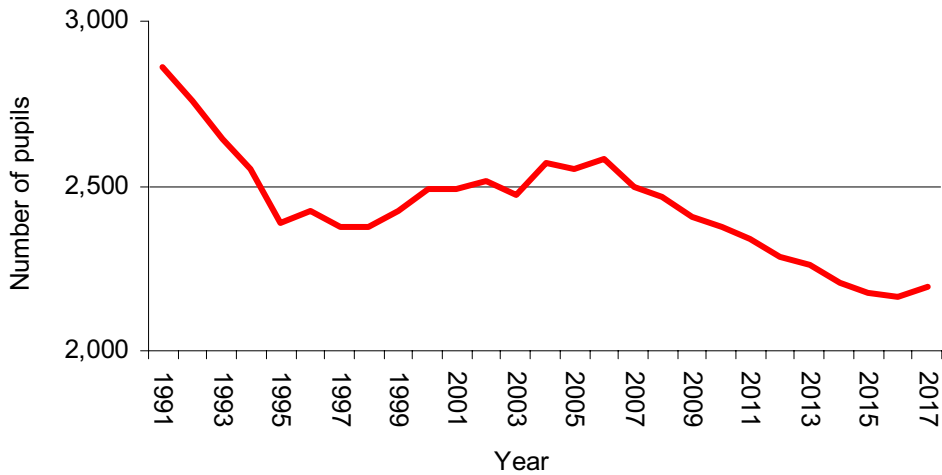
Swanley Technology College and Hextable School form part of the Swanley and District Cluster but work in close partnership with the secondary schools in Wilmington, near Dartford. Both Swanley and Hextable are designated comprehensive but a significant percentage of more able local children are admitted to grammar schools in Dartford and Gravesham.

The Bradbourne School for Girls and The Wildernesse School for Boys, in Sevenoaks Town, form part of the Sevenoaks South Cluster and are members of the West Kent Learning Federation (WKLf) secondary network. Both are single sex, non-selective schools, with a significant proportion of their students living outside the district, notably from other areas of north and west Kent, and from the London Boroughs. More able students from the Sevenoaks South Cluster attend grammar schools in Tonbridge and Tunbridge Wells and often apply for entry to the two church comprehensives in Tunbridge Wells.

Sevenoaks year groups (0-18 year olds) 2007



Sevenoaks secondary schools historic and forecast pupil numbers 1991-2017 (Years 7-11) (Summer 2007-based pupil forecasts)



Sevenoaks secondary schools summary table (Years 7-11)

School name	PAN 2007	PAN 2006	Current net capacity (Spring 2007)	PLASC 2007 roll	Current surplus/ (deficit)	% surplus/ (deficit)
Swanley Technology College	120	120	880	484	396	45.0
Hextable School	150	150	750	690	60	8.0
Bradbourne School	150	150	750	772	-22	-2.9
Wilderness School	150	150	750	553	197	26.3
Total	570	570	3,130	2,499	631	20.2

Sevenoaks' schools currently have 2,500 students on roll in Years 7-11, against a net capacity for 3,100 places, meaning that there are 600 surplus places. The absence of grammar school provision in the district is significant and is reflected in the fact that only 40% of the school age population attend Sevenoaks District secondary schools. Given the socio-economic profile of the area and the consistently high performance of pupils in Sevenoaks' primary schools, many choose to attend independent schools.

Sevenoaks District is the highest exporter of students to other districts. Approximately 3,000 travel to Tonbridge, Dartford, Tunbridge Wells, and to a lesser extent Gravesham, largely to grammar schools but also to highly regarded faith schools, designated comprehensive, and to popular wide ability schools in Tonbridge.

Current government policy legislates against the development of grammar school provision in Sevenoaks, but regardless of this, a declining secondary population, projected for the next ten years, would mitigate against it being a feasible option.

The district is divided north and south. The secondary schools in the Swanley area look more towards Dartford, and the Wilmington schools in particular, forming the Wilmington, Hextable, Swanley (WHS) Partnership. The schools in Sevenoaks town are very much part of traditional West Kent and work closely with schools in Tunbridge Wells and Tonbridge, forming part of the West Kent Learning Federation.

In the north of the district, Hextable School is reasonably full, while Swanley Technology College presents as having almost 400 surplus places against its recorded net capacity. Both are deemed wide ability. Hextable School has traditionally drawn quite widely, while Swanley Technology College currently attracts students living mostly in Swanley Town. On the face of it, the viability of Hextable School appears to be less vulnerable to any downturn in the local school age population.

Swanley's specialist status is now established and is having a positive impact on how the school is regarded. The school/college is now benefiting from an impressive vocational centre (TVOC) that is a shared resource with other schools in the area and this is serving to raise Swanley's profile. The Swanley campus also accommodates adult education, wrap around and day care, together with 'Centre Class', the primary phase Pupil Referral Unit (PRU). A further development is the establishment of a 'Safer Schools' one-stop shop for co-located services.

The current process of calculating the net capacity of vocational facilities, when co-located within secondary schools (and often shared between a number of stakeholders) is under review. The net capacity of Swanley Technology College and other secondary schools with significant vocational provision will be reassessed in light of this.

In Sevenoaks South, Bradbourne School for Girls is popular and consistently filling to capacity. Adapting existing infrastructure, it has recently developed 14-19 vocational provision in the form of a health and beauty suite, in partnership with West Kent College and funded by the Learning and Skills Council. Likewise, The Wildernesse School, also in Sevenoaks Town, has developed vocational provision for motor vehicle maintenance.

Over time, both Swanley and Hextable and Bradbourne and Wildernesse schools may look beyond their current partnership working, towards more formal federated arrangements. These are already in place at sixth form level.

In the short-medium term, Swanley and Hextable schools have a clear opportunity to build upon their shared sixth form and to plan for co-ordinated and complementary provision throughout, including with their partner schools in Wilmington. The Bradbourne and Wildernesse schools in Sevenoaks Town are in a very similar position, although the primary roll is not falling in the south of the district to the same degree as it is in the north.

Through the realignment of Swanley Technology College's planned admission number and net capacity assessment, around 300 places will be removed from the Swanley area. Over the next five years a similar number of places may also need to be removed from the Sevenoaks secondary schools. This will depend on future migration rates between Sevenoaks and the Tunbridge Wells comprehensive schools, and the relative popularity of the Sevenoaks schools. In summary, secondary strategic planning would anticipate:

- A movement from current partnership arrangements, towards more formal federation
- Consideration of any case for amalgamation, as an alternative to federation
- The removal of four forms of entry of capacity across the district, either through PAN reduction aligned to net capacity review, or through restructuring in the course of formal federation

Proposed changes to net capacities of Sevenoaks secondary schools (Years 7-11)

The table below shows planned and proposed changes in the short term, to September 2009:

School name	PAN change	Current net capacity (Spring 2007)	Future net capacity (September 2009)	Difference
Swanley Technology College	PAN and net capacity realignment	880	600	-280
Hextable School	No change	750	750	0
Bradbourne School	No change	750	750	0
Wildernesse School	No change	750	750	0
Total		3,130	2,850	-280

Summary

Summer 2007 forecasts suggest that 2,406 secondary places for years 7-11 will be required by 2012 and 2,308 places by 2017, allowing for 5% surplus capacity within secondary schools over the district as a whole.

Based on current (spring 2007) net capacity figures the authority therefore needs to remove 724 secondary places for years 7-11 by 2012 and 822 places by 2017.

Area Education Officer: Chris Lay

Local Education Officers:

Tunbridge Wells Beth MacIldowie
Cranbrook & Paddock Wood Mike Thompson

The prime consideration for Tunbridge Wells is the need to ensure conservation of the town's setting, its high quality built environment and to respect its location within the Metropolitan Green Belt and High Weald AONB. As the borough contains both green belt and designated areas of outstanding natural beauty (AONB), the broad strategy of the Local Development Framework seeks to concentrate the majority of new housing within the adjoining urban areas of Royal Tunbridge Wells and Southborough. Development should provide for a balance of business, commercial and residential development with particular attention paid to meeting locally based needs for housing.

Paddock Wood has expanded considerably over the past decade. However, future development is constrained by the contribution of green belt to the west and more generally by the Medway floodplain. No new housing allocations are now expected. Population growth in Cranbrook and Hawkhurst are likely to be limited and most villages in the borough remain suitable for only minor in-filling or redevelopment.

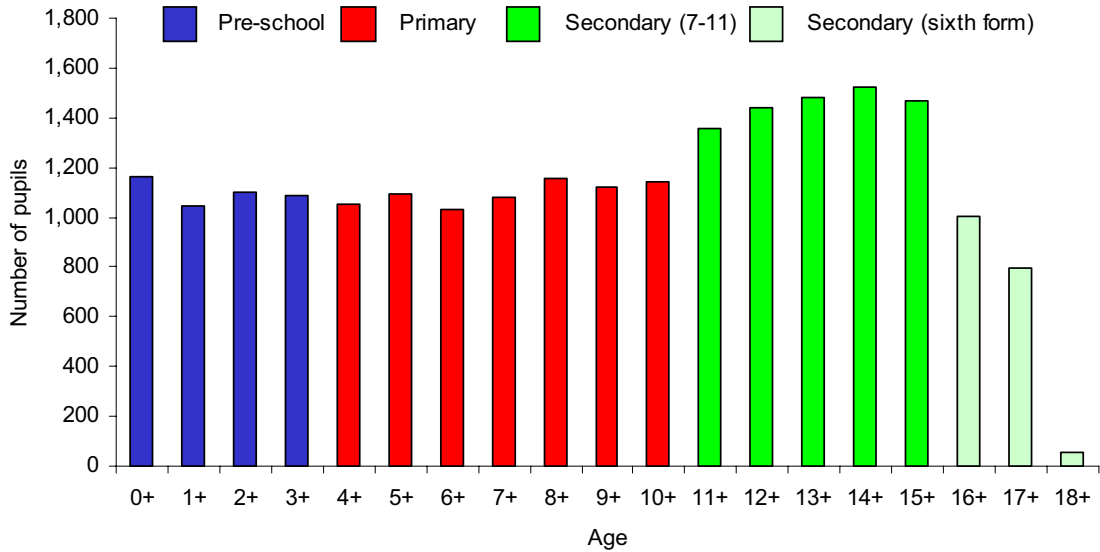
Schemes to provide key worker accommodation in the borough have already taken place, with projects such as teacher accommodation, provided by Moat Housing on the Tunbridge Wells High School site. Further schemes are planned in Tunbridge Wells and other areas where housing affordability weakens the prospects of attracting and retaining key workers.

The borough's secondary schools are divided between the two clusters of Tunbridge Wells and Cranbrook & Paddock Wood. The latter has Mascalls, Angley and Cranbrook schools as members, while the remaining Tunbridge Wells secondary schools are part of the Tunbridge Wells Cluster.

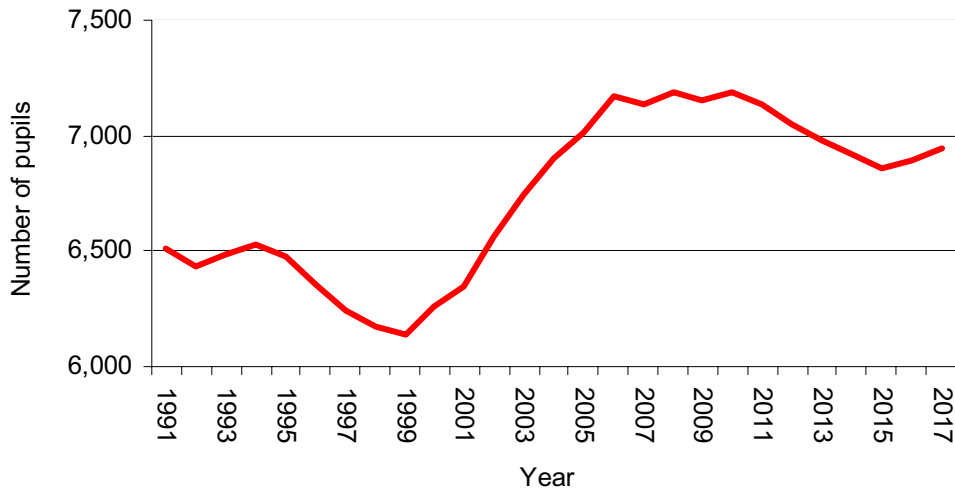
Despite the relative rural isolation of Cranbrook and Paddock Wood secondary schools they, like the Tunbridge Wells Town secondary schools, come within the area served by the West Kent Learning Federation (WKLF) network. This also includes Tonbridge and Sevenoaks South.

Admissions patterns across the WKLF area are closely inter-linked and complex, with Tunbridge Wells schools providing for significant numbers of Tonbridge and Sevenoaks students, together with out-of-county students.

Tunbridge Wells year groups (0-18 year olds) 2007



Tunbridge Wells secondary schools historic and forecast pupil numbers 1991-2017 (Years 7-11) (Summer 2007-based pupil forecasts)



Tunbridge Wells secondary schools summary table (Years 7-11)

School name	PAN 2007	PAN 2006	Current net capacity (Spring 2007)	PLASC 2007 roll	Current surplus/ (deficit)	% surplus/ (deficit)
Tunbridge Wells Girls' Grammar School	140	140	700	715	-15	-2.1
Tunbridge Wells Grammar for Boys	180	180	895	967	-72	-8.0
Skidders' School	108	108	585	557	28	4.8
Tunbridge Wells high School	150	180	900	432	468	52.0
St Gregory's Catholic Comp School	180	180	825	843	-18	-2.2
Bennett Memorial Diocesan School	205	205	1,085	1,089	-4	-0.4
Cranbrook School	145	145	525	434	91	17.3
Angley School	240	240	1,040	934	106	10.2
Mascalls School	240	240	1,060	1,169	-109	-10.3
Total	1,588	1,618	7,615	7,140	475	6.2

Tunbridge Wells' secondary schools currently have 7,100 students in Years 7-11 on roll against assessed net capacity for 7,600 places. Tunbridge Wells Borough is the highest net importer of students from other areas, due to the concentration of successful grammar schools, together with very popular co-educational comprehensive faith schools in Tunbridge Wells Town.

Approximately, 5,400 students living in the borough attend maintained secondary schools in Kent and 4,200 (78%) of these attend Tunbridge Wells' schools. In total, 3,000 are therefore from other districts, with over 600 from out-of-county. Interestingly, there are approximately 1,000 students living in Tonbridge & Malling who travel to Tunbridge Wells and about the same number travel in the opposite direction. Over 800 students from Sevenoaks and over 400 from Maidstone travel to Tunbridge Wells Borough for their secondary education.

Both Tunbridge Wells Grammar School for Boys and Mascalls School have benefited from recent completion of major new building projects. The assessed net capacities of these schools will need to be adjusted accordingly. The build at Tunbridge Wells Grammar School for Boys had been forced, despite serious site capacity issues, by successive independent appeal panel decisions. There are now significant concerns about safe management of the over crowded site and officers are working closely with the new headteacher to maintain a substantive six form entry structure at the school for the future.

Several popular schools in the borough recruit over their planned admission number through independent appeal panel decisions leading to a number of overcrowded sites.

This, however, off-sets surplus capacity, which is mostly concentrated at Tunbridge Wells High School. The net capacity assessment for this school also needs reviewing because alternative use of accommodation will have reduced the figure currently recorded and has provided for the PAN to be reduced to 150, from 180 (from September 2007).

A full Ofsted inspection in 2005, found Tunbridge Wells High School to be 'a good school', while a more recent 'themed' inspection, focusing on science, recorded 'outstanding' provision. The authority may wish to consider Tunbridge Wells High School for inclusion in Kent's Academies programme in the coming few years, but meanwhile discussions are underway about the possible benefits of formal federation.

The Cranbrook area has a very different secondary system to the rest of Kent, with selection at age 13 for transfer to Cranbrook School, which is a (partial boarding) grammar school. Some students transfer from Angley School, the area's high school, to attend Cranbrook at age 13, but students come from all over south west Kent, Sussex and Surrey. It has one of the largest catchment areas of any school in the county. It also attracts many independent school students transferring out of the independent sector at age 13.

Any future review of secondary provision in the Cranbrook area would be highly controversial but may be necessary if forecast falling rolls for Cranbrook and Angley schools are correct.

In summary, secondary strategic planning for Tunbridge Wells Borough would anticipate:

- Supporting the development of collaborative partnership working across the town's secondary schools
- Addressing significant surplus capacity at Tunbridge Wells High School through the Academy programme, or through formal federation and the restructuring that would be integral to either four forms of entry (capacity of 600 with a reduction of 300 places) or five forms of entry (capacity of 750 with a reduction of 150 places)
- Encouraging informal partnership working between Cranbrook and Angley schools, with a possible view to more formal federated arrangements or to a review of secondary provision for the Cranbrook area (potentially reducing Angley School to seven forms of entry)

Proposed changes to net capacities of Tunbridge Wells secondary schools (Years 7-11)

The table below shows planned and proposed changes in the short term, to September 2009:

School name	PAN change	Current net capacity (Spring 2007)	Future net capacity (September 2009)	Difference
Tunbridge Wells Girls' Grammar School	No change	700	700	0
Tunbridge Wells Grammar for Boys	PAN and net capacity realignment	895	900	+5
Skinner's School	PAN and net capacity realignment	585	540	-45
Tunbridge Wells high School	180 to 150 in September 2007. Further reduction to 120 in the longer term	900	750	-150
St Gregory's Catholic Comp School	PAN and net capacity realignment	825	900	+75
Bennett Memorial Diocesan School	PAN and net capacity realignment	1,085	1,025	-60
Cranbrook School	PAN and net capacity realignment	525	435*	-90
Angley School	240 to 210 and net capacity realignment	1,040	1,050	+10
Mascalls School	PAN and net capacity realignment	1,060	1,200	+140
Total		7,615	7,500	-115

* Current planned admission number of 145 over year groups 9-11

Summary

Summer 2007 forecasts suggest that 7,418 secondary places for years 7-11 will be required by 2012 and 7,315 places by 2017, allowing for 5% surplus capacity within secondary schools over the borough as a whole.

Based on current (spring 2007) net capacity figures the authority therefore needs to remove 197 secondary places for years 7-11 by 2012 and 300 places by 2017.

END

This page is intentionally left blank