



AGENDA

CABINET

Monday, 21st March, 2016, at 10.00 am
Darent Room, Sessions House, County
Hall, Maidstone

Ask for: **Louise Whitaker**
Telephone: **Tel: (01622) 694433,**
e-mail: **louise.whitaker@kent.gov.uk**

Tea/Coffee will be available 15 minutes before the meeting.

Webcasting Notice

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UNRESTRICTED ITEMS

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

1. Introduction/Webcasting
2. Apologies and Substitutions
To receive apologies for absence and notification of any substitutions.
3. Declaration of Interests
To receive any declarations of interest from members in relation to items on the agenda for this meeting.
4. Minutes of the Meeting held on 25 January 2016 (Pages 3 - 12)
To approve the minutes of the last meeting as a correct record.

5. Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring 2015-16 - Quarter 3 (Pages 13 - 192)
To receive a report including the latest monitoring position on both the revenue and capital budgets and agree necessary changes to the capital programme.
6. Performance Monitoring 2015-16 - Quarter 3 (Pages 193 - 270)
To receive and note the Quarter 3 2015-16 performance report containing information on the key areas of performance for the authority.
7. Commissioning Plan for Education Provision 2016-20 (Pages 271 - 440)
To receive, for approval, the Education Commissioning Plan 2016 – 20.
8. Lower Thames Crossing - KCC Consultation Response (Pages 441 - 484)
To consider and comment on the draft KCC response to the Lower Thames Crossing consultation currently being conducted by Highways England.

Items Exempt from Publication

That under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

9. Legal Services - Procurement Project (Pages 485 - 534)
To receive a report, exempt from publication and likely to be considered in closed session, on the future of KCC Legal Services.

Peter Sass
Head of Democratic Services
Friday, 11 March 2016

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

MINUTES of a meeting of the Cabinet held in the Darent Room, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone on Monday, 25 January 2016.

PRESENT: Mr P B Carter, CBE (Chairman), Mr M A C Balfour, Miss S J Carey, Mr G Cooke, Mr M C Dance, Mr G K Gibbens, Mr R W Gough, Mr P M Hill, OBE, Mr P J Oakford and Mr B J Sweetland

UNRESTRICTED ITEMS**147. Apologies and Substitutions**

(Item 2)

Apologies for absence were received from the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Procurement, Mr J Simmonds, who was substituted by the Deputy Cabinet Member for Finance and Procurement, Miss S J Carey.

148. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were received.

149. Minutes of the Meeting held on 30 November 2015

(Item 4)

The Minutes of the meeting held on 30 November 2015 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

150. Variation in the order of business

The Leader stated that he had decided to vary the order of the agenda and deal with the Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring Report (item 6) before the Budget 2016/17 and Medium Term Financial Plan 2016-19 (item 5).

151. Revenue and Capital budget monitoring 2015-16 - November

(Item 6)

Cabinet received a report providing the budget monitoring position for November 2015-16 for the revenue and capital budgets.

Ms Susan Carey, Deputy Cabinet Member for Finance and Procurement was in attendance in the absence of Mr John Simmonds, Cabinet Member and she introduced for Members the key information to which they should have regard. In particular, she highlighted the following in relation to the revenue budget:

- i The savings target for 2015/16 was £83m, which was an extremely challenging target. The net projected variance against the combined directorate revenue budgets was an overspend of £0.861m, a reduction from the quarter 2 projected overspend of £6.609m, before management action.

- ii Management action was expected to reduce this overspend to an underspend of -£0.539m. However, there was some minor re-phasing of budgets, which would need to be rolled forward to 2016/17 in order to fulfil legal obligations (detailed in section 3.7 of the report); therefore, this changed the position to an underspend of -£0.231m as shown in the report.
- iii There was some significant underspending within the forecast, which was detailed in section 3.8 of the report, which would ideally be rolled forward to continue with these initiatives in 2016/17 but this would only be possible if the Authority as a whole was sufficiently underspending by the year end. If this was allowed for, then this changed the position to an underlying overspend of £1.036m.
- iv Directorates had been tasked with coming up with further management action to balance the position.

Ms Carey also commented that the report contained mixed messages; the position had improved significantly, by £5.5m after allowing for assumed management action and roll forward requirements, which was extremely good news, but the majority of the improvement was in respect of the release of £4.2m of uncommitted Care Act monies resulting from the Government announcement to delay the implementation of phase 2 Care Act reforms. She stressed, however, that the draft funding settlement for 2016-17 was awaited before releasing this money in case it was assumed in the settlement that this funding would be required for future social care pressures such as the National Living Wage.

Ms Carey also referred to paragraph 3.6 on page 54 of the report, where it was noted that high waste volumes experienced during 2014/15 had continued into the first 8 months of 2015/16 with a forecast overspend of £2.063m currently reported. However, this was more than offset by savings on management fees at waste disposal sites, in-vessel composting, higher than anticipated income from recyclables, lower cost of waste to energy disposal, contract savings at Household Waste Recycling Centres and transfer stations and a re-phasing of works at closed landfill sites into 2016/17, resulting in a small net underspend on the waste budgets of -£0.020m.

She also referred to the details of the proposed roll-forwards/re-phasing required to complete existing initiatives as detailed in paragraph 3.8 of the report.

Mr Andy Wood, Corporate Director of Finance and Procurement stated that he shared Ms Carey's confidence that the overspend would be eliminated by the year end and that the release of the £4.2m of Care Act monies was welcomed but the underlying position remained to be resolved. He added that the warmer than usual winter to date had resulted in a small underspend of -£0.5m as a result of fewer salting runs than had been budgeted. However, Mr Wood also stated that the dividend from Commercial Services wasn't looking as promising now due to lower than anticipated profits in the LASER business. Finally, he reminded Members that it would be good to take an underspend into 2017/18, which was looking even more challenging than 2016/17.

The Leader, Paul Carter, thanked Ms Carey for her comprehensive overview. He stated that the revenue position overall was in a much better place now compared to 3 or 4 months ago and that the management action taken had been no mean feat and he offered his thanks to all concerned.

Ms Carey spoke to the item once more in relation to the current and projected position on the capital budget and, in particular, drew Members' attention to the variances and proposed re-phrasing of capital spend set out in the table in paragraph 4.2.

No further comments were made.

It was RESOLVED that:

CABINET 25 January 2016	
1.	The report, including the latest monitoring position on both the revenue and capital budgets, be noted.
2	The changes to the capital programme as detailed in the actions column in table 2 of the annex reports and summarised in Appendix 1 be agreed
REASON	
1.	In order that Cabinet can effectively carry out monitoring requirements.
2	In order that the budget accurately reflects the real time position and is fit for purpose enabling necessary actions to be taken.
ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED	None.
CONFLICTS OF INTEREST	None.
DISPENSATIONS GRANTED	None.

152. Budget 2016-17 and Medium Term Financial Plan 2016-19
(Item 5)

Cabinet received a report setting out the proposed budget for 2016/17 and the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) 2016-19 for consideration and comment before it would be considered and determined at County Council on 11 February 2016. The proposed draft budget included a 1.998% council tax increase (up to the referendum limit) and a further 2% through the social care levy. The draft budget represented the Council's response to the local budget consultation and consequences of the Spending Review and Autumn Statement 2015 and the provisional Local Government Finance Settlement.

Ms Susan Carey, Deputy Cabinet Member for Finance and Procurement introduced the item.

She began by congratulating officers, particularly Dave Shipton and Lizi Payne for the timely production of a clear and detailed draft budget based on the information currently available to the Council, which was made even more difficult than usual this year because the provisional local government finance settlement announcement just

before Christmas was so significantly different to what the Council had expected. In particular, the changes to various grants, together with a redistribution change had affected the Council in a fundamental way and these changes were made very late. She observed that the balancing of the 2015/16 budget would be extremely difficult as reported in the last item and that the setting of the 2016/17 budget had also presented significant challenges. The squeeze on local government finances would continue to present increasing problems in the future, particularly 2017/18.

She went on to refer in particular to the following:

- i. The proposed Revenue Support Grant (RSG) settlement included three key changes, which were set out in detail in paragraph 1.2. The combined effect was a reduction of £18m more than had been anticipated following the Spending Review, which had been done without consultation or prior notification and could not have been anticipated.
- ii. There was some good news, however, in paragraph 1.3, where confirmation was given about an increase in the council tax base, both in terms of collection and a growth in housing stock.
- iii. However, even if KCC decided to increase Council Tax up to the referendum level (1.998%) as well as the additional 2% social care levy, there remained a shortfall when compared to the additional spending demands of almost £80m as detailed in paragraph 1.4 of the report. Announcements about a number of specific and ring-fenced grants were also still awaited.
- iv. At such short notice, the proposed budget included a greater use of reserves in a way that had not been planned.
- v. The Capital budget was also under significant pressure, as described in paragraph 1.6; as the Council's revenue budget decreased, the amount of money used to finance borrowing would also have to be reduced and, therefore, it was unlikely that any new borrowing would be considered and new schemes would have to be limited to resources available from capital grants and external sources/receipts.
- vi. She referred to the table in paragraph 2.1, which showed a significant reduction in the Council's funding settlement over the next three years, although there was some hope on the horizon with the Better Care Fund (BCF) monies due to come in from 2017/18. However, Ms Carey stated that there remained significant concerns about how the Government calculated settlements for local authorities to meet their increasing needs, particularly social care obligations, which were set to make up over a half of the Council's expenditure thus squeezing all other services.
- vii. In terms of the effect on Council Tax payers, the figures in table 4 at the top of page 16 confirmed that the budget proposals as currently presented would mean an increase of just under £40 per year for Band C properties, which equated to approximately 78 pence per week.; this included the proposed 2% social care levy.
- viii. The budget consultation was undertaken before the Spending Review, before the announcement about the social care levy and before the Council knew that its financial settlement would be worse than anticipated. However, the key messages coming back from the consultation were very much in line with what the Council has received before, which was that respondents wanted the Council to prioritise spending on those that were the most vulnerable. It was noted that there would be much more information on the budget consultation with the papers for the Budget County Council meeting in February.

- ix. It was confirmed that the Council would be responding in writing to the Government giving its views about the financial settlement and that response was in the process of being drafted.
- x. Reference was made to paragraph 1.13 of the supplementary papers under the heading 'Treasury Management Strategy', where it was confirmed that the Council had received payments of more than £50m from the deposits in Icelandic banks, which represented more than originally deposited and included interest payments, with more interest payments to come. It was noted that KCC was the only local authority to receive all of its money back as other authorities had settled at less than 100%.

The Leader, Mr Paul Carter, thanked Ms Carey for her detailed presentation of the budget proposals and welcomed the proposed budget put forward for approval to the County Council. He reiterated that the outlook was bleak and exceedingly challenging and the settlement had been much worse than expected and worse for County Councils compared to inner London Boroughs and the Northern Metropolitan Councils. However, the Leader stated that the Secretary of State would say that this was the provisional settlement; there was an ongoing consultation and that the final settlement would be debated and agreed in the House of Commons in early February and the Council was doing everything it could to influence the final decision. Such a late decision on the final settlement made the Council's medium term financial planning very difficult. He also mentioned the decisions on certain grants, which had also not been made yet, some of which were significant, such as the public health grant. Mr Carter also stated that one of the strong points being made to the Government both by KCC in its responses to consultations and by the County Councils Network (CCN) was that the Council Tax rates payable in the City of Westminster was almost half that paid in Kent, which could not be regarded as fair or justifiable and had to be addressed by Government in the review of the redistribution and devolution of commercial rates. He added that if the inner London Boroughs had the same levels of Council Tax as Shire County Councils and their RSG was reduced accordingly, it would raise £700m to £800m. In conclusion, Mr Carter stated that the level of financial pain was set to continue for the next 2-3 years, which was getting into the realms of impossibility, which is why it was so important to make sure that there was a much fairer distribution of RSG to County Councils without which it would become impossible to continue to deliver high quality statutory services and the highly valued non-statutory services.

Mr Andy Wood, Corporate Director of Finance and Procurement confirmed that it was anticipated that the final 2015/16 financial settlement for local government was likely to be made on Wednesday 3 February, the same day as the County Council budget papers were due to be published. Mr Wood stated that he shared the Leader's cautious optimism that the level and intensity of lobbying in recent weeks would result in a more positive final settlement for County Councils. Mr Wood also stated that the current budget proposals included a £4m gap, which had yet to be found but he was expecting this to be met from an increased Council Tax base and a surplus on the collection funds. He also mentioned the better than expected level of Better Care Fund (BCF) monies but reiterated the cautiousness of the Leader and Ms Carey in relation to the as yet unannounced grant decisions, which could worsen the Council's funding position.

The Leader stated that the uncertainties outlined by Mr Wood and Ms Carey made the all-Member briefing on Monday 8 February even more important and timely, in

order to ensure that all Members had a good understanding about the final financial settlement in good time before the Budget County Council meeting on Thursday 11 February.

No further comments were made.

It was RESOLVED that:

CABINET 25 January 2016	
1.	The draft budget and the council tax precept (including the additional Social Care levy) taking into account late changes to the draft budget and MTFP published on 11 January 2016 and subject to the final Local Government finance settlement for 2015/16 due on 3 February be endorsed for submission and determination by the County Council on 11 February 2016.
REASON	
1.	In order that the County Council can consider the recommendations of the Cabinet on the budget and council tax for 2015/16.
ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED	A large number of alternative budget proposals and options were considered throughout the deliberations on the 2015/16 budget.
CONFLICTS OF INTEREST	None.
DISPENSATIONS GRANTED	None.

153. Kent Environment Strategy: A strategy for environment, health and economy by Kent County Council
(Item 7)

Cabinet received a report on the Kent Environment Strategy: A Strategy for environment, health and economy, which had been the subject of a public consultation from 27 July to 25 September 2015, as agreed by the Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee on 21 July 2015. Following on from the consultation, the strategy was updated to reflect feedback and the final draft of the strategy was endorsed by the Kent Leaders' Group on 24 November and the Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee on 4 December 2015. The report now before the Cabinet recommended formal adoption of the Kent Environment Strategy.

Mr Balfour, Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport stated that this had been an extremely good piece of work, which had evolved through consultation and he praised Carolyn McKenzie and her team for achieving co-operation and agreement from Districts and other key stakeholders.

Carolyn McKenzie, Head of Sustainable Business and Communities, was present and gave an informative presentation, which outlined the high level priorities, which were derived either through legislation, partner priorities or stakeholder and customer

needs. She added that the strategy was very much a Kent strategy, a partnership document with Kent County Council as the facilitator and leading by example. The strategy contained key links to other areas, such as health and economy and there were shared risks and opportunities from climate and wider environmental factors such as population and land use change. Members were advised that the rapidly-changing policy environment over the last 3-5 years, coupled with a recession and severe public sector cuts had driven the need to review the strategy as well as the needs of the public health agenda. With regard to the approach, Carolyn McKenzie explained that the strategy was very much evidence-based with strong engagement through a range of workshops, partner meetings and a full consultation exercise, including a public perception survey.

She explained that there were a number of significant opportunities and challenges, mainly due to the high level of growth in Kent; these issues included poor air quality in some areas, 8% of residents in fuel poverty, severe weather impacts such as flooding and severe pressure on ground water supplies.

On the positive side, she explained that a high proportion of respondents to the survey had stated that they regarded the Kent countryside as important to them and eco-tourism, which included visits to public parks and the coast, was worth £2.5bn to the Kent economy.

More than 75% of the respondents to the survey supported the high level aims and many of those who didn't wanted a stronger focus in some of the same areas. One of the most important areas of public feedback was the need to balance development with the needs of the environment. Other key issues going forward related to making the coast more important/prominent and noise, specifically airport noise. All of these factors had been included within the strategy.

The next stage in the process would be to develop a detailed implementation plan to support the high level priorities within the strategy, which would be reviewed annually.

Once Cabinet had approved the strategy, it would be owned by the Kent Leaders and Chief Executives and there would also be a cross-party informal Member Group set up to monitor delivery of the strategy as well as the Kent Environment Board of senior managers.

Finally, she thanked Sarah Anderson and Adam Morris in her team for their hard work on the strategy.

The Leader thanked Carolyn for her presentation and stressed how important it was for the Cabinet to receive an annual report on the progress made towards achieving the key priorities within the strategy, particularly given the pace of development within the county.

Mr Balfour stated that the focus now would be on getting the implementation plan right and addressing the appropriate matters as they came forward and he would be happy to support an annual report to Cabinet. He stated that the difficulty would be persuading our colleagues across Kent that we had a growth agenda through the Growth and Infrastructure Framework (GIF) and what the Districts were bringing forward in terms of housing numbers; which was going to put enormous pressure on

the environment. He stressed the health benefits of enjoying the natural environment and the need to promote this. Mr Balfour also stated that he had invited Carolyn or Sarah Anderson to attend the Infrastructure Funding Group, which oversaw the GIF, to ensure that their voices were heard from the point of view of the Environment Strategy in relation to infrastructure development within the County.

Mr Sweetland, Cabinet Member for Commercial and Traded Services echoed the comments of Mr Balfour in seeking to make sure that good progress was being made on the high level priorities and the strategy reviewed on a regular basis. He endorsed the comment about development not being at any cost and that improving air quality particularly on the motorway corridors was an important strategic aim.

The Leader endorsed the comments made and reminded Members of the importance of the strategy given the projected rise in Kent’s population of 17% and 300,000 new homes by 2031. He asked Carolyn McKenzie to bring forward an annual report to Cabinet in a year’s time to update Members on the progress made towards achieving the high level priorities.

No further comments were made.

It was RESOLVED that:

CABINET	
25 January 2016	
1.	The refreshed Kent Environment Strategy: A Strategy for environment, health and economy, be adopted and that in doing so, it be noted that as a partnership strategy, this would include the delivery of programmes and activities by a variety of organisations requiring associated frameworks, MoUs, projects and contracts to be developed and implemented as appropriate
2.	Cabinet receive an annual report detailing the progress made in achieving the high level priorities within the strategy.
REASON	
1.	In order for the Council to fulfil a wide range of legislative requirements, stakeholder priorities and customer needs to protect and enhance the natural environment.
ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED	The extensive engagement and consultation process led to the submission of a wide range of options and priorities for inclusion in the strategy.
CONFLICTS OF INTEREST	None.
DISPENSATIONS GRANTED	None.

154. Proposed Co-Ordinated Schemes for Primary And Secondary Schools In Kent and Admission Arrangements for Primary and Secondary Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools 2017 /18
(Item 8)

Cabinet received a report on the outcome of the consultation on admissions arrangements and the proposed scheme of transfer to Primary and Secondary Schools in September 2017 including the proposed process for non-co-ordinated in year admissions. Cabinet was being asked to determine the co-ordinated schemes for Primary and Secondary Admissions in Kent, the 'in-year' admissions process for Primary and Secondary Schools in Kent and the admission arrangements for the 2017/18 school year for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools.

Mr Roger Gough, Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform introduced the report and stated that these proposed arrangements had been seen and approved by the Education and Young People's Cabinet Committee. He added that the proposed arrangements firstly reflected the County Council's role in 'holding the ring' across the system of school admission arrangements in general and, secondly, to set over-subscription criteria for those schools for whom KCC was still the admissions authority, which still amounted to the bulk of primary schools but only the seven secondary schools listed on page 294 of the report.

Mr Gough stated that there were no material changes to the co-ordinated schemes following the consultation process. However, in terms of the over-subscription criteria, two areas of change were highlighted: firstly, for the Dartford Bridge Community Primary School where the proposal was to create a priority zone around the school in response to ongoing housing development; and, secondly in relation to Tunbridge Wells Boys Grammar School where there was a proposal to give priority to Pupil Premium children within each of the school's admissions criteria.

Mr Patrick Leeson, Corporate Director for Education, Learning and Skills stated that the Council was required to review its admission arrangements on an annual basis. He stated that overall, the co-ordinated admission arrangements worked very well in the face of a much more diverse system where more and more schools were now their own admissions authorities and that the admission arrangements to schools in Kent was fair, even if some parents did not believe that in their particular cases. He added that the percentage of offers of first or second preferences for primary and secondary schools in Kent remained in the mid 80s, which was good in relation to national averages, although it was becoming harder each year to achieve these high levels because of the sheer complexity of the admission arrangements. Mr Leeson spoke about the increasing number of complaints nationally about the fairness of admission arrangements for Academy Schools and this had been highlighted in the national schools' adjudicator's report as an increasing trend; however, in Kent, there did not appear to be a significant problem in that regard and if a complaint was made, KCC would take it up with the relevant academy or the schools adjudicator to resolve, if necessary.

Mr Gough spoke again to endorse the comments of Mr Leeson that the job of holding the ring becomes more complex each year and asked Cabinet colleagues to offer their thanks and appreciation to Scott Bagshaw, Head of Fair Access and his team for the work they do. The Leader endorsed these comments.

No other comments were made.

It was RESOLVED that:

CABINET
25 January 2016

1.	<p>a) The Coordinated Primary Admissions Scheme 2017/18 incorporating the In Year admissions process as detailed in Appendix A</p> <p>b) The Co-ordinated Secondary Admissions Scheme 2017/18 incorporating the In Year admissions process as detailed in Appendix B</p> <p>c) The over-subscription criteria relating to Community and Voluntary Controlled Infant, Junior and Primary Schools in Kent 2017/18 as detailed in Appendix C (1)</p> <p>d) The oversubscription criteria relating to Community and Voluntary Controlled Secondary Schools in Kent 2017/18 as detailed in Appendix D (1)</p> <p>e) The Published Admissions Number for Community and Voluntary Controlled Infant, Junior and Primary Schools 2017/18 as set out in Appendix C (2)</p> <p>f) The Published Admissions Number for Community and Voluntary Controlled Secondary Schools 2017/18 as set out in Appendix D (2); and</p> <p>g) The relevant statutory consultation areas for Kent Infant, Junior and Primary Schools 2017/18 as detailed in Appendix C (3) and the relevant statutory consultation areas for Kent Secondary Schools 2017/18 as set out in Appendix D (3)</p>
REASON	
1.	In order for the Council to fulfil its legal obligations to carry out an annual review of school admission arrangements for the school year commencing September 2017.
ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED	Changes to the previous year were considered non-material overall except in two specific schools where other options were considered before a proposal was made.
CONFLICTS OF INTEREST	None.
DISPENSATIONS GRANTED	None.

From: John Simmonds, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance & Procurement
Andy Wood, Corporate Director of Finance & Procurement
Corporate Directors

To: CABINET - 21 March 2016

Subject:

- (1) REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGET MONITORING FOR 2015-16 - QUARTER 3
- (2) KEY ACTIVITY MONITORING FOR 2015-16 - QUARTER 3
- (3) FINANCIAL HEALTH INDICATORS 2015-16 - QUARTER 3
- (4) PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS 2015-16 - QUARTER 3
- (5) IMPACT ON REVENUE RESERVES
- (6) DIRECTORATE STAFFING LEVELS 2015-16 - QUARTER 3

Classification: **Unrestricted**

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SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report provides the budget monitoring position for December 2015-16 for both revenue and capital budgets, including an update on key activity data.
- 1.2 The format of this report is:
- An executive summary which provides a high level financial summary and highlights only the most significant issues
 - Appendix 1 provides a summary of the proposed capital programme cash limit changes
 - There are seven annexes to this executive summary report, as detailed below:
 - **Annex 1** **Education & Young People's Services**
 - **Annex 2** **Social Care, Health & Wellbeing** - Specialist Children's Services
 - **Annex 3** **Social Care, Health & Wellbeing** - Adults
 - **Annex 4** **Social Care, Health & Wellbeing** - Public Health
 - **Annex 5** **Growth, Environment & Transport**
 - **Annex 6** **Strategic & Corporate Services**
 - **Annex 7** **Financing Items**

- 1.3 Other items likely to be of particular interest to Members are the impact of the current financial and activity monitoring position on our revenue reserves, as detailed in section 6, and the directorate staffing levels as at the end of December 2015 compared to 31 March 2015, 30 June 2015 and 30 September 2015, which are provided in section 7.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

Cabinet is asked to:

- i) **Note** the report, including the latest monitoring position on both the revenue and capital budgets.
- ii) **Agree** the changes to the capital programme as detailed in the actions column in table 2 of the annex reports and summarised in Appendix 3.

3. SUMMARISED REVENUE MONITORING POSITION

- Page 14
- 3.1 The net projected variance against the combined directorate revenue budgets is an underspend of -£2.040m. However, there is some minor re-phasing of budgets which we will need to roll forward to 2016-17 to fulfil our legal obligations, detailed in section 3.7, therefore this changes the position to an underspend of -£1.726m as shown in the headline table below. There is also some significant underspending within the forecast, detailed in section 3.8, which we would ideally like to roll forward in order to continue with these initiatives in 2016-17. If we allow for this, then this changes the position to a small **underlying underspend of -£0.141m**. This shows that the Authority as a whole is currently forecasting an underspend just sufficient to allow for all of these roll forwards, but these roll forwards will only be possible if the position does not deteriorate before year end. The annexes to this report provide the detail of the overall forecast position which is summarised in table 1 below.
- 3.2 Once again the position has improved significantly this month, by -£1.5m after allowing for assumed management action and roll forward requirements, which is extremely good news. All proposed management action has now been implemented and is included within these forecasts. However, as we are forecasting only a marginal underspend after roll forward requirements, we are not out of danger yet. We therefore must not be complacent in light of this latest improvement in the forecast, and need to continue to limit spend wherever possible as, with the budget savings already required over the medium term, we must avoid going into 2016-17 with any overspend.
- 3.3 This report does not attempt to explain movements month on month, but explains why we have a forecast variance. However, we will report the headline movement, which for this month is a £1.501m reduction in the forecast position (excluding schools), as shown in table 1 below. This is mainly due to:

E&YP (excluding schools) - the position has deteriorated by +£0.392m since the last report, which almost entirely relates to Home to School Transport, predominately the Kent 16+ Travel Card, where the previous forecast reduction in estimated journey costs was overstated. There are a number of small offsetting movements across a range of other budgets. There are also a number of movements in the forecasts against the DSG funded budgets totalling -£0.26m, but in accordance with regulations these will be matched by an overall increase in the transfer to the central DSG reserve of £0.26m as we cannot use this underspending to offset pressures elsewhere within the directorate budget. The management action has now all been delivered by maximising the use of DSG within Assessment & Support of Children with SEN and Early Years & Childcare.

E&YP (schools delegated budgets) - the position has improved by £1.635m since the last report which reflects a reduction in the expected drawdown of reserves of the remaining Kent schools based on their nine month monitoring returns.

SCH&W (SCS - Asylum) - a small reduction in the Asylum costs of £0.016m following a further slow down in migrant activity since the last report, with 40 referrals in December and 35 in January, whereas the previous forecast assumed 50 referrals for each of these two months. The forecast continues to assume 50 referrals per month for the remainder of the financial year.

SCH&W (SCS) - Within the other Specialist Children's Services (excluding Asylum), the position has improved by £0.993m. This is mainly within Adoption & other permanent care arrangements service (-£0.4m) due to inter-agency placements where more adoption arrangements are being made on behalf of other local authorities (OLAs), than are being carried out by OLAs on behalf of KCC resulting in a net financial benefit to KCC. In addition, within Social Care staffing, there is further recharging of costs to the Asylum service and a reduction in non staffing costs in non disability teams (-£0.2m). There are lower than expected costs for Care Leavers (-£0.2m), Safeguarding (-£0.1m) and Family Support (-£0.1m). The pressure on residential care has increased by a further £0.2m but this is offset by a reduced forecast for fostering (-£0.2m), which largely reflects an increase in the use of residential care as a result of a lack of suitable independent foster placements.

SCH&W (Adults) - the overall Adult Social Care position has deteriorated by £0.4m, which predominately relates to the management action within the older people & physical disability services now being reflected against the individual A-Z service lines where it is expected to be delivered, rather than a bottom line adjustment, however these savings are no longer forecast to be at the £1.1m level previously anticipated.

GE&T - the underspend has increased by £0.475m this month. The main movements are an increased underspend within Libraries, Registration & Archives of £0.259m predominately relating to additional registration income and an underspend against the allocation to deliver transformation projects and savings due to the delay in the proposed transfer to Trust status. The pressure on the Highways maintenance budgets has reduced by £0.243m but £0.123m will be requested to roll forward relating to streetlight maintenance, where works have been delayed due to resource issues with our external provider. The waste forecast has deteriorated by £0.206m and there are a number of smaller movements across a range of budgets totalling -£0.179m including small improvements in the position of the Public Protection, Transport, Environment, Sports Development and Strategic Management & Directorate Support budgets.

S&CS - the underspend has increased by £0.783m this month, which is mainly due to further forecast underspending against the Member Grant Scheme of -£0.380m; an increase in the underspending against the Property budgets of -£0.190m reflecting lower than anticipated costs of repairs to non operational buildings following completion of condition surveys, and improvements in the positions of the Business Services Centre of -£0.122m, HR of -£0.106m. There are a number of smaller offsetting movements across the other units.

3.4 HEADLINE POSITION (EXCL SCHOOLS) (£'000)

	Cash Limit	Variance Before Mgmt Action	Management Action - already in place	Net Variance after Mgmt Action	Last Report	Movement
Directorate Totals	+931,015	-2,040	-	-2,040	-539	-1,501
Adjustments: - Legally committed roll fwd (see section 3.7 for detail)		+314	-	+314	+308	+6
Underlying position (incl. legally committed roll fwd requirements only)	+931,015	-1,726	-	-1,726	-231	-1,495
- Roll fwd / re-phasing required to continue / complete existing initiatives (see section 3.8 for detail)		+1,585	-	+1,585	+1,267	+318
Underlying position (incl. ALL roll fwd requirements)	+931,015	-141	-	-141	+1,036	-1,177

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5 **Table 1** Directorate position - net revenue position **before and after** management action together with comparison to the last report

Annex	Directorate	Budget £'000	Net Variance (before mgmt action) £'000	Management Action already in place £'000	Net Variance (after mgmt action) £'000	Last Report £'000	Movement £'000
1	Education & Young People's Services	72,083.8	-289	-	-289	-681	+392
2	Social Care, Health & Wellbeing - Specialist Children's Services	133,084.8	-684	-	-684	+309	-993
	Social Care, Health & Wellbeing - Asylum	280.0	+2,029	-	+2,029	+2,045	-16
	<i>Sub Total SCH&W - Specialist Children's Services</i>	<i>133,364.8</i>	<i>+1,345</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>+1,345</i>	<i>+2,354</i>	<i>-1,009</i>
3	Social Care, Health & Wellbeing - Adults	350,459.3	+5,261	-	+5,261	+4,887	+374
4	Social Care, Health & Wellbeing - Public Health	-193.2	-	-	-	-	-
5	Growth, Environment & Transport	173,493.0	-1,594	-	-1,594	-1,119	-475
6	Strategic & Corporate Services	71,952.2	-2,354	-	-2,354	-1,571	-783
7	Financing Items	129,855.0	-4,409	-	-4,409	-4,409	-
	TOTAL (excl Schools)	931,014.9	-2,040	-	-2,040	-539	-1,501
1	<i>Schools (E&YP Directorate)</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>+14,066</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>+14,066</i>	<i>+15,701</i>	<i>-1,635</i>
	TOTAL	931,014.9	+12,026	-	+12,026	+15,162	-3,136

3.6 The **Revenue** Budget Monitoring headlines are as follows:

- a) We have suffered in year government funding cuts in relation to Public Health grant of £4.033m and Youth Justice Board grant of £0.139m. See section 3.10 below for further details.
- b) The position included in this report for Asylum is a pressure of £2.029m, and this reflects the latest grant offer from the Home Office of the new weekly rates of £200 for age 18 and over (from £150), £700 for 16 and 17 year olds (from £637) and £1,050 for under 16's (from £798). A condition of this grant offer is that it is subject to a Home Office audit of our costs. The position also reflects the impact of migrant activity up to the end of December and assumes 50 new referrals per month for the remainder of the financial year. Provisional figures show that there were 35 referrals in January and 17 for the first 16 days of February, so we remain on track against this forecast. Also included within the forecast is the fit out costs for a new temporary reception centre. National dispersal of some young people to other local authorities is helping to mitigate the pressure on this service. However, it is likely that the recent increased migrant activity levels will produce an additional pressure on our Asylum budget in future years as more Asylum young people reach age 18, because our costs have consistently exceeded the grant receivable for this age group.
- c) There is now a small forecast underspend on Specialist Children's Services (exc. Asylum). The net position of -£0.684m includes an underspend of -£0.157m relating to the re-phasing of Kent Safeguarding Children Board costs into 2016-17 which is required to roll forward in order to meet our obligation to the board under the terms of the multi agency agreement. The underlying £0.527m underspend mainly relates to underspending on adoption, partly due to fewer children requiring this permanent care arrangement, fostering, safeguarding and strategic management & directorate support budgets. These underspends are partially offset by pressures on children's social care staffing, as a result of increased costs of agency social workers due to the ongoing difficulties in recruiting to posts and the establishment of additional Adolescent Support Team posts targeted at increasing the proportion of young people re-united with their families within the early weeks of care, together with pressures on Residential Care, which result from a lack of suitable independent foster care placements and small pressures on Care Leavers and Family Support Services. The position assumes that the transformation savings will be delivered in line with the savings profiles agreed with our transformation partner.
- d) The pressure of £5.261m within Social Care, Health & Wellbeing - Adults is largely the net effect of a continuation of increased activity experienced in the final quarter of 2014-15 on residential and homecare services for older people and physically disabled clients, together with significant pressures on residential care for mental health clients, the supported living service for learning disabled and physically disabled clients, day care for learning disability clients and support for carers. In addition, revised phasing of the anticipated delivery of phase 2 transformation savings is adding to this pressure in the current year, although progress against these phase 2 savings plans in 2015-16 to date is better than we anticipated earlier in the year. These pressures are partially offset by further delivery of phase 1 transformation savings, increased non residential charging income as a result of the pressures on domiciliary care, supported living and day care, staff vacancy savings, underspending on direct payments for older people and learning disability clients, learning disability residential care and the use of so-far uncommitted funding held within Other Adult Services and Adult Social Care Staffing, including the release of £4.2m of Care Act funding following the Government announcement to delay implementation of phase 2 Care Act reforms and some of the funding provided in the budget for social care prices following completion of the prices review (see Annex 3 for further information).

- e) As reported last month, a high profile social care provider has recently failed their Care Quality Commission inspection and are in the process of going into liquidation. This may result in additional costs against the adult social care budget as we need to find alternative placements for clients who are currently with this provider. However, these clients can remain in their existing placements until 31 March, so any impact of this will be in the new financial year.
- f) Within Education & Young People's Services, the pressure on the SEN Home to School Transport budget has increased to a forecast overspend of £2.159m but this is partially offset by a continuation from last year of the reduced demand for mainstream home to school transport (-£0.742m) and an underspend on the Kent 16+ Travel Card mainly due to a reduction in estimated journey costs and increased income from sale of passes (-£0.270m). In addition, the Directorate is showing a net pressure in relation to costs associated with the new Early Help Module; refurbishment costs for Youth Centres and costs of cabling and wireless routers in Children's Centres; a staffing pressure with the Youth Offending Service partly due to staffing levels not reducing in line with reductions in income streams; shortfalls against income targets for nursery provision, early years training and school improvement, together with a pressure on the Community Learning & Skills service due to costs associated with service redesign and a reduction in contract/grant income. These pressures are partially offset by lower than budgeted annual pension capitalisation costs; an underspend across the area and district Early Help & Preventative Services teams due to vacancies and staff appointed below the budget assumption of mid point of grade; advisor vacancies within School Improvement; increased income from non statutory psychology traded services; savings on commissioned services and legal fees, and delivery of management action relating to the Intervention Fund and maximising the use of DSG within Assessment & Support of Children with SEN and Early Years & Childcare. In addition, significant underspending is forecast relating to the Kent Employment Programme and the Troubled Families Programme but, if possible, roll forward is required to continue these schemes in 2016-17. As a result, the directorate as a whole is forecasting a net underspend excluding schools of £0.289m. However, in order to fund the roll forward requirements, an underspend of £1.367m is required, so the directorate is investigating options to cover the shortfall of £1.078m in order to achieve this position, particularly from maximising trading income from schools and academies through aggressive marketing campaigns as well as reviewing all discretionary non staffing expenditure.
- g) A net pressure on the high needs education budgets (+£2.378m) and other schools related pressures (+£2.958m) will be met by a drawdown from the schools unallocated DSG reserve. School reserves are also forecast to reduce by £1.309m as a result of an expected 12 schools converting to academies, and by £7.421m for the remaining Kent schools based on their 9 month monitoring returns. Overall the school reserves are therefore currently forecast to reduce by £14.066m to £39.943m.

- h) The Growth, Environment and Transport Directorate is forecasting an underspend of £1.594m. Within this position are some larger offsetting variances, the most significant are a pressure on Concessionary Fares of +£0.526m due to increased usage, a pressure on the highways maintenance budgets of +£1.197m, mainly due to pothole and drainage works following an extension to the find and fix campaign (+£1.462m) and streetlight maintenance (+£0.101m) offset by underspending on adverse weather (-£0.494m) and a net pressure on the waste management budgets of +£0.186m (see item (i) below for further details). These pressures are more than offset by underspending on the highways management budgets of -£1.310m mainly due to a rebate following a reconciliation of winter 2014-15 and summer 2015-16 usage of streetlight energy and a lower than budgeted electricity price increase for 2015-16 (-£0.570m), together with an underspend on traffic management largely relating to increased income from the Kent Permit Scheme and streetworks (-£0.360m); an underspend on the Young Person's Travel Pass of -£0.737m due to fewer than budgeted passes in circulation; additional registration income mainly from ceremonies of -£0.422m; underspending within Libraries, Registration & Archives of -£0.227m partly due to an underspend against the budget allocation to deliver transformation projects due to a delay in the transfer of libraries to trust status, and underspends within the strategic management & directorate support budgets of -£0.512m mainly as a result of an underspending on staffing and early retirement costs; together with a number of smaller variances across the other service units.
- i) The high waste volumes experienced during 2014-15 have continued into the first nine months of 2015-16 with a forecast overspend of £2.142m currently reported. This is largely offset by savings on management fees at waste facilities sites, in-vessel composting, higher than anticipated income from recyclables, lower cost of waste to energy disposal, contract savings at Household Waste Recycling Centres and transfer stations, savings from a new haulage contract and a re-phasing of works at closed landfill sites into 2016-17, giving an overall net pressure on the waste budgets of +£0.186m. The tonnage for the first nine months of 2015-16 was 11,000 tonnes above the affordable level for this period and the current forecast pressure on waste tonnage of £2.142m assumes tonnage will be 708,600 tonnes for the full year, 18,100 tonnes above the budgeted level of 690,500 tonnes. This forecast appears high when comparing to year to date tonnage, but it assumes that the profile of waste volumes for the remainder of the year will be higher than that experienced this time last year, as a result of Easter falling in March 2016. Waste tonnage for the first nine months of the year is 1.5% below waste tonnage for the same period last year.
- j) The forecast underspend for Public Health has increased by £0.069m to £0.767m which will be transferred to the Public Health reserve in line with government guidelines, for use in future years. This position is after the cash limits have been reduced to reflect the £4.033m in year government funding cut as a result of the Government's austerity measures. Please see section 3.10 (i) for further details.
- k) Within Strategic & Corporate Services an underspend of £2.354m is now reported with pressures within the Contact Centre, Gateways & Customer Relationship and ICT being more than offset by underspending mainly within Property & Infrastructure, Communications & Consultation, Business Services Centre, Finance & Procurement, Business Strategy and Human Resources. In addition an underspend is forecast against the budget for Member Community Grants based on the level of projects anticipated to be approved before the end of the financial year.

- l) Within Financing Items, increased interest on cash balances; a forecast increase in Education Services Grant as fewer schools are anticipated to convert to academy status this financial year than assumed at the time the budget was set; higher than expected Business Rate compensation grant for the impact of measures introduced by the Government in the 2012, 2013 and 2014 Autumn Statements; a retained levy as a result of being in a business rate pool with 10 of the Kent District Councils and an underspend against the external audit fee all contribute to a forecast underspend of £4.409m. The accounting treatment for the retained levy has only been agreed this financial year, hence why this was not factored into the 2015-16 budget build, but it has been reflected in the recently approved 2016-17 budget. The final figure for the retained levy will not be known until the final stages of closing the 2015-16 accounts, so this forecast position could change.
- m) The centrally held procurement and commissioning saving has transferred in year from Finance & Procurement, within Strategic & Corporate Services (annex 6) to Financing Items (annex 7). The detailed action plan from our project partner (KPMG) on how this will be delivered has been finalised. This contains a number of proposals for delivering these savings in future years, but for the current year the recommendation is that this be delivered from tactical savings across the authority. The impact of these savings is also currently being reported within Financing Items.
- n) Many of the pressures and savings highlighted in the headlines above have implications for the 2016-19 MTFP, as they are expected to be ongoing. The recently approved 2016-17 budget, includes an element of budget re-basing for these pressures and savings.
- o) On 14 January 2016 the Council received a dividend of £2.9m from Landsbanki bringing our total recoveries to date to £51.3m of the monies invested in Icelandic accounts, and we anticipate the final settlement will be £51.6m. This compares to an original risk of £50.5m invested in these deposits.

Details of Committed Roll Forward/Re-phasing requirements

The headline table on page 4 shows that within the current forecast revenue position there is a requirement to roll forward £0.314m to 2016-17, relating to initiatives where we have a legal obligation to provide the funding. This relates to:

▪ re-phasing of Kent Youth Employment programme in to 2016-17 (see annex 1)	+90 k
▪ re-phasing of Kent Children's Safeguarding Board in to 2016-17. This represents KCC's share of the underspend of the KCSB. Under the terms of the multi-agency agreement, KCC has an obligation to provide this funding to the Board. The underspending relating to partners contributions is held in a Fund (see annex 2)	+157 k
▪ re-phasing of Kent & Medway Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Committee in to 2016-17. This represents KCC's share of the underspend of the Committee. Under the terms of the multi-agency agreement, KCC has an obligation to provide this funding to the Committee. The underspending relating to partners contributions is held in a Fund (see annex 3)	+67 k
	+314 k

These roll forward requirements are included as we have a legal obligation and therefore legally we have no choice.

3.8 Details of Roll Forward/Re-phasing required to complete existing initiatives, if the outturn position allows:

In addition to the roll forward requirements that we are legally obliged to provide for, which are detailed above, there is some significant underspending within the forecast which we would ideally like to roll forward in order to continue with these initiatives in 2016-17. The Authority as a whole would need to achieve an underspending position at year end of at least -£1.899m in order to fund all of these (£1.585m as detailed below and +£0.314m per section 3.7 above). We are currently forecasting an underspend of -£2.040m, so we have a small surplus of £0.141m as highlighted in the headline table on page 4. Our forecast underspend must remain at least equal to the value of the roll forward requirements in order for roll forward for these initiatives to be considered. These initiatives are:

▪ Kent Youth Employment programme (see annex 1)	+683 k
▪ Tackling Troubled Families (see annex 1)	+594 k
▪ Re-phasing of Deprivation of Liberty Safeguard assessments funded by one-off grant (see annex 3)	+130 k
▪ Highways Maintenance - re-phasing of streetlight maintenance (see annex 5)	+123 k
▪ Emergency Response & Resilience (incl Flood Risk Management) - Sustainable Urban Drainage Scheme works (see annex 5)	+55 k
	<hr/>
	+1,585 k

In line with usual practice, **all** roll forward proposals will be subject to Cabinet approval in the summer, in view of the overall outturn position and the pressures facing the authority over the medium term.

Revenue budget virements/changes to budgets

All changes to cash limits are in accordance with the virement rules contained within the constitution, with the exception of those cash limit adjustments which are considered “technical adjustments” i.e. where there is no change in policy, including:

- Allocation of grants and previously unallocated budgets where further information regarding allocations and spending plans has become available since the budget setting process, including the inclusion of new 100% grants (i.e. grants which fully fund the additional costs) awarded since the budget was set.
- Cash limits for the A-Z service analysis have been adjusted since the budget was set to reflect a number of technical adjustments, including the further centralisation of budgets and to reflect where responsibility for providing services has moved between directorates/divisions.

The Public Health cash limits have been adjusted, as approved by Cabinet in November, to reflect the in year government grant reduction referred to in section 3.10 below.

3.10 In year cuts to Government funding levels

Making an early start on tackling the public finances in this Parliament, the Chancellor announced in the Queen's Speech in early June that the in-year budget review process was completed and provided details of the savings by Government Department. Some of these cuts have had a direct impact on our finances in the current year and, potentially, future years. Details announced include:

i) **Public Health**

- As reported to Cabinet on 6 July in the first monitoring report for 2015-16, the Government announced that £200m of in year savings from the Department of Health are to come from public health budgets devolved to local authorities. National consultation setting out possible options on reducing Local Authority (LA) public health allocations ran from 31 July to 28 August. The options included:
 - (1) take a larger share from LAs that are significantly above their target allocation;
 - (2) take a larger share of the savings from LAs that carried forward unspent PH reserves into 2015-16;
 - (3) apply a flat rate percentage reduction to all LAs allocations;
 - (4) apply a standard percentage reduction to every LA unless an authority can show that this would result in particular hardship.The Department of Health's stated preferred option was to apply a 6.2% reduction across the board (option 3 above), which for Kent equates to a cut in funding of £4.033m. On this basis, the service identified options for dealing with an in-year 2015-16 budget reduction of this level, but a reduction of this size requires cuts to service levels. Our response to the consultation was that option 1 was our preferred option. Kent is currently below our target allocation. On 4 November, the DoH announced that, despite their preferred option only being backed by a quarter of respondents to the consultation, on balance this remained their preference as it is the option most consistent with the underpinning principles for managing the saving that the DoH has set out: it delivers the £200 million, it is the least disruptive to services and it is compliant with the Public Sector Equality Duty and the health inequality duty. The saving has therefore been taken via a reduction to the fourth quarterly instalment of the PH grant and the PH cash limits shown in annex 4 have been reduced accordingly.

Adult Education

- The Skills Funding Agency (SFA) announced a 3.9% cut to adult skills budget and discretionary learner support allocations, which was made in response to the £450m in year savings required of the Department for Business, Innovation & Skills. Additionally, the SFA will attempt to save money by withdrawing all funding for mandated English for speakers of other languages (ESOL) provision for the 2015-16 funding year. This 3.9% cut has been made across the board to non-apprenticeship allocations. The impact on the Community Learning & Skills budget was a reduction in funding of £0.359m but the service has been able to cease some direct service costs and with the implementation of management action, the residual impact is estimated at £0.1m, and this is included in the E&YP directorate forecast reflected in this report.

iii) **Youth Offending Service**

- The formal consultation regarding a 14% (£12m) in year government cut in Youth Offending Team grant from Youth Justice Board (YJB) concluded in September. We, and other local authorities, responded to YJB stating that an in year cut in grant would be too detrimental to the service and suggested that the reduction should be taken from the central YJB budget. The YJB met on 28 October to consider the consultation responses and to make a decision on how to achieve the reduction. On 5 November the YJB announced that £9m of the required reduction will need to be taken from the 2015-16 grant, which equates to a 10.6% reduction in the annual allocation. This equates to approximately a £0.139m reduction in our YJB funding and the impact is reflected in the E&YP directorate forecast included within this report.

4. SUMMARISED CAPITAL MONITORING POSITION

4.1 The working budget for the 2015-16 Capital Programme is £375.505m (£337.727m excluding PFI). The forecast outturn against this budget is £259.560m (£255.817m excluding PFI) giving a variance of -£115.945m (-£81.910m excluding PFI). The annexes to this report provide the detail, which is summarised in table 2 below.

4.2 **Table 2** Directorate capital position

Directorate	2015-16 Cash Limit per Budget Book £'000	2015-16 Working Budget £'000	2015-16 Variance £'000	Real Variance £'000	Re-phasing Variance £'000	Annex
Education & Young People's Services	144,784	168,423	-47,372	175	-47,547	1
Social Care, Health & Wellbeing - Specialist Children's Services	902	1,959	-443	-	-443	2
Social Care, Health & Wellbeing - Adults	30,049	51,070	-42,319	-412	-41,907	3
Social Care, Health & Wellbeing - Public Health	-	360	-180	-	-180	4
Growth, Environment & Transport	101,707	125,905	-22,232	781	-23,013	5
Strategic & Corporate Services	20,582	27,788	-3,399	1,263	-4,662	6
Financing Items	-	-	-	-	-	7
TOTAL	298,024	375,505	-115,945	1,807	-117,752	

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The **Capital** Budget Monitoring headlines are as follows:

- The majority of schemes are rated green, meaning they are within budget and on time.
- +£1.807m of the -£115.945m variance is due to **real** variances as follows:

Home Support Fund & Equipment (SCH&W Adults) -£0.341m. This reflects the lower than anticipated demand for telecare equipment resulting in a reduction in the anticipated revenue contribution to capital.

Innovation Investment Initiative (i3) (Kent & Medway Growth Hub) (GET) +£1.000m. This reflects new funding from the Government's Local Growth Fund for the provision of loans to small and medium enterprises with the potential for innovation and growth, to help improve their productivity and create jobs.

Highway Major Enhancement (GET) +£0.875m reflects in the main an additional footway scheme at Bank Street, Ashford (+£0.260k) and enhancement works at Star Lane, Thanet (+£0.500k), both to be funded by additional developer contributions. The remaining +£0.115m comprises of additional external funding and a contribution from a revenue reserve for minor additional works.

Regional Growth Fund - Expansion East Kent (GET) +£0.470m reflects the use of interest earned on grant balances in line with the grant agreement.

Integrated Transport Schemes (GET) +£0.465m for purchase of additional buses and community transport minibuses to be funded from a revenue grant.

Marsh Millions (GET) +£0.400m reflects expected match funding from partners.

Libraries Wi-Fi Project (GET) +£0.313 reflects new funding from the Arts Council to add or upgrade Wi-Fi in 66 libraries.

No Use Empty - Rented Affordable Homes - Extension (GET) -£0.264m reflects in the main a forecast reduction in the anticipated level of HCA funding based on the current number units which fit the HCA criteria for support.

Middle Deal Transport Improvements (GET) -£0.750m. The match funding for this project will be held by a third party and will therefore not pass through KCC's books.

Lorry Park (GET) -£2.000m. This scheme is no longer progressing following the announcement in the 2015 Spending Review that the Government has allocated funds for a new permanent lorry park. However, KCC will continue to work with Highways England in regard to provision of an overnight solution in addition to the proposed lorry storage facility.

Customer Relationship Management Solution (S&CS) +£0.858m reflects costs that have now been identified as capital rather than revenue, to be funded by revenue contribution.

Disposal Costs (S&CS) +£0.400m. This reflects the capitalisation of security costs to protect the value of KCC assets, to be funded from the capital proceeds of property disposals. Future year budgets will be considered as part of the 2016-19 MTFP process.

The remaining +£0.381m of real variances are made up of a number of real over and underspends on a number of projects across the capital programme. The annexes to this report provide the detail.

- c) -£117.752m of the -£115.945m variance relates to **rephasing** on a number of projects. The main projects comprising the rephasing are as follows:

Special School Review Phase 2 (EYP) -£20.464m. Rephasing following significant delays at the planning and contract execution stages of a number of complicated projects which has impacted on start dates.

Grammar School Annex at Sevenoaks (EYP) -£9.177m. Works had halted pending the outcome of the Secretary of State decision. Following approval on 15th October 2015, contract documentation will now be worked through prior to any construction contract being agreed.

Basic Need Programme (EYP) -£7.600m. The curriculum analysis and pre-construction work for Secondary school expansions has taken considerable time which has resulted in a delay to design work and preparing planning applications. No delivery delays are expected.

Annual Planned Enhancement Programme (EYP) -£4.551m of works are being rephased into next financial year as a result of difficulties in obtaining access to schools within school term time and gaining upfront consent from utility companies. In addition, the planning/tendering phases of emerging enhancement works are starting now with the work scheduled for the 2016 Easter and Summer holidays.

Modernisation Programme (EYP) -£2.656m. A programme of works has now been finalised with some projects due to complete in the next financial year. The budget is being reprofiled accordingly.

Pupil Referral Units (EYP) -£1.178m. The requirements for the North West Kent PRU provision have been revised following a review with works now due to commence next summer. Works for West Kent PRU will commence in April 2016 when new premises can be accessed.

Early Help Single System (EYP) -£1.500m. This project is now progressing following the outcome of the back office procurement decision with the original budget allocation being re-profiled to reflect the revised project plan.

Nursery Provision for Two Year Olds (EYP) -£0.436m. New premises are being sought for additional nursery provision in Gravesham with works due to commence in 2016-17. There will be no impact on overall cost.

PFI - Excellent Homes for All (SCH&W Adults) -£34.035m. Unforeseen contamination of sites in the form of asbestos has impacted on the start of construction of the new buildings as the sites needed to be cleared and decontaminated.

OP Strategy - Specialist Care Facilities (SCH&W Adults) -£3.162m. The Accommodation Strategy has identified a need to incentivise the market in Swale and Sandwich alongside the consultation of the future of the KCC care homes in those areas. Market engagement has commenced in Swale and will commence on the Sandwich project in the next six months which will inform what capital investment is needed. However, a formal procurement exercise will be required for both projects. Therefore the budget is being rephased into 2016-17.

Learning Disability Good Day Programme - Community Hubs and Initiatives (SCH&W Adults) -£1.620m. The KCC Asset Management Strategy stipulates a requirement to review all KCC properties when looking for alternative accommodation. In order to meet this requirement some projects are being rephased into next year.

Care Act ICT Implementation (SCH&W Adults) -£1.312m. Budget to be rephased into 2016-17 due to Government delay in Care Act Phase 2 implementation.

Developer Funded Community Schemes (SCH&W Adults) -£0.759m. Planned contributions towards projects will now be made next year as Providers reconsider their business plans and developments following the Autumn Statement.

Broadband Contract 1 (GET) -£3.757m. -£0.963m rephasing following extension of the contract completion date for the Satellite scheme from December 2015 to December 2017 following a variation of contract by Government. -£2.794m is due to the supplier requesting a deferral of payment in order to align their internal evidence and assurance processes.

LED Conversion (GET) -£2.500m rephasing as the tender invitation has been extended and therefore the start of works will not commence until March 2016.

Thanet Parkway (GET) -£1.589m rephasing following delays to completion of GRIP (Governance for Railway Investment Projects) Stage 3 as station design option selection and approval process has taken longer than anticipated. The planning application cannot be submitted until GRIP stage 3 has been completed.

Empty Property Initiative (GET) -£1.303m rephasing to reflect realignment of the loan payment spend profile to match that of the expected loan repayments.

Major Road Schemes (GET):

East Kent Access Phase 2 -£1.150m;

Sittingbourne Northern Relief Road -£1.336m;

Rushenden Link Road -£0.633m; and

Victoria Way -£0.412m.

Rephasing to cover land compensation payments in future years; the timing of which is notoriously difficult to predict.

SELEP Projects (GET):

M20 Junction 4 Eastern Over Bridge -£1.972m;

Sittingbourne Town Centre Regeneration -£1.950m;

A26 London Road/Staplehurst Road/Yew Tree Junction -£0.580m;

Middle Deal Transport Improvements -£0.750m;

Sustainable Access to Maidstone Employment Areas - £0.605m;

A28 Sturry Rural Integrated Transport Package -£0.528m;

Tonbridge Town Centre Regeneration -£0.421m;

A28 Chart Road, Ashford -£0.688m;

Kent Thameside LSTF -£0.310m;

Rathmore Road Link -£0.288m;

Kent Sustainable Intervention Programme for Growth -£0.334m;

Sturry Link Road - Canterbury +£0.097m; and

Maidstone Gyratory Bypass: +£0.624m.

Rephasing of schemes following realignment of cost and associated funding due to nature of SELEP schemes. The budgets will be amended as part of the 2016-19 budget process.

Swale Transfer Station (GET) -£0.866m to reflect rephasing to allow the scheme to complete in 2016/17.

Integrated Transport Schemes (GET) -£0.440m reflects a scheme at the Bat & Ball junction, Sevenoaks which has been rephased to summer 2016-17 following other works being carried out by utility companies in the area over summer 2015 plus rephasing across a number of smaller schemes within the programme which have been reprofiled.

Dartford Library Plus (GET) -£0.418m. This project will now progress in 2016-17 with anticipated completion by March 2017.

Modernisation of Assets (S&CS) -£2.908m rephasing following the development of a forward modernisation programme by the TFM providers. This has meant that large programmes of work are being re-phased to later years although priority work is continuing in the current financial year.

Electronic Document Management Solution (S&CS) -£1.200m. Phase 1 has been delivered and completed. The project board has proposed the closure of the current project and to use the phase 1 assets and acquired knowledge to inform a re-scoped business requirement for a phase 2 EDMS delivery which will take place next financial year.

LIVE Margate (S&CS) -£0.831m. Rephasing following the elongated tender phase of a property purchase and the cancellation of a proposed strategic acquisition due to unforeseen difficulties surrounding the release of legal charges.

Herne Bay Gateway (S&CS) -£0.476m. This project will now start next financial year following the need for value engineering to ensure that the project is viable and represents value for money.

Property Investment & Acquisition Fund (S&CS) +£1.360m. The brought forward figure has reduced from +£2.775 as last reported due to the removal or revaluation of some properties as a result of the restrictions on title and use.

The remaining -£3.138m rephasing comprises minor rephasing across the capital programme. The annexes to this report provide the detail.

4.4 Capital budget virements/changes to cash limits

- Any cash limit changes due to virements are in accordance with the virement rules contained within the constitution and have received the appropriate approval via the Leader, or relevant delegated authority.
- **Cabinet is asked to approve further changes to the capital programme cash limits resulting from this round of monitoring, which are identified in the actions column in table 2 of the annex reports. For ease of reference these are all summarised in Appendix 1.**
- Cash limit changes resulting from this round of monitoring will be actioned for outturn monitoring.

FINANCIAL HEALTH

5.1 The latest Financial Health indicators, including cash balances, our long term debt maturity, outstanding debt owed to KCC, the percentage of payments made within 20 days and the recent trend in inflation indices (RPI & CPI) are detailed in **Appendix 1**.

5.2 The latest monitoring of Prudential indicators is detailed in **Appendix 2**.

6. REVENUE RESERVES

6.1 The table below reflects the projected impact of the current forecast spend and activity for 2015-16 on our revenue reserves:

Account	Balance at 31/3/15 £m	Projected Balance at 31/3/16 £m	Movement £m
General Fund balance	34.7	37.2	2.5
Earmarked Reserves	168.3	135.2	-33.1
Surplus on Trading Accounts	2.9	2.9	-
Schools Reserves *	54.0	39.9	-14.1

* Both the table above and section 2.1 of annex 1 include delegated schools reserves and unallocated schools budget.

6.2 The increase of £2.5m in general reserves reflects the 2015-16 budgeted contribution, as approved by County Council in February.

6.3 The reduction of £33.1m in earmarked reserves includes:

	£m
▪ Budgeted drawdown of Economic Downturn reserve to support 2015-16 budget	-4.2
▪ Budgeted drawdown of earmarked reserve to support 2015-16 budget (residual 2013-14 underspend)	-4.0
▪ Budgeted use of directorate held reserves to support 2015-16 budget	-2.4
▪ Budgeted contribution to reserves for invest to save proposals	+4.5
▪ Budgeted contribution to reserves (incl. continuation of collaborative work with DCs to increase council tax yield)	+2.6
▪ Budgeted drawdown from Kingshill Smoothing reserve	-2.0
▪ Budgeted phased repayment of sums borrowed from long term reserves in 2011-12 (year 2 of 10)	+1.3
▪ Budgeted contribution to the elections reserve	+0.6
▪ Use of rolling budget reserve (2014-15 underspend) to fund approved roll forwards	-10.9
▪ Transfer to earmarked reserve to support future budgets of uncommitted 2014-15 rolled forward	+4.1
▪ Planned drawdown of reserves for transformation costs	-13.6
▪ Planned drawdown of Dedicated Schools Grant reserve	-6.0
▪ Planned drawdown of Kent Drug & Alcohol Service reserve	-3.9
▪ Planned drawdown of 2014-15 underspend from Public Health reserve	-2.1
▪ Forecast transfer to Public Health reserve of 2015-16 underspend (see annex 4)	+0.8
▪ Forecast transfer to (+ve) / from (-ve) Dedicated Schools Grant reserve (unbudgeted) (see annex 1)	+1.2
▪ Planned use of NHS Support for Social Care reserve	-0.7
▪ Forecast transfer to Insurance reserve (see annex 7)	+0.6
▪ Planned movement in IT Asset Maintenance reserve	+1.3
▪ Planned movement in Dilapidations reserve	-1.5
▪ Impact on rolling budget reserve of current forecast underspend	+2.0
▪ Other forecast movements in earmarked reserves	-0.8
	-33.1

6.3 The reduction of £14.1m in schools reserves is due to:

	£m
▪ An assumed 12 schools converting to academy status this financial year and taking their accumulated reserves with them	-1.3
▪ Remaining Kent Schools (based on schools 9 month monitoring returns)	-7.4
▪ The anticipated use of schools unallocated reserves to fund in year pressures on high needs education	-2.4
▪ The anticipated use of schools unallocated reserves to fund other in year schools related pressures	-3.0
	-14.1

7. STAFFING LEVELS

7.1 The following table provides a snapshot of the staffing levels by directorate as at 31 December 2015 compared to the numbers as at 31 March 2015, 30 June 2015 and 30 September 2015, based on active assignments. Between 31 March and 31 December 2015 there has been a reduction of 565.62 FTEs, of which 364.44 FTEs were in schools and 201.18 FTEs were in non schools settings. The reduction in schools based staff is mainly as a result of schools converting to an academies.

		31 Mar 15	30 Jun 15	30 Sep 15	31 Dec 15	31 Mar 16	Difference	
							Number	%
KCC	Assignment count	37,285	37,123	36,055	35,907		-1,378	-3.70%
	Headcount (inc. CRSS)	31,437	31,310	30,555	30,497		-940	-2.99%
	Headcount (excl. CRSS)	27,933	27,770	27,134	27,146		-787	-2.82%
	FTE	20,915.93	20,758.33	20,353.98	20,350.31		-565.62	-2.70%
KCC - Non Schools	Assignment count	11,667	11,471	11,401	11,236		-431	-3.69%
	Headcount (inc. CRSS)	10,785	10,587	10,541	10,415		-370	-3.43%
	Headcount (excl. CRSS)	9,296	9,134	9,111	9,026		-270	-2.90%
	FTE	7,972.64	7,832.07	7,830.26	7,771.46		-201.18	-2.52%
E&YP	Assignment count	2,903	2,843	2,755	2,760		-143	-4.93%
	Headcount (inc. CRSS)	2,678	2,598	2,536	2,556		-122	-4.56%
	Headcount (excl. CRSS)	1,903	1,849	1,841	1,881		-22	-1.16%
	FTE	1,573.20	1,536.07	1,547.05	1,582.28		9.08	0.58%
SCH&W	Assignment count	4,638	4,590	4,648	4,666		28	0.60%
	Headcount (inc. CRSS)	4,256	4,221	4,270	4,289		33	0.78%
	Headcount (excl. CRSS)	4,056	4,028	4,069	4,090		34	0.84%
	FTE	3,483.83	3,459.75	3,504.37	3,533.28		49.45	1.42%
GET	Assignment count	2,370	2,354	2,349	2,305		-65	-2.74%
	Headcount (inc. CRSS)	2,163	2,152	2,144	2,116		-47	-2.17%
	Headcount (excl. CRSS)	1,626	1,617	1,597	1,582		-44	-2.71%
	FTE	1,314.51	1,305.26	1,283.96	1,273.37		-41.14	-3.13%
S&CS	Assignment count	1,756	1,684	1,649	1,505		-251	-14.29%
	Headcount (inc. CRSS)	1,746	1,674	1,639	1,500		-246	-14.09%
	Headcount (excl. CRSS)	1,720	1,649	1,612	1,481		-239	-13.90%
	FTE	1,601.10	1,530.99	1,494.88	1,382.53		-218.57	-13.65%
Schools	Assignment count	25,618	25,652	24,654	24,671		-947	-3.70%
	Headcount (inc. CRSS)	20,718	20,785	20,065	20,131		-587	-2.83%
	Headcount (excl. CRSS)	18,667	18,665	18,047	18,143		-524	-2.81%
	FTE	12,943.29	12,926.26	12,523.72	12,578.85		-364.44	-2.82%

Note:
If a member of staff works in more than one directorate they will be counted in each. However, they will only be counted once in the Non Schools total and once in the KCC Total.

If a member of staff works for both Schools and Non Schools they will be counted in both of the total figures. However they will only be counted once in the KCC Total.

CRSS = Staff on Casual Relief, Sessional or Supply contracts.

8. CONCLUSIONS

- 8.1 The overall forecast position before management action and after taking into account the requirements to roll forward, has reduced by -£2.577m from +£2.436m to -£0.141m since the November monitoring position reported to Cabinet in January. All management action has now been implemented and is reflected in the forecasts against the individual A-Z service lines where it is expected to be delivered, there is therefore no outstanding management action reflected in the headline position on page 4. After taking into account this reduction in outstanding management action, the position after roll forwards has improved by £1.177m from +£1.036m last month to a small underspend of -£0.141m. Within this position is a -£0.016m reduction in the Asylum forecast reflecting the impact of the slowing down of migrant activity during December from the high levels experienced from June through to October. Migrant activity was again slightly lower in January than our assumptions contained within this forecast and, at the time of writing this report, has remained low during the first half of February, so we appear to still be on track against this latest forecast and it may potentially reduce marginally should migrant activity remain at these lower levels. Excluding Asylum, the position for all other services has therefore improved this month by £1.161m, and considering we are now forecasting a small underspend, even after allowing for roll forward requirements, this is a fantastic achievement in light of where we were only a few months ago. However, we must not be complacent, as only a very marginal underspend is forecast and this has yet to be actually delivered, therefore we must continue to limit spend wherever possible to avoid the chance of going into 2016-17 with any overspend considering the further substantial budget savings included in the recently approved 2016-17 budget and with further government funding cuts in the medium term.
- 8.2 There are a number of ongoing emerging issues that have been addressed in the recently approved 2016-17 budget / 2016-19 MTFP and these are highlighted in the annexes to this report and/or in the headlines above.

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RECOMMENDATIONS

Cabinet is asked to:

- i) **Note** the report, including the latest monitoring position on both the revenue and capital budgets.
- ii) **Agree** the changes to the capital programme cash limits as detailed in the actions column in table 2 of the annex reports and summarised in Appendix 3.

10. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

None

11. CONTACT DETAILS

Report Authors:

Chris Headey
Central Co-ordination Manager
Revenue Finance
03000 416228
chris.headey@kent.gov.uk

Jo Lee/Julie Samson
Capital Finance Manager
03000 416939 / 03000 416950
julie.samson@kent.gov.uk
joanna.lee@kent.gov.uk

Director:

Andy Wood,
Corporate Director of Finance and Procurement
03000 416854
andy.wood@kent.gov.uk

FINANCIAL HEALTH INDICATORS

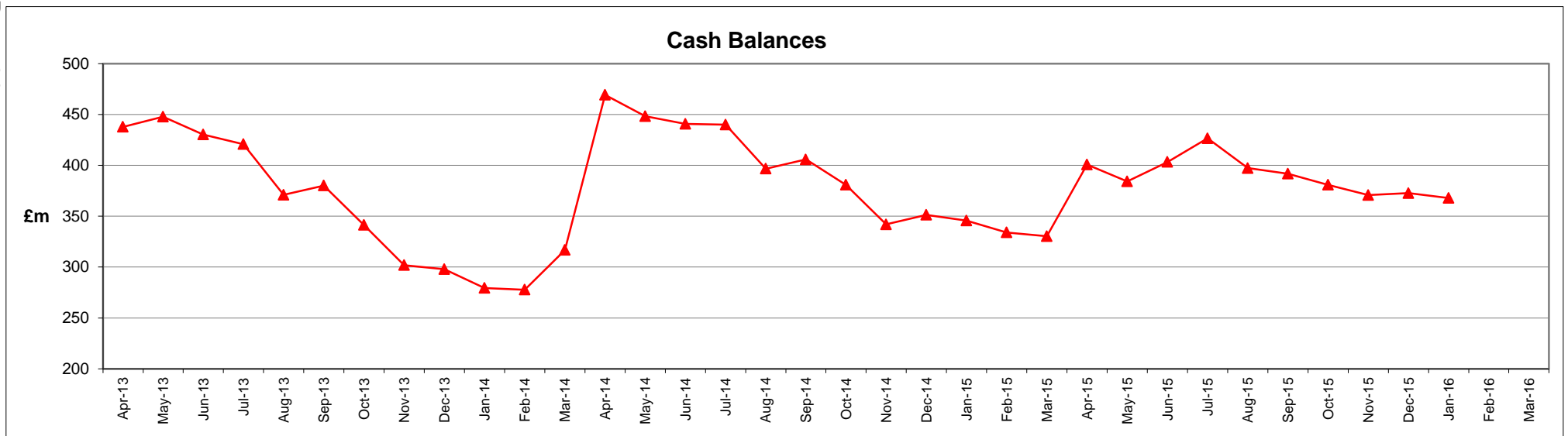
1. CASH BALANCES

The following graph represents the total cash balances under internal management by KCC at the end of each month in £m. This includes principal amounts currently at risk in Icelandic bank deposits (£3.785m), balances of schools in the corporate scheme (£52.5m), other reserves, and funds held in trust. KCC will have to honour calls on all held balances such as these, on demand. The remaining deposit balance represents KCC working capital created by differences in income and expenditure profiles.

Central Government Departments (particularly DCLG) are following a similar pattern to the last two years of front loading revenue grants for 2015-16, though less so than last year, where receipts have been weighted towards the beginning of the year (33%) leading to an early peak in managed cash levels. These cash levels are forecast to decline over the course of the year as grant income reduces.

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
2013-14	437.8	447.6	430.1	420.7	371.0	380.1	341.3	301.9	297.9	279.3	277.7	316.7
2014-15	469.3	448.2	440.7	439.9	396.6	405.7	380.9	341.9	351.2	345.7	334.1	330.4
2015-16	400.8	384.1	403.2	426.5	397.2	391.7	380.8	370.7	372.6	367.8		

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2. LONG TERM MATURITY

The following graph represents the total external debt managed by KCC, and the year in which this is due to mature. This includes £38.8m pre-Local Government Review debt managed on behalf of Medway Council. Also included is pre-1990 debt managed on behalf of the Further Education Funding council (£1.76m) and Magistrates Courts (£0.556m). These bodies make regular payments of principal and interest to KCC to service this debt.

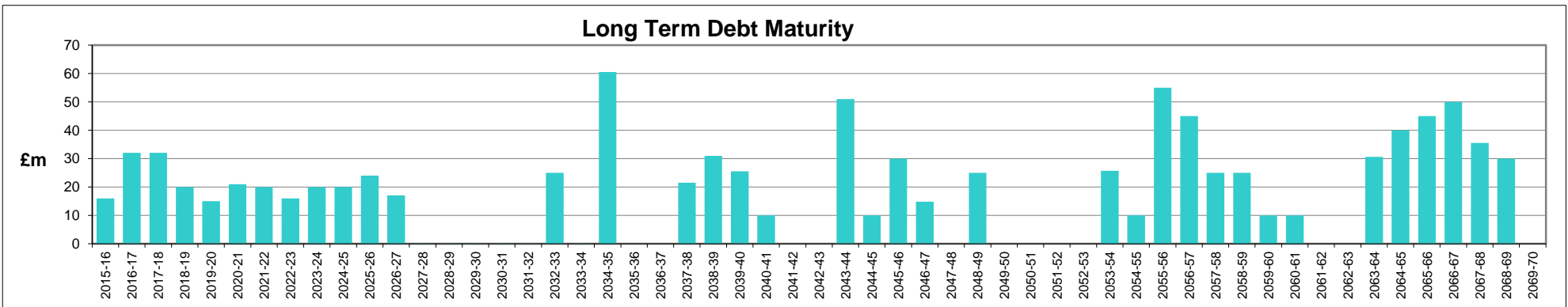
The graph shows total principal repayments due in each financial year. Small maturities indicate repayment of principal for annuity or equal instalment of principal loans, where principal repayments are made at regular intervals over the life of the loan. The majority of loans have been taken on a maturity basis so that principal repayments are only made at the end of the life of the loan. These principal repayments will need to be funded using available cash balances (i.e. internalising the debt), by taking new external loans or by a combination of the available options.

The total debt principal to be repaid in 2015-16 is £31.001m, relating to £29m of maturity loans, (£14m was repaid in August and £15m is due in February), and £2.001m of equal instalment of principal loans (mainly relating to £1m which was repaid in September and £1m is to be repaid in March). Following the repayment of debt in August and September, the remaining outstanding debt still to be repaid this financial year is £16m.

A £25m PWLB maturity loan was borrowed at 3.16%, advanced on 29 April 2015, which matures on 10 August 2055.

	£m	Year	£m	Year	£m	Year	£m	Year	£m	Year	£m
2015-16	16.000	2025-26	24.001	2035-36	0.000	2045-46	30.000	2055-56	55.000	2065-66	45.000
2016-17	32.001	2026-27	17.001	2036-37	0.000	2046-47	14.800	2056-57	45.000	2066-67	50.000
2017-18	32.001	2027-28	0.001	2037-38	21.500	2047-48	0.000	2057-58	25.000	2067-68	35.500
2018-19	20.001	2028-29	0.001	2038-39	31.000	2048-49	25.000	2058-59	25.000	2068-69	30.000
2019-20	15.001	2029-30	0.001	2039-40	25.500	2049-50	0.000	2059-60	10.000	2069-70	0.000
2020-21	21.001	2030-31	0.001	2040-41	10.000	2050-51	0.000	2060-61	10.000		
2021-22	20.001	2031-32	0.000	2041-42	0.000	2051-52	0.000	2061-62	0.000		
2022-23	16.001	2032-33	25.000	2042-43	0.000	2052-53	0.000	2062-63	0.000		
2023-24	20.001	2033-34	0.000	2043-44	51.000	2053-54	25.700	2063-64	30.600		
2024-25	20.001	2034-35	60.470	2044-45	10.000	2054-55	10.000	2064-65	40.000	TOTAL	994.079

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3. OUTSTANDING DEBT OWED TO KCC

The following graph represents the level of outstanding debt due to the authority, which has exceeded its payment term of 30 days. The main element of this relates to Adult Social Services and this is also identified separately, together with a split of how much of the Social Care debt is secured (i.e. by a legal charge on the clients' property) and how much is unsecured. The significant increase in SCH&W Directorate sundry debt in June 2015 predominately relates to a number of invoices raised early in this financial year across the East Kent Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) for the Better Care Fund (BCF) totalling £43m. **There is minimal risk around this £43m debt** as it is secured by a signed Section 75 agreement meaning that the CCGs are legally obliged to pay. Payments are being received monthly, so this debt has reduced each month. From September, the remaining BCF debt moved onto a payment plan and therefore will only show in the table below if a monthly instalment is not received on time.

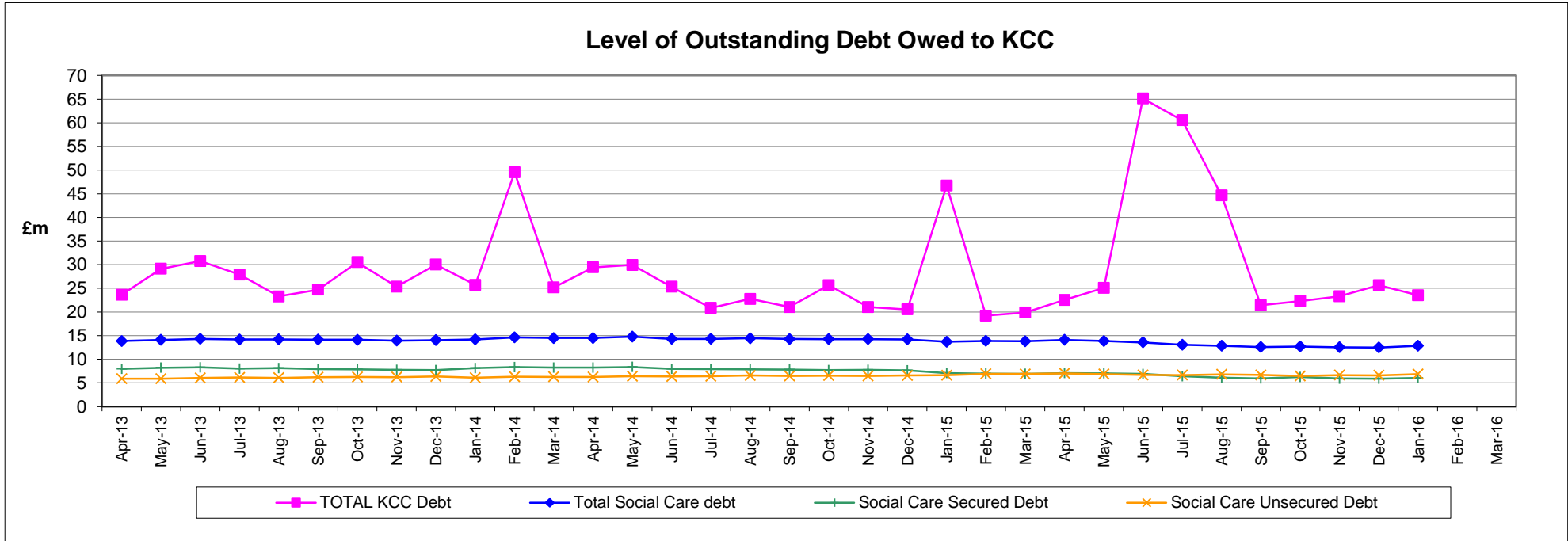
	Social Care Secured Debt £m	Social Care Unsecured Debt £m	Total Social Care Debt £m	SCH&W Sundry Debt £m	TOTAL SCH&W Debt £m	All other Directorates Debt £m	TOTAL KCC Debt £m
Apr 14	8.220	6.270	14.490	8.884	23.374	6.060	29.434
May 14	8.353	6.402	14.755	8.899	23.654	6.276	29.930
Jun 14	7.944	6.346	14.290	7.289	21.579	3.733	25.312
Jul 14	7.927	6.389	14.316	2.187	16.503	4.337	20.840
Aug 14	7.882	6.549	14.431	3.707	18.138	4.616	22.754
Sep 14	7.805	6.465	14.270	2.849	17.119	3.919	21.038
Oct 14	7.709	6.543	14.252	3.808	18.060	7.614	25.674
Nov 14	7.777	6.472	14.249	2.658	16.907	4.132	21.039
Dec 14	7.624	6.582	14.206	2.406	16.612	3.927	20.539
Jan 15	7.079	6.604	13.683	30.632	44.315	2.395	46.710
Feb 15	6.973	6.914	13.887	2.538	16.425	2.792	19.217
Mar 15	6.915	6.887	13.802	2.955	16.757	3.136	19.893
Apr 15	7.069	7.026	14.095	3.669	17.764	4.782	22.546
May 15	7.009	6.848	13.857	5.534	19.391	5.675	25.066
Jun 15	6.885	6.673	13.558	* 46.885	60.443	4.694	65.137
Jul 15	6.417	6.637	13.054	* 43.741	56.795	3.755	60.550
Aug 15	6.075	6.791	12.866	* 28.648	41.514	3.115	44.629
Sep 15	5.913	6.684	12.597	4.794	17.391	4.022	21.413
Oct 15	6.231	6.451	12.682	5.532	18.214	4.096	22.310
Nov 15	5.905	6.645	12.550	5.298	17.848	5.473	23.321
Dec 15	5.888	6.586	12.474	7.934	20.408	5.249	25.657
Jan 16	6.012	6.853	12.865	6.138	19.003	4.507	23.510
Feb 16			0.000		0.000		0.000
Mar 16			0.000		0.000		0.000

* incl. BCF debt of £42.867m

* incl. BCF debt of £39.295m

* incl. BCF debt of £25.006m

From Sept 15, the remaining BCF debt has been moved onto a payment plan and will only show in these figures if a monthly instalment is not received on time.



4. **PERCENTAGE OF PAYMENTS MADE WITHIN THE PAYMENT TERMS**

The following graph represents the percentage of payments made within the payments terms – the national target for this is 30 days, however from January 2009, we have set a local target of 20 days in order to help assist the cash flow of local businesses during the current tough economic conditions. We focus on paying local and small firms as a priority. The table below shows our performance against this 20 day payment target.

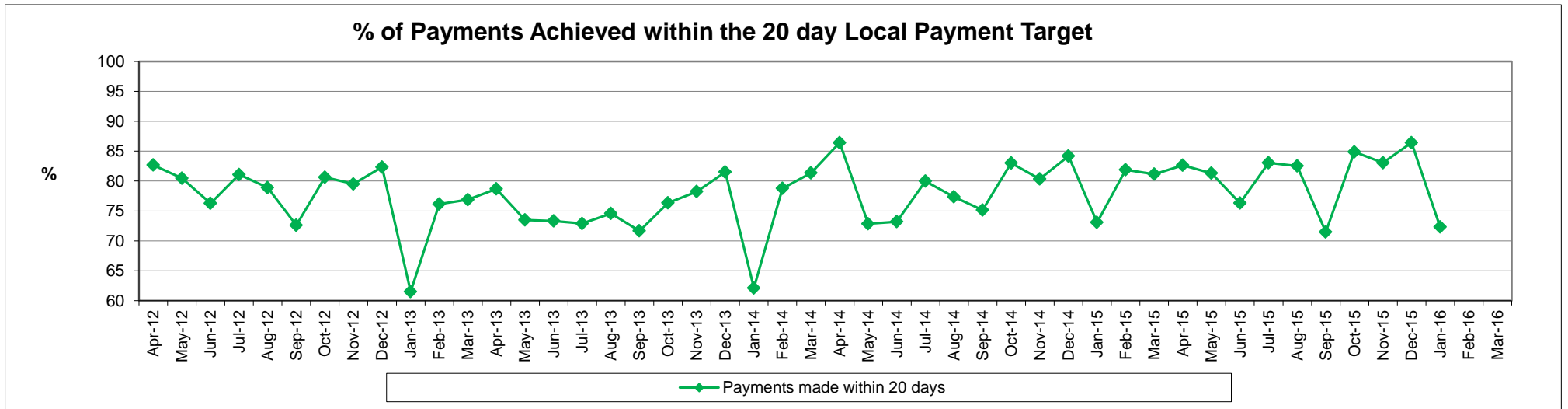
	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
	%	%	%	%
Apr	82.7	78.7	86.4	82.7
May	80.5	73.5	72.9 *	81.3
Jun	76.3	73.3	73.2 *	76.3
Jul	81.1	72.9	80.0	83.1
Aug	78.9	74.6	77.3	82.5
Sep	72.6	71.7	75.1	71.5
Oct	80.6	76.4	83.0	84.9
Nov	79.5	78.2	80.3	83.0
Dec	82.3	81.5	84.2	86.4
Jan	61.5	62.1	73.1	72.3
Feb	76.1	78.8	81.9	
Mar	76.9	81.4	81.2	

The percentages achieved for January each year are consistently lower than other months due to the Christmas/New Year break. This position was exacerbated in 2012-13 due to snow. The 2015-16 year to date figure for invoices paid within 20 days is 80.4%. This compares to overall performance in previous years as follows:

	20 days %
2012-13	77.3
2013-14	75.3
2014-15	79.2
2015-16 to date	80.4

* The lower percentages in May/June 2014 were due to invoices arriving late into the payments team, impacting on their ability to pay to terms.

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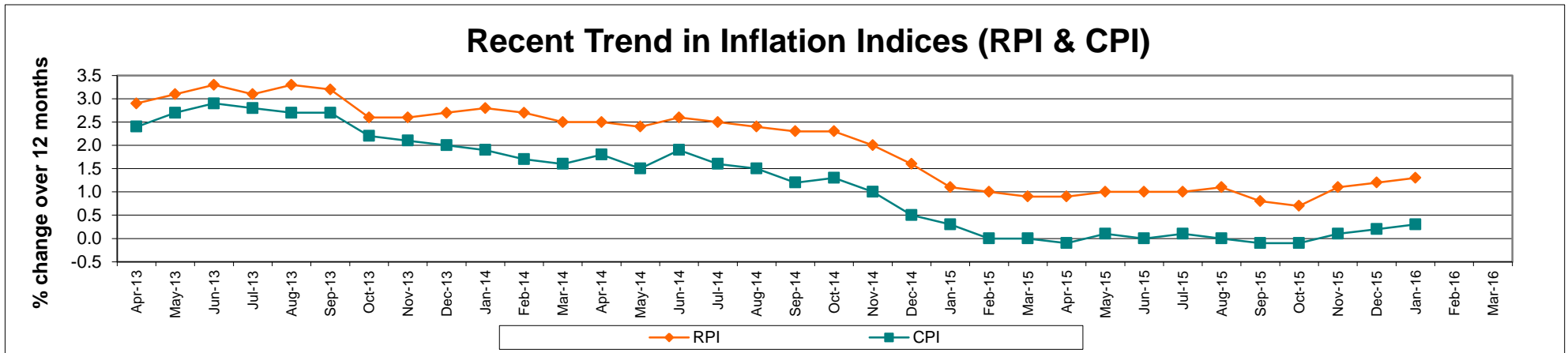
5. RECENT TREND IN INFLATION INDICIES (RPI & CPI)

In the UK, there are two main measures of inflation – the Consumer Prices Index (CPI) and the Retail Prices Index (RPI). The Government’s inflation target is based on the CPI. The RPI is the more familiar measure of inflation, which includes mortgage interest payments, but is now not deemed to be a formal measure. The CPI measures a wide range of prices. The indices represent the average change in prices across a wide range of consumer purchases. This is achieved by carefully recording the prices of a typical selection of products from month to month using a large sample of shops and other outlets throughout the UK. The recent trend in inflation indices is shown in the table and graph below.

Percentage Change over 12 months

	2013-14		2014-15		2015-16	
	RPI %	CPI %	RPI %	CPI %	RPI %	CPI %
Apr	2.9	2.4	2.5	1.8	0.9	-0.1
May	3.1	2.7	2.4	1.5	1.0	0.1
Jun	3.3	2.9	2.6	1.9	1.0	0.0
Jul	3.1	2.8	2.5	1.6	1.0	0.1
Aug	3.3	2.7	2.4	1.5	1.1	0.0
Sep	3.2	2.7	2.3	1.2	0.8	-0.1
Oct	2.6	2.2	2.3	1.3	0.7	-0.1
Nov	2.6	2.1	2.0	1.0	1.1	0.1
Dec	2.7	2.0	1.6	0.5	1.2	0.2
Jan	2.8	1.9	1.1	0.3	1.3	0.3
Feb	2.7	1.7	1.0	0.0		
Mar	2.5	1.6	0.9	0.0		

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2015-16 QUARTER 3 MONITORING OF PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS**1. Estimate of Capital Expenditure (excluding PFI)**

Actuals 2014-15	£219.896m
Original estimate 2015-16	£289.838m
Revised estimate 2015-16	£260.252m

2. Estimate of capital financing requirement (underlying need to borrow for a capital purpose)

	2014-15	2015-16	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
	Actual	Original Estimate	Forecast as at 31-12-15	Forecast as at 31-12-15	Forecast as at 31-12-15
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Capital Financing requirement	1,382.856	1,382.620	1,360.812	1,345.438	1,305.238
Annual increase/reduction in underlying need to borrow	-52.407	-9.053	-22.044	-15.374	-40.200

In the light of current commitments and planned expenditure, forecast net borrowing by the Council will not exceed the Capital Financing Requirement.

3. Estimate of ratio of financing costs to net revenue stream

Actuals 2014-15	14.19%
Original estimate 2015-16	13.17%
Revised estimate 2015-16	13.64%

4. Operational Boundary for External Debt

The operational boundary for debt is determined having regard to actual levels of debt, borrowing anticipated in the capital plan, the requirements of treasury strategy and prudent requirements in relation to day to day cash flow management. The operational boundary for debt will not be exceeded in 2015-16.

a) Operational boundary for debt relating to KCC assets and activities

	Prudential Indicator	Position as at 31.12.15
	£m	£m
Borrowing	983	954
Other Long Term Liabilities	254	248
	<u>1,237</u>	<u>1,202</u>

b) Operational boundary for total debt managed by KCC including that relating to Medway Council etc (pre Local Government Reorganisation)

	Prudential Indicator	Position as at 31.12.15
	£m	£m
Borrowing	1,024	994
Other Long Term Liabilities	254	248
	<u>1,278</u>	<u>1,242</u>

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5. Authorised Limit for External Debt

The authorised limit includes additional allowance, over and above the operational boundary to provide for unusual cash movements. It is a statutory limit set and revised by the Council. The revised limits for 2015-16 are:

	Authorised limit for debt relating to KCC assets and activities	Position as at 31.12.15	Authorised limit for total debt managed by KCC	Position as at 31.12.15
	£m	£m	£m	£m
Borrowing	1,023	954	1,064	994
Other long term liabilities	254	248	254	248
	<u>1,277</u>	<u>1,202</u>	<u>1,318</u>	<u>1,242</u>

6. Compliance with CIPFA Code of Practice for Treasury Management in the Public Sector

The Council has adopted the Code of Practice on Treasury Management and has adopted a Treasury Management Policy Statement. Compliance has been tested and validated by our independent professional treasury advisers.

7. Upper limits of fixed interest rate and variable rate exposures

The Council has determined the following upper limits for 2015-16

Fixed interest rate exposure	100%
Variable rate exposure	40%

These limits have been complied with in 2015-16

8. Upper limits for maturity structure of borrowings

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	Upper limit	Lower limit	As at 31.12.15
	%	%	%
Upper 12 months	10	0	1.61
12 months and within 24 months	10	0	3.22
24 months and within 5 years	15	0	6.74
5 years and within 10 years	15	0	9.76
10 years and within 20 years	20	5	12.72
20 years and within 30 years	20	5	14.99
30 years and within 40 years	25	10	10.61
40 years and within 50 years	25	10	24.20
50 years and within 60 years	30	10	16.15

9. Upper limit for principal sums invested for periods longer than 364 days

Indicator	£175m
Actual	£151m

2015-16 QUARTER 3 SUMMARY OF PROPOSED CAPITAL PROGRAMME CASH LIMIT CHANGES

Directorate	Project	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	Funding	Description
		£'000	£'000	£'000		
Cash limit change due to revised external/grant funding availability:						
GET	Libraries Wi-Fi Project	313			External Other	New funding from Arts Council to add/upgrade Wi-Fi in 66 libraries.
Other Cash limit changes:						
GET	Country Parks Access and Development	18			Revenue	Contribution from a revenue reserve for the purchase of a tractor.

**EDUCATION AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES DIRECTORATE
DECEMBER 2015-16 MONITORING REPORT**

1. REVENUE

	Cash Limit	Variance Before Mgmt Action	Mgmt Action	Net Variance after Mgmt Action	Roll forwards		Variance after Mgmt Action & Roll Fwd
					committed	uncommitted	
Total (excl Schools) (£k)	+72,084	-289	-	-289	+90	+1,277	+1,078
Schools (£k)	-	+14,066	-	+14,066	-	-	+14,066
Directorate Total (£k)	+72,084	+13,777	-	+13,777	+90	+1,277	+15,144

1.2 **Table 1** below details the revenue position by A-Z budget:

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation		Management Action/ Impact on MTFP/Budget Build
	Gross £'000	Income £'000	Net £'000	Net £'000	£'000		
Education & Young People's Services							
Delegated Budget:							
Schools & Pupil Referral Units Delegated Budgets	674,190.4	-674,190.4	0.0	+14,066	+1,309	Drawdown from school reserves for 12 expected academy converters	
					+7,421	Expected drawdown of reserves for remaining Kent schools based on schools nine month monitoring	
					+2,958	Expected drawdown from the schools unallocated reserve to fund other in year schools related pressures	
					+2,378	Expected drawdown from the schools unallocated reserve to fund in year High Needs pressures	
TOTAL DELEGATED	674,190.4	-674,190.4	0.0	+14,066			
Non Delegated Budget:							
E&YP Strategic Management & directorate support budgets	9,746.7	-8,704.2	1,042.5	+464	+376	Pressure on the Information and Intelligence team budget including £220k of costs associated with the new Early Help Module <i>(includes a DSG variance of +£109k)</i>	The Early Help Module pressure has been reflected in the recently approved 2016-19 MTFP

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation	Management Action/ Impact on MTFP/Budget Build
	Gross £'000	Income £'000	Net £'000	Net £'000		
					£'000 +253 Additional Area Education staffing costs together with plans to capitalise staffing costs for basic need provision not now going ahead <i>(includes a DSG variance of +£233k)</i> -228 Underspend on legal fees +63 Other minor variances	Part of this saving is expected to be ongoing and has been reflected in the recently approved 2016-19 MTFP
Children's Services - Early Help						
- Children's Centres	8,389.1	-2,076.5	6,312.6	-77	+129 Underachievement of savings on commissioned contracts due to only a part year effect being delivered in 2015-16 and the percentage saving applied being lower than anticipated -140 Underspend on Commissioned services -66 Other minor variances across a number of centres	
- Early Intervention & Prevention	20,447.9	-5,353.1	15,094.8	-674	-781 Underspend across area and district EH&PS teams, mainly due to staffing vacancies and staff budgeted to be at mid point of scale but appointed at the bottom of scale <i>(includes a DSG variance of -£189k)</i> +150 ICT costs for wireless routers, cabling etc in Children's Centres +100 Refurbishment costs for Youth Centres including Whitstable and Tunbridge Wells -160 Net savings on commissioned services <i>(includes a DSG variance of -£11k)</i> +17 Other minor variances	
	28,837.0	-7,429.6	21,407.4	-751		

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation	Management Action/ Impact on MTFP/Budget Build
	Gross £'000	Income £'000	Net £'000	Net £'000		
Children's Services - Education & Personal						
- 14 - 24 year olds	2,986.0	-941.0	2,045.0	-800	-773 Kent Youth Employment programme placements; £90k of this underspend will need to be rolled forward to fund our legal obligation to continue with the current placements. If the directorate and the authority as a whole achieve an underspending position sufficient to allow it, roll forward of the remaining £683k will be requested in order to fund future placements. -27 Other minor variances	
- Attendance & Behaviour	2,587.9	-2,449.3	138.6	-402	-292 <i>DSG variance - underspend on individual tuition due to staff vacancies and fewer tutors being used</i> -156 Increased penalty notice income from pupils being absent from school <i>(includes a DSG variance of -£142k)</i> +46 Other minor underspends	
- Early Years & Childcare	6,369.7	-4,939.8	1,429.9	+369	+332 Shortfall in the budgeted surplus for the 3 nursery provisions +319 Under recovery of Early Years Training income -228 Underspend on Sufficiency and Sustainability staff <i>(includes a DSG variance of -£196k)</i> -300 Re-badging of eligible base funded Early Years expenditure now to be funded from DSG +300 <i>DSG variance - re-badging of eligible Early Years expenditure to be funded from DSG</i> -54 Other minor variances	A management action plan has been put in place to improve the premises through building renovation work, alongside a marketing campaign, which should increase the level of income in 2016-17.

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation	Management Action/ Impact on MTFP/Budget Build
	Gross £'000	Income £'000	Net £'000	Net £'000		
- Early Years Education	56,493.0	-56,493.0	0.0	0		
- Education Psychology Service	2,966.8	-675.0	2,291.8	-255	-226 Increased income for non statutory psychology traded services -29 Other minor variances	
- Individual Learner Support	7,151.5	-6,671.4	480.1	+20		
- Statemented Pupils	4,809.8	-4,809.8	0.0	-306	-204 <i>DSG variance - reduced therapy statemented support costs</i> -230 <i>DSG variance - recoupment income received for other local authority pupils in Kent schools</i> -300 <i>DSG variance - an increase in places in SEN provision has led to a reduction in Individual Tuition costs</i> +364 <i>DSG variance - increase in Severe Complex Accessibility Funding (SCAF) agreements for 2 year old nursery pupils</i> +64 <i>DSG variance - Other minor variances</i>	
- Youth Service	2,962.2	-1,726.2	1,236.0	+117	+111 Net shortfall in the budgeted surplus for the outdoor education sites. The shortfall reported in July associated with the change of use of the Appledore Unit at the Swattenden Centre to a reception centre for unaccompanied asylum seeking children, is now being fully reimbursed from the Asylum service. +6 Other minor variances	
- Youth Offending Service	2,063.7	-1,632.1	431.6	+710	+672 Staffing pressure, due partly to staff being budgeted at mid point of scale but existing staff are being paid above this, and partly as staffing levels have not reduced in line with reduced income streams. This position has also been exacerbated by an in year reduction to the grant from the Youth Justice Board (YJB). +38 Other minor variances	
	88,390.6	-80,337.6	8,053.0	-547		

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation	Management Action/ Impact on MTFP/Budget Build
	Gross £'000	Income £'000	Net £'000	Net £'000		
<u>Children's Services -Other Children's Services</u>						
- Safeguarding	512.1	-150.0	362.1	-83		
<u>Community Services</u>						
- Community Learning & Skills (CLS)	13,826.4	-15,366.1	-1,539.7	+780	+632 Pressure due to costs associated with the service redesign, a reduction in contract income with no corresponding reduction in costs and a requirement to fund the additional costs of total contribution pay. +100 An in year cut of £359k by the Skills Funding Agency is partially being offset by ceasing some direct service delivery costs and implementing management action to reduce other costs but this leaves a residual problem of £100k. +48 Other minor variances	
- Supporting Employment	806.6	-335.0	471.6	0		
- Troubled Families Programme	4,783.2	-2,514.9	2,268.3	-594	-594 Underspend due to projects supporting families spanning financial years. In addition, due to the payment by results element of the programme, the grant has increased in year but the projects associated with this increase do not begin until the income is received. If the directorate and the authority as a whole achieve an underspending position sufficient to allow it, roll forward of this £594k will be requested in order to continue supporting families, in 2016-17, as part of the Tackling Troubled Families government initiative.	
	19,416.2	-18,216.0	1,200.2	+186		
<u>School & High Needs Education Budgets</u>						
- Exclusion Services	2,495.4	-2,495.4	0.0	0		

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation		Management Action/ Impact on MTFP/Budget Build
	Gross £'000	Income £'000	Net £'000	Net £'000			
- High Needs Further Education Colleges - Post 16 year olds	2,338.0	-2,338.0	0.0	+397	+397	Schools unallocated DSG variance - increased costs of high needs placements for post 16 students in colleges	This pressure has been included in the recently approved 2016-17 budget
- High Needs Independent Sector Providers - Post 16 year olds	4,591.0	-4,591.0	0.0	-590	-590	Schools unallocated DSG variance - reduction in costs of independent sector placements for post 16 students	This saving has been included in the recently approved 2016-17 budget
- High Needs Independent Special School placements	19,650.4	-19,650.4	0.0	+2,781	+2,781	Schools unallocated DSG variance - increase in costs of independent special school places	This pressure has been included in the recently approved 2016-17 budget
- PFI Schools Scheme	23,810.0	-23,810.0	0.0	0			
	52,884.8	-52,884.8	0.0	+2,588			
<u>Schools Services:</u>							
- High Needs Pupils - Recoupment	1,500.0	-1,500.0	0.0	-210	+281	Schools unallocated DSG variance - increase in costs of Kent children with high needs receiving education in other local authority schools	This pressure has been included in the recently approved 2016-17 budget
					-491	Schools unallocated DSG variance - additional income from other local authorities with pupils in Kent schools	This saving has been included in the recently approved 2016-17 budget
- Other Schools Services	6,779.3	-6,885.5	-106.2	+325	+307	DSG variance - Pressure on budget for mobile classrooms to fulfil basic need	
					+18	Other minor variances	
- Redundancy Costs	1,363.7	-1,363.7	0.0	-500	-500	DSG variance - reduction in the expected number of school staff redundancies	
- School Improvement	8,909.1	-6,108.6	2,800.5	-905	+287	Shortfall in budgeted income targets for teams across the units	
					+57	Increased costs of moderation training and school visits	
					-859	DSG variance on school collaboration projects which will continue into the summer term	

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation	Management Action/ Impact on MTFP/Budget Build
	Gross £'000	Income £'000	Net £'000	Net £'000		
					£'000 -209 Underspend on the Intervention Fund following the delivery of management action -159 Net underspend on advisor vacancies partially offset by the costs of consultants covering some of the vacant posts -66 Support team staff vacancies +44 Other minor variances	
- Schools Staff Services	2,617.6	-2,514.6	103.0	-38		
- Teachers & Education Staff Pension Costs	8,416.3	-2,684.0	5,732.3	-913	-913 Reduced annual capitalisation costs	Part of this saving is expected to be ongoing has been reflected in the recently approved 2016-19 MTFP
	29,586.0	-21,056.4	8,529.6	-2,241		
<u>Transport Services</u>						
- Home to School/College Transport (SEN)	21,599.5	-900.0	20,699.5	+2,159	+1,806 Higher than budgeted numbers of pupils travelling and savings from re-tendered contracts not being as high as anticipated +328 Rise in college transport costs due to increased number of SEN students +104 Lower than budgeted recoupment income from other local authorities -79 Other minor variances	This pressure has been reflected in the recently approved 2016-19 MTFP
- Mainstream HTST	8,795.0	-50.0	8,745.0	-742	-742 Fewer than budgeted numbers of pupils travelling	This saving has been reflected in the recently approved 2016-19 MTFP
- Kent 16+ Travel Card	3,452.4	-2,575.0	877.4	-270	-150 Reduction in estimated journey costs -120 Increased income from the sale of passes	
	33,846.9	-3,525.0	30,321.9	+1,147		

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation	Management Action/ Impact on MTFP/Budget Build
	Gross £'000	Income £'000	Net £'000	Net £'000		
<u>Assessment Services</u>						
- Assessment & Support of Children with Special Education Needs	8,503.1	-7,336.0	1,167.1	+152	+112 <i>DSG variance - additional Occupational Therapy and Communication equipment</i> -113 Underspend on general non staffing costs to offset the pressure on Occupational Therapy and Communication equipment (<i>includes a DSG variance of -£102k</i>) -300 Re-badging of eligible base funded SEN expenditure now to be funded from DSG +300 <i>DSG variance - re-badging of eligible SEN expenditure to be funded from DSG</i> +153 Other minor variances, each less than a £100k in value	
	8,503.1	-7,336.0	1,167.1	+152		
TOTAL NON DELEGATED	271,723.4	-199,639.6	72,083.8	+915		
- <i>Transfer to(+)/from(-) DSG reserve</i>				-1,204	<i>Net transfer to the Central DSG reserve to offset:</i> +1,236 <i>DSG variances of -£1,236k explained above</i> -62 <i>A number of other smaller DSG variances totalling +£62k</i> <i>Net transfer from the Schools Unallocated DSG reserve to offset:</i> -2,378 <i>DSG variances of +£2,378k on High Needs Education & recoupment and Early Years</i>	
TOTAL NON DELEGATED after tfr to/from DSG reserve	271,723.4	-199,639.6	72,083.8	-289		
Total E&YPS	945,913.8	-873,830.0	72,083.8	+13,777		

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation	Management Action/ Impact on MTFP/Budget Build
	Gross £'000	Income £'000	Net £'000	Net £'000		
Assumed Mgmt Action						Delivery of £800k of management action is now reflected within School Improvement, Early Years & Childcare and the Assessment of Children with SEN, in the latter two areas by maximising the use of DSG. Whilst the forecast at this stage is an underspend of £289k (excl. schools), a roll forward of £90k is required to fund the continuation of current placements under the Kent Youth Employment Programme, and if possible roll forward of the remaining £683k underspend against this programme and £594k against the Troubled Families Programme is required for these schemes to continue into 2016-17. To enable this an underspending position of £1,367k (£90k+£683k+£594k) for the directorate will need to be achieved, as well as an underspending position for the overall authority as a whole. The directorate continues to look at options to cover the remaining £1,078k required to achieve this position.
Total E&YPS Forecast <u>after</u> mgmt action	945,913.8	-873,830.0	72,083.8	+13,777		

2. KEY ACTIVITY INDICATORS AND BUDGET RISK ASSESSMENT MONITORING

2.1 Number of schools with deficit budgets compared with the total number of schools:

	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
	as at 31-3-13	as at 31-3-14	as at 31-3-15	projection for 31-3-16
Total number of schools	463	449	412	395
Total value of school reserves	£48,124k	£45,730k	£54,009k	£39,943k
Number of deficit schools	8	18	8	20
Total value of deficits	£364k	£2,017k	£2,650k	£2,767k

Comments:

- The information on deficit schools for 2015-16 has been obtained from the schools nine month monitoring and show 20 schools predicting a deficit. The Local Authority receives updates from schools through budget monitoring returns from all schools after 6 months, and 9 months as well as an outturn report at year end but these only include information relating to the current year. Schools' Financial Services are working with these 20 schools to reduce the risk of a deficit in 2015-16 and with the aim of returning the schools to a balanced budget position as soon as possible. This involves agreeing a management action plan with each school.
- KCC has a “no deficit” policy for schools, which means that schools cannot plan for a deficit budget at the start of the year. Unplanned deficits will need to be addressed in the following year’s budget plan, and schools that incur unplanned deficits in successive years will be subject to intervention by the Local Authority.
- The total number of schools is based on the assumption that 12 primary schools will convert to academies before the 31st March 2016, 4 schools are closing and 2 are merging.
- The value of schools reserves is forecast to reduce by £14,066k this financial year. This movement includes a reduction in the schools unallocated reserve to fund both a pressure on the high needs education budgets of £2,378k and other schools related items of £2,958k. There is an estimated drawdown of £1,309k due to 12 schools expected to convert to academy status this financial year. In addition, a drawdown of £7,421k is forecast against the remaining individual Kent schools reserves.

2.2 Number of children receiving assisted SEN and Mainstream transport to schools

	2013-14				2014-15				2015-16			
	SEN		Mainstream		SEN		Mainstream		SEN		Mainstream	
	Budget level	actual	Budget level	actual	Budget level	actual	Budget level	actual	Budget level	actual	Budget level	actual
Apr	3,934	4,145	14,667	14,119	3,808	4,051	12,493	11,400	3,752	3,896	9,866	9,426
May	3,934	4,172	14,667	14,119	3,808	4,056	12,493	11,436	3,752	3,877	9,866	9,454
Jun	3,934	4,206	14,667	14,106	3,808	4,073	12,493	11,468	3,752	3,904	9,866	9,491
Jul	3,934	4,167	14,667	14,093	3,808	4,041	12,493	11,307	3,752	3,913	9,866	9,505
Aug	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sep	3,934	3,761	14,667	10,300	3,808	3,725	12,493	8,969	3,752	3,599	9,866	6,576
Oct	3,934	3,981	14,667	11,258	3,808	3,785	12,493	9,123	3,752	3,847	9,866	7,422
Nov	3,934	4,010	14,667	11,267	3,808	3,826	12,493	9,237	3,752	3,840	9,866	7,571
Dec	3,934	4,021	14,667	11,296	3,808	3,816	12,493	9,220	3,752	3,875	9,866	7,671
Jan	3,934	4,037	14,667	11,314	3,808	3,853	12,493	9,258	3,752	3,898	9,866	7,751
Feb	3,934	4,086	14,667	11,368	3,808	3,885	12,493	9,357	3,752	0	9,866	0
Mar	3,934	4,041	14,667	11,375	3,808	3,899	12,493	9,388	3,752	0	9,866	0

Comments:

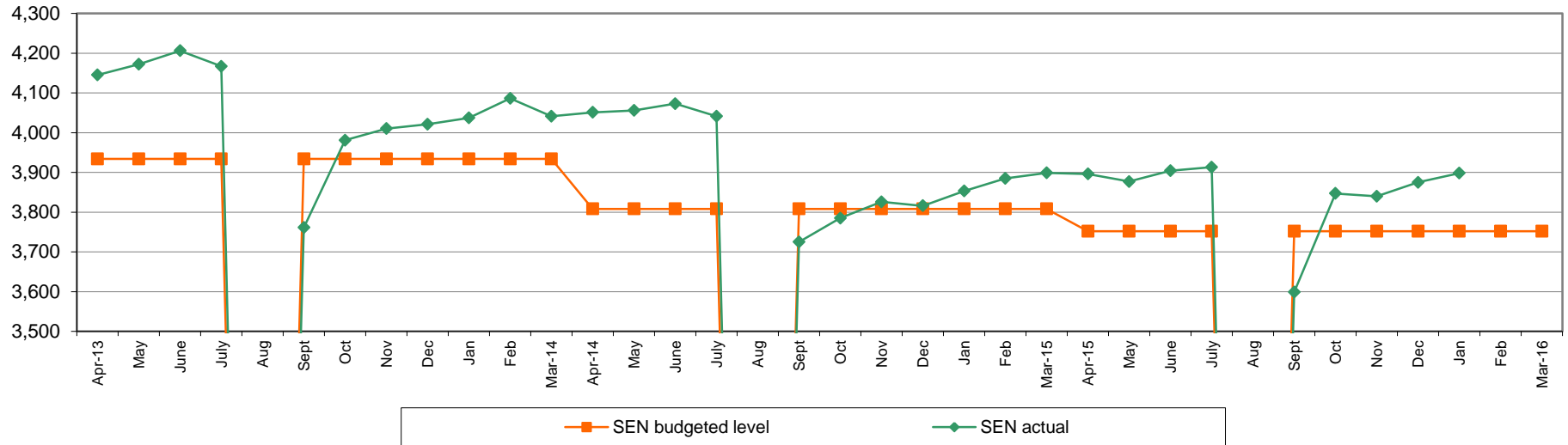
SEN HTST

- Apart from in September, the number of children travelling is higher than the budgeted level. There are also a number of other factors which contribute to the overall cost of the provision of transport such as distance travelled and type of travel. A pressure of +£1,806k is therefore reported in table 1, which is offset by minor underspends totalling -£79k on independent travel training and personal transport budgets. There are also additional pressures of +£104k due to anticipated lower than budgeted recoupment income from other local authorities for the transport of their pupils to Kent schools and +£328k on home to college transport for SEN students.
- Changes in the commissioning of SEN transport during 2014-15, where some special schools and PRUs are given an allocation to provide their own transport, mean that since September 2014 these journeys are not included within the budgeted levels or the actual numbers travelling.

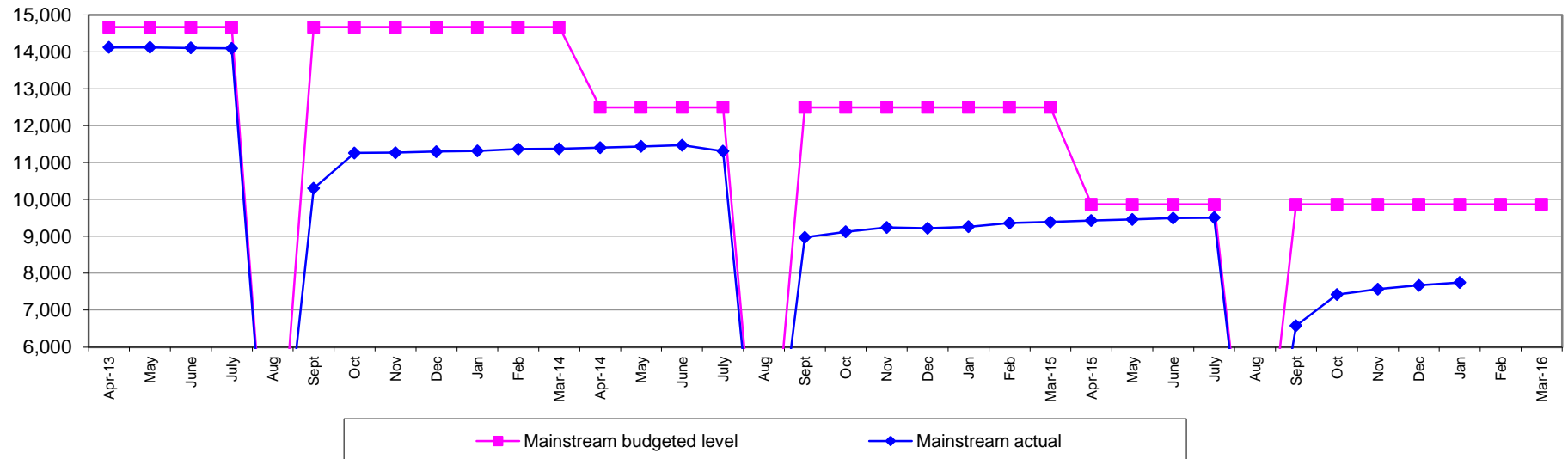
Mainstream HTST

- The number of children receiving transport is lower than the budgeted level, therefore an underspend of -£742k is reported in table 1. As expected, the number of children requiring transport has reduced for the new academic year due to a reduction in the secondary aged population and the impact of a further school year cohort affected by the selective and denominational school transport policy change implemented in 2012-13.

Number of children receiving assisted SEN transport to school



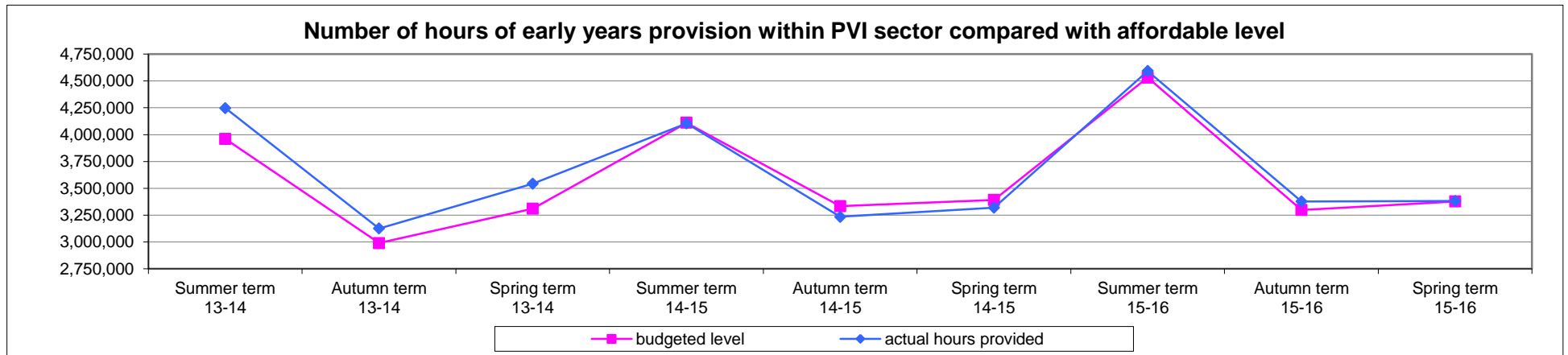
Number of children receiving assisted Mainstream transport to school



2.3 Number of hours of early years provision provided to 3 & 4 year olds within the Private, Voluntary & Independent Sector compared with the affordable level:

	2013-14		2014-15		2015-16	
	Budgeted number of hours	Actual hours provided	Budgeted number of hours	Actual hours provided	Budgeted number of hours	Actual hours provided *
Summer term	3,961,155	4,247,461	4,110,576	4,104,576	4,531,281	4,592,273
Autumn term	2,990,107	3,126,084	3,333,465	3,234,394	3,297,864	3,378,391
Spring term	3,310,417	3,543,567	3,392,138	3,320,479	3,378,367	3,381,620
TOTAL	10,261,679	10,917,112	10,836,179	10,659,449	11,207,512	11,352,284

* The figures for actual hours provided are constantly reviewed and updated, so will always be subject to change



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Comments:

- The budgeted number of hours per term is based on an assumed level of take-up and the assumed number of weeks the providers are open. The variation between the terms is due to two reasons: firstly, the movement of 4 year olds at the start of the Autumn term into reception year in mainstream schools; and secondly, the terms do not have the same number of weeks. The forecast number of hours of early years provision for 3 & 4 year olds is 11,352,284 which is 144,772 hours more than budgeted.
- The affordable number of hours was uplifted in the July monitoring report, presented to Cabinet in October, as a result of an increase in Dedicated Schools Grant to reflect the January 2015 pupil numbers. Although actual hours provided are more than budgeted, the Dedicated Schools Grant will be uplifted before the end of the financial year to reflect January 2016 pupil numbers and therefore no overspend is currently forecast for this service. As this budget is entirely funded from DSG, any surplus or deficit at the year end must be carried forward to the next financial year in accordance with the regulations and cannot be used to offset over or underspending elsewhere within the directorate budget, therefore any pressure or saving will be transferred to the schools unallocated DSG reserve at year end.
- It should be noted that not all parents currently take up their full entitlement and this can change during the year.

3. CAPITAL

3.1 The Education and Young People's Services Directorate has a working budget (excluding schools) for 2015-16 of £168,423k . The forecast outturn against the 2015-16 budget is £121,051k giving a variance of -£47,372k.

3.2 **Table 2** below details the Education and Young People's Services Capital Position by Budget Book line

Budget Book Heading	2015-16 cash limit per budget book (£000)	2015-16 Working Budget (£000)	2015-16 Variance (£000)	Variance Break-down (£000)	Rephasing / Real Variance and Funding Stream	Explanation of In-Year Variance >£100k	Project Status ¹	Explanation of Project Status	Actions
Rolling Programmes									
Annual Planned Enhancement Programme	9,000	13,656	-4,551	-4,551	Rephasing	Rephasing of a number of works as a result of difficulties in obtaining access to schools within school term time and gaining upfront consent from utility companies. In addition, the planning/tendering phases of emerging enhancement works are starting now with the work scheduled for the 2016 Easter and Summer holidays.	Amber	Rephasing has significantly increased since previously reported.	

Budget Book Heading	2015-16 cash limit per budget book (£000)	2015-16 Working Budget (£000)	2015-16 Variance (£000)	Variance Break-down (£000)	Rephasing / Real Variance and Funding Stream	Explanation of In-Year Variance >£100k	Project Status ¹	Explanation of Project Status	Actions
Pupil Referral Units	1,209	1,627	-1,178	-1,178	Rephasing	The requirements for the North West Kent PRU provision have been revised, work will commence next summer. Works for West Kent PRU cannot commence until April 2016 when new premises can be accessed.	Green	The majority of the rephasing has previously been reported and no further delays to completion dates.	
Youth - Modernisation of Assets	0	23	-23	-23	Real - Prudential	Underspend to part fund additional project costs on Integrated Youth Service - Youth Hub Reprovision.	Green		
Individual Projects									
Basic Need Schemes - to provide additional pupil places:									
Basic Need Programme	61,767	68,745	-7,600	-7,600	Rephasing	The curriculum analysis and pre-construction work for Secondary school expansions has taken considerable time which has resulted in a delay to design work and preparing planning applications. No delivery delays are expected.	Green	Rephasing has previously been reported.	
Basic Need - Aylesham Primary School	0	0	0	0				Project to commence in later years.	

Budget Book Heading	2015-16 cash limit per budget book (£000)	2015-16 Working Budget (£000)	2015-16 Variance (£000)	Variance Break-down (£000)	Rephasing / Real Variance and Funding Stream	Explanation of In-Year Variance >£100k	Project Status ¹	Explanation of Project Status	Actions
Goat Lees Primary School, Ashford	0	25	0	0			Green		
Repton Park Primary School, Ashford	0	109	0	0			Green		
Modernisation Programme - Improving and upgrading school buildings including removal of temporary classrooms:									
Modernisation Programme - Future Years	2,000	3,479	-2,656	-2,656	Rephasing	Rephasing of some works due to a delay in the procurement of contractors and changes made to the scoping of projects. No delivery delays are expected.	Green	£1,544k Rephasing has previously been reported.	
St Johns / Kingsmead Primary School, Canterbury	0	70	0	0			Amber	A £650k payment due from Canterbury Diocese as part of the contract is overdue.	
Special Schools Review - major projects supporting the special schools									
Special Schools Review phase 1	0	628	0	0			Green		

Budget Book Heading	2015-16 cash limit per budget book (£000)	2015-16 Working Budget (£000)	2015-16 Variance (£000)	Variance Break-down (£000)	Rephasing / Real Variance and Funding Stream	Explanation of In-Year Variance >£100k	Project Status ¹	Explanation of Project Status	Actions
Special Schools Review phase 2	47,200	49,540	-20,464	-20,464	Rephasing	<p>The Foreland School has experienced delays in contract execution which has impacted on commencement of works. Both Ridge View and Portal House are still at Planning Stage. Ridge View has experienced significant delays due to planning issues at the original site, an alternative has now been found. Following objections to planning permission for Portal House, a review and redesign has been necessary. Enabling works are underway and a revised planning application has now been submitted.</p> <p>Five Acre Wood has also experienced significant delays at Planning stage, Planning approval has now been given and work will commence on the school following completion of the farm works.</p>	Green	Rephasing has previously been reported.	

Budget Book Heading	2015-16 cash limit per budget book (£000)	2015-16 Working Budget (£000)	2015-16 Variance (£000)	Variance Break-down (£000)	Rephasing / Real Variance and Funding Stream	Explanation of In-Year Variance >£100k	Project Status ¹	Explanation of Project Status	Actions
Academy Projects:									
Astor of Hever (St Augustine's Academy), Maidstone	0	19	0	0			Green		
Dover Christ Church	3,000	2,760	0	0			Green		
Skidders Academy	0	140	0	0			Green		
Spires Academy	0	0	0	0			Green	Project complete except for clearance of remaining creditors.	
John Wallis	0	0	0	0			Green	Project complete except for clearance of remaining creditors.	
Wilmington Enterprise College	0	0	0	0			Green	Project complete except for clearance of remaining creditors.	
The Knole Academy	0	0	0	0			Green	Project complete except for clearance of remaining creditors.	
Duke of York Academy	0	0	0	0			Green	Project complete except for clearance of remaining creditors.	
Academy Unit Costs	233	798	0	0			Green		
BSF Wave 3 Build Costs	500	498	0	0			Green		
BSF Unit Costs	0	51	0	0			Green		

Budget Book Heading	2015-16 cash limit per budget book (£000)	2015-16 Working Budget (£000)	2015-16 Variance (£000)	Variance Break-down (£000)	Rephasing / Real Variance and Funding Stream	Explanation of In-Year Variance >£100k	Project Status ¹	Explanation of Project Status	Actions
Other Projects:									
Primary Improvement Programme	0	4	0	0			Green		
Canterbury Family Centre	0	4	-4	-4	Real - Prudential		Green	Project complete.	
Integrated Youth Service - Youth Hub Reprovision	0	713	60	60	Real - £58k Prudential, £2k Capital Receipt		Amber	Unforeseen additional project costs. To be funded from underspends elsewhere within the programme. £48k overspend has previously been reported. A £200k payment due from Dover District Council is outstanding due to a delay in KCC signing the lease agreement relating to the land on which the Youth Hub is built.	
Nursery Provision for Two Year Olds	0	637	-436	-436	Rephasing	New premises being sought for additional nursery provision in Gravesham with works to commence in 2016/17. There will be no impact on overall cost.	Amber	£366k rephasing has previously been reported.	
One-off Schools Revenue to Capital	0	40	23	23	Real - Revenue		Green		

Budget Book Heading	2015-16 cash limit per budget book (£000)	2015-16 Working Budget (£000)	2015-16 Variance (£000)	Variance Break-down (£000)	Rephasing / Real Variance and Funding Stream	Explanation of In-Year Variance >£100k	Project Status ¹	Explanation of Project Status	Actions
Platt CEPS	0	85	-85	-85	Rephasing		Green		
Grammar School annex at Sevenoaks	10,000	9,677	-9,177	-9,177	Rephasing	Works had halted pending the outcome of the Secretary of State decision. Following approval, contract documentation will now be worked through prior to any construction contract being agreed.	Green	Sevenoaks Grammar was approved by the Secretary of State for Education on 15 October 2015.	
Trinity Free School, Sevenoaks	7,000	11,898	0	0			Green		
EYPS Single System (previously known as Early Help Single System)	1,800	1,800	-1,500	-1,500	Rephasing	A decision has been made to go out to a full procurement which has lead to a delay in purchasing products and services.	Green	£1,100k Rephasing has previously been reported.	
Ashford North Youth Centre	0	0	50	50	Real - Developer contribution		Green		

Budget Book Heading	2015-16 cash limit per budget book (£000)	2015-16 Working Budget (£000)	2015-16 Variance (£000)	Variance Break-down (£000)	Rephasing / Real Variance and Funding Stream	Explanation of In-Year Variance >£100k	Project Status ¹	Explanation of Project Status	Actions
Priority School Build Programme	0	0	100	100	Rephasing	Early enabling works where KCC is funding alterations prior to PSBP schemes commencing. The spend being brought forward into this financial year has reduced since previously reported, as the PSBP programme is behind schedule and the enabling works have not yet been required at Castle Community, Meopham and Chantry schools.	Green	£250k rephasing has previously been reported.	
Universal Infant Free School Meals	1,075	1,207	16	16	Real - Grant		Green		
The Piggery, Swattenden	0	42	-2	-2	Real - Capital receipt	To part fund additional project costs on Integrated Youth Service Youth Hub Reprovision.	Green		
Vocational Education Centre	0	148	0	0			Green		
Tunbridge Wells Youth Centre Hub	0	0	55	55	Real - Developer contribution		Green		
Total	144,784	168,423	-47,372	-47,372					

1. Status:

Green – on time and within budget

Amber – either delayed completion date or over budget

Red – both delayed completion and over budget

SOCIAL CARE, HEALTH & WELLBEING DIRECTORATE
SPECIALIST CHILDREN'S SERVICES
DECEMBER 2015-16 MONITORING REPORT

1. REVENUE

	Cash Limit	Variance Before Mgmt Action	Mgmt Action	Net Variance after Mgmt Action	Roll forwards		Variance after Mgmt Action & Roll Fwd
					committed	uncommitted	
Total excl Asylum (£k)	+133,085	-684	-	-684	+157	-	-527
Asylum (£k)	+280	+2,029	-	+2,029	-	-	+2,029
Total (£k)	+133,365	+1,345	-	+1,345	+157	-	+1,502

1.2 Table 1 below details the revenue position by A-Z budget:

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation	Management Action/ Impact on MTFP/Budget Build
	Gross	Income	Net	Net		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
Specialist Children's Services						
Strategic Management & Directorate Support budgets	5,459.6	-257.9	5,201.7	-539	-145 Lower than anticipated spend in the Access to Resource Team, the Central Support Team and the Management Information Unit, principally due to vacancy management -385 Appropriate recharge of overheads to the Asylum Service -9 Other minor variances	
Children's Services - Children in Care (Looked After)						
- Fostering - In house service	24,165.6	-252.2	23,913.4	+58	-18 Forecast -47 weeks below affordable level of 52,485 weeks +554 Forecast average unit cost +£10.55 above affordable level of £371.10 -221 Lower than anticipated costs in the County Fostering Team relating primarily to recruitment and training costs, including lower use of specialists	Demographic pressures & savings are expected to be ongoing & have been addressed in the recently approved 2016- 19 MTFP

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation	Management Action/ Impact on MTFP/Budget Build
	Gross	Income	Net	Net		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
					-78 Higher than anticipated income from recharges to the Asylum Service owing to greater Asylum activity	
					-176 Lower than anticipated Fostering related costs, including transport costs	
					-3 Other minor variances	
- Fostering - Commissioned from Fostering Agencies	8,184.3	0.0	8,184.3	-348	-423 Forecast -451 weeks below affordable level of 8,812 weeks	Demographic pressures & savings are expected to be ongoing & have been addressed in the recently approved 2016-19 MTFP
					+105 Forecast average unit cost +£11.90 above affordable level of £925.36	
					-30 Other minor variances	
- Legal Charges	6,769.0	0.0	6,769.0	+91		
- Residential Children's Services - in house services (short breaks units)	3,227.4	-682.4	2,545.0	-129	-121 Higher than anticipated income from venue hire and funding from health & other local authorities	
					-8 Other minor variances	
- Residential Children's Services - commissioned from independent sector	13,625.9	-2,567.7	11,058.2	+538	+50 Forecast +15 weeks above affordable level of 2,660 weeks	Demographic pressures & savings are expected to be ongoing & have been addressed in the recently approved 2016-19 MTFP
					+652 Forecast average unit cost +£245.23 above affordable level of £3,079.85	
					+347 Children with a Disability: Forecast +134 weeks above affordable level of 1,489 weeks	
					-565 Children with a Disability: Forecast average unit cost -£379.53 below affordable level of £2,968.70	

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation	Management Action/ Impact on MTFP/Budget Build
	Gross	Income	Net	Net		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
					+434	Lower than anticipated service income for Children with a Disability, mainly relating to fewer contributions for care costs from Health & Education as a result of an increase in split payments of care at source, resulting in lower costs and recharge income. As such, this reduction in income should be considered alongside the reduced unit cost variance for Children with a Disability reported above.
					-350	Lower than anticipated spend on Secure Accommodation based on year to date usage
					-30	Other minor variances
- Virtual School Kent	4,863.0	-3,430.6	1,432.4	-99		
	60,835.2	-6,932.9	53,902.3	+111		
Children's Services - Children in Need						
- Family Support Services	10,944.5	-1,660.0	9,284.5	+31	+195	Informal Arrangements: Following the rates and charges reviews the majority of Informal Arrangements were expected to become Child Arrangement Orders, the budget for which is within the "Adoption & other permanent care arrangements" A-Z service line below. However, the rates and charges reviews of these current informal arrangements have only recently been completed resulting in higher than expected costs for Informal Arrangements and a compensating lower than expected cost for Child Arrangement Orders (see "Adoption & other permanent care arrangements" below).

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation	Management Action/ Impact on MTFP/Budget Build
	Gross	Income	Net	Net		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
					-135	Disability Commissioned Services: Renegotiation and rationalisation of current commissioned services contracts, including bringing the Information and Advice Service in-house
					-29	Other minor variances
Children's Services - Other Social Services						
- Adoption & other permanent care arrangements	12,908.8	-104.0	12,804.8	-751	+677	Guardianship: Primarily due to the full year effect of an increase in Special Guardianship Orders (SGOs) in the previous year. In addition, finalising the rates and charges review in 2015-16, has increased the number of SGOs. (Part of the remit of the Rates & Charges reviews is to establish the type of legal arrangement in place and re-categorise accordingly)
					-506	County Adoption Team: fewer adoption arrangements are being made due to fewer children requiring this permanent care arrangement, so current vacancies are being managed
					-417	Inter-agency placement variance predominately due to more adoption arrangements being made on behalf of other local authorities than those carried out by other local authorities on KCC's behalf
					-121	Adoption Allowances underspend due to fewer adoptions arrangements being made which require financial support

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation	Management Action/ Impact on MTFP/Budget Build
	Gross	Income	Net	Net		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
					-189	Child Arrangement Orders: As a result of the Rates and Charges Review, most continuing services were expected to become Child Arrangement Orders, so the cash limit was held on this A-Z service line, awaiting further information. This underspend partly offsets increases in Guardianship, which has been one of the outcomes of the Rates and Charges Review.
					-195	Child Arrangement Orders: offsets the pressure relating to Informal Arrangements within the "Family Support Services" A-Z service line above.
- Asylum Seekers	19,619.1	-19,339.1	280.0	+2,029	-182	There is currently a small projected surplus on the under 18 Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC) who are eligible for grant funding. Within the overall forecast it is assumed that this can be kept to offset the greater shortfall on eligible Care Leavers.
					+441	Expenditure on UASC who are no longer deemed eligible for grant funding due to their Asylum status. Each of these cases is currently being reviewed and discussed with the Home Office.
					+864	Expenditure for Care Leavers (aged 18 and over) being greater than the grant payable by the Home Office (see activity section 2.6 below), mainly due to the fact that the grant rate does not adequately recognise the level of infrastructure that is required to support the 350+ eligible young people being supported.
						National dispersal of some young people to other local authorities is mitigating part of the current pressure on this service. Recent increased migrant activity levels are likely to produce an additional pressure in future years as more young people reach age 18.

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation	Management Action/ Impact on MTFP/Budget Build
	Gross £'000	Income £'000	Net £'000	Net £'000		
					+1,186 Cost of supporting those Care Leavers whose rights to appeal are now exhausted, (£342k relates to direct costs for All Rights Exhausted (ARE) clients), and those who are ineligible for grant funding due to their Asylum status. Similarly these cases are all being reviewed on an individual basis. -280 The Asylum budget was originally set based on the Council being required to fund the first 25 Care Leavers, this is no longer the case, hence the underspend against this specific budget.	
- Care Leavers	6,657.1	-2,105.4	4,551.7	+65	+350 Higher than expected costs for 16 and 17 year old Looked After Children (LAC) requiring this service in order to provide stability and continuity whilst they continue their education as they prepare to leave care. This is partly due to individuals being placed in a broader variety of placements including 'step down' placements from residential care. -381 Lower than expected costs for Care Leavers (non LAC), mainly aged 18+, requiring this service in order to provide stability and continuity whilst they continue their education. This is partly due to individuals being helped towards independence quicker than anticipated. +280 Higher than anticipated staffing and related costs -184 Lower than anticipated costs on Supported Lodging provision contract	Demographic pressures & savings are expected to be ongoing & have been addressed in the recently approved 2016-19 MTFP

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation	Management Action/ Impact on MTFP/Budget Build
	Gross	Income	Net	Net		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
- Safeguarding	5,819.3	-1,003.9	4,815.4	-336	-157	<i>Pooled Budget variance:</i> KCC's share of re-phasing into 2016-17 of Kent Safeguarding Children Board (KSCB) funding. This will be required to roll forward to meet our obligation to the board under the terms of the multi-agency agreement.
					-145	<i>KCC Base Funded Budget variance:</i> Lower level of activity than anticipated for KSCB, although this is partly offset by a higher level of provision of immersive learning training than planned.
					-34	Other minor variances
	45,004.3	-22,552.4	22,451.9	+1,007		
<u>Assessment Services</u>						
- Children's social care staffing	46,410.7	-3,886.3	42,524.4	+735	+4,667	Pressure on staffing budgets for Non-Disability teams due to appointment of agency staff due to difficulties in recruiting to salaried posts. Part of this forecast overspend is linked to the increased numbers of Asylum young people and is offset by the increased recharge below.
					-3,857	Higher than expected recharged costs to Asylum service for social care staffing (offsetting part of the above staff costs) due to increased Asylum activity
					+170	Establishment of additional Adolescent Support Team posts targeted at increasing the proportion of young people re-united with their families within early weeks of care.
					+292	Pressure on staffing budgets for Disability teams due to appointment of agency staff as a result of difficulties in recruiting to salaried posts

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation	Management Action/ Impact on MTFP/Budget Build
	Gross	Income	Net	Net		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
					-184	Lower other non-staffing spend in Disability teams predominately due to lower than anticipated staff travel costs
					-143	Lower other non-staffing spend in Non-Disability teams mostly due to lower than anticipated staff travel costs
					-100	Additional income relating to Occupational Therapy equipment for 2014-15, for which no debtor was raised in the 2014-15 accounts
					-110	Other minor variances each below £100k, including income for Non-Disability teams and Children's Equipment
Total SCH&W (SCS)	168,654.3	-35,289.5	133,364.8	+1,345		
Assumed Mgmt Action						
Total SCH&W (SCS) Forecast after mgmt action	168,654.3	-35,289.5	133,364.8	+1,345		

2. KEY ACTIVITY INDICATORS AND BUDGET RISK ASSESSMENT MONITORING

2.1 Number of Looked After Children (LAC) :

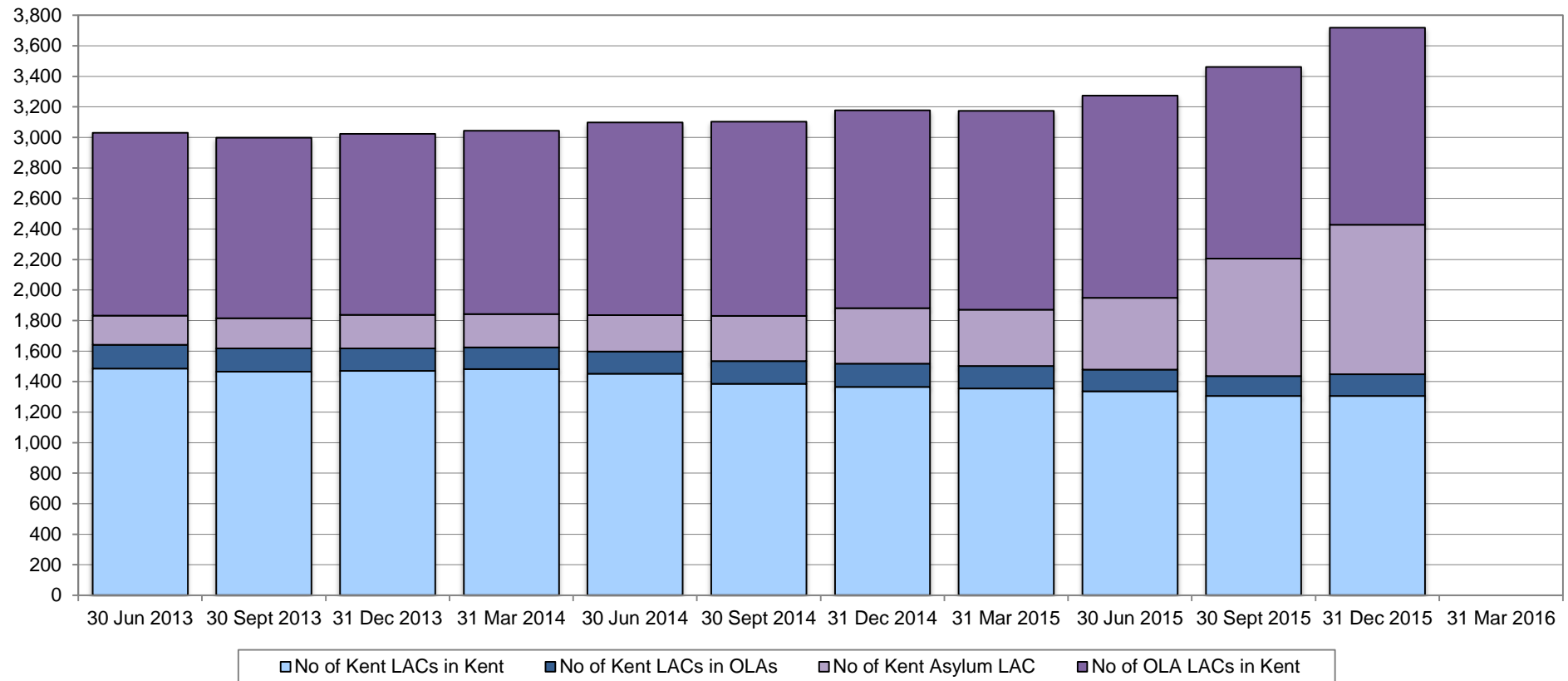
		No. of Kent LAC placed in Kent	No. of Kent LAC placed in OLAs	TOTAL NO. OF KENT LAC (excluding Asylum)	No of Kent Asylum LAC	TOTAL NUMBER OF LAC IN KENT	No. of OLA LAC placed in Kent	TOTAL NUMBER OF LAC IN KENT
2013-14	30-Jun	1,485	155	1,640	192	1,832	1,197	3,029
	30-Sep	1,465	152	1,617	198	1,815	1,182	2,997
	31-Dec	1,470	146	1,616	221	1,837	1,185	3,022
	31-Mar	1,481	143	1,624	218	1,842	1,200	3,042
2014-15	30-Jun	1,450	147	1,597	238	1,835	1,261	3,096
	30-Sep	1,385	148	1,533	296	1,829	1,273	3,102
	31-Dec	1,365	152	1,517	364	1,881	1,296	3,177
	31-Mar	1,354	148	1,502	368	1,870	1,303	3,173
2015-16	30-Jun	1,336	141	1,477	471	1,948	1,324	3,272
	30-Sep	1,305	130	1,435	771	2,206	1,254	3,460
	31-Dec	1,306	141	1,447	980	2,427	1,290	3,717
	31-Mar							

Comments:

- Children Looked After by KCC may on occasion be placed out of the County, which is undertaken using practice protocols that ensure that all long-distance placements are justified and in the interests of the child. All Looked After Children are subject to regular statutory reviews (at least twice a year), which ensures that a regular review of the child's care plan is undertaken.
- The figures represent a snapshot of the number of children designated as looked after at the end of each quarter, it is not the total number of looked after children during the period. Therefore, although the number of Kent looked after children had reduced by 55 as at December of this financial year, there could have been more (or less) during the period.
- Following the reduction in the number of Kent LAC, there is no longer an overall forecast pressure on the SCS budget. After taking into account anticipated transformation savings, however, there are still some pressures primarily relating to the LAC heading of residential care and the non LAC headings such as staffing, care leavers and family support services.

- The OLA LAC information has a confidence rating of 38% and is completely reliant on Other Local Authorities keeping KCC informed of which children are placed within Kent. The Management Information Unit (MIU) regularly contact these OLAs for up to date information, but replies are not always forthcoming. This confidence rating is based upon the percentage of children in this current cohort where the OLA has satisfactorily responded to recent MIU requests.
- This information on number of Looked After Children is provided by the Management Information Unit within SCH&W directorate.

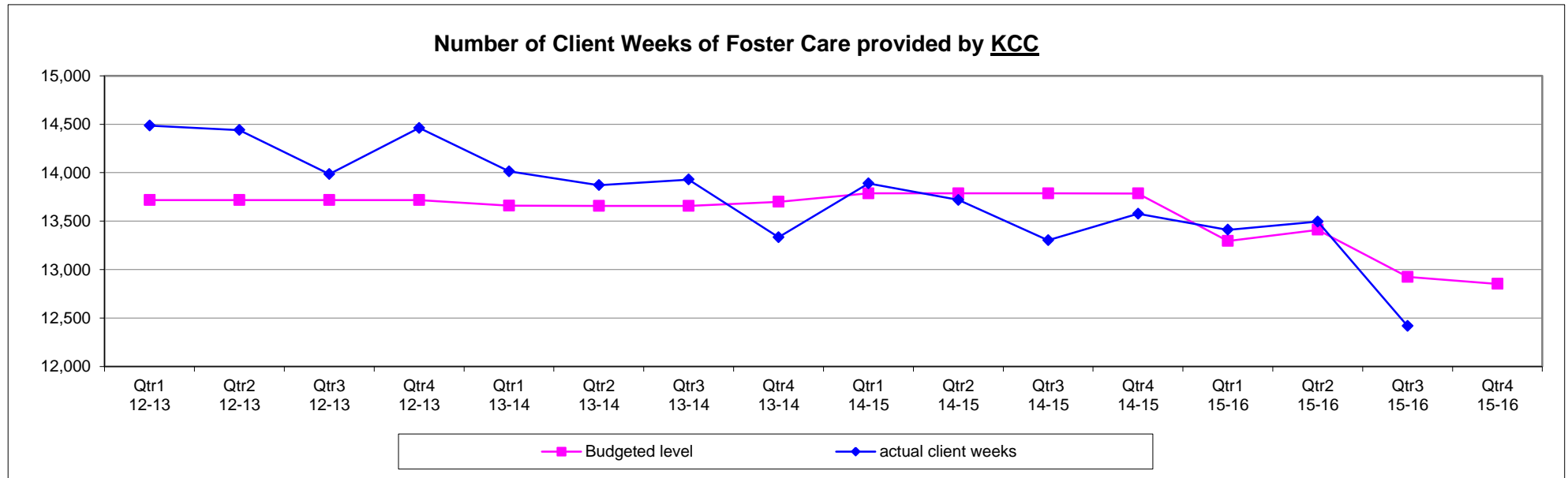
Number of Looked After Children

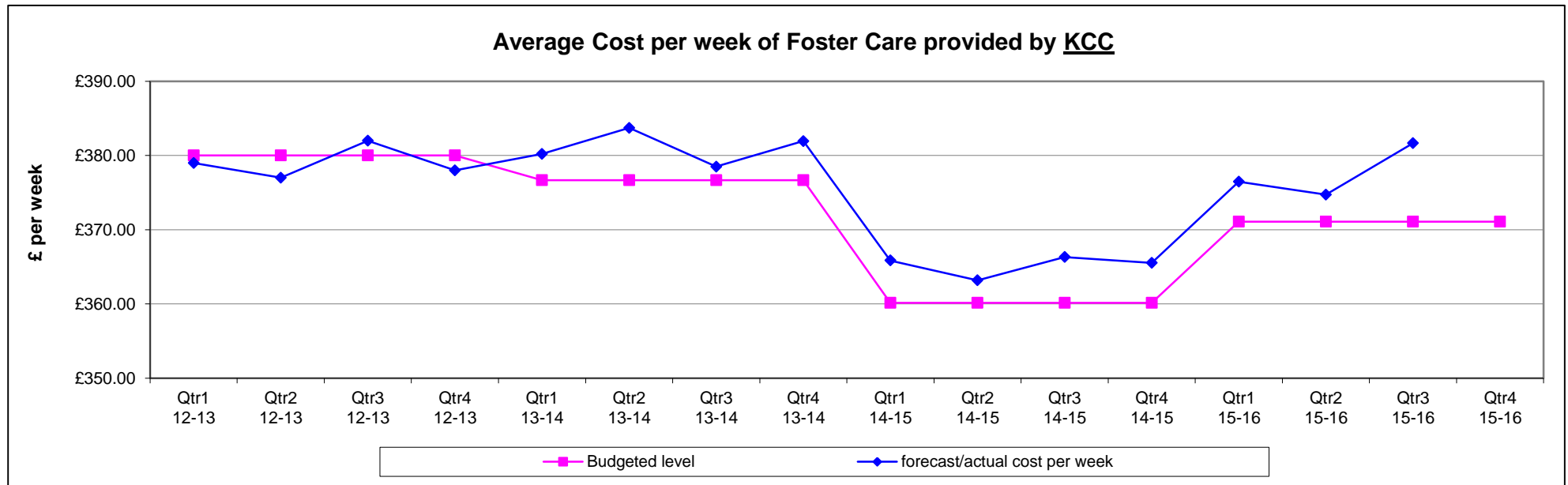


2.2 Number of Client Weeks & Average Cost per Client Week of Foster Care provided by KCC:

	2013-14				2014-15				2015-16			
	No of weeks		Average cost per client week		No of weeks		Average cost per client week		No of weeks		Average cost per client week	
	Budget level	actual	Budget level	forecast /actual	Budget level	actual	Budget level	forecast /actual	Budget level	actual	Budget level	forecast
Apr to Jun	13,659	14,014	£376.67	£380.22	13,787	13,889	£360.14	£365.85	13,296	13,411	£371.10	£376.47
Jul to Sep	13,658	13,871	£376.67	£383.72	13,787	13,719	£360.14	£363.19	13,411	13,496	£371.10	£374.73
Oct to Dec	13,658	13,929	£376.67	£378.50	13,787	13,304	£360.14	£366.33	12,925	12,418	£371.10	£381.65
Jan to Mar	13,700	13,334	£376.67	£381.94	13,786	13,577	£360.14	£365.54	12,853		£371.10	
	54,675	55,148	£376.67	£381.94	55,147	54,489	£360.14	£365.54	52,485	39,325	£371.10	£381.65

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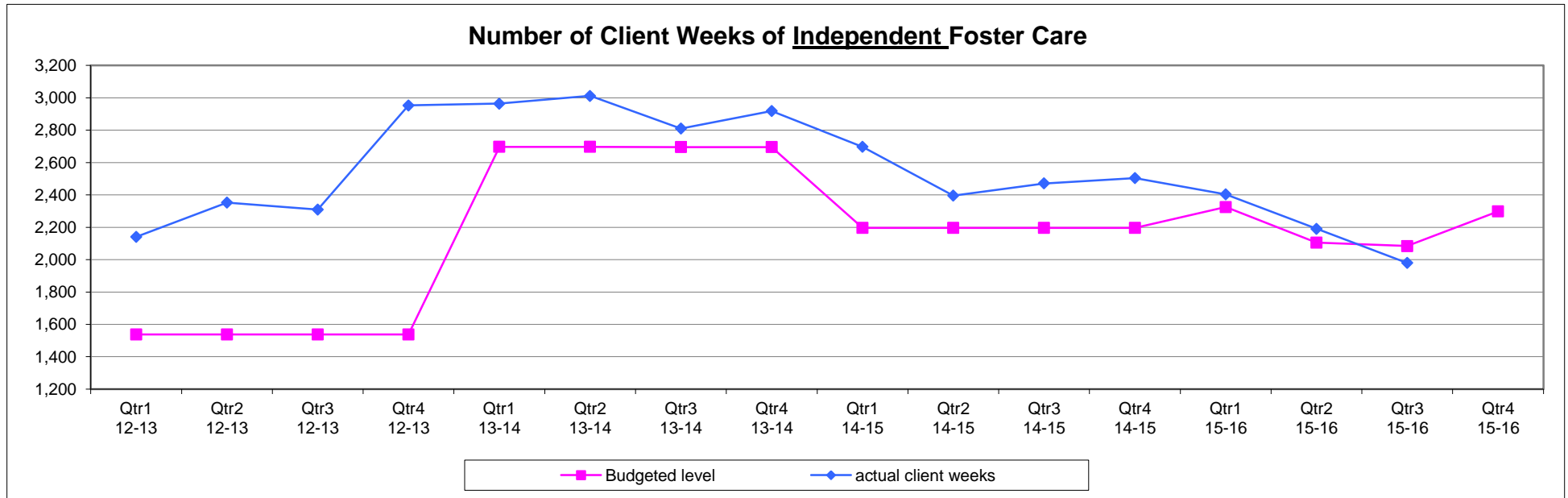
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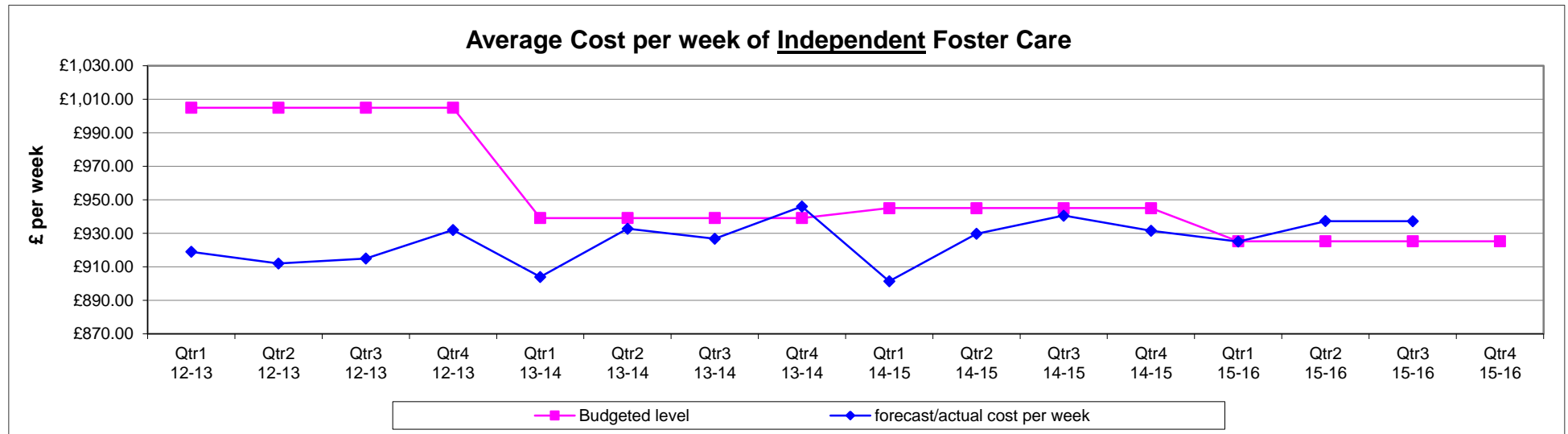
- The actual number of client weeks is based on the numbers of known clients at a particular point in time. This may be subject to change due to the late receipt of paperwork.
- The budgeted level has been calculated by dividing the budget by the affordable weekly cost.
- The 2015-16 budgeted level reflects the 2015-16 Quarter 1 realignment of budgets reported to Cabinet on 21 September.
- The forecast number of weeks (excluding asylum) is 52,438 weeks against an affordable level of 52,485, a difference of -47 weeks. At the forecast unit cost of £381.65 per week, this reduced activity decreases the forecast position by -£18k, as shown in Table 1. The current year to date activity suggests a lower level of activity than forecast. Part of this is likely to be due to the recording of respite activity which is recorded in arrears, so this part of the year to date activity is likely to be understated.
- The forecast unit cost of +£381.65 is higher than the affordable level of +£371.10 and this difference of +£10.55 gives a pressure of +£554k when multiplied by the affordable weeks, as shown in Table 1.
- The reduction in activity and corresponding increase in unit cost between Quarter 2 and Quarter 3 of 2015-16 is thought to be due to more timely activity data and improved forecasting resulting from the use of the ContrOCC payments system as the primary source of data. This means that the forecast is now more closely linked to payments and activity data.
- Overall, therefore, the combined gross underspend on this service is +£536k (-£18k +£554k).
- The special operation which was previously excluded from this activity indicator has concluded, so from April 2015-16 this indicator reflects all In House Foster Care activity.

2.3 Number of Client Weeks & Average Cost per Client Week of Independent Foster Care:

	2013-14				2014-15				2015-16			
	No of weeks		Average cost per client week		No of weeks		Average cost per client week		No of weeks		Average cost per client week	
	Budget level	actual	Budget level	forecast /actual	Budget level	actual	Budget level	forecast /actual	Budget level	actual	Budget level	forecast
Apr to Jun	2,697	2,964	£939.19	£904.01	2,197	2,697	£945.07	£901.37	2,325	2,403	£925.36	£925.17
Jul to Sep	2,697	3,012	£939.19	£932.83	2,197	2,396	£945.07	£929.73	2,105	2,191	£925.36	£937.35
Oct to Dec	2,696	2,810	£939.19	£926.83	2,197	2,471	£945.07	£940.61	2,084	1,980	£925.36	£937.26
Jan to Mar	2,696	2,919	£939.19	£946.08	2,197	2,504	£945.07	£931.60	2,298		£925.36	
	10,786	11,705	£939.19	£946.08	8,788	10,068	£945.07	£931.60	8,812	6,574	£925.36	£937.26

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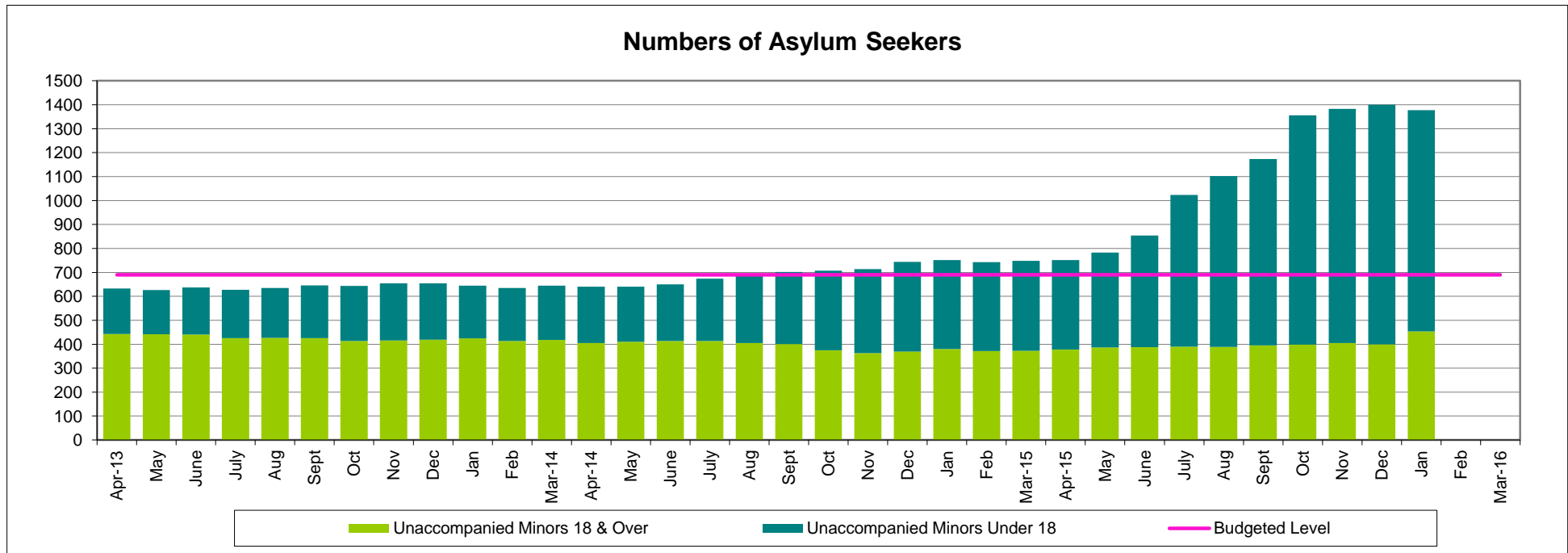
Comments:

- The actual number of client weeks is based on the numbers of known clients at a particular point in time. This may be subject to change due to the late receipt of paperwork.
- The budgeted level has been calculated by dividing the budget by the affordable weekly cost.
- The 2015-16 budgeted level reflects the 2015-16 Quarter 1 realignment of budgets reported to Cabinet on 21 September.
- The forecast number of weeks (excluding asylum) is 8,361 weeks against an affordable level of 8,812, a difference of -451 weeks. At the forecast unit cost of £937.26 per week, this reduced activity decreases the forecast position by -£423k, as shown in Table 1. The forecast is based on the transformation savings profiles which assume a range of durations of care/placement end dates. The current year to date suggests a higher level of activity than currently forecast. This is chiefly because the forecast assumes an overall reduction in usage of independent fostering due to targeted action to reduce numbers coming into care and to reunify families after only a short period of care. In addition, the forecast assumes a greater number of new in-house placements with an expected compensating reduction in the overall number of commissioned independent fostering placements in the final quarter of the year.
- The forecast unit cost of +£937.26 is higher than the affordable level of +£925.36 and this difference of +£11.90 gives a pressure of +£105k when multiplied by the affordable weeks, as shown in Table 1.
- Overall therefore, the combined gross underspend on this service is -£318k (-£423k +£105k).
- The forecast average unit cost of £937.26 includes some mother and baby placements, which are subject to court orders. These placements often cost in excess of £1,500 per week.
- The special operation which was previously excluded from this activity indicator has concluded, so from April 2015-16 this indicator reflects all Independent Foster Care activity.

2.4 Number of Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC):

	2013-14			2014-15			2015-16		
	Under 18	18 & Over	Total	Under 18	18 & Over	Total	Under 18	18 & Over	Total
Apr	190	443	633	235	405	640	373	378	751
May	184	442	626	230	410	640	396	387	783
Jun	197	440	637	237	413	650	466	388	854
Jul	202	425	627	261	413	674	633	390	1,023
Aug	208	427	635	282	405	687	713	389	1,102
Sep	221	425	646	301	401	702	778	395	1,173
Oct	229	414	643	332	375	707	958	398	1,356
Nov	238	416	654	351	363	714	978	405	1,383
Dec	235	419	654	375	369	744	1,000	400	1,400
Jan	220	424	644	371	380	751	924	453	1,377
Feb	222	413	635	372	371	743			
Mar	226	418	644	375	373	748			

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Comments:

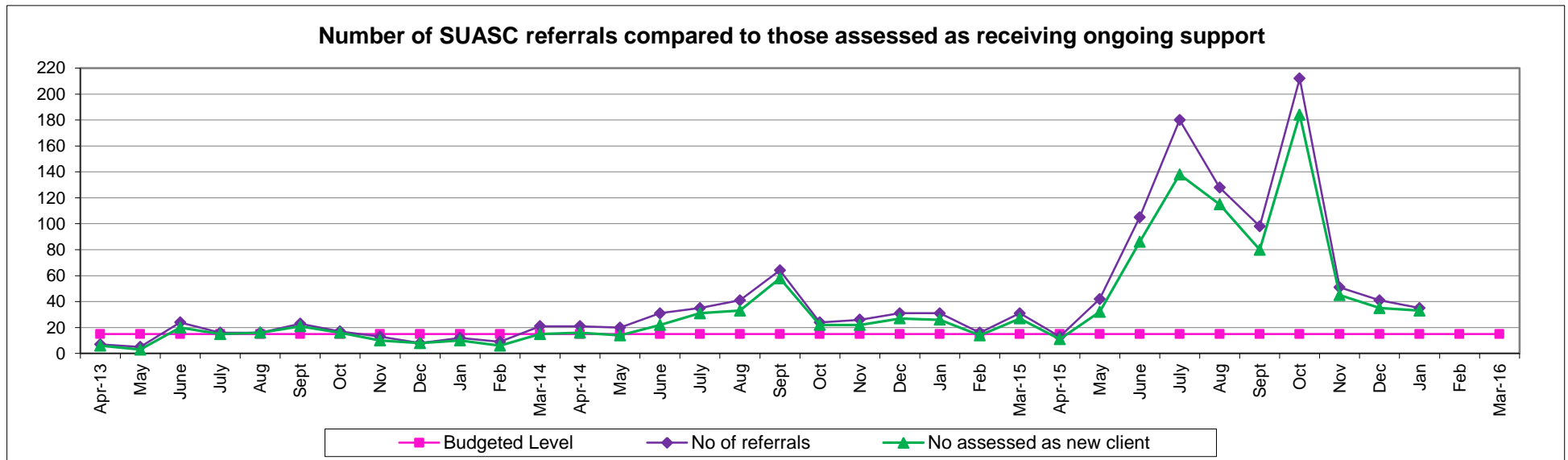
- The overall number of children is increasing, with numbers as at the end of January at the highest level they have been since September 2003. The current number of clients supported is above the budgeted level of 690.
- The budgeted number of referrals for 2015-16 is 15 per month, with 9 (60%) being assessed as under 18.
- We are responsible for those aged 18 and over if they are a Former Relevant Child and have eligibility for Care Leaver status. These are those young people who had been looked after for at least 13 weeks which began after they reached age 14 and ended after they reached age 16. Additionally young people over 18 may qualify for advice or assistance if they have been in care for at least 24 hrs aged 16 or 17.
- The numbers of 18 and over young people who are All Rights of appeal Exhausted (ARE) or Certified Refusals have been steadily decreasing, particularly since the introduction of Human Rights Assessments (HRAs). Certified Refusals are similar to ARE in that these individuals are expected to leave the UK immediately and have no recourse to public funds, but they have never had in-country appeal rights. On the 31st of January 2016 there were 35 ARE or Certified Refusal cases in Kent, compared to 67 in November 2014 and 101 in November 2013.
- The number of young people leaving the service at age 21 rather than remaining in the service up to age 24 has increased in recent months. In previous years, the number of young people supported who are 18 and over has been larger than those aged under 18, but this trend is reversing due to the current high numbers of arrivals of under 18's and the numbers leaving the service at age 21. The number of young people who became 18 on the 1st of January 2016 (the first of January is used where the real Date of Birth is not known) was 64, reflecting the high numbers of arrivals over the Summer and Autumn of 2015.
- The data recorded above will include some referrals for which the assessments are not yet complete or are being challenged. These clients are initially recorded as having the Date of Birth that they claim, but once their assessment has been completed, or when successfully appealed, their category may change.
- The number of Asylum LAC shown in table 2.1 above is different to the number of under 18 UASC clients shown within this indicator, due to UASC under 18 clients including both Looked After Children and 16 and 17 year old Care Leavers.
- The December UASC numbers shown in the table above include approximately 210 clients who are ineligible for grant funding.

2.5 Number of Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC):

	2013-14			2014-15			2015-16		
	No of referrals	No. assessed as new client	%	No of referrals	No. assessed as new client	%	No of referrals	No. assessed as new client	%
Apr	7	6	86%	21	16	76%	13	11	85%
May	5	3	60%	20	14	70%	42	32	76%
Jun	24	20	83%	31	22	71%	105	86	82%
Jul	16	15	94%	35	31	89%	180	138	77%
Aug	16	16	100%	41	33	80%	128	115	90%
Sep	23	21	91%	64	58	91%	98	80	82%
Oct	17	16	94%	24	22	92%	212	184	87%
Nov	13	10	77%	26	22	85%	51	45	88%
Dec	8	8	100%	31	27	87%	41	35	85%
Jan	12	10	83%	31	26	84%	35	33	94%
Feb	9	6	67%	16	14	88%			
Mar	21	15	71%	31	27	87%			
	171	146	85%	371	312	84%	905	759	84%

Since the 2014-15 Q3 monitoring report, a revised methodology has been adopted - UASC are now only included when their Looked After Child (LAC) status has formally commenced.

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Comments:

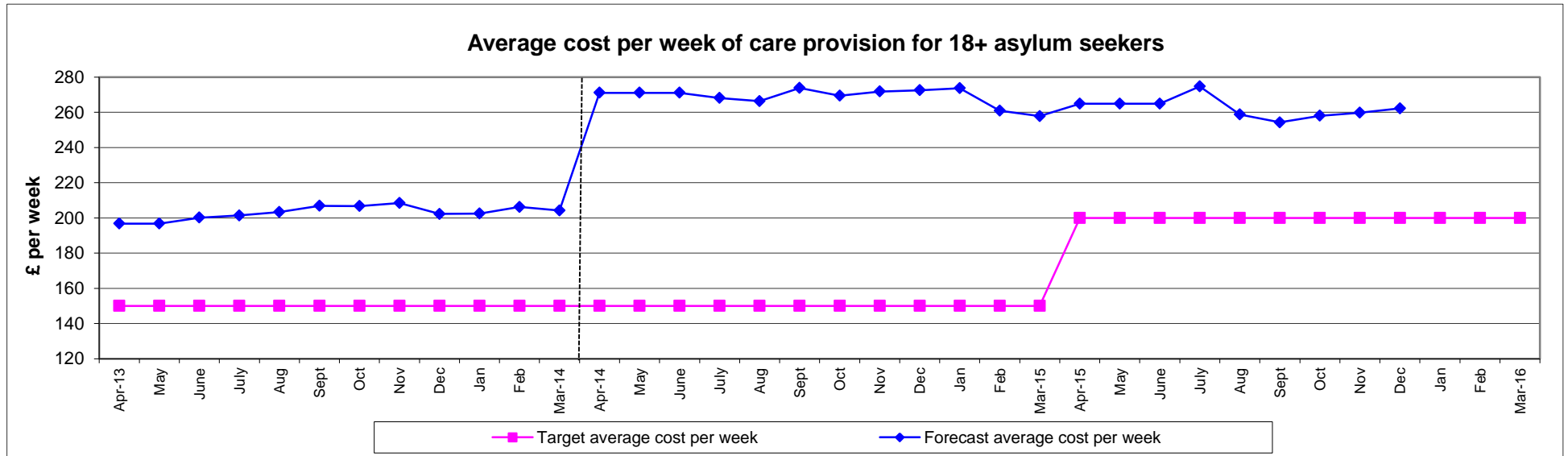
- Please note that UASC Referrals are assumed to be new clients until an assessment has been completed, which usually can take up to 6 weeks, however, as a result of the recent high number of referrals it is currently taking longer to complete individual assessments. Therefore the number of UASC assessed as new clients shown in the table may change once the assessment has taken place.
- The average number of referrals per month for the year to date is 90, which is above the budgeted number of 15 referrals per month. However within this average, as can be seen in the graph above, there is a significantly increasing trend reflecting the volatility in migrant activity during 2015-16.
- The number of referrals has a knock on effect on the number assessed as new clients. The budgeted level is based on the assumption 60% of the referrals will be assessed as a new client. The average proportion assessed as new clients in 2015-16 is currently 84%.
- The budget assumed 9 new clients per month (60% of 15 referrals) but the average number of new clients per month is 76 i.e. 744% higher than budgeted.
- Where a young person has been referred but does not become an ongoing client this may be for various factors. The number of these cases is relatively low but would include those where an age assessment has determined the young person to be aged 18 or above (and therefore they have been returned to immigration for dealing with through the asylum process for Adults) and more recently, transfers of case responsibility to Other Local Authorities. We are only able to claim grant for 28 days for an Asylum Seeker who, on arrival to the UK, is assessed as age 18 or over, but due to the current high number of arrivals it is taking longer than this for the assessments to be completed, resulting in an increased unfunded pressure on the Asylum budget.
- The information on numbers of Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children is provided by the Management Information unit within SCH&W directorate.
- Please note that due to the time taken to validate referrals on the database (particularly at this stage given the high volumes encountered since June), the number of new clients and number of referrals for any given month may change, therefore the activity data is refreshed in each report to provide the most up to date information.

	2013-14		2014-15		2015-16	
	Target average weekly cost £	Forecast average weekly cost £p	Target average weekly cost £	Forecast average weekly cost £p	Target average weekly cost £	Forecast average weekly cost £p
Apr	150	196.78	150	271.10	200	264.91
May	150	196.78	150	271.10	200	264.91
Jun	150	200.18	150	271.10	200	264.91
Jul	150	201.40	150	268.15	200	274.77
Aug	150	203.29	150	266.33	200	258.73
Sep	150	206.92	150	273.87	200	254.29
Oct	150	206.74	150	269.47	200	258.05
Nov	150	208.51	150	271.85	200	259.78
Dec	150	202.25	150	272.56	200	262.24
Jan	150	202.49	150	273.75	200	
Feb	150	206.24	150	260.94	200	
Mar	150	204.27	150	257.79	200	

The current forecast average weekly cost for 2015-16 is £262.24, +£62.24 above the £200 claimable under the grant rules. This adds +£2,050k to the forecast outturn position, (+£864k for eligible clients and +£1,186k for ineligible/AREs as shown in table 1), for which we have a cash limit of £280k, giving a variance of +£1,770k.

The weekly cost has increased significantly since 2013-14. Previously the average weekly cost was based on direct client costs only, as the gateway grant was used for staff and infrastructure costs. From 2014-15 onwards we no longer receive a Gateway Grant, so all staff and infrastructure costs have been allocated to age groups. Therefore, the increased weekly cost since April 2014 reflects ALL costs associated with 18+.

A dotted line has therefore been added to the graph to show that the unit costs pre and post April 2014 are not directly comparable.



Comments:

- The 2015-16 target average weekly cost was increased in the Quarter 2 report from £150 to £200 based on the latest offer from the Home Office received in early November.
- The reduction in unit cost between January and February 15 follows a restructure of the service that took place at the start of December to bring Asylum support alongside mainstream care. Following this restructure a data cleansing exercise was performed. This revealed a number of elements that required revision, including changes to weekly costs for those in independent accommodation and a reassessment of the level of void placements. In addition, the amount paid via the Essential Living Allowance has reduced, which is likely to be in part due to ongoing work to improve take-up of benefits for those able to claim them.
- The local authority (LA) has agreed that the funding levels for the Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children's Service 18+ grant agreed with the Government rely on us achieving an average cost per week of £200, in order for the service to be fully funded, which is also reliant on the UKBA accelerating the removal process. In 2011-12 UKBA changed their grant rules and now only fund the costs of an individual for up to three months after the All Rights of appeal Exhausted (ARE) process if the LA carries out a Human Rights Assessment before continuing support. The number of AREs supported has fallen in recent months. The LA has continued to meet the cost of the care leavers in order that it can meet its' statutory obligations to those young people under the Leaving Care Act until the point of removal.
- The issue remains that for various reasons, some young people have not yet moved to lower cost properties, mainly those placed out of county. These placements are largely due to either medical/mental health needs or educational needs. In addition, the increase in numbers over recent months has reduced the availability of lower cost properties.
- As part of our strive to achieve a net unit cost of £200 or below, we will be insisting on take-up of state benefits for those entitled. However, the proportion of young people being accepted for asylum has reduced in recent months, meaning that a lower proportion of young people are unable to claim state benefits, bringing up the average cost. In addition, the service has undertaken a data cleansing exercise and as a result a number of older cases have been closed where we no longer have a requirement to support these young people as care leavers. The costs for these cases were lower, which has resulted in a further increase to the average cost.

3. CAPITAL

3.1 The Social Care, Health and Wellbeing Directorate - Children's Services has a working budget for 2015-16 of £1,959k . The forecast outturn against the 2015-16 budget is £1,516k giving a variance of -£443k.

3.2 **Table 2** below details the Social Care, Health & Wellbeing Directorate's - Children's Services Capital Position by Budget Book line.

Budget Book Heading	2015-16 cash limit per budget book (£000)	2015-16 Working Budget (£000)	2015-16 Variance (£000)	Variance Break-down (£000)	Rephasing / Real Variance and Funding Stream	Explanation of In-Year Variance >£100k	Project Status ¹	Explanation of Project Status	Actions
Individual Projects									
Transforming Short Breaks	70	112	0	0			Green		
ConTROCC	556	925	-210	-210	Rephasing	Due to the scale of the project it has been agreed that the Children's provider portal will be rolled out on a phased basis. The scope of phase 2 has increased therefore delivery timescales have been extended but costs will remain within current budget. The final phase is the rollout to internal fostering providers.	Green	Phase 1 went live in July 2015. Phase 2 completion has moved from December 2015 to May 2016. Phase 3 is scheduled for August 2016. Rephasing to 2016-17 previously reported.	

Budget Book Heading	2015-16 cash limit per budget book (£000)	2015-16 Working Budget (£000)	2015-16 Variance (£000)	Variance Break-down (£000)	Rephasing / Real Variance and Funding Stream	Explanation of In-Year Variance >£100k	Project Status ¹	Explanation of Project Status	Actions
Early Help Module (EHM)	276	922	-233	-233	Rephasing	Phase 4 will be delivered next financial year as the Commissioning Services function is currently being redefined.	Green	Phase 1 went live in June 2015. Phase 2 went live in November 2015. Phase 3 to go live in May 2016. Phase 4 to go live in September 2016. Rephasing to 2016-17 previously reported.	
Total	902	1,959	-443	-443					

1. Status:

Green – on time and within budget

Amber – either delayed completion date or over budget

Red – both delayed completion and over budget

SOCIAL CARE, HEALTH & WELLBEING DIRECTORATE
ADULTS SERVICES
DECEMBER 2015-16 MONITORING REPORT

1. REVENUE

1.1	Total (£k)	Cash Limit	Variance Before Mgmt Action	Mgmt Action	Net Variance after Mgmt Action	Roll forwards		Variance after Mgmt Action & Roll Fwd
		+350,459	+5,261	-	+5,261	committed	uncommitted	+5,458
						+67	+130	

1.2 Table 1 below details the revenue position by A-Z budget:

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation		Management Action/ Impact on MTFP/Budget Build
	Gross	Income	Net	Net	£'000		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		
Social Care, Health & Wellbeing - Adult Social Care							
Strategic Management & Directorate Support budgets	8,104.1	-1,144.5	6,959.6	-782	-256	Staff vacancies within Access to Resources Team	Savings are expected to be ongoing & have been reflected in the recently approved 2016-19 MTFP
					-329	Staff vacancies across teams within operational support	
					-222	Reduced demand for a number of office support services (including postage, printing and stationery)	
					+25	Other minor variances	
<u>Support to Frontline Services:</u>							
- Adults Social Care Commissioning & Performance Monitoring	4,045.2	-623.8	3,421.4	-152	-142	Delays in recruitment to vacancies within the Performance & Information Management team	
					-10	Other minor variances	
<u>Adults & Older People:</u>							
- Direct Payments							
- Learning Disability (aged 18+)	18,346.6	-730.0	17,616.6	-388	+286	Forecast +995 weeks above affordable level of 63,723 weeks	Demographic pressures & savings are expected to be ongoing & have been addressed in the recently approved 2016-19 MTFP
					-6	Forecast average unit cost -£0.09 below affordable level of £287.44	
					+918	One-off direct payments	

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation	Management Action/ Impact on MTFP/Budget Build
	Gross £'000	Income £'000	Net £'000	Net £'000		
					-1,547 Recovery of unspent funds from clients -143 Other local authority income relating to prior year costs for a client who has recently been transferred under Ordinary Residence status +104 Other minor variances	
- Mental Health (aged 18+)	1,052.9	-84.3	968.6	+51	+106 Forecast +996 weeks above affordable level of 9,998 weeks +8 Forecast average unit cost +£0.83 above affordable level of £105.31 +69 One-off direct payments -149 Recovery of unspent funds from clients +17 Other minor variances	Demographic pressures & savings are expected to be ongoing & have been addressed in the recently approved 2016-19 MTFP
- Older People (aged 65+)	14,572.8	-140.2	14,432.6	-1,460	-1,147 Forecast -5,989 weeks below affordable level of 78,548 weeks +484 Forecast average unit cost +£6.16 above affordable level of £185.42 +409 One-off direct payments -1,199 Recovery of unspent funds from clients -7 Other minor variances	Demographic pressures & savings are expected to be ongoing & have been addressed in the recently approved 2016-19 MTFP
- Physical Disability (aged 18-64)	12,837.8	-739.9	12,097.9	+339	+949 Forecast +4,516 weeks above affordable level of 60,937 weeks +23 Forecast average unit cost +£0.38 above affordable level of £209.77 +694 One-off direct payments -1,365 Recovery of unspent funds from clients +38 Other minor variances	Demographic pressures & savings are expected to be ongoing & have been addressed in the recently approved 2016-19 MTFP
Total Direct Payments	46,810.1	-1,694.4	45,115.7	-1,458		
- Domiciliary Care						
- Learning Disability (aged 18+)	989.5	-14.0	975.5	-322	-258 Forecast -18,754 hours below affordable level of 63,945 hours -5 Forecast average unit cost -£0.07 below affordable level of £13.84 -59 Other minor variances	Demographic pressures & savings are expected to be ongoing & have been addressed in the recently approved 2016-19 MTFP

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation		Management Action/ Impact on MTFP/Budget Build
	Gross	Income	Net	Net			
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		
- Older People (aged 65+) - in house service (KEaH)	7,888.9	-5,415.4	2,473.5	+127	+127	Higher usage of Kent Enablement at Home Service (KEaH) than anticipated for Older People clients	
- Older People (aged 65+) - Commissioned Service	17,275.3	-10,168.6	7,106.7	+9,394	+7,059	Forecast +483,474 hours above affordable level of 1,175,404 hours	Demographic pressures & savings are expected to be ongoing & have been addressed in the recently approved 2016-19 MTFP
					+1,696	Revised phasing of anticipated delivery of phase 2 transformation savings resulting from work completed by our Transformation Partners during the design stage of the savings programme. The actual savings delivered may vary from these assumptions but any deviation is/will be reflected within the activity variances (no of hours/unit cost) shown above.	The revised timing of the anticipated delivery of phase 2 transformation savings has been reflected in the recently approved 2016-19 MTFP
					+548	Commissioning additional block domiciliary related contracts primarily related to providing additional support within Extra Care Sheltered Housing and at home following a hospital discharge.	This pressure is expected to be ongoing & has been addressed in the recently approved 2016-19 MTFP.
					+91	Other minor variances	
- Physical Disability (aged 18-64) - in house service	579.4	0.0	579.4	0			

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation		Management Action/ Impact on MTFP/Budget Build
	Gross	Income	Net	Net			
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		
- Physical Disability (aged 18-64) - Commissioned Service	2,334.8	-21.3	2,313.5	+2,914	+2,557	Forecast +185,804 hours above affordable level of 193,031 hours	Demographic pressures & savings are expected to be ongoing & have been addressed in the recently approved 2016-19 MTFP The revised timing of the anticipated delivery of phase 2 transformation savings has been reflected in the recently approved 2016-19 MTFP
					-50	Forecast average unit cost -£0.26 below affordable level of £14.02	
					+372	Revised phasing of anticipated delivery of phase 2 transformation savings resulting from work completed by our Transformation Partners during the design stage of the savings programme. The actual savings delivered may vary from these assumptions but any deviation is/will be reflected within the activity variances (no of hours/unit cost) shown above.	
					+35	Other minor variances	
Total Domiciliary Care	29,067.9	-15,619.3	13,448.6	+12,113			
- Non Residential Charging							
- Learning Disability (aged 18+)	0.0	-3,191.3	-3,191.3	-463	-463	The forecast over-recovery of client contributions towards non-residential care services is linked to the current net pressure being forecast on other learning disability community based services (such as Domiciliary, Day Care, Direct Payments & Supported Living) highlighted in this report.	Demographic pressures & savings are expected to be ongoing & have been addressed in the recently approved 2016-19 MTFP
- Older People (aged 65+)	0.0	-7,516.3	-7,516.3	-1,434	-1,434	The forecast over-recovery of client contributions towards non-residential care services is linked to the current net pressure being forecast on other older people community based services (such as Domiciliary, Day Care, Direct Payments & Supported Living) highlighted in this report.	Demographic pressures & savings are expected to be ongoing & have been addressed in the recently approved 2016-19 MTFP

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation	Management Action/ Impact on MTFP/Budget Build	
	Gross	Income	Net	Net			
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		
- Physical Disability (aged 18-64) / Mental Health (aged 18+)	0.0	-1,298.5	-1,298.5	-475	-422	The forecast over-recovery of client contributions towards non-residential care services is linked to the current net pressure being forecast on other physical disability community based services (such as Domiciliary, Day Care, Direct Payments & Supported Living) highlighted in this report.	Demographic pressures & savings are expected to be ongoing & have been addressed in the recently approved 2016-19 MTFP
					-53	Other minor variances	
Total Non Residential Charging Income	0.0	-12,006.1	-12,006.1	-2,372			
- Nursing & Residential Care							
- Learning Disability (aged 18+)	80,876.3	-6,597.4	74,278.9	-1,853	-2,633	Forecast -2,168 weeks below affordable level of 67,787 weeks	Demographic pressures & savings are expected to be ongoing & have been addressed in the recently approved 2016-19 MTFP
					+209	Leading to a shortfall in client contributions	
					+1,286	Forecast average unit cost +£18.97 above affordable level of £1,195.61	
					-241	Independent Sector: forecast average unit client contribution -£3.55 above affordable level of -£93.02	
					-616	Release of unrealised creditors	
					+153	Health income is specific to individual clients and following changes in clients supported, there is a reduction in income expected from health	
					-11	Other minor variances	
- Mental Health (aged 18+)	8,414.1	-1,006.5	7,407.6	+1,198	+1,225	Forecast +1,856 weeks above affordable level of 12,776 weeks	Demographic pressures & savings are expected to be ongoing & will need to be addressed in the 2016-19 MTFP
					-73	Leading to an increase in client contributions	
					+25	Forecast average unit cost +£1.96 above affordable level of £658.02	
					+68	Independent Sector: forecast average unit client contribution +£5.32 below affordable level of -£44.62	
					-47	Other minor variances	

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation	Management Action/ Impact on MTFP/Budget Build
	Gross	Income	Net	Net		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
- Older People (aged 65+) - Nursing	37,654.6	-16,250.7	21,403.9	+58	-2,810 Forecast -5,490 weeks below affordable level of 73,811 weeks +1,075 Leading to a shortfall in client contributions +948 Forecast average unit cost +£12.84 above affordable level of £499.03 +826 Independent Sector: forecast average unit client contribution +£11.19 below affordable level of -£206.98 +109 Prior year costs where insufficient creditors were raised -90 Other minor variances	Demographic pressures & savings are expected to be ongoing & have been addressed in the recently approved 2016-19 MTFP
- Older People (aged 65+) - Residential - in house service	20,057.6	-5,468.8	14,588.8	+518	+201 Additional agency staff to cover staff vacancies, along with higher than anticipated usage of agency staff for specialist care/nursing roles at Gravesham Place. +155 Increase in running costs for Gravesham Place associated with a recharge from Health for staff, clinical items, utilities and unitary charge. +89 Other minor variances for Gravesham Place including reduced health income associated with Registered Nursing Care Contributions (RNCC) +200 Health are disputing their share of the contribution towards the running costs of an integrated care centre. Although negotiations continue with Thanet CCG, it is considered prudent to reflect this as a pressure until the situation is resolved. -127 Other minor variances within other residential units	This may result in an ongoing pressure which is not provided for in the 2016-19 MTFP

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation	Management Action/ Impact on MTFP/Budget Build	
	Gross	Income	Net	Net			
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		
- Older People (aged 65+) - Residential - commissioned service	55,564.5	-29,367.8	26,196.7	+2,191	-3,514	Forecast -8,207 weeks below affordable level of 139,087 weeks	Demographic pressures & savings are expected to be ongoing & have been addressed in the recently approved 2016-19 MTFP
					+1,630	Leading to a shortfall in client contributions	
					+755	Forecast average unit cost +£5.43 above affordable level of £422.68	
					+470	Independent Sector: forecast average unit client contribution +£3.38 below affordable level of -£201.94	
					+1,941	Revised phasing of anticipated delivery of phase 2 transformation savings resulting from work completed by our Transformation Partners during the design stage of the savings programme. The actual savings delivered may vary from these assumptions but any deviation is/will be reflected within the activity variances (no of hours/unit cost) shown above.	The revised timing of the anticipated delivery of phase 2 transformation savings has been reflected in the recently approved 2016-19 MTFP
					+605	Prior year costs where insufficient creditors were raised	
					+188	Health (Thanet CCG) have confirmed they will no longer contribute to an element of running costs for an integrated care centre following a review of current contractual agreements.	This pressure has been addressed in the recently approved 2016-19 MTFP
					+118	Health have indicated that they will no longer contribute towards the cost of short term residential placements within East Kent, previously received through a long standing agreement. Although negotiations continue with South Kent Coast CCG, it is considered prudent to reflect this as a pressure until the situation is resolved.	This pressure has been addressed in the recently approved 2016-19 MTFP
					-2	Other minor variances	

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation		Management Action/ Impact on MTFP/Budget Build
	Gross	Income	Net	Net			
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		
- Physical Disability (aged 18-64)	13,489.3	-1,729.9	11,759.4	-83	-198	Forecast -232 weeks below affordable level of 15,843 weeks	Demographic pressures & savings are expected to be ongoing & have been addressed in the recently approved 2016-19 MTFP
					+26	Leading to a shortfall in client contributions	
					+42	Forecast average unit cost +£2.65 above affordable level of £851.42	
					-40	Independent Sector: forecast average unit client contribution -£2.53 above affordable level of -£109.19	
					+87	Other minor variances	
Total Nursing & Residential Care	216,056.4	-60,421.1	155,635.3	+2,029			
- Supported Living							
- Learning Disability (aged 18+) - in house service	3,787.4	-1,593.7	2,193.7	-363	-100	Completion of the Pathway to Independence project pilot at lower cost than anticipated	
					-297	Local action plans in place to pool resources in preparation for move to Kent Pathways Service, leading to overall reduction in staffing costs as vacancies and secondments are not being filled	
					+34	Other minor variances	
- Learning Disability (aged 18+) - shared lives scheme	3,579.3	-246.9	3,332.4	+149	+171	Forecast +60,958 hours above affordable level of 1,068,310 hours	Demographic pressures & savings are expected to be ongoing & have been addressed in the recently approved 2016-19 MTFP
					-32	Forecast average unit cost -£0.03 below affordable level of £2.84	
					+10	Other minor variances	
- Learning Disability (aged 18+) - other commissioned supported living arrangements	31,448.5	-189.2	31,259.3	+3,318	+3,939	Forecast +401,918 hours above affordable level of 3,177,961 hours	Demographic pressures & savings are expected to be ongoing & have been addressed in the recently approved 2016-19 MTFP
					-191	Forecast average unit cost -£0.06 below affordable level of £9.86	
					-608	Release of unrealised creditors	
					+149	Estimated costs of unfilled block-purchased supported living placements	
					+29	Minor other variances	

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation		Management Action/ Impact on MTFP/Budget Build
	Gross	Income	Net	Net			
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		
- Older People (aged 65+) - in house service	4,825.0	-4,825.0	0.0	+10			
- Older People (aged 65+) - commissioned service	395.9	0.0	395.9	+66	+58	Forecast +8,205 hours above affordable level of 48,756 hours	Demographic pressures & savings are expected to be ongoing & have been addressed in the recently approved 2016-19 MTFP
					-53	Forecast average unit cost -£1.08 below affordable level of £8.12	
					+61	Other minor variances	
- Physical Disability (aged 18-64) / Mental Health (aged 18+) - in house service	107.4	-107.4	0.0	0			
- Physical Disability (aged 18-64) / Mental Health (aged 18+) - commissioned service	4,416.2	-221.9	4,194.3	+1,717	+605	Mental Health forecast +47,795 hours above affordable level of 177,735	Demographic pressures & savings are expected to be ongoing & have been addressed in the recently approved 2016-19 MTFP
					+153	Mental Health forecast average unit cost +£0.86 above affordable level of £11.79	
					+1,411	Physical Disability forecast +256,993 hours above affordable level of 312,847 hours	
					-491	Physical Disability forecast average unit cost -£1.57 below affordable level of £7.06	
					+39	Other minor variances	
Total Supported Living	48,559.7	-7,184.1	41,375.6	+4,897			

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation	Management Action/ Impact on MTFP/Budget Build	
	Gross	Income	Net	Net			
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		
- Other Services for Adults & Older People							
- Adaptive & Assistive Technology	6,106.6	-3,666.2	2,440.4	-556	-750 -341 +470 +65	Estimated savings from reduced prices and quantity being purchased following the renegotiation of the equipment contract, affecting occupational therapy equipment, telecare and the pooled budget arrangement with health to provide equipment. Lower than anticipated demand for telecare leading to a reduction in anticipated revenue contribution to capital Higher than anticipated demand for occupational therapy equipment Other minor variances	Savings are expected to be ongoing & have been reflected in the recently approved 2016-19 MTFP
- Community Support Services for Mental Health (aged 18+) - in house service	1,383.8	-64.4	1,319.4	-139			
- Community Support Services for Mental Health (aged 18+) - commissioned service	1,716.5	-693.9	1,022.6	-72			
- Day Care							
- Learning Disability (aged 18+) - in house service	6,627.5	-70.7	6,556.8	-215	-102 -141 +28	Countywide reduction in Agency and contracted staffing costs resulting from 1:1 costs now being commissioned externally within the supported living service (now within the activity reported on the Learning Disability - other commissioned supported living A-Z line) Reduced costs of staff following the recent restructure of day care services and more effective management of resources Other minor variances	Savings are expected to be ongoing & have been reflected in the recently approved 2016-19 MTFP

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation		Management Action/ Impact on MTFP/Budget Build
	Gross	Income	Net	Net			
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		
- Other Services for Adults & Older People							
- Learning Disability (aged 18+) - commissioned service	7,043.6	-13.9	7,029.7	+920	+767	Pressure reflecting current demand for services provided by the independent sector	Demographic pressures & savings are expected to be ongoing & have been addressed in the recently approved 2016-19 MTFP
					+247	Leading to an increase in transport related costs	
					-94	Other minor variances	
- Older People (aged 65+) - in house	877.9	-45.0	832.9	-37			
Older People (aged 65+) - commissioned service	945.1	0.0	945.1	-146	-146	Underspend reflecting current demand for services provided by the independent sector	Demographic pressures & savings are expected to be ongoing & have been addressed in the recently approved 2016-19 MTFP
- Physical Disability (aged 18-64)	974.2	0.0	974.2	-31			
Total Day Care	16,468.3	-129.6	16,338.7	+491			
- Other Adult Services	3,864.8	-3,695.3	169.5	-3,051	-3,275	Use of so-far uncommitted funding, held within Other Adult Services, to offset increased activity on Older People A-Z budget lines.	
					+160	Meals service pressure, primarily due to lower than anticipated client contributions	
					+64	Other minor variances including additional mental health client support costs	

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation	Management Action/ Impact on MTFP/Budget Build
	Gross	Income	Net	Net		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
- Safeguarding	2,331.7	-702.1	1,629.6	-67	-130	Delays in the commissioning of Deprivation of Liberty Safeguard (DOLS) assessments by an external agency, along with a phased approach to recruitment, due to difficulties in finding suitable candidates, have led to a request to re-phase the one-off DOLS Grant received in 2015-16, for use in 2016-17. The roll forward of £130k will be required to enable higher levels of DOLS assessments to be completed. There has been a significant rise in the number of DOLS assessments required in both care homes and hospital settings following a legal judgement and this grant has been given in recognition of this pressure on local councils.
					+63	Other minor variances, each below £100k, including -£67k relating to KCC's share of re-phasing into 2016-17 of Kent & Medway Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Committee. This will be required to roll forward to meet our obligation to the Committee under the terms of the multi-agency agreement.
- Social Support						
- Carers - in house service	3,550.9	-0.3	3,550.6	+70		
- Carers - commissioned service	10,440.9	-6,172.1	4,268.8	+781	+650	Higher than anticipated spend on supporting carers via external provision (including services provided by voluntary organisations)
					+421	Lower than anticipated client income for Social Support to Carers
					-290	Lower than anticipated demand for Carers direct payments
						Demographic pressures & savings are expected to be ongoing & have been addressed in the recently approved 2016-19 MTFP

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation	Management Action/ Impact on MTFP/Budget Build
	Gross	Income	Net	Net		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
- Information & Early Intervention	6,517.0	-2,254.9	4,262.1	-663	-362 -300 -1	Lower than anticipated demand for advocacy services A review of the process required to complete the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguard assessments of clients in a domestic setting, has resulted in only part year costs being incurred in 2015-16 although the budget allows for the full year effect. Other minor variances
- Social Isolation	6,269.2	-2,288.5	3,980.7	+146	+115 +31	Payments to voluntary organisations as a result of higher than anticipated demand for Learning Disability services Other minor variances
Total Social Support	26,778.0	-10,715.8	16,062.2	+334		
- Support & Assistance Service (Social Fund)	1,481.5	0.0	1,481.5	0		
Total Other Services for Adults & Older People	60,131.2	-19,667.3	40,463.9	-3,060		
<u>Community Services</u>						
- Local Healthwatch & NHS Complaints Advocacy	1,138.4	-705.9	432.5	-105	-105	Reduction in the anticipated demand for advocacy services, along with staff savings
<u>Housing Related Support for Vulnerable People (Supporting People)</u>						
- Administration	536.1	-150.0	386.1	0		
- Adults - Learning Difficulties	3,352.2	0.0	3,352.2	-26		
- Adults - Physical Difficulties	138.5	0.0	138.5	0		
- Adults - Mental Health (aged 18+)	2,904.3	0.0	2,904.3	-58		
- Older People (aged 65+)	3,891.5	0.0	3,891.5	-46		
- Other Adults	7,421.6	0.0	7,421.6	0		
- Young People	3,677.9	0.0	3,677.9	0		
Total Housing Related Support for Vulnerable People	21,922.1	-150.0	21,772.1	-130		

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation	Management Action/ Impact on MTFP/Budget Build
	Gross £'000	Income £'000	Net £'000	Net £'000		
Public Health						
- Drug & Alcohol Services (LASAR)	429.9	0.0	429.9	-35		
Assessment Services						
- Adult Social Care Staffing	44,648.7	-11,237.9	33,410.8	-5,684	-918 Delays in the recruitment to vacancies within the Mental Health assessment teams and the usage of locum/agency staff. This is partly due to recent staffing reviews along with general difficulties in recruiting to speciality mental health practitioners. -190 Delay in implementation of new Care Planning Management System -493 Delays in the recruitment to vacancies across Learning Disability assessment teams -154 Use of so-far uncommitted funding held within Adult Social Care staffing to offset spending on new Care Act responsibilities within the Older People Domiciliary Care A-Z budget line above -4,227 Use of so-far uncommitted funding following the Government announcement to delay the implementation of phase 2 Care Act reforms +150 Provision for the possible outcome of a legal case +148 Other minor variances, each below £100k	
Total SCH&W (Adults)	480,913.7	-130,454.4	350,459.3	+5,261		
Assumed Mgmt Action						
Total SCH&W (Adults) Forecast <u>after</u> mgmt action	480,913.7	-130,454.4	350,459.3	+5,261		

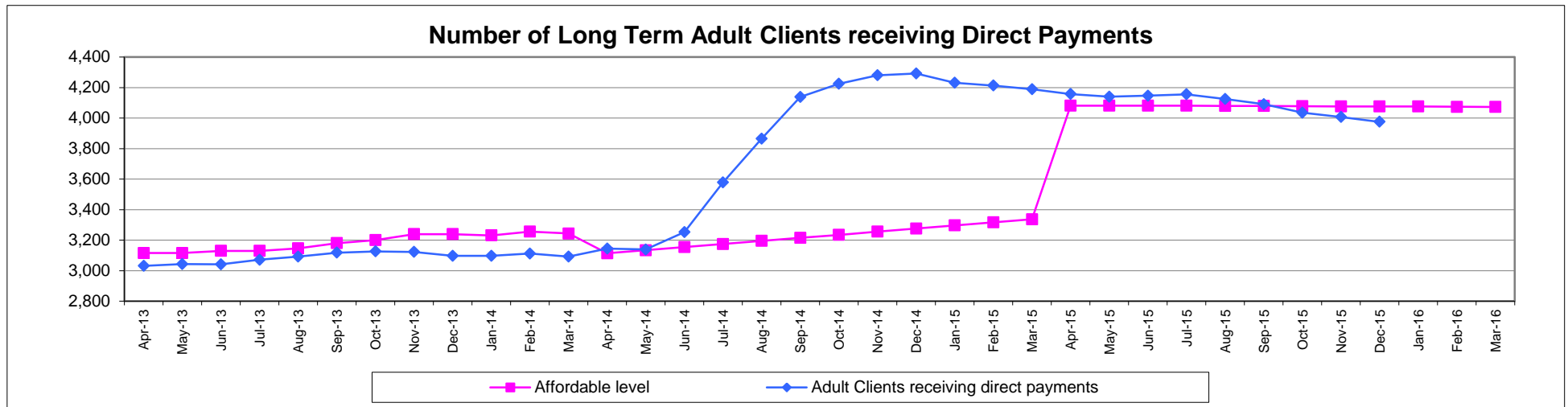
2. KEY ACTIVITY INDICATORS AND BUDGET RISK ASSESSMENT MONITORING

The affordable levels for 2015-16 have been updated in this report to reflect the outcome of the work undertaken by the Procurement and Commissioning teams on the adult social care prices review, which includes the impact of additional price pressures resulting from current market conditions.

The budgeted unit cost for 2015-16 has been updated to reflect the outcome of the prices review. However the calculations of the impact of the prices review were based on actual activity levels rather than budgeted levels, which has also resulted in changes to the affordable activity levels. In addition, some of the price uplifts have been lower than the budget assumptions and therefore some of the affordable unit costs have reduced in this report, releasing funding which has been used to cover the impact of the additional price pressures resulting from current market conditions (referred to above).

2.1 Direct Payments - Number of Adult Social Services Clients receiving Direct Payments:

	2013-14			2014-15			2015-16		
	Affordable level for long term clients	Snapshot of long term adults rec'ing direct payments	Number of one-off payments made during the month	Affordable level for long term clients	Snapshot of long term adults rec'ing direct payments	Number of one-off payments made during the month	Affordable level for long term clients	Snapshot of long term adults rec'ing direct payments	Number of one-off payments made during the month
Apr	3,116	3,032	164	3,114	3,145	216	4,081	4,158	153
May	3,116	3,043	169	3,134	3,139	160	4,081	4,140	137
Jun	3,130	3,042	120	3,155	3,253	184	4,081	4,147	212
Jul	3,130	3,072	173	3,175	3,579	215	4,081	4,156	227
Aug	3,147	3,092	158	3,195	3,866	200	4,080	4,126	177
Sep	3,181	3,118	134	3,215	4,139	209	4,080	4,091	194
Oct	3,201	3,127	179	3,235	4,225	204	4,078	4,036	157
Nov	3,240	3,123	144	3,256	4,281	167	4,077	4,007	145
Dec	3,240	3,098	159	3,276	4,292	115	4,077	3,976	70
Jan	3,231	3,097	176	3,297	4,232	135	4,076		
Feb	3,257	3,112	135	3,317	4,214	128	4,074		
Mar	3,244	3,093	121	3,337	4,189	144	4,073		
			1,832			2,077			1,472



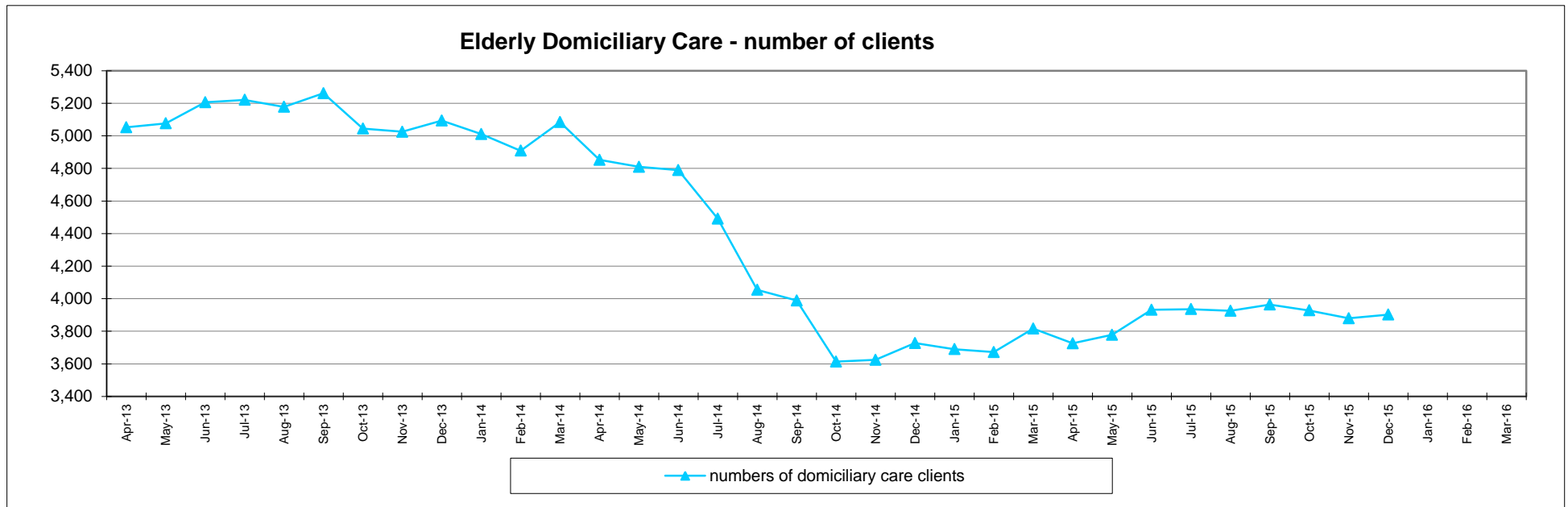
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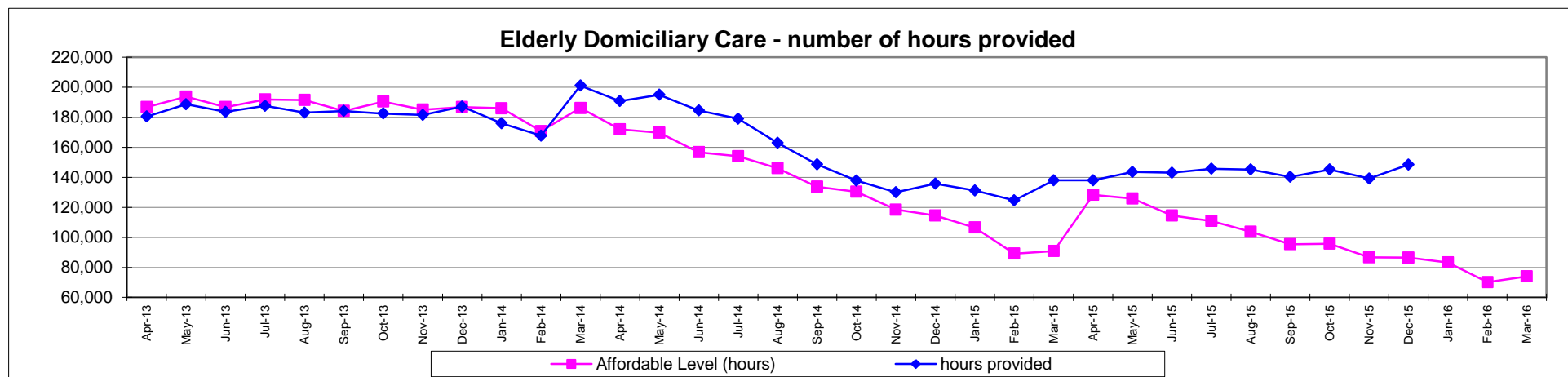
- A long term client in receipt of a regular direct payment may also receive a one-off payment if required. Only the long term clients are presented on the graph above.
- Please note that due to the time taken to record changes in direct payments onto the client database the number of clients and one-off direct payments for any given month may change, therefore the current year to date activity data is refreshed in each report to provide the most up to date information.
- Current activity to date compared against the profiled budget would suggest a lower level of activity than currently forecast on this service, however the current forecast includes a number of known clients not yet recorded on the activity database. This position is being offset by recoveries of unspent funds from clients. The overall effect of these factors across individual client groups is reflected in Table 1, which shows a forecast underspend of -£1,458k against the overall direct payments budget.
- The affordable level has been updated to reflect the transfer of responsibilities for former independent living fund clients, along with the outcome of the prices review (referred to at the start of section 2 of this annex).

2.2 Elderly domiciliary care – numbers of clients and hours provided in the independent sector

	2013-14			2014-15			2015-16		
	Affordable level (hours)	hours provided	number of clients	Affordable level (hours)	hours provided	number of clients	Affordable level (hours)	hours provided	number of clients
Apr	186,809	180,585	5,053	171,979	190,804	4,853	128,349	138,025	3,726
May	193,717	188,656	5,077	169,813	195,051	4,810	125,833	143,582	3,778
Jun	186,778	183,621	5,206	156,692	184,572	4,789	114,538	143,059	3,932
Jul	191,791	187,621	5,221	154,016	179,105	4,492	110,944	145,708	3,936
Aug	191,521	183,077	5,178	146,118	163,006	4,054	103,747	145,224	3,925
Sep	184,242	184,208	5,262	133,761	148,649	3,989	95,449	140,360	3,964
Oct	190,446	182,503	5,044	130,322	137,790	3,614	95,708	145,262	3,928
Nov	185,082	181,521	5,025	118,474	130,108	3,625	86,749	139,234	3,880
Dec	186,796	187,143	5,094	114,525	135,832	3,727	86,556	148,514	3,902
Jan	186,006	175,916	5,011	106,627	131,261	3,690	83,287		
Feb	170,695	167,774	4,909	89,174	124,714	3,672	70,204		
Mar	186,184	201,069	5,085	90,829	138,077	3,817	74,040		
	2,240,067	2,203,694		1,582,330	1,858,968		1,175,404	1,288,968	

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Comments:

- Figures exclude services commissioned from the Kent Enablement At Home Service.
- The current forecast is 1,658,878 hours of care against an affordable level of 1,175,404, a difference of +483,474 hours. Using the forecast unit cost of £14.60 this increase in activity increases the forecast by +£7,059k, as shown in table 1.
- The affordable level for 2015-16 reflects both the full year effect of phase 1 transformation changes, along with further reductions in relation to the phase 2 transformation programme based on the revised savings plans agreed with our transformation partners. Due to the anticipated revised phasing of the second tranche of savings, based on work undertaken by our Transformation partners during the design stage of the savings programme early in this financial year, a separate pressure of £1,696k is reported in table 1. However, this was based on a best estimate at the time and actual savings delivered may vary from this. Any deviation from these assumptions is/will be reflected within the forecast activity shown within this activity indicator.
- To the end of December 1,288,968 hours of care have been delivered against an affordable level of 947,873, a difference of +341,095 hours. The budgeted level assumes a continual reduction in client numbers in line with transformation plans and the general trend experienced in recent years. Current activity suggests that the forecast should be lower on this service when compared to the budgeted profile, however the forecast reflects the continuation of the higher levels of activity experienced in 2014-15 and in the first nine months of 2015-16, which have offset the effect of the transformation savings that are built in to the affordable profile.
- Domiciliary for all client groups are volatile budgets, with the number of people receiving domiciliary care decreasing over the past few years as a result of the implementation of Self Directed Support (SDS). This is being compounded by a shift in trend towards take up of the enablement service. However, as a result of this, clients who are receiving domiciliary care are likely to have greater needs and require more intensive packages of care than historically provided - the 2012-2013 average hours per client per week was 8.0, whereas the average figure for 2013-14 was 8.3 and 8.7 for 2014-15. For 2015-16, the current actual average hours per client per week is 8.4.
- The affordable level has been updated to reflect the transfer of responsibilities for former independent living fund clients, along with the outcome of the prices review (referred to at the start of section 2 of this annex).

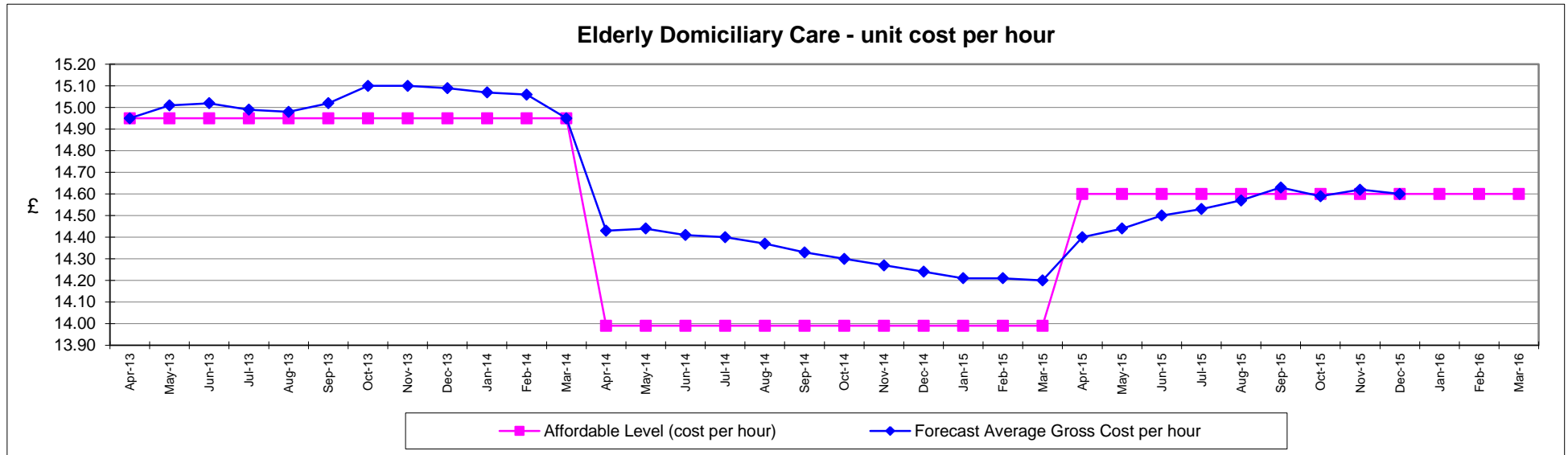
2.3 Average gross cost per hour of older people domiciliary care compared with affordable level:

	2013-14		2014-15		2015-16	
	Affordable Level (Cost per Hour) £p	Forecast Average Gross Cost per Hour £p	Affordable Level (Cost per Hour) £p	Forecast Average Gross Cost per Hour £p	Affordable Level (Cost per Hour) £p	Forecast Average Gross Cost per Hour £p
Apr	14.95	14.95	13.99	14.43	14.60	14.40
May	14.95	15.01	13.99	14.44	14.60	14.44
Jun	14.95	15.02	13.99	14.41	14.60	14.50
Jul	14.95	14.99	13.99	14.40	14.60	14.53
Aug	14.95	14.98	13.99	14.37	14.60	14.57
Sep	14.95	15.02	13.99	14.33	14.60	14.63
Oct	14.95	15.10	13.99	14.30	14.60	14.59
Nov	14.95	15.10	13.99	14.27	14.60	14.62
Dec	14.95	15.09	13.99	14.24	14.60	14.60
Jan	14.95	15.07	13.99	14.21	14.60	
Feb	14.95	15.06	13.99	14.21	14.60	
Mar	14.95	14.95	13.99	14.20	14.60	

Comments:

- The unit cost is dependent on the intensity of the packages required, so is subject to variations.
- The forecast unit cost of +£14.60 is the same as the affordable cost of +£14.60, so no variance is shown in table 1.
- The affordable unit cost for 2015-16 reflects the result of the domiciliary re-let during 2014-15, along with the recent outcome of the prices review and funding of current market pressures.

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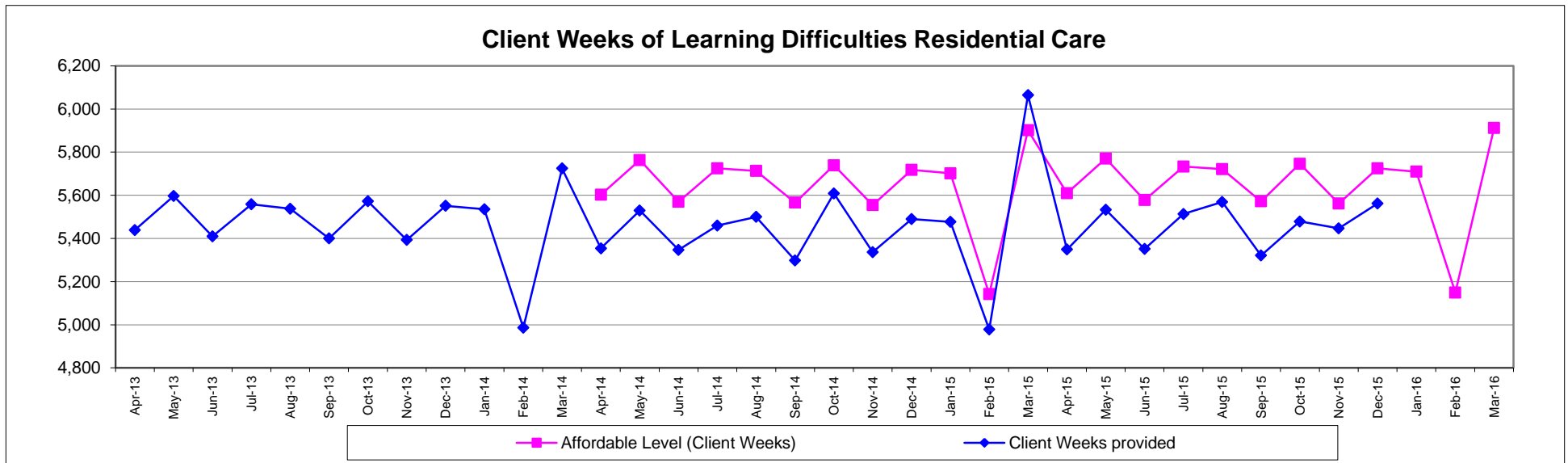


2.4 Number of client weeks of learning disability residential care provided compared with affordable level:

	2013-14	2014-15		2014-15	
	Client Weeks provided	Affordable Level (Client Weeks)	Client Weeks provided	Affordable Level (Client Weeks)	Client Weeks provided
Apr	5,439	5,603	5,354	5,610	5,349
May	5,597	5,763	5,529	5,770	5,533
Jun	5,410	5,570	5,347	5,578	5,351
Jul	5,558	5,725	5,460	5,733	5,513
Aug	5,538	5,713	5,500	5,721	5,569
Sep	5,400	5,566	5,298	5,572	5,321
Oct	5,572	5,739	5,608	5,746	5,479
Nov	5,393	5,555	5,336	5,562	5,447
Dec	5,551	5,718	5,490	5,725	5,562
Jan	5,535	5,702	5,477	5,709	
Feb	4,986	5,142	4,978	5,149	
Mar	5,724	5,901	6,064	5,912	
	65,703	67,697	65,441	67,787	49,125

From April 2014 there has been a change in the method of counting client weeks to align with current guidance, bringing together non-preserved rights client weeks with preserved rights client weeks. Also, clients receiving a respite service are no longer included in this measure and now fall under Support for Carers. The client weeks provided prior to April 2014, shown in the table, have been adjusted to provide comparable figures. Due to the fact that prior year affordable levels did not distinguish between respite and non-respite services, the affordable level cannot be converted into a comparable measure for previous years.

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Comments:

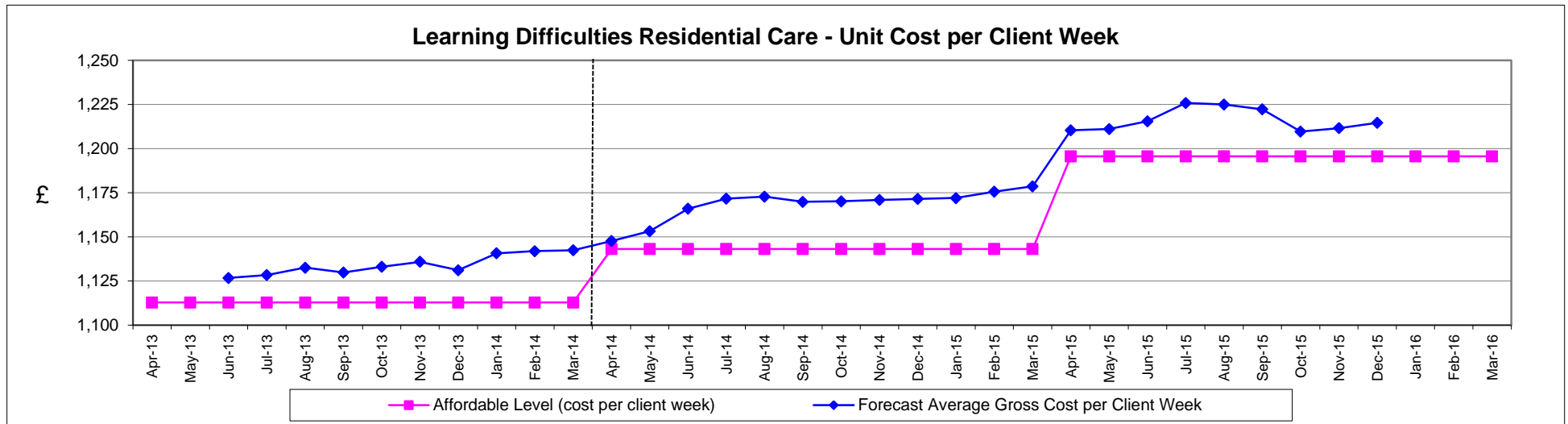
- The above graph reflects the number of client weeks of service provided as this has a greater influence on cost than the actual number of clients. The actual number of clients in LD residential care (including preserved rights clients) at the end of 2013-14 was 1,254, at the end of 2014-15 it was 1,258 and at the end of December 2015 it was 1,236. This includes any ongoing transfers as part of the S256 agreement with Health, transitions, provisions and ordinary residence.
- The current forecast is 65,619 weeks of care against an affordable level of 67,787, a difference of -2,168 weeks. Using the forecast unit cost of £1,214.58, this reduced activity decreases the forecast by -£2,633k, as shown in table 1.
- The forecast activity for this service is based on known individual clients including provisional and transitional clients. Provisional clients are those whose personal circumstances are changing and therefore require a more intense care package or greater financial help. Transitional clients are children who are transferring to adult social services.
- To the end of December 49,125 weeks of care have been delivered against an affordable level of 51,017, a difference of -1,892 weeks. The year to date activity suggests a lower level of activity than currently forecast, however, this is mainly due to delays in the recording of non-permanent residential care services on the activity database, meaning the year to date activity is understated. In addition, the forecast assumes that some activity for transitional and provisional clients will, by necessity, need to be backdated due to bespoke contracts that have to be agreed individually with providers.

2.5 Average gross cost per client week of learning disability residential care compared with affordable level

	2013-14		2014-15		2015-16	
	Affordable Level (Cost per Week)	Forecast Average Gross Cost per Client Week	Affordable Level (Cost per Week)	Forecast Average Gross Cost per Client Week	Affordable Level (Cost per Week)	Forecast Average Gross Cost per Client Week
	£p	£p	£p	£p	£p	£p
Apr	1,112.86		1,143.16	1,147.62	1,195.61	1,210.33
May	1,112.86		1,143.16	1,153.21	1,195.61	1,211.12
Jun	1,112.86	1,126.76	1,143.16	1,165.91	1,195.61	1,215.42
Jul	1,112.86	1,128.39	1,143.16	1,171.61	1,195.61	1,225.85
Aug	1,112.86	1,132.54	1,143.16	1,172.74	1,195.61	1,224.95
Sep	1,112.86	1,129.75	1,143.16	1,169.82	1,195.61	1,222.21
Oct	1,112.86	1,133.04	1,143.16	1,170.10	1,195.61	1,209.68
Nov	1,112.86	1,135.86	1,143.16	1,170.90	1,195.61	1,211.57
Dec	1,112.86	1,131.13	1,143.16	1,171.47	1,195.61	1,214.58
Jan	1,112.86	1,140.70	1,143.16	1,171.99	1,195.61	
Feb	1,112.86	1,141.90	1,143.16	1,175.62	1,195.61	
Mar	1,112.86	1,142.45	1,143.16	1,178.59	1,195.61	

- From April 2014 there was a change in the method of counting clients to align with current guidance, bringing together non-preserved rights clients with preserved rights clients. Also, clients receiving a respite service are no longer included in this measure and now fall under Support for Carers. The forecast average gross cost per client prior to April 2014, shown in the table, includes respite in the overall unit cost. A dotted line has been added to the graph to distinguish between the two different counting methodologies, as the data presented is not on a consistent basis and therefore is not directly comparable.

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Comments:

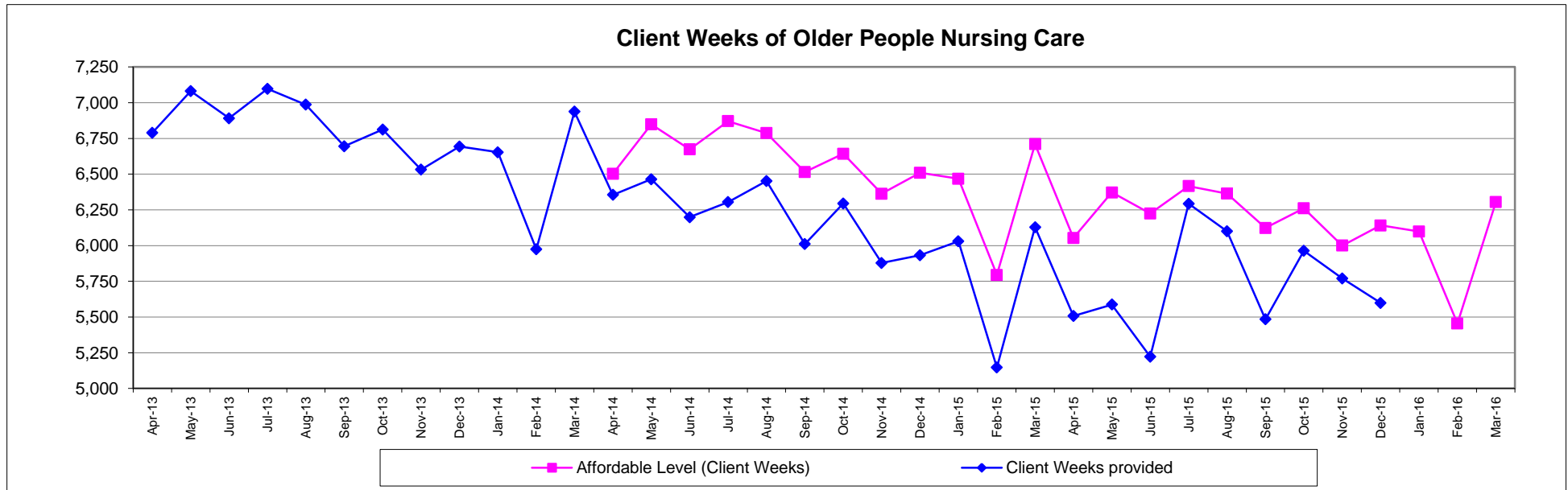
- Clients being placed in residential care are those with very complex and individual needs which make it difficult for them to remain in the community, in supported accommodation/supporting living arrangements, or receiving a domiciliary care package. These are therefore placements which attract a very high cost, with the average now being over £1,200 per week. It is expected that clients with less complex needs, and therefore less cost, can transfer from residential into supported living arrangements. This would mean that the average cost per week would increase over time as the remaining clients in residential care would be those with very high cost – some of whom can cost up to £2,000 per week. In addition, no two placements are alike – the needs of people with learning disabilities are unique and consequently, it is common for average unit costs to increase or decrease significantly on the basis of one or two cases.
- The forecast unit cost of +£1,214.58 is higher than the affordable cost of +£1,195.61 and this difference of +£18.97 adds +£1,286k to the position when multiplied by the affordable weeks, as shown in table 1.
- The steep price increase in July has been influenced by a home closure requiring the clients to be transferred to new settings. As a result of the short notice of closure, many of these new placements are more expensive.
- The reduction in the forecast unit cost in October reflects the outcome of the prices review whereby the actual price uplift applied was less than anticipated in previous monitoring reports.

2.6 Number of client weeks of older people nursing care provided compared with affordable level:

	2013-14	2014-15		2015-16	
	Client Weeks provided	Affordable Level (Client Weeks)	Client Weeks provided	Affordable Level (Client Weeks)	Client Weeks provided
Apr	6,789	6,502	6,355	6,053	5,507
May	7,081	6,848	6,464	6,372	5,587
Jun	6,891	6,673	6,199	6,224	5,222
Jul	7,097	6,871	6,304	6,416	6,293
Aug	6,986	6,788	6,452	6,364	6,100
Sep	6,695	6,515	6,011	6,123	5,484
Oct	6,812	6,643	6,294	6,261	5,964
Nov	6,532	6,363	5,878	6,000	5,770
Dec	6,693	6,510	5,932	6,141	5,599
Jan	6,653	6,468	6,030	6,098	
Feb	5,975	5,795	5,147	5,455	
Mar	6,937	6,710	6,129	6,304	
	81,141	78,686	73,195	73,811	51,526

From April 2014 there was a change in the method of counting client weeks to align with current guidance, bringing together non-preserved rights client weeks with preserved rights client weeks. Also, clients receiving a respite service are no longer included in this measure and now fall under Support for Carers. The client weeks provided prior to April 2014, shown in the table, have been adjusted to provide comparable figures. Due to the fact that prior year affordable levels did not distinguish between respite and non-respite services, the affordable level cannot be converted into a comparable measure for previous years.

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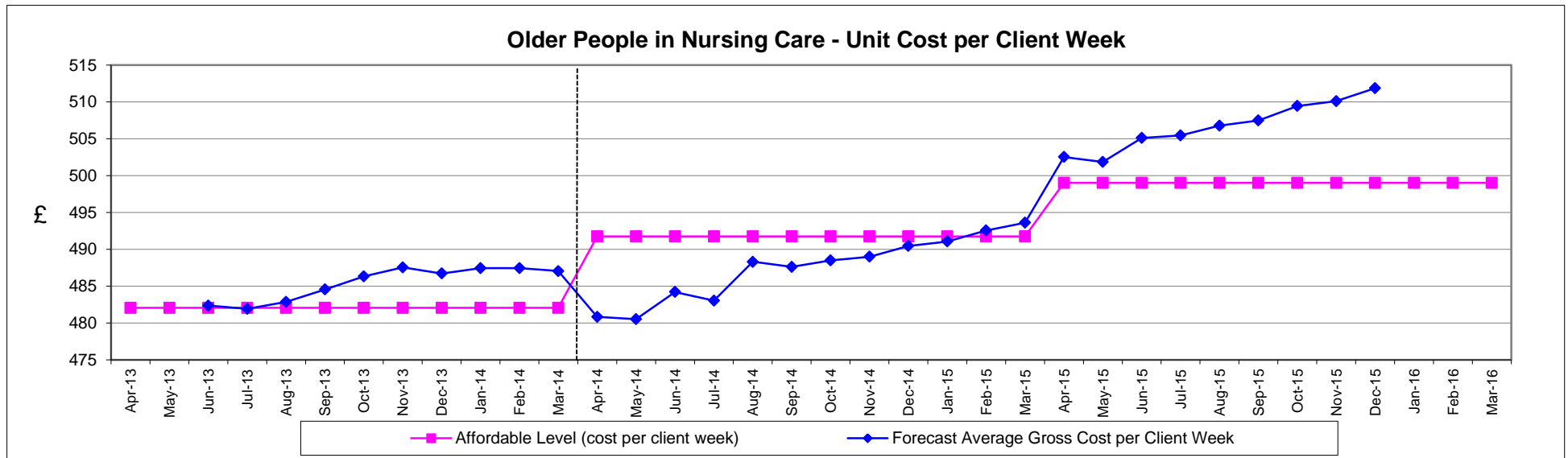
Comments:

- The graph reflects the number of client weeks of service provided as this has a greater influence on cost than the actual number of clients. The actual number of clients in older people nursing care at the end of 2013-14 was 1,423, at the end of 2014-15 it was 1,253 and at the end of December 2015 it was 1,241.
- The current forecast is 68,321 weeks of care against an affordable level of 73,811, a difference of -5,490 weeks. Using the forecast unit cost of £511.87, this reduced activity decreases the forecast by -£2,810k, as shown in table 1.
- To the end of December 51,526 weeks of care have been delivered against an affordable level of 55,954, a difference of -4,428 weeks. The year to date activity suggests a lower level of activity than currently forecast. However, it is believed the activity reported is still understated due to delays in updating the activity database, meaning the year to date activity is understated. Work has been ongoing to clear this backlog. The sharp increase in activity in July is due to the initial impact of this work and therefore the July activity reported in the table above not only reflects July activity but also some activity relating to previous months. This is also true, but to a lesser extent, of the activity quoted for August to November.
- We are now making contributions under the Health and Social Care Village model for health commissioning of short-term beds in order to support step down from acute hospital, to reduce demand for this service.

2.7 Average gross cost per client week of older people nursing care compared with affordable level:

	2013-14		2014-15		2015-16	
	Affordable Level (Cost per Week)	Forecast Average Gross Cost per Client Week	Affordable Level (Cost per Week)	Forecast Average Gross Cost per Client Week	Affordable Level (Cost per Week)	Forecast Average Gross Cost per Client Week
	£p	£p	£p	£p	£p	£p
Apr	482.05		491.75	480.83	499.03	502.53
May	482.05		491.75	480.53	499.03	501.86
Jun	482.05	482.37	491.75	484.21	499.03	505.11
Jul	482.05	481.93	491.75	483.04	499.03	505.46
Aug	482.05	482.87	491.75	488.31	499.03	506.79
Sep	482.05	484.55	491.75	487.62	499.03	507.49
Oct	482.05	486.34	491.75	488.50	499.03	509.45
Nov	482.05	487.54	491.75	489.00	499.03	510.10
Dec	482.05	486.72	491.75	490.45	499.03	511.87
Jan	482.05	487.46	491.75	491.06	499.03	
Feb	482.05	487.44	491.75	492.57	499.03	
Mar	482.05	487.05	491.75	493.62	499.03	

- From April 2014 there was a change in the method of counting clients to align with current guidance, bringing together non-preserved rights clients with preserved rights clients. Also, clients receiving a respite service are no longer included in this measure and now fall under Support for Carers. The forecast average gross cost per client prior to April 2014, shown in the table, includes respite in the overall unit cost. A dotted line has been added to the graph to distinguish between the two different counting methodologies, as the data presented is not on a consistent basis and therefore is not directly comparable.



Comments:

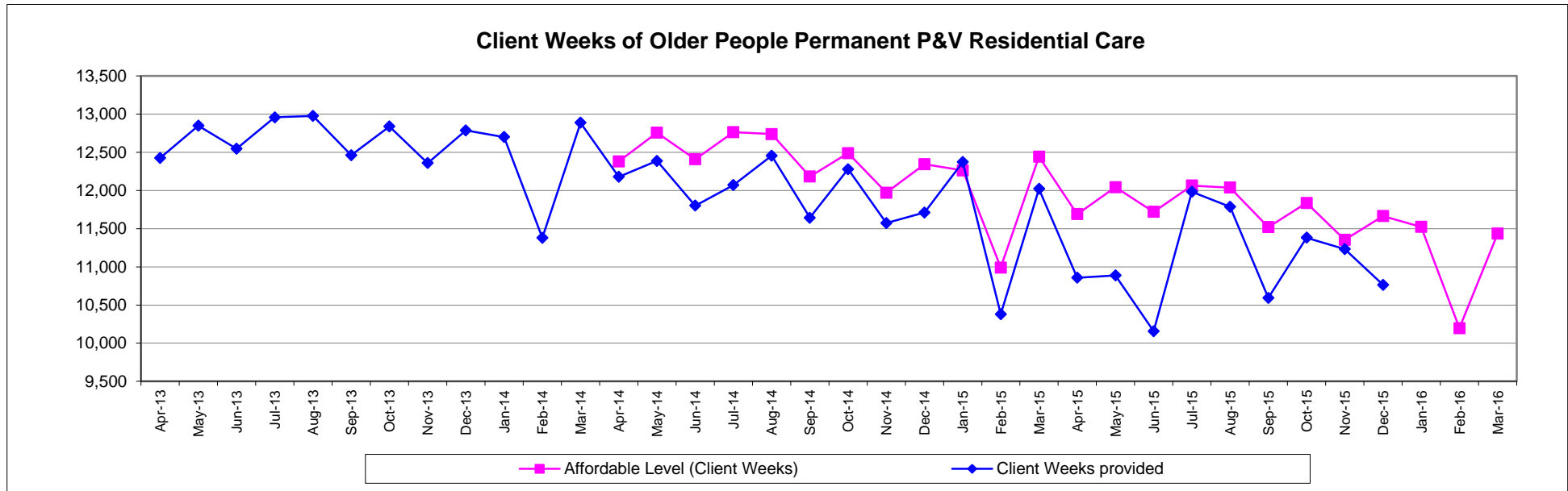
- As with residential care, the unit cost for nursing care will be affected by the increasing proportion of older people with dementia who need more specialist and expensive care, which is why the unit cost can be quite volatile and in recent months this service has seen an increase of older people requiring this more specialist care.
- The forecast unit cost of +£511.87 is higher than the affordable cost of +£499.03 and this difference of +£12.84 increases the position by +£948k when multiplied by the affordable weeks, as shown in table 1.
- The unit cost for 2015-16 includes the full year effect of the price increase which took effect from October 2014, whereas the unit cost in 2014-15 is an average for the year and therefore only includes a part year effect of this price uplift.

2.8 Number of client weeks of older people permanent P&V residential care provided compared with affordable level:

	2013-14	2014-15		2015-16	
	Client Weeks provided	Affordable Level (Client Weeks)	Client Weeks provided	Affordable Level (Client Weeks)	Client Weeks provided
Apr	12,427	12,381	12,179	11,690	10,858
May	12,849	12,757	12,388	12,043	10,888
Jun	12,547	12,409	11,802	11,720	10,157
Jul	12,959	12,764	12,071	12,065	11,983
Aug	12,978	12,739	12,456	12,038	11,787
Sep	12,463	12,184	11,644	11,521	10,594
Oct	12,839	12,490	12,279	11,836	11,382
Nov	12,360	11,972	11,573	11,353	11,231
Dec	12,787	12,345	11,712	11,664	10,764
Jan	12,701	12,264	12,373	11,524	
Feb	11,380	10,991	10,381	10,197	
Mar	12,887	12,443	12,022	11,436	
	151,177	147,739	142,880	139,087	99,643

From April 2014 there was a change in the method of counting client weeks to align with current guidance, bringing together non-preserved rights client weeks with preserved rights client weeks. Also, clients receiving a respite service are no longer included in this measure and now fall under Support for Carers. Due to the fact that prior year affordable levels did not distinguish between respite and non-respite services, the affordable level cannot be converted into a comparable measure for previous years.

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Comments:

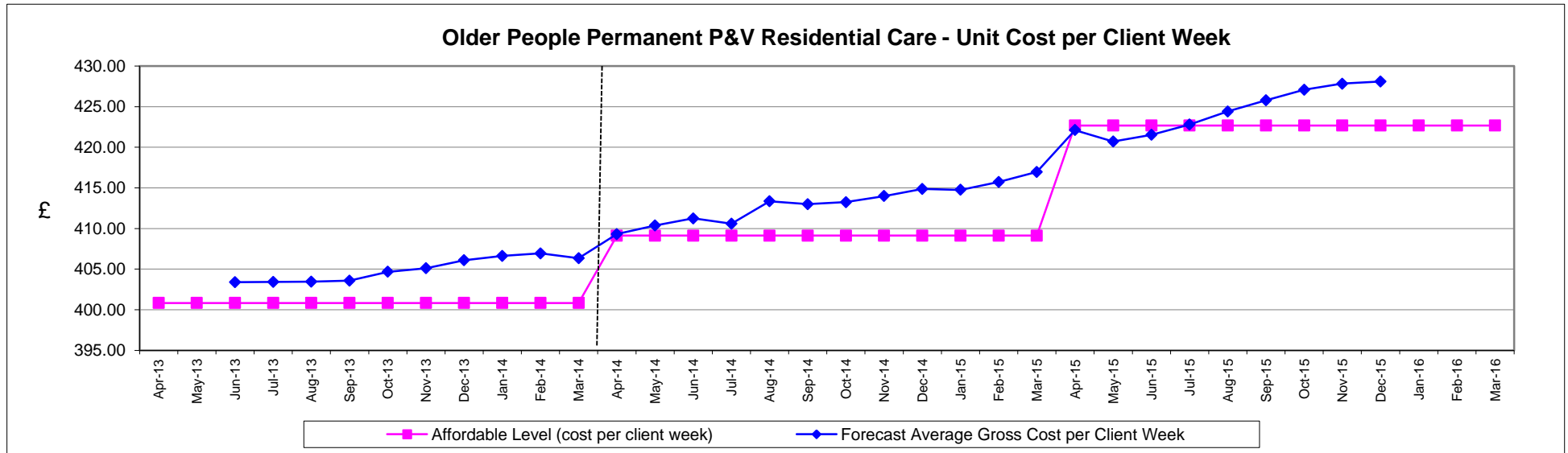
- The above graph reflects the number of client weeks of service provided as this has a greater influence on cost than the actual number of clients. The actual number of clients in older people permanent P&V residential care at the end of 2013-14 was 2,704, at the end of 2014-15 it was 2,480 and at the end of December 2015 it was 2,384. It is evident that there are ongoing pressures relating to clients with dementia who require a greater intensity of care.
- It is difficult to consider this budget line in isolation, as the Older Person's modernisation strategy has meant that fewer people are being placed in our in-house provision, so we would expect that there will be a higher proportion of permanent placements being made in the independent sector which is masking the extent of the overall reducing trend in residential client activity.
- The current forecast is 130,880 weeks of care against an affordable level of 139,087, a difference of -8,207 weeks. Using the forecast unit cost of £428.11, this reduced activity decreases the forecast by -£3,514k, as shown in table 1.
- To the end of December 99,643 weeks of care have been delivered against an affordable level of 105,930 a difference of -6,287 weeks. This is in line with the current forecast activity variance of -9,449 weeks.
- Due to delays earlier in the year in updating the activity database, work is being undertaken to clear this backlog. The sharp increase in activity in July is due to the initial impact of this work and therefore the July activity reported in the table above not only reflects July activity but also some activity relating to previous months. This is also true, but to a lesser extent, for the activity quoted for August to November.
- We are now making contributions to the Health and Social Care Village model for health commissioning of short-term beds in order to support step down from acute hospital, to reduce demand for this service.

2.9 Average gross cost per client week of older people permanent P&V residential care provided compared with affordable level:

	2013-14		2014-15		2015-16	
	Forecast Average Gross Cost per Client Week £p	Forecast Average Gross Cost per Client Week £p	Affordable Level (Cost per Week) £p	Forecast Average Gross Cost per Client Week £p	Affordable Level (Cost per Week) £p	Forecast Average Gross Cost per Client Week £p
Apr	400.83		409.12	409.31	422.68	422.12
May	400.83		409.12	410.36	422.68	420.72
Jun	400.83	403.38	409.12	411.25	422.68	421.54
Jul	400.83	403.43	409.12	410.59	422.68	422.80
Aug	400.83	403.46	409.12	413.36	422.68	424.41
Sep	400.83	403.59	409.12	413.00	422.68	425.79
Oct	400.83	404.67	409.12	413.25	422.68	427.07
Nov	400.83	405.12	409.12	413.99	422.68	427.83
Dec	400.83	406.10	409.12	414.86	422.68	428.11
Jan	400.83	406.62	409.12	414.76	422.68	
Feb	400.83	406.94	409.12	415.73	422.68	
Mar	400.83	406.35	409.12	416.97	422.68	

- From April 2014 there was a change in the method of counting clients to align with current guidance, bringing together non-preserved rights clients with preserved rights clients. Also, clients receiving a respite service are no longer included in this measure and now fall under Support for Carers. The forecast average gross cost per client prior to April 2014, shown in the table, includes respite in the overall unit cost. A dotted line has been added to the graph to distinguish between the two different counting methodologies, as the data presented is not on a consistent basis and therefore is not directly comparable.

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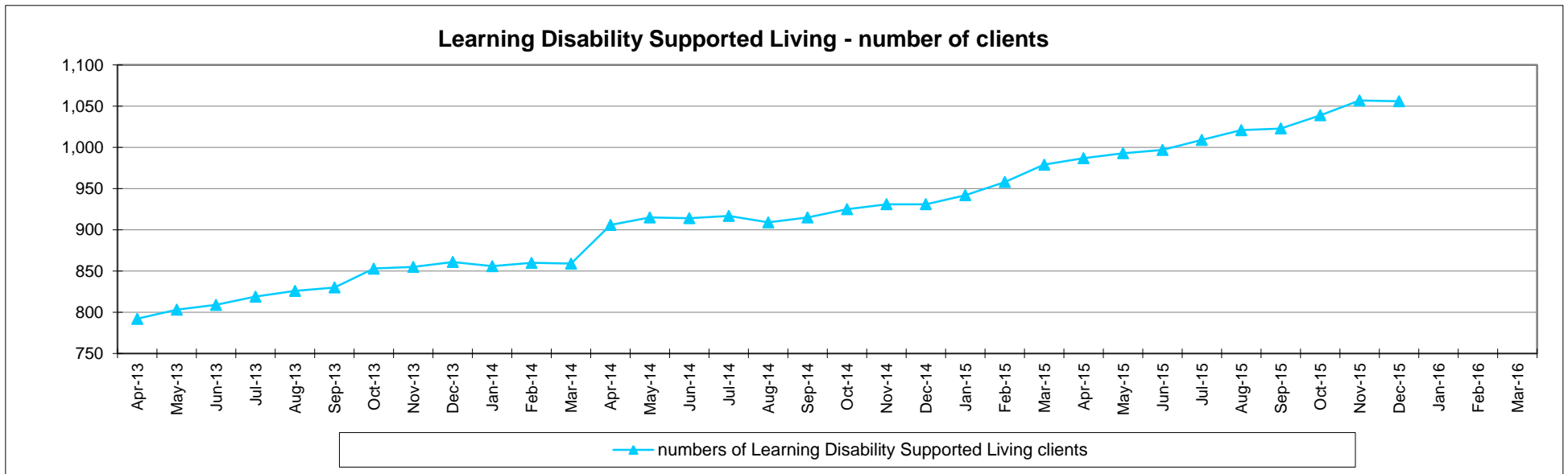
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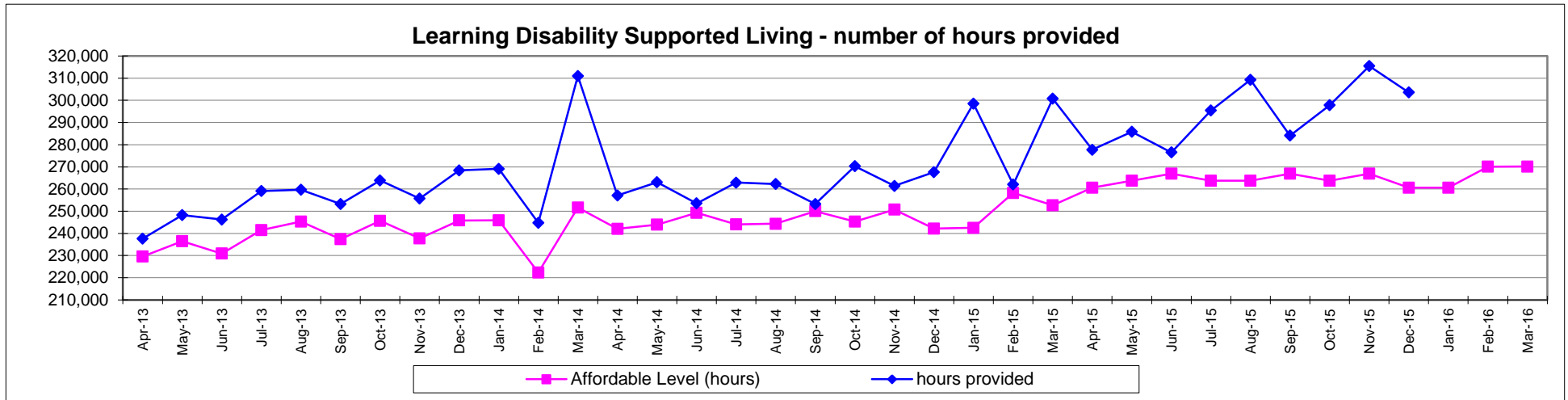
- The forecast unit cost of +£428.11 is higher than the affordable cost of +£422.68 and this difference of +£5.43 adds +£755k to the position when multiplied by the affordable weeks, as shown in table 1.
- This general increasing trend in average unit cost is likely to be due to the higher proportion of clients with dementia, who are more costly due to the increased intensity of care required, as outlined above. New cases are likely to enter the service at higher unit costs, reflecting the fact that only those with higher needs are directed towards residential care, while those with lower needs are directed towards other forms of support.

2.10 Learning Disability Supported Living – numbers of clients and hours provided in the independent sector

	2013-14			2014-15			2015-16		
	Affordable level (hours)	hours provided	number of clients	Affordable level (hours)	hours provided	number of clients	Affordable level (hours)	hours provided	number of clients
Apr	229,595	237,586	792	242,016	257,102	906	260,593	277,711	987
May	236,463	248,239	803	243,920	263,101	915	263,771	285,786	993
Jun	230,924	246,245	809	249,306	253,552	914	266,949	276,507	997
Jul	241,526	259,125	819	244,064	262,906	917	263,771	295,434	1,009
Aug	245,366	259,688	826	244,360	262,245	909	263,771	309,295	1,021
Sep	237,459	253,230	830	250,030	253,263	915	266,949	284,119	1,023
Oct	245,710	263,849	853	245,304	270,298	925	263,771	297,797	1,039
Nov	237,732	255,747	855	250,730	261,412	931	266,949	315,436	1,057
Dec	245,833	268,439	861	242,207	267,598	931	260,593	303,594	1,056
Jan	245,925	269,112	856	242,547	298,520	942	260,593		
Feb	222,397	244,716	860	258,264	262,038	958	270,124		
Mar	251,616	310,965	859	252,712	300,749	979	270,127		
	2,870,543	3,116,941		2,965,460	3,212,783		3,177,961	2,645,680	

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Comments:

- This indicator has changed for 2015-16 and now excludes activity relating the adult placement scheme as this is now reported within a separate budget line. This measure continues to incorporate 2 different supported living arrangements; supported accommodation (mainly S256 clients) and Supporting Independence Service. Services for individual clients are commissioned in either sessions or hours, however for the purposes of this report, sessions are converted into hours on a standard basis. In addition, the details of the number of clients in receipt of these services is given on a monthly basis. Activity for 2013-14 and 2014-15 has also been restated to exclude the adult placement scheme to ensure data is directly comparable.
- The current forecast is 3,579,879 hours of care against an affordable level of 3,177,961, a difference of +401,918 hours. Using the forecast unit cost of £9.80, this increased activity increases the forecast by +£3,939k, as shown in table 1.
- To the end of December 2,645,680 hours of care have been delivered against an affordable level of 2,377,117, a difference of +268,563 hours. The forecast number of hours reflects an increase in activity expected in future months which is also reflected in the profile of the budgeted level. However, the year to date activity still suggests a lower level of activity than currently forecast, which is mainly due to a delay in the recording of transitional and provisional clients on the activity database. Such delays are intrinsic to this service as a result of the channels through which referrals take place, i.e. ordinary residence cases, where complex negotiations are involved to determine the point at which different local authorities have responsibility for clients, in addition to the number of bespoke contracts that have to be agreed individually with providers.
- The affordable level has been updated to reflect the transfer of responsibilities for former independent living fund clients, along with the outcome of the prices review (referred to at the start of section 2 of this annex).

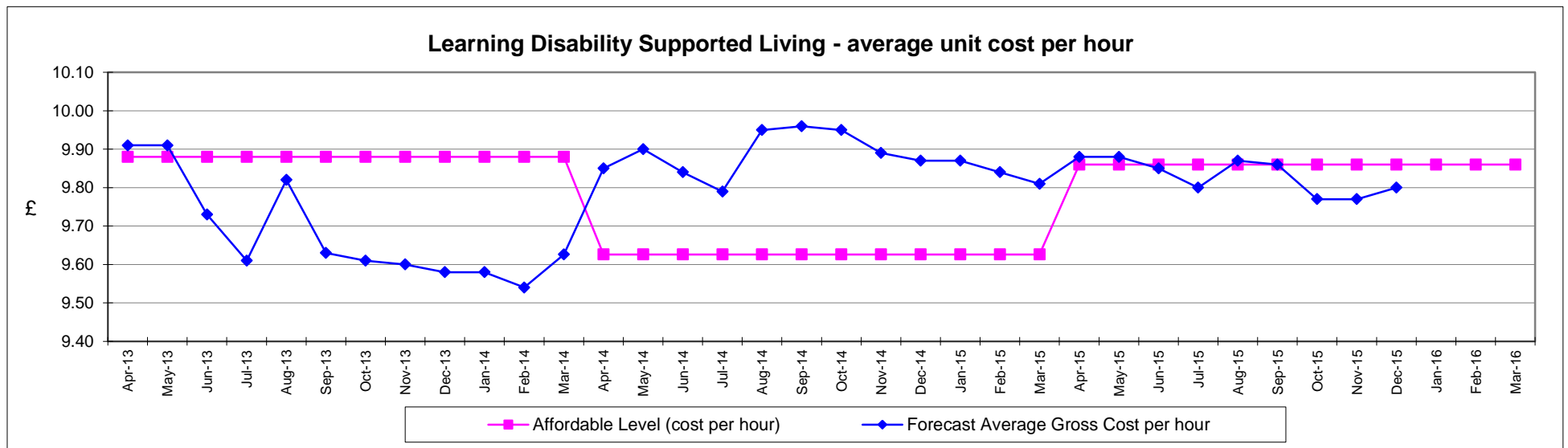
2.11 Average gross cost per hour of Supported Living service compared with affordable level:

	2013-14		2014-15		2015-16	
	Affordable Level (Cost per Hour) £p	Forecast Average Gross Cost per Hour £p	Affordable Level (Cost per Hour) £p	Forecast Average Gross Cost per Hour £p	Affordable Level (Cost per Hour) £p	Forecast Average Gross Cost per Hour £p
Apr	9.88	9.91	9.63	9.85	9.86	9.88
May	9.88	9.91	9.63	9.90	9.86	9.88
Jun	9.88	9.73	9.63	9.84	9.86	9.85
Jul	9.88	9.61	9.63	9.79	9.86	9.80
Aug	9.88	9.82	9.63	9.95	9.86	9.87
Sep	9.88	9.63	9.63	9.96	9.86	9.86
Oct	9.88	9.61	9.63	9.95	9.86	9.77
Nov	9.88	9.60	9.63	9.89	9.86	9.77
Dec	9.88	9.58	9.63	9.87	9.86	9.80
Jan	9.88	9.58	9.63	9.87	9.86	
Feb	9.88	9.54	9.63	9.84	9.86	
Mar	9.88	9.63	9.63	9.81	9.86	

Comments:

- This measure comprises 2 distinct client groups and each group has a very different unit cost, which are combined to provide an average unit cost for the purposes of this report. The costs associated with these placements will vary depending on the complexity of each case and the type of support required in each placement. This varies enormously between a domiciliary type support to life skills and daily living support.
- The forecast unit cost of +£9.80 is lower than the affordable cost of +£9.86 and this difference of -£0.06 reduces the position by -£191k when multiplied by the affordable hours, as shown in table 1.
- The reduction in the forecast unit cost in October reflects the outcome of the prices review whereby the actual price uplift applied was less than anticipated in previous monitoring reports.

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2. SOCIAL CARE DEBT MONITORING

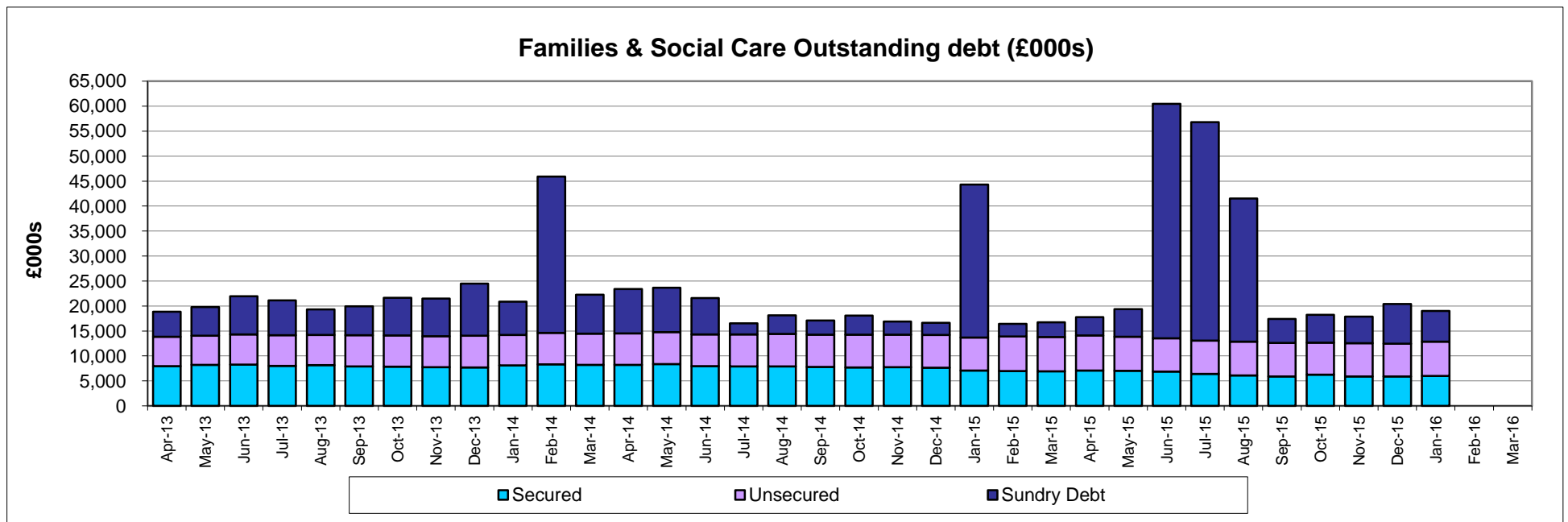
The outstanding debt as at the end of January was £19.003m compared with November's figure of £17.848m excluding any amounts not yet due for payment (as they are still within the 28 day payment term allowed). Within this figure is £6.138m of sundry debt compared to £5.298m in November. It is not unusual for sundry debt to fluctuate for large invoices to Health. As previously reported, in June invoices were raised across the East Kent Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) for the Better Care Fund (BCF) totalling £43m. There is minimal risk around this debt as it is secured by a signed Section 75 agreement, meaning that the CCGs are legally obliged to pay. Payments are being received monthly. From September, the remaining BCF debt moved onto a payment plan to reflect the agreed monthly profile of anticipated income receipts and will only show as outstanding debt in the table below if an instalment is not received on time.

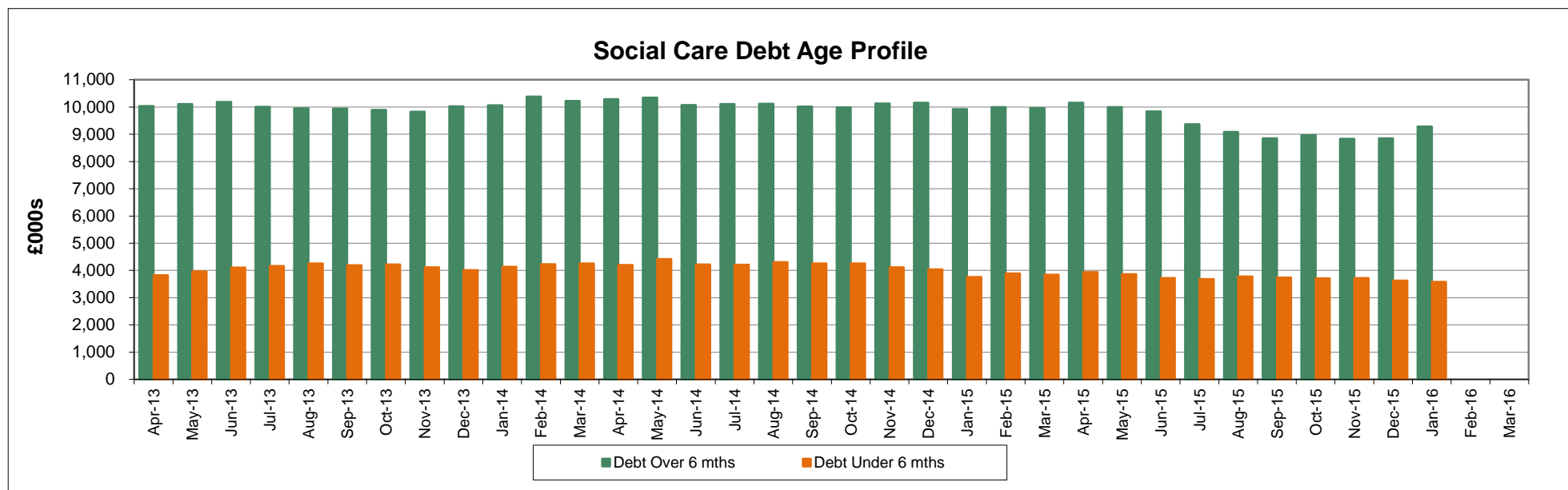
Also within the outstanding debt is £12.865m relating to Social Care (client) debt which is an increase of £0.315m from the November position. The following table shows how this breaks down in terms of age and also whether it is secured (i.e. by a legal charge on the client's property) or unsecured, together with how this month compares with previous months. For most months the debt figures refer to when the four weekly invoice billing run interfaces with Oracle (the accounting system) rather than the calendar month, as this provides a more meaningful position for Social Care Client Debt. This therefore means that there are 13 billing invoice runs during the year. The sundry debt figures are based on calendar months.

	Total Due Debt (Social Care & Sundry Debt) £000s	Sundry Debt £000s	Social Care Debt				
			Total Social Care Due Debt £000s	Debt Over 6 months £000s	Debt Under 6 months £000s	Secured £000s	Unsecured £000s
Apr-14	23,374	8,884	14,490	10,288	4,202	8,220	6,270
May-14	23,654	8,899	14,755	10,342	4,413	8,353	6,402
Jun-14	21,579	7,289	14,290	10,071	4,219	7,944	6,346
Jul-14	16,503	2,187	14,316	10,108	4,208	7,927	6,389
Aug-14	18,138	3,707	14,431	10,122	4,309	7,882	6,549
Sep-14	17,119	2,849	14,270	10,015	4,255	7,805	6,465
Oct-14	18,060	3,808	14,252	9,992	4,260	7,709	6,543
Nov-14	16,907	2,658	14,249	10,131	4,118	7,777	6,472
Dec-14	16,612	2,406	14,206	10,160	4,046	7,624	6,582
Jan-15	44,315	30,632	13,683	9,926	3,757	7,079	6,604
Feb-15	16,425	2,538	13,887	9,996	3,891	6,973	6,914
Mar-15	16,757	2,955	13,802	9,962	3,840	6,915	6,887
Apr-15	17,764	3,669	14,095	10,155	3,940	7,069	7,026

	Social Care Debt						
	Total Due Debt (Social Care & Sundry Debt)	Sundry Debt	Total Social Care Due Debt	Debt Over 6 months	Debt Under 6 months	Secured	Unsecured
	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s
May-15	19,391	5,534	13,857	9,994	3,863	7,009	6,848
Jun-15	60,443	* 46,885	13,558	9,837	3,721	6,885	6,673
Jul-15	56,795	* 43,741	13,054	9,366	3,688	6,417	6,637
Aug-15	41,514	* 28,648	12,866	9,090	3,776	6,075	6,791
Sep-15	17,391	4,794	12,597	8,854	3,743	5,913	6,684
Oct-15	18,214	5,532	12,682	8,969	3,713	6,231	6,451
Nov-15	17,848	5,298	12,550	8,831	3,719	5,905	6,645
Dec-15	20,408	7,934	12,474	8,849	3,625	5,888	6,586
Jan-16	19,003	6,138	12,865	9,281	3,584	6,012	6,853
Feb-16							
Mar-16							

* incl. BCF debt of £42,867k
 * incl. BCF debt of £39,295k
 * incl. BCF debt of £25,006k
 From Sept 15, the remaining BCF debt has been moved onto a payment plan and will only show in these figures if a monthly instalment is not received on time.





With regard to Social Care debt, the tables below show the current breakdown and movement since last month of secured, unsecured and health debt, together with a breakdown of unsecured debt by client group.

Social Care debt by Customer Credit Status	November £000s	January £000s	Movement £000s
Secured	5,905	6,012	107
Unsecured - Deceased/Terminated Service	1,763	1,950	187
Unsecured - Ongoing	4,824	4,845	21
Caution/Restriction (Unsecured)	58	58	0
Health (Unsecured)	0	0	0
TOTAL	12,550	12,865	315

Unsecured debt by Client Group	November £000s	January £000s	Movement £000s
Older People/Physical Disability	6,115	6,300	185
Learning Disability	389	417	28
Mental Health	141	136	-5
TOTAL	6,645	6,853	208

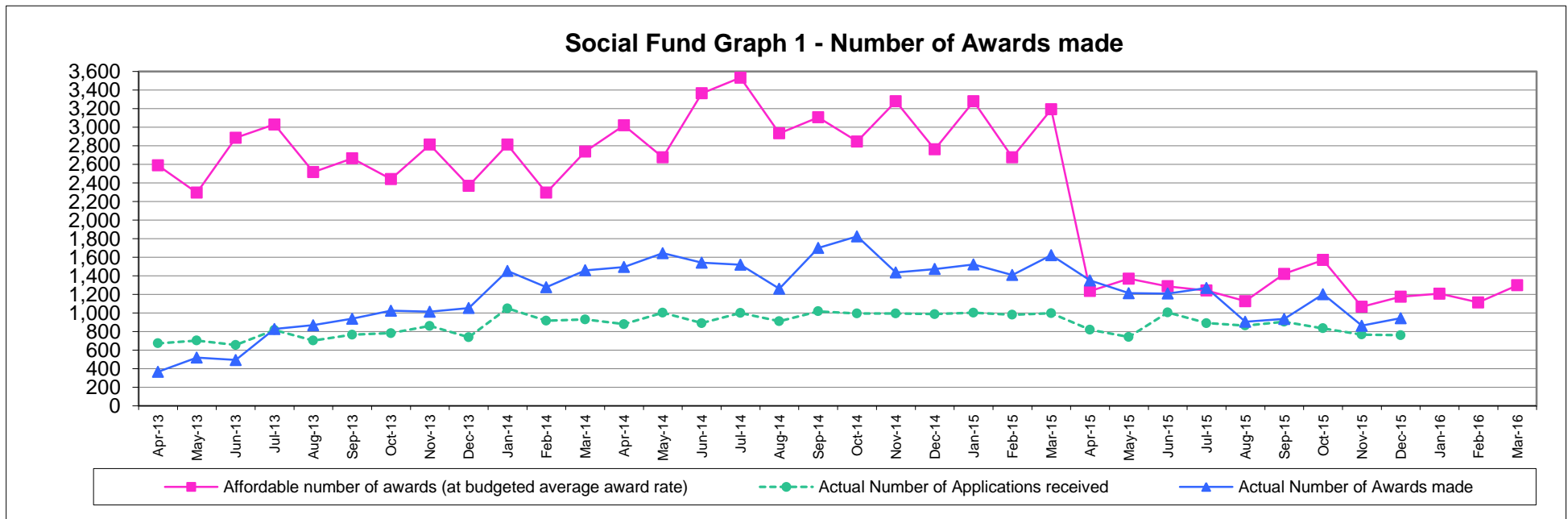
2.13 Number and Value of Social Fund awards made

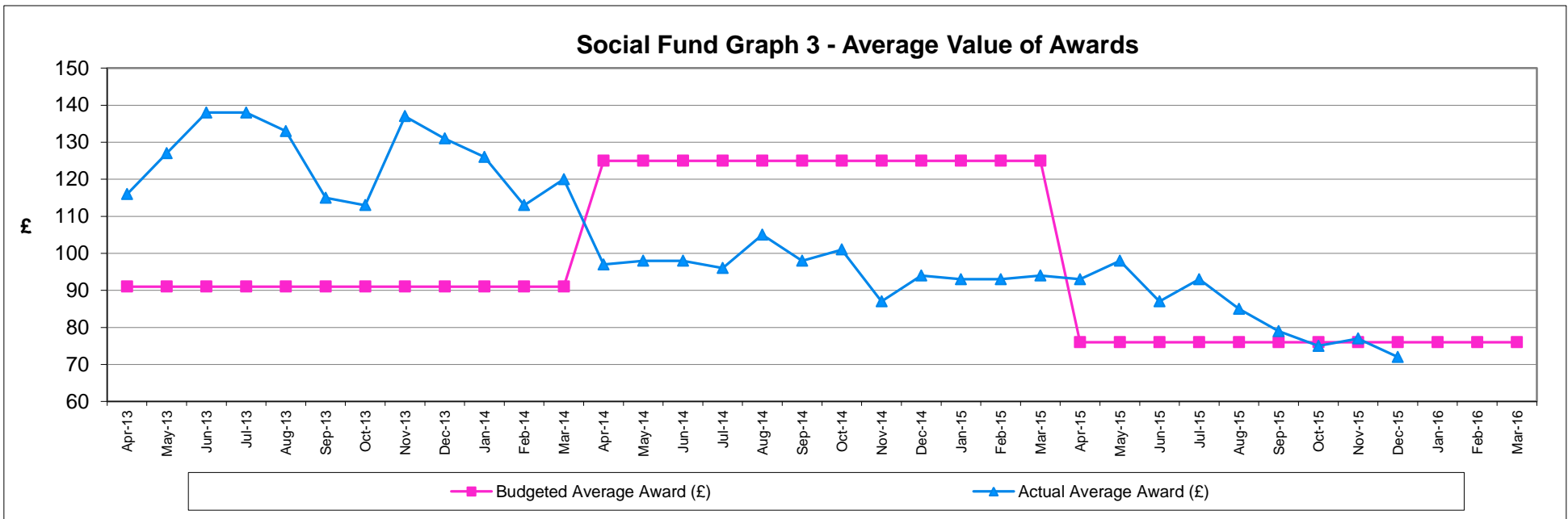
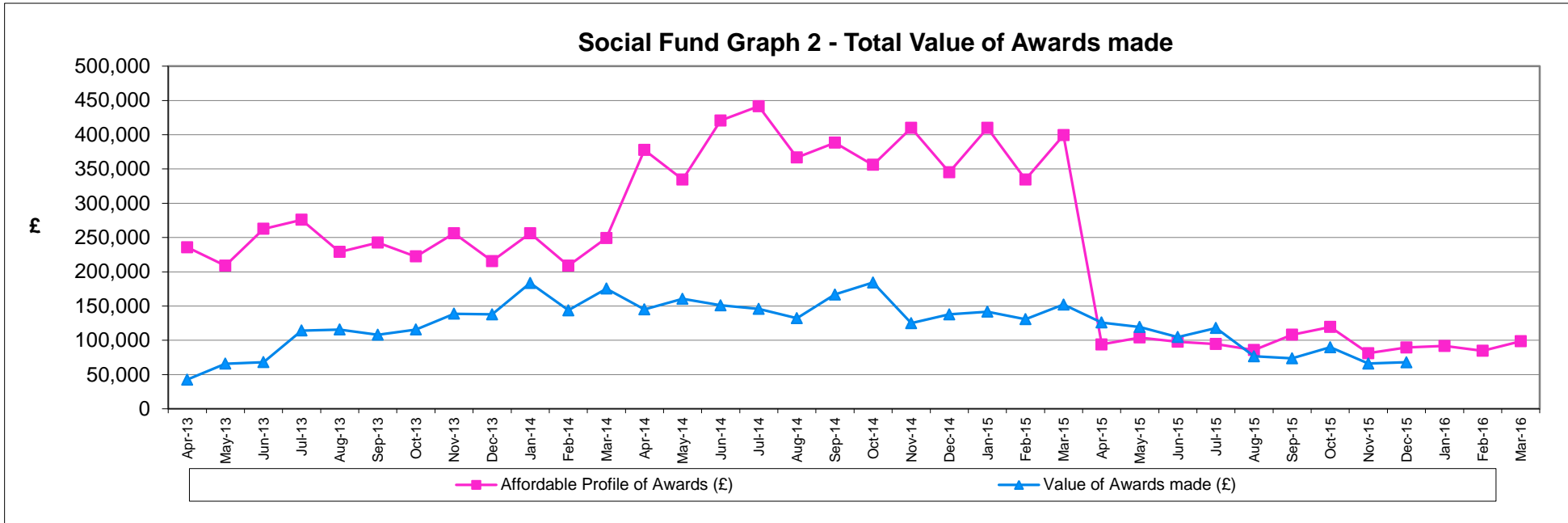
		(a) *	(b)	(c)	(d) *	(e)	(d) / (a)	(e) / (c)
		Affordable number of awards (at budgeted average award rate)	Actual number of applications received	Actual number of awards made	Affordable profile of awards (£)	Value of awards made (£)	Budgeted average award (£)	Actual average award (£)
2013-14	Apr	2,591	673	368	235,800	42,620	91	116
	May	2,296	704	520	208,900	65,907	91	127
	Jun	2,887	655	494	262,700	68,201	91	138
	Jul	3,031	818	828	275,800	114,188	91	138
	Aug	2,518	704	869	229,100	115,811	91	133
	Sep	2,666	766	939	242,600	108,237	91	115
	Oct	2,443	783	1,025	222,300	115,778	91	113
	Nov	2,813	861	1,015	256,000	138,738	91	137
	Dec	2,369	738	1,054	215,600	137,748	91	131
	Jan	2,813	1,050	1,453	256,000	183,774	91	126
	Feb	2,296	918	1,278	208,900	143,813	91	113
	Mar	2,739	930	1,460	249,300	175,416	91	120
			31,462	9,600	11,303	2,863,000	1,410,231	91
2014-15	Apr	3,021	880	1,496	377,600	145,043	125	97
	May	2,677	1,003	1,644	334,600	160,674	125	98
	Jun	3,366	891	1,541	420,700	151,071	125	98
	Jul	3,534	1,001	1,520	441,700	145,708	125	96
	Aug	2,935	911	1,261	366,900	132,206	125	105
	Sep	3,108	1,018	1,701	388,500	166,819	125	98
	Oct	2,848	994	1,826	356,000	184,200	125	101
	Nov	3,280	996	1,436	410,000	125,165	125	87
	Dec	2,762	988	1,474	345,300	137,907	125	94
	Jan	3,280	1,004	1,523	410,000	141,708	125	93
	Feb	2,677	981	1,410	334,600	130,743	125	93
	Mar	3,194	997	1,622	399,300	152,114	125	94
			36,682	11,664	18,454	4,585,200	1,773,358	125

* Columns (a) and (d) are based on available funding which has been profiled by month and type of award (excluding cash awards) in the same ratio as the previous DWP scheme. As the criteria and awards for the scheme differ to the DWP scheme, this does not represent the anticipated demand for the scheme, but represents the maximum affordable level should sufficient applications be received which meet the criteria. *Please note as the data for 2013-14, the first year of our pilot scheme, includes increasing levels of activity as the service commenced, it is not considered to represent a typical year.*

One application may result in more than one award, e.g. an award for food & clothing and an award for utilities, hence the number of awards in column (c) may exceed the number of applications in column (b).

	(a) *	(b)	(c)	(d) *	(e)	(d) / (a)	(e) / (c)	
	Affordable number of awards (at budgeted average award rate)	Actual number of applications received	Actual number of awards made	Affordable profile of awards (£)	Value of awards made (£)	Budgeted average award (£)	Actual average award (£)	
2015-16	Apr	1,237	821	1,350	94,000	125,979	76	93
	May	1,370	742	1,214	104,100	119,356	76	98
	Jun	1,288	1,007	1,210	97,900	104,865	76	87
	Jul	1,242	891	1,269	94,400	117,923	76	93
	Aug	1,128	865	907	85,700	76,786	76	85
	Sep	1,422	905	936	108,100	73,593	76	79
	Oct	1,571	835	1,202	119,400	89,806	76	75
	Nov	1,067	768	863	81,100	66,164	76	77
	Dec	1,176	761	945	89,400	67,964	76	72
	Jan	1,208			91,800		76	
	Feb	1,114			84,700		76	
	Mar	1,299			98,700		76	
		15,122	7,595	9,896	1,149,300	842,436	76	85





Comments:

- The pilot scheme commenced in Kent on 1 April 2013 and differed from the previous cash-based Social Fund scheme, previously administered by DWP. The Kent Local Welfare Scheme offers emergency help to those experiencing a crisis; a disaster; or who are in need of help to make the transition into or remain within the local community. This scheme offers 4 types of award including food & clothing, furniture & white goods, energy vouchers and advice & guidance. In addition, all applicants, regardless of whether they receive an award or not, are signposted to the appropriate service to address any causal or underlying needs. This is an emergency fund and is targeted towards the most vulnerable in society. The figures provided in the table and represented in the graphs above reflect a combined average of these 4 types of award.
- All applications are immediately prioritised with the intention that high priority applications should receive the award within 24 hours. Medium and low priority applications are assessed within a longer timeframe e.g. applications for furniture from low risk households. Therefore, actual awards made in any month can exceed the number of applications for the month, either due to the processing of low priority cases from previous months, or as a result of individual applications resulting in multiple awards being granted, as referred to above.
- From April 2013 to March 2015, the scheme was funded from a Government grant. Due to uncertainty about both future levels of demand and government funding, the funding for awards in 2013-14 was ring-fenced and rolled forward to 2014-15 to provide some stability to the service and this roll forward is reflected in the 2014-15 affordable level as shown in the table above. Following the Government announcement to incorporate the Local Welfare Assistance Grant within the Revenue Support Grant (RSG) from 2015-16, the budget for this service as shown in table 1 is now £1,481.5k, in line with the amount identified by Government as being included within our RSG for welfare provision. Within this, £332.2k is the cost of administering the scheme, including signposting applicants to alternative appropriate services, and £1,149.3k is available to award where appropriate (column d in the table above).
- **Graph 1** above represents the number of individual awards granted, (there could be multiple awards arising from an individual application), compared to (i) the number of applications received and (ii) the affordable number of awards, as calculated using the budgeted average award rate, which is the maximum number of awards that can be afforded, not the anticipated level of demand. In the early months of 2013-14 the number of applications received was higher than the number of awards made, which predominately reflected that applications for cash awards were being received in line with the old DWP scheme, but this type of award is not generally offered as part of the Kent Local Welfare Scheme. Initially there were also a number of inappropriate referrals being made whereby the applicant did not qualify. However, the number of awards made is now higher than the number of applications received illustrating that a greater proportion of relevant applications are being received along with some applications resulting in more than one award e.g. an award for food and clothing and an award for energy vouchers.

- **Graph 2** represents the value of awards made against the maximum profiled funding available. In the first four months of the year, the value of the awards made has been higher than the affordable level, as the service adjusts to the reduction in budget. However in the past five months this trend has reversed, and is likely to be in part due to the recently agreed changes to the scheme aimed at reducing the overall value of individual awards. The graph illustrates the rise in total monthly award values as the scheme matured during the first year and as the service has successfully signposted applicants to support and advice in their own communities. Changes to welfare reform may impact on the number and overall value of awards in future months. The number and value of awards shown in the table above represents the number and value of awards approved. Although awards are approved for individuals in dire need, not all approved awards are taken up for a variety of reasons. The financial outturn will reflect the value of awards actually paid, therefore will not necessarily match the value of awards approved as shown in the table above.
- **Graph 3** compares the budgeted average award value, based on the anticipated mix and value of awards, to the actual average award. Using DWP data, and excluding cash awards, it was anticipated that the majority of awards for this scheme would be for food & clothing, high volume & low value, and therefore the budgeted average award for 2013-14 was set with this in mind at £91. The affordable average award value was revised for 2014-15 to match the actual average award value for 2013-14 of £125. This increase in the budgeted average award value from £91 to £125 reflected a higher than expected number of awards in 2013-14 for furniture & equipment which have a higher award value. In line with the revised funding arrangement from 2015-16 the overall cash limit for awards has been reduced to £1,149.3k. Accordingly, the affordable average award value has been reduced to £76 (from the previously reported figure of £96 included in the Outturn report presented to Cabinet in July) to reflect recently agreed changes to the scheme aimed at reducing the overall value of individual awards. To the end of December 2015, 39% of the number of awards have been for food & clothing representing 38% of the value of awards (the percentages were 36% and 32% respectively in 2014-15). Whilst, Furniture & equipment (incl white goods) accounts for 37% of the number of awards but 51% of the value of awards (the percentages were 39% and 57% respectively in 2014-15). The reduction in the percentage of total value of awards for higher cost items, such as white goods and furniture is also reflected in the reduction of the average award value, from £93 in July 2015 to £72 in December 2015, resulting from the recently agreed changes to the scheme. The forecast for this service assumes higher levels of awards during the winter months resulting in a balanced position currently being forecast for this service, as reflected in table 1. The awards figures across the Christmas periods include the impact of both energy and food awards being issued for 14 days rather than the normal 7 days to ensure continuity of provision. The scheme has also responded to peaks in demand from civil emergencies such as the floods in December 2013 and more recently the Canterbury fire in July 2015.

3. CAPITAL

3.1 The Social Care, Health and Wellbeing Directorate - Adult Services has a working budget for 2015-16 of £51,070k (£13,292k excluding PFI). The forecast outturn against the 2015-16 budget is £8,751k (£5,008k excluding PFI) giving a variance of -£42,319k (-£8,284k excluding PFI).

3.2 **Table 2** below details the Social Care Health & Wellbeing Directorate's - Adult Services Capital Position by Budget Book line.

Budget Book Heading	2015-16 cash limit per budget book (£000)	2015-16 Working Budget (£000)	2015-16 Variance (£000)	Variance Break-down (£000)	Rephasing / Real Variance and Funding Stream	Explanation of In-Year Variance >£100k	Project Status ¹	Explanation of Project Status	Actions
Rolling Programmes									
Home Support Fund & Equipment	3,120	3,957	-341	-341	Real: revenue	Reflects the lower than anticipated demand for telecare equipment resulting in a reduced revenue contribution to capital.	Green		
Individual Projects									
Kent Strategy for Services for Older People (OP):									
Think Autism	0	2	0	0			Green		

Budget Book Heading	2015-16 cash limit per budget book (£000)	2015-16 Working Budget (£000)	2015-16 Variance (£000)	Variance Break-down (£000)	Rephasing / Real Variance and Funding Stream	Explanation of In-Year Variance >£100k	Project Status ¹	Explanation of Project Status	Actions
OP Strategy - Specialist Care Facilities	4,089	3,162	-3,162	-3,162	Rephasing	The Accommodation Strategy has identified a need to incentivise the market in Swale and Sandwich alongside the consultation of the future of the KCC care homes in those areas. Market engagement has commenced in Swale and will commence on the Sandwich project in the next six months which will inform what capital investment is needed. However, a formal procurement exercise will be required for both projects. Therefore the budget is being rephased into 2016-17.	Green	Rephasing to 2016-17 previously reported.	

Budget Book Heading	2015-16 cash limit per budget book (£000)	2015-16 Working Budget (£000)	2015-16 Variance (£000)	Variance Break-down (£000)	Rephasing / Real Variance and Funding Stream	Explanation of In-Year Variance >£100k	Project Status ¹	Explanation of Project Status	Actions
Kent Strategy for Services for People with Learning Difficulties/Physical Disabilities:									
Learning Disability Good Day Programme-Community Hubs	0	1,443	-1,007	-1,007	Rephasing	The KCC Asset Management Strategy stipulates a requirement to review all KCC	Amber	Increased rephasing. £715k rephasing to 2016-17 previously reported.	
Learning Disability Good Day Programme-Community Initiatives	0	651	-642	-642	Rephasing: -£613k Real: -£29k Grant	properties when looking for alternative accommodation. In order to meet this requirement some projects are being rephased into next year.	Amber	Increased rephasing. £492k rephasing to 2016-17 previously reported.	
Active Care / Active Lives Strategy:									
PFI - Excellent Homes for All - Development of new Social Housing for vulnerable people in Kent	19,071	37,778	-34,035	-34,035	Rephasing	Unforeseen contamination of sites in the form of asbestos has impacted on the start of construction of the new buildings as the sites needed to be cleared and decontaminated. The asset will be recognised on Balance Sheet once construction is complete.	Green	Five out of the seven sites are scheduled for completion next financial year. Rephasing to 2016-17 previously reported.	

Budget Book Heading	2015-16 cash limit per budget book (£000)	2015-16 Working Budget (£000)	2015-16 Variance (£000)	Variance Break-down (£000)	Rephasing / Real Variance and Funding Stream	Explanation of In-Year Variance >£100k	Project Status ¹	Explanation of Project Status	Actions
Developing Innovative and Modernising Services:									
Information Technology Projects	0	300	-43	-43	Rephasing		Green	Rephasing to 2016-17 previously reported.	
Lowfield St (formerly Trinity Centre, Dartford)	968	976	-976	-976	Rephasing		Amber	Project on hold due to development of site not progressing. In further negotiations with all parties on how to proceed.	
Care Act ICT Implementation	1,312	1,312	-1,312	-1,312	Rephasing		Green	Budget to be rephased to 2016-17 due to Government delay in Care Act Phase 2 implementation. Rephasing to 2016-17 previously reported.	

Budget Book Heading	2015-16 cash limit per budget book (£000)	2015-16 Working Budget (£000)	2015-16 Variance (£000)	Variance Break-down (£000)	Rephasing / Real Variance and Funding Stream	Explanation of In-Year Variance >£100k	Project Status ¹	Explanation of Project Status	Actions
Wheelchair Accessible Housing	600	600	-67	-67	Real - Developer contributions		Green		
Developer Funded Community Schemes	889	889	-734	-734	Rephasing: -£759k Real: +£25k Developer contributions	Planned contributions towards projects will now be made next year. Providers to consider their business plans and developments following the Autumn Statement.	Green	Rephasing previously reported.	
Total	30,049	51,070	-42,319	-42,319					

1. Status:

Green – on time and within budget

Amber – either delayed completion date or over budget

Red – both delayed completion and over budget

SOCIAL CARE, HEALTH & WELLBEING DIRECTORATE
PUBLIC HEALTH
DECEMBER 2015-16 MONITORING REPORT

1. REVENUE

1.1	Cash Limit	Variance Before transfer to Public Health Reserve	Transfer to Public Health Reserve	Net Variance after transfer to Public Health Reserve
Total (£k)	-193	-767	+767	-

1.2.1 As reported to Cabinet on 6 July in the first monitoring report for 2015-16, the Government announced that £200m of in year savings from the Department of Health are to come from public health budgets devolved to local authorities. National consultation setting out possible options on reducing Local Authority (LA) public health allocations ran from 31 July to 28 August. The options included:

- (1) take a larger share from LAs that are significantly above their target allocation;
- (2) take a larger share of the savings from LAs that carried forward unspent PH reserves into 2015-16;
- (3) apply a flat rate percentage reduction to all LAs allocations;
- (4) apply a standard percentage reduction to every LA unless an authority can show that this would result in particular hardship.

The Department of Health's stated preferred option was to apply a 6.2% reduction across the board (option 3 above), which for Kent equates to a cut in funding of £4.033m. On this basis, the service identified options for dealing with an in-year 2015-16 budget reduction of this level, but a reduction of this size requires cuts to service levels.

Our response to the consultation was that option 1 was our preferred option. Kent is currently below our target allocation.

On 4 November, the DoH announced that, despite their preferred option only being backed by a quarter of respondents to the consultation, on balance this remained their preference as it is the option most consistent with the underpinning principles for managing the saving that the DoH has set out: it delivers the £200 million, it is the least disruptive to services and it is compliant with the Public Sector Equality Duty and the health inequality duty. The saving has been implemented through a reduction in the fourth quarterly instalment of the PH grant and the cash limits in table 1 below have been reduced accordingly, as approved by Cabinet in November.

1.2.2 **Table 1** below details the revenue position by A-Z budget:

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation		Management Action/ Impact on MTFP/Budget Build
	Gross	Income	Net	Net			
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		
Social Care, Health & Wellbeing - Public Health							
Strategic Management & Directorate Support Budgets	1,095.0	-1,095.0	0.0	-52	-52	Public health grant variance: Other minor variances.	
Public Health:							
- Children's Public Health Programmes: 0-5 year olds Health Visiting Service	11,718.0	-11,718.0	0.0	+22	+22	Public health grant variance: Other minor variances.	
- Other Children's Public Health Programmes	9,266.5	-9,266.5	0.0	-7	-7	Public health grant variance: Other minor variances.	
- Drug & Alcohol Services	15,250.3	-15,250.3	0.0	0	-212	Re-phasing of Family Drug and Alcohol Court costs into 2016-17 together with other minor variances.	
					+212	Reduced draw down from KDAAT reserve.	
- Obesity & Physical Activity	2,347.8	-2,347.8	0.0	+173	+191	Public health grant variance: Additional costs of Tier 3 Weight Management activity.	
					-18	Public health grant variance: Other minor variances.	
- Public Health - Mental Health Adults	2,401.2	-2,401.2	0.0	+21	+21	Public health grant variance: Other minor variances.	
- Public Health Staffing, Advice & Monitoring	3,472.3	-3,472.3	0.0	+60	+60	Public health grant variance: Other minor variances.	

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation	Management Action/ Impact on MTFP/Budget Build
	Gross	Income	Net	Net		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
- Sexual Health Services	13,750.1	-13,750.1	0.0	-558	-185 Public health grant variance: reduced forecast in activity. -180 Public health grant variance: Reduction in revenue contribution to capital due to re-phasing of the Community Sexual Health Services capital scheme to 2016-17. -100 Public health grant variance: Reduction in accommodation costs of community sexual health services as finding suitable premises that meet the standards for delivery of clinical services has been challenging. This has meant that the service has operated at a reduced capacity in a number of locations, particularly in West and North Kent which has contributed to the underspend on premises. -93 Public health grant variance: Other minor variances.	
- Targeting Health Inequalities	5,068.5	-5,261.7	-193.2	+143	-266 Public health grant variance: Number of health checks is below budget. -54 Public health grant variance: Actual cost of checks is below budgeted level. +320 Public health grant variance: prior year costs for Dental Health not previously accounted for (insufficient creditors raised in 2014-15). +143 Public health grant variance: Other minor variances.	

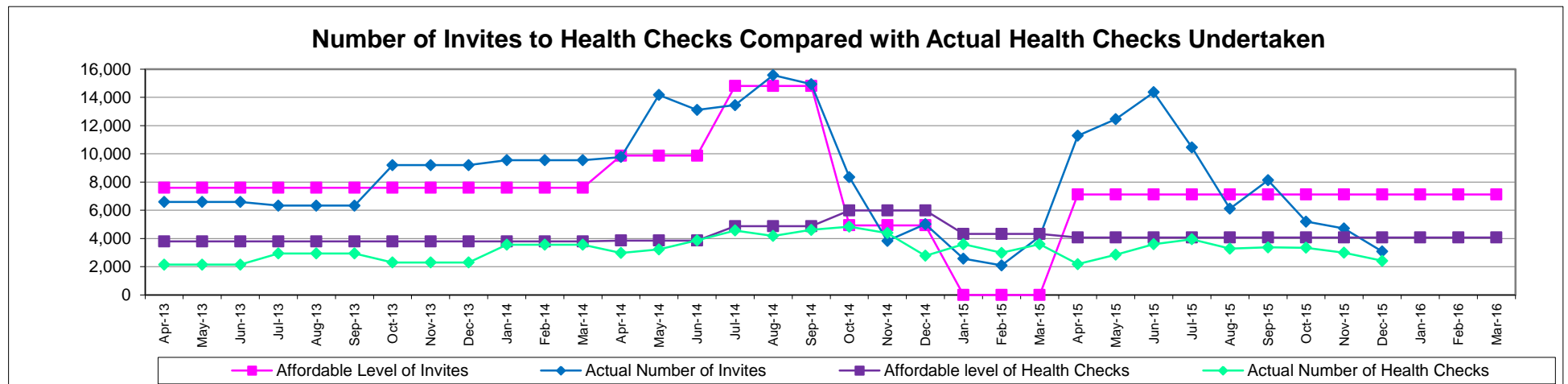
Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation	Management Action/ Impact on MTFP/Budget Build
	Gross	Income	Net	Net		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
- Tobacco Control & Stop Smoking Services	2,975.9	-2,975.9	0.0	-569	-444	Public health grant variance: Unrealised (prescribing) creditors set up in 2014-15.
					-264	Public health grant variance: reduced prescribing costs in 2015-16.
					+136	Public health grant variance: increased costs of Smoking Cessation service.
					+3	Public health grant variance: Other minor variances.
	67,345.6	-67,538.8	-193.2	-767		
- tfr to(+)/from(-) Public Health reserve				+767	+767	Net transfer to the Public Health reserve to offset the public health variances of -£767k shown above.
Total SCH&W (Public Health)	67,345.6	-67,538.8	-193.2	0		

2. KEY ACTIVITY INDICATORS AND BUDGET RISK ASSESSMENT MONITORING

2.1 Number of Health Check invites compared to number of Health Checks undertaken

	2013-14				2014-15				2015-16			
	Invites		Checks		Invites		Checks		Invites		Checks	
	Budget level	actual	Budget level	actual	Budget level	actual	Budget level	actual	Budget level	actual	Budget level	actual
Apr					9,877	9,776	3,860	2,984	7,121	11,287	4,074	2,189
May	22,810	19,761	11,405	6,455	9,877	14,169	3,860	3,225	7,120	12,464	4,075	2,855
Jun					9,878	13,108	3,862	3,865	7,120	14,363	4,074	3,601
Jul					14,816	13,457	4,874	4,572	7,120	10,463	4,075	3,948
Aug	22,810	18,996	11,405	8,836	14,816	15,577	4,875	4,179	7,120	6,117	4,074	3,279
Sep					14,816	14,933	4,876	4,613	7,120	8,127	4,075	3,372
Oct					4,939	8,345	5,987	4,837	7,120	5,198	4,074	3,343
Nov	22,810	27,608	11,405	6,924	4,939	3,831	5,988	4,389	7,120	4,708	4,075	2,994
Dec					4,938	5,014	5,989	2,782	7,120	3,079	4,074	2,421
Jan					0	2,568	4,324	3,594	7,120		4,075	
Feb	22,811	28,639	11,406	10,709	0	2,099	4,325	2,988	7,120		4,074	
Mar					0	4,153	4,325	3,595	7,120		4,074	
TOTAL	91,241	95,004	45,621	32,924	88,896	107,030	57,145	45,623	85,441	75,806	48,893	28,002

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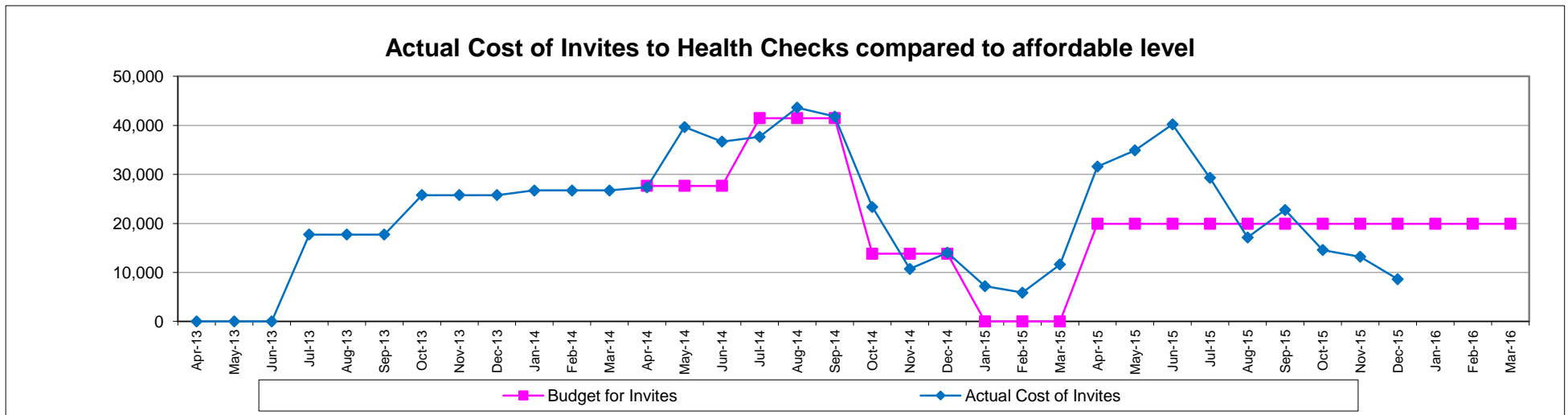
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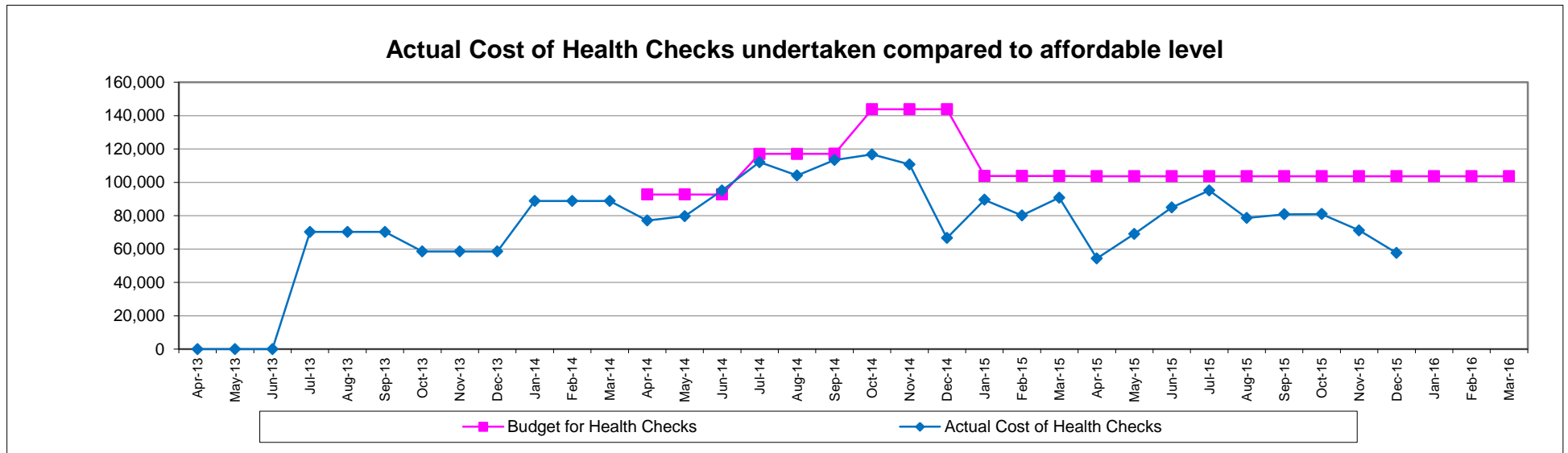
- As can be seen from the difference in total budgeted activity for invites and checks, not all people invited for a health check attend a check and there is often a delay between the invite and the health check taking place.
- In 2014-15, the invites planned activity was weighted towards the early part of the year to give time for the follow-up process to maximise the number of people attending a health check.
- The planned number of invites for 2014-15 was based on 20% of eligible population (as it is a 5 year programme) and was based on DoH estimates, but more recent GP data showed an increase in the eligible population. In 2014-15, this activity was therefore above budget for the year by 18,134 invites, as shown in the table above.
- For 2015-16 the budgeted level of invites and checks has been profiled equally across the months to give a more consistent approach and to reflect that this is a rolling programme across financial years, therefore invites sent out in March may result in checks being taken up in the following financial year. This revised approach will also enable the service to more accurately track progress against targets.
- The planned number of invites is lower than 2014-15 (and lower than the 91,000 invites stated in the 2015-16 budget book) because the eligible population based on the GP registered population is lower this year than last. The population can fluctuate because although everyone between the ages of 40 and 74 will be invited (once every five years) to have a check to assess their risk of heart disease, stroke, kidney disease and diabetes, individuals already diagnosed with any of these conditions become ineligible for a general invite. Also some residents are screened outside of their expected year due to targeted outreach programmes and therefore are removed from the invite list in their year.
- The affordable checks have increased from the figure of 45,000 in the budget book because some standard checks will now be carried out by Kent Community Health NHS Foundation Trust staff, rather than through GPs/Pharmacies, who are able to provide this service cheaper than GPs/Pharmacies.
- Although the actual number of invites is 11,725 above the budgeted level for April to December, the service expect activity to tail off over the remaining months to stay within the overall budgeted level for the year. However the actual number of health checks is well below the budgeted level by 8,668 checks and the current forecast assumes this will increase to 10,445 below budgeted level. This is reflected in the financial forecast as an underspend of -£266k, as reflected in Table 1 .

2.2 Cost of Health Check invites and Health Checks undertaken compared to budget

	2013-14 *		2014-15				2015-16			
	Invites	Checks	Invites		Checks		Invites		Checks	
	actual cost (£)	actual cost (£)	Budget (£)	actual cost (£)	Budget (£)	actual cost (£)	Budget (£)	actual cost (£)	Budget (£)	actual cost (£)
Apr			27,656	27,373	92,700	77,081	19,939	31,604	103,720	54,397
May	0	0	27,656	39,673	92,700	79,696	19,936	34,899	103,745	69,061
Jun			27,658	36,702	92,748	95,130	19,936	40,216	103,720	84,985
Jul			41,485	37,680	117,052	112,119	19,936	29,296	103,745	95,124
Aug	53,189	210,746	41,485	43,616	117,076	104,137	19,936	17,128	103,720	78,668
Sep			41,485	41,812	117,100	113,424	19,936	22,756	103,745	80,851
Oct			13,829	23,366	143,781	116,768	19,936	14,554	103,720	81,003
Nov	77,302	175,920	13,829	10,727	143,805	110,779	19,936	13,182	103,745	71,162
Dec			13,826	14,039	143,829	66,666	19,936	8,621	103,720	57,655
Jan			0	7,190	103,843	89,540	19,936		103,745	
Feb	80,189	266,524	0	5,877	103,869	80,140	19,936		103,720	
Mar			0	11,628	103,869	90,829	19,936		103,720	
TOTAL	210,680	653,190	248,909	299,683	1,372,372	1,136,309	239,235	212,256	1,244,765	672,906

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Comments:

- * In 2013-14 the service was initially commissioned on a block contract basis. From the second quarter this was amended to a performance basis, with specific activity budgets set for the year, with payments being related to the level of activity provided.
- The 2014-15 budget for Health Checks was made up of a fixed cost element £465,756 and a performance element £1,621,281. The performance element is shown in the activity data above, with a budget of £248,909 for invites and £1,372,372 for health checks (totalling £1,621,281).
- The budgeted activity level for invites is based on the eligible population. The budgeted activity level for health checks was higher in 2014-15 than 2013-14 as the provider was expected to make up for the underperformance in the previous year. The number of health check invites was greater than budgeted in 2014-15 due to an increase in eligible population. The resulting pressure of £50,774 was more than offset by a saving on checks of £236,063 leaving an underspend of £185,289 within the Targeting Health Inequalities budget in 2014-15.
- The 2015-16 budget for Health Checks is made up of a fixed cost element £456,912 and a performance element £1,484,000. The performance element is shown in the activity data above, with a budget of £239,235 for invites and £1,244,765 for health checks (totalling £1,484,000).
- The higher than affordable number of invites to December has generated a pressure of +£32,829 but this is more than offset by an underspend on checks in the same period of -£260,674. The pattern is similar to last year suggesting an overall underspend of -£320k by the end of the financial year on the combined invites and checks activity as reflected in table 1. The -£320k comprises -£266k resulting from reduced activity and also -£54k as the average cost per check is below the budgeted level.

3. CAPITAL

3.1 The Social Care, Health and Wellbeing Directorate - Public Health has a working budget for 2015-16 of £360k. The forecast outturn against the 2015-16 budget is £180k giving a variance of -£180k.

3.2 **Table 2** below details the Social Care, Health and Wellbeing Directorate's - Public Health Capital Position by Budget Book line.

Budget Book Heading	2015-16 cash limit per budget book (£000)	2015-16 Working Budget (£000)	2015-16 Variance (£000)	Variance Break-down (£000)	Rephasing / Real Variance and Funding Stream	Explanation of In-Year Variance >£100k	Project Status ¹	Explanation of Project Status	Actions
Community Sexual Health Services	0	360	-180	-180	Rephasing	Work is ongoing to identify suitable premises for community sexual health services that are commissioned by KCC but delivered by external providers. KCC has recently undertaken a wide ranging public consultation about the location and availability of sexual health services across Kent. The outcome of the consultation will inform the plans for the remaining capital budget which is being rephased to 2016-17.	Green	Rephasing previously reported.	
Total	0	360	-180	-180					

1. Status:

Green – on time and within budget

Amber – either delayed completion date or over budget

Red – both delayed completion and over budget

GROWTH, ENVIRONMENT & TRANSPORT DIRECTORATE
DECEMBER 2015-16 MONITORING REPORT

1. REVENUE

1.1		Cash Limit	Variance Before Mgmt Action	Mgmt Action	Net Variance after Mgmt Action	Roll forwards		Variance after Mgmt Action & Roll Fwd
						committed	uncommitted	
	Directorate Total (£k)	+173,493	-1,594	-	-1,594	-	+178	-1,416

1.2 **Table 1** below details the revenue position by A-Z budget:

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation	Management Action/ Impact on MTFP/Budget Build
	Gross	Income	Net	Net		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
Growth, Environment & Transport						
Strategic Management & Directorate Support budgets	4,635.0	-93.6	4,541.4	-512	-197	This is expected to be ongoing and has been reflected in the recently approved 2016-19 MTFP.
					-163	
					-85	
					-75	
					+8	Other minor variances.
<u>Children's Services - Education & Personal</u>						
- 14 - 24 year olds (Kent Foundation)	111.9	-59.3	52.6	0		
<u>Community Services:</u>						
- Arts Development (incl. grant to Turner Contemporary)	2,042.3	0.0	2,042.3	-45		
- Gypsies & Travellers	563.0	-424.4	138.6	-5		

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation	Management Action/ Impact on MTFP/Budget Build	
	Gross	Income	Net	Net			
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		
- Libraries, Registration & Archives	17,668.5	-5,500.3	12,168.2	-649	-422	Additional registration income, mostly from ceremonies.	This is expected to be ongoing and has been reflected in the recently approved 2016-19 MTFP. This is expected to be ongoing and has been reflected in the recently approved 2016-19 MTFP.
					-150	Second and final rebate received in respect of costs incurred in prior years related to the cash management system.	
					-100	Underspend against allocation to deliver transformation projects and savings (<i>as the proposed transfer to Trust status has been delayed</i>).	
					+150	Unachievable saving on rates	
					-127	Other minor variances, each less than £100k in value.	
- Sports Development	1,733.1	-1,094.0	639.1	-29			
	22,006.9	-7,018.7	14,988.2	-728			
<u>Environment:</u>							
- Country Parks & Countryside Access	2,431.8	-1,801.6	630.2	-53			
- Environmental Management (incl Coastal Protection)	3,299.6	-1,855.3	1,444.3	-12			
- Public Rights of Way	1,731.2	-89.0	1,642.2	-33			
	7,462.6	-3,745.9	3,716.7	-98			
<u>Highways:</u>							
- Highways Maintenance							
- Adverse Weather	3,230.8	0.0	3,230.8	-494	-417	The mild winter (as at end of January) has resulted in significantly fewer salting runs than budgeted.	
					-77	Other minor variances.	
- Bridges & Other Structures	2,186.5	-221.9	1,964.6	-1			

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation	Management Action/ Impact on MTFP/Budget Build
	Gross	Income	Net	Net		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
- General maintenance & emergency response	11,786.9	-475.8	11,311.1	+1,191	+1,062	Additional expenditure relating to the extension to the potholes find and fix campaign.
					+104	Traffic management costs at junctions on high speed roads where additional grass cutting and weed control has been required.
					-188	Income from highways consultancy and maintenance contractors where performance measures have not been met. <i>This has been reinvested as part of the extension to the potholes find and fix campaign.</i>
					+213	Other minor variances, each less than £100k in value.
- Highway drainage	2,981.8	0.0	2,981.8	+400	+400	Additional expenditure on drainage projects as part of the extension to the potholes find and fix campaign.
- Streetlight maintenance	3,419.0	-154.0	3,265.0	+101	+196	Ongoing review of old balance sheet balances resulting in a net write-back to revenue.
					-123	Works expected to be carried out by the end of 2015-16 look likely to be delayed due to resource issues with our external service provider. This work will not be completed until next year and will therefore create a pressure on next year's allocation. This is essential work that is not covered by the general maintenance budget (which is reducing next year due to the conversion to LED lights) and includes more complex repairs and replacements that are required to keep assets in light, and in a safe condition. This underspend will therefore be requested to roll-forward.
					+28	Other minor variances.
	23,605.0	-851.7	22,753.3	+1,197		

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation		Management Action/ Impact on MTFP/Budget Build
	Gross	Income	Net	Net			
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		
- Highways Management:							
- Development Planning	1,894.9	-2,135.2	-240.3	-64			
- Highways Improvements	1,673.9	-33.3	1,640.6	-129	-115	Reduced ad-hoc works resulting from the 2015-16 Highway condition surveys contract.	
					-14	Other minor variances.	
- Road Safety	2,834.3	-2,145.4	688.9	-107	-107	Minor variances, each less than £100k in value.	
- Streetlight energy	6,007.7	0.0	6,007.7	-570	-411	Lower than budgeted impact of electricity price increase.	This is expected to be ongoing and has been reflected in the recently approved 2016-19 MTFP.
					-210	Rebate from LASER following price reconciliation of Winter 2014-15 and Summer 2015-16 usage.	
					+156	Impact of the climate change levy with effect from 1 October 2015 as renewable energy is no longer exempt.	
					-105	Other minor variances.	
- Traffic management	5,022.4	-3,363.2	1,659.2	-360	-290	Revised estimates of income relating to the Traffic Systems, Kent Permit Scheme and streetworks budgets, including additional penalties imposed on utility companies.	
					-70	Other minor variances.	
- Tree maintenance, grass cutting & weed control	3,234.0	0.0	3,234.0	-80	-80		
	20,667.2	-7,677.1	12,990.1	-1,310			
<u>Planning & Transport Strategy:</u>							
- Planning & Transport Policy	1,321.6	0.0	1,321.6	-97			
- Planning Applications	1,112.7	-650.0	462.7	+56			
	2,434.3	-650.0	1,784.3	-41			

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation		Management Action/ Impact on MTFP/Budget Build
	Gross	Income	Net	Net	£'000		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		
Public Protection							
- Community Safety (incl Community Wardens)	2,436.8	-68.8	2,368.0	-62	-155	Vacancy savings primarily within Community Wardens.	
					+93	Other minor variances primarily within Community Wardens non-staffing budgets.	
- Coroners	3,737.0	-985.7	2,751.3	+107	+107	Pressure on staffing costs resulting from: backfilling long-term sickness absences, extra staff to deal with a back log of cases, and additional supervision and staffing required following transfer of Coroners Officers from Police to deal with current levels of activity.	This is expected to be ongoing and has been reflected in the recently approved 2016-19 MTFP.
- Emergency Response & Resilience (incl Flood Risk Management)	1,397.6	-180.7	1,216.9	-23	-55	KCC has taken on new duties from April 2015 regarding planning applications for major developments in relation to surface water drainage where we must satisfy ourselves that Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDS) are put in place. The grant funding received this year to build capacity and develop standing advice will not be fully spent, and as this is an un-ringfenced grant and the grant is reducing in 2016-17, the service will request that the balance is rolled forward to support the new responsibilities next year without the need to call on existing funding for flood risk management projects. There will be a future MTFP bid to cover the shortfall on a permanent basis.	
					+32	Other minor variances.	

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation	Management Action/ Impact on MTFP/Budget Build
	Gross	Income	Net	Net		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
- Trading Standards (incl. Kent Scientific Services)	3,817.4	-1,014.8	2,802.6	-113	-250	Staffing saving resulting from early implementation of, and holding vacancies pending, the Trading Standards restructure.
					+128	Expected shortfall in Proceeds of Crime income target based on known court cases.
					+9	Other minor variances.
	11,388.8	-2,250.0	9,138.8	-91		
<u>Regeneration & Economic</u>						
- Regeneration & Economic Development Services	5,443.4	-1,578.1	3,865.3	+105	+84	Staffing pressure due to delay in implementing new structure, offset against underspend on Directorate Management and Support A-Z service line above.
					+21	Other minor variances.
<u>Schools Services</u>						
- Other Schools Services (road crossing patrols)	453.3	0.0	453.3	-4		
<u>Transport Services:</u>						
- Concessionary Fares	16,206.0	-27.0	16,179.0	+526	+526	Increased bus operator costs due to fare increases and journeys being taken are above the affordable level following the reconciliation of data provided by the bus companies for quarter 3.
- Subsidised Socially Necessary Bus Services (incl Kent Karrier)	9,329.2	-2,348.8	6,980.4	0		
- Transport Operations	1,427.6	-77.5	1,350.1	-48		
- Transport Planning	1,238.5	-918.8	319.7	-39		
- Young Person's Travel Pass	14,393.1	-5,595.6	8,797.5	-737	-737	Journey numbers to quarter 3 in 2015-16 are in excess of the budgeted level but any variance is more than offset as the number of passes in issue is currently below the budgeted level.
						Gross and income budgets have been increased in the recently approved 2016-17 budget to reflect the impact of the £50 increased charge per pass from September 2015.
	42,594.4	-8,967.7	33,626.7	-298		

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation		Management Action/ Impact on MTFP/Budget Build
	Gross	Income	Net	Net			
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		
Waste Management							
- Waste Compliance, Commissioning & Contract Management	845.4	0.0	845.4	-16			
- Partnership & development	728.6	-114.2	614.4	-78			
- Closed Landfill Sites	772.2	-16.0	756.2	-153	-165	Underspend as works have been delayed until next financial year.	
					+12	Other minor variances.	
- Waste Processing							
- Landfill Tax	4,745.3	0.0	4,745.3	-461	-505	A reduction of -6,100 tonnes of residual waste sent to landfill.	The net pressure resulting from an overall increase in tonnage has been addressed in the recently approved 2016-19 MTFP.
					+44	Budgeted price increase is below actual requirements	This has been addressed in the recently approved 2016-17 budget.
- Operation of Waste Facilities	16,893.7	-746.4	16,147.3	-1,466	-908	Management fees at waste facilities sites.	This underspend is expected to be ongoing and has been reflected in the recently approved 2016-19 MTFP.
					-398	Contract changes at household waste recycling centres and transfer stations.	
					-114	Savings resulting from a new haulage contract.	
					+43	Shortfall in income resulting from a reduction in the volume of waste metal which is recycled.	
					+22	Pressure resulting from increased volume of waste.	The net pressure resulting from an overall increase in tonnage has been addressed in the recently approved 2016-19 MTFP.
					-111	Other minor variances, each below £100k in value.	

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation	Management Action/ Impact on MTFP/Budget Build
	Gross	Income	Net	Net		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
- Payments to Waste Collection Authorities (District Councils)	6,178.9	0.0	6,178.9	+134	+185	Increased tipping away payments primarily to do with the Church Marshes Waste Transfer Station in Swale. It was hoped that the site would be able to take food waste from December however this has been delayed until next year, meaning that Swale Borough Council's contractor must continue to dispose of this at a different site and incur additional costs in doing so. KCC has agreed to reimburse these costs until problems at the site are resolved.
					-45	A -700 tonne reduction in the amount of waste on which recycling credits are paid.
					-6	Other minor variances.
- Recycling Contracts & Composting	7,211.6	-1,149.9	6,061.7	-354	+7	Although a small pressure relating to volume of waste is being forecast the actual volume is -2,000 tonnes below the budgeted level. This budget covers a mixture of waste types and costs, some of which are income generating, and currently it is the less costly lines that are showing the reductions in volumes with the underspends being more than offset by pressures in higher cost/lower volume areas such as mechanical (street) sweepings.
					-413	Price paid is below budgeted estimate; this relates primarily to in-vessel composting.
					-108	Additional income as the price received for recyclables, especially for paper and card, is greater than budgeted.
						The net pressure resulting from an overall increase in tonnage has been addressed in the recently approved 2016-19 MTFP.
						This underspend is ongoing and has been reflected in the recently approved 2016-19 MTFP.

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation	Management Action/ Impact on MTFP/Budget Build
	Gross £'000	Income £'000	Net £'000	Net £'000		
					£'000 +161	Costs passed on to KCC by the contractor, as under the terms of the material recycling facilities contract, any recyclable materials collected that contain more than 10% contamination incur additional costs.
					-1	Other minor variances.
- Treatment & Disposal of Residual Waste	30,713.3	-480.2	30,233.1	+2,580	+2,699	An additional +26,900 tonnes of residual waste dealt with at Allington Waste to Energy plant.
					-245	Price variance on Waste to Energy tonnage.
					-79	A reduction of -6,100 tonnes of residual waste sent to landfill.
					+20	Budgeted price increase for landfill tax is below actual requirements
					+116	Shortfall in trade waste income
					+69	Other minor variances
	68,089.0	-2,506.7	65,582.3	+186		
Total GE&T	208,891.8	-35,398.8	173,493.0	-1,594		
Assumed Mgmt Action						
Total Forecast <u>after</u> mgmt action	208,891.8	-35,398.8	173,493.0	-1,594		

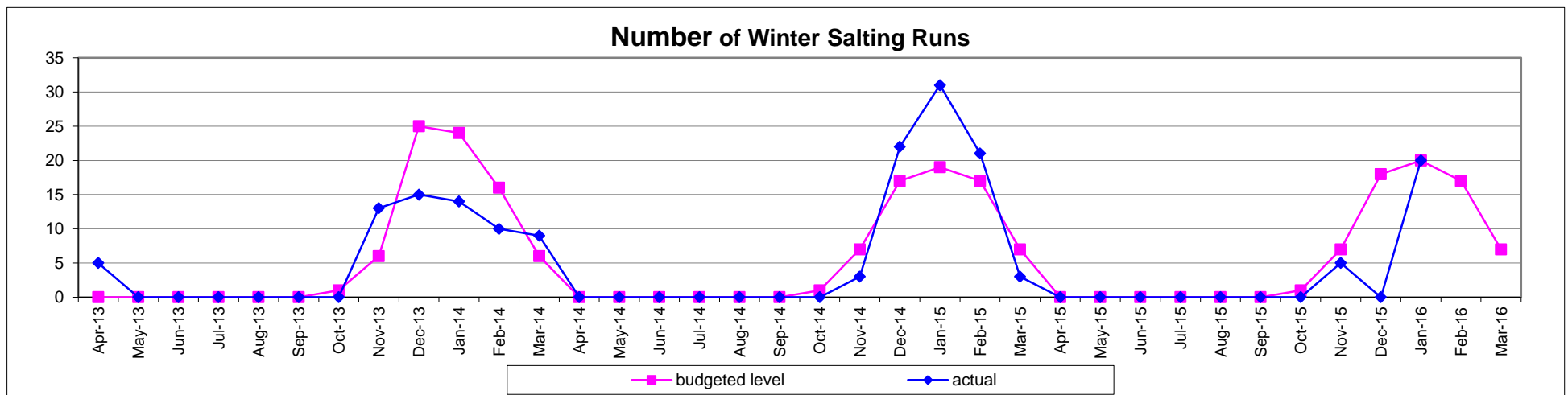
2. KEY ACTIVITY INDICATORS AND BUDGET RISK ASSESSMENT MONITORING

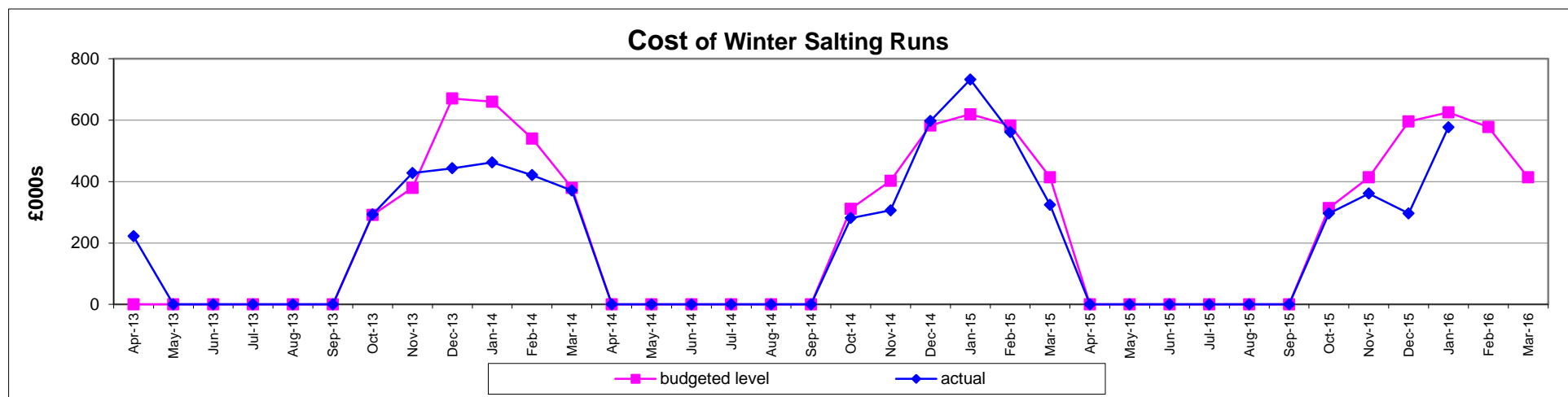
2.1 Number and Cost of winter salting runs

	2013-14				2014-15				2015-16			
	No. of salting runs		Cost of salting runs		No. of salting runs		Cost of salting runs		No. of salting runs		Cost of salting runs	
	Budgeted level	Actual	Budgeted level £'000	Actual £'000	Budgeted level	Actual	Budgeted level £'000	Actual £'000	Budgeted level	Actual	Budgeted level £'000	Actual £'000
Apr	-	5	-	222	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
May	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Jun	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Jul	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Aug	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sep	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Oct	1	-	291	293	1	-	311	281	1	-	314	296
Nov	6	13	379	428	7	3	402	306	7	5	413	361
Dec	25	15	670	443	17	22	583	597	18	-	595	296
Jan	24	14	660	462	19	31	619	732	20	20	625	577
Feb	16	10	540	421	17	21	583	561	17	-	578	-
Mar	6	9	379	371	7	3	414	324	7	-	413	-
	78	66	2,919	2,640	68	80	2,911	2,801	70	25	2,938	1,530

The budgeted number of salting runs assumes county wide coverage but in some cases, the actual number includes salting runs for which only part county coverage was required.

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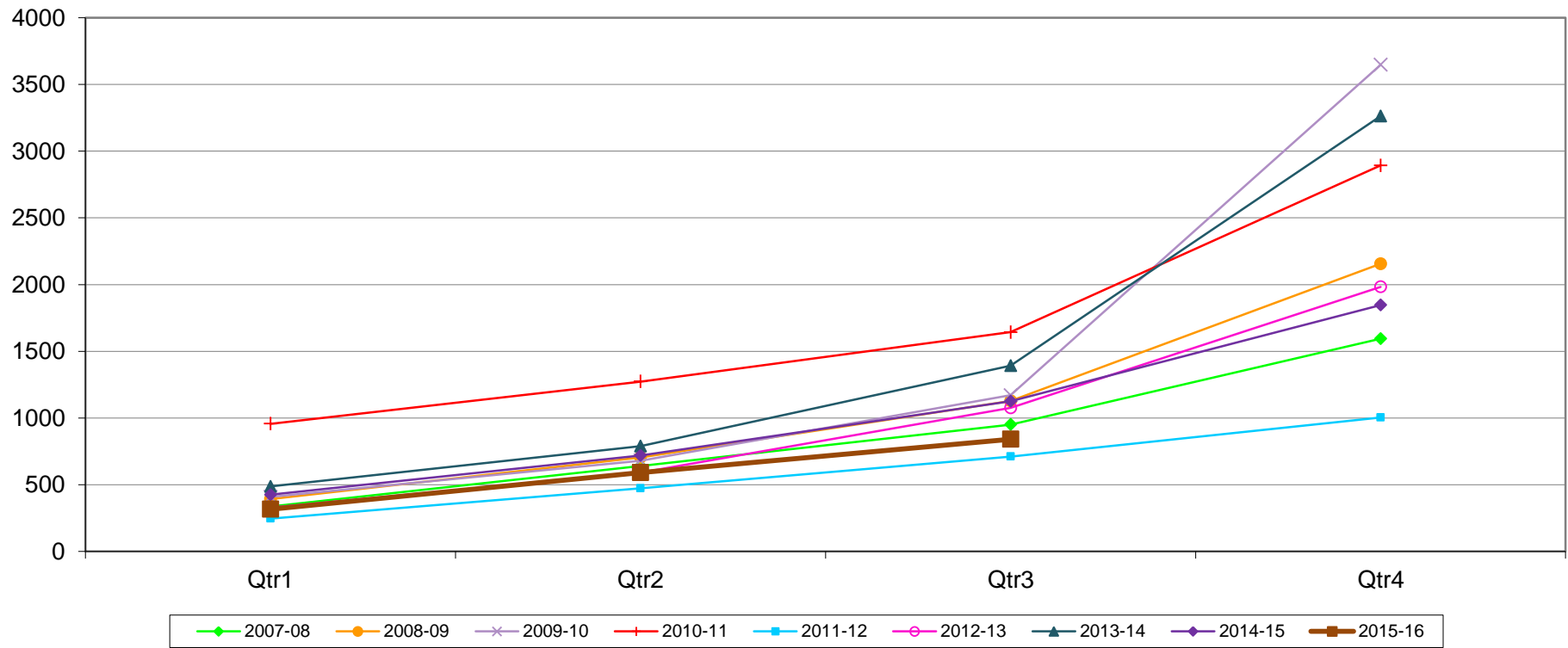
Comments:

- As a result of the prolonged hard winter in 2012-13 which extended into April 2013, unbudgeted salting runs were required at the start of 2013-14 resulting in additional expenditure of £222k. However the actual number of salting runs was below budgeted levels due to the mild winter of 2013-14. Overall there was a net underspend of -£176k on the adverse weather budget in 2013-14 which was due to an underspend of -£280k on winter salting runs (as shown in the table above), an overspend of £146k due to insufficient provision being made for 2012-13 salting costs and an underspend of £42k on other costs associated with adverse weather, not directly attributed to salting runs. The 2014-15 and 2015-16 budgeted number of salting runs look low in comparison with the 2013-14 budgeted level, despite the budgeted costs being similar; this is due to a greater proportion of fixed cost to the total cost per run, which results in fewer overall runs being affordable.
- The final activity for 2014-15 was 12 salting runs above the affordable level but £110k below budget. Many of the runs required a lower spread of salt than assumed in the budget and also on a number of occasions the whole county had not been treated, which again resulted in reduced costs. Together, this resulted in the costs of salting runs not being as high as the number of runs may suggest. Overall there was a net underspend of -£309k on the adverse weather budget in 2014-15 due to an underspend on salting runs of £110k, as reflected in the activity table above, together with an underspend of £199k on other costs associated with adverse weather, not directly attributed to salting runs, such as supply and maintenance of salt bins.
- Due to the mild winter up to the end of January, the activity for 2015-16 is well below the budgeted level, with only 25 runs being required against a budget for 46 runs, none of which required a secondary run. This has so far resulted in an underspend of -£417k.

2.2 Number of insurance claims arising related to Highways

	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
	Cumulative no. of claims	Cumulative no. of claims	Cumulative no. of claims	Cumulative no. of claims	Cumulative no. of claims	Cumulative no. of claims	Cumulative no. of claims	Cumulative no. of claims	Cumulative no. of claims
Apr to Jun	337	393	408	956	245	328	487	425	315
Jul to Sep	640	704	680	1,273	473	591	788	718	590
Oct to Dec	950	1,128	1,170	1,643	710	1,075	1,391	1,126	841
Jan to Mar	1,595	2,155	3,647	2,893	1,003	1,983	3,263	1,846	

Cumulative Number of insurance claims relating to Highways



Comments:

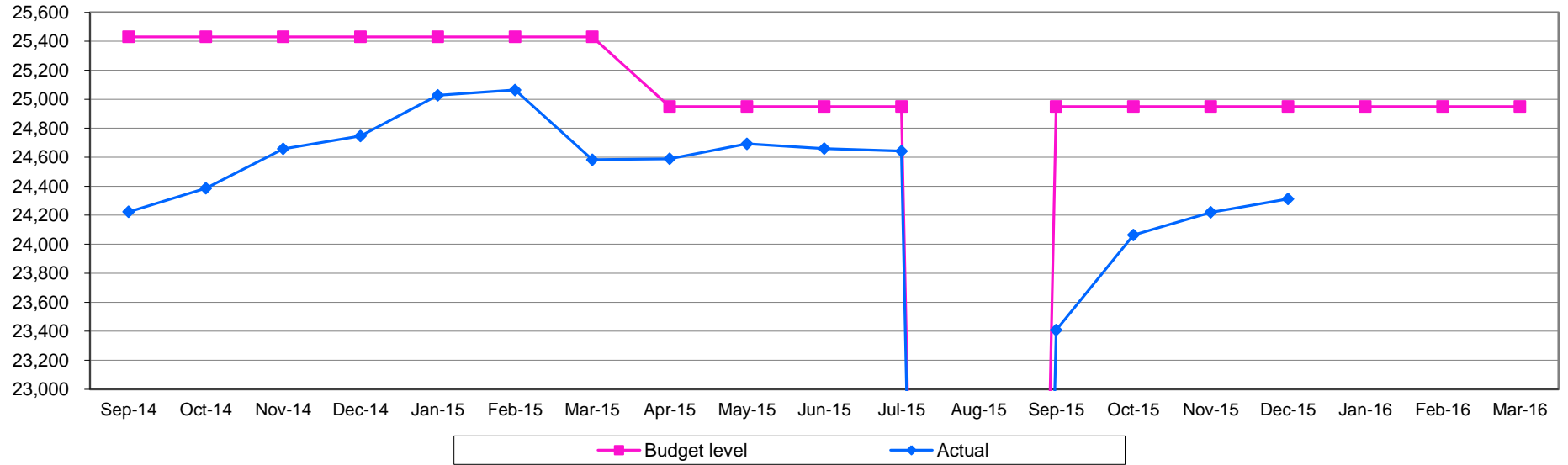
- Numbers of claims will continually change as new claims are received relating to incidents occurring in previous quarters. Claimants have three years to pursue an injury claim and six years for damage claims. The data previously reported has been updated to reflect claims logged with Insurance as at 31 December 2015.
- Claims were high in each of the years 2008-09 to 2010-11 largely due to the particularly adverse weather conditions and the consequent damage to the highway along with some possible effect from the economic downturn. Claim numbers for 2009-10 and 2010-11 could still increase further if more claims are received for incidents which occurred during the period of the bad weather.
- Claims were lower in 2011-12 which could have been due to many factors including: an improved state of the highway following the find and fix programmes of repair, an increased rejection rate on claims, and a mild winter. However, claim numbers increased again in 2012-13, which was likely to be due to the prolonged hard winter and the consequent damage to the highway, but claim numbers did not increase to the levels experienced during 2008-09 to 2010-11, probably due to the continuation of the find and fix programmes of repair. Claim numbers were again high in 2013-14, probably due to the particularly adverse wet weather conditions and the consequent damage to the highway. Additional funding was made available from the severe weather recovery funding to address this.
- Claims were lower again in 2014-15, probably due to the reasonably mild winter and a continuation of the find and fix programmes of repair and repairs to the highway funded from the severe weather recovery funding referred to above, although claims continue to be received relating to this period.
- The Insurance section continues to work closely with Highways to try to reduce the number of claims and currently the Authority is managing to achieve a rejection rate on claims received over the past 12 months where it is considered that we do not have any liability, of about 88%.

2.3 Young Person's Travel Pass - Number of Passes in Issue

		Full Year, Full price passes		Half Year, Full price passes		Full Year, Reduced price passes		Half Year, Reduced price passes		Free passes		TOTAL passes	
		Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
2014-15	Sept	13,662	13,159	8,268	8,023	1,630	1,159	470	333	1,400	1,549	25,430	24,223
	Oct	13,662	13,248	8,268	8,077	1,630	1,167	470	335	1,400	1,559	25,430	24,386
	Nov	13,662	13,336	8,268	8,175	1,630	1,194	470	352	1,400	1,601	25,430	24,658
	Dec	13,662	13,336	8,268	8,175	1,630	1,194	470	352	1,400	1,690	25,430	24,747
	Jan	13,662	13,454	8,268	8,214	1,630	1,263	470	368	1,400	1,728	25,430	25,027
	Feb	13,662	13,457	8,268	8,208	1,630	1,267	470	366	1,400	1,766	25,430	25,064
	Mar	13,662	13,438	8,268	7,675	1,630	1,263	470	346	1,400	1,861	25,430	24,583
2015-16	Apr	13,262	13,434	8,025	7,657	1,578	1,263	455	356	1,630	1,879	24,950	24,589
	May	13,262	13,430	8,025	7,737	1,578	1,263	455	366	1,630	1,897	24,950	24,693
	Jun	13,262	13,391	8,025	7,730	1,578	1,259	455	374	1,630	1,906	24,950	24,660
	Jul	13,262	13,382	8,025	7,725	1,578	1,257	455	374	1,630	1,904	24,950	24,642
	Aug	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Sept	13,262	11,771	8,025	8,666	1,578	863	455	296	1,630	1,812	24,950	23,408
	Oct	13,262	11,930	8,025	8,831	1,578	942	455	318	1,630	2,043	24,950	24,064
	Nov	13,262	11,967	8,025	8,853	1,578	956	455	324	1,630	2,120	24,950	24,220
	Dec	13,262	11,992	8,025	8,847	1,578	963	455	327	1,630	2,183	24,950	24,312
	Jan	13,262		8,025		1,578		455		1,630		24,950	
Feb	13,262		8,025		1,578		455		1,630		24,950		
Mar	13,262		8,025		1,578		455		1,630		24,950		

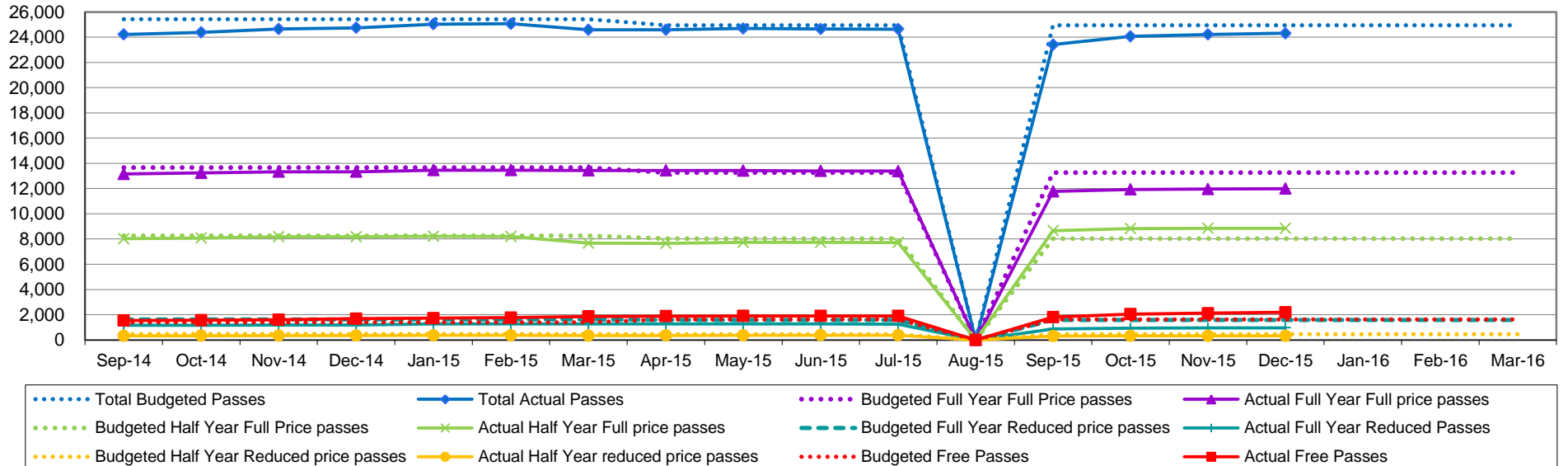
- Pass numbers are shown on a monthly basis from September 2014 when the new Young Person's Travel Pass (YPTP) scheme was introduced.
- As the academic year runs from September to July and passes are no longer valid during the school summer holidays, no passes are recorded for August.
- 2014-15:** YPTP pass numbers remained short of budgeted levels: 24,223 new passes were issued as at 30 September 2014 for the 2014-15 academic year; this increased to 24,747 as at 31 December 2014, but the figure as at 31 March 2015 reduced to 24,583. This reduction was as a result of a number of half year passes not being renewed for the second half of the academic year.
- 2015-16:** 24,312 passes have been issued for the new academic year. This compares with an affordable level of 24,950 and 24,642 passes in issue at the end of the last academic year. This reduction in passes from September is likely to be in part due to the impact of the price increase from £200 to £250, but it is likely that further applications will be received and so the number of passes in issue is expected to increase.

Total Number of Young Person's Travel Passes in issue



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Number of Young Person's Travel Passes in issue by type



Comments:

- Passes can either be purchased for the academic year (£250 September 2015 to July 2016) or half yearly (£125 for terms 1-3 or 4-6). Reduced price passes for young people in receipt of free school meals are available (£100 for the full year or £50 for terms 1-3 or 4-6). Passes are free for young carers, young people in care or care leavers. Additional passes are also free for households applying for more than two full cost passes.
- The cost per pass in calculating the 2014-15 affordable level was £537, the fee for a pass was £200, meaning that on average KCC was subsidising the cost of each pass by £337.
The 2015-16 budgeted number of passes of 22,900, as reported to Cabinet in July, was originally based on the number that could be afforded within the budget at the latest cost to KCC per pass of £581 (a subsidy per pass of £381). However, on 1 June 2015 Cabinet approved a reduction in subsidy of £50, raising the price of a standard pass to the user by £50, from £200 to £250, with effect from September 2015. As a result of this additional income, the affordable number of passes has increased to a level more in line with actual demand and this is reflected in the table above. Gross and income cash limits have been realigned within table 1 of section 1.2 of this report, to reflect this increased charge.
- The above figures show that the current number of passes in issue remains below the budgeted number. However, section 2.4 below illustrates that journeys travelled for the first nine months of the year are above the budgeted level, based on the quarter 3 reconciliation by our external provider MCL Transport Services of journeys travelled. Overall a net underspend of -£737k is currently forecast for YPTP, as shown in table 1 of section 1.2 of this annex, as the saving from the reduced number of passes in circulation more than offsets the pressure from higher than budgeted journey numbers.

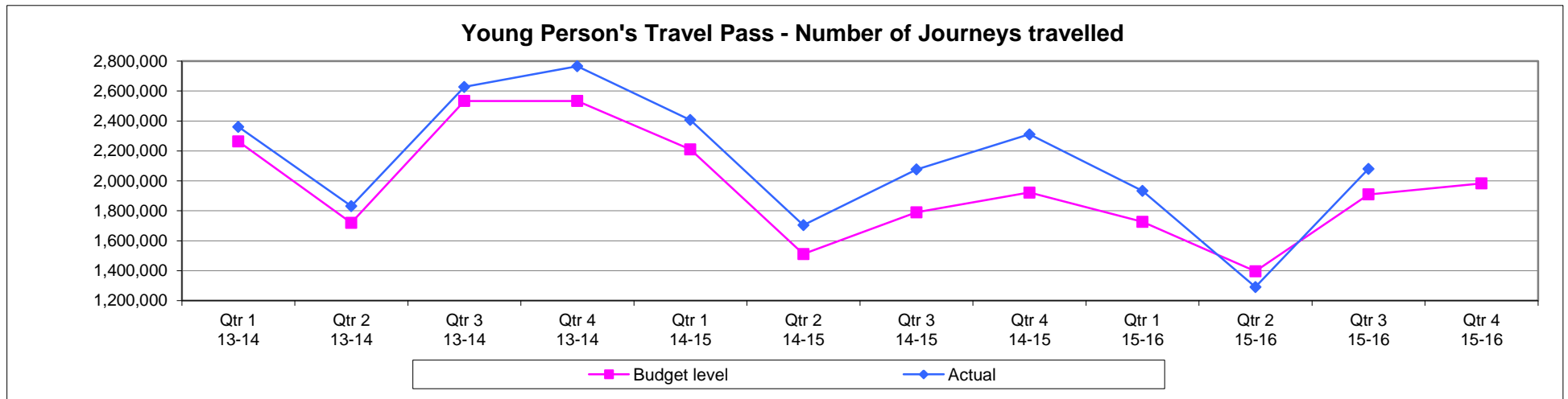
2.4 Young Person's Travel Pass (formerly Freedom Pass until September 2014) - Number of Journeys Travelled

	2013-14		2014-15		2015-16	
	Budget level (000's)	Actual (000's)	Budget level (000's)	Actual (000's)	Budget level (000's)	Actual (000's)
Qtr 1	2,263	2,361	2,210	2,407	1,726	1,933
Qtr 2	1,719	1,832	1,512	1,705	1,395	1,291
Qtr 3	2,534	2,627	1,789	2,076	1,910	2,081
Qtr 4	2,534	2,765	1,922	2,311	1,983	
	9,050	9,585	7,433	8,499	7,014	5,305

The data for this activity indicator is only provided on a quarterly basis by our external provider MCL Transport Services once they have reconciled data from the bus operators.

The figures for actual journeys travelled are reviewed quarterly and updated as further information is received from the bus companies, so may be subject to change.

Budgeted journey numbers are lower in quarter 2 of 2015-16 as, since September 2014, the pass is no longer valid during the school summer holidays.



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Comments:

- The reduction in the budgeted number of journeys for 2014-15 was as a result of the introduction of the Young Persons Travel Pass, agreed by County Council in February 2014, restricting travel to between the hours of 6am and 7pm, Monday to Friday, between 1 September and 31 July, meaning the pass is no longer valid during the school summer holidays or at weekends.
- The additional funding resulting from the increase in income from September 2015 referred to in section 2.3 above resulted in the affordable number of journeys increasing from 6,569,000 to 7,014,000.
- Journey numbers as at the end of quarter 3 in 2015-16 are in excess of the budgeted level but any variance is offset as the number of passes in issue is currently below the budget level.
- This data does not include journeys travelled relating to free home to school transport as these costs are met from the Education & Young People Directorate budget and not from the Young Persons Travel Pass budget.

2.5 Concessionary Fares (English National Concessionary Travel Scheme - ENCTS) - Number of Passes in Issue

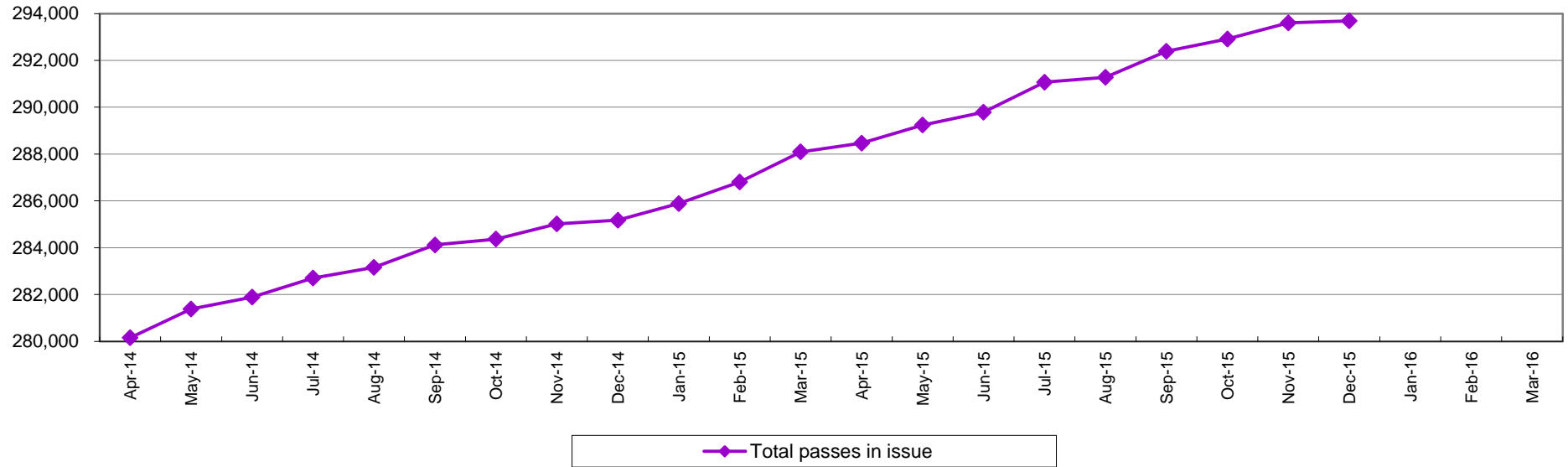
		Senior Citizen's bus passes	Disabled person's bus passes	Disabled Person Companion bus passes	TOTAL passes
		Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual
2014-15	April	258,342	17,961	3,849	280,152
	May	259,299	18,102	3,978	281,379
	June	259,623	18,212	4,055	281,890
	July	260,263	18,352	4,084	282,699
	Aug	260,558	18,438	4,164	283,160
	Sept	261,284	18,586	4,248	284,118
	Oct	261,352	18,701	4,313	284,366
	Nov	261,826	18,800	4,387	285,013
	Dec	261,879	18,868	4,427	285,174
	Jan	262,434	18,964	4,490	285,888
	Feb	263,062	19,176	4,564	286,802
	Mar	264,108	19,341	4,645	288,094
2015-16	April	264,314	19,459	4,692	288,465
	May	264,856	19,594	4,792	289,242
	June	265,180	19,715	4,894	289,789
	July	266,023	20,020	5,028	291,071
	Aug	266,078	20,134	5,069	291,281
	Sept	266,949	20,312	5,133	292,394
	Oct	267,257	20,452	5,204	292,913
	Nov	267,794	20,538	5,273	293,605
	Dec	267,792	20,601	5,296	293,689
	Jan				
	Feb				
	Mar				

- The number of affordable passes is not calculated because the primary driver of cost is the number of journeys people travel.
- Also a passholder in England and Wales can use the pass anywhere in those two countries. The Transport Co-ordinating Authority for that area picks up the cost of any ENCTS pass used for boarding a bus, within its area. Therefore KCC will not only be reimbursing passes for Kent residents but also any Medway holders boarding in Kent or in fact any ENCTS visitor to Kent using a bus.

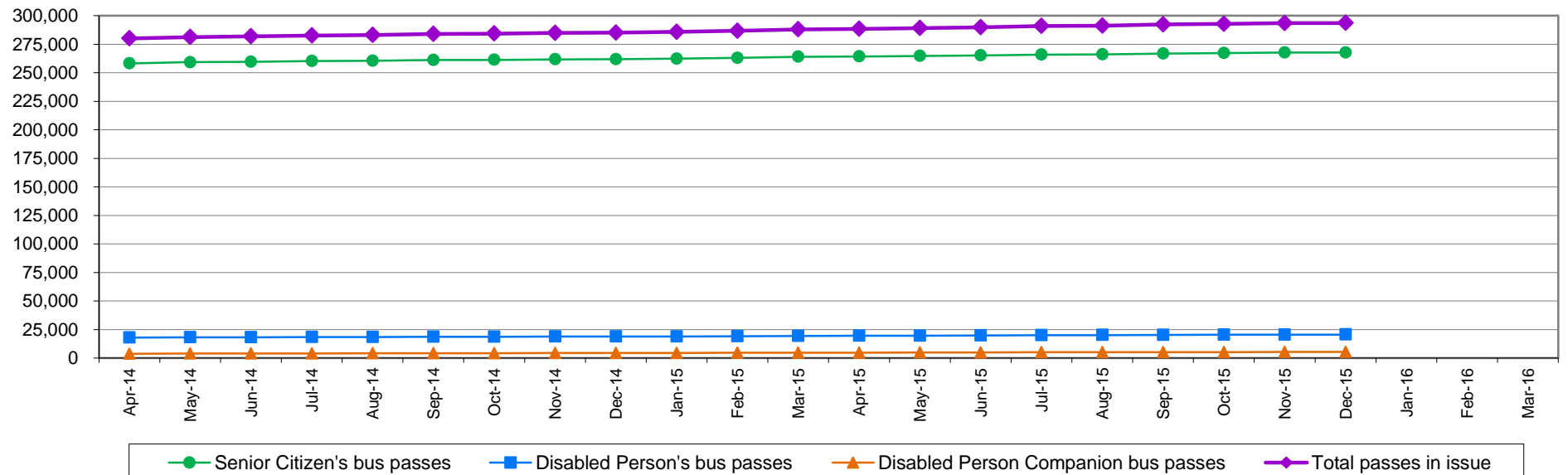
There are three types of passes available to Kent residents:

- A Senior Citizen's bus pass if you are of state pension age or older.
- A Disabled Person's bus pass for people with certain disabilities, for example for people who are blind or partially sighted, profoundly or severely deaf, or have a learning disability. There is no age restriction for the disabled person's bus pass.
- A Disabled Person Companion bus pass is available in cases where a Disabled Person bus pass user is unable to travel alone.

Total Number of Concessionary Bus Passes in issue



Number of Concessionary Bus Passes in issue by type

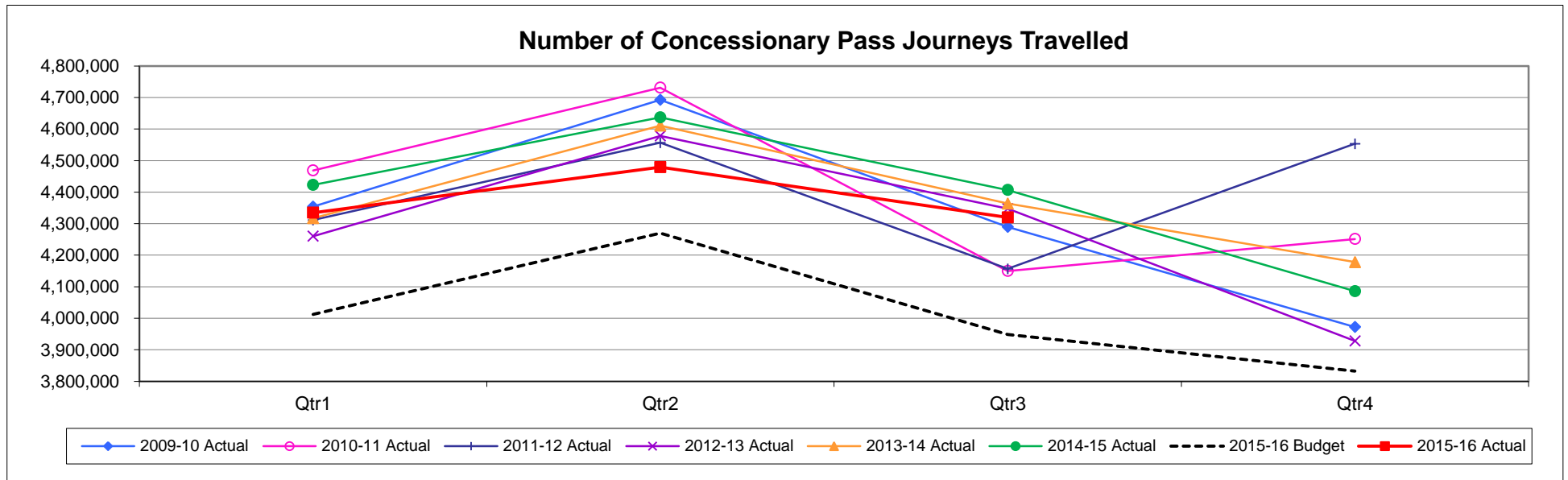


2.6 Concessionary Fares (English National Concessionary Travel Scheme - ENCTS) - Number of Journeys Travelled

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	
	Actual (000's)	Actual (000's)	Actual (000's)	Actual (000's)	Actual (000's)	Actual (000's)	Budget level (000's)	Actual (000's)
Qtr 1	4,354	4,469	4,311	4,260	4,317	4,423	4,012	4,335
Qtr 2	4,693	4,731	4,557	4,578	4,611	4,637	4,270	4,479
Qtr 3	4,289	4,150	4,157	4,348	4,364	4,407	3,949	4,320
Qtr 4	3,972	4,251	4,553	3,928	4,178	4,086	3,833	
	17,308	17,601	17,578	17,114	17,470	17,553	16,064	13,134

The data for this activity indicator is only provided on a quarterly basis by our external provider MCL Transport Services once they have reconciled data from the bus operators.

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- As with the Young Persons Travel Pass the figures for actual concessionary journeys travelled are reviewed quarterly and updated as further information is received from the bus companies or our concessionary travel consultant, MCL Transport Services, so may be subject to change.
- Journey numbers as at the end of quarter 3, as reconciled by MCL Transport Services, are in excess of the budgeted level and as a result a financial pressure of +£526k is being forecast, as reflected in Table 1.

2.7 Waste Tonnage

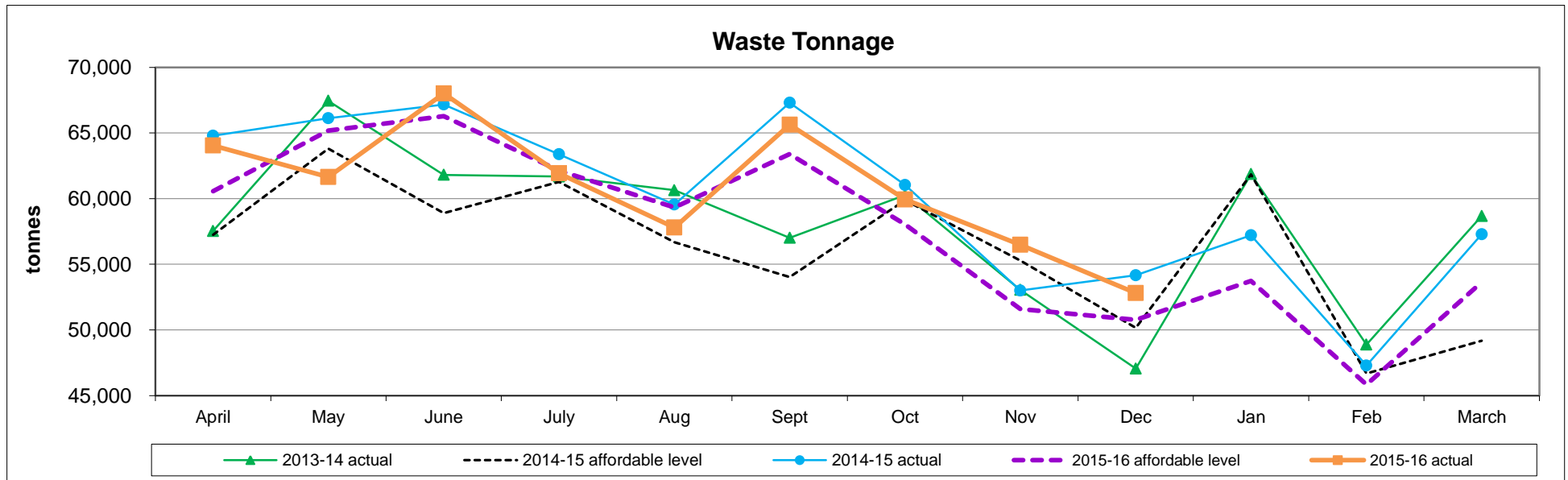
	2013-14	2014-15		2015-16	
	Waste Tonnage	Affordable Level	Waste Tonnage	Affordable Level	* Waste Tonnage
Apr	57,538	57,246	64,792	60,559	64,041
May	67,448	63,802	66,119	65,181	61,648
Jun	61,813	58,899	67,164	66,290	68,014
Jul	61,687	61,282	63,374	62,147	61,929
Aug	60,643	56,684	59,554	59,324	57,800
Sep	57,013	54,032	67,300	63,391	65,635
Oct	60,264	59,881	61,043	58,037	59,929
Nov	53,050	55,294	53,000	51,585	56,486
Dec	47,063	50,167	54,159	50,768	52,802
Jan	61,869	61,844	57,212	53,742	
Feb	48,892	46,682	47,292	45,841	
Mar	58,672	49,187	57,287	53,635	
	695,952	675,000	718,296	690,500	548,284

* Note: waste tonnages are subject to slight variations between reports as figures are refined and confirmed with Districts.

These waste tonnage figures include recycled waste, composting and residual waste processed either through Allington Waste to Energy plant or landfill.

Waste tonnages were restated in the quarter 2 report to include Trade Waste activity, which was previously excluded in error.

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Comments:

General

- From 2013-14 Waste tonnage data is based on waste outputs from transfer stations rather than waste inputs to our facilities. This is necessary due to the changes in how waste is being presented to KCC by the waste collection authorities, where several material streams are now being collected by one refuse collection vehicle utilising split body compaction. These vehicles are only weighed in once at our facilities, where they tip all of the various waste streams into the separate bays, and then the vehicle is weighed out when empty. The separate waste streams are stored separately at our transfer stations, where these materials are bulked up for onward transfer to various processing plants/facilities. The bulked loads are weighed out, providing data for haulage fees and then are weighed in at the relevant processing plant, providing data for processing fees. All the data presented in the table above has been restated on this output basis in order to enable comparison. The data has also been restated to include Trade Waste activity.

2013-14

- The overall volume of waste managed in 2013-14 was 695,952 tonnes, which was 19,048 tonnes below the affordable level and equated to a saving of £2.155m. However this saving on waste volumes was offset by other pressures within the service, giving an overall saving against the waste management budget of £0.778m.
- The actual tonnage in 2013-14 of 695,952 tonnes was far higher than the forecast figure of 676,900 tonnes based on actuals to January and reported to Cabinet in April. This unexpected increase in volume in the final quarter of 2013-14 continued into 2014-15, with actual tonnage for 2014-15 ending up at 43,296 tonnes more than the affordable level for the year, as the 2014-15 affordable level was based on the actual activity of the first three quarters of 2013-14. These increased volumes are also continuing into 2015-16.

2014-15

- The actual waste tonnage in 2014-15 of 718,296 tonnes was 43,296 tonnes above the affordable level and equated to a pressure of £2.972m. However with the advent of the new contracts, some of the tonnage, primarily soil and hardcore, does not attract an incremental cost as it is processed as part of a fixed management fee irrespective of the volume of waste, therefore an increase in waste tonnage may not always result in an increased pressure on the waste budget. The pressure on waste volumes was largely offset by other savings within the service giving an overall net pressure against the waste management budget for 2014-15 of +£0.543m. The service believes that the increase in waste tonnage experienced over much of 2014 can be mostly explained by two separate issues. Firstly, climatic: the extraordinarily mild and moist winter of 2013-14 and spring 2014, as well as a markedly high water table, which led to a very favourable and advanced growing season, resulting in high levels of organic waste. In addition, large volumes of broken fence panels etc were evident in the early part of the financial year as a result of repairs to winter storm damage. Secondly, the growth in the UK economy led to increased waste arising across the UK, but particularly in the south east, where economic activity is greatest, in particular in house purchases and renovations. The overall volume of waste was 3.2% higher in 2014-15 than 2013-14.

2015-16

- Based on the actual waste tonnage for April to December and forecasts for January to March, the overall volume of waste to be managed this financial year is expected to be approximately 708,600 tonnes, which is 18,100 tonnes above the affordable level and equates to a pressure of £2.142m. The vast majority (c.£2.1m) of this results from residual waste that cannot be recycled and ends up in landfill or burned to generate electricity at the Allington Waste to Energy plant. The pressure on waste volumes is largely offset by favourable price variances and other savings within the service, as detailed in table 1, giving an overall pressure against the waste management budget of £0.186m.
- The figures in Table 1 of section 1.2 are based on actual activity for April to December, with estimates for the remaining months.
- Overall waste volumes are currently 1.5% lower for the first nine months when compared with the same period for last year.
- Waste volumes, both in Kent and nationally, are impacted upon by changes in the economy and the improving economic climate continues to result in higher levels of waste.

3. CAPITAL

3.1 The Growth, Environment and Transport Directorate has a working budget for 2015-16 of £125,905k. The forecast against the 2015-16 budget is £103,673k giving a variance of -£22,232k.

3.2 **Table 2** below details the Growth, Environment and Transport Directorate's Capital Position by Budget Book line.

Budget Book Heading	2015-16 cash limit per budget book (£000)	2015-16 Working Budget (£000)	2015-16 Variance (£000)	Variance Break-down (£000)	Rephasing / Real Variance and Funding Stream	Explanation of In-Year Variance >£100k	Project Status ¹	Explanation of Project Status	Actions
Rolling Programmes									
Country Parks Access and Development	60	84	-20	-20	Rephasing: -£38k. Real: +£18k Revenue	Purchase of tractor funded from a revenue reserve.	Green	Rolling Programme	Increase 2015-16 cash limit +£18k revenue
Library Modernisation Programme	0	136	-136	-136	Real: -£41k Prudential, -£95k Capital receipt	-£136k underspend to cover overspend on Tunbridge Wells Library.	Green	Rolling Programme	
Management and Modernisation of Assets - Vehicles	110	223	-223	-223	Real - Prudential	There is no current need in this financial year to replace existing vehicles.	Green		
Public Rights of Way	915	1,238	0	0			Green		
Public Sports Facilities Improvement - Capital Grant	100	110	0	0			Green		

Budget Book Heading	2015-16 cash limit per budget book (£000)	2015-16 Working Budget (£000)	2015-16 Variance (£000)	Variance Break-down (£000)	Rephasing / Real Variance and Funding Stream	Explanation of In-Year Variance >£100k	Project Status ¹	Explanation of Project Status	Actions
Village Halls and Community Centres - Capital Grants	300	446	0	0			Green		
Highway Major Enhancement / Other Capital Enhancement / Bridge Assessment and Strengthening	26,661	28,451	875	875	Real: +£760k Developer contributions, + £76k External other, +£39k Revenue	Additional footway scheme funded by £260k developer contributions for Bank Street. £500k additional developer contributions for enhancement of Star Lane, Thanet. +£56k external income for additional drainage works. +£20k external income received for Highways Operations. +£39k for weather stations funded from a revenue reserve.	Green	Additional works funded by additional funding.	

Budget Book Heading	2015-16 cash limit per budget book (£000)	2015-16 Working Budget (£000)	2015-16 Variance (£000)	Variance Break-down (£000)	Rephasing / Real Variance and Funding Stream	Explanation of In-Year Variance >£100k	Project Status ¹	Explanation of Project Status	Actions
Integrated Transport Schemes under £1 million	3,968	4,682	25	25	Rephasing: -£440k Real: +£465k Revenue	Rephasing of works at the Bat & Ball junction to summer 2016 due to utility companies working in this area this summer. Rephasing for a scheme at Thistle Hill due to design issues. Rephasing at St Johns Road as scheme has been postponed pending designs for a Tunbridge Wells LGF scheme. In addition there is minor rephasing on a number of smaller schemes. +£465k real variance to purchase additional buses and community transport minibuses funded from revenue.	Green	Rolling Programme	
Member Highway Fund	0	169	0	0			Green		
Land compensation and Part 1 claims arising from completed projects	0	265	-70	-70	Rephasing		Green		
Major Schemes - Preliminary Design Fees	100	779	0	0			Green		

Budget Book Heading	2015-16 cash limit per budget book (£000)	2015-16 Working Budget (£000)	2015-16 Variance (£000)	Variance Break-down (£000)	Rephasing / Real Variance and Funding Stream	Explanation of In-Year Variance >£100k	Project Status ¹	Explanation of Project Status	Actions
Individual Projects									
Dartford Library Plus	434	434	-418	-418	Rephasing	Rephasing of £418k for progression of project which will now commence in 2016-17.	Amber	Amber status due to project now progressing in 2016-17 - completion date March 2017.	
Libraries Wi-Fi Project	0	0	313	313	Real: +£313k External	New funding from Arts Council to add/upgrade Wi-Fi in 66 libraries	Green	Funding to be spent in 15-16.	Increase 2015-16 cash limit +£313k External other
Tunbridge Wells Library	0	30	157	157	Real: +£101k Capital receipt, +£41k prudential, +£15k developer contributions	Overspend due to additional works required to conform to Building Control regulations and to settle final account. To be funded from underspend on Library modernisation and additional banked developer contributions and £6k capital receipt from Edenbridge Community Centre underspend.	Red	Project completion has been delayed, final scheme costs have been agreed with the contractor and payment complete. Additional works remain to complete the project.	
New Community Facilities at Edenbridge	0	31	-6	-6	Real: -£6k Capital receipt	Project financially complete - underspend to go towards Tunbridge Wells Library.	Green		

Budget Book Heading	2015-16 cash limit per budget book (£000)	2015-16 Working Budget (£000)	2015-16 Variance (£000)	Variance Break-down (£000)	Rephasing / Real Variance and Funding Stream	Explanation of In-Year Variance >£100k	Project Status ¹	Explanation of Project Status	Actions
Southborough Hub	250	390	-115	-115	Rephasing	Rephasing of £115k to 2016-17 for further progression of project.	Amber	Rephasing previously reported.	
Tunbridge Wells Cultural Hub	0	0	0	0				Project to commence in later years but feasibility works currently being undertaken with revenue.	
Sustainable Access to Maidstone Employment Areas	820	805	-605	-605	Rephasing	Rephasing variance: see below *	Green		
Sustainable Access to Education & Employment	200	187	0	0			Green		
Broadband Contract 1	9,763	13,075	-3,720	-3,720	Real: +£37k grant Rephasing: -£3,757k	Real: Additional grant expected for the Broadband Voucher scheme. Rephasing: -£963k The completion date for the Satellite scheme has been moved in Kent and Medway from December 2015 to December 2017 following a variation of contract by Government. -£2,794k Whilst project delivery remains on track, the supplier has requested a deferral of the payment in order to align their internal evidence and assurance processes.	Green	New completion date of December 2017 previously reported.	

Budget Book Heading	2015-16 cash limit per budget book (£000)	2015-16 Working Budget (£000)	2015-16 Variance (£000)	Variance Break-down (£000)	Rephasing / Real Variance and Funding Stream	Explanation of In-Year Variance >£100k	Project Status ¹	Explanation of Project Status	Actions
Broadband Contract 2 (formerly Superfast Extension Programme)	0	0	155	155	Rephasing	KCC has agreed with BDUK and BT to accelerate the deployment timeframes for the Contract 2 project. This will bring forward spend from the BDUK grant into 2015-16.			
Cyclopark	0	3	87	87	Real: Prudential	Funded by underspend on Swale Parklands and Incubator Development.	Green		
Empty Property Initiative	2,500	3,868	-1,168	-1,168	Rephasing: -£1,303k Real: +£135k revenue	Spend has been re-aligned to match expected project loan repayments. Additional revenue received from interest on late repayments of loans.	Green	This has no effect on the completion date of the project. This is a revolving loan scheme.	
Eurokent Road (East Kent)	62	68	-68	-68	Rephasing		Green		
Folkestone Heritage Quarter	680	948	0	0			Green		
Incubator Development	0	1,602	-75	-75	Real: -£75k prudential	-£75k to cover spend on Cyclopark.	Green		

Budget Book Heading	2015-16 cash limit per budget book (£000)	2015-16 Working Budget (£000)	2015-16 Variance (£000)	Variance Break-down (£000)	Rephasing / Real Variance and Funding Stream	Explanation of In-Year Variance >£100k	Project Status ¹	Explanation of Project Status	Actions
Innovation Investment Initiative (i3) (Kent & Medway Growth Hub)	0	0	1,000	1,000	Real: External other	Funding from the Government's Local Growth Fund for the provision of loans to small and medium enterprises with the potential for innovation and growth, helping them to improve their productivity and create jobs.	Green		
Marsh Million	0	517	400	400	Real: External other	Expected match funding from partners.	Green		
No Use Empty - Rented Affordable Homes	442	34	-34	-34	Real: External other	Will be used within the Extension Programme below.	Green		
No Use Empty - Rented Affordable Homes - Extension	673	673	-264	-264	Real: External other	+£34k from the original programme above and -£298k forecast reduction in the potential level of HCA funding based on the current number of actual units identified, which fit the criteria for support.	Green		
Old Town Hall, Gravesend	0	27	-27	-27	Real: Capital Receipt		Green		
Regeneration Fund Projects	0	212	0	0			Green		
Regional Growth Fund - Expansion East Kent	2,141	15,286	470	470	Real: Grant	Use of interest earned on grant balances in line with the grant agreement.	Green		

Budget Book Heading	2015-16 cash limit per budget book (£000)	2015-16 Working Budget (£000)	2015-16 Variance (£000)	Variance Break-down (£000)	Rephasing / Real Variance and Funding Stream	Explanation of In-Year Variance >£100k	Project Status ¹	Explanation of Project Status	Actions
Regional Growth Fund - Journey Time Improvement (JTI)	3,577	3,554	0	0			Green		
Rural Broadband Demonstration Project	0	48	65	65	Real: Prudential	Funding diverted from the Superfast Extension Programme (SEP) to complete this project, original underspend from this project was used to fund SEP.	Amber		
Swale Parklands	0	12	-12	-12	Real: External other	To cover overspend on Cyclopark	Green		
TIGER	2,522	1,699	0	0			Green		
Escalate	311	527	0	0			Green		
Rendezvous Hotel	0	0	0	0				Project to commence in later years.	
Energy and Water Efficiency Investment Fund - External	185	278	171	171	Real: +£100k External, +£33k Revenue, Rephasing: +£38k	Additional Salix funding for additional school energy reduction schemes. Increase in budget to reflect the current loan repayment schedule for existing LED school projects.	Green		
Energy Reduction and Water Efficiency Investment - KCC	138	256	14	14	Real: +£14k revenue		Green		

Budget Book Heading	2015-16 cash limit per budget book (£000)	2015-16 Working Budget (£000)	2015-16 Variance (£000)	Variance Break-down (£000)	Rephasing / Real Variance and Funding Stream	Explanation of In-Year Variance >£100k	Project Status ¹	Explanation of Project Status	Actions
Sandwich Sea Defences	435	435	0	0			Green	Project complete.	
Coldharbour Gypsy site	0	0	0	0			Green	Project complete.	
Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) and Transfer Stations (TSs):									
Richborough Closed Landfill site - Emergency Works	200	400	0	0			Amber	Project is expected to overspend due to additional costs for leaching worse than anticipated and works to ramps for Bailey Bridge.	
Sturry Road Closed Landfill site- Emergency Works	150	199	0	0			Green		
TS/HWRC - Swale	2,780	3,050	-866	-866	Rephasing		Amber	Rephasing to allow completion of project in 16/17. Any underspend resulting from revisions to scheme expected to cover predicted overspend on Richborough.	

Budget Book Heading	2015-16 cash limit per budget book (£000)	2015-16 Working Budget (£000)	2015-16 Variance (£000)	Variance Break-down (£000)	Rephasing / Real Variance and Funding Stream	Explanation of In-Year Variance >£100k	Project Status ¹	Explanation of Project Status	Actions
Kent Highway Services:									
East Kent Access Phase 2 - Major Road Scheme	2,524	2,298	-1,459	-1,459	Rephasing	Rephasing to cover land compensation payments in future years.	Green	Scheme is complete.	
Rathmore Road Link	1,530	2,034	-288	-288	Rephasing	Rephasing variance: see below *	Green	Rephasing previously reported.	
Kent Thameside Strategic Transport Programme	430	428	-170	-170	Rephasing	Rephasing variance: see below *	Green	Rephasing previously reported.	
Lorry Park	1,990	2,000	-2,000	-2,000	Real: prudential	This scheme is no longer progressing following the 2015 Spending Review announcement that the Government has allocated funds for a new permanent lorry park. However, KCC will continue to work with Highways England in regard to provision of an overnight solution in addition to the proposed lorry storage facility.			
North Farm Longfield Road, Tunbridge Wells	1,021	3,232	0	0			Green		

Budget Book Heading	2015-16 cash limit per budget book (£000)	2015-16 Working Budget (£000)	2015-16 Variance (£000)	Variance Break-down (£000)	Rephasing / Real Variance and Funding Stream	Explanation of In-Year Variance >£100k	Project Status ¹	Explanation of Project Status	Actions
Rushenden Link (Sheppey) - major road scheme	609	700	-633	-633	Rephasing	Rephasing to cover land compensation payments in future years.	Green	Scheme is complete.	
Sandwich Highways Depot	0	0	0	0				Project to commence in later years.	
Sittingbourne Northern Relief Road - major road scheme	1,418	1,834	-1,336	-1,336	Rephasing	Rephasing to cover land compensation payments in future years.	Green	Scheme is complete.	
Street Lighting Column - Replacement Scheme	1,250	1,779	0	0			Green		
Street Lighting Timing - Invest to Save	0	0	0	0			Green	Project complete.	
Thanet Parkway	1,000	2,100	-1,589	-1,589	Rephasing	Station design option selection and approval process has taken longer than anticipated. Therefore track access for survey information has been limited and will be carried out over the Christmas period resulting in delayed completion of GRIP Stage 3. The planning application cannot be submitted until completion of GRIP Stage 3.	Green	Revised completion date of 30 September 2019 previously reported.	

Budget Book Heading	2015-16 cash limit per budget book (£000)	2015-16 Working Budget (£000)	2015-16 Variance (£000)	Variance Break-down (£000)	Rephasing / Real Variance and Funding Stream	Explanation of In-Year Variance >£100k	Project Status ¹	Explanation of Project Status	Actions
Westwood Relief Strategy - Poorhole Lane Improvement	435	1,327	0	0			Green	Scheme completed 30/07/15 but awaiting final accounts.	
LED Conversion	4,000	4,000	-2,500	-2,500	Rephasing	Rephasing of £2,500k to 2016-17 as tender invitation extended and therefore start of works delayed until March 2016.	Green	No impact on completion date.	
Sittingbourne Town centre regeneration	4,500	2,500	-1,950	-1,950	Rephasing	Rephasing variance: see below *	Green	Rephasing previously reported.	
Middle Deal transport improvements	1,500	1,500	-1,500	-1,500	Real: -£750k developer contributions Rephasing: -£750k	Real variance: The match funding will be held by the third party that is delivering the scheme and will therefore not go through KCC's books. Rephasing variance: see below *	Green	Rephasing previously reported.	
A28 Chart Road, Ashford	1,340	1,776	-688	-688	Rephasing	Rephasing variance: see below *	Green	Rephasing previously reported.	

Budget Book Heading	2015-16 cash limit per budget book (£000)	2015-16 Working Budget (£000)	2015-16 Variance (£000)	Variance Break-down (£000)	Rephasing / Real Variance and Funding Stream	Explanation of In-Year Variance >£100k	Project Status ¹	Explanation of Project Status	Actions
Victoria Way	0	484	-412	-412	Rephasing	Rephasing to cover land compensation payments in future years.	Green	Scheme is complete.	
Drovers Roundabout junction	0	154	-95	-95	Rephasing	Rephasing to cover land compensation payments in future years.	Green	Scheme is complete.	
M20 Junction 4 Eastern Over bridge	2,800	2,799	-1,972	-1,972	Rephasing	Rephasing variance: see below *	Green	Rephasing previously reported.	
A26 London Rd/Staplehurst Rd/Yew Tree Junction	1,200	1,192	-580	-580	Rephasing	Rephasing variance: see below *	Green	Rephasing previously reported.	
A28 Sturry Rural Integrated Transport Package - Canterbury	520	537	-528	-528	Rephasing	Rephasing variance: see below *	Green	Rephasing previously reported.	
Maidstone Gyratory Bypass	500	416	624	624	Rephasing	Rephasing variance: see below *	Green		
Folkestone Seafront	500	490	96	96	Real: +£96k Developer contributions	Additional elements added to the scheme funded by developer contributions.	Green		

Budget Book Heading	2015-16 cash limit per budget book (£000)	2015-16 Working Budget (£000)	2015-16 Variance (£000)	Variance Break-down (£000)	Rephasing / Real Variance and Funding Stream	Explanation of In-Year Variance >£100k	Project Status ¹	Explanation of Project Status	Actions
Tonbridge Town Centre Regeneration	2,220	2,231	-421	-421	Rephasing	Rephasing variance: see below *	Green	Rephasing previously reported.	
Sturry Link Road-Canterbury	250	238	-97	-97	Rephasing	Rephasing variance: see below *	Green		
West Kent Local Sustainable Transport- Tackling Congestion	965	946	5	5	Real: +£5k grant		Green		
Kent Strategic Congestion Management	800	787	0	0			Green		
Kent Sustainable Intervention programme for growth	500	484	-334	-334	Rephasing	Rephasing variance: see below *	Green	Rephasing previously reported.	
Kent Thameside LSTF	2,428	2,408	-310	-310	Rephasing	Rephasing variance: see below *	Green	Rephasing previously reported.	

Budget Book Heading	2015-16 cash limit per budget book (£000)	2015-16 Working Budget (£000)	2015-16 Variance (£000)	Variance Break-down (£000)	Rephasing / Real Variance and Funding Stream	Explanation of In-Year Variance >£100k	Project Status ¹	Explanation of Project Status	Actions
M20 Junction 10a	5,000	0	0	0				Project removed from programme as there is no longer a direct role for KCC in promoting an interim scheme.	
Total	101,707	125,905	-22,232	-22,232					

* Rephasing of schemes following realignment of cost and associated funding due to nature of SELEP schemes. The budgets will be amended as part of the 2016-19 budget process.

1. Status:

Green – on time and within budget

Amber – either delayed completion date or over budget

Red – both delayed completion and over budget

STRATEGIC & CORPORATE SERVICES DIRECTORATE
DECEMBER 2015-16 MONITORING REPORT

1. REVENUE

1.1		Cash Limit	Variance Before Mgmt Action	Mgmt Action	Net Variance after Mgmt Action	Roll forwards		Variance after Mgmt Action & Roll Fwd
						committed	uncommitted	
	Total Directorate (£k)	+71,952	-2,354	-	-2,354	-	-	-2,354

1.2 **Table 1** below details the revenue position by A-Z budget:

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation	Management Action/ Impact on MTFP/Budget Build
	Gross	Income	Net	Net		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
Strategic & Corporate Services						
Strategic Management & Directorate Support Budgets	3,059.7	-5,168.2	-2,108.5	-51		
<u>Community Services</u>						
- Contact Centre & Citizens Advice Help Line	2,421.5	-387.3	2,034.2	+331	+186	This overspend relates to the period Apr-Nov 15 and the arrangements prior to the move to a new 3rd party contract. The position is being offset by underspends elsewhere within the EODD Division (<i>see Human Resources & Communications & Consultation below</i>). There is no further overspend post the start of the new contract in December.
- Customer Relationship (including Gateways)	1,315.0	-35.0	1,280.0	+154	+273	Delivery of the 2015-16 saving of £0.390m has been delayed pending the restructure of the Engagement, Organisation Design & Development division.
					-119	Other minor variances, each below £100k in value
	3,736.5	-422.3	3,314.2	+485		

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation		Management Action/ Impact on MTFP/Budget Build
	Gross	Income	Net	Net			
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		
<u>Local Democracy</u>							
- Community Engagement	328.0	0.0	328.0	+31			
- County Council Elections	570.0	0.0	570.0	0			
- Local Member Grants	2,704.4	0.0	2,704.4	-1,080	-1,080	Forecast underspend based upon the anticipated level of projects predicted to be approved before year end	
- Partnership arrangements with District Councils	2,163.2	0.0	2,163.2	-3			
	5,765.6	0.0	5,765.6	-1,052			
<u>Support to Frontline Services</u>							
- Business Services Centre	41,855.8	-41,855.8	0.0	-688	-491	Staffing vacancies originally held pending the outcome of the back office procurement process	
					-157	Additional external income following increased demand for teacher recruitment	
					-40	Other minor variances	
- Business Strategy	3,216.3	-82.0	3,134.3	-166	-166	Other minor variances, each below £100k in value	
- Communications & Consultation	3,055.1	-531.0	2,524.1	-202	-110	Staffing vacancies held pending restructure of the Engagement, Organisation Design & Development division	
					-92	Other minor variances	
- Democratic & Members	3,793.1	-142.0	3,651.1	-15			
- Finance & Procurement	18,525.7	-8,192.6	10,333.1	-243	-243	Minor variances, each below £100k in value	
- Human Resources	9,029.8	-1,301.9	7,727.9	-199	-199	Minor variances, each below £100k in value	
- Information, Communications & Technology	16,847.4	-1,742.8	15,104.6	+467	+203	One-off Managed Print Service project implementation costs	
					+158	Maintenance charge for increased data storage	
					+106	Other minor variances, each below £100k in value	

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation	Management Action/ Impact on MTFP/Budget Build
	Gross	Income	Net	Net		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
- Legal Services & Information Governance	8,688.5	-10,872.2	-2,183.7	0	+412 Increased use of agency staff due to a number of unexpected vacancies and to provide cover for legal staff working on Facing the Challenge, together with an increased demand for legal services. -454 Anticipated increase in internal income based upon last year's income levels together with increased demand for legal services +42 Other minor variances	
- Property & Infrastructure Support	33,469.3	-8,779.8	24,689.5	-690	-174 Rental saving generated from the purchase of Brook House -190 Lower than anticipated cost of repairs to non operational buildings following completion of condition surveys -326 Minor variances relating to Corporate Landlord, each below £100k in value	
- Transformation	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	see Financing Items (Annex 7) for details	
	138,481.0	-73,500.1	64,980.9	-1,736		
Total S&CS	151,042.8	-79,090.6	71,952.2	-2,354		
Assumed Management Action						
Total S&CS Forecast <u>after</u> mgmt action	151,042.8	-79,090.6	71,952.2	-2,354		

2. KEY ACTIVITY INDICATORS AND BUDGET RISK ASSESSMENT MONITORING

2.1 Capital Receipts

The total forecast receipts expected to be banked during 2015-16 is **£15.030m**.

2.2 Capital Receipts Funding Capital Programme

	2015-16
	£'000
Banked capital receipts as at 31.03.15	21,974
Forecast receipts for 2015-16	15,030
Capital receipt funding required for capital programme in 2015-16	<u>22,118</u>
Potential Surplus / (Deficit) of Useable Capital Receipts	14,886

2.2.1 The total capital receipt funding required to fund projects in the capital programme per the latest forecasts for 2015-16 totals **£22.118m**.

Taking into account receipts banked in previous years which are available for use, the assumption that the forecast receipts are achieved in 2015-16 and the assumption that the capital receipt funding required for the capital programme does not change, there is a forecast surplus of useable capital receipts of **£14.886m** at the end of the year. Any surplus receipts are required to fund future capital expenditure.

3. CAPITAL

3.1 The Strategic and Corporate Services Directorate has a working budget for 2015-16 of £27,788k. The forecast against the 2015-16 budget is £24,389k giving a variance of -£3,399k.

3.2 **Table 2** below details the Strategic & Corporate Services Directorate Capital Position by Budget Book line.

Budget Book Heading	2015-16 cash limit per budget book (£000)	2015-16 Working Budget (£000)	2015-16 Variance (£000)	Variance Break-down (£000)	Rephasing / Real Variance and Funding Stream	Explanation of In-Year Variance >£100k	Project Status ¹	Explanation of Project Status	Actions
Rolling Programmes									
Corporate Property Strategic Capital	2,650	2,530	-110	-110	Real: Grant	Budget adjustment to reflect use of grant within revenue.	Green		
Disposal Costs	250	250	400	400	Real: Capital receipts	Increased forecast reflects the capitalisation of security costs to protect the value of KCC assets.	Amber	Amber status reflects increased forecast.	
Modernisation of Assets	3,152	3,958	-2,908	-2,908	Rephasing: Prudential	A forward modernisation programme is being developed by the TFM providers, hence large programmes of work are being re-phased to later years. Priority work is continuing.	Green		

Budget Book Heading	2015-16 cash limit per budget book (£000)	2015-16 Working Budget (£000)	2015-16 Variance (£000)	Variance Break-down (£000)	Rephasing / Real Variance and Funding Stream	Explanation of In-Year Variance >£100k	Project Status ¹	Explanation of Project Status	Actions
Individual Projects									
Building Information Modelling (BIM)	65	123	-123	-123	Rephasing: Prudential	There are ongoing discussion with IT to determine the best solution for our proposed system whether this be on premise or hosted. We are also reviewing the original technical requirements to ensure these are compliant and of the business need. We are hoping to have started the procurement process by the end of January however the monies will not be spent before 1st April 2016.	Green	This has no effect on the June 2016 completion date.	
Connecting with Kent	0	97	0	0			Green		
Customer Relationship Management Solution	842	842	658	658	Real: +£858k Revenue Rephasing: -£200k Prudential	Real: Payment for the Digital and Engage Platform partially funded by a revenue contribution towards this capital outlay. Rephasing: Procurement for the Customer Feedback solution is due to start in January 2016, hence spend has been rephased to 2016-17.	Amber	Amber until completion date agreed.	

Budget Book Heading	2015-16 cash limit per budget book (£000)	2015-16 Working Budget (£000)	2015-16 Variance (£000)	Variance Break-down (£000)	Rephasing / Real Variance and Funding Stream	Explanation of In-Year Variance >£100k	Project Status ¹	Explanation of Project Status	Actions
Electronic Document Management Solution (EDMS) (known as Electronic Document & Records Management (EDRM))	1,276	1,400	-1,200	-1,200	Rephasing: -£1,200k Capital receipt	Phase 1 delivered & completed. Project Board proposed closure of current project and to use Phase 1 assets & knowledge to inform a re-scoped management solution for the document and file storage requirements derived from the New Ways of Working Strategy.	Amber	Amber until a solution has been agreed.	
Enterprise Resource Programme	0	62	0	0			Green		
Herne Bay Gateway	427	476	-476	-476	Rephasing: Prudential	Delayed following the need for value engineering to ensure project is viable and represents value for money.	Amber	Amber until completion date agreed.	
HR System Development	60	59	-10	-10	Rephasing: Capital receipts		Amber	Revised completion date 31st March 2017.	
Innovative Schemes Fund	0	242	-122	-122	Real: +£104k External funding and -£73k capital receipt Rephasing: -£153k Capital receipt	-£73k to be used to fund an overspend on the PAMS project below. +£104k towards a software solution to monitor developer contributions across the authority. -£153k rephasing of remaining budget which will not now be required until next financial year.	Green		

Budget Book Heading	2015-16 cash limit per budget book (£000)	2015-16 Working Budget (£000)	2015-16 Variance (£000)	Variance Break-down (£000)	Rephasing / Real Variance and Funding Stream	Explanation of In-Year Variance >£100k	Project Status ¹	Explanation of Project Status	Actions
LIVE Margate	4,032	5,125	-831	-831	Rephasing: Prudential	Rephasing following the elongated tender phase of a property purchase and the cancellation of a proposed strategic acquisition due to unforeseen difficulties surrounding the release of legal charges.	Green		
New Ways of Working	4,200	8,627	0	0			Green		
Property Asset Management System	0	54	73	73	Real: Capital receipts	£73k additional funding is required to complete phase 1 of this project. To be funded from the underspend on the Innovative Schemes Fund above.	Red	The status reflects the need for additional funding which has had to be found from elsewhere within the S&CS capital programme and a new revised completion date by the end of this financial year.	
Property Investment & Acquisition Fund	3,000	3,000	1,360	1,360	Rephasing: Capital receipts	The brought forward amount has reduced since last reported by £1.4m due to the removal/revaluation of some properties as a result of restrictions on title and use. The strategic acquisitions approved in November will complete this year.	Green		

Budget Book Heading	2015-16 cash limit per budget book (£000)	2015-16 Working Budget (£000)	2015-16 Variance (£000)	Variance Break-down (£000)	Rephasing / Real Variance and Funding Stream	Explanation of In-Year Variance >£100k	Project Status ¹	Explanation of Project Status	Actions
Sustaining Kent - Maintaining the Infrastructure	0	0	11	11	Real: +£11k External funding		Amber	Amber status reflects the unforeseen additional costs.	
Swanley Gateway	308	632	0	0			Green		
Web Redevelopment Programme	320	311	-121	-121	Rephasing: -£121k Prudential revenue	The future of this project has an ambitious design, development & build programme causing some developments to be rephased into 2016-17.	Green	Revised completion date of 31st March 2017 has been previously reported.	
S&CS Directorate	20,582	27,788	-3,399	-3,399					

1. Status:

Green – on time and within budget

Amber – either delayed completion date or over budget

Red – both delayed completion and over budget

FINANCING ITEMS
DECEMBER 2015-16 MONITORING REPORT

1. REVENUE

1.1	Cash Limit	Variance Before Mgmt Action	Mgmt Action	Net Variance after Mgmt Action	Roll forwards		Variance after Mgmt Action & Roll Fwd	
					committed	uncommitted		
	Total (£k)	+129,855	-4,409	-	-4,409	-	-	-4,409

1.2 **Table 1** below details the revenue position by A-Z budget:

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation		Management Action/ Impact on MTFP/Budget Build
	Gross	Income	Net	Net			
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		
Financing Items							
Audit Fees	314.0	0.0	314.0	-157	-157	This reflects the agreed audit fees as notified by our external auditors	A saving has been reflected in the recently approved 2016-19 MTFP
Carbon Reduction Commitment Levy	800.0	0.0	800.0	0			
Commercial Services (net contribution)	0.0	-6,700.0	-6,700.0	0			
Contribution to IT Asset Maintenance Reserve	2,352.0	0.0	2,352.0	0			
Contribution to/from Reserves	6,305.2	0.0	6,305.2	+638	+638	Forecast transfer to Insurance reserve of surplus on Insurance Fund (see below)	

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation	Management Action/ Impact on MTFP/Budget Build
	Gross	Income	Net	Net		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
Insurance Fund	4,999.0	0.0	4,999.0	-638	-638	Forecast surplus on Insurance Fund as the overall claim reserves have reduced following finalisation of the tender of insurances for 2016 and a reduction in value for a couple of notable claims. This trend is unlikely to continue due to the increase in excess applied to Employers Liability & Public Liability claims for the 2015 policy year and the likely increase in claims activity during the winter period. This has been partially offset by an anticipated further levy payment & increase in the outstanding claims potential relating to the Municipal Mutual Scheme of Arrangements which is expected to generate a further clawback from the Council to meet outstanding liabilities for the insurer and the impact of an increase in insurance premiums from January 2016.
Modernisation of the Council	2,941.9	0.0	2,941.9	0		
Net Debt Charges (incl Investment Income)	128,481.0	-8,178.0	120,303.0	-625	-625	Increased interest on cash balances as a result of higher cash balances, investing for longer durations and increased dividends.
Other	949.0	-36.0	913.0	0		
Unallocated	1,626.9	0.0	1,626.9	-3,627	-1,350	Additional Business Rate compensation grant, above the budgeted level, relating to reimbursement for the impact of tax changes incurred under the business rates retention scheme that were introduced in the 2012, 2013 & 2014 Autumn Statements.

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation	Management Action/ Impact on MTFP/Budget Build
	Gross £'000	Income £'000	Net £'000	Net £'000		
					£'000 -1,477 Estimated retained levy as a result of being in a Business Rate pool with 10 of the Kent District Councils. We have only finalised the accounting treatment for this, via a sign off of the 2014-15 accounts, hence why this was not reflected in the 2015-16 budget build. The cash will not be received until 2016-17 but we need to accrue for the income this year. This is our best estimate, the final figure will not be known until year end. -800 Additional Education Services Grant as a result of the expected number of schools converting to academy status during the year being lower than assumed when the budget was set. +2,071 The Procurement & Commissioning saving previously held within Finance & Procurement in the S&CS Directorate has now been transferred to be held centrally within Financing Items. The report from our project partner (KPMG) has now been finalised. There are a number of proposals for delivering these savings in future years but for the current year, the recommendation is that this is to be delivered from tactical savings across the authority, the impact of which is also being reported against the Financing Items budget. -2,071	A retained levy has been built into the recently approved 2016-19 MTFP
Underspend rolled forward from previous years	-4,000.0	0.0	-4,000.0	0		

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation	Management Action/ Impact on MTFP/Budget Build
	Gross	Income	Net	Net		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
Support to frontline services - Transformation	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	+4,739	0-25 Children's Services Transformation implementation
					-4,739	Drawdown from reserves to meet the costs of 0-25 Children's Services Transformation implementation
					+404	Adults Social Care Transformation Phase 2 design
					-404	Drawdown from reserves to meet the costs of Adults Social Care Transformation Phase 2 design
					+4,020	Adults Social Care Transformation Phase 2 implementation
					-4,020	Drawdown from reserves to meet the costs of Adults Social Care Transformation Phase 2 implementation
					+787	Facing the Challenge costs in excess of the budget of £2,264.8k, to be met by further drawdown from reserves
					-787	Drawdown from reserves to meet the costs of Facing the Challenge in excess of the budgeted amount of £2,264.8k
Total Financing Items	144,769.0	-14,914.0	129,855.0	-4,409		
Assumed Management Action				0		
Total Fin Items Forecast <u>after</u> mgmt action	144,769.0	-14,914.0	129,855.0	-4,409		

2. KEY ACTIVITY INDICATORS AND BUDGET RISK ASSESSMENT MONITORING

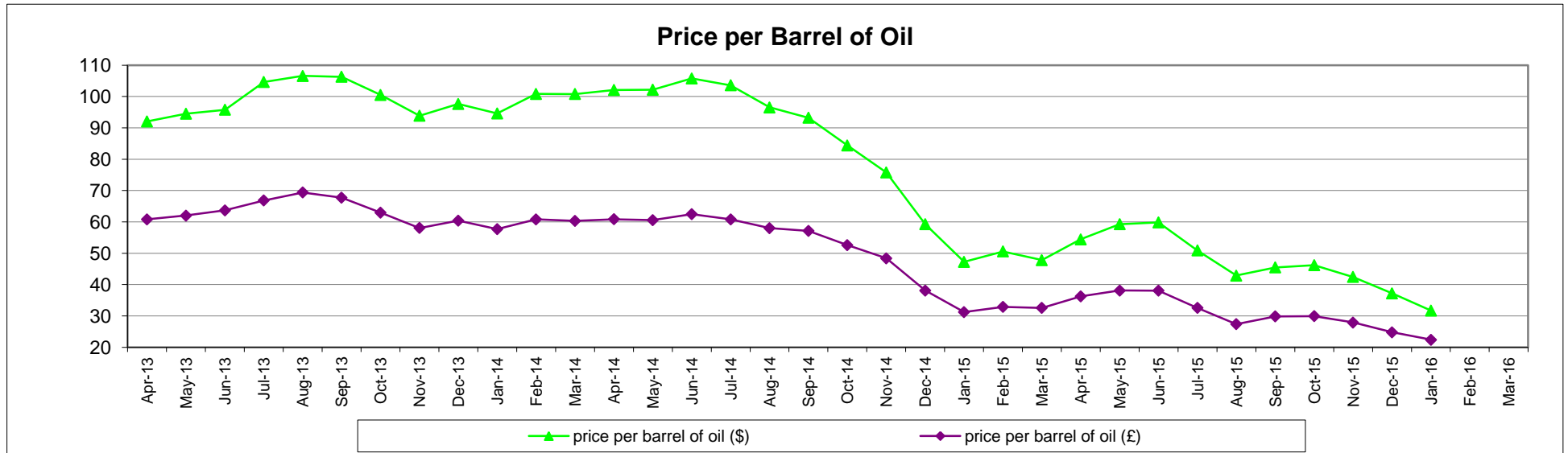
2.1 Price per Barrel of Oil - average monthly price in dollars:

	Price per Barrel of Oil		
	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
	\$	\$	\$
Apr	92.02	102.07	54.45
May	94.51	102.18	59.26
Jun	95.77	105.79	59.82
Jul	104.67	103.59	50.90
Aug	106.57	96.54	42.87
Sep	106.29	93.21	45.48
Oct	100.54	84.40	46.22
Nov	93.86	75.79	42.44
Dec	97.63	59.29	37.19
Jan	94.62	47.22	31.68
Feb	100.82	50.58	
Mar	100.80	47.82	

Comments:

- The figures quoted are the West Texas Intermediate Spot Price in dollars per barrel, monthly average price.
- The dollar price has been converted to a sterling price using exchange rates obtained from the HMRC UK trade info website.
- Fluctuations in oil prices affect many other costs such as heating, travel, and therefore transportation costs of all food, goods and services, and this will have an impact on all services provided by the Council.

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From: Paul Carter – Leader and Cabinet Member for Business Strategy, Audit & Transformation, and Commercial & Traded Services
David Cockburn – Corporate Director, Strategic and Corporate Services

To: Cabinet – 21 March 2016

Decision No: N/a

Subject: **Quarterly Performance Report, Quarter 3, 2015/16**

Classification: Unrestricted

Summary: The purpose of the Quarterly Performance Report is to inform Cabinet about the key areas of performance for the authority.

Recommendation(s):

Cabinet is asked to Note the Quarter 3, 2015/16 Performance Report.

1. Introduction

- 1.1. The draft KCC Quarterly Performance Report for Quarter 3, 2015/16 is attached at Appendix 1.
- 1.2. The Quarterly Performance Report (QPR) is a key mechanism within the Performance Management Framework for the Council.
- 1.3. The QPR includes 39 Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) where results are assessed against Targets set out in Directorate Business Plans at the start of the year.

2. Quarter 3 Performance

- 2.1. Results against Target for KPIs are assessed using a Red/Amber/Green (RAG) status.
- 2.2. Of the 39 Key Performance Indicators included in the report, the latest RAG status are as follows:
 - 24 are rated Green - target achieved or exceeded,
 - 15 are rated Amber – acceptable results, often ahead of last year or above national average,
 - None are rated Red – result is below the floor standard.
- 2.3. There were 4 changes of RAG status, two of which were positive movements, one from Red to Amber and one from Amber to Green. Two were negative, moving from Green to Amber.

- 2.4. Net Direction of Travel was positive with eighteen (18) indicators improving and fourteen (14) showing a fall in performance.

3. Recommendation(s)

Recommendation(s):

Cabinet is asked to note the Quarter 3, 2015/16 Performance Report.

4. Contact details

Report Author: Richard Fitzgerald
Business Intelligence Manager - Performance
Strategic Business Development & Intelligence
03000 416091
Richard.Fitzgerald@kent.gov.uk

Relevant Director: Emma Mitchell
Director of Strategic Business Development & Intelligence
03000 421995
Emma.Mitchell@kent.gov.uk

Kent County Council

Quarterly Performance Report

Quarter 3

2015/16

Produced by: KCC Strategic Development and Business Intelligence
E-mail: performance@kent.gov.uk
Phone: 03000 416091



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Key to KPI Ratings used

This report includes 39 Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), where progress is assessed against Targets which are set at the start of the financial year through the Council's Directorate Business Plans. Progress against Target is assessed by RAG (Red/Amber/Green) ratings. Progress is also assessed in terms of Direction of Travel (DoT) through use of arrows.

GREEN	Target has been achieved or exceeded
AMBER	Performance at acceptable level, below Target but above Floor
RED	Performance is below a pre-defined Floor Standard *
↑	Performance has improved
↓	Performance has worsened
↔	Performance has remained the same
N/A	Not available

* Floor Standards represent the minimum level of acceptable performance.

Key to Activity Indicator Graphs

Alongside the Key Performance Indicators this report includes a number of Activity Indicators which present demand levels for services or other contextual information.

Graphs for activity indicators are shown either with national benchmarks or in many cases with Upper and Lower Thresholds which represent the range we expect activity to fall within. Thresholds are based on past trends and other benchmark information.

If activity falls outside of the Thresholds, this is an indication that demand has risen above or below expectations and this may have consequences for the council in terms of additional or reduced costs.

Activity is closely monitored as part of the overall management information to ensure the council reacts appropriately to changing levels of demand.

Data quality note

All data included in this report for the current financial year is provisional unaudited data and is categorised as management information. All current in-year results may therefore be subject to later revision.

Executive Summary (1)

Customer Services and Contact

KPI Summary	GREEN	AMBER	RED
Customer Services and Contact	3	1	

Performance for the percentage of calls answered by Contact Point (KCC's call centre) improved and remained above target during the quarter. Caller satisfaction with Contact Point advisors also remained at a high level. Performance for complaints handled in timescale improved and was above target. User satisfaction with the KCC web-site remained the same and so continues to be below target.

Call volumes handled by Contact Point showed the usual seasonal fluctuation in the quarter and were 14.7% lower than last quarter and 8.1% lower than the same time last year. Overall call volumes handled in the last 12 months were 3.1% lower than the previous year. The average call handling time has remained close to 3 minutes 10 seconds for the last three quarters.

The number of complaints received in the quarter showed a 4% decrease on the previous quarter but was higher than the corresponding quarter last year. The number of visits to the KCC web-site decreased in the quarter and is at the lower end of the expected range.

Top three Services for calls to Contact Point

Figures in thousands of telephone calls	Yr to Dec 2014	Yr to Dec 2015
Adult Social Care	157	160
Specialist Children's Services	106	110
Highway Services	124	99

Top three Transactions completed online

	Transactions last 12 mths	Online/Digital Oct-Dec 15
Renew a library book (count of books renewed)	755,039	96%
Report a Highways Fault	95,461	36%
Apply for a Young Person's Travel Pass	41,153	6%

Executive Summary (2)

Growth, Environment and Transport

KPI Summary	GREEN	AMBER	RED
Economic Development	1	1	
Highways and Transportation	4		
Waste Management	2		
Environment, Planning and Enforcement	1		
TOTAL	8	1	

Economic Development: A total of 2,645 Full Time Equivalent jobs had been created or safeguarded by the Regional Growth Fund schemes in Kent up to the end of September 2015, providing a strong boost to the Kent economy, and completing delivery of 46% of the overall target of 5,731 jobs to be created or safeguarded by these schemes by 2019. There were 132 long term empty properties returned to use through the No Use Empty programme in the current quarter. The cumulative total of long term empty properties returned since 2005 stands at 4,289.

Highways and Transportation: Performance is above target on all four measures. Customer demand in the quarter was lower than the seasonal expectations due to the kinder winter weather up to Christmas. As a result we have been able to reduce our open enquiry work in progress and this is below our expected range for this time of year.

Waste Management: Performance for diversion of waste from landfill was above target at 92% which is 4% higher than a year ago. Performance for recycling and composting at Household Waste Recycling Centres is above target, but below previous year performance. Waste tonnage has decreased to 709,400 tonnes in the 12 months to December 2015, down from 720,700 in the 12 months to December 14.

Environment, Planning and Enforcement: The Division continues to deliver on a wide range of projects with the launch of the Growth and Infrastructure Framework in November 2015 being a key milestone. Data for the Carbon Dioxide emissions indicator shows that we continue to be ahead of target with strong performance across all areas of energy and fuel use.

Libraries, Registration and Archives: There continues to be a decline in the number of visits to libraries and the number of book issues which generally follows the national trend, and is in line with expectations. Take up of our wifi service for users with personal mobile devices has increased 136% when compared to the same period last year. The success of the bid to the Arts Council for funding to wifi-enable the remaining 66 libraries is likely to see this positive trend continue.

Executive Summary (3)

Education and Young People's Services

KPI Summary	GREEN	AMBER	RED
Education Quality and Standards	1	3	
Education Planning and Access		1	
Early Help and Preventative Services	3	1	
TOTAL	4	5	

Education Quality and Standards: The percentage of schools that are Good or Outstanding is 84% which is above target, and in line with the national average. The percentage of Early Years settings which are Good or Outstanding at 88% is ahead of the national average although below the ambitious target of 92%. The percentage of 16-18 year olds not in education, employment or training (NEETS) at 5% is higher than the target level but recent data shows that the number of Not Knowns has fallen. The Apprenticeship starts for 16-18 year olds increased during the last academic year and reached a new high after two years of stable numbers. The percentage of young people aged 18 to 24 claiming Job Seekers Allowance was at 2.4% at the end of December, down considerably from the peak of 7.5% in March 2012.

Education Planning and Access: The September 2014 Children and Families Act saw the introduction of Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) which replaced the previous Statements of SEN. The percentage of EHCPs issued within 20 weeks remained at 87% in the quarter to December. Kent continues to maintain an ambitious pace to achieve all its conversions earlier than the April 2018 deadline. The Commissioning Plan for Education for 2016 - 20 due to be published this Spring sets out our future plans as Strategic Commissioner of Education Provision across all types and phases of Education in Kent. Annual increases in the number of Reception year children continues, with this trend now also being seen in Year 7, as the previous Primary increases feed into Secondary stage education.

Early Help and Preventative Services (EHPS): The percentage of Early Help cases closed with a positive outcome increased last quarter from 78% to 79%. Throughput remains high and is a positive indicator of success for the new ways of working. Staff and managers monitor their caseloads, case progress, closures and throughput on a daily or weekly basis to ensure work is appropriately focused and progressing well to avoid case drift, and to ensure the best possible outcomes are achieved. The 'step down' of Children in Need cases to Early Help and Preventative Services at 22% equals the target. There has been improved joint working between Specialist Children's Services and EHPS. For permanent exclusions, the rolling 12 months total remained at 109, with performance continuing to be better than national average. The number of first time entrants to the Youth Justice system has shown further reduction ahead of target. The percentage of the targeted population, those living in the most 30% deprived LSOAs, who are registered at Children's Centres has fallen slightly to 76%. The improvement plan for Children's Centres will ensure further focused work around engagement with target groups.

Executive Summary (4)

Social Care, Health and Well Being

KPI Summary	GREEN	AMBER	RED
Children's Safeguarding	1	2	
Corporate Parenting	2	1	
Adult Social Care	5	2	
Public Health	1	3	
TOTAL	9	8	

Children's Safeguarding: The percentage of social worker posts held by permanent staff at 75% remains below target. Children becoming subject to a child protection plan fell to below target. The percentage of case files rated good or outstanding exceeded target for the quarter. The number of Initial Contacts was above the expected range for the second quarter in a row and 9% higher than the same time last year. The number of children in need cases increased in the quarter but was 3% lower than the same time last year. The number of children with child protection plans is now at the lowest level seen since March 2013 and below the expected range.

Corporate Parenting: The average number of days for adoption reduced this quarter and was lower (better) than last year. Placement stability for children in care continues to be better than target. The percentage of indigenous children in care in KCC foster care or with family and friends increased in the quarter. The number of indigenous children in care was little changed at 1,447, 5% lower than a year ago. There continues to be a reduction in the use of Independent Fostering Agencies for indigenous children. Children in care placed in Kent by other Local Authorities increased to 1,290.

Adult Social Care: The percentage of contacts resolved at first point of contact decreased but remained above target. The number of new clients referred to enablement decreased, and stayed below target. The number of clients receiving a Telecare service increased ahead of target. The number of Promoting Independence Reviews completed improved and remains above target. The number of Admissions to residential care increased in the quarter, but is still lower than target. Clients still independent after enablement was above target in the quarter and the result was better than last quarter. The proportion of delayed discharges from hospital where KCC was responsible improved in the quarter but continues to be a pressure for the service.

Public Health: The proportion of people receiving an NHS Health Check dipped to 45% and remains below target. Access to sexual health services remained at 100%. Following the transfer of commissioning of Health Visiting Services to the Council, performance remained consistent indicating a smooth transfer. There has been a slight decrease to 8.9% in the proportion of opiate clients successfully exiting from structured treatment who did not return to treatment, this was against a 9.0% target.

Executive Summary (5)

Corporate Risks

The table below shows the number of Corporate Risks in each risk level (based on the risk score). The Target risk level is the expected risk level following management action. Those with a current High risk level are outlined below.

	Low Risk	Medium Risk	High Risk
Current risk level	1	6	7
Target risk level	3	11	0

Safeguarding – protecting vulnerable children (CRR 2a) and adults (CRR 2b)

Fulfilling our statutory duty to safeguard vulnerable children and adults remains a top priority for the Council. This risk includes the wider perspective relating to the prevention of Child Sexual Exploitation and Trafficking and our duties under the Government's 'Prevent' anti-terrorism strategy.

Management of Adult Social Care demand: Adult Social Care services across the country are facing growing pressures, particularly with factors such as increasing numbers of young adults with long-term complex needs, increases in Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards Assessments and likely implications for providers of the adoption of a National Living Wage.

Management of demand on Early Help and Preventative Service and Specialist Children's Services: A programme to deliver integrated Early Help and Preventative Services for 0-25 year olds and their families is underway and being rolled out across the county. Phase 1 of the children's transformation programme has been completed in south and west Kent and implementation has begun in the east of the county. Commissioning intentions for Early Help and Preventative Services have been outlined, with implementation due in 2016.

Future financial and operating environment for local government: This risk reflects the increasingly complex and challenging environment that presents both risks and opportunities for the Council. The context includes the prospect of further spending demands, reductions in Government funding, the next steps for the Government's devolution agenda and business rate retention plans.

Implications of increased numbers of Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children: The significant increase in numbers of Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC) arriving in Kent requiring KCC support presents risks including sufficiency of accommodation and pressures on social work assessment capacity. It is hoped that a proposed amendment to the Government's Immigration Bill will encourage other Local Authorities to take on responsibility for this vulnerable group.

Health & Social Care Integration

The level of risk in this area is judged to have increased due to significant pressures in the health system having repercussions for social care.

Customer Services - Overview	
Cabinet Member	Paul Carter
Director	Amanda Beer

Performance for the percentage of calls answered by Contact Point (KCC's call centre) improved and remained above target during the quarter. Caller satisfaction with Contact Point advisors also remained at a high level. Performance for complaints handled in timescale improved and was above target. User satisfaction with the KCC web-site remained the same and so continues to be below target.

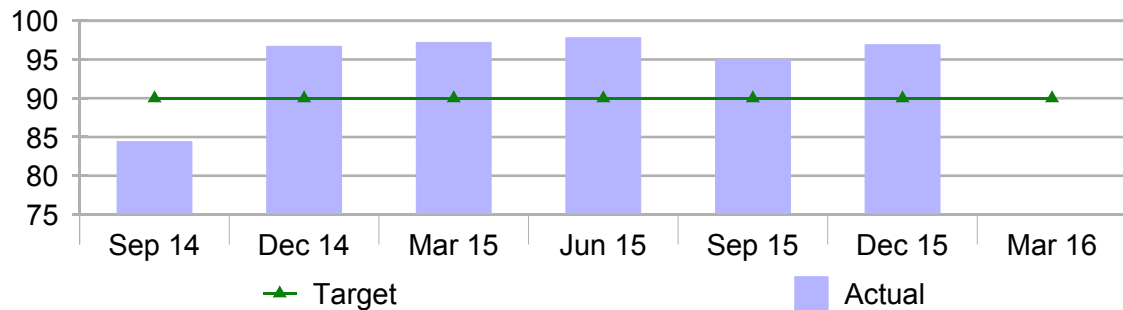
Indicator Description	Previous Status	Current Status	DOT
Percentage of phone calls to Contact Point which were answered	GREEN	GREEN	↑
Caller satisfaction with Contact Point advisors	GREEN	GREEN	↔
Percentage of complaints responded to within timescale	AMBER	GREEN	↑
Percentage satisfaction with KCC web-site	AMBER	AMBER	↔

Call volumes handled by Contact Point showed the usual seasonal fluctuation in the quarter and were 14.7% lower than last quarter and 8.1% lower than the same time last year. Overall call volumes handled in the last 12 months were 3.1% lower than the previous year. The average talk time has remained close to 3 minutes 10 seconds for the last three quarters. The number of complaints received in the quarter showed a 4% decrease on the previous quarter but was higher than the corresponding quarter last year. Visits to the KCC web-site have increased and are now at a similar level to the same period last year.

From 9 December 2015, customer contact through Contact Point and digital channels has been provided by our strategic partnership with Agilisys.

Customer Services – KPIs

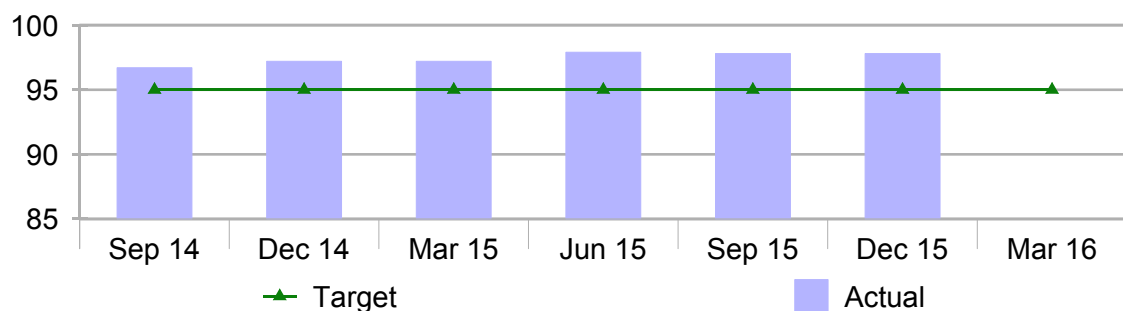
Percentage of phone calls to Contact Point which were answered

GREEN
↑

	Sep 14	Dec 14	Mar 15	Jun 15	Sep 15	Dec 15	Mar 16
Actual	85%	97%	97%	98%	95%	97%	
Target	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%

Performance in call answering at Contact Point remained above target in the quarter. There is continuing high demand for adult social care and children's social services.

Percentage of callers to Contact Point who rated the advisor who dealt with their call as good

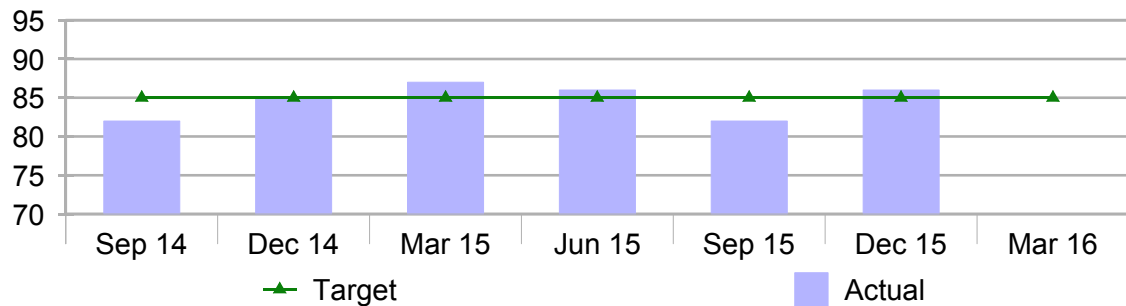
GREEN
↔

	Sep 14	Dec 14	Mar 15	Jun 15	Sep 15	Dec 15	Mar 16
Actual	97%	97%	97%	98%	98%	98%	
Target	95%	95%	95%	95%	95%	95%	95%

Customer satisfaction with Contact Point Advisors remains very high. There has been a great deal of feedback relating to the excellence of the Advisors for their customer service skills and knowledge of Council services.

Customer Services - KPIs

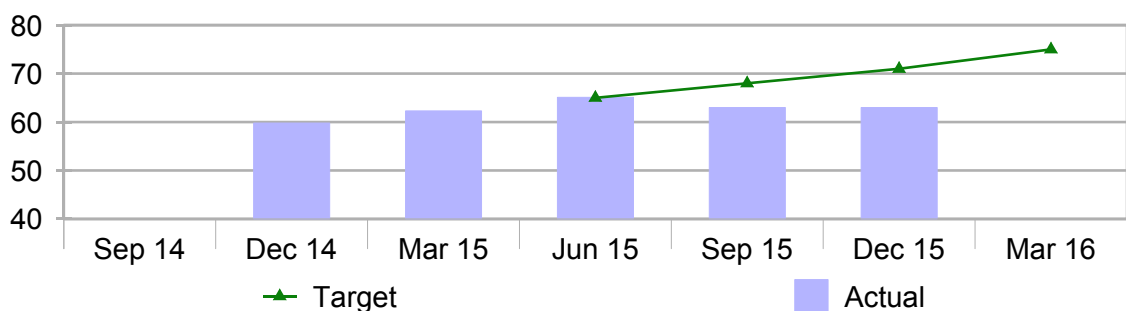
Percentage of complaints responded to within timescale

GREEN
↑

	Sep 14	Dec 14	Mar 15	Jun 15	Sep 15	Dec 15	Mar 16
Actual	82%	85%	87%	86%	82%	86%	
Target	85%	85%	85%	85%	85%	85%	85%

Performance improved in this quarter and exceeded target.

Percentage satisfaction with KCC web-site

AMBER
↔

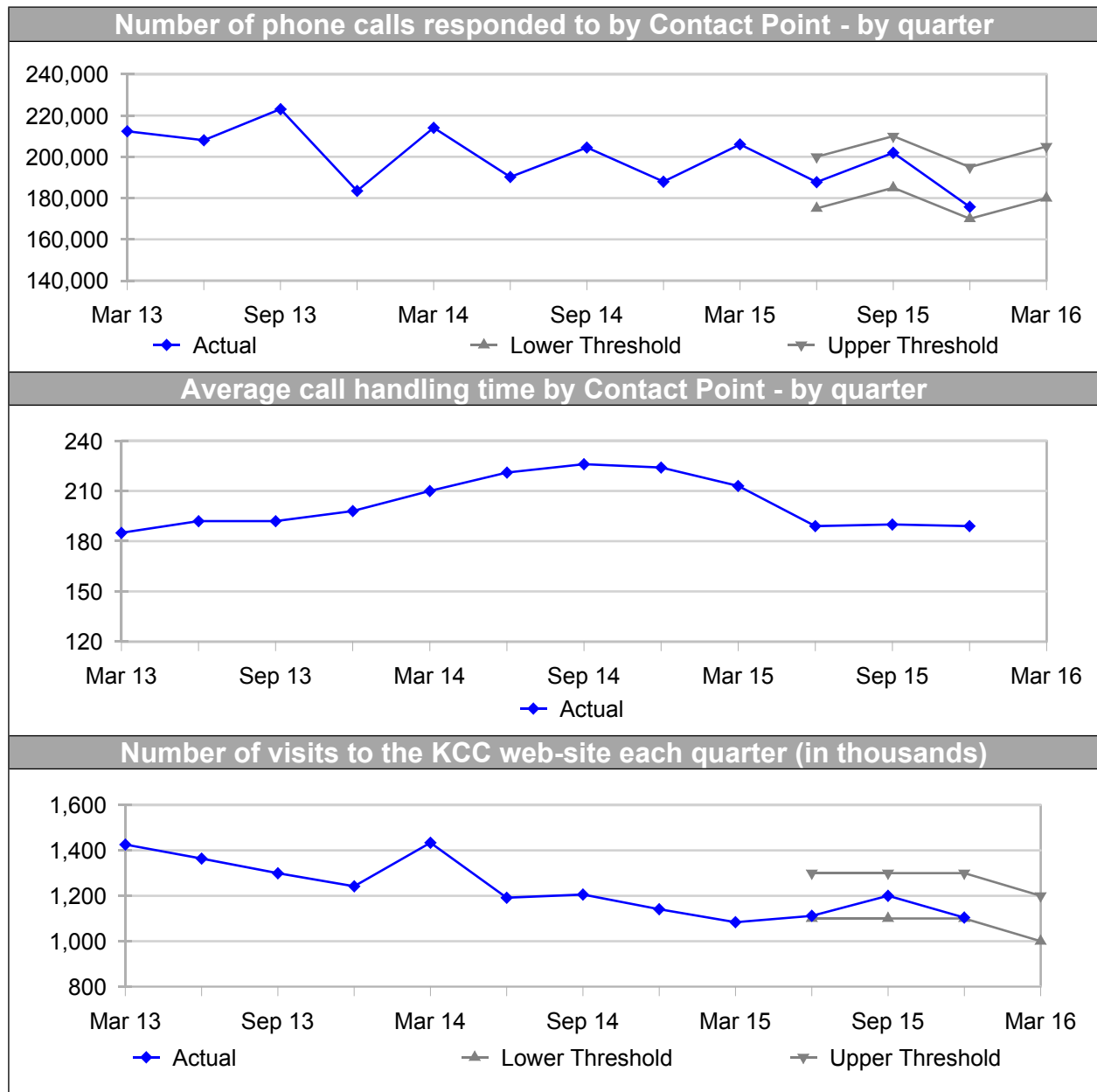
	Sep 14	Dec 14	Mar 15	Jun 15	Sep 15	Dec 15	Mar 16
Actual		60%	62%	65%	63%	63%	
Target				65%	68%	71%	75%

For individual tasks the highest satisfaction was for finding out about household waste recycling centres, school places, and library services. The lowest was for reporting a problem on the road or pavement. Work is underway to improve those parts of the website which have the lowest satisfaction ratings.

Customer Services – Contact Activity

Call volumes handled by Contact Point showed the usual seasonal fluctuation in the quarter and were 14.9% lower than last quarter and 8.5% lower than the same time last year. Overall call volumes handled in the last 12 months were 3.7% lower than the previous year. The average call handling time has remained close to 3 minutes 10 seconds for the last three quarters.

The number of visits to the KCC web-site decreased in the quarter and is at the lower end of the expected range for this quarter.



Customer Services– Contact Activity

Number of phone calls, e-mails and post responded to by Contact Point

Contact Point dealt with 13.8% less enquiries than the previous quarter, and 6.7% less than for the same period last year. The 12 months to December 2015 saw 3.8% fewer contacts responded to than the year to December 2015.

Most services have experienced a similar volume of calls in the year to December 2015 compared to the previous year, with the main exception being a reduction in calls to the Highways Service.

Service area	Jan - Mar	Apr – Jun	Jul - Sep	Oct - Dec	Yr to Dec 15	Yr to Dec 14
Adult Social Care	46	40	39	35	160	157
Specialist Children's Services	30	27	27	25	110	106
Highways	27	23	26	22	99	124
Schools and Early Years	15	16	16	15	62	57
Main Enquiry Line	15	18	15	13	61	53
Libraries and Archives	12	11	12	11	46	43
Blue Badges	11	10	13	13	46	41
Registrations	12	10	9	9	40	48
Transport Services	9	7	15	7	38	35
Adult Education	9	6	10	7	32	29
Speed Awareness	7	6	6	5	24	32
Other Services	6	5	5	3	20	34
Kent Social Fund	4	4	5	4	17	22
Waste and Recycling	3	4	3	3	13	14
Total Calls (thousands)	206	188	202	172	768	797
e-mails handled	18	19	20	18	75	82
Postal applications	12	11	11	10	44	42
Total Contacts (thousands)	236	218	232	200	886	921

Numbers are shown in the 000's, and will not add exactly due to rounding.

Out of hours calls are allocated 75% to Specialist Children Services, 15% for Highways and 10% Other.

Postal volumes mainly relate to Blue Badges and Concessionary Fares correspondence.

Customer Services – Digital Take-up

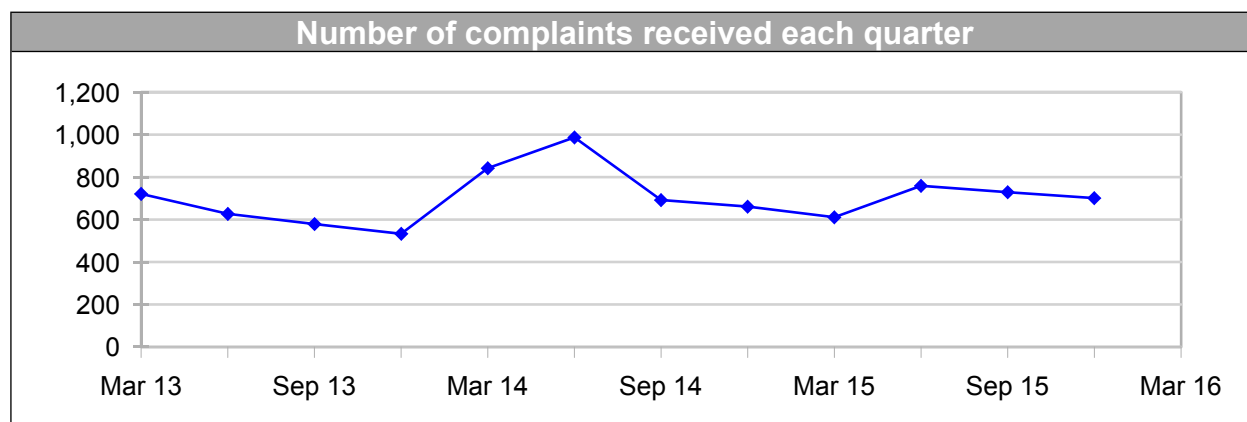
The table below shows the digital/online transaction completions for Key Service Areas so far this financial year.

Transaction type	Online Jan 15 – Mar 15	Online Apr 15 – Jun 15	Online Jul 15 – Sep 15	Online Oct 15 – Dec 15	Total Transactions Last 12 Months
Renew a library book*	97%	96%	95%	96%	763,845
Report a Highways Fault	41%	33%	28%	36%	94,132
Apply for a Young Person's Travel Pass	78%	3%	60%	6%	41,153
Book a Birth/Death Registration appointment	50%	55%	53%	54%	36,490
Book a Speed Awareness Course	70%	74%	77%	77%	34,828
Apply for a Concessionary Bus Pass	7%	9%	10%	11%	32,260
Apply for or renew a Blue Badge	21%	29%	30%	26%	31,623
Report a Public Right of Way Fault	50%	40%	0%	0%	6,297
Highways Licence applications	61%	62%	56%	52%	5,891
Apply for a HWRC recycling voucher	90%	92%	96%	95%	3,615

* Library issue renewals transaction data is based on individual loan items and not count of borrowers.

Customer Services – Complaints monitoring

The number of complaints received in the quarter showed a 4% decrease on the previous quarter, but was 3% higher than the corresponding quarter last year.



On a rolling 12 month basis, for the year to December 2015 the number of complaints showed a 12% decrease on the year to December 2014.

Service	12 mths to Dec 14	12 mths to Dec 15	Quarter to Sep 15	Quarter to Dec 15
Highways, Transportation and Waste Management	1,582	875	234	181
Adult Social Services	565	623	164	138
Finance and Procurement	290	406	102	60
Specialist Children's Services	240	237	62	57
Libraries, Registrations and Archives	224	179	65	63
Other Strategic and Corporate Services	77	134	43	12
Environment, Planning and Enforcement	93	198*	25	142*
Education Services	56	91	26	23
Adult Education	70	73	8	23
Other Services	7	4	0	2
Total Complaints	3,204	2,820	729	701

* Figures include 120 complaints following confusion regarding the potential closure of a community centre providing dance classes.

Economic Development - Overview	
Cabinet Member	Mark Dance
Director	David Smith

A total of 2,645 Full Time Equivalent jobs had been created or safeguarded by the Regional Growth Fund schemes in Kent up to the end of September 2015, providing a strong boost to the Kent economy, and completing delivery of 46% of the overall target of 5,731 jobs to be created or safeguarded by these schemes by 2019.

There were 132 long term empty properties returned to use through the No Use Empty programme in the current quarter. The cumulative total of long term empty properties returned since 2005 stands at 4,289.

Indicator Description	Previous Status	Current Status	DOT
Actual jobs created/safeguarded through RGF	AMBER	AMBER	↑
Number of homes brought back to market through No Use Empty	GREEN	GREEN	↑

Developer Contributions

Thirty-six planning obligations were completed this quarter with a total contribution value to KCC of £13.18 million. This quarter included the completion of 3 major agreements amounting to £7.82m of the total.

External Funding

KCC has an overall target of securing €100 million (£70 million) in EU funding across Kent from 2014-20 to support the delivery of Corporate Outcomes. Delays in programme approval have meant that the opening calls for projects were launched in March and April 2015 with early results coming through now. The South East Local Enterprise Partnership ESIF sub-committee has approved, subject to conditions, KCC's 'Inward Investment' project (£1.8 million) aimed at retaining and attracting investment into the life science sector, and its 'LOCASE' project (£2.5 million) which will help businesses move to a low carbon economy. Both projects will proceed to the contracting stage. At a wider Kent level, a University of Greenwich project 'I2S' (Innovate to Succeed) seeking £500,000 to enhance SMEs' innovation capability will be considered for approval by the ESIF sub-committee in March.

A range of other projects, within a strong KCC project pipeline, are at various stages in the approval process. They include, for example, the 'ISE' (Innovative Sector Exchange) project (£296,000) submitted to the Interreg '2-Seas' cross-border programme. This is a business support project to help Kent companies innovate and 'internationalise' by connecting them to SMEs in near Europe. The 'Boost4Health' project (£197,000) under the Interreg North West Europe transnational cooperation programme, will support Kent's new life science cluster and help SMEs to export through an innovation voucher scheme.

Together with the grant awards reported previously, over £45 million in EU funding is likely to have been secured by the county by the first quarter of 2016. Further calls for

Economic Development - Overview	
Cabinet Member	Mark Dance
Director	David Smith

projects this year, and subsequently to 2020, will provide additional opportunities for supporting our economic development activities with EU funding.

Through our work with partners in the South East LEP, the amount of investment secured through the government's Local Growth Fund stands at £115 million.

Support to Business

A range of activity within the division provides support for business start-ups and business expansion.

During the last quarter, we commissioned the new Kent and Medway Growth Hub service, which helps businesses to navigate the range of business support products that are available, and we launched this in December.

Sector-specific support to business is commissioned through contracts with Locate in Kent, Visit Kent and Produced in Kent. The Hospitality Guild has been established to encourage more people to consider a rewarding career in the hospitality, tourism and travel sector.

A Creative and Media Guild is being established to strengthen links between education and business to develop sector skills and improve careers advice to increase employability for school and college leavers. Built on the successful INSPIRE programme model, work is being piloted in Dartford to develop this approach.

A more broad business support package is being developed with the SELEP Creative Industries Business Advisory Group which will put in place a LEP wide programme to enable start-ups and encourage growth in already established creative industries

Infrastructure for jobs and homes

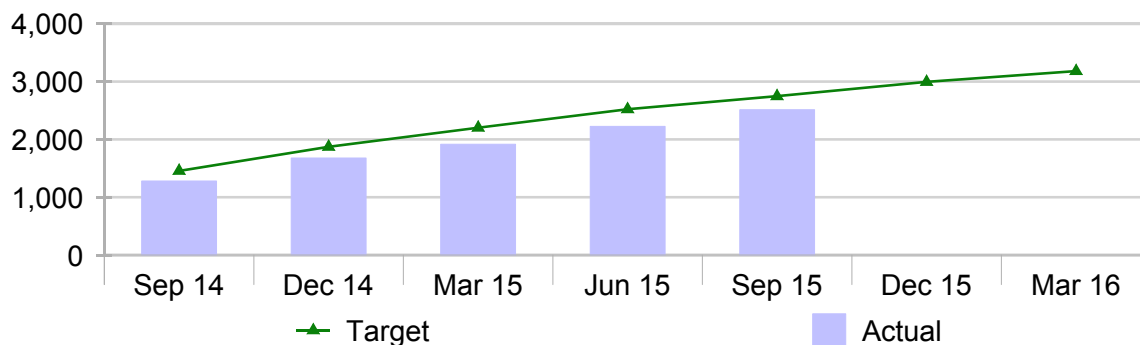
Through the BDUK Phase 1 Project, over 120,000 homes and businesses have been connected to superfast broadband, in areas which would not have been able to gain access to superfast broadband services through commercial upgrade programmes, as these areas were assessed as "areas of market failure". The project remains on track and 91% of homes and businesses across Kent now have access to superfast broadband service of at least 24mbps.

Phase 2 of the project started in January 2016 and will run through to late 2018. This work aims to extend the availability of superfast broadband services to 95.7% of homes and businesses. This will be a more challenging project to deliver as it will be working in harder-to-reach areas which are more technically challenging, as well as being more expensive to upgrade.

Economic Development – KPIs

Full time equivalent jobs created/safeguarded through Regional Growth Fund loan schemes

AMBER
↑

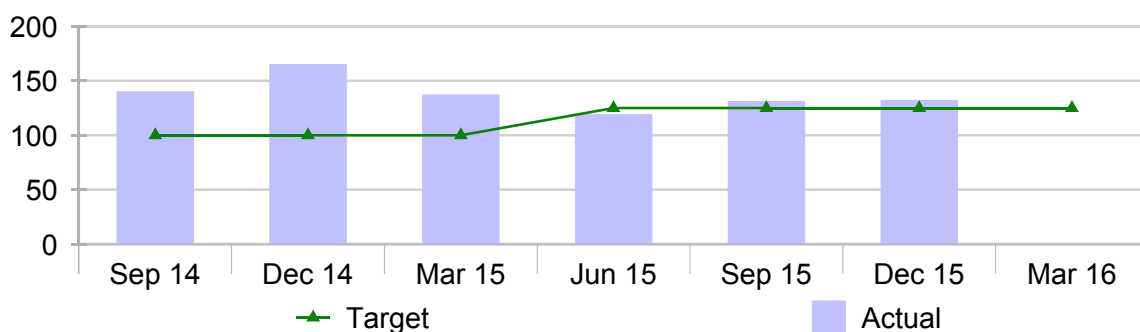


	Sep 14	Dec 14	Mar 15	Jun 15	Sep 15	Dec 15	Mar 16
Actual	1,276	1,674	1,955	2,452	2,645		
Target	1,455	1,872	2,202	2,522	2,748	2,995	3,182

Interest free loans, grants and equity investments of £55 million to Kent businesses from the Regional Growth Fund loan schemes are expected to create and safeguard over 5,600 jobs between 2013 and 2019. Good progress in being made in the confirmed delivery of these jobs with 2,645 of the jobs already delivered. The project is over a third of the way into the delivery timeframe. The target represents the committed jobs based on the original contract agreement with a slight re-phasing to account for a reasonable delay factor, which is inevitable in the delivery of some projects. No December figure available due to a change in data collection frequency.

Number of homes brought back to market through No Use Empty (NUE)

GREEN
↑



	Sep 14	Dec 14	Mar 15	Jun 15	Sep 15	Dec 15	Mar 16
Actual	140	165	137	119	131	132	
Target	100	100	100	125	125	125	125

Interest free loans (£14 million) and additional leverage (£22 million) has increased the level of investment to £36 million in bringing empty homes back into use. NUE remains on target to deliver 500 properties returned to use this year. The NUE programme is delivered in partnership with district councils and has been very successful over the years in delivering a downward trend in Kent's overall vacant dwellings, with the number of long term vacant dwellings in Kent having declined for six consecutive years. NUE celebrated its 10th Anniversary in December 2015.

Economic Development – Developer Contributions

In order to fund future infrastructure requirements to support the Kent and Medway Growth and Infrastructure Framework, KCC is able to obtain financial and non-financial contributions from developers on major new housing sites as part of the planning application process. Contributions can be obtained through different mechanism with the main method currently being through what are known as Section 106 (s.106) agreements.

An overview of recent s.106 contributions secured within agreements completed over the last six months is shown below.

Section 106 developer contributions secured (£ 000's).

	July to September 2015	October to December 2015
Primary Education	6,526	8,663
Secondary Education	1,503	3,926
Adult Social Care	37	155
Libraries	126	210
Adult Education	22	83
Youth & Community	18	144
Total	8,230	13,181

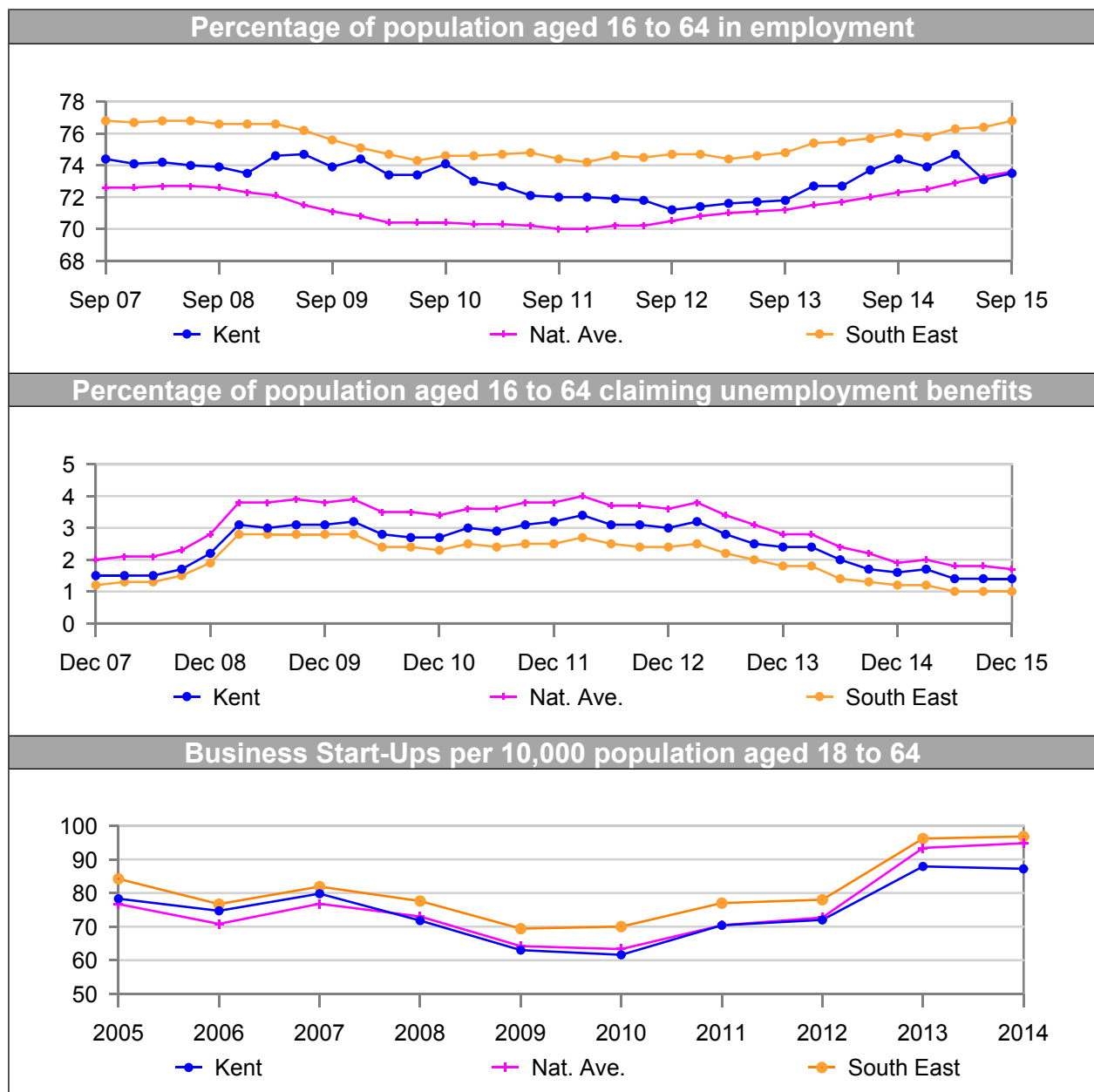
During July to September agreements were made for sixteen planning applications. For fifteen of these financial contributions were agreed in relation to 1,312 housing units and for an application for 500 units at Discovery Park the associated s.106 grants KCC the right to use one of the commercial buildings on the site as a school, and no financial contributions was secured.

During October and December thirty six planning obligations were completed.

Economic Development – Activity Indicators

The following indicators provide information on the general state of the Kent economy in comparison to the regional and national averages.

Employment rates in Kent have shown a drop in recent surveys which will be due to sampling methodology rather than a real change, with general picture being one of tracking the national average and steady improvement over the last 3 years. JSA and Universal Credit without employment claimant counts have shown significant reduction over the last 3 years, though now show signs of levelling off. Growth in new business start-ups has maintained record highs for the last two years.



Source: Office for National Statistics

Highways and Transportation – Overview	
Cabinet Member	Matthew Balfour
Director	Roger Wilkin

Performance is above target on all four measures. Customer demand in the quarter was lower than the seasonal expectations due to the kinder winter weather up to Christmas. As a result we have been able to reduce our open enquiry work in progress and this is below our expected range for this time of year.

Indicator Description	Previous Status	Current Status	DOT
Percentage of routine potholes repaired in 28 days	GREEN	GREEN	↓
Percentage of routine highway repairs reported by residents completed within 28 days	GREEN	GREEN	↓
Percentage of satisfied callers for Kent Highways 100 call back survey	GREEN	GREEN	↑
Resident satisfaction with completed Highways schemes (survey)	GREEN	GREEN	↓

In the last quarter 9 projects from our 2015/16 business plan were due for delivery including the launch of the new staff structure to deliver the £760,000 budgeted savings, the satellite tracking of our inspector vans to improve efficiency and safe driving, the extension of our successful road resurfacing contract with Eurovia, progressing social value and upskilling of our waste and highway providers workforce, and the review of socially necessary bus services. In addition, we have been working closely with the Kent Resource Partnership on fly tipping, high speed road litter clearance, and a county wide anti-litter campaign.

New initiatives for the next quarter include ensuring we keep on top of the pothole demand caused by the winter weather, setting out our approach to maintaining highway assets in the difficult financial environment, award of the new traffic signals maintenance contract and progress with the proposals for Sandwich Depot and a new east Kent Highways Depot. We will also be starting Phase 2 of our service re-design to drive further efficiency savings and service improvements from the recent re-organisation.

In this quarter the contract to convert all streetlights in Kent to LED was let to Bouygues UK, a large global provider. The work will commence in early 2016 and will take around 38 months to complete with residential areas converted first (70,000 lamps), followed by main routes (40,000 lamps) and Town Centres (10,000 lamps).

The current year construction programme is progressing well with some notable milestones, Tonbridge Town Centre Regeneration (£2.70m) and the A26 London Road/Yew Tree Road, Tunbridge Wells (£0.6m) works are underway, Folkestone Seafront resurfacing and Tontine Street improvements (£0.65m) are nearing completion. Plans are in place to commence additional works as follows: the M20 J4 at Leybourne (West Malling) (£4.8m) in April 2016, Maidstone Gyratory (£5.75m) in May 2016, and Rathmore Road, Gravesend (£9.5m) in June 2016.

Highways Capital Programme from LGF	
Cabinet Member	Matthew Balfour
Director	Roger Wilkin

Through the South East Local Enterprise Partnership (SELEP), £114.53 million of funding has so far been allocated for Transport projects within Kent from rounds 1 and 2 of the Local Growth Fund (LGF). Projects have different timescales for start dates and a full Business Case must be approved by the SELEP before funding is released and works can commence.

	Start: 2015/16	Start: 2016/17	Start: 2017/18 and later	Total
Total Value (£m)	60.86	137.80	43.73	242.39
LFG funds (£m)	39.50	59.93	15.10	114.53
Projects	12	9	4	25
Green (on track)	4	4	1	9
Amber (some slippage or further work required)	7	1	2	10
Red (at significant risk)	1	4	1	6
LGF Value of Red projects	0.80	16.30	3.00	20.1

All 12 projects due to start in 2015/16 have approved business cases and, with the exception of the 3rd party North Deal Scheme (shown 'Red'), are generally making good progress. Those shown 'Green' are on track to fully utilise the LGF allocation. Those shown 'Amber' are to varying extents not fully achieving spend to match the LGF allocation.

Three 2016/17 projects had approval of business cases at the February LEP Accountability Board to help mitigate the extent of 2015/16 project re-profiling into 2016/17. The LEP has indicated that any residual difference between 2015/16 spend and the LGF annual allocations can be managed by utilising it to reduce KCC wider capital programme borrowing with payback in 2016/17.

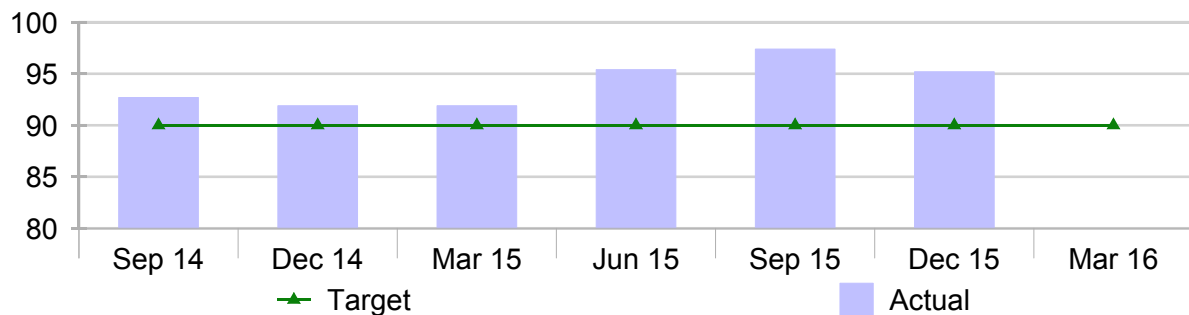
Of the remaining 2016/17 starts, 4 schemes are 'Red'; Sturry Link Road where developer funding agreements need to be concluded and a business case submitted; Dover Docks (3rd party) where a business case needs to be submitted; Folkestone Seafront (3rd party) where the business case needs to be submitted and agreements completed; and A28 Sturry Integrated Transport which is currently on hold.

For 2017/18 and later projects, the A226 London Road is making progress while the Westhanger Lorry Park is rated as Red as the situation has changed with government intervention in Operation Stack and lorry park options. Thanet Parkway is currently rated as Amber and although there is a funding gap for the project, actions are in hand to address this.

Highways and Transportation – KPIs

Percentage of routine pothole repairs within 28 days

GREEN
↓

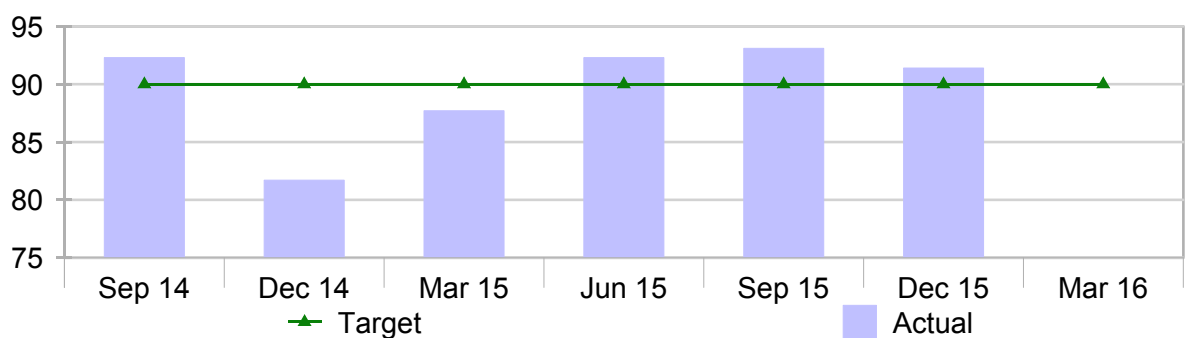


	Sep 14	Dec 14	Mar 15	Jun 15	Sep 15	Dec 15	Mar 16
Actual	93%	92%	92%	95%	97%	95%	
Target	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%

Performance again remains above target despite the seasonal increase in customer enquiries for potholes. Permanent pothole repairs remain our priority and whilst an overspend is expected on this service area it has been substantially offset by savings made in other parts of the Highways' budget. The recent cold spell in January will no doubt further increase demand and we are working with our service provider to be prepared for any increase.

Percentage of routine highway repairs reported by residents completed within 28 days

GREEN
↓



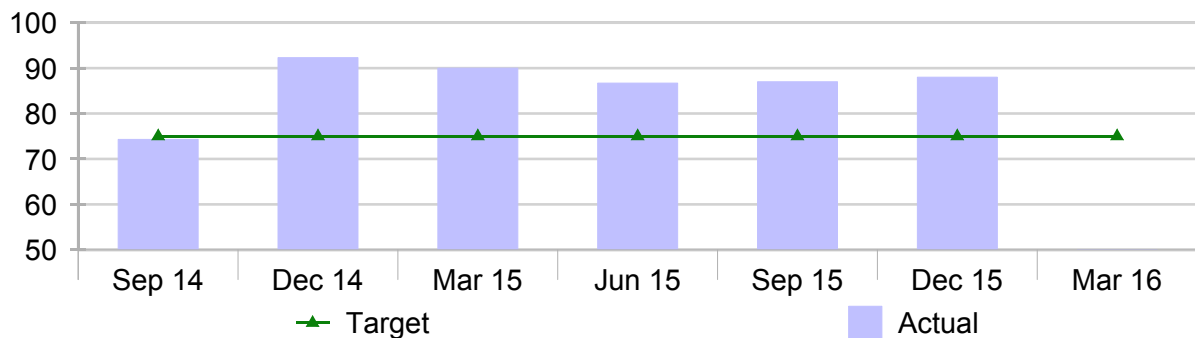
	Sep 14	Dec 14	Mar 15	Jun 15	Sep 15	Dec 15	Mar 16
Actual	92%	82%	88%	92%	93%	91%	
Target	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%

Performance has been maintained above target again for the third quarter in a row. This is despite a surge in demand for highway drainage enquiries following an extremely mild yet very wet December. The Highway Drainage team is now within the Highway Operations front line service area and is supported by the all Highways District Engineers and Stewards, and this new structure has had a positive impact on dealing with the peaks in demand for drainage enquiries and managing customer expectations.

Highways and Transportation – KPIs

Percentage of satisfied callers for Kent Highways and Transportation, 100 call back survey

GREEN
↑

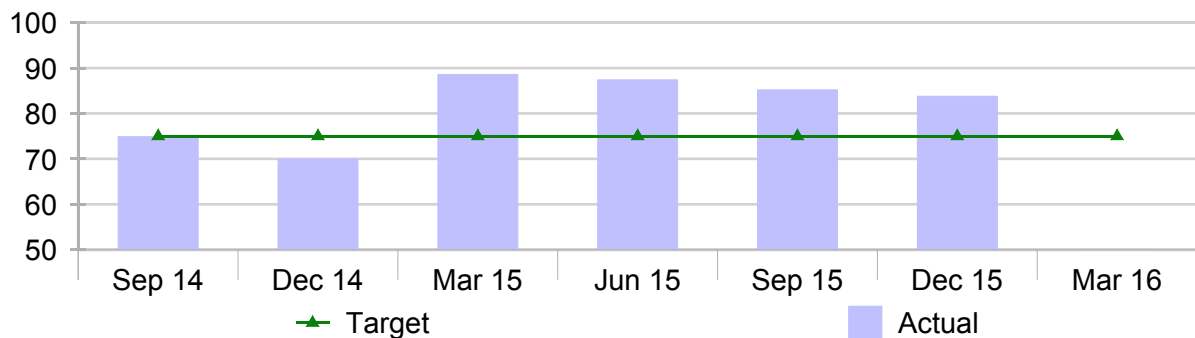


	Sep 14	Dec 14	Mar 15	Jun 15	Sep 15	Dec 15	Mar 16
Actual	75%	92%	90%	87%	87%	88%	
Target	75%	75%	75%	75%	75%	75%	75%

Performance continued to be above target in the last quarter. With the busy winter quarter coming and tighter repair budget allocations we are working hard to manage customer expectations with our priority being on those repairs which meet our intervention level matched to budget limits.

Resident satisfaction with completed Highways schemes (survey)

GREEN
↓



	Sep 14	Dec 14	Mar 15	Jun 15	Sep 15	Dec 15	Mar 16
Actual	75%	70%	89%	87%	85%	84%	
Responses	1,321	610	149	231	169	629	

Satisfaction continues to be above our customer standard for completed works and in this quarter we have received 629 responses from residents which is very positive. This quarter's results included a range of work including footway repairs, road surfacing and improvement schemes. The feedback we receive from customers on the information we provided in advance of the work, the speed with which we completed the repairs and the final product we have delivered, is invaluable in shaping our customer service approach to future schemes. We do not always get it right but we endeavour to learn from customers comments.

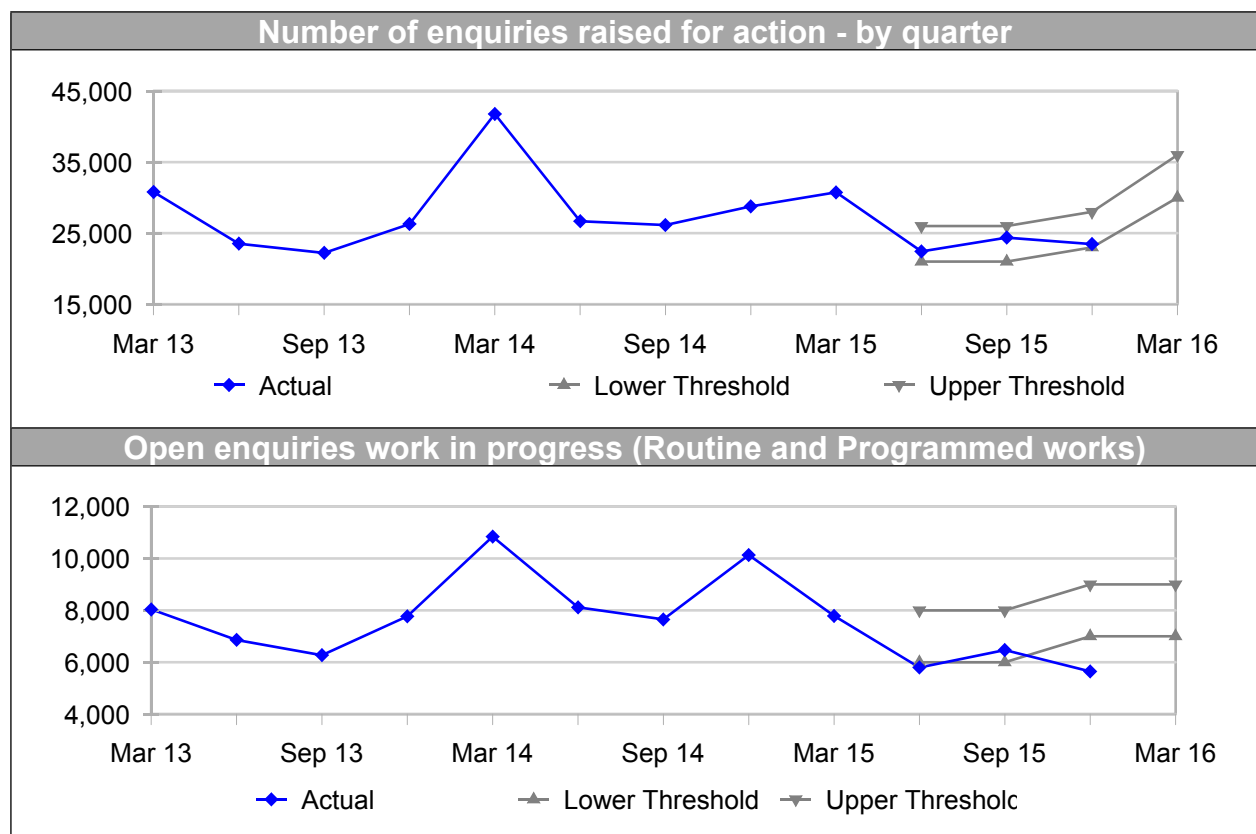
Highways and Transportation – Activity Indicators

The relatively kind winter weather in this quarter resulted in customer demand at the lower end of our expectations with 23,460 new enquiries raised for action. This is lower than the previous quarter and far less than this time last year (28,770 enquiries in the same quarter last year).

Enquiry demand in the last quarter was mainly due to seasonal streetlighting, pothole and drainage issues. We have seen enquiries from customers about potholes rise slightly to 200 per week in this quarter although the milder weather has really reduced this demand which is typically over 300 per week in a cold October to December period. In this quarter we typically see a surge in streetlighting enquiries with the earlier, darker nights and this has led to over 600 faults reported by customers each week.

Due to the lower levels of demand we have been able to reduce the open work in progress to 5,645 by the end of this quarter. As can be seen on the graph below this is below the expected range for this time of year. Ensuring we meet our customer standard response times as well as delivering good quality repairs remains a key focus for all staff.

A wetter and colder start to 2016 is expected to lead to an increase in demand and works in progress during the next quarter.



Waste Management - Overview	
Cabinet Member	Matthew Balfour
Director	Roger Wilkin

Performance for diversion of waste from landfill was above target at 92% which is 4% higher than a year ago. Performance for recycling and composting at Household Waste Recycling Centres is above target, but below previous year performance.

Waste tonnage arisings have decreased to 709,400 tonnes in the 12 months to December 2015, down from 720,700 in the 12 months to December 14.

Indicator Description	Previous Status	Current Status	DOT
Percentage of municipal waste recycled or converted to energy and not taken to landfill	GREEN	GREEN	↑
Percentage of waste recycled and composted at Household Waste Recycling Centres	GREEN	GREEN	↓

On a monthly basis the trend for reducing waste to landfill has hit a landmark low, in October and November this fell below the 5% EU target of no more than 5% of household waste to landfill by 2020. Further improvement is likely as alternative methods to treat waste by creating refuse derived fuel (RDF) rather than sending bulky waste to landfill come on stream through a new contract for Waste Treatment and Final Disposal commencing in April 2016.

Contracts for Transfer Stations and Household Waste Recycling Centres remain stable across our eighteen sites. Public demand on HWRC's remains high, particularly as the economy has recovered and strengthens. Keeping vehicle turnaround times reduced and waste moving within the limited infrastructure remains an operational pressure.

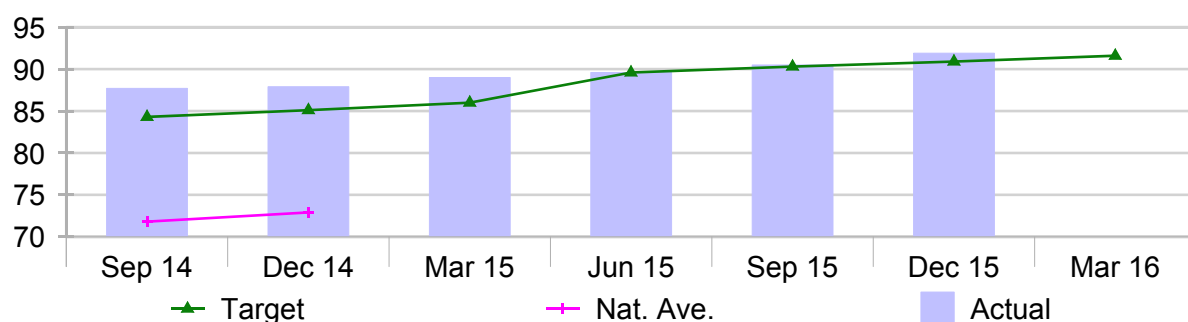
Commodity prices have fallen sharply, due to an economic slowdown within the emerging economies and the drop in oil process. This means that Waste Management must now absorb a pricing pressure rather than receive income for dry mixed recyclate. The coming months will see the service re-procuring a materials recycling facility contract to process the recycled materials collected in the west of the County.

Our capital projects are progressing, but there are unavoidable delays at the Church Marshes bridge works due to the exposure of a broken sewer and subsequent approval of design to be provided by Southern Water. The design of remediation works at the closed landfill site at Richborough remains with Environment Agency.

Waste Management – KPIs

Percentage of municipal waste recycled or converted to energy and not taken to landfill - Rolling 12 months

GREEN
↑

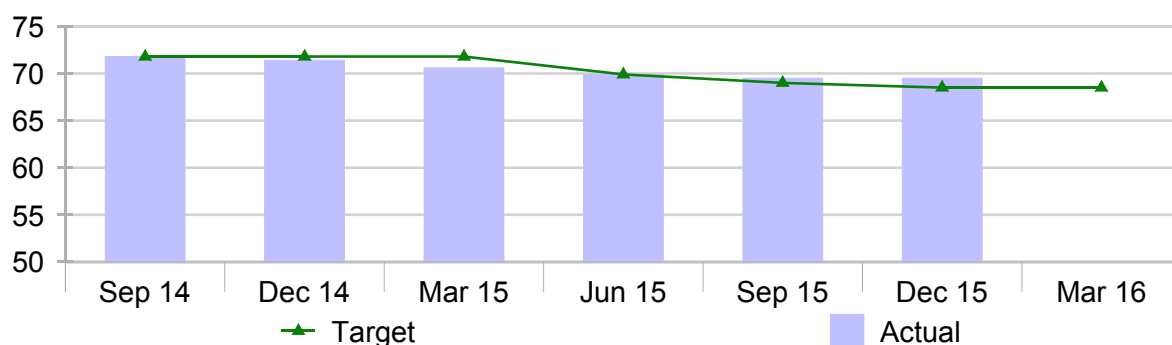


	Sep 14	Dec 14	Mar 15	Jun 15	Sep 15	Dec 15	Mar 16
Actual	88%	88%	89%	90%	91%	92%	
Target	84%	85%	86%	90%	90%	91%	92%

The current target has been exceeded with continuous improvement over the last year. Operational performance at the Allington waste to energy plant has remained stable and at good levels. District Council recycling collections, including those in East and Mid Kent, which benefit from recycling support funding from KCC perform reasonably well, although contamination of recycled domestic waste needs continual focus from all partners within the Kent Resource Partnership. Highway mechanical street arisings are now being recycled by Biffa and FCC, and this scheme has been extended to cover the District Councils in West Kent.

Percentage of waste recycled and composted at Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRC) – Rolling 12 months

GREEN
↓



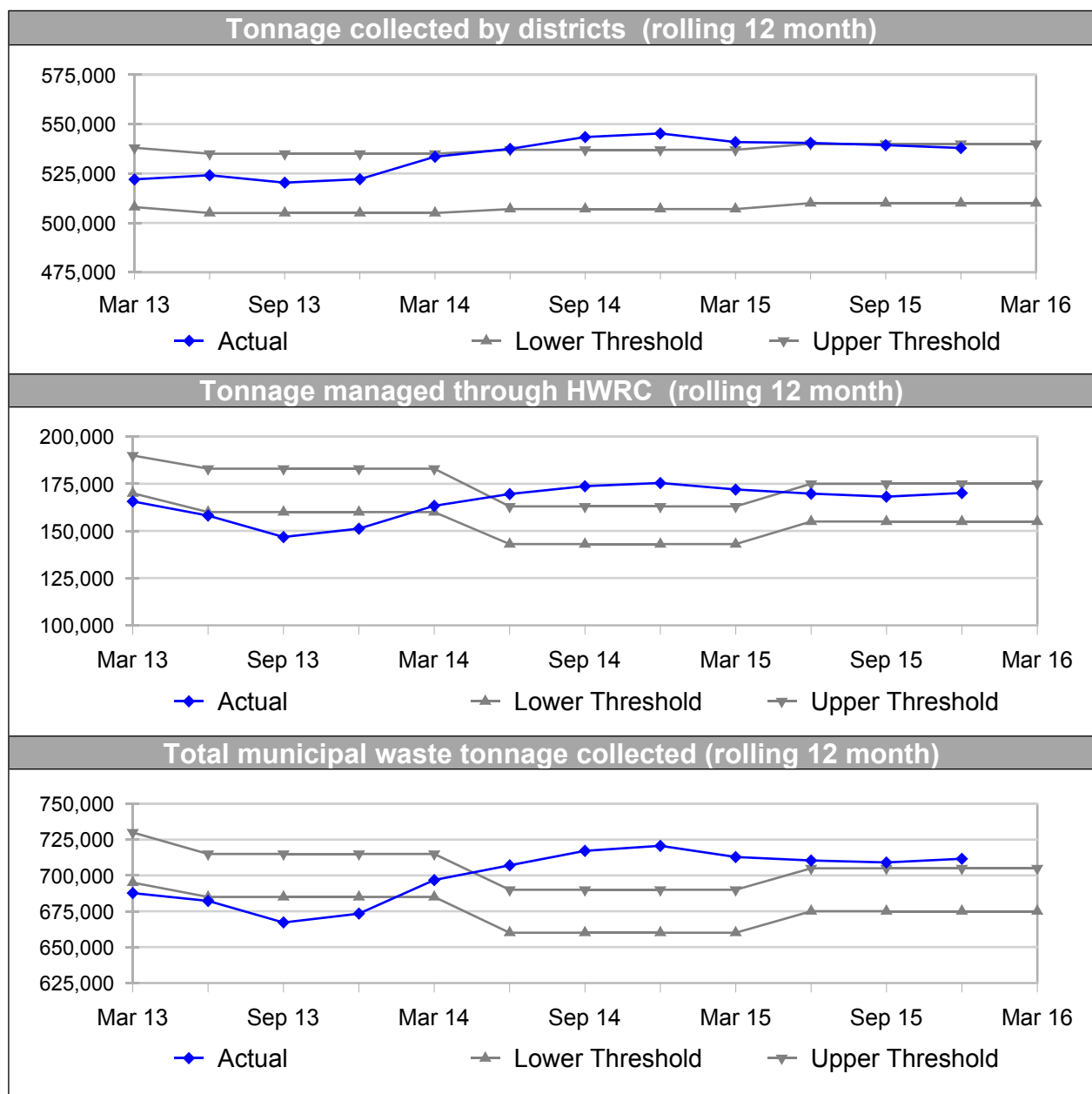
	Sep 14	Dec 14	Mar 15	Jun 15	Sep 15	Dec 15	Mar 16
Actual	71.8%	71.4%	70.6%	69.9%	69.4%	69.3%	
Target	71.8%	71.8%	71.8%	69.9%	69.0%	68.5%	68.5%

Recycling performance at HWRCs was above target in the quarter. The reduction in performance over the last year was seen across the county irrespective of the site provider. Districts now offer an improved collection service, which enable residents to recycle on their doorstep, meaning less recyclable waste is being disposed at HWRC's. HWRCs handle 26% of the overall waste dealt with by KCC as the Waste Disposal Authority.

Waste Management – Activity Indicators

Waste tonnage has decreased to 709,400 tonnes in the 12 months to December 2015, down from the 720,700 in the 12 months to December 2014 but above the budgeted level. The collection volumes by district councils and at HWRCs are close to the upper reporting thresholds, with the mid-point between thresholds equivalent to the budgeted level.

Costs of higher waste tonnage have been managed through lower contract prices procured by Waste Management in 2014/15 and a higher level of recycling which has reduced average final disposal costs, although market prices for recyclables have reduced in recent months reducing the cost advantages of recycling. The total cost this year for waste disposal is currently on forecast and additional management action has been taken in the year to reduce operating costs which has helped achieve this.



Environment, Planning and Enforcement - Overview	
Cabinet Member	Matthew Balfour and Mike Hill
Director	Katie Stewart

The **Kent and Medway Growth and Infrastructure Framework** was launched in November 2015 at the Kent Property Market Report event. The work programme for the implementation of the '10 point' action plan is currently being finalised and an interim refresh of the Framework will commence shortly.

Work continues with partner agencies to find a more effective solution for **Operation Stack**, which was in place for 32 days in 2015, mainly in June and July. Highways England, as the organisation responsible for the motorway and trunk road network, is now leading on delivery of a lorry holding area and a consultation on potential options has been undertaken and closed on 25 January 2016. Kent County Council's response to the consultation was agreed at the Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee on 13 January 2016.

Following the Examination Hearings held by an Inspector appointed by the Secretary of State, the Inspector has proposed a number of further modifications to the **Mineral and Waste Local Plan**. These are currently the subject of public consultation which ends on 4th March 2015. Any responses will be considered by the Inspector and taken into account in drafting his report recommending whether the Plan complies with planning legislation and can be adopted by the County Council. Once adopted, the Plan will form the basis for the determination of mineral and waste management planning applications.

The final draft of the **Kent Environment Strategy** was endorsed at Kent Leaders on 24 November 2015 where it was agreed that they would work towards internal adoption of the strategy (subject to internal processes). The strategy was endorsed by the Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee on 4th December and was adopted by KCC Cabinet on 25th January. The implementation plan is currently in development with partners and a workshop will be held at the end of February to draw together priorities for the final plan. The strategy will be launched in the first quarter of the new financial year with the aim being for local authority and wider partners to have adopted or endorsed the strategy by this time.

Indicator Description	Previous Status	Current Status	DOT
KCC Carbon Dioxide emissions (excluding schools)	GREEN	GREEN	↓

The Carbon Dioxide emissions indicator is a KCC-wide indicator and the position at the second quarter of 2015/16 was a decrease of 4.9% compared with the same time the previous year.

The online reporting system for **Public Rights of Way** faults has been unavailable since August 2015 which has limited the ability of the wardens to update the system with works they have identified or completed. The system has now been restored in January 2016.

Trading Standards have had a successful quarter, with over 40,000 non-compliant, dangerous and hazardous items removed from the market in November (including electricals, toys and jewellery), and over 50,000 in December (including chargers, furniture and footwear). Most of these items were stopped at Dover Port, and some at the retailers.

The new integrated Kent Community Safety Team organised and delivered the **annual Community Safety Conference** that took place on the 3rd November themed around Dementia. There were over 200 attendees from a variety of agencies in Kent plus some carers and people living with Dementia. The keynote speaker for the event was Angela Rippon who is an ambassador for the Alzheimer's Society.

The Community Safety Unit have also organised a number of events and training sessions during 2015/16 including **Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) Seminars and E-safety training**. The aim of the DHR seminars is to disseminate lessons learnt to frontline practitioners from recent DHR cases that have taken place in Kent. There have been three seminars in 2015 with the latest taking place on 18th November. The Unit has also worked with KCC Safeguarding in Education to deliver E-safety training to staff from a variety of organisations including the NHS, local authorities, Police, Fire & Rescue, the voluntary sector etc. The most recent awareness raising sessions took place in early October followed by a 'Train the Trainer event' in November which provided partners with the tools and knowledge to disseminate the learning within their own agencies. Further events are planned for early 2016.

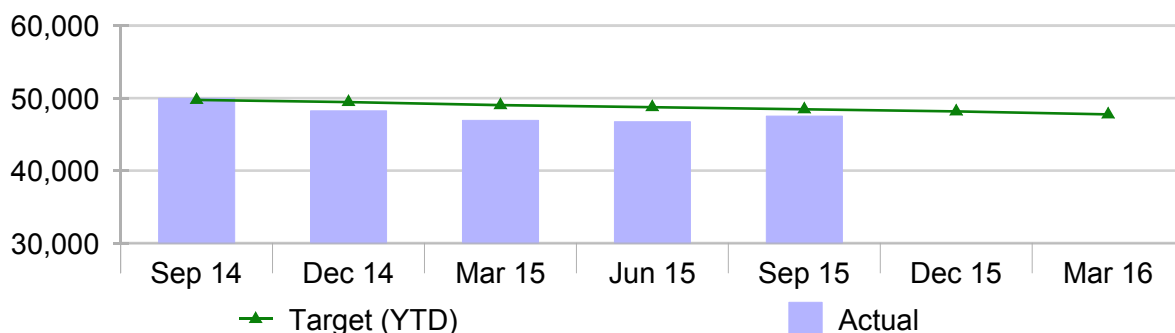
The Community Safety Unit is recruiting for **Volunteer Support Wardens** to work in 12 areas including both semi urban and rural villages and towns across Kent as part of a pilot project. The aim of the pilot is to explore the potential of a volunteer program to fit alongside and support the existing Community Warden Service. A range of leaflets and posters have been produced to promote the role in the pilot areas with assistance from the local councils and the Kent Association of Local Councils (KALC). During the advertising period, Community Wardens have been holding a number of drop in sessions across the pilot areas to promote and answer any questions the parishes and/or potential volunteers have. The closing date for applicants was the 1st February and interviews for the volunteer positions were held soon after.

The Kent Resilience Team led the way for KCC in **Exercise Fort Invicta** - a National multi-agency Counter Terrorism (CT) exercise held in Kent over two days in November 2015, covering nine separate locations and over 800 staff from the military and multi-agency community of Kent on day one alone. There were over 100 local authority staff with voluntary sector support deployed over the two days, our largest deployment of staff for an emergency planning exercise ever. The National Counter Terrorism Exercise Programme's aim was to improve the ability of the police service and other key partners to prepare for, respond to and manage terrorist investigations and incidents. The main aim of the exercise was to test and validate new national response procedures to a Chemical Biological Radiological and Nuclear incident by the blue light services and the military whilst working to the 'Joint Emergency Services Interoperability Programme' principles. The Office for Security and Counter Terrorism commented on the Exercise that "it was one of the best planned exercises they have attended". There was good learning from the event, all of which will be carried forward into 2016 training and exercise programme for the Kent Resilience Forum.

Environment, Planning and Enforcement – KPIs

Carbon Dioxide emissions from KCC estate (excluding schools) in tonnes – rolling 12 months

GREEN
↓



	Sep 14	Dec 14	Mar 15	Jun 15	Sep 15	Dec 15	Mar 16
Actual	49,984	48,251	46,936	46,748	47,524		
Target	49,755	49,459	49,037	48,749	48,461	48,173	47,762

Targets are based on a 2.6% annual reduction from a 2010/11 baseline.

Opportunities to reduce energy use across the corporate estate continue to be assessed and implemented, including renewable energy projects and new ways of working is leading to reductions in business travel.

The Council continues to meet the ISO14001 standard for environmental management, the next assessment will take place in February involving services based in Ashford and at County Hall.

Corporate building emissions have increased this quarter due to less favourable weather; however the reduction in emissions from street lighting and travel has partly offset this. Energy reduction opportunities from the Total Facilities Management contractors continue to be identified. Ongoing scrutiny of travel across all KCC services has delivered a 10% reduction in mileage claimed compared to the same period last year.

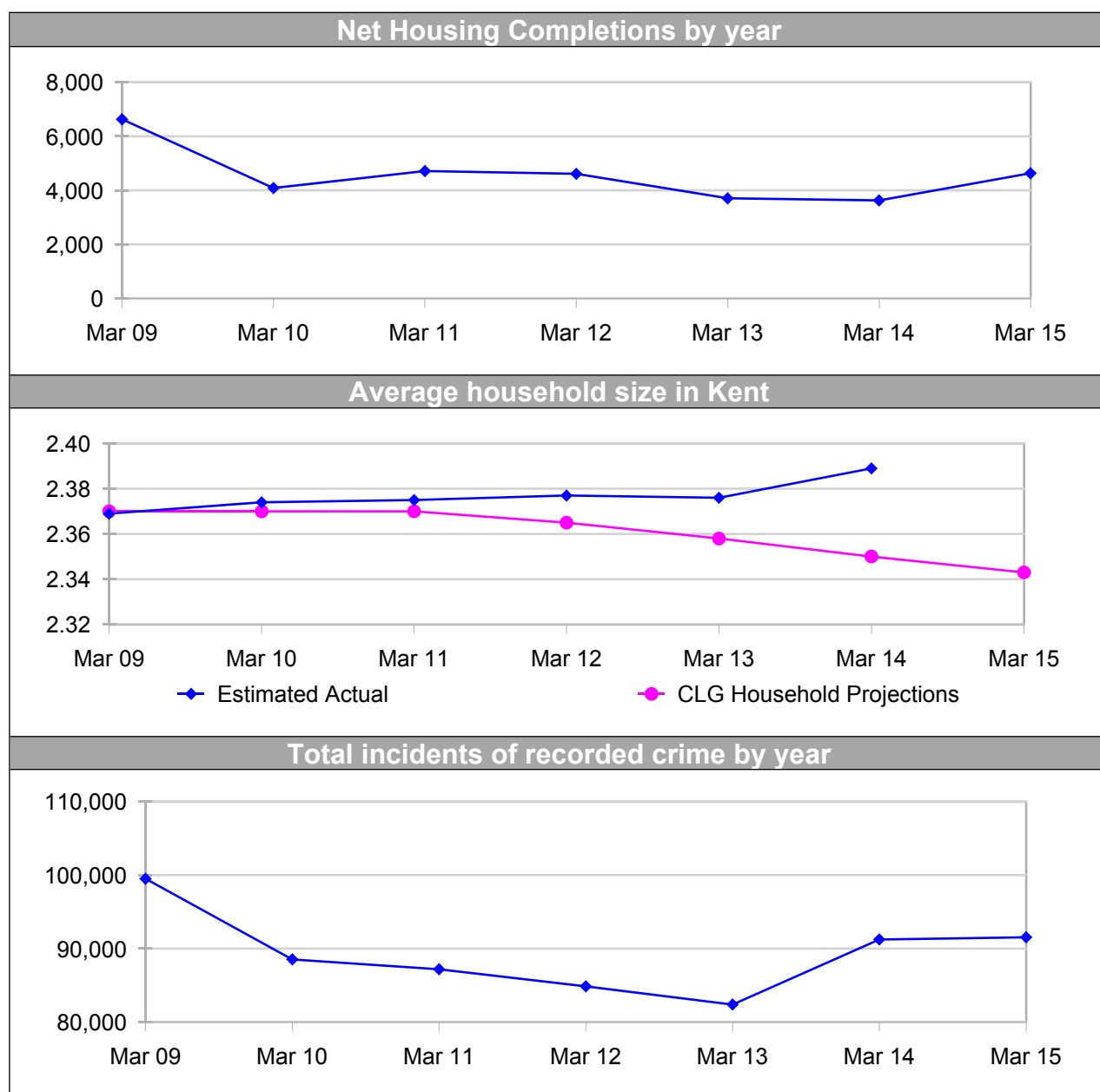
There is still strong interest from schools in LED lighting projects. A further five projects have been completed, using £100k of the additional £250k funding (0% finance) secured from Salix. At least 15 more schools are seeking to implement LED projects.

Environment, Planning and Enforcement – Activity Indicators

The number of annual housing completions remains below pre-recession levels with 3,628 net completions in 2013/14 and 4,635 for 2014/15. The 2014/15 number is a 28% increase on the previous year and there are positive signs that housing construction is now starting to recover.

Average household size in Kent has been increasing in recent years, due to low affordability of housing for young people and low levels of house building, which is a reverse on the previous trend of reducing average household size which had been in place for decades.

Total incidents of recorded crime in the last year were at a similar level to the previous year.



Libraries, Registrations and Archives (LRA) - Overview	
Cabinet Member	Mike Hill
Head of Service	Andrew Stephens

We continue to focus on transformation to become an internally commissioned service which is more commercially focussed and streamlined which will lay the foundation for a future transfer to a Trust model. With a greater focus on customer and staff engagement and on local community partnerships we aim to create an environment for innovation and a more dynamic use of the property estate to deliver a service which meets our customers' needs. The proposed draft service specification against which KCC will hold the service to account was agreed in January

The service continues to focus on performance and recognises the need to address the decline in the number of visits to libraries and archives and the number of book issues, with the pattern in Kent generally following the national trend. Take up of our wifi service for users with personal mobile devices has increased 136% when compared to the same period last year. The success of our bid to the Arts Council for funding to wifi-enable the remaining 66 libraries is likely to see this positive trend continue.

There is some sign that the decline in book issues may not be as high as expected this year, with an average 25% increase in reservations being made by customers since the charge for the service was removed in April.

The number of ceremonies conducted in the quarter to December is 4.6% higher than the same period last year with an increase in use of approved premises and a decrease in Kent Register Offices.

Analysis of our Library and Archives customer survey has now been carried out and will inform actions to improve access and usability.

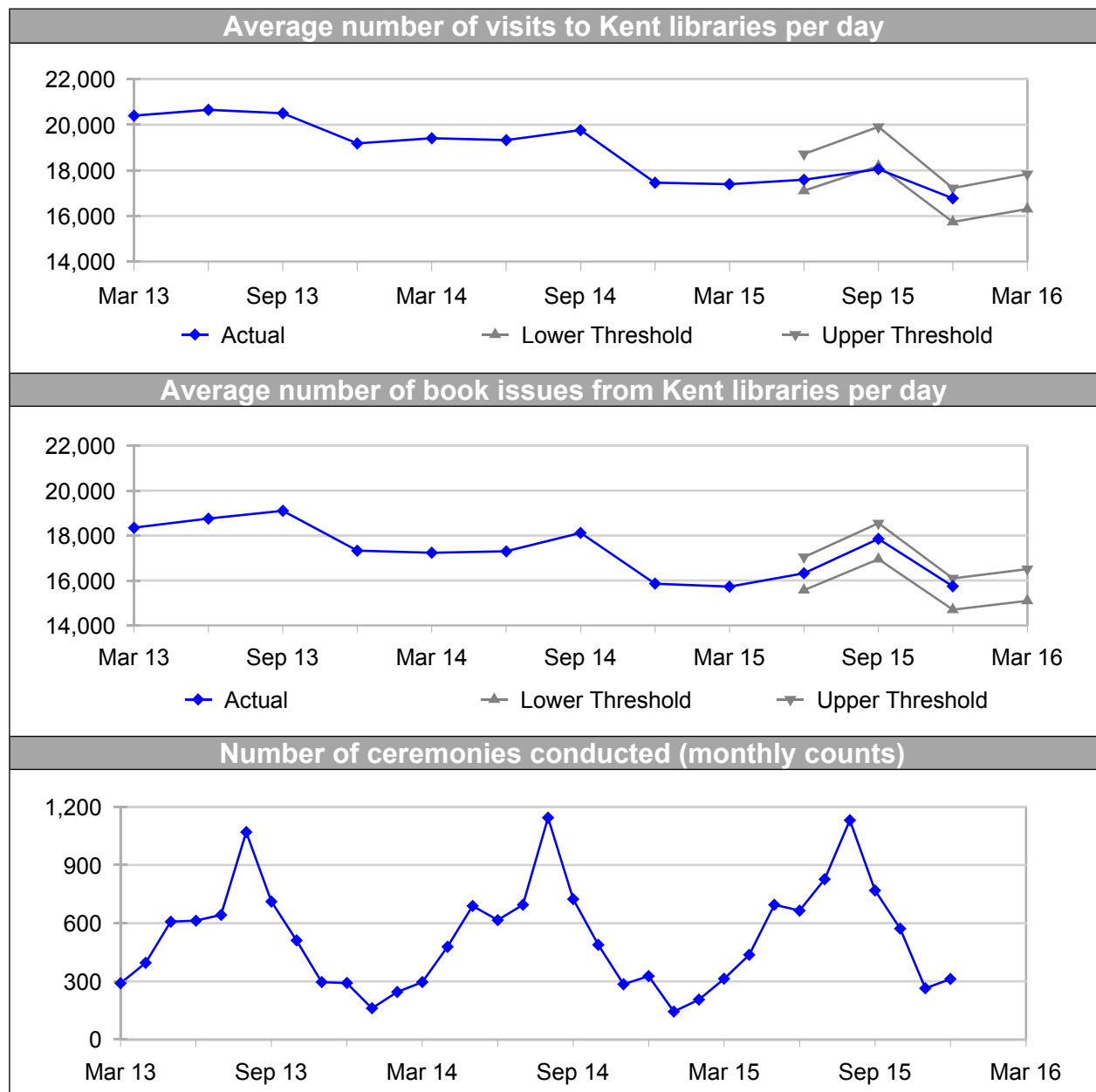
Customer satisfaction surveys relating to birth and death registrations and ceremonies have been updated and are now been sent to customers. To date we have had 750 responses and satisfaction rates are 93% and 98% respectively. We need more responses to achieve a satisfactory sample set for births and deaths and quarter 4 figures should enable this.

In the last quarter we conducted a CIPFA email survey of customers who use the distance enquiry service for Archives. Initial results show an overall satisfaction rate of 88% and further analysis of these results should be available in March.

Libraries, Registrations and Archives – Activity Indicators

As mentioned above the trend in Kent for issues and visits are generally in line with the national trend. The decline in book issues has been lower than expected this quarter with an average 25% increase in reservations being made by customers since the charge for the service was removed in April.

The number of ceremonies conducted in the quarter to December is 4.6% higher than the same period last year with an increase in approved premises and a decrease in Kent register offices.



Education Quality and Standards - Overview	
Cabinet Member	Roger Gough
Director	Gillian Cawley

The percentage of schools which are Good or Outstanding has risen to 84% which is ahead of target and in line with the national average. The percentage of Early Years settings which are Good or Outstanding at 88% is ahead of the national average but below the ambitious target of 92%. The percentage of 16-18 year olds not in education, employment or training (NEETS) is higher than anticipated at 5%, although recent data for Not Knowns shows the numbers have fallen. Apprenticeship starts for 16-18 year olds have increased this academic year. The percentage of young people aged 18 to 24 claiming Job Seekers Allowance was at 2.4% at the end of December, down considerably from the peak of 7.5% in March 2012.

.Indicator Description	Previous Status	Current Status	DOT
Percentage of all schools with Good or Outstanding Ofsted inspection judgements	GREEN	GREEN	↑
Percentage of Early Years settings with Good or Outstanding Ofsted inspection judgements	AMBER	AMBER	↔
Percentage of 16-18 years olds not in education, employment or training (NEETs)	AMBER	AMBER	↑
Apprenticeship starts for 16-18 year olds	AMBER	AMBER	↑

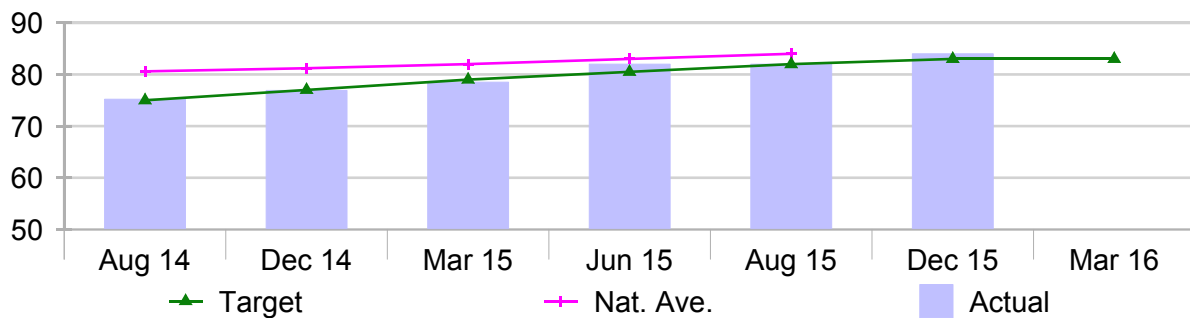
The Standards and School Improvement Team continue to work with the Kent Association of Headteachers (KAH) Area Boards to broker school to school support, to further strengthen the work of schools and to identify and encourage the sharing of best practice across collaborative groups. 85% of Kent schools are now involved in collaborative partnerships with other schools, supporting school improvement.

Key priorities for the Early Years and Childcare Service are to increase the percentage of settings judged as Good or Outstanding and (working with Children's Centres), to continue to increase the take up of free childcare places by eligible two years olds, and to continue to ensure that sufficient high quality places for these two years olds are available. Other priorities are to increase the number of children achieving a Good Level of Development at the end of the Early Years Foundation Stage, to narrow achievement gaps, and to increase the number of early years settings working as part of a collaboration.

The Skills and Employability Service has coordinated the cross-directorate NEET Strategy. This has been endorsed by Members and is published on the Kelsi website. It is anticipated that this will have a significant impact on reducing the number of young people, especially from vulnerable groups, recorded as Not Knowns and NEETs. The district Employability Offer has been introduced and developed, with the aim of re-engaging learners in education and supporting them to develop employability skills, including qualifications in Mathematics and English, whilst providing progression pathways to higher levels of study or into employment, traineeships and apprenticeships.

Education Quality and Standards - KPIs

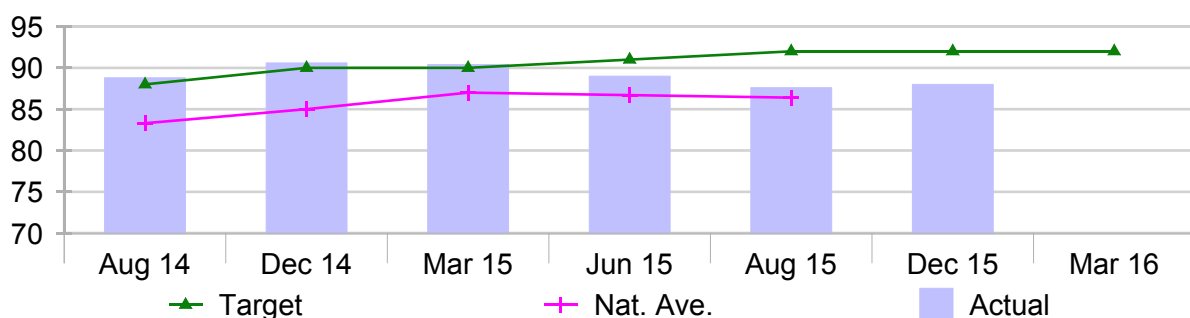
Percentage of all schools with Good or Outstanding Ofsted inspection judgements

GREEN
 ↑


	Aug 14	Dec 14	Mar 15	Jun 15	Aug 15	Dec 15	Mar 16
Actual	75%	77%	79%	82%	82%	84%	
Target	75%	77%	79%	80.5%	82%	83%	83%

Performance in this area continues to improve. In December 2015, 461 of the 585 schools in Kent were Good or Outstanding and 83% of pupils were attending a Good or Outstanding school compared to 77% at the same time last year. This means that 11,960 more children are receiving a better education than at this point last year. Nine Kent schools (7 primary and 2 secondary) are currently judged as inadequate by Ofsted which is less than half of the total in December 2014. This represents a significant improvement.

Percentage of Early Years settings with Good or Outstanding Ofsted inspection judgements (childcare on non-domestic premises)

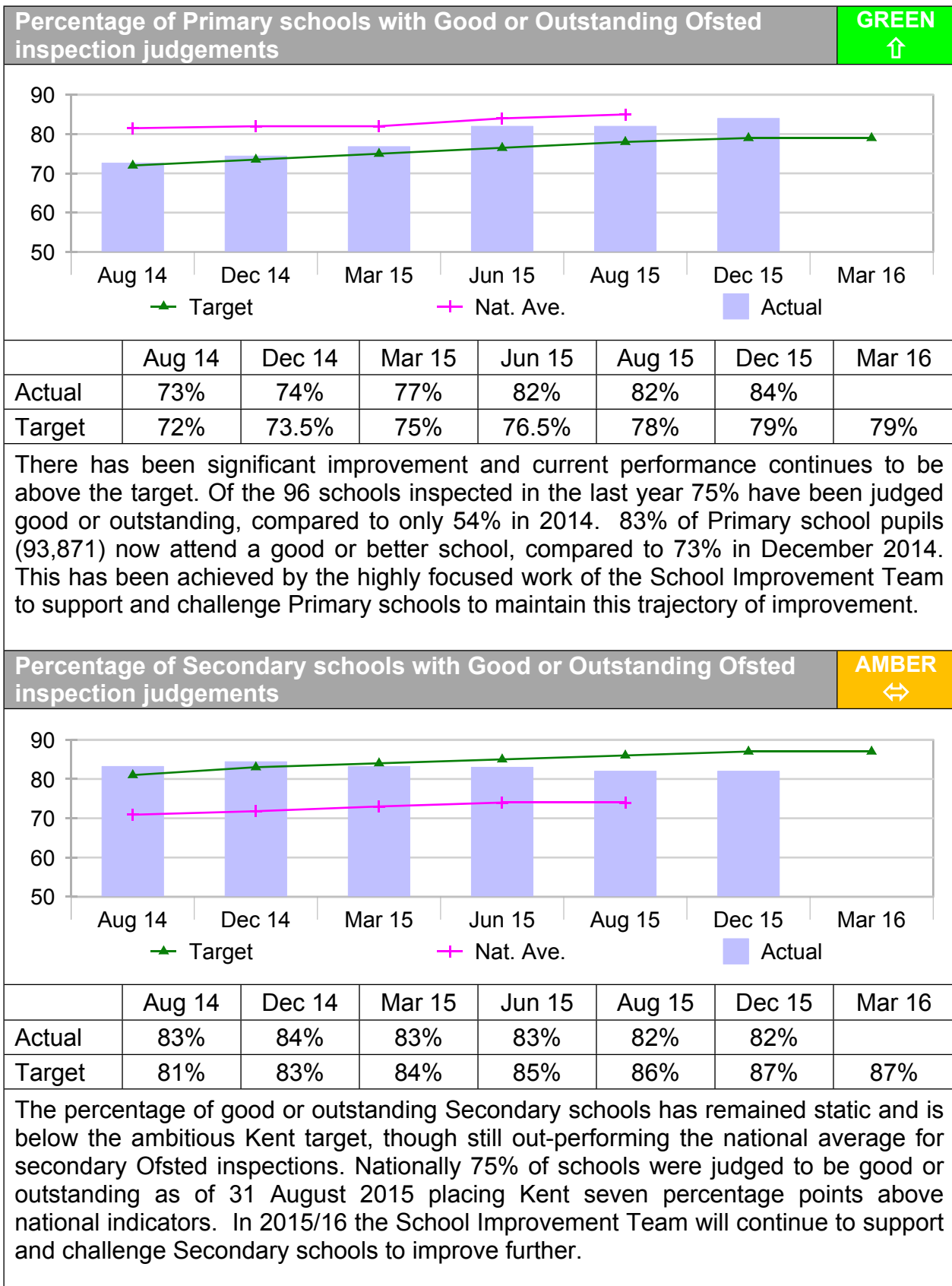
AMBER
 ↔


	Aug 14	Dec 14	Mar 15	Jun 15	Aug 15	Dec 15	Mar 16
Actual	89%	91%	90%	89%	88%	88%	
Target	88%	90%	90%	91%	92%	92%	92%

88% of Early Years settings were judged Good or Outstanding in December 2015, slightly below the level as at December 2014, and below the challenging target of 92% but above the national average of 86%. A number of settings requiring Improvement are not accessing the support services available to them. In order to address this issue the team will deliver a non-traded 'Annual Conversation' to provide advice and support for all settings. They will also continue with the Ofsted readiness Health Checks, continue to make high quality CPD available, and encourage and support collaborative working between settings.

Education Quality and Standards - KPIs

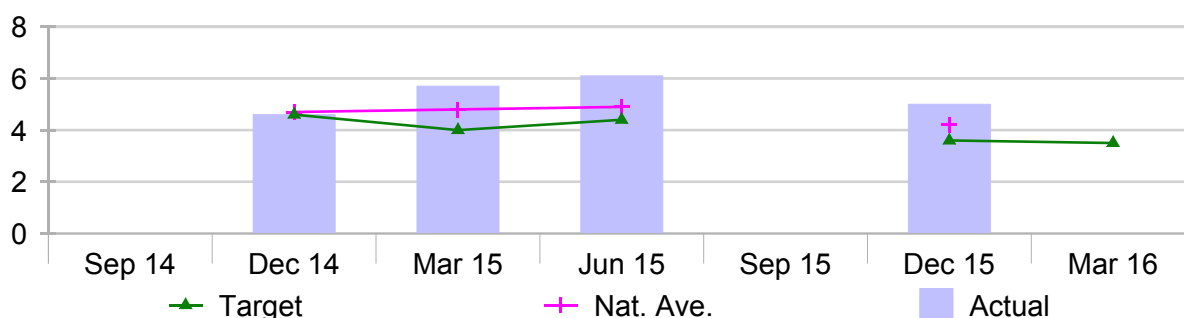
This page shows a breakdown of the previous indicator for Ofsted inspections for all schools and shows results separately for Primary and Secondary schools.



Education Quality and Standards – KPIs

Percentage of 16-18 years olds not in education, employment or training (NEETs)

AMBER
↑

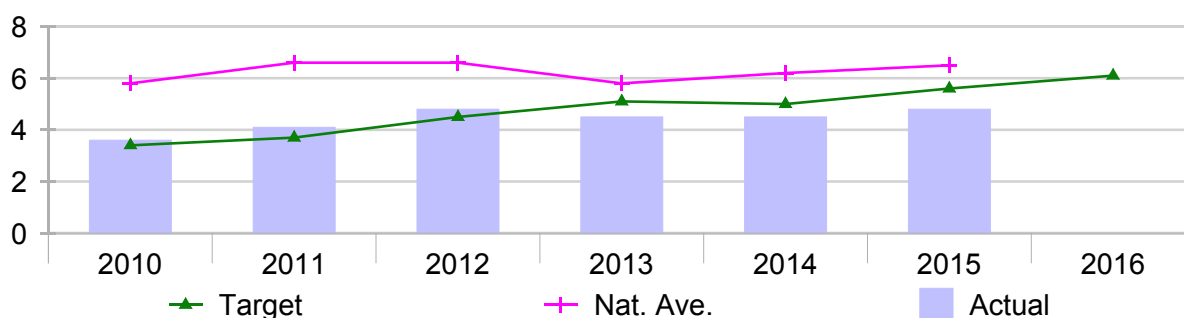


	Sep 14	Dec 14	Mar 15	Jun 15	Sep 15	Dec 15	Mar 16
Actual	n/a	4.6%	5.7%	6.1%	n/a	5.0%	
Target	n/a	4.6%	4.0%	4.4%	n/a	3.6%	3.5%

Current performance this year is behind target although the numbers of young people with Not Known status has fallen. Working in partnership with schools, colleges, training providers, local agencies and employers, a new NEETs Strategy and detailed action plan has been developed which will ensure an integrated and targeted approach to reducing NEETs including focused interventions to support vulnerable groups. NEETs are not reported for September due to data being unreliable as the new academic year starts.

Percentage of 16-18 year olds who start an apprenticeship

AMBER
↑



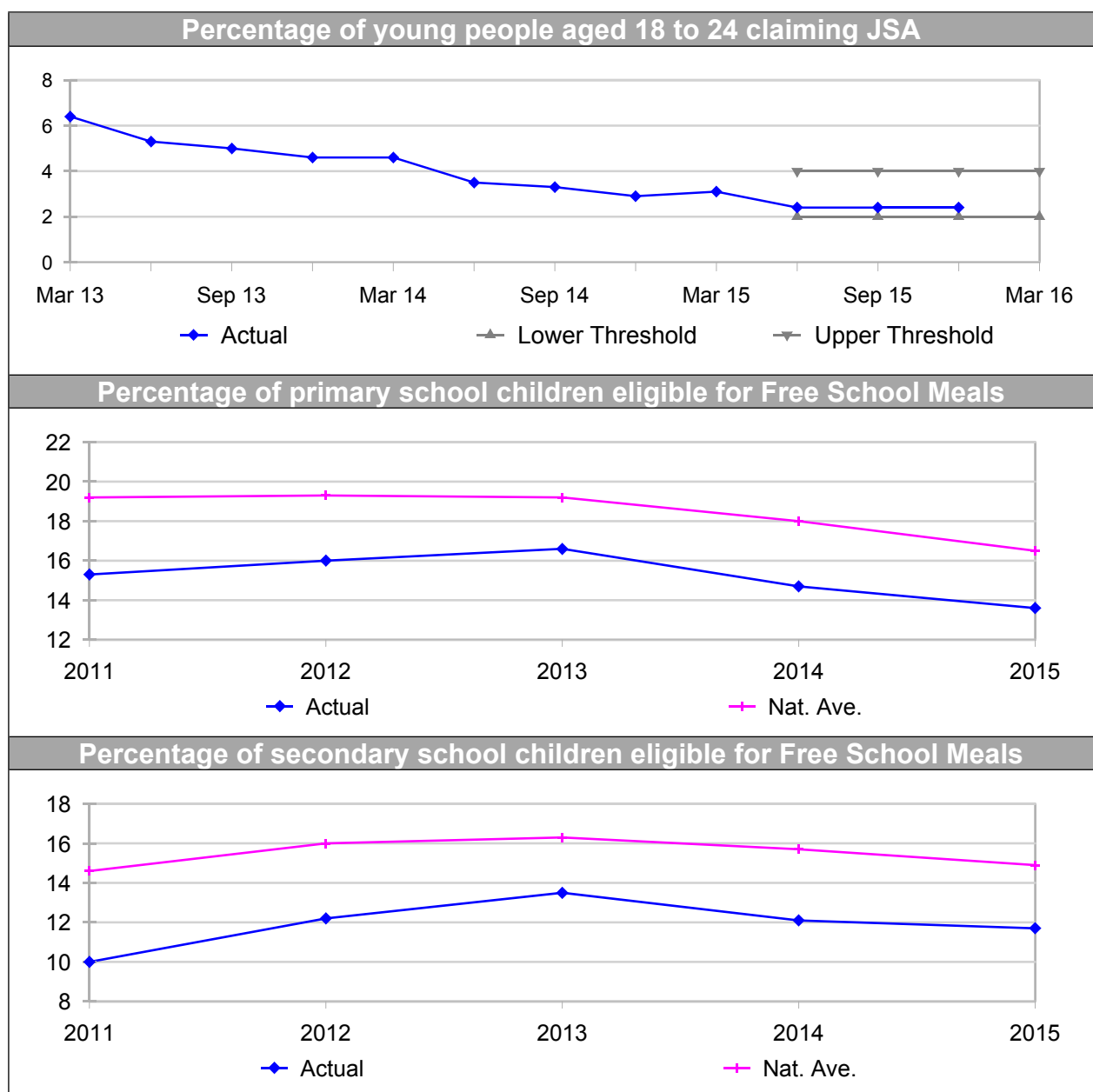
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Actual	3.6%	4.1%	4.8%	4.5%	4.5%	4.8%	
Target			4.5%	5.1%	5.0%	5.6%	6.1%

Apprenticeship starts for the last academic year were higher than the previous year. In 2014/15 a total 2,760 young people started an apprenticeship compared to 2,560 in 2013/14. The Skills and Employability Service is working very closely with schools, KAFEC and KATO to increase the awareness of apprenticeship options across the county. A new version of the Kent Employment Programme has been developed to offer 100 apprentices mainly aimed at our 16 – 18 cohort and so far we have had 71 starts under this programme.

Education Quality and Standards – Activity Indicators

The percentage of young people aged 18 to 24 claiming Job Seekers Allowance has shown a good reduction, at 2.4% in December 2015 compared to the peak of 7.5% seen in March 2012.

The 2015 January school census data shows that Primary schools in Kent had 13.7% of pupils eligible for Free School Meals, down from 14.7% last year. Nationally the Primary figure was 16.5%. At Secondary school level 11.7% of pupils in Kent are eligible for Free School Meals down from 12.1% last year. Nationally the Secondary figure was 14.9%.



Education Planning and Access - Overview	
Cabinet Member	Roger Gough
Director	Keith Abbott

The September 2014 Children and Families Act saw the introduction of Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) which replaced the previous Statements of SEN. The percentage of EHCPs issued within 20 weeks in the last quarter remained at 87%. Kent continues to maintain an ambitious pace to achieve all its conversions from statements to the new plans earlier than the April 2018 government deadline.

Indicator Description	Previous Status	Current Status	DOT
Percentage of EHCPs issued within 20 weeks	AMBER	AMBER	↔

Kent launched its SEN and Disability (SEND) Strategy in January 2014, which forms the County Council's policy for SEND and its strategy to deliver the special educational need requirements of the Children and Families Act, which came into force from September 2014.

The strategy sets out a vision of a well-planned continuum of provision, from birth to age 25 with three overarching aims:

- 1) Improve the educational, health and emotional wellbeing outcomes for Kent's children and young people with SEN and disabilities,
- 2) Ensure Kent delivers the statutory changes (required by the Children and Families Act 2014),
- 3) Address the gaps in provision for children and young people with SEN and disabilities, improve the quality of provision, develop the broadest range of providers, and encourage a mixed economy of provision.

After launching the Strategy, KCC has made good progress in improving performance in completing SEN statutory assessments in 26 weeks, reaching 92% in Kent compared by September 2014 to 82% nationally. However from September 2014, the new assessment process requires completion in 20 weeks and it is evident from data published by the DfE in May 2015 that the impact of dual systems and preparation for statutory changes has reduced performance nationally.

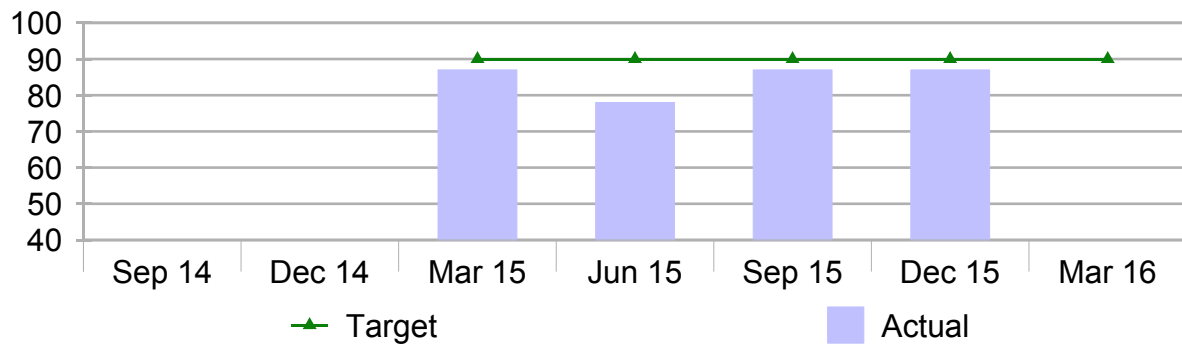
In addition to completing new assessments within timescales, the authority is required to convert over 7,000 existing Statements to the new EHCP format. Each must be completed within 20 weeks. Participation in South East regional benchmarking for SEND highlighted Kent has a higher than average number of statements converted to plans, 20.7 per 10,000 0-25 year olds (average 18.5).

The Commissioning Plan for Education for 2016 - 20 due to be published in Spring 2016 sets out our future plans as Strategic Commissioner of Education Provision Planning across all types and phases of Education in Kent. It demonstrates that the county council has successfully provided sufficient school places, with forecasting remaining close to the +/- 1% of accuracy we aspire to and high levels of parental preference for schools has been delivered.

Education Planning and Access - KPIs

Percentage of Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) issued within 20 weeks

AMBER
↔



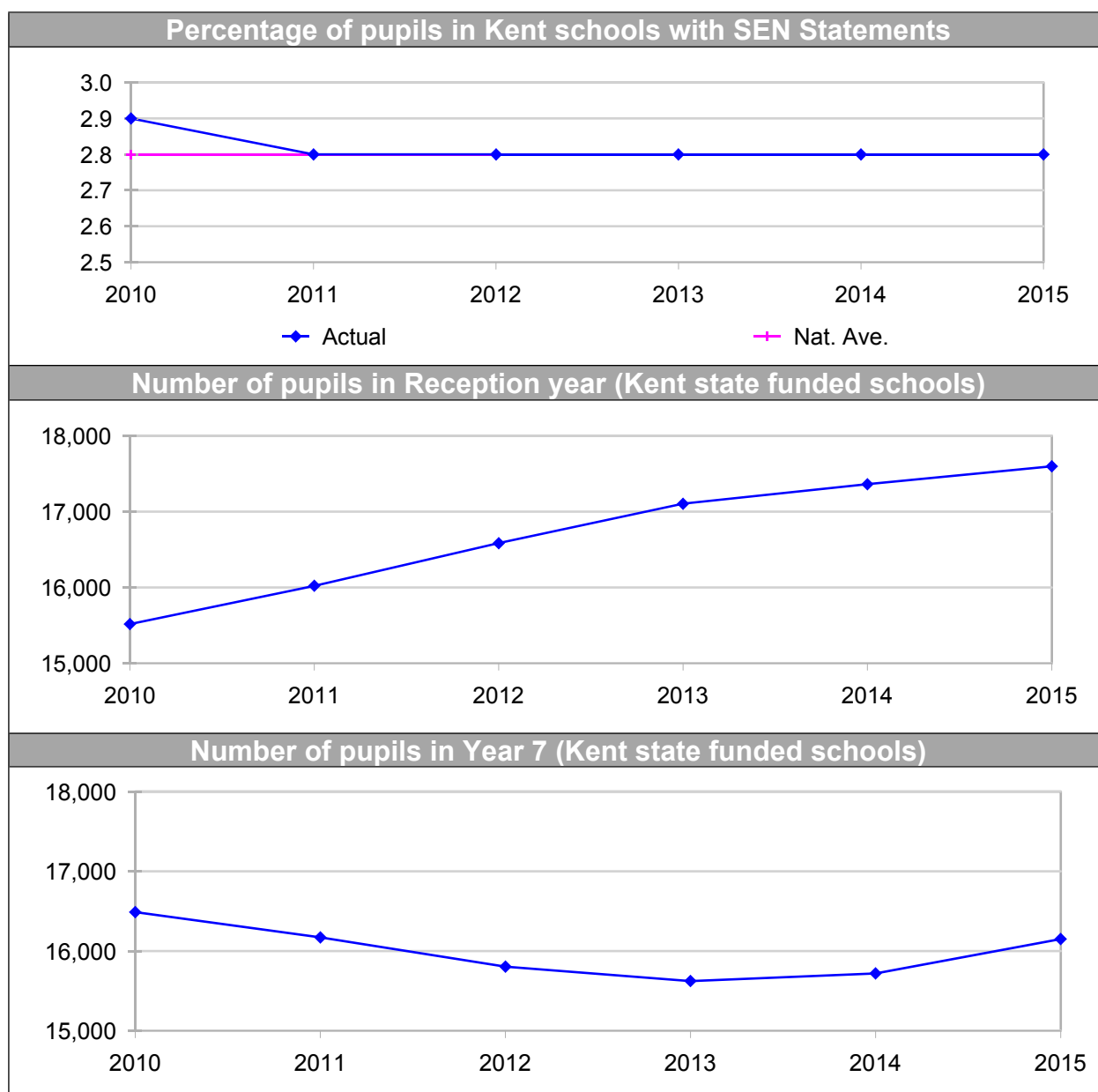
	Sep 14	Dec 14	Mar 15	Jun 15	Sep 15	Dec 15	Mar 16
Actual			87%	78%	87%	87%	
Target			90%	90%	90%	90%	90%

The percentage of Plans completed on time has remained at 87%, just below the target of 90% with 508 plans out of 582 issued within 20 weeks. Additional resources were put in place during the summer to increase capacity. The DfE has recognised the impact of the duty to convert existing Statements to EHCPs on delivery of the statutory timescales, and has extended the time allowed for conversions from 16 to 20 weeks from September 2015. National data on timescales for Education, Health and Care (EHC) plans shows 61.5% were issued within 20 weeks, rising to 64.3% with allowable exceptions. In November 2015, a DfE survey identified 90% completion in 20 weeks as good. The survey found only 19% of authorities achieving this level and 70% identified capacity as a barrier.

Education Planning and Access – Activity Indicators

Kent schools have the same proportion of pupils with statements of SEN as the national average, which has been a consistent 2.8% for several years.

The number of Reception Year pupils has been on a steady increase since 2007, with 17,598 pupils in January 2015, a 13.4% increase since 2010. The number of Year 7 pupils has been increasing since 2014, with 16,150 pupils in January 2015, a 3.4% increase since 2011. Larger increases are expected in future years as the previous trend of increases in Primary schools starts to move into Secondary schools and total Secondary school numbers are forecast to begin increasing in 2016.



Early Help and Preventative Services (EHPS) - Overview	
Cabinet Member	Peter Oakford/Mike Hill/Roger Gough
Director	Florence Kroll

The percentage of Early Help cases closed with a positive outcome increased last quarter from 78% to 79% which is above the target of 78%. Throughput remains high and is a positive indicator of success for the new ways of working. The 'step down' of Children in Need cases to Early Help and Preventative Services at 22% equals the target. Early Help is working with Specialist Children's Services (SCS) to ensure cases transfer to EHPS from Central Duty Team (CDT) where appropriate. For permanent exclusions, the rolling 12 months total remains at 109. The number of first time entrants to the Youth Justice system has shown further reduction ahead of target. The percentage of the targeted population, those living in the 30% most deprived LSOAs who are registered at Children's Centres, remains around 76% and the improvement plan for Children's Centres will ensure further focused work around engagement with target groups.

Indicator Description	Previous Status	Current Status	DOT
Percentage of Early Help cases closed with a positive outcome	GREEN	GREEN	↑
Percentage of children in need cases stepped down to preventative services	GREEN	GREEN	↓
Percentage of pupils permanently excluded from school	AMBER	AMBER	↔
Number of first time entrants to youth justice system	GREEN	GREEN	↑

The service is now delivered in integrated teams in all districts, with casework managed through newly established Early Help Units. There is close working with schools and alignment of all systems and processes with Specialist Children's Services.

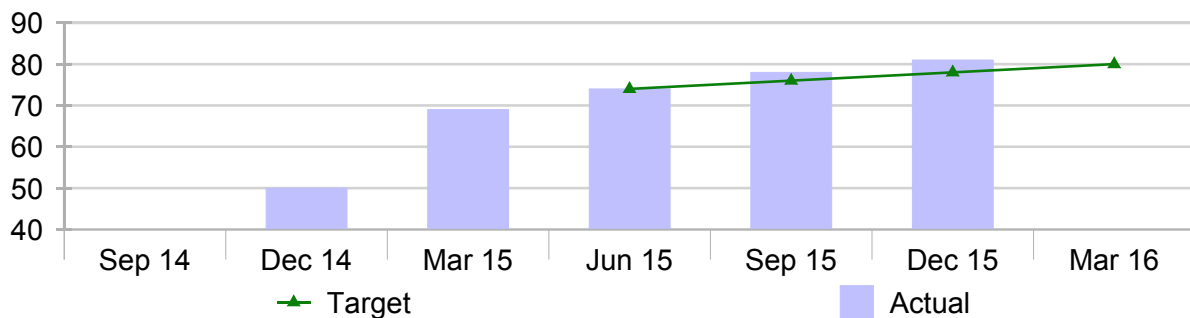
Significant improvements have already been seen to case throughput and effectiveness, securing improved outcomes for children, young people and families. Performance is monitored and managed using an outcome tracker system for all cases and the monthly scorecard which includes data for all performance measures. All work within the service is underpinned by a new Quality Assurance Framework, with a clear cycle for audit, evaluation and feedback. Family work is underpinned by the Signs of Safety model which has been rolled out to all staff working with Families. The EHPS Strategy and Three Year Plan provides the vision, ways of working and direction of travel for Kent's Early Help and Preventative Services for 2015-18.

A series of reviews of Children's Centres and Youth Hubs have taken place and the results of these are shaping planning to continue the improvement journey for open access centres in Kent and to ensure greater consistency across districts.

Early Help and Preventative Services - KPIs

Percentage of Early Help cases closed with a positive outcome

GREEN
↑

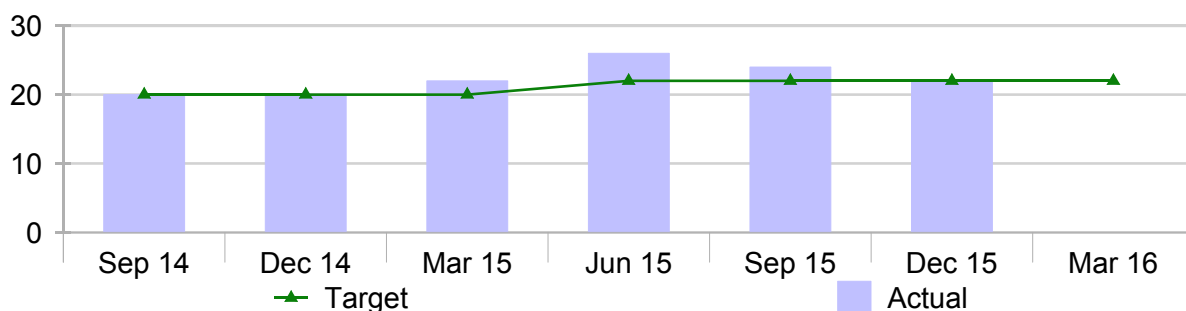


	Sep 14	Dec 14	Mar 15	Jun 15	Sep 15	Dec 15	Mar 16
Actual		50%	69%	74%	78%	79%	
Target				74%	76%	78%	80%

The percentage of Early Help cases closed with a positive outcome at improved to 79% and was above target. Staff and managers monitor their caseloads, case progress, closures and throughput on a daily or weekly basis to ensure work is appropriately focused and progressing well to avoid case drift, ensuring the best possible outcomes are achieved. Intensive support is managed in Early Help Units and is closely monitored in unit meetings. It is informed by a family plan drawn up and regularly reviewed with the family, always capturing the voice of the child.

Percentage of children in need cases stepped down to Early Help & Preventative Services

GREEN
↓



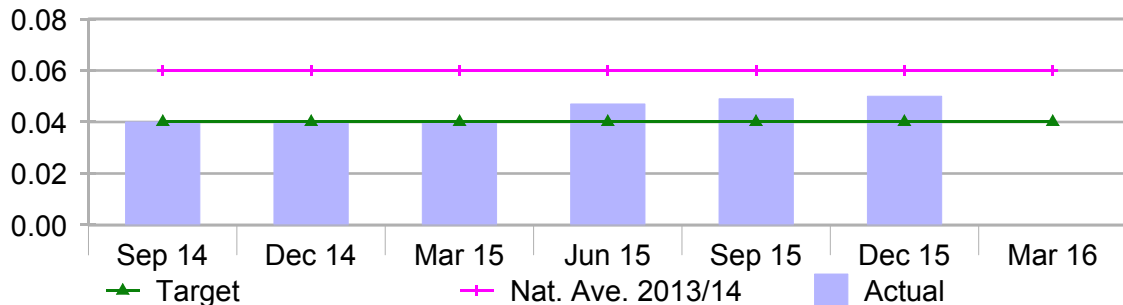
	Sep 14	Dec 14	Mar 15	Jun 15	Sep 15	Dec 15	Mar 16
Actual	19%	20%	22%	26%	24%	22%	
Target	20%	20%	20%	22%	22%	22%	22%

The percentage of closed children in need cases which were stepped down to Early Help and Preventative Services reduced in the quarter but was on target. There were 827 step downs in the latest quarter (out of 3,713 SCS closures) compared to 967 in the previous quarter. This figure is expected to increase over the next year. Step-down panels are now established in every district and support the joint approach to decision-making between SCS and Early Help. Decisions about the appropriateness of closing cases and whether to step-down to Early Help are made by SCS.

Early Help and Preventative Services - KPIs

**Percentage of pupils permanently excluded from school
(rolling 12 month total)**

AMBER
↔

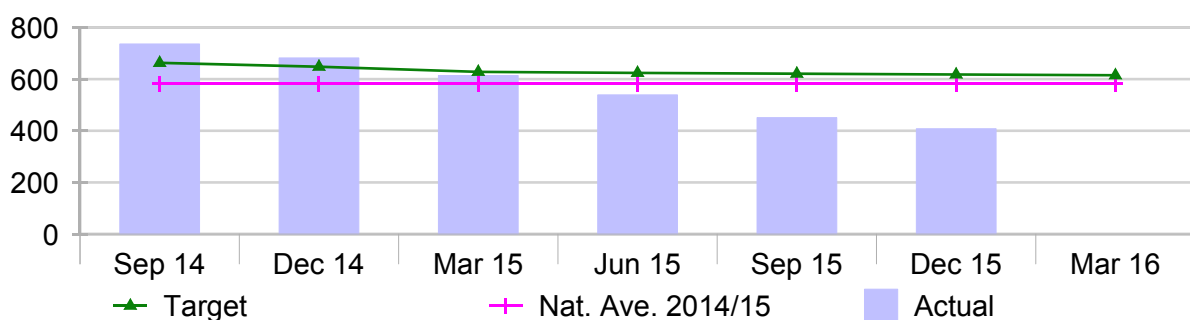


	Sep 14	Dec 14	Mar 15	Jun 15	Sep 15	Dec 15	Mar 16
Number	87	93	98	104	109	109	
Actual	0.04%	0.04%	0.04%	0.05%	0.05%	0.05%	
Target	0.04%	0.04%	0.04%	0.04%	0.04%	0.04%	0.04%

There was no change in the number of permanent exclusions during the last quarter based on rolling 12 month figures. Of the 109 exclusions 43 were primary aged and 66 Secondary aged. Data for this academic year (September to December 2015) shows that 12 Primary and 29 Secondary school pupils have been given permanent exclusions. Maidstone has permanently excluded 13 pupils and Shepway 8. Ashford, Canterbury, and Tunbridge Wells currently have no permanent exclusions.

**Number of first time entrants to youth justice system
(rolling 12 month total)**

GREEN
↑



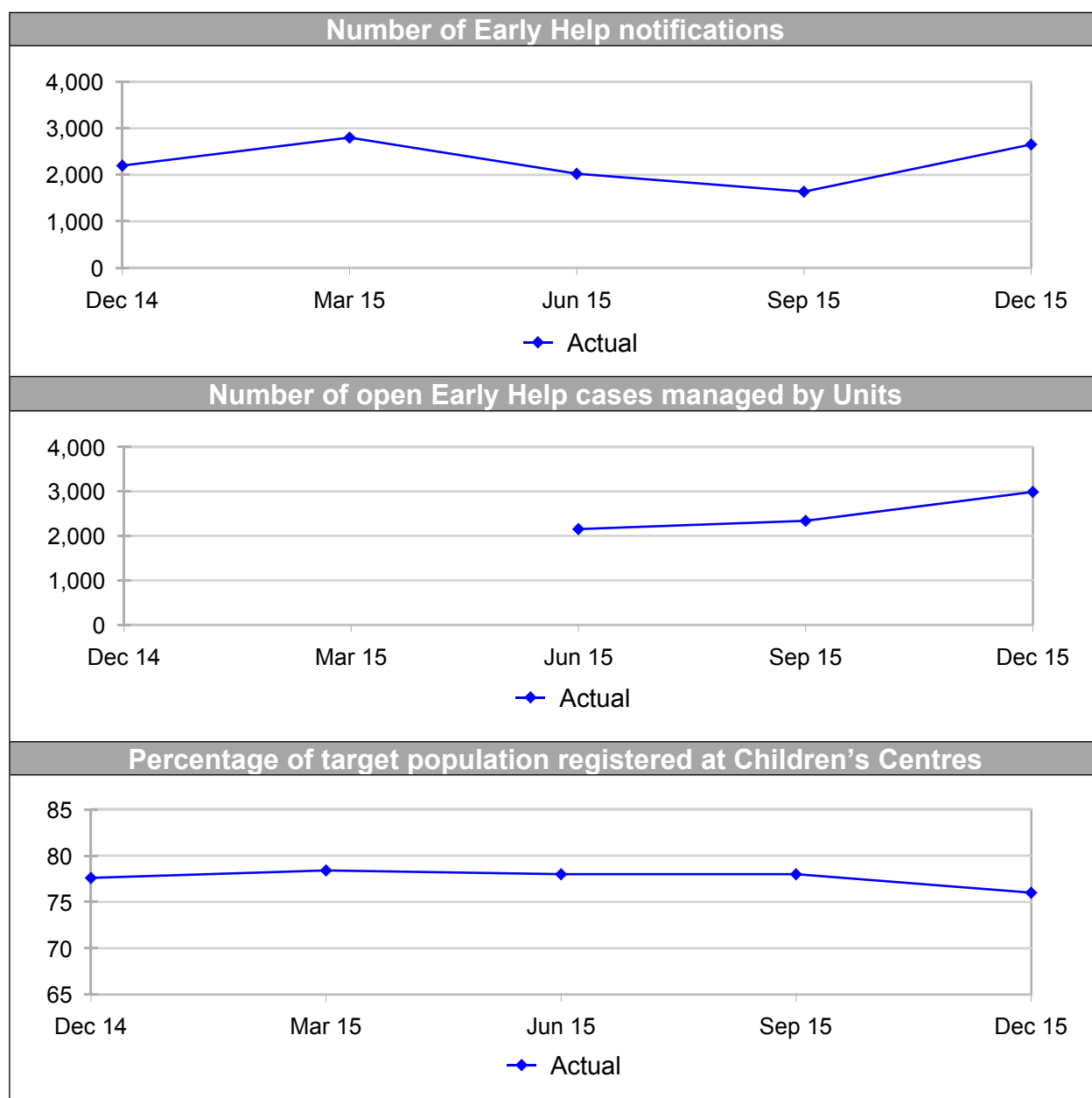
	Sep 14	Dec 14	Mar 15	Jun 15	Sep 15	Dec 15	Mar 16
Actual	736	682	614	547	470	408	
Target	663	648	628	624	621	618	615

The provisional figure for the last 12 months shows a continued downward trend. Kent Police have maintained their commitment to the diversion of children and young people from the youth justice system via an increasing use of Community Resolutions and restorative justice processes. Results are subject to change due to the delay in notifications from the Police and implementation of the new in-house processes.

Early Help and Preventative Services – Activity Indicators

There were 655 Early Help Notifications received into Triage in December 2015. Over the quarter 2,653 notifications were received by Triage. There were 2,989 open cases held by Early Help Units by the end of December 2015, compared with 2,340 as at the end of September. The percentage of the targeted population, those living in the most 30% deprived LSOAs, who are registered at Children's Centres, has fallen slightly to 76%.

Significant numbers of children and young people on the Specialist Childrens Services (SCS) caseload are being supported by Early Help services, with 71% of the 0-5 aged SCS caseload registered with Children's Centres, 36% of the youth justice caseload known to SCS, and 10% of families in the Troubled Families programme with at least one child who is known to SCS.



Children's Safeguarding - Overview	
Cabinet Member	Peter Oakford
Director	Philip Segurola

The percentage of case holding social worker posts held by permanent qualified social workers decreased slightly in the quarter to December 2015 to 75%, with 19.9% of posts being filled by Agency staff. Recruitment activity continues. The percentage of children becoming subject to a child protection plan for the second or subsequent time felt slightly behind target. There has been an increase in the percentage of case files rated good or outstanding, with the indicator continuing to be ahead of target.

At 7,043, the number of Initial Contacts in the last quarter has decreased, but was 9% higher than the same time last year. The number of children in need cases increased by 200 and was within the expected range. There were 1,047 children with child protection plans at the end of December 2015, which was a significant decrease on the previous quarter and below the lower threshold of expected numbers.

Indicator Description	Previous Status	Current Status	DOT
Case holding posts filled by permanent qualified social workers	AMBER	AMBER	↓
Children subject to a child protection plan for the second or subsequent time within 24 months	GREEN	AMBER	↓
Percentage of on-line Case File Audits judged as Good or Outstanding	GREEN	GREEN	↑

The 'Signs of Safety' theoretical approach has aided the inclusion of children and young people in the work of the Council's services (particularly Child Protection Conferences). There is increasing evidence of the inclusion and participation of children, young people, their parents and other key family members, who, among other positive comments, pleasingly noted the new approach is "less intimidating".

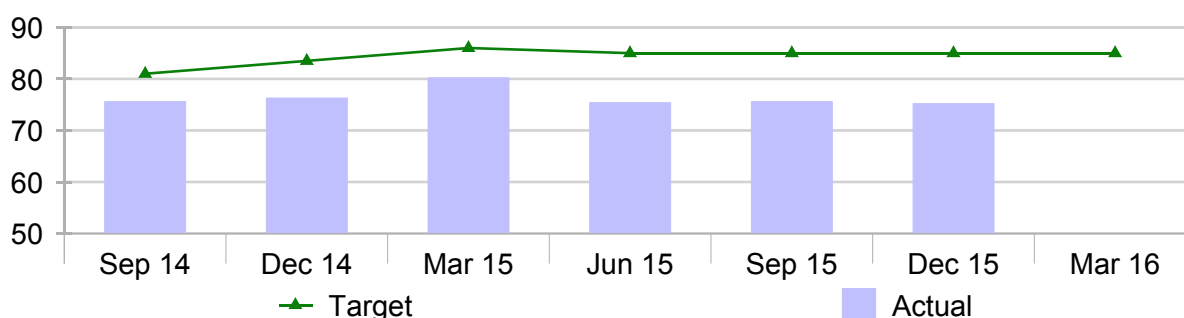
There continues to be visible signs of the benefits of the 0-25 transformation programme. Adolescent Support Teams are now operational in all four areas. There are initial indications that the Signs of Safety model is also starting to have a positive impact on the assessments and planning for children. The usage of this theoretical model though is still in its infancy and impacted by staff turnover. Embedding Signs of Safety in authorities of all sizes is expected to take several years to truly take effect. Particularly effective usage has been seen when analysing risk, strengths and identifying the desired outcomes for the future (the safety goal).

In December 2015, an intensive audit looked closely at a sample of children's experiences from across the county. The audit found that the majority of casework was considered to be 'Requires Improvement', with 'Good' features against Ofsted inspection standards. There was evidence of well-received direct work with children and young people and a generally positive picture in relation to the regularity and quality of supervision. Areas of 'Inadequate' practice were most evident for Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (SUASC) teams who have been pressurised with exceptionally high numbers of referrals over 2015 and there have been delays in progressing assessments, visits and reviews. This is being closely monitored and supported by the allocation of all children to a social worker during January 2016.

Children's Safeguarding – KPIs

Percentage of case holding posts filled by permanent qualified social workers

AMBER
↓

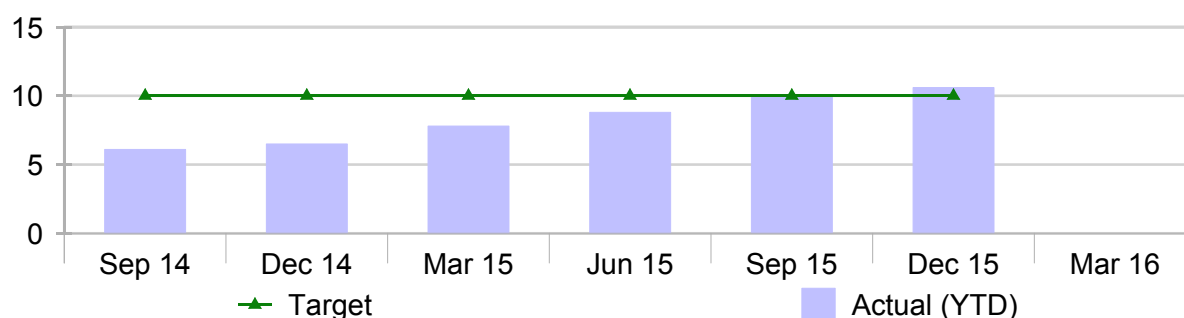


	Sep 14	Dec 14	Mar 15	Jun 15	Sep 15	Dec 15	Mar 16
Actual	76%	76%	80%	75%	76%	75%	
Target	81%	84%	86%	85%	85%	85%	85%

Performance in this area continues to be impacted by the Children's Transformation Project and is not yet reflective of the revised establishment figure for Social Work teams. The volume of external applications continues to be low and the levels of staff turnover have not decreased. Media activity is focussed on online signposting through Google and targeted social media messaging. Analysis of the impact of the reward package and exit information is being undertaken.

Percentage of children becoming subject to a child protection plan for the second or subsequent time within 24 months (rolling 12 months)

AMBER
↓

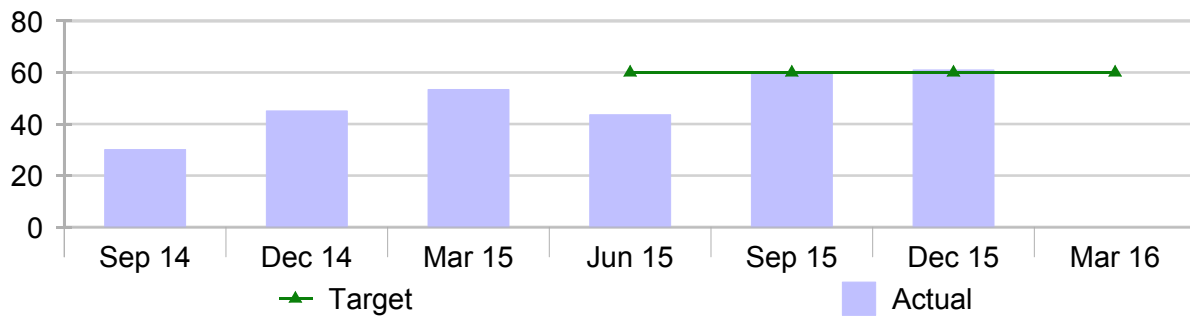


	Sep 14	Dec 14	Mar 15	Jun 15	Sep 15	Dec 15	Mar 16
R12m	6.1%	6.5%	7.8%	8.8%	10.0%	10.6%	
Target	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%

Between October and December 2015, 289 children became subject to a Child Protection Plan and 30 of these had been subject to a Child Protection Plan within the previous 24 months. A number of large sibling groups in the early part of the year has impacted year-to-date performance and performance for December is just outside the target range, which has resulted in an Amber rating. As part of the quality assurance processes within Specialist Children's Services the cases for children who have been the subject of second or subsequent child protection plans are reviewed by the Safeguarding Unit.

Children's Safeguarding - KPIs

Percentage of on-line Case File Audits rated as Good or outstanding

GREEN
 ↑


	Sep 14	Dec 14	Mar 15	Jun 15	Sep 15	Dec 15	Mar 16
Actual	30%	41%	51%	44%	60%	61%	
Target				60%	60%	60%	60%

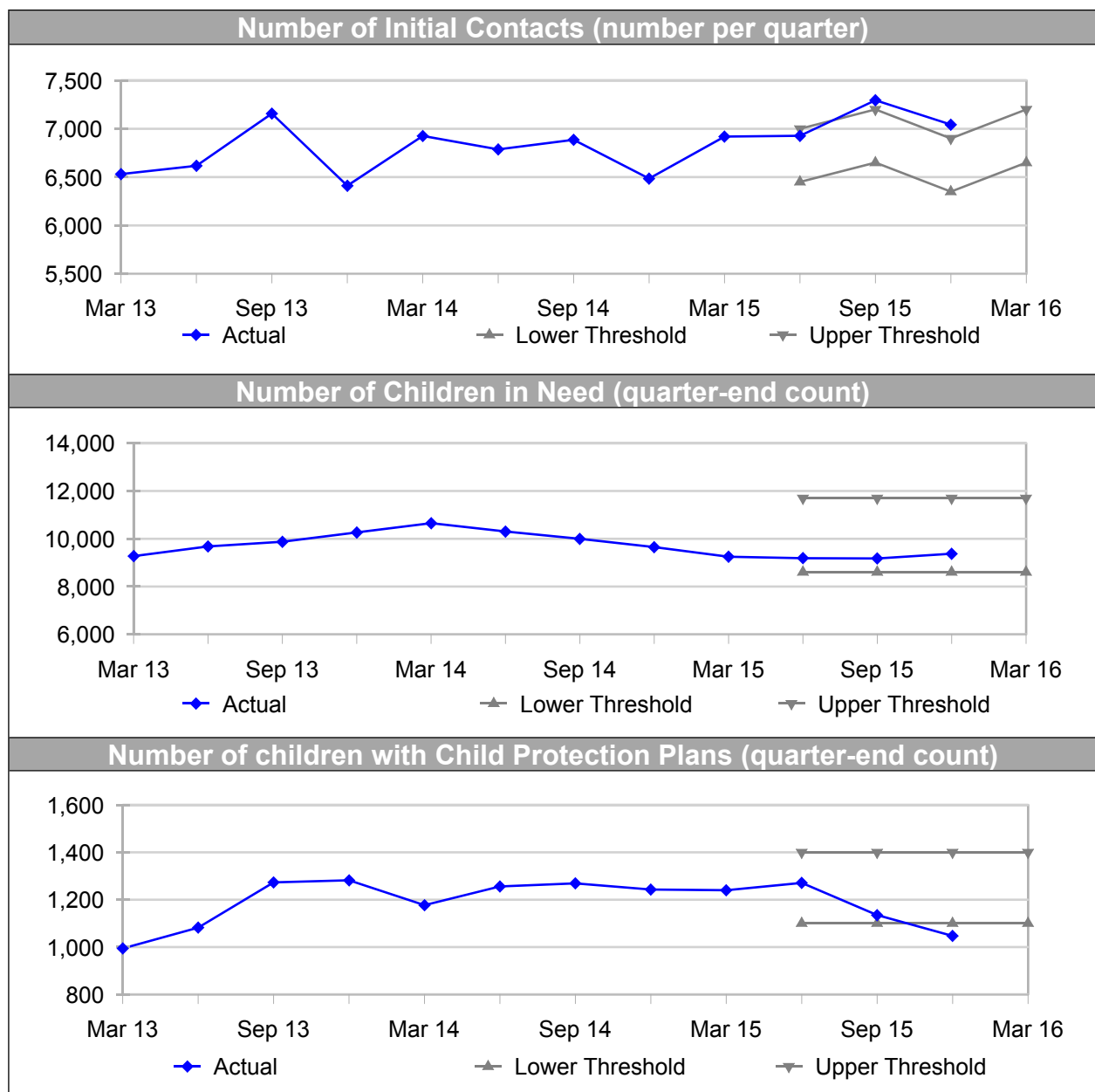
The findings from the monthly on-line audit process suggest a consistent improvement in social work practice, with an increase in “good” gradings of the social work case record. In response to a perception that the Online Audit process had become too focussed on process, a refreshed approach is being rolled out. This new approach is overtly practice focused and includes an enhanced face to face component and self-evaluation, covering both the quality of the practice and the case records in the audit. This approach has been a feature of enhanced Deep Dives and was a central element in the Mock Ofsted review in December 2015. These changes represent an evolving level of challenge as our audit processes raise the bar for what is required to be “good”.

Children's Safeguarding – Activity Indicators

The number of initial contacts at 7,043 has moved towards the expected threshold and has decreased from the previous quarter.

The number of children in need has increased and was 9,376 at the end of December 2015. This figure includes care leavers who are over the age of 18 who have been included in the figure to match the definitions used by the DfE in their publication of national data. They are included here so that comparative rates can be used as the guide. Kent's current rate has remained within the guide range.

The number of children with Child Protection Plans decreased to 1,047 at the end of December and has moved below the expected range.



Corporate Parenting - Overview	
Cabinet Member	Peter Oakford
Director	Philip Segurola

For children who were adopted in the year to December 2015 the average number of days between coming into care and moving in with their adoptive family was 527 days, a reduction of 18 days on the previous quarter. Stability of children in care who have been in the same placement for the last two years, at 71.7%, remained above target. The percentage of indigenous children in KCC foster care or with family, at 88% has improved and remains above target.

The number of indigenous children in care increased to 1,447 at the end of December, an increase of 12 from September 2015. There has been a decrease of 67 compared to the December 2014 position of 1,514. The number of indigenous children in care placed with Independent Fostering Agencies has continued to decrease in the last quarter, from 161 in September 2015 to 146 in December 2015. The number of children in care placed in Kent by other Local Authorities continues to be higher than last year and was 1,290 at the end of December 2015.

Indicator Description	Previous Status	Current Status	DOT
Average number of days between becoming looked after and adoption	AMBER	AMBER	↑
Children in Care in same placement for the last 2 last years	GREEN	GREEN	↓
Percentage of indigenous children in foster care placed in-house or with family and friends	GREEN	GREEN	↑

Specialist Children's Services has seen an unprecedented rate of arrivals of Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC), which has far exceeded previous years. The number of UASC in care at the end of December 2015 was 980, an increase of 612 from March 2015. Additional social workers and staff within the Virtual School Kent have been recruited to ensure children's needs are assessed and they are enabled to access education and language help as soon as possible

The Kent Pledge to Children in Care was recently redesigned and new wording agreed. New Promise Cards were available in October 2015.

The Sufficiency, Placements and Commissioning Strategy 2015-2018 was published, setting out the ambitions for providing sufficient, high quality accommodation for Children in Care and Care Leavers in Kent, whilst also providing placements that support children and young people to have the stability to achieve positive outcomes. The latest work being carried out to implement the strategy has been the 16-25 accommodation and support programme which is currently focusing on three separate work streams. The Care Leavers Pathway is Workstream 1, the Development and Implementation of an accommodation and support services commissioning plan for 16-25 children in care, care leavers and vulnerable young people is Work stream 2 and is currently the subject of a public consultation due to close on the 8th February. Workstream 3 is looked at maximising opportunities for Care Leavers to secure Borough/District Social Housing.

Corporate Parenting – Our Children

Our Children in Care (including Unaccompanied Asylum seeking children)

Age Profile

Age Group	Mar 14	Mar 15	Dec 15
0 to 4	318	205	180
5 to 9	351	320	302
10 to 15	657	708	874
16 to 17	679	637	1,071
Total	1,842	1,870	2,427

Gender

	Mar 14	Mar 15	Dec 15
Male	1,124	1,162	1,715
Female	718	708	712

Ethnicity

	Mar 14	Mar 15	Dec 15
White	1,543	1,404	1,345
Mixed	79	85	93
Asian	10	16	60
Black	50	104	463
Other	160	261	466

Kent or Unaccompanied Asylum Seekers (UASC)

Status	Mar 14	Mar 15	Dec 15
Indigenous	1,624	1,502	1,447
UASC	218	368	980

Corporate Parenting – Views of children and young people

The Participation and Engagement of children in care and care leavers is a priority area for development in the Business plan for Specialist Children's Services (SCS). The permanent appointment of an Assistant Director for Corporate Parenting (Naintara Khosla) will start in March 2016. The post has the Strategic Lead for Participation and Engagement and responsibility for driving through further improvements and developments. A new permanent appointment, Gemma O'Grady, Participation Co-ordinator started in November 2015.

Two Participation Workers work within the Virtual School Kent (VSK) and their role is to support the VSK Participation and Engagement work stream, working alongside our apprentices. They will work with the Participation Coordinator to further develop feedback mechanisms for all children in care and care leavers. Kent's Participation Strategy sets the agenda for a Working Group, including compiling a register of participation, engagement, involvement, and consultation activities and initiatives, for children in need and children subject to Child Protection plans, as well as children in care.

The work of the Children and Young People's Council continues to increase membership and have greater representation by establishing local and more specialist groups, including a group for Care Leavers.

Each of the area Service Managers oversees a programme of participation events.

In 2014 our first Leading Improvements for Looked After Children' (LILAC) Assessment took place. LILAC has been developed by National Voice as a way of involving young people with experience of the care system to carry out an assessment of how well services delivered by the local authority are enabling children in care and care leavers to participate, both at an individual level, and in the development of policies and services that support them. The assessment focused on seven standards:

1. Shared values
2. Style of Leadership
3. Structures
4. Staff
5. Recruitment and Selection
6. Care Planning and Review
7. Complaints and Advocacy

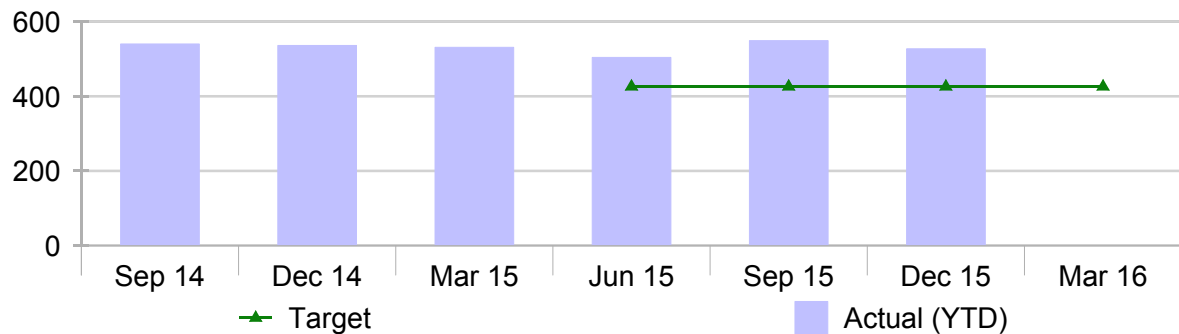
KCC achieved four of the seven standards in the first assessment and after a return visit in 2016 we achieved two more.

In January and February 2016 we are busy piloting MOMO (Mind of Your Own), a Web based App that provides a way for children and young people to tell their social workers what they think about our services and about their care plan.

Corporate Parenting - KPIs

Average number of days between becoming a child in care and moving in with an adoptive family

AMBER
↑

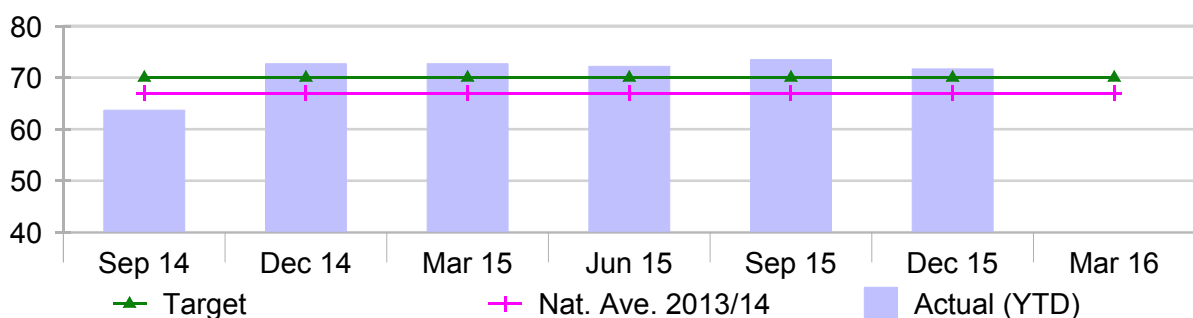


	Sep 14	Dec 14	Mar 15	Jun 15	Sep 15	Dec 15	Mar 16
YTD	540	539	540	504	549	527	
Target				426	426	426	426

Latest performance shows a reduction in the average length of time between a child coming into care and moving in with their adoptive family. For the 79 children adopted so far in 2015/16, 35 exceeded this timescale although for some this delay was in the best interests of the child and all resulted in a positive outcome of adoption. One case was a significant outlier due to a lengthy inter-country adoption. If this case were excluded from the calculation the year-to-date average would be reduced to 503 days.

Children in Care in same placement for the last 2 last years (for those in care for 2 and half years or more)

GREEN
↓



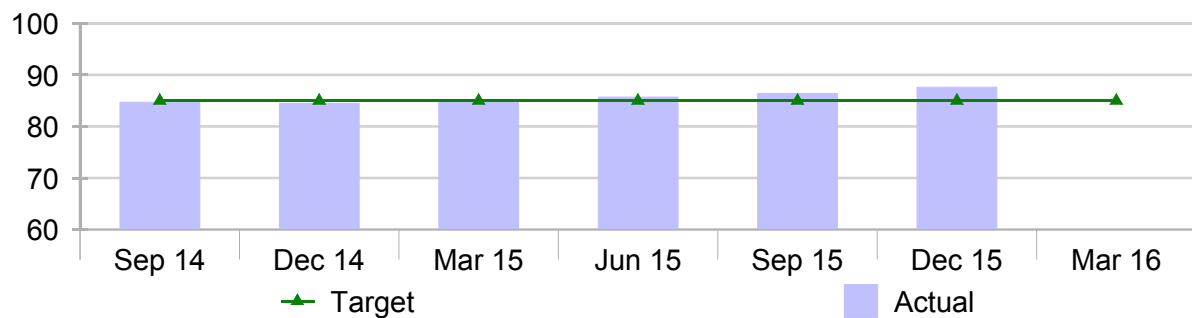
	Sep 14	Dec 14	Mar 15	Jun 15	Sep 15	Dec 15	Mar 16
YTD	64%	73%	73%	72%	74%	72%	
Target	70%	70%	70%	70%	70%	70%	70%

This indicator is a measure of placement stability for those that have been in care for at least two and a half years, and have been in the same placement for at least two years. Placement stability has remained fairly static over the last four quarters and has remained above target. The highest range of stability is in the 9-12 age groups, and stability decreases for those aged 13 and above. Some placement moves are planned and improved data collection for 2015/16 will allow for greater understanding of reasons for placement changes.

Corporate Parenting - KPIs

Percentage of indigenous children in foster care placed in house or with family and friends (excludes care leaving service)

GREEN
↑



	Sep 14	Dec 14	Mar 15	Jun 15	Sep 15	Dec 15	Mar 16
Actual	85%	85%	85%	86%	86%	88%	
Target	85%	85%	85%	85%	85%	85%	85%

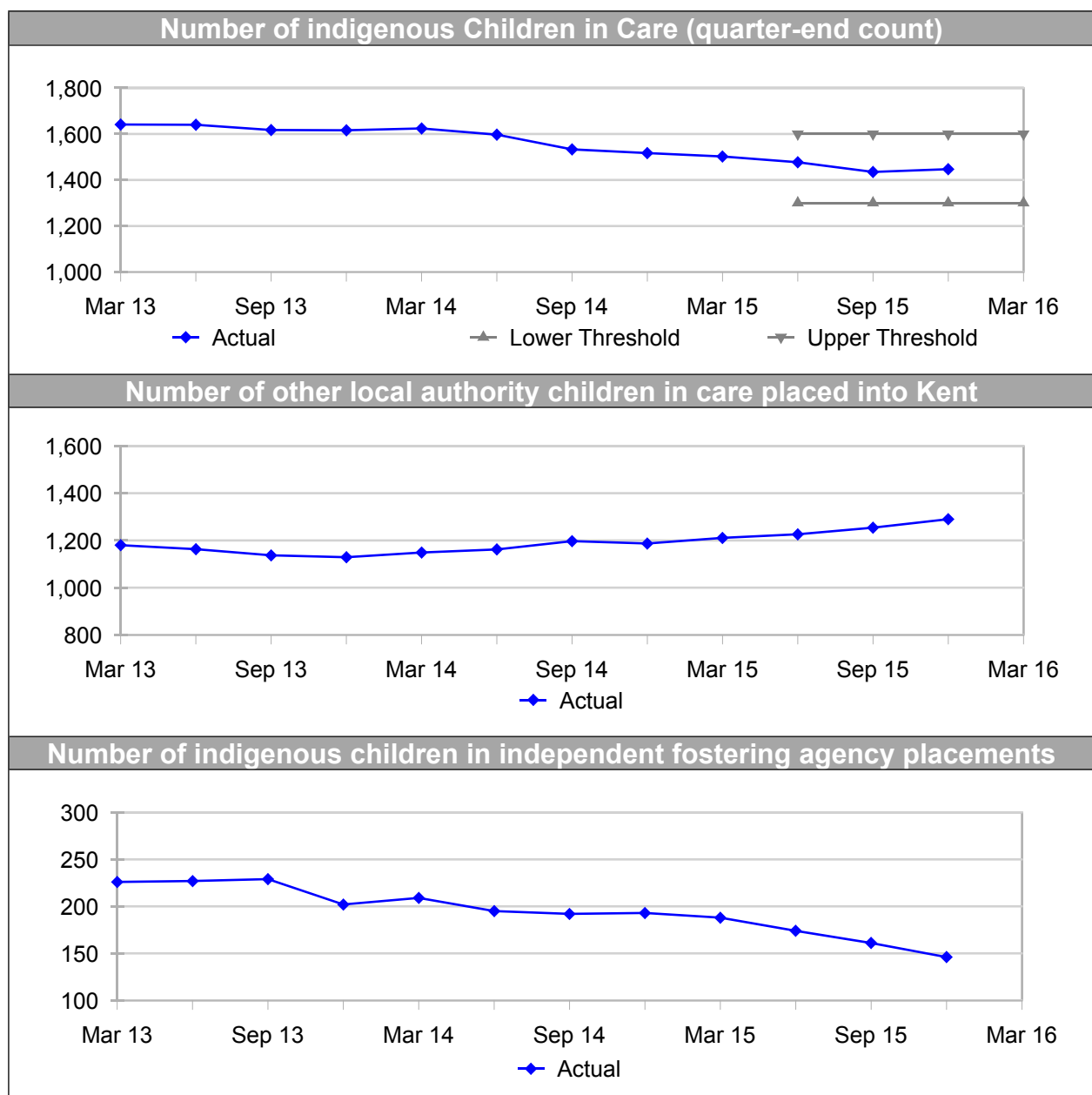
One of the strategic priorities for Specialist Children's Services is to find permanence and stability for children in care via in-house foster care. The number of indigenous children in care placed in Independent Fostering Agencies continues to decrease, from 161 in September 2015 to 146 in December 2015. This compares to 187 in April 2015.

Corporate Parenting – Activity Indicators

The number of indigenous Children in Care increased slightly in the last quarter to 1,447, with this number being 10% lower than the number in 2014, and 5% lower than a year ago.

The number of Children in Care placed in Kent by other Local Authorities continues to increase.

There were 146 indigenous children placed with Independent Fostering Agencies (IFAs) at the end of December 2015. The number of indigenous children placed in IFAs continues to decrease, from 161 in September 2015 to 146 in December 2015.



Adult Social Care - Overview	
Cabinet Member	Graham Gibbens
Corporate Director	Andrew Ireland

The percentage of contacts resolved at first point of contact continues to exceed target. The number of referrals to enablement reduced in the quarter and continues to be below target. The number of clients receiving a Telecare service continues to increase ahead of target. The number of Promoting Independence Reviews completed was head of target. The number of Admissions to residential care has been increasing in the last two quarters but is lower (better) than target and significantly below numbers seen last year. The percentage of clients still independent after enablement continues to increase level ahead of target. The proportion of delayed discharges from hospital where KCC was responsible remains high with continuing pressure in this area since December.

Indicator Description	Previous Status	Current Status	DOT
Percentage of initial contacts resolved at first point of contact	GREEN	GREEN	↓
Number of new clients referred to an enablement service	AMBER	AMBER	↓
Number of clients receiving a Telecare service	GREEN	GREEN	↑
Number of Promoting Independence Reviews completed	GREEN	GREEN	↑
Number of admissions to permanent residential or nursing care for older people	GREEN	GREEN	↓
Percentage of clients still independent after enablement	GREEN	GREEN	↑
Delayed Discharges with Adult Social Care responsible	RED	AMBER	↑

The Phase 2 Transformation Programme for Adult Social Care is now underway, with a focus on Health and Social Care integration and improving outcomes for clients with a Learning Disability.

The previous Phase 1 Transformation Programme, which is now complete, focussed on the Older People and Physical Disability division to better use existing systems and embed the culture of promoting service user independence, whilst establishing the foundations for future transformation. The work of the KCC and Newton Europe partnership on the 'sandbox optimisation project' was highly commended for 'Innovation in Social Care' at the 2014 Municipal Journal awards.

Adult Social Care – Service User Feedback

All local authorities carry out a survey with their adult social care services users on an annual basis, as set out by Department of Health guidance.

A sample of service users are chosen from all ages, all client groups and all services. The last survey in 2014/15 had responses from 550 service users.

The results of some of the key areas are found below. **National averages are shown in brackets.**

	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
Service users who are extremely or very satisfied with their care and support	67% (64%)	66% (65%)	70% (62%)
Service users who have adequate or better control over their daily life	79% (76%)	78% (77%)	84% (77%)
Service users who find it easy to find information about services	76% (74%)	70% (75%)	78% (74%)
Service users who say they feel safe as they want	65% (65%)	65% (66%)	73% (69%)
Service users who say that the services they receive help them feel safe and secure	79% (78%)	76% (79%)	84% (85%)

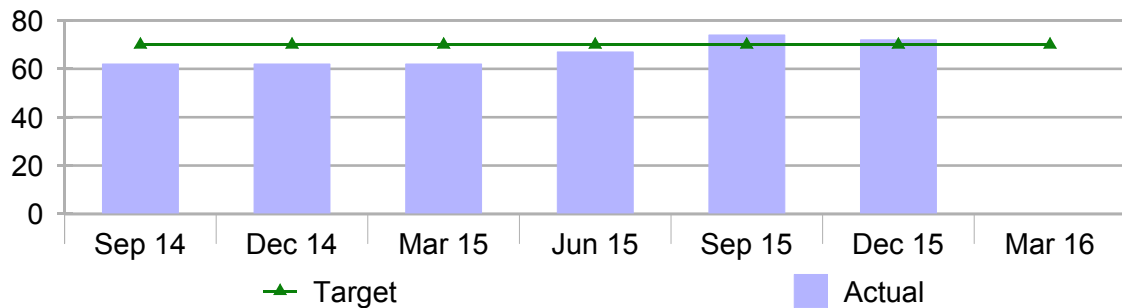
The Directorate Management Team have considered the results and the information gathered from the survey is being used together with further feedback from people that have volunteered to take part in additional surveys to understand how we can make improvements to the services we deliver.

In 2014/15 Kent was above the national average for most indicators.

The 2015/16 Adult Social Care Survey is currently being prepared and sent out to a random sample of services users. Results will be available in due course.

Adult Social Care - KPIs

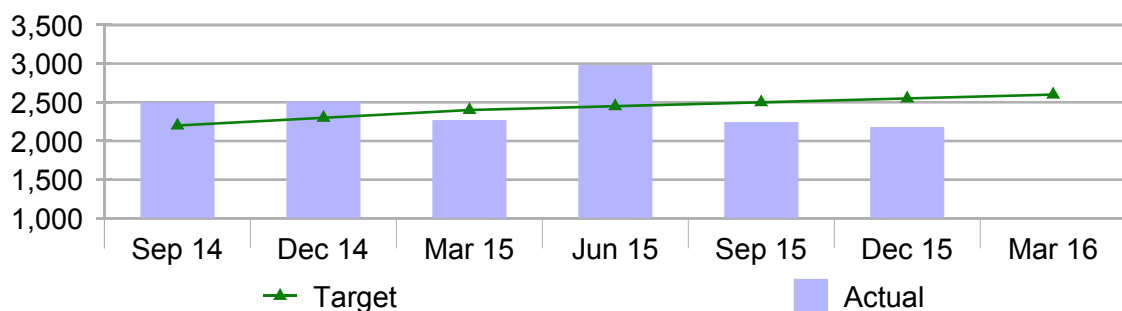
Percentage of initial contacts resolved at first point of contact

GREEN


	Sep 14	Dec 14	Mar 15	Jun 15	Sep 15	Dec 15	Mar 16
Actual	62%	62%	62%	67%	74%	72%	
Target	70%	70%	70%	70%	70%	70%	70%

Performance continues to exceed the target. It is a key priority for Adult Social Care to respond to more people's needs at the point of contact, through better information, advice and guidance, or provision of equipment where appropriate. This will continue to be a focus as we move into Phase 2 of Transformation. In addition we will be improving joint working with hospitals to ensure that we support the discharge process more efficiently.

Number of new clients referred to an enablement service

AMBER


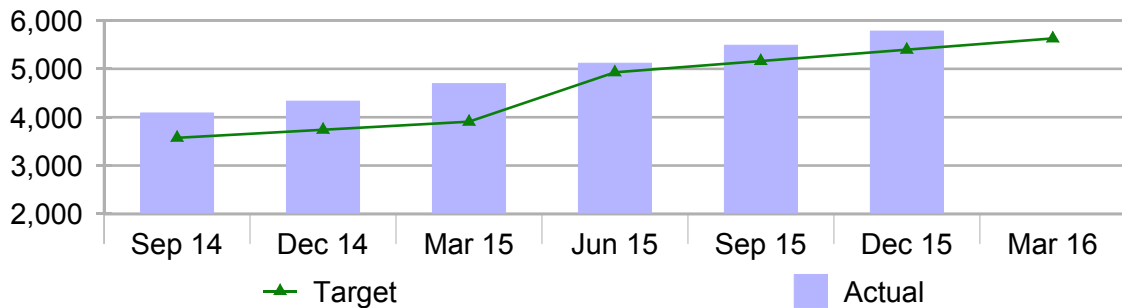
	Sep 14	Dec 14	Mar 15	Jun 15	Sep 15	Dec 15	Mar 16
Actual	2,492	2,504	2,263	2,974	2,237	2,174	
Target	2,200	2,300	2,400	2,450	2,500	2,550	2,600

The number of new clients referred to enablement was below target in the last quarter. Performance has been affected by pressures from hospitals, but also pressures within the homecare market moving those requiring a longer term care package off of their enablement package. Referring more clients through enablement is a key priority for Adult Social Care, with a stronger focus on short term interventions, to reduce the need to provide long term care packages. The roll out of the enablement efficiency programme through the second phase of transformation will help to improve this.

Adult Social Care - KPIs

Number of clients receiving a Telecare service

GREEN
↑

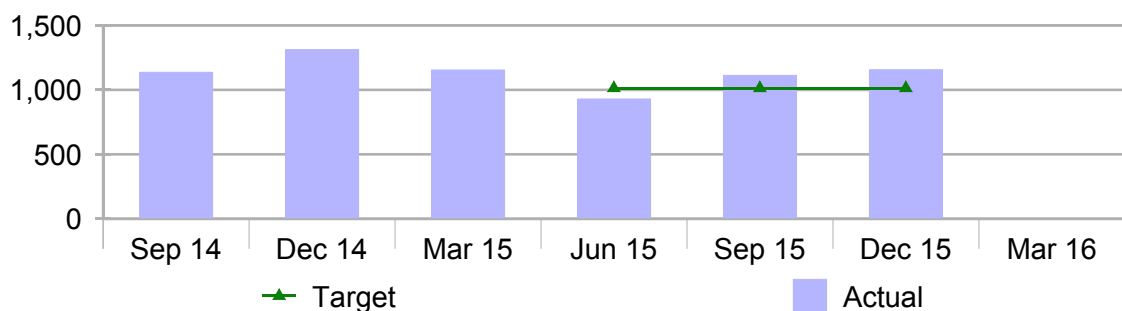


	Sep 14	Dec 14	Mar 15	Jun 15	Sep 15	Dec 15	Mar 16
Actual	4,088	4,332	4,694	5,116	5,489	5,781	
Target	3,573	3,740	3,907	4,928	5,162	5,396	5,630

The number of people in receipt of a Telecare service continues to increase ahead of target. Current performance is ahead of the year-end target. Telecare is being promoted as a key mechanism for supporting people to live independently at home. The availability of new monitoring devices (for dementia for instance) is expected to increase the usage and benefits of Telecare. Awareness training continues to be delivered to staff to ensure we optimise the opportunities for supporting people with more complex and enabling tele-technology solutions.

Number of Promoting Independence Reviews completed

GREEN
↑



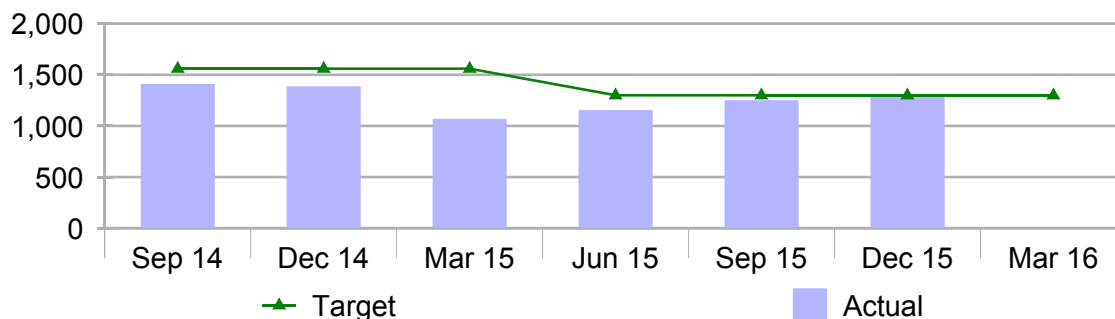
	Sep 14	Dec 14	Mar 15	Jun 15	Sep 15	Dec 15	Mar 16
Actual	1,136	1,312	1,154	929	1,112	1,156	
Target				1,013	1,013	1,013	1,013

The number of Promoting Independence Reviews completed exceeded the revised target, which has been based on current optimum performance for 2015/16. Management continue to monitor progress on a regular basis to ensure that any operational issues are identified and resolved so further progress can be made. There will be a significant drive to increase the number and effectiveness of reviews as we move into the last quarter and beyond.

Adult Social Care - KPIs

Number of admissions to permanent residential and nursing care for older people (rolling 12 month totals)

GREEN
↓

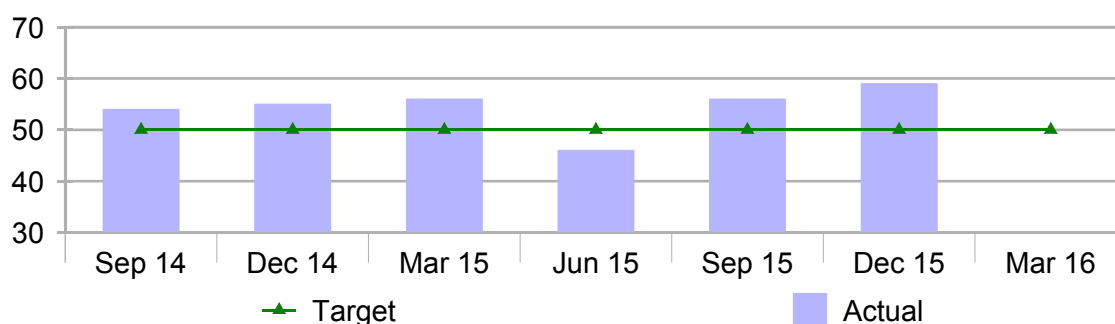


	Sep 14	Dec 14	Mar 15	Jun 15	Sep 15	Dec 15	Mar 16
Actual	1,386	1,377	1,065	1,149	1,246	1,291	
Target	1,560	1,560	1,560	1,300	1,300	1,300	1,300

There has been a slight increase in the number of new admissions to both residential and nursing care for people aged 65, although the number is significantly lower than the previous year and below the target level set. These lower levels help demonstrate the success of improving advice and guidance (contacts resolved at first point of contact) and the increased use of enablement services (helping people to stay independent and living in their own home).

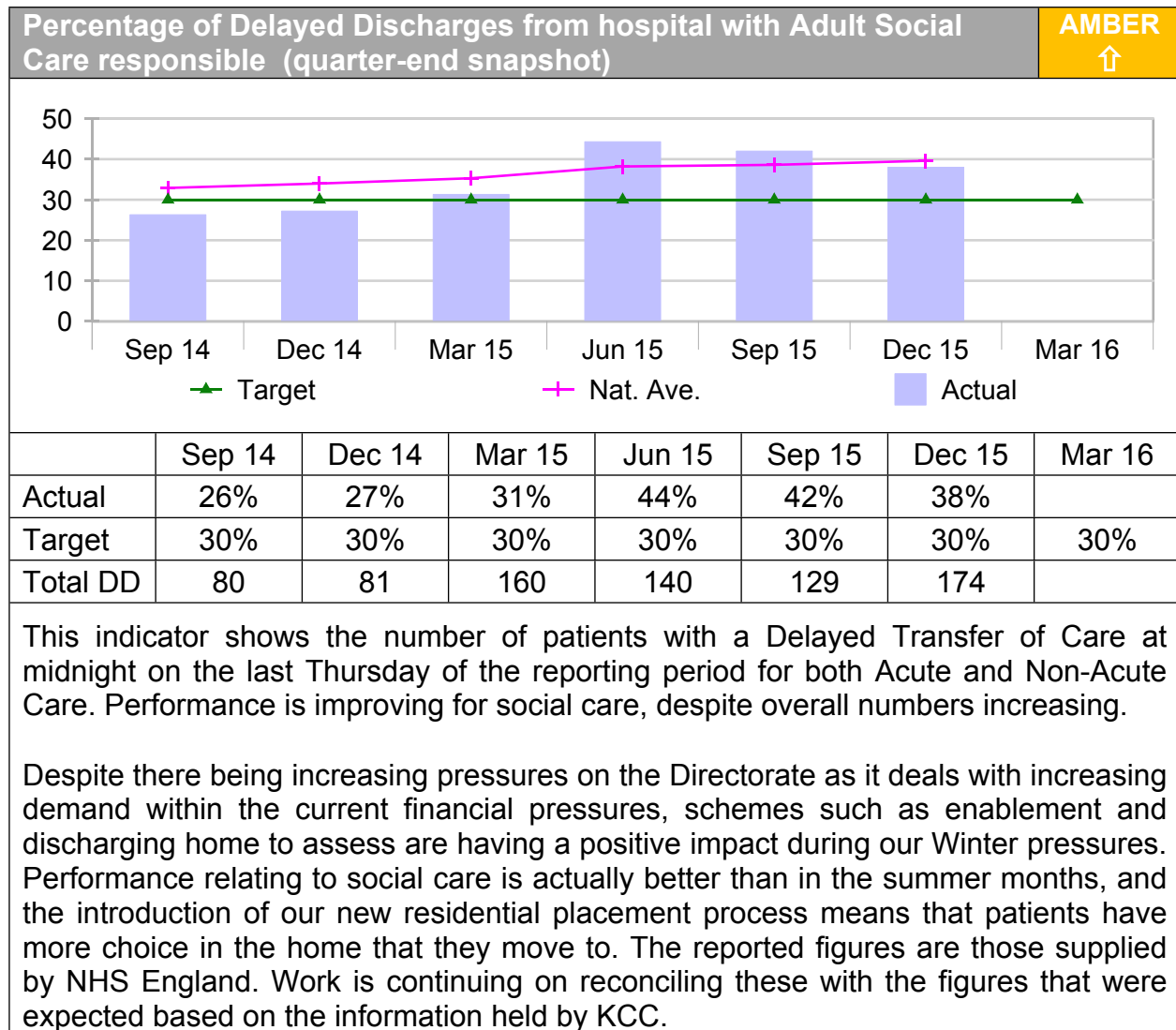
Percentage of clients still independent after receiving an enablement service

GREEN
↑



	Sep 14	Dec 14	Mar 15	Jun 15	Sep 15	Dec 15	Mar 16
Actual	54%	55%	56%	46%	56%	59%	
Target	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%

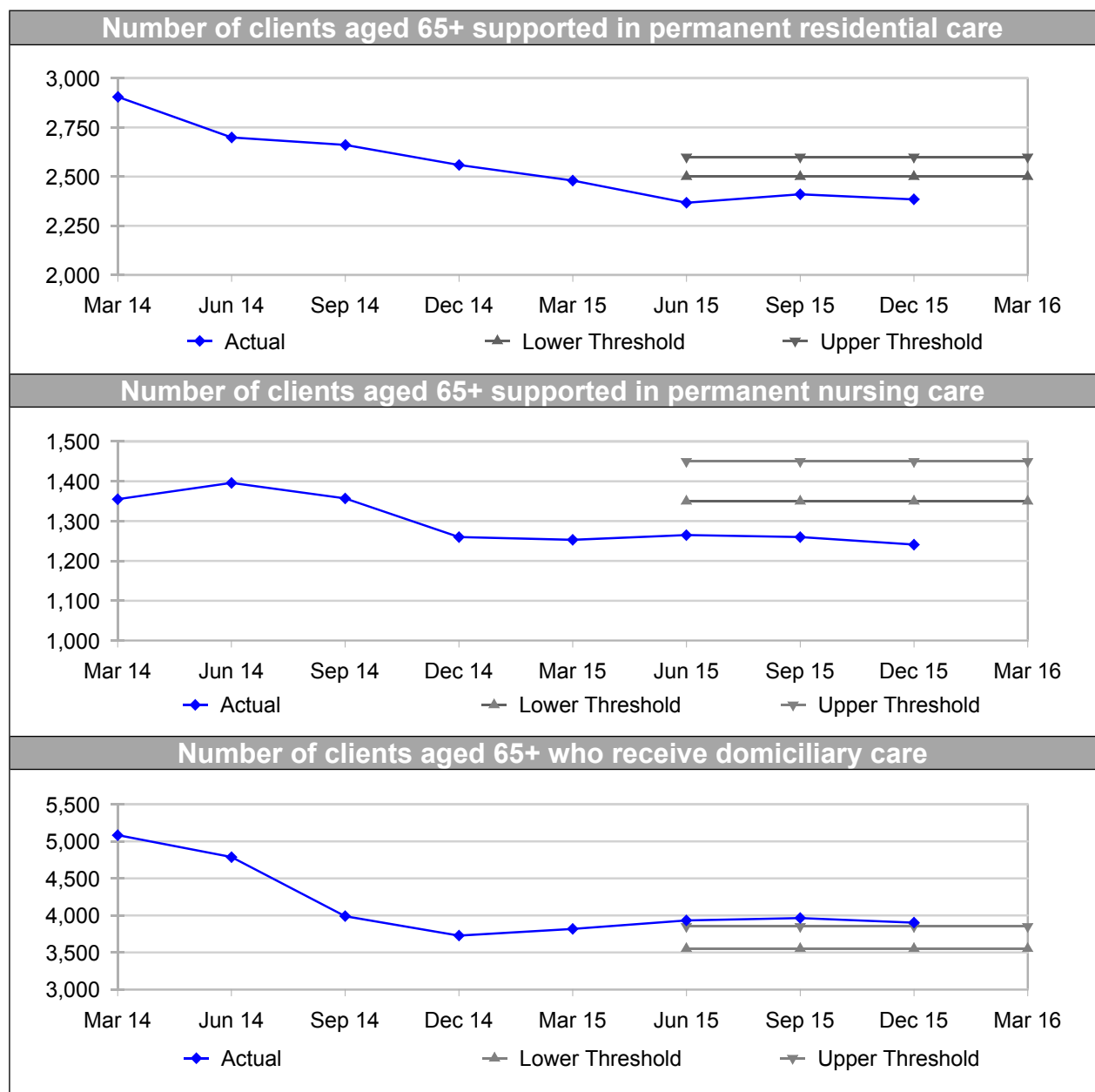
Performance in the latest quarter exceeded the target and was ahead of levels seen last year. This indicator supports the evaluation of the effectiveness of the Enablement service in supporting independence, by preventing or reducing the need for more expensive services in the future.



Adult Social Care – Activity Indicators

The general trend over the last 6 years both nationally and locally has been for reduced levels of local authority funded residential and nursing care placements. Continuing to reduce the number of these placements is a priority and will be achieved by supporting more people to live independently through use of enablement services and independence reviews. This year there has been a levelling off of the reducing trend in residential and nursing care placements for older people and a stable position for adults with learning disability.

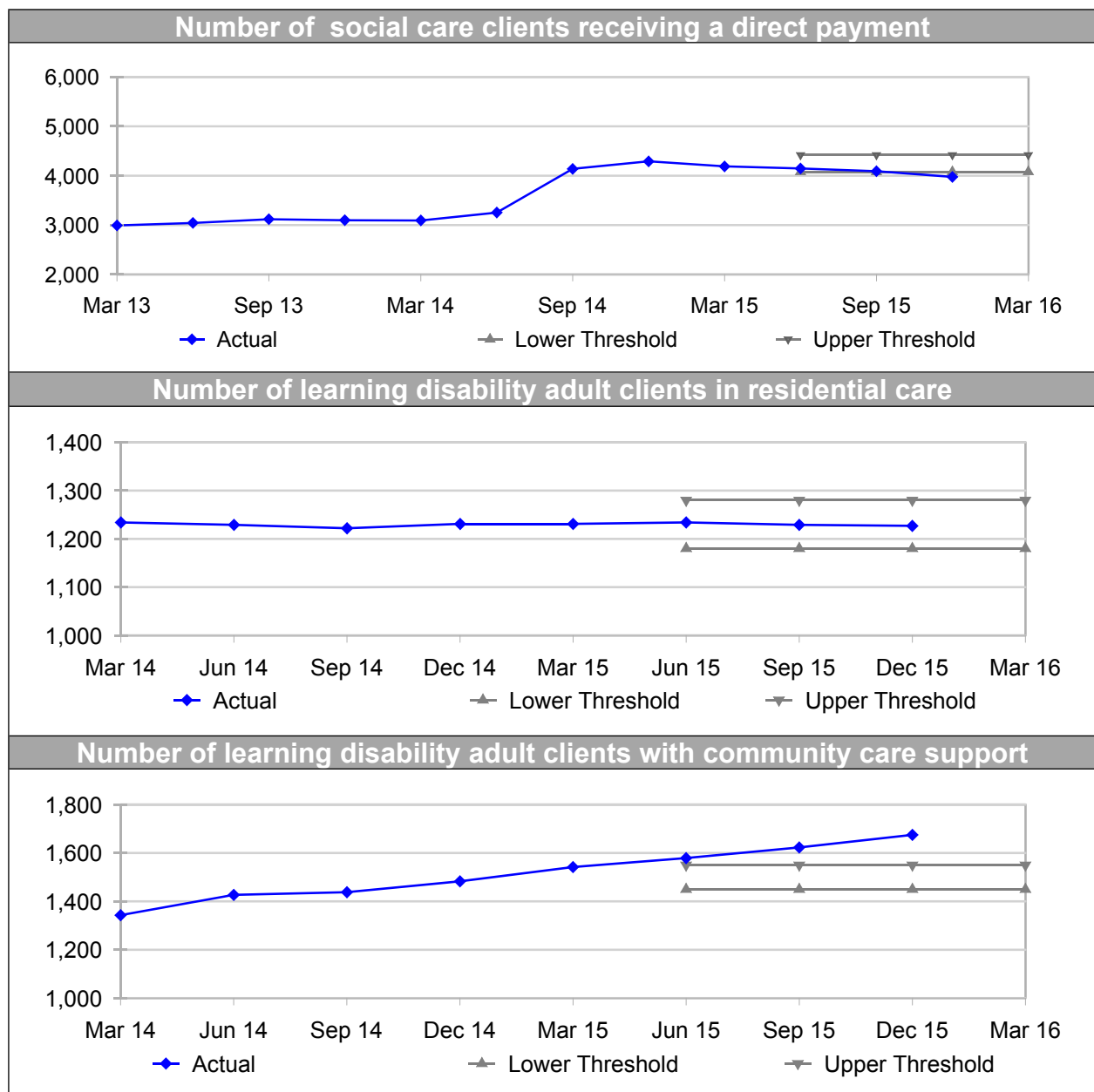
The domiciliary services contracts were re-let in March 2014 and subsequent to this there was a significant reduction in domiciliary hours provided with a related increase in people choosing to take a direct payment. This trend has now levelled off. Provision of enablement services, promoting independence reviews and Telecare services are being used to help reduce the demand levels for domiciliary care.



Adult Social Care – Activity Indicators

The number of clients with direct payments is largely stable around the 4,000 mark.

The number of clients with a learning disability supported in residential care continues to be very stable over time, with increasing numbers supported in community based settings. More young people with a disability are progressing into adulthood and overall number of clients supported with a learning disability continues to increase, representing a significant future pressure on council budgets. Proactive steps are being taken during their Transition phase to ensure their transition into Adult services from Children’s services is well managed and supports both the individual and their family.



Public Health - Overview	
Cabinet Member	Graham Gibbens
Director	Andrew Scott-Clark

The proportion of people receiving an NHS Health Check in the twelve months to December 2015 dipped to 45% of the eligible population. Access to sexual health services remains consistently high. For the first quarter following the transfer of commissioning of health visiting services to Kent County Council performance remained consistent, indicating a smooth transfer. There has been a slight decrease in the proportion of opiate clients successfully exiting from structured treatment who did not return to treatment, performance now at 8.9% against a 9.0% target.

Indicator Description	Previous Status	Current Status	DOT
Percentage completion of NHS health checks for target population aged 40 to 74	AMBER	AMBER	↓
Percentage of children who received a 2- 2½ year review with the Health Visiting Service	New Indicator	AMBER	↔
Proportion of clients accessing GUM offered an appointment to be seen within 48 hours	GREEN	GREEN	↔
Opiate users in treatment who left treatment and did not return to treatment within 6 months	GREEN	AMBER	↓

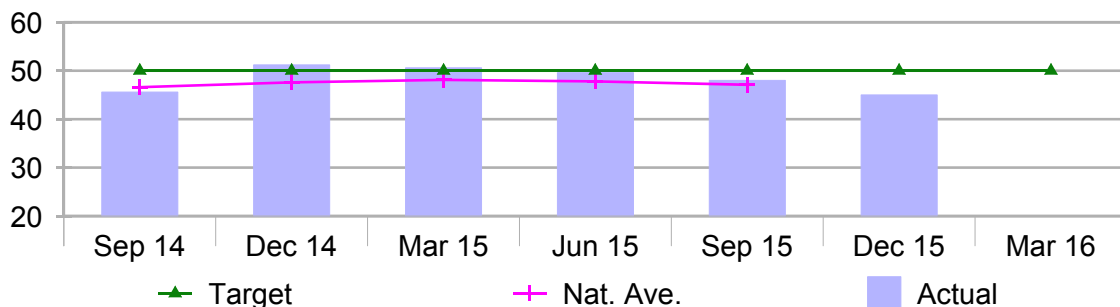
Public Health continued to deliver its transformation programme during the last quarter. There were two public consultations and wider stakeholder engagement on proposed new service models for children and young people's services (health visiting and school nursing) and for adult health improvement services.

The consultation and focus groups for adult health improvement services indicated strong support for the proposed integrated health improvement service. They also highlighted the importance of enabling people to make their own choices to quit smoking, reduce alcohol consumption and maintain healthy weight. The review has highlighted the potential for making better use of behavioural insight and campaigns to motivate people to make these healthier choices for themselves and live healthier lives even without direct intervention or support from services.

Public Health assumed commissioning responsibility from NHS England for the Health Visiting service from October 2015. Previously reported performance indicated that Kent was performing less favourably than national comparators across a number of metrics. The current contract has set incremental target stretch and includes performance incentivisation payments as a mechanism to drive improvement.

Public Health – KPIs

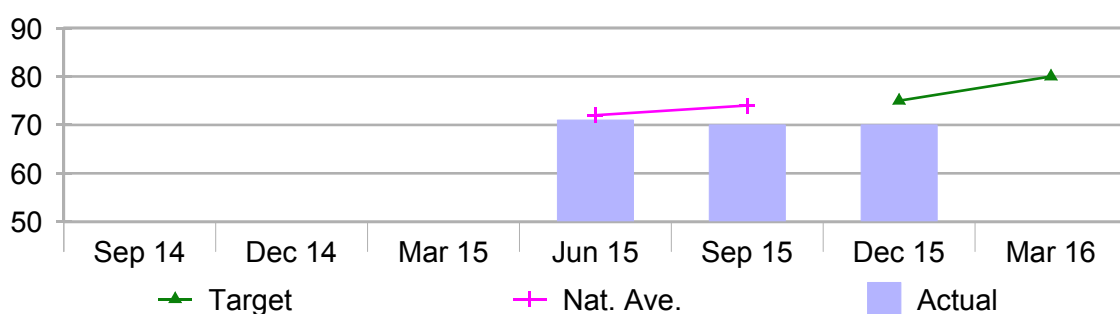
Percentage of annual target population with completed NHS Health Checks (rolling 12 month basis)

AMBER
↓

	Sep 14	Dec 14	Mar 15	Jun 15	Sep 15	Dec 15	Mar 16
Actual	46%	51%	51%	50%	48%	45%	
Target	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%

In the 12 months to December 2015, 84,626 eligible Kent residents received an invite for a NHS Health Check. 38,072 residents received a check during this period. This means that the uptake rate fell to 45% for the 12 months to December. This is below the 50% target and is lower than the same period in the last financial year. The reduction is likely to be due a number of different factors including competing pressures within primary care where most health checks are completed. Public health is working closely with providers on a remedial action plan to improve performance.

Percentage of children who received a 2- 2½ year review with the Health Visiting Service

AMBER
↔

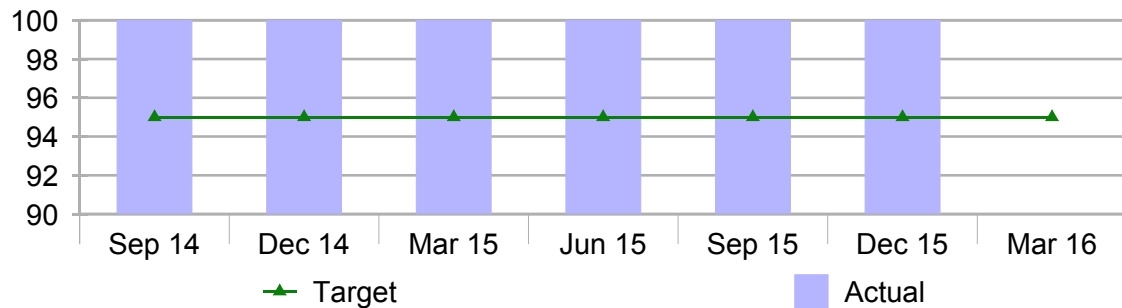
	Sep 14	Dec 14	Mar 15	Jun 15	Sep 15	Dec 15	Mar 16
Actual				71	70	70	
Target						75	80

The quarter to December 2015 is the first time period when the Health visiting service has been the commissioning responsibility of KCC, having transferred from the NHS England Team. Of the 3,959 Kent children who were due their 2-2½ year review during this period, 2,772 received theirs by the time they turned 2½ years old. 73% of these children had an ASQ-3 completed as part of their review, the recommended screening tool to be used within the assessment. Public Health is working with the provider to increase uptake of the review and has focussed the contract to deliver this.

Public Health – KPIs

Proportion of clients accessing GUM offered an appointment to be seen within 48 hours

GREEN
↔



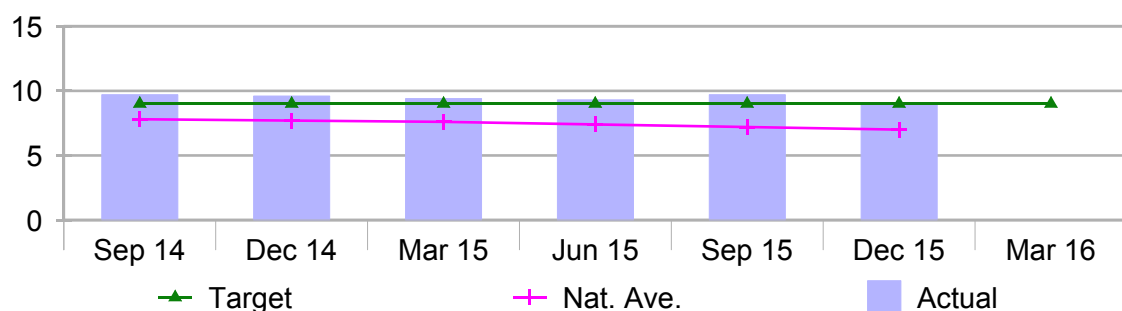
	Sep 14	Dec 14	Mar 15	Jun 15	Sep 15	Dec 15	Mar 16
Actual	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	
Target	95%	95%	95%	95%	95%	95%	95%

In the quarter to December 2015 over 5,000 Kent residents contacted the service who needed an appointment within 48 hours. All were offered an appointment within 48 hours.

Contact refers to both by phone and walk-in to the clinics.

Percentage of all opiate users in treatment who left treatment and did not return to treatment within 6 months (rolling 12 month figures)

AMBER
↓



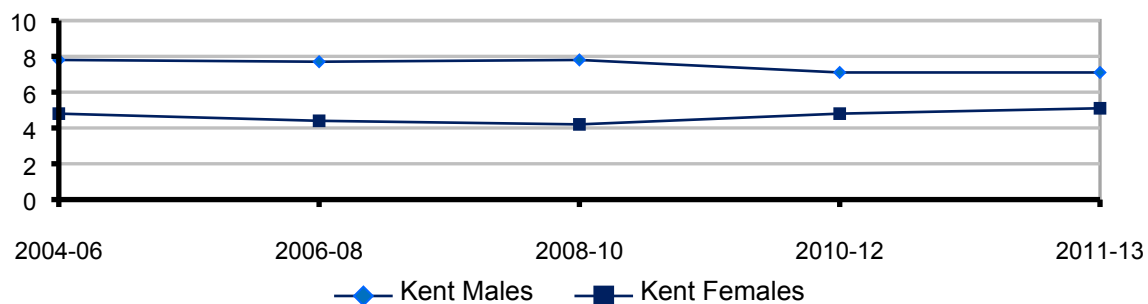
	Sep 14	Dec 14	Mar 15	Jun 15	Sep 15	Dec 15	Mar 16
Actual	9.7%	9.6%	9.4%	9.3%	9.7%	8.9%	
Target	9.0%	9.0%	9.0%	9.0%	9.0%	9.0%	9.0%

The latest available data show that 206 adult opiate clients completed treatment successfully in the twelve months to the end of December 2015 and did not return within the following six months. This was 8.9% of all opiate clients in treatment which narrowly misses the target of 9%. Kent's performance on this indicator remains well above the national average of 7%. Public Health has an action in place with providers of drug treatment services to increase successful completions in the next quarter.

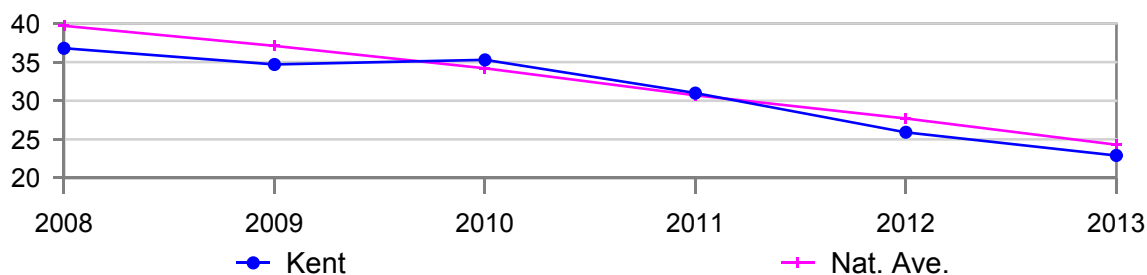
Public Health – Activity Indicators

In recent years there has been a decrease in the gap for male life expectancy between the most affluent and more deprived wards, but an increase in the gap for females. The under-18 year old conception rate continues to decrease. There has been a decrease in the proportion of Reception Year children within the healthy weight range

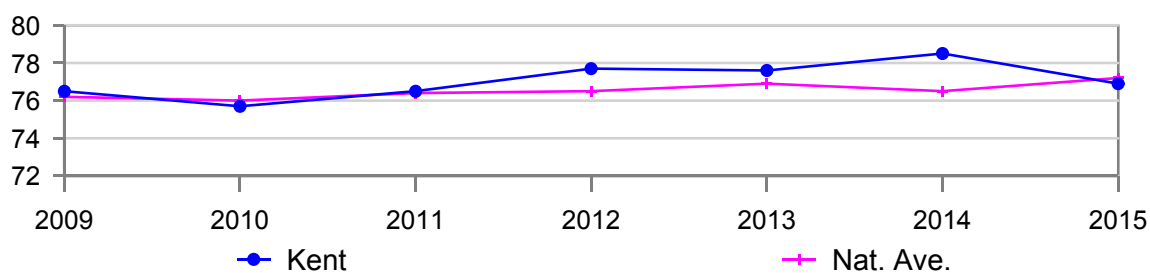
Life expectancy gap between least and most deprived 10% wards



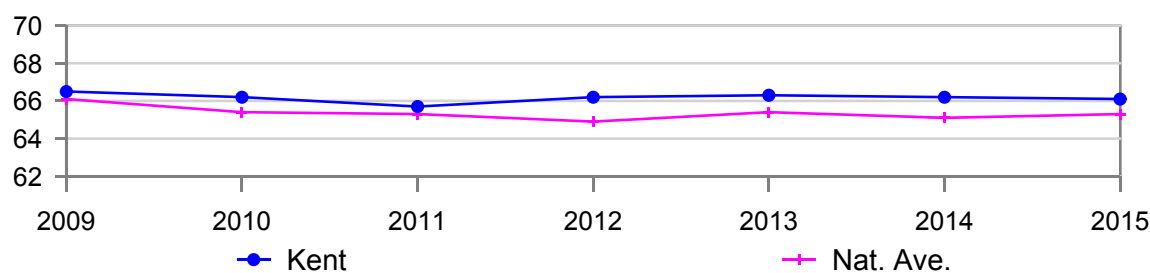
Conceptions per 1,000 females aged 15 to 17



Percentage of children with healthy weight - reception year



Percentage of children with healthy weight – year 6



Corporate Risk Register – Overview

Risk No.	Risk Title	Current Rating	Change in current level	Target Rating
CRR 1	Data and Information Management	9		9
CRR 2a	Safeguarding – protecting vulnerable children	16		9
CRR 2b	Safeguarding – protecting vulnerable adults	16		9
CRR 3	Access to resources to aid economic growth and enabling infrastructure	12		8
CRR 4	Civil Contingencies and Resilience	12		8
CRR 9	Health & Social Care integration	16	Risk Increased	9
CRR 10(a)	Management of Adult Social Care Demand	20		12
CRR 10(b)	Management of Demand – Early Help and Specialist Children’s Services	20		12
CRR 12	Welfare Reform & Work Bill	12		9
CRR 17	Future operating environment for local government	20		12
CRR 21	Delivery of 2015/16 Savings	4	Risk reduced	2
CRR 22	Implications of increased numbers of Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC)	20	Risk increased	12
CRR 23	Managing and embedding sustainable change	12		6
CRR 24	Delivery of 2016/17 Savings	12	New	2

Corporate Risk Register – Mitigating Actions (1)

Updates have been provided for 8 actions listed to mitigate elements of Corporate Risks that were due for completion or review up to the end of December 2015, together with updates for 11 actions due for completion or review by January 2016.

Due Date for Completion	Actions Completed	Actions Partially complete	Regular Review
October to December 2015	5	2	1
January 2016	3	4	4

CRR1 – Data and Information Management

Partially complete: As of December 2015, over 7,500 staff had completed the mandatory Information Governance e-Learning training, and over 4,000 had completed the Data Protection training. Training is also being delivered via other means e.g. workshops where required. The Corporate Management Team is overseeing the implementation of actions arising from the recent Information Commissioners' Office (ICO) audit, which includes the action to ensure all staff complete the mandatory training by summer 2016. Individual line managers have the responsibility for ensuring that staff complete the training.

CRR2 (a) - Safeguarding – protecting vulnerable children

Completed: Specialist Children's Services Audit procedures have been reviewed, strengthening the existing online audit to include a qualitative element.

Regular Review: Activity to recruit key social work personnel continues. During the period August 2015 to date appointments have been offered to 11 social workers, 9 senior practitioners and 10 team managers. A 'Register your Interest' process has been introduced to capture applicants not wanting to go through the recruitment system.

Regular Review: Delivery of key actions to tackle Children's Sexual Exploitation and Trafficking - Operation Willow, a multi-agency operation led by the Police to tackle CSE and Trafficking, went live during the first week of December 2015.

Partially complete: (Action response relates to adults and children) 'Prevent' awareness raising and training is being rolled out to both those who work directly with children and the wider multi-agency workforce. Procedures to support the work are now in place. Mandatory online training was launched on 22nd January 2016 at the 'Challenger' senior management event. Prevent is also being discussed at key Divisional Management Team meetings in social care over the coming weeks.

Corporate Risk Register – Mitigating Actions (2)

CRR2 (b) - Safeguarding – protecting vulnerable adults

Partially complete: Multi-agency training has been reviewed to reflect the changes to the Care Act and recommendations from Research in Practice for Adults (RiPFA). New training content will be delivered from 1st April 2016.

Partially complete: Implementation of audit actions - Internal audit will be auditing the Adult Safeguarding Unit in January 2016. Actions arising from the audit will be implemented accordingly. Review date amended to March 2016.

CRR4 – Civil Contingencies and Resilience

Completed: KCC managers have completed the Emergency Planning e-learning, which a further 1,343 participants have also undertaken. Managers are being urged to promote uptake amongst staff that they have line management responsibility for.

Partially Complete: Business Continuity Management Member reporting: Arrangements are being discussed with Corporate Management Team and Cabinet Members in March / April 2016. This will include clarification of the role of elected Members.

CRR9 – Health & Social Care Integration (inc. Better Care Fund)

Regular review: Implementation of local Better Care Fund (BCF) action plans by BCF delivery groups – a high level county-wide BCF Finance and Performance meeting took place in January 2016 where action plan implementation is monitored together with performance and delivery, including risks.

Regular review: KCC is working towards greater connectivity of information systems via a shared integration plan. Information Management & Technology strategies are being developed within the CCG area Digital Roadmaps to support a shared integration. A progress check against the Care Plan Management System pilot is underway.

CRR10a - Management of Adult Social Care Demand

Completed: Deprivation of Liberty assessments are continually reviewed and monitored and reported to the Directorate Corporate Director and Senior Managers and colleagues in the Legal division. Now listed as a control.

Completed: The Your Life Your Home pilot ran from November 2015 to January 2016. The outcome of the pilot has been analysed and presented to management, and preparations are being made for further roll out at the end of March 2016. The project will run until October 2018.

Corporate Risk Register – Mitigating Actions (3)

CRR10b - Management of Demand – Early Help & Preventative Services and Specialist Children’s Services

Regular review: A paper has been presented to Cabinet outlining the commissioning intentions for Early Help and Preventative Services. A phased approach is proposed; Phase 1 will focus on the commissioning of Youth Support and Young Carers and operations will commence in April 2016. Phase 2 will focus on emotional health and wellbeing and family support and parenting. This will be commissioned during 2016 with an intention to become operational in October 2016.

CRR17 - Future Operating & Financial Environment for Local Government

Completed: Financial analysis of medium term Kent public sector/provider landscape post-Comprehensive Spending Review has been conducted as part of the MTFP development and reported to Cabinet.

CRR21 – Delivery of 2015/16 Savings

Completed: Discussions have taken place with the Home Office and agreement secured on an improved rate for Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children costs for 2015/16.

Completed: Work has been undertaken to ensure that contingency plans are adequate to cover any forecast overspend in-year to avoid a significant overspend at year-end. This includes a recruitment moratorium.

CRR22 – Implications of increased numbers of Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC)

Partially complete: A representative from the Home Office will be working with KCC for a period of 15 months in order to fully understand KCC’s Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children’s costs.

CRR23 – Managing and embedding sustainable change

Completed: Governance arrangements to clarify Member roles and responsibilities around becoming a Strategic Commissioning Authority have been set out in a report to County Council in December 2015. Corporate Directors are now ensuring that this is carried out within each directorate.

Partially complete: Best practice in relation to development of business cases has been shared with KCC project and programme managers, promoted via the project and programme management toolkit and will be incorporated into ‘Checkpoint Reviews’.

Organisational Development	
Cabinet Member	Gary Cooke
Director	Amanda Beer

Indicator Summary

The staffing level decreased in the quarter by 59.0 FTE to 7,771. Staff sickness reduced to 6.9 days per FTE. Turnover increased to 17.0%, largely influenced by movement of staff to Agilisys. The percentage of staff aged 25 or under increased again, continuing an upward trend.

Skills development

The workforce development strategy clearly defines the principles which underpin how the organisation will ensure that all staff have the skills and competencies to meet current and future business priorities. The programmes are available through the A-Z course finder, these include commissioning skills, project management skills, commercial and business acumen, analytical skills, quality assurance, customer service and delivering outcomes. Staff continue to access these development opportunities across the strategic frameworks.

A new mandatory Prevent training programme has been introduced through e-learning and this will be available shortly to all staff to engage and meet our statutory requirements. Engagement continues with the staff e-Induction and manager evaluation is being conducted every 6 months.

Resourcing, resilience and retention

Following a review of workforce planning across KCC for 2014/15 a new Workforce Planning Strategy 2015 – 2020 and associated action plan was developed. This was approved by CMT in October 2015 and considered by Personnel Committee in November 2015. The strategy focuses on 10 key principles and activities managers need to undertake to embed workforce planning. This includes identifying critical roles, succession planning and talent management on a service basis within each directorate.

With the strategy and associated action plan now agreed, attention has turned to commissioning interventions in the action plan. Pre-commissioning market testing has taken place on strategic workforce planning interventions for Directorate Management Teams and this will be finalised in January 2016. GET DMT will be a pilot.

For all new joiners in 2014 the New Joiners Survey has been completed and there has been a good response rate of 60%. The results from the survey have been fed back to directorates. The results were also discussed at Personnel Committee in November, where the very positive results in relation to the 'Friends and Family Tests' were noted. The intelligence will be used to inform the evaluation of business effectiveness in bringing new people into the organisation, and the findings will help inform future priorities. In December 2015, the next batch of invitations to complete were sent to those new joiners who joined KCC between January and March 2015.

Work on the 'Recruit for Mindset' initiative will continue in January 2016 focusing on evaluations of first phase pilots and undertaking of second phase pilots, including commissioning and external communications recruitment exercises. A strategic paper

with recommendations is planned to be taken to HR Commissioning Board in Q4 2015/16.

Organisation Design and Culture

The KCC approach to organisational design is now being applied in a number of service redesign programmes across KCC.

There continues to be a significant level of change across services with the Human Resources team supporting over 80 projects of varying size and complexity, a significant number of which form part of the directorate change portfolios. Major on-going service reviews include the Adult Transformation Phase 2, 0-25 Transformation Programmes, the New Ways of Working Programme, Property LATCo creation and Libraries redesign.

There is ongoing work to prepare and support managers to deliver the transformation and self-sufficiency agendas via specific HR e-learning packages.

Workforce planning activity is being undertaken across the council and will continue to be important in enabling the council to become a strategic commissioning authority.

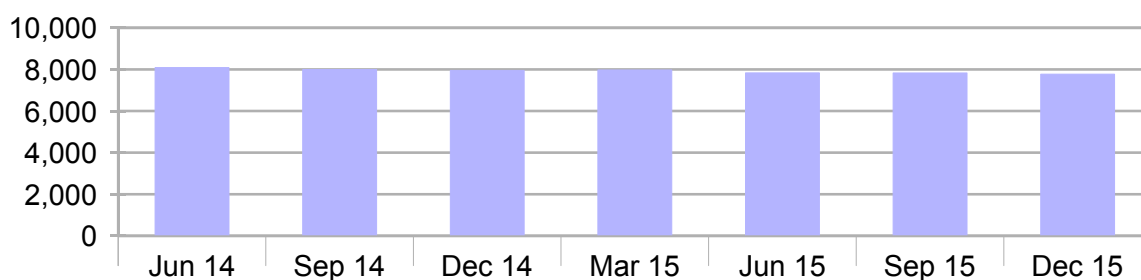
Leadership and management development

The accredited Kent Manager Standard has now been completed by 691 Kent Managers.

Two successful new pilot development opportunities covering development of the strategic mind set and persuasion and influence have run and will be re commissioned during the next financial year.

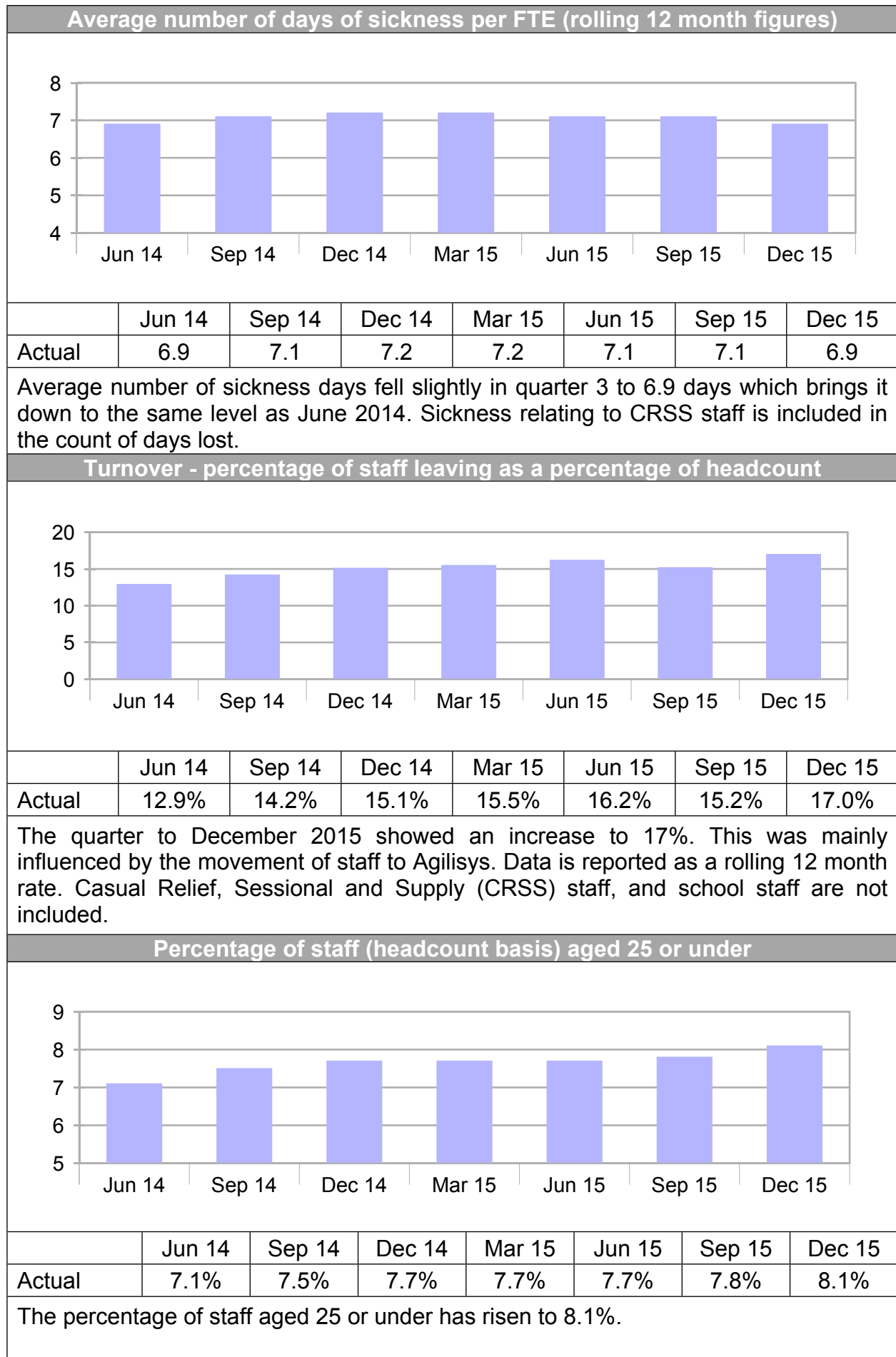
Organisational Development - Indicators

Number of full time equivalent (FTE) staff employed



	Jun 14	Sep 14	Dec 14	Mar 15	Jun 15	Sep 15	Dec 15
Actual	8,089	7,995	7,951	7,973	7,832	7,830	7,771

The staffing level decreased in Quarter 3 by 59.0 FTE. This is partly due to the transfer of staff to Agilisys. Data is reported as a count at each quarter end. Casual Relief, Sessional and Supply (CRSS) staff are not included. Schools staff are not included.



Disciplinarys, Grievances/Staff Complaints and Employment Tribunals (currently active)

Trend Data – snapshot	Dec 14	Mar 15	Jun 15	Sep 15	Dec 15
Disciplinarys	29	27	16	24	15
Resolutions*	8	3	5	10	11
Resolutions – Harassment**	4	1	0	0	4
Performance & Capability					
- Performance	7	11	9	11	8
- Ill Health	35	51	55	45	34
Employment Tribunals	4	3	3	2	2
TOTAL CASES	87	96	88	92	74

Data Notes: Data is reported as the number of open cases being dealt with at quarter end.

* Previously Grievances/Staff complaints

**Previously Harassment

Health and Safety Incidents

Trend Data	Previous Years			Current Financial Year			
	Mar 13	Mar 14	Mar 15	Jun 15	Sep 15	Dec 15	Mar 16
Incidents reported	1,620	1,591	915	244	206	235	
Days lost	943	676	276	94	64	69	

Data Notes: Schools' staff are included. Data is reported as quarter totals for current year and full year counts for previous years.

Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR)

Trend Data	Previous Years			Current Financial Year			
	Mar 13	Mar 14	Mar 15	Jun 15	Sep 15	Dec 15	Mar 16
Specified injury incidents	5	3	7	0	1	3	
Over 7 day injuries	25	24	17	5	1	3	

Data Notes: Data is reported as quarter totals for current year and full year counts for previous years.

From: Roger Gough, Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform
Patrick Leeson, Corporate Director for Education and Young People's Services

To: Cabinet – 21 March 2016

Subject: COMMISSIONING PLAN FOR EDUCATION PROVISION 2016-20

Classification: Unrestricted

Electoral Division: All

Summary:

Following Education and Young People's Cabinet Committee's endorsement on 21 January 2016, Cabinet is asked to approve the Education Commissioning Plan 2016-20, as attached at appendix 3.

Recommendations:

Cabinet is asked to approve the Education Commissioning Plan 2016 - 20

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Education Commissioning Plan is a five year rolling plan which is updated annually. It sets out how Kent discharges its statutory responsibility, as the Strategic Commissioner of Education Provision, to provide sufficient early years, SEND, Primary and Secondary places and to ensure that there are appropriate learning pathways for pupils at post 16. It is also our responsibility to ensure that we have enough places in the right locations, to meet the demands of increased pupil numbers and parental preferences. It reflects the fact that the Local Authority role has changed to being the commissioner, as well as continuing to be a provider, of education provision. The Plan sets out the principles by which we determine proposals, and it forecasts the need for future provision. It also sets out plans to meet the commissioning needs which arise in each district in Kent, in more detail for the next two to three years.

2. Summary of Proposals for Growth

- 2.1 There have been significant increases in the birth rate, birth numbers and inward migration as well as other demographic changes over recent years, which require substantial increases in the provision of school places in the coming years. The

Plan includes clear proposals for increased provision in 2016, 2017 and 2018 and looks ahead to 2019-22 with forecast data about the additional places required.

- 2.2 This updated plan for the period 2016-20 is a 'live' document which underpins our on-going dialogue and consultation with schools, District Councils, Diocesan Authorities and Elected Members, to inform the process of ensuring there are sufficient school places of good quality in the right locations, and other provision including childcare, for Kent children and families.
- 2.3 The yearly number of births in Kent increased by 25% in the period between 2002 and 2012. The number of births dropped in 2013 but rose again in 2014. The number of Primary age pupils in Kent mainstream schools is expected to continue to rise significantly until 2021-22, after which it begins to fall. The number of Secondary age pupils in Kent mainstream schools is now rising and is expected to increase from the current roll number of 77,931 pupils in 2014-15 to 96,581 in 2024-25. Planning for additional Secondary school provision is now becoming a significant focus of activity.
- 2.4 This Commissioning Plan, therefore, identifies the need for additional permanent and temporary school places each year as follows:

By 2016-17	By 2017-18	By 2018-19	By 2019-20 and beyond
<p>Primary 15.95FE permanent 218 Year R places 60 Year 2 places</p> <p>Secondary 6FE permanent 90 Year 7 places</p>	<p>Primary 17.9FE permanent 30 Year R places</p> <p>Secondary 19FE permanent</p>	<p>Primary 14.4FE permanent</p> <p>Secondary 21FE permanent</p>	<p>Primary 40.3FE permanent</p> <p>Secondary 39FE permanent Year 7 places</p>

- 2.5 Much of the additional provision will be achieved by expanding existing schools. While in many cases the need for new and expanded schools is dependent on future housing development, the increase in demand for education places continues to be significant.

3. Diocesan Responses

- 3.1 As part of the consultation process the draft Kent Commissioning Plan was shared with the three Diocesan Authorities. The responses from the Diocese of Rochester and the Archdiocese of Southwark are attached as Appendices 1 and 2 respectively. The Diocese of Canterbury did not respond but at a recent meeting of Diocesan Directors of Education they confirmed that they were content with the plan.

- 3.2 In its response the Diocese of Rochester made a number of specific points:
- It highlighted the issue of small schools. The Diocese has been working closely with KCC on the Small Schools Review and we are now in the process of developing a small schools strategy which aims to address the issues raised in the review, including those highlighted in the Diocesan response.
 - It indicated their willingness to work with us in establishing new models of school organisation and noted the opportunities to do this in new large scale developments such as Ebbsfleet. This is very welcome.
 - It noted the agreed expansion of their Church schools set out within the draft Kent Commissioning Plan and it continues to work with us on those. We are working with the Diocese and others to clarify the position in respect of Rosherville CEP.
 - It emphasised a willingness to support the establishment of Faith based Free Schools and expand existing schools which is welcome.
- 3.3 In its response the Archdiocese of Southwark identified two key issues:
- The principle concern expressed is that the creation of new school places does not reduce the proportion of Catholic school places overall. Whilst the desire to see a proportionate increase in the number of catholic school places is to be expected this fails to take into account a number of key factors. Not least that there is no legal requirement to maintain any designated balance nor that within the current academy and Free School landscape that this is something that the Local Authority can control. In addition, whilst it is possible to increase the provision of Catholic school places through the expansion of existing schools, new places cannot be delivered through establishing Catholic Free Schools as the Church remains opposed nationally to Free Schools owing to the faith based admissions cap. Unchanged this stance will make it significantly harder to increase the number of Catholic school places, most notably to serve large housing developments.
 - A perceived bias towards Local Authority schools. Within its response and using baptismal records and KCC's own criteria as set out in the KCP, it has put forward some named schools which the diocese believes meet all or some of these criteria. The detail of the specific schools identified is set out in Appendix 2.
- 3.4 We have reviewed their submission alongside the plan and are satisfied that no bias towards Local Authority schools exists. The ability of schools rated "good" or "outstanding" by Ofsted to expand at will and the ability of sponsors to create Free Schools means that the Local Authority does not have complete control over the process despite the clear statutory duty to ensure the provision of sufficient school places – a national issue highlighted by the LGA in February 2016.
- 3.5 Of the schools specifically identified by the Diocese some are already within the current plan – such as St John's Gravesend and St Margaret Clitherow, Tonbridge (2 new classrooms already built). Many of the other schools named have already been the subject of feasibility studies which have concluded that the site is not suitable for expansion owing to size, topography etc or that the costs of overcoming such challenges are prohibitive and unjustifiable. For example, St Thomas, Sevenoaks could be expanded but the cost would be approximately

£4.7m for a 1FE expansion, constituting over 50% more than the benchmark cost for a 1FE expansion. Amongst those other schools named the need in the locality has been met by a Free School promotor. For example need for additional provision in South Maidstone will be met by the new Academy at Langley Park.

- 3.6 We will continue to work with the Archdiocese to identify viable expansion projects against a backdrop of rising need across the timeframe covered by the KCP and future rolling iterations.

4. Capital Funding

- 4.1 The cost of providing additional school places is met from Government basic need grant, supported borrowing by KCC and developer contribution monies. Looking ahead to the Medium Term Financial Plan for 2016-19, KCC will no longer be in a position to undertake any further prudential borrowing to support new provision (as it has done in the past, notably with the Special Schools programme). To do so would place the Council in breach of one of its key fiscal indicators that net debt should not exceed 15% of its net revenue expenditure. Delivery of the additional school places will rely more than ever on an appropriate level of funding from central government and securing the maximum possible contribution from developers where appropriate.

- 4.2 Figure 5.1 from the Plan summarises KCC's spending and phased spending on school places for the period 2012 – 2019.

Figure 5.1: Summary of spending on school places 2012-19

To deliver places for school year	Basic Need funding	Targeted Basic Need	Council funds and borrowing	Developer contributions	Other	Total
2011-12	12,114,715		80,000			12,194,715
2012-13	5,518,713		1,026,531	6,813,479	-	13,358,723
2013-14	17,262,073	4,278,661	1,362,401	703,198		23,606,333
2014-15	22,321,641	11,196,446	2,360,261	2,455,946	79,440	38,413,734
2015-16	39,585,000	17,978,206	24,754,000	4,011,825	371,000	86,700,031
2016-17 forecast	52,508,000		55,789,000	11,446,000	-	119,743,000
2017-18 forecast	40,928,000		15,367,000	30,845,000	-	87,140,000
2018-19 forecast	Not known	0	0	10,000,000	0	10,000,000
Total	190,238,142	33,453,313	100,739,193	66,275,448	450,440	391,156,536

- 4.3 Government funding for 'Basic Need' is allocated on a formula basis which is assessed from information provided by local authorities about forecast numbers of pupils and school capacity. Such funding will only provide for predicted growth in numbers arising from changes in the birth rate and from inward net migration. KCC has received £167m in basic need and targeted basic need capital for the period 2014-15 to 2017-18. We are unlikely to see information on the 2018-19 allocation from the DfE until March 2016.

- 4.4 Our current estimate of the likely level of available funding (from all sources) when compared to our initial estimate of the costs of the provision that is needed to meet the pupil forecasts means that we face a potential funding gap of in excess of £100m across the period 2016-19. It is through the Basic Need funding allocation from the DfE and difficult decisions as to the phasing and scope of individual projects that this gap will be closed. As already indicated, further borrowing by the Council would not be prudent and the level of funding for maintenance and modernisation of the existing estate is already at a low level, so KCC has little scope to divert existing other schools capital funding to support the development of new provision.
- 4.5 For new pupil places required because of new housing development it is necessary to look to other funding, specifically developer contribution monies.

5. **Next Steps**

- 5.1 Following the Education and Young People's Cabinet Committee's comments final changes and amendments were made prior to the Commissioning Plan being presented to Cabinet for consideration and approval.
- 5.2 The final approved Plan will be published as soon as it has been agreed by Cabinet.
- 5.3 The Plan will be reviewed, updated and published annually, in the autumn term, following updating of roll and forecast information and 6 monthly monitoring and review. The six month review will be reported to Cabinet Committee in summer 2016.

6. **Recommendations**

- 6.1 Cabinet is asked to approve the Education Commissioning Plan 2016 – 20.

7. **Background Documents**

Education Cabinet Committee report dated 15 December 2015

<https://democracy.kent.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=832&MId=5824&Ver=4>

Education Cabinet Committee report dated 24 September 2014

<https://democracy.kent.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=832&MId=5648&Ver=4>

Lead Officer Contact details

Keith Abbott

Director Education Planning and Access

Education and Young People's Services

✉ Keith.Abbott@kent.gov.uk

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Director of Education
Mr. Alex Tear MA(Ed) (Hons)

Mr Keith Abbot
Director
Education Planning and Access
Kent County Council
County Hall
Maidstone
Kent ME14 1XQ

30th November 2015

Dear Keith

Response to the Draft Commissioning Plan for Education Provision – Kent 2016-2020

Thank you for sharing the Local Authority's draft Commissioning plans for Educational Provision in Kent.

We welcome the opportunity to offer an early response to the draft plan and we look forward to working with you as a statutory partner providing school places through our Church schools and academies across Kent.

The Rochester Diocesan Board of Education seeks to ensure that as the number of new school places increases across the Local Authority, the number of places within our Church schools across the diocese also increases to ensure that a similar proportion of Anglican places are available to parents and carers who wish to educate their children within the distinctive and inclusive Christian ethos and values which our Church schools provide.

In response to the draft plan we offer the following specific points:

1. In section 4.6, we note the Local Authority's stated preference for primary schools that offer 'curriculum viability' through a minimum of four classes operating across a school and the preference for schools that offer two forms of entry. Given the number of very small Church schools, many of which are judged as 'Good' or 'Outstanding' by Ofsted which serve their local communities across our diocese, we would emphasise the need for the Local Authority to value small school provision in line with its own messages stated in its recent Small Schools Review:

"Many small schools plan the curriculum in two or three-year rolling programmes to ensure that pupils cover all the subject matter they need to in each Key Stage and do not repeat the same learning. Most schools have a cross-curricular approach based around a series of 'topics' that are interesting and engaging for pupils. Teachers plan carefully to meet the differing needs and levels of maturity amongst pupils"

"Small schools can provide a good education for pupils and many do so. Successful small schools have rigorous systems to track the progress of individual pupils from their starting points. Just like their larger counterparts, they review pupils' progress regularly and adjust provision to ensure that all pupils make the progress they should. Even in a school where teachers know their pupils well and may have taught them for two or three years, there is no compromise on teachers' high expectations" (taken from Section 2, page 3, 'Learning from the Best' a review of small schools in Kent by Melanie Cox)

We recognise the challenge that size and scale presents to the financial viability of schools particular in the current national financial funding settlement and we would encourage the Local Authority to engage and work with the

Diocesan Boards on looking at the development of a Small Schools strategy which embraces some of the recommendations made in the national Church of England report '**Working together – The future of rural Church of England schools**' published in October 2014. The full report can be found here:

<http://www.rdbe.org.uk/about-us/national-society-reports/working-together-the-future-of-rural-cofe-schools>

This report advocates 'structural collaboration' between schools including the formation of federations, multi-academy trusts and other tight collaborative arrangements where the accountability for school effectiveness is sharp and focussed. The report also provides a useful set of self-review questions to help governing bodies analyse their school and then consider future options.

2. In section 4.7, we welcome the Local Authority's stance on encouraging new models of school organisation including all aged schools where this serves the needs of our local communities. We believe that going forward there will be a number of opportunities in areas of large-scale housing development such as Ebbsfleet Garden City where all aged provision would provide a sensible cost-effective solution to the provision of new school places and at the same time, meet the needs of these new communities. We believe that the Diocesan Board of Education through its Church school networks and academy trusts is able to provide the educational provision required for these areas and we would welcome the opportunity to be involved in further discussions with KCC and other stakeholders for the delivery of such provision.
3. We note the plans for expansion of our Church schools within the four areas of Tonbridge & Malling, Dartford, Sevenoaks and Tunbridge Wells and we are happy to work with your officers on the plans for these schools.

The current Commissioning plan for 2013-2018 states:

"There is also a medium term proposal to enlarge and relocate Rosherville Church of England Primary School to a new site in the Gravesend South West planning area for 2015, that will increase the school intake from 20 to 60, an increase of 40 Reception year places"

We note that this commitment has not been included in the new Commissioning plan for 2016-2020.

We understand that any re-location and expansion depended on the release of the developer's contribution and a contribution from KCC through basic need however, we are unclear about whether this site remains available for re-location for Rosherville and whether the Local Authority is still committed to this proposal and your further clarification would be appreciated.

If another school is permitted to use the Springhead site, we believe that this may result in the closure of Rosherville CofE Primary School which would be most unfortunate and unlikely to receive Diocesan support.

4. In section 4.9 we note the need for the continued expansion of existing schools and the need for new school provision. The Rochester Diocesan Board of Education has recently reviewed its policy on church school organisation and academy sponsorship and has formed a 'diocesan strategic partnership' (DSP) of its school-led Multi-Academy Trusts.

It will be this strategic group which going forward will take the lead on the co-ordinated approach to the sponsorship of Church schools and the submission of new school applications and Free School bids. Details of the RDBE's revised academy conversion criteria can be found here: www.rdbe.org.uk/schools/academies/conversioncriteria

The Rochester Diocesan Board of Education remains open to establishing new CofE academies and Free Schools across the local authority particularly in places of new housing growth where we have a long term commitment to the people and communities which we serve. We would be happy to work in partnership with other stakeholders including KCC to explore how new Church of England schools and additional Anglican places can be created

I hope these points are useful to you Keith and that they will be given due consideration as you work towards the final plan.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Alex Tear
Diocesan Director of Education
Diocese of Rochester

cc Rt Reverend James Langstaff - Bishop of Rochester
The Venerable Clive Mansell – Chair of the Diocesan Board of Education
Patrick Leeson – Corporate Director, KCC

**The Education Commission
on behalf of
Archdiocese of Southwark.**

**Response to
Draft Commissioning Plan for
Education Provision
In Kent 2016 – 2020.**

**Education
Commission**
CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF SOUTHWARK



Introduction

The Education Commission of the Archdiocese of Southwark would like to thank you for sharing the Local Authority's draft commissioning plan for Education Provision in Kent and we welcome the opportunity to offer a response to the draft plan.

The Archdiocese of Southwark seeks assurance that the need for additional new school places is reflected proportionally both within the Catholic sector and the Faith Sector at large.

We would propose that the Local Authority with the clear accountability for ensuring that a fair, inclusive and transparent process brings all relevant local responsible bodies together effectively to understand each other's needs, the relevant legal requirements to which these bodies are subject and to agree local priorities. This would lead to an effective plan to deliver on agreed priorities from the capital available.

All responsible bodies must be fairly represented to ensure that the best outcomes are achieved for all Kent children, rather than there being a perceived bias towards the local authority sector.

Response to the draft Commissioning Plan

Our response reflects on the paragraphs outlined in italics below and on subsequent pages.

4.4 Principles and Guidelines

It is important that the Local Authority is open and transparent in its role as the Strategic Commissioner of Education. To help guide us in this role we abide by clear principles, and consider school organisation proposals against our planning guidelines. We stress that planning guidelines are not absolutes, but a starting point for the consideration of proposals.

4.5 These are our Over-Arching Principles:

- * We will always put the needs of the learners first.*
 - * Every child should have access to a local good or outstanding school, which is appropriate to their needs.*
 - * All education provision in Kent should be financially efficient and viable.*
 - * We will aim to meet the needs and aspirations of parents and the local community.*
 - * We will promote parental preference.*
 - * We recognise perceptions may differ as to benefits and detrimental impacts of proposals. We aim to ensure our consultation processes capture the voice of all communities. To be supported, proposals must demonstrate overall benefit.*
 - * The needs of Children in Care and those with SEN and disabilities will be given priority in any commissioning decision.*
-

Considering the over-arching principles above how are KCC intending to ensure that every child has access to a local good or outstanding school, which is appropriate to their needs if the child wants to attend a Catholic School? How will KCC promote parental preference if the parents want their child educated in a Catholic school? We consider that Catholic parents should be able to access education for their children at Catholic schools. There are

also other Christian communities who traditionally wish to send their children to Catholic schools e.g. the Greek and other Orthodox communities.

Primary schools

In 2015, 15 out of the 26 Catholic primaries had 1st preference applications over and above their PAN. Which means about 163 children did not succeed in obtaining a place in a Catholic school of their choice in Kent. Because of the distances between the schools this means that their 2nd preference school may well not be a Catholic school.

4.6 Planning Guidelines – Primary:

- *The curriculum is generally delivered in key stage specific classes. Therefore, for curriculum viability Primary schools should be able to operate at least four classes.*
 - *We will actively look at federation opportunities for small Primary schools.*
 - *Where possible, planned Published Admission Numbers (PANs) will be multiples of 30 but where this is not possible, multiples of 15 are used.*
 - *We believe all through Primary schools deliver better continuity of learning as the model for Primary phase education in Kent. When the opportunity arises we will either amalgamate separate infant and junior schools into a single Primary school or federate the schools. However, we will have regard to existing local arrangements and seek to avoid leaving existing schools without links on which they have previously depended.*
 - *At present Primary school provision is co-educational, and we anticipate that future arrangements will conform to this pattern.*
 - *Over time we have concluded that 2FE provision (420 places) is preferred in terms of the efficient deployment of resources.*
-

We agree with your conclusion that 2FE is preferred in terms of the efficient deployment of resources. Consequently we would take this further to conclude 2FE will aid the provision of efficient education particularly where there are 1½FE schools with mixed age classes.

We also agree the overarching principle that all education provision in Kent should be financially viable and efficient and we advocate that KCC take the opportunity to expand Catholic schools that are below 2FE Most particularly the two schools that are 1½FE.

There are 22 Catholic primaries out of 26 that fall below the 2FE benchmark for efficient financial viability. This is 84.57% of our schools that that are, in KCC terms, not financially viable and we have an expectation that the Commissioning Plan will propose that the areas of high need Catholic schools under the 2FE benchmark will be identified for expansion.

4.9 Planning Guidelines - Expansion of Popular Schools and New Provision

- *We support diversity in the range of education provision available to children and young people. We recognise that new providers are entering the market, and that parents and communities are able to make free school applications.*
 - *We also recognise that popular schools may wish to expand, or be under pressure from the local community to do so.*
 - *As the Strategic Commissioner of Education Provision, we welcome proposals from existing schools and new providers that address the needs identified in this Plan, which include new provision to meet increased demand, and new provision to address concerns about quality.*
 - *In order for us to support any such proposal, they must meet an identified need and adhere to the planning principles and guidelines set out above.*
-

We agree that KCC should recognise the need for popular schools to expand, or be under pressure from the local community to expand. There are 6 Catholic schools that are over-subscribed year on year. The Diocese and the Catholic community will be looking to the

Commissioning Plan to recognise the need to consider the expansion of popular and successful schools Catholic schools.

Using the recorded baptism figures alone the likelihood is that by 2017 we will have 9 schools that will be substantially over-subscribed, some by one form of entry. The baptism figures do not, of course, make allowance for inward migration to Kent from other parts of the UK or abroad. Neither do they allow for other Christian communities, e.g. Orthodox Christians, who traditionally prefer to send their children to Catholic schools.

To illustrate where the Diocese is seeking to expand primary schools to meet both the needs of the Catholic and local community we have constructed a Venn diagram for each the Kent areas (pages 5-8).

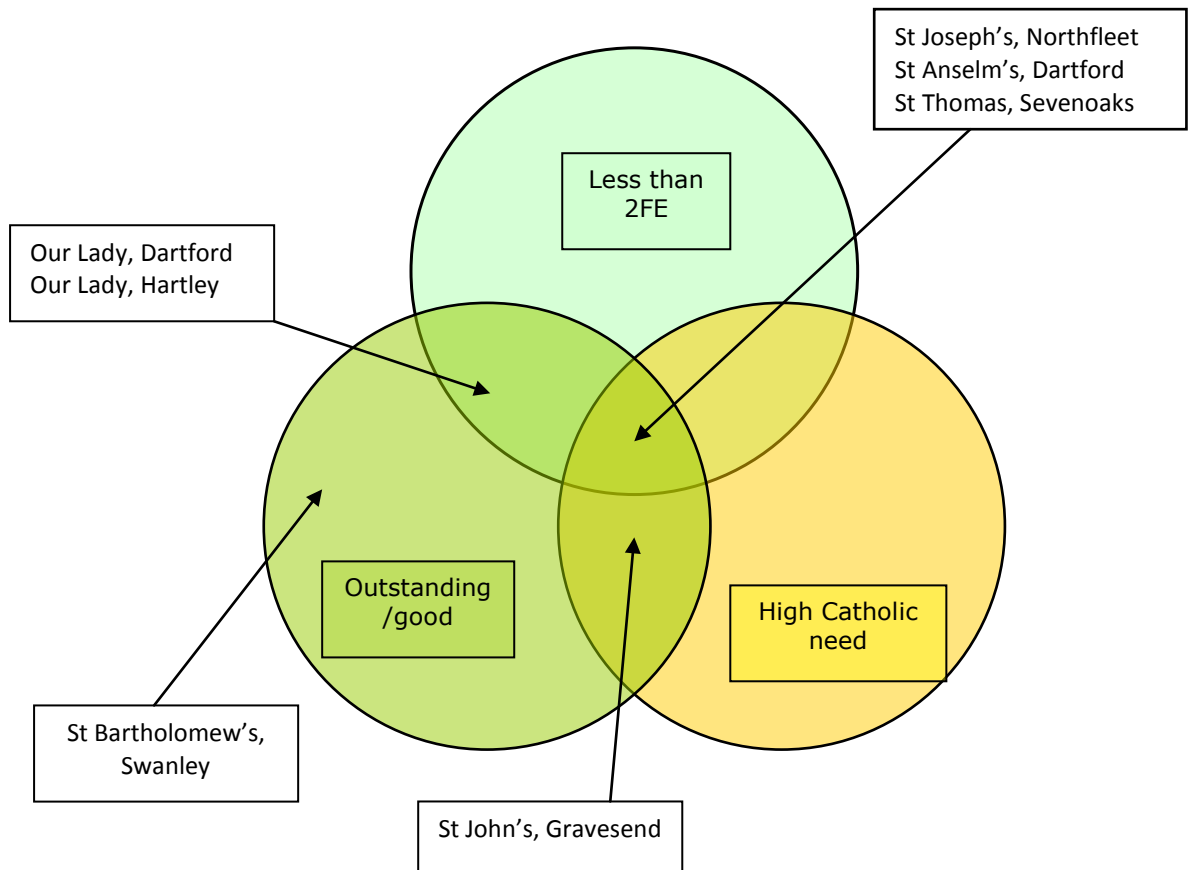
Attention is focused on the three areas highlighted within the draft Commissioning Plan:

- 1) Schools that are good to outstanding
- 2) Schools below 2FE in size
- 3) Schools where there is an acute/high parental demand for Catholic places.

Secondary schools

We agree with the draft Commissioning Plan that the expansion of secondary schools is becoming increasingly important.

The total number of places available at present at Catholic secondary schools at Year 7 is 880. Projecting the Catholic primary admissions forward approximately 1100 Catholic pupils will need places at the secondary schools in 2020. Allowing for some inward migration into the county this will give an undersupply of about 7-8FE. There is a case for expanding Catholic secondary schools to meet the need for Catholic pupils and the wider community. There is an expectation that the Commissioning Plan will recognise the need to expand Catholic schools. As the 7-8FE is spread across the county each of the Catholic schools could be expanded by at least 1-1.5 FE each.

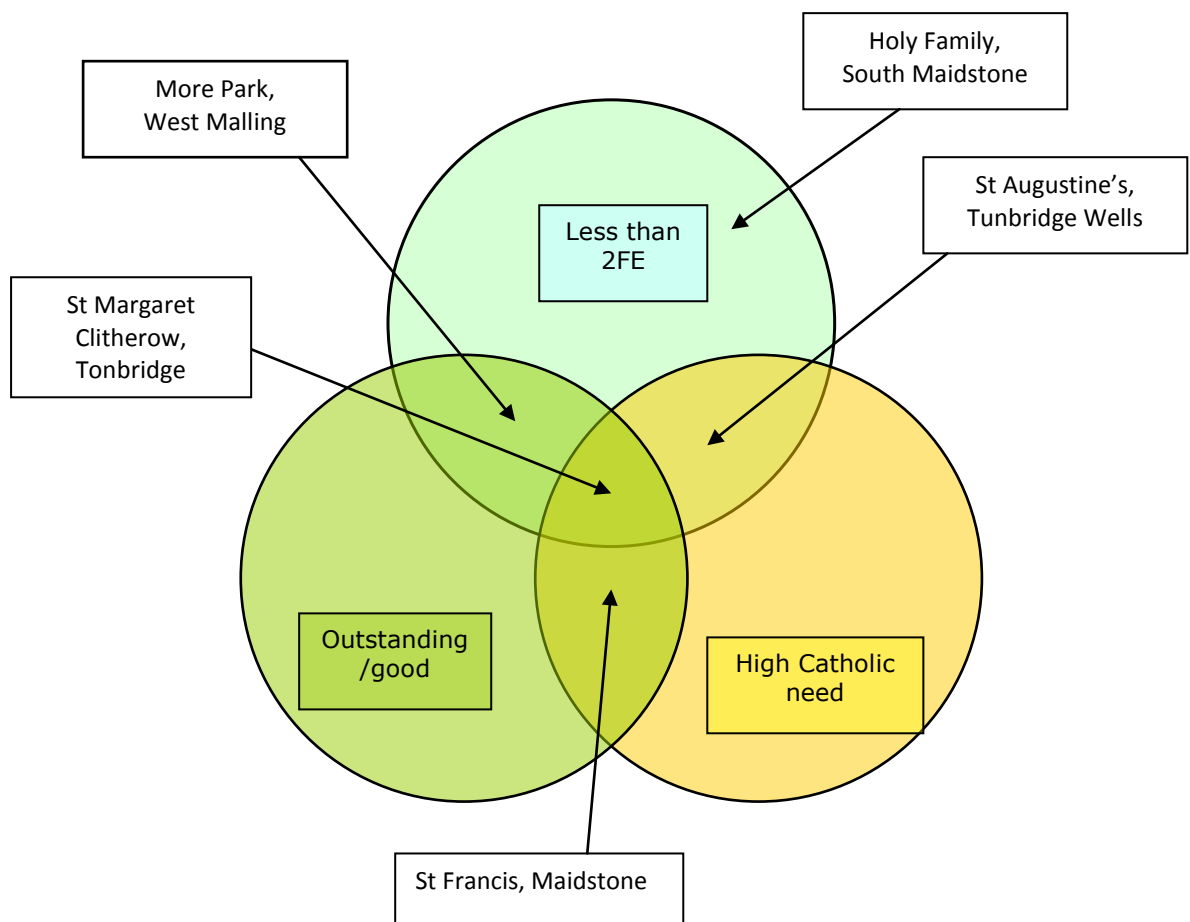


North Kent - Catholic Primary Schools

Parish	School	Baptisms					PAN
		2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	
Dartford (St Vincent)	St Anselm's	77	43	55	55	63	30
Dartford	Our Lady's	22	37	29	20	20	30
Gravesend	St John's	100	84	81	99	151	90
Hartley	Our Lady of Hartley	12	11	12	7	10	30
Northfleet	St Joseph's	24	29	32	41	30	30
Sevenoaks	St Thomas	72	84	66	59	57	30
Swanley	St Bartholomew's	11	11	11	16	17	50

Parishes without Primary Schools

Edenbridge	St Thomas, Sevenoaks	11	12	7	7	9
Meopham	Our Lady of Hartley	2	1	2	0	3
Westerham	St Thomas, Sevenoaks	10	13	6	6	7

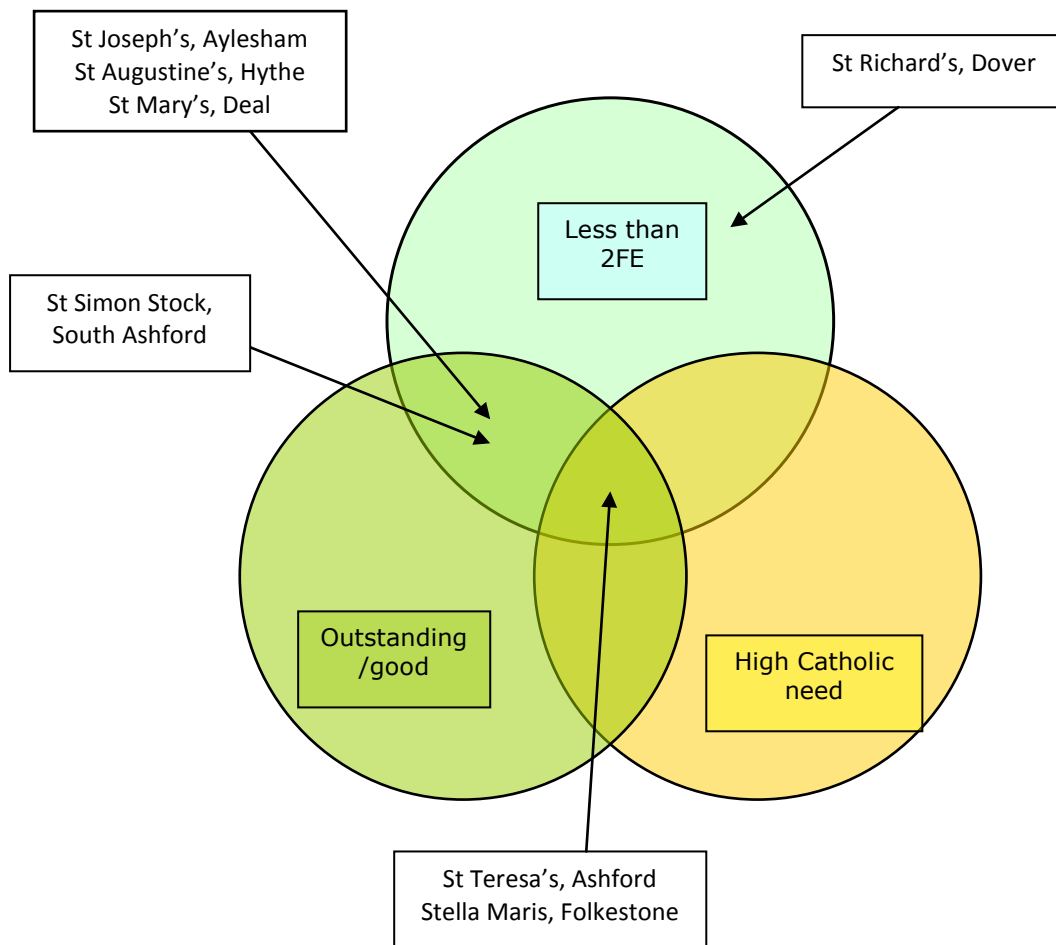


West Kent - Catholic Primary Schools

Parish	School						PAN
		2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	
Maidstone (South)	Holy Family	21	14	6	11	16	30
Maidstone	St Francis	79	107	115	83	107	60
Tonbridge	St Margaret Clitherow	23	28	23	35	21	60
Tunbridge Wells	St Augustine's	75	64	62	64	61	45
West Malling	More Park	33	32	39	27	44	30

Parishes without Primary Schools

Parish	Nearest school	Baptisms				
		2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Bearstead & Harretsham	St Francis, Maidstone	7	8	13	15	9
Cranbrook	Holy Family, Maidstone	4	3	10	2	3
Paddock Wood	St Margaret-Clitherow, Tonbridge	9	7	1	5	3
Pembury	St Augustine's, T-Wells				3	1
Southborough	St Augustine's, T-Wells	16	14	4	13	11

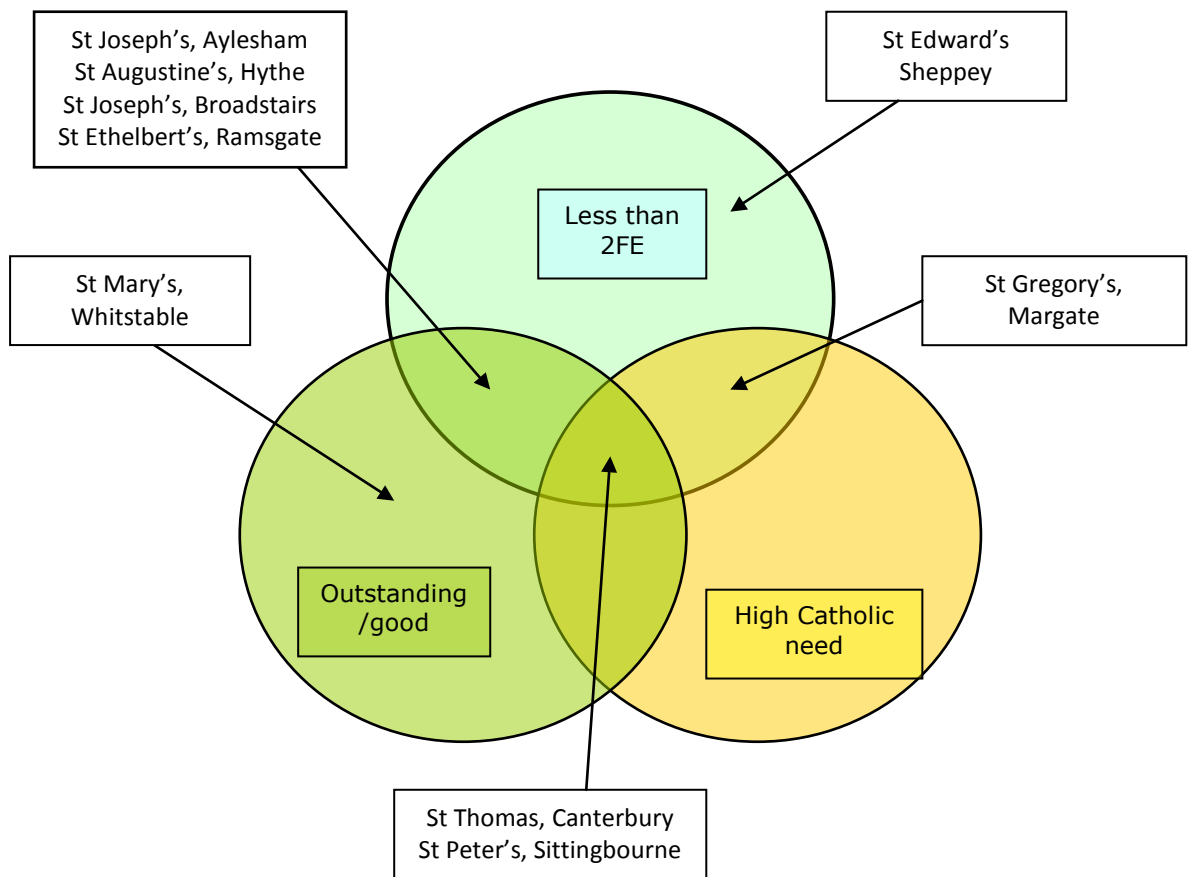


South Kent - Catholic Primary Schools

Parish	School	Baptisms					PAN
		2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	
Ashford (South)	St Simon of England	15	16	17	39	29	30
Ashford	St Teresa's	40	57	48	14	47	30
Aylesham	St Joseph's	9	12	13	11	11	15
Deal	St Mary's	7	7	2	4	6	30
Dover	St Richard's	14	15	11	9	13	30
Folkestone	Stella Maris	47	52	42	32	27	30
Hythe	St Augustine's	12	21	25	21	25	30

Parishes without Primary Schools

Parish	Nearest school	Baptisms				
		2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Mongeham & Sandwich	St Mary's, Deal	10	14	4	5	3
Tenterden	St Simon, South Ashford	3	6	6	3	1



East Kent - Catholic Primary Schools

Parish	School	Baptisms					PAN
		2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	
Aylesham	St Joseph's	9	12	13	11	11	15
Broadstairs	St Joseph's	22	14	10	17	23	30
Canterbury	St Thomas	47	54	62	38	38	30
Hythe	St Augustine's	12	21	25	21	25	30
Margate	St Gregory's	28	19	47	34	34	45
Ramsgate & Minster	St Ethelbert's	24	28	39	31	33	30
Sheppey	St Edward's	17	26	15	28	23	30
Sittingbourne	St Peter's	22	21	31	29	21	30
Whitstable	St Mary's	6	24	18	19	18	60

Parishes without Primary Schools

Parish	Nearest School	Baptisms				
		2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Cliftonville	St Gregory's, Margate	22	23	Merged with Thanet parish		
Faversham	St Peter's, Sittingbourne	16	14	16	12	12
Herne Bay	St Mary's, Whitstable	16	25	27	14	23
Hersden	St Thomas, Canterbury	2	1	0	1	3
Thanet	St Gregory's, Margate	12	3	3	3	7

Commissioning Plan for Education Provision in Kent 2016-2020



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Foreword

Welcome to the County Council's Commissioning Plan for Education Provision in Kent for 2016-20. This is a five year rolling plan which we update annually. It sets out our future plans as Strategic Commissioner of Education Provision across all types and phases of education in Kent.

This plan builds upon the positive achievements of the past year and provides a clear and confident direction for education providers for the next few years. A report on progress since last year was taken to Education and Young People's Services Cabinet Committee on 8 July 2015 and can be found here www.kent.gov.uk/educationprovision. Progress made during the course of the last year is as follows:

- Delivered refurbishment of a further two Special schools and commenced work to refurbish or replace another five, with schemes progressing for the remaining three schools to achieve the objective of replacing or refurbishing all Special schools in Kent.
- Achieved the County Council's target of maintaining a 5% surplus of school places overall. Surplus capacity in the Primary School sector is at 5.4% in Reception Year and 5.2% across all Primary School year groups. The surplus capacity in Districts varies across the County from 1.1% in Gravesham to 8.7% in Dover. Surplus capacity in Year 7 and across the Secondary School sector remains high both across the County and in Districts, apart from Canterbury which is below 4%.
- Delivered 18.7FE of permanent Primary school places and over 300 temporary Year Reception places.
- Provided an additional 107 Special school places and commissioned 176 further places in Specialist Resource Based Provisions in mainstream schools.
- Ensure sufficient Early Years places exist for all children eligible for free childcare provision.
- Achieved our target of at least 85% of parents securing their first preference Primary school.

Reception year numbers are forecast to peak in 2016/17, although local variations will apply. Numbers in the Primary phase begin to level out over the forecast period as larger cohorts move through our schools, and the numbers leaving Year 6 match those joining Reception Year classes. The pressure for school places will, therefore, begin to shift from the Primary phase to the Secondary phase. We are also witnessing increasing demand in the Special sector as the Primary population grows. Work has already begun on bringing forward proposals to address needs in the Secondary and Special school sectors.

The need for additional school places in the County has been recognised by Government, with Kent receiving the largest basic need allocation in 2015 of any local authority. However, price inflation in the construction industry and the sheer number of places needed continues to make our capital funding challenging.

We are determined we will meet these challenges with this robust Commissioning Plan for the future, which has been secured through collaboration and consultation with schools and other partners. We aim to deliver good quality buildings through cost-effective procurement and construction options.

We believe this Plan sets out a reliable and realistic vision for future education provision in Kent and provides the template for schools and other providers to work closely with the Local Authority to deliver a place in a good or outstanding school for every Kent child.

Roger Gough
Cabinet Member for Education
(and Health Reform)

Patrick Leeson
Corporate Director
Education & Young People's Services

1. Executive Summary

1.1 Purpose

The County Council is the Strategic Commissioner of Education Provision in Kent. This Commissioning Plan sets out how we will carry out our responsibility for ensuring there are sufficient places of high quality, in the right places for all learners, while at the same time fulfilling our other responsibilities to raise education standards and be the champion of children and their families in securing good quality education, childcare and other provision including training and apprenticeships. The Plan details our future need for education provision, thereby enabling parents and education providers to put forward proposals as to how these needs might best be met.

This Plan is a 'live' document which underpins the dynamic process of ensuring there are sufficient places for Kent children in schools, and other provisions. It is subject to regular discussion and consultation with schools, District Councils, Local Elected Members, Diocesan Authorities and others. The content of this Plan reflects those discussions and consultations.

1.2 The Kent Context

Kent is a diverse County. It is largely rural with a collection of small towns. Economically our communities differ, with economic advantage generally in the west, and disadvantage concentrated in our coastal communities in the south and east. Early Years education and childcare are predominantly provided by the private and voluntary sectors. Our schools are promoted by the County Council and many different trusts and take different forms including infant, junior, primary, grammar, wide ability comprehensive, all-through single sex and faith based. Post 16 opportunities are available through schools, colleges and private training organisations.

1.3 What We Are Seeking to Achieve

Our vision is that every child and young person should go to a good or outstanding early years setting and school, have access to the best teaching, and benefit from schools and other providers working in partnership with each other to share the best practice as they continue to improve. Our overarching priorities and targets for education in Kent are set out in the strategic document: [Vision and Priorities for Improvement](#). Focusing on commissioning education provision from good or better providers can assist in securing this vision.

We believe that parents and communities should have a strong voice in proposals for future school development. We also recognise that popular schools may wish to expand, or be under pressure from the local community to do so. Such expansions are welcome to help meet both the need for extra places and our objective of providing access to a good local school for every Kent child. We therefore welcome proposals from existing schools, Trusts, the three Diocese and new providers that address the needs set out in this Plan. We aim to maintain at least 5% surplus capacity in schools in each sector in each District to facilitate parental preferences.

1.4 Principles and Guidelines

The role of the Local Authority is set within a legal framework of statutory duties which are set out in the relevant sections of the Plan. We also have a set of principles and planning guidelines to help us in our role as the commissioner of education provision (Section 4). It is important that the Local Authority is transparent and clear when making commissioning decisions or assessing the relative merits of any proposals it might receive.

1.5 Capital Funding

The Local Authority has a key role in securing funding to provide sufficient numbers of pupil places. The cost of additional school places is currently met from basic need grant from the Government, significant supported borrowing by the County Council and Section 106 property developer contributions and Community Infrastructure Levy monies (CIL). Another funding option is the Free Schools programme. This proposes to create 500 new schools in the lifetime of the current parliament. Recent indications are that Central Government wishes to work more closely with local authorities to ensure these new schools support basic need pressures, and deliver the high quality of education we all strive for. The Kent County Council Capital Budget provides £89.6m for our programme during 2016-18. Projects to be included within this programme undergo rigorous internal appraisal and approval processes prior to commencement.

1.6 Kent's Demographic Trends

The yearly number of births in Kent increased by 25% in the period between 2002 and 2012. The number of births dropped in 2013 but rose again in 2014. The number of Primary age pupils in Kent mainstream schools is expected to continue to rise significantly until 2021-22, after which it begins to fall. The number of Secondary age pupils in Kent mainstream schools is now rising and is expected to increase from the current roll number of 77,931 in 2014-15 to 96,581 in 2024-25. Planning for additional Secondary provision is now becoming a significant focus of activity.

1.7 Special Educational Needs

We have seen a 5.4% increase in the number of pupils with statements during the last year, which is in line with the change in pupil numbers generally. Over a five year period we have seen a very significant increase in the number of pupils with Autistic Spectrum Disorders (ASD) (991 pupils or 59%); with growth also in the area of Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties (PMLD) (72 pupils or 40%) and then Behavioural Emotional and Social Development (BESD) (68 pupils or 6%). All other categories have seen a reduction in numbers over five years. These growth areas present as our key commissioning needs.

While we have seen a slight reduction in the proportion of pupils educated in the independent SEN sector (13.1 to 12%) there has been a real term increase in the number of pupils (62) educated in these schools. Proposals agreed to date or currently in consultation will see an increase in Kent maintained Special schools of 426 places (12% increase). Additionally, extra places have been commissioned in existing new Specialist Resource Based Provisions in mainstream schools to cater for ASD, BESD and Speech, Language and Communication Needs (SLCN). However, the forecasts

indicate another 268 pupils may need access to specialist SEND provision by the end of the decade. Proposals are identified to meet this demand and create the capacity required to reduce the need to use the independent sector in the future.

1.8 Early Education and Childcare

Assessing the childcare market and ensuring a sufficiency of provision is both a complex and a constantly moving challenge. We have sufficient places in all Districts in Kent to provide places for all eligible 2, 3 and 4 year olds, albeit the surplus capacity varies from very few places to many hundreds in different Districts. This situation will change when the extension of the free entitlement for 3 and 4 year olds to 30 hours a week is introduced in 2017.

1.9 Post-16 Education and Training in Kent

Our duty to ensure that sufficient provision exists to enable all young people aged 16 – 19 (up to 24 for some pupils with SEND) to engage in education and training is largely met through schools, colleges, training providers and workplaces offering apprenticeships. A key commissioning aim is to ensure suitable provision is available and that appropriate progression pathways exist for all young people. To support achievement of this aim we produce District level data packs (available on KELSI) which analyse the existing offer and identify gaps in provision. This Plan sets out how we will commission provision to close these gaps. By ensuring the right high quality pathways are in place, we expect participation rates to improve, especially amongst our most vulnerable groups.

A key strand to our 14 – 24 Employment and Skills Strategy, which this Plan supports, is to ensure there are sufficient, quality vocational options for all 14-19 years olds.

A further focus is to commission appropriate provision for young people with SEN or disabilities who could be aged up to 24 years. This will include creating further pre-apprenticeships and Level 1 programmes.

1.10 Kent's Forward Plan – by District

Detailed analysis, at District level, of the future need for Primary and Secondary school places is contained in Section 10 of this Plan. This clearly sets out what provision needs to be commissioned, where, and when. Information on school expansions is contained in the District plans and we will consult on the proposals in line with statutory responsibilities and agreed protocols.

Temporary enlargements (bulge year groups) will also be required where there is not a need for permanent additional provision. It is recognised that in many cases these needs are dependent upon future planned housing developments, and thus the timing may need to be adjusted. In such cases, officers will implement measures to ensure sufficient provision is in place, in conjunction with the Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform and Cabinet Member for Corporate and Democratic Services. We will keep this under review.

This Commissioning Plan, therefore, identifies the need for additional permanent and temporary school places as follows:

By 2016-17	By 2017-18	By 2018-19	By 2019-20 and beyond
<i>Primary</i> 15.95FE permanent 218 Year R places 60 Year 2 places <i>Secondary</i> 6FE permanent 90 Year 7 places	<i>Primary</i> 17.9FE permanent 30 Year R places <i>Secondary</i> 19FE permanent	<i>Primary</i> 14.4FE permanent <i>Secondary</i> 21FE permanent	<i>Primary</i> 40.3FE permanent <i>Secondary</i> 39FE permanent 210 Year 7 places

Much of the additional provision will be achieved by expanding existing schools. While in many cases the need for new and expanded schools is dependent on future housing development, the increase in demand for education places continues to be significant.

2. The Kent Context

2.1 Kent - A County of Differences

Kent is a collection of diverse small towns, rural communities and coastal and riverside conurbations. Kent's diversity is clear to see when looking at the difference between the richest and poorest areas in the County. For example, the 2015 Indices Of Multiple Deprivation (IMD), shows that Thanet is Kent's most deprived District and is within England's 10% most deprived areas. In comparison Kent's least deprived District is Tunbridge Wells which is within the least 20% deprived areas. Pockets of significant deprivation are found across Kent.

2.2 A Place of Change

Over 110,000 new dwellings are currently planned in Kent by 2031, with most Districts anticipating high numbers of new homes. This demand for housing places significant pressure on all services and public infrastructure. It shapes the school organisation challenges that we face in the future.

2.3 A Place of Diversity and Choice

Approximately 222,000 children and young people aged 5-16 are educated in Kent schools. For 2015-16 there are 2005 private and voluntary early years' providers and accredited child-minders, one maintained nursery school, 28 infant schools, 28 junior schools, 399 Primary schools, 99 Secondary schools (of which 32 are selective), 23 Special schools and 7 Pupil Referral Units.

The County has a diversity of provision with 182 community schools, 185 academies (of which seven are free schools), 34 foundation schools including a number of trusts and 153 Voluntary Aided or Voluntary Controlled schools. The majority of the Voluntary Aided and Controlled schools belong to the Canterbury and Rochester Church of England Dioceses and the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Southwark, plus Methodist provision.) There are 67 non-selective Secondary schools (of which five are single sex) and 32 grammar schools (of which the majority are single-sex).

There are five general and one Specialist further and higher education colleges in Kent, based on 11 sites across the County.

2.4 A Place of Partnership

There is a wide variety of providers of schools each bringing their own ethos and ideas to the system. This provides parents with choice and helps all schools continue to improve as each learns from the successes and innovations of others. The growth in the number of academies and free schools is adding to this, and there are some academy chains sponsoring schools in the County.

Kent has a long history of working with private and voluntary education providers in the pre-school and school sectors. We also have strong links with training providers and employers in the County who provide invaluable training and apprenticeship opportunities for many young people.

We aim to support and work with all schools and training providers in Kent, to ensure all children and young people in Kent have the very best education opportunities and achieve well.

3. What We Are Seeking to Achieve

3.1 Vision and Priorities for Improvement

Our vision for Kent is that:

- Every child and young person should go to a good or outstanding early years setting and school, have access to the best teaching, and benefit from schools and other providers working in partnership with each other to share the best practice as they continue to improve.
- Kent should be a place where families thrive and all children learn and develop well from the earliest years so that they are ready to succeed at school, have excellent foundations for learning and are equipped well for achievement in life, no matter what their background.
- We have the same expectations for every child and young person to make good progress in their learning, to achieve well and to have the best opportunities for an independent economic and social life as they become young adults.

It is important to balance the need for school places and meeting parental preference with the efficient delivery of high quality education services. This requires a modest surplus of school places in any given locality. Too much surplus capacity is financially wasteful, and can impact negatively on budgets and school standards.

The Local Authority seeks to maintain between 5% and 7% surplus capacity in schools across each District in Kent. We will take action to reduce surplus capacity where this exceeds 10%, and will seek to exert a downward pressure on levels of surplus capacity where these are forecast to remain significantly above 5% throughout the forecast period.

It should be noted that overall figures of surplus capacity aggregated at District level can mask localised pressures or a deficit of places in individual year groups. For example, it is possible to have surplus capacity in schools but not enough Reception Year places. The level of surplus capacity across any given locality can therefore only be a guide to the actual availability of spaces, and it may be necessary to increase capacity in one area of a District while simultaneously reducing capacity elsewhere in the District.

It is also important to recognise that the Local Authority does not achieve these ambitions without working in partnership with schools and other partners. The increasingly diverse environment in which decisions about school sizes and locations are now taken means that the Local Authority commissions school places in an open and transparent fashion, and works closely with all education providers, to secure the best for Kent's children and young people.

The Local Authority holds similar ambitions for the Early Years and post-16 age groups and for those children and young people with SEND and therefore:

- We will continue to work with Early Years providers to respond positively to the ever changing needs of families to ensure high quality childcare provision is

available to give children the best start in life and support families' working commitments.

- We are committed to delivering the Government's drive to extend free entitlement to two year olds from disadvantaged backgrounds, and are working closely with providers to make this happen.
- We are working with schools, colleges, employers and training organisations to ensure appropriate pathways and provision are in place for young people aged 16-19 in Kent.
- Our commissioning intentions for SEND, set out in the SEND Strategy for Kent, include encouraging a mixed economy of providers, reducing the demand for school places outside Kent and creating more places in Kent Special schools and in SEN specialist resource base provision (SRBP) in mainstream schools.

4. Principles and Planning Guidelines

In the national policy context the Local Authority is the commissioner of education provision and providers come from the private, voluntary, charitable and maintained sectors. The role of the Local Authority is set within a legal framework of statutory duties; the duties for each phase or type of education in Kent are shown under the relevant section in this Plan. Within this framework, the Local Authority continues to be the major provider of education by maintaining most Kent schools and it also fulfils the function of “provider of last resort” to ensure new provision is made when no other acceptable new provider comes forward.

Education in Kent is divided into three phases, although there is some overlap between these. These three phases are:

- Early Years - primarily delivered by private, voluntary and independent pre-school providers, accredited child-minders, and schools with maintained nursery classes
- 4-16 - “compulsory school age” during which schools are the main providers
- Post 16 - colleges and schools both offer substantial provision, with colleges as the sole provider for young people aged 19-25

The Local Authority also has specific duties in relation to provision for pupils with Special Educational Needs, pupils excluded from school or pupils unable to attend school due to ill health.

4.1 Principles and Guidelines

It is important that the Local Authority is open and transparent in its role as the Strategic Commissioner of Education. To help guide us in this role we abide by clear principles, and consider school organisation proposals against our planning guidelines. We stress that planning guidelines are not absolutes, but a starting point for the consideration of proposals.

4.2 These are our Over-Arching Principles:

- We will always put the needs of the learners first.
- Every child should have access to a local good or outstanding school, which is appropriate to their needs.
- All education provision in Kent should be financially efficient and viable.
- We will aim to meet the needs and aspirations of parents and the local community.
- We will promote parental preference.
- We recognise perceptions may differ as to benefits and detrimental impacts of proposals. We aim to ensure our consultation processes capture the voice of all communities. To be supported, proposals must demonstrate overall benefit.
- The needs of Children in Care and those with SEN and disabilities will be given priority in any commissioning decision.
- We will also give priority to organisational changes that create environments better able to meet the needs of other vulnerable children, including those from minority ethnic communities and/or from low income families.
- We will make the most efficient use of resources.

- Any educational provision facing difficulties will be supported and challenged to recover in an efficient and timely manner, but where sufficient progress is not so achieved we will seek to commission alternative provision or another provider.
- If a provision is considered or found to be inadequate by Ofsted, we will seek to commission alternative provision where we and the local community believe this to be the quickest route to provide high quality provision.
- In areas of high housing growth we will actively seek developer contributions to fund or part fund new and additional school provision.
- In areas of high surplus capacity we will take action to reduce such surplus.¹

4.3 Planning Guidelines – Primary:

- The curriculum is generally delivered in key stage specific classes. Therefore, for curriculum viability Primary schools should be able to operate at least four classes.
- We will actively look at federation opportunities for small Primary schools.
- Where possible, planned Published Admission Numbers (PANs) will be multiples of 30 but where this is not possible, multiples of 15 are used.
- We believe all through Primary schools deliver better continuity of learning as the model for Primary phase education in Kent. When the opportunity arises we will either amalgamate separate infant and junior schools into a single Primary school or federate the schools. However, we will have regard to existing local arrangements and seek to avoid leaving existing schools without links on which they have previously depended.
- At present Primary school provision is co-educational, and we anticipate that future arrangements will conform to this pattern.
- Over time we have concluded that 2FE provision (420 places) is preferred in terms of the efficient deployment of resources but developments will also reflect the principles being established through the emerging Small Schools Strategy, building upon the recent Small Schools Review.

4.4 Planning Guidelines – Secondary:

- All schools must be able to offer a broad and balanced curriculum and progression pathways for 14-19 year olds either alone or via robust partnership arrangements.
- PANs for Secondary schools will not normally be less than 120 or greater than 360. PANs for Secondary schools will normally be multiples of 30.
- Over time we have concluded that the ideal size for the efficient deployment of resources is between 6FE and 8FE.
- All but two of our Secondary schools admit pupils at age 11. Any new Secondary provision would be expected to follow this model, except where it is proposed to be all-aged (Primary and Secondary).
- Proposals for additional Secondary places need to demonstrate a balance between selective and non-selective school places.
- We will encourage the formation of all-aged schools where this is in the interests of the local community.

¹ Actions might include re-classifying accommodation, removing temporary or unsuitable accommodation, leasing spaces to other users and promoting closures or amalgamations. We recognise that, increasingly, providers will be responsible for making such decisions about the use of their buildings, but we believe we all recognise the economic imperatives for such actions.

4.5 Planning Guidelines - Special Educational Needs:

- We aim, over time, to build capacity in mainstream schools, by broadening the skills and special arrangements that can be made within this sector to ensure compliance with the relevant duties under SEN and disability legislation.
- For children and young people for whom mainstream provision is not appropriate, we seek to make provision through Kent Special schools. For young people aged 16-19 provision may be at school or college. For young people who are aged 19-25 provision is likely to be college based.
- We recognise the need for children and young people to live within their local community where possible and we seek to provide them with day places unless residential provision is needed for care or health reasons. In such cases agreement to joint placement and support will be sought from the relevant KCC teams or the Health Service.
- We aim to reduce the need for children to be transported to schools far away from their local communities.

4.6 Planning Guidelines - Expansion of Popular Schools and New Provision

- We support diversity in the range of education provision available to children and young people. We recognise that new providers are entering the market, and that parents and communities are able to make free school applications.
- We also recognise that popular schools may wish to expand, or be under pressure from the local community to do so. Schools which are their own admissions authority may expand at their own volition if they have the resources to do so.
- As the Strategic Commissioner of Education Provision, we welcome proposals from existing schools and new providers that address the needs identified in this Plan, which include new provision to meet increased demand, and new provision to address concerns about quality.
- In order for us to provide any financial support for a proposal, it must meet an identified need and adhere to the planning principles and guidelines set out above.

5. Capital Funding

The Local Authority as Strategic Commissioner of Education Provision has a key role in securing funding to provide sufficient education provision in the County, particularly in schools.

The cost of providing additional school places is met from Government basic need grant, supported borrowing by KCC and developer contribution monies. Looking ahead to the MTFP for 2016-19 it is clear that KCC will no longer be in a position to undertake any further prudential borrowing to support new provision (as it has done in the past - notably with the Special Schools programme – as shown in Column 4 below) as to do so would place the Council in breach of one of its key fiscal indicators that net debt should not exceed 15% of its net revenue expenditure. Delivery of the additional schools places will rely more than ever on an appropriate level of funding from central government and securing the maximum possible contribution from developers where appropriate.

Figure 5.1 summarises KCC's spending and phased spending on school places for the period 2012 – 2019.

Figure 5.1: Summary of spending on school places 2012-19

To deliver places for school year	Basic Need funding	Targeted Basic Need	Council funds and borrowing	Developer contributions	Other	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2011-12	12,114,715		80,000			12,194,715
2012-13	5,518,713		1,026,531	6,813,479	-	13,358,723
2013-14	17,262,073	4,278,661	1,362,401	703,198		23,606,333
2014-15	22,321,641	11,196,446	2,360,261	2,455,946	79,440	38,413,734
2015-16	39,585,000	17,978,206	24,754,000	4,011,825	371,000	86,700,031
2016-17 forecast	52,508,000		55,789,000	11,446,000	-	119,743,000
2017-18 forecast	40,928,000		15,367,000	30,845,000	-	87,140,000
2018-19 forecast	Not known	0	0	10,000,000	0	10,000,000
Total	190,238,142	33,453,313	100,739,193	66,275,448	450,440	391,156,536

Government funding for 'Basic Need' is allocated on a formulaic basis assessed from information provided by local authorities about forecast numbers of pupils and school capacity. Such funding will only provide for predicted growth in numbers arising from changes in the birth rate and from inward net migration. KCC has received £167m in basic need and targeted basic need capital for the period 2014/15 to 2017/18. We are unlikely to see information on the 2018/19 allocation from the DfE until March 2016.

Our current estimate of the likely level of available funding (excluding Basic Need funding from the DfE) when compared to our initial estimate of the costs of the provision that is needed to meet the pupil forecasts means that we face a potential funding gap of in excess of £100m across the period 2016-19. It is through the Basic Need funding allocation from the DfE and difficult decisions as to the phasing and scope of individual projects that this gap will be closed. The evidence in this plan will provide the basis of the case for additional funding that we will present to the DfE. As already indicated, further borrowing by the Council would not be prudent and the level of funding for

maintenance and modernisation of the existing estate is already at a low level so we cannot look to divert existing schools capital funding to support the development of new provision.

For new pupil places required because of new housing development it is necessary to look to other funding, specifically developer contribution monies.

In the past developer contribution funding has been secured through the negotiation of Section 106 agreements. Whilst S106 remains for meeting specific requirements of individual developments, the arrangement is to be supplemented by the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). CIL is a local tariff on all development to provide new service capacity to support development.

Account will be taken of existing capacity prior to seeking developer contributions. Where surplus capacity above the Local Authority's 5% operating surplus is expected to exist after the needs of the indigenous population are served, this is available to support the need arising from new housing. In cases where services are not expected to be able to cope with the indigenous population's needs the costs of increasing service capacity are identified and costed, but these costs are not passed on to developers. Developers are asked only to contribute to needs arising from additional housing which cannot be accommodated within a surplus service capacity in the area (including the 5% operating surplus). Further information on Kent's approach to developer contributions can be found at the following: <https://shareweb.kent.gov.uk/Documents/community-and-living/Regeneration/KCCDevelopmentContributionGuideSep2008155k.pdf>

Proposals to establish new provision which are driven by parents, rather than a basic need for new places, may be funded by the Government's free school programme, or through the Local Authority if funding is available.

5.1 Availability of Capital and Planning Permission

Statutory proposals to alter school provision cannot be published until the necessary capital funding has been identified and secured. Planning permission is required where there are proposals to increase the footprint of a building and in certain other circumstances. Where planning permission is required, school organisation proposals may be approved subject to planning consent being obtained.

5.2 Existing Premises and Sites

In drawing up options and proposals around reshaping provision or providing additional places, the Local Authority conducts an option appraisal on existing premises and sites to inform feasibility. The issues to be considered include:

- The condition and suitability of existing premises;
- The ability to expand or alter the premises (including arrangements whilst works are in process);
- The works required to expand or alter the premises;
- The estimated capital costs;
- The size and topography of the site; and
- Road access to the site, including transport and safety issues.

5.3 Value for Money

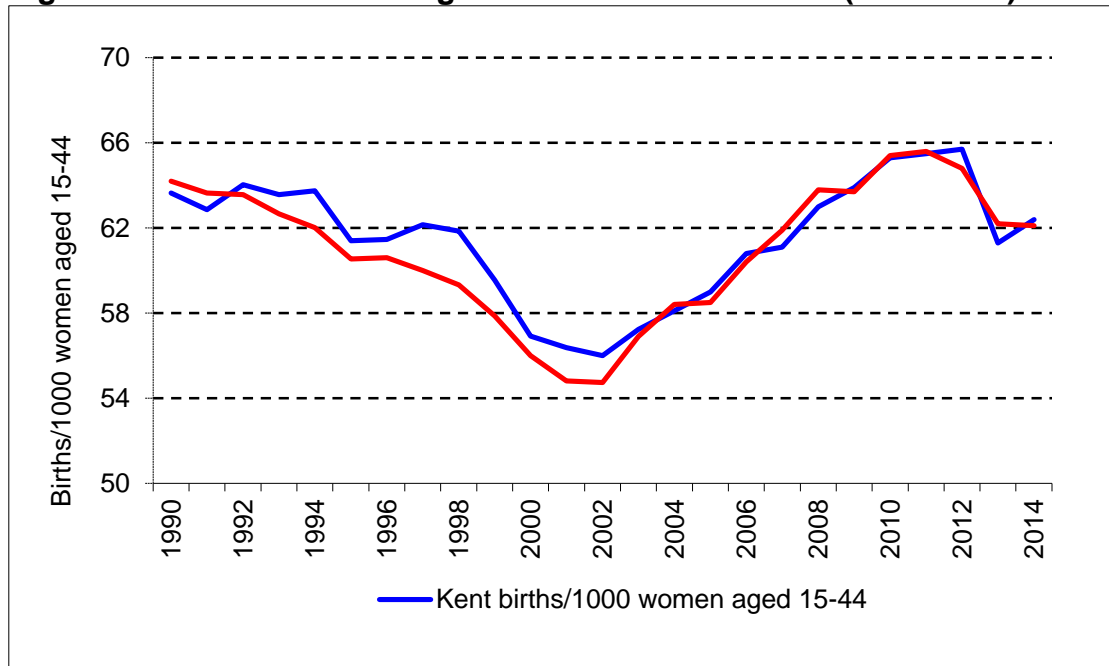
The Government has reviewed the cost of providing new school buildings and the financial process for allocating funding to local authorities to support the provision of extra school places. 'Baseline' designs guide local authorities towards standardisation in terms of space and design of new schools. In meeting these guidelines, Kent is committed to securing value for money when providing additional school accommodation which is of a high quality. New school design and build decisions are based on the long term sustainability of school rolls. The build method for new accommodation will be that which is the most appropriate to meet either a bulge in school population or a permanent enlargement, and which represents good value for money.

6. Overview of Kent's Demographic Trends

6.1 Kent Birth Rates and Long Term Forecasts

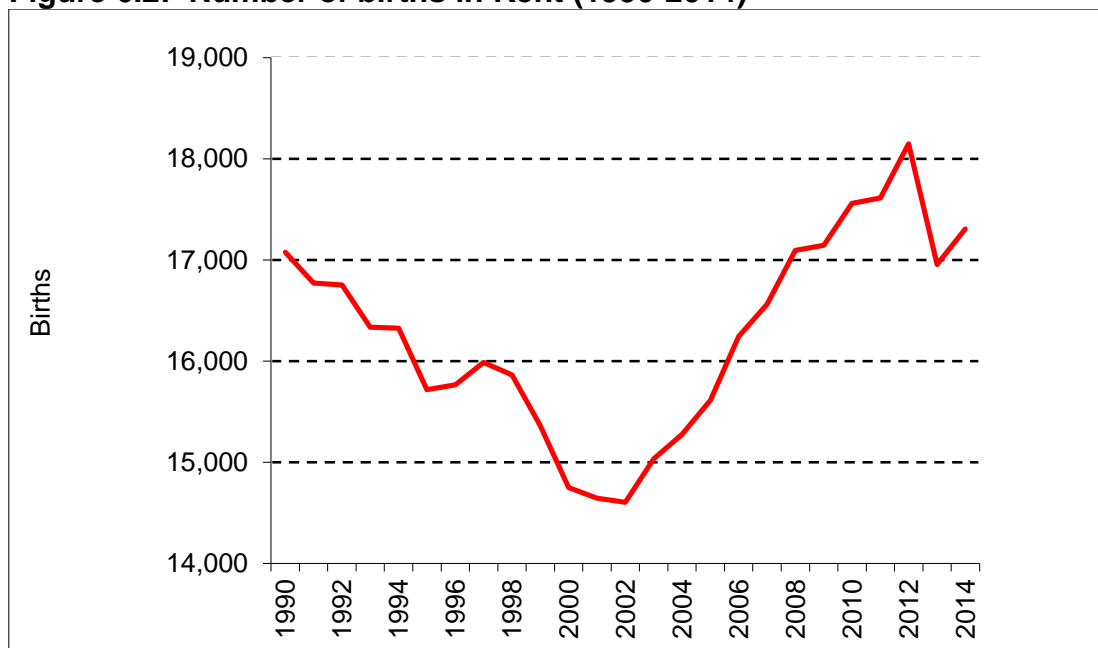
Figure 6.1 shows the changing birth rate in England and Wales and in Kent over the past 20 years. Figure 6.2 shows the number of births in Kent. These indicate that the upward trend we have seen in the number of Reception pupils entering our schools is likely to drop from 2017-18 assuming the number of births continues to fall. The pattern of declining numbers of Year 7 pupils entering our Secondary schools started to reverse from the last school year. District information is contained in Section 10.

Figure 6.1: Birth rates in England and Wales and Kent (1990-2014)



Source: Births data is by calendar year from the Office for National Statistics release FM01

Figure 6.2: Number of births in Kent (1990-2014)



Source: Births data is by calendar year from the Office for National Statistics release FM01

The number of births in Kent rose steadily each year from 14,600 in 2002 to 18,150 in 2012 – an increase of 25%. The number of births dropped to 16,950 in 2013, but in 2014 the numbers rose again to 17,260.

Figures 6.3 and 6.4 below provide long term pupil forecasts. These allow for planned housing developments and expected inward migration to the County. In Kent there is a resident-based take-up of mainstream education of about 90% at the Primary phase and 83% at the Secondary phase. This ranges from 76% Primary take-up and 70% Secondary take-up of mainstream places in Tunbridge Wells to over 95% take-up in some East Kent areas. Those not attending mainstream schools in Kent may be educated at home, or pupils attending independent schools, Special schools or alternative education provision.

Figure 6.3:
Long Term School-Based Forecast of Mainstream Primary Pupils by District

District	Current roll	Standard five-year forecast	Long term strategic forecast (Kent IIFM)		
	2014-15	2019-20	2021-22	2026-27	2031-32
Ashford	10,327	11,190	12,383	11,908	11,238
Canterbury	9,928	10,501	11,326	11,102	10,843
Dartford	9,044	10,621	10,788	11,222	11,649
Dover	8,229	8,744	9,601	9,275	8,672
Gravesham	9,039	10,405	9,718	9,552	9,037
Maidstone	11,816	13,527	13,097	12,681	12,415
Sevenoaks	9,079	9,586	10,007	9,471	8,931
Shepway	8,064	8,373	9,349	8,716	7,913
Swale	12,119	13,279	13,814	13,739	13,243
Thanet	10,764	11,619	12,168	11,562	10,918
Tonbridge and Malling	10,384	11,282	11,149	10,696	10,173
Tunbridge Wells	8,220	8,456	8,750	7,856	7,128
Kent	117,013	127,583	132,148	127,781	122,159

Source: Schools Census January 2015, Management Information Unit, KCC.
School-based pupil forecasts (2015-based), Provision Planning and Operations, KCC.
Kent Integrated Infrastructure and Finance Model (IIFM), KCC, August 2014.

Figure 6.4
Long Term School-Based Forecast of Mainstream Secondary Pupils (Years 7-11)
by District

District	Current roll	Standard five-year forecast	Standard ten-year forecast	Long term strategic forecast (Kent IIFM)	
	2014-15	2019-20	2024-25	2026-27	2031-32
Ashford	6,445	7,035	7,839	7,600	7,218
Canterbury	7,464	8,211	8,848	9,236	8,997
Dartford	6,900	7,994	9,250	8,490	8,628
Dover	5,862	6,261	6,832	7,242	6,887
Gravesham	5,911	6,935	8,099	7,059	6,929
Maidstone	9,125	10,173	11,906	10,690	10,295
Sevenoaks	2,069	2,442	2,638	2,244	2,173
Shepway	4,956	5,230	5,604	5,718	5,307
Swale	7,558	8,413	9,531	9,321	9,053
Thanet	7,005	7,598	8,414	8,233	7,877
Tonbridge and Malling	7,655	8,228	9,092	8,469	8,161
Tunbridge Wells	6,951	7,989	8,528	7,757	7,153
Kent	77,931	86,509	96,581	92,058	88,676

Source: Schools Census January 2015, Management Information Unit, KCC.
School-based pupil forecasts (2015-based), Provision Planning and Operations, KCC.
Kent Integrated Infrastructure and Finance Model (IIFM), KCC, August 2014.

Figure 6.3 indicates that the number of Primary age pupils in Kent schools is expected to rise significantly from 117,013 in 2014-15 to around 132,148 in 2021-22. Beyond this point the pupil population generally begins to decline except in Dartford where the previous rise continues. Across Kent by 2031-32 pupil numbers are forecast to decline back to 2016-17 levels. However, the continued population rise through to 2021-22 suggests a need for some new permanent accommodation mixed with temporary expansion where appropriate.

Figure 6.4 indicates that the number of Secondary age pupils (Years 7-11) in Kent schools is expected to rise significantly from 77,931 in 2014-15 to over 96,000 in 2024-25 (the end of the standard forecasting period). Beyond this point the longer term strategic forecasts indicate a slight fall in pupil numbers, although this estimate is heavily influenced by projections of new housing development beyond 2026, the principal driver for Kent's long term strategic forecasts.

6.2 Housing Developments and Projections

Figure 6.5 below provides an overview of planned housing by District area. The planned housing numbers are used as part of the forecasting process but the current volatility in the UK and global economies, and Kent housing market means that the eventual level of house completions may differ significantly from the planned level, and this will alter the need for school places. Many Districts are still consulting on and finalising their allocated housing numbers from 2022 onwards, hence why these columns are greyed out.

Figure 6.5: Historic and Forecast House Building by District (1992-2031)

District	1992-06	1997-01	2002-06	2007-11	2012-16	2017-21	2022-26	2027-31
Ashford	2,339	3,614	3,620	2,912	4,333	4,302	1,950	1,250
Canterbury	1,929	2,805	2,755	3,674	3,947	4,951	3,634	3,516
Dartford	1,619	1,527	3,170	2,085	4,655	4,969	2,938	3,885
Dover	1,495	1,208	1,644	1,421	2,259	1,904	2,053	3,724
Gravesham	831	357	1,596	1,511	1,559	2,506	2,211	274
Maidstone	2,067	2,583	3,261	3,786	2,808	6,351	3,784	2,762
Sevenoaks	1,207	1,143	1,431	1,394	1,843	1,025	392	n/a
Shepway	1,923	2,080	2,162	1,577	2,246	2,482	1,485	448
Swale	1,951	2,970	3,351	2,875	3,144	2,401	1,737	1,161
Thanet	1,894	1,649	2,520	3,452	4,293	578	374	n/a
Tonbridge & Malling	1,967	1,807	3,679	2,957	4,033	2,522	200	n/a
Tunbridge Wells	1,358	1,410	2,091	1,723	2,496	761	n/a	n/a
Kent	20,580	23,153	31,280	29,367	37,616	34,752	20,758	17,020

Source: Completions data through to 2013-14 is from the Housing Information Audit (HIA) with some Districts exceptionally reporting to 2014-15. Forecast data is from Kent District Councils (best estimates as at July 2014). This data is based on financial years; for example 2007-11 represents financial years 2007-08 to 2011-12. Housing data from 2022 onwards should be used only as a guide as data are incomplete and/or uncertain.

7. Commissioning Special Educational Needs Provision

7.1 Duties to Provide for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

The Children and Families Act 2014 and accompanying SEN Code of Practice set out the statutory special educational needs and disability (SEND) system for children and young people aged 0 to 25 in England. The 'Code' is statutory guidance. It details the SEND provision which schools and local authorities are required by law to make. Related legislation includes the Equality Act 2010 and the Special Educational Needs Disability Regulations 2014.

Section 35 of the Children's and Families Act 2014 places duties on Local Authorities to ensure:

- Reasonable adjustments for disabled children and young people; and
- Auxiliary aids and services to disabled children and young people.

The main changes introduced by the SEN Code of Practice 2014 are:

- It now covers the 0-25 age range;
- There is a clearer focus on the views of parents, children and young people and on their role in decision-making;
- Guidance is now provided on the joint planning and commissioning of services to ensure close co-operation between education, health services and social care;
- For children and young people with more complex needs a co-ordinated assessment process and the new 0-25 Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCP) replace statements and Learning Difficulty Assessments (LDAs);
- There is new guidance on the support pupils and students should receive in education and training settings; and
- There is a greater focus on support that enables those with SEND to succeed in their education and make a successful transition to employment and adulthood.

7.2 Overview

The SEN Service fulfils the County Council's statutory duties for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities. The Service is responsible for statutory assessments, Education Health and Care Plans (EHCP) as well as the conversion of 7,000 existing SEN Statements and Learning Disability Assessments to EHCPs.

The Service commissions 4,400 specialist places in Kent maintained schools and Academies, including over 3,400 in Kent maintained Special schools and 1,000 places in Specialist Resource Base Provisions in mainstream schools. In addition the Service commissions provision for 500 High Needs students in Further Education and Independent Colleges and for over 700 in other Local Authority maintained or the independent and non-maintained schools. It also commissions outreach from Kent Maintained Special schools and Academies and the Specialist Teaching and Learning Service (STLS) to support 3,000 pupils in mainstream schools.

The SEN Service holds the lead role for delivering Kent's SEND Strategy, launched in January 2014. The overarching aims are to:

- improve the educational, health and emotional wellbeing outcomes for children and young people with SEND;
- ensure Kent delivers the statutory change required by the Children and Families Act 2014; and
- address the gaps in SEN provision; improve quality; and encourage a mixed economy of provision.

7.3 The Current SEN Population in Kent

There are approximately 7000 pupils in Kent with a Statement or EHCP of which over 3000 attend Kent mainstream schools. This accounts for 2.9% of the total school population for which the Local Authority is responsible for commissioning school PROVISION (Source: DfE SEN Statistical Release January 2015).

KCC's SEND Strategy sets out an intention to provide at least 275 additional places for pupils with needs in the following three areas: Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD), Speech, Language and Communication Needs (SLCN), or Behavioural, Social and Emotional Needs (BESN). Since the publication of the Strategy we have commissioned 194 additional places in Specialist Resource Based Provision in mainstream schools and re-commissioned 20. These, together with the 42 places in development, mean 256 places have been/are being created (ASD +155, SLCN +62, BESN +39). The number of Special school places is increasing to in excess of 3,800 as a result of capital investment, exceeding the target of 3,700 by 2016.

Figure 7.1 (below) sets out the number of Statements issued since 2014. The largest number of new Statements issued as at January 2015 was in Swale. Above average numbers of new Statements were issued in the Districts of Dover and Sevenoaks. The largest proportion of Other Local Authority (OLA) pupils with a Statement are in the Districts of Ashford and Swale.

Figure 7.1: Number of Statemented Pupils 2014-2015

District	2014 Number of Statemented Pupils	2015 Number of Statemented Pupils	Number +/- change since 2014	Percentage change since 2014 (%)	District % of all 2015 Statements
Ashford	555	590	35	6.30%	8
Canterbury	691	716	25	3.60%	10
Dartford	416	416	0	0.00%	5
Dover	459	512	53	11.50%	7
Gravesham	493	523	30	6.10%	7
Maidstone	695	733	38	5.50%	10
Sevenoaks	390	438	48	12.30%	6
Shepway	505	531	26	5.10%	7
Swale	852	914	62	7.30%	12

Thanet	813	797	-16	-2.00%	11
Tonbridge & Malling	537	575	38	7.10%	8
Tunbridge Wells	426	434	8	1.90%	6
OLA/Other	181	195	14	7.10%	3
Kent Total	7013	7374	377	5.40%	100%

(Source: KCC Impulse FIO Report January 2015. Data includes pupils with EHCP equivalent)

The overall number of Statements increased by 5.4% between 2014 and 2015. The most significant increases were in pre-school aged children (10%) and Primary (7%). There was a small reduction in Secondary.

Figures 7.2, 7.3 and 7.4 below provide a breakdown and trends of pupils with Statements by Primary need type over the past five years.

Figure 7.2: Statemented Pupils Primary Need Type 2010-2015

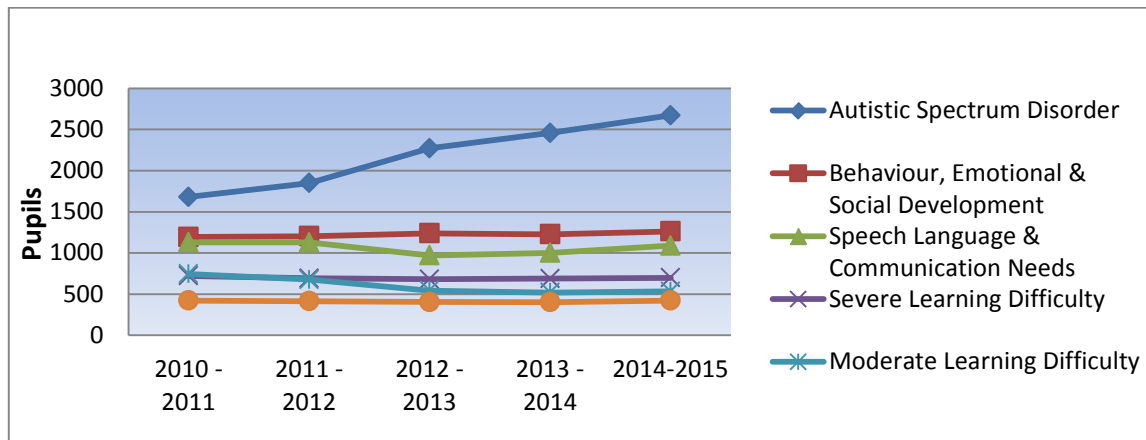
SEN Primary Need Type	2010 - 2011	2011 - 2012	2012 - 2013	2013 - 2014	2014- 2015	5 yr +/-	5 yr % +/-
Autistic Spectrum Disorder	1680	1849	2271	2457	2671	991	59%
Behaviour, Emotional & Social Development	1194	1203	1239	1227	1262	68	6%
Speech Language & Communication Needs	1130	1128	971	1002	1089	-41	-4%
Severe Learning Difficulty	722	693	681	688	698	-24	-3.3%
Moderate Learning Difficulty	745	676	542	519	533	-212	-28%
Physical Disability	423	415	404	402	423	0	0%
Profound Multiple Learning Difficulties	182	204	251	257	254	72	40%
Hearing Impaired	178	175	168	158	161	-17	-10%
Speech Learning Difficulty/Dyslexia	158	128	115	122	130	-28	-18%
Medical	86	95	103	103	68	-18	-21%
Visually Impaired	102	93	86	73	85	-17	-17%
Other	5	4	10	5	0	-5	-100%
Kent Total	6605	6663	6841	7013	7374	769	12%
Year on Year % Increase	-	0.9%	2.7%	2.5%	5.1%	-	-
Increase since 2010-11	-	0.9%	3.6%	6.2%	11.6%	-	-

Source: Impulse FIO Report January 2015:

Figure 7.2 highlights the dual pressure from ASD and PMLD facing District PSCN schools, particularly for those currently facing accommodation pressures.

Figure 7.3 shows high incidence needs. This further illustrates the increase in the number of pupils whose Primary need is identified as ASD.

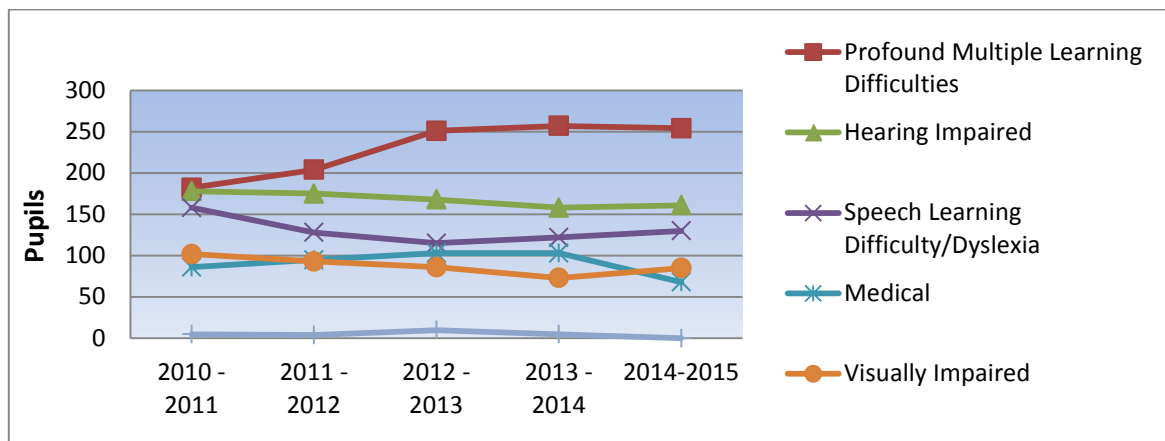
Figure 7.3: Statemented Pupils Primary Need Type Trends 2010-2015



37% of pupils with ASD are supported in Kent mainstream schools (compared to 24% with BESN). 54% attend a Kent maintained Special School. During 2014/15 an additional 200 pupils with ASD were placed in Kent Special schools.

Figure 7.4 shows pupils with low incidence needs. The increase in incidence of pupils with PMLD is most notable.

Figure 7.4: Statemented Pupils Primary Need Type Trends 2010-2015



The analysis of placements in independent and non-maintained Special schools is given at section 7.11. Our intention is to increase the number of pupils who can be supported in a local school and reduce the need for placements in this sector. Whilst we have already reduced the proportion from over 13% to 12%, the actual numbers have increased; an additional 62 pupils with ASD were placed in this sector indicating that a further expansion of places for ASD is needed. (Source: SEN 2 DfE Return January 2015).

Our focus is on ensuring Primary age children have access to early intervention in mainstream schools wherever possible. The rising number of Reception aged children required extra places to be created at two Special schools, Meadowfield and Wyvern,

from September 2015. Accommodation pressures have required interim and long term solutions for both schools. We continue to closely monitor the position as we have already identified that this additional capacity is unlikely to be sufficient in the medium term. We have also included specialist resource bases in all our new Primary schools, to help meet the need for extra spaces, but importantly to increase the choices available to parents.

The current bulge of Primary aged pupils is now moving through to Secondary. For many pupils appropriate early intervention and suitable placement at Primary will mean that at Secondary age their needs can be met in their local Secondary school. However, we are already aware of some pressure at Secondary age within our Special schools and the forecasts indicate that there will be significant pressure on Secondary school places from 2018/19 onwards. SEN pupils represent 2.9%* of the wider population in Kent and the percentage in mainstream schools is 1.2%. We will need to monitor the growth in the Secondary age school population and respond accordingly with new SEN provision where required. This will need to provide local onward progression routes from the new primary provisions we have created.

*(Source: DfE SEN Statistical Release January 2015)

7.4 Forecast demand for Pupils with Statements or Education, Health and Care Plans

Over the last five years, the proportion of the total pupil population with a Statement and its successor Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) has remained in the range 2.8% to 2.9%. Analysis of current placements shows 60% of pupils with a Statement or EHCP require specialist provision: 13% in SRBPs and 47% in Special schools, although there is a marked difference between the proportion at Primary (45%) and Secondary (60%) in Special schools. Whilst Kent has a range of approaches to provide earlier, more effective support in mainstream schools, it is expected that the proportion of all pupils who will require specialist places will continue to reflect the wider population. As set out in the Overview of Kent's Demographic Trends (Section 6) in this Plan, significant population growth is forecast with an additional 18,920 Secondary age students and 15,135 Primary age pupils forecast to require a place within 10 years. A growth in the demand for specialist provision is therefore forecast.

Figures 7.5 and 7.6 below provide indicative forecasts of the anticipated growth in the number of pupils with a statement or EHCP. These forecasts apply the District forecast increase in pupil population to the current numbers of pupils recorded in the January 2015 Pupil Census as having a Statement or EHCP. These figures only include pupils in Year R to Year 11 who attend Kent maintained schools and academies. This data offers a general guide to the anticipated growth in numbers of pupils with SEND for each District. However this must be treated with caution as there are a number of Special schools which serve a broader area than the District in which they are located and offer residential provision e.g. Valence Special School in Sevenoaks District provides 100 places for physical disabilities and acts as a County Resource. Similarly, Stone Bay and Laleham Gap (in Thanet District) both offer boarding provision for ASD, and proposals for Broomhill Bank School will see the school offering equivalent provision in Tunbridge Wells and Sevenoaks Districts.

Figure 7.5: Forecast number of Primary Age Pupils (Years R-6) with a Statement or EHCP by District

Years R to 6		Forecast Growth in number of pupils with statement /EHCP 2015-2019 (Nos)	Forecast Growth in number of pupils with statement /EHCP 2015-2019 (%s)
District	January 2015		
Ashford	195	18	9%
Canterbury	284	17	6%
Dartford	156	23	15%
Dover	183	12	7%
Gravesham	153	19	12%
Maidstone	333	43	13%
Sevenoaks	229	14	6%
Shepway	219	9	4%
Swale	296	25	8%
Thanet	287	22	8%
Tonbridge and Malling	203	15	7%
Tunbridge Wells	122	4	3%
Kent Year R to 6 Total Statements	2660	225	8%

Note: Forecast growth in number of pupils with statement/EHCP applies the EDGE forecast population increase to January 2015 Pupil Census data. These figures only include pupils in Year R to 11 who attend Kent maintained schools and Academies

Figure 7.6: Forecast number of Secondary Age Students with a Statement or EHCP by District

Years 7 to 11		Forecast Growth in number of students with statement /EHCP 2015-2022 (Nos)	Forecast Growth in number of students with statement /EHCP 2015-2022 (%s)
District	January 2015		
Ashford	225	36	16%
Canterbury	281	42	15%
Dartford	160	35	22%
Dover	212	27	13%
Gravesham	161	42	26%
Maidstone	303	59	19%
Sevenoaks	185	45	24%
Shepway	205	23	11%
Swale	263	49	19%
Thanet	382	56	15%
Tonbridge and Malling	257	35	14%
Tunbridge Wells	224	47	21%
Kent Year 7 to 11 Total Statements	2858	506	18%

Note: Forecast growth in number of pupils with statement/EHCP applies the EDGE forecast population increase to January 2015 Pupil Census data. These figures only include pupils in Year R to 11 who attend Kent maintained schools and Academies

7.5 Kent Special Schools

Kent has 23 Local Authority maintained Special Schools, and one Special Academy. The current designated number of Special school places as at September 2015 is 3433 (Figure 7.7). This is an increase of 107 additional places since October 2014. We have also identified a number of Special schools for expansion which are highlighted below. Once these projects have taken place the total number of places will increase by 426 to a total of 3,859, which represents a 12% increase from the current total designated capacity.

Figure 7.7: Designated Numbers at Kent Maintained Special Schools and Academies as at 1 September 2015

School	Need Type Provision	District	Current	Proposed Designated Number	Basic Need
Goldwyn School	BESN	Ashford	115	115	0
Wyvern School, The	PSCN	Ashford	157	270	113
Orchard School, The	B&L	Canterbury	96	96	0
St Nicholas' School	PSCN	Canterbury	200	200	0
Rowhill School	B&L	Dartford	106	106	0
Harbour School	B&L	Dover	96	96	0
Portal House School	BESN	Dover	80	80	0
Ifield School, The	PSCN	Gravesham	190	190	0
Bower Grove School	B&L	Maidstone	183	183	0
Five Acre Wood School	PSCN	Maidstone	275	330	55
Milestone School	PSCN	Sevenoaks	203	203	0
Valence School	PD	Sevenoaks	80	80	0
Foxwood School	PSCN	Shepway	122	336	54
Highview School	PSCN	Shepway	160		
Meadowfield School	PSCN	Swale	209	270	61
Foreland School, The	PSCN	Thanet	200	200	0
Laleham Gap School	ASD	Thanet	170	170	0
St Anthony's School	B&L	Thanet	112	112	0
Stone Bay School	ASD	Thanet	66	66	0
Grange Park School	ASD	Tonbridge & Malling	79	100	21
Ridge View School	PSCN	Tonbridge & Malling	180	228	48
Broomhill Bank School	ASD	Tunbridge Wells/ Sevenoaks	136	210	74
Oakley School	PSCN	Tunbridge Wells	218	218	0
Total			3433	3859	426

The designated number can differ from the actual commissioned number of places in any given year. The actual commissioned number reflects the need for places in that particular year and can be lower or higher than an individual school's designated number.

In exceptional circumstances schools can admit over their designated number by up to 10%. This means the potential capacity is greater (3859 + 10% = 4244).

A capital programme is in place to improve the quality of Special School accommodation through rebuilding, or refurbishing and remodelling the remaining Special schools in the programme. As of October 2015, five Special School projects remain to be completed and are at the following stages:

Three projects are on site:

- Foreland – (East Kent) Relocation and new build project
- Foxwood and Highview – (South Kent) Relocation and new build
- Five Acre Wood (West Kent) - Extension on existing site

Two projects are at the planning stage:

- Ridge View (West Kent) – Relocation and new build
- Portal House School (South Kent) – New build on existing site

7.6 Satellite Provision

We propose to establish Satellite provision linked to all Kent maintained Profound, Severe and Complex Needs (PSCN) Special Schools. Since October 2014 we have created three new PSCN satellites, linked to St. Nicholas, Five Acre Wood and Oakley School. These satellites are based on mainstream school sites. Pupils who attend are on the roll of the Special Schools, but integrate into the mainstream provision with support where this is appropriate for their needs.

We propose to create a satellite provision of Ridge View School at Wouldham All Saints CEP School for 48 students with moderate to severe learning difficulties from September 2017.

7.7 Specialist Resource Based Provisions in Mainstream Schools

Approximately 13% of children with Statements of Special Educational Needs or EHC Plans require higher levels of support than can be provided in their local mainstream schools, although their needs are not so complex that Specialist school placements are appropriate. For children like this we maintain a range of Specialist Resource Based Provisions (SRBP) which are based in mainstream schools with places reserved for pupils with statements of SEN. Figure 7.8 below lists schools in Kent below which currently host SRBPs.

Figure 7.8: Kent Mainstream Schools and Academies Hosting Specialist Resource Based Provisions

School	School Type	Unit Need Type	District	Primary	Secondary	Academic Year 2015-2016 Total
Ashford Oaks CPS	Pri	ASD	Ashford	6	0	6
North School, The	Sec	ASD	Ashford	0	17	17
John Wallis CofE Academy	3-16	SLCN	Ashford	12	0	12
Finberry (New)	Pri	BESN	Ashford	15	0	15
Joy Lane PS	Pri	ASD	Canterbury	28	0	28
Reculver CEPS	Pri	VI	Canterbury	5	0	5
Reculver CEPS	Pri	CLN	Canterbury	10	0	10
Wincheap Foundation PS	Pri	SLCN	Canterbury	25	0	25
Archbishops School, The	Sec	VI	Canterbury	0	21	21
Canterbury Academy, The	Sec	SLCN	Canterbury	0	21	21

School	School Type	Unit Need Type	District	Primary	Secondary	Academic Year 2015-2016 Total
Simon Langton Grammar School for Boys	Sec	ASD	Canterbury	12	3	15
St Anselms Catholic School	Sec	PD	Canterbury	0	16	16
Fleetdown PS	Pri	HI	Dartford	14	0	14
Langafel CEPS	Pri	ASD	Dartford	18	0	18
Dartford Primary Academy	Pri	SLCN	Dartford	28	0	28
Dartford Primary Academy	Pri	ASD	Dartford	6	0	6
Leigh Technology Academy	Sec	HI	Dartford	0	7	7
Leigh Technology Academy	Sec	SCLN	Dartford	0	24	24
Longfield Academy	Sec	ASD	Dartford	0	40	40
Oakfield CPS	Pri	ASD	Dartford	12	0	12
Wilmington Academy	Sec	ASD	Dartford	0	15	15
Nonington CEPS	Pri	BESN	Dover	6	0	6
River PS	Pri	SCLN	Dover	12	0	12
Whitfield and Aspen School	Pri	SLD	Dover	55	0	55
Castle Community College	Sec	SLCN	Dover	0	20	20
Dover Christ Church Academy	Sec	SLD	Dover	0	40	40
Tymberwood Academy	Pri	PD	Gravesham	5	0	5
Meopham School	Sec	ASD	Gravesham	0	16	16
Thamesview School	Sec	PD	Gravesham	0	10	10
Molehill Copse Primary Academy	Pri	HI	Maidstone	12	0	12
New Line Learning Academy	Sec	PD / VI	Maidstone	0	4	4
Castle Hill CPS	Pri	HI	Shepway	8	0	8
Hythe Bay CEPS	Pri	SLCN	Shepway	19	0	19
Morehall PS	Pri	VI	Shepway	5	0	5
Martello Grove Academy - (new)	Pri	ASD	Shepway	12	0	12
Pent Valley Technology College	Sec	PD / VI	Shepway	0	4	4
Minterne Community Junior School	Pri	SLCN	Swale	28	0	28
Oaks Community Infant School, The	Pri	SLCN	Swale	12	0	12
Abbey School	Sec	ASD	Swale	0	33	33
Sittingbourne Community College	Sec	SLCN	Swale	0	29	29
Thistle Hill Primary Academy (new)	Pri	BESN	Swale	15	0	15
Westlands Academy, The	Sec	PD/SLCN	Swale	0	40	40
West Minister PS	Pri	SLCN	Swale	15	0	15
Garlinge PS	Pri	PD	Thanet	7	0	7
Charles Dickens School, The	Sec	VI	Thanet	0	6	6
Ellington and Hereson School, The	Sec	SpLD	Thanet	0	5	5
Hartsdown Technology College	Sec	HI	Thanet	0	5	5
Cage Green PS	Pri	ASD	Ton & Malling	28	0	28
Slade PS	Pri	HI	Ton & Malling	6	0	6
West Malling CEPS	Pri	SLCN	Ton & Malling	17	0	17
Valley Invicta Primary School at Leybourne Chase (new)	Pri	BESN	Ton & Malling	8	0	8
Valley Invicta Primary School at Holborough Lakes (new)	Pri	BESN	Ton & Malling	8	0	8

School	School Type	Unit Need Type	District	Primary	Secondary	Academic Year 2015-2016 Total
Valley Invicta Primary School at Kings Hill (new)	Pri	ASD	Ton & Malling	12	0	12
Hugh Christie Technology College	Sec	ASD	Ton & Malling	0	20	20
Holmesdale Technology College	Sec	ASD	Ton & Malling	0	12	12
Malling School, The	Sec	SLCN	Ton & Malling	0	90	90
Malling School, The	Sec	ASD	Ton & Malling	0	12	12
Bishops Down PS	Pri	PD	Tunbridge Wells	6	0	6
St Gregory's Catholic Comprehensive School	SEC	HI	Tunbridge Wells	0	11	11
			Totals	487	521	1008

Note: Figure 7.8 above contains the approved designated number of places, however, the commissioned number may vary.

7.8 Further Provision for ASD and BESN in Mainstream Schools

Provision that has already been delivered is outlined in section 7.3 and included in Figure 7.8 (above). Figure 7.9 (below) details the further places which have been commissioned for delivery in the next couple of years.

Figure 7.9: Specialist Resource Base Provision

School	School Type	SRBP Type	District	Total no
Langley Park Primary Academy (New)	PRI	ASD	Maidstone	15
Castle Hill Academy (new)	SEC	SLCN	Dartford	12
Canterbury Primary Academy	PRI	ASD	Canterbury	15
			Total	42

7.9 Further Provision in New Schools

Any new school schemes responding to housing pressures will include proposals for specialist provision either as a Satellite linked to a Special school or as host SRBP provision in a mainstream school. As a combination of SRBP and Satellite places this would result in up to an additional 430 specialist places within mainstream schools. New schools are proposed primarily to serve pupils arising from new housing developments, which will include increased demand for specialist provision.

Figure 7.10: Proposed Specialist Provision in New Schools – SRBPs and Satellites

District	by 2017-18	by 2018-19	2019–20 to 2021-22)
Ashford	Chilmington Green		Willesborough Sec: Chilmington Green
Canterbury		Herne Bay	Sturry Herne Bay
Dartford		Ebbsfleet Green St James Pit Sec: Alkerden	Dartford North Station Quarter North Alkerden Western Cross
Dover			
Gravesham	Northfleet		
Maidstone			Maidstone West
Sevenoaks			
Shepway		Shorncliffe Garrison	
Swale			Sittingbourne North Rushenden Faversham Sec: Sittingbourne
Thanet			Ramsgate Broadstairs Garlinge Birchington Sec: Thanet
Tonbridge & Malling			
Tunbridge Wells		Paddock Wood	
Total Primary	2 = 30 places	5 = 75 places	15 = 225 places
Total Secondary	0	1 = 25 places	3 = 75 places
Overall Total	2 = 30 places	6 = 100 places	18 = 300 places

We recognise that some mainstream schools have developed expertise in supporting children with autism. This is particularly evident in the Secondary sector and we will continue to support them in building this capacity.

The Dover District schools section (10.2) contains a proposal to expand Whitfield Primary School. This school hosts the Aspen 1 Unit, a SRBP for pupils with PSC needs. Expansion of the school would include an expansion of the Aspen 1 Unit, ultimately doubling its capacity.

7.10 Out of County (Independent and Non Maintained Placements)

Figure 7.11 below shows that in January 2015 there were 780 pupils whose needs could not be met in Kent maintained schools, with the largest numbers of these in schools for ASD or BESN.

Figure 7.11: All Stated SEN Attending Out of County Schools or Kent Independent Schools

SEN Need Type	No of Pupils Jan 2015	% of Pupils Jan 2015	No of Pupils Jan 2014	No of Pupils Jan 2013	No of Pupils Jan 2012	No of Pupils Jan 2011	% of Pupils Jan 2011
Autistic Spectrum Disorder	285	39.7	247	205	139	132	19.6
Behavioural, Emotional & Social Difficulties	274	38.2	266	243	246	262	38.9
Hearing Impairment	34	4.7	37	37	38	35	5.2
Medical	5	0.7	8	9	8	6	0.9
Moderate Learning Difficulties	29	4.0	29	36	44	46	6.8
Physical Disability	22	3.1	17	17	14	19	2.8
Profound & Multiple Learning Difficulties	15	2.1	10	6	4	5	0.7
Speech, Language & Communication Needs	69	9.6	64	68	57	52	7.7
Severe Learning Difficulties	18	2.5	14	18	20	20	3.0
Specific Learning Difficulties	22	3.1	19	22	27	29	4.3
Visual Impairment	7	1.0	7	12	12	9	1.3
Total	780		718	673	609	615	

7.11 Tribunals

In 2013-14 there were 279 SEN Tribunal appeals against Kent which was an increase of 32% from the previous year. 125 of the appeals related to families living in East Kent and represented an increase of 51% over the previous year. Approximately 57% of appeals related to the Local Authority's refusal to carry out a statutory assessment and 28% related to school placement. Appeals for placement reflect parental satisfaction and confidence in particular settings.

The largest single category (30%) of appeals citing school placement related to those pupils whose statement named a mainstream maintained school but were appealing for a maintained Special school. The second largest category (16%) involved pupils in maintained Special schools seeking another maintained Special school place. The total number of appeals for all maintained schools (53%) was far greater than the total for all independent schools (21%). This reflects that Kent's Special schools are at their admissions capacity and have been unable to admit additional pupils.

In terms of need type 41% of appeals related to pupils whose Primary need was ASD and almost 20% of appeals were for children with BESN. Appeals for pupils with speech, language and communication difficulties accounted for 19%. This reflects the pressure for specialist places for children with ASD.

Our analysis of this data indicates a high level of parental confidence in Kent maintained specialist provision. It further indicates a preference for ASD specific provision including boarding. We recognise that we need to increase the number of places, and in light of this proposals are currently in place for Broomhill Bank North which will offer new residential places.

7.12 Analysis of Current and Forecast Deficit/Surplus of Specialist Provision

Figure 7.12 below provides analysis of the current and forecast demand for specialist provision and the anticipated deficit or surplus of places. The forecast deficit or surplus assumes the proposed additional Special School and SRBP provision set out above is delivered by January 2019. The forecasts provide a general guide to the anticipated demand for specialist places. However the data should be treated with caution as some specialist provision meets the needs of a wider area and the numbers of pupils who remain the responsibility of their host local authority is difficult to forecast.

The forecasts exclude the proposed new provision at new schools as these are primarily to serve the demand for additional mainstream and specialist places arising from new housing, which may not be fully reflected in the population forecasts. Proposals for wholly new mainstream and specialist provision will be based upon a bespoke assessment of future need for the specific locality, in consideration of the anticipated housing trajectory.

The analysis indicates that the proposed additional provision will meet the majority of the forecast additional demand across the County, although a small deficit of places will remain. In some Districts, including those in West Kent, the anticipated future surplus of places will enable a significant proportion of pupils currently educated in Out of County provision to be accommodated within Kent maintained provision.

The most significant deficit of provision is forecast to arise in the Districts of Swale and Gravesham, where the anticipated growth in pupils with a Statement or EHCP will exceed our current commissioning intentions. The quantum of additional demand is such that we do not anticipate being able to accommodate it entirely from the expansion of existing Special schools or establishment of new SRBPs. During 2015/16 we will explore the potential for commissioning new provision and will invite proposals for increased specialist places within Gravesham and Swale. We are aware of a Free School proposal for an ASD specific all-age Special School which would serve Swale. Whilst we have plans to increase Secondary ASD places at Broomhill Bank North which will serve some pupils in Swale, it is likely that we will commission all of the Primary places.

Figure 7.12: Analysis of Current and Medium Term Forecast Demand for Specialist Provision

Area	District	Current Demand for Specialist Provision		Current Capacity of Specialist Provision			Current (deficit)/surplus of specialist places	Forecast Demand for Specialist Provision		Proposed Medium Term Capacity of Specialist Provision			Medium Term Forecast (deficit)/surplus of specialist places
		2015 No of SEND Pupils*	60% requiring specialist provision	Special Schools current capacity	SRBP (current)	Total current specialist places		Medium Term Forecast No of SEND Pupils*	60% requiring specialist provision	Proposed additional Special School Places Medium Term	Proposed Medium Term additional SRBP capacity	Proposed Medium Term total capacity specialist provision	
South	Ashford	590	354	272	50	322	-32	644	386	113	15	450	64
	Dover	512	307	176	133	309	2	551	331	0	0	309	-22
	Shepway	531	319	282	48	330	11	563	338	54	0	384	46
	Total	1633	980	730	231	961	-19	1758	1055	167	15	1143	88
East	Canterbury	716	430	296	141	437	7	775	465	0	30	467	2
	Swale	914	548	209	172	381	-167	988	593	61	0	442	-151
	Thanet	797	478	548	23	571	93	875	525	0	0	571	46
	Total	2427	1456	1053	336	1389	-67	2638	1583	61	30	1480	-103
North	Dartford	416	250	106	164	270	20	474	284	0	12	282	-2
	Gravesham	523	314	190	31	221	-93	584	350	0	0	221	-129
	Sevenoaks	438	263	283	0	283	20	497	298	74	0	357	-59
	Total	1377	827	579	195	774	-53	1555	932	74	12	860	-72
West	Maidstone	733	440	458	16	474	34	835	501	55	15	544	43
	Tonbridge & Malling	575	345	259	213	472	127	625	375	69	0	541	166
	Tunbridge Wells	434	260	354	17	371	111	485	291	0	0	371	80
	Total	1742	1045	1071	246	1317	272	1945	1167	124	15	1456	289
	OLEA/Other	195	117	-	-	-	-117	218	131	-	-	-	-131
	Kent Total	7374	4425	3433	1008	4441	16	8114	4868	426	72	4939	71

Notes:

Table above provides analysis of current and future deficit/surplus of places by Area and District

SEND Pupil data taken from KCC Impulse as at January 2015.

*For this table SEND pupils includes pupils with a Statement of SEN or equivalent Education, Health and Care Plan

Commissioning Intentions by District

Area	District	Proposed Increase in Special School Places as at 1 September 2015	Commissioned Increase in SRBP Places as at 1 September 2015	Proposed Additional SRBP/Satellite capacity or possibly new school provision
South	Ashford	113 places at Wyvern		55 places within new schools
	Dover			50 places at Aspen 1 (Whitfield)
	Shepway	54 places at Foxwood and Highview		15 places at a new school
	Total	167 additional places		120 places at new schools
East	Canterbury		15 places at Canterbury Primary Academy	45 places in new schools 15 places in a Canterbury school
	Swale	61 places at Meadowfield		Proposals are sought for new specialist provision 70 places at new schools
	Thanet			85 places at new schools
	Total	61 additional places	15 additional places	215 places at new schools
North	Dartford		12 places at Castle Hill	115 places at new schools
	Gravesham			Proposals are sought for new specialist provision 15 places at a new school
	Sevenoaks	74 places at Broomhill Bank North		
	Total	74 additional places	12 additional places	130 places at new schools
West	Maidstone	55 places at Five Acre Wood	15 places at Langley Park Primary	15 places at a new school
	Tonbridge & Malling	48 places at Ridge View 21 places at Grange Park		
	Tunbridge Wells			15 places at new schools
	Total	124 additional places	15 additional places	30 places at new schools
Kent Total		426 additional places	42 additional places	495 places at new schools

8. Commissioning Early Years Education and Childcare

8.1 Legislative context

Early Education and Childcare is legislatively governed by the *Childcare Act 2006*. Section 6 of the Childcare Act places a duty on local authorities to work in partnership with providers to influence childcare provision as far as reasonably practicable to ensure that there is sufficient childcare for working parents, or parents who are studying or training for employment. Further to this the Children and Families Act 2014 repealed the local authority's duty to assess sufficiency of childcare provision. However, as the authority is still required to understand and influence the provision of childcare, a review of current provision and its relationship to demand is annually assessed and presented in the Kent Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2015.

Section 7 of the Childcare Act gives local authorities a related duty to secure free early education provision for pre-school children of a prescribed age, being three and four year olds from the beginning of the term after their third birthday.

Additionally, from September 2013 the Government introduced a duty that enabled the most disadvantaged two year olds to be able to access free early education provision.

8.2 Early Education and Childcare

'Early Education' is the Free Entitlement for all three and four year olds and increasing numbers of two year olds, designed to encourage, facilitate and support their development ensuring the best outcomes for all children at the end of Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). 'Childcare' for children under five is at least four hours a day with a childcare provider (integral to which, for three and four and relevant two year olds is likely to be the Free Entitlement). 'Childcare' for school aged children refers to provision in breakfast clubs, after school clubs and holiday provision, a key purpose of which is to support parents to work, study or train.

8.3 Early Education and Childcare provision in Kent

Early Education and Childcare in Kent is available through a large, diverse and constantly shifting market of maintained, private, voluntary and independent providers (including childminders) operating as individual businesses and subject to market forces. It is undisputed both nationally and in Kent that assessing the childcare market and ensuring sufficiency and long-term viability of provision is both complex and presents a significant challenge to the Local Authority. It should be noted that take up and vacancies, within early years settings particularly, also present a constantly changing picture. This is not only affected by parental demand but also by the fact that early years provision, being delivered in the main by the private, voluntary and independent sectors, operates as part of an open market. Also to be borne in mind here is the issue of the relationship between the provision of childcare and the availability of employment opportunities.

Levels of provision as of July 2015 (as registered with and informed by Ofsted) are:

- *Full day care provision, open for more than four hours per day*, 371 providers
- *Sessional provision open less than 4 hours per day*, 321 providers
- *Childminders who care for children of all ages within their own home*, 1313 providers
- *Maintained provision*: 68 maintained nursery classes and one maintained nursery school offering free early education places for three and four year old children; Currently, eleven maintained nursery classes are registered to offer free places for eligible two year olds
- *Out of school provision* offering breakfast clubs, after school clubs and holiday play schemes, 80 'standalone' providers. In addition to this standalone registered provision, registered early years providers can also offer out of school facilities integral to their early years registration. Furthermore, schools can offer a range of out of school childcare provision without the requirement for this to be Ofsted registered.

8.4 The Free Early Education Entitlement – Three and Four Year Olds

The Free Early Education Entitlement is available for all children aged three and four years. It constitutes a part time place (15 hours a week) over a minimum of 38 weeks a year and must be free to the parent at the point of delivery. In Kent, since April 2014, childcare providers were given the option to 'stretch' free early education places to allow year round availability, in line with the availability of provision. The free places can only be provided by Ofsted registered provision, all of which must deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage. Figure 9.1 below shows the number of children aged three and four and Ofsted registered places available by District, including those with childminders

Figure 8.1

District	Population of children aged three and four	Number of early education places
Ashford	3200	4209
Canterbury	3200	3441
Dartford	2900	3675
Dover	2500	3158
Gravesham	2800	2973
Maidstone	4200	4679
Sevenoaks	3200	3207
Shepway	2400	3591
Swale	3800	3943
Thanet	3400	4345
Tonbridge and Malling	3200	3799
Tunbridge Wells	3000	3256
Totals	37800	44276

Source: Population data – ONS Mid-year estimates 2014

Figure 8.1 shows that there are surplus early education places in each District. It should, however, be noted that whilst this analysis shows the maximum number of places that *could* possibly be available for the purposes of early education, it will not always be the case that this number *is* available. This is because providers in the private, voluntary and independent sectors may choose to use these places for childcare for younger children. This may particularly be the case when demand for early education places is low, for example at the start of the autumn term when many four year old children will have taken up places in Reception classes. This combination of factors can sometimes mask the number of actual places available at any given time. Additionally, there may be pockets where, notwithstanding the overall supply of places in the District, provision is not available

as locally as parents would choose. The District sections of this Commissioning Plan make comment on this as appropriate and necessary.

Expansion of free places for three and four year olds: the government has announced its intention to increase the free entitlement to 30 hours a week for working parents of three and four year olds with universal effect from September 2017. This is being accompanied by a review of funding for early education. (Outcome not known at the time of publication).

Funding for the Free Entitlement for Three and Four Year Olds has not been increased for five years, having been subject to the Dedicated Schools Grant Flat Cash Settlement. This has created significant sustainability issues for providers in the private, voluntary and independent sectors. One of the ways in which they have responded to this is to increase charges to parents for non-funded hours. If providers are required to offer twice as many funded hours without the level of funding being significantly increased, their ability to generate sufficient income to be viable businesses will be highly compromised. This may lead to providers being unsustainable and ultimately closing, leading to a sufficiency issue.

8.5 The Free Early Education Entitlement – Two Year Olds

Kent was set a target by the Government to initially create 3,095 places in September 2013 rising to 7,000 places by September 2014 and continuing to date. Figure 8.2 provides information about eligibility for and the supply of places for two year olds across all provision types, including childminders.

In order for a child to be eligible for a free place as a two year old, the parent(s) must be in receipt of:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA)
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
- Support through part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act
- Child Tax Credit and/or Working Tax Credit and have an annual income under £16,190
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- The Working Tax Credit 4-week run on (the payment you get when you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Universal Credit

Children are also entitled to a place if:

- They are looked after by the local authority
- They have a current statement of [special educational needs \(SEN\)](#) or an Education, Health and Care Plan
- They are in receipt of [Disability Living Allowance](#)
- They have left care under a special guardianship order, child arrangements order or adoption order

Figure 8.2: Eligibility for and the supply of places for two year olds

District	Eligible Children	Places currently available	Planned places	Total places to be available	Surplus places
Ashford	542	899	19	918	376
Canterbury	532	1060	0	1060	528
Dartford	449	650	0	650	201
Dover	556	913	0	913	357
Gravesham	497	490	40	530	33
Maidstone	620	1134	68	1202	582
Sevenoaks	333	653	0	653	320
Shepway	518	1077	6	1083	565
Swale	757	1115	6	1121	364
Thanet	885	1260	103	1363	478
Tonbridge and Malling	400	586	26	612	212
Tunbridge Wells	270	513	0	513	243
Totals	6359	10350	268	10618	4259

8.6 Out of school Childcare provision

As mentioned in paragraph 8.3.2 above, out of school childcare provision is supplied via:

- Ofsted registered standalone provision
- Ofsted registered early years provision that may also offer out of school childcare
- Non registered provision based in schools

This combination makes the out of school childcare market more difficult to quantify than that of early years. A survey of schools in Kent that provide out of school child care including breakfast and after school clubs was undertaken in 2014. The findings have been used to supplement information on registered provision. Of the 590 schools surveyed 85% responded to the survey (506 schools) with the vast majority of these being Primary schools. 92.3% (466 schools) which responded provided some form of out of school childcare. Between them, at the point of the survey, schools provided 8,739 breakfast club places, 18,621 after school club places and 3,831 holiday play-scheme places. The majority of places provided are within Primary schools which provide 86.1% of all the available out of school child care spaces. With effect from January 2016, the School Census will collect information on out of school childcare provided.

Figure 8.3: Out of school childcare provision for 5–11 year olds

District	Population 5-11	No. of places (Ofsted registered)	No. of places (School Survey)	Total no. of places	Percentage of total places to children
Ashford	11200	2415	1444	3859	35%
Canterbury	11100	2241	1501	3742	34%
Dartford	9100	1469	1024	2493	28%
Dover	8800	1451	963	2414	28%
Gravesham	9300	1432	961	2393	27%
Maidstone	13500	3214	1573	4787	37%
Sevenoaks	10300	2241	1034	3275	33%
Shepway	8200	1202	825	2027	25%
Swale	12100	2323	1266	3589	30%
Thanet	11200	1839	586	2425	22%
Tonbridge and Malling	11300	3486	1666	5152	47%
Tunbridge Wells	10500	2691	979	3670	36%

Source: Population data – ONS Mid-year estimates 2014

Whilst the percentage of total places to children is significantly lower than free Early Education places available for three and four year olds and eligible two year olds, this is in the context of out of school childcare being demand led rather than being an entitlement.

8.7 Children and Families Information Service

The Children and Families Information Service (CFIS) provide an information and advice service for parents and carers in relation to childcare provision. Since the incorporation of the CFIS into the Contact Centre in April 2011, no complaints have been received about the lack of childcare in Kent. The CFIS also offers a Brokerage Service to support parents to find childcare where they may be finding this difficult. Between April 2014 and March 2015, eight brokerage calls were received and recorded, as a consequence of which suitable childcare was identified in each case. Since April 2015, two brokerage requests have been received one of which has been resolved with suitable childcare identified, and the other one is currently in progress.

8.8 Developing Out of School Childcare Provision

Where there is a perceived need or demand for out of school childcare provision, a framework and package for developing, sustaining and supporting out of school childcare provision has recently been introduced, available to schools, academies and private, voluntary and independent providers. The package includes information, advice, support and guidance relating to:

- Market research (to ascertain the demand for provision)
- Premises suitability
- Business and financial planning to ensure sustainability
- Marketing
- Governance and committee matters
- Ofsted readiness
- Wellbeing and involvement
- Planning for play
- Inclusion
- Effective relationships and partnerships
- Self-evaluation and continuous improvement

8.9 Future Planning

Supporting the sustainability of early years and childcare providers is crucial in aiming to ensure a long term, sufficient supply of places. In this context a range of services to support the sustainability of providers is already offered plus small sustainability grants can be awarded to providers threatened with closure where this would result in a loss of places and insufficient provision being available to meet requirements.

In addition to the current range of support for sustainability, the Early Years and Childcare Service is developing training and support packages focusing on the environmental sustainability of these small businesses, with an aim to support providers to reduce their running costs and carbon footprint whilst enhancing their understanding and implementation of sustainable practices. Offering this, along with existing support for sustainability is particularly relevant in the absence of any capital funding to support the establishment of new and expansion of existing provision.

The supply of Free Entitlement places for 2, 3 and 4 year olds will be kept under review as planned new housing developments are built and the demand for places increases.

8.10 Early Years Commissioning Position (all assumed to be 26fte places)

District	by 2017-18	by 2018-19	2019-20 to 2021-22)
Ashford	Chilmington Green		Willesborough
Canterbury		Herne Bay	Sturry Herne Bay
Dartford	Castle Hill	Ebbsfleet Green St James Pit	Dartford North Station Quarter North Alkerden Western Cross
Dover			
Gravesham	Northfleet		
Maidstone			Maidstone West
Sevenoaks			
Shepway		Shornccliffe Garrison	
Swale			Sittingbourne North Rushenden Faversham
Thanet			Ramsgate Broadstairs Garlinge Birchington
Tonbridge & Malling			
Tunbridge Wells		Paddock Wood	
Total	3 = 78 places	5 = 130 places	14 = 390 places

9. Post-16 Education and Training in Kent

9.1 Duties to Provide for Post-16 Students

Local authorities have responsibilities to support young people into education or training, which are set out in the following duties to:

- secure sufficient suitable education and training provision for young people aged 16 to 19 (and those aged 20-24 with an Education, Health and Care Plan or Learning Difficulty Assessment);
- ensure support is available to all young people from the age of 13 that will encourage, enable or assist them to participate in education or training (tracking young people's participation successfully is a key element of this duty); and
- have processes in place to deliver the 'September Guarantee' of an education or training place for all 16 and 17 year olds.

Learning providers are required to notify the Local Authority when a young person leaves learning so that it can fulfil its statutory duties in respect of post 16 education and training.

9.2 Overview

The concept of a 14-19 entitlement for all young people to the right learning opportunities, and the right support is central to Kent's 14-24 Learning, Employment and Skills Strategy. The goal is to:

- develop a high quality learning route for every young person that enables them to participate, achieve and progress;
- create stronger local partnerships and consortia arrangements;
- establish the right delivery arrangements at a local and area level.

Strong delivery of appropriate programmes of learning at Key Stage 4 (age14-16) support participation and continuity into post-16 education and training, and movement into employment with training, further education, higher education and adult employment.

Education and training for young people aged 16 to 19 (and those aged 20 to 24 with an Education, Health and Care Plan or an ongoing Learning Difficulty Assessment) is commissioned and funded by the Education Funding Agency (EFA). The provision of education and training is through schools and academies, Further Education (FE) colleges and training providers.

This section sets out the capacity for further provision and will highlight specific need for changes to the offers currently available to young people, to ensure:

- participation to age 18 is increased;
- skills gaps are addressed in line with local employers; and,
- young people have the relevant skills and qualifications to gain employment in the future.

9.3 Kent's Key Priorities for 2016/17 and Beyond

A priority for 2016-17 will be to increase the variety of pathways, including academic, vocational and technical, apprenticeships or work based learning across all Districts. Raising attainment, closing achievement gaps and delivering programmes which advantage rather than disadvantage young people, continues to be a focus.

The post-16 offer should meet the requirements of Raising the Participation Age. Any provision is required to offer a range of options which lead to a progressive path towards sustainable further or higher learning, employment with training or employment. School and college post-16 performance measures, qualifications and assessments are changing quickly. Employers expect young people to become more employable and flexible and to be quickly work-ready. At the same time providers are having to be more innovative, collaborative and flexible in order to deliver a wider range of learning programmes to meet the needs of all young people in a context of shrinking resources.

KCC recognises that this can only be achieved through strategic partnerships between 14-19 providers to maximise opportunities and outcomes, increase capacity, and develop appropriate high quality learning pathways. Vulnerable learners should have opportunities to engage in personalised pathways which lead to sustained employment. The Skills and Employability Service's annual District Data Pack supports the development of personalised pathways within redesigned Study Programmes to improve the outcomes and destinations for all young people.

9.4 The 14 -24 Learning Employment and Skills Strategy

A key priority for Kent is to ensure every young person up to age 19 is engaged in purposeful and effective learning and training. Plans to achieve this are set out in the 14-24 Learning, Skills and Employment Strategy. Four themes support this ambition, which are outlined below:

1. Raise Attainment

- Attainment at age 16 is the single most important factor in securing participation, learning and achievement between the ages of 16 and 19, especially attainment in maths and English. The academic year 2014-15 saw GCSE performance at 56% of pupils gaining 5 or more A* - C grades including maths and English, compared to national results at 52%. KCC needs to continue to raise the attainment of maths and English at 16, notwithstanding changes in exam specifications, in which it is expected to have more depth and rigour.
- Performance at post-16, in 2015, in Kent, showed limited improvement in Level 3 performance. In 2015, in Kent, there was a slight improvement on some measures. The percentage of students achieving three or more A level passes improved slightly from 73.3% in 2014 to 73.8% this year and the percentage achieving A and B grades also improved slightly from 13.9% in 2014 to 14.4% in 2015.
- However there was a decline in the percentage of students achieving two or more passes at grades A - E, to 86.4% compared to 88% in 2014 and 90.5% in 2013. There was also a decline in the Average Point Score per entry to 194.8, compared to 212 in 2014 and 216 in 2013. This three year downward trend in basic A' level performance is a concern.

- At the same time there is a decline this year in the percentage of students gaining two and three vocational qualifications, although average point scores for vocational qualifications improved.
- This situation is directly influenced by weak literacy and numeracy skills (despite perhaps a grade C in English and maths), inappropriate curriculum offer at post 16 and unfocused careers guidance and quality of learning.

2. Target support to vulnerable young people

- The gap between those eligible for Free School Meals (FSM) and non-FSM students has not improved in the last two to three years. Although the achievement gap that exists between SEND and non-SEND students has narrowed, work still needs to be undertaken to reduce the gap. Furthermore, the curriculum needs to be planned in such a way that these students move on to a positive destination, whether better equipped to undertake independent living, or progress directly to employment with training, FE, employment, or supported employment.
- We recognise that KCC needs to be more ambitious for disadvantaged young people and in the 14–24 Learning, Employment and Skills Strategy it was clear that pre-apprenticeships and Level 1 programmes, particularly for 17 year olds who are unable to achieve a Level 2 apprenticeship, needed to be further developed. To meet these learners' needs, a current and expanding District Employability Offer is being developed further in partnership with a range of post-16 providers.
- Each District now has a published offer that includes as a minimum employability engagement activity. The District Employability Offer brings together programmes from EFA funded agencies, which includes traineeships and courses from training providers. These activities are designed to dovetail into the apprenticeship advertising cycle so that young people can progress into employment with training or employment (without training). The KentChoices4U webpages (on Kent.gov) have been redesigned to be a 'one-stop-shop' for all activities that lead to education, employment and training; therefore supporting young people at the key transition points.

3. Improve and Extend Vocational Education

- One of the key strands of the 14-24 Strategy is to ensure that there are quality technical and vocational education and training options so that all 14-19 year olds can access and succeed in following an appropriate pathway for education or employment with training. This includes increasing the numbers of young people taking up and successfully completing an apprenticeship at ages 16, 17 and 18. In Kent, since 2009, the number of 16-18 apprenticeship starts has increased from 1,800 in 2009 (3.60%) to a peak figure of 2,780 in 2012 (5.53%). Since then, the number of starts in 2013 was 2,596 (5.21%) and the figure for 2014 is 2,560 (5.14%).
- KCC needs to continue working with schools and colleges to develop collaborative inclusive programmes of academic, vocational and technical learning for 14–24, that is well matched to student needs. These programmes should have a clear 14–19 progression with high participation rates, better and higher outcomes at age 19, robust careers education information, advice and guidance. Employer engagement needs to be a factor in the design of the programmes of study, so as to match them to the needs of local, regional and national labour market.
- Technical qualifications provide a successful outcome for students who have not achieved at least grade C in English and maths at age 16. With continued literacy

and numeracy support, these students can achieve Distinction and 'starred' Distinction grades. Programmes of study allow flexibility in curriculum design. Moreover schools are finding that packages of learning which offer opportunities of substantial Level 3 learning with maths and English and relevant work experience lead to positive outcomes and destinations. New technical and applied qualifications, which begin in September 2016, should shape the design of these programmes once due regard has been given to the aspiration of the student, the rigour of the assessment and the value to the student of the qualification.

4. Increase Participation and Employment

- Participation rates in Kent need to be improved: current participation rates are 86%, compared against the national average of 90.2%. The impact of the lack of strong numeracy and literacy skills and inappropriate offers have an impact on transition from Year 12 to Year 13: a lower percentage of students across Kent are making this transition. Drop out at age 17 is a serious concern. Developing sustainable and progressive curriculum pathways for 16-19 year olds and beyond with high quality options is a key activity for all schools. No student should be denied opportunities to gain skills to move into further learning, apprenticeships, or employment at ages 16, 17 or 18. High quality curriculum pathways which lead to positive destinations are essential and Ofsted will be investigating study programmes (those packages of learning which each post 16 student takes up) for their expected outcomes and opportunities for progression.
- In Kent, the tracking of all young people aged 16-19 (up to the age of 24 years old for SEND) is now the responsibility of KCC. The cohort size is 51,000 young people and systems are in place to collect data from a number of sources. Particular focus has been on working directly with schools, colleges and work-based training providers. Overall, the NEET percentage is down and now close to the target at around 5%.
- The key to reducing NEETs is a high quality 14-19 learning offer and effective employer engagement. It is clear that 14-19 providers operating across a District must collaborate to achieve the best outcomes for all learners, and the task needs to be shared, and owned, by providers on a best-fit model without excluding vulnerable and disadvantaged learners.
- Engagement with employers continues to be successfully promoted through developing a Guild Model, which is a partnership between employers and education providers. The following have been identified as priority sectors for development within Kent as part of 'Innovation for Growth' and 'Unlocking Potential' strategies:
 - Low carbon
 - Creative and media
 - Land-based
 - Engineering and Advanced Manufacturing
 - Construction
 - Tourism

Figure 9.1 below highlights the participation rates for Kent residents comparing January 2015 to January 2014.

Figure 9.1: Participation rates for Kent residents years 12-13

Years 12 & 13 Cohorts:	Jan-14		Jan-15		Apr-15	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Cohort total	34938		35744		35684	
School Sixth Form	19435	55.6%	18944	53.0%	18971	53.1%
Further Education	9720	27.8%	8101	22.6%	9758	27.3%
Apprenticeships	1070	3.1%	1453	4.0%	1668	4.6%
Employment with training to NVQ 2 or above	62	0.2%	29	0.0%	34	0.1%
Training	378	1.1%	302	0.8%	379	1.0%
Custody			15	0.0%	16	0.0%
Total participating	30665	87.8%	28844	80.7%	30826	86.3%
Employment without/ insufficient training	1274	3.6%	759	2.1%	1048	2.9%
Re-engagement provision			2	0.0%	1	0.0%
NEET Group	1488	4.3%	1196	3.3%	1413	3.9%
Other EDUCATION - not meeting participation	482	1.4%	2264	6.3%	122	0.3%
Current situation not known	1029	2.9%	2679	7.4%	2274	6.3%
Not participating	4273	12.2%	6900	19.3%	4858	13.6%

9.5 Sixth Form Capacity Assessment

One group of key providers of post-16 training in Kent is the large number of maintained schools and academies offering sixth form education. The table below sets out, by District, the current sixth form capacity available in each District and how that compares to the actual numbers on roll in schools. It has been well documented that in recent years sixth form numbers have reduced and is anticipated that this trend will continue until 2018 when the numbers, at least in certain Districts, will start to increase once more. With the significant increases in the numbers of Primary school aged pupils, it is clear that as these young people move on to Secondary education, the roll numbers in school sixth forms are likely also to continue to increase in the longer term.

Figure 9.2: Sixth Form Capacities

District	Capacity 2014/15	Surplus / Deficit 2014/15	Surplus / Deficit 2015/16	Surplus / Deficit 2016/17	Surplus / Deficit 2017/18	Surplus / Deficit 2018/19	Surplus / Deficit 2019/20	Capacity 2019/20
Ashford	1958	212	155	188	202	246	275	2108
Canterbury	2211	148	57	90	124	94	36	2211
Dartford	2283	231	291	318	309	240	139	2433
Dover	1583	242	277	319	393	394	390	1633
Gravesham	1489	84	106	101	114	120	117	1489
Maidstone	2817	410	342	313	331	353	334	2817
Sevenoaks	550	306	308	284	283	374	461	640
Shepway	1968	626	656	666	711	760	769	1968
Swale	2270	484	529	513	545	560	557	2270
Thanet	1766	233	375	393	447	494	529	1716
Tonbridge and Malling	2086	209	188	230	241	206	147	2086
Tunbridge Wells	2404	347	321	362	339	307	261	2404
Total	23385	3532	3606	3776	4040	4150	4014	23775

As can be seen from Figure 9.2 above, there appears to be sufficient sixth form capacity for the foreseeable future across each District to both accommodate future pupil increases and increased participation.

9.6 District Analysis

This section will highlight the current position and key commissioning requirements, in terms of the different qualification and training offers, for 2016-17 and beyond for each District drawn from Kent Choices common application process.

Each District has its number of schools identified. A skill priority in red is not met by school provision though may be met by a local or area FE offer.

The number of visible opportunities for post 16 maths and English, SEND programmes, MFL and Science qualifications, technical and vocational learning and for other level 2 learning are also indicated.

Subjects that are offered as more than 5 times are listed in the last row. These are AS, BTECS and A levels.

9.7 Ashford

There are currently sufficient sixth form places available in the District and this provision is also supplemented by the local FE provider.

There is good provision for post 16 English and maths supplemented by an FE offer. Providers need to be more explicit about SEND provision in order for young people to make informed choices. Providers need to collaborate on provision of Manufacturing and Engineering opportunities with pathways starting at age 14. Level one qualifications are limited in schools in Ashford with only 2 general studies qualifications available. This could however be supplemented by the FE sector.

District	Ashford (8 schools)
Skills Priorities	Retail / Sales / Customer Service Health and Social Care Business Administration Teaching and Education Manufacturing and Engineering
Options for maths and English post-16	Maths 4 English 4
SEND post-16	No offers identified
MFL post-16 (Level 3)	French 3 German 2 Spanish 3
Sciences post-16 (Level 3)	Chemistry 2 Biology 3 Physics 3 Maths 4
AS/A Level post-16	111
Level 3 BTEC post-16	72
Level 2 post-16	28
Subject with five or more offers post-16	Media 7 Psychology 5 Photography 5 Performing Arts 13 Sport 15

Apprenticeship starts in Ashford

There was a decrease in apprenticeship starts in 2013 – 2014, the last year for which full data is available. Uptake of apprenticeships correlates very closely to their availability. Higher apprenticeship opportunities are small.

	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15 Aug to Jan (Provisional)
TOTAL	210	270	220	160
Intermediate	160	140	150	120
Advanced	50	120	70	40
Higher	-	-	-	-

Sector starts in Ashford

The following table shows the uptake of apprenticeships based on sector groups.

Health, Public Services and Care and Business Administration are the most numerous. Given the status of Ashford as an area of population growth, the uptake in construction is low.

Sector	Ashford	
	2012/13	2013/14
Education and Training	10	10
Leisure, Travel and Tourism	50	30
Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal Care	30	20
Construction, Planning and the Built Environment	30	30
Information and Communication Technology	100	50
Engineering and Manufacturing Technologies	200	110
Health, Public Services and Care	230	170
Business, Administration and Law	270	200
Retail and Commercial Enterprise	210	150
Arts, Media and Publishing	-	0
Science and Mathematics	-	0
Total	1,130	760

9.8 Canterbury

Compared to the majority of the other Districts in Kent, Canterbury has fewer available sixth form places. Therefore, in future years additional capacity may be required should increases in participation and increases in the general population materialise. However, currently there is sufficient sixth form capacity.

In 11 schools there are nine opportunities to study Psychology and 382 qualifications. 291 are AS or A levels. There is a good SEND offer. Providers need to collaborate on provision of Retail and Business Administration opportunities with pathways starting at age 14.

The provision of level one qualifications is relatively healthy compared to other Districts with 4 diploma, 7 GCSE and 28 other general options available.

District	Canterbury (11 schools)
Skills Priorities	Retail / Sales / Customer Service ICT Business Administration Finance and Insurance Health and Social Care
Options for maths and English post-16	Maths 2 English 2
SEND post-16	4 (Equine Academy)
MFL post-16 (Level 3)	French 7 German 3 Spanish 3
Sciences post-16 (Level 3)	Chemistry 7 Biology 8 Physics 5 Maths 11
AS/A Level post-16	291
Level 3 BTEC post-16	84
Level 2 post-16	7
Subject with five or more offers post-16	Art 15 A Levels Art 5 BTECs Economics 5 English 12 Geography 5 History 8 Psychology 9 Sociology 7 Business 9 Sport 10

Apprenticeship starts in Canterbury

There was a decrease in apprenticeships starts in 2013 – 2014, the last year for which full data is available. Uptake of apprenticeships correlates very closely to their availability. Higher apprenticeship opportunities are small.

	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15 Aug to Jan (Provisional)
TOTAL	140	130	110	70
Intermediate	100	100	70	50
Advanced	40	40	30	20
Higher	-	-	-	-

Sector starts in Canterbury

The following table shows uptake of apprenticeships based on sector groups. Health, Public Services and Care and Business Administration are the most numerous. There is a low uptake (because of availability) of apprenticeships in Education and Training, Agriculture, and ICT.

Sector	Canterbury	
	2012/13	2013/14
Education and Training	10	10
Leisure, Travel and Tourism	20	10
Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal Care	10	20
Construction, Planning and the Built Environment	20	20
Information and Communication Technology	10	10
Engineering and Manufacturing Technologies	50	50
Health, Public Services and Care	170	140
Business, Administration and Law	180	100
Retail and Commercial Enterprise	140	100
Arts, Media and Publishing	-	0
Science and Mathematics	-	0
Total	610	460

9.9 Dartford

There are currently sufficient sixth form places available in the District and this provision is also supplemented by the local FE provider. A summary of the current school sixth form offer in the District is detailed below. North West Kent College has a strong presence in the area and this is reflected by schools' offers. Providers need to be more explicit about SEND provision in order for young people to make informed choices.

Providers need to collaborate on provision of Retail, Business Administration and Transport and Logistics opportunities with pathways starting at age 14. There are 18 offers of level one GCSE's, however, options for BTEC and other general qualifications are limited with only 2 for BTEC and 1 general

District	Dartford (8 schools)
Skills Priorities	Retail / Sales / Customer Service Business Administration Health and Social Care ICT Transport and Logistics
Options for maths and English post-16	Maths 4 English 4
SEND post-16	No offers identified
MFL post-16 (Level 3)	French 4 German 2 Spanish 5
Sciences post-16 (Level 3)	Chemistry 5

	Biology 5 Physics 9
AS/A Level post-16	260
Level 3 BTEC post-16	59
Level 2 post-16	33
Subject with five or more offers post-16	Art 11 Art 4 History 6 Photography 5 Psychology 8 Sociology 6 Health and Safety 5 Music 7 Sport 6

Apprenticeships starts in Dartford

	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15 Aug to Jan (Provisional)
TOTAL	230	200	200	130
Intermediate	170	150	140	80
Advanced	60	40	60	50
Higher	-	-	10	-

Advanced apprenticeships increased in number in 2013 – 2014, the last year for which full data is available and there is also higher apprenticeship representation.

Sector starts in Dartford

The following table shows uptake of apprenticeships based on sector groups. Health, Public Services and Care and Business Administration are the most numerous. There may well be future opportunities in Construction given the area's future profile and providers should be planning for building knowledge and skills into this path

Sector	Dartford	
	2012/13	2013/14
Education and Training	20	10
Leisure, Travel and Tourism	30	20
Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal Care	10	10
Construction, Planning and the Built Environment	20	20
Information and Communication Technology	20	30
Engineering and Manufacturing Technologies	100	100
Health, Public Services and Care	210	190
Business, Administration and Law	240	230
Retail and Commercial Enterprise	140	130
Arts, Media and Publishing	-	0
Science and Mathematics	-	0
Total	770	730

9.10 Dover

There are currently sufficient sixth form places available in the District and this provision is also supplemented by the local FE provider. A summary of the current school sixth form offer in the District is given below. Providers need to be more explicit about SEND provision in order for young people to make informed choices. There are more opportunities to do Psychology post 16 than there are Spanish.

Providers need to collaborate on provision of Transport opportunities with pathways starting at age 14. Level one qualifications are extremely limited in schools in Dover with only 1 BTEC qualification available. This could however be supplemented by the FE sector.

District	Dover (9 schools)
Skills Priorities	Retail / Sales / Customer Service Transport and Logistics Hospitality, Leisure and Tourism ICT
Options for maths and English post-16	Maths 3 English 3
SEND post-16	No offers identified.
MFL post-16 (Level 3)	French 4 German 3 Spanish 2
Sciences post-16 (Level 3)	Chemistry 5 Biology 5 Physics 3 Maths 7
AS/A Level post-16	235
Level 3 BTEC post-16	38
Level 2 post-16	10
Subject with five or more offers post-16	Art 13 English 8 Geography 6 History 7 Media 5 Psychology 5 Sport 6

Apprenticeship starts in Dover

	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15 Aug to Jan (Provisional)
TOTAL	170	190	200	130
Intermediate	130	150	160	110
Advanced	30	40	30	20
Higher	-	-	-	-

There was a decrease in apprenticeships starts in 2013 – 2014, the last year for which full data is available. Uptake of apprenticeships correlates very closely to their availability.

Higher apprenticeship opportunities are small but they may also remain unrecognised or even undervalued as a pathway by some providers.

Sector starts in Dover

The following table shows uptake of apprenticeships based on sector groups. Health, Public Services and Care and Business Administration are the most numerous.

Given the status of Dover as the gateway to the UK and to the European mainland, the low uptake (or availability) of Leisure, Travel and Tourism opportunities is surprisingly low.

Sector	Dover	
	2012/13	2013/14
Education and Training	10	0
Leisure, Travel and Tourism	10	10
Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal Care	10	10
Construction, Planning and the Built Environment	30	20
Information and Communication Technology	10	20
Engineering and Manufacturing Technologies	120	120
Health, Public Services and Care	290	260
Business, Administration and Law	260	170
Retail and Commercial Enterprise	150	150
Arts, Media and Publishing	-	0
Science and Mathematics	10	0
Total	880	780

9.11 Gravesham

Compared to the majority of the other Districts in Kent, Gravesham has fewer available sixth form places. Therefore, in future years additional capacity may be required should increases in participation and increases in the general population materialise. However, currently there is sufficient sixth form capacity. A summary of the current school sixth form offer in the District is below.

North West Kent College has a strong presence in the area and this is reflected by schools' offers. There is a lack of MFL provision and a large English offer. Providers need to be more explicit about SEND provision in order for young people to make informed choices.

Providers need to collaborate on provision of Transport, Business and Teaching and Education opportunities with pathways starting at age 14. There are 29 offers of level one GCSE's, however, options for BTEC and other general qualifications are limited with only 3 for BTEC and 1 general qualification.

District	Gravesham (8 schools)
Skills Priorities	Transport and Logistics Business Administration Teaching and Education Health and Social Care
Options for maths and English post-16	Maths 4 English 6
SEND post-16	1
MFL post-16 (Level 3)	French 5 German 1 Spanish 1
Sciences post-16 (Level 3)	Chemistry 5 Biology 5 Physics 5 Maths 7
AS/A Level post-16	146
Level 3 BTEC post-16	45
Level 2 post-16	28
Subject with five or more offers post-16	English 12 Geography 6 History 6 Photography 5 Psychology 7 Sociology 5

Apprenticeship starts in Gravesham

	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15 Aug to Jan (Provisional)
TOTAL	170	180	170	120
Intermediate	120	130	110	70
Advanced	50	50	60	50
Higher	-	-	-	-

There was a decrease in apprenticeships starts in 2013 – 2014, the last year for which full data is available. Uptake of apprenticeships correlates very closely to their availability. Higher apprenticeship opportunities are small but they may also remain unrecognised or even undervalued as a pathway by some providers.

Sector starts in Gravesham

The following table shows uptake of apprenticeships based on sector groups. Health, Public Services and Care and Business Administration are the most numerous.

Opportunities in Construction should grow as this area develops into the Thames gateway. Providers should be prepared for this.

Sector	Gravesham	
	2012/13	2013/14
Education and Training	40	10
Leisure, Travel and Tourism	20	30
Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal Care	10	10
Construction, Planning and the Built Environment	20	20

Sector	Gravesham	
	2012/13	2013/14
Information and Communication Technology	20	20
Engineering and Manufacturing Technologies	90	100
Health, Public Services and Care	200	150
Business, Administration and Law	260	220
Retail and Commercial Enterprise	140	120
Arts, Media and Publishing	-	0
Science and Mathematics	-	0
Total	800	680

9.12 Maidstone

There are currently sufficient sixth form places available in the District and this provision is also supplemented by the local FE provider. A summary of the current school sixth form offer in the District is given below. There is only one opportunity to resit Maths and there is no SEND offer. Providers need to be more explicit about SEND provision in order for young people to make informed choices.

Providers need to collaborate on provision of Retail, Sales, Customer Service, Transport and Logistics and Business Administration opportunities with pathways starting at age 14. There are 22 offers of level one GCSE's and 8 options for BTEC and 1 for general qualifications.

District	Maidstone (12 schools)
Skills Priorities	ICT (specifically programming) Accounting and Finance Retail / Sales / Customer Service Transport and Logistics Business Administration
Options for maths and English post-16	Maths 1 English 2
SEND post-16	1 offer identified
MFL post-16 (Level 3)	French 8 German 6 Spanish 7
Sciences post-16 (Level 3)	Chemistry 7 Biology 10 Physics 9
AS/A Level post-16	269
Level 3 BTEC post-16	46
Level 2 post-16	24
Subject with five or more offers post-16	Art 15 Business 8 Class..Civ. 4 Economics 7 English 19 Geography 11 History 9 Maths 13 Media 8 Psychology 10 Sociology 9 Performing Arts 6

Apprenticeship starts in Maidstone and the Weald
(National Apprenticeship Service data is constituency cut.)

	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15 Aug to Jan (Provisional)
TOTAL	170	150	140	100
Intermediate	140	90	100	70
Advanced	40	50	40	30
Higher	-	-	-	-

There was a decrease in apprenticeships starts in 2013 – 2014, the last year for which full data is available. Higher apprenticeship opportunities are small.

Sector starts in Maidstone

The following table shows uptake of apprenticeships based on sector groups. Health, Public Services and Care and Business Administration are the most numerous.

Sector	Maidstone and The Weald	
	2012/13	2013/14
Education and Training	-	10
Leisure, Travel and Tourism	20	20
Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal Care	20	20
Construction, Planning and the Built Environment	20	20
Information and Communication Technology	20	20
Engineering and Manufacturing Technologies	80	80
Health, Public Services and Care	180	160
Business, Administration and Law	250	180
Retail and Commercial Enterprise	130	100
Arts, Media and Publishing	-	0
Science and Mathematics	-	0
Total	720	620

9.13 Sevenoaks

There are currently sufficient sixth form places available in the District and this provision is also supplemented by the local FE provider. A summary of the current school sixth form offer in the District is given below. There are only 2 school providers in this District. The number of technical and vocational offers is larger than the academic A level offer and students' progression is supported by level 2 Maths and English opportunities.

Providers need to be more explicit about SEND provision in order for young people to make informed choices. There are 14 offers of level one GCSE's and 6 options for level one BTEC qualifications.

.District	Sevenoaks (6 schools)
Skills Priorities	Nursing and Health Retail / Sales / Customer Service Technical and Scientific ICT Health and Social Care
Options for maths and English post-16	Maths 3 English3
SEND post-16	0
MFL post-16 (Level 3)	French 1
Sciences post-16 (Level 3)	-
AS/A Level post-16	50
Level 3 BTEC post-16	56
Level 2 post-16	23
Subject with five or more offers post-16	-

Apprenticeship starts in Sevenoaks

	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15 Aug to Jan (Provisional)
TOTAL	130	140	130	100
Intermediate	100	90	90	60
Advanced	30	50	50	40
Higher	-	-	-	-

Sevenoaks has gone against the County trend by maintaining apprenticeship uptake in 2013 to 2014.

Sector starts in Sevenoaks

Health, Public Services and Care has seen a drop in uptake in 2013 – 2014. The zero uptake in Agriculture is odd given Sevenoaks position and proximity to Hadlow.

Sector	Sevenoaks	
	2012/13	2013/14
Education and Training	10	0
Leisure, Travel and Tourism	10	10
Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal Care	20	0
Construction, Planning and the Built Environment	10	20
Information and Communication Technology	10	10
Engineering and Manufacturing Technologies	60	50
Health, Public Services and Care	150	90
Business, Administration and Law	170	140
Retail and Commercial Enterprise	110	90
Arts, Media and Publishing	-	0
Science and Mathematics	-	0
Total	550	420

9.14 Shepway

There are currently sufficient sixth form places available in the District and this provision is also supplemented by the local FE provider. A summary of the current school sixth form offer in the District is given below. There are no offers to complete post 16 maths or English, no SEND offer, no German and fewer than a third of qualifications are BTECs.

Providers need to be more explicit about SEND provision in order for young people to make informed choices. Providers need to collaborate on provision of Transport opportunities with pathways starting at age 14.

There are 6 offers of level one BTEC in the District but options for GCSE and other general qualifications are limited with only 1 for GCSE and 1 general qualification.

District	Shepway (8 schools)
Skills Priorities	Business Administration Technical and Scientific Nursing and Health Transportation and Logistics
Options for maths and English post-16	0
SEND post-16	0
MFL post-16 (Level 3)	French 4 German 0 Spanish 1
Sciences post-16 (Level 3)	Biology 8 Chemistry 8 Physics 7
AS/A Level post-16	206
Level 3 BTEC post-16	65
Level 2 post-16	11
Subject with five or more offers post-16	Art and Design 11 English 15 Health and Safety 4 History 8 Maths 8 Media 4 Psychology 9

Apprenticeship starts in Shepway (Folkestone and Hythe)

This area has seen an upward journey in apprenticeship starts over a three year period.

	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15 Aug to Jan (Provisional)
TOTAL	210	200	270	130
Intermediate	170	150	180	100
Advanced	40	50	90	30
Higher	-	-	-	-

Sector starts in Shepway (Folkestone and Hythe)

Health, Public Services and Care remains the most popular apprenticeship. There has been a fall in Business uptake.

Sector	Folkestone and Hythe	
	2012/13	2013/14
Education and Training	20	10
Leisure, Travel and Tourism	30	20
Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal Care	20	10
Construction, Planning and the Built Environment	30	30
Information and Communication Technology	20	60
Engineering and Manufacturing Technologies	100	100
Health, Public Services and Care	350	350
Business, Administration and Law	300	220
Retail and Commercial Enterprise	200	160
Arts, Media and Publishing	-	0
Science and Mathematics	-	0
Total	1,070	960

9.15 Swale

There are currently sufficient sixth form places available in the District and this provision is also supplemented by the local FE provider. A summary of the current school sixth form offer in the District is given below. There are offers for students with SEND and those without a C grade in maths and English. A third of qualifications on offer are level 2 or level 3 BTECS. Psychology and Sociology appear 8 times each in the offer.

Providers need to collaborate on provision of Transport and Manufacturing and Engineering opportunities with pathways starting at age 14. Options for Level 1 qualifications are limited with only 4 for GCSE and 1 BTEC.

District	Swale (9 schools)
Skills Priorities	Transportation and Logistics Manufacturing Horticulture Retail / Sales / Customer Service Engineering
Options for maths and English post-16	Maths 2 English 2
SEND post-16	2 offers identified
MFL post-16 (Level 3)	French 7 German 2 Spanish 4
Sciences post-16 (Level 3)	Chemistry 5 Biology 8 Physics 6
AS/A Level post-16	168
Level 3 BTEC post-16	74
Level 2 post-16	5

District	Swale (9 schools)
Subject with five or more offers post-16	Art 8 English 8 History 8 Maths 10 Psychology 8 Sociology 8

Apprenticeship starts in Sittingbourne and Sheppey (Swale)

This area has shown a move upward from the 2012 – 2013 starts figure. Higher apprenticeship opportunities are small.

	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15 Aug to Jan (Provisional)
TOTAL	320	270	290	180
Intermediate	270	210	240	150
Advanced	60	60	60	30
Higher	-	-	-	-

Sector starts in Sittingbourne and Sheppey (Swale)

The following table shows uptake of apprenticeships based on sector groups. Business Administration and Retail are the most numerous.

Sector	Sittingbourne and Sheppey	
	2012/13	2013/14
Education and Training	10	10
Leisure, Travel and Tourism	20	10
Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal Care	20	10
Construction, Planning and the Built Environment	60	60
Information and Communication Technology	20	10
Engineering and Manufacturing Technologies	150	100
Health, Public Services and Care	260	250
Business, Administration and Law	290	270
Retail and Commercial Enterprise	250	290
Arts, Media and Publishing	-	0
Science and Mathematics	-	0
Total	1,070	1,010

Apprenticeship starts in Faversham and Midkent (Swale)

Higher apprenticeship opportunities are small but they may also remain unrecognised or even undervalued as a pathway by some providers.

	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15 Aug to Jan (Provisional)
TOTAL	200	170	170	90
Intermediate	160	120	130	70
Advanced	40	40	40	20
Higher	-	-	-	-

Sector starts in Faversham and Midkent (Swale)

The following table shows uptake of apprenticeships based on sector groups. Health, Public Services and Care and Business Administration are the most numerous.

Sector	Faversham and Mid Kent	
	2012/13	2013/14
Education and Training	-	10
Leisure, Travel and Tourism	20	20
Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal Care	30	20
Construction, Planning and the Built Environment	30	30
Information and Communication Technology	10	10
Engineering and Manufacturing Technologies	70	70
Health, Public Services and Care	220	180
Business, Administration and Law	220	170
Retail and Commercial Enterprise	130	120
Arts, Media and Publishing	-	0
Science and Mathematics	-	0
Total	720	610

9.16 Thanet

There are currently sufficient sixth form places available in the District and this provision is also supplemented by the local FE provider. A summary of the current school sixth form offer in the District is given below. East Kent College has a broad offer which accounts for schools' provision.

There are opportunities to resit maths and English and two SEND offers. The amalgamation of Clarendon House and Chatham Boys and the fact that Dane Court is an IB provider has reduced the likelihood of qualification duplication.

Providers need to collaborate on provision of Business, Retail, Transport and Education opportunities with pathways starting at age 14. There are 5 offers of level one FSP's in the District. However, options for BTEC and other general qualifications are limited with only 2 for BTEC and 2 general qualifications.

District	Thanet (10 schools)
Skills Priorities	Business Administration Retail / Sales / Customer Service Transportation and Logistics Technical and Scientific Teaching and Education
Options for maths and English post-16	Maths 7 English 8
SEND post-16	2 offers identified
MFL post-16 (Level 3)	French 2 German 0 Spanish 2
Sciences post-16 (Level 3)	Physics 3 Chemistry 3 Biology 3
AS/A Level post-16	97
Level 3 BTEC post-16	59
Level 2 post-16	42
Subject with five or more offers post-16	Maths 7 English 6

Apprenticeship starts in South Thanet

There was a decrease in apprenticeships starts in 2013 – 2014, the last year for which full data is available. Higher apprenticeship opportunities are small.

	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15 Aug to Jan (Provisional)
TOTAL	230	210	180	100
Intermediate	190	150	140	70
Advanced	40	60	40	30
Higher	-	-	-	-

Sector starts in South Thanet

The following table shows uptake of apprenticeships based on sector groups. Health, Public Services and Care and Business Administration are the most numerous.

Sector	South Thanet	
	2012/13	2013/14
Education and Training	20	10
Leisure, Travel and Tourism	20	10
Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal Care	10	10
Construction, Planning and the Built Environment	40	40
Information and Communication Technology	10	10
Engineering and Manufacturing Technologies	100	60
Health, Public Services and Care	220	210
Business, Administration and Law	300	210
Retail and Commercial Enterprise	140	180
Arts, Media and Publishing	-	0
Science and Mathematics	10	0
Total	870	730

Apprenticeship starts in NorthThanet

There was a decrease in apprenticeships starts in 2013 – 2014, the last year for which full data is available. Higher apprenticeship opportunities are small.

	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15 Aug to Jan (Provisional)
TOTAL	270	230	180	130
Intermediate	230	180	140	100
Advanced	40	50	40	30
Higher	-	-	-	-

Sector starts in NorthThanet

The following table shows uptake of apprenticeships based on sector groups. Health, Public Services and Care and Business Administration are the most numerous.

Sector	North Thanet	
	2012/13	2013/14
Education and Training	30	10
Leisure, Travel and Tourism	30	10
Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal Care	20	10
Construction, Planning and the Built Environment	30	30
Information and Communication Technology	10	20

Engineering and Manufacturing Technologies	110	150
Health, Public Services and Care	310	230
Business, Administration and Law	300	200
Retail and Commercial Enterprise	200	170
Arts, Media and Publishing	-	0
Science and Mathematics	-	0
Total	1,040	820

9.17 Tonbridge and Malling

There are currently sufficient sixth form places available in the District and this provision is also supplemented by the local FE provider. A summary of the current school sixth form offer in the District is given below. The present of West Kent College in the area has impact on the schools' offer.

There are opportunities to resit Maths and English and 2 SEND programmes. There is a large English, Maths and Sport offer. Providers need to be more explicit about SEND provision in order for young people to make informed choices. Agriculture is fully offered at Hadlow College. There are no level 1 qualification options for students.

District	Tonbridge and Malling (11 schools)
Skills Priorities	Agriculture and Horticulture Hair and Beauty ICT Business Administration
Options for maths and English post-16	Maths 2 English 3
SEND post-16	2 offers identified
MFL post-16 (Level 3)	French 3 German 1 Spanish 3 French NVQ 1 Spanish NVQ 1
Sciences post-16 (Level 3)	Chemistry 8 Biology 8 Physics 7
AS/A Level post-16	169
Level 3 BTEC post-16	38
Level 2 post-16	5
Subject with five or more offers post-16	Art 9 English 14 Maths 9 Media 7 Psychology 8 Sociology 6 Sport 9

Apprenticeship starts in Tonbridge and Malling

Starts have risen since 2012 – 2013.

	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15 Aug to Jan (Provisional)
TOTAL	140	120	130	80
Intermediate	100	90	100	60
Advanced	40	40	40	20
Higher	-	-	-	-

Sector starts in Tonbridge and Malling

Health, Business, and Retail are the most numerous starts. Agriculture is oddly low given the presence of Hadlow.

Sector	Tonbridge and Malling	
	2012/13	2013/14
Education and Training	10	10
Leisure, Travel and Tourism	20	10
Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal Care	10	10
Construction, Planning and the Built Environment	10	20
Information and Communication Technology	20	10
Engineering and Manufacturing Technologies	50	60
Health, Public Services and Care	140	110
Business, Administration and Law	150	110
Retail and Commercial Enterprise	150	110
Arts, Media and Publishing	-	0
Science and Mathematics	-	0
Total	550	460

9.18 Tunbridge Wells

There are currently sufficient sixth form places available in the District and this provision is also supplemented by the local FE provider. A summary of the current school sixth form offer in the District is given below. There is a small Maths and English resit opportunity.

There are very few technical and vocational offers and only nine Level 2 post 16 qualifications on offer. Providers need to be more explicit about SEND provision in order for young people to make informed choices. Providers also need to collaborate on provision of Retail opportunities. There are no level 1 qualification options for students in the district.

District	Tunbridge Wells (11 schools)
Skills Priorities	Retail / Sales / Customer Service Finance and Insurance ICT Health and Social Care Nursing and Health
Options for maths and English post-16	Maths 1 English 1
SEND post-16	0
MFL post-16 (Level 3)	French 3 German 0 Spanish 4
Sciences post-16 (Level 3)	Biology 5 Chemistry 5 Physics 4
AS/A Level post-16	158
Level 3 BTEC post-16	23
Level 2 post-16	9
Subject with five or more offers post-16	Art 7 English 11 History 7 Maths 9

Apprenticeship starts in Tunbridge Wells

Apprenticeship starts have risen since 2012 – 2013. Higher apprenticeship opportunities are small.

	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15 Aug to Jan (Provisional)
TOTAL	110	100	110	70
Intermediate	90	70	90	50
Advanced	30	20	30	20
Higher	-	-	-	-

Sector starts in Tunbridge Wells

The following table shows uptake of apprenticeships based on sector groups. Health, Public Services and Care and Business Administration are the most numerous.

Sector	Tunbridge Wells	
	2012/13	2013/14
Education and Training	10	0
Leisure, Travel and Tourism	20	10
Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal Care	10	10
Construction, Planning and the Built Environment	10	10
Information and Communication Technology	10	10
Engineering and Manufacturing Technologies	30	40
Health, Public Services and Care	140	140
Business, Administration and Law	160	120

Sector	Tunbridge Wells	
	2012/13	2013/14
Retail and Commercial Enterprise	120	90
Arts, Media and Publishing	-	0
Science and Mathematics	-	0
Total	520	440

9.19 Summary

In developing new post-16 provision the Local Authority would request providers to:

- make provision for English and maths to ensure students can gain a GCSE grade C or above qualification
- assure the long term viability of the provision;
- establish robust monitoring of post-16 learning and teaching;
- offer a range of qualifications at all levels;
- ensure levels of literacy and numeracy which are in accordance with EFA guidelines and which are appropriate for successful completion of learning;
- develop a technical and vocational offer which leads to sustainable employment locally, regionally and beyond and which pays heed to the skills profile highlighted by LMI information;
- develop an academic programme offer which leads to HE, degree apprenticeships and higher level apprenticeships;
- deliver guidance to all young people to strengthen aspiration, attitude and achievement and resilience;
- plan personalised pathways for vulnerable and disadvantaged learners; and
- engage in systematic review of provision against local and national indicators.

10. Commissioning Primary and Secondary School Provision: Analyses and Forward Plans for each District

10.1 Duties to Provide for Ages 4-16

The law requires Local Authorities to make provision for the education of children from the September following their fourth birthday to the end of the academic year in which their sixteenth birthday falls either at school or otherwise. Most Kent parents choose to send their children to Kent schools. Some parents choose to educate their children independently, either at independent schools or otherwise than at school (ie at home); others will send their children to maintained schools outside Kent (as Kent maintained schools admit some children from other areas). Kent will offer a school place to any resident child aged between 4 and 16.

From age 14-16 a minority of young people are offered college placements or alternative curriculum provision, usually through school links. Some children are educated in Special schools or non-school forms of special education provision because of their special educational needs.

The Local Authority has a statutory duty to provide full time education for pupils “not in education by reason of illness, exclusion or otherwise” (Section 19 of the 1996 Education Act) and which is appropriate to individual pupil needs. This duty is discharged through Pupil Referral Units, alternative provision commissioned by Secondary schools and the Health Needs Education Service.

10.2 Duties to Provide for Post 16 Students

Local authorities have responsibilities to support young people into education or training, which are set out in the following duties:

- To secure sufficient suitable education and training provision for young people aged 16-19 (and those aged 20-24 with an Education, Health and Care Plan or Learning Difficulty Assessment) in their area;
- To ensure support is available to all young people from the age of 13 that will encourage, enable or assist them to participate in education or training (tracking young people’s participation successfully is a key element of this duty); and
- To have processes in place to deliver the ‘September Guarantee’ of an education or training place for all 16 and 17 year olds.

Learning providers are required to notify the Local Authority when a young person leaves learning so that it can fulfil its statutory duties in respect of post 16 education and training.

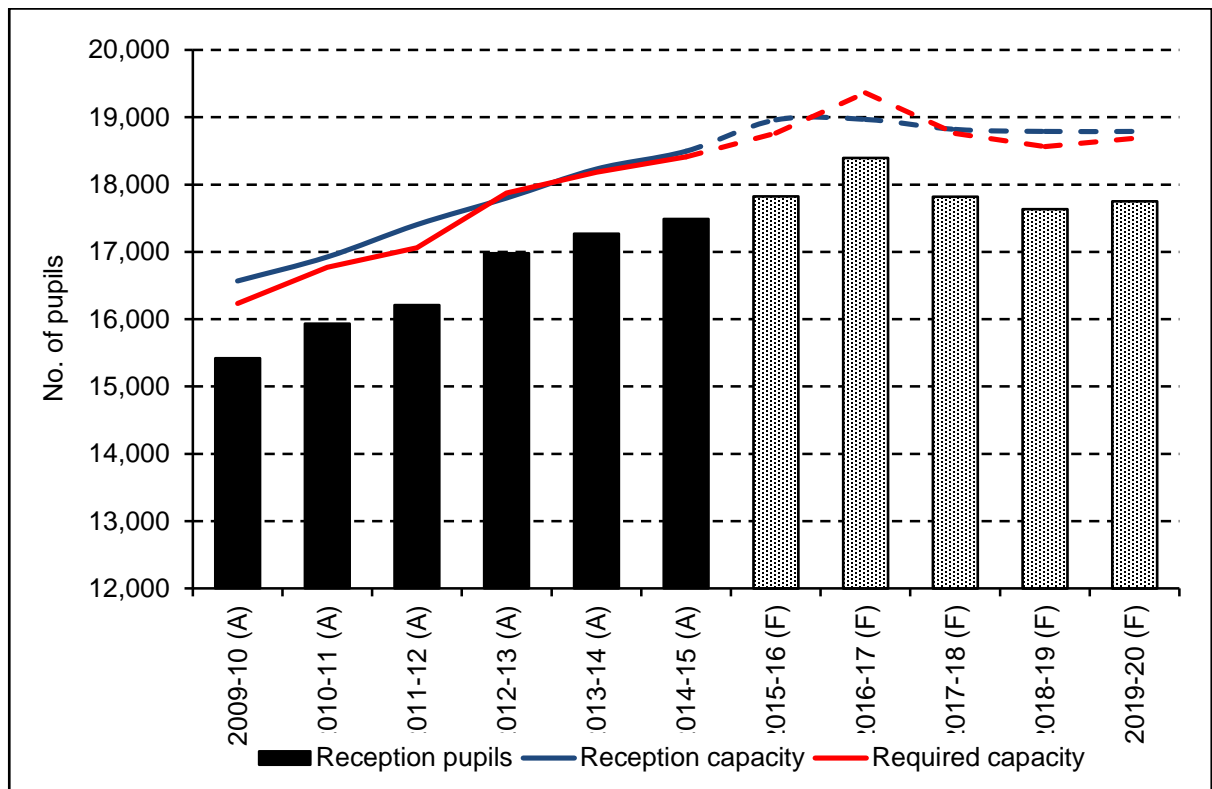
10.3 Kent Wide Summary

Detail on the requirement for school places is contained in the District Analyses and Forward Plans which follow. For 2016 and 2017 many projects are already in progress. For later years only the area where expansion is required has been noted – specific schools are not identified. Alongside the work we undertake Diocesan Authorities have also identified Church schools that may have the potential for future expansion to meet this need and we will work with them to assess the feasibility of these proposals. Also for later years (particularly beyond 2019) the commissioning proposals are dependent on the pace

of planned housing development being realised. A County-wide summary of the proposals for Primary, Secondary and SEN school places, together with EY and post 16 places in each District is set out at Section 11.

The number of Reception age pupils in Kent schools has risen from 14,812 in 2007-08 to 17,491 in 2014-15 (Figure 10.1). This is a significant increase of 18% in a relatively short period of time. In 2007-08 Reception year groups in Kent Primary schools operated with around 12% surplus capacity. This has reduced to around 5.4% in 2014-15 despite further capacity being added (Figure 10.2). The number of Reception pupils is forecast to peak in 2016-17, at about 18,400 pupils and then fluctuate at 17,800 pupils over the following three years.

Figure 10.1: Historic and forecast Reception pupils in Kent mainstream schools (2009-10 to 2019-20)



Source: School-based pupil forecasts (2015-based), Provision Planning and Operations, KCC.

Figure 10.2 below shows the total number of additional Year Reception places created in Kent schools. By September 2015 an additional 2,115 school places in Year R have been created.

Figure 10.2: Additional Reception places provided in Kent mainstream schools (2010-11 onwards)

District	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Ashford	0	45	170	200	170	206	236	236	206	206
Canterbury	0	0	1	1	1	76	52	52	52	52
Dartford	90	90	130	220	255	255	285	255	255	255
Dover	0	0	0	0	60	45	45	45	45	45
Gravesham	30	60	90	130	130	100	100	100	100	100
Maidstone	0	30	90	141	171	231	231	201	201	201
Sevenoaks	15	85	75	85	145	180	190	107	107	107
Shepway	0	0	15	15	45	80	50	50	50	50
Swale	0	75	105	205	280	300	330	330	330	330
Thanet	30	60	150	150	180	240	270	270	270	270
Tonbridge & Malling	30	43	43	73	113	188	143	143	143	143
Tunbridge Wells	50	150	150	239	149	214	184	184	184	184
Total	245	638	1,019	1,459	1,699	2,115	2,116	1,973	1,943	1,943

Source: Provision Planning and Operations, KCC, August 2015.

Note: The above table includes only those projects that have completed the statutory process for expansion and are at an advanced stage of planning. Places in excess of those shown above will need to be commissioned to meet forecast demand.

Figure 10.3 below presents Reception Year group data at District level. It shows that the growth in pupil numbers is not uniform across the County, nor is the level of surplus capacity. The current surplus capacity for Reception Year groups varies from 1.0% in Gravesham to 8.9% in Dover. If no further action is taken (in addition to the capacity added in 10.2) by the end of the forecasting period (2019-20) there will be 5.5% surplus capacity in Reception Year groups across the County. Action will be taken in those Districts where surplus capacity falls below 5% to provide additional places and new places will be needed to meet the demand generated by new housing. Solutions will vary from new provision to expansion of existing facilities through permanent or temporary means.

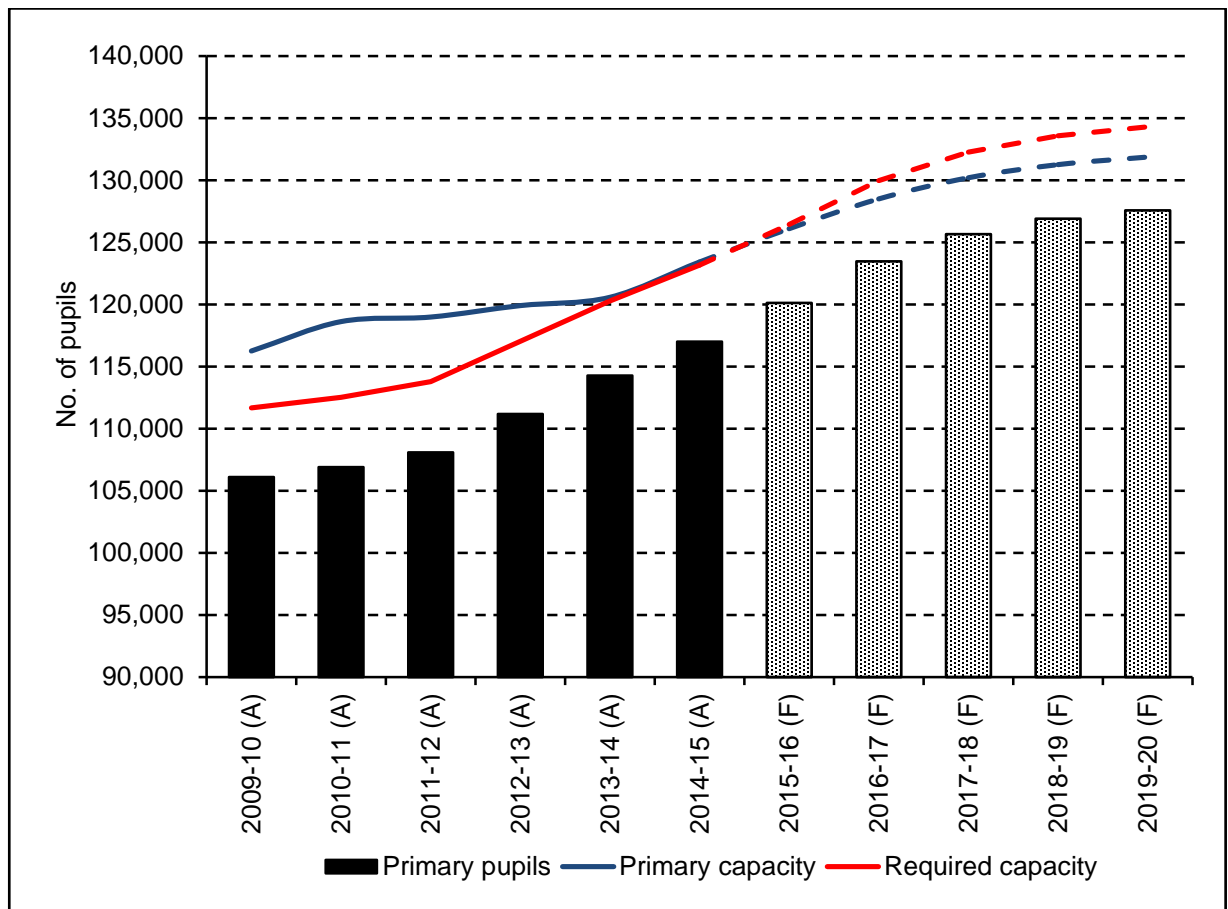
Figure 10.3: Current and forecast surplus / deficit of Reception places in Kent mainstream schools by District area

District	2014-15 capacity	2014-15 (A)	2015-16 (F)	2016-17 (F)	2017-18 (F)	2018-19 (F)	2019-20 (F)	2019-20 capacity
Ashford	1,594	114	111	22	70	123	86	1,630
Canterbury	1,527	102	124	106	145	152	141	1,578
Dartford	1,460	52	-2	-25	-34	-45	-40	1,460
Dover	1,333	119	111	13	99	121	109	1,310
Gravesham	1,371	14	-34	-174	-123	-173	-159	1,341
Maidstone	1,884	96	48	22	82	103	88	1,976
Sevenoaks	1,501	107	131	145	119	159	136	1,463
Shepway	1,271	82	86	106	112	115	109	1,264
Swale	1,944	56	202	73	151	155	154	1,994
Thanet	1,650	83	108	76	155	155	151	1,770
Tonbridge & Malling	1,646	77	164	105	36	81	82	1,673
Tunbridge Wells	1,315	103	84	100	181	201	172	1,325
Total	18,496	1,005	1,135	565	993	1,148	1,031	18,784

Source: School-based pupil forecasts (2015-based), Provision Planning and Operations, KCC.

Figure 10.4 below shows that the number of Primary pupils in Kent schools is forecast to rise from 106,097 in 2009-10 to around 127,583 in 2019-20. This is an expected increase of 20% from 2009-10 and 9% on current roll numbers. Kent Primary schools currently operate with 5.4% surplus capacity but this is forecast to decrease to 3.3% over the coming years, which demonstrates that pressure is building in all Primary year groups, not just the Reception entry year.

Figure 10.4: Historic and forecast Primary pupils in Kent mainstream schools (2009-10 to 2019-20)



Source: School-based pupil forecasts (2015-based), Provision Planning and Operations

Figure 10.5 below shows the total number of Primary school places that have been commissioned since 2010. These increase markedly year on year as expansions roll through the schools from Year R. Over the last five years we have added 8,350 places (278 classes of 30 pupils) or the equivalent of 40 new 1FE schools. By September 2019, the expansions which have already been approved will have added 13,683 places in total. This is equivalent to almost 456 additional classes, or 65 1FE Primary schools.

Figure 10.5: Additional Primary places provided in Kent mainstream schools (2010-11 onwards)

District	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Ashford	0	45	320	635	840	1,051	1,247	1,413	1,514	1,520
Canterbury	0	0	7	-173	-113	52	133	214	295	286
Dartford	90	180	310	530	785	1,040	1,325	1,470	1,615	1,720
Dover	0	0	0	0	60	135	180	225	270	315
Gravesham	30	90	180	310	490	550	640	700	730	730
Maidstone	0	30	150	343	612	867	1,092	1,287	1,407	1,467
Sevenoaks	15	100	175	305	480	650	830	897	904	921
Shepway	0	0	15	30	80	220	270	320	355	375
Swale	0	75	180	405	775	1,135	1,435	1,735	1,965	2,165
Thanet	30	120	270	460	720	960	1,290	1,545	1,710	1,800
Tonbridge & Malling	30	73	116	189	337	610	763	886	956	1,016
Tunbridge Wells	50	200	350	657	806	1,080	1,264	1,398	1,373	1,368
Total	245	913	2,073	3,691	5,872	8,350	10,469	12,090	13,094	13,683

Source: Provision Planning and Operations, KCC, August 2015.

Note: The above table includes only those projects that have completed the statutory process for expansion and are at an advanced stage of planning. Places in excess of those shown above will need to be commissioned to meet forecast demand.

Figure 10.6 below shows that current surplus capacity for Primary year groups (Reception - Year 6) varies across the County. It ranges from 1.1% in Gravesham to 8.7% in both Dover and Sevenoaks. Plans for additional capacity will be brought forward over the coming six months to ensure that at least 5% surplus capacity is maintained in each District area.

Figure 10.6: Current and forecast surplus / deficit of Primary places in Kent mainstream schools by District area

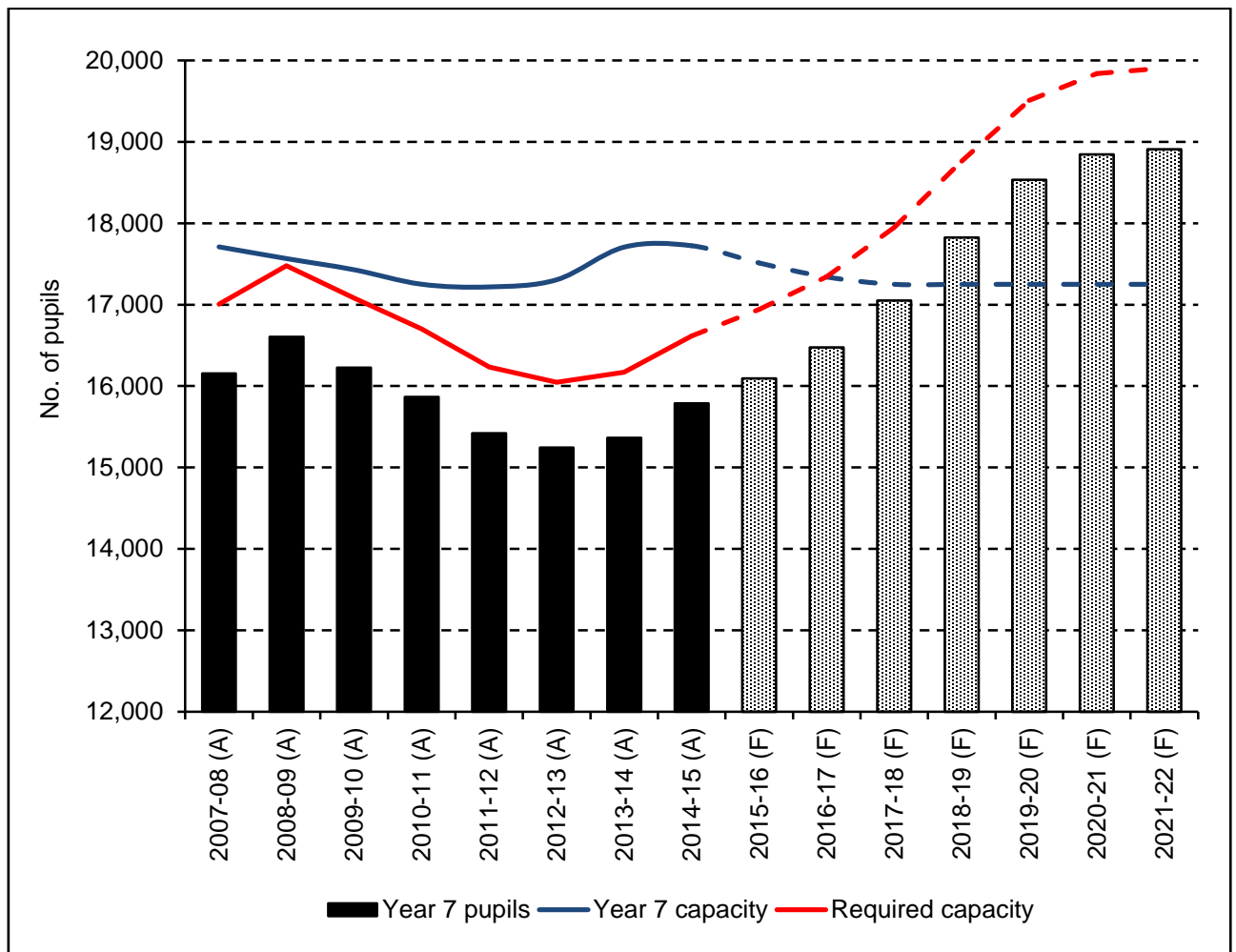
District	2014-15 capacity	2014-15 (A)	2015-16 (F)	2016-17 (F)	2017-18 (F)	2018-19 (F)	2019-20 (F)	2019-20 capacity
Ashford	10,788	461	471	383	280	291	303	11,493
Canterbury	10,628	700	614	558	567	567	550	11,051
Dartford	9,191	147	11	-74	-249	-362	-466	10,155
Dover	9,013	784	677	514	438	456	460	9,204
Gravesham	9,136	97	-71	-323	-510	-726	-943	9,462
Maidstone	12,598	782	625	468	373	322	259	13,786
Sevenoaks	9,944	865	828	789	772	789	844	10,430
Shepway	8,565	501	501	455	466	477	530	8,903
Swale	12,422	303	364	288	355	436	540	13,819
Thanet	11,082	318	344	429	548	625	708	12,327
Tonbridge & Malling	11,123	739	825	753	626	549	504	11,786
Tunbridge Wells	8,930	710	785	781	859	909	979	9,435
Total	123,420	6407	5973	5020	4526	4333	4268	131,851

Source: School-based pupil forecasts (2015-based), Provision Planning and Operations, KCC.

10.4 Current and Forecast Pupil Numbers in Mainstream Secondary Education

The number of Year 7 pupils in Kent Secondary schools has fallen for four consecutive years from 16,605 in 2008-09 to a low point of 15,244 in 2012-13 (see Figure 10.7). Thereafter, Year 7 rolls have begun to increase and are forecast to rise to almost 20,000 in 2023-24 (an increase of 28% on current roll numbers) when the 2016-17 Reception Year bulge reaches Secondary schools. This means that a large number of new places, in excess of 2,000 places (67 forms of entry) need to be commissioned to accommodate likely future demand. This is a very significant increase in provision, equivalent to 10 or more new Secondary schools.

Figure 10.7: Historic and forecast Year 7 pupils in Kent mainstream schools (2007-08 to 2021-22)



Source: School-based pupil forecasts (2015-based), Provision Planning and Operations, KCC.

Changes in capacity in the Secondary sector have in recent years, been largely confined to individual schools determining they can accommodate additional pupils, the opening of free schools, and more recently the closure of Chaucer, Hextable and Marlowe Schools. (See Figures 10.8 and 10.11).

Figure 10.8: Additional Year 7 places provided in Kent mainstream schools (2010-11 onwards)

District	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
Ashford	-15	-15	-15	135	135	165	165	165	165	165	165	165
Canterbury	0	0	0	30	-80	-110	-80	-140	-140	-140	-140	-140
Dartford	0	0	70	70	70	150	100	100	100	100	100	100
Dover	-30	-30	-15	-98	-68	-28	-58	-58	-58	-58	-58	-58
Gravesham	0	0	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
Maidstone	0	0	17	47	47	47	47	47	47	47	47	47
Sevenoaks	-60	-60	-60	60	60	-90	-90	-90	-90	-90	-90	-90
Shepway	0	0	0	0	-15	-15	-15	-15	-15	-15	-15	-15
Swale	0	20	35	60	60	90	90	60	60	60	60	60
Thanet	0	0	0	0	0	-100	-100	-100	-100	-100	-100	-100
Tonbridge & Malling	0	0	35	158	202	177	169	169	169	169	169	169
Tunbridge Wells	14	14	44	49	79	79	19	19	19	19	19	19
Total	-91	-71	141	541	520	395	277	187	187	187	187	187

Source: Provision Planning and Operations, KCC, August 2015.

Note: The above table includes only those projects that have completed the statutory process for expansion and are at an advanced stage of planning. Places in excess of those shown above will need to be commissioned to meet forecast demand.

Figure 10.9 below shows that current surplus capacity for Year 7 is 10.3% across Kent, but the figure varies across District areas. By the end of the forecasting period (2021-22) there will be around 10% deficit capacity in Year 7 across the County (based on current capacity data) so plans to commission additional Secondary school places will need to be brought forward to address this situation.

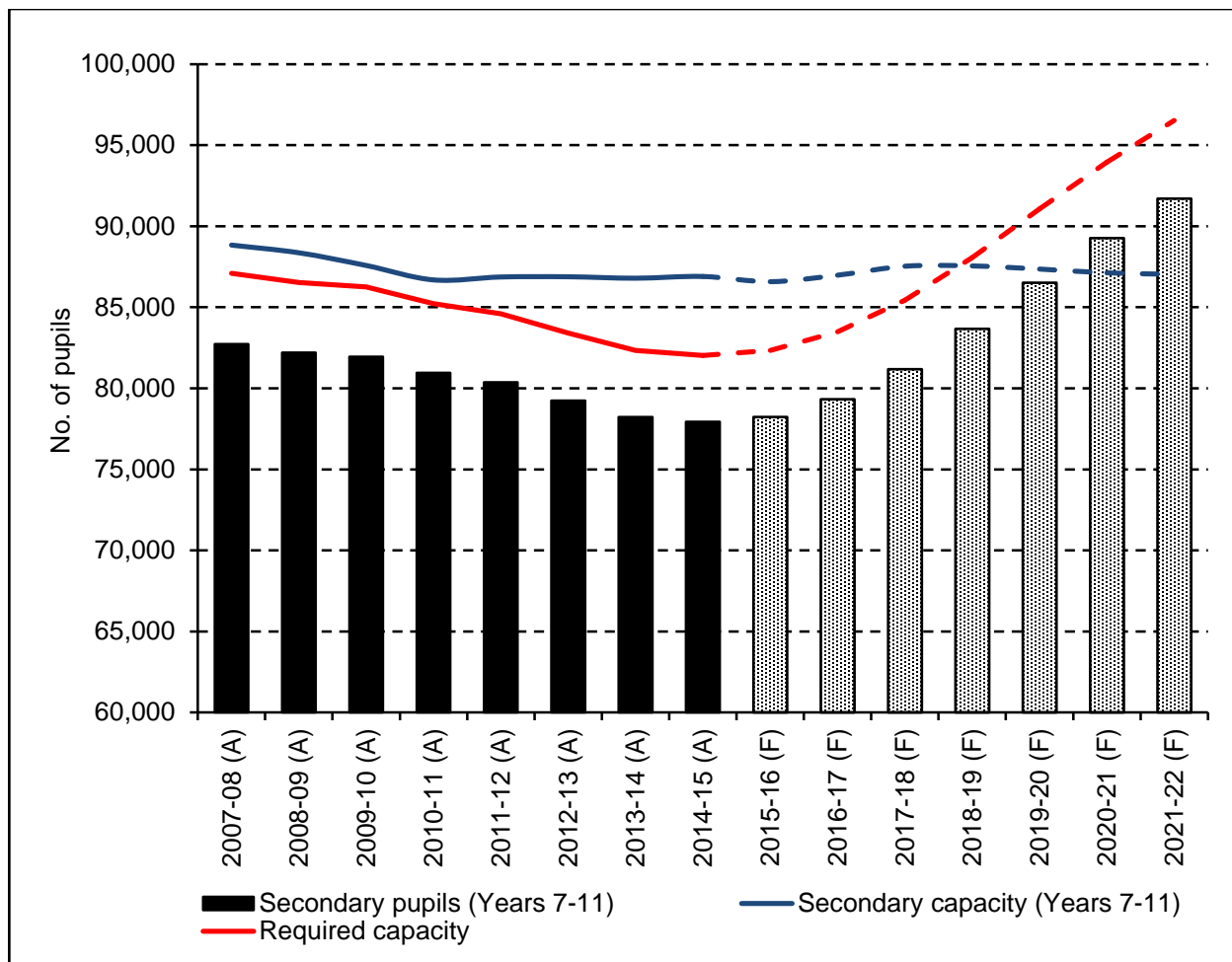
Figure 10.9: Current and forecast surplus / (deficit) of Year 7 places in Kent mainstream schools by District area

District	2014-15 capacity	2014-15 (A)	2015-16 (F)	2016-17 (F)	2017-18 (F)	2018-19 (F)	2019-20 (F)	2020-21 (F)	2021-22 (F)	2021-22 capacity
Ashford	1,522	192	202	165	202	106	-11	-41	36	1,538
Canterbury	1,568	44	50	-41	-125	-129	-203	-226	-212	1,501
Dartford	1,475	53	62	-28	-68	-117	-199	-242	-289	1,525
Dover	1,360	234	253	91	94	-10	33	-73	-1	1,315
Gravesham	1,314	116	61	-8	-76	-159	-161	-215	-241	1,308
Maidstone	2,065	171	129	129	46	-79	-173	-220	-259	2,047
Sevenoaks	630	127	3	29	3	-37	-41	-33	-64	480
Shepway	1,195	199	209	202	136	130	58	52	72	1,195
Swale	1,685	172	156	81	-8	-76	-149	-159	-281	1,685
Thanet	1,554	201	24	11	-74	-110	-233	-241	-194	1,444
Tonbridge & Malling	1,841	279	180	184	114	58	-10	-34	-61	1,768
Tunbridge Wells	1,515	149	88	49	-47	-153	-194	-166	-167	1,444
Total	17,724	1,937	1,417	864	198	-576	-1,285	-1,597	-1,660	17,250

Source: School-based pupil forecasts (2015-based), Provision Planning and Operations, KCC.

The number of Year 7-11 pupils in Kent Secondary schools has been declining over the previous seven years from 82,736 in 2007-08 to 77,931 in 2014-15. Secondary school rolls are forecast to rise consistently to 91,697 in 2021-22 and on to nearly 97,000 by 2025-26, an increase of 24% on current roll numbers (Figure 10.10). Figure 10.11 shows capacity changes from 2010 onwards.

Figure 10.10: Historic and forecast Secondary pupils in Kent mainstream schools (2007-08 to 2021-22)



Source: School-based pupil forecasts (2015-based), Provision Planning and Operations, KCC

Figure 10.11: Additional Secondary places (Years 7-11) provided in Kent mainstream schools (2010-11 onwards)

District	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
Ashford	-135	-120	-105	60	225	405	585	765	795	825	825	825
Canterbury	0	0	0	30	-500	-610	-540	-530	-550	-610	-640	-700
Dartford	0	0	70	140	360	660	710	740	770	800	800	800
Dover	-150	-150	-135	-415	-430	-405	-350	-310	-270	-260	-290	-290
Gravesham	0	0	30	60	90	120	150	150	150	150	150	150
Maidstone	0	0	17	64	111	158	205	235	235	235	235	235
Sevenoaks	-300	-300	-300	-180	-60	-540	-570	-450	-450	-450	-450	-450
Shepway	0	0	0	0	-255	-210	-165	-120	-75	-75	-75	-75

District	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
Swale	0	20	55	115	175	265	335	360	360	360	330	300
Thanet	0	0	0	0	0	-500	-500	-500	-500	-500	-500	-500
Tonbridge & Malling	0	0	35	193	395	572	741	875	886	853	845	845
Tunbridge Wells	14	28	72	121	200	282	184	206	223	210	180	180
Total	-571	-522	-261	188	311	197	785	1,421	1,574	1,538	1,410	1,320

Source: Provision Planning and Operations, KCC, August 2015.

Note: The above table includes only those projects that have completed the statutory process for expansion and are at an advanced stage of planning. Places in excess of those shown above will need to be commissioned to meet forecast demand.

Figure 10.12 below shows that current surplus capacity for Secondary year groups (Years 7-11) is 10.3% across Kent. This is forecast to decrease over the coming years; such that by the end of the forecasting period if no action is taken there will be an 5.4% deficit of places in Secondary schools across the County. In recent times the immediate pressures have been to accommodate peak years of Primary children entering the education system, as well as unprecedented numbers moving into the County (in other year groups). Over the coming years the general focus will shift away from expansion of Primary places to the funding and commissioning of additional Secondary places.

Figure 10.12: Current and forecast surplus / (deficit) of Secondary places in Kent mainstream schools by District area

District	2014-15 capacity	2014-15 (A)	2015-16 (F)	2016-17 (F)	2017-18 (F)	2018-19 (F)	2019-20 (F)	2020-21 (F)	2021-22 (F)	2021-22 capacity
Ashford	7,083	638	751	829	937	858	655	411	283	7,690
Canterbury	7,747	283	143	45	-182	-375	-624	-900	-1,071	7,505
Dartford	7,385	485	535	455	363	170	-39	-344	-604	7,925
Dover	6,705	843	891	822	779	600	399	74	-18	6,575
Gravesham	6,510	599	545	408	162	-119	-395	-670	-904	6,540
Maidstone	10,268	1,143	1,005	880	721	406	62	-287	-674	10,235
Sevenoaks	2,790	721	278	155	123	22	-42	-79	-171	2,400
Shepway	5,795	839	937	1,026	953	886	745	587	457	5,975
Swale	8,369	781	826	806	645	395	72	-243	-605	8,425
Thanet	7,748	743	506	527	327	77	-351	-616	-820	7,220
Tonbridge & Malling	8,599	944	1,088	1,180	1,136	908	620	406	162	8,840
Tunbridge Wells	7,902	951	847	526	397	60	-253	-478	-694	7,706
Total	86,901	8,970	8,354	7,660	6,360	3,888	849	-2,136	-4,661	87,036

Source: School-based pupil forecasts (2015-based), Provision Planning and Operations, KCC.

10.5 Travel flows

Travel to school flows from one District area to another at the Primary phase are relatively small but the situation is very different at the Secondary phase where there are some significant travel flows (Figure 10.13), including into the County as well as between Kent District areas. For more detail about out of country pupils travelling into Kent schools see Figure 10.14.

Figure 10.13: Net travel flows for Secondary pupils (Years 7-11) at mainstream Kent mainstream schools (January 2015)

School District	Pupil home area													Total
	Ashford	Canterbury	Dartford	Dover	Gravesham	Maidstone	Sevenoaks	Shepway	Swale	Thanet	Tonbridge & Malling	Tunbridge Wells	Out of County	
Ashford	5,962	24	0	5	0	93	1	111	5	0	1	129	113	6,444
Canterbury	257	6,366	1	275	0	3	0	199	285	66	0	0	7	7,459
Dartford	0	0	4,208	0	225	1	1,049	0	1	0	10	0	1,405	6,899
Dover	4	38	0	5,095	0	0	0	305	1	415	0	0	2	5,860
Gravesham	0	0	415	0	5,087	3	197	1	3	0	10	0	195	5,911
Maidstone	346	0	1	3	6	7,153	27	1	32	0	1,288	127	130	9,114
Sevenoaks	0	0	210	0	16	4	1,639	0	0	0	82	1	117	2,069
Shepway	187	8	0	71	1	2	0	4,675	2	0	0	0	10	4,956
Swale	49	250	4	4	2	60	6	2	7,130	13	0	0	67	7,587
Thanet	0	193	0	19	0	0	0	0	2	6,786	0	0	3	7,003
Tonbridge & Malling	54	0	13	2	167	265	1,248	7	15	0	4,206	975	702	7,654
Tunbridge Wells	77	3	3	2	1	402	786	0	2	1	1,000	4,240	434	6,951
Total	6,936	6,882	4,855	5,476	5,505	7,986	4,953	5,301	7,478	7,281	6,597	5,472	3,185	77,907

Source: Schools Census January 2015, Management Information Unit, KCC.

Figure 10.14: Out of County travel flows for Secondary pupils (Years 7-11) into Kent mainstream schools (January 2015)

School District	Pupil home area (Out of County breakdown)							Total
	Medway	Bexley	Bromley	East Sussex	Greenwich	Lewisham	Other	
Ashford	1	0	1	110	0	1	0	113
Canterbury	2	0	1	0	0	1	3	7
Dartford	30	665	351	0	193	109	57	1,405
Dover	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Gravesham	150	7	3	0	16	4	15	195
Maidstone	119	1	1	0	0	2	7	130
Sevenoaks	4	8	98	1	1	1	4	117
Shepway	0	0	0	7	0	0	3	10
Swale	61	0	0	0	1	0	5	67
Thanet	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3
Tonbridge & Malling	392	3	109	128	2	2	66	702
Tunbridge Wells	3	0	15	402	1	0	13	434
Total	764	684	579	648	214	120	176	3,185

Source: Schools Census January 2015, Management Information Unit, KCC.

Secondary pupils often travel significant distances, especially in the West of the County to grammar school and denominational provision. Over 3,000 Out of County children travel to Kent mainstream Secondary schools (predominantly grammar schools) which include over 750 Medway children, over 1,400 that travel into Dartford from London Boroughs, 700 that travel into Tonbridge and Malling and 400 into Tunbridge Wells.

Only around a third of children resident in Sevenoaks District attend mainstream Secondary provision within the District, while in excess of 1,000 travel to Dartford, 1,200 to Tonbridge and almost 800 to Tunbridge Wells. Plans are currently being brought forward to expand local provision in order to offer local residents a more comprehensive range of schooling options, without having to travel long distances to neighbouring District areas.

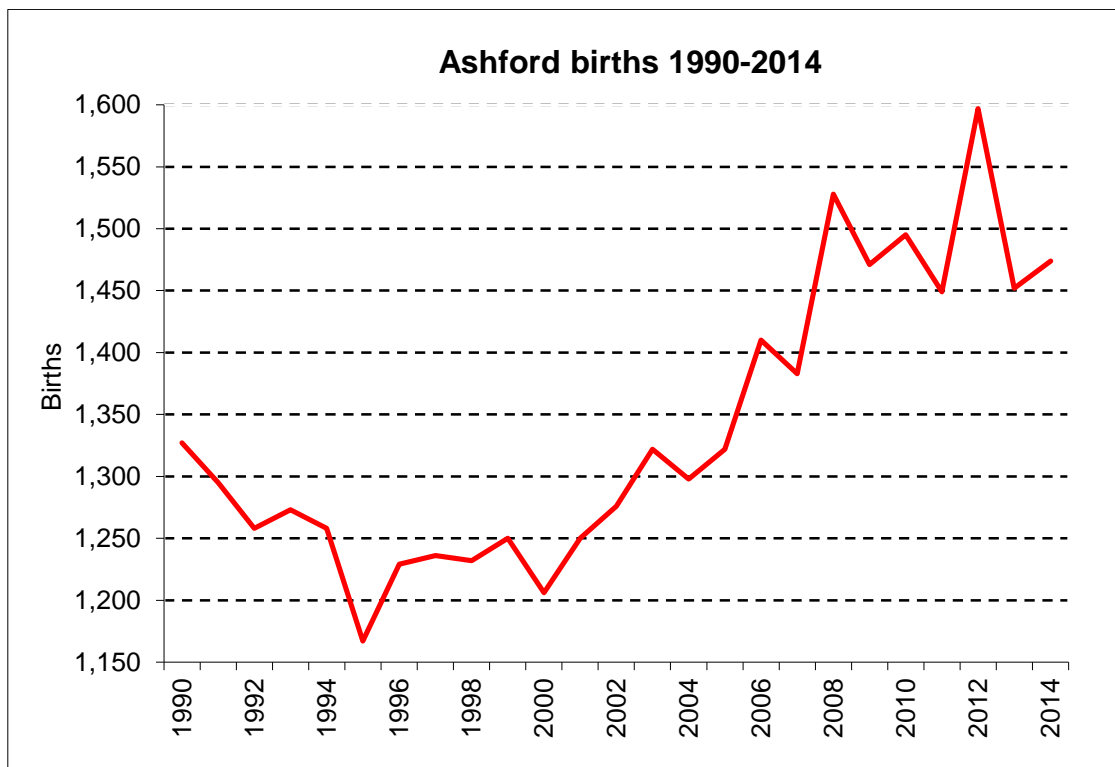
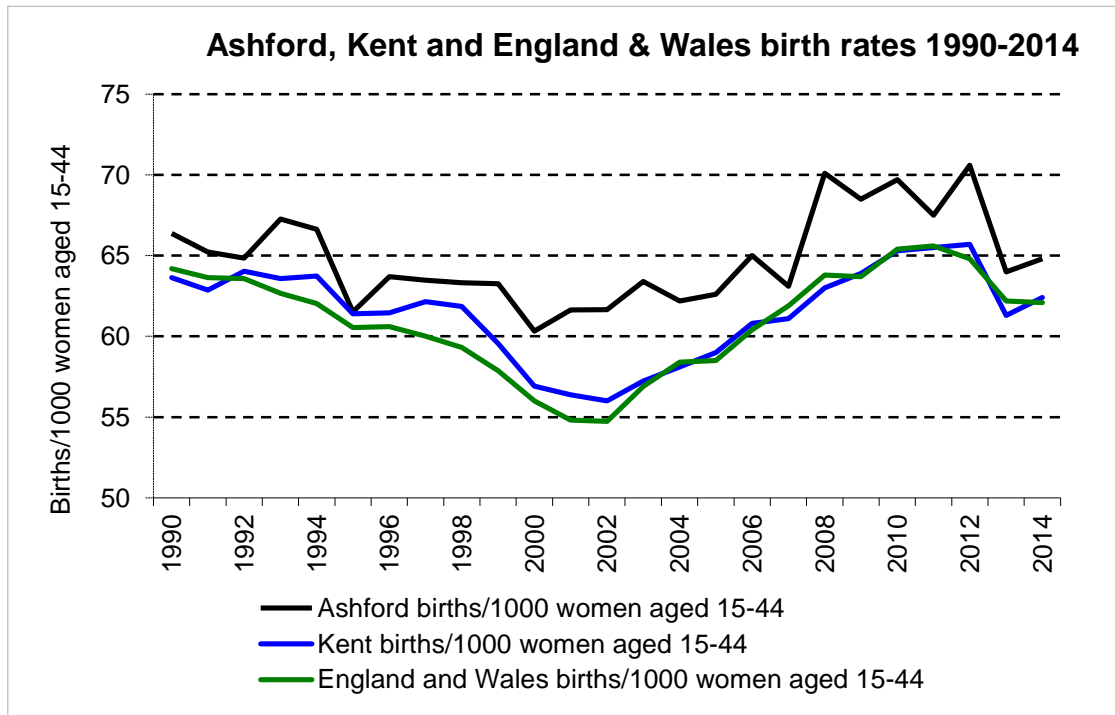
10.6 ASHFORD

Overview

- Ashford's birth rate continues to follow the County and National trends, with a significant drop in 2013, but a slight recovery in 2014. The Borough's birth rate remains 2 to 3 points above the County and National rates. The number of births in 2014 remains 4FE fewer than the peak of 2012.
- Ashford's Core Strategy (2008) includes the target of 20,000 new homes to be built in the Borough between 2001 and 2021. By 31 March 2015, 7,919 new homes were completed.
- Reception year numbers peak in 2016-17 at 1,638 pupils, compared to 1,480 pupils in 2014-15. Thereafter numbers reduce to 1,544 by 2019-20. Total Primary school rolls continue to rise until 2018-19.
- The expansion of schools and the opening of three new schools in Ashford since 2012 has kept capacity in line with demand. Moving forward, temporary expansions will be needed to manage the peak in demand for Year R places in 2016-17 and 2017-18, and new schools will be required to support major housing developments.
- Secondary pressures begin in Year 7 in 2019-20, at which point demand is expected to exceed supply. By 2021-22 only 2% of all Secondary school places (11 to 16) are forecast to be vacant. Plans are in place for a new Secondary school in the Chilmington Green development (5,750 homes) from 2022-23 (subject to house building).

District Analysis – Primary

The charts below set out the birth rates and the tables set out the school population figures and forecasts:



School-based surplus / deficit capacity summaries: Year R

Planning Group	2014-15 capacity	2014-15 (A)	2015-16 (F)	2016-17 (F)	2017-18 (F)	2018-19 (F)	2019-20 (F)	2019-20 capacity
Ashford Central	210	1	-1	0	12	-20	-17	210
Ashford North	210	12	6	-3	20	26	20	210
Ashford South	360	11	-12	-31	-42	-10	-22	360
Ashford South East	180	12	55	26	17	35	27	210
Willesborough	180	2	-13	-16	-18	6	-4	180
Ashford Rural East	80	21	16	8	9	11	10	80
Ashford Rural West	100	30	27	13	24	26	26	100
Charing and Challock	50	4	5	-4	-6	-3	-3	50
Chilham	15	0	1	3	2	1	1	15
Biddenden	20	2	-2	-3	1	0	0	20
Hamstreet and Woodchurch	65	-2	13	8	10	9	10	71
Tenterden	124	21	16	21	43	42	39	124
Ashford	1,594	114	111	22	70	123	86	1,630

All Year Groups

Planning Group	2014-15 capacity	2014-15 (A)	2015-16 (F)	2016-17 (F)	2017-18 (F)	2018-19 (F)	2019-20 (F)	2019-20 capacity
Ashford Central	1,350	5	-17	-29	-33	-60	-84	1,530
Ashford North	1,425	70	62	61	51	60	68	1,470
Ashford South	2,490	86	53	6	-68	-98	-136	2,550
Ashford South East	1,140	14	121	142	155	189	212	1,470
Willesborough	1,260	31	5	-22	-72	-80	-89	1,260
Ashford Rural East	525	35	42	49	48	57	64	560
Ashford Rural West	700	88	96	86	104	124	137	700
Charing and Challock	330	14	13	5	-2	-3	-10	350
Chilham	105	4	4	5	4	5	5	105
Biddenden	140	4	-4	-14	-19	-21	-25	140
Hamstreet and Woodchurch	455	-2	2	2	5	6	15	485
Tenterden	868	112	95	93	108	112	144	873
Ashford	10,788	461	471	383	280	291	303	11,493

There are currently 43 Primary schools in Ashford Borough distributed across 12 planning groups. 1,594 Reception Year places were available in 2014-15. The number of places increase to 1,630 for 2015-16 following the opening of the new academy at Finberry (Ashford South East) coupled with an increase in the Published Admission Number of Woodchurch CEPS (Hamstreet and Woodchurch).

The pressures in Ashford continue to be a combination of larger Year R cohorts entering schools compared to Year 6 cohorts moving to Secondary schools, and migration. The balance has changed – in 2013-14 three quarters of the increase in Primary rolls in Ashford was due to larger Year R cohorts joining schools, and one quarter was in-migration into all year groups. In 2014-15 it was broadly 50:50. The forecasts indicate

that the Year R cohort will increase from 1,480 (2014-15) to 1,638 (2016-17) and then reduce to 1,544 (2019-20). Total Primary school rolls will grow from 10,326 to 11,190.

As can be seen from the tables there are two years when surplus Year R places are forecast to be below the 5% target – 2016-17 and 2017-18. This suggests temporary solutions are required, rather than permanent expansions of schools. The tables show a deficit of Year R places in Ashford South and Willesborough planning groups. While there is some surplus capacity in neighbouring planning groups which can support this demand, additional temporary places will be required in at least one of these planning groups in 2016-17 and 2017-18.

The tables also show that throughout the forecast period, surplus places will exist across all year groups, but the percentages vary from 4.3% to about 2.6% at the end of the forecast period. The proposal to open the first new Primary school to serve the Chilmington Green development (5,750 homes), together with the temporary Year R places will address this issue, taking total surplus capacity to an estimated 4.9% within the Borough.

In rural areas there is capacity to accommodate the demand. Isolated pressures appear in the forecasts, but generally capacity exists in neighbouring planning groups to ensure all pupils can secure places, and in some instances the demand is driven by parental preference rather than local demography. The total roll forecasts suggest a class base may be needed at Biddenden, but significant surplus capacity exists in the neighbouring planning groups of Tenterden and Ashford Rural West.

House-building in the area is set to continue, albeit perhaps at a lower rate than the current core strategy suggests. In 2014-15 school year 405 new homes were built in the Borough. It is reasonable to assume the Borough might again deliver housing at a rate similar to that experienced before the recent downturn (ie 750 units per annum). The provision of new schools is being factored into the planning for the Borough, with several schools and sites being requested or secured via developer contributions, including a new Secondary school. As these schools are built to serve these new communities, the timings are linked to those of the housing developments. As mentioned above the new Primary academy at Finberry in Cheeseman's Green opened in September 2015 at 1FE and will expand to 2FE in due course. 1FE of new provision will be commissioned for Chilmington Green for 2017 (expanding subsequently). Housing developments are also planned around the Conningbrook Lakes area (Willesborough Planning Group) and these developments will necessitate provision of a 2FE Primary School in Willesborough. Smaller scale development in Charing may, over time, necessitate the expansion of the village school.

Migration is increasing the size of all year groups in our Primary schools. However, this situation is being managed through the opening of new schools with places across the year groups.

District Analysis – Secondary

The table below sets out the school population figures and forecasts for Year 7 and Years 7-11:

	2014-15 PAN / capacity	2014-15 (A)	2015-16 (F)	2016-17 (F)	2017-18 (F)	2018-19 (F)	2019-20 (F)	2020-21 (F)	2021-22 (F)	2021-22 PAN / capacity
Year 7	1,522	192	202	165	202	106	-11	-41	36	1,538
Years 7-11	7,083	638	751	829	937	858	655	411	283	7,690

The number of Year 7 Secondary school places in Ashford in 2014-15 is 1,522. Currently, 13% of Year 7 places are vacant in Ashford, with 9% of all Secondary school places surplus. The Year 7 cohort fluctuates over the coming years, but rises within the forecasting period to 1,581 (2020-21). It will go on to peak in 2023-24 when the 2016-17 Year R cohort enters Secondary school. It is forecast that there will be a shortfall of Year 7 places from 2019-20. There is forecast to be surplus capacity across all year groups (7-11), but this will reduce to 4% in 2021-22.

It is probable that the housing development at Chilmington Green will start in early 2016. The intention is to commission a new Secondary school within this development on land and with funding provided by the developer, with an opening date of 2022-23 (subject to house building). The shortfall in Year 7 places between 2019-20 and 2022-23 will need to be managed with the support of existing schools. Developer contributions are being sought to help provide the additional facilities existing schools will require to manage the situation.

Ashford Primary School Commissioning Position

Planning Group	by 2016-17	by 2017-18	by 2018-19	2019–20 to 2021-22)
Ashford South East			1FE expansion of Finberry	
Ashford South	30 Year R places	1FE (of 2FE) at Chilmington Green 30 Year R places		1FE at Chilmington Green
Willesborough				2FE in Willesborough
Charing and Challock			0.3FE expansion of Charing CEPS	

Ashford Secondary School Commissioning Position

by 2016-17	by 2017-18	by 2018-19	2019-20 to 2021-22)
			2019-20 60 Year 7 Places 2020-21 90 Year 7 places 2022: 4FE (of 8FE) school in Chilmington Green

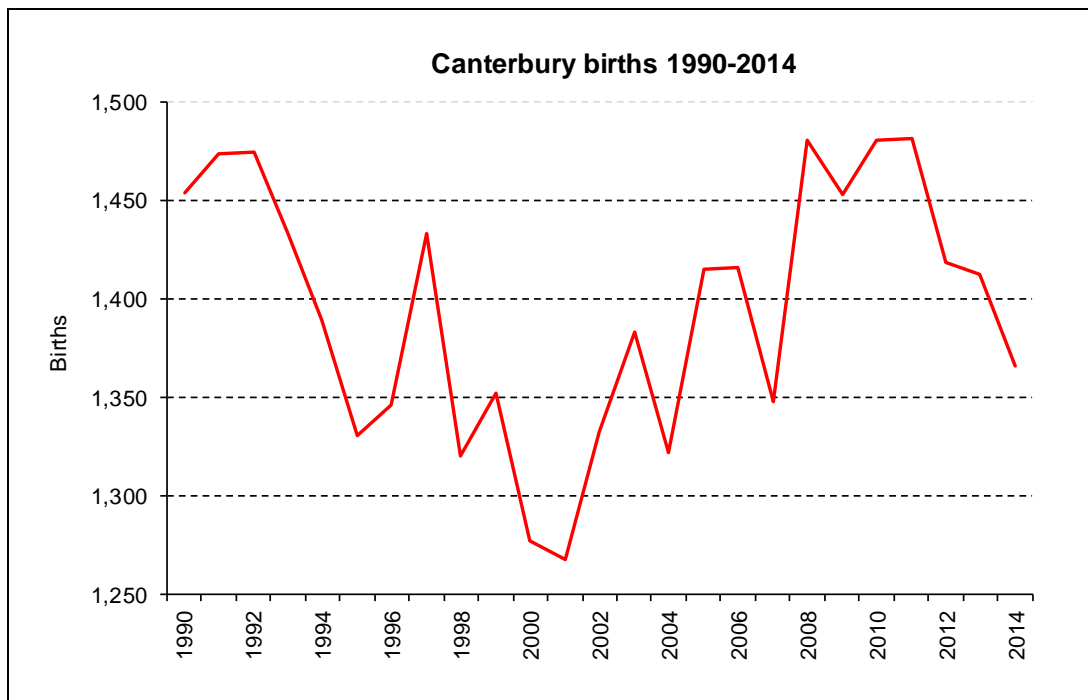
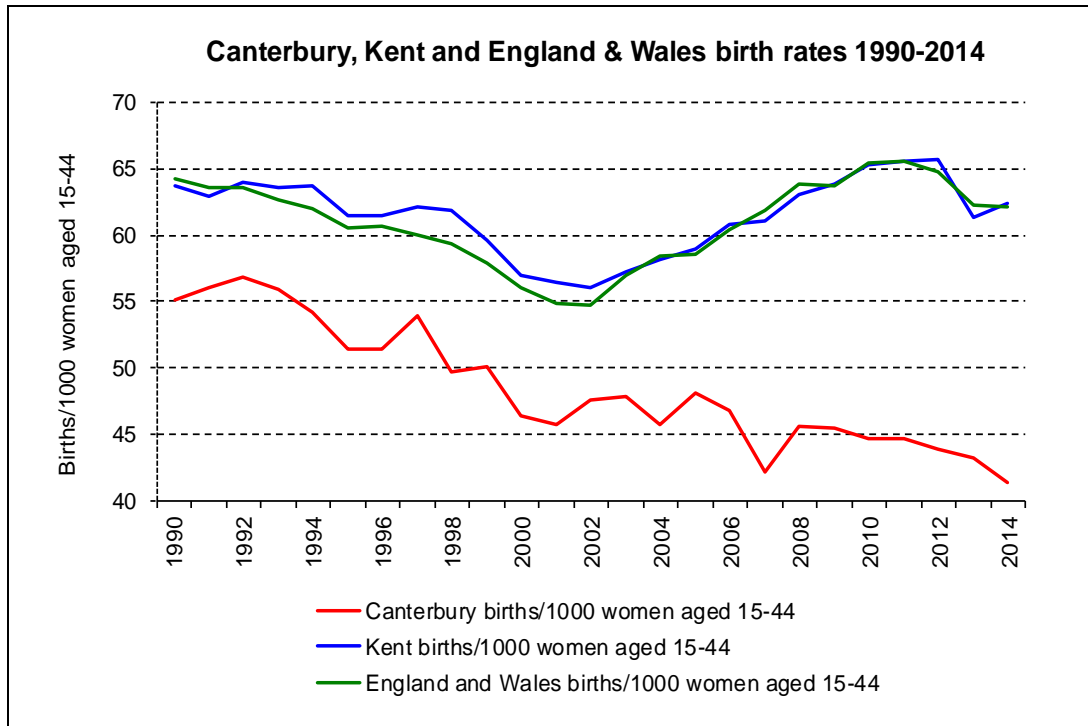
10.7 CANTERBURY

Overview

- The Canterbury birth rate differs to Kent and the National picture as it is lower overall, and the number of births has fallen further over the last year.
- Significant new housing proposed in the Canterbury Local Plan is expected to start impacting from 2019-20 and in the longer term up to 12FE of new Primary provision and expansion of existing schools will be required.
- Reception Year numbers peak this year at 1,486, compared to 1,425 in 2014-15. Thereafter numbers reduce to 1,437 by 2019-20. Total Primary school rolls continue to rise during the forecast period with approximately 5% surplus capacity across the District.
- There are specific localities within the Canterbury District where there is pressure due to inward migration and population movements between towns. This is particularly evident in Herne with pressure across all year groups.
- The permanent and temporary expansion of schools since 2013 has helped to keep capacity broadly in line with demand. Moving forward more temporary places will be needed in 2016-17 and 2017-18, and new schools will be required to support major housing developments.
- Secondary pressures begin in Year 7 in 2016 when some capacity will need to be increased in existing Secondary schools. Over and above this, the medium to long term analysis of the District highlights the need for additional Secondary capacity, from 2019 onwards when a deficit of -8.2% to -14.3% is forecast across years 7 to 11. The amount of capacity required will also be dependent on the commencement and pace of proposed housing developments.

District Analysis – Primary

The charts below set out the birth rates and the table sets out the school population figures and forecasts:



School-based surplus/deficit capacity summaries: Year R

Planning Group	2014-15 capacity	2014-15 (A)	2015-16 (F)	2016-17 (F)	2017-18 (F)	2018-19 (F)	2019-20 (F)	2019-20 capacity
Canterbury	435	42	38	40	53	46	46	465
Barham and Bridge	110	15	14	21	20	20	18	110
Chartham and Petham	61	2	15	19	13	14	14	80
Littlebourne & Wickhambreaux	30	3	4	5	1	-7	-3	30
Sturry and Marshside	96	2	15	12	4	10	9	98
Herne	90	1	-16	-8	4	-21	-10	90
Herne Bay	345	18	27	5	27	35	27	345
Whitstable	360	19	27	8	22	56	41	360
Canterbury	1,527	102	124	102	145	152	141	1,578

All Year Groups

Planning Group	2014-15 capacity	2014-15 (A)	2015-16 (F)	2016-17 (F)	2017-18 (F)	2018-19 (F)	2019-20 (F)	2019-20 capacity
Canterbury	3,097	303	279	273	267	263	255	3,235
Barham and Bridge	750	44	40	52	61	74	77	770
Chartham and Petham	428	19	25	44	53	67	78	522
Littlebourne & Wickhambreaux	212	32	39	46	40	39	33	215
Sturry and Marshside	664	34	17	18	-3	0	-2	682
Herne	630	12	-16	-36	-34	-59	-72	630
Herne Bay	2,465	190	149	91	101	57	43	2,465
Whitstable	2,382	66	80	69	83	127	139	2,532
Canterbury	10,628	700	614	558	567	567	550	11,051

There are currently 35 Primary schools in the Canterbury District and a total of 1,527 places available in Reception Year in 2014-15, increasing to 1,602 in September 2015. These figures include the permanent expansion at The Canterbury PS, 30 temporary places at Hampton

A population shift over the last academic year from Whitstable to Herne and Herne Bay combined with an increased rate of inward migration into all three of these localities has resulted in pressure on places particularly in Years 1 and 2. Temporary additional Year 2 capacity was established at Reculver CEPS and temporary additional Year 3 capacity has been established at Whitstable Junior School from September 2015. KCC will work with the Primary schools in Whitstable and Herne Bay to establish temporary additional capacity for Year 2 for the 2015-16 academic year.

There is a need for additional school places to serve the Herne area. Expansion at Herne Infant and Junior schools is not an option due to Highways constraints. KCC

will commission an additional 42 places at Hoath Primary School to help meet this demand from September 2016.

With the increase in the number of Reception Year places available from 2015-16, it is expected that there will be a surplus of 7.7% across the District. The number of surplus places across the whole Primary age range will reduce to 5.0% by 2019. Pressure on places in rural areas will be managed through discussions with schools, in particular Wickhambreaux CE Primary School where forecasts indicate local pressures from 2018 linked to housing development.

New housing development included in Canterbury City Council's (CCC) draft Local Plan indicates that there will be up to 15,600 new dwellings during the period to 2031, with a build rate of 780 dwellings per annum across the District. Following inspection this is likely to increase to 16,000 new dwellings with a build rate of 800 dwellings annually. Significant developments are planned for Canterbury, Herne Bay and the Sturry and Hersden localities. Careful planning will be needed because of the uncertainty of when and where development will commence.

It is expected that new Primary school provision and some expansion of existing schools will be required from 2019-20 onwards to meet the demand from new housing. The provision of new schools is being factored into the planning for the District with up to five schools and sites being requested or secured with developer contributions. As these schools are built to serve these new communities, the timings are linked to those housing developments.

Until CCC's Local Development Plan is agreed, additional planning applications for significant developments not included in the current draft Development Plan will continue to be submitted. These will need to be responded to from an education capacity perspective as they arise. Examples of these developments are Thanington and Chestfield and, where required, options for school sites will be pursued.

District Analysis – Secondary

The table below sets out the school population figures and forecasts for Year 7 and Years 7-11:

	2014-15 PAN / capacity	2014-15 (A)	2015-16 (F)	2016-17 (F)	2017-18 (F)	2018-19 (F)	2019-20 (F)	2020-21 (F)	2021-22 (F)	2021-22 PAN / capacity
Year 7	1,568	44	50	-41	-125	-129	-203	-226	-212	1,501
Years 7-11	7,747	283	143	45	-182	-375	-624	-900	-1,071	7,505

The number of Year 7 places was 1,558 in 2014 and, following the closure of Chaucer Technology School, this reduced to 1,501 from 2015. Currently up to 3FE of additional capacity is being provided on a temporary basis as other schools are being flexible with the number places they can provide. From September 2016 it is planned to add capacity at both Canterbury Academy and The Spires (30 temporary Year 7 places at each school). KCC is undertaking feasibility work to provide additional accommodation for these schools to permanently expand by 1FE from September 2017. It is also planned that a 1FE permanent expansion of Barton Court Grammar School will commence from September 2017. Depending on the build-out rate of new housing, further provision will be required from September 2019 onwards, including additional provision to serve Herne Bay and Whitstable. KCC will seek ways to provide this with the Canterbury Coastal and City schools. Consideration will be given to both selective and non-selective requirements.

Canterbury Primary School Commissioning Position

Planning Group	by 2016-17	by 2017-18	by 2018-19	2019–20 to 2021-22)
Canterbury				Up to 5FE in Canterbury
Sturry and Marshside	0.2FE at Hoath PS			2FE in Sturry
Littlebourne and Wickhambreaux			Up to 0.5FE at Wickhambreaux CEPS	
Herne Bay/Herne	30 Year 2 places		1FE in Herne Bay 1FE at Briary PS	3FE in Herne Bay
Whitstable	30 Year 2 places			1FE in Whitstable

Canterbury Secondary School Commissioning Position

by 2016-17	by 2017-18	by 2018-19	2019–20 to 2021-22)
30 Year 7 places at Spires Academy 30 Year 7 places at Canterbury Academy	1FE at Spires Academy 1FE at Canterbury Academy 1FE at Barton Court Grammar School		5FE across Whitstable, Herne Bay and Canterbury.

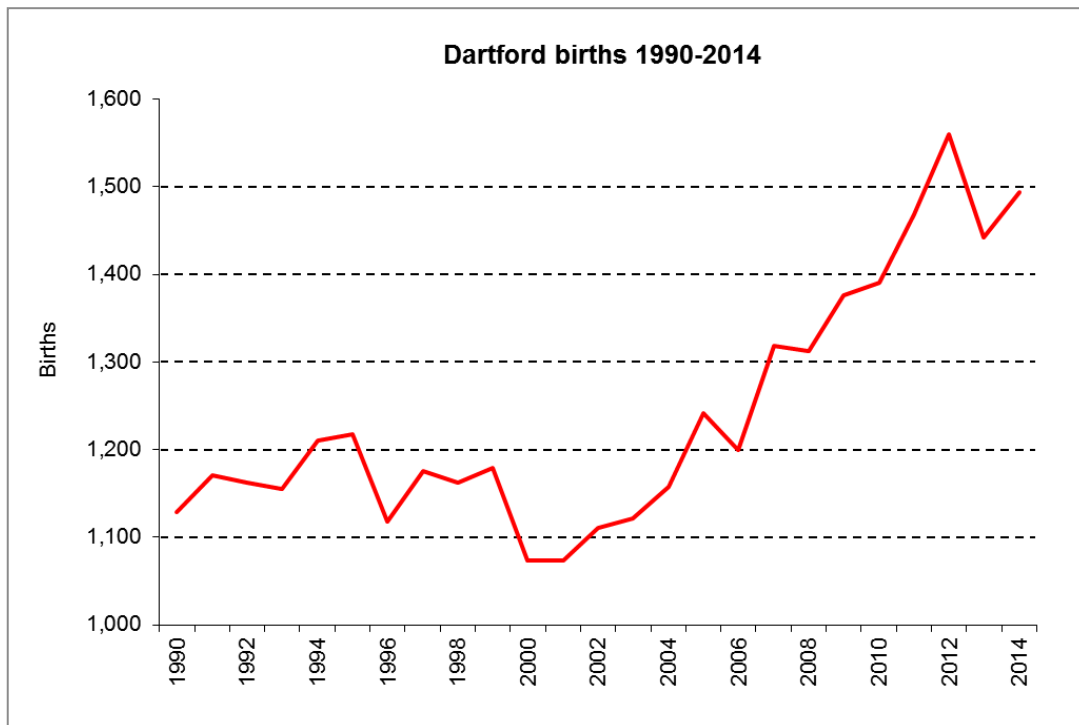
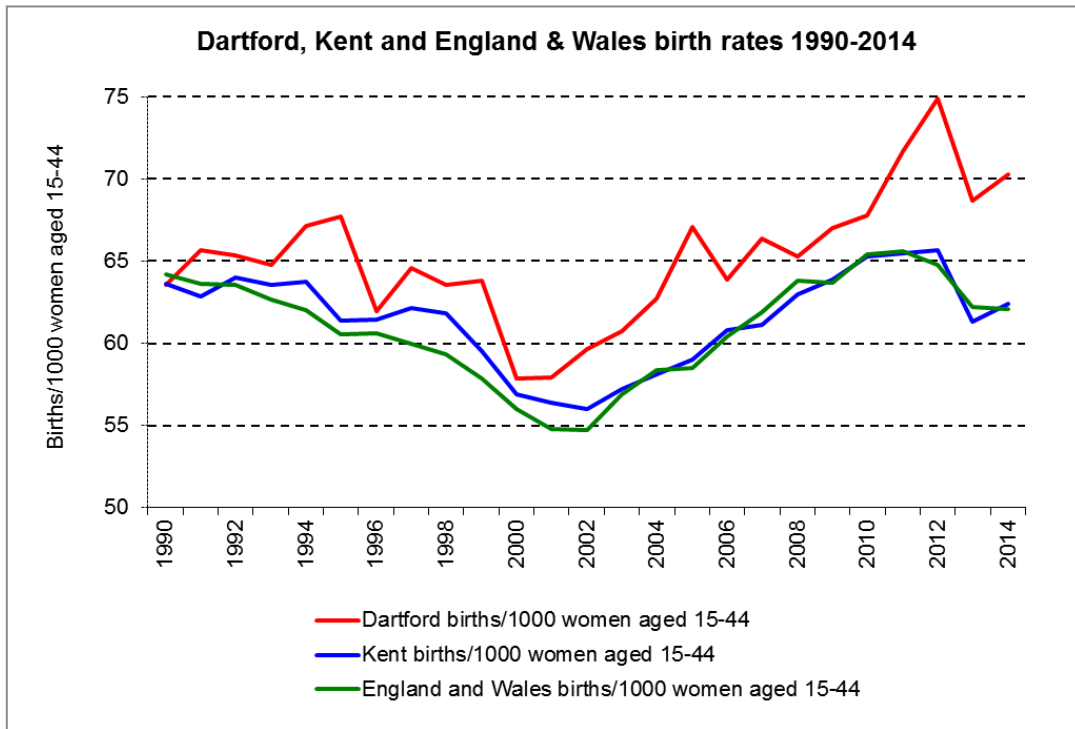
10.8 DARTFORD

Overview

- Demand for school places in Dartford is mainly caused by inward migration connected to significant house-building and the birth rate which is higher than both the Kent and National.
- Dartford's birth rate dropped significantly in 2013, although it has shown a slight increase in 2014. However, the impact of a significant increase in birth rates in previous years will continue to provide pressure for places.
- Despite expansions at seven Primary schools in recent years, demand is continuing to increase beyond available capacity.
- The Dartford Borough Core Strategy records significant housing development (up to 17,300 new homes), focusing on seven key sites, all of which will require new education provision. These are: Eastern Quarry, Stone, Ebbsfleet Green, Ebbsfleet, Swanscombe Peninsula, Dartford Northern Gateway and Dartford Bridge. Much of this development will be under the auspices of the Ebbsfleet Development Corporation.

Borough Analysis – Primary

The charts below set out the birth rates and the table sets out the school population figures and forecasts:



School-based surplus/deficit capacity summaries: Year R:

Planning Group	2014/15 capacity	2014-15 (A)	2015-16 (F)	2016-17 (F)	2017-18 (F)	2018-19 (F)	2019-20 (F)	2019-20 capacity
Dartford North	180	3	9	-5	-4	-5	-2	180
Dartford East	360	1	-28	-37	-22	-35	-33	360
Dartford West	350	-3	11	-14	0	-5	-5	350
Joyden's Wood and Wilmington	180	3	-3	5	-4	5	3	180
Swanscombe and Greenhithe	210	33	-13	24	-4	-4	-4	210
Dartford Rural South	180	15	22	1	0	-2	2	180
Dartford	1,460	52	-2	-25	-34	-45	-40	1,460

All Year Groups:

Planning Group	2014-15 capacity	2014-15 (A)	2015-16 (F)	2016-17 (F)	2017-18 (F)	2018-19 (F)	2019-20 (F)	2019-20 capacity
Dartford North	1,020	15	2	-18	-33	-42	-44	1,245
Dartford East	2,250	13	-36	-85	-131	-172	-210	2,520
Dartford West	2,390	-36	-42	-72	-104	-116	-125	2,450
Joyden's Wood and Wilmington	1,086	-14	-17	-15	-54	-71	-95	1,180
Swanscombe and Greenhithe	1,260	70	35	66	53	43	35	1,500
Dartford Rural South	1,185	99	70	50	21	-4	-27	1,260
Dartford	9,191	147	11	-74	-249	-362	-466	10,155

There are currently 26 Primary schools distributed across six planning groups in Dartford. 1,460 Reception Year places are available in 2014-15 and currently that remains the capacity for 2015-16. However, the significant uplift in migration into the Borough, and in particular Dartford Town, during the past two years is expected to continue. Consequently, the forecast numbers are higher than previously envisaged, and will require more school places to be created in the short and medium term.

The pressures in Dartford are most acute in Reception Year as larger cohorts enter the school system. The Borough's birth rate continues to be above the Kent and National levels, although in 2013 did see a drop. However, high levels of inward migration are expanding the cohort sizes annually.

As can be seen from the tables there is currently a small amount of surplus capacity primarily in the rural areas of the Borough, while the overall forecast demand for 2015-16 exceeds capacity. For September 2015 all pupils requiring a place in a Reception class were allocated one. However, urgent work is required early in 2015-16 to build in additional capacity through schools in planning groups displaying the highest pressures agreeing to admit over PAN and/or open temporary classes.

2016-17 appears to present the greatest pressure for Reception places, with a slight reduction in the cohort size forecast for the following four years. For the year 2016-17 a minimum of 2FE is required to meet demand but an additional 4FE would ensure a 5% surplus is available to aid parental choice and to mitigate the effects of inward migration. Schools are reporting higher numbers of inward migration. Total Primary

rolls are forecast to increase significantly from 9,044 pupils in 2014-15 to 10,621 in 2019-20.

House-building in the area is set to continue, primarily in the Ebbsfleet Valley development area where up to 15,000 homes could be provided over the next 10-15 years. Pressures are also being realised elsewhere in the Borough through new developments such as Dartford Northern Gateway, St James' Lane Pit and considerable numbers of small to medium sized developments. The provision of new schools is being factored into the planning for the Borough, with up to seven Primary Schools and sites being requested or secured via developer contributions, one of which would form part of a community campus including a new Secondary school. The first of the new Primary Schools is set to open in September 2017. New additional Primary provision as a result of new development are included in the tables, but additional demand, predicated by new development, is not included in the forecasts.

Borough Analysis – Secondary

The table below sets out the school population figures and forecasts:

	2014/15 PAN / Capacity	2014-15 (A)	2015-16 (F)	2016-17 (F)	2017-18 (F)	2018-19 (F)	2019-20 (F)	2020-21 (F)	2021-22 (F)	2021-22 PAN / Capacity
Year 7	1,475	53	62	-28	-68	-117	-199	-242	-289	1,525
Years 7-11	7,385	485	535	455	363	170	-39	-344	-604	7,925

The number of Year 7 school places in 2014-15 was 1,475, although this has risen to 1,555 in 2015-16 with a permanent enlargement to Dartford Grammar School. We have also made temporary expansions to Wilmington Grammar Girls and Wilmington Academy, and will consider making these expansions permanent. The Year 7 cohort rises steadily year on year and it is anticipated that by 2023-24 an additional 16FE will be required to meet demand whilst providing the additional 5% surplus for parental preference.

The increase in capacity at Grammar schools has a lower effect on overall Dartford capacity because of the admission criteria, which will see students being admitted from Out of County. The increased demand has been exacerbated by the closure of Oasis Academy Hextable, as although this school does not sit within the Dartford Borough, it was used by significant numbers of Dartford pupils.

In order to provide sufficient places we will expand existing provision, and also investigate the possibility of new provision either through the utilisation of the Hextable site or on new sites identified in and around Dartford Town.

The forecast demand excludes additional pressures resulting from significant housing developments in the area, therefore, a new 8FE school will be provided in the Ebbsfleet Garden City. The exact timing of this is dependent on the build out rates for the development, but it was originally envisaged that at least the first 4FE would be brought on line in 2018.

Dartford Primary School Commissioning Position

Planning Group	by 2016-17	by 2017-18	by 2018-19	2019–20 to 2021-22)
Dartford North	1FE in Dartford North	1FE in Dartford Northern Gateway		1FE in Dartford Northern Gateway
Dartford West	0.6FE in Dartford West			
Dartford East	2FE in Dartford East			
Swanscombe and Greenhithe	1FE in Swanscombe and Greenhithe	1FE (of 2FE) in Castle Hill development	1FE in Ebbsfleet Green 2FE in St James Pit	1FE – Station Quarter North 1FE – Castle Hill 1FE – Ebbsfleet Green 2FE – Alkerden 2FE – Western Cross

Dartford Secondary School Commissioning Position

by 2016-17	by 2017-18	by 2018-19	2019–20 to 2021-22)
1 FE – Wilmington Grammar Girls 2FE – Wilmington Academy 1FE – Ebbsfleet Academy	1FE in Dartford	2 FE in Dartford 4FE (of 8FE) in Alkerden	4FE in Alkerden 9FE in Dartford

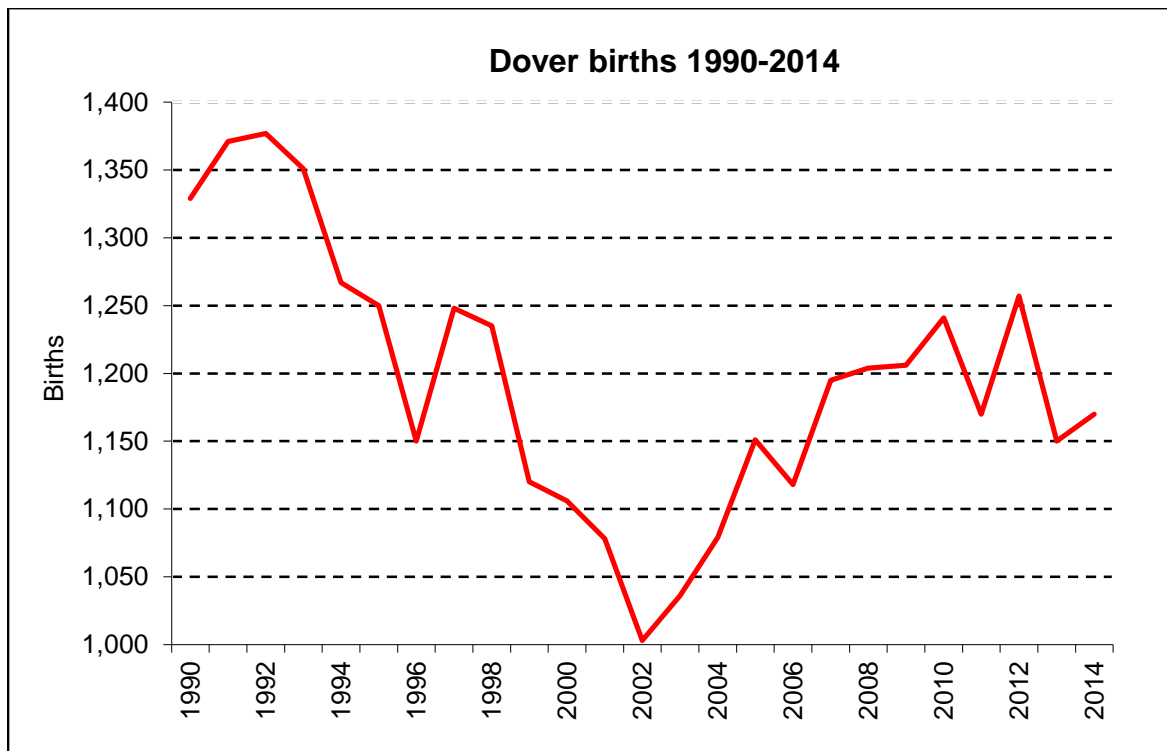
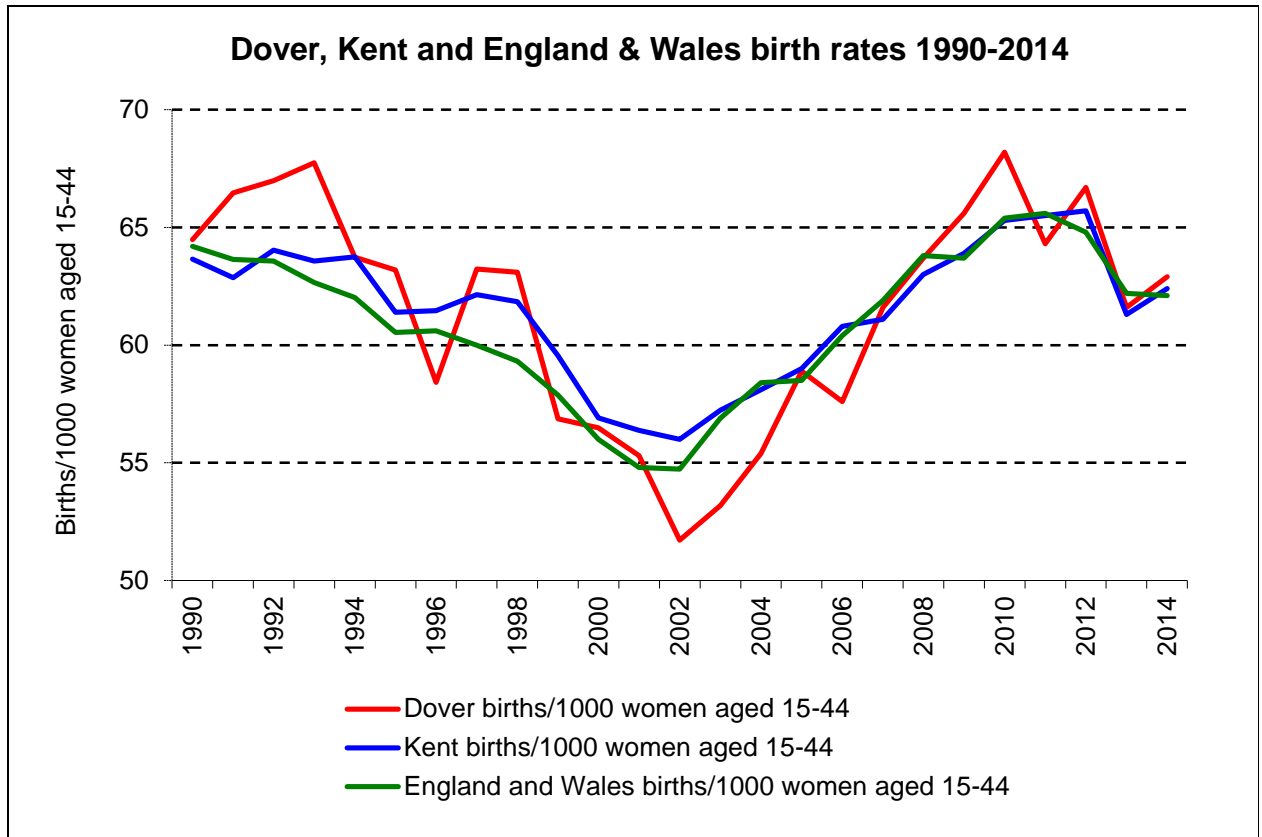
10.9 DOVER

Overview

- The District's birth rate mirrors the Kent and National levels. There was a drop in birth rate in 2013 and a slight increase in 2014. However, the number of births remains almost 3FE fewer than the peak of 2012.
- Throughout the forecast period Year R numbers are expected to fluctuate between 1,189 and 1,214, with the exception of 2016-17 when a spike in demand of 1,297 pupils is anticipated. Total Primary school rolls progressively rises from 8,227 in 2014-15 to 8,721 in 2017-18 and then level off.
- The District Council has indicated that up to 8,000 new homes may be built in the District by 2021. Sites in and around Dover, Deal, Sandwich and Aylesham will impact locally on the need for school places.
- 1,050 new homes are planned for Whitfield by 2021 with a further 5,040 in the following two decades. Ultimately these new homes will generate the need for the equivalent of three new 2FE Primary schools to serve the Whitfield community.
- Action taken to date to increase capacity has largely addressed the pressure for Primary school places. Attention continues to be needed regarding the Dover Town, Whitfield, Capel-le-Ferne and St Margaret's-at-Cliffe planning groups. Collectively these areas have sufficient places to meet demand, except in Year R in 2016-17 when an additional form of entry is required, but this area would be operating below the 5% surplus places target. Increasing capacity at Whitfield and Guston, both linked to housing development, is the solution to these pressures.
- Secondary pressures begin in Year 7 in 2018-19, at which point demand is expected to exceed supply. 1FE of provision will be commissioned for 2018-19, with 60 Year 7 places being required in 2020-21 to meet demand. By 2018-19 1.5% of all Secondary school places (11-16) are forecast to be vacant with a forecast peak in demand of 6,526 places in 2024-25, after which numbers begin to reduce.

District Analysis – Primary

The charts below set out the birth rates and the tables set out the school population figures and forecasts:



School-based surplus / deficit capacity summaries: Year R

Planning Group	2014-15 capacity	2014-15 (A)	2015-16 (F)	2016-17 (F)	2017-18 (F)	2018-19 (F)	2019-20 (F)	2019-20 capacity
Dover	485	18	29	-20	35	32	30	470
Whitfield	90	-4	-2	-5	4	-8	-3	90
Capel-le-Ferne	30	0	2	3	0	-1	0	30
St. Margaret's-at-Cliffe	70	-6	-10	-7	-17	1	-6	62
Eythorne and Shepherdswell	50	12	11	7	17	-1	6	50
Aylesham	87	33	33	23	38	32	33	87
Deal	335	32	23	1	8	27	20	335
Sandwich and Eastry	96	17	7	4	1	16	10	96
Ash and Wingham	90	17	17	8	12	23	18	90
Total	1,333	119	111	13	99	121	109	1,310

All Year Groups

Planning Group	2014-15 capacity	2014-15 (A)	2015-16 (F)	2016-17 (F)	2017-18 (F)	2018-19 (F)	2019-20 (F)	2019-20 capacity
Dover	3,075	192	175	82	82	87	94	3,290
Whitfield	630	-21	-37	-43	-36	-43	-47	630
Capel-le-Ferne	210	3	3	-3	-5	-8	-9	210
St. Margaret's-at-Cliffe	446	3	-9	-14	-50	-48	-54	452
Eythorne and Shepherdswell	350	59	57	44	48	37	40	350
Aylesham	609	238	230	216	217	211	208	609
Deal	2,375	208	171	157	116	132	129	2,345
Sandwich and Eastry	688	65	44	30	14	27	22	688
Ash and Wingham	630	37	43	45	52	61	79	630
Total	9,013	784	677	514	438	456	460	9,204

There are 41 Primary schools in the Dover District and a total of 1,333 places available in Reception Year in 2014-15.

The pressures in Dover District continue to be predominantly a consequence of larger Year R cohorts entering schools compared to Year 6 cohorts moving to Secondary schools. During the past two years larger Year R cohorts have accounted for four fifths of the increase in Primary rolls in Dover, with migration in to all year groups being responsible for the residual one fifth. Throughout the forecast period Year R numbers are expected to fluctuate between 1,189 and 1,214, with the exception of 2016-17 when a spike in demand of 1,297 pupils is anticipated. Total Primary school rolls progressively rises from 8,227 in 2014-15 to 8,744 in 2019-20 and then level off.

Reception Year forecasts across the Dover District are, generally, operating at a surplus of between 8% and 10%. The exception is 2016-17 when the surplus drops to 1% (13 places), which suggests that some additional temporary Year R places will be needed to manage demand in the Dover Town and Whitfield planning areas.

Across all year groups there is forecast to be between 4.8% and 7.5% surplus capacity throughout the forecast period. However, pressure remains in Dover Town and the surrounding planning areas of Whitfield, Capel-le-Ferne and St Margaret's at Cliffe. There are sufficient places within these areas to accommodate all pupils, but there would be less than 5% surplus capacity. Some of this demand is linked to new housing (see below). The tables suggest the schools in Sandwich and Eastry coming under pressure, with total roll surplus reducing to less than 5%, while surplus Year R places continuing to be available. This suggests migration is a factor, particularly from Thanet where capacity has been under greater pressure, and also reflects proposed housing development. The high levels of surplus accommodation in Aylesham will be retained when Aylesham Primary School is rebuilt in order to cope with the significant number of new homes (1,210) being built in the village.

Major new housing is projected for Dover in the period up to 2021 with up to 8,000 new houses predicted over that period. Development is planned in Dover Town, Deal, Aylesham, Sandwich, Preston and Whitfield. These will create localised pressures, above that forecast, which will need to be addressed through increased Primary and Secondary provision in these areas. In Sandwich there is provision in the short to medium term for the creation of a free school within Discovery Park. In Deal, expansion of Deal Parochial CEPS is the preferred option, while in Preston expansion of the village school may be required. The requirements in Aylesham will be met through improvements to the existing two Primary schools in the village, funded by development contributions.

Whitfield is expected to have 6,000 homes built over the next 30 years. The development is expected to provide education provision for its residents. Green Park CPS has been expanded from 1.5FE to 2FE from September 2015. This will provide places for the early stages of the new housing at Whitfield. It is likely that over time the equivalent of three 2FE schools will be needed to serve Whitfield. Initially it is proposed to expand the current Whitfield Aspen School, via a split site solution. The use of temporary accommodation on the existing site for a short period will address the need for Year R places in 2016-17 and 2017-18. Expansion on to a second site in Phase 1 of the permitted Whitfield development should be possible from September 2018, enabling the temporary accommodation to be removed and reused elsewhere.

In St Margaret's at Cliffe, forecasts indicate a need for up to 17 additional Reception Year places. The schools in this planning group attract pupils from both Deal and Dover, therefore the local schools will be able to ensure that all local children are placed within existing accommodation. The possibility of expanding Guston CEPS to meet the needs of possible development at the adjoining Connaught Barracks is being explored.

District Analysis – Secondary

The table below sets out the school population figures and forecasts for Year 7 and Years 7-11:

	2014-15 capacity	2014-15 (A)	2015-16 (F)	2016-17 (F)	2017-18 (F)	2018-19 (F)	2019-20 (F)	2020-21 (F)	2021-22 (F)	2021-22 capacity
Year 7	1,360	234	253	91	94	-10	33	-73	-1	1,315
Years 7-11	6,705	843	891	822	779	600	399	74	-18	6,575

The number of Year 7 Secondary school places in Dover was 1,360 in 2014-15. Following decisions made by individual admissions authorities regarding their published admissions numbers, there will be 1,315 places by 2017-18. This assumes Castle Community College will increase its PAN from September 2017 by 1FE following its rebuild which is planned to accommodate 1,300 pupils.

Currently, 17% of Year 7 places are vacant in Dover District, with 13% of all Secondary school places vacant. The Year 7 cohort is forecast to rise steadily over the coming years, from its current actual number of 1,126 to 1,388 in 2020-21. Numbers will peak in 2023-24 at 1,413 as the 2016-17 Year R bulge enters Secondary school. Forecast demand exceeds supply of places in 2020-21 by 73 places. There is forecast to be surplus capacity across all year groups (7-11) throughout the period, but this will reduce to less than 5% from 2020-21. Dover District has experienced net migration into its Secondary schools (for example from Thanet into Sandwich). As rolls rise, we would anticipate this migration reducing. An additional form of entry needs to be commissioned from 2018-19, with two temporary Year 7 classes being commissioned for 2020-21. It is anticipated that some of this demand can be accommodated within existing school buildings.

Dover Primary School Commissioning Position

Planning Group	by 2016-17	by 2017-18	by 2018-19	2019-20 to 2021-22)
Whitfield	30 Year R places at Whitfield Aspen PS	1FE expansion of Whitfield Aspen PS		1FE expansion of Whitfield Aspen PS
St Margaret's-at-Cliffe	8 Year R places at Guston CEPS	0.3FE expansion of Guston CEPS		
Deal				1FE expansion of Deal Parochial CEPS
Sandwich and Eastry			1FE free school	
Ash and Wingham			0.3FE expansion of Preston PS	

Dover Secondary School Commissioning Position

by 2016-17	by 2017-18	by 2018-19	2019-20 to 2021-22)
		1FE expansion	60 Year 7 places

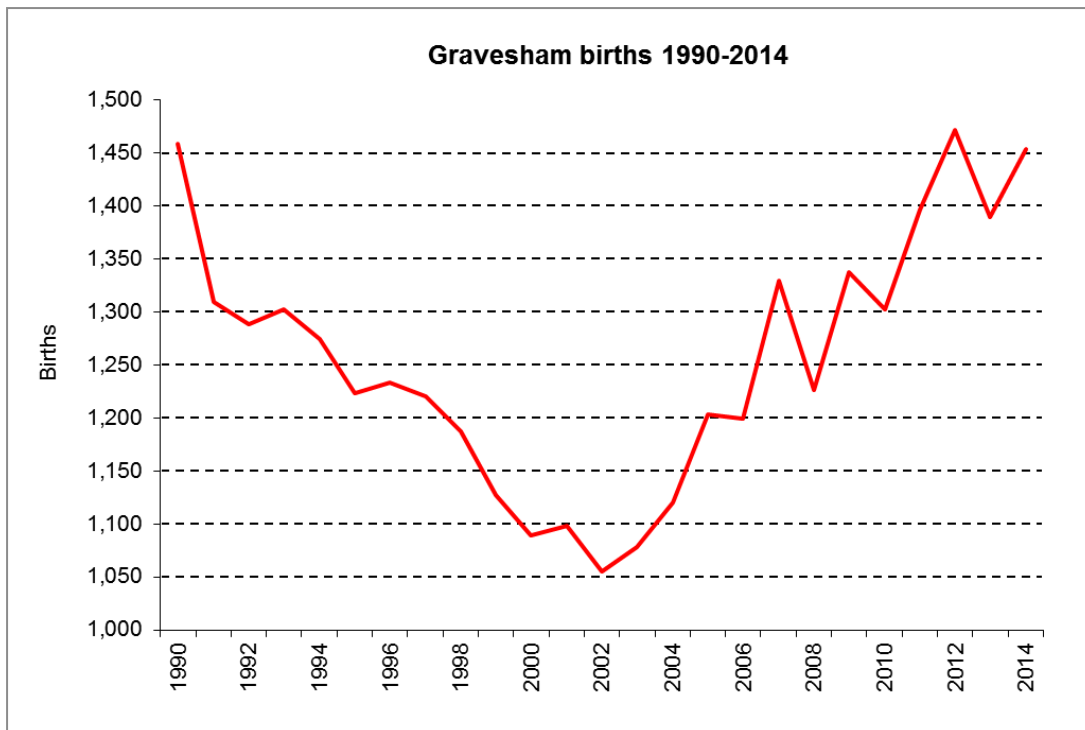
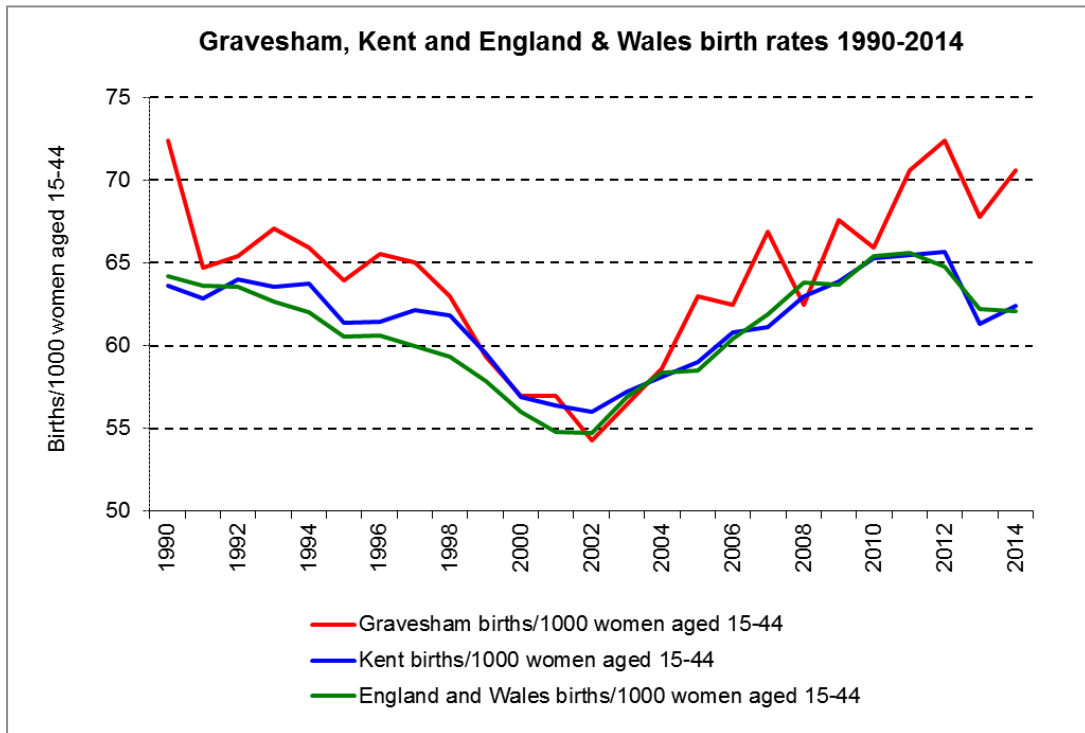
10.10 GRAVESHAM

Overview

- Demand for school places in Gravesham is mainly caused by inward migration and the birth rate which, for the majority of the last 24 years has been and remains higher than both the Kent and National.
- Gravesham's birth rate dropped in 2013, although it has shown a slight increase in 2014. The impact of a significant increase in birth rates in previous years will continue to provide pressure for places.
- Despite expansions at four schools in recent years, demand is continuing to increase well beyond available capacity
- The Gravesham District Core Strategy records significant housing development (up to 6,100 new homes), focusing on six potential development zones. The first tier zone is the urban area of Gravesend and Northfleet. Some of this development will be under the auspices of the Ebbsfleet Development Corporation.

Borough Analysis – Primary

The charts below set out the birth rates and the table sets out the school population figures and forecasts:



School-based surplus/deficit capacity summaries: Year R

Planning Group	2014-15 capacity	2014-15 (A)	2015-16 (F)	2016-17 (F)	2017-18 (F)	2018-19 (F)	2019-20 (F)	2019-20 capacity
Gravesend North	270	2	3	-33	-18	-25	-25	270
Gravesend East	210	3	21	-3	7	-1	0	210
Gravesend South East	202	0	-15	-41	-27	-43	-38	172
Gravesend South West	180	0	-11	-19	-9	-11	-13	180
Northfleet	254	4	-64	-54	-57	-77	-68	254
Higham	30	0	-3	-1	-2	-4	-3	30
Cobham and Shorne	60	0	7	-3	-6	-5	-5	60
Istead Rise	45	0	18	-3	-4	-9	-6	45
Meopham and Vigo	120	5	10	-17	-6	2	-2	120
Gravesham	1,371	14	-34	-174	-123	-173	-159	1,341

All Year Groups

Planning Group	2014-15 capacity	2014-15 (A)	2015-16 (F)	2016-17 (F)	2017-18 (F)	2018-19 (F)	2019-20 (F)	2019-20 capacity
Gravesend North	1,740	-15	-27	-68	-93	-117	-147	1,890
Gravesend East	1,440	9	10	-6	-9	-17	-23	1,470
Gravesend South East	1,169	23	-23	-78	-120	-180	-238	1,234
Gravesend South West	1,260	6	-14	-42	-58	-71	-86	1,260
Northfleet	1,742	35	-48	-112	-175	-266	-346	1,808
Higham	210	-2	-8	-12	-15	-20	-23	210
Cobham and Shorne	420	-9	-5	-10	-17	-22	-28	420
Istead Rise	315	39	49	38	26	19	12	330
Meopham and Vigo	840	11	-4	-34	-49	-52	-63	840
Gravesham	9,136	97	-71	-323	-510	-726	-943	9,462

There are currently 27 Primary schools distributed across nine planning groups in Gravesham. 1,371 Reception Year places are available in 2014-15 but this drops slightly due to a temporary increase at Whitehill Primary School not being continued. The significant uplift in migration in recent years particularly in the West of the Borough (including Northfleet) is expected to continue. Consequently, the forecast numbers are higher than previously envisaged, and will require more school places to be created in the short and medium term.

The pressures in Gravesham are acute across all year groups. The birth rate continues to be above the levels in Kent and National, although in 2013 there was a drop. However, high levels of inward migration are expanding the cohort sizes annually across all year groups.

As can be seen from the tables, in the short term, there will be a significant deficit of places in all planning groups. The overall forecast demand for 2015-16 shows the numbers of pupils requiring a place significantly exceeds current capacity. This is the overall forecast based on birth rates and possible inward migration

during the year. For September 2015 all pupils requiring a Reception place were allocated one. However, urgent work is required early in 2015-16 to build in additional capacity through schools agreeing to admit over PAN and/or open temporary classes in planning groups displaying the highest pressures.

2016-17 appears to present the greatest pressures for Reception places. There is a slight reduction in the cohort size in 2017-18 but demand rises back to 2016-17 levels by 2018-19. For 2016-17 a minimum of 6FE is required to meet demand but an additional 9FE would be required to ensure a 5% surplus is available to aid parental choice and to mitigate the effects of inward migration.

Springhead Park (part of the Ebbsfleet Valley development) ceased building some years ago, before the trigger was met to release land and developer contributions for the provision of a school. There are currently 298 units occupied and the pupils from this development have placed pressures on local schools.

Other key areas of development are Northfleet Embankment and Coldharbour, both of which will require new provision or expansion of existing schools.

Total Primary rolls are forecast to increase significantly from 9,039 pupils requiring a place in 2014-15 to 10,405 in 2019-20.

In addition to the long term forecasts, Gravesham Borough Council (GBC) is proposing new sites for housing development and any additional demand on Primary provision will need to be addressed in the longer term. KCC continues to work with GBC to ensure that we have early notification of any new developments and an input into where new provision will need to be commissioned. It is most likely that any new major development will be in the East of the Borough.

District Analysis – Secondary

The table below sets out the school population figures and forecasts:

	2014/15 PAN / Capacity	2014-15 (A)	2015-16 (F)	2016-17 (F)	2017-18 (F)	2018-19 (F)	2019-20 (F)	2020-21 (F)	2021-22 (F)	2021-22 PAN / Capacity
Year 7	1,314	116	61	-8	-76	-159	-161	-215	-241	1,308
Years 7-11	6,510	599	545	408	162	-119	-395	-670	-904	6,540

The number of Year 7 places in 2014-15 was 1,314. The Year 7 cohort rises steadily year on year and it is anticipated that by 2021-22 an additional 8FE will be required to meet demand with another 2FE required to offer a 5% for parental preference, making a total of 10FE needed.

The increased Primary demand that first appeared in 2010 is now impacting on Secondary demand. There are fewer options for expansion in the short term in Gravesham. Longer term, education provision planning for Secondary will have to be closely linked to any new development as existing school sites cannot accommodate the level of expansion required to meet demand.

Gravesham has experienced unprecedented demand due to inward migration. Due to the increased number of places required, in addition to the expansion of existing Secondary provision, we will investigate the possibility of new provision if sites can be identified in and around Gravesend Town.

Gravesham Primary School Commissioning Position

Planning Group	by 2016-17	by 2017-18	by 2018-19	2019–20 to 2021-22)
Gravesend East	2FE in Gravesend East			
Gravesend North	2FE in Gravesend North 30 Year R places			
Gravesend Southeast	1FE in Gravesend South East 30 Year R places			
Gravesend Southwest	30 Year R places	2FE in Gravesend South West		
Northfleet	1FE in Northfleet	1FE in Springhead Park		1FE in Springhead Park

Gravesham Secondary School Commissioning Position

by 2016-17	by 2017-18	by 2018-19	2019–20 to 2021-22)
2FE in Gravesend	2FE in Gravesham	3FE in Gravesham	3FE in Gravesham

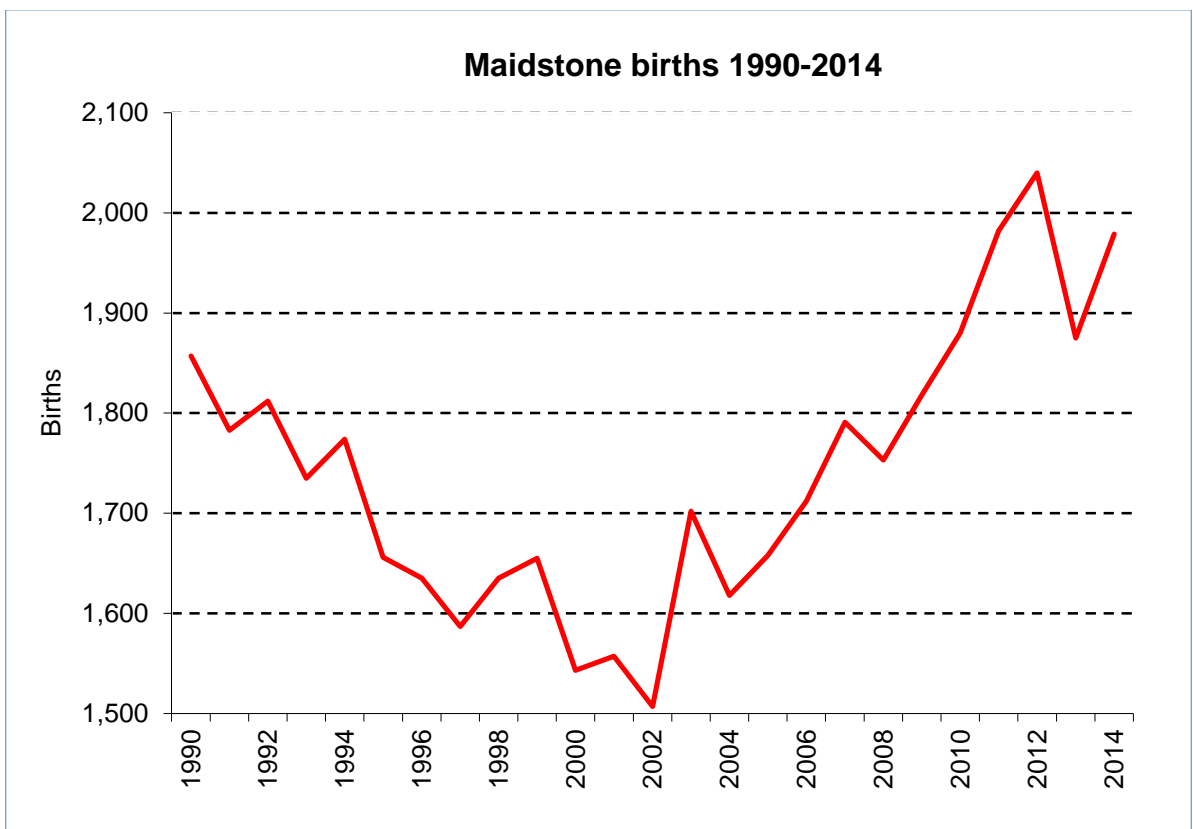
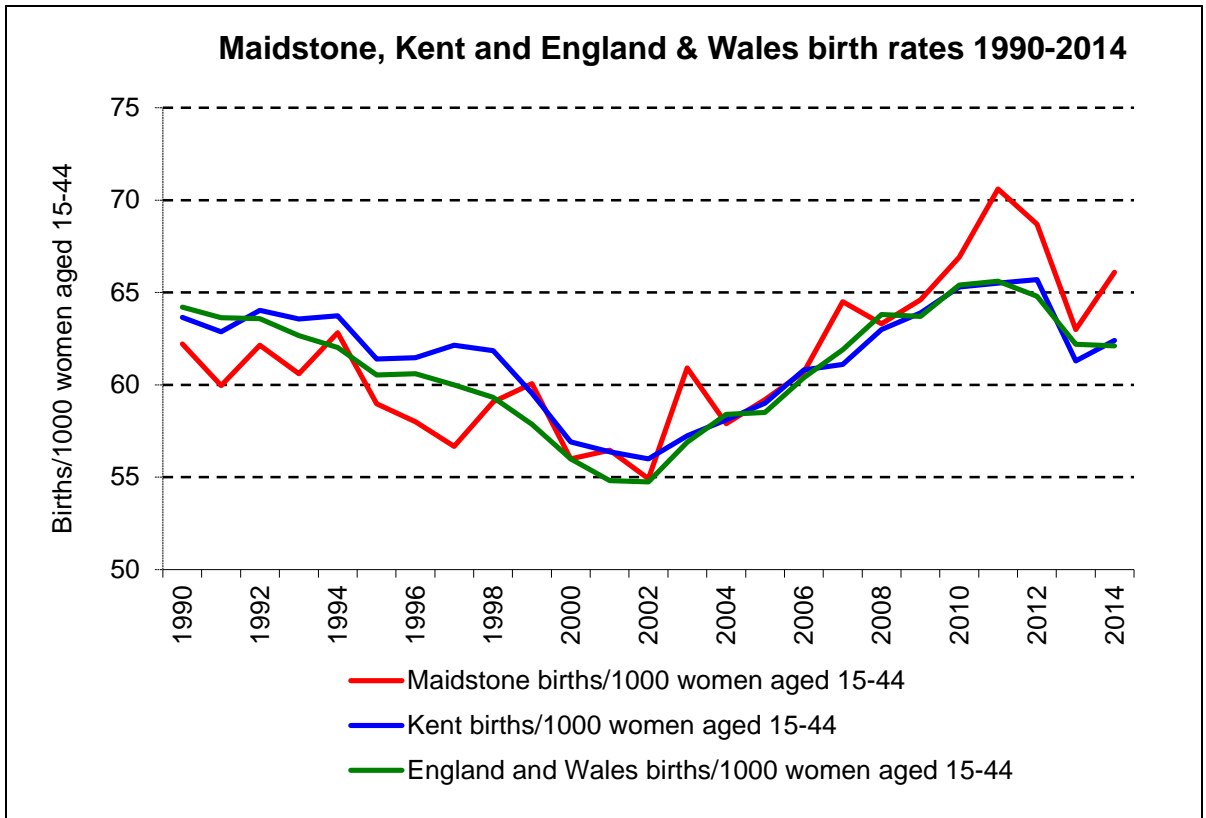
10.11 MAIDSTONE

Overview

- The forecasts for Maidstone indicate a continued growth in demand for Reception year places with a deficit of places forecast for seven of the 12 planning groups. The growth is predominantly from incremental increases in the birth rate and significant new housing across the Borough.
- Maidstone Borough Council is continuing to work on its Local Development Framework and future needs will be driven by this. Maidstone's previous Local Plan, adopted in 2000, identified 7,400 new homes; this compares against a revised housing need of 18,560 dwellings. It will remain difficult to forecast the medium to longer term demand arising from housing developments until the Local Development Framework is agreed.
- The medium to long term analysis of the Borough highlights the need for additional Reception year provision and a new 2FE Primary school linked to housing developments.
- Secondary School forecasts indicate a surplus of Year 7 places until 2018-19, when a significant deficit is projected. However the approved opening of Maidstone School of Science and Technology (Free School) will result in the deficit of places extending to 2019-20.

District Analysis – Primary

The charts below set out the birth rates and the tables set out the school population figures and forecasts.



School-based surplus/deficit capacity summaries: Year R

Planning Group	2014-15 PAN / capacity	2014-15 (A)	2015-16 (F)	2016-17 (F)	2017-18 (F)	2018-19 (F)	2019-20 (F)	2019-20 PAN / capacity
Maidstone Central and South	225	2	0	-12	-17	-23	-21	225
Maidstone North	210	1	-37	-35	-30	-27	-30	210
Maidstone East	240	5	-8	4	7	4	6	240
Maidstone West	430	20	24	-5	24	26	20	460
Maidstone Rural South	132	35	16	10	24	25	24	132
Shepway and Park Wood	267	16	1	54	71	82	77	327
Leeds and Hollingbourne	50	0	7	-4	1	-2	-1	50
Lenham and Harrietsham	73	7	25	0	2	3	3	73
Headcorn and Sutton Valence	73	0	8	0	-7	-9	-7	75
Marden and Yalding	94	5	1	5	-1	0	2	94
Staplehurst	75	8	16	10	12	26	19	75
Bredhurst	15	-3	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	15
Maidstone	1,884	96	48	22	82	103	88	1,976

All Year Groups

Planning Group	2014-15 PAN / capacity	2014-15 (A)	2015-16 (F)	2016-17 (F)	2017-18 (F)	2018-19 (F)	2019-20 (F)	2019-20 PAN / capacity
Maidstone Central and South	1,365	64	17	-32	-81	-129	-160	1,635
Maidstone North	1,425	29	-20	-56	-83	-122	-160	1,470
Maidstone East	1,608	-23	-39	-38	-35	-43	-44	1,728
Maidstone West	2,850	114	152	90	84	96	92	3,180
Maidstone Rural South	834	85	92	99	120	138	148	927
Shepway and Park Wood	1,869	240	165	191	197	237	282	2,169
Leeds and Hollingbourne	335	15	15	4	2	-1	-8	350
Lenham and Harrietsham	511	62	60	43	32	22	7	511
Headcorn and Sutton Valence	511	51	40	13	-4	-20	-40	521
Marden and Yalding	658	54	43	49	41	33	24	663
Staplehurst	525	100	108	117	113	126	135	525
Bredhurst	107	-9	-10	-11	-15	-14	-16	107
Maidstone	12,598	782	625	468	373	322	259	13,786

There are currently 45 Primary schools in the Maidstone District and a total of 1884 Reception Year places available in 2014-15. The total rolls are forecast to increase significantly and will continue to do so throughout the forecast period.

Indigenous growth continues within the planning group of Maidstone North. The forecasts predict a continued demand of over 30 Reception Year places

throughout the forecast period (2016-20). We are in discussion with local schools about expansion to meet this forecast pressure although there are considerable constraints. We would welcome proposals for a new primary school in Maidstone North.

Maidstone Central and South forecasts indicate sustained population growth. To address this we have commissioned additional Year R places for 2015 and 2016 at South Borough PS and will issue proposals to expand the school by 1FE.

Maidstone West forecasts are predicated on all schools within the planning group maintaining the number of places offered in 2015-16. This leads to a predicted deficit of 5 places for September 2016 only. We would work with existing schools to meet the forecast demand. We have been advised that Jubilee Primary (Free) School may be limited to an intake of 30 pupils from 2016-17, a reduction of 30 places from 2015-16. If this reduction takes place the predicted 2016-17 deficit would increase to 35 places and deficits of between 4 and 10 places would be anticipated from 2017-18 to 2019-20. We would commission a temporary bulge of Year R places at an existing school to meet the demand in 2016-17.

The identified housing need for Maidstone Borough is 18,560 dwellings for the period 2011-31. In the past year a number of significant development sites have been granted planning consent; as at August 2015 the current housing land supply (planned housing) to 2031 is 16,664 dwellings.

We have commissioned a new 2FE Primary Academy at the Langley Park development, which will open with 60 Reception Year places for September 2016. The new school will also incorporate a community facility and a pre-school/nursery. A specialist SEN resource base provision (SRBP) will be included for pupils who have greater difficulty learning as a result of Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD). The SRBP will be inclusive provision for up to 15 pupils (usually 2 per year group), admitting 3-5 pupils in the first year. Thereafter it will grow incrementally per year until it reaches its capacity of 15 places.

The new School at Langley Park will provide adequate capacity for the large amount of housing with planning consent in the area up to August 2015. As wholly new housing, this demand is not reflected in the forecast surplus of places in Shepway and Park Wood. Any residual surplus will assist with the identified pressures in the adjacent Maidstone Central and South planning group. Uncertainty remains whether more housing will be granted consent in this area. Forecasts indicate that further housing could not be accommodated within the planned capacity (including the new Langley Park School).

A significant amount of housing has been proposed in the Rural Service Centres and to accommodate the additional pupils a multi-stage strategy is required. The expansion of Headcorn Primary School by 1FE for September 2017 will act as strategic response to the growth in Headcorn village and neighbouring Staplehurst. Staplehurst Primary School is also likely to need additional places in the medium term as the existing surplus capacity is diminished.

The majority of the planned new housing in Marden is now within the planning system. We propose the expansion of Marden Primary School to 2FE to provide

an additional 20 Reception Year places for 2017 (predominately funded by development contributions).

Proposed new housing in Harrietsham and Lenham will necessitate an additional 1FE Primary School to be commissioned. The timing and location of this additional capacity is currently under review pending the outcome of feasibility studies to clarify the site capacities of both schools.

A deficit of places is forecast across the Plan period in Bredhurst, a single school planning group. Bredhurst sits close to the border with Medway and in previous years any demand not met by the school has been accommodated within Medway.

Discussions will be held with schools near the Medway border as to how any future forecast demand can be met.

In the medium to long term, land for a 2FE Primary School at the Hermitage Lane site has been secured. KCC will commission the opening of this school in response to the phasing of the new housing developments. In the event of a reduction in PAN at Jubilee Primary (Free) School, we will consider bringing forward the opening of the new school to meet the forecast demand for places.

Maidstone Borough Council (MBC) have also proposed two strategic housing allocations, at Lenham and Maidstone Barracks, these are unlikely to come forward for another 5-10 years but each will require a 2FE Primary school. KCC will work with MBC as further detail of these proposals becomes available.

Whilst Maidstone lacks a five year housing supply, speculative planning applications will continue to be submitted; these can be challenging and require solutions to be identified quickly.

District Analysis – Secondary

The table below sets out the school population figures and forecasts for Year 7 and Years 7-11:

	2014-15 PAN / capacity	2014-15 (A)	2015-16 (F)	2016-17 (F)	2017-18 (F)	2018-19 (F)	2019-20 (F)	2020-21 (F)	2021-22 (F)	2021-22 capacity
Year 7	2,065	171	129	129	46	-79	-173	-220	-259	2,047
Years 7-11	10,268	1,143	1,005	880	721	406	62	-287	-674	10,235

In 2016 the surplus capacity for Year 7 pupils is expected to be 6.3%. However from 2017-18 the surplus capacity in Year 7 will be below the operating guideline of 5% and a substantial deficit of Year 7 places is anticipated from 2018-19. Forecasts indicate that up to 1,200 additional Year

KCC has been made aware that a new Secondary Free School has Secretary of State approval to open in September 2017 for 180 Year 7 pupils. The Sponsor is Valley Invicta Academies Trust (VIAT) and the school will be named 'The Maidstone School of Science and Technology'. The impact of the Free School will

be an increase in the 2017-18 surplus of Year 7 places to 226 places (11%). The forecast deficit of Year 7 places in 2018-19 and 2019-20 would be reversed, resulting in surpluses of 101 places (4.9%) and 7 places (0.3%) respectively. The planned places at the Free School will meet demand for non-selective Year 7 places in central Maidstone. It is anticipated that there will be significant pressure for additional Year 7 places across the Borough, which could not be met by the Free School.

Current forecasts indicate we will need 2FE of provision by 2018-19 and a further 1FE by 2019-20. It is anticipated that these strategic expansions will enable KCC to provide the full range of selective and all ability places to serve the County as a whole. The additional places will be required to meet the additional demand for places arising from new housing developments and therefore developer contributions will be sought towards the cost of these projects.

Beyond 2021-22 the pressure on Secondary school places is forecast to increase further.

Maidstone Primary School Commissioning Position

Planning Group	by 2016-17	by 2017-18	by 2018-19	2019-20 to 2021-22)
Shepway & Park Wood				
Maidstone Central and South	1 FE at South Borough PS			
Maidstone North	1FE			
Headcorn & Sutton Valence		1 FE at Headcorn PS		
Marden & Yalding		0.6 FE at Marden PS		
Lenham & Harrietsham			1FE at Lenham PS or Harrietsham PS	
Maidstone West	30 Year R places, subject to reduction in PAN at Jubilee Primary School			2FE in the Hermitage Lane development

Maidstone Secondary School Commissioning Position

by 2016-17	by 2017-18	by 2018-19	2019-20 to 2021-22)
	New 6FE Secondary Free school (will initially open with 180 Y7 pupils)	1FE Maidstone Grammar School 1FE Cornwallis Academy	1FE by 2019-20

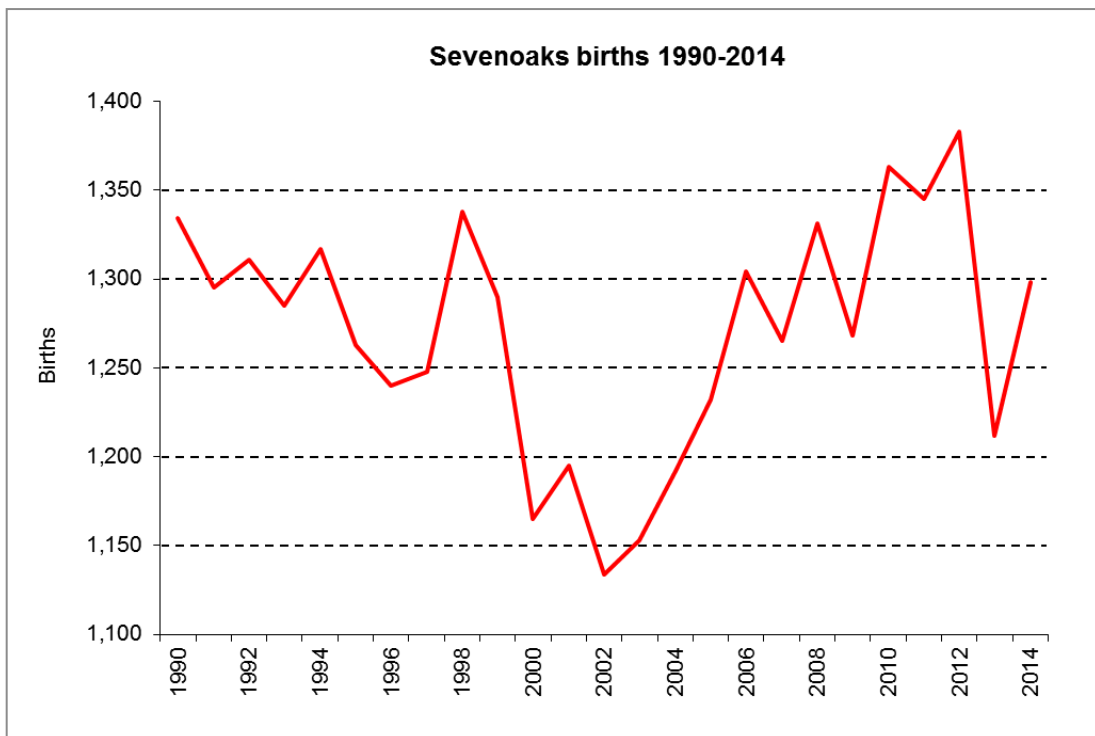
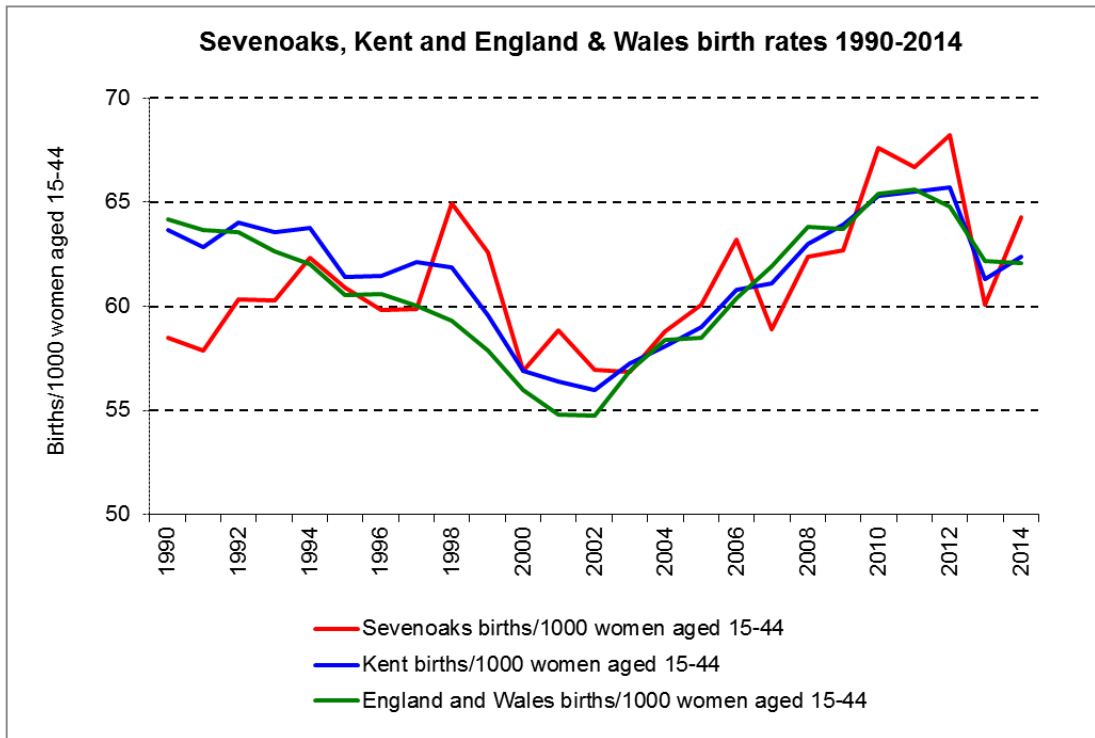
10.12 SEVENOAKS

Overview

- Demand for school places in Sevenoaks is mainly caused by inward migration (primarily in and around Sevenoaks Town), small pockets of housing development and the birth rate (which has been marginally higher than both the Kent and National).
- Sevenoaks' birth rate dropped in 2013, although it has shown a increase in 2014. However the impact of increased birth rates in previous years continues to provide pressure for places, although it is anticipated that these will ease in the medium term.
- Sevenoaks District Council's (SDC) existing Core Strategy, adopted in 2011, plans for 3,300 new homes up to 2026. Many of these new developments have already been built out with the remaining locations for growth identified within SDC's 'Allocations and Development Management Plan' adopted in February 2015. Since the adoption of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) by SDC in 2014, KCC can no longer secure S106 agreements from housing developments to contribute to the provision of school places. KCC is now required to submit a case for a share of CIL monies collected by SDC. The current proposed level of new housing, at 3,300, is the lowest of the twelve Districts in Kent.
- SDC are currently in the evidence gathering stage of producing a new Local Plan which will replace the adopted Core Strategy. This is likely to identify a housing need far larger than currently planned. KCC will work with SDC through this process to ensure education provision is integrated into any new housing allocations which are formed over the coming years.
- It is anticipated that the temporary expansions used for September 2015 will be made permanent during this academic year, ensuring that the demand for places from the indigenous population in the District can be met.

District Analysis – Primary

The charts below set out the birth rates and the table sets out the school population figures and forecasts:



School-based surplus/deficit capacity summaries: Year R

Planning Group	2014-15 capacity	2014-15 (A)	2015-16 (F)	2016-17 (F)	2017-18 (F)	2018-19 (F)	2019-20 (F)	2019-20 capacity
Sevenoaks	360	0	0	3	29	36	29	360
Sevenoaks Rural East	102	38	45	33	12	12	12	72
Sevenoaks Rural West	60	2	10	7	10	15	13	65
Sevenoaks Rural South East	83	-2	-10	-2	6	6	6	90
Sevenoaks Rural South West	121	19	11	15	-25	-10	-14	91
Westerham	70	3	3	14	11	24	19	80
Otford and Shoreham	75	-1	6	6	16	13	14	75
Halstead and Knockholt	55	13	22	26	31	37	34	55
Eynsford and Horton Kirby	90	6	3	0	-10	2	-1	90
Swanley and Hextable	275	6	17	27	7	3	1	275
West Kingsdown, Hartley and New Ash Green	210	23	25	14	33	21	25	210
Sevenoaks	1,501	107	131	145	119	159	136	1,463

All Year Groups

Planning Group	2014-15 capacity	2014-15 (A)	2015-16 (F)	2016-17 (F)	2017-18 (F)	2018-19 (F)	2019-20 (F)	2019-20 capacity
Sevenoaks	2,289	64	68	71	92	119	148	2,544
Sevenoaks Rural East	582	105	134	162	174	153	145	592
Sevenoaks Rural West	400	48	62	66	69	77	95	440
Sevenoaks Rural South East	581	18	-3	-11	-1	3	13	602
Sevenoaks Rural South West	667	65	54	53	5	-9	-31	727
Westerham	490	62	52	44	52	72	89	530
Otford and Shoreham	535	56	53	46	54	57	70	525
Halstead and Knockholt	375	96	99	110	120	146	164	385
Eynsford and Horton Kirby	630	34	39	48	38	39	33	630
Swanley and Hextable	1,925	98	101	83	60	60	52	1,985
West Kingsdown, Hartley and New Ash Green	1,470	219	169	118	108	71	67	1,470
Sevenoaks	9,944	865	828	789	772	789	844	10,430

There are currently 42 Primary schools distributed across 11 planning groups in the Sevenoaks District. 1,501 Reception Year places are available in 2014-15 and this increases to 1,536 in 2015-16 due to temporary expansions to Hextable Primary School and Weald Primary School.

Current projections show that these temporary increases (which will be made permanent in due course) will ensure that there are sufficient Reception places including the 5% parental preference.

For the indigenous population, forecasts indicate that there is capacity in the District. However, there are areas of demand in key local areas due to inward

migration and new housing. New development underway in Dunton Green and planned for Fort Halstead will require new Primary school provision to meet additional demand. In the south, Edenbridge will see a significant new housing development and in the north, the old Birchwood school site in Swanley will be developed for housing. None of these developments are reflected in the forecasts.

To aid parental choice further, small increases in other rural areas such as Leigh, Crockham Hill and Westerham may be introduced in future years due to small housing developments in the area.

The most significant issue for Sevenoaks is that of migration to Sevenoaks Town and parental choice, which has resulted in many pupils not receiving their first choice of school and being allocated places in different planning groups. However the justification for new provision in Sevenoaks Town is hard to argue with so many available spaces in good schools nearby.

As can be seen from the tables there will be limited surplus capacity in Sevenoaks Town. It is anticipated that the surplus shown in future years will be utilised due to new housing developments which are not directly factored into the projections. Rural areas of the District continue to have surplus places.

In the longer term (towards the end of this decade) it is anticipated that another medium sized development at Fort Halstead will commence. This will be considered nearer the time to ascertain if additional pupils can be accommodated within existing provision or whether additional capacity is required.

Total Primary rolls are forecast to increase from 9,079 pupils requiring a place in 2014-15 to 9,586 in 2019-20.

Migration has resulted, in recent years, in all year groups increasing in size slightly. However, as demonstrated in the table for all year groups there is sufficient capacity across the Sevenoaks District.

House-building in the area is relatively low key with only the developments mentioned above impacting on school places in the short to medium term.

District Analysis – Secondary

The table below sets out the school population figures and forecasts:

	2014/15 PAN / Capacity	2014-15 (A)	2015-16 (F)	2016-17 (F)	2017-18 (F)	2018-19 (F)	2019-20 (F)	2020-21 (F)	2021-22 (F)	2021-22 PAN / Capacity
Year 7	630	127	3	29	3	-37	-41	-33	-64	480
Years 7-11	2,790	721	278	155	123	22	-42	-79	-171	2,400

In common with Dartford and Gravesham, the increased Primary school demand in Sevenoaks over the last six years is now beginning to impact on Secondary demand. It must be remembered when looking at forecasts that over 70% of Sevenoaks South students travel out of the District to attend school.

The number of Year 7 places available in 2014/15 was 630. This reduced to 480 in 2015-16 due to the closure of Oasis Academy, Hextable.

Secondary demand and forecasting is challenging due to circumstances peculiar to the District. Secondary provision planning is best analysed along a north-south divide.

In the North, (Swanley, Hextable, Horton Kirby, New Ash Green, Hartley, Crockenhill, Farningham & Eynsford), the Secondary provision was meshed with that in the Dartford District, especially Wilmington. Until recently, there were two Secondary schools in the north, Orchards Academy and Oasis Hextable Academy. The closure of Oasis Hextable Academy will increase pressure in the North of the District, although KCC is retaining the Hextable site as a possible solution to Secondary capacity issues in the area. This pressure is exacerbated by a forecast pressure on Secondary places in Dartford, despite several schools in Dartford increasing their capacity. Most grammar eligible students travel north to either Wilmington or Dartford.

In the South, (Sevenoaks town, Westerham, Edenbridge, Knockholt, Otford, Kemsing, Sundridge, Weald, Penshurst, Leigh & Fordcombe), Secondary provision planning is linked with Tonbridge and Tunbridge Wells. There are two Secondary schools in the southern half of the District, Knole Academy and the Trinity Free School.

There is currently no grammar provision in the south with most students who pass the Kent Test, travelling to Tonbridge or Tunbridge Wells. Local pressure in Tonbridge & Tunbridge Wells means that fewer grammar places will be available to Sevenoaks students, year on year. The Secretary of State has now approved a grammar school annex provision for girls provided by The Weald of Kent Grammar School and KCC will continue to pursue options for boys' provision in Sevenoaks District to manage both parental preference for local grammar provision and the underlying increasing demand for Secondary school places.

The Trinity Free School is in its final year in Ryedale Court. A new 4FE school is being built on the Wildernesse site, with an expected completion date of September 2016. Sufficient modular classrooms and facilities are being made available to enable the school to move onto the site in September 2015.

Sevenoaks Primary School Commissioning Position

Planning Group	by 2016-17	by 2017-18	by 2018-19	2019–20 to 2021-22)
Sevenoaks			1FE in Sevenoaks	
Sevenoaks Rural South West	1FE in Rural South West			
Sevenoaks Rural East	1FE in Rural East			
Swanley and Hextable	1FE in Swanley and Hextable.			
Sevenoaks Rural West	0.15FE in Rural West			
Westerham		0.3FE in Westerham		
Sevenoaks Rural South East		0.2FE in Rural South East		

Sevenoaks Secondary School Commissioning Position

by 2016-17	by 2017-18	by 2018-19	2019–20 to 2021-22)
	3FE selective provision		

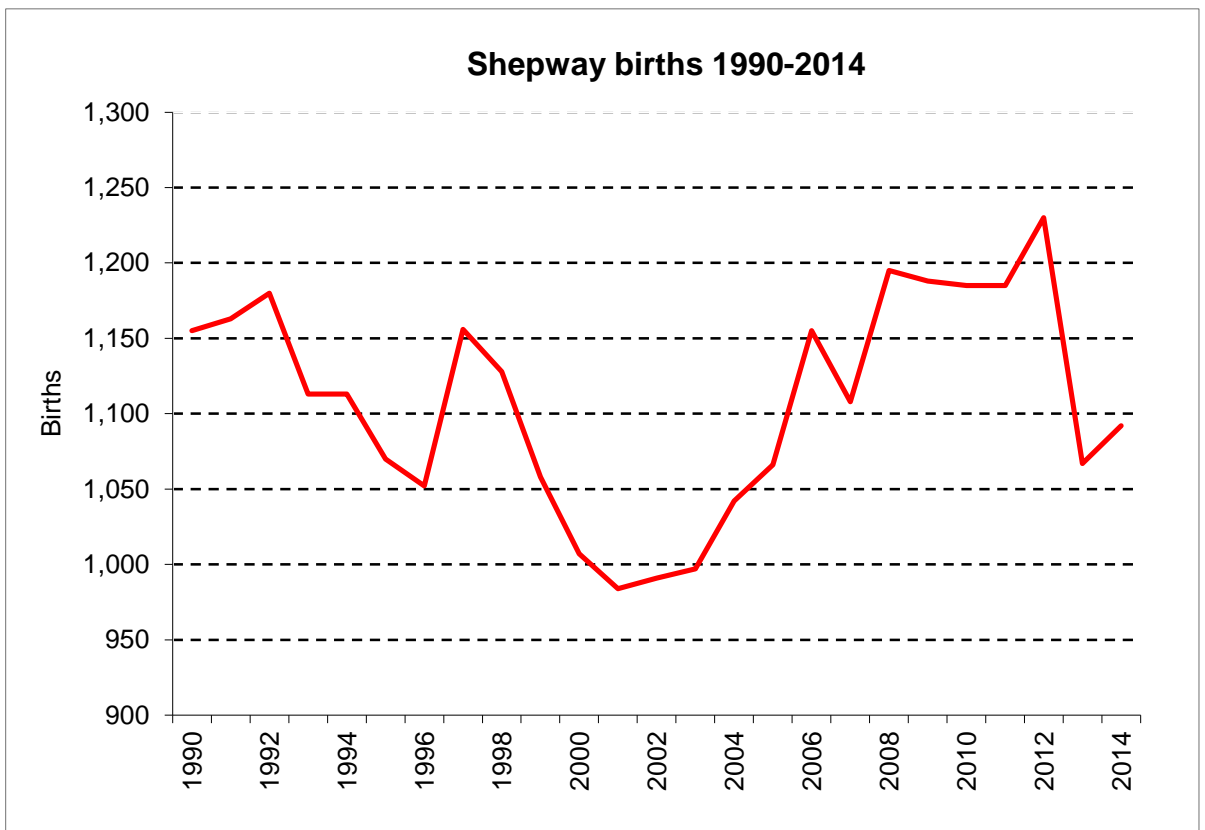
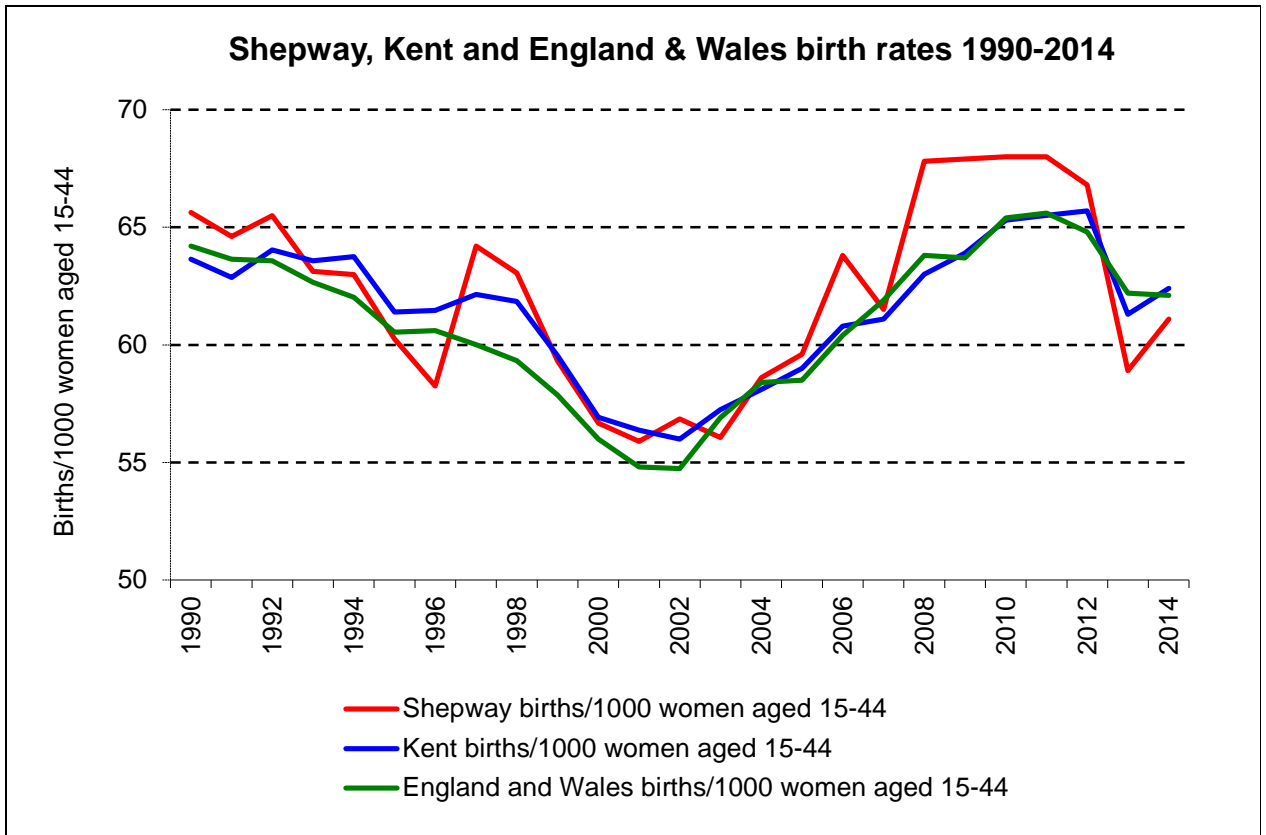
10.13 SHEPWAY

Overview

- Shepway's birth rate fell dramatically in 2013, taking it significantly below the National and Kent rates. However, there has been an increase in 2014 reducing the gap. The number of births in 2014 also increased compared to the previous year.
- Housing development is largely centred on Folkestone and Hythe, although significant sites in Sellindge and New Romney will need to be catered for.
- Reception year numbers peak earlier than in other Districts, doing so in 2015-16 at 1,208, compared to the current 1,172. Thereafter they reduce in 2016-17 to 1,146 and remain at this level for the forecast period. Total Primary school rolls continue to rise until 2018-19.
- The opening of Martello Grove Primary School in September 2015 and provision of temporary Year R places at Cheriton Primary School have provided the Primary school places needed in Shepway during the forecast period, although localised housing development will produce pressures that will need to be addressed.
- The historic shortfall of places in East Folkestone led to children needing to travel across the Town in order to access education. This situation is reflected in the forecasts as demand for more places in Folkestone West. As admissions patterns change, future forecasts will re-calibrate demand across the Town.
- Secondary pressures begin in Year 7 in 2019-20, but remain in surplus throughout the forecast period, dropping to between 4% and 5% surplus from 2019-20 to 2020-21. Across all year groups (7-11) surplus increases from the current 14.5% to 17.4% in 2016-17, before reducing to 7.7% by the end of the forecast period. No additional capacity will be needed in the Secondary sector.

District Analysis – Primary

The charts below set out the birth rates and the tables set out the school population figures and forecasts:



School-based surplus / deficit capacity summaries:Year R

Planning Group	2014-15 capacity	2014-15 (A)	2015-16 (F)	2016-17 (F)	2017-18 (F)	2018-19 (F)	2019-20 (F)	2019-20 capacity
Folkestone East	343	1	38	51	28	45	37	373
Folkestone West	285	11	9	-4	2	0	-1	255
Hawkinge	135	16	-10	1	21	13	16	135
Hythe	150	6	5	14	12	17	15	150
Lympne and Sellindge	54	9	0	-4	6	2	3	45
Shepway Rural North	93	14	10	10	21	17	17	95
Dymchurch	30	7	6	4	0	4	3	30
Brenzett and Brookland	35	4	6	10	4	9	7	35
Romney Marsh	146	14	23	24	18	9	12	146
Shepway	1,271	82	86	106	112	115	109	1,264

All Year Groups

Planning Group	2014-15 capacity	2014-15 (A)	2015-16 (F)	2016-17 (F)	2017-18 (F)	2018-19 (F)	2019-20 (F)	2019-20 capacity
Folkestone East	2,401	94	133	165	183	202	231	2,581
Folkestone West	1,777	99	94	45	15	-15	-24	1,845
Hawkinge	885	52	41	30	50	60	75	945
Hythe	1,050	4	-10	-14	-6	-3	12	1,060
Lympne and Sellindge	324	3	8	9	13	18	23	324
Shepway Rural North	651	39	28	36	45	62	69	661
Dymchurch	210	30	25	20	9	9	9	210
Brenzett and Brookland	245	41	39	32	30	30	29	245
Romney Marsh	1,022	139	143	133	128	114	105	1,032
Shepway	8,565	501	501	455	466	477	530	8,903

There are currently 36 Primary schools in the Shepway District. 1,271 places were available in Reception Year in 2014-15. Reception Year forecasts indicate surplus places across the District will fluctuate between 7% and 9% up to 2019-20. For total rolls the forecasts indicate a surplus of between 5% and 6% for the forecast period.

The forecasts indicate pressure remaining in West Folkestone. However, in part this is because for the past few years a number of children have not been able to access local schools in East Folkestone, and have had to access school places in West Folkestone. The trend based forecasts assume this pattern continuing. With the opening of Martello Grove Primary School the admission pattern will change. Between the Town's two planning areas there is sufficient capacity to meet demand, although in 2017-18 both surplus Year R and places across all year groups will be marginally below the 5% target at 4.5%-4.8%. This situation is likely to change once housing development commences at Shorncliffe

Garrison. There is provision for a new school within this site, which could be opened from September 2018 at the earliest.

The total school roll in the Hythe schools has been increasing, a consequence of not just large Reception Year cohorts entering the schools, but also admission of older pupils. Palmarsh Primary School has restructured to enable it to admit further pupils prior to its formal expansion which will be necessary to meet the demand arising from the 1050 new housing in Nickolls Quarry. Formal expansion is likely to be 2017-18.

Proposals for approximately 250 homes in Sellindge will require additional capacity of 0.5FE to be created in the village school; this is likely to be needed by 2017-18.

The District's Core Strategy provides for up to 500 new homes in New Romney. Subject to these being delivered, small scale expansions of St Nicholas CEPS and Greatstone PS would be required.

District Analysis – Secondary

The table below sets out the school population figures and forecasts for Year 7 and Years 7-11:

District	2014-15 capacity	2014-15 (A)	2015-16 (F)	2016-17 (F)	2017-18 (F)	2018-19 (F)	2019-20 (F)	2020-21 (F)	2021-22 (F)	2021-22 capacity
Year 7	1,195	199	209	202	136	130	58	52	72	1,195
Years 7-11	5,795	839	937	1,026	953	886	745	587	457	5,975

The number of Year 7 Secondary school places in Shepway is 1,195. Currently, 17% of Year 7 places are vacant in Shepway, with 14% of all Secondary school places vacant. The Year 7 cohort has reached its low point. It is expected to remain constant until 2016-17 after which there is an initial increase of 66 pupils (2FE) and a further step increase (73 pupils) in 2019-20. However, this will still be within the existing capacity of the schools, albeit for the years 2019-20 and 2020-21 surplus Year 7 capacity will be marginally below 5% at about 4.5%. Capacity across all year groups remains above 5% throughout the forecast period. Therefore, there are no plans to increase the Year 7 capacity in the foreseeable future.

Shepway Primary School Commissioning Position

Planning Group	by 2016-17	by 2017-18	by 2018-19	2019–20 to 2021-22)
Hythe		Up to 1FE expansion of Palmarsh PS		
Folkestone West			1FE of new 2FE school at Shorcliffe Garrison	
Sellindge		0.5FE expansion of Sellindge PS		
Romney Marsh				0.3FE in Romney Marsh

Shepway Secondary School Commissioning Position

by 2016-17	by 2017-18	by 2018-19	2019–20 to 2021-22)

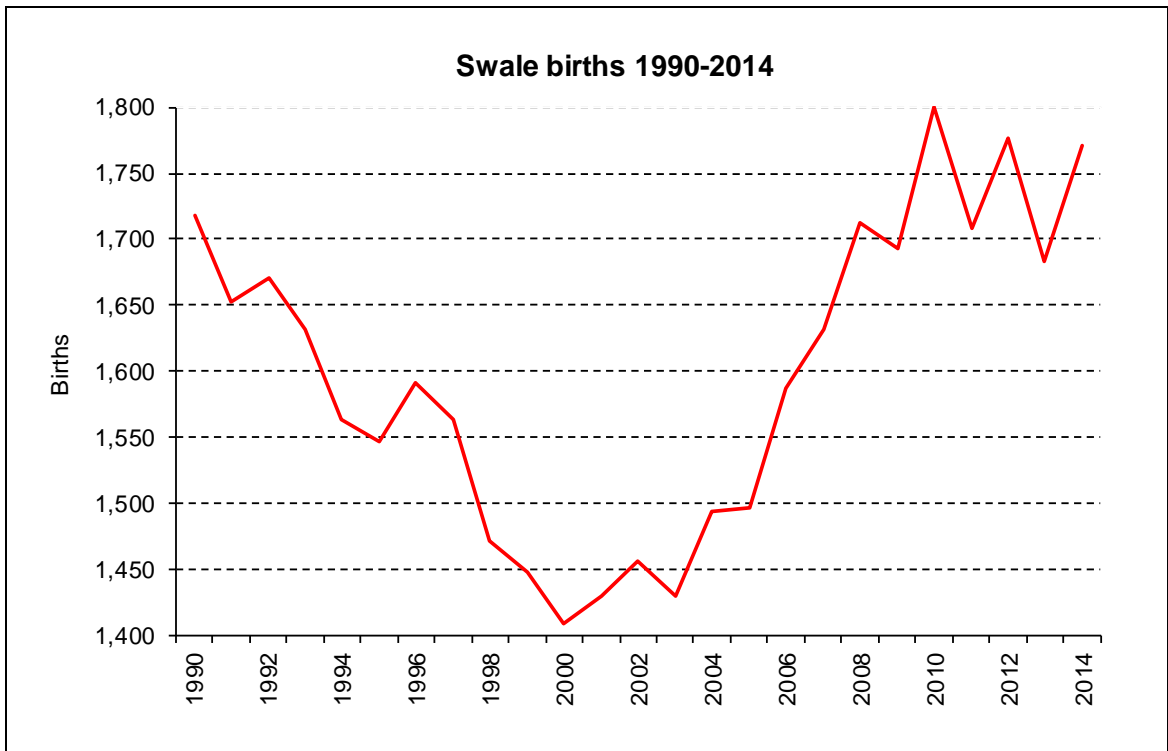
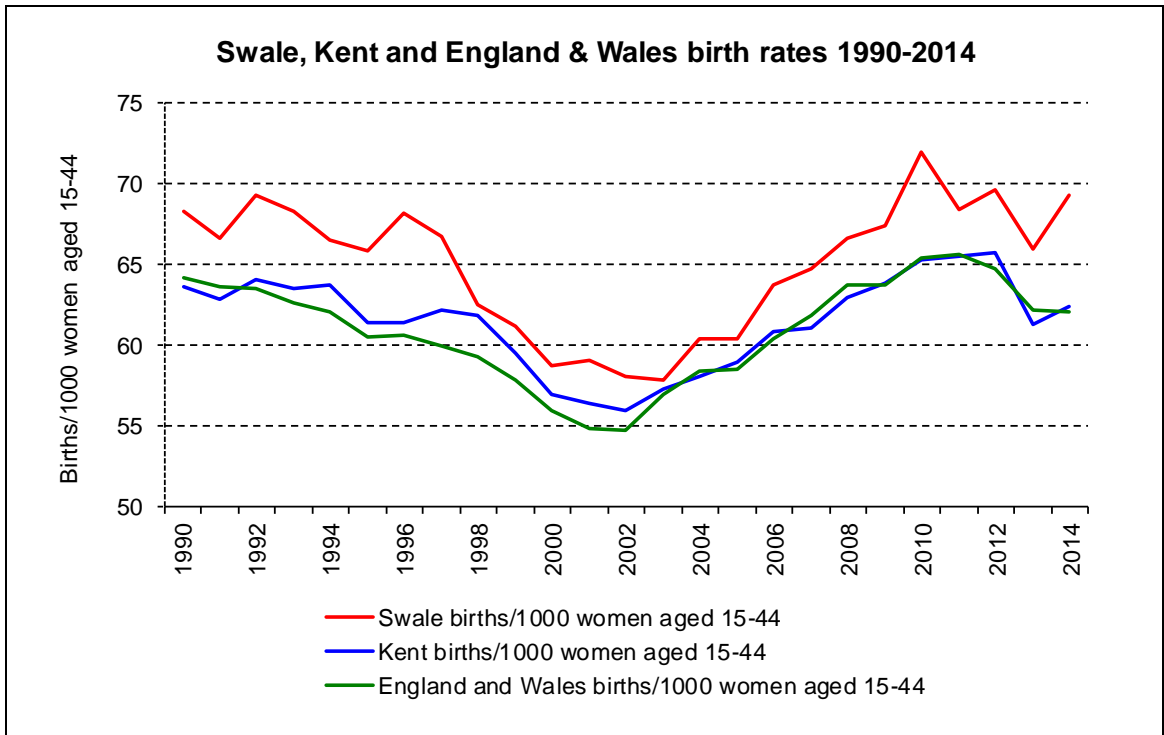
10.14 SWALE

Overview

- Swale has an above average birth rate and although this has been falling from its peak in 2010, it is now rising again at a rate greater than Kent and National rates.
- New housing proposed in the Swale Local Plan will require up to 7FE Primary provision and up to 5FE Secondary provision.
- The impact of a decade of rising numbers will continue to be felt in the Primary phase over the next few years, whilst also beginning to impact on Secondary numbers.
- Consideration of Swale as a whole masks significant local pressures in Sittingbourne and on The Isle of Sheppey, particularly in the Primary phase.
- Inward migration, in particular on the Isle of Sheppey and in Sittingbourne, continues to create significant pressure in Primary schools.
- Pressures on the Isle of Sheppey as a result of inward migration are across all Year groups, particularly at Key Stage 2. This is clearly evident in the Eastchurch and Warden Bay area.
- Pressure on Secondary places in Sittingbourne schools is growing with 1FE required from September 2016 and a further 1FE from September 2017. From September 2019 up to a further 3FE will be required for Sittingbourne.

District Analysis – Primary

The charts below set out the birth rates and the table sets out the school population figures and forecasts:



School-based surplus/deficit capacity summaries: Year R

Planning Group	2014-15 capacity	2014-15 (A)	2015-16 (F)	2016-17 (F)	2017-18 (F)	2018-19 (F)	2019-20 (F)	2019-20 capacity
Faversham	240	7	7	-7	1	14	7	225
Faversham Rural South	71	8	6	-2	9	3	4	71
Faversham Rural East	60	0	4	2	3	6	5	60
Sittingbourne North	210	0	19	-9	-3	6	2	210
Sittingbourne East	225	0	16	-2	40	4	14	225
Sittingbourne South	293	-9	48	22	43	24	34	328
Iwade	90	11	26	7	21	17	18	90
Teynham	50	3	0	1	-8	-8	-6	50
Swale Rural West	105	12	22	5	7	3	5	105
Sheerness	210	0	3	35	18	29	28	240
Halfway and Minster	210	0	72	55	52	69	63	270
Queenborough and Rushenden	90	11	-10	-12	-2	5	0	60
Eastchurch and Warden Bay	90	13	-11	-22	-30	-18	-21	60
Swale	1,944	56	202	73	151	155	154	1,994

All Year Groups

Planning Group	2014-15 capacity	2014-15 (A)	2015-16 (F)	2016-17 (F)	2017-18 (F)	2018-19 (F)	2019-20 (F)	2019-20 capacity
Faversham	1,575	122	88	42	31	44	43	1,600
Faversham Rural South	496	-10	-14	-23	-16	-17	-4	503
Faversham Rural East	420	-9	-15	-27	-29	-5	-2	420
Sittingbourne North	1,470	14	11	-12	-27	-32	-37	1,470
Sittingbourne East	1,425	44	21	3	29	22	27	1,575
Sittingbourne South	1,931	-87	-41	-24	22	47	88	2,226
Iwade	450	13	34	40	59	76	95	600
Teynham	350	15	-1	-12	-25	-41	-49	350
Swale Rural West	675	62	76	79	77	64	61	725
Sheerness	1,290	33	12	43	58	85	112	1,560
Halfway and Minster	1,410	35	162	197	231	274	314	1,860
Queenborough and Rushenden	450	55	38	17	15	11	8	450
Eastchurch and Warden Bay	480	16	-8	-35	-71	-92	-116	480
Swale	12,422	303	364	288	355	436	540	13,819

There are 49 Primary schools in the Swale District, providing 1,944 Year R places in 2014-15 including 109 temporary Year R places that were commissioned to meet the demand that came forward in Sittingbourne and on the Isle of Sheppey. Year R rolls are forecast to peak at 1,919 pupils in 2016-17 with an expected surplus of 3.6%. The number of surplus places across the whole Primary age range will increase to 3.9% by 2019.

Sittingbourne and Sheppey are growth areas and rolls are forecast to increase over the next five years. Pressure on school places on Sheppey increased over the 2014-15 academic year due to high levels of inward migration. KCC is expanding West Minster Primary School from September 2016. KCC will seek agreement with schools, where expansion projects are underway, to open additional year group classes in order to ensure sufficient places are available. Pressure on places is developing in the Eastchurch and Warden Bay Planning Group. KCC is in discussion with a landowner over the possibility of acquiring land to enable expansion at Warden Bay. In the longer term a new school will be required for the Rushenden development.

New housing development included in Swale Borough Council's draft Local Plan indicates that there will be up to 15,000 new dwellings during the period to 2031. Careful planning will be needed due to the uncertainty of when and where development will commence. Where new developments proceed, KCC will work with the Developers to ensure sufficient school provision is included.

An increase in pupil numbers is predicted in Teynham and new housing is also proposed for the area. KCC will commission an additional 1FE Primary School .

Significant housing development is proposed for the Quinton Road area and a site is included for new Primary and Secondary schools. This may be an all through school for children aged 4-19 to provide 2FE Primary provision and 6FE Secondary (subject to house building). If demand increases before the new Primary provision is available, KCC will commission an additional 1FE at a Primary school in North Sittingbourne.

Further housing is proposed at Stones Farm. Lansdowne Primary School has already been expanded by 1FE to meet some of the demand arising from the first phase of the development. KCC is planning to amalgamate Murston Infant and Junior Schools from September 2016. If new housing brings forward additional pupils, it is planned to commission 0.5FE at the Murston Primary School for 2019-20, increasing it to 2FE.

New housing development is planned for Faversham. KCC will commission 1FE from September 2017 at Bysing Wood Primary School. If all the development proposed for Faversham proceeds, a new 1FE Primary school will be commissioned with the potential to increase to 2FE. This will either be on the Love Lane development site or at Abbey Secondary School.

District Analysis – Secondary

The table below sets out the school population figures forecasts:

	2014-15 PAN / capacity	2014-15 (A)	2015-16 (F)	2016-17 (F)	2017-18 (F)	2018-19 (F)	2019-20 (F)	2020-21 (F)	2021-22 (F)	2021-22 PAN / capacity
Year 7	1,685	172	156	81	-8	-76	-149	-159	-281	1,685
Years 7-11	8,369	781	826	806	645	395	72	-243	-605	8,425

There are currently 1,685 Year 7 places in Swale (2014-15). This meets the demand for school places in the District until 2018 when a deficit of 76 places (-4.5%) is expected. Surplus capacity in Faversham and the Isle of Sheppey masks the pressure on places in Sittingbourne. This pressure will become acute in Sittingbourne from 2016, resulting in a shortfall of Year 7 places. Discussions with the Secondary schools in Sittingbourne on providing additional places have taken place. It is planned to commission 30 temporary Year 7 places at Sittingbourne Community College for entry in September 2016. KCC is undertaking feasibility work to provide accommodation for the school to permanently expand by 2FE from September 2017. From September 2019 up to a further 3FE will be required in Sittingbourne. New housing development is planned for the Quinton Road area and includes a site for a new Secondary school. KCC will work with the Sittingbourne Secondary schools and look at options for providing the additional 3FE either temporarily in existing schools or look to provide new provision on the Quinton Road site if timing of the development allows.

Across the District in the longer term additional capacity will be required as a result of the growth in the pupil population and new housing development. Requirements for additional capacity will be reviewed from 2021 including consideration of both selective and non-selective.

Swale Primary School Commissioning Position

Planning Group	by 2016-17	by 2017-18	by 2018-19	2019–20 to 2021-22)
Sittingbourne East				0.5FE at Murston PS
Sittingbourne North		1FE in Sittingbourne North		2FE at Quinton Road
Teynham		1 FE at Teynham		
Queenborough and Rushenden				1FE (of 2FE) at Rushenden
Eastchurch and Warden Bay		1FE at Warden Bay		
Faversham		1FE at Bysing Wood		1FE in Faversham

Swale Secondary School Commissioning Position

by 2016-17	by 2017-18	by 2018-19	2019–20 to 2021-22)
30 Year 7 places at Sittingbourne Community College	2FE at Sittingbourne Community College		2019: 3FE in Sittingbourne

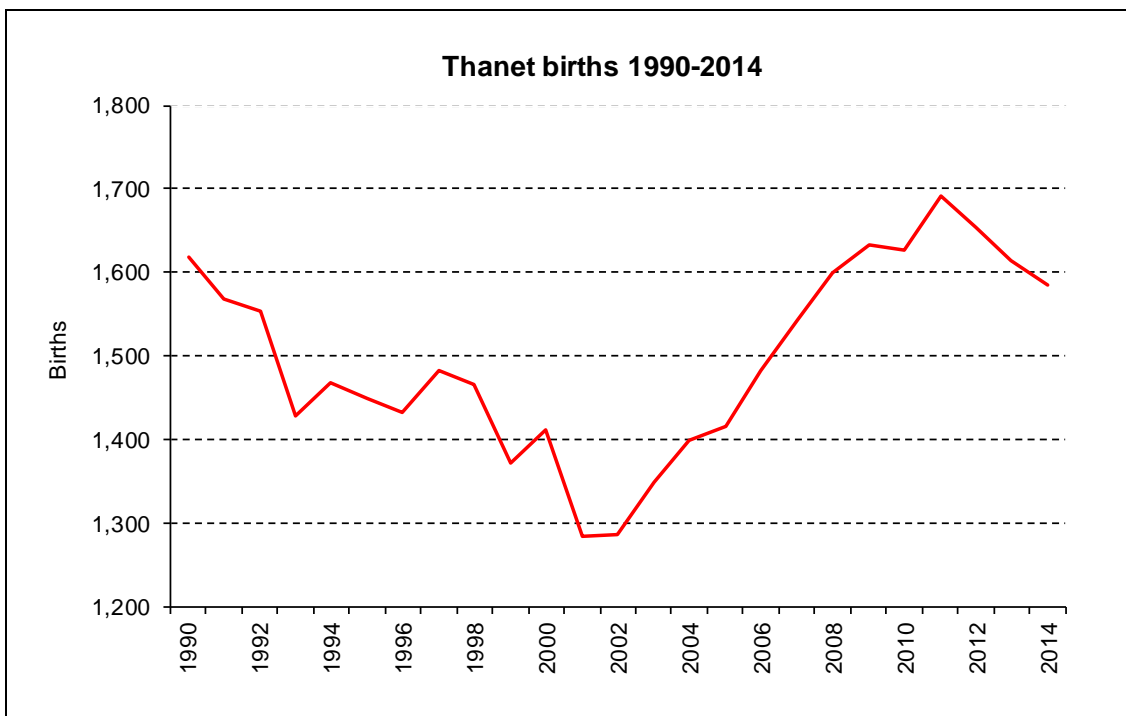
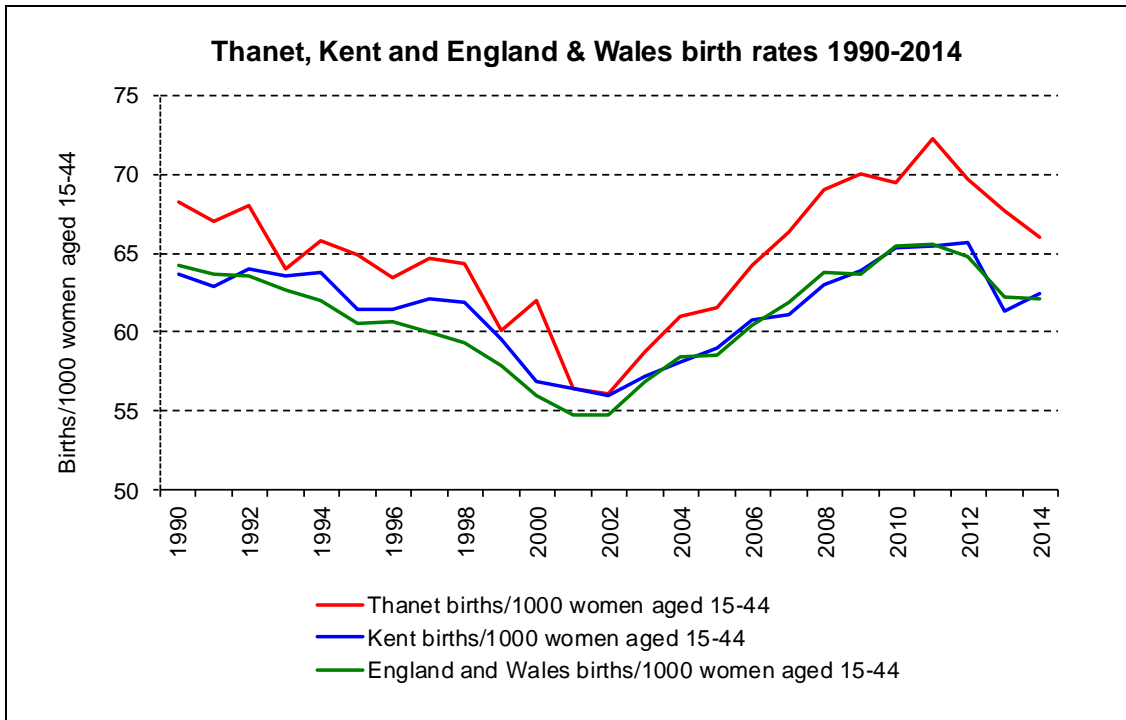
10.15 THANET

Overview

- Thanet has an above average birth rate. Although it has fallen in recent years, it still remains higher than the Kent and National average.
- The impact of a decade of rising numbers will continue to be felt in the Primary phase over the next few years.
- Maintaining sufficient provision is complicated by the volatility of pupil mobility.
- Thanet also has high levels of inward migration which has increased over the last 12 months.
- During the period up to 2031, 12,000 new homes are expected across Thanet and will require up to 8.5FE Primary provision and 8FE Secondary provision.
- Marlowe Academy closed in August 2015 and the Ellington and Hereson School increased in size to take the students, operating over both school sites. Ellington and Hereson School was renamed Royal Harbour Academy.

District Analysis – Primary

The charts below set out the birth rates and the table sets out the school population figures and forecasts:



School-based surplus/deficit capacity summaries: Year R

Planning Group	2014-15 capacity	2014-15 (A)	2015-16 (F)	2016-17 (F)	2017-18 (F)	2018-19 (F)	2019-20 (F)	2019-20 capacity
Margate	465	20	8	7	23	22	21	495
Ramsgate	510	39	43	96	79	86	86	570
Broadstairs	300	1	24	-18	-6	-9	-6	300
Garlinge and Westgate-on-Sea	210	24	39	1	37	37	31	210
Birchington and Thanet Rural	165	-1	-6	-9	21	19	18	195
Thanet	1,650	83	108	76	155	155	151	1,770

All Year Groups

Planning Group	2014-15 capacity	2014-15 (A)	2015-16 (F)	2016-17 (F)	2017-18 (F)	2018-19 (F)	2019-20 (F)	2019-20 capacity
Margate	3,105	144	147	123	122	122	118	3,405
Ramsgate	3,410	139	152	252	343	386	422	3,856
Broadstairs	2,166	-2	-4	33	18	1	10	2,297
Garlinge and Westgate-on-Sea	1,254	40	63	52	80	111	137	1,494
Birchington and Thanet Rural	1,147	-3	-14	-31	-15	5	20	1,275
Thanet	11,082	318	344	429	548	625	708	12,327

There are 30 Primary schools in the Thanet District, providing 1,650 Year R places in 2014-15. From September 2015 there will be 31 Primary schools with the opening of the Ramsgate Free School and the number of Year R places will increase to 1,710.

Forecasts indicate that 1,694 Year R places will be required for September 2016. Subject to the planned 1FE expansion at Birchington CE Primary School and the new 2FE provision at St George's proceeding in September 2016, there will be 4.3% surplus Year R places. A surplus of 3.7% is forecast across all year groups in September 2016 increasing to 5.7% in 2019-20.

Where additional accommodation is available through expansion projects, we will negotiate the opening of additional classes with schools to ensure sufficient places are available locally.

New housing in the Westwood Cross area is already underway and a new 2FE Primary School will be commissioned in the medium to longer term to meet demand from the new housing. Development is also planned at Manston Green and includes a site for a new 2FE Primary School. Housing development is also proposed for Birchington and Westgate-on-Sea and will require the provision of up to two new schools should this go ahead. Smaller development will be managed through expansion of existing schools, including 0.5FE expansion of St Gregory's Catholic Primary School in Margate.

District Analysis – Secondary

The table below sets out the school population figures and forecasts:

	2014-15 PAN / capacity	2014-15 (A)	2015-16 (F)	2016-17 (F)	2017-18 (F)	2018-19 (F)	2019-20 (F)	2020-21 (F)	2021-22 (F)	2021-22 PAN / capacity
Year 7	1,554	201	24	11	-74	-110	-233	-241	-194	1,444
Years 7-11	7,748	743	506	527	327	77	-351	-616	-820	7,220

Thanet has a capacity of 1,554 places in Year 7 and this will temporarily reduce to 1,471 in September 2015 as a result of the closure of Marlowe Academy. The Ellington and Hereson School enlarged in order to take the students from Marlowe Academy and changed its name to the Royal Harbour Academy. The school will operate across the sites of both predecessor schools.

A deficit of 233 Year 7 places is predicted for entry in September 2019 and as numbers continue to increase across the age range and new housing comes forward, the KCC will commission up to 8FE of provision during the period 2019 to 2024 through a combination of expansion of existing schools and potentially a new school. We will work with the District Council to identify a suitable site for the establishment of a new school for Thanet. Consideration will be given to how both selective and non-selective provision will be commissioned.

Thanet Primary School Commissioning Position

Planning Group	by 2016-17	by 2017-18	by 2018-19	2019–20 to 2021-22)
Ramsgate				2FE at Manston Green
Broadstairs				2FE at Westwood Cross
Margate				0.5 FE St Gregory's RCP
Garlinge and Westgate-on-Sea				2FE at Westgate
Birchington and Thanet Rural				2FE at Birchington

Thanet Secondary School Commissioning Position

by 2016-17	by 2017-18	by 2018-19	2019–20 to 2021-22)
		3 FE across Broadstairs and Margate	Up to 5FE across Thanet

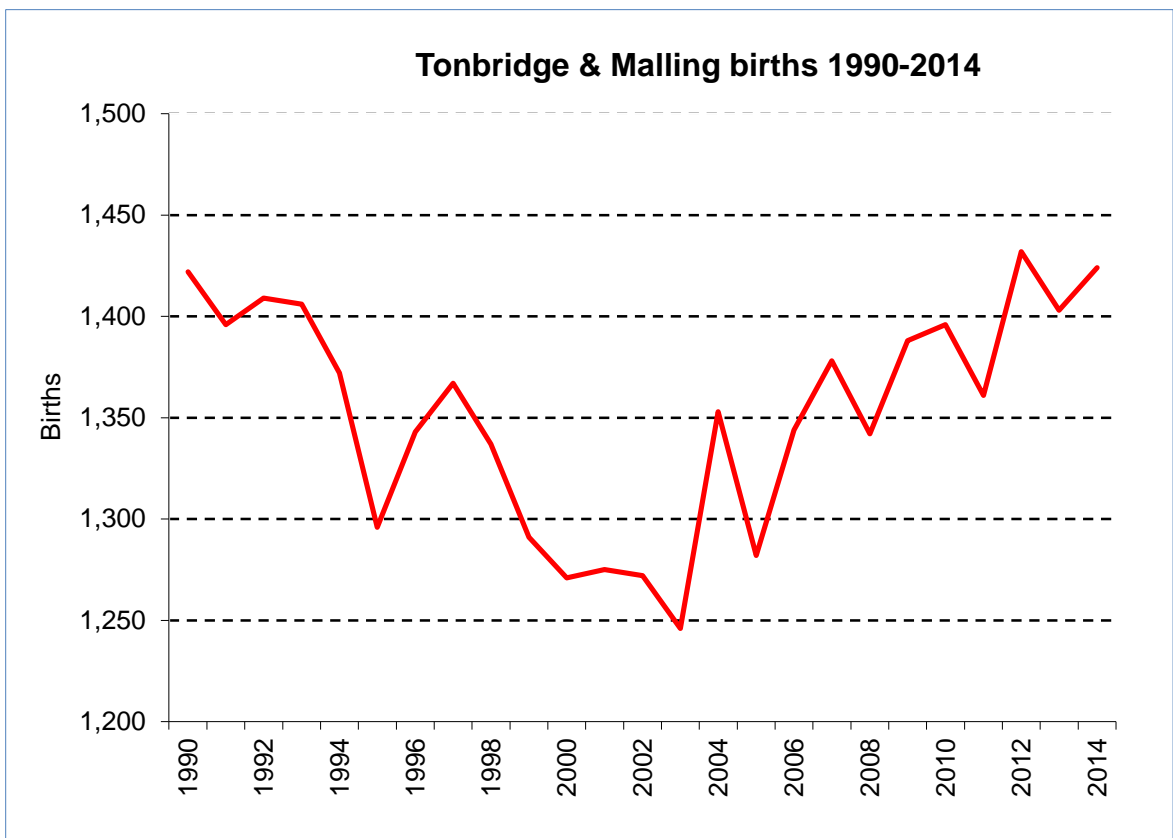
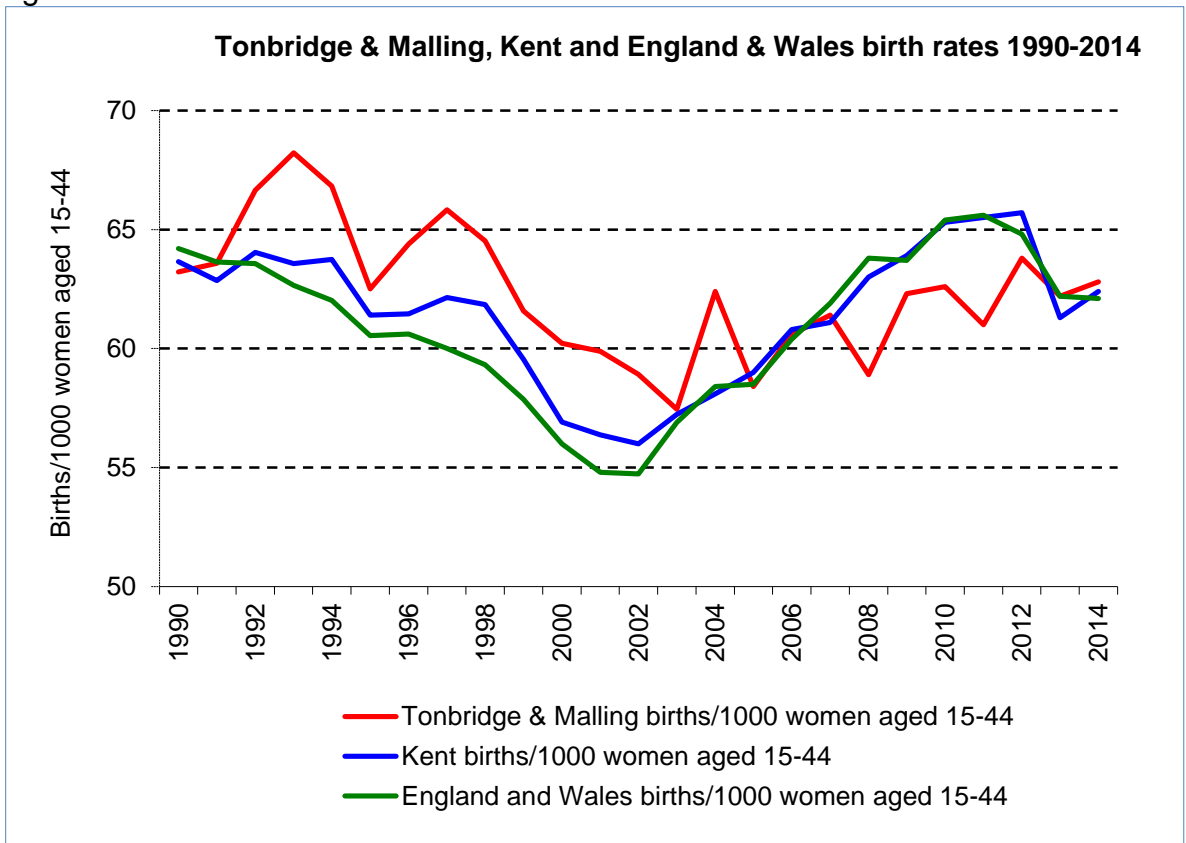
10.16 TONBRIDGE AND MALLING

Overview

- Birth rates for Tonbridge and Malling are broadly in line with Kent and National. Whilst these have fluctuated, the trend over the last five years is slightly upward. However, the number of births per year has significantly increased over the last decade.
- Demographic pressures have arisen from sustained indigenous population growth, migration factors and the housing developments in central Tonbridge, Kings Hill, and Leybourne Chase.
- Three new Primary schools opened in September 2015 also providing additional SEN Specialist Resource Base Provision (SRBP) for pupils with Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and/or Behavioural, Emotional or Social Needs (BESN).
- Additional provision of 2FE will be required to meet the increased demand for Primary school places in central Tonbridge. A temporary expansion will be required for 2016/17 admissions and it is anticipated that a new Primary Free School will meet this demand from 2017/18.
- The forecasts indicate shortfalls in Secondary School provision (Year 7) from 2018-19, increasing to a need for up to 150 Year 7 places by 2021-22. The Judd School will provide 1FE additional boys' selective Secondary provision by 2016-17.
- In Tonbridge and Malling the 2007 core strategy planned for 6,375 homes. Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council's (TMBC) latest Objectively Assessed Housing Need is 13,460.

District Analysis – Primary

The charts below set out the birth rates and the table sets out the school population figures forecasts:



School-based surplus/deficit capacity summaries: Year R

Planning Group	2014-15 PAN	2014-15 (A)	2015-16 (F)	2016-17 (F)	2017-18 (F)	2018-19 (F)	2019-20 (F)	2019-20 PAN
Tonbridge North	264	0	4	-3	-30	-4	-12	248
Tonbridge South	150	0	27	7	-21	-6	-8	150
Hildenborough	60	0	-3	-8	-7	-13	-9	60
Borough Green and Wrotham	131	22	14	24	17	12	18	131
Stansted and Trottiscliffe	27	12	3	1	3	1	1	12
Hadlow and East Peckham	60	8	2	-9	1	1	0	55
Kings Hill and Mereworth	210	16	16	22	42	31	34	210
Wateringbury	30	12	7	7	4	4	5	30
Malling	150	8	15	1	-1	-6	-3	150
Larkfield and Leybourne	120	0	24	25	-3	21	15	150
Aylesford and Ditton	129	-6	16	20	10	33	23	129
Snodland	150	-3	27	21	26	14	20	180
Medway Gap	78	11	8	2	3	6	6	78
Tunbury	87	-3	4	-6	-7	-11	-7	90
Tonbridge & Malling	1,646	77	164	105	36	81	82	1,673

All Year Groups

Planning Group	2014-15 capacity	2014-15 (A)	2015-16 (F)	2016-17 (F)	2017-18 (F)	2018-19 (F)	2019-20 (F)	2019-20 capacity
Tonbridge North	1,784	86	50	28	-20	-48	-78	1,792
Tonbridge South	960	35	51	43	16	6	-4	1,065
Hildenborough	420	-1	-11	-21	-32	-47	-57	420
Borough Green and Wrotham	932	118	99	100	101	93	103	917
Stansted and Trottiscliffe	180	74	12	7	10	10	12	87
Hadlow and East Peckham	400	42	51	37	33	23	19	400
Kings Hill and Mereworth	1,260	27	101	120	160	170	188	1,500
Wateringbury	246	26	39	42	44	49	43	216
Malling	1,050	48	34	25	0	-8	-9	1,050
Larkfield and Leybourne	852	16	89	103	92	97	94	1,020
Aylesford and Ditton	919	126	121	108	83	98	111	919
Snodland	1,005	60	131	141	151	136	133	1,230
Medway Gap	506	86	64	41	26	19	7	546
Tunbury	609	-4	-5	-20	-36	-48	-58	624
Tonbridge & Malling	11,123	739	825	753	626	549	504	11,786

There are currently 45 schools in the Primary phase (39 Primary, three Infant and three Junior schools) in the Tonbridge and Malling District with a total of 1,646 Reception Year places available for 2014-15. The District is forecast to have sufficient places to meet demand but is predicted to fall marginally below the recommended 5% surplus operating capacity for total rolls for September 2017.

Stansted CE Primary School was discontinued with effect from 31 August 2015. Consequently, 15 Reception Year places were decommissioned from the Stansted and Trottiscliffe planning group. There are sufficient places within the locality to meet the predicted pupil demand throughout the forecast period.

Hadlow and East Peckham is forecast to have a deficit of up to nine Reception Year places for September 2016. Similarly, the forecasts for Malling show a slight deficit from 2017-18 onwards.

Tunbury is on the border of Medway. The forecast shows sustained pressure for Reception Year places. The pattern of admissions in recent years has been symptomatic of significant cross-border pupil movement with Medway. Discussions will be held with schools near the Medway border as to how any future forecast demand can be met.

There are significant pressure points within the District which are primarily linked to house building and inward migration. Three new Primary schools have opened for September 2015 to serve the expected pupil product arising from housing development predominantly in the planning groups of Kings Hill and Mereworth; Larkfield and Leybourne; and Snodland to ensure sufficient capacity is available to meet indigenous demand and pupil product. Further housing is anticipated as part of the Phase 3 development at Kings Hill and we will commission up to an additional 2FE at the new Kings Hill Primary School in line with the pace and scale of additional house building.

Small but significant pockets of housing developments and inward migration around the Tonbridge Town area have created localised pressures. Historic travel-to-school patterns arising from pressures within Tonbridge South are reflected in higher forecasts for Tonbridge North. The shortfall of Reception Year places in central Tonbridge has been temporarily addressed by St Margaret Clitherow RC Primary School adding 15 Reception Year places and Sussex Road Primary School adding 30 Reception Year places for September 2015. We were made aware by the Department for Education that the Bishop Chavasse, a new 2FE Free School, was initially approved to open in central Tonbridge in September 2016 at a location to be advised. It has subsequently been confirmed that the Free School will now not open until September 2017. Consequently a further temporary expansion of Reception Year places is required for September 2016 admissions. We are in discussions with existing schools to identify a suitable expansion. The new Free School is expected to meet the forecast deficit of up to 60 Reception Year places for September 2017, providing it is located within the central Tonbridge area.

Peters Village housing development (in the Medway Gap) is expected to create over 1,000 new homes. We will undertake a statutory process to relocate and expand Wouldham CE Primary School to a new purpose-built facility which will become the strategic provision for Wouldham and Peters Village. It is proposed that over time the school will be able to accommodate the pupil product from the housing development.

We also intend to commission a Primary age Satellite Provision linked to Ridge View Special School for up to 48 Primary aged pupils.

In June 2015 TMBC published the results of their Strategic Housing Market Assessment. This identifies the Borough's 'Objectively Assessed Need' as 13,460 units for the period 2011-31 which equates to 673 units pa. Around half of the 13,460 units have an existing planning consent. Without taking planning constraints into consideration an additional 7,000 new homes could be planned by 2031.

TMBC recently ended a 'Call for Sites' exercise to identify potential new development sites and will, over the next few months, be assessing proposals as to their suitability for development. KCC will engage with this process and work with TMBC to ensure adequate provision is planned and integrated within the emerging Local Plan for the Borough.

Whilst TMBC has a five year housing supply the number of speculative applications being submitted ahead of the Local Plan process is expected to remain relatively low.

District Analysis – Secondary

	2014-15 PAN / capacity	2014-15 (A)	2015-16 (F)	2016-17 (F)	2017-18 (F)	2018-19 (F)	2019-20 (F)	2020-21 (F)	2021-22 (F)	2021-22 PAN / capacity
Year 7	1,841	279	180	184	114	58	-10	-34	-61	1,768
Years 7-11	8,599	944	1088	1180	1136	908	620	406	162	8,840

The number of Year 7 places in Secondary schools in the Borough is 1,841 in 2014-15. The admissions pattern for Tonbridge and Malling is linked to Maidstone (for Malling) and Sevenoaks and Tunbridge Wells (for Tonbridge). The commentary on those Districts should be considered alongside this section.

Year 7 numbers are forecast to fluctuate until 2017-18 when numbers are projected to rise. The forecast shows a deficit of places from 2018-19 to 2021-22 necessitating 1FE by 2018-19 and up to 3FE additional Secondary provision by 2021-22 to meet the required deficit. We have commissioned 1FE additional boys' selective places at the Judd School from 2016-17, and the additional places are reflected in the forecasts.

As set out in the Sevenoaks section, the Secretary of State has now approved a grammar school annex provision for girls provided by The Weald of Kent Grammar School. KCC will continue to pursue options for boys' provision in Sevenoaks District. It is anticipated that the increase in the size of Weald of Kent Grammar School will reduce the demand for girls' grammar school places in Tunbridge Wells by up to 1FE and increase future forecasts for places in Tonbridge and Malling accordingly. We will undertake further analysis of the impact during 2015-16 and adjust the commissioning intentions for Secondary school provision accordingly.

Tonbridge and Malling Primary School Commissioning Position

Planning Group	by 2016-17	by 2017-18	by 2018-19	2019-20 to 2021-22
Medway Gap		1FE at Wouldham		
Tonbridge	30 Year R places	2FE Free School in central Tonbridge		

Commissioning Position for Secondary, Early Years and SEN

	by 2016-17	by 2017-18	by 2018-19	2019-20 to 2021-22
Secondary			1FE	2021-22 – 3FE

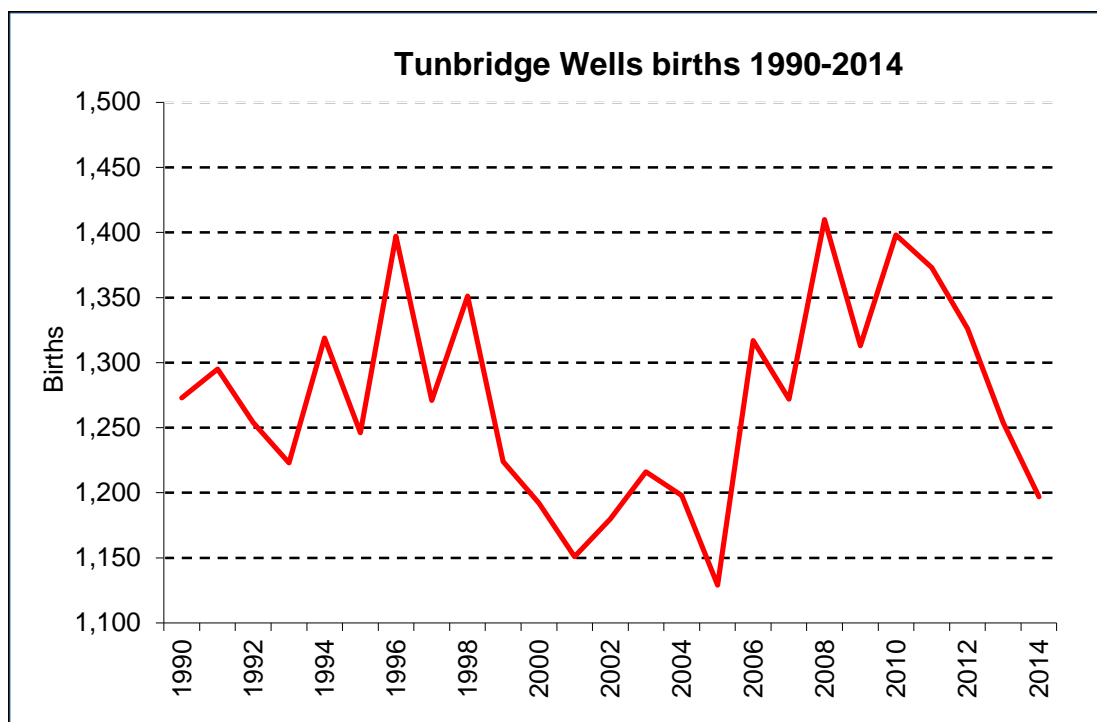
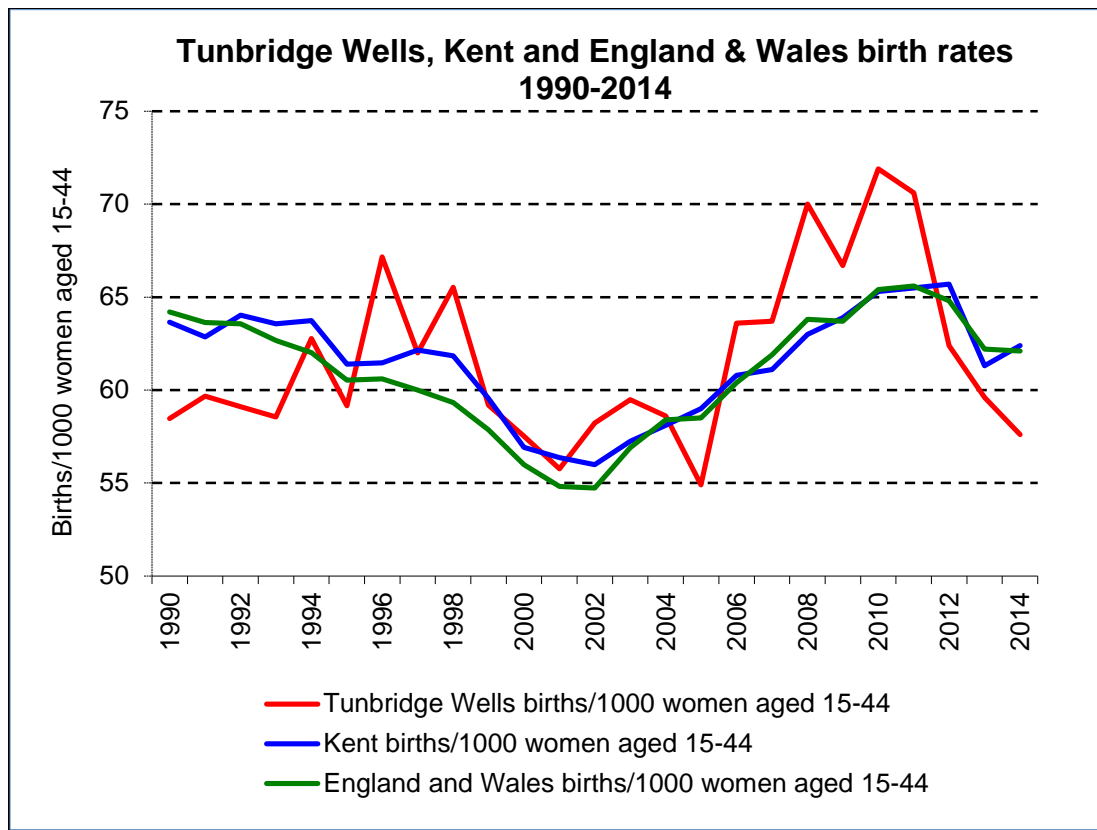
10.17 TUNBRIDGE WELLS

Overview

- Birth rates have continued to fall, reflecting the trend since 2010. The number of births and birth rate are now close to the most recent low point in 2005 and are significantly below Kent and National figures.
- Skinners' Kent Primary School, a new 1FE school offering 30 Reception Year places and hosting Satellite Provision linked to Oakley School opened in September 2015.
- In Tunbridge Wells the core strategy adopted in 2010 planned for 6,000 new homes; the results of a study into the Borough's 'Objectively Assessed Need' is expected to increase significantly.
- Future pressure is anticipated from housing developments including Hawkenbury Farm and Paddock Wood, necessitating additional Primary school provision.
- The forecasts indicate a deficit of Reception Year places within the planning group of Pembury for September 2016 and beyond.
- The scope for future Primary school expansion is limited due to the nature and location of available sites.
- The forecasts indicate a significant need for additional Secondary School provision, although this is dependent upon the strategy across the travel to school area of Sevenoaks South, Tonbridge and Tunbridge Wells.

District Analysis – Primary

The charts below set out the birth rates and the tables set out the school population figures and forecasts:



School-based surplus / deficit capacity summaries: Year R

Planning Group	2014-15 PAN/ capacity	2014-15 (A)	2015-16 (F)	2016-17 (F)	2017-18 (F)	2018-19 (F)	2019-20 (F)	2019-20 PAN / capacity
Tunbridge Wells Town	279	26	31	55	64	71	65	309
Tunbridge Wells South	260	22	3	6	34	20	22	260
Tunbridge Wells West	130	13	32	3	0	24	13	110
Southborough	180	9	7	10	37	9	14	180
Pembury	60	0	-14	-11	-8	-2	-4	60
Paddock Wood	180	10	9	19	15	26	19	180
Goudhurst and Lamberhurst	60	0	6	5	12	17	15	60
Cranbrook	111	21	7	-1	13	18	13	106
Hawkhurst and Sandhurst	55	2	3	14	15	18	16	60
Tunbridge Wells	1,315	103	84	100	181	201	172	1,325

All Year Groups

Planning Group	2014-15 PAN/ capacity	2014-15 (A)	2015-16 (F)	2016-17 (F)	2017-18 (F)	2018-19 (F)	2019-20 (F)	2019-20 PAN/ capacity
Tunbridge Wells Town	1,977	173	247	269	291	311	327	2,163
Tunbridge Wells South	1,690	86	54	33	43	39	48	1,820
Tunbridge Wells West	750	78	113	113	100	114	113	830
Southborough	1,200	117	122	116	153	146	145	1,290
Pembury	510	3	-18	-35	-48	-54	-62	450
Paddock Wood	1,280	100	96	102	113	108	124	1,290
Goudhurst and Lamberhurst	380	-7	-5	-4	10	27	41	420
Cranbrook	758	109	119	117	122	135	149	762
Hawkhurst and Sandhurst	385	51	56	69	76	83	92	410
Tunbridge Wells	8,930	710	785	781	859	909	979	9,435

There are currently 33 Primary schools in the Tunbridge Wells District and a total of 1315 places available in Reception Year in 2014/15. The Reception Year intake for Primary schools in Tunbridge Wells is forecast to fluctuate. The forecast data shows that there is sufficient capacity across the District to accommodate the total pupil numbers. However, this masks areas of localised pressure. The planning groups in Tunbridge Wells can be broadly split into two areas for provision planning purposes: urban and rural.

Tunbridge Wells Rural: All rural planning groups are anticipated to remain in surplus across the Plan period, with the exception of a slight deficit in Cranbrook for 2016-17.

Tunbridge Wells Urban: The first FE of a new 2FE Primary school has opened on the housing development at Knights Wood, located in Tunbridge Wells Town planning group. The Skinners' Kent Primary School will meet the pupil product arising from the housing development and provide additional places towards indigenous population growth. It hosts a Satellite Unit operated as part of Oakley Special School and provides inclusive provision for up to 12 pupils.

The forecasts for Pembury indicate that there will be between 62 and 74 Reception pupils each year. Pembury Primary School has previously operated at 3FE for the period 2011-14. From September 2015 there is anticipated pressure of up to 14 Reception Year places during the forecast period. However, the nearby planning groups of Tunbridge Wells Town and Southborough are forecast to have sufficient surplus places to accommodate this demand.

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council (TWBC) has recently submitted its Site Allocations Development Plan Document for examination which identifies the proposed housing sites in the Borough up to 2026.

The development of brownfield sites within the town centre, whilst individually quite small, could cumulatively place significant pressure on the existing schools in the town which are typically constrained in nature. The timing of these developments will be a key factor. It is understood that the current commercial occupiers of these sites will vacate gradually over the next five years as alternative business locations become attractive.

In the medium term, development of approximately 235 new homes in Hawkenbury is Primary School anticipated to necessitate the relocation and expansion of St Peter's CE Primary School by up to 1.3FE to accommodate the increase in pupil numbers. The timing of the relocation is dependent on and linked to the housing development proposals.

The development of a total of 1,050 new homes is proposed in Paddock Wood. The majority of this is across three medium sized development sites, two of which are currently within the planning system. In response to the proposed development a new 2FE Primary school is required and a site to accommodate this will be secured through the planning system. The school opening will be commissioned in line with occupations of the new developments.

TWBC have also begun the evidence gathering stage of producing a new full Local Plan to identify and accommodate housing over the longer term. Whilst this process is at a very early stage, KCC will engage with TWBC to ensure appropriate education provision is integrated into the emerging Plan.

District Analysis – Secondary

The table below sets out the school population figures and forecasts for Year 7 and Years 7-11:

	2014-15 PAN / capacity	2014-15 (A)	2015-16 (F)	2016-17 (F)	2017-18 (F)	2018-19 (F)	2019-20 (F)	2020-21 (F)	2021-22 (F)	2021-22 capacity
Year 7	1,515	149	88	49	-47	-153	-194	-166	-167	1,444
Years 7-11	7,902	951	847	646	487	120	-223	-478	-694	7,706

This section should be read in conjunction with the Secondary school analysis provided in the Sevenoaks District section.

The number of Year 7 places in Tunbridge Wells Secondary schools was 1,515 in 2014-15. The commissioning of Secondary places in Tunbridge Wells is influenced by the demand (mainly for selective provision) from students resident in Sevenoaks District, crossing into Tunbridge Wells District. This demand exacerbates the local pressure on grammar school places. In 2012 KCC took a decision to pursue proposals for expanded grammar school provision in Sevenoaks. This decision was the result of a well-supported petition from parents expressing a clear view that they wanted Kent to establish grammar provision in Sevenoaks. A number of options were considered and KCC believes the best option is for existing grammar schools to expand to manage satellite provisions and is currently pursuing this as a policy.

The approved, new provision in Sevenoaks will provide a significant part of the solution for the Secondary capacity issues in Tonbridge town and Tunbridge Wells town.

We have reviewed the need for selective places in the travel to school area of Sevenoaks South, Tonbridge and Tunbridge Wells town and are seeking to commission additional places where required. Overall there is a need for additional selective provision to serve Sevenoaks from 2016-17, prior to an overall deficit of Year 7 places occurring in Tunbridge Wells from 2017-18. There will be a need for additional all-ability Secondary provision in Tunbridge Wells by September 2017. Discussions are being held with schools to identify suitable expansion projects.

As set out in the Sevenoaks section, the Secretary of State has now approved a grammar school annex provision for girls provided by The Weald of Kent Grammar School. KCC will continue to pursue options for boys' provision in Sevenoaks District. It is anticipated that the provision of 3FE selective girls' places in The Weald of Kent Grammar School, which has its main school campus located in the District of Tonbridge & Malling, will reduce the demand for Year 7 places in Tunbridge Wells by up to 1FE and increase future forecasts for places in Tonbridge & Malling accordingly. We will undertake further analysis of the impact during 2015-16 and adjust the commissioning intentions for Secondary school provision accordingly.

There is a possibility of an increase in Secondary pupils in the Paddock Wood area due to the proposed housing development.

Tunbridge Wells Primary School Commissioning Position

Planning Group	by 2016-17	by 2017-18	by 2018-19	2019-20 to 2021-22)
Tunbridge Wells South			1.3FE at St Peter's CEPS	
Paddock Wood			1FE at Paddock Wood	

Tunbridge Wells Secondary School Commissioning Position

by 2016-17	by 2017-18	by 2018-19	2019–20 to 2021-22)
	2FE	5FE	2021-22 – 2FE

11.0 Kent Wide Summary

Figures 11.1 to 11.4 below provide a summary of the commissioning proposals for Primary, Secondary, SEN, Early Years and Post-16 places in each District as set out in greater detail in the Plan.

Figure 11.1: Summary of the Commissioning Proposals for Primary Schools

District	By 2016-17	By 2017-18	By 2018-19	Between 2019-2022
District	By 2016-17	By 2017-18	By 2018-19	Between 2019 and 2022
Ashford	30 Year R in Ashford South	1FE in Chilmington Green 30 Year R in Ashford South	1FE in Ashford South East 0.3FE Charing and Challock	1FE in Chilmington Green 2FE in Willesborough
Canterbury	0.2FE in Hoath 30 Year 2 places in Herne Bay 30 Year 2 places in Whitstable		0.5FE in Wickhambreaux 2FE in Herne Bay	5FE in Canterbury 2FE in Sturry 3FE in Herne Bay 1FE in Whitstable
Dartford	1FE in Dartford North 0.6FE in Dartford West 2FE in Dartford East 1FE in Swanscombe & Greenhithe	1FE in Dartford North 1FE in Castle Hill	1FE in Ebbsfleet Green 2FE in St James Pit	1FE in Dartford North 1FE in Castle Hill 1FE in Station Quarter North 1FE in Ebbsfleet Green 2FE in Alkerden 2FE in Western Cross
Dover	30 Year R places in Whitfield 8 Year R places in St Margaret's at Cliffe	1FE in Whitfield 0.3FE in St Margaret's at Cliffe	1FE in Sandwich and Eastry 0.3FE in Ash and Wingham	1FE in Whitfield 1FE in Deal
Gravesham	2FE in Gravesend East 30 Year R in Gravesend North 2FE in Gravesend North 1FE in Gravesend South East 30 Year R places in Gravesend SE 30 Year R places in Gravesend SW 1FE Northfleet	2FE in Gravesend South West 1FE in Northfleet		1FE in Northfleet
Maidstone	1FE in Maidstone Central & South 1FE in Maidstone North 30 Year R places in Maidstone West	1FE in Headcorn 0.6FE in Marden	1FE in Lenham & Harrietsham	2FE in Maidstone West
Sevenoaks	1FE in Sevenoaks Rural SW 1FE in Sevenoaks Rural East 1FE in Swanley & Hextable 0.15FE in Sevenoaks Rural West	0.3FE in Westerham 0.2FE in Sevenoaks Rural SE	1FE in Sevenoaks	

District	By 2016-17	By 2017-18	By 2018-19	Between 2019-2022
Shepway		1FE in Hythe 0.5FE in Sellindge	2FE in Folkestone West	0.3FE in Romney Marsh
Swale		1FE in Sittingbourne North 1FE in Teynham 1FE in Warden Bay 1FE in Faversham		0.5FE in Sittingbourne East 2FE in Sittingbourne North 1FE in Queenborough & Rushenden 1FE in Faversham
Thanet				2FE in Ramsgate 2FE in Broadstairs 0.5FE in Margate 2FE in Garlinge 2FE in Birchington
Tonbridge and Malling	30 Year R places	1FE in the Medway Gap 2FE Free School in central Tonbridge		
Tunbridge Wells			1.3FE in Tunbridge Wells South 1FE in Paddock Wood	
Totals	15.95FE permanent 218 Year R places 60 Year 2 places	17.9FE permanent 30 Year R places	14.4FE permanent	40.3FE permanent

Figure 11.2: Summary of the Commissioning Proposals for Secondary Schools

District	By 2016-17	By 2017-18	By 2018-19	Between 2019 and 2022
Ashford				4FE in Chilmington Green in 2022/23, (with a further 4FE thereafter). 60 Y7 in 2019 90 Y7 in 2020
Canterbury	60 Year 7	3FE in Canterbury		5FE in Whitstable & Herne Bay
Dartford	4FE	1FE	6FE	13FE
Dover			1FE	60 Year 7 places
Gravesham	2FE	2FE	3FE	3FE
Maidstone		6FE	2FE	1FE
Sevenoaks		3FE		
Shepway				
Swale	30 Year 7	2FE in Sittingbourne		3FE in Sittingbourne
Thanet			3FE	5FE in Thanet
Tonbridge and Malling			1FE	3FE
Tunbridge Wells		2FE	5FE	2FE
Totals	6FE permanent 90 Year 7 places	19FE permanent	21FE permanent	39FE permanent 210 Year 7 places

Figure 11.3: Summary of the Commissioning Proposals for SEN Provision

District	By 2016-17	By 2017-18	By 2018-19	Between 2019 and 2022
Ashford	113 Special school	15 SRBP/Satellite		40 SRBP/Satellite
Canterbury	30 SRBP/Satellite		15 SRBP/Satellite	30 SRBP/Satellite
Dartford	12 SRBP/Satellite		55 SRBP/Satellite	60 SRBP/Satellite
Dover		50 SRBP		
Gravesham		15 SRBP/Satellite	Proposal sought for new ASD provision	
Maidstone	55 Special school 15 SRBP/Satellite			15 SRBP/Satellite
Sevenoaks	74 Special school			
Shepway	54 Special school		15 SRBP/Satellite	
Swale	61 Special school		Proposal sought for new ASD provision	70 SRBP/Satellite
Thanet	12 SRBP			85 SRBP/Satellite
Tonbridge and Malling	21 Special school	48 Special School		
Tunbridge Wells			15 SRBP/Satellite	
Totals	378 Special school places 69 places in SRBP/Satellite	48 SEN school places 80 places in SRBP/Satellite	100 places in SRBP/Satellite	300 places in SRBP/Satellite

Figure 11.4: Summary of the Commissioning Proposals for Early Years Provision

District	By 2016-17	By 2017-18	By 2018-19	Between 2019 and 2022
Ashford		26 place		26 place
Canterbury			26 place	52 place
Dartford		26 place	52 place	104 place
Dover				
Gravesham		26 place		
Maidstone	26 place			26 place
Sevenoaks				
Shepway			26 place	
Swale				78 place
Thanet				104 place
Tonbridge and Malling				
Tunbridge Wells			26 place	
Totals	26 places	78 places	130 places	390 places

Appendix 1: Forecasting Methodology

- 1.1 To inform the process of forecasting Primary school pupil numbers, KCC receives information from the Kent Primary Care Agency to track the number of births and location of pre-school age children. The pre-school age population is forecast into Primary school rolls according to trend-based intake patterns by ward area. Secondary school forecasts are calculated by projecting forward the Year 6 cohort, also according to trend-based intake patterns. If the size of the Year 6 cohort is forecast to rise, the projected Year 7 cohort size at Secondary schools will also be forecast to rise.
- 1.2 It is recognised that past trends are not always an indication of the future. However, for the Secondary phase, travel to school patterns are firmly established, parental preference is arguably more constant than in the Primary phase and large numbers of pupils are drawn from a wide area. Consequently, forecasts have been found to be accurate.
- 1.3 Pupil forecasts are compared with school capacities 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 work will already be underway to address the situation.
- 1.4 The forecasting process is trend-based, which means that relative popularity, intake patterns, and inward migration factors from the previous five years are assumed to continue throughout the forecasting period. Migration factors will reflect the trend-based level of house-building in an area over the previous five years, but also the general level of in and out migration, including movements into and out of existing housing. An area that has a large positive migration factor may be due to recent large-scale house-building, and an area with a large negative migration factor may reflect a net out-migration of families. These migration factors are calculated at pre-school level by ward area and also at school level for transition between year groups, as the forecasts are progressed.
- 1.5 Information about expected levels of new housing, through the yearly Housing Information Audits (HIA) and Local Development Framework (LDF) Core Strategies is the most accurate reflection of short, medium and long term building projects at the local level. Where a large development is expected, compared with little or no previous house-building in the area, a manual adjustment to the forecasts may be required to reflect the likely growth in pupil numbers more accurately.
- 1.6 Pupil product rates (the expected number of pupils from new house-building) are informed by the MORI New Build Survey 2005. KCC has developed a system that combines these new-build pupil product rates (PPRs) with the stock housing PPR of the local area to model the impact of new housing developments together with changing local demographics over time. This information is shared with District authorities to inform longer term requirements for education infrastructure and the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) discussions at an early stage.
- 1.7 Forecasting future demand for school places can never be completely precise given the broad assumptions which have to be made about movements in and out of any given locality, the pace of individual housing developments, patterns of occupation

and not least parental preferences for places at individual schools. This will be a function of geography, school reputation, past and present achievement levels and the availability of alternative provision.

1.8 Accuracy of Forecasts

Historic accuracy has been considered by comparing the number of children on school rolls against the forecast numbers.

1.9 Details of forecast accuracy are contained in the Review of the Kent Commissioning Plan for Education 2015-19. Briefly:

- Reception Year Numbers are accurate to within 1.8%. This is a greater variation than in previous years and our stated aspiration (plus or minus 1%) and is due to high migration in the previous year which will have influenced the migration factor in the forecast model.
- Primary School Numbers were 0.8% higher than actual rolls, with four of the 12 Districts showing forecasts 1% higher than roll numbers which demonstrates a high degree of accuracy.
- Year 7 Numbers were 0.3% higher than forecast, which is a very high degree of accuracy. The most extreme change, in Sevenoaks, is due to the opening of The Trinity Free School which was a change in parental preferences and the provision available.
- Secondary School Numbers are extremely accurate. Forecasts were 18 pupils higher than actual rolls.

1.10 The Review, which includes a breakdown of forecasting accuracy by District area, is available to view online at <http://www.kent.gov.uk/about-the-council/strategies-and-policies/education-skills-and-employment-policies/education-provision> or by request from KCC's Provision Planning Unit (please see a list of contacts on page 150).

1.11 Quality Assurance of Forecasts

The Provision Planning Unit carries out an annual quality assurance on the forecasting process.

1.12 The pre-school population data forms part of the core dataset for generating forecasts and this is obtained from an external organisation; the Kent Primary Care Agency (KPCA) which is subject to their own QA processes. The data received is checked against previous years and a report on the yearly change in cohort sizes is produced. Any deviations from expectation (for example a decrease in cohort size from one year to another in a known growth area) will be questioned via our Management Information Unit (MIU).

1.13 The forecasting process includes various assumptions, such as the average change in size of pre-school cohort groups from birth to entering school Reception classes, average change in size of school cohort groups from one year to the next, school intake percentages, travel to school patterns and levels of forecast housing growth. Forecasts are compared to actual reported data to gauge the degree of variance across the planning area (for Primary) and District area (for Secondary).

1.14 Where variance levels are unacceptably high, in-depth analysis is carried out, potentially with the result of later-year forecasts being adjusted and assumptions for some or all schools and areas revised for the following forecasting round.

1.15 Effect of net migration on accuracy of 2014-based forecasts

Figure 1: Pre-school Population Increases 2010 to 2014

Year from	Year to	Age change	No. of years	Total increase in cohort size	Total increase (forms of entry)	Yearly increase in cohort size	Yearly increase (forms of entry)
2013	2014	0 to 1	1	+474	+16	+474	+16
2012	2014	0 to 2	2	+1,177	+39	+589	+20
2011	2014	0 to 3	3	+1,320	+44	+440	+15
2010	2014	0 to 4	4	+1,798	+60	+450	+15

Source: Pre-school age children registered at Kent, Medway, Bexley and Greenwich GP surgeries as at 31 August 2014, Kent Primary Care Agency, February 2015.

- 1.16 Last year's 2014-based pupil forecasts overestimated demand for Primary school places by 0.8%, but was accurate for Secondary school places when compared with January 2015 Schools Census data. Assumptions made about current and future net migration (or *cohort change*) at pre-school and (to a lesser extent) in-school phases have a large impact on the results of the forecasts and to be even slightly adrift means the inaccuracy is multiplied forwards through the forecast years.
- 1.17 The 2015-based forecasts included a pre-school migration (or *cohort change*) factor of +465 (+16 forms of entry) which is 60% weighted towards the latest transition year - and the previous four years transition data comprise the remaining 40%. We believe these weightings to be prudent. Figure 8.3 above shows that the latest pre-school migration (or *cohort change*) factor from 0 to 1 is +474 children (+16 forms of entry).

Figure 2: In-school Pupil Increases October 2011 to January 2015

Period	Primary (R-6)	Secondary (7-11)
October 2011 to October 2012	+129 per year group (+4FE)	-39 per year group (-1FE)
January 2012 to January 2013	+94 per year group (+3FE)	-72 per year group (-2FE)
October 2012 to October 2013	+172 per year group (+6FE)	+46 (+2FE)
January 2013 to January 2014	+124 per year group (+4FE)	+7 (-)
October 2013 to October 2014	+119 per year group (+4FE)	+54 (+1.8FE)
January 2014 to January 2015	+98 per year group (3FE)	-5 (-)

Source: Schools Census January 2015, Management Information Unit, KCC.

- 1.18 The 2015-based forecasts include an in-school migration (or *cohort change*) factor of around 4.7FE per year group per year at the Primary phase but is negligible at the Secondary phase. In-school migration (or *cohort change*) has increased significantly. At the Primary phase it is significantly higher than what has previously been used within the forecasting system and at the Secondary phase it is no longer negative.

12. Contact Details

The responsibility for the commissioning, planning and delivery of new school places in Kent is vested in the Director of Education Planning and Access, Keith Abbott, and the team of four Area Education Officers whose contact details are given below.

<p>EAST KENT</p> <p>Marisa White Area Education Officer</p> <p>Canterbury, Swale and Thanet</p> <p>Brook House, Reeves Way Whitstable CT5 3SS</p> <p>Tel: 03000 418794</p> <p>Jane Wiles Area Schools Organisation Officer Tel: 03000 418924</p>	<p>SOUTH KENT</p> <p>David Adams Area Education Officer</p> <p>Ashford, Dover and Shepway</p> <p>Kroner House, Eurogate Business Park Ashford TN24 8XU</p> <p>Tel: 03000 414989</p> <p>Lee Round Area Schools Organisation Officer Tel: 03000 412039</p>
<p>NORTH KENT</p> <p>Ian Watts Area Education Officer</p> <p>Dartford, Gravesham and Sevenoaks</p> <p>Worrall House, 30 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, ME19 4AE</p> <p>Tel: 03000 414302</p> <p>David Hart Area Schools Organisation Officer Tel: 03000 410195</p>	<p>WEST KENT</p> <p>Jared Nehra Area Education Officer</p> <p>Maidstone, Tonbridge and Malling and Tunbridge Wells</p> <p>Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone ME14 1XQ</p> <p>Tel: 03000 412209</p> <p>Michelle Hamilton Area Schools Organisation Officer Tel: 03000 412037</p>

From: Matthew Balfour, Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport
Mark Dance, Cabinet Member for Economic Development
Barbara Cooper, Corporate Director of Growth, Environment and Transport

To: Cabinet – 21 March 2016

Subject: **Proposed Response to the Highways England Consultation on proposed route options for a new Lower Thames Crossing**

Classification: **Unrestricted**

Past Pathway of Paper: Growth, Economic Development and Communities Cabinet Committee – 3 March 2016; Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee – 11 March 2016

Future Pathway of Paper: N/A

Electoral Division: Gravesham Rural – Bryan Sweetland, Gravesham East – Colin Caller, Jane Cribbon

Summary:

This report outlines the proposed response to Highways England's (HE) consultation (26th January to 24th March) on the Lower Thames Crossing (LTC) route options.

It is proposed that Kent County Council (KCC) responds in support of HE's selection of a bored tunnel at Location C (the east of Gravesend) as the only viable crossing location. A new Crossing at this location will provide the greatest economic benefits, network resilience and create a new strategic route. However, regarding the route in Kent, KCC makes clear its support of the Western Southern Link (not HE's preferred route) in line with KCC's response to the previous 2013 consultation by the Department for Transport (DfT) as this avoids the village of Shorne and is comparatively less environmentally damaging than the Eastern Southern Link.

The proposed response sets out KCC's concerns as to several issues arising from the proposed Crossing, including the impact on the local area, the need for compensation for property owners affected by the proposals, and the need for measures to mitigate negative impacts of the proposals on air quality, noise and visual intrusion.

The proposed response calls for HE to urgently reconsider the inclusion of C Variant (enhancements to the A229 link between the M2 and M20) and to improve the link via the A249 (M2 Junction 5 at Stockbury to M20 Junction 7 at Detling Hill). A phased programme of wider network improvements are needed along the M2/A2 corridor including dualling of the A2 from Lydden to Dover and improvements to M2 Junction 7 (Brenley Corner). KCC's support is also contingent on the selection of the Western Southern Link as well as suitable compensation, environmental mitigation, increased tunnelling, removal of the junction with the A226, and optimisation of the junction with the A2.

Recommendation:

The Cabinet is asked to consider and endorse, subject to any recommended changes, Kent County Council's response to the Highways England consultation on the proposed route for a new Lower Thames Crossing as set out in Section 3 and Appendix C of this report.

1. Background

1.1 For many years, Kent County Council (KCC) has campaigned for increased capacity crossing the River Thames. In doing so, the key objectives for KCC have been:

- The ability to maximise the opportunity to provide real economic benefits both locally and nationally, and;
- To provide urgently needed network resilience and reliability, and improved strategic connectivity.

In pursuing both objectives, however, KCC has made clear that any solutions would need to mitigate against potential adverse impact on people and the environment.

1.2 This latest consultation is the next step in a project that has been ongoing for a number of years, with the previous consultation carried out in 2013. The details of the 2013 consultation can be found in Appendix A. The current consultation is non-statutory in advance of a preferred route being chosen by the DfT, the necessary detailed design and assessments will then be completed before a Development Consent Order is sought.

1.3. In response to the DfT's 2013 consultation, KCC expressed strong support for locating the new crossing at Option C (to the east of Gravesend), given the economic growth and job creation potential along with its positive impact on network resilience and the creation of a new strategic route from Dover to the Midlands and the North. This was supported on the condition that the connection of the proposed new Crossing to the M2 was moved westwards, thus connecting into the A2 and avoiding significant adverse environmental impact on the Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), ancient woodland and KCC's flagship country park (Shorne Woods). KCC's proposed western alignment would connect to the A2 between the East of Gravesend and Cobham junctions. Tunnelling was also supported as it was considered that this method would help to reduce the impact on the internationally protected Marshes. KCC also supported the Option C Variant (improvements to the A229 Bluebell Hill), recognising the importance of connectivity between the two motorway corridors.

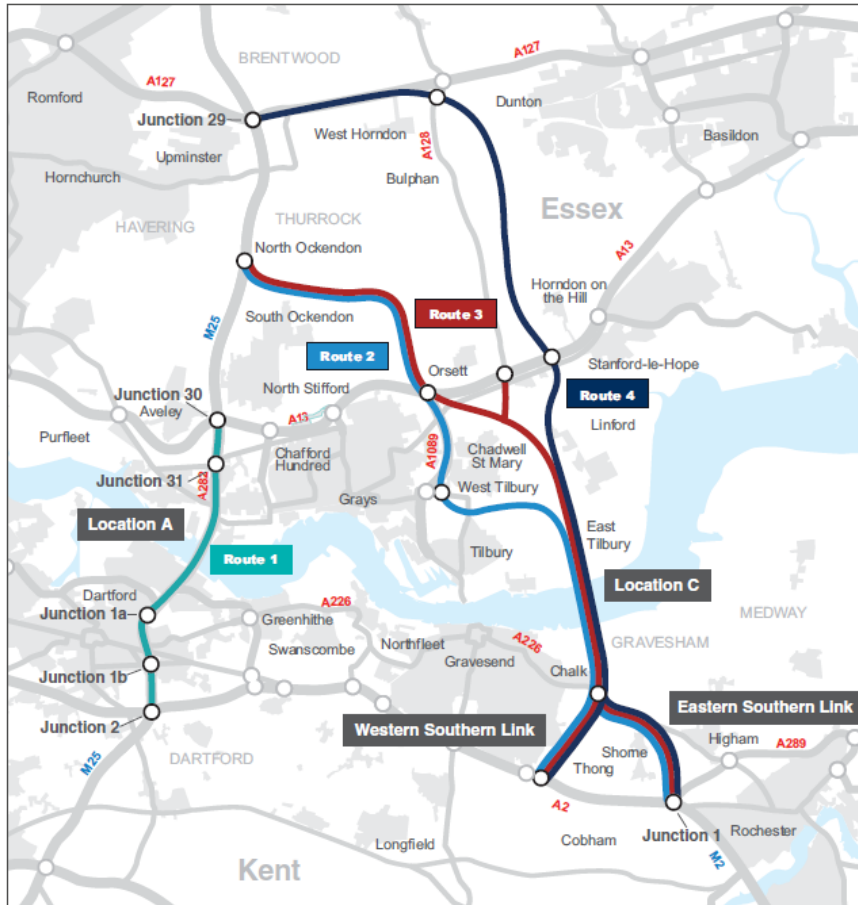
1.4 KCC's full response to the Department for Transport's 2013 consultation on a new Lower Thames Crossing is attached at Appendix A.

2. Current consultation – January 26th to March 24th 2016

2.1 Following the 2013 consultation, Highways England (HE) was tasked with investigating route options for a new crossing. Location A (in the vicinity of the existing Dartford Crossing) and Location C (east of Gravesend) were assessed

and, following further appraisal, a shortlist of four routes has been arrived at. The routes at Location C have two possible alignments in Kent: the Western Southern Link and the Eastern Southern Link. These proposed alignments, along with route options 1, 2, 3 and 4 through Essex are shown in Figure 1 and in detail for Kent in Appendix D.

Figure 1- Lower Thames Crossing Route Consultation 2016 – Options



2.2 The current public consultation defines a proposed scheme within the Option C corridor¹: Route 3 with the Eastern Southern Link (ESL). This would be a dual carriageway connecting Junction 1 of the M2 to the M25 between Junctions 29 and 30, using a twin bored tunnel. There would also be a new junction with the A226. This proposal is stated to best meet the scheme objectives, which are:

- To support sustainable local development and regional economic growth in the medium to long term.
- To be affordable to Government and users.
- To achieve value for money.
- To relieve the congested Dartford Crossing and approach roads and improve their performance by providing free flowing north-south capacity.
- To improve the resilience of the Thames crossings and the major road network.
- To improve safety.

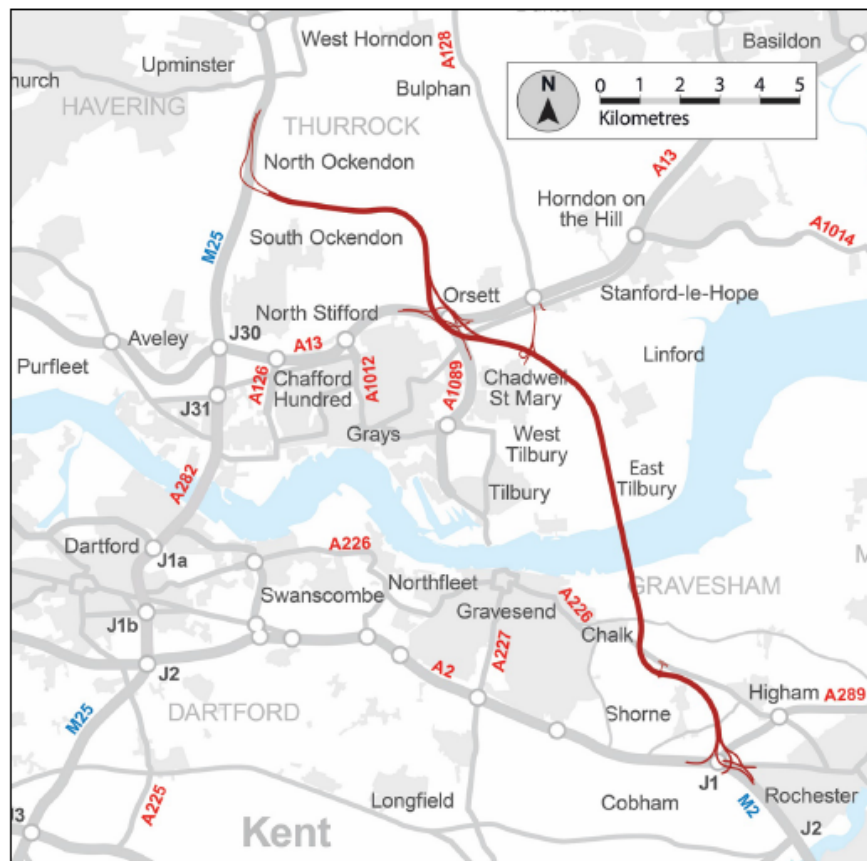
¹ Consultation available at: <https://highwaysengland.citizenspace.com/cip/lower-thames-crossing-consultation>

- To minimise adverse impacts on health and the environment,

- 2.3 HE's proposed scheme has been recommended on the grounds that it:
- Provides the best economic benefits of all the shortlisted routes evaluated and reduces traffic at Dartford and therefore reduces congestion.
 - Can be largely constructed off-line avoiding the disruption caused by on-line works at Location A.
 - Provides network resilience through a second independent crossing of the Thames.
 - Provides a motorway-to-motorway experience for drivers.
 - Reduces air and noise pollution along the existing A282 corridor at Dartford, whilst recognising that there are environmental and community impacts in the vicinity of the new scheme, including noise and air quality on communities alongside the proposed route.
 - Will provide a new strategic link to the local, regional and strategic road network, increasing resilience and addressing future increases in traffic demand.

- 2.4 HE's proposed scheme is shown in Figure 2. The estimated the cost of construction is £4.3bn - £5.9bn.

Figure 2 - Highways England's Proposed Scheme – Route 3 with ESL



- 2.5 HE's analysis rejects additional capacity at the Dartford Crossing (Location A) as not meeting the transport and economic objectives for a new crossing. According to HE analysis, traffic would still have to be funnelled through the existing Dartford corridor junctions, so severe constraints on the network would remain, resulting in congestion. In addition, construction is anticipated to cause

considerable disruption to the existing crossing for an estimated period of at least 6 years involving reduced speed limits and extensive traffic management. Finally, it was concluded that this location offered far less value for money compared to the three route options at Location C. However, the DfT are clear that Location A is still an option that they will consider in making their decision.

- 2.6 The two proposed route options in Kent will have varying impacts on the surrounding area. These, and more information on the current proposals, are explained in Appendix B.

3. Proposed KCC Response to the Highways England Consultation

- 3.1 Appendix C sets out the proposed detailed response to the Consultation Questionnaire. The key principles of this draft response are set out below. The response has been formulated taking into account the views of the Growth Economic Development and Communities Cabinet Committee (3rd March), Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee (11th March), local Members and officers. Comments from Cabinet will also feed into the final response which will be submitted by the close of the consultation on 24th March.

- 3.2 KCC agrees with the proposal for a new Crossing at Location C, but calls for HE to urgently reconsider the inclusion of C Variant (enhancements to the A229 link between the M2 and M20) and to improve the link via the A249 (M2 Junction 5 at Stockbury to M20 Junction 7 at Detling Hill). A phased programme of wider network improvements are needed along the M2/A2 corridor including dualling of the A2 from Lydden to Dover and improvements to M2 Junction 7 (Brenley Corner). KCC's support is also contingent on the selection of the Western Southern Link as well as suitable compensation, environmental mitigation, increased tunnelling, removal of the junction with the A226, and optimisation of the junction with the A2. The reasons for agreeing with Location C are:

- **Economic benefits** – fundamentally the economic benefits of a new Crossing at Location C are significant and this location has the greatest potential for regeneration and job creation. Further, these benefits are of a substantially greater scale than expansion of capacity at Dartford can provide (see Table 1). The 2010 KPMG study calculated that Location C could contribute £12.7 billion to the local economy. Many of the benefits will be felt in North Kent. To enhance the geographic scope of these wider economic benefits, road network improvements to support the LTC should be implemented as part of the scheme, such as enhancements to the M2/A2 corridor and the links between the M2 and M20.
- **Network resilience** – the provision of an independent crossing built to modern standards and suitable for all users will not only radically improve the resilience of crossing the Lower Thames but also the resilience of the strategic road network (SRN) between Kent, the Midlands/North and mainland Europe.
- **Strategic transport benefits** – the HE consultation documents and other studies have shown that during incidents at Dartford, traffic diverts to other crossings (notably the Blackwall Tunnel) or the long way around the M25. Therefore by providing a suitable alternative crossing point, with the dual benefit of releasing capacity at Dartford, capacity will be released elsewhere

on the SRN. The provision of a faster, more reliable route to the Midlands and North from the Kent ports will be particularly attractive to long-distance freight traffic and will have the benefit of diverting many of these journeys away from Dartford.

- **Bifurcation** – the new Crossing will enable Kent’s policy objective of bifurcation to be implemented, splitting traffic to and from the Eastern and Western Docks in Dover between the M2/A2 and M20/A20 corridors. With the addition of the improvements to the M2/A2 this will create a high quality strategic corridor that will cater for the likely significant growth of the Port and thereby release capacity on the M20. By varying tolls linked to the Dartford Crossing, traffic can be encouraged to choose a particular route. A bifurcated route to the Channel Ports will also help to relieve the pressure on the M20, especially during times of disruption to Channel crossings and during the implementation of Operation Stack.

Table 1: KCC commissioned studies by KPMG and URS – job creation

	Location A	Location C
KPMG (jobs)	1000	6000
URS (jobs)		
Local jobs	7,600	9,100
Local + hinterland (all of Kent and Essex counties)	23,000	32,300

3.3 Essex County Council (ECC) is supporting KCC’s route choice south of the river and, given that ECC is best placed to assess the impacts of the three route options north of the river, it is proposed that KCC take into account the views and analysis of ECC, which recommends Route 3. Route 3 is also HE’s preferred route.

3.4 KCC strongly supports the **Western Southern Link (WSL)**. This is not HE’s proposed route. The reasons for this route choice are:

- **KCC’s proposals** – in 2014 KCC commissioned work to design an alternative alignment because the DfT’s indicative route in the 2013 consultation went centrally through Shorne Woods Country Park. It is KCC’s alignment that is referred to as the WSL in the 2016 consultation and therefore historically we have supported it.
- **Junction with the A2/M2** – the Eastern Southern Link (ESL) would terminate with the M2 at Junction 1. This is already a complex junction and using this will require a fourth level of slip roads on viaducts up to 23m high. The increase in complexity will also have possible safety implications and could lead to the whole junction locking up if there is an incident on one part of it. Conversely the WSL would create a new junction on the A2. Although this would require realignment of the A2, this could be completed with minimal disruption to the running of the A2.
- **Environmental impacts** – the WSL would mostly be located outside of the Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) whereas the ESL has a greater footprint within it, as well as impacting on the Great Crabbles Wood Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) Both would have impacts on the area’s heritage but the ESL would divide Shorne Parish and be in closer

proximity to a number of listed buildings. The current design of the WSL would require the demolition of 4 residential properties and 3 commercial, whereas the ESL would demolish 10 residential and 2 commercial properties. The WSL also provides a possible opportunity for the road embankment to enhance flood defences for Gravesend.

- **Traffic flows** – the choice of WSL or ESL does not have a significant impact on the total volume of traffic using the Crossing but it does influence the distribution of traffic on the existing road network. The ESL tends to attract more HGV traffic but with the WSL more light vehicles would divert from Dartford. The ESL provides more relief to the A2 west of M2 Junction 1 and to the M20 at Maidstone, but puts significantly greater pressure on the M2 west of Junction 1 compared to the WSL.
- 3.5 KCC believes that an optimised design can be achieved for the LTC/A2 junction that improves the turning radii on the slip roads. KCC will ask HE to investigate this and ensure the access arrangements for the Gravesend East and Brewers Road are suitable.
- 3.6 KCC will argue that it is essential that property owners, who have already been blighted by the two proposed routes, are fully compensated for the loss of property value and inability to now sell if they need or want to move. This consultation has caused considerable distress in the local community and a swift decision on the preferred route option must be taken by Government following the consultation so as to minimise the uncertainty around the two potential routes through the community.
- 3.7 If Location C is chosen, irrespective of whether the WSL or ESL is built, there will be an improvement in air quality at Dartford on opening year owing to the forecast 14% decrease in traffic at the existing Crossing. The HE modelling has shown that no sensitive receptors (residential properties) will be at risk of exceeding air quality limits on any of the Location C routes. However, full modelling will be carried out at the next stage of project development. KCC is liaising with Gravesham Borough Council (GBC) on the air quality implications. For noise impacts the modelling has shown a net benefit as properties close to roads where traffic flow will decrease will have a reduction in noise levels but those in the vicinity of the new road or roads where traffic volumes will increase will have likewise experience an increase in noise levels. KCC has liaised with GBC on this issue and is asking HE to commit to working with KCC Public Health, GBC, Medway and other relevant organisations to ensure they have appropriate mitigation measures for air quality, noise and visual impacts.
- 3.8 KCC strongly supports the choice of a bored tunnel because this would minimise the impacts on residents and the environment in North Kent. It will also eradicate the risk of a closure due to high winds, which already affects the Dartford Crossing. A bored tunnel will provide the most resilient river crossing. Of the three crossing alternatives (bored tunnel, bridge or immersed tunnel), the bored tunnel provides the least damaging environmental impacts, KCC therefore agrees with the HE contention that it is the only viable option. KCC insists that HE must use up-to-date traffic modelling to ensure that the design capacity of the tunnel and the connecting roads is future-proofed.

3.9 Longer distance traffic using the new Crossing should remain on the Strategic Road Network (motorways and trunk roads) and not leak onto the Local Road Network which would cause traffic problems for KCC's roads. KCC does not support the proposals for a new junction with the A226. The reasons for this are:

- The new junction will improve accessibility to Gravesend, the Medway Towns and via the rural roads from the Hoo Peninsula. It is likely that traffic on the A226 (including through Higham) will increase as well as that on the local road network leading into the A226. The HE modelling shows an increase in the order of 8,000 vehicles per day on average using the A226 on opening year but it does not state which proportion will be from the west or east of the junction. Modelling demonstrating the effects on the local road network has not been made available.
- Likewise, in the event of an incident at the junction with the A2/M2, the alternative junction with the A226 will become the alternative route. This would lead to a build-up of traffic on local roads, as happens at Dartford at present.
- With the WSL, to accommodate the LTC/A226 junction, the A226 will need significant realignment and this will limit the extent of the LTC that can be in tunnel. Extending the length of the Crossing in tunnel will reduce the impact on Chalk as without this junction, the tunnel portal entrance could be a lot further south. KCC urges that as much of the route as possible should be in tunnel, especially to at least as far south of the river as the A226 and in the section that passes close to Riverview Park and Thong village.

3.10 KCC urges the HE and DfT to address the C Variant (upgrades to the A229 Bluebell Hill, including the possibility of free-flow slips at the M2 and M20 junctions). Although KCC welcomes the commitment to consider the A229 in regional route planning, the A229 is the most direct link between the M20 and M2 and already suffers from significant congestion and stress at peak times. The link between the two motorway corridors needs to be considered as part of the Lower Thames Crossing project. The reasons for this are:

- KCC has to date not been able to assess any traffic modelling that demonstrates why the C Variant has been ruled out. However, the information available shows that the A229 will have an increase in traffic. It can be inferred that a high proportion of the decrease in traffic volumes on the M20 west of the A228 would have diverted to the M2, with the A229 being the most attractive route. This is in the order of 5,000 vehicles a day.
- Not addressing the junctions at either end of the A229 but nevertheless encouraging increase traffic will have possible safety implications, with the slip roads blocking back on the A229. Information on how the junctions have been modelled is not available in the consultation documents and therefore it is unknown if this is fully taken account of.

3.11 KCC recommends a number of wider network improvements and believes these must be delivered in conjunction with the Crossing to fully realise its benefits. It is vital to the UK economy that the Channel Corridor operates efficiently and is resilient to incidents on the network. By splitting Port traffic between the M2/A2 and M20/A20 corridors (bifurcation) a second strategic

route is available. To make this a high quality route the following upgrades are required:

- M2 Junction 7 (Brenley Corner) improvements to increase capacity and provide free-flow between the M2 and A2.
- Dualling sections of single carriageway on the A2 north of Dover along Jubilee Way to Whitfield and near Lydden.
- M20 Junction 7 improvements to provide ease of access between the A249 and M20.
- M2 Junction 5 Stockbury improvements to provide free-flow between the M2 and A249, which will improve another strategic link between the M2 and M20.

3.12 These upgrades have been costed at a high level by KCC and could be delivered for a modest sum in comparison to the total cost of the proposed Crossing.

3.13 This consultation, whilst it is focused on route options, also needs to consider the impact on existing junctions on the local road network. Where improvements are required as a result of the changing traffic flows created by the new Crossing then such improvements should be funded as part of the scheme to avoid future problems for the Highway Authority.

3.14 KCC believes that the anticipated opening year of 2025 is unacceptably far away when congestion at the Dartford Crossing is a problem today. KCC disagrees with the contention that using private sector funding would lead to a 2 year delay in opening the Crossing, and has conducted research that demonstrates that private infrastructure investors across the world are ready to be involved in such a project today.

3.15 Other technical details are set out in the response, including the impacts on minerals, surface water, compensation for community assets (including Shorne Country Park), biodiversity, the historic environment, emergency planning, and the construction programme.

3.16 Finally, the Consultation Questionnaire asks for comments on the consultation itself. It is proposed to state:

- The consultation was launched unexpectedly without prior stakeholder notification. Hard copies of the Scheme Assessment Report were received a week after launch and hard copies of the appendices (including detailed maps) a week after that.
- Information has been sporadically released on the consultation website throughout the first few weeks of the consultation, including relating to property blight which will be particularly pertinent and sensitive to the communities on the proposed routes.
- A range of technical information that is necessary in assessing the impacts of the proposed scheme and relative merits of the different routes is not available, and has not been forthcoming following multiple requests to HE. This has also been the experience of other stakeholders, including Medway Council who have also tried to get the same information.

- It is evident that members of the public are confused by the route options and the confirmation by Transport Minister Andrew Jones that Location A (Dartford) is still under consideration as this contradicts the position that is set out in the HE consultation documents.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 It is unknown if there are any financial implications at this time. This is considered to be dependent on the final route chosen by the DfT.

5. Legal implications

- 5.1 In terms of KCC's consultation response, no known legal implications.

6. Equalities implications

- 6.1 In terms of KCC's consultation response, no known equalities implications.

7. Other corporate implications

- 7.1 In terms of KCC's consultation response, no known corporate implications.

8. Governance

- 8.1 The delivery of a new Lower Thames Crossing is being led by Highways England and KCC is part of a Stakeholder Advisory Panel.

9. Conclusions

- 9.1 Highways England's route consultation will close on 24th March 2016, after which they will make a recommendation to the Secretary of State on the preferred option. A final decision by the Secretary of State is expected before summer recess. At present, the expected timescales for delivery are for construction of the new crossing to commence in 2020/21 during the next Road Investment Strategy (RIS), with an anticipated operational date of 2025.

10. Recommendation

- 10.1 The Cabinet is asked to consider and endorse, subject to any recommended changes, Kent County Council's response to the Highways England consultation on the proposed route for a new Lower Thames Crossing as set out in Section 3 and Appendix C of this report.

11. Background Documents

Appendix A – KCC's Full Response to the Department for Transport's 2013 Lower Thames Crossing Consultation.

Appendix B – Background to the Lower Thames Crossing consultation and further details on the 2016 route options.

Appendix C – KCC's detailed proposed response to the consultation.

Appendix D – Extract from Highways England Maps of Western Southern Link and Eastern Southern Link.

12. Contact details

Report Author: Joseph Ratcliffe, Transport Strategy Manager 03000 413445 Joseph.Ratcliffe@kent.gov.uk	Relevant Director: Katie Stewart, Director of Environment, Planning and Enforcement 03000 418827 Katie.Stewart@kent.gov.uk
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Appendix A

Options for a new Lower Thames crossing KCC draft response to the Department for Transport's (DfT) 2013 consultation questionnaire

1. Do you agree that there is a strong case to increase road-based river crossing capacity in the Lower Thames area?

Agree.

Kent County Council (KCC) categorically agrees that it is clear from existing traffic volumes and levels of congestion on the Dartford -Thurrock Crossing that more road based capacity is needed across the Lower Thames now.

Traffic volumes are such that the design capacity of the crossing is regularly exceeded and the regular average delay per vehicle (almost 50% of vehicles in excess of 9 minutes) clearly points to the fact that the existing crossing is a current and real constraint to growth. The Council believes the DfT's estimated cost to the economy of this congestion of £15m is significantly underestimated (the DfT have previously quoted £40m) and that in reality, this figure should be substantially higher.

DfT's 2011 forecasts of traffic growth of 41% by 2035¹ on top of the existing congestion levels are sufficient to establish that the introduction of free-flow tolling will not create anything other than very short term relief. The fundamental issues of the crossing being over capacity and providing extremely low levels of network resilience will remain.

In addition to this the Thames Gateway is Europe's biggest regeneration area with 160,000 houses and 225,000 jobs planned by 2026. There are a number of substantial developments coming forward within this area including London Gateway opening in the 4th quarter of 2013 which will be the UK's biggest deep water port and Europe's largest logistics park generating 12,000 jobs and proposals for Paramount Park Resort generating 27,000 jobs with an anticipated opening in 2018.

Current congestion on the existing crossing along with forecast traffic growth and the significant scale of potential development makes additional crossing capacity top priority to ensure growth is not constrained across the Thames Gateway and the area delivers its full potential for the local and national economies.

While KCC agrees that more crossing capacity is required in the Lower Thames area and that in the first instance this needs to be roads based, the Council also urges DfT to maximise the opportunities for modal shift through scheme design.

¹ DfT Road Traffic Forecasts 2011

2. Which of the following location options for a new crossing do you prefer?

Option C variant: connecting the M2 with the A13 and the M25 between junctions 29 and 30, and additionally widening the A229 between the M2 and the M20.

Other

If other, please provide details.

KCC supports Option C variant on the condition that the connection to the M2 is moved westwards thus connecting into the A2. By realigning this connection westwards, significant adverse environmental impact on the Kent Downs Area of Outstanding National Beauty, a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), ancient woodlands and KCC's flagship country park can be minimised. This western alignment would connect in to the A2 between the East of Gravesend and Cobham junctions. KCC acknowledges it is likely there will be some impact for local access options where insufficient merge/weave lengths on the A2 may require the closure of a slip road. The Council's view is that overall, given the potential extent of the environmental impact of the DfT proposed connection, this realigned connection would be preferable and is a feasible and deliverable alternative.

In addition, to reduce the impact of this route on the residents on the eastern edge of Gravesend and on a SSSI to the north east of Chalk, KCC would want to see the tunnelling start south of Lower Higham Road (approx. chainage 2500 rather than chainage 4000).

Option C variant provides a clear opportunity for the DfT to not only radically improve the capacity and resilience of crossing the Lower Thames, but to also provide urgently needed resilience in the strategic network across Kent and between Kent's ports and the Midlands and the North. KCC has bifurcation, the splitting of traffic to and from the eastern and western dock facilities in Dover, between the M20/A20 and M2/A2 corridors, as a key objective of its transport policy. In addition to a new Lower Thames Crossing, bifurcation involves a number of improvements on the A2 to deliver a high quality strategic corridor that will cater for the significant growth planned at Dover with its plans for a new terminal, and Calais which is set to double in size by 2016, as well as general traffic and freight growth. DfT forecasts are for HGV volumes to growth by 43% and LGVs by 88% by 2035¹. In addition Government forecasts growth in Roll on Roll off (RoRo) traffic will grow by 101% by 2030². This would equate to 3.8 million HGVs using Dover with around 1.3 million of these using a Lower Thames crossing.

These improvements to achieve bifurcation of traffic between the M20/A20 and M2/A2 corridors to and from Dover include:

- A2 Lydden dualling and dualling of a number of single carriageway sections on approach to Dover

² National Ports Statement

- M2 J7 Brenley Corner improvement to increase capacity and provide free flow between the M2 and A2
- M2 J5 Stockbury to provide free flow between the M2 and A249 to enable the A249 link between the M2 and M20 to provide relief to the A229 link and additional network resilience
- Improvements to A249 including widening and straightening of A249 Detling Hill and 2 underpasses to remove local access
- M20 J7 improvements to provide ease of access between A249 and M20.

KCC has carried out preliminary work to assess the feasibility of the above works and concludes that these schemes are feasible and deliverable. A preliminary cost estimate for the above works is £280 million.

KCC advocates in the strongest terms and presses Government to deliver as a matter of urgency:

1. Option C variant with the connection to the M2 J1 realigned to the west between East of Gravesend and Cobham junctions
2. An increased length of tunnelling from chainage 4000 to chainage 2500
3. The bifurcation improvement works and A249 resilience works outlined above and costed at £280 million.

KCC firmly believes the above offers the best option to support local and national economic growth.

Conversely, Options A and B lack strategic vision, are a missed opportunity to deliver real economic growth, and the lack of network resilience and reliability afforded by each of these corridors would lead to continued misery for motorists and costs to business. Also a significant omission and fundamental flaw in DfT's cost estimates is the exclusion of the cost of M25 J30/J31 at £750 million and J2 improvements (not costed). This would significantly reduce the BCR and hence value for money of either Option A or B.

3. Please indicate how important the following factors were in influencing your preference for the location of a new crossing, in answer to Q2.

	Not Important	Important	Very Important
Forecast contributions to the national economy			x
Forecast reductions in congestion at the existing Dartford-Thurrock Crossing and forecast improvements to the resilience of the surrounding road network			x
Forecast reductions in greenhouse gas emissions			x
Smaller forecast adverse impacts on environmentally sensitive areas and larger forecast improvements in quality of life relative			x

to other location options			
Smaller forecast adverse impacts on planned development relative to other location options			x
The distribution of forecast impacts on people within a range of different income groups		x	
Lower estimated costs relative to other location options	x		
Forecast value for money		x	
Other			

The key objectives for KCC in securing additional crossing capacity of the River Thames are:

- The ability to maximise the opportunity to provide real economic benefits both locally and nationally, and;
- To provide urgently needed network resilience and reliability, and improved strategic connectivity

while achieving both these elements with the least adverse impact on people and the environment.

Economic benefit, network resilience and strategic connectivity

In terms of the economic growth and regeneration aspects, a number of studies have been carried out over the years. The table below sets out the results of 3 of those studies.

Regeneration	Option A	Option B	Option C	Option C variant
DfT study (jobs)	500	2100	3000	3200
KPMG study ³ (jobs)	1000	-	6000	-
URS study ⁴ (jobs)				
Local jobs	7,600	10,600	9,100	-
Local + hinterland	23,000	35,807	32,300	-

Economic Growth	Option A	Option B	Option C	Option C variant
Total business benefits	£950m	£1,800m	£3,400m	£4,400m

For regeneration potential and the creation of jobs, the DfT work as part of the current consultation shows that Option C and C variant will provide the greatest job numbers. The KPMG study commissioned by KCC in 2010 similarly shows that Option C would contribute £12.7 billion to local GVA, through a six-fold increase in jobs over Option A. The most recent study by consultancy firm URS, jointly

³ Lower Thames Crossing, KPMG for Kent County Council (August 2010)

⁴ Third Thames Crossing Regeneration Impact Assessment (December 2012)

commissioned with Essex County Council and Thurrock Council, shows that Option B has slightly greater job potential than Option C and significantly greater than Option A. These URS figures include the Paramount Park Resort development and therefore assume that this development would be compatible with Option B. The DfT Option B corridor, however, clearly impacts on the potential to deliver the Paramount Park Resort as well as the already consented Ebbsfleet development for 3,300 dwellings and commercial quarter. An earlier iteration of the URS work without Paramount Park Resort concluded that Option C performed better than Option B for the number of jobs created.

While all 3 studies have used different methodologies in assessing regeneration impacts, they are relatively consistent in concluding that Option C (this is the case for the URS work without Paramount Park Resort) will provide the strongest regeneration benefits.

For total business benefits again Option C and C variant provide substantially higher returns than either Options A or B.

Regarding the network resilience aspect key to the objectives KCC would want from any new crossing it is clear that Option A, while relieving the immediate crossing will not do anything to the approaches to the crossing. Congestion and incidents on these approaches will to a large extent negate the benefits from the additional crossing capacity in this location. Peak traffic volumes of up to 180,000 vehicles per day will still gridlock J30/31 and J2 and the approach roads and will lead to queuing traffic for 18 hours a day. This will simply reduce UK productivity and competitiveness and result in a missed opportunity to boost British business and the national economy.

The DfT's own modelling work concludes that Option B is attractive for local trips and therefore will operate to add traffic to the already congested local road network while providing none of the network resilience or strategic connectivity so vital to productivity and economic growth.

Environmental and local impacts

For environmental factors covering biodiversity, landscape and townscape, the pattern is greater impact the further east the route on the Kent side of the Thames. Option B has number of significant heritage constraints in Kent and the key issues for Option C in Kent are in relation to environmental designations to protect wildlife and habitats. For greenhouse gas emissions Option C variant and C are strongest as they produce the greatest reductions due to the reduced journey distances for long distance traffic.

Option C variant is forecast to provide the most benefit in relation to local impacts on air quality due to the shortened journey distances for long distance trips combined with free flow traffic conditions over a greater area of the road network. Option B performs worst in relation to air quality. Option A is forecast to have least impact in terms of noise with this impact increasing as the corridor options move east.

For congestion Options C and C variant produce the greatest congestion reduction in Dartford and Thurrock and also the most network resilience through the creation of a new strategic route as an alternative to the existing crossing corridor. The table below summarises this.

Key to Table	
□□	Very positive impact
□	Positive impact
-	No discernible impact
x	Negative impact
xx	Very negative impact

	Option A	Option B	Option C	Option C variant
Biodiversity	Slight to large adverse xx	Moderate to large adverse xx	Very large adverse xx	Very large adverse xx
Landscape and townscape	Neutral to slight adverse x	Moderate adverse xx	Moderate to large adverse xx	Moderate to large adverse xx
Greenhouse gases	£31m □	-£60m x	£278m □□	£381m □□
Air quality	£0m	-£2m	£8m	£10m
Noise	-£9m	-£70m	-£72m	-£79m
Congestion: - In Dartford - In Thurrock	-16% 1%	-17% 1%	-19% -3%	-20% -3%

It is KCC's view that the only option that will provide a real opportunity to boost economic growth, assist regeneration and provide the strategic connectivity business needs to boost productivity and competitiveness while 7 minimising adverse impacts, is Option C variant with the additional improvements specified in Q2 above.

4. Is your preference for the location of a new crossing, in answer to Q2, conditional on whether a bridge, bored tunnel or immersed tunnel is provided?

Yes

Either bored or immersed tunnel

KCC would want to see either a bored or immersed tunnel structure for Option C as this presents good value for money for this route which would, with an additional 1.5km of tunnel from chainage 4000 to chainage 2500, minimise impact to residents and the environment in North Kent. A tunnel option will also eradicate the issue of

disruption and congestion caused by restrictions or closure of a bridge due to high winds.

5. Do you wish to add any further comments?

KCC has held extensive discussions with North American private sector investors who regularly finance large scale tolled roads projects and are keen to be involved in the delivery a new Lower Thames crossing. They firmly hold the view that this scheme could be delivered at no cost to the public purse and are hungry for such opportunities.

KCC also urges DfT to significantly accelerate their programme of delivery to a 2018 start on site and an opening year of 2020 rather than the DfT stated starting date of not later than 2021 with an opening year of 2025. With a clear lead from Government, KCC believes a 2018 start date would be feasible and more importantly, is essential, given the clear and immediate need for additional crossing capacity.

KCC firmly believes the option set out under Q2 presents a real and deliverable opportunity for Government to show the kind of leadership and vision that the Victorians demonstrated in building the great transport systems of over a century ago which are still critical to business and society today. Choosing the least cost option would obviously be the easy option, but it would also be a real missed opportunity that the UK economy simply cannot afford. DfT needs to make a bold decision that will be the right choice for not only Kent, but also the Treasury through the long term returns to the national economy.

The vision KCC's preferred option will deliver is not only a resilient and futureproofed strategic network, but a massive and much needed boost to the local Thameside economy and more importantly, to UK plc.

Appendix B – Background to the Lower Thames Crossing consultation and further details on the 2016 route options.

1 Background

- 1.1 On the 21st May 2013, the Department for Transport (DfT) launched their first consultation on the need and options for a third Lower Thames Crossing. This consultation focused on three corridor options: Option A (at the existing Dartford Crossing), Option B (crossing the Swanscombe Peninsula) and Option C (a route to the East of Gravesend). There was also an Option C Variant providing additional improvements to the A229 Bluebell Hill, the link between the M2 and the M20.
- 1.2 In response to the DfT's 2013 consultation, KCC expressed strong support for locating the new crossing at Option C, given the economic growth and job creation potential along with its positive impact on network resilience and the creation of a new strategic route from Dover to the Midlands and the North. This was supported on the condition that the connection of the proposed new Crossing to the M2 was moved westwards, thus connecting into the A2 and avoiding significant adverse environmental impact on the Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), ancient woodland and KCC's flagship country park (Shorne Woods). KCC's proposed western alignment would connect to the A2 between the East of Gravesend and Cobham junctions. Tunnelling was also supported as it was considered that this method would help to reduce the impact on the internationally protected Marshes. KCC also supported the Option C Variant in response to the 2013 consultation, recognising the importance of connectivity between the two motorway corridors.
- 1.3 As a result of the 2013 consultation, Option B (Swanscombe) was discounted by the DfT due to it posing significant risk of jeopardising major redevelopment of the Swanscombe Peninsula combined with a lack of public support. The DfT then instructed Highways England (HE) to further investigate Option A, C and C Variant.

2 Current consultation – January 26th to March 24th 2016

- 2.1 Following the 2013 consultation, HE appraisal ruled out the C Variant because, according to HE assessment, it was shown to have insufficient impact in transferring traffic from the existing Dartford Crossing to the new Lower Thames Crossing, would have a high capital cost, and a high environmental impact on the AONB. However, it does anticipate giving further consideration to this link separately as part of HE's ongoing regional route planning.
- 2.2 A shortlist of four routes was then produced, one at Location A and three at Location C that take different routes through Thurrock and Essex. The Location C routes each have two options south of the river in Kent; the Eastern Southern Link (running to the east of Shorne village) and the Western Southern Link (to the west of the village of Thong).

- 2.3 The current public consultation was launched by HE on 26th January 2016, proposing a preferred route within the Option C corridor¹. The proposed scheme is Route 3, a dual carriageway connecting Junction 1 of the M2 to the M25 between Junctions 29 and 30, using a twin bored tunnel. The Eastern Southern Link has been identified by HE as the option best meeting the scheme objectives. However, KCC has to date favoured the connection being to the west into the A2 to minimise environmental impacts. Both options include a new junction with the A226, which will affect traffic flows on the local road network in Gravesend and from the Medway towns. The reasons for the HE's route recommendation are that it:
- Provides the best economic benefits of all the shortlist routes evaluated and reduces traffic at Dartford and therefore reduces congestion.
 - Can be largely constructed off-line avoiding the disruption caused by on-line works at Location A.
 - Provides network resilience through a second independent crossing of the Thames.
 - Provides a motorway-to-motorway experience for drivers.
 - Reduces air and noise pollution along the existing A282 corridor at Dartford, whilst recognising that there are environmental and community impacts in the vicinity of the new scheme, including noise and air quality on communities alongside the proposed route.
 - Will provide a new strategic link to the local, regional and strategic road network, increasing resilience and addressing future increases in traffic demand.
- 2.4 HE's analysis rejects Route 1 (additional capacity at the existing Dartford Crossing) as not meeting the transport and economic objectives for a new crossing. However, this is still an option that the DfT will consider in choosing their preferred route.
- 2.5 The two possible route alignments in Kent will have different impacts. These are explained in more detail below, and outline plans of the routes are shown in Figure 1.
- 2.8 **Western Southern Link (alignment proposed by KCC in 2014)**
To the north of the A2, the route would be on an embankment before moving to a cutting and passing under Thong Lane between Gravesend and Thong and then crossing the golf course towards the A226. The tunnel portal would be between the A226 and Lower Higham Road. At the A226 to the east of Chalk would be an all movements grade separated junction. To achieve the required slip road length, the A226 would have to be realigned approximately 1km from the tunnel portal.
- 2.9 The junction with the A2 would be all movements free-flowing but owing to limited space, it would require the realignment of the A2 to the north over a length of approximately 2.5km. Owing to tight curvatures, speeds on the slip roads would be limited, some to 30mph. There would also be some changes

¹ Consultation available at: <https://highwaysengland.citizenspace.com/cip/lower-thames-crossing-consultation>

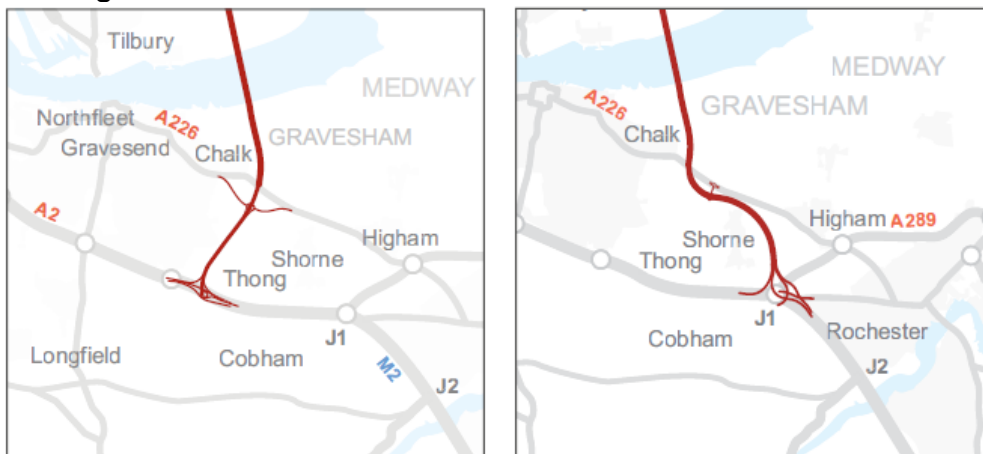
to local access to the A2, with a new link road provided. It would also require the demolition of the service station on the A2.

2.10 Eastern Southern Link (HE's proposed scheme)

From Junction 1 of the M2 the route would go to the west of Great Crabbles Wood and east of Shorne, then on towards Lower Higham Road and Chalk. To the north of the M2, the road would be on a viaduct before entering a cutting beneath Pear Tree Lane, and then an embankment for approximately 800m before a cutting at Crown Lane, and embankment at the proposed junction with the A226. From this point, the alignment would be in a cutting to the tunnel portal.

2.11 The junction with the M2 would be complex, with the new connection creating a fourth level of slip roads. In combination with the topography of the area this will require pier heights up to 23m. Speeds on the slip roads would vary between 50mph and 70mph

Figure 1 – The Western Southern Link and Eastern Southern Link



Appendix C: Lower Thames Crossing Route Consultation 2016 KCC's proposed detailed response to the consultation

1 Q: On balance, do you agree or disagree with our proposal for the location of a crossing, at Location C?

KCC **agrees** with the proposal for a new Crossing at Location C but strongly encourages Highways England (HE) to urgently reconsider the inclusion of C Variant (enhancements to the A229 link between the M2 and M20) and to improve the link via the A249 (M2 Junction 5 at Stockbury to M20 Junction 7 at Detling Hill). A phased programme of wider network improvements are needed along the M2/A2 corridor including dualling of the A2 from Lydden to Dover and improvements to M2 Junction 7 (Brenley Corner). KCC's support is also contingent on the selection of the Western Southern Link as well as suitable compensation, environmental mitigation, increased tunnelling, removal of the junction with the A226, and optimisation of the junction with the A2.

1.1 KCC agrees with the proposal for a new Crossing at Location C (east of Gravesend and Tilbury) compared with extra capacity at Dartford (Location A). The reasons for this are set out below.

1.2 **Economic benefits**

Fundamentally, the economic benefits of a new Crossing at Location C are significant in their own right. Further, they are substantially greater at Location C than at Location A. Work undertaken by the Department for Transport (DfT) as part of the 2013 consultation identified that Location C and the C Variant had the greatest potential for regeneration and job creation.

1.3 KCC has also previously commissioned studies to further investigate the potential economic benefits of each proposed location. In 2010, KPMG produced a high level assessment of the economic benefits of a new crossing based on an opening year of 2021. This calculated that Location C has the potential to contribute £12.7 billion to the local economy, mainly through job creation. This is six times higher than at Location A. Subsequently, in 2012 URS carried out a more detailed assessment of the regeneration impacts. The findings supported the KPMG work and found Location C would generate the highest number of jobs and housing development. These studies are summarised in Table 1.

Table 1: KPMG and URS studies job creation

	Location A	Location C
KPMG (jobs)	1000	6000
URS (jobs)		
Local jobs	7,600	9,100
Local + hinterland (all of Kent and Essex counties)	23,000	32,300

- 1.4 A new Lower Thames Crossing (LTC) at Location C would also benefit the logistics sector (both in Kent and nationally) by enabling more reliable and quicker journey times and thereby reducing operating costs. Access to potential employees and to other businesses would be improved, including to the Midlands and North (and its aspirations to become the Northern Powerhouse), which will in turn make Kent a more attractive place to do business.
- 1.5 The growth of Heavy Goods Vehicle (HGV) traffic crossing the Thames is severely constrained by the current congestion and capacity problems at Dartford. HGV activity is correlated with economic activity and the HE analysis has shown that generally the Location C routes increase HGV traffic over and above the Location A route, which is indicative of the increased potential for economic growth at Location C.
- 1.6 In addition, growth in the Dartford area (particularly that generating employment opportunities), is constrained by the congestion at Junctions 1a, 1b and on the A2. This prevents access to the Strategic Road Network (SRN) for businesses and causes the frequent severance of Dartford town centre from the rest of the Borough. Congestion at these junctions and on the A2 can result in the B255 St Clements Way and the A206 Crossways Boulevard being used as an alternative route with implications for Junction 1a and, importantly, the A2 Bean Junction and the A226 London Road/St Clements Way Junction. A new Crossing at Location A would not resolve these problems but would in fact worsen them, imposing constraint on the planned growth for the Ebbsfleet Garden City.
- 1.7 Many of the economic benefits arising from the LTC will be felt in North Kent. To enhance the geographical scope of the wider economic benefits, road network improvements to support the LTC should be implemented as part of the scheme, such as enhancements to the M2/A2 corridor and the links between the M2 and M20.
- 1.8 It is also worth noting that it is for economic reasons that KCC opposed the now ruled out Location B. The principle reason for this is the detrimental impact it would have on plans for growth and regeneration in North Kent, which have now been given further impetus with the formation of the Ebbsfleet Development Corporation and the Government's plans to create a 21st Century Garden City at Ebbsfleet and the proposal for the London Paramount Entertainment Resort. Other issues with Location B include:
- The density of the existing community to the north of the Thames at Grays/Tilbury.
 - The potential negative impact on Tilbury Docks.
 - The ability of the A1089 corridor to deal with both strategic and local traffic.
- 1.9 **Network resilience**
Although the introduction of free-flow tolling (Dart Charge) has seen some improvements in journey time and congestion at the Dartford Crossing, it has done nothing for resilience when incidents occur that affect the flow of traffic

at or around the Crossing. The provision of an independent crossing built to modern standards and suitable for all users will not only radically improve the resilience of crossing the Lower Thames but also the resilience of the strategic road network between Kent, the Midlands/North, and mainland Europe.

- 1.10 The new crossing will enable Kent's policy objective of bifurcation to be implemented, splitting traffic to and from the Eastern and Western Docks in Dover between the M20/A20 and M2/A2 corridors. With the addition of some improvements to the M2/A2, this will create a high quality strategic corridor that will cater for the significant likely growth of the Port and thereby release capacity on the M20. A bifurcated route to the Channel Ports will also help to relieve the pressure on the M20, especially during times of disruption to Channel crossings and during the implementation of Operation Stack. Bifurcation is key to the success of the LTC.
- 1.11 With the annual forecast for growth at the Port of Dover of between 2% and 4% and up to 30% over the next 5 years at Eurotunnel, there will be an increase in average daily flows of HGVs from the current 10,000 per day up to 16,000 per day over the next decade. KCC considers it vital that Government looks at strategic transport issues in Kent and the wider UK holistically and for alternative solutions, such as increasing the proportion of freight carried by rail, alongside increased road capacity.
- 1.12 Whilst Route 1 at Location A would provide extra capacity at the existing Dartford Crossing itself, it would not mitigate constraints on the road network on the approach to the Crossing. The same issues when either the tunnels or the QEII Bridge have to be closed would remain, with the resultant congestion affecting not only the strategic road network but the local road network in Dartford and south east London. The QEII closure on 8th February 2016 due to high winds resulted in 11 hours of delays, which not only demonstrates that Dartford is not a suitable location for providing extra capacity but also that any new crossing should not be a bridge if such disruptions are to be avoided. The HE consultation itself states that on average the Dartford Crossing is closed for 27 minutes 300 days a year and that this level of disruption must be avoided at the new Crossing.
- 1.13 Congestion and incidents on the approaches will to a large extent negate the benefits of additional crossing capacity. Constructing the Crossing at Route 1 would be a missed opportunity to boost British business and the national economy, and enhance transport connectivity between Kent and Essex, as well as nationally and internationally. Conversely, constructing a new crossing at Location C provides an alternative route in the event of an incident at the Dartford Crossing that can be accessed by remaining on the Strategic Road Network.
- 1.14 **Strategic transport benefits**
Aside from the clear benefits to Kent and Essex from having two crossing points on the Lower Thames, there will also be impacts felt nationwide due to

increased connectivity between the rest of the UK and Kent, which is the Gateway to mainland Europe.

- 1.15 Information released in the HE consultation documents and supported by a freight study commissioned by the South East Local Enterprise Partnership (Atkins, 2013) shows that when there is congestion at the Dartford Crossing traffic diverts to other crossings (notably the Blackwall Tunnel) or uses the long way around the M25. Therefore, by releasing capacity at Dartford and increasing resilience in the event of any incident by providing a crossing at Location C, capacity elsewhere on the wider transport network will also be released. Location C will also relieve sections of the A13 and A2 and journeys to the strategically important ports in East Anglia and Kent will be improved both in terms of journey time and reliability.
- 1.16 Further, the two possible locations for the Crossing will attract different users. If extra capacity is provided at Dartford then the same users as today will be served in greater number (i.e. suppressed demand will be released). However, by locating the Crossing at Location C, the route will attract mainly traffic travelling between Kent/the Channel Ports and the M25/East Anglia. It will also attract a higher total volume of traffic crossing the Thames than expansion at Dartford would because of the higher capacity and improved connectivity. The provision of a faster, more reliable route to the Midlands and North from the Kent ports will be particularly attractive to long-distance freight traffic and will have the benefit of diverting many of these journeys away from Dartford.
- 1.17 It is clear that a new LTC must provide a strategic network solution rather than primarily catering for shorter journeys. Location C provides this connectivity both from Kent into neighbouring Essex and, most significantly, from Europe to the concentration of distribution centres in the Midlands and the North. As a result, increased capacity at Dartford (Route 1, Location A) will not provide nearly the same scale of benefits as LTC to the east of Gravesend (Location C).

2 Q: There are three route options north of the river in Essex – Routes 2, 3 and 4. Where do you think the route should be located north of the river?

KCC believes the location of the route north of the river should be Route 3.

- 2.1 Given that Essex County Council (ECC) is best placed to assess the impacts of the three route options north of the river, KCC has taken into account their analysis and therefore supports Route 3. Route 3 provides the shortest route for the LTC and offers significant journey time savings compared to using the Dartford Crossing.

3 Q: Thinking about the three route options north of the river, on balance do you agree or disagree with our proposals for each of these?

Route 2 – **Neither agree nor disagree**

Route 3 – **Tend to agree**

Route 4 – **Neither agree nor disagree**

4 Q: There are two route options south of the river in Kent – the Western Southern Link (WSL) and the Eastern Southern Link (ESL). Where do you think the route should be located south of the river?

4.1 KCC strongly supports the **Western Southern Link (WSL)**.

4.2 LTC junction with the A2/M2

The Eastern Southern Link (ESL) would terminate with the M2 at Junction 1. This is already a complex junction and using this will require a fourth level of slip roads on viaducts with piers up to 23m in height. The number of slip roads could result in safety issues owing to its increased complexity. Further, as this would not be a dedicated junction an incident on one part of it could potentially affect the whole junction, with implications for traffic diverting on the local road network. It would not provide sufficient resilience to an incident of this nature.

4.3 Conversely, the WSL would create a new junction on the A2. Although this would require some realignment of the A2 the majority of the work can be completed offline. There will be some changes to local access arrangements due to the proximity of the adjacent Gravesend East and Brewers Road junctions. These local access arrangements and the tight radii of the current proposed slip should be reassessed by HE. KCC is confident that an improved junction can be designed within the available space that still has minimal impact on the surrounding countryside. KCC intends to commission work to optimise the junction design and will send this work to the HE/DfT once completed.

4.4 Impacts on the built and natural environment

The Crossing route should be selected to minimise negative environmental impacts as much as possible. The WSL would have less negative environmental impact compared to the ESL, which passes directly adjacent to Shorne village. Further, the current design of the WSL would require the demolition of 4 residential properties and 3 commercial, whereas the ESL would demolish 10 residential and 2 commercial properties.

4.5 The WSL would mostly be located outside of the Kent Downs AONB, with only a slip road located within it. Although the new road would be visible from parts of the AONB, the alternative ESL has a greater footprint within the AONB. Both routes would result in the loss of ancient woodland but the ESL will result in a greater loss of ancient woodland in the Great Crabbles Wood Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) which is also a designated Local Wildlife Site. Both possible alignments would have an impact on listed buildings, including Chalk Church.

- 4.6 There are major strategic issues for surface water in relation to the location of the route and potential impacts relating to construction. Both routes cross the Thames Estuary Marshes but the ESL for a greater length is underlain by SPZ 3 (Groundwater Source Protection Zone) and may have restrictions as a result of crossing SPZ 1 and 2. Whereas the WSL provides an opportunity to enhance flood defences for Gravesend, the ESL would require more detailed assessment so that a final design can be formed that does not compromise flood defence plans. There is potential for the embankments required for the WSL alignment to be dual purpose and enhance local flood defences. The Thames Estuary 2100 plan (TE2100) requires a secondary defence to Gravesend and the WSL could provide this.
- 4.7 Both Kent route options will result in a direct loss of designated sites, but no information has been provided considering the impact on species (including protected/notable species) and indirect impacts the route will have on designated sites (and other habitats). Until a full assessment has been carried out, there is no clear understanding of what the impact will be and what mitigation will be required. However, there is currently some connectivity between Great Crabbles Wood and Puckle Hill/Shorne Woods where a mosaic of orchards, hedgerows and residential gardens enable species to move between the sites. However, the proposed ESL will result in a direct loss of connectivity between the woodlands and therefore an isolation of species.
- 4.8 A new road, whether the WSL or ESL, will result in a worsening of air quality. Although the initial HE air quality modelling shows that no properties along the new route are at risk of exceeding legal limits, the more detailed modelling to follow needs to consider the effect on background air quality and the cumulative effect of additional traffic in future years. The same applies to noise impacts. For both air quality, noise and visual impacts mitigation measures need serious consideration, such as noise-reducing fencing and appropriate landscaping. In developing mitigation measures, HE should commit to working with KCC, Gravesham Borough Council, Medway Council, and other relevant organisations.
- 4.9 **Traffic flows**
The choice of WSL or ESL does not have a significant impact on the total volume of traffic using the LTC, but it does affect the distribution of traffic on the local network and between the two river crossings.
- 4.10 The ESL provides greater relief to the A2 west of the LTC (M2 Junction 1) and to the M20 at Maidstone, but it puts significantly greater pressure on the M2 east of Junction 1 compared to the WSL (in the region of 10,000 additional vehicles a day on average). There is little difference on opening year between the two southern links on how much extra traffic they attract to the A226, but by 2041 the WSL increases average traffic on the A226 significantly more so than the ESL. On opening year, Average Annual Daily Traffic (AADT) on the A226 to the east of Gravesend is forecast to more than double with both the

WSL and ESL. The significance of this increase in traffic is one reason why KCC does not support the proposed junction with the A226.

4.11 **Historic environment**

On the basis of present evidence, there are no currently identifiable major differences in the impact on the historic environment between the WSL and ESL, and no currently designated heritage assets are directly affected by the proposed links; however, the setting of several designated heritage assets will be affected and should be assessed further. In line with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), undesignated nationally important heritage assets of archaeological interest should be treated as if they were scheduled and the potential for significant archaeological remains to be present should be assessed further before a route choice is made.

4.12 The WSL involves less potential property demolition than the ESL, and has a lesser impact on the Built Environment than the ESL, but the local topography means the WSL will have visual intrusion onto Thong Conservation Area. The ESL crosses Pear Tree Lane, Shorne where there are two Grade II listed buildings close to the route, and then passes to the north east around Shorne village with its Conservation Area and numerous listed buildings, including the Grade II* Little St. Katherines, a Wealden Hall House, which sits at the northern end of Shorne close to the proposed route.

4.13 The routes of the WSL and ESL converge at the A226 position, and it is this final section of the route up to the crossing portal that will have greatest impact on heritage assets. A realignment of this section of the route to the east of the church of St Mary Chalk (a Grade II* listed building) would mitigate the potential effect of isolating it from its parish. There is no mention of this heritage asset or mitigation directly in the consultation documentation. Immediately adjacent to the proposed tunnel mouth is Grade II listed Filborough Farmhouse complex. Although in a cutting at this point, the road will inevitably have an impact on these heritage assets both during and after construction simply because of proximity. Extending the amount of the route covered in tunnel could also offer some mitigation here.

4.14 **Public Rights of Way**

Both the WSL and ESL affect a number of Public Rights of Way (PROW). The WSL affects PROW NG7, NG8, NS169 and NS167, with the first three being well-used links between residential Gravesend and the open countryside to Shorne Woods Country Park, Shorne village and Higham. The WSL would also cross the cycle track to Shorne Woods Country Park, which links to the Cyclopark, and this important route would need to be retained.

4.15 The ESL affects PROW NG8, NS163A, NS158, NS156, NS159, NS160, NS321 and NS161, as well as cutting through Great Crabbles Wood SSSI, which has its own recreational value. The Darnley Trail would also be impacted by the slip road at Park Pale; this is an important circular recreation route for walkers, cyclists and equestrians and could be severed by the scheme. This has been heavily invested in by KCC as mitigation for wider growth, and as a minimum, the retention or improvement of the Park Pale

equestrian bridge crossing would have to be included. Further mitigation would be needed in terms of crossings for the above impacted PROW, and a new route through Great Crabbles Wood.

4.16 The ESL would require far greater mitigation for the impact on these community assets, as well as mitigating its greater blight on river views from the walking routes in Shorne. Putting more of the route in cutting is the only possible mitigation against this and should be a requirement if the ESL is constructed. The WSL requires less mitigation.

4.17 **Concluding remarks**

There is forecast to be relatively little difference between the WSL and the ESL in the traffic attracted to the LTC, however, each route has substantially different impacts on the environment and local community. Considering the range of potential negative impacts that the HE's preferred ESL route option has, KCC supports the Western Southern Link. On balance, the WSL would have comparatively fewer negative environmental impacts on the historic and natural environment, a reduced impact on and community assets, and is the only option creating a dedicated junction with the Strategic Road Network.

5 **Q: Thinking about the two route options south of the river, on balance do you agree or disagree with our proposal for each of these?**

Eastern Southern Link – **Strongly disagree**

Western Southern Link – **Strongly Agree**

5.1 KCC agrees that Location C is the right corridor in which to locate the new Crossing. The WSL is KCC's preferred route in Kent for the reasons set out above and for those reasons KCC implore the DfT to disregard HE's preference for the ESL.

6 **Q: Having evaluated the options, our proposed scheme is a new bored tunnel road crossing at Location C, following Route 3 north of the river and the Eastern Southern Link south of the river. On balance, do you agree or disagree with our proposed scheme?**

6.1 KCC agrees with the choice of the Location C corridor for the new Lower Thames Crossing but this support is contingent on the selection of the Western Southern Link as well as suitable compensation, environmental mitigation, increased tunnelling, removal of the junction with the A226, and optimisation of the junction with the A2. KCC strongly encourages Highways England to urgently reconsider the inclusion of C Variant (enhancements to the A229 link between the M2 and M20) and to improve the link via the A249 (M2 Junction 5 at Stockbury to M20 Junction 7 at Detling Hill). A phased programme of wider network improvements are needed along the M2/A2 corridor including dualling of the A2 from Lydden to Dover and improvements to M2 Junction 7 (Brenley Corner).

6.2 KCC strongly supports the choice of a bored tunnel because this would minimise the impacts on residents and the natural and historic environment in

North Kent. It will also eradicate the risk of a closure due to high winds, which already affects the Dartford Crossing. Of the three crossing alternatives (bored tunnel, bridge or immersed tunnel), the bored tunnel provides the least damaging environmental impacts and the most resilient crossing. KCC therefore agrees with the HE contention that it is the only viable option. KCC insists that HE must use up-to-date traffic modelling to ensure that the design capacity of the tunnel and the connecting roads is future-proofed.

- 6.3 However, further assessment should be undertaken before the tunnel portal location is finalised, including of the historic environment and buried archaeological resource both on land and within the River Thames.
- 6.4 Where more of the route can be covered to minimise the impact on the environment and communities in the vicinity of the route, then this should be done, including extending the tunnel as close to the A226 as possible to minimise the impact on Chalk (and for the WSL also covering the section that passes closest to urban Gravesend between Riverview Park and Thong village).
- 6.5 KCC supports the choice of Route 3 north of the river, and urges HE and DfT to work with Essex County Council in relation to environmental and traffic concerns in their area.
- 6.6 However, KCC strongly disagrees with the choice of the Eastern Southern Link and urges HE/DfT to instead support the Western Southern Link. The reasons for this support are explained in the previous two questions but include the comparatively reduced environmental impact, the reduced impact on heritage sites, the dedicated new junction with the A2, the greater distance from residential properties (whereas the ESL would divide Shorne Parish), and the potential benefit to flood defences.

7 Q: We are proposing to create junctions with existing roads including the M2/A2, A226, A13 and M25. We would like to hear your views on whether you believe additional junctions would be beneficial. We would welcome any comments you may have on our proposals for junctions.

7.1 A226

The proposed junction with the A226 would improve accessibility to Gravesend and divert traffic from the A2 to join the LTC at the A226. Under this scenario, it is likely that traffic on the local road network leading into the A226 would also increase. Whilst development in the Ebbsfleet Valley should have improved access to the A2 at Ebbsfleet, planned development along the riverside could see the A226 as a better route to/from the LTC. However, it is more likely that the A226 would be the more attractive route to the LTC from the Medway towns rather than using the A2. This would see an increase in traffic through Higham and on the local road network in the Hoo Peninsula.

- 7.2 It is KCC's view that longer distance traffic using the new Crossing should remain on the Strategic Road Network (motorways and trunk roads) and not leak onto the Local Road Network, which would cause traffic problems for

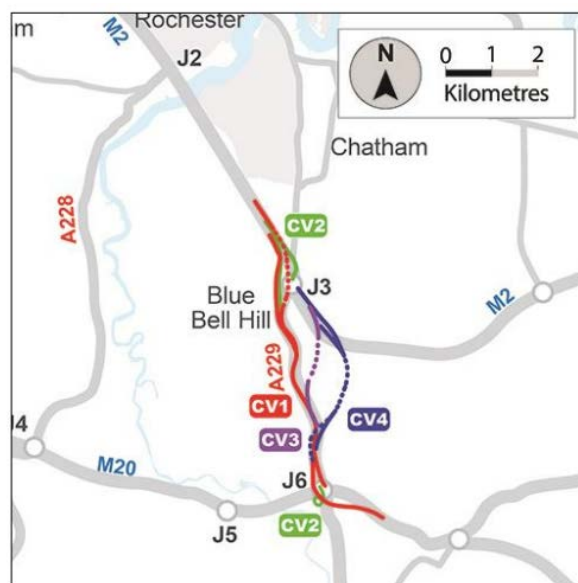
KCC's roads. Modelling has not been provided that demonstrates the impact of this junction on traffic flows through urban Gravesend, Higham and Medway, or on the individual junctions and links that would likely be stressed by redistributed traffic.

- 7.3 The enhanced connectivity with the LTC could lead to a build-up of traffic on local minor roads at times, especially through the villages and Conservation Areas as happens regularly in Dartford at present. A major intersection between the proposed routes and the A226 close to Chalk Church will only further erode the setting of this Grade II* heritage asset and intensify the isolation of the church from its Parish.
- 7.4 With the WSL, to accommodate this junction the A226 will need significant realignment and this will limit the extent of the LTC that can be in tunnel. Extending the length of the Crossing in tunnel will reduce the impact on Chalk as without this junction the tunnel portal could be a lot further south. KCC urges that as much of the route as possible should be in tunnel, especially to at least as far south of the river as the A226 and in the section that passes close to Riverview Park and Thong village.
- 7.5 Therefore, KCC does not support the proposal for a junction with the A226 and this should be removed from subsequent iterations of the design.

7.6 **C Variant**

The C Variant was proposed in earlier consultations as a route upgrade associated with the construction of a LTC at Location C because it is a key link between the M20 and M2. Although in this consultation is it primarily referred to as widening of the A229 Bluebell Hill, the possible route options considered (diagram below) also include changes to the junctions at either end, such as free-flow slips.

C Variant – all route options considered by HE



- 7.7 However, the C Variant has been ruled out of the proposals and it has been stated to have no influence over route choice between Dartford and the LTC. The modelling to support this contention is not provided in the consultation documents and has not been provided following requests from KCC to HE to do so. The A229 is the most direct link between the M20 and M2 and already suffers from significant congestion and stress at peak times, especially at junction points. The link between the two motorway corridors needs to be considered as part of the Lower Thames Crossing project in order to maximise the potential of the new Crossing.
- 7.8 The limited traffic modelling data provided shows that on the M20 between the A228 (Junction 4) and the M26 (Junction 3) there is a forecast decrease in vehicles of 5,000 on average per day with the WSL and 6,400 with the ESL in 2025. Traffic flow data for the A229 is not provided but it can be inferred that these vehicles have diverted from the M20 to the M2, and it is likely that they will have used the A229 as the shortest and most direct link. Given that the A229 is at present a congested and stressed part of the road network in both the morning and evening peaks this clearly demonstrates that the C Variant is required to support the LTC.
- 7.9 Another consideration is the safety implications of increasing traffic on the A229. As the gyratory system at M2 Junction 3 is currently saturated at peak times, the extra traffic will increase blocking back on to the A229 from the off-slip road. The HE safety assessment shows a worsening of the accident rate on this road, but without access to the modelling report to assess how the queuing has been modelled, it is unclear if this is fully taken into account. With this in mind, the need for free-flow slips at M2 Junction 3 and M20 Junction 6 requires further detailed consideration.
- 7.10 Whilst KCC recognises and welcomes the HE's commitment to consider the A229 in ongoing regional route planning this is a foreseeable problem that can, and should, be resolved within the current planning and design work for the LTC.
- 7.11 **Wider network improvements**
It is vital to the UK economy that the Channel Corridor operates efficiently at all times and is resilient to incidents on the network. Port traffic is currently routed along the M20/A20, which results in severance between Dover town centre and the harbour. With the construction of the new LTC, a second strategic route will be available between Dover and the Midlands and North – i.e. the potential bifurcation of the strategic route from the Southeast to the Midlands and North of the country. The project to revive the Dover Western Docks plus expansion of the existing Port would naturally split traffic so that for the Western Docks and Channel Tunnel would use the M20/A20, and traffic for the Eastern Docks would be encouraged to use the M2/A2 and LTC. Bifurcation will also facilitate growth of Whitfield, Folkestone, Ashford and Maidstone by releasing capacity on the M20.
- 7.12 The LTC cannot be looked at in isolation. KCC recommends a number of wider network improvements and believes these must be delivered in

conjunction with the Crossing to fully realise its benefits. It is vital to the UK economy that the Channel Corridor operates efficiently and is resilient to incidents on the network. By splitting Port traffic between the M2/A2 and M20/A20 corridors (bifurcation) a second strategic route is available. To make this a high quality route the following upgrades are required:

- M2 Junction 7 (Brenley Corner) improvements to increase capacity and provide free-flow between the M2 and A2.
- Dualling sections of single carriageway on the A2 north of Dover along Jubilee Way to Whitfield and near Lydden.
- M20 Junction 7 improvements to provide ease of access between the A249 and M20.
- M2 Junction 5 Stockbury improvements to provide free-flow between the M2 and A249, which will improve another strategic link between the M2 and M20.

These upgrades have been costed at a high level by KCC and could be delivered for a modest sum in comparison to the total cost of the proposed Crossing.

- 7.13 Finally, the likely impact of the proposal in terms of future traffic flows/travel patterns across the wider area need to be made. Particularly, the emerging Ebbsfleet Garden City and potential major developments, such as London Paramount Entertainment Resort, should be acknowledged. This consultation, whilst it is focussed on route options, also needs to consider the impact on existing junctions on the local road network and identify where improvements would be required. Where these are as a result of the new LTC such improvements should be funded as part of the scheme to avoid them becoming issues for the Highway Authority at a later date.

8 Q: We would welcome any other comments you may have on our proposals.

8.1 Financing the Crossing

The anticipated opening year of 2025 is unacceptably far away when serious capacity and congestion problems at Dartford are an issue today. The consultation documents state that using private sector funding would lead to a 2 year delay in opening the crossing (in 2027) but it is not clear why this is the case. KCC research has shown significant interest from the private sector in financing a new Lower Thames Crossing and that there are infrastructure investors in Europe, North America and elsewhere that are ready to be involved in such a project today.

- 8.2 KCC has, in 2016, updated the previously commissioned work looking at the appetite for private finance for a new crossing, the conditions that would be needed to secure such investment and the level of investment that would be needed. Key findings from this work which surveyed the views international banks, construction parties, fund managers and pension investors include:

- Option C is prioritised over Option A as the only option, given its overwhelming benefits to the UK, London, Essex & Kent, as evidenced in a number of reports.
- Use of tolls will allow the project to be self-funding and therefore can be delivered without the need for public funds. Toll setting is not an issue if there is a controllable trade-off between toll level and concession term length, allowing Government to control the parameters of the tolling rate.
- A Design, Build, Finance and Maintain (DBFM) model is desirable with a 35+ year concession arrangement that includes toll revenue from the existing Dartford Crossing.
- The tolling model should incorporate the existing (Dartford) and new Crossing and tolling regulations should be transparent and certain over the life of the concession.
- Government should consider holding confidential market meetings with identified funders and investors to discuss how to bring forward the project.
- The new Crossing and the Dartford Crossing should be integrated for project financing and the tolls should be aligned to provide optimal efficiency and traffic management. Not linking the two crossings will create a traffic volume risk situation that will render a private financing option for the new Crossing untenable for many investors.
- Traffic risk and Government willingness to see tolls increased are key to revenue forecasting and must form part of an acceptable model for Government and investors.

8.3 Although the details of the future charging regime are not part of this consultation, it is nevertheless stated that it is Government policy to toll estuarial crossings. Whether privately or publically operated, the tolls need to be operated in conjunction with the existing crossing so that they can be set to encourage bifurcation between the M2/A2 and M20/A20 corridors to/from the Port of Dover.

8.4 **Minerals**

There are known mineral deposits (Sub-Alluvial River Terrace Deposits and River Terrace Deposits) that are threatened with sterilisation by the potential development at Location C. Therefore, the proposed development should identify the minerals that are threatened with sterilisation and in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework's drive for sustainable minerals use in Section 142, seek to ensure that prior extraction is fully investigated for the chosen route.

8.5 **Surface water**

The Assessment identifies major strategic issues for surface water in relation to location of the route and potential impacts in relation to construction. The Assessment, however, does not clearly state the impacts in relation to increased surface water flow from construction of the project itself, whether in relation to water quantity or quality. It would be expected that impacts relating to construction and operation will be mitigated through compliance with regulation for surface water management.

8.6 Compensation

It is essential that property owners, who have already been blighted by the two proposed routes, are fully compensated for the loss of property value and inability to now sell if they need or want to move. This consultation has caused considerable distress in the local community and a swift decision on the preferred route option must be taken by Government following the consultation so as to minimise the uncertainty around the two potential routes through the community.

8.7 Likewise, where community assets/facilities are affected then suitable compensation should be arranged to offset the impact. HE should work with local asset managers and owners, such as Shorne Woods Country Park, to identify a package of suitable mitigation measures.

8.8 Biodiversity

Any route chosen will have an impact and KCC expects information to be submitted that enables the assessment of that impact (from construction **and** operation) on the following:

- Direct impact on designated sites.
- Indirect impact on designated sites.
- Impact on protected/notable species – individually and the populations.

The impact should be assessed through detailed species and habitat surveys. The surveys should cover the whole survey season to ensure there is full understanding of the impacts (this may take a number of years). These surveys should also be carried out before the finalised design is completed to ensure that it can be designed to take into account the ecological impact and the mitigation hierarchy (avoid, minimise, restore, offset). The scope of these surveys should be discussed with KCC before they begin.

8.9 KCC expects information to be provided to demonstrate that the proposed mitigation can be implemented. Such mitigation that should be included is green bridges along the route – the green bridge on the A21 is a prime example of how successful they can be (dormouse have been recorded on it). One possible location for the creation of a green bridge might be across the realigned A2 if Thong Lane bridge needs replacement as this would provide a connection between Shorne Woods and Ashenbank Woods. Bat corridors could also be created to avoid them being hit by lorries, as these animals will be disrupted by noise and light pollution.

8.10 Although it is proposing to use a bored tunnel (which will avoid the direct loss of habitat within the SPA/SSSI/Ramsar), the proposed crossing still has the potential to have a negative impact on these designated sites (for example due to air quality/noise) and so there will be a requirement for a Habitat Regulations Assessment to be carried out.

8.11 Historic environment

The SAR Environment Assessment Volume 6 Section 5 has not adequately assessed the impact of any of the crossing options on the historic

environment. In particular currently undesignated, nationally important heritage assets should be considered together with historic landscape and geological information. The impact of the various options on the Grade II* Church of St Mary should be assessed in detail.

8.12 In general, there is a need for further detailed assessment of the historic environment for both ESL and WSL and for the crossing options. The assessment carried out so far is not sufficiently detailed to enable an informed choice between the various route options to be made. KCC has two principle concerns in relation to the SAR. Firstly, the HE SAR assessment of environmental issues (SAR Volume 6) is extremely brief. Insufficient data has been assessed, especially regarding the potential buried archaeological resource. The proposed Lower Thames Crossing is routed through undeveloped, green field sites. Data on the historic environment, particularly on archaeology, is gained mainly from formal investigations related to development. The majority of the proposed routes have not been subject to formal investigations and the data on the archaeological resource in particular is limited. Therefore, there is potential for significant as yet unknown archaeology to survive on either the WSL or the ESL and final decisions on preferred routes should not be made until more detailed field assessments have been undertaken. Historical and literary associations and community value of heritage assets should be included in the assessment

8.13 Section 6 consideration of environmental issues does not mention impact from lighting. This could be a major harm factor for a variety of receptors, including setting of designated heritage assets, especially listed buildings, and the Grade II* Cobham Park. In addition, as this scheme runs through a rural area, lighting could have a wider impact on the historic character of the landscape.

8.14 **Resilience/emergency planning**

A number of design and operational matters require consideration as the scheme is progressed, including:

- The Location C corridor and bored tunnel route is in close proximity to a number of gas pipelines, of both local and national significance.
- CCTV, mobile telephone, variable speed cameras and emergency services radio coverage should ideally be uninterrupted along the entire route.
- VMS or other appropriate public warning and information signage.
- A multi-disciplinary risk assessment should be undertaken to inform the drafting and subsequent operation of a Lower Thames Crossing multi-agency emergency plan.
- Achieving safe access and egress by the emergency services, and public evacuation from stretches of highway within cutting and the tunnel bores.
- The propensity of this estuarial landscape to become intermittently shrouded by mist or fog should be addressed, including technology to slow or stop traffic.
- Appropriate technical measures to vent smoke and/or fumes from the tunnel bores.

- Design of cross passages between tunnel bores should accommodate emergency services requirements in relation to operational activity and evacuation, including unhindered movement of equipment such as breathing apparatus and stretchers.
- Technology utilised in any required mechanical de-watering of the tunnel bores, and potentially the cutting, should be resilient and robust - with the potential for utilising any resultant potable water resource explored with local water companies (Kent being a water-stressed county), alternatively compensatory wetland habitat re-creation potential using non-potable supply could be considered.
- The precise locations for the Kent portals must be sufficiently distant from the tidal flood plain of the River Thames to sustainably accommodate worst-case sea level rise.
- All planting should utilise a diverse palette of appropriate native shrub and tree species to maximise resilience of local bio-diversity, and reduce bio-security risk and vulnerability to plant diseases (i.e. the route of Option C is within the current range of tree pathogens including Ash Dieback (*Hymenoscyphus fraxineus*) and *Phytophthora ramorum*, and is located adjacent to semi-natural ancient woodland), with natural regeneration of vegetation, with its lower bio-security risks, favoured over introduced new planting and seeding.

8.15 **Construction**

This should be programmed taking account of other major projects in the area in order to minimise disruption to the A2.

9 **Q: Do you have any feedback on this consultation – events, information provided, advertising, etc.?**

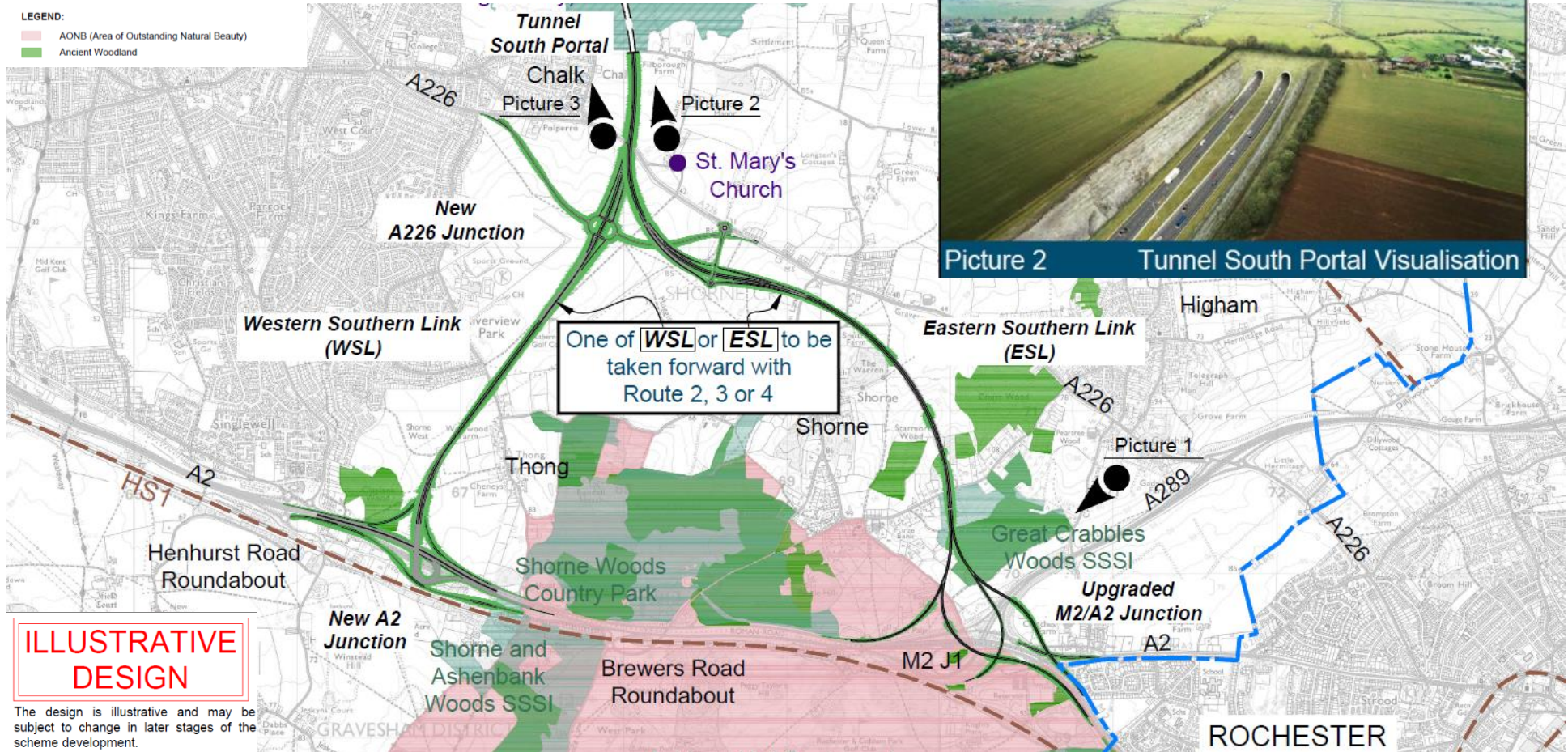
- 9.1 The consultation was launched on 26th January 2016 without prior stakeholder notification and in a considerably rushed and unexpected way. Hard copies of the Scheme Assessment Report were sent to KCC a week after launch, and hard copies of the appendices (including the detailed plans) were received a week after that. The duration of the consultation, being only 8 weeks long, is a short period of time.
- 9.2 Information that is particularly pertinent to members of the public on the proposed routes, such as that relating to property blight, only became available online two weeks after the consultation had commenced. This is unacceptable and presumably unhelpful to the consultation because members of the public would have been able to submit a response before they had the full information available.
- 9.3 Of substantial concern to KCC is that a range of technical information that would have been helpful in assessing the impacts of the proposed scheme and route options is not available; and on requesting this information from HE it has still not been forthcoming. Traffic volumes on key local links have also not been published despite these being of known importance to KCC and other stakeholders. For example, it is stated that the C Variant (upgrades to the A229) has been rejected from further investigation because it has been

shown not to affect route choice between the Dartford Crossing and the LTC but the parameters used in the modelling are not known, including how the junctions and congestion at either end have been modelled. Similarly, the forecast traffic increases on the A229 Bluebell Hill have not been made explicit; rather the traffic volume data for both the M2 and M20 has been shown as links starting at the junctions with the A228. Therefore, increases in traffic on the A229 can only be inferred from this information.

- 9.4 Finally, it has been evident from meeting with members of the public and receiving many letters on the LTC consultation that there has been a general lack of understanding about what is being consulted on. This includes confusion with the route as proposed in 2013. Further, there has been substantial press coverage on the Transport Minister Andrew Jones confirming that Option A (extra capacity at Dartford) is still an option the Government will consider in making a final route decision. However, this directly contradicts the strong position in the HE consultation materials that denounce Dartford as unviable. This has been misleading.

Appendix D – Extract from Highways England consultation maps of the Western Southern Link and Eastern Southern Link

LEGEND:
■ AONB (Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty)
■ Ancient Woodland



ILLUSTRATIVE DESIGN

The design is illustrative and may be subject to change in later stages of the scheme development.

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By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Agenda Item 9

Document is Restricted

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