

CREATING OPPORTUNITIES AND TACKLING INEQUALITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM NO. 6
14 NOVEMBER 2016	PUBLIC REPORT

Report of the Corporate Director People and Communities		
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ADDENDUM TO THE SCHOOL ORGANISATION PLAN (2015-2020)

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this Addendum is to update the committee further to the School Organisation Plan (2015-2020) which was published in December 2015. This Addendum to the School Organisation Plan (2015-2020) describes the 2016 position with regard to school place planning and demography and proposals for expansion of primary and secondary schools.
- 1.2 The School Organisation Plan (2015-2020) was considered by the scrutiny committee in September 2015 and then published in December 2015.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to:
 1. Consider the draft Addendum, ask for any further information or clarification; and
 2. Recommend the proposals to take forward to Cabinet for agreement and publication.

3. LINKS TO THE CORPORATE PRIORITIES AND RELEVANT CABINET PORTFOLIO

- 3.1 Improve educational attainment and skills
Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and University.

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The production of a School Organisation Plan was previously a statutory requirement for Local Authorities to produce to outline how they meet their legal requirement to provide school places. Given the high profile nature of meeting this requirement in Peterborough, this document was revived to support the planning and transparency of school places in Peterborough and a new and comprehensive SOP (2015-2020) was published after approval by Cabinet in December 2015.
- 4.2 This addendum to the SOP (2015-2020) provides an update for members and Council as a result of continued demand for school places in the City during the last year and describes present assumptions and proposals for the expansion of primary and secondary schools.

5. KEY ISSUES

- 5.1 The addendum to the School Organisation Plan (2015-2020) is outlined in appendix 1.
- 5.2 The pressure for the authority in the secondary sector is as a result of increases in pupil numbers

from primary schools which are beginning to work their way through into the secondary sector. Proposals are in place for dealing with some of the increase but it should be noted that assessment is ongoing and that further expansion proposals will also be required and these are presently being considered.

- 5.3 Although the recent expansions of primary schools has provided a significant increase to the Published Admission Number and that some further capacity will be required, the key issue to note in the primary sector is that ongoing In Year demand for school places is providing the greatest pressure. If volumes continue at present rates then bulge years will have to be considered and this often involves the installation of mobile classrooms.
- 5.4 During the summer holidays of 2016, 600 In Year applications were made for a school place. Of these 56% were new to Peterborough (ie from overseas or other parts of the UK). Schools notified the Council of 250 children who left their school during the summer holidays.
- 5.5 Another key pressure remains around funding. The council received £6.9m in Basic Need funding for 2017-2018 and early this year was allocated a further £14.7m for 2018-2019. Early in 2017 the Council will be notified of its Basic Need funding allocation for 2019-2020 but to deliver our proposals in full a bid will be put forward as part of the 2017-2018 budget proposals to support the ongoing needs for school places.

6. IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The School Organisation Plan (2015-2020) outlined the application of the capital programme for schools to meet growth. Individual decisions on schemes will be covered through the cabinet member decision notice. The School Organisation Plan (2015-2020) set out the City Council's strategy for managing the school estate and delivering school places during this period. This Addendum sets out the situation as at September 2016.

7. CONSULTATION

- 7.1 The School Organisation Plan (2015-2020) was developed to be regarded as a fluid document which is updated when new information is forthcoming and to be updated annually to reflect and new challenges and how pressures are being met. The purpose of the Addendum is to provide that updated information.
- 7.2 Primary school and secondary school head-teachers were briefed on 6 October 2016 and 20 September 2016 respectively explaining to them the latest demographic data, demand for school places and specific areas of challenge.
- 7.3 The People and Communities Extended Departmental Management Team were similarly briefed on 15 September 2016.

8. NEXT STEPS

- 8.1 Following feedback from the committee, the 2016 Addendum to the Schools Organisation Plan (2015-2020) will be finalised and taken to Cabinet for final agreement.
- 8.2 An Addendum will again be produced in 2017.

9. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

10. APPENDICES

- 10.1 Appendix 1 - School Organisation Plan (2015 -2020)
Appendix 2 - Addendum to School Organisation Plan 2016