

Contains Confidential or Exempt Information	No – Part I
Title	Expansion of Secondary Sector Provision
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Member reporting	Cllr Phillip Bicknell Lead Member Children's Services
For Consideration By	Cabinet
Date to be Considered	17 December 2014
Implementation Date if Not Called In	1 January 2015
Affected Wards	All wards
Keywords/Index	School Expansion, Secondary, Middle, Upper

REPORT SUMMARY

1. Our ambition is to ensure that all our children and young people have the opportunity to access a first class, high-quality education to support them achieving their potential. This report focuses on meeting the local authority's statutory responsibility to secure sufficient school places for residents under Section 14, Education Act 1996.
2. This report builds on the previous four reports on secondary sector expansion and summarises the outcome of consultation carried out in Autumn 2014 on proposals to expand secondary sector provision to meet forecast rising demand. There is support for the proposed first phase of expansion of secondary sector provision, at Charters School, Dedworth Middle School, Furze Platt Senior School and at the Windsor Learning Partnership, a proposed Multi-Academy Trust (MAT) consisting of The Windsor Boys' School and Windsor Girls' School. This report recommends that these expansions be approved. A new proposal, that Holyport College be expanded, has also been submitted.
3. There is also support for further work to be carried out on options for the second phase of the programme, including investigating new schools, further expansions at existing schools and a satellite grammar school. This report recommends that these options are now investigated with a report for consideration by Cabinet in September 2015.

If recommendations are adopted, how will residents benefit?

Benefits to residents and reasons why they will benefit	Dates by which they can expect to notice difference
Sufficient, diverse, school places in the Borough.	September 2017

1. DETAILS OF RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATIONS: That Cabinet:

- i) Notes the outcome of the consultation on the expansion of secondary sector provision in the Royal Borough.**
- ii) Approves, in principle, the expansion of secondary school places at the following schools, subject to recommendations iv, v and vi as follows:**
 - Up to 60 extra places per year group at Furze Platt Senior School, starting with Year 7 from September 2016. This would increase the Published Admission Number (PAN) from 193 to 253.**
 - Up to 100 extra places per year group across the Windsor Learning Partnership (The Windsor Boys' School and Windsor Girls' School) and Holypore College, starting with Year 9 from September 2016. This would increase the number of available Year 9 places from 408 to 508.**
 - Up to 30 extra places per year group at Charters School, starting with Year 7 from September 2017. This would increase the PAN from 240 to 270. This is subject to a review of the likely impact of changes to the school's admissions policy, recently proposed by the school.**
 - Up to 50 further extra places per year group across the Maidenhead secondary schools (Altwood Church of England Secondary School, Cox Green School, Desborough College, Holypore College and/or Newlands Girls' School), starting with Year 7 from September 2017. This (together with the Furze Platt expansion) would increase the number of available Year 7 places from 894 to 1,004.**
 - Up to 60 extra places per year group at Dedworth Middle School, starting with Year 5 from September 2017. This would increase the PAN from 120 to 180.**
- iii) Approves the publication of proposals in relation to Dedworth Middle School, and delegates authority to the Lead Member for Children's Service and the Director of Children's Services to agree the proposal after the end of the four week statutory notice period, having considered the outcome of the consultation.**
- iv) Requests that officers agree affordable schemes with each school approved for expansion, with individual scheme budgets to be approved via the borough's capital programme.**
- v) Requests that the Director of Children's Services writes to the academy schools in the programme to ask them to seek approval for their expansion from the Secretary of State for Education.**
- vi) Delegates authority to the Lead Member for Children's Services and the Director of Children's Services to remove a school from the expansion programme that, prior to going out to tender, no longer meets the agreed criteria:**

- **Good/Outstanding Ofsted.**
 - **At or above national attainment.**
 - **Consistently oversubscribed on 1st preferences.**
 - **Realistic prospect to accommodate expansion.**
 - **Capital – value for money per place**
- vii) **Notes that the demand for secondary sector school places may change, and delegates authority to the Lead Member for Children's Services and the Director of Children's Services to vary the implementation dates of the above proposals where necessary.**
- viii) **Requests a report to Cabinet in September 2015 on further options for providing secondary school places (new schools, more expansion at existing schools and satellite grammar schools), and approves that additional human resources be employed to help carry out this task and associated implementation work for the expansion programme.**
- ix) **Supports, in principle, proposals for all-through provision in the borough, which may require further consultation if specific schemes are brought forward.**
- x) **Supports, in principle, proposals for multi-academy trusts from successful local schools and/or high-quality external providers.**
- xi) **Supports recent initiatives, such as the Alliance Technical Academy in Windsor, to improve collaboration between schools and with further education colleges and other providers to improve performance at Key Stage 5 and to maximise the range of courses and qualifications available for 14-19 year olds in the borough, and notes that the requested report on A level results and sixth form attainment in RBWM schools will come to Cabinet in January 2015.**

2.1 The above recommendations result in a phased programme as shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Summary and phasing of expansion proposals

Phase 1 – from September 2016			
Maidenhead	Starting Year 7	+60 places per year group	Furze Platt Senior School
Windsor	Starting Year 9	+100 places per year group	Windsor Learning Partnership/Holyport College
Phase 2 – from September 2017			
Ascot	Starting Year 7	+30 places per year group	Charters School
Maidenhead	Starting Year 7	+50 places per year group	Across the six Maidenhead secondary schools
Windsor	Starting Year 5	+60 places per year group	Dedworth Middle School
Phase 3 – from September 2018			
Options to be considered, including satellite grammars, new school, further expansion of existing schools.			

Note: this phasing is now different to that set out in the consultation document (see paragraph 2.7).

2. REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS AND OPTIONS CONSIDERED

Background

2.2 This report is a continuation on the four previous Cabinet reports on the expansion of secondary sector provision: March 2013; November 2013; March 2014 and July 2014. See Appendix 1 for all recommendations from the previous reports.

- March 2013 Identified the demand for new school places over a 10 year period from 2013 and agreed initial work on options.
- November 2013 Agreed three strands of work: engaging national expertise; working with local schools/colleges; and consultation with residents.
- March 2014 Agreed seven options for further investigation.
- July 2014 Agreed public consultation on five options in Autumn 2014. Further work on other options to be undertaken in time for consideration in September 2015. This report is included as Appendix 2 to this report.

2.3 The main body of this report:

- Summarises the need for new secondary school places.
- Summarises the agenda for improving provision for 14-19 year olds in RBWM.
- Lists the options consulted upon.
- Describes the Autumn 2014 consultation process.
- Details the outcome of the consultation.
- Summarises progress on feasibility works for the expansion projects.
- Outlines the proposed next steps.

Need for New Secondary Sector Provision

2.4 The previous Cabinet reports have set out projections of future demand for secondary, middle and upper schools in the borough. A new set of projections will be completed in early 2015, based on the latest demographic and housing data. Early analysis of the latest demographic data, however, suggests that the previously provided projections are still valid, see Table 2. These projections include demand from out-borough.

2.5 The expansion in Ascot is being proposed for the later date, 2017, because some of the demand will be from out-borough and because, historically, the school has been able to take a few additional children, up to 10, in Year 7. The Published Admission Number (PAN) at Charters is currently 240, and the places are historically filled from the five primary schools in Ascot (136 children) and the two Bracknell Forest feeder primary schools (90 children). The remaining children tend to be residents of the borough who are transferring out of the private sector. Charters generally takes over its PAN, for instance 246 into Year 7 in 2013/14, 246 in 2011/12 and 243 in 2010/11. Demand for places at the school could be higher than forecast in Table 2, if, as expected, significant housing growth occurs locally.

2.6 Charters School have, on the 15th December 2014, published a consultation on proposed changes to their admissions arrangements which, if agreed, would come into operation in September 2016. The borough will now need to investigate what the changes, listed below, would mean for future demand:

- The removal of the “feeder primary school” category of admission
- The removal of the “preference for co-educational provision” category of admission
- The redefinition of the term “sibling” to ensure that there will be at least one year of “overlap” between a child attending the school and a sibling applying for a place.
- The inclusion of a “children of staff” category of admission, positioned as criterion 3 in the list of over-subscription criteria.

Table 2: Projected shortfalls for secondary sector places (2013 based forecasts)

a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	
Intake Year (September)									
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023

Ascot Secondary

Available Year 7 places	240	240	240	240	240	240	240	240	240
Forecast Year 7 demand	257	251	255	257	268	249	252	249	254
Shortfall of Year 7 places	-17	-11	-15	-17	-28	-9	-12	-9	-14
Places needed for 10% surplus at Year 7	283	276	281	283	295	274	277	274	279
Shortfall for 10% surplus	-43	-36	-41	-43	-55	-34	-37	-34	-39
2017/18 1FE – 30 places	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing deficit, but Borough children can be accommodated except in 2019, when there is a bulge in demand from Ascot E.g. in 2015, only 3 of the -17 deficit are borough residents. Peak projected deficit is 28 Year 7 places (1 FE) in 2019. 								

Maidenhead Secondary

Available Year 7 places	894	894	894	894	894	894	894	894	894
Forecast Year 7 demand	797	824	901	954	980	999	956	953	961
Shortfall of Year 7 places	+97	+70	-7	-60	-86	-105	-65	-59	-67
Places needed for 10% surplus at Year 7	877	906	991	1049	1078	1099	1052	1048	1057
Shortfall for 10% surplus	+17	-12	-97	-155	-184	-205	-158	-154	-163
2016/17 2FE - 60 places 2017/18 1.6 FE - 50 places	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Small shortage in 2017, which could possibly be met within current accommodation. Significant shortfalls (2 FE +) from 2018+. Projected deficit is 105 Year 7 places (4 FE) in 2020. 								

Windsor Middle

Available Year 5 places	450	450	450	450	450	450	450	450	450
Forecast Year 5 demand	445	457	451	484	498	473	476	n/a	n/a
Shortfall of Year 5 places	+5	-7	-1	-34	-48	-23	-26	n/a	n/a
Places needed for 10% surplus at Year 5	490	503	496	532	548	520	524	n/a	n/a
Shortfall for 10% surplus	-40	-53	-46	-82	-98	-70	-74	n/a	n/a
2017/18 2FE – 60 places	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shortfall expected from 2016+, becoming large in 2018 (1 FE+). 2016 and 2017 shortages could be met within current buildings. Only a few places available in 2015. Peak projected deficit is 48 Year 5 places (1.6 FE) in 2019 								

a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	I
Intake Year (September)								
2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023

Windsor Upper

Available Year 9 places	408	408	408	408	408	408	408	408	408
Forecast Year 9 demand	413	387	468	435	467	478	471	504	518
Shortfall of Year 9 places	-5	+21	-60	-27	-59	-70	-63	-96	-110
Places needed for 10% surplus at Year 9	454	426	515	479	514	526	518	554	570
Shortfall for 10% surplus	-46	-18	-107	-71	-106	-118	-110	-146	-162
2016/17 3.4FE - 100 places	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Significant shortfalls expected from 2017+ (2 FE+). A small deficit of places in 2015. Peak projected deficit is 110 Year 9 places (3.7 FE) in 2023 								

Total of all the shortfalls (excluding surpluses in other areas)	-22	-18	-83	-138	-221	-207	-166	-164	-191
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Note: shaded boxes in Table 2 mark the points at which it is proposed expansion should occur.

Note: forecasts for secondary school places take account of numbers transferring from primary sector schools, new housing and movement into the borough.

- 2.7 This report recommends that the expansions, that Cabinet agreed to consult on in July, are brought forward for earlier implementation. The purpose of bringing the expansions forward is to create a surplus of places of up to 10% in Windsor and Maidenhead to ensure parental choice. The aim of providing 10% surplus places is not being applied to Ascot because this could serve to bring in more out-borough children. This also means that the phasing of the programme is now different to that proposed in the public consultation.
- 2.8 The Royal Borough is currently preparing its Borough Local Plan, which will set the long-term strategy for managing development and supporting infrastructure in the Borough up until 2029/30. The plan is under development, with consultation due in early 2015, but it is clear that there is the potential for a significant increase in the rate of new house-building in the borough, affecting the demand for new school places. Children's Services is working closely with the planning team to identify the likely impact of the Borough Local Plan, so that new school places can be provided when and where appropriate.

Improving the performance/attainment of young people at Key Stage 4 and 5

- 2.9 Overall pupil attainment in RBWM schools is above the national averages in every Key Stage except Key Stage 5. A key driver, therefore, of the expansion programme is to ensure that standards are raised so that all our children and young people have the opportunity to access a first class, high-quality education to support them in achieving their potential.
- 2.10 As set out in the report to Cabinet in July, school and college leaders already are working together to attain sustainable improvement in progress and attainment at all key stages. They have an ambition that all education providers are judged at least Good by Ofsted and that many move to be Outstanding. All schools have robust improvement plans in place and are committed to enhancing existing levels of collaboration in order to secure education improvement. This work continues at all

schools, whether or not they are candidates for expansion.

2.11 The report to Cabinet in July 2014 stated that any expansions should only occur at schools that are:

- Good/Outstanding as rated by Ofsted.
- At or above national attainment at:
 - Key Stage 2 for middle schools.
 - Key Stage 4 for secondary/upper schools.
- Consistently oversubscribed on preferences.

2.12 This approach is re-affirmed in the proposed recommendations in this report, with two additional criteria added, as in Table 3:

- Realistic prospect to accommodate expansion.
- Capital – value for money per place

Table 3: RBWM schools assessed against the criteria (December 2014)

	Ofsted Rating	Attainment RBWM % KS2/4 2014 (Nat. %)	Oversubscribed on 1 st preferences (September 2014)		Capacity of site	Capital cost and value
			Places	1 st prefs.		
Altwood	Requires Improvement (May 2013)	No 50 (58)	150	82	To be assessed.	To be confirmed as detailed schemes are developed with schools.
Charters	Outstanding (Nov. 2009)	Yes 81 (58)	240	300		
Churchmead	Requires Improvement (Dec. 2013)	No 44 (58)	140	26		
Cox Green	Requires Improvement (April 2013)	Yes 68 (58)	176	159		
Dedworth Middle	Good (Feb. 2013)	No 77 (78)	120	139		
Desborough College	Good (Sept. 2014)	No 55 (58)	189	80		
Furze Platt	Good (Mar. 2010)	Yes 66 (58)	193	219		
Holyport College	n/a	n/a	Yr 7	40	122	
			Yr 9	44	121	
Newlands Girls'	Good (Oct. 2012)	Yes 74 (58)	186	231		
St Edward's RFE	Good (Jun. 2013)	Yes 82 (78)	120	150		

	Ofsted Rating	Attainment RBWM % KS2/4 2013 (Nat. %)	Oversubscribed on 1 st preferences (September 2014)		Capacity of site	Capital cost and value
			Places	1 st prefs.		
St Peter's	Inadequate (Nov. 2013)	No 71 (78)	60	67	To be assessed.	To be confirmed as detailed schemes are developed with schools.
The Windsor Boys'	Requires Improvement (May 2013)	No 56 (58)	230	202		
Trevelyan	Requires Improvement (Jan. 2013)	Yes 81 (78)	150	78		
Windsor Girls'	Outstanding (May 2013)	Yes 69 (58)	178	173		

- 2.13 It is proposed that schools considered for expansion should be reviewed against these criteria prior to any building scheme being put out to tender.
- 2.14 Cabinet in July also considered other ways to improve pupil attainment alongside new school expansions, including the provision of wider range of subjects and qualifications for 14-19 year olds, with more technical qualifications and apprenticeships. This will be delivered through improved collaboration between schools and with the further education colleges and other providers. One recently developed scheme, the Alliance Technical Academy, is now up and running, so that pupils at Windsor Girls' and The Windsor Boys' School can access courses run by East Berkshire College at their Windsor site, whilst continuing to be taught by their upper school.

- 2.15 Cabinet in July requested a paper for November 2014 which focused on pupil attainment at Key Stage 5 in the borough. This paper is now due in January 2015, so that the latest available local and national post-16 school performance data is considered.

Options for Consultation

- 2.16 In July 2014 Cabinet approved consultation on schools for expansion and further work on a number of options, included in Appendix 1. For the public consultation documentation, the options were re-numbered and re-worded slightly for easier understanding. This report uses the revised wording, as set out in Table 4.
- 2.17 In order to retain flexibility for future years, the consultation concentrated on the initial set of expansions needed for September 2017 and options for September 2018 and 2019. Options for September 2020 and beyond have not, however, yet been developed.
- 2.18 Cabinet did, in July, reject consultation on the option of opening a sixth form college in the borough as a way of providing secondary sector places. This would have offered A-levels and equivalent qualifications to 16-19 year olds across the borough. Investigations, however, identified that a financially viable college with a wide-ranging curriculum would need a minimum size of 1,800 pupils. This is only slightly less than the total number of sixth formers in all of the borough's schools, and so it is unlikely that such a college would be viable.

Table 4: Proposals in the Autumn 2014 public consultation**Up to September 2017**

	Ascot	Maidenhead	Windsor	
Proposal 1	N/A	Expand Furze Platt Senior School by 60 places per year group (from 193 to 253), starting with Year 7 in September 2017.	1a	Expand The Windsor Boys School by 60 places per year group (from 230 to 260), starting with Year 9 in September 2017. Or
			1b	Expand Windsor Girls' School by 60 places per year group (from 178 to 238), starting with Year 9 in September 2017. Or
			1c	Expand both schools by a total of 60 places between them, starting with Year 9 in September 2017.
Proposal 2	Further develop and expand provision for young people aged 16 to 19 years old.			

September 2018 to September 2019

	Ascot	Maidenhead	Windsor
Proposal 3a	Expand Charters School by 30 places per year group (from 240 to 270), starting with Year 7 in September 2019.	Expand other secondary schools in Maidenhead, to be determined.	Expand Dedworth Middle School by 60 places per year group (from 120 to 180), starting with Year 5 in September 2018.
Proposal 3b	Investigate the option of opening new schools to provide more places.		
Proposal 3c	Investigate the option of opening a satellite grammar school site to provide more places.		

Other supporting proposals

	Ascot	Maidenhead	Windsor
Proposal 4	Support proposals for all-through schools.		
Proposal 5	Support proposals for Multi-Academy Trusts.		
Proposal 6	Promote increased collaboration between schools and with the colleges.		

Public Consultation

2.19 A six week public consultation on the proposals set out in Table 4 began on Monday 22nd September 2014 and ended on Monday 3rd November 2014. Three consultation documents were produced: one for Ascot, one for Maidenhead and one for Windsor, including Datchet and Wraysbury, see Appendices 3, 4 and 5.

2.20 Consultation documents were distributed to:

- The 15,500 families of the 21,000 children & young people on roll at all of the borough's primary and secondary sector schools.
- 650 residents in the vicinity of schools named in the consultation
- Governors and staff at all the borough's schools.
- Neighbouring local authorities.
- Independent schools
- Parish councils
- The local MPs
- Unions and professional associations
- The Diocesan Boards of Education
- Grammar schools headteachers in neighbouring local authority areas, for their comment

2.21 Each school was asked how it would prefer to distribute the consultation document, electronically or in hard copy. As a result, most consultation forms were sent out electronically by schools, either directly by email to parents or by putting the document on the school website. Approximately 4,000 copies of the consultation documents were printed for those schools preferring to use hard copies. Schools were chased to ensure that the documents were distributed. Parents and others were invited to respond using the online response forms on the borough website. It is estimated that around 18,500 consultation documents were distributed, discounting documents sent twice, or more, to families via siblings.

2.22 The consultation documentation was made available on the borough's website, and a press release was also published.

2.23 396 responses have been received: 101 from Ascot, 165 from Maidenhead and 130 from Windsor. This represents a response rate of 2%. This provides a statistically significant response rate.

The Responses

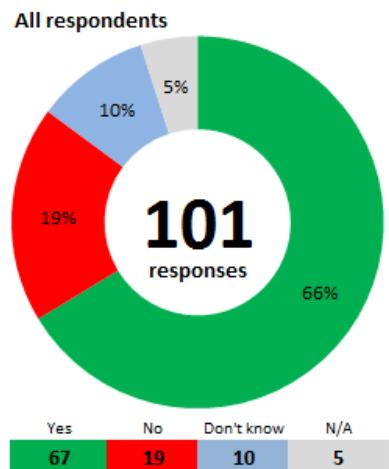
2.24 Broadly, there is support for all of the expansionary proposals, with (proportionally) the most popular being expansion of both upper schools and the least popular the expansion of just The Windsor Boy's School. Table 5 summarises the responses, with more detail given in Appendix 6.

2.25 The public response demonstrates support for all-through schools and multi-academy trusts, although neither proposal achieved a favourable majority. There is, however, relatively good support for more collaboration between schools and with the colleges.

Table 5: Summary of outcome of consultation

Proposal	For Sept:	Total No.	Yes		No		Don't Know		Not Indicated		
			No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
Expand Furze Platt Senior	2017	165	100	61	36	22	25	15	4	2	
Expand The Windsor Boys	2017	130	34	26	71	55	12	9	13	10	
Expand Windsor Girls	2017	130	37	29	68	52	12	9	13	10	
Expand both upper schools	2017	130	94	72	17	13	12	9	7	6	
Expand other Maidenhead Secondaries	2018+	165	115	70	22	13	24	15	4	2	
Expand Dedworth Middle	2018	130	60	46	25	19	36	28	9	7	
Expand Charters	2019	101	67	66	19	19	10	10	5	5	
Investigate new schools/satellite grammar		396	265	67	78	20	36	9	17	4	
Improved provision for 16-19 year olds			For this proposal, respondents were asked to suggest courses and qualifications that should be available for 16-19 year olds locally. A wide range of suggestions were made.								
Supporting proposals											
Support all-through proposals		396	163	41	132	33	83	21	18	5	
Support MAT proposals		396	172	43	93	23	113	29	18	5	
More collaboration between providers			For this proposal, views were sought on more collaboration between schools and with the colleges. 179 (75.5%) of 237 respondents who commented said that more collaboration was 'a good thing'.								

Responses to the proposed expansion of Charters School



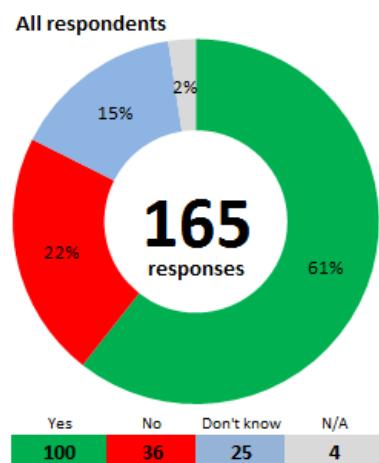
- 66% of Ascot respondents in favour of expansion.
- Respondents query whether expansion is soon enough.
- Respondents ask whether the school will become too large.
- Impact of Bracknell Forest proposal to expand Ascot Heath Junior to be assessed.

Diagram 1: Responses on expanding Charters

- 2.26 Two-thirds of the 101 Ascot respondents support the expansion of Charters School so that it takes an extra 30 children into Year 7, starting in September 2019. A fifth of respondents are against the expansion.
- 2.27 29 of the 101 responses received are from parents (25), staff (2), governors (1) and others (1) at Charters School, again mostly in favour, with 69% for and 14% against.
- 2.28 A wide range of issues have been raised. In particular, respondents feel that the borough must provide school places to meet demand, with some suggesting that an earlier expansion, i.e. in September 2015, is needed. The forecast demand for places is challenged, and attention drawn to the fact that substantial numbers of new houses could be built in the Ascot area. Some respondents suggest that demand could be met by reducing the number of out-borough residents on roll at the school.
- 2.29 Some respondents state that expansion could lead to the school becoming too large, which would in turn affect standards of education at the school. This could lead to the school losing its 'outstanding' Ofsted rating and/or increased class sizes.
- 2.30 Other respondents feel that, as a successful and popular school, Charters should expand in order to benefit more children. Expansion would be more cost-effective, it is suggested, than opening a new school, although the school would need new facilities to match the higher number of pupils on roll.
- 2.31 During the consultation period, plans to expand Ascot Heath Infant and Junior Schools were revealed by Bracknell Forest Borough Council. Both schools are located in Bracknell Forest, but they do specifically serve North Ascot, part of which lies within the Royal Borough. At the junior school, it is proposed that the number admitted to each year group will increase from 60 to 90, starting in September 2016.
- 2.32 Ascot Heath Church of England Junior School is a feeder school for Charters, which means that children attending do have some priority for places at Charters. In the past, approximately 80% of the children at Ascot Heath Junior in Year 6 have transferred to Charters. An increase to 90 places could therefore increase the demand for places at Charters by around 20 places each year.
- 2.33 Responses from parents of children at the Ascot Heath schools indicate a fear that Ascot Heath's feeder school status for Charters could be removed when the academy next reviews its admissions arrangements.

2.34 A decision on the proposed expansion of Ascot Heath Infant and Junior Schools is not expected until mid-2015 and further work is now required to assess the potential impact of this proposal.

Responses to the proposed expansion of Furze Platt Senior School



- 61% of Maidenhead respondents in favour of expansion.
- Respondents ask whether the school will become too large.

Diagram 2: Responses on expanding Furze Platt Senior

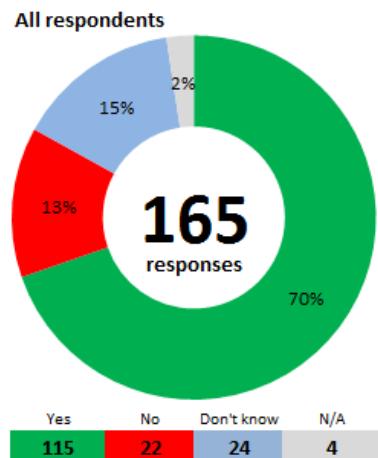
2.35 Just under two-thirds of the 165 Maidenhead respondents support the expansion of Furze Platt Senior School so that it takes an extra 60 children into Year 7, starting in September 2017. A fifth of respondents are against the expansion.

2.36 32 of the 165 responses received are from parents (29), staff (1), governors (1) and others (1) at Furze Platt Senior School, again mostly in favour, with 72% for and 19% against.

2.37 A wide range of issues have been raised. There is some opposition to increasing the size of Furze Platt Senior School, which is already the largest in Maidenhead. An increase in size is seen as possibly impacting negatively on standards, increasing class sizes and reducing the ability of the school to focus on individual students. It could, it is felt, also increase the strain on local roads. There is some concern about the location of the school, on the northern edge of Maidenhead, compared to the main residential areas.

2.38 Other respondents feel that Furze Platt Senior School should expand because it is successful and popular, and the borough has a duty to meet the demand for places. It is noted that the school has a large site, but will need additional facilities for the extra pupils.

Responses to the proposed expansion of other secondary schools in Maidenhead

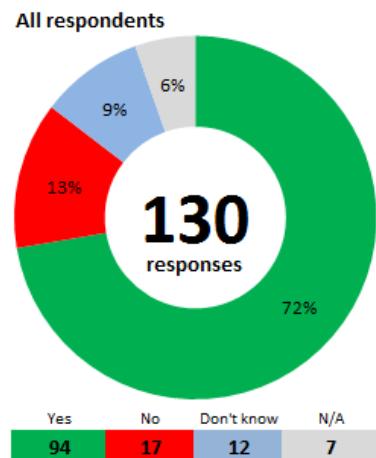


- 70% of Maidenhead respondents in favour of further expansion at other schools.
- Respondents say that expansion should happen at successful & popular schools.
- Holyport College to be considered for expansion.

Diagram 3: Responses on expanding other Maidenhead schools

- 2.39 The consultation document asked whether we should also expand other schools in Maidenhead to meet the demand for further growth of 30 Year 7 places in 2018 and another 30 Year 7 places in 2019. This was asked to reduce the need for further area-wide future consultation.
- 2.40 Close to three-quarters of the 165 Maidenhead respondents are in favour of expansion at other secondary schools in the town. 13% of respondents oppose expansion.
- 2.41 23 of the 165 responses received are parents (20), staff (1), governors (1) and others (1) at one of the other five secondary schools in the town, i.e. Altwood, Cox Green, Desborough, Holyport College and Newlands Girls'.
- 2.42 Respondents are in favour of spreading the expansion across several schools, and of there being a wide choice of schools for children to attend. Schools selected for expansion should be in line with the criteria: Good/Outstanding; above or at national attainment and oversubscribed. The borough should be ensuring that all schools meet these criteria. Other respondents note that expansion at existing schools is more cost-effective than building new schools.
- 2.43 Some respondents are concerned that expansion will make schools too large, which could impact on standards, increase class sizes and result in issues with traffic and parking.
- 2.44 Holyport College have submitted a response requesting that the school be considered for expansion, so that they offer an additional 20 places at Year 7 and an additional 40 places at Year 9. This would allow the school to offer places to a greater proportion of the children applying for places.

Responses to the proposed expansion of upper schools in Windsor

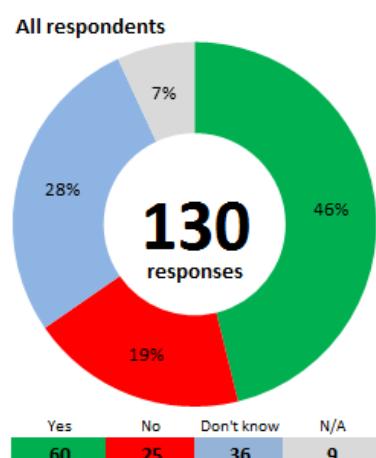


- 72% of Windsor respondents favour expansion at both upper schools.
- 55% are against all 60 places being provided at The Windsor Boys' School.
- 52% are against all 60 places being provided at Windsor Girls' School.
- Respondents say that places should be provided for both boys and girls.
- Respondents have concerns about the space available on the sites for expansion.

Diagram 4: Responses on expanding both upper schools

- 2.45 Three questions were asked in relation to expansion at the Windsor upper schools: whether the borough should expand The Windsor Boys' School, Windsor Girls' School or both schools. There are, amongst the 130 Windsor respondents, clear majorities against expansion at just the Windsor Boys' School or just at Windsor Girls' School and for expansion at both schools.
- 2.46 37 of the 130 responses received are from parents (36) or staff (1) at one of the two upper schools, and 62% of these are in favour of expanding both upper schools.
- 2.47 In the comments, respondents make clear that both schools should expand, so that the needs of both boys and girls are met, and so that both schools benefit from new facilities. Respondents feel that the borough should expand school places to meet demand.
- 2.48 Respondents against expansion refer to a need for co-educational upper school places and a need for a wider choice of schools. There is concern about the limited sites and poor condition buildings, particularly at the boys' school, and opposition to larger schools. It is suggested that places could be made available by admitting fewer out-borough children into the upper schools.
- 2.49 10 respondents suggest that the three-tier system in Windsor should be abolished.

Responses to the proposed expansion of Dedworth Middle School



- 46% of Windsor respondents favour expansion.
- Respondents have concerns about the school becoming too large.

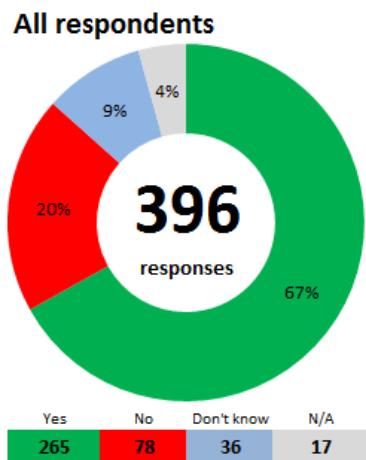
Diagram 5: Responses on expanding Dedworth Middle

- 2.50 Just under half of the 130 Windsor respondents support the expansion of Dedworth Middle School so that it takes an extra 60 children into Year 5, starting in September

2018. A fifth of respondents are against the expansion. The proportion of 'Don't know's' (28%) is relatively high, compared with responses to the other proposals.

- 2.51 13 of the 130 responses received are from parents (12) and governors (1) at Dedworth Middle School, and these are overwhelmingly in favour (84% for/8% against).
- 2.52 Some respondents oppose expansion at Dedworth Middle School because it would become too large, potentially affecting standards and resulting in a cramped site. A very small number of the respondents also expressed concern at expanding a school that is, they state, unsuccessful and unpopular (*Note: Dedworth Middle has a 'Good' Ofsted and Key Stage 2 attainment was at the national average in 2013*).
- 2.53 Conversely, some respondents support the expansion of the school as a popular and successful school with enough space to expand and excellent facilities.

Responses to the proposed investigation of new schools and satellite grammar sites



- 67% of respondents favour investigation of new school and satellite grammar options.
- Comments from respondents are strongly in favour of new schools.
- Comments from respondents are split with regard to satellite grammars.

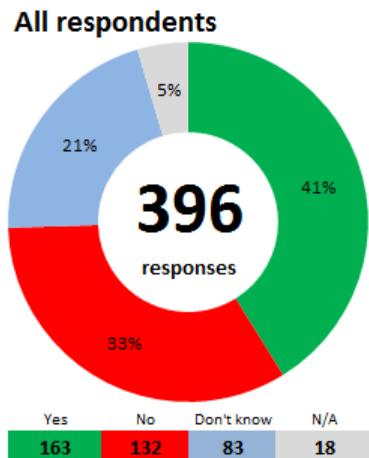
Diagram 6: Responses on investigating further options

- 2.54 67% of the 396 respondents to the consultation agree that the borough should continue to investigate other options for providing school places, including new schools and satellite grammar schools. This support is similar in Ascot (68%), Maidenhead (65%) and Windsor (69%).
- 2.55 The consultation did not request responses specifically in favour of new schools or satellite grammar schools, but the support for each option can be assessed by examining the balance of favourable and unfavourable comments.
- 2.56 Almost all of the respondents commenting on the prospect of new schools are favourable, with 83 in favour and 10 against. This is reflected across Ascot, Maidenhead and Windsor. Issues raised in relation to new schools include a demand for Catholic secondary school provision in Maidenhead, questions over the potential site(s) and a request that new schools should not be built on the green belt.
- 2.57 Opinion on satellite grammar schools is much more evenly divided, with 56 comments in favour and 47 against. This balance of support is reflected in Maidenhead (36 for /26 against) and Windsor (16 for/12 against), and reversed in Ascot, where more respondents commented unfavourably (4 for/12 against).
- 2.58 Some respondents commenting on the possibility of satellite grammar schools in the borough stated that grammar schools would be a threat to the local comprehensive school system that would 'cream off' the brightest children. This would not be of benefit to the wider community. Respondents state that the 11+ is unfair, particularly

because not all children benefit from extra tutoring. There is a concern that a grammar satellite option will not create as many new school places as other options, and that grammar provision is already available in neighbouring areas.

- 2.59 Other respondents state that there is a demand for grammar provision in the borough; that pupils should be able to attend this locally, rather than in other local authority areas, and that grammar schools allow for the challenge of more able pupils.

Responses to the proposed support for all-through schools



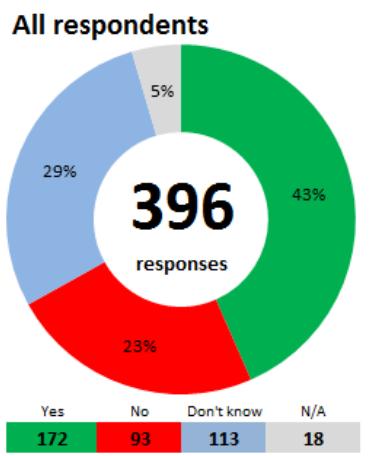
- 41% of respondents support, in principle, all-through schools.
- Respondents feel that a transition between schools is good experience for children.

Diagram 7: Responses on the principle of all-through schools

- 2.60 41% of the 396 respondents to the consultation agree that the borough should, in principle, support proposals for all-through schools. 33% opposed such support, with 21% 'Don't knows'. Support for this option is highest in Windsor (46% in favour) and lowest in Ascot (37% in favour).

- 2.61 The majority of the comments made in relation to all-through schools oppose their introduction. Respondents feel that the current transition from primary to secondary (or from first to middle to upper) provided a learning experience useful for adult life. There is also concern at the prospect of mixing younger children with teenagers in the same school, and that such a school would be too large. There was some recognition, however, that an all-through school would remove a transition period that some children find difficult.

Responses to the proposed support for Multi-Academy Trusts (MATs)



- 43% of respondents support, in principle, multi-academy trusts.
- Respondents note that MATs can secure sharing of good practice and reduced overhead costs.

Diagram 8: Responses on the principle of all-through schools

- 2.62 43% of the 396 respondents to the consultation agree that the borough should, in principle, support proposals for multi-academy trusts. 23% opposed such support, with 29% 'Don't knows'. This pattern is repeated across Ascot (39% support),

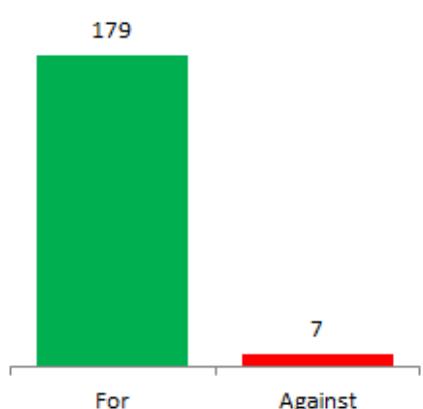
Maidenhead (45% support) and Windsor (44% support).

- 2.63 Respondents comment on the possibility of multi-academy trusts providing cost savings, encouraging the sharing of good practice and allowing schools to offer more subjects. There is a feeling that MATs will only succeed if they have strong leadership.
- 2.64 Other respondents are sceptical about multi-academy trusts, feeling that they could reduce choice and diversity between schools, whilst becoming too big and bureaucratic. Some respondents believe that they are an unnecessary distraction that reinvents local authority functions.

Responses to the proposed improved provision for 16 to 19 year olds

- Respondents support more vocational courses and apprenticeships.
- 2.65 This question asked what courses, both academic and vocational, should be offered for 16 to 19 year olds locally. Many respondents approve of offering more vocational courses and apprenticeships, to meet the needs of students and employers.
- 2.66 A wide range of courses have been suggested, with a particular focus on basic skills (English, Maths, life skills), trades (construction, electrics, plumbing), IT and Science/Technology (e.g. engineering).

Responses to the proposed increased collaboration



- Respondents are in favour of more collaboration between schools and with colleges.

Diagram 9: Comments made in relation to more collaboration

- 2.67 This question asked respondents for their thoughts on increased collaboration between schools and with colleges to improve provision for 14-19 year olds. 179 (75%) of the 237 respondents making a comment on this proposal were favourable to collaboration. Only 7 are against. The support for collaboration is spread across Ascot, Maidenhead and Windsor.
- 2.68 Respondents note that collaboration would allow students to access more subjects, including more specialised subjects that can't currently be offered. Respondents suggest that collaboration can offer cost savings, whilst improving teaching and learning through the sharing of good practice. It is felt that collaboration should also involve schools in the independent sector.
- 2.69 Concerns expressed about collaboration include the need to arrange effective transport for students attending different school and college sites for courses.

General points made

2.70 A number of general points have been made in response to the consultation. These are listed below, but are not addressed in this report:

- Too many new houses being built in the borough.
- Pupil forecasts are wrong.
- Not enough information provided about the proposals.

Responses from specific organisations and individuals

2.71 Theresa May, MP for Maidenhead has submitted a response with the following main points:

- Support for expansion at Furze Platt Senior School.
- A request to consider expansion at Desborough College.
- A request that the borough pursue the possibility of a new school in the town.
- A request that the borough further explore the satellite grammar option.

2.72 Kate Webb, Principal at East Berkshire College (EBC), has submitted a response with the following main points:

- The college plans to develop and expand Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) courses locally for 16-19 year olds and adult learners.
- Specialist facilities will be provided at Windsor College to enhance the STEM offer, for residents across the borough.
- Other partnerships (e.g. with the Firestation Arts Centre) continue to develop.
- These initiatives will create affordable, local and relevant further education.
- EBC would be interested in exploring collaboration through a multi-academy trust arrangement.
- The collaborative Technical Alliance Academy with local schools will continue to extend choice and range of courses for 14-19 year olds.
- Collaboration offers a way to save money whilst maximising opportunities for local residents.

2.73 Buckinghamshire County Council have responded with the following main points:

- Implementing the proposed later phases of expansion could lead to a high surplus of provision in Maidenhead.
- There may be some potential unmet demand for grammar school provision locally.
- A satellite grammar could have an impact on the viability of grammar schools within Buckinghamshire, particularly if overall demand starts to fall.
- Consideration will need to be given to a wide range of issues, including admissions arrangements, start-up and revenue costs and home to school transport.

2.74 These responses can be viewed at Appendix 7.

Feasibility works on proposals

2.75 In July 2014 Cabinet approved initial feasibility, design and development works in relation to the proposed expansions at Furze Platt Senior School, The Windsor Boys' School and Windsor Girls' School and Dedworth Middle School.

2.76 Preparation work has begun on designing a suitable expansion scheme for the first

three schools. Each school has taken the time to ensure that their long-term needs are being considered. This will mean that expansions should not just add additional classrooms but enable the efficient future operation of the schools as well. This may mean that schools will need expanded core facilities, infrastructure improvements and alterations in addition to extra teaching space.

Furze Platt Senior School

2.77 Furze Platt Senior School are developing a ‘master-plan’ for the future of their site and have appointed an architectural firm to assist with this. The scope of this planning has been expanded to include expansion of the school. Facilities are already being improved through a collaboration with the borough on a new community sports complex. Access could be improved by better use of the layby at the school’s front.

The Windsor Boys’ School and Windsor Girls’ School

2.78 Windsor Girls’ School and The Windsor Boys’ School expect to convert to academy status on 1st March 2015, coming together to form a multi-academy trust called the Windsor Learning Partnership. Consultation with parents finished on 12th December 2014 and Governors at the two schools are expected to decide on whether to proceed with the MAT shortly. Both schools are, therefore, working together on planning the long-term future of their sites.

2.79 When the MAT is up and running, the way specialist teaching spaces on both sites are used may change, allowing for the delivery of specific courses on each site. Initially, however, each site will need suitable space for additional pupils, depending on the expansion option agreed.

2.80 Current pupil forecasts suggest that an initial 60 Year 9 places will be needed across the two upper schools in time for September 2017 (2016 to provide a 10% surplus of places). A further 60 places will then be needed in the early 2020s. As noted previously, the exact scope of the expansions may change. The schools support equal expansions at both schools in both the initial and later expansion phases.

2.81 To deliver this, The Windsor Boys’ School would need a new block of teaching accommodation, but there is also an opportunity to improve the siting of subject teaching by re-organising and remodelling some of the existing spaces. This may need to wait for the second phase of expansion. Additional cycle-parking for pupils is likely to be needed.

2.82 At Windsor Girl’s School a new teaching block would be built to the front of the school. A re-organisation of the teaching accommodation within the school would then make better use of existing rooms and locate the specialist music/drama spaces together. The school is also likely to need additional car-parking.

Dedworth Middle School

2.83 Detailed planning for the possible expansion of Dedworth Middle School has not yet begun. A new classroom block would be required, and any plan will need to involve the first school so that the needs of the whole Dedworth campus can be considered.

Next steps

Phase one of the new school places programme

- 2.84 The process for expanding schools varies according to whether they are academies or not. For academies, the decision on an expansion rests with the Secretary of State, via the Education Funding Agency. Expansions count as a ‘fast track’ change and are usually approved provided that adequate local consultation has been carried out, funding has secured, the change is aligned with local authority place planning requirements and appropriate planning permissions have been secured.
- 2.85 As Furze Platt Senior School and Charters School are academies, they will themselves need to seek approval for expansion from the Secretary of State. The funding for the capital works involved with expanding the schools will come, however, from the borough’s capital programme, funded by the Basic Need grant and S106 contributions (see Section 4 of this report for more details). This funding will need to be approved by Cabinet. Planning permissions will also be required for the schemes.
- 2.86 The Windsor Boys’ School and Windsor Girls’ School are not yet academies, but are expected to be academies shortly. If approved, the timing means that approval of the expansions will also fall to the Secretary of State.
- 2.87 Dedworth Middle School is a community school, which means that the final decision on expansion lies with the Royal Borough. If the borough decides to proceed with expansion then it will need to formally publish proposals, allowing interested parties a further four weeks to comment on and/or object to the proposals. At the end of this period the borough will need to consider any responses and decide whether to proceed.
- 2.88 All changes to school admission numbers arising from these expansions will need to be carried out through a further consultation on school admissions arrangements, in 2015, for implementation in 2016.

Further phases in the new school places programme

- 2.89 In July 2014 Cabinet requested that further work be carried out on whether a new school or schools, or a satellite grammar school, should be established within the borough. Cabinet agreed that a report on the proposals would be considered in September 2015.
- 2.90 Work can now also be carried out on proposals to expand the other secondary sector schools serving Maidenhead.

Options

Options	Comments
Expansion at Furze Platt Senior School (an extra 60 places per year group, starting with Year 7 from September 2016)	
Support proposal	<u>Recommended</u> This will allow the borough and school to agree an expansion scheme, which will in turn allow the school to seek approval of the expansion from the Secretary of State.
Don't support proposal	<u>Not recommended</u> An alternative proposal to provide the places will need to be consulted upon and implemented.
Expansion at the Windsor Upper Schools/Holyport College (an extra 100 places per year group, starting with Year 9 from September 2016)	
Support initial expansion at The Windsor Boys' School	<u>Not recommended</u> Doesn't provide new places for boys and girls.
Support initial expansion at Windsor Girls' School	<u>Not recommended</u> Doesn't provide new places for boys and girls.
Support initial expansion of upper school places across the proposed Windsor Learning Partnership/Holyport College	<u>Recommended</u> Provides new places for boys and girls. Will allow the borough and schools to agree an expansion scheme, which will in turn allow the schools to seek approval of the expansion from the Secretary of State.
Don't support expansion at the upper schools/Holyport College	<u>Not recommended</u> An alternative proposal to provide the places will need to be consulted upon and implemented.
Expansion at Dedworth Middle School (an extra 60 places per year group, starting with Year 9 from September 2017)	
Approve proposal and delegate final decision	<u>Recommended</u> This will allow the borough to publish a formal proposal for the expansion, with a final decision delegated.
Don't approve proposal	<u>Not recommended</u> An alternative proposal to provide the places will need to be consulted upon and implemented.
Expansion at Charters School (an extra 30 places per year group, starting with Year 7 from September 2017)	
Support proposal	<u>Recommended</u> This will allow the borough and school to agree an expansion scheme, which will in turn allow the school to seek approval of the expansion from the Secretary of State.
Don't support proposal	<u>Not recommended</u> An alternative proposal to provide the places will need to be consulted upon and implemented.
Expansion across the Maidenhead secondary schools (an extra 50 places, starting with Year 7 from September 2017)	
Support proposal	<u>Recommended</u> This will allow the borough to develop schemes to provide additional places in Maidenhead.
Don't support proposal	<u>Not recommended</u>
Approve the publication of proposals for Dedworth Middle School	
Support proposal	<u>Recommended</u> The local authority is required to publish formal proposals if Dedworth Middle, a community school, is to be expanded.
Don't support proposal	<u>Not recommended</u> The school cannot be published if the formal proposals are not published.
Agree affordable schemes for each school	
Support proposal	<u>Recommended</u> The borough will need to work with schools to develop

	schemes that meet their needs, but are also affordable.
Don't support proposal	<u>Not recommended</u>
Write to academy schools in the programme	
Support proposal	<u>Recommended</u> Academies can only be expanded with the agreement of the Secretary of State. The borough will need to ask expanding academies to seek this approval at the appropriate point.
Don't support proposal	<u>Not recommended</u>
Allow for removal of schools that no longer meet the criteria	
Support proposal	<u>Recommended</u>
Don't support proposal	<u>Not recommended</u>
Delegate authority to vary the implementation dates of the above proposals	
Support delegation	<u>Recommended</u> This will allow the borough to amend the timing of expansions if necessary as new demographic data becomes available.
Don't support delegation	<u>Not recommended</u> This will require the proposals to return to Cabinet to vary implementation dates.
Report to Cabinet on further options for new school places	
Require a report for September 2015	<u>Recommended</u> This will allow officers to report on further options for providing new school places, to be implemented in later stages of the expansion programme.
Don't require a report	<u>Not recommended</u> Cabinet will not be able to consider further options for new school places.
Proposals for all-through schools	
Support the principle of all-through schools	<u>Recommended</u> This will allow officers to develop proposals for all-through schools as appropriate.
Don't support the principle of all-through schools	<u>Not recommended</u>
Proposals for multi-academy trusts	
Support the principle of MATs	<u>Recommended</u> This will allow officers to develop proposals for MATs as appropriate.
Don't support the principle of MATs	<u>Not recommended</u>
Proposals for further collaboration	
Draw up proposals	<u>Recommended</u> Allows further work on collaborative proposals to be carried out.
Don't draw up proposals	<u>Not recommended</u>

3. KEY IMPLICATIONS

Defined Outcomes	Unmet	Met	Exceeded	Significantly Exceeded	Date they should be delivered by
The proportion of RBWM applicants offered a secondary sector place is:	<100%	100%	N/A	N/A	September 2016
The proportion of surplus (spare) places in the secondary sector is:	<2%	3% to 5%	6% to 10%	N/A	September 2016

4. FINANCIAL DETAILS

a) Financial impact on the budget

Capital

- 4.1 Local authorities receive an annual capital grant called the Basic Need grant to provide new primary and secondary school places. The amount of grant allocated to each local authority is based on the forecast shortfall of school places in subsequent years. The information on school place shortages is submitted to the DfE annually in the School Capacity (SCAP) survey. Basic Need grant is not ring-fenced and can be spent on providing new school places at community, voluntary controlled, voluntary aided, academy and free schools.
- 4.2 The Borough's Basic Need allocation has significantly decreased over the last four years (see Table 6). Indicative allocations for 2015-16 and 2016-17, which could still change, are at a lower rate of £2m per year, compared to earlier allocations of £6m+. Final allocations will depend on overall pupil growth forecasts.

Table 6: Basic Need Grant allocations - Education Funding Agency	£m
2011-12	6.992
2012-13	6.102
2013-14	2.621
2014-15	2.621
2015-16 (indicative)	2.065
2016-17 (indicative)	2.168
2017/18 – not yet notified. Assumed £2m	2.000

- 4.3 Basic Need funding available for future expansion projects going into 2015-16 is estimated to be £2.508 million¹. Further estimated grant allocations for 2015-16 to 2017-18 totalling £6.233m based on the figures shown in Table 6 would bring the total available funding to £8.741m.

¹ This estimate takes account of commitments of £11.8 million in 2014-15 on existing expansion projects, including Oldfield; St Edwards First and Middle School; All Saints CE Junior, and planned basic need commitments of £1.030 million for 2015-16. Two further expansion programmes at Riverside and Manor Green are funded from Targeted Basic Need Grant awarded to the Borough in 2013.

- 4.4 The Basic Need Grant can be supplemented with other funding sources, chiefly Section 106 funding from developers, for expansion programmes. Approximately £0.355m of existing section 106 funding could be used for the specific schemes identified in the Phase 1 proposals. This increases the total available funding to £7.096m (see Table 7). Although S106 contributions will cease with the introduction of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL), there are likely to be further funding contributions from developers under the CIL arrangements, linked to the Borough's Local Plan. Any CIL resource could be used for basic need projects in the period to 2017/18, although this would have to compete with other infrastructure needs associated with housing developments.

Table 7: Funding the secondary sector expansion programme

	£m	£m
a Phase 1 – from September 2016 (Furze Platt Senior, The Windsor Learning Partnership/Holyport College)		
b Basic Need Grant		
c Amount brought forward into 2015-16 after planned commitments	2.5	
d Indicative allocations 2015-16 and 2016-17	4.2	
e Total available basic need funding	6.7	
f S106 available (Furze Platt Senior, Windsor Boys' and Windsor Girls')	0.4	
g Total funding for phase 1 up to March 2017		7.1
h		
i Estimated costs of phase 1		9.2
j		
k Balance of funding remaining after phase 1		(-2.1)
l		
m Phase 2 – from September 2017 (Dedworth, Charters, Maidenhead secondaries)		
n Funding remaining after Phase 1		(-2.1)
o Basic Need Grant Indicative allocation 2017-18		2.0
p S106 available (Dedworth, Charters)	0.9	
q S106 available (Maidenhead schools*)	0.7	
r S106 available		1.6
s Total funding for phase 2 up to March 2018		1.5
t		
u Estimated costs of phase 2		8.8
v		
w Balance of funding remaining after phases 1 and 2		-7.3

*These funds are available to spend at specific schools, and so the actual amount will vary depending on the school(s) expanded.

- 4.5 The capital costs of the Phase 1 proposals up to 2016-17 are currently estimated to be in the region of £9.2m, leaving -£2.1m funding available for Phase 2. The estimated costs exclude inflation, abnormalities, IT, furniture and fittings, and also may not fully reflect school aspirations.
- 4.6 The available capital resource for meeting the demand for secondary sector places as part of Phase 2 for 2017-18 is estimated to be £1.5m, taking into account the -£2.1m carried forward from Phase 1. This is based on grants continuing at the current rates and known S106 funding available. The estimated cost of the proposed Phase 2 schemes is £8.8 million, leaving an overall shortfall of -£7.3m. This is without taking into account any need for further primary sector school expansions in the period to March 2018. There will also be no funds available to carry forward into later phases of the secondary expansion programme.

- 4.7 Resources available for funding this level of capital expenditure could be supplemented by borrowing at an approximate cost of £85k per £1m borrowed. Under existing school funding arrangements, these financing costs would be classed as 'new commitments' and would not therefore be eligible for charging to the Dedicated Schools Grant.
- 4.8 The capital costs quoted in Table 7 are based on desktop assessments of possible schemes, with a realistic build cost per m² based on recent school projects in the borough. Every school has different circumstances, and needs specific accommodation to achieve the required expansion. For instance, a secondary school will need classrooms for seven year groups, whilst a middle school will need classrooms for four year groups. As schemes move forward, the borough will work with schools and contractors to achieve maximum value for money, based on costs that are competitive compared to national benchmarks.

Revenue

- 4.9 Further revenue funding of up to £80k is needed for additional support to develop the detailed proposal for a new satellite grammar school in the borough for Cabinet in September 2015, and deliver the agreed outcomes.
- 4.10 There will be revenue implications for expanding schools when the expansion take affect and the new intake numbers are established. Revenue funding for schools comes from the Dedicated Schools Grant and is delegated directly to schools through a formula which is chiefly pupil driven. So, as a school's pupil numbers increase, so will their delegated funding. There is a timing issue that potentially disadvantages expanding schools for the first seven months (from September to March) until the new pupils are registered and therefore attract formula funding. Local Authorities are able to retain a central 'growth fund' to address this issue. RBWM are planning to review its 'growth fund criteria' for 2015-16.

5. LEGAL

- 5.1 Local authorities are under a statutory duty to ensure that there are sufficient school places in their area. This is set out in the Education Act 1996, Section 14, subsections 1 and 2.
- 5.2 The government has published the new regulations and guidance affecting the opening and closing of new schools and making changes to existing ones. These have been taken into account in the appendices of this report.

6. VALUE FOR MONEY

- 6.1 In proceeding with the proposed expansions, the borough will need to work with schools to ensure that schemes are affordable, whilst still delivering the necessary new accommodation.

7. SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT APPRAISAL

- 7.1 There are no sustainability implications.

8. RISK MANAGEMENT

Risks	Uncontrolled Risk	Controls	Controlled Risk
That the actual demand for school places is significantly higher or lower than currently forecast, resulting in either a shortage of school places or a significant surplus of places.	High.	To carry out a phased and flexible programme of works that can be adjusted in scale as new demographic information becomes available. To continue to work with the planning department so that the likely impact of the Borough Local Plan is taken into account.	Low.
That RBWM Building Services team are unable to successfully deliver the expansion programme.	High	To urgently confirm a viable way forward for the team, particularly regarding having sufficient and suitably qualified staff.	Medium

9. LINKS TO STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

- 9.1 The delivery of more school places will ensure that residents' needs are met and that we equip our residents and the community for the future.

10. EQUALITIES, HUMAN RIGHTS AND COMMUNITY COHESION (EQIA)

- 10.1 There are no EQIA implications.

11. STAFFING/WORKFORCE AND ACCOMMODATION IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 There are no staffing/workforce or accommodation implications at this stage.

12. PROPERTY AND ASSETS

- 12.1 There are no property and assets implications at this stage.

13. ANY OTHER IMPLICATIONS

- 13.1 There are no other implications at this stage.

14. CONSULTATION

- 14.1 Paragraphs 2.19 to 2.23 set out the consultation process carried out. The outcome of the consultation is described in paragraphs 2.24 to 2.70. .

15. TIMETABLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

15.1 Table 8 outlines timetable for the next steps:

Table 8: Timetable	Date
School expansion proposals: 2016 implementation (Furze Platt Senior, Upper school places)	
Development & agreement of schemes, including planning permission and approval from Secretary of State to build on playing fields where required.	January 2015 to February 2016
Approval for academy expansion sought from the Secretary of State	2015
Schools accommodate initial larger intake in existing accommodation	September 2016
Construction	May 2016 to August 2017
New places open	September 2017
School expansion proposals: 2017 implementation (Dedworth Middle)	
'Publication of proposals'	Spring 2015
Determination of proposal	May 2015
Development & agreement of scheme, including planning permission and approval from Secretary of State to build on playing fields where required.	January 2015 to March 2016
Construction	May 2016 to August 2017
New places open	September 2017
School expansion proposals: 2017 implementation (Charters)	
Development & agreement of schemes, including planning permission and approval from Secretary of State to build on playing fields where required.	January 2015 to February 2016
Approval from the Secretary of State sought	2016
Construction	May 2016 to August 2017
New places open	September 2017
Further options for new school places (new schools; expansion of existing; satellite grammar)	
Detailed development of options	January to August 2015
Report to Cabinet on options	September 2015
Implementation	October 2015+
Report to Cabinet on sixth form provision	January 2015
Development & agreement of further options for collaboration	January to October 2015

16. APPENDICES

- Appendix 1: Previous secondary expansion reports and recommendations
- Appendix 2: Expansion of Secondary Sector Provision – July 2014 Cabinet report
- Appendix 3: Ascot consultation document and response form
- Appendix 4: Maidenhead consultation document and response form
- Appendix 5: Windsor consultation document and response form
- Appendix 6: Summary of consultation responses
- Appendix 7: Selected consultation responses
- Appendix 8: Consultation responses (498 pages)

Appendices 2-8 are available on the Borough website www.rbwm.gov.uk

17. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Legislation and Guidance

Making significant changes to an existing Academy, DfE Guidance, January 2014

The Academy and Free Schools Presumption, DfE Guidance, February 2014

Establishing New Maintained Schools, DfE Guidance, June 2013

School Organisation (Establishment & School Discontinuance) Regulations 2014

Area Guidelines for mainstream schools, DfE Guidance, April 2014

Education and Inspections Act 2006

Cabinet papers

Review of the Windsor System, Report by Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Panel, July 2012

10 Year School Expansion Programme, Cabinet Report, 21st March 2013

Expansion of Secondary Sector Provision, Cabinet Report, 28th November 2013

Expansion of Secondary Sector Provision, Cabinet Report, 27th March 2014
Expansion of Secondary Sector Provision, Cabinet Report, 24th July 2014

18. CONSULTATION (MANDATORY)

Name of consultee	Post held and Department	Date sent	Date received	See comments in paragraph:
Internal				
Cllr Burbage	Leader of the Council	20/11/2014	28/11/2014	
Michaela Rizou	Cabinet Policy Assistant	13/11/2014	14/11/2014	
Cllr Bicknell	Lead Member for Children's Services	20/11/2014	21/11/2014	
Maria Lucas	Head of Legal Services/SLS			
Alison Alexander	Director of Children's Services	13/11/2014	16/11/2014	
Edmund Bradley	Finance partner	17/11/2014	18/11/2014	
Andrew Brooker	Head of Service			
Gail Kenyon	Regeneration Manager	20/11/2014	20/11/2014	
Simon Hurrell	Head of Service			
Cathryn James	Strategic Director			
Mike McGaughrin	Managing Director			
External				

Report History

Decision type:	Urgency item?
Key decision	No

Full name of report author	Job title	Full contact no:
Ben Wright	Education Planning Officer	01628 796572
Ann Pfeiffer	Service Leader	01628 796364
Danuta Derczynska	School Accommodation Project	01628 796900

Appendices to the Cabinet Report

Appendix 1 Previous secondary expansion reports Recommendations, methods and consultation

1. PURPOSE OF APPENDIX

1.1 This appendix:

- Contains links to previous cabinet reports about expanding secondary sector provision in RBWM, Table 2.
- Provides an update against three strands of work, in the November 2013 report, see Table 3.
- Records consultation responses on meeting the secondary growth and improve standards.
- List the recommendation's from the three Cabinet reports, see Table 4 columns three.
- Confirms actions delivered to implement the recommendations, see Table 4 column five.

2. PREVIOUS CABINET REPORTS

Table 2: Name of report		Date of report	Internet link
1	<i>10 Year School Expansion Programme</i>	21 March 2013	Link to meeting agenda
2	<i>Expansion of Secondary Sector Provision</i>	28 November 2013	Link to meeting agenda
3	<i>Expansion of Secondary Sector Provision</i>	27 March 2014	Link to meeting agenda
4	<i>Expansion of Secondary Sector Provision</i>	29 March 2014	Link to meeting agenda

3. CABINET REPORT NOVEMBER 2013

- 3.1 In November 2013 Cabinet agreed to three strands of work to support the development work on exploring options, see table2.

Table 3: Methods of consultation/engagement

Strand 1: National expertise Strand 2: Local working group Strand 3: Consultation

Representatives of national bodies, e.g. the DfE facilitators of free schools and academies and the Diocesan, have participated in discussion offering the Borough advise on options for meeting future needs.

Two local working groups have operated over six months: Windsor and Maidenhead. Education leaders, governors, business representative have discussed the issues to identify how we meet future growth and improve standards.

Local residents were asked for innovative ideas for meeting the demand for more secondary provision and for comments on how the secondary sector education in the borough can be improved.

4. PUBLIC CONSULTATION OUTCOME - STRAND 3

- 4.1 Consultation took place on the website, notifications in the press and via school newsletters and more recently a letter from school leadership to parents in their designation.

- 4.2 Just over 50 responses were received from the consultation. The content of the responses focussed on expansion, not directly on standards. The specific areas covered included:

- Develop a Roman Catholic secondary school in Maidenhead.
- Establish a grammar school provision in the Borough.
- Set up a new school in Ascot.
- Expand Charters.

5. REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

Table 4: Recommendations from the three reports

	Recommendation	Status	Actions
March 2013: 10 Year School Expansion Programme			
Report 1: March 2013	1 Officers begin the process of planning for secondary, middle and upper school expansion, in partnership with schools.	Complete	Working group established.
	2 Officers report back to Cabinet on progress in November 2013.	Complete	Report developed and presented to Cabinet.
	3 Officers continue to investigate options for further free school provision in the borough as a way of providing more primary, secondary and special school places and choice for parents.	Complete	Meetings with free school network; supported free school application – Forest Bridge.
	4 Officers investigate the use of non-traditional school building options for future school use.	Complete	
November 2013: Expansion of Secondary Sector Provision			
Report 2: November 2013	5 Officers carry out initial, open-ended consultation with the public on ideas/views about how to provide extra places for year groups 5, 7 and 9 and upwards, using innovative solutions that offer choice and variety to residents.	Complete	
March 2014: Expansion of Secondary Sector Provision			
Report 3: March 2014	6 Officers carry out further work on options for meeting rising demand for secondary sector provision in the borough. The options are to:	Complete	Investigative work carried out and presented to Cabinet.
	Option A: Open a new school in Windsor and/or Maidenhead	Complete	
	Option B: Open a sixth form college in Windsor and/or Maidenhead	Complete	
	Option C: Develop the Alliance Technical Academy and other collaborative plans	Complete	
	Option D: Expand existing schools	Complete	
	Option E: Provide grammar places locally by establishing a satellite to an existing grammar school	Complete	
	Option F: Establish all-through schools	Complete	
	Option G: Explore opportunities for multi-academy trusts	Complete	
	7 Officers provide a further report, in August 2014, giving detailed assessments of those options that Members want explored further.	Complete	Paper prepared and presented to Cabinet.

July 2014: Expansion of Secondary Sector Provision				
Report 4: July 2014	8	Carry out public consultation on five proposals to increase secondary sector education places across the borough. The five proposals to be consulted on are:	Complete	
		Proposal 1: Support the development of post-16 provision through: East Berkshire College and Berkshire College of Agriculture, to deliver technical qualifications for 14-16 year olds, leading to apprenticeships at 18, and A-level for provision for 16-19 year olds. Windsor Girls' and The Windsor Boys' School formal collaboration on delivery of A-level provision.		
		Proposal 2: Support, where requested, opportunities for schools to become all-through schools, teaching children of primary and secondary school age.		
		Proposal 3: Support, where requested, the development of localised Multi-Academy Trusts (MATs).		
		Proposal 4: Invite public views on expanding existing schools and or another idea.		
		Proposal 5: Invite public views on expanding two or three of the existing fourteen schools by four forms of entry (4 FE), in 2015/16 and 2017/18.	Complete	
	9	Present a report for Cabinet in December 2014 on the outcome of the public consultation, with recommendations for the first phase of a new secondary sector places programme, to be implemented in 2015/16 and 2016/17.		
	10	Agrees the creation of a new capital budget to start the feasibility, design and development works arising from the approval of the above recommendations to a value of £100k from the Basic Need Grant.	Complete	
	11	Request a report for Cabinet in September 2015 on the second phase of a new secondary sector places programme, with further work undertaken on the options for new schools, collaborative sixth form	Due Sept. 2015	

		provision, a satellite grammar school, further expansion at existing schools and other ways of providing more capacity.		
12		Request a report on sixth form provision in November 2014.	Now to be considered in January 2015	This is on the Forward Plan for January 2015 as: A-Level Results and Attainment in RBWM Schools and Colleges for the Academic Year 2013/14