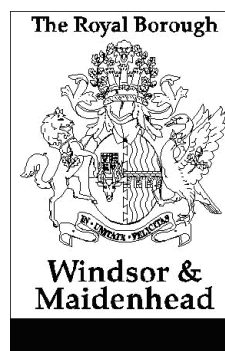


Report for: ACTION



Contains Confidential or Exempt Information	No – Part I
Title	New Primary School Places in Ascot
Responsible Officer(s)	Alison Alexander, Managing Director and Strategic Director Adult, Children and Health Services
Contact officer, job title and phone number	Kevin McDaniel, Head of Schools and Educational Services
Member reporting	Cllr Natasha Airey, Lead Member for Children’s Services Cllr David Evans, Deputy Lead Member School Improvement
For Consideration By	Cabinet
Date to be Considered	25 August 2016
Implementation Date if Not Called In	1 September 2017
Affected Wards	Ascot and Cheapside, Sunningdale, Sunninghill and South Ascot

REPORT SUMMARY

1. The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead is considering options for the provision of additional primary school places in Ascot. These new school places will enable us to meet demand arising from families moving into the area, new housing expected to be built locally and the borough’s aspiration for a school place surplus of 10%.
2. Public consultation has been carried out on options to expand up to three of the primary schools and to explore opening a new primary school in the Ascot area. This report provides the outcome of public consultation, and proposes an outline programme of primary school expansions, starting with Cheapside CE Primary School in September 2017.

If recommendations are adopted, how will residents benefit?

Benefits to residents and reasons why they will benefit	Dates by which residents can expect to notice a difference
1. Residents have choice of access to local, diverse, high quality school places that supports progress and attainment in all pupils.	September 2017

1. DETAILS OF RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATION: That Cabinet:

Approves a four-stranded approach to meeting the forecast future need for primary school places in the Ascot area as follows:

- i. In relation to Cheapside Church of England Primary school:**
 - a. Approves the publication of a formal proposal for the expansion of the school from 16 to 30 places per year group from September 2017 (see Option A in table 1) during September 2016.**
 - b. Authorises the Lead Member for Children's Services and the Managing Director & Strategic Director of Adult, Children and Health Services to determine the expansion proposal following the end of the representation period during October 2016.**
 - c. Authorises the Head of Schools and Education Services to proceed with procurement and tendering for the scheme to expand the School.**
- ii. Requests that the Managing Director & Strategic Director of Adult, Children and Health Service works with the Strategic Director of Corporate & Community Services to ensure that one or more new primary school sites in Ascot are identified as the housing plans for the area develop.**
- iii. That further work is done to develop the plans to expand the existing schools (see Options B and C in table 1) so that these can be implemented when needed.**
- iv. That, for all options, a local infrastructure plan is developed to minimise the impact of new primary school places on the local community.**

2. REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION(S) AND OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 2.1** In April 2016 Cabinet considered a report setting out the need for additional primary school places in Ascot, to meet the demand arising from families moving into the area and from new housing expected to be built locally. New places would also contribute to the borough's aspiration for having up to 10% spare (surplus) places to provide local choice.
- 2.2** The April report recommended public consultation on the proposals to help the Royal Borough develop a phased, long-term plan of action for Ascot primary school places. An initial expansion in September 2017 was recommended.
- 2.3** Accordingly, Cabinet:
 - i. Approved public consultation, commencing in June 2016, on options for providing additional primary school places in Ascot in the suggested priority order as follows:**

- Expand Cheapside CE Primary School from 16 to 30 places per year group.
 - Expand South Ascot Village Primary School from 30 to 60 places per year group.
 - Expand Holy Trinity CE Primary School from 30 to 60 places per year group.
 - Opening a new school on a, as yet, unidentified site.
- ii. Requested a report on the outcome of the consultation on the expansion of primary school places in Ascot to August 2016 Cabinet.
- iii. Approved further feasibility and design works proceeding alongside consultation to allow implementation of any approved scheme(s).
- 2.4 This report brings the results of the public consultation and recommends which school to expand in September 2017, and next steps that should be taken. The process and analysis of the responses is set out in more detail in Section 4 and *Appendix A: Summary of Responses*. In summary:
- A response rate of 7.7% was achieved.
 - The most popular option is Option A, expansion at Cheapside CE Primary.
 - There is also significant support for building a new school, Option D.
- 2.5 Further information about the need for the places arising from these options is contained in *Appendix B: Demand for new primary school places in Ascot*. This was originally reported to Cabinet in April, although it has subsequently been updated with the 2016 pupil projections. Further adjustments will be needed as the Borough Local Plan, which sets housing targets, moves towards adoption during 2017. The appendix explains that most of the likely growth in demand will come from new housing in the Ascot area.
- 2.6 Appendix B also reports that there are currently no places for the 2016/17 academic year in year groups 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6 for families moving into the Ascot area. Most of these year groups are also overfull, with more children on roll than there are spaces, due to successful School Admissions Appeals or the offer of places through the Fair Access Panel.
- 2.7 *Table 1: Summary of Options* sets out the pros and cons of Options A to E as consulted on. There are advantages to expanding Cheapside CE Primary School, an 'Outstanding' school, first, for September 2017. These are that - it has the most public support, can be achieved quickly, should place the school on a more secure financial footing and can provide places in all year groups at once which will assist greatly with the current lack of places across all the Ascot primary schools in several year groups.
- 2.8 Cheapside could take children into all year groups in September 2017 more easily than the other schools, because the overall increase in size would be smaller and therefore require fewer additional staff to recruit and fund. Normally, an expanding school will grow one year group at a time, and this would be the case for an expansion at South Ascot Village Primary or Holy Trinity CE Primary.
- 2.9 It is proposed, therefore, that Cheapside CE Primary School be expanded from 16 to 30 places in each year group from September 2017. This will provide an initial

surplus across all year groups in Ascot of approximately 10% in September 2017 (the number of spare places will vary across individual year groups).

- 2.10 Pre-application planning advice has been sought, which indicates that Children's Services will need to demonstrate 'Very Special Circumstances' because Cheapside school is in the Green Belt. In addition, responses to the consultation have indicated that local residents have concerns about the existing traffic and parking in the roads adjacent to the school. Any expansion will increase the traffic to the school, and it is likely that off-site highways improvements will therefore be required.
- 2.11 Based on the Ascot, Sunninghill and Sunningdale Neighbourhood Plan and the emerging Borough Local Plan, it is expected that up to 1,300 new homes will be built in the Ascot area in the period to 2030. This will almost certainly drive up demand, but there is, at present, no certainty over the scale, type, location or timing of that new housing.
- 2.12 It is proposed, therefore, that other options for new primary school places continue to be developed and kept under review, so that they can be implemented as and when needed.
- 2.13 Most urgently, one or more sites for a primary school should be identified and included in the final version of the Borough Local Plan and the accompanying Infrastructure Delivery Plan. It is proposed that any identified site should be approximately 2 hectares (4.9 acres) in size, so that it is large enough for a primary school of 60 places per year group (420 places overall). Proposals for a school can then be developed in time to meet the demand from new housing. The draft borough local plan, published on our website for information purposes only, includes an allocation in the Ascot Town Centre for 'Education facilities including a primary school'.
- 2.14 Expansion at South Ascot Village Primary School and Holy Trinity CE Primary School Sunningdale should be investigated further so that the schemes can be implemented quickly if needed.

Table 1: Summary of options

Opt.	School	Increase per yr gp.	Consultation outcome (1 st prefs)		Position of school	Scheme	Planning issues	Other comments	Initial estimated cost (£m)
			No.	%					
A	Cheapside	+16	138	55	Fully support and want to proceed.	<p>Feasibility work has shown that expansion is possible, with new classrooms either adjacent to the hall or where the swimming pool is. There may be some practical difficulties with access for construction traffic, especially to avoid access via the allotments.</p> <p>The school and borough will need to agree the lease of adjacent land owned by Sunninghill Parochial Charities, so that the school has enough outdoor space. This is agreed in principle, but all parties will now need to agree the lease. There may be an annual cost.</p>	<p>Green Belt, so will need to show 'very special circumstances' to get planning permission for new buildings.</p> <p>Traffic/parking, already issues with traffic and parking at the school, along Dorian Drive, Green Lane and Watersplash Lane. There is no scope for any on-site drop-off, so highways improvements will be needed offsite. The school is already working on a travel plan.</p>	<p>Financial viability. The school are concerned about their long term financial viability as a 112 place primary school, but feel that expansion could secure their future for the village.</p> <p>Timing. It should be possible to expand the school in time for September 2017, which will then give extra places in all year groups for families moving into the area.</p> <p>Ofsted. Outstanding</p>	<p>£0.75m (£6.7k per place) + the cost of any highways improvement works.</p> <p>There could also be some annual cost related to the lease of the Sunninghill Parochial Charities land.</p>
B	South Ascot	+30	24	10	Fully support and want to proceed.	<p>Feasibility work has shown that expansion is possible, with new classrooms either adjacent to the main school or in an expanded foundation stage building.</p>	<p>Traffic/parking, already issues with traffic and parking at the school, along Fennel Close, All Soul's Road and Bouldish Farm Road. There is some scope for an on-site drop-off, and off-site highways improvement works may also be required.</p>	<p>Timing. This probably could not be achieved for September 2017, but would be achievable for September 2018. Expansion would be for one year group at a time.</p> <p>Ofsted. Good</p>	<p>£1.7m (£9.4k per place) + the cost of any highways improvement works.</p>
C	Holy Trinity	+30	7	3	Are prepared to consider expansion if demand rises in the local area.	<p>Feasibility work has shown that expansion is possible, with a two storey block adjacent to the existing buildings, or a first floor over existing classrooms.</p>	<p>Traffic/parking, already issues with traffic and parking at the school, along Church Road and the B383. There is some scope for an on-site drop-off, although this will require use of existing outdoor space. Off-site highways improvement works may therefore also be required.</p> <p>Conservation area, so the school buildings will need to be designed to take this into account.</p>	<p>Timing. This probably could not be achieved for September 2017, but would be achievable for September 2018. Expansion would be for one year group at a time.</p> <p>Ofsted. Good</p>	<p>£1.5m (£8.3k per place) + the cost of any highways improvement works.</p>
D	New school	+30	68	27	N/a.	<p>No site has been identified, although a number have been suggested in the consultation, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allens Field, South Ascot. • Ascot High Street. • Gasholder Site, Sunninghill. • Heatherwood. Ascot. • Civil Service College. • Kings Beeches, Sunninghill. • Silwood Park, Sunningdale. • Sunningdale Park. 	<p>Green Belt, many potential sites in the Ascot area are in the Green Belt, meaning that 'very special circumstances' will be required, unless a site is designated for a school via the Borough Local Plan process.</p> <p>Traffic/parking, any new site will have implications for traffic and parking, but if it is large enough it may be possible to include an on-site drop-off zone to limit its impact.</p>	<p>Timing. This is likely to be a longer term option, to allow time for site acquisition and construction. It might be possible, however, for a free school to open more quickly if the Education Funding Agency acquired a site. This would not address the current lack of school places in nearly all year groups.</p>	<p>£5m (£24k per place) + any abnormal costs associated with a specific site.</p>
E	An alternative	?	15	6	N/a.	<p>A number of alternative options have been suggested, including the relocation and expansion of St Michael's CE Primary School to a new site, e.g. the Gasholder Site in Sunninghill. This option does not have the support of the school. A response from the school is included as Appendix C.</p>	N/a	N/a	No estimates provided.

- 2.15 No further prioritisation, beyond Cheapside for 2017, is required on this stage. Instead the Royal Borough will have a flexible set of options that can be implemented when necessary.
- 2.16 It is not proposed that any further work is done on the possible relocation and expansion of St Michael's CE Primary School on a new site, as has been suggested in response to the consultation. There is currently no support from the school for this proposal (see *Appendix C: Response from St Michael's CE Primary School* for the school's views on this).
- 2.17 The Royal Borough has already approved spending on an expansion of Charters School by 30 places per year group from September 2017. This will not, however, meet the demand for secondary school places likely to arise from 1,300 additional dwellings. This need will be considered as part of the next stage of the borough's secondary school expansion programme.
- 2.18 It is also proposed that further work is done on the other proposals, so that they can be implemented swiftly if the need arises. This includes the identification of a site for a new primary school in Ascot, and work on whether any of the existing primary schools could be relocated and expanded onto that site.

Option	Comments
Approves the publication of a formal proposal for the expansion of Cheapside CE Primary School from 16 to 30 places per year group from September 2017 (Option A). Recommended.	This is the next step for providing extra places in Ascot using Option A. This option addresses the urgent need for extra places in all year groups, and is supported by the school and the consultation outcome.
Approves the publication of a formal proposal for Options B (South Ascot Village Primary) or C (Holy Trinity) to expand for September 2017, instead of Cheapside. Not recommended.	Neither option would provide places across all year groups, and these are not as well supported by the consultation response as Option A.
Authorises the Lead Member for Education and the Strategic Director of Children's Services to determine the proposal following the end of the representation period. Recommended.	This will allow the Royal Borough to swiftly consider any representations made in response to the publication of a formal proposal for the expansion of Cheapside, and decide whether to proceed.
Authorises officers to proceed with procurement and tendering for the scheme to expand Cheapside CE Primary School. Recommended.	This will allow the Royal Borough to proceed swiftly with the next stages of designing and procuring the additional accommodation needed for Cheapside CE Primary School.
Requests that one or more new primary school sites in Ascot are identified in the Borough Local Plan, and that further work is done on options to expand the existing schools so that these can be implemented when needed. Recommended	This will put plans in place that will allow the borough to react quickly as new housing developments get planning permission in the Ascot area.

3. KEY IMPLICATIONS

Defined Outcomes	Unmet	Met	Exceeded	Significantly Exceeded	Date they should be delivered by
To provide a surplus places in September 2017 in Ascot primary schools.	<3% surplus places.	3-8% surplus places	>8% surplus places	n/a	September 2017.

4. FINANCIAL DETAILS

Financial impact on the budget

4.1 The initial estimated costs of the options for providing new primary school places in Ascot are:

- Cheapside - £0.75m.
- South Ascot Village - £1.7m.
- Holy Trinity - £1.5m.
- New school - £5.0m.

4.2 Funding for new school places in the borough is provided through the government's 'Basic Need' grant and S106 funding (and, in future, the Community Infrastructure Levy). There is currently a shortfall on the Basic Need grant to fund the secondary school expansion programme, and a primary school expansion in Ascot would add to this. There is currently £278k of S106 available to spend on a primary school scheme in Ascot, which could include expansion. If the Cheapside scheme is approved, it is expected that all of this S106 will be used, together with any further amounts that come in from this area.

4.3 Resources available for funding this level of capital expenditure could be supplemented by borrowing at an approximate cost of £60k 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. Additional funding may also be available when the Community Infrastructure Levy starts to operate in the borough.

4.4 As a planned expansion, Cheapside would be eligible for revenue Growth Funding as determined by the Schools Forum and subject to their regular review.

4.5 If extra places are not available for other year groups, there is the possibility that pupils will need to be transported to schools away from the Ascot area, adding to the Home to School Transport budget.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 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. This responsibility is set to be retained under the government's March 2016 white paper *Excellent Education Everywhere*.
- 5.2 Government guidance sets out the steps that need to be taken in relation to opening a new school and making changes to existing schools, whether local authority maintained or academy.
- 5.3 None of the primary schools in Ascot are academies, which means that the local authority can propose 'prescribed alterations', including the enlargement of the school¹. In doing so, the borough must follow the statutory process set out in the Department for Education's *Making 'prescribed alterations' to maintained schools'*:
- **Stage 1.** Publication of proposal(s) and notice.
 - **Stage 2.** Representation period of four weeks.
 - **Stage 3.** Decision on the proposal within two months of end of Stage 2.
 - **Stage 4.** Implementation, on the date set out in the proposal.
- 5.4 There is a 'strong expectation'² that local authorities will consult (as done) before publishing proposals.
- 5.5 If Cabinet does approve, the expansion of a primary school in Ascot for September 2017, it is proposed that officers proceed with the statutory process, and publish a proposal in September 2016. It is also proposed that the decision required at Stage 3 is delegated from Cabinet to the Lead Member for Children's Services and the Strategic Director for Adult, Children and Health Services.
- 5.6 Regulations set out what the borough has to consider in relation to Stage 3. If the Lead Member/Strategic Director were minded to approve the proposal following the end of the representation period, this would be done subject to getting planning permission. In other words, if the borough was not able to get planning permission, there would be no legal obligation to implement.

6. VALUE FOR MONEY

- 6.1 Tendering for the capital works should ensure that schemes are value for money. Officers have worked closely with schools to achieve a scheme that balances value for money with educational benefits. Options are presented that range from providing sufficient space to accommodate and educate the extra pupils, to providing a generous amount of space to enable schools to deliver an enriched learning environment for all pupils.

7. SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT APPRAISAL

¹ Voluntary Aided schools (i.e. Cheapside and Holy Trinity) can themselves also propose changes, but that is not required here.

² Page 25, *Making 'prescribed alterations' to maintained schools*, Department for Education, April 2016

7.1 There are no sustainability impacts arising from the recommendations in this report.

8. RISK MANAGEMENT

Risks	Uncontrolled Risk	Controls	Controlled Risk
That the pupil number projections are wrong, leading to either too few or too many school places.	High	To update the pupil projections annually and review as new information becomes available. To develop a flexible expansion programme that can be implemented as needed.	Medium
Not getting planning permission, or planning permission being significantly delayed.	High	Working with Highways and Planning to overcome potential objections to the scheme(s).	Medium
Costs significantly above those set out in this report.	High	Tendering schemes to ensure value for money and ensuring that the scope of the scheme is appropriate.	Medium

9. LINKS TO STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

9.1 Residents First, Delivering Together, Equipping Ourselves for the future.

10. EQUALITIES, HUMAN RIGHTS AND COMMUNITY COHESION

11.1 No Equalities Impact Assessment has been carried out at this stage.

11. STAFFING/WORKFORCE AND ACCOMMODATION IMPLICATIONS

12.1 There are no staffing/workforce or accommodation implications.

12. PROPERTY AND ASSETS

13.1 There are no additional property and assets implications other than those reported on above.

13. ANY OTHER IMPLICATIONS

14.1 There are no other implications at this stage.

14. CONSULTATION

15.1 The Royal Borough has had discussions about potential expansion with the five primary schools in Ascot. This includes work on the feasibility studies at three of the schools, done in consultation with the Headteachers. Officers have also discussed the information about potential new housing in the Ascot area with the Ascot Neighbourhood Plan Delivery Group.

15.2 Public consultation on the proposals for primary school provision ran from Monday 13th June 2016 to Friday 15th July 2016. A consultation document (*Appendix D – More school places in the Ascot area for primary age children*) was produced and distributed, electronically or in hard copy, to parents, staff, governors and other interested parties, as set out in *Table 2: Summary of consultation document distribution* below. The consultation was available on the borough's website, together with an online response form.

Table 2: Summary of consultation document distribution

Who	Where	Number distributed
Parents, staff, governors	The five Ascot primary schools	1,230
Staff, governors	Charters	20
Local residents	In addresses near Cheapside school	80
Local residents	In addresses near Holy Trinity school	94
Local residents	In addresses near South Ascot school	80
Parents	Early Years Providers	615
Headteacher	Early Years Providers	14
Headteacher	Local Independent Schools	7
Headteacher	Ascot Heath and Cranbourne schools	3
Headteacher	All RBWM schools	57
Residents	Ascot Libraries	60
Councillors & residents	Sunningdale Parish Council	20
Councillors & residents	Sunninghill & Ascot	20
Representatives	Unions and Professional Associations	9
Residents	Ascot Neighbourhood Plan Delivery Group Mailing List	705
Others	Surrey & Bracknell Forest Local Authorities Oxford Diocese Portsmouth Diocese Mr A Afriyie MP	5
All	Public and school meetings	100
TOTAL		3,120

15.3 The consultation was also mentioned in local newspapers and websites, such as Ascot Matters and Ascot News. The three Bracknell Forest primary schools

(Ascot Heath Infant, Ascot Heath Junior and Cranbourne Primary) were asked to distribute the consultation electronically to their parents.

15.4 Three meetings were held, at which officers gave a presentation about the proposals and took questions from those attending. One of these was a general meeting, advertised in the consultation document, open to all - whilst two of the meetings were requested by the schools for their parents and staff only.

- Holy Trinity CE Primary, 30-40 attendees, parents, staff and governors.
- Cheapside CE Primary, 50-60 attendees, parents, staff and governors.
- Cordes Hall, Sunningdale, 40-50 attendees, residents, parents, staff and governors.

15.5 239 responses were received, including 198 responses via the online survey, 36 paper forms and 5 emails. This represents a response rate of 7.7%, which is a good response rate.

15.6 Each respondent was asked to rank the options in order of preference (1 to 5), or indicate that they did not support the option, or had no view on the option. Each ranking is worth a number of points, allowing an overall score to be calculated for the options, as set out in *Table 3: Summary of outcome of consultation*.

Table 3: Summary of outcome of consultation

	Total score	No. 1st preferences	% of 1st preferences	No. "I do not support"
Option A – Cheapside	745	138	55%	27
Option B – South Ascot	214	24	10%	48
Option C – Holy Trinity	6	7	3%	70
Option D – New school	466	68	27%	41
Option E – An alternative	-16	15	6%	32

15.7 The most popular option, with the both the highest score overall (745) and the highest number of respondents indicating it as their 1st preference, is Option A, expansion at Cheapside. 138 respondents said that this is their most preferred option, 55% of the 252 1st preferences given (a number of respondents put more than one option down as their 1st preference, hence 252, rather than the 239 responses). 27 respondents say that they do not, however, want this option to proceed at all.

15.8 Building a new school (Option D) and expanding South Ascot Village Primary School (Option B) are the second and third most preferred options. Expansion at Holy Trinity (Option C), however, has attracted little support, with a total score of just 6; 3% of 1st preferences and 70 respondents saying that they do not support this option.

15.9 More details about the outcome of the consultation are given at *Appendix A: Summary of Responses*. The individual (anonymised) consultation responses can be read in *Appendix E: Individual consultation responses*.

15. TIMETABLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

16.1 The timetable for the next steps.

Date	Details
September 2017 school expansion	
Aug 2016 to March 2017.	Detailed design work, leading to planning application submission and tender documentation.
Sept to Oct 2016.	Publication of proposal and representation period.
Oct 2016.	Determination of proposal.
April 2017 to Sept 2017.	Construction period.
Sept 2017.	New places become available.
Preparation for subsequent school expansions	
Sept 2016 until approval of Borough Local Plan.	Identification of site(s) for new primary school.
On-going.	Design work for South Ascot and Holy Trinity expansions.

16. APPENDICES

Paper

Appendix A: Summary of Responses.

Appendix B: Demand for new primary school places in Ascot (updated from April).

Electronic

Appendix C: Response from St Michael's CE Primary School.

Appendix D: More school places in the Ascot area for primary school children

Appendix E: Individual consultation responses.

17. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Government guidance

Making 'prescribed alterations' to maintained schools, DfE Guidance, April 2016

The free schools presumption, DfE Guidance, February 2016

Area Guidelines for mainstream schools, DfE Guidance, April 2014

Previous Cabinet reports

New Primary School Places in Ascot, April 2016

18. CONSULTATION (MANDATORY)

Name of consultee	Post held and Department	Date sent	Date received	See comments in paragraph:
Internal				
Cllr Airey	Lead Member			
Cllr Evans	Deputy Lead Member			

Name of consultee	Post held and Department	Date sent	Date received	See comments in paragraph:
Russell O'Keefe	Strategic Director Corporate and Community Services			
Alison Alexander	Managing Director/ Strategic Director Adults, Children and Health			
Simon Fletcher	Strategic Director Operations and Customer Services			
Edmund Bradley	Finance Partner			
External				
Ascot Primary Schools				
Ascot Neighbourhood Plan Delivery Group				

REPORT HISTORY

Decision type:	No
Non-key decision	No

Full name of report author	Job title	Full contact no:
Ben Wright	Education Planning Officer	01628 796572

APPENDIX A - More Primary School Places in Ascot Area - Consultation Summary

Chart 1 - Summary of score for each option, based on respondents' preferences.

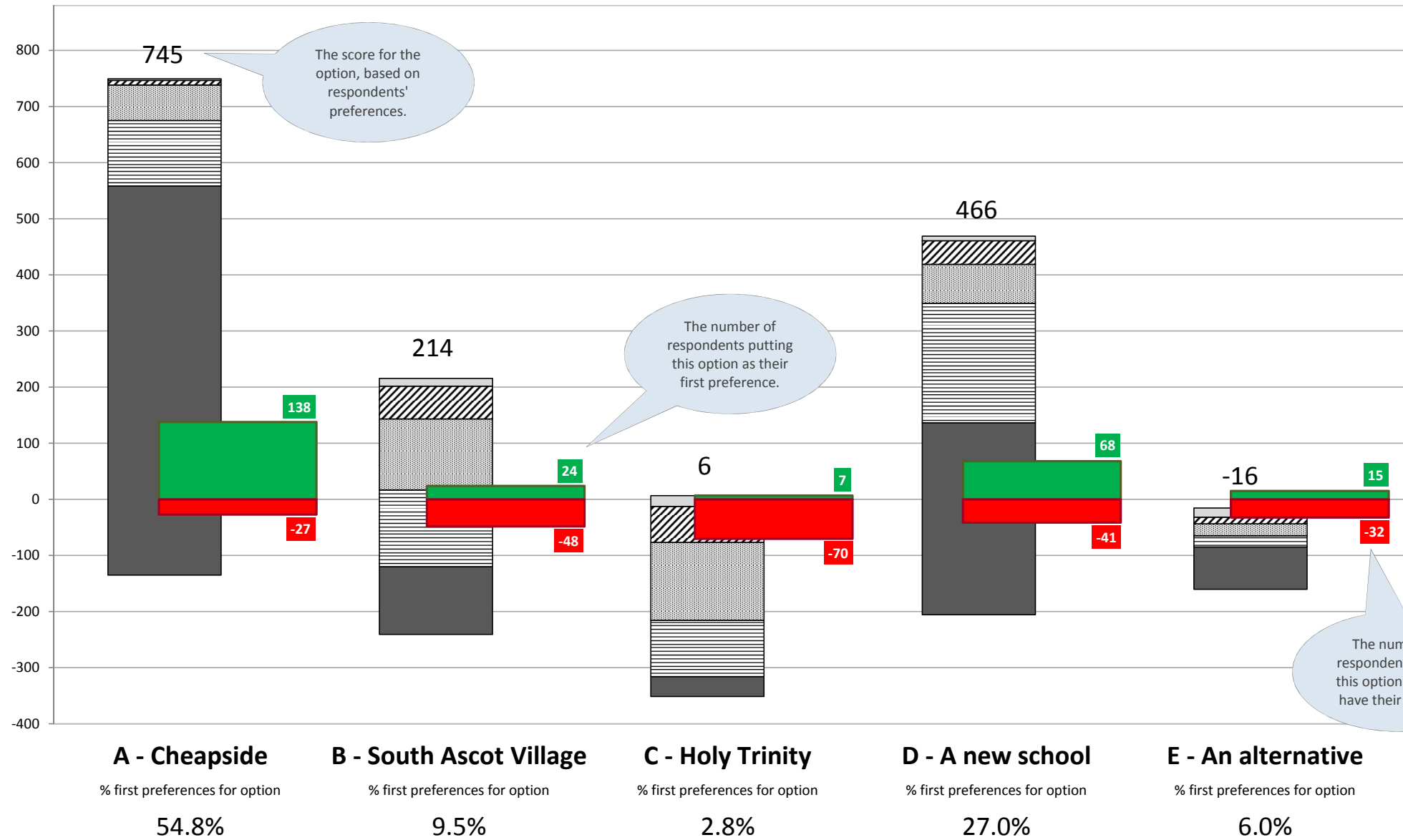
Each respondent was asked to rank the options in order of preference (1 to 5), or indicate that they did not support the option, or had no view on the option.

Each preference is worth a number of points, as follows:

- 1st preference 5 points
- 2nd preference 4 points
- 3rd preference 3 points
- 4th preference 2 points
- 5th preference 1 point
- Do not support -5 points
- No view 0 points

These points have then been tallied to provide an overall points score for each option.

The option with the highest score is the most popular. The option with the lowest score is the least popular.



KEY

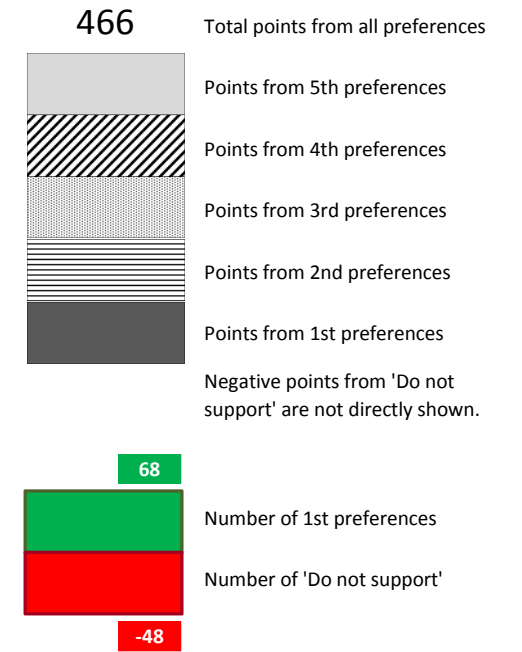


Table 1 - Number of preferences expressed for each option

	a	b	c	d	e	f	g
			A - Cheapside	B - South Ascot Village	C - Holy Trinity	D - A new school	E - An alternative
Ranked No. 1			138	24	7	68	15
Ranked No. 2			29	34	25	53	5
Ranked No. 3			21	42	46	23	7
Ranked No. 4			4	29	32	21	6
Ranked No. 5			3	14	19	8	16
I do not support this option			27	48	70	41	32
No view			17	48	40	25	158
Total Responses			239	239	239	239	239

A number of respondents indicated more than one first preference, so there are 252 1st preferences, rather than 239.

Table 2 - Points awarded to each option

	a	b	c	d	e	f	g
			A - Cheapside	B - South Ascot Village	C - Holy Trinity	D - A new school	E - An alternative
Ranked No. 1	5		690	120	35	340	75
Ranked No. 2	4		116	136	100	212	20
Ranked No. 3	3		63	126	138	69	21
Ranked No. 4	2		8	58	64	42	12
Ranked No. 5	1		3	14	19	8	16
I do not support this option	-5		-135	-240	-350	-205	-160
No view	0		0	0	0	0	0
Total Score			745	214	6	466	-16

A - Cheapside

B - South Ascot Village

C - Holy Trinity

D - A new school

E - An alternative

Table 3 - Breakdown of preferences expressed by each school community¹

	a	b	c	d	e
	A - Cheapside		B - South Ascot Village		C - Holy Trinity
Ranked No. 1		67	8	0	
Ranked No. 2		0	0	0	
Ranked No. 3		0	2	5	
Ranked No. 4		0	0	7	
Ranked No. 5		0	0	8	
I do not support this option		1	3	27	
No view		0	0	1	
Total Responses		68	13	48	

¹School Community = Parents, Staff and Governors at the relevant school.

Table 4 - Breakdown of preferences expressed by local residents²

	a	b	c	d	e
	A - Cheapside		B - South Ascot Village		C - Holy Trinity
Ranked No. 1		3	2	1	
Ranked No. 2		3	4	1	
Ranked No. 3		1	4	3	
Ranked No. 4		1	5	0	
Ranked No. 5		2	5	2	
I do not support this option		11	10	5	
No view		1	3	0	
Total Responses		22	33	12	

²Local Resident Responses are from those who are not connected with the school, but live in the school designated area (or, for South Ascot Village Primary, in South Ascot).

Table 5 - Summary of comments made by respondents (the number in brackets indicates the number of respondents broadly making the comment).

a	b	c	d	e	f
General	A - Cheapside	B - South Ascot Village	C - Holy Trinity	D - A new school	E - An alternative
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - need plan for secondary expansions (7). - expand schools close to demand (5). - uncertainty about future demand (5). - impact on Bracknell schools? (2). - don't expand faith schools (2). - don't prioritise second phase yet (1). 	<p>Expand Cheapside because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - gives whole year group teaching (24). - helps financial viability (19). - it is an 'Outstanding' School (16). - a traffic solution is possible (14). - the 5 schools should be same size (7). - scheme provides places quickly (7). - has the space/capacity to expand (6). - school is popular (3). - improves school facilities (1). - will help raise standards (1). <p>Don't expand Cheapside because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - impact on traffic/parking (29). - loss of Green Belt (5). - not near the demand (2). - impact on outdoor space (2). - is best as a small school (2). - will overcrowd the site (1). - LA should solve funding issue (1). - will lose small school ethos (1). - will bring more noise (1). - mixed year group teaching is good (1). <p>Other comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - don't build on the swimming pool (3). - not enough to meet demand (2). - lease needs to be arranged (2) - no access for build via allotment (1). - use the leased land for car-park (1). - could be issues staff recruitment (1). 	<p>Expand South Ascot because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - has a large enough site (5). - is near expected demand (4). - is a community school serving all (3). - a traffic solution is possible (2). - is not in the Green Belt (2). - will give school better facilities (1). - has 'Good' Ofsted (1). - will benefit from being larger (1). <p>Don't expand South Ascot because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - impact on traffic/parking (6). - impact on outdoor space (3). - is not popular (2). - building work will be disruptive (1). - will lose school ethos (1). 	<p>Expand Holy Trinity because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a traffic solution is possible (1). - is near expected demand (1). <p>Don't expand Holy Trinity because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - impact on traffic/parking (17). - impact on outdoor space (7). - will lose school ethos (5). - will overcrowd the site (4). - buildings not accessible (2). - disruption during construction (1). - school is in conservation area (1). - will negatively affect standards (1). <p>Other comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - could be issues staff recruitment (2). 	<p>Build a new school because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - best option for the long term (19). - should be provided by a developer (6). - solves traffic/parking (2). <p>Don't build a new school because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - new school is expensive (2). <p>Suggested sites for new school:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Allens Field, South Ascot (2). - Ascot High Street (2). - Gasholder Site, Sunninghill (2). - Heatherwood (2). - Civil Service College (1). - Kings Beeches, Sunninghill (1). - Silwood Park, Sunningdale (1). - Sunningdale Park (1). 	<p>Suggested alternatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - St Michael's expand/move (3). - build fewer houses (2). - offer fewer places to out-borough (1). - use failing private schools (1).

APPENDIX B – DEMAND FOR NEW PRIMARY SCHOOL PLACES IN ASCOT

1. BACKGROUND

1.1 Five Royal Borough primary schools serve the Ascot area, providing a total of 136 Reception places each year. The five schools are:

- Cheapside CE Primary School (current Published Admission Number 16).
- Holy Trinity CE Primary School, Sunningdale (30).
- St Francis Catholic Primary School (30).
- St Michael's CE Primary School (30).
- South Ascot Village Primary School (30).

1.2 North Ascot, within the borough, is served by the Bracknell Forest schools, Ascot Heath Infant, Ascot Heath CE Junior and Cranbourne Primary School, in a similar way that Charters School serves part of the same area for secondary places.

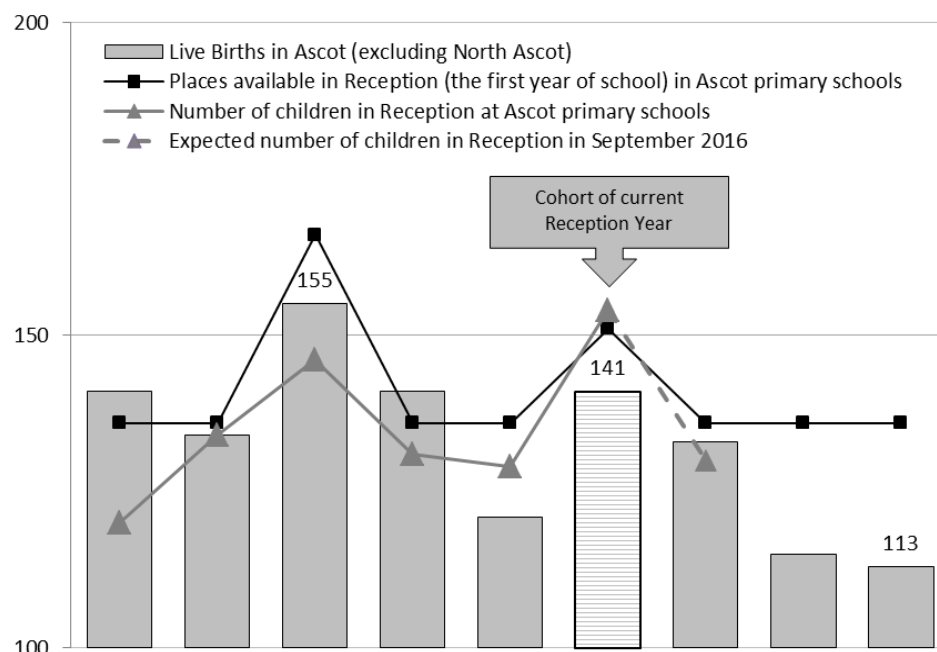
1.3 There have been no permanent expansions to primary school provision in Ascot over the past decade, although there have been two 'bulge' classes, one at South Ascot Village Primary School (2012) and one at Holy Trinity CE Primary School Sunningdale (2015) to cope with temporary increases in demand.

Underlying demand for places

1.4 The underlying demand for primary school places is now set to drop over the next few years, as the birth rate has fallen recently to just 113 in 2013/14 (excluding North Ascot). This compares to an average of 134 per year in the period 2008/09 to 2011/12.

1.5 Some children in the area attend local independent sector schools or state schools in other local authority areas.

Table B1 – Live Births Information for Ascot, excluding North Ascot



Source: Office of National Statistics and RBWM annual pupil census

	Actual intakes						Future intakes		
Reception Intake Year (September)	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Year of births	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
Age as at 31 st August 2015	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Live Births	141	134	155	141	121	141	133	115	113
Permanent Places	136	136	136	136	136	136	136	136	136
Bulge Class Places	0	0	30	0	0	15	0	0	0
Total Places	136	136	166	136	136	151	136	136	136
Reception Intake	120	134	146	131	129	154	-	-	-

- 1.6 The falling underlying demand is part of a general fall in the birth rate across England, down from 729,674 in 2012 to 695,233 in 2014¹.
- 1.7 The intakes into Reception classes in September 2017, 2018 and 2019 are expected, therefore, to be smaller than in recent years. The longer term demographics are unclear as the future cohorts are not yet born. It is quite possible that demand could continue to fall beyond 2019 or indeed rise again.
- 1.8 The 2016 pupil projections have now been completed. The model has proven to be insensitive to more rapid changes in demand in recent years. In particular 2014 projections did not predict the surge in demand for Reception places for September 2015 while the 2015 projections overestimated the demand after the surge. Adjustments to the model have therefore been made for 2016, which will need to be tested against actual numbers in due course and caution must be applied.

¹ Birth Summary Tables, England and Wales 2014, Office of National Statistics, July 2015

- 1.9 The 2016 projections show a steady reduction in demand up to September 2019, with lower numbers of births in the area only partially counteracted by inward migration and new housing.

Table B2 – 2016 Ascot Pupil Projections (Reception intake)

Reception Intake Year (September)	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Total Places	136	136	151	136	136	136	136
Reception Intake (actual)	131	129	154	-	-	-	-
Reception Intake (projected)	-	-	-	129	126	124	112

New housing in the Ascot area

- 1.10 Set against the current falling birth rate, however, is the impact of new housing in the Ascot area. In 2014 Ascot residents approved (in a referendum) the Ascot, Sunninghill and Sunningdale Neighbourhood Plan. This plan considered housing needs in the local area and identified a number of large sites that would be suitable for new housing. These sites could provide an extra 50 new dwellings per year. Overall, this would mean around 1,300 new flats and houses in Ascot by 2030.

Table B3 – Strategic sites for housing in Ascot

Site	Location	Size	Primary school designated area				
			Cheapside	Holy Trinity	St Francis	St Michael's	South Ascot Village
Ascot North ("Village")	Ascot	3.5ha	✓		✓		✓
Ascot South ("Green")	Ascot	5.4ha			✓		✓
Ascot Station	Ascot	1.0ha			✓		✓
Heatherwood	Ascot	18ha			✓		✓
Shorts, St George's Lane	Ascot	5.6ha			✓		✓
Sunningdale Broomhall	Sunningdale	-		✓	✓		✓
Gasholder site	Sunninghill	2.5ha			✓	✓	✓
Sunningdale Park	Sunningdale	4.8ha		✓	✓		✓
Silwood Park	Sunningdale	5.5ha	✓		✓		✓

- 1.11 Not all of these sites will necessarily be developed, and those that are developed may have other uses – employment, retail, healthcare, open space and education – in addition to housing on some or all of the site.
- 1.12 In approving the Ascot Neighbourhood Plan, the local community gave support to *"more houses built that our children could afford, typified as being 3-4 bedroom modest family homes"*².
- 1.13 On the basis of the current pupil yield figures, 1,300 new dwellings might bring between 305 and 647 additional primary age children in total, equivalent to 44 (1.5 forms of entry) to 93 (3.1 forms of entry) children per year group:

² Page 32, Ascot, Sunninghill and Sunningdale Neighbourhood Plan, 2014

Table B4 – Pupil yield figures for 1,580 dwellings, illustrative only

Dwelling type and size	No. of primary age children per dwelling	Model 1		Model 2		Model 3	
		No. new dwellings	Yield	No. new dwellings	Yield	No. new dwellings	Yield
1 bed flat	0.00	410	n/a	240	n/a	30	n/a
2 bed flat	0.14	410	57	240	33	30	4
2 bed house	0.68	150	102	240	164	320	218
3 bed house	0.40	150	60	240	96	320	128
4 bed house	0.46	150	70	240	111	320	148
5 bed house	0.53	30	16	100	53	280	148
Total	-	1,300	305	1,300	457	1,300	647

"Note that 1 bed flats are assumed to have no pupil yield.

Resulting primary age children per year group	44	65	93
Size of primary school needed (Forms of Entry)	1.5	2.2	3.1

- 1.14 These models are not an attempt to set out what the new housing in the area will actually be, but give an indication of the additional demand that the new housing might bring. As the new dwellings will be constructed over the lifetime of the neighbourhood plan, the impact will be spread out over a fifteen year period. The type of dwellings being built will have a significant impact on the level of extra demand for primary school places.
- 1.15 The strategic sites are spread across the Ascot area. Both South Ascot Village School and St Francis Catholic Primary have large designated areas that cover the whole Ascot area (excluding North Ascot).
- 1.16 The Royal Borough expects to be consulting on the full draft Borough Local Plan later in 2016, and this may have an impact on the housing allocations for the Ascot area. The housing assumptions in the neighbourhood plan and this report will need to be revisited in due course.

Movement in the area

- 1.17 In recent years, most year groups in the five primary schools have been full, or close to full, creating difficulties for families moving into the area. Table B5 shows the spare places in the Ascot primary schools in June 2016.

Table B5 – Places available in Ascot Primary Schools, June 2016

	Year R	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Cheapside	-1	0	0	0	-1	0	0
Holy Trinity	-2	0	0	-1	0	-2	-2
St Francis	-1	-1	-1	0	-1	-1	-1
St Michael's	0	0	0	-1	0	-2	-1
South Ascot	-1	2	-1	18 ¹	0	1	5
Places available	0	2	0	19	0	1	5

¹This is the cohort with the bulge class at South Ascot

- 1.18 The Royal Borough's Fair Access Panel has had to consider nine applications for primary school places in Ascot in the 2015/16 academic year, where there has been no place available locally. Four schools have had to take two extra children each, and one school one extra child, into year groups that are already full. With current vacancy levels so low there is the risk that children may have to be placed in schools outside the area, which could require the borough to provide home to school transport.
- 1.19 Whilst this situation may ease as a result of the smaller intake trends, this may only be temporary if the underlying demand – the number of live births locally – picks up again.

Conclusion on demand

- 1.20 Whilst there may be a short-term easing of demand for Reception places in Ascot, it seems likely that new housing and inward migration to the Ascot area will result in the need for new primary school places. In addition, any increase in the birth rate in future will mean that this need is brought forward. Finally, the existing level of surplus places is below the 10% sought by the borough, and some families are finding it difficult to get primary school places in Ascot.