

9 January 2020**School and Pupil Place Planning Report****Ward(s): All****Portfolios: Councillor Chris Towe – Education and Skills****1. Aim**

To provide an overview on pupil place planning for Walsall.

2. Recommendations

That the Committee considers the contents of this report and decides whether there should be further information or action.

3. Report detail – know

Walsall is divided into planning areas for both primary and secondary schools for the purpose of school organisation and pupil place planning. Primary schools are organised into 11 planning areas – Appendix 1/1b; secondary schools are divided into four planning areas – Appendix 2/2b.

Walsall has experienced an increased birth rate over recent years, which has required the local authority to increase school places. Demand for primary places in Walsall varies across the borough. Some planning areas are experiencing steady increases while others are either remaining static with potential for future bulge years, or are showing a decline in projected pupil numbers. Increased demand for primary places in some planning areas, particularly because of inward migration has created pressure on places.

The projections for primary schools are as follows:

	Total Pupil Admission Number (PAN)	Projected Places	Surplus
2020/21	3952	3680	272
2021/22	3952	3934	18
2022/23	3952	3458	494
2023/24	3952	3600	352

To alleviate pressure in 2021 Walsall's Cabinet approved the expansion of four schools in planning areas 4 and 5 in March 2019. Since March, however and because of changes in circumstances, one of the schools that was due to be expanded is no longer appropriate now to be increased due to the current Requires Improvement grading and the projected lack of need for the pupil places. A paper is therefore being presented to Cabinet in December 2019 to revoke the decision to formally expand Goldsmith Academy. The other 3 projects are continuing.

Walsall experiences significant cross border movement in Secondary schools, particularly with Birmingham, Sandwell and Wolverhampton. Secondary planning area 2 attracts children to the schools from both Walsall and Birmingham; Birmingham is currently expanding some of their schools, which could have an impact on places required within Walsall, due to cross border migration. St Thomas More Catholic School in planning area 4 also attracts a significant proportion of its pupils from across the border in Wolverhampton.

The projections for secondary schools are as follows:

	Total PAN	Projected Places	Shortfall
2020/21	3561	3662	-101
2021/22	3561	3680	-119
2022/23	3561	3747	-186
2023/24	3561	3750	-189

The local authority has undertaken a review of all the secondary school Net Capacity Assessments (NCA) that has determined the correct capacity that each school can admit. This has established which schools have additional capacity that does not reflect in their Pupil Admission Number (PAN). In recent years a number of secondary schools have reduced their PAN to reduce surplus capacity against the wishes of the local authority.

Walsall Association of Secondary Head teachers were approached and conversations have been held to request them to exceed their set PAN to accommodate the increase in places required. This would represent a cost effective solution to meet future increased levels of demand for secondary places by utilising surplus places at existing secondary schools and ensuring that published admission numbers reflect annual net capacity.

If further additional places are required, this requirement could be fulfilled by permanently expanding current provision or creating bulge year groups to give temporary increased capacity as appropriate. The alternative would be for the local authority to support the creation of a Free School, which in turn could have a detrimental effect on place take up within current secondary schools. Also, there isn't a need for a whole new school intake.

Based on the conversations already had, some schools have agreed to increase their PAN and the number of places across all the secondary schools will be higher than the projected place requirement.

	Total NCA	Projected Places	Available
2020/21	4000	3662	3925

Financial information

The expansion projects will be funded from the Basic Need Capital Fund. The 3 Primary projects are already approved and finances committed.

The capital grant is allocated by the Education and Skills Funding Agency to local authorities, based on pupil place number forecasts, to deliver the additional places in schools to meet expected demands.

Reducing Inequalities

It is important for the Council's strategic aims that the children and young people of Walsall are able to access the right provision to meet their needs in order to achieve the appropriate qualifications, progressing to employment and / or training, and to make a positive contribution within in the future.

The proposals ensure access to suitable, high quality school places that are attractive to parents and young people, which meet their needs and improve educational outcomes.

4. Decide

The Committee may decide to note the current position.

The Committee may decide to request further information, as pertains to individual planning area and school expansions.

The Committee may decide to request that a further briefing on place planning is offered to all elected Members.

5. Respond

The capital projects will be monitored through the Capital Programme Board.

6. Review

The pupil projections are annually reviewed in line with Office of National Statistics Data, Live Birth Data and the census information reviewed from schools.

An annual report and update will come to the Committee. The next report is due in December 2020.

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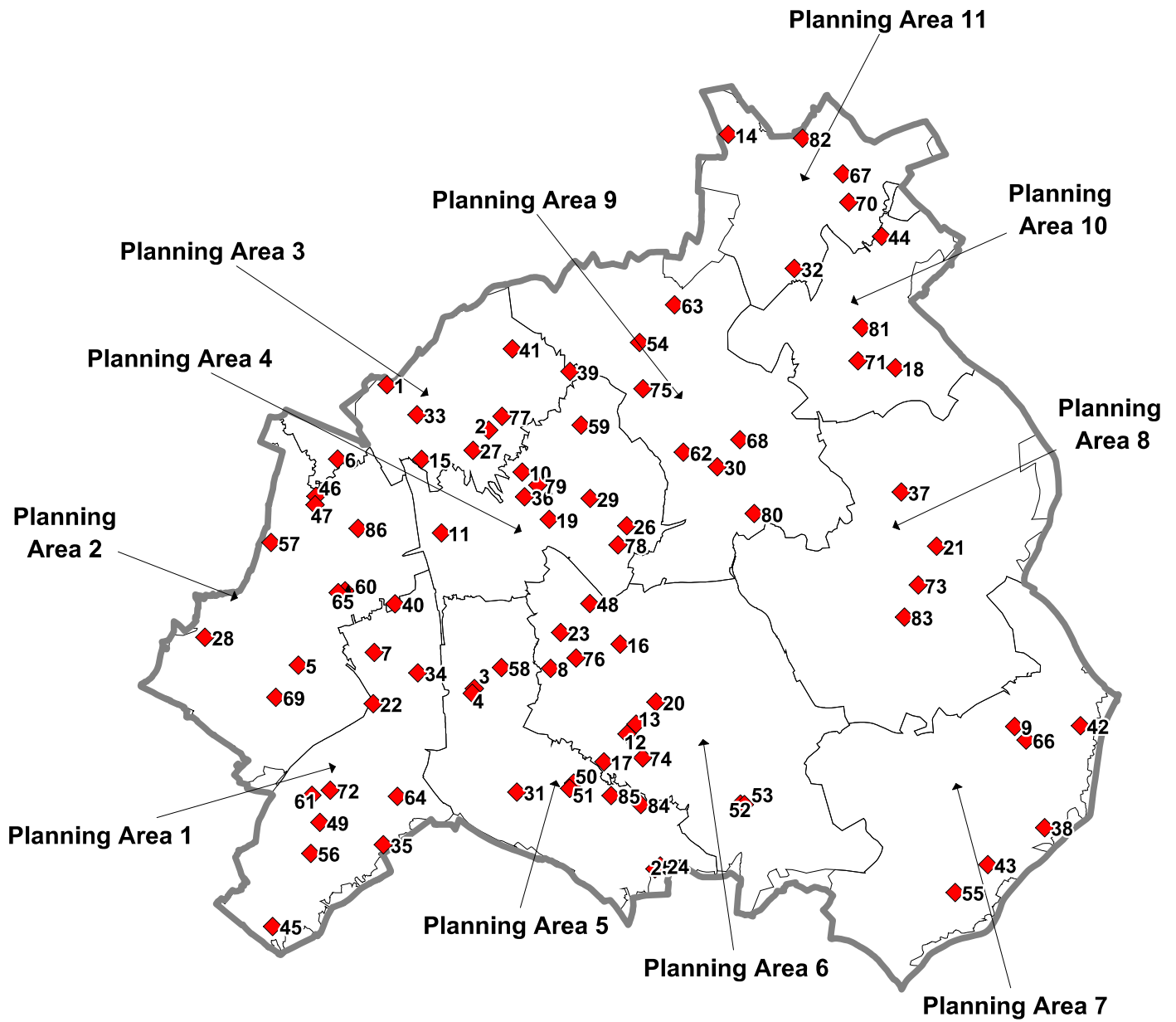
Primary Planning Areas



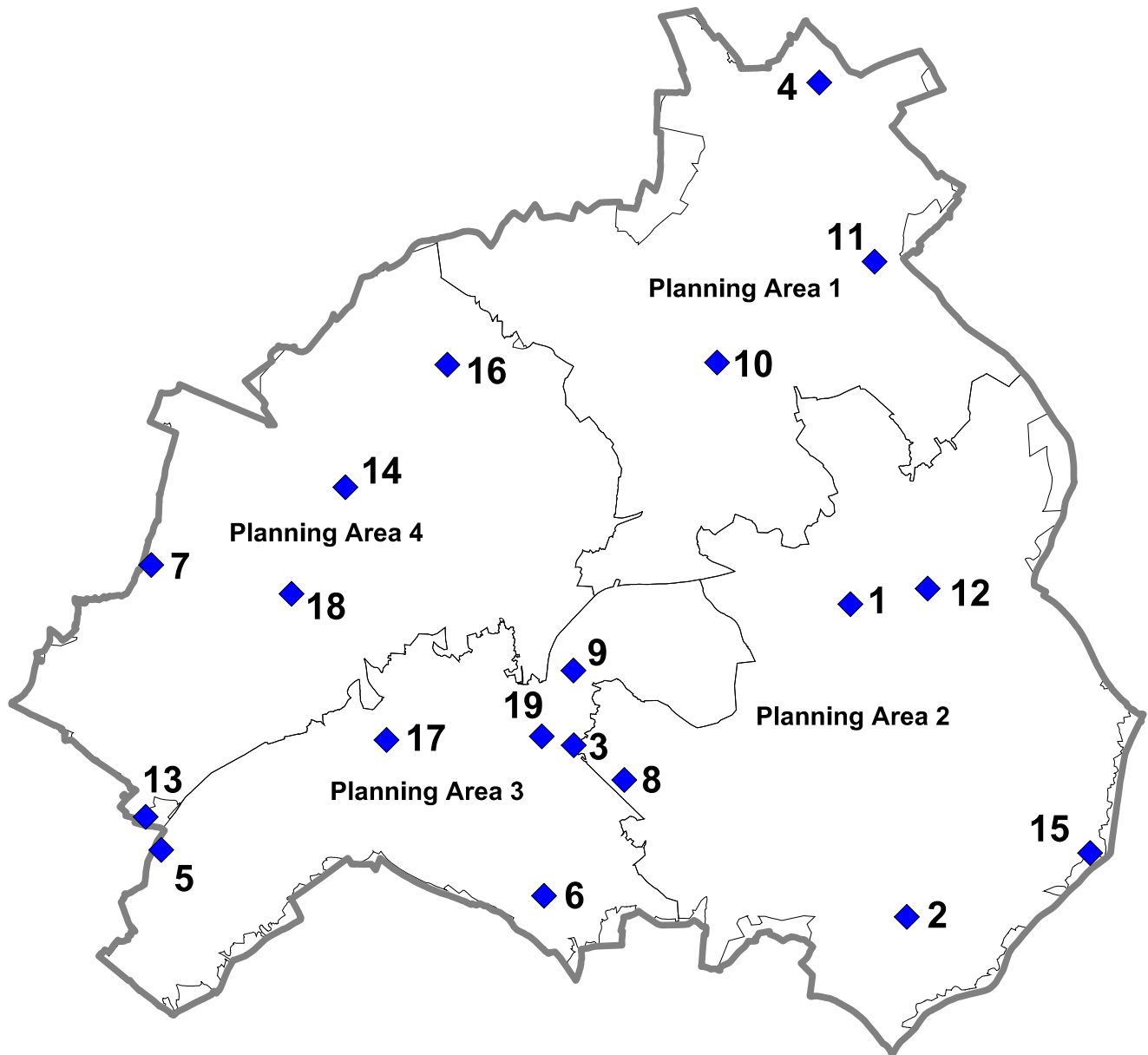
School Location

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| 1 Abbey Primary | 63 Ryders Hayes school |
| 2 All Saints National Academy | 64 Salisbury Primary |
| 3 Alumwell Infant | 65 Short Heath Junior |
| 4 Alumwell Junior | 66 St Annes's Catholic Primary |
| 5 Barcroft Primary | 67 St Bernadette's Catholic Primary |
| 6 Beacon Primary | 68 St Francis Catholic Primary |
| 7 Bentley West Primary | 69 St Giles CE Primary |
| 8 Birchills CE Community Academy | 70 St James Primary |
| 9 Blackwood | 71 St John's CE Primary |
| 10 Blakenall Heath Junior | 72 St Joseph's Catholic Primary |
| 11 Bloxwich Academy | 73 St Mary of the Angels Catholic Primary |
| 12 Blue Coat CE (A) Infant | 74 St Mary's the Mount Catholic Primary |
| 13 Blue Coat CE (A) Junior | 75 St Michael's CE (C) Primary |
| 14 Brownhills West Primary | 76 St Patrick's Catholic Primary |
| 15 Busill Jones Primary | 77 St Peter's Catholic Primary |
| 16 Butts Primary | 78 St Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary |
| 17 Caldmore Village Primary | 79 Sunshine Infant and Nursery |
| 18 Castlefort JMI | 80 The Radleys Primary |
| 19 Christ Church CE (C) JMI | 81 Walsall Wood |
| 20 Chuckery Primary | 82 Watling Street Primary |
| 21 Cooper and Jordan CE VA Primary | 83 Whetstone Field Primary |
| 22 County Bridge Primary | 84 Whitehall Junior Community School |
| 23 Croft Academy | 85 Whitehall Nursery and Infant |
| 24 Delves Infant & Nursery | 86 Woodlands Academy of Learning |
| 25 Delves Junior | |
| 26 Edgar Stammers Primary Academy | |
| 27 Elmore Green Primary | |
| 28 Fibbersley Park Primary | |
| 29 Goldsmith Primary Academy | |
| 30 Greenfield Primary | |
| 31 Hillary Primary | |
| 32 Holy Trinity CE Primary | |
| 33 Jubilee Academy Mossley | |
| 34 King Charles Primary | |
| 35 King's Hill Primary | |
| 36 Leamore Primary | |
| 37 Leighswood | |
| 38 Lindens Primary | |
| 39 Little Bloxwich CE (VC) Primary | |
| 40 Lodge Farm Primary Academy | |
| 41 Lower Farm Primary | |
| 42 Manor Primary | |
| 43 Meadow View JMI | |
| 44 Millfield Primary | |
| 45 Moorcroft Wood Primary | |
| 46 New Invention Infant | |
| 47 New Invention Junior | |
| 48 North Walsall Academy | |
| 49 Old Church CE (C) Primary | |
| 50 Palfrey Infant | |
| 51 Palfrey Junior | |
| 52 Park Hall Infant Academy | |
| 53 Park Hall Junior Academy | |
| 54 Pelsall Village | |
| 55 Pheasey Park Farm Primary | |
| 56 Pinfold Street Primary | |
| 57 Pool Hayes Primary | |
| 58 Reedswood E-ACT Primary Academy | |
| 59 Rivers Primary Academy | |
| 60 Rosedale CE (C) Infant | |
| 61 Woods Bank Academy | |
| 62 Rushall Primary School | |

Primary Planning Areas



Secondary Planning Areas



Secondary Planning Areas

◆ School Location

- 1 Aldridge School - A Science College**
- 2 Barr Beacon School**
- 3 Blue Coat Church of England Academy**
- 4 Brownhills School**
- 5 Grace Academy Darlaston**
- 6 Joseph Leckie Academy**
- 7 Pool Hayes Academy**
- 8 Queen Mary's Grammar**
- 9 Queen Mary's High**
- 10 Ormiston Shelfield Community Academy**
- 11 Shire Oak Academy**
- 12 St Francis Of Assisi Catholic Technology College**
- 13 St Thomas More Catholic - Business & Enterprise College**
- 14 Bloxwich Academy**
- 15 The Streetly Academy**
- 16 Walsall Academy**
- 17 West Walsall E-ACT Academy**
- 18 Willenhall E-ACT Academy**
- 19 Walsall Studio School**