

## HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### Decision Report

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Executive Lead Member for Children's Services
<b>Date:</b>	7 December 2011
<b>Title:</b>	School Places Plan 2011-15
<b>Reference:</b>	3364
<b>Report From:</b>	The Director of Children's Services

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#### 1. Executive Summary

1.1. The purpose of this paper is to seek approval to consult on the draft School Places Plan 2011-15.

#### 2. Contextual information

2.1. Up to 2003 the County Council had a statutory duty to publish a School Organisation Plan, setting out the context for changes in school organisation and the provision of school places, and measures proposed to meet future needs. Although no longer statutory, the plan has been a useful tool to provide the context for decisions and for negotiations with developers, and has formed part of the evidence base for Borough and District Councils when preparing their Local Development Frameworks.

2.2. With the exception of 2010, when the context for long term planning was affected by the government's intention to withdraw the South East Plan, a plan (now renamed as the School Places Plan) has been produced each year.

2.3. The content and format of the appended draft School Places Plan 2011-15 reflects a significant change from previous plans whose emphasis was on surplus school places in the primary sector. This situation is now reflected in the secondary sector and in most areas of the county we are facing several more years of declining secondary numbers in schools.

2.4. Hampshire, in keeping with the national picture, has experienced a significant rise in births over the past 10 years. This, together with housing development in various parts of the county, is resulting in pressure on primary school

places in some areas. Whilst the number of births in Hampshire has increased overall this has not been consistent across the county. Similarly, the scale of new housing and planned development varies across the 13 planning authorities (district and borough councils and national parks) within the county.

- 2.5. The School Places Plan 2011-15 focuses on pupil number forecasts which are arrived at through an analysis of past and present uptake of places in all maintained schools in Hampshire, together with birth and housing data. The Plan contains sections for each of the eleven districts and boroughs within the county and set outs how many births there are in each area together with an estimate of how many of those births will become primary age children in four years time. Planned new housing within districts and boroughs is commented on and reflects the fact that each of the planning authorities is at various stages of the development of their Local Development Frameworks, which set out the number and location of new dwellings planned over the next 15-20 years.
- 2.6. It is intended that consultation on the draft School Places Plan 2011-15 be undertaken with headteachers, governors, Members, district and borough councils in Hampshire, neighbouring authorities and other interested parties, with a closing date of 31 March 2012. The Plan is very much designed to be a dynamic document, its eventual content will be informed through the consultation process and a final draft brought to the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services for his approval.

### **3. Finance**

- 3.1. The plan does not, in itself, commit expenditure but will inform the allocation of resources through the capital programme.

### **4. Recommendation**

- 4.1. That authority is given to consult on the draft School Places Plan 2011-15.

**CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:****Links to the Corporate Strategy**

<b>Hampshire safer and more secure for all:</b>	no
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
<b>Maximising well-being:</b>	yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
<b>Enhancing our quality of place:</b>	yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	

**Other Significant Links**

<b>Links to previous Member decisions:</b>		
<u>Title</u> School Places Plan 2009	<u>Reference</u> 740	<u>Date</u> 22 July 2009
<b>Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives</b>		
<u>Title</u> None	<u>Date</u>	

**Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents**

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
None	

## **IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:**

### **1. Equalities Impact Assessment:**

1.1. No adverse impact has been identified

### **2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:**

2.1. No issues have been identified

### **3. Climate Change:**

- a) **How what does is being proposed impact on our carbon footprint / energy consumption?**
  
- b) **How does what is being proposed consider the need to adapt to climate change, and be resilient to its longer term impacts?**

Both factors will be taken into account in the development of proposals to meet the needs identified in the plan.