

EDUCATION AND LEARNING INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN



Contents

Section 1:	Suffolk’s Education and Learning Landscape	Page 3
Section 2:	The Infrastructure Plan	Page 4
Section 3:	Place Planning Strategy	
	3.1. – Local Context	Page 5
	3.2. – Opening new, or extending existing schools	
	3.3. – Funding and Challenges	Page 6
	3.4. – Our new approach	Page 7
Section 4:	Identified Issues	
	4.1. – Countywide Headlines	Page 8
	4.2. – Babergh	Page 9
	4.3. – Forest Heath	Page 11
	4.4. – Ipswich	Page 13
	4.5. – Mid Suffolk	Page 15
	4.6. – St Edmundsbury	Page 17
	4.7. – Suffolk Coastal	Page 19
	4.8. – Waveney	Page 21
Section 5:	Small Schools and Surplus Places Strategy	
	5.1. – Small Schools Overview	Page 22
	5.2. – Risk Assessment	
	5.3. – Future Strategy	
Section 7:	Appendices	
	App 1. – Projected school rolls	Page 24
	App 2. – Spare Sites	Page 25
	App 3. – School Capacity Plan (upon request)	

Section 1 – Suffolk’s Education and Learning Landscape

The vision of Suffolk County Council’s Children and Young People’s Service is to encourage and enable all children and young people in Suffolk to aspire to and achieve their potential. A key priority for the Council is improving attainment and accelerating progress in Suffolk schools so that we exceed national attainment and progress at all key stages. To that end, we aspire to be able to provide sufficient, high quality places within a school organisation system which offers good schools for all children within their local communities.

Despite recent improvements, Suffolk is still performing poorly in comparison with national averages and its statistical neighbours. Poor aggregate levels of pupil progress and attainment are combined with wide gaps in educational achievement between disadvantaged groups and other pupils, leading to poor outcomes for disadvantaged young people beyond schooling and in later life. Raising the Bar is a combined response to tackle this issue – its focus is on raising attainment and aspirations across young people in education throughout Suffolk. It is about linking the skills we have in the county with the job opportunities available from employers, by improving connections between the educator and employers.

This work is being done in parallel with a significant shift in the way education and learning is delivered and funded. The increased freedoms being exercised by Academies and Free Schools have seen the Local Authority role in education become a mix of provider, commissioner and strategic partner to the schools within the county.

As at October 2014, Suffolk’s learning and education was provided by:

Early Learning - Learning provision in the early years is offered by a mix of private, voluntary and independent (PVI) providers, school nursery classes and one nursery school. Suffolk has a total of 430 PVI providers and 95 maintained nursery classes, these are categorised as:

119	private nurseries
171	voluntary managed provision
10	independent schools
130	childminders
95	maintained nursery classes

Schools – As at November 2014, Suffolk has a total of 273 maintained schools, 52 academies and 6 free schools, these are categorised as:

232	primary schools	20	primary academies
8	middle schools	2	middle academies
13	secondary schools	27	secondary academies
5	special schools	3	special academies
14	pupil referral units		
1	sixth form school		
		6	free schools

Combined, the education and learning providers in Suffolk provide education for approximately 97,000 children with 54,000 of primary school age, 36,000 of high school age and 7,000 in post-16 education.

Section 2 – The Infrastructure Plan

The aims of this infrastructure plan are to provide:

- A joined up approach to planning the county-wide infrastructure needs for all education provision in the county.
- Key stakeholders with an understanding of place planning and the role the Local Authority statutorily has to discharge.
- Local Planning Authorities with an understanding of the issues and pressures faced and our shared responsibilities in sourcing sufficient places for education in areas of housing growth and development.

A new shared approach to this work is pivotal to meeting the needs outlined later in this document. Traditionally this work has taken place for many years but has mostly assumed the role of a technical or office based exercise involving those officers with the professional skills and knowledge required to complete the calculation and undertake the detailed planning. We want the document to have a new focus as a plan that is informative to, and informed by, our partners and key stakeholders.

Once completed this document will become the driver for a new way of working, a new Infrastructure Planning group has been set up to carry out the strategic planning with operational groups feeding in to that planning group continuing to maximise the use of the expertise and knowledge of officers that have carried out this work for a number of years. The plan will be a ‘living document’ due to the fluidity an uncertainty of the countywide development, and reviewed annually by Cabinet.

In this plan we will move away from terminology that has historically defined pupil movement such as ‘catchment areas’ or ‘pyramids’ of schools. This is not to say that these areas are not necessary to make decisions in other areas of work, such as Admissions, but whilst we strive to provide local schools for local communities there is also a strong element of parental choice that impacts upon our decision making.

Section 3 – School Place Planning

3.1 The Local Context

In contrast to Suffolk's rural areas, the main urban areas and market towns are expected to accommodate major growth in the form of urban extensions or new communities. These developments are usually on the periphery of towns and often some distance from existing schools and other community infrastructure.

Patterns of population change will also affect Suffolk's local communities. In some areas inward migration is a major factor, particularly where new development is planned. There is also inconsistency across the county in terms of future birth rates with some areas of the county seeing a decreasing population whilst other areas spike.

All of these factors, including changes in population age structure and new development rates, are difficult to forecast with any degree of certainty. However, we have to be able to respond flexibly to changing patterns of need and ensure that new investment takes place in the most appropriate way and in the most appropriate location.

3.2 Opening new, or extending existing schools

Schools are grouped into planning areas and where individual schools are forecast over the Published Admissions Number (PAN), the overflow is redistributed across the neighbouring schools with spaces. If there are insufficient spaces across an area then there is a need for more places. Once this need for additional places is identified, mainly due to natural population growth or new housing developments, there are a number of issues that need to be taken into consideration before solutions are identified.

We look at all the local schools to determine the most appropriate for expansion. Criteria for this decision include:

- Where do the children live?
- Where are any major housing developments located?
- Which schools have space to expand?

Whilst quality of provision is taken into account when exploring expansion options, in some areas the solutions have to be driven by geographical and financial constraints and whilst we would give serious consideration before deciding to expand a poorly performing school, we do need to assess local need for local pupils. In some cases growth may be a catalyst for school improvement but we would ensure this expansion does not detract from the school plans and aspirations towards raising attainment and the quality of teaching.

Other issues that need to be taken into consideration involve the school's capacity to expand. This is not just focused on the infrastructure, such as hall space, playing fields or access, for example, but the management and staffing structuring of the school which would likely need to change if a school were to expand.

Any new school that opens in the county must be an academy or voluntary aided school. If an academy, this requires the Local Authority to seek proposals from the Department for Education (DfE) approved academy sponsors to run a new school. This process is run by the Local Authority, who assesses submitted proposals, and shares the results with the Secretary of State, including the steps taken to seek proposals.

3.3 Challenges to meet statutory duties

The LA is required to secure sufficient early learning places for eligible 2 year olds, estimated at 40% of the total 2 year old population, and all three and four year olds. An early learning place is defined as 15 hours per week for 38 weeks of the year and eligible children are entitled to take up the place in the term after their 2nd birthday. This entitlement is aimed at our more disadvantaged families and impacts on the ability of the current market to deliver enough places in the localities where most needed.

The number of school aged children and young people is growing as the county sees spikes in localised population growth, net increases in immigration and a large amount of new developments for the revitalised housing market. Our pupil forecasts show the total school population will increase by over 4,500 (5%) in the next 5 years (primary age increasing to over 6%; secondary starting to increase in the next couple of years and continuing for at least the next 10 years). Within this growth there are particular growth 'hot spots' such as Ipswich, North Lowestoft and Forest Heath.

Funding is always a constraint but this is more than ever becoming a significant problem. Our main source of funding is the annual 'Basic Need' grant from the DfE. This will be £10.9 million in 2014/15 but will reduce to only £1 million in each of the years 2015/16 and 2016/17. This decrease in an important source of capital funding is partly due to a change in distribution methodology devised by the Education Funding Agency (EFA) which has hit Suffolk, and similar authorities, hard. We have found sources of funding from corporate reserves to close the gap in the short term that will ensure building projects already on site can be completed; in the longer term this drop in Basic Need funding will have an impact on the capital programme.

We can also no longer rely on the proceeds of asset sales from surplus sites to gain a capital receipt to fund new build. These sites could be required for a new free school, a decision made by the Secretary of State, or community use (e.g. a new care home) and so are not available for sale.

In some cases where there is sufficient capacity within an area this is not always evenly distributed, leading to some parents being unable to get a school place for their child in the school of their choice, as there could be surplus places overall but not in that particular sought after year group.

3.4 Our new approach

This changing landscape will require a new approach to school capacity planning and lies behind the new attempt to do so collaboratively. As we develop our new plans they are likely to show a number of key changes from the previous approach.

Firstly a new collaborative and public approach, an example of this being increased working with colleagues across the Districts and Boroughs to share data and intelligence that informs our decision making. For example the LA providing feedback to their Local Plan documents on the impact on local schools from potential new housing developments. In some of the larger planned schemes, new schools may be required.

There will, by necessity, be a greater emphasis on the use of high quality temporary accommodation whilst schools are growing. Although these should not be viewed as a long-term option, it will reduce costs in the short to medium term to accommodate pupils as they move through the year groups until a permanent build is required.

Due to reduced capital funding there is an ever increasing importance on securing appropriate developer contributions towards the cost of school development and the new Community Infrastructure Levy. In some cases this may also require the developer to pay for additional land to allow a school to expand where new developments are agreed. These will need to be prioritised to meet the costs of school and early years provision as without this there is unlikely to be sufficient funding.

There will be a need to introduce a stricter process for prioritising school building projects so that the limited funding achieves best value and acceptance of the new 'off the peg' school designs introduced by the DfE which, although cost effective, are more basic than Suffolk is perhaps used to.

We will continue to work in partnership with neighbouring Local Authorities on the issues of standards for school designs and share good practice at a technical level. In some parts of the country, two or more LAs have introduced economies of scale by collaborating on school design and building projects that affect young people on the borders of their respective authority areas.

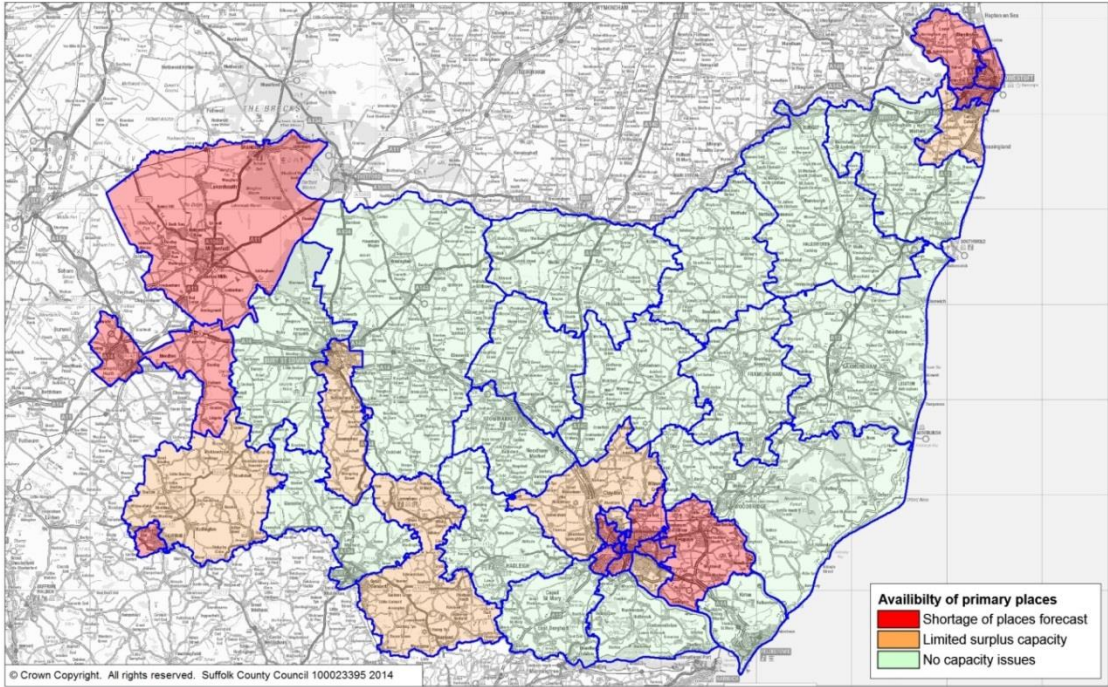
In appropriate circumstances, there may be the need to hand over the design and construction of a new school to the housing developers. Developers are becoming more challenging of Suffolk's design and construction costs for schools and would like the opportunity to explore this further with us using the appropriate benchmarking data. This route of delivery would need careful consideration given the current system is

offering good quality, on time delivery, and cost at or below national and regional benchmarks. Any new school would be built to the required 'Building Bulletin' standards, as set out in the DfE designs, and to the agreed timescales.

Section 4 – Identified Issues

4.1. County-wide place planning headlines

Below is a map of the 'hotspot' areas of the county. The shaded areas are identified as having the biggest need for additional places across the county based on natural population growth, these areas being North Lowestoft, Ipswich, Forest Heath and an area of Haverhill. This does not take into account future housing development needs.



Appendix 1 shows two graphs outlining predicted increases/decreases in primary and secondary pupils across the county. These figures are for illustration purposes only and are not specifically used for local planning or education planning purposes. This is trend-based data taken from the Office of National Statistics 2012- based sub-national population projections and do not include specific assumptions about growth from new housing developments. Being trend-based, these are no policy assumptions on housing growth for example. Furthermore, this data is based on patterns over the last five years which were influenced by the recession and lower levels of national migration.

According to the graphs, the demand for primary places is due to increase significantly over the next few years to 2017/18 and then level off, before a slight decline toward the middle of the next decade. Secondary places however are currently in decline until the next academic year. Following this, the increases seen in the primary sector

will begin to filter through to the secondary provision and will see rolls increase for the next ten years. Once again, this is trend-based and does not specifically include population increases through new housing developments or pre-recession levels of national migration, so we expect these increases to be higher than those indicated.

4.2. Babergh

The figures below are predicted population only and do NOT include data on new housing.

	2014	2016	2018	2020	2025
Pre-School Age Children (0-3)	3,311	3,182	3,142	3,109	3,039
Primary Age Children (4-10)	7,000	6,902	6,786	6,619	6,414
Secondary Age Children (11-15)	5,168	5,194	5,398	5,489	5,394

- Taken from the Office of National Statistics 2012- based sub-national population projections

No. of Primary Schools	Primary School Capacity	No. of Secondary Schools	Secondary School Capacity
38	6,728	5	4,981

Encouragement of small scale development in towns and villages may lead to a number of developments which do not generate enough developer funding for school expansion. In some areas any additional pupils generated by these developments may be easily accommodated in existing schools, and indeed may help smaller schools remain viable. In other areas these pupils may not be able to be accommodated in these schools and may have to be transported to other schools which do have capacity.

a) Chantry Vale

Issue: Proposed 350 houses on large development site opposite Suffolk One, adjacent to London Road and Poplar Lane, Ipswich.		
Solution: Preferred option for a new 105 place primary school, with capability to expand, on the site of the development to be funded in part by developer contributions. Existing primary provision in the area is nearing capacity and is some distance away.		
Places Required from: 2016	Funding: SCC and Developer Funding	RAG*

*RAG (Red-Amber-Green) ratings relate to the urgency of the solution being confirmed and progressed.

b) Brantham

Issue: A potential housing development scheme for “between circa 300-600 houses		
Solution: Funding from developer contributions required to extend Brooklands Primary School from 1 Form of Entry (FE) to 2 FE. This expansion could happen in situ as the school site can cope with the school doubling in size.		
Places Required from: 2017	Funding: Developer Contributions	RAG

c) Chilton Woods - Sudbury

Issue: Potential development of up to 1,250 houses on the northern side of Sudbury.		
Solution: Former site of All Saints Middle School is available for a new 315 place primary school depending on confirmation of the masterplan. Building to be paid for by developer contributions.		
Places Required from: 2016	Funding: Developer Contributions	RAG

d) Great Cornard

Issue: Potential development of 166 houses in the area.		
Solution: Need to look at expanding local primary provision, particularly Wells Hall Primary School, if additional places are required for the initial 166 dwellings.		
Places Required from: 2016	Funding: Developer Contributions	RAG

e) Holbrook Locality

Issue: New developments at Shotley and Holbrook proposed, subject to permission.		
Solution: Although there is spare capacity in the locality there is a need to investigate the impact on the local primary provision.		
Places Required from: 2016	Funding: Developer Contributions	RAG

f) Sproughton

Issue: Redevelopment at Elton Park (SHLAA site).		
Solution: Investigate impact on local primary provision.		
Places Required from: 2016	Funding: Developer Contributions	RAG

g) Hadleigh

Issue: Strategic allocation for 250 homes and "windfall" development.		
Solution: Expand existing primary provision and ensure secondary capacity is available.		
Places Required from: 2017	Funding: Developer Contributions	RAG

h) East Bergholt Locality

Issue: Potential cross-border demand from new housing in North Essex needs to be monitored.		
Solution: There is spare capacity in the locality so no additional places needed at this stage but this needs to be monitored longer term. Also need to ensure local secondary provision is sufficient to take pupils from a number of small developments.		
Places Required from: 2020	Funding: None at this stage	RAG

4.3. Forest Heath

The figures below are predicted population only and do NOT include data on new housing.

	2014	2016	2018	2020	2025
Pre-School Age Children (0-3)	3,914	3,887	3,950	3,953	3,886
Primary Age Children (4-10)	5,376	6,002	6,440	6,743	6,856
Secondary Age Children (11-15)	3,080	3,221	3,483	3,827	4,695

- Taken from the Office of National Statistics 2012- based sub-national population projections

No. of Primary Schools	Primary School Capacity	No. of Secondary Schools	Secondary School Capacity
16	4,035	3	3,172

Forest Heath remains one of the fastest growing districts in the country with a predicted increase in population of nearly 16% from 2011 to 2021 although this is heavily caveated due to the presence of military personal in the area. This trend will be magnified by the number of significant, potential new housing developments under discussion with the district planners.

The District Council is currently reviewing its Local Plan housing allocations, meaning that the numbers provided below are estimates at this stage.

a) Red Lodge

Issue: Population growth and further development of over 400 houses with potential further expansion of an additional 400 houses.*		
Solution: Second primary school required by 2017/18. SCC is working to identify an appropriate site and would seek to partly fund this from developer contributions. In the short term there may be a need to put in temporary capacity at St Christopher's CEVC Primary School for 2016-17 but in the long term further expansion is not a sustainable option.		
Places Required from: 2015	Funding: SCC and Developer Funding	RAG

b) Mildenhall

Issue: Population growth in the area. Longer term plans include possible expansion of Mildenhall to the west of over 1,000 new homes.*		
Solution: Need for additional 1.5 FE to cover population growth. Great Heath Primary School can increase by 1 FE and Beck Row Primary School can also increase by 0.5 FE. For the longer term development there will be a requirement for a new 315 place primary school. SCC will be seeking both land and building cost from the developers.		
Places Required from: 2015	Funding: SCC and Developer Funding	RAG

* Final housing distribution to be determined by the ongoing Single Issue Review.

c) Lakenheath

Issue: Significant housing proposed for over 1,000 dwellings*		
Solution: SCC is working to identify an appropriate site for a new primary school. Need for 1.5 FE of additional places and/or transport costs will need to be considered.		
Places Required from: 2017	Funding: Developer Contributions	RAG

d) Newmarket

Issue: Population growth and housing developments that could lead to 1,200 houses being built across the town.*		
Solution: Need for additional 1 FE required to cover population increase and initial development stages. Houldsworth Valley Primary School will expand to deal with population growth. For any housing developments, discussions are on-going about reserving a site large enough for up to a 315 place primary school using developer contributions to cover the cost of build.		
Places Required from: 2017	Funding: SCC and Developer Funding	RAG

e) Brandon

Issue: Population growth and potential development of up to 2,000 houses to west of town, subject to a new relief road.*		
Solution: Currently two primaries (Forest and Glade Primary Schools), one or both will need to be increased by 0.5 FE probably using temporary accommodation to meet demand for places. Their sites are almost at capacity but have scope to extend. New development will require a new 420 place primary school. Also need to investigate the capacity of local secondary provision and its ability to cope with an increasing population.		
Places Required from: 2020	Funding: SCC and Developer Funding	RAG

f) Exning

Issue: Potential development of up to 150 houses.*		
Solution: Could add pressure to existing primary places, need to monitor and evaluate the need to expand local school.		
Places Required from: 2015	Funding: Developer Contributions	RAG

g) Kentford

Issue: Development applications for up to 150 houses in the area.*		
Solution: Plans to develop Moulton Primary School are underway to accommodate the additional places. Also need to monitor developments in Cambridgeshire (Kennett) that could impact on place demand within the local primary school.		
Places Required from: 2016	Funding: Developer Contributions	RAG

4.4. Ipswich

The figures below are predicted population only and do NOT include data on new housing.

	2014	2016	2018	2020	2025
Pre-School Age Children (0-3)	7,792	7,725	7,785	7,787	7,660
Primary Age Children (4-10)	12,066	12,714	12,994	13,142	13,111
Secondary Age Children (11-15)	7,220	7,329	7,927	8,507	9,212

- Taken from the Office of National Statistics 2012- based sub-national population projections

No. of Primary Schools	Primary School Capacity	No. of Secondary Schools	Secondary School Capacity
32	11,751	8	10,470

Ipswich continues to be the district in Suffolk with the largest population due to a large number of births over deaths and substantial moves from elsewhere in the country. Ipswich has the highest basic need growth in the county and a large scale development planned in the north of the town.

a) Ipswich Garden Suburb

Issue: 3,500 houses planned over the lifetime of the development.		
Solution: In the short term there are available places at Westbourne and Ormiston Endeavour Academies which could provide some secondary capacity until critical mass is reached for the new high school. However, there are few empty places in local primaries although temporary accommodation could be used at a school during the transition period. SCC will be seeking full developer contributions for a new high school (approx. £15-£20 million) and three new primaries (3 x 315 place, approx. £5-£7 million each) plus sites that are suitable for expansion for each.		
Places Required from: 2019	Funding: Developer Contributions	RAG

b) Ipswich – East/Central

Issue: Population growth and potential new developments on the Ipswich Waterfront.		
Solution: A new primary school will be required in the centre of Ipswich to meet required place demand. No site has yet been secured but a number of options are being explored including with UCS for a site on their land and with IBC for a site at the rear of the Co-op on Carr Street.		
Places Required from: 2016	Funding: SCC and Developer Funding	RAG

c) Westbourne Locality

Issue: Population Growth		
Solution: Whitehouse Primary School is expected to fill and use additional space at Whitton Primary School for additional capacity.		
Places Required from: 2016	Funding: SCC Funding	RAG

d) St Clements development – East Ipswich

Issue: Potential new housing development on the site of the former St Clements Hospital.		
Solution: Exploring expansion of Rose Hill Primary School to 420 on land adjacent to school.		
Places Required from: 2016	Funding: Developer Contributions	RAG

e) Former Co-op site development – East Ipswich

Issue: Expansion of Co-op site in Derby Road, possible development of 200 houses.		
Solution: Exploring expansion of Rose Hill Primary School to 420 on land adjacent to school.		
Places Required from: 2016	Funding: Developer Contributions	RAG

f) Suffolk New Academy Locality

Issue: Population Growth		
Solution: Increase capacity at Ranelagh Primary School within existing building. Also an additional 1 FE needed to meet demand for primary places and small expansion of The Oaks Primary School PAN to 60.		
Places Required from: 2016	Funding: SCC Funding	RAG

g) Stoke Locality

Issue: Population Growth		
Solution: Increased capacity at The Willows Primary School and the current building has been extended.		
Places Required from: 2014	Funding: SCC Funding	RAG

4.5. Mid Suffolk

The figures below are predicted population only and do NOT include data on new housing.

	2014	2016	2018	2020	2025
Pre-School Age Children (0-3)	3,955	3,882	3,880	3,876	3,810
Primary Age Children (4-10)	7,839	7,886	7,765	7,660	7,551
Secondary Age Children (11-15)	5,703	5,617	5,808	5,990	5,966

- Taken from the Office of National Statistics 2012- based sub-national population projections

No. of Primary Schools	Primary School Capacity	No. of Middle Schools	Middle School Capacity	No. of Secondary Schools	Secondary School Capacity
45	7,380	4	1,938	7	6,471

Having seen a large increase in population to 2011 the district still has areas of growth and a number of expanding or new developments in the Gipping Valley area that will focus need for additional places on the schools in Stowmarket and Needham Market.

a) Ashes Farm - Stowmarket

Issue: Potential development of 400 houses.		
Solution: The housing will generate approximately 100 primary pupils. Chilton Primary School would require an increase to 315 places.		
Places Required from: 2018	Funding: Developer Contributions	RAG

b) Lake Park – Needham Market

Issue: Potential development of up to 300 new houses.		
Solution: SCC believes expansion of Bosmere Primary School, including taking on middle school playing fields, is a viable long term solution for the growth in the area.		
Places Required from: 2016	Funding: Developer Contributions	RAG

c) Cedars Park - Stowmarket

Issue: Potential continued development at Cedars Park, possibly a further 100 houses.		
Solution: Likely need for further primary places as the Cedar Park development continues to grow. The primary school site is restricted. Some of these places will be provided at Trinity CEVA Primary School, as the school can expand by 0.5 FE if needed.		
Places Required from: 2017	Funding: Developer Contributions	RAG

d) Chilton Leys - Stowmarket

Issue: Potential development of 1,000 houses when sites are combined.		
Solution: Need for a new 210-315 place primary school, Chilton Primary School could take places in the interim period. Phase 1 will see 215 units built.		
Places Required from: 2015	Funding: Developer Contributions	RAG

e) Papermill Lane, Bramford

Issue: Proposed housing development of 175 houses at Papermill Lane, Bramford		
Solution: Expansion of Bramford Primary School.		
Places Required from: 2016	Funding: Developer Contributions	RAG

f) Elmswell

Issue: Redevelopment of Former Grampian Harris for 190 dwellings.		
Solution: Investigate primary provision capacity in the area once the School Organisation Review (SOR) changes have been imbedded.		
Places Required from: 2017	Funding: Developer Contributions	RAG

g) Thurston

Issue: Potential development of 200 houses.		
Solution: Investigate primary provision capacity in the area once SOR changes have been imbedded.		
Places Required from: 2021	Funding: Developer Contributions	RAG

h) Eye

Issue: Potential development of 250 houses.		
Solution: Investigate primary provision in the area and ensure local secondary provision is also able to accommodate additional numbers.		
Places Required from: 2017	Funding: Developer Contributions	RAG

i) Great Blakenham

Issue: 500 houses currently being built in the area.		
Solution: Investment going ahead at Claydon Primary School to expand.		
Places Required from: 2014	Funding: Developer Contributions	RAG

4.6. St Edmundsbury

The figures below are predicted population only and do NOT include data on new housing.

	2014	2016	2018	2020	2025
Pre-School Age Children (0-3)	5,175	5,063	5,064	5,055	4,958
Primary Age Children (4-10)	9,102	9,329	9,367	9,286	9,122
Secondary Age Children (11-15)	6,084	6,093	6,336	6,592	6,848

- Taken from the Office of National Statistics 2012- based sub-national population projections

No. of Primary Schools	Primary School Capacity	No. of Middle Schools	Middle School Capacity	No. of Secondary Schools	Secondary School Capacity
36	7,829	6	2,727	6	5,998

Bury St Edmunds is the final area of the School Organisation Review and as such any place planning needs to be considered alongside that project. There is also a significant housing development planned for the east of the town. Haverhill is also due to experience sizeable expansion.

a) Bury St Edmunds

Issue: School Organisation Review and significant planned housing development of over 5,000 units.		
Solution: New high school required in the Moreton Hall area. Phase 1 to provide 600 places, with infrastructure to support 900 pupils as agreed by Cabinet, to meet demand from School Organisation Review. Planning for the school is underway and funding is in place. Subsequent phases of the school's expansion will be in reaction to future basic need requirements and when the five strategic housing sites come forward, three of which will require new primary schools. Discussions also being held with Abbots Green Primary School as that school will be affected by initial developments and exploring options of additional primary provision in the town centre.		
Places Required from: 2015	Funding: SCC and Developer Funding	RAG

b) Haverhill

Issue: Proposed long term developments to the north and west of 1,100 houses. A further 2,500 new homes to be developed to the north east of the town by 2031.		
Solution: Requirement for one new primary school for the initial development and a further two new primary schools for the second development, plus appropriate sites to build these upon. Also need to ensure local secondary provision is able to cope with additional population growth.		
Places Required from: 2020	Funding: Developer Contributions	RAG

c) Barrow

Issue: Approved development for 100 houses plus a further 75 allocated.		
Solution: We are currently exploring solutions.		
Places Required from: 2015	Funding: Developer Contributions	RAG

d) Ixworth

Issue: Potential development of 170 houses.		
Solution: We are currently exploring solutions.		
Places Required from: 2021	Funding: Developer Contributions	RAG

e) Great Whelnetham

Issue: Potential development of 100 houses (dependent on further consideration of Development Briefs covering allocated sites).		
Solution: We are currently exploring solutions.		
Places Required from: 2016	Funding: Developer Contributions	RAG

f) Kedington

Issue: 60 houses being built with a further 40 allocated.		
Solution: We are currently exploring solutions.		
Places Required from: 2015	Funding: SCC Funding	RAG

g) Stanton

Issue: Potential housing developments in the area.		
Solution: Discussions around moving the primary school to the middle school site to improve facilities and to guard against anticipated future housing growth in the area which is likely but not yet agreed.		
Places Required from: 2014	Funding: SCC Funding	RAG

h) Clare

Issue: 60 housing units permitted with further 64 allocated		
Solution: We are currently exploring solutions.		
Places Required from: 2016	Funding: Developer Contributions	RAG

4.7. Suffolk Coastal

The figures below are predicted population only and do NOT include data on new housing.

	2014	2016	2018	2020	2025
Pre-School Age Children (0-3)	4,558	4,476	4,457	4,433	4,355
Primary Age Children (4-10)	9,502	9,518	9,387	9,229	9,026
Secondary Age Children (11-15)	7,073	6,895	7,176	7,404	7,344

- Taken from the Office of National Statistics 2012- based sub-national population projections

No. of Primary Schools	Primary School Capacity	No. of Secondary Schools	Secondary School Capacity
50	10,162	6	8,509

Suffolk Coastal is not predicted to grow through natural population at the same levels as the rest of Suffolk; however planned developments on the periphery of the large towns will create a need for additional primary places in areas where the schools are at capacity. Smaller rural developments will also require expansion of some of our rural primary schools.

Suffolk Coastal District Council will shortly be publishing a site allocations document; this infrastructure plan will then be updated to reflect this.

a) Framlingham

Issue: New housing developments proposed for the area for 600 houses or more.		
Solution: Sir Robert Hitchams CEVC Primary School in Framlingham is land locked so any significant increase in demand for additional pupil places may require the school to be relocated - no site has been identified at this time.		
Places Required from: 2015	Funding: Developer Contributions	RAG

b) Aadastral Park - Martlesham

Issue: Proposed development of approximately 2,000 new houses.		
Solution: Requirement for land and developer contributions to meet the needs of primary places (420 place primary school) arising from such a large development, and land to be reserved for secondary school which might be needed in the future depending on future development. Site identified for both in initial plans.		
Places Required from: 2018	Funding: Developer Contributions	RAG

c) Felixstowe/Trimleys

Issue: Proposed housing developments of circa. 1,800 houses across the town and outlying areas (of which a significant proportion are already permitted).		
Solution: The distribution of these houses will be important in determining the impact on primary schools in the area and where new places and/or new schools will be required.		
Places Required from: 2017	Funding: Developer Contributions	RAG

d) Rendlesham

Issue: Proposed additional housing of up to 100 units in the area.		
Solution: Require developer contributions to increase capacity of local school to 420.		
Places Required from:	Funding: Developer Contributions	RAG

e) Leiston

Issue: Proposed development of up to 500 houses in the town.		
Solution: Investigate local primary provision in the area to ensure capacity is available or local schools are able to expand to accommodate growth.		
Places Required from: 2021	Funding: Developer Contributions	RAG

f) Woodbridge/Melton

Issue: Potential housing of up to 500 houses in the longer term.		
Solution: Investigate local primary provision in the area to ensure capacity is available or local schools are able to expand to accommodate growth. Also ensure that local secondary provision, already at capacity, is able to expand as appropriate.		
Places Required from: 2021	Funding: Developer Contributions	RAG

g) Saxmundham/Kelsale/Benhall

Issue: Planned additional housing in the area.		
Solution: Require developer contributions to increase capacity of all three local primary schools to meet demand from new housing in Saxmundham. Working with all three schools on a project to address need for additional places.		
Places Required from:	Funding: Developer Contributions	RAG

4.8. Waveney

The figures below are predicted population only and do NOT include data on new housing.

	2014	2016	2018	2020	2025
Pre-School Age Children (0-3)	4,991	4,917	4,905	4,865	4,720
Primary Age Children (4-10)	8,649	8,919	9,036	8,942	8,848
Secondary Age Children (11-15)	6,003	5,867	5,985	6,258	6,480

- Taken from the Office of National Statistics 2012- based sub-national population projections

No. of Primary Schools	Primary School Capacity	No. of Secondary Schools	Secondary School Capacity
35	9,561	7	8,177

Waveney remains the area of the county where least growth is predicted although even that small growth will begin to push levels of primary places to capacity in the next few years. Added to this are one or two larger developments that will require new primary provision in Lowestoft.

a) North Lowestoft

Issue: Planned development of 800 new homes at Woods Meadow.		
Solution: Need for a new 210 place primary school funded through developer contributions (and land). There will, however, probably be a need for temporary places in the area to cater for this development in the short term until the new school is built. Oulton Broad Primary School may require expansion in the interim period until the new primary school is built.		
Places Required from: 2016	Funding: SCC and Developer Funding	RAG

b) Lake Lothing

Issue: A proposed large development mainly along the southern bank, of mixed commercial and residential use (up to 1,350 dwellings) up to 2025.		
Solution: A new primary school site has been identified in the Area Action Plan with land and build costs to be provided by developers.		
Places Required from: 2017	Funding: Developer Contributions	RAG

c) Bungay

Issue: New development of 150 houses proposed for the area.		
Solution: Investigate local primary provision in the area to ensure capacity is available or local schools are able to expand to accommodate growth.		
Places Required from: 2020	Funding: Developer Contributions	RAG

Section 5 – Suffolk’s Strategy for Small Schools and Surplus Places

5.1 Small Schools Overview

Suffolk’s schools dramatically vary in size, in the primary sector Suffolk has schools ranging from below 30 pupils in rural areas to well over 600 in urban areas such as Ipswich. Secondary provision also varies in size from around 200 in some free schools, to close to 2,000 pupils in the larger high schools.

Suffolk has 11 very small primary schools (fewer than 50 pupils) serving our extensive rural areas and a further 57 with fewer than 100 pupils. These schools are predominantly in rural areas that will likely not see large population growth or housing developments leaving these schools potentially at risk in the future.

A number of smaller village schools are facing financial and sustainability pressures. This is exacerbated by a recent programme of national changes to schools funding which has reduced the flexibility of local authorities to provide financial support to smaller schools. A number of these schools are also facing problems recruiting headteachers and other staff and whilst federation has provided security for a number of village schools a few small schools have closed in the past few years with more potentially at risk.

5.2 Risk Assessment

To evaluate the level of support that needs to be given to individual schools we have created a risk assessment matrix that provides a risk level for each school in the county based on the factors listed below:

- Size of school roll
- Forecast numbers (inc. upcoming developments)
- Surplus places/capacity
- Budget deficit/surplus
- Minimum Funding Guarantee
- Maintenance/Condition of school
- No Headteacher/difficulty recruiting
- Ofsted category

Each risk factor carries a weighted score that allows us to identify those schools most at risk.

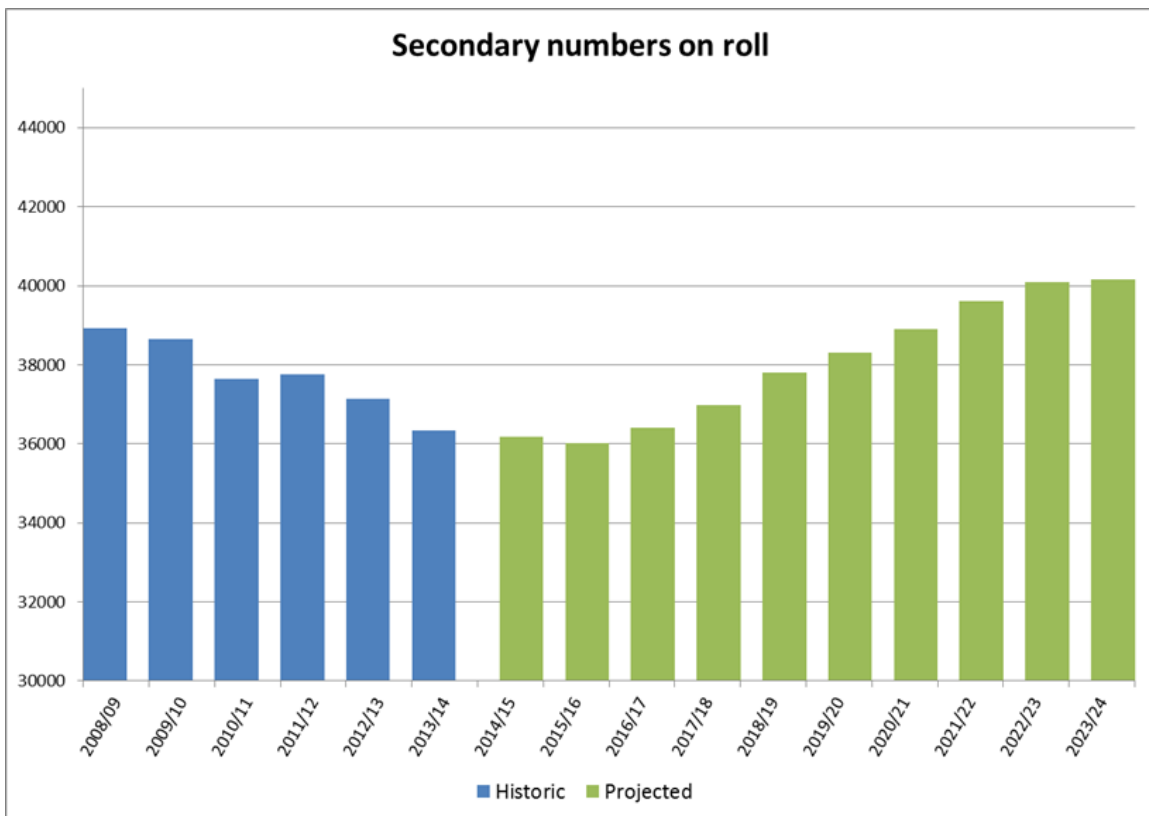
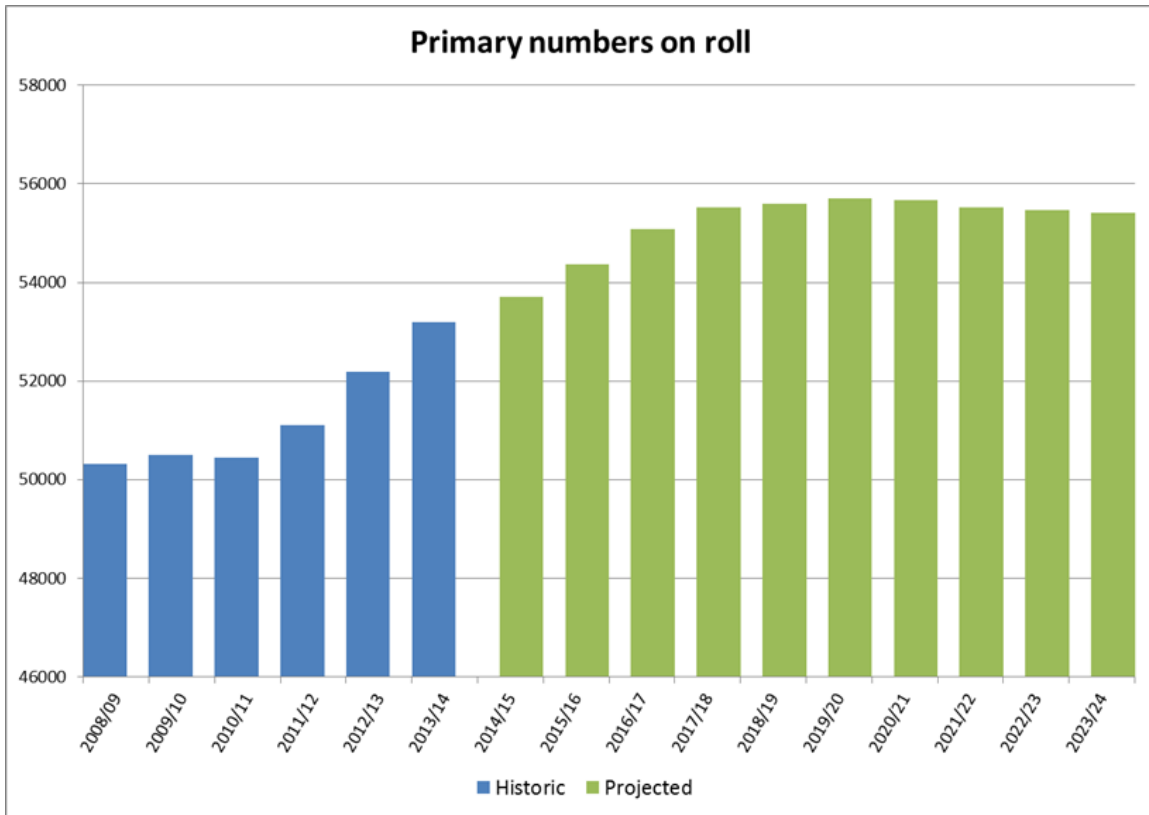
5.3 Future Process

Once our risk assessment is completed we will identify those schools that are at risk of not being viable now or in the future and so will require support and intervention. We will work with the school leadership, governors, and the community, to identify solutions and put forward an action plan to deliver high quality sustainable education provision. If

necessary we will use the powers we have to compel a school to formally federate with others. If there is no viable future for a school, for example due to falling population in that area, declining standards and an inability to recruit staff and if federation is not a viable option, we will seek to close the school in a managed and responsible way, finding alternative learning provision for the remaining pupils and working with the community to plan the future use of the school site.

Section 7 – Appendices

Appendix 1 – Projected School Rolls



Appendix 2 - Spare Sites

Currently Redundant Former School Sites (14)

All Saints Middle School (Sudbury)

Why Redundant – Part of the SOR for the area (Phase 3 – closed in 2013)

Current Situation – Cleared in 2013 and now vacant.

Future Plans (if any) – To be demolished

Badwell Ash Primary School

Why Redundant - Closed due to small numbers of pupils in May 2014.

Current Situation - Closure process completed.

Future Plans (if any) – Not SCC owned building as it belongs to the Diocese. Consent to dispose granted, any proceeds of capital sale will be split with the Diocese based on original investment in the buildings.

Carlton Colville Primary School

Why Redundant – An ex primary school site now the school have moved into a redundant middle school following the SOR phase in the area.

Current Situation – Beccles Free School occupying until their site is refurbished (to July 2015)

Future Plans (if any) – Consent to dispose received. Free school interest, application to go in October 2014.

Deben High School (Felixstowe)

Why Redundant – New academy building on Maidstone Road site, this building now not required.

Current Situation – Handing back to SCC on 1st August and will go into Non Operational Property (NOP).

Future Plans (if any) – Corporate Property managing sale of site with other education provider.

Ipswich Academy (former Holywells High School)

Why Redundant – New academy building built off site, existing site then redundant

Current Situation – Main school building has been demolished 'to slab level'. Sports and community facilities taken on by Community Trust organisation, former Priory buildings taken on for delivery of inclusion provision.

Future Plans (if any) - Potential free school interest for the demolished area of the site.

Monks Eleigh Primary School

Why Redundant – Closed due to small numbers of pupils in October 2014.

Current Situation – Closure process completed.

Future Plans (if any) – Future options for the site being investigated.

St Felix (Newmarket)

Why Redundant – Part of the SOR for the area (Phase 2 – closed in 2012)

Current Situation – School burnt down in 2008, temporary buildings used until SOR transition completed. Site now mainly cleared.

Future Plans (if any) – Interest from a number of interested parties, site being held until plans for local developments are clearer.

Scaltback Middle School (Newmarket)

Why Redundant – Part of the SOR for the area (Phase 2 – closed in 2012)

Current Situation – NOP, been secured for two years.

Future Plans (if any) –Community interest in the site.

Stanton Primary/Blackbourne Middle School

Why Redundant – Blackbourne Middle part of the SOR for the area (Phase 4), if the primary school moves into the middle school site then the primary site will become redundant.

Current Situation – Discussions ongoing looking at cost neutral solution to move the primary to middle school site.

Future Plans (if any) – Not yet known.

Stoke Ash Primary School

Why Redundant - Closed due to small numbers of pupils in July 2014.

Current Situation - Closure process completed.

Future Plans (if any) – Future options for the site being investigated.

Tuddenham Primary School

Why Redundant – Part of the SOR for the area (Phase 2 – closed in 2012)

Current Situation - NOP

Future Plans (if any) – Future options for the site being investigated.

Uplands Middle School (Sudbury)

Why Redundant – Part of the SOR for the area (Phase 3 – closed in 2013)

Current Situation – Buildings demolished.

Future Plans (if any) –Playing fields re-distributed between Ormiston Sudbury and Tudor Primary Schools, remainder of site may be used for SCC offices and possible housing development.

Worlingham Primary

Why Redundant – Part of the SOR for the area (Phase 2). Primary moved to the middle school site in 2013.

Current Situation – NOP, Diocese consent to dispose has been received.

Future Plans (if any) – Interest from a local community group.

Future Redundant School Sites (6)

Bacton Middle School

Why Redundant – Part of the SOR for the area (Phase 5 - closing in 2015)

Current Situation - Consent to dispose due to be sought in September 2014

Future Plans (if any) – Nothing confirmed

Howard Primary School (Bury St Edmunds)

Why Redundant – Currently part of the SOR phase for area, will be closed in 2016 if confirmed.

Current Situation - Consent to dispose will be sought in September 2015

Future Plans (if any) – Nothing confirmed

Needham Market Middle School

Why Redundant – Part of the SOR for the area (Phase 5 - closing in 2015)

Current Situation – Consent to dispose due to be sought in September 2014

Future Plans (if any) – Bosmere Primary to take on playing fields, future options for the remainder of the site are being investigated.

Riverwalk Special School (Bury St Edmunds)

Why Redundant - Currently part of the SOR phase for area, will be closed in 2016 (if confirmed) if the school moves to the Hardwick Middle site.

Current Situation - Consent to dispose would be sought in September 2015

Future Plans (if any) - Nothing confirmed

St James Middle School (Bury St Edmunds)

Why Redundant - Currently part of the SOR phase for area, will be closed in 2016 if confirmed.

Current Situation - Consent to dispose will be sought in September 2015

Future Plans (if any) – May be needed for Basic need VA proposal.

Stowmarket Middle School

Why Redundant - Part of the SOR for the area (Phase 5 - closing in 2015)

Current Situation - Consent to dispose due to be sought in September 2014

Future Plans (if any) - Future options for the site being investigated.