

AGENDA

Meeting: Cabinet

Place: Kennet Room - County Hall, Bythesea Road, Trowbridge, BA14 8JN

Date: Tuesday 12 September 2023

Time: 10.00 am

Please direct any enquiries on this Agenda to Democratic Services, County Hall, Trowbridge, email committee@wiltshire.gov.uk

Press enquiries to Communications on direct lines 01225 713114/713115.

All public reports referred to on this agenda are available on the Council's website at www.wiltshire.gov.uk

Membership:

Cllr Richard Clewer	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Military-Civilian Integration, Heritage, Arts, Tourism, Health and Wellbeing
Cllr Laura Mayes	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education, and Skills
Cllr Phil Alford	Cabinet Member for Housing, Strategic Assets and Asset Transfer
Cllr Ian Blair-Pilling	Cabinet Member for Public Health, Leisure, Libraries, Facilities Management, and Operational Assets
Cllr Nick Botterill	Cabinet Member for Finance, Development Management and Strategic Planning
Cllr Jane Davies	Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, SEND and Inclusion
Cllr Nick Holder	Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change
Cllr Ashley O'Neill	Cabinet Member for Governance, IT, Broadband, Digital, Licensing, Staffing, Communities, and Area Boards
Cllr Caroline Thomas	Cabinet Member for Transport, Street Scene, and Flooding

Recording and Broadcasting Information

Wiltshire Council may record this meeting for live and/or subsequent broadcast. At the start of the meeting, the Chairman will confirm if all or part of the meeting is being recorded. The images and sound recordings may also be used for training purposes within the Council.

By submitting a statement or question for a meeting you are consenting that you may be recorded presenting this and that in any case your name will be made available on the public record. The meeting may also be recorded by the press or members of the public.

Any person or organisation choosing to film, record or broadcast any meeting of the Council, its Cabinet or committees is responsible for any claims or other liability resulting from them so doing and by choosing to film, record or broadcast proceedings they accept that they are required to indemnify the Council, its members and officers in relation to any such claims or liabilities.

Details of the Council's Guidance on the Recording and Webcasting of Meetings is available on request. Our privacy policy can be found [here](#).

Parking

To find car parks by area follow [this link](#). The three Wiltshire Council Hubs where most meetings will be held are as follows:

County Hall, Trowbridge
Bourne Hill, Salisbury
Monkton Park, Chippenham

County Hall and Monkton Park have some limited visitor parking. Please note for meetings at County Hall you will need to log your car's registration details upon your arrival in reception using the tablet provided. If you may be attending a meeting for more than 2 hours, please provide your registration details to the Democratic Services Officer, who will arrange for your stay to be extended.

Public Participation

Please see the agenda list on following pages for details of deadlines for submission of questions and statements for this meeting.

For extended details on meeting procedure, submission and scope of questions and other matters, please consult [Part 4 of the council's constitution](#).

The full constitution can be found at [this link](#).

Our privacy policy is found [here](#).

For assistance on these and other matters please contact the officer named above for details

Part I

Items to be considered while the meeting is open to the public

Key Decisions Matters defined as 'Key' Decisions and included in the Council's Forward Work Plan are shown as 

1 **Apologies**

To receive any apologies for absence.

2 **Minutes of the Previous Meeting** (Pages 5 - 14)

To confirm as a true and correct record and sign the minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 11 July 2023.

3 **Declarations of Interest**

To receive any declarations of disclosable interests or dispensations granted by the Standards Committee or Monitoring Officer.

4 **Leader's Announcements**

To receive any announcements from the Leader of the Council.

5 **Public Participation and Questions from Councillors**

The Council welcomes contributions from members of the public.

This meeting is open to the public, who may ask a question or make a statement. Questions may also be asked by Members of the Council.

Written notice of questions or statements should be submitted to committee@wiltshire.gov.uk by 12.00 noon on Wednesday 6 September 2023. Anyone wishing to ask a question or make a statement should contact the officer named above.

6 **Financial Year 2023/24 - Quarter One Revenue Budget Monitoring** (Pages 15 - 54)






Report of the Chief Executive and Deputy Chief Executive.

7 **Financial Year 2023/24 - Quarter One Capital Budget Monitoring** (Pages 55 - 108)

Report of the Chief Executive and Deputy Chief Executive.

8 **Performance and Risk Report 2023-24 Q1** (Pages 109 - 142)

Report of the Chief Executive.

- 9 **Council Tax Reduction Scheme and Charges for Long Term Empty Properties** (Pages 143 - 162)
Report of the Deputy Chief Executive.
- 10 **Planning Peer Review Report** (Pages 163 - 188)
Report of the Chief Executive.
- 11 **Procurement of Housing Related Support Contract** (Pages 189 - 212) 
Report of the Chief Executive.
- 12 **Recommissioning of Public Health Services in Primary Care** (Pages 213 - 220) 
Report of the Chief Executive.
- 13 **Fleet Vehicle Replacement 2023/24 to 2025/26** (Pages 221 - 228) 
Report of the Chief Executive.
- 14 **School Places Strategy 2023-2027** (Pages 229 - 392) 
Report of the Chief Executive.
- 15 **Domestic Abuse External Grant Allocation 2023-2025** (Pages 393 - 402) 
Report of the Chief Executive.
- 16 **Urgent Items**
Any other items which the Leader agrees to consider as a matter of urgency.

Part II

Items during consideration of which it is recommended that the public should be excluded because of the likelihood that exempt information would be disclosed

Cabinet

MINUTES OF THE CABINET MEETING HELD ON 11 JULY 2023 AT COUNCIL CHAMBER - COUNTY HALL, BYTHESEA ROAD, TROWBRIDGE, BA14 8JN.

Present:

Cllr Richard Clewer (Chairman), Cllr Laura Mayes (Vice-Chairman), Cllr Phil Alford, Cllr Ian Blair-Pilling, Cllr Nick Botterill, Cllr Jane Davies, Cllr Nick Holder, Cllr Ashley O'Neill and Cllr Caroline Thomas

Also Present:

Cllr Richard Budden, Cllr Sven Hocking, Cllr Tony Jackson, Cllr Gordon King, Cllr Ian McLennan, Cllr Stewart Palmen, Cllr Horace Prickett, Cllr Tamara Reay, Cllr Pip Ridout, Cllr Mike Sankey, Cllr Martin Smith and Cllr Graham Wright

54 **Apologies**

There were no apologies.

55 **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 June 2023 were presented.

Resolved:

To approve as a correct record and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 13 June 2023.

56 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

57 **Leader's Announcements**

The Leader provided an update on Salisbury City Hall and clarified the Council's commitment to reopen venue for live entertainment. He explained that conversations were continuing with council officers about re-opening the venue once it was safe to do so and in a condition that was befitting for Salisbury and complemented the wider cultural offer the city provided. He urged decision makers in the city to work with Wiltshire Council on this matter.

58 **Public Participation and Questions from Councillors**

General questions were submitted from the following members of public:

- Dave Yearsley – Self-volunteering and improvements to data systems
- Colin Gale – Maintaining roads and footways

Cllr Clewer, Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for MCI, Economic Development, Heritage, Arts, Tourism and Health & Wellbeing explained that the questions had received written responses which were published on the Council's website prior to the meeting in the agenda supplement, which can be accessed [here](#).

Supplementary questions were received from:

- Dave Yearsley asked a further question about the potential timescales for linking a database for volunteering to the integrated management system – Cllr Caroline Thomas confirmed that a written response would be provided.
- Colin Gale asked further questions in relation to timescales for the bank retention to be replaced and confirmation of the options being considered for a permanent solution for the bank retention. Cllr Caroline Thomas reported that these matters will be monitored, although a written response will be provided.

59 **Year End Revenue Financial Outturn Position 2022/23**

Cllr Nick Botterill, Cabinet Member for Finance, Development Management and Strategic Planning presented a report which provided detail about the final year end position for the financial year 2022/23 for revenue with the necessary approvals and with suggested actions.

The Cabinet noted that the report provided details of variances against budgets following the quarter three budget monitoring reported to Cabinet on 31 January 2023. That report forecast an overspend of £5.037m for the financial year although the final position has improved during the last quarter to a final overspend position of £1.839m. The report detailed a number of requests to transfer £25.836m, of which some relate to government grants, into specific earmarked reserves to support planned activity in 2023/24 and future years.

Cllr Caroline Thomas, Cabinet Member for Transport, Street Scene, and Flooding reported specifically on the allocation of funding from the Business Plan Priority Reserve to fund for two years for litter enforcement on rural and urban roads, fly posting enforcement, additional litter prevention, cleaning and collection initiatives and awareness campaigns to ensure behaviour change.

Cllr Pip Ridout, Chair of the Financial Planning Task Group, confirmed that the report had been considered by the Task Group at its meeting on 7 July 2023. The Task Group were broadly satisfied that budgets were close to being balanced, pleased that reserves were increasing and proposed that a decision was required about the scrutiny of Stone Circle activities. Cllr Ridout thanked officers for their hard work in relation to the revenue outturn.

Cllr Graham Wright, Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee, confirmed that the report had also been considered by the Management Committee on 26 June 2023 and he complimented the Task Group for their consideration of the report.

Cllr Brian Mathew welcomed the litter initiatives, thanking officers for the suggestions and the commitment of the community litter pickers. He also commented on the sign off of the Council's accounts. In response to the comments and questions raised Cllr Botterill, supported by officers confirmed that robust discussions had recently taken place with McDonalds about the problem of litter from their premises. It was noted that McDonalds patrolled a significant perimeter around their premises, although there were instances that litter did extend further afield. Members noted that the issue of publishing accounts was an issue impacting a number of Local Authorities. The Audit Committee would be considering a report about how to resolve the issue at their next meeting on 25 July 2023.

Resolved:

To approve:

- a) the transfer in total of £22.638m to earmarked reserves as detailed in the report and Appendix B;**
- b) the additional transfers to reserves of:**
 - i. £2m to a pay award reserve;**
 - ii. £0.6m to a feasibility reserve; and**
 - iii. £0.598m to the Business Plan Priority Reserve;**
- c) that £0.510m be allocated from the Business Plan Priority reserve for the next two years to fund litter enforcement activity.**

To note:

- d) the general fund revenue budget outturn position for the financial year 2022/23;**
- e) the Dedicated Schools revenue budget outturn position for the financial year 2022/23;**
- f) the Housing Revenue Account outturn position for the financial year 2022/23;**
- g) the contributions to and from earmarked reserves as planned;**
- h) the final year end position of savings delivery.**

Reason for Decision:

To inform effective decision making and ensure sound financial management as part of the Councils overall control environment.

To inform Cabinet on the financial year end revenue outturn position for the Council for the financial year 2022/23, including delivery of approved savings.

To improve the Councils financial resilience by increasing the balance on the General Fund reserve and setting aside funds in earmarked reserves to prudently assist in managing the Councils financial risks and future pressures.

60 **Year End Capital Investment Programme Financial Outturn Position 2022/23**

Cllr Nick Botterill Cabinet Member for Finance, Development Management and Strategic Planning presented a report which provided detail about the final year end position for the financial year 2022/23 for the capital programme.

The Cabinet noted that the report included the movements from the original budget, final scheme slippage and funding of the programme. The report also provided an update on the significant programmes that have been delivered and those that have been reprogrammed to future years. Cllr Botterill thanked the Financial Planning Task Group for their input and contributions to new approaches coming forward for future years.

Cllr Pip Ridout, Chair of the Financial Planning Task Group, confirmed that the report had been considered by the Task Group at its meeting on 7 July 2023. Cllr Ridout explained that the system to monitor the Programme had been evolving throughout the financial year and although not ideal, slippages in the Programme reduced the need for additional funding.

Cllr Graham Wright, Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee confirmed that the report had been considered by the Management Committee on 26 June 2023 and robust scrutiny had taken place.

In response to a question from Cllr Tony Jackson about the reprofiling of commitments for the Maltings in Salisbury towards the repair of squash courts in Warminster, Cllr Ian Blair-Pilling, Cabinet Member for Public Health, Leisure, Libraries, Facilities Management and Operational Assets agreed to discuss the matter further after the Cabinet meeting.

Resolved:

To Note:

- a) the additional capital budgets of £5.369m (£3.820m in 2022/23) that have been added to the capital programme under Chief Finance Officer delegated powers.**
- b) that £5.067m budget that has been brought forward from future years to the 2022/23 programme to support the delivery of accelerated projects, or project in year overspend under Chief Finance Officer delegated powers.**
- c) the removal of £8.784m budget (£4.585m in 2022/23) for Homes England Funded capital grant for the West Ashton Urban Extension**

project in line with grant conditions as the project is no longer proceeding.

- d) the removal of £7.584m budget from 2022/23 for Housing Infrastructure Fund for the Future Chippenham programme as a result of the mutually agreed withdrawal from the Grant Determination agreement with Homes England.
- e) the programme underspend for phase 1 and 2 and subsequent removal of £2.305m (£0.737m in 2022/23) for Wiltshire Online due to the completion of the project.
- f) the removal of £0.053m underspend on CIL Funded schemes budget, this was allocated for feasibility studies which have now all completed. This budget is funded by Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) the removal will allow CIL to be reallocated to other projects.
- g) the capital programme end of year spend position of £128.380m for financial year 2022/23.

To approve:

- h) the £39.438m of capital programme slippage to be rolled forward into future financial years.

To recommend to Full Council to approve:

- i) the allocation of £0.800m CIL funding to finance £0.400m per year for 2023/24 and 2024/25 budgets for Local Highways and Footpath Improvement Groups.

Reason for Decision:

To inform effective decision making and ensure sound financial management as part of the Councils overall control environment.

To inform Cabinet on the final year end capital outturn position for the Council for the financial year 2022/23.

61 **Housing Acquisitions**

Cllr Richard Clewer, Leader and Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Military-Civilian Integration, Heritage, Arts, Tourism, Health and Wellbeing presented a report which provided an update on the recent and future intended activity of house acquisitions by the Council to deliver on a wide range of service needs.

The Cabinet noted that the Council are in the process of acquiring homes through a number of Government programmes. With funding of £10m being set

aside in reserves for the acquisitions it was expected that the programme would deliver in the region of 250 homes to support long term service need for Wiltshire residents as well as delivering the Counties ongoing commitment to homing Ukrainian and Afghan families.

Cllr Phil Alford, Cabinet Member for Housing, Strategic Assets and Asset Transfers welcomed the report and the ability to support service needs.

Cllr Pip Ridout, Chair of the Financial Planning Task Group, confirmed that the report had been considered by the Task Group at its meeting on 7 July 2023. The Task Group were content with the responses received to questions asked, and also noted that there were a number of unknown areas. The Leader commented on the work of the Cabinet Shareholder Group in asking questions of Stone Circle at public meetings that Councillors were welcome to attend. Cllr Graham Wright, Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee highlighted the possible need for the Management Committee to consider the level of scrutiny provided by Cabinet via regular reports from the Shareholder Group and this could be added to the Management Committee Forward Work Plan.

Cllr Brian Mathew welcomed the proposals set out in the report. In addition, he highlighted the plight of refugees arriving at the UK borders and their accommodation needs. The Leader advised Members against combining the needs of different people groups when providing for their accommodation needs, especially as could be alternative funding streams available from the Government.

Resolved:

- a) To note the activity being undertaken by the Council to date in acquiring houses through the LAHF programme, and the addition of the £4.012m Government Grant to the HRA Build Programme under the Section 151 officer's delegated powers.**
- b) To approve that the governance of housing acquisitions will be through individual business cases approved by the Corporate Director Resources & Deputy Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance.**
- c) To recommend to Full Council to approve the addition to the capital programme of £40m, funded through £10m reserves and £30m debt, to enable the Council to acquire housing for long term investment to deliver service solutions.**

Reasons for Decision:

To report on the Councils recent and future activity of housing acquisition funded through Government Grant and to seek the recommend to Full Council the necessary approvals to add those funds and the leveraged funds to the Capital Programme.

62 **Wiltshire Local Plan Review - Publication of draft Plan for consultation**

Cllr Nick Botterill, Cabinet Member for Finance, Development Management and Strategic Planning presented the report seeking Cabinet's endorsement to recommend to Full Council that the pre-submission Draft Wiltshire Local Plan Review be formally published for a final stage of consultation; and set out the arrangements for the consultation and next steps.

Cllr Botterill reported that the Plan is one of the most significant strategic documents for the council and will pave the way for sustainable growth up to 2038. Updating the Plan is a key priority and will ensure that Wiltshire benefits from plan-led development that best meets the growing needs of Wiltshire communities. He emphasised that the Plan is evidence based, with significant engagement with the local community and statutory consultees and has responded to changes in national planning policy. The Plan addresses Wiltshire's need for new homes, jobs and infrastructure between 2020 and 2038 and noted that it is based on 36,740 homes, a reduction of 8,890 compared to the 45,630 number of homes consulted on in 2021.

The Cabinet noted that the council has reached the final consultation stage, where representations are invited on soundness and legal compliance, which is known as the Regulation 19 stage. Publication of the Pre-Submission Draft Plan for consultation is proposed to start towards the end of September 2023 for a period of at least 6 weeks in line with legislation and the council's adopted statement of community involvement. Following the consultation, once the outcomes have been considered a further report will be brought back to Cabinet and Council, so that the Plan can be approved for submission to an independent Planning Inspector appointed by the Secretary of State and examined in public.

Questions were received on time from the following:

- Richard Curr
- Nick Parry
- Hannah Anderson-Jones
- Richard Walker
- Andrew Nicolson

The Leader acknowledged that the questions had received written responses which had been published on the Council's website as a [supplementary agenda](#) prior to the meeting.

Mr R Smith, a member of the public, spoke in relation to this item. Mr Smith spoke positively about progress with the Local Plan but asked that Cabinet treats the published Local Plan as a 'Regulation 18' Plan to give the local community the opportunity for a further round of consultation, before the Council eventually moves to Regulation 19 stage. In response, Cllr Botterill stated that the Plan had already been subject to extensive consultation and that further delays at this stage would not be appropriate. He confirmed that the Local Plan would be subject to further consultation in the autumn at Regulation 19 stage

and that the local community would have the opportunity to participate in the examination next year.

In addition to the above questions, a large number of statements and questions were received after the deadline from the following residents of Salisbury, which included concerns about the allocations at Harnham (Sites 8 and 9), loss of greenfield land, inadequate road infrastructure and traffic generation arising from proposals:

- Geraint Dingley
- Dean Hillier
- Rupert Parson
- Carla Moors
- Anne Whiting
- Ellie Butcher
- Phil and Ann Ray
- Melanie Galpin
- Kirsten Webster
- Tim Guy
- Lynn and Andrew McLachlan
- Judith Burns
- Alastair and Frances Barrett
- Andy Galpin
- Jeremy Court
- Simon and Fiona Thomas
- Annabelle Hepburn
- Dr Polly Jacobs and Neal Jacobs
- Sally and Graham Exton
- Andrew and Sarah Robertson
- Lynette Walsh-Evans
- Andrew Chadwick
- Trevor Wilson
- Jo Throp
- Will Throp
- Andy Chisholm
- Susan Simmonite
- Henk Leerink
- Dr Katie Pearce
- Matt Ravenhill
- Geoff Goodwin
- Kate Higson
- Richard and Julie Mackie
- Katie Cash
- Colette White
- Keith and Frances Williamson
- Frank Perks
- Jonathan and Stephanie Snow
- Kelvin and Melanie Farmaner

Responses to these questions are attached as an appendix to these minutes.

Cabinet members drew attention to the Design Guide and the importance of good design that is appropriate to a local area and how this compliments policy within the Plan, highlighted the public health issues included throughout the Plan, the need for villages to flourish, the need for affordable housing and the safeguarding of local employment land.

Cllr Graham Wright, Chair of the Climate Emergency Task Group confirmed that the Task Group received a briefing on 29 June 2023, and considered the areas of the Plan connected with the work of the Task Group. They welcomed the Plan and were pleased with the progress in developing policies associated with climate change and sustainable development.

A number of comments were received from Members about: supporting the development of affordable housing in villages; welcoming policies associated with tackling climate change; greater engagement with Members and residents through Area Board meetings; general development of settlements including large and small villages and reason for 20% of housing growth at these; the support required to review and update Neighbourhood Plans; Policy 96 in relation to water resources and its justification; the impact of the allocation at Laverstock on iconic views; lack of reference to agricultural run off for water pollution; and engaging with local groups in relation to rights of way management.

In response to the above points raised by Members, Cabinet Members and officers: highlighted that the Plan has vision and pushes the boundaries; the sustainability of expanding existing settlements where infrastructure exists rather than developing entirely new settlements, referred to recent member briefings on the Plan; planning in rural areas, the need for an evidence-based process, confirmed that resources would be available to support Neighbourhood Plans; the impact of developments can be mitigated to some extent, referred members to supporting documents including the Revised Spatial Strategy; agriculture is outside scope of the Plan and a function of the Government; and engaging local groups for rights of way management issues is supported.

Resolved:

That Cabinet:

- (i) Endorses the Wiltshire Local Plan Review - Pre-Submission Draft Plan at Appendix 1 subject to amendment in (iii).**
- (ii) Recommends to Full Council on 18 July 2023 that the Wiltshire Local Plan Review - Pre-Submission Draft Plan at Appendix 1 (subject to modification in (iii)) be approved for publication in line with Regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended), for a period of at least six weeks public consultation.**

- (iii) **Authorises the Director for Planning, in consultation with the Director for Legal and Governance and Cabinet Member for Finance, Development Management and Strategic Planning, to: make any necessary minor changes to the Pre-Submission Draft Plan before it is published; and to enable the finalising of the associated evidence documents for publication alongside the Plan; and to make arrangements for, and undertake statutory consultation.**

Reason for Decision:

To ensure the council continues to make progress in updating its Local Plan, in line with the timescale set out in the recently approved Local Development Scheme and statutory requirements.

63 **Urgent Items**

There were no urgent items.

(Duration of meeting: 10.00 am - 12.40 pm)

The Officer who has produced these minutes is Stuart Figini of Democratic Services, direct line 01225 718221, e-mail stuart.figini@wiltshire.gov.uk

Press enquiries to Communications, direct line 01225 713114 or email communications@wiltshire.gov.uk

Wiltshire Council

Cabinet

12 September 2023

Subject: Financial Year 2023/24 - Quarter One Revenue Budget Monitoring

Cabinet Member: Cllr Nick Botterill - Cabinet Member for Finance, Development Management and Strategic Planning

Key Decision: Non-Key

Executive Summary

This report informs members of the first quarterly revenue budget monitoring forecast for the financial year 2023/24 based on the position at the end of June 2023. It also provides an update on the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) and budget gap for the financial year 2024/25 and beyond.

Quarter One Revenue Budget Monitoring

Quarter one budget monitoring forecasts are based on information known as at 30 June 2023. These are early forecasts and will be subject to movement during the year as more certainty arises and less estimation is required, particularly on areas such as income, service demand and inflationary pressures.

The net budget set by Full Council for 2023/24 is £465.874m. The 2023/24 budget ensures that vital services to the residents, businesses and communities of Wiltshire continue to be provided and the council deliver on the commitments set out in the Business Plan. The budget includes over £26m of savings that need to be delivered in 2023/24.

The quarter one position forecasts a small net overspend for the year of £0.311m. As we are early in the year and the forecast is small it is proposed at this stage that the variance be managed within the financial year and no proposal is made to fund it from reserves.

This position will need to be carefully monitored as there are a number of risks that the council are exposed to, including sustained higher inflation than budgeted, the 2023/24 pay award, increased demand and higher package costs in People Services, SEND transport and underachievement of income across Place services.

For quarter one it is forecast that these pressures in services can be mainly offset by activity in corporate services through finance and investment income and Levies and the overachievement of income in Leisure Services due to the earlier than forecast delivery of the saving from VAT changes confirmed by HMRC.

MTFS Update

This report also includes a high-level update and outlines to members the latest forecast position in respect to the Budget 2024/25 and the MTFS following the setting of the 2023/24 budget in February 2023.

It sets out the changes in assumptions and funding since the budget was set, including an assessment of the ongoing impact of variances identified in the quarter one budget monitoring process that cannot be contained.

The Council set a balanced MTFS for 2024/25 and 2025/26, however it is now estimated that the financial gap facing the authority over the next 2 years stands at just over £7m.

Further updates will be required as risks and forecasts become more certain, and work will be required to identify action and savings required to balance the budget.

The report also sets out the high-level timescales and key dates that will be required to set a balanced budget for the 2024/25 financial year.

Proposals

Cabinet is asked to recommend to Full Council:

- a) to move the £0.382m income budget associated with saving from increased retained share of funding from Business Rates for Council Assets from Assets to the Business Rates Retention Scheme in the Funding section; and
- b) to increase the Government Grants budget in Funding to recognise the additional Market Sustainability Improvement Fund of £2.773m and increase the net budget in Adults by the same amount.

These 2 proposals will increase the Council's Net Budget to £469.029m

Cabinet is asked to approve:

- a) the transfer of £0.772m of Ukrainian funding from the home office to be used to support pupils in Wiltshire schools until 31st March 2024;
- b) the transfer of Education and Skills reserves totalling £0.656m to reflect the estimated usage in year especially where schemes are based on the academic year including joint commissioning with the ICB; and
- c) the transfer of Families and Children's reserves totalling £0.328m to reflect the estimated usage in year, these all relate to grant funded schemes which straddle more than one financial year.

Cabinet is asked to note:

- a) the current revenue budget is forecast to overspend by £0.311m by the end of the financial year;
- b) the current forecast savings delivery performance for the year; and
- c) the updated MTFS position and revised gap of £7.344m by 2025/26.

Reason for Proposals

To inform effective decision making and ensure sound financial management as part of the Councils overall control environment.

To inform Cabinet on the forecast revenue financial position of the Council for the financial year 2023/24 as at quarter one (30 June 2023), including delivery of approved savings for the year.

To inform Cabinet on the current position for the setting of the 2024/25 budget, it begins the process and focus for setting plans and resources for providing the services and support that will be essential for the continued delivery of a financially sustainable council and effective, quality public services for the residents of Wiltshire.

Terence Herbert
Chief Executive

Andy Brown
Corporate Director of Resources & Deputy Chief Executive (S.151 Officer)

Wiltshire Council

Cabinet

12 September 2023

Subject: Financial Year 2023/24 - Quarter One Revenue Budget Monitoring

Cabinet Member: Cllr Nick Botterill – Cabinet Member for Finance, Development Management and Strategic Planning

Key Decision: Non-Key

Purpose of Report

1. To advise Members of the Revenue Budget Monitoring position 2023/24 quarter one (30 June 2023) for the financial year 2023/24 with suggested actions as appropriate.
2. To inform Members of the latest assumptions for the 2024/25 budget and the updating of the Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) since the budget was set back at Full Council in February 2023.
3. To inform Members of the latest financial position leading into the setting of the 2024/25 budget and the key dates in that will ultimately lead to the proposal of a balanced budget for 2024/25.

Relevance to the Council's Business Plan

4. Budget monitoring and reporting supports effective decision making and the alignment of resources and financial performance to the Council's priorities and objectives as laid down in the Business Plan.
5. Providing updates on the MTFS and budget for future years supports effective decision making and the alignment of resources to the Council's priorities and objectives as laid down in the Business Plan.

Background

Revenue Budget Monitoring 2023/24 – Quarter One

6. The Council approved a net budget for 2023/24 of £465.874m at its meeting on 21 February 2023.
7. This is the first report for the financial year and includes a summary of the movements to the original budget since it was set by Full Council in February 2023. This summary can be seen in Appendix A.
8. The following paragraphs focus on forecast full year variances against the approved budget based on information as at 30 June 2023. They also set out the underlying pressures currently estimated within the service areas.

9. The forecasts at this stage of the year are early and subject to movement during the year as more certainty arises and less estimation is required. They are however forecasts for known items and commitments and estimates for the remainder of the financial year. The current economic position and volatility introduces additional risk that forecasts move during the year due to continued high inflation indices.
10. There have been some structure changes since the budget was presented to Cabinet in February 2023, which are summarised below. The Original Budget column has been adjusted to reflect the new structure, but the total original budget remains unchanged. Significant changes have been highlighted in the table below.

Corporate Director	Old Structure	New Structure	Explanation
Corporate Director People	Living and Ageing Well Whole Life Pathway Education & Skills Family & Children Services	Adult Services Adult Services Public Health Education & Skills Family & Children Services	Merged to Adult Services Merged to Adult Services Moved from Chief Executive Directorates
Corporate Director Resources	Finance Assets & Commercial Development Information Services Procurement & Commissioning	Finance Assets HR&OD Transformation & Business Change Information Services Commissioning	Name change Moved from Chief Executive Directorates Moved from Chief Executive Directorates Procurement moved to within Finance
Chief Executive Directorates	Public Health Legal & Governance HR&OD Transformation & Business Change Corporate Directors & Members	Legal & Governance Corporate Directors & Members	Moved to Corporate Director People Moved to Corporate Director Resources Moved to Corporate Director Resources
Corporate	Movement on Reserves Capital Financing Corporate Costs Corporate Levies	Movement on Reserves Finance & Investment Income & Expense Corporate Costs Corporate Levies	Name change

Main Considerations for the Council

Revenue Budget

11. The following elements of this report reflect the management responsibility in line with the current management structure. The breakdown of the projected year end position is set out in table 1 below.

Table 1 – Summary forecast for Quarter One 2023/24

	<i>Original Budget</i>	<i>Revised Budget</i>	<i>Forecast</i>	<i>Variance</i>
	<u>A</u> <i>£m</i>	<u>B</u> <i>£m</i>	<u>C</u> <i>£m</i>	D (C-B) <i>£m</i>
Corporate Director People				
Adult Services	178.684	177.764	179.953	2.189
Public Health	0.862	0.561	0.561	-
Education & Skills	29.269	29.268	30.817	1.549
Family & Children Services	62.723	64.284	63.884	(0.400)
TOTAL PEOPLE	271.538	271.877	275.215	3.338
Corporate Director Resources				
Finance	6.367	6.367	6.367	-
Pensions	-	-	-	-
Assets	16.799	17.221	17.603	0.382
HR&OD	3.573	3.590	3.390	(0.200)
Transformation & Business Change	0.533	0.533	0.533	-
Information Services	11.808	11.808	11.517	(0.291)
Commissioning	3.405	2.748	3.762	1.014
TOTAL RESOURCES	42.485	42.267	43.172	0.905
Corporate Director Place				
Highways & Transport	40.634	40.254	40.254	-
Economy & Regeneration	2.520	2.520	2.520	-
Planning	3.396	3.396	3.046	(0.350)
Environment	48.283	48.485	48.775	0.290
Leisure Culture & Communities	6.880	6.581	5.511	(1.070)
TOTAL PLACE	101.713	101.236	100.106	(1.130)
Chief Executive Directorates				
Legal & Governance	9.964	10.168	10.276	0.108
Corporate Directors & Members	3.147	3.147	3.207	0.060
TOTAL CEX DIRECTORATES	13.111	13.315	13.483	0.168
Corporate				
Movement on Reserves	2.457	2.457	2.457	-
Finance & Investment Income & Expense	25.043	25.195	22.749	(2.446)
Corporate Costs	4.034	4.034	4.034	-
Corporate Levies	5.493	5.493	5.351	(0.142)
TOTAL CORPORATE	37.027	37.179	34.591	(2.588)
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	465.874	465.874	466.567	0.693
Funding				
General Government Grants	(77.393)	(77.393)	(77.393)	-
Council Tax	(332.187)	(332.187)	(332.187)	-
Collection Fund Surplus	(6.850)	(6.850)	(6.850)	-
Business Rates Retention Scheme	(49.444)	(49.444)	(49.826)	(0.382)
TOTAL FUNDING	(465.874)	(465.874)	(466.256)	(0.382)
TOTAL VARIANCE	(0.000)	-	0.311	0.311

Overview of Quarter One Monitoring

12. Overall, the quarter one report forecasts a net overspend of £0.311m. This is the first report of the year 2022/23 and details of the significant variances within service areas are included below.
13. As reported as part of setting the budget in February 2023 the Pay Award for 2023/24 was budgeted for at 4.5%. Based on the increasing cost of living seen nationally it is likely that the actual pay award will be more than this. The employers first, full and final offer of £1,925 per employee and 3.88% for HAY graded employees is an average increase across all council staff of around 5.8% for 2023/24, which would be an additional pressure of £2m.
14. Nationally, unions have rejected this offer and negotiations continue. This pay award pressure has not been included within service forecasts. As part of the outturn report for 2022/23 an earmarked reserve was prudently set aside for £2m to mitigate the pressure for 2023/24 and alongside this the Extended Leadership Team have been working on saving proposals to mitigate the pay award pressure on the base budget.
15. These proposals will deliver a permanent solution for the 2023/24 pay award pressure in 2024/25 and the part year effect combined with the draw down from the pay award reserve will be used to meet the pressure in 2023/24. The actual pressure, savings proposals and drawdown from the pay award reserve will be confirmed and presented in the services in future reports.
16. Inflation is currently running circa 2% higher than the average CPI increase estimated and included in the 2023/24 budget. Services are managing these pressures through contract negotiations or where the pressure is not able to be managed, have reported the pressure in the service forecast for 2023/24 and the MTFS update.
17. In addition, the Council is seeing increasing demand and package costs in People Services largely from complex cases, pressure in SEND Transport and an underachievement of income for fees and charges across Place services. For quarter one it is forecast that these pressures in services can be offset by savings in Corporate services on Financing and Investment Income and Levies and the overachievement of income in Leisure Services due to the earlier than forecast delivery of the saving from VAT changes confirmed by HMRC.

Corporate Director – People

Table 2 – Forecast as at Quarter One 2023/24 Corporate Director People Position

		Original Budget	Revised Budget	Forecast	Variance
		A	B	C	D (C-B)
		£m	£m	£m	£m
Corporate Director People					
Adult Services	Gross	259.282	263.725	269.730	6.005
	Income	(80.598)	(85.961)	(89.777)	(3.816)
	Net Exp	178.684	177.764	179.953	2.189
Public Health	Gross	21.516	22.345	22.405	0.060
	Income	(20.654)	(21.784)	(21.844)	(0.060)
	Net Exp	0.862	0.561	0.561	-
Education & Skills	Gross	142.634	148.193	149.682	1.489
	Income	(113.365)	(118.925)	(118.865)	0.060
	Net Exp	29.269	29.268	30.817	1.549
Families & Children Services	Gross	68.239	69.800	69.400	(0.400)
	Income	(5.516)	(5.516)	(5.516)	-
	Net Exp	62.723	64.284	63.884	(0.400)
TOTAL PEOPLE	Gross	491.671	504.063	511.217	7.154
	Income	(220.133)	(232.186)	(236.002)	(3.816)
	Net Exp	271.538	271.877	275.215	3.338

Adult Services: Budget £177.764m, £2.189m overspend

18. The Adult Services forecast overspend of £2.189m includes £0.500m of unachievable savings.
19. Whole Life Pathway is forecasting an overspend of £2.040m as a result of a number of extremely high-cost packages coming through for existing and new service users. The customers that are being referred to the service are increasing in complexity with a notable increase in the people who have autism and mental health needs. Work is being done to determine the reasons for this increase in package costs and level of demand over that budgeted.
20. Living & Ageing Well is also projecting an overspend position. The overspend of £0.757m is due to increased package costs in ongoing support and as a result of unachievable savings. These savings, £0.300m Wiltshire Care Home Efficiency and £0.200m Day Services Utility, have faced delays in contract negotiations. The savings will be made in full over the 2 years, but the timing is likely to all be in 2024/25. Commissioning are looking at options for mitigating this saving in 2023/24.
21. The Reablement Service is forecasting a £0.122m underspend due to staff vacancies. The service continues to have recruitment difficulties and has had to use locums to cover long standing vacancies to maintain safe levels of staff. However, recruitment is more recently proving successful, and it is hoped it will continue to improve. The remaining underspends totalling £0.486m in Housing & Migration and Safeguarding and Prevention are also as a result of underspends on staffing budgets.

22. On 28 July 2023 the government announced the Market Sustainability and Improvement Fund – Workforce Fund. There will be a further £570 million of ringfenced funding given across 2023/24 and 2024/25 to local authorities to improve and increase adult social care provision, with a particular focus on workforce pay. This additional funding will support more workforce and capacity within the adult social care sector. Funding is expected to have the same flexibility as the Market Sustainability and Improvement Fund we already receive to meet local pressures. Wiltshire Councils allocation is £2.773m and will therefore increase our net budget by this amount which will require approval by Full Council.

Public Health: Budget £0.561m, nil variance

23. Public Health are forecasting to be on budget on the council budget funded services. In 2023/24 the Public Health Grant is £18.602m. This is being spent on activities such as the Public Health Nursing service, Drug and Alcohol Substance Use services, Sexual Health services, Domestic Abuse services for Wiltshire and a wide range of health improvement services such as health improvement coaches. In addition, an estimated draw of £1.027m from the Public Health reserve will be required to fund these activities as planned as well as an estimated draw of £0.180m from the Domestic Abuse reserve. Public Health have achieved the £0.616m of savings in the budget for 2023/24.

Education & Skills (School Effectiveness, SEND & Inclusion): Budget £29.268m, £1.549m overspend

24. The services in this area fulfil numerous statutory duties with a mixture of local authority and Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) funding. The majority of the local authority funded services are forecast to largely be aligned with budget. The largest exceptions are outlined below.

25. Where eligible, 5–16-year-old school children with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) can take up free school transport. The forecast expenditure for school transport for learners with an EHCP is £1.608m overspent representing 9.5% of the SEND transport budget. The travel savings of £0.500m have been achieved to date following route planning and re-contracting. The budgeted numbers of pupils are not significantly different from forecast however the average unit cost has increased from a budgeted £8,743 to a forecast £9,797 per pupil. It must be stressed that this is a very early forecast including estimates of future inflation and demand prior to the September contracts and placements being finalised for all children.

26. Premature retirement costs for schools are forecast to overspend by £0.218m where restructure costs are funded for schools in deficit.

27. Recruitment difficulties that services have faced this year have resulted in projected underspends for both Targeted and SEND and Inclusion service areas (£0.343m underspend). Recruitment is ongoing.

28. MTFS savings in this service total £1.141m. The majority of these are fully achieved or on track however, central government announced increases in early years funding and local authority new sufficiency duties for 9 months to 2 year old children and extensions to the current 2 year old children funding. The DfE launched a consultation around the extension of the early years entitlements in July and it is

likely resource is required to support this programme of change. More will be known around new expectations in due course.

29. Cabinet is requested to approve the draw from reserves to fund the following estimates of activity:
- a. Ukrainian Education Funding £0.772m
 - b. Primary Mental Health Joint Commissioning £0.222m
 - c. Grants which straddle more than one financial year £0.169m
 - d. Use of reserve to manage planned savings £0.100m
 - e. Short breaks for families - £0.055m
 - f. SEND Inspection preparation activity in year £0.110m

Families & Children Services: Budget £64.284m, £0.400m underspend

30. This service protects, cares for and supports vulnerable children and families with the greatest needs, including children in care, disabled children, and those at risk of harm and a demand driven service area.
31. The budgeted number of children in care for 2023/24 financial year is 464. The actual number of children in care is 451 (June 2023) which is within the service set target range of 407-469. The proportion of children and young people in external residential placements has increased by 1% (equivalent 1 young person) while other placement types remain consistent.
32. The main factor causing budget pressure and overspend is the cost of individual residential placements, in the context of a national placement sufficiency crisis. Whilst Wiltshire has been able to keep the number of children in care stable due to its successful prevention work, other Local Authorities have not; meaning an overall increased demand for placements in a market that cannot meet the demand. This results in significant competition for placements and has led to the market increasing prices. This issue is being addressed within the government's reforms and strategy Stable Homes, Built on Love, but this is yet to see impact. The main strategy to reduce residential placement costs is the new contract that will deliver residential placements in Wiltshire, as previously approved by Cabinet. This provider is expected to commence delivery of these placements from October this year. It is likely we will need to expand this contract further.
33. There are a number of over 18 young people who are supported as care leavers (and included in the table below) and the length of time these young people remain supported and the price of their packages of care are also leading to a significant cost pressure.
34. In addition, the national social work recruitment and retention challenge continues. A specific workforce strategy is in place and remains a priority. As part of this campaign, Wiltshire is committed to "growing its own" social workers so a greater number of staff on the ASYE (Assessed and Supported Year in Employment) for newly qualified social workers are employed. The result of this approach is that these staff are at the beginning of their careers and there are reduced salary costs. Despite agency spend of £1.392m, there is a net forecast underspend across all teams of £0.856m. This reflects the challenge in recruiting high calibre agency staff to manage the permanent vacancies, rather than a lack of desire to recruit. Creative approaches, such as recruiting non social work qualified staff to support work temporarily are adopted.

Table 3 - Comparison of planned and Quarter One Childrens Placements

	Budgeted Number of Children & Young People	Current Number of children 2023/24 as at Q1
Mainstream In House Foster Carer Payment	237	279
Independent Fostering Agency (includes some over 18s)	101	78
External Residential Placements (includes some over 18s)	44	39
16 - 25 Support & Accommodation/ Leaving Care (majority over 18s)	43	42
Staying Put (All over 18s)	40	29
CiC Placements & Fostering	464	467
Special Guardianship	295	318
Residence Orders	6	4
Adoption Allowances	31	22
Total Permanence non CiC	332	344
0-17 years SEND Residential	146	113

35. Placement saving plans are on-going but are offset by significant budgetary pressures which lead to a forecast overspend of £1.117m for social care placements largely for support and accommodation costs of 16 to 25 year old young people. This is partially offset by a forecast underspend of £0.553m for SEND social care placements. 57% of our children are placed with in house foster carers, the target being 65%. The recruitment of foster carers remains a challenge, despite best efforts. This is due to a national sufficiency crisis in the placement market. This challenge applies to independent fostering agencies also, meaning that more children are being placed in residential care which have significantly increased in unit cost post pandemic. A placement sufficiency strategy action plan is in place, led and reviewed monthly by the Director to ensure tight grip on the progress and spend in this area. Wiltshire have been successful in their stage 1 bid of the Department for Education Fostering Recruitment and Retention programme, progressing to stage 2. The outcome of this will be known in mid-October 2023, and if successful should support the increase of in house foster carers, reducing the budget pressures and need to use residential placements.

Table 4 - Comparison of planned and Quarter One Childrens Placements Average Weekly Prices

	2023/24 Budgeted Weekly Price £	2023/24 Average Forecast Weekly Price £	Forecast Price Variance £
Mainstream In House Foster Carer Payment	421	479	58
Independent Fostering Agency (includes some over 18s)	896	961	65
External Residential Placements (includes some over 18s)	3,800	4,800	1,000
16 - 25 Support & Accommodation/ Leaving Care (majority over 18s)	613	1,006	393
Staying Put (All over 18s)	184	348	164
CiC Placements & Fostering			
Special Guardianship	151	159	8
Residence Orders	188	179	(9)
Adoption Allowances	202	209	7
Total Permanence non CiC			
0-17 years SEND Residential	630	602	(28)

36. Assumptions made around increases in special guardianship and adoption orders have not come to fruition presenting a forecast underspend of £0.271m in these areas. It is possible these areas could still increase as per budget planning assumptions the impact of which would be the forecast underspend reduces whilst there is a positive counter effect on the placements budget.

37. Young people can be supported as Care Experienced young people until 25 years, and we are seeing higher numbers of young people choosing to be supported for longer periods due to the current challenging economic climate, which is resulting in additional support and accommodation placement costs, leading to a forecast overspend of £0.165m. Work is on-going to ensure consistent support and for all young people. These additional burdens are not funded by central government and despite additional MTFS growth in this area, the length of time young people are supported continues to grow and push costs up. Market expansion and sufficiency in this area is being explored including more preparation for independent living placements within Wiltshire.

Table 5 - Budgeted and Current Spend forecasts of Children & Young People in Care

	2023/24 Budget £'m	2023/24 Forecast Spend as at Q1 £'m	Forecast Variance £'m
Mainstream In House Foster Carer Payment	6.614	5.880	(0.734)
Independent Fostering Agency (includes some over 18s)	4.711	4.653	(0.059)
External Residential Placements (includes some over 18s)	8.622	9.477	0.855
16 - 25 Support & Accommodation/ Leaving Care (majority over 18s)	1.355	2.521	1.167
Staying Put (All over 18s)	0.379	0.267	(0.112)
CiC Placements & Fostering	21.681	22.798	1.117
Special Guardianship	2.969	2.743	(0.225)
Residence Orders	0.053	0.038	(0.015)
Adoption Allowances	0.276	0.245	(0.031)
Total Permanence non CiC	3.298	3.027	(0.271)
0-17 years SEND Residential	4.798	4.245	(0.553)

38. The council provides placements for unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (UASC) and current numbers of these young people under 18 years of age are 40. In addition to this we have 73 unaccompanied asylum-seeking young people who are care experienced. Based on our quota of 0.1% of Wiltshire's population we should be taking 106 UASC who are under 18 years of age from the National Transfer Scheme (NTS) scheme so we can expect a further 66, although the timing of this is unclear at this point. This is in addition to any spontaneous arrivals. Grant funding is available for under 18s is a daily rate which on average, covers support and accommodation costs. Regional arrangements may change in this and the next few financial years.

39. New Home Office guidance for unaccompanied minors travelling from Ukraine, means that they will be eligible for a private fostering service up until they are 18 (the mainstream service is up to 16). We have 28 children subject to private fostering arrangements at this time. Home Office funding has been provided to contribute to the cost of supporting these children.

40. Total savings approved for 2023/24 are £1.110m for this service, and due to factors described above, delivery of these is challenging. Robust delivery plans are in place and two staff savings, within the families and childrens service, risk rated as red have mitigations proposed for 2023/24 until these savings are achieved in full in 2024/25.

41. Cabinet is requested to approve the draw from reserves to fund the following estimates of grant funded activity which will take place in this financial year.

- a. National Assessment and Accreditation System (NAAS) £0.099m
- b. Supporting Families Grant £0.210m
- c. Client Level Data Flows Support Grant £0.019m

42. A number of small other variances comprise the balance of the forecast underspend.

Corporate Director - Resources

Table 6 - Forecast as at Quarter One 2023/24 Corporate Director Resources Position

		<i>Original Budget</i>	<i>Revised Budget</i>	<i>Forecast</i>	<i>Variance</i>
		<u>A</u> £m	<u>B</u> £m	<u>C</u> £m	<u>D (C-B)</u> £m
Corporate Director Resources					
Finance	Gross	80.550	80.632	80.632	-
	Income	(74.183)	(74.265)	(74.265)	-
	Net Exp	6.367	6.367	6.367	-
Assets	Gross	23.185	23.618	23.878	0.260
	Income	(6.386)	(6.397)	(6.275)	0.122
	Net Exp	16.799	17.221	17.603	0.382
HR&OD	Gross	5.706	5.706	5.506	(0.200)
	Income	(2.133)	(2.116)	(2.116)	-
	Net Exp	3.573	3.590	3.390	(0.200)
Information Services	Gross	12.229	14.656	14.365	(0.291)
	Income	(0.421)	(2.848)	(2.848)	-
	Net Exp	11.808	11.808	11.517	(0.291)
Commissioning	Gross	5.217	3.413	4.040	0.627
	Income	(1.812)	(0.665)	(0.278)	0.387
	Net Exp	3.405	2.748	3.762	1.014
Transformation & Business Change	Gross	0.539	0.539	0.539	-
	Income	(0.006)	(0.006)	(0.006)	-
	Net Exp	0.533	0.533	0.533	-
TOTAL RESOURCES	Gross	129.159	131.097	131.493	0.396
	Income	(86.674)	(88.830)	(88.321)	0.509
	Net Exp	42.485	42.267	43.172	0.905

Finance: Budget £6.367m, nil variance

43. Overall, Finance is forecasting a nil variance for quarter one. Accountancy has additional resources in place to support the ongoing work on managing the backlog of work associated with the Statement of Accounts and Audit, and this pressure is being offset by vacancies in other teams across Finance.

44. Revenues & Benefits have been awarded £0.676m grant for the Council Tax Support Fund in 2023/24 and the majority of this grant will be used to provide additional support for households already receiving council tax support by way of an additional discount of up to £25 per household. The remainder, estimated at £0.300m has been earmarked for the 2023/24 discretionary hardship relief scheme. This scheme supports low-income households struggling to pay their council tax, with existing debts and already in receipt of Council Tax Reduction support. It is recommended that Cabinet approve that any balance of grant in 2023/24 is transferred to the

Council Tax Hardship Relief reserve to provide support in future years. This will be formally requested in a future report.

45. The council received £2.524m grant for the Energy Bill Support Scheme (EBSS) in 2022/23 which it continues to administer on behalf of government and passport on. This scheme provides a one off £400 non repayable support payment for eligible households that were facing increased energy costs but had not received any other support payment to help with their bills between 1st October 2022 and 1st March 2023. Government extended the deadline on the scheme, and this is now expected to close in September 2023. New Burdens grant of £0.105m is due to be received in 2023/24 to cover the administration costs of the scheme.
46. Revenues and Benefits Subsidy is forecasting a small net pressure of £0.070m, above the pressure built into the budget for 2023/24 for supported living accommodation costs with non-registered providers. The Council is only able to claim the rent element from Government and must cover the cost of support direct. Supported Living is used to support vulnerable people, including those with Drug and Alcohol addictions and help them transition back into the community.

Assets: Budget £17.221m, £0.382m overspend

47. The forecast overspend is in relation to the 2023/24 increased retained share of funding from Business Rates for Council Assets. This saving is forecast to be achieved by the Council but is reported under Funding and not in the service. It is requested that Cabinet recommend to Full Council to move the additional income budget associated with this saving to the Business Rates Retention Scheme in the Funding section. This will increase the overall Net Budget of the council but is fully funded by the additional income from Business Rates.
48. Overall the rest of the service is forecasting a nil variance at quarter one, although pressures are starting to present, and mitigations are being identified to manage them should they crystalise.
49. Due to increased inflation and demand, the maintenance budget is already under pressure and early indications based on the first quarter spend is that the budget will overspend. There are multiple variables that impact the maintenance spend aside from inflation, including the availability of materials, contractor capacity, weather and condition of the buildings that have both favourable and adverse financial impacts. It is therefore extremely difficult to forecast with confidence the impact at this early stage.
50. As part of 2023/24 budget, a saving proposal in relation to income generation from letting space at County Hall was approved for £0.313m. To date there has been little demand for this and opportunities continue to be progressed but there is a risk this will not deliver as originally planned. In addition, the NHS has recently withdrawn from the ICB lease agreement which will also impact on income for 2023/24.
51. The above pressures are being mitigated and managed at present by holding vacancies, an underspend against Business Rates from revaluations and one-off unbudgeted income from across the rural and operational estate.

Human Resources & Organisational Development: Budget £3.590m, £0.200m underspend

52. An underspend of £0.200m has been forecast, largely due the redeployment of staff to support key capital and transformational programmes such as Evolve and Adult Social Care.
53. In addition, the pilot of a new training provision has reduced costly demand resulting in a current underspend. With the introduction of the new Oracle system and improved talent management it is anticipated demand will increase for future years.

Information Services: Budget £11.808m, £0.291m underspend

54. The service is carrying several vacancies, particularly in the Applications Team and has forecast staff savings from vacancies of £0.097m. This is based on assumptions around when posts are recruited and is subject to change if positions cannot be filled as seen in 2022/23 and if alternative approaches are taken for example the use of agency staff or consultants.
55. An external contractor, PGMC has been contracted by the service to ensure that the Council is benefiting from the most competitive phone tariffs that are available. At quarter one it is estimated that this will lead to an underspend against budget of approximately £0.194m, this assumes that usage remains at current levels and does not increase.
56. The service is currently working through a number of contract renegotiations for network maintenance contracts, applications and Microsoft Support, which could deliver further savings in 2023/24. It is too early to forecast at this stage with confidence, in part due to the service seeing an increase in usage and demand for additional licences which offset the savings. This is being monitored closely and will be updated when the position becomes more certain.
57. The delay with the implementation of Oracle will require Oracle and SAP systems to be dual run for 2023/24. Details are still be worked through, but the current assumption is that this can be managed within budget allocations in Information Services and Corporate where the budget was increased to cover the new operating model, which also will be delayed.

Commissioning Budget £2.748m, £1.014m overspend

58. In light of the 2022/23 outturn overspend position a base budget review has been undertaken. The outcome has identified pressure across the service in terms of staffing establishment not fully funded and identified income budgets that will not be delivered.
59. A priority is to maintain capacity to deliver a functional commissioning service to support People services. Income sources are mainly derived from Government grants e.g. Improved Better Care Fund, and whilst these have not been allocated, funds will be reviewed with a potential for in year allocations to be made to bridge the forecast gap.

Housing Revenue Account: £0.450m variance against budget for transfer to reserves

60. The Housing Revenue Account is a ringfenced account, and for 2023/24 the budget was set to transfer a surplus of £2.113m to the housing revenue account reserve. Due to the pressures and mitigation set out below the quarter one forecast is showing a transfer to reserves of £1.663m, which is £0.450m less than budget.
61. Rents are forecast to be lower than budget in 2023/24 due to higher numbers of void dwellings. The service has been working hard to address this issue and performance against this objective is being closely monitored by officers.
62. The service has been using external contractors as part of efforts to help clear the voids backlog, however this has driven up costs on HRA operations maintenance spend.
63. These pressures are offset in part by vacancy savings across the service and an underspend against repairs contracts as the current contracts are winding down and new contracts are not due to mobilise until October 2023. This will not impact the planned maintenance works for tenants.
64. A review of depreciation methodology is being undertaken to ensure assets are being depreciated in line with the assets' life. The outcome of the review may result in a different depreciation charge for 2023/24, and an update will be provided once the review has completed.

Corporate Director – Place

Table 7 - Forecast as at Quarter One 2023/24 Corporate Director Place Position

		Original Budget	Revised Budget	Forecast	Variance
		A	B	C	D (C-B)
		£m	£m	£m	£m
Corporate Director Place					
Highways & Transport	Gross	55.537	55.157	55.932	0.775
	Income	(14.903)	(14.903)	(15.678)	(0.775)
	Net Exp	40.634	40.254	40.254	(0.000)
Economy & Regeneration	Gross	3.749	3.749	3.749	-
	Income	(1.229)	(1.229)	(1.229)	-
	Net Exp	2.520	2.520	2.520	-
Planning	Gross	10.083	10.083	9.563	(0.520)
	Income	(6.687)	(6.687)	(6.517)	0.170
	Net Exp	3.396	3.396	3.046	(0.350)
Environment	Gross	59.562	59.804	59.014	(0.790)
	Income	(11.279)	(11.319)	(10.239)	1.080
	Net Exp	48.283	48.485	48.775	0.290
Leisure Culture & Communities	Gross	20.885	21.785	21.930	0.145
	Income	(14.005)	(15.204)	(16.419)	(1.215)
	Net Exp	6.880	6.581	5.511	(1.070)
TOTAL PLACE					
	Gross	149.816	150.578	150.188	(0.390)
	Income	(48.103)	(49.342)	(50.082)	(0.740)
	Net Exp	101.713	101.236	100.106	(1.130)

65. As shown above the £49.342m of Place & Environment revised budget is derived from income, the table below breaks this down further by department.

Table 8 – Place Income Budgets by Department

Service	Department	Fees & Charges, Other Income £'m	Grants, Contributions, Recharges £'m	Total Income Budgets £'m
Highways & Transport	Highways	4.932	0.016	4.948
	Car Parking	8.379	-	8.379
	Passenger Transport	0.452	1.124	1.576
		13.763	1.140	14.903
Economy & Regeneration	Enterprise Network	1.244	-	1.244
	Major Projects	-	(0.207)	(0.207)
	Economic Regeneration	-	0.192	0.192
		1.244	(0.015)	1.229
Planning	Building Control	1.156	-	1.156
	Development Management	4.597	-	4.597
	Local Land Charges	0.884	-	0.884
	Spatial Planning	-	0.050	0.050
		6.637	0.050	6.687
Environment	Public Protection	0.828	0.018	0.846
	Natural & Historic Environment	0.055	0.017	0.072
	Waste	10.398	0.003	10.401
		11.281	0.038	11.319
Leisure Culture & Communities	Leisure	13.130	1.491	14.621
	Libraries & Heritage	0.350	0.233	0.583
		13.480	1.724	15.204
TOTAL PLACE		46.405	2.937	49.342

66. Fees & Charges income is difficult to forecast as it is influenced by many different factors outside of the council's control and can fluctuate in year. For quarter 1, forecasts are largely based on budget or in line with 2022/23 outturn unless the actual position over the first quarter of the year was significantly different to profile. This is the case for Leisure Centre operations, Waste Recycling, Street works and Planning which is explained in more detail below.

Highways & Transport: Budget £40.254m, nil variance

67. The Highways and Transport service is managing several emerging pressures to report a nil variance at quarter one. Due to the delay to the start of the street scene contract and the significant rainfall, additional grass cutting was undertaken to meet highways visibility standards. Alongside this the new maintenance contract has commenced and the first quarter is showing spend pressures, which are largely due to type of works currently being undertaken and is expected to even out.

68. In finalising the Trowbridge Service Devolution & Asset Transfer Package, negotiations concluded with the Down cemetery transfer delayed to 2024/25, the £0.090m saving in relation to this element will therefore not be achieved in 2023/24. Stretch income targets for Car Parking are being closely monitored, at present income is below target although use of the car parks has increased; accordingly it is too early to forecast with any accuracy. The saving proposal to advertise on bus shelters approved in 2022/23 for £0.100m will be delayed further, in line with the Public Transport review.

69. The above pressures are being managed by a forecast increased income from Street works. In addition, the service has vacancy savings for the first quarter of the year from difficulties with recruiting and retaining staff. The service is actively recruiting as this is key to delivering business priorities and capital improvement programmes.
70. The Council has been awarded a Bus Service Improvement Plan PLUS (BSIP PLUS) grant of £2.1m for 2023/24 and 2024/25. This funding is to improve, enhance and support bus services and assist contractors facing commercial failure to ensure services are maintained.
71. A key condition of the grant is that the Council cannot reduce its Public Transport budgets in this period, and delivery of the savings proposals for 2023/24 and 2024/25 will therefore be delayed until 2025/26. This will allow the Council to review its Public Transport policy and ensure a sustainable and financially viable network for 2025/26. The savings impacted for 2023/24 total £0.448m and there is a further £0.142m for 2024/25, relating to the review, repatterning and reduction of less well used bus services, out of area services and the removal of Saturdays from supported services timetable. The pressure from delaying the savings will be covered in 2023/24 and 2024/25 by the Extended Rights to Travel grant of £0.635m. These changes are also included with the MTFs update later in the report.
72. The Passenger Transport services continues to be under significant inflationary pressure when tendering contracts due to their early termination by contractors. This is affecting both school and public transport contracts. For public transport contracts it is possible to use the BSIP PLUS grant to cover the cost of the increase.

Planning: Budget £3.396m, £0.350m underspend

73. Planning is reporting a net underspend position of £0.350m largely due to an underspend on staffing. A full-service restructure is being undertaken in 2023/24 following on the outcome of the Planning Peer Review earlier this year. The restructure will address structural and capacity issues across the service and will help to resolve recruitment and retention difficulties, reducing reliance on agency staff.
74. Income achievement continues to be a pressure in 2023/24, with the first quarter showing underachievement across Development Management, Building Control and Local Land Charges. Development Management is forecast to improve in the last quarter with the expected increase in government set planning application fees.
75. In addition, ongoing pressures exist on appeals and legal costs (agency workers and counsel advice) budgets. This continues to be a risk area for the service and is being monitored closely.

Environment: Budget £48.485m, £0.290m overspend

76. Environment services is forecasting a net overspend of £0.290m, primarily relating to Waste services. A shortfall of £1.080m against income is forecast due to the national economic position and its impact on volumes and sales income from the sale of recyclable waste materials. As seen in previous financial years this income is

extremely volatile and hard to predict. The forecast is based on the actuals received for April to June and an average for the remainder of the year.

77. Due to Government changes in legislation and guidance issued in June 2023, charging for DIY waste at Household Recycling Centres (HRCs) will no longer be allowed. This impacts directly on the savings target that was agreed for 2022/23 for charging of £0.100m which was not delivered and delayed to 2023/24 and the 2024/25 savings proposals for phase two of charging for £0.600m. There may also be an indirect impact on the saving proposal in 2024/25 for the reduction to HRCs opening hours of £0.200m, as this was in part based on a reduction in demand at HRCs as a result of charging.

78. The above pressures are being mitigated by a £0.790m saving across the Waste management contracts largely due to tonnages being less than budgeted and a better rate than forecast for Landfill tax. Indexation pressure for 2023/24 is currently being managed by this reduced tonnage. The table below shows the forecast tonnages and rates for the significant Waste contracts against the budgeted position, which are the main cost drivers for the Waste service.

Table 9 – Waste contracts

Service:	Tonnes			£/Tonne *			Budget F'cast Variance due to Price/Tonnes £'m
	Budget setting F'cast (T)	Current Yr End F'cast (T)	Var (T)	£/Tonne (Budget Setting)	£/Tonne (Forecast)	Var (£)	
	Waste Transfer Stations, Materials Recovery Facility and two Household Recycling Centres	81,600	72,615	(8,985)	72.953	81.695	
Composting services	39,700	40,000	300	34.900	37.760	2.86	0.043
Treatment & disposal of residual waste (inc street sweepings)	20,300	16,247	(4,053)	112.680	142.920	30.24	(0.070)
Tax payable on all waste sent to landfill	34,300	30,166	(4,134)	104.340	102.100	(2.24)	(0.476)
Energy from waste landfill diversion contract.	50,000	50,000	0	143.423	146.947	3.52	(0.003)
Mechanical biological treatment Landfill diversion contract.	58,850	57,700	(1,150)	177.218	179.436	2.22	(0.065)

* £/T excludes income

Leisure Culture & Communities: Budget £6.581m, £1.070m underspend

79. The net underspend of £1.070m in Leisure Culture & Communities is largely due to a forecast overachievement of Leisure Centre operations income of £1.215m due to the change in VAT treatment. This brings forward the saving proposal from 2025/26 of £1.172m and is included in the MTFs update below.

80. The library service is forecasting an overspend of £0.145m on staffing due to difficulties meeting the corporate 6.5% vacancy factor and the use of relief staff to ensure Libraries open. The service has been through a peer challenge and is working towards a service review and restructure to address this.

Chief Executive Directorates

Table 10 - Forecast as at Quarter One 2023/24 Chief Executive Directorates Position

		<i>Original Budget</i>	<i>Revised Budget</i>	<i>Forecast</i>	<i>Variance</i>
		<u>A</u> £m	<u>B</u> £m	<u>C</u> £m	D (C-B) £m
Chief Executive Directorates					
Legal & Governance	Gross Income	12.851 (2.887)	13.015 (2.847)	13.915 (3.639)	0.900 (0.792)
	Net Exp	9.964	10.168	10.276	0.108
Corporate Directors & Members	Gross Income	3.161 (0.014)	3.161 (0.014)	3.221 (0.014)	0.060 -
	Net Exp	3.147	3.147	3.207	0.060
TOTAL CEX DIRECTORATES	Gross Income	16.012 (2.901)	16.176 (2.861)	17.136 (3.653)	0.960 (0.792)
	Net Exp	13.111	13.315	13.483	0.168

Legal & Governance: £10.168m, £0.108m overspend

81. The overspend position in Legal and Governance is a result of the continued increased use of agency staff in legal services due to recruitment issues, and increased Coroners costs as a result of price increases. However, this is offset in part by income being higher than anticipated across the service and underspends in staffing budgets. The planned saving of £0.050m in Communications, currently reported as red, is being covered in year by staff vacancies and options are being looked at for a permanent replacement saving.

Corporate Directors and Members: Budget £3.147m, £0.060m overspend

82. The forecast overspend of £0.060m is due to the non-delivery of the vacancy factor.

Corporate Expenditure

Table 11 - Forecast as at Quarter One 2023/24 Corporate Position

		<i>Original Budget</i>	<i>Revised Budget</i>	<i>Forecast</i>	<i>Variance</i>
		<u>A</u> £m	<u>B</u> £m	<u>C</u>	<u>D (C-B)</u> £m
Corporate					
Movement on Reserves	Gross Income	2.457 -	2.457 -	2.457 -	- -
	Net Exp	2.457	2.457	2.457	-
Finance & Investment Income & Expense	Gross Income	29.513 (4.470)	29.665 (4.470)	27.219 (4.470)	(2.446) -
	Net Exp	25.043	25.195	22.749	(2.446)
Corporate Costs	Gross Income	5.105 (1.071)	5.105 (1.071)	5.105 (1.071)	- -
	Net Exp	4.034	4.034	4.034	-
Corporate Levies	Gross Income	8.150 (2.657)	8.150 (2.657)	8.508 (3.157)	0.358 (0.500)
	Net Exp	5.493	5.493	5.351	(0.142)
TOTAL CORPORATE	Gross Income	45.225 (8.198)	45.377 (8.198)	43.289 (8.698)	(2.088) (0.500)
	Net Exp	37.027	37.179	34.591	(2.588)

Finance & Investment, Income & Expenditure: Budget £25.195m, £2.446m underspend

83. The final value of capital spend funded by borrowing figure for 2022/23 sets the Minimum Revenue Provision charge for year 2023/24. As a result of the slippage in the 2022/23 capital programme there is a £2.549m MRP underspend in 2023/24.
84. A treasury management decision to borrow £80m was made in March 2022 and based on the current cashflow forecast the council will not need to borrow again in 2023/24. Interest payable and interest receivable budgets were realigned as part of 2023/24 budget setting and are currently forecast on budget however it should be noted that interest rates are currently higher than forecast, which could see an overachievement on interest receivable income. The level of cash the Council holds also influences the amount of interest received, and a full cashflow review will be undertaken for the quarter two budget monitoring position to provide an update on any expected variance. Loan interest from Stone Circle and Wiltshire College are included within the current forecast. An overspend of £0.198m has been forecast for Monkton Park financing costs in line with 2022/23 final year end position due to higher-than-expected interest rates and this will need to be reviewed alongside rate changes as the year progresses.
85. An underspend is forecast on asset disposal costs for quarter one of £0.085m based on forecast activity on asset sales to the end of the financial year. A £0.010m underspend has also been forecast against the cost of asset valuations based on the number of properties to be valued.

Corporate Costs: Budget £4.034m, nil variance

86. The current forecast spend on Salisbury inquest is £0.050m for 2023/24, the budget has been forecast online as it will be recommended that any underspend against budget is transferred to the Inquest reserve at year end to cover any future liability.

Corporate Levies: Budget £5.493m, £0.142m underspend

87. An overachievement of £0.500m of income is forecast for the retained income from Renewable Energy Business rates, which is offsetting forecast pressures largely on Pension Deficit lump sum payment and the Care Leavers discretionary Council Tax support scheme.

Dedicated Schools Grant – Total Grant £452.297m, £13.743m forecast net overspend

88. The overall in year forecast for dedicated schools grant (DSG) is an overspend of £13.743m which is an improvement of £1.155m from the original anticipated deficit position associated with the High Needs element of DSG. The council will be submitting a revised DSG Management Plan and will include an update on this plan and the financial impact in the next budget monitoring report.

Table 12 – DSG Block Summary

	DSG Allocation from the DfE £m	Wiltshire Transfers £m	Current Annual Budget £m	Forecast Outturn £m	Forecast Outturn Variance £m	% Variance
Early Years Block	32.485	0.180	28.665	28.699	0.033	0.12%
Schools Block	346.293	(1.717)	344.577	344.543	(0.034)	(0.01)%
High Needs block	70.918	1.797	76.714	90.365	13.650	17.79%
Central Block	2.600	(0.260)	2.340	2.433	0.093	3.96%
Overall	452.297	0.000	452.297	466.039	13.743	3.04%
Planned transfer to DSG reserve (representing overspending placement budgets)					14.898	
Net year end forecast movement to the DSG reserve following transfer					(1.155)	

89. As shown in Table 12, the forecast total outturn results in a net £13.743m increase in the DSG deficit which will result in a forecast cumulative year end deficit of £48.992m.

Table 13 – Impact on the Dedicated schools Grant Deficit Reserve

	Total 2023/24 FY £'m
Balance Brought Forward from 2022/23	35.249
Early Years Adjustment (prior year)	
Planned drawdown from reserve	14.898
Forecast Variance 2023/24	(1.155)
Balance Cfdw 2023/24	48.992

90. A statutory override for DSG deficits is currently in place until the end of the 2025/26 financial year. The statutory override, whilst in place, protects the council from having to make good any DSG deficit from its own reserves. As it currently stands, local authorities will need to demonstrate their ability to cover DSG deficits from their available reserves from 2026/27 onwards.
91. The reason for the overall spend above grant continues to be driven by demand from parents and schools for statutory support for vulnerable children with SEND, reflected in increased numbers of education health and care plans (EHCPs.) The number of EHCPs at the end of quarter one 2022/23 was 4,456; quarter one in 2023/24 is 5,165; an increase of 709 plans (15.9%). This includes a significant amount of post pandemic processing. Additionally, increased numbers of post 16 learners (926 / 17.9%) continue to put pressure on the budget as the impact of the 2014 Act when the local authority duty to provide support to learners up to the age of 25 years was introduced.
92. The council has a long-term recovery plan centred around inclusion which is being implemented in partnership with schools however the deficit lies with Wiltshire Council whilst the recovery plan is delivered. Through the recovery plan a range of activity is taking place.
- a. the transformation board have approved a proposal to invest £1.6m into recovery to prioritise the sustainability of the high needs system and align with the work of the Delivering Better Value (DBV) programme.
 - b. Wiltshire is taking steps to address the demand for specialist placements; significant council investment in the System of Excellence and new Special School places in the north of the county, the 150-place free special school in the south, expansion of specialist places within our schools and the flexible use of capital receipts by the council to fund a series of projects to facilitate change both internally and to influence partners. These and the savings planned from them do not lead to a balanced position within the 10-year recovery period. Savings are limited by many external factors and include a parent's legal right to state parental preference and recourse to a tribunal.
 - c. Officers are regularly meeting with school leaders to progress plans through the High Needs Recovery Group, reporting the position and recovery plan to Schools Forum. School Leaders have raised the profile of the funding challenges with Wiltshire's MPs who have been supportive and in turn, been asked to raise with central government at a meeting in Westminster in September 2023.
 - d. Councils nationally have an estimated £2.3bn in high needs funding deficits. The Department for Education currently has two programmes for supporting councils with DSG deficits. The Delivering Better Value in SEND (DBV) Programme is to support those councils with substantial deficits. Those authorities with more significant deficits, have been enrolled in the DfE "Safety Valve" programme.

Savings Delivery 2023/24

93. For 2023/24 a large amount of savings were required to deliver a balanced revenue budget totalling £26.099m (with £14.424m budgeted for 2024/25 and £10.697m budgeted for 2025/26). The 2023/24 savings are already reflected in the revenue budget aligned to services and must be met in full or they will result in an overspent position by the year end and will have a direct impact on the scale of savings to be delivered in future years. As such, a significant risk remains should there be a shortfall in the saving achieved. It is therefore critical to continue robust monitoring of the revenue budget and reporting the achievement of the savings required.
94. Following detailed monitoring by each manager responsible for a revenue budget saving, it is possible to quantify the amount and status of savings and the inherent risks associated with them. The deliverability of these proposals is monitored and reported directly to the Corporate Leadership Team (CLT). The assessment on the deliverability of the savings at the end of quarter one 2023/24 is shown in the tables below, and these assessments are included in the General Fund figures set out in this report.
95. For 2023/24 of the £26.099m savings targets £6.236m (23.89%) is assessed as having been fully achieved as at the end of June. £15.736m (60.29%) is forecast to be achieved by the end of the year. £2.039m (7.81%) is considered to be have some deliverability risk, being that they may be achieved this year. This leaves £2.088m (8%) which are not currently forecast to be achieved by the end of the year showing significant risk. These are included as overspends within the service forecasts. A table showing saving achievement at service level is shown in Appendix B and a table providing further detail on the proposals categorised as significant risk is shown in Appendix C.
96. The delivery of savings remains a focus for the Council and the status of the undelivered savings is considered as part of the future year financial planning processes to ensure the budget remains robust and deliverable and any undelivered saving adversely affects any budget gap in future years if not addressed or mitigated on an on-going basis.
97. Based on the review of savings and to inform the MTFS, some savings are re-profiled and £0.900m are removed to represent the pressure associated with forecast delivery assumptions. The details for this is included within the MTFS section.

Table 14 - Savings delivery BRAG rating by year 2023/24-2025/26

Directorate	2023/24 Budgeted Savings Target £'m	Blue £'m	Green £'m	Amber £'m	Red £'m
		<i>Fully Achieved</i>	<i>On Track</i>	<i>Some Risk</i>	<i>Significant Risk</i>
Increment Freeze	0.454	0.000	0.454	0.000	0.000
Chief Executive	1.767	1.298	0.127	0.292	0.050
Corporate	5.011	0.019	4.992	0.000	0.000
People	8.706	0.893	6.768	0.343	0.702
Place	6.730	1.817	2.608	1.347	0.958
Resources	3.431	2.209	0.787	0.057	0.378
Total £'m	26.099	6.236	15.736	2.039	2.088
% of total Budget		23.89%	60.29%	7.81%	8.00%

Directorate	2024/25 Budgeted Savings Target £'m	Blue £'m	Green £'m	Amber £'m	Red £'m
		<i>Fully Achieved</i>	<i>On Track</i>	<i>Some Risk</i>	<i>Significant Risk</i>
Chief Executive	0.205	0.000	0.155	0.050	0.000
Corporate	1.428	0.000	1.428	0.000	0.000
People	8.493	0.248	7.913	0.209	0.123
Place	3.583	0.000	2.149	0.492	0.942
Resources	0.715	0.070	0.576	0.019	0.050
Total £'m	14.424	0.318	12.221	0.770	1.115
% of total Budget		2.20%	84.72%	5.34%	7.73%

Directorate	2025/26 Budgeted Savings Target £'m	Blue £'m	Green £'m	Amber £'m	Red £'m
		<i>Fully Achieved</i>	<i>On Track</i>	<i>Some Risk</i>	<i>Significant Risk</i>
Chief Executive	0.640	0.000	0.640	0.000	0.000
Corporate	(1.400)	0.000	(1.400)	0.000	0.000
People	7.338	0.000	7.338	0.000	0.000
Place	3.504	0.000	2.374	1.090	0.040
Resources	0.615	0.000	0.365	0.000	0.250
Total £'m	10.697	0.000	9.317	1.090	0.290
% of total Budget		0.00%	87.10%	10.19%	2.71%

Capital Receipts Flexibilities 2022/23

98. The government allows Local Authorities to fund transformational activity that is designed to deliver ongoing revenue savings and/or transform service delivery to reduce costs or reduce demand for services in the future. This is known as Capital Receipts flexibilities. It is important that any Local Authority using this flexibility is transparent in reporting its plans and the individual projects that are to be funded or

part funded and report the previous years' activity and whether the planned savings and/or service transformation have been or are being delivered as planned.

99. At part of budget setting the council planned to use £1m of Capital Receipts to fund transformational activity across the council in areas of priority such as Adults Transformation, Family and Children's Transformation and Customer Experience. For this financial year this funding solution will be used to fund elements of the Transformation and Business Change team costs, supporting the transformation programmes across the council.

Reserves Position and Forecast

Table 15 - Reserves Summary

Reserve	Opening Balance 2023/24	Projected Closing Balance 2023/24	Projected Closing Balance 2024/25	Projected Closing Balance 2025/26
	£m	£m	£m	£m
General Fund	28.056	28.056	28.056	28.056
Latent Demand	7.794	4.366	2.961	2.838
Collection Fund Volatility	9.470	14.792	15.147	14.572
Public Health	6.964	5.937	5.235	4.661
Homes for Ukraine	13.231	6.627	0.023	0.023
Transformation	10.962	8.462	6.462	5.762
Business Plan Priority	3.844	1.739	1.021	1.021
Pay Award	2.000	-	-	-
PFI's	5.198	5.048	4.898	4.898
Insurance	3.019	3.045	2.019	2.019
Accommodation Needs	10.000	8.000	6.000	4.000
Other Earmarked	21.772	16.267	14.324	13.633
Total Earmarked	94.254	74.283	58.089	53.427
Schools Balances	14.148	14.148	14.148	14.148
DSG	(35.249)	(48.992)	(60.065)	(70.649)
TOTAL	101.209	67.495	40.227	24.981

100. Reserves are an important element of the Council's finances, and a sufficient level of balances should be held, to mitigate risks within the budget and operations of the Council.
101. The level of general fund reserves and earmarked reserves (excluding DSG) held by the Council were increased as part of the final financial year end position for 2022/23 to bring the level of the reserves up to the value that was set out in risk assessed level of reserves required to support the council's budget for 2023/24 and included in the budget report in February 2023. This will provide additional capacity and resilience to support the financial position in 2023/24, support the financial risks within the budget and allow lead in time for transformation and to reshape services to deliver on-going financial resilience and sustainability.

102. The Transformation reserve will provide funding for transformational activity across the council. The use of this reserve is overseen by the Transformation Executive Board, who agree the prioritisation of the activity and agree the funding.
103. The significant aspects of financial risk within the budget for 2023/24 are in part mitigated by earmarked reserves set aside for both Latent Demand and Pay Award. £2m has been set aside in a specific pay award reserve to support the expected pressure in these costs for 2023/24 alongside this the Extended Leadership Team are developing permanent staff saving proposals to meet the pressure in 2024/25. The Latent Demand reserve has been available for demand that presents over and above the metrics included in the budget. £3.217m is included within the 2023/24 budget funded by the reserve, £1.527m has been planned for future years leaving a balance of £2.838m which will continue to be available should any additional demand present either during the remainder of this year or next financial year.

Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) and Budget 2023/24 Update

104. The budget set by Full Council in February 2023 balanced the current 2023/24 financial year successfully with a Net Budget of £465.874m and the Medium MTFS set out funding assumptions and savings proposals to balance the budget for the following 2 years.
105. This has put the Council in a strong position for 2024/25 budget setting but it is important to formally review the assumptions within the estimates and it is important to do this early, considering the financial position and risks highlighted in the budget monitoring position reported in the above paragraphs. These mainly relate to increased demand, income achievement the ongoing cost of living and with inflation in 2023/24 being higher and staying higher for longer than originally forecast.
106. The table below provides the MTFS position that was reported to Council in February 2023 when the budget was approved. It shows the balanced budget across the MTFS period.

Table 16 - MTFS February 2023

MTFS Model	2023/24 £m	2024/25 £m	2025/26 £m
Net Service Spend	465.372	479.709	490.744
Council Tax Requirement	(290.422)	(301.098)	(312.333)
Social Care Levy	(41.765)	(48.489)	(48.489)
Rates Retention	(49.444)	(50.244)	(51.044)
Collection Fund (surplus) / deficit	(6.850)	-	-
Specific Grants	(76.891)	(79.878)	(78.878)
Total Funding	(465.372)	(479.709)	(490.744)
GAP	-	-	-

107. To balance the budget a number of savings proposals were agreed by Council and have been included in the MTFS, the table below set outs the total of savings in each.

Table 17 - MTFS Model Savings February 2023

MTFS Model	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
	£m	£m	£m
Savings Total	26.099	14.424	10.697

108. As part of the quarterly budget monitoring process a review of the assumptions used within the medium-term financial planning model has been carried out and updates made to both the assumptions and amounts within the model. Due to the pressures presenting in 2023/24 there is now a forecast budget gap for the next financial year (2024/25) and currently estimated to be £5.541m. This is shown in the table below and an explanation of the movements is included in the below paragraphs along with detail of further risks that are not able to be quantified at this stage with confidence but may come forward.

Table 18 - MTFS High Level Review Quarter One 2023/24

MTFS SUMMARY HIGH LEVEL REVIEW QUARTER 1 2023/24	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	Total
	£'m	£'m	£'m	£'m
Approved MTFS 2023/24 Budget Setting:				
Spending		479.709	490.744	
Funding		(479.709)	(490.744)	
Annual Gap		-	-	-
Adjustments coming through from High Level MTFS Review				
Contract Inflation				
Overall increase in inflation assumptions	2.009	1.171	0.317	3.497
Pay Award				
Increase in Pay Award 2023/25 from 4.5% to 5.8% (based on £1,925 and HAY grade 3.8%)	2.000	-	-	2.000
Demand				
Increase Demand Assumptions updated with Qtr. 1 Forecast	0.431	0.830	0.890	2.151
Increase in Additional Pressures Assumptions updated with Qtr. 1 Forecast	0.604	0.313	-	0.917
Increase Income assumptions updated with Qtr. 1 Forecast 2023/24	(0.635)	-	-	(0.635)
Reprofiling of Savings	(0.724)	0.142	0.582	-
Non Delivery of Savings	0.463	0.937	0.014	1.414
New Staff Savings to meet Pay Away 2023/24	(2.000)			(2.000)
Revision to the Bottom Line MTFS July 2022	2.148	3.393	1.803	7.344
Annual Funding Gap	2.148	3.393	1.803	7.344
Cumulative Funding Gap		5.541	7.344	

109. Inflation is currently running at about 2% higher than the 2023/24 budget setting assumption and is now forecast to stay higher for longer. The original assumptions were based on CPI at 6% for 2023/24, 2% for 2024/25 and 2% for 2025/26. The Bank of England forecast at quarter one was 8.2%, 3.4% and 1.1% respectively for those years.

110. An initial assessment has been carried out which is showing a pressure of £3.497m across the current MTFS period from additional inflation (excluding pay), which is largely in Waste and SEND Transport. The working assumption is that Public Transport contract inflation above that currently within the MTFS will be covered by the new grant BSIP Plus in 2023/24 and 2024/25. Assessments are yet to be completed for some significant areas where further detail and more certainty is required, including MBT and Lakeside waste contracts, Highways contracts, which were reprocured for 2023/24, SEND Transport for future years, Adult Services, IT and Assets. These will be updated in quarter two and are likely to increase the inflationary pressure and estimated budget gap.

111. During the budget setting process the national pay award assumption was an increase of 4.5% for the current year's budget and 2.5% for both 2024/25 and 2025/26. The employers full and final offer for 2023/24 of £1,925 per employee and 3.8% for HAY grades has been assessed and results in an average increase of 5.84% and creates an additional pressure of approximately £2m. Although unions have rejected this offer and negotiations continue this is being used as the base increase for the quarter one update, with future pay awards in the financial assumptions remaining at 2.5% at this stage. The Extended Leadership Team have been working on saving proposals to mitigate the likely 2023/24 pay award pressure and these have been updated in the MTFS to show a balanced position overall for the 2023/24 pay award.
112. At quarter one additional demand is presenting in support for care leavers placements of £1.990m and to a lesser extent £0.161m demand for the independent visitors scheme for children in care - initial assessment is an increase of £2.151m across the MTFS period.
113. In addition to these, pressures in the contract prices of SEND transport are presenting an estimated pressure of £1.608m and inflationary uplift in children in care placements and care leavers support and accommodation of £0.938m – initial assessment is £2.538 across the MTFS period.
114. Further to these financial estimates, the following risks are being considered in the MTFS and are highlighted as pressures.
- a. the requests from schools and parents for EHCP assessments continues to grow and this demand means the statutory SEND service need to consider their structures based on new caseloads. Wherever possible demand will be consumed however, the legal duties around timeliness and quality must be considered in conjunction with the preparation for the changes from the national SEND Review and inspection preparation where additional resource may be required to implement recommendations of the SEND Peer Review such as expanded engagement of young people with SEND.
 - b. An exercise in mapping all the service plan risks and activities including preparation for inspections across People services that require engagement from the Performance and Systems and Targeted service teams is currently underway. At the end of which a clear picture of resourcing needs that will support their delivery is anticipated and this may require additional resource.
 - c. Investment from the transformation reserve for the Families and Children transformation (FACT) is currently funding pilots in Westbury and Warminster alongside other county wide early help schemes with a view to keeping numbers of children in care and the cost of care low in Wiltshire. The outcome of the pilot will have recommendations and all partners will be asked to consider sustaining the invest to save approach and benefits that early help and prevention agendas bring.
 - d. In February 2023, the government launched a consultation "Stable Homes Built on Love: Implementation Strategy and Consultation" targeted on children's social care reform, funding of £200m over 2 years has been announced at national level however, it is not yet clear how much funding

Wiltshire will receive or, the scope of the reforms. It is assumed that any pressure associated this strategy will be funded by the national funding at this stage however, the view of the ADCS is that this is insufficient.

115. The substantial changes required over the next three years to comply with the Environment Act 2021 continues to be developed, however at this stage there is still insufficient detail from Government to fully evaluate the financial implications and impact on existing and future waste contracts, including long term landfill diversion contracts. The working assumption continues to be that pressures arising from the Act will be covered by Government under New Burdens funding or via new funding streams as part of the proposed schemes.
116. National changes to the operation of the Local Enterprise Partnerships are likely to result in a TUPE transfer of staff, where the new arrangements switch significant responsibilities to Local Authorities. Government have confirmed they will provide some revenue funding to local authorities in 2024/25 to deliver the functions currently delivered by LEPs. Details of this support will be confirmed in due course, and funding beyond 2024/25 will be subject to future Spending Review decisions.
117. Government have deferred the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) from October 2024 until October 2025, and at this stage the financial implications are not included in MTFS. The council currently spends £8m per annum collecting and managing packaging waste and depending on the allocation basis of the funding there could be a saving for the Council in future years. The timing for consistency in recycling collections which included mandatory separate food waste collection and free of charge garden waste collection is still unconfirmed and has major implications on the service and financial planning.
118. A pressure of £0.820m has been added into the MTFS from 2024/25. This is the on-going resource requirements to support the continued delivery of the Adults Payment to Provider project, which incorporates the Net to Gross project, the roll out of the Provider Portal and Payments on Account projects as part of the Adult Social Care Transformation Programme. It is being funded during 2023/24 through the transformation reserve. These requests were approved by the Transformation Executive Board in May 2023.
119. A £0.217m pressure has been included under Families & Children services for Care Leavers statutory duty to 25 years as detailed in the service narrative above, as more Care Leavers are receiving support for longer.
120. £0.192m pressure has been added to Legal and Governance for the ongoing pressure in coroners for body removals service.
121. A net saving of £0.095m has been updated in the MTFS for Corporate Levies from the increased income for Renewable Energy Business Rates of £0.500m offset by increases for Pension deficit lump sum payment of £0.205m and the additional cost for funding for Care Leavers Discretionary Council Tax Support Fund of £0.200m.
122. The value of capital spend funded by borrowing that is set within the Capital Programme has a direct impact on revenue as it sets the minimum revenue provision (MRP) charge for the following financial year. For quarter one effort has been focused on reviewing and reprofiling the capital programme to ensure it is realistic

and deliverable. This review is on-going, and the programme finalised for quarter two will be used as a basis to calculate and update the MRP requirement for the 2024/25 budget. This updated programme will also be used to inform decisions on the cashflow forecast and borrowing requirements so that Interest Payable and Interest Receivable can be updated for quarter two. This review will include the financing requirement for Monkton Park which is presenting a pressure in 2023/2024 due to the increase in interest rates.

123. An income budget for £0.635m has been added to Passenger Transport service budget to recognise the Extended Rights to Travel grant income. Fees and charges income streams are showing underachievement at quarter one as reported within the service area variance narrative, most significantly in Waste Recycling, Planning services and Car Parking. Stretch Income budgets were applied for the 2023/24 budget. It is too early to reliably forecast income at this stage of the year, and fees and charges income budgets will therefore be reviewed and updated in quarter two. It should be recognised that this is a risk area and could create further pressure on the 2024/25 and 2025/26 budgets.
124. As part of the quarter one review all savings proposals have been reviewed and risk rated. Savings in Passenger Transport for 2023/24 and 2024/25 totalling £0.590m need to be reprofiled for delivery into 2025/26 to enable the Council to secure £4.2m of Bus Service Improvement Plan PLUS (BSIP PLUS) grant. This funding is to improve, enhance and support Bus services and assist contractors experiencing commercial failure to ensure services are maintained.
125. A key condition of the grant is that the Council cannot reduce its Public Transport budgets in this period. The savings relate to the review, repatterning and reduction of less well used bus services, out of area services and the removal of Saturdays from supported services timetable.
126. In contrast to this the Leisure Centre operations income savings for £1.172m for the change in VAT treatment of some income can be brought forward from 2025/26 to 2023/24 as HMRC have now accepted this position.
127. At quarter one five savings proposals have been highlighted as unable to proceed. A change in Government legislation and guidance means that charging for DIY waste at Household Recycling Centres (HRCs) will no longer be permitted. This impacts directly on the 2022/23 savings target for charging at HRCs phase one of £0.100m and the 2024/25 savings proposals for phase two of charging for £0.600m. There may also be an indirect impact on the saving proposal in 2024/25 for the reduction to HRCs opening hours of £0.200m, as this was in part based on a reduction in demand at HRCs as a result of introducing charging.
128. A saving proposal in Transformation to look at alternative funding options for the Business Insight Hub for £0.391m needs to be reversed as no sustainable options have been identified. For 2023/24 the team will be funded by the Transformation reserve.
129. Within Education and Skills a saving for £0.123m in relation to the second year of a staffing review will not be achieved due to the academisation proposals made in the white paper in December 2022.

130. The above paragraphs set out the progress of the MTFs and impact on the budget gap, and assumptions will continue to be updated as we progress through the budget setting process. The key date above all else is the Council Meeting on 20 February 2024, and prior to that the Cabinet meeting on 6 February 2024 which will set out the Cabinet’s final budget proposals in order to set a balanced budget. Papers will be made available early to allow consultations and scrutiny to take place during January.

Budget 2023/24 Key Timescales:

Activity / Meeting	Date
Cabinet – Draft Budget Proposals published	Early January 2024
Overview & Scrutiny Management Committee	24 January 2024
Statutory consultation with Businesses	January 2023
Cabinet – Final Budget Proposals	6 February 2024
Overview & Scrutiny Management Committee	2 February 2024
Full Council Budget & Council Tax setting	20 February 2024

Overview and Scrutiny Engagement

131. Regular reports are taken to Overview & Scrutiny relating to the Council’s financial position. This report is being considered at the meeting of Financial Planning Task Group on 8 September 2023 and Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee on 26 September 2023.

Safeguarding Implications

132. None have been identified as arising directly from this report.

Public Health Implications

133. None have been identified as arising directly from this report.

Procurement Implications

134. None have been identified as arising directly from this report.

Equalities Impact of the Proposal

135. None have been identified as arising directly from this report. As the MTFs process progresses any savings and mitigations identified to address any budget gap will be supported by relevant equalities impact assessments.

Environmental and Climate Change Considerations

136. None have been identified as arising directly from this report.

Risks that may arise if the proposed decision and related work is not taken

137. If the Council fails to take actions to address forecast shortfalls, overspends or increases in its costs it will need to draw on reserves. The level of reserves is limited and a one-off resource that cannot be used as a long-term sustainable strategy for financial stability.

Risks that may arise if the proposed decision is taken and actions that will be taken to manage these risks

138. Ongoing budget monitoring and management, of which this report forms part of the control environment, is a mitigating process to ensure early identification and action is taken. Risks associated with service delivery and the level of reserves will be raised as and when proposals are brought forward as part of the budget setting process.

Financial Implications – Section 151 Officer Commentary

139. This report is the first report for the 2023/24 financial year and the forecast as at quarter one indicates a broadly balanced budget. This includes an estimate on the pay award for 2023/24, and although the negotiations continue the employers offer can once again be used as the minimum level of cost that will be experienced in the Councils budget. This will be formally reported by services in the Q2 report and is estimated will be £2m over the base budget.
140. Knowing this the council's Extended Leadership Team have acted quickly to formulate mitigation plans to ensure this additional cost is contained. This will be through a mix of staffing saving plans and a use of the reserve prudently set aside at the end of last financial year. The critical point is ensuring a £2m ongoing saving is found before April 2024 will be delivered.
141. As stated in the report the ongoing cost of living crisis has seen the levels of inflation remain stubbornly high. Although there are signs these are now falling, the report clearly demonstrates that the Council is exposed to higher prices rises than budgeted, and this has a knock-on effect into later financial years.
142. The MTFs has been updated in light of the ongoing levels of inflation and reflects an increase in the financial gap the Council will have to close in order to balance its budget in future years. This is in the context that this is a relatively smaller gap than in previous years, £7m by 2025/26, and the Council yet again is demonstrating a strong delivery in savings with over 84% being delivered in this financial year and forecasts covering the next 2 financial years showing the vast majority of savings already put forward are on course.
143. There is a significant level of uncertainty and risk contained within this forecast. Whilst officers have worked hard to ensure the significant savings programme of £26m in this financial year is achieved, with % of being delivered high, there is the possibility that further savings not yet delivered fail to be delivered either at all or by their original time frame. In addition, ongoing persistent high inflation, rising service demand and falling income levels could all add further pressure to the current forecast.
144. Therefore, although there are no specific management actions proposed at this time the council's Extended Leadership Team will be ensuring close scrutiny and

challenge of the forecasts with ongoing mitigating actions to ensure the Council remain in a balanced position over the coming months.

145. The deficit on the DSG continues to present a significant risk to the Councils financial future resilience given the uncertainty over the Government's current override, which will end in March 2026.
146. Although the Council has sufficient reserves to cover the cumulative deficit, as forecast in table 16, the annual deficit, which is currently forecast to be circa £10m a year, is unsustainable. The cumulative deficit will have to be made good by other reserves held by the Council and the annual deficit either reduced or covered by other general fund savings to the same value. The Council is working closely with the DFE to address this issue through its Delivering Better Value (DBV) programme.

Legal Implications

147. None have been identified as arising directly from this report.

Workforce Implications

148. If the Council fails to take actions to address in-year forecast shortfalls, overspends or increases in its costs it may need to implement further spend controls, or if the position is deemed critical unplanned service rationalisation may be required. This could impact on the workforce and may include changes to roles or redundancies. Ongoing budget monitoring and management, of which this report forms part of the control environment, is a mitigating process to ensure early identification and action is taken.
149. The pay award for 2023/24 is now expected to be agreed above the amount budgeted for. The Extended Leadership Team have been working proactively to identify permanent staff savings to address the pay award pressure. These proposals will deliver a permanent solution for the 2023/24 pay award pressure in 2024/25 and vacancies are being held where they are able to, to mitigate the pressure in 2023/24 and ensure that the impact on staff is minimised.

Options Considered

150. Budget monitoring forms part of the financial control environment and it is important to provide reporting on all aspects of financial management and performance to Cabinet and the public, including delivery to plans, variances and risks and impacts.

Conclusions

151. The report supports effective decision making, ensures a sound financial control environment and ensures members are updated on the latest position for the budget for 2023/24. This position has informed the proposed budget for 2024/25.

Andy Brown – Corporate Director of Resources and Deputy Chief Executive (S.151 Officer)

Report Authors:

Lizzie Watkin, Director of Finance and Deputy S.151 Officer Director - Finance,
lizzie.watkin@wiltshire.gov.uk

Leanne Sykes, Head of Finance, Growth, Investment & Place
Marie Taylor, Head of Finance, Children & Education
Sarah Rose, Head of Finance, Adults
1 September 2023

Appendices

Appendix A: Revenue Budget Movements
Appendix B: Savings Delivery Targets by Service
Appendix C: Savings Delivery Targets 2023/24 with Significant Risk

Background Papers

The following documents have been relied on in the preparation of this report:

Year End Revenue Financial Outturn Position 2022/23 – Cabinet, 11 July 2023
[Agenda for Cabinet on Tuesday 11 July 2023, 10.00 am | Wiltshire Council](#)

Budget 2023/24 and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2023/24 to 2025/26
[Agenda for Council on Tuesday 21 February 2023, 10.30 am | Wiltshire Council](#)

Appendix A – Revenue Budget Movements

	2023-24 Original Budget	Budget movements approved by CLT Quarter 1	Revised Budget M03
	£m	£m	£m
Corporate Director People			
Adults Services	176.866	0.898	177.764
Public Health	0.862	(0.301)	0.561
Education & Skills	29.269	0.000	29.269
Families & Children Services	64.541	(0.257)	64.284
Corporate Director Resources			
Finance	6.367	0.000	6.367
Pensions	0.000	0.000	0.000
Assets & Commercial Development	16.799	0.422	17.221
Information Services	11.808	0.000	11.808
Commissioning	3.405	(0.657)	2.748
HR&OD	3.573	0.017	3.590
Transformation & Business Change	0.533	0.000	0.533
Corporate Director Place & Environment			
Highways & Transport	40.634	(0.380)	40.254
Economy & Regeneration	2.520	0.000	2.520
Planning	3.396	0.000	3.396
Environment	48.282	0.203	48.485
Leisure Culture & Communities	6.881	(0.301)	6.580
Chief Executive Directorates			
Legal & Governance	9.964	0.204	10.168
Corporate Directors & Members	3.147	0.000	3.147
Corporate			
Movement on Reserves	2.457	0.000	2.457
Finance & Investment Income & Expense	25.043	0.152	25.195
Corporate Costs	4.034	0.000	4.034
Corporate Levies	5.493	0.000	5.493
General Fund Budget	465.874	0.000	465.874
HRA	0.000	0.000	0.000
Total	465.874	0.000	465.874
WC Funding			
General Government Grants	(77.393)	0.000	(77.393)
Council Tax	(339.037)	0.000	(339.037)
Business Rates Retention Scheme	(49.444)	0.000	(49.444)
Total Funding	(465.874)	0.000	(465.874)
Total	0.000	0.000	0.000

Appendix B – Savings Delivery Targets 2023/24 by Service

Directorate	Service	2023/24 Budgeted Savings Target £'m	Blue £'m	Green £'m	Amber £'m	Red £'m
			<i>Fully Achieved</i>	<i>On Track</i>	<i>Some Risk</i>	<i>Significant Risk</i>
Increment Freeze	Increment Freeze	0.454	0.000	0.454	0.000	0.000
Increment Freeze Total		0.454	0.000	0.454	0.000	0.000
Chief Executive	HR&OD	0.231	0.154	0.077	0.000	0.000
	Legal & Governance	0.540	0.154	0.050	0.286	0.050
	Public Health	0.616	0.616	0.000	0.000	0.000
	Transformation & Business Change	0.380	0.374	0.000	0.006	0.000
Chief Executive Total		1.767	1.298	0.127	0.292	0.050
Corporate	Corporate Costs	1.419	0.019	1.400	0.000	0.000
	Capital Financing	3.592	0.000	3.592	0.000	0.000
Corporate Total		5.011	0.019	4.992	0.000	0.000
People	Education & Skills	1.141	0.260	0.643	0.123	0.115
	Families & Children's Services	1.110	0.523	0.450	0.050	0.087
	Adults	6.455	0.110	5.675	0.170	0.500
People Total		8.706	0.893	6.768	0.343	0.702
Place	Car Parking	0.250	0.000	0.000	0.190	0.060
	Economy & Regeneration	0.255	0.000	0.255	0.000	0.000
	Environment	1.159	0.109	0.039	0.711	0.300
	Highways & Transport	3.539	1.708	0.868	0.365	0.598
	Leisure Culture & Communities	1.470	0.000	1.446	0.024	0.000
	Planning	0.057	0.000	0.000	0.057	0.000
Place Total		6.730	1.817	2.608	1.347	0.958
Resources	Assets & Commercial Development	1.886	1.205	0.246	0.057	0.378
	Finance	0.550	0.550	0.000	0.000	0.000
	Information Services	0.629	0.088	0.541	0.000	0.000
	Procurement & Commissioning	0.366	0.366	0.000	0.000	0.000
Resources Total		3.431	2.209	0.787	0.057	0.378
Grand Total		26.099	6.236	15.736	2.039	2.088

Appendix C – Savings Delivery Targets 2023/24 with Significant Risk

Directorate	Service	Head of Service	Budget Challenge - Description of Saving	23/24 Budget £'m	Significant issues £m
Resources	Assets & Commercial Development	Strategic Asset & Facilities Management	County Hall ICB/CCG - extra above budget for CCG	0.065	0.065
Resources	Assets & Commercial Development	Strategic Asset & Facilities Management	Old County Hall 2nd Floor Wing Asda end	0.099	0.099
Resources	Assets & Commercial Development	Strategic Asset & Facilities Management	County Hall AWP	0.214	0.214
Place	Environment	Waste Services	Positive income performance from recycling material sales, in excess of current forecasts - strictly a one off saving for 23/24, as market volatility remains a concern (HIGH RISK).	0.150	0.150
Place	Highways & Transport	Passenger Transport	Charge for temporary bus shelter closures -We are able to charge utilities and other companies when bus shelters are out of commission due to roadworks.	0.020	0.020
Place	Highways & Transport	Passenger Transport	Transfer monies from the government pot to home to school transport budget for Ukrainians - The figure of £180k may change dependent upon the number of Ukraine's in residence. This figure is accurate as at Oct 22	0.180	0.040
Place	Highways & Transport	Passenger Transport	To review and repattern those bus services that are less well used, following a permanent change in travel habits, post covid. WAS 'Services with a £7.00 per passenger subsidy or above - To review and repattern these services in a different way, in order to continue providing some sort of service to most - The general public will not like some of the changes and a proportion would be left with no service'	0.140	0.140
Place	Highways & Transport	Highways Operations	Trowbridge Service delegation (Streetscene, Markets, Burials) assumes in place from 1st April 23	0.364	0.090
Place	Highways & Transport	Passenger Transport	Service bus's carrying out of county / non designated / non-essential shoppers - A reduction / repatterning and in some cases cessation of services that have the least impact upon public transport users - There will be resistance to this from the public, but there will in most cases be a viable alternative. There may be an environmental impact as more cars will be driven to schools.	0.208	0.208
Place	Highways & Transport	Passenger Transport	Remove Saturdays from supported services timetables	0.100	0.100
People	Education & Skills	Helean Hughes	Staff Savings from 22-23 MTFS	0.115	0.115
People	Families & Children's Services	Kat McJanet	PAUSE Co-ordinator	0.025	0.025
People	Families & Children's Services	Tamsin Stone	1x Conference & Reviewing Officer post (CP Chair)	0.062	0.062
People	Adults	Living & Ageing Well	Day Services Utility	0.200	0.200
People	Adults	Living & Ageing Well	Wiltshire Care Home Efficiency	0.300	0.300
Chief Executive	Legal & Governance	Communications	Rationalise Communication roles	0.050	0.050
Place	Environment	Waste	Stretch Income Targets for Place Services	0.150	0.150
Place	Car Parking	Car Parking	Stretch Income Targets for Place Services	0.250	0.060
Total Significant Issues					2.088
Total 2023/24 Budgeted Savings Target					26.099
Significant Issues as a % of total 2023/24 Budgeted Savings Target					8.00%

This page is intentionally left blank

Wiltshire Council

Cabinet

12 September 2023

Subject: Financial Year 2023/24 - Quarter One Capital Budget Monitoring

Cabinet Member: Cllr Nick Botterill – Cabinet Member for Finance, Development Management and Strategic Planning

Key Decision: Non-Key

Executive Summary

This report sets out the Capital Programme for 2023/24 as at 30 June 2023 for the first quarterly budget monitoring period. It includes the movements from the original budget set by Full Council in February 2023 to the revised programme and sets out how the programme is forecast to be financed. It provides an update on the significant schemes that are planned to be delivered and those that have been reprofiled to future years.

Quarter One Capital Budget Monitoring

The quarter one Capital Programme is based on information as at 30 June 2023. The report confirms the current forecast movement of approvals between years as schemes have been assessed and the spend profile recast.

Proposals

Cabinet is asked to recommend to Full Council to approve:

- a) the allocation of a £4.4m budget for Education provision in the North of the County to be funded by a mix of capital receipts, earmarked reserves and £1.7m of new borrowing.

Cabinet is asked to approve:

- a) the allocation of £0.500m budget to be funded by CIL funding for the River Park programme;
- b) the allocation of £10m CIL funding for Trowbridge Leisure Centre to replace borrowing, with no change in total budget allocation;
- c) the allocation of £10m budget to Highways & Transport for increased investment to be funded from borrowing released from Trowbridge Leisure Centre; and

- d) the virement of budget on the Salisbury Central Car Park & Maltings of £0.250m from Millstream Approach Bridge to Coach Park Redevelopment Riverside.

Cabinet is asked to note:

- e) The additional budgets added to the programme of £17.639m under Chief Finance Officer delegated powers;
- f) the removals of £0.396m budget in line with 2023/24 Grant award under Chief Finance Officer delegated powers;
- g) the budgets brought forward from future years into the 2023/24 programme totalling £13.876m under Chief Finance Officer delegated powers;
- h) the budgets reprogrammed from 2023/24 into future years totalling £69.998m under Chief Finance Officer delegated powers;
- i) Budget Movements between Schemes;
- j) the revised 2023/24 Capital Programme forecast as at quarter one of £189.376m;
- k) the capital spend as of 30 June 2023 of £26.047m; and
- l) the change in approach for Stone Circle Housing Company to set MRP aside from 2023/24 for the capital loan.

Reason for Proposals

To inform effective decision making and ensure sound financial management as part of the Councils overall control environment.

To inform Cabinet on the financial position of the Council on the 2023/24 capital programme as at quarter one (30 June 2023).

Terence Herbert
Chief Executive

Andy Brown
Corporate Director of Resources and Deputy Chief Executive (S.151 Officer)

Wiltshire Council

Cabinet

12 September 2023

Subject: Financial Year 2023/24 - Quarter One Capital Budget Monitoring

Cabinet Member: Cllr Nick Botterill – Cabinet Member for Finance, Development Management and Strategic Planning

Key Decision: Non-Key

Purpose of Report

1. To advise Members of the 2023/24 Capital Programme position as at quarter one (30 June 2023).

Relevance to the Council's Business Plan

2. Budget monitoring and reporting supports effective decision making and the alignment of resources and financial performance to the Council's priorities and objectives as laid down in the Business Plan.

Background

Capital Programme Monitoring 2023/24 Quarter One

3. Full Council approved a net capital programme budget for 2023/24 of £199.127m at its meeting on 21 February 2023. As part of the final year end position Cabinet approved the advancement of £10.311m from future years into 2022/23 and the transfer of £39.439m into 2023/24, which increased the 2023/24 Capital Programme to £228.255m.

Main Considerations for the Council

4. During quarter one the Chief Finance officer has authorised the addition of £17.639m budget under his delegated powers. These increases are set out in Appendix D section one and discussed later in the report. The increases have no effect on the net funding position of the programme or the approved borrowing level as they are funded by external sources such as grants, s106 contributions and Town and Parish Council contributions.
5. In addition, the Schools Maintenance and Modernisations budget has been reduced by £0.396m to align to the actual grant allocation for 2023/24 under Chief Finance Officer delegated powers.
6. The above changes increased the 2023/24 Capital Programme quarter one budget to £245.498m. A detailed budget movement by scheme is shown in Appendix A for Cabinet to review.

7. Capital schemes have been reviewed for quarter one and £69.998m has been reprogrammed into future years to align with forecast programme delivery. £13.876m has been brought forward from future years to support the delivery of accelerated projects, both adjustments have been actioned under Chief Finance Officer delegated powers. There are no negative financial, delivery or reputational implications to report from this re-programming.
8. The Capital Programme forecast for 2023/24 stands at £189.376m as of 30 June 2023, the budget has been revised to match forecast, the table below summaries the budget movements discussed. A detailed Capital Programme Quarter One Forecast by scheme is shown in Appendix B for Cabinet to review.

Table 1 – 2023/24 Q1 Capital Programme Amendments

	£'m
Capital Programme Approved by Full Council 21 February 2023	199.127
Amendments to Capital Programme Authorised as part of 2022/23 Year End to Note:	
Budgets brought forward from future years to the 2022/23 programme	(10.311)
Budgets reprogrammed from 2022/2023 into future years	39.439
Amendments to Capital Programme Authorised as part of Quarter One Review to Note:	
Budget removed from the programme	(0.396)
Additional budgets added to the programme	17.639
Capital Programme 2023/24 as at 31st March 2023	245.498
Budgets brought forward from future years to the 2023/24 programme	13.876
Budgets reprogrammed from 2023/2024 into future years	(69.998)
Capital Programme 2023/24 as at 30th June 2023	189.376

9. Historically Wiltshire Council's average annual Capital Programme spend is in the region of £100m, although spend was higher in 2023/23 at £128m. There are however some significant schemes included in the programme that are driving the higher budget level and these are detailed in the report below.
10. Shortages in supply chain in relation to materials, component parts, drivers and workforce is creating high risk with deliverability and price for capital projects. Whilst the cost of construction material prices have stabilised, prices are still considerably higher than they were two to three years ago and the availability of some key materials continues to be an issue. This is currently being managed within built in contingencies and for newer projects contingency percentages are being set at a higher rate. To assist with this pressure £1.191m budget was transferred to a corporate budget under Resources to help mitigate inflation pressures. As a result of movement to offset additional budget pressures at Porton Science Park and Hindon Stagger Depot during 2022/23, £0.198m of this budget remains.
11. The total capital expenditure as at quarter one is £26.047m, approx. 14% of the revised annual capital programme. Officers are still forecasting that these schemes will progress and be delivered according to the current forecasts in 2023/24. It should be noted that the spend figure does not include commitments.

12. As reported in the Year End Financial Outturn Position 2022/23 report the biggest implication from not delivering the capital programme as planned is linked to schemes funded by borrowing. This impacts on the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) budget within the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure revenue budget which is set based on the programme for the previous financial year. As a result of the programme slippage seen during the 2022/23 year there is a £2.549m underspend on the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) budget in this financial year (2023/24).
13. The 2023/24 capital schemes funded by borrowing inform the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure budget for 2024/25. If the programme is set too high and is not delivered at this level the revenue budget set aside will not be required and is diverted away from key services. The programme needs continuous review to ensure it is robust and achievable and to inform the 2024/25 budget setting process. A Capital Governance and Gateway process was implemented in 2022/23 and was initially integrated into the Asset Gateway Board. A recent review of the process has determined that the capital programme governance would be best service by its own Board. The first meeting of the Capital Investment Programme Board took place on 12 July 2023.
14. Budget additions and reprofiling, either slipping budget to future years or bringing budget forward from future years are detailed in Appendix D and have been done under Chief Finance Officer delegated powers. Budget movements requiring Cabinet or Full Council approval are included in the recommendations above and will be referenced specifically in the report.

People

15. The table below shows the Capital Programme 2023/24 quarter one at programme level for the People Directorate. The forecast stands at £33.745m and spend is currently at 20%.
16. The Capital Budget was set at £46.143m, after 2022/23 final year-end adjustments the revised budget was £53.031m. Full details of these movements can be found in the Year End Financial Outturn Position 2022/23 July Cabinet reports.
17. As part of the quarter one review, £0.849m of additional budgets have been added to the programme, and these additions are funded by grant and s106 contributions.
18. £0.396m Schools Maintenance and Modernisation budget has been removed to align the budget forecast with the actual DfE grant award for 2023/24.
19. The quarter one forecast is £33.745m, a total of £21.033m budget has been reprogrammed into future years and £1.294m budget has been brought forward from future years into 2023/24 to align budget with forecast.

Table 2 – 2023/24 Capital Programme, People Services

Scheme Name	Capital Programme Forecast and Spend 2023/2024 Quarter One		
	Forecast	Actual Spend	% Actual Spend to Revised Budget
	£m	£m	£m
Adult Services			
Sensory Stimulation & Development Play Equipment	0.020	0.000	0%
Disabled Facilities Grants	5.847	1.017	17%
Adult Services Total	5.867	1.017	17%
Education & Skills			
Access and Inclusion	0.137	0.000	0%
Basic Need	4.187	0.475	11%
Stonehenge School Replacement of Lower Block	4.749	1.385	29%
Devolved Formula Capital	0.609	0.000	0%
Early Years & Childcare	0.289	0.000	0%
Early Years Buildings	0.560	0.084	15%
Silverwood Special School	7.714	2.514	33%
SEND Special School Capacity & Alternative Provision	0.193	0.000	0%
High Needs Provision Capital Allowance	2.595	0.327	13%
Education & Skills Total	26.978	5.765	21%
Families & Children's Service			
Childrens Homes	0.900	0.000	0%
Families & Children's Total	0.900	0.000	0%
Corporate Director - People	33.745	6.782	20%

Adult Services

20. The Disabled Facilities grant programme is a grant scheme for adaptations and facilities to enable disabled residents to stay in their home. In addition, it is used for other initiatives and programmes to deliver the same outcome, including the Optimising Care Initiative and Occupational Therapist Service to ensure clients are assisted to move to more suitable accommodation.
21. The budget has been increased by £0.714m to reflect the actual grant award for 2023/24 and a further £1.294m has been brought forward from future years to reflect the current expected delivery programme and the new projects approved by the Integrated Care Board. The forecast for the Disabled Facilities Grant programme is £5.847m. For 2023/24 £0.257m has been allocated to promote the use of technology to support people of all ages across the spectrum of care needs to live safely and independently in their own homes; £0.900m to purchase specialist alternative accommodation; £0.150m to refurbish more flats within the Councils homeless hostel to assist with early hospital discharge and to meet the needs of disabled homeless families and £0.216m for adaptations without delay.

Education & Skills

22. A total of £0.135m has been added to the programme to reflect actual 2023/24 grant awards and contributions. £0.396m has been removed from the Schools Maintenance and Modernisation programme to align the budget with the actual DfE grant award for 2023/24. A total of £20.667m budget has been transferred to future years to align to forecast.
23. The Access and Inclusion funding is used for multiple projects where adaptations are required to support the admission or continued attendance of individual pupils in mainstream schools. Several projects are scheduled to take place over the summer holidays and therefore complete this year. A sum of £0.030m has been reprofiled into 2024/25 which will be used to facilitate planned works at Stonehenge School in summer 2024.
24. The Basic Need capital scheme provides new schools and expansion at existing schools. Several large expansion projects are included in this programme, with the projects being managed directly by the schools themselves. Kingdown School, Warminster comprises some internal conversion work and provision of a new block. The project scoping work has been completed and the planning application is due to be submitted. Works will commence in the new academic year 2023/24.
25. Work at the Abbeyfield School, Chippenham, were due to complete for September 2025, however, numbers at the school have not grown as quickly as anticipated and so the delivery of the scheme has been delayed. Planning application has been submitted and survey works will continue.
26. The planned expansion works to Holt Primary School have been delayed to summer 2024 due to the on-site pre-school having gained time-limited lottery funding to replace a building. Site access is severely limited and restricts works to one contractor being on site at any given time. Design works will continue. As a result of the above, £4.906m has been reprofiled into future years.
27. The Schools maintenance and modernisation budget funds maintenance work and projects such as mobile classroom replacements. This year there will be over one hundred individual maintenance projects carried out including all the large, planned maintenance projects approved by Cabinet in March 2023. The modernisation funding is currently being used to replace old mobile classrooms at Holbrook and Studley Green Primary Schools with both projects due to complete this year. Design work has started on Grove Primary School. All remaining mobiles and Pratten huts have now been inspected to prioritise the schools to be included across a five year replacement programme. £2.749m has been reprofiled into future years in line with the delivery programme.
28. The replacement of Lower School at Stonehenge School commenced on site in October 2022 and is due to complete for September 2023. This will then be followed by the demolition of the original school block.
29. Early Years and Childcare capital is funded by s106 contributions. The service has a ten year plan to deliver projects with the service reliant on s106 funding to progress projects. This year a new provision is planned for Bradford on Avon as well as delivery

of two projects in Trowbridge. Schemes for Corsham/Rudloe, Bradley Road, Trowbridge, Chippenham, Malmesbury and Westbury will move to 2024/25. Therefore £0.954m has been reprofiled into future years.

30. Early Years Buildings funding provides the ongoing replacement of temporary buildings for early years children. The South Hills Nursery, Marden Vale, Calne has moved into their new accommodation. Demolition of the old buildings will take place this summer. £0.610m has been reprofiled into future years in line with the forecast programme.
31. The Silverwood build programme started construction in April 2022. This will deliver significant additional places for learners with SEND. Completion of the build programme has been delayed from June 2023 to April 2024 due to adverse ground conditions and construction design issues, £4.175m has therefore been reprofiled into future years.
32. As per the recommendation in this report, the Council is in negotiation to acquire new education provision in the north of the county. It is proposed to be funded by a mix of capital receipts, earmarked reserves and new borrowing. Initially the property would be used to provide education for 50 children who are unable to attend mainstream or specialist schools. This is called Alternative Provision (AP).
33. Section 19 of the Education Act 1996 states that 'Each Local Authority shall make arrangements for the provision of suitable education at school or otherwise than at school for those children of school age who, by reason of illness, exclusion from school or otherwise, may not for any period receive suitable education unless such arrangements are made for them.' A procurement exercise is planned to facilitate a registered AP provider to take students from January 2024. The property use would be extended in later years to include a range of vocational skills for learners.
34. There is considerable demand for offsite placements by schools and the LA for pupils on a short-term basis for the purposes of improving the pupils' behaviour to prevent permanent exclusion and reduce the need for multiple or long-term suspension from school. This demand has increased in recent years. Lack of sufficiency means that a significant number of pupils are suspended from school when the school might otherwise arrange AP for the learner at an earlier stage and prevent further escalation into more specialist high needs provision and pressure on the high needs block of the dedicated schools grant. This acquisition is expected to deliver significant reduction in the current annual deficit of the high needs block.
35. The SEND Special School Capacity and AP budget has been utilised to create circa 44 new specialist provision places across the county for the start of 2022/23 academic year.
36. A proportion of the High Needs Provision Capital Allowance has been allocated to a number of schemes to build capacity in both special schools and resource bases, with works already in train. Additional projects have been identified for delivery but will not take place in 2023/24, therefore £7.193m is to be profiled into future years.

Families & Childrens Service

37. The service purchased one property in 2022/23, which will be leased to an external provider to run as a residential children's home. The provider has been appointed, with final contracts due for signing by 1st September 2023. Refurbishment works are currently being reviewed with the provider, and they will commence alongside Ofsted registration and recruitment once the signing of contracts has been completed. The projected opening date will be confirmed upon receipt of the final signed contract. It has been agreed with the provider that the project team will work with them to locate and purchase a second property that will be leased and redeveloped as a residential children's homes. This is anticipated to be completed by the end of the current financial year, £0.366m has been reprofiled into future years.

Resources

38. The table below shows the Capital Programme 2023/24 quarter one at programme level for the Resources Directorate. The forecast stands at £48.538m and spend is currently at 16%.
39. The Capital Budget was set at £56.971m after 2022/23 final year-end adjustments the revised budget was £66.541m, full details of these movements can be found in the Year End Financial Outturn Position 2022/23 July Cabinet reports.
40. The quarter one forecast is £48.538m, a total of £18.720m budget has been reprogrammed into future years and £0.217m has been brought forward from future years to align budget with forecast.
41. Budget for £0.500m has been added to the programme for South Chippenham in line with the Cabinet report and resolutions in December 2022.

Table 3 – Capital Programme 2023/24, Resources

Scheme Name	Capital Programme Forecast and Spend 2023/2024 Quarter One		
	Forecast	Actual Spend	% Actual Spend to Revised Budget
	£m	£m	£m
Finance			
Corporate	0.198	0.000	0%
Evolve Project	6.698	1.446	22%
Finance Total	6.896	1.446	21%
Assets			
Affordable Housing including Commuted Sums	0.440	0.021	5%
Capital Receipt Enhancement	0.036	0.020	56%
Depot & Office Strategy	0.421	0.000	0%
Facilities Management Operational Estate	3.190	0.350	11%
Gypsies and Travellers Projects	0.142	0.005	4%
Porton Science Park	1.772	0.025	1%
Health and Wellbeing Centres - Live Schemes	2.606	0.422	16%
Non-Commercial Property Purchases	0.035	0.003	9%
North Wiltshire Schools PFI Playing Fields	0.300	0.000	0%
Property Carbon Reduction Programme	2.065	0.054	3%
Park & Ride Solar Panel Canopies	0.450	0.000	0%
Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme Projects	0.023	0.000	0%
Facilities Management Investment Estate	0.384	0.031	8%
Social Care Infrastructure & Strategy	0.634	0.000	0%
Salisbury Resource Centre	0.825	0.000	0%
South Chippenham	0.300	0.010	3%
Assets Total	13.623	0.941	7%
Capital Loans			
Stone Circle Housing Company Loan	13.017	4.614	35%
Stone Circle Development Company Loan	5.797	0.000	0%
Capital Loans Total	18.814	4.614	25%
Information Services			
ICT Applications	3.878	0.330	9%
ICT Business as Usual	1.160	0.124	11%
ICT Other Infrastructure	0.927	0.159	17%
ICT Get Well	3.190	0.208	7%
Microsoft Cloud Navigator	0.050	0.013	26%
Information Services Total	9.205	0.834	9%
Corporate Director - Resources	48.538	7.835	16%

Finance

42. The Evolve programme will deliver the procurement and implementation of a new Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system for the Council. In November 2022 the new system, Oracle, was reprogrammed to extend the timeline from the original go-live date of April 2023 to November 2023 due to data migration challenges, particularly with the complexity of local government payroll data and internal and supplier capacity

and skills. The bulk of the programme is on target for a November commencement however a decision has been made to implement the payroll functions from April 2024, alleviating the pressures associated with delivering this aspect of the programme. £2.300m is to be reprofiled into future years as a result of deferred payroll milestones and a requirement for internal and external staffing resources and technical developments in 2024/25.

Assets

43. Capital Receipt Enhancement facilitates capital works to council owned assets to enhance value prior to being sold. A small portion of this budget is being used for works to Ashlea Resource Centre. £0.587m has been reprofiled into future years, as it is unlikely that a decision will be made regarding the future of the Blue Pool site to enable its demolition to take place in 2023/24.
44. The final project in the Phase One Depot Programme is the construction of a new depot in the southwest, Hindon Stagger. Planning permission is expected in the summer, at which point the projects will be tendered with a forecast start date in early 2024. The main part of the project will be delivered in 2024/25, £3m has therefore been reprofiled into future years.
45. The Facilities Management Operational Estate budget is for multiple projects that deliver essential capital maintenance works covering all areas and building types in the Operational Estate. There are seventy five projects scheduled for delivery in 2023/24 of which twenty six are currently underway. Additional projects will be scoped and delivered to resolve reactive and unforeseen problems across the estate. Notable projects this year that were added to the programme at budget setting for 2023/24 include works at the Arts Centre in Salisbury to carry out our listed building responsibilities, works to the Coroner's Court, Salisbury and energy efficiency improvement works to properties on the Gypsy & Traveller sites. £1.250m has been reprofiled into future years, this sum relates to the refurbishment of Salisbury Library and the replacement of Churchfields Depot roof, neither of which will be deliverable in 2023/24.
46. Work is currently progressing at one Gypsy and Traveller emergency stopping site. A planning application will be submitted for a new emergency stopping site in 2023/24, therefore £1.150m has been reprofiled into future years.
47. Phase Two of Porton Science Park was officially opened on 30 June 2023. The Business Support programme has facilitated thirty three SMEs in the Health and Life Sciences and Defence Technology Sectors providing over 12 hours of sector specific business support at exceptional value for money, generating £3.52 of GVA in the economy for every £1 invested. The majority of this budget is on track to be spent in the financial year and is required for fit-out for key tenants moving into the unfurnished "Grow On" space, final spend relating to the completion of the main building, and internal furniture, fixtures and equipment. A retention sum will need to be held for the main build contractor, £0.200m has therefore been reprofiled into future years.
48. Melksham Community Campus (Health and Wellbeing Centres) is in the final defects phase, with the site due to be signed off during in the summer and the building formally transferred to Leisure to operate and Assets to maintain. The refurbishment of

Melksham House is due to conclude at the end of 2023. Education has been confirmed as the end user of the facility, which will be used as a primary school for children with Social, Emotional, Mental Health and Wellbeing needs and alternative provision for secondary school students. Once the main house works are completed, certain adaptations to the outside areas of the sites will be made. These works are likely to complete in Spring 2024, therefore £1.353m has been profiled into future years.

49. The Property Carbon Reduction Programme has multiple projects underway to reduce the council's carbon emissions and generate utility cost savings from the property estate. Key projects will be carried out at county hall including the installation of glazing between the atrium and office spaces, and PV panels installed on the south east external wall and underside of the atrium roof. Across the library and leisure facilities LED lighting upgrades will be delivered this year. The council's storage facility Hawksworth in Westbury has been degassed with an Air Source Heat Pump installed. The grid capacity now exists to replace the gas heating and hot water system at Monkton Park offices with an Air Source Heat Pump, the conversion will be delivered later in 2023/24. Delivery of these projects has taken up a significant capacity of the team and so timescales are being extended to 2025/26, and £2m has therefore been profiled to future years.
50. Following Cabinet's decision in December 2022 to effect a mutually agreed exit from the Grant Determination Agreement with Homes England and to continue to work with southern landowners to develop a masterplanned scheme to the south of Chippenham, £0.500m was added to the Capital Programme. Work has continued with spend on fees to develop viability assessments and a masterplan. Work will continue now that the Local Plan has been made public. £0.200m has been reprofiled into future years.
51. Works to improve Salisbury Coach Park as part of the River Park development are due to be delivered by the Environment Agency towards the end of 2023/24. The capital allocation for this project is currently in 2025/26 and therefore needs to be brought forward. This can be authorised under Chief Finance Officer delegated powers. Design work and more detailed cost analysis have identified that the original cost for the project has increased, primarily due to inflation and this programme is forecast to overspend. Millstream Approach Bridge has a budget allocation of £0.250m in 2025/26, survey work has determined that the bridge repairs are not required. It is recommended that Cabinet approve the budget allocated for Millstream Approach Bridge of £0.250m is transferred to Salisbury Coach Park to cover the forecast increased costs.

Capital Loans to Stone Circle

52. This represents the capital loan funding to Stone Circle companies for 2023/24.
53. In total Stone Circle Housing company has acquired 92 properties as at the 31 March 2023 and has a Capital Loan balance of £22.007m and a working capital loan of £0.326m from Wiltshire Council. The Business Plan programme is based on acquiring 250 units by 2025/26 and the Council has allocated budget of £13.017m for further Loan advances in 2023/24.

54. Stone Circle Development Company is working on five development sites which will deliver 177 properties across Wiltshire, the Council has allocated £5.797m budget for 2023/24 for further Loan advances. As of the 31 March 2023 the company has a Capital Loan balance of £1.743m and a Working Capital Loan of £0.216m from Wiltshire Council.
55. The Stone Circle Housing company business plan for 2023/24 presented to the shareholder group on the 27 June 2023 has shown a change from the originally approved business plan. The breakeven and loan repayment period has significantly changed, for this reason the shareholder group has only approved year 2023/24 in the plan and will review the position again, given the prevailing level of interest rates and housing market, for activity in 2024/25.
56. In response to this the Council will now change its approach and begin to set aside MRP for the loan value until the company presents a revised Business Plan that demonstrates it can make loan repayments over the original business plan time frame.
57. This is to ensure financial sustainability for the Council to cover the risk that the company is not able to make loan repayments over the original timescales. This will impact on the 2024/25 revenue budget for MRP, if the full capital loan is drawn down in 2023/24 it will create an MRP pressure of £0.700m for 2024/25 providing the company can cover its interest payment in year and does not have to capitalise the interest. The Council has approved a capital loan of up to £57.264m, the MRP pressure for this amount would be £1.145m per year. This will need to be factored into the MTFS alongside other changes to capital financing and will be done as part of the quarter two update.

Information Services

58. The ICT capital programme is shown across Applications, Get Well, Other Infrastructure and Business as Usual and covers staff costs and project costs to deliver key infrastructure, applications, cost of replacing staff devices and for further digital transformation and activities and emerging fields like business intelligence.
59. Overall the ICT programme of work is on target and the key risks have been and continue to be challenges with recruiting and retaining staff, particularly since the cost of living crisis. Previously reported supply chain issues have subsided for the time being.
60. The Applications programme is implementing a new case management system for the Public Protection service which will enable customers to self-serve and the business to automate processes and provide mobile working for staff. The project remains on track and is due to go live in October 2023. The capital funded teams continue to deliver improvement to Council operations through in-house software developments, productivity and automation alongside supporting transformational programmes of work. The Customer Experience programme has seen upgrades to the 'MyWilts app' which have significantly improved the customer experience and efficiencies for Council staff and third-party contractors. £1.369m has been reprofiled into future years in line with forecast programme delivery.

61. Within the Business as Usual capital budget, the Devices for Personas project will replace the aging laptop estate. Phase 1 (2023) deployment delivered 1,100 laptops, with Phase 2 (1,000), commenced in July 2023 and Phase 3 planned thereafter. The project is on track to replace all laptop devices that are unsupported by Windows 11 by October 2025. £0.500m has been reprofiled into future years in line with programme delivery.
62. The Other Infrastructure budget line was implemented to cover miscellaneous ICT and technology equipment that required replacing across the Council. Hybrid meeting room equipment continues to be reviewed and updated as more people return to the office and feedback received. Audio visual equipment for use in the Council's democratic meetings including new microphones, cameras and internet streaming technologies have been provided in both the Council chamber and key cabinet meeting rooms. Orders have now been placed to replace audio visual equipment for Area Board meetings and the Coroners Court in Salisbury. Overall, the programme of work is on target.
63. The Get Well capital budget line funds Project 99 which was instigated to improve the failing server and network estate. It has delivered the vast majority of actions from the Phase 2 business case with a new monitoring system implemented. An order is now out for procurement to replace the Council's aged network infrastructure used in remote buildings such as Libraries, Leisure Centres, Depots and Respite Centres, with contract award anticipated in September 2023. The service has benchmarked itself against the Cyber Assessment Framework from the National Cyber Security Centre and are exploring recommended actions as a result. The print refresh project has achieved a reduction in printer numbers in hub buildings by approximately 50%. The final forty two printers were scheduled for August 2023, which will bring all printers up to standard for the next five years. Once disposal of the old ones is complete this project can be closed down. £0.500m has been reprofiled into future years in line with programme delivery.

Housing Revenue Account (HRA)

64. The table below shows quarter one capital programme summary position for the Housing Revenue Account. The forecast stands at £44.722m and spend is currently at 17%.
65. The Capital Budget was set at £30.580m, after 2022/23 final year-end adjustments the revised budget was £40.024m, full details of these movements can be found in the Year End Financial Outturn Position 2022/23 July Cabinet reports.
66. £4.012m has been added to phase 3.3 of the Council House build programme. This is DLUHC grant funding to support the purchase of housing for Ukranian and Afghani families.
67. The quarter one forecast is £44.722m, a net budget of £8.353m has been brought forward from future years to facilitate phase 3.4 of the Council House build programme. A total of £7.667m has been reprofiled into future years for refurbishment of stock and Highways road adoptions in line with current forecast delivery programme.

Table 4 – Capital Programme 2023/24, HRA

Capital Programme 2023/24 Quarter One					
Scheme Name	Revised Budget 2023/2024	Forecast	Variance	Budgets brought forward from future years to the 2023/24 programme (Section 2 Appendix B)	Budgets reprogrammed from 2023/2024 into future years (Section 3 Appendix B)
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Housing Revenue Account					
Council House Build Programme	0.038	0.038	0.000	0.000	0.000
Council House Build Programme (Phase 2)	0.552	0.552	0.000	0.000	0.000
Council House Build Programme (Phase 3.1)	8.720	8.720	0.000	0.000	0.000
Council House Build Programme (Phase 3.2)	7.827	7.827	0.000	0.000	0.000
Council House Build Programme (Phase 3.3)	9.533	9.533	0.000	0.000	0.000
Council House Build Programme (Phase 3.4)	0.000	8.353	8.353	12.365	(4.012)
Refurbishment of Council Stock	12.766	9.199	(3.567)	0.000	(3.567)
Highways Road Adoptions	4.600	0.500	(4.100)	0.000	(4.100)
Total Housing Revenue Account	44.036	44.722	0.686	12.365	(11.679)

68. HRA Capital programme consists of two elements, the planned capital maintenance and the council house build programme. The planned capital maintenance of the existing housing stock covers bathrooms, kitchens, roofs, boilers etc. and the Council House Build programme, which has been split into different phases and is planned to deliver one thousand homes over the next ten years.
69. The Council House Programme is now in year four of ten, and will deliver eighty additional affordable homes to date, eighteen of which have been delivered this current year, with a further fifty completions programmed for 2023/24.
70. To date eighty homes have been delivered, three hundred and thirty nine are in the pipeline process of being built or acquired, with sixty eight homes currently planned for completion in 2023/24. The remaining five hundred and eighty one homes have sites currently identified as potential to be delivered within the programme.
71. The main contracts for the HRA Refurbishment of Council Stock are being retendered as they expire on the 30 September 2023. New contracts will commence on 1 October 2023. Until the new contracts are mobilised, it is challenging to provide an accurate forecast, and £3.567m has been reprofiled into future years.
72. £4.600m has been allocated for the adoption of roads and footpaths. £4.100m has been reprofiled into future years in line with the current works programme.

Place

73. The table below shows the quarter one capital programme summary position for Place Directorate. The forecast stands at £62.371m and spend is currently at 6%.
74. The Capital Budget was set at £65.433m, after 2022/23 final year-end adjustments the revised budget was £68.659m, full details of these movements can be found in the Year End Financial Outturn Position 2022/23 July Cabinet reports.

75. The quarter one forecast is £62.371m, a total of £18.566m budget has been reprogrammed into future years to align budget with forecast.

Table 5 – Capital Programme 2023/24, Place

Scheme Name	Capital Programme Forecast and Spend 2023/2024 Quarter One		
	Forecast	Actual Spend	% Actual Spend to Revised Budget
	£m	£m	£m
Highways & Transport			
Churchyards & Cemeteries	0.028	0.000	0%
Parking Contactless Machines	0.254	0.000	0%
Fleet Vehicles	5.975	0.394	7%
Highway flooding prevention and Land Drainage schemes	0.016	0.013	81%
Integrated Transport	2.511	0.106	4%
Local Highways and Footpath Improvement Groups	1.621	0.032	2%
Structural Maintenance & Bridges	24.873	1.992	8%
Churchfields Depot Drainage and Traffic Management	0.063	0.000	0%
Passenger Transport RTP1	0.355	0.229	65%
Drainage Improvements	0.656	0.000	0%
Major Road Network M4 Junction 17	1.223	0.005	0%
A338 Salisbury Junction Improvements MRN	0.350	0.052	15%
A350 Chippenham Bypass (Ph 4&5) MRN	1.423	0.148	10%
A3250 Melksham Bypass LLM - Full Scheme	0.125	0.000	0%
Dunnes Lane Car Park, Castle Coombe	0.322	0.004	1%
Safer Roads Fund - A3102	1.750	0.008	0%
Highways & Transport Total	41.545	2.983	7%
Economy & Regeneration			
Chippenham Station HUB	0.109	0.000	0%
Corsham Mansion House	0.048	0.000	0%
Salisbury Future High Streets	4.367	0.059	1%
Trowbridge Future High Streets	7.848	0.738	9%
UK Shared Prosperity Fund Projects	0.565	0.000	0%
Carbon Reduction Projects	0.035	0.035	100%
Wiltshire Ultrafast Broadband	1.011	0.000	0%
Wiltshire Online	0.128	0.000	0%
Economy & Regeneration Total	14.111	0.832	6%
Environment			
Waste Services	1.030	0.131	13%
Housing Upgrade Grant (HUG2)	1.544	0.000	0%
Environment Total	2.574	0.131	5%
Leisure Culture & Communities			
Area Boards and LPSA PRG Reward Grants	0.400	0.000	0%
Fitness Equipment for Leisure Centres	0.650	0.000	0%
Libraries - Self Service	0.100	0.000	0%
Trowbridge Leisure Centre	0.826	0.003	0%
Leisure Requirements	2.060	0.018	1%
History Centre Reception and Performing Arts Library	0.105	0.000	0%
Leisure Culture & Communities Total	4.141	0.021	1%
Corporate Director - Place	62.371	3.967	6%

Highways & Transport

76. Parking Services have capital funding to deliver the replacement parking machine programme. A delay to the tender process delayed implementation however the project is now projected to deliver 135 machines in 2023/24.
77. Fleet provides the necessary vehicles for the council to carry out its services including provision of snow blowers, waste vehicles, carbon neutral pool car fleet, replacement electric vehicles, mini-buses, and vans. Orders have been placed for Waste vehicles in 2023/24 however due to long lead in times delivery of some vehicle has reprofiled into 2024/25, and £0.200m has therefore been reprofiled into future years.
78. The Integrated Transport programme is also funded by DfT grant and covers design and implementation of a range of safety engineering schemes and projects to improve economic growth, road safety and traffic management. This includes new and improvement works to existing signing, traffic signals, street furniture, crossings and cycleway/footway implementation and improvements.
79. The Local Highways and Footpath Improvement Groups schemes deliver numerous projects over the course of year. £0.015m has been added to the programme through town and parish council contributions.
80. Included within Highways & Transport are the Structural Maintenance and Bridges programmes. These are funded by grant from the Department for Transport (DfT) and the schemes cover maintaining, improving and renewing carriageways and footways including reconstruction, resurfacing, surface dressing and patching. The grant funding is also used for lighting column and traffic signal replacement and re-decking, resurfacing, masonry repair and strengthening of bridges. It ensures the renewal, repair and preventative maintenance of carriageway/footway and land drainage infrastructure to prevent flooding. £0.156m has been moved to Drainage Improvement and £0.016m to Highways Flooding Prevention and Land Drainage schemes. £3.739m has been added to the budget line from DfT for pothole grant funding and through town and parish contributions.
81. The local highway network in Wiltshire comprises over 2,700 miles of road and 3,700 miles of public rights of way. The condition of the network is important in terms of meeting Wiltshire Council's Business Plan priorities including improving road safety, enabling economic growth and promoting active, healthy lifestyles, and effective maintenance is essential to ensure the network's availability and resilience to meet the day to day needs of residents, businesses and visitors.
82. Winter 2022/23 has seen an unprecedented increase in potholes and carriageway defects. The hot dry summer followed by two prolonged periods of freezing road temperatures interspersed with significant rainfall has seen the condition of the highway network deteriorate more rapidly than predicted. This situation is not unique to Wiltshire and whilst the Government has provided additional grant funding to repair potholes cross the country, it is acknowledged further investment in preventative maintenance is required at a local level to mitigate risks in the longer term, and particularly over the next winter given the unseasonable weather extremes currently being experienced.
83. Following consideration of a range of options, an additional investment of £10m is recommended for highway maintenance focussing on preventative interventions. It is

recommended Cabinet approve the allocation of £10m CIL funding for Trowbridge Leisure Centre to release the £10m approved borrowing.

84. The Major Road Network schemes are progressing well. Scheme design continues for the A338 Salisbury Junction Improvements with construction due to commence in 2024/25. £0.841m has been reprofiled into future years to align with programme delivery. The A350 Melksham Bypass scheme is on hold pending the outcome of the National Highways M4 to Dorset Coast Connectivity Study, which is expected imminently. The next stage will be public consultation, £3.006m budget has therefore been reprofiled into future years. The A350 Chippenham Bypass (phase 4 and 5) scheme is currently in the process of procuring the construction contractor. Construction will commence in 2024/25 subject to DfT approval of full business case. Progress on the M4 Junction 17 is subject to DfT approval of the outline business case. Detailed design of the scheme will commence in 2023/24. £0.804m budget has been reprofiled into future years in line with the current programme.
85. Safer Roads Grant funding of £6.980m over three years has been secured for improvements to the A3102. £5.230m of this has been reprofiled into future years in line with the works programme.
86. The Salisbury River Park is a flood risk alleviation scheme, which seeks to reduce the flood risk to existing homes and businesses, create wildlife corridors and improve biodiversity by connecting green spaces, improve the recreational and amenity value of the area, and enable regeneration of key development sites. It is recommended Cabinet approve a CIL contribution of £0.500m to address inflation costs, particularly in respect to ground works, alongside factors outside of delivery partners control, such as ground contamination. A CIL contribution enables additional partner funding, including external Grant in Aid to be secured that would not otherwise be available to address the full cost, approximately £1m.

Economy & Regeneration

87. Salisbury Future High Street programme focuses on the Station Forecourt and Fisherton Street Gateway schemes in Salisbury to enhance the public realm and improve accessibility, making it easier, safer, and more convenient to travel into the city centre. In addition, a Heritage Living project will create a number of apartments in unoccupied spaces above shops and redevelop a vacant listed building.
88. Cost inflation and partner delivery issues have impacted the programme timescales for the Station Forecourt works, but detailed designs are being finalised and Network Rail approvals being arranged. Some elements have been moved out of scope to address cost inflation. The procurement strategy for construction is being developed which will also determine the onsite start date for the Station Forecourt. £3.561m has been reprofiled into future years for this element of the wider programme. The final construction price for the Fisherton Gateway Scheme is being finalised at which time the funding position will be reviewed with regard to scope and scale of site. A meet the Contractor event was held in July, with construction due to start in July 2023.
89. The Trowbridge Future High Streets Fund (FHSF) Programme will be spent across a range of projects aiming to strengthen the sustainability of Trowbridge Town centre by creating a more diverse offer and increasing footfall. Ensuring this long-term

sustainability involves maximising the use of some key buildings, bringing vacant retail units back into use, as well as improving connectivity, the public realm and active travel opportunities within the town centre. The programme is fully grant funded.

90. There has been good public and stakeholder engagement regarding the Highways and Public Realm projects with detailed design and further engagement scheduled for the coming months. Site one Church Street Works have completed, site two Castle Street works are underway and due for completion in the Autumn and design and consultation is taking place for site three Manvers Street and Wicker Hill with construction programmed for 2024.
91. The stage two construction contract has been awarded for the refurbishment works to Trowbridge Town Hall and the agreement for lease and asset transfer documents signed by the Trowbridge Town Hall Trust. The contractors commenced works on 28 August 2023 and are due to conclude in mid Spring 2025. The River Biss project is being managed by Wiltshire Wildlife Trust. Further public and stakeholder engagement has taken place and RIBA Stage three design and costings completed for the viewing platform and town bridge have been developed. The stage two construction contract has been awarded for the refurbishment works to Trowbridge Town Hall. The contractors commenced works on 29 August 2023 and are due to conclude in Spring 2025.
92. Both programmes are dealing with financial reprofiling, and slight programme delays because of inflation and supply chain pressures. Successful discussions with DLUHC has resulted in drawdown of grant and contingency, but the Council is still waiting for confirmation that the current requirement for grant funding to be defrayed by April 2024 will be extended to April 2025. Many of the associated projects will still be in construction beyond this date. A full update regarding the FHSF schemes will be reported at quarter two.
93. The UK Shared Prosperity Fund grant is supporting the programme management and delivery of the Housing Upgrade grant funding that will retrofit energy efficiency systems into homes under private ownership. The Invest in Wiltshire grant scheme, has £1.350m of funds available over 2023/24 and 2024/25 and has now launched for applications. Alongside grants for businesses, UKSPF will support the Community Conversations programme, and other revenue schemes such as Building Bridges have also commenced.

Environment

94. Waste Services includes numerous capital projects that fund the provision of essential assets such as recycling bins, black boxes, wheelie bins, and subsidised food waste digesters, as well as supporting one off projects to help deliver service changes at Household Recycling Centres (bag sorting and DIY waste disposal at HRCs), and the installation of emissions control equipment at a strategic waste treatment facility. Funding is also allocated to deliver compliance projects in respect of the council's closed landfill sites.
95. The service is in the process of reviewing requirements for the provision of Recycling Boxes and Wheelie bins to inform short and medium term strategy.

96. Capital spend continues to be reliant on the Environment Agency agreeing revised emissions control measures arising from the interpretation of new regulatory requirements for the waste treatment facility.
97. Consultants have provided a detailed technical assessment of short and medium term requirements for Closed Landfill Sites.
98. The Household Recycling Centre (HRC) schemes supports two revenue budget savings projects. Due to staff capacity issues these projects were not delivered in 2022/23, but now form part of the 2023/24 to 2025/26 medium term financial strategy. Full spend is anticipated in 2023/24 to generate savings.
99. A level of uncertainty regarding several budget lines for Waste will necessitate a wider reprofiling review at quarter two monitoring, in the interim £0.335m has been reprofiled into future years.
100. The Climate team were successful with a £3.622m Home Upgrade Grant Phase 2 bid from the Department of Energy, Security and Net Zero. The capital element has been added to the capital programme with £1.544m forecast for 2023/24 and £1.606m for 2024/25. This funding will enable one hundred and seventy five homes to be retrofitted with energy efficiency technology. Pending costs, there is the potential for up to two hundred and ten homes to be retrofitted with a £7m drawdown. The project has yet to spend as it is in the set-up phase. UK Shared Prosperity Funding is being used to fund a post for two years to support delivery of this scheme.

Leisure, Culture and Communities

101. The contract for the provision of fitness equipment has now been awarded and priority sites identified for implementation linked to pipeline projects. Based on the reprofiled programme £0.324m has been reprofiled into future years.
102. The Libraries capital funding is being used to develop innovative digital solutions and improvements to Library services and facilities. This includes upgrading Open+ in Calne & Devizes libraries, sharing of premises for small libraries and the installation of IT pods to support video-conferencing. Following the Peer Challenge in July 2023 a Library Strategy will be developed and further spend will be made on other areas of customer need and digital innovation over the next two years. As a result of this £0.356m has been reprofiled into future years.
103. Work to deliver a new Leisure Centre for Trowbridge is continuing. External consultants have completed Sport England's Strategic Outcomes Planning Model which has provided a robust, evidence led assessment of need. This process has identified the appropriate facility mix and location of the new provision to meet the Council's business plan objectives and core outcomes and the needs of the local community. The project is now in the process of appointing the design team to progress the project to concept and outline design phase.
104. It is recommended Cabinet approve the allocation of £10m CIL funding for Trowbridge Leisure Centre to release £10m approved borrowing. This can then be transferred to Highways and Transport for increased investment on the county network.

105. A planned pipeline of Leisure facility improvements has been developed and robust business cases established to generate greater usage of each facility, improve health and wellbeing and increase sustainability for the priority facilities. Design team consultants have been appointed to progress designs. Based on the current pipeline of projects £3.5m has been reprofiled into future years.
106. New capital funding was added to the programme in 20223/24 to merge the reception and help desk at the Wiltshire and Swindon History Centre to a single service point. In addition the Performing Arts Library is to be relocated to the ground floor of the History Centre. Works are due to take place in December 2023.

Capital Programme 2023/24 Funding

107. The Capital Programme for 2023/24 has been financed as shown in the table below as at quarter one. A detailed Capital Programme Quarter One Funding by scheme is shown in Appendix C for Cabinet to review.

Table 6 – Capital Programme 2023/24 Funding

Funding	£'m
Grants	65.339
Other Contributions	0.007
S106 Contributions	0.676
CIL Contributions	2.999
HRA	44.722
General Fund Receipts	1.245
Right To Buy Housing Receipts	0.190
Stone Circle Capital Loan	18.814
Borrowing	55.384
Total Capital Programme 2023/24	189.376

108. The Council bid for and receive grants from Government and third parties, and these come from various departments including Department for Transport, Homes England, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities and Department for Education.
109. In addition to grants, contributions are also used to finance the programme, and cover any third party non grant funding for example Section 106 (S106) developer contributions, Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL), contributions from private or public sector organisations.
110. The HRA finances its capital programme depending on sources available in that financial year with the aim of minimising borrowing. The new build programme financing has been delegated to the Corporate Director of Resources & Deputy Chief Executive (S151 officer) and the Director of Assets. Funding sources are the HRA Revenue and Capital Reserves, Right to Buy receipts, shared ownership receipts, commuted sums, grants, and as a last resort borrowing.
111. The General Fund borrowing total of £55.384m, together with historic council borrowing, will generate a Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) charge, which is the amount councils have to statutorily set aside to repay the debt. For 2023/24 a revenue

underspend of £2.549m for MRP has been reported as a result of the 2022/23 capital programme year end position. As detailed in the report above the Council will change its approach for MRP for Stone Circle Housing company for 2023/24. This will impact on the 2024/25 revenue budget for MRP.

112. Interest payable and interest receivable budgets were realigned as part of 2023/24 budget setting and are currently forecast on budget however it should be noted that interest rates are currently higher than forecast, which could see an overachievement on interest receivable income. The level of cash the Council holds also influences the amount of interest received, and a full cashflow review will be undertaken for the quarter two budget monitoring position to provide an update on any expected variance.
113. The 2023/24 capital schemes funded by borrowing inform the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure budget for 2024/25. The programme therefore needs to be deliverable to ensure that revenue budget is not set aside unnecessarily and diverted away from key services. This will be ensured through the new Asset Gateway process which will provide assurance through regular review and challenge of the capital schemes.
114. The Council brought forward into 2023/24 £3.028m of capital receipts from previous years and is forecasting to achieve £3.667m receipts from the disposal on assets in 2023/24, this includes Melbourne House. £1.245m of capital receipts are planned to be used to finance the capital programme, with a request to full Council to ringfence and use additional receipts for Education Provision in the North of the County. A further £1m has been set aside under Capital Receipts Flexibilities regulation to fund revenue costs of transformational projects.
115. Included within this report are two recommendations to Cabinet to allocate CIL funding. £10m to Trowbridge Leisure Centre to release borrowing to increase the Highways and Transport Budget for increased investment and £0.5m for Salisbury River Park to address increased costs and secure additional partner funding. The CIL strategic fund currently has £18m uncommitted funds.

Overview and Scrutiny Engagement

116. Regular reports are taken to Overview & Scrutiny relating to the Council's financial position. This report is being considered at the meeting of Financial Planning Task Group on 8 September 2023 and Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee on 26 September 2023.

Safeguarding Implications

117. None have been identified as arising directly from this report.

Public Health Implications

118. None have been identified as arising directly from this report.

Procurement Implications

119. None have been identified as arising directly from this report.

Equalities Impact of the Proposal

120. None have been identified as arising directly from this report.

Environmental and Climate Change Considerations

121. None have been identified as arising directly from this report.

Risks that may arise if the proposed decision and related work is not taken

122. If the Council fails to take actions to address forecast shortfalls, overspends or increases in its costs it will need to draw on reserves or undertake further borrowing. The level of reserves is limited and a one-off resource that cannot be used as a long-term sustainable strategy for financial stability and additional borrowing will bring additional revenue costs.

Risks that may arise if the proposed decision is taken and actions that will be taken to manage these risks

123. Ongoing budget monitoring and management, of which this report forms part of the control environment, is a mitigating process to ensure early identification and action is taken.

Financial Implications – Section 151 commentary

124. The financial implications are implicit throughout the report.

125. As part of an improved governance around the budget monitoring process, an internal Capital Investment Programme Board has been established to review the profiling and delivery of the schemes within the Capital Programme.

126. The Board has met a number of times during the first quarter of the financial year, and this has resulted in over £69m of planned capital investment being re-profiled to be spent in later years. In addition, nearly £14m of approved spending in later years has been advanced into this financial year to be spent.

127. These reviews will continue as part of the quarterly budget monitoring process so that forecasts are made with greater confidence and the understanding of the timing of future funding requirements for borrowing and impact on future revenue budget requirements is understood. This is critical as we move into setting the MTFS and Budget for the next financial year.

Legal Implications

128. None have been identified as arising directly from this report.

Workforce Implications

129. No workforce implications have been identified as arising directly from this report. Ongoing budget monitoring and management, of which this report forms part of the control environment, is a mitigating process to ensure early identification of variances and action is taken so that impacts to the workforce are minimised.

Options Considered

130. Budget monitoring forms part of the financial control environment and it is important to provide reporting on all aspects of financial management and performance to Cabinet and the public, including delivery to plans, variances and risks and impacts.

Conclusions

131. The report supports effective decision making and ensures a sound financial control environment.

Andy Brown (Corporate Director Resources & Deputy Chief Executive)

Report Authors:

Andy Brown, Corporate Director Resources & Deputy Chief Executive (S.151 Officer); andy.brown@wiltshire.gov.uk

Lizzie Watkin, Director Finance, Deputy S.151 Officer; lizzie.watkin@wiltshire.gov.uk

Leanne Sykes, Head of Finance, Growth, Investment and Place; leanne.sykes@wiltshire.gov.uk

Louise Cary, Head of Capital Projects; louise.cary@wiltshire.gov.uk

Marie Taylor, Head of Finance, Childrens & Education; marie.taylor@wiltshire.gov.uk

Sarah Rose, Head of Finance, Adults and Health, sarah.rose@wiltshire.gov.uk

Appendices

Appendix A: Capital Programme Budget Movements 2023/24 Quarter One

Appendix B: Capital Programme 2023/24 Quarter One

Appendix C: Capital Programme Funding 2023/24 Quarter One

Appendix D: Capital Programme Adjustments 2023/24 Quarter One

Background Papers

The following documents have been relied on in the preparation of this report:

[Wiltshire Council Budget 2023/24](#)

[Year End Capital Investment Programme Financial Outturn Position 2022/23](#)

Appendix A: Capital Programme Budget Movements 2023/24 Quarter One (page 1)

Scheme Name

Capital Programme Budget Movements 2023/24 Quarter One					
2023/24 Budget Approved	Year End Budget Transfer from 2023/24 into 2022/23	Year End Budget Transfer 2022/2023 into 2023/2024	Additional Budgets added to the Programme (Appendix D)	Reduced Budgets	Revised Budget 2023/2024
£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Adult Services					
Sensory Stimulation & Development Play Equipment	0.000	0.000	0.020	0.000	0.020
Disabled Facilities Grants	4.400	(0.561)	0.000	0.000	4.553
Adult Services Total	4.400	(0.561)	0.020	0.000	4.573
Education & Skills					
Access and Inclusion	0.150	0.000	0.017	0.000	0.167
Basic Need	7.944	0.105	1.044	0.000	9.093
Stonehenge School Replacement of Lower Block	3.650	0.000	1.149	0.000	4.799
Devolved Formula Capital	0.500	0.000	0.001	0.108	0.609
Schools Maintenance & Modernisation	8.628	0.000	0.462	0.000	8.694
Early Years & Childcare	1.184	0.000	0.032	0.000	1.243
Early Years Buildings	1.049	0.000	0.121	0.000	1.170
Silverwood Special School	10.262	0.000	1.627	0.000	11.889
SEND Special School Capacity & Alternative Provision	0.000	0.000	0.193	0.000	0.193
High Needs Provision Capital Allowance	7.446	0.000	2.342	0.000	9.788
Education & Skills Total	40.813	0.105	6.988	(0.396)	47.645
Families & Children's Service					
Childrens Homes	0.930	0.000	0.336	0.000	1.266
Families & Children's Total	0.930	0.000	0.336	0.000	1.266
Corporate Director - People	46.143	(0.456)	7.344	(0.396)	53.484

Page 1 of 1

Appendix A: Capital Programme Budget Movements 2023/24 Quarter One (page 2)

Capital Programme Budget Movements 2023/24 Quarter One

Scheme Name

2023/24 Budget Approved	Year End Budget Transfer from 2023/24 into 2022/23	Year End Budget Transfer 2022/2023 into 2023/2024	Additional Budgets added to the Programme (Appendix D)	Reduced Budgets	Revised Budget 2023/2024
£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m

Finance

Corporate
Evolve Project
Finance Total

0.000	0.000	0.198	0.000	0.000	0.198
6.495	0.000	2.503	0.000	0.000	8.998
6.495	0.000	2.701	0.000	0.000	9.196

Assets

Affordable Housing including Commuted Sums
Capital Receipt Enhancement
Depot & Office Strategy
Facilities Management Operational Estate
Gypsies and Travellers Projects
Porton Science Park
Health and Wellbeing Centres - Live Schemes
Non-Commercial Property Purchases
North Wiltshire Schools PFI Playing Fields
Property Carbon Reduction Programme
Park & Ride Solar Panel Canopies
Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme Projects
Facilities Management Investment Estate
Social Care Infrastructure & Strategy
Salisbury Resource Centre
South Chippenham
Assets Total

0.300	0.000	0.140	0.000	0.000	0.440
0.600	0.000	0.023	0.000	0.000	0.623
2.255	0.000	1.166	0.000	0.000	3.421
4.932	(0.492)	0.000	0.000	0.000	4.440
1.150	0.000	0.142	0.000	0.000	1.292
1.400	0.000	0.572	0.000	0.000	1.972
3.763	0.000	0.196	0.000	0.000	3.959
0.000	0.000	0.035	0.000	0.000	0.035
0.300	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.300
3.430	0.000	0.635	0.000	0.000	4.065
0.000	0.000	0.294	0.000	0.000	0.294
0.000	0.000	0.023	0.000	0.000	0.023
0.250	0.000	0.384	0.000	0.000	0.634
0.600	0.000	0.034	0.000	0.000	0.634
0.825	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.825
0.000	0.000	0.000	0.500	0.000	0.500
19.805	(0.492)	3.644	0.500	0.000	23.457

Appendix A: Capital Programme Budget Movements 2023/24 Quarter One (page 3)

Scheme Name

Capital Programme Budget Movements 2023/24 Quarter One					
2023/24 Budget Approved	Year End Budget Transfer from 2023/24 into 2022/23	Year End Budget Transfer 2022/2023 into 2023/2024	Additional Budgets added to the Programme (Appendix D)	Reduced Budgets	Revised Budget 2023/2024
£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Stone Circle Housing Company Loan	12.724	0.000	0.293	0.000	13.017
Stone Circle Development Company Loan	8.574	0.000	1.223	0.000	9.797
Capital Loans Total	21.298	0.000	1.516	0.000	22.814
Information Services					
ICT Applications	4.066	0.000	1.181	0.000	5.247
ICT Business as Usual	1.365	0.000	0.295	0.000	1.660
ICT Other Infrastructure	0.500	0.000	0.427	0.000	0.927
ICT Get Well	3.442	0.000	0.248	0.000	3.690
Microsoft Cloud Navigator	0.000	0.000	0.050	0.000	0.050
Information Services Total	9.373	0.000	2.201	0.000	11.574
Corporate Director - Resources	56.971	(0.492)	10.062	0.500	67.041

Appendix A: Capital Programme Budget Movements 2023/24 Quarter One (page 4)

Scheme Name

Capital Programme Budget Movements 2023/24 Quarter One

2023/24 Budget Approved	Year End Budget Transfer from 2023/24 into 2022/23	Year End Budget Transfer 2022/2023 into 2023/2024	Additional Budgets added to the Programme (Section 1 Appendix B)	Reduced Budgets	Revised Budget 2023/2024
£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m

Highways & Transport

Churchyards & Cemeteries
Parking Contactless Machines
Fleet Vehicles
Highway flooding prevention and Land Drainage schemes
Integrated Transport
Local Highways and Footpath Improvement Groups
Structural Maintenance & Bridges
Churchfields Depot Drainage and Traffic Management
Passenger Transport RTPI
Drainage Improvements
Major Road Network M4 Junction 17
A338 Salisbury Junction Improvements MRN
A350 Chippenham Bypass (Ph 4&5) MRN
A3250 Melksham Bypass LLM - Full Scheme
Dunnes Lane Car Park, Castle Coombe
Safer Roads Fund - A3102
Highways & Transport Total

0.000	0.000	0.028	0.000	0.000	0.028
0.127	0.000	0.127	0.000	0.000	0.254
3.863	0.000	2.312	0.000	0.000	6.175
0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
1.798	0.007	0.706	0.000	0.000	2.511
0.800	0.011	0.795	0.015	0.000	1.621
20.727	0.000	0.579	3.739	0.000	25.045
0.000	0.000	0.063	0.000	0.000	0.063
0.000	0.000	0.355	0.000	0.000	0.355
0.500	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.500
1.950	0.000	0.077	0.000	0.000	2.027
1.261	(0.070)	0.000	0.000	0.000	1.191
2.640	(1.217)	0.000	0.000	0.000	1.423
3.106	0.000	0.025	0.000	0.000	3.131
0.325	(0.003)	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.322
0.000	0.000	0.000	6.980	0.000	6.980
37.097	(1.272)	5.067	10.734	0.000	51.626

Appendix A: Capital Programme Budget Movements 2023/24 Quarter One (page 5)

Scheme Name

Capital Programme Budget Movements 2023/24 Quarter One					
2023/24 Budget Approved	Year End Budget Transfer from 2023/24 into 2022/23	Year End Budget Transfer 2022/2023 into 2023/2024	Additional Budgets added to the Programme (Appendix D)	Reduced Budgets	Revised Budget 2023/2024
£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m

Economy & Regeneration

Chippenham Station HUB
Corsham Mansion House
Salisbury Future High Streets
Trowbridge Future High Streets
UK Shared Prosperity Fund Projects
West Ashton Urban Extension Project
Carbon Reduction Projects
Wiltshire Ultrafast Broadband
Wiltshire Online
Economy & Regeneration Total

0.000	0.000	0.109	0.000	0.000	0.109
0.000	0.000	0.048	0.000	0.000	0.048
7.585	0.000	0.343	0.000	0.000	7.928
4.403	0.000	3.445	0.000	0.000	7.848
0.000	0.400	0.165	0.000	0.000	0.565
4.199	(4.199)	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
0.009	0.000	0.035	0.000	0.000	0.044
1.011	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	1.011
1.670	(1.568)	0.026	0.000	0.000	0.128
18.877	(5.367)	4.171	0.000	0.000	17.681

Environment

Waste Projects
HUG 2 Grant
Environment Total

0.915	0.000	0.450	0.000	0.000	1.365
0.000	0.000	0.000	1.544	0.000	1.544
0.915	0.000	0.450	1.544	0.000	2.909

Appendix A: Capital Programme Budget Movements 2023/24 Quarter One (page 6)

Scheme Name

Capital Programme Budget Movements 2023/24 Quarter One					
2023/24 Budget Approved	Year End Budget Transfer from 2023/24 into 2022/23	Year End Budget Transfer 2022/2023 into 2023/2024	Additional Budgets added to the Programme (Appendix D)	Reduced Budgets	Revised Budget 2023/2024
£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Leisure Culture & Communities					
Area Boards Grants	0.400	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.400
Community Projects	0.400	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.400
Fitness Equipment for Leisure Centres	0.986	(0.012)	0.000	0.000	0.974
Libraries - Self Service	0.379	0.000	0.077	0.000	0.456
Trowbridge Leisure Centre	0.800	0.000	0.026	0.000	0.826
Leisure Requirements	5.474	0.000	0.086	0.000	5.560
History Centre Reception and Performing Arts Library	0.105	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.105
Leisure Culture & Communities Total	8.544	(0.012)	0.189	0.000	8.721
Corporate Director - Place	65.433	(6.651)	9.877	0.000	80.937
Total General Fund	168.547	(7.599)	27.283	(0.396)	201.462

Leisure Culture & Communities

Area Boards Grants
Community Projects
Fitness Equipment for Leisure Centres
Libraries - Self Service
Trowbridge Leisure Centre
Leisure Requirements
History Centre Reception and Performing Arts Library
Leisure Culture & Communities Total

Corporate Director - Place

Total General Fund

Appendix A: Capital Programme Budget Movements 2023/24 Quarter One (page 7)

Scheme Name

Capital Programme Budget Movements 2023/24 Quarter One

2023/24 Budget Approved	Year End Budget Transfer from 2023/24 into 2022/23	Year End Budget Transfer 2022/2023 into 2023/2024	Additional Budgets added to the Programme (Appendix D)	Reduced Budgets	Revised Budget 2023/2024
£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
0.000	0.000	0.038	0.000	0.000	0.038
0.283	0.000	0.269	0.000	0.000	0.552
5.490	0.000	3.230	0.000	0.000	8.720
9.885	(2.058)	0.000	0.000	0.000	7.827
4.068	(0.654)	2.107	4.012	0.000	9.533
0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
10.854	0.000	6.512	0.000	0.000	17.366
0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
30.580	(2.712)	12.156	4.012	0.000	44.036
199.127	(10.311)	39.439	17.639	(0.396)	245.498

Housing Revenue Account
Council House Build Programme
Council House Build Programme (Phase 2)
Council House Build Programme (Phase 3.1)
Council House Build Programme (Phase 3.2)
Council House Build Programme (Phase 3.3)
Council House Build Programme (Phase 3.4)
Refurbishment of Council Stock
Highways Road Adoptions
Total Housing Revenue Account

Total Capital Programme

Appendix B: Capital Programme 2023/24 Quarter One (Page 1)

Capital Programme 2023/24 Quarter One

Scheme Name

Revised Budget 2023/2024	Forecast	Variance	Budgets brought forward from future years to the 2023/24 programme (Appendix D)	Budgets reprogrammed from 2023/2024 into future years (Appendix D)
£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Adult Services				
Sensory Stimulation & Development Play Equipment	0.020	0.020	0.000	0.000
Disabled Facilities Grants	4.553	5.847	1.294	0.000
Adult Services Total	4.573	5.867	1.294	0.000
Education & Skills				
Access and Inclusion	0.167	0.137	(0.030)	(0.030)
Basic Need	9.093	4.187	(4.906)	(4.906)
Stonehenge School Replacement of Lower Block	4.799	4.749	(0.050)	(0.050)
Devolved Formula Capital	0.609	0.609	0.000	0.000
Schools Maintenance & Modernisation	8.694	5.945	(2.749)	(2.749)
Early Years & Childcare	1.243	0.289	(0.954)	(0.954)
Early Years Buildings	1.170	0.560	(0.610)	(0.610)
Silverwood Special School	11.889	7.714	(4.175)	(4.175)
SEND Special School Capacity & Alternative Provision	0.193	0.193	0.000	0.000
High Needs Provision Capital Allowance	9.788	2.595	(7.193)	(7.193)
Education & Skills Total	47.645	26.978	(20.667)	(20.667)
Families & Children's Service				
Childrens Homes	1.266	0.900	(0.366)	(0.366)
Families & Children's Total	1.266	0.900	(0.366)	(0.366)
Corporate Director - People	53.484	33.745	(19.739)	(21.033)

Appendix B: Capital Programme 2023/24 Quarter One (Page 2)

Scheme Name

Capital Programme 2023/24 Quarter One				
Revised Budget 2023/2024	Forecast	Variance	Budgets brought forward from future years to the 2023/24 programme (Appendix D)	Budgets reprogrammed from 2023/2024 into future years (Appendix D)
£m	£m	£m	£m	£m

Finance

Corporate
Evolve Project
Finance Total

0.198	0.198	0.000	0.000	0.000
8.998	6.698	(2.300)	0.000	(2.300)
9.196	6.896	(2.300)	0.000	(2.300)

Assets

Affordable Housing including Commuted Sums
Capital Receipt Enhancement
Depot & Office Strategy
Facilities Management Operational Estate
Gypsies and Travellers Projects
Porton Science Park
Health and Wellbeing Centres - Live Schemes
Non-Commercial Property Purchases
North Wiltshire Schools PFI Playing Fields
Property Carbon Reduction Programme
Park & Ride Solar Panel Canopies
Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme Projects
Facilities Management Investment Estate
Social Care Infrastructure & Strategy
Salisbury Resource Centre
South Chippenham
Assets Total

0.440	0.440	0.000	0.000	0.000
0.623	0.036	(0.587)	0.000	(0.587)
3.421	0.421	(3.000)	0.000	(3.000)
4.440	3.190	(1.250)	0.000	(1.250)
1.292	0.142	(1.150)	0.000	(1.150)
1.972	1.772	(0.200)	0.000	(0.200)
3.959	2.606	(1.353)	0.061	(1.414)
0.035	0.035	0.000	0.000	0.000
0.300	0.300	0.000	0.000	0.000
4.065	2.065	(2.000)	0.000	(2.000)
0.294	0.450	0.156	0.156	0.000
0.023	0.023	0.000	0.000	0.000
0.634	0.384	(0.250)	0.000	(0.250)
0.634	0.634	0.000	0.000	0.000
0.825	0.825	0.000	0.000	0.000
0.500	0.300	(0.200)	0.000	(0.200)
23.457	13.623	(9.834)	0.217	(10.051)

Appendix B: Capital Programme 2023/24 Quarter One (Page 3)

Scheme Name

Capital Programme 2023/24 Quarter One				
Revised Budget 2023/2024	Forecast	Variance	Budgets brought forward from future years to the 2023/24 programme (Appendix D)	Budgets reprogrammed from 2023/2024 into future years (Appendix D)
£m	£m	£m	£m	£m

Capital Loans

Stone Circle Housing Company Loan
Stone Circle Development Company Loan
Capital Loans Total

13.017	13.017	0.000	0.000	0.000
9.797	5.797	(4.000)	0.000	(4.000)
22.814	18.814	(4.000)	0.000	(4.000)

Information Services

ICT Applications
ICT Business as Usual
ICT Other Infrastructure
ICT Get Well
Microsoft Cloud Navigator
Information Services Total

5.247	3.878	(1.369)	0.000	(1.369)
1.660	1.160	(0.500)	0.000	(0.500)
0.927	0.927	0.000	0.000	0.000
3.690	3.190	(0.500)	0.000	(0.500)
0.050	0.050	0.000	0.000	0.000
11.574	9.205	(2.369)	0.000	(2.369)

Corporate Director - Resources

67.041	48.538	(18.503)	0.217	(18.720)
---------------	---------------	-----------------	--------------	-----------------

Appendix B: Capital Programme 2023/24 Quarter One (Page 4)

Scheme Name

Capital Programme 2023/24 Quarter One				
Revised Budget 2023/2024	Forecast	Variance	Budgets brought forward from future years to the 2023/24 programme (Appendix D)	Budgets reprogrammed from 2023/2024 into future years (Appendix D)
£m	£m	£m	£m	£m

Highways & Transport

Churchyards & Cemeteries
Parking Contactless Machines
Fleet Vehicles
Highway flooding prevention and Land Drainage Schemes
Integrated Transport
Local Highways and Footpath Improvement Groups
Structural Maintenance & Bridges
Churchfields Depot Drainage and Traffic Management
Passenger Transport RTPI
Drainage Improvements
Major Road Network M4 Junction 17
A338 Salisbury Junction Improvements MRN
A350 Chippenham Bypass (Ph 4&5) MRN
A3250 Melksham Bypass LLM - Full Scheme
Dunnes Lane Car Park, Castle Coombe
Safer Roads Fund - A3102
Highways & Transport Total

0.028	0.028	0.000	0.000	0.000
0.254	0.254	0.000	0.000	0.000
6.175	5.975	(0.200)	0.000	(0.200)
0.016	0.016	0.000	0.000	0.000
2.511	2.511	0.000	0.000	0.000
1.621	1.621	0.000	0.000	0.000
24.873	24.873	0.000	0.000	0.000
0.063	0.063	0.000	0.000	0.000
0.355	0.355	0.000	0.000	0.000
0.656	0.656	0.000	0.000	0.000
2.027	1.223	(0.804)	0.000	(0.804)
1.191	0.350	(0.841)	0.000	(0.841)
1.423	1.423	0.000	0.000	0.000
3.131	0.125	(3.006)	0.000	(3.006)
0.322	0.322	0.000	0.000	0.000
6.980	1.750	(5.230)	0.000	(5.230)
51.626	41.545	(10.081)	0.000	(10.081)

Appendix B: Capital Programme 2023/24 Quarter One (Page 5)

Scheme Name	Revised Budget 2023/2024	Forecast	Variance	Budgets brought forward from future years to the 2023/24 programme (Appendix D)	Budgets reprogrammed from 2023/2024 into future years (Appendix D)
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Economy & Regeneration					
Chippenham Station HUB	0.109	0.109	0.000	0.000	0.000
Corsham Mansion House	0.048	0.048	0.000	0.000	0.000
Salisbury Future High Streets	7.928	4.367	(3.561)	0.000	(3.561)
Trowbridge Future High Streets	7.848	7.848	0.000	0.000	0.000
JK Shared Prosperity Fund Projects	0.565	0.565	0.000	0.000	0.000
West Ashton Urban Extension Project	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Carbon Reduction Projects	0.044	0.035	(0.009)	0.000	(0.009)
Wiltshire Ultrafast Broadband	1.011	1.011	0.000	0.000	0.000
Wiltshire Online	0.128	0.128	0.000	0.000	0.000
Economy & Regeneration Total	17.681	14.111	(3.570)	0.000	(3.570)
Environment					
Waste Projects	1.365	1.030	(0.335)	0.000	(0.335)
HUG 2 Grant	1.544	1.544	0.000	0.000	0.000
Environment Total	2.909	2.574	(0.335)	0.000	(0.335)

Appendix B: Capital Programme 2023/24 Quarter One (Page 6)

Scheme Name

Capital Programme 2023/24 Quarter One				
Revised Budget 2023/2024	Forecast	Variance	Budgets brought forward from future years to the 2023/24 programme (Appendix D)	Budgets reprogrammed from 2023/2024 into future years (Appendix D)
£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Leisure Culture & Communities				
Area Boards Grants	0.400	0.400	0.000	0.000
Community Projects	0.400	0.000	(0.400)	(0.400)
Fitness Equipment for Leisure Centres	0.974	0.650	(0.324)	(0.324)
Libraries - Self Service	0.456	0.100	(0.356)	(0.356)
Rowbridge Leisure Centre	0.826	0.826	0.000	0.000
Leisure Requirements	5.560	2.060	(3.500)	(3.500)
History Centre Reception and Performing Arts Library	0.105	0.105	0.000	0.000
Leisure Culture & Communities Total	8.721	4.141	(4.580)	0.000
Corporate Director - Place	80.937	62.371	(18.566)	0.000
Total General Fund	201.462	144.654	(56.808)	1.511

Appendix B: Capital Programme 2023/24 Quarter One (Page 7)

Scheme Name

Capital Programme 2023/24 Quarter One				
Revised Budget 2023/2024	Forecast	Variance	Budgets brought forward from future years to the 2023/24 programme (Appendix D)	Budgets reprogrammed from 2023/2024 into future years (Appendix D)
£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Council House Build Programme	0.038	0.038	0.000	0.000
Council House Build Programme (Phase 2)	0.552	0.552	0.000	0.000
Council House Build Programme (Phase 3.1)	8.720	8.720	0.000	0.000
Council House Build Programme (Phase 3.2)	7.827	7.827	0.000	0.000
Council House Build Programme (Phase 3.3)	9.533	9.533	0.000	0.000
Council House Build Programme (Phase 3.4)	0.000	8.353	8.353	12.365
Refurbishment of Council Stock	12.766	9.199	(3.567)	0.000
Highways Road Adoptions	4.600	0.500	(4.100)	0.000
Total Housing Revenue Account	44.036	44.722	0.686	12.365
Total Capital Programme	245.498	189.376	(56.122)	13.876

Housing Revenue Account

Council House Build Programme
Council House Build Programme (Phase 2)
Council House Build Programme (Phase 3.1)
Council House Build Programme (Phase 3.2)
Council House Build Programme (Phase 3.3)
Council House Build Programme (Phase 3.4)
Refurbishment of Council Stock
Highways Road Adoptions
Total Housing Revenue Account

Total Capital Programme

Appendix C: Capital Programme Funding 2023/24 Quarter One (Page 1)

Scheme Name

Capital Programme Funding 2023/24 Quarter One									
Forecast	Grants	Other Contributions	S106 Contributions	CIL Contributions	HRA	General Fund Receipts	Right To Buy Housing Receipts	Stone Circle Capital Loan	Borrowing
£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m

Adult Services

Sensory Stimulation & Development Play Equipment
Disabled Facilities Grants
Adult Services Total

0.020	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.020
5.847	5.847	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
5.867	5.847	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.020

Education & Skills

Access and Inclusion
Basic Need
Stonehenge School Replacement of Lower Block
Devolved Formula Capital
Schools Maintenance & Modernisation
Early Years & Childcare
Early Years Buildings
Silverwood Special School
SEND Special School Capacity & Alternative Provision
High Needs Provision Capital Allowance
Education & Skills Total

0.137	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.137
4.187	2.346	0.000	0.106	1.735	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
4.749	2.899	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	1.850
0.609	0.609	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
5.945	1.877	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	4.068
0.289	0.000	0.000	0.289	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
0.560	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.560
7.714	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	7.714
0.193	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.193
2.595	2.595	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
26.978	10.326	0.000	0.395	1.735	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	14.522

Families & Children's Service

Childrens Homes
Families & Children's Total

0.900	0.900	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
0.900	0.900	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000

Corporate Director - People

Corporate Director - People

33.745	17.073	0.000	0.395	1.735	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	14.542
---------------	---------------	--------------	--------------	--------------	--------------	--------------	--------------	--------------	---------------

Appendix C: Capital Programme Funding 2023/24 Quarter One (Page 2)

Scheme Name

Capital Programme Funding 2023/24 Quarter One									
Forecast	Grants	Other Contributions	S106 Contributions	CIL Contributions	HRA	General Fund Receipts	Right To Buy Housing Receipts	Stone Circle Capital Loan	Borrowing
£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m

Finance

Corporate
Evolve Project
Finance Total

0.198	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.198
6.698	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	6.698
6.896	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	6.896

Assets

Affordable Housing including Commuted Sums
Capital Receipt Enhancement
Depot & Office Strategy
Facilities Management Operational Estate
Gopsies and Travellers Projects
Horton Science Park
Health and Wellbeing Centres - Live Schemes
Non-Commercial Property Purchases
North Wiltshire Schools PFI Playing Fields
Property Carbon Reduction Programme
Park & Ride Solar Panel Canopies
Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme Projects
Facilities Management Investment Estate
Social Care Infrastructure & Strategy
Salisbury Resource Centre
South Chippenham
Assets Total

0.440	0.000	0.000	0.250	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.190	0.000	0.000
0.036	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.036	0.000	0.000	0.000
0.421	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.421
3.190	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	3.190
0.142	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.142
1.772	0.233	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	1.539
2.606	0.047	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	2.559
0.035	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.035
0.300	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.300
2.065	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	2.065
0.450	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.450
0.023	0.023	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
0.384	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.384	0.000	0.000	0.000
0.634	0.634	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
0.825	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.825	0.000	0.000	0.000
0.300	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.300
13.623	0.937	0.000	0.250	0.000	0.000	1.245	0.190	0.000	11.001

Appendix C: Capital Programme Funding 2023/24 Quarter One (Page 3)

Scheme Name

Capital Programme Funding 2023/24 Quarter One										
Forecast	Grants	Other Contributions	S106 Contributions	CIL Contributions	HRA	General Fund Receipts	Right To Buy Housing Receipts	Stone Circle Capital Loan	Borrowing	
£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	
Capital Loans										
Stone Circle Housing Company Loan	13.017	0.000	0.000		0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	13.017	0.000
Stone Circle Development Company Loan	5.797	0.000	0.000		0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	5.797	0.000
Capital Loans Total	18.814	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	18.814	0.000
Information Services										
ICT Applications	3.878	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	3.878
ICT Business as Usual	1.160	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	1.160
ICT Other Infrastructure	0.927	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.927
ICT Get Well	3.190	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	3.190
Microsoft Cloud Navigator	0.050	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.050
Information Services Total	9.205	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	9.205
Corporate Director - Resources	48.538	0.937	0.000	0.250	0.000	0.000	1.245	0.190	18.814	27.102

2023-24

Appendix C: Capital Programme Funding 2023/24 Quarter One (Page 4)

Scheme Name

Capital Programme Funding 2023/24 Quarter One									
Forecast	Grants	Other Contributions	S106 Contributions	CIL Contributions	HRA	General Fund Receipts	Right To Buy Housing Receipts	Stone Circle Capital Loan	Borrowing
£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m

Highways & Transport

Churchyards & Cemeteries
Parking Contactless Machines
Fleet Vehicles
Highway flooding prevention and Land Drainage schemes
Integrated Transport
Local Highways and Footpath Improvement Groups
Structural Maintenance & Bridges
Churchfields Depot Drainage and Traffic Management
Passenger Transport RTP1
Drainage Improvements
Major Road Network M4 Junction 17
A338 Salisbury Junction Improvements MRN
A350 Chippenham Bypass (Ph 4&5) MRN
A3250 Melksham Bypass LLM - Full Scheme
Dunnes Lane Car Park, Castle Coombe
Safer Roads Fund - A3102
Highways & Transport Total

0.028	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.028
0.254	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.254
5.975	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	5.975
0.016	0.016	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
2.511	2.504	0.007	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
1.621	0.407	0.000	0.014	0.800	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.400
24.873	24.873	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
0.063	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.063
0.355	0.000	0.000	0.017	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.338
0.656	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.656
1.223	0.953	0.000	0.000	0.270	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
0.350	0.281	0.000	0.000	0.069	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
1.423	1.423	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
0.125	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.125	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
0.322	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.322
1.750	1.750	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
41.545	32.207	0.007	0.031	1.264	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	8.036

Appendix C: Capital Programme Funding 2023/24 Quarter One (Page 6)

Scheme Name

Capital Programme Funding 2023/24 Quarter One									
Forecast	Grants	Other Contributions	S106 Contributions	CIL Contributions	HRA	General Fund Receipts	Right To Buy Housing Receipts	Stone Circle Capital Loan	Borrowing
£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Leisure Culture & Communities									
Area Boards Grants	0.400	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.400
Community Projects	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Fitness Equipment for Leisure Centres	0.650	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.650
Libraries - Self Service	0.100	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.100
Trowbridge Leisure Centre	0.826	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.826
Leisure Requirements	2.060	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	2.060
History Centre Reception and Performing Arts Library	0.105	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.105
Leisure Culture & Communities Total	4.141	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	4.141
Corporate Director - Place	62.371	47.329	0.007	0.031	1.264	0.000	0.000	0.000	13.740
Total General Fund	144.654	65.339	0.007	0.676	2.999	0.000	1.245	18.814	55.384

Appendix C: Capital Programme Funding 2023/24 Quarter One (Page 7)

Scheme Name

Capital Programme Funding 2023/24 Quarter One									
Forecast	Grants	Other Contributions	S106 Contributions	CIL Contributions	HRA	General Fund Receipts	Right To Buy Housing Receipts	Stone Circle Capital Loan	Borrowing
£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
0.038	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.038	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
0.552	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.552	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
8.720	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	8.720	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
7.827	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	7.827	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
9.533	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	9.533	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
8.353	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	8.353	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
9.199	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	9.199	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
0.500	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.500	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
44.722	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	44.722	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
189.376	65.339	0.007	0.676	2.999	44.722	1.245	0.190	18.814	55.384

Housing Revenue Account

Council House Build Programme
Council House Build Programme (Phase 2)
Council House Build Programme (Phase 3.1)
Council House Build Programme (Phase 3.2)
Council House Build Programme (Phase 3.3)
Council House Build Programme (Phase 3.4)
Refurbishment of Council Stock
Highways Road Adoptions
Total Housing Revenue Account

Total Capital Programme

66
66
66

CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER (CFO) - EXERCISE OF DELEGATED POWERS & REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONAL RESOURCES WITHIN THE CAPITAL PROGRAMME

Cabinet Meeting

12-Sep-23

Financial Year:

2023/24

SECTION 1 - DELEGATED CFO POWERS

"Adjustment/addition of scheme in the capital programme which has no effect on the net funding position of the programme

i.e. Additional resources available in the form of Grant, Section 106 contributions etc which fund the addition, "

Project Name:	Disabled Facilities Grant		
Budget Change:	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
	0.714	0.714	0.714
Funding Source:	DLUHC Grant		
Reason for movement:	Uplift to Reflect announced grant award		
Project Name:	Devolved Formula Capital		
Budget Change:	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
	0.108	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	DfE grant		
Reason for movement:	Uplift to Reflect announced grant award		
Project Name:	Early Years & Childcare		
Budget Change:	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
	0.027	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	Developer contribution		
Reason for movement:	S106 contribution for Clarks Mill, Trowbridge		
Project Name:	DfT Safer Roads Grant - A3102		
Budget Change:	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
	6.980	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	DfT grant		
Reason for movement:	DfT Safer Roads Grant Allocation		
Project Name:	Structural Maintenance		
Budget Change:	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
	3.684	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	DfT grant		
Reason for movement:	Pothole Additional Grant Funding		
Project Name:	Local Highway Footway Improvement Groups		
Budget Change:	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
	0.015	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	Contribution from Town / Parish		
Reason for movement:	Local Council payments towards schemes		

Appendix D: Capital Programme Adjustments Quarter One 2023/24 (Page 2)

Project Name:	Structural Maintenance		
Budget Change:	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
	0.050	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	Contribution from Town / Parish		
Reason for movement:	Town & Parish Contributions		
Project Name:	Structural Maintenance		
Budget Change:	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
	0.001	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	DfT grant		
Reason for movement:	Uplift to reflect 23/24 pothole award		
Project Name:	Structural Maintenance		
Budget Change:	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
	0.004	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	Contribution from Developer		
Reason for movement:	Contribution to Works by Aldi		
Project Name:	CHBP Phase 3.3		
Budget Change:	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
	4.012	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	DLHUC LAHF grant		
Reason for movement:	Grant funding for purchase of Ukrainian / Afghani properties		
Project Name:	HUG 2 Grant		
Budget Change:	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
	1.544	1.607	0.000
Funding Source:	BEIS grant		
Reason for movement:	New Energy efficiency improvement grant agreed		
Project Name:	South Chippenham		
Budget Change:	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
	0.500	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	Capital Receipts		
Reason for movement:	Cabinet approved amount		
Total Delegated Changes Approved by Section 151 Officer	17.639	2.321	0.714
<p>In the exercise of my delegated powers (Section 1 and 2), I hereby authorise the amendments to the Capital Programme summarised above.</p> <p>CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER: Andy Brown</p> <p>DATE: Sep-23</p>			

CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER (CFO) - EXERCISE OF DELEGATED POWERS & REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONAL RESOURCES WITHIN THE CAPITAL PROGRAMME				
Cabinet Meeting	12-Sep-23			
Financial Year:	2023/24			
SECTION 1 - DELEGATED CFO POWERS				
"Adjustment/addition of scheme in the capital programme which has no effect on the net funding position of the programme				
i.e. Additional resources available in the form of Grant, Section 106 contributions etc which fund the addition, "				
Project Name:	Park & Ride Solar Panel Canopies			
Budget Change:	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
	0.156	-0.156	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	Borrowing			
Reason for movement:	Profile in line with anticipated spend / costs			
Project Name:	Health & Wellbeing - Melksham House			
Budget Change:	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
	0.061	-0.061	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	Borrowing			
Reason for movement:	Retention bought forward into 23/24			
Project Name:	Disabled Facilities Grant			
Budget Change:	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
	1.294	-0.348	-0.148	-0.798
Funding Source:	DLHUC grant			
Reason for movement:	Reprofile to reflect new business plan			
Project Name:	HRA - Council House Build Programme (Phase 3.4)			
Budget Change:	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
	12.365	-12.365	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	Grant / S106 / HRA			
Reason for movement:	Reprofiling to open new phases of CHBP			
Total Delegated Changes Approved by Section 151 Officer	13.876	-12.930	-0.148	-0.798
In the exercise of my delegated powers (Section 1 and 2), I hereby authorise the amendments to the Capital Programme summarised above.				
CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER:	Andy Brown			
DATE:	Sep-23			

Appendix D: Capital Programme Adjustments Quarter One 2023/24 (Page 4)

CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER (CFO) - EXERCISE OF DELEGATED POWERS & REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONAL RESOURCES WITHIN THE CAPITAL PROGRAMME							
SECTION 2 - DELEGATED CFO POWERS							
<i>"Schemes within the capital programme which require the reprogramming of expenditure between years due to scheme not progressing as originally anticipated or other circumstances"</i>							
Project Name:	Libraries - Self Service						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-0.356	0.250	0.106	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	Borrowing						
Reason:	Reprofiling to reflect future years forecast						
Project Name:	Leisure Requirements						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-3.000	3.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	0						
Reason:	Reprofiling to reflect future years forecast						
Project Name:	Fitness Equipment for Leisure Centres						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-0.325	0.325	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	0						
Reason:	Reprofiling to reflect future years forecast						
Project Name:	Major Road Network M4 Junction 17						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-0.804	-8.477	-14.933	24.214	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	DfT grant						
Reason:	0						
Project Name:	A338 Salisbury Junction Improvements MRN						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-0.841	0.841	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	DfT grant						
Reason:	0						
Project Name:	A3250 Melksham Bypass LLM						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-3.006	-0.165	-3.246	-37.540	-42.799	2.980	83.775
Funding Source:	DfT grant						
Reason:	Reprofiling to reflect future years forecast						
Project Name:	Property Carbon Reduction Programme						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-2.000	0.000	2.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	Borrowing						
Reason:	Reprofiling to reflect future years forecast						
Project Name:	G & T Emergency Stopping Places						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-1.150	1.150	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	Borrowing						
Reason:	Reprofiling to reflect future years forecast						
Project Name:	Depots & Office - Hindon Stagger						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-3.000	3.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	Borrowing						
Reason:	Reprofiling to reflect future years forecast						
Project Name:	Children's Homes						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-0.366	0.250	0.116	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	Grant & Borrowing						
Reason:	Reprofiling to reflect future years forecast, delays to purchase / refit						
Project Name:	Sch Maintenance - Studley Green						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-0.030	0.030	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	DfE grant						
Reason:	Reprofiling to reflect works year forecast						

Appendix D: Capital Programme Adjustments Quarter One 2023/24 (Page 5)

Project Name:	FM Investment Estate						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-0.250	0.250	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	Borrowing						
Reason:	Profile in line with anticipated spend						
Project Name:	Cap Receipt Enhancmt - Blue Pool						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-0.587	0.587	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	Borrowing						
Reason:	Delay to anticipated works						
Project Name:	FM Op Estate - Churchfields Roof						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-0.500	0.500	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	Borrowing						
Reason:	Planning / Construction delays						
Project Name:	FM Op Estate						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-0.750	0.750	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	Borrowing						
Reason:	Profile in line with anticipated spend						
Project Name:	Early Years - Corsham / Rudloe						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-0.178	0.178	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	S106 funding						
Reason:	Profile in line with anticipated spend						
Project Name:	Early Years - Bradley Road						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-0.154	0.154	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	S106 funding						
Reason:	Profile in line with anticipated spend						
Project Name:	Early Years - Chippenham						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-0.175	0.175	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	S106 funding						
Reason:	Profile in line with anticipated spend						
Project Name:	Early Years - Malmesbury						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-0.394	0.394	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	S106 funding						
Reason:	Profile in line with anticipated spend						
Project Name:	Early Years - Westbury						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-0.053	0.053	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	S106 funding						
Reason:	Profile in line with anticipated spend						
Project Name:	Sch Maintenance - Stonehenge SS						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-0.050	0.050	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	DfE grant						
Reason:	Profile in line with anticipated spend						
Project Name:	Sch Maintenance - Chippenham Primary						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-0.255	0.255	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	DfE grant						
Reason:	Profile in line with anticipated spend						
Project Name:	School Maintenance & Modernisation						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-2.414	2.414	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	DfE grant						
Reason:	Profile to reflect anticipated spend level in year						

Appendix D: Capital Programme Adjustments Quarter One 2023/24 (Page 6)

Project Name:	Early Years Buildings						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-0.610	0.200	0.200	0.210	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	Borrowing						
Reason:	Profile in line with anticipated spend						
Project Name:	South Chippenham						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-0.200	0.200	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	Borrowing						
Reason:	Profile to reflect anticipated spend level in year						
Project Name:	Basic Need - Abbeyfield School						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-1.497	0.000	1.497	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	Grant / CIL						
Reason:	Profile to reflect anticipated spend level in future years						
Project Name:	Basic Need - Kingdown Warminster						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-2.029	1.529	0.500	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	DfE Grant						
Reason:	Profile to reflect anticipated spend level in future years						
Project Name:	Basic Need - Christchurch School						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-0.014	0.014	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	DfE Grant						
Reason:	Profile to reflect anticipated spend level in future years						
Project Name:	Basic Need - Holt Primary						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-0.816	0.816	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	DfE Grant						
Reason:	Profile in line with anticipated spend						
Project Name:	Basic Need - Forest & Sandridge						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-0.050	0.050	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	DfE Grant						
Reason:	Profile in line with anticipated spend						
Project Name:	Access & Inclusion						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-0.030	0.030	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	DfE Grant						
Reason:	Amount not needed in current year						
Project Name:	Health & Wellbeing - Campus						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-0.978	0.978	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	Borrowing						
Reason:	Profile to reflect anticipated spend level in future years						
Project Name:	Health & Wellbeing - Melksham						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-0.436	0.436	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	Borrowing						
Reason:	Profile to reflect anticipated spend level in future years						
Project Name:	Sch Maintenance - Holbrook Primary						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-0.050	0.050	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	DfE Grant						
Reason:	Profile in line with anticipated spend / costs						
Project Name:	ICT Applications						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-1.369	1.369	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	Borrowing						
Reason:	Reprofile to reflect anticipated spend in year						
Project Name:	ICT Get Well						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-0.500	0.500	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	Borrowing						
Reason:	Reprofile to reflect anticipated spend in year						

Appendix D: Capital Programme Adjustments Quarter One 2023/24 (Page 7)

Project Name:	Community Projects						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-0.400	0.400	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	Borrowing						
Reason:	Budget not needed in 23/24						
Project Name:	Carbon Reduction Projects						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-0.009	0.000	0.000	0.009	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	DEFRA grant						
Reason:	LATF project slipped by 12 months						
Project Name:	HRA Refurbishment of Council Stock						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-3.567	3.567	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	HRA						
Reason:	Reprofile to reflect forecast for 23/24 spend						
Project Name:	HRA - CHBP Phase 3.4						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-4.012	4.012	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	HRA/S106/Grant						
Reason:	Budget reprofiled to meet forecast demand						
Project Name:	Safer Roads Fund						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-5.230	3.500	1.730	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	DfT Grant						
Reason:	Scheme profiled over 3 years						
Project Name:	HRA - Highways Road Adoptions						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-4.100	0.500	0.500	0.500	0.500	0.500	1.600
Funding Source:	HRA						
Reason:	Reprofile to establish annual budgets from agreed amount						
Project Name:	Evolve Project						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-2.300	2.300	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	Borrowing						
Reason:	Roll out delayed for some areas of project						
Project Name:	Silverwood Special School						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-4.175	1.891	2.235	0.049	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	Grant / Borrowing						
Reason:	Project delays forcing reprofiling of costs						
Project Name:	High Needs Provision Capital Allowance						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-7.193	7.193	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	Grant DfE						
Reason:	Reprofile to reflect works schedule						
Project Name:	Porton Science Park - Phase 2						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-0.200	0.200	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	Borrowing / Euro grant						
Reason:	Final fit out expected to roll into new financial year.						
Project Name:	Basic Need						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-0.500	0.500	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	DfE grant						
Reason:	Works reprofile						
Project Name:	Stone Circle Development Company Loan						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-4.000	4.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	Borrowing						
Reason:	Amended forecast						
Project Name:	ICT BAU - Devices for Personas						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-0.500	0.500	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	Borrowing						
Reason:	Reprofile to reflect potential spend						

Appendix D: Capital Programme Adjustments Quarter One 2023/24 (Page 8)

Project Name:	Leisure Requirements - LC Improvements						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-0.500	0.500	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	Borrowing						
Reason:	Reprofile to reflect potential spend in-year						
Project Name:	Salisbury Future High Sts - Station Forecourt						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-3.561	3.561	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	FHSF Grant						
Reason:	Delays by GWR causing reprofiling of spend						
Project Name:	Waste - MBT Emissions Eq						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-0.270	0.270	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	Borrowing						
Reason:	Reprofile to reflect potential spend						
Project Name:	Fleet - Waste Vehicles 22/23						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-0.200	0.200	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	Borrowing						
Reason:	Delays in vehicle deliveries / availability						
Project Name:	Waste - Closed Landfill						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-0.058	0.058	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	Borrowing						
Reason:	Reprofile to reflect potential spend						
Project Name:	Waste - Food Waste Digesters						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	-0.007	0.007	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	Borrowing						
Reason:	Reprofiled spend pattern						
Project Name:	0						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	0						
Reason:	0						
Project Name:	0						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	0						
Reason:	0						
Project Name:	0						
Budget Change:	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Funding Source:	0						
Reason:	0						
Total Re-programming	-69.998	45.293	-9.294	-12.558	-42.299	3.480	85.375
<p>In the exercise of my delegated powers (Section 1 and 2), I hereby authorise the amendments to the Capital Programme summarised above.</p> <p>CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER: Andy Brown</p> <p>DATE: Sep-23</p>							

This page is intentionally left blank

Wiltshire Council

Cabinet

12 September 2023

Subject: Corporate Performance and Risk Monitoring Report: Q1 2023/24

Cabinet Member: Cllr Richard Clewer, Leader of the Council Key

Key Decision: Non-Key

Executive Summary

This report provides a quarter one update on performance against the stated missions in the Council's Business Plan 2022-32. The Strategic Risk Summary is also included.

Proposals

Cabinet are asked to note and agree:

1. The updates and outturns against the measures and activities mapped against the Council's priorities.
2. The Strategic Risk Summary.

Reason for Proposal

To provide Cabinet with a quarterly update on the current corporate performance framework, which is compiled of the measures used to monitor progress against the 10 missions laid out in Wiltshire Council's Business Plan 2022-32.

The Strategic Risk Summary captures and monitors significant risks facing the Council, in relation to in-service risks facing individual areas and in managing its business across the authority.

This is supported by, and in compliance with, the Council's Corporate Performance and Risk Policy.

Terence Herbert
Chief Executive

Wiltshire Council

Cabinet

12 September 2023

Subject: Corporate Performance and Risk Monitoring Report: Q1 2023/24

Cabinet Member: Cllr Richard Clewer, Leader of the Council Key

Key Decision: Non-Key

Purpose of Report

1. This report provides an update on the progress against the stated missions in the Council's Business Plan.
2. To note: it provides measures of performance using data available at the end of Q1 and risks as they are at the time of the report's production; risks are not presented on a quarterly reporting cycle.
3. The Q1 2023/24 Corporate Scorecard is attached to the report **as Appendix 1**.
4. The Strategic Risk Summary is attached as **Appendix 2**.

Relevance to the Council's Business Plan

5. This report updates Cabinet on the performance against each of the stated missions contained in the Business Plan 2022-2032, as well as strategic risks that would impact the Council's ability to achieve these missions.

Background

6. Prior to the Business Plan's ratification at Full Council, Directors and Cabinet Members agreed a corporate performance framework that identified the measures that would initially be used to track progress against the 10 missions identified.
7. This framework was reviewed in January 2023, resulting in new measures being added and additional measures being reviewed, developed and improved.
8. As before, these measures fall into three categories:
 - i) Main indicators – the key metric for that particular mission.
 - ii) Supporting indicator(s) – a metric that helps add weight or explanation to the main indicator.
 - iii) Basket indicators – where it was impossible to identify one or two main indicators, measures were grouped together to be able to report on elements of each mission.

9. The resulting Scorecard includes each main measure alongside the most relevant supporting and basket indicators.
10. Measures and targets on the Scorecard are owned and reported by the service to which they relate, and they continue to be iteratively challenged and improved at Performance Outcome Boards and Groups. This ensures they are most representative of performance against a mission and allows for advanced scrutiny.

Performance

11. The expanded set of performance measures developed during Q4 2022-23 have been retained, with no additional measures added since the Scorecard was last reported to Cabinet in May 2023.
12. Performance continues to be regularly reviewed and challenged by officers and Cabinet Members at Performance Outcome Boards (POBs) and Performance Outcome Groups (POGs) to inform recommendations and drive improvements.
13. Performance targets for the new financial year were reviewed as part of this year's more integrated service planning process, as set out in the Corporate Peer Challenge Action Plan.
14. For consistency, prevention of volatility and ease of reading, wherever possible measures are now reported as rolling averages over the previous 12 months or rolling 12-month cumulative totals. We note that this may result in figures reported via the Scorecard differing from those reported internally in POBs, or externally via statutory returns. For some measures, the current position is more informative than a historic average taken over time. Where this is the case, it is indicated on the Scorecard.
15. The polarity has been added to each measure, indicating whether a better performance is an increase or a decrease in the figures presented. This allows the direction of travel arrows to be more easily interpreted for each measure.
16. The possibility of adding budget information to the Scorecard has been explored. However, it is unfortunately not possible to provide evidence-based accurate financial information relating to individual measures.

Oflog Data Explorer

17. The new Office for Local Government (Oflog) has launched a [Data Explorer](#), aimed at providing “authoritative and accessible data and analysis about the performance of local government and support its improvement.”
18. The Oflog Data Explorer is currently limited to data on waste management, adult social care, adult skills and finance. However, more data covering public health, transport, and organisational health will be added and the interface further developed over the next year.

19. The existing Local Government Association's data tool, LG Inform, has since been updated to use the metrics from Oflog's Data Explorer within the established LG Inform platform. This will allow the LG Inform API to be used to access Oflog Data Explorer metrics.
20. Of the 58 measures on the Corporate Performance Scorecard, 28 are available via LG Inform and a further 15 measures are similar to datasets within LG Inform. The remaining 15 measures are more bespoke local measures.
21. The Executive Office is working with POBs and POGs to ensure parity in the way the organisation presents and escalates performance data.
22. A Power BI dashboard is currently being developed for the measures in the Corporate Performance Scorecard, which will provide potential for drawing in comparator data from LG Inform on a live and ongoing basis.

Corporate Performance Scorecard

We get the best start in life

23. For the educational gap for phonics at year one, the unvalidated data that we have received indicates that the phonics gap has increased to 23% and is above the National Gap. This remains a priority area for improvement aligned with the disadvantaged strategy.
24. No new data is yet available for other measures relating to educational outcomes at the end of Key Stage 4.
25. The percentage of EHCPs completed within the statutory 20 weeks has been updated to show rolling 12-month average. This, and the different reporting period, means that data presented on the Scorecard will differ from published figures in statutory returns. The reduction in timeliness in Q1 resulted from a service emphasis to complete assessments that had been waiting for the longest period of time. Whilst this resulted in a reduction of the 20-week performance, it has enabled the 'backlog' of outstanding assessments to be reduced. SEND statutory performance continues to be monitored through the SEND Performance Board, the local area SEND Board and the Children's Services POB.
26. The percentage of schools, including primary, secondary and specialist schools, that are Good or Outstanding has dipped from a peak in March 2023, where there had been a steady improvement in performance. The data has been impacted by a few schools moving from a Good to a Requires Improvement judgement, but these were expected outcomes in the context of schools inspected. This performance is regularly scrutinised by Children's Select Committee.
27. The percentage of early years settings rated good or outstanding by Ofsted continues to be monitored, although there is no new data for Q1.

We stay active

28. Updated figures for adult physical activity during 2020/21 have still not been published. We are therefore not yet able to determine whether the drop in physical activity for children, reported in Q4 2022/23, was a feature of the wider population due to the impact of the pandemic.

29. Visits to Council-run leisure centres continue to rise. We are currently transitioning to a new process for capturing data for schools' visits, which will be incorporated into future reports as leisure centres implement the new process over the next few quarters. A new target has been set for the current financial year, based on a complete year of comparator data from leisure centres transitioned from Places for People to Wiltshire Council in October 2021. Leisure is still in recovery post pandemic. However, figures are improving and do not appear to have been hugely impacted by the cost-of-living crisis. It is almost a year since Melksham Campus opened and this has had a positive impact on attendance figures and is the second best attended site after Five Rivers.
30. The target for the number of visits to public libraries was met for 2022-23, with 1,009,187 visits against a target of 1,000,000 for the financial year. This target has been stretched for 2023-24, with an aim of 1,200,000 visits by the end of March next year.
31. We still plan to monitor the number of hectares of new woodland planting that is publicly accessible, as an indicator of volunteer community groups benefiting from direct contact with nature, physical activity and good mental health associated with group activities. The tree planting season for 2023- 24 will start in October, when trees become dormant and so the bare rooted stock most widely used in woodland planting can be planted with minimal risk of failure.
32. The outcome at 91 days shows the longer-term effects of reablement and its ability to maintain and support people to remain in their own homes. Wiltshire Reablement performs well in this area which demonstrates the effectiveness and success in supporting longer term outcomes. The outcomes achieved are representative of the model of service, which offers the opportunity to rehabilitate under a therapy led programme - Wiltshire reablement is an inclusive service and does not apply selective criteria. Some other similar services only offer reablement to people with rehab potential therefore positively influencing their outcomes through the application of a criteria. The people who do not remain at home fall into two main groups those who are readmitted to hospital and those who sadly die. This cohort of people are elderly and frail with co-morbidities.

We are safe

33. The number of repeat referrals to Children's Services remains within the target range, demonstrating that effective work is undertaken to achieve successful closure/step down out of statutory services, and that thresholds are consistently applied.
34. The percentage of children in care who are fostered within Local Authority provision continues to increase and at 42% is now within the target range. A placement sufficiency strategy and action plan is in place to reflect the need to increase this further.
35. The percentage of S42 outcomes met is very slightly below target range this quarter, although the rolling average remains within the target range. A very small percentage of outcomes were not met due to: 1) multiple referrals/concerns for the same person being merged into a single S42 enquiry, which extends the investigation period; 2) The death of a person during the course of the investigation (normally through old age and frailty) – thus unable to meet outcomes defined by national guidance; 3) An S42 investigation starting but then being resolved very quickly and

easily before the chance to set outcomes had occurred – this is a system recording issue that will be rectified.

36. The total number of adult social care homes currently rated inadequate in CQC inspections remains constant at two. Both care homes are close to being reinspected by CQC.
37. The number of working-aged adults in residential care, per 100,000 of the population, has increased in Q1. There is a lack of alternative provision in Wiltshire, and this is being addressed as part of the transformation programme, the result of which will be more supported living, independent service funds, and direct payment provision.
38. There has been a drop in the percentage of reported P1 potholes that are repaired within 24 hours. Quarter 1 corresponds with the mobilisation of New TMC (highways maintenance term service contract) in April. The percentage repaired within 24 hours showed an initial decrease, but then increased in the following months. The number of potholes reported remains high.
39. The percentage of roads scheduled for treatment that have been resurfaced has continued to rise but remains below target. This performance measure is based on the 12-month plan rather than the 5- year plan. Surface dressing is a seasonal operation when air temperatures are higher. The programme starts in July so the substantive length of surfacing takes place within Q2 and Q3.
40. Wiltshire Police have recently launched a road safety campaign following a rise in road traffic collisions that have resulted in higher numbers of fatalities and serious injuries compared to this time last year¹. The campaign will focus on the #FatalFive - excess speed, drink/drug driving, careless/dangerous driving, driving without a seatbelt, and using a mobile phone whilst driving. This campaign will include increased geographical deployments across Wiltshire and Swindon of Community Speed Enforcement Officers on 20/30/40mph limits to increase visibility.
41. The percentage of reported antisocial behaviour cases resolved within 60 days is a new measure that will monitor performance in this area with an aim of resolving cases before they escalate to requiring Antisocial Behaviour Risk Assessment Conferences (ASBRACs) or Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs). The newly formed team has only recently started to collect and record data. However, there is a 60-day lag before the outcome of reported incidents is known to determine whether targets have been reached.

We live well together

42. Whilst the percentage of looked-after children placed more than 20 miles from home has continued to remain very slightly above the target range for the last year (39% against a range of 34-37%). For context, 17% of the 39% are in Wiltshire and over 20 miles from home and 22% are out of Wiltshire and over 20 miles from home. In the current climate with significant placement sufficiency challenges this remains strong performance.
43. The proportion of care-experienced young people in suitable accommodation

¹ [Road safety campaign launched following the death of 13 people on Wiltshire's roads so far this year | Wiltshire Police](#)

remains stable at 96%, performing better than the target range of 85-95%.

44. There was a significant increase in NHS Health Checks carried out in Q4. Analysis by the Public Health team has shown that the driver for this was an increase in Primary Care activity inviting more eligible patients for checks. This is a promising direction of travel and a positive performance as part of the Covid recovery, where this service was paused.
45. Due to the requirements of NHS Digital, which determines timescales for data submissions from Primary Care, data on rates of smoking cessation have at least a 6-month lag and so are not yet available for the last two quarters.

We ensure decisions are evidence-based

46. Voter turnout in Neighbourhood Plan referendums continues to be monitored, but no new referendums have taken place since the Scorecard was last updated in March.
47. The engagement with the Council's e-newsletter provides a valuable indicator of how our residents respond to messaging. This is achieved by measuring the 'opens', rather than just the circulation. Despite a slight drop to 52.9% in Q1, the open rate remains well above both target (40%) and the national average open rate for government e-newsletters (28.8%).

We have the right housing

48. At the end of the 2022/23 financial year, the total number of affordable houses built was 643, 99% of the 650 target. This is due to the downturn in the housing market which stalled delivery in this year. Nonetheless, over the plan period we remain on track and 650 affordable housing units per annum have been delivered. There has been an increase in starts on site, rising from 556 in 2021/22 to 646 in 2022/23, however we expect to see the impact of further market disruption this year.
49. The Council are also investing significant funds in the acquisition of property to support the housing market, including continuing support to Stone Circle House for lower than market rent properties, investing in affordable housing for households displaced through conflict, increasing the stock available for homelessness individuals and an increase in the properties directly held for those with a housing need. In addition, there is a desire to see how direct interest in housing can support and enhance service delivery where property availability is a barrier to improvement.
50. Although demand continues to increase, the number of households on the housing register has fallen over the last quarter as a result of a data cleanse removing old applications from the register.
51. There has been a steady increase in the total number of households in temporary accommodation. This is due to increasing numbers being accepted as homeless as options for alternative accommodation are reducing. However, there are currently no households in Bed & Breakfast accommodation, which has been a huge achievement for the Housing team in Q1.
52. Historic data for the two measures focused on planning determinations has been updated so that it is more statistically robust. For both major and non-major determinations, performance is steadily improving each quarter and is consistently above the statutory target. For non-major applications the leap in performance at the quarterly level (as opposed to the 12-month average

reported on the Scorecard), from 71% in Q4 2022/23 to 84% in Q1 23/24, shows that good progress is being made. Reports are being shared with officers to show where Extensions of Time have not been asked for, thereby prompting this to happen in order to return to the high performance in this area of 2017 - 2021. We continue to report the number of new applications received per quarter, as Wiltshire has a very high rate of applications compared to other local authorities.

We have the right skills to prosper

53. The unemployment rate and youth claimant rates remain static since the previous quarter, and both remain below the national average.
54. The percentage of 16-17-year-olds in the year 12-13 academic age group who are NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training) has decreased slightly to 2.7%, but remains just above the target range of 2-2.6%. Positively, there has been a significant reduction in our unknowns, with the status of only 0.8% of the cohort remaining as such.
55. The percentage of care-experienced 16-17-year-olds who are in education, employment, or training (EET) has increased over the last quarter to 65% and is within the target range. Care experienced young people who are not in EET are proactively supported by the monthly Care Experienced Steering Group. We note that not all young people are able to be in EET due to their physical or mental health.
56. No new data has been published for gross weekly pay, level 4 skills, and gross disposable household income since the last Scorecard in 2022-23 Q4.
57. The measure of regional Gross Value Added (GVA) has been updated to use a more robust dataset. Although the historic figures have changed, the trend remains that Wiltshire has continued to perform below the South West average as a result of the high levels of public sector roles providing protection from the impact of the pandemic. This trend is also seen when comparing Wiltshire with only rural counties in the region.

We have vibrant and well-connected communities

58. The number of passenger journeys on both the commercial and supported bus network continues to increase, in line with national trends.
59. No new data has been published on the number of entries and exits from Wiltshire's rail stations since the last report. However, we continue to monitor rail usage given the Council's strategic ambitions around new stations in the county.
60. The percentage of gigabit broadband coverage continues to increase incrementally and is currently at 63.4%. This is based on private sector build, although we note that the publicly funded programme is due to begin later this year. Although we also monitor the percentage of 4G mobile phone coverage, no new data has been made available since the measure was added in Q4 2022-23.
61. There has been an increase in car park occupancy, indicated from the number of pay-and-display transactions (not including season ticket holders). There has been a communication strategy promoting the use of MiPermit the parking app and allowing more flexibility in the way parking stays are paid. This allows parking times to be extended and more transactions. An average of over 20,000 new accounts a month in Mipermit are being recorded. This combined with the

increased tourist and visitor use is increasing parking stay transactions. The usage is being monitored to ensure its longevity.

62. There has also been a year-on-year increase in income from car parks, which does include use by season ticket holders. However, it should be noted that income is forecast to fall short of the stretch income target as set in the budget. There has been a communication strategy promoting season tickets and with the return to the workplace the income from season tickets has increased when comparing the figures from the same period 12 months ago. The success of the Mipermit App and flexible payments for P&D car parks is encouraging parking stays. The P&D income is also linked to the increased tourist and visitor use, and the stay-cation, increasing parking stays. The usage is being monitored to ensure its longevity.

We take responsibility for the environment

63. The four waste indicators have been converted to rolling 12-month totals or averages, allowing overall trends to be seen rather than seasonal fluctuations. Targets have also been reviewed.
64. The four waste indicators should be reviewed together as they provide data on the amount of household waste produced, and the routes of disposal.
65. The format of the data relating to reported incidences of fly-tipping in the county has been updated so that the reported figures align with the nature of the target, that is to exceed the national decrease in reported incidents per year – currently a 4%. Improved performance is therefore now indicated by a greater negative value, indicating a larger drop in incidences. We note that in Q1 only 4% of reports contained evidence, but that 90% of reports with evidence have resulted in formal actions being taken. Despite the increase in enforcement resources and enforcement actions, during times of lower economic activity fly tipping reports are likely to increase as waste producers seek to reduce their waste disposal costs.

We are on the path to carbon neutral (net zero)

66. No new data is available for Wiltshire's CO₂ emissions. However, for future Scorecards, this measure will be updated to include all greenhouse gas emissions, including nitrous oxide and methane, using a newly available government dataset that still has a 2-year time lag. Use of this wider dataset will align with the Anthesis Pathways report, the recommendations of which were for all greenhouse gas emissions.
67. Wiltshire Council emissions have returned to a downward trend following the post-pandemic increase, and we are now back in line with the stretch pathway from the Anthesis report. The target for Wiltshire Council's CO₂ emissions has been reduced from 3750 tonnes per year in 2022/23 to 3000 tonnes per year in 2023/24. This target will be used for comparison when data is next published in September 2024.
68. The percentage of energy performance certificates (EPCs) at levels A-C has increased to 52%. A rolling three-year average is used to show a longer term trend, as EPC ratings can fluctuate over the shorter term. This indicator is a proxy for energy efficiency of homes, and is increasing slowly over time. The target for Energy Performance Certificates at levels A-C increases over time in line with the

South West benchmark at any snapshot in time. This year the South West is at 52%.

69. The number of publicly available electric charging points is increasing and met the 2022-23 target of 35 per 100,000 population, with 41 in Q1, showing an ongoing improvement in performance. However the previous good progress is falling behind the South West benchmark, which was at 48 per 100,000 population in April 2023 (Wiltshire is 41 per 100,000). During 2023, the council's electric vehicle charging infrastructure plan will lead to 70 new chargepoints.

Risk

70. The Strategic Risk Summary is attached as **Appendix 2** and provides information on the challenges, and potential challenges, the Council faces in delivering its services and ambitions.
71. Included is the Strategic Risk Register, which contains risks that, if they were to become issues, could hamper the Council's ambition to achieve its stated aims, whether that be empowering the people of Wiltshire, building thriving economies or leading the response to climate change.
72. Risks are identified, defined, reviewed, and managed in service areas.
73. There are 216 risks identified and scored in the corporate risk management process at the time of print, not including the national risks that are managed by the Local Resilience Forum. The Strategic Risk Register is made up of those risks that have either a potential impact on the wider council, or are the responsibility of the wider council to mitigate.
74. A full explanation of the makeup of the Strategic Risk Register can be found at the end of **Appendix 2**.
75. Environment and Adult Social Care have recently reviewed and updated all of their corporate risks, reducing the overall number of risks on the corporate risk register.
76. New risks have been added to the corporate risk register relating to the collection of income and the use of personal information by Revenues and Benefits.
77. Previously, two risks – macroeconomic pressures, such as inflation, and staff recruitment and retention – were classified as issues, meaning that the potential problems identified have materialised.
78. These both remain in place in Q1 as inflationary pressures continue, with the current rate of 7.9% in June remaining above the Bank of England's 2% target, and labour market challenges are also yet to abate.
79. The Council's teams continue to work to mitigate the impact of these issues and will do so until they are no longer having a direct impact on delivery of services.
80. The emerging risk added during Q3 remains, reflecting the potential for additional service pressures in upcoming quarters. These come because of other agencies – with whom the Council has a dependency or interaction – experiencing their own difficulties, such as an increase in demand to their own services or unforeseen workforce challenges.

81. As ever, these continue to be actively monitored and managed to reduce impact, with the Council supporting its partners to deliver the best service they can for Wiltshire's residents.
82. This is in line with and outlined in more detail within the Council's Corporate Performance and Risk Management Policy.
83. The South West Audit Partnership (SWAP) have recently undertaken an assessment of the Council's current risk management framework.
84. The audit comprised a review of policy, reporting arrangements, training and awareness, and risk registers, as well as a survey and interviews with key officers.
85. Findings from the audit are due to be reported to an upcoming Audit and Governance Committee meeting.
86. CLT will be recommended the audit action plan, which includes creation of a new risk management working group, a review and update of the current Performance and Risk Management Policy, development of new guidance, and a restructure of the corporate and strategic risk registers, alongside a full review of risks held within them.

Future Developments

87. The Corporate Performance Scorecard is anticipated to further evolve as measure descriptions are further refined and data for recently added measures becomes available.
88. Measure descriptions and targets will remain under review, and ongoing changes will be agreed by Cabinet and the Corporate Leadership Team.
89. A full review of Service Plans is currently underway. This includes a review of corporate performance targets, and also a mapping of planned activities as mitigating actions for corporate risks. This more holistic approach aligns with the Corporate Peer Review action plan.

Overview & Scrutiny Engagement

90. The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee (OSMC) are due to consider this report and associated appendices in their meeting on 26th September.

Safeguarding Implications

91. A number of indicators are regularly analysed which directly relate to the safeguarding of children and adults.
92. Action is taken where improvements in performance are required or new risks present.

Public Health Implications

93. Not applicable as no decision is required, although many of the performance indicators are a key feature of our public health work.

Procurement Implications

94. Not applicable as no decision is required.

Environmental and Climate Change Considerations

95. Not applicable as no decision is required, although many of the performance indicators are a key feature of our environmental plans.

Workforce Implications

96. There are no direct implications arising from this report. However, it must be recognised that this remains a live issue for the Council when recruiting and retaining staff.
97. Whilst both a national and sectoral issue, active management is underway.

Equalities Impact of the Proposal

98. Not applicable as no decision is required.

Risk Assessment

99. Not applicable as no decision is required.
100. Performance and risk indicators will continue to draw on the framework set out in the Business Plan and will continue to be refined through engagement with the relevant services.

Financial Implications

101. Not applicable as no decision is required.

Legal Implications

102. Not applicable as no decision is required.

Options Considered

103. Not applicable as no decision is required.

Conclusions

104. This report brings together the expanded list of performance indicators that make up the corporate performance framework, as well supplementary commentary to provide further context around the Council's activities in these areas and the risks faced by the Council.

Perry Holmes - Director, Legal and Governance

Report Authors:

Martin Nicholls, Head of Executive Office | martin.nicholls@wiltshire.gov.uk.

Catherine Pink, Corporate Support Manager | catherine.pink@wiltshire.gov.uk

Appendices

Appendix 1: Corporate Scorecard Q1 2023/24

Appendix 2: Strategic Risk Summary

Background Papers

Corporate Performance and Risk Policy, February 2019

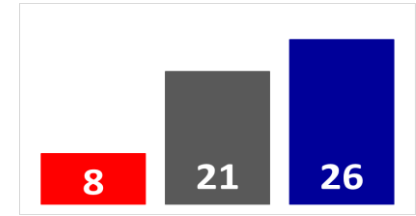
This page is intentionally left blank

Wiltshire Council Performance Scorecard - 2023/24 Quarter One

Of the 58 indicators on this scorecard 47 (80%) were ranked as either positive or neutral in terms of improved performance.

Arrows show the direction of travel. Blue indicates a measure is at or better than target or within a target range, or is likely to be on target by the stated deadline. Grey indicates a measure is slightly outside the target but heading in the correct direction. Red is significantly worse than target.

All measures show a rolling annual average, unless stated, with most recent figures presented alongside those from the two most recent reports.



Gold shaded measures are main indicators	Unshaded indicators support a main indicator	Grey shaded indicators are selected from a basket of possible measures - the name of that basket appears above the measures
--	--	---

Measure description	Target	Previous two quarters or years	Latest position	Latest report	Frequency	Direction of Travel and polarity	Trend	Comment
---------------------	--------	--------------------------------	-----------------	---------------	-----------	----------------------------------	-------	---------

We Get the Best Start in Life










Educational Gap: Phonics (The percentage point gap at Year 1 between pupils receiving the pupil premium and their non-disadvantaged peers - achieving phonics) Source: Nexus	Below national benchmark (16.6%) by August 2025	23%	21%	23% (Provisional)	Aug-23	annual - academic year	 Lower is better		The unvalidated data that we have received indicates that the phonics gap has increased to 23% and is above the National Gap. This remains a priority area for improvement aligned with the disadvantaged strategy.
---	---	-----	-----	-----------------------------	--------	------------------------	---------------------	--	---

Educational Gap: KS4 (The percentage point gap between pupils receiving pupil premium and their non-disadvantaged peers - achieving 5+ in English and Maths at KS4) Source: Gov.uk Explore Education Statistics	Below national benchmark (27.0%) by August 2025	28.5%	31.7%	32.3%	Dec-22	annual - academic year	 Lower is better		The target is to reduce the gap to be in line with national at 27% by August 2025. The strategy is to continue the positive trajectory of maintained school outcomes in all areas, accelerate outcomes in academies to address the gap and to extend our reach to schools and secure wider engagement. Factors contributing to outcomes in maintained schools include the 3 year systematic, structured SIA programme, responsive strategy, CPD, significant partnerships and collaborations and a tiered approach. Performance for 20/21 and 21/22 is not comparable as assessments were completed differently during Covid.
--	---	-------	-------	--------------	--------	------------------------	---------------------	--	---


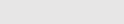
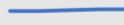


Overall educational outcomes: KS4 (Educational attainment for ALL pupils - Percentage achieving grade 5+ in BOTH English & Maths ('Basics') at KS4) Source: Gov.uk Explore Education Statistics	Between 48% and 50%	50.8%	52.5%	48.6%	Mar-23	annual - academic year	 Higher is better		National level for 2022 was 49.8%. 69.8% of pupils achieved grade 4 or above in English and maths, compared to 69% nationally. The average Attainment 8 score for all pupils was 49.3 in Wiltshire, compared to 48.9 nationally. Performance for 20/21 and 21/22 is not comparable as assessments were completed differently during Covid.
--	---------------------	-------	-------	--------------	--------	------------------------	----------------------	--	--

Educational outcomes specific to SEND: KS4 (Educational attainment for SEND pupils with an EHCP - Percentage achieving grade 5+ in BOTH English & Maths ('Basics') at KS4) Source: Gov.uk Explore Education Statistics	between 8.5% and 10.5%	4.5%	6.6%	9.9%	Mar-23	annual - academic year	 Higher is better		The national level for 2022 was 7%. Performance for 20/21 and 21/22 is not comparable as assessments were completed differently during Covid.
---	------------------------	------	------	-------------	--------	------------------------	----------------------	--	---

Measure description	Target	Previous two quarters or years	Latest position	Latest report	Frequency	Direction of Travel and polarity	Trend	Comment
Percentage of EHCPs issued within 20 weeks on time with no exceptions Source: Wiltshire Council	Above 40%	16.5%	19.8%	25.8%	Jun-23	average over last 12 months	 Higher is better	The reduction in timeliness in Q1 resulted from a service emphasis to complete assessments that had been waiting for the longest period of time. Whilst this resulted in a reduction of the 20-week performance, it has enabled the 'backlog' of outstanding assessments to be reduced. SEND statutory performance continues to be monitored through SEND Performance Board and the local area SEND Board.
Percentage of schools rated good or outstanding by Ofsted (Includes primary, secondary and specialist schools) Source: Ofsted via Perspective Lite database	Above national average (85%)	83.2%	81.5%	81.5%	Jun-23	current position	 Higher is better	The % of schools that are Good or Outstanding has dipped from a peak in March 2023 where there had been a steady improvement in performance. The data has been impacted by a few schools moving from a Good to Requires Improvement judgement but these were expected outcomes in the context of schools inspected.
Percentage of early years settings rated good or outstanding by Ofsted Source: Ofsted via LATE and FID databases	Above 98%	97.9%	97.1%	Mar-23	current position	Higher is better	 Higher is better	This data includes school based EY provision (FS1) which is not re-inspected within the 6-12 month timeframe of other Early Years providers. Trend information will be included for future Scorecards once more data is available.
We Stay Active								
Percentage of Children who are Physically Active Source: Active Lives Children and Young People Survey, Sports England	Above 60% over course of Business Plan	50.5%	53.7%	47.8%	Mar-22	annual figures	 Higher is better	The trend shows the last five financial years. The improvement shown in Wiltshire in 18/19 to 20/21 has not been mirrored in the national or regional figures. Wiltshire now shows slightly better levels of activity than the England (44.6%) but now below the South West average (49.1%), the activity level has decreased in Wiltshire for the first time in 21/22, and it is currently unclear why, this may be an impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and recovery. The percentages are below our target of 60%.
Percentage of Adults who are Physically Active Source: Sports England Active Lives Survey	Above 75% over course of Business Plan	71.2%	72.1%	72.9%	Mar-21	annual figures	 Higher is better	The trend shows the last four financial years, 21/22 data not yet available. Small improvements in each of the last three years put the activity levels in adults in Wiltshire above the national (65.9%) and regional (70.5%) average. Wiltshire figures are not quite on target but trend is indicating it is on track to be achieved.



Measure description	Target	Previous two quarters or years	Latest position	Latest report	Frequency	Direction of Travel and polarity	Trend	Comment
Number of visits to Council-run leisure centres Total monthly visits based on membership card swipes and walk-in payments. Excludes other visitors. Source: Wiltshire Council	1,698,601 per year	128,496	134,809	139,439	Jun-23	average over last 12 months	 Higher is better	 Places for People (PFP) sites transitioned over to Wiltshire Council in October 2021, therefore attendance data from then includes these sites. Leisure is still in recovery post pandemic. However, figures are improving and do not appear to have been hugely impacted by the cost-of-living crisis. It is almost a year since Melksham Campus opened and this has had a positive impact on attendance figures and is the second best attended site after Five Rivers.
Number of library visits (Cumulative total over 12 months) Source: Wiltshire Council	1,200,000 per year	887,459	1,009,187	1,086,140	Jun-23	cumulative total over last 12 months	 Higher is better	 Visits are up 38.3% this quarter compared to the same quarter last year and are 72.5% of pre-pandemic levels, mirroring the national picture. Visits are rising, however barriers to improving this have been identified and solutions are being investigated. They will be considered as part of the Library Transformation programme planned for after the Peer Challenge.
Number of hectares of new tree/woodland planting that is publicly accessible (Either permissible access rights or a PRoW running through the new woodland area). Source: Wiltshire Council	50 hectares for 23/24					No data yet available	 Higher is better	The tree planting season for 2023-24 will start in October, when trees become dormant and so the bare rooted stock most widely used in woodland planting can be planted with minimal risk of failure. There is therefore not planting data yet, but this will be provided for future reports.
Percentage of people in their own homes 91 days after entering the reablement service Source: Wiltshire Council	Between 80% and 90%	76.7%	78.5%	78.80%	Jun-23	average over last 12 months	 Higher is better	 The outcome at 91 days shows the longer term affects of reablement and its ability to maintain and support people to remain in their own homes. Wiltshire Reablement performs well in this area which demonstrates the effectiveness and success in supporting longer term outcomes. The outcomes achieved are representative of the model of service, which offers the opportunity to rehabilitate under a therapy led programme - Wiltshire reablement is an inclusive service and does not apply a selective criteria.
We are Safe								
Repeat referrals to Children's Services (% referrals within 12 months of previous referral) Source: Wiltshire Council	Between 14% and 20%	15.5%	15.9%	15.3%	Jun-23	average over last 12 months	 Lower is better	 Performance remains within the target range and demonstrates that our thresholds are consistently applied, and effective work is undertaken to achieve successful closure/step down out of statutory services.

Measure description	Target	Previous two quarters or years	Latest position	Latest report	Frequency	Direction of Travel and polarity	Trend	Comment
Percentage of children in care fostered within Local Authority provision (Excludes Connected Carers) Source: Wiltshire Council	Between 42% and 48%	41%	41%	42%	Jun-23	average over last 12 months	Higher is better	It is positive to see an increase in performance this quarter. A placement sufficiency strategy and action plan is in place to reflect the need to increase this further.
Adult Safeguarding								
Percentage of S42 Outcomes Met (% of statutory enquiries into possible abuse or neglect [section 42] in which set outcomes were met) Source: Wiltshire Council	Between 95% and 100%	97.3%	96.9%	96.2%	Jun-23	average over last 12 months	Higher is better	Performance is very slightly below target range this quarter, although the rolling average remains within the target range. A very small percentage of outcomes were not met due to: 1) multiple referrals/concerns for the same person being merged into a single S42 enquiry; 2) The death of a person during the course of the investigation (normally through old age and frailty); 3) An S42 investigation starting but then being resolved very quickly and easily before the chance to set outcomes had occurred.
Number of adult social care providers currently rated inadequate in CQC Inspections Source: Care Quality Commission	0 (no inadequate providers)	1	2	2	Jun-23	current position	Lower is better	There was no change this quarter with the same two Care Homes being rated as Inadequate. Both are close to being reinspected by CQC but updated reports have not yet been published.
Number of working-aged adults in residential care (Long-term support needs of younger adults aged 18-64 met by admission to residential and nursing care homes, per 100,000 population - ASCOF) Source: Wiltshire Council	Between 12 and 15	15.4	15.1	17.5	Jun-23	average over last 12 months	Lower is better	Within Wiltshire there is a lack of alternative provision and this is being addressed as part of the transformation programme, the result of which will be more supported living, independent service funds and direct payment provision.
Public Protection								
Percentage of reported P1 potholes repaired within 24 hours (Does not include "Find & Fix". Numbers below percentages are the total reported per quarter) Source: Wiltshire Council	95% or over	84.2% 1999	82.7% 7767	73.0% 7548	Jun-23	average over last 12 months	Higher is better	Quarter 1 corresponds with the mobilisation of New TMC (highways maintenance term contract) in April. The percentage repaired within 24 hours showed an initial decrease, but then increased in the following months. The number of potholes reported remains high.
Percentage of roads scheduled for treatment that have been resurfaced (based on roads identified in the 12-month plan. Numbers below percentages are the total miles resurfaced per quarter) Source: Wiltshire Council	100% of roads identified in the 12-month plan (113.9 miles)	10.49% 2.93	16.98% 4.76	17.57% 11.1	Jun-23	cumulative total over last 12 months	Higher is better	Although the percentage of roads scheduled for treatment that have been resurfaced is increasing, it still remains below target. Surface dressing is a seasonal operation when air temperatures are higher. The programme starts in July so the substantive length of surfacing takes place within Q2 and Q3.

Measure description	Target	Previous two quarters or years	Latest position	Latest report	Frequency	Direction of Travel and polarity	Trend	Comment
Percentage of cars found speeding by Community Speedwatch Teams Source: Wiltshire Police		4.15%	4.14%	4.17%	Jun-23	average over last 12 months	 Lower is better	Road safety is a key focus for Wiltshire Police, to address the rise in road traffic collisions resulting in higher numbers of fatalities and serious injuries compared to this time last year. This focus will include increased geographical deployments across Wiltshire and Swindon of Community Speed Enforcement Officers on 20/30/40mph limits to increase visibility.
Percentage of reported antisocial behaviour cases resolved within 60 days Source: Wiltshire Council	90% or over			70%	Jun-23	current position with a 2-month lag	 Higher is better	The newly expanded team has started to collect and record data. However, there is a 60-day lag before the outcome of reported incidents is known to determine whether targets have been reached. There were 20 new ASB cases reported during Q1. This figure does not include ASBRAC cases, which are reported separately.
We Live Well Together								
Stability for Looked after Children								
Percentage of Looked After Children Placed more than 20 Miles from Home (Excludes unaccompanied asylum seeker children) Source: Wiltshire Council	Between 34% and 37%	38%	38%	39%	Jun-23	average over last 12 months	 Lower is better	Whilst performance is very slightly above the expected range, and has been for the last year, given the significant placement sufficiency challenges; this is very positive. For context, 17% of the 39% are in Wiltshire and over 20 miles from home and 22% are out of Wiltshire and over 20 miles from home. In the current climate this remains strong performance.
Care Experienced Young People in Suitable Accommodation (% of 19-21 year old care experienced people in suitable accommodation) Source: Wiltshire Council	Between 85% and 95%	96%	96%	96%	Jun-23	average over last 12 months	 Higher is better	Performance remains strong in this area.
Public Health								
Uptake of NHS health checks (Percentage of invited NHS health checks undertaken) Source: Wiltshire Council	45% or over (Return to pre-Covid level)	34.2%	32.1%	32.2%	Mar-23	average over last 12 months	 Higher is better	The significant increase in NHS Health Checks in Q4 (4206 compared to 2541 in Q3) is really positive. This was due to an increase in Primary Care activity in inviting more eligible patients for checks. It is a promising direction of travel and positive performance as part of the Covid recovery, where this service was paused. We will continue to drive forward the performance.

Measure description	Target	Previous two quarters or years	Latest position	Latest report	Frequency	Direction of Travel and polarity	Trend	Comment
Rates of smoking cessation (Percentage of those seeking smoking cessation support who are smoke free 4 weeks after their quit date). Source: Wiltshire Council	35% or over	44.8%	45.4%	43.5%	Dec-22	average over last 12 months with a 6-month lag	 Higher is better	Numbers are lower in 21/22 than previous year, no data yet available for Q4 22/23. The service in Primary Care is recovering since the pandemic and dealing with capacity pressures. Smoking rates are highest among routine and manual occupations, where prevalence is 23.6% for Wiltshire (20/21) (downward trend). People with severe mental illness are twice as likely to smoke - 25.2% in 20/21 (upward trend). Smoking prevalence at time of delivery is 8.10% 21/22 (downward trend)

We ensure decisions are evidence-based

Participation								
Voter Turnout in Neighbourhood Plan Referendums Source: Wiltshire Council	Above 25%	36.6%	16.0%	29.7%	Mar-23	Latest vote	 Higher is better	No new referendums have been held since Q4. The trend shows all referendums held over the past two years. The low voter turnout for Marlborough Area NP referendum on 27th March 2023 may be attributed to the original referendum set for 11th August 2022 being suspended at the last minute because of an injunction and a claim for judicial review which was subsequently unsuccessful.
Open rate for resident e-newsletters (Monthly average) Source:	Above 40%	54.2%	55.0%	52.9%	Jun-23	monthly figures	 Higher is better	The trend shows ongoing strong performance compared to the national average open rate for government e-newsletters (28.8%) and the average open rate for all e-newsletters (21.3%). Despite a slight drop in Q1, open rates remain above target.






We have the Right Housing



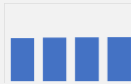
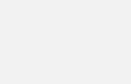


Delivery of Affordable Housing Source: Wiltshire Council	650 homes per financial year	610	643	609	Jun-23	cumulative total over last 12 months	 Higher is better	The total for 22/23 is 643, 99% of the 650 target. This is due to the downturn in the housing market which stalled delivery in this year. Nonetheless, over the plan period we remain on track and 650 affordable housing units per annum have been delivered. There has been an increase in starts on site, rising from 556 in 21/22 to 646 in 22/23, however we expect to see the impact of further market disruption this year.
--	------------------------------	-----	-----	------------	--------	--------------------------------------	---	--

Measure description	Target	Previous two quarters or years	Latest position	Latest report	Frequency	Direction of Travel and polarity	Trend	Comment
The number on the Housing Register (Total number of households on the register at the end of the period, not including those on the open market register) Source: Wiltshire Council	Below 5,000	4,229	4,092	3,893	Jun-23	current position		Although the demand for social housing continues to rise we have carried out a data cleanse of the housing register, which has meant that a few old applications have been removed as they were not closed down correctly. We are therefore reporting a lower figure this quarter following this work, but demand continues to increase.
Total Households in Temporary Accommodation Source: Wiltshire Council	Below 100 placements	159	179	184	Jun-23	current position		We continue to see a steady increase in total households in temporary accommodation due to increasing numbers being accepted as homeless as options of alternative accommodation are reducing. Currently we have no households in Bed & Breakfast, which has been a huge achievement in Qtr 1.
Planning process - determination of major applications (Percentage completed within the statutory period or agreed extension. Numbers below percentages are the number of new applications received per quarter.) Source: Wiltshire Council	Above 60%	69% 30	66% 31	69% 33	Jun-23	average over last 12 months		Performance is steadily improving each quarter and is consistently above the statutory 60% target. Reports are being shared with officers to show where Extensions of Time have not been asked for, thereby prompting this to happen in order to return to the high performance in this area of 2017 - 2021.
Planning process - determination of non-major applications (Percentage completed within the statutory period or agreed extension. Numbers below percentages are the number of new applications received per quarter.) Source: Wiltshire Council	Above 70%	76% 844	75% 847	77% 909	Jun-23	average over last 12 months		Performance is steadily improving each quarter and is consistently above the statutory 70% target. Reports are being shared with officers to show where Extensions of Time have not been asked for, thereby prompting this to happen in order to return to the high performance in this area of 2017 - 2021. The leap in performance (quarterly rather than averaged) from 71% in Q4 22/23 to 84% in Q1 23/24 shows that good progress is being made.
We have the Right Skills to Prosper								
Unemployment (percentage of the work age population [16+] claiming out of work benefits) Source: NOMIS	Below national average (3.7%)	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%	May-23	current position		Data released to May 23. Wiltshire's Claimant % at 2% is consistently lower than the national average at 3.7% and the South West at 2.5%. This represents no change, aside from a 0.1% decrease in the national rate that is unlikely to be significant.
Youth Claimant Rate (percentage of 18-24 year olds claiming out of work benefits) Source: NOMIS	Below national average (4.9%)	2.9%	3.0%	3.0%	May-23	current position		Data is only available to May 23. Wiltshire's rate is 3.0%, compared to 3.1% across the South West and 4.9% nationally. Other than a small 0.1% decrease in the South West, there is no significant change from the previously reported data.

Measure description	Target	Previous two quarters or years	Latest position	Latest report	Frequency	Direction of Travel and polarity	Trend	Comment
% 16-17 year-olds who are NEET Source: Wiltshire Council	Between 2% and 2.6%	2.4%	2.9%	2.7%	Jun-23	quarterly figures	<p>Lower is better</p>	There has been a slight decrease since the last quarter, but the % remains slightly above target range. The % this quarter correlates with a significant reduction in our unknowns, with only 0.8% of our our cohort remaining as such. (This is a DfE measure, it refers to academic year groups 12 & 13. Tracking starts each September so figures fluctuate slightly.)
% care-experienced 16-17 year-olds who are EET Source: Wiltshire Council	Between 65% and 75%	64%	63%	65%	Jun-23	average over last 12 months	<p>Higher is better</p>	There has been an increase in Q1 since the previous quarter. There is a care experienced steering group held monthly, which is proactively supporting the care experienced young people who are NEET. It's important to note that some young people may be unable to be in EET due to their physical/mental health.
Gross weekly pay (Gross weekly pay by workplace) Source: ONS annual survey of hours and earnings	Above the national rate (£642)	£536.60	£569.30	£610.80	2022	annual figures	<p>Higher is better</p>	There has been a 7.2% increase in the last year compared to inflationary measure of 10%. In addition, workplace earnings remain below residential earnings (£642 per week) meaning residents still commute for higher paid opportunities.
Regional GVA (Value generated by economic activity in £ per million) Source: ONS	Above South-West average (£14,362m)	£12,358m	£11,383m	£12,192m	2021	annual figures with a 2-year lag	<p>Higher is better</p>	GVA is slightly higher than South West average in 2021 due to high levels of public sector employment within Wiltshire providing protection from the pandemic. Wiltshire's GVA growth is not keeping track with the South West average (£14,362m), or the average for just rural counties in the region (£13,113m).
Level 4 skills (Percentage of 16+ individuals qualified to Level 4) Source: ONS Annual Population Survey	Increase gap above the national level (43.6%)	38.6%	40.3%	45.6%	2021	annual figures with a 2-year lag	<p>Higher is better</p>	Wiltshire has 45.6% of the population educated to level 4 and above compared to 42% in the South West and 43.6% across Great Britain.
Gross Disposable Household Income (Gross Disposable Household Income per head of population at current basic prices) Source: ONS	Above the rate for England (£21,962)	£22,656	£23,378	£22,987	2020	annual figures with a 2-year lag	<p>Higher is better</p>	A reduction in Disposable Income is starting to emerge alongside the cost of living picture. This is the latest data available, with an update expected in October 23.
We have Vibrant, Well-Connected Communities								
Transport and links								
Bus journeys (Number of passenger trips on both the commercial and supported bus network) Source:	7,905,000 (trips per annum by Q4 22/23)	7,020,097	7,354,680	7,659,274	Jun-23	cumulative total over last 12 months	<p>Higher is better</p>	Numbers for the last four quarters have increased over the same period of the previous year in line with national trends.

Measure description	Target	Previous two quarters or years	Latest position	Latest report	Frequency	Direction of Travel and polarity	Trend	Comment
Rail journeys (Number of entries and exists from Wiltshire's rail stations) Source: Office of Rail and Road		6,960,640	1,613,818	4,600,314	Mar-22	annual figures	Higher is better	The trend shows the last three years. There has been no new data released since the previous Scorecard report in Q4.
Percentage of gigabit broadband coverage Source: Local Broadband Information by thinkbroadband	85% coverage by 2025	60.30%	62.90%	63.40%	Jun-23	current position	Higher is better	The publicly funded programme is due to begin later this year but private sector build is increasing incrementally.
Percentage 4G mobile phone coverage (Percentage of premises with indoors 4G reception from all four providers) Source: Ofcom Connected Nations report		73.86%	74.61%	75.32%	Sep-22	current position	Higher is better	Coverage anticipated to increase alongside the Shared Rural Services network which is currently in development
Town centre vibrancy								
Car park occupancy (Number of pay-and-display transactions) Source: Wiltshire Council		272,958	286,715	297,635	Jun-23	average over last 12 months	Higher is better	There has been a communication strategy promoting the use of MiPermit the parking app and allowing more flexibility in the way parking stays are paid. This allows parking times to be extended and more transactions. An average of over 20,000 new accounts a month in Mipermit are being recorded. This combined with the increased tourist and visitor use is increasing parking stay transactions. The usage is being monitored to ensure its longevity.
Income from pay and display car parks (Including season tickets) Source: Wiltshire Council		£599,729	£623,483	£638,021	Jun-23	average over last 12 months	Higher is better	There has been a communication strategy promoting season tickets and with the return to the workplace the income from season tickets has increased when comparing the figures from the same period 12 months ago. The success of the Mipermit App and flexible payments for P&D car parks is encouraging parking stays. The P&D income is also linked to the increased tourist and visitor use, and the stay-cation, increasing parking stays. The usage is being monitored to ensure its longevity.
We Take Responsibility for the Environment								
Waste economy								
Household Waste (Kilograms of waste produced per household) Source:	Below 880kg (at the end of Q4)	919	916	922	Jun-23	cumulative total over last 12 months	Lower is better	Q1 22/23 has seen a modest increase in overall household waste arisings compared with the previous two years (Q1). This is due to a notable increase in collected garden waste in this quarter, whilst kerbside residual and mixed recycling tonnages are reduced compared with the same period in previous years.

Measure description	Target	Previous two quarters or years	Latest position	Latest report	Frequency	Direction of Travel and polarity	Trend	Comment
Recycling Rate (Percentage of household waste recycled or composted) Source: Hills	Above 45%	40.0%	40.0%	40.2%	Jun-23	average over last 12 months	 Higher is better	 <p>Q1 has seen a small improvement in recycling rate compared with the same period over the previous two years. This is driven by the significant increase in garden waste collected for composting (+10% on Q1 22/23). Typically, the recycling rate will decline after an initial peak at the start of the year, due to the seasonality of garden waste and the sizeable contribution this makes when added to dry recycling tonnage.</p>
Waste Recovery Rate (Percentage of household waste sent for treatment/energy recovery) Source: Hills	Above 42%	44.2%	44.4%	43.8%	Jun-23	average over last 12 months	 Higher is better	 <p>Q1 sees a reduction in kerbside collected residual waste, with a corresponding 0.5% decline in the Waste Recovery rate, compared with Q1 2022/23. This KPI should be considered alongside the Recycling rate as both contribute to overall landfill diversion performance. Changes in the amount of available waste sent for waste recovery will have a corresponding impact on % recycling rate, as well as the % sent to landfill and vice versa.</p>
Residual Waste Rate (Percentage of household waste sent to landfill) Source: Hills	Below 13%	15.8%	15.6%	15.6%	Jun-23	average over last 12 months	 Lower is better	 <p>Q1 has seen a small improvement over Q1 2022/23. The material sent to landfill typically includes residual waste from HRCs and bulky household waste items collected at the kerbside, deemed unsuitable for the landfill diversion contracts. It also includes materials collected for recycling and rejected by the materials sorting facility. A new campaign, "Recycling - Let's Sort It!" was launched in late 22/23, aimed at reducing contamination of recycling. This will run throughout 23/24.</p>
Fly tipping reports (Change in the number of reported fly tipping incidents over 12 months compared to the same period the previous year) Source: Wiltshire Council	Greater decrease than the national average (-4% per year)	-17.10%	-11.40%	2.60%	Jun-23	Difference compared to previous 12 months	 Lower is better	 <p>Q1 numbers are up on Q1 22/23. However, only 4% of reports have contained evidence during the year to date. Of these, 90% of reports with evidence have resulted in formal actions being taken. Despite the increase in enforcement resources and enforcement actions, during times of lower economic activity fly tipping reports are likely to increase as waste producers seek to reduce their waste disposal costs.</p>

Measure description	Target	Previous two quarters or years	Latest position	Latest report	Frequency	Direction of Travel and polarity	Trend	Comment
We are on the path to Carbon Neutral (Net Zero)								
Wiltshire's Carbon Emissions (Measured in CO ₂ e – the common unit for greenhouse gases. For any quantity and type of greenhouse gas, CO ₂ e signifies the amount of CO ₂ which would have the equivalent global warming impact. Wiltshire emissions are territorial emissions only, i.e. these are emissions that arise within the county.) Source: UK local authority and regional greenhouse gas emissions national statistics, 2005 to 2020 - gov.uk	Below 2100 kilotonnes	2,637	2,534	2,209	Dec-20	annual figures with a 3-year lag	 Lower is better	The trends show the most recent three annual returns. This measure counts only the gases produced within the county and the complexity of measuring it means that data is only available after two years. The council does not have control over all of these emissions but we report this measure to support partnership working across the county to address these emissions. The direction of travel is positive.
Wiltshire Council's Carbon Emissions (Measured in CO ₂ e – the common unit for greenhouse gases. For any quantity and type of greenhouse gas, CO ₂ e signifies the amount of CO ₂ which would have the equivalent global warming impact.) Source: Wiltshire Council	Below 3750 tonnes	4,401	5,275	3,578	Mar-21	annual figures with a 2-year lag	 Lower is better	Wiltshire Council emissions have returned to a downward trend following the post-pandemic increase, and we are now back in line with the stretch pathway from the Anthesis report. The target for Wiltshire Council's CO ₂ emissions has been reduced from 3750 tonnes per year in 2022/23 to 3000 tonnes per year in 2023/24. This target will be used for comparison when data is next published in September 2024.
Renewable energy capacity (Megawatts) Source: Regional Renewable Statistics - gov.uk	978MW by 2027	575	577	583	2021	annual figures	 Higher is better	There is 662MW capacity of renewable energy projects with planning approval, and more in the pipeline. However such projects take many years to achieve approval and construction.
Carbon literacy training within the Council (Number of officers and Councillors who have received the training) Source: Wiltshire Council	15% of staff (750 people) by end of 2024		58	75	Jun-23	current position	 Higher is better	Good progress made to date and we have achieved the bronze award. However considerable resource will be required to achieve silver by the end of 2024 (it will require training approx 750 staff in groups of 15-20)
Energy Performance Certificates at Levels A - C (% or registered EPC recorded at one of the top three levels - a three year rolling average) Source: Energy Performance Building Certificates live tables - gov.uk	Above South West benchmark (52% for 2020-23)	48.0%	49.0%	52.0%	Aug-23	annual figures	 Higher is better	We use a three year rolling average to show a longer term trend, as EPC ratings can fluctuate over the shorter term. This indicator is a proxy for energy efficiency of homes, and is increasing slowly over time. The target for Energy Performance Certificates at levels A-C increases over time in line with the South West benchmark at any snapshot in time. This year the South West is at 52%.
Public Electric Vehicle Charging Points (All publicly available charging points including those owned by the council per 100,000 population) Source: Electric vehicle charging device statistics - gov.uk	48 per 100,000 population (in line with SW average)	33	36	41	Apr-23	annual figures	 Higher is better	The number of EV chargepoints is increasing, however the previous good progress is falling behind the South West benchmark, which was at 48 per 100,000 population in April 2023 (Wiltshire is 41 per 100,000). During 2023, the council's EV charging infrastructure plan will lead to 70 new chargepoints.

This page is intentionally left blank

Wiltshire Council Strategic Risk and Issues Summary - 2023/24

This summary gives details of issues the council is dealing with, the strategic risk register and the emerging risk that may need to be quantified in the future. A guide to reading the risk register is included at the end of this summary.

Issues

Obstacles and Challenges that are now present and being managed as issues by Wiltshire Council

Macro economic pressures on our budgets: Sustained inflation

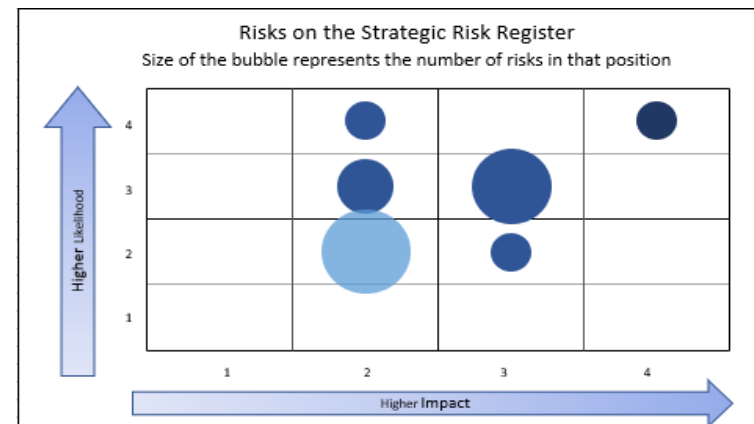
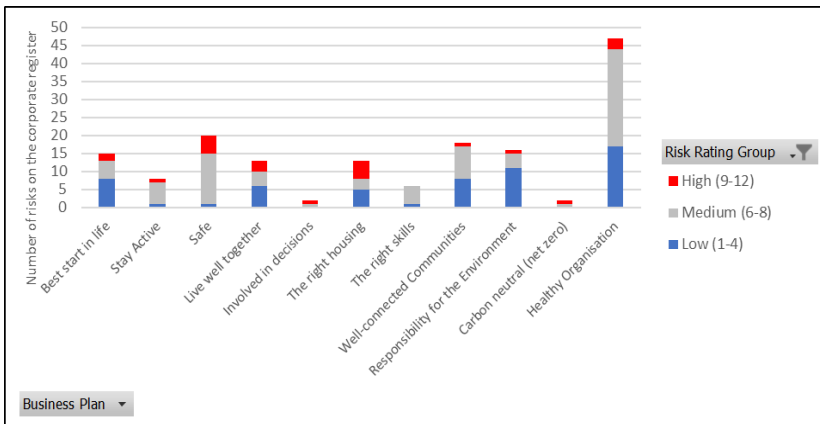
Nationally, there is a 'cost of living crisis' impacting businesses and residents and, due to sustained high inflation, the Council has experienced a significant increase above that forecast in the budget. 2023/24 budgets were increased by inflation increase estimates and this is being monitored as part of budget monitoring. Cabinet approved a re-purposing of reserves at quarter three that allowed for £7m to be transferred to the General Fund reserve, increasing the balance from £21.056m to £28.056m. This brings the level of the reserve alongside the latent demand £7.794m and collection fund volatility reserve £9.470m up to the value that was set out in risk assessed level of reserves required to support the Council's budget for 2023/24 that was set out in the budget report in February 2023. It will provide additional capacity and resilience to support the financial position in the forthcoming year, support the financial risks within the budget and allow lead in time for transformation and to reshape services to deliver on-going financial resilience and sustainability. The quarter one revenue forecast has a small underspend, so the economic pressures being faced by the Council are therefore being managed, notably mitigations on the £2m estimated additional cost of the, as yet unfinalised, pay award.

Staff Capacity: Recruitment and retention

Some, but not all, service areas have identified that this has now become an issue, with there being a range of factors at play in different labour markets. These include:

- A smaller national workforce (less European immigration, earlier retirement/semi-retirement following the pandemic, increased numbers of those on out of work benefits) and closer to full employment.
- Specific skills shortages.
- Competition from the private sector and from other public sector organisations.
- The impact of the increase in the cost of living making higher wages more important.
- The cost increase of driving for those who have to travel in their role.

The result is that some services are now impacted by insufficient staffing.



Strategic Risk Register - ranked by Inherent Risk Score (the risk as it is now), national level risks shown in grey

Risk short name	Cause	Event	Effect	Primary Risk Category	Secondary Risk Category	Owner	Risk Response	Q1 Inherent Impact	Q1 Inherent Likelihood	Q1 Inh Risk Rating	Q1 DoT	Appetite check Q1	Q1 Mitigation Actions	Q1 Actions Confidence	Q1 Residual Impact	Q1 Residual Likelihood	Q1 Res Risk Rating
1 Unable to meet demand for special educational needs or disability (SEND) school provision	Cost of provision exceeds the High Needs Block (HNB) of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG)	More of the DSG spent on providing education for SEND	Shortfall in the funding for schools	Financial	Legal	Helean Hughes	Treat	4	4	16	▶	Outside	DBV work has recently commenced. Data has been submitted and analysis will be undertaken through the DfE led process.	Low	4	4	16
2 Lack of capacity in the social care market	Changes in the local market (including recovery from the pandemic) means there is insufficient supply of Home Care, Independent Fostering Agencies, Children's Homes, provision for complex needs (including people with complex behavioural needs)	Too often provision has to be secured out of county, often in competition with other local authorities at a cost higher than the local market	The right type of care is not always available, people able to be discharged have to wait longer in hospital and budgetary pressure increases if people are placed in out of county or spot provision	Service Delivery	Financial		Treat	4	4	16	▶	Outside	Block purchased day care. New tender going live in September. Still issues about sufficiency and handbacks	Moderate	3	3	9
3 Failure to manage housing development	Lack of a 5 year land supply	Loss of control over the location of new development	Non-plan led housing development may be granted consent through the appeal process; Allowing development where we don't want it; Increase in costs - defending appeals; Pressure on staff.	Legal	Reputation	Jean Marshall	Treat	4	3	12	▶	Outside	Updated our 5 year land supply in April. Development Management teams are seeking to approve applications where there are no major policy obstacles, Spatial Planning continue to support neighbourhood plans to bring forward housing sites, in addition to encouraging developers to bring forward allocated sites. We do have an improved position, but still short of the 5 years. Progress on the local plan is still being given a priority.	Moderate	3	3	9
4 Increasing vulnerability to climate impacts	Inability to adapt key infrastructure and services to increasingly severe weather impacts from climate change.	Increased impacts from more frequent and intense weather events such as flooding, droughts, heatwaves and storms.	Direct impact on health, safety, environment, businesses and infrastructure.	Health & Safety	Service Delivery	Sarah Valdus	Treat	3	4	12	New	Outside	The council's climate adaptation plan is currently being reviewed and will identify what measures can be put in place to prepare council services and the county for these climate impacts. Due to the costs associated with implementing some of these measures and the long term nature of these	Moderate	2	4	8

Strategic Risk Register - ranked by Inherent Risk Score (the risk as it is now), national level risks shown in grey

Risk short name	Cause	Event	Effect	Primary Risk Category	Secondary Risk Category	Owner	Risk Response	Q1 Inherent Impact	Q1 Inherent Likelihood	Q1 Inh Risk Rating	Q1 DoT	Appetite check Q1	Q1 Mitigation Actions	Q1 Actions Confidence	Q1 Residual Impact	Q1 Residual Likelihood	Q1 Res Risk Rating
5 Uncontrolled cost of social care	Changes in regulation (including the cost of increased infection prevention & control measures), workforce pressures and inflationary pressures in the care market	Each individual care package cost increases	Greater budgetary pressure to meet statutory requirements impacting on preventative and other spend	Financial	Service Delivery		Tolerate	3	3	9	▶	Within	Continue to identify budgetary pressures and report in to Cabinet.	Moderate	3	3	9
6 Cyber Resilience	Malicious attacks from either internal or external individuals or organisations with the intent of stealing data or impacting the council's ability to deliver services.	Wiltshire Council's security is compromised opening up access to councils systems and personal and corporate data for malicious activity.	Loss of personal or corporate information OR loss or interruption of some or all council services delivered to citizens of Wiltshire.	Service delivery	Reputation	Mark Tucker	Treat	3	3	9	▶	Within	As per Q4 work continues around recovery plans. A new plan is in place with a phased delivery over the next two years supported by a new Cybersecurity Strategy that will be issued this Autumn.	High	3	3	9
7 Failure in Safeguarding Children	The council and / or multi- agency partners failing to follow procedures or to undertake a thorough assessment	The council and / or multi- agency partners providing inappropriate intervention or no intervention.	Children not being protected from harm.	Service Delivery	Reputation	Lucy Townsend	Treat	4	2	8	▶	Within	6% vacancy rate across the service, 17% vacancy rate for social workers filled with 12% agency staff. Market Supplements agreed to enhance our workforce strategy. Remains 1 of our 6 strategic priorities.	High	2	2	4
8 Impact of negative media/social media coverage on council	Potential negative reaction to council decision making and delivery of services.	Negative public reaction expressed via social media and through the media	Negative impact on council's reputation.	Reputation	Reputation	Perry Holmes	Tolerate	2	3	6	▼	Within	Good controls in place include horizon scanning, working closely with directorate SMTs and trained members of staff ready to respond to incidents.	High	2	3	6

Strategic Risk Register - ranked by Inherent Risk Score (the risk as it is now), national level risks shown in grey

Risk short name	Cause	Event	Effect	Primary Risk Category	Secondary Risk Category	Owner	Risk Response	Q1 Inherent Impact	Q1 Inherent Likelihood	Q1 Inh Risk Rating	Q1 DoT	Appetite check Q1	Q1 Mitigation Actions	Q1 Actions Confidence	Q1 Residual Impact	Q1 Residual Likelihood	Q1 Res Risk Rating
9 [Composite] Information Governance	Failure to manage information effectively in keeping with Data Protection Act Principles leading to reportable incidents and potential data breaches	1. Personal Information not obtained and / or processed fairly 2. Excessive information obtained and held beyond service purpose 3. Information held for longer than purpose requires 4. Information not accurately captured / maintained or kept current 5. Information not protected by adequate technical measures 6. Sensitive information inappropriately disclosed either verbally, on paper or electronically.	Unlawful use and / or disclosure of personal data results in Risk and distress to individuals concerned, potential fines from Information Commissioners Office (ICO), reputational damage and loss of confidence in the authority.	Legal	Financial	Perry Holmes	Tolerate	3	2	6	▶	Within		High	3	2	6
10 [Composite] Income Collection	Decrease in levels of income due to lower payment rates, take up of services or increase default rates	Failure to collect income as expected and budgeted for	Increased financial pressure on other service areas in order to deliver a balanced budget across the Council as a whole which results in cuts to those other services spend.	Financial	Reputation	Lizzie Watkin	Treat	2	3	6	▶	Within	Additional budget monitoring and training with all heads of service	High	2	2	4
11 [Composite] Corporate Health, Safety & Wellbeing	Inadequate or ineffective control strategy is established	Lack of application by managers and individuals of corporate policy and procedures	Likelihood of personal harm increases.	Health & Safety		Kate Blackburn	Tolerate	2	2	4	▼	Within	Ongoing programme of compliance monitoring and additional capacity created by cessation of traded off to non-maintained schools	High	2	2	4

Strategic Risk Register - ranked by Inherent Risk Score (the risk as it is now), national level risks shown in grey																		
Risk short name	Cause	Event	Effect	Primary Risk Category	Secondary Risk Category	Owner	Risk Response	Q1 Inherent Impact	Q1 Inherent Likelihood	Q1 Inh Risk Rating	Q1 DoT	Appetite check Q1	Q1 Mitigation Actions	Q1 Actions Confidence	Q1 Residual Impact	Q1 Residual Likelihood	Q1 Res Risk Rating	
12	[Composite] Budget management	New unfunded project, unforeseen demand or failure to make planned savings	Inability to deliver key statutory services within the service-level budget envelope	Increased financial pressure on other service areas in order to deliver a balanced budget across the authority as a whole which results in cuts to those other services spend.	Financial	Reputation	Lizzie Watkin	Treat	2	3	6	▶	Within	New planned savings delivery work	High	2	2	4
13	[Composite] Not on track for the Council to be carbon neutral by 2030	Lack of prioritisation for carbon reduction by other council departments	Financial considerations mean decisions are made not to undertake carbon reduction activity	Wiltshire Council fails to be carbon neutral by 2030	Service Delivery	Reputation	Parvis Khansari	Tolerate	2	3	6	▶	Within	Significant investments in energy efficiency measures and renewable energy across our estate, streetlights and fleet	High	2	2	4
14	Hospital discharges resulting in high cost and highly restrictive packages of care	Increase in number people needing to be discharged from hospital not being discharged	Challenge from external partners on the quality/quantity of available provision	Increase in out of county placements and / or high cost packages, hospital beds being unavailable for others with complex needs.	Service delivery	Financial		Treat	2	2	4	▼	Within	This remains a high risk. Hospital discharges are high cost and lack of suitable placements mean that they can be restrictive. Two people are due to be discharged in Q3 which will put a cost pressure on the budget.	High	2	3	6

Emerging Risks	
Events that have the potential to interrupt the work of the Council but of which not enough is yet known to quantify the risk to the delivery of our services.	
Continuing financial impact of global events	International capital and energy markets remain impacted by conflict and speculative investment are likely to sustain additional inflationary pressure in the UK. Although inflation is slowly coming down, this is not fast enough to be in line with our budget assumptions. Volatility in global markets and events still presents a risk to UK inflation. Disruption to global supply chains causing shortages, more inflation and potentially more demand for support of council services. A more uncertain world could mean a more insular economy and lower UK market sentiment meaning less investment in Wiltshire.
Additional service pressures	As the Council operates in a multi-agency environment with complex and intricate dependencies, it could be adversely impacted by the actions of others (including short term workforce pressures, greater service demand or budgetary constraints).

How to read the strategic risk register

There are significant challenges for Wiltshire Council as it looks to empower people, build stronger communities, grow the county's economy and lead the way in tackling climate change. The Strategic Risk Register reflects these challenges.

The Strategic Risk Register draws together information recorded on risk registers of individual services across Wiltshire Council.

Information that has significance across the council as a whole is displayed in two categories on the Strategic Risk Register.

1. Critical service risks: significant risks that sit in a single service but which, should they become an issue, will have a significant impact on the council as a whole.
2. Composite strategic risks: where similar risks exist in a number of different services which would not have a significant impact on the organisation on their own but put together represent a significant impact. These risks are compiled into a single strategic composite risk and included within the strategic risk register. These risks are scored by reviewing the service component risks.
3. National level risks: Wiltshire Council's response to the risks recorded by central government on the National Risk Register (NRR). The updated NRR is due to be published in the near future. When it is, Wiltshire Council will work within the Local Resilience Forum to produce an appropriate response. In the meantime Wiltshire Council's pre-existing response to the previous NRR is shown in the grey rows above.

Each risk is fully defined by the responsible service (who assess the cause, event and effect that make up the identified risk).

Each risk is scored for impact and likelihood to give an overall score. A risk is scored twice; firstly, as inherent (the current level of risk) and then as residual (the risk as it would be once all the planned mitigating actions are in place).

The confidence in the implementation of these mitigating actions is assessed as high, moderate or low. This guides the reader of the register to understand the true current risk.

A whole range of service risks are kept under observation each quarter.

This page is intentionally left blank

Wiltshire Council

Cabinet

12 September 2023

Subject: Council Tax Reduction Scheme Review and charges for long term empty properties

Cabinet Member: Cllr Nick Botterill – Cabinet Member for Finance, Development Management and Strategic Planning

Key Decision: Non-Key

Executive Summary

In 2013 Wiltshire Council introduced a local Council Tax Reduction (CTR) Scheme which has been subject to review and amendment since inception to ensure its suitability and bring it in line with other welfare benefits. Changes to the scheme's operation require consultation and the purpose of this report is to set out proposals for consultation to further adapt the scheme to improve administration and accommodate the effects of the ongoing rollout of Universal Credit, as well as ensuring the support for low-income households remains at the appropriate level considering the ongoing cost of living crisis.

In 2013 councils were given the power to charge council tax premiums on long term empty homes. Further powers were provided in 2019 to adapt these premiums.

This report describes options for changes to the CTR scheme with potential financial impacts and also includes a proposal to amend our approach to the treatment of and associated council tax charges for long-term empty properties.

These options are subject to consultation and the results of the consultation will be brought back to Cabinet in December for a subsequent decision to ensure any changes are included within the timeframe for the calculation and setting of the council tax taxbase, for council tax setting purposes, and in time for implementation for the 2024/25 financial year.

The report also raises awareness of proposals to change legislation giving council's the discretionary power to add premiums of up to 300% to those owning second homes. A further report will be brought to Cabinet with recommendations on premium charges once the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill for England is enacted later this year.

Proposals

Cabinet is asked:

- 1) To delegate to the Director Finance, to go out to consultation on the proposals included in this report;
- 2) To approve an increase in the Council Tax premium charge levied on long term empty properties with effect from 1 April 2024.

Reason for Proposal

Since 2013 the council has operated two schemes to determine entitlement to Council Tax Reduction (CTR). The scheme for those of pensionable age is a national scheme and mandated and applies 100% relief to those households.

The scheme for those of working age is referred to as the local scheme as a scheme set by the council. Both the administration and the rules of the working age scheme have been heavily impacted by the roll out of Universal Credit which is managed by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP).

The local scheme was successfully launched in 2013 and at the time efforts were made to keep the scheme cost neutral. The result was that many working age households were expected to contribute toward their council tax for the first time. Whilst this approach was widely adopted by many local authorities, the impact of changes to the calculation of council tax to allow the inclusion of the Adult Care levy, the impact of Covid-19 and the current cost of living crisis was not anticipated and has resulted in more customers being unable to meet their council tax liability especially low-income households in receipt of Council Tax Reduction.

As a local scheme the council should review the scheme regularly to ensure it meets the priorities of the council and delivers an appropriate level of support for low-income households. Due to the impacts detailed above it is right that the council review the scheme and are required to consult on any changes recommended to the scheme.

It also proposed that changes are made to increase the premiums charged on long term empty properties and adopt the same approach as our neighbouring authorities.

Andy Brown
Corporate Director of Resources and Deputy Chief Executive (S151 Officer)

Wiltshire Council

Cabinet

12 September 2023

Subject: Council Tax Reduction Scheme Review and charges for long term empty properties

Cabinet Member: Cllr Nick Botterill – Cabinet Member for Finance, Development Management and Strategic Planning

Key Decision: Non-Key

Purpose of Report

1. This report provides a series of options for consideration and a recommendation on which to consult in order to offer an appropriate, local, means tested Council Tax Reduction (CTR) scheme to working age customers on a low or fixed income by April 2024, and meet the requirements for consultation, with a variety of stakeholders.

Background

2. Since 2013 the council has operated two schemes to determine entitlement to Council Tax Reduction (CTR). The scheme for those of pensionable age is a national scheme and mandated and therefore this report does not include any review of this scheme. All proposals for changes to CTR within this report relate only to the scheme for those of working age. Both the administration and the rules of the working age scheme have been heavily impacted by the roll out of Universal Credit which is managed by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP).
3. The ongoing rollout of Universal Credit has had a number of effects on the financial help that the council provides and administers. It has changed the relationship between the council and the claimant, who in the past relied upon Housing Benefit (administered by the council) for their housing costs. Now Universal Credit includes housing costs for the majority of tenants, reducing both the information held by the council and the urgency with which customers once engaged with us. Universal Credit is a benefit that can be used to top up a low income. It can be claimed by those in work, those temporarily out of work, as well as those unable to work. Around two thirds of all working age households in receipt of CTR are also in receipt of Universal Credit, and it is expected that the remaining third will migrate from Housing Benefit to Universal Credit over the next two to three years. The overall impact of migration upon council services will be significant as many of these customers are vulnerable and supported by other council services such as Adult Social Care, Mental Health and Learning Disabilities Teams and the Court of Protection Team.
4. Methods of exchanging information between local authorities and the DWP have changed. Much of the information sent by the DWP automatically populates the software system used by Revenue and Benefits. However, automation has caused

problems of its own. Over the last few years, the number of notifications received from the DWP for those on Universal Credit has dramatically increased, from approximately 5,000 notifications per month in 2019 to approximately 11,000 per month in 2023.

5. Despite automation, the quantity of data now being received from the DWP has led to large numbers of error reports that need to be manually checked and, where necessary, corrections made to entitlements. At current staffing levels, this is simply no longer feasible. Furthermore, the current CTR scheme is affected by many of these changes that are often very small and have what is considered an insignificant impact. Consequently, claims for CTR are subject to frequent amendments, often as a result of a relatively minor change in earned income or reassessment of entitlement to Universal Credit by the DWP. This leads not only to an increased workload, but also to more frequent issuing of revised council tax bills and changes in entitlement notifications, which confuses customers and increases customer contact.
6. Along with other councils in England it is time to review the CTR scheme as the need for change is recognised. We have looked at changes made to CTR schemes by other councils and found that some councils have opted to simplify their schemes to eliminate the need to process the ever-increasing number of electronic notifications received from the DWP. This has been achieved by disregarding Universal Credit as income in the calculation of CTR. Surrey Heath Borough Council, St Albans City and District Council, Westmorland and Furness Council, Cambridge City Council, have all followed this route. Some authorities have also specifically chosen to directly increase the levels of support provided to council taxpayers. (See appendix 5)
7. The estimated cost of the CTR scheme in 2024/25 will be approximately £31.5m before any change is made. The report sets out proposals on which a consultation will be based to change the scheme in an attempt to solve the issues raised above. It provides estimated costed options for a local CTR scheme which may offer better support to those who most need help, specifically those in receipt of Universal Credit. In doing so the council would also minimise the administrative costs of maintaining claims for CTR. Any proposal to increase the CTR will impact upon the formula used to calculate the council tax taxbase. Whilst changes to the CTR scheme will reduce the taxbase, these falls will be partially offset by improved collection rates which will increase the taxbase which will have an impact upon all precepting authorities and levels of precepts.
8. Currently approximately 26,000 households in Wiltshire receive full or partial help with their council tax through the current Council Tax Reduction scheme, assistance amounting to an estimated £30m for the current financial year. The caseload has remained relatively stable since December 2021.
9. Welfare reform and efforts to reduce the cost of the welfare bill resulted in the abolition of a national council tax benefit scheme for working aged households with effect from April 2013. The council currently applies the national scheme to those of pensionable age and a locally designed scheme for those of working age.
10. Currently 37% of households who receive council tax reduction are of pensionable age. Entitlement to a reduction in their council tax is determined by the national scheme where the rules are set by government which determine the means, criteria

and levels of reduction up to 100% of the council tax due. Currently 9,500 pensioner households receive a means tested council tax reduction.

11. Analysis of the remaining 63% of caseload (the working age claimants) suggests that around 7,900 householders are in the protected group and are in receipt of multiple benefits which mean they currently have their council tax reduction based on 100% of their council tax liability. Of the remainder, 7,100 recipients are in receipt of Universal Credit, and are usually either working or looking for work. A further 1,300 recipients are either in receipt of legacy benefits or are employed. These recipients are expected to contribute at least 20% towards their council tax bill under the current scheme. It is the degree of support offered to recipients of Universal Credit upon which this report and the proposed changes to the scheme are focussed.
12. The local scheme was successfully launched in 2013 and at the time efforts were made to keep the scheme cost neutral. The result was that many working age households were expected to contribute toward their council tax for the first time. Whilst this approach was widely adopted by many local authorities, the impact of changes to the calculation of council tax to allow the inclusion of the Adult Care levy, the impact of Covid-19 and the current cost of living crisis was not anticipated and has resulted in more customers being unable to meet their council tax liability especially low-income households in receipt of Council Tax Reduction. (Appendix 4 demonstrates the amount of debt owed by households and by those currently in receipt of CTR.)
13. Universal Credit has offered those claimants greater flexibility in terms of working and continuing to claim benefit. The migration of more customers onto Universal Credit, however, has resulted in an unprecedented increase in the notification of changes reported by the DWP to local authorities. Under the current CTR scheme, the council needs to process every one of these changes, regardless of the value of the change. Since January 2023 Wiltshire Council has on average received 11,000 notifications per month.
14. These notifications from the DWP often lead to the amendment of any entitlement to council tax reduction, the production of a revised bill and the recalculation of instalments. In some cases, this may happen every month. This causes confusion for the customer, a reluctance to pay and can delay collection of their direct debit which increases subsequent payments.
15. As a result of changes to the scheme in 2015, a fund was created to award a discretionary additional council tax reduction to those who were least able to pay their council tax.

Main Considerations for the Council

16. The council must consult on any changes to the scheme and approve them before implementation in February 2024 and deployment from April 2024.
17. To provide options for consideration, the data currently held within the revenues and benefits system (NEC) has been analysed using specially designed software.

Analysis has enabled the modelling of planned changes and the costs of a range of options, shown at Appendix 1.

18. Through analysis and engagement with neighbouring authorities as well as national bodies, six potential proposals have been offered for consideration, and within these options there are variations on a theme. The main drivers for change are:

- To simplify the scheme to reduce the number and frequency of changes to recipients' entitlement to council tax reduction. This will be achieved by eliminating the need to process the unprecedented increase in the number of Universal Credit change notifications received from the DWP.
- To reduce administration costs, staff time and printing and postage.
- To transfer responsibility for making and maintaining an application for council tax reduction to the applicant, rather than relying on information provided by the DWP. This will empower applicants to take ownership of their council tax reduction, as well as their council tax bill. This proposal should be considered against the backdrop of the council's development of an electronic portal that will facilitate applicants to interact more easily with the council, including the uploading of supporting evidence and the reporting of changes in their circumstances. The portal will also enable applicants to view their entitlement to council tax reduction, their council tax bills, and other related documentation online.
- To reduce the costs of recovering council tax debt caused by the current cost of living crisis by increasing the reduction applied by the scheme for those customers most in need and least likely to pay the amount of their council tax liability not covered by their reduction.

19. For all of the reasons above, the scheme must be reviewed, and consideration given to changes required to reflect the additional burden caused by the impact of Universal Credit, the cost of living crisis and the increase in Council Tax liabilities.

The Proposals

20. **Proposal 1** is a composite proposal consisting of 3 elements:

- i. To disregard Universal Credit as income in the calculation of council tax reduction; and
- ii. To bring applicable amounts for Universal Credit recipients in line with all other applicants; and
- iii. To transfer responsibility for making and maintaining an application for council tax reduction to the applicant, rather than relying on information provided by the DWP.

21. The proposals that follow should be considered as potential additions to this crucial, composite proposal.

22. **Proposal 2** includes proposal 1, with the addition of restricting the basis for calculating CTR to the maximum council tax liability of a Band D property (after any relevant discounts have been applied). This would mean that those recipients living in Band E or higher properties will have to contribute more towards their council tax liability.
23. **Proposal 3** includes proposal 1, with the addition of enhancing the current scheme which is based on a maximum of entitlement to CTR of 80% to 90% of total council tax liability to better accommodate those in need of CTR who are of working age and who do not fall within a protected group.
24. **Proposal 4** includes proposal 1 and combines proposal 2 and 3 so as to raise the maximum **entitlement** to CTR to 90% of total council tax liability, while also restricting the basis for calculating CTR to the maximum liability of a Band D property (after any relevant discounts have been applied).
25. A comparative costing analysis for these proposals is set out in **Appendix 1**.
26. It is also proposed to update the council tax premium applied in accordance with The Rating (Property in Common Occupation) and Council Tax (Empty Dwellings) Act 2018 and increase the premium from 50% to 100% for dwellings that are empty and unoccupied for more than two years, and to increase this to 200% if the dwelling remains empty for five years and 300% if the property is empty for longer than ten years. Empty properties subject to probate are exempt from council tax until six months after probate is granted.
27. Government guidelines suggested any local CTR scheme should:
- be relatively simple to understand from both the customer's perspective and from an administrator's perspective.
 - must minimise the impact on vulnerable groups such as the disabled and those entitled to either war disablement or war widow's pensions.
 - support the aim of making work pay.
 - be feasible in terms of adapting existing software.
- It must also be fully operational by January 2024 and embedded for the purposes of council tax taxbase setting in late 2023.
28. In addition to these changes, it should be noted that the overall council tax outstanding at the end of 2022/23 rose from approximately £18.5m to approximately £22.6m. Whilst there are many factors influencing this figure (including the base value increases of Council Tax), the sum due from those already in receipt of CTR currently stands at £6.5m and is 29% of the total debt. It is important to note that while our current scheme obliges all working age customers not in the protected category to pay 20% of their council tax, much of that is not being collected.
29. As part of the proposed Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill for England there is inclusion of an increase to the maximum premium chargeable on second homes from 100% to 300%. There is an intention to bring a future report to Cabinet proposing that

the council increase the premium on second homes with effect from 1 April 2025, which will be the earliest date the change can be implemented.

Overview & Scrutiny Engagement

30. This report will be considered by Financial Planning Task Group on 8 September 2023 and Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee on 26 September 2023.

Safeguarding Implications

31. None have been identified as arising directly from this report.

Public Health Implications

32. The scheme is designed to support those on a low income, whether that be for long or short periods. The scheme works in conjunction with other national welfare benefits but is overly sensitive to any change in income. If it is agreed to amend the scheme for working aged people, it is likely to have a beneficial impact, reducing frequent recalculation of their bill. It is hoped that a more generous scheme would support the wellbeing of those most vulnerable in our communities, through the reduction of uncertainty and the implementation of a simpler scheme for customers and for those administering the scheme.

Procurement Implications

33. None have been identified as arising directly from this report.

Equalities impact of the proposals

34. A full EQIA will not be completed until the options have been debated and have been the subject of a full consultation exercise. However, the council tax reduction scheme is there to protect those on the lowest income from the challenge of paying their council tax in full. Under the umbrella of council tax reduction the most vulnerable will continue to be fully protected and receive a 100% reduction if they are in receipt of Personal Independence Payments (PIP), Disability Living Allowance (DLA), War Disablement Pensions or a War Widows Pensions, regardless of their age. Those of pensionable age are subject to the national scheme which may also protect them from paying any council tax. The proposed changes should improve the scheme's administration, reducing uncertainty arising from the frequent reassessment of claims and most frequently experienced by those in receipt of Universal Credit.

Environmental and Climate Change Considerations

35. None have been identified as arising directly from this report.

Risks that may arise if the proposed decision and related work is not taken

36. Changing any scheme, specifically a local scheme, carries with it an inherent risk of increasing costs, as we have no control over demand. The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic had on caseload and demand for this scheme has been significant, as

outlined in the report. With any change there is a risk of increased administration costs and inheriting further uncollectable council tax debt if the opportunity is not taken to review the current scheme. This risk has been exacerbated by the ongoing cost of living crisis.

- 37. Maintaining the current scheme as it is, will mean a growing financial burden will fall on those households whose income is low, and whom in many cases are already in debt to the council.
- 38. Whilst the team manage debt and payment plans appropriately, the scale in terms of the number of households in debt, the size of debts and limited ability to recover debt would place additional pressures and costs on the team, in terms of the need to recruit more staff to manage the most labour-intensive part of income management, debt recovery.

Risks that may arise if the proposed decision is taken and actions that will be taken to manage these risks

- 39. Changes to the CTR scheme to make it more generous will have a direct adverse financial impact on the funding the council receive through this local taxation income stream and would require the council to manage this through the MTFS and budget process. This will require the identification of mitigation actions to ensure the council sets a balanced budget.
- 40. The Revenues and Benefits team have a good reputation for delivering change projects. They are suitably equipped and have the skills, knowledge, and connections with other service providers across the council to model and anticipate the impact of any change on mutual customers.

Risk	Action to mitigate the risk
1.Communication	Corporate communications plan and consultation
2.Cost	Analyse all possible options (See supporting papers)
3.Complexity	Ensure understanding of staff & customers who will have to operate and claim for a growing number of benefit schemes

Financial Implications

- 41. It has been and will continue to be difficult to anticipate demand for the scheme. From the outset it was believed that caseload would grow. The number of households claiming council tax reductions has remained relatively stable over the last few years at around 26,000 whilst the number of pensioners in receipt of Council Tax reduction continues to fall.
- 42. For costing purposes, the proposals have been grouped together as follows: (Please note that all proposals include proposal 1.)

- If proposal 1 alone were adopted, then based on caseload estimates, there will be an estimated increase in the cost of the scheme across all major precepting authorities of £2.233m which equates to £1.890m for the council for financial year 2024/25 plus any inflationary factor applied to the council tax.
- If proposal 2 were adopted, the estimated increase in cost of the scheme would be £2.091m, which equates to £1.770m for the council.
- If proposal 3 were adopted, the increase in cost of the scheme would be £3.457m, which would equate to £2.926m for the council.
- If proposal 4 were adopted (which includes proposal 3) the increase in cost of the scheme would be £3.242m, which would equate to £2.744m for the council.
- Plans to increase the premium on empty homes would generate an additional £0.125m of Council Tax income, which would be approximately £0.100m for the council.

(Please See appendix 1 for more detailed costings of each proposed change to the CTR scheme summarising the costs and potential savings of the mitigating effects provided within this report)

43. Details are also provided below regarding how the scheme will change the approach to calculating the council tax taxbase, and compensating changes to make the scheme more affordable including a potential reduction in debt and debts written off.
44. Any change to the scheme would directly affect the formula used to calculate the council tax taxbase and affect the overall number of band D dwellings for taxbase setting purposes. Any change would therefore need to be built into the MTFs and budget setting process for 2024/25 and onward not only for Wiltshire Council but the Police, Fire & Rescue Service and parishes.
45. If proposals 1-4 were adopted the taxbase calculation would be affected in two ways. A more generous scheme reduces the taxbase, as we would be collecting less, however within the taxbase setting formula we assume a collection rate of 99.75%, with a lower percentage collection rate applied to households in receipt of council tax reduction.
46. If the scheme were more generous, we would expect households to be able to meet the shortfall. Increasing the collection rate formula for these households to 92.50% would generate a further £1.7m in income per year. There will also be a direct impact on the recoverability of some of the debts that would be expected to accrue for some of these households with the outstanding debt for these households expected to either remain the same or reduce. This will have a direct favourable impact on any calculation of the surplus/deficit on the Collection Fund, which is calculated annually and distributed to the major preceptors (the council, Police and Fire Service).
47. Consideration must be given to the value of debts written off each year which reduce the surplus on the collection fund. Over the last few years, the value of write off's have been increasing (as can be seen in the table in Appendix 6), with the exception of last year due to exceptional factors). Typically, write-offs average £0.750m and are expected to rise in 2023/24 to the £1m mark. Again, any reduction in forecast write

offs would be in the same proportion for the council (84.7%), Police (11.5%) and Fire & Rescue Service (3.8%). If we assume an improvement of 10%, we could estimate that writes offs would improve by £0.075 to £0.1m assuming these debts were attributable to those in receipt of CTR; Wiltshire Council share being £0.063 to £0.085m. (Appendix 1 summarises the financial impact)

48. The implications of amending the scheme are significant for both major precepting authorities (Police and Fire & Rescue Services) and for the larger towns and parish councils. It is vital therefore that the full impact of the proposals is discussed with precepting authorities as part of the consultation process. The outcomes will be reported alongside the Cabinet paper planned for December 2023 and inform the council tax taxbase setting process.
49. It is recommended that changes are made to the council tax premium with effect from April 2024 and whilst there is no obligation to consult on this discretionary policy change its inclusion within the report demonstrates why the change is timely, appropriate, and necessary.

Legal Implications

50. None have been identified as arising directly from this report.

Workforce Implications

51. None have been identified as arising directly from this report.

Consultation

52. If the decision is taken to amend our CTR scheme the Government have set out a series of steps that the council will need to follow:

Before making changes to the scheme the billing authority must in the following order:

- (a) consult any major precepting authority which it has the power to issue a precept to it
- (b) publish the proposed changes to the scheme in such a manner as it thinks fit, and
- (c) separately consult such persons as it considers are likely to have an interest in the operation of the scheme

(This would include specifically the Police and Fire & Rescue Services as well as precepting authorities, staff, members, customers, and the voluntary sector, prior to finalising the scheme before full council)

53. It is proposed that precepting bodies' attention is drawn to this matter by writing to them all with a link to the Council's website. Consultation will also extend to meeting with key claimant representative groups, such as Citizens Advice, and interested members of the public via the council's website.

54. Following consultation, it is proposed to report back to Cabinet in December 2023 for a final decision to be taken ahead of the timetable for implementation, which is 1 April 2024.

Options Considered

55. The options that have been considered are provided in **Appendix 1** and are included in the report.

Conclusions

56. The landscape of welfare benefits has greatly changed since the introduction of the local Council Tax Reduction scheme in 2013. Despite the cost of living crisis the number of households claiming the reduction has stabilised at around 26,000, but the cost of living crisis has most adversely affected those on low or fixed incomes compounded by the rolling out of Universal Credit and the various caps or restrictions placed on those in receipt of welfare benefits. At the same time households on legacy benefit continue to experience restrictions to their welfare benefits, further limiting their ability to pay council tax. The consultation proposal will seek views on the reductions applied by the scheme and its ability to better support those already receiving a council tax reduction.

57. The council tax reduction scheme was designed to limit the financial impact of paying council tax on those least able to afford it, but despite the scheme's provisions, it is now considered too sensitive to small fluctuations in a households' income. The vast increase in the number of changes notified to the council by the DWP has also had a significant impact on the ability to effectively administer the scheme. The proposals for consultation are made based on a better understanding of Universal Credit than was possible in 2013, and renewed determination by the DWP to move those on legacy benefits to Universal Credit over the next two to three years.

58. Whilst there is no simple council tax reduction scheme any adaptation must uphold the principle that any scheme should be equitable across all groups and offer incentives for those who can to work, wherever possible. Through the consultation process it is hoped that the rationale for changing the scheme will be understood and proposals considered and deployed to provide a more appropriate scheme for Wiltshire residents.

59. The council has not changed the premium charged on empty properties since the scheme was introduced. We have not followed the changes already made by our neighbouring authorities and if the proposals were adopted would not only generate additional income but encourage homeowners to return their properties to use.

60. When the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill for England has passed through Parliament, the intention is to bring a future report to Cabinet proposing that the council increase the premium on second homes by 100% with effect from 1 April 2025, which will be the earliest date the change can be implemented.

Andy Brown

Corporate Director Resources and Deputy Chief Executive (S.151 Officer)

Report Author: John Caulfield, Benefits Operations Manager and Sally Kimber, Systems and Performance Manger

30 August 2023

Appendices

Appendix 1: Financial Impact of Proposals

Appendix 2: Explanation of applicable amounts

Appendix 3: Example calculation

Appendix 4: Breakdown of outstanding council tax debt, debt owed by those on CTR and debt owed by those on CTR and UC

Appendix 5: Other Unitary CTR Schemes (and schemes that also disregard UC as income

Appendix 6: Annual Amounts of Irrecoverable Council Tax Written Off

Background Papers

Financial models analysing impact of Options 1-5.

Appendix 1 Financial Impact of Proposals

Financial Impact of Proposals	Increase in expenditure on the scheme as proposed £ M	Impact of changes to the taxbase £ M	Impact of changes to empty homes £ M	Potential reduction in debts written off £ M	Potential reduction in provision for credit losses £ M	Total Cost of the proposed changes to each organisation £ M
Proposal 1						
<i>Wiltshire Police & Crime Commissioner</i>	0.258	(0.197)	(0.014)	(0.009)	(0.031)	0.007
<i>D&W Fire & Rescue Service</i>	0.085	(0.065)	(0.005)	(0.003)	(0.010)	0.002
Wiltshire Council	1.890	(1.439)	(0.106)	(0.063)	(0.228)	0.053
Total Cost Impact	2.233	(1.700)	(0.125)	(0.075)	(0.270)	0.063
Proposal 2						
<i>Wiltshire Police & Crime Commissioner</i>	0.242	(0.197)	(0.014)	(0.009)	(0.031)	(0.009)
<i>D&W Fire & Rescue Service</i>	0.080	(0.065)	(0.005)	(0.003)	(0.010)	(0.003)
Wiltshire Council	1.770	(1.439)	(0.106)	(0.063)	(0.228)	(0.067)
Total Cost Impact	2.091	(1.700)	(0.125)	(0.075)	(0.270)	(0.079)
Proposal 3						
<i>Wiltshire Police & Crime Commissioner</i>	0.400	(0.197)	(0.014)	(0.009)	(0.031)	0.149
<i>D&W Fire & Rescue Service</i>	0.132	(0.065)	(0.005)	(0.003)	(0.010)	0.049
Wiltshire Council	2.926	(1.439)	(0.106)	(0.063)	(0.228)	1.089
Total Cost Impact	3.457	(1.700)	(0.125)	(0.075)	(0.270)	1.287
Proposal 4						
<i>Wiltshire Police & Crime Commissioner</i>	0.375	(0.197)	(0.014)	(0.009)	(0.031)	0.124
<i>D&W Fire & Rescue Service</i>	0.124	(0.065)	(0.005)	(0.003)	(0.010)	0.041
Wiltshire Council	2.744	(1.439)	(0.106)	(0.063)	(0.228)	0.907
Total Cost Impact	3.242	(1.700)	(0.125)	(0.075)	(0.270)	1.072

Appendix 2

An applicable amount is the maximum amount of weekly income that an applicant can receive before their income starts to affect their CTR. It is compared against the applicant's income and capital to work out how much CTR they will receive. The applicable amount varies depending on the applicant's age, the size of their family, and any special needs they have, such as whether they are disabled.

At present, the applicable amount for customers in receipt of Universal Credit is calculated differently from other working age customers. Where the applicant is renting their property, the Universal Credit applicable amount will usually include a housing element to help with their rent. This means that renters and homeowners in receipt of Universal Credit whose income is otherwise identical may receive different amounts of CTR. We propose to change the CTR scheme so that the applicable amount for those in receipt of Universal Credit is calculated in the same way as all other working age applicants.

We propose to use the applicable amounts set by the Government for other benefits, such as housing benefit, as we currently do for all CTR applicant's not in receipt of Universal Credit. These applicable amounts are reviewed annually by the Government.

Example:

The applicable amount for a lone parent making a new claim for CTR, who has two children, one of whom is classified as disabled, would be calculated as follows:

The lone parent:	£84.80
Child 1:	£77.78
Child 2:	£77.78
Because child 2 is disabled:	<u>£74.69</u>
Total:	<u>£315.05</u>

This applicable amount is then subtracted from the applicant's weekly income (after all relevant disregards) to determine their "excess income".

For example, if their income is £425.05, then they would have excess income of £110.00 (Income of £425.05 less their applicable amount of £315.05).

We then apply what is termed an income taper, by calculating 15% of their excess income, which amounts to £16.50. This is the amount that they would have to contribute towards their council tax. If their council tax is £30.50 per week, their award of CTR will be £14.00.

If the applicant's weekly income is less than their applicable amount (£315.05), they would have no excess income and would be entitled to the maximum amount of CTR. In general terms, a higher applicable amount leads to a higher award of CTR, while higher income leads to a lower award of CTR.

Appendix 3

Below is an example calculation where the applicant has a partner and three children (capped for benefit purposes at two children). The applicant is in receipt of Universal Credit. The applicant is also in receipt of a Carer's Allowance in respect of her partner who is disabled and in receipt of a Personal Independence Payment (PIP).

Table 1 below illustrates the current calculation under the council's existing CTR scheme, where the award of Universal Credit is taken into account as income, and the Universal Credit applicable amount has been used. The applicant's CTR award amounts to £15.19 per week.

Table 1.

Current Scheme Calculation			
Income		Applicable Amount / UC Max Award	
Universal Credit	£237.85	Standard Allowance	£ 133.57
Earnings after disregard	£176.73	Housing Element	£ 106.22
Carer's Allowance	£76.75	Child Element	£ 134.90
Child Benefit 3 x children (disregarded)	£55.80		
PIP (disregarded)	£68.10	Total Applicable Amount	£ 374.69
Total Income used in calculation	£491.33		
Excess Income (Total Income less applicable amount)	£116.64		
Weekly Council Tax	£32.69		
Less taper of 15% of excess income	£17.50		
CTR Award per week	£15.19		

In table 2 below, the award of Universal Credit has been disregarded as income, and the applicant's applicable amount calculated with the standard applicable amounts. Disregarding Universal Credit as income reduces the applicant's income, while calculating the applicant's applicable amount reduces it by a small margin, largely due to the removal of the housing element and the including of a carer's premium and a disability premium. In this scenario, the applicant's CTR increases significantly to £32.69 per week. It should be noted that such an increase will not be the case for all applicants, and there will be losers where the amount of the award of Universal Credit is low and the housing element of the Universal Credit applicable amount high.

Table 2.

Calculation disregarding UC income and using standard applicable amounts			
Income		Applicable Amount	
Universal Credit (disregarded)	£237.85	Couple Allowance	£ 121.05
Earnings after disregard	£176.73	Child Allowance (capped at two children)	£ 141.60
Carer's Allowance	£76.75	Disability Premium	£ 51.60
Child Benefit 3 x children (disregarded)	£55.80	Carer Premium	£ 38.85
PIP (disregarded)	£68.10		
Total Income used in calculation	£253.48	Total Applicable Amount	£ 353.10
Excess Income (Total Income less applicable amount)	£0.00		
Weekly Council Tax	£32.69		
Less taper of 15% of excess income	£0.00		
CTR Award per week	£32.69		

Appendix 4:

Breakdown of outstanding council tax debt, into debt owed by those on CTR, broken down into working age, pension age and those in the protected group

Total council tax outstanding as at 31 March 2023	Amount of debt owed by households currently in receipt of CTR (working age, Pensioner, and protected households)	% of total debt owed by all households in receipt of CTR	Council tax arrears owed by those on CTR of Working Age	%	Council Tax arrears owed by those on CTR of Pensionable age	%	Council tax debt owed by those on CTR in a Protected groups	%
£22,685,539	£6,561,368	28.92%	£4,925,465	21.71%	£312,184	1.38%	£1,323,719	5.83%

Appendix 5

Table 1 Other Unitary Council Schemes

Council	Scheme Type	Maximum CTR as a percentage of CTax Liability for unprotected claimants	Banding Restriction to Maximum CTR	Minimum CTR award	How to Claim	In year Collection Rates 2022/23	Net council tax Debit Raised in 2022/23 £m
Wiltshire Council	Taper	80%	No	None	Award of UC accepted as a claim for CTR	97.7	407.002
Shropshire	Taper	80%	No	£1.50	Duty on Claimant	98.2	235.771
Cheshire East	Grid	80%	Band D	£2.00	Award of UC accepted as a claim for CTR	98.2	315.560
Cheshire West and Chester	Taper	75%	Band D	None	Duty on Claimant	96.9	263.294
East Riding of Yorkshire	Taper	75%	No	None	Application for UC accepted as an application for CTR	97.3	250.526
Buckinghamshire	Taper	80%	No	None	Duty on Claimant	98.2	474.245
Swindon	Taper	80%	Band D	None	Duty on Claimant	95.9	153.181
Bath & North East Somerset	Grid (for UC claimants)	90% if in receipt of UC, 78% if not in receipt of UC	Band D	None	Award of UC accepted as a claim for CTR	97.7	133.653
Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	Taper	80%	Band C	£0.50	Duty on Claimant	95.9	284.522

Appendix 6

Annual Amounts of Irrecoverable Council Tax written off in the year (for current and previous years).

Year	Amounts written off as irrecoverable	Amounts written off under the discretionary hardship scheme
2019	£746,633	£15,865
2020	£914,519	£638,144
2021	£773,879	£250,000
2022	£493,074	£139,975
2023	Not yet available	£39,805
Total:	£2,928,105	£1,083,790

Wiltshire Council

Cabinet

12 September 2023

Subject: Planning Peer Review Report

Cabinet Member: Cllr Nick Botterill - Cabinet Member for Finance, Development Management, and Strategic Planning

Key Decision: Non Key

Executive Summary

In May 2023, the council invited the Local Government Association (LGA) to conduct a Peer Review of its Planning service. The LGA in turn commissioned the Planning Advisory Service (PAS) to undertake the review. PAS carried out the review as 'critical friends', with the intention of helping to identify areas of improvement to create a more unified and resilient planning service. The final PAS report is attached at Appendix 1.

The Peer Review team made 18 recommendations. These can be grouped in following areas:

1. Service structures
2. Governance arrangements
3. Management, staff and culture
4. Learning and development
5. Process and decision making

To inform the process, the Peer Review team were presented with detailed background information about how the different parts of the service are carried out, what works well and areas where improvements are being considered. They were supplied with data about performance, customer feedback, decision making and governance arrangements. They observed Planning Committee meetings and held face-to-face sessions with senior management, Cabinet members, staff, planning agents, local councillors, Planning Committee members as well as other stakeholders such as consultees and town/parish councils. The conclusions reached were made having gathered data from different sources to challenge the validity of what they were being told.

The full findings from the Planning service peer review are set out within a report that includes 18 recommendations. It is a matter for the council how those recommendations will be taken forward. PAS has offered support and a further visit in six months' time to review progress.

This report seeks to bring to the attention of Cabinet the findings of the Planning service peer review and asks that the initial officer response to the recommendations be noted.

Proposals

Cabinet is asked to note:

- 1) the findings of the Peer Review, recognising the challenges that the service faces in order to create one of the best performing planning services in the country; and
- 2) the initial officer response to the recommendations.

Reason for Proposals

While it would not normally be necessary to report the findings of a peer review to Cabinet, as no formal decision needs to be made, given the nature of the issues raised, it is appropriate that Cabinet be given the opportunity to consider the Planning service peer review report's recommendations and the intended officer response.

Terence Herbert
Chief Executive

Wiltshire Council

Cabinet

12 September 2023

Subject: Planning Peer Review Report

Cabinet Member: Cllr Nick Botterill - Cabinet Member for Finance, Development Management, and Strategic Planning

Key Decision: Non Key

Purpose of Report

1. To update Cabinet on the findings of the May 2023 Local Government Association Planning Service peer review and to set out officers' initial response to the suggested recommendations.

Relevance to the Council's Business Plan

2. This report directly supports the Council's Business plan as it seeks to develop a planning service that delivers a Thriving Economy, Resilient Society and Sustainable Environment. The importance of securing development in Wiltshire is fundamental in delivering outcomes in these areas and providing sustainable growth of Wiltshire.

Background

3. In May 2023, the council's Planning service invited an external peer review to look at how it conducts its different planning functions. The review was carried out by the Planning Advisory Service (PAS) on behalf of the Local Government Association (LGA). This review was not an inspection or audit. PAS were asked to conduct the review by the council as 'critical friends' as part of its journey to create the best possible planning service – one that is more unified, customer focused and resilient.
4. The Peer Review was presented with a detailed position statement alongside many other documents and performance data. The team spent four days on site in Wiltshire which included two full days of meetings, focus groups and committees with various councillors, staff, and stakeholders including town and parish councils, external consultees and planning customers. They focussed on five broad themes covering:
 1. Vision and leadership
 2. Service Performance & Management
 3. Community engagement
 4. Partner engagement
 5. Achieving outcomes
5. Feedback from the review identified that the organisation was open and honest and ready to embrace change. The final report summarises what the Peer Review team have been told and what they have witnessed, and the resulting recommendations.

Main Findings

6. As one of the largest and most diverse planning authorities in the country, Wiltshire has the potential to set the benchmark for how planning services are delivered in local government. The volume of work and substantial workforce (compared to others) creates the potential for the planning service to be one that other councils ought to aspire to replicate. While there is lots of excellent work taking place, for various reasons, some parts of the Planning service is under-achieving, with examples of slow-decision making, poor customer service and inefficient practices. Gaining a better understanding of these issues to allow improvements to be made was a key driver for inviting a Peer Review.
7. The Peer Review team identified many positives in the way the council operates and noted that there was openness and self-awareness about the need for improvement to its planning service. The report noted that there is clear senior political and management ambition for change, but this needs to be dealt with as a corporate priority with clear plans and responsibilities for making improvements happen.
8. The report makes 18 recommendations for the council to consider as part of making the planning service more unified and resilient. These recommendations can be seen on page 5 of **Appendix 1**, and they can be grouped into five areas.
 - Service structures. Report makes recommendations about how the officer structures are arranged, in particularly within Development Management, moving away from the 'pre-unitary' arrangement of having area teams that correspond with the former district council boundaries. The report recommends improved ways of arranging services (such as the interaction between planning, economic development and urban design) to better align the service to council priorities.
 - Governance arrangements. Report makes observations about the inefficiency of Planning Committee structure, which is aligned to pre-unitary district council set up. Concerns raised about number of officer decisions overturned (causing reputational and financial problems for the council), how meetings take too long and how speaking arrangements are in favour of those objecting to planning applications. Recommendations made about reducing the number of committees, changes to the scheme of delegation (call-in arrangements) and procedural changes to how meetings are run.
 - Management, staff and culture. Observations made about management capacity, especially within Development Management and how teams work in a 'silo' culture, arranged around area teams linked to former district council areas. Recommendations made that cultural and structural change be addressed through a corporate transformation project approach. Also recommendations made to strengthen capacity in some areas and review opportunities for staff career progression and succession planning.
 - Learning and development. Observations that some parts of the service struggle to retain staff. Also, that users of the service and decision makers are not properly trained in planning issues. Recommendations made that a learning and development programme be developed for elected members and town/parish councils. Recommendations made about better information sharing with local communities, for instance by producing a planning service newsletter,

making use of existing meeting arrangements. Recommendation about improved learning from customer feedback.

- Process and decision making. Observations that processes are not consistent and best practice is not being shared properly across the service. Recommendations made to review all processes.

Initial Officer Response

9. The peer review report is comprehensive and picks up on all the issues and challenges that would be expected. Some of the findings are expressed in strong terms, with suggestions made about the impact current practices are having upon service reputation and how existing arrangements are affecting the council's finances. The fact that the service is not geared up to provide the best possible service to support business investment and local community interests needs addressing as soon as possible.
10. The report makes some helpful suggestions about how changes should be dealt with as a corporate transformation programme to ensure that improvements are overseen at senior officer and member level. It also makes suggestions about how some of the larger development projects should be monitored by senior officers and members to make sure that relevant people are briefed and that informed decisions can be taken.
11. There is a strong commitment to making the Planning service one of the best in the country. To achieve this aim, officers are committed to implementing as many of the Peer Review recommendations as possible to deliver lasting improvements.
12. More detailed work now needs to be completed to explore the options further and determine how the council is able to respond to the specific recommendations.

Overview and Scrutiny Engagement

13. Representative members of Overview and Scrutiny met with the peer review team and their views have been incorporated into the final report and recommendations. The recommendations will be discussed at the next available Environment Select Committee on 19 September 2023.

Safeguarding Implications

14. There are no safeguarding implications arising from this report.

Public Health Implications

15. The built and natural environment is a key environmental determinant of health and wellbeing. Therefore, planning for sustainable development to meet the employment, housing and infrastructure needs of communities helps foster their well-being. Well planned development and good place shaping supports the health and wellbeing of local communities. The design of a neighbourhood can contribute to the health and well-being of the people living there.
16. Creating a more unified and resilient planning service will positively contribute to good place shaping decisions.

Procurement Implications

17. There are no direct procurement implications relating to the proposals in the report. Any future procurement which may result from implementing any recommendation will be taken in line with corporate procedures.

Equalities Impact of the Proposal

18. There are no known equalities impacts arising direction from this report. As changes are made to the service, any equalities impacts will be assessed and mitigated.

Environmental and Climate Change Considerations

19. This report has no direct implications for energy consumption, carbon emissions or associated environmental risk management. As changes are made to the service, any environmental implications impacts will be considered and mitigated.

Workforce Implications

20. The purpose of this report is to inform Cabinet about the findings of a Planning service peer review. No decisions are being taken about the impact upon the existing workforce or how recommendations will be taken forward. Any future changes made to the service will be made in accordance with the council's established policies and procedures having regard to HR advice.

Risks that may arise if the proposed decision and related work is not taken

21. No decisions are being taken as a result of this report, other than for Cabinet to note the recommendations being made by the Peer Review panel.

Risks that may arise if the proposed decision is taken and actions that will be taken to manage these risks

22. None.

Financial Implications

23. There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

Legal Implications

24. The purpose of this report is to allow Cabinet to consider the recommendations from the Planning peer review. No commitment is being made to any changes to the service or how decisions are made. There are therefore no legal implications arising directly from this report.

Options Considered

25. At this stage, Cabinet is being asked to note the findings of the Planning service peer review. No options are being presented as to how the recommendations will be taken forward at this stage.

Conclusions

26. The Planning peer review has provided a comprehensive assessment of how the service is being delivered. The recommendations are robust and based on evidence from a number of sources. Cabinet is asked to note the findings of the peer review report and the initial officer response. Further consideration will be given to how these recommendations will be taken forward.

Nic Thomas – Director, Planning

Report Author: Nic Thomas, Director, Planning
30 August 2023

Appendices

Appendix A - LGA/PAS Wiltshire Council Planning Peer Review Final Feedback Report (July 2023)

Background Papers

None

This page is intentionally left blank



Planning Peer Review

Wiltshire Council

Final feedback report

July 2023

Contents

1.	Executive summary.....	3
2.	Recommendations	5
3.	Background and scope of the peer review	7
4.	Vision and leadership.....	8
5.	Performance management	10
6.	Community, stakeholder and partner engagement	13
7.	Achieving outcomes.....	15
8.	Implementation, next steps and further support.....	17

1. Executive summary

1. This report summarises the findings of a Planning Service peer review of Wiltshire Council, organised by the Local Government Association (LGA) with the Planning Advisory Service (PAS) and carried out by its trained peers. Wiltshire Council was formed in 2009. It is the fourth largest unitary council in England serving a population of nearly 510,000 including around 30,000 military personnel and their families.
2. The council is clearly committed to developing its planning service. The appointment of a chief planner was welcomed by many people we met. But we feel that a more visible wider senior officer and senior councillor commitment to transformation will be needed to deliver the changes to the service that the council desires.
3. Putting in place a new Local Plan to plan future housing and economic growth in Wiltshire is a key priority for the council's senior management team and senior councillors. The council is, rightly, pressing ahead with its plans despite national uncertainty around changes to planning legislation. We think that a more systematic, project management approach to future stages of the plan would be beneficial. Historically, opportunities have been missed to involve more councillors in the development of the plan. A risk averse approach to plan development also means that a number of people who contributed to the plan were not aware of its content before it was published to the public. We also found a similar risk averse approach and a disconnect between corporate decision making around issues such as asset acquisition and disposal and a reticence to speak to planners early in the process. This results in a lack of a joined-up approach to the council's development / regeneration aspirations.
4. Immediate priorities for the service are clear but a detailed service improvement plan overseen by senior councillors and officers would be helpful to ensure these priorities are delivered. The plan should also include the actions needed for transforming the development management service and preparing for upcoming legislative changes.
5. Development management is still delivered and organised broadly in line with the four predecessor district councils, although divided into six area teams. Across the teams, we found four very distinct services with inconsistent work practices and procedures and a variety of cultures. Committee numbers, structures, cultures and working practices need reviewing to deliver one, "best in class" Wiltshire wide development management service. We believe that the existing five planning committees (one strategic and four area based) should be replaced with one or two combined committees that deal with the work of the strategic and area committees. (One or two to be determined based on an analysis of the potential volume of applications.)
6. The level of decisions delegated to officers is appropriate. But some committee decisions are being made that are not in line with good decision-making principles and are indefensible at appeal costing local tax payers money. Additional training for councillors could help to reduce this ongoing risk.
7. Senior managers and councillors value planning staff and the relationships between councillors and officers are generally / overall good, particularly at a senior level. However, planning staff don't always feel that because they feel under-resourced. We found some good practice among planning staff but this was not applied consistently across the teams and working in six separate teams limits the ability to capitalise on the levels of resilience that a planning authority of this size should be able to demonstrate. We found some low morale, scepticism and a lack of trust about the likelihood of delivery of change. We found pockets of innovation and keenness to deliver continuous improvement but this was by no means universal.

8. There is a perception that resources are stretched and there are some significant issues with the timeliness of internal consultation responses. The council has allocated significant additional resources for funding planning staff. The council's planning IT system provides good performance management data although it is not clear to what extent team leaders and officers use this data to monitor performance and manage work.
9. The council recognises that customers of the planning service do not always receive a good level of service and that customer service is not consistent. Feedback from town and parish councils was mixed. Early support for neighbourhood plans was welcomed but there were frustrations with current resource constraints in relation to supporting neighbourhood plans and lack of ability to speak to case officers in relation to planning applications. We felt that increased training and engagement for town and parish councils could benefit Wiltshire Council as well as the towns and parishes by ensuring a better shared understanding of the challenges that the respective councils face in relation to planning matters.
10. Feedback from other stakeholders, agents and developers was also mixed but with a real and genuine appetite to work with the council to deliver an improved planning service and to deliver the right outcomes for Wiltshire's communities. Some work is underway to engage with agents and developers and we think that more can be done to continue to build relationships of mutual trust.
11. The council's self-assessment clearly sets out how the planning service priorities align with corporate priorities. We found senior managers are clear about the outcomes that they want from the planning service. But that doesn't necessarily result in the required outcomes happening, for example the council cannot demonstrate that it has enough housing in the pipeline to meet needs for the next five years which is a major issue for the council. It has led to a lot of speculative applications for development, resulting in housing development where the council would not necessarily want it and there are no immediate plans to address the situation, other than progressing the local plan as quickly as possible.
12. Despite not having a five-year land supply, delivery levels are good and the council has met the housing delivery test for the past three years but performance has been slipping year on year in terms of the speed of determining planning applications and planning income is also in decline compared with previous years.
13. Whilst the current focus on housing numbers is totally understandable, the council is not currently monitoring other outcomes from the local plan related to other policies and we heard about examples where outcomes are not being delivered because of delays in the planning function including major housing sites which could help alleviate the five year land supply issue.

2. Recommendations

14. The following table summarises the key recommendations from the peer review team:

1	<p>Demonstrate clear senior political and officer leadership for achieving planning improvement priorities and ensuring that planning is better engaged in place shaping and the council's development and regeneration aspirations by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • using the current restructure plans to review links between key services such as planning, urban design and economic development • developing an implementation plan to deliver service priorities (including putting planning front and centre in the council's asset / regeneration / economic development aspirations); merging and transforming the six current development management teams; and plans for addressing potential upcoming changes in legislation; • setting up an implementation board made up of senior councillors and officers to oversee the delivery of the implementation plan; and • creating a developer forum with the cabinet member for economy and growth to support the delivery of strategic sites and articulate the vision for place.
2	<p>Develop a project plan approach to the next stages of the Local Plan, the Minerals and Waste Plan, Gypsy and Traveller Plan and other planning documents to prioritise resources and including improving cross party, senior officer, stakeholder and resident engagement in the plan making process.</p>
3	<p>Review the scheme of delegation and numbers of committees to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • combine the functions of the area committees and strategic committee and reduce the total number of committees to one or two (depending on an analysis of the volumes of applications); • review the effectiveness of the call-in procedure to ensure it is not used simply to disagree with an officer recommendation; and • introduce measures to reduce the length of planning committees including (but not limited to) removal of the ability of unlimited speaking time at planning committee for divisional councillors; shorter officer presentations and a potential 'call over' for items where at the start of committee, councillors are asked to call items for presentation, debate and determination. This would enable those not called to be automatically determined in line with the recommendation. • review speaking arrangements to ensure a fairer balance between support and objection – for example by possibly limiting the number of speakers and / or reviewing the amount of time allocated to applicants if there are a lot of objectors.
4	<p>Transform the development management service to become one Wiltshire planning service with a shared culture (in line with Wiltshire Council's "Identity") and consistent processes, practices and decision making. Ensure staff involvement in working up the actions needed to achieve this and include them in the implementation plan referred to in recommendation 1.</p>
5	<p>Consider providing some dedicated transformation resource to kick start the necessary change programme including organisational development.</p>
6	<p>Consider taking a proactive and targeted project management approach to granting permission for key housing sites and facilitating delivery of housing sites granted planning permission to assist with meeting five-year housing land supply prior to adoption of the Local Plan. The use of planning performance agreements (PPAs) would be part of this. PPAs (with associated charge for officer time) are an incredibly useful tool to improve project management of the full process, from pre-</p>

	app through the discharge of conditions, and to facilitate early engagement with key stakeholders including key internal stakeholders
7	Ensure the proposed officer restructure provides sufficient management resource to support and prioritise service transformation.
8	Develop succession plans and career progression for the planning service.
9	Introduce a triage approach to determining planning applications and investigating enforcement complaints. Not all enforcement complaints need to be investigated and it should be possible to implement check lists and shorter reports for low-risk planning applications.
10	Set up an officer working group between Development Management and the Technical Support Team to assist with the effective use of the new IT system by case officers and managers.
11	Ensure that planning decisions are always signed off by a different officer to the one who carried out the assessment.
12	Improve training for councillors and for town and parish councils including regular planning updates, lessons learnt, site visits and webinars.
13	Better use existing mechanisms for communicating with town and parish councils about planning matters – area boards, town centre partnership boards, monthly town and parish council meetings.
14	Consider how to allocate enough space to facilitate teams working together as well as effective cross team working in an office environment regularly.
15	Consider implementing team site visits (including tech support) for lessons learnt etc.
16	Review existing neighbourhood plan resourcing and consider how to prioritise neighbourhood plan resource.
17	Improve focus on customer service by introducing a formal feedback loop from complaints to help shape service improvements and consider setting up a Planning Agents' Forum to provide information and seek views on improving customer service. This could include a regular newsletter to share information.
18	Review current approach to monitoring and consider allocation of resources to enable monitoring of a broader range of local plan objectives and policies.

3. Background and scope of the peer review

15. Peer challenges are managed and delivered by the sector for the sector. They are tailored to meet the individual council's needs and designed to complement and add value to a council's own performance and improvement focus. They help planning services review what they are trying to achieve; how they are going about it; what they are achieving; and what they need to improve.
16. Wiltshire Council was formed in 2009. It is the fourth largest unitary council in England serving a population of nearly 510,000 including around 30,000 military personnel and their families.
17. The over-arching objective for this review was to help the council create a more unified and resilient planning service. As one of the largest and most diverse planning authorities in the Country, Wiltshire has the potential to be at the leading of edge of planning practice nationally and an exemplar for other areas. The review explored whether the structure and resources of the planning service are appropriate for a planning authority of this size, focusing on core roles in terms of development management, local plan making, management and monitoring as well as the planning committees and decision making.
18. The peer challenge involved an assessment of the council's planning function against a framework which explores five main themes. These are:
 - **Vision and leadership:** the council's leadership and corporate engagement of the planning service in this.
 - **Performance management:** effective use of skills and resources to achieve value for money and continuous improvement of the planning service, including in decision making on proposals, and whether the service is adequately resourced.
 - **Community engagement:** how the authority understands its community leadership role, especially in terms of the accessibility, customer focus and transparency of the planning process
 - **Partnership engagement:** how the service works in partnership with other stakeholders to balance priorities and resources, address differing views and deliver shared ambitions.
 - **Achieving outcomes:** the achievements of the planning service within the available resources and the planning services role as a facilitator to change in the area.
19. Peer challenges are delivered by experienced elected councillor and officer peers. The make-up of the peer team reflected the focus of the peer challenge and peers were selected based on their relevant expertise. The peers were:
 - **Peer councillor:** Linda Haysey (Leader East Hertfordshire Council)
 - **Peer councillor:** Daniel Fitzhenry (Southampton City Council) Councillor.D.Fitzhenry@southampton.gov.uk
 - **Lead officer:** Liz Hobden (Brighton & Hove) Liz.Hobden@brighton-hove.gov.uk
 - **Senior Officer:** Anna Lee (Dorset) anna.lee@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk
 - **Peer review manager:** Bridget Downton

4. Vision and leadership

20. Wiltshire Council is clearly committed to developing its planning service. We found an openness and a good level of self-awareness about the need for improvement. The appointment of a chief planner was welcomed by many people we met, both within the council and among its stakeholders. We heard that he is making good progress and is visible and accessible within the council and with external stakeholders. But we feel that a more visible senior officer and senior councillor commitment to the transformation needed would be a valuable next step in delivering the changes to the service that the council desires. We heard about the excellent way that the council has dealt with changes needed in other service areas, such as children's services, with a high profile, with corporate support for those issues. We feel that planning would benefit from a similar approach. This would be beneficial for securing the necessary changes to the planning service as well as demonstrating to developers and colleagues that the council is committed to delivering a "best in class" planning service. This is important because planning is key to delivering on the council's corporate aspirations including place shaping; regeneration; economic development; high quality customer service etc.
21. Since the appointment of the Director of Planning, cross-council working has improved. The relationship between planning and other council services is developing. We found a real appetite for change which is a refreshing contrast to a history of a lack of joint working and understanding for each other's perspectives.
22. Putting in place a new Local Plan to plan future housing and economic growth in Wiltshire is a key priority for the council's senior management team and senior councillors. The council's cabinet member for planning chairs a monthly Local Plan Programme Board to discuss progress and to hear about proposed policies, site allocations and evidence that will inform the new plan. The Leader of the Council and officers from the council's extended leadership team attend the Board.
23. The council's spatial planning team, supported by colleagues from other teams in the council, have been working extremely hard to get the Local Plan to its current stage. Historically there have been a number of delays to the plan preparation. Despite national uncertainty around pending changes to the National Planning Policy Framework, the council, sensibly, is keen to press ahead with its Local Plan. We think that a more systematic, project management approach to future stages of the plan would be beneficial. This also needs to be applied to the production of plans that are currently missing or out of date, such as the minerals and waste plan and a plan to deliver the housing needs of the Gypsy and Traveller communities.
24. Some policies in local plans can be contentious and meet with resistance from the community. Despite the very clear need for housing, many communities are resistant to these being built near them. So, councils often find it difficult to secure support for local plans and get them through the democratic process. Historically, there has been limited engagement of councillors from across the council in developing Wiltshire's Local Plan. This means that many councillors that we met were not clear about the content of the emerging plan and that council-wide buy in for it has not yet been secured. There is, of course, still time to engage councillors as the plan proceeds, which should now be addressed.
25. We also found that a number of managers across the council who had fed into the plan policies were not clear whether their comments had been addressed or not. The council, rightly, has put in place mechanisms to ensure a clear distinction between its role as local planning authority and its role as a landowner with an interest in developing its own land. It is important that there is a very clear separation with checks and balances in place to maintain this. But we found such a risk averse approach that there was a disconnect between corporate decision making around issues such as asset acquisition and disposal and a reticence to speak to planners early in the process. This results in a lack of a joined-up

approach to the council's development / regeneration aspirations. We also found evidence that this approach had been extended to a range of non-contentious policies that had nothing to do with land holdings. This meant that the process didn't feel open to colleagues who had contributed and so we couldn't be clear to what extent the Local Plan will be delivering the council's priorities.

26. The council's self-assessment clearly sets out the following five immediate priorities for the planning service:

- Secure an up-to-date Local Plan
- Regain a five-year housing land supply
- Deliver excellent customer service in line with the council's 'our identity'
- Complete the restructure of the planning service and fill vacant posts
- Improve morale across the service and reduce staff turnover.

27. We found that some planning staff were aware of these priorities but there is not currently a plan that sets out the detailed actions and timeline needed to deliver the priorities. We think that a detailed transformation plan, overseen by a board made up of senior officers and councillors would be helpful to ensure that the necessary transformation is delivered. This plan could also include the actions necessary to integrate the existing development management service which is still organised around the predecessor council arrangements. It would be beneficial if the plan also included the actions that the council needs to take in readiness for the significant national changes that are coming in relation to planning services.

5. Performance management

28. Historically there has not been the resource, the management capacity or the will to deliver the transformation needed to combine the six development management services into one Wiltshire Council development management service that meets the needs of local people and reflects the culture of Wiltshire Council. We found very distinct services in the six teams with inconsistent work practices and procedures and a variety of cultures. We think that some dedicated transformation resource would help to give this work the kick start that it needs. We understand why this work wasn't tackled as part of local government reorganisation back in 2009, but a significant amount of transformation is now needed to deliver one Wiltshire development management service. All of the managers in the development management service currently carry their own significant caseload which limits their capacity to focus on the changes needed to deliver a high quality, consistent Wiltshire wide service. We also found that some managers and councillors are not embracing Wiltshire Council with a significant allegiance to predecessor councils, processes and practices, particularly in relation to development management. This needs to change. It is 14 years since Wiltshire Council replaced the district councils.
29. The council operates four area-based committees (mirroring the predecessor district council boundaries) and one strategic committee. These area-based committees are frequently cancelled and most determine very few planning applications. Most significant planning applications are determined by the strategic committee with the local area planning committees only considering planning applications that have been called in by councillors. It is not clear why the strategic planning committee couldn't consider those applications that are called in by councillors. We understand that these arrangements were put in place as part of local government reorganisation to bring members of the predecessor councils along the unitary journey. The time is right now to review committee arrangements. The council should merge the functions of the area committees and the strategic committee. It would be sensible to carry out an analysis of the likely volumes of planning applications that this would result in to determine how many planning committees are necessary which we would estimate to be either 1 or 2. Obviously, the council will need to consider how local members, community groups and other stakeholders fully engage with the 1 or 2 planning committees but the benefits of reforming the current structure could also enable new methods to be introduced – possibly using technology or varying the locations that committees are held in from time to time.
30. We were concerned with some of the practices that we heard about in relation to planning committees. We heard a lot about the need for “local democracy” in relation to planning committees. Planning decisions are not a way of exercising local democracy. Planning decisions should be made with regard to the national and local policy context and material planning considerations. We have seen decisions made at planning committee that clearly demonstrate that committee members do not always understand their responsibility for taking appropriate policy-based decisions, for example in relation to 5-year land supply. We understand the frustration that some councillors feel in relation to speculative applications but this frustration should not play out in poor decision making that ends up costing the local tax payer money; and taking up a lot of time dealing with appeals that the council has limited chance of winning. At the same time as reducing the number of planning committees, the council should consider ways of reducing the length of committee including eliminating the unlimited time allowance for divisional members to address the planning committees. This is really poor practice. The council's speaking arrangements are also potentially biased towards objectors because of the unlimited number of speakers and lack of additional time given to developers to respond.
31. We also found a lack of understanding among some councillors about the roles of planning committees. We think that this is partly a training issue. The council provides clear guidance

and training for councillors involved in determining planning applications setting out the importance of open and transparent decision making. But this is only done after elections and there is no ongoing training or briefing in relation to planning for Wiltshire councillors. Useful appeal updates are provided to committees which is a good way of learning but we think that the committee members would benefit from a regular training programme to keep abreast of changes in planning and to be clearer about what good and bad decisions look like.

32. The council has high, appropriate levels of delegated decision making which is good. However, we did find that some senior officers sign off planning applications from their own caseload, which is poor practice that can be easily addressed. Using senior officers to sign off applications is a good idea and spreads the load of this part of the planning application processing, but senior officers should not sign off applications in their own case load.
33. Senior managers and councillors value planning staff and recognise them as being dedicated and committed. We found some officers demonstrating initiative to develop new ways of working and some good team rapport and support for one another. We heard about some positive support through buddying and mentoring. We found some cross-team working, such as sharing green belt experience and some good learning initiatives such as “case busters” and “show and tell”. We think that the managers in the service need to capitalise on this. We also found some innovation and a real desire to deliver continuous improvement, for example in the technical support team.
34. However, the good practice that we saw is not being consistently applied across the different teams. And within the existing structures, there is limited sharing of work between teams which means workloads are not balanced and importantly, this impacts negatively on the resilience of the service to deal with the inevitable staff turnover that a planning authority of this size experiences. We also met with some officers who were resistant to change and didn’t really recognise the need for it. Work will be needed to help shift this mind set. We recognise that there are plans to work with organisational development colleagues to develop the teams, cultures and behaviours that will be needed to successfully deliver the change needed.
35. Whilst senior managers and councillors value planning staff, we found that some staff do not feel confident of this. We found some low morale, scepticism and a lack of trust about the likelihood of delivery of change. People feel under enormous pressure and teams told us that they are frustrated because they find it difficult to deliver good outcomes. The level of committee overturns and hostile applications are getting some people down, with one team member telling us that they feel “outgunned and massively overworked”. We found a lack of shared culture across planning and relationships between development management and technical support are not as strong as in some other councils. It doesn’t feel like one team. We also heard that it is hard for new team members to learn the job because of virtual / hybrid working and no specific office space to meet in.
36. The relationships between councillors and officers are good. Senior level relationships are strong and respectful. Some of the committee practices referred to above and some of the inappropriate decision making can cause tension at times, but generally relationships between case officers and committee members are good.
37. In recognition of the importance of planning, the council has allocated significant additional resources for staffing of £668,000 to support the upcoming restructure as well as a budget for appeals. There is a current perception from some staff that the department is under-resourced and not paying competitive salaries. Recruitment and retention are an issue across the service, as they are nationally but there are some examples of good practice including employment of graduates, apprentices and “growing your own”.

38. We heard from internal and external stakeholders that there are significant issues with internal consultation responses on planning applications not being provided in a timely way. This needs addressing. Some additional resource has been secured to increase ecology resources which was one of the areas of concern, but there are others including highways and flooding. We also heard about the large number of neighbourhood plans already adopted or in train / approaching review. The council would benefit from reviewing its approach to prioritising which neighbourhood plans it allocates resource to and reviewing resource levels accordingly.
39. The council's planning IT system provides good performance management data although it is not clear to what extent team leaders and officers use this data to monitor performance and manage work. And we also heard some concerns from staff about how to use IT system and clear differences in approach across the teams. This needs to be addressed so that the whole service can utilise performance management information effectively.

6. Community, stakeholder and partner engagement

40. The council recognises that customers of the planning service do not always receive a good level of service and that customer service is not consistent. There is also currently no structured mechanism for receiving and learning from customer feedback. Work is underway to address this.
41. Wiltshire has 253 parish or town councils with 51 neighbourhood development plans. Some of these councils gave us mixed feedback. They acknowledged that Wiltshire Council had been proactive in promoting and supporting neighbourhood planning. But we heard that resources are now too limited to meet the demand of the many town and parish councils that want to develop or renew their plans. We heard about some good examples of dealing with individual officers that was positive for town and parish councils. But we also heard about the frustrations of not being able to contact case officers in relation to their neighbourhood plans and planning applications.
42. Some of the feedback that we received from town and parish councils demonstrated their frustrations. Whilst there were clearly some legitimate issues that have not been adequately addressed or learnt from, some of the frustrations that we heard stemmed from issues outside the council's control, for example in relation to national planning policy and legislation that requires the council to act, or not, in a particular way. We feel that Wiltshire Council and the town and parish councils would benefit from more training, awareness raising and engagement, particularly for everyone to better understand "the art of the possible" in relation to some planning and enforcement issues. We absolutely recognise that there are a significant number of town and parish councils, but the council has a range of mechanisms already in place that it could build on to facilitate this including a monthly meeting that town and parish councils are invited to and the existing 18 area boards. Using technology to deliver webinars is also a good way of reaching larger audiences and post COVID is something that we are all more used to doing.
43. Some town and parish councils and some other stakeholders found the website difficult to use, particularly searching for and filtering on planning applications.
44. Feedback from other stakeholders was mixed but with a real and genuine appetite to work with the council to deliver an improved planning service and to deliver the right outcomes for Wiltshire's communities. We heard that communication has improved since the appointment of the Director of Planning. Agents, developers and stakeholders welcome this and are keen for the dialogue with the council to continue. Natural England were positive about their relationship with the council, as were stakeholders with an interest in heritage assets. Although those involved with heritage assets did have some concerns about resource levels and the appetite for enforcement in relation to heritage assets.
45. The council has set up a Wiltshire Development Forum to support the planning needs of local businesses and provide guidance and support to key local businesses to navigate through the planning system. The council also has plans to set up regular meetings for agents and this will help to improve communications with key developers. The council has provided some clear communications for agents about things like amendments which are helpful in managing expectations and balancing the need to negotiate good proposals but also in a timely fashion.
46. We heard about some good working relationships, particularly from agents on smaller schemes. But this wasn't universal. We heard that developers have faith in the skills and abilities of some planning officers but some concerns about inconsistencies. Some felt that it was difficult to get hold of case officers. We also heard frustrations about the pre-application service in terms of timeliness and indeed its lack of availability for smaller schemes. One developer had been told to seek pre-application advice only to be told that it wasn't available. Developers and agents told us that Wiltshire is in the "middle of the pack" in terms of their

dealings with planning authorities – Wiltshire is not as good as the best and not as bad as the worst. To improve communication, planning agents were keen to see a regular newsletter to share information and/or a planning agents forum.

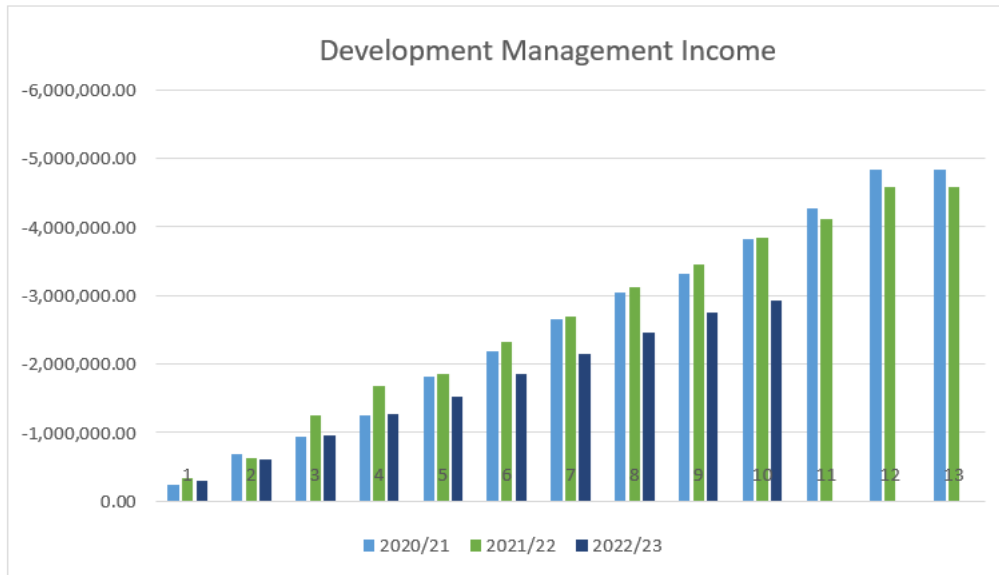
47. Developers perceive a lack of a joined-up project management approach on strategic applications and would value a dedicated team and better relationships with those dealing with their applications – case officers and consultees. And some developers expressed concern about the confidence of some officers in resolving competing issues and the challenges of coming to a balanced planning view in the face of those competing issues. This is a key role of the case officer but we heard that sometimes conflicting consultation responses were simply shared with the developer without any conclusion about the implications of those conflicting views. We feel that a more joined up “team” approach to some of the more significant and strategic sites would benefit both developers and the various officers who need to input into determining large, complex schemes.
48. As well as improving the one team approach for dealing with significant and strategic sites, we also think that the council might want to consider setting up a forum to include senior politicians and officers to engage with strategic developers – not in relation to specific planning applications, but rather to discuss broader development opportunities and barriers in Wiltshire from the perspective of both the council and developers. This could also help inform some of the actions that the council might want to consider as part of its service transformation work.

7. Achieving outcomes

49. The council's self-assessment clearly sets out how the planning service priorities align with corporate priorities. And senior managers are clear about the outcomes that they want from the planning service:
- Place shaping and design
 - Improve quality of development
 - Attract investment
 - Support rural economy
 - Enable planning service to deliver net zero
 - Increase affordable housing in rural areas
50. The council cannot demonstrate that it has enough housing in the pipeline to meet needs for the next five years. The lack of a five-year housing supply, in part caused by some stalled sites that would deliver significant numbers of homes, is a major issue for the council. It is resulting in a number of speculative applications for development resulting in housing development where the council would not necessarily want it and not in line with the concept of plan led development. This situation frustrates Wiltshire Council councillors as well as town and parish councils and local communities. Without a five-year land supply, councils have a lot less ability to refuse planning applications. The council is putting a lot of effort into getting an adopted local plan in place to tackle this but doesn't have a plan for how to try and regain a five-year land supply in the meantime. By understanding how many houses it needs to grant planning permission for and focussing efforts on some key applications to deliver this, it could reduce some of the pressure ahead of the local plan adoption. The plan will gain some more weight at the beginning of 2024 if the current proposed timescale for submission for independent inquiry is met. But more could be done ahead of that, and the council cannot be certain of the timescale for achieving a sound adopted plan, at which time it will be best protected from speculative development applications.
51. Despite not having a five-year land supply, delivery levels are good and the council has met the housing delivery test for the past three years, but performance has been slipping year on year in terms of the speed of determining planning applications and the council is also heavily reliant on extension of time agreements. This is a particular risk as the government may be introducing a wider range of performance measures. For major applications, quarter one of this year has shown a small improvement and for non-major applications, there has been a further small deterioration in the first quarter of this year:

	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	Q1 2023/24
% major applications determined within 13 weeks or a time agreed with applicant	94%	94%	67%	66%	71%
% non major applications determined within 8 weeks or a time agreed with applicant	94%	92%	77%	75%	71%
% appeals resulting in decisions being overturned where committee decision has gone against officer recommendation	20%	75%	43%	56%	

52. Planning income is also in decline compared with previous years:



53. Whilst the current focus on housing numbers is totally understandable, the council is not currently monitoring other outcomes in relation to other policies from the local plan and local plan delivery is about more than just housing numbers. The council is also not currently learning from outcomes on the ground and would benefit from using site visits as a training tool for teams and councillors to look at the impacts of good and bad decisions.
54. We heard about examples where outcomes are not being delivered because of delays in the planning function. For example, investment for a warehouse was lost because of delays with pre-application advice and delays on highways consultation responses have had a major impact on a significant development site near the railway station.

8. Implementation, next steps and further support

55. We recognise that senior political and managerial leadership will want to consider and reflect on these findings.
56. To support openness and transparency, we recommend that the council share this report with officers and that they publish it for information for wider stakeholders. There is also an expectation that the council will develop an action plan to be published alongside the report.
57. Both the peer team, PAS and the LGA are keen to build on the relationships and the peer challenge process includes a six-month check-in meeting to take place in January 2024 This will be a facilitated session which creates space for the council's senior leadership to update peers on its progress against the action plan and discuss next steps and any further support required.
58. A range of support from the LGA and PAS is available on their websites. This includes:
 - local plan project management
 - helping with options for planning committee changes
 - pre-app and PPAs
 - training and development for members, town and parish councils and officers
 - more detailed work around enforcement
 - advice and support around approach to developer contributions (S106 and CIL)
59. For more information about planning advice and support, please contact garreth.bruff@local.gov.uk
60. The LGA has a range of practical support available. The range of tools and support available have been shaped by what councils have told LGA that they need and would be most helpful to them. This includes support of a corporate nature such as political leadership programmes, peer challenge, LG Inform (our benchmarking service) and more tailored bespoke programmes.
61. Emily McGuinness, Senior Adviser is the LGA's focal point for discussion about your improvement needs and ongoing support and can be contacted at emily.mcguinness@local.gov.uk

This page is intentionally left blank

Wiltshire Council

Cabinet

12 September 2023

Subject: Procurement of Housing Related Support Contract

Cabinet Member: Cllr Phil Alford - Cabinet Member for Housing, Strategic Assets, Asset Transfer

Key Decision: Key

Executive Summary

Wiltshire Council currently funds housing related support services which support vulnerable people to sustain and maintain tenancies. These services ensure that families and single people, including young people who are homeless or have had a history of unsettled housing, are able to access stable and secure accommodation and are supported to sustain their tenancies.

The current contracts support 194 supported housing units at a cost of £1,198,642.12. These contracts expire on 31 March 2024. It is proposed that these services are re-commissioned to ensure that the new services are cost effective, meet needs, and have successful outcomes.

This report seeks approval to proceed with the procurement of new services to take effect from 1 April 2024, and to delegate approval to the Director for Adult Social Care in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Housing, Strategic Assets and Asset Transfer to award contracts to the successful bidders.

Proposals

Cabinet is asked to approve:

- 1) the commencement of re-commissioning of housing related support services ensuring that there is a balance of housing related support services provided across all customer groups which will reflect the up to date needs; and
- 2) To delegate authority to the Director of Adult Social Care in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Housing, Strategic Assets and Asset Transfer and the Cabinet Member for Finance to the award of contracts within the approved budget.

Reason for Proposals

Housing related support services provide valuable support to a range of customers who are in vulnerable situations and in need of support to enable them to live independently and maintain a tenancy. The existing contracts expire on 31 March 2024. In order to secure new contracts from 1 April 2024 it is necessary to commence a procurement exercise immediately.

Terence Herbert
Chief Executive

12 September 2023

Subject: Procurement of Housing Related Support Contract

Cabinet Member: Cllr Phil Alford - Cabinet Member for Housing, Strategic Assets, Asset Transfer

Key Decision: Key

Purpose of Report

1. To obtain delegated approval to proceed with the procurement exercise to re-commission housing related support services to meet the identified needs of single homeless, young people and young parents within the approved budget of £1,198,642.12.

Relevance to the Council's Business Plan

2. The re-commissioning of housing related support contracts for single homeless, young people and young parents will meet the following priorities and outcomes contained within the council's Business Plan:
 - We ensure decisions are evidence based
 - We are safe
 - We have the right housing
 - We live well together

Background

3. The 2023//2024 budget for Housing Related Support (HRS) contracts is £1,198,642.12 and provides 194 supported housing units over three main services:

Client Group	Contract Value 2022/23	No. of Units	% Units of Total
Young Parent	£54,334.28	14	7.22%
Single Homeless	£713,506.56	120	61.86%
Young Person	£430,801.28	60	30.93%
Totals	£1,198,642.12	194	

4. The current contracts were commissioned in 2018, initially for a three-year period, followed by two contracted one-year extensions and a further one-year extension due to exceptional circumstances. Services have significantly changed since the last commissioning round.
5. Floating Support moved in house and is now provided by the Property and Support team. The High-Risk Offender provision was not successfully tendered during the 2018 commissioning process and the last remaining non-commissioned provision at The Halve has recently ceased. Some providers included in the HRS budget prior to

the last tender lost funding due to budgetary cutbacks but have remained and continued to provide services through a mixture of Housing Benefit, personal service charge and charitable donations.

6. The non-commissioned services include:-

Service	Service Type	Location	Units
Alabaré Parent and Baby	Young Parent	Salisbury	8
Amber Project	Young People	Trowbridge	30
Dennis House	Single Homeless	Salisbury	12
Salisbury Trust for the Homeless	Single Homeless	Salisbury	29
Peta Project	Young Parent	Trowbridge	6
Salisbury Refuge	Domestic Abuse	Salisbury	12

7. Our current housing related support contracts are not able to be extended for a further period and therefore we are required to recommission these services and new contracts to commence from 1st April 2024.

Main Considerations for the Council

8. Our current housing related support services support 194 individuals and/or young parents at any one time who require some help to move on from a crisis situation which often includes homelessness. The provision of these support services enables customers to be accommodated and receive a level of support to help them have some stability in their lives and to enable them to maintain a tenancy in future. The types of support provided includes financial advice to clear debts and access benefits, support into employment and education, signposting to other services such as mental health or substance misuse services and life-skills training including budgeting, cooking and independent living skills.
9. A number of customers who use the housing related support services are already known to other departments, e.g. Children’s Services, Public Health, Police, Probation. In the absence of housing related support services these individuals would have a heavy reliance on those other services and would require more costly residential placements to ensure that the council met its safeguarding duties. We would also anticipate a significant increase in rough sleeping and or temporary accommodation placements if we were not able to continue to provide these services
10. Our Gap Analysis report included as background papers, breakdown the current supported housing provision by schemes, cost, location, units, support hours and accommodation type.
11. It has identified that we have a high concentrate of provision in the Salisbury area. In part this is due to an inherited legacy from the former Salisbury District Council and its where established providers have available accommodation. We would like to see an improved spread of accommodation across Wiltshire as currently 75% of single homeless support services are based in Salisbury but this may not be possible as it would depend on the availability and access to suitable accommodation.
12. There is also no single homeless provision in Trowbridge which is one of our highest demand areas in Wiltshire.

13. Despite 18 – 25 year olds making up 40% of the supported population, voids are significantly higher in our young people accommodation with significantly fewer referrals being made. We only have 120 single homeless units but received 348 referrals in 2022 for those vacancies compared to 60 young people units and 73 referrals.
14. Our gap analysis report will help inform our priorities in the recommissioning of the housing related support contracts.

Timescales

15. The existing contracts expire on 31 March 2024 with no ability to extend further so new contracts will need to take effect from 1 April 2024. Contracts will need to be awarded in January 2024 in order to allow for the providers to make necessary changes, which may include TUPE of staff.
16. Our Supported Housing Market Day is due to be held on 10 August and all current service providers were invited as well as a wider invite to those who may be interested in putting in a tender.

Overview and Scrutiny Engagement

17. The recommissioning of the supported housing contracts was one of a couple of priorities that have been highlighted within the Adult Social Care Service Plan. Engagement with overview and scrutiny has been focused on the review of the homeless strategy actions and revision of the allocation policy. The recommissioning has been mentioned but engagement on the specific retendering of this service has not taken place.

Safeguarding Implications

18. The commissioning of suitable housing related support services for households that are either homeless or at risk of homelessness, including young people and young parents, will contribute to ensuring vulnerable people are protected and able to live in a safe and secure environment.
19. Current contract arrangements within our providers contain robust safeguarding measures in line with Council policy. Contracts provide clear direction on how and when to raise safeguarding alerts to avoid any confusion about who is responsible. We also work closely with all stakeholders on feedback and quality assurance concerns.

Public Health Implications

20. The re-commissioning of the housing related support services will ensure that vulnerable people are well supported and are able to receive help to get them back on their feet and maintain a tenancy. The support they receive will be targeted at ensuring that they can pay their rent, access employment opportunities, and learn how to live within a community without causing any anti-social behaviour. This will help to create better communities, reduce isolation and enable households in need to access suitable housing and employment opportunities.

21. Referrals for individual tailored support will also be offered to help address substance misuse or mental health issues. The accommodation and support will help with the client's health and well being and reduce social isolation.

Procurement Implications

22. Procurement colleagues have assisted with the most recent one year extension of existing contracts and have provided guidance on the process to be taken in the re-commissioning of these contracts. The re-commissioning process will be taken in line with the council's procurement regulations with an open and competitive process being used.

Equalities Impact of the Proposal

23. The commissioning of housing related support services will promote equality, reduce social exclusion and enable personal independence for vulnerable customers. This meets both the Council's proactive duties under the Public Sector Equality Duty but also commitments under the Human Rights Act. The provision of housing related support services helps to ensure that vulnerable members of the community have access to decent and supportive accommodation that will help them to maintain a tenancy. It has been proven that good accommodation can contribute to overall positive health and wellbeing and that secure, safe and stable accommodation can enable households to contribute positively to their communities.

24. Equality impacts will be monitored throughout the procurement process and commissioning process to ensure that the services meet the needs of a range of customer groups. This is to ensure that the Council's statutory commitment to promoting equality and inclusion and tackling inequality is maintained.

Environmental and Climate Change Considerations

25. This proposal will align with the Council's Climate Strategy, and particularly its commitment to carbon neutrality by 2030. By ensuring a choice of service provision across Wiltshire, the proposal will support people to remain local and help to ensure that Wiltshire residents have opportunities to increase the use of community assets and activities in their local area.

26. As part of recommissioning providers will be vetted for compliance and their commitment to Wiltshire's values and priorities. This means that if the council develops specific environmental priorities or principles that are relevant to the service, they can be included easily in the procurement process, where appropriate to do so. Potential providers can be made aware of the council's commitments and policy on environmental issues and can build this into their offer over time. This will be part of how the social value of the contract is demonstrated.

Workforce Implications

27. There are no internal workforce implications in the re-commissioning of these contracts.

28. This relates to a recommissioning of current activity which is delivered through external suppliers. So, there is little-to-no direct impact on council employed staff.

29. If the current providers are not successful in the new tender, then TUPE may apply, but only if transferring business between providers. However, while the council would be an interested party, any transfer of staff would be a matter between the incumbent and new providers.
30. TUPE notification letters have been sent out in preparation for the recommissioning of these services and we have ensured that contract award would be made in January to ensure that TUPE notification can be complied with.

Risks that may arise if the proposed decision and related work is not taken

31. A potential delay, will mean we are out of contract, opening ourselves up to a potential challenge.
32. A decision not to re-commission any of the housing related support contracts would result in the loss of the service to vulnerable individuals and young parents who would be at risk of homelessness and would increase demands on the housing team to find suitable accommodation, which would likely include temporary accommodation and increase the pressure and likelihood of needing to use B&B at significant financial cost to the council. This has been highlighted on the corporate risk register under AS11 which without the continued use of supported accommodation would significantly increase this risk
33. AS10 on the corporate risk register also notes the increasing demands on the housing service due to the cost of living crisis so any loss of accommodation placements will further increase those demands with less accommodation options being made available

Risks that may arise if the proposed decision is taken and actions that will be taken to manage these risks

34. There is a risk of challenge from providers to the tender process and outcome. However, the impact and likelihood of these risks will be reduced by continued and transparent engagement with providers. This same engagement offers an opportunity to assess providers' appetite and readiness for a new tender as well as the potential impact of current challenges.
35. Other risks and mitigation actions include

	Risk	Mitigating Action
a)	Insufficient interest from providers in bidding for new contracts.	There is regular consultation with providers around the commissioning proposals to ensure that we are commissioning the right type of services which providers are able to offer.
b)	Cost of contracts	There is a risk that the bids will come in higher than anticipated, and that the number of units that can be supported by the service will be less than anticipated. Market engagement at an early stage will help to mitigate this.
c)	Risk that some services may be de-commissioned	There is a risk that some services may be de-commissioned if there is either no bid submitted for a particular service, or the service cannot be funded within the budget

		available. Engagement with providers should help to mitigate against this risk.
--	--	---

Financial Implications

36. The recommendation contained within this report confirm that any re commissioned services will be carried out within the current approved annual budget of £1,198,642.12. Previous and significant savings have been taken from this budget and current providers have received no inflationary or annual increase since 2018 so we are anticipating a reduction in units and hours that this funding will be able to achieve.

Legal Implications

37. Colleagues from the Legal Team have assisted with the drafting of the contract extensions for 2023/24 and will be engaged on the re-commissioning discussions and proposals. Legal advice and support will be required before entering into contracts with providers. Any procurement process must be undertaken in line with the provisions of Part 9 (Financial Regulations) and Part 10 (Contract Regulations) of the Council's Constitution.

38. We will ensure with legal and procurement advice that the procurement process will be compliant with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (PCR). Legal will assist in the drawing up of the bespoke contractual documentation. Failure to properly comply with relevant parts of the Constitution, the Public Contract Regulations and the general principles of contract law could result in a legal challenge. However the risk of challenge will be minimised by the use of a PCR compliant procurement process which is overseen by Procurement.

Options Considered

39. Option One. Not to Re-commission

Not re-commissioning any housing related support services when the existing contracts expire on 31st March 2024, would leave a number of households in need of housing with support at risk of becoming or remaining homeless and failing to sustain tenancies. It will significantly increase the number of clients who approach as homeless as well as an increase in temporary accommodation and rough sleeping.

40. Option Two. Re-commissioning services using the same financial allocation

The table below displays the current breakdown of spending.

Client Group	Contract Value 2022/23	No. of Units	% Units
Young Parent	£54,334.28	14	7.22%
Single Homeless	£713,506.56	120	61.86%
Young Person	£430,801.28	60	30.93%
Totals	£1,198,642.12	194	

Advantages	Disadvantages
Simple to justify to current housing related support providers	Lacks strategic thinking. The last commissioning round completed in 2018 and doesn't consider changes in those accessing services. There is a potential mismatch between identified needs and where resources are targeted, for example a mismatch between needs or geographical locations and supply. There may also be a need for new services or levels of support that did not exist at the last commissioning round.
A level of funding for all current customer groups will be maintained.	Risk of Providers not bidding for contracts if funding seen as insufficient to retain current service levels.
Utilises current staff and units already available.	As budgets are reduced in real terms, some of those schemes may not be sustainable and may close. They are also under threat from other changes e.g., increased housing benefit scrutiny for eligible service charges in supported.
	As the budget has decreased in real terms, the providers will not be able offer the same amount of support hours per unit.

41. Option Three. Re-commission services using the latest data analysis

This will ensure that there is a balance of housing related support services provided across single homeless, young people and young parents which will reflect the up to date needs, location, age group and support levels against the current and medium-term priorities and ensuring we take into consideration increased costs in support hours and the final contracts remain within existing budgets.

The current allocations have not been reviewed since the last recommissioning process completed in 2018.

Advantages and disadvantage of a review of service allocations are set out below:

Advantages	Disadvantages
Strategic approach – once services are prioritised, individual schemes and locations can be identified drawing on data already held, and in consultation with stakeholders	Disruption to existing schemes, including possible scheme closures resulting in providers needing to make staff redundant and/or transfer staff to an alternative provider.
Updates contracts in line with current requirements of supported housing and enables gaps to be filled	Disruption to existing schemes resulting in loss of building usage for providers causing possible financial implications.
Would potentially allow higher levels of grant to fewer schemes making them more sustainable and enabling better quality services	Disruption to existing service users, with closures increasing risk of homelessness.

Transparency	Disruption to existing schemes, possibly resulting in the loss of related services including Homeless Drop In and Sit up Services.
	More complex to administer with further work required.

Conclusions

42. With the budget remaining the same, representing a reduction in real terms an element of disruption to the current service provision is inevitable. It is recommended that Option Three is pursued which will enable the council to protect the most vulnerable customer groups and provide a level of housing related support to customers with a range of needs across the county.

Emma Legg (Director, Adult Social Care)

Report Author: Nicole Smith, Head of Housing, Migration and Resettlement,
nicole.smith@wiltshire.gov.uk, Tel: 01249 706567

30 August 2023

Appendices

Appendix A – Housing Related Support Contract Gap Analysis

Background Papers

None

This page is intentionally left blank

Re-Commissioning of Housing Related Support Contracts April 2024

Gap Analysis and Options for use of funding

1. Introduction

The 2023//2024 budget for Housing Related Support (HRS) contracts is £1,198,642.12 and provides 194 supported housing units over three main services:

Scheme	Total Units	Hours of Support 1,311	Total funding 23/24 £1,198,642.12
Single Homeless	120	Low 36 Medium 64 High 688	£713,506.56
Young People	60	Medium 32 High 432	£430,801.28
Young Parents	14	Medium 59	£54,334.28

The current contracts were commissioned from 2018: initially for a three-year period, followed by two contracted one-year extensions and a further one-year extension due to exceptional circumstances. The current services may not reflect the current need of the Wiltshire Local Authority and those accessing supported housing services in the area.

Services have also significantly changed since the last commissioning round. Floating Support moved in house and is now provided by the Property and Support team. The High-Risk Offender provision was not successfully tendered during the 2018 commissioning process and the last remaining non-commissioned provision at The Halve has recently ceased. Some providers included in the HRS budget prior to the last tender lost funding due to budgetary cutbacks but have remained and continued to provide services through a mixture of Housing Benefit, personal service charge and charitable donations.

The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUPHC) has also targeted funds for Rough Sleepers, resulting in the creation of additional single homeless spaces as well as several dedicated officers who offer support and advice. The Rough Sleeper Initiative (RSI) created 16 bedspaces across 2 projects, offering quick intervention off the streets through short term placements. In addition, NSAP and RSAP funded 14 longer term housing-lead placements. The current budget will remain the same which, due to inflationary pressures on staff wages leading to an increase in the cost of hourly support, will likely result in a reduction of support hours. This re-commissioning exercise aims to identify current demand and ensure good quality services which meet the needs of those who are homeless, or at risk of homelessness, across Wiltshire.

2. Current Provision of Services

2.1 Non-Commissioned Services

There are several non-commissioned housing support services available across Wiltshire: Salisbury Trust for the Homeless, The Amber Project, Alabaré Parent and Baby and the Petra Project. The services are funded by a mixture of Housing Benefit, Personal Service Charge and Charitable Donation.

Service	Service Type	Location	Units
Alabaré Parent and Baby	Young Parent	Salisbury	8
Amber Project	Young People	Trowbridge	30
Dennis House	Single Homeless	Salisbury	12
Salisbury Trust for the Homeless	Single Homeless	Salisbury	29
Peta Project	Young Parent	Trowbridge	6
Salisbury Refuge	Domestic Abuse	Salisbury	12

While non-commissioned services accept referrals directly from the Housing Solutions team (amongst others), they are not funded by the Council and therefore cannot be fully considered during the Housing Supported Needs Assessment. It is possible that any of these services may bid on tendered lots and therefore the services may not exist independently beyond the next commissioning round or that the service may cease to exist for any other reasons.

2.2 Service Type

Table 1 below shows the current budget allocation by service type, and Table 2 shows the number of units being provided per service type. This shows that single homeless has the highest spend and the most bed spaces available but this coincides with the high demands of single homeless clients which continues to increase.

Table 1: Current % Spend Allocation by Service Types 2023-24

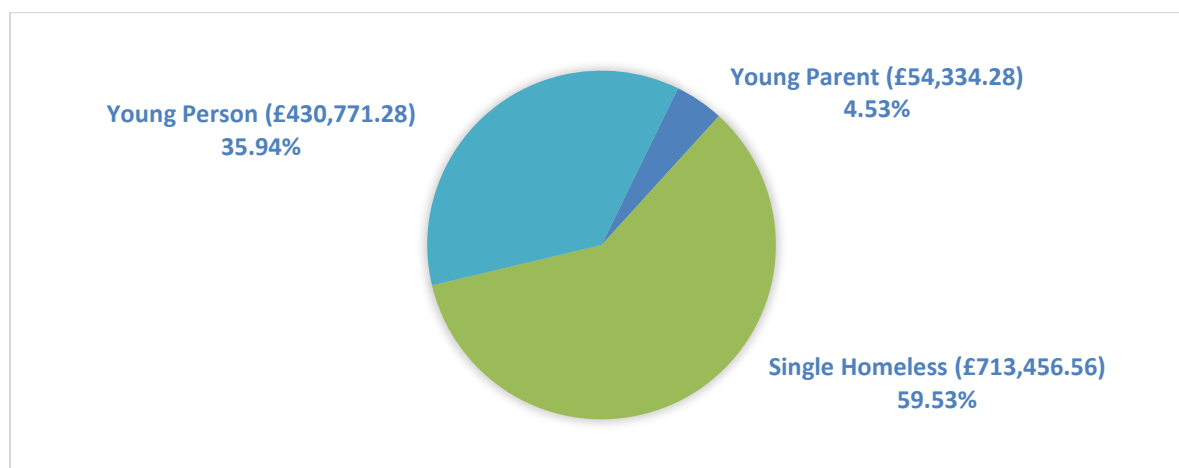
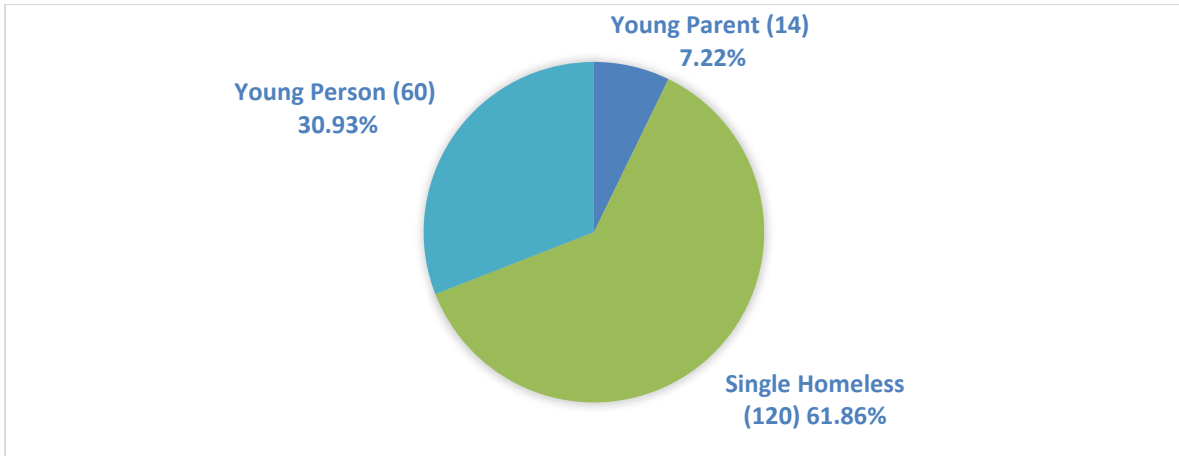


Table 2: % Units by Service Types 2023-24



2.3 Geographical Location

Table 3 below shows the breakdown of the current budget by location and Table 4 shows the percentage units provided by location.

When considering HRS provision across all service types, there is a clearly concentrated provision in Salisbury. In part, this is due to an inherited legacy from the former Salisbury District Council which continued through the last recommissioning process due to established providers and unit availability.

It also worth noting the location of related support which service users may need to access. The National Probation Services have offices in Salisbury and Chippenham; Turning Point in Trowbridge, Salisbury and with a drop-in available in Chippenham; the Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership are based in Devizes and Salisbury. We also have Homeless Drop In provision in Salisbury, Trowbridge, Chippenham and Devizes

Table 3: Current Supported Housing Spend Breakdown by Location

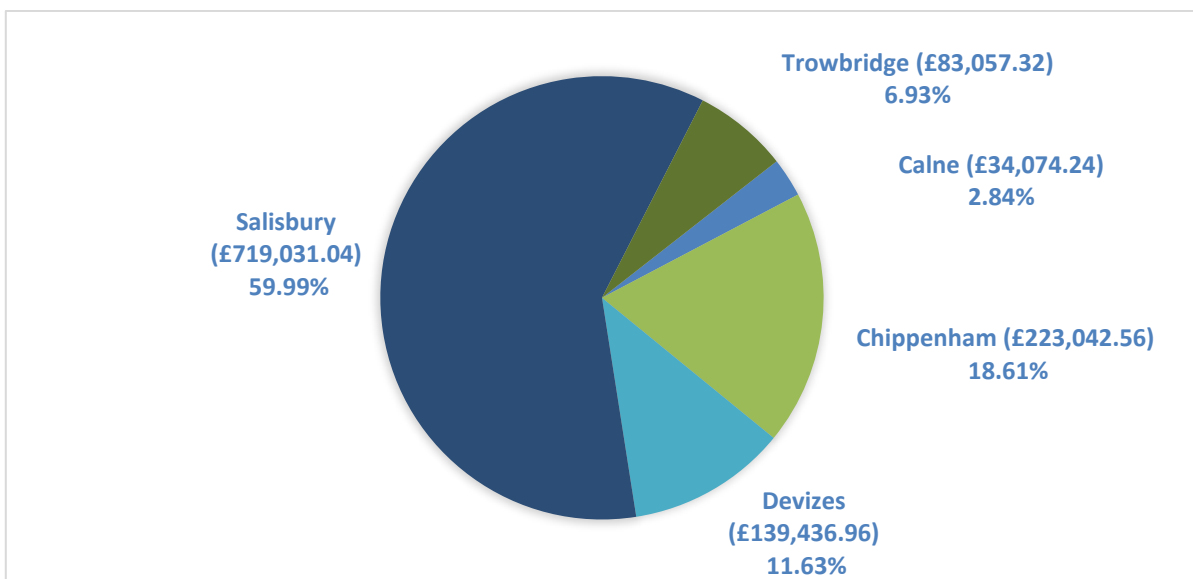


Table 4: Current Supported Housing Units Breakdown by Location

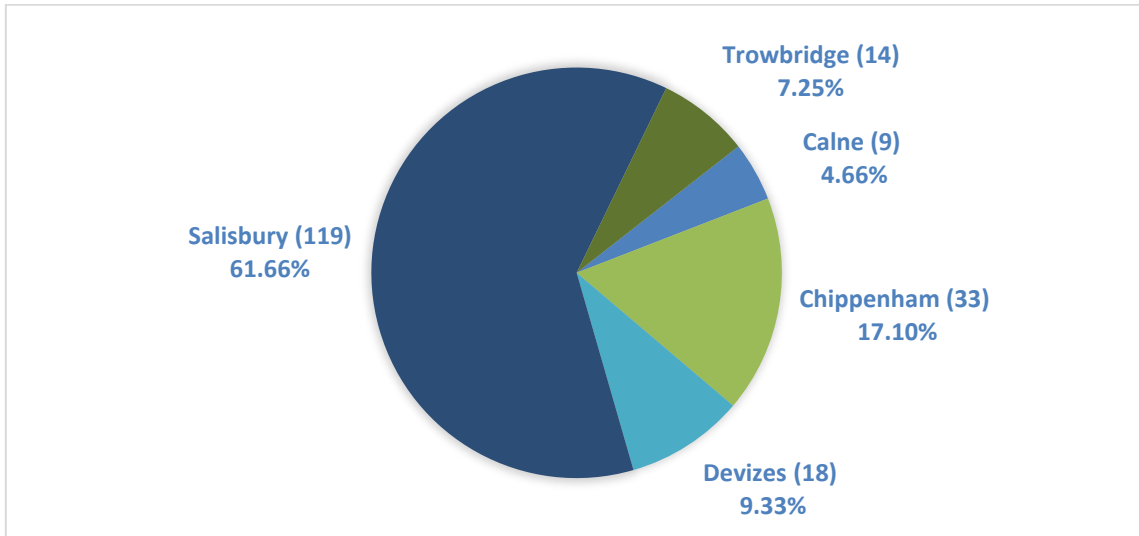


Table 5, 6 and 7 gives a closer analysis of provision by service type. Single Homeless is the most skewed toward the South of the County, with just over 75% of the units available in Salisbury. Currently, there is no Single Homeless provision in some of the larger community areas in Wiltshire, including Calne, Trowbridge and Warminster.

Young Person provision is also skewed towards Salisbury, but to a lesser extent than Single Homeless. There is accommodation available in 4 main community areas, with provision in Trowbridge, Chippenham, Devizes and Salisbury all fairly evenly spread.

Young Parent services are only available in Trowbridge and Calne, with the services provided in Calne accounting entirely for the SP provision available in the community area.

Table 5: Current No. of Single Homeless Units Provided by Location by %

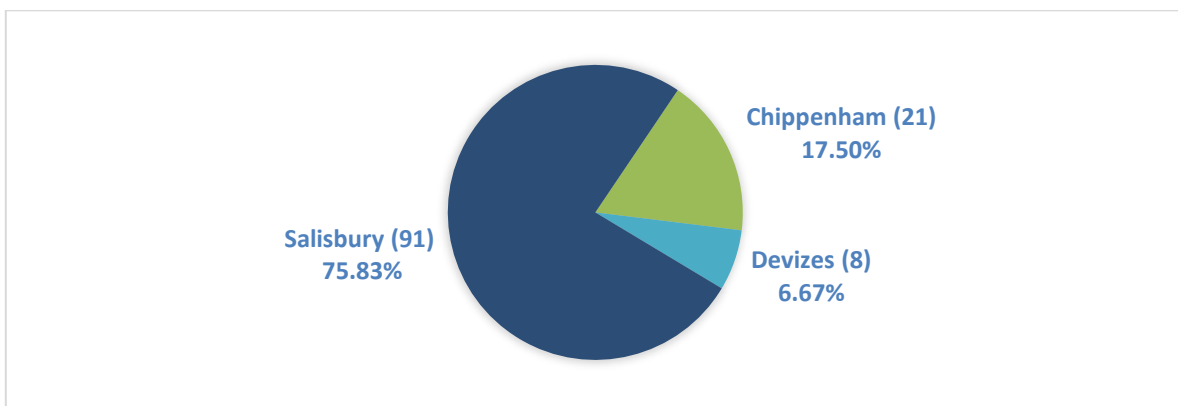


Table 6: Current No. of Young Person Units Provided by Location by %

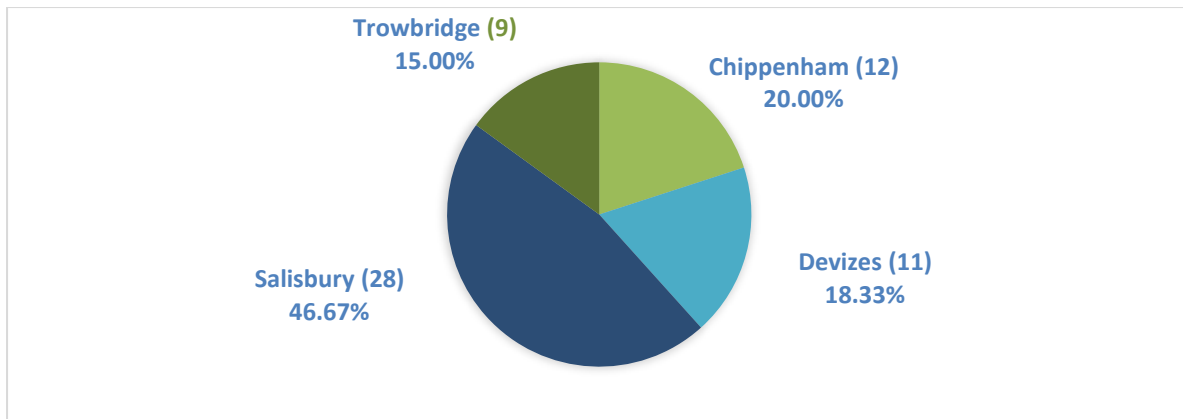
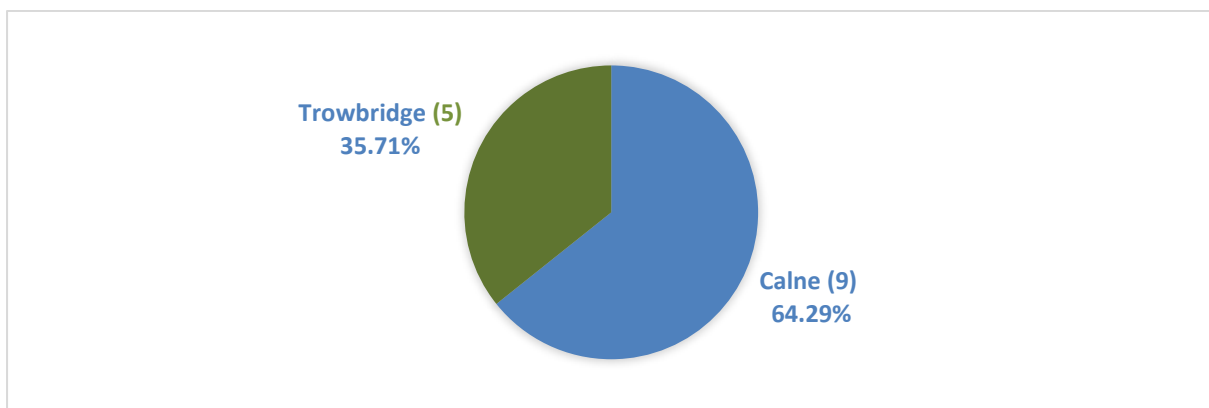


Table 7: Current No. of Young Parent Units Provided by Location by %



In addition to the above, Salisbury Trust for the Homeless operates 29 units in Salisbury. When this service is also taken into consideration, the percentage of available Single Homeless units in the Salisbury rises even further. The Amber Project currently provides up to 30 units in Trowbridge for Young People up to 30 years old, which balances out the provision by area. As Amber’s definition of Young Person is different to the HRS accommodation, there is a crossover, and the accommodation is also shared rooms which are not self-contained. For Young Parent, Petra (Mother and Baby) and Alabaré Parent and Baby operate in Trowbridge (6 beds) and Salisbury (8 beds), allowing access to services where there is no commissioned provision.

2.4 Support Hours

In 2018, the services were commissioned by support hours as follows:

High	8 hours of weekly support
Medium	4-6 hours of weekly support
Low	2 hours of weekly support

The current provision funds **1311** hours of support a week across **194** units at an average cost of **£17.58** per support hour. Table 8 shows the percentage of units by support level, and table 9 a breakdown of weekly support hours by service type. Most units are funded as high support, except for Young Parent which is exclusively funded as medium support.

Table 8: No. of HRS Units Provided by Support Level

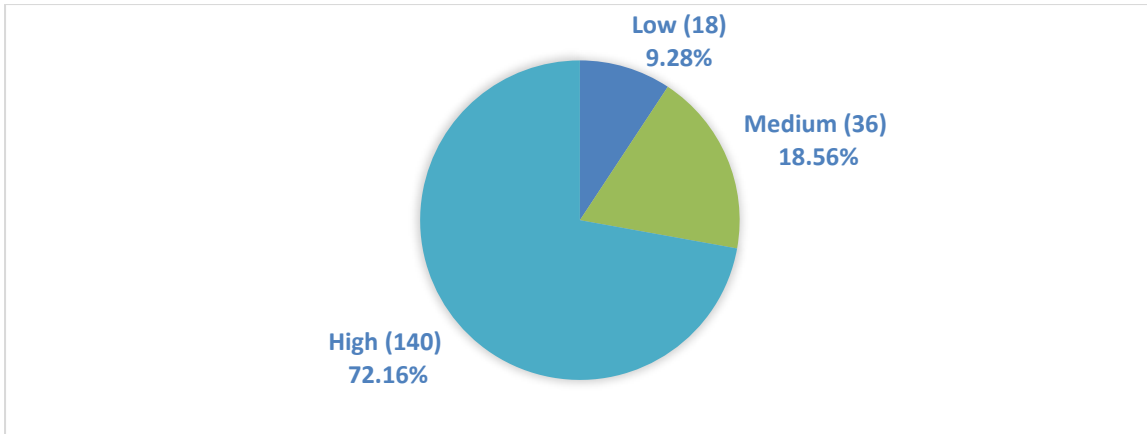
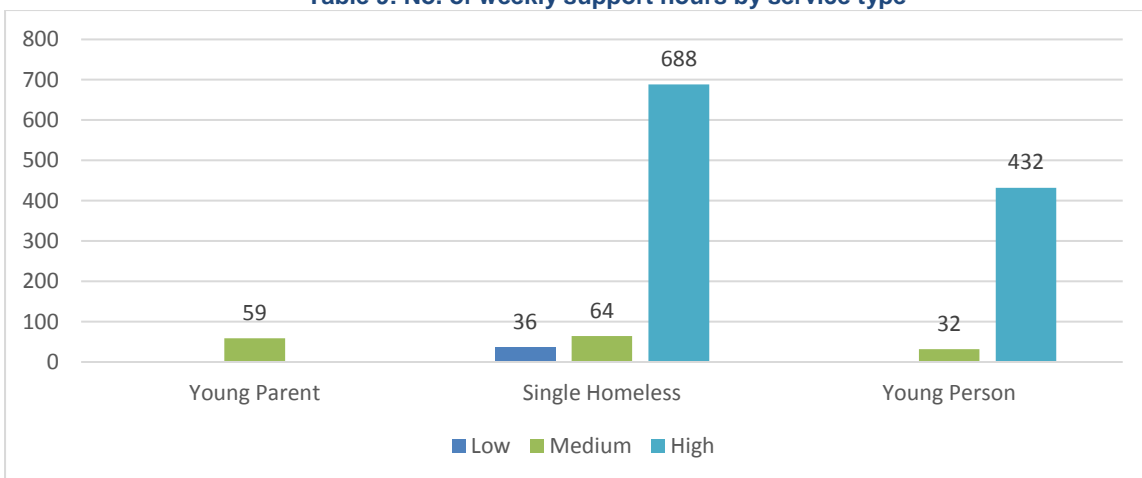


Table 9: No. of weekly support hours by service type



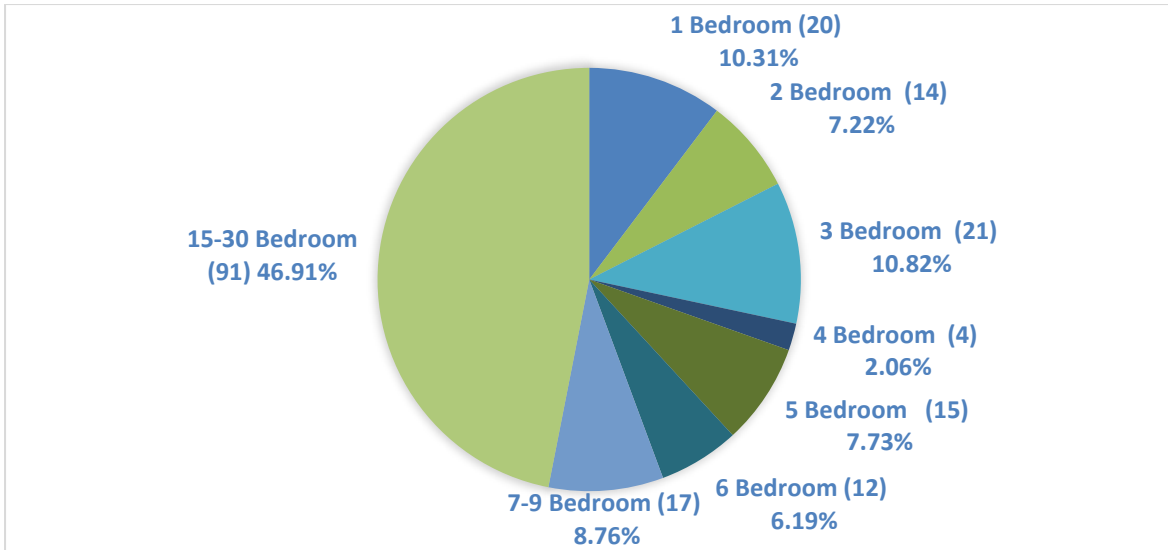
2.4 Accommodation Type

There are varying accommodation types in the current provision, ranging from 1-bedroom flats up to 30-unit multi occupancy buildings.

Table 10 shows the number of units available by building occupancy level. Whilst some of the larger buildings are broken down into smaller blocks ('flats' or 'corridors') with separate cooking facilities, they have been labelled as large occupancy buildings if service users share facilities including communal living spaces, beyond entrance doors and corridors and laundry facilities.

Where smaller blocks are available within the same building, they have been considered at smaller occupancy where the service user can live independently within the individual block by accessing private cooking, laundry and living facilities without sharing with users from other blocks within the same building. It illustrates that most of the current provision across service types is in shared accommodation with a 15 + person plus occupancy, at 46.91%.

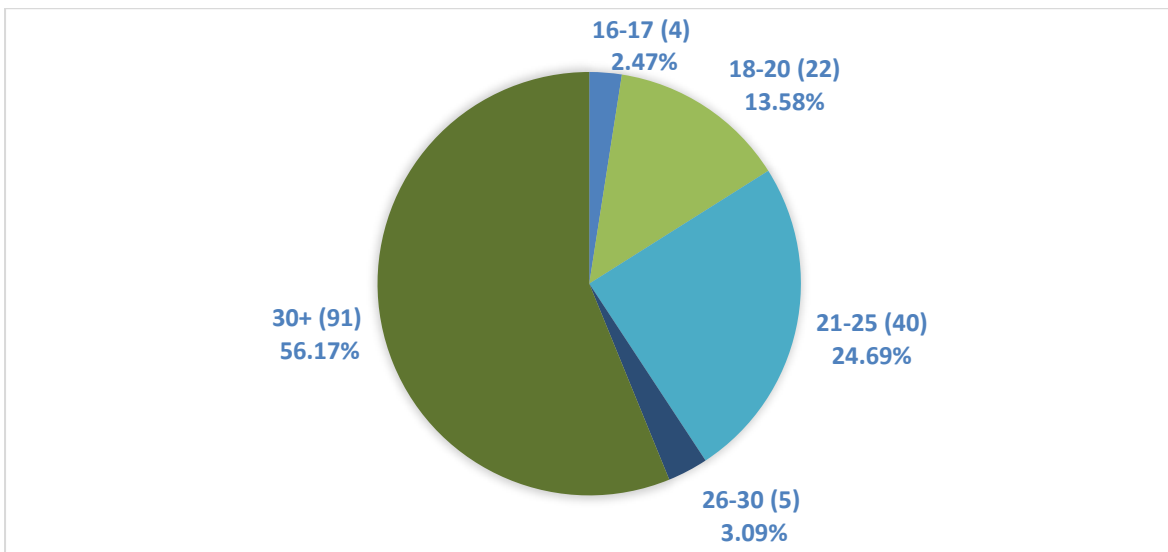
Table 10: % Units Available by total building occupancy level



2.5 Age of Service Users

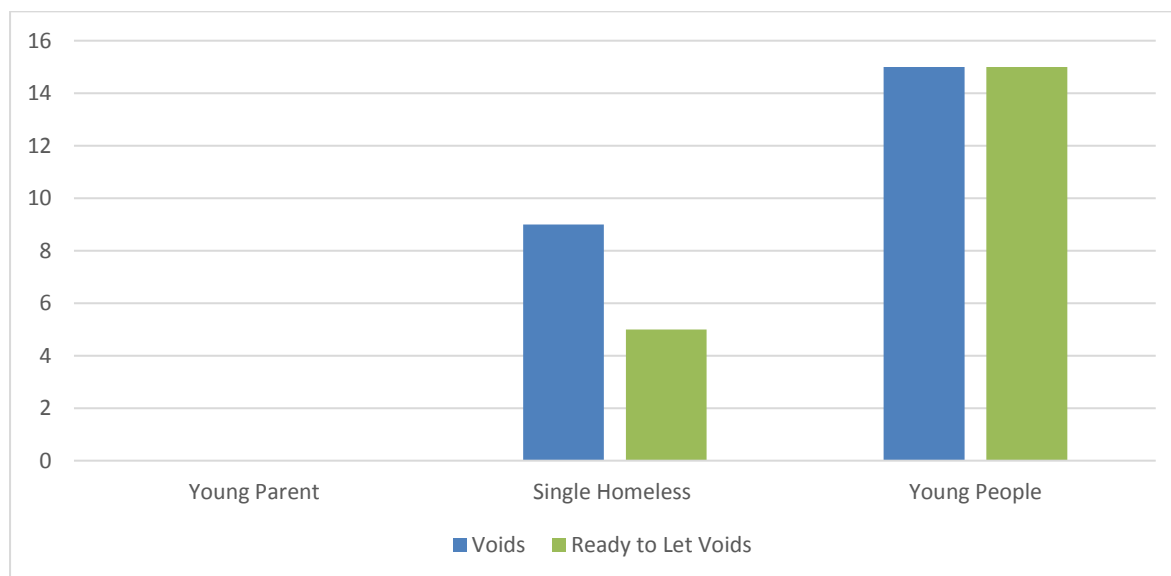
Table 11 provides a snapshot of the age group of clients in projects on a given day. The chart shows that 40.74% of the snapshot are aged 16-25 and therefore eligible for Young Person or Young Parent Services

Table 11: Age of clients in housing related support services on 27^h February 2023



However, there are limitations to of the snapshot as data source. Table 12 shows the voids available and ready to let voids across each service on the same day. Despite 18–25-year-olds making up 40.74% of the SP population on the given day, ready-to-let voids are significantly higher on the same day across Young Person services. Of the five ready-to-let Single Homeless units, 4 became available in the week preceding the snapshot. In contrast, a significant proportion the Young Person units were available for over a month.

Table 12: Voids Across Supporting People Services on the 27^h February 2023



3 Analysis of Current Provision

The above information raises the following key points:

- Almost 60% of the current budget is allocated to single homeless.
- The current budget is allocated to HRS services in Salisbury at a rate of 61.86%, with 21.76% of the budget being used on services in the North and 16.58% of the local authority.
- There is not currently HRS provision in some of larger community areas including Melksham and Warminster.
- Single Homeless provision is especially geographically skewed, with just over 75% of the commissioned units based in Salisbury.
- There is not any Single Homeless provision in Trowbridge, one of the most populated towns in Wiltshire.
- There is not any Young Parent Provision in Salisbury, Chippenham or Trowbridge.
- Just over 72% of the units are funded as high support at 8 hours a week.
- On the given day, just over 40% of the current residents living in supported were in the 16–25-year-old bracket.

4. Options for Re-Commissioning

Option 1 – Recommission using the same percentage allocations of budget across the three service areas.

The table below displays the current breakdown of spending.

Client Group	Contract Value 2022/23	No. of Units	% Units of Total
Young Parent	£54,334.28	14	7.22%
Single Homeless	£713,506.56	120	61.86%
Young Person	£430,801.28	60	30.93%
Totals	£1,198,642.12	194	

Advantages	Disadvantages
Simple to justify to current housing related support providers	Lacks strategic thinking. The last commissioning round completed in 2018 and this option does consider changes in those accessing services. There is a potential mismatch between identified needs and where resources are targeted, for example a mismatch between needs or geographical locations and supply. There may also be a need for new services or levels of support that did not exist at the last commissioning round.
A level of funding for all current customer groups will be maintained.	Risk of Providers not bidding for contracts if funding seen as insufficient to retain current service levels.
Utilises current staff and units already available.	As budgets are reduced in real terms, some of those schemes may not be sustainable and may close. They are also under threat from other changes e.g., increased housing benefit scrutiny for eligible service charges in supported.
	As the budget has decreased in real terms, the providers will not be able offer the same amount of support hours per unit.

Option 2 – Revision of Service Allocations

Option 2 is to review the grant allocation for each service type, location, age group and support levels against the current and medium-term priorities of the local authority, taking into consideration potential increased costs in support hours. The current allocations have not been reviewed since the last recommissioning process completed in 2018.

Advantages and disadvantage of a review of service allocations are set out below:

Advantages	Disadvantages
Strategic approach – once services are prioritised, individual schemes and locations can be identified drawing on data already held, and in consultation with stakeholders	Disruption to existing schemes, including possible scheme closures resulting in providers needing to make staff redundant and/or transfer staff to an alternative provider.
Updates contracts in line with current requirements of supported housing and enables gaps to be filled	Disruption to existing schemes resulting in loss of building usage for providers causing possible financial implications.
Would potentially allow higher levels of grant to fewer schemes making	Disruption to existing service users, with closures increasing risk of homelessness.

them more sustainable and enabling better quality services	
Transparency	Disruption to existing schemes, possibly resulting in the loss of related services including Homeless Drop In and Sit up Services.
	More complex to administer with further work required.

5. Recommendation

With the budget remaining the same, representing a reduction in real terms, an element of disruption to the current services is inevitable. It is recommended that Option 2 is pursued, and all services are reviewed to ensure balanced level of service provision across client groups and locations. The changes can then be tailored to minimise the disruption to the most at risk or vulnerable service users. This will also provide the opportunity to review the value for money being delivered across the different services and ensure that there is a consistent approach to the cost of support services across the board.

6. Recommissioning

6.1 Service Type

To establish which services may need prioritising when re-commissioning, we can consider the referral data obtained from the supported housing providers. Data was collected for the year 2022.

Service Type	Actual Spend	% of Spend	Number of units	% of units	No. of referrals 2022	% of referrals 2022
Young Parent	£54,344.28	4.53%	14	7.22%	24	5.39%
Single Homeless	£713,506.56	59.53%	120	61.86%	348	78.20%
Young Person	£430,801.28	35.94%	60	30.92%	73	16.40%

Note 1: One provider of Young Person accommodation was unable to accept referrals for a 2-month period due to operational issues; however, during the same period a competing provider ran with voids.

Note 2: Referrals can be sent to more than one scheme and therefore will be counted more than once.

Note 3: There is an overlap between the Young Persons and Single Homeless schemes, with referrals sent to both.

The table suggests that a disproportionate amount of the spend is being used on Young Person accommodation when compared to the referrals received: 35.94% of spend against 16.40% of referrals received in 2022. Conversely, Single Homeless referrals are high in comparison to spend: 59.53% of spend against 78.20% of referrals.

Demand can also be captured by considering those who have approached the Housing

Service Type	Actual Spend	% of Spend	Number of units	% of units	Owed Prevention or Relief	Owed Duty as a % group
Young Parent	£54,344.28	4.53%	14	7.22%	47	6.67%
Single Homeless	£713,506.56	59.53%	120	61.86%	504	71.08%
Young Person	£430,801.28	35.94%	60	30.92%	158	22.28%

Solutions Team for assistance and owed a duty.

The data above also supports that a disproportionate amount is being spent on Young Person accommodation: 35.94% of the total budget against 22.28% owed a prevention or relief duty. Single Homeless services are underfunded by the same measurement: 59.53% of the spend compared to 71.08% owed a prevention or relief duty.

Appendix 1: Effect of Increasing Costs on Purchasable Support Hours

There is no national data on HRS rates, and costs per support hour vary between providers and units. Staffing makes up a substantial portion of the providers costs, with overheads and provision of surplus added on.

During the last procurement round in 2017, research into wages in the housing support sector in Wiltshire and neighbouring authorities indicated an average wage of **£9.59 per hour**. Investigation into advertised rates across 10 providers in 2023 gives an estimated average wage of **£12.11 per hour**. This represents an increase of **24.2%**.

The chart below displays the impact that increases in the cost of a support hour will have on the total purchasable support hours based on the current budget of £1,187,543.12. If the increase in support hour price is roughly proportional to that of the estimated hourly wage and increases by 25%, the decrease in purchase power would be equivalent to the loss of 15,724 support hours per annum.

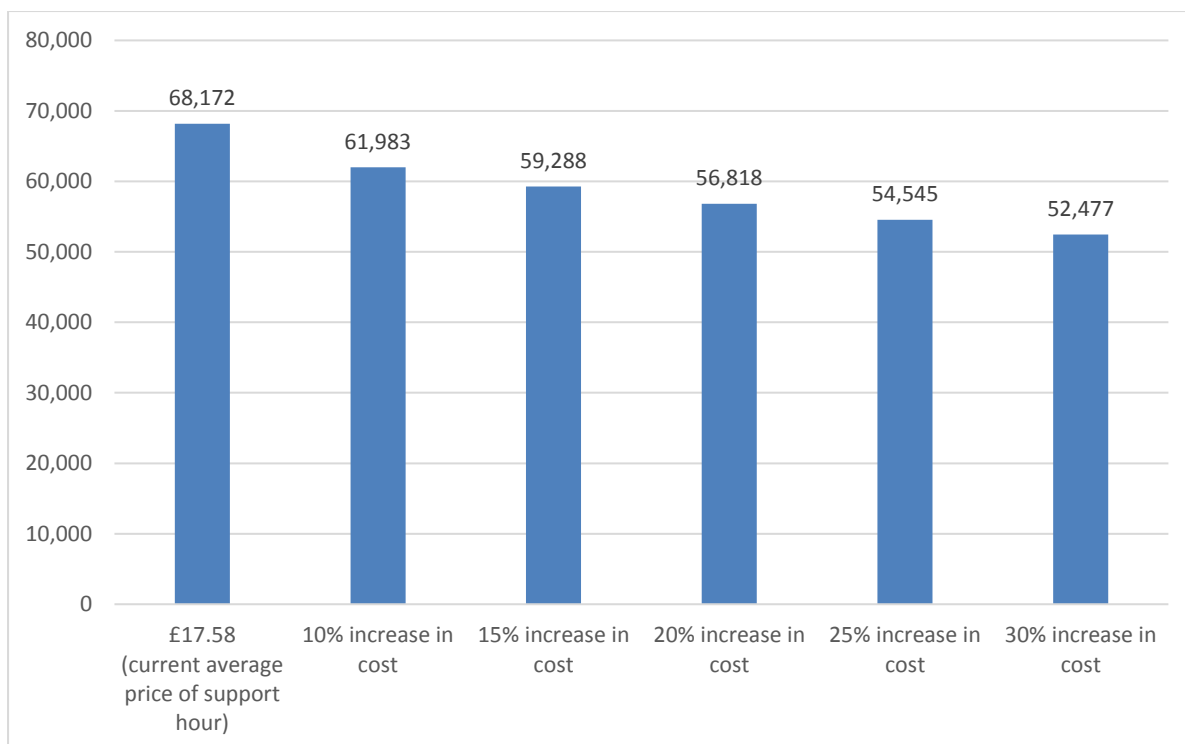


Table 12 Impact of increases in Support Hour Rate on the Number of Hours Purchasable from current HRS Budget

Year	Estimated average wage	Average Support Hour Cost	Total hours of support Budget £1,198,642.12
2017	£9.75	£17.58	68,182
2023	£12.11	£21.84	54,882

Appendix 2: Geographical Review

The two main geographic areas of supported housing provision and expenditure are:

Salisbury (59.99%)
 Chippenham (18.61%)

There is substantially more provision in Salisbury per head of population than in any other area which includes a large volume of the Single Homeless units. Areas including Calne, Warminster and Devizes are currently under served.

Town	Population (Census 2021)	% of total Wiltshire Population	Current % SP Budget	Current % Units	Current SP Spend
Salisbury	41,819	8.19%	59.99%	59.20%	£719,031.04
Chippenham	36,545	7.16%	18.61%	16.42%	£223,042.56
Trowbridge	31,585	6.19%	6.93%	10.45%	£83,027.32
Calne	25,518	5.00%	2.84%	4.48%	£34,074.24
Warminster	20,528	4.02%	NIL	NIL	NIL

Devizes	19,895	3.90%	11.63%	9.45%	£139,436.96
---------	--------	-------	--------	-------	-------------

Appendix 3: Support Levels

As the HRS budget is to remain the same, there will be a reduction of support hours across the services. A review offers budgeting options and the possibility of protecting unit availability by reducing levels of support offered per unit. There is also the opportunity to create new levels of support that do not currently exist.

In 2018, the services were commissioned by support hours as follows:

High	8 hours of weekly support
Medium	4-6 hours of weekly support
Low	2 hours of weekly support

The 2018 HRS Specification defined the support needs as follows:

Low level support: No significant risks or needs are identified, and Service Users may be successfully managing some areas of their life but have a need for some additional help which may be short term in nature e.g. support with benefits and employment.

Medium level support: Service Users will present more complex support needs and risks such as a problematic mental or physical health condition, self-harming behaviours, substance abuse or a prior history that could include evictions, crime, aggressive or anti-social behaviour, significant rent arrears and non-engagement.

High level support: Service Users in medium and high-level support services may evidence many of the same needs and risks and the distinction between the two will relate to the degree of support required. Service Users in high Support services are likely to have more complex inter-related needs e.g. substance abuse/mental and physical health needs and to display chaotic behaviour or pose risks to others.

Service Type	Total Units	High Units	Medium Units	Low Units
Young Parent	14	0	14	0
Single Homeless	120	86	16	18
Young Person	60	54	6	0
Totals	194	140	36	18

Wiltshire Council

Cabinet

12 September 2023

Subject: Recommissioning of Public Health Services in Primary Care

Cabinet Member: Councillor Cllr Ian Blair-Pilling - Cabinet Member for Public Health, Leisure, Libraries, Facilities Management, and Operational Assets

Key Decision: Key

Executive Summary

The purpose of this paper is to seek Members approval to commence the procurement process of commissioning the Public Health Services contract to NHS Primary Care through utilising the Public Health Grant, of a value up to £4,645,000 over a 5 year duration as part of the Council's constitution. The specific services this contract refers to are NHS Health Checks, Smoking Cessation, long acting reversible contraception services and No Worries Young People Sexual Health Service.

NHS Health Checks and sexual health contraception services are statutory services Local Authorities must provide, funded by the Public Health Grant. These services along with smoking cessation have been previously commissioned by Public Health to Primary Care over a 5 year period, 2019-2024, and in preceding contracts prior to 2019. The current contract expires 31 March 2024.

Proposals

Cabinet is asked to approve:

- 1) the commencement of a procurement process to commission these Public Health Services in Primary Care;
- 2) budget spend of up to £4,645,000 over the 5 year duration of the contract;
- 3) To delegate authority to the Director of Public Health in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Public Health, Leisure, Libraries, Facilities Management, and Operational Assets to take all necessary steps to commission Public Health Services in Primary Care

Reason for Proposals

The current contract of these Public Health Services is due to expire 31 March 2024, therefore there is the need to recommission these services from 1 April 2024 to avoid any gap in service provision. This is of particular importance as these services have been paused at times during the Covid-19 pandemic.

There is a statutory responsibility for Public Health to provide NHS Health Checks and Sexual health contraception services through the Public Health Grant.

Approval of the spend of Public Health grant monies allows for these statutory Public Health services, as well as additional Public Health recommended services to be commissioned and delivered for Wiltshire residents.

Terence Herbert
Chief Executive

Wiltshire Council

Cabinet

12 September 2023

Subject: **Recommissioning of Public Health Services in Primary Care**

Cabinet Member: **Councillor Cllr Ian Blair-Pilling - Cabinet Member for Public Health, Leisure, Libraries, Facilities Management, and Operational Assets**

Key Decision: **Key**

Purpose of Report

1. The purpose of this report is to seek Cabinet approval of expenditure of Public Health Grant monies over £1 million over a 5 year duration of the Public Health Services in Primary Care contract. The full expenditure for this contract will be up to £4,645,000 over the 5 years.
2. It also seeks approval to proceed with intentions to tender these services to Primary Care in preparation for commencement date of 01 April 2024.

Relevance to the Council's Business Plan

3. The commissioning and contract management of the Public Health Services in Primary Care contract is underpinned by the following themes from the Wiltshire Council Business Plan:
 - Prevention and early intervention
 - Improving social mobility and tackling inequalities
 - Understanding communities
 - Working together

Background

4. The Public Health services included in this Procurement to Primary Care include sexual health contraception services, NHS Health Checks and smoking cessation. Sexual health, cardiovascular disease prevention including smoking cessation services are Public Health priorities within Wiltshire Public Health team.
5. NHS Health Checks and Sexual Health Contraception services are a statutory requirement of Public Health Grant usage under the Health and Social Care Act 2012.
6. Smoking is the single biggest cause of preventable death and ill health in England. Further to this, smoking is a leading risk factor for many other diseases including lung cancer, heart disease and cardiovascular disease. It is estimated smoking prevalence in Wiltshire is 12.0% amongst the adult population. Access to smoking cessation services to aid smokers to quit by providing behaviour change support and access to stop smoking medications is pivotal in driving down smoking prevalence in Wiltshire. Primary Care are well placed to provide this service as health professionals that

members of the public would approach for support. Primary Care are also able to utilise opportunistic conversations to engage smokers in behaviour change.

7. Cardiovascular disease is highly preventable and one of the main causes of death nationally as well as locally. The NHS Health Checks programme is a national programme which aims to identify patients early and provide early intervention or treatment based on an individual's risk factors of cardiovascular disease. NHS Health Checks is a proactive preventative programme that invites adults aged between 40 and 74 in England for a health check-up every five years to screen for key conditions including heart disease, diabetes, kidney disease, and stroke.
8. Sexual health is an important matter to both individuals and communities. Most adults are sexually active and sexual health needs vary according to factors such as age, gender, sexual orientation, and ethnicity. Access to high quality sexual health services and quick access to treatment and interventions improves the health and wellbeing of both individuals and populations. Long-Acting Reversible contraception service is for adults who seek information and treatment on all methods of contraception to prevent unplanned pregnancies. This service also includes information and signposting about prevention of STIs and where to seek testing and treatment. There are strong links between deprivation and STIs.
9. Young Adults and adolescents are some of the population groups who experience the highest burden of STIs and teenage pregnancies and abortions. People's experience of and access to quality sexual health services is key to providing the right support and treatment. No Worries young people's sexual health service aims to offer a friendly, non-judgemental advice and information service to Wiltshire residents aged 24 and under. Services available include access to free condoms, pregnancy testing kits, emergency contraception, opportunistic chlamydia testing for women and those with a womb, Chlamydia treatment for Chlamydia positive young people and their partners.
10. The delivery of these services needs to be by trained health professionals following each of the services Best Practice guidance within their role. Stakeholder engagement work has been undertaken through surveys and focus group discussions with Primary Care, external providers and members of the public (surveys only). The findings indicate these services are well received and accessed through Primary Care, with the need for some enhancements through improved booking systems, an outreach provision of NHS Health Checks (which will be commissioned separately). Commissioning these services to Primary Care fits within the principles of an Integrated Care System approach to improving population health, effective use of resources. The service specifications for these services will be informed by this approach.
11. Previous commissioning arrangements for these services have been contracted over a 5 year period from 2019-2024, with an annual budget of £929,000 per year or, £4,645,000 over the 5 years. The budget allocated to these services is paid to Primary Care on an activity basis following quarterly data submissions to Public Health.

Main Considerations for the Council

12. The Public Health Services contract is currently commissioned by Wiltshire Public Health to Primary Care since 1 April 2019, and expires 31 March 2024, and with previous commissioning arrangements to Primary Care prior to April 2019. Cabinet

members are asked to approve the commencement of the procurement of these services.

13. The full expenditure for this contract from 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2029 will be up to £4,645,000 over the 5 years. Budget allocation to the three services within the contract is like for like with the previous contract.

14. The budget allocated to these services is paid to Primary Care based on activity on a quarterly basis. It is therefore unknown the true expenditure of these services over the contract period, but quarterly budget management and activity review will be undertaken to manage spend and review outcomes across the contract.

15. The Council are asked to endorse:

- Approval of budget expenditure on these services
- Support the commencement of commissioning process

This decision accords with budget requirements which Finance have approved expenditure for.

Consultation

16. Work has begun on consultation as part of the planning of these services This has included a survey to service users, providers of these services as well as other stakeholders with invested interest in these services such as the Local Medical Committee, Local Pharmacy Committee and Integrated Care Board GP Leads.

17. A market engagement event was held in May 2023, with Primary Care and external providers of these services to gauge understanding and insight on the challenges Primary Care face in delivering these services and understanding what improvements could be made in the designing and commissioning of these services. The market engagement event also considered the provision of an external provider to deliver some of these services within the community and workplaces to reach target population who were least likely to access them in Primary Care. Further to this, discussions have taken place with key stakeholders within the Integrated Care Board, the Local Medical Committee and Local Pharmacy Committee to inform service planning. Through appropriate forums, there have been discussions about payments of these services which are based on payment by activity. It has been required to undertake this consultation work at this early stage to inform commissioning and budget planning.

Overview and Scrutiny Engagement

18. The Chair and Vice-Chair of the Health Select Committee have been informed that this report to Cabinet and a collaborative discussion has taken place in advance. The Vice-Chair has received a full briefing of the content of this report prior to Cabinet meeting.

19. Annual reporting on the delivery of NHS Health Checks is provided to the Health Select Committee, with the next report being presented to the November committee.

20. The Cabinet Member of Public Health, Cllr Ian Blair-Pilling, has been consulted with in advance of sharing this paper.

Safeguarding Implications

21. There are safeguarding implications within the services delivered through Primary Care. Primary Care will be aware of who their vulnerable children, young people and adults are and so will engage with them appropriately in these services. Likewise, Primary Care will follow their own safeguarding processes in the event of a safeguarding issue linked to any of these services delivered in their settings.
22. The implications on safeguarding if approval is not agreed on budget allocation and tendering these services will have particular impact on those who seek access to the sexual health contraception services including No Worries as vulnerable groups are disproportionately impacted by STIs and teenage pregnancies which these services aim to prevent.

Public Health Implications

23. This proposal will have an impact on, or implications for, people's health and well-being and factors which determine people's health. This may include, but is not restricted to, direct health implications, sustainability, maintaining a healthy and resilient environment, economic impacts, reducing or widening inequalities and the wider determinants of health (e.g., good housing, employment opportunities, social isolation). Data relating to the Wiltshire population and community areas can be found at: <https://www.wiltshireintelligence.org.uk/>

24. The populations that these Public Health Services in Primary Care will serve include;

- NHS Health Checks – eligible population those aged 40-74 years old who do not have any of the following conditions:
 - a. coronary heart disease
 - b. chronic kidney disease (CKD), which has been classified as stage 3, 4 or 5 within the meaning of the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) clinical guideline 182 on CKD
 - c. diabetes
 - d. hypertension
 - e. atrial fibrillation
 - f. transient ischaemic attack
 - g. hypercholesterolemia – defined as familial hypercholesterolemia
 - h. heart failure
 - i. peripheral arterial disease
 - j. stroke
 - k. is currently being prescribed statins for the purpose of lowering cholesterol
 - l. people who have previously had an NHS Health Check, or any other check undertaken through the health service in England, and found to have a 20% or higher risk of developing cardiovascular disease over the next ten years
- Smoking cessation – current smoker aged 18 years and older, resident in Wiltshire
- Long Acting Reversible Contraception - women and those with a womb of contraceptive age, resident in Wiltshire and for contraceptive purposes only.
- No Worries – in GP practices young people aged 13-24 years old whether registered with the GP practice or not. In pharmacies young people aged 13-24 years old, and partners (of any age) of patients diagnosed with a chlamydia infection.

Procurement Implications

25. A compliant procurement process will be followed in line with Public Contract Regulations 2015.
26. The procurement process will be designed and run, in conjunction with the Strategic Procurement Hub.

Equalities Impact of the Proposal

27. An Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) has not been completed as part of these proposals due to the limited data that Public Health Teams have had available based on current service provision, but consideration for undertaking these for each service commissioned in the contract will be incorporated into the new service specifications to ensure appropriate data sharing between Primary Care and Public Health to undertake these EIA.

Environmental and Climate Change Considerations

28. Environmental and climate change considerations do not affect the decisions required within this proposal, however, the changes with digital access will ensure that the service supports climate change by reducing travel across the county, which may come into effect in the duration of this contract.

Workforce Implications

29. There are no workforce implications within this proposal.

Risks that may arise if the proposed decision and related work is not taken

30. Failure to procure the services will result in a failure to comply with the statutory duty as stated in the Health and Social Care Act 2012.
31. There is a service delivery risk, should the procurement recommendation not be approved; Wiltshire would not have a NHS Health Check programme services post 31st March 2024 to support some of the most at risk people of CVD in Wiltshire. Not procuring smoking cessation services and sexual health contraception services will put increased pressure on Wiltshire Council's Health Improvement Coaches (for smoking cessation) and Salisbury Foundation Trust (for sexual health services). It will also have negative impacts on the public health agendas these services are commissioned to support, treat and prevent.
32. Procurement not completed on time, this is unlikely as the process has already started with the counsel of legal and an agreement in draft.

Risks that may arise if the proposed decision is taken and actions that will be taken to manage these risks

33. There is a small risk that activity in the three service areas exceeds the budget allocation within the contract. Based on previous activity and population health needs data for the Wiltshire population this risk is assessed as small. Regular contract management and review of activity data will further reduce and manage this risk

Financial Implications

34. The financial commitment to support the delivery of the Public Health Services contract is commensurate with the public health budget, funded through the Public Health Grant. The contract value is a cash limit for each year of the 5 year contract.
35. The annual Public Health Grant is subject to Government decisions and spending reviews. In the event of grant allocation reduction, the contract spend will be reviewed or spend of the grant across other public health services considered to consider service impact and allocation of funds.
36. Public Health Grant allocations are confirmed on an annual basis, and there is no suggestion that the allocation will not be sufficient to maintain this contract, which includes mandatory elements of public health activity under the Health and Social Care Act 2012.
37. The financial management of spend under this contract will adhere to budget monitoring and financial management processes of the council.

Legal Implications

38. Legal Services has been instructed to advise on this matter and prepare the new contract. Legal advice will continue to be sought until the conclusion of the project.
39. The proposals will be implemented using a Council template contract which has been tailored to protect the interests of the Council as well as remain commercial so not to put off the market.
40. The procurement will be undertaken in accordance with Constitutional and Legal requirements under the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.

Conclusions

41. The current contract expires 31 March 2024 for the existing services and there is now a requirement to commission further service provision from 1 April 2024.
42. Agree that a procurement process can be undertaken to enable the provision of these Public Health Services in Primary Care across Wiltshire.

Professor Kate Blackburn, Director of Public Health

Report Authors:

Gemma Brinn, Public Health Consultant – Health Improvement

Katie Davies, Public Health Principal – Health Improvement

Mike Allum, Public Health Consultant – Health Protection

Alice Marriott, Public Health Principle – Health Protection

Appendices

None

Background Papers

None

Wiltshire Council

Cabinet

12 September 2023

Subject: Fleet Vehicle Replacement 2023/24 to 2025/26

Cabinet Member: Cllr Caroline Thomas – Cabinet Member for Transport, Street Scene and Flooding

Key Decision: Key

Executive Summary

The Procurement Partnership Limited (TPPL) Framework has been identified as the best route to market to meet the Council's requirements for its vehicle replacement programme 2023/ 24 to 2025/ 26. The framework allows the easiest call off of vehicles against a schedule of rates and access to the most competitive prices with the economies of scale the framework provides.

The Council has approved a Capital budget allocation for 2023/ 24 to 2025/26 of which £6.463m is uncommitted.

The engine type priority of provision will be electric; however, for many reasons alternatives will be necessary. This could be hybrid or a provision of fossil fuel vehicle to allow the option of running on alternative fuels such as hydrotreated vegetable oil, sometimes known as Renewable Diesel (HVO).

The capital provision, using the TPPL framework will ensure the Council maximises the use of its capital spend with the replacement of vehicles supporting services and moving to more sustainable forms of travel.

Proposals

Cabinet is asked to approve:

- 1) the use of The Procurement Partnership Limited (TPPL) framework to procure light goods vehicles and specialist vehicles for the period 2023/ 24 to 2025/26 up to a total value of £6.463m.
- 2) that the award of contracts for the vehicles to be delegated to the Director of Highways and Transport, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Transport, Streetscene and Flooding.

Reason for Proposals

To award a vehicle purchasing contract to The Procurement Partnership Limited (TPPL) for the replacement of 118 vehicles for the period 2023/ 24 to 2025/ 26.

Terence Herbert
Chief Executive

Wiltshire Council

Cabinet

12 September 2023

Subject: Fleet Vehicle Replacement 2023/24 to 2025/26

Cabinet Member: Cllr Caroline Thomas – Cabinet Member for Transport, Street Scene and Flooding

Key Decision: Key

Purpose of Report

1. That the Cabinet approves the use of The Procurement Partnership Limited (TPPL) framework to procure light goods vehicles and specialist vehicles for the period 2023/24 to 2025/26 up to a total value of £6.463m.
2. To approve the award of contracts for the vehicles to be delegated to the Director of Highways and Transport, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Transport, Streetscene and Flooding.

Relevance to the Council's Business Plan

3. The vehicle provision and its costs impact upon the delivery of all services within the Council and the delivery of the Business Plan.

Background

4. The Council has approved a Capital budget for 2023/ 24 to 2025/ 26:

Description	Budget 2023/24 £m	Budget 2024/25 £m	Budget 2025/26 £m
Fleet Vehicle Uncommitted Capital	£2.363	£1.879	£2.221

5. The capital funding has been approved to:
 - (i) Ensure the Council's owned and operated fleet operations move to be carbon neutral by 2030.
 - (ii) Meet the requirements of the Council's Medium-Term Financial Strategy.
 - (iii) Provide a fleet of vehicles that are fit for purpose, safe to operate and meet our statutory commitments.
 - (iv) Ensure the Service objectives of the Council are met and the requirements for best value; and
 - (v) Maximise the Council's performance and the opportunity for innovative ways of working.

6. The Council's approved vehicle capital replacement programme for 2023 to 2025 includes for the replacement of the following vehicles: (£millions)

2023/24 Standard

Vehicle type	Quantity	Estimated cost
Small panel vans	27	£0.864
Car	9	£0.270
TOTAL	36	£1.134

2023/ 24 Specialist

Vehicle type	Quantity	Estimated cost
4x4 Single Cab	4	£0.180
Minibus Wheelchair	7	£0.630
Tanker	2	£0.320
TOTAL	13	£1.130

2024/ 25 Standard

Vehicle type	Quantity	Estimated cost
Medium Van	4	£0.224
TOTAL	4	£0.224

2024/ 25 Specialist

Vehicle type	Quantity	Estimated cost
4x4 Single Cab	2	£0.090
4x4 Double Cab	11	£0.495
Minibus Wheelchair	15	£1.050
TOTAL	28	£1.635

2025 /26 Standard

Vehicle type	Quantity	Estimated cost
Small panel van	12	£0.384
Medium Van	2	£0.112
Large Van	9	£0.625
Car	6	£0.180
TOTAL	29	£1.301

2025/ 26 Specialist

Vehicle type	Quantity	Estimated cost
Medium Van Pest Control	2	£0.112
Box Van	1	£0.070
Minibus Wheelchair	2	£0.140
Library Buses	2	£0.400
Display Vehicle	1	£0.110
TOTAL	8	£0.832

7. The engine type priority of provision will be electric; however, for many reasons alternatives will be necessary. This could be hybrid or a provision of fossil fuel vehicle to allow the option of running on alternative fuels such as hydrotreated vegetable oil, sometimes known as Renewable Diesel (HVO).
8. The Vehicle Replacement Plan recognises that different fuel types will give business continuity cover should one fuel source be disrupted. The desired ratio of replacement will be two electric/ hybrid vehicles for every fossil fuel.
9. Extensive consultation has been carried out with staff directly involved in the future use of the vehicles. This consultation has formulated the proposals in relation to the type of vehicles to be procured.
10. The major impact with fleet provision is not on the Fleet Service, but the receiver of the service. Whilst cost savings are easily achieved with buying smaller more efficient vehicles these may not always meet the service needs.
11. Every non-electric vehicle ordered will need a business case provided to ensure it is appropriate. The Fleet Strategy recognises that not every service can move to electrified vehicles. Reasons would include:
 - (i) Electric vehicles not currently being available. For example, larger and specialised vehicles.
 - (ii) Range of travel does not allow electric vehicles. Examples would include minibus usage by the Passenger Transport Unit.
 - (iii) Business Continuity requires a number of vehicles to be non-electric to ensure services can be maintained during periods of disruption – for example power outages.
 - (iv) In 2023/24 the Council is installing circa 100 workplace electric vehicle charging points. This number is restrained by the power supply to buildings (this is the maximum number of charge points that can be provided without major infrastructure investment). The emerging Depot Strategy allows for greater power supplies and resilience (battery storage). However, until recommendations from the Depot Strategy come forward for agreement and are implemented the move to electric vehicles will be slowed by the infrastructure available. For the time being

this may not be a major issue due to the need for a business continuity provision.

12. Every new vehicle is now fitted with monitoring equipment (telematics which records vehicle use) to ensure the fleet provision is maximised.

Main Considerations for the Council

13. Procurement will be using capital budget already committed.
14. The procurement route will be in accordance with best value requirements.
15. The full financial implications will be confirmed following the procurement exercises but based on the estimates described above, there is sufficient approved budget within the existing capital programme.
16. The use of Frameworks allows greater economies of scales to be realised and also reduces selection costs and times by allowing a call off (decision on preference) against a list of different vehicles with a schedule of rates, rather than tendering groups of vehicles at regular time intervals.
17. There are currently a number of fleet framework agreements available for the Council to use for procurement of light goods vehicles and specialist vehicles. Each framework agreement has a set of terms and conditions, call-off arrangements, monitoring, management and key performance indicators. Many of these are common to all of the framework agreements, others are unique to individual framework agreements. It is essential that the terms and conditions of any contracts entered into under the framework agreements are consistent with the Council's procurement requirements and meet the needs and risk levels of the Council.
18. The Framework providers consideration included TPPL, Crown Commercial Service (CCS) and Eastern Shires Purchasing Organisation (ESPO) arrangements. The TPPL Framework has been identified as best for meeting the Council's requirements as it allows the easiest call off of vehicles against a schedule of rates.
19. Feedback from other framework users, suppliers and our own experience is that this type of agreement is fit for purpose and works effectively. The cycle of framework renewals also provides for the benefits of development in vehicle technology and efficiency to be captured within new and replacement framework agreements. This ensures that the Council has access to the most up to date alternative fuel vehicles to increase the sustainability of the fleet and reduce emissions.
20. TPPL has provided helpful advice and will run further competitions if required on behalf of the contracting authority on its own e-portal, dealing with all questions, prompting suppliers as the closing date approaches and sending bids to the contracting authority for evaluation following the closing date.
21. TPPL is not a contacting authority in its own right – it works with local authorities to award vehicle and vehicle related contracts and manage them on their behalf.
22. The capital provision, using the TPPL framework will ensure the Council maximises the use of its capital spend with the replacement of vehicles supporting services and moving to more sustainable forms of travel.

Overview & Scrutiny Engagement

23. A briefing for the Chairs and Vice-chairs of Environment Select Committee and Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee will be provided on 8 September 2023.

Safeguarding Implications

24. None.

Public Health Implications

25. With the move to lower emission vehicles this delivers better air quality outcomes.

Procurement Implications

26. The approved Procurement Sourcing Plan recommends that a direct award under TPPL's frameworks is used for the purchase of all required vehicles in this three-year period of the Fleet Replacement Programme.

Equalities Impact of the Proposal (detailing conclusions identified from Equality Analysis, sections 4 and 5)

27. None.

Environmental and Climate Change Considerations

28. With the move to a more modern fleet vehicles will assist in delivering the Council's pledge to be carbon neutral by 2030.

Risks that may arise if the proposed decision and related work is not taken

29. Committed Fleet Service budget savings for the period will not be achieved.
30. A carbon neutral fleet will not be possible by 2030.
31. Service disruption due to having an older and unreliable fleet, with the associate loss of effectiveness and increased costs.

Risks that may arise if the proposed decision is taken and actions that will be taken to manage these risks

32. Poor Quality Products. The supplier is required to deliver vehicles that conforms to industry mandated specifications. Failure to deliver products that meet the required standard will be dealt with within the mechanisms contained within the contract. Ultimately the contract contains the mechanism to terminate the contract for poor supplier performance.

Financial Implications

33. Capital budget for the Fleet programme was approved as part of 2023/24 budget setting and covered the period 2023/24 to 2025/26, of this £6.463m is uncommitted and available for future Fleet requirements. The Capital budget is funded by borrowing and revenue budget to cover the borrowing costs has been built into the MTFS..
34. Revenue savings to be achieved from moving to a more modern fleet have been included within the 2023/24 budget of £0.039m and a further £0.139m has been included within the MTFS to be achieved in 2024/25 and 2025/26.
35. A procurement route is required to ensure vehicles can be procured efficiently, ensuring competitive prices are secured and long lead in times avoided. Procurement delay could result in higher prices being paid for vehicles purchases and delay savings delivery. Due to the age of the fleet and breakdowns, a procurement delay could result in service distribution and increased running costs.

Legal Implications

36. This report recommends that approval is given to direct award under an existing framework.
37. Any Call off contract must be carried out in accordance with the Call Off Process set out in the Framework Agreement.
38. Legal Services will provide advice to ensure that that the compliance with the Framework Agreement and call off process. It should be noted that the terms and conditions will be those as set down by the Framework Agreement and the client department should satisfy themselves as to whether they are suitable for their requirements.

Options Considered

39. The alternative options considered were:

- **Do nothing. Rejected.**

There is an expectation the Council moves to a carbon neutral fleet. The age of the Council's current fleet, with its associated breakdowns, causes disruptions in service delivery and this will only get worse the longer the time passes.

- **Let a bespoke council contract. Rejected.** The capital spend is in scope of EU Procurement Regulations which would require a full EU compliant tendering exercise which would require significant officer resource and would take time to carry out.

The Council's capital funding, although significant cannot compete with economies of scale that existing framework contracts offer. The bespoke approach does not deliver best value to the Council. Using an existing framework will save officer resources and deliver greater value for money.

Conclusions

40. The Council has approved a Capital budget for 2023/ 24 to 2025/ 26 of which £6.463m is uncommitted.

41. The Council's approved vehicle capital replacement programme for 2023 to 2025 is for the replacement of 118 vehicles:
42. The engine type priority of provision will be electric; however, for many reasons alternatives will be necessary. This could be hybrid or a provision of fossil fuel vehicle to allow the option of running on alternative fuels such as hydrotreated vegetable oil, sometimes known as Renewable Diesel (HVO).
43. The TPPL Framework has been identified as best for meeting the Council's requirements as it allows the easiest call off of vehicles against a schedule of rates and access to the most competitive rates with the economies of scale the framework provided.
44. The capital provision, using the TPPL framework will ensure the Council maximises the use of its capital spend with the replacement of vehicles supporting services and moving to more sustainable forms of travel.

Samantha Howell
Director, Highways & Transport

Report Author: Adrian Hampton, Head of Highway Operations

Appendices

None

Background Papers

None

Wiltshire Council

Cabinet

12 September 2023

Subject: School Places Strategy 2023 - 2027

Cabinet Member: Cllr Laura Mayes – Cabinet Member for Children’s Services, Education and Skills

Key Decision: Key

Executive Summary

Wiltshire's current School Places Strategy 2017 - 2022 needs to be replaced with a new version for 2023 -2027. This report describes the background and consultation that has been carried out on a replacement Strategy for 2023 – 2027 and seeks approval for it.

The School Places Strategy 2023-2027 pulls together the information required to form a strategic view of the need for mainstream school places across Wiltshire. It provides a summary analysis of current provision, identifies gaps and over-provision and sets out how the LA intends to address these. Specifically, the strategy provides a revised and updated policy framework for considering the following:

- statutory proposals, (opening, closing and defining the size and organisation of schools);
- planning and commissioning new school provision;
- supporting the development of school organisation change including informal and formal school partnership arrangements which support school to school improvement and make efficient use of resources.

The strategy therefore sets out:

- demographic trends in Wiltshire including a summary of new major house building planned in Wiltshire;
- details of current school provision;
- an analysis of the impact of demographic changes on current provision - surplus places/deficit of places. The data is used by the Local Authority and its partners to inform decision making;
- emerging proposals for future provision of places for children and young people in Wiltshire;
- guiding policies and principles upon which decisions will be informed;
- details of the Council's strategy for capital investment in schools to secure a place for every child.

The strategy is intended to help key stakeholders and partners in the Local Authority, schools, Academy Trusts, governors, parents, diocese, local communities, businesses, and other providers of education, to understand what school places are needed in Wiltshire, now, and in the future, and how they will be provided.

Proposal

Cabinet is asked to approve the School Places Strategy 2023 – 2027.

Reason for Proposal

To enable the Council to fulfil its statutory duties to ensure sufficient school places and increase opportunities for parental choice.

Terence Herbert
Chief Executive

Wiltshire Council

Cabinet

12 September 2023

Subject: School Places Strategy 2023 - 2027

Cabinet Member: Cllr Laura Mayes – Cabinet Member for Children’s Services, Education and Skills

Key Decision: Key

Purpose of Report

1. For Cabinet to note and approve the School Places Strategy 2023-2027.

Relevance to the Council’s Business Plan

2. The Council has a statutory duty to provide sufficient school places to meet the demand arising across Wiltshire, whether from demographic or population change, strategic housing development growth or military moves. Under the *Right Skills to Prosper* priority, Wiltshire Council’s Business Plan states that there is an aim to ensure that schools are spaces that encourage learning, and that there are the right number of places for pupils where they need them. It also says that it will implement a School Places Strategy to manage the supply and demand for places.

Background

3. Wiltshire's current School Places Strategy 2017 - 2022 now needs to be replaced with a new version for 2023 -2027.
4. The School Places Strategy 2023-2027 pulls together the information required to form a strategic view of the need for mainstream school places across Wiltshire. It provides a summary analysis of current provision, identifies gaps and over-provision and sets out how the LA intends to address these. Specifically, the strategy provides a revised and updated policy framework for considering the following:
 - statutory proposals, (opening, closing and defining the size and organisation of schools);
 - planning and commissioning new school provision;
 - supporting the development of school organisation change including informal and formal school partnership arrangements which support school to school improvement and make efficient use of resources.
5. The strategy therefore sets out:
 - demographic trends in Wiltshire including a summary of new major house building planned in Wiltshire (as at March 2023);
 - details of current school provision;

- an analysis of the impact of demographic changes on current provision - surplus places/deficit of places. The data is used by the Local Authority and its partners to inform decision making;
- emerging proposals for future provision of places for children and young people in Wiltshire;
- guiding policies and principles upon which decisions will be informed;
- details of the Council's strategy for capital investment in schools to secure a place for every child.

6. The strategy is intended to help key stakeholders and partners in the Local Authority, schools, Academy Trusts, governors, parents, diocese, local communities, businesses, and other providers of education, to understand what school places are needed in Wiltshire, now, and in the future, and how they will be provided.

Main Considerations for the Council

7. School places are no longer solely provided by the council, and the council must work with other providers to ensure that the need for school places is met. However, the council has a unique responsibility to make sure there are enough school places available for local children and young people. No other local or national body shares the duty to secure sufficient primary and secondary school places. Although there has been no statutory requirement to publish a School Organisation Plan since 2004, it is considered good practice to produce a plan or strategy related to pupil place planning to clearly set out the framework for, and approach towards, the provision of places.

8. The School Places Strategy, as at **Appendix 1**, is presented as 5 separate sections:

- The Wiltshire context – population figures and geographical information.
- Legislation – statutory duties, key national legislation and policies affecting school organisation.
- Wiltshire policies and principles relevant to the provision of school places – Our local policies and principles e.g. preferred sizes for new schools.
- School organisation and planning – Wiltshire level information on the factors that influence school places including the birth rate and housing development.
- Detailed planning area assessments – Separate sections for each community area which look in detail at the level of surplus places, birth rate, local housing developments, the implications of these and finally a summary of projects that are likely to be required in the short, medium and long term to meet the requirement for any additional school places.

9. Taking these in turn, the Wiltshire Context section looks at population growth in the County and the ONS forecast of further population growth by 2028. As at January 2023 there were 119 maintained schools and 116 academies in Wiltshire giving a total of 235 schools overall. The table below gives a breakdown of schools in Wiltshire by category.

Category	Primary	Secondary	Special	Total
Community	29	2	2	33

Foundation	8	1	0	9
Academy/Free School	89	25	2	116
Voluntary Aided/Controlled	76	1	0	77
Total	202	29	4	235

10. The second section of the Strategy summarises the key national legislation and policies affecting school organisation. Specifically, it details the regulations and processes to follow when doing the following:

- Making changes to maintained (non-academy) schools e.g. expansions
- Closing maintained (non-academy) schools
- Making changes to academies e.g. expansions
- Routes to opening new schools

11. The third section of the Strategy then sets out the local policies and principles that will be applied by the Council when managing school places. Including, stating Wiltshire Council believes that:

- Parental preference is a key consideration and ability to access a school place close to home within the local community is an important factor.
- Securing the sustainability of schools is best achieved working in partnership.
- Good financial health is essential for achieving educational excellence.
- The quality of education is of paramount importance and closure of small schools which are no longer individually viable is a last resort.

12. The strategy explains that educational viability, efficiency and effectiveness are all potential triggers for considering a review of school organisation and subsequent re-organisation of school provision in an area. The 'triggers' that might provide an indication that a review is necessary are set out below:

- Where there are concerns over standards, identified by Ofsted or the LA, at one or more schools in an area.
- Where there are significant surplus places across an area, usually exceeding 25%.
- Where there is a significant shift in parental preferences for a school and the intake of a school consistently varies by 20% from its published admission number.
- Where there is population change in an area (to include growth from new housing).
- Where there are school premises issues and accommodation seriously impacts upon learning.
- Where the financial viability of school/s is called into question when funding impacts negatively on the delivery of the full range of curriculum opportunities and organisation of classes.

13. As part of a school organisation review, in order to remove surplus places and secure the long term educational and financial stability of Wiltshire schools, the following will be considered:

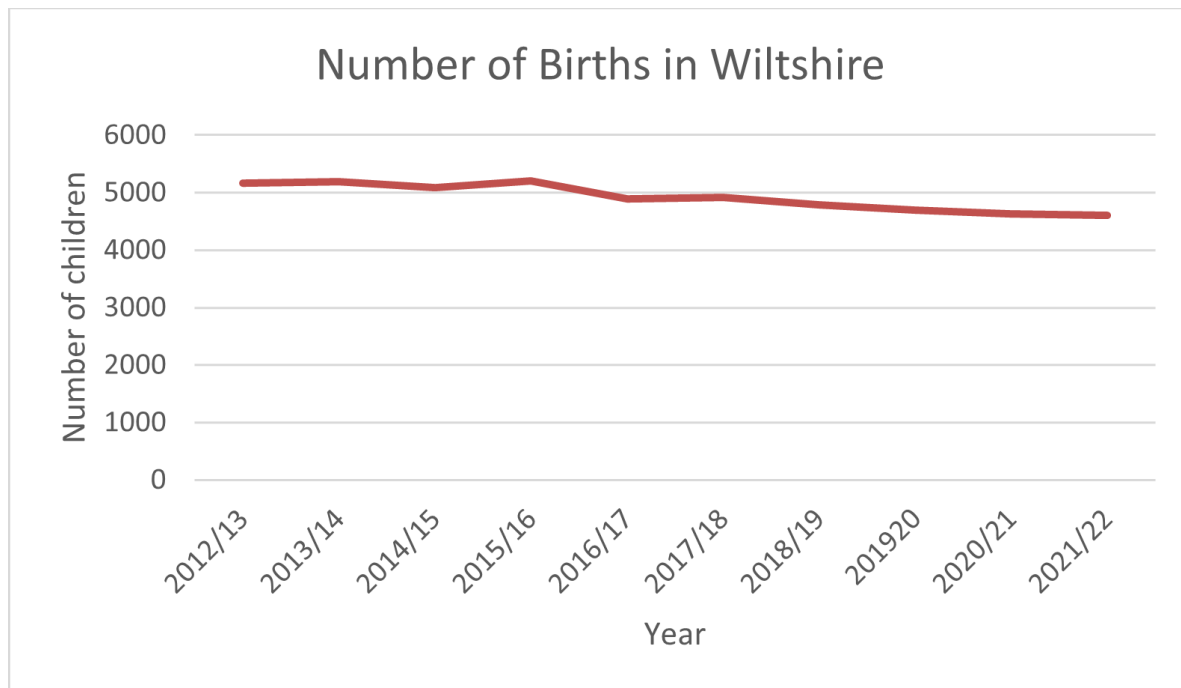
- Identify schools which can temporarily or permanently lower their Published Admissions Numbers (PAN). This would create a better fit between demand and places and would enable more effective planning, class organisation, higher class size numbers and therefore increased efficiency. PAN's which are multiples of 15 are preferred for class organisation purposes.
- Remove and not replace temporary accommodation (pratten's and mobiles) in schools with surplus places.
- Work with the early years commissioning team to identify whether any pre-schools could move into surplus school accommodation. Particularly those pre-schools who are already on school sites in old mobiles.
- Work with the SEND team to identify whether any specialist SEN provision is needed in areas/schools with high levels of surplus places.
- Consider other community uses of school sites which can be achieved whilst maintaining safe school sites.
- Where there are high levels of surplus places across an area which cannot be removed through the above measures alone, closure of school/s will be considered.

14. The strategy then says that Wiltshire Council recognises the government's presumption against the closure of designated rural schools and will only bring forward proposals to close schools designated as rural where it can be demonstrated that one or more of the following criteria can be met:

- There is only very limited demand for places at the school from children living within the designated area.
- Surplus places at the school exceed 25%.
- Standards are low and there is little confidence in the likelihood of improvement.
- Recruitment of a head teacher has not proved possible.
- The necessary improvements to the school accommodation are either not possible or not cost effective.
- The school has a deficit budget without realistic prospects of recovery.

15. Once the strategy has been adopted, work on School Organisation Reviews can commence. It is important to note, that reviews are also necessary where demand is rising, not just falling. This will be particularly important for areas where there is a significant amount of new housing planned.

16. The fourth section of the Strategy looks at the Wiltshire level place planning data, including the birth rate, current cohort sizes, housing development, armed forces movements, and children arriving from overseas. In line with national trends there has been an overall drop in the birth rate in the last few years across Wiltshire from around 5,200 births a year to under 4,700. This is shown in the graph below.



17. The pressure on primary school places from 2009 was significant, but now the lower birth rate is beginning to feed into primary schools. The oldest children from the peak years have now begun to feed through into secondary education. We do see growth in cohorts between birth and when they start school. For instance, the 2017/2018 birth cohort had increased from 4914 to 5404 children by the time the cohort turned 4.

18. The number of pupils in mainstream Wiltshire schools as at January 2023, per cohort, were as follows:

Year Group	Rec	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Number of pupils	5068	5212	5520	5329	5527	5427	5572

Year Group	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13
Number of pupils	5679	5493	5210	5299	5057	2396	2228

19. The data above shows that the largest cohorts are now in year 7, and also key stage two so will be feeding into secondary schools over the next few years. As secondary schools will be admitting larger cohorts into year 7, whilst losing smaller numbers from the top of the school, the secondary sector will see significant growth. The opposite will be true for primary schools.

20. At the time of writing the Strategy, the draft local plan had not been published. However, information was included from the Housing Land Supply Statement April 2022 and the consultation on the local plan carried out in January 2021. School place planning is a continuous process and will continue to advise the local plan and vice versa.

21. The final section of strategy is broken down into community areas. The community areas are based on the geographical areas defined by the secondary school

catchments and feeder schools aligned to them. Each section includes information on the schools in the area, current and projected pupil numbers, surplus places, current and proposed new housing and the implications of this data on primary and secondary provision.

22. For each community area, any infrastructure projects that are required to ensure a sufficient supply of school places are summarised. The strategy does not seek approval for schemes nor allocation of funding. It simply provides a strategic view on where new schools or expansions may be required in the short, medium and long term. Cabinet approval to allocate funding for any new projects will be sought through the annual report on the School Capital Programme. It is anticipated that new projects will be funded by section 106 funding where demand is caused by new housing, or through the DfE Basic Need grant.
23. The draft School Places Strategy 2023 – 2027 was published for comments on the 1st March 2023. As well as being placed on the Council’s website, it was sent directly to all Councillors, Town and Parish Councils, schools, academy trusts and the relevant Diocese. A press release was also published on the 1 March 2023. Comments were received until the 31 March 2023.
24. The strategy has been received well by schools and academies trusts who have commented that the information contained is extremely useful for their own planning purposes and having data on the wider community areas enables them to understand the contextual position for their school/schools. Specific feedback was received from four schools, 2 parish councils, one Academy Trust and one Councillor.
25. These comments included:
 - Concern from one school regarding a new school proposed near them to meet the needs of new housing.
 - A Councillor request that consideration is given to transport and highways implications when schools are expanded or new schools are proposed.
 - A concern regarding the financial struggles faced by early years providers at present (not a consideration for this Strategy).
 - A concern (from a Parish Council) regarding the suggestion that secondary schools may be asked to host satellite provision on behalf of Special Schools.
26. Minor amendments have been made to the draft School Places Strategy to reflect the comments received and to provide further clarity where needed. The final version has been provided in Appendix 1 with this report.

Overview and Scrutiny Engagement

27. The Children’s Select Committee requested a briefing on the Strategy rather than receiving it at a meeting. This briefing was held on 17 July 2023.

Safeguarding Implications

28. Although there are no direct safeguarding implications arising from the adoption of the School Places Strategy, this a key document to ensure that children can access education in their local community. Insufficient school places, meaning that children would be without a school place, would create a safeguarding risk.

Public Health Implications

29. The built and natural environment is a key environmental determinant of health and wellbeing. Well planned locations for school places, particularly new schools, helps to encourage active travel which can lead to an increase in physical activity levels and improve physical and mental wellbeing. Active travel can also reduce over reliance on motorised transport, contributing to improved air quality and a reduction in road injuries.

Procurement Implications

30. There are no direct procurement implications relating to the adoption of the School Places Strategy. Any future procurement will be undertaken in line with corporate procedures following Cabinet approval to commence individual schemes.

Equalities Impact of the Proposal

31. The aim of the Strategy is to ensure a sufficient supply of school places for all. The Local Authority has a duty and responsibility to provide sufficient school places both in terms of mainstream and specialist provision to meet demand arising from all areas of the community including in response to inward migration. The strategy has also considered the needs arising from military moves into the county.
32. Through detailed planning and effective design, officers continue to ensure that all school building improvements promote and deliver equality of opportunity and access to facilities.
33. The Equalities Act 2010 states that reasonable adjustments must be taken into consideration in design. By adopting compliant design principles, and ensuring all schemes meet Building Regulations it should be possible to eradicate disability access difficulties and discrimination in new school buildings. This will be a fundamental objective of any rationalisation and/or expansion works carried out at existing school properties.

Environmental and Climate Change Considerations

34. The fundamental aim in planning school places is to provide places near to where children live, to meet parental preferences as far as possible; to locate schools at the heart of their communities and to minimise travel to school distances. Thus preventing car journeys and promoting active travel.
35. In future, any new schools and significant school expansions will be designed and built to be carbon neutral in operation although it must be recognised that this will significantly increase the cost of providing new schools.

Workforce Implications

36. There are no direct workforce implications associated with the adoption of the School Places Strategy.

Risks that may arise if the proposed decision and related work is not taken

37. There are no direct risks appertaining to this report, however it is essential that we put in place a strategy that has full engagement and agreement of stakeholders to enable

school places to be effectively planned in the future. Without an adopted strategy there will not be an agreed strategic direction for the provision of school places nor an agreed set of policies and principles to guide future work.

Risks that may arise if the proposed decision is taken and actions that will be taken to manage these risks.

38. There are no identified risks for adopting the School Places Strategy. If the Strategy is adopted this would help mitigate risks identified on the Corporate Risk Register, notably "Implement a school places strategy creating a good match between supply and demand for places" (risk code ES27), but also "Failure to meet the statutory duty to provide education to all" (risk code ES18).

Financial Implications

39. As previously explained, the strategy does not seek approval for schemes nor allocation of funding. It simply provides a strategic view on where new schools or expansions may be required in the short, medium and long term. Cabinet approval to allocate funding for any new projects will be sought through the annual report on the School Capital Programme. It is anticipated that new projects will be funded by section 106 funding where demand is caused by new housing, or through the DfE Basic Need grant.
40. The size of the revenue budget for distribution to all schools is determined by pupil numbers. This means that where pupil numbers reduce, schools may have insufficient budget to maintain standards and retain and recruit teachers, particularly head teachers. By taking out surplus places the LA can ensure effective overall provision within an area and within the school system.

Legal Implications

41. There are no specific legal implications from the implementation of this strategy although its adoption will help the Council to ensure it is able to meet the statutory duties to provide sufficient school places and promote parental choice.

Options Considered

42. Whilst there is no legal requirement for the Council to have a School Places Strategy it is considered good practice to do so. Having an up-to-date plan in place provides schools and the local community with information on how the Council will ensure an affective balance between the supply and demand for school places. The 2017 – 2022 strategy is now out of date and therefore replacing it with a new version is considered as the only option.

Conclusions

43. The School Places Strategy 2023- 2027 is therefore commended to Cabinet for approval.

Helean Hughes (Director, Education & Skills)

Report Author: Clara Davies, Head of School Place Commissioning,
clara.davies@wiltshire.gov.uk,

30 August 2023

Appendices

Appendix 1 - School Places Strategy 2023 - 2027

Background Papers

None

This page is intentionally left blank



Wiltshire

School Places Strategy

2023 – 2027

Page 241

Wiltshire Council

DRAFT

School Places Strategy 2023 – 2027 (Statutory School Age Only)

Table of Contents

		Page number
A	Context	
	A1 Wiltshire Context	5-7
	A2 Geographical and population context	
	A3 Wiltshire’s Statutory School Age Education Providers	
B	Legislation	7 - 14
	B1 Statutory Duties	
	B2 Policy on spare school places	
	B3 Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)	
	B4 Academies in Wiltshire	
	B5 Making changes to maintained schools	
	B6 Closing maintained schools	
	B7 Making changes to Academies	
	B8 Routes to opening new schools	
	B9 Wiltshire’s process for opening new schools	
C	Policies and Principles relevant to the provision of school places	15- 25
	C1 Principles of school place planning	
	C2 School performance	
	C3 Reorganisation of schools	
	C4 Primary schools	
	C5 Secondary schools	
	C6 Special schools	
	C7 School Organisation Review	
	C8 Location of new schools	
	C9 Capital investment	
	C10 Accessibility of school buildings	
	C11 Alternative Provision	
	C12 Schools in the wider community	
	C13 Admissions policy	
	C14 Early years and childcare	
	C15 14-19 Education and skills (to 25 years for children with learning difficulties and disabilities)	
	C16 Post 16	
D	School organisation and planning issues	26 - 29
	D1 Influencing factors	
	D2 Population overview	

E Detailed planning area assessments

30 - 143

- E1 Amesbury
- E2 Bradford-on-Avon
- E3 Calne
- E4 Chippenham
- E5 Corsham
- E6 Devizes
- E7 Downton
- E8 Durrington
- E9 Lavington
- E10 Malmesbury
- E11 Marlborough
- E12 Melksham
- E13 Mere
- E14 Pewsey
- E15 Purton
- E16 Royal Wootton Bassett
- E17 Salisbury
- E18 Tidworth
- E19 Tisbury
- E20 Trowbridge
- E21 Warminster
- E22 Westbury
- E23 Wroughton

F Implementation Plan 2023 – 2027

144 - 149

DRAFT

What is the School Places Strategy?

The School Places Strategy pulls together the information required to form a strategic view of the need for school places across Wiltshire. It provides a summary analysis of current provision, identifies gaps and over-provision and sets out how the LA intends to address these. Specifically, the strategy provides a revised and updated policy framework for considering the following:

- statutory proposals, (opening, closing and defining the size and organisation of schools);
- planning and commissioning new school provision;
- supporting the development of school organisation change including informal and formal school partnership arrangements which support school to school improvement and make efficient use of resources.

To be effective, the commissioning process requires the strategic planning of services based on an analysis of need, a set of policies and principles by which decisions will be made and well-defined processes for the implementation of proposals. Together these components make up the key requirements of a good commissioning process and provide a structure for this strategy. The strategy therefore sets out:

- demographic trends in Wiltshire including a summary of new major house building planned in Wiltshire;
- details of current school provision;
- an analysis of the impact of demographic changes on current provision – surplus places/deficit of places. The data is used by the Local Authority and its partners to inform decision making;
- emerging proposals for future provision of places for children and young people in Wiltshire.
- guiding policies and principles upon which decisions will be informed;
- details of the Council's strategy for capital investment in schools to secure a place for every child.

Who is the Strategy for?

The strategy is intended to help key stakeholders and partners in the Local Authority, schools, governors, parents, the churches, local communities, business, and other providers of education, to understand what school places are needed in Wiltshire, now, and in the future, and how they will be provided.

Context

A1 Wiltshire Context

A core ambition in the Wiltshire Council Business Plan is that all children and young people living in Wiltshire are entitled to the highest quality education so that they are able to fulfil their potential. The council has a statutory duty to ensure that sufficient places are available within their area for every child of school age whose parents wish them to have one; to promote diversity, parental choice and high educational standards; to ensure fair access to educational opportunity; and to help fulfil every child's educational potential.

The council also has a duty to respond to any representations from parents who are not satisfied with the provision of schools in the local area. This could be regarding the size, type, location or quality of school provision.

Since 2011, new providers of school places have been able to establish state-funded free schools outside of the local authority school planning process, and now all new schools are deemed to be free schools. There are also a growing number of schools that have converted to become academies, which are also independent of local authority control.

School places are no longer, therefore, solely provided by the council, and the council must work with these other providers to ensure that the need for school places is met. However, the council has a unique responsibility to make sure there are enough school places available for local children and young people. No other local or national body shares the duty to secure sufficient primary and secondary school places. Although there has been no statutory requirement to publish a School Organisation Plan since 2004, it is considered good practice to produce a plan related to pupil place planning to clearly set out the framework for, and approach towards, the provision of places.

This School Places Strategy shows local communities, and those interested in their development, how we expect school provision to change over the next few years. It brings together information from a range of sources and sets out the issues the council will face in meeting its statutory duties for providing school places up to 2027 and beyond.

The Plan draws on present and predicted future pupil numbers on roll, together with information about birth rates, school capacity, and new housing. The Plan sets out proposed changes in the number of school places available over the next few years and it suggests where other changes may be necessary in the future. The Plan also sets out our policies on school organisation and the statutory framework for making changes such as opening, closing or enlarging schools.

The Strategy is intended to help key stakeholders and partners in Children's Services, including the Local Authority, Academy Trusts, schools, governors, trustees, parents, the Diocese, local communities, business, and other providers of education, to understand what school places are needed in Wiltshire, both now and in the future, and how they might be provided.

A2 Geographical and population context

The planning and organisation of school places in the Local Authority is a complex task, not least because of the size and diversity of the county. At the 2011 Census, Wiltshire had a population of 470k, however the first release of population data from the 2021 Census now puts this at over 510k. The ONS also forecast further population growth by 2028. Wiltshire is a predominately rural county, with nearly half of the population living in towns or villages of fewer than 5,000 people. A quarter of the county's inhabitants live in settlements of fewer than

1,000 people. The areas of greatest deprivation in Wiltshire, as determined by the Indices of Multiple Deprivation, are parts of Trowbridge, Salisbury, Westbury, Melksham and Calne. Whilst the greatest concentrations of poverty are in neighbourhoods in towns, there is a more dispersed, often hidden, incidence in the rural parts of the county.

The armed forces have a significant presence, particularly in the south of the county and Lyneham, with around 34,000 military personnel and dependants in Wiltshire. This is likely to have increased since the 2011 census following the army rebasing programme which saw service personnel and their families relocated from Germany back to Salisbury Plain.

Wiltshire Council is one of the largest unitary authorities in England, covering an area of approximately 3,255 kilometres. Wiltshire adjoins the local authorities of Dorset, Somerset, South Gloucestershire, Oxfordshire, West Berkshire, Hampshire, Swindon and Bath & Northeast Somerset. Wiltshire is a largely rural area encompassing many natural and historic features which make it distinctive, including parts of three Areas of Outstanding Natural beauty, part of the New Forest National Park, over 16,000 listed buildings, over 240 conservation areas and a World Heritage Site.

Wiltshire enjoys strong sub-regional links and is within commutable distance of London, Bristol, Swindon, South Wales and the south coast. Wiltshire is made up of three larger settlements, several market towns and numerous villages and small settlements reflecting the rural nature of the county. The largest settlements are the historic cathedral city of Salisbury in the south, the county town of Trowbridge in the west, and the market town of Chippenham in the north. The city of Salisbury also serves a large surrounding rural area.

Wiltshire has a considerable variety of school buildings in terms of age and type. The Designation of Rural Primary Schools (England) 2022 Order came into force on 15 December 2022 which determined that 70 of Wiltshire's maintained primary schools were 'rural' with a presumption against their closure.

A3 Wiltshire's Statutory School Age Education Providers

Wiltshire has a wide diversity of mainstream school provision with:

- Community schools (infant, junior, primary, secondary and special)
- Voluntary Aided schools (primary and secondary)
- Voluntary Controlled schools (infant, junior and primary)
- Foundation schools (infant, junior, primary and secondary)
- Academies/Free Schools (primary, secondary, special and Post 16).

As at January 2023 there are 119 maintained schools and 116 academies in Wiltshire giving a total of 235 schools overall. The table below gives a breakdown of schools in Wiltshire by category.

Category	Primary	Secondary	Special	Total
Community	29	2	2	33
Foundation	8	1	0	9
Academy/Free School	89	25	2	116
Voluntary Aided/Controlled	76	1	0	77
Total	202	29	4	235

In addition to the special schools counted above, some mainstream primary schools include specialist resource bases to provide additional support to children with a high level of need whilst also having the opportunity to benefit from being included in a mainstream school. Primary resource bases support children with complex needs, autism and communication and interaction needs.

All pupils attending a special school or specialist resource base in Wiltshire will have an Education, Health and Care Plan. The decision about admission to a special school or resource base is based on clearly defined indicators. Each child is considered carefully according to their needs by a panel of experienced professionals. Parental views are taken into consideration. The current pattern of school provision includes several schools with a religious foundation and/or background.

B Policies and legislation

Set out below is a summary of key national legislation and local policies affecting school organisation.

B1 Statutory Duties

Education authorities have statutory duties to:

- Ensure sufficient school places (*Education Act 1996* Section 14).
- Increase opportunities for parental choice (Section 2 of the *Education and Inspections Act 2006*, which inserts sub-section 3A into S14 of the *Education Act 1996*).
- Comply with any preference expressed by parents provided compliance with the preference would not prejudice the provision of efficient education or the efficient use of resources (*School Standards and Framework Act 1998* Section 86).
- Ensure fair access to educational opportunity (Section 1 of the *Education and Inspections Act 2006* inserts sub-section 1(b) into S13 of the *Education Act 1996*).

Paragraph 94 of the *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF) states that it is important that a sufficient choice of school places is available to meet the needs of existing and new communities, and that local planning authorities should take a proactive, positive and collaborative approach to meeting this requirement, and to development that will widen choice in education. This includes local planning authorities giving great weight to the need to create, expand or alter schools when preparing plans and making decisions on planning applications.

B2 Policy on spare school places

Not all unfilled school places can be considered “surplus”. The Audit Commission advises that some margin of spare school capacity is necessary to provide some flexibility for unexpected influxes of children and expressions of parental preference. The 2013 National Audit Office report *Capital Funding for New School Places* suggested it is “reasonable for authorities to aim for between 5 and 10 per cent primary surplus to allow them some opportunity to respond to parental choice” (para 1.17) and that 5% is “the bare minimum needed for authorities to meet their statutory duty with operational flexibility, while enabling parents to have some choice of schools” (para 1.16). Some local authorities have had significantly more challenge than Wiltshire in placing children who have travelled to the UK under the Ukrainian Guest scheme where they have not held sufficient spare school places.

B3 Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

The *Children and Families Act 2014*, along with associated statutory guidance (*SEND Code of Practice 2015*) and other legislation, sets out the council's duties towards children and young people with special educational needs or disabilities. In addition, schools and local authorities have a duty to provide reasonable adjustments for disabled pupils, originally under the *Disability Discrimination Act 1995* and more recently under the *Equality Act 2010*.

In parallel to the development of new mainstream primary and secondary school capacity, the council has a duty to ensure sufficient provision for children with special educational needs. In March 2020, the Council approved a new SEND Inclusion Strategy 2020 – 2023. The new strategy creates a new vision for SEND for the future, building on the work of the SEND local area inspection, blending this work into that of the Health and Wellbeing board and wider strategies such as FACT and the development of the Bath, Swindon and Wiltshire CCG partnership (BSW).

The Vision created with stakeholders through consultation is:

“All children and young people with SEND and their families will have a voice that is heard. They will know how to access, and be able to access the joined-up support they need to thrive in their communities, to enjoy life and reach their full potential”

One of priorities of the plan for the next 3 years is to improve the range and quality of provision. Therefore, this School Places Strategy will for the first time include SEND place planning data and plans for improving the range of provision for pupils with SEND.

In parallel with mainstream school planning, Wiltshire Council have a Special School Transformation Team to undertake detailed place planning and ensuring sufficiency of SEND school placements. Place planning analysis suggests there will be a growth in demand for SEND school places of 7.2-7.7% (equating to 68 additional Special School places, plus a similar number of Resource Base places) every year between 2022 and 2027.

The requirement for SEND school placements varies by child. Their individual education and support needs are set out in their personal Educational Health Care Plans (EHCP). Children and Young People with SEND may have their needs met in mainstream schools, either with Enhanced Learning Provision or in a dedicated Resource Base. It is a key desire to support inclusive, local education for SEND learners, wherever it is possible or practical to do so. The SEND Inclusion Strategy sets out the ambition to include Resource Base provision in new schools wherever there is sufficient demand for SEND school places.

In 2022, resource bases exist in primary schools only. However, there are plans to develop resource bases within secondary schools too. The first secondary school resource bases will be offered to SEND learners from September 2023.

Where children and young people have more complex special educational needs or disabilities, their EHCP may state the requirement for a special school place. Wiltshire Council is growing the number of special school places – at Exeter House, Springfields, Downlands and Silverwood – to keep pace with growing demand. September 2023 will mark the opening of Salisbury Academy of Inspirational Learning, to add to the portfolio of special schools.

In common with mainstream school places, there is the desire to create a margin of spare SEND school capacity, in order to provide some flexibility for unexpected influxes of children and expressions of parental preference. There is a statutory duty to meet SEND needs, which means that many learners with SEND are currently placed in Independent Special Schools. Whilst Independent Special School (ISS) placements discharge the Council's statutory

obligations, the schools may be geographically distant from the family home. There is an ambition to increase special school provision in Wiltshire in order to offer choice to families; reduce travel times for children; and reduce the cost of ISS school places and travel to them.

B4 Academies in Wiltshire

As of June 2022, 86% of Wiltshire's secondary provision, 42% of primary provision and 50% of special schools are academies. Academies are not accountable to the council and receive their budget directly from central government.

The Academies Act 2010 enabled more schools to convert to academies, without always needing a sponsor. The Education Act 2011 expanded the programme to allow the establishment of 16-19 academies and alternative provision academies. In 2016 the Education and Adoption Act mandated Regional Schools Commissioners (RSC), acting on behalf of the Secretary of State for Education, to issue Academy Orders for any school judged to be inadequate by Ofsted. Local Authorities and governing bodies have been given a legal duty to facilitate this.

This legislation has a significant impact on the role of the local authority as the strategic commissioner of school places. Academies are responsible for setting their own admission number, and thus capacity and any plans for expansion, with the agreement of the RSC.

Capital funding for new pupil places in all government-funded schools (including academies) because of local demographic changes, is allocated to local authorities according to the relative need for new places, based on forecast data provided by authorities. In deciding where to use this funding to provide additional places, local authorities are expected to consider fairly both their maintained schools and local academies, and where the additional places will be of greatest benefit to their children.

In March 2022, the DfE published the Schools White Paper : *Opportunity for all, strong schools with great teachers for your child*. In this document they say that by 2030, all children will benefit from being taught in a family of schools, with their school in a strong multi academy trust or with plans to join or form one. In December 2022, the DfE stated that the White Paper would not be progressed, however, it is still the government's intention that schools join strong Multi-Academy Trusts.

B5 Making changes to maintained (non-academy) schools

The *School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013* set out the way in which decisions are made about proposals to enlarge local authority maintained (i.e., non-academy) schools or make other significant changes such as altering the age range.

In October 2018, the DfE released updated *Guidance: Making Prescribed Alterations to Maintained School*. The purpose of this guidance is stated as:

- to ensure that additional good quality school places can be provided quickly where they are needed - it is expected that, where possible, additional new places will only be provided at schools that have an overall Ofsted rating of 'good' or 'outstanding'.
- that local authorities and governing bodies do not take decisions that will have a negative impact on other schools in the area;
- and that changes can be implemented quickly and effectively where there is a strong case for doing so.

The legislation requires full consultation to take place, particularly with parents, staff and governors. A statutory consultation and decision-making process must be followed to make the following “prescribed alterations”, whether they are proposed by the local authority or by the school governing body:

- Proposed permanent enlargement of the premises of the school, where this is both by more than 30 pupils and by at least 25% or 200 pupils (whichever is the lesser). For SEN schools these thresholds are 10% or 20 pupils, whichever is the lesser.
- Expansion onto a satellite site; closure of a satellite site, where the satellite is more than 1 mile from the main site; or transfer to a new site, where this is more than two miles from the current site.
- Decrease in the number of pupils in SEN schools (in mainstream schools, reductions in Published Admission Numbers are consulted on in accordance with the School Admissions Code).
- Establish/remove/alter SEN provision within a mainstream school.
- Change of types of need catered for by a special school.
- Establishing, removing or altering SEN provision at a mainstream school
- Closing an additional site, or transferring to a new site
- Change of age range.
- Change of category.
- Single sex school becoming co-educational, or vice versa.
- Change of boarding provision.
- Amalgamations.

For proposals to create school sixth forms:

- These are only expected to be allowed for schools which are rated as ‘good’ or ‘outstanding’ by Ofsted, with a history of positive Progress 8 scores, and where there is a genuine need for more sixth form places.
- The proposed sixth form should provide places for a minimum of 200 students and either directly or through partnership, offer a minimum of 15 A level subjects.
- Financial viability should be demonstrated through evidence of financial resilience should student numbers fall and that the proposal will not impact negatively on 11-16 education or cross subsidisation of funding.

An increase to a mainstream school's Published Admission Number that does not require a physical enlargement to the premises of the school does not require this statutory process. An increase in pupil numbers may be achieved solely by increasing the admission number in line with the School Admissions Code.

Changes that are not counted as a “prescribed alteration” can be made by the local authority or school governing body without following a statutory process; they are nevertheless required to adhere to the usual principles of public law. They must act rationally, take account of all relevant and no irrelevant considerations and follow a fair procedure. Local authorities and governing bodies are expected to work together on such changes, taking into account the wider place planning context.

Prescribed Alterations Regulations also apply to resource base and special school provision for SEND learners. In most cases, Prescribed Alterations processes are applied to respond to an increase in SEND pupil numbers.

B6 Closing maintained (non-academy) schools

The *School Organisation (Establishment and Discontinuance of Schools) Regulations 2013* set out the way in which decisions are made about proposals to close local authority maintained schools. In November 2019, the DfE released updated guidance on *Opening and Closing Maintained Schools*. The purpose of the guidance is stated as:

- To ensure that good quality school places are provided where they are needed, and that surplus capacity is removed where necessary.

Local authorities have the power to close all categories of maintained schools. The governing body of a voluntary, foundation, or foundation special school may also publish proposals to close its own school. Decisions related to school closures are taken by the local authority following a statutory process to allow those directly affected by the proposals to feed in their comments.

Reasons for closing a maintained school include, but are not limited to, where:

- wider school reorganisation means that the school is now surplus to requirements (e.g. because there are surplus places elsewhere in the local area which can accommodate displaced pupils, and there is no predicted demand for the school in the medium or long term);
- it is to be “amalgamated” with another school (see below);
- it has been judged inadequate by Ofsted and there is no sponsored academy solution;
- it is to acquire, lose or change its religious character;
- it is no longer considered viable; or
- it is being replaced by a new school.

There are alternative options for support where a small school or where small schools are struggling financially due to falling actual and predicted numbers of children attending.

Where two (or more) schools are to be amalgamated, the legal process for this is to either close the schools and open a new one, or to close one (or more) of the schools and expand another to accommodate the displaced pupils. School amalgamations therefore require a statutory school closure process.

There is a presumption against closure of rural schools. This does not mean that such schools cannot be closed, but the case for closure should be strong and a proposal must be clearly in the best interests of educational provision in the area. In considering the DfE’s list of schools with designated rural status, (under the Designation of Rural Primary Schools [England] Order 2022 as at December 2022) there are 70 rural maintained primary schools in Wiltshire. The Order designates certain primary schools as rural primary schools for the purposes of section 15 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006. Section 15 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 requires that when either a local authority or governing body of certain schools formulates proposals for the discontinuance of a rural primary school it has regard to specific factors. These factors include the likely effect of discontinuance on the local community and any alternatives to the discontinuance of the school. Before publishing proposals for discontinuance, the local authority or governing body must consult certain persons, including parents.

The Secretary of State may direct a local authority to close a maintained school requiring special measures (under section 68 of EIA 2006). This will usually be done only where there is no prospect of the school making sufficient improvements and where there is a sufficient supply of alternative school places in the area. Prior to making the direction, the Secretary of State must consult with the local authority, the governing body, and – in the case of a voluntary

or foundation school – the diocese or other appointing authority. Such a direction will not require the publication of a statutory proposal for the school's closure.

Under Section 17 of EIA 2006 the Secretary of State may also direct a local authority to close a community special or foundation special school if he/she considers it is in the interests of the health, safety or welfare of the pupils.

Further information is available from www.gov.uk in the section *School organisation: statutory guidance*.

B7 Making changes to academies

New guidance on *Making significant changes to an open academy* was published by the government in January 2022. The guidance emphasises the need for compatibility with local place planning. This includes “a strong expectation that academy trusts should work collaboratively with local authorities on pupil place planning, taking into account the increases or decreases in pupil numbers forecast in the area, especially in areas of basic need”, in order to support their local authority to provide sufficient school places for all pupils in its area. This could be through academies expanding their school premises, increasing their admission number or admitting over their admission number.

Significant changes need to be approved by the Regional Director (RD) and may require a full business case, or in some cases can follow a fast-track route. In both cases, consultations should be undertaken for at least four weeks with all those who could be affected and should include public and stakeholder meetings. For changes to admission arrangements, a six-week consultation period is required.

The “fast track” route only applies to academies rated as ‘good’ or ‘outstanding’ in their last inspection by Ofsted, which have a latest Progress 8 score of at least the national average, are in good financial health, have the capacity to make the change and can provide evidence that the local authority (and, if applicable, the trustees or diocese) do not object to the change. Fast track can apply to:

- Physical expansion of academies (with the exception of satellite expansions and expansion of sixth form provision or UTCs/studio schools)
- Change of age range by up to two years (excluding adding or removing a sixth form).
- Adding or increasing boarding provision.

However, a full business case is specifically required for proposals which:

- Reduce places in an area of basic need;
- Have received objections from the local authority and/or neighbouring schools, trustees or the diocese that the proposed change could potentially undermine the quality of education provided by other ‘good’ or ‘outstanding’ schools in the area;
- by creating additional places where there is already surplus capacity;
- Seek to set up a satellite site to the school;

Other proposals which require a full business case are:

- Expansion onto an additional or satellite site.
- Expansion of SEN academies by at least 20% or 20 pupils (whichever is the lesser).
- Changing age range by three or more years.
- Amalgamating with another academy.
- De-amalgamations.

- Faith-related changes.
- Transfer to another site if over 2 miles from existing site
- Change of gender composition.
- Change in type of SEN provision, or changes affecting provision reserved for pupils with SEN.
- Decreasing boarding provision by at least 50 pupils or 50% (whichever is the greater).

Further information is available from www.gov.uk in the document *Making significant changes to an open academy*.

B8 Routes to opening new schools

The Education Act 2011 amended the Education and Inspections Act 2006 to change the arrangements for establishing new schools. In November 2018, the DfE released updated guidance on *Opening and Closing Maintained Schools*. The purpose of the guidance is stated as:

- To ensure that good quality school places are provided where they are needed, and that surplus capacity is removed where necessary.

Most new schools will now be established as academies, and since May 2015, all new academies are classified as free schools. There are a few limited circumstances in which the establishment of a new non-academy school can be proposed. Sections 10 and 11 of the EIA 2006 permit proposals to establish new schools under certain conditions either *with* the Secretary of State's consent (section 10 cases) or *without* (section 11 cases).

- A new community or foundation school to replace an existing maintained school (section 10);
- A new foundation or voluntary controlled school (section 10);
- A new voluntary aided school to meet demand for a specific type of place (section 11);
- A new community or foundation primary school that is to replace a maintained infant and a maintained junior school (section 11);
- A new school resulting from the reorganisation of existing faith schools in an area, including an existing faith school losing or changing its religious designation (section 11);
- A new foundation or community school, where suitable academy/Free School proposals have not been identified and a competition has been held but did not identify a suitable provider (section 11)
- A former independent school wishing to join the maintained sector (section 11); or
- A new maintained nursery school.

Excluding these circumstances, new schools are established as academies through two routes:

- The free school presumption process requires local authorities to seek proposals to establish a free school where they have clearly identified the need for a new school in their area. These are often referred to as "presumption" schools or LA-led proposals. The local authority runs a competitive process to invite potential academy sponsors to run the new school.
- Proposers can also apply directly to the DfE to establish a free school, through time-limited application waves. These are often referred to as "wave" schools or "central route" proposals. This route may be subject to specific criteria, for example in 2019, wave 14 for mainstream schools was targeted at areas with both low educational

standards and demonstrable basic need for additional school places, which excluded Wiltshire.

The government also runs variations of the free school process for specific types of free school. For example, in 2019, Wiltshire was successful in submitting a bid for a new special school through a joint special and alternative provision free schools' wave. This new school will open in Salisbury in September 2023.

B9 Wiltshire's process for opening new schools

In November 2019, the DfE published updated guidance on opening new academies, entitled *The Free School Presumption*. Where the council identifies the need for a new school, for example to meet the needs of housing growth, section 6A of EIA 2006 places it under a duty to seek proposals to establish a free school via the "free school presumption". The publication, in this School Places Strategy, of the expected forward programme of new schools, provides academy trusts interested in opening new schools in Wiltshire with prior notice of future opportunities. In some cases, academy sponsors may choose to submit an application through an appropriate central government wave route for a school which the council has identified as a future need, and if such a bid is successful, any free school presumption process would be ended, or deemed not necessary.

New schools may include a Resource Base to meet the needs of SEND learners. The requirement for a Resource Base will be determined by need, as identified in the SEND Place Planning Analysis.

For all new schools which do not yet have an identified sponsor, the council seeks to liaise proactively with any groups interested in applying for a free school, as well as with the DfE, to ensure that all new schools support the local authority's statutory duty to provide sufficient school places aspirations.

The decision on all new free school proposals lies with the Secretary of State. Following a presumption process, the local authority recommends its preferred proposer to the Secretary of State, who will take this into account when choosing an academy sponsor, along with any additional factors of which the DfE is aware. The Secretary of State's decision is delegated to the Regional Director (RD) for the area in which the school will be located.

Within Wiltshire, the presumption process for identifying preferred providers for new academies is:

- i. Undertake public consultation to decide the academy model to be implemented and finalise the education specification for the new academy, based on the model specification template. Notify the DfE that applications will be sought, including sending specification.
- ii. Invite initial Expressions of Interest (EoI) in running the school. All EoIs must be submitted to the DfE who will advise of potential issues.
- iii. Assess expressions of interest against the specification and the criteria in current DfE guidance.
- iv. Invite detailed bids from three or fewer providers. When received, submit to the DfE, allowing at least 4 weeks for the DfE to provide written feedback on the capacity, capability and recent performance of each proposer, before the assessment panel.
- v. Assessment panel to include a presentation from each shortlisted bidder, and agreement of assessment against criteria. Cabinet Member to approve choice of recommended sponsor. Submit recommendation and assessments, including scoring of the proposals, to the Regional Director, as representative of the Secretary of State.

- vi. Await RSC decision before making any public announcement. DfE notifies successful proposer, LA and local MP; LA notifies other parties.
- vii. LA and selected sponsor develop proposal to allow a funding agreement to be approved by Secretary of State.
- viii. Should the process not identify a satisfactory sponsor at the first attempt, at the discretion of the Cabinet member for Children's Services, Education and Skills the process could be rerun from the detailed bid stage (d) rather than beginning again with Expressions of Interest.

Further information is available from www.gov.uk in the section *School organisation: statutory guidance*.

C Policies and principles relevant to the provision of school places

C1 Principles of School Place Planning

As a local authority (LA) Wiltshire Council is responsible for planning and providing sufficient school places in appropriate locations. To do so the LA must monitor the supply of school places against forecasts of future demand. The size of the revenue budget for distribution to all schools is determined by pupil numbers. This means that where pupil numbers reduce, schools may have insufficient budget to maintain standards and retain and recruit teachers, particularly head teachers. By taking out surplus places and facilitating the closure or amalgamation of schools that are unviable, the LA can ensure effective overall provision within an area and within the school system.

School place planning and ensuring schools are of the right size for the future enables (where appropriate), surplus space to be considered for alternative uses, including pre-schools, resource bases and community purposes. Falling rolls in rural areas have previously necessitated the closure or amalgamation of some primary schools.

The LA would consider the concept of 4 to 19 all through schools, particularly where numbers of secondary pupils are low and a local school could serve the whole community. Where possible the use of extensive transport to alternative schools will be avoided so that funds can be devoted to educational purposes.

Where the school population is growing the LA will identify where additional places may be required, either by expanding existing schools or by commissioning new schools on new sites within the community.

The LA will, in all cases, consult with the head teacher, staff, governors, Academy trustees, the relevant Diocesan Authority (where appropriate) and the local community where any major re-organisation of provision is proposed. Such factors as the number of available and required places, school performance, the condition and suitability of the school buildings as well as parental choice, community issues and resources available, will be considered in respect of both general and specific places planning.

C2 School performance

Raising achievement for all learners is one of the key priorities for the LA and all school planning decisions should support and promote the improvement of educational standards. This means that the performance of an existing school, or group of schools, is an important factor to be taken into consideration when proposals to add or remove capacity or make other structural changes are being formulated. Any proposals for reviewing school organisation will take account of OFSTED inspection reports and other relevant performance data on the school(s) involved.

In the creation of a Resource Base, there is the presumption that the school/group of schools offering new provision will be OFSTED Good or Outstanding.

C3 Re-organisation of schools

Small and rural schools

In line with government guidance, Wiltshire Council is committed to developing innovative solutions to enable small and rural schools and communities to continue to thrive and flourish. By working with governing bodies and senior leaders of all schools, the Local Authority aims to encourage a partnership approach to sustain schools and thus support the delivery of educational excellence. We want every young person regardless of location, attainment and background, the opportunity to succeed within our Local Authority borders and beyond. It is our aim for all pupils to be able to access high quality education and this will only be sustainable when an establishment is financially viable.

In order to respond to the very specific pressures faced by small and rural schools, this strategy provides a range of creative opportunities for school leaders, governing boards and trusts to consider in order to sustain the provision of sufficient, quality school places and schools of a viable size that continue to serve the diverse needs of vibrant rural and urban communities. Essentially, the Council will work with all schools to broker innovative solutions based on a collective responsibility to meet the needs of the children and young people in Wiltshire. It is intended to assist all headteachers, senior leadership teams, governing bodies and Trusts to formulate a strategic plan.

C4 Primary schools

The preferred size for new primary schools is 420 places (2FE), but the Council will consider schools in the range of 210 places to 630 places (1FE to 3FE) where appropriate and will only seek to open new primary schools of full or half forms of entry.

Where a new primary phase school is required, this will be built as an all through primary school, rather than separate infant or junior schools. Wiltshire Council will continue to seek opportunities to amalgamate separate infant and junior schools where the sites lend themselves to a single institution.

Whilst Wiltshire Council does define optimum sizes for new schools it recognises that there will be many schools falling outside this range which provide excellent education. Factors that can affect the size of a school include local population, site constraints, popularity, distance to nearest urban hub etc.

Wiltshire Council will plan to provide school places in schools with sizes which promote viable and sustainable schools which do not require disproportionate financial support and viable class organisation structures.

Historically, the definition of what constitutes a small school has varied greatly. The DfE now refers to small schools as having fewer than 210 pupils on roll. However, Wiltshire Council locally draws a distinction between the size of very small schools and small schools as follows:

- Very small schools – schools with fewer than 60 children on roll (8 schools)
- Small schools – schools with fewer than 120 children on roll (60 schools)

As at January 2023, the number of very small and small schools by category were as follows:

Category	Number of Schools	
	Very Small (under 60)	Small (between 60 and 120)
Community	1	3
Foundation	0	0
Academy/Free School	6	22
Voluntary Aided	1	12
Voluntary Controlled	1	17
Total	9	54

Schools are expected to achieve good outcomes for their pupils, put effective governance in place and manage their financial affairs efficiently and demonstrate sustainability. Small schools face particular financial challenges and when operating alone are unable to benefit from economies of scale in the way in which larger school can. Pressures faced by small schools are intensified with the implementation of national changes to school finance and the inspection framework.

Wiltshire Council believes that:

- Parental preference is a key consideration and ability to access a school place close to home within the local community is an important factor.
- Securing the sustainability of schools is best achieved working in partnership.
- Good financial health is essential for achieving educational excellence.
- The quality of education is of paramount importance and closure of small schools which are no longer individually viable is a last resort.

Schools in Wiltshire have a strong record of working in partnership in a variety of ways and the Council has always been keen to promote this approach.

In March 2022, the DfE published the Schools White Paper: *Opportunity for all, strong schools with great teachers for your child*. In this document they say that by 2030, all children will benefit from being taught in a family of schools, with their school in a strong multi academy trust or with plans to join or form one. Although in December 2022 the DfE stated that it would no longer legislate, and that the timeline of 2030 was no longer in place the principle of schools joining strong Trusts remains. The elements of the White Paper that remain relevant to this document are as follows in terms of the specific approach of the department:

- All schools will provide a high quality and inclusive education within the resilient structure of a strong trust, sharing expertise, resources and support to help teachers and leaders deliver better outcomes for children.
- The best trusts in the system will work where they are needed most, levelling up standards, and transforming previously underperforming schools.
- Every part of the system, from strong trusts to local authorities, will be held accountable to a set of clear roles and responsibilities, so that no child falls through the cracks.

A subsequent Schools Bill was presented to Parliament in May 2022 to provide the regulatory foundation for the move towards a fully trust-led school system and as stated above will no longer be legislated on.

The LA will therefore continue to support schools who are looking to convert to academy status but also continue to support a range of other options which governors may wish to consider as we encourage through the Wiltshire Learning Alliance, a family of schools model.

It may be helpful to consider this as a continuum:

- Partnership - sometimes referred to as soft-federation: two or more schools establish informal and formal agreements to work together. This is where two or more schools establish a formal agreement to work together and might share one executive Head Teacher, whilst retaining individual Governing Bodies for each school involved. However, the longevity of the model can be limited as personnel assume acting roles.
- Collaboration - a formal partnership model using the collaborative regulations to establish a joint committee which has powers delegated to it, but schools still retain their own governing bodies. The purpose of any collaboration is to work together to raise standards, promote inclusion, find new ways of approaching teaching and learning and build capacity between schools in a coherent manner.
- Federation (sometimes referred to as hard-federation) - This is where two or more schools might be led by one executive Head teacher and governed collectively under a single governing body. This can work particularly well in schools that are geographically close, such as Infant and Junior schools for example. The model provides permanency and new appointees can then be appointed to the Federation.

A key feature at all stages of this continuum is that the status of each individual school does not change. Even within a federation each school keeps its DfE number, has its own budget and is inspected separately whether by Ofsted and through a Section 48 Inspection if the school has a religious character.

Another option which does change the status of individual schools and will require the legal process to be followed as detailed in section B5 above, is:

- Amalgamation - this is where two or more schools come together as one school, one DfE number, one Head Teacher, one Governing Body and one Ofsted inspection.

The benefits of adopting one of these alternative models can be as follows:

- Standards are raised by increasing capacity and opportunities
- Ensures sustainability of leadership
- Secures effective governance
- Supports and sustains small rural schools
- Addresses falling rolls
- Maximises financial resources

C5 Secondary schools

The preferred minimum size for an 11 to 16 secondary school is 900 (6FE) with the preferred maximum of 1,800 (12FE) pupils. Wiltshire Council however recognises that provision in some communities may fall outside the ideal size of secondary school and demand for additional places could be met either by expanding existing schools, if there is sufficient capacity on the site, or by new provision located within a new housing community.

The SEND Inclusion Strategy 2020 – 2023 establishes the ambition to increase the range of provision open to learners with SEND. Historically, resource base provision in Wiltshire has been limited to primary school sites. From September 2023 there are plans to introduce Secondary Resource Bases to support learners with SEND – particularly those who have enjoyed a Resource Base education at primary school; and children who require specialist additional support for their secondary education.

As part of plans to expand SEND provision to meet growing demand, secondary schools may be asked to host satellite provision on behalf of Special Schools. In this scenario, children will remain on roll of the special school (who will oversee attendance, education and learning and therapeutic support), but they will be educated on mainstream school sites.

C6 Special schools

Wiltshire Council has the need to grow special school places between 2022 and 2027 in order to meet rising demand.

Special schools need to be of sufficient size to provide appropriate facilities and opportunities to meet the needs of the range of pupils they admit and to act as resource and outreach centres for other schools and pupils. In addition to classroom and communal spaces, special schools typically need additional space for therapeutic support and consulting rooms for visiting professionals.

The size of special school will depend on the age range of pupils and the type/nature of special educational needs that they cater for. Wherever possible, the size of facilities will be determined in accordance with the DfE space standards guidance contained in BB104.

Work is ongoing to review special needs provision across the county to ensure future demand can be met moving forward. It is acknowledged that an increasing number of children in Wiltshire who have higher level SEN who will have an Education Health Plan who will also need specialist educational settings due to:

- Housing growth
- The arrival of new military families and
- The impact of the Children and Families Act 2014.

The most recent projections suggest that there will be 661 additional children and young people with an EHCP by 2026. Of these children and young people, it is projected that 221 will need special school places, and 156 would benefit from specialist places in primary and secondary mainstream schools in Resource Bases and Enhanced Learning Provision (ELP).

For mainstream schools this may require additional or expanded classrooms, while for special schools this may be new classrooms or whole new schools, as currently Wiltshire's special schools are at capacity and in some cases, have no physical space on which to create further growth.

C7 School Organisation Review

Educational viability, efficiency and effectiveness are all potential triggers for considering a review of school organisation and subsequent re-organisation of school provision in an area. The 'triggers' that might provide an indication that a review is necessary are set out below.

1. Where there are concerns over standards, identified by Ofsted or the LA, at one or more schools in an area
2. Where there are significant surplus places across an area, usually exceeding 25%
3. Where there is a significant shift in parental preferences for a school and the intake of a school consistently varies by 20% from its published admission number.
4. Where there is population change in an area (to include growth from new housing)
5. Where there are school premises issues and accommodation seriously impacts upon learning
6. Where the financial viability of school/s is called into question when funding impacts negatively on the delivery of the full range of curriculum opportunities and organisation of classes.

As part of a school organisation review, in order to remove surplus places and secure the long term educational and financial stability of Wiltshire schools, the following will be considered:

- Identify schools which can temporarily or permanently lower their Published Admissions Numbers (PAN). This would create a better fit between demand and places and would enable more effective planning, class organisation, higher class size numbers and therefore increased efficiency. PAN's which are multiples of 15 are preferred for class organisation purposes.
- Remove and not replace temporary accommodation (Pratten's and mobiles) in schools with surplus places.
- Work with the early years commissioning team to identify whether any pre-schools could move into surplus school accommodation. Particularly those pre-schools who are already on school sites in old mobiles.
- Work with the SEND team to identify whether any specialist SEN provision is needed in areas/schools with high levels of surplus places.
- Consider other community uses of school sites which can be achieved whilst maintaining safe school sites
- Where there are high levels of surplus places across an area which cannot be removed through the above measures alone, closure of school/s will be considered.

Wiltshire Council recognises the government's presumption against the closure of designated rural schools and will only bring forward proposals to close schools designated as rural where it can be demonstrated that one or more of the following criteria can be met:

- There is only very limited demand for places at the school from children living within the designated area.
- Surplus places at the school exceed 25%.
- Standards are low and there is little confidence in the likelihood of improvement.
- Recruitment of a head teacher has not proved possible.
- The necessary improvements to the school accommodation are either not possible or not cost effective.
- The school has a deficit budget without realistic prospects of recovery.

The Council will only look to expand popular and successful schools where the demand is coming from within the catchment area. The creation of additional places at a popular school, at the expense of other existing schools, will be avoided. Additional places will only be created where they are needed to meet in catchment demand.

However, not all schools are capable of expansion because of site constraints. In Building Bulletin 103 (BB103), the DFE provide minimum and maximum area guidelines for school sites, which take into account the number and age of pupils. In 2017 the Council carried out high level strategic studies at schools in urban areas which had in excess of the minimum site in accordance with BB103. The strategic studies identified sites with expansion potential and considered other site constraints, such as access, flooding, planning issues, and utilities. Where additional places are required, it may be necessary to expand a school which has expansion potential rather than the school closest to new housing. The school to be expanded should however be within a 2-mile safe walking route of the area of growth, unless this is not possible.

Primary School Resource Bases typically accommodate 20 - 30 SEND learners, across 2 or 3 classrooms. Unlike mainstream primary schools where children are organised according to age or year group, Resource Base classrooms may be organised according to need or primary designation. In common with mainstream schools, recommended space standards are set out in Building Bulletin 104 (BB104), the DFE provide minimum and maximum area guidelines for special school sites - which take account the number, age and special needs of pupils.

C8 Location of new schools

The fundamental aim in planning school places is to provide places near to where children live, to meet parental preferences as far as possible; to locate schools at the heart of their communities and to minimise travel to school distances. Wiltshire Council believes that where additional school places are needed because of new housing development, as far as possible the costs should fall on the landowners and/or developers, by way of contributions falling within the concept of planning obligations. Wiltshire has an agreed methodology for calculating the infrastructure needs arising from new development. A policy for requesting contributions from developers and for the use of such funding is in place.

It is Wiltshire Council policy that where significant number of new places are needed, new primary schools should be provided, wherever possible, within major new housing developments. The site should ideally be within walking distance of most the development and Wiltshire Council will seek, through the planning processes, to provide for safe routes to school for pedestrians and cyclists. Sites of a suitable size to enable future expansion will be sought where the school can provide a natural focus for the local community, possibly in association with other local facilities such as shops or other community buildings.

Where there is proven demand for SEND school places, Wiltshire Council would expect primary school provision to be extended to include a primary resource base. In many instances, the Council is obligated to provide school transport for learners with SEND. Therefore, any new schools with a Resource Base will also need additional disabled car parking and safe drop off and collection points.

Where a new secondary school is planned, a site will be sought that provides safe pedestrian and cycling routes and, because of the longer distances travelled, good safe access for those pupils arriving by public and school transport. To discourage the use of private cars, schools are expected to prepare and maintain a Travel Plan. The council has a Schools Travel Plan officer to support schools with implementing their plans.

Wiltshire Council recognises the importance of considering distance of travel from home to school when planning new developments to reduce dependence on subsidised bus travel and encourage safe walking and cycling to school

C9 Capital investment

The Council has a statutory duty to provide sufficient school places to meet the demand arising across Wiltshire, whether from demographic or population change, strategic housing development growth or military moves. The Council receives annual capital funding allocations from the Department for Education (DfE) for basic need (new places) and condition (school capital maintenance).

Basic Need funding can be spent at all categories of school. Condition funds received by the Council are for community, voluntary controlled and foundation schools only. Academies and VA schools receive funds directly to the responsible body and/or can apply to the DfE for Condition Improvement Funds (CIF).

The Condition Improvement Fund (CIF) is an annual bidding round for eligible academies, sixth-form colleges and VA schools to apply for capital funding. The priority for the fund is to address significant condition need, keeping education provider buildings safe and in good working order. This includes funding projects to address health and safety issues, building compliance and poor building condition.

CIF also supports a small proportion of expansion projects. These are for academies, sixth-form colleges and VA schools rated good or outstanding by Ofsted that can demonstrate a need to expand.

The condition funding received by the Council is for essential structural works e.g. roofs, walling, windows, drainage etc in addition to plant (electrical and mechanical works (heating/lighting etc)). All other day to day maintenance works and low-level cost works are the schools' responsibility funded from their delegated or devolved funds.

The Council also secures wherever possible, S106 developer contributions and will seek Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) planning obligations for essential school infrastructure in areas of new housing development which are usually project or school specific. These funds can only be secured for additional pupil places and cannot be used for condition works.

It is recognised that pupils benefit from high quality learning environments and equipment. Capital investment priorities are based on requirements to:

- Provide sufficient places to meet the needs of local communities
- Provide healthy and safe environments
- Meet curricular and organisational needs
- Enhance physical access to buildings
- Replace temporary accommodation with permanent where necessary
- Implement key strategic initiatives.

Wiltshire Council receive High Needs Capital Grant to support the creation of places for learners with SEND. Where S106 developer contributions and High Needs Capital Grant may be used to build new facilities or refurbish and re-model existing school facilities.

C10 Accessibility of school buildings

Improving access to education and securing educational achievement for pupils with SEND is essential to ensure equality of opportunity, full participation in society, access to employment opportunities and inclusion within mainstream schools. Wiltshire's inclusion vision is that every disabled child and young person in the county should achieve their potential educationally, socially and in their personal life. Wiltshire Council is committed to increasing the accessibility of schools, wherever possible and where reasonable adaptations can be made, to support the admission of pupils with physical or sensory impairment.

C11 Alternative Provision

Section 19 of the Education Act 1996 requires the Council to make suitable alternative education for children of statutory school age who cannot attend school because of illness, exclusion or for any other reason.

Inclusion funding was devolved to secondary schools under the DfE the Power to Innovate' (PTI) in accordance with this section of the Act for those pupils permanently excluded or at risk of permanent exclusion. The trial ended in August 2014, and it was agreed by head teachers and Council officers that the arrangements would continue based on a service level Agreement.

The SLA does not remove the head teachers' right to permanently exclude a pupil or parental rights to appeal against any exclusion. It does mean that any pupil permanently excluded will remain the responsibility of the school until a new roll is identified and alternative arrangements have been agreed. If a pupil acts in a way that means they cannot be educated on the school site, then the school will arrange and fund appropriate off-site provision, subject to review.

The SLA has been updated and agreed with schools on a three yearly basis and is due to be renewed in March 2023.

Primary behaviour support is largely carried out in schools and takes the form of support for school staff to develop and maintain good inclusive practice so that permanent exclusion is not necessary. Any pupil permanently excluded is provided with full time education to enable them to be included back into a school. A school place for a permanently excluded pupil is found via the Fair Access Protocol. A copy of the Fair Access Protocol can be accessed via the following link:

<http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/schools-learning-forms-guides-policies>

C12 Schools in the wider community

Wiltshire Council recognises that schools should act as a focus for the local community in a way that extends beyond the education of children who attend the school. The council recognises the importance of schools engaging with their local communities to promote social inclusion and community cohesion as an integral part of ensuring success for all children. This is particularly important for communities with a high proportion of vulnerable families.

In co-operation with agencies and other organisations, many schools have facilities which are made available to the wider community including sports and leisure complexes, ICT facilities, playgroups, childcare facilities, adult education and youth provision. School facilities are increasingly being made available for evening, weekend and holiday use making more effective use of the resources available.

C13 Admissions policy

The Admissions Team administers Wiltshire's co-ordinated admissions scheme. This includes admissions to all schools including academies as well as 'In Year' admissions. The team also deals with the admission of hard-to-place pupils under the Fair Access Protocol, which is used to ensure these pupils are placed in a school quickly and with the appropriate support. The protocol also ensures that no school receives more than their fair share of difficult or challenging pupils by working with head teachers to ensure the equitable distribution between schools.

There is a wide range of admissions authorities as each academy, foundation or voluntary aided school has its own Admission Policy. The admissions team currently co-ordinate applications to place more than 18,000 children in schools each year, including those of service personnel. The knowledge, understanding and data that the team holds contributes to successful school organisation and place planning. Admissions statistics, which are produced annually, are used to support the school place planning process, ensuring that sufficient places are provided to meet parental preference where possible.

Admissions authorities, including the LA, must have regard to the Admissions Code in determining their admission arrangements, which includes expansions and contractions of school capacities. Up to date details of the Wiltshire schools' admissions processes can be found on the Wiltshire Council website via the following link:

<https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/schools-learning-forms-guides-policies>

C14 Early years and childcare

In Wiltshire, all three and four-year-old children are currently entitled to 15 hours funded part-time nursery education. Working parents with children aged three and four are entitled to an additional 15 hours per week.

These places are available in pre-schools, full day-care nurseries, independent schools, nursery classes in schools and with childminders. Settings can be managed by a school or privately run and many in Wiltshire are run by the voluntary sector. They are often situated on school sites and use is also made of local facilities such as community & church halls and through private accommodation. Early Years Entitlement funding is available to settings with at least a Requires Improvement Ofsted judgment. The 40% most disadvantaged two-year-olds are able to access 15 hours early education in an Ofsted judged Good or Outstanding setting, in Wiltshire, this funding is known as 'Better 2gether Funding'.

Childcare sufficiency is assessed three times a year through occupancy surveys. This gives an indication of the capacity of settings and alongside proposed housing developments produces a picture of need. A childcare census is undertaken every year, and this is used with live birth data to consider whether there is a need for additional provision.

Wiltshire has 10 Children's Centre buildings located across the county. Children's centre services are also provided in a range of venues in local communities so that families can access support close to where they live as well as services being available online and via telephone if required. Two voluntary organisations - Spurgeons and The RISE Trust, are funded to deliver children's centre services in Wiltshire with the aim to support all children to get the best start in life.

C15 Education and Skills (to 25 years for learners with learning difficulties and disabilities)

Wiltshire Council remains committed to working in partnership with all providers – schools, free schools, academies, colleges and training providers – to review and develop education provision in the county. Providers continue to work collaboratively within three partnership areas (The North Federation, The West Wilts Alliance and The Wessex Partnership) on joint strategies for developing 14 to 19 education and training opportunities. Collaborative approaches between schools, academies, college and work-based learning providers will continue to underpin this approach in Wiltshire.

Wiltshire currently has one further education provider, Wiltshire College and University Centre. The college has four delivery hubs providing education for learners aged 14+ including specialist provision for students with learning difficulties or disabilities. There are 21 secondary schools that provide post 16 education where most students follow Level 3 qualifications. In addition, Salisbury Sixth Form College, a post 16 free school based in Salisbury, offers level 3 qualifications the majority of which are A levels.

The raising of the participation age (RPA) to 18 is factored into school place planning. Although some 5500 students aged 16 to 18 attend a school or academy-based post 16 provision, many learners choose to attend Wiltshire College, other work-based learning providers or access provision beyond the county boundaries. The current government agenda is focusing on excellence in careers programmes in schools, delivered through the Careers & Enterprise funded Careers Hub, and on increasing apprenticeship provision. Wiltshire Council will ensure a range of opportunities are available within Wiltshire and will require continued close working with employers to create opportunities and places.

The introduction of the RPA has led to a growth in learners staying on at school or seeking full-time educational placements. The Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) is responsible for allocating and funding post 16 places. Wiltshire Council will work with schools to support the establishment of new post 16 places based on the individual school circumstances of each proposal but is not responsible for approving or funding developments. In line with government recording requirements, Wiltshire Council is responsible for tracking young people up to and including academic year 13. Latest data shows that 2% of 16 and 17-year-olds were NEET.

In all cases the aim of the council will be to develop plans which ensure adequate, high-quality facilities are available to support learners aged 14 to 19 (25).

C16 Post 16

Section 14 of the Education Act 1996 places a duty on LAs to secure sufficient suitable education and training provision for all young people who are over compulsory school age but under 19 or aged 19 to 25 and whom an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan is maintained.

As above, Wiltshire Council remains committed to working in partnership with all providers – schools, free schools, academies, colleges and training providers – to review and develop education provision in the county.

Learners with EHCP's are supported from Year 9 to explore their options for post 16, this will include talking about education, employment, volunteering and training. Further information is available on the Local Offer website - [Preparing for adulthood \(16+\) - Local Offer \(wiltshire.gov.uk\)](https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/preparing-for-adulthood-16-plus) .

D School Organisation and Planning Issues

D1 Influencing factors

The key factors likely to have the greatest influence on managing school places across the county over the next 5 years include the birth rate, housing development, migration and the presence of the Armed Services in Wiltshire.

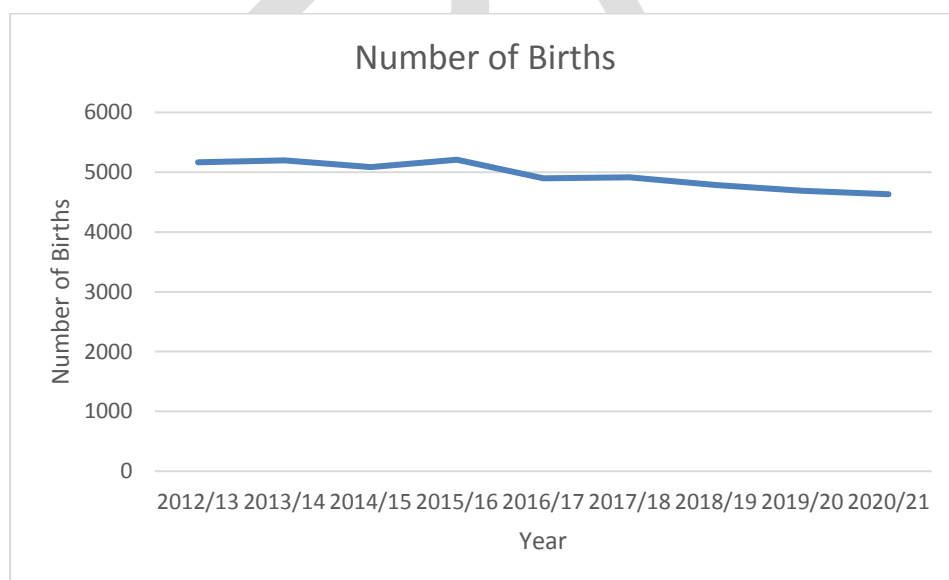
Birth rate

The demographic trend in the school population age range is largely driven by the birth rate. In line with national trends there has been an overall drop in the birth rate in the last few years across Wiltshire.

The pressure on primary school places from 2009 was significant, but now the lower birth rate is beginning to feed into primary schools. The oldest children from the peak years are now progressing to into secondary education.

Data is provided every year by the NHS as at 1st September for all children aged 0 to 4. It is therefore possible to track growth in cohorts from birth to when they start school. For instance, the 2017/2018 birth cohort had increased from 4914 to 5404 children by the time the cohort turned 4.

Year	2012 /13	2013 /14	2014 /15	2015 /16	2016 /17	2017 /18	2018 /19	2019 /20	2020 /21
Number of Births	5165	5196	5087	5209	4898	4914	4785	4691	4632



Current cohort sizes

The number of pupils in Wiltshire schools, including special schools, as at January 2022, per cohort, were as follows:

Year Group	Rec	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Number of pupils	5156	5493	5380	5544	5485	5605	5758

Year Group	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13
Number of pupils	5624	5343	5433	5194	5001	2468	2322

The data above shows that the largest cohorts are now in key stage two and will be feeding into secondary schools over the next few years. As secondary schools will be admitting larger cohorts into year 7, whilst losing smaller numbers from the top of the school, the secondary sector will see significant growth.

Housing development

The Wiltshire Core Strategy was formally adopted on 20 January 2015. The plan sets out the housing totals and phasing for each community area up to 2026 – it should be noted that some of these areas differ from the planning areas used in this School Places Strategy. The density of housing development varies considerably across the county as detailed in the tables below.

Wiltshire Council monitors housing completions annually in the Housing Land Supply Statement, the most recent version was published in April 2022. The data in this section has been taken from that document.

The number of housing completions from 1 April 2006 to 31 March 2021 against the requirements of the Wiltshire Core Strategy is shown below. The developable commitments column shows the number of houses for which sites have already been identified and/or approved but are not yet completed. The remaining indicative requirement column shows the number of houses in each area for which sites have yet to be identified.

Community Area	Number of houses allocated in Core Strategy	Number of these houses completed 2006 to 2021	Developable Commitments 2021 -2026	Indicative Remaining Requirement
Amesbury, Bulford & Durrington	2785	2168	482	135
Bradford on Avon	780	747	132	0
Calne	1605	2008	374	0
Chippenham	5090	2432	1264	1394
Corsham	1395	1398	312	0
Devizes	2500	2253	271	0
Malmesbury	1395	1325	525	0
Marlborough	920	801	192	0
Melksham	2370	2235	594	0

Mere	285	260	110	0
Pewsey	600	525	102	0
Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade	1465	1708	274	0
Salisbury and Wilton	6315	4393	1717	206
Southern Wiltshire	615	677	131	0
Tidworth	1920	1284	413	223
Tisbury	420	244	29	147
Trowbridge	6975	3701	743	2531
Warminster	2060	960	428	672
Westbury	1615	1504	476	0
Total number of houses	41,100	30,623	8,569	5,308

The full Wiltshire Core Strategy document can be accessed here:

<https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/planning-policy-core-strategy>

The current Local Plan is the Wiltshire Core Strategy. The Government requires every Local Plan to be reviewed at least once every five years. The Core Strategy was adopted in 2015 and is therefore now being reviewed. From January to March 2021, the Council undertook a consultation to inform the preparation of the Wiltshire Local Plan Review, with the publication of the plan for pre-submission consultation and preparation for submission following consultation due in late 2023 – 2024. The topics covered in the consultation carried out in 2021 included:

- How growth (additional new homes and employment land) is distributed around the County
- Levels of growth, potential locations for development and place shaping priorities for each of the county's main settlements
- Improving the framework for rural communities to meet housing needs

The consultation documents from early 2021, proposed a further number of houses in each community area. Again, it should be noted that these community areas do not completely align with the school planning areas used in this document. The full set of consultation documents can be accessed here:

[Local Plan Review consultation - Wiltshire Council](#)

Armed Services

The military presence in Wiltshire is an important factor in the planning of school places in certain areas of the county. A significant increase in Armed Forces personnel was seen following the Army rebasing in 2019 and the development of a Super Garrison on Salisbury Plain. We work closely with the Army and Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO) to determine the numbers, locations and timing of troops movements in and out of Wiltshire.

Children from Overseas

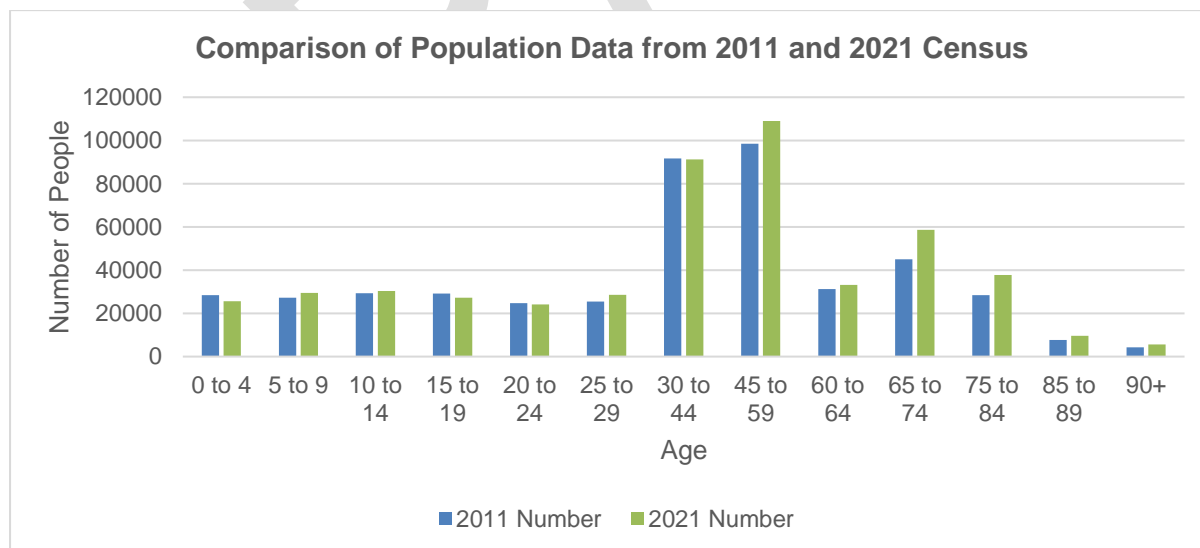
In the last year there has been a significant increase of children moving into Wiltshire from overseas, mainly arriving from Ukraine, Afghanistan, and Hong Kong. These currently total over 400 school age children who would not have been on roll as at January 2022 and are therefore not included in the NOR data in this document. In some areas, the number of pupils has been significant. The DfE have indicated that schools are able to admit over PAN if necessary to enable the admission of these children and where there is no reasonable alternative, schools are permitted to admit children above the infant class size limit of 30.

D2 Population overview

The birth rate and numbers of children arising from military families is substantially higher than in the rest of the population. Account is taken of this when planning school places in relevant areas. Wiltshire is predominantly a rural county. The approach of the local authority to school place planning must therefore be designed to support dispersed populations in rural areas, those resident in small towns and the larger populations concentrated in the urban areas. The tables below show there has been a significant increase in both Wiltshire's overall demographic population and that of school populations since 2011 with further increases projected. The effect of the Country's economic position and its impact on the housing market, and thus population mobility, will continue to be monitored throughout the period of this plan. The growth has been more significant in the primary phase for the past few years however that growth is now moving into the secondary phase and there will be a need to expand secondary school places.

Wiltshire total population overview (Source: ONS)

High level population data from the 2021 national census has recently been published. This enables a comparison to the previous 2011 census. At the 2011 Census, Wiltshire had a population of 470k, however the first release of population data from the 2021 Census now puts this at over 510k. A graph showing a comparison of the population, by age group, between the 2011 and 2021 census data is below.



It can be seen that the population of 0 to 4-year-olds has decreased by nearly 10%, whilst the numbers of 5 to 9 and 10 to 14 year-olds have increased. These age brackets include our largest school cohorts due to the higher birth rate between 2010 and 2015. The post 16 cohort has also seen a decline in numbers. The significant increases in population are in the older age groups.

The 2021 census data is still only available at the Wiltshire level and therefore cannot currently be analysed by community area.

Wiltshire school population data 2015 to 2022 (Source: January School Census data)

School Type	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Diff 2015-2022	% Diff 2015 - 2022
Primary (R to Y7)	36,059	37,101	37,921	38,182	38,315	38,547	38,478	38,131	+2,072	+6%
Secondary (Y7 to Y13)	29,008	28,675	28,830	28,809	29,251	29,834	30,383	30,813	+1805	+6%
Special	554	581	594	618	664	766	811	862	+308	+56%
Total	65,621	66,357	67,345	67,609	68,230	69,147	69,672	69,806	+4,185	+6%

Primary school numbers by year group as at January 2022

Year Group	Rec	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Number of pupils	5130	5448	5338	5504	5434	5565	5712

This table shows the larger cohorts are currently in the older age ranges in primary schools and therefore these larger numbers are now feeding into the secondary schools.

Secondary school numbers by year group as at January 2022

Year Group	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13
Number of pupils	5480	5239	5295	5104	4937	2452	2306

Numbers in secondary schools have begun to increase and will continue to do over the next few years as the largest cohorts feed through from primary schools.

Although these tables give the overall picture in the county there will be significant variations between areas of the local authority with, for instance, a greater decline in primary numbers in the rural areas. Factors such as armed forces movement and the rate at which housing developments are built out are continually monitored.

A summary analysis of the projections and issues in each planning areas is provided in section E below.

E Detailed planning area assessments

The planning of school places in Wiltshire is based on the geographical areas defined by the secondary school catchments and feeder schools aligned to them.

The planning of SEND school places in Wiltshire is driven by the needs of learners (also known as Primary Designation). Whilst learners with SEND fall into four broad geographical areas (North, West/Central, South and East), place planning analysis focuses on their primary designation. There isn't the same alignment to geographical areas, community areas and feeder schools.

The following sections consider each geographical area separately, providing information on the schools in the area, projected pupil numbers, current and proposed new housing and the implications of this data on primary and secondary provision.

E1 Amesbury

There are 7 primary age schools in the Amesbury area and 1 secondary school catering for the 11 to 16 age range. For sixth form, young people travel to post 16 provision in nearby community areas or to Hampshire. There are no special schools in the area, however, there is a specialist resource base at Christ the King Catholic School.

Primary	Status as at June 2022	Urban/Rural
Amesbury Archer Primary School	Academy	Urban
Amesbury CEVC Primary School	Voluntary Controlled (became an Academy 1/12/22)	Urban
Christ the King Catholic School	Voluntary Aided	Urban
Kings Gate Primary School	Academy	Urban
Newton Tony CEVC Primary School	Voluntary Controlled	Rural
Shrewton CofE Primary School	Academy	Rural
Woodford Valley CE Primary Academy	Academy	Rural
Secondary		
The Stonehenge School	Community	Urban

Overview

In recent years there has been considerable housing growth in Amesbury, primarily on the Archers Gate and Kings Gate developments. By 2018, the town schools were already full in some year groups with over 1000 new houses still to be completed. Therefore, construction began on the new Kings Gate Primary School which opened in Sept 2019.

In the last few years, both Newton Tony Primary and Woodford Valley Primary have also reconfigured existing accommodation in order to increase their capacity.

In recent years the birth rate in this area has declined, please see data below. Until 2019, there had also historically been inward migration from the surrounding rural areas into the Amesbury town primary schools. However, since 2019 this trend has reversed, with around 90% of town resident children now attending a town (urban) school.

At secondary level, the opposite is true. Stonehenge School has become increasingly popular

and tends to attract most of its in-catchment pupils as well as some from out catchment, primarily from the Durrington area.

Stonehenge School has also been expanded by 300 places to provide sufficient space for the growing numbers of pupils transferring from primary schools and for families moving into the new housing.

Current Provision

The following table provides a breakdown of the net (pupil) capacity and number on roll for schools in the Amesbury area.

Phase	Net Capacity	Number on Roll (Jan 2022)	Surplus Capacity + / -
Primary (Urban)	1365*	961*	+404 (29.5%)
Primary (Rural)	420	392	+28(7%)
Secondary	1120*	969*	+151 (13%)

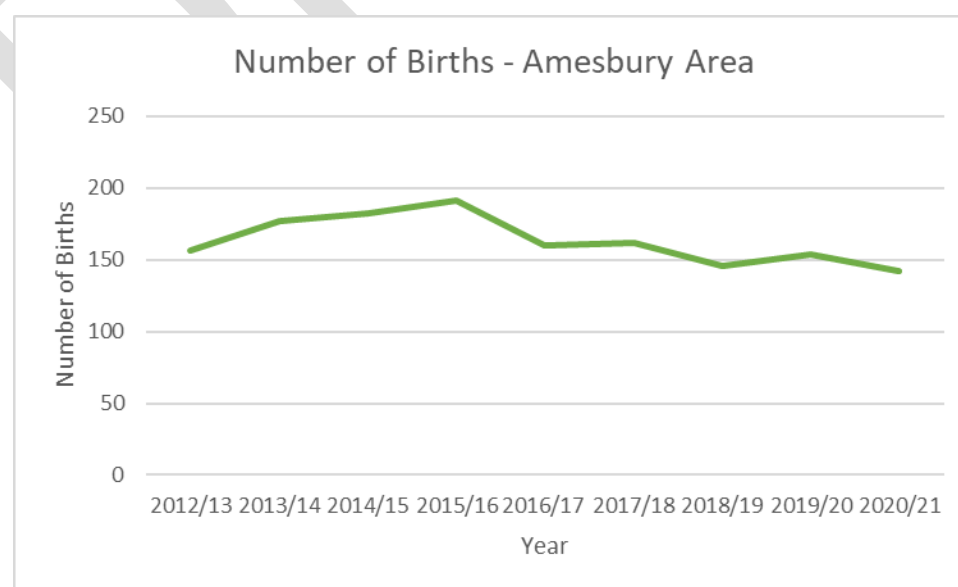
*Kings Gate Primary is a new school and is still filling up from the bottom, hence the NOR will increase in future years.

*The full capacity at Stonehenge school is provided, even though the Published Admissions Number (PAN) only increased from Sept 2020, therefore the school is growing from the bottom up.

Births in Amesbury

The latest birth data shows a slight decrease on the previous year, but it is possible that this figure does not include all actual births due to delays with registrations as a result of Covid-19.

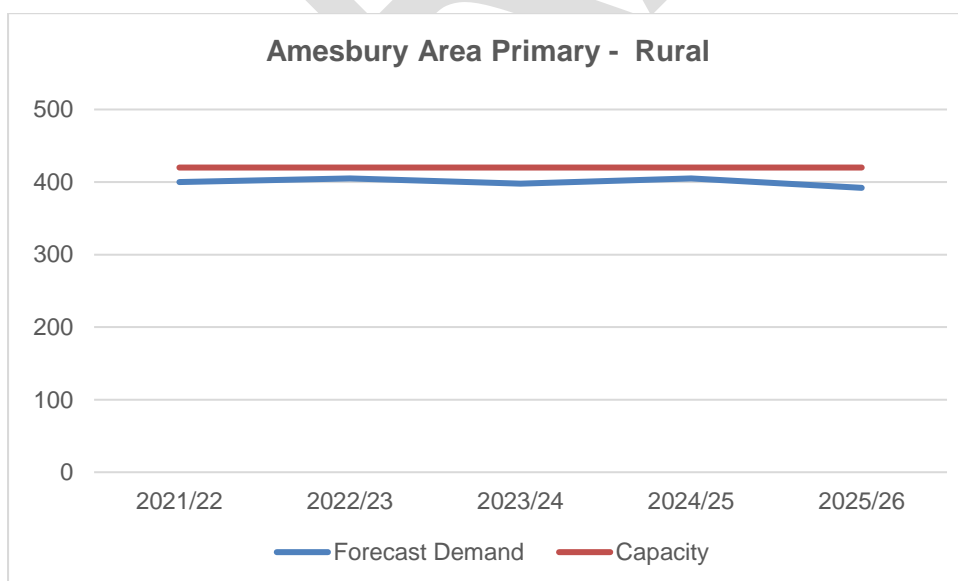
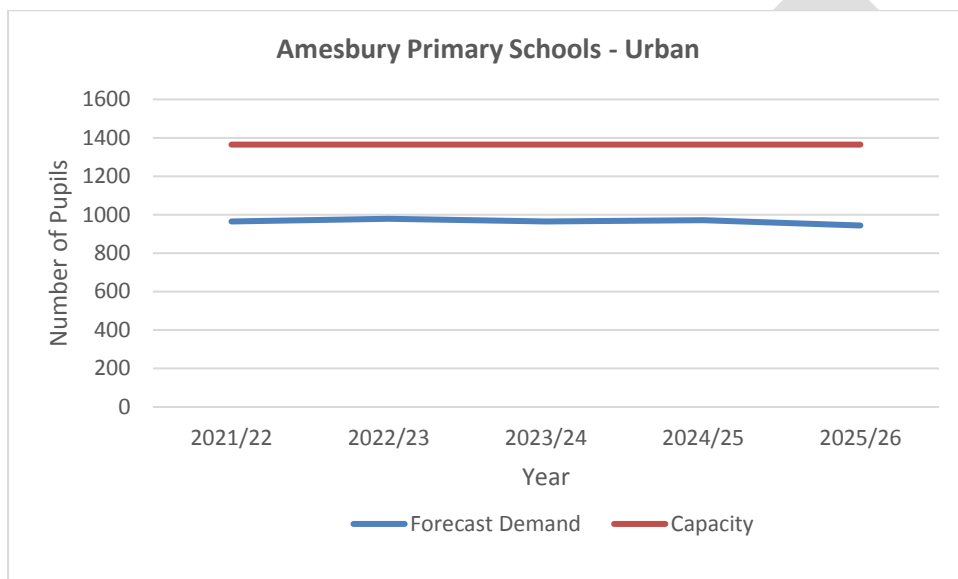
Birth year	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Number	156	177	182	191	160	162	146	154	142

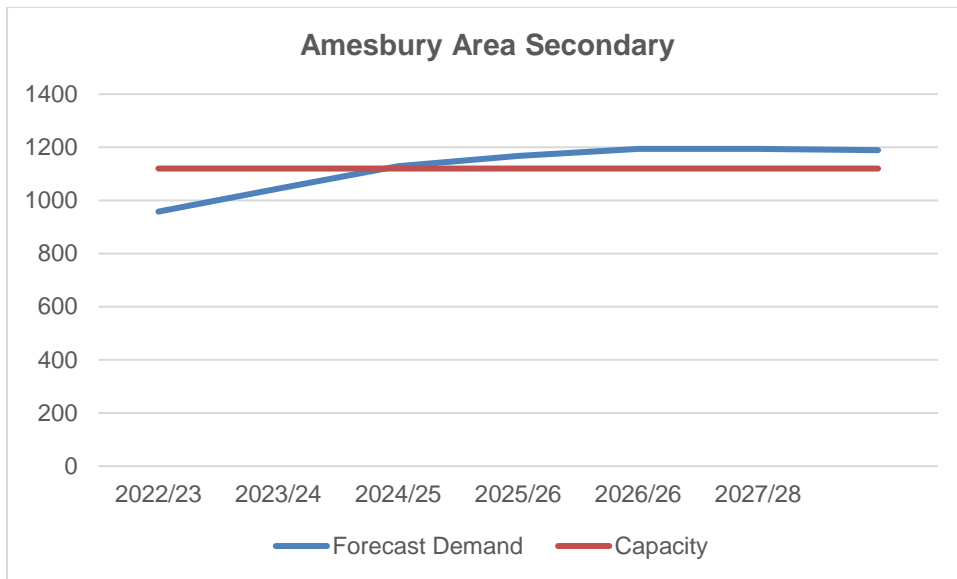


Current forecasts

The following graphs show the forecast demand for school places in the Amesbury Primary Urban, Primary Rural and secondary school. At primary level these take into account the birth rate, inward/outward migration and housing expected to be completed during the planning period, taken from the Wiltshire Housing Land Supply Statement (April 2022).

The Stonehenge School is the only secondary school serving the Amesbury community area. Estimates of the future need for secondary places is based on the number of pupils leaving primary schools at the age of 11+, applying historic transfer ratios to take account of pupils moving to independent schools and schools in other areas.





Housing Development

The 1300 house development at Kings Gate in Amesbury is expected to complete over the next few years. The forecasts above include the expected pupil product of this development. The forecasts also include a number of small developments, as included in the April 2022 Housing Land Supply Statement.

The Local Plan consultation undertaken early in 2021, proposed that a further 350 houses be completed in Amesbury area prior to 2036. The pupil product of these houses is not yet included in the forecasts but would generate approximately 100 new primary and 70 secondary pupils.

The Local Plan consultation also included a paper on Empowering Rural Communities, which proposed a further 55 houses in Shrewton.

Implications for Primary Provision from 2022/23

At present there are surplus places in the town primary schools as a result of a decline in the birth rate and increased pupil migration from the town to the surrounding rural schools. The completion of the King's Gate housing development will fill some surplus places, but local schools may wish to consider reducing their PANs in line with expected demand over the next few years.

There would currently be sufficient existing primary places to meet the demand from an additional 350 houses in the town should that be figure be taken forward into the draft Local Plan.

In the rural area, there is currently a good match between the availability of places and demand. However, it should be noted that a significant proportion of the demand is coming in from outside of the individual school catchment areas.

If the proposed local plan housing in Shrewton is taken forward, it may be necessary to expand the school. This will largely depend on the birth rate and level of surplus places at the time any planning applications are brought forward.

Implications for secondary school provision from 2022/23

Currently, the Stonehenge School admits a proportion of pupils from outside its designated area. As in-area numbers increase, there will be less availability for pupils from outside the area to secure places. The PAN will be maintained at 224 however forecasts suggest that the pupil product from housing will require the provision further places by 2026.

If the 350 additional houses proposed in the Local Plan are also brought forward, this would generate demand for a further 70 places. The main school site is very constrained, although the Council is currently funding a scheme to rebuild the Lower School block onto a smaller footprint. The completion of this project should enable up to 150 additional pupil places to be created, if required, on the main site. This would be the maximum number of places that could be created on the school site, thus limiting the potential for additional housing in the area.

Post 16

The Stonehenge School does not currently offer post 16 education therefore pupils attend provision outside of the Amesbury community area.

Amesbury implementation plan

<p>Short term – 1 to 2 years</p> <p>Academic Years 2022/23 – 2023/24</p>	<p>Medium term – 3 to 5 years</p> <p>Academic Years 2024/25 – 2026/27</p>	<p>Long term – 5 to 10 years</p> <p>Academic Years 2027/28 – 2032/33</p>
		<p><i>Possible expansion to provide 150 additional places at The Stonehenge School</i></p>

E2 Bradford on Avon

There are 4 primary age schools in the Bradford on Avon area and 1 secondary school catering for the 11 to 19 age range. There are no special schools in the area and no resource bases, although both are available in nearby Trowbridge.

Primary	Status as at July 2022	Urban/Rural
Christ Church CE Controlled Primary School	Voluntary Controlled	Urban
Fitzmaurice Primary School	Academy	Urban
Churchfields, The Village School	Voluntary Controlled	Rural
Winsley CEVC Primary School	Academy	Rural
Secondary		
St. Laurence School	Academy	Urban

Overview

This is a relatively small planning area with only 4 primary schools and one secondary school. The birth rate has remained quite consistent in recent years, with local schools able to meet in area demand.

In the town there are two large primary schools, Christ Church Primary and Fitzmaurice Primary both of which are popular and full in some year groups.

Churchfields is a split site school, with full primary provision on sites at Monkton Farleigh and Atworth. In recent years the number of pupils taught on the Monkton Farleigh has been fairly low, although a nursery opened on the site in 2020 which is hoped will increase demand. Overall, the school has 127 on roll (across both sites).

Winsley Primary is a 6-class school, which currently has 136 on role which is sufficient to meet in catchment demand.

Therefore, there are currently no primary schools in this area classed as small or very small, although forecasts suggest that numbers at Churchfields will reduce to around 120 within the next 5 years.

St Laurence School is popular admits to PAN every year. A small expansion was completed in 2020 using funding secured from local housing developments. The school is able to accommodate all of the in-catchment demand as well as a number of pupils from outside of the area.

Current Provision

The following table provides a breakdown of the net (pupil) capacity and number on roll for schools in the Bradford on Avon area.

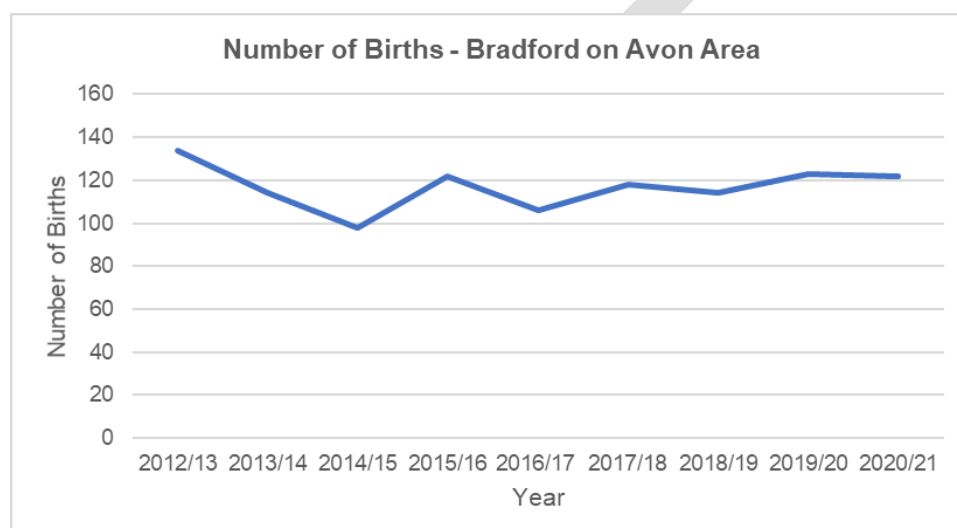
Phase	Net Capacity	Number on Roll (Jan 2022)	Surplus Capacity + / -
Primary (Urban)	735	722	+13 (2%)
Primary (Rural)	352	263	+89 (25%)
Secondary (Yr 7 to Yr 11)	1160	1138	+22 (2%)

Births in Bradford on Avon

Births in this area have remained fairly consistent since 2015/16. The latest birth data for 2019/20 and 2020/21 shows a slight increase on the previous years. Unlike some other areas in Wiltshire, there has not been a steep decline in the birth rate in Bradford on Avon overall.

In the Bradford on Avon area, there appears to be considerable growth in the cohort sizes between birth and starting school. For instance, the number of births in 2016/17 was 106, by the time this cohort reached school starting age in 2020/21, the cohort had increased to 148. In the last 4 years, the average growth has been around 40%. This is more than would be expected from just the provision of new housing in the area.

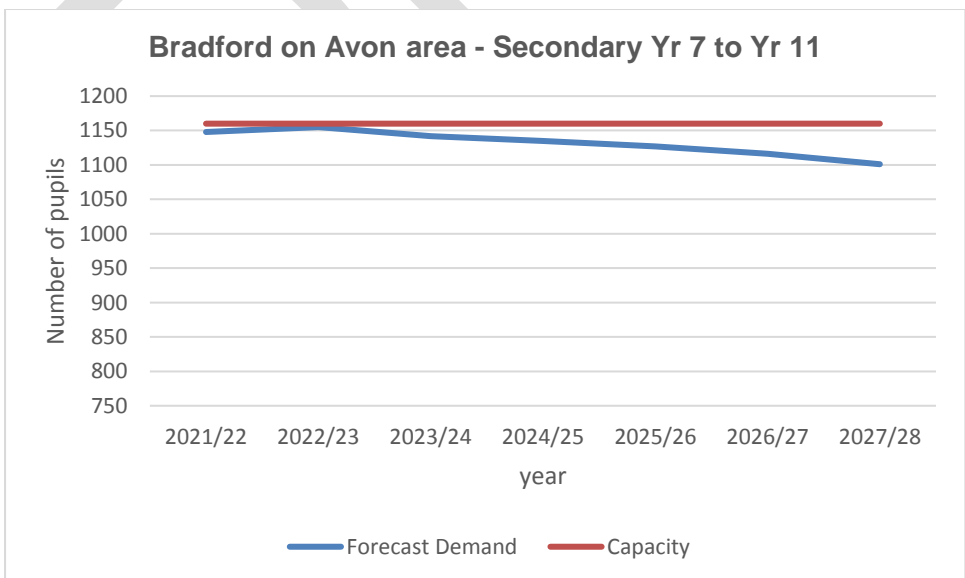
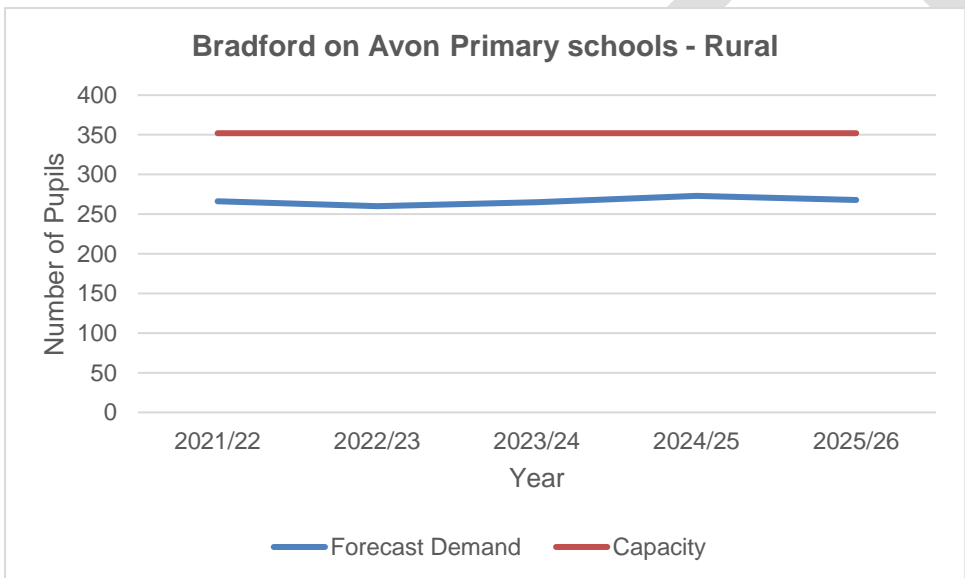
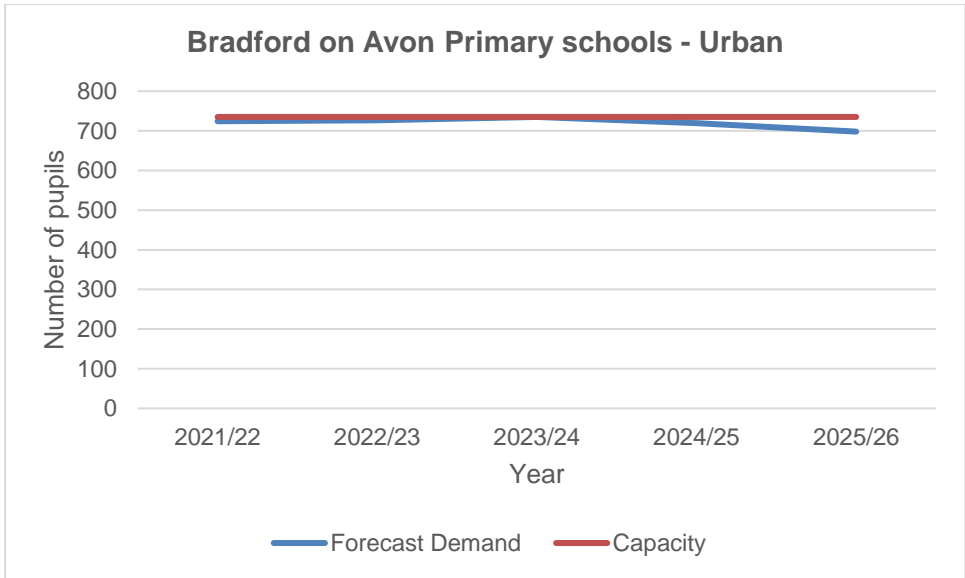
Birth year	2012/ 13	2013/ 14	2014/ 15	2015/ 16	2016/ 17	2017/ 18	2018/ 19	2019/ 20	2020/ 21
Number	134	114	98	122	106	118	114	123	122



Current forecasts

The following graphs show the forecast demand for school places in the Bradford on Avon Primary Urban, Primary Rural and secondary school. At primary level these take into account the birth rate, inward/outward migration and housing expected to be completed during the planning period, taken from the Wiltshire Housing Land Supply Statement (April 2022).

St Laurence School is the only secondary school serving the Bradford on Avon community area. Estimates of the future need for secondary places is based on the number of pupils leaving primary schools at the age of 11+, applying historic transfer ratios to take account of pupils moving to independent schools and schools in other areas.



Housing Development

There are less than 100 new houses due to complete by 2026 in this whole community area (Holt falls in the Trowbridge education planning area). This includes a number of small developments, as listed in the April 2022 Housing Land Supply Statement. The pupil product of this housing is included in the forecasts above.

The Local Plan consultation undertaken early in 2021, proposed that a further 80 houses be completed in Bradford on Avon prior to 2036. The pupil product of these houses is not yet included in the forecasts but would generate approximately 25 new primary and 18 secondary pupils.

The Local Plan consultation also included a paper on Empowering Rural Communities, which proposed 80 houses in Atworth and 25 in Winsley by 2036.

Implications for Primary Provision from 2022/23

At present there are only 2% surplus places in the town primary schools, and this is expected to remain fairly consistent over the next few years. Historically, there has been pupil migration out of the town to the village schools, but this has reduced in recent years due the popularity of the town schools.

Christ Church Primary School is located on quite a large site and has previously admitted bulge year groups where it has been necessary to accommodate large cohorts. This could be considered again if appropriate.

The current birth rate suggests that the town schools will not require expansion in the next 5 years, however given the low level of existing surplus places this will be kept under review.

Should they be taken forward, the additional 80 houses in the town proposed through the Local Plan consultation may require the provision of additional primary places. This will largely depend on the birth rate and level of surplus places at the time any planning applications are brought forward.

In the rural primary schools, there are currently 25% surplus places, and this is expected to remain fairly stable over the next few years. The forecasts above however do not take into account the Local Plan proposals for 80 houses in Atworth and 25 in Winsley by 2036, which could produce 24 and 8 pupils respectively. The rural primary schools could consider reducing their PAN's or capacities in line with the recommendations on page 20 in order to match the supply of places to demand.

Overall, there are currently 9% surplus places in the whole community area which is within the 5 - 10% recommended level, however this will increase to just over 11% by the end of the plan period.

Implications for secondary school provision from 2022/23

Currently, St Laurence School is popular and admits a proportion of pupils from outside its designated area, mainly from Trowbridge. The school tends to admit to its PAN of 232 and is forecast to continue to do so, remaining near capacity throughout most of the planning period. There are sufficient places to meet in-catchment demand.

A small expansion of the school completed last year, funded by housing developments which are either now completed or nearing completion. Section 106 contributions will be sought from any further housing developments in the school's catchment area, including those proposed through the local plan, for further expansion of the school if necessary. Further expansion would ensure that places can be created in all year groups for families moving into new housing.

Post 16

St Laurence School is currently the only secondary school serving the Bradford on Avon community area and offers post 16 provision. The following table shows the historical number of learners in Years 11 and 12 at the school:

	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Number of students in years 12 and 13	247	256	269	282	284	261
Percentage uptake	65%	61%	65%	65%	64%	56%

The lower stay on rate for 2021/22 is thought to be as a result of Covid-19 and its disruption to education in 2020 and 2021.

Bradford-on-Avon implementation plan

Short term – 1 to 2 years Academic Years 2022/23 – 2023/24	Medium term – 3 to 5 years Academic Years 2024/25 – 2026/27	Long term – 5 to 10 years Academic Years 2027/28 – 2032/33
		<i>Possible expansion to provide additional places at St Laurence School to meet the needs of new housing</i>

E3 Calne

There are 10 primary age schools in the Calne area and 1 secondary school catering for the 11 to 19 age range. There is one special school in Calne and a complex needs resource base at Marden Vale Primary School

Primary	Status as at July 2022	Urban/Rural
Cherhill CE Primary School	Voluntary Aided	Rural
Derry Hill CE Primary School	Voluntary Aided	Rural
Fynamore Primary School	Community	Urban
Heddington CE Primary School	Voluntary Aided	Rural
Hilmarton Primary School	Community	Rural
Holy Trinity CE School, Calne	Academy	Urban
Marden Vale CofE Academy	Academy	Urban
Priestley Primary School	Community	Urban
St. Nicholas CEVC Primary School, Bromham	Voluntary Controlled	Rural
Saint Edmund's Catholic Academy	Academy	Urban
Secondary		
Kingsbury Green Academy	Academy	Urban
Special		
The Springfields Academy	Academy	Urban

Overview

Numbers in the Calne area primary schools have been rising since 2012 as a result of a higher birth rate between 2011/12 and 2015/16 and considerable housing development. Between 2006 and 2019 there were nearly 1700 new houses completed in this community area. There are a further 640 homes still to complete by 2026.

In the town (urban area) there are five primary schools, all of which are full or have less than 7% surplus places, with the exception of Marden Vale Academy which has around 50% of its places free at present. Whilst this school has a capacity of 420 places, the trust has been setting a lower published admissions number (PAN) in recent years which has been sufficient to meet demand.

Around 66% of children who live in the town attend a town (urban) school, with the majority of the remainder attending the surrounding rural schools.

The rural schools in this area are all popular and take on average 45% of their collective intake from outside of their catchment areas, primarily from the town. When parents apply for reception places, each of the rural schools has sufficient places to cater for the number of 4 and 5-year-olds living in their catchment areas. However, there may be occasions when somebody might move into an area outside of this main admissions intake and be unable to access a local place if the school is already full. The Council then has a statutory duty to provide an alternative place and fund transport if this place is not within a 2-mile safe walking route from the home address.

Kingsbury Green Academy is the only secondary school in this planning area, The school joined the Royal Wootton Bassett Academy Trust in 2019 and has been increasing in popularity ever since. Prior to 2019, the school admitted approximately 50% of the pupils who attended one of the Calne primary area schools (urban and rural). This has now increased to over 60%, with the remainder mainly attending secondary schools in other community areas, particularly in Chippenham.

Current Provision

The following table provides a breakdown of the net (pupil) capacity and number on roll for schools in the Calne area.

Phase	Net Capacity	Number on Roll (Jan 2022)	Surplus Capacity + / -
Primary (Urban)	1575*	1275	+300 (19%)
Primary (Rural)	684	679	+5 (1%)
Secondary (Yr 7 to Yr 11)	1175	776	+ 399 (34%)

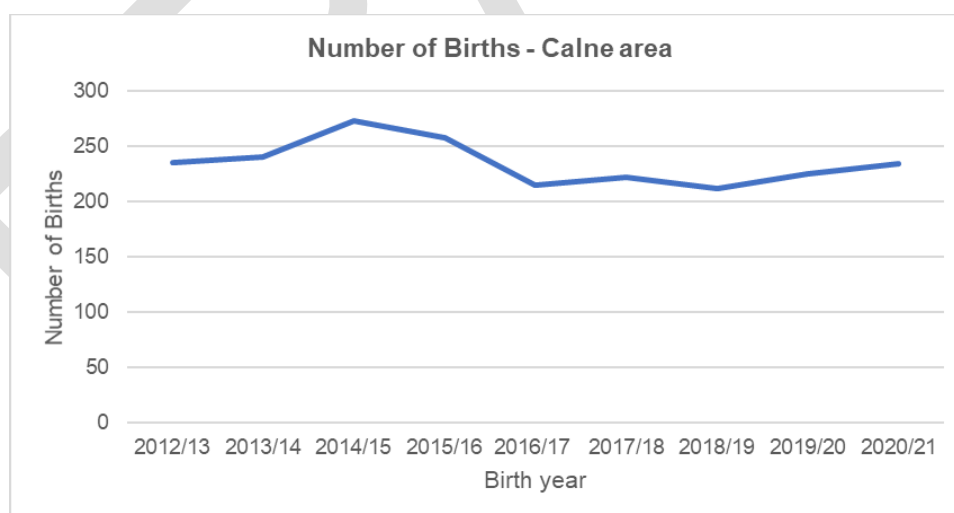
*Includes the full 420 place capacity at Marden Vale

Births in Calne

Births in this area have remained fairly consistent since 2016/17. The latest birth data however shows an increase on the previous year.

In recent years in this area, there appears to be considerable growth in the cohort sizes between birth and starting school. For instance, the number of births in 2016/17 was 215, by the time this cohort reached school starting age in 2020/21, the cohort had increased to 273. This level of growth is to be expected given the number of housing completions in this time period.

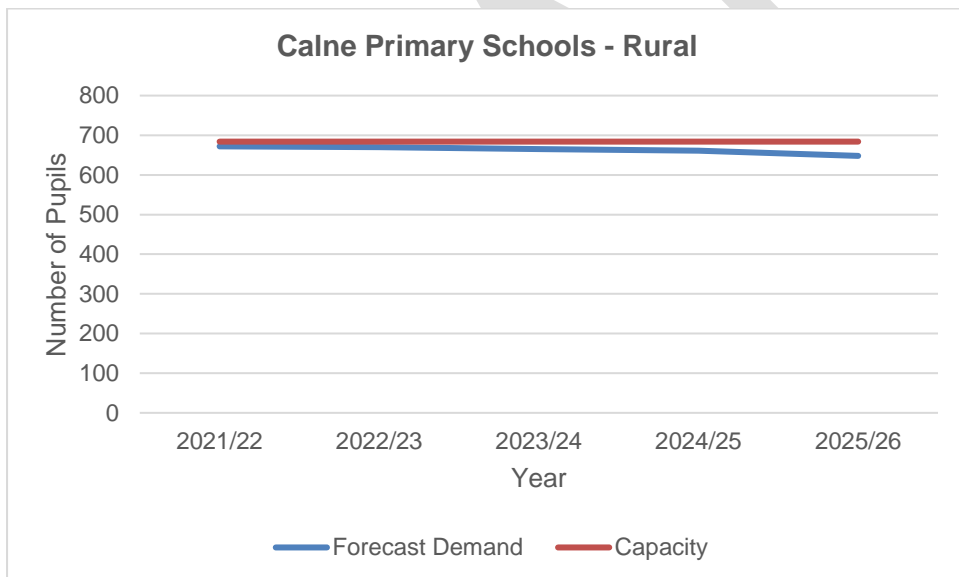
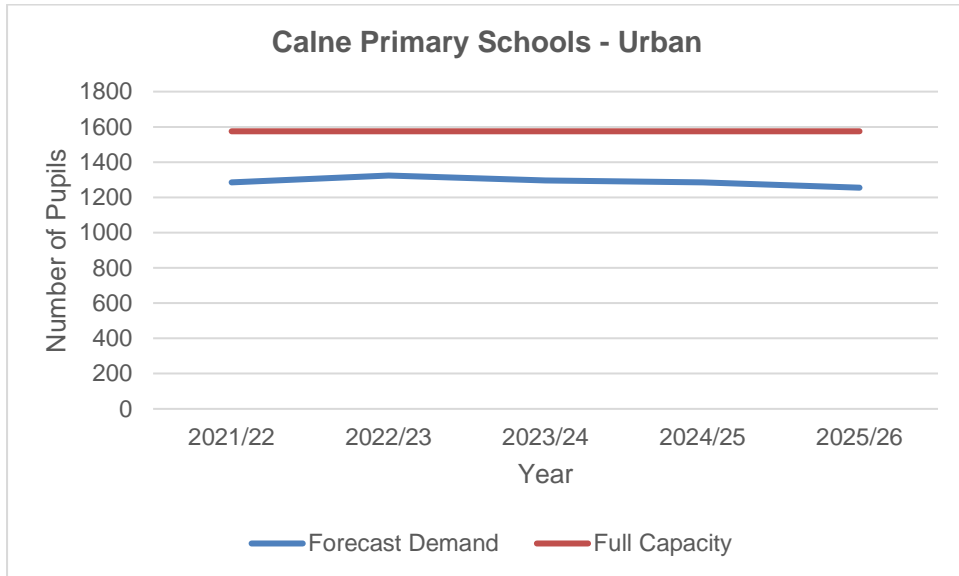
Birth year	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Number	236	241	273	258	215	222	212	225	235

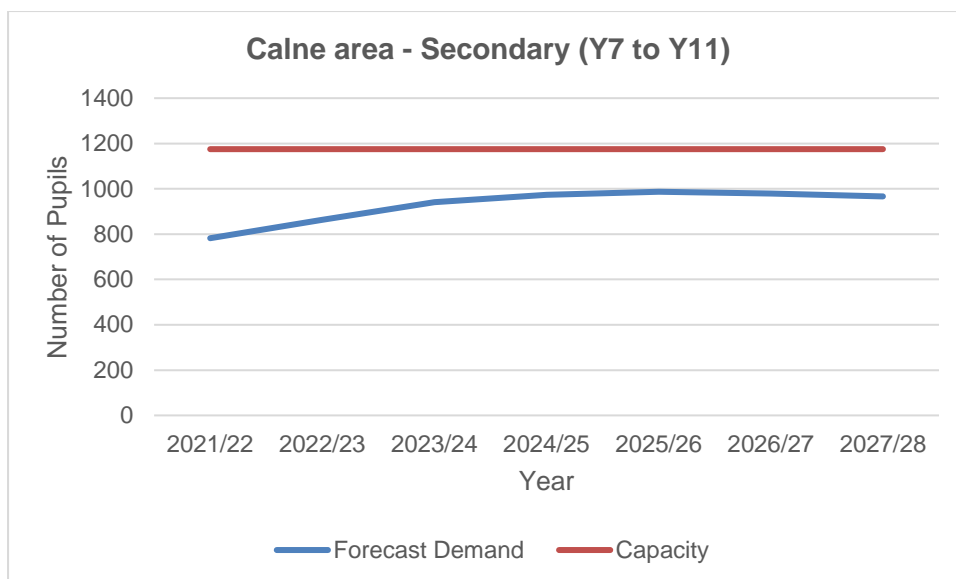


Current forecasts

The following graphs show the forecast demand for school places in the Calne Primary Urban, Primary Rural and secondary school. At primary level these take into account the birth rate, inward/outward migration and housing expected to be completed during the planning period, taken from the Wiltshire Housing Land Supply Statement (April 2022).

Kingsbury Green Academy is the only secondary school serving the Calne community area. Estimates of the future need for secondary places is based on the number of pupils leaving primary schools at the age of 11+, applying historic transfer ratios to take account of pupils moving to independent schools and schools in other areas.





Housing Development

There are approximately 600 new houses due to complete by 2026 in this community area. This includes development of several sites, as listed in the December 2020 Housing Land Supply Statement. The pupil product of this housing is included in the forecasts above. The Local Plan consultation undertaken early in 2021, proposed that a further 360 houses be completed in Calne prior to 2036. The pupil product of these houses is not yet included in the forecasts but would generate approximately 110 new primary and 80 secondary pupils.

The Local Plan consultation also included a paper on Empowering Rural Communities, which proposed 80 houses in Bromham and a further 80 in Derry Hill/Studley by 2036. This would generate approximately 25 primary and 16 secondary pupils in each location.

Implications for Primary Provision from 2022/23

At present there are sufficient surplus places in the town to cater for projected demand and the product of the proposed local plan housing. There is scope for Marden Vale to raise its PAN back to previous levels to meet the demand for pupil places.

In the rural area, the schools are nearly full. Should the proposed Local Plan housing in Derry Hill/Studley and Bromham be taken forward, this may require the provision of additional primary places at those local schools. This will largely depend on the birth rate in the school catchment areas and the level of surplus places at the time any planning applications are brought forward.

Overall, there are currently 13.5% surplus places in the whole community area which will drop to around 11% over the next couple of years. In the longer term, the level of housing proposed in the local plan would reduce this closer to the 5% recommended level if the birth rate remains consistent with current levels.

Implications for Secondary Provision from 2022/23

Kingsbury Green Academy is the only secondary school serving the Calne community area. Estimates of the future need for secondary places suggests that there will be sufficient places at the school to cater for the remainder of the core strategy housing and the levels of housing currently proposed in the local plan.

However, given the increasing popularity of the school with Calne residents, the level of surplus places and demand will be closely monitored over the coming years.

Post 16

Kingsbury Green has on site post 16 provision and offers both A-levels and vocational qualifications. The following table shows the historical number of learners in years 12 and 13 at the school:

	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Number of students in Years 12 and 13	137	114	125	120	102	103
Percentage stay on rate	45%	44%	47%	43%	39%	50%

The number of sixth form students is likely to increase from 2024, as larger year groups feed through the school. The school should however have sufficient capacity to cater for this, depending on the percentage uptake.

Calne implementation plan

No specific projects to add mainstream places are deemed necessary at this stage, available places and demand to be kept under review. In respect of the countywide demand for increase specialist places, commissioners are in discussion with Springfields special school to increase the number of places available.

E4 Chippenham

There are 18 primary age schools and 3 secondary schools offering 11 to 19 education in the Chippenham area. The Chippenham campus of Silverwood school is located in this area and there are also specialist resource bases at Frogwell Primary School and Charter Primary School.

Primary	Status as at July 2022	Urban/Rural
By Brook Valley CE Primary School	Academy	Rural
Charter Primary School	Community	Urban
Christian Malford CofE Primary School	Academy	Rural
Frogwell Primary School	Foundation	Urban
Ivy Lane Primary School	Academy	Urban
Kings Lodge School	Community	Urban
Kington St. Michael CE Primary School	Voluntary Controlled	Rural
Lacock CE Primary School	Voluntary Controlled	Rural
Langley Fitzurse CE Primary School	Voluntary Controlled	Rural
Monkton Park Primary School	Community	Urban
Queen's Crescent Primary School	Academy	Urban
Redland Primary School	Community	Urban
Seagry CE Primary School	Academy	Rural
St. Mary's RC Primary School	Voluntary Aided	Urban
St. Paul's Primary School	Community	Urban
St. Peter's C of E Academy	Academy	Urban
Stanton St. Quintin Primary School	Community	Rural
Sutton Benger CE Aided Primary School	Academy	Rural
Secondary		
Abbeyfield School	Community	Urban
Hardenhuish School	Academy	Urban
Sheldon School	Academy	Urban
Special		
Silverwood School, Chippenham Campus	Community	

Overview

There are 10 primary schools located in the town, with a further 8 in the surrounding villages. In recent years there has been housing growth in the town but there is still significant housing with planning consent to complete. Several large sites are now underway across the town.

Queens Crescent school expanded to 2FE a few years ago and has recently extended their catchment area to include the Hunters Moon housing site.

In the Chippenham rural area, there are 5 primary schools classed as small but none that are smaller than 60 pupils on roll.

At secondary level, there are 3 schools whose catchment areas all cover the urban area. The Sheldon and Hardenhuish catchments also cover the wider rural area. The percentage of surplus places is currently 7% and due to decrease as larger cohorts feed through from the primary schools and new housing completes.

Current Provision

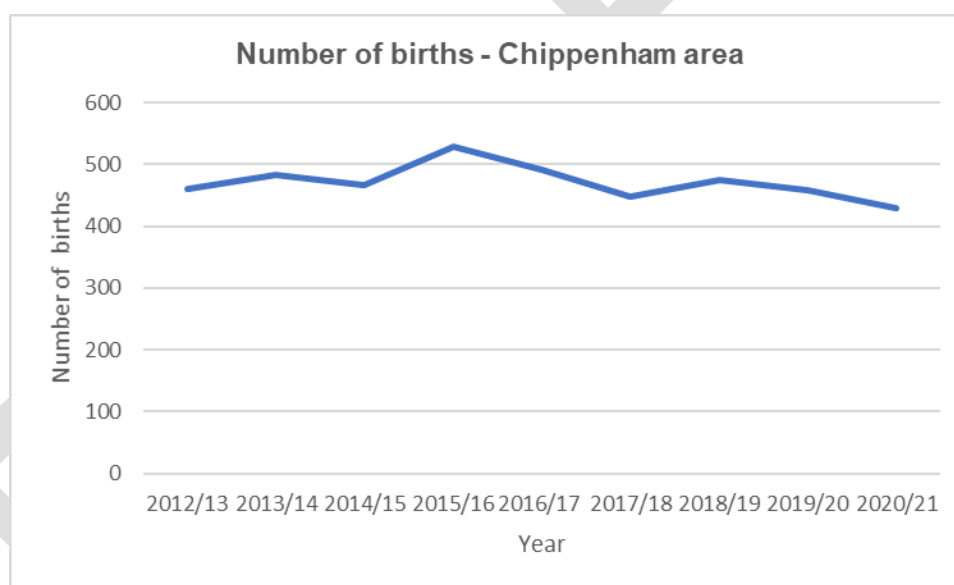
The following table provides a breakdown of the net (pupil) capacity and number on roll for schools in the Chippenham area.

Phase	Net Capacity	Number on Roll (Jan 2022)	Surplus Capacity + / -
Primary (Urban)	3147	2547	+600 (19%)
Primary (Rural)	1099	859	+240 (22%)
Secondary (Y7 to Y11)	3515	3266	+249 (7%)

Births in Chippenham

The number of births reported by the Health Authority in the Chippenham area shows the birth rate has, on average, remained fairly consistent but the area does experience peaks and troughs which can be seen in the table and graph below.

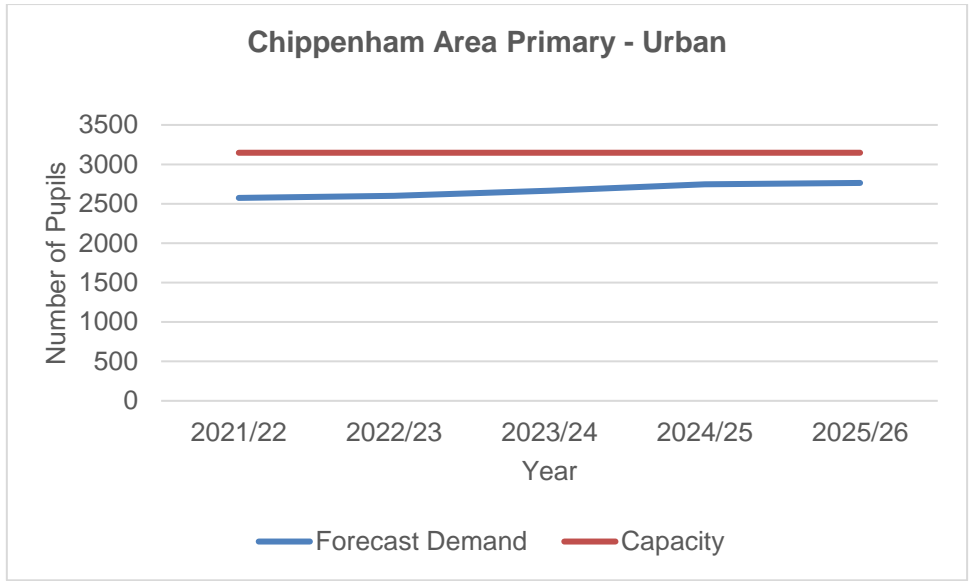
Birth year	2012/ 13	2013/ 14	2014/ 15	2015/ 16	2016/ 17	2017/ 18	2018/ 19	2019/ 20	2020/ 21
Number	461	484	467	529	492	448	475	458	430



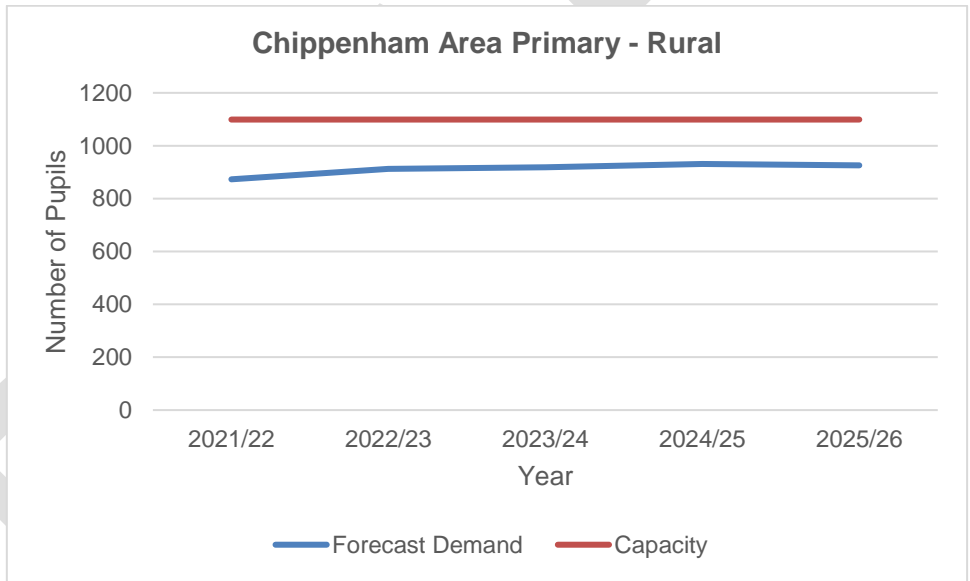
Current forecasts

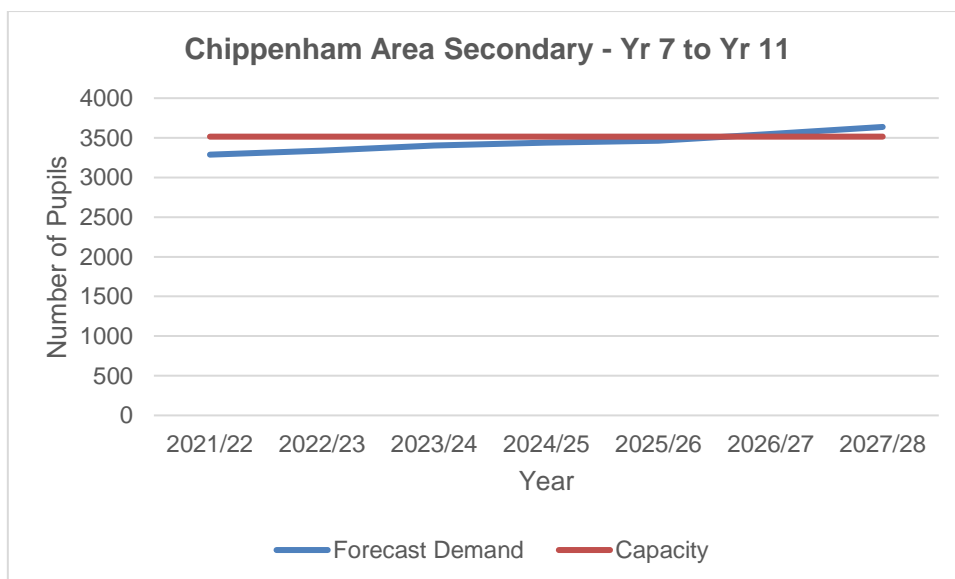
The following graphs show the forecast demand for school places in the Chippenham urban primary schools, rural schools and secondary schools. At primary level these take into account the birth rate, inward/outward migration and housing expected to be completed during the planning period, taken from the Wiltshire Housing Land Supply Statement (April 2022).

Estimates of the future need for secondary places are based on the number of pupils leaving primary schools at the age of 11+, applying historic transfer ratios to take account of pupils moving to independent schools and schools in other areas.



At the end of this forecast period, there will still be over 1300 houses scheduled to complete by 2030 on sites included in the Wiltshire Housing Land Supply Statement (April 2022). This level of housing is expected to generate a need for over 400 primary school places. There is also further housing to complete post 2030.





At the end of this forecast period, there will still be around 800 houses scheduled to complete by 2030 on sites included in the Wiltshire Housing Land Supply Statement (April 2022). This level of housing is expected to generate a need for around 200 secondary school places. There is also further housing to complete post 2030.

Housing Development

There are approximately 1500 new houses due to complete by 2026/27 in this community area. This includes development of several sites, as listed in the April 2022 Housing Land Supply Statement. The pupil product of this housing is included in the forecasts above where it is expected to be completed within the forecast period. Please also see references above to housing that is still to complete beyond the forecast period, which will create significant need for additional pupil places.

The Local Plan consultation undertaken early in 2021, proposed that a further 5100 houses be completed in Chippenham prior to 2036. The pupil product of these houses is not yet included in the forecasts but would generate approximately 1580 new primary and 1120 secondary pupils.

The Local Plan consultation also included a paper on Empowering Rural Communities, which proposed 7 houses in Christian Malford, 31 in Kington St Michael, 3 in Sutton Benger and 1 in Yatton Keynell. This would collectively generate approximately 13 primary and 9 secondary pupils.

Implications for Primary Provision from 2022/23

For the next few years there are sufficient places in the town to cater for projected demand and the product of the housing due to completed in that period. However, post 2025/26 there is unlikely to be sufficient places to meet demand as families move into completed housing.

Section 106 Agreements have been signed to secure additional primary school sites on the Bird's Marsh Wood (1FE), Rawlings Green (2FE) and Rowden Park (2FE) developments. The Council would prefer not to bring forward new 1FE schools for viability reasons and is therefore more likely to progress with the sites at Rowden Park and Rawlings Green in the first instance.

The timescale for these new schools will depend on the ongoing birth rate, numbers moving into housing, housing build out rates and the remaining level of surplus places. These factors

will be closely monitored over the next couple of years. The new schools, starting with the one at Rowden Park, will be designed and planning permission secured to enable them to be brought forward as and when required.

At present, there are clearly insufficient primary school places available in the town to cater for the proposed Local Plan housing. Several further new primary schools would also be required, should the level of housing be taken forward as proposed in the Local Plan consultation. School sites and financial contributions would be sought from the developers for any further new primary schools.

With current demand for SEND education – taken together with predicted growth in student numbers in Chippenham – there will be the requirement for a 2 classroom Primary Resource Base, included within a new Primary School.

In the rural schools, the forecasts suggest that the number of pupils attending will rise slightly. The level of surplus places will therefore reduce to around 16%, with some schools having more surplus places than others. The local plan housing proposed in the rural communities would fill some of these spaces. Should the proposed housing in Kington St Michael be taken forward, this may require the provision of additional primary places as the local school is already full.

Implications for Secondary Provision from 2022/23

At present Hardenhuish School is full and Sheldon has very few places available. Over the next few years, as larger cohorts feed through from primary schools and significant housing is completed, the remaining surplus places in the secondary schools will fill.

Community Infrastructure Levy funding has been secured for a first phase of expansion at Abbeyfield School. This will provide 150 new places and will be delivered for September 2025. Planning permission will also be sought for a further 300 places to ensure that the school can be expanded again when required.

At present, there are clearly insufficient secondary school places available in the town to cater for the proposed Local Plan housing. Depending on the final housing numbers taken forward, there will either need to be further expansion of existing schools (where possible) or the creation of a new secondary school. To make a new secondary school viable would, however, require a substantial number of new houses.

There is the need to provide a Secondary Resource Base for learners with SEND in the Chippenham area. The Special School Transformation team will continue to explore opportunities for co-location with existing secondary schools in the area.

Post 16

There are three secondary schools which serve the Chippenham area with all three offering post 16 provision. Across the three schools there is a wide variety of courses available including A-Levels and vocational qualifications.

In addition to the sixth form provision in the schools, Wiltshire College has campuses in Chippenham and Lackham.

	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Abbeyfield School	119	144	141	124	139	151
Hardenhuish School	270	239	253	314	322	302

Sheldon School	377	354	353	346	343	334
Total Number of students in Years 12 and 13	766	737	747	784	804	787
Average Percentage stay on rate	56%	62%	65%	59%	60%	57%

Chippenham implementation plan

Short term – 1 to 2 years	Medium term – 3 to 5 years	Long term – 5 to 10 years
Academic Years 2022/23 – 2023/24	Academic Years 2024/25 – 2026/27	Academic Years 2027/28 – 2032/33
	<i>Expansion of Abbeyfield School to provide 150 new places</i>	
	<i>Provision of a new Primary School (up to 2FE) on the Rowden Park site, date will depend upon housing completions.</i>	<i>Provision of a new Primary School (up to 2FE) on the Rawlings Green site, date will depend upon housing completions.</i>
		<i>Potential further new schools/expansions to meet the needs of local plan housing – to be determined once housing numbers are confirmed.</i>

E5 Corsham

There are 6 primary age schools in the Corsham area and 1 secondary school catering for the 11 to 19 age range. There are no special schools in the area. However, there is a resource base at Corsham Primary School.

Primary	Status as at July 2022	Urban/Rural
Box C E Primary School	Voluntary Controlled	Rural
Colerne C E Primary School	Voluntary Controlled	Rural
Corsham Primary School (Broadwood and Pound Pill sites)	Academy	Urban
Neston Primary School	Community	Rural
St. Patrick's Catholic Primary School	Voluntary Aided	Urban
The Corsham Regis Primary School	Academy	Urban
Secondary		
The Corsham School	Academy	Urban

Overview

In recent years there has been considerable housing growth in Corsham, primarily in the Corsham Primary School catchment area. Expansions to Corsham Primary School, Broadwood site, and The Corsham School have already been completed using section 106 funds secured from housing developers. This has created additional places in all year groups in the town.

Since 2015 the birth rate in this area has remained fairly consistent. There are still around 350 houses with planning permission to be built, however the existing primary places should be sufficient to meet this additional demand.

At secondary level, the Corsham School is forecast to grow in size as larger cohorts feed through from the primary schools. The recent expansion has created new places in all years, which are forecast to be sufficient to meet demand over the next few years. The school has seen a significant increase in their in-catchment applications in 2021 and 2022.

Current Provision

The following table provides a breakdown of the net (pupil) capacity and number on roll for schools in the Corsham area.

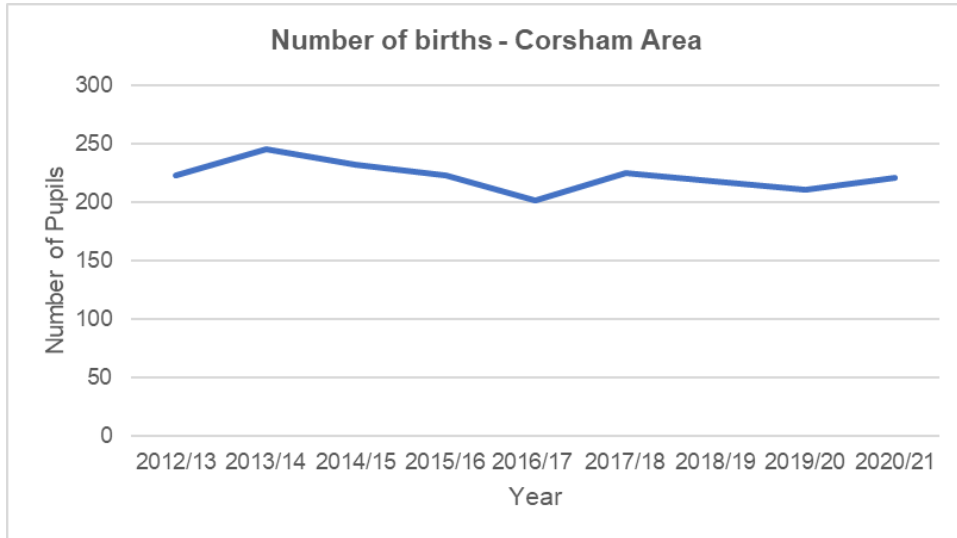
Phase	Net Capacity	Number on Roll (Jan 2022)	Surplus Capacity + / -
Primary (Urban)	1215	1012	+203 (17%)
Primary (Rural)	659	620	+39 (6%)
Secondary (Y7 to Y11)	1300	978	+ 322 (25%)

Births in Corsham

Births in this area have remained fairly consistent since 2015/16 but have declined from pre-2015 levels. The latest birth data below shows a slight increase on the previous year.

In recent years, there appears to be considerable growth in the cohort sizes between birth and starting school, which is to be expected given the number of housing completions in this time period.

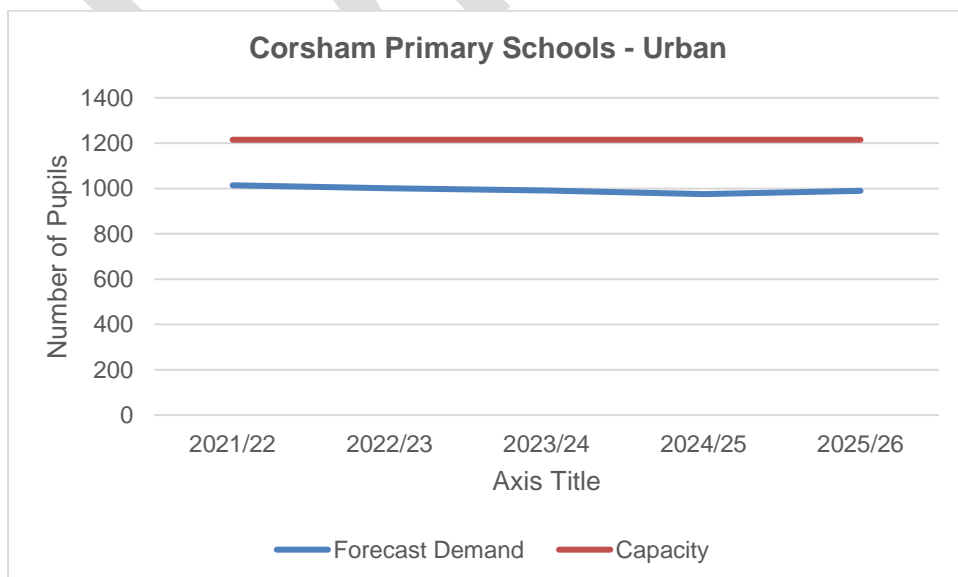
Birth year	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Number	223	245	232	223	201	225	218	211	221



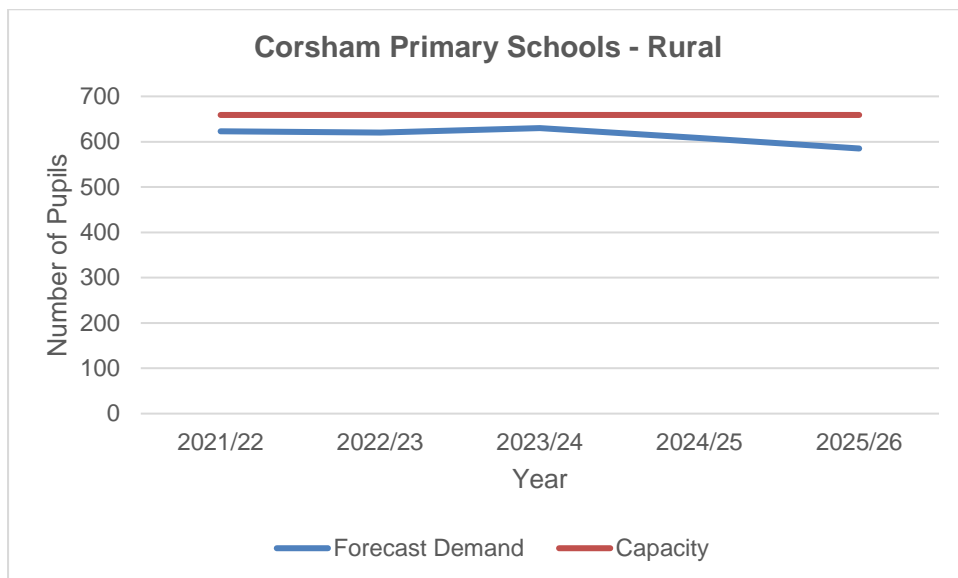
Current forecasts

The following graphs show the forecast demand for school places in the Corsham urban primary schools, rural schools and secondary school. At primary level these take into account the birth rate, inward/outward migration and housing expected to be completed during the planning period, taken from the Wiltshire Housing Land Supply Statement (April 2022).

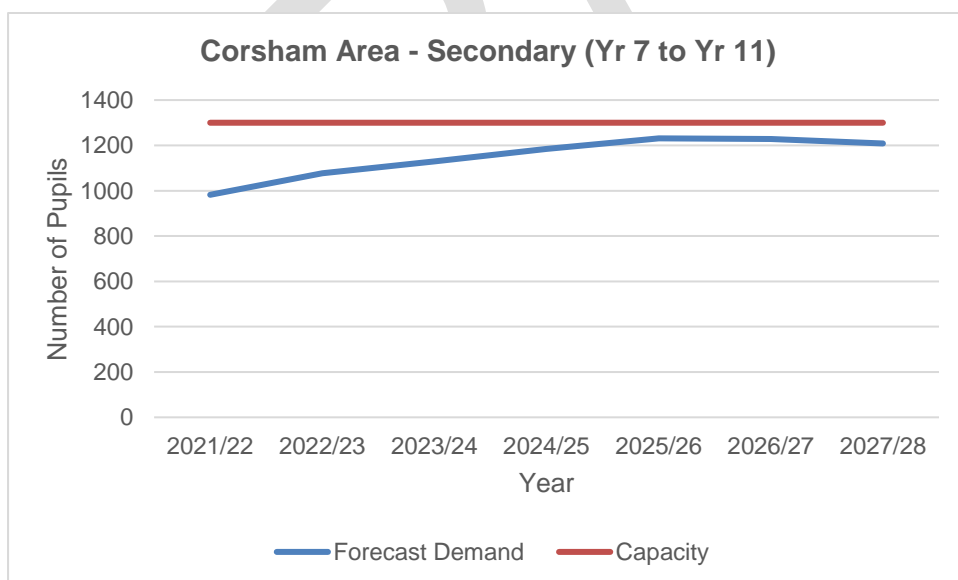
The Corsham School is the only secondary school serving the Corsham community area. Estimates of the future need for secondary places are based on the number of pupils leaving primary schools at the age of 11+, applying historic transfer ratios to take account of pupils moving to independent schools and schools in other areas.



At the end of this forecast period, there will still be around 100 houses to complete on the approved housing site at MOD Rudloe No 2 Westwells, which will generate approximately 31 additional primary pupils in the town. No pupil product has been included for the Land North of Bath Road site following the unsuccessful appeal last year.



At the end of this forecast period, there will still housing to complete on the Land South of Westwells site in the Neston catchment area, which will generate approximately 25 additional primary pupils not included in the forecasts.



Housing Development

There are approximately 340 new houses due to complete in this community area. This includes completion of several sites, as listed in the April 2022 Housing Land Supply Statement. The pupil product of this housing is included in the forecasts above where it is

expected to complete within the forecast period. Please see the notes under the primary forecast graphs above for further information.

The Local Plan consultation undertaken early in 2021, proposed that a further 120 houses be completed in Corsham prior to 2036. The pupil product of these houses is not yet included in the forecasts but would generate approximately 34 new primary and 26 secondary pupils.

The Local Plan consultation also included a paper on Empowering Rural Communities, which proposed 15 additional houses in Box and a further 35 in Colerne by 2036. This would generate approximately 15 primary and 11 secondary pupils overall.

Implications for Primary Provision from 2022/23

At present there are sufficient surplus places in the town to cater for projected demand and potentially also the product of the proposed local plan housing. This assumes that the housing at Land North of Bath Road (13/05188/OUT) is not taken forward. If this site did progress, this would fill the remaining places in the town and school expansions would be required to cater for any additional housing identified through the local plan.

In the rural area, the schools have fewer surplus places but will be able to accommodate the housing already included in the Core Strategy. Both Box Primary and Neston Primary are on very restricted sites with no expansion potential, this will potentially limit further housing growth in both villages.

If the birth rate increases in the town, or if additional housing is proposed which would fill the existing surplus places, then there is scope to provide a 0.5FE expansion at Corsham Primary School, Broadwood, when required.

Implications for Secondary Provision from 2022/23

The Corsham School is the only secondary school serving the Corsham community area and has been recently expanded using section 106 funding from local housing developments. This expansion has increased the PAN to 260, providing new places in all year groups.

Historically the school has admitted around 87% of those who have been attending one of the primary schools in the catchment area, however this has increased to over 100% for year 7 admissions in September 2021 and September 2022. This suggests that the school is increasing in popularity and now takes most of its catchment children as well as some from elsewhere. The current forecasts assume the intake will continue at this level and therefore the school will grow over the next few years.

The current forecasts suggest that following the recent expansion, there should now be sufficient places in the school to meet the additional demand from the proposed local plan housing. However, given the recent levels of growth, this would need to be assessed when future planning applications are received. If required, the school can be further expanded to meet demand.

Post 16

The Corsham School has on site post 16 provision and offers both A-levels and vocational qualifications. The following table shows the historical number of learners in years 12 and 13 at the school:

	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Number of students in Years 12 and 13	230	236	198	203	198	198
Percentage stay on rate	56%	61%	56%	56%	54%	55%

The number of sixth form students is likely to increase from 2024, as larger year groups feed through the school. The school should however have sufficient capacity to cater for this, assuming a continuance of the average percentage uptake.

Corsham implementation plan

No specific projects are deemed necessary at this stage, available places and demand to be kept under review.

DRAFT

E6 Devizes

There are 11 primary age schools in the Devizes area and 1 secondary school catering for the 11 to 19 age range. There are two special schools in the area and a resource base at Wansdyke Community School.

Primary	Status as at June 2022	Urban/Rural
All Cannings CE Primary School	Academy	Rural
Bishops Cannings CEVA Primary School	Academy	Rural
Chirton CEVC Primary School	Academy	Rural
Southbroom Infants School	Academy	Urban
Five Lanes Primary School	Voluntary Controlled	Rural
Nursted Community Primary School	Community	Urban
Rowde CE Primary Academy	Academy	Rural
Southbroom St. James' Academy	Academy	Urban
St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School Devizes	Academy	Urban
The Trinity CE Primary Academy, Devizes	Academy	Urban
Wansdyke Community School	Academy	Urban
Secondary		
Devizes School	Academy	Urban
Special		
Downland School	Community	
Silverwood School (Rowde Campus)	Community	

Overview

Since 2006 there has been significant housing in the town, but a continued decline in the birth rate means that there are currently around 27% surplus places in the town. The majority of these surplus places are in Southbroom Infants and Southbroom St James which has led to both schools reducing their PANs in recent years. Even taking into account the lowered PAN's, the level of surplus places is currently 18%.

Around 86% of children who live in the town attend a town (urban) school, with the majority of the remainder attending the surrounding rural schools.

Devizes School is the only secondary school in this planning area. The school currently admits around 76% of the in-catchment secondary population, this has increased over the last three years from around 65%. The majority of the remaining pupils attend Lavington School.

Current Provision

The following table provides a breakdown of the net (pupil) capacity and number on roll for schools in the Devizes area.

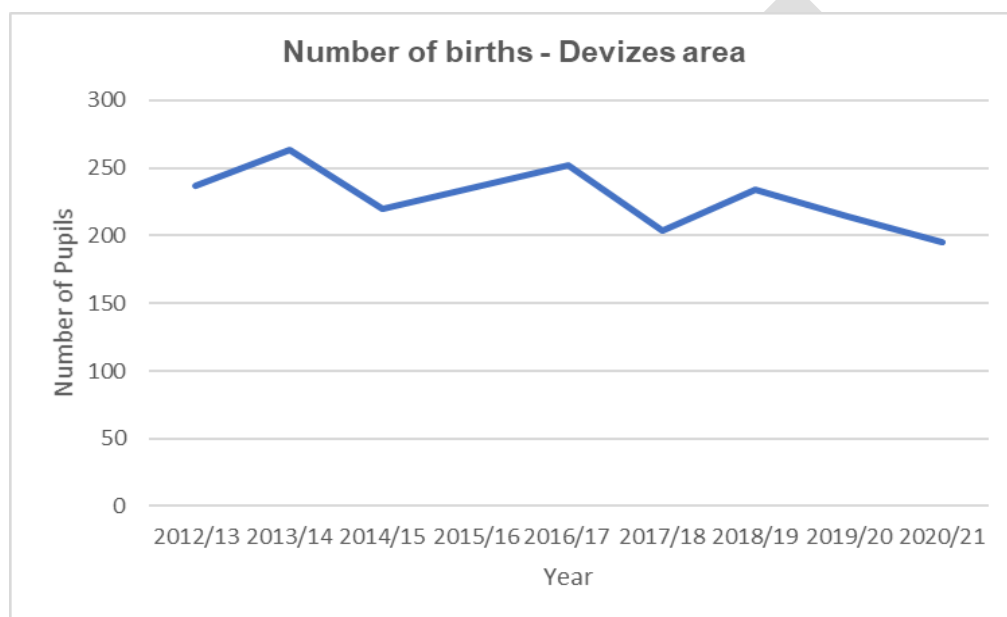
Phase	Net Capacity	Number on Roll (Jan 2022)	Surplus Capacity + / -
Primary (Urban)	1460*	1066	+394 (27%)
Primary (Rural)	742	633	+109 (15%)
Secondary (Y7 to Y11)	1135	967	+ 168 (15%)

*This includes the full capacities of Southbroom Infants and Southbroom St James even though both schools have lowered their PANs in recent years.

Births in Devizes

As can be seen from the data below there are quite large annual fluctuations in the birth rate in the Devizes community area. The birth data for 2020/21 shows a decrease below 200 children for the first time in ten years.

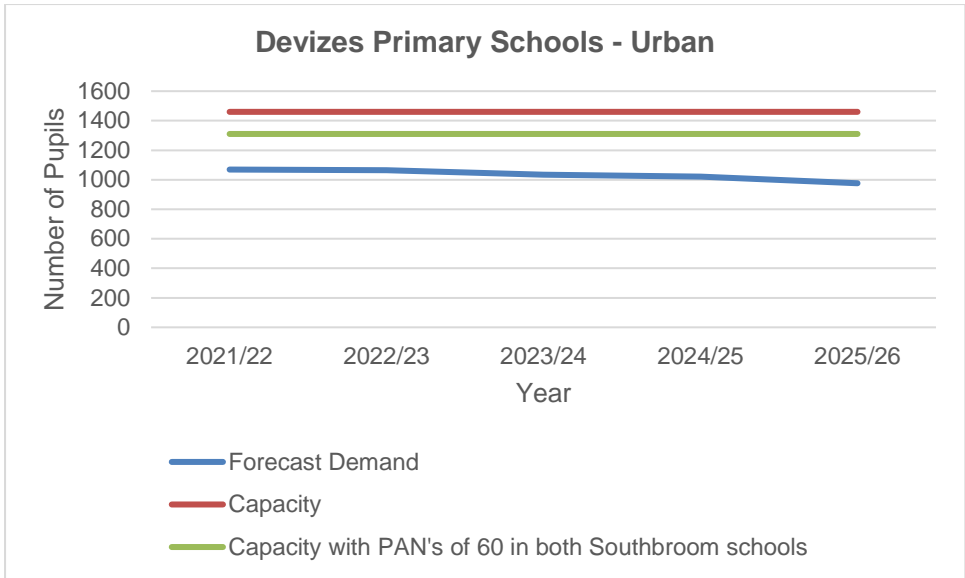
Birth year	2012/ 13	2013/ 14	2014/ 15	2015/ 16	2016/ 17	2017/ 18	2018/ 19	2019/ 20	2020/ 21
Number	237	263	220	236	252	204	234	214	195



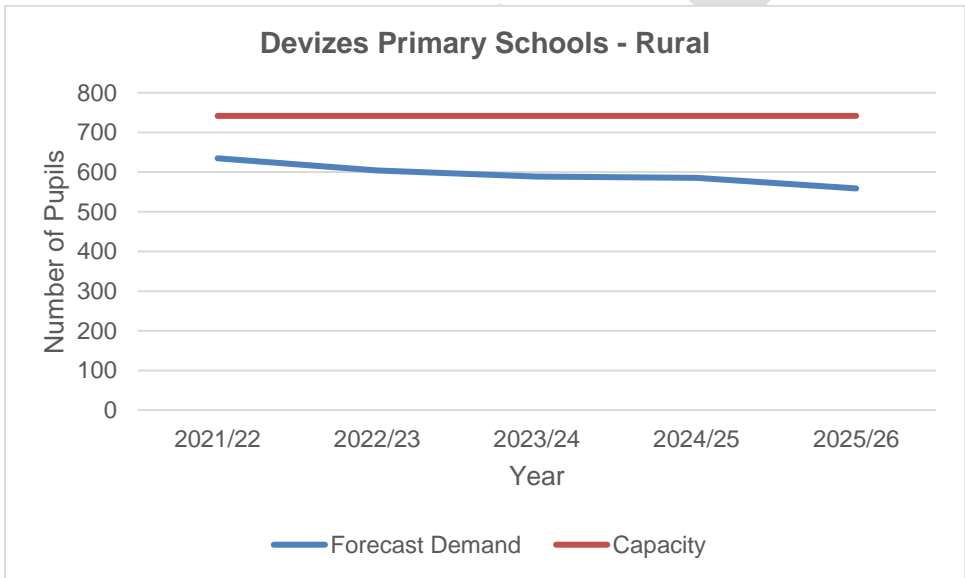
Current forecasts

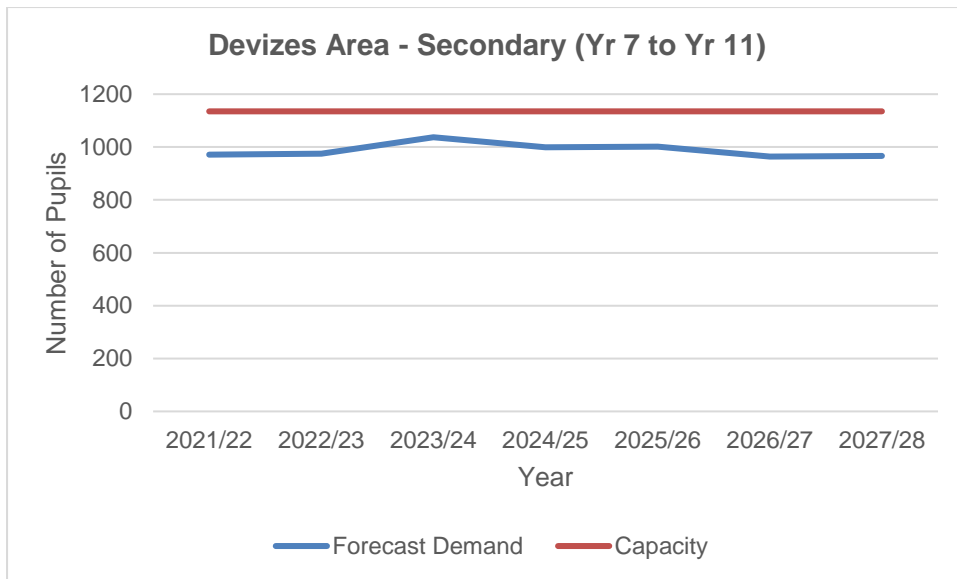
The following graphs show the forecast demand for school places in the Devizes urban primary schools, rural schools and secondary school. At primary level these take into account the birth rate, inward/outward migration and housing expected to be completed during the planning period, taken from the Wiltshire Housing Land Supply Statement (April 2022).

Devizes School is the only secondary school serving the Devizes community area. Estimates of the future need for secondary places are based on the number of pupils leaving primary schools at the age of 11+, applying historic transfer ratios to take account of pupils moving to independent schools and schools in other areas.



At the end of this forecast period, there will still be around 200 houses listed in the Housing Land Supply Statement to complete on various sites. These are expected to generate approximately 62 additional primary pupils in the town.





At the end of this forecast period, there will still be 80 houses listed in the Housing Land Supply Statement to complete on various sites. These are expected to generate approximately 18 additional secondary pupils.

Housing Development

There are approximately 450 new houses in this community area as listed in the April 2022 Housing Land Supply Statement. The pupil product of this housing is included in the forecasts above where it is expected to complete within the forecast period. Please see the notes under the graphs above for further information.

The Local Plan consultation undertaken early in 2021, proposed that a further 330 houses be completed in Devizes prior to 2036. The pupil product of these houses is not yet included in the forecasts but would generate approximately 102 new primary and 73 secondary pupils.

The Local Plan consultation also included a paper on Empowering Rural Communities, which proposed 61 additional houses in Potterne, 39 in Worton and 57 in Rowde.

Implications for Primary Provision from 2022/23

At present there are sufficient surplus places in the town to cater for projected demand and the product of the proposed local plan housing. There is scope for Southbroom Infants and Southbroom St James to raise their PAN's back to previous levels to meet the demand for pupil places.

In both the rural and urban primary forecasts above, the number of pupils drops in 2022/23. This is due to particularly large cohorts of pupils feeding out of the primary schools and into the secondary school from 2021 onwards.

The local plan proposed housing in Potterne and Worton would both fall into the catchment area of Five Lanes Primary School, which may require expansion to cater for the additional pupils. Currently Rowde Primary School would have sufficient places for those generated by the 57 proposed additional houses.

Overall, there are currently 23% surplus primary places in the whole community area which will increase in the short term, before reducing if the proposed local plan housing is taken

forward. The primary schools in this area could therefore consider reducing their PAN's or capacities in line with the recommendations on page 20 in order to match the supply of places to demand.

Primary, secondary and post 16 Special School places are offered by Silverwood Rowde campus. There are plans to increase capacity through the new building (opening September 2023) and refurbishment and remodelling of the Main House.

Implications for Secondary Provision from 2022/23

The Devizes School is the only secondary school serving the Devizes community area and converted to an Academy in September 2012. If the school continues to admit around 76% of the in-catchment secondary pupils, then it has sufficient places to meet current demand and the housing included in the Housing Land Supply Statement 2022.

However, expansion may be required to provide some of the places needed for the proposed local plan housing. The total housing, including that proposed for the villages in the Devizes School catchment area, is nearly 500 homes. This would require around 105 places. A detailed assessment of the available places would need to be carried out upon receipt of planning applications. There is scope to expand the school if required.

Post 16

Devizes School has on site post 16 provision and offers both A-levels and vocational qualifications. The table below shows the historical number of learners in years 12 and 13 at the school.

In recent years, Devizes School has worked closely with Lavington School which does not have its own sixth form on site. Instead, Lavington has a satellite sixth form centre which forms part of the Devizes School sixth form. The numbers below include all pupils.

	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Number of students in Years 12 and 13	150	147	164	191	207	239

Short term – 1 to 2 years Academic Years 2022/23 – 2023/24	Medium term – 3 to 5 years Academic Years 2024/25 – 2026/27	Long term – 5 to 10 years Academic Years 2027/28 – 2032/33
		<i>Possible expansion to provide additional places at Devizes School to meet the needs of new housing</i>

E7 Downton

There are 7 primary age schools in the Downton area and 1 secondary school catering for the 11 to 16 age range. There are no special schools in the area or resource bases in the area however both are available in Salisbury.

Primary	Status as at July 2022	Urban/Rural
Alderbury & West Grimstead CE Primary School	Voluntary Aided	Rural
Coombe Bissett CE Primary School	Voluntary Aided	Rural
Downton CEVA Primary School	Voluntary Aided	Rural
Longford CEVC Primary School	Voluntary Controlled	Rural
Morgan's Vale and Woodfalls CE Primary School	Academy	Rural
The New Forest CE Primary School	Academy	Rural
Whiteparish All Saints CE Primary School	Voluntary Aided	Rural
Secondary		
The Trafalgar School at Downton	Academy	Rural

Overview

There are no towns in this area, so all schools are classed as rural for the purposes of this document. Downton is the largest settlement and is deemed a Local Service Centre in the Wiltshire Core Strategy. Local Service centres are defined as smaller towns and larger villages which serve a surrounding rural hinterland and possess a level of facilities and services that, together with improved local employment, provide the best opportunities outside the Market Towns for greater self-containment. There is one primary school and one secondary school in Downton, the remaining primary schools are located across several villages.

Longford Primary School is located in Britford, on the outskirts of Salisbury. In the Core Strategy and Local Plan consultation, this area is deemed as Salisbury. The school catchment area is quite large and at present 68% of the primary age pupils living in the catchment area and attending a Wiltshire school, are taught at schools in Salisbury. The remaining 32% attend either Longford Primary or schools in the Downton community area. Therefore, housing in this area needs to also be considered as part of the wider Salisbury picture.

At secondary level, the Longford catchment is split between The Trafalgar School at Downton and Wyvern and St Edmund's in Salisbury.

New Forest Primary is a 1FE split site school, with key stage one pupils taught at Landlord and key stage two pupils at Nomansland.

Downton Primary School was expanded from 1FE to 1.5FE a few years ago in order to accommodate families moving into new housing sites in the village. Numbers at the school have been growing since.

The birth rate across the area has decreased from pre-2016 levels but has been stable over recent years.

As well as housing underway in Downton, included in the current core strategy is housing in Alderbury and on the fringes of Salisbury at Rowbarrow, Odstock Road. The Rowbarrow housing falls within the catchment area of Longford Primary School.

The Trafalgar School at Downton was expanded several years ago and has recently increased its PAN to 150. The school has grown from around 550 pupils in 2015/16 to 775 pupils in Jan 2021. The school is popular and attracts pupils from Salisbury and from out of the County. In 2018 the school admitted above the PAN, as requested by the school, which has meant that it is currently over the capacity of 750.

Current Provision

The following table provides a breakdown of the net (pupil) capacity and number on roll for schools in the Downton area.

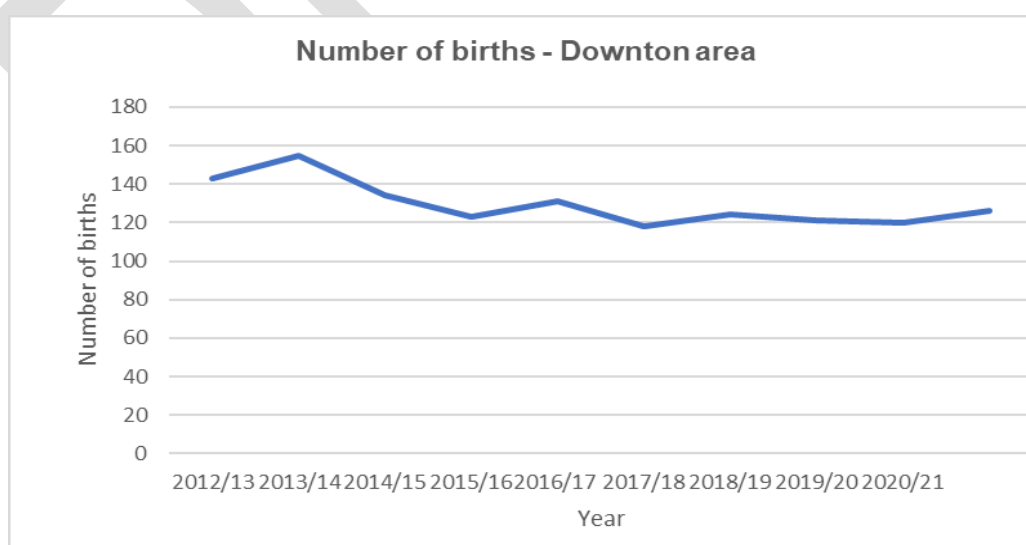
Phase	Net Capacity	Number on Roll (Jan 2022)	Surplus Capacity + / -
Primary (Rural)	1215	979	+236 (19%)
Secondary (Y7 to Y11)	745	764	-19 (-2.5%)

Births in Downton

The number of births reported by the Health Authority in the Downton area shows the birth rate has been stable since 2016/17 but has declined from pre-2016 levels. The latest birth data below shows a slight increase on the previous year.

In the Downton area, there appears to be considerable growth in the resident cohort sizes between birth and starting school. For instance, the number of births in 2016/17 was 118, by the time this cohort reached school starting age, the cohort had increased to 158. In the last 4 years, the average growth has been around 25%. This is more than would be expected from just the provision of new housing in the area.

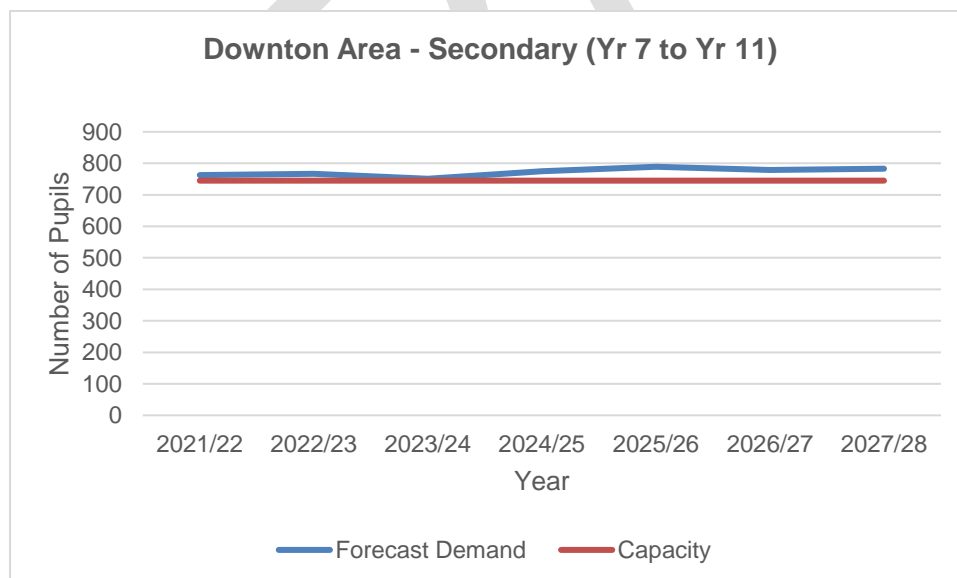
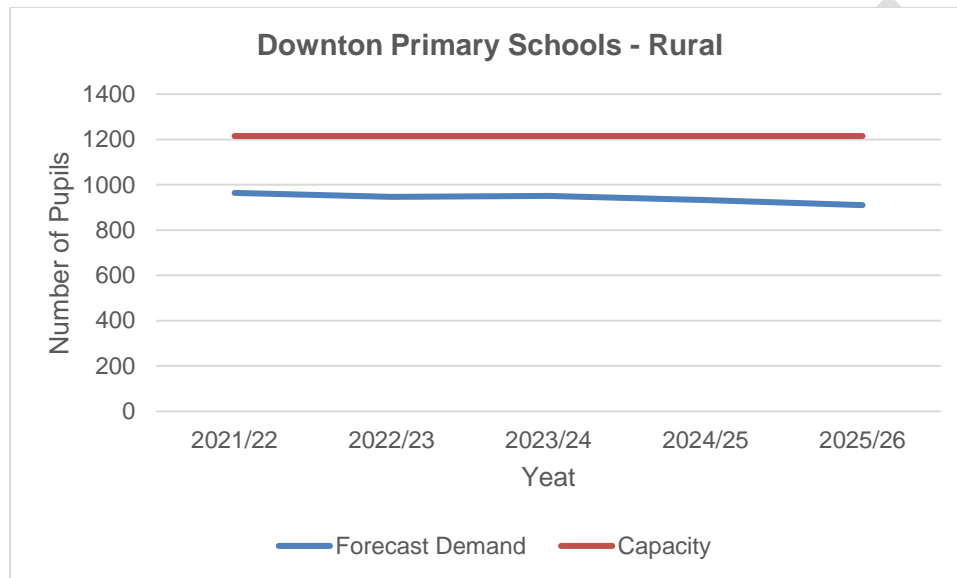
Birth year	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Number	143	155	134	123	131	118	124	121	120	126



Current forecasts

The following graphs show the forecast demand for school places in the Downton primary schools and secondary school. At primary level these take into account the birth rate, inward/outward migration and housing expected to be completed during the planning period, taken from the Wiltshire Housing Land Supply Statement (April 2022).

The Trafalgar School at Downton is the only secondary school serving the Downton community area. Estimates of the future need for secondary places are based on the number of pupils leaving primary schools at the age of 11+, applying historic transfer ratios to take account of pupils moving to independent schools and schools in other areas.



Housing Development

There are approximately 200 new houses in this community area, as listed in the April 2022 Housing Land Supply Statement. The pupil product of this housing is included in the forecasts above where it is expected to complete within the forecast period.

The Local Plan consultation paper on Empowering Rural Communities, which proposed a further 108 additional houses in Downton, 3 in Alderbury, 19 in Coombe Bissett, 56 in Morgans Vale/Woodfalls and 31 in Whiteparish. These sites, if taken forward, would collectively require 67 primary school places and 47 secondary school places.

In the Longford Primary School catchment, there are 335 houses proposed on sites to the north and south of Downton Road. Longford Primary itself has little expansion potential as it is on a restricted site.

Implications for Primary Provision from 2022/23

At present there are sufficient surplus places in the Downton community area schools to cater for housing included in the current core strategy. Current forecasts suggest that there would also be sufficient places to accommodate the pupil product of the proposed local plan housing in Downton itself, Alderbury and Whiteparish. Both Coombe Bissett and Morgan's Vale Primary Schools are however currently almost full and may not have sufficient places without expansion. However, assessments of available places for all sites would be undertaken upon the receipt of planning applications.

Longford Primary School could not be expanded sufficiently to accommodate the pupil product of the proposed local plan housing in its catchment area. As previously mentioned, a significant proportion of primary aged children resident in this catchment area attend schools in Salisbury and therefore it is likely that additional school provision in Salisbury would be required to meet the place shortfall. Please refer to the Salisbury section of this document for further information.

Overall, there are currently 19% surplus primary places in the whole community area which will increase in the short term, before reducing if the proposed local plan housing is taken forward. The primary schools in this area with surplus places could therefore consider reducing their PANs for a few years in line with the recommendations on page 20 in order to match the supply of places to demand.

Implications for Secondary Provision from 2022/23

The Trafalgar School at Downton is the only secondary school serving the Downton community area. It is a popular school and admits a proportion of pupils from outside its designated area, mainly from Salisbury. The school tends to admit to its PAN of 150 and is forecast to continue to do so, remaining full throughout the planning period. There are currently sufficient places to meet in-catchment demand.

Section 106 contributions will however be sought from housing developments in the school's catchment area, including those proposed through the local plan, for expansion of the school. Such expansion would ensure that places can be created in all year groups for families moving into new housing in the community area.

Post 16 provision

The Trafalgar School does not currently offer post 16 education therefore pupils attend provision outside of the Downton community area, primarily in Salisbury.

Downton implementation plan

<p>Short term – 1 to 2 years</p> <p>Academic Years 2022/23 – 2023/24</p>	<p>Medium term – 3 to 5 years</p> <p>Academic Years 2024/25 – 2026/27</p>	<p>Long term – 5 to 10 years</p> <p>Academic Years 2027/28 – 2032/33</p>
		<p><i>Possible expansion to provide additional places The Trafalgar School at Downton to meet the needs of new housing</i></p>

DRAFT

E8 Durrington

There are 7 primary age schools in the Durrington area and 1 secondary school catering for the 11 to 16 age range. There are no special schools in the area however, a resource base was opened at Kiwi Primary School in September 2022 in respect of growing demand for SEN school places.

Primary	Status as at July 2022	Urban/Rural
Bulford St Leonard's CofE Primary School	Academy	Rural
Durrington All Saints CE Infant School	Academy	Rural
Durrington CE Controlled Junior School	Voluntary Controlled	Rural
St Michael's CE Primary School	Academy	Rural
Kiwi School	Community	Rural
Larkhill Primary School	Academy	Rural
Netheravon All Saints CE Primary School	Academy	Rural
Secondary		
Avon Valley College	Academy	Rural

Overview

There are no towns in this area, so all schools are classed as rural for the purposes of this document. The large villages in this area include Bulford, Durrington, Netheravon and Larkhill.

This community area has high levels of resident service personnel and their families. St Michael's CE Primary, Bulford St Leonard's and Bulford Kiwi Primary Schools were all expanded as part of the Rebasing Programme where service personnel were relocated to Wiltshire from Germany. The final numbers of personnel who returned to Wiltshire were less than originally advised which has unfortunately created surplus places across the area. Whilst Bulford St Leonard's has a capacity of 315 places, the trust has been setting a lower published admissions number (PAN) which has been sufficient to meet demand to date.

As is usual in schools with military families, there is a higher level of surplus places in Key Stage 2 than Key Stage 1. This occurs as serving personnel leave the military after their agreed term, the likelihood of this increases as the children age.

At secondary level, Avon Valley College was also expanded for the Army Rebasing Programme. The sixth form at the school closed in July 2020. The physical capacity of the school is 947 places, with the PAN currently set at 185.

Current Provision

The following table provides a breakdown of the net (pupil) capacity and number on roll for schools in the Durrington area.

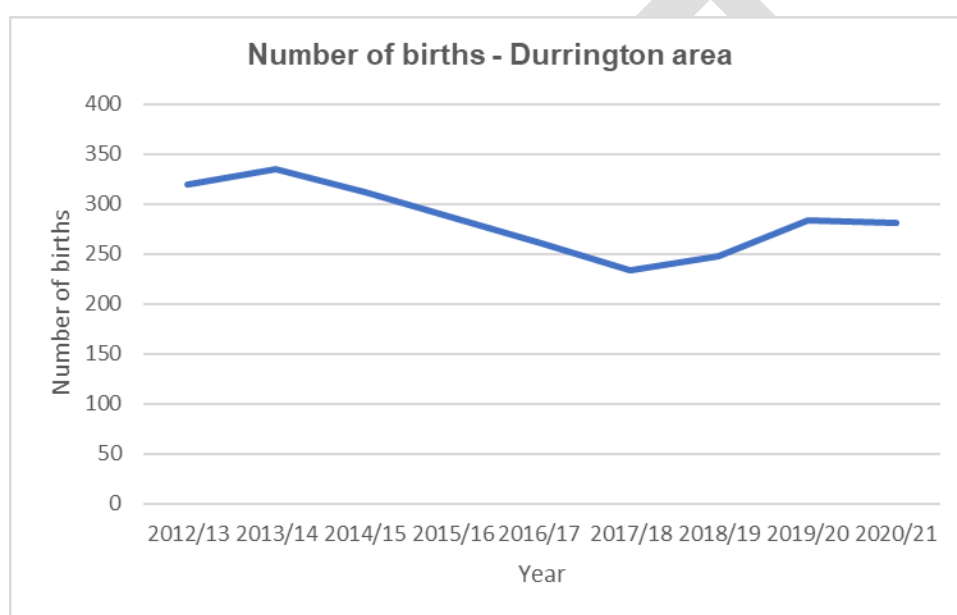
Phase	Net Capacity	Number on Roll (Jan 2022)	Surplus Capacity + / -
Primary (Rural)	2199	1611	+588 (27%)
Secondary (Y7 to Y11)	947	403	+544 (57%)

*Includes the full 315 place capacity at Bulford St Leonard's

Births in Durrington

The number of births reported by the Health Authority in the Durrington area shows the birth rate has increased over the past two years but not yet back to the pre 2014/15 level. The increase seen in the last two years is probably as a result of the additional military families now living in this area due to the army basing programme. It is likely that the 2019/20 figure does not include all actual births due to delays with registrations as a result of Covid-19.

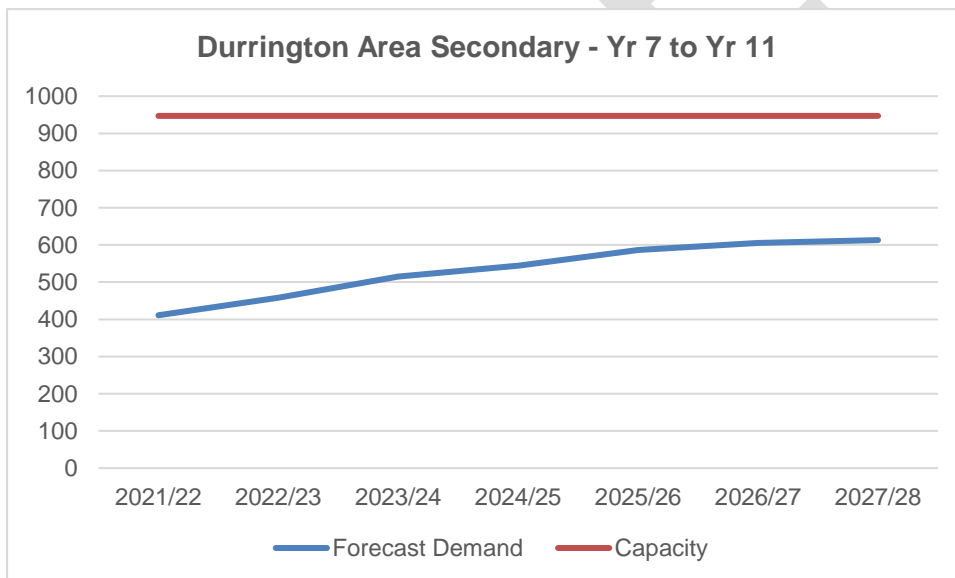
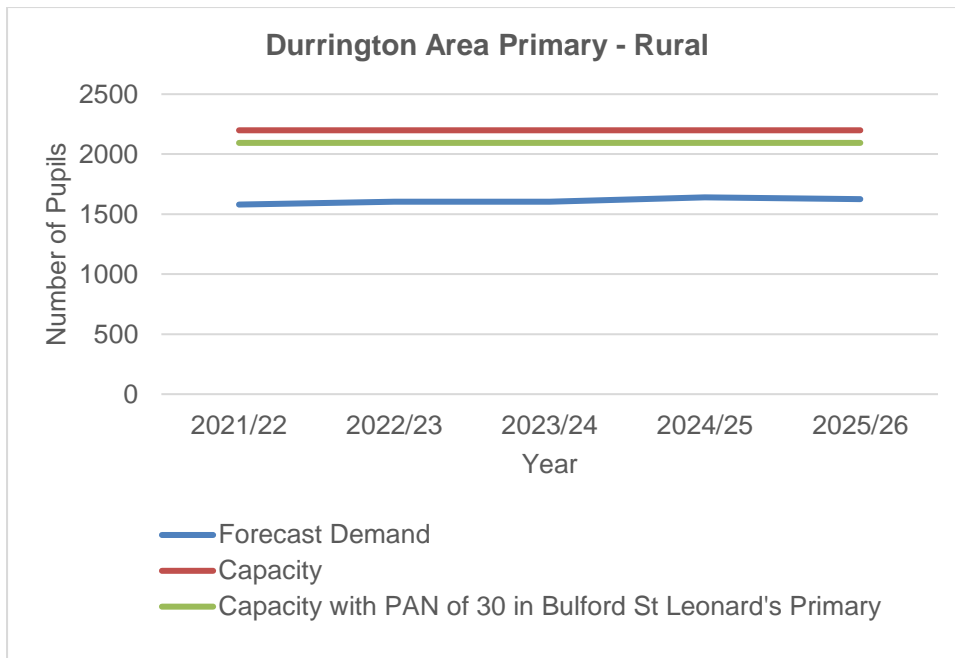
Birth year	2012/ 13	2013/ 14	2014/ 15	2015/ 16	2016/ 17	2017/ 18	2018/ 19	2019/ 20	2020/ 21
Number	319	335	312	286	260	234	247	283	281



Current forecasts

The following graphs show the forecast demand for school places in the Durrington primary schools and secondary school. At primary level these take into account the birth rate, inward/outward migration and housing expected to be completed during the planning period, taken from the Wiltshire Housing Land Supply Statement (April 2022).

Avon Valley College is the only secondary school serving the Durrington community area. Estimates of the future need for secondary places are based on the number of pupils leaving primary schools at the age of 11+, applying historic transfer ratios to take account of pupils moving to independent schools and schools in other areas.



Housing Development

There are approximately 100 new houses in this community area, as listed in the April 2022 Housing Land Supply Statement. The pupil product of this housing is included in the forecasts above where it is expected to complete within the forecast period.

The Local Plan consultation paper on Empowering Rural Communities, proposed a further 20 additional houses in Bulford, 1 in Durrington and 32 in Netheravon. These sites, if taken forward, would collectively require 16 primary school places and 12 secondary school places.

Implications for Primary Provision from 2022/23

At present there are sufficient surplus places in the primary schools in this area to cater for projected demand and the product of the proposed local plan housing.

In the primary forecast graph above, it can be seen that the number of pupils is projected to increase over the next few years however there will still be around 22% surplus places by the end of the forecast period. This assumes that the PAN capacity at Bulford St Leonard's remains at 210.

The primary schools with surplus places in this area could therefore consider reducing their PAN's or capacities in line with the recommendations on page 20 in order to match the supply of places to demand. Larkhill Primary School has already published a reduction in the PAN to 45 for September 2023.

Implications for Secondary Provision from 2022/23

Avon Valley College is the only secondary school serving the Durrington community area. Due to a legacy of surplus places, the projected increase in secondary numbers can be easily managed within the existing capacity.

Around half of the secondary age pupils resident in this community area attend secondary schools in other community areas, primarily The Stonehenge School in Amesbury. However, with rising demand from within its own catchment area, the number of Durrington resident pupils able to access places in The Stonehenge School will reduce over the next few years.

Assuming the housing in the town is delivered as planned there is unlikely to be significant impact on Avon Valley College.

Post 16

Avon Valley College ceased providing post 16 education in July 2020 due to lack of demand making it financially unviable. For post 16 education pupils now attend provision outside of the Durrington community area.

Durrington implementation plan

No specific projects are deemed necessary at this stage, available places and demand to be kept under review.

E9 Lavington

There are 5 primary schools in the Lavington area and 1 secondary school. There are no special schools in the area.

Primary	Status as at July 2022	Urban/Rural
The Holy Trinity CE Primary Academy	Academy	Rural
Dauntsey Academy Primary School	Academy	Rural
St. Barnabas CE School, Market Lavington	Voluntary Controlled	Rural
St. Thomas a' Becket CE (Aided) Primary School	Voluntary Aided (became an Academy 1/1/23)	Rural
Urchfont CE Primary School	Voluntary Controlled	Rural
Secondary		
Lavington School	Academy	Rural

Overview

There are no towns in this area, so all schools are classed as rural for the purposes of this document. Lavington is the largest settlement and is deemed a Local Service Centre in the Wiltshire Core Strategy. Local Service centres are defined as smaller towns and larger villages which serve a surrounding rural hinterland and possess a level of facilities and services that, together with improved local employment, provide the best opportunities outside the Market Towns for greater self-containment.

Based on January 2022 numbers of roll, St Barnabas and Urchfont are small schools and St. Thomas a' Becket is a very small school.

The primary schools in this area take pupils from neighbouring community areas. Overall, approximately 35% of the joint reception intake reside outside of this community area, primarily in the Devizes community area.

Lavington School is popular and oversubscribed. The school admits a significant proportion of their intake from outside of the catchment area. There are sufficient places to meet in-catchment demand for those applying on time for year 7 places. A small expansion of the school completed 2 years ago, funded by Section 106 contributions from housing developments which are either now completed or nearing completion.

Current Provision

The following table provides a breakdown of the net (pupil) capacity and number on roll for schools in the Lavington area.

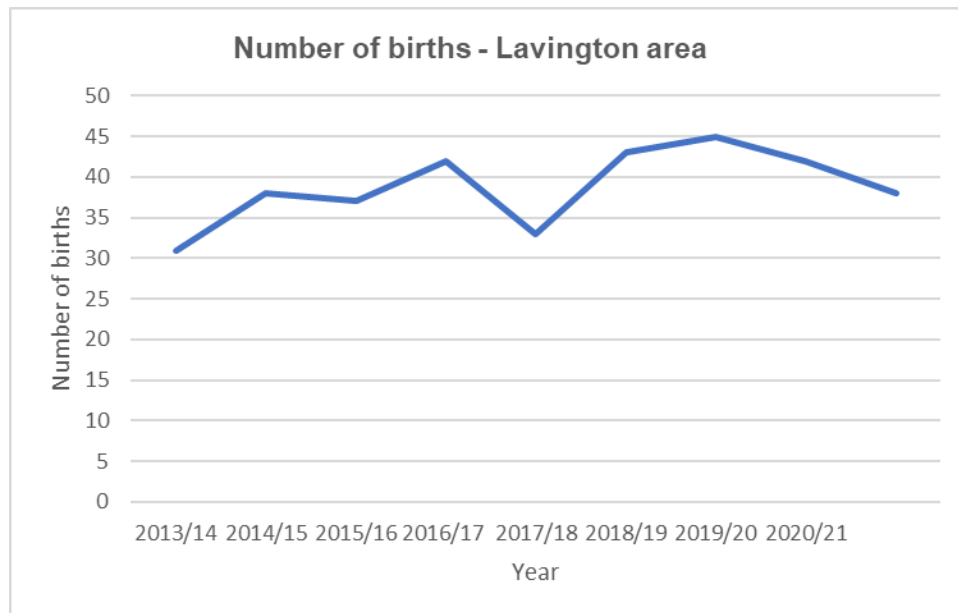
Phase	Net Capacity	Number on Roll (Jan 2022)	Surplus Capacity + / -
Primary (Rural)	689	551	+138 (20%)
Secondary (Y7 to Y11)	795	837	-24 (-3%)

Births in Lavington

The number of births reported by the Health Authority in the Lavington area has increased in recent years, which can be seen in the table and graph below. However, in real terms it is a

modest level of growth. The latest birth data below shows a small decline from the previous year.

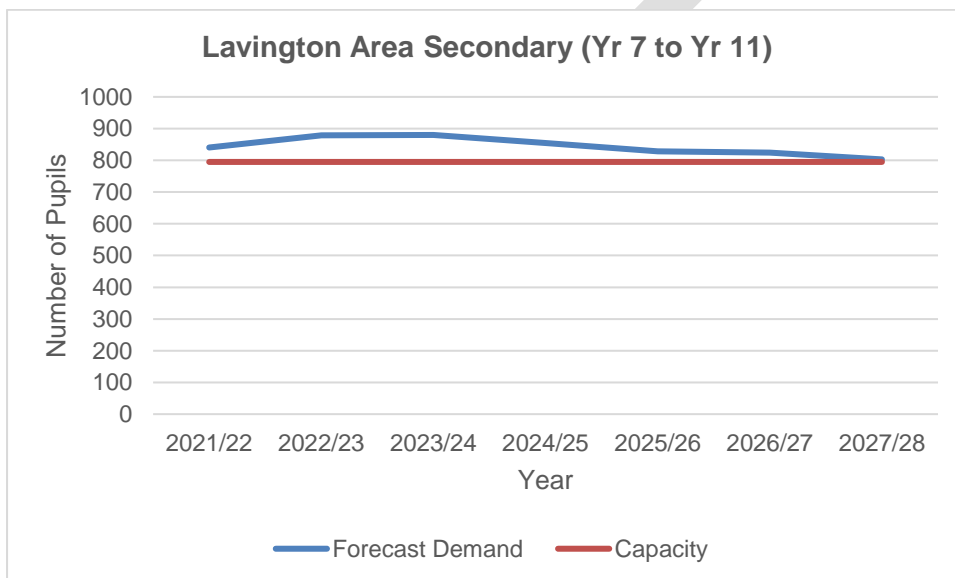
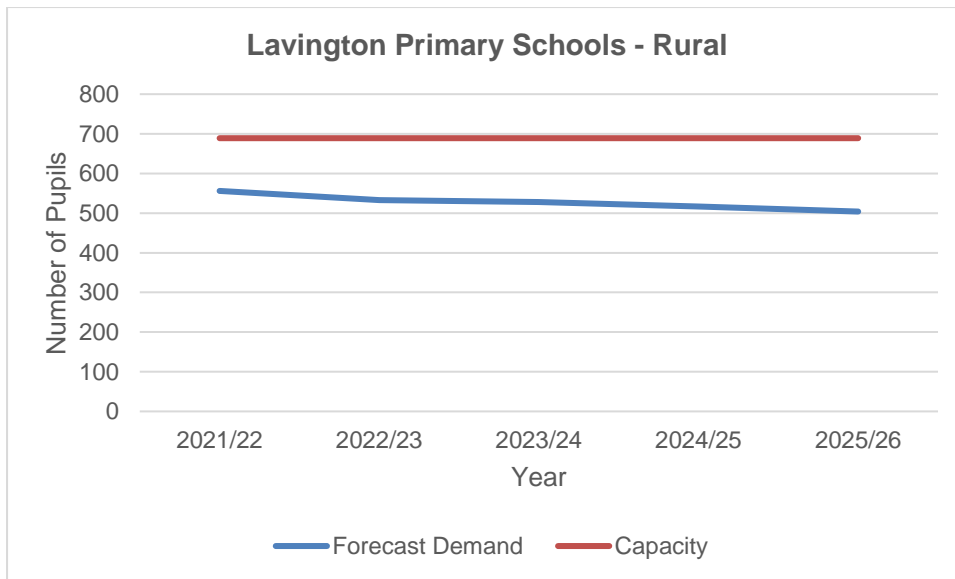
Birth year	2012/ 13	2013/ 14	2014/ 15	2015/ 16	2016/ 17	2017/ 18	2018/ 19	2019/ 20	2020/ 21
Number	31	38	37	42	33	43	45	42	38



Current forecasts

The following graphs show the forecast demand for school places in the Lavington primary schools and secondary school. At primary level these take into account the birth rate, inward/outward migration and housing expected to be completed during the planning period, taken from the Wiltshire Housing Land Supply Statement (April 2022).

Lavington School is the only secondary school serving this community area. Estimates of the future need for secondary places are based on the number of pupils leaving primary schools at the age of 11+, applying historic transfer ratios to take account of pupils moving to independent schools and schools in other areas.



Housing Development

There are approximately 200 new houses due to be built in this community area, as included in the April 2022 Housing Land Supply Statement. The pupil product of this housing is included in the forecasts above where it is expected to complete within the forecast period. At primary level, there are 157 homes still to complete after 2025/26 and at secondary level there are 52 homes still to complete after 2027/28. These will generate 49 primary pupils and 11 secondary pupils which are not included in the forecasts above.

The Local Plan consultation paper on Empowering Rural Communities, proposes a requirement for 32 additional homes in Market Lavington, 36 in West Lavington/Littleton Pannell, 5 in Urchfont and 22 in Tilshead. These sites, if taken forward, would collectively require 28 primary school places and 20 secondary school places.

Implications for Primary Provision from 2022/23

At present there are sufficient surplus places in the primary schools in this area to cater for projected demand and the product of the proposed local plan housing.

In the primary forecast graph above, the number of pupils drops in 2022/23. This is due to particularly large cohort of pupils feeding out of the primary schools and into the secondary school in 2022/23.

Overall, there are currently 20% surplus primary places in the whole community area which will increase in the short term, before reducing if the proposed local plan housing is taken forward. The primary schools with surplus places in this area could therefore consider reducing their PAN's or capacities in line with the recommendations on page 20 in order to match the supply of places to demand.

The reception intake at St. Thomas a' Becket CE Primary has been below 5 pupils in each of the last three years. This is due to the very low numbers of children living in the school's catchment area which is very rural and on Salisbury Plain. If future intakes continue at below 5 pupils per year, the number on roll at the school will decline to around 30 pupils by 2024. If the 22 proposed local plan houses in the village go ahead, then this would generate approximately 6 primary aged pupils.

Implications for Secondary Provision from 2022/23

Lavington School is popular and oversubscribed. The academy has admitted above PAN since 2019 which has meant that they are currently over capacity and will remain so until these large intakes feed out of the school.

The school admits a significant proportion of their intake from outside of the catchment area. However, there are sufficient places to meet in-catchment demand for those applying on time for year 7 places.

A small expansion of the school completed 2 years ago, funded by Section 106 contributions from housing developments which are either now completed or nearing completion. Section 106 contributions are being sought from any further housing developments in the school's catchment area, including those proposed through the local plan, for further expansion of the school. Further expansion would ensure that places can be created in all year groups for families moving into new housing.

Post 16

In recent years Lavington has operated a satellite sixth form centre as part of the Devizes School sixth form. The Lavington sixth form students are technically dual registered, with Devizes as the main registration and Lavington as the subsidiary registration. The number of subsidiary registered pupils as at January 2021 was 87. In January 2023 the school advised that this arrangement would cease from September 2023, whilst students currently in year 12 would be able to continue and complete year 13, they would be unable to admit new students into year 12.

Lavington implementation plan

<i>Short term – 1 to 2 years</i>	<i>Medium term – 3 to 5 years</i>	<i>Long term – 5 to 10 years</i>
<i>Academic Years 2022/23 – 2023/24</i>	<i>Academic Years 2024/25 – 2026/27</i>	<i>Academic Years 2027/28 – 2032/33</i>

	<i>Expansion to provide additional places at Lavington School to meet the needs of new housing</i>	

DRAFT

E10 Malmesbury

There are 11 primary age schools in the Malmesbury area and 1 secondary school catering for the 11 to 19 age range. There are no special schools or resource bases in the area.

Primary	Status as at July 2022	Urban/Rural
Brinkworth Earl Danby's C E Primary School	Voluntary Controlled	Rural
Crudwell CE Primary School	Voluntary Controlled	Rural
Hullavington CofE Primary and Nursery School	Voluntary Controlled	Rural
Lea and Garsdon CE Primary School	Voluntary Controlled	Rural
Luckington Community School	Community	Rural
Malmesbury CE Primary School	Academy	Urban
Minety CE Primary School	Voluntary Controlled	Rural
Oaksey CE Primary School	Voluntary Controlled	Rural
Sherston CE Primary School	Voluntary Controlled	Rural
St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School	Voluntary Aided	Urban
Somerford's Walter Powell CofE Academy	Academy	Rural
Secondary		
Malmesbury School	Academy	Urban

Overview

There are two primary schools classed as urban in this area, with the remaining primary schools located in villages across the wider area. Of these rural schools, Lea and Garsdon CE Primary School is the closest to the town and admits a number of town pupils for whom there is a daily school bus service. Lea and Garsdon CE Primary has been expanded to 1FE to create the additional places needed to meet demand from the town.

Recently a section 106 agreement has also been signed to secure additional land adjacent to Malmesbury Primary School. This will now enable future expansion of the school when required.

In the Malmesbury rural area, of the nine primary schools, three are classed as small and two as very small.

Malmesbury School is the only secondary school in this community area and recently been expanded to increase the PAN to 270 using secured section 106 funding.

Current Provision

The following table provides a breakdown of the net (pupil) capacity and number on roll for schools in the Malmesbury area.

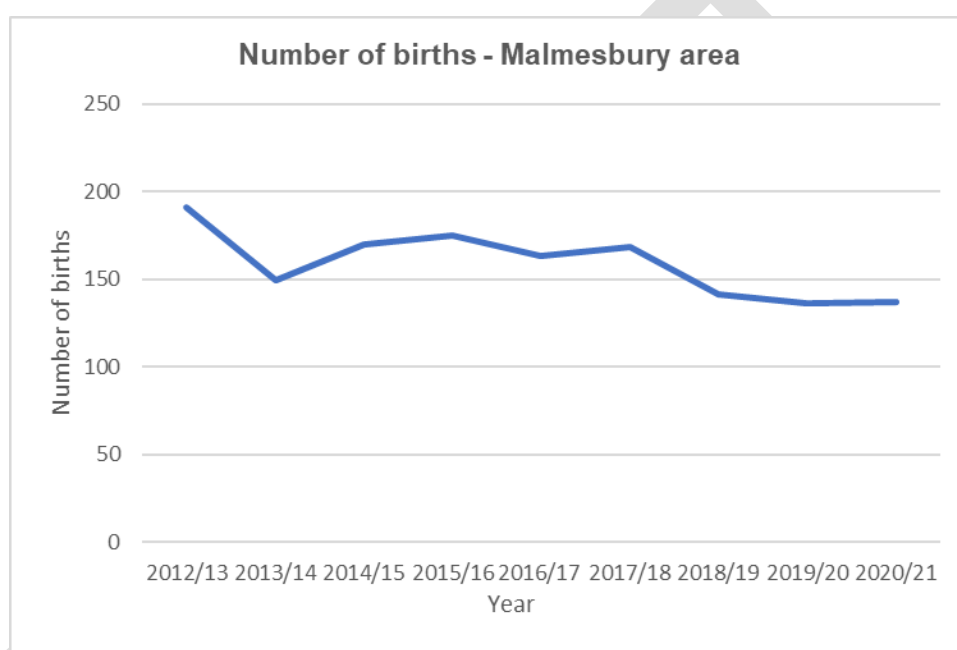
Phase	Net Capacity (May 2022)	Number on Roll (Jan 2022)	Surplus Capacity + / -
Primary (Urban)	569	575	-6 (-1%)
Primary (Rural)	1254	992	+262 (20%)
Secondary (Y7 to Y11)	1350	1222	+128 (9%)

Births in Malmesbury

The number of births reported by the Health Authority in the Malmesbury area shows the birth rate peaked in 2012/13 and after a drop in 2013/14 was then fairly constant until 2017/18. The figures reported from 2018/19 show a marked decline.

In the rural area, the birth rate decline in the last couple of years has been particularly steep, with a 25% reduction in births.

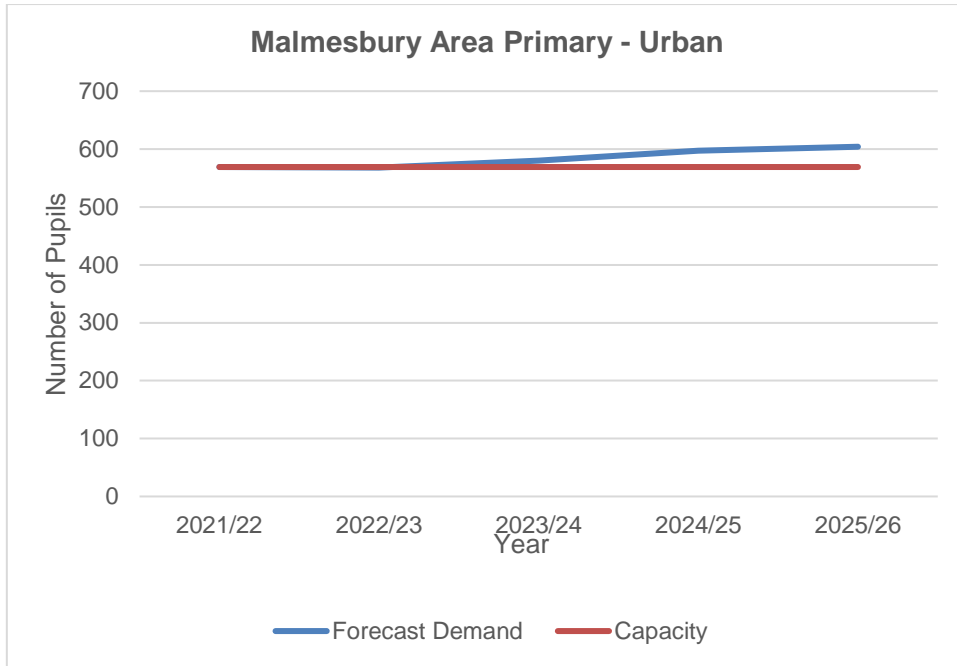
Birth year	2012/ 13	2013/ 14	2014/ 15	2015/ 16	2016/ 17	2017/ 18	2018/ 19	2019/ 20	2020/ 21
Number	191	149	170	175	163	168	141	136	137



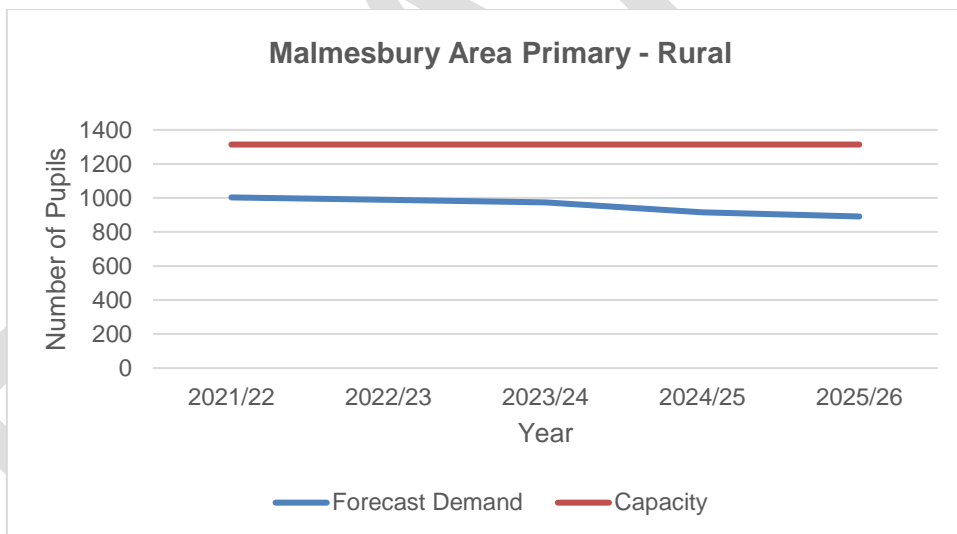
Current forecasts

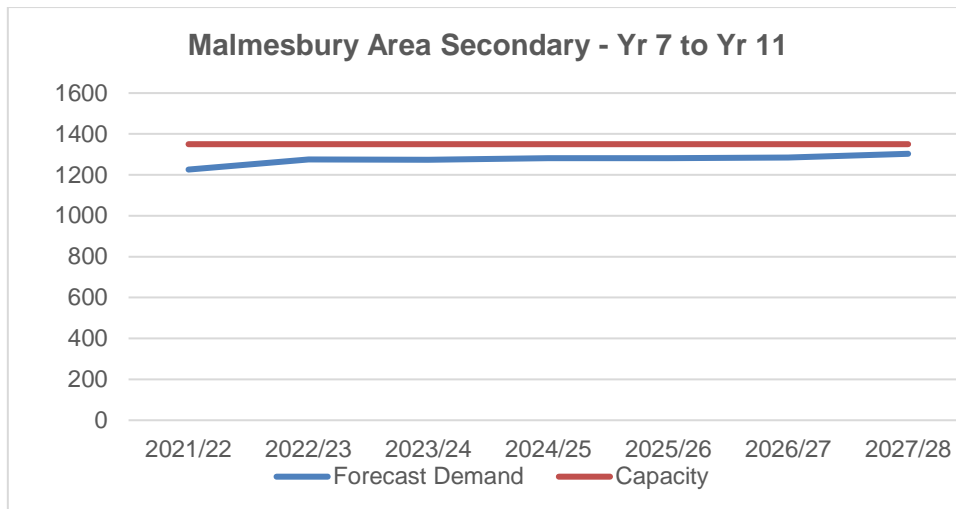
The following graphs show the forecast demand for school places in the Malmesbury urban and rural primary schools and secondary school. At primary level these take into account the birth rate, inward/outward migration and housing expected to be completed during the planning period, taken from the Wiltshire Housing Land Supply Statement (April 2022).

Malmesbury School is the only secondary school serving this community area. Estimates of the future need for secondary places are based on the number of pupils leaving primary schools at the age of 11+, applying historic transfer ratios to take account of pupils moving to independent schools and schools in other areas.



At the end of this forecast period, there will still be houses to complete on sites included in the Wiltshire Housing Land Supply Statement (April 2022). In addition, these forecasts do not include any pupils from housing sites that were still being appealed at the time of writing.





At the end of this forecast period, there will still be housing to complete on sites included in the Wiltshire Housing Land Supply Statement (April 2022). In addition, these forecasts do not include any pupils from housing sites that were still being appealed at the time of writing.

Housing Development

There are approximately 700 new houses due to be built in this community area, as included in the April 2022 Housing Land Supply Statement. The pupil product of this housing is included in the forecasts above where it is expected to complete within the forecast period.

The Local Plan consultation undertaken early in 2021, proposed that a further 24 houses be completed in Malmesbury prior to 2036. However, this need has already been met following the approval of the site at Filands/Jenner Lane.

The Local Plan consultation also included a paper on Empowering Rural Communities, which proposed a further 3 homes in Crudwell, 1 in Hullavington and 20 in Oaksey. Collectively these homes would generate approximately 7 new primary and 5 secondary pupils.

Implications for Primary Provision from 2022/23

The permanent expansion of Lea and Garsdon has recently been completed and the school is now a 1FE primary school. A bus service runs from the town to this school and therefore there will now be sufficient places in the primary schools in this area to cater for the projected urban demand over the next few years. In the short term the additional demand from new housing in Malmesbury is also expected to be partially offset by the declining birth rate.

In the longer term, land has now been secured adjacent to Malmesbury Primary School to enable expansion, for the rising urban area demand, when required. This will be kept under close review as housing is town in completed. Section 106 contributions will be sought from any new developments towards this project.

In the rural area, the declining birth rate will lead to lower intakes over the coming years. By the end of the forecast period, surplus places are expected to rise to over 30%. The primary schools with surplus places could consider reducing their PANs in line with the recommendations on page 20 in order to match the supply of places to demand.

Implications for Secondary Provision from 2022/23

Malmesbury School is popular and tends to attract it's in-catchment pupils as well as a small number from neighbouring areas. The school has recently been expanded to cater for the larger cohorts now feeding through from the primary schools and additional demand from local housing.

Numbers at the school are therefore expected to rise over the next few years. Section 106 contributions will be sought from any further housing developments in the school's catchment area, for further expansion of the school. Further expansion would ensure that places can be created in all year groups for families moving into new housing.

Post 16

Malmesbury School has a large on-site post 16 provision and offers both A-levels and vocational qualifications. The table below shows the historical number of learners in years 12 and 13 at the school.

	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Number of students in Years 12 and 13	199	173	165	201	230	206
Percentage stay on rate	51%	38%	41%	46%	53%	37%

Malmesbury implementation plan

Short term – 1 to 2 years <i>Academic Years 2022/23 – 2023/24</i>	Medium term – 3 to 5 years <i>Academic Years 2024/25 – 2026/27</i>	Long term – 5 to 10 years <i>Academic Years 2027/28 – 2032/33</i>
<i>Expansion of Lea and Garsdon Primary School to 1FE</i>		
	<i>Potential expansion of Malmesbury Primary to meet the needs of new housing in the town</i>	
		<i>Potential expansion of Malmesbury School to meet the needs of new housing in the town</i>

E11 Marlborough

There are 11 primary age schools in the Marlborough area and 1 secondary school catering for the 11 to 19 age range. There are no special schools in the area however there is a resource base at Marlborough St. Mary's CE Primary School.

Primary	Status as at July 2022	Urban/Rural
Baydon St. Nicholas CE Primary School	Voluntary Aided	Rural
Chilton Foliat CEVA Primary School	Voluntary Aided	Rural
Great Bedwyn CE School	Academy	Rural
Kennet Valley CE Aided Primary School	Voluntary Aided	Rural
Ogbourne CE Primary School	Academy	Rural
Preshute CE Primary School	Voluntary Controlled	Urban (as catchment includes part of town)
Ramsbury Primary School	Community	Rural
St. Katharine's CofE Primary School	Academy	Rural
Marlborough St. Mary's CEVC Primary School	Voluntary Controlled	Urban
St. Michael's CE Aided Primary School, Aldbourne	Voluntary Aided	Rural
Shalbourne CE Primary School	Voluntary Controlled	Rural
Secondary		
St. John's Marlborough	Academy	Urban

Overview

There are two primary schools classed as urban in this area, with the remaining primary schools located in villages across the wider area.

Marlborough St Mary's moved into a new primary school building in 2017 and there has also been significant investment to improve the accommodation at Preshute Primary recently.

In the Marlborough rural area, there are 5 primary schools classed as small and one as very small. The rural schools in this area collectively admit approximately 30% of their intake from outside of the community area, primarily from outside Wiltshire.

St John's Marlborough is the only secondary school in this community area and is currently almost full, with only a small number of places available in some year groups. The school usually admits to PAN in year 7 and only has places where students have subsequently left or moved away from the area.

Current Provision

The following table provides a breakdown of the net (pupil) capacity and number on roll for schools in the Marlborough area.

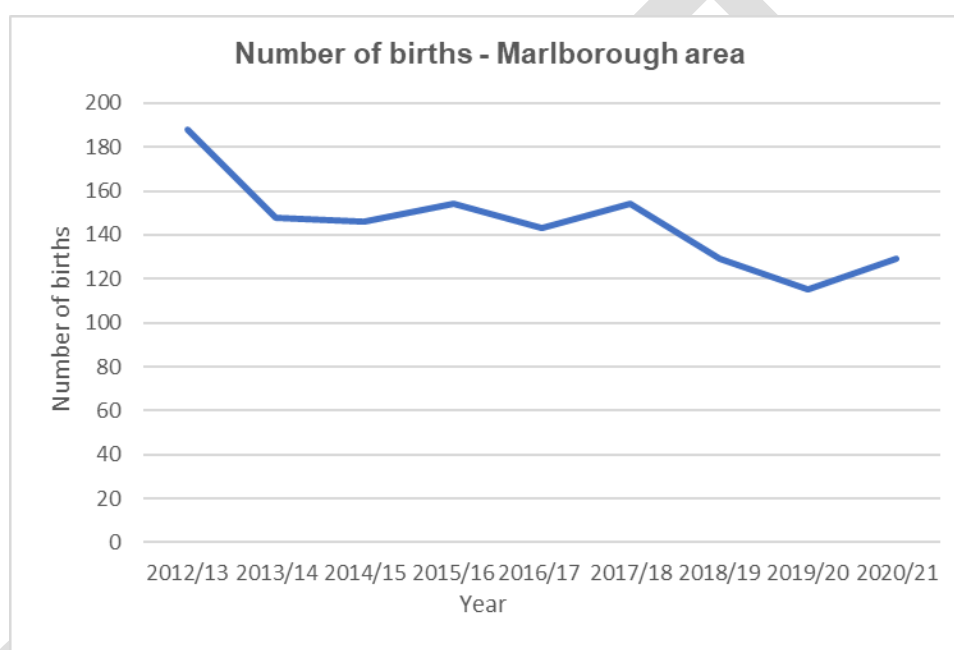
Phase	Net Capacity (Jan 2022)	Number on Roll (Jan 2022)	Surplus Capacity + / -
Primary (Urban)	630	588	+42 (7%)
Primary (Rural)	1279	1103	+176 (14%)

Secondary (Y7 to Y11)	1315	1297	+18 (1%)
-----------------------	------	------	----------

Births in Marlborough

The number of births reported by the Health Authority in the Marlborough area shows the birth rate peaked in 2012/13 and was then fairly constant until 2017/18. The figures reported since 2018/19 show a decline.

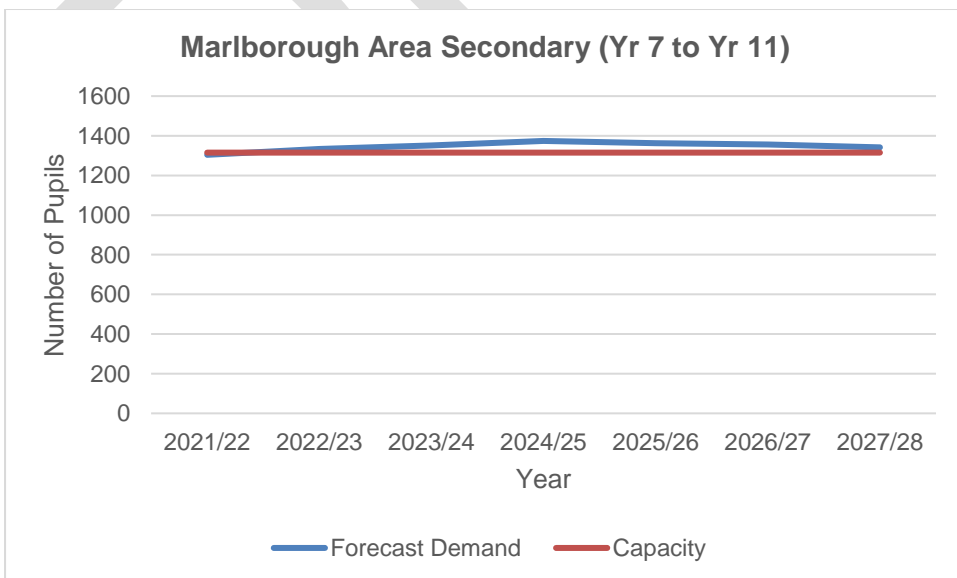
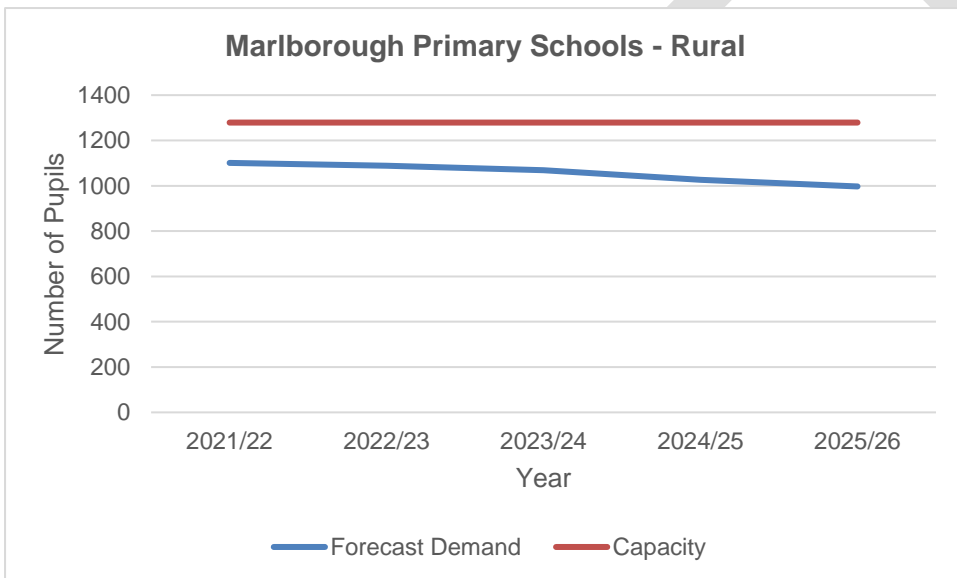
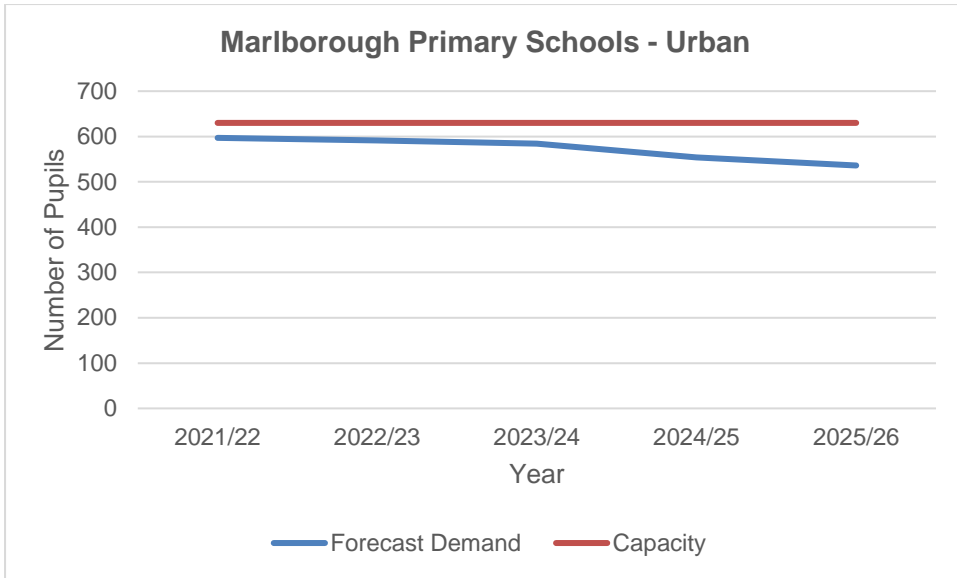
Birth year	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Number	188	148	146	154	143	154	129	115	129



Current forecasts

The following graphs show the forecast demand for school places in the Marlborough urban and rural primary schools and secondary school. At primary level these take into account the birth rate, inward/outward migration and housing expected to be completed during the planning period, taken from the Wiltshire Housing Land Supply Statement (April 2022).

St John's School is the only secondary school serving this community area. Estimates of the future need for secondary places are based on the number of pupils leaving primary schools at the age of 11+, applying historic transfer ratios to take account of pupils moving to independent schools and schools in other areas.



Housing Development

There are approximately 200 new houses due to be built in this community area, as listed in the April 2022 Housing Land Supply Statement. The pupil product of this housing is included in the forecasts above where it is expected to complete within the forecast period.

The Local Plan consultation undertaken early in 2021, proposed that a further 245 houses be completed in Marlborough prior to 2036. The pupil product of these houses is not yet included in the forecasts but would generate approximately 70 new primary and 50 new secondary pupils.

The Local Plan consultation also included a paper on Empowering Rural Communities, which proposed a further 36 homes in Aldbourne, 26 in Baydon, 22 in Great Bedwyn, 27 in Ramsbury and 24 in Shalbourne. Collectively these homes would generate approximately 40 new primary and 28 secondary pupils.

Implications for Primary Provision from 2022/23

At present there are sufficient surplus places in the town and rural primary schools to cater for projected demand and the product of the proposed local plan housing. This is only possible in the town due to the reduction in the birth rate and will therefore need to be kept under close review. As neither Marlborough St Mary's Primary nor Preshute Primary can be expanded on their current sites it is important that the level of proposed housing in the town does not exceed the available school capacity. It may also be sensible to delay housing until later in the local plan period when the schools will have more available capacity.

In both the rural and urban primary forecasts above, the number of anticipated pupils drops from 2023 onwards as a result of the recent reduction in the birth rate. The proposed housing, if taken forward, would help to fill places that would otherwise become surplus.

Overall, there are currently 11% surplus primary places in the whole community area which will increase in the short term, before reducing if the proposed local plan housing is taken forward. In the meantime, the rural primary schools with surplus places could consider reducing their PANs in line with the recommendations on page 20 in order to match the supply of places to demand.

The reception intake at Shalbourne CE Primary has been below 5 pupils in each of the last three years. This is due to the very low numbers of children living in the school's catchment area. The latest data received from the NHS suggests that the birth rate has reduced to an average of 4 births per year, from over 11 per year prior to 2016. If future intakes continue at below 5 pupils per year, the number on roll at the school will decline to under 30 pupils from 2022. If the proposed local plan houses in the village go ahead, then this would generate approximately 6 primary aged pupils.

The significant recent decline in the birth rate and its impact on the local schools will be kept under review.

Implications for Secondary Provision from 2022/23

St John's Marlborough is popular and oversubscribed. The school admits a number of pupils from outside of the catchment area but has sufficient places to meet in-catchment demand for those applying on time for year 7 places.

A small expansion has just been completed, funded by Section 106 contributions from local housing developments. This has added a small number of places to the school from September 2022 and has created places in all year groups to accommodate those moving into the new housing. Section 106 contributions will be sought from any further housing developments in the school's catchment area, including those proposed through the local plan, for further expansion of the school. Further expansion would ensure that places can be created in all year groups for families moving into new housing.

Post 16

St John's Marlborough has a large on-site post 16 provision and offers both A-levels and vocational qualifications. The table below shows the historical number of learners in years 12 and 13 at the school. The sixth form was expanded in 2015 and admits students from across a wide geographical area.

	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Number of students in Years 12 and 13	379	369	355	393	418	414
Percentage stay on rate	78%	74%	68%	85%	80%	84%

Marlborough implementation plan

Short term – 1 to 2 years	Medium term – 3 to 5 years	Long term – 5 to 10 years
Academic Years 2022/23 – 2023/24	Academic Years 2024/25 – 2026/27	Academic Years 2027/28 – 2032/33
		<i>Potential further expansion of St John's Marlborough to meet the needs of new housing.</i>

E12 Melksham

There are 9 primary age schools in the Melksham area and 1 secondary school catering for the 11 to 19 age range. All schools in this area are Academies. There are no special schools in the area however there is a resource base at River Mead School.

Primary	Status as at July 2022	Urban/Rural
Aloeric Primary School	Academy	Urban
Bowerhill Primary School	Academy	Urban
Forest & Sandridge CE Primary School	Academy	Urban
River Mead School	Academy	Urban
The Manor CofE School	Academy	Urban
Seend CE Primary School	Academy	Rural
Shaw CE Primary School	Academy	Rural
St. George's CE Primary School, Semington	Academy	Rural
St. Mary's Broughton CE Primary School	Academy	Rural
Secondary		
Melksham Oak Community School	Academy	Urban

Overview

In this community area there are 5 primary schools located in the town and a further four schools in the surrounding villages. Of the four rural schools, three are classed as small schools.

Forest and Sandridge CE Primary School was relocated and enlarged onto its current site in 2015. The school now has a capacity of 420 and is full. A section 106 contribution has been secured to expand the school to 2.5FE.

In recent years The Manor CofE School have published a reduced PAN of 30. This is currently being formalised through a business case submission to the RSC. This document therefore assumes an ongoing capacity of 210 for the school.

Melksham Oak Community School is the only secondary school in this community area and has been recently expanded, increasing the PAN to 300 from September 2022.

Current Provision

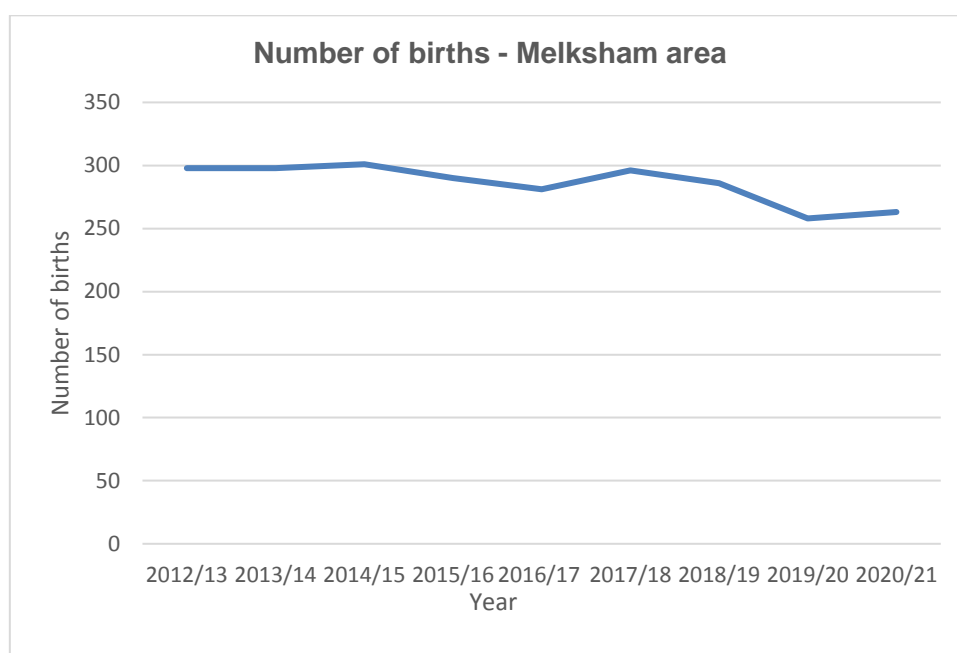
The following table provides a breakdown of the net (pupil) capacity and number on roll for schools in the Melksham area.

Phase	Net Capacity	Number on Roll (Jan 2022)	Surplus Capacity + / -
Primary (Urban)	1680	1596	+84 (5%)
Primary (Rural)	540	477	+63 (11.5%)
Secondary (Y7 to Y11)	1500	1140	+360 (24%)

Births in Melksham

The number of births reported by the Health Authority in the Melksham area shows the birth rate has been relatively stable throughout the entire period until a decline in 2019/20. There was then a slight increase again in 2020/21.

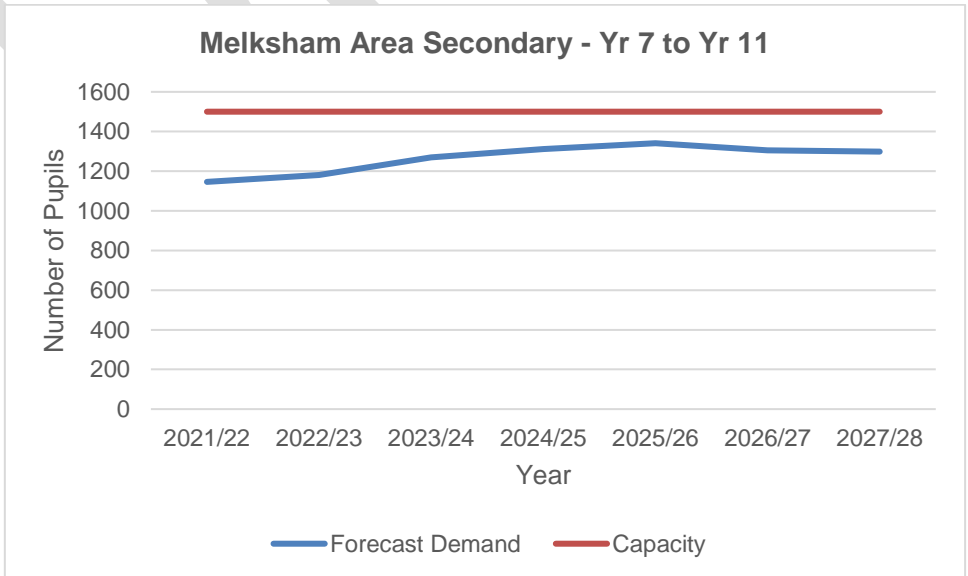
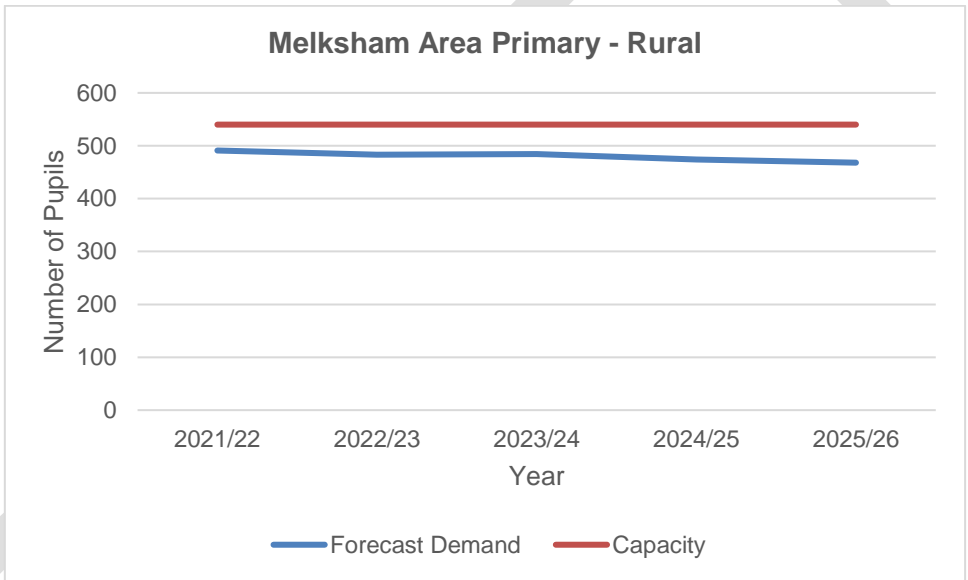
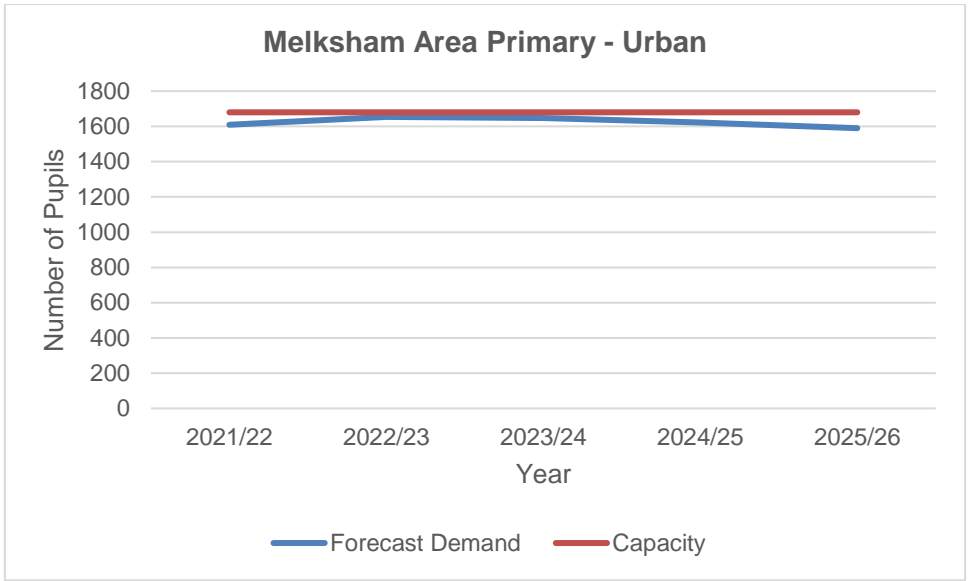
Birth year	2012/ 13	2013/ 14	2014/ 15	2015/ 16	2016/ 17	2017/ 18	2018/ 19	2019/ 20	2020/ 21
Number	298	298	301	290	281	296	286	258	263



Current forecasts

The following graphs show the forecast demand for school places in the Melksham urban and rural primary schools. At primary level these take into account the birth rate, inward/outward migration and housing expected to be completed during the planning period, taken from the Wiltshire Housing Land Supply Statement (April 2022).

Melksham Oak is the only secondary school serving this community area. Estimates of the future need for secondary places are based on the number of pupils leaving primary schools at the age of 11+, applying historic transfer ratios to take account of pupils moving to independent schools and schools in other areas.



Housing Development

There are approximately 800 new houses still to complete in this community area. This includes completion of several sites, as listed in the April 2022 Housing Land Supply Statement. The pupil product of this housing is included in the forecasts above where it is expected to complete within the forecast period.

The Local Plan consultation undertaken early in 2021, proposed that a further 2585 houses be completed in Melksham prior to 2036. The pupil product of these houses is not yet included in the forecasts but would generate approximately 801 new primary and 568 secondary pupils.

The Local Plan consultation also included a paper on Empowering Rural Communities, which proposed 28 additional houses in Seend, 89 in Shaw/Whitley and a further 10 in Semington by 2036. This would collectively generate approximately 39 primary and 28 secondary pupils overall.

Implications for Primary Provision from 2022/23

As the level of surplus places in the urban area is only 5% and there are still a considerable number of new homes to complete, additional places will be required in the town. In recent years there has also been significant growth in cohort sizes between birth to school starting age.

A Section 106 Agreement was signed in 2016, securing the funding to expand Forest and Sandridge Primary School to 2.5FE. This project commenced on site during 2022.

A site has also been secured on the Pathfinder Way development for a new primary school and nursery. In the short term the expansion of Forest and Sandridge will provide sufficient places. However, the birth rate, numbers moving into new housing and the uptake of places in the town will continue to be closely monitored. The new Pathfinder Way school and nursery will be designed and planning permission secured to enable it to be brought forward as and when required.

At present, there are clearly insufficient primary school places available in the town to cater for the proposed Local Plan housing. The new primary school at Pathfinder Way, could provide some, but not all, of the new places required. A further new primary school would also be required, should the level of housing be taken forward as proposed in the Local Plan consultation. A site and financial contributions would be sought from the developers for a further new primary school.

With current demand for SEND education – taken together with predicted growth in student numbers in Melksham – there will be the requirement for a 2 classroom Primary Resource Base, included within a new Primary School.

In the rural schools, the forecasts suggest that the number of pupils attending will slightly reduce. This is based on current application numbers and birth rates in the rural areas. The level of surplus places is projected to increase slightly, with some schools having more places available than others. The local plan housing proposed in the rural communities would fill some of these spaces, however Shaw Primary school is already full and cannot be expanded further to meet the needs of the proposed local plan housing.

Implications for Secondary Provision from 2022/23

The number of pupils attending Melksham Oak is forecast to grow significantly over the next few years as larger cohorts begin to feed through from primary schools and as new housing is completed. The recent expansion means that the school now has a PAN of 300, which will be sufficient to meet the needs of current housing.

If the proposed 2712 local plan houses are taken forward, there would be a significant shortfall of secondary places. Whilst the school site is large, expanding the school to over 12FE would probably be considered too large to operate from one site. If the level of proposed housing reduces to a level that can be met by a 12FE school, then such an expansion would require additional land adjacent to the school which would be secured through the Local Plan process.

The number of additional places required would not be sufficient to make a whole new secondary school viable. As the Local Plan process moves forward and the final number of houses is determined, the provision of secondary places in the town will need to be given careful consideration by the Local Authority and Academy Trust.

Demand for resource base provision in West Wiltshire is high and consideration needs to be given for the creation of 2 additional secondary resource base classes, based on current and predicted demand. The Special School Transformation Team are exploring opportunities to expand resource base provision with existing secondary schools in Melksham and the surrounding areas.

Post 16

Melksham Oak Community School has on-site post 16 provision and offers both A-levels and vocational qualifications. The table below shows the historical number of learners in years 12 and 13 at the school.

	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Number of students in Years 12 and 13	186	122	98	108	126	129
Percentage stay on rate	39%	26%	23%	30%	28%	33%

Melksham implementation plan

Short term – 1 to 2 years	Medium term – 3 to 5 years	Long term – 5 to 10 years
Academic Years 2022/23 – 2023/24	Academic Years 2024/25 – 2026/27	Academic Years 2027/28 – 2032/33
<i>Expansion of Forest and Sandridge CE Primary School by 0.5FE to provide additional places to meet the needs of new housing</i>		
	<i>New Primary School at Pathfinder Place when required to meet the needs of new housing.</i>	
		<i>Secure site and financial contributions for new</i>

		<i>primary school, if needed, to support new Local Plan housing</i>
		<i>Potential further expansion of Melksham Oak to meet the needs of new housing.</i>

DRAFT

E13 Mere

There are 3 primary schools in the Mere area. For secondary school and post 16 education, the catchment school for this area is Gillingham School in Dorset. There are no special schools in the area.

Primary	Status as at July 2022	Urban/Rural
Hindon CEVA Primary School St. Mary's and St. John's	Voluntary Aided	Rural
Mere School	Community	Urban
Whitesheet CE Primary Academy	Academy	Rural

Overview

Mere is the largest settlement in this community area and is deemed a Local Service Centre in the Wiltshire Core Strategy. Local Service centres are defined as smaller towns and larger villages which serve a surrounding rural hinterland and possess a level of facilities and services that, together with improved local employment, provide the best opportunities outside the Market Towns for greater self-containment. There is one primary school in Mere itself.

The other two primary schools are located in small villages in the area. Based on the January 2022 pupil numbers on roll, both Hindon Primary and Whitesheet Primary are classed as very small schools.

Mere Primary, whilst a 1FE school with PAN of 30, has seen growth in recent years and has admitted beyond 30 in several year groups in order to accommodate in area children.

Current Provision

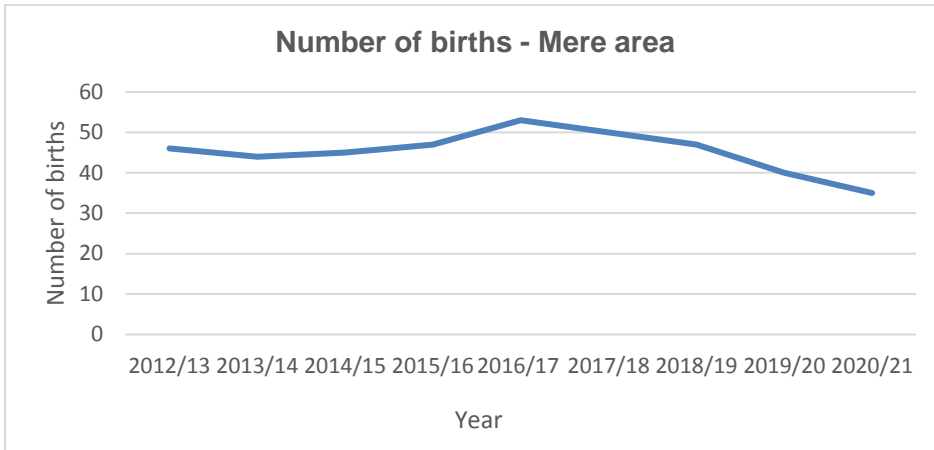
The following table provides a breakdown of the net (pupil) capacity and number on roll for schools in the Mere area.

Phase	Net Capacity	Number on Roll (Jan 2022)	Surplus Capacity + / -
Primary (Urban)	210	209	+1 (0.4%)
Primary (Rural)	150	103	+47 (31%)
Secondary (Y7 to Y11)	N/A	N/A	N/A

Births in Mere

The birth rate has on average, was fairly consistent between 2012/13 and 2018/19. The latest data suggests a reduction in 2020/21, however this may be an isolated drop due to the impact of Covid-19. There is usually at least a 10% growth in the size of cohorts between birth and starting school.

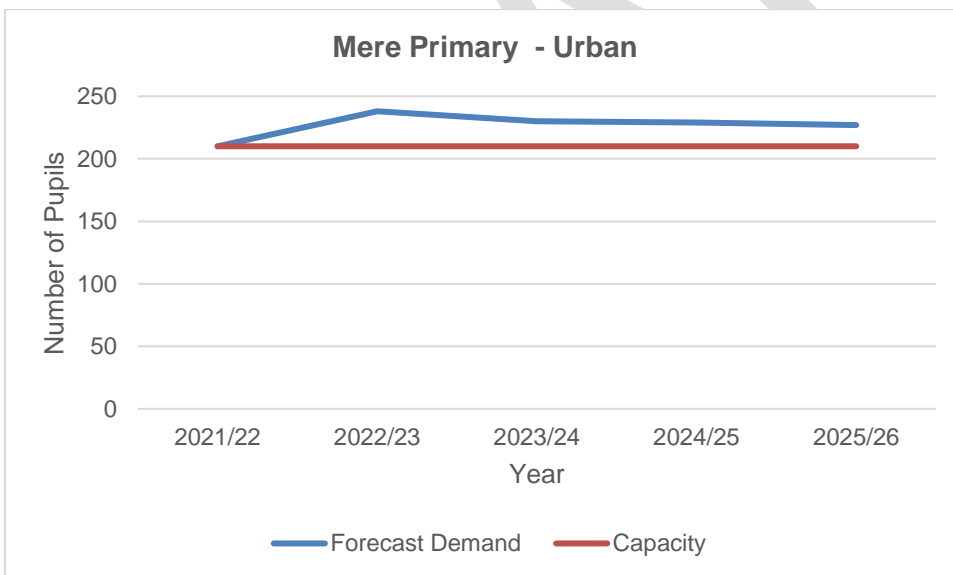
Birth year	2012/ 13	2013/ 14	2014/ 15	2015/ 16	2016/ 17	2017/ 18	2018/ 19	2019/ 20	2020/ 21
Number	46	44	45	47	53	50	47	40	35

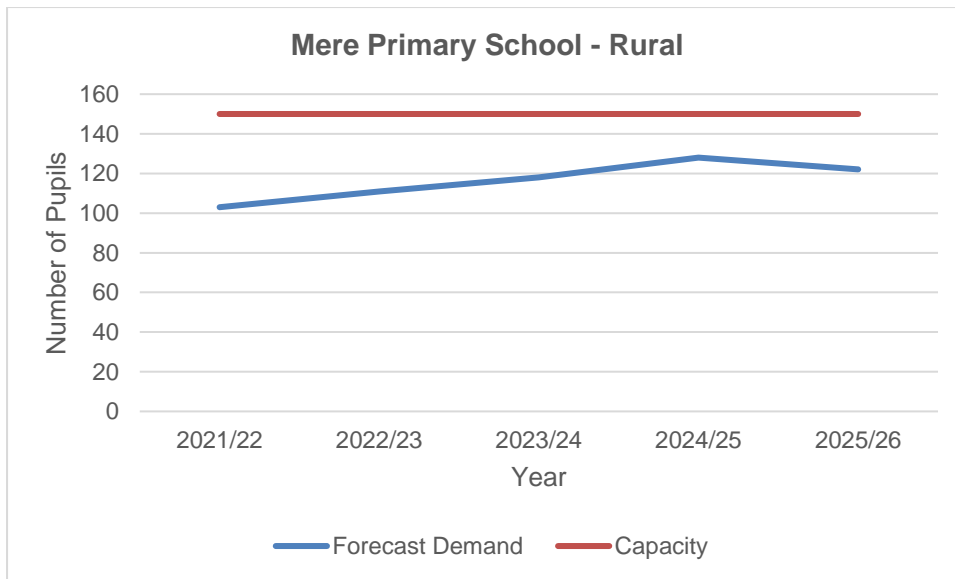


Current forecasts

The following graphs show the forecast demand for school places in the Mere urban and rural primary schools. At primary level these take into account the birth rate, inward/outward migration and housing expected to be completed during the planning period, taken from the Wiltshire Housing Land Supply Statement (April 2022).

As the secondary catchment school for this area is not in Wiltshire, we do not forecast the overall demand for places at Gillingham school.





Housing Development

There are approximately 140 new houses due to be built in this community area, as listed in the April 2022 Housing Land Supply Statement. Over half of these are within Mere itself. The pupil product of this housing is included in the forecasts above where it is expected to complete within the forecast period.

The Local Plan consultation undertaken early in 2021, proposed that a further 144 houses be completed in Mere prior to 2036. The pupil product of these houses is not yet included in the forecasts but would generate approximately 45 new primary and 32 new secondary pupils.

The Local Plan consultation also included a paper on Empowering Rural Communities, which proposed a further 30 homes in Hindon. This would generate approximately 9 new primary pupils.

Implications for Primary Provision from 2022/23

Mere Primary School has been operating above capacity in several year groups and has therefore been running additional mixed year classes. There are still houses with planning consent to complete in the town and further 144 homes proposed in the local plan.

Mere Primary School is located in a large two storey building, which also housed the Children's Centre. This Children's Centre has now closed leaving part of the first floor of the building unoccupied. Therefore, this upstairs accommodation has been refurbished for the school's use. This has increased the school from 1FE to 1.5FE from September 2022 and created sufficient places for the current and proposed housing.

In the rural area, both Hindon Primary school and Whitesheet Primary are classed as very small schools. Both however are forecast to grow over the next few years based on recent applications. Hindon is forecast to be full by 2024, therefore Section 106 contributions will be sought from housing developments in the catchment area to create places in all year groups for families moving into the new housing.

Implications for Secondary Provision from 2022/23

Historically, all 'on-time' year 6 applicants from children resident in this community area have been offered places at the catchment school in Gillingham (Dorset). The school also has a sixth form offering both A Level and vocational provision.

Dorset Council is responsible for school place planning in Gillingham. The draft Dorset Local Plan suggests that an expansion of Gillingham School will be required to meet the needs of significant levels of new housing in that area and that they intend to seek developer contributions for this purpose.

Wiltshire Council will maintain effective communications with Dorset to ensure the pupil situation is kept under review and cross-border admissions continue to operate smoothly.

Mere implementation plan

No specific projects are deemed necessary at this stage, available places and demand to be kept under review.

DRAFT

E14 Pewsey

There are 6 primary age schools in the Pewsey area and 1 secondary school catering for the 11 to 16 age range. There are no special schools in the area.

Primary	Status as at July 2022	Urban/Rural
Burbage Primary School	Academy	Rural
Easton Royal Academy	Academy	Rural
Oare CE Primary School	Academy	Rural
Pewsey Primary School	Academy	Urban
Rushall CE Primary School	Academy	Rural
Woodborough CE Primary School	Academy	Rural
Secondary		
Pewsey Vale School	Academy	Urban

Overview

Pewsey is the largest settlement in this community area and is deemed a Local Service Centre in the Wiltshire Core Strategy. Local Service centres are defined as smaller towns and larger villages which serve a surrounding rural hinterland and possess a level of facilities and services that, together with improved local employment, provide the best opportunities outside the Market Towns for greater self-containment. There is one primary school in Pewsey itself which is treated as urban for the purposes of this document.

The other primary schools are located in villages across the area. Based on the January 2022 pupil numbers on roll, both Easton Royal and Oare Primary Schools are classed as very small schools and Rushall as a small school.

With the exception of Woodborough Primary School, all the schools in this community area have seen declining numbers in the last few years. Surplus places across the area are currently high and forecast to increase.

Given the rural nature of this community area, there is little migration of primary pupils inwards or outwards from neighbouring areas.

Current Provision

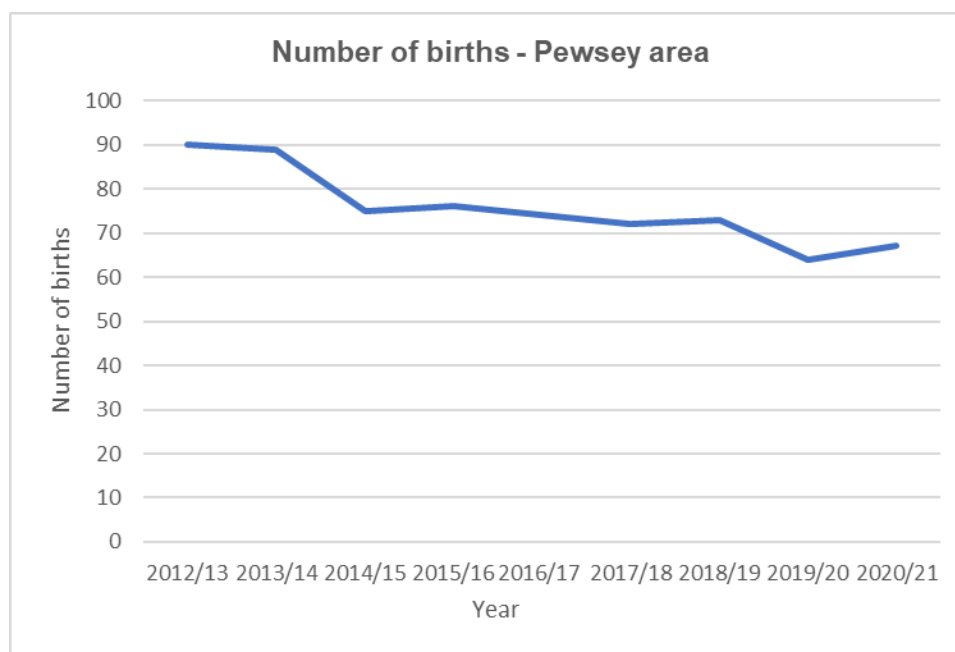
The following table provides a breakdown of the net (pupil) capacity and number on roll for schools in the Pewsey area.

Phase	Net Capacity (Jan 2022)	Number on Roll (Jan 2022)	Surplus Capacity + / -
Primary (Urban)	210	187	+23 (11%)
Primary (Rural)	746	509	+237 (32%)
Secondary (Y7 to Y11)	535	353	+182 (34%)

Births in Pewsey

The number of births reported by the Health Authority in the Pewsey area has declined in recent years which can be seen in the table and graph below. The latest data suggests a slight increase from the previous year.

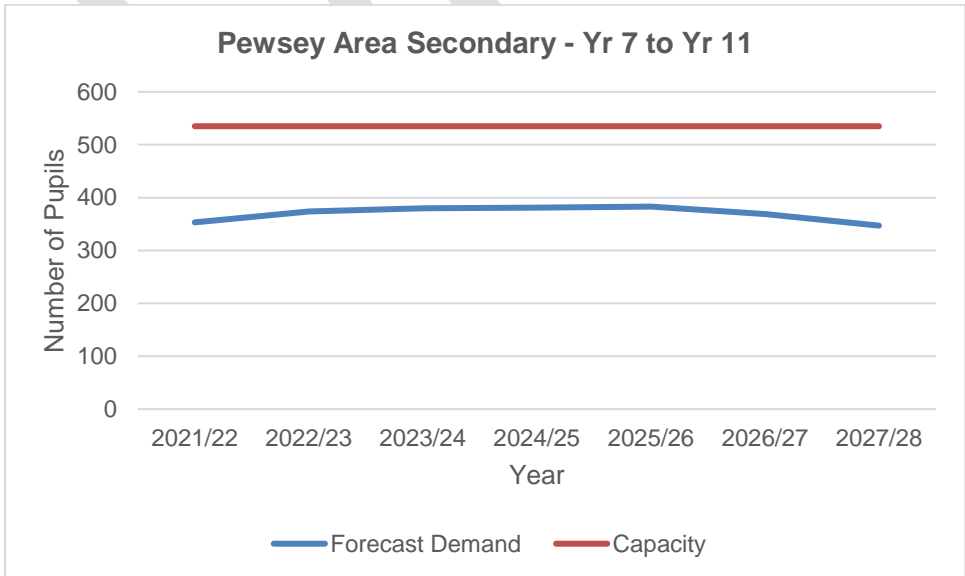
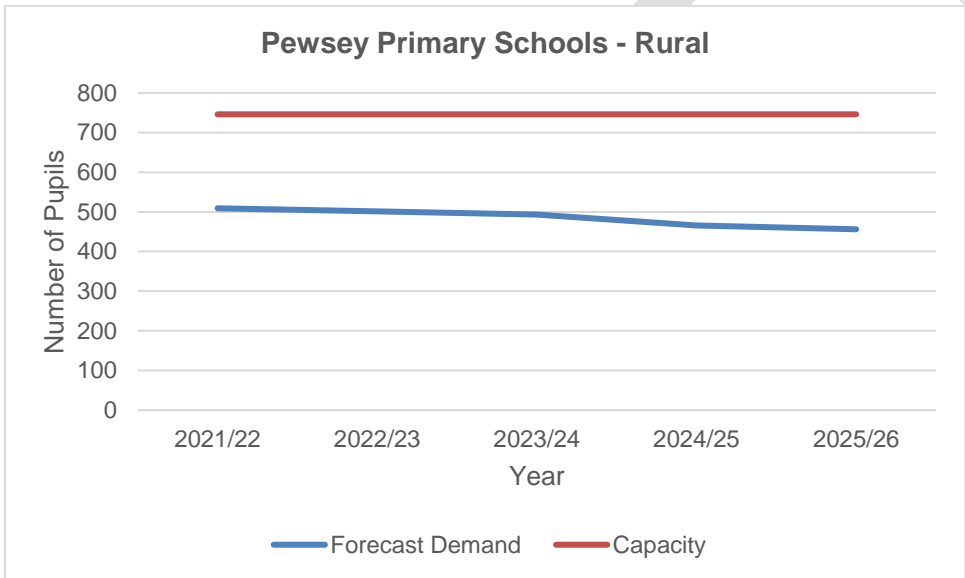
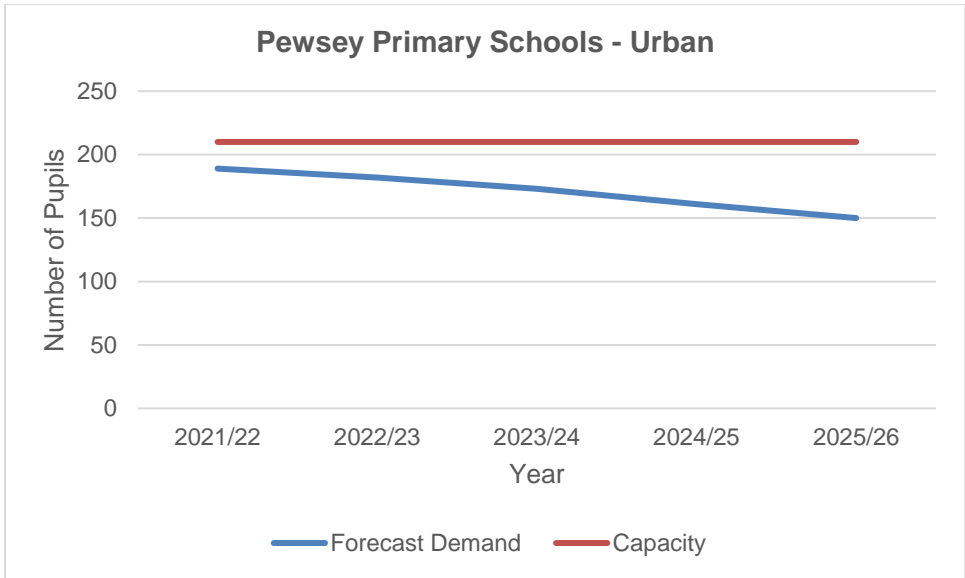
Birth year	2012/ 13	2013/ 14	2014/ 15	2015/ 16	2016/ 17	2017/ 18	2018/ 19	2019/ 20	2020/ 21
Number	90	89	75	76	74	72	73	64	67



Current forecasts

The following graphs show the forecast demand for school places in the Pewsey urban and rural primary schools. At primary level these take into account the birth rate, inward/outward migration and housing expected to be completed during the planning period, taken from the Wiltshire Housing Land Supply Statement (April 2022).

Pewsey Vale is the only secondary school serving this community area. Estimates of the future need for secondary places are based on the number of pupils leaving primary schools at the age of 11+, applying historic transfer ratios to take account of pupils moving to independent schools and schools in other areas.



Housing Development

There are approximately 120 new houses due to be built in this community area, as listed in the April 2022 Housing Land Supply Statement. This includes 2 neighbourhood plan sites that are not expected to come forward until post 2026/27. The pupil product of this housing is only included in the forecasts above where it is expected to complete within the forecast period.

The Local Plan consultation undertaken early in 2021, proposed that a further 34 homes are built in Pewsey prior to 2036. The pupil product of these houses is not yet included in the forecasts but would generate approximately 10 new primary and 7 new secondary pupils.

The Local Plan consultation also included a paper on Empowering Rural Communities, which proposed a further 3 homes in Burbage and Upavon. This would generate only 1 additional primary pupil.

Implications for Primary Provision from 2022/23

Across the whole area, the level of surplus places stands at 27% which is high. The declining birth rate coupled with the impact of only modest housing development is unlikely to increase overall demand for primary school places over the coming 10 years. In fact, projections suggest that the percentage of surplus places will increase to 36% over the next 5 years. This level of surplus places is concerning and suggests that the supply of places significantly exceeds demand.

Many of the schools in this area will see their rolls decline further over the next few years which from a purely financial point of view will require them to organise into fewer classes to remain viable. The Local Authority will therefore work with the Academy Trusts in this area to consider how to reduce the level of surplus places in accordance with the policy set out on page 20.

Implications for Secondary Provision from 2022/23

Pewsey Vale School is a small secondary school catering for years 7 to 11. Due to a legacy of surplus places, the projected small increase in secondary numbers can be easily managed within the existing capacity. Within five years, forecasts suggest the numbers on roll will return to its current level.

Around half of the secondary age pupils resident in this community area attend St John's Marlborough. However, approximately 40% of the pupils on roll at Pewsey Vale live in neighbouring community areas including Tidworth and Durrington. There are clearly significant levels of both inward and outward migration.

Assuming the housing in the town is delivered as planned there is unlikely to be significant impact on Pewsey Vale School.

There is demand for secondary resource base provision within East Wiltshire. The Special School Transformation Team will continue to explore co-location options with existing schools in Pewsey and the surrounding areas.

Post 16

Pewsey Vale School does not currently offer post 16 education therefore pupils attend provision outside of the Pewsey community area.

Pewsey implementation plan

No specific projects are deemed necessary at this stage, available places and demand to be kept under review.

DRAFT

E15 Purton

There are 4 primary age schools in the Purton area and 1 secondary school catering for the 11 to 16 age range. There are no special schools in the area, but need is often provided across border in Swindon.

Primary	Status as at July 2022	Urban/Rural
Ashton Keynes CE Primary School	Voluntary Controlled	Rural
Ridgeway Farm CofE Academy	Academy	Urban
St. Mary's CE Primary School, Purton	Voluntary Controlled	Rural
St. Sampson's CE Primary School	Voluntary Controlled	Rural
Secondary		
Bradon Forest School	Academy	Urban

Overview

The only school deemed as urban in this document is Ridgeway Farm Primary School, which lies on the outskirts of Southwest Swindon but within the Wiltshire Council boundary.

Purton is classed as a large village whilst Cricklade is deemed a Local Service Centre in the Wiltshire Core Strategy. Local Service centres are defined as smaller towns and larger villages which serve a surrounding rural hinterland and possess a level of facilities and services that, together with improved local employment, provide the best opportunities outside the Market Towns for greater self-containment.

In recent years, the new housing estates on the edge of Swindon, but within the Wiltshire boundary, have created a large growth in pupil numbers. Ridgeway Farm Primary School opened in 2016 to cater for this growth but has been consistently oversubscribed. Parents often name schools in Swindon as their second and third preferences and therefore not all pupils who are unable to secure places at Ridgeway Farm Primary School end up in the other Purton area schools.

In 2019, a new secondary school opened in South-West Swindon. Historically a significant number of pupils living in Swindon applied for places at Bradon Forest. This has reduced since the new Swindon school opened.

Current Provision

The following table provides a breakdown of the net (pupil) capacity and number on roll for schools in the Purton area.

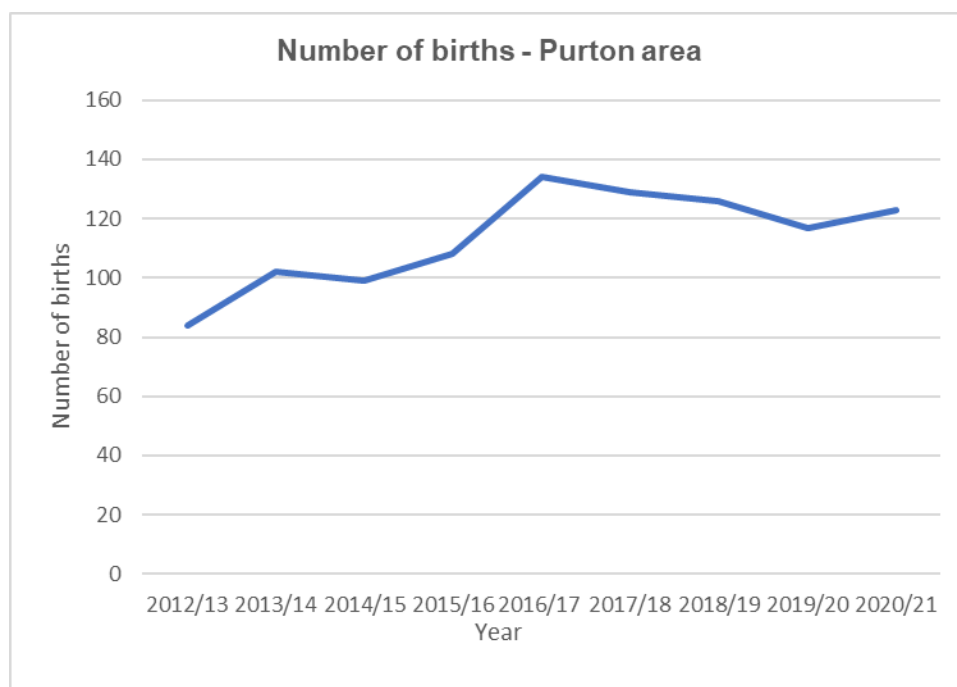
Phase	Net Capacity (Jan 2022)	Number on Roll (Jan 2022)	Surplus Capacity + / -
Primary (Urban)	210	208	+ 2 (1%)
Primary (Rural)	1047	886	+161 (15%)
Secondary (Y7 to Y11)	1345	915	+430 (32%)

Births in Purton

The number of births reported by the Health Authority in the Purton area has increased in recent years, which can be seen in the table and graph below. This growth is mainly from

housing on the edge of Swindon which falls within the Wiltshire boundary. The latest birth data below shows a slight increase on the previous year.

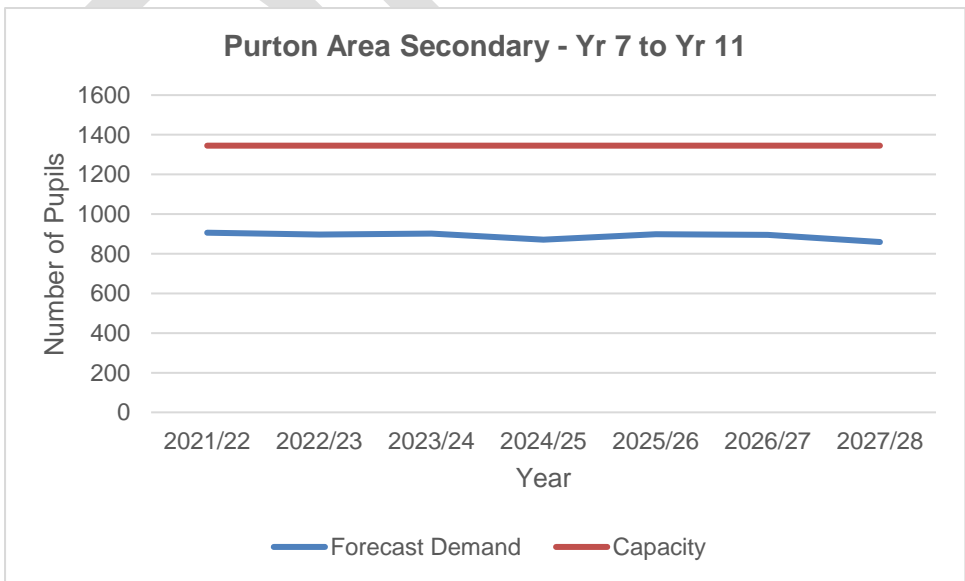
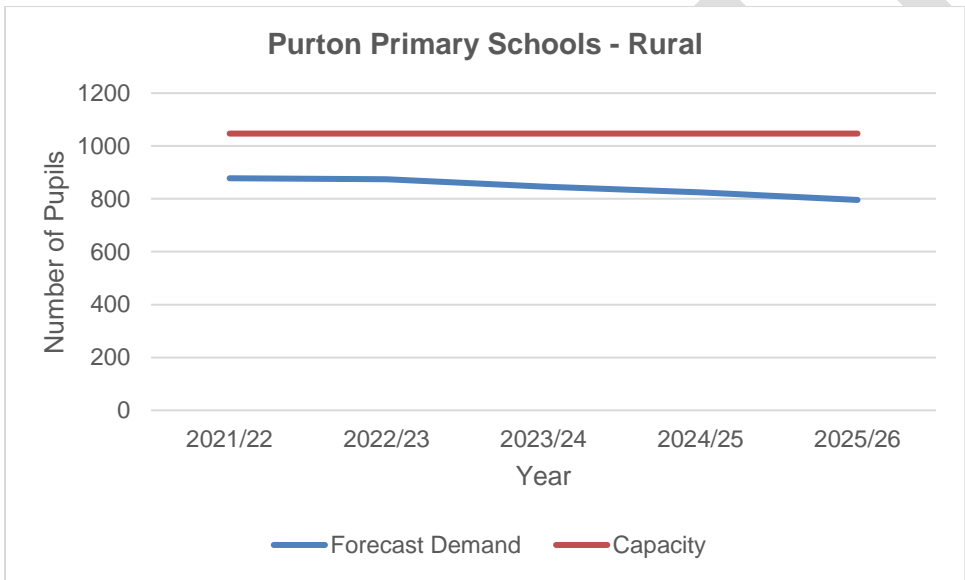
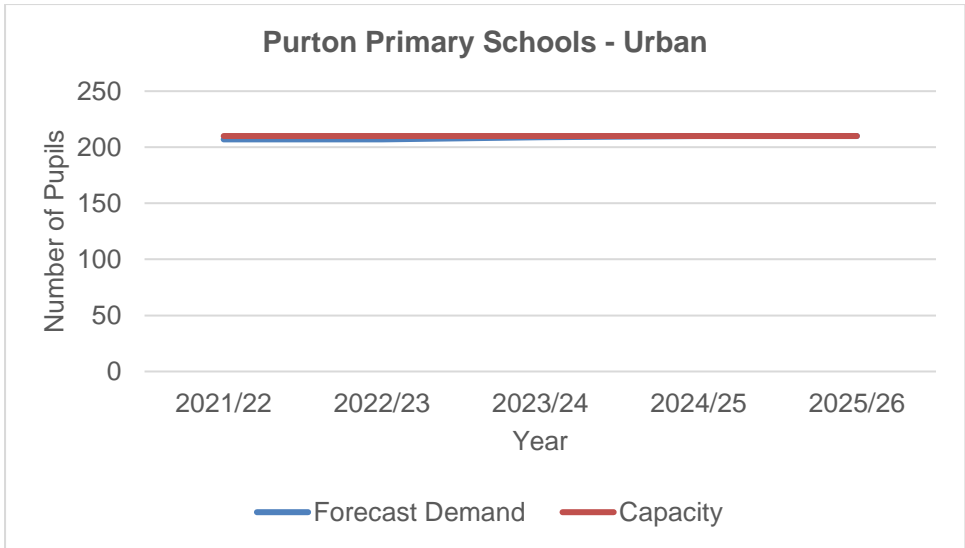
Birth year	2012/ 13	2013/ 14	2014/ 15	2015/ 16	2016/ 17	2017/ 18	2018/ 19	2019/ 20	2020/ 21
Number	84	102	99	108	134	129	126	117	123



Current forecasts

The following graphs show the forecast demand for school places in the Purton urban and rural primary schools. At primary level these take into account the birth rate, inward/outward migration and housing expected to be completed during the planning period, taken from the Wiltshire Housing Land Supply Statement (April 2022).

Bradon Forest is the only secondary school serving this community area. Estimates of the future need for secondary places are based on the number of pupils leaving primary schools at the age of 11+, applying historic transfer ratios to take account of pupils moving to independent schools and schools in other areas.



Housing Development

There are approximately 220 new houses due to be built in this community area, as listed in the April 2022 Housing Land Supply Statement. This includes some neighbourhood plan sites that are not expected to come forward until post 2026. The pupil product of this housing is only included in the forecasts above where it is expected to complete within the forecast period.

The Local Plan consultation undertaken early in 2021, proposed that a further 4 homes are built in Ashton Keynes and 236 in Cricklade prior to 2036. The pupil product of these houses is not yet included in the forecasts but would generate approximately 75 new primary and 53 new secondary pupils.

Implications for Primary Provision from 2022/23

At present there are sufficient surplus places in this community area to cater for projected demand. As neither Purton St Mary's Primary nor Ridgeway Farm Primary can be expanded on their current sites it is important that the level of proposed housing in these catchment areas does not exceed the available places.

The majority of the local plan housing is proposed to be located in Cricklade. Numbers at St Sampson's Primary School have increased in the last three years as a result of housing developments in the catchment area. At present, the school forecast suggests that there should be sufficient places to accommodate the pupil product of the proposed local plan housing. However, this would need to be reassessed at the time of any planning applications to consider the most recent birth data and intake rate.

Overall, there are currently 13% surplus primary places in the whole community area which will increase in the short term, before reducing if the proposed local plan housing is taken forward. Ridgeway Farm Primary School is expected to continue to be oversubscribed but cannot be expanded on its current site. Most parents name schools in Swindon as their second and third preferences rather than applying to other Wiltshire schools. However, home to school transport is provided by the Council to St Mary's Primary School in Purton for those unable to secure a school place within a safe 2-mile walking distance from their home. There are sufficient places in St Mary's Primary School to continue to meet this demand.

Implications for Secondary Provision from 2022/23

In 2019, a new secondary school opened in Southwest Swindon. Historically a significant number of pupils living in Swindon applied for places at Bradon Forest. This has reduced since the new Swindon school opened. However, with pressure on places in Swindon and some parents being unable to secure their school of choice, Bradon Forest has seen a number of late applications for September 2022.

Bradon Forest School has sufficient places to meet the current and forecast demand, including the pupil product of the proposed local plan housing.

As the impact of any changes in policy affecting secondary school provision in Swindon may have an impact on numbers at this school, Wiltshire Council will continue to work in consultation with Swindon Borough Council to ensure that the school can respond to any changing demand for places in the future.

Post 16

Bradon Forest School does not currently offer post 16 education therefore pupils attend provision outside of the Purton community area, mostly in Swindon.

Purton implementation plan

No specific projects are deemed necessary at this stage, available places and demand to be kept under review.

DRAFT

E16 Royal Wootton Bassett

There are 7 primary age schools in the Royal Wootton Bassett area and 1 secondary school catering for the 11 to 19 age range. There are no special schools in the area however there is a specialist resource base coming onstream at Lyneham Primary School from January 2023.

Primary	Status as at July 2022	Urban/Rural
Broad Town CE Primary School	Voluntary Controlled	Rural
Longleaze Primary School	Foundation	Urban
Lydiard Millicent CE Primary School	Academy	Rural
Lyneham Primary School	Foundation	Rural
Noremarsh Junior School	Academy	Urban
St. Bartholomew's Primary Academy	Academy	Urban
Wootton Bassett Infants School	Community	Urban
Secondary		
Royal Wootton Bassett Academy	Academy	Urban

Overview

In this community area, there are four primary schools in the town and 3 in the surrounding rural areas. Broad Town CE Primary School is the only school classed as small.

In recent years there has been moderate housing growth in this area. An expansion to St Bartholomew's Primary Academy was completed in 2020 which created additional places in all year groups. To accommodate a particularly large cohort of pupils, a bulge class also started in Wootton Bassett Infants School in 2018 which transferred through to Noremarsh Junior School in September 2021. Without this bulge class there would not have been sufficient places in the town for resident pupils in that cohort.

In Lyneham, the primary school was expanded to create additional pupils for military families as part of the Army Basing Programme, however actual growth was much less than anticipated. Two primary resource base classrooms have been commissioned from January 2023.

At secondary level, Royal Wootton Bassett Academy is very popular and oversubscribed. A small expansion was recently completed to add additional places in all year groups. The table below only shows surplus places at this school because of the recently added capacity. For year 7 applications, the school always admits to PAN and has appeals.

Current Provision

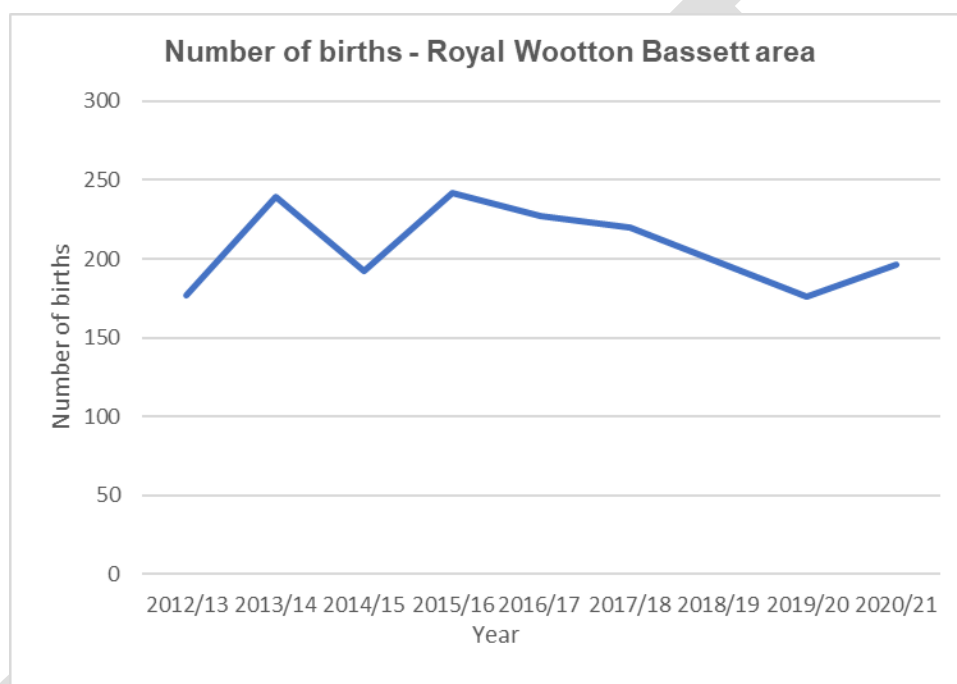
The following table provides a breakdown of the net (pupil) capacity and number on roll for schools in the Royal Wootton Bassett area.

Phase	Net Capacity (Jan 2022)	Number on Roll (Jan 2022)	Surplus Capacity + / -
Primary (Urban)	1099	998	+101 (9%)
Primary (Rural)	810	558	+252 (31%)
Secondary (Y7 to Y11)	1435	1419	+16 (1%)

Births in Royal Wootton Bassett

The birth rate has on average, remained the same, with peaks and troughs which can be seen in the table and graph below. The latest birth data below shows an increase on the previous year.

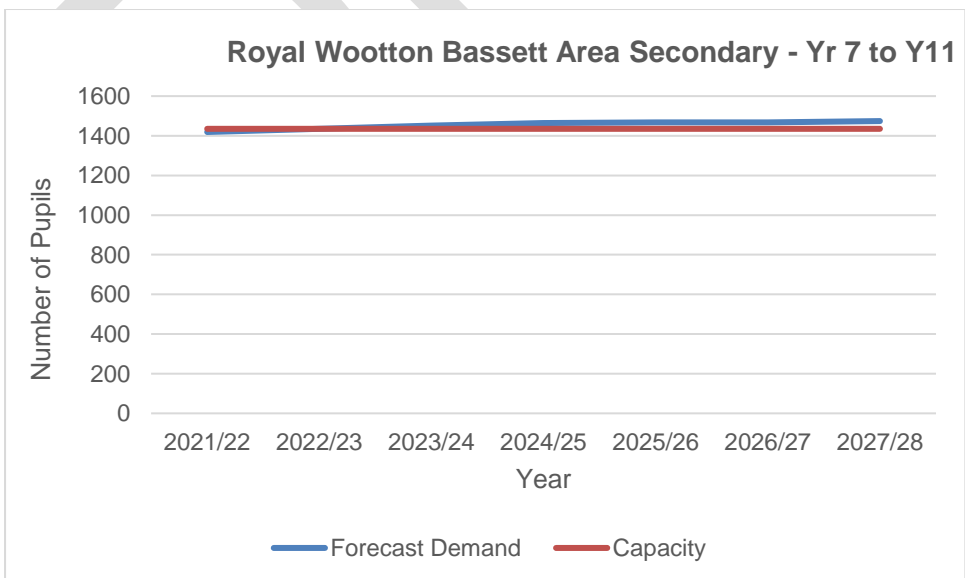
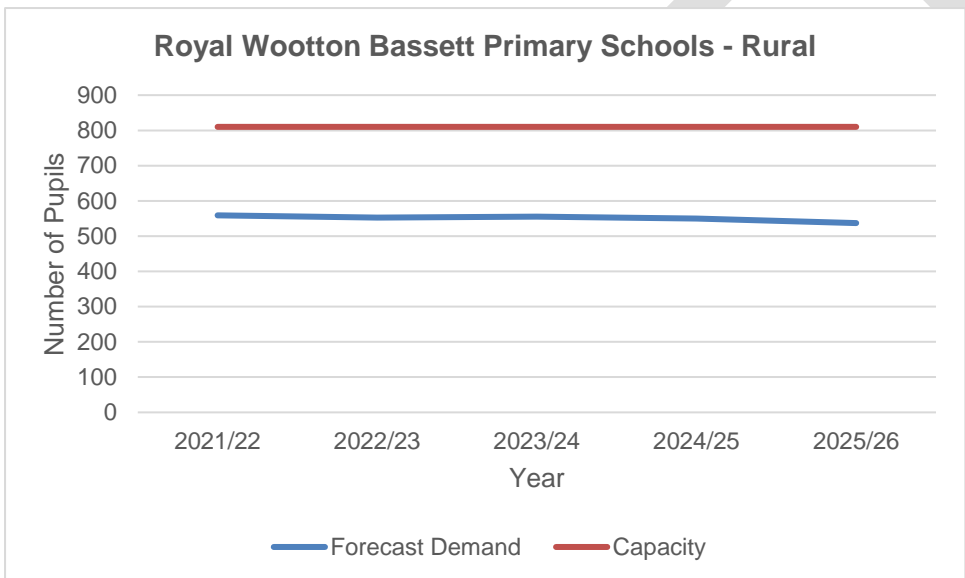
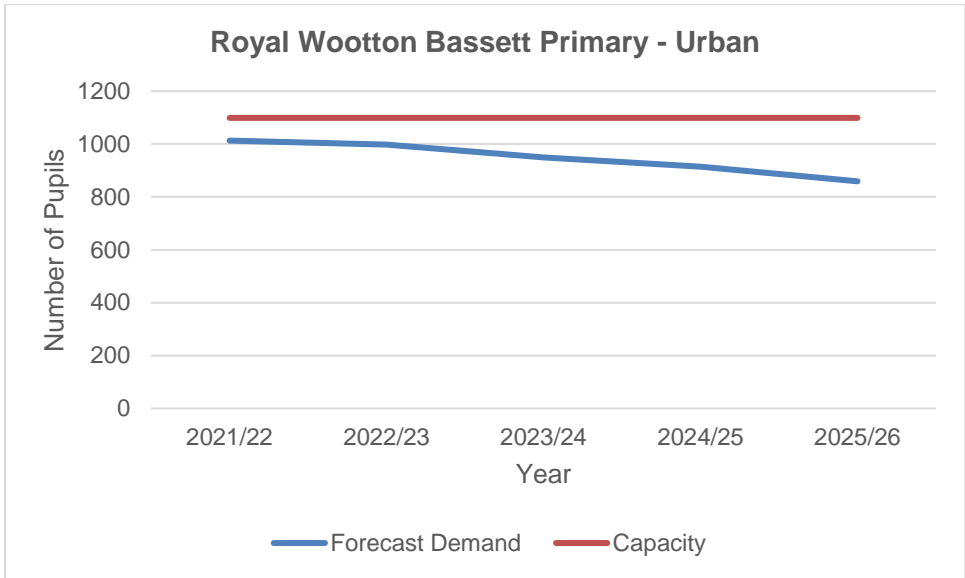
Birth year	2012/ 13	2013/ 14	2014/ 15	2015/ 16	2016/ 17	2017/ 18	2018/ 19	2019/ 20	2020/ 21
Number	177	239	192	242	227	220	198	176	196



Current forecasts

The following graphs show the forecast demand for school places in the Wootton Bassett urban and rural primary schools. At primary level these take into account the birth rate, inward/outward migration and housing expected to be completed during the planning period, taken from the Wiltshire Housing Land Supply Statement (April 2022).

Royal Wootton Bassett Academy is the only secondary school serving this community area. Estimates of the future need for secondary places are based on the number of pupils leaving primary schools at the age of 11+, applying historic transfer ratios to take account of pupils moving to independent schools and schools in other areas.



Housing Development

There are approximately 340 new houses due to be built in this community area, as listed in the April 2022 Housing Land Supply Statement. The pupil product of this housing is only included in the forecasts above where it is expected to complete within the forecast period. Therefore, the pupil product from the Green Farm site in Lyneham is not yet included in the primary forecasts.

The Local Plan consultation undertaken early in 2021, proposed that a further 29 homes are built in Lyneham and 990 in Royal Wootton Bassett prior to 2036. The pupil product of these houses is not yet included in the forecasts but would generate approximately 9 new primary pupils in Lyneham and 300 in Royal Wootton Bassett. At secondary level, this would create a total requirement for 220 secondary places.

Implications for Primary Provision from 2022/23

At present there are sufficient surplus places in this community area to cater for current demand. However, there would be insufficient places available in the town to cater for the proposed Local Plan housing. The existing schools in the town have limited expansion potential. Whilst Noremarsch Junior is on a large site and could be expanded, Wootton Bassett Infants could not. There would be potential to expand Longleaze Primary from PAN 37 to PAN 45, adding 56 places overall. However, this small expansion alone would be insufficient to provide all the places needed for the level of local plan housing currently proposed. This would need to be reassessed at the time of any future planning applications to consider the most recent birth data and intake rates. If further places are required, a site and financial contributions would be sought from the developers for a new primary school.

There are currently a significant number of surplus places in Lyneham Primary School. The military population in the area did not increase as significantly as original MOD estimates suggested. However, a site of 200 homes has recently been approved following a planning appeal within the school's catchment area. In the medium term this should grow the numbers in the school.

The number of pupils on roll at Broad Town Primary School is approximately 70 pupils, however forecasts indicate that numbers will drop to below 60 from September 2023 once a large cohort at the school has fed out. However, for September 2022, the number of reception places offered is higher than in recent years.

Implications for Secondary Provision from 2022/23

Currently, Royal Wootton Bassett Academy is popular and admits a proportion of pupils from outside its designated area. The school tends to admit to its PAN of 287 and is forecast to continue to do so, remaining full throughout the planning period. There are sufficient places to meet in-catchment demand.

A small expansion of the school completed last year, funded by housing developments which are either now completed or nearing completion. Section 106 contributions will continue to be sought from housing developments in the school's catchment area for further expansion of the school. Future expansion would ensure that places can be created in all year groups for families moving into new housing.

If the proposed 990 local plan houses are taken forward, this would require a significant expansion of the school. Whilst the site is large, such an expansion would take the school over 11FE, making it one of the largest schools in the Country. This would require careful consideration with the Academy Trust.

As the impact of any changes in policy affecting secondary school provision in Swindon may have an impact on numbers at this school, Wiltshire Council will continue to work in consultation with Swindon Borough Council to ensure that the school can respond to any changing demand for places in the future.

Post 16

Royal Wootton Bassett Academy has a large on-site post 16 provision and offers both A-levels and vocational qualifications. The table below shows the historical number of learners in years 12 and 13 at the school.

	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Number of students in Years 12 and 13	235	321	368	256	363	329
Percentage stay on rate	56%	74%	59%	64%	64%	57%

Royal Wootton Bassett implementation plan

Short term – 1 to 2 years Academic Years 2022/23 – 2023/24	Medium term – 3 to 5 years Academic Years 2024/25 – 2026/27	Long term – 5 to 10 years Academic Years 2027/28 – 2032/33
	<i>Possible expansion of Royal Wootton Bassett Academy to meet the needs of approved housing</i>	<i>Possible expansion to provide further additional places at Royal Wootton Bassett Academy, if required to meet the needs of new Local Plan housing</i>
		<i>Potential expansion of Longleaze Primary School to take the school to 1.5FE if required to meet the needs of new Local Plan housing</i>
		<i>Secure site and financial contributions for new primary school, if needed, to support new Local Plan housing</i>

E17 Salisbury

There are 24 primary age schools and 6 secondary schools in the Salisbury area, 3 of which also provide post 16 education. There is one special school in the Salisbury community area with another due to open in September 2023 (Salisbury Academy of Inspirational Learning). There are also specialist resource bases at Manor Fields School, Sarum St. Paul's CE Primary School, Wilton CofE Primary School, Wyndham Infants, St Mark's Junior and Greentrees Primary School.

Primary	Status as at July 2022	Urban/Rural
Bemerton St. John CE Aided Primary School	Academy	Urban
Broad Chalke CofE Primary School	Voluntary Aided	Rural
Dinton CofE Primary School	Voluntary Controlled	Rural
Gomeldon Primary School	Community	Rural
Great Wishford CE Primary School	Academy	Rural
Greentrees Primary School	Academy	Urban
Harnham Infants School	Community	Urban
Harnham CE Controlled Junior School	Voluntary Controlled	Urban
Manor Fields Primary School	Community	Urban
Old Sarum Primary School	Community (became an Academy on 1/9/22)	Urban
Pembroke Park Primary School	Academy	Urban
Pitton CEVA Primary School	Academy	Rural
Sarum St. Paul's CofE (VA) Primary School	Voluntary Aided	Urban
St. Andrew's CEVA Primary School, Laverstock	Voluntary Aided	Urban
St. Mark's CE Junior School, Salisbury	Academy	Urban
St. Martin's CofE Voluntary Aided Primary School	Voluntary Aided	Urban
St. Nicholas CE Primary School, Porton	Voluntary Aided	Rural
St. Osmund's Catholic Primary School, Salisbury	Voluntary Aided	Urban
St. Peter's CE Primary Academy	Academy	Urban
Stratford-sub-Castle CEVC Primary School	Voluntary Controlled	Urban (as catchment covers part of City)
Wilton CofE Primary School	Academy	Rural
Winterbourne Earls CE Primary School	Voluntary Controlled	Rural
Winterslow CE Aided Primary School	Academy	Rural
Woodlands Primary School	Community	Urban
Wyndham Park Infants' School	Academy	Urban
Special		
Exeter House Special School	Special Academy	Urban
Secondary		
St. Joseph's Catholic School, Salisbury	Voluntary Aided	Urban
Wyvern College	Academy	Urban
St. Edmund's Girls' School	Academy	Urban
Bishop Wordsworth's Grammar School	Academy	Urban
South Wilts Grammar School	Academy	Urban
Sarum Academy	Academy	Urban

Overview

The Salisbury community area is large and includes a large number of rural schools located in surrounding villages. There are two village schools classed as small but only one which is classed as very small.

In recent years there has been significant housing growth in Salisbury. The largest development is called Fugglestone Red. On this development, the new St Peter's Primary School opened in 2018 and will be full by September 2023.

A one class extension was also completed at Wilton C of E Primary School taking their PAN to 30 from 2017. This was funded with section 106 contributions from local housing developments.

At secondary level, Salisbury has 6 secondary schools, including the only two grammar schools in the County. There is also a Sixth Form College and Wiltshire College offering post 16 education. In the secondary schools in years 7 to 11, there has been significant growth in recent years with the collective number on roll increasing by over 700 pupils (21.5%) since 2016.

The Council has also successfully applied to the DfE for a new Special Free School to offer 150 places for pupils with ASD and SEMH. This new school is expected to open in September 2023.

Current Provision

The following table provides a breakdown of the net (pupil) capacity and number on roll for schools in the Salisbury area.

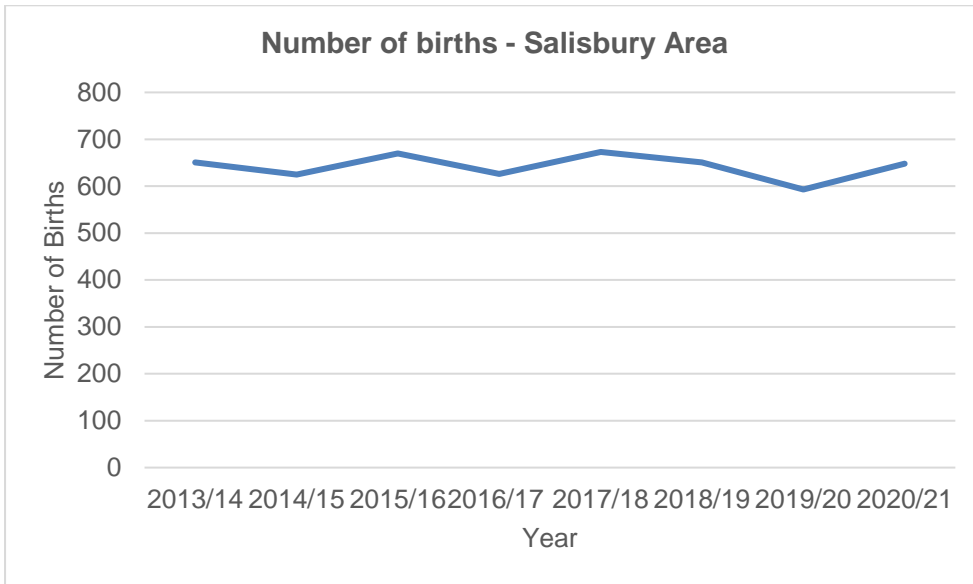
Phase	Net Capacity	Number on Roll (Jan 2022)	Surplus Capacity + / -
Primary (Urban)	4453	3896*	+557 (12.5%)
Primary (Rural)	1486	1232	+254 (17%)
Secondary (Y7 to Y11)	4525	4003	+522 (11.5%)

- Includes full capacity of St Peter's CE Primary Academy although the school is still filling to its full PAN from the bottom since opening in 2018

Births in Salisbury

The birth rate has, on average, remained fairly high and stable in Salisbury over the last few years despite peaks and troughs. Whilst there was a drop in births in 2019/20, the 2020/21 rate has returned to previous levels. Overall, this area has not seen the marked decline in the birth rate evident in some other areas. This is likely to be due, in part, to the large number of new houses completed in the area.

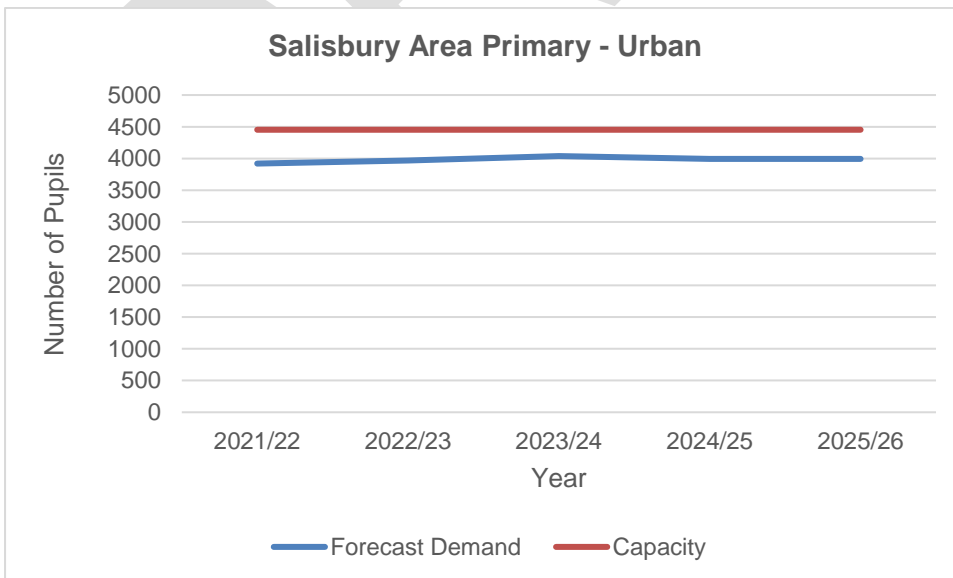
Birth year	2013/ 14	2014/ 15	2015/ 16	2016/ 17	2017/ 18	2018/ 19	2019/ 20	2020/ 21
Number	651	625	670	626	673	651	593	648

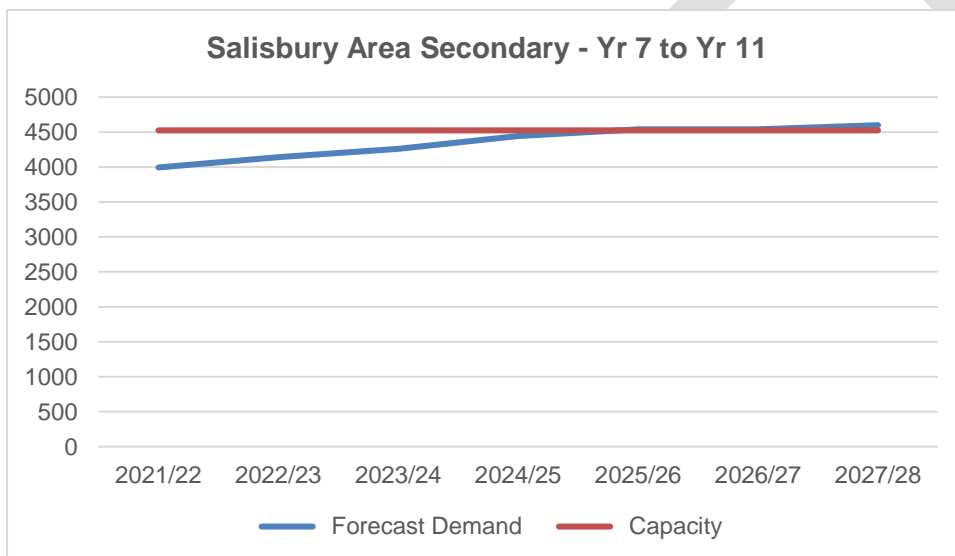
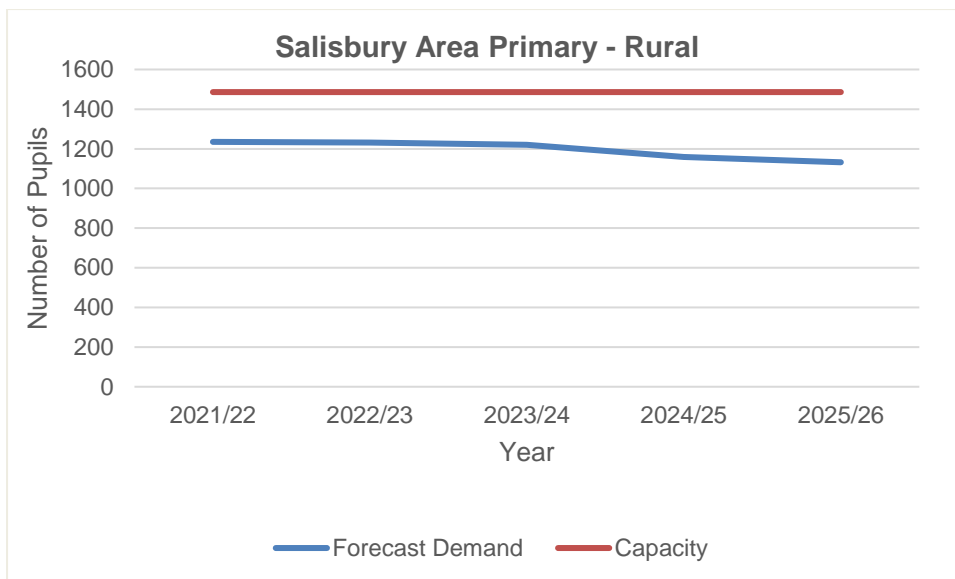


Current forecasts

The following graphs show the forecast demand for school places in the Salisbury urban and rural primary schools. At primary level these take into account the birth rate, inward/outward migration and housing expected to be completed during the planning period, taken from the Wiltshire Housing Land Supply Statement (April 2022).

Estimates of the future need for secondary places are based on the number of pupils leaving primary schools at the age of 11+, applying historic transfer ratios to take account of pupils admitted from outside of the community area to the grammar schools, those moving to independent schools and schools in other areas.





Housing Development

There are approximately 3000 new houses due to be built in this community area, as listed in the April 2022 Housing Land Supply Statement. The pupil product of this housing is only included in the forecasts above where it is expected to complete within the forecast period. A significant proportion of the housing will not complete within the forecast period.

The Local Plan consultation undertaken early in 2021, proposed that a further 940 houses be completed in Salisbury City prior to 2036. The pupil product of these houses is not yet included in the forecasts but would generate approximately 291 new primary and 207 secondary pupils.

The Local Plan consultation also included a paper on Empowering Rural Communities, which proposed 12 houses in Broad Chalke, 27 in Dinton, 25 in Great Wishford, 24 in Pitton, 1 in Porton, 15 in The Winterbournes and 58 in Winterslow/Middle Winterslow. This would collectively generate approximately 50 primary and 36 secondary pupils.

Implications for Primary Provision from 2022/23

In the short term there are sufficient places in most of the town to cater for projected demand and the product of the housing due to be completed in that period. However, in west Salisbury the demand for places is high and with a significant number of new homes still to be completed at St Peter's Place the pressure on places will increase. St Peter's CE Primary Academy opened as a 1.5FE school, but already has planning consent to be expanded to 2FE. This expansion will need to be completed in the next couple of years to ensure there are sufficient places in this part of the City.

With approximately 3000 homes yet to be built in this area (as detailed in the April 2022 Housing Land Supply Statement), post 2025 there is unlikely to be sufficient places to meet demand across the whole City.

Section 106 Agreements have been signed to secure additional primary school sites on the Longhedge (1.5FE), and Netherhampton Road (2FE) housing developments. The Longhedge housing site is already partially complete. At present this housing is located in the catchment area of Old Sarum Primary School which still has sufficient places to meet the demand. Therefore, currently there is not a requirement to open the new school at Longhedge. However, this will remain under review in the coming years.

In Harnham, the Netherhampton Road housing site has yet to commence and there are also other large housing sites both approved and under consideration in the area. Harnham Infant and Junior Schools have some surplus places but insufficient places to meet the needs of all the new housing. There could also be further housing in this area brought forward through the Local Plan.

The proposed opening date for a new school in Harnham, will depend on the ongoing birth rate, numbers moving into housing, housing build out rates and the remaining level of surplus places across the area. These factors will be closely monitored over the next couple of years.

At present, there would be insufficient primary school places available in the town to cater for the proposed Local Plan housing. Additional school places would be required, should the level of housing be taken forward as proposed. Financial contribution and potentially a primary school site would be sought from the developers for the new places.

With current demand for SEND education – taken together with predicted growth in student numbers in the Salisbury area – there is the requirement to continue to grow Primary Resource Base for SEND learners at existing schools and within any new Primary School.

In the rural schools, the forecasts suggest that the number of pupils attending will fall over the next few years. Some schools are still projected to have very few surplus places whilst others will have more. The local plan housing proposed in the rural communities would fill some of these spaces where they exist. Should the proposed housing be taken forward, this may require the additional provision in some schools, however this will depend on the birth rate and numbers on roll at the time of any planning applications.

Implications for Secondary Provision from 2022/23

As mentioned previously, the secondary schools have seen significant growth in recent years. The numbers of roll collectively have risen by over 700 pupils, or 21.5%. This growth is set to continue as houses with planning permission are completed and larger cohorts feed through from the primary schools.

At present, with the exception of Sarum Academy, the schools are almost full. Sarum Academy was built to accommodate a PAN of 180 but has been publishing a PAN of 150 in recent years. In September 2022, the school had to admit over the PAN of 150 to ensure that all pupils resident in the town could access a secondary school place. The full PAN capacity of 180 has been included in the graphs and figures above.

As can be seen in the forecast above, all schools are projected to be full by 2025/26. In recent years we have been securing section 106 contributions for the expansion of Sarum Academy. The first phase of expansion will be required in the next few years to meet the needs of approved housing. It is likely that further phased expansion of the school will be required at a later date. The exact date and size of expansion will depend on the rate of housing completions and numbers on roll in the feeder primary schools. Both will continue to be kept under close review.

At present, there are clearly insufficient secondary school places available in the town to cater for the proposed Local Plan housing. Depending on the final housing numbers taken forward, there will need to be further expansion of existing schools (where possible) to meet the demand. Discussions will be held with all of the secondary schools in due course to ensure that we have sufficient places available in the area. We will continue to seek section 106 contributions from housing developers as sites come forward.

The demand for Secondary SEND places is also high. The Special School Transformation team will continue to explore options for the co-location of secondary resource bases within existing secondary schools.

Post 16

Three of the secondary schools offer post 16 provision, these are Bishop Wordsworth Grammar School, South Wilts Grammar School and Sarum Academy. The Grammar schools have both seen growth in their sixth form numbers over the last two years. Both recruit significant numbers of students into their sixth form who have attended other schools up to year 11.

In addition to the sixth form provision in the schools, Salisbury Sixth form college has offered 400 places since 2014. The South-West University Technical College based in Salisbury closed in 2020.

	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Bishop Wordsworth Grammar	287	283	258	252	297	361
South Wilts Grammar	325	329	316	308	350	367
Sarum Academy	90	98	83	90	95	87
Number of students in Years 12 and 13	702	710	657	650	742	815
Percentage stay on rate	59%	61%	54%	55%	59%	61%

Salisbury implementation plan

Short term – 1 to 2 years	Medium term – 3 to 5 years	Long term – 5 to 10 years
Academic Years 2022/23 – 2023/24	Academic Years 2024/25 – 2026/27	Academic Years 2027/28 – 2032/33
	<i>Expansion of St Peter's CE Primary Academy to 2FE</i>	
	<i>Expansion of Sarum Academy, size of expansion and timing to be determined, dependant on housing completions</i>	
	<i>Provision of new Primary School/s, date(s) will depend upon housing completions and local birth rate.</i>	
		<i>Potential provision of additional primary and secondary places to meet the needs of local plan housing – to be determined once housing numbers and sites are confirmed.</i>

DRAFT

E18 Tidworth

There are 6 primary age schools in the Tidworth area and 1 secondary school catering for the 11 to 19 age range. A resource base opened at Clarendon Infants School in September 2022 in response to growing demand for SEN places in the area.

Primary	Status as at July 2022	Urban/Rural
Clarendon Infants School	Foundation	Urban
Clarendon Junior School	Foundation	Urban
Collingbourne CE Primary School	Voluntary Controlled	Rural
Ludgershall Castle Primary School	Foundation	Urban
Wellington Eagles Primary School - Ludgershall	Academy	Urban
Wellington Lions Primary Academy	Academy	Urban
Zouch Primary Academy	Academy	Urban
Secondary		
The Wellington Academy	Academy	Urban

Overview

There are six primary age schools classed as urban in this area, with the remaining primary school is located in a village in the wider community area. In the last 5 years, the number of children attending primary schools in this area has grown by around 20%.

Wellington Eagles is a new school opened in 2019 to support the army rebasing programme, specifically the additional military housing in Ludgershall. It opened with sufficient capacity to accommodate new housing with planning consent in Ludgershall, as a result numbers at the school will grow steadily in future years as this housing is completed.

In Tidworth, Clarendon Infant School has proposed a reduction in PAN from 105 to 90 from September 2022, with Clarendon Junior doing the same from 2024.

Clarendon Infant School opened a 2-class resource base in September 2022. There are ambitions to open a resource base in Clarendon Junior School by September 2024.

Wellington Academy is the only secondary school in this community area and has been expanded in recent years to provide additional places for the army rebasing programme and new housing with planning consent in the area. Numbers in the school have risen by 32% over the last five years and are projected to continue rising.

Current Provision

The following table provides a breakdown of the net (pupil) capacity and number on roll for schools in the Tidworth area.

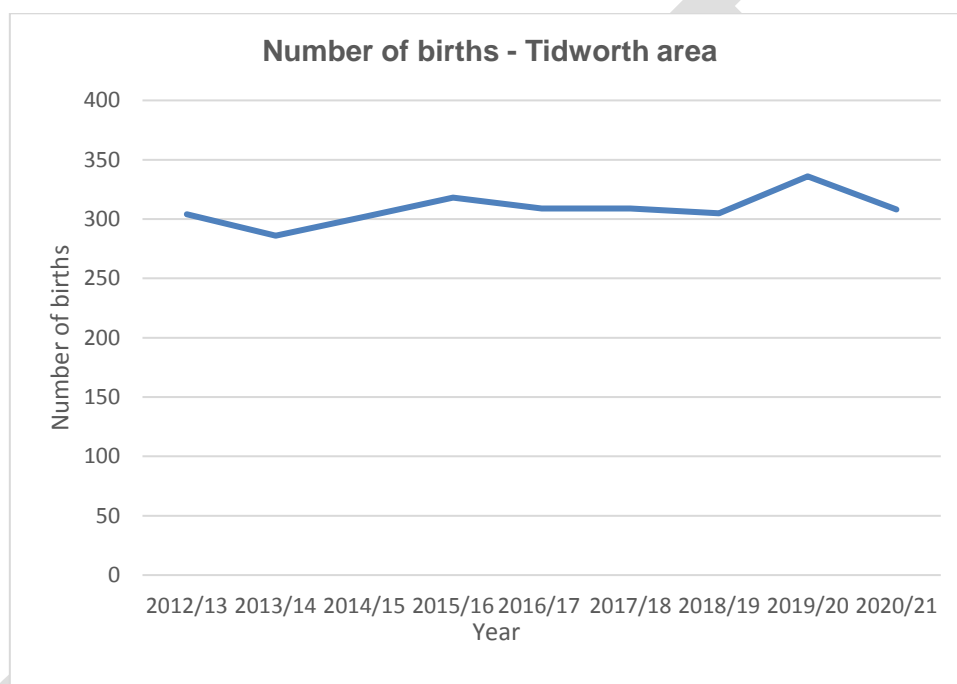
Phase	Net Capacity	Number on Roll (Jan 2022)	Surplus Capacity + / -
Primary (Urban) *	2415	1685	+730 (30%)
Primary (Rural)	120	101	+19 (16%)
Secondary (Y7 to Y11)	1350	923	+427 (32%)

*This includes the full 315 place capacity at Clarendon Infants School and 420 places at Clarendon Junior School

Births in Tidworth

The number of births reported by the Health Authority in the Tidworth area shows the birth rate remained relatively stable until an increase in 2019/20. Numbers have stabilised in 2020/21 as shown in the table and graph below.

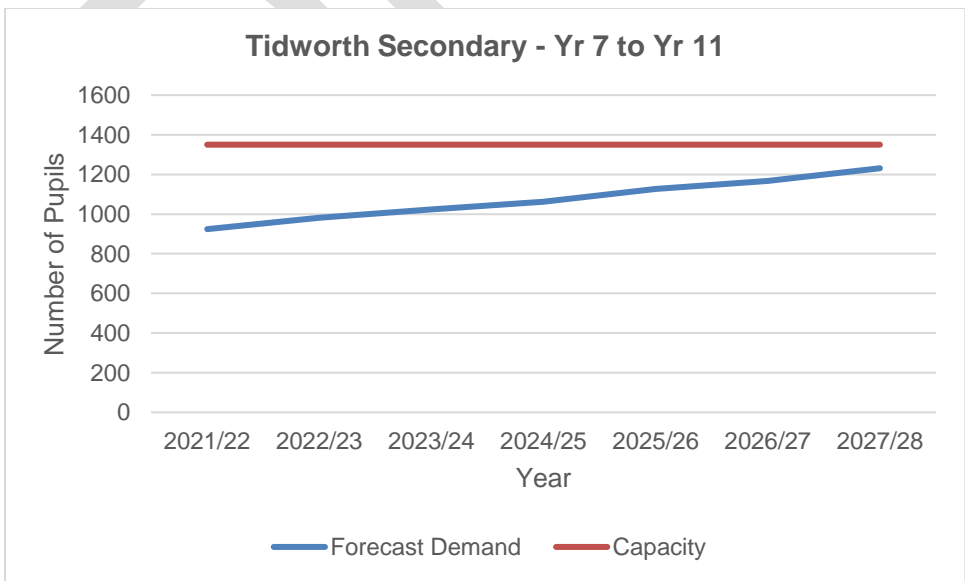
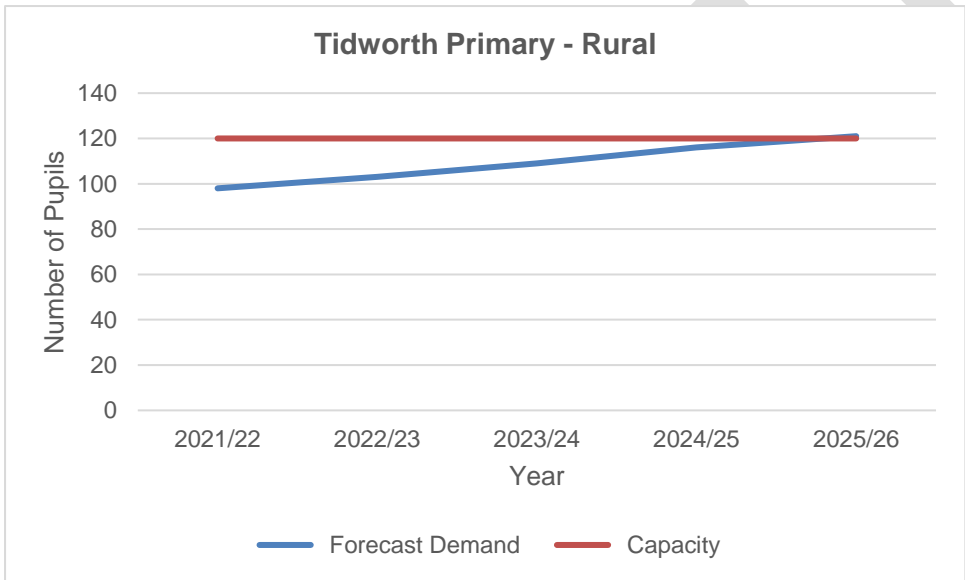
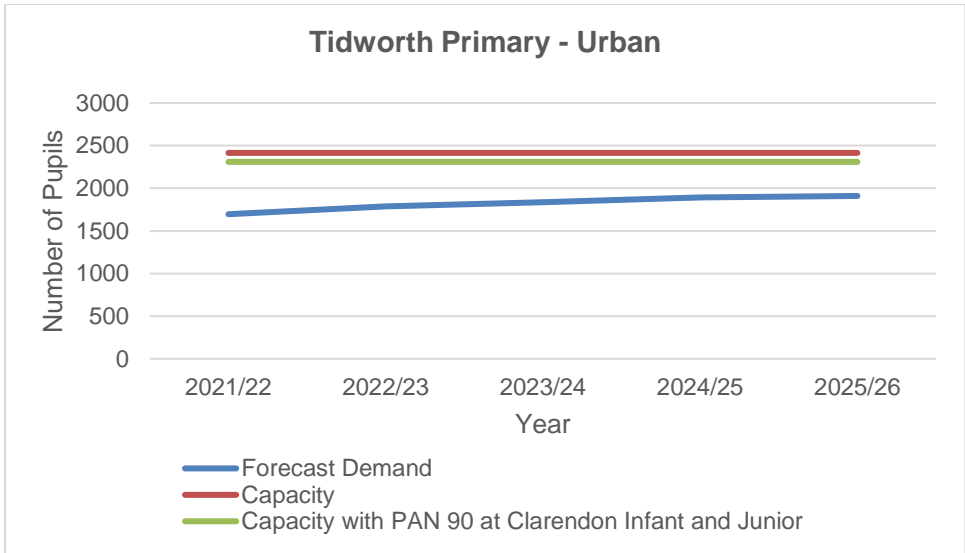
Birth year	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Number	304	286	302	318	309	309	305	336	308



Current forecasts

The following graphs show the forecast demand for school places in the Tidworth area primary schools and secondary school. At primary level these take into account the birth rate, inward/outward migration and housing expected to be completed during the planning period, taken from the Wiltshire Housing Land Supply Statement (April 2022).

Wellington Academy is the only secondary school serving the Tidworth community area. Estimates of the future need for secondary places are based on the number of pupils leaving primary schools at the age of 11+, applying historic transfer ratios to take account of pupils moving to independent schools and schools in other areas.



Housing Development

There are approximately 800 new houses with planning permission in this community area, as listed in the April 2022 Housing Land Supply Statement. Of these just over half are expected to be complete by 2026. The pupil product of this housing is included in the forecasts above where it is expected to complete within the forecast period.

The Local Plan consultation papers proposed a further 165 additional houses in Tidworth and Ludgershall plus a further 24 in Collingbourne. These sites, if taken forward, would collectively require 58 primary school places and 42 secondary school places.

Implications for Primary Provision from 2022/23

The number of primary aged children attending the schools in this area have risen by around 20% over the last five years. This has been as a result of new local housing, including military housing, and the army rebasing programme. The birth rate in this area has also remained stable unlike some other area which have seen a decline.

At present there are sufficient surplus places in the primary schools in the urban area to cater for projected demand and the product of the local plan housing. This will continue to be kept under review as numbers in military areas can fluctuate quite significantly.

In the rural area, Collingbourne Primary School is expected to be full from 2024. Therefore, should the proposed local plan housing be taken forward there may be a requirement to expand the school. However, this would need to be reassessed at the time of any planning applications to consider the most recent birth data and intake rate. There are no other schools within a 2-mile safe walking route of the school.

Overall, the numbers in the primary schools in this area are expected to increase over the next few years, reducing the number of surplus places. There are plans to increase primary resource base provision for SEND learners at Clarendon Juniors by September 2024.

Implications for Secondary Provision from 2022/23

Wellington Academy has recently been expanded to provide sufficient places for the army basing programme and new housing in the area. Numbers at the school have grown by 32% over the last five years and are projected to continue growing as larger cohorts feed up from the primary schools and new housing is completed.

As the school has already been expanded, there are currently sufficient places to accommodate the rising numbers from housing until approximately 2029. At this point the school is projected to be at capacity and may need to be expanded further for any additional housing. Section 106 funding has already been secured from one development to enable a small expansion to take place in the meantime.

Numbers in the military communities can fluctuate significantly and therefore projections will continue to be kept under review.

Post 16

Wellington Academy has on site post 16 provision and offers both A-levels and vocational qualifications. The table below shows the historical number of learners in years 12 and 13 at the school.

	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Number of students in Years 12 and 13	142	120	98	102	143	160
Percentage stay on rate	57%	42%	29%	51%	61%	59%

Tidworth implementation plan

Short term – 1 to 2 years Academic Years 2022/23 – 2023/24	Medium term – 3 to 5 years Academic Years 2024/25 – 2026/27	Long term – 5 to 10 years Academic Years 2027/28 – 2032/33
	<i>Small expansion of Wellington Academy funded by Section 106</i>	<i>Possible expansion to provide additional places at Wellington Academy, if required to meet the needs of new Local Plan housing</i>

E19 Tisbury

There are 5 primary age schools in the Tisbury area. For secondary school and post 16 education, young people travel mostly to Shaftesbury School in Dorset or to other Wiltshire secondary schools within adjacent areas. There are no special schools in the area, although Dorset Council opened a new special school just inside the Wiltshire border (Combe House) in September 2022.

Primary	Status as at July 2022	Urban/Rural
Chilmark & Fonthill Bishop CE Aided Primary School	Voluntary Aided	Rural
Ludwell Primary School	Academy	Rural
Semley CEVA Primary School	Voluntary Aided	Rural
St. John's CE Primary School, Tisbury	Voluntary Controlled	Rural
Wardour Catholic Primary School	Voluntary Aided	Rural

Overview

There are no towns in this area, so all schools are classed as rural for the purposes of this document. Tisbury is the largest settlement and is deemed a Local Service Centre in the Wiltshire Core Strategy. Local Service centres are defined as smaller towns and larger villages which serve a surrounding rural hinterland and possess a level of facilities and services that, together with improved local employment, provide the best opportunities outside the Market Towns for greater self-containment.

Based on January 2022 numbers of roll classed four of the five schools in this area are classed as small schools with fewer than 120 pupils on roll.

Some of the primary schools in this area take pupils from neighbouring community areas or from out of the County. Overall, approximately 20% of the joint reception intake reside outside of this community area.

Current Provision

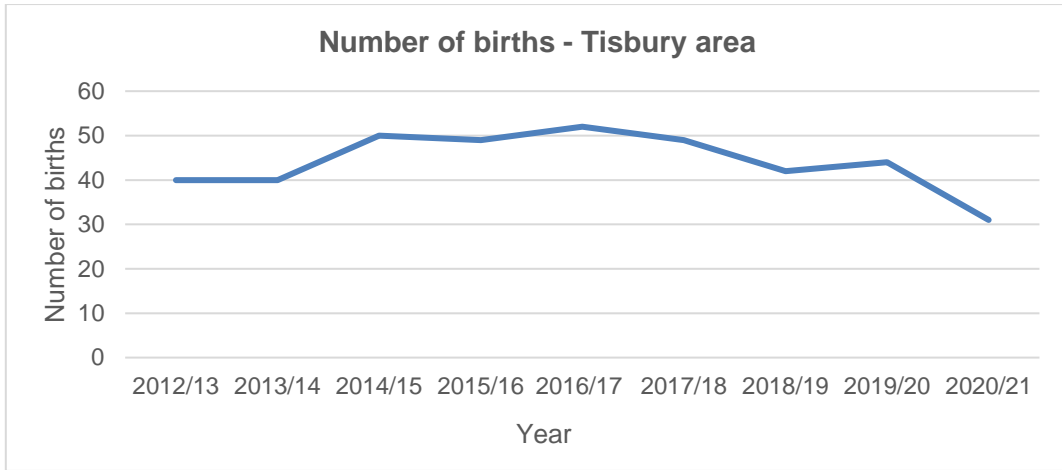
The following table provides a breakdown of the net (pupil) capacity and number on roll for schools in the Tisbury area.

Phase	Net Capacity	Number on Roll (Jan 2022)	Surplus Capacity + / -
Primary (Rural)	633	496	+137 (22%)

Births in Tisbury

Since 2012 the birth rate increased for a few years before declining again since 2017/18.

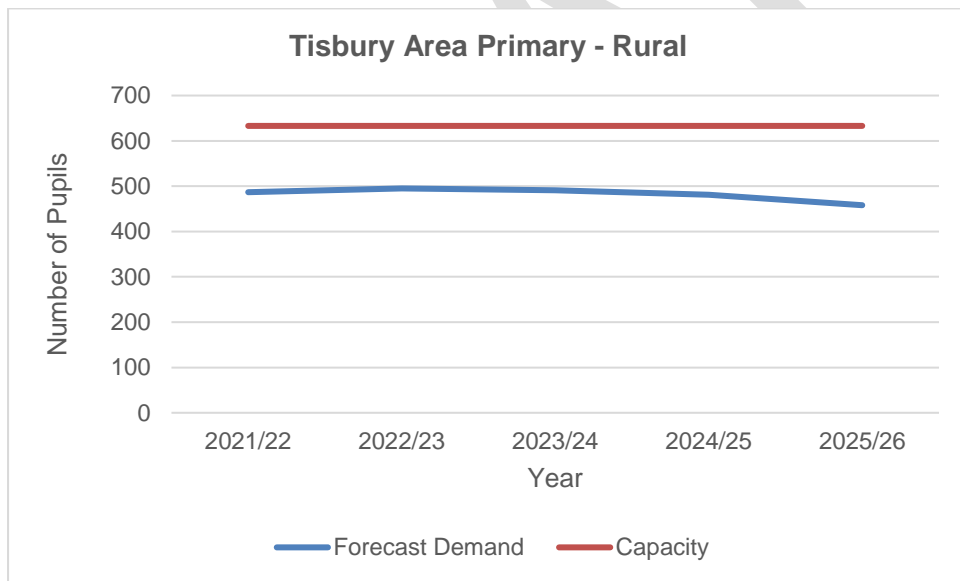
Birth year	2012/ 13	2013/ 14	2014/ 15	2015/ 16	2016/ 17	2017/ 18	2018/ 19	2019/ 20	2020/ 21
Number	40	40	50	49	52	49	42	44	31



Current forecasts

The following graphs show the forecast demand for school places in the Tisbury area rural primary schools. At primary level these take into account the birth rate, inward/outward migration and housing expected to be completed during the planning period, taken from the Wiltshire Housing Land Supply Statement (April 2022).

As the secondary catchment school for this area is not in Wiltshire, we do not forecast the overall demand for places at Shaftesbury School.



Housing Development

There are approximately 85 new houses due to be built in this community area, as listed in the April 2022 Housing Land Supply Statement. However, the majority of these are post 2026 and therefore not yet included in the primary forecasts.

The Local Plan consultation undertaken early in 2021, proposed that a further 65 houses be completed in Tisbury and 30 in Ludwell prior to 2036. The pupil product of these houses is not

yet included in the forecasts but would generate approximately 20 new primary pupils in Tisbury and 9 in Ludwell. Overall, this housing would also require 20 secondary places.

Implications for Primary Provision from 2022/23

At present there are sufficient places in the local schools to meet forecast demand from pre-approved housing, however this will need to be kept under review as the low birth rate seen in 2020/21 may not be sustained.

Forecasts suggest there may not be sufficient places in either Ludwell or St John’s primary Schools to accommodate the pupil product of the proposed local plan housing. Both of these schools are close to capacity but could be expanded using section 106 contributions from the housing developers. However, this would need to be reassessed at the time of any planning applications to consider the most recent birth data and intake rate. There are no other schools within 2-mile safe walking routes of either school.

From 2024 the number on roll at Chilmark and Fonthill Bishop CE Aided Primary is predicted to fall below 60 pupils, making this a very small school.

Implications for Secondary Provision from 2022/23

Shaftesbury School in Dorset is the catchment school for this community area. Historically, all ‘on-time’ year 6 applicants from children resident in this community area have been offered places at the catchment school in Shaftesbury (Dorset). Gillingham School is also a popular choice. Both schools also offer post 16 provision.

Dorset Council is responsible for school place planning in Shaftesbury. The draft Dorset Local Plan suggests that only moderate housing is expected in the town. Wiltshire Council will maintain effective communications with Dorset to ensure the pupil situation is kept under review and cross-border admissions continue to operate smoothly.

Tisbury Implementation Plan

<p><i>Short term – 1 to 2 years</i></p> <p><i>Academic Years</i> <i>2022/23 – 2023/24</i></p>	<p><i>Medium term – 3 to 5 years</i></p> <p><i>Academic Years</i> <i>2024/25 – 2026/27</i></p>	<p><i>Long term – 5 to 10 years</i></p> <p><i>Academic Years</i> <i>2027/28 – 2032/33</i></p>
		<p><i>Possible extensions to provide additional places at St John’s Primary and Ludwell Primary if required to meet the needs of new housing</i></p>

E20 Trowbridge

There are 19 primary age schools in the Trowbridge area and 3 secondary schools which cater for the 11 to 19 age range. There is one special school in the Trowbridge area. There are also specialist resource bases at Castle Mead Academy, Studley Green Primary School and Grove Primary School. Bellefield Schools hosts a satellite of Silverwood School through 2022/23.

Primary	Status as at July 2022	Urban/Rural
Bellefield Primary and Nursery School	Voluntary Controlled	Urban
Castle Mead Primary Academy	Academy	Urban
Grove Primary School	Community	Urban
Hilperton CEVC Primary School	Voluntary Controlled	Rural
Holbrook Primary School	Community	Urban
Holt VC Primary School	Voluntary Controlled	Rural
Keevil C of E Primary School	Academy	Rural
Newtown Community Primary School	Community	Urban
North Bradley C of E Primary School	Voluntary Controlled	Rural
Paxcroft Primary School	Foundation	Urban
Southwick C E Primary School	Voluntary Controlled	Rural
St. John's Catholic Primary School	Voluntary Aided	Urban
Staverton CEVC Primary School	Voluntary Controlled	Rural
Studley Green Primary School	Foundation	Urban
The Mead Community Primary School	Academy	Urban
Oasis Academy Longmeadow	Academy	Urban
Walwayne Court School	Community	Urban
West Ashton CE Primary School	Academy	Rural
Westwood-with-Iford School	Academy	Rural
Secondary		
The Clarendon Academy	Academy	Urban
The John of Gaunt School	Academy	Urban
St. Augustine's Catholic College	Academy	Urban
Special		
Silverwood School (Trowbridge campus)	Community	Urban

Overview

There are 11 primary schools located in the town, with a further 8 in the surrounding villages. In recent years there has been housing growth in the town but there is still significant housing due to complete in the coming years.

Castle Mead Primary Academy expanded to 2FE in September 2017 and Bellefield Primary School expanded to 1.5FE in September 2019.

In the Trowbridge rural area, there are 4 primary schools classed as small but none that are smaller than 60 pupils on roll.

At secondary level, there are 3 schools in the town. The catchment areas of John of Gaunt School and Clarendon Academy cover the whole community area including the wider rural area. St Augustine's Catholic College is the only Catholic secondary school in Wiltshire outside of Salisbury and its catchment area is far wider than just Trowbridge and includes the Catholic Parishes in Melksham, Calne; Warminster; Devizes, Westbury, Bradford-on-Avon and Frome in Somerset.

Current Provision

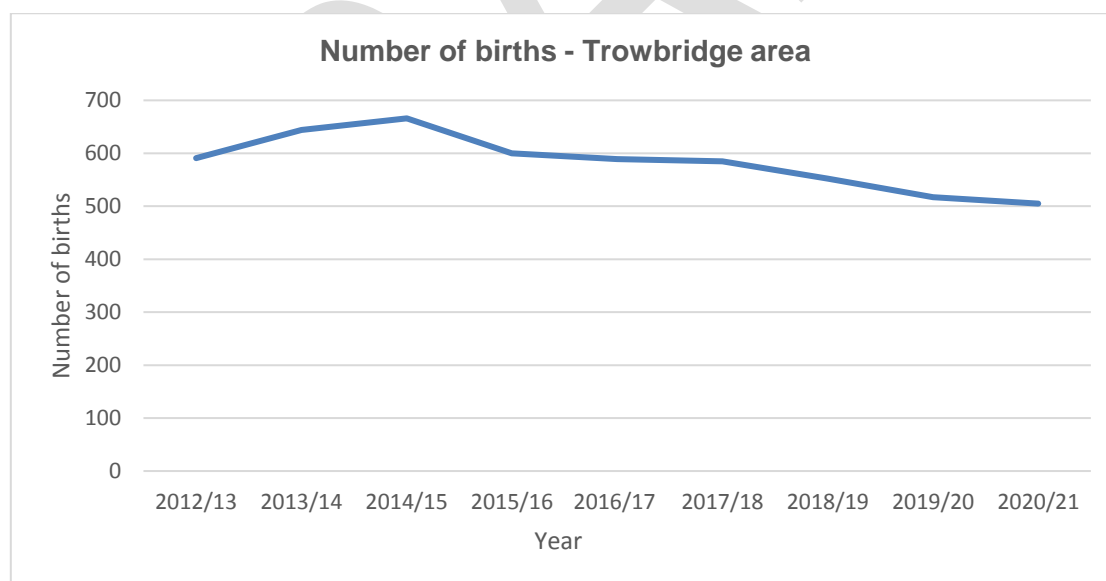
The following table provides a breakdown of the net (pupil) capacity and number on roll for schools in the Trowbridge area.

Phase	Net Capacity	Number on Roll (Jan 2022)	Surplus Capacity + / -
Primary (Urban)	3555	3112	+443 (12%)
Primary (Rural)	1445	1206	+239 (16.5%)
Secondary (Y7 to Y11)	3375	2673	+702 (21%)

Births in Trowbridge

The birth rate has seen a decline in recent years, however, the impact of significant housing development is predicted to increase the demand for primary school places in Trowbridge over the coming years.

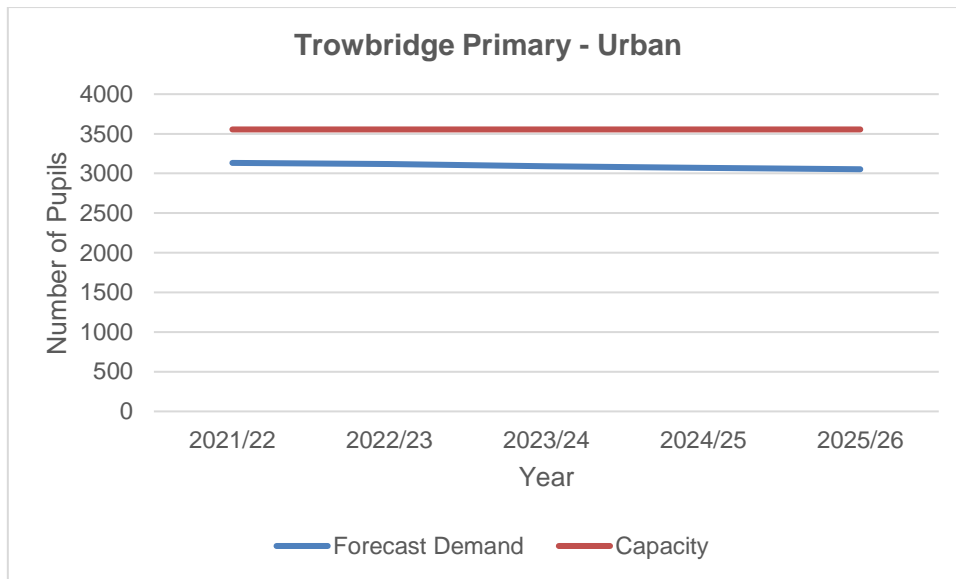
Birth year	2012/ 13	2013/ 14	2014/ 15	2015/ 16	2016/ 17	2017/ 18	2018/ 19	2019 /20	2020/ 21
Number	591	644	666	600	589	585	552	517	505



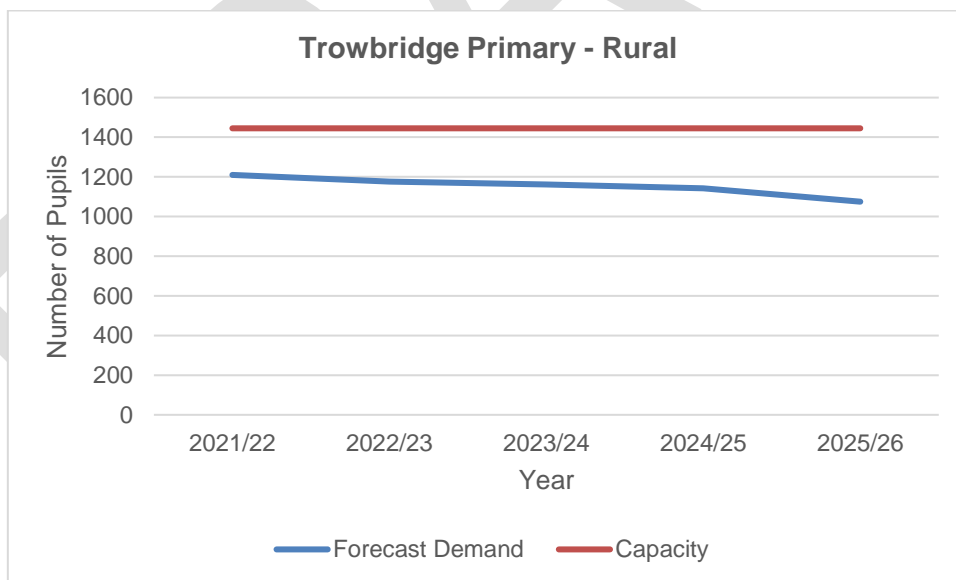
Current forecasts

The following graphs show the forecast demand for school places in the Trowbridge urban primary schools, rural schools and secondary schools. At primary level these take into account the birth rate, inward/outward migration and housing expected to be completed during the planning period, taken from the Wiltshire Housing Land Supply Statement (April 2022).

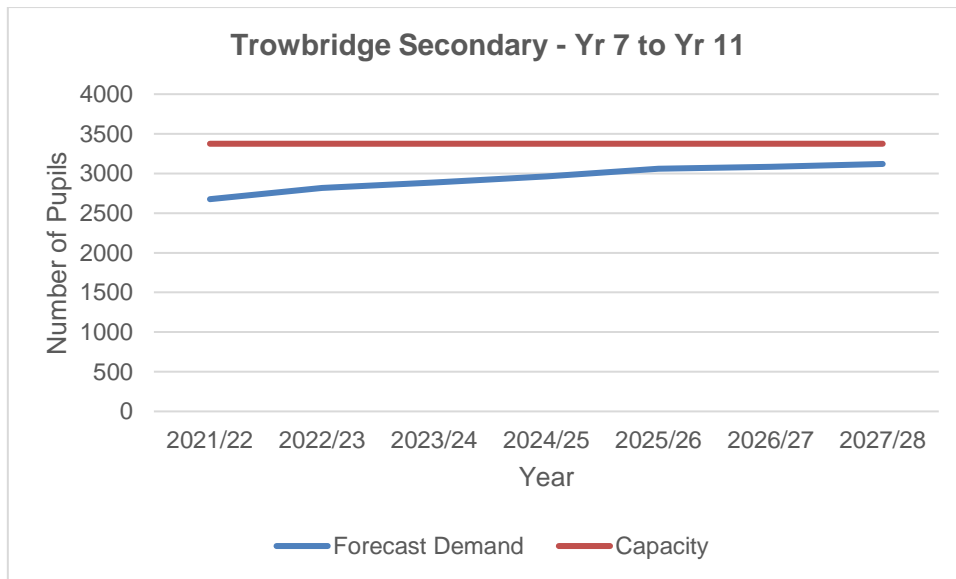
Estimates of the future need for secondary places are based on the number of pupils leaving primary schools at the age of 11+, applying historic transfer ratios to take account of pupils moving to independent schools and schools in other areas.



During this forecast period, the Wiltshire Housing Land Supply Statement (April 2022) includes less than 300 houses in the urban area. However, the document also shows that there will still be nearly 3500 homes to complete after that date, this level of housing is expected to generate a need for a further 1000 primary school places. There are also several other planning applications under consideration which may increase this need further.



After this forecast period there will still be housing to complete in both Southwick and Hilperton on sites listed in the Wiltshire Housing Land Supply Statement (April 2022).



During this forecast period, the Wiltshire Housing Land Supply Statement (April 2022) includes around 1200 houses in the urban area. However, the document also shows that there will still be over 2600 homes to complete after that date, this level of housing is expected to generate a need for a further 580 secondary school places. There are also several other planning applications under consideration which may increase this need further.

Housing Development

The Housing Land Supply Statement (April 2022) shows that there are over 3800 new homes to be built in Trowbridge over the coming years. This includes a very large development at Ashton Park in east Trowbridge. The pupil product of this housing is included in the forecasts above only where it is expected to be completed within the forecast periods. Please also see references above to housing that is still to complete beyond the forecast period, which will create significant need for additional pupil places.

The Local Plan consultation undertaken early in 2021, proposed that a further 2600 houses be completed in Trowbridge prior to 2036. The pupil product of these houses is not included in the forecasts but would generate approximately 810 new primary and 580 secondary pupils.

The Local Plan consultation also included a paper on Empowering Rural Communities, which proposed 1 house in Hilperton, 18 in Holt, 39 in North Bradley, 77 in Southwick and 27 in Westwood. This would collectively generate approximately 50 primary and 36 secondary pupils.

Implications for Primary Provision from 2022/23

For the next few years there are sufficient places in the town to cater for projected demand and the product of the housing due to completed in that period. However, post 2025/26 there is unlikely to be sufficient places to meet demand as the large developments, including Ashton Park, start to become occupied. The housing is largely located in east Trowbridge and will also not be within a safe 2-mile walking route from some of the Trowbridge urban schools with surplus places.

Section 106 Agreements have been signed to secure financial contributions towards additional primary school places. The Ashton Park agreement, once signed, will also secure two sites for new primary schools. One of these new schools will be funded solely by the Ashton Park

development, the second will be funded by pooling contributions secured from other housing sites across the town.

The timescale for these new schools will depend on the ongoing birth rate, numbers moving into housing, housing build out rates and the remaining level of surplus places. These factors will be closely monitored over the next couple of years.

At present, there are clearly insufficient primary school places available in the town to cater for the proposed Local Plan housing. Two further new primary schools would also be required, should the level of housing be taken forward as proposed in the Local Plan consultation. School sites and financial contributions would be sought from the developers for any future new primary schools.

With current demand for SEND education – taken together with predicted growth in student numbers in Trowbridge – there will be the requirement for a 2 classroom Primary Resource Base, included within a new Primary School. In addition, the demand for SEND education in Trowbridge is high. We will continue to explore options to build primary resource base provision with existing primary schools in the Trowbridge area.

Our current forecasts suggest that, in the short term, the number of pupils attending schools in the rural area will decrease in line with the reducing birth rate thereby increasing the level of surplus places in some of these schools for a time. However, post 2025/26 there are housing developments planned in the catchment areas of some of the rural schools, for instance in Southwick and Hilperton, which will increase pupil numbers as families move into the new housing and seek places at their local school. Whilst it will be possible to expand Hilperton Primary to 1FE it will not be possible to expand Southwick Primary given the restricted size of the school site.

The proposed housing developments in the rural areas immediately adjacent to Trowbridge are already close to existing town schools, some of which are located within a safe walking distance. The two proposed new schools discussed above will also increase primary provision overall in Trowbridge, providing additional choice.

The local plan housing proposed in the rural communities would also reduce remaining surplus places at some of the rural schools.

Implications for Secondary Provision from 2022/23

Pupil numbers in the three secondary schools have risen by more than 300 pupils over the last few years. This trend is set to continue as larger cohorts feed through from the primary schools and as families move into new housing. By 2027/28 the level of surplus places is projected to fall to around 7% with approximately 2600 new homes still to complete at that point.

Whilst a site for a new secondary school has been secured at Ashton Park, a new school will only become financially viable if significant additional housing comes forward through the Local Plan. The Ashton Park secondary school site could accommodate up to 750 pupils, which is unlikely to be sustainable as a standalone school, however, could operate as a satellite of an existing provision. If this site is not large enough to cater for all pupils who may be generated by significant local plan housing, a larger secondary school site would be sought on those proposed development/s instead.

The Local Plan consultation carried out in 2021 proposed a further 2600 new homes by 2036. If these are not taken forward, then the housing listed in the Housing Land Supply Statement 2022 alone may not be sufficient to make a new school viable. In this instance, all three of the

existing schools have sufficient land to enable expansion where appropriate. However, all three schools are located in west Trowbridge which has highways implications that would need to be carefully considered.

In the coming years, once the Local Plan is approved and the resultant number of proposed homes is clarified, it will be necessary to work with local stakeholders to plan appropriate and efficient future secondary provision. In the meantime, numbers will continue to be closely monitored and assessed.

There is high demand for SEND secondary places in Trowbridge. The Special School Transformation Team will continue to explore options to create at least one secondary resource base in the Trowbridge area.

Post 16

There are three secondary schools which serve the Trowbridge area with all three offering post 16 provision. Across the three schools there is a wide variety of courses available including A-Levels and vocational qualifications. The table below shows the historical number of learners in years 12 and 13 at the school.

In addition to the sixth form provision in the schools, Wiltshire College a campus in Trowbridge.

	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
The Clarendon Academy	148	104	98	97	112	124
The John of Gaunt School	171	140	123	98	106	121
St. Augustine's Catholic School	178	187	202	156	195	159
Total Number of students in Years 12 and 13	497	431	423	351	413	404
Average Percentage stay on rate	46%	49%	43%	44%	44%	42%

Trowbridge implementation plan

Short term – 1 to 2 years Academic Years 2022/23 – 2023/24	Medium term – 3 to 5 years Academic Years 2024/25 – 2026/27	Long term – 5 to 10 years Academic Years 2027/28 – 2032/33
	<i>Expansion of Hilperton School to 1FE</i>	
	<i>Provision of first new Primary School (2FE) on the Ashton Park site, date will depend upon housing completions.</i>	<i>Provision of a second new Primary School (up to 2FE) on the Ashton Park site, date will depend upon housing completions.</i>
	<i>Work with local stakeholders to identify and assess options for additional secondary provision in the town</i>	<i>Provision of additional secondary places - to follow stakeholder engagement when necessary to meet demand.</i>

E21 Warminster

There are 12 primary age schools in the Warminster area and 1 secondary school catering for the 11 to 19 age range. There are no special schools in the area; however, there is a specialist resource base at The Avenue School.

Primary	Status as at July 2022	Urban/Rural
Crockerton CofE Primary School	Voluntary Aided	Rural
Heytesbury CofE Primary School	Academy	Rural
Horningsham Primary School	Community	Rural
New Close Primary School	Academy	Urban
Princecroft Primary School	Community	Urban
St. George's Catholic Primary School	Voluntary Aided	Urban
St. John's CofE School	Academy	Urban
Sutton Veny CofE School	Voluntary Controlled	Rural
The Avenue Primary School & Children's Centre	Academy	Urban
The Minster CofE Primary School	Voluntary Controlled	Urban
Warminster Sambourne CEVC Primary School	Voluntary Controlled	Urban
Wylve Valley CEVA Primary School	Voluntary Aided	Rural
Secondary		
Kingdown School	Academy	Urban

Overview

There has been relatively minimal housing development in Warminster in recent years. However, the West Warminster Urban Expansion has now commenced and will see significant housing growth in West Warminster over the coming years.

Princecroft Primary School has been expanded from 5 classes to 7 classes in order to accommodate additional children from housing in the catchment area. Numbers in the school have grown by over 40% in the last five years.

There is a large military population in the town. Recently, two regiments moved out which were only replaced with one. Therefore, the primary schools in the east of the town and Kingdown experienced a net loss of pupils.

Current Provision

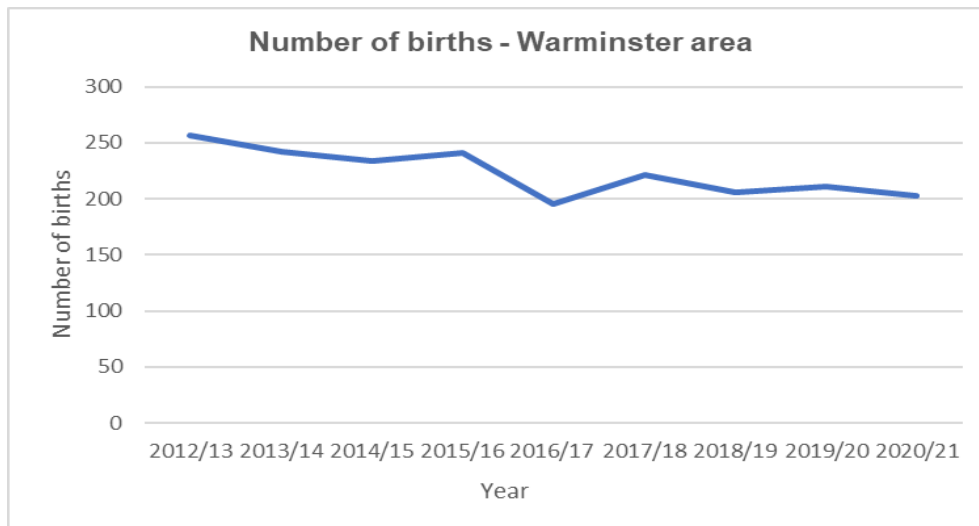
The following table provides a breakdown of the net (pupil) capacity and number on roll for schools in the Warminster area.

Phase	Net Capacity	Number on Roll (Jan 2022)	Surplus Capacity + / -
Primary (Urban)	1455	1076	+379 (26%)
Primary (Rural)	622	499	+123 (20%)
Secondary (Y7 to Y11)	1385	1270	+115 (8%)

Births in Warminster

The number of births reported by the Health Authority in the Warminster area shows that the birth rate has generally declined since a peak in 2012/13. It has been relatively consistent in the last few years.

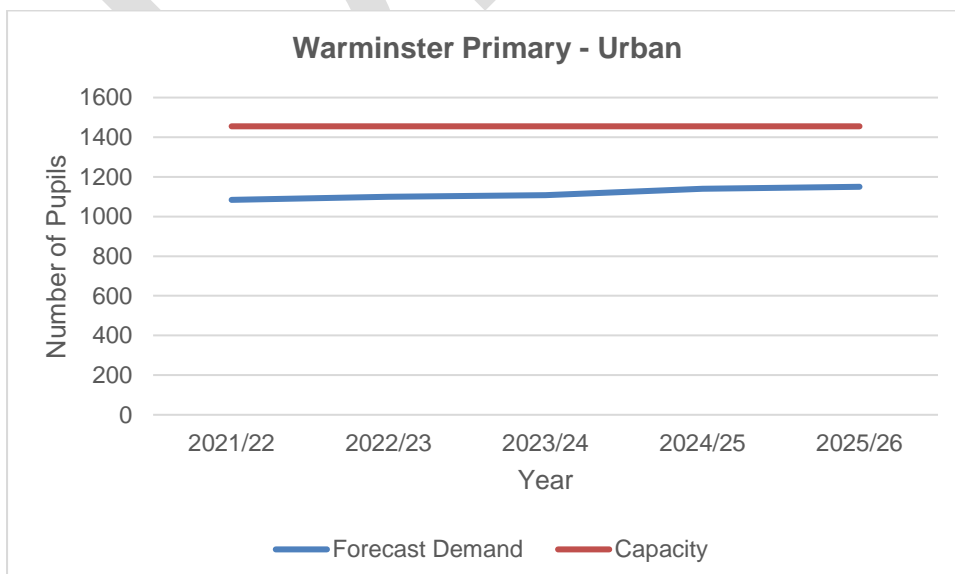
Birth year	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Number	257	242	234	241	195	221	206	211	203

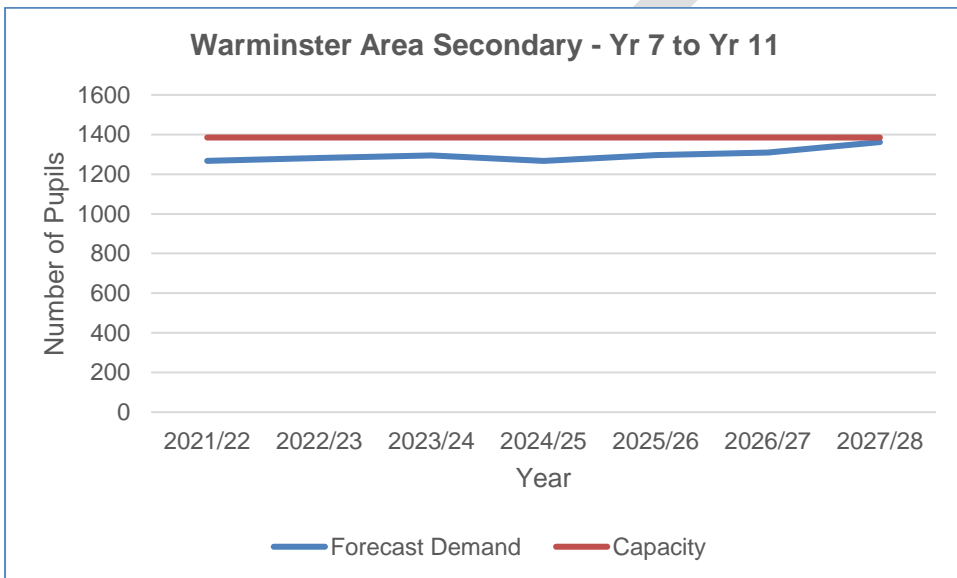
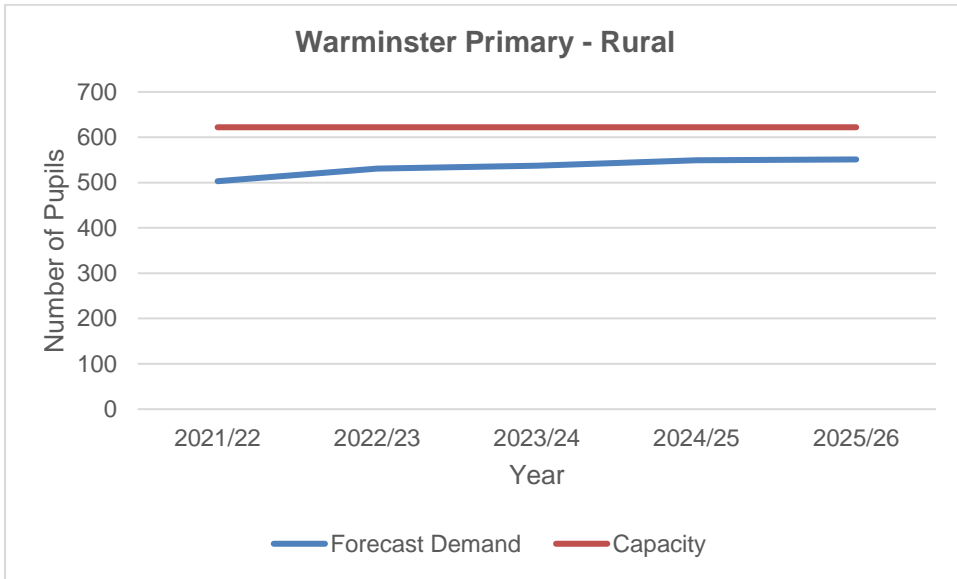


Current Forecasts

The following graphs show the forecast demand for school places in the Warminster area primary schools. At primary level these take into account the birth rate, inward/outward migration and housing expected to be completed during the planning period, taken from the Wiltshire Housing Land Supply Statement (April 2022).

Kingdown School is the only secondary school serving the Warminster community area. Estimates of the future need for secondary places is based on the number of pupils leaving primary schools at the age of 11+, applying historic transfer ratios to take account of pupils moving to independent schools and schools in other areas.





Housing Development

There are approximately 1400 new houses due to be built in this community area. This includes continuing development of the West Warminster Urban Expansion as well as other sites across the community area, as listed in the April 2022 Housing Land Supply Statement. The pupil product of this housing is included in the forecasts above where it is expected to complete in the forecast period.

Post 2026 there will still be around 1000 homes to complete on the West Warminster Urban Expansion. The pupil product of these homes is not included in the forecasts above.

The Local Plan consultation undertaken early in 2021, proposed that a further 70 houses be completed in Warminster prior to 2036. The Local Plan consultation also included a paper on Empowering Rural Communities, which proposed 20 houses in Codford, 14 in Corsley, 22 in Heytesbury and 13 in Sutton Veny by 2036. Collectively, these houses would generate approximately 43 primary and 30 secondary pupils and are not included in the forecasts above.

Implications for Primary Provision from 2022/23

At present there are sufficient surplus places in the town to cater for the projected demand from current housing, however as the West Warminster Expansion is built out there will be insufficient places in West Warminster to accommodate the rising population. Schools in East Warminster are largely not within a 2-mile walking distance of the new housing and it is these which predominantly have spare capacity.

A site for a new 2FE primary school has been secured on the West Warminster Urban Expansion site. However, it may be initially built smaller, expanding to the full 2FE in line with housing completions. The timing of the new school will depend upon when the site becomes available which is linked to housing completions, and the availability of places in schools within 2 miles.

Should the proposed Local Plan housing in Warminster be taken forward, the new primary school along with remaining surplus places in the east is likely to mean that further additional places will not be required. This will largely depend on the birth rate in the school catchment areas and the level of surplus places at the time any planning applications are brought forward.

In the rural area, the numbers in the primary schools are projected to rise slightly, with the level of surplus places falling to 11%. Should the proposed Local Plan housing in the villages be taken forward, there should be sufficient surplus places to accommodate the additional pupils however this will largely depend on the birth rate in the school catchment areas and the level of surplus places at the time any planning applications are brought forward.

Implications for Secondary Provision from 2022/23

Kingdown School is the only secondary school serving the Warminster community area. The school is popular and admits a small proportion of pupils from outside its designated area, mainly from Westbury. The school tends to admit close to its PAN of 277 and is forecast to continue to do so, with numbers then projected to increase beyond PAN in line with local housing completions.

An expansion of the school by 300 places will be required in order to accommodate the forecast population growth in the area. This will largely be funded by Section 106 contributions from housing developers. This expansion will ideally be located on the existing school site and plans are already in development for this. Should this prove not possible, then an expansion

site for 300 pupils has been secured on the West Warminster Urban Extension however this would create a split site school which is operationally challenging and not the preferred solution.

The expansion of Kingdown School will ensure that places can be created in all year groups for families moving into new housing.

Post 16

Kingdown School has post 16 provision on site and offers both A-levels and vocational qualifications. The table below shows the historical number of learners in years 12 and 13 at the school.

	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Number of students in Years 12 and 13	269	229	245	251	278	268
Percentage stay on rate	56%	47%	54%	53%	54%	57%

Warminster implementation plan

Short term – 1 to 2 years Academic Years 2022/23 – 2023/24	Medium term – 3 to 5 years Academic Years 2024/25 – 2026/27	Long term – 5 to 10 years Academic Years 2027/28 – 2032/33
	<i>Provision of a new Primary School (up to 2FE) on the West Warminster Urban Extension site, date will depend upon housing completions.</i>	
	<i>Expansion of Kingdown School by 300 places</i>	

E22 Westbury

There are 7 primary age schools in the Westbury area and 1 secondary school catering for the 11 to 19 age range. There are no special schools in the area however there are specialist resource bases at Westbury Infant School and Westbury CE Junior School.

Primary	Status as at July 2022	Urban/Rural
Bitham Brook Primary School	Community	Urban
Bratton Primary School	Community	Rural
Chapmanslade CEVA Primary School	Voluntary Aided	Rural
Dilton Marsh C of E Primary School	Academy	Rural
Westbury Infants School	Community	Urban
Westbury CE Junior School	Voluntary Controlled	Urban
Westbury Leigh CE Primary School	Voluntary Controlled	Urban
Secondary		
Matravers School	Foundation	Urban

Overview

There has been considerable housing development in Westbury with several sites still under construction. Two large housing developments in the Bitham Brook Primary School catchment have funded the expansion of the school, with the second phase of expansion recently completed taking the school to 2FE.

The other housing developments primarily fall in the catchment areas of Westbury Infant and Westbury CE Junior Schools.

Matravers School has recently benefitted from DFE funding to replace an old block with new accommodation, this did not create any additional places. Numbers at the school have been stable in recent years but are projected to grow as larger cohorts feed through from the primary sector.

Current Provision

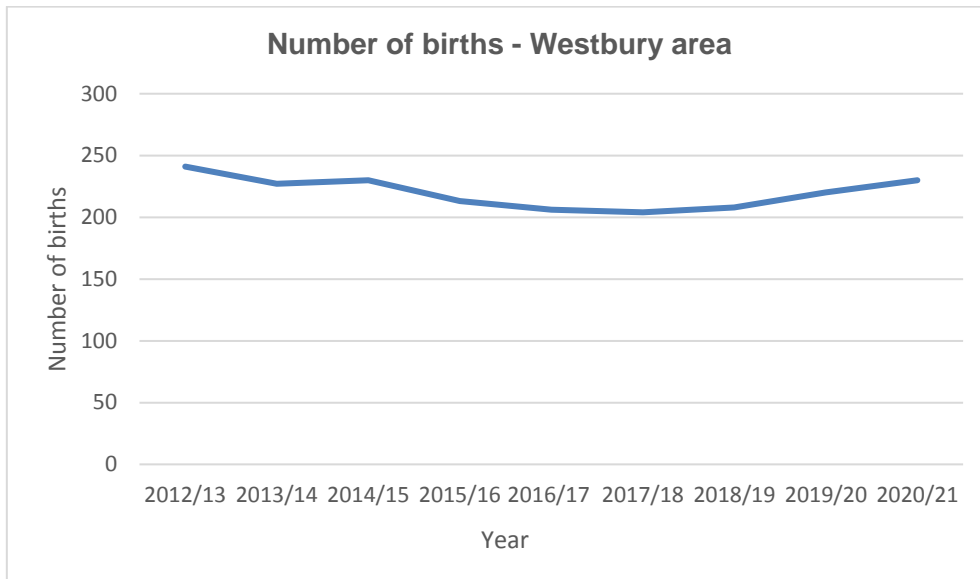
The following table provides a breakdown of the net (pupil) capacity and number on roll for schools in the Westbury area.

Phase	Net Capacity (Jan 2022)	Number on Roll (Jan 2022)	Surplus Capacity + / -
Primary (Urban)	1410	1150	+260 (18%)
Primary (Rural)	540	443	+97 (18%)
Secondary (Y7 to Y11)	1090	743	+347 (32%)

Births in Westbury

The number of births reported by the Health Authority in the Westbury area shows the birth rate declined until 2017/18 but has been steadily increasing since. This is probably as a result of the recent housing developments in the town.

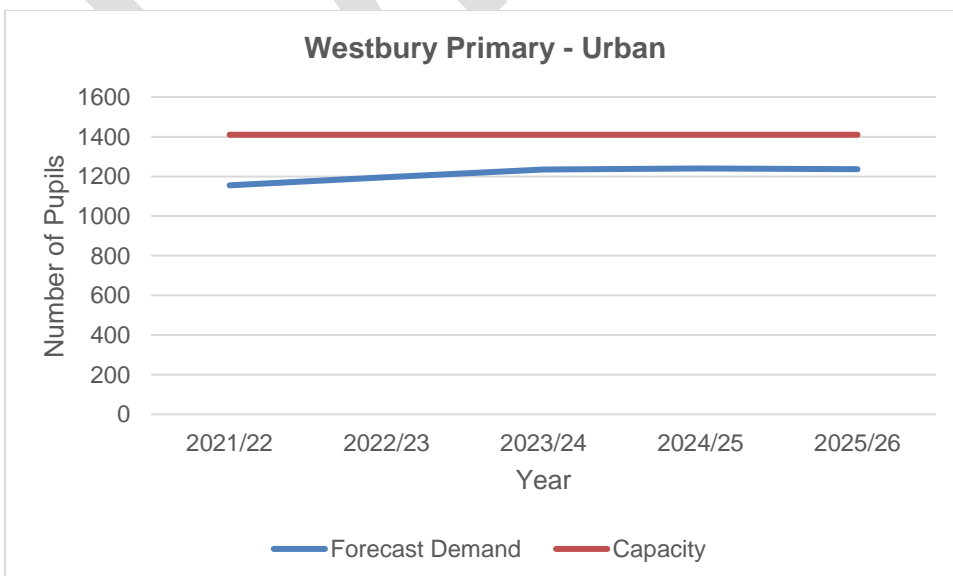
Birth year	2012/ 13	2013/ 14	2014/ 15	2015/ 16	2016/ 17	2017/ 18	2018/ 19	2019/ 20	2020/ 21
Number	241	227	230	213	206	204	208	220	230

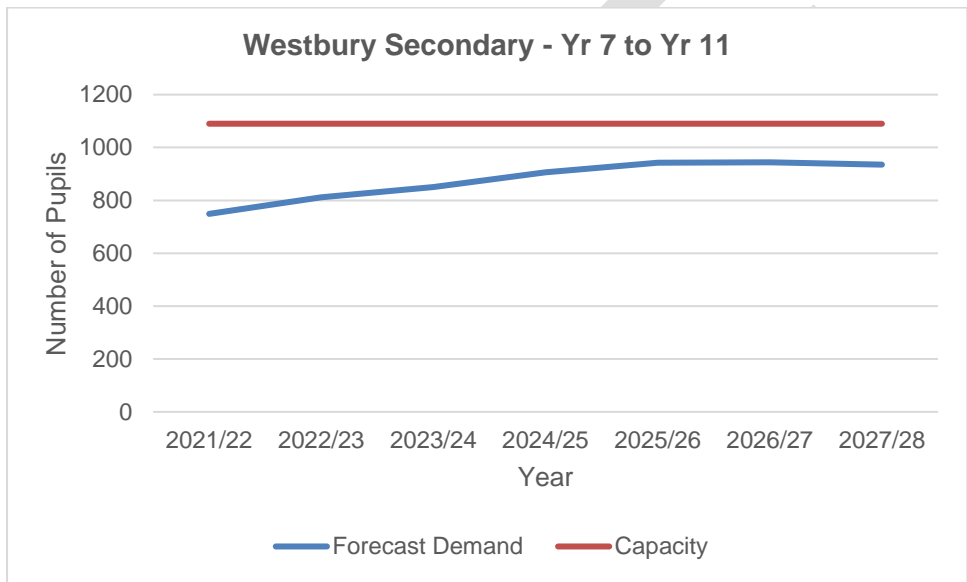
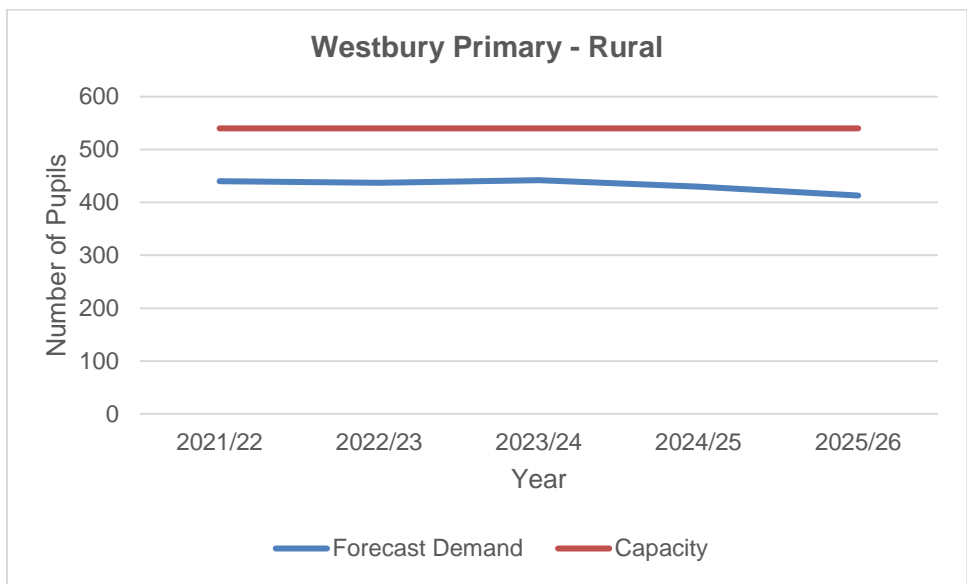


Current Forecasts

The following graphs show the forecast demand for school places in the Westbury area primary schools. At primary level these take into account the birth rate, inward/outward migration and housing expected to be completed during the planning period, taken from the Wiltshire Housing Land Supply Statement (April 2022).

Matravers School is the only secondary school serving the Westbury community area. Estimates of the future need for secondary places is based on the number of pupils leaving primary schools at the age of 11+, applying historic transfer ratios to take account of pupils moving to independent schools and schools in other areas.





Housing Development

There are approximately 700 new houses due to be built in this community area. This includes development of several sites, as listed in the April 2022 Housing Land Supply Statement. The pupil product of this housing is included in the forecasts above where it is expected to complete within the forecast period.

The Local Plan consultation undertaken early in 2021, proposed that a further 710 houses be completed in the Westbury area prior to 2036. The pupil product of these houses is not yet included in the forecasts but would generate approximately 220 new primary and 156 secondary pupils.

The Local Plan consultation also included a paper on Empowering Rural Communities, which proposed 71 houses in Dilton Marsh and a further 2 in Chapmanslade by 2036. This would generate approximately 23 primary and 16 secondary pupils.

Implications for Primary Provision from 2022/23

At present there are sufficient surplus places in the town to cater for the projected demand from current housing. Should the proposed Local Plan housing in Westbury be taken forward, this may require the provision of additional primary places in local schools. This will largely depend on the birth rate in the school catchment areas and the level of surplus places at the time any planning applications are brought forward. Providing additional places may be challenging as the schools in the town have all reached maximum capacity on their current sites. However, a significant increase in the proposed number of new houses would be required to make an additional school viable.

In the rural area, the numbers in the primary schools are projected to fall slightly, with the level of surplus places rising to 23%. This is largely due to a declining birth rate in the rural communities. Should the proposed Local Plan housing in Dilton Marsh be taken forward, there should be sufficient surplus places to accommodate the additional pupils however this will largely depend on the birth rate in the school catchment area and the level of surplus places at the time any planning applications are brought forward. It would not be possible to expand the school further on the present site.

Overall, there are currently 18% surplus places in the whole community area which will drop to around 15% over the next couple of years. In the longer term, the level of housing proposed in the local plan would reduce this below the 5% recommended level if the birth rate remains consistent with current levels.

Implications for Secondary Provision from 2022/23

Matravers School is the only secondary school serving the Westbury community area. The percentage of in-catchment pupils seeking a place at the school has been growing in recent year, increasing from 70% to around 79% for the September 2022 intake. The schools are currently projected to have sufficient places to meet current demand and the housing included in the Housing Land Supply Statement 2022.

However, expansion may be required to provide some of the additional places needed for the proposed local plan housing. The total housing, including that proposed for the villages in the Matravers School catchment area, is nearly 800 homes. This would require around 170 places. A detailed assessment of the available places would need to be carried out upon receipt of planning applications. There is scope to expand the school if required.

Post 16

Matravers School has post 16 provision on site and offers both A-levels and vocational qualifications. The table below shows the historical number of learners in years 12 and 13 at the school.

	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Number of students in Years 12 and 13	145	132	141	121	120	120
Percentage stay on rate	49%	48%	58%	39%	52%	44%

Westbury implementation plan

<p>Short term – 1 to 2 years</p> <p>Academic Years 2022/23 – 2023/24</p>	<p>Medium term – 3 to 5 years</p> <p>Academic Years 2024/25 – 2026/27</p>	<p>Long term – 5 to 10 years</p> <p>Academic Years 2027/28 – 2032/33</p>
		<p><i>Potential expansion Matrovers School to meet needs of new housing.</i></p>
		<p><i>Possible provision of new primary school places if required to meet the needs of new housing</i></p>

DRAFT

E23 Wroughton

There is 1 primary school in the Wroughton area. The catchment secondary school for this area is The Ridgeway School in Wroughton, there is no Wiltshire secondary school in this community area. There are no special schools in the area.

Primary	Status as at July 2022	Urban/Rural
Broad Hinton CE Primary School	Voluntary Controlled	Rural

Overview

Broad Hinton Primary is the only primary school in this community area. At secondary level the catchment school is outside of Wiltshire.

Broad Hinton Primary is a popular school whose numbers on roll have grown to around 110 over the past few years. The school is classed as a small rural school.

Current Provision

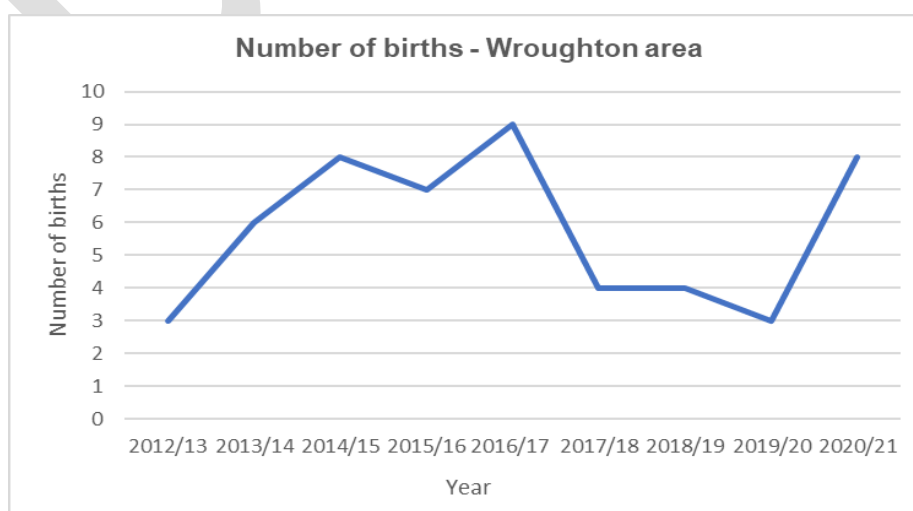
The following table provides a breakdown of the net (pupil) capacity and number on roll for schools in the Wroughton area.

Phase	Net Capacity	Number on Roll (Jan 2022)	Surplus Capacity + / -
Primary (Rural)	120	111	+9 (7.5%)

Births in Wroughton

The birth rate in this area averages around 6 births per year. The 2020/21 figure was above this with 8 births.

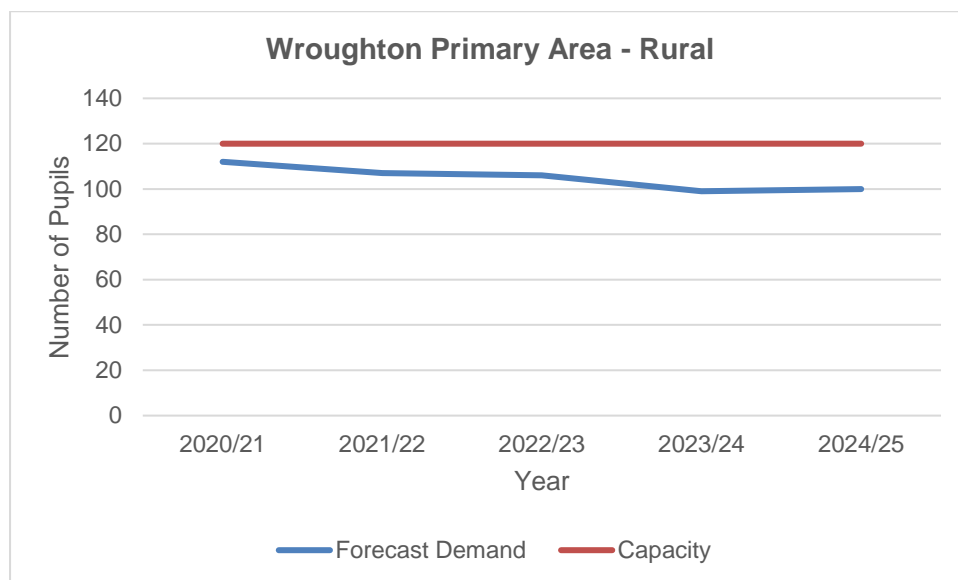
Birth year	2012/1	2013/1	2014/1	2015/1	2016/1	2017/1	2018/1	2019/2	2020/2
Number	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1
	3	6	8	7	9	4	4	3	8



Current Forecasts

The following graphs show the forecast demand for school places in the Wroughton area rural primary school. At primary level these take into account the birth rate, inward/outward migration and housing expected to be completed during the planning period, taken from the Wiltshire Housing Land Supply Statement (April 2022).

As the secondary catchment school for this area is not in Wiltshire, we do not forecast the overall demand for places at The Ridgeway School.



Housing Development

The local plan consultation proposed 24 houses in this community area which would generate a need for 7 primary school places.

Implications for Primary Provision from 2022/23

The number of pupils at Broad Hinton CE Primary School is forecast to reduce slightly over the next few years in line with the local birth rate. Therefore, at present there would appear to be sufficient places in the school to meet forecast demand and the places required for the proposed local plan housing. However, this would need to be reassessed at the time of any planning applications to consider the most recent birth data and intake rate. There are no other schools within 2-mile safe walking route of the school.

Implications for Secondary Provision from 2022/23

The Ridgeway School in Wroughton is the catchment school for this community area. Historically, all 'on-time' year 6 applicants from children resident in this community area have been offered places at the catchment school. However, both Marlborough St John's and Royal Wootton Bassett Academy are popular choices for those living in this area.

Swindon Borough Council is responsible for school place planning in Wroughton. Wiltshire Council will maintain effective communications with Swindon to ensure the pupil situation is kept under review and cross-border admissions continue to operate smoothly.

Wroughton Implementation Plan

No specific projects are deemed necessary at this stage, available places and demand to be kept under review.

DRAFT

F School Places Strategy 2023 – 2027: Implementation Plan

Area	Short term – 1 to 2 years Academic Years 2022/23 – 2023/24	Medium term – 3 to 5 years Academic Years 2024/25 – 2026/27	Long term – 5 to 10 years Academic Years 2027/28 – 2032/33
Amesbury			<i>Possible expansion to provide 150 additional places at The Stonehenge School</i>
Bradford-on-Avon			<i>Possible expansion to provide additional places at St Laurence School to meet the needs of new housing</i>
Chippenham		<i>Expansion of Abbeyfield School to provide 150 new places</i>	
		<i>Provision of a new Primary School (up to 2FE) on the Rowden Park site, date will depend upon housing completions.</i>	
			<i>Provision of a new Primary School (up to 2FE) on the Rawlings Green site, date will depend upon housing completions.</i>
			<i>Potential further new schools/expansions to meet the needs of local plan housing – to</i>

F School Places Strategy 2023 – 2027: Implementation Plan

Area	Short term – 1 to 2 years <i>Academic Years 2022/23 – 2023/24</i>	Medium term – 3 to 5 years <i>Academic Years 2024/25 – 2026/27</i>	Long term – 5 to 10 years <i>Academic Years 2027/28 – 2032/33</i>
			<i>be determined once housing numbers are confirmed.</i>
Devizes			<i>Possible expansion to provide additional places at Devizes School to meet the needs of new housing</i>
Downton			<i>Possible expansion to provide additional places The Trafalgar School at Downton to meet the needs of new housing</i>
Lavington		<i>Expansion to provide additional places at Lavington School to meet the needs of new housing</i>	
Malmesbury		<i>Potential expansion of Malmesbury Primary to meet the needs of new housing in the town</i>	
			<i>Potential expansion of Malmesbury School to meet the needs of new housing in the town</i>

F School Places Strategy 2023 – 2027: Implementation Plan

Area	Short term – 1 to 2 years Academic Years 2022/23 – 2023/24	Medium term – 3 to 5 years Academic Years 2024/25 – 2026/27	Long term – 5 to 10 years Academic Years 2027/28 – 2032/33
Marlborough			<i>Potential further expansion of St John’s Marlborough to meet the needs of new housing.</i>
Melksham	<i>Expansion of Forest and Sandridge CE Primary School by 0.5FE to provide additional places to meet the needs of new housing</i>		
		<i>New Primary School at Pathfinder Place when required to meet the needs of new housing.</i>	
			<i>Secure site and financial contributions for a further new primary school, if needed, to support new Local Plan housing</i>
			<i>Potential further expansion of Melksham Oak to meet the needs of new housing.</i>
Royal Wootton Bassett		<i>Possible expansion of Royal Wootton Bassett Academy to meet the needs of approved housing</i>	<i>Possible expansion to provide further additional places at Royal Wootton Bassett Academy, if required to meet the needs of new Local Plan housing</i>
			<i>Potential expansion of Longleaze Primary School to take the school</i>

F School Places Strategy 2023 – 2027: Implementation Plan

Area	Short term – 1 to 2 years Academic Years 2022/23 – 2023/24	Medium term – 3 to 5 years Academic Years 2024/25 – 2026/27	Long term – 5 to 10 years Academic Years 2027/28 – 2032/33
			to 1.5FE if required to meet the needs of new Local Plan housing
			Secure site and financial contributions for new primary school, if needed, to support new Local Plan housing
Salisbury		Expansion of St Peter’s CE Primary Academy to 2FE	
		Expansion of Sarum Academy, size of expansion and timing to be determined, dependant on housing completions	
		Provision of new Primary School/s, date(s) will depend upon housing completions and local birth rate.	
			Potential provision of additional primary and secondary places to meet the needs of local plan housing – to be determined once housing numbers and sites are confirmed.

F School Places Strategy 2023 – 2027: Implementation Plan

Area	Short term – 1 to 2 years Academic Years 2022/23 – 2023/24	Medium term – 3 to 5 years Academic Years 2024/25 – 2026/27	Long term – 5 to 10 years Academic Years 2027/28 – 2032/33
Tidworth		Small expansion of Wellington Academy funded by Section 106	Possible expansion to provide additional places at Wellington Academy, if required to meet the needs of new Local Plan housing
Tisbury			Possible extensions to provide additional places at St John's Primary and Ludwell Primary if required to meet the needs of new housing
Trowbridge		Expansion of Hilperton School to 1FE	
		Provision of first new Primary School (2FE) on the Ashton Park site, date will depend upon housing completions.	Provision of a second new Primary School (up to 2FE) on the Ashton Park site, date will depend upon housing completions.
		Work with local stakeholders to identify and assess options for additional secondary provision in the town	Provision of additional secondary places - to follow stakeholder engagement when necessary to meet demand.
Warminster		Provision of a new Primary School (up to 2FE) on the West Warminster Urban Extension site, date will depend upon housing completions.	

F School Places Strategy 2023 – 2027: Implementation Plan

Area	Short term – 1 to 2 years <i>Academic Years 2022/23 – 2023/24</i>	Medium term – 3 to 5 years <i>Academic Years 2024/25 – 2026/27</i>	Long term – 5 to 10 years <i>Academic Years 2027/28 – 2032/33</i>
Westbury		<i>Expansion of Kingdown School by 300 places</i>	<i>Potential expansion Matravers School to meet needs of new housing.</i>
			<i>Possible provision of new primary school places if required to meet the needs of new housing</i>

Information about Wiltshire Council services can be made available on request in other languages including BSL and formats such as large print and audio.

Please contact the council by telephone 0300 456 0100,
by textphone 01225 712500,
or email customerservices@wiltshire.gov.uk

如果有需要我們可以使用其他形式（例如：大字體版本或者錄音帶）或其他語言版本向您提供有關威爾特郡政務會各項服務的資訊，敬請與政務會聯繫，電話：0300 456 0100，文本電話：(01225) 712500，或者發電子郵件至：customerservices@wiltshire.gov.uk

Na życzenie udostępniamy informacje na temat usług oferowanych przez władze samorządowe hrabstwa Wiltshire (Wiltshire Council) w innych formatach (takich jak dużym drukiem lub w wersji audio) i w innych językach. Prosimy skontaktować się z władzami samorządowymi pod numerem telefonu 0300 456 0100 lub telefonu tekstowego (01225) 712500 bądź za pośrednictwem poczty elektronicznej na adres: customerservices@wiltshire.gov.uk

ولٹشائر کونسل (Wiltshire Council) کی سروسز کے بارے میں معلومات دوسری طرزوں میں فراہم کی جاسکتی ہیں (جیسے کہ بڑی چھپائی یا آڈیو ہے) اور درخواست کرنے پر دوسری زبانوں میں فراہم کی جاسکتی ہیں۔ براہ کرم کونسل سے 0300 456 0100 پر رابطہ کریں، ٹیکسٹ فون سے (01225) 712500 پر رابطہ کریں یا customerservices@wiltshire.gov.uk پر ای میل بھیجیں۔

يمكن، عند الطلب، الحصول على معلومات حول خدمات مجلس بلدية ويلتشير وذلك بأشكال (معلومات بخط عريض أو سماعية) ولغات مختلفة. الرجاء الاتصال بمجلس البلدية على الرقم 0300 456 0100 أو من خلال الاتصال النصي (تيكست فون) على الرقم 712500 (01225) أو بالبريد الإلكتروني على العنوان التالي: customerservices@wiltshire.gov.uk

This page is intentionally left blank

Wiltshire Council

Cabinet

12 September 2023

Subject: Domestic Abuse External Grant Allocation 2023-25

Cabinet Member: Cllr Ian Blair-Pilling, Cabinet Member for Public Health, Leisure, Libraries, Facilities Management and Operational Assets

Key Decision: Key

Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to:

Seek the required authority from Cabinet to endorse the proposals outlined in the paper for use against the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) funding.

The Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities has determined under Section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003 that a grant of £257 million should be paid to local authorities in 2023-25.

Wiltshire Council have been allocated £848,998 for 2023-24 (year 3 funding), and £865,016 for 2024-25 (year 4 funding).

This payment has been awarded to enable the Council to fulfil the statutory functions of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 relating to the provision of specialist support to victims and their families fleeing domestic abuse and living in safe accommodation.

Proposals

Cabinet is asked to approve and agree:

- 1) the £848,998 allocated from the DLUHC fund for 2023-24 (yr 3), and £865,016 for 2024-25 (yr 4) and endorse the proposals for allocating the grant.
- 2) to roll any surplus funding to an earmarked reserve.
- 3) that any further decisions relating to the distribution of this grant are delegated to the Corporate Director of Resources, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Public Health and Director of Public Health.

Reason for Proposals

Part 4 of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 details the statutory responsibilities of the Local Authority functions relating to the 'provision of support for all victims of domestic abuse and their children, regardless of their relevant protected characteristics, within relevant accommodation' (as defined by the Regulations).

To support the implementation of new duties in the Domestic Abuse Act 2021, Wiltshire distributed its allocated year 1 funding (£830,051) and year 2 funding (£832,348) to further strengthen the local support offer to victims and their families fleeing domestic abuse and living in safe accommodation. The decision making was underpinned from evidence from the local health needs assessment, an independent review of services including a map and gap, as well as service-user engagement and multi-agency learning.

In December 2022 the government committed a further £127 million to be allocated to local authorities for year three, and £129 million for year four of its continued commitment to invest in domestic abuse services. Wiltshire have been allocated £848,998 for 2023-24 (year 3 funding), and £865,016 for 2024-25 (year 4 funding).

To maximise the opportunities of this additional funding, enhancing the local support offer available to victims and their families in Wiltshire experiencing domestic abuse, Wiltshire requires Cabinet approval to endorse the proposals for the allocation of this funding across the local system.

The proposals seek to build on the learning from projects invested as a result of the funding received in year's one and two and allows for continuation where results have been indicative of positive engagement and improved outcomes for those using the interventions and in receipt of support. Using the funding on the proposals included in the paper will enable valuable work to continue and ensure there are no gaps in service delivery, which could place vulnerable service users at risk.

Terence Herbert
Chief Executive

Wiltshire Council

Cabinet

12 September 2023

Subject: Domestic Abuse External Grant Allocation 2023-25

Cabinet Member: Cllr Ian Blair-Pilling, Cabinet Member for Public Health, Leisure, Libraries, Facilities Management and Operational Assets

Key Decision: Key

Purpose of Report

1. To seek the required authority from Cabinet to endorse the proposals outlined in the paper for use against the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) funding, to fulfil the functions of the statutory duty on Tier 1 Local Authorities relating to the provision of support to victims of domestic abuse and their children residing in safe accommodation.

Relevance to the Council's Business Plan

2. The provision of domestic abuse support for victims of domestic abuse and their families who reside in relevant accommodation contributes to the following Wiltshire Council business plan guiding themes: Prevention and Early Intervention (preventing serious risk of harm through the provision of appropriate support for those residing in safe accommodation), Improving Social Mobility and Tackling Inequalities (providing specialist safe accommodation support for the most vulnerable victims and children in Wiltshire), Understanding Communities (providing support that meets the needs of Wiltshire residents), Working Together (Developing a multi-agency response to providing support).

Background

3. In December 2019 the Government was elected with a manifesto commitment to “support all victims of domestic abuse and pass the Domestic Abuse Bill” originally introduced in the last Parliament. The Act aims to ensure that victims have the confidence to come forward and report their experiences, safe in the knowledge that the state will do everything it can, both to support them and their children and pursue the abuser.
4. Under part 4 of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 it places a duty on tier 1 local authorities in England, to provide support to victims of domestic abuse and their children in safe accommodation.
5. The Secretary of State for the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) has determined under Section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003 that a grant of £257 million should be paid to the local authorities in 2023-25.
6. As such, Wiltshire Council were allocated £848,998 for 2023-24, and £865,016 for 2024-25.

7. This payment has been awarded to enable Council's to fulfil the functions of the new statutory duty on Tier 1 Local Authorities for year 3 and year 4 relating **to the provision of support to victims of domestic abuse and their children residing in safe accommodation.**
8. DLUHC have outlined criteria for how this funding should be allocated. The full criteria can be located in [Domestic abuse support within safe accommodation - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)
9. In summary it can be used for the:
 - **Provision of support in 'relevant accommodation'** which includes refuges, specialist safe accommodation e.g. BAME, LBGTQ+, disabled victims, single gendered and/or complex needs, dispersed accommodation, sanctuary schemes, move-on / second stage accommodation.
 - **Provision of support can include** management of services within the 'relevant accommodation', day-to-day running, advocacy support, DA prevention advice, prevent re-victimisation, specialist support for victims designed to recognise victims with relevant protected characteristics and/or complex needs, children's support. Housing-related support, advice services including counselling and therapy.

Main Considerations for the Council

10. Using the criteria defined [Domestic abuse support within safe accommodation - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk) .
11. Proposals for this grant have been developed based on local need, in line with the Wiltshire DA strategy and following key recommendations from the 2021 Wiltshire domestic abuse health needs assessment, and the Oxford Brookes 2021 safe accommodation health needs assessment.
12. The proposals for the grant are listed in the table below:

Proposed area of spend	Provider	Cost 23/24	Cost 24/25
2 x Resettlement Workers	Fearless	£61,726.50	£61,726.50
1 x Male and complex needs IDVA (Independent Domestic Violence Advisor)		£35,187.00	£35,187.00
4 x Children's Workers		£129,151.00	£129,151.00
1 x Engagement Worker		£34,568.50	£34,568.50
1 x Military IDVA		£34,419.50	£34,419.50
1 x DA Safety Advisor (focus on clients with additional needs)		£32,623.00	£32,623.00
0.5 Management Support		£24,050.00	£24,050.00
Hope-2-Recovery Training (for 4 staff members)		£1,320.00	£1,320.00
0.6 Group Work Facilitator		£21,016.50	£21,016.50
1 x Complex Needs Worker for safe accommodation provision		£38,771.00	£38,771.00
Move on fund for safe		£3,000.00	£3,000.00

accommodation provision			
1 x DA Housing Specialist	Wiltshire Council Housing	£38,000.00	£38,000.00
1 x Trilogy of Risk Senior Assistant Psychologist	Turning Point	£33,740.50	£33,740.50
Ruth House (1 x 4 bed property)	Julian House	£39,723.50	£39,723.50
Round Flats (8 x 1 units)		£71,645.00	£87,666.00
Male provision (1 x 2 bed property)			
Target Hardening	Bobby Van	£7,000.00	£7,497.00
1 x Early Help Advisor	Wiltshire Council Children's Social Care	£138,046.00	£138,046.00
1 x DA Family Key Worker			
1 x Family Drug & Alcohol Court worker			
Community connectors	Wiltshire CIL	£25,500.00	£25,500.00
Gypsy Roma Traveller Training	<i>Provider to be confirmed by Request for Quotes process</i>	£1,500.00	£1,000.00
Gypsy Roma Traveller DA Workers (including outreach and training delivery)		£78,010.00	£78,010.00
Total		£848,998	£865,016

13. Where providers have not yet been identified for the provision, the intention is that a specialist provider is identified using a Request for Quotation process. If it is not possible to identify a suitable provider for this provision, it is requested that the money allocated to these posts is able to be used to bolster existing provision currently provided by existing providers, as per the table above.
14. As previously mentioned, the proposals focus on enhancing existing contracts in place, to enable rapid implementation, maximising the benefits to those communities where the additional support is being required.
15. The proposals seek to build on the learning from the projects invested in as part of the year one and two funding and allows for continuation where early results have been indicative of positive engagement and improved outcomes for those using the interventions and in receipt of support. In addition, the proposals also continue to bridge any gaps in service provision that are being highlighted. Using the funding on the proposals included in the paper will enable work to continue and to ensure there are no gaps in service delivery, which could place vulnerable service users at risk.
16. Whilst government have committed to provide funding for 2023-25, they are not able to confirm if this funding will continue beyond March 2025. Therefore, at this time we continue to treat this funding grant as a 'discreet fund' being used to support short-term interventions satisfying the duties as outlined within the Domestic Abuse Act 2021.

Overview and Scrutiny Engagement

17. A briefing with the Vice Chair of the Health Select Committee took place on Thursday 27 July 2023, for an opportunity to share and discuss the proposals outlined in the paper.
18. There is a future item scheduled on Health Selects Committee's forward workplan for later in 2023, in order to share the progress and outcomes for local populations being achieved against the use of this external grant funding.

Safeguarding Implications

19. Safeguarding and protecting those at risk remains at the heart of the domestic abuse agenda and as such there are strong processes in place to ensure that services identify those at risk of harm and/or exploitation and those concerns are reported appropriately. Across Wiltshire Council there are strong established relationships cross cutting children's and adult's safeguarding, housing and public health to ensure that any risks, concerns or incidents are escalated in line with Council protocols and procedures.

Public Health Implications

20. Domestic abuse is a key public health priority, which creates a substantial burden of harm that significantly impacts on health and wellbeing. Still referred to as a 'hidden crime', it has one of the highest under-reporting rates; using the crime survey for England and Wales, we can project that just over 19,000 Wiltshire residents will be living with the effects of domestic abuse.
21. The health impacts of domestic abuse are widely reported; from physical injury to the significant long-term association with poor mental health and wellbeing including depression, anxiety, increased risk of suicide, as well as increased use and reliance of alcohol and drugs.
22. There has been much documented on the impact of domestic abuse on children; with domestic abuse recognised as a factor in over half of all serious case reviews. There are significant long-term impacts of children witnessing domestic abuse, with over a third going on to experience another form of abuse. There is also a higher probability of parental neglect, poor emotional wellbeing and resilience, school non-attendance, behavioural issues (including anti-social behaviour/offending) and difficulty in recognising and establishing appropriate relationships with others.
23. The Wiltshire domestic abuse agenda is cross-cutting and is integrated across Child and Adult Safeguarding, Drugs and Alcohol, Private Space Violence, Child Sexual Exploitation and the Modern-day Slavery agendas.

Procurement Implications

24. Procurement have been consulted as part of this papers development and the planning required around the use of the funding and the procurement processes that will be required to support the use of the funding.
25. Award of the funding detailed within this Cabinet Paper will be done in line with our requirements under the Council's Constitution and the Public Contract Regulations 2015.
26. A variety of solutions compliant with our requirements set out in paragraph 24 could be used to award this funding including (but not limited to) modifications of contract and competitive processes.
27. The Commercial and Procurement Team has been and will continue to provide advice and support on the award of this funding as set out in this Cabinet Paper.

Equalities Impact of the Proposal

28. An equalities impact has not been undertaken on this proposal. However, it should be noted that some service users accessing support may fall into certain protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010 (age, sex, sexual orientation, race). Through this funding the council will ensure that the support provided by those providers will meet any duties under the Act.

Environmental and Climate Change Considerations

29. Environmental and climate change considerations do not affect the decisions required within this proposal.

Workforce Implications

30. There are no workforce implications identified.

Risks that may arise if the proposed decision and related work is not taken

31. If the funding proposals are not endorsed, Wiltshire Council run the risk of:
- Not being able to spend the funding in-year and risk the funding being returned.
 - Missing opportunities to enhance the local support offer for domestic abuse through the increasing the capacity and additional support offers not being put in place to work with those victims and families that have fled domestic abuse and living in safe accommodation.
 - Reputational risk to Wiltshire Council for not investing national funding.

Risks that may arise if the proposed decision is taken and actions that will be taken to manage these risks

32. Recruitment for short-term posts may be challenging from a potentially finite pool of specialist support services. Working with providers who are already working across this field, therefore there are some opportunities to add additional hours to existing postholders to enable delivery of the new areas of support identified; this may help to ensure work continues even if recruitment is challenging.
33. The nature of the annualised investment and its challenges have also been escalated and shared across national LGA forums supporting the implementation of the domestic abuse funding.
34. Whilst government have committed to provide funding up until March 2025, they are not able to confirm if this funding will continue beyond this point. Therefore, a further risk is the impact on those service users if the funding does stop. A mitigation to this is that we continue to treat this funding grant as a 'discreet fund' being used to support 'short-term' interventions satisfying the duties as outlined within the Domestic Abuse Act 2021. These services whilst are needed, they work alongside the existing provision included in the core contract offer, to compliment and add capacity. If the funding was to stop, there will be services available to re-direct service users into, although this will have an impact on possible capacity. Additionally, the short-term interventions will be planning in transition or stepping down support in consultation with wider partners across the system to help manage this risk safely.

Financial Implications

35. There are no major financial implications, as the proposals are supported using an external government grant, using the DLUHC criteria to determine its allocation. It is anticipated the funding will be spent across 2023-24 and 2024-25; anything that is not spent in year will be rolled over into an earmarked reserve and be used to support the continuation of work being delivered against this agenda.

Legal Implications

36. The Secretary of State for The Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) has determined under Section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003 that a grant of £127 million should be paid to the local authorities in 2023-2024 and £129 million in 2024-2025. As such, Wiltshire Council has been allocated £848,998 for 2023-24, and £865,016 for 2024-25.
37. The proposals outlined in this report ensures that the Council will be able to meet the statutory responsibilities imposed by Part 4 of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021, relating to the provision of support for all victims of domestic abuse and their children.
38. The Constitution requires that delegation of authority applies to the approval of awarding grants to an external body, as this exceeds £250,000 this sits with Cabinet. Wiltshire Council will be passing on the external grant funding from the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) to those listed in point/ section 11.
39. Wiltshire Council should enter into a Grant Funding Agreement (or similar legal documentation) with the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) in order to formally accept its funding to support victims and their families experiencing domestic abuse in Wiltshire, and so that the terms of use of the funding are clearly set out. Legal Services will need to be consulted to review the final documentation before execution.
40. Cabinet should delegate authority to enter into the Grant Funding Agreement and any other legal documentation to an appropriate individual.
41. It will be necessary to vary the contracts listed at point 12 in order to allocate the funding to appropriate domestic abuse support services. Any variation of these existing contracts should be completed in compliance with the Constitution, the Public Contract Regulations (2015) and the Procurement Manual, and Exemption Requests should be sought.
42. Cabinet should also delegate authority to enter into any necessary variation document and any other legal documentation required related to passing on the grant funding from the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) to an appropriate individual.
43. The relevant Subsidy Control Assessments should be undertaken by the Client Team in line with the requirements of the Subsidy Control Act 2022, which came into force on 4 January 2023. For the avoidance of any doubt, this assessment template determines whether a proposed funding award to an enterprise is or is not a subsidy and whether any transparency requirements apply under the UK's new Subsidy Control regime. Any financial assistance that Wiltshire Council receives or distributes must be compliant with the Subsidy Control Act 2022.

Options Considered

44. Due to the short-term nature of the external grant funding, the decision has been taken to look to utilise the funding in accordance with the terms of the grant as defined by the Domestic Abuse Act 2021, to support and strengthen existing service offers informed by the local evidence-base of needs and gaps in service offers.

Conclusions

45. Part 4 of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 details the statutory responsibilities of the Local Authority functions relating to the provision of support for all victims of domestic abuse and their children, regardless of their relevant protected characteristics, within relevant accommodation (as defined by the Regulations).
46. The Government has been clear that having the right support to protect and assist all victims of domestic abuse will make individuals and families safe, sooner.
47. Government recognises the critical importance of safe accommodation and support for victims and their children as they rebuild their lives after the trauma of domestic abuse.
48. Following extensive engagement and public consultation, Sections 57-61 of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 introduced requirements on local authorities and more accountability in the local delivery of domestic abuse support in safe accommodation.
49. The Secretary of State for Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) has determined under Section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003 that a grant of £257million should be paid to the local authorities in 2023-2025.
50. Wiltshire Council were allocated £848,998 for 2023-24 and £865,016 for 2024-25.
51. This payment has been awarded to enable Council's to fulfil the functions of the statutory duty on Tier 1 Local Authorities relating to the provision of support to victims of domestic abuse and their children residing in safe accommodation for year 2.

Lucy Townsend (Corporate Director, People)

Report Author: Hayley Morgan, Public Health Consultant | Annie Bartlett, Public Health Specialist

30 June 2023

Appendices

None

Background Papers

None

This page is intentionally left blank