



Report sponsor: Gurmail Nizzer, Director of Commissioning
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Strategic School Place Planning and School Admissions

Purpose

- 1.1 Local authorities have a legal duty to ensure that sufficient school places exist for all children and young people residing within their boundary. The Council very carefully monitors pupil numbers and trends and develops school place planning proposals in response to population changes, as well as housing growth, linked to Core Housing Strategies.
- 1.2 Current City-wide primary and secondary pupil projections are set out in Appendix 1 to this report. In September 2021, a School Places Bulletin was circulated to all Derby schools and academy trusts to share information on trends in the pupil population and help support with future planning. A copy of the School Places Bulletin: September 2021 is attached as Appendix 2.

Core Housing Strategies: School Place Planning

- 1.3 Derby City Council has been working closely with partners in Amber Valley Borough and South Derbyshire District Councils to prepare separate but aligned Core Strategies. The proposals across the three Authorities will include around 33,000 houses, with around 18,000 of these properties being located within Derby or on the edge of the City, known as the Derby Urban Area (DUA). A map showing the strategic housing sites in the DUA is attached as Appendix 3.
- 1.4 The housing growth will have a significant impact on infrastructure. Derby City Council and Derbyshire County Council are legally responsible for providing education for those pupils residing within their own administrative boundaries. The two local authorities continue to work closely together on school place planning to shape and develop proposals. This is complex as some of the proposed new housing developments cut across the City / County boundaries.

Population Changes: School Place Planning

- 1.5 City-wide primary pupil numbers increased significantly over previous years. In 2009/10, there were around 19,500 primary pupils on roll in Derby schools. By 2019/20, this had increased to around 23,700, an increase of 4,200 pupils (22%), over a ten-year period. This level of increase in primary pupil numbers required very careful consideration and planning, with 18 primary school expansions implemented to accommodate the growth.

- 1.6 Following this period of high growth, City-wide pupil numbers moving into reception are now beginning to gradually decline and the higher pupil numbers are now moving from the primary phase to the secondary phase. As a result of increasing pupil numbers, secondary school expansions were implemented in September 2018 and September 2019, through close partnership working with schools and academy trusts, to meet the increasing demand for places.
- 1.7 Pupil numbers and projections are regularly updated, monitored and reviewed. Based on projections, City-wide Year 7 pupil numbers will peak in 2023-24. To accommodate this, work has taken place to develop a major school expansion project at Landau Forte College. The total estimated cost of the project is £11.936m. The Landau Forte College expansion will create an additional 520 school places across years 7-11, as part of the Council's forward planning to ensure the commissioning of sufficient school places over future years. Further expansion proposals will be developed as necessary.
- 1.8 Pupil numbers will continue to be closely monitored and reviewed, including in relation to the changing trend, as City-wide primary pupil numbers gradually fall and secondary pupil numbers continue to rise.

Recommendation

- 2.1 To note the strategic school place planning update relating to:
 - a. population changes and;
 - b. the proposed long-term housing growth arising from the Core Strategies.
- 2.2 To note Derby City Council's achievements, against national results for primary and secondary school admissions offers and appeals.

Reason

- 3.1 Local authorities have a legal duty to ensure that sufficient school places exist for all children and young people residing within their boundary. The Council very carefully monitors pupil numbers and trends and develops strategic school place planning proposals in response to population changes, as well as housing growth linked to the Core Strategies.

Supporting information

- 4.1 Local authorities have a legal duty to ensure that sufficient school places exist for all children and young people residing within their boundary. The Council very carefully monitors pupil numbers and trends and develops school place planning proposals in response to population changes, as well as housing growth, linked to Core Housing Strategies.
- 4.2 Current City-wide primary and secondary pupil projections are set out in Appendix 1 to this report. In September 2021, a School Places Bulletin was circulated to all Derby schools and academy trusts to share information on trends in the pupil population and help support with future planning. A copy of the School Places Bulletin: September 2021 is attached as Appendix 2.

Core Housing Strategies: School Place Planning

- 4.3 School infrastructure is an integral part of new residential developments and is essential in order to deliver sustainable communities. Derby City Council is the local authority responsible for the commissioning of school places in the City of Derby. Developments that are likely to generate an increased demand for school places are required to contribute towards school facilities, where existing facilities are not sufficient to support the development. This includes the provision of land and built school provision in relation to new schools and/ or contributions towards school extensions and new facilities.
- 4.4 Derby City Council has been working closely with partners in Amber Valley Borough and South Derbyshire District Councils to prepare separate but aligned Local Plans covering the period 2011-2028. The proposals across the three Authorities include around 33,000 houses, with around 18,000 of these properties being located within Derby or on the edge of the City, known as the Derby Urban Area (DUA). A map showing the strategic housing sites in the DUA is attached as Appendix 3.
- 4.5 In developing the Local Plan, and as part of strategic school place planning, ongoing work continues to take place between the Planning Team and Commissioning Department to identify future pressures on school places, with housing growth, and the future need for new and extended schools. This has informed Council policies in the Local Plan, negotiations on development sites and detailed planning applications through to school delivery on site.

Core Housing Strategies: Primary School Provision

- 4.6 In essence, sites of over 750 new homes usually require a new one form entry primary school on site and this approach is supported in the Council's Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Document.
- 4.7 Across the whole of the DUA, proposals include the provision of 8 or 9 new primary schools within the City and County in the medium to long term. With regard to Derby City, due to their scale, 4 of the largest local plan housing allocations require a new primary school to be provided (two of which have already been delivered), as follows:

Site	No. of Dwellings	LP Policy
Castleward	800	AC6
Rykneld Road, Littleover	900	AC20
Hackwood Farm	400*	AC21
Boulton Moor (Snelsmoor Grange)	800	AC23

* The cross-boundary site at Hackwood Farm, Mickleover, comprises 400 new homes in Derby and 290 in South Derbyshire.

Hackwood Primary Academy

- 4.8 A new one form of entry (210 places) primary school, with nursery provision, successfully opened in September 2019, in Mickleover, to ensure sufficient school places for families moving to the Hackwood Farm development. The school serves the whole of the Hackwood Farm site (City and County) and includes core infrastructure to expand in size to one and a half forms of entry (315 places), should this be required as a result of other proposed housing developments in the area.

Castleward Spencer Academy

- 4.9 A new one form of entry (210 places) primary school, with nursery provision, opened in September 2021 to serve the significant new housing developments at Castleward and the former DRI site. The school includes core infrastructure to expand in size to one and a half forms of entry (315 places), to support future proofing. The opening of the school not only ensures sufficient school places for families moving to the emerging new housing but also represents a key milestone achievement in the Castleward Urban Village Regeneration Programme. A new primary school was a key planning condition in promoting a sustainable community.

Core Housing Strategies: Secondary School Provision

- 4.10 A proposed new secondary school, at Infinity Park in the County, has recently moved to the pre-approval stage of the Government's Free School Programme. The proposal is for the new school to be located just outside of the City boundary in South Derbyshire, near to Chellaston. The proposal is for the school to accommodate the growth in housing numbers around the City / County boundary. The Department for Education will lead on delivery of the school, alongside the Academy Trust. Derby City Council will continue to work closely with Derbyshire County Council as the project progresses and the timescales for opening the new school start to emerge.

Population Changes: School Place Planning

- 4.11 City-wide primary pupil numbers increased significantly over previous years. In 2009/10, there were around 19,500 primary pupils on roll in Derby schools. By 2019/20, this had increased to around 23,700, an increase of 4,200 pupils (22%), over a ten-year period.
- 4.12 Derby has, generally, followed the national trend in relation to changes in its pupil population. Many LAs faced challenges in accommodating the scale and pace of growth in primary pupil numbers during this period. Derby was able to continue to meet its legal duty in respect of school places as a result of close partnership working with Schools and Academy Trusts to create the additional capacity required.

4.13 Following this period of high growth, City-wide pupil numbers moving into reception are now beginning to gradually decline and the higher pupil numbers are now moving from the primary phase to the secondary phase.

4.14 As a result of increasing pupil numbers, secondary school expansions were implemented in September 2018 and September 2019, to meet the increasing demand for places.

4.15 The following secondary school expansions were implemented from September 2018:

School	Previous Year 7 PAN	Increased Year 7 PAN	Additional places per Year group	Additional places across Year Groups 7-11
The Bemrose School (Secondary Phase)	180	220	40	200
Derby Cathedral School*	0	180	180	900
Total	180	400	220	1,100

*In relation to the Derby Cathedral School, the original proposal had been for the free school to open with an admission number of 120. In view of significantly increasing secondary pupil numbers, the Council worked closely with Derby Diocesan Academy Trust and the Education Funding Agency on opening Derby Cathedral School with a higher admission number of 180 from September 2018.

4.16 The following secondary school expansions were implemented from September 2019:

School	Previous Year 7 PAN	Increased Year 7 PAN	Additional places per Year group	Additional places across Year Groups 7-11
Derby Moor Academy	266	300	34	170
Murray Park School*	220	280	60	300
West Park School	260	290	30	150
Total	746	870	124	620

*PAN increasing on a gradual basis.

4.17 Pupil numbers and projections are regularly updated, monitored and reviewed. Based on projections, City-wide Year 7 pupil numbers will peak in 2023-24. To accommodate this, work has taken place to develop a major school expansion project at Landau Forte College. The total estimated cost of the project is £11.936m. The expansion will create an additional 520 school places across years 7-11, as part of the Council's forward planning to ensure the commissioning of sufficient school places over future years. Further expansion proposals will be developed as necessary.

4.18 Pupil numbers will continue to be closely monitored and reviewed, including in relation to the changing trend, as City-wide primary pupil numbers gradually fall, and secondary pupil numbers continue to rise.

School Admissions and Appeals

4.19 Through the close partnership working of School Place Planning and Admissions, the Council has successfully delivered specific school expansions to accommodate pupil growth.

- 4.20 The number of applications for the main rounds, reception intake and secondary transfer, reflect the current trend in both pupil numbers and projections across Derby city.
- 4.21 The recent fall in pupil numbers for the reception intake, has resulted in a higher percentage of first and top 3 preferences. Alongside these offers, the Council has ensured that all on-time applications from families within the normal area were able to gain a place at their local school. This is reflected in the [DfE Statistical release on Applications and offers for entry to schools for 2021/22 academic year](#).
- 4.22 To counterbalance the fall in primary aged pupils, the pupil numbers for secondary transfer continues to steadily increase, echoing the projections by School Place Planning and the need for further school expansions as highlighted earlier in the report. We have positively continued to sustain a high percentage of first preference and top 3 preference offers, replicated in [DfE Statistical release on Applications and offers for entry to schools for 2021/22 academic year](#).
- 4.23 Appendix 4 highlights Derby City Council's achievements against national results for primary and secondary applications and offers for the previous 4 years.
- 4.24 Due to the Covid-19 pandemic School Admission Appeals have been adapted in accordance with DfE temporary guidance and have been heard virtually since April 2020. Appendix 4 outlines the success of adapting to this new way of working and continuing to provide fairness and transparency to families and schools.

Public/stakeholder engagement

- 5.1 For school place planning proposals, statutory consultation takes place in accordance with School Organisation Regulations for Council maintained schools. Where a significant change is proposed for an academy school, the academy trust is responsible for consultation and seeking the approval of the Secretary of State.

Other options

- 6.1 Strategic school place planning proposals have been developed with a view to creating additional capacity across a number of schools to deal with population growth and to respond to proposals in the Local Plans. In developing proposals, a range of factors have been considered, including whether school sites to allow for expansion.

Financial and value for money issues

- 7.1 With regard to natural changes in the pupil population, the Department for Education allocates capital funding, known as basic need funding, to Councils to enable them to create additional mainstream school capacity and meet their legal duty in relation to the commissioning of sufficient school places.
- 7.2 Where additional school places are required as a result of new housing developments, Section 106 funding is sought from developers to provide the required school capacity. Developers can only be asked for funding to mitigate the impact of their development.

Legal implications

- 8.1 Each local authority with responsibility for education has to secure sufficient primary and secondary education to meet the needs of the population of their area, under s.13 S13A and S14 (1) Education Act 1996.

Other significant implications

- 9.1 None.

This report has been approved by the following people:

Role	Name	Date of sign-off
Legal	None	
Finance	None	
Service Director(s)	Gurmail Nizzer, Director of Commissioning	29/11/21
Report sponsor Other(s)	Diane Whitehead, Head of School Organisation and Provision	29/10/21

Background papers:	None
List of appendices:	Appendix 1 – Primary and secondary pupil numbers and projections Appendix 2 – School Places Bulletin: September 2021 Appendix 3 – Map: Derby Urban Area Strategic Housing Growth Appendix 4 – Primary and secondary applications and offers

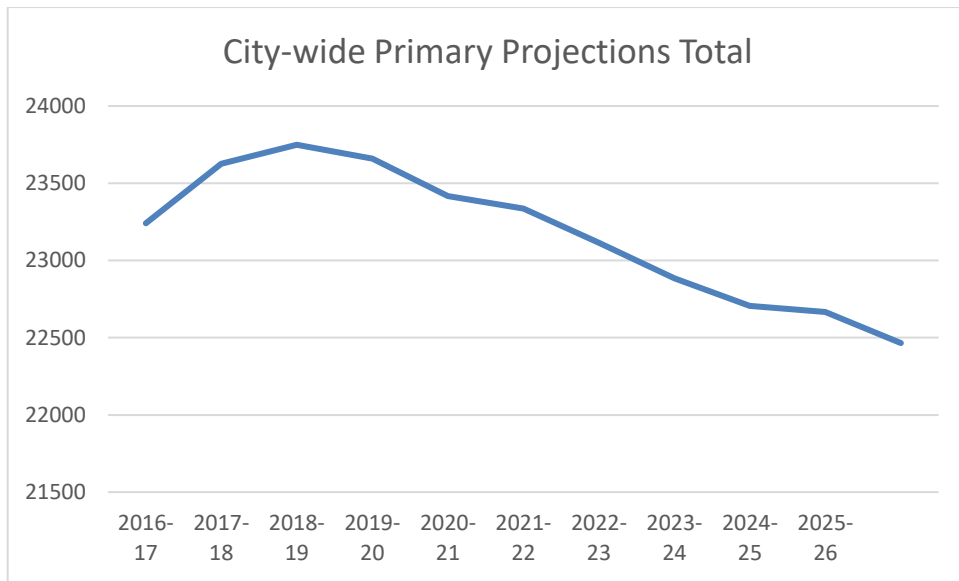
Appendix 1

Primary and Secondary Pupil Numbers and Projections

1. City-wide Primary Pupil Numbers and Projections
2. City-wide Secondary Pupil Numbers and Projections

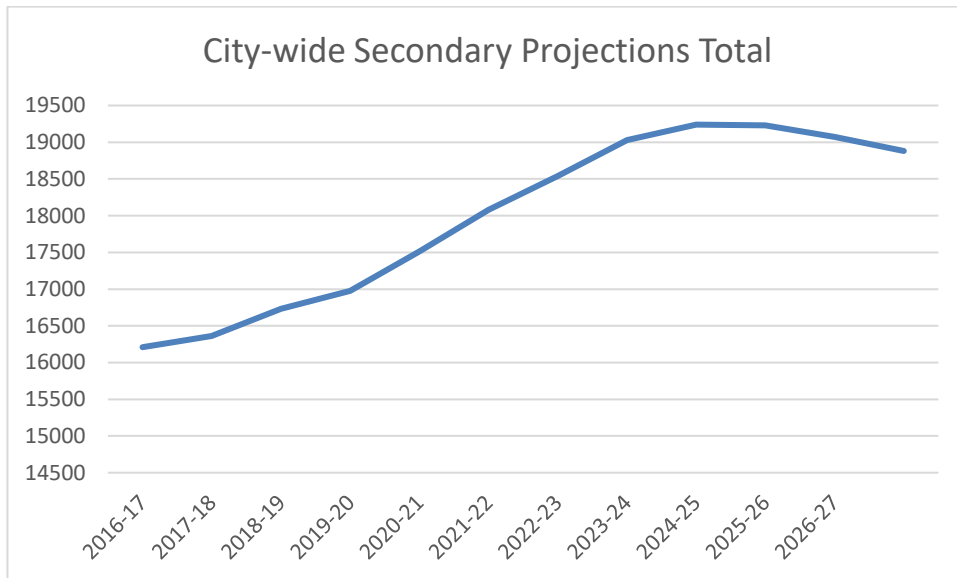
1. City-wide Primary Pupil Numbers and Projections

	R	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total
2016-17	3467	3357	3398	3394	3360	3215	3049	23240
2017-18	3335	3506	3380	3397	3421	3354	3234	23627
2018-19	3229	3383	3549	3387	3415	3435	3351	23749
2019-20	3224	3262	3379	3508	3428	3431	3427	23659
2020-21	3182	3258	3249	3364	3517	3416	3431	23417
2021-22	3188	3241	3277	3252	3405	3540	3432	23335
2022-23	3035	3250	3265	3280	3295	3430	3559	23114
2023-24	3099	3102	3283	3280	3332	3330	3458	22884
2024-25	3089	3160	3127	3291	3327	3360	3352	22706
2025-26	3137	3146	3182	3134	3335	3354	3378	22666
2026-27	3137	3172	3146	3166	3155	3340	3349	22465



2. City-wide Secondary Pupil Numbers and Projections

Academic Year	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	Total
2016-17	3026	3026	2851	2743	2737	956	841	29	16209
2017-18	3076	3015	2985	2837	2700	1004	728	16	16361
2018-19	3245	3028	2969	2942	2784	897	854	13	16732
2019-20	3385	3246	2999	2896	2874	771	786	18	16975
2020-21	3416	3368	3213	2972	2910	882	740	13	17514
2021-22	3459	3419	3352	3184	2967	876	806	14	18077
2022-23	3464	3465	3405	3325	3180	887	800	15	18541
2023-24	3600	3480	3461	3387	3330	945	810	15	19028
2024-25	3492	3606	3467	3434	3383	980	863	15	19240
2025-26	3379	3497	3590	3438	3428	989	895	16	19232
2026-27	3387	3363	3460	3538	3410	996	904	16	19074
2027-28	3347	3371	3328	3410	3509	990	910	17	18882

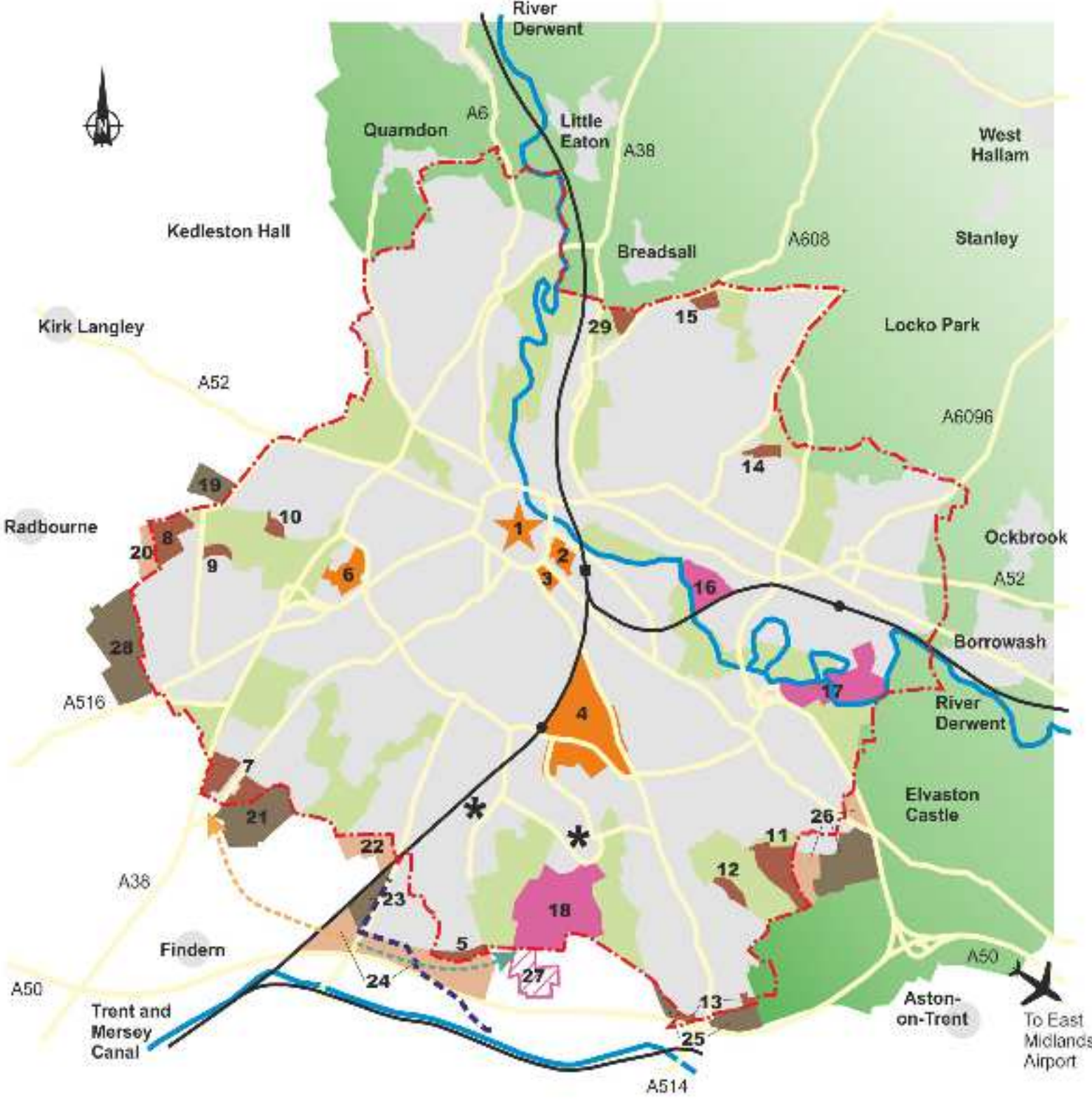


School Places Bulletin: September 2021

[Please see the copy of the School Places Bulletin: September 2021, circulated separately]

Derby Urban Area Strategic Growth

- Key**
- Strategic housing sites in Derby
 - Strategic employment sites
 - Regeneration priority area
 - City Centre
 - Mixed use regeneration site
 - Green Wedges
 - Green Belt
 - Indicative line of South Derby Integrated Transport Link (Phase 1)
 - Indicative line of South Derby Integrated Transport Link (Phase 2)
 - Strategic extension to land south of Wilmore Road in South Derbyshire
 - South Derbyshire - housing allocations
 - Housing sites outside the City with planning permission or under construction



Derby City	
Site	Dwellings
1 City Centre*	1000
2 Castewar*	800
3 Former DRI*	400
4 Osmaston Regeneration Area*	600
5 Wragley Way*	180
6 Menon/Gingeway*	700
7 Rykneld Road	900
8 Hackwood Farm*	400
9 Onslow Road	200
10 Former Muckworth College*	220
11 Boulton Moor	800
12 Follow Lanes Way*	200
13 South Chellaston*	100
14 Brook Farm*	275
15 South of Mansfield Road*	200
16 Derwent Triangle	Employment (28ha)
17 Derby Commercial Park*	Employment (84.7ha)
18 Wilmore Road/Infinity Park*	Employment (88.6ha)
29 Breadsall Hilltop*	230

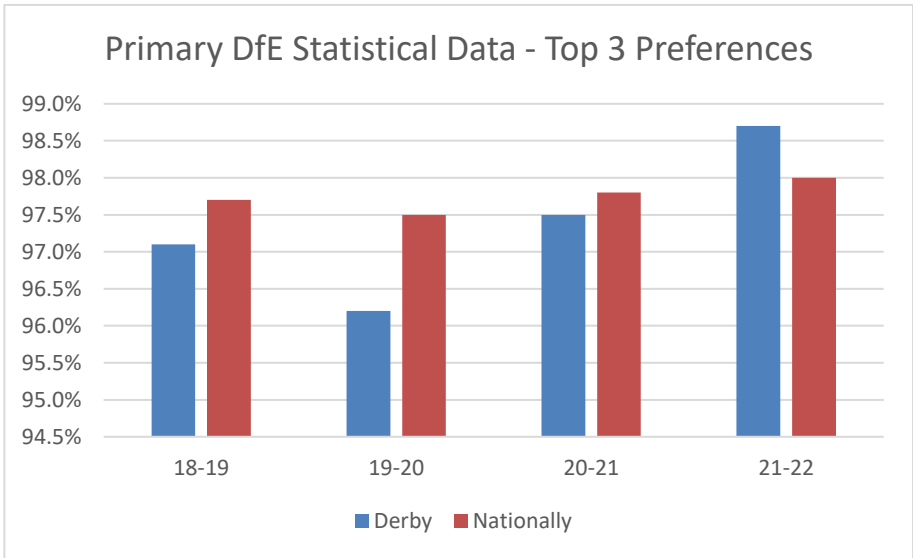
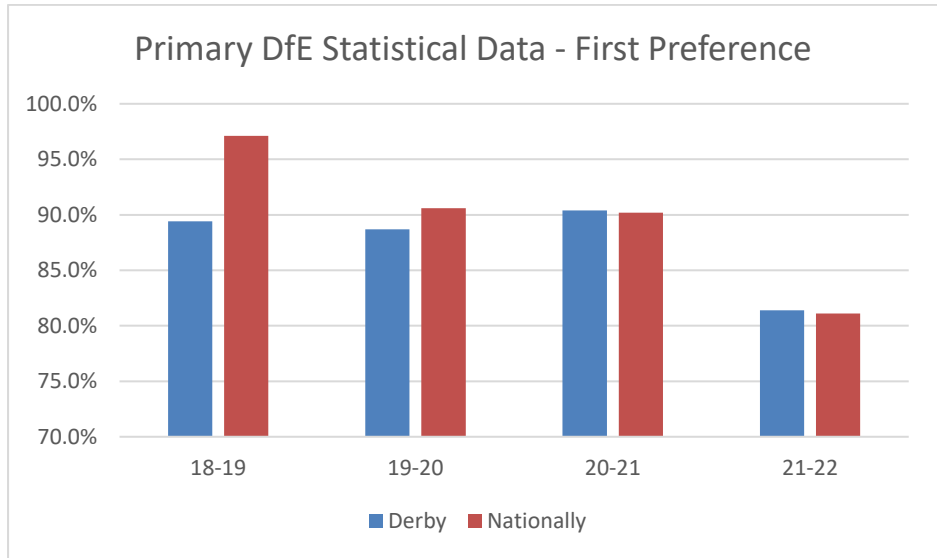
Amber Valley/South Derbyshire Urban Extensions	
Site	Dwellings
19 Radbourne Lane*	530
20 Hackwood Farm*	280
21 Highfields Farm*	1040
22 Primula Way*	511
23 Slinsons Holdings*	487
24 Wragley Way*	1850
25 South Chellaston*	620
26 Boulton Moor*	1948
27 Wilmore Road/Infinity Park	Employment (30ha)
28 Newhouse Farm*	1650

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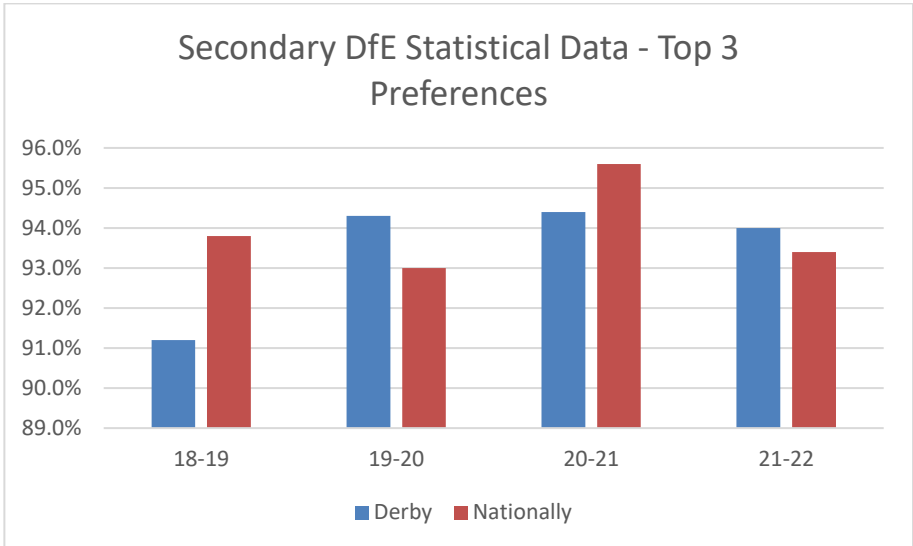
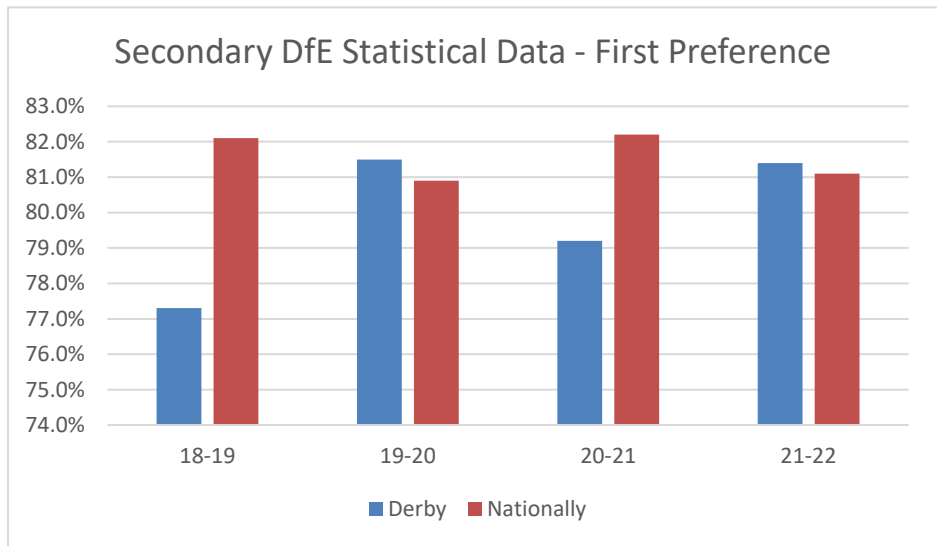
Information on locations outside the City is included for information purposes and based on Amber Valley's and South Derbyshire's consultation material

*Indicates that site partly or wholly has planning permission or is under construction
*Breadsall Hilltop was not allocated in the Part 1 plan but it was included in consultation at the Part 2 plan. More see outline permission.

Primary DfE Statistical Data



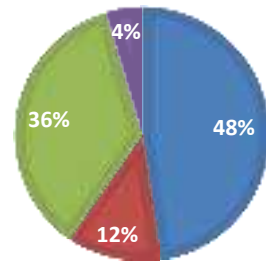
Secondary DfE Statistical Data



Virtual Appeals for 21/22 Academic Year

**PRIMARY BLOCK APPEALS -
2021-2022 ACADEMIC YEAR**

■ Appeals Received ■ Appeals Withdrawn ■ Appeals Heard ■ Appeals Allowed



**SECONDARY BLOCK APPEALS -
2021-2022 ACADEMIC YEAR**

■ Appeals Received ■ Appeals Withdrawn ■ Appeals Heard ■ Appeals Allowed

