Developments in Neighbouring Local Authorities

Neighbouring boroughs have been experiencing increased demand for places in their primary schools at YR for 3 to 4 years in contrast to Sutton where the increase in demand has been experienced somewhat later with the first phase of primary school expansion by 6FE required with effect from September 2011.

In **Kingston**, the initial strategy was to provide temporary accommodation and to continue monitoring in order to better understand the developing situation. The current strategy indicates that an additional 13.5FE will be required with Phase 1, for implementation in September 2011, comprising 6.5FE expansion plus a 2FE new school. Phase 2 will be for an additional 5FE of provision for 2012-2013. There is likely to be additional provision in the Coombe and Malden areas with a possible relocation and expansion of one school onto a new site and expansion of a second school.

In **Merton**, planned expansions and provision of new schools could increase capacity by 23FE during the 6 year period 2008 to 2013. A total of 7FE additional capacity will be provided for September 2011 with a further 5FE planned for 2012 and 2013. Of this 1FE is planned either in the St Helier or Lower Morden area. Most of the increased demand in Merton is in the north and east.

In **Croydon**, an additional 8FE of provision, including a 2FE new school, has already been added since 2008. For September 2011 a number of “bulge” classes will also be provided. The borough’s strategy identifies a further need for 11FE, including a 2FE new school in central Croydon, with the most significant increases in demand in the north and centre of the borough although there is some pressure developing in the A23 Corridor and the west.

In **Surrey**, schools adjacent to the Worcester Park border are well subscribed. No expansion of provision is planned.

The increase in demand has been experienced in our neighbouring local authorities two to three years before Sutton and as a consequence they have been obliged to expand their provision somewhat earlier than Sutton. This has been a considerable challenge and there is now little or no spare capacity to relieve the current and future pressure as far as children resident in Sutton are concerned.
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