

Briefing Paper on the Expansion of Hope School

CONTEXT

Hope Community Free School (New Generation Schools Trust) is currently an undersubscribed one form entry school situated in the centre of Southampton and is in temporary accommodation at Central Hall. The Academy Trust have one other school in Sidcup which has been downgraded from Good to Requires Improvement in its most recent Ofsted Inspection in May 2019. Hope Community Free School in Southampton has not yet been inspected by Ofsted.

The DfE are keen to build a new free school in the city (£15M), moving Hope to permanent accommodation and expanding its size to two form entry. They are currently in the process of identifying a suitable site in the City.

HOPE SCHOOL NUMBER ON ROLL

The number on roll as at 08.09.21 is shown in the table below. They are undersubscribed in every year group.

Year group	Number on Roll	Published Admission No.
R	29 (offers, not yet on roll)	30
1	23	30
2	44	60
3	25	30
4	22	30
TOTAL	143	180

PUPIL FORECASTING

Southampton City Council has a statutory duty to ensure a sufficiency of school places for Southampton children. The data team produce a school level and city-wide forecast for Southampton mainstream schools to ensure the demand for school places is met in Primary and Secondary schools. Both the Primary and Secondary forecast split Southampton into 3 planning areas – East, Central and West.

A forecast is a best estimation based on the data available at that time. It should be noted that any or all figures can and will change as new population data becomes available, demographic trends and parental preference changes.

METHODOLOGY

The Year R forecast is based on population (Child Benefit) data aggregated to schools using the past three years of parental preference, to which a participation rate is applied based on three years' worth of previous 'availability' to 'take-up' of places.

The following data is used to forecast Year R:

- Pupil population by area:
 - Child Benefit Data is used as a source of population data for Year R.
 - Primary Care Trust Live Births data. These are used to estimate the reception cohort five years ahead as there is not yet Child Benefit data.
- Known housing developments and likely pupil yield:
 - Projects have been undertaken to ascertain the affect housing developments within Southampton and on the borders of Southampton have on the pupil population. The demand for housing has resulted in a redistribution of pupils throughout the city rather than an increase in pupil population. This is something which is continually re-evaluated.
- Historic percentage participation rates for numbers joining each school, applying a weighted average to the data with the more prominent weighting applied to the most recent year.

NOTE: The DfE recommends local authorities hold a 5% surplus of places. This provides a cushion for any disproportionate migration into the city. Traditionally, Southampton have operated on a 2%-3% surplus without needing to fill the places.

FORECASTING HEADLINES 2021 – 2025

- In 2021 the city maintains approximately a 5% surplus; all areas of the city have surplus capacity with the west of the city having 144 spaces surplus.
- In 2022 all areas of the city exceed the 5% recommended surplus capacity with 112 total places in the city in excess of the 5% surplus (figure 1b).
- In 2023 the overall surplus in the city is forecast to increase from 239 places in 2022 to 290 places. The Central area of the city is 14 places short of the 5% recommended surplus, however the other areas of the city exceed the 5% surplus and there is a surplus of places in other local schools. It is typical, and reasonable for children to be educated in a school in another planning area.
- In 2024 and 2025 there is forecast to be a surplus of places throughout the city, however, the Central area of the city is forecast to have 20 and 11 places short of a 5% surplus respectively with the other areas maintaining a large surplus.

CITY WIDE FORECAST 2021 - 2025

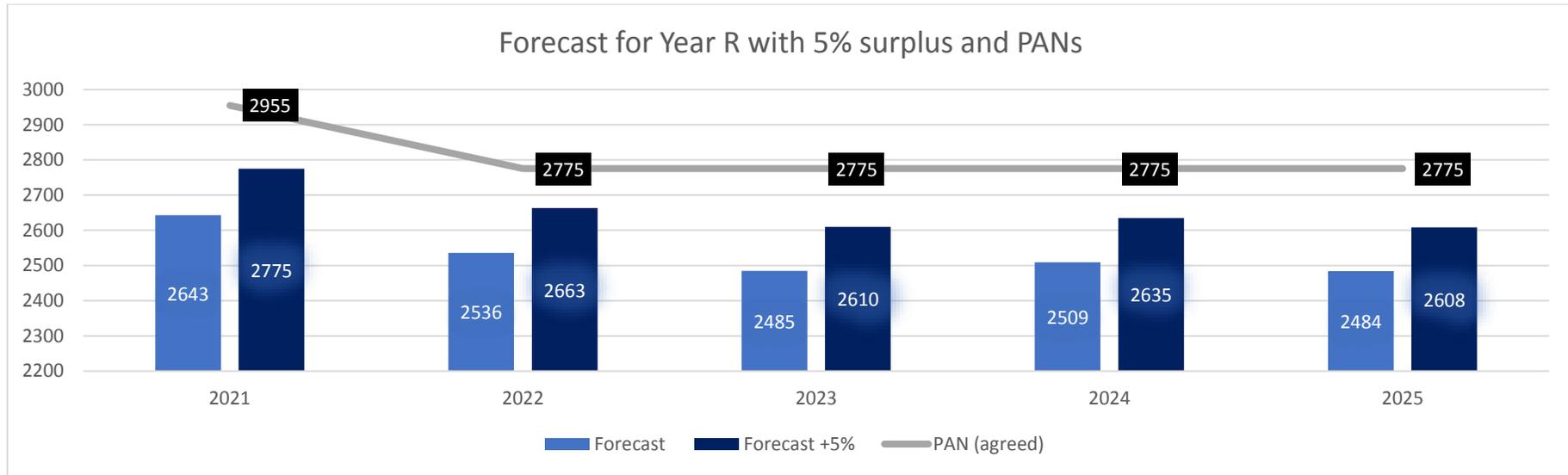


Figure 1a

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Forecast	2643	2536	2485	2509	2484
Forecast +5%	2775	2663	2610	2635	2608
PAN	2955	2775	2775	2775	2775
Surplus	222	239	290	266	291
5% Surplus	180	112	165	140	167

Figure 1b

FORECAST BY PLANNING AREA 2021 - 2025

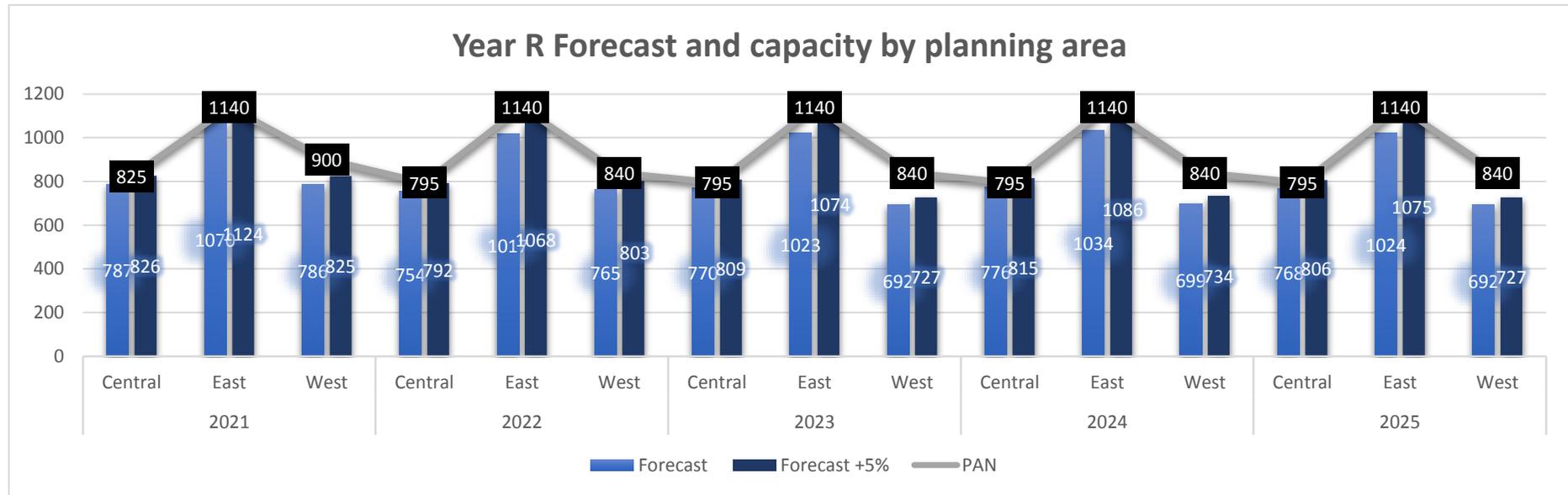


Figure 2a

	2021			2022			2023			2024			2025		
	Central	East	West												
Forecast	787	1070	786	754	1017	765	770	1023	692	776	1034	699	768	1024	692
Forecast +5%	826	1124	825	792	1068	803	809	1074	727	815	1086	734	806	1075	727
PAN	825	1140	900	795	1140	840	795	1140	840	795	1140	840	795	1140	840
Surplus	38	70	114	41	123	75	25	117	148	19	106	141	27	116	148
5% Surplus	-1	16	75	3	72	37	-14	66	113	-20	54	106	-11	65	113

Figure 2b

ACTION TAKEN THUS FAR

The following schools have reduced their PAN in preparation for lower Year R cohorts coming through the system.

- Valentine Primary School (reduced by 30 places)
- Townhill Infant School (reduced by 30 places)
- Townhill Junior School (reduced by 12 places)
- St Mary's CE (VC) Primary School (reduced by 30 places)
- Tanners Brook Primary School (reduced by 60 places)
- Foundry Lane Primary School (reduced by 30)
- Maytree Infant School (reduced by 30)
- Bassett Green Primary School (reduced by 30 places)
- Fairisle Infant School (reduced by 30)
- St Monica Primary School (proposed reduction of 30 places yet to be ratified by the Office of Schools Adjudicator)

Total: 312 school places thus far, already factored into the forecasting graphs presented above.

Further reductions are required in the coming years to protect school budgets.