

## TRAFFORD COUNCIL

**Report to:** Children and Young People's Scrutiny Committee  
**Date:** 27 September 2022  
**Report for:** Information  
**Report of:** Karen Samples, Director of Education

### Report Title

School Place Planning and Sufficiency

### Summary

This report sets out the way in which the local authority coordinates school place planning, providing detailed information about the sufficiency position for primary and secondary school places and measures being implemented

### Recommendation(s)

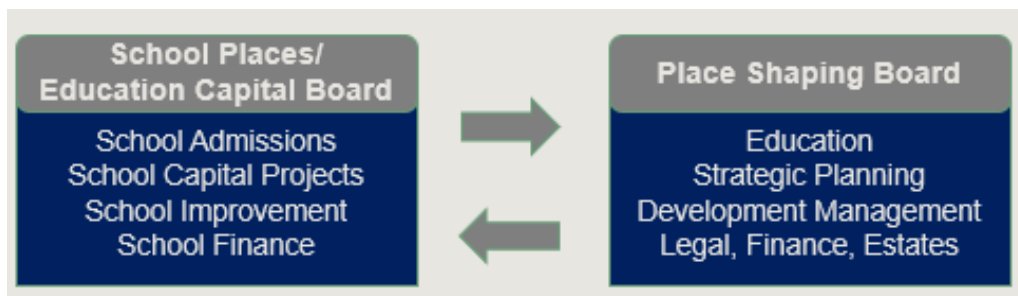
That the contents of the report are noted.

### Contact person for access to background papers and further information:

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## 1. Background

- 1.1 Effective pupil place planning is a fundamental element of the local authority's (LA) role as strategic commissioner of good school places and ensures the statutory duty to provide sufficient school places is met.
- 1.2 Strategic planning in Trafford is carried out by the following boards, with overarching decision making by Trafford Council Executive:



- 1.3 Achieving the right balance between sufficient places and overprovision is critical to maintain stability within the existing school system and to avoid compounding financial challenges.

#### 1.4 Key strategic priorities:

- Expand existing schools to protect financial viability. The DfE no longer supports the creation of schools with one form of entry (FE).
- Remove mixed age classes in primary schools where these exist by increasing to full forms of entry (FE).
- Amalgamate separate infant and junior schools unless there are reasons not to, such as size and location.

This maximises the impact of basic need funding, whilst providing opportunities to improve the suitability and condition of the existing stock.

#### 1.5 Where there is an assessed need for additional places to be provided through expansion of existing schools, the school will be selected according to the following criteria:

- Location of the school relative to population / catchment area
- Access for pupils by public transport and other sustainable modes of travel
- Current size of the school
- Practicalities of expansion on the existing site
- Costs of expansion
- Latest Ofsted judgement is good or outstanding

#### 1.6 The Department for Education (DfE) requires each local authority to submit an annual statutory return known as the school capacity survey (SCAP) which includes:

- primary and secondary school capacity for the current academic year
- primary pupil number forecasts for the next 5 academic years
- secondary pupil number forecasts for the next 7 academic years
- plans for changes to the number of primary and secondary places for the next 3 academic years

#### 1.7 Trafford's methodology for forecasting pupil numbers complies with statutory guidance and is monitored and ratified by DfE. It utilises data on GP registrations for pre-school age children, school census, admissions information, new housing developments, average migration rates and survival rates.

#### 1.8 DfE utilise the SCAP submission to calculate an estimated number of additional primary and secondary places needed in each area, which informs the LA basic need funding allocation.

#### 1.9 Between 2010 and 2022, Trafford received £78m of basic need funding which has been used to commission the expansion of 29 schools and provide an additional 3,681 places. Trafford has been identified by DfE as an exemplar local authority with regards to its effective and efficient use of basic need funding.

#### 1.10 The DfE calculation deploys a methodology which assumes each LA will provide places for all pupils who wish to access one in their area. It is important to note this differs from the local sufficiency assessment which is carried out to ensure that the LA meets its duty to ensure sufficient places for all pupils resident in our area.

#### 1.11 Local sufficiency modelling aims to retain a minimum 5% surplus of places to accommodate in-year applicants as this is a significant factor in Trafford, alongside parental preference which is a strong factor in pupil placement.

- 1.12** Trafford has good transport links and high performing, popular schools, many of which are oversubscribed, making it an attractive option for pupils from outside of our area. Trafford being a net importer of school places creates a significant difference between the DfE estimation of additional places needed and the number of places indicated in our local sufficiency assessment.
- 1.13** Demand for school places is influenced by a broad range of social, economic and demographic factors, reflecting wider trends within community and society at a given point in time. In the last 18 months, Trafford has seen an unprecedented increase in demand from pupils moving into our area mid-way through their education which has created significant pressures. Due to this complexity, providing a place for every Trafford resident child has not been easy to achieve but Trafford continues to meet the statutory duty despite the challenges.

## **2. New Housing Developments**

- 2.1** Strategic Planning, Development Management and Education work together to make sure the impact of new developments is accounted for within school place planning. Housing land supply information is shared amongst the services to establish where new homes are going to be delivered, in what numbers and in which years going forward.
- 2.2** To ensure that new development does not over burden the capacity of existing schools, all major planning applications for housing of 10 units or more are the subject of consultation with the relevant Education teams. Where a shortfall is identified in the local area, a contribution may be calculated. All contributions are designed to offset and mitigate the impact of the development. If it is found that there is a need for school places locally, then a formula is employed to calculate a funding requirement proportionate to that need.
- 2.3** Once this formula has been calculated, the planning case officer will then negotiate the relevant sum from the applicant, often as part of a wider package of mitigations or benefits. These will be reported to and considered by the Planning and Development Committee where they have a determining role. Ultimately contributions towards education provision are secured via a planning obligation – in effect a legal contract – usually either an agreement under section 106 of the planning act or as a unilateral undertaking.
- 2.4** Education contributions of £2.259m primary and £0.489m secondary secured within s106 agreements to date to meet additional pupils yielded from future new housing developments.
- 2.5** The new strategic plan for Greater Manchester, Places for Everyone, identified strategic allocations at both New Carrington and Timperley Wedge. Both allocation policies recognised the need for new educational provision to accommodate the increased provision of new homes. Land has been identified for a potential new 2 FE primary school within the Timperley Wedge allocation phased in 2028. However, in the first instance expansion of existing schools would be carried out to protect their sustainability, subject to engagement with local schools.

**2.6** Land was originally secured at the K-site in the Stretford planning area for provision of a new mainstream 2 FE primary school if needed. It has recently been agreed that the additional demand generated by new developments in this area would be best met through expansion of existing schools, in line with strategic priorities. The site option is now under consideration for a new special school bid.

### **3. Ukraine**

**3.1** Government guidance highlights children arriving from Ukraine have no specific additional priority for admission, LAs must follow their usual statutory processes to allocate places.

**3.2** Where there are no vacancies in local schools, we use our established fair access protocol to make sure all children get a place. This process is the safety net for securing places for vulnerable children and allows schools to go over their normal capacity where necessary.

**3.3** At end 2021/22 school year 92 applications received, 80 children allocated places to date: 51 in primary schools and 29 in secondary schools.

**3.4** 28 further applications are expected from matched children through Homes for Ukraine scheme: 16 for primary schools and 12 for secondary schools.

**3.5** There is potential for more families with school age children to be matched linked to additional Trafford residents who have expressed interest.

### **4. Sufficiency of Primary School Places**

**4.1** Trafford has determined 6 primary school place planning areas and sufficiency is monitored at planning area level: Altrincham, Sale East, Sale West, Stretford, Urmston, Partington.

**4.2** DfE 2021 scorecard for Trafford indicates primary forecast accuracy of within 0.5% for 1 year ahead and 1.3% for 3 years ahead and also shows the cost of providing a permanent school place in Trafford is lower than the national figure.

**4.3** The LA coordinates the main round of admission into reception year. On national offer day in both 2021 and 2022, Trafford had sufficient places in all areas in the main round of admission into reception year, with a surplus number of places in every area.

**4.4** For entry into reception in 2021, 93.4% of applicants were offered their first preference school (compared to 91.8% in England). This increased to 98.5% of applicants offered one of their first three preferences (compared to 98% in England). For entry to reception in 2022 in Trafford, 94.0% were offered their first preference, increasing to 99.0% offered one of their first three preferences. National data is yet to be published for 2022.

**4.5** The LA is the admission authority for 32 out of 64 primary schools and it coordinates in-year admissions for all these schools by agreement.

- 4.6** Trafford has always experienced a unique pattern of inbound migration into upper year groups in primary schools as pupils get ready to access the selective education system.
- 4.7** In the last 18 months, Trafford has seen an unprecedented increase in demand from pupils in all primary year groups moving into our area which has created significant pressures.
- 4.8** The initial surge of in-year applications happened in summer 2021, after the SCAP 2021 pupil forecasts had been prepared and submitted.
- 4.9** On average, between May and October, 435 primary in-year applications are received from families newly resident in Trafford. In this period in 2021, 991 applications were received and successfully placed in our schools – more than double the number planned for which could not have been foreseen. These additional 556 pupils created significant pressures, particularly as they were mainly resident in the Sale and Altrincham areas where some pressures already existed.
- 4.10** Increased levels of demand have continued through the school year 2021/22. Before the pandemic, the average number of primary in-year applications received across the school year was 909. In school year 2021/22 a total of 1,414 applications were received, an increase of 56%.
- 4.11** As at the end of the summer term in July 2022, this is the assessed position for each of the primary planning areas for the new school year 2022/23:

Planning Area	Lower Year Groups	Upper Year Groups
Altrincham	Green	Amber
Sale East	Red	Red
Sale West	Red	Red
Stretford	Green	Green
Urmston	Amber	Green
Partington	Green	Green

- 4.12** Sufficiency measures to meet the additional demand have included commencing permanent expansion projects:

School year 2022/23:

- Firs Primary School (+30 places/year) – Sale West (almost complete)

School year 2023/24 subject to all statutory processes being met:

- Templemoor Infant School (+30 places/year) – Sale East (in planning)
- Moorlands Junior School (+30 places/year) – Sale East (planning achieved)
- Willows Primary School (+15 places/year) – Altrincham (planning achieved)
- Davyhulme Primary School (+20 places/year) – Urmston (early stages)

**4.13** In addition to this, an audit of all existing specialist spaces in primary schools in Sale and Altrincham was carried out to identify opportunities to create temporary additional bulge classes.

**4.14** Catchment areas identify priority areas for admission to community schools, voluntary controlled schools, and to some academies. These areas are reviewed annually to ensure that sufficient places exist in each area, or neighbouring area, to accommodate all the children resident in that area. It is accepted that in some years, a very few schools may not be able to allocate places to all the residents, however, when this occurrence becomes routines, or where there is no suitable alternative provision elsewhere, the provision of additional places or amendments to the relevant catchment areas will be considered.

**4.15** Information is currently being collected from individual schools to update the assessed sufficiency position, taking into account pupil movement over the summer holidays. The following breakdown by planning area is based on the July 2022 position and includes details of sufficiency measures implemented.

#### **4.16 Altrincham – primary planning area**

This planning area includes all schools in WA14 and WA15 post codes.

##### **Vacancy position:**

<b>2022/23 Year</b>	<b>YR*</b>	<b>Y1</b>	<b>Y2</b>	<b>Y3</b>	<b>Y4</b>	<b>Y5</b>	<b>Y6</b>	<b>Total</b>
No. Places	965	965	935	935	965	1,000	1,000	6,765
No. Vacancies	159	123	28	14	42	71	16	453
% Vacancies	16.5%	12.7%	3.0%	1.5%	4.4%	7.1%	1.6%	6.7%
No. Over PAN	0	0	0	4	18	30	35	87

YR = reception year places as at national offer day allocation in April 2022

PAN = published admission number

##### **Measures:**

- Willows Primary School - 30 places in Y5/Y6 brought online early from September 2021, further 15 places in Y5 from September 2022, ahead of permanent expansion due September 2023 which will create an additional 15 places in every year group.
- Broomwood Primary School – 30 places in Y5/Y6 bulge class from September 2022 achieved through conversion of intervention space into classroom.
- Broadheath Primary School – 30 places in Y4 and 30 places in Y5, additional classes opening half term October 2022. Potential to create 30 additional places in Y2 and Y3 later in the school year should this be required.
- Navigation Primary School – music room identified for potential bulge class but small size would mean it could not be able to take a full class of 30 so not progressed at this stage.

#### **4.17 Sale East - primary planning area**

This planning area includes all schools in M33 post codes (east of A56).

**Vacancy position:**

2022/23 Year	YR*	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Total
No. Places	480	480	480	480	480	510	480	3,390
No. Vacancies	39	5	0	3	0	30	0	77
% Vacancies	8.1%	1.0%	0.0%	0.6%	0.0%	5.9%	0.0%	2.3%
No. Over PAN	0	1	8	0	15	10	22	56

YR = reception year places as at national offer day allocation in April 2022

PAN = published admission number

**Measures:**

- Templemoor Infant School – permanent expansion to create 30 places in each year group.
- Moorlands Junior School – permanent expansion to create 30 places in each year group. Mobile classroom on site from September 2022 creating 30 additional places in Y5 ahead of permanent expansion.

**4.18 Sale West primary planning area**

This planning area includes all schools in M33 post codes (west of A56).

**Vacancy position:**

2022/23 Year	YR*	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Total
No. Places	395	395	395	395	395	395	425	2,795
No. Vacancies	38	3	0	0	0	0	0	41
% Vacancies	9.6%	0.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.5%
No. Over PAN	0	0	37	0	17	19	20	93

YR = reception year places as at national offer day allocation in April 2022

PAN = published admission number

**Measures:**

- Firs Primary School – permanent expansion to create 30 places in each year group from school year 2022/23 (expected spring 2023). 30 places in Y1 bulge class from September 2022 (building on 10 emergency places from September 2021).
- Woodheys Primary School – 30 places in Y5/Y6 bulge class from September 2021 achieved through conversion of ICT suite into classroom.

**4.19 Stretford primary planning area**

This planning area includes all schools in M32, M16 and M15 post codes (in Trafford).

**Vacancy position:**

2022/23 Year	YR*	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Total
No. Places	684	684	684	684	684	684	684	4,788
No. Vacancies	91	83	78	75	41	74	21	463
% Vacancies	13.3%	12.1%	11.4%	11.0%	6.0%	10.8%	3.1%	9.7%
No. Over PAN	0	3	3	3	9	7	17	42

YR = reception year places as at national offer day allocation in April 2022

PAN = published admission number

There are sufficient places in all year groups.

#### 4.20 Urmston primary planning area

This planning area includes all schools in M41 post codes.

##### Vacancy position:

2022/23 Year	YR*	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Total
No. Places	510	510	510	510	510	510	510	3,570
No. Vacancies	62	1	23	17	27	25	3	158
% Vacancies	12.2%	0.2%	4.5%	3.3%	5.3%	4.9%	0.6%	4.4%
No. Over PAN	0	6	0	0	3	3	8	20

YR = reception year places as at national offer day allocation in April 2022

PAN = published admission number

There are current pressures primarily in Y1 and Y6.

##### Measures:

- Davyhulme Primary School – permanent expansion to create 20 additional places in each year group subject to the completion of all statutory processes. This project is at the early stages of exploration and will be reviewed in light of consultation responses and updated SCAP 2022 sufficiency information.

#### 4.21 Partington primary planning area

This planning area includes all schools in M31 post codes.

##### Vacancy position:

2022/23 Year	YR*	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Total
No. Places	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	840
No. Vacancies	20	17	24	10	38	35	19	163
% Vacancies	16.7%	14.2%	20.0%	8.3%	31.7%	29.2%	15.8%	19.4%
No. Over PAN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

YR = reception year places as at national offer day allocation in April 2022

PAN = published admission number



There are sufficient places in all year groups.

## 5. Sufficiency of Secondary School Places

- 5.1** Trafford has determined 5 secondary school place planning areas and sufficiency is monitored at planning area level: Altrincham, Sale, Stretford, Urmston, Partington.
- 5.2** The LA coordinates the normal round of admission into year 7. On national offer day in 2022 there was just enough capacity to offer a place to everyone who applied. However, 179 Trafford children, predominantly resident in Altrincham and Sale, could not be allocated places at any of their preferred schools and were allocated places at the nearest school with a vacancy. At the end of the allocation every secondary school in Trafford was full and some schools allocated places above their published capacity.
- 5.3** For entry into year 7 in 2021, 84.7% of applicants were offered one of their first three preferences (compared to 93.4% in England). For entry to year 7 in 2022 in Trafford, 91% of applicants were offered one of their first three preferences. National data is yet to be published for 2022.
- 5.4** The LA is the admission authority for 1 out of 19 secondary schools and it does not coordinate in-year admissions. Due to recent increasing pressure on places and implementation of an improved application system, all secondary in-year applications are now channelled through the LA so there is increased oversight of the position.
- 5.5** The unprecedented surge in demand for primary school places in the last 18 months went on to have a significant impact on admission into secondary school for 2022 due to the large, unexpected increase in primary population very late in the year. The impact on secondary places will continue to be felt in future years.
- 5.6** Even before the surge, there were emerging demographic pressures which led to the LA identifying an expansion was needed in the Sale area. One potential option at Ashton-on-Mersey School in Sale was explored early in 2021 but the Dean Trust were unable to progress the proposal at that time.
- 5.7** In-year admissions are not coordinated by the LA for secondary, but it is possible to use the school census as a proxy to identify new in-year starters from outside of Trafford. This data indicates significant increased levels of demand. Before the pandemic, the average number of new starters in secondary school across the school year was 239. In school year 2021/22 there were a total of 336 new starters from outside Trafford, an increase of 41%.
- 5.8** As at the end of the summer term in July 2022, this is the assessed position for each of the secondary planning areas for the new school year 2022/23:

Planning Area	Lower Year Groups	Upper Year Groups
Altrincham	Red	Red
Sale	Red	Red

Stretford	Amber	Green
Urmston	Red	Amber
Partington	Red	Red

**5.9** Based on SCAP 2021, DfE indicated the need to provide 607 new mainstream secondary places from 2023. Basic need funding allocations were £8.510m for 2023/24 and £0m for 2024/25.

**5.10** Of this, 200 additional places now provided at BTH in Altrincham, leaving a balance of 407 places still to be provided. It is important to note that this figure is based on SCAP 2021 which did not account for the surge in demand. New figures will be calculated by DfE in late spring 2023 based on SCAP 2022.

**5.11** The LA has met with non-selective secondary schools in Sale and Altrincham to discuss potential expansion projects, noting there are no easy or obvious expansion solutions due to tight sites and limitations of communal facilities within existing sites:

- Ashton-on-Mersey – unable to expand within existing site, explored re-providing sixth form on nearby site to unlock space but not feasible from planning/cost perspective.
- North Cestrian – very tight site, architects commissioned to produce feasibility study to consider options for additional 150 places (30 per year group).
- Altrincham College – architects commissioned to produce feasibility study to consider options for 150-300 additional places (30-60 per year group).

**5.12** The feasibility studies will be considered by both Place Shaping Board and School Places Board and any potential permanent expansions will be considered in a report to Trafford Executive later in autumn term.

**5.13** Other options considered for creation of additional capacity within the secondary sector:

- Asking schools to take additional pupils over their published admission numbers. An additional 785 places across all secondary year groups has already been achieved in this way.
- Explored neighbouring LA vacancies – Cheshire East and Manchester – all full.
- Creation of temporary bulge class in existing school through addition of temporary accommodation/mobile classrooms. Around 6 months delivery time but can present significant operational challenges in the secondary sector due to curriculum planning for teaching time and use of specialist spaces.
- Existing school expands into satellite site if non-education accommodation can be identified. Examples of this being done from unused office space in another LA but significant operational/curriculum challenges reported. Potential accommodation considered by Place Shaping Board includes former Trafford High School and former Moss View but discounted due to location.

**5.14** The SCAP 2022 has identified a significant pressure for entry into year 7 in September 2023 and so options to create temporary additional capacity through the addition of mobile classrooms, ahead of any permanent expansion, are being explored.

**5.15** The LA is having regular meetings with DfE to review the sufficiency position and consider potential solutions.

**5.16** Due to the significant additional secondary place requirement which the SCAP 2022 has identified, a new secondary school in either the Altrincham or Sale areas is also being considered.

**5.17** There are two routes for establishing a new school:

Central mainstream free schools programme	Presumption free schools
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Government invites applications from groups to establish high quality new schools.</li> <li>• Latest wave 2022, government plan to open a total of 15 new mainstream schools in education investment areas which is those with the lowest education standards so Trafford not eligible.</li> <li>• Trusts submit bids to the department to open a school.</li> <li>• DfE can provide the capital for land and construction for these free schools. To secure best value for money, where possible DfE look to supplement this funding with other contributions such as provision of a site from LA or contributions from developers.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Where LA identifies need for a new school they must seek proposals to establish a free school through this process.</li> <li>• LA decides what type of school is needed and produces the specification for the school, which it will use to seek proposals from sponsors to establish the new school.</li> <li>• LA is responsible for providing the site for the new school and meeting associated capital build costs, principally using DfE Basic Need funding and contributions from developers.</li> <li>• Once a sponsor has been appointed, the LA will work directly with the sponsor to open the school.</li> </ul>

**5.18** Due to the unique and unprecedented sufficiency challenges being experienced in Trafford, a formal expression of interest for a new school has been progressed with DfE. A new secondary school usually requires additional demand of at least 900 places (6 FE school) but it is possible to put forward a case for a smaller school than this and so a 750 place (5 FE school) is being considered. Work is underway to identify any potential site options in the Sale or Altrincham area which are large enough to meet the indoor and outdoor space requirements for a new school. If the site challenges can be overcome and the bid is successful, the timeline for a new school is 3 years.

## **6. Impact of out of borough pupils in Trafford Schools**

### **Primary**

**6.1** The following table shows the number of non-Trafford resident pupils in reception year by planning area, based on October school census. It also shows a 3-year

rolling average to indicate the trend for the percentage of non-Trafford residents admitted.

Primary Schools	No. Non-Trafford Residents						3 Year Rolling Average % Non-Trafford			
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2016-18	2017-19	2018-20	2019-21
Altrincham	57	46	42	53	37	52	5%	5%	5%	6%
Partington	2	2	2	2	2	0	2%	2%	2%	1%
Sale East	25	38	39	37	39	41	7%	8%	8%	8%
Sale West	1	6	8	2	1	3	1%	1%	1%	1%
Stretford	33	39	35	46	33	45	6%	6%	6%	7%
Urmston	11	8	6	14	5	6	2%	2%	2%	2%
<b>All Trafford</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>5%</b>

**6.2** Across Trafford, the percentage of non-Trafford resident pupils in reception year in primary schools remains constant at 5% when considering the 3-year rolling average.

**6.3** Some areas have seen an increase in the number of non-Trafford residents admitted into reception year in 2021. This is because there were sufficient places in all planning areas which has allowed more non-Trafford residents to be offered places than in the previous year.

## Secondary

**6.4** The following tables shows the number of non-Trafford resident pupils in Year 7 by planning area, based on October school census. It is split between selective and non-selective schools and it also shows a 3-year rolling average to indicate the trend for the percentage of non-Trafford residents admitted.

Selective Schools	No. Non-Trafford Residents						3 Year Rolling Average % Non-Trafford			
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2016-18	2017-19	2018-20	2019-21
Altrincham	256	220	233	235	223	224	33%	32%	32%	31%
Sale	28	42	28	1	38	9	18%	13%	12%	8%
Stretford	67	58	74	46	59	68	45%	40%	37%	36%
Urmston	50	41	44	61	28	56	28%	31%	29%	32%
<b>All Trafford</b>	<b>401</b>	<b>361</b>	<b>379</b>	<b>343</b>	<b>348</b>	<b>357</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>28%</b>

Non-Selective Schools	No. Non-Trafford Residents						3 Year Rolling Average % Non-Trafford			
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2016-18	2017-19	2018-20	2019-21
Altrincham	86	66	92	62	61	54	10%	8%	8%	7%
Partington	2	1	0	1	1	2	1%	1%	1%	1%
Sale	63	70	67	60	62	64	15%	14%	14%	13%
Stretford	16	13	9	8	9	10	5%	4%	4%	4%
Urmston	44	47	37	46	40	49	10%	10%	9%	10%
<b>All Trafford</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>8%</b>

All Schools	No. Non-Trafford Residents						3 Year Rolling Average % Non-Trafford			
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2016-18	2017-19	2018-20	2019-21
Altrincham	342	286	325	297	284	278	20%	19%	19%	18%
Partington	2	1	0	1	1	2	1%	1%	1%	1%
Sale	91	112	95	61	100	73	16%	14%	13%	12%
Stretford	83	71	83	54	68	78	20%	18%	17%	17%
Urmston	94	88	81	107	68	105	15%	15%	14%	15%
<b>All Trafford</b>	<b>612</b>	<b>558</b>	<b>584</b>	<b>520</b>	<b>521</b>	<b>536</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>16%</b>

- 6.5** Across Trafford, the percentage of non-Trafford resident pupils in year 7 in secondary schools remains constant at 5% when considering the 3-year rolling average.
- 6.6** Some areas have seen an increase in the number of non-Trafford residents admitted into reception year in 2021. This is because there were sufficient places in all planning areas which has allowed more non-Trafford residents to be offered places than in the previous year.

### Entry to Secondary 2022

- 6.7** Parental preference is a strong factor in pupil placement. Sometimes Trafford parents do not apply for their local school where they have the best chance of achieving a place which can result in places having to be allocated to out of borough pupils who did apply. A Trafford applicant who did not express a preference for a particular school can only be offered a place at that school after allocations have been made to all those who did express a preference, regardless of where they live.
- 6.8** In order to maximise the number of places in Trafford schools which could be secured for Trafford residents, specific tailored advice was provided to Sale and Altrincham residents transferring to secondary school, advising them to apply for all their local non-selective schools. This was largely successful for the 2022 admission round. On national offer day non-selective academies (excluding the faith school) in these areas only offered to 8 non-Trafford residents compared to 79 in 2021.
- 6.9** There was also a small increase in the proportion of selective school places offered to Trafford residents. On national offer day, 70% of selective school places were offered to Trafford residents in 2022, up 1 percentage point on 2021. In Sale and Altrincham this increase was 2 percentage points from 68% in 2021 to 70%.
- 6.10** On national offer day 2022, there were 67 Altrincham resident children who could not be allocated places at any of their preferred schools and only 1 of those had followed our advice and included all the schools advised in the guidance. All 67 children were allocated places at one of the 3 remaining schools in Trafford who had vacancies which were Broadoak School in Partington, Lostock High School in Stretford or Wellacre Academy in Flixton.
- 6.11** Similar advice has been produced again for parents with a child due to transfer into secondary school in September 2023. This has been posted to their home address, made prominent on the council website as part of the application information, promoted through relevant primary schools and through a social media campaign.

## **Conclusion**

The demand for school places in the borough has been unprecedented over the last two years and is ongoing. Officers continue to work tirelessly to explore and deliver appropriate solutions within the financial envelope as evidenced in this report. Whilst these pressures remain, Trafford is in ongoing discussions with the Department for Education to escalate the pressures and seek support in the delivery of the options.