

<b>CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</b>
<b>16 FEBRUARY 2016</b>
<b>CHILDREN WITHOUT SCHOOL PLACES IN NOTTINGHAM</b>
<b>REPORT OF HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES</b>

## **1 Purpose**

- 1.1 To explore the work taking place in Nottingham to support children without school places.
- 1.2 To ensure that the school organisation programme is being developed and delivered in a way that meets the demand for school places in the city.

## **2 Action required**

The Committee is asked to

- 2.1 consider the work taking place to support children without a school place in Nottingham;
- 2.2 use the information received at the meeting to inform scrutiny of the management of school places in the City of Nottingham;
- 2.3 identify any potential areas for further scrutiny for inclusion in the work programme.

## **3 Background information**

- 3.1 Local authorities are statutorily responsible for ensuring that there are sufficient school places, in their area. Local authorities carry out an assessment of demographic changes and then plan and commission the required school places. Financing includes the use of funding provided by the Department for Education (DfE). In many cases, there will be a range of possible solutions to providing new school places, ranging from building new schools, permanent or temporary school extensions to converting existing space within schools for use as classrooms.
- 3.2 Local authorities rely on the co-operation of individual schools to expand existing provision to meet demand, although space on existing school sites might limit this, as well as the legal limits on the size of certain primary classes.
- 3.3 The impact of rising school-age children is an important issue locally, carrying significant financial implications. The number of pupils on roll in Nottingham schools has increased steadily since 2011 as follows:

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Primary Total	20,822	21,410	22,181	23,253	24,623
Secondary Total	13,311	13,315	13,342	13,169	13,258
City all age total	34,133	34,725	35,523	36,442	37,881

City Census profiles – January 2015 data

- 3.4 Since 2010, Nottingham City Council has been implementing an extensive school expansion programme to add primary school places in the areas of most need, following a local population increase. In total over 4,000 additional places will have been provided at a cost of over £32m,
- 3.5 However, despite the work being undertaken to increase capacity there are, at any given time, a small number of children who are not currently attending a city school or academy. The Committee is asked to explore the work taking place to support those children without a school place in Nottingham.

#### **4 List of attached information**

- 4.1 None.

#### **5 Background papers, other than published works or those disclosing exempt or confidential information**

- 5.1 None.

#### **6 Published documents referred to in compiling this report**

- 6.1 Nottingham Insight Census profiles  
<http://www.nottinghaminsight.org.uk>
- 6.2 Office for National Statistics  
<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/taxonomy/index.html?nscl=Population+Change>

#### **7 Wards affected**

- 7.1 Citywide.

#### **8 Contact information**

- 8.1 Rav Kalsi, Senior Governance Officer  
[rav.kalsi@nottinghamcity.gov.uk](mailto:rav.kalsi@nottinghamcity.gov.uk)  
0115 8763759