

**DRAFT SCHOOL ORGANISATION PLAN  
2002/03 TO 2007/08**

**MOLE VALLEY LOCAL COMMITTEE, 22 MAY 2002**

**KEY ISSUE:**

The draft School Organisation Plan 2002/2003-2007/2008 is required to be published for consultation by 1 June 2002. The Local Committee will consider the specific proposals for Mole Valley and consider its response to the consultation

**SUMMARY:**

This report presents extracts from the Draft School Organisation Plan that relate to Mole Valley and outline any key issues resulting from new data and revised forecasts

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS:**

The Local Committee is invited to submit comments on the proposals as part of the consultation.

## **INTRODUCTION and BACKGROUND**

1. This report is drawn from the full report presented to the SCC Executive on 13 May 2002 for approval before going to consultation from 1 June. The full report can be inspected on the County Council website in the Executive Committee papers section. This report concentrates on the proposals for Mole Valley.
2. The School Standards and Frameworks Act 1998 requires Local Education Authorities to produce a School Organisation Plan covering a five year period. The Plan is an annual plan and this is the third review of that plan covering the period 2002/3-2007/8.
3. The Plan is out to consultation for a period of two months. It has to be submitted to the School Organisation Committee, together with any comments received, for final approval.
4. The Plan is revised on an annual basis using up to date forecasts based on latest birth information and actual numbers on roll.
5. All future housing developments in an area are reviewed. Only housing developments with planning permission in place are included within the forecasts.
6. Across the County as a whole there has been a general downward trend in birthrates and in many cases this has affected the forecast for local areas. In some cases, mainly in the primary sector, this has increased overall surpluses to levels in excess of 20%. While consideration needs to be given to these high levels of surplus, some caution may also be required so as not to take precipitate action on the basis of a single year's data.
6. Capacity within both primary and secondary schools is still expressed in terms of Standard Number capacity. However, the DfES has now introduced a revised method of calculating school capacity known as sufficiency. This will derive a school's total capacity and ultimately its admission number. It is expected that this revised method will be reflected in next year's plan.

### **S.O.P. SECTIONS RELATING TO MOLE VALLEY (See also Appendix 1)**

#### **Primary provision:**

7. There has been some movement in the figures with the forecast surplus for Dorking increasing to slightly in excess of 20%. However, this area does include some small outlying village schools and there are no plans at present to bring forward proposals to reduce this surplus.
8. The position in Ashted is generally tight and a report will be brought to the Executive in due course outlining proposals to consider additional places in Ashted and possible proposals in relation to primary and early years provision in Leatherhead.

9. The position in Newdigate/Capel/Ockley and Beare Green, although indicating deficits, is manageable as Standard Number capacity does not currently reflect the true capacity of some schools in the area. This will be rectified under the new sufficiency arrangements for calculating the physical capacity of schools.
10. Officers have been discussing possible solutions to the issues in Brockham, Betchworth and Leigh and consultation will be taken forward on options in that area during this term.

**Secondary provision:**

*Dorking*

11. The position remains tight in Dorking, although some of the pressure, in recent years, has been from Reigate. A small Basic Need bid for the area was successful this year and investment will need to be undertaken in The Priory CE(A) School in order to enable it to meet current level of demand. The position will however need to be monitored and a further Basic Need bid submitted if appropriate.

*North Mole Valley / Effingham*

12. While there remains some pressure at 11+ entry the overall position remains manageable.

**Post 16 provision:**

- 13 This section outlines forecast demand at 16+ within Surrey's 11-18 schools. Discussions will be taken forward with the LSC (Learning and Skills Council) and the appropriate Diocesan authorities in relation to any prospective Basic Need bids in Autumn 2002.

**SPECIAL EDUCATION**

- 14 Surrey has a range of high quality special schools providing places for pupils with learning difficulties, emotional and learning difficulties, severe learning difficulties, emotional, behavioural and social difficulties and emotional and communication difficulties. A series of reviews are planned for special educational provision in the next three years starting with provision for children with emotional and behavioural difficulties.

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**BACKGROUND PAPERS:** DRAFT SCHOOL ORGANISATION  
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