Brent long term infrastructure needs over the Local Plan period

**Matter 4 - Strategic Transport, Infrastructure and Delivery.**

Action: Infrastructure Provision - further piece of work required: Look in more detail at phase 2 and phase 3 (to best of our abilities) to find out in particular what healthcare and education facilities (Primary, secondary and Special Education Needs categories to be covered) will be required in the later stages of the plan.

Contents

[Introduction 3](#_Toc60997462)

[Short term infrastructure needs – Phase 1 (2019/20 – 2023/24) 3](#_Toc60997463)

[Mid to long term infrastructure needs – phases 2 to 3 (2024/25 – 2040/41) 3](#_Toc60997464)

[Healthcare 3](#_Toc60997465)

[Education 5](#_Toc60997466)

[Primary and secondary schools 5](#_Toc60997467)

[Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) 6](#_Toc60997468)

[Conclusion 8](#_Toc60997469)

[Appendix A (separate document): Detailed short term infrastructure needs (Phase 1 2019/20 – 2023/24) 9](#_Toc60997470)

# Introduction

The Council has produced an Infrastructure Delivery Plan (EB\_I\_01). This can be found [here](https://www.brent.gov.uk/media/16417052/infrastructure-delivery-plan-2019-examination.pdf). This identifies the infrastructure needed to support the growth identified in the Housing Trajectory over the short term. A detailed response to the Inspectors Matters, Issues and Questions regarding the IDP and other infrastructure matters can be found [here](https://www.brent.gov.uk/media/16416776/brent-lp-miq4-lb-brent-response-aug20_final-combined.pdf).

Following discussions during Matter 4 at the hearing session the Inspectors have requested that the Council provide more detail around the infrastructure needs for education and health over the later phases of the Plan. This is to align the Plan with the requirements set out in paragraph 22 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), as follows:

*‘Strategic policies should look ahead over a minimum 15 year period from adoption, to anticipate and respond to long-term requirements and opportunities, such as those arising from major improvements in infrastructure.’*

It was noted that the Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) currently includes little detail beyond the first 5 year period. Infrastructure requirements are based on population projections. These are extrapolated from figures based on housing growth, and in/ out migration. The certainty of these figures diminishes the further into the future they are projected. Therefore planning for long term infrastructure can be difficult. This is reflected in the Councils School Place Planning Strategy (2019), which looks 5 years ahead. The same is true for health infrastructure.

Notwithstanding this, the Council recognises the importance of understanding its long term infrastructure needs. As such, we have produced this additional report summarising our current position, and the potential need going forward as appropriate. The infrastructure needs identified within this document are indicative only, representing a general need that is likely to arise should the growth in the housing trajectory be realised. The report makes an assessment of future demand rather than identify specific projects to meet need over the longer term period. The plan monitor manager approach will ensure needs are met in an appropriate way. This is considered to be a proportionate approach based on the evidence available at this time.

# Short term infrastructure needs – Phase 1 (2019/20 – 2023/24)

For completeness, the detailed breakdown of infrastructure projects by place and site over the short term of the Plan (0-5 years) has been appended to this document in Appendix A.

# Mid to long term infrastructure needs – phases 2 to 3 (2024/25 – 2040/41)

Medium to long-term infrastructure needs have been identified for healthcare and educational infrastructure. The needs identified have therefore been broken down into sections as follows:

## Healthcare

The Council has liaised with the Brent Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), and the Healthy Urban Development Unit (HUDU). They have used the housing growth identified in the Housing Trajectory and provided infrastructure requirements accordingly by Local Plan Place. This has been included in Table 1, which identifies projects by place as required to meet growth over Phases 2 and 3.

This considers existing provision, including projects identified in the IDP for delivery over Phase 1, as listed in Appendix A. This largely refers to the potential need to expand capacity, and if possible, where this may take place specifically. The Brent CCG and HUDU propose for the majority of this increased demand to be met through the upgrading/ expanding of existing facilities, with the potential delivery of new facilities where possible, and where growth demonstrates that this is necessary. This will be carefully monitored over the plan period.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|   | **Phase 2 (2024/25 – 2028/29)** | **Phase 3 (2029/30 – 2040/41)** |
| **Place**  | **Indicative housing growth** | **Healthcare infrastructure requirements** | **Indicative housing growth** | **Healthcare infrastructure requirements** |
| North West | 1245 | Primary care may need funding to increase capacity of existing stock to accommodate increased demand. | 811 | Primary care may need funding to accommodate increased demand. |
| North | 625 | Primary care may need funding to increase capacity of existing stock to accommodate increased demand. | 1117 | Primary care may need funding to accommodate increased demand. |
| Central | 1107 | Minimal requirement due to new facility in Phase 1 at Wembley Stadium | 1182 | Reconfiguration of existing site/s to meet increased demand |
| East | 1095 | Works to existing sites to meet additional demand including Chalk Hill Health Centre adjacent to Wembley Growth Area | 1207 | Continuation of Phase 2 works |
| South | 1393 | Minimal requirement | 4463 | Reconfiguration of Hillside Health Centre to increase capacity for primary/mental health/ out of hospital and community care, and other premises to meet increased demand |
| South West | 2953 | Capital funding to support delivery of health facility at Northfields alongside existing S106. Additional funding to support practices to expand /redevelop to support growth and provide wider range of services (mental health/diagnostics etc.) | 3580 | Reconfiguration to increase capacity at Wembley Centre for Health and Care (BSWSA13) |
| South East | 5585 | Expansion of capacity within the primary care/community/mental health and out of hospital | 3351 | Upgrading to increase capacity at Willesden Health Centre |
| Total (borough-wide) | 14004 | Expansion of capacity at Northwick Park and Central Middlesex Hospitals throughout the plan to address increased demand. Some capacity may be met by provision of additional space for increased services in the community. | 15712 | Same as Phase 2 |

Table 1: Long term healthcare infrastructure needs by Place over the Plan period.

## Education

The Council’s Education Team plan for school places over the short term, identifying the need for new infrastructures where necessary. This involves producing the [School Place Planning Strategy (2019)](https://www.brent.gov.uk/media/16417229/school-place-planning-strategy-2019-23-refresh-nov-20.pdf). This is currently in the process of being updated with new pupil projections. Projections are provided by the Greater London Authority (GLA), using the Housing Trajectory to provide the Borough Preferred Options. The latest figures provided have resulted in significantly reduced pupil yields upon those of the previous year. This is a result of using a new methodology, and changes in in/out migration predictions. The Council uses the most pessimistic figures in planning for school place provision. This ensures that the worst case scenario can be managed comfortably.

These figures are projected 15 years ahead. Although this does not align with the Plan period, it does satisfy the requirements of the NPPF in planning ahead for a minimum of 15 years.

The Inspectors have requested that consideration for long term need include primary, secondary and Special Educational Needs (SEN) infrastructure requirements. These have been identified as follows:

### Primary and secondary schools

Using best practice, the Council considers it appropriate to retain a 5% capacity surplus to ensure that any immediate changes in need can be accommodated. Using the latest figures, Table 2 identifies the surplus by year going forward to 2035. This has been broken down by primary and secondary provision, using reception and year 7 forms of entry (FE) as proxies respectively. This factors in provision currently planned for to meet short term demand, as identified in Appendix A.

This shows that for primary place provision, capacity can be met to 2029 before the 5% buffer can no longer be maintained. It isn’t until 2032 that existing provision reaches maximum capacity.

For secondary place provision, capacity can be met to 2032 before the 5% buffer can no longer be maintained. Under this modelling, the existing capacity is not met within the 15 years projected.

If existing provision dips below the required 5% buffer, the table states the number of forms of entry which will be required to bring this back up to the required capacity. By the end of the 15 year period which has been modelled, this requirement is for an additional 12 primary FE, and 4 secondary FE. It is anticipated that the vast majority of this need can be met through school expansion programmes. Where growth in a specific area is significant, it may be necessary to deliver an entirely new facility. Such needs will be included within the School Place Planning Strategy, which is updated on an annual basis. In exceptional circumstances, the Council is able to provide ‘bulge’ classes for when immediate need surpasses capacity. This is unlikely to be required given the measures taken by the Councils schools service provider, and the maintenance of a 5% capacity buffer.

Table : Primary and secondary school place surplus and additional forms of entry required over the next 15 years.

### Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

SEND includes a wide array of specialist educational needs and disabilities. Due to this complex requirement, it is difficult for the Council to meet all of these needs within the borough. The meeting of these needs is therefore spread more widely than mainstream school places, with many pupils being placed out of borough. As of January 2020, there were 2341 registered pupils within Brent which have special educational requirements. 2103 of these are attending reception to year 14 schools, with the remainder (238) attending further education (16-25). Of those attending primary or secondary provision (2103), 833 attend in borough schools. Needs are either met through independent specialist schools, or through Additionally Resourced Provision within mainstream schools.

Due to this diversity of needs, it makes projecting places very difficult. Predictions for 2019-2020 were for a 5% growth in need, however, actual growth increased by 11%. This is a result of overall pupil numbers increasing, in addition to the earlier diagnosis which we are beginning to see. In response to this, the Council has projected the yields from both a 5% and a 10% growth increase. This factors in projections (5%) whilst considering actual growth which may or may not be exceptional to that year (~10%). These are presented in Table 3 below.

It is not anticipated that the borough will see this level of growth in need for SEND placements. SEND will largely track growth in pupils seen at primary and secondary phases, as projected in Figure 2 above. This sees marginal growth to 2030 at approximately 5-7%. Given this, the growth projected for SEND placements, which uses the previous year’s growth, is unlikely to be realised. This growth may take place over the next few years in response to the high child yield the borough has recently experienced combined with earlier diagnoses, however, this is not likely to be sustained for the next 15 years. As such, the ~100-200% growth seen in the table below is thought to be inflated due to the artificially high base level growth projected from 2019-2020.

Table 3: long term growth in SEND pupil projections



To meet this need over the short term, the Council is currently exploring opportunities to increase capacities for SEND provision within its mainstream offer. After having received recent expansion for SEND provision, the Councils secondary schools are now at full capacity. These expansions have taken place at The Village School (35 additional places, and 21 within Key Stage 1 at The Hope Centre, since September 2018); The Manor School (40 additional places); Woodfield School (43 additional places in 2018 and 19 additional places created in 2019), and Phoenix Arch Primary Special (5 additional places).

For primary SEND provision, the Council is currently undertaking feasibility work to identify the possibility of providing Additionally Resourced Provision for SEND placements within its existing stock.

The primary means by which these needs will be met will be via Mainstream Plus. This involves the placement of SEND places within mainstream schools. As a result of early diagnosis, it is now possible to provide more effective early and preventative support within the mainstream schools, reducing the requirement for SEND provision in many cases. This will enable the Council to meet the needs of pupils within existing provision, reducing the need to provide additional specialist support which often takes children out of borough and away from their immediate community.

# Conclusion

Ultimately this demonstrates the Councils capacity to meet its projected needs for education and health over the medium to long term, in accordance with paragraph 21 of the NPPF. To ensure this is effective, population growth will continue to be monitored in accordance with the Brent Housing Trajectory and other relevant projections, such as the Borough Preferred Options as produced by the GLA. This will take place alongside discussions around infrastructure delivery and its monitored progression. This will be achieved in collaboration with the Councils schools service provider who will continue to respond to demand in school places by increasing capacity as necessary through a number of different mechanisms. Although challenging to project, the Council will continue to ensure that provision for the wide array of SEND needs is met for the wider west London area through cooperation with surrounding Local Planning Authorities. Healthcare infrastructure will be delivered in collaboration with the Brent CCG who have assisted the Council in identifying the medium to long term requirements.

# Appendix A (separate document): Detailed short term infrastructure needs (Phase 1 2019/20 – 2023/24)