

Ashmount site

Primary school places data

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1. Overview

Purpose

This is a collection of data surrounding the question of whether there is still a basic need for a primary school on the old Ashmount School site, now that the school itself has relocated.

Since the announcement that Islington Free Primary School (IFPS) is to receive public funding, there is now the related question of whether the intended Ashmount Road site or Islington Council's favoured Dowrey Street site is more suitable. The DfE's Free Schools unit will look at a number of criteria in relation to this decision, but this document is only concerned with the comparative basic needs.

Intended audience

This document is somewhat technical, and may be hard-going for anyone unused to looking for patterns in tables of figures. As explained below, my investigation has been hampered by a shortage of data. I have had to come to some conclusions indirectly by 'triangulation' rather than having the information in front of me.

It is thus intended principally for those in the DfE who are involved in the decision as to whether IFPS should use the Ashmount site or, if not, whether the site should be retained for educational use.

Council's position and planning inspector's report

The Council has consistently maintained that there is no shortage of places in north Islington or in the neighbouring part of Haringey and, were there to be such a shortfall, existing schools could readily be expanded to meet demand.

On 17 June 2013 an independent planning inspector's report endorsed the Council's position (see Section 9).

Historical summary of findings

My own researches over the past 18 months tell a different story.

Clear need a year ago. A year ago, using 2011 data, the need for a new school on the site was clearly demonstrable (see Section 5). The local wards in Islington, Haringey and Camden were all projecting shortages of Reception places over the next 7 years (average 44 per year) without taking into account the proposed major housing development at Archway (Section 7).

Confusing picture in late 2012. After the next round of projections were published (or, in the case of Islington, obtained by FOI request) in summer 2012, the picture became less clear (Section 6). Camden's projections had, once again fallen, Haringey's shortage had increased overall but it had migrated away from the border with Islington, and Islington's figures had fallen dramatically (and somewhat implausibly).

Clearer picture in 2013. In the last couple of months, the position has become suddenly much clearer:

- **Annual Report showing growth in demand.** Islington published figures in its 2012 Annual Report on Education that showed an increase in total demand (Reception to Year 6) in the borough, contradicting the information supplied last summer but confirming the 2011 data (see Section 4).
- **Admissions data showing growth in demand in the north.** Then, when the school applications were published, the Admissions staff were willing to provide statistics of school cut-off distances (Section 2) and numbers of applications (Section 3) that showed (a) increased demand and (b) the location of that demand in the north of the borough. This is consonant with 2011 **Census data** that shows a lack of primary school provision in the Ashmount area (also Section 3).
- **'Bulge classes' in the north.** Finally, it was announced, despite consistent political rhetoric in the past two years about the 'surplus' of primary places in the borough, that 80 additional Reception places were to be created this year, 60 in the north of Planning Area 2 and 20 in Planning Area 1. These new places have been created in the area predicted by the applications data (see again Section 3).

Verdict

There is evidence of a significantly greater basic need for a school at Ashmount Road, N19 compared to Dowrey Street, N1.

And there is a basic need for a 2-form-entry school either in the north or north-east of the borough. Given the following:

- The Council's proposed Archway development of 800-1,400 units by 2025 and additional private development of up to 400 units (see Section 7)
- The ongoing pressure in Haringey (relieved this year by a bulge class)
- The 'black hole' in the Whitehall Park area (8-10 families were without a school until the bulge classes were created)
- The lack of alternative sites elsewhere in Planning Area 1 (see the conclusion of the 2009 Cushman & Wakefield report supporting the move to Crouch Hill – Section 8),

the Ashmount site may be the only place with sufficient capacity.

Note on problems obtaining data

Unlike the surrounding councils, which publish annual school places planning reports,¹² Islington publishes no detailed information for the general public.³ Access to the one document that was available by search is now unauthorised.⁴

Information requested under Freedom of Information was not always supplied on first request. Data (such as a breakdown of a published table) was sometimes unavailable.⁵ Some figures supplied under FOI appear inconsistent with published data.⁶

¹ For Camden see, for example, <http://tinyurl.com/Camden-2012>

² For Haringey see 2008-2012 reports <http://tinyurl.com/Haringey-data>

³ See unpublished reports here <http://tinyurl.com/Islington-data>

⁴ This is the 2011 statistical update <http://tinyurl.com/2011-statistical-update> used in pages 17-20 of this report

⁵ See, for example, pages 13 and 20

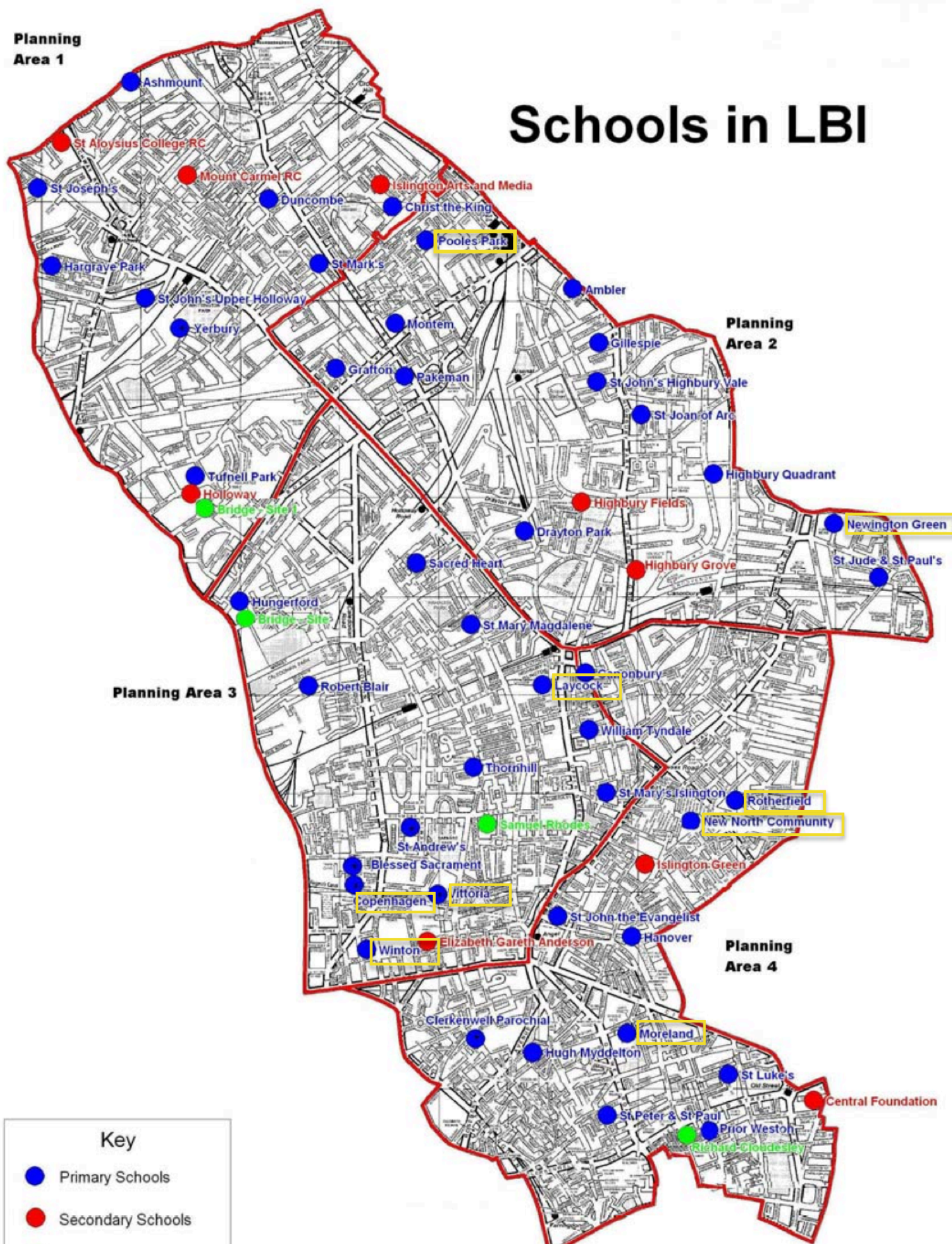
⁶ These anomalies are examined in detail on page 33

1. School cut-off distances

- Map of LBI schools
- Map of LBI wards
- Ashmount and neighbouring schools' cut-off distances 2012
- Ashmount and neighbouring schools' cut-off distances 2013
- LBI schools cut-off distances and school densities

**Planning
Area 1**

Schools in LBI



Key

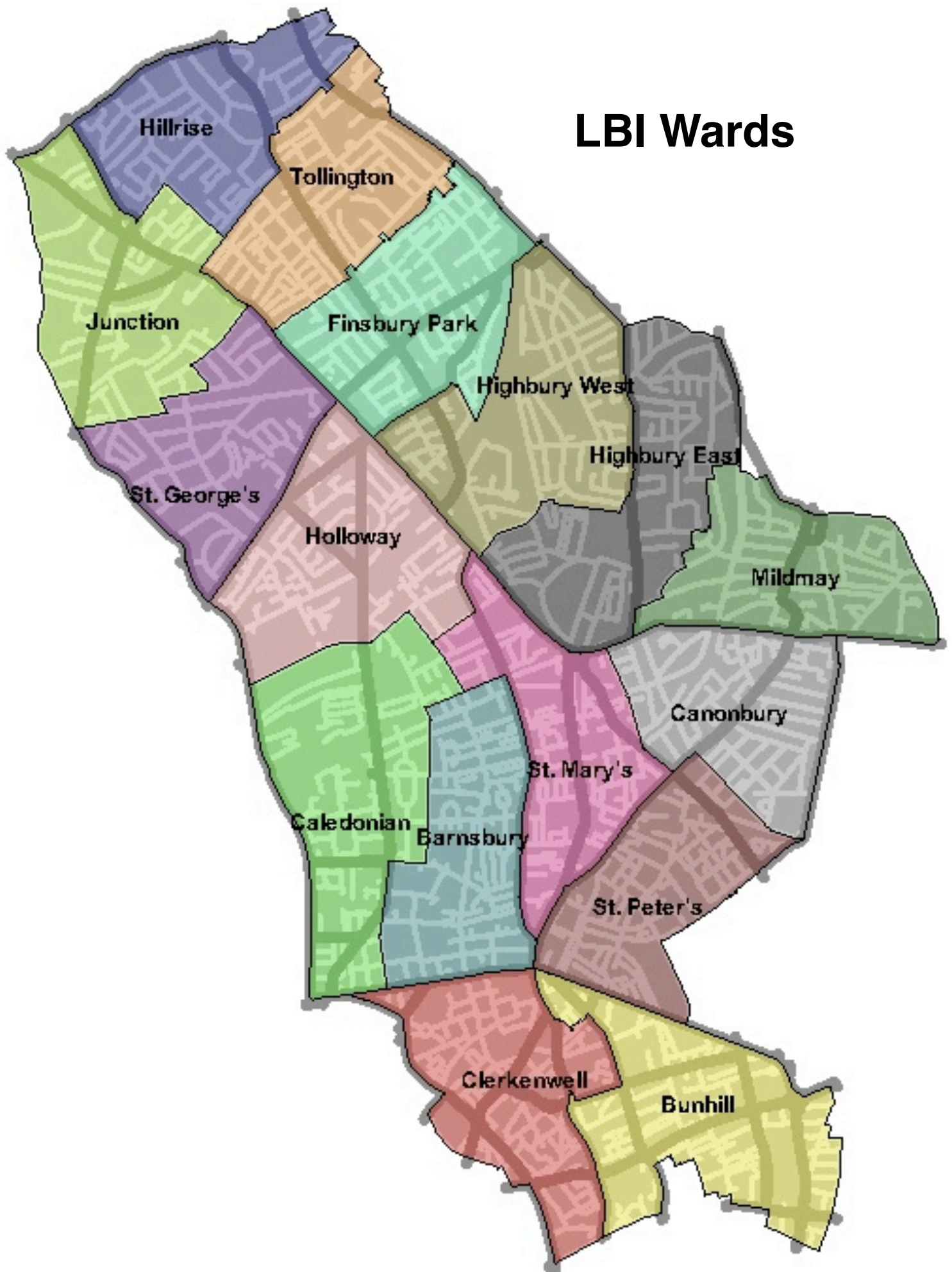
- Primary Schools
- Secondary Schools
- Special Schools



Schools with reception places for Sept 2013

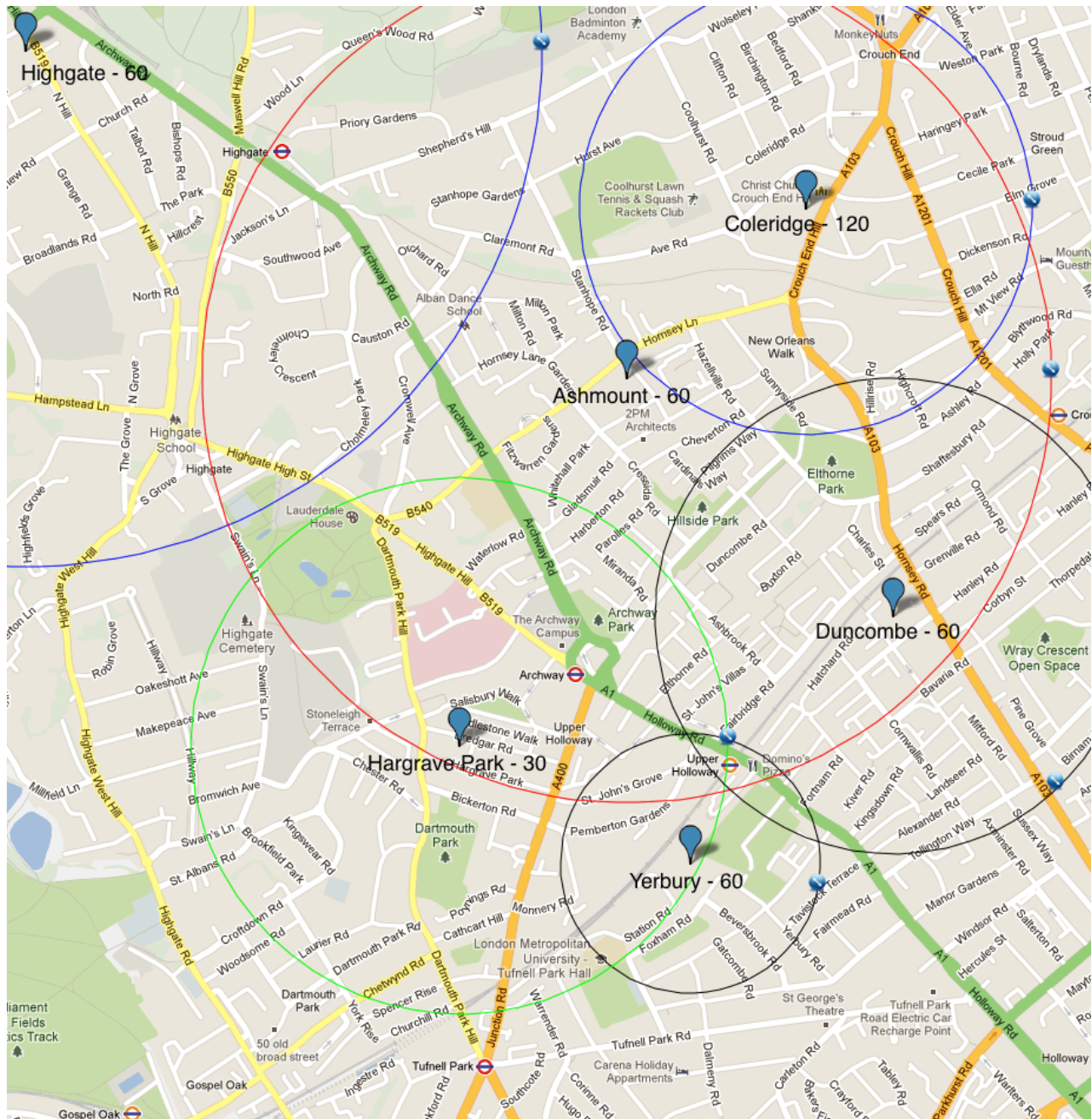
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LBI Wards



September 2012

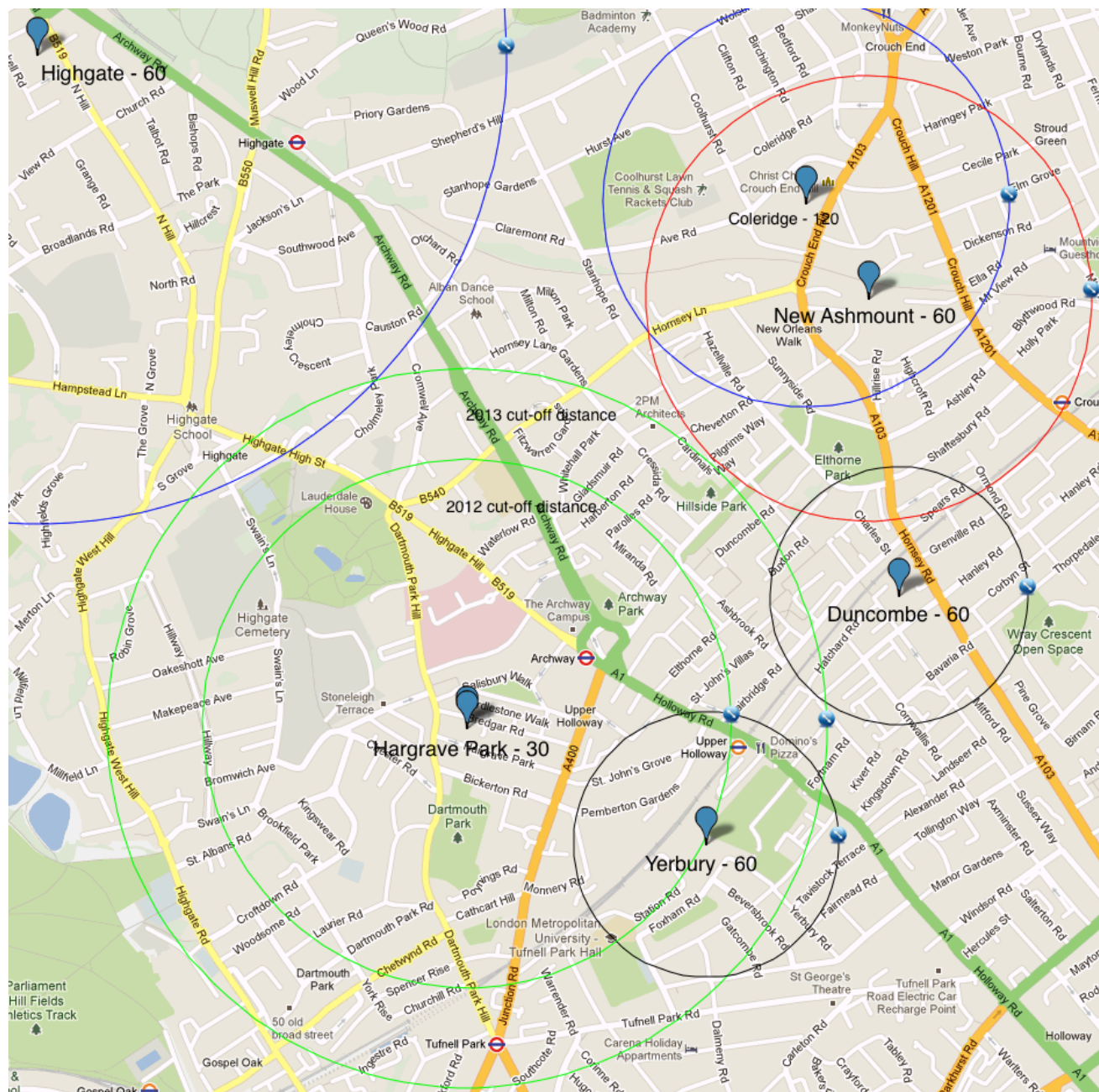
Cut-off distances and PANs (admission numbers) for Ashmount and neighbouring schools



This map shows how, last year, Ashmount school had a large catchment area that overlapped with those of neighbouring schools. See the following page for how this has changed since the move to Crouch Hill in January 2013.

September 2013

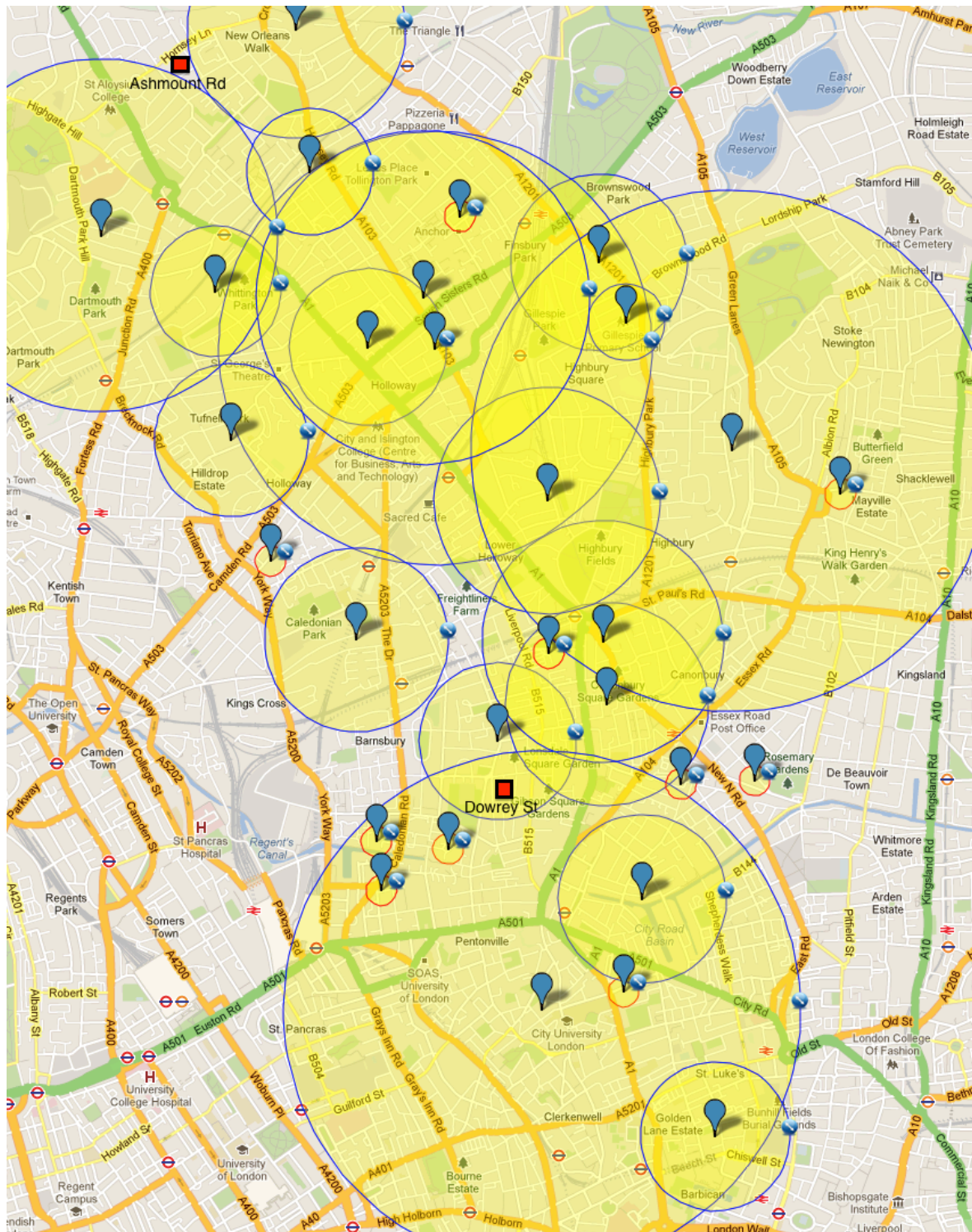
Cut-off distances and PANs (admission numbers) for Ashmount and neighbouring schools



Ashmount's cut-off distance has halved with the move to Crouch Hill. The neighbouring schools' cut-off distances have reduced, with the exception of Hargrave Park, a single-form-entry school, whose cut-off distance increased. Since this map was drawn, Islington Council have announced a bulge class of 15 at Hargrave Park and Haringey's bulge class at Weston Park has given rise to surplus places (1.4 mile cut-off distance) at Rokesly Infants (behind Crouch End town centre at the top of the map).

September 2013

LBI primary school cut-off distances



This map shows only Islington community schools (ie no CE, RC etc). Schools with no cut-off distance (ie all applicants got a place) are shown as small red circles. The map also shows the location of both the Ashmount Road and Dowrey Street sites. Note Hargrave Park's large cut-off area compared to the three nearest 2 form-entry schools.

3. Applications and Census data

(Location of growth in demand)

- LBI applications data 2011-13
- 2011 Census and GLA population data
- Comparison of GLA 2011 and 2010 rounds

LB1 Applications data 2011-2013

ISLINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOLS 1st PLACE PREFERENCE vs PLANNED ADMISSION NUMBERS

Ranked by distance from the old Ashmount Primary School site

Highlighted schools are those which currently have Reception places as of 25 April 2013

School	Type	Planning Area		Dist rank	2012					Full PAN	Total applications				Ratios (YY/YY)			
		PA	W Ward		1st Pref	PA total	PAN	by W	ratio		1st pref/ PAN	2011	2012	2013	Apps/ PAN	2013/11	2012/11	2013/12
ASHMOUNT		1	1 Hillrise	E	1	45	60	60	0.75		164	229	256		1.56			
Duncombe		1	2 Tollington	E	3	55	60		0.92		130	168	204		1.57		East avg	1.59
St Marks	CE	1	2 Tollington	E	7	19	30		0.63		63	77	89		1.41		West avg	1.25
Christ the King	RC	1	2 Tollington	E	8	41	45	135	0.91		62	88	117		1.89			
St Josephs	RC	1	3 Junction	W	2	64	60		1.07		175	171	172		0.98			
Hargrave Park		1	3 Junction	W	4	26	30		0.87		75	109	99		1.32			
St John's Upper Holloway	CE	1	3 Junction	W	5	27	30		0.90		69	110	106		1.54			
Yerbury		1	3 Junction	W	6	104	60	180	1.73		256	286	328		1.28			
Tufnell Park		1	4 St George's	W	12	44	425	45	0.98	1.01	130	161	174	3.33	1.34	1.24	1.10	1.37
Pooles Park		2	5 Finsbury Pk	N	9	30	60		0.50		37	58	86		2.32			
Grafton		2	5 Finsbury Pk	N	10	99	60		1.65		239	278	344		1.44		North avg	1.50
Montem		2	5 Finsbury Pk	N	11	55	60		0.92		106	108	137		1.29		South avg	1.23
Pakeman		2	5 Finsbury Pk	N	13	28	45	225	0.62		99	101	132		1.33			
Ambler		2	6 Highbury W	N	14	34	30		1.13		78	126	150		1.92			
Gillespie		2	6 Highbury W	N	16	44	30		1.47	45	151	196	252		1.67			
St John's (Highbury Vale)	CE	2	6 Highbury W	N	17	33	30	90	1.10		112	105	133		1.19			
Drayton Park		2	7 Highbury E	S	19	35	45		0.78		159	159	167		1.05			
St Joan of Arc	RC	2	7 Highbury E	S	20	83	60	105	1.38		159	177	175		1.10			
Highbury Quadrant		2	8 Mildmay	S	23	28	60		0.47		61	111	128		2.10			
Newington Green		2	8 Mildmay	S	31	37	60		0.62		90	96	106		1.18			
St Jude & St Paul's	CE	2	8 Mildmay	S	36	27	533	30	0.90	0.94	50	61	64	2.76	1.28	1.18	1.19	1.40
Hungerford		3	9 Holloway	N	15	42	60		0.70		82	95	114		1.39			
Sacred Heart	RC	3	9 Holloway	N	18	61	45	105	1.36		112	139	145		1.29		North avg	1.34
Robert Blair		3	10 Caledonian	S	21	27	27		1.00		43	60	75		1.74		South avg	1.14
St Andrew's	CE	3	10 Caledonian	S	28	29	30		0.97	45	82	101	83		1.01			
Blessed Sacrament	RC	3	10 Caledonian	S	30	31	30		1.03		49	66	60		1.22			
Copenhagen (IN N1)		3	10 Caledonian	S	32	30	60		0.50		68	73	69		1.01			
Winton		3	10 Caledonian	S	35	28	30	177	0.93	0.91	57	49	49		0.86			
St Mary Magdalene Academy	CE	3	11 St Mary's	S	22	58	30		1.93	45	179	179	204		1.14			
Laycock		3	11 St Mary's	S	24	28	50		0.56		118	145	129		1.09			
William Tyndale		3	11 St Mary's	S	27	96	60		1.60		318	319	357		1.12			
St Mary's Islington	CE	3	11 St Mary's	S	33	21	30	170	0.70		50	73	72		1.44			
Thornhill		3	12 Barnsbury	S	26	64	60		1.07		230	221	258		1.12			
DOWREY STREET SITE		3	12 Barnsbury	S	29													
Victoria		3	12 Barnsbury	S	34	23	538	30	0.77		49	55	64	2.91	1.31	1.10	1.07	1.17
Canonbury		4	13 Canonbury		25	70	60	60	1.17		235	309	336		1.43			
The New North Academy		4	14 St Peter's		37	32	60		0.53		102	76	111		1.09			
Rotherfield		4	14 St Peter's		38	41	60		0.68		126	102	116		0.92			
St John the Evangelist	RC	4	14 St Peter's		39	51	40		1.28		136	155	136		1.00			
Hanover		4	14 St Peter's		40	53	45	205	1.18		192	164	183		0.95			
Clerkenwell Parochial	CE	4	15 Clerkenwell		41	21	30		0.70		68	87	86		1.26			
Hugh Myddleton		4	15 Clerkenwell		42	46	60	90	0.77		103	115	123		1.19			
Moreland		4	16 Burnhill		43	10	30		0.33		54	47	72		1.33			
St Peter and St Paul		4	16 Burnhill		44	47	30		1.57		107	138	123		1.15			
St Luke's	CE	4	16 Burnhill		45	50	30		1.67		94	116	139		1.48			
Prior Weston		4	16 Burnhill		46	66	487	60	1.10	0.96	129	147	156	2.88	1.21	1.08	1.09	1.17
Grand total						1,983	1,983	2,037	2,037	0.97	135	5,248	6,006	6,679	1.27	1.14	1.11	1.27

Sources

1st place preferences as % of PAN - Islington Annual Report on Education 2012

Distance ranking - estimated from schools map

Schools with vacancies - May 2013

Schools with temporarily reduced PAN (prior to 2013 admissions adjustments)

Estimated pro rata applications	Est	Actual	Est
	1,733	1,983	2,205
PA1	341	425	469
PA2	454	533	634
PA3	491	538	574
PA4	447	487	529
	1,733	1,983	2,205

+100% and above
+75-100%
+50-75%
+27-50%

Methodology

The Council have increased capacity by 80 places since Offer Day (17 April 2013) - 30 places each in Grafton and Ambler in PA2 and 15 and 5 in Hargrave Park and Tufnell Park in PA1 respectively.

The purpose of this schedule is, from the limited data provided, to identify where, in the borough, the actual shortage lies.

LB1 provided 1st place preference data by school in their 2012 Annual Report (this is a good proxy for the number of children). This data was not provided in the 2011 report and LB1 have said (most recently on 10 June 2013) that they do not have this data for 2013.

Total applications data for each school is available for 2011, 2012 and 2013. Changes in these figures may be for reasons other than changes in the number of children. They may be influenced by (1) how many applications parents make (2) whether applications are made on time.

Assuming that total applications bear a consistent relation to 1st preferences (and hence the number of children), this schedule looks at the growth in total applications by school, ward, planning area part (N, S, E & W) and planning area.

In each case aggregate ratios and averages have been calculated by summing the underlying data (not by averaging ratios)!

2011 Census and GLA child population data

School age child population versus primary school places by ward

LB Islington
GLA Ward Data Atlas
2011 Census Data and population projections
0-15-YEAR-OLDS BY WARD

		Census	GLA '2011 round' Projections					No	2013 PAN			POST ADDITIONAL PLACES				
		2011	2007	2012	2017	2022	2027	Schools	Orig	Addnl	Final	Ratio of children 0-15 to primary places				
												2011	2012	2017	2022	2027
00AUGF	Hillrise	2270	2350	2400	2450	2550	2600	1	60		60	37.8	40.0	40.8	42.5	43.3
00AUGN	Tollington	2359	2100	2150	2250	2300	2350	3	135		135	17.5	15.9	16.7	17.0	17.4
00AUGH	Junction	1851	1650	1800	2000	2100	2150	4	180	15	195	9.5	9.2	10.3	10.8	11.0
00AUGK	St. George's	2012	1600	1500	1550	1550	1600	1	45	5	50	40.2	30.0	31.0	31.0	32.0
		8492	7700	7850	8250	8500	8700	9	420	20	440	19.3	17.8	18.8	19.3	19.8
00AUGC	Finsbury Park	2644	2550	2800	3000	3150	3300	4	225	30	255	10.4	11.0	11.8	12.4	12.9
00AUGE	Highbury West	2283	2350	2850	3150	3350	3350	3	90	30	120	19.0	23.8	26.3	27.9	27.9
00AUGD	Highbury East	1980	1900	2000	2100	2200	2250	2	105		105	18.9	19.0	20.0	21.0	21.4
00AUGJ	Mildmay	2358	2150	2300	2450	2550	2550	3	150		150	15.7	15.3	16.3	17.0	17.0
		9265	8950	9950	10700	11250	11450	12	570	60	630	14.7	15.8	17.0	17.9	18.2
00AUGG	Holloway	2334	1850	2150	2350	2450	2450	2	105		105	22.2	20.5	22.4	23.3	23.3
00AUFZ	Caledonian	2119	2150	2550	2650	2700	2650	5	177		177	12.0	14.4	15.0	15.3	15.0
00AUGL	St. Mary's	1579	1550	1500	1600	1700	1750	4	170		170	9.3	8.8	9.4	10.0	10.3
00AUFX	Barnsbury	1816	1900	1950	2000	2050	2050	3	90		90	20.2	21.7	22.2	22.8	22.8
		7848	7450	8150	8600	8900	8900	14	542	-	542	14.5	15.0	15.9	16.4	16.4
00AUGA	Canonbury	2093	1800	1850	1950	2000	2000	1	60		60	34.9	30.8	32.5	33.3	33.3
00AUGM	St. Peter's	1752	1850	1800	2000	2200	2300	4	205		205	8.5	8.8	9.8	10.7	11.2
00AUGB	Clerkenwell	1406	1150	1150	1200	1250	1250	2	90		90	15.6	12.8	13.3	13.9	13.9
00AUFY	Bunhill	1969	1850	2250	2550	2750	2800	4	150		150	13.1	15.0	17.0	18.3	18.7
		7220	6650	7050	7700	8200	8350	11	505	-	505	14.3	14.0	15.2	16.2	16.5
Islington totals/averages		32,825	30,750	33,000	35,250	36,850	37,400	46	2,037	80	2,117	15.5	15.6	16.7	17.4	17.7

The GLA 'Ward Data Atlas' shows Census and projected data for 0-15 year-olds by ward. Comparing this with the number of primary school Reception places by ward and by LA planning area gives a ratio of children per available Reception place. This is a crude indication of the adequacy of primary school provision between wards. (Note that the GLA projections look odd in places - see next page.)

Three wards stand out as having a higher ratio (fewer primary places compared to population) than the others. Two of these are in PA1, one of which is Hillrise Ward (where Ashmount is). St George's is a prosperous area where a higher proportion of children may be privately educated (though this is only a conjecture). Canonbury appears to be as badly provided for with local schools as Hillrise post the Ashmount move, except there are a number of schools along its south and western borders.

Comparison of 2011 and 2010 GLA projection 'rounds'

GLA Ward Data Atlas
2011 round (version) versus 2010 round
0-15-YEAR-OLDS BY WARD

			Census	GLA '2011 round' Projections						GLA '2010 round' Projections					Ratio 2011/2010 rounds			
			2011	2007	2012	2017	2022	2027		2011	2013	2017	2023	2027	2012/13	2017	2022/23	2027
00AUGF	Hillrise	1	2270	2350	2400	2450	2550	2600		2700	2800	2950	3200	3300	0.86	0.83	0.80	0.79
00AUGN	Tollington	2	2359	2100	2150	2250	2300	2350		2400	2450	2600	2750	2800	0.88	0.87	0.84	0.84
00AUGH	Junction	3	1851	1650	1800	2000	2100	2150		1950	2050	2250	2450	2550	0.88	0.89	0.86	0.84
00AUGK	St. George's	4	2012	1600	1500	1550	1550	1600		1700	1700	1750	1800	1850	0.88	0.89	0.86	0.86
			8492	7700	7850	8250	8500	8700		8750	9000	9550	10200	10500	0.87	0.86	0.83	0.83
00AUGC	Finsbury Park	5	2644	2550	2800	3000	3150	3300		3100	3200	3400	3650	3850	0.88	0.88	0.86	0.86
00AUGE	Highbury West	6	2283	2350	2850	3150	3350	3350		3150	3350	3700	4000	4050	0.85	0.85	0.84	0.83
00AUGD	Highbury East	7	1980	1900	2000	2100	2200	2250		2350	2450	2650	2800	2850	0.82	0.79	0.79	0.79
00AUGJ	Mildmay	8	2358	2150	2300	2450	2550	2550		2450	2500	2600	2650	2700	0.92	0.94	0.96	0.94
			9265	8950	9950	10700	11250	11450		11050	11500	12350	13100	13450	0.87	0.87	0.86	0.85
00AUGG	Holloway	9	2334	1850	2150	2350	2450	2450		2400	2500	2600	2700	2650	0.86	0.90	0.91	0.92
00AUFZ	Caledonian	10	2119	2150	2550	2650	2700	2650		2650	2800	3000	3150	3250	0.91	0.88	0.86	0.82
00AUGL	St. Mary's	11	1579	1550	1500	1600	1700	1750		1800	1850	2000	2200	2250	0.81	0.80	0.77	0.78
00AUFX	Barnsbury	12	1816	1900	1950	2000	2050	2050		2200	2300	2450	2600	2650	0.85	0.82	0.79	0.77
			7848	7450	8150	8600	8900	8900		9050	9450	10050	10650	10800	0.86	0.86	0.84	0.82
00AUGA	Canonbury	13	2093	1800	1850	1950	2000	2000		2050	2150	2250	2400	2450	0.86	0.87	0.83	0.82
00AUGM	St. Peter's	14	1752	1850	1800	2000	2200	2300		2150	2200	2350	2550	2650	0.82	0.85	0.86	0.87
00AUGB	Clerkenwell	15	1406	1150	1150	1200	1250	1250		1250	1300	1350	1400	1450	0.88	0.89	0.89	0.86
00AUFY	Bunhill	16	1969	1850	2250	2550	2750	2800		2200	2350	2600	3000	3150	0.96	0.98	0.92	0.89
			7220	6650	7050	7700	8200	8350		7650	8000	8550	9350	9700	0.88	0.90	0.88	0.86
			32,825	30,750	33,000	35,250	36,850	37,400		36,500	37,950	40,500	43,300	44,450	0.87	0.87	0.85	0.84

The 2011 round of GLA projections show a child population about 80-90% of the levels assumed in the 2010 round. The 2011 round does not accord with the Census data, however, having presumably been calculated before the Census data became available. Some of the '2012' projected ward figures are lower than the 2011 Census actuals, though the borough total is not that different.

4. Total school roll projections

(Location of 'surplus' places)

- Breakdown of 2011 'Statistical Update' figures by planning area
- Breakdown of 2012 'Statistical Update' figures by planning area
- Lack of comparability between 2012 and 2011 figures
- Comparison of 2011 and 2012 Annual Report figures

Overall surplus/deficit of primary places in LBI

1. Breakdown of 2011 'Statistical Update' figures

LB Islington
Primary and Secondary School Places statistical update 2011
21 June 2011

TOTAL ROLL DATA (sum of Planning Areas 1-4)

Year	Projected Roll Data	Projected Net Cap	Surplus Capacity	Surplus (%)
*2007	12,432	14,054	1,622	11.5
*2008	12,283	14,054	1,771	12.6
*2009	12,186	14,054	1,868	13.3
*2010	12,257	14,069	1,812	12.9
*2011	12,388	13,922	1,534	11.0
2012	12,260	13,948	1,688	12.1
2013	12,566	13,966	1,400	10.0
2014	12,850	13,966	1,116	8.0
2015	13,125	13,966	841	6.0
2016	13,378	13,966	588	4.2
2017	13,624	13,966	342	2.4
2018	13,626	13,966	340	2.4
2019	13,662	13,966	304	2.2

* actual roll data from January Census data

Total is 20 more than the sum of the four planning areas

Planning Area 1

Year	Projected Roll Data	Projected Net Cap	Surplus Capacity	Surplus (%)
*2007	2,713	2,996	283	9.4
*2008	2,667	2,996	329	11.0
*2009	2,605	2,996	391	13.1
*2010	2,624	2,996	372	12.4
*2011	2,676	2,996	320	10.7
2012	2,772	2,950	178	6.0
2013	2,837	2,988	151	5.1
2014	2,883	2,988	105	3.5
2015	2,942	2,988	46	1.5
2016	3,012	2,988	-24	-0.8
2017	3,080	2,988	-92	-3.1
2018	3,065	2,988	-77	-2.6
2019	3,057	2,988	-69	-2.3

*actual roll data from January PLASC survey

Planning Area 3

Year	Projected Roll Data	Projected Net Cap	Surplus Capacity	Surplus (%)
*2007	3,055	3,568	513	14.4
*2008	3,044	3,568	524	14.7
*2009	3,044	3,568	524	14.7
*2010	3,074	3,463	389	11.2
*2011	3,075	3,499	424	12.1
2012	2,772	3,551	779	21.9
2013	2,837	3,551	714	20.1
2014	2,883	3,551	668	18.8
2015	2,942	3,551	609	17.2
2016	3,012	3,551	539	15.2
2017	3,080	3,551	471	13.3
2018	3,065	3,551	486	13.7
2019	3,057	3,551	494	13.9

This is correct figure from detailed table by school
The correct figure was used in the totals above

Councillor Watts Letter to ASAG - 12 January 2012 Planning Area 1

Year	Projected Roll Data	Capacity based on current PAN	Surplus capacity based on PAN	(%)
*2007	2,713	3,045	332	10.9
*2008	2,667	3,045	378	12.4
*2009	2,605	3,045	440	14.4
*2010	2,624	3,045	421	13.8
*2011	2,676	3,045	369	12.1
2012	2,772	3,045	273	9.0
2013	2,837	3,045	208	6.8
2014	2,883	3,045	162	5.3
2015	2,942	3,045	103	3.4
2016	3,012	3,045	33	1.1
2017	3,080	3,045	-35	-1.1
2018	3,065	3,045	-20	-0.7
2019	3,057	3,045	-12	-0.4

Note that PANs are higher than DfE's Net Capacity measure
PANs thus comparatively increase the surplus/reduce the deficit.

Planning Area 2

Year	Projected Roll Data	Projected Net Cap	Surplus Capacity	Surplus (%)
*2007	3,503	3,984	481	12.1
*2008	3,468	3,984	516	13.0
*2009	3,424	3,984	560	14.1
*2010	3,415	3,954	539	13.6
*2011	3,481	3,981	500	12.6
2012	3,553	3,981	428	10.8
2013	3,665	3,981	316	7.9
2014	3,786	3,981	195	4.9
2015	3,884	3,981	97	2.4
2016	3,962	3,981	19	0.5
2017	4,045	3,981	-64	-1.6
2018	4,051	3,981	-70	-1.8
2019	4,059	3,981	-78	-2.0

Planning Area 4

Year	Projected Roll Data	Projected Net Cap	Surplus Capacity	Surplus (%)
*2007	3,161	3,506	345	9.8
*2008	3,104	3,506	402	11.5
*2009	3,113	3,506	393	11.2
*2010	3,144	3,656	512	14.0
*2011	3,156	3,446	290	8.4
2012	3,163	3,446	283	8.2
2013	3,227	3,446	219	6.4
2014	3,298	3,446	148	4.3
2015	3,357	3,446	89	2.6
2016	3,392	3,446	54	1.6
2017	3,419	3,446	27	0.8
2018	3,445	3,446	1	0.0
2019	3,489	3,446	-43	-1.2

The breakdown shows that the four Planning Areas are not equal. The surplus is largest in the south (especially Planning Area 3) while it is lowest in the north (especially Planning Area 1, where Ashmount is). According to these projections, Planning Area 1 goes into overall deficit (Reception to Yr 6) in 2016.

Overall surplus/deficit of primary places in LBI

2. Breakdown of 2012 'Statistical Update' figures

LB Islington
Primary and Secondary School Places statistical update 2012
19 May 2012

TOTAL ROLL DATA

(sum of Planning Areas 1-4)

Year	Projected Roll Data	Projected Net Cap	Surplus Capacity	Surplus (%)
*2007	11,695	13,266	1,571	11.8
*2008	11,530	13,266	1,736	13.1
*2009	11,421	13,266	1,845	13.9
*2010	11,493	13,281	1,788	13.5
*2011	11,621	13,134	1,513	11.5
*2012	11,704	13,128	1424	10.8
2013	12,049	13,146	1097	8.3
2014	12,206	13,251	1,045	7.9
2015	12,322	13,251	929	7.0
2016	12,427	13,251	824	6.2
2017	12,513	13,251	738	5.6
2018	12,539	13,251	712	5.4
2019	12,518	13,251	733	5.5

* actual roll data from January Census data

Total is 20 more than the sum of the four planning areas (same as 2011)!

Planning Area 1

Year	Projected Roll Data	Projected Net Cap	Surplus Capacity	Surplus (%)
*2007	2,713	2,996	283	9.4
*2008	2,667	2,996	329	11.0
*2009	2,605	2,996	391	13.1
*2010	2,624	2,996	372	12.4
*2011	2,676	2,996	320	10.7
*2012	2,731	2,950	219	7.4
2013	2,734	2,988	254	8.5
2014	2,739	2,988	249	8.3
2015	2,752	2,988	236	7.9
2016	2,778	2,988	210	7.0
2017	2,803	2,988	185	6.2
2018	2,778	2,988	210	7.0
2019	2,770	2,988	218	7.3

*actual roll data from January PLASC survey

Planning Area 2

Year	Projected Roll Data	Projected Net Cap	Surplus Capacity	Surplus (%)
*2007	3,503	3,984	481	12.1
*2008	3,468	3,984	516	13.0
*2009	3,424	3,984	560	14.1
*2010	3,415	3,954	539	13.6
*2011	3,481	3,981	500	12.6
*2012	3,441	3,981	540	13.6
2013	3,622	3,981	359	9.0
2014	3,706	4,191	485	11.6
2015	3,759	4,191	432	10.3
2016	3,796	4,191	395	9.4
2017	3,849	4,191	342	8.2
2018	3,866	4,191	325	7.8
2019	3,874	4,191	317	7.6

Why 210 increase when surplus already. No info in report.

Planning Area 3

Year	Projected Roll Data	Projected Net Cap	Surplus Capacity	Surplus (%)
*2007	2,651	3,200	549	17.2
*2008	2,635	3,200	565	17.7
*2009	2,633	3,200	567	17.7
*2010	2,659	3,095	436	14.1
*2011	2,661	3,131	470	15.0
*2012	2,688	3,131	443	14.1
2013	2,802	3,131	329	10.5
2014	2,863	3,026	163	5.4
2015	2,900	3,026	126	4.2
2016	2,937	3,026	89	2.9
2017	2,961	3,026	65	2.1
2018	2,994	3,026	32	1.1
2019	2,959	3,026	67	2.2

Planning Area 4

Year	Projected Roll Data	Projected Net Cap	Surplus Capacity	Surplus (%)
*2007	2,828	3,086	258	8.4
*2008	2,760	3,086	326	10.6
*2009	2,759	3,086	327	10.6
*2010	2,795	3,236	441	13.6
*2011	2,803	3,026	223	7.4
*2012	2,844	3,046	202	6.6
2013	2,891	3,046	155	5.1
2014	2,898	3,046	148	4.9
2015	2,911	3,046	135	4.4
2016	2,916	3,046	130	4.3
2017	2,900	3,046	146	4.8
2018	2,901	3,046	145	4.8
2019	2,915	3,046	131	4.3

The above figures show a breakdown by Planning Area but they are not comparable to the 2011 figures because they exclude academies. These were provided in response to a Freedom of Information request but the 'Statistical Update' from which they were taken is not available on the Web.

Overall surplus/deficit of primary places in LBI

3. Lack of comparability between 2011/2012 figs

LB Islington
Primary and Secondary School Places statistical update 2012
Changes from 2011 report

TOTAL ROLL DATA

(sum of Planning Areas 1-4)

Year	Projected Roll Data	Projected Net Cap	Surplus Capacity	Surplus (%)
*2007	(737)	(788)	-51	6.5
*2008	(753)	(788)	-35	4.4
*2009	(765)	(788)	-23	2.9
*2010	(764)	(788)	-24	3.0
*2011	(767)	(788)	-21	2.7
*2012	(556)	(800)	-244	30.5
2013	(517)	(820)	-303	37.0
2014	(644)	(715)	-71	9.9
2015	(803)	(715)	88	12.3
2016	(951)	(715)	236	33.0
2017	(1,111)	(715)	396	55.4
2018	(1,087)	(715)	372	52.0
2019	(1,144)	(715)	429	60.0

* actual roll data from January Census data

Total is 20 more than the sum of the four planning areas (same as 2011)!

Planning Area 1

Year	Projected Roll Data	Projected Net Cap	Surplus Capacity	Surplus (%)
*2007	-	-	-	n/a
*2008	-	-	-	n/a
*2009	-	-	-	n/a
*2010	-	-	-	n/a
*2011	-	-	-	n/a
*2012	(41)	-	41	n/a
2013	(103)	-	103	n/a
2014	(144)	-	144	n/a
2015	(190)	-	190	n/a
2016	(234)	-	234	n/a
2017	(277)	-	277	n/a
2018	(287)	-	287	n/a
2019	(287)	-	287	n/a

*actual roll data from January PLASC survey

Planning Area 2

Year	Projected Roll Data	Projected Net Cap	Surplus Capacity	Surplus (%)
*2007	-	-	-	n/a
*2008	-	-	-	n/a
*2009	-	-	-	n/a
*2010	-	-	-	n/a
*2011	-	-	-	n/a
*2012	(112)	-	112	n/a
2013	(43)	-	43	n/a
2014	(80)	210	290	138.1
2015	(125)	210	335	159.5
2016	(166)	210	376	179.0
2017	(196)	210	406	193.3
2018	(185)	210	395	188.1
2019	(185)	210	395	188.1

New 1FE school in 2014, but why needed?

Planning Area 3

Year	Projected Roll Data	Projected Net Cap	Surplus Capacity	Surplus (%)
*2007	(404)	(368)	36	9.8
*2008	(409)	(368)	41	11.1
*2009	(411)	(368)	43	11.7
*2010	(415)	(368)	47	12.8
*2011	(414)	(368)	46	12.5
*2012	(84)	(420)	(336)	80.0
2013	(35)	(420)	(385)	91.7
2014	(20)	(525)	(505)	96.2
2015	(42)	(525)	(483)	92.0
2016	(75)	(525)	(450)	85.7
2017	(119)	(525)	(406)	77.3
2018	(71)	(525)	(454)	86.5
2019	(98)	(525)	(427)	81.3

William Tyndale out as academy in 2012 (414 roll 368 capacity)
Roll has increased cf 2011 when WT taken out.

Planning Area 4

Year	Projected Roll Data	Projected Net Cap	Surplus Capacity	Surplus (%)
*2007	(333)	(420)	(87)	20.7
*2008	(344)	(420)	(76)	18.1
*2009	(354)	(420)	(66)	15.7
*2010	(349)	(420)	(71)	16.9
*2011	(353)	(420)	(67)	16.0
*2012	(319)	(400)	(81)	20.3
2013	(336)	(400)	(64)	16.0
2014	(400)	(400)	-	0.0
2015	(446)	(400)	46	11.5
2016	(476)	(400)	76	19.0
2017	(519)	(400)	119	29.8
2018	(544)	(400)	144	36.0
2019	(574)	(400)	174	43.5

New North out in 2012 (353 roll 420 capacity)
(It became an academy)

These tables compare the figures from the 2011 and 2012 'Statistical Updates'. They show a significant reduction in the projected roll data for Planning Area 1, while the other Planning Areas are not comparable because they contain academies. The PA1 reduction is surprising in the light of the higher Annual Report projections which do include the academies (see section 4 below).

Overall surplus/deficit of primary places in LBI

4. Comparison of 2011/12 Annual Report figures

LB Islington
Annual Reports on Education 2011 and 2012 - comparison of roll projections
13 June 2013

TOTAL ROLL DATA - 2012 Annual Report
[totals only as "not possible" to break down]

Year	Projected Roll Data	Projected Net Cap	Surplus Capacity	Surplus (%)
*2007	12,432	14,054	1,622	11.5
*2008	12,283	14,054	1,771	12.6
*2009	12,186	14,054	1,868	13.3
*2010	12,257	14,069	1,812	12.9
*2011	12,388	13,922	1,534	11.0
*2012	12,608	13,948	1,340	9.6
2013	12,893	13,986	1,093	7.8
2014	13,806	13,986	180	1.3
2015	13,240	13,986	746	5.3
2016	13,363	13,986	623	4.5
2017	13,478	13,986	508	3.6
2018	13,530	13,986	456	3.3
2019	13,517	13,986	469	3.4

Note that the 2012 actual figure is higher than the 2011 estimate.



TOTAL ROLL DATA - 2011 Annual Report
(no breakdown provided)

Year	Projected Roll Data	Projected Net Cap	Surplus Capacity	Surplus (%)
*2007	12,432	14,054	1,622	11.5
*2008	12,283	14,054	1,771	12.6
*2009	12,186	14,054	1,868	13.3
*2010	12,257	14,069	1,812	12.9
*2011	12,388	13,922	1,534	11.0
2012	12,260	13,948	1,688	12.1
2013	12,566	13,966	1,400	10.0
2014	12,850	13,966	1,116	8.0
2015	13,125	13,966	841	6.0
2016	13,378	13,966	588	4.2
2017	13,624	13,966	342	2.4
2018	13,626	13,966	340	2.4
2019	13,662	13,966	304	2.2

TOTAL ROLL DATA - 2012 Statistical Update
(sum of Planning Areas 1-4)

Year	Projected Roll Data	Projected Net Cap	Surplus Capacity	Surplus (%)
*2007	11,695	13,266	1,571	11.8
*2008	11,530	13,266	1,736	13.1
*2009	11,421	13,266	1,845	13.9
*2010	11,493	13,281	1,788	13.5
*2011	11,621	13,134	1,513	11.5
*2012	11,704	13,128	1,424	10.8
2013	12,049	13,146	1,097	8.3
2014	12,206	13,251	1,045	7.9
2015	12,322	13,251	929	7.0
2016	12,427	13,251	824	6.2
2017	12,513	13,251	738	5.6
2018	12,539	13,251	712	5.4
2019	12,518	13,251	733	5.5

NB These figures are the same as in the 2011 'Statistical Update' broken down in section 1 above.

DIFFERENCE (2012 - 2011 Annual Reports)

Year	Projected Roll Data	Projected Net Cap	Surplus Capacity	Surplus (%)
*2007	-	-	0	n/a
*2008	-	-	0	n/a
*2009	-	-	0	n/a
*2010	-	-	0	n/a
*2011	-	-	0	n/a
*2012	348	-	-348	n/a
2013	327	20	-307	-1,535.0
2014	956	20	-936	-4,680.0
2015	115	20	-95	-475.0
2016	(15)	20	35	175.0
2017	(146)	20	166	830.0
2018	(96)	20	116	580.0
2019	(145)	20	165	825.0

DIFFERENCE (2012 Annual Report - Statistical Update)

Year	Projected Roll Data	Projected Net Cap	Surplus Capacity	Surplus (%)
*2007	737	788	51	6.5
*2008	753	788	35	4.4
*2009	765	788	23	2.9
*2010	764	788	24	3.0
*2011	767	788	21	2.7
*2012	904	820	-84	10.2
2013	844	840	-4	-0.5
2014	1,600	735	-865	-117.7
2015	918	735	-183	-24.9
2016	936	735	-201	-27.3
2017	965	735	-230	-31.3
2018	991	735	-256	-34.8
2019	999	735	-264	-35.9

Unlike the 'Statistical Update' figures, the LBI 2011 and 2012 'Annual Reports on Education' give totals for the borough in a consistent format. Here the 2012 actual rolls and projections are higher than in 2011 from 2012 to 2015 and are lower thereafter. The fall in roll projections (even 2012 actuals) in Planning Area 1 (in section 3 above) are surprising in that context. LBI said, in response to a FOI request, that they were unable to supply a breakdown of the 2012 Annual Report figures.

The right hand column shows the difference between the two sets of 2012 figures.

5. 4-year-old school roll projections



(Shortage around Ashmount, 2011)

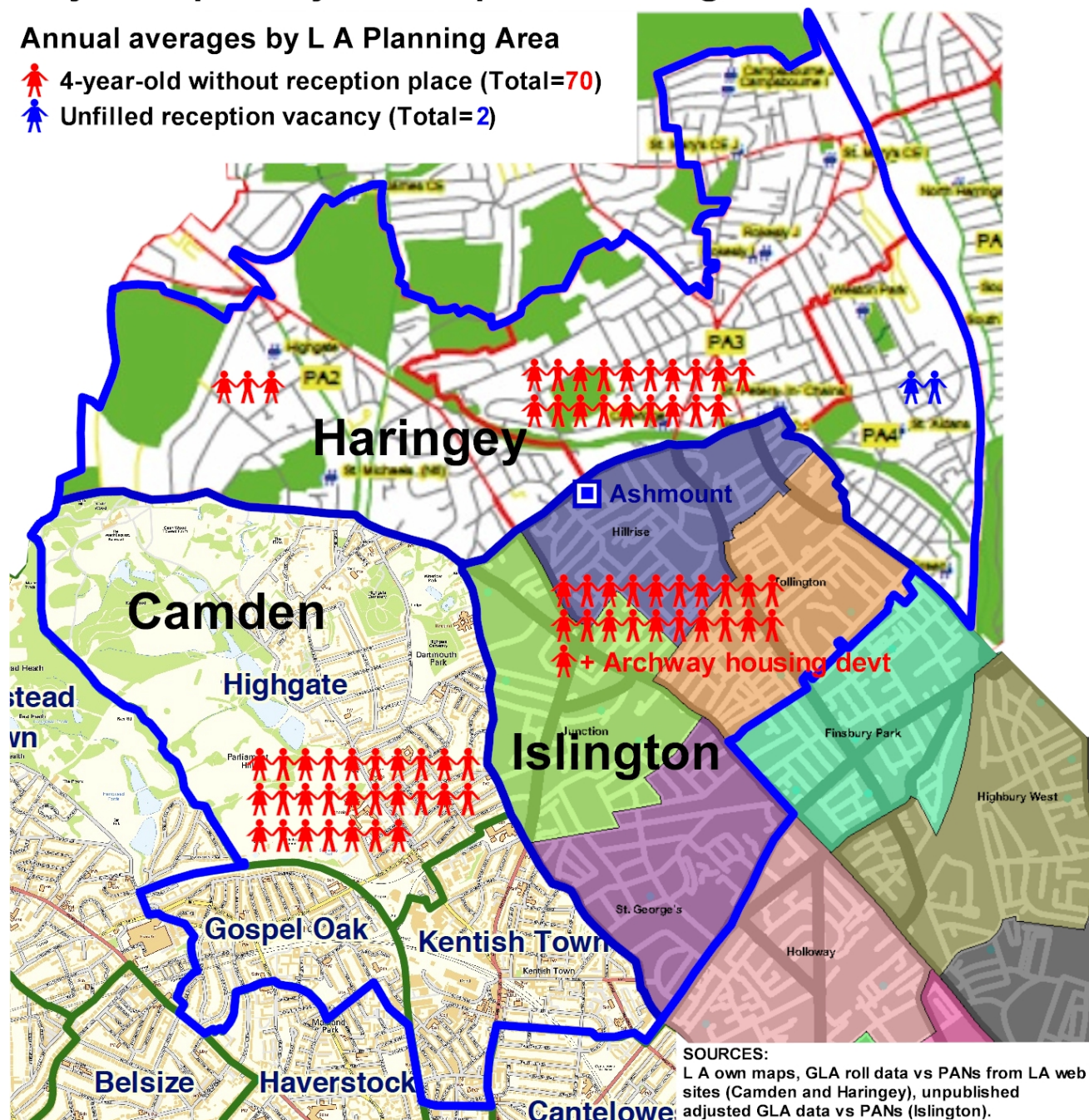
- Initial (incorrect) Map of shortages based on 2011 school roll projections
- Initial (incorrect) Table of 2011 school roll projections data
- Map of shortages based on 2011 school roll projections (correct)
- Table of 2011 school roll projections data (correct)

2011 School Roll Projections (with 2009 Camden data) Figures as reported by ASAG

ASHMOUNT SCHOOL SITE Projected primary school place shortages 2012-19

Annual averages by L A Planning Area

-  4-year-old without reception place (Total=70)
-  Unfilled reception vacancy (Total=2)



Graphic based on accompanying data table. The total was exaggerated by not having Camden's 2011 data at the time. The case for a new school on the Ashmount site looked compelling, however, with a 68 shortfall in the mile around Ashmount.

2011 School Roll Projections (with 2009 Camden data)

Figures as reported by ASAG

THE FUTURE OF ASHMOUNT SCHOOL SITE, ISLINGTON, LONDON N19 3BH
GLA School Roll Projections 4 year age children (reception) compared to Planned Admissions Numbers
in North Islington and the nearest educational Planning Areas of the two adjacent boroughs

Total area surrounding Ashmount					L B Islington			L B Haringey						L B Camden				
Surplus/(deficit) of places					PA1 - N Islington			PA2 - Highgate			PA3 - Hornsey & Crouch End			PA 4 - Stroud Green			PA2 - North East	
	Islington wards	Haringey wards	Camden wards	Total	SRP 2011 LBI figs	PAN	1st place pref	SRP 2011	PAN	1st place pref	SRP 2011	PAN	1st place pref	SRP 2011	PAN	1st place pref	SRP 2009	PAN
2001/2		9						110	116		316	321		122	120			
2002/3		18						110	116	142	311	321	410	118	120	145		
2003/4		30						115	116	174	310	330	390	111	120	155	357	
2004/5		19						114	116	188	324	330	418	109	120	188	388	
2005/6		1						117	116	162	329	330	422	119	120	181	392	
2006/7		75						110	116	127	326	390	385	115	120	136	367	
2007/8		33	17					112	116	113	370	390	370	111	120	142	406	423
2008/9		6	16					117	116	129	384	390	406	119	120	150	397	413
2009/10		12	-12					113	116	110	381	390	400	120	120	137	417	405
2010/11		9	-1					111	116	119	390	390	473	116	120	122	406	405
2011/12		-15	-23				408	120	116	131	405	390	431	116	120	138	428	405
2012/13	-17	1	-27	-43	437	420	437	115	116		396	390		114	120		432	405
2013/14	-18	-15	-31	-64	438	420		118	116		407	390		116	120		436	405
2014/15	-27	-19	-33	-79	447	420		119	116		409	390		117	120		438	405
2015/16	-20	-23	-32	-75	440	420		120	116		411	390		118	120		437	405
2016/17	-21	-23	-27	-71	441	420		120	116		411	390		118	120		432	405
2017/18	-23	-28	-21	-72	443	420		121	116		414	390		119	120		426	405
2018/19	-22	-33	-15	-70	442	420		123	116		416	390		120	120		420	405
2019/20								122	116		414	390		119	120			
2020/21								122	116		412	390		119	120			
Total 2012-19	-148	-140	-186	-474		-148			-24			-134			18			-186
7 yr average	-21	-20	-27	-68		-21			-3			-19			2			-27

Notes

LB Islington data provided in response to personal enquiry (ie not published report)
LB Islington School Roll Projections have been adjusted downwards from GLA data

Tables show the surplus/(deficit) of reception aged children by planning area by year. The key figures are the 7-year average deficit by local authority and in total.

The total was exaggerated by not having Camden's 2011 data at the time. The case for a new school on the Ashmount site looked compelling, however, with a 68 shortfall in the mile around Ashmount.

2011 School Roll Projections (corrected)

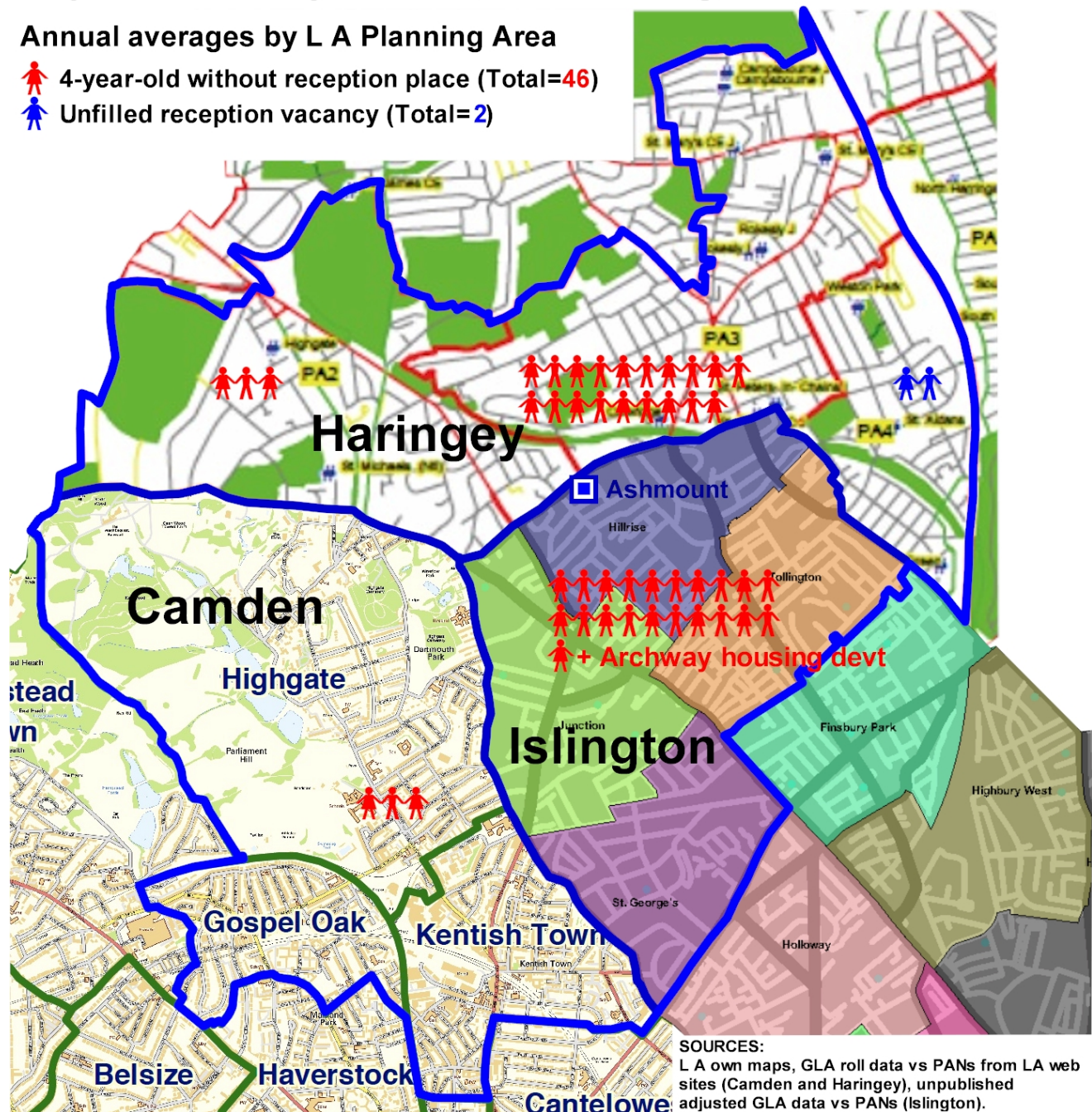
ASHMOUNT SCHOOL SITE

Projected primary school place shortages 2012-19

Annual averages by L A Planning Area

 4-year-old without reception place (Total=46)

 Unfilled reception vacancy (Total=2)



Graphic based on accompanying data table. In this version, the updated 2011 Camden figures have been inserted. Camden's annual shortage comes down from 27 per year to only 3, bringing the total annual shortage from 68 to 44.

2011 School Roll Projections (corrected)

THE FUTURE OF ASHMOUNT SCHOOL SITE, ISLINGTON, LONDON N19 3BH
GLA School Roll Projections 4 year age children (reception) compared to Planned Admissions Numbers
in North Islington and the nearest educational Planning Areas of the two adjacent boroughs

	Total area surrounding Ashmount				L B Islington			L B Haringey						L B Camden				
	Surplus/(deficit) of places				PA1 - N Islington			PA2 - Highgate			PA3 - Hornsey & Crouch End			PA 4 - Stroud Green			PA2 - North East	
	Islington wards	Haringey wards	Camden wards	Total	SRP 2011 LBI figs	PAN	1st place pref	SRP 2011	PAN	1st place pref	SRP 2011	PAN	1st place pref	SRP 2011	PAN	1st place pref	SRP 2011	PAN
2001/2		9						110	116		316	321		122	120			
2002/3		18						110	116	142	311	321	410	118	120	145		
2003/4		30						115	116	174	310	330	390	111	120	155	357	
2004/5		19						114	116	188	324	330	418	109	120	188	388	
2005/6		1						117	116	162	329	330	422	119	120	181	392	
2006/7		75						110	116	127	326	390	385	115	120	136	367	
2007/8		33	17					112	116	113	370	390	370	111	120	142	406	423
2008/9		6	16					117	116	129	384	390	406	119	120	150	397	413
2009/10		12	16					113	116	110	381	390	400	120	120	137	389	405
2010/11		9	19					111	116	119	390	390	473	116	120	122	386	405
2011/12		-15	-9				408	120	116	131	405	390	431	116	120	138	414	405
2012/13	-17	1	-10	-26	437	420	437	115	116		396	390		114	120		415	405
2013/14	-18	-15	-1	-34	438	420		118	116		407	390		116	120		406	405
2014/15	-27	-19	-9	-55	447	420		119	116		409	390		117	120		414	405
2015/16	-20	-23	-5	-48	440	420		120	116		411	390		118	120		410	405
2016/17	-21	-23	-2	-46	441	420		120	116		411	390		118	120		407	405
2017/18	-23	-28	1	-50	443	420		121	116		414	390		119	120		404	405
2018/19	-22	-33	6	-49	442	420		123	116		416	390		120	120		399	405
2019/20								122	116		414	390		119	120			
2020/21								122	116		412	390		119	120			
Total 2012-19	-148	-140	-20	-308		-148			-24			-134		18				-20
7 yr average	-21	-20	-3	-44		-21			-3			-19		2				-3

Notes

LB Islington data provided in response to personal enquiry (ie not published report)
LB Islington School Roll Projections have been adjusted downwards from GLA data

Tables show the surplus/(deficit) of reception aged children by planning area by year. The key figures are the 7-year average deficit by local authority and in total.

In this version, the updated 2011 Camden figures have been inserted. Camden's annual shortage comes down from 27 per year to only 3, bringing the total annual shortage from 68 to 44.

6. 4-year-old school roll projections (‘Surplus’ around Ashmount, 2012)

- Table of 2012 school roll projections (showing surplus)
- Camden projections – look genuine
- Haringey projections – genuine but puzzling
- Haringey ‘migration’
- Haringey 2013 admissions
- Islington data – public data OK, but FOI data questionable
- Email of source of Islington 2011 projections

2012 school roll projections (with significant issues)

- The shortage appears to have disappeared

THE FUTURE OF ASHMOUNT SCHOOL SITE, ISLINGTON, LONDON N19 3BH
GLA School Roll Projections 4 year age children (reception) compared to Planned Admissions Numbers
in North Islington and the nearest educational Planning Areas of the two adjacent boroughs

Total area surrounding Ashmount					L B Islington				L B Haringey								L B Camden		
Surplus/(deficit) of places					PA1 - N Islington				PA2 - Highgate			PA3 - Hornsey & Crouch End			PA 4 - Stroud Green			PA2 - North East	
Islington wards	Haringey wards	Camden wards	Total	SRP 2012 LBI figs	PAN	1st place pref	SRP 2012	PAN	1st place pref	SRP 2012	PAN	1st place pref	SRP 2012	PAN	1st place pref	SRP 2012	PAN		
2001/2		9					110	116		316	321		122	120					
2002/3		18					110	116	142	311	321	410	118	120	145				
2003/4		30					115	116	174	310	330	390	111	120	155	357			
2004/5		19					114	116	188	324	330	418	109	120	188	388			
2005/6		1					117	116	162	329	330	422	119	120	181	392			
2006/7		75					110	116	127	326	390	385	115	120	136	367			
2007/8		33	17				112	116	113	370	390	370	111	120	142	406	423		
2008/9		6	16				117	116	129	384	390	406	119	120	150	397	413		
2009/10		12	16				113	116	110	381	390	400	120	120	137	389	405		
2010/11		9	19				111	116	119	390	390	473	116	120	122	386	405		
2011/12		-4	6			408	118	116	131	390	390	431	122	120	138	399	405		
2012/13	7	19	3	29	413	420	437	113	116	120	374	390	424	120	120	137	402	405	
2013/14	24	7	9	40	396	420		117	116		381	390		121	120		396	405	
2014/15	24	10	9	43	396	420		122	116		372	390		122	120		396	405	
2015/16	24	11	17	52	396	420		120	116		372	390		123	120		388	405	
2016/17	26	-1	9	34	394	420		124	116		378	390		125	120		396	405	
2017/18	19	-4	8	23	401	420		125	116		379	390		126	120		397	405	
2018/19	19	-2	9	26	401	420		124	116		378	390		126	120		396	405	
2019/20					405			123	116		373	390		126	120		391		
2020/21								122	116		371	390		124	120		387		
2021/22								121	116		369	390		122	120		383		

2012 Figures

Total 2012-19	143	40	64	247		143		-33		96		-23				64
7 yr average	20	6	9	35		20		-5		14		-4				9

2011 figures

Total 2012-19	-148	-140	-20	-308		-148		-24		-134		18				-20
7 yr average	-21	-20	-3	-44		-21		-3		-19		2				-3

Change

Total 2012-19	291	180	84	555		291		-9		230		-41				84
7 yr average	41	26	12	79		41		-2		33		-6				12

Camden's 2012 data continues the trend of reducing projected demand in their relevant planning area. Based on detailed analysis, it seems credible. Haringey's 2012 data shows a significant reduction in demand (33 children per year, on average) in Crouch End. But adjacent Muswell Hill (not shown) shows an increase of 65 p.a. Thus, in the four planning areas, demand has increased by 40. Unlike its neighbours, Islington does not publish school roll projections. Instead, the figures were provided in response to a FOI request. Demand is, on average, 41 less than in the 2011 projections. This is consistent with the aggregate projections provided in response to a FOI request, but not with either the published aggregates in the Annual Report, or the actual 2013 figures.

Camden's 2012 school roll projections - look genuine

GLA School Roll Projections Roll Projections 4 year age children (reception)

SRP 2010 = Projections received 2010 - 2009 round Camden, Catchment Ratio

SRP 2011 = Projections received 2011 - 2010 round Camden, Catchment Ratio

SRP 2012 = Projections received 2012 - 2011 round Camden, Catchment Ratio

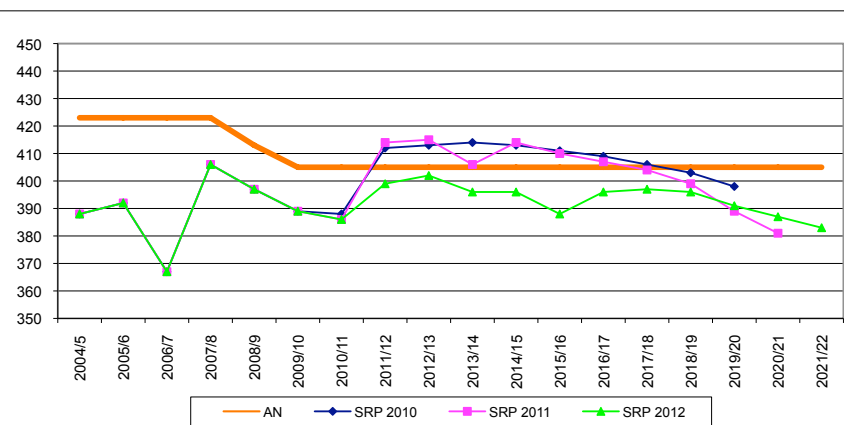
Note figures in blue are numbers for relevant selection as recorded on January School Census (NC Year)

PA2	AN	SRP 2010	SRP 2011	SRP 2012	Surplus/Deficit by Admission No		
					SRP 2010	SRP 2011	SRP 2012
2004/5	423	388	388	388	35	35	35
2005/6	423	392	392	392	31	31	31
2006/7	423	367	367	367	56	56	56
2007/8	423	406	406	406	17	17	17
2008/9	413	397	397	397	16	16	16
2009/10	405	389	389	389	16	16	16
2010/11	405	388	386	386	17	19	19
2011/12	405	412	414	399	-7	-9	6
2012/13	405	413	415	402	-8	-10	3
2013/14	405	414	406	396	-9	-1	9
2014/15	405	413	414	396	-8	-9	9
2015/16	405	411	410	388	-6	-5	17
2016/17	405	409	407	396	-4	-2	9
2017/18	405	406	404	397	-1	1	8
2018/19	405	403	399	396	2	6	9
2019/20	405	398	389	391	7	16	14
2020/21	405		381	387		24	18
2021/22	405			383			22

PA2 Table E11

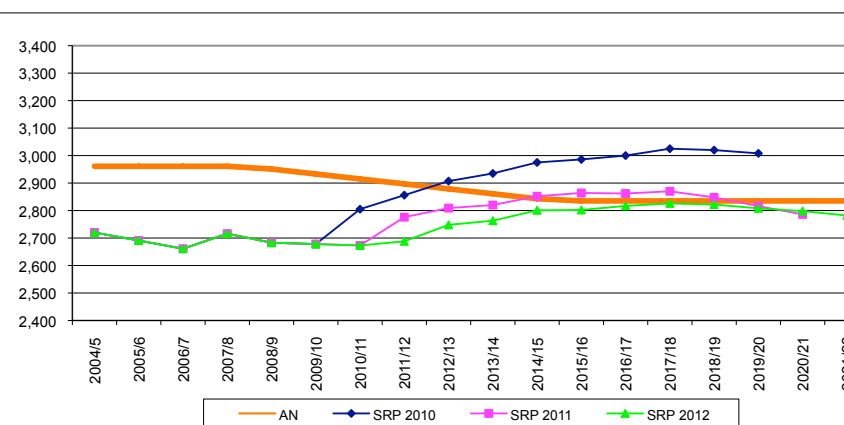
2008/9 - reduction of 10 places St Dominic (PA2)

2009/10 - reduction of 8 places at Kentish Town (PA2)



GLA School Roll Projections Roll Projections 4 to 10 age children (reception to year 6)

PA2	AN	SRP 2010	SRP 2011	SRP 2012	Surplus/Deficit by Admission No		
					SRP 2010	SRP 2011	SRP 2012
2004/5	2,961	2,720	2,720	2,720	241	241	241
2005/6	2,961	2,691	2,691	2,691	270	270	270
2006/7	2,961	2,661	2,661	2,661	300	300	300
2007/8	2,961	2,716	2,716	2,716	245	245	245
2008/9	2,951	2,683	2,683	2,683	268	268	268
2009/10	2,933	2,678	2,678	2,678	255	255	255
2010/11	2,915	2,805	2,673	2,673	110	242	242
2011/12	2,897	2,856	2,776	2,688	41	121	209
2012/13	2,879	2,907	2,809	2,748	-28	70	131
2013/14	2,861	2,935	2,820	2,763	-74	41	98
2014/15	2,843	2,975	2,852	2,801	-132	-9	42
2015/16	2,835	2,986	2,864	2,802	-151	-29	33
2016/17	2,835	3,000	2,862	2,817	-165	-27	18
2017/18	2,835	3,025	2,870	2,826	-190	-35	9
2018/19	2,835	3,020	2,848	2,822	-185	-13	13
2019/20	2,835	3,008	2,816	2,808	-173	19	27
2020/21	2,835		2,786	2,798		49	37
2021/22	2,835			2,782			53



Note that the planned admission number is one year behind e.g. PAN is based on Sept and the actual roll data is from January; 2007 PAN is shown under 2008 in this table

See summary page for comments.

Haringey's 2012 school roll projections

- genuine but puzzling phenomenon

LB HARINGEY - COMPARISON OF 2012 WITH 2011 SCHOOL ROLL PROJECTIONS

GLA School Roll Projections 4 year age children (reception) compared to Planned Admissions Numbers

Source: Haringey School Place Planning Reports 2011 and 2012 published on their web site at

http://www.haringey.gov.uk/index/children-families/education/projects_consultations_inspections/educationconsultations/schoolplaceplanning.htm

L B Haringey - 2012 Projections												
	PA1 - Muswell Hill				PA2 - Highgate			PA3 - Hornsey & Crouch End			PA 4 - Stroud Green	
	TOTAL surplus	SRP 2012	PAN	1st place pref	SRP 2012	PAN	1st place pref	SRP 2012	PAN	1st place pref	SRP 2012	PAN 1st place pref
2001/2	15	294	300		110	116		316	321		122	120
2002/3	23	295	300	391	110	116	142	311	321	410	118	120 145
2003/4	38	292	300	448	115	116	174	310	330	390	111	120 155
2004/5	19	300	300	477	114	116	188	324	330	418	109	120 188
2005/6	6	325	330	439	117	116	162	329	330	422	119	120 181
2006/7	80	355	360	409	110	116	127	326	390	385	115	120 136
2007/8	35	358	360	471	112	116	113	370	390	370	111	120 142
2008/9	10	356	360	458	117	116	129	384	390	406	119	120 150
2009/10	12	360	360	464	113	116	110	381	390	400	120	120 137
2010/11	9	360	360	461	111	116	119	390	390	473	116	120 122
2011/12	-4	420	420	523	118	116	131	390	390	431	122	120 138
2012/13	20	419	420	534	113	116	120	374	390	424	120	120 137
2013/14	28	399	420		117	116		381	390		121	120
2014/15	5	425	420		122	116		372	390		122	120
2015/16	5	426	420		120	116		372	390		123	120
2016/17	-15	434	420		124	116		378	390		125	120
2017/18	-19	435	420		125	116		379	390		126	120
2018/19	-15	433	420		124	116		378	390		126	120
2019/20		427	420		123	116		373	390		126	120
2020/21		421	420		122	116		371	390		124	120
2021/22		418	420		121	116		369	390		122	120

2012 Figures

Total 2012-19	9	-31	-33	96	-23
7 yr average	1	-4	-5	14	-3

L B Haringey - 2011 Projections												
	PA1 - Muswell Hill				PA2 - Highgate			PA3 - Hornsey & Crouch End			PA 4 - Stroud Green	
	TOTAL surplus	SRP 2011	PAN	1st place pref	SRP 2011	PAN	1st place pref	SRP 2011	PAN	1st place pref	SRP 2011	PAN 1st place pref
2001/2	15	294	300		110	116		316	321		122	120
2002/3	23	295	300	391	110	116	142	311	321	410	118	120 145
2003/4	38	292	300	448	115	116	174	310	330	390	111	120 155
2004/5	19	300	300	477	114	116	188	324	330	418	109	120 188
2005/6	6	325	330	439	117	116	162	329	330	422	119	120 181
2006/7	80	355	360	409	110	116	127	326	390	385	115	120 136
2007/8	35	358	360	471	112	116	113	370	390	370	111	120 142
2008/9	10	356	360	458	117	116	129	384	390	406	119	120 150
2009/10	12	360	360	464	113	116	110	381	390	400	120	120 137
2010/11	9	360	360	461	111	116	119	390	390	473	116	120 122
2011/12	-15	420	420	523	120	116	131	405	390	431	116	120 138
2012/13	48	373	420		115	116		396	390		114	120
2013/14	54	351	420		118	116		407	390		116	120
2014/15	48	353	420		119	116		409	390		117	120
2015/16	42	355	420		120	116		411	390		118	120
2016/17	40	357	420		120	116		411	390		118	120
2017/18	33	359	420		121	116		414	390		119	120
2018/19	25	362	420		123	116		416	390		120	120
2019/20		361	420		122	116		414	390		119	120
2020/21		359	420		122	116		412	390		119	120
2021/22												

2011 Figures

Total 2012-19	290	430	-24	-134	18
7 yr average	41	61	-3	-19	3

Difference

Total 2012-19	-281	-461	-9	230	-41
7 yr average	-40	-65	-2	33	-6

Interpretation

Muswell Hill had a surplus of 61 places per annum in the 2011 projections and a shortage of -4 in 2012 - an increase of +65 children per annum
 Crouch End had a shortage of -19 places per annum in the 2011 projection and a surplus of 14 places in 2012 - a fall of -33 children per annum
 Highgate showed a slight increase in the shortage of places - from -3 to -5, an increase of -2 children per annum
 Stroud Green showed a surplus of 3 places in 2011 and a shortage of -3 in 2012 - an increase of +6 children per annum
 Why the dramatic changes in Muswell Hill and Crouch End?

See summary page for comments

The ‘migration’ from Crouch End to Muswell Hill

(from my email dated 7 September 2012)

Today, I spoke to one of the people at the GLA who actually did the school roll projections. [...]

He looked at my figures and then realised what the problem was. The answer is that School Roll Projections are not what you might think they are. I thought they estimated the number of 4-year-old children living in the planning area. What they really are is an estimate of the demand for places in schools in the planning area. In 2011/12 two new forms were created at schools in Muswell Hill, bringing the PAN from 360 to 420. The 2011 projections ignored the effect of this on demand, whereas the 2012 projections showed demand in Muswell Hill going up by about 40 places a year, with a corresponding fall in Crouch End. In other words, the new places in Muswell Hill are expected to suck children northwards from Crouch End.

Thus, while in overall terms the demand for places has gone up (by 40 places per year on average in 2012-19), there is now more demand in Muswell Hill and less in Crouch End than there was before. Thus, the figures make some sense after all. However, because demand depends upon supply, the process of creating the figures is messy, un-auditable and potentially – though probably not here – open to manipulation.

Haringey 2013 admissions

(Note of telephone conversation 10 June 2013)

I spoke to a fairly senior person in Haringey Admissions who was able to give me an overview of what had been happening in the Planning Areas close to the Islington border.

It seems that in 2012 they were able to find places for all the children in these areas, but some of them had been sent to schools in Tottenham – 1½ -2 miles away physically and a great deal further socio-economically. Not surprisingly, these were not schools on the parents' lists.

To avoid this in 2013, they created a bulge class of 30 in Weston Park Primary school (to the east of Crouch End town centre). This was just a single-year class, as there was no space for adding 7 classrooms.

The 2013 applications were slightly lower than those in 2012 in relation to the local schools (as was predicted in the 2012 projections) and the bulge class had the effect of creating more capacity around the area.

- One of the side-effects of this was that Rokesly Infants (a school just north of Crouch End town centre) went from a cut-off distance of 0.4 mile in 2012 to 1.4 miles in 2013. This was the result of a few parents getting in from a long way off who had put it in as a 'long shot' down their preferences list.
- Another was that children who did not get into their top choices were nevertheless able to get into schools in the (predominantly comfortably-off middle-class) local area. Some were offered places in Stroud Green (a mile away) but at least not in Tottenham.

Both children who put Ashmount as their first choice got in, but those that put it lower down the list were offered a place at a Haringey school higher up their list.

Given that the roll was expected to rise again in 2014 and there could be no bulge class at Weston Park, they were consulting all the local schools to find where additional capacity could be made available.

While I should have pressed this point further, it seems as if the verdict is this: this year there is no shortage of places in this part of Haringey, but the future is uncertain.

Islington data - public data OK, but FOI data questionable

LB Islington
Planning Area 1 school roll projections
Credibility of data provided by LBI under FOI

		2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
1 TOTAL primary school roll projections (Reception - Yr 6)										
Annual Report on Education 2011 - PUBLISHED	2011	12,388	12,260	12,566	12,850	13,125	13,378	13,624	13,626	13,662
	yr on yr		-128	+306	+284	+275	+253	+246	+2	+36
Annual Report on Education 2012 - PUBLISHED	2012	12,388	12,608	12,893	13,806	13,240	13,363	13,478	13,530	13,517
	yr on yr		+220	+285	+913	-566	+123	+115	+52	-13
Diff in proj'n		-	348	327	956	115	(15)	(146)	(96)	(145)
2 PA1 primary school roll projections (Reception - Yr 6)										
Statistical Update 2011 - PUBLISHED	2011	2,676	2,772	2,837	2,883	2,942	3,012	3,080	3,065	3,057
	yr on yr		+96	+65	+46	+59	+70	+68	-15	-8
Statistical Update 2012 (received from FOI request) Not available on LBI web site.	2012	2,676	2,731	2,734	2,739	2,752	2,778	2,803	2,778	2,770
	yr on yr		+55	+3	+5	+13	+26	+25	-25	-8
Diff in proj'n		-	(41)	(103)	(144)	(190)	(234)	(277)	(287)	(287)
3 TOTAL School roll projections for 4-year olds										
Calculated from 2012 1st place preference actuals and total applications data Based on PUBLISHED DATA		Estimate on apps	1st place prefs Final	Estimate on apps	Additional places in 2013					
Planning Area 1		341	425	469	20					
Planning Area 2		454	533	634	60					
Planning Area 3		491	538	574						
Planning Area 4		447	487	529						
		1,733	1,983	2,205	80					
	yr on yr		+250	+222						
FOI request July 2012 (not published anywhere)										
Planning Area 1			413	396	396	396	394	401	401	405
Planning Area 2			556	564	559	544	551	560	559	564
Planning Area 3			560	541	490	515	511	513	520	522
Planning Area 4			563	530	442	465	475	466	475	478
			2,092	2,031	1,887	1,920	1,931	1,940	1,955	1,969
	yr on yr			-61	-144	+33	+11	+9	+15	+14
4 PA1 School roll projections for 4-year-olds (reception)										
March 2012 data supplied by email (not published anywhere) CONFIDENTIAL (BUT RELIABLE) DATA	2011	-	437	438	447	440	441	443	442	
	yr on yr			+1	+9	-7	+1	+2	-1	
FOI request July 2012 (not published anywhere) - see below	2012		413	396	396	396	394	401	401	405
	yr on yr			-17	-	-	-2	+7	-	+4
Diff in proj'n		-	(24)	(42)	(51)	(44)	(47)	(42)	(41)	

Some LBI data has been obtained from published sources and sources prior to my FOI requests, while other data has come from FOI requests to LBI Childrens' Services.

Putting the two sources alongside makes it unclear whether the FOI data comes from the same sources as the published data.

The problem is with the signs (directions of changes):

(FOI data is shown in RED.)

YELLOW highlights show how FOI 4-year-old projections are moving down while total roll projections are moving up.

PINK highlights show how FOI Planning Area 1 is lower in 2012 compared to 2011 while Totals have gone up in the later projections.

In addition to the FOI data supplied there is the data that LBI does not have: (1) No breakdown of the Annual Report projections by Planning Area. I was explicitly referred to the Statistical Update data instead; (2) No 1st place preferences by school either in April or June 2013 (in 2012, this data was available in March).

March 2012 email containing confidential LBI 1st place preference data and school roll projections

To: Giles Taylor
RE: Request for primary school places statistical data

26 March 2012 15:36
[Hide Details](#)
[LBI and ICO](#)

1 Attachment, 15 KB [Save](#) [Quick Look](#)

Dear Mr Taylor,

Please find attached the projections for 4 year old pupils and the expressed preference for the schools within planning area 1. Please note that expressed preferences for 2012 may increase, as we are still receiving late applications.

ISLINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL	PAN		1ST EXPRESSED PREFERENCE	
	2011	2012	2011	2012
Ashmount	60	60	42	48
Christ the King	45	45	28	41
Duncombe	60	60	56	55
Hargrave Park	30	30	17	26
St John's Upper Holloway	30	30	26	29
St Josephs	60	60	80	65
St Marks	30	30	18	20
Tufnell Park	45	45	35	46
Yerbury	60	60	106	107

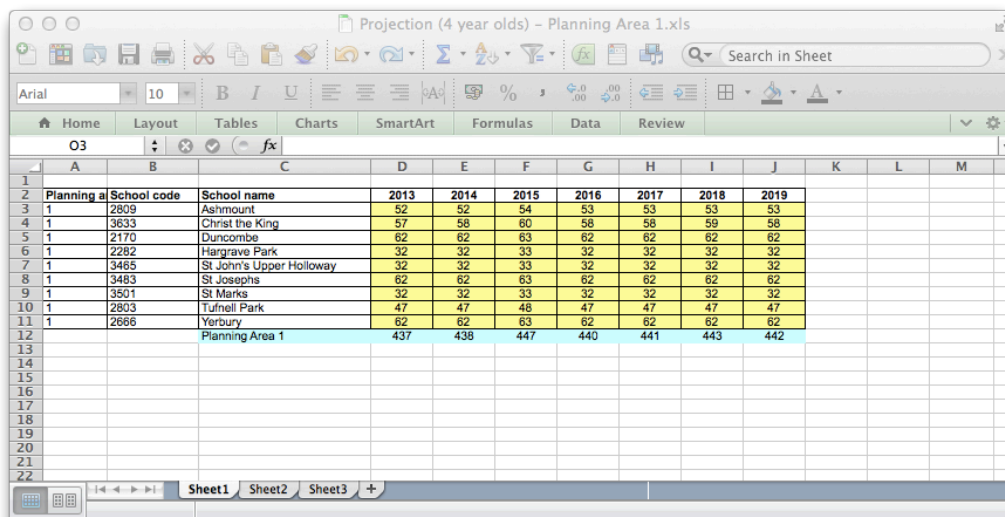
I have been informed that we use the GLA population projections to assist in making the school roll projections, but the final model is done in house as GLA have over projected our figures for a number of years.

I hope this is what you are looking for. Do let me know if you need further information.

Thank you

Cambridge Education @ Islington

222 Upper Street
London N1 1XR



Planning area	School code	School name	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
1	2809	Ashmount	52	52	54	53	53	53	53
4	3633	Christ the King	57	58	60	58	58	59	58
5	2170	Duncombe	62	62	63	62	62	62	62
6	2282	Hargrave Park	32	32	33	32	32	32	32
7	3485	St John's Upper Holloway	32	32	33	32	32	32	32
8	3483	St Josephs	62	62	63	62	62	62	62
9	3501	St Marks	32	32	33	32	32	32	32
10	2803	Tufnell Park	47	47	48	47	47	47	47
11	2666	Yerbury	62	62	63	62	62	62	62
		Planning Area 1	437	438	447	440	441	443	442

Islington do not publish the detailed projections that Camden and Haringey have on their web sites. This data was provided, helpfully, in response to a telephone and email enquiry. I have blanked out the contact details to protect the source.

Note that I was provided with 1st preference data in March 2011, indicating that LBI were tracking it. I was told that the identical data was 'not yet available' this year when I requested it under FOI in April and subsequently in June.

7. Proposed Archway development

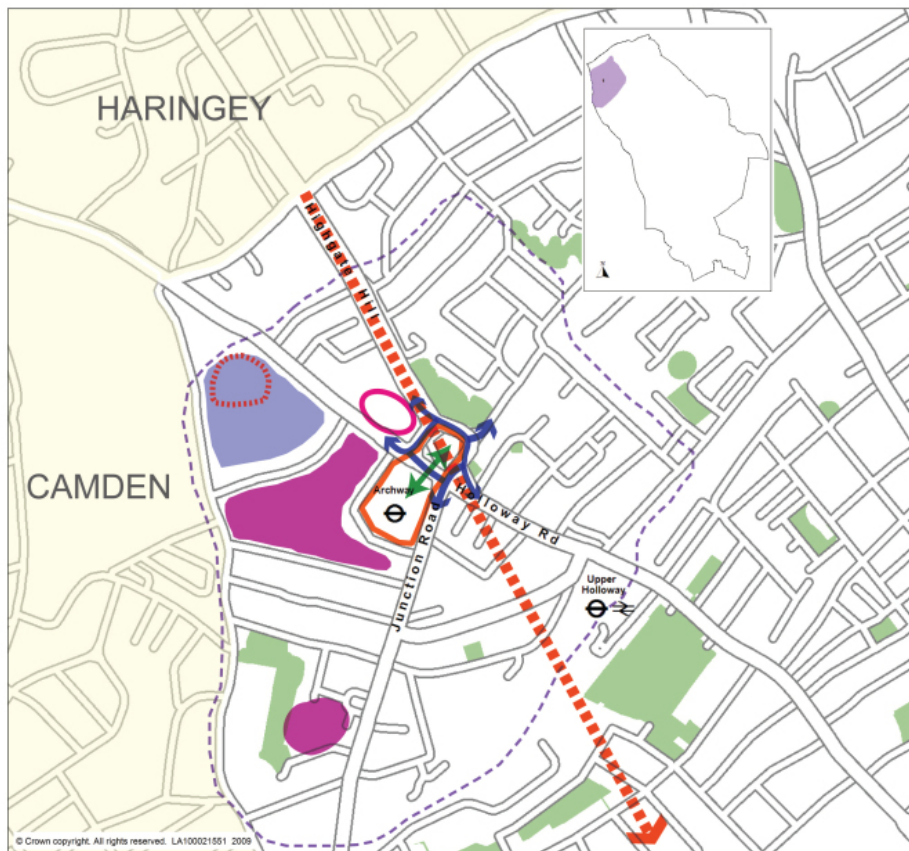
- Map of proposed Archway development (from LBI Core Strategy document)
- Details of proposed new residential development 2010-2015 (from LBI Core Strategy document)
- Additional residential development around Archway

Extract from LBI Core Strategy 2011 - 1

Map of proposed Archway development

2 Spatial strategy

Map 2.2 Archway key area



Key

- | | | | |
|--|-----------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| | Key area | | Core area for mixed use development |
| | Development opportunity for housing | | UCL Whittington campus |
| | Whittington Hospital | | Pedestrian access improvements |
| | Priority housing estate for improvement | | Gyratory improvements |
| | Views to St. Paul's Cathedral | | |

Extract from LBI Core Strategy 2011 - 2

Proposed new residential development 2010-25

2 Spatial strategy

The effect of the Archway development was explicitly excluded from the PA1 school roll projections in 2011 and 2012. Several different figures have been used by Islington for the number of planned units, but it is assumed that this document is the most reliable.

Policy CS 1

Archway

A. Maintain Junction Road and Holloway Road as the 'high street' and aim to accommodate an overall expansion in retail provision which complements the existing retail character of the area over the lifetime of the plan. The Development Management Policies will define the district town centre boundaries, the mix of uses, and related frontages policies specific to Archway.

B. Encouraging the redevelopment of underused land to meet the borough housing target, contributing between 800 and 1400 residential units⁽⁷⁾ over the lifetime of the plan. All residential redevelopment will be expected to be car-free.

C. Redevelopment of the core site, to be defined in the Site Allocations, to enhance the urban structure. A residential (non-student) element will be expected as part of the regeneration of the tower and adjacent buildings leading to a mixed-use site that retains a significant proportion of office space. The library and leisure centre will be retained/replaced as part of any redevelopment.

D. Maintaining and enhancing the provision of commercial space in Archway will be essential to maintaining the overall borough wide provision and supporting other uses in the district town centre. Where redevelopment occurs, a range of commercial unit sizes will be required, particularly smaller spaces which are suitable for small and start-up businesses.

E. Improving the environment for pedestrians and cyclists is a priority in particular the east/west movement (Junction Road to the island and beyond). Pursuing the implementation of the gyratory improvements is an important part of the wider regeneration aspirations for Archway. Any redevelopment should contribute to this and should maintain provision of infrastructure for buses that is reasonably required to support Archway's role as a transport hub.

F. Continued education and ancillary uses are supported for the UCL Whittington campus.

G. Improve local open spaces in and around the district town centre in particular Archway Park and Girdlestone open space.

H. The historic environment should be used as an asset when developing improvements to the public realm, and should be protected and enhanced, with high quality design encouraged in any development, so that it respects the local context of Archway and its surroundings.

7 The housing figures quoted in the key areas policies will make a major contribution to the overall borough housing target set out in Section 3.3. Smaller scale developments outside the key areas will also play a part in meeting the housing targets.

Additional residential development around Archway

(Information from a variety of sources – June 2013)

In addition to the Council's social housing targets detailed in the Core Strategy document, there is also likely to be significant additional residential development in the area.

Some is facilitated by Government regulations introduced this year to allow the conversion of office to residential as a "permitted development right" (ie without planning permission):

- **Archway Tower.** This has been empty since 2011¹ and the owners have said they are seeking a sale for conversion to residential.
- **Whittington House** (on Holloway Road south of Elthorne Road). This is another candidate for residential conversion as confirmed by the acting agent².

Further sites were not zoned for housing but developers are seeking to convert them:

- **Archway Campus.** UCL announced its decision to dispose of this site last year and the site is due for sale in mid-July 2013³.
- **St Joseph's garden and community centre.** A second application for housing development is understood to be in the pre-application stage⁴.

These four sites could alone yield up to 400 new dwellings. Together with Islington's own plans, there could be some 1,800 new dwellings at Archway by 2025, some of them much sooner.

¹ See http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Archway_Tower

² See <http://www.drivers.co.uk/pdf/1934645.pdf> (no longer on sale)

³ See <http://tinyurl.com/qgxl29m> (Islington Tribune article)

⁴ See, for example, <http://www.savestjosephs.com/index.html>

8. Cushman & Wakefield report

- Front page of 2009 report
- Report conclusion

2009 Cushman & Wakefield Report - Front page

REPORT ON ALTERNATIVE SITES FOR ASHMOUNT SCHOOL

June 2009

Cushman & Wakefield 2009 report - Conclusion

5. Conclusion

We have carried out a thorough search of the whole of Planning Area 1 using mapping and aerial photography. This has been followed up with a physical street by street search for opportunities. This process resulted in the identification of 28 sites which warranted further investigation.

A summary of the search results is set out on pages 10 to 11 of this report. The 28 sites include 16 existing school sites, 5 greenspace sites, 4 community use sites, 2 business use and 1 development site.

The sites were tested against the required parameters for the new school and only one site matches all the basic requirements, The Crouch Hill Recreation Centre. Detailed results are set out in Appendix 3.

We can conclude that this is the only site within Planning Area 1 and within a 20 minute walk from the existing school; that has the physical capacity to accommodate the new school; is realistically available for redevelopment; and is previously developed land. This is therefore the only suitable and viable option available to the Council to pursue to provide new accommodation for Ashmount School.

9. Planning Inspector's report

(Not meaningfully independent)

- On the need for a school
- On the future of the site
- Conclusion

9. Planning Inspector's report

On 17 June 2013, the Planning Inspectorate (part of the Department for Communities and Local Government) reported to Islington Council on their assessment of Islington's "Site Allocations Local Plan (SALP)". The SALP is a document setting out what the Council proposes to do with various sites across the borough.⁵

On the need for a school

In relation to the Ashmount site, the inspector stated:

Having carefully considered the question of educational need, I am satisfied that the Council's evidence on this issue is robust and clearly demonstrates that the loss of this site for educational use will not undermine the future provision of school places either in Islington or in the adjacent London Borough of Haringey. [paragraph 46]

This statement is being used on various online forums as conclusive evidence that there is no "basic need" for primary places in the local area.

Unfortunately, the inspector's conclusion was based on LBI's own 2-page account in their briefing document.⁶ This document:

- Contained LBI's reassurance based on total surpluses of places both in Islington as a whole and in Planning Area 1⁷, and on the ability of local schools to accommodate any shortfall. It did not consider the need for places in reception, where the shortfalls are occurring.
- Indicated that there was no pressure on places in Haringey. In particular, "the nearby Coleridge Primary School...was expanded in 2011, doubling the size from two to four classes in each year". The actual expansion took place in 2007 and, by 2011, the catchment area was no bigger than before.

⁵ See inspector's report: <http://tinyurl.com/LBI-inspectors-report-Jun2013>

⁶ See LBI's briefing document <http://tinyurl.com/LBI-site-allocs-inspect-brief>

⁷ This data can be seen on page 17 of this document.

My colleague and I challenged the LBI evidence verbally in the inspector's review meeting on 12 December 2012. We also gave her a handout⁸ showing Council data that predicted shortfalls in reception places.⁹ In the report, however, the inspector lumped this with other 'concerns' of local residents, rather than addressing it as conflicting evidence that she should consider:

*It is argued that there is a pressing need for school places in the area...
[paragraph 44]*

On the future of the site

My main aim in attending the meeting on 12 December 2012 was not in fact to dispute the schools data. It was to point out that Islington did not yet have permission to build on the site.

The Council's allocation of the site as 'housing' ignored the fact that the land could not be changed from educational use without the consent of the Secretary of State for Education. As this consent was unlikely to be forthcoming, I argued that the document would be invalid unless the wording were amended to reflect this.

The inspector again referred to this in her paragraph on local concerns, and concluded:

Thus, whilst uncertainly about the forthcoming decision on change of use casts an element of doubt about the deliverability of the allocation, this is not sufficient to warrant its deletion from the SALP. Should it not be possible to deliver this particular allocation I am satisfied that the effectiveness of the SALP as a whole will not be undermined. On this basis there is no justification for changing or amending the allocation. [paragraph 47]

Conclusion

The inspection process is a dialogue between professionals about the form, rather than the underlying substance, of a document. Given this closed loop, the inspector's conclusions cannot be viewed as independent evidence of the validity of the Council's claims.

⁸ See my meeting handout <http://tinyurl.com/ASAG-site-allocns-handout>

⁹ These are pages 17,25 and 29 in this document.

10. About the author

My wife and I live in Dresden Road close to the old Ashmount school site. We have two sons, one at Ashmount, the other starting there in September. I was alerted to the Ashmount issue in 2011 when a neighbour moved out of the area because they feared a schools 'black hole' when Ashmount moved. They were right: their house, like ours, is now outside the Ashmount catchment area and an opposite neighbour has been offered a place at Hargrave Park.

When I became aware of ASAG's campaign I found that nobody had investigated whether, objectively, a school was needed in the area. Nor did anyone fully understand the legal principles and processes involved in reassigning the land to housing. Being numerate and somewhat legal-minded, I set about doing both these things myself.

What we had not expected, having not been parents before, is how much we value our children going the local school and how much we value the community that that creates.

I would not have persisted with this task had it not been so difficult. Last year, I asked to meet Islington Childrens' Services in order that the issue of objective 'need' could be agreed upon and taken out of the political arena. Unfortunately, this approach was not deemed appropriate and so piecing together the information has been that much harder – and rewarding!