



**North Yorkshire Council**

**Skipton and Ripon Area Constituency Committee**

**7 September 2023**

**Reports for Information**

Below is the list of reports for information:

Appendix A – Skipton Town Primary School Places Briefing Paper.

29 August 2023

David Smith, Democratic Services and Scrutiny Officer

**NYC CYPS BRIEFING PAPER – JUNE 2023****For Members of Skipton and Ripon Area Constituency Committee****SKIPTON TOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL PLACES****1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1. During the consultation on the draft Craven Local Plan the need for additional primary school places within Skipton Town was identified. Two new sites for primary school provision of 210 places each were requested. It was suggested that one of these could be located on land already within (then) NYCC's ownership to the north west of the town (Raikeswood Drive), and the other could be within sites SK088, SK089 and SK090 (Airedale Ave and Elsey Croft). Given the timescales around the housing developments on these two sites it was agreed that CYPS would, as a proposed alternative to a new school at Airedale Avenue and Elsey Croft, pursue an expansion of an existing school in Skipton to maintain school place sufficiency.
- 1.2. The project identified to be taken forward is to expand Greatwood Academy by one form of entry. A delivery timetable was established which would see the additional places available from September 2024. Following detailed design work planning approval was secured. A procurement exercise was then undertaken earlier this year which resulted in a lowest tender figure that was significantly higher than the pre-tender estimate, and considered to be uneconomical.
- 1.3. The project cost position led to a review of pupil forecasts which showed that additional places were no longer essential for September 2024. The subsequent decision to delay the scheme provides opportunity to re-evaluate the need for additional places, and if required, re-tender using a different procurement route to be better placed to achieve value for money.

**2. TOTAL SCHOOL ROLLS**

- 2.1 The table below shows the total number of pupils on roll in Reception to Year 6 at each town primary school since 2014. There is perhaps a locally held view that numbers have been increasing over time. However, as the data shows the numbers peaked in 2017 and have fallen since that time. This is despite the housing growth in the last 5 years and reflects that any impacts of new housing have not compensated for an underlying demographic which has been on a downward trend.

	2023*	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
Greatwood	195	200	206	204	206	212	212	211	206	215
Parish	209	230	219	229	223	230	260	252	224	220
Christ Church	146	145	144	146	150	148	156	156	155	154
St Stephen's	131	147	145	144	164	157	163	152	159	177
Water Street	217	220	224	220	220	220	224	220	223	222
<b>TOTAL</b>	898	942	938	943	963	967	1015	991	967	988

\*Expected number of pupils in September 2023 based on current primary allocations

### 3. 2023 ADMISSIONS ROUND

3.1 This most recent allocations round (April 2023) for entry to Reception in September 2023 is showing a significant fall in pupil numbers.

The table below shows the number of reception age pupils admitted each September. This shows a reduction across all schools for 2023 compared to the last few years, and reflects unexpected levels of under-subscription.

Skipton Town reception intake								
	PAN	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
<b>Greatwood Parish</b>	30	24	30	30	30	30	30	29
<b>Christ Church</b>	60	21	40	32	34	37	24	43
<b>St Stephen's</b>	20	19	20	21	21	23	19	21
<b>Water Street</b>	30	16	21	20	19	23	19	23
	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
<b>Total</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>146</b>

PAN = the admission number into the Reception Year, so the number of places available

3.2 The Council now has access to data via the NHS of the numbers and age of children at each postcode who are registered with a local GP. This assists in establishing the numbers of local children in each age group cohort and is particularly helpful for the pre-school age groups.

Although the NHS GP registration data for 2023/24 did not show a spike it was expected that pupil yield from housing would be impacting on demand by now. This has not proved to be the case. Looking at the comparative data for the pre-school age children living in Skipton it is difficult to clearly state there will be a need for additional places in 2024 or 2025.

NHS Skipton cohort number 2022 entry – 171 (for comparison)

NHS Skipton cohort number 2023 entry – 138

NHS Skipton cohort number 2024 entry – 145

NHS Skipton cohort number 2025 entry – 117

NHS Skipton cohort number 2026 entry – 142

### 4. PUPIL FORECASTS

The pupil forecasts for Skipton Town primary schools have recently been updated following the April 2023 allocation of places described in section 3 above.

The table below shows the total forecast pupil numbers against the current available capacity across all primary schools in Skipton Town. It also shows the expected pupil yield from housing developments that have either already received planning permission or are included within the existing local plan.

	Net Capacity	23/24	24/25	25/26	26/27	27/28	28/29
Greatwood Parish	243	195	194	191	187	185	182
Christ Church	350	209	200	202	184	171	177
St Stephen's	140	146	142	141	138	135	134
Water Street	210	131	124	120	120	120	117
	210	217	210	205	203	200	198
<b>Total</b>	<b>1153</b>	<b>898</b>	<b>870</b>	<b>859</b>	<b>832</b>	<b>811</b>	<b>808</b>
<b>Pupil Yield from Outstanding permissions</b>		38	76	113	150	188	188
<b>Pupil Yield from Local Plan housing</b>		0	23	46	71	93	116
<b>Total forecast inc. all housing above</b>		<b>936</b>	<b>969</b>	<b>1018</b>	<b>1053</b>	<b>1092</b>	<b>1112</b>
<b>Total Net Capacity</b>		1153	1153	1153	1153	1153	1153

The table therefore shows that the surplus capacity which exists in the Skipton town primary schools will be gradually eroded over time so that collectively they become increasingly 'full schools', but this happening depends upon the impacts of the expected new housing.

## 5. HOUSING

There are several housing developments currently being constructed in Skipton Town. The table below shows some of the larger developments that officers continue to monitor, with the number of units that have been completed, and also those that remain to be built. This is based on data received in March 2023. In addition to these sites there are numerous smaller developments of between one and six homes that are also being implemented. There are also a number of housing development sites within the existing Craven Local Plan that have yet to come forward.

School	Applicant	Status	No of Units Approve	Units Complet	Units Remaini	Address1	SHLAA Site F
Skipton, Greatwood Community Primary School	KEYHAVEN HOMES LIMITED	Implemented	105	0	105		SK114
<i>Skipton, Greatwood Community Primary School</i>	<i>Skipton Properties</i>	<i>Implemented</i>	<i>98</i>	<i>48</i>	<i>50</i>	<i>ALDERSLEY AVENUE</i>	<i>SK013</i>
Christ Church Church of England Voluntary Controlled		Implemented	189	0	189	LAND NORTH OF A629 AND WEST OF CARLETON	SK049
<i>Skipton Parish Church of England Primary School</i>	<i>Stonebridge Homes</i>	<i>Implemented</i>	<i>135</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>75</i>	<i>LAND AT HAWBANK FIELD</i>	<i>SK088</i>
Christ Church Church of England Voluntary Controlled		Implemented	74	29	45	LAND TO THE SOUTH OF BURNSIDE	SK094

## 6. GREATWOOD EXPANSION - CURRENT POSITION

In recognition of the uneconomical tender return, and in light of the pupil data shown above, it was determined by the Children and Young People's Service (CYPS) Leadership Team in April 2023 that the tender should be rejected, and therefore delivery of the one form expansion should be postponed until September 2026, subject to further review of pupil forecast data. The postponement has been discussed with Northern Star Academies Trust who are understanding of the reasons for delay.

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