

<b>Item No.</b> 3.1	<b>Classification:</b> Open	<b>Date:</b> 26.11.03	<b>Meeting Name:</b> Council Assembly
<b>Report title:</b>		Deputation Request : Primary provision in Dulwich and Herne Hill	
<b>Ward(s) or groups affected:</b>		All	
<b>From:</b>		Chief Executive (Borough Solicitor & Secretary)	

## RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council Assembly decide whether or not to receive the deputation and should it agree to do so, at which meeting it should be received.

## BACKGROUND

2. A request for a deputation has been received from Mrs M A Handley of Elfindale Road, Herne Hill
3. The deputation states:-

“We as concerned parents wish to make a deputation to the Council on 26th November 2003 to talk about the lack of primary provision in the Dulwich and Herne Hill area.”

## KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

4. In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 3.7 (3) the request that a deputation be received stands referred to Council Assembly to decide whether or not it wishes to receive the deputation.

Council Procedure Rule 3.7 (9) sets out the procedures to be observed at Council Assembly meetings:-

### **Composition of Deputations**

The deputation shall consist of no more than six persons, including its spokesperson.

### **Speech on Behalf of the Deputation**

Only one member of the deputation shall be allowed to address the Council Assembly, her or his speech being limited to 5 minutes.

### **Questions**

Members of the Council Assembly may ask questions of the deputation which shall be answered by their spokesperson or any member of the deputation nominated by her or him, for up to 5 minutes at the conclusion of the spokesperson's address.

## **Debate**

At the conclusion of the questions, the deputation may remain (subject to any resolution excluding attendance of the public) but shall take no further part in the proceedings.

### **SUPPLEMENTARY ADVICE FROM OTHER OFFICERS**

#### **Comments of the Strategic Director of Education and Culture**

5. The draft School Organisation Plan (SOP) 2003-2008, which was approved for consultation by Council Assembly on 29th October 2003, includes analysis, on a planning area basis, of the projected need for primary school places in the borough.
6. Planning area E - Herne Hill and Dulwich - contains 12 primary schools – both community and voluntary aided. The draft SOP concludes that, while there is a projected increase in overall demand in this area over the next five years, there should be sufficient places at all the primary schools in the area for the overall projected demand. However, the projections for places for Reception year pupils suggest that there will be a growing pressure for places, leading to a deficit in 2007/08.
7. The draft SOP states that the Herne Hill and Dulwich planning area contains both over-subscribed schools and those that are under-recruiting. (Two of the schools have more than 25% surplus places. In some cases this is because a school's geographical location means that there are insufficient pupils in the natural catchment area to fill the school. As a result, the Council has agreed that the Langbourne admission number (one of the schools in the planning area) is reduced to 30 in September 2004. This change is reflected in the projections.
8. The draft SOP confirms that planning areas are based on ward boundaries; are not self-contained in terms of transport routes and accessibility; and may cut across physical barriers such as main roads. The draft SOP acknowledges that any planning area basis is bound to produce arbitrary divisions. However, the advantage of using ward boundaries is that these correspond to demographic data that can be used to monitor trends and to make projections of the possible future numbers of pupils.
9. When developing Basic Need bids for additional school place provision the places in all primary schools within two miles have to be taken into account before the investment of additional Department for Education and Science resources in new provision could be justified. Southwark's planning areas are of the appropriate size for such analysis.
10. Council Assembly agreed on 29th October 2003 that there should be a report back on the primary school situation in area E, and the desirability of increasing primary provision in the area, based, inter alia, on research into the success/failure of admission applications for entry in January and September 2004 to maintained schools in the Herne Hill and Dulwich area.
11. This analysis will be reported next year and will therefore be based on information from next school year's admission applications and will review the issue in conjunction with the diocesan authorities, because a number of the

primary schools in this planning area are voluntary aided. The analysis will also be based on the new projections using the January 2004 school rolls.

## BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Deputation Request File	Town Hall, Peckham Road, London SE5 8UB	Kevin Flaherty 020 7525 7236

## APPENDIX A

### Audit Trail

<b>Lead Officer</b>	Ian Millichap, Constitutional Team Manager	
<b>Report Author</b>	Kevin Flaherty, Constitutional Team	
<b>Version</b>	Final	
<b>Dated</b>	14.11.03	
<b>Key Decision?</b>	No	
<b>CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / EXECUTIVE MEMBER</b>		
<b>Officer Title</b>	<b>Comments Sought</b>	<b>Comments Included</b>
Strategic Director of Education and Culture	Yes	Yes
<b>Executive Member</b>	Yes	
<b>Date final report sent to Constitutional Support Services</b>	12/11/03	