APPENDIX ONE – GLA SCHOOL ROLL PROJECTIONS (SRP) FORECAST METHODOLOGY FOR 2022

Data sources

- Greater London Authority (GLA) bespoke Borough Preferred Option population projections
- Pupil level School Census data from National Pupil Database (Spring Census 2019 to 2021)
- School level current roll data by sex and NC year (from Spring Census 2022)
- Data on linked schools and maximum and minimum NC years from Edubase and school census data

Data Processing

The school roll projection model creates a roll projection for each school based on the GLA population projections of the wards where its pupils live.

For each ward of residence in London, National Curriculum (NC) year (R to 11) and sex, the proportion of children of the corresponding age attending each mainstream state school is calculated. These proportions are carried forward as the pupils age through the school in the years being projected.

For new pupils entering a school in future years, for example at reception, proportions are calculated as averages over the latest years of actuals, with 4 being the standard number of years used (2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022). The same approach is used at years 7 and 12, even if the school is an all through school as it is assumed that there will be significant changes in the cohort at this point.

For the current round year (2022), the school level rolls submitted by London Boroughs to the GLA have no information on wards of residence of the pupils. For this year, the number of pupils from the roll attributed to each ward are estimated by averaging over the previous years' patterns, with the default being 3 years (2019, 2020 and 2021), and scaling to ensure that the total numbers at each school for each age and sex match the submitted rolls.

The rolled forward and calculated new intake proportions for future years are then applied to the population projections to give projections of the number of children on roll by school by age and sex. Due to lower retention rates, sixth form projections are calculated using a survival ratio as the cohort ages through sixth form. School level projections are then aggregated to planning areas and borough totals.

Population projections

The GLA population projections are based on a hybrid cohort component and housing unit model. The population is projected forward based on trends in past births, deaths, migration, and household formation. The outputs include age, so the school roll projection model explicitly links to the populations of children. For full methodology see:

https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/housing-led-population-projections

Migration and housing developments.

The effects of migration and housing developments feed into the school roll projection model via the underlying population projections

Housing development

The amount of development projected in a local authority will affect that authority's population projections and in turn its school roll projections. More development generally means that the LA will attract more people and its population will therefore rise. If population increases, there will consequently be more children and so school roll projections will also rise. The impact of new housing development varies by area and is informed by historic levels of housing occupation in the local area and recent demographic trends.

Future housing development trajectories are either provided to the GLA by the local authority for a bespoke population projection, or they use the London Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA). The SHLAA trajectory has been adjusted in the first 5 years to account for assumed lower housing delivery resulting from pandemic disruption to both supply and demand.

Migration

The GLA provides population projections based on 3 migration variants. It is up to the Local Authority to choose the most suitable variant for their area:

- Scenario 1: standard migration assumptions for the covid period, high domestic out-migration assumptions in the longer-term.

- Scenario 2: standard migration assumptions for the covid period, lower domestic out-migration assumptions in the longer-term. This is a high long-term population scenario.

- Scenario 3: high out migration assumptions for the covid period, high domestic out-migration assumptions in the longer-term. This is a low short-term population scenario

Further information on the migration scenarios can be found here

In early 2018, the GLA identified problems with the official estimates of population and migration of children for London local authorities. Analysis of the official estimates alongside additional comparator datasets revealed that individual cohorts of children in many boroughs were becoming increasingly inflated over time, indicating an issue with estimated migration flows.

For the 2019, 2020 and 2021 school roll projections, the GLA made comprehensive changes to the past estimates of population and international migration inputs used within the model. The changes were based on a multi-stage modelling process, that sought to identify a timeseries of past population more consistent with observed trends in administrative data sources. A consistent series of international migration flows were then created based on these updated population estimates and the standard birth, death and domestic migration components.

Cross border movement

The GLA model explicitly accounts for cross border mobility by calculating the contribution from all wards that the school draws pupils from, both from inside and outside of the borough. The model does not account for changes in cross border mobility patterns which may happen in the future due to factors such as changes in a school's popularity with parents, or schools opening and closing.

Changes made

The migration assumptions that GLA population projections which feed into the school roll projection model have been updated to reflect new assumptions since the pandemic.

Quality assurance

Comparisons are made with last year and with population and births data. Changes to information about specific schools are identified and flagged for checking.