

Report of the Director of Children's Services to the meeting of Executive Committee to be held on 31 January 2023

AS

Subject:

Proposed changes to Published Admission Numbers at two maintained primary schools

Summary statement:

Proposed Reduction of Published Admission Numbers at Eldwick Primary School and Steeton Primary School

EQUALITY & DIVERSITY:

The proposed reduction in the published admission numbers is in response to surplus school places; it would therefore have **No Impact** on equality and diversity as current arrangements adhere to 1.8 of the School Admissions Code, which states:

“Oversubscription criteria must be reasonable, clear, objective, procedurally fair, and comply with all relevant legislation, including equalities legislation. Admission authorities must ensure that their arrangements will not disadvantage unfairly, either directly or indirectly, a child from a particular social or racial group, or a child with a disability or special educational needs...”

Marium Haque
Strategic Director - Children's Services

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Portfolio:
Education, Employment and Skills

Overview & Scrutiny Area:
Children's Services

1. SUMMARY

The reduction of the Published Admission Number at Eldwick Primary School from 75 to 60 from 1 September 2024.

The reduction of the Published Admission Number at Steeton Primary School from 45 to 30 from 1 September 2024.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1.1 When planning primary school places in Bradford, the District is split into 26 primary school planning areas.

2.1.2 The School Admissions Code requires that all admission authorities consult where they propose to reduce a Published Admission Number (PAN).

2.1.3 Funding received by schools is directly related to the number of pupils attending the school. Vacancies mean that a school does not receive the maximum possible revenue.

2.2 Proposal to reduce the Published Admission Number at Eldwick Primary School:

2.2.1 Eldwick Primary School is situated in the Bingley 1 planning area. From 2010, population growth in Bradford placed an increased pressure on primary school places, resulting in a large-scale expansion programme to meet the growth in demand. In 2011, two schools in this planning area, St Joseph's Catholic Primary School and Trinity All Saints CE Primary School increased their PANs, from 20 to 30 and 30 to 60 respectively. Due to the decline in the number of places required, Trinity All Saints reduced its PAN back to 30 from 2022

2.2.2 Eldwick Primary School permanently increased its PAN from 60 to 75 in September 2014. This PAN has applied to all Reception intakes since 2014. The net capacity for the building is 525, which is the capacity required to admit up to 75 pupils in each year from Reception to Year 6. 508 pupils were on roll at the October 2022 census.

2.2.3 Since the PAN was increased in 2014, Eldwick has recorded only a small number of vacancies in reception on the January Census. However, only 64 pupils started in reception in September 2022, meaning there are 11 vacancies. Eldwick Primary School is forecast to have fewer than 60 Reception pupils in 2024, 2025 and 2026.

2.2.4 Across the Bingley 1 planning area, there were 255 Reception places available for allocations in 2022, with the total number of places allocated on National Offer Day being 206, leaving 49 vacancies.

2.2.5 The proposed PAN reduction will provide 240 places in the planning area for September 2024. Current published forecasts indicate that the numbers of reception places required in reception for the next four intake years across

Bingley 1 are:

2023/24:	213
2024/25:	193
2025/26:	199
2026/27:	193

2.2.6 As required by the Department for Education (DfE), a calculation has been made for the possible additional children who could come to live in approved housing developments in this planning area and these additional children are included in the above forecast figures.

2.2.7 Proposal to reduce the Published Admission Number at Steeton Primary School:

2.2.8 Steeton Primary School is situated in the South Craven planning area, along with Eastburn Primary School and Silsden Primary School. Silsden Primary School was created from the merger of the local junior and infant schools (Hothfield and Aireview) in 2017.

2.2.9 To meet the growth in demand from an increased population, Aireview Infant School increased its PAN from 75 to 90 in 2014, and Silsden Primary School took on that PAN of 90. Silsden Primary School initially operated on the sites of the schools it replaced, before moving to a new purpose-built building in January 2022.

2.2.10 The number of Reception pupils at Steeton Primary School, as recorded in the January school census, has not reached 45 pupils for any of the cohorts currently at the school, i.e. not since before 2016/17. 34 children were allocated places at Steeton Primary School on National Offer Day in 2022.

2.2.11 The total number of pupils from Reception to Year 6 recorded by the school on the October 2022 census was 286, which is below the building's net capacity of 315.

2.2.12 Across the South Craven planning area, there were 165 reception places available for the 2022 intake. The total number of places allocated on National Offer Day was 139, leaving 26 available places at that time.

2.2.13 The proposed PAN reduction will provide 150 places in the planning area from 2024. Current published forecasts, which include possible additional children who could come to live in approved housing developments, indicate that the number of Reception places required for the next four intake years across South Craven are:

2023/24:	165
2024/25:	135
2025/26:	134
2026/27:	128

3 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

3.1 Consultations to reduce the PAN at both schools

- 3.1.1 In line with the School Admissions Code, consultations on the proposals to reduce the PAN at each school ran between 3 November 2022 and 15 December 2022. The consultations ran separately but simultaneously.
- 3.1.2 The lists of those consulted are shown in Appendices A and D. Details of the consultations were placed on each school's website, Bradford Council's website and Bradford Schools Online; parents of current pupils were notified by the school by email, text notification on the school app and given the opportunity to collect paper copies (Appendices B and E) if required.

3.2 Consultation responses to reduce the PAN at Eldwick Primary School

- 3.2.1 39 responses were received; see comments in Appendix C. 36 respondents agree with the proposal to reduce the PAN to 60, three disagree.

3.3 Consultation responses to reduce the PAN at Steeton Primary School

- 3.3.1 19 responses were received; see comments in Appendix F. 15 respondents agree with the proposal to reduce the PAN to 30, four disagree.

4. FINANCIAL & RESOURCE APPRAISAL

- 4.1 Schools receive funding through the Fair Funding Formula which allocates funding to schools based on the number of pupils attending the school.
- 4.2 Legislation limits infant class size to 30, meaning classes above 30 require an additional teacher. Having 31 children on roll would therefore require the same staffing resources as having 45 on roll, but with considerably less funding attached.
- 4.3 Bradford Council believes that reducing the PAN at both schools will assist them to provide stability in their long-term planning and allow them to deliver high quality educational outcomes for the pupils on roll.

5. RISK MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES

There are no significant risks associated with the reduction in the PAN at either school; forecasts indicate that there will be sufficient school places available within each planning area and the neighbouring planning areas.

6. LEGAL APPRAISAL

- 6.1 In accordance with paragraph 1.45 of the School Admissions Code 2021, when changes are proposed to admission arrangements that will apply for entry in

September 2024, the admissions authority must consult on those arrangements. Consultation must last for a minimum of 6 weeks and must take place between 1 October and 31 January in the determination year ie the school year immediately preceding the offer year. If no changes are made to admission arrangements, they must be consulted on at least once every seven years.

6.2 All Admission Authorities must consult in accordance with paragraph 1.45 of the School Admissions Code where they propose to lower a school's PAN.

6.3 Under section 14 of the Education Act 1996, the Local Authority has a statutory duty to provide sufficient school places for all pupils in its area.

7. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

7.1 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

There are no sustainability implications

7.2 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IMPACTS

The proposals would not impact on greenhouse gas emissions.

7.3 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

There are no community safety implications from this report.

7.4 HUMAN RIGHTS ACT

There are no direct Human Rights implications arising from this report.

7.5 TRADE UNION

Trade Unions have been consulted on the proposals to reduce PAN at Eldwick Primary School and Steeton Primary School.

7.6 WARD IMPLICATIONS

Ward Councillors have been consulted on the proposals to reduce PAN at Eldwick Primary School and Steeton Primary School.

7.7 AREA COMMITTEE ACTION PLAN IMPLICATIONS (for reports to Area Committees only)

N/A

7.8 IMPLICATIONS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

As required by the School Admissions Code, Looked After Children are given the highest priority when allocating school places. Therefore, there are no implications arising from the proposed reduction of PAN for the provision of places for Looked After Children.

7.9 ISSUES ARISING FROM PRIVACY IMPACT ASSESMENT

General Data Protection Regulation principles relating to individuals' data and rights under the Data Protection Act 2018 will be respected. Privacy implications arising from this proposal have been addressed by anonymising consultees' personal information together with any information which may enable them to be identified from their responses and the summary of their responses.

8. NOT FOR PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS

None

9. OPTIONS

Considering the results of the consultation, the Executive can decide to:

9.1 Eldwick Primary School

- a) Approve the reduction of the Published Admission Number (PAN) at Eldwick Primary School from 75 to 60 from 1 September 2024
- or**
- b) Retain the existing PAN of 75 at the school

9.2 Steeton Primary School

- a) Approve the reduction of the Published Admission Number (PAN) at Steeton Primary School from 45 to 30 from 1 September 2024
- or**
- b) Retain the existing PAN of 45 at the school

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 That the Executive approve the proposal to reduce the Published Admission Number (PAN) at Eldwick Primary School from 75 to 60 from 1 September 2024.
- 10.2 That the Executive approve the proposal to reduce the Published Admission Number (PAN) at Steeton Primary School from 45 to 30 from 1 September 2024.

11. APPENDICES

Appendix A: Consultation list for Eldwick Primary School
Appendix B: Consultation letter to Eldwick parents
Appendix C: Responses to Eldwick consultation
Appendix D: Consultation list for Steeton Primary School
Appendix E: Consultation letter to Steeton parents
Appendix F: Responses to Steeton consultation

12. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

School Admissions Code 2021

List of Consultees – Eldwick

Strategic Director & ADs Children's Services
All Councillors
Neighbourhood Forums
All Schools
Catholic Diocese
CE Diocese
Council for Mosques
Children's Services Managers
Education & Learning (formerly Bradford Achievement Service)
Head /Chair of Governors
MPs
Muslim Association
Playgroups and other Early Years providers
Parents & prospective parents
Private/Independent schools
School Staff
Unions
Wider public audience: Bradford Schools Online (BSO), Bradford Council website,
School website



Appendix B

City of
BRADFORD
METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Department of Children's Services

**Parents / Carers of pupils of
Eldwick Primary School**

Intelligence and Sufficiency
7th Floor
Margaret McMillan Tower
Bradford
BD1 1NN

Email: SufficiencyConsultation@bradford.gov.uk

Date: 03 November 2022

Dear Parents / Carers

Statutory consultation on the proposed reduction of the Published Admission Number for Eldwick Primary School for the 2024/25 academic year

Background

The current Published Admission Number (PAN) at Eldwick Primary School is 75. This means that the number of children admitted to the school in reception each year is a maximum of 75.

When planning primary school places in Bradford, the District is split into 26 primary school planning areas. Eldwick Primary School sits in the Bingley 1 planning area.

According to data from the Office of National Statistics (ONS), the number of live births nationally fell for five consecutive years up to 2020, with the total number of live births in 2020 being the fewest since 2002. There was a slight increase in 2021 but still fewer births than in 2019. Given the falling number of births nationally and across the District, this has led to a high level of surplus places in some of the primary school planning areas, including Bingley 1, where Eldwick Primary School is situated.

Over recent years, there has been a significant reduction in the number of reception places required across this planning area. In response to this reduction, Trinity All Saints C of E Primary School reduced their PAN from 60 to 30 in September 2022, reducing the PAN for this planning area to 255.

Since the PAN was increased in 2014, Eldwick has recorded only a small number of vacancies in reception on the January Census. However, only 64 pupils started in reception in September 2022, meaning there are 11 vacancies. Eldwick Primary School is forecast to have fewer than 60 reception pupils in 2024, 2025 and 2026.

Appendix B

Across the Bingley 1 planning area, there were 255 reception places available for allocations in 2022, with the total number of places allocated on National Offer Day being 206, leaving 49 vacancies.

The proposed PAN reduction will provide 240 places in the planning area for September 2024. Current published forecasts indicate that the numbers of reception places required in reception for the next four intake years across Bingley 1 are:

2023/24:	213
2024/25:	193
2025/26:	199
2026/27:	193

The Local Authority's forecast information has been used to model the school's budget over the next five years. This process showed that if the PAN remains at 75 the school will face financial difficulty. The proposed PAN reduction will help to ensure the school is in a financially stable position in future years.

The School Admissions Code requires that all admission authorities consult where they propose to reduce a PAN. Bradford Council, as the Admission Authority, is therefore seeking representations on the proposed change to the PAN for Eldwick Primary School in the Bingley 1 planning area.

In accordance with the School Admissions Code (2021), The Council is consulting with key stakeholders, including;

- Eldwick Primary School – Head/Governing Board/Staff
- Parents/carers of current pupils and prospective parents of pupils
- All other Admission Authorities within the District
- Neighbouring Local Authorities
- Councillors and MPs
- Trade Unions
- Anyone else who has an interest in the proposed changes

A copy has been sent to the Office of the Schools Adjudicator and the proposal will be published on Eldwick Primary school's website.

This consultation will run for six weeks from Thursday 3 November 2022 to Thursday 15 December 2022, after which time any representations received will be considered and a report taken to the Council's Executive Committee for a decision to be made on the PAN for Eldwick Primary School.

Specific Proposal

Bradford Council proposes to reduce the PAN at Eldwick Primary School from 75 to 60 from 1 September 2024.

This means that the maximum number of pupils intended to be admitted in Reception in 2024, and all subsequent Reception cohorts, will be 60. There will be no impact on children who already have a place at the school in other year groups.

Appendix B

Factors that have been considered by the Council when deciding to consult on this proposal include:

A large portion of funding received by schools is directly related to the number of pupils attending the school. Too many vacancies mean that schools will not receive the maximum possible revenue. Therefore, the Council is proposing to reduce the number of available places to ensure the school can continue to operate efficiently and cost effectively.

The school is located in Bingley 1 planning area where there continues to be a falling demand for primary school places, resulting in a significant surplus across the area.

The total number of pupils from reception to Year 6 recorded by the school on the October 2022 census was 508, which is below the current capacity of 525.

Due to the lower numbers of younger children registered with the NHS who will require a school place in the coming years, the Council forecasts that there will be sufficient school places available for local children if the PAN is reduced. If agreed, the overall PAN for the Bingley 1 planning area will be 240 from 2024.

Should circumstances change in the future in the number of children requiring a primary school place, Bradford Council will work with local schools to ensure all children can be placed in a local school.

Bradford Council believes that reducing the PAN will assist the school to provide stability in their long-term planning and allow them to deliver high quality educational outcomes for the pupils currently on roll. The reduction in PAN will ensure that an appropriate number of places are provided for future pupils, in line with forecasts.

Any representations should be made on the online survey

<https://online1.snapsurveys.com/PANconsultationEldwick> or scan this QR code:



Alternatively, if you would prefer a paper copy of the response form, please email SufficiencyConsultation@bradford.gov.uk quoting Eldwick Primary School PAN reduction. Completed paper response forms can be handed in to the school office or returned to the address on the form.

Yours faithfully,

City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council
Department of Children's Services

Summary and all responses to consultation on reducing the PAN at Eldwick Primary School

Group	Agree	Disagree	Other	Total
Parent / Carer	30	3		33
Staff member	3			3
Eldwick Primary School Governor	1			1
Other School Governor				
Local Councillor				
Member of Local Community	1			1
Parent of younger child	1			1
Other/Unknown				
Total	36	3		39

Not all respondents left comments; 16 comments were in favour and one against.

Comments agreeing with the proposal to reduce the PAN:

If keeping the admission number at 75 would out the school in difficulty it makes no sense to remain at this number and admissions need to drop to 60.

Makes sense based on data shared.

There is already an issue with parking relating to drop off and pick up times. Residents are unable to sometimes get out of their drives due to parking issues at school times. An increase in numbers would only cause more problems regarding traffic. I also believe that larger numbers in the school would not be beneficial to the children, in relation to their learning and larger classroom sizes. I think this is not a good idea to increase numbers. I do not support admission numbers to remain at 75.

I feel like it will be better for the school and children

As a parent of a child who already attends and one who should attend in 2025 I would prefer a smaller intake to max funding.

Yes, agreed a two form entry I believe would benefit the children and stop the mixed classes that currently are in place.

I agree with the proposal - there is likely to be a financial impact if the PAN remains at 75

Having been a member of the school when intake was 60 and knowing a number of children since who have been in both intakes of 60 and of 75, I believe smaller intake is better.

I want to ensure the school is financially stable.

If there are not enough children requiring a reception place in the coming years, it is right to reduce the PAN to ensure that school receive the correct funding and are able to have an efficient level of staffing for the number of children in school.

There is no point holding open unnecessary places. This may also mean the dual year class is no longer required which I'm not keen on.

Appendix C

As a parent of three children who have attended Eldwick Primary School, I am aware of the difficulties of increased class size, in terms of, reduced educational standards due to increased pressure placed on the School and the teachers and resource provided for the Children. The School is not large enough to accommodate the number of Children currently attending to a high standard. As a local resident for 20 years, I have major concerns regarding the volume of vehicles that travel to and from Eldwick Primary School before and after School. Without supervision, the local roads are dangerous to cross for the Children due to the number of parked cars. There has been a marked increase in vehicles parked illegally outside of the School and preventing local residents accessing driveways. There are also health implications due to emissions. Walking to School should be promoted. For the benefit of the Children, I would like to see reduced class size across the board at Eldwick Primary School.

I agree that 75 is too much and the mixed year classes after Reception concern me. However, we are just slightly outside of the catchment area and I have a son that would start Reception in year 25/26 so I would be concerned he wouldn't be offered a place if numbers reduced. As long as the criteria for offering places for siblings doesn't change, I am in agreement with the reduction.

I have had 2 children in this school. It is a great school, however, due to the numbers being increased and therefore people travelling from even further afield, the mornings are now complete chaos.... too many cars. The classes are also enormous, which can't be good for learning at this age.

Based on the information provided the proposal seems an informed change for the benefit of local school funding.

It has become very apparent that children are no longer local who attend the school. The increase in traffic and my personal awareness that people are travelling long distances and ultimately bypassing their local school. The 75 intake is obviously no longer required.

Comments disagreeing with the proposal to reduce the PAN:

It gives more people in the area a chance for their child to go to school near their house

Council response to the comments:

The proposal to reduce the PAN from 75 to 60 is based on a reduction in numbers of younger children and forecasts indicate that 75 places are not required at Eldwick Primary School. Data indicates that there are sufficient school places available for the number of children living in this area if the proposal is approved.

List of Consultees – Steeton

Strategic Director & ADs Children's Services
All Councillors
Neighbourhood Forums
Steeton with Eastburn Parish Council
All Schools
Catholic Diocese
CE Diocese
Council for Mosques
Children's Services Managers
Education & Learning (formerly Bradford Achievement Service)
Head /Chair of Governors
MPs
Muslim Association
Playgroups and other Early Years providers
Parents & prospective parents
School Staff
Unions
Wider public audience: Bradford Schools Online (BSO), Bradford Council website, School website

Department of Children's Services

**Parents / Carers of pupils of
Steeton Primary School**

Intelligence and Sufficiency
7th Floor
Margaret McMillan Tower
Bradford
BD1 1NN

Email: SufficiencyConsultation@bradford.gov.uk

Date: 03 November 2022

Dear Parents / Carers

**Statutory consultation on the proposed reduction of the Published Admission
Number for Steeton Primary School for the 2024/25 academic year**

Background

The current Published Admission Number (PAN) at Steeton Primary School is 45. This means that the number of children admitted to the school in reception each year is a maximum of 45.

When planning primary school places in Bradford, the District is split into 26 primary school planning areas. Steeton Primary School sits in the South Craven planning area.

Across the Bradford District, there has been a significant reduction in the number of younger children registered with the NHS. This has led to a high level of surplus places in some of the primary school planning areas, including South Craven.

According to data from the Office of National Statistics (ONS), the number of live births nationally has fallen in five of the last seven years, with the total number of live births in 2020 being the fewest since 2002. Given the falling number of births nationally and across the District, there has been a significant reduction in the number of reception places required across this planning area; the Council does not anticipate that there will be a significant increase in the number of places required in the near future.

The number of Reception pupils at Steeton Primary School, as recorded in the January school census, has not reached 45 pupils for any of the cohorts currently at the school, i.e. not since before 2016/17. 34 children were allocated places at Steeton Primary School on National Offer Day in 2022.

Across the South Craven planning area, there were 165 reception places available for the 2022 intake. The total number of places allocated on National Offer Day was 139, leaving 26 available places at that time.

Appendix E

The proposed PAN reduction will provide 150 places in the planning area from 2024. Current published forecasts indicate that the numbers of reception places required in reception for the next four intake years across South Craven are:

2023/24:	165
2024/25:	135
2025/26:	134
2026/27:	128

The increased demand for 2023/24 means a PAN reduction would not be appropriate before 2024/25.

The Council's forecast information has been used to model the school's budget over the coming years. This process showed that if the PAN remains at 45 the school is likely to face financial difficulty. The proposed PAN reduction will help to ensure the school is able to maintain a financially stable position over the long-term.

The School Admissions Code requires that all admission authorities consult where they propose to reduce a PAN. As the Admission Authority, the Council is seeking representations on the proposed change to the PAN for Steeton Primary School.

In accordance with the School Admissions Code (2021), the Council is consulting with key stakeholders, including:

- Parents/carers of current pupils and prospective parents of pupils
- Bradford Council (the Local Authority in which the school is situated)
- All other Admission Authorities within the District
- Neighbouring Local Authorities
- Councillors and MPs
- Trade Unions
- Anyone else who has an interest in the proposed changes

A copy has been sent to the Office of the Schools Adjudicator and the proposal will be published on the school's website.

This consultation will run for six weeks between Thursday 3 November 2022 and Thursday 15 December 2022, after which time any representations received will be considered and a report taken to the Council's Executive Committee for a decision to be made on the PAN for Steeton Primary School.

Specific Proposal

Bradford Council proposes to reduce the PAN at Steeton Primary School from 45 to 30 from 1 September 2024.

This means that the maximum number of pupils intended to be admitted in Reception in 2024, and all subsequent Reception cohorts, will be 30. There will be no impact on children who already have a place at the school in other year groups.

Appendix E

Factors that have been considered by the Council when deciding to consult on this proposal include:

- A large portion of funding received by schools is directly related to the number of pupils attending the school. Too many vacancies mean that schools will not receive the maximum possible revenue. Therefore, the school is proposing to reduce the number of available places to enable the school to operate more efficiently and cost effectively.
- The school is located in the South Craven planning area, where there continues to be a falling demand for primary school places, resulting in a significant surplus across the area.
- The total number of pupils from reception to Year 6 recorded by the school on the October 2022 census was 286, which is below the current capacity of 315.
- Due to the lower numbers of younger children registered with the NHS who will require a school place in the coming years, the Council forecasts that there will be sufficient school places available for local children if the PAN is reduced. If agreed, the overall PAN for the South Craven planning area will be 150 from 2024.
- Should circumstances change in the future in the number of children requiring a primary school place, Bradford Council will work with local schools to ensure all children can be placed in a local school.

Bradford Council believes that reducing the PAN at Steeton Primary School will provide stability for the school's long-term planning and allow it to continue to deliver high quality educational outcomes for the pupils currently on roll. The reduction in PAN will ensure that an appropriate number of places are provided for future pupils, in line with forecasts.

Any representations should be made on the online survey <https://online1.snapsurveys.com/Steeton> or scan this QR code:



Alternatively, if you would prefer a paper copy of the response form, please email SufficiencyConsultation@bradford.gov.uk quoting Steeton Primary School PAN reduction. Completed paper response forms can be returned to the address on the form or handed in to the school office.

Yours faithfully,

City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council
Department of Children's Services

Summary and all responses to consultation on reducing the PAN at Steeton Primary School

Group	Agree	Disagree	Other	Total
Parent/Carer	6	3		9
Member of school staff	7			7
Member of the Local Community	1			1
School Governor at Steeton Primary School	-	-		-
School Governor at another school	-	-		-
Local Councillor	-	-		-
Member of the Local Community	-	-		-
Parent of a younger child	-	-		-
Other	1	1		2
Total	15	4		19

Not all respondents left comments; 7 comments were in favour and three against.

Both 'other' respondents are local childminders.

Comments agreeing with the proposal to reduce the PAN:

Lack of money in school is causing many issues and putting a strain on teachers ability to provide quality lessons and support for children.

Long term stability for the school with regards to budgeting and financial forecasting. I would hope that the school would retain its 2 reception classes which are combined with some year 1 children needing additional support after leaving reception. Measures need to be put into place to ensure that Steeton based children are not disadvantaged by siblings of existing pupils who live outside of Steeton getting reception places ahead of them - priority catchment area or similar?

I feel that as this is a village school reducing the yearly intake would mean most of the children would be from the village and so walk to school saving lots of cars causing pollution and a safer area around the school relating to parents / carers outside the village driving up to the school, letting children out of cars, parking on the pavement around school causing dangers for children who have walked.

The school playground and hall have always seemed very cramped. I was against the proposed expansion of the school a few years ago so am definitely in favour of the reduction in pupil numbers

Pupil numbers have fallen below 300 for the past 10 years at Steeton Primary School. School already has to over-staff reception due to the fact that it is one and a half form entry; providing 2 teachers in order to accommodate 2 reception classes costs the school the equivalent of half a teacher extra per year. Lower pupil numbers have meant that school is paying for staffing as though we have at 315 pupils, whilst only being funded at around 280-290 pupils. This has had a detrimental effect on school resources and infrastructure for many years. A PAN reduction to 30 will mean that spend per pupil will improve and with-it outcomes and life chances for each child on role.

Appendix F

I agree with the proposal to reduce the admission number at SPS from 45 to 30. I believe it will benefit the children of SPD as it will provide stability for the school's long-term planning and allow it to continue to deliver high quality educational outcomes for the pupils currently on roll. Instead of not filling the PAN every year.

I believe it's better to have 30 children in the class room as they get more support from the teachers & will be a more happy place with less children.

Comments disagreeing with the proposal to reduce the PAN:

Looking at a more futuristic view Silsden will increase the number of families in a short time therefore decreasing admissions will make it difficult and force parents to go register their children outside their area of residence , so I am not an apologist for this opinion and suggest the parishes the more they increase the housing more schools could be available for families . Kind regards.

If all of the children who live in Steeton attend their local school the I am sure there wouldn't be a problem. People do not like the fact that done children travel from Keighley so local children are attending other schools .I believe a lot of people do not appreciate the amount of Asian children attending I do not have a problem with this but I know some people do. Steeton School is a fantastic school and always has been during the 30 years that I have had connections with it. I would hate to see it struggle.

Whilst the consideration for reduction takes into consideration the South Craven area, the practical reality is that Steeton is close to Keighley and there is a large proportion of students who attend from Keighley. The plans have not mentioned how reduciing the number of admissions to Steeton Primary will affect the nearby Keighley residents. The proposal mentions that there were 34 students admitted into reception class in Sep 2022. Reducing the number of admissions to 30 would have had an adverse impact on 4 students this year. I believe that keeping the amount of admissions to 45 will avoid disappointing parents who prefer to send their child to Steeton Primary. The council needs to reconsider how it allocates funding to schools - instead of basing funding upon the amount of possible admissions, it should do so based on actual amount of admissions to the school. The key thing is that admissions as they are now will not affect education. Rethink strategy and methodology of funding

Council response to the comments:

- The additional children that approved housing developments in Silsden are likely to bring has been factored in to the forecasts. As demonstrated by the surplus in the planning area as a whole from 2024, sufficient places exist for children who may move here in the future. These children are more likely to impact upon admissions to Silsden Primary School, which also has a level of surplus places. As stated in the consultation document, should circumstances change in the future in the number of children requiring a primary school place, Bradford Council will work with local schools to ensure all children can be placed in a local school.
- The situation in neighbouring planning areas was considered and the Council acknowledges the fact that a number of families in Keighley prefer to send their children

Appendix F

to Steeton Primary School. The school has been undersubscribed for a number of years, meaning that an applicant's distance from the school has not been relevant to them being allocated a place. If the school were to become oversubscribed as a result of a PAN reduction, it may have a slight impact upon families in Keighley. However, even with recent PAN reductions in Keighley schools, significant surplus exists in that area too; unsuccessful applicants are likely to be offered a place in a school that is closer to their home than Steeton.

- The funding model for schools is set by central government and not the Council. Whilst there is a small amount of flexibility in the allocation of certain funds, the Council cannot change the core funding method, i.e. funding being based on the number of children on roll.