

The first map shows the six secondary schools within Welwyn Hatfield (note that Chancellors sits in the Potters Bar Education Planning Area for school planning purposes).

There are no catchment areas as such. Each school will have its own set of admission criteria. The map shows a Thiessen Polygon (TP) around each school. Any pupils living within each TP live closer to that secondary school than any other. The dynamics between schools in the area and neighbouring districts are complex. I am able to articulate these dynamics in detail if required.

The second map shows primary and secondary schools across Welwyn Hatfield.

I need a little more information on what the inspector requires in relation to the request now highlighted in yellow below. HCC has an education strategy which meets the needs of the submitted Welwyn Hatfield Local Plan. This strategy requires two new secondary schools (Birchall Gardens 8fe and HAT1 up to 10fe) and also relies upon the expansion of existing schools. HCC are satisfied that this strategy, whilst being finely balanced, will meet the yield from the current level of housing proposed. Any additional housing growth would require a review of the education strategy. This review would be informed by the level and distribution of the additional housing proposed. We are therefore currently unable to indicate where any additional capacity will be required.

The identified strategy essentially splits into three zones :

- (1) Welwyn Garden City and the settlements to the north - Woolmer Green; Oaklands & Mardley Heath; Welwyn (plus 0.5fe from housing growth in NHDC at Codicote). The strategy looks to meet the yield from this zone through expansion of existing schools in WGC and the new school at Birchall Gardens.
- (2) Hatfield town including Symonshyde (Hat 15). The strategy looks to meet the yield from this zone through the provision of a new school at HAT1
- (3) Settlements to the south of Hatfield – Cuffley; Little Heath; Brookmans Park and Welham Green. The settlement looks to meet the yield from this zone through the expansion of Chancellors in Brookmans Park.

The strategies for each area are outlined in the third attachment which HCC has shared with WH previously.

26.10.17