

AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

Name of Committee **Rugby Area Committee**
Date of Committee **22nd March 2007**
Report Title **Changes to primary school priority areas in North Rugby**

Summary This paper seeks approval to change the priority areas of four primary schools in north Rugby.

For further information please contact: Phil Astle
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Would the recommended decision be contrary to the Budget and Policy Framework? [please identify relevant plan/budget provision] No

Background papers

- School Organisation Framework Document 2005/10
- Consultation document and responses

CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:- Details to be specified

- Other Committees Cabinet 23.11.06
- Local Member(s) Cllr Philip Morris-Jones – Fosse
Cllr John Wells – Brownsover – *“I support the recommendation”*
Cllr Katherine King – Brownsover – *“fully supports the proposed recommendation”*
- Other Elected Members Spokespersons for information:
Cllr Richard Grant – *“agree that the Area Committee consider and decide on the proposal”*
Cllr Jill Dill-Russell – no comment to make
Cllr John Whitehouse – *“noted”*

- Cabinet Member Cllr John Burton
- Other Cabinet Members consulted Cllr Izzi Seccombe – *“approve for consideration by the Area Committee”*
- Chief Executive
- Legal Richard Freeth – *“no comments”*
- Finance
- Other Strategic Directors
- District Councils
- Health Authority
- Police
- Other Bodies/Individuals Parents of pupils at Clifton Primary School, Boughton Leigh Junior School, Boughton Leigh Infant School and Brownsover Community Infant School, the governing bodies of all primary schools in Rugby, local Diocesan Education Authorities, admissions authorities and neighbouring Local Authorities.

FINAL DECISION **YES**

SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS:

Details to be specified

- Further consideration by this Committee
- To Council
- To Cabinet
- To an O & S Committee
- To an Area Committee
- Further Consultation

Rugby Area Committee – 22nd March 2007

Changes to primary school priority areas in North Rugby

**Report of the Strategic Director for Children,
Young People and Families**

Recommendation:

That the Area Committee considers the feedback to the consultation and agrees to change the priority areas of Brownsover Community Infant School, Boughton Leigh Infant School, Boughton Leigh Junior School and Clifton-on-Dunsmore C of E Primary School as proposed.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 A major phase of a large housing development is planned within the priority area of Clifton-upon-Dunsmore C of E (Controlled) Primary School. Clifton Primary School currently takes children from its priority area, principally the villages of Clifton and Newton. It is full across all age groups and will be unable to accommodate the likely demand for places arising from the development. However, the nearest schools (Brownsover Community Infant School, Boughton Leigh Infant School and Boughton Leigh Junior School) all have significant numbers of places across all age groups. The Boughton Leigh schools have been extended in recent years to accommodate pupils from the Coton Park development.
- 1.2 It is proposed that part of the Clifton priority area be re-designated as a shared area of Brownsover Community Infant School and Boughton Leigh Infant School at the infant phase, and Boughton Leigh Junior School at the junior phase.
- 1.3 At its meeting on 23rd November 2006 the Cabinet agreed to consult stakeholders on this proposal. Formal consultation took place between 1st and 28th February and feedback from this consultation is set out below.
- 1.4 The determination of school priority areas is a matter for the Area Committee.

2. Background

- 2.1 The priority area of Clifton covers the parishes of Clifton-upon-Dunsmore and Newton and Biggin. A large housing development of some 877 units is in progress, in a number of phases at Coton Park, mostly located in the west of the parish of Newton and Biggin. A further part of the development extends into the parish of Churchover in the priority area of The Revel C of E (Aided) Primary School. To date some 293 houses have been completed but a further 584 houses are planned in the next phase in the Newton and Biggin parish and within the priority area of Clifton Primary School. It is forecast that this next phase could require some 15-25 places per year group across all primary school year groups.
- 2.2 In terms of meeting the demand for places, Clifton Primary School is currently full with 218 pupils for just 210 places and occupies a restricted site in the village of Clifton which cannot be expanded. The school is approximately 3½ miles from the proposed development through Brownsover.
- 2.3 Brownsover Community Infant School, Boughton Leigh Infant School and Boughton Leigh Junior School, however, have spare places in all year groups and are located less than a mile from the development on an adjoining housing estate. Brownsover Community Infant School feeds mainly into Boughton Leigh Junior School at age seven years. Details of capacities and current and forecast pupil numbers for the four schools are given in the table below:

Table 1

School	School capacity	NOR	Forecast			
		Sept 2006	Sept 2007	Sept 2008	Sept 2009	Sept 2010
Brownsover Community Infant	180	148	135	132	130	130
Boughton Leigh Infant	240	125	117	119	131	131
Boughton Leigh Junior	400	255	266	271	275	272
Clifton-upon-Dunsmore C of E Primary	210	218	214	212	211	211

3. The proposal

- 3.1 The proposal is to change the priority area of Clifton Primary School by transferring an area of the parish of Newton and Biggin which covers the new estate, but not including the village of Newton, to a shared priority area with Brownsover Community Infant School, Boughton Leigh Infant School and Boughton Leigh Junior School. If approved, following formal consultations, the change would take effect from September 2008.

- 3.2 It is also proposed that an undesignated area between the railway line and the existing priority area of Boughton Leigh Infant School and Boughton Leigh Junior School be designated part of the Boughton Leigh Infant School and Boughton Leigh Junior School priority area. This area is the subject of an outline planning permission to develop 770 housing units, of an unknown type, up to 2011. A further, adjoining and currently undesignated area, including Ridge Drive, Furrow Close and Braids Close, would be added to the priority area of Clifton Primary School.

4. The impact of the proposal

It is not anticipated that the proposal would have any negative effect on Clifton Primary School and parents of pupils living in the new re-designated area will still be able to apply for a place at the school but would have a lower priority than pupils living in the priority area. The proposal should significantly reduce the current spare places retained at Brownsover Community Infant School, Boughton Leigh Infant School and Boughton Leigh Junior School in order to meet such developments. The attractiveness of these three schools will be further enhanced by the development of a flagship Children's Centre at the Boughton Leigh site.

5. Response to consultation

- 5.1 A consultation paper, a copy of which is attached as an **Appendix**, was sent to all parents of pupils at Clifton Primary School, Boughton Leigh Junior School, Boughton Leigh Infant School and Brownsover Community Infant School, the governing bodies of all primary schools in Rugby, local Diocesan Education Authorities, admissions authorities and neighbouring Local Authorities.

- 5.2 A summary of the responses to the consultation is set out below. Copy of all responses received by the closing date has been placed in the Group Rooms.

5.2.1 Governing Body of Boughton Leigh Junior School

Governor confirmed that the school has the capacity to accept the extra pupils and fully supports the proposal.

5.2.2 Governing Body of Brownsover Community Infant School

The governing body supports the proposed changes to its priority area.

5.2.3 Governing Body of Clifton-upon-Dunsmore Cof E (Controlled) Primary School

The governing body supports the proposed changes to its priority area.

5.2.4 Clifton-upon-Dunsmore Parish Council

Parish Councillors would like to see pupil numbers maintained and not increased at Clifton Primary School.

Comment

This is the intention behind the proposal.

5.2.5 Newton and Biggin Parish Council

The proposed changes would remove four, long-established properties (Newton Lane Cottage, Newton Manor Farm, Newton Manor Cottage and Newton Manor Bungalow) from the priority area of Clifton Primary School. This would not be the case if the new parish boundary were adopted.

Comment

The proposed boundary remains the preferred choice as it provides a boundary with both of the Infant schools which would serve the area and allows for potential enlargement of the Coton Park development beyond housing current plans.

5.2.6 Parent of children at Clifton Primary School

- Will the addition of four roads, on 'The Links' development, to the Clifton priority area result in pupils in Newton not being guaranteed a place in the long term?
- Concerned that enlarging the Clifton priority area may result in more appeals.

Comment

Although the small Links development is being added to the Clifton priority area, the development comprises just four small roads. The overwhelming majority of pupils living on The Links already attend Clifton Primary School. The overall effect of the proposed change will be to reduce the priority area of Clifton Primary School. It is the case that The Links is nearer to Clifton Primary School than the village of Newton but as the school currently admits 50% of its intake from outside its priority area it will be able to accommodate all pupils within its priority area.

6. Summary

A reduction in the Clifton Primary School priority area is necessary as the school will be unable to meet the likely demand for school places from a new housing development at Coton Park. Consultation on this proposal, along with other modifications to the priority areas of Clifton Primary School, Brownsover Community Infant School, Boughton Leigh Infant School and Boughton Leigh Junior School, has the support of each of the schools directly involved and has revealed no opposition.

7. Recommendation

Members are asked to consider the feedback to the consultation and agree to change the priority areas of Brownsover Community Infant School, Boughton Leigh Infant School, Boughton Leigh Junior School and Clifton-on-Dunsmore C of E Primary School as proposed.

MARION DAVIS
Strategic Director for Children,
Young People and Families

Saltisford Office Park
Ansell Way
Warwick

6th March 2007

Consultation Paper - January 2007

Changes to primary school priority areas in North Rugby

The Proposal

1. The priority area of Clifton-upon-Dunsmore C of E (Controlled) Primary School comprises the parishes of Clifton-upon-Dunsmore and Newton and Biggin. The proposal is to transfer some of the parish of Newton and Biggin, including part of the Coton Park housing development, to the priority areas of Brownsover Community Infant School, Boughton Leigh Infant School and Boughton Leigh Junior School. If approved the change would take effect from September 2008 admissions.

2. It is also proposed that an undesignated area between the railway line and the existing priority area of Boughton Leigh Infant School and Boughton Leigh Junior School be designated part of the Boughton Leigh Infant and Boughton Leigh Junior School priority area. This area is the subject of an outline planning permission to develop 770 housing units, of an unknown type, up to 2011. A further adjoining and currently undesignated area, including Ridge Drive, Furrow Close, Braids Close and Viaduct Close would be added to the priority area of Clifton C of E Primary School.

Background

3. A school priority area is a geographical area defined by the school's admission authority, in this case the County Council. If a school is oversubscribed, the admission policy will ensure that children living in the priority area are given places before other applicants. There is no guarantee that all pupils living within a school's priority area will be admitted, but parents will have a strong expectation that places will generally be available at their priority area school.

4. The priority area of Clifton C of E Primary School covers the parishes of Clifton-upon-Dunsmore and Newton and Biggin. A large housing development of some 877 units is in progress, in a number of phases at Coton Park, mostly located in the west of the parish of Newton and Biggin. A further part of the development extends into the parish of Churchover in the priority area of The Revel C of E (Aided) Primary School. To date some 293 houses have been completed but a further 584 houses are planned in the next phase in the Newton and Biggin parish and within the priority area of Clifton C of E Primary School. It is forecast that this next phase could require some 15-25 places per year group across all primary school year groups. The table below sets out current and forecast pupil numbers at local schools:

School	School capacity	NOR	Forecast			
		Sept 2006	Sept 2007	Sept 2008	Sept 2009	Sept 2010
Brownsover Community Infant	180	148	135	132	130	130
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Source : September 2006 actual figures – September 2006 PLASC return.

5. A map and a table detailing the current and proposed priority areas are set out on pages 2 and 3 of this document.

Proposed Changes to Admissions Designations

Area	Description	Current Designation	Proposed Designation
A	Churchover Parish	The Revel	The Revel
B	Bounded to the west and north by the Churchover/Newton and Biggin parish boundary (including Stonechat Road except for numbers 1 to 10 which lie within the Churchover Parish); bounded to the east and south by the path of the Great Central Walk as far as its intersection with a watercourse flowing north-south through land between Newton Manor and the village of Newton and then bounded the path of that watercourse to its intersection with the Clifton-upon-Dunsmore/Newton and Biggin parish boundary, and following that boundary westwards until its meeting with the north and east boundaries of the priority area of Boughton Leigh Junior School which it follows to the Churchover parish boundary.	Clifton-upon-Dunsmore	Shared between Boughton Leigh Infant Boughton Leigh Jun. Brownsover School
C	Parishes of Clifton-upon-Dunsmore and Newton and Biggin excluding Area B	Clifton-upon-Dunsmore	Clifton-upon-Dunsmore
D	The area bounded by and including Leicester Road from River Swift, Boughton Road (and roads leading from it) from east of Leicester Road roundabout up to and including Great Central Way. The Brownsover estate south and west of Grizedale, Hollowell Way to junction of Helvellyn Way, a line drawn northwards to Newton Manor Lane (excluding Dale Snap). Crowthorns and all roads leading from it. Includes Waterside Drive development.	Boughton Leigh Infant Boughton Leigh Jun.	Boughton Leigh Infant Boughton Leigh Jun.
E	The area north of and including Grizedale, Hollowell Way to the junction with Helvellyn Way, a line drawn to Newton Manor Lane (including Dale Snap). All housing north of Newton Manor Lane bounded on the west by the Leicester Road, on the east by the railway line and north by the parish boundaries of Churchover and Newton and Biggin.	Boughton Leigh Jun. Brownsover School	Boughton Leigh Jun. Brownsover School
F	Land between the railway line and the parish boundary as far as the county boundary to the east and as far as but not including Clifton Road to the west. Includes the Golf Course.	Undesignated	Currently subject of a separate review
G	Land between the south boundary of Boughton Leigh and to the north of the railway; bounded to the west by Leicester Road; to the east by the railway siding (including Cottage Leap.) Includes Aqua Place and Boughton Road site and Leicester Road sites of proposed Station Area redevelopment.	Undesignated	Boughton Leigh Infant Boughton Leigh Jun.
H	Bounded to the north by the parish boundary; to the south by the railway; to the east by, and including, Clifton Road; to the west by the railway siding but not including Cottage Leap. Includes Ridge Drive, Furrow Close, Braids Close and Viaduct Close.	Undesignated	Clifton-upon-Dunsmore

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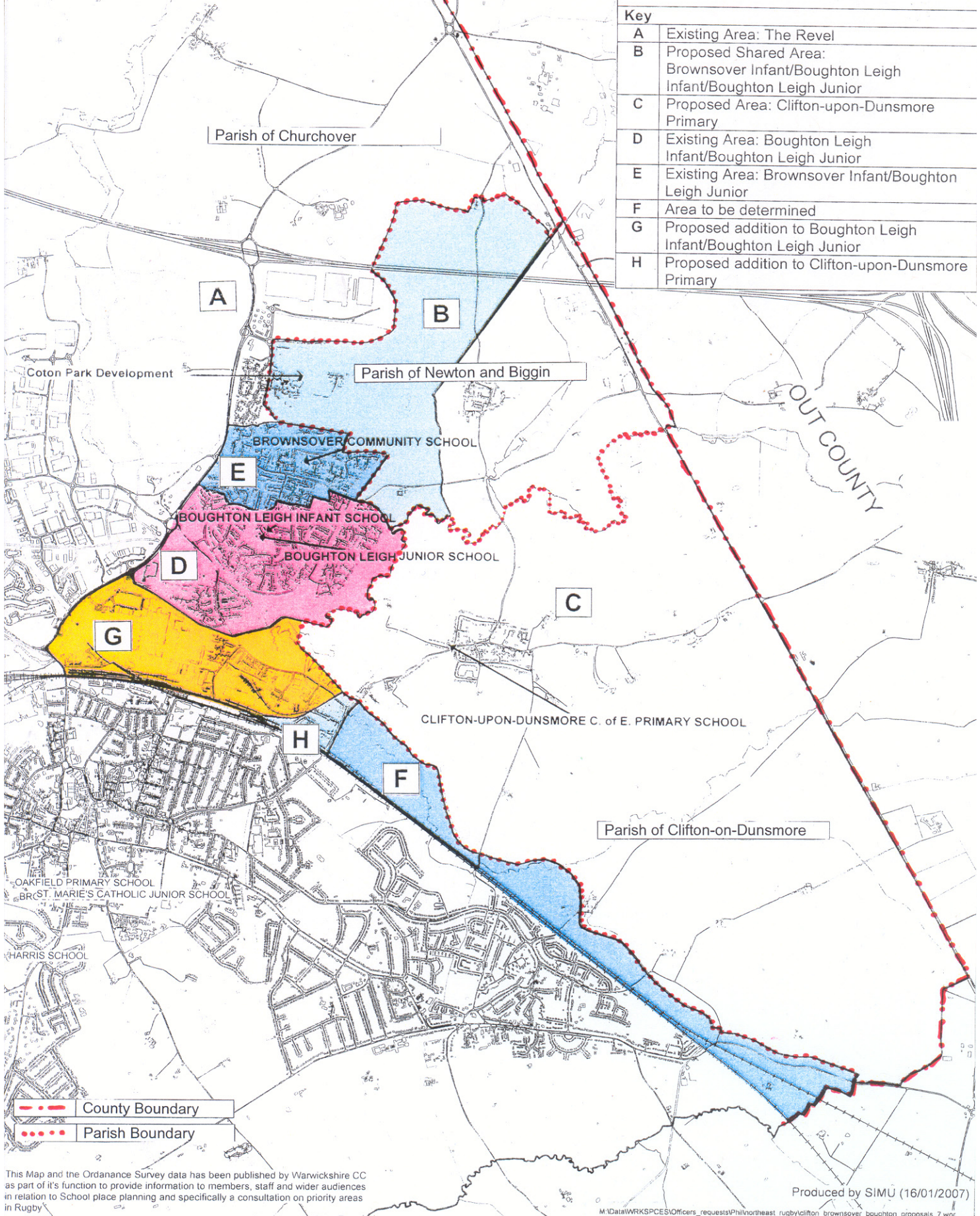
Warwickshire County Council, 100018285, 2006

Map Showing Proposed Priority Areas for Clifton-Upon-Dunsmore CE Primary, Brownsover Infant, Boughton Leigh Infant and Boughton Leigh Junior Schools.

PROPOSED CHANGES TO PRIORITY AREAS

Key

A	Existing Area: The Revel
B	Proposed Shared Area: Brownsover Infant/Boughton Leigh Infant/Boughton Leigh Junior
C	Proposed Area: Clifton-upon-Dunsmore Primary
D	Existing Area: Boughton Leigh Infant/Boughton Leigh Junior
E	Existing Area: Brownsover Infant/Boughton Leigh Junior
F	Area to be determined
G	Proposed addition to Boughton Leigh Infant/Boughton Leigh Junior
H	Proposed addition to Clifton-upon-Dunsmore Primary



This Map and the Ordnance Survey data has been published by Warwickshire CC as part of its function to provide information to members, staff and wider audiences in relation to School place planning and specifically a consultation on priority areas in Rugby.

Produced by SIMU (16/01/2007)

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Why are the changes necessary?

6. If, as forecast, the next phase of the major housing development at Coton Park produces 15 to 25 pupils per year group, Clifton C of E Primary School will be unable to accommodate them as it is already full across all age groups although not all pupils live within the Priority areas. However, the nearest schools (Brownsover Community Infant, Boughton Leigh Infant and Boughton Leigh Junior School) all have significant numbers of places across all age groups. The Boughton Leigh schools have been extended in recent years to accommodate pupils from the Coton Park development.

7. In relation to the proposal to also add the undesignated area above the railway line to the priority area of Boughton Leigh Infant and Boughton Leigh Junior School, this will enable the schools to plan for further admissions and they do have sufficient places to accommodate the additional pupils. The addition of three existing roads to the Clifton-upon-Dunsmore priority area can be accommodated by the school within its existing admission number.

8. It is not anticipated that the proposal would have any negative effect on pupil numbers at Clifton C of E Primary School. The school would continue to provide a Church of England ethos in the locality. The parents of pupils living on the new housing development in the re-designated area will still be able to apply for a place at the school but would have a lower priority than pupils living in the priority area. The proposal should significantly reduce the current spare places retained at Brownsover Community Infant, Boughton Leigh Infant and Boughton Leigh Junior School in order to meet such developments. The attractiveness of these three schools will be further enhanced by the development of a flagship Children's Centre at the Boughton Leigh site. It is considered that these schools can also meet the likely demand from this development.

When would the changes take effect?

9. If approved, the amendment to the school priority areas would take effect from September 2008 admissions onwards.

What happens next?

10. This consultation paper is being sent to all parents of pupils at Clifton C of E Primary, Boughton Leigh Junior, Boughton Leigh Infant and Brownsover Community Infant schools, the governing bodies of all primary schools in Rugby, local Diocesan Education Authorities, admissions authorities and neighbouring Local Authorities.

11. Changes to the priority areas of community and controlled schools are determined by the Area Committee following formal consultation with stakeholders.

We want to know your views.

12. Please send your comments on the proposals in writing to:

Phil Astle
Children, Young People and Families Directorate
Saltisford Office Park
Ansell Way
Warwick
CV34 4UL

By Wednesday 28 February 2007

13. At the end of the consultation period, these proposals, and a summary of all the comments received, will be considered by the Rugby Area Committee for decision.