

Date: 11 January 2021
Our ref: 3172880
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R Tozer
By email

People and Communities - Information requests
North Somerset Council
Town Hall
Weston-super-Mare
BS23 1UJ

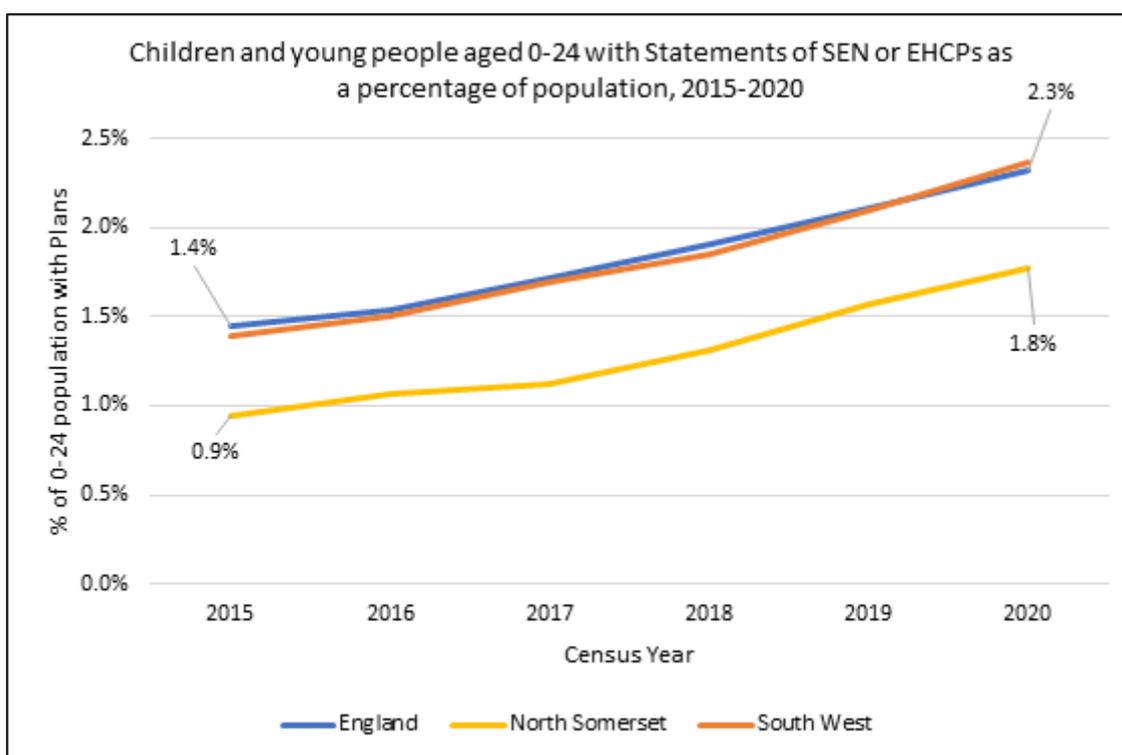
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Dear R Tozer

Freedom of Information Act 2000

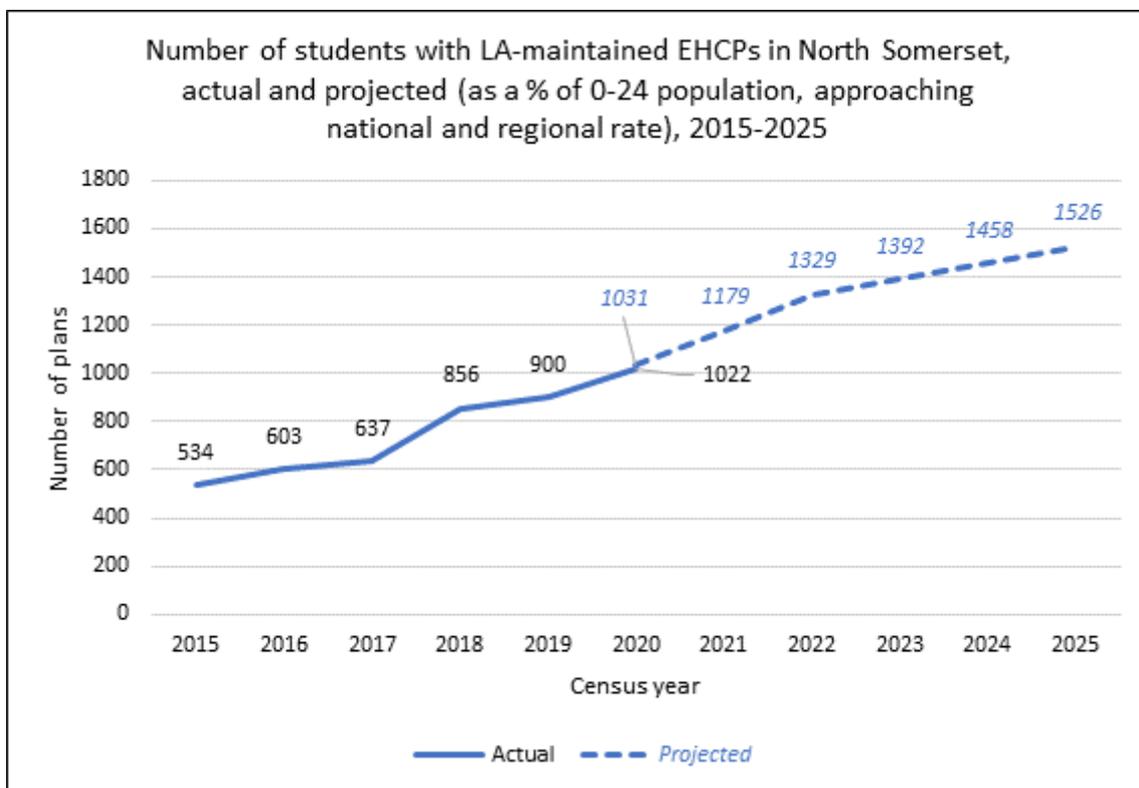
Thank you for your Freedom of Information request in which you asked for the data, sources of information and other methodology detail that we have used to project the demand on Baytree School as illustrated in the bar chart included within our reply reference 3051555.

Historically, North Somerset has been well below national and regional averages in the incidence of EHCPs in the 0 – 25 aged population.



Source: Analysis of DfE statistics (Education, Health and Care Plans: England 2020) and ONS population estimates. Actual percentages are shown for England and North Somerset.

The North Somerset consensus is that the authority is experiencing upward pressure in the number of requests for EHCPs and is going to start approaching the national average. Therefore, the size of the cohort of EHCP students in North Somerset was projected by applying a projected national average incidence of EHCPs in the population (ONS estimates) and assuming growth of 0.1% per year.



Source: Department for Education, Education, health and Care Plans: England 2020 (published 7 May 2020) (underlying data) and North Somerset projected numbers

The projected numbers were then cross-checked against estimates independently made by the Education Funding Team and the SEND Team. Both predictions of the size of the EHCP cohort corresponded by 2022, the only difference being the annual rate of increase between 2020 and 2022.

To estimate the primary need makeup of the future cohorts, 2015-2019 SEN2 census data was used to calculate the average relative incidence of each primary need type in the EHCP cohort. These ratios were then adjusted to account for expected changes in the need makeup of future cohorts (i.e. ASD/SLCN and SEMH rising at faster rates than most other needs).

Provision type ratios were calculated for each primary need category using the same census data, with the caveat that these ratios are expected to change in the future as the availability of different provision types changes.

These ratios were then applied to the projected overall number of pupils in North Somerset to give a number of EHCPs and primary need type.

The final step was to allocate the types of need to type of provision, which was done in conjunction with the SEND Team, who have in-depth understanding of the individual children and expertise in special needs. This was how the demand for Baytree School was projected.

A summary of the data sources used is:

- SEN2 Census <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/special-educational-needs-survey>
- DfE statistics (Education, Health and Care Plans: England 2020) <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/education-health-and-care-plans-england-2020>
- ONS population estimates <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationestimates>
- North Somerset Pupil Projections - <https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2020-10/Pupil%20projections%20for%20North%20Somerset%20schools.pdf>

North Somerset Council now considers that it has complied with your request. However, you have a right to appeal if you are dissatisfied with our response. Requests for an internal review must be made in writing, and within 40 working days of this response being issued to you. When requesting an internal review, please include your reference number, the date of your original request and your contact details. Please also include an explanation of why you are dissatisfied with our response. Requests for an internal review should be sent to foi@n-somerset.gov.uk

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.
Phone: 0303 123 1113
Website: www.ico.gov.uk

I will now close your request as of this date.

Yours faithfully

Christine Coomber

Christine Coomber
Directorate Governance Co-ordinator