



Wirral's Children Bromborough Pool Primary

Consultation
February 2006



The meeting

- Short presentation about:
 - The Review process
 - The Options which affect this school
- Your comments



The Primary Places Review:

September 2004

Audit Commission report on Surplus Places

October 2004

Council begins reviewing North, South, Central Birkenhead and Beechwood

October 2005

Proposals published for North Birkenhead, Beechwood and South Birkenhead



The Primary Places Review:

October 2005

Council begins reviewing Bebington, Spital, Thornton Hough, Bromborough and Eastham

December 2005

Council decides to consult on options for Bromborough and Eastham



Important to:

- Focus on the needs of children not schools
- Think about the next generation
- Share information
- Trust one another
- What will work, and what will not work?



Surplus places – why do we need to act?

- Audit Commission says **surplus space** in schools should be **between 5% and 10%**
- Above 10%, wasting money supporting empty classrooms
- 4%-5% allows degree of parental choice
- No school should have more than 25% surplus – annual return to Government



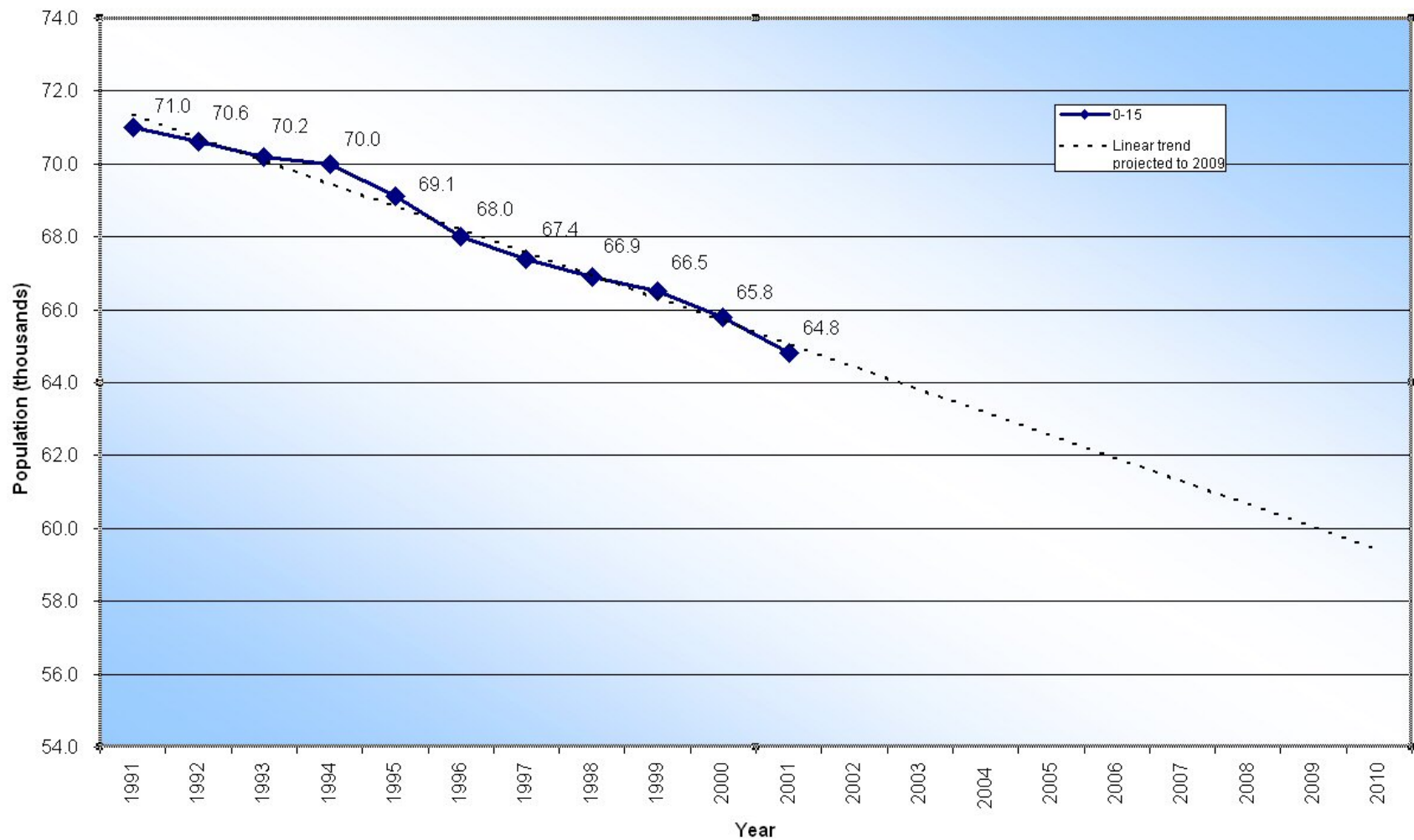
Outcome of Children's Services Inspection, December 2005

- In the primary sector there are too many surplus places.
- Progress in reducing surplus primary school places has been slow, but a clear strategy is now being implemented which is likely to involve some school closures.

Falling population - Wirral

Actual and estimated resident population for Wirral - Children aged 0-15 in line with 2001 Census

(Source: Office for National Statistics)





Surplus places in Wirral

In 2005

12% empty places

**Spending £4.2 million pounds or £165 per primary pupil
on empty spaces**

By 2010

20% surplus places

Spending £7 million on empty spaces

1 in 3 schools will have more than 25% surplus places



Creative removal of surplus

LEA and Schools have created:

- ICT suites
- Libraries
- Parents rooms
- Pre-school playgroups
- Afterschool/Breakfast clubs
- Adult Learning facilities
- Bases for other services

And removed:

- Temporary mobiles



Many complicated factors

- Surplus places
- Small schools
- Location
- Where parents choose to send their children
- Value for money
- Catchment zones
- Housing changes
- Traffic and transport
- Denominational issues



How small is small?

- School Organisation Plan (2003) says under 210
- Wirral Policy (2005) says under 180
- DfES (2005) says under 150



Small Schools

- Financial – maintaining small school is at the expense of all children
- Organisational issues – mixed age classes
- Additional burden on staff
- Curriculum issues



Bebington, Spital and Thornton Hough

Brackenwood Infant
Brackenwood Junior
Church Drive Primary
Grove Street Primary
Higher Bebington Jr
Stanton Road Primary
Town Lane Infant

St Andrew's CE
St John's Infant
St John's Junior
Poulton Lancelyn
Thornton Hough



Surplus places in Bebington, Spital and Thornton Hough

In 2005

8% surplus places

By 2010

14% surplus places

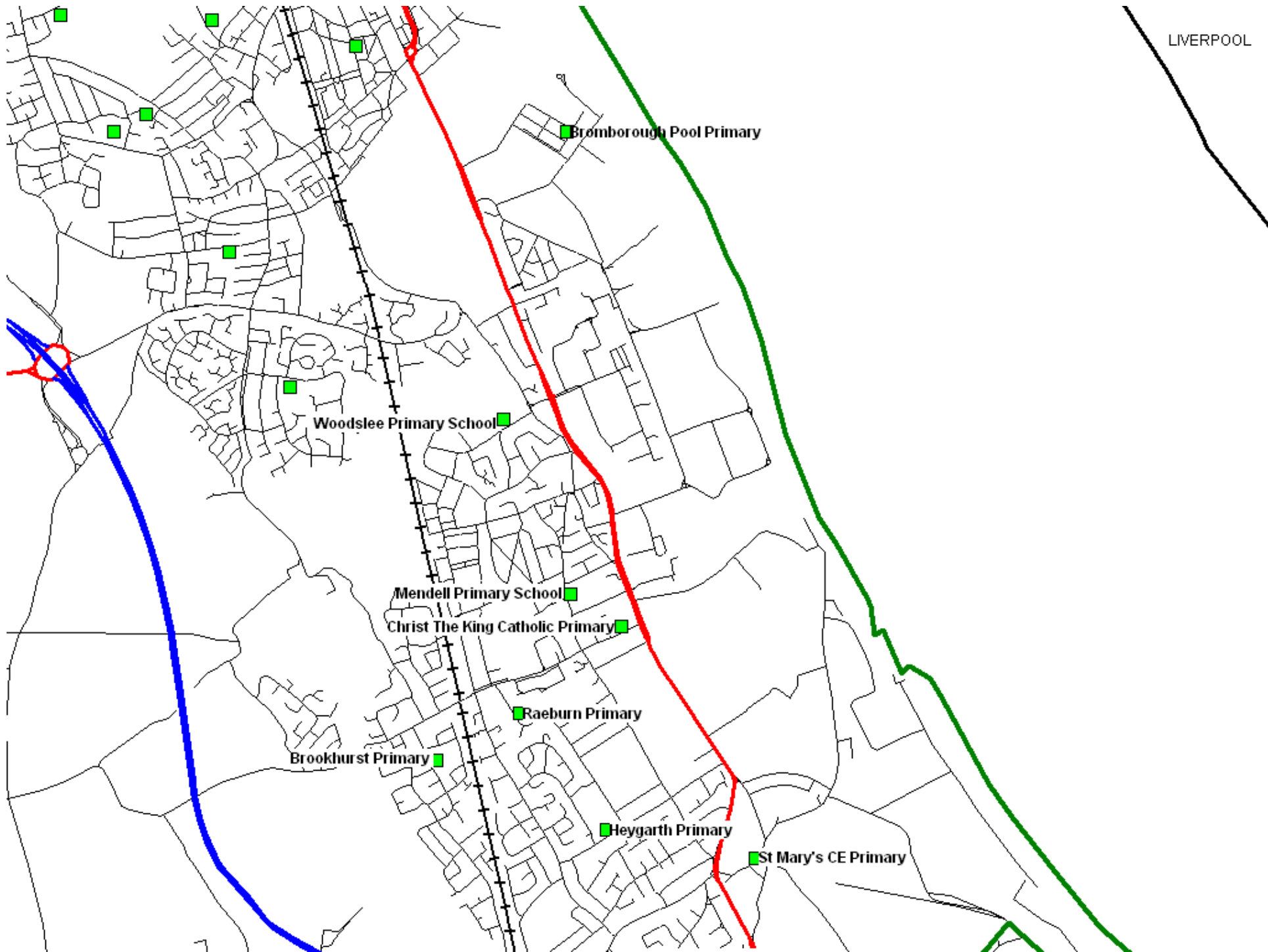
No action at this time – continue to monitor situation

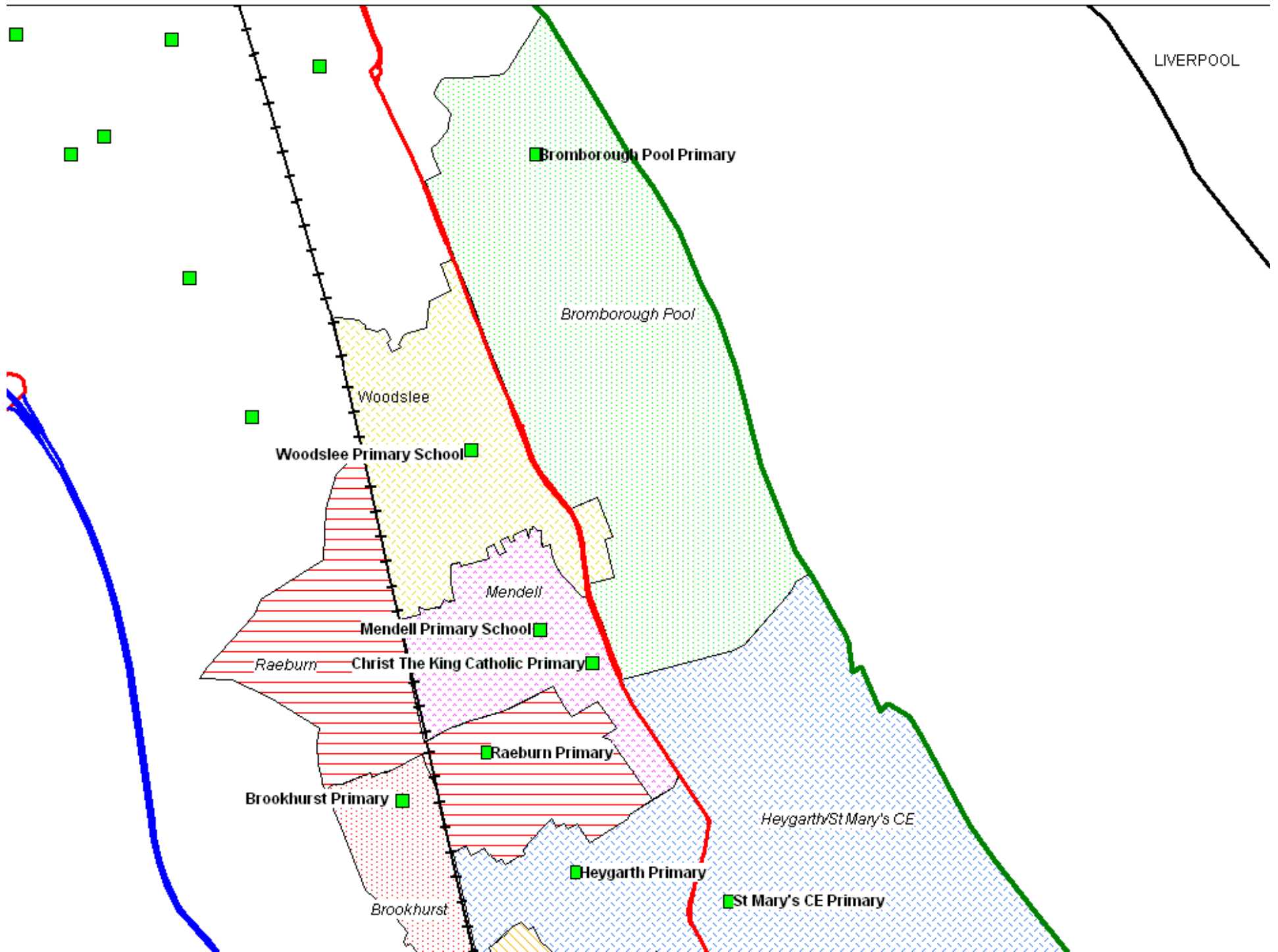


Bromborough and Eastham

Brookhurst
Bromborough Pool
Heygarth
Mendell
Millfields
Raeburn
Woodslee

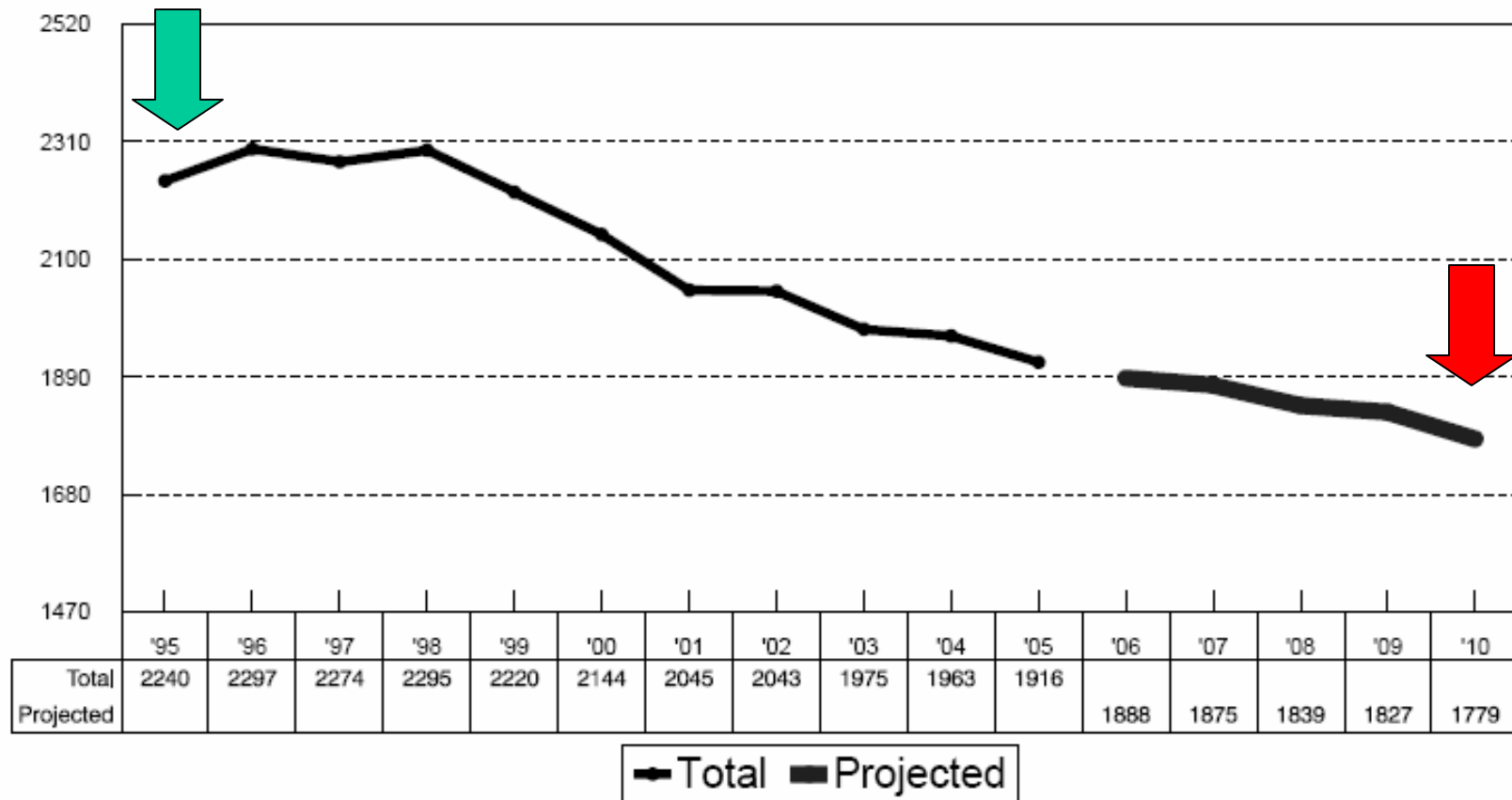
St Mary's CE
Christ the King Catholic





Bromborough/Eastham Projections

Bromborough Primary Schools
Numbers on Roll 1995-2005 and proj to 2010



Surplus places in Bromborough/Eastham Area

In 2005

17% surplus places

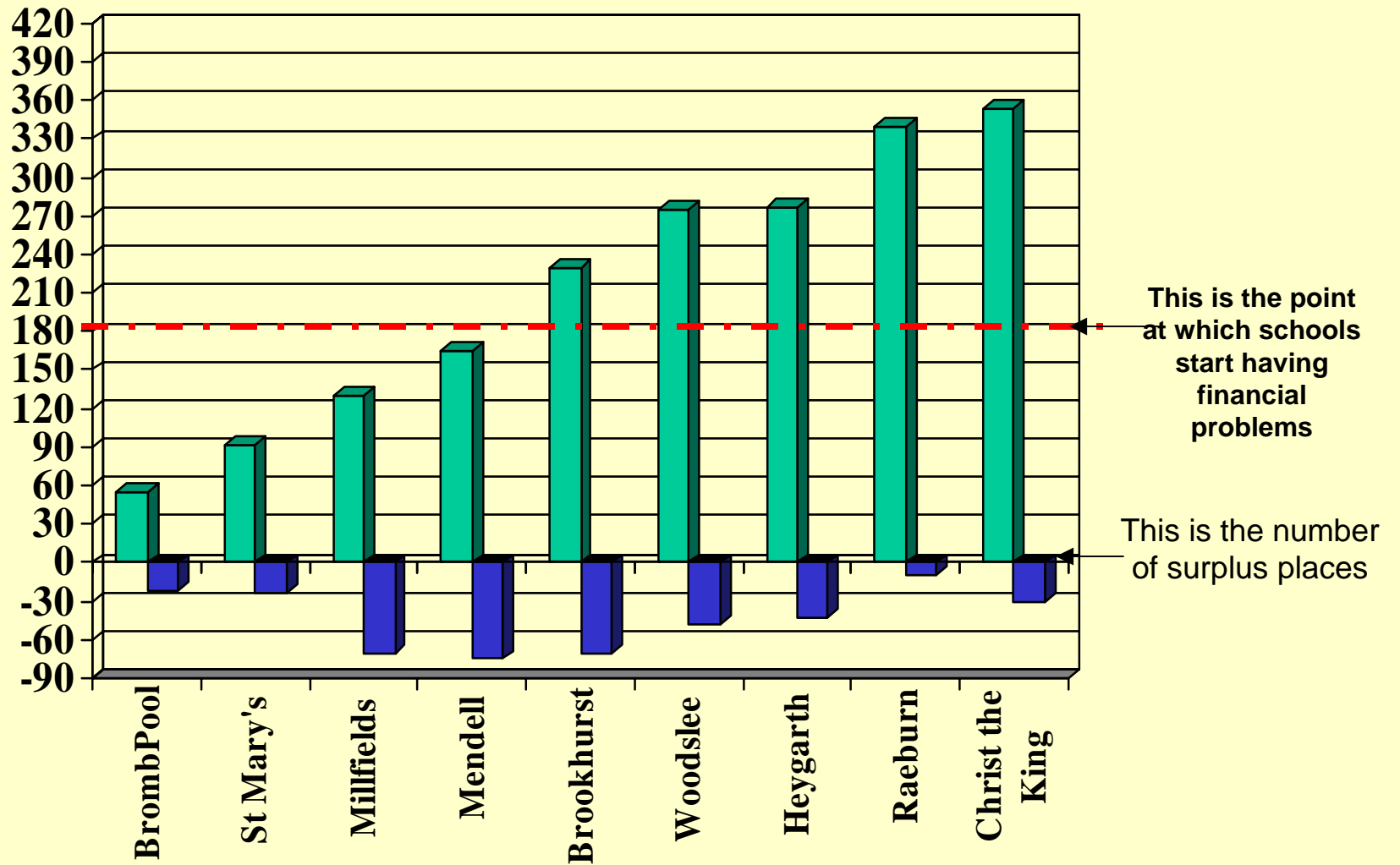
By 2010

23% surplus places

We must act to reduce surplus places



School size and surplus places

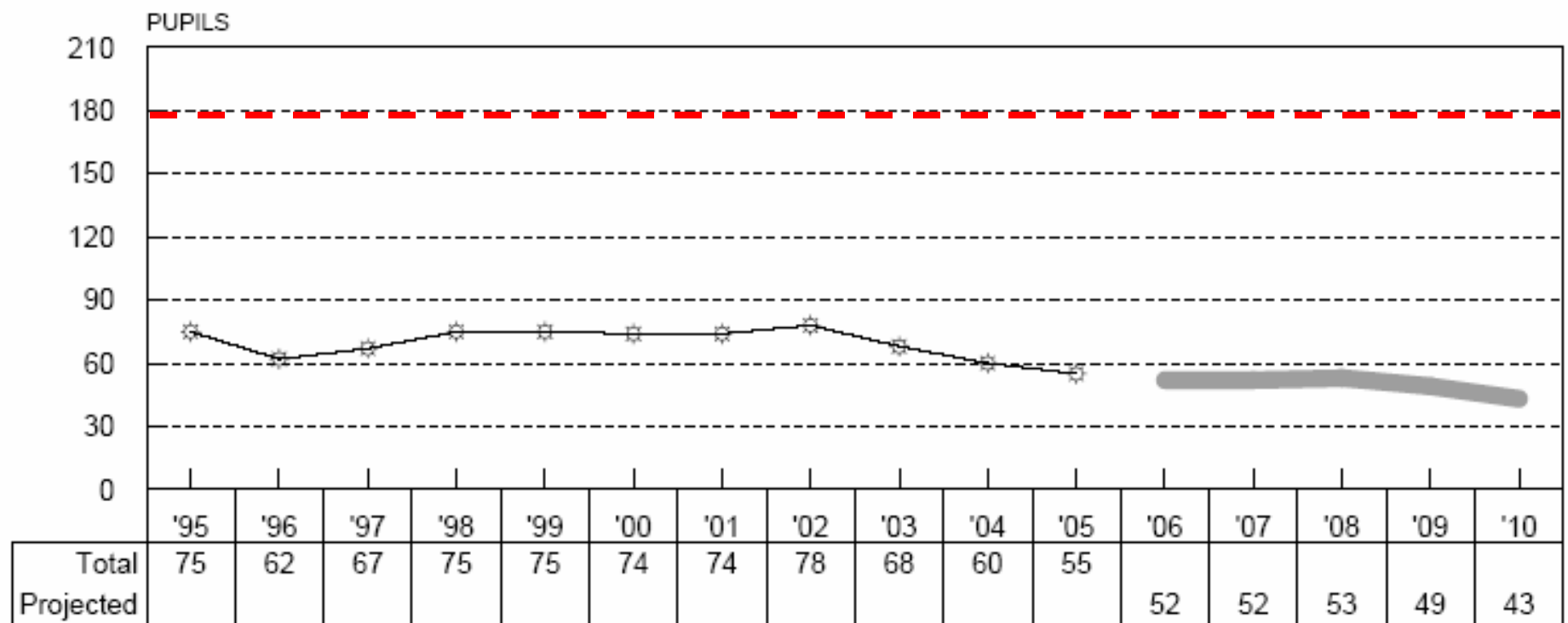




BROMBOROUGH POOL PRIMARY

NOR 1995-2005 and Projected to 2010

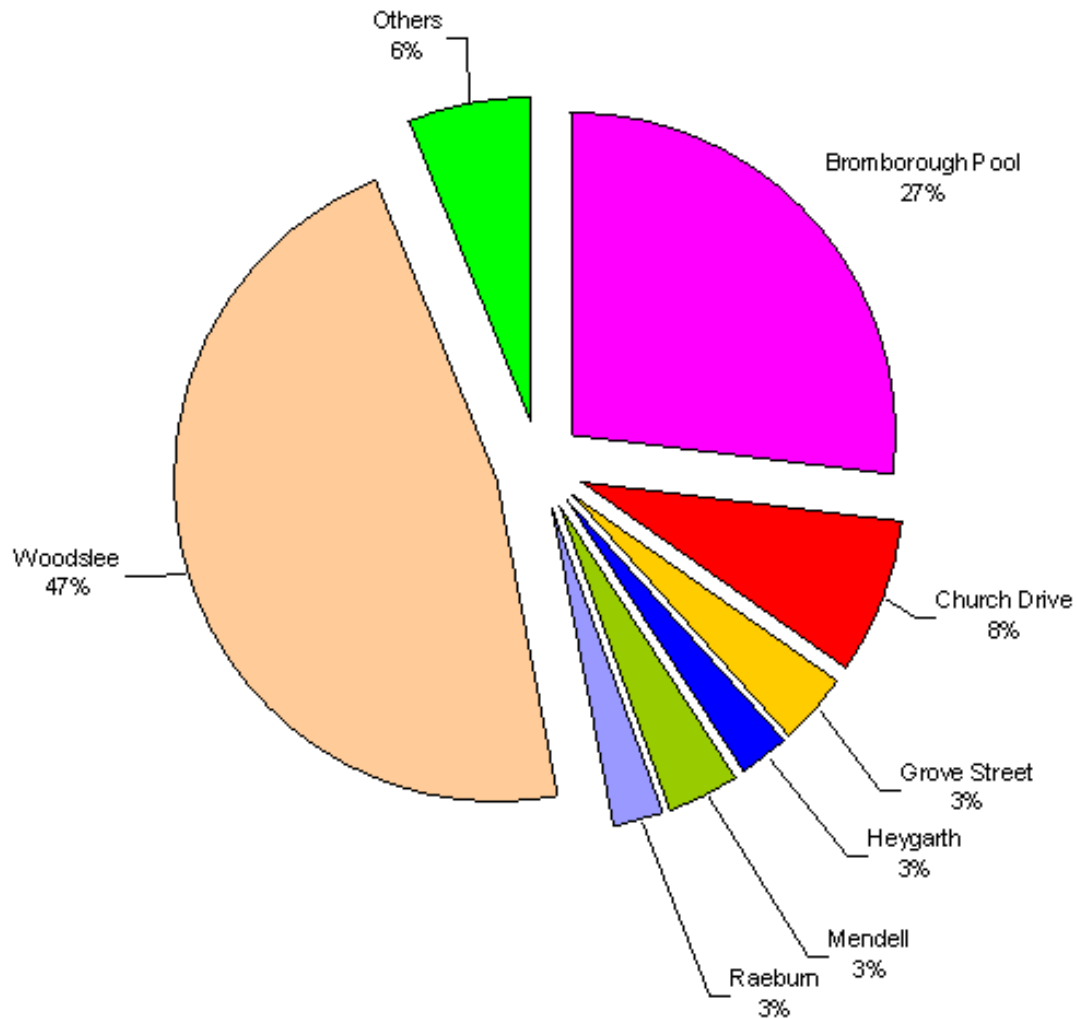
As at: January



N.O.R.

⊛ Total ■ Projected

Bromborough Pool Catchment Area -Actual School attended



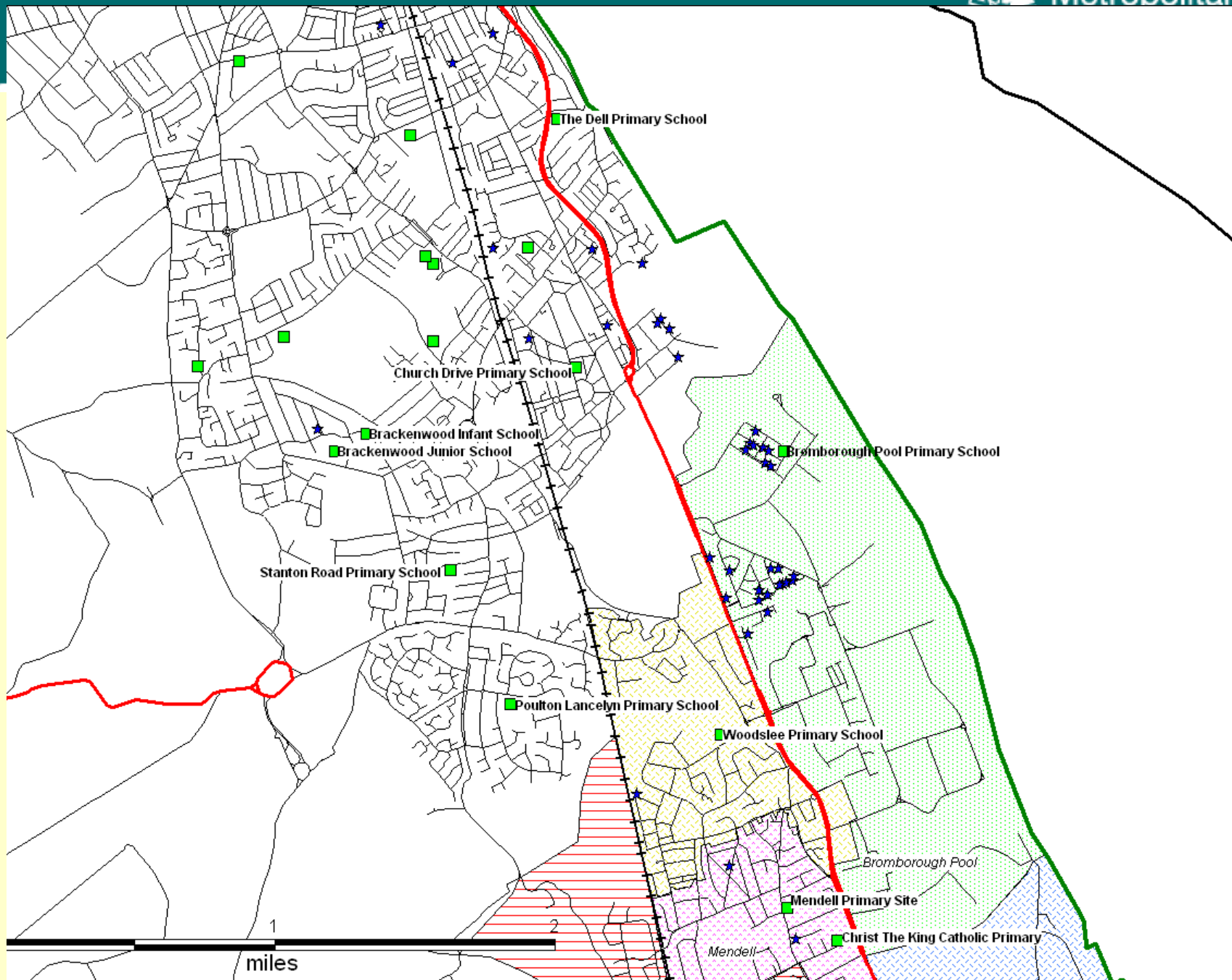
Total Community/CE pupils in catchment = 115

School	Number of pupils by school	(Reflux)
Woodslee	54	(1)
Bromborough Pool	31	
Church Drive	9	(6)
Grove Street	4	(5)
Mendell	4	(3)
Heygarth	3	(0)
Raeburn	3	(0)
Milfields		(1)
Others	7	(7)



What Ofsted said (2005)

- Children get off to a very good start in the reception class.
- There is a significant proportion of very high quality teaching and pupils achieve well.
- Assessment is good and used well to provide challenging work.
- The school is led and managed very well by a very effective headteacher and governing body. Key staff carry out their roles effectively.
- Pupils' moral and social development are promoted very well. Consequently, pupils have very good attitudes to school and behave very well.
- The curriculum is good and there are many very good cross curricular links.
- This very caring school has good links with parents and very good links with the community.
- Writing does not always receive sufficient attention in subjects other than English.
- Pupils do not learn enough from the major world religions.
- Due to high costs, the school provides satisfactory value for money





Possible options for Bromborough and Eastham

- A Brookhurst
- B Bromborough Pool
- C Heygarth, St Mary's and Millfields
- D Mendell

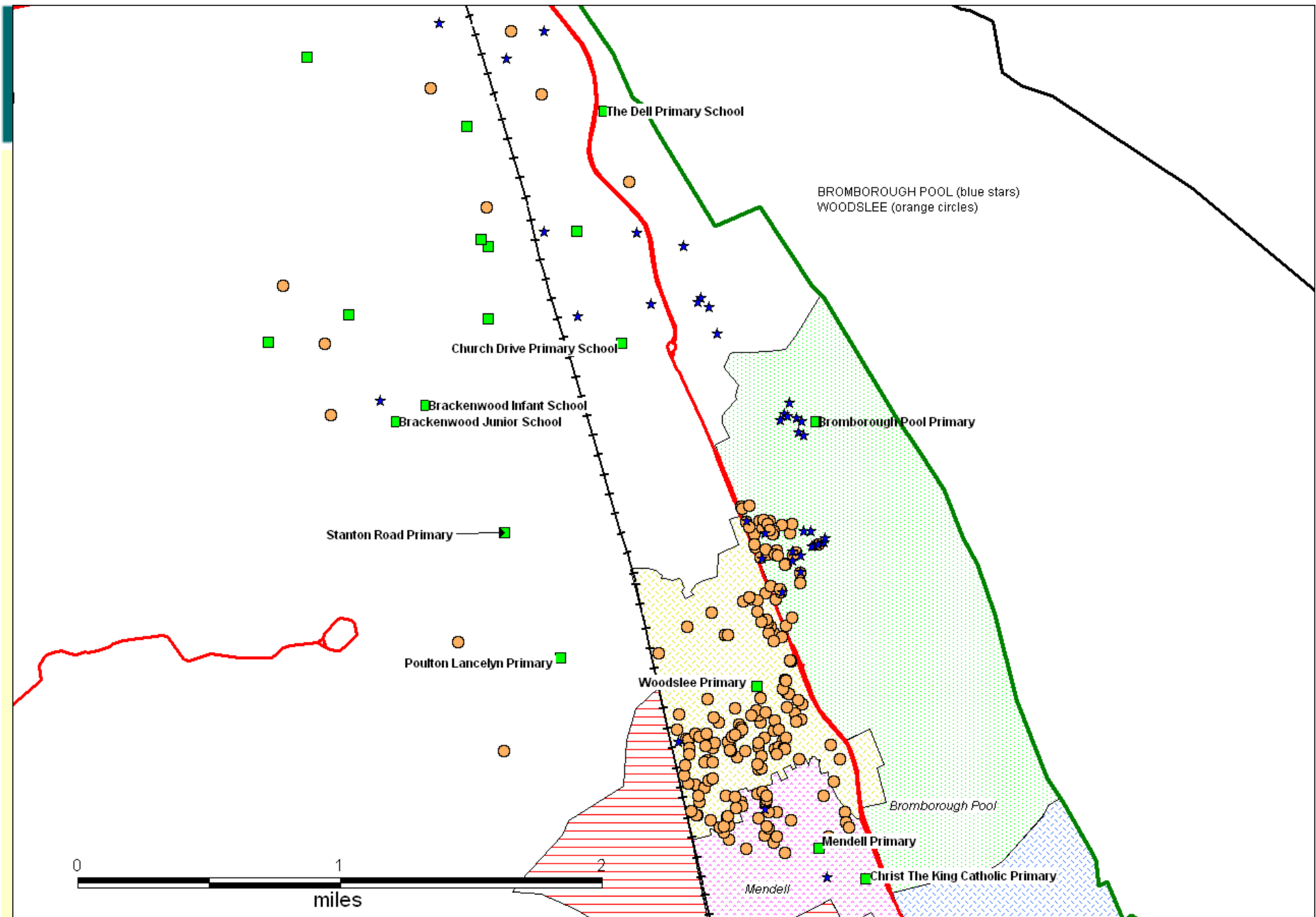


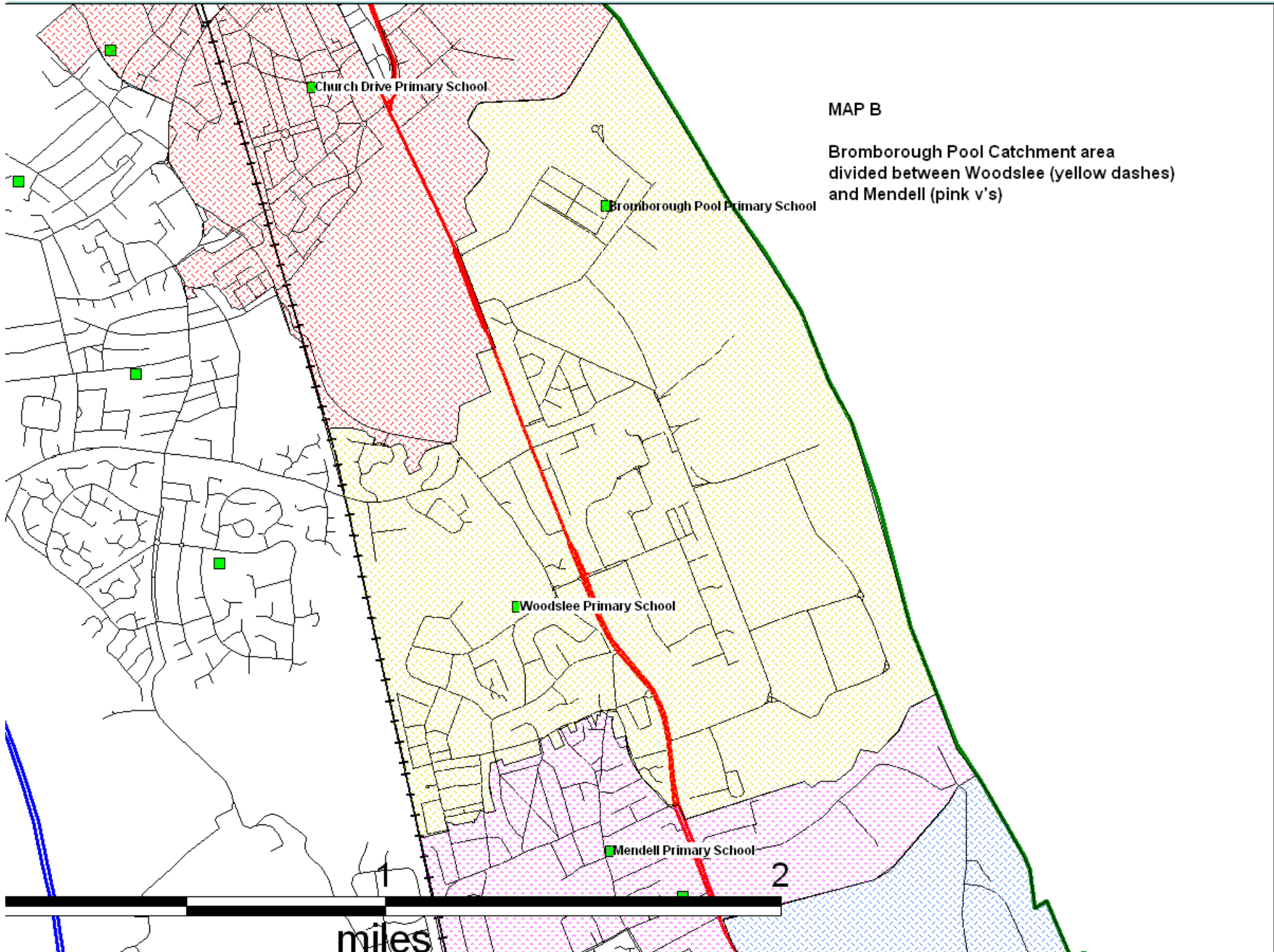
- Options involve all the schools in this area directly, except:
- Christ the King - only Catholic school in this area
- Raeburn – stable school with few surplus places – it may be indirectly affected by some of the options



B – Closure of Bromborough Pool

- **73% of children in the catchment already attend other schools, mainly Woodslee Primary**
- **Building improvements would be made to receiving schools**
- **Woodslee and Church Drive just over a mile away**
- **All former Bromborough Pool children can be accommodated at Woodslee**





In any option

- **Places for all the children in local schools**
- **Parents say which school they would prefer their child to attend**
- **Admissions criteria place the children**
- **Children move at the same time so will have friends in their new school**
- **Enhancements to receiving schools**
- **Community/controlled catchment areas revised**
- **Staff eligible for redeployment**
- **Bromborough Pool site owned by Riverside who would decide its future**

Earliest date for any option to happen is September 2007



What happens next?

January/February 2006

Meetings for directly interested parties – parents, staff, governors

Anyone can write and say what they think

All comments/responses must be made by the beginning of March

March/April 2006

Report goes to Council's cabinet.

Council will decide which (if any) options should become statutory proposals.

If proposals are agreed, notices are published. Six week representation period begins.

Anyone can send written comments or objections.



What happens next?

May/June 2006

Representation period ends.

Proposals go to multi-representative Committee.

- May approve
- May approve with changes
- May give conditional approval – for example, pending planning permission
- May reject

If the Committee cannot agree, proposals are referred to the Schools Adjudicator

September 2007

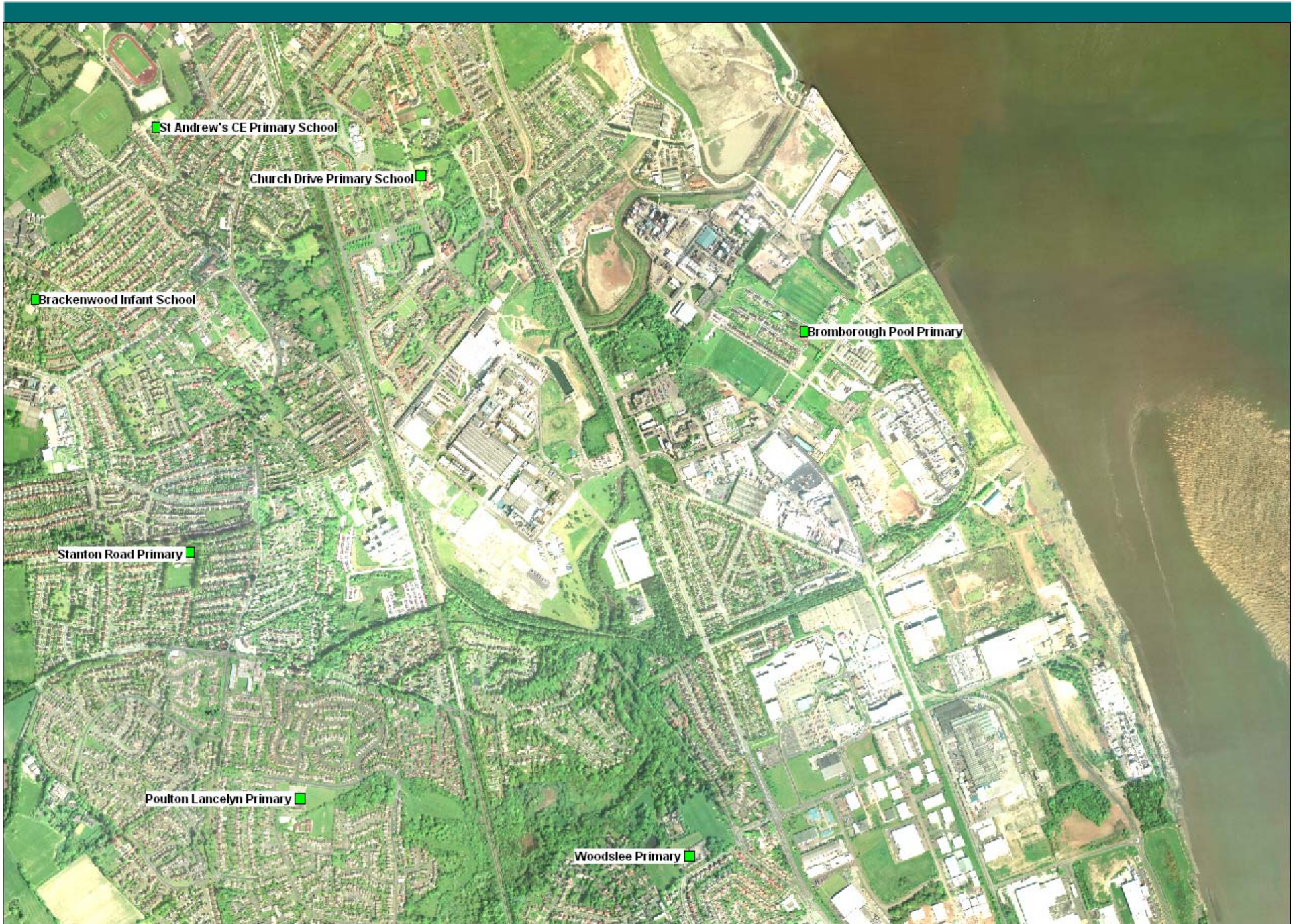
Earliest date for implementation of proposals.

It could take longer, if building work is required, for example.



Remember:

- The Council must address these issues
- A decision has not yet been made
- This is not about saving money for taxpayers
- It is about spending money more wisely
- Funding stays in the overall schools budget



St Andrew's CE Primary School

Church Drive Primary School

Brackenwood Infant School

Bromborough Pool Primary

Stanton Road Primary

Poulton Lancelyn Primary

Woodslee Primary