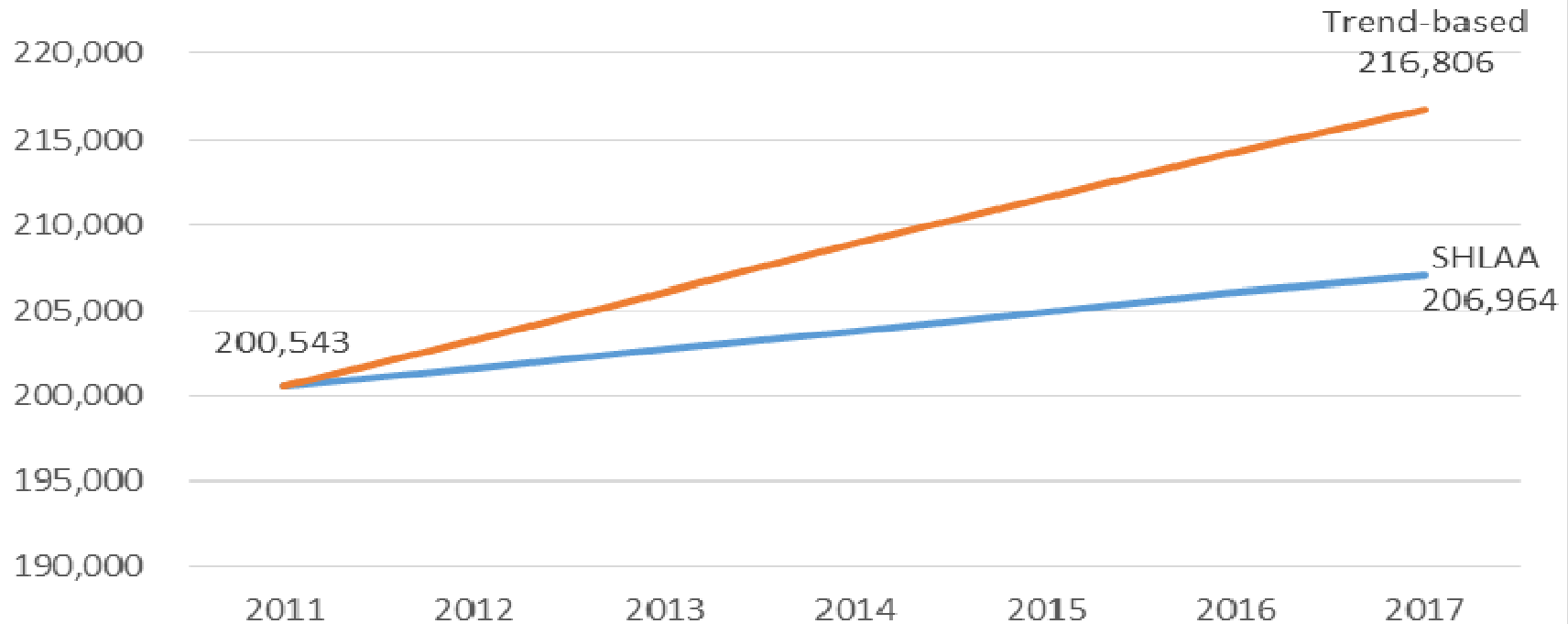# Demographic forecasts and implications for services

Yvette Stanley, Director of Children, Schools and Families

An increasing population

Total Population
2011 v 2017

- The GLA forecasts that Merton's population will increase between 6,000 and 16,000 people by 2017. This is a growth of between 3% and 8% using the SHLAA and Trend-based models respectively.
- Whilst slightly lower than the rest of London this increase will increase demand generally on public services and infrastructure in the borough.
- We also specifically anticipate increased pressure on universal, enhanced and specialist children's services provided by the Council and partners
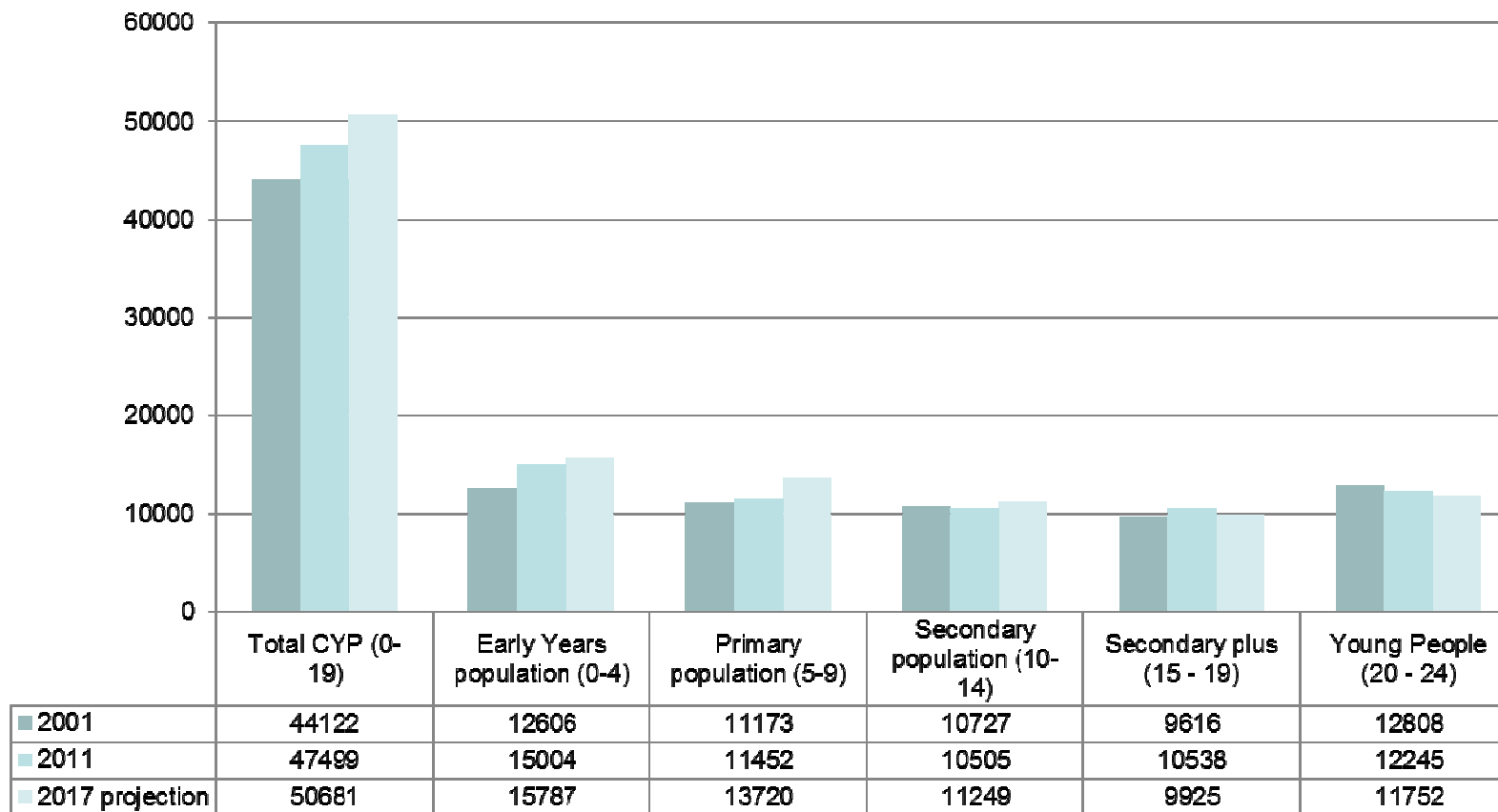
Merton's changing age profile

Age Structure 2011 v 2017

3,180 additional 0-19 y.o.

2,384 less 20-35 y.o.

2,900 additional people over 65
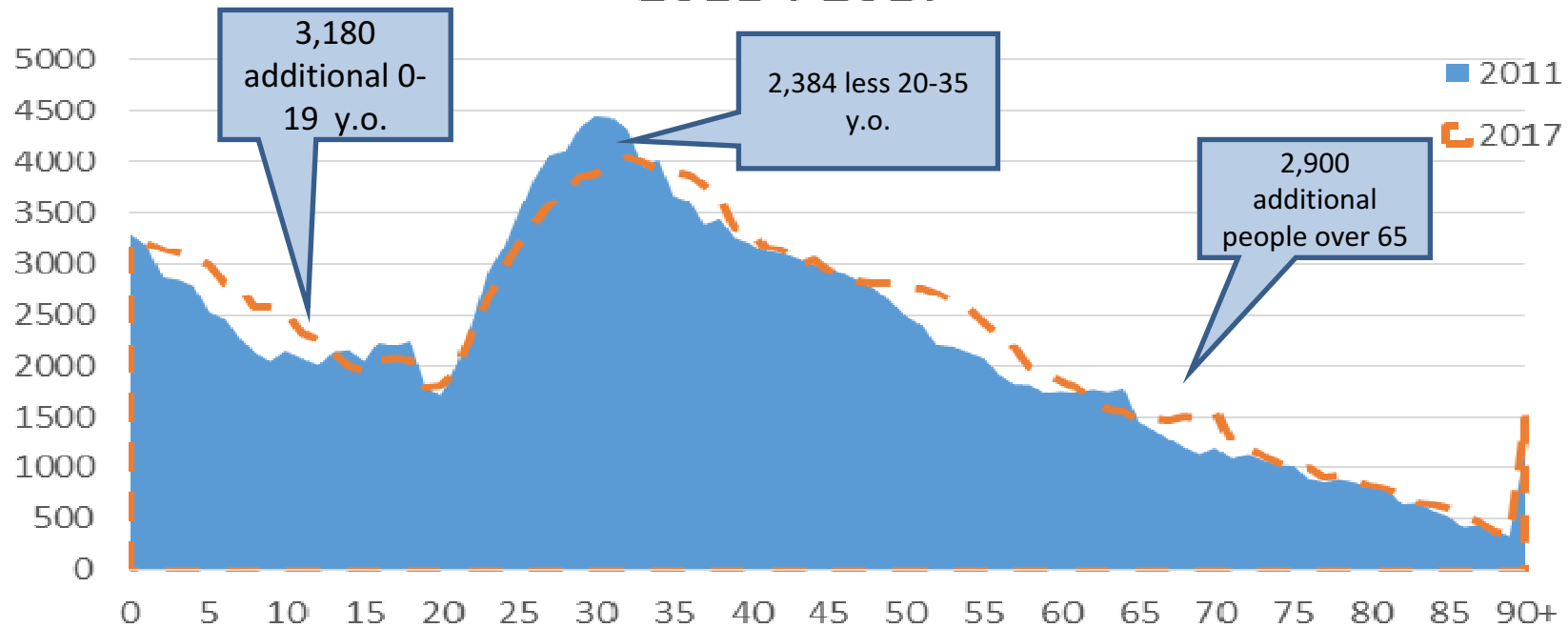
- A significant feature of Merton's population in 2017 is the changing age profile of the borough's residents.
- The number of children and young people aged 0-19 is forecast to increase by around 3,500 (3%) over this period. In particular, there is forecast to be an increase of 2,300 (20.3%) in the number of children aged 5 to 9.
- It is notable that the 20 to 35 age group is forecast to fall by 2017, perhaps reflecting the lack of affordable housing in the borough.
- There is also forecast to be an increase of 2,900 people (11%) in the over 65 age group with an increase of around 1,500 in the over 90 age group. These changes are likely to result in demand pressures in three key areas of service provision – education, children's social care and adult social care.

Merton CYP (0-24) population 2001 – 2017
GLA 2012 SHLAA

	Total CYP (0-19)	Early Years population (0-4)	Primary population (5-9)	Secondary population (10-14)	Secondary plus (15 - 19)	Young People (20 - 24)
2001	44122	12606	11173	10727	9616	12808
2011	47499	15004	11452	10505	10538	12245
2017 projection	50681	15787	13720	11249	9925	11752

- The increase in the 0-4 age group will increase demand for affordable childcare and nursery provision.
- The rapid increase in the primary school age group will increase demand for primary places and subsequently for secondary places.
- The demand for SEN provision will also increase.

Increasingly diverse
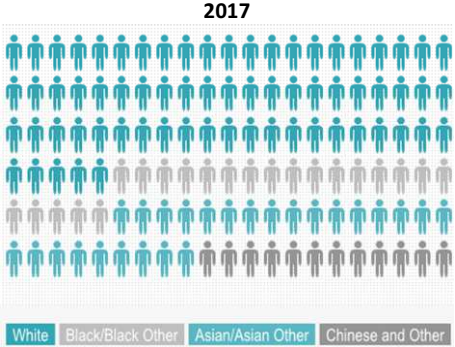
2011 35%
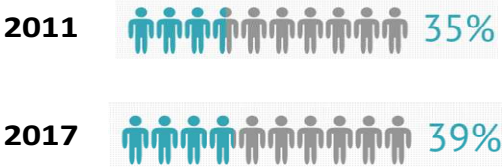
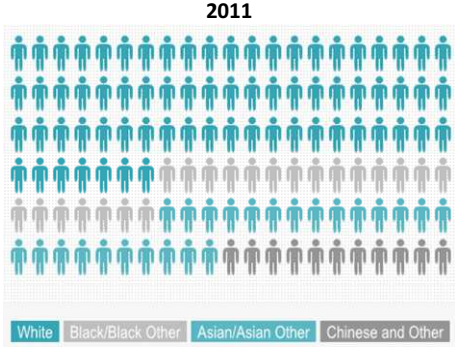**Proportion of BME residents**

2017 39%

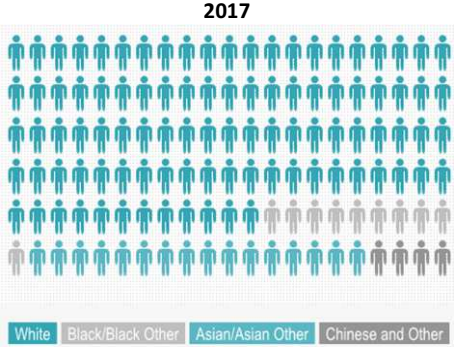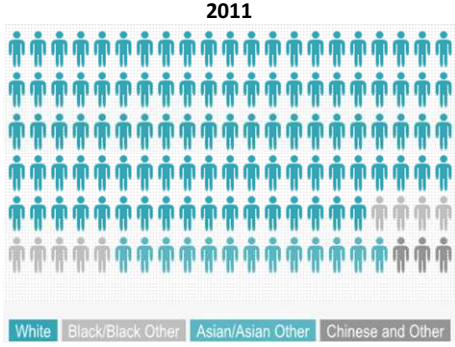Figure 4.5 Ethnic profile 0 to 19 age group 2011 and 2017

Figure 4.6: ethnic profile over 65s 2011 and 2017

Ethnicity 0-19 age group

- The ethnic composition of the borough is also forecast to change significantly, with the proportion of people from a BAME background increasing from 35% in 2011 to 39% in 2017.
- The largest increases are in the Asian Other, Black African and Pakistani ethnic groups.
- The ethnic composition of the borough's residents also differs across age groups with a forecast increase in the proportion of BAME people in the 0-19 age group from 44% in 2011 to 47% in 2017.
- The increase in the BAME population has implications for public health where risks for specific diseases, lifestyle risks and lower awareness of prevention services result in higher prevalence of disease amongst the BAME .
- The Census 2011 supports our understanding of the main languages spoken in Merton as Tamil, Polish, Urdu.
- The School Census of Primary and Secondary schools supports the identified languages however in schools in order of greatest prevalence changes to Tamil, Urdu and then Polish.

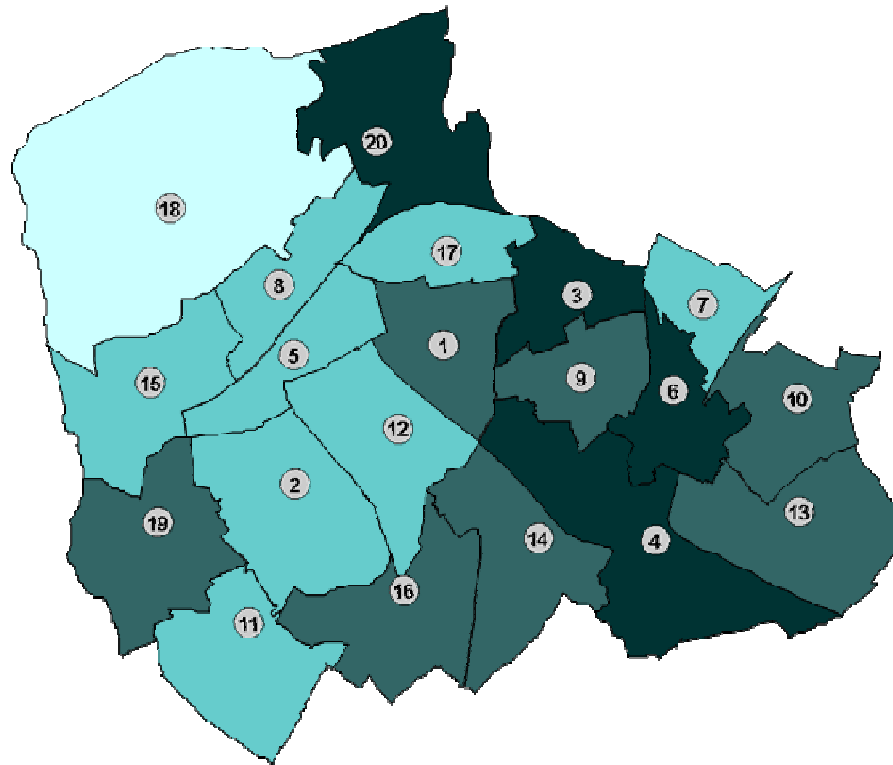**Merton CYP (0-19) ethnic population 2001 – 2017**
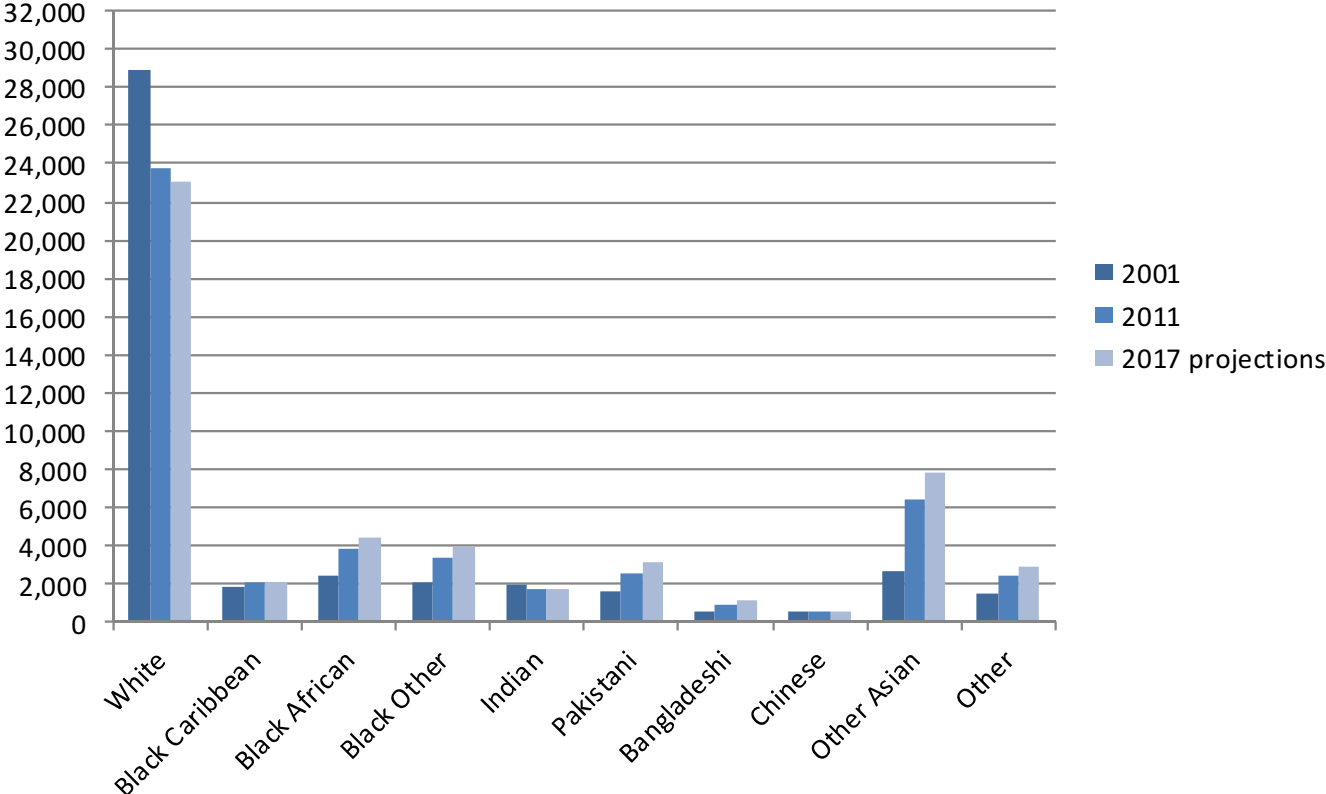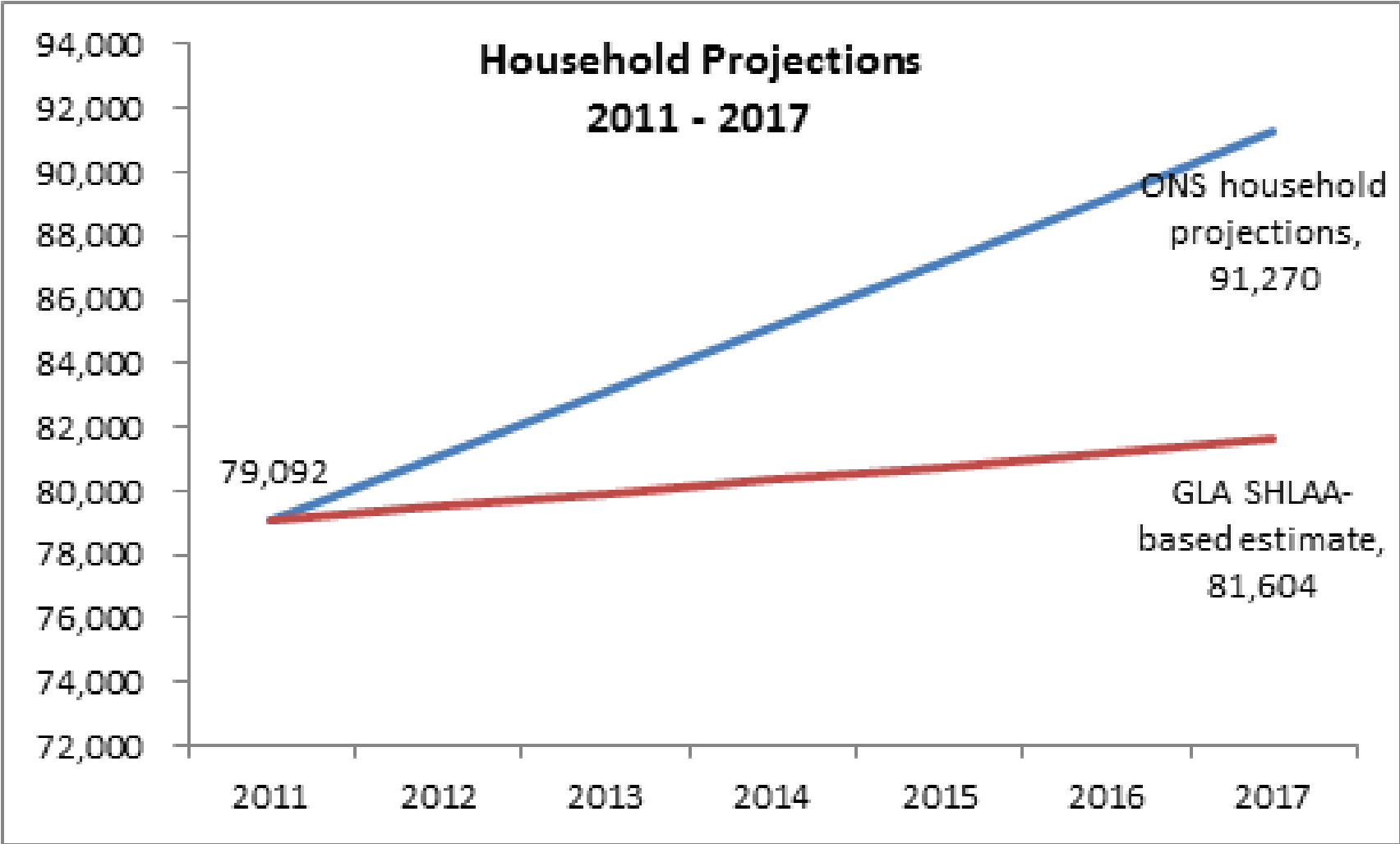
Population density by ward

- Population growth is fastest in the east of the borough which already has higher population density, higher levels of deprivation, higher levels of population churn and a more diverse population than the west of the borough.
- The proportion of the population of non working age is forecast to increase in wards to the west and south of the borough. These changes have implications for community cohesion and a range of services including social care, education and health.

Population by ward 2017 (darker = more populous)

1	Abbey
2	Cannon Hill
3	Colliers Wood
4	Cricket Green
5	Dundonald
6	Figges Marsh
7	Graveney
8	Hillside
9	Lavender Fields
10	Longthornton
11	Lower Morden
12	Merton Park
13	Pollards Hill
14	Ravensbury
15	Raynes Park
16	St. Helier
17	Trinity
18	Village
19	West Barnes
20	Wimbledon Park

Increasing number of households

Household Projections
2011 - 2017

ONS household projections, 91,270

GLA SHLAA-based estimate, 81,604

79,092

Future housing development
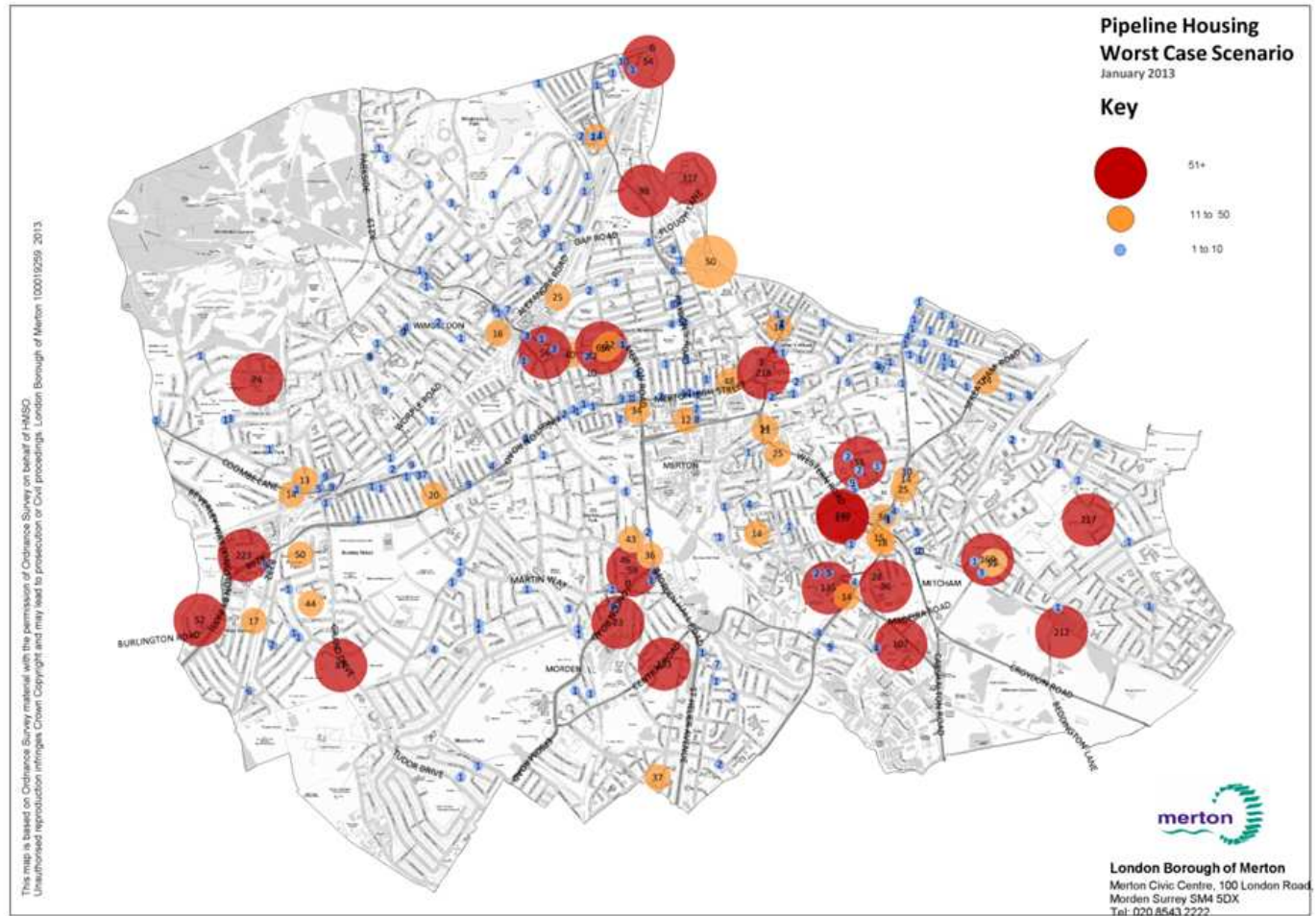
- The increase in the number of households coupled with rising house prices and growth in the private rented sector is likely to result in lower income households living in poor quality accommodation and rising homelessness.
- The increase in the number of children living in areas of deprivation to the east of Merton will increase the number of pupils experiencing factors that could affect educational attainment e.g. low income, poor housing etc.

Social Care and SENDIS

- Number of children subject to a **Child Protection Plan** risen from an average of 120 in 2008/9 to 163 2012/13.

- Number of **Children in Care** rising from average of 130 in 2008/09 to 140 in 2012/13 (and 165, Sept 2013).

Numbers of Looked After Children in Merton between 2003 and 2013
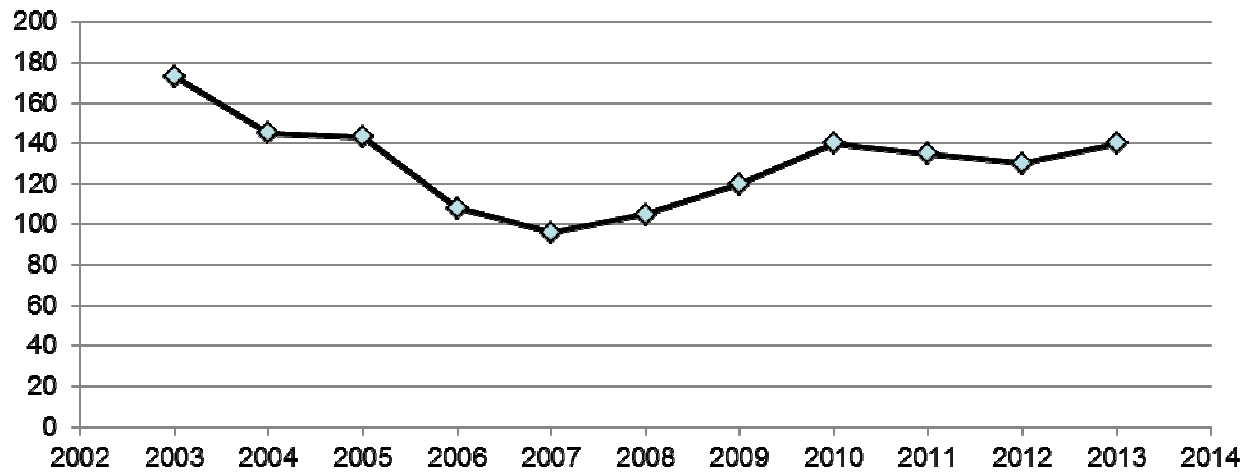
- Number of SEN Statements in **Primary** schools risen from 255 in Jan 2011 to 289 in Jan 2013 (school census) 13% increase.
- Number of SEN Statements in **Secondary** schools risen from 164 in Jan 2011 to 191 in Jan 2013 (school census) 16% increase.
- Number of SEN Statements in **Special schools** risen from 249 in Jan 2011 to 316 in Jan 2013 (school census) 27% increase.

Services for children, young people and families

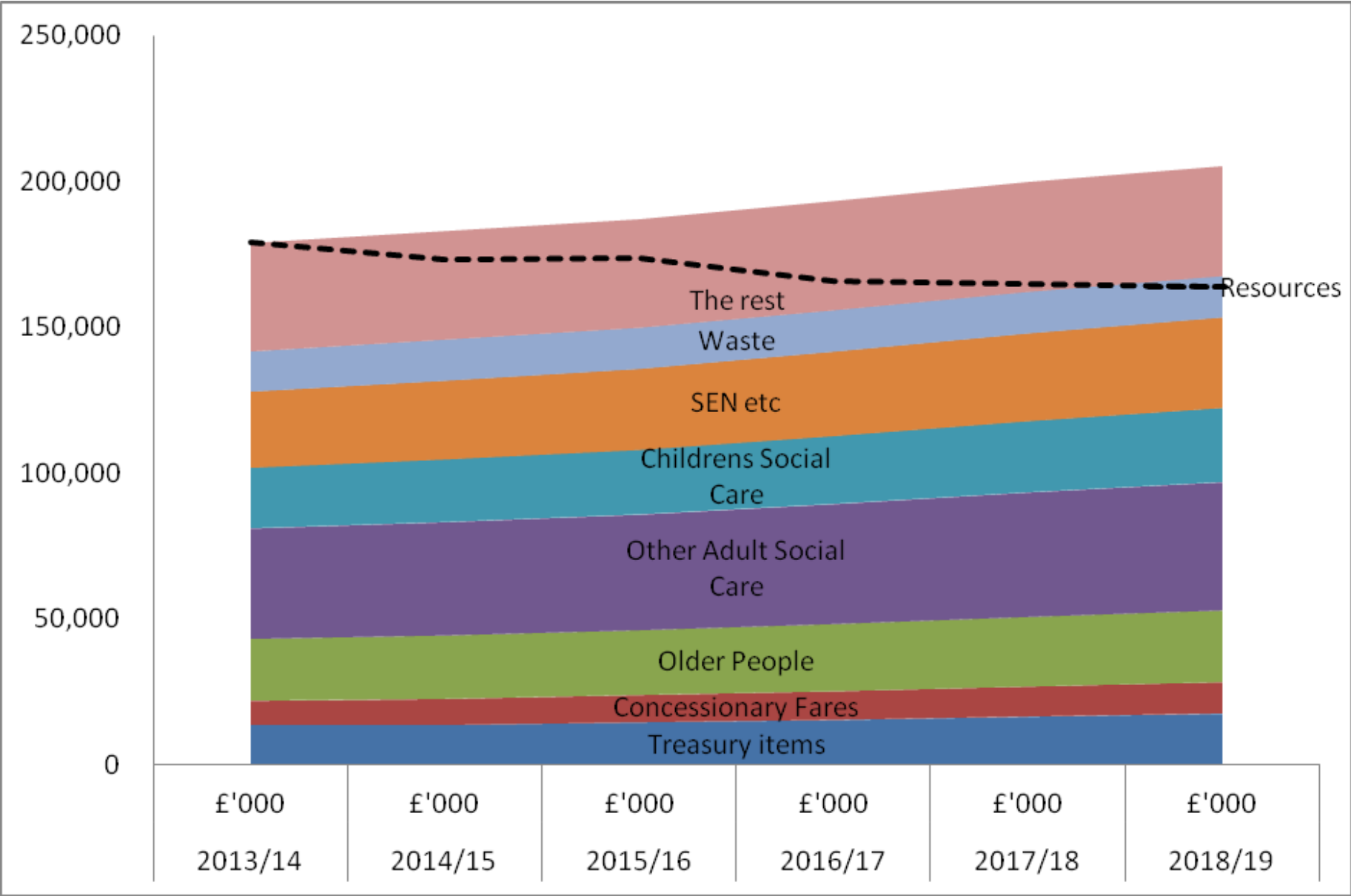| Demographic driver	Policy/Service changes
Increase of 780 children aged 0-4	• Free education and childcare for vulnerable households • Stimulating the childcare market • Healthy schools programme
Increase of 2,270 children aged 5-9	• School expansion programme • Developing specialist provision for children with complex needs in locality
45% of children living in an area of deprivation	• School improvement strategy • Merton Education Partnership sharing best practice on narrowing the gaps
Increase of 3,180 children and young people aged 0-19	• MASH to identify highest risk households • Early intervention services • Reorganisation of Children's Services

Proportion of expenditure by service type

2010/11

Other (18,615) | Physical Environment (32,125) | Adult Social Care (55,415)

Young People (26,574) | Hous. (5,963) | C & L (7,230) | Children's Social Care (21,459)

2013/14

Other (13,989) | Physical Environment (29,619) | Young People (30,807) | Housing (2,756) | Children's Social Care (20,968)

C & L (7,040) | Adult Social Care (67,155)

Spending pressures and likely resources

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