

Report for: Cabinet - 12 February 2019

Item number:

Title: Determination of the Council's School Admission Arrangements for the academic year 2020/21

Report authorised by: Eveleen Riordan, Assistant Director for Schools and Learning



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Ward(s) affected: All

**Report for Key/
Non Key Decision:** Key

1. Describe the issue under consideration

- 1.1 To continue to meet statutory requirements Cabinet are requested to determine the proposed admission arrangements for the school year 2020/21. These arrangements are in respect of the borough's community and voluntary controlled (VC) schools. Recommendations below (paragraph 3) also ask Cabinet to agree to their publication on or before 15 March 2019 on the Council's website, such details to include advice on the right of objection to the Schools Adjudicator.
- 1.2 This year the proposed admission arrangements for community and voluntary controlled (VC) schools included a proposal to reduce the published admission number (PAN) for Welbourne and Tiverton Primary Schools by one form of entry (1FE) – 30 Reception pupils each.
- 1.3 On 13 November 2018 Cabinet agreed that statutory consultation should be carried out on the proposed admission arrangements between 26 November 2018 and 7 January 2019.
- 1.4 This report provides details on and an analysis of the representations received on all of our admission arrangements and makes recommendations on those proposed admission arrangements at paragraph 3 below.

2. Cabinet Member Introduction

- 2.1 As a result of a very full consideration of all the available evidence, the paper recommends that Cabinet agree to the proposal to reduce the published admission number (PAN) for Welbourne and Tiverton Primary Schools by one

form of entry (1FE) – 30 Reception pupils each. The full range of reasons for agreeing to the proposal are set out below from para 4.1 – para 7.9.

3. Recommendations

3.1 Cabinet are asked to:

- Consider and take into account the feedback from the consultation undertaken which is set out in appendix 8 and a summary included from paragraphs 7.1-7.9 of this report.
- Consider and take into account the equalities impact assessment of the proposals on protected groups at appendix 7.
- Agree the recommendation set out in this report to proceed with proposal to reduce the published admission number (PAN) for Welbourne and Tiverton Primary Schools by one form of entry (1FE) – 30 Reception pupils each from September 2020 as part of the community and voluntary controlled (VC) schools' published admission arrangements.
- Determine the Council's admission arrangements for the academic year 2020/21 as set out in Appendices 1 – 4.
- Agree the in-year fair access protocol (IYFAP) as set out in Appendix 5 to come into force from 1 March 2019.
- Agree that the determined arrangements for all maintained primary and secondary schools in the borough are published on the Council's website by 15 March 2019 with an explanation of the right of any person or body, under the School Admissions (Admission Arrangements and Co-ordination of Admission Arrangements) Regulations 2012, to object to the Schools Adjudicator in specified circumstances¹.

4. Reasons for decision

- 4.1 The School Admissions Code 2014 requires all admission authorities to determine admission arrangements every year, even if they have not changed from previous years. Regulation 17 of the School Admissions Regulations 2012 also requires admission authorities to determine admission arrangements by 28 February in the determination year.
- 4.2 In addition, the Regulations require the admission authority (in this case the local authority) to publish on its website by 15 March in the determining year the determined arrangements of all maintained primary and secondary school and academies in the borough, advising the right to object to the Schools Adjudicator, where it is considered that the arrangement do not comply with the mandatory provisions of the School Admissions Code 2014.

¹ Paragraphs 19 – 24 of the Regulations

- 4.3 The Council consults on its admission arrangements annually irrespective of whether or not there is a proposed change to the arrangements. This is to ensure transparency and openness on the contents of the admission arrangements and to allow all stakeholders to make representations which can then be considered as part of the determination of the arrangements.
- 4.4 The School Admissions Code (2014) sets out the requirement for all admission authorities to undertake statutory consultation where they propose a decrease to the PAN of a school.
- 4.5 Tiverton Primary is a community school located at Pulford Road, London N15 6SP and sits within planning area 3. The school normally admits 2 classes (60 Reception pupils) per year. However, due to a local decrease in the demand for school places, we have consulted on the proposal to reduce the school's PAN to 30 for the 2020/21 academic year.
- 4.6 Welbourne Primary is a community school located at Stainby Road, London N15 4EA and sits within planning area 4. The school normally admits 3 classes (90 Reception pupils) per year. However, due to a local decrease in the demand for school places, we have consulted on the proposal to reduce the school's PAN to 60 for the 2020/21 academic year.
- 4.7 Both Tiverton and Welbourne Primary schools have vacancies across all year groups and our projections show that demand is likely to continue to decrease. There are also vacancies in other local primary schools in the area. Current school roll projections for planning area 3 (where Tiverton is located) suggest a surplus of school places of between 1-2 forms of entry between now and 2026/27. Current school roll projections for planning area 4 (where Welbourne is located) suggest a surplus of school places of between 3-4 forms of entry between now and 2021/22.
- 4.8 Approval was sought from the Schools Adjudicator for a temporary reduction in PAN for Tiverton Primary School for entry in September 2018. A reduction by 1 form of entry was agreed and it is likely that a similar request will be made for entry in September 2019. Our projections show that demand is likely to continue to decline with the school struggling to fill beyond 1 form of entry.
- 4.9 Welbourne Primary School has the highest number of vacancies across all year groups when compared with other schools in Planning Area 4. It is likely that this will have had a ripple effect locally as falling demand is rarely evidenced at just one school but is often felt across several. A benefit of planning places judiciously is that it keeps rolls relatively buoyant across and beyond any planning area as surplus places are reduced and school rolls can fill at or close to capacity.
- 4.10 The Council consulted on the proposal to reduce the number of available places at Tiverton and Welbourne Primary Schools to enable them to operate more efficiently and cost effectively. The proposed reduction of PANs for these schools will allow better alignment of PANs with actual number of pupils on roll, leading to cost savings to both schools.

- 4.11 Consulting on our admission arrangements for entry in September 2020 gives these schools sufficient time to review their internal structure so that any potential impact on staff reorganisation can be minimised. It will allow the school leadership teams in the longer term to plan judiciously by offering a realistic number of places that meets actual demand.
- 4.12 Consideration from an equalities perspective was given to the selection of these specific schools for a reduction in PANs to help frame any potential impact on all protected groups. Our proposal will not adversely impact on families trying to access their local school with high quality provision. A projected surplus of school places in the planning areas where these schools are located means that we expect sufficient places to still be available for local children if the PANs are reduced at Welbourne and Tiverton Primary School for entry in September 2020.
- 4.13 All Haringey schools are able to support children with a wide range of abilities, special needs, disabilities and learning difficulties, from able, gifted and talented pupils to those with multiple and significant disabilities, medical conditions and learning difficulties. Welbourne and Tiverton do not offer any specific provision that is not provided in other local schools.
- 4.14 In the unlikely event that a place cannot be offered at Welbourne and Tiverton schools, we believe that the needs of the community can and will be met at other local schools. We will continue to closely monitor the number of primary applications received in any given year and in the event there is an increase in demand for primary school places and additional places are required, the school(s) can revert to their original PAN. We will raise the PAN of the school(s) having looked at demand figures for each school.

5. Alternative options considered

- 5.1 We are required by the School Admissions Code 2014 (para 1.42 – 1.45 of the Code) to consult on our admission arrangements between 1 October and 31 January each year for a minimum period of six weeks. Last year, the consultation on the proposed admission arrangements for community and voluntary controlled (VC) schools included a proposal to introduce an additional oversubscription criteria for children of staff to follow after the sibling criterion. Cabinet agreed to the proposal in February last year which means the children of staff criterion will come into effect from September 2019.
- 5.2 This year we are not proposing a change to the oversubscription criterion for community and VC schools. While there are other ways admission arrangements can influence the allocation of school places set out in the Schools Admissions Code 2014 (e.g. designated catchment areas, identified feeder schools or giving priority in our oversubscription criteria to children eligible for the early years premium/ pupil premium), no alternative option is being considered at the time of writing this report.

6. Background information

- 6.1 Following many years of rising demand due to the growth in Haringey's population, the Council are now in a position of needing to reduce capacity as a result of a flattening birth rates and a higher than projected increase in out-migration. This has contributed to a higher than necessary level of surplus places in some school place planning areas where supply is predicted to outstrip demand by more than 2 forms of entry in some planning areas, including the planning areas where these schools are located.
- 6.2 A large portion of the funding received by schools is directly related to the number of pupils on roll at the school. Too many vacancies in schools mean that schools are not able to receive the maximum funding possible.
- 6.3 A surplus of more than 2% surplus across our school estate is not recommended as it can lead to financial pressures within schools. Schools running class sizes below 24 pupils run a very high risk of becoming financially unsustainable in the long-term as they may not be able to fund a classroom teacher for a class that isn't full, or may have to divert funds away from other areas to be able to do so. We are therefore proposing to reduce the number of available places at Tiverton and Welbourne Primary Schools to enable them to operate more efficiently and cost effectively.
- 6.4 The high number of vacancies (224) in the Reception year group at the beginning of the 2018/19 academic year across many schools in Haringey is indicative of the projected decrease in demand for Reception places. This has been an ongoing trend across many London authorities, including neighbouring boroughs and is forecasted to continue over the next few years.
- 6.5 We are aware that Southwark Council has consulted on a proposal to decrease the Published Admission Number (PAN) of Reception classes at 13 primary schools for the academic year 2019/20 onwards. This is an area-wide undertaking by Southwark to 'right-size' PANs due to falling rolls across the borough and to balance the number of places available against the current level of demand. We have also seen reduction in boroughs much closer to the boundary with Haringey such as Barnet.
- 6.6 In Haringey, we expect sufficient places to still be available for local children if the PANs are reduced at Welbourne and Tiverton Primary Schools for entry in September 2020. This change to PAN aims to assist the school governing bodies to plan for long-term stability, a consistent structure and a sustainable financial position, providing a secure foundation for high quality educational outcomes for all pupils.
- 6.7 We have written to the London Diocesan Board for Schools, the Diocese of Westminster and to our Academy/Free schools setting out the fall in demand and the need to rationalise the number of places available. We expect that our Church of England and Catholic schools *may* also wish to reduce capacity over time to match actual and projected rolls (St Mary's CE has already reduced their PAN by 30 places), and that our Academy/Free schools will be also be looking at capacity.

- 6.8 In beginning the public consultation we were aware of the risk that the change might bring i.e the proposed reduction in PAN at these schools *may* disadvantage a small number of families by limiting the number of places that can be offered to local residents. However, due to the projected decline in demand in the planning areas where these schools are located it is likely that all applicants for Tiverton and Welbourne will be offered their preferred school or that there will be sufficient places at other local schools. As set out above, we will take steps to mitigate against any risk; in the event there is an increase in demand for primary school places and additional places are required, these schools will revert to their original PAN. In summary, at the current time, we don't expect a reduction in PAN at these schools to mean that any local children can't be offered a local school place.
- 6.9 An equalities impact assessment (EqIA) is included at Appendix 7 and has identified a disproportionate impact on the basis of gender. There is a possibility that this proposal could adversely impact female teachers / female teaching assistants as several staff members at each school may be made redundant or re-deployed. This may be unavoidable as there is a greater ratio of female to male teachers and teaching assistants in primary schools across Haringey and across the country as a whole.
- 6.10 To mitigate against any negative impact on staffing as a whole, we have ensured that the timing of the consultation allows the schools sufficient time to review staff structure, including needing to take no action as a result of staff moving to jobs outside the school as part of a natural process, taking steps to redeploy staff to other departments/schools, not renewing short-term contracts or reducing the use of agency staff.
- 6.11 A significant portion of funding allocated to schools is directly related to the number of pupils attending the school. Too many roll vacancies in schools mean that schools are not able to receive the maximum funding possible. This change seeks to assist schools in their planning for a sustainable financial position.

Consultation

- 6.12 In accordance with paragraph 1.42 of the School Admissions Code (2014), a six week consultation (26 November 2018- 07 January 2019) was carried out to invite anyone of interest to comment or object to the proposed admission arrangements for 2020/21.
- 6.13 A consultation document and questionnaire were used as the basis of informing stakeholders of the proposal to reduce the PAN at Welbourne and Tiverton Primary Schools.
- 6.14 To ensure as wide a consultation as possible, a range of modes and methods of communication were used to inform and facilitate feedback from stakeholders regarding the proposal -
- through the Schools Bulletin which is distributed to the head teacher and chair of governors of every school in the borough;
 - email to all Children's Centres in the borough;

- email to all registered nurseries and child minders and any other early years providers;
- published on the Council's online admissions pages;
- via information in all libraries across the borough (poster and hardcopies of consultation document);
- email to all councillors from the Lead Cabinet Member;
- email to both MPs with constituencies in Haringey;
- email to the diocesan authorities.

6.15 Stakeholders were given the opportunity to express their views in writing, via a questionnaire – both electronically and via the hard copy attached to the consultation document, by email and post.

Equality and Diversity Monitoring

6.16 As part of the consultation process, respondents were asked to complete an equality and diversity questionnaire, looking at Gender, Age, Ethnicity and Disability. The information collected will help identify any special requirements; promote equality; and improve choice and diversity. This information will only be retained and used for as long as is necessary. Where data is no longer required, it will be destroyed in line with relevant destruction policies and processes.

7. Summary of responses

7.1 All responses were received via questionnaire. Overall, a total of 13 completed responses were received. A detailed analysis of the responses can be found at Appendix 8. A summary of the responses for each school can be found below.

7.2 Tiverton Primary School

Only 8 of the 13 respondents commented on the proposal to reduce the admission number of Tiverton Primary School. Of the 8 respondents:

- 1 supported the proposed changes
- 4 did not support the proposed changes
- 1 not sure
- 4 not affected by/do not want to answer

7.3 Welbourne Primary Schools

All of the 13 respondents commented on the proposal to reduce the admission number of Welbourne Primary School. Of the 13 respondents

- 1 supported the proposed changes
- 11 did not support the proposed changes
- 0 not sure
- 1 not affected by/do not want to answer

- 7.4 Caution in interpreting the comments for Tiverton Primary is required as none of the respondents from the questionnaire appear to be from pupils, parents, governors or staff at the school. Written representation outlining the reasons for or against the proposed changes refer almost entirely to the reduction at Welbourne.
- 7.5 The low return from stakeholders in Tiverton Primary might be attributed to the ongoing support from staff and governors at the school following approval from the Schools Adjudicator for a temporary reduction in PAN for entry in September 2018. A reduction by 1 form of entry was agreed last year and it is likely that a similar request supported by the school will be made for entry in September 2019. Our projections show that the school will struggle to fill beyond 1 form of entry in the coming years. The school has only received 25 first place preferences for entry into September 2019 (as at the application deadline on 15 January 2019). The proposed reduction will allow better alignment of PAN with actual number of pupils on roll, leading to cost savings.

Key issues raised regarding the reduction of PAN at Tiverton and Welbourne Primary Schools

- 7.6
- a) The proposed reduction will affect the sibling policy and also means that my child will not be able to attend under the distance criterion
 - b) Pressure to reduce linked to unfilled places at Harris schools
 - c) Imminent development means that demand for places will increase
 - d) Negative impact on teacher's careers – job losses
 - e) Reduction in PAN will reduce income/increase running costs of building maintenance at Welbourne

Below is a response to the concerns highlighted above and whether the benefits of the proposed change outweigh any potential disadvantages that might be caused to schools or families.

- a) The proposed reduction will affect the sibling policy and also means that my child will not be able to attend under the distance criterion

Our oversubscription criteria for admission to Reception is outlined at Appendix 2 and shows that children considered under the sibling criterion are granted higher priority than children measured solely on the distance from their home to the school. These children will therefore not be impacted by the proposed change and will be offered a place under the sibling criterion.

The proposed reduction in PAN at these schools *may* disadvantage a small number of families by limiting the number of places that can be offered to local residents under the distance criterion. However, due to the projected decline in demand in the planning areas where these schools are located, it is likely that all applicants for Tiverton and Welbourne schools will be offered a place at their preferred school or there will be sufficient places at other local schools.

Early indications show that our projections are accurate, with Tiverton Primary School only receiving 25 first place preferences and Welbourne Primary 46 first

place preferences for entry in September 2019 (as at the application deadline on 15 January 2019). Whilst families that have listed these schools as a lower preference may be eligible for a place, it is likely that they will instead be offered a higher preference.

We will take steps to mitigate against any such risk; in the event there is an increase in demand for primary school places and additional places are required, these schools will revert to their original PAN.

b) Pressure to reduce linked to unfilled places at Harris Academy schools

Our data shows that the proposal to reduce the PAN of Tiverton and Welbourne Primary Schools is not directly linked to the unfilled places at Harris schools. Harris Academy Coleriane Park and Harris Academy Phillip Lane both have very limited vacancies across all year groups and historically tend to be oversubscribed.

It is possible to have surplus places in a school whilst another school is oversubscribed. Parents have a right to express a preference for a particular school, and all schools (except grammar schools) must offer a place to every child who has applied if they have enough places. Where schools are oversubscribed, the Council, as the admission authority for community schools, must use oversubscription criteria to determine admissions in accordance with the School Admissions Code.

We have noted in recent years that Harris Academy Tottenham (2 form entry school) has been carrying a high number of vacancies; however, other own admission authority schools have also carried a similar surplus. This is evidence that the falling demand is being felt widely across all of our schools. Further, demand for Harris Academy Tottenham has increased for 2019 entry, evidencing a rising popularity for the school.

The Council has no authority to decrease the PAN for own admission authority schools, i.e. academy, free schools and VA schools. However, we have previously written to these schools setting out the overall fall in demand and the need to rationalise the number of school places available across the borough. The governors of Harris Academy Tottenham have confirmed they will not be pursuing a reduction of their PAN, and preference data for entry in September 2019 (41 first place preferences) suggests that the school has increased in popularity and will have sufficient pupils to need two classes.

c) Imminent development means that demand for places will increase

Housing developments can have a big impact on the demand for school places at individual schools and across the borough. Haringey's place planning methodology takes into account new housing developments and potential pupil yield – the average number of primary pupils that a new housing development can be expected to generate – in their projections for future demand for school places.

Looking at the most recent projections and comparing these to the number of available places following the proposed reduction in PAN at Tiverton and Welbourne Primary Schools, the Council expects there to continue be a sufficient number of primary places available to meet demand.

In the event that there is an increase in demand for primary school places and additional places are required, these schools can revert to their original PAN following an assessment of demand and supply.

d) Negative impact on teacher's careers – job losses/redundancies

The timing of the consultation allows the schools sufficient time to review staff structure, including allowing for natural wastage (staff voluntarily moving on), taking steps to redeploy staff to other departments/ schools, not renewing short-term contracts or reducing the use of agency staff.

A significant proportion of funding allocated to schools is directly related to the number of pupils attending the school. Too many vacancies in schools mean that schools will not receive the maximum revenue possible. This change seeks to assist the school governing bodies to plan for a sustainable financial position

e) Reduction in PAN will reduce income/increase running costs of building maintenance at Welbourne

We understand from the governors of Welbourne that the school considers that they can accommodate 65 pupils without causing significant long-term budgeting issues because of the economic efficiency of the staffing structure. governors have also raised concern about the upkeep of a building which is not being used to full capacity (3 form entry) and say that the maintenance costs of the building combined with the reduced pupil funding will have an adverse impact on finances.

Our projections show that it will be difficult for Welbourne to attract 65 pupils for entry in September 2020. Early indications show that our projections are accurate with 46 first place preferences reached for entry in September 2019 (as at the application deadline on 15 January 2019). Whilst families that have listed Welbourne as a lower preference may be eligible for a place, it is likely that they will instead be offered a higher preference due to the surplus of places in the local area. Oversubscription is not likely, even if the school does attract additional applicants that have listed them as a lower preference.

As we believe that the school may struggle to fill beyond two forms of entry, the proposed change seeks to assist the governing body to operate more efficiently and cost effectively by not having to employ a third classroom teacher. There are also cost-savings associated with not having to set up an additional classroom.

In acknowledgement of the above concerns raised by the governors of Welbourne, we will ensure that steps are taken to mitigate against any such risk; we will continue to monitor the number of applications for Welbourne

Primary School and in the event there is an increase in demand we will revert back to their original PAN.

Next Steps

- 7.7 The Council's Cabinet is asked to determine the Council's admission arrangements for the academic year 2020/21 as set out in Appendices 1 – 4.
- 7.8 Based on the responses received during the consultation period, balanced against the ability for schools to be able to operate effectively and efficiently whilst remaining financially viable, the Council's Cabinet is recommended to agree the proposal to reduce the published admission number (PAN) for Welbourne and Tiverton Primary Schools by one form of entry (1FE) – 30 Reception pupils each.
- 7.9 In addition, Cabinet is recommended to agree the in-year fair access protocol to come into force from 1 March 2018. The protocol ensures hard to place children are given a school place without delay and is a statutory requirement set out in the School Admissions code 2014 (paras 6 and 3.9 – 3.15 of the Code).

8. Contribution to strategic outcomes

- 8.1 Ensuring we have a transparent and objective school admissions process with oversubscription criteria that is reasonable, clear, objective and compliant with all relevant legislation, including equalities legislation, underpins Priority 1 in the Corporate Plan which seeks to enable every child to have the best start in life with access to high quality education.

9. Statutory Officers comments (Chief Finance Officer (including procurement), Assistant Director of Corporate Governance, Equalities

Below are financial, governance and legal and equality comments.

Comments of the Chief Finance Officer and financial implications

- 9.1 The Chief Financial Officer has been consulted in the production of this report and confirms that there are no direct financial implications as a result of the consultation proposals.

Comments of the Assistant Director of Corporate Governance and legal implications

- 9.2 The Assistant Director of Corporate Governance has been consulted on the contents of this report and comments as follows:
- 9.3 The current School Admissions Code ('the Code') came into force in December 2014 issued by the Department for Education under section 84 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998. The Code is to be read alongside the School Admissions (Admission Arrangements and Co-ordination of Admission Arrangements) (England) Regulations 2012 (" the Regulations"). The Code and

the Regulations apply to admission arrangements determined in 2015 and later years. In determining its admission arrangements for 2020-2021 the Council has a statutory duty as an admissions authority to act in accordance with the Regulations and with the relevant provisions of the Code. It must also as a result of its duty under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct which is prohibited by or under the Act, advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations in relation to persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

- 9.4 Paragraph 15 of the Code states that all schools must have admission arrangements that clearly set out how children will be admitted including the criteria that will be applied if there are more applications than places at the school. As part of determining its admission arrangements, the Council must set an admission number (called the Published Admission Number or PAN) for each school's "relevant age group" i.e. the age group at which pupils are or will normally be admitted to the school.
- 9.5 School admission arrangements are determined by admission authorities. Generally, the admission authority for community and voluntary controlled schools is the local authority. Admission authorities must set ('determine') admission arrangements annually. Where changes are proposed to admission arrangements, the admission authority must first publicly consult on those arrangements. If no changes are made to the admission arrangements, they must be consulted on at least once every 7 years. Consultation must be for a minimum of 6 weeks to take place between 01 October and 31 January of the determination year. The Code also requires the admissions authority for the duration of the consultation to publish a copy of the full proposed admission arrangements (including the proposed PAN) on their website together with details of the person within the admissions authority to whom comments may be sent and the areas on which comments are not sought. Consultation must be undertaken when proposals are still at a formative stage. It must include sufficient reasons for particular proposals to allow those consulted to give intelligent consideration and an intelligent response, adequate time must be given for this purpose and the product of the consultation must be conscientiously taken into account when the ultimate decision is taken.
- 9.6 In relation to consultation the Council must consult with parents of children between the ages of two and eighteen; other persons in the relevant area who in the opinion of the admission authority have an interest in the proposed admissions; all other admission authorities within the relevant area; whichever of the governing body and the local authority who are not the admission authority; any adjoining neighbouring local authorities where the admission authority is the local authority and in the case of faith schools, the body or person representing the religion or religious denomination. The authority must also for the duration of the consultation publish a copy of the full proposed admission arrangements (including the PAN) on its website together with details to whom comments should be sent and the areas on which comments are not sought.

- 9.7 It is the responsibility of the authority to ensure that admission arrangements are compliant with the Code. Arrangements mean overall procedures, practices, criteria and supplementary information to be used in deciding on the allocation of school places. In drawing up the admission arrangements the authority must ensure that the practices and criteria used to decide the allocation of school places are reasonable, fair, clear and objective and comply with the relevant legislation including equalities legislation. Parents should be able to look at the set of arrangements and understand easily how places will be allocated. It is for the authority to decide which criteria would be the most suitable according to local circumstances.
- 9.8 Each year all local authorities must formulate and publish on their website a scheme by 1 January in the relevant determination year to co-ordinate admission arrangements for all publicly funded schools within their area. All admission authorities must participate in co-ordination and provide the local authority with the information it needs to co-ordinate admissions by the dates agreed within the scheme. There is no requirement for local authorities to co-ordinate in-year applications but the authority must provide information in a composite prospectus as to how in-year applications can be made and how they will be dealt with.
- 9.9 The Code requires that the Council must have a Fair Access Protocol agreed with the majority of schools in its area to ensure that, outside the normal admissions round, unplaced children, especially the most vulnerable, are offered a place at a suitable school as quickly as possible. The Cabinet Members will see the Proposed In-Year Fair Access Protocol at Appendix 5.
- 9.10 The proposed admission arrangements for 2020-2021, the proposed co-ordinated scheme, the proposed IYFAP and the proposed consultation on the proposed admission arrangements for 2020-2021 would appear to be in compliance with the Code and the Regulations.

Equalities Comments

- 9.11 The Council has a public sector equality duty under the Equality Act 2010 to have due regard to the need to:
- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by or under the Act. Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a “relevant protected characteristic” and people who do not share it;
 - Foster good relations between people who share a “relevant protected characteristic” and people who do not share it.
 - A “relevant protected characteristic” is age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex (formerly gender) and sexual orientation.
- 9.12 The three parts of the duty apply to the following protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy/maternity, race, religion/faith, sex and sexual orientation. Marriage and civil partnership status apply to the first part of the duty.

- 9.13 The admission arrangements set out in this report comply with the public sector equality duty and ensures that as an admission authority, the Council's arrangements do not directly or indirectly unfairly disadvantage an individual or group that possesses any of the characteristics defined in sections 4-12 of the Equality Act 2010.
- 9.14 An equalities impact assessment (EqIA) identified a disproportionate impact on the basis of gender - this proposal could adversely impact female teachers / female teaching assistants as several staff members at each school may be made redundant or re-deployed. This may be unavoidable as there is a greater concentration of females than males amongst teachers and teaching assistants in schools across Haringey and the country as a whole. To mitigate against any negative impact on staffing as a whole, we have ensured that the timing of the consultation allows schools sufficient time to review their staff structure.
- 9.15 The proposed change is a reasonable and proportionate response to the issue of falling rolls across Haringey schools, and will have wider positive benefits for the educational outcomes of Haringey's children and young people.
- 9.16 The publication of clear admission arrangements for all of our schools (a statutory requirement) ensures that admission to schools is a clear and transparent process and that parents and carers are able to select preferences for a school place with full knowledge of how admission to their local school(s) is determined.

10. Use of Appendices

- 10.1 The following appendices support this report:

Appendix 1 - Nursery 2020
Appendix 2 - Reception and Junior 2020
Appendix 3 - Secondary Transfer 2020
Appendix 4 - In-year Admissions 2020
Appendix 5 – In Year Fair Access Protocol
Appendix 6 - Starting Sixth Form
Appendix 7 - EqIA
Appendix 8 - Consultation Survey

11. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

This report contains no exempt information.

Background

1. The Schools Standards and Framework Act 1998.
2. The Education Act 2002.
3. The Education and Inspections Act 2006.
4. Education and Skills Act 2008.
5. The School Admissions Code (December 2014).

6. The School Admissions (Admission Arrangements and Co-ordination of Admission Arrangements) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014
7. The School Admissions (Infant Class Sizes) (England) Regulations 2012.
8. The School Admissions (Appeals Arrangements) (England) Regulations 2012.
9. The Education Act 2011.
10. The School Admissions Appeals Code (2012).
11. School roll projections sourced from the GLA
12. School roll information, including admission information from data held within Education Services