

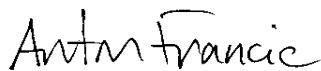
**Report for:** Cabinet Member Signing - 29 October 2015

**Item number:**

**Title:** Proposed Admission Arrangements 2017/18

**Report**

**authorised by :** Anton Francic, Joint Interim AD, 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** This report and the attached appendices set out:

- The proposed admission arrangements for entry to school in the academic year 2017/18 for Haringey's community and voluntary controlled (VC), nursery, infant, junior, primary, secondary and sixth form settings. For the primary admission arrangements, a change is being proposed to the sibling oversubscription criterion.
- The proposed admissions arrangements for in-year applications to community schools in Haringey 2017/18. In-year applications are applications which are received at any point throughout the year other than for reception or secondary school transfer.
- Haringey's proposed In-Year Fair Access Protocol (IYFAP) for the coming year which all schools and academies must follow.
- The co-ordinated scheme<sup>1</sup> for admission to school in 2017/18 for the reception and secondary transfer admissions rounds.

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<sup>1</sup> The scheme which each Local Authority is required to formulate in accordance with the School Admissions (Admission Arrangements and Co-ordination of Admission Arrangements) Regulations 2012 and with the School Admissions Code 2014, for co-ordinating arrangements for the admission of children to maintained primary and secondary schools and academies. The co-ordinated scheme has been successful in meeting its main aim of eliminating or greatly reducing multiple offers of school places.

## **2. Cabinet Member Introduction**

- 2.1 This report seeks Cabinet lead member agreement to commence a six week period of statutory consultation. The details of what is being consulted upon is set out in paragraph 3 below.
- 2.2 As part of the primary over subscription criteria for the borough's community and VC (voluntary controlled) schools the proposed admission arrangements set out in (1) above are proposing a change to the sibling criterion that would limit the distance from home to school within which a sibling would gain entry to the school if the family address changed between admission of the first child to the school and any subsequent child(ren). This proposed change is in response to concerns expressed by local residents that the temporary renting of properties is being used close to oversubscribed schools purely to gain an advantage in admission to those schools. Parents and carers have expressed concerns that this reduces the number of local places available to families who live to the school for the duration of their child(ren)'s primary years but are denied access to local schools because of the high number of siblings on roll of children living much further away from the school but who have priority under the current sibling criterion.
- 2.3 We have decided to seek views on a proposed change, such views to be collated and reported to Cabinet in February 2016 when a recommendation on the published arrangements for 2017/18 will also be made. Supporting this consultation will be an equalities impact assessment (EqIA) that will seek to establish any impact on protected groups as defined by the Equalities Act 2010 and any measures that might be taken should the change to the criterion be made, to mitigate any identified impact.
- 2.4 The change in criterion is being proposed as a measure to retain local places for local families and so that children attend school within their local community. However such a change could also potentially discriminate against those families where a change in address is as a result of personal circumstances or because of decisions outside of their control. The consultation seeks views from all stakeholders so that a balanced and broadly supported criterion can be agreed as part of our future admission arrangements.

## **3. Recommendations**

- 3.1 The Cabinet Member for Children and Families is asked to:
- Agree to consult on the proposed admission arrangements, including in year arrangements, for 2017/18;
  - Agree to consult on the proposed IYFAP which, if agreed at Cabinet in February 2016, would be used from 1 March 2016;
  - Agree that the co-ordinated scheme as set out in Appendices 2 and 3 of this report can be published on the Haringey website on 1 January 2016
  - Note the proposed changes to the Council's primary school admission arrangements for the academic year 2017/18 as set out in paragraphs 6.9 – 6.22 of this report;

- Note that consultation on the proposed admission arrangements is scheduled to take place between 6 November 2015 and 18 December 2015;
- Note that following the consultation, a report will be prepared summarising the representations received from the consultation and a decision on the final admission arrangements and the In Year Fair Access Protocol will be taken by Cabinet on 9 February 2016.

#### 4. Reasons for decision

- 4.1 **Why do we consult?** - This report and the consultation that will flow from it if the report's recommendations are agreed will ensure that our proposed admission arrangements for 2017/18 are consulted upon and the co-ordinated scheme is set in accordance with the mandatory provisions of the School Admissions Code 2014.
- 4.2 We consult on our 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 our arrangements and to allow parents, carers and other stakeholders who might not previously been interested in admission arrangements (perhaps because they didn't have a child of school age) to make a representation which can then be considered as part of the determination of the arrangements.
- 4.3 **What is the change and potential risk to the arrangements being consulted on for 2017 entry?** - Para 3.1 above sets out that we are consulting on a material change to the admission arrangements for the borough's primary community and VC schools. This change is to the sibling over subscription criterion with the change seeking to limit admission of sibling(s) to any oversubscribed school if the home address changes between admission of the first child and subsequent child(ren) and that change is to a distance further than 0.5 miles when measuring home to school distance. This change will only apply where the first child is on roll at the school on or after 1 September 2017 . Further information on this criterion is set out in paras 6.9 to 6.22 below.
- 4.4 The change to the criterion is to ensure that local places are available for local families and to guard against any parent or carer that may chose to rent a home close to a school on a short term basis to secure a school place at that school, thereafter returning to their home address which is some distance from the school, thereby limiting the number of places available to local children in future years when the sibling(s) of that first child are submitted under the current sibling criterion.
- 4.5 The risk that the proposed change might bring is that it *may* impact on those families where the change of address is outside of their control (e.g. if they are in temporary accommodation or are being evicted by a landlord) or due to an unforeseen change in circumstances necessitating a house move (e.g. the breakdown of a relationship). It will also potentially influence a family's decision to move home for other more reasons such as a preference for a smaller or larger home. An Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) will form an important

part of the consultation and will seek to ascertain whether the proposed change *could* have an impact on protected groups and whether there are steps that can and/or should be taken to mitigate against such an impact. Such an impact will be also balanced against the impact of the criterion as it currently exists against these protected groups.

## 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. As we are proposing a change to the sibling oversubscription criterion for our primary community and VC schools this consultation is a statutory requirement for us. We have not considered any changes to the proposed admission arrangements of our community secondary schools for the year 2017/18 apart from a small number of minor technical changes.

## 6. Background information

6.1 Ensuring there is a transparent and objective school admissions process is a statutory and integral part of the Council's work. The Council is the admissions authority for community and voluntary controlled (VC) schools within the borough and is therefore responsible for determining the admission arrangements for these schools.

6.2 Academies, foundation schools and voluntary aided (VA) schools are their own admissions authority; they must consult on and then determine their own admissions arrangements by 28 February 2016. The Council has a statutory duty to monitor the arrangements determined by its own admitting authority schools to ensure compliance with the School Admissions Code 2014. This report does **not** deal with admission arrangements for any academies, foundation or voluntary aided schools.

6.3 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.

6.4 Admission authorities are responsible for admissions and must act in accordance with the School Admissions Code (2014), the School Admission Appeals Code (2012), other laws relating to admissions, and relevant human rights and equalities legislation.

### Oversubscription criteria

6.5 The admission authority for the school must set out in their arrangements the criteria against which places will be allocated at the school when there are more applications than places and the order in which the criteria will be applied.

6.6 Oversubscription criteria must be reasonable, clear, objective, procedurally fair, and comply with all relevant legislation, including equalities legislation.

- 6.7 Admission authorities must ensure that their arrangements will not disadvantage unfairly, either directly or indirectly, a child from a particular social or racial group, or a child with a disability or special educational needs, and that other policies around school uniform or school trips do not discourage parents from applying for a place for their child.
- 6.8 Admission arrangements must include an effective, clear and fair tie-breaker to decide between two applications that cannot otherwise be separated.

#### Change to the Primary sibling oversubscription criterion

- 6.9 Appendix 2 of this report sets out the proposed admission arrangements for the borough's community and voluntary controlled schools. As part of the consultation this year, the Council is proposing a change to the sibling priority oversubscription criterion for primary community and voluntary controlled schools as a response to the views of some local families of pre-school aged children, particularly in the N8 area. These families have expressed concern that the current sibling criterion enables applicants to secure a reception or in year school place for their first child and then move out of the local area, but continue to take priority over local families for any future applications for younger children in their family.

#### Current position

- 6.10 Currently for community and VC primary schools priority for a school place is given to all siblings<sup>2</sup> of children already attending the school. This means that those children with siblings may gain admission to a school over more local applicants even though they may live much further from the school as the result of a change of address after their first child has been offered a place at the school. The increase in population and the rising popularity of some Haringey schools including a significant number of schools located in the N8 area means there is a rising pressure on availability of places at some of our schools from local families. Mobility<sup>3</sup> data for some schools shows that there are a minority of parents moving away from the local area after their first child has been admitted to a local school but subsequently gaining admission for their younger children under the current sibling admissions criterion, thereby reducing the number of places available for local applicants.
- 6.11 A particular challenge for the Council is families who opt to rent property close to oversubscribed schools in order to secure a place at the school and who then move away or revert to a permanent address elsewhere. This practice, while not unlawful per se and while it may be underpinned by genuine reasons for families renting temporary accommodation, can lead to a reduction in the number of places available to local families in subsequent years. By reviewing the sibling priority oversubscription criterion, the Council will have the opportunity to seek views on how to strike the right balance between allowing

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<sup>2</sup> Children with a brother or sister already attending the school and who will still be attending on the date of admission regardless of their current address

<sup>3</sup> Pupils who leave or join a school at any point other than the beginning of the reception year or year 7

younger siblings to follow their first born sibling into local schools, while at the same time guarding against families who chose to live in an area for a short period of time with the sole purpose of gaining access to a particular school.

#### Proposal for consultation

- 6.12 It is recommended that the Council undertakes a statutory consultation on the following change to the sibling admission criterion for the borough's community and VA primary schools/infant schools:

#### *Criterion 4*

*“Children with a brother or sister already attending the school and who will still be attending on the date of admission, whose home address is no more than a distance of 0.5 miles from the school. Children with a brother or sister already attending the school and who will still be attending on the date of admission, whose home address is more than 0.5 miles from the school, will also receive priority where the child's home address has not changed since the last sibling was offered a place or the last sibling was admitted prior to September 2017.”*

#### Notes

- (i) Home address is defined as the child's only or main residence
- (ii) A sibling is a full brother or sister, a step/half brother or sister, a foster brother or sister or an adopted brother or sister living at the same address as the child for whom the application is being made.
- (iii) Haringey measures distance in a straight line from the Ordnance Survey address point of the child's home to the Ordnance Survey address point of the school, calculated using a computerised mapping system. Measurements by alternative systems or to other points will not be taken into account in any circumstances. Where applicants have identical distance measurements, priority amongst them will be determined at random using a computerised system.

- 6.13 In order for local families to access local places the Council is proposing to limit the sibling criterion to those families who continue to live locally after their first child has been admitted to the school. Families who move away from the local area after securing a place for their first child would not gain priority for any subsequent child(ren) under the new criterion *if* that move is to an address further than 0.5 miles from the school.
- 6.14 The proposed change aims to provide a better balance between maintaining a family link for families with children already at Haringey schools and ensuring as far as possible that there are places available for local families at local schools. This proposed change would contribute towards retaining a strong family link with schools for those families who have remained within the proximity of the school whilst releasing a small number of places for local applicants where other families have moved away from the area.
- 6.15 We have heard from some of our local families that they believe that introducing a maximum home to school distance linked to siblings (which is a criterion already evidenced in other authorities' admission arrangements e.g. Wandsworth and Hackney), will ensure the ongoing availability of places for

local families and act as a deterrent to any short-term rental to gain access to a particular school.

- 6.16 The proposed distance of 0.5 miles has been determined by calculating the average maximum distance that children gained entry to oversubscribed schools over the last two admissions rounds in 2014 and 2015. It is felt that this is a reasonable distance to determine that a family still live within the locality of a school whilst also being based on historic admission patterns in the borough. The furthest distance offered does vary between schools and planning areas but 0.5 miles gives a reasonable measure for what constitutes local based on average historic patterns.
- 6.17 We have looked at recent applications data to determine the possible impact that any change in criterion might have. An analysis of the initial offers for the 2015 admissions round indicated that a total of 918 children were offered places at Haringey primary schools on the basis of sibling priority for September 2015 reception entry. A total of 275 of those siblings offered lived further than 0.5 miles from the school. Not all of these 275 siblings would have been affected by any sibling criterion change because it would only apply to those families who had moved between admission of their first child and any subsequent child. Some of these 275 siblings (131) were offered places at schools that were not oversubscribed meaning that the oversubscription criteria wasn't needed. The remaining 144 siblings were offered places at oversubscribed schools. Of these 144 siblings 88 had moved home address to an address more than 0.5 miles from the school and so would have been affected by the proposed criterion change.
- 6.18 Table A below gives a breakdown by Planning Area<sup>4</sup> of the number of reception (not in year) applications that would have been affected by a change to the sibling criterion. Based on the 2015 admissions round and disregarding the proposed exemption for children with siblings admitted prior to September 2017, this change would have made available 88 places for local families i.e. 88 siblings wouldn't have been offered a place based on the current sibling criterion because the families had moved home after their first child was admitted to the school and now live more than 0.5 miles from the school. Of these places the highest number (29) would have been in Planning Area 2 (Highgate, Crouch End, Hornsey and Stroud Green wards).
- 6.19 For the purposes of this example the figures set out in the table below disregards that part of the criterion that says that siblings admitted prior to September 2017 will receive priority per se. Further, these figures are not definitive, as further analysis would be necessary to map trends across several years to understand what the true impact of any sibling criterion change would have been/is likely to be. This is because sibling numbers can and do vary from year to year across all Haringey schools. Finally, these figures do not explore possible reasoning behind the location move of each family and the impact such a policy might have on a family where the move is outside of their

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<sup>4</sup> For the purposes of planning school places the borough is divided into five Planning Areas (PAs). Further details on Planning Areas are available to view in our annual School Place Planning Report at [www.haringey.gov.uk/schoolplaceplanning](http://www.haringey.gov.uk/schoolplaceplanning)

control (e.g. through enforced tenancy change). However the figures provided are illustrative of trends in the September 2015 cohort and provide *some* indication of how many local places *might* be freed up were the sibling criterion to change. In the Crouch End area (PA2) the figure of 29 is equivalent to almost one full reception class across a planning area where there are 22 reception classes across ten schools.



**Table A:** Breakdown by Planning Area of the number of reception applications that might be affected by a policy change

| Planning Area (PA)     | Total Sibling Offers<br>(A) | Of (A) - those living over 0.5 miles<br>(B) | Of (B) - those living within FDO, or in an undersubscribed school<br>(C) | Of (B - C) - those who had not moved since sibling offered<br>(D) | Places Made Available by Proposed Change | Percentage of Sibling Places Made Available by Proposed Change |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|---|--|---|--|--|
| <b>Planning Area 1</b> | 160                         | 28  | 0  | 6   | 22                                       | 13.8%  |
| <b>Planning Area 2</b> | 197                         | 66  | 13   | 24  | 29                                       | 14.7%  |
| <b>Planning Area 3</b> | 133                         | 39  | 24   | 4   | 11                                       | 8.3%   |
| <b>Planning Area 4</b> | 232                         | 83  | 72   | 4   | 7  | 3.0%   |
| <b>Planning Area 5</b> | 196                         | 59  | 22   | 18  | 19                                       | 9.7%   |
| <b>Grand Total</b>     | <b>918</b>                  | <b>275</b>                                  | <b>131</b>   | <b>56</b>   | <b>88</b>                                | <b>9.7%</b>  |

- 6.20 The proposal also includes an exemption for children who already have siblings at a community or voluntary controlled school as of the end of the summer term 2017. Siblings of existing pupils at school (i.e. all those admitted before September 2017) would not be affected by the proposed change because the Council recognises that the decision to change address was made on the basis that under the existing criterion places for younger siblings were secure. This criterion will therefore only take effect where the first child in the family joins a a community or voluntary controlled school on or after 1 September 2017.
- 6.21 A copy of the complete proposed admissions arrangements for 2017/18 is included at Appendix 2 to this report.
- 6.22 At the current time, the Council is not proposing a change to the secondary school sibling oversubscription criteria because there is not compelling evidence to suggest from information provided by local residents or other sources that the home address for a second child is a significant issue in admitting pupils to secondary community<sup>5</sup> schools.

#### In Year Fair Access Protocol (IYFAP)

- 6.23 An In year Fair Access Protocol (IYFAP) has been agreed in Haringey to ensure 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). In using the Protocol it ensures that these children and young people are shared fairly across all Haringey schools and that this process is open and transparent. Haringey’s Protocol is consulted on annually and para 3 of the Protocol in Appendix 5 sets out that “it is essential to the success of IYFAP that all Head teachers and governing bodies agree to the aims, principles and procedures and give their fullest support.”

#### Consultation

- 6.24 Where changes are proposed to admission arrangements, the admission authority must first publicly consult on those arrangements. Consultation must be for a minimum of 6 weeks and must take place between 1 October and 31 January in the year before those arrangements are to apply.
- 6.25 This consultation period allows parents, other schools, religious authorities and the local community to raise any concerns about proposed admission arrangements.
- 6.26 Admission authorities must consult with:
- a. parents of children between the ages of two and eighteen;
  - b. other persons in the relevant area who in the opinion of the admission authority have an interest in the proposed arrangements;

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<sup>5</sup> Haringey’s community secondary schools are Highgate Wood, Gladesmore, Park View School, Hornsey School for Girls and Northumberland Park

- c. all other admission authorities within the relevant area (except that primary schools need not consult secondary schools);
- d. whichever of the governing body and the local authority who are not the admission authority;
- e. any adjoining neighbouring local authorities where the admission authority is the local authority; and
- f. in the case of faith schools, the body or person representing the religion or religious denomination.

6.27 This report will ask for approval from the Cabinet Member for Children and Families to consult on our proposed admission arrangements, including the proposed change to the primary sibling oversubscription criterion, such consultation to take place between 6 November 2015 and 18 December 2015 inclusive.

Proposed consultation and determination timetable

| Stage | What happens  | Dates and timescales                |
|-------|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1     | Consultation on admissions arrangements which includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nursery arrangements</li> <li>• Reception class and junior admissions</li> <li>• Secondary admissions</li> <li>• In-year admissions</li> <li>• In year fair access protocol</li> <li>• Sixth form admissions</li> </ul>  | 6 November 2015 to 18 December 2015 |
| 2     | Cabinet to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• determine the admission arrangements for Haringey community schools, nursery classes, primary, infant, junior and secondary schools and St Aidan’s voluntary controlled School.</li> <li>• determine the admission arrangements for students starting sixth form.</li> <li>• determine the In year Fair Access Protocol (IYFAP)</li> </ul> | 9 February 2016                     |

|   |   |                  |
|---|---|------------------|
| 3 | Last date by which all admission authorities, including academies, can determine admission arrangements | 28 February 2016 |
| 4 | Determined Admissions Arrangements must be published on website   | 15 March 2016    |

6.28 As the proposed admission arrangements contain a change to the sibling criterion it is important that such arrangements are consulted on as widely as is possible, having particular regard to those parents and carers, including those with the protected characteristics as outlined by the Equalities Act 2010, who might be affected by the change. In order to ensure the consultation reaches all potentially affected stakeholders we have prepared an Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA – see Appendix 8) which seeks to establish whether or not, if adopted, the change to the sibling criterion would have an additional impact on any one or more of the protected groups.

6.29 To ensure as wide a consultation as possible we intend to provide details of the proposed admission arrangements in the following ways:

- through the Schools Bulletin which is distributed to the head teacher and chair of governors of every school in the borough
- to all children’s centres in the borough
- to all registered nurseries and child minders and any other early years providers
- on the Council’s online primary and secondary admissions page
- via information in all libraries across the borough
- to all councillors
- to both MPs with constituencies in Haringey
- to the diocesan authorities
- to all residents’ groups that the Council hold information for
- to all women’s groups that the Council hold information for
- other groups, bodies, parents and carers as appropriate

### Co-ordinated scheme

6.30 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 schools within their area.

6.31 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. Local authorities must make application forms available to parents who wish to apply to a school in a neighbouring area which operates a different age of transfer (e.g. middle schools), and process these as it would in its normal admissions round.

## Academies

6.32 The governors of the following academies have set out they would like to follow the admission arrangements proposed by the Local Authority. This will be reflected in the public consultation.

### Primary

- Noel Park
- Harris Academy Phillip Lane
- Harris Academy Coleraine Park
- Trinity Primary Academy
- Brooke House Primary

### Secondary

- Heartlands High School
- Woodside High School

6.33 Where any academy, foundation or voluntary aided school does not follow the LAs admission arrangements we offer these schools the opportunity for their proposed admission arrangements to be placed on our consultation page underneath the proposed admission arrangements for community and VC schools. This allows for greater transparency and ease of reference to all admission arrangements across Haringey schools.

## **7. Contribution to strategic outcomes**

7.1 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.

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

8.1 Below are financial, governance and legal and equality comments.

### **Comments of the Chief Finance Officer and financial implications**

8.2 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**

8.3 The Assistant Director of Corporate Governance has been consulted on the contents of this report. 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 2017-2018 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.

- 8.4 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.
- 8.6 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 01 March 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.
- 8.7 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 arrangements the authority must ensure that the practices and criteria used 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.
- 8.8 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.

- 8.9 Each local authority 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.
- 8.10 The proposed admission arrangements for 2017-2018, the proposed co-ordinated scheme, the proposed IYFAP and the proposed consultation on the proposed admission arrangements for 2017-2018 would appear to be in compliance with the Code and the Regulations.

### **Equalities and Community Cohesion Comments**

- 8.11 The Council has a public sector equality duty under the Equalities Act (2010) to have due regard to:
- Tackle discrimination and victimisation of persons that share the characteristics protected under S4 of the Act. These include the characteristics of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex (formerly gender) and sexual orientation;
  - advance equality of opportunity between people who share those protected characteristics and people who do not;
  - foster good relations between people who share those characteristics and people who do not
- 8.12 We are currently undertaking a full Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) to help inform decision makers over the possible impact of the proposed changes on different groups of residents and families.
- 8.13 The EqIA will also identify mitigating actions/measures which the Council could put in place to help limit any disproportionate impact which the changes may have on particular groups and to advance equality of opportunity and good relations (e.g. identify acceptable exceptions to the criteria, a fair appeal process, ongoing monitoring and engagement arrangements).
- 8.14 The consultation process will be used to help populate and inform the final version of the EqIA which decision makers will consider.

## **9. Use of Appendices**

- 9.1 The following appendices support this report:

- Appendix 1 Proposed admission criteria for nursery 2017
- Appendix 2 Proposed admission criteria for reception and junior admissions 2017
- Appendix 3 Proposed admission criteria for secondary transfer 2017
- Appendix 4 Proposed scheme for in-year admissions 2017
- Appendix 5 In-Year Fair Access Protocol for Haringey schools
- Appendix 6 Proposed admission criteria for sixth form 2017
- Appendix 7 EqIA proposed admission arrangements 2017
- Appendix 8 EqIA primary sibling oversubscription criterion

9.1 The full papers for this report can be viewed electronically on the Council's website at [www.haringey.gov.uk/local-democracy](http://www.haringey.gov.uk/local-democracy) or in paper form at 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, River Park House, 225 High Road, London, N22 8HQ.

## 10. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

10.1 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).