

MINUTES OF CABINET MEMBER SIGNING MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY, 18TH FEBRUARY, 2022, 10.00 - 10.25 AM.

PRESENT: Councillor Zena Brabazon, Cabinet Member for Early Years, Children, and Families.

In attendance: Carlo Kodsi, Head of Admissions and School Organisation; Eveleen Riordan, Assistant Director for Schools and Learning; and Fiona Rae, Acting Committees Manager.

124. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

125. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest

126. ADMISSION TO SCHOOLS - DETERMINED ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS FOR 2023/24

The Cabinet Member for Early Years, Children, and Families considered the report which sought the determination of the proposed admission arrangements for the borough's community and voluntary controlled (VC) schools for the 2023/24 academic year to continue to meet statutory requirements. The report also asked for agreement for publication on or before 15 March 2022 on the Council's website, such details to include advice on the right of objection to the Schools Adjudicator.

It was noted that there was no change proposed to the admission arrangements for Haringey community and voluntary controlled (VC) schools. The only changes to the admission arrangements were those reflected in the mandatory requirements that already came into effect from September 2021 because of the Department of Education's (DfE) new School Admissions Code (2021).

It was also noted that, on 9 November 2021, Cabinet agreed that statutory consultation should be carried out on the proposed admission arrangements between 26 November 2021 and 7 January 2022.

The Cabinet Member RESOLVED

1. To determine the Council's admission arrangements for the academic year 2023/24 as set out in Appendices 1 – 4 to the report.
2. To agree the in-year fair access protocol as set out in Appendix 5 to come into force from 1 March 2022.

3. To 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 2022 with an explanation of the right for any person or body, under the School Admissions (Admission Arrangements and Co-ordination of Admission Arrangements) Regulations 2012 ('the Regulations'), to object to the Schools Adjudicator in the specified circumstances set out.

Reasons for decision

The School Admissions Code 2021 (referred as 'the Code') requires all admission authorities to determine admission arrangements every year, even if they have not changed from previous years. Regulation 17 of the Regulations 2012 also requires admission authorities to determine admission arrangements by 28 February in the determination year.

In addition, the Regulations require the admission authority (in this case the local authority) to publish on its website by 15 March in the determination 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 Code.

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.

Alternative options considered

This year we did not propose a change to the admission arrangements including the oversubscription criteria for community and VC schools.

While there are other ways admission arrangements can influence the allocation of school places set out in Code (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), none of the above serve the local interest of our families and school communities so no alternative option is being considered at the time of writing this report.

CABINET MEMBER: Cllr Zena Brabazon

Signed by Cabinet Member

Date ...18 February 2022.....