

Children and Young People’s Scrutiny Panel

Review on Schools (2019/2020); Scope and Terms of Reference

Review Topic	Review / Project Title
Rationale	<p>There are now a range of different types of school within the borough. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Community schools;• Foundation schools and voluntary schools;• Academies;• Free schools; and• Faith schools. <p>The resulting fragmentation presents challenges for local authorities. These include ensuring that all schools are providing a good standard of education and the planning and co-ordination of school places. In addition, schools are subject to varying degrees of local democratic control.</p> <p>The review will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Seek to identify the different categories of school that there are within Haringey and their characteristics as well as the diversity of curriculum and ethos offered by individual schools;• Consider the ways that might be available to the Council to influence schools within the borough and, in particular, facilitate school improvement and co-ordination of school places most effectively; and• Look at practice in other local authority areas and what appears to have been most effective. <p>The review will then focus on how the Council might best respond strategically to the significant surplus in school reception places that there is within Haringey. These have serious budgetary implications for many primary schools due to the way in which schools are funded. Demand for school places is subject to fluctuation and there will also be a need for sufficient places to be available to accommodate future any increases in demand for places. As part of this,</p>

	<p>the review will consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The role the Council has in working with schools to manage effectively the reductions in school rolls; • How a balanced range of school provision across the borough might best be maintained; and • What could be done to mitigate financial pressures on schools and ensure that any adverse effects on schools are minimised
Scrutiny Membership	<p>Councillors Erdal Dogan (Chair), Dana Carlin, James Chiriyankandath, Julie Davies, Josh Dixon, Mike Hakata and Tammy Palmer</p> <p>Co-optees/Non Voting Members: Mark Chapman (Parent governor representative), Luci Davin (Parent Governor representative), Yvonne Denny (Church representative) and Lourdes Keever (Church representative)</p>
Terms of Reference (Purpose of the Review/ Objectives)	<p>To consider and make recommendations to Cabinet on how the Council might influence schools within the borough most effectively and, in particular, facilitate school improvement and co-ordination of school places.</p>
Links to the Borough Plan	<p>People - where strong families, strong networks and strong communities nurture all residents to live well and achieve their potential.</p>
Evidence Sources	<p>These will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevant performance; • Guidance, research and policy documents; • Interviews with key officers, partners and community organisations; and • Information and data from other local authorities.

Witnesses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eveleen Riordan, Assistant Director of Schools and Learning • James Page, Chief Executive of Haringey Education Partnership • School governing bodies • Headteachers • Diocesan boards • Academy chains • Haringey Association of School Governors • Other local authorities
Methodology/Approach	<p>A variety of methods will be used to gather evidence from the witnesses above, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Desk top research; • Evidence gathering sessions with witnesses; and • Visits
Equalities Implications	<p>The review will consider how work with schools impacts on disadvantaged groups within the borough.</p>
Timescale	<p>The Panel will aim to complete its evidence gathering by the end of this Municipal Year.</p>

Reporting arrangements	The Director of Children’s Services will co-ordinate a response to the recommendations.
Publicity	The review will be publicised through the scrutiny website and scrutiny newsletter providing details of the scope and how local people and community groups may be involved. The outcomes of the review will be similarly published once complete.
Constraints / Barriers / Risks	<p>Risks:</p> <p>Not being able to get key evidence providers to attend on the agreed dates of evidence gathering.</p> <p>Not being able obtain evidence from key informants e.g. local authorities</p>
Officer Support	<p>Lead Officer; Robert Mack, Scrutiny Policy Officer, 0208 489 2921 rob.mack@haringey.gov.uk</p> <p>Service Contact; Eveleen Riordan, Assistant Director of Schools and Learning</p>