

TRAFFORD COUNCIL

Report to: Executive
Date: 25th January 2016
Report for: Decision
Report of: Executive Member Children's Services

Report Title

Determination of the 2017 Admission Arrangements for Community and Voluntary Controlled School and Approval of Associated Documents

Summary

The Local Authority (LA), in its role as Admission Authority for community and voluntary controlled schools, is required to determine the 2017 admission arrangements for these schools by 28 February 2016.

i) **Trafford Primary/Infant/Junior Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools - 2017 admission arrangements**

The 2017 admission arrangements were proposed unchanged from the previous year. However, the arrangements have been extended to include a more detailed definition of the process for measuring the distance from home to school.

ii) **Lostock College – 2017 Admission Arrangements**

Proposed unchanged.

iii) **2017 Community School Published Admission Numbers (PAN)**

The LA proposes an increase to the published admission number of Brooklands Primary School from 70 to 90. The proposal is made alongside a proposal to expand the physical capacity of the School.

iv) **Amendment to the Brooklands/Springfield Catchment Area**

The LA proposes the creation of a joint catchment area corridor between the existing Brooklands and Springfield catchment areas in order to ensure that the additional places are available for families in this area.

v) **Scheme for the Delayed Entry of Summer Born Children**

A revised School Admissions Code came into effect on 19th December 2014. The revised Code made new provisions allowing the parents of summer born children to apply to an admission authority for delayed entry to the reception cohort.

The LA now proposes a Scheme for the Delayed Entry of Summer Born Children

vi) **Co-ordinated Admission Schemes – Primary and Secondary**

The LA is responsible for the determination of co-ordinated admission schemes; both primary and secondary. These documents have also been included in the consultation process.

Recommendation(s)

- i) That the arrangements, set out in the following documents be **approved**:
- a) 2017 Community School Published Admission Numbers (PAN)
 - b) Trafford Primary/Infant/Junior Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools – 2017 Admission Arrangements
 - c) Lostock College – 2017 Admission Arrangements
 - d) The proposed amendment to the Brooklands/Springfield catchment area;
 - e) Scheme for the Delayed Entry of Summer Born Children
 - f) 2017 Co-ordinated Admissions Scheme (Primary)
 - g) 2017 Co-ordinated Admissions Scheme (Secondary)

Contact person for access to background papers and further information:

Name: Marilyn Golding
Extension: 912 1853

Background Papers: None

Implications:

Relationship to Policy Framework/Corporate Priorities	Preserving and improving educational excellence for all our children.
Financial	There are no financial implications for the Councils General Fund Budget.
Legal Implications:	The proposed admission arrangements comply with School Admissions (Admission Arrangements and Co-ordination of Admission Arrangements) (England) Regulations 2012 and the School Admissions Code.
Equality/Diversity Implications	None
Sustainability Implications	None
Resource Implications e.g. Staffing / ICT / Assets	None
Risk Management Implications	None
Health & Wellbeing Implications	None
Health and Safety Implications	

1.0 Background

Admission authorities must determine their 2017 admission arrangements by 28 February 2016. 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 November 2015 and 31 January 2016. This consultation period allows parents, other schools, religious authorities and the local community to raise any concerns about proposed admission arrangements.

Trafford LA has undertaken consultation with regard to the following policies and procedures:

i) **Trafford Primary/Infant/Junior Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools - 2017 admission arrangements;**

The oversubscription criteria for Trafford's community and voluntary controlled schools are proposed unchanged from those adopted for the 2015 admissions round. However, a further definition has been added for the process of measuring distance from home to school. This has been included to ensure that all parents can be fully aware how the distance will be measured and defines the points that the measure will be taken from.

ii) **Lostock College - 2017 Admission Arrangements**

The oversubscription criteria for Lostock College are proposed unchanged from those adopted for the 2015 admissions round.

iii) **2017 Community/Voluntary Controlled School PANs**

The LA proposes an increase in PAN at Brooklands Primary School from 2.7 (70 places) forms of entry to 3 forms of entry (90 places). The proposal is made in order to provide sufficient places for children in Sale, especially in those areas where oversubscription is likely. This increase is to be accommodated by the physical expansion of the School.

iv) **Amendment to the Brooklands/Springfield Catchment Area.**

The LA proposes to create a joint corridor between the Brooklands and Springfield catchment areas to allow children in these areas to have priority for the 20 additional places created at Brooklands Primary School. A number of consultees have expressed concern that the number of additional properties included in the proposal is too great and that the pupil yield from these properties will exceed the number of additional places available, so disadvantaging families at the furthest extremes of the current catchment area. After consideration of these comments it is recommended that properties on the two roads furthest away from Brooklands Primary School and closest to Springfield Primary School; Eaton Road and Belgrave Road, and those houses on Hampden Road that lead onto these two roads, a total of 112 properties, be removed from the proposed area. This represents a reduction of almost 1/3 in the number of new properties bringing the total increase in properties to 229. On current pupil yield figures that would produce no more than 7 additional pupils. Using the Springfield catchment area actual pupil yield would produce no more than 9 pupils. This would indicate 11 additional places for families living in the current catchment area.

v) **Scheme for the Delayed Entry of Summer Born Children**

The latest revision of the School Admissions Code, which came into effect on 19th December 2014, makes new provisions allowing the parents of summer born children to apply to an admission authority for delayed entry to the reception cohort.

The parents of a summer born child may now choose not to send that child to school until the September following their fifth birthday and may request that they are admitted out of their normal age group – to reception rather than year 1. Admission authorities **must** make clear in their admission arrangements the process for requesting admission out of the normal age group.

vi) **2017 Co-ordinated Admissions Scheme (Primary)**

The 2017 Primary Co-ordinated Admissions Scheme is proposed unchanged.

vii) **2017 Co-ordinated Admissions Scheme (Secondary)**

The 2017 Secondary Co-ordinated Admissions Scheme is proposed unchanged.

Other Options

- i) Failure to reach a determination on the 2017 admission arrangements by 28th February 2016 would be in contravention of the School Admissions Code and the School Admissions Regulations 2012.

Consultation

The governing bodies or trusts of all Trafford maintained and state funded schools, all Trafford elected members, other LAs and diocesan representatives from the Diocese of Chester, Manchester, Shrewsbury and Salford were advised that consultation would take place between 2nd November 2015 and 31st December 2015 and advised that consultation documents could be viewed on Trafford's website. Notification of the consultation was included in Trafford's weekly update for childcare providers and also through social media channels for both early years providers and parents. An announcement was made in two local newspapers advising "relevant parents" and "other groups with an interest in the local area (for example, community groups)" that consultation papers were available on Trafford's website.

Trafford LA undertook consultation and published documents with regard to the following policies and procedures:

- i) **Trafford Primary/infant/junior Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools - 2017 Admission Arrangements**

No comments were received as a result of the 2017 consultation process. However, further definition has been provided to ensure full compliance with the letter of the School Admissions Code in relation to the distance from home to school following a complaint from a parent in the 2015 admissions round that the previous definition was unclear and, therefore, did not comply with the requirements of the School Admissions Code.

- ii) **Lostock College - 2017 Admission Arrangements**

No comments or objections received.

- iii) **2017 Community/Voluntary Controlled School PANs**

- iv) **Amendment to the Brooklands/Springfield Catchment Area.**

The LA received 1 question in relation to the Scheme for the Delayed Entry of Summer Born Children, regarding the composition and purpose of the Decision Panel.

The LA received 61 comments/objections relating to the increased PAN and the amendment to the Brooklands/Springfield catchment area.

The comments received and the responses provided to each contributing consultee/objector were posted on Trafford's website and are attached to this document.

- v) **Scheme for the Delayed Entry of Summer Born Children**

The Scheme was developed in participation with Primary School Cluster Groups prior to publication. 1 comment was received and a response was provided to the consultee and is attached to this document .

- vi) **2017 Co-ordinated Admissions Scheme (Primary)**

No comments or objections received.

vii) **2017 Co-ordinated Admissions Scheme (Secondary)**

No comments or objections received.

Reasons for Recommendation

The recommendations are made in order:

- a) to enable the admission authority, the LA, to meet its duty to provide sufficient places and to allocate school places within a reasonable distance; and
- b) to meet the requirements of the School Admissions (Admission Arrangements and Co-ordination of Admission Arrangements) (England) Regulations 2012 and the School Admissions Code.

Key Decision (as defined in the Constitution): Yes

If Key Decision, has 28-day notice been given? Yes

Finance Officer Clearance (type in initials) GB

Legal Officer Clearance (type in initials) JLF



[CORPORATE] DIRECTOR'S SIGNATURE (electronic)

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To confirm that the Financial and Legal Implications have been considered and the Executive Member has cleared the report.