

RECORD OF EXECUTIVE DECISION

Monday, 15 March 2010

Decision No: (CAB 09/10 2879)

DECISION-MAKER:	CABINET
PORTFOLIO AREA:	Cabinet Member for Children's Services and Learning
SUBJECT:	Determination of Admission Arrangements for 2011/12 Academic Year
AUTHOR:	Ross Williams

THE DECISION

It is recommended that:

- (i) the responses from the consultation with Southampton Admissions Forum, schools, other relevant admission authorities, Councillors and the C of E and Roman Catholic dioceses be noted;
- (ii) the admissions policies and the published admission numbers (PANs) for community and voluntary controlled schools, the schemes for co-ordinating primary and secondary admissions for the academic year 2011-12, and the scheme for co-ordinating in year admissions from September 2010 as set out in Appendices 1- 6 be approved;
- (iii) The sibling link be recognised equally in applications to infant schools and junior schools as they are in applications for primary schools.
- (iv) The published admission numbers (PAN)s for the following schools be Bassett Green Primary School 60, Mansel Park Primary 60, Glenfield Infant School 90, Moorlands Primary School 60, Kanes Hill Primary School 60 Shirley Warren Primary School 60. for Year R admission in September 2011. These increases in admission numbers provide an extra 150 year R places to accommodate the expected increase in the number of children in the city who will need school places at that time.
- (v) the Executive Director for Children's Services and Learning be authorised to take any action necessary to give effect to the above proposals.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

The matter requires a decision because:-

- (i) It is a statutory requirement that school admissions authorities carry out an annual consultation process before determining and publishing their Admissions policies and arrangements if there are changes from the previous year's arrangements. Admissions policies require approval of the

council to enable the allocation of school places to Southampton pupils and to pupils applying for a place in a Southampton school from outside the city. The principles of Southampton's admissions policies are well established. They seek to fulfil the requirement that they be 'clear, objective and fair' (School Admissions Code, 2009).

(ii) The proposed policies seek to make this process as transparent as possible. In particular, they enable the local authority, schools, and parents:

- (a) to protect the rights of vulnerable children;
- (b) to meet significant medical and psychological needs of individual children;
- (c) to develop, strengthen and support immediate family ties;
- (d) to develop and strengthen links between designated feeder school(s); and
- (e) to have access to clear, objective, and fair criteria that avoid ambiguity in the interpretation of the policy.

DETAILS OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

1. It would be possible to propose different admission arrangements for community and voluntary controlled schools but the arrangements would have to be in accordance with the School Admissions Code.
2. The option of not determining local admission arrangements has been rejected on the basis that it would result in the imposition of admissions arrangements upon local schools by the Secretary of State for Children, Schools and Families. This would remove the opportunity to introduce some of the improvements recommended as set out in paragraphs.

OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DECISION

None.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None.

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE RECORD

We certify that the decision this document records was made in accordance with the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2000 and is a true and accurate record of that decision.

Date: 15th March 2010

Decision Maker:
The Cabinet

Proper Officer:
Judy Cordell

SCRUTINY

Note: This decision will come in to force at the expiry of 5 working days from the date of publication subject to any review under the Council's Scrutiny "Call-In" provisions.

Call-In Period expires on

Date of Call-in *(if applicable) (this suspends implementation)*

Call-in Procedure completed *(if applicable)*

Call-in heard by *(if applicable)*

Results of Call-in *(if applicable)*