

9 March 2015

Agenda Item: 06

**REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, EDUCATION STANDARDS AND  
INCLUSION****NOTTINGHAMSHIRE SCHOOL ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS 2016-2017****Purpose of the report**

1. This report makes recommendation, following statutory consultation, to enable Committee to determine the following, as detailed in **Appendix 1**:
  - arrangements for the admission of pupils to Nottinghamshire community and voluntary controlled schools
  - Nottinghamshire County Council's qualifying scheme (admissions to a relevant age group)
  - Nottinghamshire County Council's in-year coordinated scheme for applications to Nottinghamshire schools outside the normal admission round (in-year admissions)
  - amendment to measuring point for Chuter Ede Primary School to take effect for admissions from September 2016
  - expansion of Sutton Bonington Primary School catchment area to include Redhill Lock to take effect for admissions from September 2016.

**Information and advice**

2. All admission authorities must determine arrangements by 15 April every year, even if there have been no changes from previous years and consultation has not been required.
3. Nottinghamshire County Council, as the local authority, is the admissions authority for community and voluntary controlled schools in Nottinghamshire and is therefore responsible for determining the admission arrangements for these schools.
4. The County Council is also responsible for coordinating admission arrangements for all publicly funded schools in its area. These requirements are described in the School Standards and Framework Act (SSFA) 1998 and the School Admissions Code (SAC) 2014 which are available from the Department for Education website [www.education.gov.uk](http://www.education.gov.uk).
5. A new School Admissions Code came into force on 19 December 2014. This sets out new timelines for consultation which take effect for admission arrangements for 2017-2018 onwards.

6. The County Council continues to operate an in-year coordinated scheme for community and voluntary controlled schools with an option for own admission authority schools to participate.

### **Statutory annual consultation**

7. Where changes to admission arrangements are proposed, all admission authorities must consult for a minimum of eight weeks between 1 November and 1 March in the determination year on the admission arrangements for those schools for which they are responsible (School Admissions Code 2012, paragraph 1.42 – 1.50).
8. Nottinghamshire County Council consulted on 2016-2017 admission arrangements between 1 December 2014 and 31 January 2015.
9. The consultation was available for the full period at:  
[www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/learning/schools/admissions/admissionsconsultation16-17/](http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/learning/schools/admissions/admissionsconsultation16-17/)
10. Information about where to access the consultation was sent in advance to:
  - all community and voluntary controlled schools in Nottinghamshire
  - all own admission authority schools in Nottinghamshire
  - chairs of governing bodies of Nottinghamshire schools (where the chair's email was known to the authority)
  - all neighbouring local authorities
  - diocesan representatives
  - all registered early years providers within Nottinghamshire.
11. In addition, an advert was published in the local press immediately prior to the consultation opening, to notify other persons in the relevant area who have an interest in the proposed arrangements that the document was available.
12. Consultees were invited to respond by completing an online form, emailing or writing to the County Council. All responses received by 31 January 2015 were considered.

### **Additional information (key changes)**

13. The proposal to remove priority for siblings for out of catchment residents was included in response to the expressed views of Members.
14. The consultation document also included (section 4):
  - information to note about Kneesall CE Primary School's request to be linked to Tuxford Academy as well as Dukeries Academy
  - proposal to amend the measuring point for Chuter Ede Primary School
  - proposal to expand Sutton Bonington Primary School catchment area to include Redhill Lock.

## Other options considered

15. No other options were considered.

## Reason/s for recommendation/s

16. To enable the County Council to meet its statutory responsibility to determine Nottinghamshire County Council's admission arrangements by 15 April 2015.

## Statutory and Policy Implications

17. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

## Implications for Service Users

18. Over 25,000 families express a school preference each year. In drawing up these admission arrangements, Nottinghamshire County Council ensures that the practices and the criteria used to decide the allocation of school places are fair, clear and objective.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) That Nottinghamshire County Council determines the proposed admission arrangements for 2016-2017, as detailed in **Appendix 1**, including:
  - published admission numbers as listed in Section 1 of the arrangements
  - admission oversubscription criteria for community and voluntary controlled schools in Section 2
  - Nottinghamshire County Council's coordinated schemes in Section 3.
  - items in Section 4:
    - amendment to measuring point for Chuter Ede Primary School to take effect for admissions from September 2016
    - expansion of Sutton Bonington Primary School catchment area to include Redhill Lock to take effect for admissions from September 2016.

**John Slater**  
**Service Director, Education Standards and Inclusion**

**For any enquiries about this report please contact:**

Mary Kiely,  
Access and admissions strategy team manager  
T: 0115 9774274  
E: [mary.kiely@nottscc.gov.uk](mailto:mary.kiely@nottscc.gov.uk)

**Constitutional Comments (LM 23/02/15)**

19. The Children and Young People's Committee has delegated authority within the Constitution to approve the recommendations in the report.

**Financial Comments (SS 25/02/15)**

20. There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

**Background Papers and Published Documents**

None.

**Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected**

All.

C0587