

SCHOOL PLACEMENT PANEL

MINUTES

16 OCTOBER 2013

- Chairman:** * Councillor Mrs Camilla Bath
- Councillors:** * Raj Ray
- Co-optees:** * Ms L Rowlands – Canons High School
* Mrs A Winstrom – Whitchurch First School

* Denotes Member present

374. Attendance by Reserve Members

RESOLVED: To note that there were no Reserve Members in attendance at this meeting.

375. Declarations of Interest

RESOLVED: To note that the following interests were declared:

Agenda Item 8 – Admission to County Schools

Councillor Mrs Camilla Bath declared a non-pecuniary interest in that she was a governor of Whitchurch First and Nursery School, St George's RC Primary School and Harrow High Academy. She would remain in the room for the consideration of any cases relating to these schools.

Councillor Raj Ray declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a governor of Kingsley Primary School and Shaftesbury High School. He would remain in the room for the consideration of any cases relating to these schools.

Mrs A Winstrom declared a pecuniary interest in that she was Headteacher at Whitchurch First School and Nursery. She would leave the room during the consideration of any cases relating to the school.

376. Minutes

Having noted that the minutes had not been circulated with the agenda, it was

RESOLVED: That consideration of the minutes of the meeting held on 25 September 2013 be deferred to the next meeting.

377. Public Questions, Petitions and Deputations

RESOLVED: To note that no public questions were put, or petitions or deputations received at this meeting.

378. Arrangements for Meetings

The Panel referred to the proposed variation in the School Placement Panel timetable of meetings but were of the view that the two weekly cycle of meetings was appropriate, as set out in the Calendar of Meetings 2013/14. Meetings every three weeks would result in longer meetings and was not practical for Panel members. Having agreed a date for the next meeting it was

RESOLVED: That the next meeting of the School Placement Panel be held on 6 November 2013 at 10.00 am and thereafter meet on a fortnightly basis, as set out below:

Date of Meeting – Start time of 10.00 am
2013
6 November
20 November
4 December
18 December
2014
15 January
29 January
12 February
26 February
12 March
26 March
30 April (NB - one meeting in April)
14 May (NB - one meeting in April, prior to the local election)

379. Exclusion of the Press and Public

RESOLVED: That, in accordance with Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item for the reason set out below:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Reason</u>
8.	Admission to County Schools	Information under paragraph 1 (contains information relating to any individual).

380. Admission to County Schools

In accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985, cases P494-559 were admitted late to the agenda to allow the Panel to allocate an appropriate place to the applicants. It was noted that case numbers P494 – P500, P502-505, P508, P511-513, P516, P529, P531, P534-544, P549, P551-552 and P558-559 had been withdrawn as these pupils had been offered school places prior to the meeting.

A grid which set out the home to school distance for each pupil was circulated at the meeting together with a revised schedule which provided updated information about the number of pupils on roll at the schools being considered. In addition, a number of letters from the head teachers of various schools which set out information about pupil numbers at their schools were circulated to the Panel for consideration.

On 16 October 2013 there were 32 children for whom admissions staff could make no reasonable offer of a school place. The School Placement Panel was requested to recommend to the Corporate Director of Children and Families to authorise the admission of these pupils to a school where no places existed in the relevant year group.

Having declared a pecuniary interest, Mrs A Winstrom, Headteacher at Whitchurch First School and Nursery, left the room during the consideration of cases P517, P528, P530, and P545, as they related to her school.

Resolved to RECOMMEND: (to the Corporate Director of Children and Families)

That offers of admission to schools be made as follows:

	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Year Group</u>	<u>Admitting School</u>
1.	P493	1	Norbury
2.	P501	R	Priestmead
3.	P506	1	Elmgrove
4.	P507	1	Elmgrove

	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Year Group</u>	<u>Admitting School</u>
5.	P509	1	Heathland
6.	P510	1	Roxeth
7.	P514	1	Elmgrove
8.	P515	1	Kenmore Park Infant
9.	P517	1	Camrose
10.	P518	2	Elmgrove
11.	P519	2	Longfield
12.	P520	2	Norbury
13.	P521	2	Heathland
14.	P522	2	Roxbourne
15.	P523	2	Pinner Park Infant
16.	P524	2	Roxbourne
17.	P525	2	Elmgrove
18.	P526	2	Priestmead
19.	P527	2	West Lodge
20.	P528	2	Belmont
21.	P530	2	Camrose
22.	P532	3	Grange
23.	P533	3	Welldon Park Junior
24.	P545	4	Belmont
25.	P546	4	Glebe
26.	P548	5	Elmgrove
27.	P550	5	Longfield
28.	P553	5	Priestmead
29.	P554	5	Belmont
30.	P555	6	Belmont
31.	P556	6	Priestmead
32.	P557	6	Stanburn Junior

381. Meetings with Headteachers

An officer reported that Children's Services had had a meeting with a group of primary headteachers to discuss the various pressures facing schools in relation to school roll numbers. The Chairman was disappointed that she had not been invited to the meeting and requested that she be invited to future meetings. She considered it important that Councillors were present at such meetings.

RESOLVED: That the Chairman be invited to future meetings with headteachers.

(Note: The meeting, having commenced at 10.07 am, closed at 11.00 am).

(Signed) COUNCILLOR MRS CAMILLA BATH
Chairman