

CABINET SPOKESPERSON FOR PEOPLE (ACHIEVING POTENTIAL)

Record of a decision taken on ...13th April 2017.....

Subject

REVIEW OF ARRANGEMENTS FOR RECRUITMENT OF INDEPENDENT APPEAL PANEL MEMBERS

The Council maintains a pool of independent members to constitute Panels to hear school appeals to meet its obligations under Section 94 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998. This gives parents the right to appeal against any decision of the local authority to refuse admission to school.

The term of office for the existing eleven Panel members ends on 31st December, 2017. When the current appointments were made, it was agreed that the terms of the appointments should be reviewed before any new appointments were approved.

The review concludes that a pool of at least 15 members is required to meet the increased volume of appeals, with an increase in the allowance paid per session but removal of the annual retainer fee to keep the arrangements affordable. Approval of these changes is requested, and the report proposes a recruitment exercise for panel members be undertaken, with current panel members able to apply. A further will be required to confirm any appointments.

Key Risks Associated with the Proposed Action

There is a risk that the expertise of the current panel members could be lost, although it is expected that a core of current panel members will remain, who will be able to pass on their experience to the new recruits. Arrangements will also be made for a training programme for all of the panel members. A further risk is that appointments will not be made before the terms of the current panel members expire, although seeking approval now will allow early progress to be made.

Decisions

- (i) That the proposed revision to the remuneration package for Independent Schools Appeal Panel members to increase the attendance allowance from £84 to £100 per full day and £42 to £50 per half day, but remove the £350 retainer, be approved; and
- (ii) That the recruitment of a pool of at least 15 members, on the profile at Appendix B to the report, on a 3 year contract to run from 1st January 2018 be approved, the names of the panel members to be the subject of a further report.

Certification by Executive Director People
Report cleared for consideration by Cabinet Spokesperson



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Signed

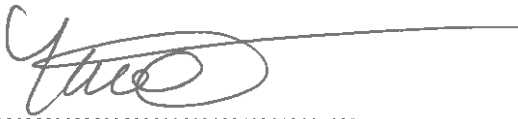
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Date

13 April 2017

Decision/Comments of the Cabinet Spokesperson

(Space to write comments, if any)

Recommendation Approved/~~Not Approved~~* by Cabinet Spokesperson
(*delete as appropriate)

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'C' followed by a series of loops and a long horizontal line extending to the right.

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(Signed) Cabinet Spokesperson