

Report to the Cabinet

Meeting to be held on Thursday, 8 February 2024

Report of the Head of Service - Education Improvement

Part I

Electoral Division affected:
(All Divisions);

Corporate Priorities:
Caring for the vulnerable;
Delivering better services;

Determination of Relevant Area for Consultation on Admission Arrangements for Lancashire Maintained Schools and Academies for Academic Years 2026/27, 2027/28 and 2028/29

(Appendix 'A' refers)

Contact for further information:

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Brief Summary

The report provides details of the consultation within the County of Lancashire, representatives of the local Diocesan Church Education Authorities and the governing bodies of all Lancashire maintained schools, Free Schools and Academies on the establishing of the relevant area for consultation on admission arrangements. Further details are provided at Appendix 'A'.

The Authority proposed no changes, and no responses were received by the Local Authority to this consultation.

This is deemed to be a Key Decision and the requirements of Standing Order C19 have been complied with.

Recommendation

Cabinet is asked to agree that the definition of the relevant areas remains unchanged for the 2026/27, 2027/28 and 2028/29 academic years.



Detail

The School Standards and Framework Act 1998 introduced a statutory requirement for each admission authority in an area to consult widely before determining their admission arrangements. Consultees include all admission authorities in the relevant area. Regulations made under the Act provide that each Local Authority may establish a relevant area or areas, within which the consultation would take place.

The relevant areas established for the previous admissions round were as follows:

- a) The administrative district in which the school is situated;
- b) Any Voluntary Aided, Foundation School, Free School or Academy or neighbouring Local Authority which is outside the administrative district, but which is within three miles for a secondary school or two miles for a primary school.

Relevant areas must be reviewed periodically and a consultation has recently taken place on the areas which should be defined for this purpose for the 2026/27, 2027/28 and 2028/29 admissions.

No responses were received by the Local Authority to this consultation.

Regulations require that each school that is its own admission authority must have a relevant area and that the area should include at least all primary and secondary schools within three miles of a secondary school and all primary schools within two miles of a primary school.

It is recommended that the definition of the County's relevant areas remains unchanged for these school years.

Appendices

Appendix 'A' is attached to this report. For clarification, it is summarised below and referenced at relevant points within this report.

Appendix	Title
Appendix 'A'	Determined Relevant Area for Lancashire Schools – Admission Arrangements - 2026/27; 2027/28 and 2028/29

Consultations

Consultations have been held within the County, representatives of the local Diocesan Church Education Authorities and the governing bodies of all Lancashire maintained schools and Academies.

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:



Risk management

Legal

If the Authority did not determine a relevant area, then it would not be complying with statutory regulations.

Financial

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
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None

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

N/A

