

Report To: Education & Communities
Committee

Date: 12 June 2012

Report By: Corporate Director Education,
Communities & Organisational
Development

Report No: EDUCOM/02/12/AE

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Subject: Admissions and Placing Requests for Primary 1 and Secondary 1
pupils in School Session 2012 / 13

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Committee with information on the decisions agreed by the Pupil Placement Panel relating to Admissions and Placing Requests for school session 2012 / 13 affecting Primary 1 and Secondary 1 pupils.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 The annual exercise has been carried out to identify the number of children from their defined catchment areas who will start Primary 1 and Secondary 1 in August 2012, together with those for whom placing requests were made.
- 2.2 This process consists of determining the allocation of places in accordance with the Council's Admissions and Placing Request Policy together with the policy on class sizes in Primary 1.
- 2.3 The pupil placement panel was set up and comprised the Corporate Director Education, Communities and Organisational Development, Head of Legal and Democratic Services and Head of Property Assets and Facilities Management.
- 2.4 The Head of Inclusive Education, Culture and Corporate Policy made recommendations which were scrutinised by the pupil placement panel.

3.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 That the Committee notes the admissions and placing requests granted for the school session 2012 / 13.

Albert Henderson
Corporate Director
Education, Communities & Organisational Development

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The Admission and Placing Request policy was approved by the Committee in November 2009.
- 4.2 Following the pupil placement exercise, it was determined that all defined catchment pupils could be accommodated in their catchment school.
- 4.3 We received 138 placing requests for primary pupils to attend schools other than their catchment school. 103 placing requests were received for secondary pupils.
- 4.4 After reviewing the impact of the placing requests on Primary Schools, it was determined that all placing requests could be granted.
- 4.5 Following the pupil placement exercise in Secondary Schools, it was concluded that all defined catchment pupils could be accommodated. On consideration of all placing requests, it was identified that 1 school (Notre Dame High School) was over subscribed.
- 4.6 The Council's priorities for placing requests were applied and the result was as follows :

Notre Dame High School

After accommodating all defined catchment area children, there were 22 places available. 35 placing requests were initially received but 1 withdrew. 3 places were allocated to siblings and the remaining 19 were allocated in accordance with distance from the school. The remaining 12 placing requests were refused in accordance with council policy.

- 4.7 The Pupil Placement Panel was convened on 3 April 2012 to scrutinise the recommendations of the Head of Service and to ensure the criteria had been applied appropriately.
- 4.8 The Panel, having considered all recommendations, decided that the criteria had been properly applied and agreed the recommendations made by the Head of Service.
- 4.9 The decisions were intimated to parents in advance of the statutory deadline of 30 April 2012. The parents of those pupils who were refused a place have the option to appeal the decisions to the Education Appeals Committee and, if unsuccessful, to appeal further to the Sheriff.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Finance

There are no financial implications.

5.2 Legal

There are no legal implications.

5.3 Personnel

There are no personnel implications.

5.4 Equalities

Equality is embedded in our Admission and Placing Request policy.

6.0 CONSULTATION

6.1 Consultation has taken place with the Pupil Placement Panel.

7.0 CONCLUSION

7.1 The admissions and placing requests granted for school session 2012/13 are noted by the Committee.