

**NORTH SOMERSET COUNCIL  
DECISION**

**DECISION OF: COUNCILLOR JAN BARBER, EXECUTIVE MEMBER  
FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SERVICES  
WITH ADVICE FROM: SHEILA SMITH, DIRECTOR OF PEOPLE AND  
COMMUNITIES  
DIRECTORATE: PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES**



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**DECISION NO: PC43 2018-19 SCHEME**

**SUBJECT: DECISION SHEET FOR RELEVANT AREA FOR CONSULTATION ON  
ADMISSIONS ARRANGEMENTS 2020-22**

**KEY DECISION: YES**

**BACKGROUND:**

The School Standards and Framework Act 1998, requires each local authority to establish a Relevant Area(s) for admission policy consultations. The Relevant Area is the area in which admission authorities must consult with schools regarding their proposed admission arrangements before finalising them.

There is a legal requirement for the Local Authority to consult on and review its Relevant Area every two years.

**DECISION:**

The *Relevant Area for Consultation on Admissions Arrangements 2020-22* policy is accepted and adopted by the Authority. The Relevant Area for North Somerset Admission Arrangements 2020 – 2022 is the whole council area of North Somerset.

**REASONS:**

Each Local Authority has a duty to establish a Relevant Area(s) for admission policy consultations.

**OPTIONS CONSIDERED:**

It is a legal requirement to set a Relevant Area for Consultation on Admissions Arrangements. The Relevant Area consulted on was the whole of North Somerset. One consultee response suggested establishing multiple, smaller areas for primary admissions. This is a practice that Bristol and Bath and North East Somerset local authorities have adopted. Multiple primary areas within North Somerset were considered, but it is recommended that for ease and transparency, all North Somerset schools and relevant stakeholders are notified of any Admissions Authority consultations. This approach is followed by our other neighbouring authority, Somerset.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

There are no direct financial implications to the council of adopting this policy.

### **Costs**

None.

### **Funding**

None.

## **LEGAL POWERS AND IMPLICATIONS**

Section 5 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998.

## **CONSULTATION**

Details of the proposed Relevant Area for Consultation on Admissions Arrangements 2020-22 have been circulated to the following groups for consultation:

- Head Teachers and Chairs of Governors of all mainstream schools in North Somerset
- Neighbouring Local Authorities
- Every other admissions authority for a school outside of North Somerset that is within a distance of
  - 1.6 kilometres for primary schools
  - 4.8 kilometres for secondary schools
- Local Members of Parliament
- The Diocese of Bath and Wells, the Clifton Diocese and the Methodist Church
- Armed Forces Advice and Support in North Somerset
- The Travellers Advisory Service

Four responses to the consultation were received that are available on request. A summary of the responses is as below:

- Response 1: Supported the proposed policy.
- Response 2: Had concerns that an area outside of North Somerset was not included.
- Response 3: Supported the proposed policy.
- Response 4: Suggested establishing multiple, smaller areas for primary admissions.

## **RISK MANAGEMENT**

The Council is under a statutory duty to set a Relevant Area. A failure to set a Relevant Area would mean the Council would be in breach of Section 5 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998.

## **EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS**

Have you undertaken an Equality Impact Assessment? No.

The legal requirements for setting admissions arrangements have been adhered to.

## **CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS**

The Council has a duty to formulate and publish the Relevant Area for Consultation on Admissions Arrangements.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None.

SIGNATORIES:

DECISION MAKER(S):

Signed: ..... *Angel J BL* .....

Title: Executive Member for Children and  
Young People's Services

Date: ..... 9.11.18 .....

WITH ADVICE FROM:

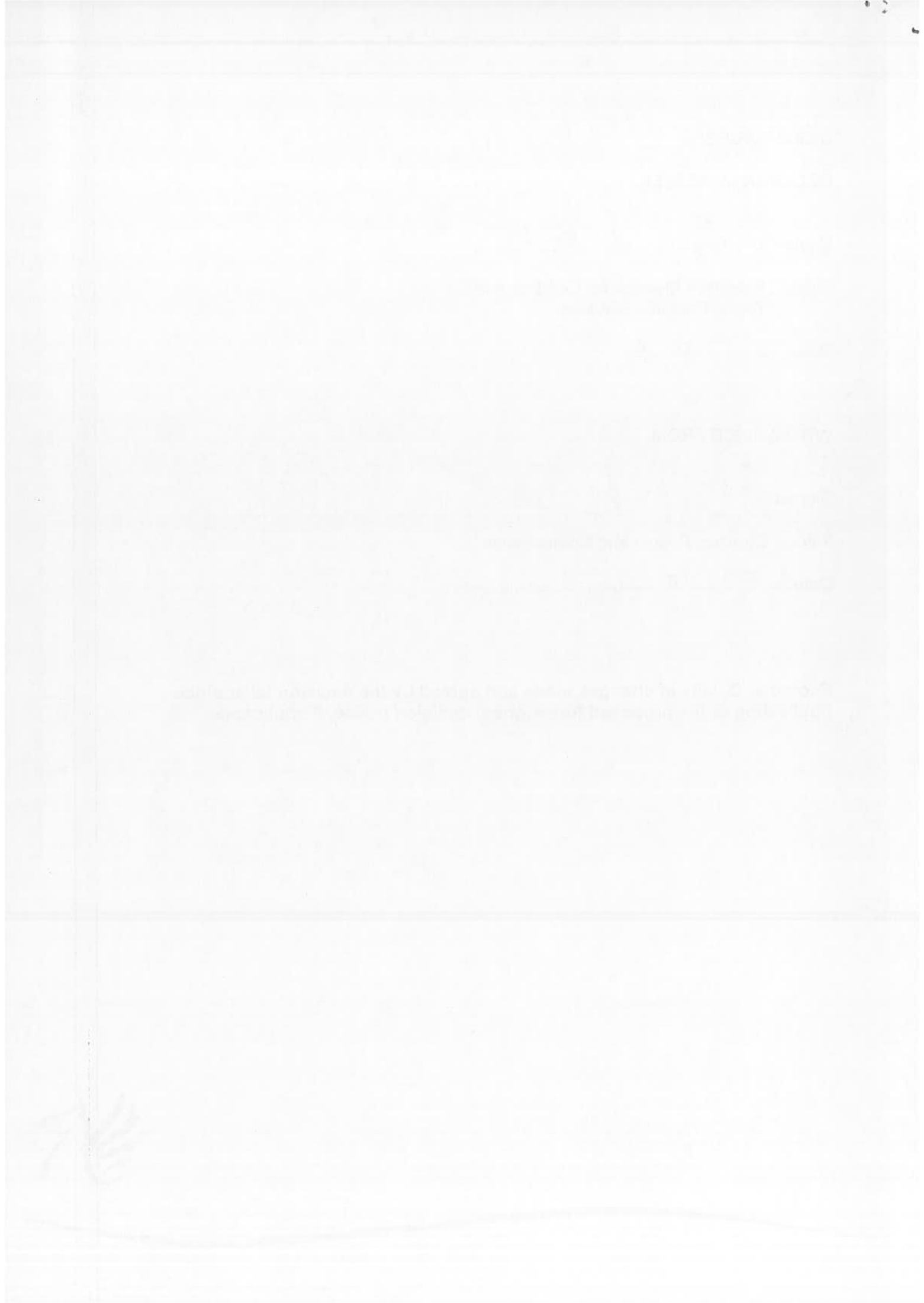
Signed: ..... *Laura Smith* .....

Title: Director, People and Communities

Date: ..... 9.11.18 .....

**Footnote: Details of changes made and agreed by the decision taker since publication of the proposed (pre-signed) decision notice, if applicable:**





The School Standards and Framework Act 1998, requires each local authority to establish a Relevant Area(s) for admission policy consultations. The Relevant Area is the area in which admission authorities must consult with schools regarding their proposed admission arrangements before finalising them.

There is a legal requirement for the Local Authority to consult on and review its Relevant Area every 2 years.

The Relevant Area for the 2020-21 and 2021-22 academic years for all North Somerset Schools, including any schools that may subsequently become academies, is the geographical area of North Somerset Council as indicated in the map below.

