

Single Member Cabinet Decision

**Executive
Forward Plan
Reference**

E3450

Service Level Agreement for School Admission Appeals – Democratic Services

Decision maker/s	Cllr Dine Romero, Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Communities
The Issue	Service Level Agreement for School Admission Appeals – Democratic Services
Decision Date	28th March 2023
The decision	<p>The Cabinet Member agrees that:</p> <p>1.1 The charge for a school admission appeal to be set at £230 per appeal from April 2023 to reflect the cost of living.</p> <p>1.2 The charges outlined in the SLA for the school admission appeal services - as set out in Appendix 1 – will be reviewed annually in light of the UK Consumer Price Index (“CPI”) and amended on an upwards only basis from 1 April 2024 until 31 March 2027.</p>
Rationale for decision	<p>Democratic Services provide a school appeals service for local authority schools (community and voluntary controlled) and those academy, foundation and voluntary aided schools that request it, in accordance with the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 and School Admission Appeals Code 2022. In order to do this, a recharge is made to the Admissions & Transport team who hold the budget for school admission appeals.</p> <p>The SLA provides the framework for the provision of this service outlining the responsibilities of the Admissions & Transport Team and Democratic Services for any appeals arranged for an own admission authority school.</p> <p>In light of the ongoing financial pressures facing the Council, the Service intends to increase its schedule of fees and charges in accordance with CPI from 1 April 2024 and review these annually on an upwards only basis until and including 1 April 2026.</p>
Financial and budget implications	<p>This is an update to charges for existing services; no additional resources are required to implement the recommendations. This review is needed to reflect the cost of the services provided and to support existing revenue budgets.</p> <p>Bath and North East Somerset retains the central budget for school admission appeals so own admission authorities schools are not charged directly for appeals. The budget for appeals sits</p>

	within the council's Education budgets, funded by the Dedicated Schools Grant, and the increase in charge has been budgeted for 2023/24.
Issues considered	Other Legal Considerations
Consultation undertaken	Section 151 Finance Officer; Monitoring Officer and other LAs for benchmarking
How consultation was carried out	Via email
Other options considered	None
Declaration of interest by Cabinet Member(s) for decision:	None
Any conflict of interest declared by anyone who is consulted by a Member taking the decision:	None

Name and Signature of Decision Maker/s	Cllr Dine Romero
Date of Signature	28 th March 2023

Subject to Call-in until 5 Working days have elapsed following publication of the decision