

BRIEFING	TO:	Local Admission Forum
	DATE:	13 February 2025
	LEAD OFFICER:	Sarah Whitby Sarah.whitby@rotherham.gov.uk
	TITLE:	Admission arrangements determination and consultation regarding relevant area
1. Background		
1.1	Admission authorities must set ('determine') admission arrangements annually by 28 February, regardless of whether there has been any consultation or changes proposed.	
1.2	As the admission Authority for Community and Voluntary controlled schools, Rotherham has a responsibility to determine the admission arrangements for these schools.	
2. Key Issues		
2.1	The proposed admission arrangements, detailed at Appendix 1 , were consulted upon between 25 November 2024 and 17 January 2025. This consultation was undertaken in line with the requirements of the School Admission Code as it ran for the required 6 weeks between 1 October and 31 January, was distributed to the consultees specified at 1.47 of the Code in addition to being available on the Council's website and publicised through RMBC social media channels. Consultees were invited to respond via an online survey, hosted on the RMBC webpages. Alongside the online survey the proposed arrangements and a consultation document explaining the proposals being consulted upon were available.	
2.2	Parallel consultation in respect of the 'Relevant Area', <i>The area for a school (determined by its local authority and then reviewed every two years) within which the admission authority for that school must consult all other prescribed schools on its admission arrangements</i> , was also undertaken.	
2.3	The admission arrangements consulted upon proposed no changes to admission arrangements determined in 2024.	
2.4	The consultation in respect of the relevant area proposed no changes, and for this to remain as the whole of Rotherham.	
2.5	14 responses were received to the online consultation and are summarised at Appendix 2 .	
2.6	An additional response was received by Email and detailed an inaccuracy in the dates contained within some of the oversubscription criteria. This has now been amended and the admission arrangements reflect the correct year of entry.	
3. Key Actions and Timelines		

3.1	The Local Admission Forum, as the delegated decision maker, must formally approve and determine the proposed admission arrangements by 28 February 2024.
4. Recommendations	
4.1	That the Local Admissions Forum formally determine the admission arrangements for 2026-27 for community and voluntary controlled schools, as detailed in Appendix 1 .
4.2	That the Local Admission Forum note that the relevant area remains the whole of Rotherham following the period of consultation.