

**Executive Decision
Individual Decision Notice**



Decision Maker: Cabinet, 3 Mar 2021

Classification:
Unrestricted

- **Report on the outcome of public representations received in response to the statutory proposal to close Cherry Trees Special School.**
- **Decision on Closure of Cherry Trees Special School.**

Under the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 – notice is required to be given of the intention to take Executive Key Decisions.

Notice is given either through an Individual Decision Notice or through the Forward Plan. Notice must normally be given 28 Days' before the decision can be taken.

Key Decision? Yes	Ward(s) All Wards
Summary of Decision	<p>This report presents the outcome of the four week period of public representation in response to the statutory notice on the proposal to close Cherry Trees Special School.</p> <p>It recommends for the Mayor in cabinet to consider a decision on whether or not to formally proceed with plans for Cherry Trees Special School to officially close on 31st August 2021</p> <p>The report includes a summary of representations received and any responses made; risk and opportunities; officer's recommendations; decisions available to the Mayor in Cabinet.</p>

Community Plan Theme	TH Plan 1: A better deal for children and young people: aspiration, education and skills
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Children and Schools (Councillor Danny Hassell)
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	<p>Along with the general public, the following stakeholders were invited to make representations: Parents and carers, students, Roman Catholic and Church of England Dioceses, Council of Mosques, Head Teachers, school staff, school governors, neighbouring Local Authorities, the National Education Union. Secretary of State for Education.</p> <p>A stage one consultation was held in the Summer term 2020. This</p>

	was followed by Cabinet on 25 November 2020, agreeing to publish a statutory notice and proposal, for a four week formal consultation between 4 December 2020 and 4 January 2021. During this statutory consultation period all interested stakeholders were invited to send any comments and or objections to the Council. The statutory notice was published at the schools' and on the Council website and advertised in the Docklands & East London Advertiser.
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	YES
Contact details for comments or additional information	Christine McInnes (Divisional Director, Education and Partnerships) christine.mcinnnes@towerhamlets.gov.uk
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statutory Notice • Copies of all representations received in response to the statutory proposal • SEMH Policy • Analysis of feedback from the statutory proposal • Report on support to be provided to school staff • Summary analysis on the current financial position of Cherry Trees Special School • Equalities Assessment (to be updated)
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why (Paragraph number – see notes section)?	No, Unrestricted

NOTES

Advance notice of Key Decisions

Key decisions are all those decisions which involve major spending, or savings, or which have a significant impact on the local community. The precise definition of a key decision adopted by Tower Hamlets is contained in Article 13.03 of the [Constitution](#). Key Decisions are taken by the Mayor, or the Mayor in Cabinet.

Individual notices of new Key Decisions will be published on the website as they are known, whilst a Forward Plan collating these decisions will be published 28 days before each Cabinet meeting. The Forward Plan will be published on the Council's website and will also be available to view at the Town Hall and Libraries, Ideas Centres and One Stop Shops if required. [The Committee pages](#) on the Council website include copies of the Forward Plan, Cabinet and other meeting dates and the publication dates of the Forward Plan.

If, due to reasons of urgency, a Key Decision has to be taken where 28 days' notice have not been given. Notice will be published (including on the website) as early as possible and Urgency Procedures as set out in the Constitution will have to be followed.

The most effective way for the public to make their views known about the issues listed in the Forward Plan is to examine the consultation column of the Forward Plan, and/or contact the report author or Cabinet Lead Member as soon as possible, and no later than 10 working days before the decision is expected to be taken.

Reports, appendices and background papers will be available on the Council's website 5 clear working days before the Cabinet meeting. For all other information or to submit documents in relation to any issue, please contact the relevant officer.

Notice of Intention to Conduct Business in Private

The Council is also required to give at least 28 days' notice if it wishes to consider any of the reports on the agenda of an Executive meeting (such as Cabinet) in private session. The last row of each item below will indicate any proposal to consider that item in private session. Should you wish to make any representations in relation to an item being considered in private please contact Democratic Services on the contact details listed below. Note that this applies to Cabinet but not to Individual Mayoral Decisions outside of Cabinet.

The notice may reference a paragraph of Section 12A of the 1972 Local Government Act. In summary those paragraphs refer to the following types of exempt information (more information is available in the Constitution):

1. Information relating to any individual
2. Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual
3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority handling the information)
4. Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matters arising between the authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under, the authority.
5. Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.
6. Information which reveals that the authority proposes:-
 - a) to give under any enactment a notice under or by virtue of which requirements are imposed on a person; or
 - b) to make an order or direction under any enactment.
7. Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime.

Democratic Services Contact Details:

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