

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

“CALL IN” REQUISITION

WE THE UNDERSIGNED WISH TO “**CALL IN**” FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE OF THE LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS THE PROVISIONAL DECISION (S) OF THE **CABINET** TAKEN ON WEDNESDAY 29 JANUARY 2020 IN RELATION TO THE REPORT SHOWN BELOW:

REPORT TITLE/NO. 6.2 Report on the outcome of public representations received in response to the statutory proposal to close Raines Church of England Foundation School

- Councillor _____ (Sign) _____ (Print)
- Councillor _____ (Sign) _____ (Print)
- Councillor _____ (Sign) _____ (Print)
- Councillor _____ (Sign) _____ (Print)
- Councillor _____ (Sign) _____ (Print)

Decisions relating to education matters can also be “Called In” by 2 Church, Faith or Parent Governor representatives who have been co-opted the Committee.

- Co-opted Member Phillip Rice (Sign) _____ By email _____ (Print)
- Co-opted Member Ahmed Hussain (Sign) _____ By email _____ (Print)

Dated 7 February 2020 _____

*Once completed please return to Matthew Mannion, Head of Democratic Services
Telephone: 020 7364 4651*

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

“CALL IN” REQUISITION

<u>AGENDA ITEM NO.</u>	<u>6.2</u>
<u>REPORT TITLE/ DATE OF CABINET MEETING</u>	Report on the outcome of public representations received in response to the statutory proposal to close Raines Church of England Foundation School
<u>REASONS FOR “CALL IN”</u>	<p>The decision to close Raines School should be reconsidered because the Mayor and Executive have failed to properly consider all of the issues and have not provided full support to the School and its attempts to resolve its issues.</p> <p>When the Interim Executive Board proposed to vary the planned admission numbers for Year 7 on 9th August 2019 (a request rejected by the Schools Adjudicator), this caused an unnecessary detrimental drop off in support at a vital time for the school and in effect pre-determined the decision which has now been made to close the school.</p> <p>A challenge to the schools adjudicator could now result from the Council’s decision.</p> <p>This school has been a key feature of local education provision for hundreds of years and still provides a vital Church of England based education at an excellent location/building for a school.</p> <p>Closing the school in particular means that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• An important historical educational asset is lost – much loved by the community as supported by the parents and trustee’s petition against closure in 2019.• Provision of Church of England based education is reduced below the level needed within the borough.• A valuable and attractive school site will be lost. The facilities for doing year 12 and year 13 science work were of high quality in the 2013 completed modernization costing around £17 million. They will be lost and lie dormant.

<p><u>ALTERNATIVE COURSE OF ACTION PROPOSED</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To determine to keep Raine’s school open until August 2021 with a full Year 7 Admission number to allow for the Trustees to explore all options to keep the school open. Particularly to ask for a more vigorous initiative from all parties to find faith school partnerships that can share the assets. • That Overview and Scrutiny should undertake a review of how the Council supports schools in similar situations and how the process that can lead to closure is managed. • To note that should the decision be confirmed that the school be closed there is a 4-week period where specific individuals/organisations can challenge the decision with the Schools Adjudicator.
<p><u>WITHIN THE COUNCIL’S POLICY OR BUDGET FRAMEWORK - Please indicate</u></p>	<p>The decision does not breach the Budget and Policy Framework.</p>