Response ID ANON-UXHV-86BJ-5

Submitted to Changes to the School Admission Appeals Code
Submitted on 2022-03-24 15:15:00

Your details

1 What is your name?

Name:
Kay Moore

2 What is your email address?

Email:
consultation@nnpcf.org.uk

3 Are you responding as an individual, or as part of an organisation?

Other organisation

Please specify which organisation.:
National Network of Parent Carer Forum

4 If you are responding on behalf of an organisation what is your role?

Please specify:
Policy and Consultation Lead

5 If you are responding as an individual, are you a:

Not Answered

6 Are you happy to be contacted about your response?

Preferred contact method - Telephone:
No

Preferred contact method - Email:
Yes

If yes, please provide your preferred contact telephone number or email (if different to the email given in Q2):

7 How did you hear about this consultation?

GOV.UK

Please specify:

8 Do you wish for your response to remain confidential ?

No

If yes, please provide a reason:

Introduction

Who this is for

About this consultation

Section 1: Constitution of appeal panels - membership

1.1 Do you agree that admission authorities should have flexibility to allow a panel of two to continue hearing and making decisions on appeals in the event the third member has to withdraw either before or part way through an appeal or group of appeals?

Yes

If you disagree or don't know please explain why:

1.2 Do you believe that allowing a panel of two to continue hearing and making decisions on appeals is beneficial and means that appeal hearings can continue without unreasonable delay?

Yes

Please explain your response.:

1.3 In circumstances where a panel member has to withdraw do you believe that the appeal(s) will continue to be heard in a fair and transparent way by the two remaining panel members, even if this means both members are either lay people or people with an education background?

Don't know

Please explain your response. For example, if you disagree can you explain why?:

1.4 Do you believe that this flexibility should only be permitted where either postponing or rearranging the appeal(s) would cause unreasonable delay to the determination of the appeal?

Yes

If you disagree or don't know, please explain why:

1.5 Please provide any further comments on these changes.

Further comments:

Section 2: Attendance and representation

2.1 Do you agree that the Appeals Code should include an option for holding appeals remotely?

Yes

If you disagree or don't know, can you suggest alternative proposals or provide further feedback?:

2.2 Do you believe the following formats allow for a fair and transparent appeal hearing?

Yes/No/Don't know - Face to face:
Yes

Yes/No/Don't know - Remote (telephone):
Don't know

Yes/No/Don't know - Remote (video conference:
Yes

Yes/No/Don't know - Written submission:
Don't know

If you've responded no to any of the above then please explain your reasons:

2.3 Do you agree that admission authorities should make the decision on whether to offer appeal hearings in person, remotely or a choice to attendees of either?

No

If you disagree, who should make the decision?:

The decision made should be made in partnership with the family appealing.

What factors should be taken into account in reaching this decision?:

If the child/young person that the appeal is in respect of has any special educational needs or disabilities.

2.4 Do you agree that appeals should only be considered on the basis of the written evidence submitted where either:a) the presenting officer does not attend and the appeal panel is satisfied that it can resolve the case by using evidence submitted by the admission authority if the appellant will not be disadvantaged in doing so; orb) the appellant fails or is unable to attend and it is impractical to offer an alternative date?

Yes/No/Don't know - a) Presenting officer:
Yes

Yes/No/Don't know - b) Appellant:
Yes

If you disagree or don't know, can you provide further feedback?:

2.5 Do you believe that hybrid appeal hearings should be an option? By 'hybrid' we mean where one or more participants join remotely (by video and/or telephone) and one or more attend in person.

Yes

Please explain your response.:

Our members have told us this has worked well for annual reviews during the pandemic.

2.6 Do you believe that a hybrid appeal hearing can be conducted in a fair and transparent way which enables the appellant and presenting officer an opportunity to present their case?

Yes

Please explain your reason:

Provided the parents are in agreement

2.7 Please provide any further comments on these changes.

Further comments:

Section 3: Minor technical drafting changes

3.1 The purpose of the minor technical drafting changes, as set out in Annex A of the consultation document, is mainly to update references to legislation, Codes and departmental names.

Please provide any comments you have on the proposed changes.:

Section 4: Impact assessments - Public Sector Equality Duty

4.1 Do you have any comments about the potential impact of our proposals on individuals on the basis of their protected characteristics?

Please provide any comments you have.:

Section 4: Impact assessments - New Burdens Assessment

4.2 (for local authorities) Do you believe the proposed Appeals Code will result in any new operational burdens for local authorities?

Not Answered

If yes, please explain why and what these burdens may be.:

4.3 (for local authorities) Do you believe the proposed Code will result in any new costs for local authorities?

Not Answered

If yes, please explain why and what estimation can be made of these additional costs. This may include, for example: organisational, staffing, venue and technology.:

4.4 (for local authorities) Do you believe the proposed Code will result in any reduced operational burdens for local authorities?

Not Answered

If yes, please explain why and what burdens will be reduced.:

4.5 (for local authorities) Do you believe the proposed Appeals Code will result in any savings for local authorities?

Not Answered

If yes, please explain why and what estimation can be made of these additional savings. This may include, for example: organisational, staffing, venue and technology.:

4.6 (for schools) Do you believe the proposed Appeals Code will result in any new operational burdens for schools?

Not Answered

If yes, please explain why and what these burdens may be.:

4.7 (for schools) Do you believe the proposed Appeals Code will result in any new costs for schools?

Not Answered

If yes, please explain why and what estimation can be made of these additional costs. This may include, for example: organisational, staffing, venue and technology.:

4.8 (for schools) Do you believe the proposed Appeals Code will result in any reduced operational burdens for schools?

Not Answered

If yes, please explain why and what burdens will be reduced.:

4.9 (for schools) Do you believe the proposed Appeals Code will result in any savings for schools?

Not Answered

If yes, please explain why and what estimation can be made of these additional savings. This may include, for example: organisational, staffing, venue and technology.: