



**GUY EVANS** 

Social Media Officer,
Birmingham City Council



LAURA HENDRY

Stakeholder Engagement and Communications Manager,
Birmingham City Council

#GranicusSummitUK

### **Birmingham City Council**

## Communications & Customer Services work smart for school admissions

Guy Evans and Laura Hendry

@aguyinbrum @hendry\_laura



## Session plan

- Issue we were looking to address
- Use of email to address that problem
- Evaluation
- Improvements introduced for 2018 and the impact
- Progress so far for 2019 admissions



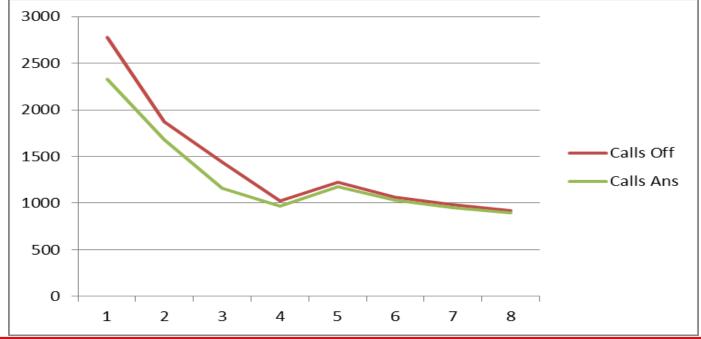
## The issue

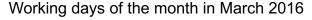
- Scale of Birmingham
- School Admissions offers
- Resources in the contact centre
- Unnecessary calls
- Reputational damage



### The issue

(Days after secondary school offer day in 2016)







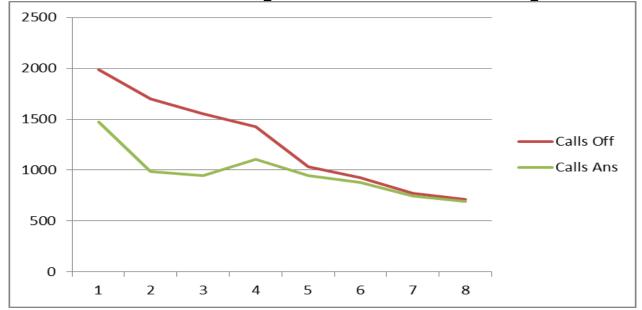
## How we addressed the issue

- Analysis of categories of calls
- Newsletter
- Web content
- GovDelivery email
- Interactive voice response (IVR) in the contact centre



## **Impact**

(Days after secondary school offer day in 2017)



Working days of the month in March 2017



## Building on our success: Improvements for 2018

- Work to increase the number of applications submitted online (98.1%)
- Improved communication with schools in the build up
- Further improvements to the web content and IVR
- Social media



# GovDelivery email for secondary offer day 2018

- Issued on 23 February 2018 (offer day 1 March 2018)
- 14,107 recipients
- 99% delivery success rate
- 65% open rate





#### 

A laura hendry | 27 Feb 2018 | 18:01

Waiting for your child's secondary school offer on Thursday? Please make sure you've read the information at http://socsi.in/C2Dbu which explains when offer emails will be sent and how to accept your offer.

















#### f Birmingham City Council

@birminghamcitycouncil

A laura hendry | 27 Feb 2018 | 18:01

Waiting for your child's secondary school offer on Thursday? Please make sure you've read the information at http://socsi.in/21LJr which explains when offer emails will be sent and how to accept your offer.

















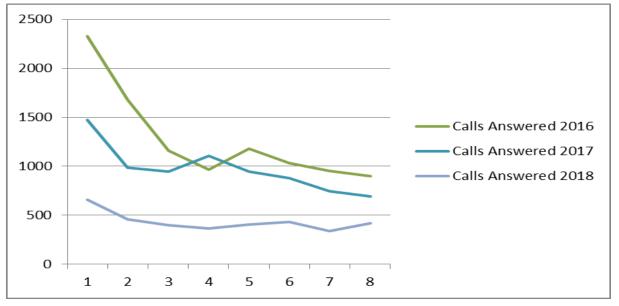


TOTAL REACH



## Improved impact in 2018

(2016 / 2017 / 2018)



Working days of the month in March



## Progress so far for 2019

- Applications stage for primary and secondary places for September 2019
- Full review of web pages
- Improved social media activity
- Newsletter will also be shared with other key stakeholders (eg councillors)



## If you take one thing away...

Don't underestimate the impact of simple comms.



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