

SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL

Admissions Committee

Meeting held 14 August 2013

PRESENT: Councillors Chris Rosling-Josephs, Talib Hussain, Andrew Sangar, Nikki Sharpe (Chair) and Clive Skelton

.....

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

1.1 There were no apologies for absence.

2. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

2.1 RESOLVED: That the public and press be excluded from the meeting before discussion takes place on item 4 on the grounds that, if the public and press were present during the transaction of such business, there would be a disclosure to them of exempt information described in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, as amended.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

3.1 There were no declarations of interest.

4. HOME TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT APPEALS

4.1 Further to the decision of the Cabinet at its meeting held on 19th June 2013, regarding the phased withdrawal of all discretionary free bus passes to denominational schools with effect from September, 2013, the Interim Executive Director, Children, Young People and Families, submitted reports and commented upon 14 cases where parents had appealed against the administrative decisions made by the Interim Executive Director with regard to the refusal to grant home to school travel bus passes.

4.2 The Committee gave consideration to all the supporting information and evidence provided by the pupils' parents including parental wishes regarding religion or belief and, in some cases, evidence and advice provided by voluntary or professional bodies and organisations and, arising therefrom, it was:-

4.3 RESOLVED: That (a) 12 appeals be not upheld on the grounds that there are no exceptional circumstances demonstrated and, having regard to the Council's recently revised Home to School Transport Policy, the schools that 13 of the pupils are requesting passes for are not their catchment school/nearest suitable school (Case Nos.STTH1, ALL1 ,ALL2, ALL3, ALL4, ALL5, NOT1, NOT2, NOT3, NOT4, NOT5, NOT6 and NOT7); and

(b) consideration of the remaining two appeals be deferred to enable the Interim Executive Director, Children, Young People and Families to make further investigations into the cases, along the lines now requested, and authority be

given to the Interim Executive Director, in consultation with the Chair of the Committee, to determine the appeals (Case Nos.SCCP1 and ALL2).