

SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL

Admissions Committee

Meeting held 18 September 2013

PRESENT: Councillors Chris Rosling-Josephs (Chair), Talib Hussain, Martin Lawton, Ian Saunders and Clive Skelton

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1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- 1.1 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Andrew Sangar and Nikki Sharpe.

2. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

- 2.1 RESOLVED: That the public and press be excluded from the meeting before discussion takes place on items 6 and 7 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. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- 4.1 The minutes of meetings of the Committee held on 17th July and 14th and 19th August, 2013 were approved as a correct record.

5. ACTION TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED POWERS

- 5.1 The Committee noted that, since its last meeting, no decisions had been made by the Interim Executive Director, Children, Young People and Families, in consultation with the Chair of the Committee, under powers delegated to her with regard to home to school transport or school admissions.

6. HOME TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT APPEALS

- 6.1 The Interim Executive Director, Children, Young People and Families, submitted reports and commented upon five 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.
- 6.2 The Committee gave consideration to all the supporting information and evidence provided by the pupils' parents including, in some cases, evidence and advice provided by voluntary or professional bodies and organisations and, arising therefrom, it was:-

6.3 RESOLVED: That (a) three appeals be not upheld on the grounds that there are no exceptional circumstances demonstrated and, having regard to the Council's Home to School Transport Policy (i) the school that one of the pupils is requesting a pass for is not their catchment school and the Special Educational Needs (SEN) Team be requested to follow up the case and decide if there are any special educational needs as to warrant a further right of appeal, (ii) the distance from the home address of one of the pupils to the school for which they are requesting a pass for is less than the distance in the criteria (Case No. MEAD1) and (iii) the school that one of the pupils is requesting a pass for is not their catchment school/nearest suitable school (Case No. NOT1); and

(b) two appeals be upheld on the grounds that there are either exceptional educational, financial, medical or family circumstances in both cases (Case Nos. ALL2Def and SCCP1) with the pass in Case No. SCCP1 being granted, subject to the family being in receipt of free school meals.

7. SCHOOL ADMISSION REQUESTS - PRIMARY SCHOOL PLACES

7.1 Request for Further Statutory Appeal Hearing

7.1.1 The Interim Executive Director, Children, Young People and Families, submitted a report and commented upon a case where parents had made a request for a further statutory appeal hearing on the grounds of further medical information received and, arising therefrom, it was:-

7.1.2 RESOLVED: That upon consideration of the case, and with due regard to the additional information now submitted, the request for a further statutory appeal hearing be granted on the grounds that the Committee considers that there has been a material change in the family's medical circumstances (Case No. B1).

(NOTE: A request for early entry into the Reception Year Group 2013/14 was withdrawn from consideration by the Committee at the request of the pupil's parents).

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

8.1 It was noted that the next meeting of the Committee will be held on Wednesday, 16th October, 2013 at 1.00 p.m. at Howden House.