

SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL

Admissions Committee

Meeting held 14 May 2014

PRESENT: Councillors Talib Hussain, Ian Saunders and Clive Skelton

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1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

- 1.1 RESOLVED: That in the absence of the Chair of the Committee (Councillor Chris Rosling-Josephs), Councillor Ian Saunders be appointed Chair of the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- 2.1 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Martin Lawton and Andrew Sangar.

3. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

- 3.1 RESOLVED: That the public and press be excluded from the meeting before discussion takes place on items 7 and 8 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.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- 4.1 There were no declarations of interest.

5. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

- 5.1 The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 16th April 2014, were approved as a correct record.

6. ACTION TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED POWERS

- 6.1 The Committee noted that, since its last meeting, no decisions had been made by the 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.

7. HOME TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT APPEALS

7.1 Discretionary Home to School Transport (Medical Grounds)

- 7.1.1 The Executive Director, Children, Young People and Families, submitted a report and commented upon a case where parents had appealed against the administrative decision made by the Executive Director with regard to the refusal to grant discretionary home to school transport, based on the medical needs of

their child, and arising therefrom, it was:-

- 7.1.2 RESOLVED: That the appeal be not upheld on the grounds that the Committee considers that (a) the pupil's medical circumstances are not exceptional as to warrant the award of discretionary transport from the home address to the school now mentioned and (b) as the family were in receipt of the higher rate mobility allowance, this would cover the cost of the provision of the transport.

7.2 Home to School Travel Bus Passes

- 7.2.1 The Executive Director, Children, Young People and Families, submitted reports and commented upon two cases where parents had appealed against the administrative decisions made by the Executive Director with regard to the refusal to grant home to school travel bus passes.

- 7.2.2 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:-

- 7.2.3 RESOLVED: That (a) one appeal be upheld on the grounds that there are exceptional social circumstances in the case (Case No. C/F1); and

(b) consideration of the remaining appeal be deferred to enable the Executive Director to seek further information on the case, specifically relating to the establishments attended by the pupil and the pupil's family's financial circumstances (Case No. CHA1).

(NOTE: The appeal in Case No. PW/AC1 was withdrawn from consideration by the Committee, at the request of the pupil's parents.)

8. **PRIMARY SCHOOL PLACE - REQUEST TO CONSIDER A CHANGE OF CIRCUMSTANCES**

- 8.1 The Executive Director, Children, Young People and Families, submitted a report and commented upon a case where parents had made a request for the Committee to consider a change in the family's circumstances, in connection with their request for a place at their preferred school and, arising therefrom, it was:-

- 8.2 RESOLVED: That upon consideration of the case, and with due regard to the additional information now submitted, the Committee considers that there has been a material change in the family's circumstances and therefore, authorises the Executive Director to process a new application in this case (Case No. HG1).

(NOTE: In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 26 of the Council's Constitution and the provisions of Section 100B(4)(b) of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985, the Chair decided that the above request be considered as a matter of urgency in order for the request to be considered at the earliest possible opportunity and, to allow for arrangements to be made for the

appeal to be heard by the Education Appeal Panel, although it had not been possible to give five clear days' notice that the request was to be considered.)