

Admissions Committee

Meeting held 18 April 2018

PRESENT: Councillors Talib Hussain, Andy Nash, Chris Peace and Andrew Sangar

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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 Chris Peace be appointed Chair of the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2.1 An apology for absence was received from the Chair of the Committee (Councillor Chris Rosling-Josephs).

3. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

3.1 RESOLVED: That the public and press be excluded from the meeting before discussion takes place on item 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.

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 21st March, 2018 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, People Services, 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 Verbal Appeal

7.1.1 In attendance was the appellant and Andy Tierney (Customer Services).

7.1.2 The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked attendees to introduce

themselves. She then outlined the procedure which would be followed during the meeting.

- 7.1.3 The Executive Director, People Services, submitted a report and commented upon a case where the parent had appealed against the administrative decision made by the Executive Director with regard to the refusal to grant a home to school travel bus pass (Case No.MA01).
- 7.1.4 The appellant explained to the Committee the reasons for the request for the travel pass.
- 7.1.5 In response to questions from Members, the appellant stated that, whilst she accepted that many of the local schools were oversubscribed, she would like for both her school age children to attend the same school. The Committee were informed that the older sibling had been granted a bus pass in error in 2017-18 and that the appellant had applied for a mid-term transfer so that both children could attend the same school, but the transfer request had been withdrawn and not renewed for the current academic year. The Committee were further informed that for September 2018, places were available for both children to attend a local school, but the appellant had not applied for these places.
- 7.1.6 At this stage in the proceedings, the appellant left the meeting to enable the Committee to consider the evidence.
- 7.1.7 RESOLVED: That the appeal be upheld on the grounds that there are exceptional educational and family circumstances in the case (Case No.MA01).

7.2 Written Appeals

- 7.2.1 The Executive Director, People Services, 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 and, arising therefrom, it was:-
- 7.2.3 RESOLVED: That (a) one appeal be not upheld on the grounds that there were no exceptional circumstances demonstrated, and having regard to the Council's Home to School Transport Policy, the school that the pupil was requesting a pass for, was not their catchment school/nearest suitable schools (Case No.ST01); and
- (b) one case be upheld on the grounds that there are exceptional medical circumstances in the case (Case No. FO1).

8. **COUNCILLOR ANDY NASH**

- 8.1 The Chair expressed her thanks on behalf of the Committee for all the hard work and support Councillor Andy Nash, who was not seeking re-election at the forthcoming Municipal Elections and was attending his last meeting, had given to

the Committee and wished him well for the future.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- 9.1 It was noted that the next meeting of the Committee will be held on a date to be arranged.

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