

Admissions Committee

Meeting held 11 February 2020

PRESENT: Councillors Chris Rosling-Josephs (Chair), Peter Garbutt and Talib Hussain

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1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

1.1 Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Vic Bowden, Mike Levery and Sioned-Mair Richards.

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 7 on the agenda (Item 6 of these minutes), 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 declaration of interest.

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

4.1 The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 21st January, 2020 were approved as a correct record.

5. ACTION TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED POWERS

5.1 The Committee noted that, since its last meeting, and following receipt of further evidence that had been requested from the appellants in respect of two cases, the Executive Director, People Services, in consultation with the Chair of the Committee, under powers delegated to him with regard to Home to School Transport Appeals, had agreed to grant home to school travel passes in both cases (Case Nos. AL/SA02 and AL/SA03).

6. SCHOOL ADMISSION REQUESTS - PRIMARY SCHOOL PLACES

6.1 The Executive Director, People Services, submitted reports and commented upon 37 cases where parents had expressed a wish for their children to be admitted to primary schools of their choice. The Executive Director stated that places in primary schools had been identified by the City Council, in accordance with the published admission criteria, and it had been agreed that the Executive Director would provisionally allocate places at those schools where there were places

available, up to the standard number/admission limit. The Committee was requested to consider prioritising the pupils on waiting lists, within their respective categories, for admission if and when places become available.

6.2 The committee were informed that one case had been withdrawn, as the place had been allocated (Case No.F21).

6.3 The Committee gave consideration to all the supporting evidence and information 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) 14 pupils be not prioritised on the waiting lists, within their respective categories, on the grounds that the Committee considers that there are no exceptional educational, financial, medical or family circumstances demonstrated (Case Nos. F2, F3, F5, F6, F8, F10, F12, F15, F16, F23, F25, F26, F31 and F36);

(b) seven pupils be prioritised at the top of the waiting list in the 'catchment' category on the grounds that there are exceptional family and/or medical circumstances (Case Nos. F9, F11A, F13, F14, F17, F18 and F33);

(c) five pupils be prioritised at the top of the waiting list in the 'sibling' category on the grounds that there are exceptional medical and/or family circumstances (Case Nos. F1, F22, F27, F34 and F35); and

(d) 10 pupils be prioritised at the top of the waiting list in the 'non-catchment' category on the grounds that there are exceptional family, medical and/or social circumstances (Case Nos. F4, F7, F11, F19, F20, F21A, F24, F28, F29 and F30).

(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 Case Nos. FT1 and FT2 be considered as matters of urgency in order for the requests to be considered at the earliest possible opportunity although it had not been possible to give five clear days' notice that the requests were to be considered.)

7. COUNCILLOR MICHELLE COOK

7.1 The Chair expressed his thanks on behalf of the Committee for all the hard work and support Councillor Michelle Cook, who had recently resigned from the City Council, had given to the Committee and wished her well for the future.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

8.1 It was noted that the next meeting of the Committee would be held on Tuesday, 17th March, 2020 at 2.00 p.m., in the Town Hall.