

SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL

Admissions Committee

Meeting held 11 June 2020

(NOTE: This meeting was held as a remote meeting in accordance with the provisions of The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020).

PRESENT: Councillors Chris Rosling-Josephs (Chair), Vic Bowden, Talib Hussain, Mike Levery and Sioned-Mair Richards

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1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

1.1 An apology for absence was received from Councillor Peter Garbutt.

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 5 on the agenda, 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. ACTION TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED POWERS

4.1 The Committee noted that, since its last meeting, and following receipt of further evidence that had been requested from the appellants in respect of 12 cases with regard to Primary School Admissions, and one case relating to a Home to School Transport Appeal, the Executive Director, People Services, in consultation with the Chair of the Committee, under powers delegated to him had determined that:-

- (a) two pupils be prioritised within their admissions category of “non-catchment” prior to the allocation of places, on the grounds that there are exceptional family circumstances (Case Nos. M20 and M3);
- (b) eight pupils be not prioritised prior to the allocation of places as no exceptional circumstances were demonstrated (Case Nos. M1, M23, M8, M16, M17, M22, MB1 and HB1);
- (c) one pupil be prioritised on the top of the respective waiting list

in the “sibling” category on the grounds that there are exceptional family circumstances (Case NE1);

- (d) one pupil be not prioritised on the non-catchment waiting list as there were no exceptional circumstances demonstrated (BE1);
- (e) information submitted by the parents of two pupils be considered by the Admissions Committee at a subsequent meeting, where the Committee will decide whether to authorise a fresh application and waiting list prioritisation; and
- (f) the home to school travel pass be granted (Case No. S/D03).

5. SCHOOL ADMISSION REQUESTS - PRIMARY SCHOOL PLACES

- 5.1 The Executive Director, People Services, submitted reports and commented upon two cases (B1 and B2) where parents had expressed a wish for their child to be admitted to a primary school of their choice. The Executive Director stated that places at the primary school had been allocated on the 16th April national allocation date by the City Council, in accordance with the published admission criteria.
- 5.2 The Committee gave consideration to all the supporting evidence and information provided by the pupils’ parents, including medical evidence. The Committee was asked to consider whether there were any significant and material changes in the circumstances of the families, since the original applications were made, to authorise that a fresh application be made, which would allow a fresh right of appeal for the school and also, based on the information provided, to prioritise on the waiting list for the School, and, arising therefrom, it was:-
- 5.3 **RESOLVED:** That upon consideration of the cases, and with due regard to the additional information now submitted, the Committee considers that there has not been material changes in the families’ circumstances in the cases (Case Nos. B1 and B2) and therefore (a) refuses to grant fresh applications and (b) determines that the pupils be not prioritised on the waiting lists, within the non-catchment category, on the grounds that the Committee did not consider that there was compelling evidence to place the pupils above other children in their admission category.

6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

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