

Admissions Committee

Meeting held 19 January 2023

PRESENT: Councillors Vic Bowden (Chair) and Ann Whitaker

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- 1.1 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Maleiki Haybe, Karen McGowan, Safiya Saeed and Gail Smith.
- 1.2 In the light of the meeting being inquorate, the meeting was adjourned by the Chair, to be reconvened on Monday, 23rd January, 2023 at 2.00 p.m.

RECONVENED MEETING – 23RD JANUARY, 2023

PRESENT: Councillors Vic Bowden (Chair), Karen McGowan and Ann Whitaker.

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 7 and 8 on the agenda (item 6 and 7 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 declarations of interest.

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

- 4.1 The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 15th December, 2022, 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 Director of Children's Services, in consultation with the Chair of the Committee, under powers delegated to him with regard to home to school transport or school admissions.

6. SCHOOL ADMISSION REQUESTS - PRIMARY SCHOOL PLACES

- 6.1 RESOLVED: That the Primary Admission Requests submitted to the meeting on 19th January, 2023, be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee to be held in February, 2023.

7. SCHOOL ADMISSION REQUESTS - SECONDARY SCHOOL PLACES

- 7.1 The Director of Children's Services submitted reports and commented upon 27 cases where parents had expressed a wish for their children to be admitted to secondary schools of their choice. The Director stated that places in secondary schools had been identified by the City Council, in accordance with the published admission criteria, and it had been agreed that the 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.

- 7.2 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:-

- 7.3 RESOLVED: That (a) one pupil be not prioritised on the waiting list, within their respective category, on the grounds that the Committee considers that there are no exceptional educational, financial, medical or family circumstances demonstrated (Case No. 14);

(b) two pupils be prioritised at the top of the waiting list in the 'catchment with sibling' category on the grounds that there are exceptional medical and/or family circumstances (Case Nos.8 and 11);

(c) 11 pupils be prioritised at the top of the waiting list in the 'catchment' category on the grounds that there are exceptional medical and/or family circumstances (Case Nos. 1, 2, 3, 9, 10, 13, 16, 21, 23, 25 and 27);

(d) one pupil 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 No. 19);

(e) eight pupils be prioritised at the top of the waiting list in the 'feeder' category on the grounds that there are exceptional medical and/or family circumstances (Case Nos. 4, 5, 7, 12, 15, 17, 18 and 26); and

(f) four pupils be prioritised at the top of the waiting list in the 'other' category on the grounds that there are exceptional medical and/or family circumstances (Case Nos. 6, 20, 22 and 24).

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- 8.1 It was noted that the next meeting of the Committee would be held on Thursday, 16th February, 2023, at 2.00 p.m., in the Town Hall.

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