

Admissions Committee

Meeting held 19 December 2012

PRESENT: Councillors Chris Rosling-Josephs (Chair), Martin Lawton and Clive Skelton

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1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

1.1 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Talib Hussain and Nikki Sharpe.

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 5 and 6 on the grounds that they contain 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 21st November 2012, were approved as a correct record and, arising therefrom, it was noted that following further investigations by the Interim Executive Director, Children, Young People and Families, a home to school travel pass had been awarded to the pupil in Case No. Hat1.

5. ACTION TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED POWERS

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

6. HOME TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT APPEALS

6.1 The Interim Executive Director, Children, Young People and Families, submitted reports and commented upon 28 cases where parents had appealed against the administrative decisions made by the Interim Executive Director with regard to the refusal to grant home to school travel bus passes.

6.2 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:-

6.3 RESOLVED: That (a) six appeals be upheld on the grounds that there are either exceptional educational, financial, medical or family circumstances in the cases (Case Nos. St.TN1, St.TN2, CH1, FO1, Kec1 and NF1), with the appeals in Case Nos. St.TN1 and St.TN2 being subject to the pupils being in receipt of free school meals; and

(b) 22 appeals be not upheld on the grounds that there are no exceptional circumstances demonstrated and, having regard to the Council's Home to School Transport Policy, (i) the distance from the home addresses of nine pupils to the schools for which they are requesting passes for is less than the distance in the criteria (Case Nos. Hil1, Huck1, Huck2, Huck3, St.Ca1, St.Ca2, FP1, Ked1 and WF1), (ii) the schools that five of the pupils are requesting passes for are not their catchment school/nearest suitable school (Case Nos. Ath1, Ath2, Ath3, Ath4 and Be1), and (iii) eight of the pupils do not attend one of their three nearest qualifying schools (Case Nos. HC1, HG1, HG2, HG3, HH1, HS1, HS2 and Ked2).

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

7.1 It was noted that the next meeting of the Committee would be held on Wednesday, 16th January 2013, at 1.00 pm at Howden House.