

Admissions Committee

Meeting held 15 October 2014

PRESENT: Councillors Chris Rosling-Josephs (Chair), Olivia Blake, Andrew Sangar and Ian Saunders

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1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

1.1 An apology for absence was received from Councillor Pauline Andrews.

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 6 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 17th September, 2014, 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 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 Executive Director, Children, Young People and Families, submitted reports and commented upon 11 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.

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 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 school that one of the pupils is requesting a pass for is not their catchment school/nearest suitable school (Case No. KIED1); (ii) the distance from the home address of four of the pupils to the school for which they are requesting a pass for is less than the distance in the criteria (Case Nos. ANGR1, ANGR2, HG3 and TAP1) and (iii) one of the pupils does not attend one of their three nearest qualifying schools (Case No. HG1);

(b) four appeals be upheld on the grounds that there are either exceptional educational, financial, medical or family circumstances in the cases (Case Nos.HG2, KIED2, AS1 and HS1) and

(c) consideration of the remaining appeal be deferred to enable the Executive Director to seek further information, specifically relating to the provision of any supporting medical evidence in the case (Case No.BF1).

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

7.1 It was noted that the next meeting of the Committee will be held on Wednesday, 19th November, 2014 at 1.00 p.m. at Howden House.