SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL

Admissions Committee

Meeting held 17 June 2015

PRESENT: Councillors Sioned-Mair Richards (Chair), Anne Murphy, Andrew Sangar and Ian Saunders

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1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

1.1 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Nasima Akther and Chris Peace.

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 6 and 7 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 13th May, 2015 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 five 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) three 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, the schools that the pupils are requesting passes for are not their catchment schools/nearest suitable schools (Case Nos. ST/JO1, ST/JO2 and ST/JO3); and

(b) two appeals be upheld on the grounds that there are exceptional educational circumstances in the cases (Case Nos. PW/AC1 and PW/AC2).

7. SCHOOL ADMISSION REQUESTS - SECONDARY SCHOOL PLACES -REQUESTS TO CONSIDER CHANGE OF CIRCUMSTANCES

- 7.1 The Executive Director, Children, Young People and Families, submitted reports and commented upon two cases where parents had made requests for the Committee to consider changes in the families' circumstances, in connection with their requests for places at their preferred schools and, arising therefrom, it was:-
- 7.2 RESOLVED: That upon consideration of the cases, and with due regard to the additional information now submitted, the Committee considers that (a) there has been a material change in the family's circumstances in Case No. HS1 and therefore authorises the Executive Director to process a new application in this case and (b) there has not been a material change in the family's circumstances in Case No. FV1 and therefore authority be not given for a new application to be processed in this case.

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.HS1 and FV1) 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).

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

8.1 It was noted that the next meeting of the Committee will be held on Wednesday, 15th July, 2015, at 1.00 pm, in the Town Hall.