

Admissions Committee

Meeting held 21 March 2018

**PRESENT:** Councillors Chris Rosling-Josephs (Chair), Craig Gamble Pugh, Talib Hussain, Andy Nash and Andrew Sangar

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**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

1.1 An apology for absence was received from Councillor 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 In Item 6 (Primary Admissions Requests), Councillor Andy Nash declared a personal interest in Case No. M2 and chose not speak or vote on the case.

**4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

4.1 The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 21<sup>st</sup> February, 2018 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, People Services, in consultation with the Chair of the Committee, under powers delegated to her with regard to home to school transport or school admissions.

**6. SCHOOL ADMISSION REQUESTS - PRIMARY SCHOOL PLACES**

6.1 The Executive Director, People Services, submitted reports and commented upon eight cases where parents had expressed a wish for their children to be admitted to primary schools of their choice. The Executive Director stated that places in primary schools had been identified by the City Council, in accordance with the published admission criteria, and it had been agreed that the Executive 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.

6.2 The Committee gave consideration to all the supporting evidence and information provided by the pupils' parents including, in all eight cases, evidence and advice provided by voluntary or professional bodies and organisations and, arising therefrom, it was:-

6.3 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. M16);

(b) one pupil be prioritised fourth place on the waiting list in the 'catchment' category on the grounds that there are exceptional medical circumstances (Case Nos. M11);

(c) one pupil be prioritised second place on the waiting list in the 'sibling' category on the grounds that there are exceptional family and medical circumstances (Case No. M2);

(d) one pupil be prioritised second place on the waiting list in the 'non-catchment' category on the grounds that there are exceptional family and medical circumstances (Case No.18); and

(e) four pupils be prioritised on the waiting list in the 'non-catchment' category on the grounds that there are exceptional family and medical circumstances (Case Nos. M8, M14, M15 and M17).

(NOTE: 1. 10 cases (Case Nos. M1, M3, M4, M5, M6, M7, M9, M10, M12 and M13) had been withdrawn from consideration prior to the meeting; and

2. 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. M15, M16, M17 and M18) 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.)

## **7. SCHOOL ADMISSION REQUESTS - SECONDARY SCHOOL PLACES**

7.1 The Executive Director, People Services, submitted a report and commented upon a case where parents had expressed a wish for their child to be admitted to a secondary school of their choice. The Executive 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 Executive 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 pupil on waiting lists, within her respective category, for admission if and when places become available.

7.2 The Committee gave consideration to information provided by the pupil's parents

including evidence provided by a professional body and, arising therefrom, it was:-

7.3 RESOLVED: That consideration of the case be deferred to enable the Executive Director to obtain proof of address of the pupil.

**8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

8.1 It was noted that the next meeting of the Committee would be held on Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> April, 2018, at 1.15 p.m. in the Town Hall.

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