

Admissions Committee

Meeting held 17 July 2013

PRESENT: Councillors Chris Rosling-Josephs (Chair), Talib Hussain,
Andrew Sangar, Ian Saunders, Nikki Sharpe and Clive Skelton

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1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

1.1 An apology for absence was received from Councillor Martin Lawton.

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 19th June, 2013 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 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 six 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) five appeals be upheld on the grounds that there are either exceptional educational, financial, medical or family circumstances in the cases (Case Nos.EMM1, WEST1, defSAHAR1, defSHAR2 and defSHAR3); and

(b) one appeal 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 school that the pupil is requesting a pass for is not their catchment school/nearest suitable school (Case No.RIV1).

7. SCHOOL ADMISSION REQUESTS

7.1 Request for a Further Statutory Appeal Hearing

- 7.1.1 The Interim Executive Director, Children, Young People and Families, submitted a report and commented upon a case where parents had made a request for a further statutory appeal hearing on the grounds of further medical information received and, arising therefrom, it was:-

- 7.1.2 RESOLVED: That upon consideration of the case, and with due regard to the additional information now submitted, the request for a further statutory appeal hearing be granted on the grounds that the Committee considers that there has been a material change in the family's medical circumstances (Case No.Keg1).

7.2 Request for Early Entry

- 7.2.1 The Interim Executive Director, Children, Young People and Families, submitted a report and commented upon a case where parents had requested the City Council to give further consideration to an expressed preference for early entry into a reception class and, arising therefrom, it was:-

- 7.2.2 RESOLVED: That the request be not granted on the grounds that the Committee is of the opinion that there are no exceptional educational, financial, medical or family circumstances for allowing the child early entry to school (Case No. EA1).

(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 the above request be considered as a matter of urgency in order for the request to be considered at the earliest possible opportunity although it had not been possible to give five clear days' notice that the request was to be considered).

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- 8.1 It was noted that special meetings of the Committee would be arranged during August, 2013 to consider home to school transport appeals relating to denominational schools, and that Members would be advised of the times and dates in due course.

- 8.2 The next scheduled meeting of the Committee would be held on Wednesday, 18th September, 2013, at 1.00 p.m. at Howden House.

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