

MEMBERS HOME TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT APPEALS PANEL

17 SEPTEMBER 2018

PRESENT: Councillor H.A.L. Evans (Chair)

Councillors: G. Davies, P. Hughes-Griffiths and K. Lloyd

The following Officers were in attendance:

S. Pilliner, Head of Transportation & Highways;
A. Evans, Operations Manager - Passenger Transport;
S. Williams, Senior School Organisation Officer;
A. John, Assistant Solicitor;
J. Owen, Democratic Services Officer.

Committee Room 2, 3 Spilman Street, Carmarthen – 3:00pm - 3:05pm

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST

No declarations of Personal Interest were made at the meeting.

3. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED pursuant to the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) (Wales) Order 2007 that the following item was not for publication as the report contained exempt information as defined in Paragraph 12 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A to the Act.

4. TO CONSIDER AN APPEAL BY APPLICANT O.P. AGAINST A DECISION BY OFFICERS FOR THE NON-PROVISION OF FREE SCHOOL TRANSPORT.

Following the application of the public interest test it was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** pursuant to the Act referred to in minute 3 above, not to publicise the content of the report as it contained exempt information relating to a particular individual. The public interest test in this matter related to the fact that the report included personal information relating to the applicant. Disclosure would support transparency and accountability in the decision making process, however, on balance the public interest in maintaining confidentiality outweighed the public interest in disclosure because of the need to protect the identity of the applicant and the family.

The Panel considered the observations of the departmental officers, together with the individual circumstances of the case. The Panel also sought clarification on elements of the Authority's Home to School Transport Policy and the availability of a fare paying bus from O.P.s' home address to the designated school.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that in line with the Authority's Home to School Transport Policy, the appeal be refused on the basis O.P's home address was located within the statutory walking distance of the designated Local Education Authority School and that the walking route had been assessed as being suitable in accordance with Welsh Government Criteria.

CHAIR

DATE