MEMBERS HOME TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT APPEALS PANEL TUESDAY, 5 MARCH 2024

PRESENT: Councillor E.G. Thomas (Chair)

Councillors (Virtually):

G. Davies A. Evans

Also Present (Virtually):

A. John, Assistant Solicitor

A. Evans, Operations Manager - Passenger Transport

E. M. Jones, School Admissions Support Officer

A. Eynon, Principal Translator

K. Thomas, Democratic Services Officer

Committee Room 1 (Democratic Services Committee Room) - County Hall, Carmarthen. SA31 1JP and remotely - 10.00 - 10.12 am

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST

Councillor	Item Number	Nature of Interest
A Evans	Item Number 5 – To consider an appeal by applicant D.T. against a decision of the authority for the non-provision of free school transport	Had previously met with the appellant regarding secondary school admission where she had also mentioned a pending transport appeal. He confirmed he did not discuss the appeal with
		her

3. MINUTES

3.1. 5TH FEBRUARY 2024 - 2:00 PM

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on the 5th February, 2024 be signed as a correct record.

3.2. 5TH FEBRUARY 2024 - 2:10 PM

Note: These minutes are subject to confirmation at the next meeting.



RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on the 5th February, 2024 be signed as a correct record.

3.3. 5TH FEBRUARY 2024 - 2:20 PM

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on the 5th February, 2024 be signed as a correct record.

3.4. 5TH FEBRUARY 2024 - 2:40 PM

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on the 5th February, 2024 be signed as a correct record.

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as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) (Wales) Order 2007 that the following item was not for publication as the report contained exempt information as defined in Paragraph 12 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A to the Act.

5. TO CONSIDER AN APPEAL BY APPLICANT D.T. AGAINST A DECISION OF THE AUTHORITY FOR THE NON-PROVISION OF FREE SCHOOL TRANSPORT

(NOTE: Councillor Evans had earlier declared an interest in this item and remained in the meeting for the discussion and voting thereon)

Following the application of the public interest test it was UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED pursuant to the Act referred to in minute 4 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 written representations of the appellant in respect of the refusal of the Stage 1 Review Panel to grant D.T. free school transport to a school which was not the nearest or LEA designated school for the home address and therefore, did not meet the criteria outlined in the Council's policy for the provision of assistance.

The Panel considered the individual circumstances of the case, together with the observations of the departmental officers.

RESOLVED that the appeal submitted by D.T. for free Home to School Transport be upheld.

Note: These minutes are subject to confirmation at the next meeting.



CHAIR	DATE

Note: These minutes are subject to confirmation at the next meeting.

