



City and County of Swansea

Minutes of the **Appeals & Awards Committee**

Multi-Location Meeting - Gloucester Room, Guildhall / MS

Teams

Wednesday, 7 September 2022 at 2.00 pm

Present: Councillor J P Curtice (Chair) Presided

Councillor(s)

P M Black
W G Lewis

Councillor(s)

J W Jones
H M Morris

Councillor(s)

R D Lewis

Officer(s)

James Craven
Craig Davies
Barrie Gilbert
Jeremy Parkhouse

School Support Coordinator
Associate Lawyer
Senior Transport Officer
Democratic Services Officer

Apologies for Absence

Councillor(s): A Davis and J A Hale

15 Disclosures of Personal and Prejudicial Interests from Members.

In accordance with the Code of Conduct adopted by the City & County of Swansea, no interests were declared.

16 Minutes.

Resolved that the Minutes of the meetings of the Appeals and Awards Committee held on 16 August 2022 be approved and signed as a correct record.

17 City and County of Swansea - Home to School Transport Policy.

The Home to School Transport policy was noted.

18 Welsh Government - Learner Travel - Statutory Provision and Operational Guidance.

The Welsh Government - Learner Travel - Statutory Provision and Operational Guidance was noted.

19 Exclusion of the Public.

The Committee was requested to exclude the public from the meeting during consideration of the item(s) of business identified in its recommendation(s) to the report on the grounds that it/they involve(s) the disclosure of exempt information as set out in the exclusion paragraph of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) (Wales) Order 2007, relevant to the item(s) of business set out in the report.

The Committee considered the Public Interest Test in deciding whether to exclude the public from the meeting for the items of business where the Public Interest Test was relevant as set out in the report.

Resolved that the public be excluded for the following items on the agenda.

(Closed Session)

20 School Transport Appeal.

The Committee heard an appeal by the parent of the pupil outlined in the report.

The appeal was brought against the Department's decision in relation to eligibility for free transport from the home address to Bishop Gore Comprehensive School.

The parent of the pupil made verbal representations to the Committee in support of their written submissions and outlined the particular circumstances of her appeal relating to the child and her personal circumstances and conditions.

Officers of the Education and Transportation sections also made verbal representations in support of their written submissions.

The issues around the policy relating to the distance from the property to the school, available walking / bus routes and parental availability to convey the child to school were outlined and detailed by the officers to the Committee.

Members of the Committee asked various questions of both the appellant and officers, who responded accordingly.

The Committee fully considered all the verbal and written submissions presented.

Resolved that the appeal on behalf of the pupil outlined in the report be upheld as the Committee felt there were exceptional circumstances to the case.

The meeting ended at 3.30 pm

Chair