

Minutes of the Education Transport Appeals Committee Meeting held on Monday 17 October 2016 at 10:00 am in the Millicent Room, Endeavour House, Ipswich.

Present: Councillors Nick Barber (Chairman), Caroline Page (Vice Chairman) and Janet Craig.

Supporting officers present: Kirsty Marjoram (Business and Information Manager, Passenger Transport), Nicola White (Senior Passenger Transport Officer), Jason Bown (Alpha Consultants, Principal Consultant), Mags Lambert (Resource Manager, Admissions and Transport) and Helen Taber-French (Committee Administrator).

18. Apologies for Absence and Substitutions

There were no apologies for absences

19. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

There were no declarations of interests or dispensations.

20. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 September 2016 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

21. Information Bulletin

The Committee noted the Information Bulletin.

22. Urgent Business

There was no urgent business.

23. Exclusion of the Press and Public

Decision: The Committee agreed that the public (including the press) should be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of Agenda Items 7 to 8 on the grounds that:

- a) it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as referred to under Parts 1 to 3 of Schedule 12A (as amended) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended); and
- b) in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

24. Sudbury to Ormiston Sudbury Academy

The Committee received a report at agenda item 7 which concerned an appeal for free home-to-school transport lodged by a parent whose child attended Ormiston Sudbury Academy. The appeal was on the grounds of the safety of the walking route for an accompanied child pedestrian and other exceptional

circumstances. Prior to the meeting, the Committee walked the route. The appellant was invited to attend the meeting, but was unable to be present.

Decision: The Committee resolved not to uphold the appeal.

Reason for decision: The Committee agreed that the route was not dangerous for an accompanied child pedestrian because the route provided available footways, and adequate crossing points and visibility. Therefore, the Committee did not uphold the appeal. The Committee did not consider the personal circumstances of the family to be exceptional to provide free home-to-school transport.

Alternative options: None Considered.

Declarations of interest: None declared.

Dispensations: None reported.

25. Lowestoft to Ashley School Academy Trust

The Committee received a report at agenda item 8 which concerned an appeal for free home-to-school transport lodged by a parent whose child attended Ashely School Academy Trust. The appeal was on the grounds of the child's special needs or medical condition. The appellant joined the Committee via a teleconference.

Decision: The Committee resolved not to uphold the appeal.

Reason for decision: The Committee was not convinced that the circumstances were sufficiently exceptional to uphold the appeal. However, the Committee agreed that should further medical evidence be made available on the child's capacity to travel, the Committee would review this case again.

Alternative options: None considered.

Declarations of interest: None declared.

Dispensations: None reported.

The meeting closed at 11.20am.

Chairman