

SOCIAL SERVICES APPEALS PANEL MINUTES

31 MARCH 2010

Chairman: * Ms C Ellis

Councillors: * Mrs Lurline Champagne * Asad Omar

* Denotes Member present

46. Appointment of Chairman

RESOLVED: That Caroline Ellis be appointed Chairman of the Panel for this meeting.

47. Terms of Reference

RESOLVED: That the terms of reference of the Panel be noted.

48. Minutes

(See Note at conclusion of these minutes).

49. Guidance Notes

RESOLVED: That the guidance notes setting out the nature of the Panel be noted.

50. Exclusion of the Press and Public

RESOLVED: That the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item for the reasons set out below:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Reason</u>
6	The Keeping of a Child in Secure Accommodation.	Information under paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, relating to any individual.

RESOLVED ITEMS

51. The Keeping of a Child in Secure Accommodation

The Panel considered a report of the Corporate Director of Children's Services which set out the background to the current situation and outlined the reasons for why a secure placement was still considered necessary. The Panel also considered a report of the Independent Investigator which gave an overview of the child's situation and a report from the Secure Unit.

The Panel carefully reviewed the case, taking into account the verbal updates from officers of Children Services, the Independent Investigator and the Secure Unit. The child was not present at the meeting.

Arising from the discussion it was:

- noted that officers would consider all available options in formulating an exit strategy for the child;
- agreed that officers continue to seek a suitable placement for the child during his time in secure accommodation.

The Panel agreed that the criteria for the placement in secure accommodation continued to apply, that the placement continued to be necessary and that no other description of accommodation was appropriate.

RESOLVED: That the child remain in the Secure Unit for a period of three months from 2 March 2010.

(Note: The meeting, having commenced at 2.07 pm, closed at 3.25 pm).

(Signed) CAROLINE ELLIS
Chairman

[Note: Social Services Appeals Panel minutes are:-

- (1) approved following each meeting by the Members serving on that particular occasion and signed as a correct record by the Chairman for that meeting;
- (2) not submitted to the next panel meeting for approval.

Reasons: The Licensing Panel is constituted from a pooled membership. Consequently, a subsequent Panel meeting is likely to comprise a different Chairman and Members who took no part in the previous meeting's proceedings. The process referred to at (1) above provides appropriate approval scrutiny].