

SOCIAL SERVICES APPEALS PANEL**5 NOVEMBER 2009**

Chairman: * Ms C Ellis

Councillors: * Mrs Lurline Champagnie * Mrs Rekha Shah

* Denotes Member present

PART I - RECOMMENDATIONS - NIL**PART II - MINUTES**34. **Appointment of Chairman:****RESOLVED:** That Caroline Ellis be appointed Chairman of the Panel for the purpose of this meeting.35. **Terms of Reference:****RESOLVED:** That the terms of reference of the Panel be noted.36. **Minutes:**
(See Note at conclusion of these minutes).37. **Guidance Notes:****RESOLVED:** That the guidance notes setting out the nature of the Panel be noted.38. **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.

39. **The Keeping of a Child in Secure Accommodation:**

In accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985, the Panel considered a report of the Corporate Director Children's Services as the Local Authority was required to hold a meeting of the Social Services Appeals Panel within 28 days of a child being placed in Secure Accommodation. The report set out the background to the current situation and outlined the reasons why a secure placement was still considered necessary. A report from the Independent Investigator setting out the views of the child, and a report from the Secure Unit were tabled at the meeting.

The Panel carefully reviewed the case, taking into account the verbal updates from the Social Services Officer, Independent Investigator, Secure Unit, and the wishes of the child who was present at the beginning of the meeting. 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 5 November 2009.

(Note: The meeting having commenced at 2.00 pm, closed at 3.30 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].